

2004 UK International Meeting

The West Country Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th July 2004

Prices and details have now been finalised

Our base will be the **Marriott Hotel, Swindon** (www.marriott.com). The programme will begin at 10am on Friday and finish after lunch on Sunday, and will include visits to some of the region's attractions both historic and modern. Activities will include for the first time a **Treasure Hunt** around the Wiltshire countryside **on Friday afternoon**, as well as the usual mix of driving, socialising, eating, drinking and entertainment. For football fans, timings should allow you to watch the Euro 2004 final on Sunday evening!

Various cost options are available as follows - prices include all meals and visits as well as accommodation:

- OPTION 1** Arrive Friday morning by 10am, full programme leaving Sunday after lunch (approx 3pm).
£170 per person twin/double; £220 per person single.
- OPTION 2** Arrive Friday evening (meeting at the hotel in time for dinner), leaving Sunday after lunch.
£155 per person twin/double; £205 per person single.
- OPTION 3** Arrive Saturday morning by 10am, leaving Sunday after lunch.
£105 per person twin/double; £130 single.

For those arriving early, we have an option on rooms at the hotel for **Thursday night** at a cost of **£35 per person twin/double and £55 for a single room** for Bed and Breakfast (lower than last year!). No specific dinner arrangements have been made for Thursday evening, but dinner will be taken in a private room at the hotel on both Friday and Saturday evening.

If you require an Option other than any of the above please contact rosemary.kind@virgin.net to arrange.

Due to the hotel's cancellation policy, **bookings must be made as soon as possible together with a non-refundable deposit of £50 per person. Full payment is required by the end of April 2004.**

For **UK members**, payment should be by cheque made payable to "barchetta UK Owners Club", and sent to Rosemary Kind, 2 Heron Road, Barrow upon Soar, Leicestershire, LE12 8AS.

For **overseas visitors** wishing to join in the Meeting, payment can be made either by transfer in Sterling into the UK Club account OR by credit card. Please contact rosemary.kind@virgin.net for details.

Please book early to avoid disappointment. Bookings should be made at the Club's website (see top of page) or by contacting Rosemary directly. A booking form is also included with this Newsletter.

Finally, as an added incentive, the names of all those booking and fully paying for either **Option 1 or Option 2** of the 2004 UK International Meeting will be entered into a **Prize Draw** for a **Red Letter Days Purple Experience Gift Voucher worth £199 !** The Purple Experience Voucher allows you to attend experiences as diverse as a day's gardening with Charlie Dimmock to driving a Ferrari, or a day of spa pampering to off-road military driving. See www.redletterdays.co.uk for further details.

barchetta coupé !

Those of you who attended the 2002 UK International Meeting based in Portsmouth may remember that we were joined by French owner Frederic Gasson in his yellow barchetta.

When he was a design student, one of Fred's projects was a design for a coupé hardtop kit for the barchetta. This kit is now in production and Fred has already sold a few in France. Fred can also supply the hardtop as a finished product rather than in kit form. It gives the barchetta a completely different look from just fitting the normal Fiat or Wiesmann hardtop.

If you are interested, Fred's website can be found at www.frez-design.com or you can e-mail him for further details at fred@frez-design.com. Or if your French is up to it, you could phone Fred on his mobile number, which is 0033 689 209895.

Thanks to member Peter Yeo for passing on this info.



What's wrong with this picture?

Answer on Page 8

Contacts

Chairman	Geoff Bowles geoff@bowles.force9.co.uk
Treasurer	Rosemary Kind rosemary.kind@virgin.net
Merchandise	David Gwilliam davadog@hotmail.com
Website	Nick Anderson nick.anderson@dsl.pipex.com
Website & Tech Pages	Ian Barnett ianbuk@ntlworld.com
Membership	Bernadette Bowles 39 New Road Great Kingshill High Wycombe Buckinghamshire HP15 6DR (e-mail - use Geoff's, above)
Newsletter	Steve Auty steveauty@aol.com 20 Melford Drive Macclesfield Cheshire SK10 2TW

Deadline for content for the June 2004 Newsletter is 30th April 2004.

