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Mercedes-Benz SL300 'Gullwing' with regal provenance lands at Beaulieu

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Photograph © National Motor Museum.

Mercedes 300SL 'Gullwing', previously owned and enjoyed by the

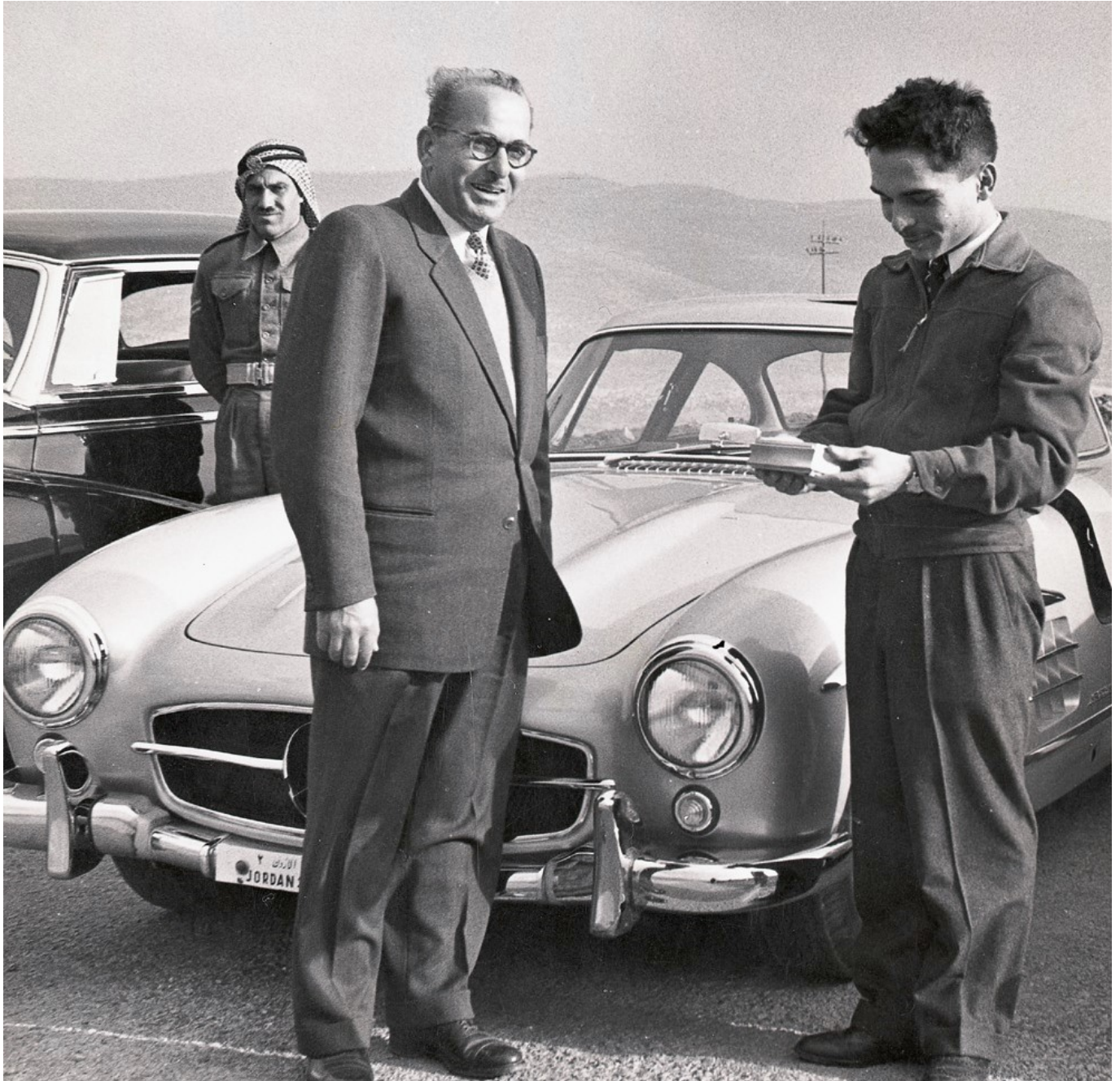


late King Hussein of Jordan, arrives at the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu...

They tell us:

One of the most beautiful and desirable motor cars ever built is the latest exhibit to take its place at the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu.

The distinctive Gullwing Mercedes 300SL was originally supplied by Mercedes-Benz Great Britain to His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan in August 1955. The late King Hussein competed successfully with the car in hill climbs and races in Jordan for many years. It remained one of the King's personal favourites and was displayed for several years in the Royal Automobile Museum in Amman.



