

FIATfocus

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



*Next Club Social Meeting / Dinner will be on Tuesday June 20
at Concerto Restaurant, Wentworth Point (See page 10 for details)*

2023/24 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

All 2022/23 memberships are due for renewal as at 1 July, 2023 (excepting those new members who have joined recently). Membership fees remain unchanged.

When renewing your membership, please ensure that you use the updated 2023/24 Membership Form which you will find included in this issue of Fiat Focus, or on our website www.fiatclubnsw.com.au. **Please email the form to membership@fiatclubnsw.com.au, or mail to PO Box 3034, Bangor, NSW. 2234.** Payment is via EFT or cheque. We do not have credit card facilities for payment at this stage.

PLEASE NOTE: Members turning 18

We currently have five types of membership - Full Member, Joint (Family) Member, Junior (12-18 years), plus Life and Honorary Member. *Children under 12 do not need to be a member of the Club.*

In the past Junior members turning 18 were expected to become Full Members (and pay the \$60 fee). Understanding that this age group in general is studying, and usually have very little money, the Fiat Club has decided to allow over 18 year old dependents of a member family, living at home, to remain within the family group, and renew as a Family Member (at the lesser amount of \$10).

Kind regards

Cheryl Sandrin – Membership Registrar 2023

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF INTERNET DOMAIN NAME - EFFECTIVE NOW!

fiatclubnsw.com.au

Dear Fiat Club Members,

Due to developments outside of our control, the Fiat Club of New South Wales Inc. no longer has use of the previous internet domain name **fiatclub.com.au**, which we have used for the past 14 years.

As a result, we have moved our internet presence to a **new domain name fiatclubnsw.com.au**

So please ensure you update your email applications, address book and any filtering / Junk / Spam rules to use the new address for emails to/from the Fiat Club of NSW Inc.

The Fiat Club of NSW web site address is now www.fiatclubnsw.com.au

Our Facebook Page remains the same <https://www.facebook.com/groups/fiatclub>

Our Instagram Page will be back online shortly.

The new eGroup email address is egroup@fiatclubnsw.com.au

Committee members can be emailed on the new email addresses, i.e. secretary@fiatclubnsw.com.au

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at webmaster@fiatclubnsw.com.au

CONTENTS

Page #.

2. Membership Renewal Notice
4. FIAT Club Contact Details / Life Members
5. Club Calendar / New Members
6. Competition
7. Competition Calendar
8. Coffee Break - Benzin Café, Dural
9. Coffee Break - Pasticceria Massimo Papa, Fairy Meadow
- 10-11. Upcoming Events
12. FIAT Nationals News
13. Two Pedal Bambino (FIAT 850 Auto, Retro Article from Wheels Magazine, July 1966)
- 14-15. FIAT News
16. Classifiats
17. FIAT Club Postal address, Bank details, Advertising Rates / FIAT Club Library
18. FIAT Club Social Media; Facebook, YouTube / Club Merchandise
19. The Back End

FIAT Club NSW Membership Renewal Form (renewals are due at the end of June 2023, Please email the form to membership@fiatclubnsw.com.au, or mail to PO Box 3034, Bangor, NSW. 2234.

FIATFocus acknowledgements;

FIAT Focus is the bi-monthly journal of the FIAT Club of NSW. It is issued by email in the first Week of each month (there will now be 6 issues produced each year).

Many thanks to Adrian Sandrin for his photo contribution to this edition of Fiat Focus.

Cover; Norm Mitchell's FIAT 501 visited Ansell Park during the last motorkhana (along with a number of other club members who enjoyed a lovely sunny winters day (photo, Adrian Sandrin).

FIATFocus Magazine is available from the FIAT Club of New South Wales website. If you wish to obtain any of the issues from 2019 to the present just go to the club's website at www.fiatclubnsw.com.au/magazine, and download the magazine you are looking for.

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

INVITED EVENTS

First Sunday of each month; Cars 'n' Coffees at St Ives Showground - 8am to 11 am.

East Hills Charity Car Show - Kelso Oval, Panania, Sunday 18 June.

Euro Motorfest 2023 - Hunter region, Sunday 18 June, details to follow.

