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For information on the club and general enquiries call any of the above members, or visit our Web Site: [www.cmitas.org](http://www.cmitas.org)

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The Segretario

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or email

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**Advertising rates**

1/4 page \$7.50 per issue

1/3 page \$10.00 per issue

1/2 page \$15.00 per issue

Full page \$25.00 per issue

**Full yearly Membership fees:**

1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012

Social \$45

Motorsport/Competition \$65

Family \$90

(2 adults + kids under 18—

Family rate allows up to two competition members.)

Note: Applicants who wish to join part-way through the year will be charged a pro-rata membership fee based on the number of months left in the membership year. See the application form for details.

**Meetings**

Southern members meet on the first Tuesday of each month, February through to December, upstairs at the Civic Club, 134 Davey Street, Hobart.

The committee meeting is held between 6.30-8.15 pm and the social gathering follows at 8.15pm. Drop in one night.

In the North, Italian Car Enthusiasts (ICE) meet informally on the second Tuesday of each month at the Riverside Hotel, Launceston, starting at 7.00 pm. Contact Sabina Toscan at

tasuniforms@bigpond.com.au

CMI's AGM is held at 7.00 pm on the first Tuesday of September at the Civic Club, Hobart.

**All contributions to Veloce Nota are welcome and when published earn points towards the Clubman of the Year Award.**

**Please send all letters and contributions to The Editor:**

fionalmadigan@yahoo.com.au

**Disclaimer**

While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information, advice and responses in this newsletter, neither Club Motori Italia Inc nor its officers or members accept liability for any loss or damage arising.



## From the Editor

I was watching an episode of Top Gear the other day (an old one of course) and there was a story about the anniversary of the British Touring Car championships. They showed footage of races from the 60s and 70s and as Richard Hammond noted, they were all cars your “dad drove”. The Fiats, Lancias and Minis, were all recognizable as the cars you would see on the street.

The same goes for footage from Bathurst in the past, all cars you could see in the shopping centre car park, racing around, crashing and generally being very entertaining.

This just doesn't happen anymore. I'm sure that others can tell the difference between all the cars racing around the track professionally these days, but for the average viewer like me, I am hard pressed to tell the difference between a Ford and a Holden.

Makes me wish for the good old days (and I am not that old).

On another note, I have to tell you all that this will be my 2nd last magazine.

I am putting out the call for someone to take over the reins after the next issue. I have enjoyed producing this magazine, but between work and 2 growing boys, time is not as available as it was.

Let me know if you are interested and I can show you what is involved.

In this issue you will see a report from Ryan Russell on our trip to Miena. It was a great run through some absolutely amazing scenery.

We have also just had the Baskerville Regularity. This was an event that the Committee had worked hard to organise and unfortunately the numbers

entered were not enough for the club to break even.

It would be good to see more participation from members so that these events can keep happening.

Check out our club captain's report for a run down of the event.

Till next time.

Fiona

**Memberships are**

**now due.**

**Contact Membership**

**Officer Robert Madigan**



**Ahead Of The Rest**

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Glenorchy  
(03) 627 335 00

The advertisement features a red touring car with various sponsor logos (including Dunaleys and a house icon) and the number 632 on its side, driving on a track. The background is a blurred landscape. The text 'Ahead Of The Rest' is written in a stylized, italicized font. The North Shore Realty logo consists of a stylized house icon with the letters 'NSR' inside, and the words 'NORTH SHORE REALTY' to its right. Below the logo, the address and phone number are listed.



# ***VINAKA ALFA FIAT***

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Like many, I am going to put hand on heart and say I love weekends. In fact, these days I really love them, I like the peace and quiet. Well it is at the moment, as I don't have the stress of normal work pressures to contemplate right now. As I write this, the other half, regrettably for her, is at work, and so I can relax. The cats are outside, the sun is shining, a Lavazza is most definitely needed and will be made, steam brimming from the cup, to help inspiration.

You see, I recently broke my leg, on a ski trip to Mt Hotham (Victoria) and it is kind of funny (though bloody awkward much of the time) in hobbling around the home, trying to get things done, which I would otherwise have taken for granted now take on a whole new challenge. For instance, with all this rain we have recently had, the Alfa was looking decidedly grubby, the wheels once nice and silvery were a dull shade of carbon black (I suspect that must be 2 shades darker than gun metal grey !!). So with hose in one hand, crutch under the other arm I was able to hose it down.

Then of course came the need to sponge the sleek panels down with warm soapy water. But how do you get a full bucket of said suds from the house to where the car was out on the road?

