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A SUPERCAR dealer from South Derbyshire whose customers have included music royalty Rod Stewart and Elton John has unveiled a new £10 million showroom stocking a range of £100,000-plus vehicles.

Tom Hartley, of Tom Hartley Cars in Overseal, has opened the three-storey glass building in the grounds of his 40-acre country estate.

The motoring mogul says the new facility – alongside a current showroom – will house one of the biggest collections of luxury, performance and classic cars for sale in the UK.

Tom and son Carl will have an Aladdin's Cave of up to 85 super cars valued at around £100 million available to customers, who often fly in by helicopter, to view at any one time.

The average price of their cars is around £100,000 and can go up to £25 million.

The new showroom is a far cry from when Tom started in the business after leaving school with no qualifications.

The new building, including a basement, boasts 15,000 sq ft accommodation with a state-of-the-art car lift and a ground floor made of glass, allowing customers to view cars on display in the basement, which is equipped with a photo studio and even an area for dining.

Originally from Glasgow, Tom says he learned his business skills and confidence in his family's carpet shops by talking to customers and selling them carpets from the age of 10.

He said: "Dealing for me and my son Carl is a way of life and always has been.

"Our strength is the private funding, allowing us not to rely on finance or borrowing and having the flexibility to do supercar deals that others cannot, however the market may be."



Tom Hartley in the new showroom with son Carl and grandson Christian. Inset top: Sir Rod Stewart in a Ferrari
MAIN IMAGE: TOM HARTLEY

More vroom for Tom's supercars

SELLER TO THE STARS UNVEILS £10M SHOWROOM

The firm's turnover was in excess of £250 million last year, selling to the likes of Premier League footballers to Elton John, Rod Stewart and even royalty.

Last year Mr Hartley was offering one of the rarest Ferraris ever made – once owned by Hollywood actor and sports car enthusiast Nicolas

Cage – with a price tag of £2.6 million. The Ferrari 275/4cam was one of just 280 ever made.

The Hollywood star, whose action films include Con Air, the popular National Treasure franchise, and Face/Off, owned the 52-year-old restored supercar from 2007 to 2014, Mr Hartley said.

Cage has been a respected collector for many years, and is known for his excellent taste in selecting the finest performance cars of all eras, with many of them having been regularly displayed at California vintage car shows.

Cage bought the car from an American owner.

IN THE COURTS

Cases heard recently before Southern Derbyshire magistrates

Warren Day, 39, of Oak Close, Castle Gresley, admitted causing wasteful employment of the police by knowingly making to police a false report tending to show that an offence had been committed in Swadlincote on October 24. He was given a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £85 court costs and a £20 victim surcharge.

Macaulay Luke, 23, of Mason Crescent, Swadlincote, admitted assaulting a male in West Street, Swadlincote, on January 25. He was fined £120 and ordered to pay £75 compensation, £85 court costs and a £30 victim surcharge.

Glenn Dolman, 22, of Solent Road, Church Gresley, admitted assaulting a female in Swadlincote on February 12 and assaulting a police officer on the same day. He was given a 12-month community order with 200 hours' unpaid work and ordered to pay £85 court costs and a £85 victim surcharge.

Kia Archer, 33, of Mistletoe Drive, Woodville, admitted stealing food and drink worth £25 from Sainsbury's, Midway, on January 12. The defendant also admitted failing to attend court on February 13 and was given a six-week community order with a six-week curfew from 7pm to 7am and must pay £25 compensation, £85 costs and a £85 victim surcharge.

Paul Bird, 50, of Ash Court, Alfreton, admitted driving at 85mph in a 70mph zone on the A38 at Burton on June 21. He received three points, a £200 fine and must pay £85 court costs and a £30 victim surcharge.

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