CLUB COMMITTEE AND OFFICIALS

(Please note the new Committee and their new email domain addresses below)

- ◆ **PATRON - Mr Nat Zanardo OAM**
- ◆ **PRESIDENT** - David Filippetto; president@fiatclubnsw.com.au Ph. 0423 606 678
- ◆ **VICE PRESIDENT** - Domenic Squadrito; vicepresident@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **TREASURER** - Susan Halliburton; treasurer@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **SECRETARY** - Warren Smith; secretary@fiatclubnsw.com.au Ph. 02 9605 2301 / 0419 754 515
- ◆ **MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR** - Cheryl Sandrin; membership@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **EDITOR** - Lorenzo Aventi; editor@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **WEBMASTER** - Adrian Sandrin; webtech@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **COMPETITION SECRETARY** - Michael McGeorge; competition@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **SOCIAL EVENT CO-ORDINATOR** - Giovanni Ciampa; events@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **ASSISTANT COMP SECRETARY** - Martin Gallard; assistcompetition@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **WEB TECHNICAL** - Kevin Windsor
- ◆ **MERCHANDISING** - Kevin Halliburton; merchandise@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **HISTORIC PLATE REGISTRAR** - Richard Dalziel; histrego@fiatclubnsw.com.au
Historic Plates form - postal address details are: 12 Page Ave, Wahroonga, NSW 2076
- ◆ **COMMITTEE PERSON 1** - Adrian Sandrin; committee1@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **COMMITTEE PERSON 2** - Ian Sinden; committee2@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **COMMITTEE PERSON 3** - Tony Studans; committee3@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **CMC DELEGATE** Ian Sinden; committee2@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **ANSELL PARK CO-ORDINATOR** - Michael McGeorge; Ansellpark@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **FIAT CLUB LIBRARIAN** - Lorenzo Aventi; editor@fiatclubnsw.com.au
- ◆ **PUBLIC OFFICER** - Warren Smith; publicofficer@fiatclubnsw.com.au

Life Members

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

Former Life Members

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| • Gladys Channon | • Adrian Phillips | • Peter Minett | • Tom Hay |
| • Margaret McIntyre | • Ted Ansell | • Colin Crampton | • Christopher Davis |
| • George Simmonds | • Nancy Simmonds | • John Braid | • Leonie Steele |
| • Pat Fletcher | • John Maude | • Eric McDonald | |

Historic Vehicle Use - always remember to carry the following 4 items;

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

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	Point score
June 2023		
Sun 11th	Fiat Club Coffee Break; Café 4TY7, 47 Boronia St, Ermington, 8.00 am - 10.00 am, (see Page 10 for details)	Yes
Tues 20th	FIAT Club NSW Social Meeting; Concerto Restaurant, Wentworth Point, 7.00 pm - 10.00pm, (see Page 10 for details)	Yes
Sun 25th	Fiat Club Pie Break; Pie in the Sky, 1296 Pacific Hwy, Cowan, 9.00 am - 11.00 am, (see Page 10 for details)	Yes
July 2023		
Sun 9th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
Sun 30th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
Sun 30th	FIAT Club NSW Motorkhana Championship Rd 4 - Ansell Park	Yes
August 2023		
Tues 8th	FIAT Club NSW Social Dinner	Yes
Sun 13th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
Sun 20th	Shannons Sydney Classic	Yes
Sun 27th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
September 2023		
Sat 2nd	FIAT Club NSW Motorkhana Championship Rd 5 - Ansell Park (day/night event)	Yes
Sun 3rd	FIAT Club NSW Motorkhana Championship Rd 6 - Ansell Park	Yes
Sun 10th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
Sun 24th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
October 2023		
Sun 8th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
Sat 14th - Sun 15th	AROCA 6 Hour Regularity Race - Winton	No
Sun 29th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
November 2023		
Sun 5th	FIAT Club NSW Motorkhana Championship Rd 7 - Ansell Park	Yes
Sun 12th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes
Tues 14th	FIAT Club NSW Social Dinner	Yes
Sun 26th	Fiat Club Coffee Break (TBA)	Yes

New Members

A warm welcome to the following enthusiasts:

