

FEATURING FRASER NELSON + CHARLIE BROOKER + GORDON SMART

ARENA

FEBRUARY 2008 £3.80

THE
10
MOST
STYLISH
FOOTBALL
CLUBS ON
EARTH

**THE
CLEVEREST
MAN IN
BRITAIN**
IT'S NOT WHO
YOU THINK...

**SIX-PACK
SECRETS**
BY THE WORLD'S
FITTEST MAN

PLUS
YES!
WHY IT'S OK TO
CHEAT ON YOUR
GIRLFRIEND

**ARE YOU
MAN ENOUGH
FOR THE NEW
BACHELOR
PARTY?**

UP PERISCOPE!
WHY SUBS ARE THE
NEW BILLIONAIRE
SUPER TOY

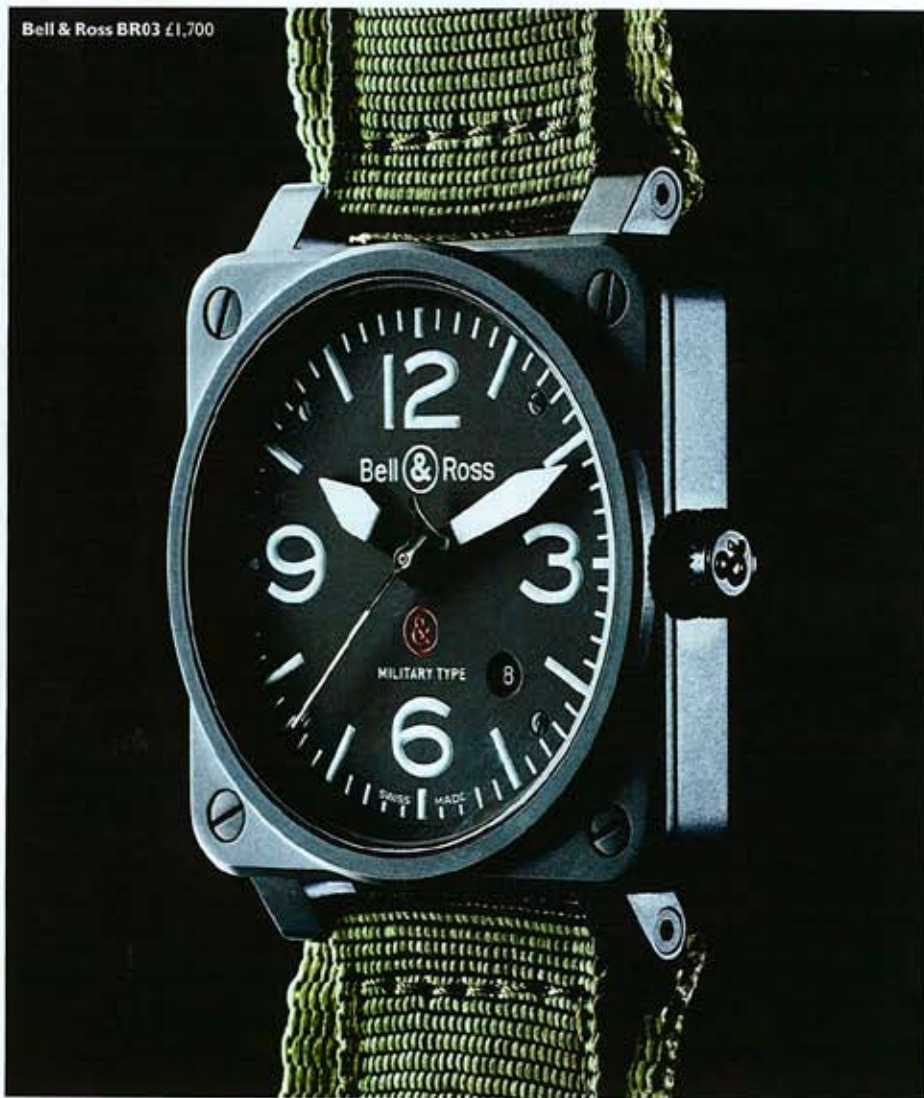
EXCLUSIVE
AARONOVITCH MEETS
GEORGE W BUSH
(In the Oval Office!)

**VICTORIA'S
BEST KEPT
SECRET**
BAR REFAELI IS THE
BODY OF 2008

Photographed exclusively
for ARENA by Yu Tsai



Bell & Ross BR03 £1,700



Rank & style

Get a classic army watch to live your life with military precision

Technical innovation often occurs through adversity, and particularly during times of war. Military watches need to fulfil a number of criteria to meet the needs of servicemen – functionality, readability, accuracy, water resistance and robustness.

Before World War I, men used pocket watches, but these were simply impractical in the mud and squalour of trench warfare. Wristwatches with luminous dials for use during night operations were quickly developed, and by World War II there was a vast array of different watches available for all sorts of different military uses, including IWC's iconic Big Pilot's watch and Panerai's Radiomir. The Big Pilot had a huge 52mm face and was worn strapped to the leg or arms of Luftwaffe pilots who had to work in conditions of poor visibility, whilst Panerai's

Radiomir watches were originally developed for Italian Navy divers.

Nowadays the British Army are supplied by Seiko, while US Navy SEALs wear the Tag Heuer Aquatimer. Despite being relatively new to the world of watchmaking, Bell & Ross has already developed timepieces for the French bomb squad, divers and pilots.

The BR03 is a development of their first watch, the BR01, but with a smaller dial of 42mm. It has total water resistance, the sapphire crystal glass is scratchproof, the watch has a high precision adjusted movement and is shock-protected.

The khaki dial has a super luminova coating that makes it readable both day and night and, in tandem with the matt black case, provides the perfect camouflage for urban commandos.

TOWERING AMBITION

How one British watchmaker can put a little bit of Westminster on your wrist

While reading through a dusty old Victorian book published in 1887, a watch enthusiast and collector came across an advert from the creator of the Great Westminster Clock, better known these days as Big Ben.

Twysden Moore's chance discovery four years ago has led to the rebirth of one of the finest watch and clockmakers Britain has ever seen, Dent. Although the watch market is now inexorably linked with Switzerland, back in the 19th century Britain had an industry to compare and compete.

Following his find, Moore spent the next two years persuading the owners of this sleeping giant to part with the brand. Mission accomplished, he set about re-establishing

Dent as a luxury watchmaker, rather than going for the more obvious strategy of cashing in with chintzy watches for the tourist market.

"We've decided to only make our watches in gold and to the highest specifications," he says. "Everyone who's seen them loves the integrity of the product."

The two new models, Parliament and Ministry (right), are the first watches created under the Dent name in four decades. This year the company will produce only 250 pieces, but the aim is to be manufacturing 1,000 watches a year.

At present, the watches are made in Switzerland, but while Moore concedes that research and development are likely to remain in Geneva, his long-term ambition is to have the watches produced in the UK. "Hopefully they'll soon be stamped 'Made In Britain'," he says.

Prices from £7,940; dentwatches.com

