

CLASSIC DRIVER

British Classic Car Meeting 2012: Rare Healey Westland to start

Lead

From 13-15 July, St. Moritz will host the 19th British Classic Car Meeting. Among the 200 cars taking part is a 1950 Healey Westland – the fastest production sports car of its day.

Only 70 example of this rare model were originally built, in three series. It was in 1946 that Donald Healey created the first 17 cars, the 'A series', powered by a 2.4-litre Riley engine with 104HP. The UK price of £2,334 (and a startling \$7,500 in the USA) made it twice as expensive as a Cadillac cabriolet. And of course, being a Healey, the model was used competitively as well as on the road. Donald Healey and his son Geoff ran one in the 1948 Mille Miglia, coming second in the 'unlimited sports' class and ninth overall – a very favourable result that demonstrated the calibre of the Westland.





Back to 2012 and, with July fast approaching, the BCCM organisers have announced Saturday's rally route. After running from St. Moritz over the Flüela pass to Davos and Lenzerheide, the cars will then head back via Bergün and the Albula pass to the Alpine town in the Upper Engadine. Sunday sees a more sedate programme, with a Concours d'Elégance on Via Serlas, in the centre of St. Moritz-Dorf – already full to capacity, and with the 1950 Healey Westland no doubt a strong contender for concours honours.





Today, very few Westlands remain in a drivable condition and the car (chassis number C-1840) taking part in July's British Classic Car Meeting is particularly special. It was the last Westland ever built – and has only recently been restored back to its original condition by Healey expert Warren Kennedy.

Photos: BCCM

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