

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2009



www.fiat500enthusiasts.co.uk

ORGANISING TEAM

Chairman: Position vacant

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from the **EDITORIAL** desk (by Jan):

Grovel, grovel, grovel..... I am so sorry that there hasn't been a magazine for a while.

As some of you might know Jimmy hasn't been very well this summer, and we spent most of our time attending hospital appointments!!.

I did try to keep everyone up to date with events via emails, but unfortunately I don't have all of the members email addresses. If you don't receive emails from me, please could you contact me with your up to date address.

I know that some of you have managed not to get involved in this modern way of communication (good for you, I wish I never had) and in future, if I have problems again I will try to post event flyers to you.

Anyway, many apologies, and hopeful we are now back on track.

Well, it seems as if autumn is now with us, and with it, a winding down of events. Still a couple left for the year, Liesje has once again invited us to watch the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run from her house on the 1st November, and Luciano is hosting a Winter/Pre Christmas lunch at his restaurant on the 28th November. (For more details see Events page). I hope to see lots of you at each event – with or without your 500.

Jan Di Carlo



Deadline for next magazine: 20th each month.

Front cover:

Peter Dixon's other Fiat (Doblo) trying to swallow up his 695!!

Rear Cover:

How much horse power is needed for a Fiat 500?

EVENTS 2009/2010

NOVEMBER

**Sun 1ST Watch the LONDON to BRIGHTON VETERAN CAR RUN
from a members house near Burgess Hill**

From 10.00am onwards

A chance to watch the “Old Crocks Run” with other club members. Liesje & Graeme Sinclair have invited us to watch the famous run as it passes by their house, bring chairs (and perhaps blankets or rainwear!!!) and we can sit in their entrance.

If you come in a Fiat 500, we can line them up on the road outside, but if your car has now been put away for the winter, come anyway in your ordinary car..... we would love to see you. Bring a picnic and Liesje is offering cake/tea/coffee or even a bacon butty.

DIRECTIONS: Post Code: RH15 8RE

Coming from the A23 Brighton to Gatwick road, take the A272 towards Haywards Heath. After about 2 miles at a T junction (Ansty), turn right towards Burgess Hill, 1.6 miles down the road on the right is their house – Bridge Hall. It is just before the double roundabout. You will have passed the golf academy, or you can find the local amenity tip and the house is opposite the road to that.

Contact: Liesje, Tel: 01444 245975

Or

Jan, Tel: 01252 613335 (mobile) 07730 402202

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**Sat 28<sup>TH</sup> WINTER / PRE CHRISTMAS LUNCH  
Time: 12.30 for 1PM**

**LUCIANO of GUSTO's RESTAURANT, Liss, Hants GU33 7DP**

**INVITES YOU TO JOIN HIM AT:**

**THE FIAT 500 ENTHUSIASTS CLUB WINTER LUNCH.**

**This is the last event of the year, and we have made it at the end of November hoping that members are not already booked with Christmas events. Families welcome... a menu to suit everyone... very much a Fiat 500 themed event, if time we may have a few *500 party games!!***

**4 For more details see page 23 of the magazine.**

## JANUARY 2010

**Fri 1<sup>ST</sup>**

### New Year' Day – Meet

**Brooklands Museum, Brooklands Road, Weybridge, KT13 0QN  
From 11.00am**

A great occasion to blow away Christmas excesses and meet up in a relaxed informal atmosphere.

Every year Brooklands opens its doors to car club members, and this is a chance to see a range of classic/vintage and even veteran cars. Entrance for all pre 1973 cars via the Campbell Gate (for those of you who know Brooklands this is the old entrance that we always used to use).

Sunbeam Tea Rooms will be open for drinks or snack lunches.

## APRIL 2010

**Sun 11th Fiat 500 Get together & Technical day**

Put this date in your diary **NOW**, this is a must for all Fiat 500 owners.

Open to 500 owners and family and friends, we have a lot planned for the day.

## MAY 2010

**Sat 1st**

### Italian Car Day, Brooklands



- Fiat 500 spares (new / secondhand)
- Performance tuning & parts
- Engine & Gearbox rebuild
- All at super low prices
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**T/F: 01252-613335 · E: [italcorsa@googlemail.com](mailto:italcorsa@googlemail.com)**

## WOKING HOSPICE CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The hottest day of the year so far and the highest turnout of 500's at this annual event. Nine Fiat 500's and a Fiat 125 headed towards the grounds of the Dutch school in Woking, arriving around 11am. After lining up our colourful cars, and putting up gazebos' in a (failed in my case) attempt to stop going red with sunburn, it was time for a drink and to relax.



