

ALAIN DE CADENET (K54-63)

Born in November 1945 in London. He is an on-air personality for the SPEED Channel. He has hosted many shows, including "Legends of Motorsport", as well as the network's coverage of the Goodwood Festival of Speed.



He made his reputation building and driving his own sports racing cars, taking on the full 'works' factory teams and, at times, even beating them. In 1976 he came third overall at Le Mans, which made his mark – and in 1980, won two rounds of the World Sports Car Championship (Monza 1000k and Silverstone 6-Hours). At that time, this was considered a major achievement in an era of increasing professionalism, when it was unheard of for a self-funded privateer to take-on the 'big boys' and win.

Alain is also one of the most respected and accomplished racers of classic and vintage cars – and, during the course of his driving career, has owned and raced some truly important machines, particular in the marque of Alfa Romeo. As the Host of six productions of the television show "Victory by Design" (which features Classic Marques of automobiles), it's probably safe to say that Alain has driven more different and important racing cars than any other person in history.

In addition to his passion for cars, Alain is also an avid collector of motorcycles and airplanes (including a WW2 Spitfire). For many years he was also a collector and authority on George V stamps, even advising the British Postal Service on their collection.

His daughter is the actress Amanda De Cadenet.

His amazing list of hobbies apparently include : Aviation (flies old biplanes and warbirds), stamp collecting, vintage cameras, wine, skiing, scuba diving, riding, tennis, squash, shooting, motorcycling, reading classic literature, collecting old cars and bikes, working on my lathe and mill, playing chess, collecting vintage films and posters, English landscape painting from the 19th century, good music from classic orchestra or individuals, 16th and 17th century architecture from Italy and France, studying the U.S. Airmail history and the great air races from the 1920's and '30's, cooking , working for SPEED etc etc

He was a presenter on "Goodwood Festival of Speed" on ITV on 3 October 2006.

You can view a couple of video clips of him (my thanks to **James Mehta (S67-75)** for spotting these) :-

- This first one is short but amusing <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=AmR-A-yJknw>
- This second one is an old interview with him <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=SS1Z-vYYoXo&feature=related>

Chris Keeble (S53-59) had a long chat with De Cad (as he seems to be known) in the Paddock at the Goodwood Revival Race meeting in September 2009. They chatted about cars, Brandeston and the College. He said he had hardly been in contact with any OFs and welcomed the chance to explain how Kittermaster had been a guiding figure in his early days. The following day he was out in race 12 (there's no race numbered 13!) in a 1962 Ferrari 250 GTO (the model immortalised in the Beach Boys hit single 'Little GTO'), in a one hour 2 driver race – see photo of the car.

