



Western Model A News

The Official Newsletter of
THE MODEL A RESTORERS' CLUB (WESTERN AUSTRALIA BRANCH) INC.

Year XII Number VIII

MARCH, 1992

TIME RUNNETH OUT

As you read this there will only be about FIVE WEEKS to the Model A Ford 12th National Meet. If you are one of the few Club members who have not yet entered, you are cutting it a bit fine to enjoy the ONLY opportunity ever to join in with the owners of Model A Fords from all around Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America with an amazing 100 authentic Model A Fords in a huge variety of body shapes and colours.

ALL entrants will receive a special Rally Bag filled with all sorts of "Goodies" - like a specially struck Rally badge, Rally Number Plate, souvenirs, tickets and more....

Staying at Rally Headquarters is not essential but we expect a wonderfully friendly atmosphere to prevail at the Noalimba Centre with a diverse group of people from several countries assembled to celebrate "Henry's Lady".

If you feel that you may have entered but have not yet sent in your signed Entry Form you should really attend to that today. If you have not yet completed the green Order Form for accommodation, any meals you may require, the not-to-be-missed Awards Dinner, souvenir sweat-shirts, etc you had better send that in today or you may miss out....

SO, go for it - the next time is not until 2002!

YOUR NEWSLETTER

You may, or more than likely may not, have noticed that there has been a distinct lack of advertisers in your *Model A News* of late. In spite of a plea for suggestions in the January issue for some ideas for prospective advertisers the response was a deafening silence.

Your humble Editor doesn't have enough hours in the day at present to devote any time at all to chasing up more prospects. Unfortunately businesses do not tend to answer the telephone between 2am and 5am! If you have any ideas, please give them a call to establish a contact and see if they are interested and I will follow them up if you like.

If we cannot achieve some income (like we have been doing for the past couple of years) the cost of producing and posting this Newsletter will go back onto our expenses to the tune of around \$700 per year - or \$8.13 per member, so annual subscriptions will probably increase.

The Editor and the Secretary/Treasurer will both be out of Australia from around early June to perhaps October so if there are a couple of people around who are looking for interesting part-time positions editing and producing this Newsletter and/or looking after the Club's everyday operations and finances - volunteers are now being sought...

Next Meeting:

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 1992 - 9am - Noranda School, Walmsley Drive, Noranda

OFFICE BEARERS: *President:* LAUREL COOKE [REDACTED] *Secretary/Treasurer:* HELEN SHARP [REDACTED]
Vice-President: ANGELO CALLEJA [REDACTED] *Editor:* BEVAN SHARP [REDACTED]

COPY DEADLINE: by the 1st of each month to: [REDACTED] Palmyra, W.A. 6157

VIEWS EXPRESSED ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF M.A.R.C. (W.A.)

Sunday, March 22, 1992

Meet at Noranda School, Walmsley Drive off Crimea Street, Noranda at 9am. Please bring your own morning tea. This meeting is to go over the logistics of our Club hosting the National Meet so your input is requested to ensure a successful event. Please make an effort to attend.

Saturday March 28, 1992

Brookton Old Time Motor Show
Phone [REDACTED] if you would like to attend.

Sunday, April 5, 1992

Classic Car Show - Whiteman Park.

Following a specific request from the Combined Car Clubs, we have decided to have a display. The theme is "Australia". If you would like to have your car on display, phone the display organiser MIKE COOKE today on [REDACTED]

Thursday April 16 - 21, 1992

**MODEL A FORD 12th NATIONAL MEET
Perth, Western Australia.**

The opportunity of a lifetime to join in the celebration of a Model A Ford National Meet - right on your doorstep. It can normally cost around \$4,000 to travel to one of these bi-annual events. This is one right here - don't miss out...

October 17 - 25, 1992

S.G.I.O. RallyWest hosted by the Veteran Car Club. This will be a "Hub" type rally around the south-west. Contact [REDACTED] Fremantle, 6160 for details.



