

Perthshire Classic Car Festival April 21st/22nd Press Launch Briefing Pack

Background

The Rotary Club of Blairgowrie, working in partnership with Scone Palace and Perth & Kinross Council, is organising what promises to be Scotland's premier classic car weekend in 2018. It will incorporate three spectacular events, spread over two days. The weekend offers three opportunities to come and see some of the finest classic cars as well as to enjoy a much wider range of festivities, all in aid of charity.

HRH Prince Michael of Kent's Motoring Background

We are extremely pleased to confirm that HRH Prince Michael of Kent has agreed to join us for the weekend and be involved in all of the events.



HRH Prince Michael of Kent has a long history of involvement in motoring:

- President of the Motor Sports Association
- President of the RAC
- Patron of the Veteran Car Club of Britain
- Patron of the Institute of the Motor Industry
- A competitive rally driver

1. City of Perth Classic Car Parade Saturday 21st April

The Parade Cars will register at Scone Palace early on the Saturday morning. They will then drive to the City of Perth via the Old Perth Bridge where a sign reminds us that in 1879 all cars had to be preceded by a red flag!



Car owners wishing to take part in the parade, are being invited to apply on the Perth & Kinross website:
www.perthcity.co.uk

The Parade Cars will park for public viewing in Tay Street until 1pm. As the cars depart Prince Michael will take the salute at the City Chambers. There will be a running commentary to introduce the cars by Col Alasdair Hutton from The Edinburgh Tattoo. The cars will then return to Scone Palace via George Street over the Old Perth Bridge where the red flag will be celebrated.

Some background to some of the Parade Cars

A model T Ford, carrying the Provost, will be the first car across the Old Perth Bridge on the return to Scone - this is the same model as the first Town Car in Perth ES 1.

Jaguar XK120 LWK 707



- In 1952, to demonstrate its reliability, LWK 707 was taken to a banked racing circuit at Montlhery, near Paris, and was driven for 7 days and 7 nights at an average speed of 100 miles an hour. There were a team of four drivers, including Stirling Moss, then 22, who set 9 new international and world records driving over 16,851 miles in 168 hours

Jaguar XK 120 1953 - First owned by John Lyon



Lamborghini Performantie



SS1 1934 Winner at Pebble Beach in 2015

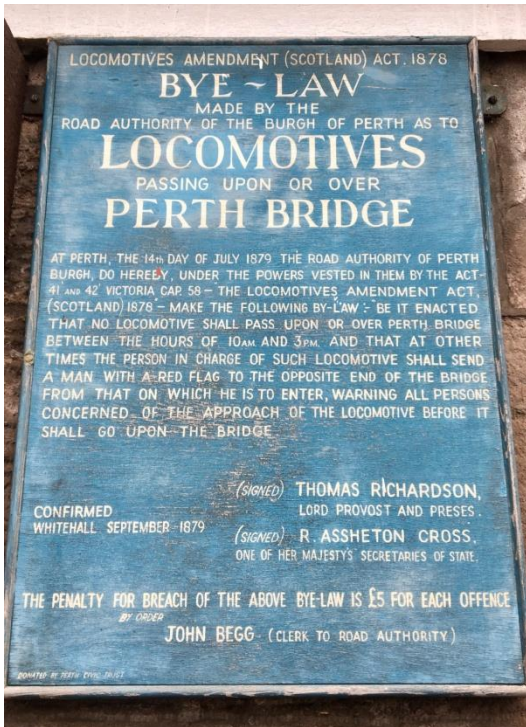


Series 1 E Type Jaguar Roadster 1967



The 150 cars will be aged from 1900 to a modern classic Bugatti Veyron. To give a flavour of the type of cars on the parade, we will have Aston Martins, Dodge Viper GTS launch edition, Austin Cooper S, Ford Capri 1600 special edition (1 of 3), MG T 1937, Jaguar C Type, HRG 1500 (raced in 1953 Scottish Rally), Ferrari 308 GT, MGB GT, Ford Capri 3 OGT rally car, Audi Quattro 1982, McLaren LT675, and Ferrari 430.

