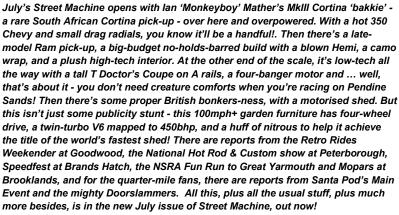


But it's not all NitroThunder, there's early muscle car action from '68 (in the wet!), and power-images of Pro Mods, the world's most awesome do

the wet!), and power-images of Pro Mods, the world's most awesome door slammers. You'll also find a special mini-tribute to the Mongoo\$e, Tom McEwen who passed away on June 10th...





Even without the fireball, there's a non-too subtle contrast between Micke Kågered's tall 2018 injectors and Tudor Rose's 1968 bug catcher



Hot Gossip has Mike Collins celebrating 50 years of side-by-side NitroThunder at the Pod from his unique perspective, with a mix of action shots from this year's Main Event (the 55th running of the BHRA's original May race!), the first on the Pod's shiny new million pound surface and the 5th annual Big Go on the brand new track they rebuilt in 1968. Check out the difference below between the front ends of RFM's 2017 FIA Top Fuel champion Duncan Micallef's skinny machine and the wide-track stance of the Commuter AA/FD from 1968! Even more radical is the difference between the Maltese Lion's space-age head gear and that worn by 1968 NitroRookie Mike "Tik" Tikner (who made history that year in the all-new Geronimo), with his naked neck waiting to be kissed by some escaping hot fluids perhaps! You'll also read of the battle to put on Santa Pod's first side-by-side AA/FD races, with a mistake in that we

read about one of 'em being lost at "a fantastic .83mph' when it should've read "180.83mph!" Oops! Those races happened on MC's birthday would you believe...

Cake by Mrs T DragRod photo by John Bennett

S bajada

on John Force Racing's funny cars

NitroThunder at 4.07 in Friday night's Q session. RIP Mongoo\$e, you'll be making fans happy forever!

at the Bristol race. Click an' enjoy their



A couple years ago I lost 750gb of digitalised archive material - there's never been a need to mention this before, but amongst it was an in y'face image of Tom McEwen's first-of-a-kind 1957 Chevy Fuel Coupe thundering by at the 1990 Gatornationals that would've been really cool here as the Mongoo\$e drove it to a 5.76 at 263.54mph! Instead here's a couple of Xclusive shots for Eurodragster readers, the image below taken just prior to that amazing run, and an eXtreme crop from one of his always cool tee-shirts that he signed for me a couple years ago, and three fabulous related links that you'll love...



Along with the NHRA's great 92second long mini-movie tribute to the Mongoo\$e and their "In Memoriam" image from his legendary 1978 US Nats win, I found this oh-so-smoky half-track burnout and a thundering full pull from the debut of the "fastest 1957 Chevy in the world" at NHRA's 1988 Pomona Finals. They're both magic, so enjoy, and if you've not seen the Snake and the Mongoo\$e movie, check it out - or see the heart warming tale again! It tells how two racing legends change the face of drag racing forever thanks to their unique Hot Wheels funny cars. There's plenty of track-action and laughs, with a tear-jerking ending you wouldn't believe if Hollywood had written it - but it's all true! And the awesome action footage closing the film is a must for all ol' school fuel coupe fans...