Ann Davidson and Peter Buchanan - 2017 Fiat Anniversarie 500

Competition

Provisional Motorkhana Results 21st may 2023 FIAT Car Club NSW R3

O/R	Class	#	Entrant	Class	Diamond Slalom	Plumb Crazy	Tiger Moth	Crazy Square	Multiple Loop	Cloverleaf	Square Slalom	Twister	Total	
					Adj Time	Adj Time	Adj Time	Adj Time	Adj Time	Adj Time	Adj Time	Adj Time		
1	1	13	Martin Gallard	FCNSW	D	31.50	33.07	26.94	23.69	38.93	30.62	27.88	36.81	249.44
2	2	21	Glenn Smith	FCNSW	D	35.22	31.84	28.87	23.00	39.50	30.22	27.96	37.13	253.74
3	1	9	Phil East	FCNSW	C	32.71	32.71	29.72	23.88	39.84	29.60	28.34	39.03	255.83
4	2	10	Jean-Luc Stevens	MX5	C	32.34	40.16	29.20	23.17	41.06	29.34	27.56	37.59	260.42
5	3	6	John Walker	SSCC	C	32.97	34.68	29.53	25.35	41.15	31.03	29.82	40.69	265.22
6	4	5	Brad Bassett	SSCC	C	35.00	36.65	32.40	24.25	43.00	31.00	28.81	41.68	272.79
7	5	8	Chris Stevens	FCNSW	C	35.91	40.16 G	30.69	24.17	46.88 G	29.19	29.37	39.90	276.27
8	6	15	Luke Bailey (J)	FCNSW	C	36.32	36.63	34.44	25.47	44.09	31.40	31.13	44.25	283.73
9	7	3	Bruce Daniel	SSCC	C	35.06	35.97	40.06 F	26.60	43.25	32.72	30.81	40.66	285.13
10	8	23	John Taylor	HDCC	C	43.12	34.57	31.41	24.38	53.00 WD	31.43	30.10	46.56	294.57
11	1	7	Adrian Sandrin	FCNSW	A	39.66	36.72	33.28	25.62	48.00	37.40 F	38.25 G	42.68	301.61
12	2	12	Peter Jakrot	FCNSW	A	63.00 WD	38.09	32.72	31.60 WD	45.56	32.44	32.72	41.69	317.82
13	3	17	Hayley McGeorge (J)	FCNSW	D	46.78	43.28	47.06	35.41	50.59	37.72 dns	43.43	56.47	360.74
14	9	1	James HILL	VCCNSW	C	60.28	48.97	69.59	31.60 WD	53.00 WD	37.72 WD	41.15	74.25	416.56
15	10	14	Trent Jones (J)	FCNSW	C	45.72	49.88	63.87	33.53	62.60	37.72 dns	45.16	78.50	429.01

Penalties: F = Flag Down, G = Garage Penalty, WD = Wrong Direction, M = Mechanical, DNS = Did Not Start, DNF = Did Not Finish

WD times were calculated using "Double Fastest" method or slowest time plus 5 sec whichever is faster. DNS, DNF slowest time plus 10 seconds.

Classes ;

A - SWB Rear Wheel Drive; B. - LWB Rear Wheel Drive; C - Front Wheel , D.Specials, F.Four Wheel Drive, J - Junior Competitor



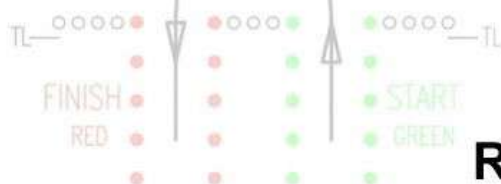
Photos of competitors and visitors to the motorkhana are courtesy of Adrian Sandrin.

Competition Calendar

DATE	EVENT AND LOCATION	Point score
June 2023		
Sat 10th & Sun 11th	NSW Hill Climb Championship, Grafton	No
Sun 25th	Huntley Hill Climb - come and try day	No
July 2023		
Sat 15th & Sun 16th	NSW Hill Climb Championship, Tamworth	No
Sun 23rd	NSW Motorkhana Championship - Nirimba	No
Sun 30th	FIAT Club NSW Motorkhana Championship Rd 4 - Ansell Park	Yes
August 2023		
Sat 12th & Sun 13th	NSW Hill Climb Championship, Ringwood	No
September 2023		
Sat 2nd	FIAT Club NSW Motorkhana Championship Rd 5 - Ansell Park (day/night event)	Yes
Sun 3rd	FIAT Club NSW Motorkhana Championship Rd 6 - Ansell Park	Yes
Sun 10th	NSW Motorkhana Championship - SMP	No
Sat 30th Sep - Sun Oct 1st	Australian Motorkhana Championship - Nirimba	No
October 2023		
Sat 14th - Sun 15th	AROCA 6 Hour Regularity Race - Winton	No
Fri 27th - Sun 29th	FIAT Nationals	Yes
November 2023		
Sun 5th	FIAT Club NSW Motorkhana Championship Rd 7 - Ansell Park	Yes



FCNSW MOTORKHANA CHAMPIONSHIP



4

Sunday July 30 at 9.00 a.m.

Ansell Park, Percival St, Richmond



coffee break (write up)

14th May 2023

Benzin Cafe @ Dural



This catch up fell on Mother's Day which had an impact on the number of club members available to make it for coffee. None the less four Mother's made it out to this club social event. Thanks so much for supporting your club on your special celebration day.

Also a thank you to Richard for taking photos in my absence due to the birth of my second child two days earlier.

Nice to see club members enjoying these events no matter how big or small the numbers in the gathering!

Keep a watch of FIATfocus, our website and our Facebook page to keep up to date with our next social and competition events.

See you all at the next event.