On the net ...

- Visit the barchetta World Club site for up to date International Meeting calendars, other national Owners Clubs, and much more at www.fiatbarchetta.com
- For the latest information on the activities of the UK Club, visit www.fiatbarchetta.com/club/uk
- For help with technical projects on the barchetta, refer to www.fiatbarchetta.com/btech
- Join the UK or International e-mail discussion groups.
Go to www.groups.yahoo.com and choose "Cars" under the "Recreation and Sport" heading.
Follow "Makes and Models" then "Fiat", and you will find options on how to join either or both discussion groups.

2004 Meetings

Sunday 28th March

South West Meeting
Organiser: Ken Davey
kendavey@ntlworld.com

Sunday 25th April

Midlands Meeting
Organiser: Rosemary Kind
rosemary.kind@virgin.net

Saturday 1st May

2nd Italian Car Day
'Old Bristol' (Bristol City Centre)
Organised by Bristol City Council and the Bristol & West section of the AROC
romano.fionda@orange.net

Sunday 2nd May

Spring Italian Car Day
Brooklands, Near Weybridge, Surrey
www.brooklandsmuseum.com
www.auto-italia.co.uk
richard.keogh@talk21.com

Sunday 16th May

North Meeting (Treasure Hunt)
Organiser: Steve Auty
steveauty@aol.com

Sunday 6th June

Italian Car Festival
Stanford Hall, Near Lutterworth, Leics.
www.auto-italia.co.uk

Sunday 20th June

South East Meeting
Organisers: David & Vicki Gwilliam
davadog@hotmail.com

Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th July

2004 UK International Meeting
See front page for details

Sunday 15th August

Chilterns Meeting
Organisers: Geoff & Bernadette Bowles
geoff@bowles.force9.co.uk

Sunday 12th September

South East Meeting
Organiser: Ian Barnett
ianbuk@ntlworld.com

Sunday 3rd October

Autumn Italian Car Day
Brooklands, Near Weybridge, Surrey
www.brooklandsmuseum.com

Sunday 17th October

Midlands Meeting
Organisers: Nick Anderson & Rachel Cole
nick.anderson@dsl.pipex.com

Other meetings will be notified in the newsletter and on the website as and when we hear about them.

Merchandise

If you have any queries about any of the items, or if you wish to place an order, please e-mail

barchettamerchandise@hotmail.com

or write to

UK barchetta Club Merchandise
C/o 71 Ashwood Road
Potters Bar
Hertfordshire
EN6 2PH

Please specify your requirements, sizes, your address and most importantly your membership number in order to qualify for the members discount. You will receive a reply confirming your order.

All cheques should be made payable to "UK barchetta Owners Club".



Fleece

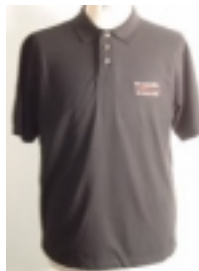
Screen Stars brand embroidered with the UK Owners Club logo.

Sizes: Medium, Large
Colours: Black only
Prices: £20 members
£25 non-members
Postage: £2

Polo Shirt

Screen Stars brand embroidered with the UK Owners Club logo.

Sizes: Medium, Large, Extra Large
Colours: Black only
Prices: £10 members
£15 non-members
Postage: £2



Baseball Cap

Embroidered with the UK Owners Club logo. Top-down tested well beyond the speed limit!

Sizes: One-size fits all
Colours: Black only
Prices: £5 members
£10 non-members
Postage: £1

Hand-painted ceramic mug

Specially commissioned by Denby Potteries.

Available exclusively to members

of the barchetta UK Owners Club.



LAST FEW REMAINING!

Dishwasher & microwave safe.
Price: £7.50 Postage: £3.50

Tax Disc Holder

Made of anodised aluminium, supplied with a mini Allen key and spare adhesive pads.

Manufacturers RRP - £15.95

Prices: £10 members
£15 non-members
Postage: £1



barchetta Logo Badge

In stainless steel. 170mm wide x 35mm high (approx.)



