

# COTSWOLD SECTION NEWSLETTER



As the last gasp of summer gave the chance for a final hurrah autumn is now pushing in. AROC are again running a track day this year at Rockingham and a few of us are on track and supporting the event. Planning is already underway for next year and the Cotswold Section will be hosting the 2012 Spring Alfa Day at the Cotswold Wildlife Park. Please let us have any of your ideas for the coming year as we start to finalise the diary for 2012. -MB

## 'It's all about the girls'

On a recent trip to Italy we were walking through the medieval streets of San Gimignano in Tuscany, when the roar of a classic car drew my attention. I just had to investigate and what a chance event we stumbled upon. Slowly forming in Piazza Sant' Agostino was a collection of cars that were taking part in a tour of Tuscany.

The tour was titled 'It's all about the girls' and the ladies involved included a number of very famous women accompanied by some equally famous cars.

Yasmin Le Bon, Annette Mason (Nick Mason's wife), and Frances Clarkson (Mrs Jeremy) were taking part in a very civilised tour involving visits to the highlights of the region (along with a visit to a shoe museum!) and leisurely long lunches (not quite the same as last years trip to Milan in terms of mileage nor points of interest or alcohol consumed).

On the car front Yasmin Le Bon arrived in a vintage Bugatti, Annette Mason in a Ferrari 250 GTO worth in the region of 20 million that had been campaigned this year by Martin Brundle at the Goodwood Revival. A Bugatti Veyron rubbed shoulders with a gaggle of Mercedes SL190s and Jaguar E-types. A further two vintage Bugattis, two more stunning Ferraris and an all American contingent of a Ford

T-Bird and a Cadillac Eldorado. Bentley also flew the flag for the British and last but not least to arrive were two Alfas. A Giulietta spider that could have done with some engine fettling from the good Mr Hood and a green duet which was not quiet in the same league as Richard's!

A short pit stop and the cars were off again. I've not yet tried to add up the value of the cars parked up in the piazza but I think a calculator with a large number of zeros is required. - MB



*Duetto in good company.*



*Nick Mason's 250 GTO*



*Ferrari & Veyron mmmmmmmmmmm*



*Yasmin Le Bon.*



## ***Glorious Goodwood Revival***

They call it Glorious Goodwood...

...and is certainly was. The Dymoke's and the Grimshaw's teamed up with Neil Smith and Emma from NJS in Pershore and instead of going for the Sunday as in previous years went on the Friday for a change. Despite a very gloomy weather forecast we had a cracking day with sunshine almost from the off. We heard that on the Sunday the underpass to the paddocks was flooded so it looks like we picked the right day.

Steve and Neil opted for RAF uniform whilst I went with the Rod Ashton look ! The ladies all went for the 40's look and of course all looked gorgeous.

Getting there very early Steve managed to get a prime spot in the tax exempt classic car park (an event all in itself), as we approached the attendant took one look at my spider number plate and we headed off for the forward parking instead.

11am we had a pre-arranged meet with other AROC'ers including John & Hazel Mills, John & Helen Raper and a bunch of AROC forum users. John & Hazel gluttons for punishment were there for the whole 3 day weekend !

On the track there was a tribute to the legendary racing driver Juan Manuel Fangio with a grid of rare and stunning cars associated with his career, including three spectacular Mercedes-Benz racers, plus two Chevrolets bought over from Argentina specifically for the Revival. A handful of drivers that knew and raced with Fangio were also on hand. Additionally, Goodwood staged its largest ever Revival vehicle parade with 100 British-built Fords lapping the circuit as this popular marque celebrated its centenary in the UK.

The St Mary's trophy for saloon cars that raced between 1960 and 1966 saw a handful of Alfa's on the grid. Jochen Mass & Tony Jardine both drove Bertone GT Coupes; others included a lovely mid blue Giulia Saloon which sadly threw a con rod, another GT had an off bending the front nearside quarter and when we left in the evening, the owners were still in the paddock bashing away with hammers !

The 75th anniversary of the Spitfire aircraft was marked with a fitting and emotional tribute as ten of these iconic machines took to the skies over Goodwood.

If you have never been to this event I can thoroughly recommend it but would suggest you enter into the spirit and dress up in 40's, 50's or 60's apparel. It one of those events you ought to go to at least once with something for everyone; period dress, shopping, static display of vehicles and airplanes, flying displays, plenty of on track racing action and a wonderful atmosphere of a time gone by.

138,000 people made it to the event this year and all three days were sold out, so if you want to go best to book early. The provisional date for the 2012 event is 14-16 September. - MG

## ***Coming up :***

**Sat 5th November**

**AROC Track day at Rockingham**

**11/12/13th November**

**NEC Classic Car show**

**Sat 10th December**

**Section Christmas Meal  
(Provisional date)**



*Photo's Mark & Jane Grimshaw*

