



AROC COTSWOLD SECTION

April 2018 Newsletter



THE SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES

" Seasons Greetings!"



No not that one - far too early! I mean a welcome to what we hope will be a good driving season for us all. If over the next few weeks you are fettling your Alfas and wish to save a little money, you may be aware that we can get discount at various places including Halfords. Details of the discount scheme are on the AROC website but

at the April meeting I will bring some vouchers for you to use. Just pop into your nearest branch, present the voucher and your AROC membership card and "Bingo!" - 10% off!

On the weekend of 23/24 of March I attended the bi-annual AROC Section Secretary's meeting in Coventry. Membership appears to be growing and events and the new parts shop are being well supported. The only real concern was how do we attract younger members, a question that remained unanswered. However, with Alfa Romeo now back in motorsport with F1 and Touring cars it is hoped this will attract a younger audience. For me it was good to put faces to names for the people I hadn't met and it was also gratifying to hear that our section is held in high esteem.

On the first of April, Fran and I took the Spider to the first "Coffee and Classics" event at the Classic Motor Hub near Bibury and I have written a few words elsewhere in the newsletter. The other dates for events there this year can be found here: info@classicmotorhub.com.

The first Sunday Scramble at Bicester Heritage is on "Drive it Day" on April 22nd and as yet we do not have enough attendees to secure an Alfa pitch. Please let me know a.s.a.p. if you are going.

May 5th is Italian Car Day at Brooklands, so if you fancy going and don't mind an early start we will be meeting at 6.30 a.m. at Peartree Services off the A34 to convoy down. This year there is a designated Alfa/Abarth entrance which should make entry a little smoother. The end of May is the superb "La Vita Rossa" at Prescott, tickets are selling fast so if you are coming book now!

CAD will soon be upon us and apart from the "Giro" most of the planning is in place. I am pleased to say that Retro Marques and TH White are sponsoring us this year.

Well that just leaves me to "cash in" my Halfords voucher and get the Spider ready for the summer.

Ciao, Alex.

COTSWOLD ALFA DAY

Saturday June 23rd

COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK

with optional pre event

Giro Panoramico

From *Ye Olde Hobnails Inn*, Little Washbourne, nr. Tewkesbury. GL20 8NQ



This year we will be at Cotswold Wildlife Park, Bradwell Grove, Burford, Oxfordshire. OX18 4JP. (www.cotswoldwildlifepark.co.uk).

We hope the change of day will enable those who travel to spend more time at CAD and maybe even stay over with friends and family.

Advance applications please - you all need a ticket!

The Cotswold Section requires everyone to complete an application for entry to the park even if not doing the Giro. For the application form see Cotswold Section website (<http://www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds/>). This ensures parking in the CAD area and the discount entry package for driver and passengers.

Entry cost to Cotswold Wildlife Park

For those going direct to Cotswold Wildlife Park and those arriving after doing the Giro, the entry cost will be taken on the day by the Cotswold Wildlife Park staff and applicants will be provided with a CAD Windscreen Sticker to show on arrival to ensure the following CAD discounted entry:

CAD driver and car FREE

Passengers discounted rate:

- £11.50 per adult
- £8.00 per senior
- £8.00 per child (aged 3-16).

PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 10.30 A.M. FOR CAD PARKING AT COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK

GIRO PARTICIPANTS - additional cost direct

to us. This year the Giro is £6.00 for adults and £4.00 per child (5 -12 years). This will cover a breakfast bap and hot drink plus hard copy of the route per car (and a Giro sticker to say you have done it!) Please arrive between 9.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.

Payment for Giro participants. See application. Payment must be in advance by cash (or cheque made payable to "AROC Cotswold Section") and given or sent to John Mills. Section Treasurer. (See Application Form) (<http://www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds/>)

Please note: For admin reasons, tickets for applications received at the end of April and in May will be distributed no earlier than the last week of May. Looking forward to seeing them "en masse" – or "in massa" if you prefer!

