



Well the snow has hopefully departed for the rest of the year and after the forced cancellation of the Scalextric event I'm really hoping we have seen the last of it. A warm sunny summer still seems a long way off so the 2013 to do list seems to be growing!

Anyway this month sees our AGM and look ahead at a few events we have been invited to attend. - MB

Bertone Coupe 50th Anniversary

It's hard to believe today but back at the release of the 105-series Alfa Romeo Giulia coupe in 1963, many Alfisti weren't instantly turned on by the styling they were happy with their pretty but ageing Giulietta and Giulia 101-series coupes.

As the passage of time continued its inexorable march opinions softened on the Bertone-designed 105-Series, and they are now renowned as beauties in their own right. Looking at the shape (penned by a young Giogietto Giugiaro) today, it is hard to believe that 50 years have passed since its introduction.

If the styling dawned a new age for Alfa Romeo, the underpinnings also moved the game forward. The original Giulia Sprint GT of 1963 came standard with a five-speed manual gearbox and disc brakes on all four wheels. Under the bonnet was a twin-carburettor version of the all-alloy 1570cc engine seen in the 101-Series Giulia.

Suspension was also revised and comprised a double wishbone/coil-spring independent front setup with a live-axle rear suspended by trailing arms and coil springs and a 'T-arm' to control lateral movement. Telescopic dampers were fitted at each corner.

Weighing 950kg and running on steel wheels of 4.5 x 15.0-inch diameter (with 155-section tyres) the early Giulia was light on its feet and brisker than the vast majority of four-cylinder British 'sports cars'.

The 105 coupe evolved from the 1963 original, over a long and somewhat convoluted model listing before being phased out in 1976 to make way for the Tipo 116 Alfetta range. (motoring.co.au)



Given the usual excellent turn out of 105 series cars at Cotswold Alfa Day we are looking to get a good showing again this year to

Scalextric Challenge

Unfortunately due to the weather and uncertainty of the forecast we had to postpone the scalextric challenge in January. But we intend to find an alternative date in March or April and will publicise the new date once we have confirmed it by email.

Least it gives everyone a little more time for pre season practice. - MB



celebrate it's 50th birthday. - MB

Central Midlands @ Coventry Transport Museum

Thanks to popular demand, the Central Midlands section are repeating the Alfa Display at Coventry Transport Museum on Sunday 31 March – a super day last time helped by the weather of course. It's effectively a straight repeat, but we will have room for an extra few cars this time.

Do please pass this note on to the Cotswold crew. People need to let Simon Addison know the model and reg number of their Alfa and a contact phone number. Email him at addisons@btinternet.com

A few bullet points:

1. It's all FREE – inc. museum entry for all.
2. Starts from 11am – ends 4pm. We ask that people stay throughout. For public safety we are not allowed to have cars coming and going. You can arrive a little before 11. If you'd like to park with your Section if you could arrive together it would be appreciated.
3. A security pass is required. Simon Addison (who lives locally) is collating entries and will email the pass on to people. The pass includes a map of how to get into the display area (Millennium Place) just outside the museum.
4. All cars parked at owners' risk. We will have marshals on duty all day and had no incidents last year, but people need to know it is entirely open to the public of Coventry.
5. ALL Alfas welcome, we just ask they are brought along clean as it is a display. - MB

Alfa 4c debut @ Geneva

The final version of the Alfa 4C makes its debut at the 83rd International Motor Show in Geneva. This mid-engined rear-wheel drive coupé with two bucket seats represents the true essence of a sports car at the heart of Alfa Romeo's DNA: performance, Italian style and technical excellence, offering maximum driving satisfaction in total safety.

The Alfa 4C derives directly from the concept which raised many eyebrows in wonder at the Geneva Show in 2011, so much so that it won three prestigious awards: the 'AutoBild Design Award' (2011, Germany), the 'Design Award for Concept Cars & Prototypes' (2012, Italy) and the 'Most Exciting Car of 2013' - 'What Car?' (2013, Great Britain).

Full pricing has yet to be released but a starting price of £40,000 - £50,000 is possible.!!! - MB



Road Trip

We've started to see some interest in an event I mentioned last month and will further discuss more at the AGM.

Already having a working title of Gyrru Cymru (cheers Rich), the basis is a jaunt through Wales taking in some of the best driving roads the area has to offer.

We would be interested in people's interest in taking part along with preferred distances or particular recommendations for must visit areas or accommodation. - MB



Weird world of Alfa

In true clarksonesque style I've been looking at the interwebby thing and found this months weird and wonderful Alfa picture on the international 75 register site.

It's a 75 sportwagon 6v iniezione which looks a little like a mini 33 sportwagon.

Not sure if one ever made UK shores but could have made for interesting load lugger or a fishing chariot.

Mmmmmm I think I need one ;-)

- MB

