

# WESTERN

# A MODEL NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
THE MODEL A RESTORERS CLUB (WESTERN AUSTRALIA BRANCH) INC.

April 1985.

NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 1985

STARTING POINT: Floreat Forum Shopping Centre  
Howtree Place, Floreat Park. (Assemble in the  
carpark area closest to Cambridge Street/Oceanic Drive).

TIME: 10:30 a.m.

As weather is unpredictable during April this will be a fairly short, interesting drive, ending up at our lunch spot - where lovers of hot fresh fish and chips will be able to eat their fill (at their own cost of course) - so Mums - make it an easy day for yourselves - buy their lunches! May we suggest that you do pack the hot drinks tho as cannot guarantee if these will be available. SEE YOU AT THE FORUM ON THE 28TH!

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RESTORATION RUN: 24TH MARCH, 1985

....by B.B.

After battling with strong Easterly headwinds all the way up Kalamunda Hill I kept wondering where the needle on my ampmetre had gone! Most of us 'mature experienced drivers' watch our ampmetre needles more than our speedo.

Well, it was only another 500 metres to the top of the hill and I couldn't smell any electrical smoke (no amp needle usually means a short circuit). When I'd stopped, the well known bloke Steve Read casually said "Why is your engine on fire!". Not having an answer for him we raised the hood as calmly as possible to find much smoke and the live wire to the horn well and truly on fire. We disconnected the battery and removed the offending wire, with me muttering loudly that this was a good argument for in-line fuses.

Six Model A's turned up and a few moderns. New Members Jim and Nene Williams must be very optimistic people -- I mean, who else runs around with a boat on the roof of their car with the temperature at 34°C ! They are either going fishing or waiting for the 2nd Great Flood !!

Eric Richards' multiple shed full of cars was the first stop. The 1925 Green and Black Packard with its steering wheel on the 'wrong side' looked out of place amongst the A's but what a magnificent beast it is. Eric started it up and it ran as silently as any Rolls. It is the first car I have seen with a spark plug in the carburettor. You can even look through a little glass window and see the plug sparking away - fascinating. Eric is thinking of changing the colour scheme to blue upper body and cream lower and with white wall tyres, it should make a real crowd stopper.

It's garage mate was a 1940's Packard in blue - more the rounded almost matronly body similar to cars of that era but with a sharp pointed bonnet of the Packard. Both cars were purchased by Eric when he and Bill Spencer recently visited the U.S.A.

After coffee and biscuits for morning tea the majority took off like rockets, leaving the more intelligent people (Richards, Spencers & Bennie) to find their own way to the next stop - being Ron & Gail Andrews, in Armadale.

Ron & Gail have a 1928 Phaeton under way and are gradually assembling the necessary body panels onto a locally made Tasmanian Oak frame. Many smaller components have been restored and are awaiting assembly to the car. Ron is having some problems with the engine as several studs have broken off in the block - however - as with all restorations, time and patience (apart from money) are two of the main ingredients you need.

Everyone enjoyed a pleasant barbecue, even though the heat was getting worse by the hour. After our usual semi formal meeting at which we actually decided on a format for a Club Badge (with thanks to Ross Letch for the design) different from the general 'Ford' badge design, we then dispersed in convoy to the Reads residence in far flung Thornlie to inspect Steve's up and coming Roadster and to dispose of a very welcome cup of tea, etc.

The Roadster (ex Eric Richards stable) is gradually coming together. At the moment it is finished in deluxe undercoat - but Steve assures us the finished car will leave us all gasping in wonder.

It will be a pleasure to see a Roadster as we only have three in the Club and they are fairly rare here in W.A. Common as navels in the Eastern States of course !

Although very hot and humid it was a great day (all Club runs are) and was enjoyed by all.

Special thanks to the ladies who put on the tea and bickies: Nene, Gail and Louise.

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COMBINED CAR CLUBS CONCOURSE:

This was held at Lilac Park, Caversham this year and some 6-8000 people attended and helped raise around \$8000 for Telethon.

