

Picture: PHIL RIDER



Time traveller: Hugh Hunston behind the wheel of the memory-jogging Haldane

By **HUGH HUNSTON**
Motoring Correspondent

SCOTLAND'S "blast from the past" Haldane sports car, built in an anonymous Blantyre workshop, is poised to move into the European market courtesy of a £25,000 cash injection from British Steel (Industry).

The 120mph Austin Healey replica is the only series production car built north of the Border, and the bulk of the money will put the Haldane HD100 through exacting technical and safety tests before entering Europe and Japan next year.

Haldane's general manager, former racing driver Brian Harrison, 53, is convinced that the combination of classic roadster

Scots replica gets steel cash injection

lines coupled to a Ford engine and gearbox will have wide appeal.

A team of four Haldane stalwarts has designed, developed and built the Healey 100/4 lookalike during the past four years, with 50 examples of the car delivered, mainly in kit form.

A blend of evocative styling, culled from the 1954 Austin Healey Le Mans racer, and state-of-the-art Ford technology, the moulded plastic bodyshell is

mounted on a sturdy, steel backbone chassis.

Deliveries have been made already to Germany, Belgium and Holland, and there have been inquiries from Japan.

Whereas the kit car costs around £10,000 the ready-made version is priced from £16,000 with Ford's twin-cam, 2-litre engine and five-speed gearbox lurking under the bonnet.

Virtually all the chassis and body components come from Scottish suppliers.