



AROC COTSWOLD

Section Newsletter - August 2019

aroccotswolds.co.uk



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

date per il tuo diario

17 Sep - monthly Section meet at
The Fox Inn, Broadwell GL56 0UF

Sep 8 - **Breakfast at Twynning** - sponsored by The Austin Healy Club Southwestern in support of the charity: **fly2help**
Remaining date for Summer 2019 - Sunday, Sep 8 @ 10.00.
All details: info@ahc-southwestern.co.uk

7 Dec - COTSWOLD Section Christmas Lunch -
*** Venue to be confirmed ***

OTHER EVENTS - *altri eventi*

31 Aug - MITCAR - Midlands Italian Car Day
Jaguar Land Rover Classic Works CV8 3LF
ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY: mitcar.co.uk

29 Sep - Auto Italia Italian Car Day Stanford
Hall LE17 6DH auto-italia.co.uk

13 Oct - Auto Italia Autumn Motorsport
Festival Brooklands KT13 0QN

8-10 Nov - Classic Car Show NEC B'Ham
Tickets from www.necclassicarshow.com
Use AROC code CC2127

THE SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES

gli scarabocchi del segretario

" SUMMERTIME BLUES "

As in the great "rock n roll" song, so far this month, weatherwise it has been a little "blue" - with water that is!
The week running up to the Silverstone Classic saw record temperatures, 34°C on the Thursday before the event, and by the Sunday I was sitting in the Luffield grandstand and it felt like 35°F !. Despite the weather, a

good time was had and a report and pictures are attached in this edition.

Moving on, many of us have been out and about with our Alfas and other Italian lovelies and it is always surprising to me the interest our cars create wherever we park them. The **Breakfast at Twynning** events have been well supported as have many other evening and weekend meets during the summer.

By the time you read this the **Festival Italia** at Brands Hatch will have taken place but we still have **MITCAR** coming up at the Jaguar and Land Rover classic works in Coventry at the end of the month. A great day out is promised and all at just £5 per car to attend. Entry will be by **ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY** obtainable at mitcar.co.uk

Italian Car Day organised by Auto Italia magazine returns to Stanford Hall in Leicestershire on Sunday 29 September
Details: auto-italia.co.uk/events

October 13 will see the **Autumn Motorsport Festival** at Brooklands. This is also organised by the good folk at Auto Italia and is always a good day, weather permitting!.

We are still planning an **Autumn Day Out** across the Malvern's to Retro Marques. To make it a full day, we plan to meet for breakfast before a leisurely drive to Strensham and then in late afternoon, a meal at the Elgar Inn.

I know it may seem a little early to mention the "X" word (far too early for me!) but we will be taking bookings from the September meeting for our annual Xmas lunch.

Enjoy the late summer months with your Alfas; my best wishes to all. Ciao, Alex

SILVERSTONE CLASSIC 2019

How many times have I been attending this event and do I still enjoy it? The answer is and remains, ever since it was the 'Coy's Classic' way back, a very positive yes!

Although the general format hasn't changed in recent years, the organisers always manage to attract something new each year. This year we had some wonderful Le Mans and long distance sports cars to enjoy along with the biggest grid of classic F2 cars I have ever seen; the Sunday race grid was over 70 deep, and stunning display both static and moving of 'Hyper Cars'. And the main highlight for many, including myself, is the uninterrupted access to the pits for some excellent close up photography opportunities.

The really good news for Alfisti this year was the presence of the full Alfa GB hospitality unit along with the F1 raceway shop and for club members, free soft drinks, ice cream and a good place to meet up and chill.

Alfa GB also had a great selection of new Alfas and Arbarths available for test drives. I resisted the temptation of a Stelvio Qf but many didn't and it was certainly popular over the whole weekend.

Out and about in the pits, the Alfa count was very diverse with pre-war machinery including a P3, several 6Cs and 8Cs. Moving on post war, we had some stunning 105s including a genuine GTA, a beautiful 1966 Giulia Ti which was a sheer joy, the lovely green and white Alfetta which races in the AROC championship and my absolute favourite the 70's Tipo 33 which not only looked stunning but sounded amazing. And of course we had Alfa engines powering some single seat F2 and FJ cars.



Is Fahrenheit still in general use?

Anyway, 34°F = 1°C ; nevertheless Alex is clearly enjoying the occasion as evidenced in this photo-op? Ed

Unfortunately, the one thing the event didn't have was consistent weather; it is July in the UK after all! Friday was by far the best day and we were pleased we did our usual Friday walkabout and picture taking as by Saturday the rain arrived and on Sunday it was cold (well for the time of year). 34°C on the Thursday before and 34°F in the grandstands on Sunday.

The racing as usual was full-on with no quarter given. This always amazes me as the cost of some of the cars is truly eye-watering, but, they were made to be driven and thank goodness, the drivers do just that. The most spectacular were the Mini races with up to 60 cars, celebrating 60 years of the Mini, all fighting for the best places, we even had a superbly prepared Mini Countryman racing complete with wooden trim. It's amazing how much power this iconic little car can be tuned to; speaking to one owner he said he had a healthy 130bhp at the front wheels! All a bit different to the 70bhp I had in my 1071S back in the day.

So not much more to say apart from another great event despite the weather!

Ciao, Alex

Visit the website for a comprehensive selection of photos. Ed

THE BELL CLASSIC CAR NIGHT

Over the last couple of years The Bell at Alderminster has opened its doors to the petrol head community during the summer months for a relaxed evening gathering of classic cars and a burger and a pint.

It was probably a bit remiss of me that I had not previously attended so when Chris Martin invited me to join him and his family for the August gathering, I jumped at the chance.

I'm not too sure what I expected car wise but I sure didn't expect such an eclectic mix. We had everything from an original Cobra Coupe (oh yes please!), modern supercars including a new Honda NSX, the first I had seen on the road, a 32K mile Austin A40 (like my first car), E-Type's, kit cars, RS Fords, etc. You get the picture?



On the Italian front we had Dave Townsends lovely Lancia, a stunning Maserati 3200 Spider, a 105 Bertie , a couple of modern Abarth 500's and now getting rare, a Punto Abarth, and of course Chris's superb V6 GT.



All in all it was a lovely relaxed way to spend a summer evening and as for the burger, it was wonderful!

On a somewhat sad footnote I have just heard from Ness at the Bell that it has passed in to new ownership as is closing shortly for three months. This of course affects ongoing events and our section Xmas meal which I had just confirmed. I will let you all know as soon as possible when we have booked an alternative venue.
Alex

WHICHFORD TT

The recent monthly Whichford TT (Third Thursday) meet.



The lovely blue Amilcar really caught my eye, but there was the usual range of classic and modern cars.
Chris Martin

TELL US your ALFA STORY...in words, drawings or photos

Please send your news and all other interesting snippets for publication FAO 'The Newsletter Editor' at least 3 days before regular monthly Section meetings:
contact@arocotswolds.co.uk