

Alfa
Per Sempre





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La meccanica delle emozioni



OUR COVER: Paul & Helen
Blake's immaculately restored
1964 2600 Sprint at a 2017 club
event

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ALFA ROMEO OWNERS CLUB OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND DIVISION) INC.

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Per Sempre Alfa welcomes contributions likely to be of interest to AROCA QLD members. All submissions should be directed to Darryl Green at editor@arocaqld.com. Reports on events should include all relevant details (e.g. dates, captions for photos, names of the author and photographer).

It is assumed that authors offer all magazine contributions gratis.

MAGAZINE DEADLINE IS THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVERTISED (SEE FINALE PAGE OR WEBSITE CALENDAR).



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EDITORIALE

darryl green

The current chez Green Alfa fleet is proving to be sufficient to provide practical transport, despite your editors lack of diligence in recreational Alfa maintenance/repair/restoration.

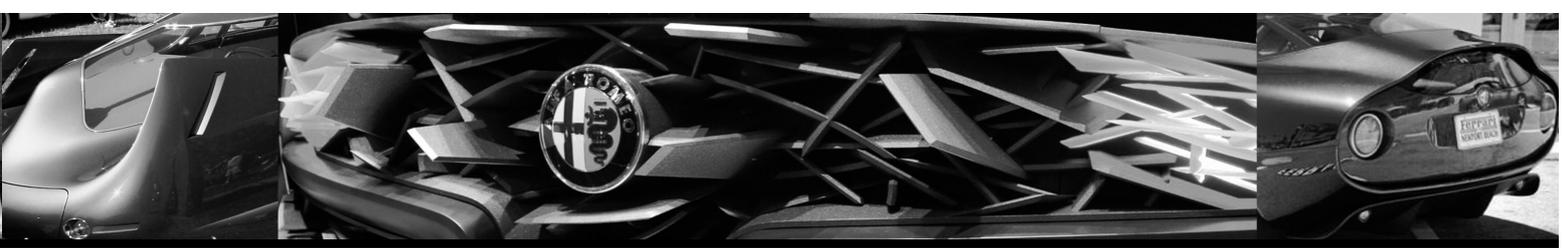
By which I mean - there is one Alfa (tempting fate by saying this) that is currently providing reliable daily transport. I did suggest to Madam secretary that this barely sufficient state meant we needed another - but perplexingly she responded with a claim that we clearly already had more than sufficient Alfa Romeos. I don't understand how that can be but I do understand that I shouldn't argue.

The 159 wagon's nice new (relatively) clutch has decided to start slipping - and keep slipping, and get gradually worse. Plus, some drivetrain (wheel speed not engine speed) noises that appear to be inboard (so differential or gearbox output - not wheel bearings) mean that the 159 wagon is having a holiday in the workshop until the cause of these problems is found and cured. Which is fine for it, but was yet another reason for no Green's Easter camping trip this year.

At least we still have a second Alfa available for "emergency use" pending some more serious maintenance/restoration than the original "get it to stop and go and register it" phase of the 75 Twinspark project. It does stop - but it also really needs new rotors and rebuilt (or new) calipers on the rear - especially if you want a functioning handbrake. Oh - and an engine rebuild. Too many projects....

So the one daily transport Alfa is the 166. Which is very comfortable and fine for getting the groceries but does make me realise just how much we now take the 159 Sportwagon's versatility for granted. It has enough space (especially with the seats down) for a fairly decent load, plus the roof racks on the long (but not too high) roof are handy for collecting building supplies from Bunnings. Since we have owned it the need to borrow a ute has diminished considerably. Which is lucky because the default ute to borrow has, over a similar period, progressed from being a practical tradesman's vehicle to being a practical camping vehicle - enclosed and full of storage and essential equipment, and with a roof mounted tent. The last Bunnings expedition made in it required decamping (removing all the fitted/stored camping gear) before it was useful to transport anything else - but it was at least possible. Since then it has taken one step to further. It is now a high ground clearance, fat tyred, bewinched off road machine that is about as useful for a trip to Bunnings, or to grab some Alfa





panels and parts, as a 4C. At about this point, one could argue that it has ceased to be a utility vehicle and become a very specialised vehicle.

Which brings me to the new Stelvio. Which does look pretty good compared to its competitors, and is surely even more practical than the 159 wagon. After all it's an SUV. But is it really (practical, or an SUV)?

The second question seems easy to answer at first - obviously it is an SUV because all the market comparisons pit it against other luxury SUVs. And nobody seems to be suggesting that it doesn't belong in the category, or fare well in it against the competition. Perhaps what I really should have asked is just what defines a modern SUV. The term Sports Utility Vehicle does after all encapsulate the very tension between Utility and a specialised (Sports) purpose. Does SUV mean a utility vehicle that has sacrificed something to add "sportiness" or is the additional sportiness supposed to preserve and even extend the utility?

Looking over the Stelvio it does seem fairly practical as a load carrier - at least with the seats folded down, and so long as you don't need to carry anything too wide.

The Stelvio has adequate ground clearance (200mm). This is enough to make it a very practical vehicle for traveling on some more remote (or in some cases not that remote) roads. It isn't going to take to off-road rock-hopping - the Giulia - based suspension design isn't suited to that - which can only be a good thing for its on road behaviour.

But if you are taking a Stelvio where it is clearly capable of going and you encounter a well placed, sharp rock that destroys a tyre sidewall - what are you going to do? A can of tyre goo isn't going to help and there is no spare. In this regard the Stelvio is no different to its competition - and maybe this all makes sense if your choice of AWD and some ground clearance is to make the car better at coping with a bit of snow on a trip to a ski-field, or maybe just for getting over carpark speed-bumps. Comparing the Stelvio to the 159 wagon it isn't really clear which is genuinely the better utility vehicle. More ground clearance gets the tick, but against that the 159 actually manages to carry a (full size) spare tyre - something I've been thankful for often enough to be reluctant to give it up.

All vehicles are a compromise - and value for money is a big part of it. For most usage, the Stelvio looks to retain most of the best features of the Giulia with the ability to go a few places where it can't, but more importantly, to fit more stuff in - without costing substantially more. If that sounds appealing - great. If you have a more uncompromising definition of utility vehicle - have a look at the Finale page - it might be just what you need...

PS - Applications for the job of editor remain open!



PRESIDENTE

john anderson

"Alfa Romeo is more than a mere car factory. Its products are something more than conventionally built automobiles. It's a kind of fever, this enthusiasm for a means of transport. It's a way of life, a very particular conception of the motor vehicle. Some-

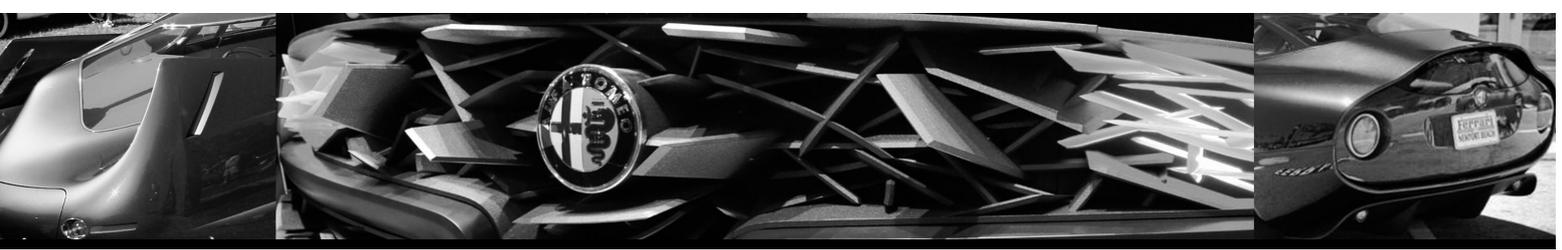
The other day, I was musing on what it means to be an Alfisti. I often do so, especially when I'm enjoying being out on the road in my Alfa (things happen rather too quickly when I'm on the track for that, even in my car). It's at that point, when you're behind the wheel, feeling the road, hearing the engine, and watching the landscape move past you that you understand what draws us to this quirky little Italian brand.