In total, well over 300 classic cars, vans, lorries and buses joined – ranging from one of Lewis Hamilton's McLaren Mercedes Formula One cars, a Citroen fire engine, three of Cobham Bus Museums buses, and the Morris 1100 owners club... oh, and presumably part of the same club - Morris dancers !



In the afternoon, other attractions included a miniature steam railway, book/jewellery (and more importantly cake !) stalls and for a brief period hovercraft rides – until a local neighbour complained about the noise and it was unfortunately stopped. On the positive side, we could hear ourselves talk again, as one end of its run was up against our pitch !



And then came the problem – a policewoman and policeman arrived to inspect the cars. After a worrying few seconds, it became clear the policewoman was actually a huge fan of the 500 – so much so that they spent half an hour chatting, checking the

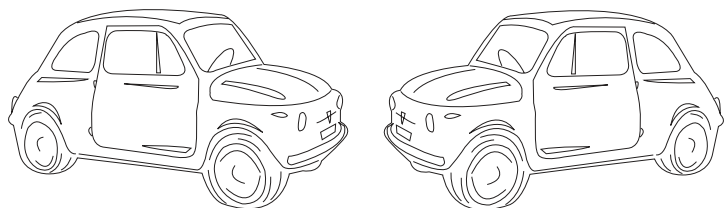
engine out (presumably to make sure the police car could compete in a chase !) and generally asking all the right questions a potential new owner would ask. A trip into the parade ring as passenger was swiftly organised, accompanied by the music of the Surrey Pipe Band. The ride seemed to go down very well - hopefully a new member !



The organisers are always very friendly to us and allowed one of our cars into the arena to join the parade.

At around 5pm it was time to take the cars off... to a local pub for a quick drink and meal – the perfect way to end a great day.

Apart from the usual great time we have at shows, this one raised approximately £20,000 for the Woking Hospice, so a good cause and worthwhile day all round.





# FIAT 500 ROAD TEST PORTFOLIO 1936-1972

Further to my list of books on the subject of Fiat 500's in last month's Newsletter. There is now a new book on the market published by Brooklands Books.

It is jam packed full of copies of road tests and reports/articles that were printed in the motoring press between the years of 1957 and 1977. For those who are also interested in the original Fiat 500 (or should I say Topolino) there are also a few articles written pre-war. And to bring the book up to date from the original publication called the Gold Portfolio, there are a couple of articles from modern magazines such as Practical and Popular Classics printed in the late 1980's early 1990's.

Most of the technical books around are either in Italian or badly translated into English, so this book is quite valuable giving the reader lots of technical specifications, comparisons etc.

There are explanations of the differences in the different models. Altogether a handy reference book. I personally have used it's predecessor – The Gold Portfolio – when trying to describe wheels that were fitted as standard to Abarths etc.

With Christmas coming up, perhaps a good present for the Fiat 500 enthusiast in the family!!!!

The retail price for the book is £19.95, but it is being offered to our members at £15.95 providing you:

1. Identify yourself as club members when placing a phone order
2. With fax orders quote the reference: **F500E**
3. With web orders quote **F500E** in the Coupon Code Box – then press recalculate

Contact details are:

Brooklands Books Ltd. PO Box 146, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 1LG  
Phone: 01932 865051 Fax: 01932 868803  
E-mail: sales@brooklands-books.com

# FIAT 500

## 1936-1972



**Topolino . 500 . 500B . 500C . 500D  
500F . Gardiniera . Convertible  
Radford 625cc . Abarth 595**

*A Brooklands Road Test Portfolio*

# FIAT 500

## 1936 - 1972



*This portfolio of international articles traces the history of the iconic Fiat 500s over 36 years. Some 5 million were produced and included here are stories on the original Topolino, 500, B, C, D, F, Belvedere, saloon, coupe, Nuova convertible, Giardiniera, Jolly plus the Radford and Abarth 595 specials. Included are road tests and articles on racing, rallying, tuning and advice on acquiring a good used 500.*

*A total of 176 fully illustrated pages*

**Brooklands  
Books**

**A Brooklands 'Road Test' book**  
**[www.brooklands-books.com](http://www.brooklands-books.com)**  
Published under license by  
**[www.velocepress.com](http://www.velocepress.com)**

ISBN 978-1-855-20856-8



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## HASLEMERE CLASSIC CAR RUN & VILLAGE FETE – MAY 2009

Being a Bank Holiday Monday, unfortunately other club members were busy this day, so only John Jenkins joined Jimmy and me for the first part of this days' event. Later in the day when we met up with other members and told them what fun we had had, they were devastated that they hadn't changed their plans and *got up earlier!!*

The event was part of the Haslemere Festival and this year they had invited classic car owners from Haslemere's twin town in France – Bernay – to join them.

