



## Great Cars Series No 5

### Maserati 250F

*The Autobiography of 2528*

by Ian Wagstaff

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Page Extent: 340pp • over 400 photographs (incl. colour)



This is the story of a uniquely special example of the Maserati 250F, the breed of car that epitomises the 2 1/2 –litre front engined Formula 1 era of 1954-60 and took part in the first and last races of that classic period. The finest flowering of the 250F came in 1957 with the lightweight version in which Juan Manuel Fangio won the last of his five World Championship titles. Three lightweights were built and the one featured in this book, chassis 2528, was driven to victory by Fangio in the Monaco Grand Prix and by Jean Behra in three non-championship Grand Prix at Pau, Modena and Casablanca. The fascinating story of 2528, from its construction to the present day, is accompanied by 400 photographs, many of them never previously published. This book presents the life of a truly Great Car – the most original and widely raced of all the Maserati 250Fs.

### Key Content

- Editorial contribution by Adolfo Orsi
- First victory: Behra won the gruelling Pau GP by two laps.
- Finest hour: Fangio's famous successes in the Monaco GP, leading most of the way after skilfully avoiding the chicane mayhem that eliminated Moss, Hawthorn and Collins.
- Near miss: Behra outshone Fangio to lead half of the British GP until 2528's clutch gave up.
- Home win: on Maserati's doorstep, Behra dominated the two-heat Modena Grand Prix.
- Swansong: another win for Behra in Morocco, a race that turned out to be Maserati's last with a works Formula 1 team.
- Privateer owners: more races with Francesco Godia Sales and Ettore Chimeri in 1958 and 1960.
- Rejuvenation: in the ownership of Charles Lucas, 1964-71, 2528 was active in the early days of historic racing in Britain for cars of its era, winning many times.
- Part of the family: acquired by Neil Corner in 1971, 2528 has been in his family's ownership ever since, with many more race successes achieved by him and by son Nigel.

**The Author:** Ian Wagstaff is a seasoned journalist and author with a passion for the racing cars of his youth, topped by the Maserati 250F. He has twice won the Guild of Motoring Writer's prestigious book award, the Montagu of Beaulieu Trophy. He has written a previous book in the Great Cars series, *Porsche 917*, which was shortlisted for the RAC Motoring Book of the Year Award in 2015.

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