Enquiries to aroccotswolds@933.me.uk

**Una Festa Meravigliosa!
The 3rd Cotswold Section Italian Lunch
March 17th 2018**



Despite forecasts of untimely snow – everyone made it to Longborough to enjoy another of Alex Payne's Italian menus. Alex gave a seamless performance both in the kitchen and weaving in and out of the meal to ensure the guests were all happy!



We were treated to another wonderful 3 course meal followed by coffee and "Biscotti" and silence rarely descended on the hall, even when everyone was tucking in! A sign of relaxation and enjoyment. A Tombola was held with the profits going to the Friends of Pershore Hospital. For a minimum donation of £2.00, everyone chose one photocard depicting "something Italian" to be drawn later. Lucky prizewinners were Rod Ashton, Tony Mitchell, Robin McConachie, Carole Macfie, Gwen McConachie, Fin and myself! Here are Gwen, Carole, Rod and Tony being presented with their prizes by Steve Davies.



The profit for charity from the raffle alone was £46.15. Steve also gave a vote of thanks to Alex for all his hard work and excellent meal and to John and Helen Raper for their involvement in booking and preparing the hall.

As a token of appreciation from the section, they were presented with a bottle of wine each. (Italian, of course).

Alex replied by thanking everyone not only for supporting the day but for their enthusiasm for the Cotswold Section and their help during the year. He also said he was planning to do something different in the future, perhaps a paella evening in the summer, but not until 2019 at least.

An army of volunteers set to and helped Alex, John and Helen to restore the hall and kitchen to its former life and everyone drove home having enjoyed "Una Festa Meravigliosa" !!

Hazel Mills

LA VITA ROSSA

May 26th 2018

Prescott Hill Climb

Book early – for this Italian themed day on the La Vie en Bleu weekend. There is a space for up to 30 Alfes. Several spaces are already booked.

Please book direct ASAP <https://www.prescott-hillclimb.com/events/tickets/la-vie-en-bleu-2018>

and tell Alex Payne you have done so.

HM/AP

ALL CHANGE AT THE FOX INN AT BROADWELL!

At our March meeting, we were welcomed by our new host, Ed, who has taken over the tenancy of our regular meeting place. A few of us had a chance to chat with Ed in between the usual Alfa "Catch up" sessions. Ed is keen to support our club and welcomes getting to know us and to share ideas. The menu is very interesting and there is also a range of bar snacks, which, although temporary until Ed gets himself and his staff settled in, will suit all tastes. In time, we may see some changes, but they are not likely to change the convivial atmosphere which we have come to enjoy at The Fox. So, if you haven't yet been to one of our meetings, put the third Tuesday in the month in your diaries and we will see you from 7.00 onwards at The Fox Inn, Broadwell, Moreton-in-Marsh GL56 0UF.

(Below – a scene from our Summer Fun Concours)



Hazel Mills

A NEW REGULAR SUMMER CAR MEETING

at
The Bell, Alderminster,
Stratford upon Avon
CV37 8NY

<http://www.thebella.co.uk/>



Join us on;
Thursday 10th May
Thursday 14th June
Thursday 12th July
Thursday 9th August
Thursday 13th September

T; 01789 450414 www.thebella.co.uk

The Bell
ALDERMINSTER
COUNTRY PUB • RESTAURANT • LUXURY BAR

Have you seen this advertised?

If you have been on the Cotswold Alfa Day's Giro Panoramico in previous years, you will know that we have used this lovely inn as the starting point more than once. It is coincidentally also the venue for our Christmas Lunch this December.

This year, the management, which includes even more classic vehicle enthusiasts, are trialling five summer evening gatherings with free admission to anyone who brings along an interesting car or bike. There will also be a BBQ and bar.

On the second Thursday evening of each month from May up to and including September, between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., all are welcome. Parking is good – but arrive early.

