

Alfa Romeo Owners Club COTSWOLD SECTION NEWSLETTER



August 2013

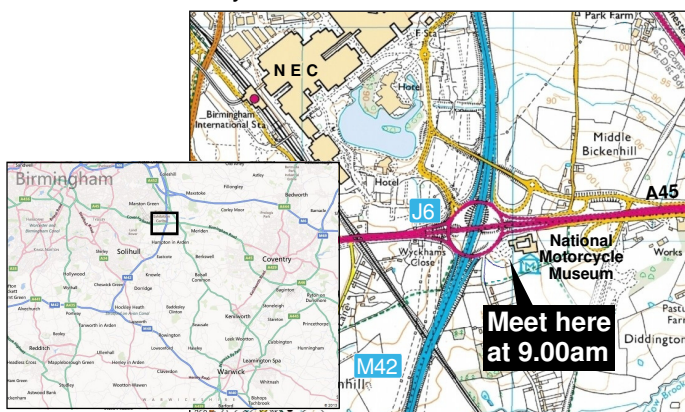
DONINGTON GRAND PRIX COLLECTION Saturday August 31st



It is not too late to join us next Saturday for our visit to Donington. We have negotiated a discounted admission price of just £8 per person. This represents great value given that the collection is the largest showcase of Grand Prix racing cars in the world. There are four halls featuring over 130 exhibits including cars driven by such famous names as Nuvolari, Moss, Fangio, Stewart, Prost and Mansell. The Collection also houses the largest collection of McLaren (see above) and Williams racing cars in the world (outside of their respective factories), and the only complete collection of Vanwalls.

CONVOY

We are running a convoy to the museum. The departure point is the car park of the National Motorcycle Museum next to junction 6 of the M42, that's the NEC junction. See the map on the right. We plan to meet there at 9.00am and depart at 9.15am. We should be at the Grand Prix Collection at around 10.00am. Of course if you prefer to go directly to Donington, that's fine, we'll see you there. *RM*



EVENTS

August

Wednesday 21st. Regular monthly meeting at the Feathered Nest. Polish your nuts (and bolts) it's fun concours night! See below.

Sunday 25th & Monday 26th. Blenheim Palace Festival of Transport. Sunday is the day for lovers of classics cars.

Saturday 31st. Donington Grand Prix Collection. See left.

September

Wednesday 18th. Regular monthly meeting.

October

Wednesday 16th. Regular monthly meeting.

Saturday 19th. Visit to North Cotswold Brewery, followed by pub lunch. PTO for details.

November

Autumn walk. Date and venue to be confirmed.

Wednesday 20th. Regular monthly meeting.

December

Saturday 7th. Christmas Lunch at Three Ways Hotel, Mickleton. Deposit of £12 per person required by 23rd August to John Mills at Edgehill Cottage, Loxley, Warwickshire, CV35 9JT. Cheques made payable to 'AROC Cotswold Section'. If you prefer, you are welcome to pay the full amount of £23 per person.

Fun CONCOURS

Tonight we'd like you to act as concours judges and carefully scrutinize your fellow members Alfas to determine which of their cars deserves to be recognized as best in class. The 6 classes are;

- Best Classic Alfa
- Best Modern Alfa
- Tidiest Engine Bay
- Cleanest Wheels
- Most Bug Splats
- Must Try Harder

There are judging forms for you to fill in with details of your selection. Once you've completed the form hand it to Mark G, Mark B, Rich M or John M. The winner of each category will be announced at a glamorous ceremony later in the evening and prestigious prizes will be awarded to the winners.

What constitutes a modern or classic Alfa is entirely up to you. The only real rule is no voting for your own car! *RM*

As you will have already heard John Mills has very kindly agreed to take over the role of Treasurer from Matthew with immediate effect. John doesn't really need any introduction as he's a Cotswold stalwart and well known to you all. He and wife Hazel have been AROC members since the dawn of time, and they and their yellow Giulia Coupe are regular participants at our meetings and events. We should all be very grateful to John - the Section Committee certainly are - as the role of Treasurer is a crucial one and is one no one else on the committee fancied that's for sure! I am sure you will all wish to welcome John to his new role and thank him for stepping forward. As well as looking after the Section finances John, as a Section committee member, will have a hand in planning and running events, and it is hoped a fresh committee member will bring fresh ideas to the table. No pressure John!

As we welcome John we must also say goodbye to Matthew. Matthew has been treasurer since the Section was reborn in 2005. In that 8 years he has always worked efficiently and prudently with the Sections funds, keeping the books in perfect order and seeing that we make the most of the money the Section receives from the Club. However Matthew has done so much more than just keeping the accounts shipshape, he has also sought ways to generate income. This has allowed the Section to subsidise events such as CAD and our Christmas meal, therefore keeping the costs for our members down - something we must all appreciate. As part of the Section committee Matthew has played a huge role in running the Section and its events, and his input has ensured the Section remains a vibrant and progressive place to be. Matt, thank you for all your hard work. We really couldn't have done it without you. You'll be missed and we all wish you the very, very best. *RM*

Places on our tour of North Cotswold Brewery are still available. The tour takes place on Saturday October 19th and starts at 11.30. The tour includes a brief history of the brewery, a talk on how beer is brewed, a look around the brewery itself, samples and a branded glass to take home. The tour lasts approximately 1½ hours and costs £10 per person.

Lunch

After the brewery tour we have arranged a luncheon party at The Halford in... yes you guessed it Halford, on the Fosse Way about 5 miles north of the brewery.

If you'd like to join us for the brewery tour and lunch, or just one or the other, please let us know. If you have already signed up for the brewery could you let us know whether you will be joining us for lunch please? Speak to any committee member or email us at aroccotswolds@933.me.uk *RM*

Sunday 18th August, Tewkesbury Classic Car Festival started with an early coffee and bacon roll at the Railway Inn at Ripple and then the 'Friends of RetroMarques' contingent convoyed to the event, held at Tewkesbury School, in the warm morning sunshine. RetroMarques took a plot at the show and invited friends and customers to join them with their cars, a great mix of cars and people.



Above: Suffolk SS100 Jaguar

This event which started a few years ago as the Bredon Classic and Vintage car show has now become a major event in the area with over 50 trade stands and around 400 cars on display. There was an eclectic mix of vehicles from American monsters to a 1933 Rolls Royce Phantom II Continental which was reunited by the son of the first owner from Geneva at the show.

The event is becoming very similar in feel to the Churchill show, a cross between a car show and village fete. The Harrison Sisters 1940's singing group even gave the event a feel of the Goodwood Revival.

The Alfa marque was well represented; a couple of spiders, a Matta, a 156GTA, a couple of Giulia coupes and Chris Savills Giulia saloon.

Top of the show for me was a pale blue, Suffolk SS100 Jaguar, a really lovely car.

I can recommend this show for next year and perhaps it is time to include this as a section event and get a real show of Alfas there? Entry is free for exhibitors; with a £5 fee each for any passengers. *MG*



Above: There were plenty of Mini's on show

Below: The Spider looked great in the sunshine



Here's a moment from CAD 2013 you may have missed. Our affable Section Secretary tried out this Morris 8 Series E for size. Of course he was typically polite about it's many charms!

Rich M has several free passes to the Monday of the Blenheim Palace Festival of Transport. Monday is the day for Classic Cars and Motorcycles, Minis and VW's, Customs Cars, Hot Rods, Americans Cars, Kit Cars and Sports Cars. If you'd like one of the passes it's first come first served.