**If The Cost of Fuel Is Getting You Down
*You had better lock up the cat...***

"I once saw a Model A Ford engine run for just under an hour on a dead alley cat. There was a company across the street from my garage in New York that manufactured gas generators for the Phillipines. They had one of those generators set up for demonstration purposes. Briefly, here's how it worked. They had a sealed oven into which garbage (and just about anything else that could be crammed in) and underneath there was a firebox for heating the whole mess. The gas generated from the contents of the oven was piped to a miniature gas storage tank. Once for a wild demonstration, they took a dead alley cat that was found near my garage and put it in the oven. When all the gas that could be extracted from the cat was captured in the storage tank, it was piped to a Model A Ford engine intake manifold. The engine was started and it ran at about 1,000rpm for just under an hour, and it ran well!"

This article was by Tom McCahill in an old Mechanix Illustrated from the Newsletter of the Early Ford Club of Tasmania, March, 1979 via M.A.F.C. Australia

MINUTES

of Meeting held at Ley Street Park, Como on Sunday, February 23, 1992
with 43 members, 7 children and 1 visitor - 10 Model A-s.

President LAUREL COOKE opened the Meeting at 9am and welcomed MAXINE DAVIDSON's mother: Mrs Holloway.

Apologies: ROSS and ALMA LETCH, PETER and FAYE LYNCH, DON and VI PHILP.

Secretary HELEN read Minutes of the previous Meeting - passed moved STEVE READ, seconded REG BLEWETT.

Business Arising: BEVAN reported that we had applied to the Taxation Department for an exemption from Income Tax and were awaiting their response.

Boyanup long-weekend has been cancelled.

Classic Car Show - decided that we would participate. Those interested to contact MIKE COOKE. REG BLEWETT to find out about borrowing some hay bales for the display.

JOHN LUCA reported that about 200 cars had participated in Big Al's Poker Run this year. REG BLEWETT reported a "good day" at Belvior Amphitheatre.

Correspondence read from: Bendigo Swap Meet, Society of Automotive Historians, Vic Park Upholstery, Dunsborough Hotel, Combined Car Clubs, Frank Sinclair.

C.C.C. are having a Concessional Licence meeting on March 30, 1992 - we shall be represented by: STEVE READ, BILL BENNIE, BEVAN SHARP.

Treasurer HELEN reported a Club balance of \$1,983.89.

1992 National Meet - BILL BENNIE reported that the Committee was now meeting every two weeks, he was "stunned" that some WA members had not yet entered and urged that they come along and enjoy this unique opportunity. BEVAN had arranged a bus from the Melville Council to cater for those without a Model A. BILL requested that as many members as possible attend the March meeting for final arrangements for the Meet. BEVAN reported that we had 141 entries but that we still had not received accommodation and meal orders from around 20 entrants so were still not sure of their intentions. MAXINE DAVIDSON is arranging entertainment at Noalimba for the Saturday of the Meet.

Vehicle Examinations: STEVE READ reported that most vehicles had now been examined or had sent their examination forms. Following extensive discussion about examination requirements and Club responsibilities with regard to vehicles offered by PHIL REBE for loan to a National Meet participant it was moved BILL BENNIE, seconded MAX ANNEAR and passed unanimously that: "The Secretary write to Mr Phil Rebe to explain the situation regarding compulsory vehicle examinations of all Club members' Model A Fords and that Mr Rebe be advised that unless his vehicles have been examined by the Chief Vehicle Examiner within 21 days of advice having been given that his membership be suspended under Clause Eight of the Constitution."

JOHN LUCA tabled an article on licensing pre-1970 left-hand drive vehicles.

Next Meeting: Noranda School in Walmsley Drive off Crimea Street on March 22 from 9am.

