



# Western Model A News

Official Newsletter of the

MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, Inc

Year XIX Number VI

JANUARY, 1999

## 1998 - THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS - ACCORDING TO TIMMO .....

The year's first meeting;  
The day meet at Manners Hill Park  
Is really great but prompts this remark,  
If I may make so bold,  
We're all getting too old  
For a lark in the park in the dark.

On the cross-country trek - P Sartori & S Read;  
Poor Pete found the whole trip quite boring;  
Lack of rest and the temperature soaring,  
Said, "Of sleep I just think,  
For I can't get a wink,  
You can't sleep for this God-awful snoring!"

On AJ's and EJ's world trip;  
When the Jeffrees went off on their own,  
All their money was stolen in Rome.  
They said, "It's so sad,  
But not really too bad,  
We've got plenty more back at home."

On the Berkshire's nostalgic trip back to SA;  
Hooray! For the Berkshires are back.  
They went on the Adelaide track.  
Her folks said, "God save us!  
We love to see Mavis,  
But does she always have to bring Jack?"

On one of our people;  
Frank Farrelly's really in strife,  
And well may he fear for his life.  
For Barbara has said,  
"You may find yourself dead,  
If you call me 'the woman', not 'my dear wife'".

On one of our successful car hire companies;  
The Halls do their weddings in style.  
John & Shirl have sent lots down the aisle,  
They note with a grin  
How the money rolls in,  
Enough to make even John Hall smile.

On a ute being painted a non-genuine colour;  
The Roleystone car repair farm  
Was phoned up one day in alarm  
Steve saw the paint shoot  
From the shelf to his ute,  
He's never been seen so un-calm.

On our resident love-birds;  
Ron Andrews & Leslie are here,  
Holding hands once again, and its clear  
That if he lets her go  
Some nice ageing beau,  
May take her and make her - that's his fear.

On a certain half-finished Roadster;  
Gary Eva, wife Rosalie complains,  
She gets wet on a run, when it rains.  
The problem to me,  
Is easy to see -  
No hood! No side-curtains! No brains!

On the general elections;  
The Bussards, both David & Pat  
Both wear an executive hat.  
When David won the toss,  
He said, "See Pat, I'm the boss."  
She said, "We'll soon see about that."

On a progression challenged Blue Tudor;  
Timmo said he felt quite a fool.  
Car had stopped in the bush with no tools.  
But Fran's on the ball,  
Said, "I see it all.....  
You dummy, you've run out of fuel!"

On Jim Williams' idea of a 'sacred site';  
When Jim showed the club some rare earth,  
Said, "'Tis the time & the place of my birth.  
And what a great day  
It was for all WA."  
Nina just cracked up with mirth.

On the Xmas Party;  
The Peppermill Restaurant said, "Sorry!  
We're broke!" We said, "That's a worry!  
We don't think it's funny;  
What'd you do with our money?"  
They said, "We gave it all back to John Laurie."

In conclusion;  
To Max's wife Dora, we owe  
All our thanks, every year, for we know  
When it comes to the crunch,  
She'll arrange Christmas lunch,  
And she'll grab all your money and go!

This Club is the WESTERN MODEL A-s Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America, Inc.  
MAFCA - 250 S. Cypress St., La Habra, California, 90631-5586. USA - Foreign Membership US\$34.00 per year

OFFICE BEARERS: *President:* DAVID BUSSARD [REDACTED] *Secretary/Treasurer:* PAT BUSSARD [REDACTED]  
*Vice-President:* PETER SARTORI [REDACTED] *Vehicle Examiner:* STEVE READ [REDACTED] *Editor:* LOUISE READ [REDACTED]

COPY DEADLINE: By the first day of the month to [REDACTED] Thornlie, W.A., 6108

IEWS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF M.A.R.C. OF W.A.

**SUNDAY, 24TH JANUARY, 1999**

Annual Picnic in the Park held at  
Manners Hill Park, Cnr Keane & Lilla Sts, Peppermint Grove  
Time: 10:00am Bring morning tea & lunch for the  
first meeting of 1999. Make it a date!

**SUNDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY, 1999**

**AVON VALLEY VINTAGE & CLASSIC FAIR**

For further details contact your secretary  
Pat Bussard on [REDACTED]

**SUNDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY, 1999**

Breakfast BBQ at McDougall Park,  
Ley Street, Como.  
7:00am start for brekky, followed by a meeting.