It would be great if we could get several Alfas (or other Italian cars along). I was trying to think of a collective noun for Alfas and came up with: "cache"; "charm"; "clutch" (Get it?); "constellation" ("una costellazione"). Any thoughts? Let's talk about it next time! **Hazel Mills**

Coming up in the next 2 months

MAY

May 5th

Auto Italia Italian Car Day Brooklands

<https://www.brooklandsmuseum.com/whats-on/auto-italia-italian-car-day>

(Cotswold Section Convoy on the day from Peartree Services, A34 Oxford Ring Road. Contact Alex Payne if joining this).

May 15th

Cotswold Section meeting

at The Fox, Broadwell

May 20th

South West Alfa Day.

Haynes Museum Yeovil.

<http://www.aroc-uk.com/>

(If enough interest we can plan a convoy on the day – contact Alex Payne).

May 26th

La Vita Rossa. Prescott Hill Climb

(See page 2 of this newsletter and book now!)

JUNE

June 10th

Churchill Vintage and Classic Car Show

<http://www.churchillsarsden.com/vintage--classic-car-show.html>

Cotswold Section spaces confirmed. Contact Alex Payne when you have booked.

Online readers:

[Download your entry application form here.](#)

Hard copy readers go later to website above or

<http://www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds/>

June 19th - **Cotswold Section meeting at The Fox.**

Saturday JUNE 23RD
COTSWOLD ALFA DAY 2018

COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK
BURFORD. OX18 4JP

Online readers:

[Download the full details and CAD 2018 application form here](#)

Hard copy readers go later to website

<http://www.aroc-uk.com/cotswolds/>

June 24th

Princethorpe Motoring Festival

www.princethorpe.co.uk

June 23rd – 24th

Bicester Flywheel Festival

<http://bicesterheritage.co.uk/flywheel-festival/>

Items for the newsletter should be sent to aroccotswolds@933.me.uk

Coffee and Classics at The Motor Hub Sunday April 2nd

A slightly chilly but dry Sunday morning saw Fran and I take the Spider to The Motor Hub near Bibury for their first "Coffee and Classics" event of the year.

On approaching the venue, we couldn't believe the sheer number of vehicles in the queue. However, a twenty-minute delay was fairly pleasurable because we had a Ferrari Mondial in front of us and a Maserati Spyder behind us. So the soundtrack was something special!

Once parked up, we grabbed a coffee and proceeded to look around the assembled cars and bikes that were driven to the event. To say it was a varied car park is not the full story. There was everything imaginable from Bond Bugs (Remember them?) custom cars, kit cars including a superb Lancia Stratos replica (Oh, yes please!) to the latest Aston Martin DB11 Volante which Fran took a shine to.

Moving indoors to the cars and bikes for sale, we had a low mileage Lamborghini Miura finished in trademark Miura Green and a factory restored Ferrari Dino that once belonged to Jean Todt (which was another car that Fran took a shine to - but at £325K, it was way beyond our means).



A factory-fresh Ferrari F40 sat in a corner with a sold sticker on it.



Next to this was an ex- Innes Ireland 250 Testa Rossa complete with the picnic hamper he used. You get the picture!

From an Alfa point of interest, a beautiful fully restored Montreal in a creamy white colour was for sale (£75k!) and in the private collection barn was a genuine ex Nuovolari P3. It was such a privilege to get so close to a car with all that history and of course it was a game changer for motorsport itself. Sadly, we couldn't take any pictures.

Alfa's outside numbered a few, including a smart 3 litre 916 GTV for which the owner had paid £400! Why can I never find these bargains?!

There was a lovely self- restored 1963 Giulietta Spider in Grey and a lovely 1975 Spider.



For many however, including me, the highlight was a 1948 Ferrari 166 "Barchetta " driven to the event and with its 1.5 litre V12 soundtrack filling the air – "Bellissimo"!



Alex Payne