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



FIAT fanatico

www.fiatclubnsw.com.au



coffee break (write up)

28th May 2023

pasticceria massimo papa @ Fairy Meadow



This event saw a good gathering of club members turn up to sample Italian pastries at its finest.

A big thank you to Maurizio for taking photos in my absence. There was a mix of FIATs and ALFAs on display which was greatly enjoyed by other patrons on the day.

We'd like to know about more venues like Pasticceria Massimo Papa in the Southern Coastal regions of Sydney that our club could attend in future.

Thanks for your continued support of the FIAT Club of NSW.

See you all at the next event.

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



FIAT fanatico

www.fiatclubnsw.com.au

Coffee Break!

come join like minded **FIAT** enthusiasts over breakfast and a coffee...



this month's location

When: Sunday 11th June 2023

Where: Cafe 4TY7
47 Boronia Street
Errington NSW 2115

Time: 8:00am - 10:00am



Social Meeting!

come join your club committee in a casual social meeting to have your say about all things FIAT club related...



meeting location

When: Tuesday 20th June 2023

Where: Concerto Restaurant
3A The Piazza,
Wentworth Point NSW 2127

Time: 7:00pm - 10:00pm

please RSVP your attendance for catering purposes - thank you



Pie break!

come join like minded FIAT enthusiasts enjoy a pie ...



the location

When: Sunday 25th June 2023

Where: Pie in the Sky
1296 Pacific Hwy,
Cowan NSW 2081

Time: 9:00am - 11:00am



CMC Shannons Sydney Classic

Sunday 20th August 2022

Sydney Motorsport Park, Ferrers Rd, Eastern Creek NSW 2766

The FIAT Club of NSW would like to invite all members to bring their FIAT's (of all models road or race) to this years CMC Shannons Sydney Classic (cars of any standard welcome)

limited tickets available per club
[only 20 spots allocated to FIAT Club of NSW]
cost per ticket \$25

please RSVP and pay for your ticket as soon as possible
contact: Giovanni Ciampa (events@fiatclubnsw.com.au)

cars to be on display by: **10:00am**

**Euro
Motorfest
2023**

Sunday 18th June

From 8.30am to 1.30pm
Display Vehicle entry fee \$10.00

More details to come

Food & Drinks available
For more info call Andrew Gowans 0425 204 762
All European Marques Welcome!

Please register your club's attendance by
emailing public_relations@huntermg.com

In the event of wet weather the alternative date is Sunday 25th June

Presented by MGCC Hunter Region
Donating to
Variety the Children's Charity &
John Hunter Children's Hospital

HUNTER MG REGION CLUB

**KELSO OVAL PANANIA
EAST HILLS CHARITY
CAR SHOW**

SUNDAY JUNE 18

The East Hills Charity Car Show is a community based event which attracts car lovers from all over NSW. Prizes are offered in a wide range of categories. A great family day out with the goal of the event to support a different charity each year.

MS AUSTRALIA RESEARCH ADVOCACY CURE
This year the East Hills Charity Car Show is extremely proud to be supporting MS Australia
<https://www.msaustralia.org.au/>

EAST HILLS CHARITY CAR SHOW
www.easthillscharitycarshow.com.au

New FIATFocus editor required for 2024 and beyond

The club is looking to recruit a new editor for next year.

The new editor will have the assistance of committee members who provide quality monthly reports and articles. To lighten the load, **FIATFocus will now revert to being published every two months** which means only 6 editions will need to be produced each year. The magazine can always revert back to being published each month if desired.

For anyone interested in taking on the role please contact the editor (editor@fiatclubnsw.com.au) or any member of the committee and let us know of your interest.

Please consider volunteering to continue the publishing of FIAT Focus magazine.

Please note that FIATFocus will now be issued every two months. The next issue will be the July / August 2023 edition due out in a few weeks.

2023/24 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

All 2022/23 memberships are due for renewal as at 1 July, 2023 (excepting those new members who have joined recently). Membership fees remain unchanged.

When renewing your membership, please ensure that you use the updated 2023/24 Membership Form which you will find included in this issue of Fiat Focus, or on our website www.fiatclubnsw.com.au. **Please email the form to membership@fiatclubnsw.com.au, or mail to PO Box 3034, Bangor, NSW. 2234.** Payment is via EFT or cheque. We do not have credit card facilities for payment at this stage.

Kind regards

Cheryl Sandrin – Membership Registrar 2023



Fiat Nationals 2023

Friday October 27th to Sunday October 29th

The Sprint Friday 27th October

at the Broadford State Motorcycle Sport Complex

The Motorkhana Saturday 28th October

at Bendigo Saleyards

The Show n Shine Sunday 29th October

in the Bendigo CBD.