**SUNDAY, 21ST MARCH, 1999**

**MARLOWS' CLASSIC CAR SHOW**  
in conjunction with the CCC Assn of WA  
Whiteman Park - volunteers & cars needed.

**THURSDAY 20TH - MONDAY 24TH APRIL, 2000**

**16TH NATIONAL MEET - WODONGA, VIC**  
Registration form and accommodation available from  
Steve Read [REDACTED]

**THURSDAY 26TH - SUNDAY 29TH APRIL, 2001**

**SHANNONS 2001 TOUR**  
Celebrating the Centenary of Federation in Association with  
Australian Historic Motoring Federation  
Entry form & further information available from your secretary  
or State Tour Co-ordinator, Andrew Wells [REDACTED]



**A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE**

I take this opportunity to wish all members the compliments of the season and to pass on a few of my thoughts about the first two meetings of 1999.

Several members of the club who do not have their A on the road feel there is not much point in attending the monthly runs in their modern vehicles. I urge these members, and any others who are not regular attendees, to seriously consider coming to one or both of our January or February meetings.

The meeting on Sunday, January 24 is held at Manners Hill Park in Peppermint Grove starting at 10am and continues for about three hours. Most of the time is spent eating and visiting; plans for the coming year are also made. There is no run, but many members do bring their A. This is traditionally one of the largest meetings of the year with 50 or so members present. Visitors are always welcome.

The meeting on Sunday, February 21 is held at the north-east corner of McDougall Park, Ley Street, Como. This is a breakfast meeting starting at 7am followed by a short meeting. Barbeque hotplates are available to cook eggs, bacon, sausages or other delights. Again there is no associated run so arrive in anything you choose.

Our club is about much more than Model As; they are just an excuse to get together with new and old friends and have a good time. Please come and bring the whole family.

*David Bussard*

BRIDGETOWN SHOW  
Saturday, 28th November, 1998

*I received the following article in the mail from our country correspondent Alex Polley.  
Alex included photos of the show for our album, also some nice shots of his roadster.*

The show was attended by the Busselton Branch of the Vintage Car Club and the Morris Minor Club of Perth. It was also attended by Alan Duns in his '29 Phaeton so Model As were pretty well represented. I might also add that my Roadster won the "Best Vehicle Award" which pleased me no end - the polishing was well worth it !! Also at the show were two Buicks; a 1925 model owned by Greg Giblet of Bridgetown and a 1930 model owned by Graham Johnstone of Manjimup. There was also a good showing of Holdens. All up there would have been approx. 50-60 cars, the best showing in this part of the world for quite some time. Pity there weren't more Model As.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all members of MARC a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

P.S. I have managed to get my hands on a 'B' Model Sport Coupe which has been used. If any members know of parts, I would be pleased to know.

*Alex Polley*

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MANDURAH CAR SHOW  
Sunday, 22nd November, 1998

I attended the show at Mandurah, leaving home at 8:30am to be in time for the opening of the show at 10:00am. The weather was perfect for the display and there was a great variety of vehicles including rods, vintage, classic and speedway bikes. Midget speedcars and TQ's were also present and an Indianapolis 500 car from the York museum was on show.

The show was well attended and I chatted to a great many people, particularly as they were interested in my Model A being left-hand drive.

I scored the trophy for Top Vehicle Pre 1940 with my 1928 Left-Hand Drive Tudor.

Fellow member Frank Fogliani had his car on display and I believe he also won a prize.

The show finished at 4:00pm.

*Don Sutherland*

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CHRISTMAS AT CHAPEL FARM ~ 12th December, 1998

Very appropriate for the celebration of Christmas but we were celebrating our end of year of togetherness and goodwill for the coming year.

By all accounts it was a pleasant venue with conviviality the prevailing nuance. The menu consisted of an entrée, Caesar salad, main course of roast turkey with vegetables or salad and for those who like seafood, grilled fish, also with vegetables or salad, followed by sweets then coffee or tea.

Although it was a bring your own, some people did buy drinks including the writer and found the prices 'a bit rich', nevertheless they catered well for us.

