



Alfa Romeo Owners Club Cotswold Section



NEWSLETTER APRIL 2016

More Cotswold colleagues' capers, updates and some new events!

Check our website too www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds and the Diary page of the April AROC Magazine. **Don't forget our regular Monthly Meetings** at the Fox Inn, Broadwell from 7pm on the **third Tuesday** of the month! www.foxbroadwell.co.uk. Our hosts, Carol and Mike, assure us the perfect setting with a pie and a pint and an open fire!

WHAT DID WE DO?

Race Retro. Stoneleigh Showground, February 26-28. This 3 day event is still a honey pot for Cotswold members whether interested in cars of yesteryear, rally stages, latest technology or the old faithful autojumble. This year saw Mark Byatt, Roger Lewis, Dave Townsend, Alec Macfie, John Mills and Rod Ashton crossing paths at intervals over the event. If you want to know more – ask them!

Alfaholics Open Day; Trackday at Castle Combe; Prescott Breakfast Meeting **“A Well-filled Week-end! April 9 - 11” as reported by Rod Ashton!**

I was 18 months into restoring my 2000GTV and had acute “garage fever”. The car needed new window felts, boot and bonnet seal rubbers for the pre-painting check fit-up. I needed a brief escape plus some parts and information about new sound deadening materials and exhaust systems, so the weekend of the Alfaholics Open Friday and Track Day Saturday, followed by the Cotswold AROC's Sunday visit to the Prescott breakfast looked very attractive. I'd not visited Alfaholics' newish base in Clevedon before. They're in two pairs of good industrial units on opposite sides of a large yard. One pair houses the parts business and offices. Across the yard, there are the workshops and (on a mezzanine floor) the store for their project cars. At ground-level there were some real Alfa treasures, two Giulia Tubolare Zagatos, both rather fine and one of them about to go to France for the Tour Auto; the Banks brothers' dark grey and red GTA FIA U2TC racer in which they won at Donington in 2014 and 2015; a Giulia saloon fitted with a fierce-looking Twin Spark motor and seriously big brakes; a Giulietta SZ well on in its restoration and, beside it, a Maserati Ghibli coupe first owned by a “colourful” Sicilian family and now being reassembled during a full restoration. In the next bay there was a mid-1960s McLaren M6 Can-Am sports racer being sorted for more racing. Visitors' cars included many 105 series Alfas. I took photos for examples when talking to painters about my project car. A good day with much learned and many boxes ticked, except finding a Bertone in the current favourite colour.

Saturday found me at Castle Combe for the track day, which started dry but became wet sooner than forecast. That sadly caught out the driver of a newly-acquired ES30 SZ who hit the barrier on the last corner and broke some hard-to-replace pieces. Other folk kept between the green bits and enjoyed themselves. In the dry, the Banks brothers were out chasing each other in the grey FIA GTA and the GTA-R 290 Bertone coupe (carbon fibre opening panels, mighty engine and other bits from their



catalogue – YouTube it!) and seeming equally quick. Cotswold AROC folk seen there included Steve Davies and David Hunt; forgive me if I've not mentioned you. More colours and photos, but still no Bertone in the favoured shade!



(Alfaholics Photos: Steve Davies)

Sunday's run from home in Rugby to Prescott was on mostly empty roads, nice! There I found a good cross-section of classic cars and people, but missed the group walk up the hill with the usual co-culprits through talking to the man from Stow who ultimately acquired Mike Appleby's



1750 GTV, now under restoration.

Also there was a man from Pershore with a recently acquired LHD step-front 1300 GT Junior, a nice-looking car which I encouraged him to bring to The Fox one evening soon. Bless it; his car is painted in Rosso Amaranto, the favoured colour!

More photos, of course, and I ticked the last of the weekend's boxes. Enthusiasm transfusion complete, for now.

Breakfast Meeting. Prescott Hill Climb. Sunday April 10. As Rod also tells us - a



bonus day for weather brought classic car owners out in droves to converge on the hillside at Prescott. The marques being featured were the TVR and Morgan but there were many more besides. It was a real challenge to decide whether to go for the "Full English" first and risk missing some of the action. The Cotswold section was well represented. Very soon, we had a full row of Alfa's and one exquisite Lancia Fulvia (latest acquisition of Dave Townsend). A few late Alfa's had to park up on the hill as we

discovered on our reccy. A great day for car tours as, on our way home, we passed "Corinium Run" participants in classics old and new heading in the opposite direction! (Prescott Photos: Mark Byatt)



WHAT ARE WE PLANNING?

