

FIATfocus

JANUARY 2012

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FIAT CLUB OF NSW Inc.



- ❑ Fiat Nationals - Photos and Reports.
- ❑ AGM - Fiat Club of NSW 14th February, 2012 .
- ❑ Gnoo Blas - Weekend away 11/12th February, 2012.
- ❑ Membership Renewal due - NOW !



Victoria wins the FIAT OF ITALY CUP.

Steve Schmidt from VIC, winner of the Ironman.
Glenn Smith from NSW, Motorkhana winner.
Mike Barry from NSW, Show 'n' Shine winner.
Nick Smith from NSW, Supersprint fastest lap.
Jeremy Smith from NSW, RPFC fastest driver.



Lakeside Show 'n' Shine.

Fiat Nationals



Competition Report



Michael McGeorge



Well it's at this time every year we make the trip to the Fiat Nationals to compete in the 2 days of events. For those who haven't been, it's a Motorkana Saturday morning, Show and Shine Saturday afternoon and a Supersprint (also the RPCF - Reasonably Priced Fiat Challenge) incorporated into the Supersprint. So it's a jam packed Fiat fun weekend.

First off was the Motorkana which ran perfectly in the heat. We had a little scare when one of the cars set some of the dry grass on fire but with the fire brigade being on site it was put out in a flash. The final results saw myself and Nick Filipetto in 1st and 2nd outright in the (Tom Hay built) Fiat Rail with Paul Freame from Victoria in the Fiat 127 in 3rd. A big thank you to Peter Jakrot for lending us his Fiat 126 so David Filipetto, Paul Pana & Naomi McGeorge could compete in it.

Show and Shine was held out on the edge of the lake in Benalla. Nobody wanted to be out looking at the cars for very long because of the heat so most of us were in the shade of the trees catching up with all of our interstate friends.

The Supersprint was another hot day, but that would not stop our Fiats from getting out on the track. Although some of the cars did have problems through the day, I believe Nick

Smith's 131 sport sedan took our breath away on more than one occasion. We did have some timing glitches with the Dorian timing devices but it got fixed quite early.

Although we have held the Fiat of Italy cup for quite a few years now, we have always known we cannot keep on bringing it home with us and this year the Victorians with some good driving and numbers have won the Fiat of Italy Cup. I would like to congratulate them on a great drive and for holding such a great event.

At this point I would like to thank a few people that have helped me through the year and help me get to the point where I am, with winning the Fiat Interstate Motokhana. Firstly, thanks to Tom Hay for building such a great car and teaching me how to drive from such a young age. Michael McGeorge for helping me out and teaching me how to drive the car to its potential. The Gotch Family for always helping me out and changing the little things with no fuss. Peter Jakrot for organising/getting the new tyres for our cars. Fiatorque for always having the parts I need to fix my cars. And finally to my Mum and Dad for being so supportive of me and my Fiat passion.

Glenn Smith - Assistant Competition Secretary 2011

Gnoo Blas Classic car show

Remember the Fiat Club is organising a weekend away in Orange February 11th and 12th, to celebrate the Gnoo Blas Classic car show.

The Gnoo Blas Classic has become one of the best shows in country NSW with more than 300 cars and outstanding guests for the enthusiasts' dinner. Guests this year include Allan Moffat, V8 race director and former F1 driver Tim Schenken.

Please contact Tony Studans or Geoff Halliburton for more details. events@fiatclub.com.au

Shannons Nationals Show & Shine

Class Winners

Class	Description	Entrant	Vehicle
P1	Historic (pre 1960)	Augustine Banko	Fiat 508 Balilla
P2	Modern (post 1995)	Peter Bartold	Fiat 500 Abarth SS
P3	Convertible	David Judd	Fiat Dino Spider
P4	Coupe	Mike Barry	Fiat 130 Coupe
P5	Sedan	John Young	Fiat 2300 Sedan
P6	Street Modified	Sam Behan	Fiat 125S
P7	Competition	Chris Dall'oste	Fiat 124 Abarth Gp4

Overall Winner

Mike Barry Fiat 130 Coupe

40th

1972-2012: 40th anniversary of X1/9



X1/9

INTERNATIONAL
meeting



Turin (Italy), 6-7-8 July 2012

On the 6-7-8 of July 2012, Turin (Italy) will host the International X1/9 Meeting, to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Fiat X1/9. The meeting is organised by the Italian X1/9 clubs in collaboration with Bertone. X1/9 clubs from all over the world are welcome.

