

Dear Editor

Why is it people continue to claim Sprite Specials as Mk1 or Frogeyes, they are not. Is it ignorance or apathy or attempting to increase the value of an assortment of parts.?

No production Frogeye ever had a 1098 or 1275 power unit. The works cars homologated as 'Sebrings' did not exceed 998cc until 1961 on. It is correct for a 948 unit to be bored to 998 as it was in period, Shorrocks offered a supercharger conversion, also offered by DHMC.

Carburettors were twin H1 SU, the homologated 'Sebrings' had twin H4s the Mk11 had the optional Weber in 1962.

The works cars had Girling brakes no longer available though the FIA accepts the rear callipers from the GM/ATE Vauxhall Carlton with their discs for genuine historic cars. There was a replacement AP conversion offered by DHMC which was not very successful. The smooth casing gearbox the only correct one but Series 2 boxes are accepted.

White cars invariably had a white hood with red trim/seats. Leaf green cars (Bic's was a nice example), would have green trim/seats with a black hood.

There is nothing to stop anyone creating a car in their own image from any parts but it remains a 'lookalike modified special', never a Frogeye. Value in the eye of the buyer.

Regards, Mike Garton