The History of the Red Flag and Old Perth(Smeaton's) Bridge



- The old Perth bridge was built in 1771 with John Smeaton appointed as the chief architect (hence it's alternative name)
- It was widened in 1869 to add walk ways to accommodate an increase in traffic using the bridge
- As the notice still on the old bridge indicates, in 1879 vehicles were required to send a person with a red flag to the other end of the bridge to warn of their approach
- To celebrate this tradition, on their return to Scone the cars will be preceded by a red flag as they cross the bridge
- Local youths from Perthshire schools will be on the bridge to join in the celebration of the red flag

2. Scone Palace Classic Car Day Saturday

- From 9am 300 classic cars, from classic car clubs across Scotland, will be on display at Scone Palace
- The 150 parade cars will join them on their return from Perth
- There will a number of one off special cars, with a special display in front of the palace
- Displays from Ecurie Ecosse and Knockhill Racing Circuit
- Milford Vintage Engineering
- Classic Restorations (Scotland)
- Vintage buses
- Brass bands
- An air display
- Childrens games
- Family entertainment and stalls
- Food stalls
- Further activities/entertainment to be confirmed.

Ecosse Rover C286 'Reggie' to be at Scone



- Reggie scored three Group C2 wins, the final one being at the Fuji circuit in Japan where Ray Mallock and Belgian driver Marc Duez gave Ecurie Ecosse the C2 World Championship.
- The nickname Reggie comes from the team manager's nickname for his own Rover road car

Knockhill Racing Circuit

Knockhill Racing Circuit is Scotland's National Motorsport Centre and hosts iconic high profile motor racing and bike racing events as well as being one of the UK's leading suppliers of Driving Experiences and Corporate Days. Located north of Dunfermline, the 1.3 mile multi-award winning race track is known around the world as one of the most challenging short race tracks with its unique configuration and undulations - making it a true test for driver and machine.

Ecurie Ecosse

Ecurie Ecosse was formed in 1951 by Edinburgh accountant David Murray. Under his leadership the team achieved a huge number of international race victories, the most prestigious being overall victory at the Le Mans 24 Hours in 1956, and finishing 1st and 2nd in the same race in 1957. Ecurie Ecosse took the racing world by storm and to this day has an unprecedented reputation as a winning formula. In 1983 Ecurie Ecosse Association Member and Edinburgh businessman Hugh McCaig took control of the team and led it on to further great success, including:

Three Formula One World Champions and every Scottish Formula One winner has raced for Ecurie Ecosse. They were the first privately entered outfit to beat works teams in the British Touring Car Championship. An extraordinary list of legendary drivers have raced for Ecurie Ecosse including Jim Clark, Sir Jackie Stewart, Ian Stewart, Sir Stirling Moss, Sir Jack Brabham, Innes Ireland, Masten Gregory, Roy Salvadori, Richard Attwood, Ron Flockhart, Brian Redman, David Coulthard, Allan McNish, Johnny Dumfries, David Leslie and Tom Walkinshaw. Ecurie Ecosse remains one of the world's most important and influential teams still in existence, while there are very few still operating today that have such a rich and historical background.

3. Blairgowrie Drive It Day Sunday 22nd April

- Following the success of last year's event, which raised over £17.5k for two charities we will again be hosting a Drive it Day
- HRH Prince Michael of Kent will drive one of the cars
- 80 classic cars will assemble at Blairgowrie golf club at 9am and then leave at 9.30am, on a 120 or 140 miles drive
- The route will go through Blairgowrie town centre, along the new Snow Road into Aberdeenshire for lunch at Raemoir House in Banchory.
- The cars will return via the Cairn O' Mount road into Perthshire, again visiting Blairgowrie to the final destination of Scone Palace.
- Their trip through Blairgowrie in the morning, the town will be celebrating the event with festivities in the centre.
- **The day is already fully subscribed - with a reserve list open**

The History of Drive It Day

Every year Drive It Day is purposefully held on the Sunday nearest to the 23rd April. Why? Because it commemorates the 64 cars that left London on the first day of the Thousand Mile Trial on 23 April 1900.

Main Sponsors

The main sponsor for the Perth events is Morris Leslie Vehicle Auctions Ltd and for Drive It Day Graham Environmental Services.

The Charities

Our objective in bringing some of the finest classic cars together is to raise the maximum amount of money from the weekend's events to donate to three charities: Cancer Research UK, Alzheimer Scotland and the Rotary Foundation.



Comment from Colin Stewart Chairman of the Organising Committee

"The objective of the festival is to raise as much money as possible for the charities, bring together some of the finest classic cars and provide a great experience for all the family."

List of cars at Press Launch

Reggie

E Type Jaguar

Jaguar XK120 1953 - 1st owner John Lyons

Contacts:

Chairman of the organising committee: Colin Stewart at colin.blairgowrie@btopenworld.com or phone 0797 1159014

Festival website: www.blairgowrieclassiccartour.co.uk

Parade (including entries): www.perthcity.co.uk

Scone Palace: www.scone-palace.co.uk/whats-on