## **CLASSIC DRIVER**

## **Aston Martin Works: Grand Opening, 3 May 2012**

## Lead

Aston Martin Works Managing Director Kingsley Riding-Felce welcomed guests from far and wide to the opening of the all-new, state-of-the-art Works premises on the company's famous 3.6-acre site on the north side of Tickford St, Newport Pagnell.

The new facility, a stunning modern design in the manner of Aston Martin worldwide dealership and factory presence, is the result of months of painstaking planning by Riding-Felce and his team. Work has been proceeding apace for many months and the result – as all observers agreed – captures the modern look of Gaydon and its high-tech supercars, yet still maintains the links with tradition of what's soon to be a hundred-year-old company.

On arriving in Tickford St, visitors will first see the new car showroom run by General Sales Manager Paul Spires. From 2013, an additional showroom, devoted to Heritage Sales, will be opened.







To the rear of the sales area, the old Works Service workshops have been transformed into a totally clear, very modern service facility, with further areas to the rear devoted to 'Bodywork & Paint'. The famous Heritage & Restoration centre is in its usual position, to the right and rear of 'Service'. A separate 'Parts' store sits alongside.

So, from this moment forward, Newport Pagnell clients will be able to buy new or pre-owned modern Aston Martins, have these and classic Astons serviced by the Works, and also discuss long-term restoration work on older cars, most of which will have been built on these very premises all those years ago.



A selection of luxury goods from the Aston Martin Collection will also be on display in the showroom, and Works will be the centrepiece of the company's 'Q by Aston Martin' programme, for the last word in bespoke commissioning.

After a fulsome introduction by the company's CEO, Dr Ulrich Bez, Riding-Felce explained the new set-up's philosophy: "Newport Pagnell connects Aston Martin with its history. Adding a retail dealership to our existing business makes Aston Martin Works a true one-stop shop for the marque."

The next event to be held at Aston Martin Works will be the annual Bonhams auction, to be held on Saturday, 19 May.

Photos: Classic Driver

**Gallery** 

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