A WALK? It is very possible two of our section have volunteered to revive "The Autumn Walk"! In the past this has included a leisurely drive (sometimes in convoy) to a place of interest, a short family-friendly walk and refreshments at a nearby pub or visitor centre. We have been to Westonbirt Arboretum, Forest of Dean, Croome Park (NT) and other Cotswold locations. If you are interested in this, please let the committee know at the meetings or email aroccotswolds@933.me.uk

A RUN? Rupert Organ put a brilliant idea to the committee - a Cotswold Section Autumn Run – maybe henceforth known as **Giro Nel Autunno?** An all-day event, starting at Twynning for bacon butties and coffee at 9.30-10.00 a.m. and driving to Hay on Wye to arrive around lunchtime. Rupert knows good parking and eating places (and bookshops!) There's also an area of common land on the Wye, where it's possible to picnic as well, weather permitting! The return route would go a bit further north and include going around and over the Malvern Hills, finishing back at the Elgar Inn, Earls Croome, famous for their Italian restaurant. **Are you up for it? Dates suggested are the weekends of September 17/18 or 24/25. Let Rupert and the committee know before CAD and Rupert can start planning!**

LAST MINUTE REMINDER!

Sunday April 24. Drive it Day Scramble. Bicester Heritage. Some of the section who have already registered will meet up on the way to drive in and park together. Let Mark Byatt know if you want to join us and have registered. Tickets are via. www.bicesterheritage.co.uk/events Mark B has registered AROC as a club, attracting a discount on ticket prices.

Can't make it to Bicester? Maybe Swindon is easier? Mark Knight member of AROC and the Austin Healey Club, has planned a DiD rendezvous for the AHC at Heelis, National Trust Headquarters, by the Great Western Designer Outlet village at Swindon and the railway museum. They plan to drive in about 10.30. a.m. Mark has a few spaces in designated parking and invites our members to join him. If interested, contact Mark at info@ahc-southwestern.co.uk. There is no charge, unless you want to join a guided tour of the Steam Museum.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday April 21. (Weather permitting) from 5.30 onwards. Classic Vehicle Meet, The Norman Knight, Whichford.

This is a regular meet on the third Thursday of every month on the village green at Whichford, just off A3400 near Shipston on Stour. For more info about the venue: <http://www.thenormanknight.co.uk/>

Sunday and Monday May 1- 2 .Stratford Motoring Festival.

<http://www.theopenroad.co.uk/stratford-festival-of-motoring>

Limited places on Monday May 2nd only. For the locals – worth turning up at the leisure centre car park before the start to see the entrants for the day's run arrive! Carluccio's at Waterside does a good breakfast menu afterwards too!

Thursday May 5. Kineton Classic Car Gathering. 6 p.m. until dark! It must be summer- they have started again! On the first Thursday of every summer month, classic cars, motorbikes, buses, commercial vehicles, you name it - head towards the fields of the Sports and Social Club on the edge of Kineton between Banbury and Stratford. No month is the same. Just turn up! Many of us do! For information contact the Club at ksscclub@hotmail.com 01926 640901 or classicgathering@hotmail.co.uk

Saturday May 28 and Sunday May 29.

Prescott Hill Climb, Gotherington. Gloucestershire www.prescott-hillclimb.com

La Vie en Bleu incorporating La Vita Rossa French and Italian Motoring Festival - a celebration of French and Italian cars, music and entertainment. Saturday is Italian day. Mark Byatt has registered a presence for AROC with ref. code **AROC16** when you book - which offers a *buy one get one free ticket* option. Prescott need numbers attending, so tell Mark Byatt or John Mills when you register as a running total will be sent to Prescott.

Sunday June 5. The Churchill Vintage and Classic Car Show. Cotswold section are planning to have allocated parking again. Apply direct to Churchill organisers to attend or find out more from Dave Chambers on dhc@freezezone.co.uk. and <http://www.churchillsarsden.com/vintage--classic-car-show.html> Let Mark Byatt know if you are attending so we can plan parking area.

Sunday June 26. Princethorpe College 21st Motoring Festival nr Rugby. I know! I know! This clashes with CAD 2016 at Ragley Hall! However, our website and newsletter is read by many who can no longer support CAD and have enjoyed this event in the past. Find out more on <https://www.princethorpe.co.uk/news/events/twenty-first-motoring-festival---2016-event>

COTSWOLD SECTION MEMBERS MISCELLANY!

Alex Payne's "epic" Rhubarb and Ginger Tiramisu (will serve four to six)

- 1 pack of rhubarb (fresh or frozen)
 - 1 jar stem ginger
 - 1 250g tub of mascarpone
 - 1 300ml double cream
 - 3 eggs (separated)
 - 1 vanilla pod
 - Sponge biscuits
 - 8 ginger nuts (McVities please!!) Finely crushed
- A generous glass of cassis (optional but it tastes so much better with it!)

Preparation

- 1) If fresh, dice the rhubarb (not too finely) add 3-4 pieces of finely diced stem ginger, some of the ginger syrup and the cassis.
- 2) *Bring to a slow simmer and cook for 20 minutes or so.*
- 3) *Leave to cool (preferably overnight). If you think it doesn't have enough liquid add some water. But don't make it too "sloppy".*
- 4) Whisk the egg yolks with the seeds from the vanilla pod and some caster sugar until pale in colour. Then mix in the mascarpone.
- 5) Lightly whisk the double cream
- 6) Whisk the egg whites with caster sugar until they form soft peaks.
- 7) Gently fold the cream in to the egg/mascarpone mix, and then fold in the egg whites. Remember keep it light!!

