

➤ SCHUBERTH

C3 PRO HELMET

£499.99 www.tranam.com

The C3 Pro is German manufacturers Schubert's new top-of-the-range flip-front lid. They claim it is now the most sporty flip-front lid on the market, and I think they're right. Changes include a redesigned shell, which now has aerodynamic spoilers at the crown and under the chin to give improved stability at speed. And it's still quiet. Schubert claim 82dB at 65mph, a 2dB reduction on the popular C3 (still available) though still too loud to use without earplugs.

The lid is extremely comfortable, so much so that I have been able to get a size smaller than my customary 58. The 56-57 gives a nice snug fit all round with no excessive pressure on my forehead and plenty of room at the chin.

For a flip-front, the C3 Pro is relatively light, weighing just 1500g on my kitchen scales without the Bluetooth module fitted – that's 50g less than my Arai Quantum.

In the smaller shell sizes, the C3 Pro is a very neat and compact lid allowing plenty of unrestricted head movement for a good field of view. This lack of bulk and aerodynamic stability make it an extremely unobtrusive crash helmet to wear at speed.

The C3 Pro comes supplied with an effective Pinlock insert; the visor seems to mist quite heavily without it, even on the 'urban' setting in which the visor is held just open by a clip on the chin bar. The crown venting is effective, with a draught-free closed position and a nice breeze across the top of the head when set to open. **Adrian Stear**



Aerodynamic chin spoiler aids stability



Pinlock is effective at stopping visor from fogging

✓ POLAR BUFF REVERSIBLE

£25 www.buffwear.co.uk



Comfortable and warm on and off the bike, though it can be too bulky for some jacket collars. Microfibre one side, microfleece the other. Worn for three winters. Machine washable and fancy silver ions keeps stinky bacteria at bay. **Steve Herbert**



➤ OXFORD HOT GRIPS

£44.99 www.oxprod.com

Oxford's Original Hot Grips did extremely well when we tested them (February 2012) – but they're not cheap. Now they've introduced these more affordable Commuter Hot Grips. They use the same technology as the more expensive Original or Sports versions, with a more basic controller – but if, like me, you only have them on full or off, that's fine.

Simon Weir