

# COTSWOLD SECTION NEWSLETTER



Winter has certainly taken an early grip and whilst most of us haven't seen the extreme snowfall, I'm sure like me your cringing at the amount of salt across the road network (or is that just me worrying about the Sud Sprint !). A number of projects are shaping up along with some additions to our members collections, more of them next month, but we have exciting event and AROC news this month. I'd also like to take the opportunity on behalf of all the Section committee to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. - MB

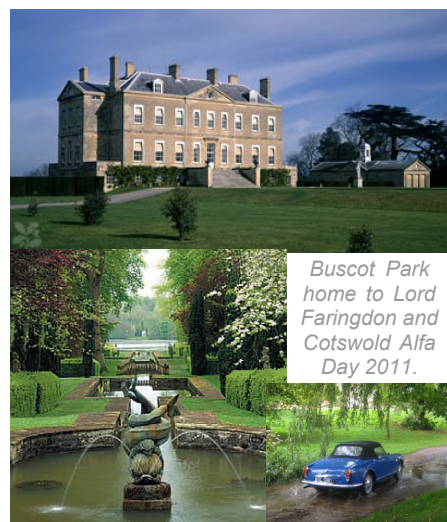
## Cotswold Alfa Day 26th June 2011 - Buscot Park

We have now confirmed that the 2011 Cotswold Alfa Day will be on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> of June**.

The Giro Panoramico will be starting at **The Frog Mill Hotel** just off the A40 near Andoversford and the route will finish at **Buscot Park**, the home of Lord Faringdon, between Lechlade and Faringdon.

Lord Faringdon looks after the the property on behalf of the National Trust, in addition to the family collection of pictures, furniture, ceramics and objets d'art, know as the Faringdon Collection.

The grounds themselves are impressive and we have an excellent area in the Paddock for our use this year. More details will follow as we confirm them, but I'm sure you'll enjoy this splendid venue for our 2011 event. - MB



## Breaking News.....

I am delighted to announce that the great Touring Car driver Gabriele Tarquini, famous here for his BTCC championship win in 1994 in the Alfa 155, is to become our new President following the retirement of Peter Cabrol. Our grateful thanks to Peter for so many years dedication to AROC and a big welcome to Gabriele. This is a great privilege for the club and there will be more on this later I am sure as it's an exciting moment for us all.



Ed McDonough's recent retirement is yet another factor in us re-assessing how we run AROC in future and although the two are not directly connected, this leads me to introduce our recently appointed Club manager Nick Wright who takes up his position on January 1st.

I am also delighted to be able to say that James Wheeler has consented to step into Ed's shoes and become the Hon Chairman of AROC. James is and has been a great supporter of AROC over many years and is well known to many of you already. We look forward to seeing him at as many Club events as is possible in future whilst understanding that he and almost all people engaged in running AROC give their time voluntarily and generously. James' experience in running the well known Alfa business of Black & White Garage will surely be of great value to AROC in future years and we are fortunate to have these skills available to us.



Our own James Wheeler and Gabriele Tarquini. Note the differing driving styles!

*Extract from letter John Norrington - Director AROC Ltd*

I'm sure you'll join me in wishing James all the very best in the role, and with James being such a supporter of the Section that we will offer our support and help as he further strengthens and develops the Owners Club. - MB

## 2011 Events

The 2011 Section events calendar is shaping up nicely with a number of new events as well as some of the regular favorites. Whilst we still have to finalise one or two dates we now have the 2011 Diary updated on the website.

Highlights already include the trip to **Prodrive** on **Sunday 13th March** with interest being extremely high with only a limited number of spaces left, an **Asparagus run** in **May** (date to be confirmed).

We will again be supporting the Cheltenham Cleve Vale Rotary Club event at **Prescott Hill Climb** on **Sunday 15th May** and for the season opening **AROC Spring Alfa Day** on **Sunday 17th April** we will run a Section convoy down to Duxford as this coincides with this year's Drive it Day.

There is another chance for some hill climb action on **Sunday 31st July** at the **Classic Car Run at Precott Hill Climb**, in conjunction with the South Western region of the Austin Healey Club & RetroMarques.

This year also sees a very popular event last run in 2009 by John & Hazel Mills, the **Loxley Re-Run** will take place on **Saturday August 20th** and we will have more details on that in the new year.

As ever our regular monthly meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month and we have a number of events for some of those meetings as well. All in all a busy year ahead for us to enjoy

- MB

## Blade Alfa Romeo Visit & Christmas Meal

The visit to Blade Alfa Romeo took place in November and a good turn out were treated to an evening where the chance to test drive some of the current range of Alfas and enjoy a spread laid on by Bill at Blades. It also saw a raffle raise funds for our supported charity the Lavender Trust. And I know one very lucky nephew who is going to enjoy his first Alfa in the shape of the Brera peddle car! Thanks to Bill and the team at Blade for a fun evening and the generous prize donations. - MB



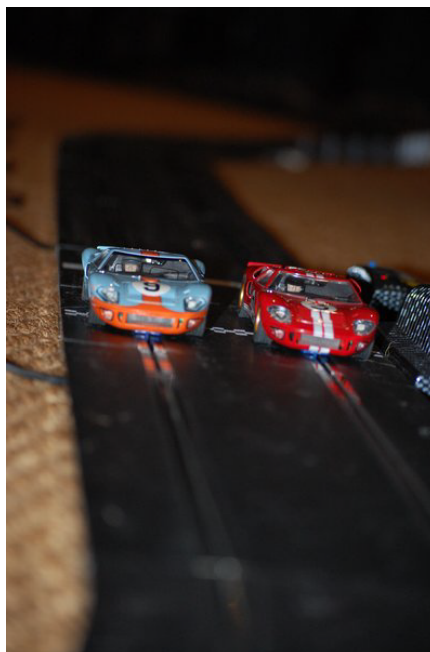
We returned to the Three Ways Hotel at Mickleton for this year's Christmas meal and thankfully the winter weather didn't stop anyone getting through. An enjoyable time was had by all with party hats and the ever worsening jokes from the Christmas crackers causing much hilarity?! It was a great way to say fairwell to what has been a hectic but highly enjoyable centenary year and certainly started to get people into the Christmas spirit. - MB



## Gentlemen start your engines!

January sees the 2011 round of the Cotswold Scalextric GP.

This year's event is being run by slot car ace Batman and Rodders, who have been fettling the cars and designing a fast but challenging circuit to pit your skills against one another on the track. Racing starts at 7.30 prompt and we will be putting on some food to keep your strength up! - MB



## AGM & Photo Quiz

Our regular February meeting will see the AGM take place, with the current committee all standing for re-election and a great opportunity to let us know what you think of the section, events and suggestions for both this year and next. Its nice to see some of last years suggestions coming together to form part of the 2011 events calendar.

Once the formalities are out of the way we'll then have this year's quiz, an eclectic mix of photos over three rounds to get you guessing and putting the old grey matter to work. - MB