

# FIAT focus

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



**Bathurst Hill Climb competitors**

# CONTENTS

Page.

2. Contents / New Members
3. Club Calendar
4. Oasis Runs / Message from the Oasis run organisers / Message from the CMC
5. Club Officials / Club Notices
6. Vale Pat Gladding / President's Report
8. Secretary's report - Social Meeting Minutes
9. Competition News - Fiat Club racers compete at the Mount Panorama Hillclimb
10. Historical Vehicle Scheme (HVS); Message from the Registrar / HVS Renewals
11. Checklist for Vehicles on Historic Registration
12. Coffee Break - Amory Wharf Café, Newington
- 13-15. The Binalong Motor Museum
- 16-18. Classifiats
- 19-20. Fiat News

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

**Fiat Focus is now available from the Fiat Club of New South Wales website. If you are after any of the issues from 2019 to the present just go to [www.fiatclub.com.au](http://www.fiatclub.com.au) click on the 'Magazine' tab and read or download the magazine you are after!**

## New Members

**A warm welcome to the following enthusiasts:**

Mark Raumer - 2016 Ford Mustang

Kurt, Sarah & William Jeffree - 2011 & 2013 Abarth 500 SS

Andrew Mason - 2016 Fiat Abarth 124

Stuart Evans - 1978 Fiat 124 Spider

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As mentioned in the President's Report, all club events have been suspended or cancelled for the next few months or until further notice. Should the threat of the coronavirus pandemic subside over the next month or so, some of the suspended events may be reinstated. In the hope that things return to normality at some time the events below could be looked forward to. In the meantime please take care of yourselves and loved ones. *Editor LA*

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	HVS code	Pointscore
<b>Events and meetings for April to June have been postponed or cancelled.</b>			
<b>July 2020</b>			
Tues 7th	Oasis Run - TBA	CE027070	No
Sun 12th	FIAT Club Coffee Break	CE027021	Yes
Tues 14th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE027041	Yes
Sat 26th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE027062	Yes
<b>August 2020</b>			
Sun 2nd	Fiat Club NSW 2019/20 Motorkhana Championship Rd 6	CE028020	Yes
Sat 8th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE028080	Yes
Tues 11th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE028011	Yes
Sun 16th	CMC Shannons Classic, Sydney Motorsport Park	CE028061	Yes
Sun 30th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE028003	Yes
<b>September 2020</b>			
Tues 8th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE029080	Yes
Sun 13th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE029031	Yes
Sat 19th	Fiat Club NSW 2019/20 Motorkhana Championship R7 - day/night	CE029091	Yes
Sun 20th	Fiat Club NSW 2019/20 Motorkhana Championship, Rd 8	CE029002	Yes
Sun 27th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE029072	Yes
TBA	Fiat Club of NSW Concorso D'Eleganza	TBA	TBA
<b>October 2020</b>			
Sat 10th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE020101	Yes
Sat 10th - Sun 11th	Bathurst 1000	CE020111	No
Tues 13th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE020131	Yes
Sat 17th - Sun 18th	AROCA 12 Hour Regularity - Winton Raceway, Victoria	CE020171	No
Sun 25th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE020152	Yes
<b>November 2020</b>			
Sun 1st	Fiat Club NSW 2020/21 Motorkhana Championship, Rd 1	CE021110	Yes
Sun 8th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE021180	Yes
Tues 10th	Social Meeting, Bankstown Sports Club	CE020101	Yes
Sun 25th	FIAT Club Coffee Break (TBA)	CE020152	Yes

SOCIAL MEETINGS are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown, starting at 7.30 pm. **At present these meetings will be suspended until the threat of the coronavirus passes.**  
**ANSELL PARK is the Club's Motorkhana Grounds located at 2 Percival Street, Clarendon, on the corner of Percival Street and Hawkesbury Valley Way.**

# OASIS NEWS

## DISARMED AT THE ARMORY TOUR TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2020 THIS EVENT IS NOW POSTPONED

At the moment all events at the Armory are postponed until at least the end of June 2020. Brian suggests that he holds the booking money until we meet again or set a new tour date. DETAILS: Brian Jubb ph: 9602 9591

Email: [peugeot505@optusnet.com.au](mailto:peugeot505@optusnet.com.au)

### FOR YOUR DIARY

Nepean Rowing Club is booked & paid for. Let's hope our Christmas Party can go ahead on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020

All other Oasis Events are cancelled until further notice. STAY SAFE

Regards, Les ph: 9838 8063

### 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 Club's magazine or website for the HCRS permit number applicable to the event.

Please note that due to the current coronavirus pandemic Oasis runs have been cancelled or suspended until further notice. We expect to be informed the Oasis group when activities will resume.

### Council Of Motor Clubs

Please note also that events organized by the Council of Motor Clubs (the CMC) have also been impacted and please note that many activities for this year's National Motoring Heritage Day have been cancelled. Also, the AMHF rally that was to be held in March has been cancelled. General meetings have also been cancelled for now.

