

# FIATfocus

THE JOURNAL OF THE FIAT CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES Inc. (Est. 1949)

1949 - 2019

CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF THE **FIAT CLUB OF NSW**

Congratulations to the McGeorge Family on receiving Life Membership to the Fiat Club of New South Wales



*Social Meetings sponsored by the Bankstown Sports Club*



# Coffee break (write up)

24th February 2019

Superior Burger



Well, we have found out now what attracts our club membership to a social event...BURGERS!

What a turn out we had last Sunday to Superior Burger out at Wakeley. 34 cars and 58 people! The biggest gathering to date ever!



Daniel's burger place felt like an old school dinner with cool cars and people hanging out everywhere. A fantastic time was had by all and we definately can't wait to go again!

A massive thank you to everyone who came along and especially those that brought their families and friends.



Our evening event was a huge success.

Ciao

**Giovanni Ciampa**

( social events co-ordinator )  
FIAT CLUB of NSW Inc



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*Back Cover, Club Merchandise, Club Details, Event Notices;*

*Fiat 2300 Register Meeting, Bathurst April; National Heritage Motoring Day, Berry, May 19.*

## **Old Photos from the Fiat Club of New South Wales Archives.**



**Warragamba Dam picnic, 1965.**



**Ted Ansell at Gnoo Blas racing circuit, 1958.**

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	HVS code	Pointscore
<b>March 2019</b>			
Tues 5th	Oasis run - Pizza, Apple Pie, Apple Juice & Elvis Concert (Booked out)	CE913050	No
Sun 10th	FIAT Club Coffee Break; Cavalino's (see page 5 for details)	CE913001	Yes
Sun 10th	Fiat Club 2019 NSW Motorkhana Championship, Round 2	CE913001a	Yes
Tues 12th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE913021	Yes
Sun 31st	Coffee Break, Vaucluse House (see page 5 for details)	CE913013	Yes
<b>April 2019</b>			
Tues 2nd	Oasis run - Panorama House (see page 5 for details)	CE914020	No
Sun 7th	<b>Auto Italia Canberra</b>	CE914070	Yes
Tues 9th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE914090	Yes
Fri 12th - Sun 14th	<b>Fiat Nationals, Tailem Bend, South Australia</b>	CE914021	Yes
Sat 13th - Sun 14th	Weekend Away - Broke (coinciding with the Italian Festival in Broke) Contact Giovanni Ciampa for details	CE914031	Yes
Fri 19th - Sun 21st	NSWRRC 6 Hour Regularity - Sydney Motorsport Park	CE914091	No
Sun 28th	Coffee Break (TBA)	CE914090	Yes
<b>May 2019</b>			
Tues 7th	Oasis run - Mid week lunch cruise (see page 5 for details)	CE915070	No
Sun 12th	Coffee Break (TBA)	CE915021	Yes
Tues 14th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE915041	Yes
Sun 19th	National Heritage Motoring Day	CE915091	Yes
Sun 26th	Coffee Break (TBA)	CE915062	Yes
<b>June 2019</b>			
Sat 8th	Coffee Break (TBA)	CE916080	Yes
Tues 11th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE916011	Yes
Sun 16th	Fiat Club 2019 NSW Motorkhana Championship, Round 3	CE616061	Yes
Sun 30th	Drive Day to Bowral (coinciding with their Pie Festival)	CE916003a	Yes
<b>July 2019</b>			
Tues 9th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE917090	Yes
Sun 14th	Coffee Break (TBA)	CE917041	Yes
Sun 28th	Fiat Club 2019 NSW Motorkhana Championship, Round 4	CE917082	Yes
Sun 28th	Coffee Break (TBA)	CE917082a	Yes

**SOCIAL MEETINGS** are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown, starting at 7.30 pm.

**ANSELL PARK** is the Club's Motorkhana Grounds allocated at 2 Percival Street, Clarendon, on the corner of Percival Street and Hawkesbury Valley Way.

**Lunch break.....northside!**  
 come join like minded **FIAT** enthusiasts over lunch and a coffee.....



this month's location

**Coffee Break.....eastside!**  
 come join like minded **FIAT** enthusiasts over breakfast and a coffee.....



this month's location

**When:** Sunday 10th March 2019  
**Where:** **Cavallino**  
 Cnr McCarrs Creek Rd & Yulong Ave,  
**Terrey Hills** NSW 2084  
 [ plenty of on-site free parking ]  
**Time:** 12:00 noon - 2pm





**When:** Sunday 31st March 2019  
**Where:** **Vaucluse House / Tearooms.**  
 69 Wentworth Rd,  
**Vaucluse** NSW 2030  
**Time:** 8:30am - 10:30am




## OASIS RUN DETAILS

The **OASIS** runs occurs on the first Tuesday of each month (note that there is no run in January and the November run occurs in the second week of the month to avoid clashing with the Melbourne Cup festivities). Note that details are not usually available until just before each event, however, consult the Secretary's email notification, your magazine or the website for the HCRS permit number applicable to the event.

### OASIS RUN 5th March 2019

Note that this run is booked out.

### OASIS RUN 2nd April 2019

**MEET:** McDonalds Picton 67-71 Argyle St. (Old Hume Hwy) cnr Cliffe St. Picton

**TIME:** 10.00am for 10.30 departure. Route instructions handed out at start.

**LUNCH:** 12.00 noon Panorama House, Buffet Lunch. 811 Princes Hwy. Maddens Plains (Bulli Tops)

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL by Sunday 24th March 2019 \*NO LATE BOOKINGS PLEASE\***

**Contact:** Bill Robertson 4681 8767 m:0408 064 153

### OASIS RUN 7th May 2019

**MID WEEK LUNCH CRUISE;** Bass & Flinders Georges River Cruise

**MEET:** By 11.00am Sans Souci Wharf at Sans Souci Park off Rocky Point Rd. **CRUISE DEPARTS:** 11.30am **SHARP**

**CRUISE RETURNS:** 2.30pm **COST:** \$39.00p.p. for minimum of 40 persons. **CLASSIC LUNCH:** Details closer to date

**BOOKINGS:** Brian Heaton. ph. 9525 6119 email: heatonbrian@bigpond.com

**"BOOK NOW" with Brian & make arrangements for payment before Monday 8th April 2019**

Please don't leave it to the last minute as Brian has already paid a deposit & full payment is required in advance for our booking. Regards Les

## New and Returning Members

A warm welcome to the following enthusiasts:

Murray Irwin - X1/9

John Elchaar - 1969 MGB Mk 11

Marco Muscardo - 1968 124 AC coupe

## CLUB COMMITTEE AND OFFICIALS

### ◆ PATRON

Mr Nat Zanardo OAM

### ◆ PRESIDENT

Warren Smith 02 9605 2301 / 0419 754 515  
president@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ VICE PRESIDENT

