

DOMENICA & PETTEMBLE 1919

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IL GRAN PREMIO AUTOMOBILISTICO D'ITALIA "Il nuovo Circuito di Brescia sarà l'autodromo permanente d'Italia,,

initato organizzatore del Gran Premia d'Italia, ha avuto luogo una seconda visita al Circuito di Brescia allo scopo di deffondere l'idea esata dell'importanza alla quale dovrà assurgere la manifestazio. no sportiva del settembre, destinata all essero la maggiore competizione automobi

Domonica mattina, per morito del Co- | to di corridori da qualsiasi ostacolo co stituito da gruppi di abitati,

Dal Vialone Montichiari alla Fassia di Oro, i lovori stanno per essero ultimati con l'estimpazione dei paracarri e il trasporto nella campagna dei pali telegrafiet par la linea esistente sul ciglia sud

- she le donne parlino troppo, Innegela al succeso delle manifestazioni di settem hre.

Ogai discorsa è naturalmento acco Ga vivi e fragosori applansi, E così in una cordiale ed unanimo ecultazione delle energie mitalih che preparano le dello stradale. Interessante è stato di ve- atteso avvenimento internazionale, l'adu-

PER IL GRAN PREMIO AUTOMOBILISTICO D'ITALIA "Il nuovo Circuito di Brescia

è il più meraviglioso autodromo"

Domenica mattina, per invito del Cor | mitato organizzatore del Gran Premio d'Italia ha avuto luogo la prima visita al Circuito di Brescia di giornalisti e notabilità sportive.

co non giunsero a destinazione in tempo mancò tutta la comitiva torinese, la quale sarà fra noi in una delle più prossime domeniche.

In ogni modo il sopraluogo di ieri l'altro assunse egualmente una notevolissima importanza e valse a dare una prima favorevoljasima idea - specialmento a

Ma non à questo soltanto il provvedi- i mento che il Comitato dovrà escogitare. Limpressione da parte di tutti i visitatori è stata ottima; e - se non temessimo

di esagerare - diremmo «entusiastica». Un competentissimo riassumeva le sue

impressioni con una frase, che ci piace di riprodurre come quella che bene sintetizna limportanza del nostro Circuito:

- Il nuovo Circuito di Brescia è il più meraviglioso autodromo. --

La colazione al "Brescia,,

Teatrale - invità gli ospiti al Teatro Grande, ad ascoltare il socondo concerto che alle 15 vi dava Arturo Toscanini.

Naturalmente, l'invito fu graditi-simo,

I primi gludizi della stampa

Dalla Vedetta sportiva, da un diligente articolo del rag. Bianchini, ripreduciamo questo giudizio sulla visita di domenica: aNon è presunzione prevedere che sul

circuito breselano crolleranno con ogni probabilità vari records mondiali, poichè la perfetta costruzione della immensa pista od i progressi della eilindrata di 3 li-Poco dopo le 11 gli ospiti erano di ri- tri sono realmente grandi e posicino dar

History of the International Circuit

Starting from Brescia, going towards Mantua and crossing Castenedolo, the road gently descends to a low embankment in beautiful countryside, until one finds, to the right, the "Osteria della Fascia d'Oro" tavern: this is where the heath of Montichiari begins and this is the place of the International Circuit. The arid, gravelly and treeless heath of Montichiari became an ideal point of reference for the promising field of motor racing the newborn car industry was engaging in. And, since Montichiari was hosting the races on its territory, the town began to expand its economy and prestige. In September 1899, Brescia organized a four-day-event dedicated to motoring, during which a race was held. Races continued taking place during the following



years, and in 1905 the Vincenzo Florio Cup, the Conte di Salemi Cup and the Italian Cup were run, all won by G.B. Raggio with a 100 hp Itala. The finish line and the stands were placed at the Fascia D'Oro in Montichiari.

The Florio Cup was also run in 1907, and was won by Minoia against Isotta Fraschini. In 1920, the organizers decided to build a permanent circuit.

On the 4th September 1921, the first Italian Grand Prix was disputed. The 18-km-track (11.184 miles) was all within Montichiari's territory.

Bird's-eye-view of the 17,500-km-Brescia Circuit for cars, airplanes and motorbikes.





The parabolic track

The track chosen as a circuit had a triangular shape, with its apex in the Fascia d'Oro locality, where the parabolic curve was. Located on the road connecting the Ghedi-Montichiari municipal street, the parabolic curve was the main feature in the track. It was 544.60 metres long (595.581 yards) and one of the first in the world.

The curve was created with a 1.10-metre backfilling, with ribs arranged in a mesh to contain the roadbed. The drivers of the time declared that no other circuit in the world could beat Brescia-Montichiari, including the one in Indianapolis.



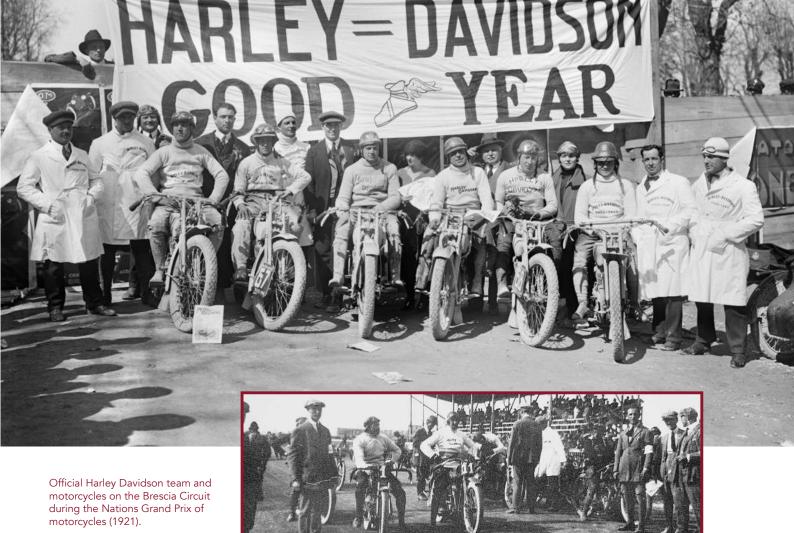
Motorcycles

Motorcycles also run on the International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit, ridden by the most famous motorcyclists, such as Gentile Minazio, Damiano Rogai, Piero Maggi, Rampini and Badino Mai. Amongst the motorcycle manufacturers, Della Ferrera, AJS and Maffeis should be mentioned. Moreover, Harley Davidson was present with its official team in 1921, when the Italian Motorbike Club Grand Prix was run.

Above, the Parabolic track. Below, Bordino, who set the race record during the Italian Grand Prix of automobiles in 1921, with the Fiat "Tipo 801/402".

Below, the Nations Grand Prix of motorcycles. (1921)





Below, Baroness Maria Antonietta Avanzo, the only woman to participate in the "Gentlemen" Grand Prix.



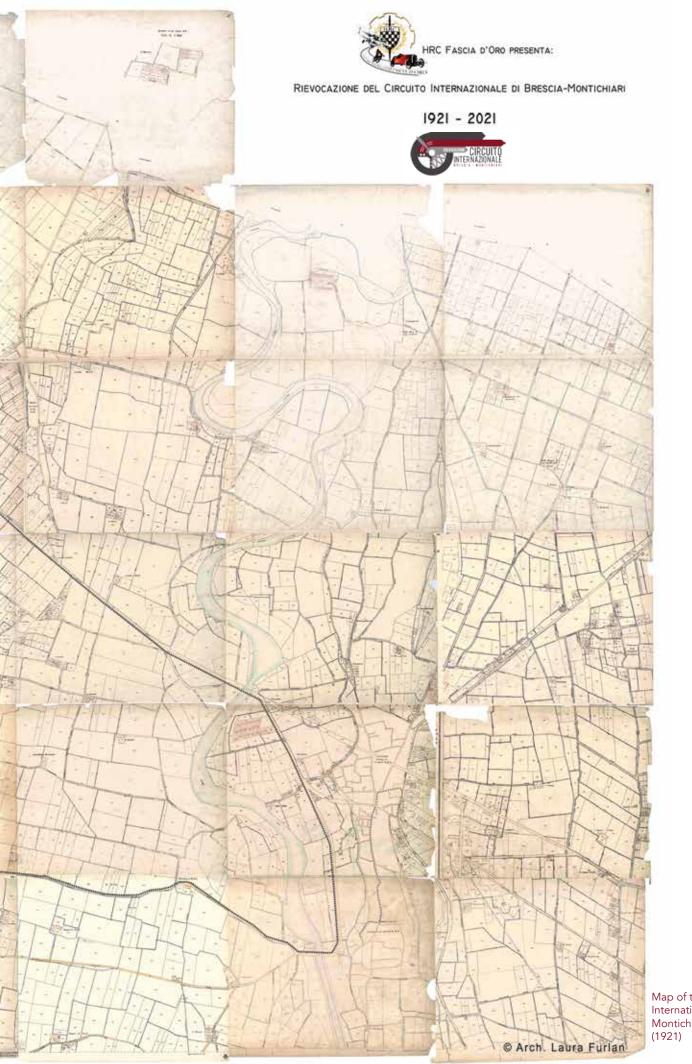


Cars

The most prestigious car manufacturers of the time took part in races on the **International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit:** Isotta Fraschini, which won the Florio Cup in 1907; Alfa Romeo, driven by Enzo Ferrari, which ranked fourth place in its category with an average speed of 147.540 km/h (91.677 miles/h); Baroness Maria Antonietta Avanzo, the only woman in the race, who won third place in her category; Fiat, with its "Tipo 801/402", which set the race record at 6' 54", with an average speed of 150.398 km/h (93.452 miles/h); OM 465, driven by Ferdinando Minoia; Mercedes GP 1914, driven by Masetti; Chiribiri; Ballot, which won the Italian Grand Prix on this track.







