

JUNE 2003

Western Model A News

100 Years of Ford

Ford hails its Tassie survivor



Hundred up . . . Francis Ransley's 1903 Model A Ford

As Ford prepares for its 100th birthday bash in June, it is turning Down Under to find the roots of its family tree.

That's because the oldest surviving Ford doesn't live at the company's headquarters in Detroit, but with an Australian collector in Tasmania.

Francis Ransley's 1903 Model A Ford has been confirmed as the oldest Ford in existence, after checks in America showed it pre-dates anything in the Ford museum. It was the 31st car to roll off Henry Ford's original production line, long before the famous Model T that hit the road in 1909.

"The significance of this car cannot be understated," says president of Ford Australia, Geoff Polites.

"There is every chance that Henry Ford himself helped build

it. It's pretty much original right down to the muffler, which is the same one fitted to it at the factory in 1903."

The Model A wasn't Ford's first car but it was the first to be built on the production line he used to revolutionise car making after setting up business in June 1903.

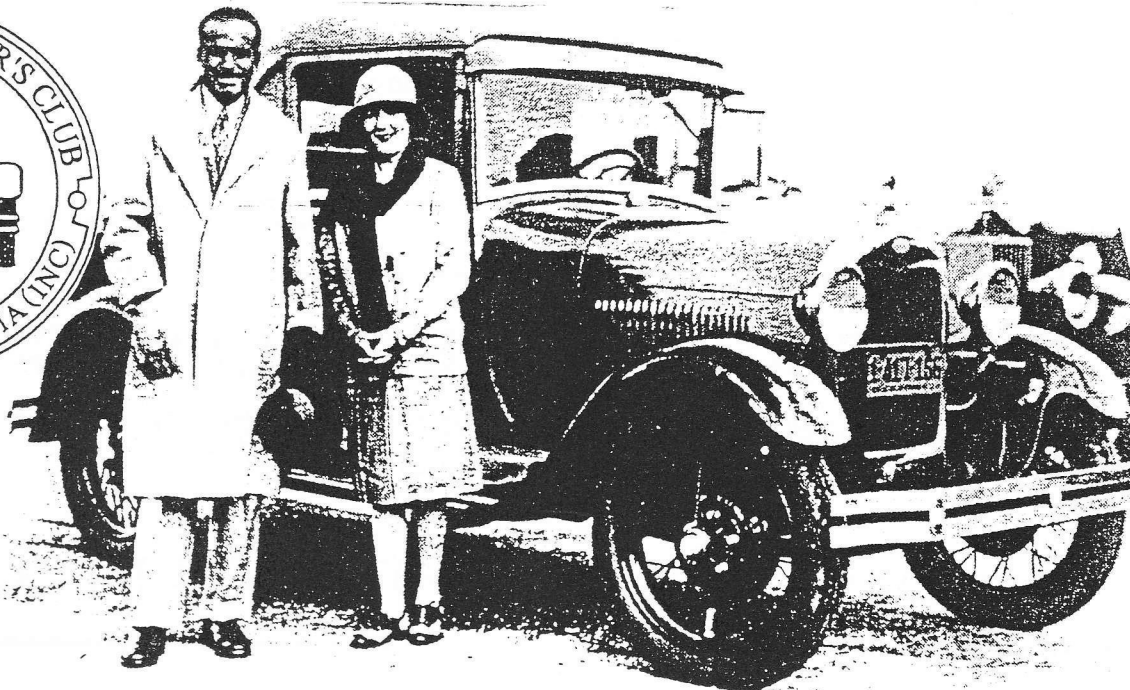
Ransley's car was a late arrival in Australia. The Tasmanian bought it from an American owner in 1988. On arrival, he carried out a thorough restoration to return the car to the condition it was in when it left the Ford factory 100 years ago.

"We knew it was the oldest Ford in Australia, and we thought there was a chance that it could also be the oldest in the world," says Louise Teesdale of Ford Australia.