Starting at 10am – a very reasonable time, which meant we didn't have to leave home until just after 9am – we all met it in a local car park. Here was a chance to have a coffee, meet up with local friends and admire the classic cars from '*over the water*'. At this point I realised that I had left my camera at home, so couldn't take any photos!! – Typical.

Soon after our arrival, John joined us, and as usual we parked together, so that people could admire our cars!!!.... Well that was what they had all come for, wasn't it!

Signing-on, we received our route instructions, and I realised that we were heading for Goodwood – a favourite destination of mine.

Oh, when will I learn, or rather, when will I remember, when taking part in a rally in the UK, I need to take with me a calculator..... the route books are always in miles, and our speedo is in kilometres!!!

I suggested to John that he should lead, but he pointed out that he was on his own and it would be hard to drive and navigate at the same time... it was going to be a bit like *the blind leading the blind!!*



We decided to *cheat* rather, and when we were ready to leave, we hung around until a group of other cars left.... And followed them!!!

Jane and James – the organisers – had planned a lovely route, through country lanes and after an hour or so's driving we reached Goodwood. There was a track day in progress as we were able to get a coffee and watch the cars race round the track.

After a while we were thinking of leaving, in order to get back to Haslemere in time for the afternoon show, when we were asked to wait a while, as there might be a chance to do a convoy drive round the track – the ultimate for all classic car lovers/boy racers!!!

Yes. We were allowed on the track. With a pace car in front, it started out at a sedate drive, but on the second lap the pace hotted up, and soon Jimmy was showing me the *racing line* on each corner. For those who don't know, in the 70's, 80's and early 90's Jimmy competed in and won many Sprint and Hill climb championships, and Goodwood was a popular venue of the period.



A different route back to Haslemere proved quite testing for John's little car. Unlike our Bugs'y, John has a standard engine, and I think the route took in every steep hill in the area!!!! One minute he was behind us, then I was having to tell Jimmy to slow down as we were coming up to a junction and John was no where to be seen. One enjoyable moment was in South Harting, since Jane had planned to route, the village has decided to close off the main street for its own village fete. Diversion signs were in place, but still some drivers managed to get lost and at one junction, there seemed to be classic cars coming from a 4 directions. (Luckily, we know the village we have a friend and Fiat 500 owner who lives there so know the area well and found our way round with no trouble). **13**

Back in Haslemere we parked up in the designated area, and were able to wander around the show, and again look at the mixture of different classic cars.

Here we were joined by Steven Abbott and family, who had driven over from Woking – not in a 500, as the whole family won't fit in the car - and by Bill Marks and son who lived nearby and brought out their cream 500 to its first club event. We were also joined by Bill's friend James, who is looking to buy a 500 – have you got one yet?

My thanks go to Jane & James, for all the hard work I know they must have put in to organise the run. There is some talk about doing another one next year, I can't wait to find out where they will take us to then!!

### Jan Di Carlo



# THOSE WERE THE DAYS!!

Whilst looking for a Fiat 850 handbook so that I could look up the tappet adjustments, I found service record handbook for a 1969 Fiat 500. At those prices we could all afford to service our cars more often!!!

