



## **Press Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**5 September, 2017**

### **Key Points**

- **Jaguar XK 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year**
- **Mega international celebration taking place at Shelsley Walsh hillclimb**
- **Organised by the UK-based International Jaguar XK Club**
- **June 9/10, 2018**
- **Legendary privateer Le Mans racers Peter Sutcliffe, Peter Lumsden & Peter Sargent confirmed**

### **XK70 in 2018!**

The sensational star of the 1948 Earls Court Motor Show, the iconic Jaguar XK 120 celebrates 70 glorious years in 2018.

“It is our intention to celebrate this landmark in suitable style,” says motoring author, publisher and XK Club founder, Philip Porter.

As the XK engine was massively successful in motor racing, taking the charismatic C-types and D-types to five Le Mans wins in the '50s, motor sport will be a strong theme at XK70.

The latest drivers to confirm their attendance are Peter Sutcliffe, who very successfully raced a D-type and Lightweight E-type in period, and the famous Le Mans duo of Lumsden and Sargent. All three Peters were the last of an era when privateers could still go motor racing at the highest levels.

Coming over from Finland will be Sami Klat, the legendary research engineer who developed Peter Lumsden and Peter Sargent's amazing Low Drag Lightweight E

which ran at Le Mans in 1964. Appropriately, the car will also be at Shelsley, as will the owner who is travelling over especially from New York.

“We had 600 XKs at our XK60 event in 2008. Our aim is to exceed that and reach 700 for XK70,” states Porter. All XK 120s, 140s and 150s are eligible, together with their derivatives the C-types and D-types, plus XK-engined cars and all Jaguar sports cars.

“I know how successful XK60 was,” says Peter Sargent, “and XK70 looks to be even better!”

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**Image:**

**Notes to Editors:**

**International Jaguar XK Club**

Formed in 1997 by Philip & Julie Porter, the International Jaguar XK Club is no ordinary motoring club. It has no committees, no concours events and no politics. The Club has members in over 50 countries and welcomes all owners and enthusiasts. The Club publishes professionally-produced monthly printed and digital magazines, edited by James Page, and has a wide range of events.

**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.

### **Philip Porter**

Described by Murray Walker as 'Mr. Jaguar', Porter has been writing award-winning Jaguar and other motoring books for 30 years and will have owned his historic XKs for 45 years in 2018. A former Chairman of the Sherlock Holmes Society and airship test pilot, he has written books with Sir Stirling Moss, Barry Cryer and Murray Walker. In 2005, he formed Porter Press International, now the world's leading publisher of quality motoring books.

### **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.

### **For Press Information & Images**

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