

1958

# LIEGE-BRESCIA-LIEGE

AND

# MICRO MARATHON

The World's only International Rallies  
for small-engined cars



2010

★ July 16-25, 2010 ★ September 5-11, 2010 ★

## LBL/MM NEWS: DECEMBER 2009

IN THIS ISSUE -

**Micro Marathon, September 2010: Welsh Marathon launched!**

**Liège-Brescia-Liège, July 2010: Entries growing; next deadline Jan 31!**



It was great to see a good number of you on Sunday, November 29, at the Plough Inn, Marsh Gibbon, where 18 of us enjoyed a fine Sunday lunch and local ales, accompanied by a slideshow from the 2009 Micro Marathon and some taster photos for our planned three-week event for classic cars in 'virgin' rallying territory; we still can't announce that one quite yet, but there are encouraging signs that we will be able to launch it next month: watch this space!

Entries have been coming in steadily for **Liège-Brescia-Liège 2010** and we are looking forward to a great event, 10 days exploring the classic rally routes of the 1950s, many of them used not just by the Liège events but also by the Alpine, Monte Carlo and other rallies - though only the legendary Liège organisers could have dared to send tiny cars over the Gavia and the Stelvio twice, and that after tackling the most spectacular pass in Slovenia and the magnificent Route des Colis; oh, and they did the Gavia and Stelvio in the dark - in both directions... Our schedule gives you time to enjoy the glorious scenery in daylight, and we don't just allow you to stop and take a photo at the top of each pass - we positively insist on it, your photos being your proof of passage on the correct route for each day. The next entry deadline is 31 January, for an entry fee of £3200...

## Very Best Wishes for Christmas and 2010

From the Organising Team for  
**Micro Marathon & Liège-Brescia-Liège**  
led by Malcolm McKay,  
ClassicRallyPress Ltd, 9 Sycamore Leys,  
Steeple Claydon, MK18 2RH, England  
Tel: 0044 (0)7711 901811  
[www.classicrallypress.co.uk](http://www.classicrallypress.co.uk)  
Email: [LBLrally@aol.com](mailto:LBLrally@aol.com)





Among the entries are the Belgian Fiat 500 of Michael Merkelbach and Katia Barrech, recently rebuilt with a later 650 engine and looking stunning (above right). A hat-trick of Morris Minors is completed by Stephen Lloyd and David Lockyer, with the very smart and original 56-year old 803cc Series II two-door saloon, above. At the other end of the performance spectrum and the newest car entered so far is the 2004 Smart Roadster Brabus of Jeff Payne and Jonathan Stewart, looking very purposeful on steel wheels. With a turbocharged 698cc engine producing 101bhp, it's capable of 0-60mph in 9.8sec and 121mph top speed via a sequential six-speed paddle-shift transmission – all the while returning 43-62mpg. No prizes for guessing who's going to be first at the bar in our hotels each night...



# Micro Marathon 2010 is GO!! September 5-11 in WALES...

As announced last month, **Micro Marathon 2010** goes to Wales and offers a full circuit of the Principality, taking in the cream of its finest roads, ALL its race circuits and many of its most impressive castles, museums and historic places. Majestic mountains, rolling hills and glorious coastlines abound in Wales – and we guarantee you will see enough to convince you that Wales stands among the finest countries in the world for rallying.

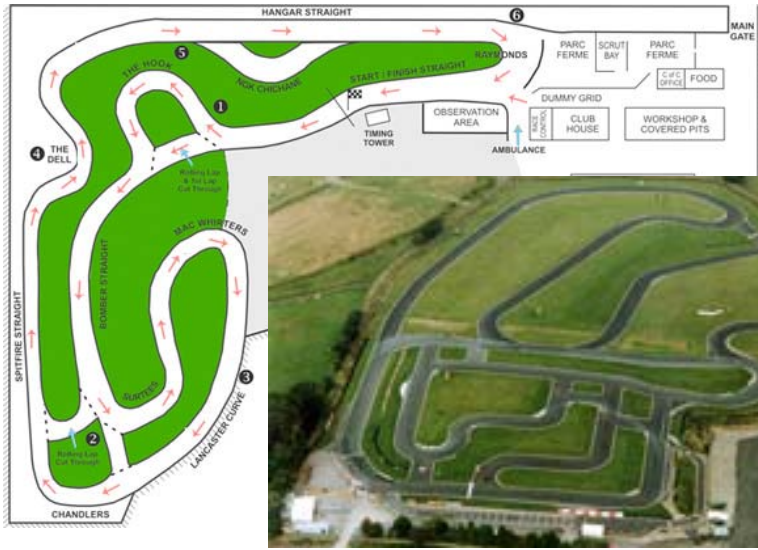
The rally is open to pre-war cars up to 1000cc and post-war (of a type built prior to 1976) up to 700cc: this year's event proved that the pre/post-war mix works really well and it would be great to see a clutch of Morgans, Austin Sevens etc joining the bubbles in 2010.