The following is a message from the CMC;

The CMC and our Member Clubs are aware of Covid-19.

We are monitoring the advice from Government and Health Authorities.

This Virus is spreading, and given the current situation, the CMC has cancelled the March General Meeting.

Many activities and events are being canceled or postponed, so check with the various event organisers.

The CMC will continue to communicate with Affiliated Clubs via:-

This site, our Facebook Page, The Preserve Magazine and Emails.

Please keep yourselves safe and follow the official guidelines.

Historic Vehicle Use - always remember to carry the following 4 items.  
Club Run - carry a "paper, not electronic" copy of the club calendar with the event listed.  
Personal Use - fill in your RMS log sheet before you leave - as fines & points apply.  
Certificate of Approved Operations (purple A5 sheet issued by the RMS).  
FCNSW membership card - to confirm your financial status.

## 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

Lorenzo Aventi 0425 374 014  
secretary@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ TREASURER

Susan Halliburton 0413 184 148  
treasurer@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ COMPETITION SECRETARY

Michael McGeorge 0414 965 425  
competition@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ ASSISTANT COMP SECRETARY

Paul Pana  
assistcompetition@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ EDITOR

Position Vacant.  
editor@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ WEBMASTER

Mark Weinberger  
webtech@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ MERCHANDISING

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

### ● COMMITTEE PERSON

Adrian Sandrin  
committee1@fiatclub.com.au

### ◆ PUBLIC OFFICER

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

### ◆ 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

Domenic Squadrito

### ◆ HONORARY AUDITOR

Rebecca Gallard

### ◆ ANSELL PARK CO-ORDINATOR

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

### ◆ FIAT CLUB LIBRARIAN

Lorenzo Aventi 0425 374 014

## Life Members

- Tony Bray
- Steve Gotch
- Pauline Gotch
- Doug Tory
- 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 Martin Gallard, Michael McGeorge for their contributions and thanks also to Richard Dalziel for taking the minutes at the last social meeting for this edition of Fiat Focus.*

*Cover Photo; Michael McGeorge and Martin Gallard take up the challenge that Mount Panorama, Bathurst, offers drivers in Australia (and around the world for that matter) by competing at rounds 1 & 2 of the New South Wales Hill Climb Championship.*

### 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 Wednesday of each month except for the combined January / February edition 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.

## VALE – Patricia (Pat) Glading

Patricia, (wife of former President and Secretary Wal Glading), passed away Sunday, 22 March 2020 at Abbey House nursing home Mittagong.

Pat had very fond memories of all her adventures with the Fiat Club of New South Wales, in particular the 1974 trip to Europe.

Pat had been enduring terminal brain cancer for the last six months of her life. She was an incredibly brave lady and suffered her fate with dignity.

Pat specifically requested that there be no funeral. Pat will be cremated and her placement will be at Bundanoon cemetery at a date yet to be fixed.

As you can probably imagine, life is not the same without that lady and partner.

### *Wal Glading*

Whenever I think of Pat, I have always remembered the time in 1980 in Torino, Italy when we were on a combined Fiat Clubs tour of Europe. We were taken by the Fiat company rep to Valentino Park on the banks of the River Po, where there is a Medieval Village and I happened to be filming inside the

castle courtyard and panned upwards to see Pat in a window or a balcony pretending to be the Queen looking down on all her “subjects” and giving a regal wave. I still have the movie film.

On behalf of all members of the Club, I offer Wal our deepest condolences at this very sad time.

*Warren Smith*



Members would already be aware that we have had to postpone this year's scheduled FIAT NATIONALS because of the worsening Coronavirus (Covid-19) crisis.

If you, the general member are devastated by this fact, please spare a thought for your fellow club members who have been working towards delivering a great event for you in early April. They have sacrificed an awful lot of their personal spare time, family time and in some cases work time. Face to face committee meetings, phone conferences, phone calls to vendors and sponsors, and a thousand emails has been their life for most of the past 6 months!

The FIAT NATIONALS will now not be held in 2020, the first time in 57 years that the Fiat of Italy Cup has not been run. But this also means that the same team will now be responsible for delivering the event in 2021 (assuming this

pandemic is over by then!). Admittedly, most of the work has already been done, but there is still a significant amount ahead of us, much of it being in the uncharted territory of entrants and sponsors pulling out and asking for refunds. We have received refunds from our hired venues and have now made a significant number of full refunds for entrants.

So, if you see any of the following Nationals Committee Members, give them a hearty “thank you” (from a safe distance!).

Michael McGeorge, Martin Gallard, Ross Di Bartolo, Susan Halliburton, Adrian Sandrin, Kevin Halliburton, Cheryl Sandrin, Rebecca Gallard, Maurizio Puglisi, Mark Weinberger and Lorenzo Aventi.

