

BERLIN MEETING 1994

BY CHRIS BUCKLAND
AND MAGY HIS Y TYPE

I arrived at Spandau at 10pm after quite an eventful journey from Meissen, the morning was spent looking around the porcelain factory in Meissen, I left for Berlin at 3pm, never try to travel on a German autobahn on a Friday afternoon (it's impossible) after crawling for most of the way, I arrived at the Berlinerling at 8pm to find I was heading in the wrong direction, after sorting myself out I headed down Avus looking for the Spandauer Damm turn off, but took wrong turn

and found myself heading back for the Dresden autobahn (where I'd come from), after nearly giving up I suddenly saw a sign for Spandauer Damm, and found our base for the weekend. After a good meal with some German friends, Mike Standing led me to the inner autobahn and gave me instructions to find my accommodation, it sounded very complicated but it was not and I found Madeleine and Thomas's apartment with no trouble, although it was 12.30am by then.

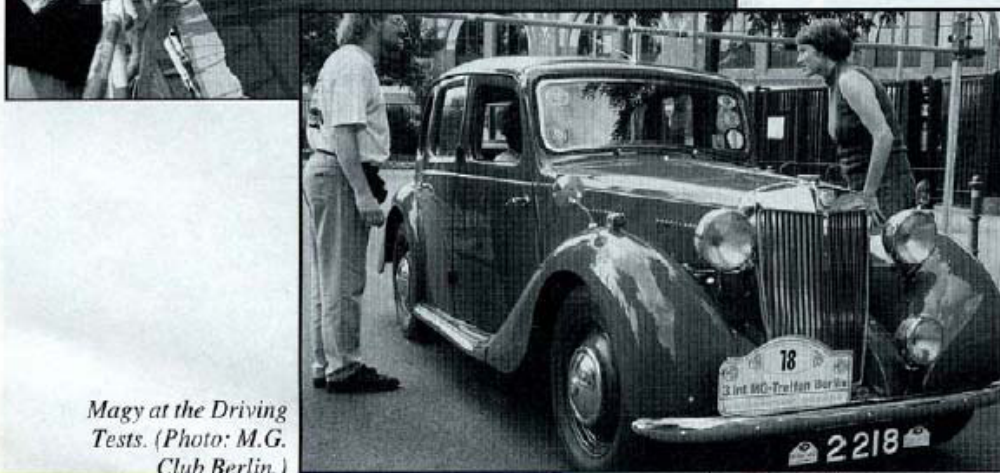
Saturday morning I drove back to Spandau, where we had a police escort for our 100+ M.G.s for a 1½ hrs drive through the centre of Berlin to the Technik Museum, we travelled via the 17th June avenue through the Brandenburger Tor and down Unter den Linden, imagine this on a Saturday morning in any other European

Capital. When we arrived we had a bowl of soup and a very welcome beer, but the first people at the bar were the police motor cyclists (mind you they deserved it), then a look round the Museum, before the driving tests, which were fairly straight forward, then we made our way back to Spandau in the company of two VAs a WA Tickford an SA and two Ys. The evening meal was a help yourself affair accompanied by a rock band, the prize giving was split up throughout the evening, my prize (I've yet to find out what for), was announced at 11.15pm by which time I was having a quick snooze in my car. Sunday morning there was a brunch for everyone to say their goodbyes. We, the visitors went for a drive around the countryside, crossing the Havel on a small ferry and then went for coffee at a cafe overlooking Berlin from across the Havel, we then split up and I went together with Ton and Freddy Maathuis and family to Sanssouci the palace of Frederick the Great near Potsdam, which was moulded on Versailles. It has wonderful gardens, an orangery, and a fabulous fig house. Then we went for an evening meal in Potsdam before heading back for Berlin.

The next morning the rally over I got a rover ticket for the (U-bahn) underground (S-bahn) transit railway and bus systems. I went first down Kurfusten Damm, stopped at the Memorial church, a very modern blue glass building alongside the spire of the old church, which was all that was left after the war, then after a quick trip around the Zoo which is only 200m from the main street I took the U-bahn to Unter den Linden walked to the Brandenburg Gate and to the Reichstag, but found it was closed on a Monday, then had some tea at the Casino cafe, looked at the Berliner Dom (Cathedral) before taking the S-bahn back to Madeleine's office, where we met Thomas and went to a small Berlin pub for an evening meal. Tuesday Madeleine drove my car down Kurfusten Damm to her office where we said goodbye, and I went back to Sanssouci and looked inside the palace, and then left for Jeannette den Hollander in Hengevelde, Holland, where I arrived about 10pm after a very memorable weekend.



*Magy at the
Brandenburger Tor.
(Photo: M.G. Club
Berlin.)*



*Magy at the Driving
Tests. (Photo: M.G.
Club Berlin.)*