GRAHAM SMITH

This is one of many articles appearing in local and daily newspapers Around the country to celebrate Ford's Centenary. This one appeared in the Sydney Daily Telegraph on 21st February this year.

With compliments of
Model A Restorers Club (Aust).



Many celebrities drove Model As. Here Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford stand proudly in front of their 1929 Sport Coupe

Western Model A News

XXIII

Year XIV

Number XI

JUNE 2003

Official Newsletter of the
MODEL A RESTORER'S CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA Inc.

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

Vice President RAY MAHONY

Secretary & Treasurer JOHN HALL
(temporary)

Vehicle Examiner STEVE READ

Editor LOUISE READ

Email:

Copy Deadline: First Friday after meeting

THORN LIE WA 6108

Views expressed herein are not necessarily those of M.A.R.C. of WA

Next Meeting: Sunday 15th June
Meet at the Centre Point Car Park Midland
9.30am for 10.00am start

RAY ABBOTT ENGINE RECONDITIONING

**Specialising in Veteran and Vintage Engines*

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

Recommended by MARC member

Established 1973 18 RIO STREET, BAYSWATER 9272 4566 34 years Experience

June 2003

Sunday 15th - June Run

Meet at the Centre Point Car Park Midland (next to railway station)
9.30am for 10.00am start.

Alan & June Smith organizing - we will be going a few miles North to their Nephew's farm- they have requested that members attending donate a gold coin

Sunday 22nd June - 100 Year Cruise

FPV/Tickford owners club of WA
Departing Carousel Shopping Centre outside Fast Eddies
Meeting at 8.30am and leaving at 10.00am (entry fee \$5.00)
Any queries phone Andrew [REDACTED] or Peter [REDACTED]

June/July

Access 31's Gloucester Park Fun Day June/July 2003
Date to be advised.

July 2003

Wednesday 2nd - Quiz Night

Maylands Bowling Club - Clarkson Road - Maylands

Saturday 6th - Sunday 7th July

Festival of Motoring - York

Sunday 20th - Annual General Meeting

At Hale Road Car Club - Forrestfield

October 2003


Monday 6th - MARC Spring 2003 five day run

Entries must be received by June 6th

December 2003

December 7th - Christmas Lunch

At the Perth Tatterstalls Club



What's
On ??

MODEL A RESTORER'S CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC.)
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT CLUNE PARK, BINDOON
SUNDAY 25TH MAY 2003

Meeting Opened: 12.45pm

Meeting was officiated by John Moorehead, as the President and Vice President were unable to attend.

Members present: John & Gayle Easterbrook, Peter & Elaine Gilberthorpe, Dora & Max Annear, John & Fran Timmings, Lorna & Stephen Wigmore, Frank Farrelly, Gwen & Barrie Guest, Bob & Val Newton, David & Pat Bussard, Lindsay Blacklock, June & Alan Smith, Jeanette & Bob Hembrough, Ross & Alma Letch, John Laurie, John Moorehead, Toni Mahony, Kath & Kelvin Pepper.

Apologies: Peter & Lorraine Sartori, Merv & Kath Ward, Ray Mahony, Mavis & Jack Berkshire, Helen Moorehead, Steve & Louise Read.

Visitors: Peter & Elaine's Granddaughter "Aimee", Travis & Nicolle Ewing (John Mooreheads visitors)

Minutes: from previous meeting as per last months newsletter accepted as correct. Moved: Peter Gilberthorpe- Seconded: Lindsay Blacklock.

