

ALFA ROMEO OWNERS CLUB July 2012
COTSWOLD SECTION
NEWSLETTER



Cotswold Alfa Day was once again a huge success and we have had many thanks and praise for an excellent day. Thankfully other than a few heavy showers we were blessed with a glorious afternoon. There's still much to look forward to however with the Loxley Silver Run & Fun Concours as well as National Alfa Day. - MB

Cotswold Alfa Day Sunday 24th June 2012

Cotswold Alfa Day saw us return to Sudeley Castle at Winchcombe following a start from The Green at Twyning.

Mark Knight of RetroMarques runs a Breakfast at Twyning (BAT) event to raise funds for the Fly2help charity, a leading UK aviation charity operating in the UK set up by a team of passionate aviators who are committed to helping others enjoy the inspiration and life enhancing privileges that being in the air can provide.

So what better a way to Start Cotswold Alfa Day than to join forces with Mark and his regular mix of classics including a good display of Healys, a stunning Bristol and gaggle of Triumph's finest in the guise of the Stag.

We lined up the Alfas with Classics to the right, Moderns to the left and everyone was then able to grab some pre Giro fuel in the shape of tea and a bacon butty from the Village Inn. Once route maps had been issued, Giro stickers claimed and refreshments dealt with it was time for the off with a number of smaller groups heading off for this years Giro. With nothing more than a few spots of rain fingers were crossed for a dry run.

However although we didn't do the Giro route, the standing water as we made the direct run from Twyning to Sudeley indicated that a few short sharp showers had blown in as many made their way across another brilliant Giro route over to the Castle.

As always the band of marshals did an excellent job of parking people as they arrived. Our focus was on the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Giulia and what a fine array of cars we attracted. A significant Spiderfest formed flanked by Bertone coupes with a Giulia saloon & Giulia GTC taking pride of place outside the section gazebo & club shop.

Mark Knight, one of our key sponsors again this year, had the difficult choice of picking his Giulia of the day award, going to a deserved winner; Pete Woods' 1750 Bertone Coupe. Our Chairman's Award went to the GTC owned by Martin Taylor (after we reminded Mark G that he couldn't award it to his own S3 Spider!).

Finally the prize for correctly answering the Giro Panoramico questions went to Paul Venables and his navigator.

Thanks go to all those who attended, helped out on the day and helped with the preparation of the Giro route and map. Thanks also to our sponsors Mark & Rob at RetroMarques, Mitchell Vehicle Dismantling T H White Alfa Romeo main dealer and AROC UK.

Please do take a look at the Fly2help website (<http://www.fly2help.org/>) and look out for the next Breakfast at Twyning or even Mark Knight's next event, a BBQ at Twyning on Saturday 28th July.





B&W Garage Meeting

James Wheeler once again invited the Cotswold and neighbouring sections to his Black & White Garage at Cold Ash near Newbury for the chance to have a wander around the garage and see James's collection of interesting Alfas, motorbikes and all things Italian.

Outside there seemed to have been a breeding programme of red Bertone coupes with ever other car turning up adding to the gaggle.

James had kindly put on some nibbles and the talk flowed, briefly stopped by the local pizza delivery van making what we all thought was a wrong turn only to be delighted to see that James had treated us all to an Italian snack (he had even catered for Matt with a Hawaiian pizza much to the disgust of Mr G!).

Although the blag a ride aspect was a little slow it was good to see people chatting and making the most of the evening. Things were unfortunately interrupted by the unmistakable sound of a missing clutch as Jonathan Griffin rolled up in his Dutch blue Giulia Super with an obvious problem.

What better a place to breakdown though and soon an impromptu pit crew were pushing him down into the workshop at the back of the garage.

This also gave us the opportunity to take a look at the oily part of James garage and a couple of projects including an SZ waiting a wheel refurb and a 101 series spider in progress.

Thanks again to James for his hospitality and sharing the delights of the Black & White Garage collection. - MB

P.S. The Giulia had a clutch master cylinder failure but a temporary repair got Jonathan home safely.



East Midlands Section MITCAR

Sunday 5th August 2012 - MITCAR 2012 - Midlands Italian Car Day, Elvaston Castle – between Nottingham and Derby

Midlands Italian Car Day is back in the East Midlands for its 12th year. The venue is historic Elvaston Castle, which is just off the A52 near to Borrowash.

On Sunday 5th August we will have exclusive use of the large show-ground site, with its own entrance a few hundred yards from the main public access to the castle. MITCAR will open at 10.30am. The entrance fee will again be a modest £5 per Italian Car, once again confirming a commitment to give best possible value. This will entitle all attendees to free entrance with direct access to the imposing Gradell listed gardens and lakeside walks.

There is a café in the castle courtyard serving drinks, snacks and light lunches and there will also be a catering van on the showground for our exclusive use.

Many will want to picnic and sensible barbecues will be allowed. Dogs are welcome but must be kept on leash.

More details can be found on the websites www.mitcar.co.uk and www.elvastoncastle.org.uk The address is: Elvaston Castle, Derbys. DE72 3EP

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Fun Concours

Don't forget our next regular meeting on August the 15th will be our Fun Concours evening.

A lighthearted chance to poke about in engine bays and an excuse to get out the detailing kit

Weather permitting we will start the judging at 7.45pm and announce the winners once all the votes are in at approx 9.00pm.

So get those cars waxed, polished and wheels sparkling to depose the king of wheel cleaning, Mr Willmott! - MB