The Presentation Dinner Sunday night

is at the Bendigo Harness Racing Club.

Accommodation has been reserved for the Fiat Nationals 2023 at Bendigo All Seasons Resort Hotel.

To book and receive our special rates please use the code FIAT261023.

Booking are best made via the phone on (03) 5443 8165

Rooms have been reserved with book-in from 26/10/23 until check-out 30/10/23 however there are quite limited rooms available on the 26/10 due to prior bookings. This may not be a big issue as the Sprint on 27/10 is being held at Broadford and people may prefer to book a room in the Broadford area for the evening of 26/10 or for Victorian competitors may choose to drive to Broadford on the morning of 26/10 and then move to Bendigo for the rest of the event.

The room options reserved and prices are: (all prices based on 2 people per room)

Deluxe: 1 x Queen bed; \$180 for Sun – Thur bookings, \$195 for Fri – Sat bookings

Deluxe triple: 1 x Queen; 1 x single - \$200 for Sun – Thur, \$215 for Fri – Sat

Spa: 1 x King bed; \$214 for Sun – Thur, \$235 for Fri – Sat

Alternative accommodation nearby, can be found at the Golden Reef Motor Inn or BIG4 Bendigo Park Lane Holiday Park.



Repairer and Restorer of all Italian makes and models

Tel. (02) 9736 2612 Web: mastertouchautomotive.com.au

1-3 Chalder Street, Marrickville NSW 2204

TWO-PEDAL BAMBINO

Fiat's cunning little 850 gets even more she-appeal; automatic transmission, to take all the minestrone out of the supermarket autostrada. But will we ever see it here?

"ONE for the ladies" is the way Fiat touts its latest of many variations on a theme: in this case the semi-automatic, two-pedal 850 sedan called the Idromatic. In fact it is the Perodo system applied to a four-speed sedan (the Simca 1000 is a three-speed and less successful for that reason) of small dimensions. It is aimed at people who want a shiftless town car and sporting gearbox option in the same vehicle.

This isn't the smallest automatic on the market but it does score for being one of the easiest to use automatically without losing any of the pep from the comparative manual model — and I decline to enter into the argument as to which way our wives and inamoratas will drive it.

The basic layout consists of a hydraulic torque converter and hydraulic clutch, the normal four-speed 850 Fiat gearbox and an electro-hydraulic control unit keyed to that knob on the floor-shift wand. There is no clutch pedal. Grasping the shift knob disconnects engine from wheels, letting you proceed with the normal H-pattern shifts at will. On the other hand, you can start from rest in any gear. I moved off in top with three aboard and didn't hold up normal European traffic a bit. Rampaging taxis in lands with proper engine dimensions would probably trample you into the pavement, of course. Unlike US automatics and most British models there is no kickdown for overtaking nor any upshift through the gears.

If you put the lever into IV the torque converter feeds in power smoothly enough to start from rest in top without stalling the engine but it doesn't use any other ratio to help. You do all driving from rest



to flat out and back again in IV. The same is true of any speed and since the engine is typically Fiat in revving with a will it is wiser in town (assuming you want to stay in a single gear) to pick III for the job. This gives a little brisker take-off and plenty of top end for almost all city traffic.

The car will not creep at traffic lights in either III or IV which makes them good rush-hour gears but it will edge forward on its own in bottom. This extra foot-brake play merely underlines the use of all four speeds as a lark for the sports as Fiat sees it.

For these show-offs the box may be shifted like any manual Fiat with the exception of your idle left clog. You can even double-clutch in the best heel and toe manner by releasing the knob between taps of throttle, just as you would lift off the clutch pedal. There is a perceptible lag between gears — after you shove the lever home but this is more apparent than real since you would normally be taking up drive with the clutch there. The delay is split seconds at worst.

Fiat has, in fact, gotten the power loss through the converter down to a commendable minimum, but 40 SAE — 42 in the Super version, which is their export staple — horses just can't cut the mustard these days, in manual or automatic. They are musing over this signora cambio as an option for the 850 fastback coupe where it would benefit greatly from 52 SAE ponies.

Meanwhile you have to get into an Idromatic to tell the difference, apart from a small script on the tail. Most drivers would realise that they lacked a clutch pedal but other than that it is a pure 850 Fiat, to drive or to watch.—*Sloniger*. #



Only the small script on the back gives it away.

Normal Fiat 850—except that there's no clutch pedal.



WHEELS SPECIAL TEST



Fiat unveils world's cutest electric car, and kids can drive it.

The retro-styled Fiat Topolino has a claimed driving range of 75km on a single charge, a canvas 'open-top' roof – and ropes instead of doors.