2009's Micro Marathon unintentionally clashed with the National Micro Car Rally, and we inevitably lost a few entries as a result (and the NMCR lost a few

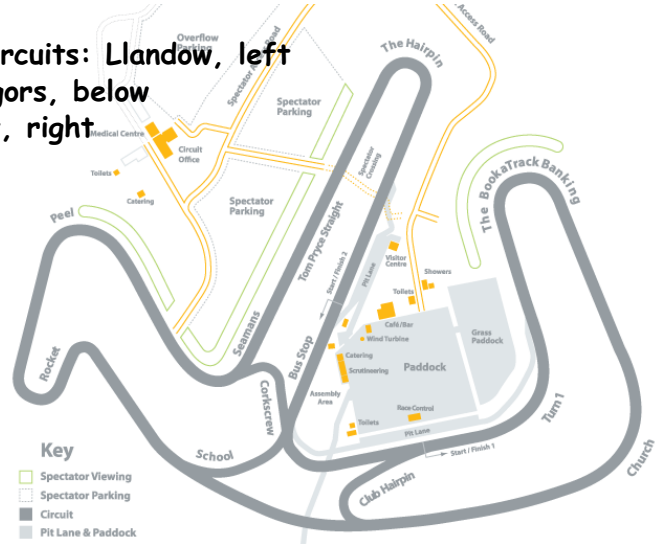
Magnificent castles (below is Brecon, where we stay the first night) and breathtaking roads: welcome to Wales...



Photo thanks to Jeffrey Thomas, [www.CastleWales.com](http://www.CastleWales.com)



Welsh circuits: Llandow, left  
 Glan-y-gors, below  
 Anglesey, right



to us). Determined not to fall into that trap again, this time we start from the 2010 National Microcar Rally, to be held at the Three Counties Showground at Malvern, Worcestershire. For the full event programme, see [www.national-microcar-rally.co.uk](http://www.national-microcar-rally.co.uk): the NMCR actually starts on Thursday September 2, with a series of events leading up to the main display day on Sunday. We will need you to be there from Sunday for scrutineering and Signing On; of course, it's up to you whether you attend the whole event or just arrive on Sunday. Conveniently located just off the M5, Malvern is also conveniently close to Wales, so we can set off as the final day of the NMCR winds down, and be at Brecon Castle in time for our Welcome Dinner. The Three Counties Showground have very kindly agreed to provide a parking area for the week in their Workshop Compound, so if you choose to trailer to Malvern, you can leave your towcar and trailer there and pick it up when the rally is over.

Castle spotting will be one of the fun activities of [Micro Marathon 2010](#) and we're seeing how many we can cram in as the route planning and recces progress. Wherever convenient, castles will feature in the route check photos and we're sure we can send you home with at least 10, probably many more: Wales must have the greatest concentration of castles in the world... There will be some on the first evening's run, and more on Day Two as we head north, through the Black Mountains, Powys and border country, to a night at the luxurious Lake Vyrnwy Hotel, in its glorious lakeside location surrounded by unspoilt mountains.

As well as more stunning mountain roads, Day Three sees our first Special Test, at Glan-y-gors kart circuit high in the mountains, where we can enjoy a full 1100m twisty complex that'll make both driver and navigator dizzy. After the test, we head to the north coast, where we stay at the luxurious new Quay Hotel & Spa in a stunning waterside location between the mediaeval walled city of Conwy and the Victorian Spa resort of Llandudno.

Wednesday sees us head out to the island of Anglesey, where we link up with the rather more serious Tour Britannia rally at Anglesey's Trac Mon circuit, returning to the mainland for a good look at Wales' highest mountain, Mount Snowdon, and another night in a fine modern waterside hotel: the Premier Inn at Caernarfon.

On Day Five we head south over the Cambrian mountains through the Snowdonia National Park, taking in tiny coastal roads with glorious views as we head down to the highly regarded Aberystwyth Park Lodge Hotel. On Friday we reach the southern coastline and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, with a visit to the Pendine museum on the evocative Pendine Sands, Britain's Land Speed Record venue where numerous records were won...and lives lost. After Pendine we head to Wales' best known racetrack, Pembrey, for more fun tests before a night's rest in the Ivy Bush Royal Hotel at Carmarthen.

Our final day kicks off with another test, this time at the 1050m Llandow kart circuit, before we head up into the Black Mountains and Brecon Beacons, dropping back to the coast for a spectacular finish in Cardiff, hopefully in front of cheering crowds at the fashionable Mermaid Quay at Cardiff Bay – followed by a night in Wales's finest hotel, St David's, which combines award-winning architecture with panoramic sea views and pampering luxury: just what you need after a week in a microcar!

The event will run to our popular navigation/competition/circuit tests/sightseeing/local visits formula, the first time it has been used in the UK, and you get all this for just £2250 for two people sharing a room, including accommodation and ALL meals from dinner on Sept 5 to breakfast on Sept 12, plus maps, mechanical back-up and so much more. We expect to be over-subscribed for the 30 places available: Regulations and Entry Forms are out (email or call us if you don't have them): get your entry in now to guarantee a place!

**SUBSCRIBER ADVERTS ARE FREE...**



**LBL/MICRO MARATHON-ELIGIBLE TRABANT P601 FOR SALE**  
 Kevin and Loree have decided to go 4-stroke for LBL, so their trusty Trabi that ran so well round the Pyrenees and Spain is for sale! Must be the finest Trabi Combi in the UK, 1977 model with the much prettier curvy bumpers, mechanically sorted, £2000. Located Bucks/Oxon borders. To view, contact the office :-

**The organising team for Micro Marathon & Liège-Brescia-Liège is led by Malcolm McKay**  
**ClassicRallyPress Ltd, 9 Sycamore Leys, Steeple Claydon, MK18 2RH, England** [www.classicrallypress.co.uk](http://www.classicrallypress.co.uk)  
**Tel 0044 (0)7711 901811 Email LBLrally@aol.com**