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A Visit to Studio 434

by *John Duff* (ThamesMog)

After 3 years in the planning and delayed twice due to Covid restrictions - John Duff led a party of 16 to visit Studio 434 in Mutton Lane, Potters Bar on 26th October. The trip was cancelled 3 times due to Covid-19 and was expanded out to include OxMog, CranMog, SwanMog and

FolkMog members as well as the group from ThamesMog.

Was the wait worth it - you bet, it was superb - easily the best car collection we had all seen. 450 cars, 40 motorbikes, 250 customer cars stored and a value of £120 - £130 Million. Customer cars included 3

Bugattis, one of which was stored as the owner didn't want his wife to know he had it!

Stored in 2 large buildings, it was mind bending the range of cars (there was also lots of signs, petrol pumps, pedal cars, model cars, it goes on): 24 Aston Martin



Lagondas including 2 long wheel base cars from 4 made, 9 Jensen Interceptors, rows of Bentleys from the 1920s to the 2000s, Minis, tractors, Land Rovers etc.

The collection was started by Roger Dudding who invented the ticket dispenser used in supermarkets when you buy cheese and cold meat. He then went into property and has a portfolio of 15,000 lockups in the London area which he rents out for storage - he has acquired many cars from such acquisitions.

The collection is used extensively by TV and film companies - Downton Abbey, The

Crown, The Christine Keeler series, Peaky Blinders, Rocketman, Mr Selfridge, Mary Poppins Returns etc. If you see a car on TV or in a film it has probably come from this collection.

The visit was superb - all there really enjoyed it.

Photo captions:

1. Group Photo
2. 4/4 two and four seaters (the white one with only 984 miles on the clock)
3. Aero Super Sports

4. Austin Healey, E-type and lots of rare cars including a modern AC (dark blue)
5. Geoff Giles in ex-Princess Diana Audi
6. The Lagonda 3-litre Drophead seen in The Crown and The Pale Horse (recent Agatha Christie TV series)
7. Vintage petrol pumps
8. Line of Land Rovers (the red one was a fire tender)
9. A 48-cylinder motorcycle! Built by Simon Whitelock
10. Jaguar XK150