

1959 Austin Healey Sebring Sprite Replica

I have owned this Mk1 Sprite since the mid 1980's, but it was taken off the road some fifteen years ago needing a full body restoration owing to the dreaded rust and a poor quality repairs carried out prior to my purchasing the car.

Having been fortunate to have driven Paul Woolmer's PMO200 up the Goodwood Festival of Speed Hill in 2008, I was so taken with the car that I decided to build a replica using the Archers body kit. The repairs to the shell were extensive and the build has taken me over five years.

Details of the car are as follows:-

Engine

A BMC "A" series engine of 1310cc capacity
Power 100bhp+
Line bored and balanced
Fitted with Omega Cast Pistons
Piper Ultimate BP285 Camshaft
MED 1.3" Roller Rockers
Stage 3 Head polished & ported with 36mm Inlet & 31mm exhaust valves
Eleven Stud Head
Compression 11.2 : 1
Lucas 25D Distributor with special advance curve
Oil Cooler

Fuel & Exhaust Systems

2 x SU HS4 Carburetters
Special swan neck inlet manifold made for me by Maniflow, thus avoiding the need to power bulge the bonnet
MGB Fuel Pump
Performance LCB (Midget Challenge) by Maniflow
Big Bore Exhaust System by Maniflow

Transmission

Standard 1275 roller bearing Gearbox
MED 7.5" AP Racing Clutch
MED Steel lightened Flywheel
Balanced Propshaft
Special hardened Steel Half shafts (An inch longer than standard)
Differential – Option on 4.22 : 1 or 4.56 :1

Brakes

Special Sebring pedal box with separate master cylinders
Standard Sprite Mark4 front Disc Brakes with competition pads
Riley 1.5 Rear Drum Brakes (8.5 inch)

Suspension - Front

Upgraded Springs (400lbs)
Upgraded Shock Absorbers (25%)
Negative camber top trunnions
Top Link Kit for Shock Absorber
Oversized 1 1/16th Anti-roll bar

Suspension – Rear

Softened seven leaf quarter elliptical springs with wedge
Standard Rear Shock Absorbers
Rose jointed Panhard Rod – Home design

Exterior & Interior

Painted in Smoke Grey with Black dipped nose
Cobra Classic Race Seats
4 point Harness
Full FIA approved roll cage

PJG
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