Business arising from Minutes: Secretary has paid Famous Car Insurance for Public Liability Insurance

Financial Report as at 30th April, 2003

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Balance brought forward March 2003 | | 11387.27 |
| PLUS: Income April 2003 | | |
| Members Subscriptions | 168.50 | 168.50 |
| | | 11555.77 |
| LESS: Payments April 2003 | | |
| Petty Cash Re-imbusement | 35.55 | |
| Photo developing, albums & films | 57.87 | |
| Bank Maintenance Fee | 6.00 | |
| State Debit Tax | 1.20 | 100.62 |
| | | 11455.15 |
| Account Balance as at 30 th April 2003 | | |
| Bank West | 1633.10 | |
| ANZ Term Deposit | 9822.05 | 11455.15 |
| Petty Cash Reconciliation as at 30 th April 2003 | | |
| Balance brought forward March 2003 | 14.45 | |
| 30/04/03 Cheque 174 Re-imbusement | 35.55 | |
| | 50.00 | |
| Expenses April 2003 | | |
| 30/04/03 Office Works Stationery | | |
| Alphabet file dividers | 3.85 | |
| Receipt Book | 4.50 | 8.35 |
| CASH-IN-HAND | | 41.65 |

Financial Report accepted: Moved: Dora Annear – Seconded: Pat Bussard

Correspondence Out: Letters written to members who have not as yet paid their subscriptions for 2003. Members who have not responded by the 31st May will be taken off the mailing list. We have 85 financial members and the President expressed a vote of thanks to the Secretary for her efforts in having members pay their subscriptions.

Correspondence In: Note received from Neil & Joyce Munro notifying us of their change of address. Council Motoring Clubs. Information for users of Concessional Club Licence. Email received from Louise Read to let members know that Famous Car Insurance will match Shannons Insurance premium, minus 10% discount or 13 months cover for the cost of 12 months. A Note from Toni Mahony – re Public Liability Insurance. Community Care the cost of their Public Liability Insurance would have started at \$500.00 plus, plus. So we feel we have gotten a really good deal from Famous Insurance. Letter and Registration Form from Access 31 – Re Expressions of interest in Access 31's Gloucester Park Fun Day – June/July 2003. Letter and Expression of Interest Form for Old Time Motor Show to be held in Brookton 27th March 2004. Registration Form from Auto Trader – who are compiling a free Motor Clubs & Activities listing. Pamphlet received from GST Free who supply and embroider T shirts. Marloo Theatre Newsletter. Newsletter received from Model A Club South Aust. Newsletter received from Model A Restorer's Club (Aust.), featuring the oldest Ford in existence, 1903 Model A, which belongs to Francis Ransley of Tasmania. Correspondence accepted: Moved: Bob Newton – seconded: John Timmings.

2004 Meet Report

Rally Director – Ray Mahony had a phone call from Great Eastern Lodge – who had a phone call from a Travel Agent in America, they want to book 100 beds for Easter 2004.

Victorian Club is organizing their members to make the trek over to WA.

Kath & Kelvin Pepper had some old cars at their place, some young chaps came and bought some parts and they paid Kath with a couple of cabbages and several cucumbers. Being a very astute business woman Kath promptly made some pickles and sold it to her workmates – she raised \$67.50 – Well done Kath!!!

There will be a film night in June/July to be organized by Peter Sartori. Germaine Jeffree will be organizing a chocolate drive some time in June. Lots of other fund raising going on.

Some country members doubled their entry fee as they are unable to help in the fund raising – Thank you. Sausage sizzles start in July – a letter will be sent to the people who are participating – from Bob Newton who says please ignore the part about hot and cold running water.

Alan Jeffree is organizing rally runs. Shirley and John Hall are organizing the day to day catering. Bob and Val Newton are the venue managers. David Bussard organizing overseas participation. David & Pat Bussard organizing the rally newsletter and the rally booklets. Germaine & Darren Jeffree organizing shirts and decorating the venue on the night. Steve Read judging – Louise Read the rally bags. Bevan Sharp – fund raising and entry in the monthly newsletter. We still need a skit organizer and an MC, please contact Ray and Toni if you have any ideas. Garry and Gwen Guest as always with on going help and raising money with the sale of buns, cakes and jams.

PLEASE BUY YOUR TICKETS FOR THE QUIZ NIGHT!!

General Business: Thanks to the members who took part in the meetings to the High Schools and thanks to Pat Bussard for organizing the meetings.