Domenic Squadrito  
vicepresident@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ SECRETARY

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secretary@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ TREASURER

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treasurer@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ COMPETITION SECRETARY

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### ◆ ASSISTANT COMP SECRETARY

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webtech@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ WEBMASTER Content

Lex Bongers  
webmaster@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ MERCHANDISING

Kevin Halliburton 0413 992 369  
merchandise@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ PUBLIC OFFICER

Warren Smith 02 9605 2301 / 0419 754 515

### ◆ HISTORIC PLATE REGISTRAR

Richard Dalziel 02 9489 3553 / 0412 709 228  
histrego@fiatclub.com.au  
Historic Plates form postal address details are:  
12 Page Ave, Wahroonga, NSW 2076

### ◆ MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR

Cheryl Sandrin 0417 283 107  
membership@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ SOCIAL EVENT CO-ORDINATOR

Giovanni Ciampa 0410 336 987  
events@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ CMC DELEGATE TBC

### ◆ HONORARY AUDITOR

Rebecca Gallard

### ◆ ANSELL PARK CO-ORDINATOR

Michael McGeorge 0414 965 425,  
ansellpark@fiatclub.com.au

## Life Members

- Tony Bray
- Steve Gotch
- Pauline Gotch
- Doug Tory
- Tom Hay
- John Godfrey
- Warren Smith
- Graham Mumby
- Wal Glading
- Alan Steele
- Hank Breen
- Ian Allison
- Kevin Halliburton
- Susan Halliburton
- Tony Studans
- Wayne McGeorge
- Michael McGeorge
- Naomi McGeorge

Website: [www.fiatclub.com.au](http://www.fiatclub.com.au)

Facebook: [facebook.fiatClub.com.au](https://facebook.fiatClub.com.au)

Many thanks to Warren Smith, Steven Fry and Nik Prieston for their contributions to this edition of Fiat Focus.

*Cover Photo; Wayne McGeorge accepts his Life membership Award at the Social Meeting / AGM.*

## Advertising rates for Classifiats;

### Club Members-free.

Non Members \$10 for 30 words and photo, Items wanted—free. Classifiats are run for three editions. Contact the Editor or any member of the committee to place an ad.

Fiat Focus is the monthly journal of the Fiat Club of NSW. It is issued by email on the first Tuesday of each month except for the combined January / February issue which is issued late January.

**Disclaimer:** The views expressed in advertisements and articles published in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Fiat Club of NSW.



The Annual General Meeting held on February 12<sup>th</sup> was a disappointment attendance wise, but nevertheless with the help of Steve Gotch and Alan Steele acting as returning officers, we managed to fill almost all the committee positions for 2019. The positions left vacant were Secretary and CMC Delegate, but since then we have had a volunteer step forward for the Secretary's position. So, a big thank you to Robert Todarello, who came along to the Committee Meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> and was duly appointed. Please welcome Robert when you see him. The position of CMC Delegate is still vacant (as it has been for the past 12 months!), so please think about it.

Also at the AGM, we welcomed 3 new Life Members. Very long-time member Wayne McGeorge, who has been in the club longer than me, is such an obvious choice for a Life Member that it is a wonder that he wasn't nominated years ago. He has always been there when work needed to be done and continues to do so as he starts into his 70's! The conundrum for us committee members though was the question "how do you nominate one McGeorge without also nominating the other 2 McGeorge's?" i.e. Wayne's son Michael and his wife Naomi, who have also been fantastic assets to the club. Even though they all live down the coast just south of Wollongong, they make the drive up to Ansell Park and run all our motorkhana days, bringing so many necessary items with them that their ute is just about bursting at the seams! So congratulations guys; well deserved!

At the opposite end of the attendance graph was the Superior Burger night on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Fifty five members and friends and 34 cars was quite a turnout and we'll just have to do it again



sometime just to make sure that the burgers are still as good as we all thought. A big thank you to Giovanni and Daniel Sullo for a beaut evening.



Giovanni Ciampa has taken orders for club 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary t-shirts (orders for which are now closed) and for those members who have ordered them, I would love for you all to wear them to events like the CMC Display Day, Auto Italia, the Fiat Nationals and our Concorso. Let's tell the world how old we are! (Not something we usually do as individuals.)



## VALE

Last month I noted that in the last 14 months we have lost at least 6 members. It saddens me to have to report that during the AGM I received a phone call informing me that another ex-member has passed away on January 7th – namely Colin Emmerson, who was an active member back in the '70s and was a founding subscriber to Ansell Park. That is why I received the phone call. Colin's executor rang from Port Lincoln in South Australia, where Col had lived for many years, and said he thought that Colin's shares in Ansell Park should be donated back to the club. He has now sent me the share certificate and a covering letter and we are now looking at how to transfer them to FCNSW ownership. One interesting fact is that when my son Glenn and I bought the X1/9 that we turned into our "Prototipo" race car, we found out the exxie used to be Colin's car!



Colin Emmerson in 1989

Those of you who enjoy our Facebook page may have seen the post started by Ian Allison about an old FCNSW club badge that he has bought on eBay. I had seen the ad on eBay a few days before and noted that it was being sold from Port Lincoln in SA. Sound familiar? Yes, it could only be from the estate of Colin Emmerson I believe, so I was very pleased that the badge has come "home" to a club member and will be restored.

Warren Smith 2019 President



The Badge that Ian bought



What the badge should look like



# Secretary's Report

## Fiat Club NSW – Annual General Meeting – 12 February, 2019

Meeting commenced at 8:25pm.

Bankstown Sports Club—Bankstown, NSW.

Warren Smith & Richard Dalziel with Ian Allison & Steve Gotch

### Minutes

Meeting Opened: Warren Smith suspended the social meeting & opened the AGM at 8:25 pm.

Apologies: Norm Mitchell, Steve & Chris Gorman, Lex Bongers, Adel Omar.

### Minutes of previous AGM:

•The minutes of the Feb 2018 AGM were summarised by the secretary.

•Matters arising – Nil

•Moved: Susan Halliburton, Seconded: Adrian Sandrin -Carried

### President's Report:

Warren Smith presented a his report for 2018, a full copy of his report is published in the March Fiat Focus.

Warren Smith thanked the outgoing committee for their efforts during 2018.

### Auditors Report:

Rebecca Gallard signed the annual accounts to confirm that she had inspected the club's accounting records for 2018, and they all appear in order.

General Business: Nil

### Life Memberships:

Life membership was proposed for Wayne McGeorge recognising his contribution to the running of events and maintenance of Ansell Park. Wayne has also been instrumental in running the Junior Clinic.

