

1958



LIEGE-BRESCIA-LIEGE

AND

MICRO MARATHON

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

2009



July 17-20, 1958 ★ July 11-20, 2008 ★ July 10-19, 2009 ★ September 4-12, 2009

MM & LBL NEWS: DECEMBER 2008

Time for an ultimatum! Anyone who is seriously considering entering Liège-Brescia-Liège for cars 600cc to 1000cc and three-wheelers over 600cc, on July 10-19 2009, please tell us NOW. In return we will offer a reduced entry fee of £2995 until 16 January 2009. We're not going to beat about the bush: at the moment we don't have quite enough entries to make the event viable - but dozens more on the mailing list have shown serious interest and if even a quarter of those do get their entries in, we will have a great event! We know that the current economic climate isn't particularly conducive to spending money on classic rallying, but as stated last month we do offer unparalleled value for money. Here's what you get:

First and foremost, a great fun rally over 2000 miles of brilliant roads, from Germany's Black Forest to all the best passes in Italy's Dolomites. Included are 11 nights for TWO people in superb hotels, ALL meals (that's 64 in total!) from the evening of Thursday, July 9 until breakfast on Monday, July 20, a full set of maps to plot the route, mechanical back-up and assistance, luggage transport between hotels, entry to museums and private collections, road book, rally plates, door number panels, finishers awards and, potentially, some very fine trophies if you win! BUT, please note, that entry fee will only be held until 16 January, after which it goes up (full details in the Regulations), so get your entries in soon...

If you don't have a set of Regulations or an Entry form, just email us - we will send them by return. Incidentally, if any time you email us and don't get a reply, don't sit back thinking 'these guys are useless', email again and phone us - we always reply so, if you haven't heard, we haven't received your email...

A very Happy Christmas from all of us at ClassicRallyPress



**The Organising Team for Micro Marathon & Liège-Brescia-Liège is led by Malcolm McKay
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LBL entries include Geoff and Joanne Stovold in their very authentic 1955 Austin A30 with 948cc engine, left,



and Mike and Ben Norton in the smart 1961 Austin Mini-Cooper 998 replica, below



In the (hopefully very unlikely) event that we don't get enough entries by Jan 16, all who have entered will be offered your choice of

- a) immediate full refund (100%, no deductions)
- b) entry held for 2010 with guarantee of no increase
- c) entry transferred to Micro Marathon

New Hotels added!

We're delighted to have refined our accommodation for LBL: this year's hotels all did a wonderful job, but their locations weren't all perfect, which left us the opportunity for a little tweaking for 2009.



First, we will only drive through the centre of Munich once, in the peace of Sunday morning! That will be after a night in the Four Points Sheraton Munich Olympiapark, left, much more conveniently located right by BMW Welt and the BMW Museum.

Munich did feature on the 1958 route back towards Liège and we will pass close enough to respect that, but we won't expect you to drive into the centre on a Friday night this time!

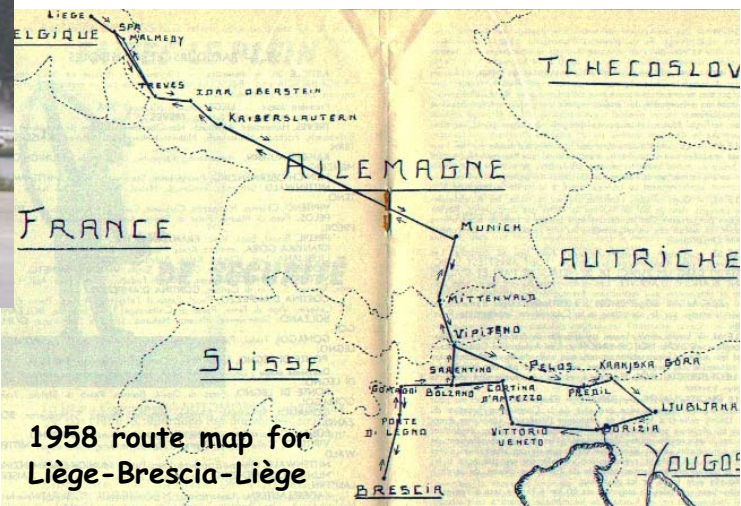


Our Friday night hotel will be the superb Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Starnberg, right, overlooking the Starnbergersee south of the city and ideally placed for a new route through the magnificent scenery of the Black Forest and Swabian Alps in south-western Germany, back towards Karlsruhe...

A couple of refinements have vastly improved the route in Italy too. This year we diverted about 20km off route (and back) to stay at Cortina d'Ampezzo. No need! In 2009 we stay right on the route in the fabulous location of Lago Misurina, in the Dolomites, in the Grand Hotel Misurina seen left.



