

P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Key Points

- ***An entire weekend of celebrations to mark the 60th anniversary of the classic Jaguar XK & XK-engined cars***
- ***The largest gathering of classic XKs ever (600 to celebrate 60)***
- ***Based at Goodwood, the home of historic racing, and magnificent Cowdray Park***
- ***Track events, parades and displays, competitions and trophies, exhibitions, major auction, star-guests, historic and competitions cars...***
- ***Officially recognised by Jaguar Cars***

XK60: Diamond Celebrations

Celebrating 60 Years of Jaguar's Iconic XK

Plans have been unveiled for the largest gathering of Jaguar XK 120s, 140s and 150s ever! Over 600 of Jaguar's classic production sports cars, including many rare examples, are expected to converge at historic Goodwood for three-days of celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of the launch of the iconic XK 120.

XK60: Diamond Celebrations will take place over the weekend of 8-10 August 2008. The scale of the event means activities, which include an auction, competitions, trophies, historic exhibitions, star guests, track events and parades, will encompass two spectacular locations: Goodwood - the spiritual home of historic motor sport and nearby Cowdray Park, the residence of Viscount Cowdray, who owns several historic Jaguar sports cars.

XK60, which is being organised by the *Jaguar XK Club* in conjunction with the *Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club*, is commemorating the diamond anniversary of the launch of the stylish XK 120 Super Sports at the 1948 London Motor Show. This original XK was not simply 'gorgeous' but proved to be the world's fastest production car. It was powered by Jaguar's brilliant new XK engine (the first to be designed in-house): significantly, the XK-engine remained at the heart of the Jaguar range until 1986.

The XK120, therefore, sits at the head of an impressive motoring dynasty that includes the D-type, E-type and XJ6. Each stage of the XK-engine's evolution from XK 120 to the last XK-engined models and the modern XKs that grace our roads today will be celebrated over the course of the weekend's activities.

XK and classic Jaguar owners from as far afield as the USA and Australia have already signalled their intention to travel to the UK, with their cars, to be part of the historic occasion. In fact, West Sussex will become something of a Jaguar hotspot in August 2008 as a number of dedicated UK tours and weekend adventures converge on Goodwood in dramatic style.

Discussing XK60, *Jaguar XK Club* co-founder and author, Philip Porter remarks, "We are really excited to be organising this landmark event. The XK is one of the automotive triumphs of the twentieth-century: the immense success of the original car and its ground-breaking engine is demonstrated by the survival of the XK brand into the modern age. We look forward to working with Jaguar Cars to organise the scale of celebration this level of achievement deserves".

His sentiments are reiterated by motoring historian and author Nigel Thorley of the Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club, who notes that, "The XK engine is probably the most important post-war British engine, having powered some of the best cars produced in England for nearly four decades". Thorley adds that, "It is fitting that we celebrate its anniversary with such a major weekend of activities".

For more information about XK60 and associated XK60 tours, booking forms and tickets visit www.xk60.com. Alternatively, contact Julie Porter, *Jaguar XK Club*, tel: +44 (0)1584 781588, info@xk60.com or Graham Searle, Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club tel +44 (0)117 969 8186, email jechq@btopenworld.com .

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Photos: *XK60 Weekend Postcard*

Press Information
Claire Bryan
claire@xkclub.com

XK60 Contact
Julie Porter
Julie@xkclub.com

International Jaguar XK Club
PO Box 2, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8XX, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1584 781588 www.xk60.com Fax: +44 (0)1584 781630

***XKs on the track at Goodwood
XK60 Weekend Celebrations***

The Appeal of the Jaguar XK

The XK120 Super Sports was a design sensation when it was unveiled at the 1948 London Motor Show, Earls Court. However, the real genius of the car was in its successful fusion of styling elegance and mechanical excellence. The XK was not simply 'gorgeous', but was also incredibly fast. It was powered by Jaguar's new XK engine (the first to be designed in-house by Jaguar). This engine, which remained at the heart of the Jaguar range until 1986, powered the XK 120 to the title of the fastest production car in the world.

With such a prominent reputation for *pace & grace*, the Jaguar XK very quickly became a symbol of all that was desirable and the series prospered through another two incarnations: the XK 140 and XK 150, each of which combined period design sensibilities with mechanical improvements. The last production XK was made in 1961.

Today classic XK120s, 140s and 150s are ranked among the most desirable classic cars to own. The enduring success of Jaguar's XK is not only demonstrated by the great feeling of affection that exists towards them in the classic car fraternity, but through the survival of the brand name into the modern age, with the current Jaguar XK and XK-R.

The Jaguar XK Club

The International Jaguar XK Club was founded by Jaguar author Philip Porter and his wife Julie in 1997. It is currently celebrating its tenth anniversary and today has almost 1400 members spread across 40 countries worldwide! At the heart of the Club is its professionally produced and edited monthly magazine, the *XK Gazette*, which was described by Australian XK expert, author and founder of XK Lovers, John Elmgreen as, "The mail-box highlight of the month". In addition to informing and supporting its members, the Club organises numerous events, from technical seminars to track days, informal dinners to large-scale tours.

The Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club

The Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club, formed in 1986, is the world's largest Jaguar club with 20,000 members in over 70 countries. In addition to major events like XK60 the Club has a full list of services to suit all Jaguar and Daimler owners no matter what age their car. Its 124-page monthly magazine is edited by renowned Jaguar historian and author Nigel Thorley.

Press Information
Claire Bryan
claire@xkclub.com

XK60 Contact
Julie Porter
Julie@xkclub.com

International Jaguar XK Club
PO Box 2, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8XX, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1584 781588 **www.xk60.com** Fax: +44 (0)1584 781630