

NEWSLETTER MAY 2010

**FIAT 500**  
Affiliated to: **FIAT 500** • CLUB ITALIA



enthusiasts  
club GB

9



[www.fiat500enthusiasts.co.uk](http://www.fiat500enthusiasts.co.uk)

# ORGANISING TEAM

(SEE PAGE 18)

**Acting Chairman:** John Jenkins Tel: 02380 730765

**Acting Secretary:** Position vacant

**Acting Treasurer:** Position vacant

**Acting Membership Secretary:** Steven Abbott Tel: 01483 715656  
steven\_abbott@ntlworld.com  
33 Sandy Lane, Woking, Surrey, GU22 8BA

**Acting Events Secretary:** Chet Brucculeri Tel: 0208 640 9410  
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Diane Morrone Tel: 01403 211119  
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Vittorio Squillaci Tel: 01256 478387

**European Delegates:** James & Jan Di Carlo  
italcorsa@googlemail.com  
Tel: 07730 402202

## *FRONT COVER*

**Chet & Toto's 500D at the press launch of this years'  
Goodwood Festival of Speed  
Lord March was so impressed with the car he insisted in having  
his photo taken beside it with a bevy of beauties inside**

## *BACK COVER*

**Want to show off your engine? This is the way to do it!**

## LETTER TO ALL MEMBERS

Dear Members,

It is with very mixed emotions that I am writing this letter, telling you that Jimmy and I are going to wind down our involvement with the club.

Of course our first emotion is sadness, that we will not be able to regularly meet you all at events or help you out with all the little problems that you have contacted us about with over the years.

Through the FIAT 500, we have made so many friends and acquaintances, people that perhaps we would not have otherwise met, but who have become firm friends.

We have both enjoyed our time working for the club, but now think we should hand over to perhaps younger and equally enthusiastic club members.

Of course we have a reason for doing this , and that is where the happiness comes in, now we are both ‘of retirement age’, we have decided to do just that and ‘walk off into the sunset’ – well, actually, move to Italy !

But don’t think that you are losing us that easily, the area that we plan to move to in Italy is .... Just down the road from our sister club- Fiat 500 Club-Italia, so no doubt we will be attending some of their events, we are, of course, taking our Fiat 500 with us. So I might find the time, between, lazing on the beach, enjoying the good wine and food and generally doing nothing, to write a few articles for this magazine.

And although it hasn’t been confirmed yet, I think that next year will be a special Raduno – see I am learning Italian words already – in approx May time, the third memorial meeting for Dante Giacosa. Why don’t you get a group together and go down to it, we could meet you somewhere in France and arrange the accommodation etc.

We definitely don’t want to lose touch.

And would like to wish both the club and you,  
the members all the best for the future.

**James & Jan Di Carlo**



# EVENTS 2009/2010

For more details of any events, directions, Entry forms etc. Contact:  
Chet Brucculeri Tel: 0208 640 9410  
chetseven1968@aol.com

## MAY

Sun 30<sup>th</sup> **GARAGE SALE of FIAT 500 PARTS & Barbecue**  
11 Fairmile, Fleet, Hants, GU52 7UT  
11.00 to 4.00pm

**Due to our relocating we must get rid of all our spare parts, such as, electrical items, badges, lamps, chrome work, brakes, suspension items etc.**

We also have a lot of second-hand items, so before we sell it all as a 'job lot', we thought we would give you, the club members a chance to buy bits at discounted prices. Also for sale will be memorabilia, regalia, books and other Fiat 500 related items.

Drinks, a barbecue and salads available.

We will also hold a raffle in aid of the Woking Hospice Charity.

## JUNE

Sun 6<sup>th</sup> **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 14<sup>th</sup> May at the latest, - I know we are now past that date, but if you might get in if you send in your entry form quickly, if you are interested in attending, please contact me for an entry form or download one via their website [www.wshospices.co.uk](http://www.wshospices.co.uk). Admission charge £5 towards the hospice funds.

Sun 13<sup>th</sup> **Bromley Pageant of Motoring**  
**Norman Park, Bromley, Kent**

We have a small stand booked for 3 cars, so anyone wanting to show their car, please contact me.

This is one of those large shows that you seem to need all day to get round, and even then miss some of it.

