

ALFA ROMEO OWNERS CLUB

Aug 2012

COTSWOLD SECTION NEWSLETTER



Well I can hardly believe it's already August. We seem to have lost 2 weeks whilst the nation has been gripped by some event taking place in London. It has meant some very quiet roads to enjoy in the few spells of settled weather. However the year is far from over despite being time to take deposits for the Christmas meal !!!

National Alfa Day will have taken place by the time you read this (full report next time) but the Loxley Silver Run is just around the corner. - MB

Silverstone Classic

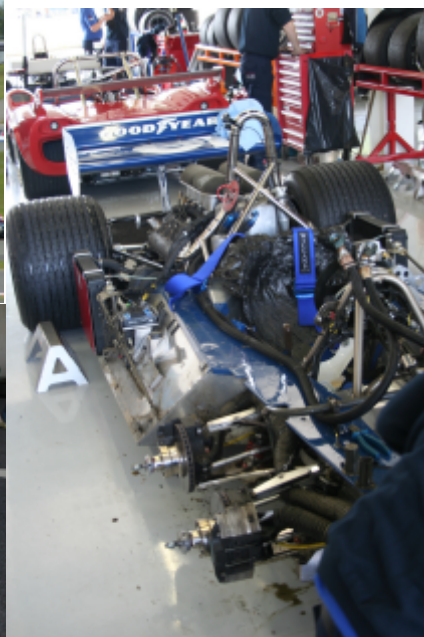
I returned again this year to the Silverstone Classic, my first since the remodelling and introduction of 'The Wing'. The weather running up to the British GP had still left its mark, with a number of car clubs being relocated from the normal grassy in field parking areas to alternative hard standing including the Alfa Romeo Owners Club.

Although Friday was wet with some heavy showers the racing was as close as ever and certainly featured a few offs because of the weather. Although I missed Saturday the dry weather meant some brilliant racing was to be had and that was repeated on the Sunday.

There were plenty of Alfas on track with a good showing of Bertone Coupes including the beautifully prepared step front. In another class were a pair of Sprint Zagatos which ran in formation making for an entertaining race.

The classic GP race was also a favourite with the Tyrell Six wheeler making an appearance after a very mixed weekend and a small amount of damage after Friday's qualifying.

Again another classic event well worth a visit. - MB



Ladies Night

Last months Ladies Night was really well attended. It was lovely to see a number of better halves and the usual talk of carbs and cams certainly wasn't quite as obvious as usual.

Thanks to all who attended and made the journey, thanks also to The Nest for looking after the Ladies. - MB

East Mids Leicester Aeroclub

The East Midland section have invited anyone interested across to the **Leicester Aeroclub Open Day on Sunday 9th September from 10.30am** - at Leicester Airport (aka Stoughton Aerodrome). There will be air displays, special AROC display, model aircraft flying displays and potential free pleasure flights too! The fantastic WW2 'War Birds' are expected again this year - MB

Fujifilm Touring Car Trophy

This year's Silverstone Classic saw the inclusion of two Fujifilm Touring Car Trophy races which saw a host of ex touring cars coming together for some close and hard fought racing.

Neil Smith of NJS in Pershore was part of the field with his ex Tarquini S2000 spec car giving away some horsepower to the Ford Sierra Cosworth RS500's. A wet qualifying on Friday saw a respectable 7th place on the grid for the first race on Saturday.

The first round on Saturday saw Neil have a spin on cold tyres but then fight his way through the field to finish a brilliant 4th, which also meant 4th place on the Grid for Sunday.

Sunday saw the Alfa having a mammoth battle with a supertouring Nissan, Neil's younger S2000 spec Alfa was strong under braking, with the Nissan enjoying the power advantage that propelled several changes of position. On three occasions (twice at Village and once at Brooklands) the Alfa slid through into second only for Nissan to be able to drag back past.

The final time they swapped paces, on the eighth lap of the nine squeezed into the 20 minutes, Smith reprised an earlier move, carrying more speed through the sweep of Farm taking the inside line for Village to take third place. However the Nissan took a wider entry to The Loop, cutting back inside Smith through Aintree and powering past before Brooklands.

The battling pair, who also managed to go door handle to door handle thrillingly around Stowe, meant that Dave Jarman, driving another Primera, this one a former charge of Matt Neal, still liveried in the Team Dynamics red, was able to catch up.

In just a few laps after passing Craig Davies – who took the honour of being the best of the RS500 crop in sixth – Jarman devoured the six second gap to the Nissan and Neil Smith in time to launch a final lap attack on Smith exiting Luffield, pushing the Alfa driver back to fifth place.

Even so the racing was superb as a spectator and the smile on Neil's face said it all. Perhaps next year we could see a pair of S2000 Spec 156's doing battle around Silverstone.

As always there was a host of other must see races and cars including a rather crumpled Bertie which looked very sorry for itself after qualifying on a wet Friday



Silverstone Classic Touring Cars.

Christmas Meal

I know summer hasn't arrived yet but we require a £10 deposit per person from all wishing to attend the Christmas Lunch, we have to pay this by the end of August or we lose the booking.

A number of you have already responded as wishing to come along but for those that haven't I have put the details below.

Please either send a cheque for your deposit to Matthew Willmott at The Coach House, Gatacre Hall, Claverley, Shropshire, WV5 7AW.

Cheques made payable to "AROC Cotswold Section" - or pay us at the next meeting on 15th August. If you can include your menu choices it will save us chasing you later in the year also if you prefer to pay the full amount then please feel free to do so. - MG

Sunday 19th August

Tewkesbury Classic Car & Motorbike Rally - (was Bredon Vintage & Classic Car Rally)

Tewkesbury School, Ashchurch Rd, Tewkesbury, GL20 8DF

Entrance £5 per person Children under 16 Free

Teas, Cakes, BBQ, Bar, Funfair, Entertainments, Trade & Retail Stalls

Exhibitor Information

Free Entrance for all Classic Cars, Motorcycles and their drivers. Passengers £5 each

Just turn up on the day – no booking necessary

If you want to attend as a group and display all cars together, please arrange to meet before you arrive at the show and enter all at the same time.

www.tewkesburyclassiccar.org