By Rob Margeit drive.com.au

Italian car-maker Fiat has unveiled what is arguably the world's cutest electric vehicle.

Based on the French Citroen Ami – a stablemate under the auto giant Stellantis umbrella – the Fiat Topolino borrows styling elements from the modern-day Fiat 500, while its name is an homage to the original Fiat 500, nicknamed the Topolino (Italian for 'little mouse') produced between 1936 and 1955.

Inkeeping with the homage to the original, the Fiat Topolino has funky design elements such as a canvas top, no side windows and ropes in place of doors.

The Fiat Topolino is classified as a large quadricycle in Europe, which means it can't be registered for road use in Australia.

A quadricycle is essentially a four-wheeled vehicle with power outputs ranging from 4kW to 15kW, with a top speed limited to 45km/h.

The licencing requirements for Europe, where quadricycles remain a popular urban vehicle in towns and small villages, state they can be driven by anyone over the age of 16.

In France quadricycles are classified as 'vehicles without licence' meaning anyone over the age of 14 can drive one, providing they have completed an eight-hour driving course taken at an accredited driving school.

Fiat is yet to confirm technical details of what is only the second electric vehicle

in its range following the Fiat 500e which launched internationally last month.

If, as expected, the Fiat Topolino sits on the same platform as the Citroen Ami (below), expect a 6kW electric motor powered by

a 5.5kWh lithium-ion battery and a top speed of 45km/h. Maximum driving range on a single charge is listed at 75km, based on the World Motorcycle Test Cycle (WMTC) cycle.

Fiat teased a single photo of the Topolino which reveals little in the way of detail other than confirming it's a two-seater.

While Fiat is yet to reveal pricing overseas, the Citroen Ami – on which the Topolino is based – is currently priced at €8390 in France, or around \$AU13,777.

2023 Fiat 500e review: Quick drive

By Trent Nikolic drive.com.au

The small city car segment is the perfect platform for an electric vehicle, and in Italy, that segment is dominated by the Fiat 500 in internal combustion form. Following on from its initial launch in 2020, smack bang in the middle of the COVID pandemic, we sample Fiat's small EV ahead of its Australian launch.

It would seem to me, even in Australia, that the small, city car class is the segment that makes the most sense to the most buyers when it comes to electric vehicles. Certainly at the present

time when the charging infrastructure hasn't taken hold.

When your primary concern is city practicality, the fear of range anxiety, and issues associated with long-distance touring are replaced by how easy the car is to work your way around the city and park, how practical the interior space can be, and whether the powertrain is engaging on a day-to-day basis.

Fiat's 500e has been a subject of interest in Australia since its international launch three years ago – namely whether we'd be able to buy one in Australia. Fiat Australia has since confirmed range and pricing, and the chance to test one in the city in Italy sheds light on its practicality and usability. Pricing for the 500e La Prima will start from \$52,500 before on-road costs in Australia. Expect the drive-away price to sit in the \$55,000 region.

In Australia, we'll only get the regular hatch, but in Europe there's a cabriolet, as well as a clever three-door version with a small reverse-opening door behind the passenger-side front door that makes getting into and out of the back seat a lot easier.

Cute, retro styling that has undoubtedly nailed the brief, value for money and a fun driving experience are the hallmarks of the internal combustion Fiat 500. An integral part of the character of that 500 though, is the petrol engine, especially when driven through a manual gearbox. Rev happy, full of character, and efficient, it's been a success with devotees around the world. Now, 15 years after its initial launch, there's a new 500 on the block.

(continued next page ...)

2023 Fiat 500e review: Quick drive (continued from previous page).

The 500e swaps that petrol-powered personality for a 42kWh battery pack, single electric motor offering 87kW and 220Nm, and FWD. Typical of the Fiat 500 brief, the 0-100km/h run is less of a focus, with a time of 9.0 seconds. Fiat claims a range of 311km, and 85kW charging capability, meaning you'll be able to power from zero to 80 percent in approximately 35 minutes at the maximum rate.

We're testing on the streets of Torino the range-topping La Prima model, which is the variant we will get from launch in Australia. Standard equipment highlights include 17-inch alloy wheels, a 10.25-inch touchscreen with proprietary satellite navigation, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, panoramic glass sunroof, front and rear parking sensors, eco-leather seat trim and heated front seats. Extensive use of recycled sea plastic features throughout the cabin as well.

The 500's packaging has always been a marvel, squeezing as much usable space out of a tiny footprint as you're likely to achieve. The second row isn't ideal for tall adults on a daily basis, but works well for occasional ferrying. The storage on offer, is aided by the electric powertrain, with no gearbox to rob the cabin of front floor space. The wireless charging pad is cleverly positioned, the central console storage area is large, and there's room for medium-size bottles in the door pockets.