Showing your car entitles you to a free entry pass for the driver and a passenger. I would really like to see some of those of you who live in the Kent area out with your cars, so don't be shy, contact me and I will send you a ticket.

**Sun 27<sup>th</sup>                    Goodwood Breakfast Meet – Soft Top 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.

## **JULY**

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

## **AUGUST**

**Sun 1<sup>st</sup>                    Amberley Classic Microcar Show  
Amberley, West Sussex. BN18 9LT**

**30<sup>th</sup> / 31<sup>st</sup>                Hampshire Pageant of Motoring  
Broadlands, Romsey, Hants**

## **SEPTEMBER**

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> /                Isle-of-White Car Shows  
Sun 19<sup>th</sup>**

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 space available, if you are interested please contact me ASAP to book your space.

# AUTOITALIA 2010

May 1<sup>st</sup>, Brooklands



AutoItalia at Brooklands is one of the best events of the year, and brings out many Italian cars of all shapes and sizes. This year, the classic Fiat 500's were allotted a large area by the club house, providing an excellent display area where visitors couldn't help but wander past. By 10am, tea and bacon roll's had been downed and our area had filled up with 17 classic 500's.



With club banners, tables, chairs and our adopted charity's collection boxes set up, we spent the day talking, walking, eating and drinking. Lovely Italian pizza was brought along by Chet & Toto and cakes by Vincenzo & Diane, with plenty of wine and soft drink added to the mix.

