

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2010



www.fiat500enthusiasts.co.uk

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Chairman: Position vacant

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HELP PLEASE

We need to have the club AGM somewhere in March 2010

We are looking for a venue

Can anyone suggest somewhere ! ! ! !

Please contact: Jan Tel: 01252 613335

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

Well another year is over, is it just me getting older, or are the years going past faster!!!

Looking back over the year, I seem to have missed out on reporting of some of the events that we – or other members – took part in. In this magazine, you will find I have tried to cover some of these events so you can see what you have missed!!!

On the subject of events, the committee and I have worked hard to offer you a varied selection of things to do for 2010. But please keep an eye on the events pages in the upcoming Magazines and Newsletters throughout the year as we expect to slot in a few other shows/ trips etc. Also if anyone knows of any event near them (or further a field for that matter), that they think anyone else might be interested in, please let me know. I will of course keep e-mailing you with events updates.

Please watch out for our main events of the year, The Technical Day in April, a Club run in July and a Weekend away to the Isle of Wight in September. More details on the events pages.

One of our members, Eric Boswell has given me copies of the paperwork he had when he bought his Giardiniera new..... in 1967, I found it fascinating, turn to page 7 and you will see the price of the cars new in those days!!!

Meanwhile, Happy New Year, and we hope to see lots of you out in your cars when the weather gets better.

Jan Di Carlo



Deadline for next magazine: 20th each month.

**Front cover:
Eric Boswell's beautiful Giardiniera**

**Rear Cover:
Paint colour codes**

EVENTS 2009/2010

For more details of any events, directions, Entry forms etc. Contact:
Jan or James, Tel: 01252 613335 or 07730 402202 italcorsa@googlemail.com

MARCH

**Sun 7th Goodwood Breakfast Meet – Tax-Free Sunday - Then Lunch
Goodwood Motor Race Circuit, Goodwood, PO18 0PN
From 8am ‘til lunch time**

For those who have not been to the Goodwood Breakfast meet before, it is an informal meeting mainly of classic cars or cars suitable to the theme. There is no entry charge and you can either have breakfast or not. On offer (at a charge) is either a “Full English”, bacon bun or just tea and coffee.

We usually arrive about 9am and have a bun with a coffee, then go off to great local pub just outside Midhurst for lunch.

Perhaps you don’t want to get up early, but would like to meet us for lunch... well that will be great. I just need to know numbers to book a table for lunch. If your 500 is still snug in its garage, come anyway, there is always lots to look at.

Date tba Club AGM and Evening Meet

APRIL

**Sat 3rd Horsham Piazza- Italia 2010
Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1RL**

A great outing for the bank holiday. Horsham Town Centre plays host to Italian cars and also has an Italian food market.

Last year the organisers made a big thing of the Ferrari’s & Lamborghini’s, let’s show them that the 500’s are just as popular!

Please phone me if you can make this event as I would like to tell the organisers numbers, but, as usual, if you find you can make it at the last minute, we won’t say no if you just turn up.

**Sun 11th Fiat 500 Get together & Technical day
Manor House, Buriton, Hants, GU31 5RT**

***** THIS IS OUR BIG EVENT FOR THE YEAR *****

**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 lots planned for the day.**

Starting with a short convoy drive around the area, we will arrive at Buriton in time for lunch. After lunch a short technical talk followed by

‘Question & Answers’ our technical advisor will then be on hand to check cars over and offer advice. The day will end with ‘Fiat 500 themed games’ !!!

Spare parts will be available to purchase.

MAY

Sat 1st **Auto Italia, Italian Car Day – Brooklands**
Brooklands Museum, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 0QN
8.30am – 17.00hrs
Get there early and stay late (it is that sort of event!!)

Our usual “must attend” event. This annual feast of Italian machinery is well known for its display of rare and interesting Italian cars, motorbikes and of course Fiat 500’s. There will be plenty to see and hear on the infamous Test Hill where specially selected cars will delight the spectators on the day.

Entrance for classic cars is through the Campbell gate. £10. per adult. As you come through the entrance, the marshals will direct you to our club area.

Fri 21st May **Discover Italy in 500**
- 15th June **Starting in the UK, we will spend the next three weeks**
touring around Italy.

The route will take us from Garlenda – the home of the Fiat 500 Club Italia - across to Sardinia, then onto Sicily and all the way back up Italy, calling into Garlenda again before heading home to the UK. More details on page 11 of this magazine. Anyone wanting to join us for, a day, a few days, to wave us good-bye, or even for the whole trip!., will be welcome..... start preparing your car now!!!

