

1951 Oblin Jaguar XK 120

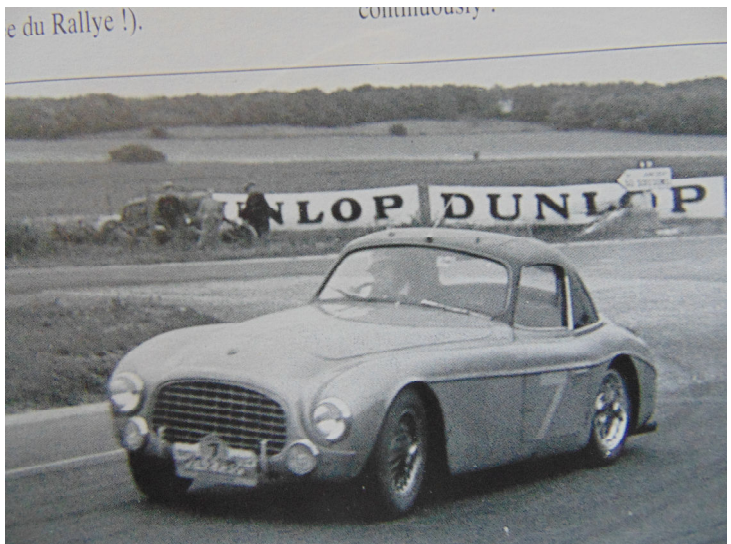
By Neville Barlow



This unique Jaguar was bodied in Aluminium by Martial Oblin from Brussels in 1951. The appearance of this 2 door coupe was inspired by the Ferrari 166. Only 3 cars are known to have received a body produced by Oblin; a Talbot Lago T26 GS, this Jaguar XK 120 and a Ferrari 166.

This car was entered in the 21st Liege-Rome-Liege Marathon of 1951. It was driven by the Belgian pair of Herzet and Bianchi. They finished 2nd behind another Jaguar XK 120. Bianchi liked to recall that they spent most of the rally sitting in 20cm of water, as it rained continuously! The car weighed 100 kilo grams more than the standard XK 120 and also had the misfortune to spend some time stuck off the road.

In 1952 it took part in the Tour de France Automobile finishing 38th. It was discovered in Belgian in the 1960's in a sad state. It underwent a restoration and is thought to still be used for historic car rallies.



Neville