The missus of course—as the cats can't do that for me, and the only other option was to crawl along the gravel driveway.

But no, that would have been far

too unpleasant and silly. Of course, given how dependant I am on Patricia right now, there is always going to be some payback.

I mean there I was sleeping in nicely this morning (given it was Saturday) when she decided she wanted a cup of tea. Now obviously given I am a little restricted in my movements at the moment you might have thought this request would have been better served by herself getting up and making one for both of us, but no.

And so that is the lot of my life currently; I managed to fully bathe the Alfa and it was back to its normally good looking self, but now I need to do other work around the home, to ensure that next time the cuppa is needed I might have earned enough brownie points to be served one, rather than having to make it for myself.

Now of course with the said broken leg, that means I can't drive at the moment, which in itself is possibly no major drama, but the Alfa needs a little work on it to be done, which of course is not possible given my one legged status.

Of course I can pay people to do this work, given the relative complexities of modern cars unlike the classics which previously I was only used to.

But of course, the parts needed, such as upper control arms, shocks to be replaced etc, can tend to be a tad expensive if you don't shop around.

Having done this at least I know

what I will be up for and thankfully it is less than I was originally contemplating. All I need to do is purchase them.

The beauty of this is that the internet is such a great way of finding what you need. Let me explain, recently said better half needed some parts for her Beemer, ('97 318is), as the poor old thing was running really roughly. So following a computer diagnostic analysis of the engine management system, a number of options were identified.

Pricing the required parts locally, indicated we might be advised to start taking out shares in a major company or entering Tattsлото.

However, given we are deep into a major house restoration project, as you can well imagine, funds at times tend to be somewhat limited.

That is where ebay, and other on-line parts suppliers come into their own. After a little investigation we were able to find a parts supplier for Beemers etc in the US, who could ship to us here in Hobart the required parts for less than they would cost here, in fact many times less. So it is a no brainer which choice one would make.

The same applies too frequently for other makes as well, including my Alfas.

But did it fix the Beemer? Well no, but we think that possibly is another story.

Now the same thing is true for

people undertaking house renos. I know it is important to shop locally, and help out local business, as what goes around comes around, the flow on effects can be important, but I guess when you are on a budget the opportunities to save can be an important consideration. And any chance to do that lowers one's stress levels.

Stress- be it at home or work - is a concern in this society. It causes all sorts of problems, not just in being able to do one's job well, but as well, the interactions one has with family and friends. Weekends, holidays etc are important and should not be overlooked. I know I have been guilty of this in the past.

But what has that got to do you might ask with Italian cars, or the club?

Well think of it in this way - our passion (it might be obsession in some cases), for our cars, whether Italian or not are

another outlet for relaxation and unwinding from the daily stresses of modern life.

Participating in activities with the club, be they at a committee level, competing in motorsport/ driver training days or even some of the various social events we hold across the year are yet another way of ensuring that one can have a good work-life balance.

Mind you possibly too much CMI activity, could be considered a stressor in itself if you don't pull your weight around the home front. All I can say in that regard is how much time any of us can devote to helping running the club is an individual choice.

On occasions, I too won't be present at events but as your Presidente I do think it is important that I help out as much as I can.

So speaking of which please note the various events we have coming up, including the Hillclimb at Baskerville and thereafter a series of social events. Hopefully we will see as many members taking advantage of what is on offer.

Also, if I may indulge a little here, with the Annual General Meeting coming up in the not too distant future, please feel free to consider nominating to be on next year's committee.

The roles generally don't take up too much time but are important in helping ensuring the running of the club continues well.

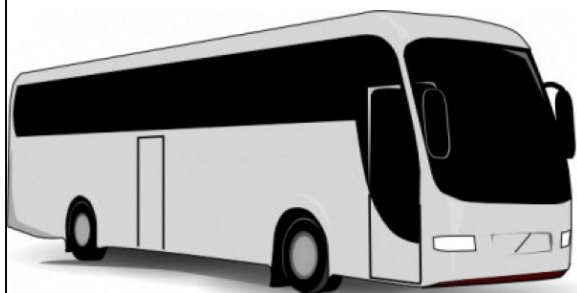
Basically we need you, for those of us on the committee may at some point also need a little time off to relax.

I think I have come full circle now, and therefore it must be time for that coffee.

Ciao.

## **OAKLEYS COACHES**

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**STEPHEN OAKLEY**  
PROPRIETOR

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Ladies and Gentlemen, this is your Club Captain speaking. Please fasten your seatbelts for a quick run up the Collinsvale Hillclimb.