JUNE

Sun 6th **Woking Hospice Classic Car show & Fayre**
Prins Willem Alexander School Playing Field.
B382 Old Woking Road. Maybury, Woking, Surrey
12.00 to 5.00pm

Another of our regular, and very popular events, besides the cars there are lots of traditional country fayre stalls, plenty for the kids as well as adults.

We need to get our entries in by the 1st May at the latest, so if you are interested in attending, please contact me for an entry form or download one via their website www.wshospices.co.uk. Admission charge £5 towards the hospice funds.

Sun 13th **Bromley Pageant of Motoring**
Norman Park, Bromley, Kent

We have a small stand booked for 3 cars, so any one wanting to show their car, Please contact me.

Sun 27th **Goodwood Breakfast Meet – Soft Top Sunday - Then Lunch**
Goodwood Motor Race Circuit, Goodwood, PO18 0PN
From 8am ‘til lunch time

JULY

Date tba **Classic Motoring Extravaganza 2010**
Breamore House. Breamore, Nr Fordingbridge
10.00am ‘til 5.00pm

Date tba Club Run and Visit to National Trust House

AUGUST

**Date tba Amberley Classic Microcar Show
Amberley, West Sussex. BN18 9LT**

**Date tba Hampshire Pageant of Motoring
Broadlands, Romsey, Hants**

SEPTEMBER

Date tba Italian Car Day & Picnic.

**Sat 18th/
Sun 19th Isle-of-Wight Car Shows**

After a few years absence we have been invited to join this event again. A fun weekend away and the crossing on the ferry makes it feel like a 'proper holiday'. We can travel out either on the Friday or early Saturday, returning Sunday night or any day the following week (except for Monday) The ferry is free to all those showing their cars, and the organisers are just asking a nominal entrance fee (to cover expenses). Limited spaces available, if you are interested please contact me ASAP to book your space.



- **Fiat 500 spares (new / secondhand)**
- **Performance tuning & parts**
- **Engine & Gearbox rebuild**
- **All at super low prices**
- **DISCOUNTS TO CLUB MEMBERS**



T/F: 01252-613335 • E: italcorsa@googlemail.com

RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICES

1st May 1966

FIAT

Fiat (England) Limited

HEAD OFFICE

Northdale House
North Circular Road
London N.W. 10
Telephone: ELGar 1951 (10 lines)

SERVICE & SPARES

Water Road, Wembley
Middlesex
Telephone: ELG 1951 (10 lines)

dealer's name and address

Standard equipment

Model	Basic price	Purchase tax	Total	Standard equipment													
				overriders	armrests	individual reclining front seats	rear window dimister heater/demister	parcel shelf	headlamp flashers	windscreen washers	bonnet/boot light	reversing light	cigar lighter	steering column lock	dipping mirror		
	£	£	£														
500	Blanchina van	380		380. 0. 0													
	Sunroof saloon	338	71.19. 7	409.19. 7													
	Giardiniera station wagon	411	87. 3. 9	498. 3. 9													
600D	Saloon	400	84.17.11	484.17.11													
	Convertible saloon	436.10. 0	92.10. 0	529. 0. 0													
	Multipia 4/5 seater	551	116. 7. 1	667. 7. 1													
	Multipia 6 seater	560	118. 4. 7	678. 4. 7													
850S	Saloon	453.10. 0	96. 0.10	549.10.10													
	Coupe	702	147.16. 3	849.16. 3													
	Spider (L.H.D. only)	826	173.12.11	999.12.11													
1300	Saloon	685	144. 5. 5	829. 5. 5													
	Station wagon	870	182.16. 3	1052.16. 3													
1500	Saloon	743.10. 0	156. 9. 2	899.19. 2													
	Station wagon	890	186.19. 7	1075.19. 7													
	Cabriolet (L.H.D. only)	1100	230.14. 7	1330.14. 7													
1500L	Saloon	826	173.12.11	999.12.11													
1800B	Saloon	984	206.11. 3	1190.11. 3													
	Station wagon	1134	237.16. 3	1371.16. 3													
2300	Saloon	1100	230.14. 7	1330.14. 7													
	Station wagon	1180	247. 7.11	1427. 7.11													
	Coupé	2230	466. 2.11	2696. 2.11													
2300S	Coupé	2300	480.14. 7	2780.14. 7													

Optional extras including p.t.