Prices: £5 members
£10 non-members
Postage: £1

Please note!

This badge is *non-adhesive*. If you intend to attach the badge to your car, certain adhesives may damage the paintwork - please ensure you use a suitable adhesive. **The Club cannot be held liable for any damage you may cause to your vehicle.**

Umbrellas



Members
£5

Non-members
£10

Eight panel umbrella with alternating coloured and white panels bearing the UK Owners Club logo. Available in Red, Yellow, Royal Blue (all approx. 83 cm long when folded) and Black (approx. 102 cm long when folded).

Pen (refillable)



Price: £1.75 members
£2 non-members
Postage: £1

Classified Ads

barchetta steel wheels and tyres

Excellent condition.

£200 ono Can arrange delivery.

Ask for **Ronnie** on **0191 482 2013**



1996 barchetta Red with cream leather interior.

Leather gear knob and black leather steering wheel; split alloys; electric windows; stereo
Stainless steel exhaust by DTR. Recently serviced

Only 33,000 miles

£4,950 Beautiful car, house move forces reluctant sale.

Ring **Mark** on **0117 981 6511**

or e-mail him at ambitious-people@eezenet.com



July 99 barchetta LE (Riviera spec) Red. Personal plate.
Black leather interior; silver trim; ABS; passenger airbag;
electric mirrors; front spoiler; CD Changer; sub woofer;
windstop; Turbine alloy wheels; locking petrol cap.

Full DTR service history (every 6 months)
Cambelt changed at 60,000 km; DTR twin pipe exhaust
4 new tyres (Goodyear NCT5)
All keys (1 red, 1 blue, 2 silver)
6 months MOT

85,000 km (53,000 miles)
£7,000

Phone **Ian** on **07780 673265** (Hertfordshire)



1999 T reg barchetta Broom Yellow

Full black leather interior; aircon; remote central locking;
alarm/immobiliser; ABS; PAS; electric windows & mirrors;
front fogs; twin airbags; stereo radio/CD; 15" Fiat alloys.

Full Fiat service history
Tax end May 2004, MOT April 2004
One previous owner from new

Excellent condition

42,500 miles (68,000 km)
Offers around £7,750

Contact **Mike** on **07771 884999** (Cambridgeshire)



1999 T reg barchetta LE

Silver with red leather interior and red mohair hood
ABS; alarm; remote central locking; windstop; boot rack
Alpine CD/MP3 player with multichanger
Full Fiat waterproof cover

A1 condition

Full service history; new clutch and timing belt

Tax & MOT

40,000 miles
£6,550 ono

Phone **07901 915356** (South Wales)



barchetta LE Green with tan leather interior and tan roof

Full Fiat service history
Tax end July 2004, MOT September 2004

One owner from new. Move abroad forces sale.
Excellent condition

39,000 km (24,000 miles)
£6,250 ono

Contact **Jacqui** on **01223 561946** (Cambridge)

Tech Corner

DISCLAIMER

The Club wishes to point out that all technical advice is given in good faith, and that any work you undertake on your barchetta is entirely at your own risk. None of these technical projects have been approved by Fiat .

Please read ALL the instructions for a project BEFORE commencing any work, and if you are unsure about **ANYTHING**, do not start work which you may regret later.

All technical projects have a “spanner rating”, ranging from one (simplest) to five (scariest).

There's been a lot of discussion recently about flooded hood wells and the problems of sealing them.

Ian Barnett offers a simple solution ...

Repair Tonneau Gasket

PARTS REQUIRED

- Rubber Gasket - Part No. 46734683 (current UK price approx. £80).

Spanner Rating:



TOOLS REQUIRED

- Duck tape or rubber repair kit.