Spring run to Narrogin – 7 entries received – 3 more available – entries must be received by 6th June 2003. Dora Annear says the Xmas Lunch will be on 7th December and once again at the Perth Tatterstalls Club. A beautiful cushion made and donated by Val Newton was raffled and raised \$46.00 – Thank you Val.

A big thank you also to Bob & Val Newton for organizing this months run. A thank you also to John Moorehead for standing in for the President and presiding very efficiently over the meeting.

John Moorehead in his role as President expressed a big thank you to John & Gayle Easterbrook for the effort that they have put in as the Editor and Secretary/Treasurer and wished them all the best for their caravan trip around Australia, and passed on a Goodbye & Good Luck card from the club.

Meeting closed: 1.30pm.

A note from the Editor and the Secretary/Treasurer

We would like to say a great big “THANK YOU” to all the members of the Model A Restorer’s Club of Western Australia Inc., for letting us represent your club as Editor and Secretary/Treasurer. It is with great regret that we have to resign, but unfortunately due to John’s deteriorating health the Doctor has told us that we have to do our trip now, or it will be too late. We have enjoyed our involvement with the club and we will continue to be members. We will send a postcard now and again so that everyone will know where we are and what we are up to. We will definitely contact the club when we eventually return to Perth. **THANK YOU!!!**

Joking of course!!

A Sunday School Teacher asked her class to draw pictures of their favourite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Kyle’s picture, which showed four people on an aeroplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent? “The flight to Egypt,” said Kyle. “I see,” she said. “That must be Mary, Joseph, and the Baby Jesus, but who’s the fourth person?” Kyle’s answer, “That’s Pontius – the Pilot.”



Notebook

BIRTHDAYS for JUNE Birthstone: Pearl Flower: Rose
Wendy Blacklock, Ann Brandis, Maurie Creedy, Coral Grundy, John Hall,
Darren Jeffree, John Laurie, Joyce Munro, Dianne Paisley, June Smith,
Colin Strahan, Leanne Wringe, Lyn McPharlin

Hope you have a fantastic Birthday

My apologies to Bevan Sharp for leaving you off of the birthdays last Month
sorry Bevan.

Wanted: Spare parts wanted for 1928 Phaeton Spare Tyre Carrier for
rear mounting, Open Car top irons (I have the back 3 irons
but require the ones that fit the windscreen.)
Please phone Kerry McPharlin on [REDACTED]

Available: Henry's Lady a book received from Snyders in the USA and
Is available for \$70.00 Please Phone Bob Newton [REDACTED]

Available: Listed in Snyders latest catalogue an auto advance/retard
fitting which you install in the valve chamber and it replaces
the lower distributor shaft, it is priced at about AUS\$200
(ex USA)

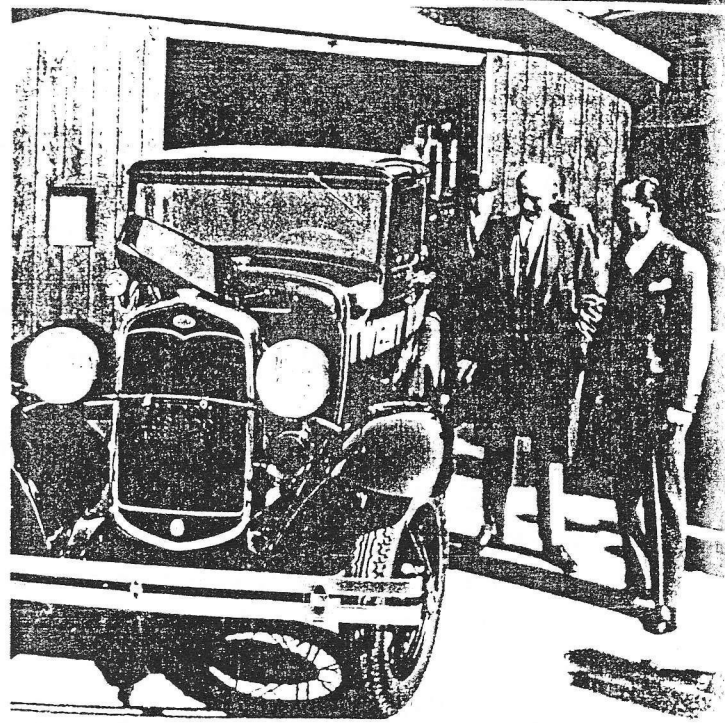
Included in this issue are Registration Forms for the 2004 meet. If you
intend to take part in the meet and as yet have not filled in a form please do
so and return the form to the Rally Director. Your early registration will
assist the committee with their organisation.