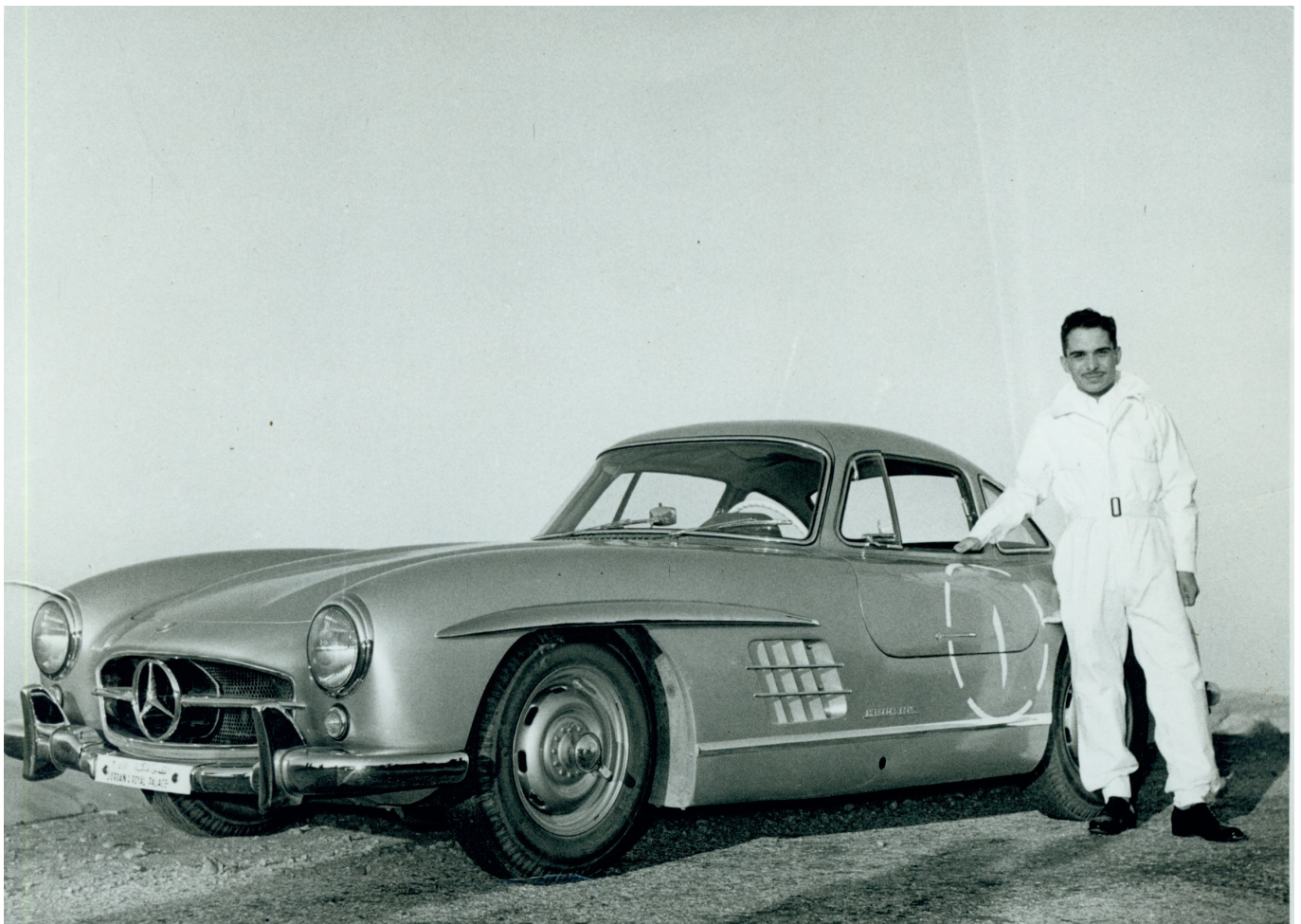
Hanna Gargour, agent for Mercedes-Benz in Jordan delivering the car to HM King Hussein in 1955. Photo courtesy of The Royal Automobile Museum, Amman, Jordan.

Following the passing of His Majesty, the Gullwing was left to his daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Haya, who recently gifted the car to her son, His Highness Sheikh Zayed.



Daimler-Benz undertook a comprehensive restoration of the vehicle, returning it to its original condition. This car is on loan to the museum courtesy of His Highness Sheikh Zayed.

The iconic 300SL Gullwing was developed from the successful 300SL W194 racing sports cars with which Mercedes had won the Le Mans 24-Hour race in 1952. The production 300SL incorporated a lightweight spaceframe chassis from the racing cars, combined with a new version of the inclined six-cylinder engine. Just 1,400 were built between 1954 and 1957.



HM King Hussein with his favorite car, the Mercedes-Benz G. Photo courtesy of The Royal Automobile Museum, Amman, Jordan.



Her Royal Highness Princess Haya, speaking on behalf of His Highness Sheikh Zayed, has expressed immense gratitude to Lord Montagu and the team at the National Motor Museum, alongside the dedicated craftsmen at Daimler-Benz who delivered this extraordinary restoration.

Chief Executive Jon Murden said: "We're delighted to be able to display the Gullwing Mercedes that was driven by His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan in the National Motor Museum. The museum celebrated a landmark golden half-century last year, and we're proud that our museum, which has such a fine history is now home to such a fine race car with royal provenance."





Photograph © National Motor Museum.

Information about The National Motor Museum:

1. The National Motor Museum Trust Limited is a charitable organisation founded in 1972, which runs the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu in the New Forest. Continuing the work of the flagship Montagu Motor Museum, the Trust has a world-famous collection of 250 vehicles and associated motoring items, which are on display in the National Motor Museum.
2. The nearby Collections Centre houses and cares for a vast array of motoring artefacts, photographic images, specialist reference library and film and video library. For more information about its collection and services see www.nationalmotormuseum.org.uk
3. Visitors to Beaulieu can enjoy a full day out with features including the ancestral Montagu home Palace House, 13th century Beaulieu Abbey and grounds and gardens. Tickets can be bought in advance. For tickets or more information: www.beaulieu.co.uk or call 01590 612345.
4. A full calendar of events and exhibitions is held at Beaulieu by the National Motor Museum, including Collection Centre Open Days, Classic Grille Evenings, Meet the Curator events and Transport Torques. Details are available at www.nationalmotormuseum.org.uk/events



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