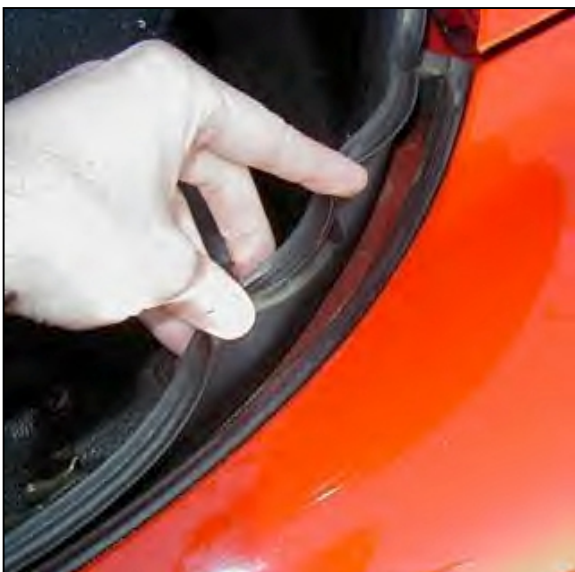
SYMPTOMS AND SOLUTIONS

The rubber gasket which stops water getting into the roof storage area can, over time, become torn by the action of raising and lowering the roof. This means that the roof storage area can fill with water if the car is left outdoors, particularly if it is parked nose-downwards on a slope and water cannot drain away naturally through the small slot by the boot-lid lock. Water collection can lead to problems with mildew in the car if it is unused for any length of time.

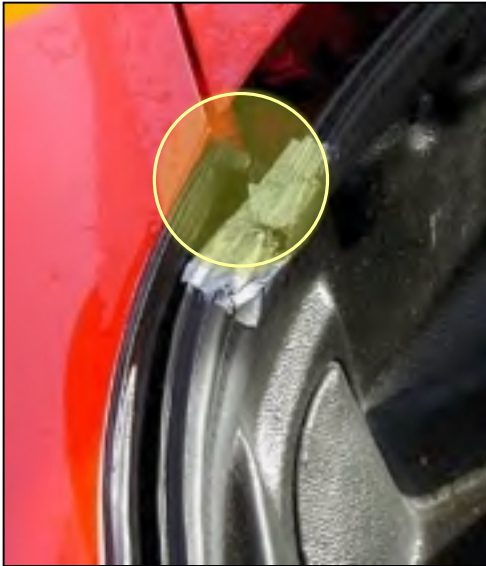
To stop water getting into the roof storage area you can either replace the tonneau gasket or simply repair it.

Undo the roof lock handles (as if you were lowering the roof) and push up the front of the roof. This will allow you to open the tonneau cover. Once the tonneau cover is open, gently lower the rear of the roof so that it hangs above the roof storage area. Examine the gasket for any signs of wear, in particular the area between the boot lid seam and the doors, where there is a gully for water to drain away. Make sure that you examine both sides of the gasket for holes and damage (see photo, below left).

Place tape or repair patch over any holes (see photo, below right).



Any water should drain down the gully to the drain hole just behind the seat belt mounting. The start and end points of the gully are marked by the yellow circles in the pictures below.



When you close the tonneau cover it will locate in the top of the gasket and form a waterproof seal.

Mini Tech Tip

Gentlemen, please forgive the personal question, but are your nuts rusty?

(Ladies, please forgive the sexist nature of the query).

At many of the meetings I have attended, even the most pristine of barchettas is often let down by rusting wheel nuts. This seems to be a general problem on many Fiats, not just the barchetta.

Fear not, if you want your pride and joy to look "the mutt's nuts" there is a simple solution to curing your little boat's rusty nuts.

Allow a full day for this task.

Go to your local hardware store (or even Halfords) and buy a small can of silver Hammerite in smooth finish **not** hammered finish – this will set you back less than a fiver. Also buy a small can of Hammerite paint thinners / brush cleaner which you will need when you have finished painting.

Next, take four empty beer bottles (if they're full, just drink the contents first!) which most people should have lying around the house (or in the dustbin).

Take one rusty wheel nut from each wheel, clean off any loose rust and dirt using sandpaper, and place in the neck of each beer bottle. It's then a simple job to totally paint the head of each of the four wheel nuts with the Hammerite – I suggest using two coats on each nut. Allow the Hammerite to thoroughly dry between coats and before replacing back on the wheel and tightening up with the wheel brace.

Repeat until all wheel nuts have been painted.

