



Western Model A News

Official Newsletter of the
MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, Inc

Year XXII Number VI

JANUARY, 2002



Alex & Linda Kirkwood
with their 1928 Phaeton

A younger Alex with
his prized Model A

Next Meeting/Run: Sunday 27th January, 2002
Place: Manners Hill Park Time: 10.00am

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:* PETER SARTORI *Secretary/Treasurer:* TONI MAHONY
Vice-President: RAY MAHONY *Vehicle Examiner:* STEVE READ *Editor:* LOUISE READ

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

SUNDAY, 27 JANUARY, 2002
ANNUAL PICNIC IN THE PARK

Bring your morning tea & lunch and enjoy the first
gathering of 2002.

Time: 10.00am Place: Manners Hill Park,
Cnr Lilla & Keane St, Peppermint Grove

SUNDAY, 24 FEBRUARY, 2002
BREAKFAST BBQ

Join us for our one and only breakfast meeting of the year

Don't forget the sausages, eggs & bacon

Time: 7.00am Place: McDougall Pk, Ley St, Como

 **MARLOWS CLASSIC CAR SHOW**
SUNDAY 17 MARCH, 2002

Two marshals required from the Club and attendance of
the same at the marshal's meeting.

Any volunteers to take on the display or any other
tasks required for this day?



SUNDAY, 23 MARCH, 2002
BROOKTON SHOW

Those club members not attending
Toowoomba are invited to join in
the fun of the Brookton Show
Further details as they come to hand

EASTER 2002, MARCH 29 - APRIL 2
17TH NATIONAL MODEL A MEET
TOOWOOMBA, QLD

Registration form & information available from
Rally Secretary, MAFC of Qld,
[REDACTED] Carina Qld 4152

SUNDAY, 3 NOVEMBER, 2002
SHANNONS "BAY TO WHITEMAN" RUN 2002

RAY ABBOTT ENGINE RECONDITIONING

** Specialising in Veteran and Vintage engines*

** Cylinder Head Service * Reboring and Sleeving * Crankshaft Grinding*

Recommended by MARC member

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34 years Experience

CLUB MEMBER PROFILES – Alex and Linda Kirkwood

Happy New Year to all! This month we have another foundation member sharing his story. Alex Kirkwood is still involved in the old car movement, although he and Linda have not been to a Model A Restorers Club gathering for many years. We hope this changes in the near future, as there are many newer members who would enjoy meeting them.
Pat Bussard.

Names: Alex and Linda Kirkwood

First meeting attended: Prior to the club being formed, I attended a meeting organised by the late Eric Richards to see if there was sufficient interest to form a club.

How did you become involved? I attended the inaugural meeting at Bill Bennie's home. I have always had an intense interest in Model A-s and being a member of the *Veteran Car Club of WA (Inc)* (joined 1972), I was aware of the interest in forming a local Model A club. At that time, I was also a member of the Canberra based *Model A Restorers Club* and the *Model A Ford Club of America*.

National and International Meets attended: Attended the Perth National meeting in 1992.

Memorable club events: Linda and I organised the first club rally to John Forrest National Park on Saturday, May 2, 1981. Seven member families and one non-member attended in their Model A-s. We were then invited to run a re-enactment rally using the same route sheet 10 years later on May 5 1991. Other club events that we have enjoyed have included a trip to Leeman at Easter 1991 and to Kirup for one Easter trip.

Family and personal history: Linda was born in India to English parents and moved to Perth when 9 years old. I was born in Kalgoorlie as were both my parents.

My father owned a 1928 Model A ute which he had purchased for £25 some 6 years before I was born in 1946. From an early age I became very passionate about the A. At age 12 I learnt to drive "Lizzie" and by the time license time arrived, I was an experienced bush driver...but things were a little different in the 60s. At age 16 while holidaying in Perth, I purchased a Floyd Clymer publication titled "How to Restore The Model A Ford" from Alberts Book Shop in Forrest Place....and at that time a restoration seed for the future was sown.

At that time I began to "tidy" the ute which included painting the engine green and painting the front and rear axles silver...which was the "in" thing at the time.