In place of the usual raffle the Lauries set up a questionnaire consisting of twenty questions all but one being Australiana. The surprise winners were David & Pat Bussard with twelve correct answers. There was a heap of prizes, twenty in all, including several bottles of donated wine, which were all spread around. There was great chortling when the answers to the questions were read out with great cross-fire repartée contributing to the conviviality of the luncheon.

The positive thing about having such a luncheon at a restaurant is the great load lifted from those who in the past have organised the function at their homes. What a relief for them, for all can simply enjoy rather than slaving away.

It was great to see our founding members Bill & Dorothy Bennie along. Bill, now retired, has lost a lot of weight simply because as he put it, "I now have to work!"

Several members did the Club proud by turning up in their Model A, congratulations to Ray & Toni Mahony, Alan & June Smith and Peter & Elaine Gilberthorpe. Several country members came along: Gary & Rosalie Eva from Brookton, David & Ruth Lucas and Barry & Sylvia Bristow-Stagg from Northam.

Dora Annear and Pat Laurie wish to thank those unsung helpers who contributed to a great get-together for our membership.

Goodwill for the Christ period and may the light shine on all our members for 1999.

*John Laurie*

## CLUB MEMBER PROFILES

I have attended many runs with the *Model A Restorers Club of WA* since joining with David in September 1993, and met many interesting people. There is a feeling of friendliness within the club at the runs and other gatherings, which is reflected in the chatty nature of some sections of the newsletter. With time to spare for a few months, I considered how I could contribute to the newsletter, and decided to seek information from the foundation and long-time members of the *Western As* who have maintained their links with the club.

I went through the Application for Membership forms which came my way when I became Secretary in July and identified eleven dated May to July 1980. On checking through the first receipts issued and the minutes of the first meeting at Bill and Dorothy Bennie's home on 22nd June 1980, I discovered two more couples who are still members. I have contacted most of these members and have enjoyed learning about them. Some are country members and thus unable to attend often. Others have maintained their memberships but have different priorities for Sundays these days.

Our first profile is of Ray and Toni Mahony. The impression I have is that nothing is too hard or too much for either of them, and they demonstrate great confidence in each other. Ray bravely trusted Toni and two friends to enter the *Rally West '79* event just one month after his Model A was registered. On several occasions Toni has been alone at a run, driving the Model A, which shows she has no worries about the condition of the car maintained by Ray. She still completes all the question sheets, and I think she won the ridiculously difficult quiz set by David on the first run we organised.

The information is from Toni and Ray, though I have added a few comments in parentheses. I hope you find their story interesting.

Pat Bussard

**Names:** Ray and Toni Mahony

**Date of Joining or First meeting attended:** Inaugural members present at first meeting 22/6/80.

**How did you become involved?** Ray and Toni have been members of MARC Australia since about 1974 and joined with Bill Bennie and others to form the WA club. Bill Bennie was the moving force.

**Positions held in club:** Both Ray and Toni have been Secretary/Treasurer at various times - can't remember when. Ray was Vehicle Examiner in the early days. (*He was the first Vehicle Examiner, offering to fill the position on 26/9/81*)

**National Meets attended:** 1992 in WA. Ray organised security for the rally through his SES connections. Toni helped setting up tables for dinner. We just might get to Wodonga in 2000.

**Memorable events:** Very brave husband allowed wife to take car and 2 girlfriends on *Rally West '79* only one month after registration - we damn near won it! And had a ball! The most enjoyable events with the *Model A Restorer's Club* have been the Kirup runs. All seemed to enjoy watching the kids slide down the hill on pieces of cardboard, dodging tyres at the bottom. They have attended three. The one which included a trip to Collie, when they went to a country and western place, was interesting. It was the "Museum of Memorabilia" belonging to Harvey Dickson on the other side of Boyup Brook.

### Family and Personal history:

Ray has been a lecturer in Auto Mechanics at TAFE for 25½ years. Toni has been a call centre and licensing officer with the Department of Transport for 11½ years. They have four children.

There were no cars in Ray's family. They lived very close to a train station and his father rode a push bike. Ray could always pull his push bike apart and fix it, but he never knew about cars and had no idea what other kids were talking about, when they related tales of driving places and breaking down. He was determined to remedy this and he worked at a service station in 3rd year high school. He liked it and continued there for the start of his apprenticeship. He spent 10 months there, then moved to Sydney Atkinson's Holden dealership to complete his apprenticeship. He was determined to show that he had potential as an Auto Mechanic and proceeded to win the top apprentice award for his year. This included an all expenses paid trip to tour all the Holden dealerships in South Australia and Victoria.

