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REPORTS ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
EVENTS AND ITALIAN CAR CLUBS

Stella Alpina 2020

Mountain event marks the welcome return of classic rallying to Italy

Images: Canossa Events

With a huge sigh of relief, the very first regularity rally for cars in Italy took place after the lockdown towards the end of June. The 35th Stella Alpina saw 70 teams – 23 in classic cars and 47 in moderns – get back behind the wheel again, in both a competitive event and a tourism category. Highly impressive was the number of Ferraris present: no fewer than 43.

The smiling faces and enthusiastic responses made it clear that everyone was delighted to be back on the road. Organised by Scuderia Trentina and Canossa Events, the safety of the participants was clearly evident.

Over three days through some of the most scenic routes and spectacular mountain passes in the Dolomites, drivers and passengers enjoyed some very challenging roads – even if there were fewer mountains than usual. There was plenty of hospitality to enjoy, too, notably at the Madonna di Campiglio, the 'Pearl of the Dolomites' high up in the Italian Alps.

Competitors faced time trials and average speed trials over a route covering around 300 miles. The first leg on Friday saw teams line up at Trento's airport before dashing off along the legendary Trento-Bondone road with its famous hairpin bends and 'endless' climb, then heading towards Lake Toblino, Terme di Comano, Tione, Valle Rendena and finishing the day at Madonna di Campiglio, a total of 115km.

Saturday's second leg was undoubtedly the most demanding, climbing up into the Dolomites on a complex route with many lesser-known mountain passes. The cars drove up to Campo Carlo Magno and Folgarida, dropping down into Val di Sole and Val di Non, before crossing Piana Rotaliana and climbing up again towards Cavalese and back down again into the Adige Valley. After crossing Passo Mendola, through Val di Non and Val di Sole, the teams returned to Madonna di Campiglio after 250km.

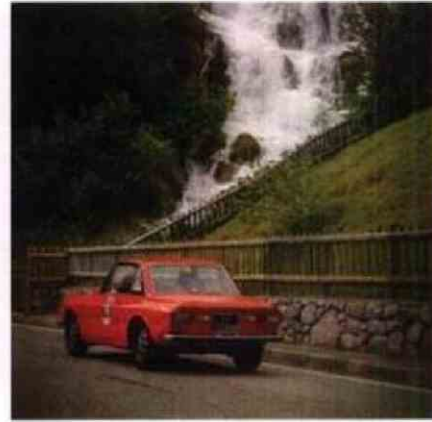
The final leg on Sunday saw crews head off towards Carisolo, through the Passo Duron, Val Lomasona, Passo Ballino and Lake Tenno, before finishing back at Trento after about 130km.





► 1 ottobre 2020





The winners were celebrated at an awards ceremony held in the spectacular setting of Villa Bortolazzi in Trento. Crew 31 (Mario and Roberto Crugnola) took the top place on the podium for classic cars in their 1971 Lancia Fulvia HF, Riccardo Roversi and Michele Bellini came second in their 1954 Fiat 1100/103 and also won the Trofeo Stella Alpina for pre-1957 cars. Michele Laforteza and Ilaria Carturan secured third in their 1976 Lancia Fulvia Coupe. The award for the under-30 crew went to Ciro Agostini and Diletta Montagni in a 1963 Alfa Romeo Giulia 1600. Giovanni Carretti and Antonella Furlan dominated the

crews taking part, some in classic cars but most driving modern Ferraris. Scuderia Trentina and Canossa Events decided to donate a large chunk of its budget to a foundation dedicated to autism. Luigi Orlandini of Canossa Events said: "We are very satisfied and even proud that we were the ones to get the ball rolling again for motoring events. I would like to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart who made the success of the event possible." Fiorenzo Dalmeri of Scuderia Trentina, added: "This post-lockdown edition of the Stella Alpina was a

Lancia Fulvias featured strongly in the final classifications. Best under-30 crew was an Alfa Giulia

“ It was a perfect way to celebrate the easing of lockdown and we enjoyed every minute of it ”

rankings for modern Ferraris in their Ferrari 488 Spider, ahead of Enrico Zobe and Ivana Trentinaglia in their Ferrari B12 GTS and Fabio Vergamini and Maurizia Bertolucci in their Ferrari 488 GTB. In the Average Speed Trials contest for classic cars, Andrea Giacoppo and Daniela Grillone Teciou came first in a 1965 Mercedes 230SL, while Enrico Zobe and Ivana Trentinaglia in their Ferrari B12 GTS won the modern cars class. The tourism formula was also judged to be a great success, with around 40

challenge for us and demanded a great deal of effort and courage, but we're so glad we did." British participants Adrian and Ali Martin, who tackled the event in an Abarth 595, said: "For us as competitors it was a perfect way to celebrate the easing of the Covid lockdown and we enjoyed every moment of it. The route was very well planned with the dramatic scenery of the Dolomites and a nice balance between some challenging passes and some relaxing stretches."

