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Lost and Found After 60 Years – A Truly Italian History

Lost and Found After 60 Years – A Truly Italian History
By Giuseppe De Angelis

Since the birth of the car at the end of the nineteenth century, cars have been a great passion in the Angelis family. My grandfather and his brothers were founders of the local Automobil Club of Italy in our hometown of Ascoli Piceno. My father Francesco (born in 1923), and his brothers Vito (born in 1920) and Vincenzo (born in 1925) retained this interest in motoring and continued their pursuits in automobiles and racing cars.

In 1952 Francesco and Vincenzo began racing cars all around Italy, and entered that year's Mille a little Fiat 500 named Topolino. They finished in 228th place and 4th in class. The brothers also competed in the 1954 Mille Miglia (and other races) in the same Topolino.

The 1954 Mille Miglia saw the debut of a true racing car – the Giaur-Taraschi chassis BT004 and Giannini G1-085. This car was built by Taraschi in Teramo (close to Ascoli Piceno) during 1949 and 1950 before being sold new to Italo Arlini-Di Brigida from Pineto with licence plate TE 6004. He then ran the 1950 Mille Miglia with this car and then sold it in Grottammare (Ascoli Piceno) to Mario Gustavo Laureati in 1951. In the Giaur, Laureati ran the 1951 running of the Mille Miglia with Elio Celani from S. Benedetto del Tronto, and again in 1953 with Amedeo Francescangeli from Ascoli Piceno to finish 161st overall and 11th in class. It was then that my father Francesco finally bought the car.



Giaur BT-004 at the 1950 Mille Miglia – Italo Arlini (driver and first owner) at the stop in Pescara and Pigliacelli. started at 3:08 AM (like the car's number)

My father soon raced the Giaur at Circuito di Macerata with race-number 24, finishing 3rd, then in the Mille Miglia, where he finished 156th overall and 12th in class. He actively campaigned the car, racing at Circuito di Salerno, Circuito di Terni, Vermicino-Rocca di Papa Hillclimb and other events. Then the car sat for much of 1955, as he drove a Fiat 1100 TV at the Mille Miglia. As usual, he drove with his brother Vincenzo, but a broken transmission prevented them from finishing.

Then, at the end of 1955 he traded the Giaur for an Alfa Romeo 1900 with Alfredo Tinazzo, a fine later raced the Giaur in the 1956 and 1957 running of the Mille Miglia. In 1959, Tinazzo sadly died in a race at Monza. My family had always believed that Tinazzo was actually driving the Giaur at Monza, and therefore thought that it had been destroyed.



My father Francesco and his brother Vincenzo starting for the 1954 Mille Miglia in Brescia at 23:37 in the evening



My father Francesco and his brother Vincenzo racing the Giaur at the 1954 Mille Miglia



The Giaur finished 156th overall and 12th in class at the 1954 Mille Miglia



De Angelis Brothers at the 1954 Mille Miglia



Wearing #2337 to indicate the 23:37 start time, the Giaur BT-004 at the 1954 Mille Miglia

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1.  [etceterini](#) says:

[April 19, 2013 at 11:31 am](#)

Beautiful story, beautiful car congratulations Giuseppe!



2.  Luigi says:

[April 19, 2013 at 2:05 pm](#)

Nel 1959 mi trovavo a Monza .Rimasi molto colpito dall'incidente di Tinazzo e Crivellari,le cui auto agganciarono a 160 km/h alla curva Ascari.Ho ancora presente l'immagine della camera ardente presso l'ospedale di Monza con i 2 piloti affiancati nelle loro tute azzurre.La fine di un sogno.



3.  **GRAHAM . A . KYLE** says:

[April 19, 2013 at 4:05 pm](#)

Fantastic Giuseppe, I would hope to see it in Historic racing, in not only Italy, but in Europe as a this car is to good to just be used on fine days and Sundays. I'm sure your Father would have agreed. Congratulations on a story well written.




4.  vittorio Orsi says:

[April 23, 2013 at 4:53 pm](#)

Bravo Giuseppe, sicuramente ogni kilometro sara´per te un sogno fatto realta´onorando il nome famiglia e darai momenti indimenticabili agli appassionati dell´auto vedendola passare e ricordare quella sinfonia di motore.....tante belle cose.....V. Orsi



5.  Dieter Schambach says:

[April 25, 2013 at 9:17 am](#)

I am curious if Elio de Angelis – though not mentioned in the article – is of the same de Angelis




6.  David says:

[April 25, 2013 at 10:24 am](#)

Wow now that's my kind of car story! Fantastic, thank you.




7.  Dulan says:

[April 25, 2013 at 10:39 am](#)

Fantastic story, and I can imagine how would have felt once you discovered the car after 57 years!
All the best



8.  Obster says:

[April 25, 2013 at 11:08 am](#)

Bravo! Bravo! Never give up the memories of these old cars and their meaning.



9.  Peter Linsky says:

[April 25, 2013 at 1:29 pm](#)

A heartwarming story, thank you for sharing this. It would also be wonderful if this little car could US and be driven at Monterey or be shown at Pebble Beach or Concorso. What a pedigree!



10.  Andrew Dickens says:

[April 25, 2013 at 3:31 pm](#)

I would be interested to read about the restoration of this car



11.  Anonymous says:

[April 25, 2013 at 9:46 pm](#)

Amazing story & well done for tracking down your Fathers race car.

This is what old cars are all about = to get the right story
to accompany the car.

Jens Christian / Denmark





12. [Harry C. Hart](#) says:

[April 25, 2013 at 10:14 pm](#)

I have a wonderful photo of my wife sitting in Jarl DeBoers Giaur with a big smile on her face at the Monterey historic races.....probably in the late 70's. She passed away last year so the photo has a very special meaning for me



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