

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW.



Bicester Aerodrome was established during the First War and has an interesting history: Further details can be found [here](#). As has been the way with so many other military airfields it eventually became surplus to requirements and the huge site with its many and massive buildings settled into a gradual decline. The normal fate of such establishments is usually light industry or housing development, but in

this case the site survived long enough to begin a spectacular reinvention.



In a unique change of use which will preserve the fabric and history of the airfield and its buildings, Bicester Heritage (details [here](#)) has been established and while it is very early days for the project there are already firms involved in historic motorsport and aviation who are helping to make this ambitious scheme a reality. The first open day of 2015 was held on January 4th in foggy conditions which remained just above or



below freezing all day but there was still a fantastic turnout of old vehicles, their owners keen to see what progress had been made.



The first things which you notice about the site are its size, the number of buildings, their generally sound condition and the massive dimensions of some of them. Having so many sorts of buildings present means that many types of

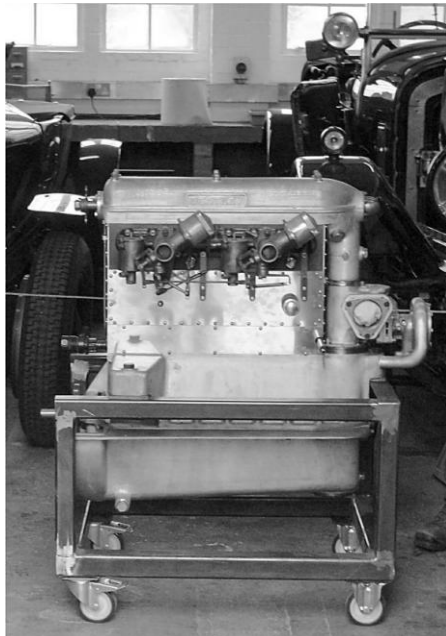
enterprises can be catered for and it is great to see the area coming alive again in a unique combination of the past and the present.

Among the very diverse attendees in January were



some interesting Italians and these are pictured below. There will be other open days during 2015 and if you are able to take part you will find this huge work in progress a fascinating experience and well worth the trip.





MJB