



## **Press Release – April, 2017**

### **XK70 Jaguar Festival in 2018**

- 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the legendary Jaguar XK 120 in 2018
- XK70 Jaguar Festival on June 9/10, 2018
- Targeting 700 XKs from around the world
- Competitive speed hillclimb
- Most historic motorsport venue in UK
- XK70 Tour follows weekend celebrations

In 1948 Jaguar unleashed the stunning XK 120 sports car. Cherished by Hollywood stars and racing drivers alike, it helped launch the careers of Stirling Moss and future World Champion, Phil Hill. Officially the fastest production car in the world, the XK led Britain's post-war 'export or die' campaign, earning vital dollars, siring five Le Mans winners and triumphing in international rallies.

In 2018, this classic '50s sports car will be a young 70. Plans are already well underway to celebrate this important motoring landmark. The International Jaguar XK Club, founded by author and publisher Philip Porter, will hold a two-day event at the famous Shelsley Walsh Hillclimb in The Midlands on June 9/10.

In 1998 500 XKs from around the world gathered at Donington Park race circuit for XK50. In 2008, the XK Club had 600 at Goodwood. In 2018, the aim is 700. Additionally, all XK-engined cars are invited.

#### **Brief Facts**

The XK 120 launched the XK engine which powered the vast majority of Jaguars between 1950 and 1986, including the Mk 2 saloons, the legendary E-types and the XJ6 saloons, to say nothing of tanks, armoured cars, fire engines and record-breaking power boats. For many, it is the greatest engine of all time.

XK 120s were produced from 1948 until 1954 when succeeded by the XK 140 which was followed by the XK 150 in 1957, to be replaced by the E-type in 1961. Over 30,000 XKs were produced, with around 60% exported.

**International Jaguar XK Club**

Founded 20 years ago by Philip and Julie Porter, the Club has members in over 50 countries. Porter, who has owned his four XKs since 1973, has written 30 motoring books, including a number on Jaguars. Murray Walker calls him 'Mr. Jaguar'.

**Shelsley Walsh**

Located in Worcestershire, not far from the M5 motorway, Shelsley Walsh is the oldest venue of motorsport in the world still in use. Set in beautiful countryside yet within easy reach, it is the ideal setting for XK70.

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**For more information and photographs, please contact:**

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