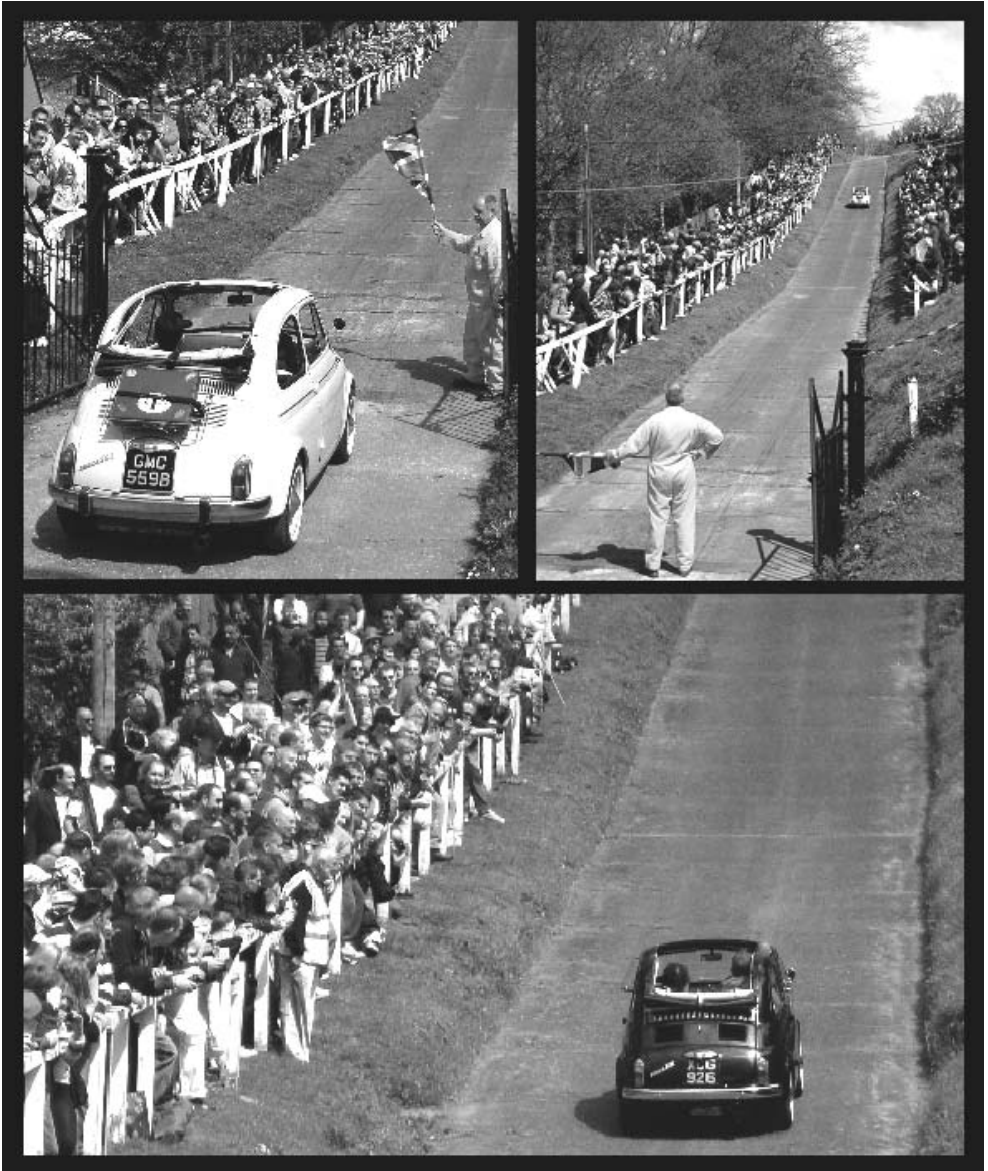


By late morning, the test hill was open. For those who haven't seen or experienced it, the test hill was designed in 1909 to help the development of motor cars and, over 350 feet, rises to a gradient of 1 in 4. It certainly looks scary – even for the modern Ferraris and Lamborghinis, but a couple of very brave Fiat 500 D's took the challenge and were cheered all the way to the top.

One new item for shows is a cut-away engine from a 1960 Fiat 500 Nuova. We're using this to help raise funds for our adopted charity and had plenty of people wanting to know more about the 500's 'power plant'. This particular engine was a 479cc version and appears to have been from a 1960 Nuova, although we hope Fiat will be tracing the history. Wallace – a friend of the club, and Steven spent two weekends angle grinding the cylinders, the block and as many other parts as possible, then grinding the sharp edges off, to show how the engine actually works.

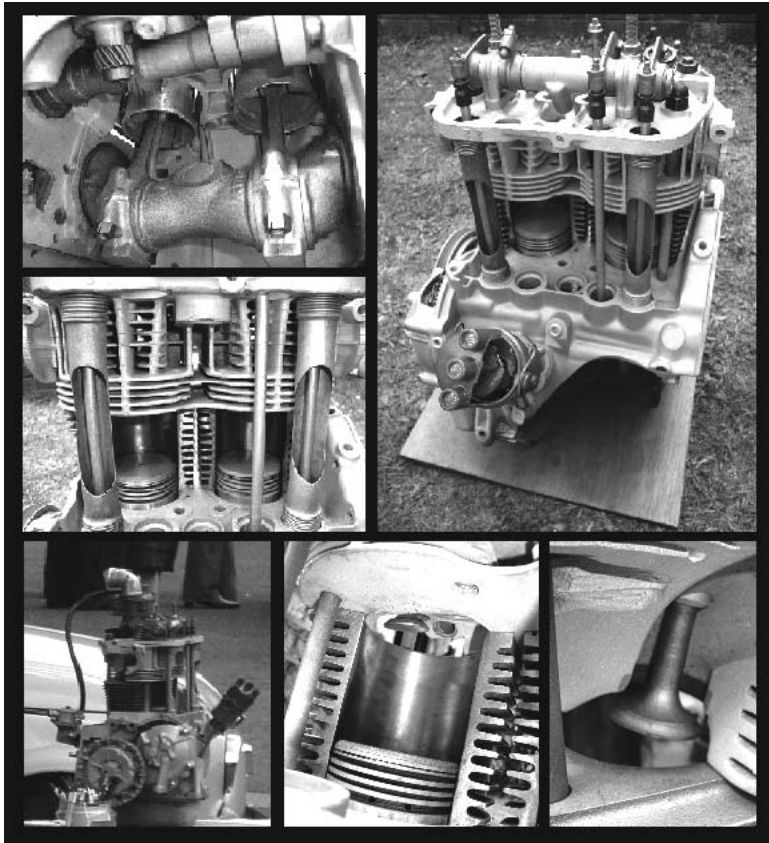
A colour leaflet was produced explaining how the engine works, its history, the history of the Fiat 500 and what's been done so far.

At this point, I'd like to thank again Jimmy Di Carlo for donating the engine and parts, to Wallace Brown for his mastery of an angle grinder and donating the edge of a finger!, to XRN Engineering (01483 861777) for acid dipping to get 50 years of crud off it, and to Surrey Metal Finishing (01932 248836) for sand-blasting and making it look like new!



