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Social Notes

Our technical editor, Stewart Sandeman, runs a repair shop hardly more than a crankshaft-throw away from the publisher's offices. He's accustomed to having an occasional open house, so the Bradens drove over on a recent weekend (in the family Ford) to rub elbows with other Alfa owners and potential members of an Orange County chapter of the AROC.

My 2-year-old daughter proceeded to explore the Sandeman shop with nary a drop of oil picked up on her jumper: Never saw such a clean shop in my whole life!

I was reminded by the folk who showed up for snacks and conversation how genuinely nice Alfa owners are. This is not just claque: I've attended enough other-marque events to know the difference. One lady pressed me on the benefits of belonging to an Alfa club. She didn't want to overhaul her car and really wasn't interested in anything but enjoying it: What could the club offer? Nice people. Look around you.



The "Graduate" does without the luxuries of leather and air conditioning—but retains the Alfa performance loved by enthusiasts. (Braden)

The Graduate

Thanks to Craig Morningstar, I had the use of a Graduate for a week. It was bright red with a natural leather-looking interior which, in fact, was vinyl, one of the "deletes" which makes the Graduate the most affordable Alfa.

Enthusiasts have been asking for a "stripper" Alfa for some time. You know — take off all the heavy accessories and just give us the bare-bones car with no frills. Well, that's what the Graduate is.

The thing which most impressed me about the car is that, if you didn't tell anyone, they probably wouldn't notice the differences. American manufacturers make you suffer if you insist on buying a "stripper." (I remember the first Chevette, where you had to pay extra for a back seat in the lowest-priced model. It kept you humble with crummy door-pull straps and an ill-fitting fiberboard interior.) The Graduate has everything the enthusiast needs and nothing to detract from the sheer excitement of the basic car. Plenty of carpeting, super seats, full instrumentation and the very same engine that makes the others go, including a revised variableintake camshaft which now ties in with the Bosch fuel injection black box.

At about \$13,500, the Graduate has to

be the best convertible buy on the market. In the first place, it's a true convertible, not the "chop-top" conversions other manufacturers offer. As a result, the top is not a compromise: It doesn't intrude on interior room and seals perfectly. I drove the Graduate in rain and found it to be watertight and very secure. It doesn't flap around at speed, either.

The Graduate owner gives up the alloy wheels, air conditioning, power windows and sideview mirrors, radio and leather interior of the Spider Veloce. What's left is a most respectable car which loses nothing of its Alfa essence: The steel wheels have additional chrome rings to keep the exterior flashy and they connect at the rearto a limited-slip differential. The passenger side rearview mirror is convex to help

Vintage Sports Car Club (England) Membership List For Alfa Section Circa 1961

Tor Ana Section C	iica	13	0	1	Engine	Chassis	
Owner	Туре			Coachwork	No.	No.	Regd.
ALLEN, C.	1750	S	2	4 str.	0211351	0312906	VN 397
ANDERSON, R.J.	1500		2		0211459	0211459	UL1489
AYERS, Maj. A.J.	1750	S	2	Touring 2 str.	121215048	121215048	BGW494
BEVER, A.H.M.	1500		1	Young D.H.C.	0111524	0111524	
The second se	1750		1	Young D.H.C.	0412275	0412275	
	1750		2	D.H.C.	10914491	10914491	HX 80
BLANFORD, F/Lt. M.	1750	S	2	T.T. 4 str.	0312909	0312909	UU 79
(1st 1930 Phoenix Park, drive		0	2	1.1. 4 50.	0012000	0012000	0015
by Ivanowski)							
BAILEY, L. Scott	1750	C	2	Zagato 2 str.	10814368	10814368	
BLACK, W.D.A.	1750		2				AVNIZOA
	1750		2	Zagato 2 str.	10814353	10814353	
BODINGTON, Maj. W.J.				Zagato 2 str.	0312957	0312957	
BRADEN, V.P.	1750	5	2	Zagato 2 str.	8513007	8513007	
Dismantled	1750	0	2	Zagato 2 str.	0111001	0111001	GN 6071
CASSON, T.	2.3	S	2	Zagato 2 str.	2111034		GOT550
CATTANACH, H.	22/90		1				YW 1730
(See Pemberton)							
CLEMETSEN, J.A.	2.3	S	2	Zagato 2 str.	2111015	2111015	
CRABTREE, Dr. J.D.	1500	S	2	Open 2 str.	0312872		GU 9699
(6th 1929 T.T. driven by							
Franteras)							
CROWLEY-MILLING, M.C.	22/90		1	Targa Florio	110 Rs	110 Rs	XX 5060
	2.3	S	2	Zagato 2 str.	2111044	2111044	CPE51
DEREY, C.	21/71		1	Open 4 str.	8808	8808	TD 4303
DUCKER, B.J.	1750	S	2	Zagato 2 str.	10814370	10814370	BYM335
	1750		2	Saloon	10914519	10914519	
EASDALE, I.T.		S	2	Zagato 2 str.	10814386	10814386	
ECKERSLEY, K.B.	2.3	S	2	Coupe	2211075	2211075	PXY63
FINCH, A.G.		S	2	Brianza 2 str.	10814395	10814395	
111011,71.01	1750		2	D.H.C.	101014832		UUNULU
FIRMIN, L.G.	1500	S	2	Zagato 2 str.	8513027	8513027	GH 1557
FISK, D.K.	1500	0	2	Zagato 2 str.	0211332	0211332	
(1928 Essex 6 hr. Brookland			2	2agato 2 3tt.	0211002	0211002	1 L 4021
driven by Bruno)							
FRAZER, J.W.	2.3	S	2	Farina D.H.C.	2211065	0011065	DVUEOC
GAUDIN, M.B.	2.3		2			2211065	
				Touring 2 str.	2121031	2121031	FLC820
GILLINGHAM, D.A.	1750		2	Zagato 2 str.	10814373	10814373	GPA200
GOODFELLOW, R.J.H.	2.6	S	2	Coupe	2311240	2311240	011 0070
GRAY, G.G.W.	2.3	S	2	2 str.	2111005	2111005	GN 6076
(ex H.R.S. Birkin)	1750	~	~				
	1750	S	2	Zagato 2 str.	10814401	10814401	BO 911
GRAY, J.W.D.	1500		2	Zagato 2 str.	0211462	0231191	
GUNN, J.B.	1750	S	2		8513025	8513025	GF 5733
(ex Eyston - 118 miles in 1 hr							
HALL, K.T.	1750	S	2	T.T. 4 str.	0312905	0312905	UU 9125
HARGRAVE, R.E.							
HARKNESS, J.H.	1500		2	4 str. Tourer	0211484	0211484	PG 602
HIGGINBOTHAM, G.	1500		2	2 str.	0211409	0211409	MPG726
HIRST, M.F.	1750	S	2	Zagato 2 str.		0332931	
HODSON, D.A.J.F.							
HODSON, D.A.P.							
HOWELL, D.O.	1750	S	2	3 str. D.H.C.	0312955	0312995	YC 7738
a server of expressioners and a growthe			_				