Proposed: Adrian Sandrin, Seconded: Roger Malcolm - Carried.

Life membership was also proposed for Michael McGeorge & Naomi McGeorge for their contribution to the running of events and maintenance of Ansell Park. Michael & Naomi have

been instrumental in planning & running the Motorkhana's, including compiling the results for the annual point score competition. Michael has also been & still is the co-ordinator for Ansell Park.

Proposed: Cheryl Sandrin, Seconded: Susan Halliburton – Carried.

Warren Smith congratulated the McGeorge family on their appointments as life members, and thanked them for their combined contribution to the successful operation of Ansell Park.

### Election of Office Bearers for 2019:

All 2018 committee & sub committee positions were declared vacant by the outgoing president.

Ian Allison and Steve Gotch were appointed as Returning Officers for the 2019 AGM election.

The returning officers called for nominations, and the following members were elected or appointed,

Elected Committee:

President: Warren Smith

Vice President: Domenic Squadrito

Treasurer: Susan Halliburton

Secretary: position vacant

Membership Registrar: Cheryl Sandrin

Editor: Lorenzo Aventi

Webmaster - Technical: Mark Weinberger

Webmaster – Content: Lex Bongers

Competition Secretary: Michael McGeorge

Assistant Competition Secretary: Paul Pana

Social Events Co-ordinator: Giovanni Ciampa

Merchandise: Kevin Halliburton

Ordinary Committee Member: Adrian Sandrin

**Appointed Positions** – which were confirmed by the membership.

Patron: Nat Zanardo OAM

Public Officer: Warren Smith

Honorary Auditor: Rebecca Gallard

Historic Plates Registrar: Richard Dalziel

Ansell Park Co-ordinator: Michael McGeorge

CMC Delegate: Position Vacant .

**Ansell Park Sub-Committee** (will be appointed by the committee at the March meeting).

# Secretary's Report

## Fiat Club NSW – Social Meeting – 12 February, 2019

### Welcome:

Warren Smith opened the meeting at 7:45pm and welcomed members to BSC.

### Apologies:

Norm Mitchell, Lex Bongers, Adel Omar.

New Members & Visitors: Nil.

### Secretary's Report:

Hunter Valley Steamfest flyer, and Robertson Railway Display flyer, both 14 Apr 2019.

The Pugilist magazine, plus two Shannon's classic vehicle auction brochures.

Previous minutes published in Fiat Focus – no business arising.

### Ansell Park Report:

The grass is recovering, quite tall in places.

Working bee weekend achieved good results, thanks to those who attended.

### Competition Report:

Recent Events:

Sun 03 Feb – FCNSW MK R1 at AP.

### Next Events:

Sun 10 Mar – FCNSW MK R2 at AP.

Refer to Fiat Focus & the website calendars for full details of upcoming events.

### Social Events:

#### Recent Events:

Feb - Kollector Cars & Coffee was well attended.

#### Next Events:

Sat 16 / Sun 17 Feb – Gnoo Blas Display Day & Tour - Orange.

Sun 24 Feb – Superior Burger – sunset or twilight run to Wakeley.

Sun 10 Mar – Coffee Break at La Piazza Wentworth Park.

Sun 31 Mar – Coffee Break at Vacluse House.

Various activities, including drives & overnight stays are being planned for the 70<sup>th</sup> club year.

CMC – Garage, 4 car pit lane display & 25 spaces in area B booked for 2019 SSC at SMP.

Anniversary article for CMC display day issue of the

“Preserve” magazine has been prepared.

Refer to Fiat Focus & the website calendars for full details of upcoming events.

### Communications:

Editor – Copies of other club magazines at the rear of room. Next magazine is underway.

Website – Nil to report.

Facebook & Instagram going well, with 443+ members.

### President's Report / 2019 Nationals Update:

2019 Nationals – Supp Regs published. Time to book your accommodation.

### Fiat Fixations & ClassiFiats:

Enquiry regarding reliable workshops to do a Fiat 2300S Abarth restoration.

### CMC Report:

Norm Mitchell provided summary minutes for the Jan 2019 meeting – published separately.

Note: The Australian Motor Heritage Foundation Ltd (AMHF) has been set up to preserve documents & be an educational resource relating to Australian automobiles & aircraft. Not to be confused with the Australian Heritage Motoring Federation Inc (AHMF), which is the National body encompassing state based motoring organizations like the CMC.

### General Business:

Historic Registration – now 112 members with 152 cars.

Membership – renewals are overdue. Current renewals 309 (197 full, 57 joint, 40 junior, 15 life).

Trophies from the 2018 competition calendar were presented to members.

### Meeting Closed / Next meeting:

Social meeting closed at 8:25 pm for the AGM, followed by a FiatChat or Coffee downstairs.

Why not join us next month for dinner prior &/or a post meeting coffee or gelato.

The next social meeting will be 12 Mar 2019 – 7:30pm at the Bankstown Sports Club.

**CMC Committee;** No report

**Finance ;**\$103,741

**Affiliations;** North St Mary's Car Club with 15 vehicles has been affiliated at this meeting.

**Judging Pool;** No report.

**Events**

- 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 – Motoring Heritage Day. Check on CMC website for suggested destinations.

- 22<sup>nd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – AHMF Rally in Albury – more details to come to hand.

2021 – Proposed Tour of Europe – more details to come to hand.

**Shannon's Sydney Classic - 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2019**

- Special Anniversaries will be in 4 car groups on Pitt lane.

- Area 'C' will be increased in size.

Entry forms are available.

**Australian Heritage Motoring Federation & Robert Shannon Foundation**

- No applications received so far for the Robert Shannon grant.

AHMF – The Federation is fighting to have the 'luxury car tax' (33%) repealed. 0.25% of the vehicles that qualify for this tax are aged 30years or more.

**Bus Museum –** No report

**Tram Museum –** No report

**ACMC**

700 Clubs under the umbrella, with 186,000 members.

2,300 vehicles on CVS (classic vehicle scheme) plates.

CVS plates are not available for trailers or caravans.

Still working on the brake assessment manual with RMS.

**HVS** (previously HVRS - Historic Vehicle Registration Scheme)

- A move is underway to make the 60 day Logbook trial permanent.

Pink slips are valid for 6 months.

**General Business**

- **An Australian Motor Heritage Foundation** has been set up to preserve literature on automobiles and aircraft. Private collections have been donated. At present, these items are being held at the ARDC site (Eastern Creek).