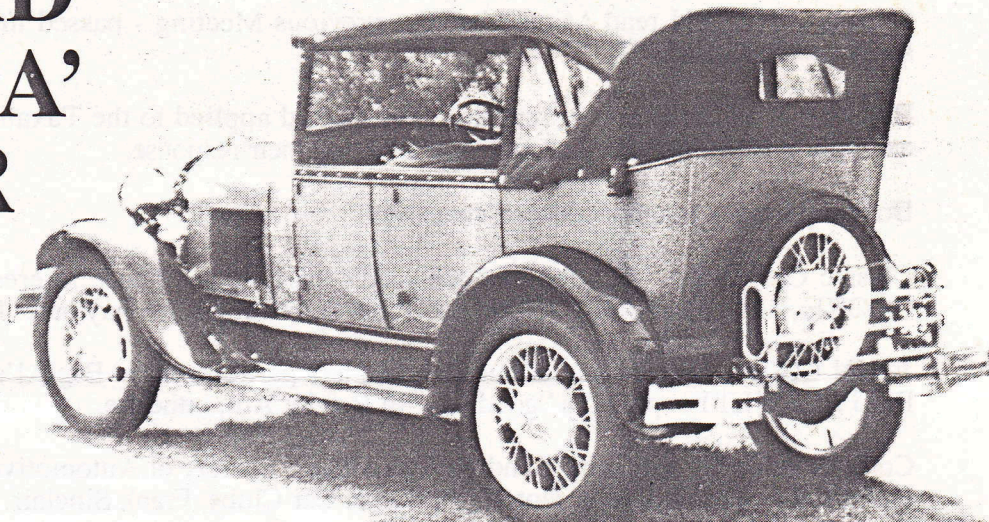
There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.45am.

President LAUREL was driving their Model A with Jordan to the shop the other day . Jordan seemed unusually interested in the traffic and finally said: "Mummy what about all the mug drivers, the crazy fools, ratbags and stupid idiots, haven't they come out today?"

"No," said Laurel sweetly, "they only come out when your father is driving."

WIN THIS CAR

1928 FORD MODEL 'A' TOURER



\$2
TICKET

2nd Prize: Leather bound copy of James Flood book "Wheels of Victoria" valued at \$1,000.

VINTAGE DRIVERS CLUB BUILDING FUND SPECIAL EFFORT

PERMISSION GRANTED BY RAFFLE AND BINGO BOARD
PERMIT No. C1653-91 ISSUED 27TH NOVEMBER, 1991, TO BE DRAWN 30/5/1992

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I wish to order Raffle Tickets

Please send me Tickets at \$2.00 each by mail.

Cheque for \$ enclosed and payable to VINTAGE DRIVERS CLUB.

NAME PHONE

ADDRESS

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Bill Eldridge

NOBLE PARK VIC 3174

Phone

SOUND FAMILIAR?

Mr Calleja at Number Two
was feeling just a little blue.
So, I asked: "What's the problem mate?"
He said: "It's like this, I'll give it straight,
I haven't got enough to do."

So, we jumped in the car.
We didn't go far.
And we bought a Model A Ford.
I said: "There you are dear, have no fear,
Now you'll never be bored."

Almost every day
We worked on that Model A
With Nina, Mick and Dad.
Well, let me just say
There was many a day
When I thought we were ALL going mad.

There was scrubbing and cleaning,
Parts had to be gleaming.
As we worked well into the night
We would sit and admire it,
We never got tired of it.
Even though sometimes it didn't go right.

We learned about bearings
And we learned about caring
For this 1930 car.
There were spanners and brake liners,
Nothing looked finer
As we looked at her from afar.

We all got together in all types of weather
And would speak of this Model A.
We often said, as we climbed into bed:
"ROLL ON COMPLETION DAY".

Well now it's February
And we're rid of the debris
We're ready to shout out loud.
We'll call her Victoria.
We sure do adore her.
Henry Ford we've done you proud.

Judy Calleja

In Future Issues...

