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Too fast to live...

FAST and dangerous – that is the way Lee Allured describes his Porsche Spyder, the hand-built replica of the car that killed his hero James Dean.

One of the star attractions at Jimmy Dean's night spot in Osgathorpe, the car set out on a summer tour of the region last week, to promote the club and commemorate the 40th anniversary of James Dean's death.

Painstakingly re-created over 12 months using car parts imported from the US, the £12,000 replica is a testament to Lee's hard work and devotion to the Dean legend.

But with its gleaming silver curves and black number 130, the car has more than just a visual resemblance to the original.

The 28-year-old son of Showaddywaddy drummer Malcolm Allured bears an uncanny resemblance to James Dean himself.

Dressed like the original teenage rebel in blue jeans, white T-shirt, red Harrington jacket, and sporting a carefully-coiffured crop, Lee says: "Everybody has to have a hero."

James Dean lived fast and died aged 24, 40 years ago this September.

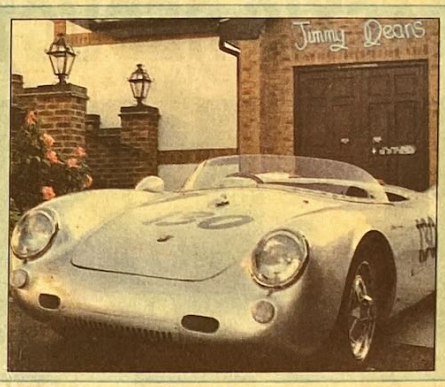
Lee admits: "I've taken the car to 110 mph and it's still kicking in."

As he revs up the engine, the full roar gives a tempting hint of the power of the Porsche.

But Lee and his insurers are well aware of the lethal machine he has created.

He says "It's a thing of beauty, there to be looked at rather than to be used as a practical car."

The Porsche can be seen at Donington Park, Fosse Park and the Shires Shopping Centre on August 10/11.

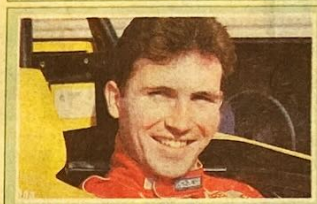


INSIDE

LEAD with the Mail

True Stories – they're telling it like it is

YOUNGSTERS who have been involved with drugs have made a video to tell of their experiences – see page 8



How a bad result became a good one

IT'S tough on the track...but one local racing driver still managed to put pressure on his rivals – see page 32

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Media circus hits local village pub near...

LOVE NEST FOR MAJOR'S SON

A LEICESTERSHIRE village is being turned into a media circus after the PM's son was spotted drinking in a pub with his married girlfriend and her family.

But the barmaid at their local says she feels sorry for them because they are just an ordinary couple.

By: **ALISON BARLOW**

The news comes hot on the heels of photographs published showing James Major and Elaine Jordache – who is deputy manageress of the Marks and Spencer store at Fosse Park – returning from their holiday together in the South of France.

The scene of the latest attention is the Old White Swan pub, Newbold Verdon, which is close to Mrs Jordache's rented house. Reporters are camping outside the pub, eager to catch a glimpse or find out information about the pair.

Landlord Colin Davies said: "Some of the locals think it's quite exciting and it's a bit of news for the village." But he was unwilling to comment further, due to previous articles in national papers which he felt had misquoted him.

'No big deal'

His daughter Lynne said: "The pub is a bit busier and there are a few strangers about.

"I feel sorry for them. They just come in like an ordinary couple and give us no problems. They just have a drink and talk to the locals."

Her sister Cathy said: "I can't understand what the fuss is about. It's no big deal.

"At the moment it's a novelty and everyone's talking about it, and reporters call all the time. But if they do come back, it will go mad," she added.

Other villagers refused to comment on the situation, saying they were fed up with all the attention.

Meanwhile, officials at the Fosse Park store were remaining tight-lipped about Mrs Jordache, who has not returned to work since flying back from holiday.

According to reports she was due back last Wednesday.

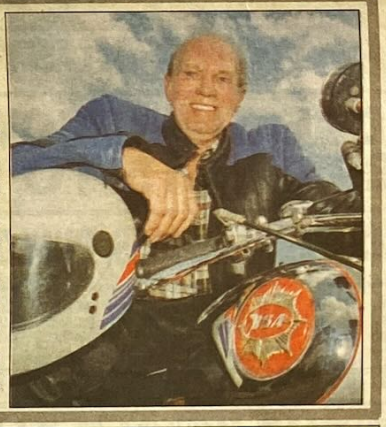
Born to be wild

WHITWICK'S wildest great-grandad is living life in the fast lane this week when he enters a competition at Donington Park race track on his BSA motorcycle.

Ken Hopkinson (71), who has been riding motorbikes for 60 years, says it makes him feel young.

Organisers of this year's British Motorcycle Grand Prix have arranged the competition in a bid to find the country's oldest biker.

Ken said: "I am sure there are plenty of bikers older than me – but I have been riding for 60 years."



This bird has flown

THE SEARCH for a missing bird of prey, which flew to freedom during a display at a local fair has been stepped up.

Concerned owner John Tyas, from Holdenby Falconry Centre, is hoping that the national press and regional television will highlight his search for Megan, the seven-year-old falcon which went missing over a week ago from Rempstone Steam and Country Fair.

He said: "So far we've had quite a lot of calls from people thinking they've seen her. But they have been confusing her with sparrowhawks."

He said he has travelled from Shepshed to Nottingham, following-up reports which have turned out to be false.

"The best description I can give to people is that she looks like a peregrine falcon, except for a rusty red patch, like a cap, on her head.

"She should still be wearing the leather straps around her legs with yellow wire hanging from them, and the distinctive-sounding bell," he added.

Mr Tyas is unsure if the bird can survive because he cannot predict how she will behave in the wild.

He hopes she may revert back to her old hunting instincts or eat animals killed on the road.

"I can't tell you how worried I am about her.

"She has taught me more about falconry than any book. It's like losing one of the family. I'm desperate to get her back," he said.

If anyone has seen Megan, or a bird fitting its description, they are urged to contact him on (01536) 762845.

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