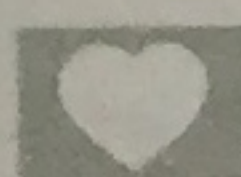


loves & hates Jason Donovan, actor

'You'll catch me on my sit-on mower on Saturday. It's the only time I can drink and drive'

 **COFFEE** It's a legal buzz. A good cup of coffee enables me to get on with the day and makes me happy to do stuff like emails. The invention of the Nespresso machine has changed my life. I can make coffee exactly the way I like it (double shot, in a glass with hot milk). I need to grow a few grey hairs and make some A-grade movies, then maybe they'll sign me up and give me George Clooney's job.



TRAVEL I don't do economy well. I'm not snobbish about travelling economy to Europe, but for long-haul I love to treat my family and go business class. The airport lounge gets the holiday off to a good start. It's one of the luxuries in my life and I think it's important. We do it once a year.



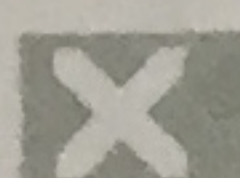
MOWING THE LAWN I have a sit-on mower and you'll catch me on it on a Saturday with a glass of wine. It's the only time I can drink and drive. I like to

shape the lawn so you can't see the levels. I have an acre to cut and I find it very satisfying.

WATER I can have up to three showers a day. It takes out the old and brings in the new. I swim in the Thames estuary by my country house. I even swim in the winter because I like the adrenaline of it. Swimming in chlorinated pools in London is not an option - it's too detrimental to my wonderfully abundant locks. Swimming outside is the best. The ocean is the thing I miss most about Australia.

HAWAIIAN FLIP-FLOPS I'm a big flip-flop fan. It's freedom for the feet. I get a little concerned when people call them thongs in this country. I'm a big advocate of relaxed clothing like shorts and T-shirts, as I like to wear less. I sleep naked in bed. I don't understand why people would wear pyjamas.



 **COFFEE CHAINS** They make their lattes way too milky. You have to be very specific to get what you want. I think chains are impersonal and characterless. Boring. I like all the little Notting Hill coffee shops because they're not high street. With luck, we're moving away from mass-mentality now.

CLUTTER One of the great challenges for human beings is to let go of stuff we don't use. Why have you got that shirt that you've only worn once? If you still don't want to wear it out, then what are you waiting for? And I can't bear untidy beds. I always make the bed in my house.

AUTOMATED PHONE SYSTEMS Trying to ring the theatre is a nightmare, 'Hello, Welcome to...' etc. You're told to press something and when it doesn't give you what you need you have to start all over again. And I haven't set up the Westminster parking pay-system on my phone, but already I don't like it. The process is too complicated. And customer relations have disappeared now that service centres are in India.



TRAFFIC JAMS That's why I drive a scooter and a push-bike in London. But everyone's turning towards scooters now so it's really hard to get a parking space. I can't stand the psychology behind traffic. On the motorway, everyone slows down together and then speeds up again. They're like sheep. A sign says 'slow down' and I want to say, 'It's generic, guys!'

OVERCOOKED RICE You could throw M&S sushi against the wall and it would break like porcelain. It's horrific. Sushi can be so good, but it comes down to the rice. At gigs, when people bring me M&S sushi, it's a disaster. I guess I'll never do a TV commercial for them now.

Jason Donovan's album 'Let it be Me' is out now; he is on tour from 30 November. jasondonovan.org.uk. He was talking to Stephanie Plant!