Everyone is different, but for me it's that bark from the exhaust when you blip the throttle, it's the pleasure at appreciating the visual design of both the interior and exterior, it's the handling and performance combination, it's that glance back after you've parked as you walk away. And for some 116, 916, 147, 156, and even 159/Brera owners now, it's all that for an incredibly value-for-money price. As long as you know how to buy a good one, and then cheaply address any age-related mechanical issues.

That's one of the advantages of club membership of course. Whether you have a 105 GTV or a 147 JTD, chances are that someone else in the club has one or has had one, and can at least give you a bit of advice, if not a hand. For myself, I am constantly amazed at how much knowledge is in the heads of people at Club Nights or Social events or at the track or wherever around the club activities that you find people.

And that's probably what it means to be an Alfisti the most - we will all have different knowledge levels about our cars, and like them for different reasons. But we do like them, and we love being around other Alfisti who similarly 'get' what the brand is all about. It's what binds this club together. And I think we have a pretty awesome club, full of awesome people, enjoying an awesome brand, which is like no other. But then again, what do I know?





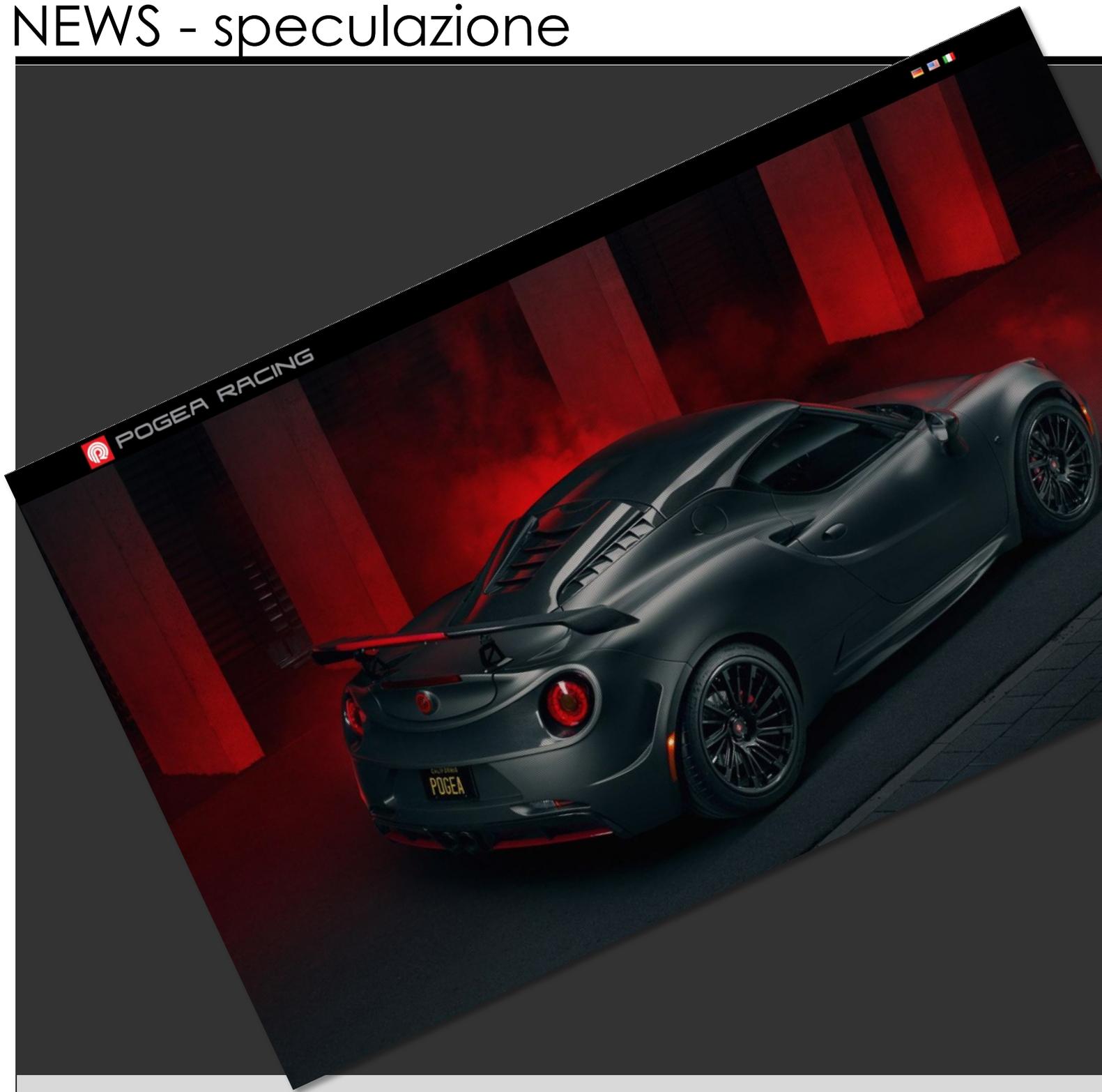
thing that resists definition. Its component parts are like those irrational traits of the human spirit that cannot be explained with logical terminology."

- Orazio Satta Puliga, 1969

We restarted our Alfesta journey recently, discussing the first point from which all other decisions flow - the venue. Nothing is (yet) set in stone, and a number of venues are on the table. You'd be surprised at how hard it is to find a decent venue outside of the CBD with at least 50 rooms, and which doesn't cost an arm and a leg. And one that is likely to still be in business in 2020, or is near decent drives that showcase some of what our state has to offer. Especially when we've more or less ruled out the Sunshine Coast because the modifications to the Bruce Hwy won't be done soon enough (imagine what the after work run on the Thursday night before Easter will be like), and the Gold Coast because we went there last time (and traffic isn't much better). If you want to be part of the process, the next Alfesta 2020 meeting will be on Thursday May 17th from 7pm at my home, 118 Carrara St Mt Gravatt East. Let me know if you're coming on president@arocaqld.com, so that I know how many Tim Tams to buy.

Ciao for now,
John Anderson





The Germans have been busy. Pogeia Racing have released a very quick version of the 4C that takes the engine from 1750cc to 1950cc. With revised internals and a bigger turbocharger the engine now produces 356kW (up from the already impressive 177kW standard). The 4C Nemesis also incorporates revised suspension and aerodynamics (not to mention cooling). Apparently there is an Australian buyer among those that have placed a deposit. Quite where that buyer is planning on using 0-100km/h in 3.6 seconds and a top speed over 300 km/h is not clear.



The rumour mill is now insistent that there will be a 2 door version of the Giulia (whatever it ends up being called) and that it will offer a hybrid drivetrain - or 2 of them. The rumours of a system giving the top of the line Quadrifoglio version a big boost in power and acceleration seem plausible as a necessary next step in showing that Alfa Romeo is serious about performance and not prepared to rest on its laurels (even though, having been removed from the badge, the laurels themselves are getting a rest).

