

June 2015

Desert Jaguar



Monthly Newsletter of the Jaguar Club of Southern Arizona

Project 7



The Project 7 is an angry-sounding, drop-dead gorgeous assault on the senses. Only 250 examples will ever be built, but as the first real showcase for Jaguar's new Special Vehicle Operations division, the Project Seven is a worthy D-type tribute, and appetizer for the future of Coventry's big cat.

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The Prez Sez

Summer time and the living is easy. Don't know about easy but it is certainly warm so there will be no driving events in June, July and August due to them soaring temperatures. Mount Lemmon was our last drive until September and Jim and Monica Hart kindly organized the run which you can read all about on page 3.



Jaguar participation in the 2015 Mille Miglia gets good coverage this month with an article about Jaguar's VP Marketing on page 4 and another about Jaguar Heritage cars on page 5.

Some of you will know of my ongoing quest to find an XK8 or XKR. Well I thought I had found the ideal car in the form of an early XKR belonging to a friend who had owned it for the past 12 years. I knew the car had been serviced every year by a reputable dealer so felt confident that the car would be in good shape. Fortunately I was able to give the car a thorough inspection and was able to get a copy of the dealer service history and a copy of the latest service inspection which resulted in the alarm bells ringing

loud and clear as several mechanical problems were highlighted. I checked with several experts on the implications of these issues and came to the conclusion that the car was actually in poor shape and would need a huge amount of cash to put right. So my interest in this car has evaporated and the search continues. On the bright side I now have a thorough knowledge of the mechanical foibles of the XK8/R and am much better equipped to appraise the next contender.

Another benefit of researching the XKR is my discovery of a club which I did not know existed. The XK Enthusiasts Club which is aimed squarely at XK Jaguars built between 1996 and 2014 and has existed for 12 years. It seems to be most efficiently and enthusiastically run as shown by the forum section of the website which has over 200,000 posts covering every XK subject under the sun. As luck would have it they held their premier annual event on May 16th so naturally I went along to be totally immersed in all matters XK. The event was staged at the superb setting of Warwick Castle where 153 examples of the marque were lined up for all to admire. See photos.



Warick Castle



Field of XK Jaguars



XK8 - Dream Car



F-Type Line Up

Mount Lemon Drive

By Jim & Monica Hart

On a beautiful and cooler Friday morning, 16 members and 7 Jaguars rendezvoused at Udall Park for a 10:30 departure to Mount Lemmon. We got the cars loosely lined up for the pre-departure pictures (we could feel Fred's absence) and then headed up Tanque Verde to Mount Lemmon highway. The weather was great as we ascended the mountain and enjoyed the spectacular scenery. Temperatures dropped and wind increased about halfway up. We stopped at the San Pedro Vista, mile 17, for a look at the San Pedro river valley, and, of course, a few pictures of the Jaguars. By this time, the temperature was in the 50's and the wind was really blowing. That motivated all of us to get moving and complete the drive to the Iron Door restaurant where we once again managed to line up the cars for some pictures. It was cool and overcast but the restaurant manager, Lorrie, had arranged seating in a private inside area with great views. Food and service were great. We especially recommend the "mountain berry" pie. Following lunch, we dispersed to explore the area or begin the beautiful descent.



Kim McCollough - Jaguar's VP Marketing

If you need any evidence that Jaguar's VP Marketing is a real 'car guy' then you need look no further.

'The Drive of a Lifetime' - from an interview with Kim

These days, the Mille Miglia is a re-enactment and celebration of the original 1,000-mile road race held between 1927 and 1957, from Brescia in northern Italy, to Rome, and back. Since 1977 it's been a road rally for cars that either competed in one of the original races, or would have been eligible to compete. Enzo Ferrari called it "The Most Beautiful Race in the World," and he was right. Its four days through some of the most breathtaking parts of Italy.



Ever since Mitch and I started getting involved with classic cars and vintage motorsports, it's always been something we set our sights on doing, though never really thought it would happen. There is such a special aura around the race, such a rich history. I think anyone involved in vintage cars has it on their proverbial bucket list. Of course, every year thousands of owners apply for 400-or-so slots to compete. This year there are 456 cars taking part, so we're very honored to have been selected.



We were very, very lucky to find our car. It's a 1954 Jaguar XK120 roadster that was owned by the same person in Massachusetts for its entire 60-year life. We bought it in the UK last September. It's this wonderfully original, unaltered model with Dove Grey paint that had gloriously faded to flat, and an original tobacco leather interior that could only get that kind of patina after 60 years.