Additional information and the program will be available soon on the website. www.icsunonove.it
contatti@icsunonove.it

The Fiat Club of NSW will be making the X1/9 a featured model at some of its events to highlight the 40th anniversary celebrations. Stay tuned.

FIAT Nationals Round up

The 49th running of the Fiat of Italy Cup took place this year in Benalla, Victoria. Since the first Interstate Motorkhana Challenge between Victoria and NSW took place in Wagga in 1964, this was the first time the event was ever held in Victoria.

We have been referring to this event as "The Nationals" since the event included a speed event at Bathurst. This year it was truly National with the representation of Tasmania, with a single representative of the Apple isle making an appearance.

The lead-up to the weekend was the usual rush of preparation by all concerned. Just 2 days before, the word went out across the email world that a lift was needed for newly-elected WA Fiat Club President Samuel Casella. I had a spare seat in the mighty 500, so arrangements were made. Sam was too polite to knock back an offer of a lift, even though he thought at first I was going down in an early 500! He was quite relieved to see my modern 500 at 5am Friday morning!

A small convoy of early starters planned to meet at Goulburn at 7am for breakfast. Adel phoned me to say he had some new noises in the 131, but made it to Goulburn where he had to wait a couple of hours to get some exhaust work done. The 131 was eventually on its way, and survived the trip and lots of laps around Winton.

Sam and I arrived at Winton about half an hour ahead of schedule. A few Fiats were there doing practice laps, and others were gradually arriving for early scrutineering. Later that afternoon an informal welcome was held at the Benalla caravan park.

Those who were going to motorkhana the next day bunked down early, whilst those who were only there for the sprints on Sunday or the Show n Shine stayed up to party...a little.

Saturday 7:30am saw the resurrection of a Nationals tradition - a convoy assembled in town for the run to the motorkhana ground, something that hasn't been done since Dubbo, if I recall correctly. The road from Benalla to the motorkhana ground was typical of the area; dead flat and

dead straight for 10km!

The motorkhana ground was in fact a little-used country cricket ground, complete with concrete pitch in the middle. Actually, it was better than previous motorkhana venues, with the small club house offering shade to spectators whilst still being close to the action.

The dry grass that was recently slashed presented a fire hazard, so the local country fire brigade was present on standby.

We only required one tanker, but two other local crews figured it would be more entertaining to be on standby here than back at their station, so we were lucky enough to have three crews on site. Yes, we did manage to start one small spot fire, but a hand-held extinguisher soon put that out, before a tanker arrived from across the oval.

At the end of the day, the motorkhana was won outright by Glenn Smith, a breakthrough win after much work modifying the rail. Overall, in spite of NSW's best efforts to represent each class, the Fiat of Italy Cup went to Victoria after 18 years of trying!

The motorkhana was as dusty an affair as any Dubbo event in the past, which made the cleaning up for the show n shine just 3 hours later even more of a challenge for some. The show n shine, however, was a totally different environment, held on a gentle shady grassed slope leading down to the edge of the lake in the middle of Benalla.

A number of cars made the trip from Melbourne for the event, which meant we saw Fiats we would not normally see. How does not one, but two 508 Ballila's sound? The show n shine was held in quite hot and dry conditions, with most taking time finding shaded spots to sit down and catch up with interstaters. The afternoon flowed on into a twilight barbecue.