Thanks for your contribution Judy. All articles, hints, tips and poems are most welcome at any time. In future issues there will be an article by PETER LYNCH on how to convert your Model A from left-hand to right-hand drive, complete with ideas learned from practical experience. Also, RAY MAHONY is working on an interesting article about steering repairs, maintenance and misconceptions - of which he has recently gained lots of helpful information. Stay tuned!

THAT WAS FEBRUARY

Wonderful turn up at the park in Ley Street, Como for our second meeting of 1992:- 43 members, 7 children and a visitor. All the more commendable considering the time of day:- 7am for most of us! Actually, when you consider that it was still "summer time" and we were under the reign of the curtain-fading "day-light saving" it was really 6am and most members had set off while it was still dark.

As usual the ANDREWS were working on their own time.

One surprise during the morning was a sustained rumbling explosion that someone tried to attribute to a passing magpie (which must have been on a strict curry and cabbage diet). Actually it was the sound of the imploding Old Emu Brewery way over in central Perth - what did it sound like up close?

After a barbecue breakfast and a succinct 45 minute meeting it was time for a practice run on judging Touring Class for the National Meet.

After the judging, a brief "post mortem" revealed a couple of anomalies which will be corrected before the next practice run.

The team judging undercarriage found water seeping from the rear of MAX ANNEAR's Roadster which could have been a bit of a worry so close to the Meet but MAX assures all that the problem has now cured itself.

Talking about getting ready for the Meet - our Club expert on mechanical things Model A has been dispensing practical advice left-right and centre as members hurtle around getting their cars ready. I am sure I can confidently speak for them ALL of them in conveying grateful thanks to STEVE for all his practical advice and assistance.

The LUCA clan attended Big Al's Poker Run, which had been postponed the previous week due to precipitation. JOHN reported a very good turn up of over 200 cars but not many "vintage" and a pleasant evening enjoyed by all the participants.

REG and CORAL BLEWETT attended the day at Belvior Amphitheatre in the Jaguar and also had a pleasant day's outing.

DON'T MISS THE MARCH MEETING
March 22, 1992 at 9am
Noranda School, Walmsley Drive, Noranda
Your attendance is requested
Please be there.

LEFT HAND DRIVE IMPORTED VEHICLES

Special Provisions for pre-1970 Vehicles

Extracted from Information Bulletin 100/91 issued by The Engineer in Charge of Vehicle Engineering and Safety Branch of Police Licensing And Services, December 12, 1991

Certain left hand drive vehicles, manufactured prior to January 1, 1970 may now be conditionally registered in Western Australia without the need for right hand drive conversion.

This relaxation in requirements is intended to give the enthusiast the opportunity to register classic left hand drive vehicles without the need to execute modifications which depreciate the originality and value of the vehicle.

These provisions do not apply to:- vehicles used for commercial purposes (taxis, buses, hire vehicles), privately-owned vehicles used for the carriage of non-paying passengers (such as Clubs), ie: only for personal use and carriage of family and friends. The only exception applies to commercial vehicles which are rarely used on public roads. For example, off-road vehicles such as drilling rigs may be considered on an individual basis.

Whilst vehicles registered under these provisions will not be limited so far as personal use is concerned, it is important to note the conditions of registration before registration is effected. Failure to comply with the conditions on the licence may result in action against the driver.

Registration - Submit proof of ownership and appropriate approval documents from Customs and take to East Perth Examination Centre. Vehicles imported after August 1, 1989 require an import approval document from the Federal Office of Road Safety. A temporary permit will be required to drive to the examination centre. A left hand drive warning sign must be prominently displayed on the rear window before driving off the wharf.