On test, we used the proprietary satellite navigation system and it worked accurately.

The 10.3-inch infotainment screen is placed well in the leading edge of the dashboard, and it's responsive to touch commands. We'll test more of the functionality at the local launch.

The driving experience is a good one. First up, as you'd be aware if you've driven

absorption. The 500e remained comfortable and quiet, no matter how nasty the road surface beneath us. The compact chassis wasn't easily unsettled either, staying composed right up to highway speed. We can confirm that the 500e easily sits at the 130km/h posted speed limit on Italian motorways, too, meaning it will tackle our 110km/h zones with ease.

A driving range around the 300km mark is useful for the average driver in Australia, meaning most of us will get to and from work for five days without needing to charge at all. One charge during the week would be enough to keep this city car running for most owners, if you did a bit more driving than the average.

While it's not silly fast, unlike some EV manufacturers, outright pace hasn't been a focus for Fiat in the development of the 500e. There will be an Abarth for that purpose. Still, the 500e feels punchy enough, both off the mark, and through the mid range, that you won't feel like you need more power. It's rapid enough off the line, to do exactly what the city-focused buyer will expect.

We'll spend more time measuring real world energy use once we drive the 500e locally to find out how close to that claimed range you're likely to get. After a brief taste in and around Torino though, it's easy to see why the 500e has gained the popularity it has in Europe since launch. It's not cheap in Europe either, so it's fair to say that price isn't leading the charge, rather the quality of the offering and the driving character have cemented it as an early EV favourite. Could Australia be next?



through old European cities, cobblestones, potholes and mismatched road surfaces feature prominently. As such, the suspension of any vehicle is well tested around town, let alone a reasonably heavy electric vehicle. The Fiat 500e, despite its diminutive stature, weighs in at nearly 1300kg. Not as heavy as some, but still heavy for a vehicle of this size.

However, despite the weight, we were impressed by the ride quality and bump



**Specialising in FIAT, Lancia, Niki, Alfa Romeo.
Maintenance, Repairs, Performance Enhancements.**

Road, Race & Rally. Since 1965

Phone : 02 4636 6477

Email : ross@fiatorque.com.au or

continental@fiatorque.com.au

135 Donalds Range Rd, Razorback NSW 2571

FOR SALE

2017 Abarth 124 Spider, Immaculate Condition. 1 lady owner. Silver in colour. Automatic. Only 19873 kms.

Visibility package, Paintwork ceramic coated, Custom exhaust. Car always garaged.

Comes with Euro + Drive Tuning system which holds the factory tune along with the performance tune. This car has won the last two Fiat Club of NSW Concorso D'Eleganza in the modern class category. (06/23)

Price \$40,000

Contact: Ronald Brown 0405 377464 or Sylvia Brown: 0422 317162



FOR SALE

Hi Everyone, Selling 124 Spider, offering here first before I put it on Carsales. Late 2017 build, 2018 registered.

Dark blue in colour (looks black at night), 24,500km, Manual, Optioned with visibility pack, Optioned with Alcantara Recaro seats. Raggazzon bi-modal exhaust (has a remote to make the exhaust loud or quiet).

Has been garaged it's entire life, mostly used as a weekend getaway car. Car presents well, has a few stone chips from highway drives. 2 wheels are marked. The roof mechanism is smooth and does not rub on the back of the seats.

Drives amazingly, full service history with a European specialist with timing belt and water pump changed last year (at 4 years). Number plates will be supplied with the car. (06/23)

Car is located in Kingscliff, NSW, about 15 mins from Gold Coast airport. \$41,000 ono

SMS and email offers will not be accepted without having viewed the car.

Contact **Iain Shannon** - +61 414 241 345



FOR SALE

Fiat 1800 twin cam engine. Looks to be complete but no carby. Probably needs a rebuild. \$300.00

WANTED

Lid/top cover for a "turtleback" twin carby air cleaner, as fitted to a 124 1608 BC motor. (03/23)

Contact **Glenn Miller**, mobile: 0401 656 059, email beta4@bigpond.com

Please direct all correspondence to:
THE FIAT CLUB OF NSW Inc.
PO Box 3034 Bangor NSW 2234 Australia

BANKING DETAILS:

Bank - National Australia Bank (NAB)
BSB 082-067, Account 03 665 7020

Historic Vehicle Registration Scheme

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

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.

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

members@fiatclubnsw.com.au

Sponsor Advertising with the FIAT Club

Package 1 @ \$100 a year

- Quarter page in FIAT Focus club magazine.
- Small logo on the FIAT Club website.
- Post about your business on the FIAT Club of NSW Facebook group 4 times a calendar year.
- You can also reply to comment suggesting to use your business if relevant .