600D	Reclining front seats	£4.16.8	1500 Cabriolet	Metal hardtop	£116.17.6
850S	Reclining front seats	£6.0.10	2300	Laycock de Normanville overdrive	£72.10.0
			2300	Power steering	£96.13.4
1300	Steering column lock	£4.16.8	2300 Saloon	Automatic gear box	£102.14.2
1300/1500	Sliding metal sunroof	£30.4.2	2300 Coupés	Electric window winders	£54.7.6

ITALIAN CAR DAY IN KENT

SEPTEMBER 2009

After the appalling day last year when it rained (and I mean RAINED) all day, this year's Italian car day at Sheridan and Angela's farm in Honnington, Kent, was far better and 6 Fiat 500 were in attendance.



Sheridan wrote:

"I have also attached some pictures of the Italian Car Day. Sorry about the new 500 in the middle. A girl was desperate to show her car and parked it right in the middle and then went away for the day.

It was a very good day. The sun almost shined, we had over 50 cars + 1 Bike and raised £450.00 for the Kent Air Ambulance. It was wonderful of John to come all the way from the coast.

We are just starting to organise next year's event, but will talk to you about that another day."



The event was so popular that the insurance company, Adrian Flux had a write up about it in their magazine. For those of you who are insured with this company, you will have seen this before, but for those who are not I thought one or two of their quotes were quite amusing:

The article was entitled:
An Italian Obsession in The Garden Of England.

When asked: “What is it that makes Italian cars so special”

Some replies were:

“People just like 500s. We drove down to Italy for the 500 anniversary – everyone was smiling & waving”

Sheridan

“I like Italian cars because they keep you on the edge... there’s always the risk that they might breakdown”

John Day

“I’m from Sicily, I’m not patriotic but everything Italian is beautiful”

Ignazio Maniscalchi

“I like the fact that Italian designers break the rules, like Alfa Romeo choosing to put the registration plate to the left and not central”

John Jenkins

“My wife had a Fiat Uno as her first car, she used to pick me up, but there was nowhere to sit because the dogs had eaten the seats”

Stuart Palmer

“Italian cars have soul... but the Zagato is not the car for an old man with a bad back”

David Muriel.

FIAT 500 ROAD TEST PORTFOLIO 1936-1972

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.

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

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

Costruttore di particolari meccanici motoristici e di trasmissioni per vetture da competizione, storiche e stradali



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TROFEO ITALIANO VELOCITA' STORICHE IN PISTA

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KIT PULEGGE

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DISCOVER ITALY IN 500

In the year 2000 Jan and I, together with our Fiat 500 'Bugs'y', drove round Europe, covering 10 countries and 11500 km in 28 days.

That seems ages ago!!, so in 2010 we have decided to attempt another feat and prove that once again the Fiat 500 is not just a classic car only to be used on short drives and on dry days.

This time we are planning to see more of Italy. And to prove, once again to the Italians that the English are Mad!!

We had toyed with the idea of using a 500 Giardiniera, after all a trip such as this, taking almost 3 weeks, we will need lots of space for luggage, spare parts etc... and not forgetting that Jan will need to take the kitchen sink!!!.... Well at least 8 books!!. But then we decided that the more space we had, the more weight, and of course we couldn't do the trip without our faithful Bugs'y, who served us so well 10 years ago. And who we have just realised will celebrate its 40th birthday this year

So this winter my job will be; Strip the car down, check all mechanicals – mend and renew where necessary & hopefully a re-spray. Jan's will be:..... trying to work out how to get the kitchen sink on the back seat Sorry Jan !!!

Our trip will begin on the **Friday 21st May 2010**, leaving the UK for a quick drive through France arriving in Italy on **Sunday 23rd**. Here we hope to join a Fiat 500 Raduno (meeting) as a send off for the trip.

Over the next **20 days**:

We will take a ferry from **Genova to Sardinia**, here we will spend a few days enjoying the island and taking part in a raduno near **Cagliari on Friday & Saturday 28th & 29th May**.

Then take the ferry to **Sicily** where we again hope to meet other cinquecentisti and experience all that the island has to offer.

From there we will travel to the main land and drive up the length of Italy visiting such places as the **Amalfi Coast, Roma and the Vatican, Pisa** and if time permits, across to **Venice**, before returning to **Garlenda (the home of the Fiat 500 club Italia)** to tell everyone about our trip.