He was a Ford service representative for the eastern section of WA 1969-71. He applied to TAFE in '72, got in May '73. He has been at many different TAFE centres, the past 10 years in the correspondence section, providing for all aspects of the apprenticeship program for auto mechanics.

There were always vehicles on the farm at Wubin, near Dalwalinu, where Toni grew up. She remembers a big Fargo truck coming to the farm when she was very little, and a Customline later. Her family had the local vehicle plates DL1, DL2, DL3, DL4 and DL6, and her Uncle Fred had DL5 and DL7. Her mum still has DL 6 on her car at Chittering.

**Family members:** No 1 son Raphael is now a Fireman in the RAAF, stationed at Richmond, NSW. No 2 son Kimberley is a police officer and lives in Kingsley. He is part of Mirrabooka District Support Group. No 3 son Kieran has just completed the third year of Occupational Therapy with one more to go. He lives at home sometimes. Andrae, No 1 daughter, has finished her TEE and plans to become a PE teacher. You see her sometimes on runs.

**What music do you listen to?** Ray likes light classical, rock 'n' roll. Toni - everything from opera through choral to modern day pops EXCEPT heavy metal - YUK!

**The most memorable show you have attended.** We've seen a lot and enjoyed them all. For a real change of pace, the show *STOMP* has to have been the most unusual and fun.

**Sporting interests:** Ray is the only person I know who isn't a sports follower. Toni loves all sports and actively follow the glorious *GLORY* soccer team.

**Other interests:** Ray - State Emergency Service, abseiling. Toni - genealogical research, reading.

**About your car: Model:** 1929 Phaeton. **Colour:** blue and black

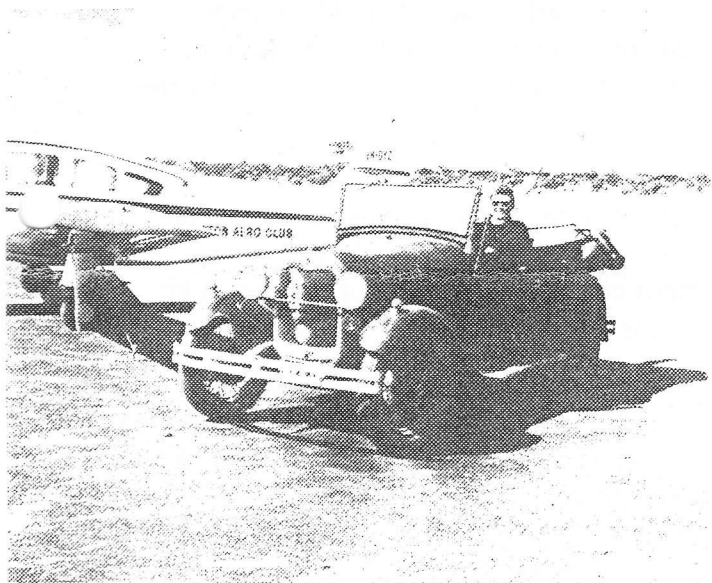
Unrestored but running when purchased. 7 years of work - when we had the money we didn't have the time and vice versa. Had the 3 boys during this period as well. The car was licensed 3/9/1979.

Ray bought it along with a second Model A from Don Hall, the Ford dealer in Mt. Magnet on the March long weekend 1972. Ray restored it completely including paintwork. Toni did the upholstery. Ray has elaborated further - (see next page.) The second car stayed in the backyard. Ray used the diff out of it and sold it to Steve Read in 1996.

