

New year money savers at Wellhouse Leisure

Wellhouse Leisure has always been foremost in setting the trends and **Peter Sharpe** finds more ground breaking initiatives in store for 2009.



In a ground-breaking new venture, Wellhouse Leisure are converting brand new Hiace Powervans, to be sold by a local Toyota dealership

If you are in the market for an affordable, compact motorhome, then Wellhouse Leisure, at Shepley, near Huddersfield, has long since established itself as the obvious place at which to begin your search. The diverse choice of vehicles on offer can open up a whole new world for people who have previously restricted their shopping lists to the more traditional choices. If you are either young or young at heart, the trendy little Toyota Sparky and Daihatsu Atrai conversions will have obvious appeal. Perhaps the Toyota Noah might be your preferred choice (see below), offering a surprisingly roomy interior within its highly space-efficient body shape.

That's not to say that they don't look pretty pretty nifty too, as you can see with the gleaming metallic black model that Wellhouse currently have in stock. All of the above mentioned motorhomes qualify for the lower tax rate and will fit inside most domestic garages.

If you prefer to take a step up to a slightly larger vehicle, both the Toyota Granvia and its slim line cousin the Regius, offer you dazzling specification for a modest price. Up until now, all such conversions have been based on used vehicles imported from Japan. However, in a ground breaking new venture, a local Toyota dealer is supplying Wellhouse Leisure with

brand new Hiace Powervans, which will be converted and sold in their own showrooms. In yet another move to keep ahead of the pack, Wellhouse Leisure can now carry out conversions of petrol vehicles to run on LPG. It will cost you £1,800 to have your own vehicle converted, but this is reduced to only £1,200 if it is to a conversion bought from Wellhouse Leisure. A customer has achieved the price equivalent of 40mpg on a 4WD Toyota Regius, so you can obviously make worthwhile long-term savings. If you frequently have occasion to travel within the London Emission Zone, the potential savings are even greater, as you will be exempt from congestion charges. These are dual fuel conversions, so there is no need to worry about running out of gas and you might also find it an added advantage on occasion, to extend your range before re-fuelling. Wellhouse has recently produced a rear kitchen conversion for the Regius, allowing a front lounge in which it is large enough to stretch out in comfort, with the option of providing either two single beds or a double. The conversion allows access through the rear doors. The vertically rising pop-top provides plenty of head room and creates a spacious feel out of all proportion to the size of the



Beat future price rises with £1,000 off many stocked vehicles, including this Toyota Noah



Dual-fuel LPG conversions give the price equivalent of 40mpg and extend your range



The spacious front lounge that has been created for the new Toyota Townace Powervan (see main pic on left)



The Regius is highly popular version of the sophisticated Hiace, with a narrower width that fits more easily on restricted driveways



The Regius kitchen is accessible from the rear and leaves space to store an awning



Plenty of standing room allows easy access from Regius front lounge to the rear kitchen



Stretch out in comfort in the Regius lounge, which provides two single beds or a double

vehicle. Even though the increasingly disadvantageous exchange rate against the Yen is forcing up base vehicle prices, you will currently find discounts of £1,000 off much of the existing stock, making some genuine bargains available. Be aware though, that these discounts will only be available on vehicles currently on the premises, so you will need to make your mind up pretty quickly if you want to take advantage.

As an insurance against future price rises, Wellhouse Leisure has broken with tradition and is now producing conversions of some of the more traditional, European base vehicles. In keeping with their reputation for producing compact motorhomes, their new conversion of the Volkswagen Caddy Maxi Life will be of great interest to some, having achieved over 50mpg in trials; new T5 conversions are also in the pipeline. For Mercedes fans, there are

several good quality used Vitos in stock, but I was particularly impressed with the recently finished Renault Master high top. This is one of the largest conversions to come out of the Wellhouse Leisure workshop and you can buy this first one for £32,500, saving you £2,500 on future prices. The long wheelbase Master isn't one of the most attractive vans externally, but it provides you with a huge amount of room inside, making it a viable long-term touring vehicle for two people. Your own choice of custom striping can be applied if you wish to personalise it in any way. The rear lounge has room for four at the table, although there is sitting room for many more, with the twin sofas converting into a very large double bed. A flat screen television is installed and there is excellent overhead mood lighting. Rear door access has been preserved, enabling you to make full use of the load carrying possibilities

of the central aisle. At the front end, an off-side kitchen has a stainless steel sink, a three-burner hob and a Cramer oven and grill. The 97 litre fridge is located opposite, placed conveniently at waist height and next to spacious storage facilities, including a half-drop wardrobe. The washroom is of the type almost universally employed in van conversions, using a flip-up basin above a bench cassette toilet. The entire floor is a large shower tray, should you feel the need to make use of the extending mixer tap. ■

CONTACT

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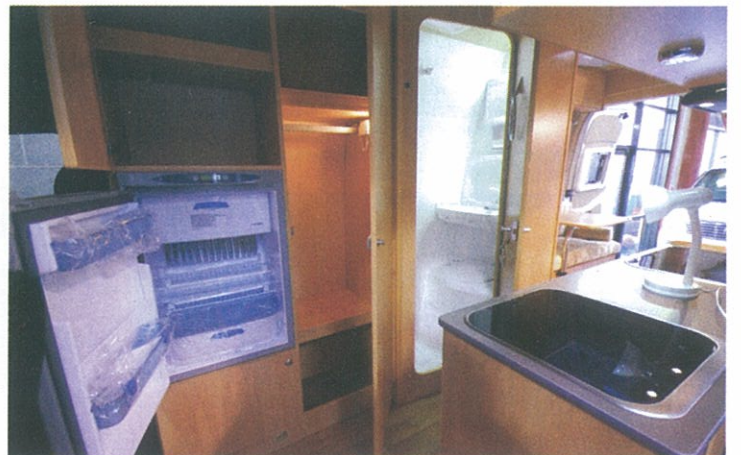
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A home from home - the Renault Master's accommodating lounge, lit by an abundance of well placed mood lighting



SAVE £2,500 This new Renault Master conversion, has a washroom, a full kitchen and plenty of storage - now reduced to only £32,500