The drivetrain that is provoking more questioning is the rumoured 50kW electric power boost to the 206 kW 2.0 L turbo currently seen in the Giulia Veloce. The 50kW power boost is more than most mild hybrid solutions that replace the alternator and starter with a hybrid system are capable of, so that simplest to engineer solution isn't likely to do the job. Existing through the road parallel hybrid solutions typically add a motor/generator to the rear axle of an otherwise conventional front-wheel-drive platform. It isn't clear that adding a front drive electric solution to a RWD, front engined platform will be as simple or be able to borrow much technology from existing solutions. Perhaps FCA is using Alfa Romeo to push the envelope while catching up with other automakers on hybrid technology - but even if that is the case the (rumoured) timelines are tight. This wouldn't be the first time that an Alfa Romeo rumour, even if right, was late to market... Watch this space - but don't hold your breath.



164 Procar - 13,500 rpm V10
<https://youtu.be/DoQiy81qb2c>



610HP Alfa Romeo Giulia Quadrifoglio by Pogea
<https://youtu.be/wS033VlnANE>

facebook



Alfa Romeo Owners Club of Australia Queensland

Hey folks, did you know that you DON'T have to be registered on Facebook to view the page?
It's as simple as googling `aroca qld facebook` and clicking the link..... Or follow the link from the club web site!



75 Comparison 3.0, Turbo Evoluzione, Twin Spark

<https://youtu.be/RsAkiRKfWHM>



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SOCIALE

john anderson (until someone else volunteers)

Our usual April 'minimal' approach (due to Alfesta) meant that there was just one Social event - our Gallery and Dinner Night on the 22nd. Unfortunately the Flu hit me that morning, but Vice Prez Keith Faulkner took over proceedings. Around 20 people, including some newer members, first enjoyed a tour of members Danny and Barbara Newland's Bim Bam Gallery at Scarborough, and then moved on to dinner at the Moreton Bay Boat Club. From the pictures and the article Keith wrote for this magazine, it was a fabulous night. I can't wait to check out the gallery for myself at some point soon.

The Beaudesert Rotary Club Scenic Rim Observation Run hasn't happened as I write, but it will have done by the time you read this. So I guess you'll hear about it at Club night.



On Sunday May 20th, I'll be leading a run through the Scenic Rim. We'll start at Purga Nature reserve at 840 Middle Rd Purga at 10 am. It's a lovely little spot, so you might like to arrive a little early and enjoy the bush for a bit. We'll then head south using the back roads to Aratula, then a short stint on the highway before turning off towards Lake Moogerah. We'll skirt the lake, and ultimately, we'll end up at the Scenic Rim Brewery (898 Reckumpilla St, Mount Alford) for a platter lunch.

The following Sunday (May 27th) is the Sports and Classic Car Festival, otherwise known as Mac's Bridge, at the Queensland Rifle Association Belmont Range, 1485 Old Cleveland Road, Belmont. This annual car show attracts around 400 classic cars of all shapes, sizes, nationalities and ages, so it's a petrolhead's paradise! You can show your car as part of the Alfa group, or just come along and have a look. AROCA Club member, Tony Nelson, will again be co-coordinating our participation in the event. If you are intending to display your car, please contact Tony ASAP so he can keep register your interest and keep you updated: midweekdrives@arocaql.com. You'll also have to register and pay for the event on the Maclean's Bridge website: <http://macleansbridge.com/index.php/macleans-bridge>



Coming up in June, we have the Club's Birthday run on June 17th (thanks to Rob and Shirly Grant for organising). Gather at 9.30 am for a 10.00 am start at Amart furniture carpark, corner of Gympie Rd and Todds Rd Lawnton. We will travel via Dayboro, Woodford, Maleny, and finish at the General Store in Witta for lunch. Weather permitting we can park our cars on the grassed area beside the General Store.

The duration of the run is approx. 2 hrs including a comfort stop at Cruice Park. If you would like to arrive early at the start, for a coffee, Wheelhouse Coffee, which is next to Amart, is open from 8.00 am. As always, RSVP to social@arocaql.com by June 10th. In your reply please include your car, number of members and mobile number.

And if you like to plan waaay ahead, there's a run on July 22nd through the Numinbah Valley in the Gold Coast Hinterland organised by John Ryan and Graham Bredhauer (thanks guys!). So put it in your calendars.

See you at the next event!

JA



COMPETIZIONE

mark jackson

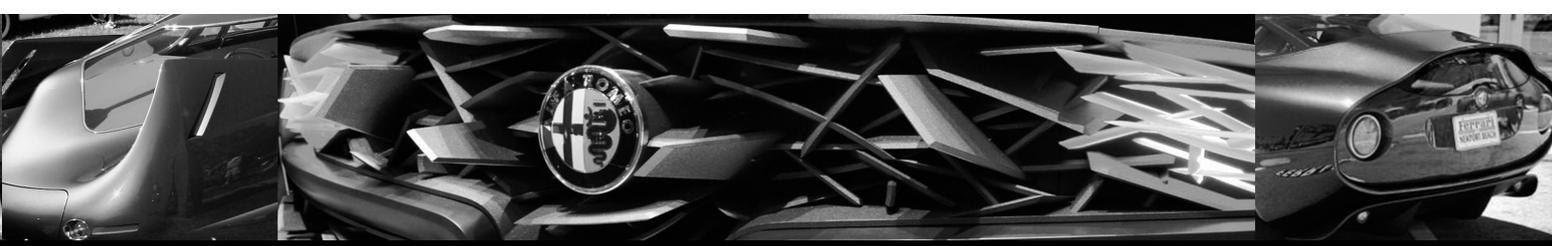
The competition year is now starting to hot up with another event completed in April and with two more to follow early in May.

T124 Italian Challenge Sprint Series Round 2 April 14th at Lakeside – We were actually over subscribed for this event with 16 Alfas and Fiats entered, plus another bloke in a Toyota 86 who'd entered the wrong event. There were 10 Alfas running plus 6 Fiats, and we got multiple runs as there were only three groups running. No one had any serious mechanical issues, although I split yet another hose in the 147 and Serge got pinged for excessive noise. It was great to see some seriously quick cars joining us, and Peter Parianos and Joel O'Farrell duly finished first and second in the sprint. Doug Stonehouse got quicker and quicker in his new, nicely prepared GT, as did Andre Vishnevskii, Jorrit Koolstra and Martin Kelly in their first runs at Lakeside. Phil O'Callaghan is gradually getting the Giulia Sprint sorted out again, and Graeme Berry used his experience at Lakeside to comfortably take out the Regularity aspect of the competition.

T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 1 May 5th/6th at Qld Raceway – The magazine deadline means that the report on this event will be in next month's magazine.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Supersprint B Series Round 2 May 12th/13th at Morgan Park Warwick - This consists of 6 to 8 timed 3 or 4 lap runs of one of the various Morgan Park configurations. Pre-registration is mandatory for this series.



T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 2 June 2nd/3rd at Lakeside - Round 2 of a 4-round series open to all Italian marque cars. Enter online via the QR website - <https://qldraceways.com.au/secure/members/login.php> Entry fee \$330, paid direct to T124 - <https://t124.com/shop1/>

Supersprint B Series Round 3 June 16th/17th at Morgan Park Warwick - This consists of 6 to 8 timed 3 or 4 lap runs of one of the various Morgan Park configurations. Pre-registration is mandatory for this series.

