CLASSIC DRIVER

Desmond Smail Opens New Olney Showrooms



In addition to its nearby service centre, the Olney-based Aston Martin specialist now has showroom facilities in the picturesque Buckinghamshire market town.

I dropped in to see the ever-affable **Aston** aficionado on the day before the **Bonhams Works Service** sale (**Olney** is a 10-minute drive from **Newport Pagnell**). Although officially open for two months, the finishing touches to the 6000sq ft premises were just being applied.

Touches that include a 'timeline' mural of the history of the **Aston Martin** marque set alongside **Smail**'s personal history.

Now, if you're expecting a short-trousered innocent standing next to a **Bertelli** car at **Le Mans** in the 1930s, it does not go back quite *that* far, but a youthful **Desmond** can be seen both in rugby kit and school uniform at family functions alongside – for example – the launch of the **DB6** or **1970s V8**: both cars prime **Desmond Smail** 'showroom stock'.







The new premises are just a short walk from the company's well-known service and restoration building in **East Street**. As you come into **Olney** from **Newport Pagnell** it's on the left, just before the market square and easy to find. The display area can take around five cars, with further covered storage and an extensive car park to the rear.

The company will retain its existing storage facility outside **Olney** and does, of course, have sales and service sister companies **Aston Sales Kensington** and **Aston Service London** 'in the smoke'.



Quizzing **Smail** on the state of business ("always busy, both in sales and service - we're always looking for

cars") and his tips for the future ("**DB5**s never lose their appeal and as for the modern cars, look at a **Vanquish**: it's a '**DB5**' in the making…"), his enthusiasm for the marque bubbles over.



So, if you are looking for an **Aston** from the **Newport Pagnell** era right up to date, or the thought of a photo of **DJS** in a dinner jacket with society 'it-girl' **Tara Palmer-Tomkinson** on his arm appeals... do pop round to **Olney** to inspect the new **Aston Martin** showroom.

Please click **HERE** to see all **Desmond Smail's** cars for sale in the **Classic Driver** car database.

		13-19 High Street South	
		Olney Buckinghamshire	
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		Samiles Control	
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		Olney	
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Desmond J Smail

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