

Pigs'n'Frogs

... Jahrgang 39, Heft 3+4/2016



Veranstaltungen.

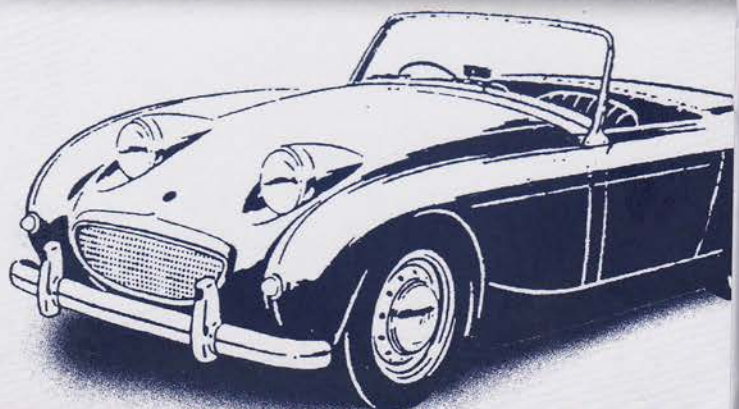
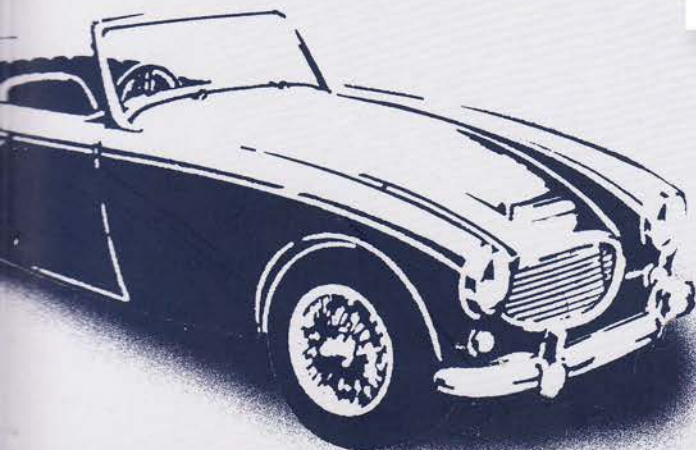
Gründungsjubiläum, British Classic und Pfingsttreffen 2017 ...

Spridget Corner.

Sebring/Le Mans Sprite „Works Cars“ von 1965 bis 1969 ...

Geschichte und Geschichten.

Forum über einen Healeykauf ...



Stammtische

... Münchner Stammtisch-Ausflug Hallertau 2016 von John Wetstone.

The Hallertau is known for its superlative hops throughout the entire world

Last year I had a talk with Edward „Edi“ Garstecki about the area he comes from, the Hallertau which is about 45 miles directly north of Munich. At that time I suggested that we undertake an excursion together with the members of our „Stammtisch“, our core group of members to this typically „bayerisch“ area to learn about his hometown.

The Hallertau is known for its superlative hops throughout the entire world. In fact, Hallertauer Hopfen are the international standard measure of hop excellence. Of course, we all love our beer but few of us have visited this area or have any real idea of what the Hallertau has to offer even though it is right at our doorstep. Now Edi and I are very both very busy at this time of year taking care of our clients. Edi has a great deal of work at Marx's Garage which he and his son Stefan manage as Master Mechanics. Needless to say Marx's Garage is the workshop for most of our Stammtisch members – including me!

At our February Stammtisch gathering, I proposed my Hallertau tour idea to our group. The proposal was accepted and was then entered in the calendar for 2016.

This would be my second tour of the year. I, of course, had no idea that my first one a month earlier would be so difficult because of the terrible weather we encountered, just a few weeks ago in June. Who knew what might await us weather-wise? Weather worries notwithstanding, it turned out the response to the Hopfen „Ausflug“ was tremendous. We finally had so many people who wanted to come that we had to limit the number of people to only those who would actually take part; finally, we ended up with 26 people and 15 Healey's or so we thought. But last minute requests kept coming in by phone on Saturday morning only a day before our departure on July 17th. I was on the phone for over an hour trying to figure out how to add another car and four more participants. We had the following cars take part: 2 x AH 100/4, 2 x Frosch Auge (Bug Eyed sprite), 1 x BN 6, 2 x BN7, 2 x BT 7, 6 x BJ 8 and they all completed the day with no problems. Edi had already told me no more people would be possible, but as always where there is a will there is a way.