I received an email from Louise Read in which she made a very good point.
Louise spoke to Robyn Clements (a former employee of Shannons) and
Famous will match Shannons Insurance premium that we are now paying
minus 10% discount or 13 months cover for the cost of 12 months. This
sounds like a pretty good deal as she originally said the premium would be
\$150 per car per annum. Because we have the car club covered by Famous
for Public Liability it would be only fair to support them and insure the
vehicles, however having said that, Shannons have always been very
supportive of the old car movement and are sponsors of the National Meet
in 2004. How do you divide your loyalties?

It was great to see Tom Eastough a member from Bindoon, who was driving
past and saw all the Model A's and called in to say hello.

The most important publicity campaign of the Model "A" era centered around the Model "A" designated as the twenty-millionth Ford. This vehicle was assembled at the Rouge plant on April 14, 1931, and was driven off the final line by Henry Ford, with Edsel Ford in the front seat and manufacturing executives P. E. Martin and Charles E. Sorensen in the rear. Pictures were taken outside the plant and at Ford's home, Fair Lane, where the auto king's 1896 quadricycle was drawn up alongside the newest of the Company's milestone vehicles.

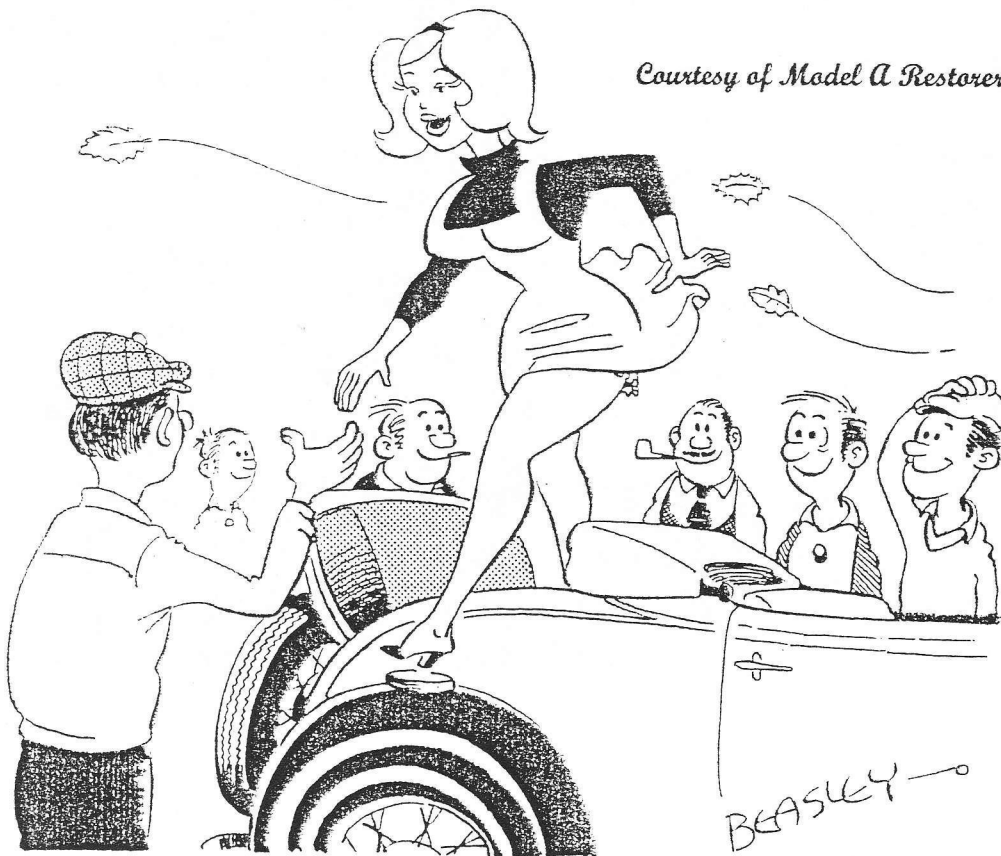
Ford Twenty Million was taken on a grand tour of the United States, being driven to New York, then to the West Coast, the southwest and south, and back to Dearborn. Most states assigned license number 20,000,000 to the vehicle, and hundreds of governors, mayors, and other dignitaries signed its log book. Along the way the car was driven by Eleanor Roosevelt (whose husband was then New York's governor), received the checkered flag at the Indianapolis Speedway, was inducted into the Sioux tribe, was chauffeured by Douglas Fairbanks in Los Angeles' 150th birthday parade, became the first privately-owned car to descend to the bottom of Hoover Dam, and was branded and draped with rattlesnake skins in Texas. The car returned to Dearborn, according to the Ford Times, to join other milestone Fords. But it has not survived.