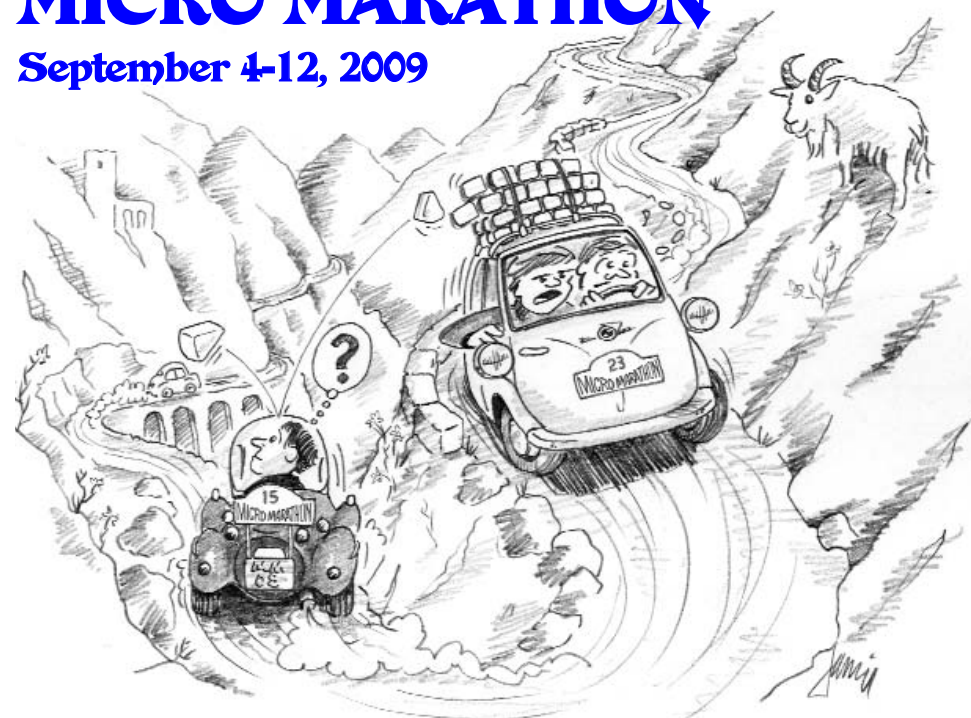
And we have an answer, too, to the longest and toughest day of the 2008 rally, when



we battled our way back from Ljubljana to the Dolomites, including climbing from near sea level all the way up to the high passes of Falzarego, Pordoi (2239m) and Costalunga before finally reaching Bolzano. This time we will stop a vital 30km before Bolzano, high in the mountains just past Passo Costalunga, at Nova Levante.

MICRO MARATHON

September 4-12, 2009



DID YOU HAVE TO BUY ALL THAT GOAT CHEESE?

We're planning something definitely different for the first night of Micro Marathon. Those who've rallied with us before know that our normal policy is to go for top hotels of a decent size, that have the staff and the reputation to ensure they cope with a sudden influx of tired rally crews without stress and offer swift service plus high quality food and accommodation. So, having established that rule, now we're going to the opposite extreme!

Our first night was going to be at Lourdes, but Saturday night is the busiest of the week in a town geared to shifting the maximum number of people through the Grotte and it was clear that our party wasn't big enough to get the level of service we require. Plus, going to Lourdes meant a big diversion out of the Pyrenees... So, we will stay in the Pyrenees, in a small village called Barèges, where the whole village (led by enlightened British ex-pats Rob and Emma who run mountain holidays up there) is going all-out to give us a night to remember!

Dinner will be served in the village hall or summer marquee, and will include a splendid barbeque of local lamb, with a bar and DJ or even disco to follow. All the village hotels will provide accommodation and the rally will be a big event for the village and should be great fun for us, to really experience the atmosphere of the French Pyrénées...

For those who were looking

Sat nav is no use on this rally: in fact this road isn't on the map either...



Yes, we do drive from down there - on some of the best mountain roads we've seen anywhere!

forward to celebrating Sunday morning mass at Lourdes, don't despair: we will start a little later on Sunday morning to give you time to belt down the main road to Lourdes and catch an early mass (they start at 06.00 with several churches conducting masses in quick succession).

Regulations and Entry Form are now published and included with this newsletter: please get your entries in as soon as you can!



A little super-smooth gravel to add the authentic 1950s' rallying feel...



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Heading back up into the Pyrenees, roads all to ourselves...



And Now For Something Completely Different: January 23-25, 2009!

If your winter isn't complete without a crazy rallying adventure, we've found one for you: but you'll have to be quick because it's next month! The Great North Winter Challenge has no connection with ClassicRallyPress except that its organiser, Douglas Anderson (01382 731755), is a subscriber and fan of our events. But it's such spectacular value and a great concept, so we reckon it has to be worth a try: and we hope to be out on the rally ourselves, giving the Triumph Vitesse its first rallying outing since 2003's Arctic Winter Trial. Unfortunately we're not allowed to use the studded tyres from that rally!

Organised by the Caledonian Classic & Historic Motor Sport Club as a tribute to the Monte Carlo rallies of the 1950s and 1960s, which had a Glasgow start from 1949, the event begins with a celebratory floodlit evening start from the Kelvingrove Art Gallery in Glasgow, flagged off at minute intervals for a short road run to the Loch Lomond area where hot supper and motoring films will be enjoyed, and inexpensive B&B can be arranged. Next day crews follow an abbreviated version of the classic 'concentration run', this time to Aviemore to meet up with other entrants doing a shorter version of the event. The competitive bits start here, with a tough mountain circuit on Saturday evening offering challenging driving with every chance of some snow and ice, plus tricky navigation. It's followed on Sunday by driving tests on the car parks of Aviemore, where the local autotest

experts will show you just how quickly it's possible to dance a car round cones! See the Club's website, www.caledonianmsc.com, for more details and let Douglas know as soon as possible if you're interested.

SUBSCRIBER ADVERTS ARE FREE....

NAVIGATOR NEEDED FOR LBL!

1964 Austin Mini and owner raring to go (based in London), but need a navigator! If interested and prepared to share costs, please contact Giuseppe Spoto via email: giuseppe.spoto@ntlworld.com

LBL MINI FOR SALE!

Ideal Liège-Brescia-Liège mount: 1961 Morris Mini 998cc, currently undergoing full restoration but I've been tempted by a Cooper replica (see above) so the Morris could be yours for £3750. Mike Norton, email miken@dentaladviser.demon.co.uk

NAVIGATOR OFFERED FOR MICRO MARATHON!

Liège-Brescia-Liège veteran (co-driver in 2CV no 31) would love to have a go at the Micro Marathon too: email Mike Norton on miken@dentaladviser.demon.co.uk

Ancient cave dwellings, Spain