| <b>CURRENT RECOMMENDED LABOUR CHARGES</b> |         |          |          |          |         |          |         |          |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Model                                     | 6,000   | 12,000   | 18,000   | 24,000   | 30,000  | 36,000   | 42,000  | 48,000   |
| 500<br>500 Gia. }                         | £4-10-0 | £8-10-0  | £9-12-6  | £8-10-0  | £4-10-0 | £13-12-6 | £4-10-0 | £8-10-0  |
| 600D<br>600D M }                          | £5-7-6  | £10-12-6 | £10-2-6  | £10-12-6 | £5-7-6  | £15-7-6  | £5-7-6  | £10-12-6 |
| 850                                       | £5-10-0 | £10-5-0  | £9-17-6  | £10-5-0  | £5-10-0 | £14-12-6 | £5-10-0 | £10-5-0  |
| 1100R                                     | £5-8-9  | £7-19-3  | £10-7-6  | £7-19-3  | £5-8-9  | £13-7-6  | £5-8-9  | £7-19-3  |
| 124                                       | £5-0-0  | £7-10-0  | £9-6-3   | £7-10-0  | £5-0-0  | £12-6-3  | £5-0-0  | £7-10-0  |
| 125<br>124S Coupe }                       | £5-15-0 | £10-5-0  | £10-0-0  | £10-15-0 | £5-15-0 | £13-10-0 | £5-15-0 | £10-15-0 |
| 1500                                      | £5-17-6 | £11-5-0  | £10-3-9  | £11-5-0  | £5-17-6 | £16-6-3  | £5-17-6 | £11-5-0  |
| 18 2300                                   | £6-7-6  | £11-12-6 | £10-18-9 | £11-12-6 | £6-7-6  | £17-16-3 | £6-7-6  | £11-12-6 |
| 2300S Coupe                               | £6-7-6  | £12-12-6 | £10-18-9 | £12-12-6 | £6-7-6  | £18-11-3 | £6-7-6  | £12-12-6 |

J.K.CO.7-69 5M

MATERIALS AND SUNDRIES EXTRA

James Di Carlo

# BROADLANDS PAGENT OF MOTORING.

## 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2009

The Broadlands event was over 2 days and as we were booked in for the Bank Holiday Monday, I decided (as it's only a few miles from home) that I would go along on the Sunday as a 'spectator'.

Fortunately I drove there in my camper van, and so when the grey skies turned WET I retired to the car park, put the kettle on and watched the Grand Prix from Spa Belgium, on the television.

A Ferrari finished first (and last!!!), so it was a day of ups and downs.

Monday at 8.00am, as I began erecting the gazebo, started misty but promising and just as I laid out the poles the required 23 volunteers 2 arrived with perfect timing, Tony & Hilary (+ support car driver whose name I missed .. sorry)

When the Brucculeri family arrived shortly after with their 2 fabulous cars I was sure we were in for a good day, but things became even better as I saw a Giardiniera approaching and crossed fingers that it would be stopping at our stand.

It was, and a car with a great family history at that!!

Briefly: Brought by Dad, saw daughters through university and having rested in the garage for a while was now to be enjoyed by 3 generations of the Boswell family, who arrived throughout the day in support along with Otis – the puppy, who was in training as a guide dog for the blind. RUL 777E could probably tell a few stories, and now that it has attended its first club event, lets hope Gillian will spill a few beans for us!





Oh Yes !! Coming over the horizon was a beautiful Gamine driven from Winchester by Angela and her grandchild, her daughter and grandchild no 2 arrived shortly after from the public car park, this was becoming a true family event.

By chance “Pole Position” below the club banner was vacant and the obvious spot for such a rare and lovely car.

The stand now looked great and as though we had planned it this way all along; my original plan of ‘Italian Style’ parking, i.e. random, one wheel over the pavement, leave it where it stopped!!!! Was thankfully long forgotten.



Toto & Dominic with Angela’s Gamine

The many stalls, motor bike stunt show, parachutists etc kept us entertained, although the fly by of the Spitfire, Hurricane & Dakota, was cancelled due to the earlier foggy weather.

We all appeared to have a great day, rounded off with free ice creams from a local radio station stall.

Only a 5 minute drive home for me, but very many thanks to everyone for braving the holiday traffic, I know of an Italian ice cream Parlour nearby that is highly recommended so next year maybe a 2 day event and a Tour of the New Forest?

P.S: Message to Jan & Jimmy -

“Yes we made it without problems” Angela.

She broke a driveshaft on arrival last year, and was transported home on a very large vehicle.

P.P.S: All the youngsters behaved so well including 'Otis', that I almost forgot they were there, Well Done, - Real cars beat Playstation anyway!!!