Henry and Edsel Ford examine the 20,000,000th Ford at the end of the Rouge assembly building.

Films on the Model "A" and how the car was made were viewed by millions of people at dealerships and in theaters. Ford was one of the first companies to produce sales-promotion films with sound, recording the dialog on discs in as

many as sixteen languages. Ford's "talkies" were widely circulated until 1931, when their novelty wore off.



Courtesy of Model A Restorer's Club (Aust.)

MY GOODNESS, I DIDN'T REALIZE YOUR OLD CAR WOULD ATTRACT SO MUCH ATTENTION!

IDIOTS AT WORK:

I was signing the receipt for my credit card purchase when the clerk noticed I had never signed my name on the back of the credit card. She informed me that she could not complete the transaction unless the card was signed. When I asked why, she explained that it was necessary to compare the signature I had just signed on the receipts. So I signed the credit card in front of her. She carefully compared the signature to the one I had just signed on the receipt. As luck would have it, they matched.

The Brave Model A Men

On Thursday 15th May, 2003, 5 owners of the Model A Ford cars came to visit Rockingham Beach Schools. They had been to Rockingham Senior High School to show the students their cars.

It was a rainy day and the men were very brave to come in such dreadful weather. Mr Blacklock's Phaeton had no side curtains and he said "I ran into 3 polar bears on the way here."

Mr Cowlin let some children sit in the mother-in-law seat (the dickie seat) and inside the roadster. Mr Cowlin brought Mr White in his roadster. Mr White helped the children get in and out of the dickie seat.

Mr Smith's car was nice and bright. We liked the colour of Mr Ward's utility. Mr Hall had covers on his headlamps.

All the cars were great. Some of the cars had statues on the front. They had different door handles. We liked the sound of the horns "awoogah". We thought the cars were awesome. We would love to see the excellent cars again.

Room 1

Rockingham Beach Education Support Centre



Garfield





Model A Ford Clubs of Australia
18th Model A Ford National Meet
June, 2003

NEWS

Perth, Western Australia - Thursday 8th to Tuesday 13th April 2004

Please keep this important date free in your diary
Wednesday, JULY 2nd, 2003

Quiz Night

At the Maylands Bowling Club, Clarkson Road, Maylands at 7.30pm
Arrange tables (8 per table) of non-club member friends to spread the numbers
Don't be disappointed – numbers are strictly limited – BOOK NOW

Excitement is building for this event, not only throughout the Model A movement in Australia, but also among other veteran/vintage clubs who are also looking forward to seeing between 30 and 50 Model A Fords from America coming to Perth for this Meet.