For my Leaving Certificate (TEE) Mechanical Drawing Project, I prepared a series of drawings of a Model A engine. The scales were taken from the above-mentioned book together with an old block that I had picked up.

In terms of employment, Linda is an Administrative Assistant at Alcoa World Alumina where she is in her third stint with this company. Initially leaving after some 8 years service to start a family, returning part way through the family process for a short while and then returning for the final segment some 14 years ago. Alcoa is a very special place for us both as we met there in 1965. I am an Accountant by profession and am currently General Manager, Finance and Resource Management at the Department of Health.

Linda and I have been married for 33 years and have 3 boys aged 30, 28 and 24, together with 3 grandchildren.

Only our oldest son (Jay) has an interest in cars, but not so much the older cars. But that may change over time ...and there is hope with the grandchildren. From an early age, Jay was always in the workshop with me and when he was 17 he took the A on a club run with some friends. I did not hesitate to allow him to do this as he had grown up with the car and treated it with absolute respect.

What music do you listen to? We both enjoy all modern music and the radio is always on in the house and cars. I also enjoy David Bowie music.

The most memorable concert(s) you have attended. Saltimbanco. Always enjoy John Farnham concerts.

Sporting interests: We are Eagles members and attend each game although we enjoy watching all

sports. Linda in particular enjoys netball, and while I enjoy the usual football and cricket, I am passionate about all forms of motor sport.

Other interests: Linda enjoys craft work as a hobby and we both enjoy gardening.

Our Model A: Our Model A is an AR phaeton (CA4485) which was purchased from the original owner (Mr Jack Fenn of Cottesloe) in March 1972 for the sum of \$212.50. Jack was 90 years old and both he and the vehicle had just been de-registered. After obtaining a police permit, I drove the A home, but not before Jack checked the oil and water and supervised the warm-up. Sadly he passed away before I finished the restoration.

This vehicle was the only one that Jack owned during his life and he purchased it from Fremantle Ford dealers McCulloch and Neil Ltd. It was registered in Fremantle on 25 October 1928 with the number 19578.

Whilst the vehicle appeared reasonable, it needed a total restoration including the woodwork and this took place over 2½ years concluding in November 1974 when we attended the VCC Mandurah rally. In the initial years we were successful in concourse events with the A winning Car of the Year with the VCC and probably its best outcome was in 1979 when we missed out by half of a point of being the outright winner of the Combined Car Club concourse.

The car is painted Gunmetal Blue and is fitted with whitewalls. Whilst not my first choice, there was a tyre shortage in 1974 and I could only get whitewalls, but it grew on me over time.

All cars must have a name and the A is named Syd.

Other Restorations: On completing the A, I began gathering bits for a 1915 brass radiator Model T. In 1975 I was able to acquire a bent and broken chassis, together with a range of hard-to-find items such as a block with a 1915 casting date (date cast in side of block), brass top steering column, sump and diff casing. This was the start of a long project requiring many trips to some very remote places.

Over 10 years this vehicle has been hand built including the full wooden frame, the body and full mechanicals. The block for example had been in the weather for many years and to retrieve it required boring the cylinders to the max and then sleeving. The valve seats were machined out and fitted with inserts, again as a result of exposure to the weather and this was the story as progression was made through the parts that I had gathered. To undertake a lot of this work, I purchased a Myford ML7 lathe and that proved to be invaluable. We still have the Model T.

I then progressed to restore our 1970 Twin Cam Escort (Lotus) which we have owned since 1974. This vehicle was passed to son Jay who adopted the philosophy of "drive it until the road wears out". The Escort is now back home and awaits another tidy-up.

Next project was to fully rebuild an EH Holden for son Ric. This vehicle started life as a rusty shell without mechanicals and over 2½ years was transformed into a lowered beast with disc brakes, 5 speed Toyota Supra gearbox and a very modified Holden 202 engine.

Next came the full restoration of a 1973 MGB.

Current Project: The current project is a 1952 Jaguar XK120 Fixed Head Coupe.