We are hoping Fiat can provide more history and some photo's of the engine assembly in Turin and that a company will help with the painting.





We then hope to build a portable stand, put LED's in the spark plugs, attach a motor and watch it slowly turn over – sparking away at the correct point.

## Charity News



WOKING & SAM BEARE  
HOSPICES

Registered charity No. 1082798

Our aim was to adopt a charity each year, with the first being Woking Hospice. So far this year, we have collected at two shows and a club meeting and have just passed the £200 barrier. At AutoItalia we had two ways to collect - the cut-away engine and handouts (see above) raised £56.88 and separately a donation of £53.30 from Jan's sale of Fiat 500 memorabilia brought the total for this show to £110.18. Our adoption of a charity raised interest from a couple of car magazines, so we look forward to some articles soon - and hopefully more publicity for the hospice.

## MEMBERS CARS

I'm Abigail Elcock from York and a member of the fiat 500 enthusiasts club. I just thought you would like to see my newly done up Fiat 500.



I was very lucky, as my dad has a passion for Fiat 500's and I had my Fiat done up for my eighteenth birthday.

About 18 months ago I started out very regularly looking at Fiat 500's on Ebay. I saw quite a few that I liked, one nice white one with red stripes down the side. It was very nice inside with black interior and for £5500 (if I remember correctly) and I thought it was definitely worth it.

My dad seemed to be taken up on the idea but thought it was too far away to begin with and with only a couple of days left to go, dad said I had to leave it, this was much to my disappointment.

I frequently kept looking, and came across a red one (which is mine now) it was a bit rusty and the passenger leather seat had a slight rip. We bought it for £3,500.

I was lucky as the guy wanted to sell it for more than this and it had already been won on Ebay.

Dad rang up to see if it had gone, surprisingly it hadn't and the winner didn't pick it up in time so we had the chance to buy it. The owner wanted rid of it quite soon as he had a mini project to work on.



I intended on getting an Abarth engine but they are hard to find and expensive.

In one of the pictures I am in my car with my baby nephew Harry who is just 4 months old. The car may seem a better fit for him rather than for me!



It is a 1967 car and has now had a complete inside and outside respray, all rust has gone. Abarth badge on the front. New Abarth wheels, new lights, strips above the doors (checked, on the pictures) 126 engine fitted. twin pipe exhaust. New disk brakes fitted.

Inside there is all new black interior. a CD player fitted with 12v Abarth cigarette lighter/connector which I use to connect sat nav. High back seats with seat belts, speakers fitted into the back shelf. There is an alarm fitted in all compartments of the car including the engine. And also an immobiliser fitted as well.

**Abi Elcock**

# CAPTION COMPETITION



Send in your caption to these pictures  
Entries to be sent to: The Editor



# GOODWOOD BREAKFAST MEETING

7<sup>th</sup> MARCH

This was the first long distance trip this year for my Fiat 500D – so I broke the 45 mile trip from Woking to Goodwood into two days! Saturday completed replacing the indicator stalk unit, something that had been on the list of things to do for at least a couple of years, and managed to work out the electrical colour code mis-match. But they work.



Oil checked, petrol tank filled, overnight bag on the back seat and off to my parent's house near Midhurst. All went fine until Haslemere, when the car lost power – juddered to a halt. A very loud bang, and all was well again. Not sure what the bang was – don't think it was a backfire, but it certainly wasn't a metallic sound. (anyone have any ideas before I delve into the engine?) The rest of the trip was fairly uneventful, and an hour later I'd travelled the 30 miles, and was settling down to the second best Italian import – vino rosso.

Next morning, and I was in the Fiat again – heading towards the South Downs. No problem at all with the hills – apart from a pheasant who tried to ram the 500. Proof the horn still works after my electrical work, and luckily we missed the pheasant – I'd have hated to have damaged a feather or two if we'd collided. Bit further up, waves and cheers from a motorcycle convoy – 500's are popular. Then the mistake – the entrance to Goodwood is only from the south, and here's where the 500 comes into its own. Being able to do a U turn across a small country road, being let in by a modern car whose owner laughed – and a quick cheeky queue jump!