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*Continued next Page...*



*From page 6..*

Your Club Committee has also made the decision to cease all club events until further notice. Hopefully this may be only needed for a period of 3 months but may be a lot longer. So, we will not be having monthly Social Meetings, Breakfast Mornings, competition events or even Committee Meetings. A few of us will still need to do upkeep of Ansell Park, but we can keep a very good distance from each other up there. Anyone wanting to come out to help is welcome, but if your car is on Historic plates you will need to use one of your 60 private use days as we won't be putting the dates into the calendar. This of course applies to all Historic plated cars as the dates previously published will now not be bona fide club events for the purpose of using your car.

As for other major events this year, we will let you know if anything else is cancelled or postponed, such as the annual CMC Display Day, Concorso, Norton St Festa, etc.

Our motorkhana ground, Ansell Park, was flooded recently as you know, and we have had a Working Bee to clean up the mess and dispose of items unrecoverable. I was even able to use the tractor to slash the 2 fields at the end of the day, so a big THANK YOU to all the members who came out to help.

We may not be able to interact on a face to face level for many months, but fortunately we do have the means to interact via our club Facebook page. Please make use of this and chat to your fellow Fiat Fanatico's, telling everyone about the progress you are making on your special Fiat (they're all special, aren't they?) Or maybe you have questions that need an answer from an expert. If you haven't tried Facebook before, this is a good time to start.

Sadly, I must report the recent passing of Pat Glading, long time club identity and wife of ex-President and Secretary Wal Glading. Please see separate report, with some of the words by Wal himself.

Lastly, we still need a club Editor. Out of the goodness of his heart, Lorenzo has been putting out a limited version of Fiat Focus, but this is very unfair so a volunteer to take on the role would be much appreciated. (Good time to learn with things so quiet!) Ring me to discuss.

Please take care,

**Warren Smith**  
**2020 President**

## **Fiat Nationals Postponed for 2020 - to be held 2021.**

It is with great difficulty the organising committee for the 2020 Fiat Nationals must announce the event is to be postponed. Whilst we have worked extremely hard on developing a format that allows the event to run under the current circumstances, reducing the social interactions of our event strips away the very core of what the Fiat Nationals is all about. The social interactions between our entrants is what makes our event special, and this is something we are not willing to compromise. Putting the health and wellbeing of our entrants first has been our priority, and we thank you for your feedback over the last couple of weeks as this global situation has unfolded.

Looking ahead, the Fiat Nationals will still be hosted in Goulburn at some stage over the next 12 months. Whilst we are yet to do a complete calendar review, it may be that April 2021 is the next best opportunity to run our event, as the school holidays for the states will all line up. We will do our best to lock in a date, and advise all entrants long in advance. Naturally, the Coronavirus needs to be in our rear view mirror before we can proactively engage the forward planning.

As you can imagine, the sudden position to refund entrants has certainly caught us out. We have directed much of the entry funds into the bookings for our event, and we are now work on trying to recover 100% of our funds deposited back to our event account. Once resolved, we will be able to review how we manage the refunds, if we can refund all entrants in entirety, and the most efficient way to refund entrants. Please be patient, this will take us a week or two.

Our plan is to roll everything and everyone associated with the current event into the next one, and hit the ground running. I would like to thank the hard work of our event committee, we had an incredible event lined up. Your time and effort has been truly appreciated, and we can't thank you enough. I would also like to thank our 2020 event sponsors for their generosity in supporting our event.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this situation, and stay safe.

***From the Fiat Nationals Organising Team..***

# Secretary's Report

## Fiat Club NSW - Social Meeting Minutes – Bankstown Sports Club – 10 Mar 2020

### Welcome:

Warren Smith and Richard Dalziel opened the meeting at 7:43 PM and welcomed members to BSC.

### Apologies:

Lorenzo Aventi, Cheryl Sandrin, Adrian Sandrin, Murray Irwin, Stephen & Chris Gorman, Kurt Jeffree.

### New Members & Visitors:

Kurt, Sarah & William Jeffree (a pair of Abarth 500 SS), Mark Raumer (Mustang GT).

### Previous Minutes – Business Arising:

Nil.

### Secretary's Report/ Correspondence:

No report.

### Ansell Park Report:

A working bee was held at Ansell "Lake" (on Clean Up Aust Day by coincidence), to strip out containers, cars, etc. and wash everything down, that had been inundated with flood water during the recent heavy rains. A small dedicated team of club members, and members from two other clubs came to help. We appreciate their efforts. Chairs and tables had to be recovered from the surrounding bush, and the gurney was in action all day. What could not be salvaged went to the tip. One benefit, the grass got a good watering and all the fields needed mowing, which was also done on the day. (See March Fiat Focus)

### Competition Report:

#### Recent Events:

The MK set for 01 Mar was cancelled due to the flooding and replaced by a clean-up working bee.

Michael McGeorge & Marty Gallard attended the NSW Hillclimb rounds 1 & 2 in Bathurst (see report this issue).

#### Next Events:

Fiat Nationals from 3-5 April (Please note - postponed).

Refer to Fiat Focus & the website calendars for full

details of upcoming events.

### Social Events:

#### Recent Events:

Burger Break at Superior Burger at Wakeley had a good roll up.