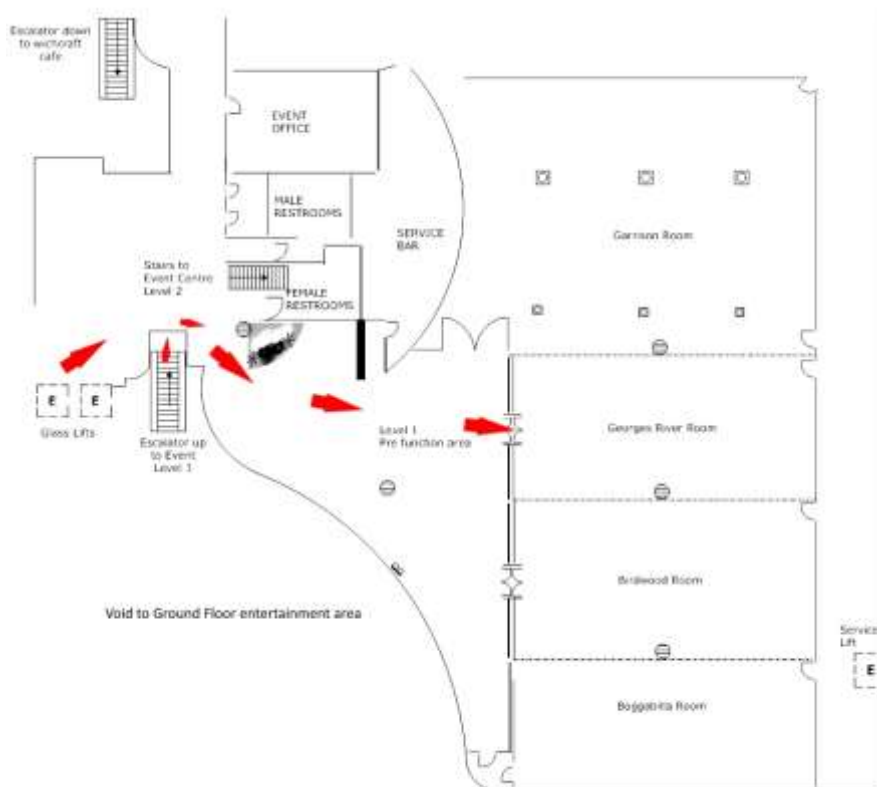
- **RMS and the Police have removed HVS plates from vehicles at 'Display Days'. The offending vehicles are obviously modified and should be on CVS plates. Clubs should be aware as they are responsible for the integrity of the '1259' document.**

CMC website – [www.councilofmotorclubs.org.au](http://www.councilofmotorclubs.org.au)

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

## CHANGE TO SOCIAL MEETING ROOM AT BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB

When we all arrived for the AGM in February, we suddenly found out that the normal meeting room we have been using (Room 4B) was boarded up for building alterations. The club assigned us to the Georges River Room instead which made finding us a bit tricky for most members. Below is a plan of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the club in case this room is allotted to us again in March and onwards. Whatever room we are in, just look for the club pull-up banner outside the door. – W.S.



# Competition

## Provisional Motorkhana Results 3rd FEBUARY 2019, FIAT Car Club NSW R1

Outright	Class	Car #	Entrant	Club	Class	ATOM	arrowhead	twister	top hat	Total
1	1	9	Martin Gallard	FCNSW	D	40.72	<b>39.00</b>	34.69	<b>26.19</b>	<b>140.60</b>
2	1	1	Robert Polito	FCNSW	B	41.10	42.34	37.35	28.94	<b>149.73</b>
3	2	7	Glenn Smith	FCNSW	D	42.03 F	59.13 wd	<b>33.72</b>	26.78	<b>161.66</b>
4	1	2	Adrian Sandrin	FCNSW	C	46.22	42.06	44.91	29.68	<b>162.87</b>
5	3	12	Michael McGeorge	FCNSW	D	<b>40.62</b>	59.13 wd	35.72	28.97	<b>164.44</b>
6	2	3	Vince Polito	FCNSW	B	44.06	60.44 F, G	39.50	29.22	<b>173.22</b>
7	4	10	Rebeca Gallard	FCNSW	D	54.69	54.13	39.78	29.85	<b>178.45</b>
8	2	5	Matthew Rowe	FCNSW	C	59.69 dns	43.36	40.38	35.35 F	<b>178.78</b>
9	3	8	Kevin Halliburton	FCNSW	C	59.69 wd	59.13 wd	42.03	29.03	<b>189.88</b>
10	4	4	Lorenzo Aventi	FCNSW	C	59.69 wd	43.85	59.69 wd	40.44 wd	<b>203.67</b>
11	5	11	Sue Porter	GUEST	C	59.69 dns	59.13 wd	54.69	35.44	<b>208.95</b>



The Polito family were out in force for the Motorkhana and the junior clinic.



Michael McGeorge trying out Martin Gallard's 126.

FIAT Club Junior Clinic - Sunday February 3, 2019									
	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3	Run 4	Run 5	Run 6	Run 7	Run 8	Run 9
Top Hat									
Anthony Pana	60.03	79.15	45.00	45.72	44.37	51.75	44.13		
Danielle Porter	59.59	53.28		44.75	42.50				
James Polito	73.80	36.84	36.53	39.04	32.97	32.78	30.75	32.88	30.32
Nicholas Pana	42.15	41.38	36.00	37.84	35.57	33.53	32.75	36.16	33.25
Tiger Moth									
James Polito	54.25	38.62	34.41	33.00					
Anthony Pana	56.81								
Danielle Porter	58.22	wd							
Nicholas Pana	45.15	45.03	41.06	39.50	36.34				

# Competition

## Fiat 131 wins Targa Northwest.

**Nik Prieston** and his Fiat 131 Abarth Group 4 won the Classic Competition Class with co-driver Dylan Braithwaite in the Targa North West Rally a couple of weeks ago. Nik has been campaigning his 131 quite enthusiastically over the past couple of years. He has been flying the Fiat Flag in these events and has been performing quite creditably against strong competition. To actually win class in an Australian Targa event requires a fair degree of skill and dedication and from the reports I have heard over the years, Nik has plenty of both.



We offer Nik and Dylan our congratulations on achieving this milestone and thank him for reminding us and the rally world what a force the 131 Rally was and still is.

The Targa Australia video of the final day of Targa West can be viewed on Youtube at the link below;

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=EXS5t58fQng>

A number of Club Members have tried a Targa event or two in the past and have told me how awesome it is. Nik's achievement takes it a step further and I look

further to more news on how he goes in future events.

If you want to keep up to date on Targa Australia happenings (including Nik's progress) go to

[enquiries@targa.com.au](mailto:enquiries@targa.com.au)

and register to get all the news. Thanks to Nik for keeping Fiat Focus up to date with his racing.