The 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CMI Collinsvale Hillclimb was run on Sunday, 20 March this year in perfect weather conditions. The smallish field, 25 competitors, and Peter Lowe's Targa style timing system allowed the event to progress at lightning speed, with an average of 5 runs before lunch.

Speaking of lunch, it was at the usual venue on top of the hill, but this time with an Italian theme. Enjoying homemade lasagna, followed by homemade blackberry tart, was a tasty way to spend some time talking about the morning runs before lining up for further attempts at the hill.

The afternoon session was shaping up to run smoothly, until Mick Williams decided to take a closer look at the guard rail on the last left hander. It didn't seem right that Mick used his recovery vehicle to recover his own vehicle. Competition was halted for an hour or so while the track was cleared, and the day finished off with a couple more runs.

Well done to Adam Funslow for fastest time overall, and Warwick Hughes for the fastest Italian car.

Our most recent motorsport event was the Regularity at Baskerville Raceway on Sunday, 17 July. The weather was fine and cool with 20 participants fronting the line.

An extra 10 participants would have made it a very profitable day for the club. Unfortunately the lack of participation seems to come from our own club, as only 13 of our 70-odd members presented a car on the day.

As most of you know, a regularity event can be won by a consistent driver in a standard street car. So, my question to all CMI members is where are you? If anyone has any thoughts or ideas on how to attract the extra 10 entrants so as to make events such as these profitable and viable for the future, then speak up.

Back to the event. ...I assisted Steve Caplice with scrutineering and I noticed that one or two participants were unsure with regards to blue battery triangle stickers, headlight clear contact and fire extinguisher date and mounting.

All car criteria are listed in the supplementary regulations pertaining to each event, as well as in the current CAMS Manual of Motorsport ([www.cams.com.au](http://www.cams.com.au)).

If you are new to motorsport or unsure of how your car should be prepared for each event, please contact me on 0428 124 470 to ensure you present your car in the appropriate manner.

Back to the event, again. ...morning practice went smoothly, a tasty lunch was provided by Ken 'n' Barbie, times were nominated by the drivers and competition got underway on schedule after lunch.

The quality of competition was good and there were no serious "brown pants moments" to report.

This event was my car's first outing after its Targa Wrest Point incident and it was good to be behind the wheel after so long.

However, consistency is not my strong point so I finished with a solid midfield placing.

Congratulations to all winners. Paul Rice came first, having only lost 6 points. He was followed closely by Graham Mitchell in his Fiat 128 (Graham also won most consistent Italian car), with Alex Rice coming third. Best presented vehicle was won by Geoff Storr and his immaculately presented Alfa GTV.

Thank you to Steve for scrutineering, Peter Lowe for timing, and other club members who helped out on the day.

The CAMS stewards acknowledged that it was a well-run event, and only 2 warnings were issued for exceeding the 1min 5sec minimum lap time.

A great day out! For photos of this event and others, go to Facebook and type in Club Motori Italia in the search box.

Our next event will be the first round of the Tasmanian Hillclimb Series at Baskerville on Sunday, 7 August. Supplementary regulations and entry forms are available at [www.cmitas.org](http://www.cmitas.org).

See you in my rear view mirror!

Gary Hughes

## Economy Run Sunday August 21 2011

Meet at the Retro Café Salamanca.  
9.30 for a 10am departure.

Route notes will be provided with the usual observation questions on the way.

This year we will be winding our way up to Buckland for a BBQ lunch at Brockley Estate.

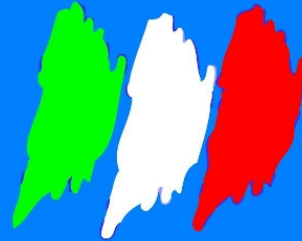
This is a private estate so please bring your own BBQ meats, salads and drinks.

Our host, Julian Roberts will be providing a tour of this historic Georgian property after lunch for those who are interested.

**Note that the last 1km to the property is a gravel road.**

Please RSVP to Graeme Mitchell  
by Sunday 14 August.

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## Social run to Miena

It was a fairly brisk morning as we assembled at the Retro Café in Salamanca Place. The sun was struggling to make an impact but the day was clear – certainly not a sign of things to come – but the coffee was nice. As our Italian Quintet headed toward the mountains, Hobart's CBD was left behind for the vast estates of the Central Highlands landed gentry.

As the stone estates whizzed by, the road encouraged some sprightly driving from the Alfa Romeo 147 JTD - boldly challenging a Marlboro rally hero (Lancia Delta Integrale) through the twists and turns.