Coffee / Breakfast at the Armory Wharf Café at Newington was a new venue, enjoyed by 18 people.

#### Next Events:

Auto Italia ACT on 29 Mar (now cancelled—ed).

Coffee / Breakfast at Benzin Café at Dural on 26 Apr.

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

### Communications:

Fiat Focus Magazine – **WE NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE ON THE EDITORS ROLE.**

Website / Facebook Group – no issues.

### President's Report / 2020 Nationals Update:

Warren gave an update regarding the Fiat Nationals.

Entries are coming in, but if you are going you need to fill in your form and pay NOW, otherwise you are not registered. All meals have to have the numbers confirmed and payments made well before the event.

The Fiat 2300 Register will be joining the Nationals in Goulburn for some of the dinners and displays, as they will be in Goulburn the same weekend.

### Fiat Fixations & ClassiFiats:

Tony Virgona asked for recommendations regarding a panel beater for some work on the FLH guard on his 500.

### CMC Report:

CMC general meetings are held on the last Tue of the odd month, which clashes with the FCNSW committee meeting, other than 31 Mar & 29 Sep 2020.

### General Business:

Nil.

### Meeting Closed / Next meeting:

Social meeting closed at 8.25 PM. Early enough for some Gelato and a coffee downstairs.

## WANTED - EDITOR FOR FIAT FOCUS MAGAZINE

The Fiat Club is looking for a motivated individual to take over the very rewarding role of **EDITOR** for its monthly magazine, FiatFocus, for next year due to the retirement of the current editor. Laptop and software and support supplied. Contact the committee to express your interest.



# Competition

## Fiat Club racers compete at Mount Panorama Hillclimb, Bathurst.

Club members and keen motorsport competitors Michael McGeorge and Martin Gallard, once again travelled to Bathurst to compete in the first and second rounds of the New South Wales Hillclimb Championship.

Round 1 was held on Saturday March 7 and consisted of the Esses hillclimb course which started just before Conrod straight and made its way up to the finish at Skyline near McPhillamy Park. Round 2 was on Sunday and used the Mountain Straight course on the other side of the circuit.

Michael and Martin managed to claim first and second in class on both days driving their own Fiat 127s (they were the only competitors in their class!). Martin won the class on Saturday and Michael won on Sunday.

Both drivers thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and recommend any would be racers to come and give the hillclimb a go with them next year.

*By Lorenzo Aventi.*



*Photos, above: Michael McGeorge's orange 127 making his way up through the Esses on the Saturday; Martin going across the top of the mountain on Sunday (Mountain Straight course). Below: Camping overnight; Michael, Marty and trophies.*



# A message from the HVS club registrar -

Hi fellow Fiat Club members,

I hope you are well and staying safe at this difficult time.

As our club meetings and events have been cancelled until further notice, **the previously issued club calendars are no longer valid for historic vehicle use.**

You can still drive your HVS registered car using your RMS 60 day log book, but please remember to fill in the RMS sheet each calendar day that you drive it, **(but please note that driving for recreational purposes has now been forbidden by the State and Federal governments. You can, however, still use your vehicle for essential tasks as prescribed by the government - editor).**

At least we can still enjoy our Fiats, even if that means staying at home and working on them - there is bound to be something to do!

Regards,

Richard Dalziel

Historic Plates Registrar, Fiat Club of NSW

**(HVS registration renewals can and are still able to be processed. Please take time to read the notices from the Club HVS registrar below and over the page regarding registration renewals vehicles on the Historic Vehicle Scheme (HVS) - editor).**

Fiat Club of NSW PO Box 3034 BANGOR NSW 2234

Registered Incorporated Association Number – Y1451243



## Historic Vehicle Scheme – Registration Renewal Reminders

1. Refer to the **CHECKLIST** (see over) – form is also available from the club website.
2. You only need to send me your **HVD form** for signing & stamping.
3. **DO NOT** send your original registration papers or pinks slips – I don't need them, and if they go astray you will have to replace them.
4. To avoid delays,
  - Post your HVD form to my home address  
**12 Page Ave Wahroonga NSW 2076,**  
If you post it to the club mail box, it may be a month before I receive it.
  - Email your HVD (as a PDF format only) to  
[histrigo@fiatclub.com.au](mailto:histrigo@fiatclub.com.au), **not** to my old club secretary email address.
  - Bring your HVD (**plus a copy**) to the club social meeting.
5. If you are posting your HVD form, a stamped self addressed envelope would be appreciated.
6. If you are unsure at renewal time, keep this note for future reference.
7. Enjoy your HVS Fiat.

Regards,

Richard Dalziel

Historic Registrar

Fiat Club of NSW

P: 02 9489 3553

M: 0412 709 228

E: [histrigo@fiatclub.com.au](mailto:histrigo@fiatclub.com.au)

Postal address for HVD forms: 12 Page Ave Wahroonga NSW 2076

# FIAT CLUB of NSW Inc

## CHECKLIST FOR MEMBERS REGISTERING HISTORIC VEHICLES ON CONDITIONAL REGISTRATION

The following information is designed to assist FCNSW members register their vehicle under the NSW Historic Vehicle Scheme (HVS).

