



COTSWOLD SECTION NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first Section newsletter of Alfa Romeo's centenary year. To mark this milestone there are many exciting events planned to take place throughout the year. The Cotswold Section has big plans for 2010 too. Our first event to celebrate the centenary will be at Prescott Hill in early May. Then of course there's COTSWOLD ALFA DAY which this year takes place at Blenheim Palace on September 5th. The finer points of our plans are almost complete and we should be able to release details of admission prices, plus the starting point for *Giro Panoramico* very soon.

But 2010 doesn't just mark 100 years of Alfa Romeo. It is also our very own Sections' 5th anniversary and to honour the occasion we have organised a very special lunch. For details turn to page 2. But be warned, if you've made a New Year resolution to lose weight, forget it!

As I'm sure you are aware the Rotary Club event at Prescott Hill each May is always very popular. This year we hope it will be even more so. Full details will appear in next months Club Magazine.

One feature of the event is the opportunity to drive the Hill in a series of marshalled but un-timed runs. However places are limited.

But as details won't be released to the general membership until next months Magazine is published you have the chance to 'get in early'. Entry forms are available at our Section meetings and events and also on our website.

It promises to be a great event. Alfa Romeo UK will be there with a full hospitality unit. And Prescott have offered us as much space as we can fill.

Go on fill out a form now and secure your place. *RM*



Don't worry about the small print on this poster it's all explained on the forms



Next month it's our AGM and we'll be voting in a new Secretary.

Once that's out of the way the out-going Secretary will present the Section quiz.

Going back to the AGM - which will start at 7.30 on the dot - we have two candidates for the role of Secretary and they are both called Mark.

The two Marks are Mark Byatt and Mark Sweeney and they have each provided a short profile of themselves and these are shown below.

If you can't get to the AGM on February 17th you can cast your vote by email to Mark G at mgrimshaw@btinternet.com Title your email 'Vote' and then just put either Mark S or Mark B. If you do want to vote via email please do it before noon on February 17th. *RM*

Hi I'm Mark Sweeney. I'm 41 years old, married, with a 12 year old daughter, and we live in Kington, Warwickshire. I'm a Production Manager in Coventry and I've been with the same company for 17 years.

My first ever Alfa was a 33 but the car that really got me hooked was a 155 2.0 super. I have owned another 4 155s since this one. Also in the ever growing list are a 147 selespeed, 147 1.6, a 147 GTA, a 156 2.5, a 156 GTA, and a diesel GT.

I am a very enthusiastic Alfa member. I have been with AROC for 10 years. I have been attending the Cotswold section for a couple years and enjoy being part of this well run club. I believe I have the drive, determination and vision to help run the club and take it forward to the next decade.

Hi my name is Mark Byatt. Here are just a few lines about me and my Alfa experience.

I was born and live in Coventry, age 41 and married to Rayanne. I work in telecommunications as a Project Manager.

My Alfa history started with a colleague who bought two Suds to make one good one and once I had driven a Sud I was well and truly hooked!

My first Alfa was a 33, followed quickly by a beautiful red Sud Sprint. After a few years out in the cold with Peugeots (family discount!) I had two 156's followed by my current GT.

But I'd always hankered after a Spider and bought a 1978 S2 Spider in May 08 and after a drunken ebay moment also a Sud Sprint from Northern Ireland in December 08, affectionately known as the banger from Bangor.

For me the welcome, help and fun gained from the Cotswold Section has been tremendous. I'm keen to promote and support this active and successful Section and build on what has already been achieved.

Celebrate 5 years of the Cotswold Section with lunch at the 'Pudding Club' on Sunday March 7th

A quick history lesson

In early 2005 four strangers met at The Elmbury Lodge in Tewkesbury. They were Matthew Willmott, Mark Grimshaw, Paul Morris, and Richard Morris, and the only thing that they had in common was that they all drove the same make of car and they were all very enthusiastic about that particular marque, which was of course, Alfa Romeo. The four of them wanted to resurrect the long dead Cotswold Section of the Alfa Romeo Owners Club. They formed a plan of action and over the following weeks email traffic between the four was fast and furious as the details of their plans came to fruition.

The Roman Court Hotel in Stow was selected to be the new Sections' home and March 2nd would be the date of the first meeting. The date was publicised heavily. Emails were sent out to AROC members, letters were mailed, and news of the reborn Section appeared in the Club newsletter. But still the four were a bit nervous as to whether anyone would show up on the night.

They needn't have worried. That first Section meeting attracted over 30 members. And it was just the start.

Thanks to a large band of committed and encouraging members the Section rapidly became one of the best supported and most active in the club. So much so that in 2006 the Section was awarded the Ron Callard trophy, for the Section that has made the biggest contribution to the Club.

Over time the Committee changed. Paul Morris left and Richard Rees joined. And with Richard's help the Section's summer barbecue grew into Cotswold Alfa Day which has now become one of the Club's biggest and best attended Section events.

When Richard left in 2008 Steve Dymoke took over and it is Steve that has organised the lunch to celebrate our 5th anniversary.

The lunch will take place on Sunday March 7th at the world famous Pudding Club at the Three Ways House Hotel in Mickleton near Chipping Campden. The Pudding Club was founded in 1985 to rescue warm winter delights such as Jam Roly Poly, Treacle Sponge, Sticky Toffee Pudding and Spotted Dick from seductive, but light weight, competition like Black Forest Gateau, Strawberry Cheesecake and Vienetta! Our third course will give us plenty of opportunity to sample some of those proper puddings - with ample helpings of custard of course. Have a look at their website /www.puddingclub.com/

The menu and prices are shown on the right. The meal begins at 1pm.

We thought an invigorating country walk in the morning would help to work up a hearty appetite so we're going to meet at the National Trust car park at Dover's Hill at 11am and walk a circular route. We'll be back at the car park at around 12.40pm and then we'll head off to Mickleton and lunch.

If you'd rather give the walk a miss, that's fine, we'll see you at the Pudding Club in time for lunch at 1pm.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you intend to join us at the Pudding Club.

We need to let them have numbers and deposits by the end of January or we'll lose our booking. So confirm your place now! You can let us know by email at arocotswolds@933.me.uk or you can give Matthew a call on 01684 296163.

Dover's Hill is about 1 mile north-west of Chipping Campden.

The Three Ways House Hotel can be found in Chapel Lane in Mickleton just off the B4632 Cheltenham to Stratford road.

Starters

Homemade Soup of the Day
Duo of Melon with Red Berry Coulis
Chicken Liver Parfait with Homemade Chutney
Smoked Trout and Beetroot Salad

Main Courses

Roast Rib of Beef with Yorkshire Pudding and Red Wine Gravy
Wild Mushroom Ravioli with Sun Blushed Tomatoes
Supreme of Salmon with a Thyme Butter Sauce
Roast Loin of Pork with a Cider Jus and Apple Sauce
All served with a Selection of Fresh Local Market Vegetables

Puddings

Mango and Raspberry Mousse
A selection of Puddings from the buffet all served with lashings of Custard
A selection of fine English Cheese
A Cafetiere of Coffee or Tea with Homemade Fudge

2 Courses: £19.50

or

3 Courses: £22.50

