



NEWSLETTER

Mark Grimshaw reports on **DRIVE-IT-DAY**

To celebrate Drive-it-Day 2014, a bunch of Cotswold Section members plus Brian Yates from Somerset in his Bertone Coupe, met on the outskirts of Stratford-on-Avon. Nearly all of the cars that turned up were either Bertone Coupes or Spiders so it turned into a bit of a 105 day out as well!



Our convoys arrival at Gaydon

Despite the biting cold wind and drizzle Mark Byatt managed the journey to Stratford with the hood down on his S2 spider, sporting a very fetching fur lined hat, the rest of us had the sense to

keep the hood up and the heater on. We then drove a route planned by John Mills through some of the very pretty villages of Warwickshire and Oxfordshire, ending up at the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon to join in the Drive-it-Day celebrations. On arrival we were shown to the parking area for the Historic/Classic Vehicles and somehow they didn't notice John Gardiners 156 and he was able to park with the rest of us.

After a quick coffee we headed out into the elements to see what machinery had turned up and it was

quite an eclectic mix as you would expect. The MSA classics rally entrants driving from Chester to Gaydon were just starting to arrive with everything from a Fiat 500 to a Ford GT40. Just about every major and some minor marques were on show including a Gordon-Keeble sporting a body designed by Giugiaro and built by Bertone. Only 100 Gordon-Keeble cars were ever built and according to the Owners' Club over 90 examples still exist.

As the heavens opened we headed back to the museum where we had a look around the new(ish) Jaguar Heritage display. On show there is a Jaguar XJ13 prototype racing car developed for Le Mans in the mid 1960s. It was never raced or produced but

Two very different Fords



1966 Jaguar XJ13

in my opinion it has to be one of the best looking Jaguars ever. The car has not been officially valued, but a £7 million bid for it was declined by the owners in 1996.

Drive-it-Day proved to be good day out, made all the better for a homeward drive

down the Fosse Way in the sunshine that eventually made an appearance. *MG*

EVENTS

MAY

Sunday 25th - Monday 26th. Ragley Hall Classic Car Show. www.transtar-promotions.co.uk

JUNE

Sunday 8th. Churchill Classic and Vintage Show.

Saturday 14th Defford Air Day and Classic Car Show. www.defford-croftfarm.co.uk/deffordairday

Sunday 15th. Breakfast at Twynning. From 11.00am.

Wednesday 18th. Monthly meeting at the Fox.

Sunday 29th. COTSWOLD ALFA DAY. Tickets on sale now!

JULY

Thursday 3rd. Witney Motorshow. 6pm. Henry Box Playing Field, Ducklington Lane, Witney, Oxon. www.witneymotorshow.co.uk/

Wednesday 14th. Regular monthly meeting at the Fox including Summer Drive.

Friday 25th - Sunday 27th. Silverstone Classic www.silverstone.co.uk/events/silverstone-classic/

www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds

The Bertie & The Bard

Hazel Mills reports on Stratford Festival of Motoring

May Bank Holiday Weekend saw a gleaming yellow ochre 105 series GT1300 Junior emerge from the garage into the sunshine and head for the crowds of Stratford upon Avon. Unusual? John Mills made a last minute decision to actually enter the second of what may become an annual Festival of Motoring in Shakespeare's home town!



through Warwickshire and the Cotswolds, was an experience in itself. Sustenance was provided by the Split Screen Bakery Company, an immaculately restored VW camper van. There were vehicles of all ages,



marques and purpose. Alfa Romeo was represented further by a 105 series Junior Zagato in silver and an American spec 105 series yellow spider. A sprinkle of Italian cars including Maserati, Lamborghini, Lancia, Fiat and a wonderful old Bianchi kept "il bel paese" on the festival map!



At 10 o'clock, Quentin Wilson, the main sponsor and Festival Patron, sent the cars on their way at intervals, with odd numbers peeling off to do "The Blossom Trail" to Evesham and evens to do the "Test Route" following the route of many of the hill climbs used by local car manufacturers on their test runs. The latter had the added challenge of a treasure hunt.



All cars converged on Broadway at one point where, on Sunday, they were hosting an Italian market with the added interest of Ferraris and Maseratis displayed on grass verges down the main street. The Broadway crossover was an interesting feature for those who preferred to abandon the "tulip" directions and follow

their leader and who found themselves in unfamiliar territory! Finally, everyone was destined to return to the triumphal arch in Wood Street, Stratford and then to allocated parking spaces in the town where their cars were on display to the many locals and tourists.

The Cotswold Section paparazzi were in evidence in the form of Roger Lewis and we plan to have some photos on the website soon. For 2015, John has a cunning plan to invite along more of our section with a Cotswold finale in mind. Watch this space! HM

COTSWOLD ALFA DAY
Tickets now available.
See John Mills or email him at
arocotswolds@933.me.uk
SUNDAY JUNE 29 2014

Classic Car Night at the Norman Knight

On the 2nd Thursday of each month the Norman Knight in Whichford holds a Classic Car and Bike Night. It's a really nice little event and the fine weather led to great turn out this month with around 75 cars parked on the green and around 50 bikes arranged outside the pub. The landlord lays on an outside bar and a bbq and they were both doing a roaring trade. Definitely worth a visit on a summers evening. RM

