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PRESS RELEASE

Rare Car Motors Back in Time for 100th Anniversary

A rare 1930 AJS Saloon car, believed to be one of just 33 still in existence in the world, was today reunited with its original owners, A. J. Stevens and Company, at the Black Country Living Museum - just in time to celebrate the Wolverhampton motoring company's 100th Anniversary!

88 year old Jim Stevens and his wife Jean motored back in time at the Dudley Museum where the AJS has been lovingly restored by the Museum's Marston Trust. The car, once used to chauffeur members of the Stevens family, was discovered in a state of dereliction in an old shed.

Museum Curator, David Eveleigh said: "We are delighted that Jim and Jean are able to attend the maiden voyage of the AJS Saloon. It has taken six months of hard work, by a dedicated team of volunteers, to restore the vintage vehicle to its former glory and get it back into working order. We hope visitors will enjoy seeing the AJS travelling around the Museum site and at events throughout the year."

A.J. Stevens and Company began life in 1909 in Pelham Street in Wolverhampton. The brainchild of engineering blacksmith Joseph Stevens, the company soon became the largest motorcycle company in the Black Country, producing 600 motorcycles a week in the late 1920s and producing their first car in December 1929. However only 3000 cars were ever produced as the company went into liquidation in 1931, making the discovery of the 1930 AJS Saloon an extremely rare find.

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