**Visitor List**

John Jenkins                      Fiat 500F - Olympic Blue

Gillian Boswell                  Giardiniera – Ash Blue

Janice Boswell

Eric Boswell

David Lunn

Jessica Lunn & 'Otis' the dog



Gillian with 'Aida' the Giardiniera

Angela Westall                  Gamine – red

Daughter & 2 grandchildren

Chet Brucculeri                  Fiat 500F – Bubble Gun Pink

Bianca Brucculeri

Toto Brucculeri                  Fiat 500 D – Olivia Beige

Dominic Brucculeri

Tony Crollie                      Fiat 500L – Positano Yellow

Hilary Crollie

(+ friendly support driver)

**Caption competition:**



Fiat 500 Bulldozer.

Send your caption to: Jan Di Carlo.  
11 Fairmile, Fleet, GU52 7UT  
or: [italcorsa@googlemail.com](mailto:italcorsa@googlemail.com)

## FOR SALE

Genuine Fiat 500 Abarth 595. White, LHD. Tax Exempt.  
A rare opportunity to buy a genuine Abarth



The car comes with all the authentication papers issued by the Fiat 500 Club Italia,

Loads of history, the car was raced in Italy in the '60's and 70's and recently competed in the Vernasca Silver Flag Hill Climb, Italy.

The car is for sale with a trailer for only £11,500  
For more details contact: Jim Schofield. Tel: 0789 4618249  
email: jim.schofield@integral.co.uk

### CAPTION COMPETITION NEWSLETTER JUNE 2009

The winning caption was sent in by Bernard Shaw

*“Allo,allo, allo!..... engine in the boot.....  
You're nicked mate!”*

## AMBERLEY MICRO-CAR MEET 2009.



“Well, if you are going to arrive at an event, you might as well arrive in style”.

This is what Vincenzo thought as he was pushed in the entrance of Amberley by other Fiat 500 enthusiasts! His car had behaved perfectly all the way until he stopped in the public car park to collect his grandson from their *support* car, but then it wouldn't restart!!

This is the sort of thing all Fiat 500 owners love, most of them have been in a similar situation at some point, so on hearing of Vincenzo's problem, they all rushed off to help.

A condenser later, and the car was running fine!!!!

Not only were there 8 members with their cars, Chet and Toto in their bright pink & cream cars, John in his bright blue 500, Steven in his 500 D, I think this is the first event he has managed without a breakdown (perhaps I shouldn't have said that, but I did have my fingers crossed as I wrote it!!). Vittorio and Jenny in their little red “Ferrari”!!, Vincenzo in his mis-behaving 500, Tracey & Kevin and the twins in their Positano 500, I gather this was its first outing for some time, and we were of course in Bugs'y.

Also joining us, but without their cars were Tony & Hilary, Rob Robinson from *somewhere up north*, I always forget where you live Rob, but know it was a long way

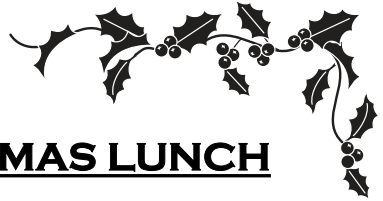
to come for a club event.. Well done. And last but not least Mark, Karen & Willam, who thought the Sinclair C5's were wonderful.



The usual line up of cars, all different colours,  
(although as this picture is in black and white you can't appreciate this!!)



Chet & Toto, brought a water melon for us all to share,  
greatly appreciated as it was quite a warm day.



## **WINTER / PRE CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

### **INVITATION**

**LUCIANO OF GUSTO'S RESTAURANT  
IN LISS, HAMPSHIRE, GU33 7DP**

**INVITES YOU TO JOIN HIM AT:**

**THE FIAT 500 ENTHUSIASTS CLUB  
WINTER LUNCH**

**ON:  
SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009**

**TIME:  
12.30 FOR 1PM**

**MENU:  
3 COURSE LUNCH - £13.00 PER HEAD**

**PRIMO:  
OLIVES & CRUSTY BREAD AND A GLASS OF PROSECCO**

**SECONDO:  
CHOICE OF PIZZA FROM THE MENU  
OR  
VEGETARIAN OPTION**

**DESSERT:  
TRADITIONAL PANETTONE  
OR  
CHRISTMAS PUDDING ICE CREAM  
\*\*\*\***

**COFFEE**

**COME IN YOUR FIAT 500 AND RECEIVE A SMALL GIFT FROM  
THE RESTAURANT.**

**For more details, or to book your place:  
Contact: Jan or James, Tel: 01252 613335 or 07730 402202 [italcorsa@googlemail.com](mailto:italcorsa@googlemail.com)**



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