Have you entered yet? We have around 50 entries at this time.

Your National Meet committee is meeting every three weeks or so and requests commitment from other club members to ensure another successful event.

- If you have an old Perth street map in reasonable condition – please give it to Daily Runs Organiser ALAN JEFFREE as we plan to give one to every entrant.
- Advise RAY MAHONY if you have current First Aid qualifications, OR if you would like to enrol in a First Aid course.
- Contact Rally HQ Manager BOB NEWTON if you can assist with daily parking, cleaning, etc at Rally Headquarters.
- Advise RAY MAHONY if you can help with meeting and greeting participants arriving at the airport, train station, etc.
- If you have a car trailer in good condition suitable for collecting Model A Fords who have 'ceased to proceed', please advise ALAN JEFFREE. These will be noted on a register and may be called on in the event of any incident, before, during or after the Meet.
- Time is running short for someone to co-ordinate our skit to entertain the participants – any suggestions to RAY MAHONY please.
- We also seek a Master of Ceremonies to officiate each night of the Meet.

Remember, details, forms, etc from our official web site: drive.to/marcwa.

- 2004 National Meet Committee -

Rally Director - RAY MAHONY. Secretary - TONI MAHONY
Treasurer - JOHN MOOREHEAD. Concourse Judging - STEVE READ
Overseas Participants - DAVID BUSSARD. Daily Tours - ALAN JEFFREE
Meals - SHIRLEY HALL. Presentation Dinner - GERMAINE JEFFREE.
PETER SARTORI - PAT BUSSARD - MERV WARD - BEVAN SHARP

PICNIC RUN 25TH MAY 2003

A well planned run was worked out, driven and surveyed, two weeks prior to the picnic date. This river and ocean run was then shelved to await the day of our Meeting .On Monday prior to our run, the television forecasts were predicting Rain, rain and more rain .On Wednesday it was decided to work out a Valley run with shelters for morning tea and lunch. This was finalised Wednesday night. All I had to do now was to wait the sunrise on Sunday, see what the weather was like, and pick my run River if fine Valley if raining OH so simple so I thought Thursday A M the phone rings. Where are we going? I have/not made up my mind. possibly River possibly Valley at this stage (because it's raining) more than likely Valley . OK I will ring you back. Friday AM Phone call (different caller) Where are we going? Same answer, Can't you make up your mind now? As we need to know now (as it's still raining) OK it will be the Valley run to Bindoon stopping of at Danniscott Lodge for morning tea. Six different phone calls later the Valley run was well and truly chosen.

- Dawn on Sunday was an absolutely beautiful day for a River run What the heck ? Just as nice for a run via the Swan Valley and the, Upper Swan Valley to Danniscott Lodge for morning tea, where Scott my Grandson advised me we had 15 A Models, And 3 other cars. In this group was 1st time rallyer's Steve and Lorna Wigmore who we welcome to our Club . John Moorhead's daughter Nicole and husband Travis enjoyed the opportunity to get deep into horse talk with Deborah the owner of the property.

The run from the Lodge up to Bindoon was via the picturesque Chittering Valley. which was at it's best at this time of year.

At Bindoon we were joined by the early phone callers, who all though had other commitments would not miss our meeting and we welcomed them. Even though they had taken up the best seating spots. (Was this the real reason for the early calls) 30 minutes after the meeting started a massive 80-metre long road train carting a bridge passed through the town and Barry was heard to remark, " If you lot had come up the Main Highway you would have been behind that all the way " To which Bob replied "No Barry I had organised it to come through at this time." To my early callers thank you for making up my mind I enjoyed our run through the valleys, but still I didn't go on the River run that day, so how would I know?

BOB NEWTON

Western Model A News



SARTORI Peter & Lorraine

MURDOCH WA 6150

If undelivered, Please return to:

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Western Australia 6102