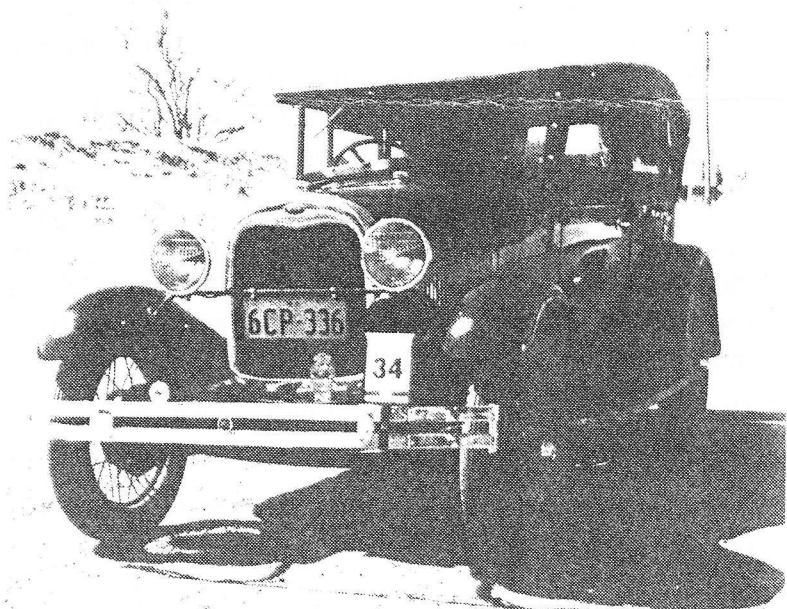
**Other restorations:** The current, long-winded project is a 1947 Ford Super Deluxe. Ray has had it 10 years, working on it intermittently.

**Membership of other clubs:** *VCC of WA (Inc)* since early 1970s.

**About the *Model A Restorer's Club of WA (Inc)*:** The strengths of the club lie in the lack of a hall and associated responsibilities, the casual nature of the monthly runs, and the emphasis on family activities.



The Phaeton with "Wingy" Brown at the wheel



"Elizabeth", fully restored in 1979.

## MY VINTAGE CAR AND ME

BY RAY MAHONY

It is interesting to recall when I was a very ignorant 15 year old first year apprentice motor mechanic, working the lube bay and driveway of a service station in Subiaco, refuelling a shiny black Model A Ford. To me this was a magnificent car and I made certain that the fuel hose never touched the body work and not a drop of fuel dripped onto the paint work.

One day, to my horror, the owner told me the block had cracked, and he was getting rid of the car. The Model A was traded in on an FC Holden Station Wagon. Trade in value £60. I could have afforded that, but then there was the cracked block, you would never get another motor for a car like that. Little did I know.

There were a few other cars of special interest to me at this time. I was quite taken with a very nice A 1 EXCELLENT 1922-24 Humber. This little car was for sale at "Tiger Motor Wreckers, Hay Street Subiaco". I would have loved this, but no way could I afford a car like that. I never asked the price but did hear it was sold for £10. I am still not sure I believe that. I regularly serviced a 1937 Austin 7 Sedan, and the service station had a 1926 Chev ute (rough but memorable). Others of special interest included a 1934 Vauxhall Coupe and a 1934 Hillman roadster.

In 1970-71 I was a service rep with the Ford Motor Company and every time I visited a country dealer I asked for the whereabouts of two things; 1. Cutler Roll Top Desk 2. Any Vintage Motor Cars.

Late in 1971 I visited Don Hall's BP Road House/Ford Dealership in Mt. Magnet. Guess what? Yes he had two vintage cars - 1 only 1929 Ford and 1 only 1928 Ford, both of which were available for \$250. And yes he also had a Cutler Roll Top desk but not available, unless he sold the business, which he was considering. I was looking for ANY available vintage car, but imagine how I felt when the one I found was a Model A, just like the one I used to refuel - I was rapt!

The better of the two cars, the '29 Phaeton, was nearly complete and driveable although showing its age. It was originally purchased from Lynas Motors by "Wingy" Brown and owned by him until mid 1960 (I believe) when it was sold to the local Police officer who later sold it to Don Hall. The main outing for the car in its later years in Mt. Magnet was to take Father Christmas through town each year.

In January 1972 I saw a "For Sale" ad for the Mt. Magnet Road House. I immediately rang Don to tell him that I would buy the cars and, subject to price, the desk. He had put the desk aside but could not remember who wanted it. During the March long week-end I went to Mt. Magnet and got the desk for \$30 and paid \$50 deposit on the cars. Before I arrived that week-end some hot rodders had called in and tried to buy the cars, but Don, being a man of his word, kept the cars for me.