For more details on any of these events contact the AROCA Competition Secretary at competition@arocaqld.com or 0413122839

See you at the track
Mark Jackson



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Extra passengers: \$10.00 each
Visitors (including parking): \$10.00 per car
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Activities for all sports and classic car enthusiasts. Proudly presented by the Triumph Sports Owners Association Queensland for the enjoyment of all sports and classic car club members and enthusiasts.

On Sunday 22 April, almost twenty members travelled to Scarborough on the Redcliffe Peninsula to enjoy a fascinating viewing of indigenous art at the Bim Bam Gallery, followed by a relaxing dinner at the Moreton Bay Boat Club.

Despite a less than encouraging weather forecast, the afternoon and evening looked clear, so Sally and I fired up the Spider, put the top down and headed the short distance “across the bridges” (the Houghton Highway and Ted Smout Memorial Bridge – Australia’s second longest bridges) to Redcliffe.

President John Anderson was, unfortunately, down with a bout of the flu, so Sally and I arrived a little early to catch up with our hosts, Club members Danny and Barbara Newland, and await the arrival of the other attendees.

Danny and Barbara are experienced art collectors and gallery owners (although their CVs include a wide and interesting variety of other accomplishments), having opened the original Bim Bam at Byron bay in 2005. They lived and travelled extensively in northern Australia in recent years and have returned to Brisbane to re-establish Bim Bam.

Their current newly-renovated house at 46 North Quay, Scarborough, boasts a purpose-built, air-conditioned gallery space and office on the ground floor, where an extensive and broad range of Aboriginal fine art and crafts are displayed.

As the other Club members arrived for the evening, they were warmly welcomed by our hosts and offered a glass of champagne, beer or juice before being treated to a personal tour of the items on display. Barbara and Danny have an enormous passion for indigenous art and Barbara’s encyclopaedic knowledge of the artists and their works gave great background and insight into each piece.

Bim Bam purchases their artwork outright from the artists, rather than selling on commission, so the artists receive the reward for their efforts and talents immediately.

If you are interested in art, whether for investment or personal enjoyment, Bim Bam is highly recommended for a visit - Danny and Barbara even offer a discount for AROCA members.

As well as being passionate about indigenous art, motorsport has also played a big part of their lives and Danny has an interesting – and very personal – collection of motoring memorabilia. A couple of us were lucky enough to receive a personal tour of these items while the others were still engrossed in the artworks.

With our minds full of art and culture, it was then time to satisfy other appetites, so we headed off to the Moreton Bay Boat Club, about 250 metres away, for dinner. Although we had confirmed our booking for about a dozen members, the MBBC happily accommodated our extra numbers.

Our orders came out promptly and I can certainly say I enjoyed my mushroom risotto, washed down with a very nice glass of Tassie Josef Chromy Pinot Noir - which brought back fond memories of Alfesta 2017!

Many thanks to the members who attended and special thanks, of course, to our gracious gallery hosts Danny and Barbara.

BIM BAM INDIGEN



OUS ART AND BAY BOAT CLUB DINNER

Keith Falkner



MID-WEEK DRIVE

DON'T TELL ANYONE IT IS A SECRET

tony nelson

In my invitation to registered Mid-Week Drivers, as I do quite often, I only disclose the general area we will drive to, which for our Wednesday 18th April Mid-Week Drive, was the Sunshine Coast.

Quite often, I do not disclose our breakfast location until after the RSVP date, when I also share the drive details.

The location was scouted out by club stalwarts, Shirley and Rob Grant. It was Secrets on the Lake at 207 Narrows Road, Montville.

We had on the day 19 members attend in 12 cars and I really thank the 20 members who took the time to send me an apology email, advising they could not attend for varying circumstances on the day.

I can promise you we will be returning to this location, as everything was excellent. Our ladies were each presented with a rose.

As it turned out, our President received an email from this establishment telling him about it and as all social events for 2018 are now in place, John forwarded the email to me before the RSVP date, just in case I might like to try out the location. I was able to reply to his email, saying this was in fact the location we were going to!

We had new members who had also registered to receive MWD invitations. Sue and David Baines joined us for the first time and I am always happy to see how new MWD members are welcomed to our growing group.

The day was a bit like being in Melbourne. Sunny followed by clouds, followed by rain, and then teeming down rain, followed by sun. No demisters in 1974 cars and I did find a leak I will have to attend to.

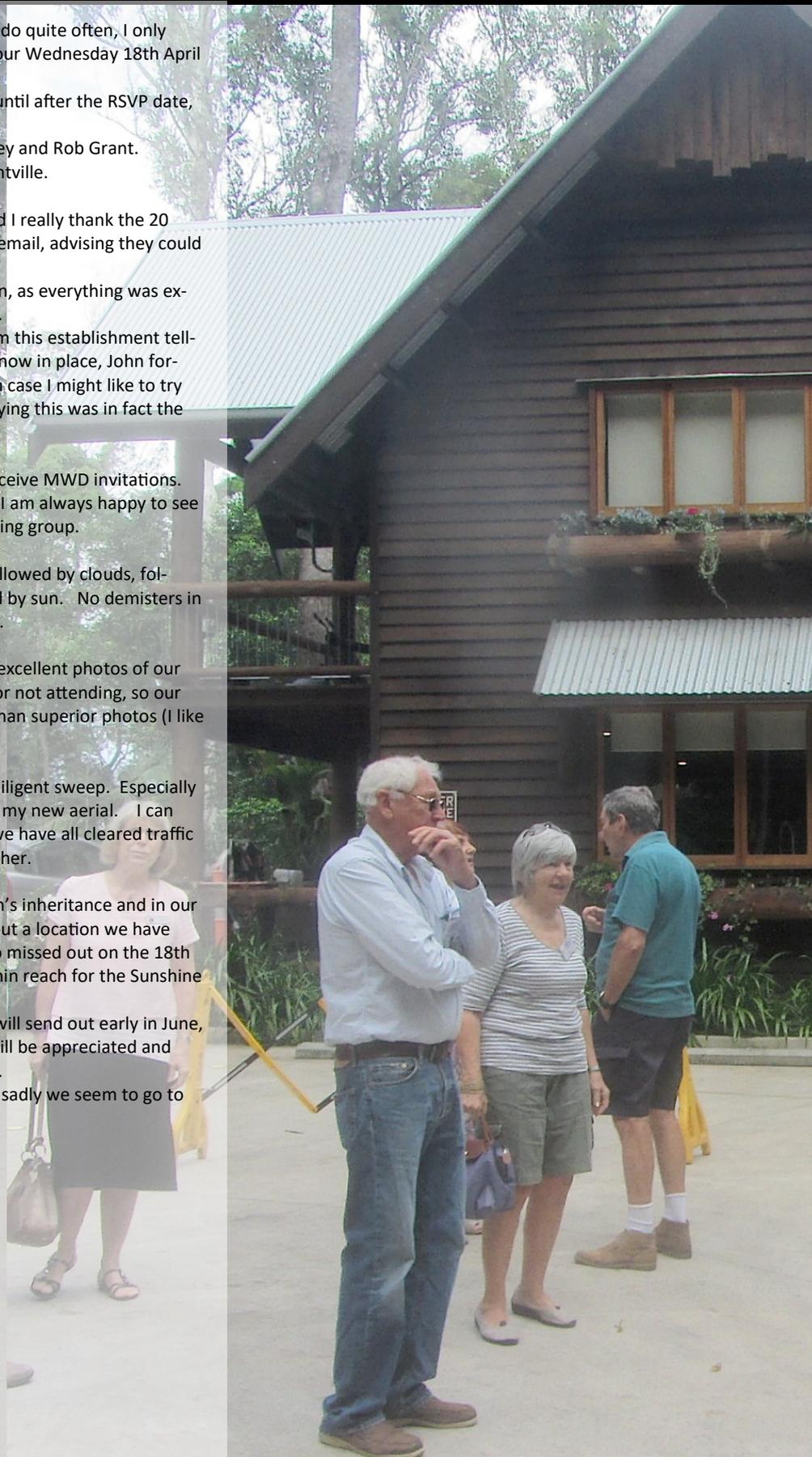
Sadly, Cheryl and Alan Leahy, who have been taking excellent photos of our events, were among the members who apologised for not attending, so our Editor and you will just have to put up with my less than superior photos (I like a challenge - ed).