As an added bonus, the Hammerite silver is an excellent match for the colour of the standard 8 hole Fiat alloys fitted to many barchettas.



Steve Auty





We've previously seen Geoff Bowles wearing his Club fleece half-way up Mount Fuji in Japan and Richard Keogh wearing his polo shirt at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon.

So, here's Yours Truly, the Editor, wearing a Club baseball cap at a depth of around 10 metres in the Caribbean just off Grenada last November! I had to hold it on otherwise the peak caught the bubbles every time I breathed out through my regulator and it floated off my head!

Photo: Eileen Furr

What's wrong with the photo at the bottom of Page 2? It's back to front – look where the fuel filler flap is compared to your car!

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Chris Knott Insurance has been involved with the Club since December 2001, and during this time many members have benefited from the special insurance rates available.

We appreciate that as buyers you want to be sure you are getting the best insurance deal. However, not all members contact us for a quotation each year and you may find that, by sticking with your current provider, you are missing out on a better deal with us. Typically, we can offer you exceptional discounts on your motor insurance, enabling us to beat any quotation you may receive elsewhere – obviously the specific application of a discount depends on a member's individual needs and circumstances.

Remember – you are not paying extra by going through us, *and* the Club benefits from a slice of our commission – we do not add this on to the premium when we quote you. It really is a profit share.

Agreed Value

For Club members with cherished newer cars (*over 5 years old*), we have a special Agreed Value policy that enables you to agree the value of your vehicle at inception of the policy (even without mileage restriction, garaging, etc). This is a very great benefit, since insurance companies would not normally pay out full value in the event of a total loss. This extra benefit is only available with one Insurer and costs **£28.00** - definitely an upgrade that most Club members would value.



2004 INTERNATIONAL MEETING BOOKING FORM

DRIVER'S NAME:	
DRIVER'S ADDRESS:	
DRIVER'S MOBILE NUMBER:	
DRIVER'S EMAIL:	
CAR REGISTRATION:	
CO-PILOT'S NAME:	
NATIONALITY (IF NOT UK):	
PACKAGE OPTION:	
ROOM TYPE:	
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:	
CREDIT CARD (VISA/MASTERCARD)	
CARD NUMBER	
EXPIRY DATE	

A DEPOSIT OF £50 PER PERSON IS REQUIRED ON BOOKING. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS DEPOSIT IS NON-REFUNDABLE. PAYMENT OF BALANCE DUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEREAFTER, BUT DEFINITELY BY END OF APRIL 2004.

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR COMPLETED BOOKING FORM TO rosemary.kind@virgin.net

OVERSEAS VISITORS WILL BE ABLE TO PAY DIRECT WITH THE HOTEL, USING A CREDIT CARD.

ONLY PILOTS BOOKING FOR THE WHOLE WEEKEND WILL BE ENTERED INTO THE PRIZE DRAW.

SIGNATURE OF DRIVER:.....

DATE:.....



**MERCHANDISE
ORDER FORM**

	Medium	Large	Extra Large	Quantity	Price (£)	Subtotal (£)
Polo Shirt					10.00	
Fleece					20.00	
Baseball Cap	One Size	One Size	One Size		5.00	
Mug					7.50	
Tax Disc Holder					10.00	
Umbrella (state colour required)					5.00	
Chrome "barchetta" badge					5.00	
Pen					1.75	
Post and Packing						
					Order Total (£)	

Post and Packing

Please include post and packing charges with your order, rates are:

£1.00 Baseball Cap, Tax Disc Holder, Chrome Badge, Pen
 £2.00 Polo Shirt, Fleece
 £3.50 Mug

For post and packing charges for umbrellas, contact David Gwilliam as below.

You may email your order to davadog@hotmail.com or barchettamerchandise@hotmail.com or post it to:

UK barchetta Owners Club
 c/o 71 Ashwood Road
 Potters Bar
 Hertfordshire
 EN6 2PH

Please make all cheques payable to "UK barchetta Owners Club".

Your Name:

Membership Number:

Address:

Post Code:

Email Address: