



# AROC COTSWOLD

Section Newsletter - March 2020

[aroccotswolds.co.uk](http://aroccotswolds.co.uk)



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

*date per la tua agenda*

**Note: All Events & Dates will be subject to possible cancellation or postponement**

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- 7 April - Motor Meet at  
The Cotswold Food Store & Cafe, GL56 0QZ
- 21 April - Regular Section Meeting at The Fox
- 26 April - 'Drive it Day' Brunch at GL56 0QZ  
and 'drive' to British Motor Museum, Gaydon
- 23 May - La Vita Rossa, Prescott
- 14 June - Giro Panoramico-Cotswold Alfa Day,  
Batsford Arboretum TICKETS NOW on SALE
- 16 June - An evening 'drive' and Monthly  
Meeting
- 24 June - ALFA ROMEO's 110th BIRTHDAY
- 5 July - National Alfa Day, Bicester Heritage

### OTHER EVENTS (Non-AROC or Section-specific)

- 10 May - Classics at the Villa, WD7 9BB  
Villa Scalabrini [villascalabrini.co.uk](http://villascalabrini.co.uk)
- 17 May - Belmont Supercar Sunday, RG9 6HF  
Stonor Park [stonor.com](http://stonor.com)

## THE SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES

*gli scarabocchi del segretario*

### "Carry on Regardless"

Yes, as in the 1961 comedy that is, although as I write this, things are not that funny. Covid-19 is doing its best to postpone and even cancel events all over the country. Spring may be just around the corner and the many Alfa and car events which we all enjoy should be soon be upon us.

From a Club and Section point of view, I think it's best at this point in time to don the British "stiff upper lip" and carry on.

To this end CAD tickets are now on sale and take up has been brisk in the first few days; this is encouraging. As for our proposed "Drive It Day" across the Fosse to the British Motor Museum on Sunday 26 April, this is still on, but I will keep you all notified if things change.

Last month's meeting - although low on turnout - saw our AGM. I am delighted to say that the present Committee was re-elected and is doing a sterling job behind the scenes. This is good news for the stability of the Section and minutes of the meeting are to be found in this Newsletter.

One of the Covid-19 casualties was the bi-annual AROC Secretaries meeting. This is a bit of a shame but understandable. I really enjoyed the last one I attended as it was good to meet the other Secretaries and share ideas while flying the Cotswold flag. I gather it will be rescheduled but in the meantime, if anything major happens or affects us, I will of course keep you all informed.

So into spring and the car season with a touch of uncertainty; hopefully by the end of April, things should have reached their peak and will be receding such that we can "carry on regardless".

Ciao, Alex



## RACE RETRO 2020

On a chilly, but thankfully dry Saturday morning, Chris Martin and myself set off to Stoneleigh for the annual Race Retro event.

Although primarily rally sport orientated, Race Retro has plenty going for any motor-sport petrolhead to enjoy.

On arrival, our first port of call is a covered Parc Ferme. Whether or not into rally cars, you cannot fail to be impressed with the stunning variety on offer.

You name it from the late fifties onwards, you have an amazing selection to walk around and get up close to. Works Ford Escorts, Audi Quattros, Triumphs and Maxis from the BL heyday, works Subarus, Renault 5 Turbos, Peugeot T16s, and of course Italian exotica with Lancia Deltas and 037s. And not one but two rally spec Ferrari 308's.

And the best bit about all of this is that they all run and are demonstrated with aplomb and gusto on a specially laid out track with good spectator access. Wonderful!

When, or I should say if, you have had your fill of live action, then the four display halls constitute an event on their own.

Jam packed with cars for sale, parts, race/rally specialities, clothing, memorabilia and so much more. The highlights for us were the Hawk replica Lancia Stratos decked out in the famous Alitalia colours with a 3.2 'Busso' in the back and an immaculate very low mileage Delta Integrale in Monza Red. Yes please!

I know many of you have been to this wonderful event but if you haven't, then make a date for the next one. It's a great day out, tops up the Castrol R addiction and chases away those winter blues.

Alex



*Not too many Alfas.....*



# AROC COTSWOLD SECTION AGM

## MINUTES TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2020

### Attending:

Steve Davies: Chairman  
Alex Payne: Secretary  
Dave Parker: Treasurer  
Chris Martin: Committee Member & Website Admin  
Dave Slorach: Newsletter Editor  
Neale Smith: Committee Member

### I. Introduction by the Chairman

Apologies from Roger, John Rappier, Mathew Wilmot

### II. a. Secretary's Report

Did we do enough as a section? Rod replied that the calendar was very crowded with other events. CAD was discussed and the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2020 was the date announced. 34 have already provisionally booked.

Dave informed us that tickets will be available at the end of the month. Alex said that Drive-It Day was limited to 20 cars with half of those need to be pre 1990.