Again I have to thank Tim Clarkson for being such a diligent sweep. Especially now that I have great CB radio communications with my new aerial. I can never see the tail of our convoy and his advice that we have all cleared traffic lights, important turns ensures our group stays together.

We are off again trying to spend more of our children's inheritance and in our absence, Shirley and Rob Grant have again scouted out a location we have never visited before. Sunshine Coast members who missed out on the 18th April event may wish to join in, as the location is within reach for the Sunshine Coast MWD members. No more clues.

MWD drivers look out for the email invitation which I will send out early in June, before we leave. An early reply to Shirley and Rob will be appreciated and again, a good manners apology, if you cannot attend.

I always look out for Alfa Romeos on our travels, but sadly we seem to go to places they are in limited numbers.





SAVE THE DATES:

Sunday 27th May - Join with other AROCA members and hopefully a few Fiat members in our club display at Mac's Bridge. I am arranging the display parking for our club and also the Jaguar Club. I just need you to pay your entry and then email me advising you have done, so I can reserve a display space for you on the day. More details on the club website – Full Calendar and don't get put off by the new name. Classic, sports or new models are also welcome to display. I am using the MWD email address. I can assure you will not receive MWD invitations until you request them to be sent to you, on another link on the website.

Sunday 26th August – A Day in the Country – Multi Marque Charity Day. Again more details in Full Calendar on the club website. We already have members registering for this event, as once we reach our 200 car capacity for all the marques attending on the day, we will have to advise late registrations they will have to go on a waiting list and may not be able to attend on the day. Best to register now.

For both these save the date events, you are most welcome to use your club registered car, as long as you follow Queensland Government rules.



RISULTATI

ALFACOMP 2018 POINTSCORE 14th APRIL

EVENT	Spr	Reg	S/S	Spr	Reg
	1	1	1	2	2
1 Serge Oberhauser	20	12	16	14	6
2 Graeme Berry	12	9	6	10	20
3 Mark Jackson	14	5	10	12	9
4 Andrei Vishnevskii	6	16	0	9	14
5 Jorritt Koolstra	16	7	0	8	10
6 Doug Stonehouse	0	0	14	11	11
7 Phil O'Callaghan	11	8	0	7	8
8 Peter Parianos	0	0	0	20	12
9 Col Densley	10	20	0	0	0
10 Peter Salmon	7	11	9	0	0
11 Joel O'Farrell	0	0	0	16	7
11 Stephen Callaghan	9	14	0	0	0
13 Martin Kelly	0	0	0	6	16
14 John Coleman	0	0	20	0	0
15 Grant Norman	5	10	0	0	0
16 George Soropos	8	6	0	0	0
17 Alan Broadhurst	0	0	12	0	0
18 Luke Simiana	0	0	11	0	0
19 Jenny Webb	0	0	8	0	0
20 Charles Webb	0	0	7	0	0
21 Simon Bailo	0	0	5	0	0

2018 SPRINT #2-Open Sprint Lakeside Raceway

DRIVER	CAR	CC's	RUN1	RUN2	RUN3	RUN4	RUN5	RUN6	REG PTS	REG	Spr
Peter Parianos	Alfa Sprint	1700T	64.09	61.99	62.91	DNS	DNS	DNS	10.31	12	20
Joel O'farrell	Alfetta GTV	2000	64.73	62.85	62.74	69.06	DNS	DNS	14.78	7	16
Serge Oberhauser	Alfetta GTV 6	3000	66.43	64.69	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	21.73	6	14
Mark Jackson	Alfa 147 GTA	3200	68.07	65.09	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	14.26	9	12
Doug Stonehouse	Alfa GT	3200	66.72	65.95	65.31	65.70	65.20	DNS	11.43	11	11
Graeme Berry	Alfa 156	1968	69.95	69.49	69.37	68.09	DNS	DNS	6.44	20	10
Andrei Vishnevskii	Alfa 156	1970	72.40	70.89	69.76	69.62	70.19	72.04	9.73	14	9
Jorritt Koolstra	Alfa 147 GTA	3200	71.45	70.84	DNS	68.75	69.52	67.77	13.63	10	8
Phil O'Callaghan	Alfa Giulia Sprint	2000	75.70	72.02	71.49	DNS	69.87	69.47	14.56	8	7
Martin Kelly	Alfa 147 JTD	1900	82.46	80.96	79.48	80.85	79.05	78.59	9.52	16	6



Total Events	Total Points	Best Events	Alfacomp Points	Sprint	Reg	S/S	Race
5	68	5	68	34	18	16	
5	57	5	57	22	29	6	
5	50	5	50	26	14	10	
4	45	4	45	15	30	0	
4	41	4	41	24	17	0	
3	36	3	36	11	11	14	
4	34	4	34	18	16	0	
2	32	2	32	20	12	0	
2	30	2	30	10	20	0	
3	27	3	27	7	11	9	
2	23	2	23	16	7	0	
2	23	2	23	9	14	0	
2	22	2	22	6	16	0	
1	20	1	20	0	0	20	
2	15	2	15	5	10	0	
2	14	2	14	8	6	0	
1	12	1	12	0	0	12	
1	11	1	11	0	0	11	
1	8	1	8	0	0	8	
1	7	1	7	0	0	7	
1	5	1	5	0	0	5	



DIRTY WHEELS II - TRANSMISSION TROUBLES

Recently I have had several clients show up with trouble with their automatic transmissions, none of which were really their fault. These are enthusiasts who meticulously care for their cars and follow the maintenance schedule stringently. The transmission in question is the Aisin AF40-6 fitted to Alfa Romeo 159 & Brera/Spider vehicles with 1.9 & 2.4 Diesels and 3.2 V6 with Automatic Transmissions.

Following the Maintenance Schedule – what schedule?

And here is where we fall into trouble, as there IS NO scheduling of maintenance for these transmissions. Go ahead, pull out your owner's manual and take a look, not a mention of anything for the Auto. It gives checks for the manual clutch, the fluid for the Selespeed, even replacement of the front Transmission Idler fluid on the AWD cars, but nothing for the automatic transmission. Why you ask? Because these units are considered "sealed for life" and not requiring any maintenance. (The only mechanical systems I am aware of that require no maintenance for life were shot into space by NASA and are rocketing past Pluto about now!) Because of that, there isn't any filtering system built into the unit to speak of. So as time goes by any particulates that build up in the system stay there, including tiny particles of metal, carbon and all the usual crud created by any hydro-mechanical system from normal wear and tear.

