

STAR'S CAR SNAPPED UP

George Formby's Rolls Royce is sold at auction



A MAGNIFICENT Rolls Royce that once belonged to George Formby has been snapped up just days after going on sale.

The Wigan-born entertainer was a big fan of luxury cars and owned several Rollers over the years.

Having been, at the peak of his popularity, one of the world's highest paid stars, top-end vehicles were well within his budget.

And this particular Silver Dawn was bought by George in 1954 while living in Lytham St Annes and sold it just a year later to a couple in London who then owned it for 53 years.

BY CHARLES GRAHAM

It went on sale at the Classic and Sportscar Centre in Malton, North Yorkshire, last Wednesday for a price tag of £64,995.

And within three days an as-yet-unidentified South Yorkshire businessman had made the showroom an offer.

The centre would not today confirm exactly how much money is due to exchange hands, but it is an amount close to the asking price.

And that makes it look like something of a snip.

The car only had 44,000 miles on the clock and does not need

any cosmetic improvement. Centre director James Szkiller said: "If every car we sold had star back story like this one I would be a very happy man."

"I thought it might provoke quite a lot of interest and indeed word had hardly circulated that it was in the showroom before an interested party had given us a healthy deposit and it should be delivered to the new owner within a few days."

Other impressive selling points included an exceptionally clean engine while the upholstery is leather and woodwork in outstanding condition.



CAR FAN: The Rolls Royce (top) and above, George with some of his cars