The XK was imported from California and to purchase this was the realisation of a boyhood dream. Whilst I had an inspection carried out in the US and then I carefully examined photos, the vehicle bodywork was not as good as it appeared. But then in playing with old cars, that's life. I have undertaken extensive body work and am currently in the paint phase. The body will then be removed and then the mechanicals tackled.

Projects for when I retire include a Model A factory ute, together with a Ford V8 while I have a good roadster body, and tucked away is the remains of Dad's original ute.

Membership of other clubs: *Veteran Car Club of WA. (Inc). MG Car Club.*

Suggestions for newer members: Follow your dream.

Motor Museum News

"SEASONS GREETINGS"

The **Motor Museum Trustees...** **John Osborn** (Chairman) **Maurice Brockwell**, **Kelvin Ferris** & **Don Stevens** and our Curator **John Withers** wish all club members, volunteers and their families a hearty Seasons Greetings. Our Museum is celebrating its seventh anniversary, and as you are no doubt aware, an enormous amount of hard work has gone into the project over this period. For this we give all our volunteers our sincere thanks for a herculean effort in making the Museum one of the finest in the world.

We are pleased to advise that we will be **open 7 days a week** from the 1st January 2001, except for Christmas Day and Good Friday, also entry fees to Whiteman Park will cease at the end of June 2002.

Highlights of the past year:-

The Australian Tax Office has endorsed the Motor Museum of WA Trust (Inc) as a **Deductible Gift Recipient** and an **Income Tax Exempt Charity**. This status will have benefits for both the Motor Museum and Taxation deductions for eligible donors of cash or gifts to the Museum. Enquiries to our Secretary/Treasurer Kelvin Ferris

Museum Income has continued to grow, compared with last year (2000) our shop sales have increased 50%, door fees enlarged and commissions are up by over \$5,000.00.

This years **Classic Car Show 2001**, WAs premier classic car event was one of the best ever, with a huge number of public and cars attending. Our thanks to the Committee and the excellent support from the participating Clubs and Members, particularly those that made the extra effort.

Shannons...."Bay to Whiteman Run 2001". A most successful event, the scenic route and stopover at the WA Equestrian Centre for morning tea proved very popular, don't forget to come along in 2002 and enjoy a new route with a morning tea stop at the Midland Railway Workshop.



Several **Local & National Rallies** were held in the Museum grounds during the year, the most spectacular was the **Indian Motorcycle National Rally**, it received excellent Television and print media coverage, no less than 80 magnificent Indians were displayed in front of the Museum facade...a sight to behold! Many of the machines came from interstate, some displayed for the first time. Several bookings have already been received for our special area with pavilion & BBQs beside the Museum for 2002, don't leave your booking too late!

Car and Motorcycle turnover continues with over 110 movements logged so far in 2001, if you have an interesting vehicle that you are prepared to display give us a call, we may be able to display immediately or within a few months. **Pedal Cars, Automobilia and Garage Equipment** are also needed please for Loan or perhaps a tax deductible donation !

Volunteers are always needed, please give us a call on [REDACTED] or drop by and have a chat if you can lend a hand.

Diary Dates for 2002 !!!

Classic Car Show

Shannons "Bay to Whiteman Run 2002"

