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Registro Italiano Alfa Romeo

Italy's Alfa Romeo Register celebrates the Giulia's 50th anniversary

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The Italian Alfa Romeo Register (RIAR) organized a rally in May dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the legendary Giulia; the Alfa Romeo saloon that was presented for the first time in June 1962.

To celebrate a car that is in the heart of Italians and lovers of all Alfa Romeos, the RIAR

journeyed into the heart of Italy. The international event was held in Umbria, the greenest region of Italy which is located right in the middle of the Peninsula. The charming city of Perugia, famous for its monuments, art and university, welcomed the 50 Giulias (and GT Junior, GTA and Zagato derivatives) who attended the event. From

Perugia they left the tourist routes and travelled along less frequented roads that have characterized Alfisti meetings and rallies.

The first stage saw the cars arrive in beautiful Assisi, where the Giulia invaded the square of the Basilica. Participants were able to visit the historic city of St Francis, as always crowded with tourists from around the

world. They were very curious and excited to see such a colourful display of Giulias set amidst the beautiful medieval architecture.

After Assisi it was the turn of Gubbio (the 'City of Stone'), another jewel of one of the most beautiful and visited regions of Italy. The city organized the traditional show of flags for members of the RIAR.

This is a compelling exhibition that has its origins in the secular 'gioco della bandiera' (flag game) and was born in Gubbio in 1380.

The Alfa Romeo Giulias were finally greeted by the town of Spello, where the Giulia owners concluded the tour by enjoying the most delicious specialties of Umbria.

"The event was



excellent", commented Stefano D'Amico, President of the Register, "and organized in the spirit of R.I.A.R. In any classic car gathering it is always possible to see Giulias, often very beautiful, but those that attended our anniversary were all perfect. We created an excellent selection of cars, many of which are perfectly preserved in their original condition, others flawlessly restored. Members of the R.I.A.R. who participated in the rally are also owners of

cars far more noble and important, but they have approached Giulia with the same approach they have for a 6C 1750: it is a matter of mindset."

Fifty Giulia for 50 years of history. The oldest specimens of Giulia saloons attending the rally were those of Pasquale Olivieri (Giulia TI 1963), Luca Pulga (Giulia TI Super 1963) and the Giulia 1600 TI (1964) of Massimo Cremascoli. Also notable were the beautiful Giulia SS (1961) of Ottorino Fontana and the completely original

GTA (1969) owned by Sante Cesari.

If we could we would give a prize for the youngest owner it would be Paul Meacci and his Giulia Super 1600 of 1966. This car, in perfect condition, has covered less than 30,000km from new with its original owner (now of 95 years old) who donated it to his son.

True Alfisti, Meinster and Theo Dirk Abbenhuis of Club Alfa Romeo Netherlands (nearly 4000 members), drove their 1970 Giulia Super to Perugia exclusively on

local roads.

The R.I.A.R. team is ready for the next round of the Giulia 50th celebrations. Indeed, 2012 is an important year for the Italian Alfa Romeo Register, the club's official Giulia programme unites nearly 2000 Italian member and many other countries from Australia to Japan from North America to England. The R.I.A.R. was born in 1962, just like Giulia. Its current headquarters are in the Alfa Romeo Museum in Arese: the perfect place.

The Alfa Romeo Giulia's

official birthday party was held on Saturday June 23 in Cremona, a town a few miles south of Brescia that has seen the passing of all the historic Mille Miglias. On this occasion the cars owned by R.I.A.R. members were on display in the streets and squares of the historic centre where musicians played precious instruments created by the violin makers Stradivari, Amati and Guarneri del Gesu.

For more information on Registro Italiano Alfa Romeo visit www.riar.it