**For new vehicles to the scheme**, complete the Application for Conditional Registration (RMS form 1246), and ensure that the AIS (pink slip) provider completes and signs the “vehicle identified by” section on page 3. Also, Q8 = Car, Q9 = NSW.

2. Complete and sign the FCNSW Member Declaration and Vehicle Eligibility form and send it to the Historic Plates Registrar (HPR) to sign, and file with club records. Use address below.

Arrange for your vehicle to be inspected for age and originality by the HPR, or provide photos.

**For new and renewing vehicles**, complete two copies (or photocopy) the Historic Vehicle Declaration (RMS HVD form 1259). Include any recognised secondary car clubs where you are a financial member. Both copies will be stamped and signed by the HPR, the original will be returned to you to take to the RMS, the second copy will be retained by the HPR.

Please ensure you are a financial member of the FCNSW, and remain a financial member of the FCNSW, and any secondary clubs.

Obtain a Safety Inspection Report (or pink slip) from an inspection station prior to registration becoming due. Please note you need a manual pink slip for HVS registrations.

Once you have the signed and stamped HVD form you can go to the RMS for the renewal of an existing registration, or the issue of a new historic registration and plates.

8. If you are a new registration and wish to opt in to the 60 day log book trial, you need to advise the RMS at the time of making your application. Opting in is optional.

9. If your vehicle is already on historic registration, and you wish to opt in to the 60 day log book trial for personal use, then you will need to complete the Change of Records form (RMS form 1012).

Please note that the HVS is a privilege extended to the classic car movement, and that the operation of the system is under regular review by the RMS and the CMC & CHMC. FCNSW members taking part in the scheme are reminded to comply with the spirit of the scheme at all times, to ensure that it remains available to all members into the future.

Postal address and contact details for the FCNSW - Historic Plates Registrar.

Richard Dalziel  
12 Page Ave Wahroonga NSW 2076  
P: 02 9489 3553  
M: 0412 709 228  
E: [histrego@fiatclub.com.au](mailto:histrego@fiatclub.com.au)

(Update: v3 Apr 2019)



# coffee break (write up)

7th March 2020  
Armory Wharf Cafe @ Newington



The Amory Wharf Café is a welcomed new addition to the club's coffee break venues. It's a relaxed open air café with plenty of parking early on a weekend. The staff were very accommodating to the large number of club members turning up on the morning, allowing us to quickly re-arrange chairs to suit our growing needs as more and more members turned up.

What a great turn out... 14 cars and 18 people. The highlight being a new addition to the club, a 1500 sedan. We all enjoyed hanging out looking over the car as the owner told us more about how he came about acquiring this cool sedan.

Thanks to all who came along to this new venue, it looks like it was a success so we'll definitely return here during the year.

See you at the next event.

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

FIAT fanatico

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

# Binalong Motor Museum *by Lorenzo Aventi*

Recently I attended a wedding in the country and about halfway to the destination I drove through the town of Binalong where a large sign on a corner told me that there was a motor museum off to the left of the main road. I could not stop as the wedding was that afternoon, however, I made a point to call in on the way home the next day.

The following day I got to the museum at about 3.00 pm and after driving through the automatic gate I parked the car and wandered around the front of the workshops. There is a large, loud brass bell to ring for attention and soon you will be greeted by the owner, Stuart Saunders, who is happy to talk about the cars in his collection and the restorations he is currently undertaking.

The museum is situated on acreage and exists in the lower level workshop and garages of the owner's residence. Here you will find a small but interesting selection of vintage and classic vehicles, collections of books and magazines, model cars as well as motoring ephemera and garagenalia.

The workshop is a working part of the museum which can hold up to 5 vehicles that Stuart has restored or is working on and includes many vintage tools and equipment that is also in regular use. The vintage cars he has worked on have some very interesting stories behind them and Stuart is all to obliging when it comes to recounting these tales.

## CARS

### 1927 Bugatti Grand Prix car

This classic Bugatti was a former Grand Prix racer imported into Australia before the war and had continued to be used in competition until recently. A larger body has been fitted to the car so that it could be used for touring and historic rallies.



### 1908 MAB (Malicet et Blin)

This very large French car was found in the ground on country property where it had lay for many years. Remarkably, when the substantial chassis had excavated from the earth it was found to have virtually no rust. The car was restored, but, as the original engine could not be found it was fitted with a 27 litre, water cooled V12 aero engine from an American manufacturer.



Above; The MAB is a big car. Below; V12 aero engine; massive drive sprocket and chain to get the power to the skinny wheels.



### Delage & Armstrong Siddley



Also on display was a collection of vehicles, signs and posters that are part of an upcoming auction on Sunday May 3, held by Donington Auctions (to see the lots offered for sale, go to <https://online.doningtonauctions.com.au> and look for the Binalong Motor Museum).