We will be contacting all the Fiduciari (Fiat 500 club Italia's area organisers) on our route, hoping to meet as many as possible, together with their local cinquecentisti and perhaps take part in a Raduno (meeting) or two.

The exact itinerary is still in the planning stage and will be published in the next magazine, but if anyone is interested in joining us for the whole trip, parts of the trip or just for one day as we pass through their area, please contact us.

We would also welcome any suggestions as to what we could visit on the trip.

James Di Carlo.

**WINTER / PRE CHRISTMAS LUNCH
AT
GUSTO's RESTAURANT
SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2009**

The last event of 2009 was billed as a Pre-Christmas Lunch – or any excuse for good food and drink! 22 members of the club gathered at Gusto's restaurant in Liss, having been invited by Luciano and his staff for a traditional Italian lunch. At least four 500's brought their owners along which, given the weather and darkness falling early in the evenings, was a good turnout



We started with Italian olives, bread, pepperoni and meats, and made our way through salads, pizzas and pastas, finishing off with Traditional Panettone cake, 'Christmas pudding Ice Cream'. & Italian coffee. An excellent meal!

At the end of the lunch, we ran a hastily organized raffle, supporting our charity for 2010 – the Woking Hospice (who organize the Woking Classic Car Show in May). With all sorts bottles and 500 related prizes, I think we all won at least one prize – and more importantly raised £60 for the hospice. Details on how we hope to help the Hospice on page 14.

It was great to see old Fiat friends and to meet new members, and look forward to the first event of 2010 – the New Years Day hangover cure at Brooklands from 10am.

Thanks must go to our host – Luciano and his excellent team who kept us fed and watered, and to Jan and Jimmy for donating the raffle prizes and organizing the event.

Steven Abbott

One amusing incident happened before most members arrived. Jimmy and I got to the restaurant early, to set things up, this we had to do round members of the public who were enjoying a quiet cup of coffee or a snack!!!. As we were hanging the club banner outside, Vittorio and Jenny arrived on foot.... Their 500 had broken down a little way down the road. Jenny stayed to help me and the boys went off to see what needed to be done to repair it.

Next thing I saw was the traffic was at a standstill and Jimmy was pushing the car past the restaurant whilst Vittorio steered and waved to all the passers by!! - Soon Jimmy came in and asked me if I had a coil for the car.... ME.... All dressed up for lunch Did I have a coil about my person!!!.... Actually I did have one in the car... but that is another story and one that Kay loves telling!! - But to get back to what I was saying.

By this time other members were beginning to arrive and it was getting slightly chaotic in the restaurant, so when the last members of the public left, I felt I had to apologize for disturbing their peaceful coffee. One lady said, that she had loved it, it had been so entertaining, especially the little car being pushed by the window!!!

Jan



Following news from Woking Hospice, who arrange our summer classic car show, that donations have dried up during the recession, we have decided to 'adopt' and support a charity each year. During each summer, we will ask members to choose a charity for the following year, but to kick-start the idea our charity for 2010 is Woking Hospice. We have no idea of the amount we can raise – could it be the price of a 500 in the 1960's (£399)... or the price of a classic 500 in 2010! (£3000-£5000) We're also after your ideas please. We have decided to create an event especially - a sponsored drive (how many of our friends and family laugh at our cars, their tiny engines and the times spent broken down... so how about sponsoring us per mile !) And even better - some employers now offer to 'match' fundraising. We have other ideas - a donation bucket for spectators at each of the shows we attend, and we are looking at collecting 500-related items and holding a raffle at the end of the year. We have already raised £60 by an impromptu raffle at the club Christmas Lunch on 28th November.

More details will follow in the next magazine. Please send any ideas to Steven Abbott (steven_abbott@ntlworld.com).

Below are details of the Woking Hospice charity and summer classic car show.

In 2009, we had our largest turnout of 500's for this show - nine 500's and a Fiat 125. We had a lovely, relaxed day with many other classic car clubs, with 300 cars entering and raising £20,000 for the hospice funds.

But... The hospice services are provided free of charge with the majority of funding coming from donations, fundraising activities and retail shops. The running costs are over £2.2 million per year (over £6,000 per day), with minimal contribution from the NHS – and the recession has hit hard. Donations are down, but costs of medicines up. Cutbacks have had to be made and the hospice has had to temporarily close the day care facility, which offers care to 15 people each day. An emergency appeal has been launched by the hospice to continue the difficult work they do.