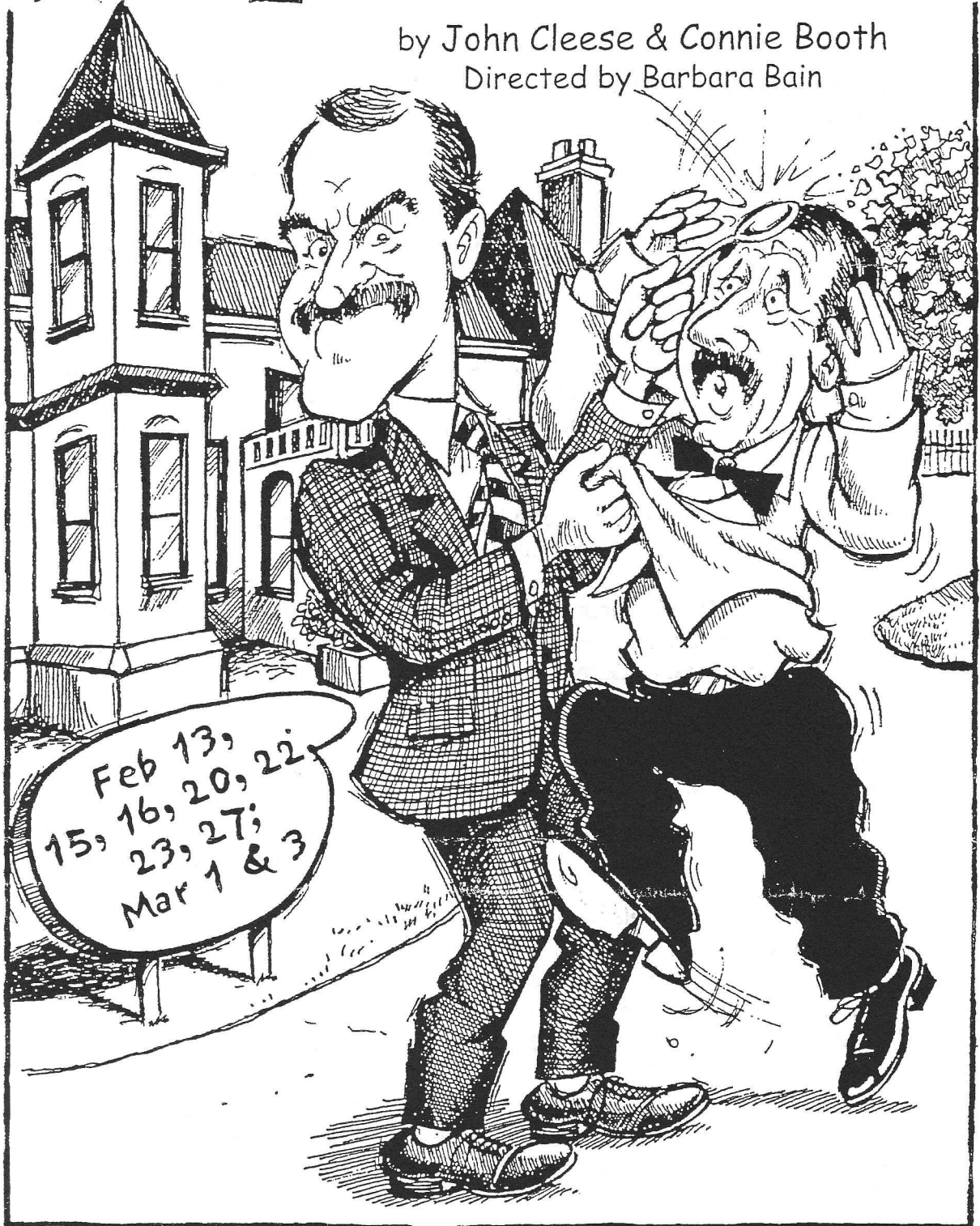
Sunday 17th March 2002

Sunday 3rd November 2002

Our Next Attraction

FAWLTY TOWERS

by John Cleese & Connie Booth
Directed by Barbara Bain



MARLOO THEATRE

MARLOO ROAD, OFF INNAMINCKA ROAD GREENMOUNT.

BOOKING NUMBER XXXXXXXXXX

Notebook

BIRTHDAYS for JANUARY: Birthstone: Garnet; Flower: Carnation

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

CLUB RUNS FOR 2002:

Please think of any outings that you would like to volunteer to do in the coming year and bring your suggestions to the January meeting. The club needs your help to make outings interesting and informative for everyone.

MEMBER PROFILES:

Greetings from Pat to all those who are "working" on the information for their Club Member Profile. I have some time this month to focus on your offering for inclusion in future newsletters. Please send it or phone to make arrangements [REDACTED] Thanks.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Included in this newsletter is your renewal subscription form for 2002. Please fill in and return with your money either by post or at the January meeting, to Toni Mahony.