There is something rousing in seeing a Monza Red HF loom large in the small rear-view mirror - its bonnet livery reversed, screaming a white 'OROBLRAM-AICNAL' to the driver – it stirs one to action.



As the road offered another lane, the left foot was planted in the 147; a couple of cogs were swapped and an almighty puff of diesel smoke engulfed the Lancia and spooled the JTD up the hill along side the HF.

After some spirited driving caught us up with the black 159, 147 and the swift Alfetta, we soon arrived at our first stop - historic Bothwell - offering the chance for a quick bakery call and re-convene.

Nature called and I made my way to a public toilet block that attempted to imitate a sandstone structure, but disappointingly turned out to be standard besser-block fare.

Inside lay further confusion - a donation box next to the urinal – what did they want me to donate?! I politely refrained from 'donation' with pangs of sympathy for the poor bloke who empties the box.

Outside the bakery, our group had reconvened and we continued our journey to Miena.

En route, we visited a site called the Steppes Sculptures - a series of sculptures by Stephen Walker that represent images of pioneer life in the highlands, set into dolerite rocks.

The rocks stood tall and were arranged in such a way that put me in mind of a Central Highlands Stonehenge – it was a little disturbing but impressive nevertheless.







As we rose higher and higher toward the lakes, the road opened up becoming a real driver's road incorporating long hilly straights, flowing twists and turns, and a surface as smooth as the slick coating of an M&M.

As we wound our way up the mountain pass, the road markers began to indicate what we were in for: the once white and red road markers gained a black belt before turning a hazard orange – a colour that can only mean bad things.

Fortunately for us, the only perils were a spattering of rain and wind; quickly forgotten by the warming hearth of the Miena Hotel and a pot of beer.

While my vertical disability inhibited me from looking cool and resting my elbow on the mantle with beer in hand - others seemed not to have this problem – the younger car enthusiasts scooted around playing with their toy cars having a ball.

The friendly bar-keep introduced us to the meals, all of which appealed to both the palate and my uni student budget.

The standard pub fare started at only \$13.50 for the likes of a chicken Schnitzel and chips - the quality of the food better than many of the other pubs I have experienced in Tassie.

A few of the boys opted for a pricier meal which looked great, dessert was inhaled for only \$5.00 and after a couple more pots I think we were all a bit cosy and ready for a nap.

As the group departed the heavens continued to pour, but failed to dampen our mood after such an enjoyable day.



Photography by  
Adam Reading  
and Fiona Madigan

## Social Events

Dates are subject to change. Check the website for up to date details.

### **Economy Run - Sunday August 21**

An opportunity for some sensible driving and some good natured competitive spirit.

### **Rafting - September 3**

Join Graeme Mitchell in the wild.

### **Cryptic Rally - October 1**

An opportunity for a number of domestics in the confines of the car.

### **Annual Display and Dinner - November 12**

Showing off your pride and joy, and a fun and relaxing evening with the annual prize giving.



## 2011 Calendar of Events

### Competition

7 August	Baskerville Hillclimb THS*
11 September	Domain Hillclimb
20 November	Baskerville Hillclimb THS*

\* Tasmanian Hillclimb Series

All events are held on a Sunday

Refer to [www.cmitas.org](http://www.cmitas.org) for Supplementary Regulations and Entry Form closer to event date

A limited number of discounted entries will be available for those wishing to compete for ½ day and to officiate for the other ½ of the day.

For updated information on all things motorsport see [www.cams.com.au](http://www.cams.com.au)

## The Back Page

**Name**

Fiona Madigan

**Daily Driver**

2006 Mitsubishi Lancer

**First car:**

1965 Volkswagen Beetle

**Dream Car**

Bugatti Veyron

**Day Job**

Administration Officer

**Home town**

Sydney

**Family**

Robert, John and Callum

**When I was young I wanted to be:**

Policewoman

**How many cars in the driveway?**

2 that I can drive, one I drive in a pinch and several others we won't mention.

**Favourite way to spend a day:**

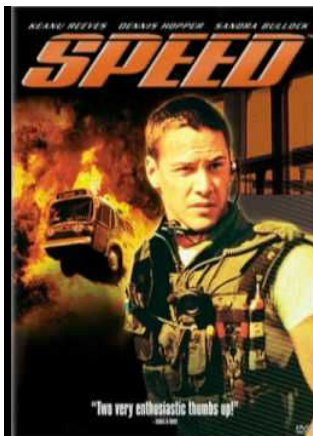
Reading

**Favourite TV show**

Doctor Who

**Favourite movie**

Speed

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