If you wish to donate directly, rather than waiting for a show, that would also be fantastic. The easiest method is to send a cheque, payable to 'Woking Hospice': Woking Hospice, Hill View Road, Woking, Surrey. GU22 7HW. Please let them know you are part of the Fiat 500 Enthusiasts Club, and they will keep us updated with a running total.

More information is attached, and the website address is here:

www.wsbhospices.co.uk



Mr Steven Abbott
Fiat 500 Enthusiasts Club
33 Sandy Lane
WOKING
Surrey
GU22 8RA

21st December 2009

Dear Steven

On behalf of everyone at Woking Hospice I would like to thank you and the members of the Fiat 500 Enthusiasts Club for your kind donation of £60.00 in response to our **Emergency Appeal**, raised from an impromptu raffle.

Suspending our Day Care services has been very difficult for patients and their families and we are hoping this will be a temporary situation.

We need to raise additional funds of £300,000 by the end of December 2009, and then a further £900,000 for Woking Hospice during 2010. The additional funds raised by our Emergency Appeal will avoid any further cuts to services and ensure the future of our Hospice.

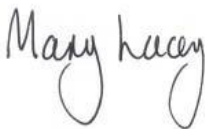
We are renowned for providing the highest quality end-of-life care and support for patients and their families across the boroughs of Surrey Heath, Woking and North Guildford. Looking to the future, with an ageing population and people wishing to be looked after at home, we face an increasing demand for our care.

Please do keep an eye on our website www.wsbhospices.co.uk where you can read about the progress of the Appeal and see what events are taking place in support. The local press are also backing our Appeal, so look out for stories about fundraising initiatives in your local area.

With the help of supporters like you, we hope to secure the future of our Hospice.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely



Mary Lacey
Director of Income Generation and Fundraising

2009 EVENTS

Looking back over the past year, I realised that we have attended a few events that haven't had a write up in the magazine. So here goes with a few memories:



Piazza Italia – Horsham – Easter Saturday.

Unfortunately, Easter is not the best time for club events, many members have other family related plans and like a lot of weekends this year the weather was not at its best, but 4 intrepid 500 owners turned up.

All the cars that were to be on show met at venues near Horsham for a convoy drive into town. We joined the other Fiats and Alfa at a local Alfa Romeo garage in Rusper. This is a small village with a very narrow high street, so naturally there was a massive traffic jam, with Italian machinery parked everywhere. Eventually we all got away, and what was supposed to be a convoy drive turned into a race!!!.... All good fun.

Parking up in Horsham town centre, we found that the weather did not put the public off coming to see the cars. As usual the 500's were popular so we took it in turns to wander off to visit the Italian Market. On offer were the usual Italian delicacies, olives, anti-pasti, Italian bread, cakes, sweets, cheese, etc. Used to the markets in Italy, I thought that everything was rather over priced, but what the heck.

Whilst this was going on, I was receiving texts & phone calls from Liesje who after setting out from her home near Burgess Hill was having a few problems with her car. She ended up being towed to Rusper, only to find that we had just left,

Graeme had then got the car running and so she wanted to know where we all parked in Horsham.



By that time the centre of town was closed off to traffic, so I wasn't sure if she could find us, but gave her direction anyway.



But clever Liesje, when a passing motor cycle policeman stopped, she told him her problem and with a “Follow me madam”. He led her through the barriers to join us.

BROMLEY SHOW - JUNE.

This is a very big show in the South East, but we had never taken part before. Offered a 3 car stand, I jumped at the chance. And set about finding cars to display.

Knowing that Jimmy would only have just come out of hospital, I found 3 other cars to display. Sheridan's Gamine, John's beautiful blue 500 and an Abarth.



The day before the event, unfortunately one car pulled out, but there was nothing I could do at that late stage.

Luckily John and Sheridan decided to arrive at the show ground early and set up the banner and gazebo (the gazebo was most welcome as it was a scorching hot day). The 3 car pitch might have been great for 3 larger cars, but we could have easily put 5/6 cars on it with room to walk around them.!! Next year I will ask if we can show more cars.

OLD CROCKS RUN OR (THE LONDON TO BRIGHTON VETERAN CAR RUN) - NOVEMBER

For the second year running Liesje & Graeme invited us to watch the run from outside their house in Burgess Hill.

Watching the weather forecast the day before, with heavy rain and even gales predicted, I wondered if it was wise to take our 500 out. I don't mind Bugs'y getting wet, but wondered whether the wipers would cope.

In the end we went in our Renault and I was glad we did, even with the wipers on full speed, we could hardly see the road on the M25.