*Lorenzo Aventi, Editor.*

## Competition Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	HVS code	FCC Points Status
<b>March 2019</b>				
Sat 2nd - Sun 3rd	NSW Hillclimb Championship,	Mount Panorama, Bathurst	CE912020	Invited
Sun 10th	Fiat Club 2019 NSW Motorkhana Championship, Round 2	Ansell Park	CE913001a	Yes
Sun 10th	State Motorkhana Championship	Awaba	CE913001b	Invited
Mar 17th	Huntley Hillclimb (come and try day)	Dapto (contact comp secretary)	CE913071	Invited
<b>April 2019</b>				
Sat 6th - Sun 7th	State Motorkhana Championship	Armidale	CE914060	Invited
Fri 12th - Sun 14th	<b>Fiat Nationals</b>	Tailem Bend, South Australia	CE914021	Yes
Fri 19th - Sun 21st	NSWRRC 6 Hour Regularity	Sydney Motorsport Park	CE914091	FCC Team event
<b>May 2019</b>				
Sun 5th	Interclub Round 3 - SSCC	Sydney Motorsport Park - GP	CE915050	Invited
Sun 19th	State Motorkhana Championship	Nirimba	CE915091a	Invited
<b>June 2019</b>				
Sun 2nd	State Motorkhana Championship	Nirimba	CE916020	Invited
Sun 9th	Interclub Round 4 - WRX	Wakefield Park	CE916090	Invited
Sun 16th	Fiat Club 2019 NSW Motorkhana Championship, Round 3	Ansell Park	CE616061	Yes
Sun 23rd	State Motorkhana Championship	Nirimba	CE916032	Invited



# Coffee break (write up)

9th February 2019

Kollektor Cars & Coffee



Another fantastic turn out to our club coffee break! A great variety of cars, in particular the X1/9 line up with 5 in total. Kollektor is every mans dream man cave and provides a great atmosphere to chill out and relax amongst our cars. Robert even had a vintage foosball table . A great way to kill some time with friends.

The highlight of the day for me was meeting Rob Petrone a club member who drove up from Wollongong to show us his cool 500 Abarth and handy work with his custom bonnet!

Thanks again to all who participate in these events. We look forward to seeing you all again at the next one.

Ciao **Giovanni Ciampa**  
( social events co-ordinator )  
FIAT CLUB of NSW Inc



# THE EARLY YEARS (part 2)

1949 - 1979

Compiled by Warren Smith

With acknowledgement to: George Simmonds, John Godfrey, Graham Chegwidgen



1949



1956



1958



1974



25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Badge  
1974



Incorporation Badge  
1997



50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Badge  
1999



2011 - present

## CLUB BADGES

The club badge has had one major change in over the years and several version alterations. The first change was needed to drop the "500" out of the logo. At the January 1956 Social Meeting, the motion to change the name of the club to the Fiat Club of NSW was moved and it appears that the motion was passed unanimously, so a new badge was designed, still using the "FC" in the centre and at the same time elements from the NSW state flag were added. Some time later (possibly 1960?) the "FC" was replaced by the word "FIAT".

1974 was a big year for club activity and changes, beginning when the committee decided in March to change the name of the club magazine from "Jottings and Gossip" to "Fiat Focus". The club's badge was also changed to reflect more modern times. The design was done by Fiat Australia at a time when the company logo was changing to the more modern four box rhomboid shape and it

was thought that a new club badge would bring the club up-to-date as well. The first issue of Fiat Focus with the new badge proudly displayed on the cover was in July 1974. The design is supposed to represent a road receding into the distance.

From January 1<sup>st</sup> 1997 the club was officially incorporated so "Inc." was added to the club name and badge.

Most variants of the badge have been available to members as metal grille badges, however the 60th Anniversary design (by Alan Steele) is only available as a sticker.

## THE 1950's

Unfortunately, the Club Minutes books did not start until 1953 and consequently early details are sketchy. The Club's first Minute Book states on the cover page "This Minute Book was donated to the Club in 1950 by Vice Capt. Frank Klein." This is strange as the first entry in the book was a Committee Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, 1953.

At this meeting, it was agreed to approach the Italian Consul to be the Patron of the Club. The Consul's acceptance of the position was delayed due to his involvement in the 1954 Royal Tour.

The dilemma facing the Club at the time was whether to support Easter races at Bathurst or the opposition Easter races at Orange.

In the Sydney Morning Herald on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 1952, the following notice was published:-

**FIAT CLUB'S OPEN RALLY**  
The Fiat 500 Club of New South Wales will hold its first open invitation 500 mile rally on March 22-23. It will be conducted on similar lines to Continental car rallies. Trophies will be awarded on a point basis and for teams. There will be events for cars 850cc and under, over 850cc and over 1500cc.

*(continued next page)..*

## THE EARLY YEARS

### THE 1950'S (continued)..

On 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 1954 an extraordinary meeting was held to consider declining membership numbers. At that time, the Club was known as the Fiat 500 Club of NSW and for all intents and purposes membership was limited to owners of Fiat 500's. By 1954 many members had many makes of cars and due to import restrictions fewer 500 models were sold. Therefore, there was not a regular intake of new 500 owners.

Brochures and literature of the time relating to the Fiat 500 was aimed at people seeking an alternative to public transport. The cost of fares as against the cost of owning a Fiat 500 was a common theme in advertising. The 500 was quite prevalent in the late 1940's and early 1950's but they gradually disappeared from the roads in favour of more and more Holdens, Zephyrs, Consuls, Vanguards, Prefects, Austin A40's, etc. The new wave of cars were mainly post war designs and were greatly improved vehicles. Of course, Fiat had the answer with the 1953 Fiat 1100 and the more up-market 1400 and 1900 models. The top of the line was the magnificent Fiat 1900 Grand Luce Coupe, an excellent example of which is today owned by Club member Warren Buckingham.

It is interesting to note that at the above mentioned extraordinary meeting there was at least one man with foresight. The Minutes record: "E. Ansell suggested that the Club could be used to accept all Fiat car owners."

However, despite this, the meeting decided that the Club was to remain the Fiat 500 Club.

At the Social Evening of 27<sup>th</sup> April 1954, which was held at the Bridge Club, George Street, Sydney, the Club's guest speaker was the then renowned motor sport competitor, Mr. Tom Sulman, who was later to be tragically killed at Bathurst in the mid 1960's. Mr. Sulman gave members a word picture of his early attempts to produce speed car racing in

England, and his work in building up suitable speed and trials cars.

The minutes of the Committee Meeting for 5<sup>th</sup> of May 1954 record something which today would be thought trivial, but to motoring enthusiasts, was obviously not the done thing in 1954. "Ted Ansell moved that a letter be sent to the Commissioner of Police protesting the action of Gutter Grippers and those drivers who do not keep to the left of the road when proceeding slowly." The second item proves that this habit is ingrained in the Australian driver.