MARLOO THEATRE: Just a few lines to inform you that the Marloo Theatre are still talking about our visit and have asked me to keep them up to date with our functions and like-wise to keep us informed of their future shows. The next attraction is Fawltly Towers (see advert in this newsletter) an 'adult' version. Possibly an event for fund raising.

Peter & Elaine Gilberthorpe

WANTED:

AA Drive Shaft *Matthew White* Phone: [REDACTED]

MORE ADVERTISEMENTS FOR CARS & HOW TO INTERPRET THEM:

ANTIQUE: Any used car with at least three previous owners

AUTHENTIC RESTORATION: Painted nearly the same colour as the original

CLASSIC: Manufacturer went broke during the Depression

GROUND UP RESTORATION: Frame & suspension have been steam cleaned and painted

HEALTH FORCES SALE: My wife is sick of the thing - either it goes or she does

MANY NEW PARTS: A maintenance problem. Every time one thing is replaced, something else breaks

MINT: There's a roll of Lifesavers under the front seat

MUST SACRIFICE: Neighbours got an injunction and I have to get it out of the driveway

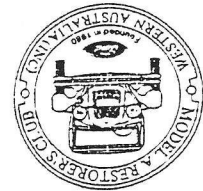
HAPPY NEW YEAR

To all members, families, friends and associated clubs. Best wishes and happy A-ing in 2002.



SARTORI Peter & Lorraine
MURDOCH WA 6150

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



**Western
Model A News**

Christmas Lunch 2001

The festive season was upon us once again and on Sunday 9th December 2001, 53 people came along to Bridgeleigh Reception Centre, 198 Mary St, Wanneroo, to enjoy Christmas Lunch.

It was so nice to enjoy the company of some country members, namely, Rosalie & Gary Eva and Coral & Ken Hall from Brookton, Sylvia & Barry Bristow-Stagg from Northam and David Chambers from Kondinin. Also from the country were Lesley & John Smith of Mukinbudin, parents of members Ann & Russell Brandis, Mukinbudin who were unable to come. We also welcomed Karen who accompanied Colin Davidson, Joy Osborne, Elaine Gilberthorpe's mother and Nancy, Toni Mahony's mother.

The weather was glorious and on arrival everyone was treated to champagne & orange on the patio which overlooked a beautiful garden. We shortly went inside for lunch. Our tables were set up in the Christmas theme as was the entire venue. At this point Peter Sartori, President, officially welcomed everyone, particularly country members and visitors. He also wished everyone compliments of the season and hoped that 2002 would be a good year for Model Aers.

Lunch was then served. The entrée was brought to the tables, while the rest of the meal was buffet style. There was hot carvery, with vegetables, cold collation and many salads. Several desserts and fresh fruit. An abundance of everything beautifully presented and served to us by very pleasant staff including drink waiters who catered to our needs.

Now, as we all know, wonderful, unexpected things can happen at Christmas and we experienced this magic when that very jolly gentleman, along with red suit, big bell and a bag of sweets to share around, called in on us and helped with the raffle and to distribute gifts to 22 lucky people. You were a great help Santa, thank you. He had to leave us of course and take the Spirit of Christmas elsewhere.

Edith Jeffree once again made us another beautiful Christmas cake. Many thanks Edith. We had all eaten so well it was decided that the cake be cut and our pieces be wrapped by Bridgeleigh staff for us to take home.

Several members drove their Model A-s and a photo was taken with the cars placed around a beautiful floral roundabout. When Max has the film developed the photo will be given to Louise for the club album. The day seemed to fly by. We all mingled, chatted, laughed, told funny stories, etc. and as the time came to be heading home, all men were asked to choose a home grown pot-plant as a small gift and to take this to their wife, friend or mother-in-law wishing them a Merry Christmas. Mission was accomplished. Of course not all club members can come to the club Christmas celebration but I sincerely hope that those who attended this 2001 luncheon had an enjoyable happy time.

Dora Annear

Secretary/Treasurer: Toni Mahony, [REDACTED] Bedford WA 6052
Phone: 9271 7630