Vulnerable Valves

Inside the transmission there are Hydro-Valves that are used to operate the clutches and brakes for gear shifts and several other functions. So guess where all the built up particles end up? That's right, they block up the valves and other items resulting in everything from rough shifting, grabbing on downshifts, slipping and even complete operational failure of the transmission.

Servicing

In reality, I would advise to have them serviced around every 70,000km or five years, as from this point onwards is where trouble seems to start showing up. And this is the important part, to get it serviced BEFORE trouble starts, as once the valves start to block up and trouble begins to appear, it may be too late to avoid expensive repairs. And if you leave it too late, you'll need to have the Valve Assembly removed for cleaning, or in some cases, you'll need to replace it.

One thing that must be advised against is Power Flushing of the unit. The problem with doing this is that it has just as much chance of forcing built up material into the valves and blocking them completely as it does of cleaning them out. I have been called out to one poor client who had done the right thing, and had the transmission serviced by an Automatic Transmission Specialist, just as a maintenance precaution, only to have it fail completely because of this, requiring the transmission to be replaced.

Just to give you an idea, below is a before and after comparison of fluid that was only 70,000 km old and fresh fluid.

Scary isn't it!



Servicing and flushing of the system will keep the build up of harmful particles to a minimum and the transmission running smoothly.

Little Miss and the Troublesome TCT

Doing this job has its ups and downs, let's face it, the Marquis de Sade of auto engineering was obviously Italian. Fortunately it is the people in the Alfa community that make it all worthwhile. That's right, its people like YOU that always seem to put a smile on my



by baz

face when I really need it.

A couple of months ago I had the pleasure of meeting a wonderful young lady who was having a little trouble with her Giulietta 1.4 TCT. She had wacked the front right guard while reversing out her driveway, and had done the usual damage to the guard, but had somehow also bent the steering arm.

She was most dismayed that it took over 3 weeks for a new part to arrive. She spoke of how she was Italian herself and loved to buy shoes (I'm shocked!), and was mystified as to how she could get Prada shoes from Milan in just 3 days, but had to wait 3 weeks for a car part. Instantly a mental image of a cavernous walk in closet appeared, filled with never ending rows of Prada and Gucci shoes, try picturing something akin to a scene from Disney's "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" (you get the idea).

Whilst the repairs were being carried out she had the car serviced at the same time. Unfortunately, shortly after getting the car returned, the TCT Gearbox started misbehaving. It was exhibiting jerky gear shifts and general roughness in its operation - something that she was annoyed about seeing it had just been serviced.

I explained that these things happen and assured her that it had nothing to do with the timing of the servicing and hopefully all it needed was a calibration. A full diagnostic of the car showed no

errors what so ever anywhere in the car, so a calibration of the gearbox & clutch was carried out.

The test drive...

As we started up in her driveway I asked her what mode did she normally drive in, D,N or A. She didn't understand what I meant so I quickly explained the DNA settings to her and suggested to start off in N mode. For a short while we worked our way through traffic till we were on a more isolated stretch of road, here I suggested she switch to D mode and have some fun with the car. Didn't think that one all the way through, did I?

Well, she put her foot down and the car came to life! You could tell that the "Red Mist" had set in as she assumed the racing position and hunkered down. As the little car whizzed along, the gearbox now working perfectly and smoothly, her eyes widened like huge discs, and a grin akin to that of Batman's "The Joker" appeared on her face. The faster she went the bigger the grin got till she was almost giggling. She was having the time of her life, and starting to scare the hell out of me!

She suddenly turned to me and cried out, "This is AWESOME! You should come with the car!"

BEST - COMPLIMENT - EVER!



STANTHORPE FOOD & WINE WEEKEND 12 - 14 October

Garry Spowart
M 0419 709 416
E treasurer@arocaqld.com

Jude Vaughan
M 0412 942 517
E vetschoice@optusnet.com.au

Well, it's that time of year again... officially the start of Winter, so we're launching into planning the 2018 weekend away on the Granite Belt during the milder Springtime.

As we mentioned last year, the thought of doing a "Brass Monkey Weather" version got a resounding, "stay with Spring" from our members. So, whilst the region throws on four very spectacular seasons (unlike Brisbane), that's what we're doing.

NOW, the most important information for the moment – I have made our normal block booking at the Apple and Grape Motel (www.appleandgrape.com.au) and our hosts, Steve, Helen and Margaret ask that you contact them direct on 07- 4681 1288 or admin@appleandgrape.com.au as these rooms will not show on their internet booking system, & quote Alfa weekend to obtain your special rates. (eg Standard Queen room/2 persons/per night \$135 along with options for Deluxe Queen, Standard Twin etc – upstairs or downstairs, carport or open parking. Prices based on Friday and Saturday nights).

We suggest getting in early as with past years, it's a particularly busy period in Stanthorpe. Most weekends are busy with an amazing array of events. Hence our choice of this particular weekend each year, so it doesn't overlap with annual events such as the Small Winemakers Awards, the following week.

Please phone or email both Garry and Jude to advise that you're attending so we have live-updates on numbers for catering and venues. Closer to time, menu choices will be emailed for your selection.

That's it for now - but Tony and I will be up at the Rock this weekend and commence thoroughly testing out new and interesting places. Food, wine, locations - someone has to do it!!! Only kidding, love food as you know, but wish we could find more time to spend up at our lump of granite. Some exciting new offerings in the wind, so will aim to do an update each month.
Cheers, Jude

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CLUB NIGHT

graham bredhauer

Wow, I think that all who attended our April club night would agree, the Alfa Romeo DNA has well and truly been installed into the new Stelvio. A luxury SUV that has the performance figures of a modern day sports car. Well done Alfa!

Also my latest love, (I can get away with calling her that as long as everyone is clear I am talking about a car and not another woman), was also there. The beautiful Giulia! Never fear my love we will be together soon. My lotto numbers are due to come up any day now.

Thanks to Neil and his team at Brisbane Alfa Romeo Fiat for their kind hospitality on the night.

As suggested by a number of club members **I have organised and paid a deposit for go kart racing at Slideways at Eagle Farm, (<http://gokartingbrisbane.com.au>)**, for our club night on the 13th June. We have gone for the Performance Challenge which includes:

- 1 x 10 minute Practice Session
- 1 x 10 minute Qualifying Session
- 1 x 10 minute Race

The price is \$90 per person + \$10 membership (includes balaclava, membership Valid for 12 months at any Slideways Venue, \$5 renewal, replacement balaclava \$5). So it will cost each person \$100 to participate, calculated on having a minimum of 10 participants. We will assemble from 6:30 with a plan race start somewhere between 7pm & 7:30pm, depending on the final numbers. The Club will provide pizzas and drinks on the night.

I will need final numbers by Wednesday 30th May. So if you are interested, please send me an email at clubnight@arocaqld.com by that deadline to let me know you will be going. I don't want to take deposits from everyone but I do ask that if you say you are going to turn up that you make every effort to do so, as it is important that we get the numbers for the night as close to right as possible.

Our next club night is on the 9th May at Shannon's at West End. Our guest speaker will be Darryl Binch from Leather Finishing Products Australia, who will give us a talk on looking after all things leather, vinyl and fabric. Please assemble from 6.30pm. The Club will provide pizzas and drinks from around 7.00pm and we aim to start the meeting by 7.30pm. I look forward to seeing you all then.