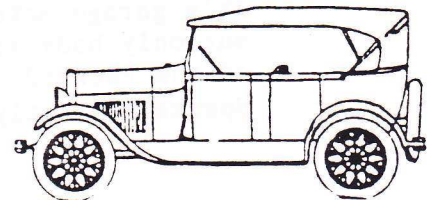
Our club was represented by Steve Read, Bill Cowlin, Reg Blewitt, Mike Cooke and Bill Bennie - with two Phaetons, two Tudors and a Roadster. The public as usual pawed their way all over the cars but showed a lot of interest. The Bennie Phaeton took a 3rd prize and Bill Cowlin scored a 4th Place in the 1926-1930 Concourse Judging.

This show is proving to be very popular and is growing year by year. Last year there were 350 cars and this year 420. It is always held on the Labour Day weekend in March. Next year we would like to put on a bigger display of our Club cars and I suggest a small committee be formed to do some advance planning.

One good idea would be for as many of our country members to try and come to Perth on that long weekend. It would be an excellent way to meet and see the cars etc. What about it !? We have in mind to display restored, part restored and 'as found under your average gum tree' type cars. The aim is not only to show the cars but to boost the Club's image to the public. Hopefully everyone will get behind it.

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FOUND: Did you leave your sunglasses at the Read's during the Restoration Run. If so, please phone Steve or Louise on [redacted] re collecting them.... before young Matthew decides to do an Elton John impression in them!!!



SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 24TH MARCH 1985:

President Max Annear opened the meeting.

Apologies: D. Bennie, T. Mahony, D. Annear, K. Pepper.

Minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted. Moved. L. Cooke  
Seconded B. Bennie.

President wished Bill Spencer a belated Happy 70th Birthday from all members present.

Welcome was extended to new members Jim & Nene Williams of Bull Creek.

B. Bennie advised he had not contacted the U.S.A. M.A.R.C. as yet.

Secretary advised that the V.C.C. Rooms at Forrestfield has been booked for the Annual General Meeting on 21st July from 1:30 p.m. B. Bennie will bring film.

Advice from South Australian club that accommodation in Barossa for the National Meet 1986 was filling fast.

April meeting venue in next newsletter.

Steve Read advised that dye cast aluminium numberplate holders could be obtained for approx \$5.00 a pair. Only disadvantage is that we would need to order 400.

A drawing for Club Badge and Logo was agreed on. Ross Letch to make several small changes. Eric Richards will write to Eastern States for a price on lapel and car badge and number we would have to order. A price would also be obtained locally.

Lilac Hill Park car display was discussed and congratulations offered to prize winners.

Bill Bennie suggested some thought be given on spending money on display equipment for future car shows. This would be discussed further at another meeting.

Meeting closed.

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1986 BAROSSA TRIP - Discussion afternoon.

A group of members interested in driving to the National Meet gathered at Cooke's home on 31st March. Eric Richards kindly came along and advised us on the Nullabor trip with his family in their Tudor when they attended a Meet in Canberra some years ago. This gave a basis of times etc to work on. Thanks Eric! Bill Bennie had obtained some maps of the road over and these were also a great help.

There was much discussion (along with a lot of nonsense thrown in for good measure) on all aspects of the planned trip and by day's end - nothing at all had been finalised - but we all had a lot of options to consider before our next gathering, when decisions should be made in order that any necessary accommodation, travel, etc. bookings can be made (as don't forget there is a new system of school holidays coming into action next year - incorporating Easter!)

The most popular suggestion was that we take a leisurely drive over and then Train our vehicles (and us of course) back to Perth after the Meet. From Port Pirie trains leave at 5pm (currently) each Fri. Sat. Mon. Wed. for Perth. Prices obtained from Westrail, Perth re freighting vehicles and people back to Perth from Pirie are as follows (Current 2/4/85):

	Adults.	Children	
1st Class *	\$ 337.50	\$220.00	*All meals & sleeper.
Economy *	\$ 257.50	\$174.00	
Sit-Up.	\$ 105.00	\$ 79.00	

<u>Advance Purchase</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>
1st Class	\$278	Regular fare
Economy	\$212	price.
Sit-Up	\$80	

These are called "CAPER FARES" and a certain number only are allocated for each trip therefore it is necessary to book WELL IN ADVANCE or they may be all taken.

The tickets for the Caper Fares must be paid for at least seven days in advance and cannot be refunded after that date.