Package 2 @ \$150 a year

- Half-page in FIAT Focus club magazine.
- Medium logo on the FIAT Club website.
- Post about your business on the FIAT Club of NSW Facebook group 8 times a calendar year.
- You can also reply to comment suggesting to use your business if relevant.

Package 3 @ \$200 a year

- Full page in FIAT Focus club magazine.
- Large logo on the FIAT Club website.
- Post about your business on the FIAT Club of NSW Facebook group 12 times a calendar year.
- You can also reply to comment suggesting to use your business if relevant.

Contact the editor to place your advertisement.

FIAT books available from the FIAT Club Library.

The FIAT Club of New South Wales LIBRARY has a range of FIAT and general interest themed motoring books, magazines and workshop manuals available to members to borrow. A list of publications is included on the Club's website at fiatclubnsw.com.au/Library . Contact the Club Librarian at editor@fiatclubnsw.com.au for details.





Facebook

You Tube Channel

Take a look at our new Youtube channel. Please subscribe to see more historical footage and events.

youtube.fiatclubnsw.com.au

FIAT Club of New South Wales Facebook:

facebook.FiatClubnsw.com.au

FIAT Club of New South Wales
Website:

www.fiatclubnsw.com.au

CLUB MERCHANDISE



Style 1



Style 3



Style 2



T-Shirt

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



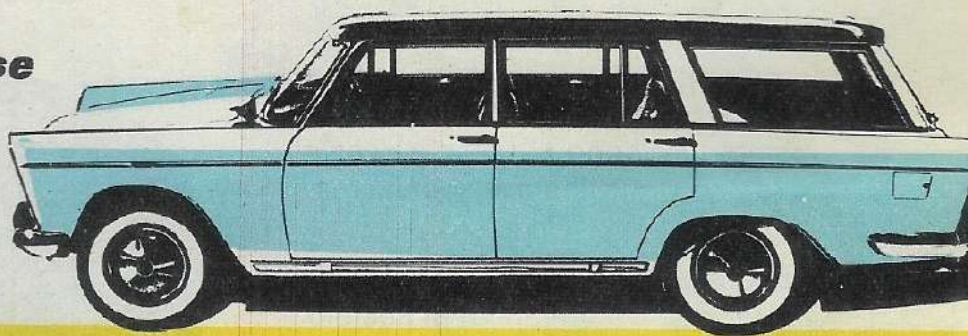
Sticker \$ 2.00

Sticker \$ 2.00





***grande spazio,
anche per attrezzi sportivi
o colli di merci,
in una vettura di classe***



FIAT 1800-2100

“FAMILIARE,, (STATION-WAGON)



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership year is now the Financial Year 01/07/2023 to 30/06/2024



Member Name:

M'Ship No:
(For renewals)

Home Address:		Suburb		
Street		State	Postcode	
		Country		
Phone		Mobile		
Member to Sign _____		DATE / /		
I accept of the Terms and Conditions of the Constitution of the Fiat Club of NSW Inc. <input type="checkbox"/>				
As displayed on the Club webpage www.fiatclubnsw.com.au or a copy available on request from the Membership Registrar.				
Are you an Office Bearer or Committee Member of another Motoring & Social Club ? Y <input type="checkbox"/> or N <input type="checkbox"/>				
Email Address (Please print clearly)		Club eGroup email updates and to receive the FIATFOCUS magazine via email Y <input type="checkbox"/> or N <input type="checkbox"/>		
Family Member Names (Family member includes dependents at home over 18)		Annual / Financial Year (12 months) July '2023 - June '2024	Half of Year Only (6 months) 01 Jan 2024 to 30 June 2024	
	Tick	Ind.	Family	
Full Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$60	\$80	
Joint / Family Member (Partner)	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10		\$30
Junior #1 12+	Age	\$10		\$5
Junior #1 12+	Age	-		\$5
Junior #1 12+	Age	-		-
			Sub-total	
			\$40	
			\$	
Total Payable				
Payment Details	Bank : EFT Date of Transfer / /	Bank: NAB BSB: 082-067 If Paying Via EFT Please You must sign and post or email this form to the M'Ship Registrar for your application to be accepted.	Account Number: 03 665 7020 Account Name: Fiat Club of NSW Reference: Surname + M'SHIP Number (if known)	
Members	Year	Model	Type	
Cars			Colour	
Car 1			Rego	
Car 2				
Car 3				

PLEASE - ALWAYS POST OR EMAIL THIS FORM SO WE CAN PROCESS YOUR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Email to: membership@fiatclubnsw.com.au