Inspection:- Headlamps must dip to the left. Rear indicator lenses must be amber (if manufactured after January 1, 1960). Left hand drive warning sign prominently displayed. Must be fitted with two flat external mirrors (one each side). A convex mirror may be fitted on the passenger side providing it complies with ADR 14/01. Front seat belts must be fitted to all vehicles manufactured after January 1, 1969. Seat belts are not mandatory on vehicles manufactured prior to December 31, 1968 but they are encouraged and must comply with relevant Standards and be fitted strictly in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations

Most conditionally registered vehicles are given a CLASS B LICENCE which will be endorsed with the following codes:

1. Licence to be carried at all times.
2. Subject to examination prior to renewal.
4. Not transferable without prior approval from Police & Licensing Services.
5. Sign "Caution Left Hand Drive" affixed to rear in letters not less than 75mm high.
140. For personal use only.

This policy is not intended to discourage the conversion of left hand drive vehicles. In fact it is recommended that those persons who import left hand drive vehicles intended for regular and extensive use, convert their vehicles prior to registration.

EVEN BACKWARDS THE MODEL A IS BEST

According to the *Guinness Book of Records* the record for driving in reverse was set by Charles Creighton and James Hargis of Maplewood, Missouri who drove their Model A Ford from New York City to Los Angeles and back again between July 26 and August 13, 1930. The two men completed the entire 11,555 km journey backwards without once stopping the engine.....

The longest recorded distance for driving on two wheels is 209.2km in an Opel Kadett in France on March 14, 1985. Get out the Model A and get into the record books.....

• • • Notebook • • •

HAPPY BIRTHDAY this month to: MAXINE DAVIDSON, HAZEL GROWNS, IVY MCLEAN, DANIEL PINNINGTON, LESLEY POLLEY, ALEX KIRKWOOD.

Since the Club has had an entry in the White and Yellow pages and the Sharp's phone number has also featured in "Restored Cars" and "Unique Cars" promoting the National Meet they are getting all sorts of phone calls. The entry in the phone books for "Model A Restorers Club" prompts a wide assortment of people to ring up wanting to buy models of trains, planes or automobiles. Someone rang recently wanting to know where he could get a roof for his 1940s Bedford truck (at least there was a "ford" in the name!) Calls have included queries on where to buy or sell a wide cross-section of automobilia - all referred to the V.C.C.

HOWEVER got a call last week from a man who is keen to get hold of a Model A to restore (I don't think he intends to 'rod' it!!). If you have a Model A ready for restoration and do not want to tackle it yourself call Perry Ruffo on [REDACTED].

BEST WISHES to PAT LAURIE for a fast recovery following a recent operation.

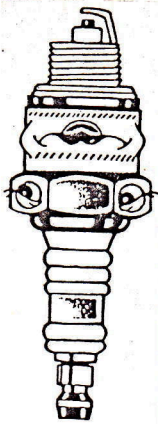
WANTED TO SWAP - JOHN LAURIE has an AR wheel he would like to swap for a B wheel. Any offers? Phone [REDACTED].

WANTED - Our youngest Model A owner, DANIEL PINNINGTON, is seeking a few bits for his 1928 Phaeton:- 1 rear hub, 1 rear axle (left), a uni-joint, crown wheel (for 10/37 ratio) and some wheel nuts. Phone [REDACTED] if you can help - thanks.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS for your Club Register - ROSS & ALMA LETCH are now at: [REDACTED] Duncraig, 6023. [REDACTED]. But get ready for another change before 1993...

Heard a few cries of "I've got nothing to wear" of late coming from some of the ladies attending the fun of the National Meet. There seems to be some mild confusion among those who have never previously attended a National Meet on what to wear. Well, the obvious answer is in whatever you feel comfortable. Naturally the President is required to wear a twin-set and pearls during the day and a full-length evening gown most evenings plus a tiara to greet Sir Charles and Lady Court at the Awards Dinner but that does not apply to the rest of us rabble - just jokin' LAUREL. Obviously casual wear is fine for the daily runs and most evenings. There is a Cabaret-type evening on the Saturday at Noalimba so something slightly better than a pair of jeans would be appropriate. The Awards Dinner is traditionally an opportunity to dress in era-style gear and there will be prizes awarded for best lady in day wear, best lady in evening wear, best man in day wear and best man in evening wear. Naturally you would be most welcome to wear era-style gear every day if you feel so inclined...if you do feel inclined - stand up straight!

SOLVE THE MYSTERY - What is MAXINE DAVIDSON doing with ALAN JEFFREE, JIM WILLIAMS, KELVIN PEPPER AND BEVAN while COLIN is away? Come to think of it, what is she also doing with NINA WILLIAMS, JUNE SMITH, HELEN SHARP, LOUISE READ and IVY MCLEAN? Attend the National Meet and ALL will be revealed.....



PAISLEY Ian and Dianne
NORANDA 6062

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Palmyra, Western Australia, 6157



Western
Model A News

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AUSTRALIAN
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Model A Ford

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7 PARKSTONE DRIVE, BAYSWATER NORTH, VICTORIA, 3153. Phone: (03) 729 0049

Don: Dianne
Coming to the National Meet?
Levor

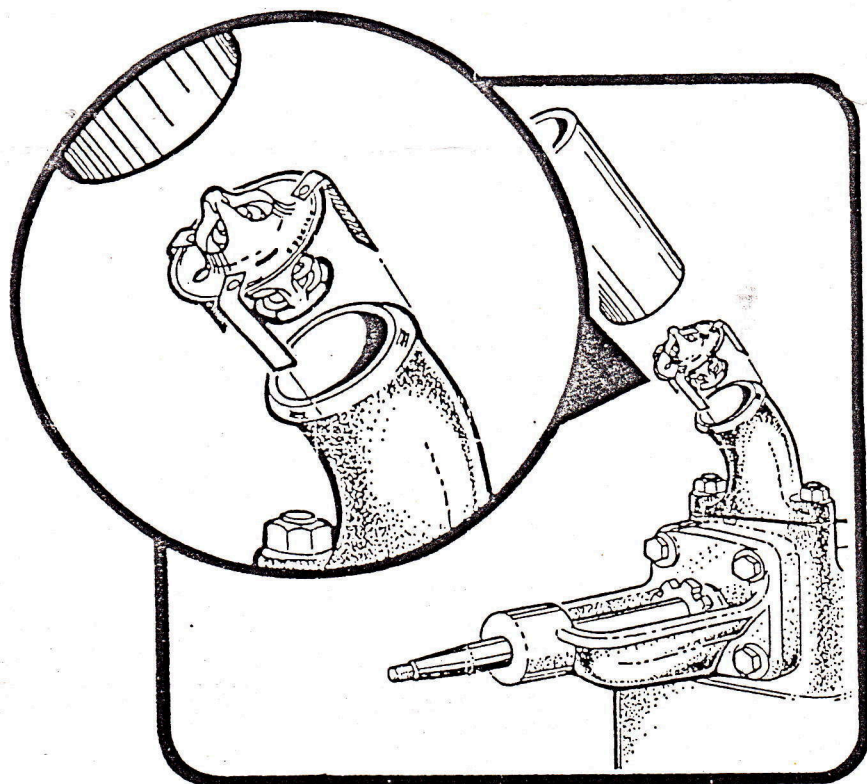
FITTING A THERMOSTAT TO YOUR MODEL A

by Les Flood, Launceston
from "Ford Torque", Victoria

Here are details of the thermostat I have fitted to my cars without having any problems.

Although the sketch shows three straps, the ones I have modified only used two straps of light gauge stainless steel either spot welded or riveted to the thermostat. I then file two slots through the olive on the water outlet, this allows the bottom hose clamp to seat correctly and also hold the thermostat in place.

The thermostat I have used is a Tridon A56-160 replaces 15c Temp 71c.



160° MODEL "A" THERMOSTAT