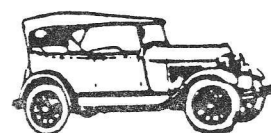
The restoration started in Perth, continued in Kalgoorlie and was finished in Perth in 1979. Because of the completeness of the vehicle it was a fairly easy restoration as far as restorations go. Complete engine and gearbox overhaul. Rear axle dismantle, clean and reassemble. New brake linings and drum skim. Dismantle body to renew timbers. I used Karri for the main side rails and cross beams and Meranti for the rest. A bit of panel beating, spray painting and re-upholstering. Toni did the upholstery work and I did the rest.

Out one week after registration, on a wet and windy day we, the family and John Parker, had our first official run to Gin Gin. Those in the back got quite wet while those in the front, having the protection of the wind screen remained relatively dry. The next week the hood was made and fitted. A week later Toni took the car with two friends on Rally West '79, an 1100 mile tour of the South West and won the Ladies' prize.

During a second trip to Gin-Gin I visited Don Hall, who had moved to Gin-Gin, and showed him the car. He could hardly believe his eyes but refused to drive the car for fear of damaging it.

As expected my lovable Model A has given me and my family a lot of pleasure over the years with only one major problem ie. a stripped differential pinion.

Why would anyone want anything other than a Model A, unless of course it was a '47 Super Deluxe?



# Notebook

**BIRTHDAYS for JANUARY: Birthstone: Garnet; Flower: Carnation**

Max Annear, Russell Brandis, Ian Dalby, Gary Eva, Barbara Forbes, Barrie Guest, Edith Jeffree, James Pinnington, Matthew Read and Mavis Spencer.  
Many happy returns of the day!

**NEW MEMBERS:** Welcome back to Ken & Denise Brown, and also to Ron Pleysier.

The Brown's address is [REDACTED] Helena Valley. Phone: [REDACTED] Ken is restoring a '30 Victoria & '28 Tudor. Ron lives at [REDACTED] Kelmscott. Ph: [REDACTED] He owns a fully restored '30 Tudor & an unrestored '28 Ute.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** Geoff & Lindy Ingram have moved from the country to [REDACTED] Golden Bay. Phone: [REDACTED] Hope to see you along on one of our outings.

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH:** I believe this was a highly successful event and a full account of all the festivities is in this magazine. Thanks go to the Lauries and Dora Annear for co-ordinating this important event and to John for the report.

**MANY THANKS** to those people who sent me photos of their cars, in particular Neil Munro, Alex Polley and Des Addison. The photos are marvellous. I am also indebted to Alex who took the time to write an article about the Bridgetown Show which is printed in the magazine, and photos to supplement the club album. Another newsletter contributor this month is Don Sutherland who attended the Mandurah Car Show and collected a trophy. Well done Don! Timmo's enlightening highlights from 1998 appear on the front cover and the Mahony story is a masterpiece. The January edition truly reflects the input needed to make the magazine "your" newsletter. Keep those cards and letters coming in folks!

**PHOTO ALBUMS** displaying your cars and your club outings will be available for your perusal at the January meeting. Come along and review the last 20 years pictorially. If you have a contribution to make it will be gladly accepted.

**WANTED:** Parts for a B Model Sports Coupe contact Alex [REDACTED]

**HERE'S A FEW THOUGHTS TO USHER IN THE NEW YEAR:**

**Q:** What is the commonest name for a pub?

**A:** "The Red Lion", there are more than 5000 in Britain.

In 1761 an Oxford pedlar used to sell concentrated beer in cubes, not unlike a beef cube. The buyer simply dropped a cube in a tankard of water to produce a very strong porter. The cubes were advertised as "a tankard of beer on a teaspoon" and were very popular with the young men of the time who would carry the cubes in their pockets.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR** to all members, friends and family of MARC WA.



If undelivered, please return to:  
Thornlie [redacted]  
Western Australia, 6108

BALDIVIS WA 6171  
[redacted]  
BUSSARD David & Pat



# Western Model A News



ALL I SAID WAS "STOP AND ASK DIRECTIONS"  
"OH NO" YOU SAID, THEN I SAID "DO WE  
HAVE ENOUGH GAS?" "OH YES" YOU SAID.

Don't forget your  
subscriptions are now  
due as at 1st JANUARY.  
Give them to PAT at the  
next meeting or post  
them to:

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BALDIVIS, 6171.

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