

# NEWSLETTER

February/March 2015



Spring seems to have sprung and although we are not quite clear of the cold and wet days thoughts are definitely turning to the coming season and we have a number of events in the diary. We announced Cotswold Alfa Day at our AGM and plans are starting to take shape. A big thank you to those who have volunteered to help organise this year's event. - MB

## Cotswold Alfa Day - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

I'm pleased to announce that this year's Cotswold Alfa Day will be held on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2015**

Starting from The Bell Inn, Shipston Rd Alderminster, Stratford-upon-Avon we will then take our traditional scenic 'Giro Panoramico' drive through the north Cotswolds & Warwickshire to end up at the National Trust property Charlecote Park.

This year we will be limited to 100 Alfas so please do register your interest as soon as we confirm pricing etc.

A beautiful house set in a landscaped deer park overlooking the River Avon on the edge of Shakespeare's Stratford, Charlecote Park has been part of this corner of rural Warwickshire for centuries. Still the Lucy family home after 900 years, you can explore the vision of the Victorian owners George Hammond Lucy and his wife, the formidable Mary Elizabeth, who extended their home and filled it with treasures from their European travels. Stroll through the gardens that Mary Elizabeth loved so dearly, from the formal parterre to the shady woodland garden with rare plants and borders full of colourful herbaceous planting.

Picnic by your car or in the parkland, inspired by 'Capability' Brown, with beautiful views across the river Avon. Historic herds of Jacob sheep and fallow deer roam freely here and you can see them at close quarters all year round

Pricing is being confirmed at the minute so full details and entry forms will be available on the Section website shortly. - MB



## Skittles

Our first Section event of the year was our skittles evening held in February at the Masons Arms at Long Marston.

This year was an individual event with some high scoring and some not so high scoring as well as a few Barnes Wallis style deliveries!

Richard Morris and the Morrisettes were invaluable as putter uppers and after a close back and forward battle Richard won through with a penultimate round late burst only narrowly pipping David Townsend and myself.

A fun evening was enjoyed by all and we are thinking about another skittles evening later in the year during October or November. Thanks to John & Hazel for finding the Mason's Arms and arranging things there. - MB



## Alfa Watch

Dave Hood pinged me a link to an ebay item recently which was a S3 Alfasud Sprint very similar to mine. This particular Sprint had undergone a full nut and bolt rebuild and was up with a dealer for an eye watering £13,000.



I know prices have risen recently ?? Anyone after a tidy 1986 S3 Sprint £10,000,

Contact me cash only ;-)

## Vulcan XM655 visit Sat 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015

The Vulcan XM655 is based at Wellesbourne Air Field near Startford upon Avon and we have arranged a visit on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am.**

Although XM655 is not airworthy it does take part in an annual fast taxi along the air field at the Wellesbourne Wings and Wheels event on 21<sup>st</sup> June which is a spectacle in itself.

The visit will include:

- Systems Demonstration (subject to serviceability on the day). This involves putting power on the aeroplane (with out running the engines) and operating certain systems, including:
- the control surfaces (elevons and rudder);
- the navigation, anti-collision and landing lights;
- operating the air brakes;
- opening the bomb bay doors.

During this time visitors are escorted around the aeroplane to ensure the best view and opportunities to take photos.

• A tour of XM655, including a visit to the cockpit, in groups of 4 with a volunteer. This covers the engineering aspects of what is done to maintain the aeroplane, as well as Vulcan history and the history of our aeroplane in particular. During the tour, various doors and panels will be open to enable viewing and photographs. There is usually also the opportunity to view the Vulcan from different angles, including from above for those who are happy to climb the steps to the top of the 'giraffe'.



The visit will end with a group photo opportunity in front of the Vulcan.

Numbers are limited to 24 at £10 per head so please let me know as soon as possible as I'm sure this will be a popular event.

- MB

## Drive It Day 2015

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April** is Drive it Day as well as Spring Alfa Day, and for those who are not attending SAD and want to get involved with DiD, we are looking at a drive out and possibly to the Bicester Heritage Sunday Brunch Scramble.

We will probably meet at Moreton in Marsh and drive out from there.

If anyone is interested in doing something on Drive It Day please let John or I know.

What better excuse to get your classic out and join us on a run to support the FBHVC Drive it Day initiative. - MB

## Alfaholics trackday

With Castle Combe not being too far from us we are looking to meet up at the event on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April** and hopefully have a good selection of 105 series cars to complement those taking part in the actual track day.

There is usually an opportunity for a few parade laps at lunch time which is a great element to the day along with watching the track action and wandering around the paddock as well.

All are welcome to come and spectate so let me know if you are aiming to come along and perhaps we'll take a section run down.

Top tip, take a good jacket as the wind can rattle across the circuit ! - MB