For further information contact Westrail: 326 2811

VEHICLES: The fare is a standard \$220 per car.

The grapevine tells us we have one country family planning the trip with the city folk in the Browns of Kambalda - anyone else from the country going ?

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AUCTIONS, FOR SALES, PARTS SUPPLIERS, ETC.

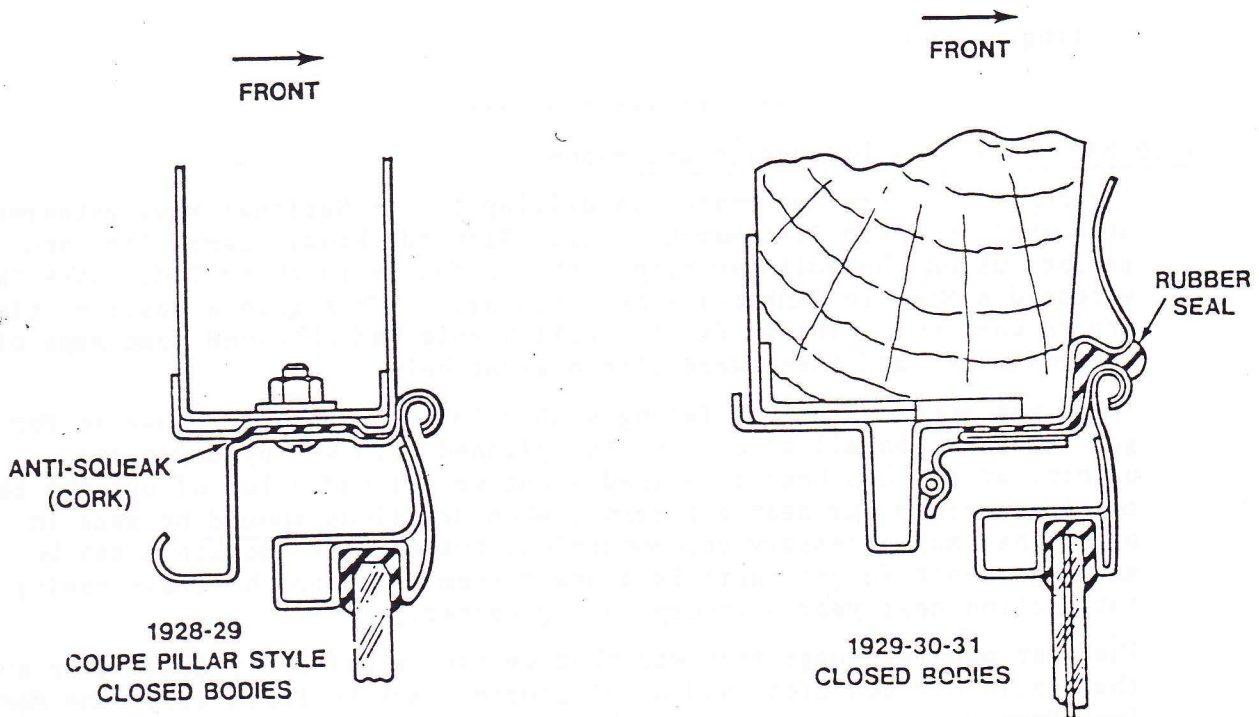
Unreserved Auction - Colin Wade, Esq. and the Antique and Collectors Parts. Co. are auctioning the entire stock (over 10,000 items) of Antique Automobile Parts and Bodies - On Site at 37 North Street, Windsor, Sydney, NSW. April 27 & 28th. (P L Pickles & Co. Enquiries Storm Jacklin (02) 649 1200).

Catalogue in Club Library from "Obsolete Auto Parts Co., N.S.W.

The MG Car Club is holding its Safety Fast Ball on Tuesday 9th May. Enquiries to Marian Whitford on [REDACTED].

Wanted: for our Club Secretary a reasonably priced filing cabinet - anyone with any contacts or cabinet please phone Alma on [REDACTED].

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METHODS OF SEALING WINDSHIELD FRAME ASSEMBLY FOR MODEL "A" CLOSED BODIES

(Taken from Model A News, USA ...for information of our members).