By the way, for younger drivers a "Gutter Gripper" is a driver who drives with only one hand and has the other arm resting on the window sill and his forearm in a vertical position gripping the roof gutter. This practice has been frowned upon for many a year by the law.

In 1954 a motion was moved that the club affiliate with C.A.M.S., but after months of deliberation and debate the motion was defeated. The verdict of the majority was that we were a social club and not a sporting club.

The Club's first Patron, the Italian Consul General, Doctor Stefanelli, was introduced at the Committee Meeting of June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1954.

Meetings continued to be held at the Bridge Club rooms in the city during 1955. At the January Social Meeting, members were entertained with a movie (in colour) of the 1954 Round Australia Trial.

Thoughts of changing the name of the Club arose again because at the December 7 Committee Meeting a motion was carried that the name of the Club be changed to the Fiat Club of Australia and that the Secretary arrange a Special General Meeting to consider and accept this proposal. The President notified the members at the December Social that as the 500 had been replaced by the 600 and 1100, thought might be given to change the name of the club. He indicated that a vote would be taken at the January Social on such a name

change.

At the January 1956 Social Meeting, the motion to change the name of the club to the Fiat Club of NSW was moved by Mr. Laurie Haines and seconded by Mr. Ted Ansell. It appears that the motion was passed unanimously.

At a Social Evening in February 1956, the Secretary, George Simmonds, was honoured by a representative of Fiat Italy, Dr. Rosi, who was so impressed by what George had done for Fiat in New South Wales that he sent a gold stop watch to be presented to him in appreciation. Mr. Plummer of McLaughlin Motors, who made the presentation, said that his company also felt that it was the sole tenacity of purpose of the Secretary which made the club possible. After this presentation it was moved (Ted Ansell), seconded (Adrian Phillips) and of course carried unanimously, that George Simmonds be made a Life Member of the club. He was not the first Life Member, but arguably the most deserving due to his influence in creating and running the club.

At the Committee Meeting of 7th March, Ted Ansell suggested that as Fiat was now interested in the Club, it could be possible to send a monthly bulletin to members. This was the start of the magazine with which all members have become so familiar.

1957 started with a dilemma. Pitt Town Airstrip had been sold and a new venue was required for Club events. At the February meeting the Secretary said he had inspected land in Frenchs Forest and found it to be quite suitable for Gymkhanas and skill events with certain attention to the surface. It would only be suitable for use in dry weather.

At the April Social Meeting member Jack Galbraith asked if Jack Murray, who had recently purchased a Fiat 1100, had applied for Club membership. The Secretary replied that if Jack Murray won the 1957 Round Australia Trial the Club could afford to make Jack an honorary member!  
*(continued next page)..*



# THE EARLY YEARS

Mr. L. Haines told members that during his recent runs north, he had called in to the Brisbane distributor of Fiat cars and was told that there were about 40 owners of Fiats in Brisbane who were interested in forming a Fiat car club.

1958 saw the start of the "Jottings and Gossip" monthly news bulletin. The publication comprised one foolscap sheet with the information printed on one side and on the other side was a printed endorsement showing a 500C and the club's name



Jack Gailbraith and his Fiat 1100

under it. The secretary, George Simmonds, was obviously not satisfied that the new bulletin sufficiently informed members, because he continued to forward his circular to all members. Research indicates that George issued these circulars from the formation of the club until he retired from the Committee in 1959. The earliest Circulars that survive are from 1958, kindly donated by Life Member John Godfrey.

*Part 3 next month.*

## Gnoo Blas Classic Car Show, Sunday 17 February 2019

The annual Gnoo Blas Classic Car show has come and gone for another year with at least a couple of members attending the event, Steven Fry as well as Anthony Suttor and Jenny Eade.

Steven reports that it was a wonderful day with around 800 cars on display. The weather was near perfect, no rain and not scorching hot as in previous years.

The photos here were taken by Steven and includes some Fiats from Tony Suttor's collection.



# AUTO ITALIA CANBERRA 2019

SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH

EPIC Arena

Corner of Flemington Road and Northbourne Avenue, Mitchell, ACT, 2911

## AUTO ITALIA CANBERRA

is an annual showcase of Italian automotive design. Hundreds of exceptional cars, motorbikes and scooters gather each year in Australia's Capital City, in celebration of Italian motoring history and the ongoing, cultural influence it has on the international landscape. If you own one of these beautiful pieces of art on wheels, are considering doing so, or just love to admire and talk about them, this is where you need to be on April 7th 2019. Please see above for this years location & date. All are



### Autitalia update

**Christine Stewart**

Auto Italia 2019

Hello everyone, I thought it was about time to give you an update on Auto Italia 2019. Next year, it will be at yet another new venue, EPIC. Yep, Exhibition Park in Canberra, corner of Flemington Road and Northbourne Avenue Mitchell, for those of you who are reading this from interstate, on the 7th April 2019. It will be our 35th event and if this event is successful next year, there should be room to make the event bigger and more eventful.

We will be using the main arena and making good use of the Grandstand for spectators. Our usual sponsors and concessionaires will be there as well.

So, do you have a model in your marque of interest that is having a significant anniversary next year? Perhaps it could be your Alfa Romeo 33 or a Maserati A6GCS Berlinetta or one of the old faithful Fiat 500s. If you do, you need to let the organising committee know, so that it can be featured in next year's event.

Auto Italia usually meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 Moore Street in the City at 7pm. Once it gets closer to the date, we meet more frequently. Should you wish to come along and help with the organising of this great event, please contact Matt Townsend or myself. Volunteers are always needed before, during and after the event.

The following web page [www.autoitaliacanberra.com](http://www.autoitaliacanberra.com) should have the most up to date details.

Looking forward to this great event,

**Christine Stewart 0427 635 163**



X1/9  
AUSTRALIA

## Fiat Nationals 2019 update

Welcome to the 2019 Fiat Nationals at Tailem Bend circuit, South Australia.  
Please hold the dates in your calendars for Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April.  
Further details for accommodation, supplementary regulations and events all due very soon.  
Keep your eyes glued on these pages.

**Just a gentle reminder for Fiat National attendees staying on site at the Rydges Pit Lane Hotel Tailem Bend. Booking are filling fast so to avoid missing out on accommodation, please book your room now.**

<https://www.rydges.com/accommodati.../.../rydges-pit-lane-hotel/>

The Tailem Bend Circuit is confirmed and all 3 events are being held at the same venue. Sprint Friday 12th April, Motorkhana 13th April, Show & Shine 14th April.

The Fiat Car Club of Victoria has capped the entry cost for all 3 events, welcome BBQ and Presentation Dinner at last year's costs, \$345pp per adult

The Fiat Car Club of Victoria will subsidize the U12 kids at the presentation dinner to \$10 per Child. If you have a 13 or 14 year old I would suggest they are now 12 again. Kids grow fast these days!