We will get to Italy in time to spend a few days really getting to know the car. The start is on May 14 and we are car #318 of 456, so we probably won't go till late afternoon. Day one takes us from Brescia to Rimini. Friday is a long day's drive along the coast and on to Rome. Saturday is the great driving day, passing through Siena, Pisa and Lucca, and over the Abetone Pass to Parma. Stage four on Sunday takes us to the Monza racetrack, through Bergamo finishing late afternoon back in Brescia. It is amazing that this year celebrates 60 years since Stirling Moss and Denis Jenkinson's landmark victory in 1955. Stirling completed the 1,000 miles in an unbelievable 10 hours and seven minutes at

an average speed of 98.53mph. We won't be going that fast. There are a lot of timed stages - 84 I think - as part of this year's rally where the focus is on average speed over set distances. This is all new to us, so we'll be working out how to use the bank of stop watches and trip meters we've had fitted.

Thankfully this isn't the first long-distance rally Mitch and I have done. We've taken part in the Copperstate 1000 through Arizona three times, and the 1,000-mile California Mille twice. We have plenty of experience of sitting in old cars for long amounts of time without such modern amenities as power steering and brakes that actually stop you.

I think there will be a great feeling of elation and accomplishment. It might seem like a strange analogy, but a while back I climbed Grand Teton in Wyoming. It was such a physically-exerting thing to do and, at the end, you get off the mountain, stop and look back and see the remarkable thing you've accomplished. I think it will be that same kind of feeling.

Jaguar Heritage at the Mille Miglia

Jaguar is celebrating its 80th anniversary by once again taking on the legendary challenge that is the Mille Miglia. Held from 14-17 May in Italy, Jaguar Heritage Racing will be fielding a team of drivers who will cover more than 1,000 miles from Brescia-Rome-Brescia in nine of the marque's most celebrated models.

Famous faces from the world of motorsport, TV and music will put their historic Jaguars through their paces on the gruelling route which takes place over four punishing but unforgettable days starting in Brescia, heading to Rimini, Rome, Parma and then back to Brescia. Crowds lining the route will get to see examples of historically significant Jaguar XKs, C-types and D-types hurtling past them with famous faces in the cockpits.

Five-time winner of the Le Mans 24hr, three-time Daytona 24hr winner and world sportscar veteran, Derek Bell, will make his Mille Miglia debut driving a Jaguar C-type. Derek is driving as a guest of art collector and classic car enthusiast Adam Lindemann.

Piloting the second C-type, 'NDU 289', will be Jaguar Vehicle Integrity Chief Engineer Mike Cross, while the final C-type, 'PUG 676', will be driven by Royal Automobile Club Motoring Committee Chairman, Ben Cussons.

Driving 'RSF 303', a priceless Jaguar D-type 'Long Nose' Ecurie Ecosse racer, which finished second at Le Mans in 1957, will be Jaguar Director of Design, Ian Callum. A veteran of the Mille Miglia, Ian drove with US chat show host Jay Leno in the 2014 event - this year he will be partnering up with businessman and classic car enthusiast, Clive Beecham.

Making for a very glamorous cockpit is 'OOF 748' - the XK120 roadster of model, TV presenter and current host of Channel 5's The Classic Car Show, Jodie Kidd, whose co-driver will be male supermodel, GQ columnist and classic car enthusiast, David Gandy

On the Mille Miglia, a number of new Jaguar XEs will also support the Jaguar Heritage Racing team, following the full route through Italy with broadcast crews and VIP guests.



XJS For Sale



I am selling this car for my Grandfather. I do not know a lot about it, but he has owned it for over 10 years. He absolutely loves it, but cannot get in and out of it anymore. It drives nice and the A/C works great. He has been taking it to a mechanic that specializes in Jaguar since he has owned it. The paint is new within the last few years but has a couple of scratches and dings. The interior has new carpet and the leather seats are in great condition. There is however a tab missing for the driver's seat for the recline feature. The wood grain dash and console panels need work. The Arizona sun has faded and cracked them (see pictures). The only mechanical issue that I have found is that the cruise control feature does not work. Please contact me by email and I will arrange to show you the car.

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November	Silver City Overnight
December	Holiday Party

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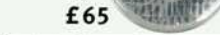
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