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Fiat Nationals Round up continues

Continued from Page 7....

Sunday morning saw the Nationals at Winton Raceway. Early in the morning we gathered all the cars and participants for a group photo, then followed some slow familiarisation laps for the newcomers. The first few runs were clearly tentative learning experiences, but after lunch the brave pills starting working, with some of the front runners displaying a little more attitude in their cars. Some showed more attitude than traction and went for short sharp visits into the scenery. Most offs were benign, and the tow truck was only called upon a couple of times. The entertainers of the day had to be Dave Fillipetto and Phil Buggee from Victoria, wheel to wheel for lap after lap, swapping places countless times. Something had to give and small "racing incident" occurred around the back of the circuit, both drivers pulling out of it OK. There was a little battle scarring, but that's motor racing.....

After running out of track time and sun screen, the presentation dinner held at the local bowling club was quite well attended and I thought it one of the better presentations

I had been involved with. Speeches were kept to a minimum, the Turbo 124 gang were their usual entertaining selves as they presented the results of the Reasonably Priced Fiat Challenge.

Trophies were distributed, raffles and auctions were run, the usual fines session brought out the stories of the weekend.....and before you knew it, two days of intense Fiat passion were over again for another year.

Next year the 2013 event moves to the Morgan Park Raceway in Warwick, just over the Queensland-NSW border. It will be the 50th running of the event, so it will be something special. There are plans afoot to commemorate either the 50th running of the original 1964 event or the 50th anniversary with a non-competitive event, particularly designed for Wagga veterans. We'll keep you posted.

Tony Studans - President 2011

FIAT OF ITALY CUP PROVISIONAL RESULTS JANUARY 2012

Class	Outright	A	B	C	D	E	F
1st	Glenn Smith	Ian Maud	David Filipetto	Philip Buggee	Bill Freame	Paul Freame	Glenn Smith
2nd	Nick Filipetto	Steve Schmidt	Gary Spencer	Kevin Halliburton	Matt Townsend	Robert Judd	Nick Filipetto
3rd	Paul Freame	Alex Kovacevic	Paul Pana	#N/A	Eric Young	Michael McGeorge	David Judd
	16	7	6	5	4	3	2

Wodonga Car World Ironman Results

State	Score	Rank
NSW	42	2
VIC	58	1
ACT	6	3
QLD	0	5
WA	0	5
SA	2	4

Entrant	Vehicle	Motorkhana	Score	Show n Shine (rank)	Score	Sprint	Score
Peter Bartold	500 Abarth SS	4th in class	7	2nd	9	4th in class	7
Philip Buggee	Punto Sport	1st in class	10	3rd	8	3rd in class	8
Martin Gallard	126 Special	4th in class	7	7th	4	3rd in class	8
Alex Kovacic	131	3rd in class	8	5th	6	7th in class	4
Mark Rae	X1/9	8th in class	3	4th	7	1st in class	10
Steve Schmidt	124 AC	2nd in class	9	1st	10	1st in class	10
Matt Townsend	128 Coupe	2nd in class	9	8th	3	1st in class	10
Eric Young	128 3P	3rd in class	8	6th	5	2nd in class	9

PLEASE NOTE : A LATE CHANGE TO THESE PROVISIONAL RESULTS, AFTER A RECALCULATION STEVE SCHMIDT PLACED FIRST IN THE IRONMAN EVENT.