Alex announced that Silverstone experience was too expensive. Gaydon was suggested by Alex, perhaps meet at the Fosseyway Garden Centre in April, exact date to be confirmed.

It was discussed that there should be more collaboration between the sections, dates would be released soon for a possible West Midland collaboration.

The Christmas meal was discussed, and it was acknowledged that the Threeways Hotel did not provide a good meal in 2019. This may have been due to changing hands.

### b. Treasurer's Report

Dave provided a full printed report and read through the figures.

It was confirmed that Retro Marks provided prizes not financial contributions.

Steve gave thanks for Dave for following on from John Mills as treasurer.

Steve asked if anyone wanted to put their name forward as a committee member for which it was mentioned that Neville might come on board after his knee operation.

### Nominations:

Steve Davies: Chairman (happy to continue)  
Alex Payne: Secretary (happy to continue)  
Dave Parker: Treasurer (happy to continue)  
David Slorach, Chris Martin & Neale Smith all happy to continue as Committee Members.

### X. Location for regular meetings

Steve suggested that we might try a few different pubs in the summer not too far from Broadwell. It was agreed this would be nice if it was a lovely summer evening although it was noted that we shouldn't alienate Broadwell as their capacity is good and food good value.

Dave Hood suggested we approach Café and the Machine to do an Italian night, this was seconded by Alex. Hopefully The Bell at Alderminster would be opening soon and John Mills suggested he would try it to see what the menu was like.

### XI. a. 2020 Events

Alex printed the calendar on the back of the committee agenda for everyone to have.

Neale Smith suggested that maybe we go to Silverstone Experience Day sometime after CAD.

### b. Christmas Lunch

Alex highly recommend The Greyhound at Bessesleigh and as such, The Bell at Alderminster will hopefully be run by the same pub group and to the same standards. Alex suggested we contact them when they open, Neale suggested Wyck Hill, Stow-on-the-Wold, Steve suggested The Manor House Hotel, Moreton-in-Marsh. John suggested The Four Alls, Welford-upon-Avon. It was noted that the Christmas meal needs to be booked by September and needs to have good parking, good food etc. Alex mentioned that he would rather pay higher at £29.95 than lower because you get what you pay for. Christmas lunch venue to remain open and Neale suggested that we try to decide perhaps later in the year.

### EVENTS

La Vita Rossa - Alex mentioned that they are difficult to deal with and lack organisation but it is a great day out for the section.



## FURTHER EVENTS

Churchill unfortunately clashes with CAD. Alex apologises however he chose the date first as it needed to be booked ASAP. Motorhub (Italian) fully booked.

## CHARITY

2019 was Fly 2 Help which was suggested by Mark Knight. 2020 Charity is still to be decided, Neale Smith suggested keeping it local. Steve suggested Kate's Nursing Home, Steve also said that anybody else wishing to nominate a charity please let the committee know, ideally before CAD.

Alex explained there is no newsletter this time as noone provided any news. Newsletter is struggling for content. Steve suggested meeting with various members to talk to them about their motoring experience / Alfa experience and to include new members cars etc.

It was highlighted that even though overall Alfa Romeo membership is up, section attendance is down. Alex said he felt that car clubs on the whole were suffering from lack of support. Alex informed the committee that he would not be able to attend the Section Secretary meeting on 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> March in Coventry. Anyone who would like to attend in his place should contact a member of the committee as it would be beneficial for someone to go. It was suggested that it would be good to contact Grant Richardson (Development), this was suggested by Mark Byatt.

Steve concluded the meeting saying that any suggestions or feedback would be greatly appreciated and please contact

Alex

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**TELL your ALFA STORY...in words, drawings or photos...dare to be different...**

*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@aroccotswolds.co.uk](mailto:contact@aroccotswolds.co.uk)

## RHUBARB AND GINGER TIRAMISU

The Secretary's take on an Italian classic

WILL SERVE FOUR to SIX

- 1 Pack Of Rhubarb (Fresh Or Frozen)
- 1 Jar Stem Ginger
- 1 250G Tub Of Mascarpone
- 1 300 ml 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!)
- 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.

Bring To A Slow Simmer And Cook For 20 Minutes Or So. Leave To Cool, Preferably Overnight. If You Think It Doesn't Have Enough Liquid Add Some Water But Don't Make It Too 'Sloppy'.

2) Whisk The Egg Yolks With The Seeds From The Vanilla Pod And Some Caster Sugar Until Pale In Colour. Then Mix In The Mascarpone.

3) Lightly Whisk The Double Cream

4) Whisk The Egg Whites With Caster Sugar Until They Form Soft Peaks.

5) Gently Fold The Cream In To The Egg/ Mascarpone Mix, 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.

Buon Appetito!

Alex