

# NEWSLETTER

**January 2015**



A Happy New Year to everyone. I hope the festive season was good and Father Christmas was kind to you all.

With a National event taking place on our traditional Cotswold Alfa Day weekend we are having to consider an alternative date for CAD so watch this space.

We are looking at visiting Bicester Heritage for the Sunday Brunch Scramble on Drive it Day, Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup> for those not wishing to attend Spring Alfa Day. We also have a couple of other events booked, details in this newsletter and on the Section website. -MB

## **Christmas Meal**

The sections 2014 Calendar finale was with our Christmas meal at the Three Ways Hotel in Mickleton. The hotel is the home of the famous pudding club and becoming a favoured location for family gatherings and a really good Sunday lunch.

After the traditional menu, interspaced with balloon barrages and general merriment, there was a raffle to raise funds for the Macmillan Cancer Support which raised £71.

The meal gave us the chance to thank everyone for their support in 2014 and in particular Mark Grimshaw for managing the Section Website which has proven how valuable it is with our visitors from Australia using the website to check what events were taking place.

Popular as ever we have already booked lunchtime on **Saturday 5th December 2015** back at the Three Ways Hotel for this year's Christmas meal. - MB

## **February 18<sup>th</sup> - AGM**

Our AGM will be held at 7.30 on February 18<sup>th</sup> 2015 at the Fox Inn at Broadwell.

We are looking again for anyone who is willing to join the committee either on a full or part time basis for 2015.

With just John and myself as full time committee members we really need your support so please do let us know prior to the AGM.

We are also looking to create a Cotswold Alfa Day team to help bring the event together and if you would like to be involved please let me or John Mills know as we are in the early stages of planning and would appreciate your involvement from the start.- MB



**Christmas Festivities.**

## Skittles 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2015

We have a re-run of the 2014 Skittles evening with a change of location to the Masons Arms at Long Marston on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February** starting at 3.00pm with a buffet about 6.00pm.

Who will be victorious and who will be the winners of the wooden spoon this year!

The pub will be laying on a buffet at £8 per head and we have a maximum 30 participants.

Please confirm interest via section email by Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February and payment by Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February (AGM). - MB

## 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 one of our volunteers. This covers the engineering aspects of what we do 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 our '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, so for those who are not attending SAD and want to get involved with DiD we are looking at a drive out to the Bicester Heritage Sunday Brunch Scramble.

We will probably meet at Moreton in Marsh and drive across for the 10.30am scramble.

The last scramble in January was well attended by a wide collection of classic and vintage cars and with the display of two RAF BE2e biplanes this should be a good chance 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