There were a few interesting cars on show here including a Honda land speed record car from 1996, a replica of a 1960s Indianapolis roadster as well as a Fiat 500 from Melbourne which is reportedly a one owner vehicle (though for some reason the Fiat is not listed on the auction catalogue).

The Museum is located at 1 Oliver Street, Binalong. Further details can be found at [https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Attraction\\_Review-g1424475-d12254004-Reviews-Binalong\\_Motor\\_Museum-Binalong\\_New\\_South\\_Wales.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Attraction_Review-g1424475-d12254004-Reviews-Binalong_Motor_Museum-Binalong_New_South_Wales.html).

I like to visit local museums and places of interest when I visit the country and I enjoyed this visit. Hopefully, when we are able to travel freely again after this current pandemic I can visit more motor museums and report back on the experience in Fiat Focus.

If any members have similar stories about visiting country towns anywhere in Australia please let us know about it by penning a few lines, include a phot if you have any and share you experience by emailing it to the [editor@fiatfocus.com.au](mailto:editor@fiatfocus.com.au) or mail it to the club at P.O. Box 3034, Bangor, NSW 2234.

# Binalong Motor Museum *continued...*



Above; one room with a host of memorabilia; Stuart Saunter with his Ferrari

The Items up for auction were pretty interesting as well:



Clockwise left to right; Fiat 500L, Honda record car from 1996, Replica of a 1960s Indianapolis roadster.



## For Sale:

### FIAT 131 Panorama Factory Wheels, Caps and Bolts

Set of 4 - 13 x 5" factory steel wheels complete with caps in good to very good condition, also includes a full set of the illusive black bolts. Fiat standard 4x98mm stud pattern.

The tyres are evenly worn to about 50-60%, they still hold air however they are old. These wheels are all matching and were removed from a low mileage one owner 131. \$250 ono. (04/20)

Contact Con Catena 0410 459 954 email - ccatena@hotmail.com.au

## Books for Sale

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED A LIST OF SOME OF THE BOOKS THAT I HAVE FOR SALE FROM JOHN'S COLLECTION. THIS LIST IS APPROXIMATELY ONE THIRD OF THE BOOKS THAT I HAVE ON HAND.

WHILST I HAVE ONLY INCLUDED THE TITLE AND AUTHOR OF THE BOOKS SHOULD YOU WISH TO SEE A PICTURE, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT ME VIA MY EMAIL AND I WILL FORWARD YOU PICTURE OF YOUR REQUESTED BOOK.

[johnandlorrainedoel@gmail.com](mailto:johnandlorrainedoel@gmail.com)

THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS THAT HAVE PURCHASED SOME OF THE BOOKS OFF THE FACEBOOK PAGE AND MEMBERS EMAIL, I AM EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT THAT HAS BEEN AFFORDED ME BY THE FIAT CAR CLUB.

LORRAINE DOEL

### BOOKS FOR SALE FROM THE LATE JOHN GILBERT DOEL'S ESTATE 1ST MARCH, 2020

FIAT 1100 BY GIORGIO NADA \$70.00

FIAT 500 TOPOLINO BY GIORGIO NADA \$70.00

FIAT SPORTS CARS 1945-X19 BY GRAHAM ROBSON \$70.00

BABY FIATS BY DAVE RUNDLE \$50.00

FIAT f-2 BY ROD SHIMWELL \$70.00

FIAT 124 APIDER-COUPE-ABARTH BY GIORGIO NADA \$50.00

FIAT 508 BALILLA BY GIORGIO NADA \$70.00

FIAT 500 BY GIORGIO NADA \$70.00

FIAT 500 BY ALESSANDRO SANNIA \$50.00

ZAGATO 1919-1989,

ZAGATO 1990-2000 BOXED SET

BY MICHELE MARCHIANO & JOANNE MARSHALL \$250.00

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FOR PRACTICE ONLY (1959 BOOK) BY LOUIS KLEMANTASKI \$70.00

MOTOR RACING THE EARLY YEARS BY BRIAN LABAN \$50.00

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MILLE MIGLIA RACE (THE POSTWAR YEARS) BY GIORGIO NADA \$80.00

La FIAT va alla MILLE MIGLIA \$70.00

LANCIA STRATOS THIRTY YEARS LATER BY ANDREA CURAMI \$150.00

RACING LANCIA'S TRACK, ROAD AND SPECIAL STAGE BY GIANCARLO REGGIANI \$250.00

GREAT MARQUES ALFA ROMEO BY DAVID OWEN & JOHN BLUNSDEN \$30.00

DREAM MACHINES FERRARI BY GODFREY EATON \$30.00

CLASSIC FERRARI BY GODFREY EATON \$30.00

GREAT MARQUES FERRARI BY GODFREY EATON & JODY SCHECKTER & JOHN BLUNSDEN \$30.00

I LOVE GTO FERRARI BY FABRIZIO & FRANCO VARISCO \$60.00

FANTASTIC FERRARIS BY ANTIONE PRUNET & PETER VANNI \$40.00

EMOTION FERRARI (EUROPE 1947-1972)