The accommodation at Rydges Hotel is now open for bookings. You will find the links on the Fiat Nationals Website and Facebook pages. Paddock rooms are \$159 per room and Trackside are \$189 per room. The difference is the view. Breakfast is \$20 per person. There are only 41 Paddock Rooms so it is a first in first served basis. In total there are 100 rooms. Please encourage your members to book early as the hotel after reviewing monthly may start selling rooms to the general public or other clubs if there are events over the weekend.

Because the infrastructure is not built for the East Circuit we will be hiring a hybrid version of the longer circuit. The main straight in the original layout is 1km long, so some of the smaller cars may have had time to complete the crossword on the main straight. This will reduce the main straight to approx. 700 or 800 long, about the same as Sydney Motorsport Park and should keep the circuit to about 3km long. The move to this circuit allows access to Garages, Shade, Food and facilities. We will update the website / Face Book pages shortly.

The Motorkhana will be held directly in front of the hotel on a skid pad 200m x 50m capable of holding 2 tests at a time. Similar format to last year. There are limited carports next to the skid pad which will be used for shade and viewing.

The Show and Shine is being held at the circuit. Logistically it is easier for clubs intending to use transporters to the venue, but in addition Tailem Bend Circuit is intending to hold a European Circuit Cruise for European Car owners on Sunday. We expect if marketed well then the influx of European Car Owners will also take the time to look at the displayed Fiats. This will be held on either the grass or large car parking area in front the of the hotel complex.

If clubs have organized transporters and need assistance to and from the circuit because the drop off point is not the circuit. Please contact me 0434601799 or via email and I can coordinate trailer use with Club members to assist.

Supplementary Regulations have been posted. We have secured Garages for the Sprint. These will be available for hire via your entry form and paid to Fiat Car Club of Victoria. The garage cost is \$200 per garage but it easily capable of accommodating 2 cars and maybe 3 small cars. So costs can be shared. Highly recommend hiring a garage for additional shade.

Keep an eye on <http://fiatnationals.com/> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FiatNationals/>  
To stay up to date on launch of Supp regs etc.

**Richard Dalziel** announced last year that he would not be standing for the committee role of **Secretary** for this year. Fortunately, **Robert Todarello** has step up to fill the void and attended his first committee meeting last week. Many thanks to you Robert.

Many thanks also must go to Richard for his long service to this important role and for the behind the scenes work he has put into ensuring that the club is adequately insured and that the club and members are up to date on the latest information regarding historic and concessional registration. Richard's commitments has had to be managed with work as well as being an on-call Grandparent.

Richard's presence at the weekly committee will be missed but his important role as Historic Plate Registrar means that he will still hear from many of you over the year.

Recent news from the press tells us that the **Gosford Classic Car museum is shutting down**. Due to some issues the

owner has decided that museum and business is no longer viable and he has put all cars up for sale. From their website the following message was posted;

***Due to an ongoing & unresolved dispute with the ATO, It is with great sadness and disappointment that today we announce Gosford Classic Car Museum has closed and all cars will be auctioned on the 6th & 7th April.***

***We'd like to thank the Central Coast community for their support.***

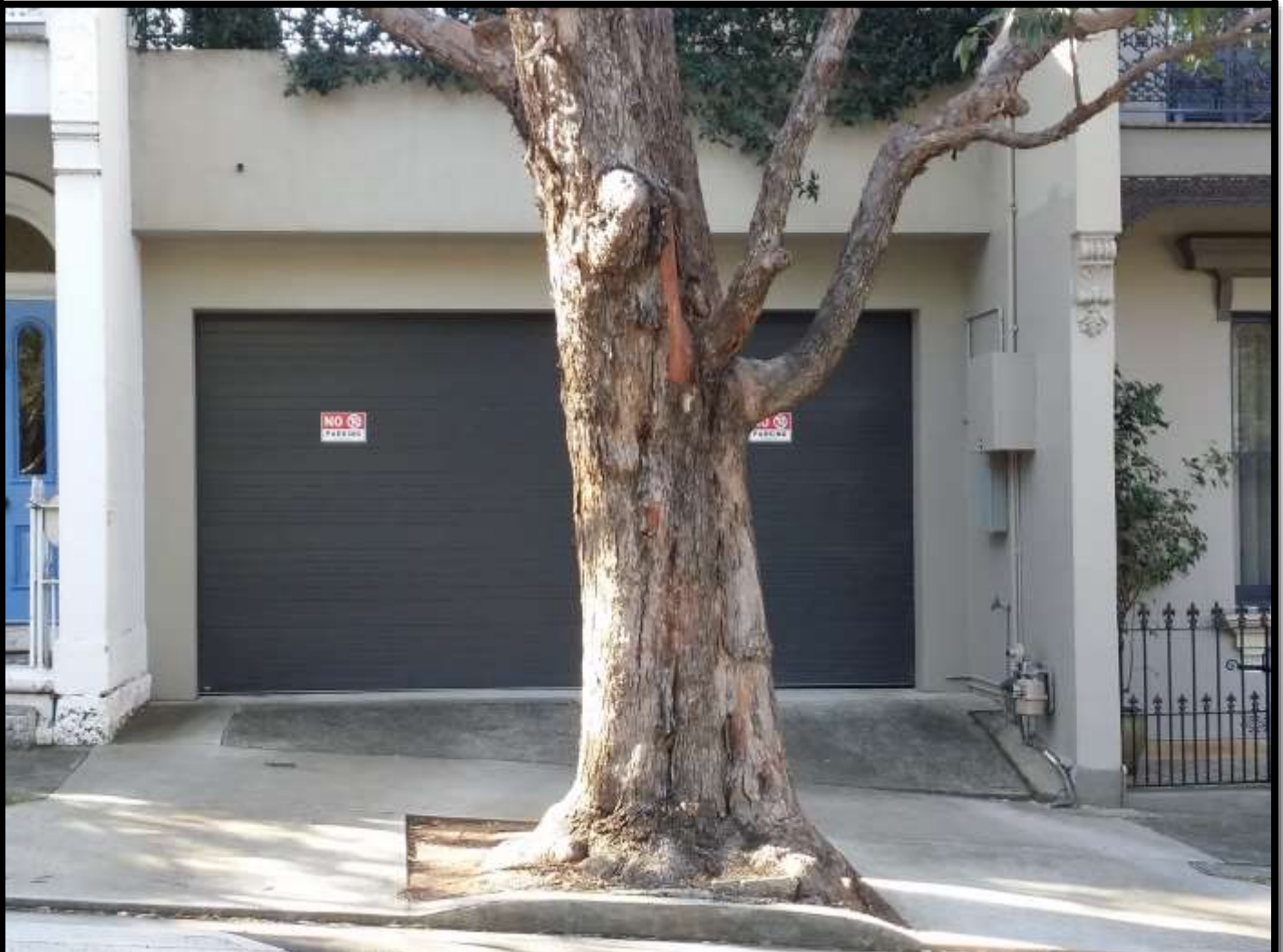
For details of the closure and for a listing of the vehicles that are being put up for sale go to;

<https://gosfordclassiccars.com.au/>

As a motoring enthusiast it seems a shame to see such a fine museum shut down. The Fiat club had arranged a couple of drive days to there and it had provided many impressive and interesting exhibits for our members to see.