FIAT OF ITALY CUP POINTS

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Fiat Nationals Photos



FIATorque Nationals Supersprint Results 2012

Pos	Driver	Vehicle	Time
Regularly			
1	Shayne Williams	Lancia Integrale	2:00.3590
Fastest Lap			
Warm Spec 1051 - 1300cc			
1	Matt Townsend	Fiat 128 Coupe	2:06.3176
Warm Spec 1301 - 1650cc			
1	Mark Rae	Fiat X1/9	2:06.0943
2	Lyn Bartold (1st Lady)	Fiat X1/9	2:12.9583
Warm Spec 1650 - 2000cc			
1	Kevin Halliburton	Fiat Croma	2:11.9551
2	Karem Omar	Fiat 131	2:15.6219
3	Sherif Omar (1st Jnr)	Fiat 131	2:16.0207
Warm Spec over 2000cc			
1	Steve Cecchele	Fiat Punto S	1:55.6884
Hot Spec 1301 - 1650cc			
1	Steve Schmidt	Fiat 124 AC	1:49.5577
Hot Spec 1651 - 2000cc			
1	Chris Dall'oste	Fiat 124 Abarth Gp4	1:43.4080
2	Jason Spiteri	Fiat 124S	1:46.1502
3	Andrew Spiteri	Fiat 124S	1:47.4153
4	Angelo Verga	Alfa GTV	1:49.4541
5	Paul Pana	Fiat 124 Spider	1:50.5945
6	Andrew Coles	Alfa Sprint	1:50.7356
7	Mike Coles	Alfa Sprint	1:51.9064
8	Llew Robb	Fiat 124CC	1:58.0288
9	Paul Hickerton	Fiat 124CC	2:08.1227
Hot Spec over 2000cc			
1	David Filipetto	Alfa 147	1:47.4080
2	Nick Filipetto	Alfa 147	1:47.9242
3	Philip Buggee	Fiat Punto Sport	1:48.5327
4	Peter Bartold	Fiat 500 SS	1:52.0677
Atomic Spec up to 1050cc			
1	Michael McGeorge	Fiat 127	1:54.5102
2	Wayne McGeorge	Fiat 127	1:57.5752
3	Martin Gallard	Fiat 126	2:04.8170
Atomic Spec 1051 - 1300cc			
1	David Martin	Fiat Formula Junior	2:01.7649
2	Paddy Martin	Fiat Formula Junior	2:05.7196
Atomic Spec 1301 - 1650cc			
1	David Ius	Fiat X1/9	1:45.4689
2	Eric Young	Fiat 128 3P	1:49.6744
3	Anthony Borg	Fiat 128 3P	1:56.8229
Atomic Spec 1651 - 2000cc			
1	Jeremy Smith	Fiat 124BC	1:37.2310
2	Ross Smith	Fiat 124BC	1:38.6894
3	John Young	Fiat 124	1:44.1890
4	David Smith	Fiat 124	1:44.3553
5	Glenn Smith	Fiat X1/9 Prototipo	1:51.5188
6	David Nigro	Fiat 124 Spider	1:51.8614
7	Alex Kovacevic	Fiat 131	1:55.2895
8	Con Catena	Fiat 131	1:58.4423
9	Joe Catena	Fiat 131	2:06.0458
Atomic Spec over 2000cc			
1	Nick Smith	Fiat 131	1:32.8827
2	Graham Smith	Fiat 131	1:38.1636
3	Lachlan Rae	Fiat X1/9 Prototipo	1:44.1691
4	Sam Behan	Fiat 125S	1:44.8555
5	Steven Scrofani	Fiat 124BC	1:47.6788
6	Aiden Buggee	Fiat 131 Panarama	1:52.1134
Fastest Non Fiat			
1	Ian Maud	Toyota MR2	1:46.6189



RPFC Results

jsmith 1.48.19
 agents son 1.48.82
 mr boost 1.49.52
 racing 05 1.50.20
 woodie 1.50.29
 curly 1.50.64
 guido 1.50.87
 redbc 1.50.89
 dibb1er 1.51.63
 ac historic 1.53.67
 youngy125 1.55.11
 fiatfactory 1.56.04

stevens 1.56.74
 spy124 1.57.68
 divace73 1.58.14
 dingo 1.58.88
 maxmod 1.59.11
 paddy m 2.02.50
 frankc 2.04.86
 david m 2.05.46
 fizmo 2.05.60
 barry e 2.07.92
 super brava 2.11.19
 papa guido 2.13.67