As usual, we were greeted by Graeme with hot cups of tea and bacon butties, before Jimmy and he disappeared off to inspect a fault on Liesje 500.!!!... Why is it that 500 owners never miss a chance to tinker around in an engine bay!!



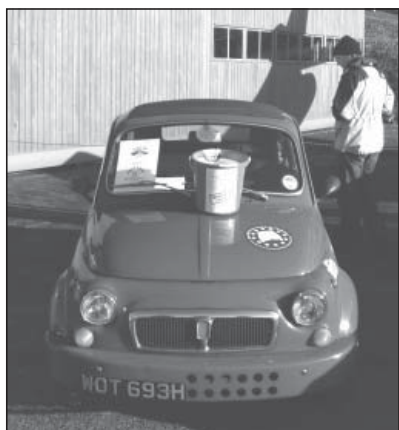
What fantastic people the participants of the run are, whatever the weather they put on such a good show, and for the past 2 year at least one car managed to break down just opposite to where we are standing. This year it gave Jimmy and John a chance to "go over and offer to help!" Although I am not sure what help they could be, when at least 2 RAC breakdown mechanics left scratching their heads. Still the passenger's father was on the other end of the phone and soon came to the rescue. The problem seemed to be The wooden box!!!. Now I must go and see if we have a wooden box in a 500.

Many thanks to our hosts for making us so welcome, shame more members couldn't make it, but I don't blame them in such awful weather.

BROOKLANDS NEW YEARS DAY.



Six Fiat 500's braved the cold and made it to this annual event, joining many other classic car clubs. After an 'interesting' drive on the icy slippery roads, we arrived and set up between a couple of the museums aircraft, then off for bacon roll's and a cup of tea.



This was the first event where we raised money for our Club Charity with donation buckets, raising £30 to add to the £60 raised at our Christmas meal.

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH THE FIAT 500

In 1955 Fiat launched the Fiat 600 and the Italian nation was in a state of glory and delight. This was the first small car produced by Fiat with a monocoque body. The larger models were already built with some sort of subframe, but without a chassis.

At that time my view on the subject was negative, I always believed a car should have a good chassis as in the Fiat Topolino (at that time, I owned a 1947 model Topolino).

But they proved me wrong, the 600 became very popular and Fiat already had in the pipeline a smaller model – a replacement to the scooter, so that all Italians could get to work on a rainy day without getting wet.

On the 4th July 1957, Fiat launched the Fiat 500 with all the razzmatazz that surrounds such launches. It felt like a bank holiday with Turin invaded by a large number of 500's parading through the streets with the roof open and glamorous models standing on the back seats.



The car itself was very basic, a few thousand were sold in a few weeks, but the new owners were soon complaining about the poor quality of the model.

At that time I was working as a mechanic and the first 500 we had in was to repair a broken drive shaft (the car was only a few weeks old). As with any new model, Fiat had not yet made available to non Fiat dealerships the workshop manuals and technical details, so we assumed that to replace the driveshaft would be similar to replacing one on a Fiat 600 (on this model a drive shaft can be replaced without removing the gearbox).

We told the owner to go across the road and have a coffee in a bar and return in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour..... Wrong..... Totally wrong!!!

We discovered that the replacement of the drive shaft required removing the gearbox and stripping out the differential. A job that we had never done so could not estimate time or cost.

I am not going to write here what the owner called us when he returned $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour later!!!

The early model was a disaster to, many were breaking down due to bad design such as excessive engine vibration, very small drive shafts, over heating, etc. The car that was designed to take its owner to work on a rainy day without getting wet, was doing the opposite they were getting wet standing on the road side waiting for someone to recover it.

Before the year was over, Fiat had brought out a revised model.



With my Topolino

XXV MEETING DI GARLEND A 4/6 LUGLIO 2008

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FIAT 500 ClubItalia



FONDATA A GARLEND A NEL 1984
FEDERATO A.S.I.

CARTELLA COLORI FIAT 500L (1968-72)



01

Rosso corallo 102



02

Giallo Positano 208



03

Rosso medio 115



04

Bianco 233



05

Blu scuro 456



06

Blu turchese 419



07

Nero 601



08

Avorio antico 234



09

Grigio medio 624



10

Grigio Garda 604



11

Blu oriente 498



12

Grigio perla 602



13

Marrone testa
di moro 793



14

Rosso corallo
scuro 165



15

Giallo Tahiti 276



16

Azzurro chiaro 415

brumm

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