Once inside, the 9 Fiat 500's were scattered all around, depending on when we arrived. Damien & Kate arrived at the same time, and we managed to park as badly as possible to reserve a space for Jan and Jimmy's Fiat 850 Abarth. Hatti arrived in style, with a fast U turn to the amusement of the crowd, and parked opposite us.

It was a lovely bright, but cold day and we joined John Jenkins, Chet & Toto, Vincenzo & Diane, Roger Gill & Eric Boswell and after a look around and coffee, we boarded the tour of the race circuit. Not quite as fast as we'd have liked, but the tractor and trailer ride was amusing. Jimmy pointed out the

places he'd come off – including cutting a corner completely... via a wheat field, when he raced here in the 80's.





Then time for lunch, and a convoy run back to Midhurst to the Greyhound Pub, where we were joined for a traditional Sunday lunch by Vittorio & Jenny.

My return trip back to Woking this time was non-stop – and mechanically uneventful but, as with the 500's everywhere, a modern car drove up beside me in Guildford , and the driver started taking photo's on his mobile while we drove along!

Another great 500 day out!

**Steven Abbott**

# ItalCorsa

**The Fiat 500 Parts Specialists**

- Fiat 500 spares (new / secondhand)
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T/F: 01252-613335 • E: [italcorsa@googlemail.com](mailto:italcorsa@googlemail.com)



## STRANGE EMAILS

Over the years I have received a few strange emails, but I thought the enclose two so priceless that I had to pass them on.

We are often asked to provide cars for weddings, but this is a 'first' and I quote for the email.

"My mother recently passed away. She was the immensely proud owner of two classic 500's during the 70's and 80's. Our rather ambitious plan is to try and park a classic cinquecento or two outside the crematorium as a tribute, can any of your club members help us out"

The next email was from someone in Spain, in fact there were 2 emails, first one quoting the car as a 600D, the second as a 500! And I quote:

"My Mother has an original Fiat 500 with all parts included at her villa in Spain, would anyone be interested for spares or repair" .... Well what can I say!



# COMMITTEE MEETING

9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010

Following the news that Jan & Jimmy Di Carlo are winding down their involvement with the club, a committee meeting was held on the 9th of May in order to set up a team to run the club until such time as an AGM can be arranged and a new committee appointed.

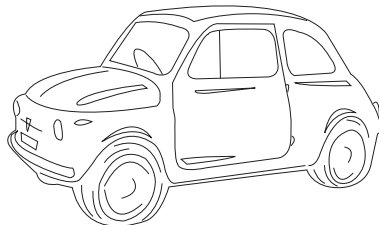
We were lucky that a few faithful Fiat 500 owners were willing to put their names forward to take on the posts in this interim period.

We are now looking at possible dates and venues for the AGM and will notify each member well in advance of the meeting.

Meanwhile we are looking for an **Acting Club Secretary** and an **Acting Club Treasurer**. Neither of these jobs will take up much time, so if anyone is willing to take them on please contact me and I will be only too pleased to explain what is involved. Any one else wanting to get involved with the running of the club will be most welcome.

You will find the contact details of the new acting committee on page 2 of this magazine.

**John Jenkins (Acting Chairman)**



## FOR SALE

**Rare Autobianchi Bianchina Panoramica. 1965  
Gray/Cream, LHD. Tax Exempt. Genuine 10,000km**



This car – the luxury version of The 500 Giardiniera - was imported into the UK last year, but we have not had time to get it on the road or register it.

It is in excellent structural condition, just needs a new roof canvas. It has not been on the road for 10 years, but with such low mileage, we suspect it will only need a little work to get it running again.

Priced at £2200.00 ono

For more details contact: Jan or Jimmy Di Carlo. Tel: 01252 613335  
email: [italcorsa@googlemail.com](mailto:italcorsa@googlemail.com)

## FOR SALE

**Fiat 126 Bis 1991**

**Red, 6 months tax, 1 year MOT. Genuine 41,000miles**

An excellent little run-around, but slightly scruffy, comes with a spare engine and alloy wheels

Only £450.00 ono

For more details contact: Jan or Jimmy Di Carlo.

Tel: 01252 613335

Email: [italcorsa@googlemail.com](mailto:italcorsa@googlemail.com)