Frosch Eye View of Hops Growing

As it turned out, we were able to make everyone happy and our numbers moved up to 16 Healey's and 30 people!

To start the day I drove out to our starting point Marx's Garage. The top was down despite a light rain which got heavier as the first part of morning went on. Naturally, the weather reports beforehand during the entire week had been for perfect sunshine for our entire day.

First, we all gathered for coffee and croissants, courtesy of Edi Garstecki and Marx's Garage. We then departed as scheduled for the first leg of our tour to the Deutsches Hopfenmuseum – the German National Hop Museum – right on time. The rain had let up a little, but many of us still had our tops up at this time. The roads remained very wet and covered with dirt and other country farm animal „decorations.“ This could have presented a problem but fortunately turned out not to be the case. As we got closer to the Hallertau, the hop fields began to appear.

Hop vines grow on wires suspended from frames rising 16 feet and more above the ground. The vines' tendrils encircle the wire and climb skyward as they grow. Each frame supports three or four rows of wires with 10 - 20 wires per row. The entire Hallertau landscape is covered by these frames with access roads winding among the fields allowing farmers to plant, maintain and harvest the hops.

We were driving through this Alice in Wonderland-like terrain of high wire frames forming canyons of up to four meters'





Herr Reich explains to a very interested public.

height on both sides of the road, the young hops growing skyward inching their way up the wires like coiled snakes unleashing their energy seeking the sun. We also „snaked“ our way through the area on those narrow, tiny curving roads. Everything around us was emerald green, looking totally different since I and Edi last drove through the area to write the road book in spring when everything was still wintery brown and bare.

Even though we were promised that there would be parking for our cars at the Museum, the parking lot was very full and all our fantasy-full drivers had to find their own way to squeeze all 16 cars in somewhere. Somehow, they managed!

The tour of the Deutsches Hopfenmuseum was given by Lorenz Reich. Herr Reich himself owns such an operation and has been a Hopfenbauer for many years. Both our Master Mechanics Edi Garstecki and son Stefan Garstecki being from the Hallertau and like all area youngsters worked helping out, harvesting hops as teenagers.



The Harvest

This year being the 500th anniversary of the famous Bavarian Beer Purity Act German-wide but most especially here in Bayern, there is of course a great deal going on concerning all facets of beer brewing so that our tour to this great hops growing area was a very fitting occasion. The Museum visitation was very interesting for all and the presentation was absolutely top quality.

Our next short ride was to the privately owned Brewery Lampl Bräu, only a 15-minute drive. But it had to be revised from my original road book a bit because of road construction. Little did anyone, including myself, know that this would be our big treat!

▶▶▶ Deutsches Hopfenmuseum

Niederlauterbach
Axelbachstraße 10
D-85283 Wolnzach
Tel. 08442/964650



Members of Munich Austin Healey Stammtisch visit Deutsches Hopfenmuseum July 17, 2016.

Stammtische

... Fortsetzung: Münchner Stammtisch-Ausflug Hallertau 2016 von John Wetstone.

►► First of all the sun was out and all the roads were dry, as we followed Edi through the fields of hops on both sides of the very narrow road which only a single car could pass through, again the high frames construction towering over us on both sides of the road, veritably forming a canyon.

We arrived at the Lampl Bräu to find the owner, Gerhard Stanglmayr and Edi standing on the corner directing us into the courtyard of the brewery, where we all found parking, no small feat for 16 vehicles at once.

Herr Stanglmayr was also waiting for us with an impressive lunch which had been arranged in advance. Following a hearty repast he gave us a tour of the Brewery and explained in detail how beer is brewed. He then invited us to sample his beer, which most of us had already tasted during lunch. Along with the beer tasting, strong coffee and delicious homemade cakes were also offered at the end of our brewery visit.

Finally everyone went back to his car to prepare our short ride home to Munich, this being the perfect end to our perfect day!

The line up to go home.



On tour in Hopfen fields.



Herr Stanglmayr explains brewing process.



Lots of Healey waiting for Brewery tour after lunch.