Ciao
Graham





colin densley

MEMBRI



Benvenuti a tutti

Well – we have been to the Far East and back during the month.

The only thing *Alfa* we saw was a Giulietta in Shanghai, a silver 159 sportswagon in Kobe (driven by a westerner) and another Giulietta in Narita. However, we had a Red 488 Ferrari parked in our hotel driveway in Shanghai a yellow 458 in Tokyo and a Lambo Aventadore in a street near the Monkok Street markets in Hong Kong.

We did several Bullet trains during the trip but only one had the speed registering on the screen in the carriage. So, 288 km/h it is. I think one of the other trains in Japan was faster but can't be sure.

The trip was interesting seeing the different cultures, but I was underwhelmed with Japan.

Being down heavily with a cold probably did not help either. Really glad to be home and have a good lamb roast for dinner.

Next year it's Iceland and a bit of Europe.

A big Thank You to Jude and Garry Spowart for looking after the new arrivals.

Keeping it in the Alfa Family - member Ben Silver driving a local veteran in the Tenterfield Anzac day parade. Both Ben and the Berlina have a long history in the AROCA Qld club - as does Ben and Jess's son Henry in the back seat.

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EVENTI

MAY 2018

Sat 5	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 1 Day 1 - Qld Raceway, Willowbank
Sun 6	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 1 Day 2 - Qld Raceway, Willowbank
Wed 9	Members' Club Night - Shannons, West End
Sat 12	Supersprint B Series Round 2 Day 1 - Morgan Park Warwick
Sun 13	Supersprint B Series Round 2 Day 2 - Morgan Park Warwick
Sun 20	David Hack Classic 2018 - Spitfire Street, Toowoomba Airport, Toowoomba
Sun 20	Scenic Rim run - Willowbank to Spicer's Gap
Sun 27	Sports and Classic Car Festival - AKA Mac's Bridge - Belmont Rifle Range
Wed 30	June Magazine Publishing Deadline - --

JUNE 2018

Sat 2	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 2 Day 1 - Lakeside Raceway, Dakabin
Sun 3	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 2 Day 2 - Lakeside Raceway, Dakabin
Wed 13	Member's Club Night - GO CARTING - Slideways at Eagle Farm
Sat 16	Supersprint B Series Round 3 Day 1 - Morgan Park Warwick
Sun 17	Club Birthday Run - Lawnton to Witta
Sun 17	Supersprint B Series Round 3 Day 2 - Morgan Park Warwick
Wed 27	July Magazine Publishing Deadline - --

JULY 2018

Wed 11	Members' Club Night - Shannons, West End
Sat 14	T124 Italian Challenge Sprint Series Round 3 - Qld Raceway, Willowbank
Sun 22	Numinbah Valley run - TBA
Wed 25	August Magazine Publishing Deadline - --
Sat 28	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Bonus Round Day 1 - Wakefield Park, Goulburn, NSW
Sun 29	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Bonus Round Day 2 - Wakefield Park, Goulburn, NSW

AUGUST 2018

Wed 8	Members' Club Night - Shannons, West End
Sun 12	Bellthorpe Range Run - Caboolture to Palmwoods T124 Italian Challenge Sprint Series Round 4 - Queensland Raceway, Willowbank
Sun 26	A Day in the Country Charity Day - Peak's Crossing
Wed 29	September Magazine Publishing Deadline - --

UPCOMING EVENTS

Scenic Rim Run Sunday 20 May

If you love views of the Scenic Rim, you won't want to miss this one. Starting in the car park of the Purga Nature reserve at Purga at 10 am, we'll head south using the back roads to Aratula, then a short stint on the highway before turning off towards Clumber. Ultimately, we'll end up at the Scenic Rim Brewery for a platter lunch. RSVP to social@arocaqld.com.

Classic Car Festival at Belmont Sunday 27 May. See event flyer on page 17.

Tony Nelson will again be co-coordinating our participation in this event. If you are intending to display your car, please contact Tony ASAP so he can register your interest and keep you updated: midweekdrives@arocaqld.com

Go Kart Racing Wednesday 13 June at Slideways

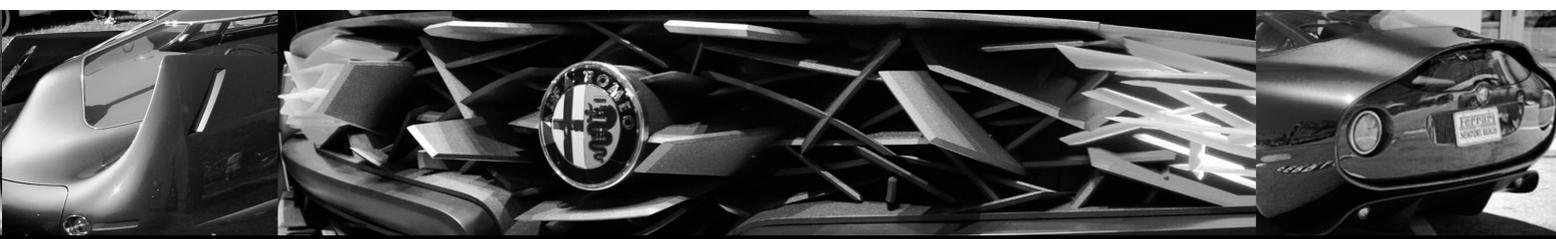
(<http://gokartingbrisbane.com.au>) Full details in Club Night column, page 28. Please email club-night@arocaqld.com by Wednesday 30th May if attending.

Club Birthday Run Sunday 17th June

Join founding members Rob and Shirley Grant for the club's birthday run. Gather at 9.30 am for a 10.00 am start at Amart furniture carpark, corner of Gympie Rd and Todds Rd Lawnton.

We will travel via Dayboro, Woodford, Maleny, and finish at Witta General Store for lunch. Duration of the run is approx. 2 hrs including a comfort stop at Cruice Park. In your reply please include your car, number of members and mobile number. If you would like to arrive early at the start Wheelhouse Coffee is next to Amart and is open from 8.00 am. RSVP 10th June social@arocaqld.com

For the latest updates on these and other events see the club website www.arocaqld.com



SEPTEMBER 2018

Sat 1	Supersprint B Series Round 4 Day 1 - Morgan Park Warwick
Sun 2	Supersprint B Series Round 4 Day 2 - Morgan Park Warwick
Wed 12	Club Night (AGM) - Shannon's, West End
Sun 16	Run to the Barn - Redbank to Flagstaff Creek
Wed 26	October Magazine Publishing Deadline - --
Sat 29	T124 FOIM Regularity - Lakeside Raceway, Dakabin
Sat 29	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 3 Day 1 - Lakeside Raceway, Dakabin
Sun 30	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 3 Day 2 - Lakeside Raceway, Dakabin

OCTOBER 2018

Wed 10	Alfa-Fiat Bocce Challenge - Bocce Courts, Newmarket
Fri 12	Stanthorpe Weekend Away Day 1 - Stanthorpe
Sat 13	Stanthorpe Weekend Away Day 2 - Stanthorpe
Sun 14	Stanthorpe Weekend Away Day 3 - Stanthorpe
Sun 14	Festitalia 2018 - Spencer Park, Newmarket
Sun 21	JH Classics Day - JH Classics, Yatala
Wed 31	November Magazine Publishing Deadline - --