To assemble:

Line the dish with the sponge biscuits; pour over the liquid from the stewed rhubarb to soften.
Cover with a thin layer of the cream mix. Layer over the rhubarb mix then the final layer of the cream mix.
Chill for at least 3-4 hours. Just before serving sprinkle over the crushed biscuits. **Enjoy!!**

Auto Treasures



Martin Taylor, Cotswold Section member supplies parts and memorabilia.

"AutoTreasures was established around 18 months ago on the back of our experience over 30 years owning and restoring many Alfa Romeos, including Giulia GTC, GT 1300 Junior, Sprint GT Veloce, Giulia Super, Giulia 1300 Ti, Alfasud 1.2, Alfasud 1.5 Super, Alfasud 1.5 Ti and newer models such as 916 GTV, 916 Spider, 147, 156 and GT. AutoTreasures provides refurbished, used and new parts for Alfa Romeo classic cars, mainly for Giulia Coupes and Saloons but also some parts for Spider, Alfetta GTV and 750/101 Giulietta. We focus on internal and external trim and parts that are not currently in production, although we do have in stock many mechanical parts. We do not generally sell service parts as these are catered for by a number of other specialists. We also sell Alfa Romeo and Aston Martin memorabilia and all available through our website www.autotreasures.co.uk. Orders have been fulfilled around the World, including Australia, USA, Japan and most of Europe; our very first order came from Switzerland and recent orders are from Florida and Malta as well as the UK. As well as parts and memorabilia we have in stock a small selection of classic cars that currently includes a 1964 Sunbeam Alpine and 1966 Volvo P1800S. We have recently acquired a 1-owner 1967 Alfa Romeo Duetto Spider that has covered 82,000 miles from new and this will be undertaking a full restoration throughout 2016. Details available at: www.autotreasures.co.uk/cars-for-sale/ We provide a number of classic-car related services, including car sales on commission, find a car and find a part service. We can also provide closed transportation for your classic through our partner. You can also find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/autotreasures"

COUNTDOWN TO CAD 2016!

Sunday June 26th
Ragley Hall,
Alcester, Warwickshire .



Applications are already flowing in for our annual Cotswold gathering, which has returned to its regular slot of the last Sunday in June. For full details see section website www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds and the super ad in the April AROC magazine.

Over the years we have attracted a wonderful array of vehicles of varied vintage. It promises to be another relaxed event with plenty to admire plus a chance to picnic enjoying the vistas (beyond the bonnets) of the lovely Warwickshire countryside and of Ragley Hall nestling on the hillside. Although a local section event, CAD regularly attracts Alfa owners from all over the UK and we look forward to catching up with our regular visitors

GIRO PANORAMICO: The route is ready and top secret! We start again at The Bell, Alderminster, near Stratford with coffee and biscuits. A leisurely, approximately 50 mile drive will then bring you to the Ragley Estate and allocated parking. **But for all this- remember to apply for your Giro and refreshment ticket as soon as possible!** Cost is the same as last year: £5.50 per adult and £4.00 per child (5 – 12 years old). Send us the completed form, a cheque and SAE and we will post you your **GIRO TICKETS** and your **CAD ENTRY PASS** for Ragley parking. This gives you discounted entry to the estate and house – and a place in our designated parking. Ragley have allowed us this for the excellent price of £10.00 per car – **which they will collect on entry.** (This also includes a guided tour of Ragley Hall).

NON GIRO VISITORS If you prefer to go straight to Ragley you **still need to apply for a CAD ENTRY PASS** for discounted entry to the Ragley Estate and house (£10 per car) – and a place in our designated parking. No pass = full cost admission *per person*. – **Please don't arrive at Ragley before 11.00 am!**



Planning to join us?

Download the application from www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds and post it with a cheque and sae to John Mills, AROC Cotswold Section Treasurer, Edgehill Cottage, Loxley, Warwick. CV35 9JT.

HELP!! Volunteers needed!

- Marshalling at the Giro start and/or at the final venue
- Setting up gazebos, signage and parking area at Ragley Estate
- Sharing meet and greet at the section gazebo
- Tidying at the end of the day

If you can help with any of the above, see Mark Byatt, John Mills or Steve Davies or email the section committee aroccotswolds@933.me.uk

Sponsors for prizes: Mark Knight of Retromarques Ltd <http://www.retromarques.co.uk/> has kindly agreed to sponsor us once more to help with admin costs. **We also welcome other donations/ sponsorship for prizes awarded to drivers and their cars on the day.** If you are able to help us here, either personally or by recommendation, please email the committee by May 30th 2016

Remember: For general enquiries and anything relating to items in the Newsletter, please first check our website <http://www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds/> for more information

Or email the committee on the section email aroccotswolds@933.me.uk

Please send us your news! Snippets of news/ event stories /photos etc are so welcome – so please email us with details or we will ring you back to chat through. Newsletter deadline is five days before monthly meetings. Hazel Mills