EXEMPLAIRE NO 1511 BY MAURICE LOUCHE \$350.00

AUTOMOBILE YEAR BOOKS NO 1 (1954/5 - 2018/19 ) THROUGH TO NO 66 \$8,200.00



## For Sale:

1928 Fiat 521c Saloon. 6 Cylinder 2.5 litre. Complete and restorable.  
\$6,000 or near offer.

Contact Norm Mitchell - 0407890771 [norminez@iprimus.com.au](mailto:norminez@iprimus.com.au)



## WANTED - EDITOR FOR FIAT FOCUS MAGAZINE

The Fiat Club is looking for a motivated individual to take over the very rewarding role of **EDITOR** for its monthly magazine, FiatFocus, for next year due to the retirement of the current editor. Laptop and software and support supplied. Contact the committee to express your interest.



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135 Donalds Range Rd, Razorback NSW 2571

**FOR SALE - FIAT 500.**

Unfortunately I need to sell my bambino. I would like sell to a decent club member!!

Club Price is \$18500 neg. (12/19) Contact **David Virgona** [0421658895](tel:0421658895)



Repairer and Restorer of all Italian makes and models  
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## Fiat 500 Hybrid

By Peter Tullin, Business Car (UK)

Fiat's most successful model gains a new mild-hybrid powertrain - and this is just the precursor to an all-electric future.



As legend would have it, the original air-cooled Fiat 500 was all set to star in the Italian Job movie before some behind-the-scenes shenanigans intervened and a trio of Minis ending up on the silver screen instead. Talk about a missed marketing opportunity - but as they say, every dog has its day.

Reinvented in 2007 and facelifted in 2016 as the cutesy city car we all know today, no model has done more to save Fiat's bacon than the 500.

Key to this success is undoubtedly the retro-chic design (more of this later), but to help the 500 comply with increasingly strict inner-city emissions standards, Fiat is about to introduce a new hybrid powertrain. The electrification story won't stop there either, as later this year a new 500 powered solely by battery will hit our shores.

For now, we have driven one of the new Mild Hybrid models, which have a P11D starting price of £11,811 for a basic Pop version and a claimed combined fuel return of 53.3mpg, along with CO2 emissions of just 88g/km.

### Mild hybrid

To be honest, touting these cars as hybrids is stretching matters somewhat, as power is generated primarily by a newly developed 1.0 three-cylinder petrol engine, with just a gentle prod of assistance derived from a small 12V starter-generator that draws its power from a compact lithium battery located under the front passenger seat. Perhaps the best part of the equation is the system also uses the electric motor to carry out smooth start-stop functionality, and it has the ability to switch off the petrol engine at speeds below 18mph and coast simply by selecting neutral.

Overall, it is a pretty decent combination, as the petrol engine feels willing to rev and is reasonably smooth too, only permitting any obvious combustion signature to enter the cabin at higher revs. While it is clearly no ball of fire, the relatively modest 70hp power delivery does manage to feel man enough for the job under most circumstances.

One of the benefits of three-cylinder engines is the weight savings they bring, and in the 500's case, the engine is also mounted 45mm lower than the old four-cylinder arrangement, which is claimed to give it a modest agility gain - not that anyone ever bought a 500 for its edgy handling.

You can still expect a fair bit of lean in corners and some side-to-side shimmy when driving over the type of crazy-paving that typically passes for UK urban roads. It is just a shame that the steering remains a bit vague and inconsistently weighted, while the clutch and brakes have a rather imprecise, mushy feel.

### City Car

It is always striking just how high you sit in a 500, even with the driver's seat set in its lowest position. Despite this, and the fact there is very little adjustment for the steering wheel, it is relatively easy to find a comfortable driving position, thanks to a surprising amount of leg and headroom. Best of all, that bottle-nosed bonnet, dinky wheelbase and steering efforts that can be lightened to featherweight by selecting City mode, make the 500 an incredibly easy car to manoeuvre in tight city confines.

As suggested earlier, interior design is where the 500 really shines. The funky coloured seating, pool-ball gearshifter and painted dashboard, dominated by a grandfather clock-sized speedometer that displays info regarding the way the battery is being charged or depleted depending on how you drive, all combine to create a sense of simple, sophisticated elegance.

Despite its compact dimensions, the 500 offers a reasonable amount of cabin space for four, and it is a relatively easy job to get kids in and out of the back thanks to wide-opening front doors and a driver's seat that slide a long way forward. Admittedly, once ensconced, leg and headroom are on the tight side and those tiny triangular rear windows do limit the view out.

Boot space is also very snug at 185 litres; however, it is not a bad shape and you will manage to get a couple of small suitcases in without too much wangling.

(This article can be found at;

<https://www.businesscar.co.uk/tests/2020/flat-500-hybrid>)

## Local Fiat Chrysler boss says Australian market is key to FCA's global right-hand drive commitment

carsales.com.au Written By Mike Sinclair

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) retains a long-term commitment to right-hand drive markets – at least with some of its brands.

