



Chateau Impney (157)

Sun, 10th Jul 2016, Chateau Impney

Lot 3

Estimate: £8000 - £12000 + Fees

1959 Austin-Healey Sprite

Registration No: EU-Reg

Chassis No: AN55701

Mot Expiry: Exempt

- Purchased in 1982 from the late Ralph Clarke who at the time was the R&D Manager at BMC Blackheath plant outside Capetown

- Richard Hulse was a founder member of the Austin-Healey Club in South Africa. Over a 35 year period the Sprite participated in several show days, events and rallies

- In 2002 the Sprite was shipped to the UK to participate in the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of Austin-Healey after which the vehicle was returned to South Africa to continue it's club life

- Following the death of Richard Hulse in 2013 the car was shipped to Ireland by his daughter and has been used little since

- The car comes with a hard top, a soft top, plus seat cover that tucks in behind the seats.

This attractive, apparently low-mileage (an unwarranted 28,500), South African-assembled MK1 Sprite features an aftermarket hardtop and forward-opening bonnet, is finished in White over Red, and comes complete with soft top, tonneau and Heritage Certificate. It has remained in the same family ownership for no less than 35 years, having been purchased by founding Austin-Healey South Africa Club member Richard Hulse from the late Ralph Clarke, who at the time was the R&D Manager of BMC's Blackheath plant, Cape Town. During Hulse's tenure the Sprite was a regular competitor in club rallies and show days and contested several Johannesburg to Maputo rallies - it also participated in the 2002 Austin-Healey 50th anniversary celebrations in the UK. At Richard's death in 2013, the car was shipped to his daughter in Ireland, since when it has seen only modest use. She presently considers it to have 'very good' bodywork, paintwork, engine and gearbox and 'good' Red-piped Black interior trim.