



Newsletter

January 2008

It has not been a very good start for the year for Fulvia owners as I had a piece of pipe fall off a shelf in the garage and break the screen of my Series I. This paled into insignificance when I received a call from Mike Coucher telling me about his. He had just got his Series I into almost concours condition when it was hit by a taxi and knocked through a vibracrete wall. It unfortunately is a write-off but Mike is braking for the spares as the mechanicals and interior are in such good condition. See the "For Sale" section for details.

On the bright side, last year was a very good one for the club. We have had some of our best attendances at social events and our garage meetings are getting more varied with visits to five different garages. Membership is increasing steadily and there are an encouraging number of restorations in progress. As mentioned last month there are an increasing number of articles being submitted for the newsletter as highlighted by John Ryall's update on the happenings in his garage.

So lets make 2008 even more successful and that things turn round for Fulvia owners, and how knows, I may even manage to finish my Series II project this year.

Jim

LAST EVENT

Garage Meeting



Although the assembled group of experts checked all the systems thoroughly, they could not get the Laing Series II Fulvia to start. They did however diagnose that the problem was in the carbs., and that they needed to be stripped and thoroughly cleaned. In their defense they were very distracted by the marvelous array of eats that Issy kept bringing out to distract everyone.

Subsequent feedback from Phil is that he stripped and cleaned the carbs., twice and it still refused to start. Out of desperation he fitted a new set of plugs and it started instantly!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Timor Hall Classic Car Show – Sunday 27th January

“The” show of the year. We will be having a stand and Picnic as usual. Seven cars are confirmed but there is room for more if you have a last minute change of heart. If you can't make the whole day, join us for a picnic lunch or just pop in for a chat during the day. We will have a large Gazebo so there will be plenty of shade. The official times are from 10am to 4pm but lot of cars stat leaving at about 3pm.

Garage Meeting – Saturday 2nd February 2.30pm

Peters garage –this will be a planning meeting to decide themes for the rest of the year. Come along with some ideas of what you would like to do or learn.

ON THE WEB

Tony Roberts has sent in these pictures he found when doing some research into early American motor racing. They are off Billy Knipper in a 1910 4.5 litre Lancia at the Long Island races. Does anyone know the story of this vehicle?

The photo's were taken by Nathan Lazarnick and are from the Eastman-Kodak archive. If you want to see them full size or do your own research the URL is www.geh.org/ar/strip15.



THE RYALL GARAGE

1934 Lancia Astura



The Astura has been parked for a while as we noticed that the Diff pinion Oil Seal was leaking. The only excuse for the delay is that I have been rebuilding a Jaguar and 2 x 1928 Sunbeams. With the Jaguar now complete and running - the Sunbeams are still under construction - we are now getting ready to remove the rear axel from the Astura and replace the seal with a modern one. It is such a good car that I do not want to damage anything if I can help it. At the same time we will redo the rear springs, which look very rusty and may need retempering.

Once this has been attended to we will take the motor out and attend to the oil consumption. The car was standing for 12 years before I bought it and I think the rings, especially the oil rings have lost their tension.

The car has some interesting rims on it. They are 'Bibendum' i.e. Michelin Rims that were apparently supplied if you bought a full set of new Michelins in the 30's. As well as taking a tyre size of 15 x 45 ???? they are only partly wellbased. The wellbase 'washes' out over a section of the rim near the valve. The only explanation is that they are a type of transition from 'Beadedged' tyres to full 'Wellbased' tyres. I have had the rims rebuilt by MWS in the UK - I carried over 4 rims while my wife took the other 2 as hand luggage! The problem has always been that these particular 15 x 45 tyres have not been available for years. However I spotted in the 'Automobile' magazine that they had just rebuilt a 1930's Morris Michelin Service van for Michelin UK which took the same sizes tyres. As it was for Michelin themselves there was no way they were going to let it run around on 'Dunlops' so they did a limited run of these size tyres. I managed to book a set through Langstone Tyres.

If you have ever tried to import tyres you will know what a run around it is. Not only do you have to get an import permit but you have to get SABS approval for that type of tyre. This took six months. I had to appoint a cleaning agent and advise them when they would arrive at the Airport via Airfreight. Imagine my surprise when I a parcel arrived from the Post Office - 4 new tyres! They had come in without any import permit or SABS clearance needed. Doug Crawley of Langstone had just posted them to me!

Another surprise was that in spite of being marked as the same size i.e. 15 x 45 the rolling radius was some 30mm smaller than the current tyres. So when it is back on the road you will see an Astura on 'Low Profiles'

I also found an Alvis in the UK with exactly the same Mayfair Body on it see attached photo's.



John

FOR SALE

Lancia Fulvia Coupe – Due to space constraints Chris Pretorius is reluctantly selling his well known, extremely smart and original Series II Fulvia. R30,000. contact him on 083 401 2043

Lancia Appia Saloon - Telephone 021 558 8152 or 021 948 0252 for full details

Lancia Beta HPE – One owner from new, well-known club car. Telephone Peter on 021 686 3305 or 083 300 7666 for full details

Lancia Fulvia Series I Spares – Breaking up accident write off. Recently overhauled suspension and gearbox. Excellent engine with rebuilt starter and generator..Telephone Mike Coucher on 021 794 1901 or 083 444 5262 for full details

Lancia Fulvia Series I Spares – Breaking up donor car. Telephone JP on 083 457 8990 for full details



CAPE LANCIA CLUB

Club Website: www.lancia.za.org (We urgently need a new webmaster if there are any volunteers out there.)

2007 Calendar (Provisional)

January 27th – Timor Hall Classic Car Show (Sunday)

February 2nd – Garage Meeting

March 2nd – Social Meeting

April 5th – Garage Meeting

May 4th – Social Meeting

June 7th – Garage Meeting

July 13th – Social Meeting

August 2nd – Garage Meeting

September 21st – Social Meeting

October 4th – Garage Meeting

November 9th – Social Meeting

December 6th – Garage Meeting

COMMITTEE

Honorary President

Peter Immelman
Home 021 686 3305
Cell 083 300 7666
Email
peter_i@iafrica.com

Chairman/Editor

Jim Baldwin
Home 021 557 1266
Work 710 6823
Cell 082 622 8677
Email
jimb@ananzi.co.za

Treasurer Membership

Julian Schut
Cell 082 339 1988
jschut@iafrica.com

Registrar

Johann du Toit
Home 021 685 6824
Cell 084 205 5174
Email
dutoit@intekom.co.za

Spares/Webmaster

Laurence Baldwin
Home 021 557 1266
Work 021 657 1786
Cell 083 649 9445
Email
laurence@mindspring.co.za

Librarian

Chris Pretorius
Home 021 712 7463
Cell 083 401 2043
Email
chris.pretorius2@za.bp.com