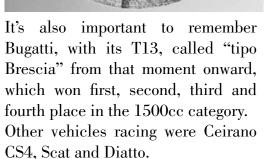
100° 1921-2021

Map of the International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit (1921)





100°



The most famous drivers of the time raced on the track: Minoia, Morandi, Cagno, Wagner, Ralph de Palma, Alfieri Maserati, Vincenzo Lancia, Goux, Bordino, Sivocci, Enzo Ferrari, Tazio Nuvolari, Frederich, Nazzaro, Campari, Masetti, De Vizcaya, Chassagne and Baroness Maria Antonietta Avanzo.

Tires were supplied by Pirelli, which at the time was already using the most advanced technology in the sector.

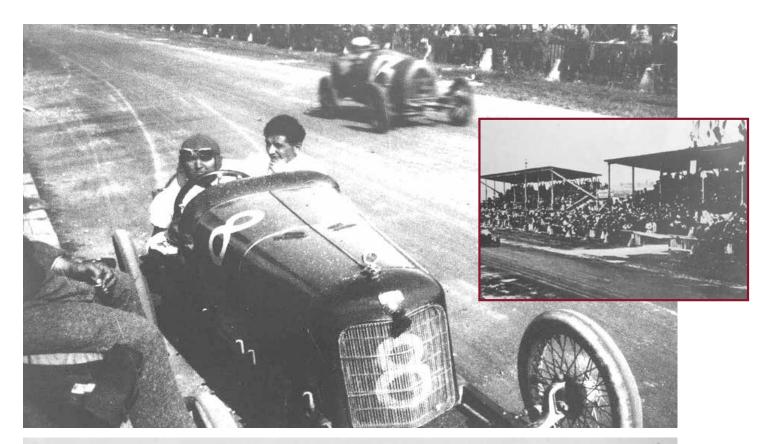


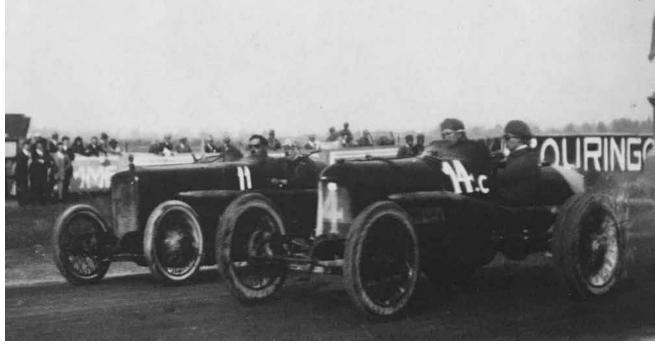
Above, Masetti on the Daimier Mercedes (Gran Prix).

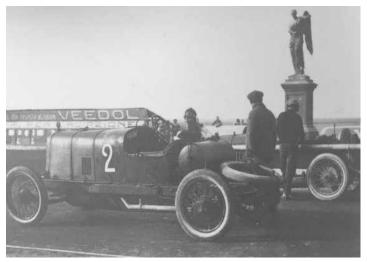
Left, "overhead" audience at the Montichiari circuit.

Right, Giuseppe Campari on the Alfa Romeo Gran Prix and below, a Bugatti "T13" driven by Friederich.









Above, a Chiribiri 1500, double overhead camshaft, driven by Maurizio Ramassotto, at the pits, while De Vizcaya drives by aboard the Bugatti "T13".

The royal tribune with King Vittorio Emanuele III.

Giuseppe Campari on the Alfa Romeo and Alfieri Maserati on the Isotta-Hispano.

Right, Baroness Maria Antonietta Avanzo on the Alfa Romeo "20/30 ES" in front of the Winged Victory (Montichiari, 1921). **100°** 1921-2021

Airplanes

Not only cars and motorcycles raced on the International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit: airplanes also played a very important role.

On the 9th September 1909, the first international air circuit took place on what had already become a proper car racing track in the heath of Montichiari. During that event, many world records were set.

14 pilots from Italy, France and the USA raced before the King.

Gabriele D'Annunzio flew on pioneer Glenn Curtiss' plane. Then-unknown Franz Kafka arrived from Prague as a reporter.



1921-2021 One of the financiers of the event was Luigi Albertini, the director of one of Italy's most important newspapers, "Corriere della Sera".

Even Giacomo Puccini, who was a great enthusiast, attended.