That was the take-out from undertakings delivered by new FCA Australia boss, Kevin Flynn ..., just days after General Motors pulled the pin on the Holden brand and all RHD markets two weeks ago.

Talking (under embargo) to carsales late last month, Flynn left no wriggle room regarding the US-Italian giant's long-term plans for Jeep's and other FCA brands' right-hand drive products.

He stopped short, however, of talking about any future for factory RHD RAMs and the like.

"Right-hand drive is still a fundamental of our [global] business and at the end of the day, the level of focus that has come on Australia from an FCA perspective is right from the very, very top," Flynn told carsales.

"I've been here six months so I'd say the first four were fact-finding... but a good two months was based on planning and putting that into some kind of a strategy and then getting global board sign-off.

"So, the level of interest in Australia's success moving forward is huge because it is a big part, and should be a bigger part, of our right-hand drive strategy," Flynn revealed.

While brands like GM seem happy to step aside from right-hand drive marketplaces, Flynn says: "FCA has still got appetite [for right-hand drive].

*Continued next page...*

Continued from page 19...

"And Australia is key to making sure that we can remain successful in some of the right-hand drive markets where we are very, very strong. Japan is a classic," he stated.

Flynn says both the UK and India are also potential growth targets for FCA, particularly via Jeep and, in India at least, Fiat.

"[There's growth] In the UK as well. And obviously my previous project, India, there's big aspirations for what we could be there and then also then how that Indian operation and the [production] plant there could be a right-hand drive hub."

In contrast to right-hand-drive Charger and Challenger 'carrots' dangled by his predecessors, Flynn says the right-hand drive focus sits firmly in the Jeep camp – at least for the time being.

"The focus at the moment is definitely Jeep.

"[We] Worked very, very hard in the time I was in India to try and get a right-hand drive Fiat range again... but every project has got to be viable, every project has got to be sustainable, and Jeep seemed to be the better answer...

"The value equation was far more sensible to do Jeep, launch Jeep [into India], and then also do right-hand drive Jeep out of that plant," Flynn explained.

Still, Flynn is quietly confident FCA will keep some US performance presence in the Australian marketplace, at least via the Chrysler 300 SRT including specials like the Pacer.

"I just think we can have a bit of fun with that so let's see how we develop that. We've still got some traction with the SRT Chrysler 300 as well -- they're still sort of finding homes without too much effort.

"So there's still an enthusiast element, so while that enthusiast element exists we're going to work with it and support it and make sure we've got products that fill that niche," Flynn told carsales.com.

Chrysler Fiat Jeep Car News

## Fiat Centoventi EV destined for production

### Italian car-maker said to be expanding its small car range with bold small hatch, will be based on new Fiat 500.

By John Mahoney; carsales.com

Fiat has announced it will launch a production car previewed by the pure-



electric Centoventi city-car it unveiled at last year's Geneva motor show.

Confirming the 2019 concept would transition to production reality, Fiat's global boss Olivier Francois told Auto Express that work has already begun readying the Centoventi for market.

"At Geneva last year, we showed our other EV car, our urban baby, [and] we are still working on it -- it was not just a flash in the pan," he said.

Set to line up alongside the current Fiat Panda and the upcoming Fiat 500 EV, the Centoventi is thought to borrow the latter car's platform and pure-electric battery and running gear.

Originally created to celebrate 120 years of the Fiat brand, it was said at the 2019 Geneva show to represent a battery-powered take on a futuristic Panda.

With prominent wheel-arches and Panda-aping squared-off boxy looks, the beauty of the Centoventi was claimed to be its interchangeable body and roof panels that could be easily swapped out to help owners personalise their cars.

Up front, the cute concept featured the original Panda multi-bar grille that has been reinterpreted to show the charging status of the car.

Unlikely to make it to production are the concept's practical barn-like rear doors and pillarless design, which would likely be swapped for a pair of conventional apertures.

Expect a less radical interior too, but the concept's interchangeable seat fabrics could be carried over.

Beneath the skin, the small Fiat should share the same 42kWh battery and rapid-charging capability as the new Fiat 500.

The range, likewise, should be around 320km.

There's no word yet when the Centoventi will go on sale, but it's thought 2022 is a safe bet -- at least in Europe.

Speaking about the Centoventi, Fiat's global president Francois added: "It's another approach to full electric. So I think we have a bright future in the full electric approach to city cars,

through the 500e and through the more non-traditional approach with this minimalist, lower price Centoventi that is very Panda-inspired."

## Giannini tuned Fiat 500s...

During the month, Club President, Warren Smith posted on the Club's facebook page some youtube footage of a couple of Giannini tuned Fiat 500 Abarths with some serious rasping exhaust notes.. If you haven't seen it copy the following link into your web browser;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bw3UkD7S5ts&fbclid=IwAR2u3zxBdvuTO9I-ycmT79N8pbviZczBCIMKBZcwlBefZ2eUZ6RSNzas14>

There are also lots of photos of these incredible looking cars.



# 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

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

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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.

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