## ***The Back End ...***

*Do any of our members recall the 1990s Australian Film, Malcolm. It was about an oddball inventor who assisted a bank robber in a heist. In this light hearted comedy, one of Malcolm's inventions was a little car that spilt in to two motorcycles so that they could evade the chasing law enforcement officers. The photo below looks like it could be his garage!!*



## FOR SALE



### Cars from the Paddy Martin collection Rare Fiat 130 Coupe 1973 Silver 5 speed

**manual** :This vehicle is in good condition, rust free and is one of a handful in Australia that has a manual gearbox fitted. Car is straight and obviously quite unique with 5 speed manual runs well. \$25,000 or nearest offer.



**Fiat 124 1974 Magpie 1800** : This was Paddy's first race car engine completely built by Ross Smith. Has twin Webers, racing clutch etc. paint work is ordinary and not much of an interior as Paddy stripped it out. Is running but could do with TLC. \$8,000 or nearest offer. (12/18)  
**Please call Dave Martin 0409743506.**

## Wanted: Fiat 2300S Coupe.

Any condition, as long as it is complete - preferably not red. (12/18)  
Contact Rupert Moran, M: 0403 616 512, E: rprtmoran@yahoo.com.au

### Fore Sale - workshop manuals and other ..

Alfasud workshop manuals—#1 1974 to 1988 models, excellent condition \$15. #2 1972 –77, good condition \$10. Fiat 128 Sport, Specifications and Feature, parts list, \$10, 2 x Fiat 128 workshop manuals, a bit rough but in tact and very useable, \$6 each.

Contact Lorenzo Aventi at [lorenzo.aventi@yahoo.com](mailto:lorenzo.aventi@yahoo.com), or Mob 0425 374 014



Repairer and Restorer of all Italian makes and models  
Tel: (02) 97362612 Web: [mastertouchautomotive.com.au](http://mastertouchautomotive.com.au)  
24 Lords Rd, Leichhardt NSW 2040

## FOR SALE

2016 Fiat 500 Lounge Series 4, Sky Blue

1400cc 6 Speed manual, 33835 kms

Rego DCX90H expiry 19 Aug 2019

\$12,900 ONO

Contact Roger for more photos

**Roger Malcolm - 0403 912 158**



## Clear Out Sale

I'm having a big clean out at home, so far shed number one has yielded the following Fiat parts that I have no need for.

Fiat used parts, some FREE.

- 131 SB driver's door electric window regulator. FREE
  - 131 SB driver's door central locking solenoid. FREE
  - 132 exterior front door handles left and right, V.Good but no keys. FREE
  - 124 CC window winder crank handle V.Good. \$10
  - 124 CC interior chrome door opener levers, left and right including base shrouds. V.Good \$20pair
  - 124 CC snipper button plastic shroud, has been painted black however is complete and has no cracks. \$10
  - 124 CC interior A pillar trims left and right. Black, good. FREE
  - 124 CC Bonnet grille. Chrome band will polish up nice. FREE
  - 124 CC Intake manifold, single plane type. Good. \$20
- These items are available for collection from Canterbury.

If any club members are interested in anything please email Con on [constant247@hotmail.com](mailto:constant247@hotmail.com)

Con Catena

## For sale

diff to suit Fiat 124 BC / CC Coupe, 4.3 ratio, good condition. Contact Steve Gotch - 0408 891 950 (10/18)



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**Website: [www.fiatorque.com.au/](http://www.fiatorque.com.au/)**

# FIAT focus



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FIAT CLUB OF NSW Inc.

If undeliverable return to FIAT CLUB of NSW Inc. P.O.Box 3034 Bangor NSW 2234 - Australia

Please direct all correspondence to:

THE FIAT CLUB OF NSW Inc.  
PO Box 3034 BANGOR NSW 2234 Australia

EGROUP: Available to members wishing to receive emailed information from the Club and other Members.

BANKING DETAILS : BSB 082-067 Account 036657020  
Name - Fiat Club of NSW Inc. Bank - National Bank of Aust

SOCIAL MEETINGS are held at 7:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade Bankstown, NSW, 2200

ANSELL PARK is the Club's Motorkhana Grounds located at 2 Percival St, Clarendon/Windsor, the corner of Percival St and Hawkesbury Valley Way (old Richmond Rd).

The venue for social meetings is at the.

# Bankstown Sports

Enter via carpark entrance on Mona Street, Bankstown.

CLUB MERCHANDISE



Polo Shirts \$30.00  
T Shirts \$20.00  
All Available in sizes.  
S M L XL 2XL 3XL



Cloth badge \$ 3.00  
Key rings \$ 7.00



Sticker \$ 2.00

Sticker \$ 2.00





Fiat 1500, 1800, 2100 & 2300 owners and enthusiasts. There is a small but well formed group of like minded enthusiasts meeting in Bathurst NSW from the 12th to the 14th April.

Come along even if your car is not on the road, you are more than welcome to join us and meet some of the other members. If you can only spare a day or two that's OK as well. Family is also welcome. I'm sure you will be able to get a ride in a few 2300's over the weekend.

We have a full weekend of activities planned. With plenty of time to simply discuss the finer points of our cars.

Contact Warren Buckingham for further information

0428 938 338 or [cie2345@bigpond.com](mailto:cie2345@bigpond.com)





# NATIONAL MOTORING HERITAGE DAY

**Sunday 19th May 2019**

**Berry Showground, Berry**

**7.00 am – 3.30 pm**

**Theme – Salute To European Vehicles**

**Displays of Vintage, Historic & Classic Vehicles  
of all Ages & Marques Welcome**



## Entry

**Vehicle \$5.00**

**Spectators \$2.00**

**Children  
Under 12 Free**

## Judging

**9.00 am -  
12 noon**

**Enquiries & Register**

**Michael Lipscombe**

**0425 223 590**

**email - [mjrlipscombe@bigpond.com](mailto:mjrlipscombe@bigpond.com)**

**Hosted by Shoalhaven Historic Vehicle Club Inc.**