All the most important aviators competed in the skies over the heath: Glenn Curtiss,

Alessandro Anzani, Louis Bleriot, Henry Rougier, Mario Faccioli, Mario Cobianchi, and lieutenant Mario Calderara, who was assigned with the first Italian pilot licence on that occasion, and went on to found the Italian Military Airforce in 1923.

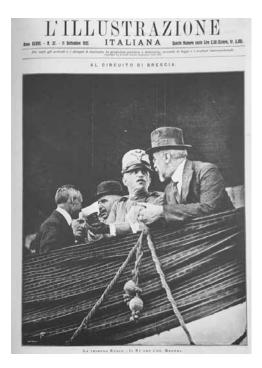
In 1921, together with the Italian Grand Prix of automobiles and the Italian Moto Club Grand Prix



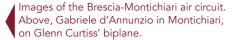
editions, the aviation version was held, giving birth to a real auto-moto-aerodrome.

Engines dominated the world's scene, and Italy, with Brescia in the front line, did not want to be indifferent, and decided to consecrate its heath and its people to the birth of Italian aviation, in the name of the long, glorious sport tradition that made the city famous in the automotive field.

The event: the 2021 Centennial



Front page of the *"L'Illustrazione"*, depicting the royal tribune, where King Vittorio Emanuele III sat together with President of the Council, Sir Bonomi (International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit, 1921).



The Historic Racing Club of Montichiari, a federate of ASI (Italian Historic Automobile and motorbike Club) and of FIVA (International Federation of Ancient Vehicles), was born with the aim of bringing racing cars, motorcycles and airplanes back to the heath of Montichiari, where for years they had been the stars of the International Circuit. This is where progress, the "fatal law that drives men to a mad race towards greater conquests", saw one of its greater expressions.

After years of intense work, the first edition of the reenactment of the International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit was held in 2018, and was repeated with even greater success in September 2019.

Unfortunately, despite the huge number of people that had already subscribed, the 2020 edition was cancelled due to the sad events occurring in the world during the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Historic Racing Club Fascia d'Oro was and will be present with a stand dedicated to the Circuit at the famous "Retromobile" expo in Paris, and at "Auto e moto d'epoca" in Padua, both meeting points for thousands of fans and collectors from all over the world.

In 2021, the Historic Racing Club Fascia d'Oro will organize a series of events connected to the main one: the great Centennial, with the precious collaboration of Montichiari municipality. The Centennial will be the main event in 2021 for ASI, and this will give the club great visibility.

Numerous sports and racing cars built before 1939 will be present, and Bugatti vehicles will be represented to a very significant extent. During the event, Bugatti will celebrate the incredible victory of 1921, when the T13 in the 1500 cc category won first, second, third and fourth prize. From that moment onward, Bugatti T13 vehicles have been known in the world as "Tipo Brescia".

Bugatti connoisseurs from all over the world will come to the International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit to bring Bugatti Brescia vehicles back to where their myth was born.

Not only Bugatti, but also Alfa Romeo, Lancia, Fiat, Ballot, Ansaldo, Chiribiri, Amilcar, BNC, Rally and many others will represent the best of historic motorsport in the world.

As in 1921, even airplanes and motorcycles will be back in Montichiari. Once again, historic planes will fly in the skies that saw them as aviation pioneers.

On the occasion of the Centennial, and for years to come, the International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit will return to be as it was in 1921, when 150.000 people flocked from all over Italy to get the best seats along the 18-km- track, and cheer the participants. Once again, it will be an engine showcase, where car racing, motorcycling and aviation will be able to unite in a great event, where history and future will merge to leave their mark.



centennial program

Thursday 16th September:

Crews reception.

Friday 17th September:

Trip to Valpolicella in the morning, with a visit to a famous wine cellar. Lunch in the winery. Departure for Verona in the afternoon. Vehicle exposition in Piazza Bra and sightseeing in the historic centre. Return to the hotel and dinner.

Saturday 18th September:

Visit to the military base in Ghedi, which was the headquarters of the "Red Devils"6th Flock. Conference, held by important rapporteurs. Lunch in the suggestive atmosphere of a hangar, flanked by Tornados. Circuit tests for cars, motorcycles and airplanes in the afternoon. Return to the hotel and dinner.

Sunday 19th September:

Historic reenactment of the International Brescia-Montichiari Circuit on the 100th anniversary of when, in 1921, the following races were run:

INTERNATIONAL ITALIAN GRAND PRIX FOR AUTOMOBILES INTERNATIONAL ITALIAN GRAND PRIX FOR AIRPLANES INTERNATIONAL ITALIAN GRAND PRIX FOR MOTORCYCLES Gala dinner and award ceremony.

* The program may undergo variations

Historic Racing Club Fascia d'Oro di Montichiari Phone: +39 030 9651591 | 327 1517077 - Mail: circintbrescia@intredbox.it Web Site: www.circuitointernazionale.it