NOVEMBER 2018

Sat 3	T124 Italian Challenge Sprint Series Round 5 - Lakeside Raceway, Dakabin
Sun 11	Gold Coast Hinterland Run - Gold Coast Hinterland
Wed 14	Members' Club Night - Shannons, West End
Sat 17	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 4 Day 1 - Lakeside Raceway, Dakabin
Sun 18	T124 Italian Challenge Race Series Round 4 Day 2 - Lakeside Raceway, Dakabin

DECEMBER 2018

Sun 2	2018 AROCA Christmas party - TBA
Wed 5	December Magazine Publishing Deadline - --

APRIL 2019

Fri 19	Alfesta 2019 - Day 1 - Mornington Peninsular, Victoria
Sat 20	Alfesta 2019 - Day 2 - Mornington Peninsula, Victoria
Sun 21	Alfesta 2019 - Day 3 - Mornington Peninsula, Victoria
Mon 22	Alfesta 2019 - Day 4 - Mornington Peninsula, Victoria



CLASSIFICATO

The Classifieds sections of the Club magazine and Club website provide the opportunity to seek, sell or swap Alfa Romeo related items. This is a free service to both members and non-members, provided the classified is of a non-commercial nature.

Classifieds selling or seeking services are not accepted. Please contact the Committee Member responsible for magazine advertising (advertising@arocaqld.com) to place these type of notices in the Club magazine.

To submit a new classified, visit the Club website (www.arocaqld.com), click on the "Classifieds" menu button and select "Submit an Advert" from the drop-down list. Complete the online form, making sure you fill in all the mandatory fields.

Your classified can be up to 6,500 characters long and you may also upload one digital image. The image must be in .JPG format and be less than 1Mb in size. Please check the spelling and punctuation of your classified before clicking on the "Submit" button.

If you experience any problems submitting your classified online, please contact the Classifieds Editor (Phone: 0403 878 749 or email: classifieds@arocaqld.com). A classified will remain listed for three months unless the classified owner requests otherwise.

To request a change to an existing classified or to cancel an existing classified, visit the Club website (www.arocaqld.com), click on the "Classifieds" menu button and select "Change/Cancel Advert" from the drop-down list. Complete and submit the online form.

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Under Queensland law, registered vehicles offered for sale must have a current and valid Safety Certificate available for perusal by prospective purchasers from the time the vehicle is offered for sale. Failure to do so may result in prosecution by State authorities. No classifieds will be published if they include "RWC/ Safety Certificate on sale" or similar statements.

Wanted Alfa 156 2001-2002 V6 Front Body [View Photo]

After a parts car to replace the damaged metal bodywork, engine rails, bumper, headlights, etc on a 156 with a damaged nose. Prefer the parts not the whole donor car. | \$Reasonable | Contact: Carl, 429724053, ccqld@hotmail.com (Expires: Jul 20)



Wanted 156 Car Bra

If anyone has a Car Bra for a Series 1 (pre-facelift) Alfa 156 that they'd like to sell, please let me know. | \$Negotiable | Contact: John, 0416171773, jando7@hotmail.com (Expires: Jul 2)

For Sale 2007 Alfa Romeo 147 JTD

Hatchback Red Diesel, 130000 kms Son has moved interstate. Rego due April 20 | \$900 ono | Contact: Linda, 0418386550, Linda@Tunny.com.au (Expires: Aug 3)

For Sale Alfa 156ti Log Books [View Photo]

Complete set of 5 books in as New condition With Black zip cover including: (1) Service Book; (2) Alfa 156 & 156Gta Australian version; (3) Alfa Care, The Alfa Romeo owner Support Program; (4) Sound System; (5) Warranty & Maintenance Schedule - stamped up to 65000 km Service. Will post within Australia for an extra \$10 or you can pick up from Robina. | \$30 | Contact: Ronald, 0435112223, rgor8292@gmail.com (Expires: Jul 10)





For Sale 2000 Alfa Romeo Spider [View Photo]
Special edition gold colour. Excellent condition for it's age. No expense has been spared maintaining this car. Only 97 000 km's. Full service history. Selling this car feels like selling a child, but unfortunately it's time to get something more practical for my job. | \$8,500 | Contact: Sam, 0437 276 780, samshepmusic1@gmail.com (Expires: Jun 30)



For Sale 2009 Brera [View Photo]
Remember the airport billboards when these were new? I just HAD to get one. Brera is the modern day 105 coupe - the style, the driveability, an absolute future classic. My car is a 2009 model, in Misano Blu with Charcoal/Grey leather trim. This car has done a genuine 56,000km. It is very tidy, very comfortable and drives beautifully. It has the 2.2litre JTS motor with 6 speed manual gearbox, quite powerful enough to be a fun drive. Buy this and enjoy a modern classic now. | \$15,500 | Contact: Ian, 0412 720 234, hylandian47@gmail.com (Expires: Jun 20)



For Sale 3 X Alfa GTV
(1) 1976 Alfetta GT, twin 45 webbers, tuned extractors, bilstein shocks, 15 inch Bathurst globes, f'glass body kit, good upholstery, 2 pac paint. No rust, good driver. (2) 1981 GTV 2000 ready for reno to be completed. All rust removed, engine out. This is very straight car, full

Zenda body kit (side skirts etc). (3) 1979 GTV donor car - rusty but complete. 2.5 V6 and transaxle and all running gear, seats from Alfa 90. Many collectibles as well. One package the lot. They have to go. | \$9,900 o.n.o. | Contact: Russell, 0429933575, rsdoyle@bigpond.com (Expires: Jun 19)

For Sale Personalised Rego Plates

QLD rego number 00105 - 1 normal and 1 slimline in red with white letters to suit 105 series Alfa. Was on our 1975 spider; now have 939 spider. | \$550.00 | Contact: Neil, 0412012763, gs_ndc@dodo.com.au (Expires: Jun 15)

For Sale Brera Spider Convertible [View Photo]

A beautiful 2007 build 2009 compliance 2.2 JTS Selespeed twin spark. In original as new condition. Only travelled 42,725kms. One owner. Meticulously looked after and driven on occasional weekends and to Alfesta events including Tasmania. Looks spectacular in Grigo Touring (dark metallic silver) with Charcoal and grey leather trim. Rego current to 09/18 | \$21,500.00 | Contact: Warren, 0424155513, janespence@y7mail.com (Expires: Jun 7)



For Sale 1984 Alfetta GCL

Excellent condition throughout. recent ring gear replacement and starter, reco steering rack, new doughnuts. Car presents well in silver and has nil rust. The motor is strong with compression of 175 on each cylinder and nil oil consumption. the carpet has been renewed as has the headlining. This vehicle has two sets of wheels: Momo 15 inch black powder coated mags and also a full set of Campagnolo wheels. Air con has also a reco compressor and is working well. Drives like new . | \$10,000 ono | Contact: Wayne, 0497301762, paddy-cat1@outlook.com (Expires: May 18)

For Sale Alfa 75 3.0 1989 5sp manual [View Photo]

This car is in excellent condition. It has been

my daily driver and has been serviced regularly by Richard Anderson of Avanti and more recently by Automotion. Over the past twenty years it's owners have been Rowan Jackson, Lindsay Granger, Michael Lew and myself. Registered with current Safety Certificate supplied. Thorneside QLD. | \$14,500 | Contact: Martin, 0438186820, martin@teamrace.com.au (Expires: May 13)



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