

MODEL A'S in WA
1928 Roadster
Engine Number CA 73364
Restored and owned by Neville Taylor
1974—1983

Registration Numbers: XYT 109 (Class B) then personal plates NDT 001
Colour: yellow/orange with black mudguards and trim

Pat Bussard's Discovery: August 2011

While sharing memories and news with other Veteran Car Club members at the start of the 2011 York Rally in August 2011, I noticed a couple having a good look at our black Model A Special Coupe. I went over to chat and to meet Neville and Merle Taylor. They had sold their 1928 yellow Model A with black mudguards to someone in Kalgoorlie many years previously. Further discussion suggested that it was indeed our Model A – well the basics anyway.

I knew that our Roadster had been bright red and owned by someone who worked for Avis Rent A Car in Perth. It was Neville! They had purchased it in June 1973, called her *Betsy* and sold her to someone in Kalgoorlie. Neville later sent us a photo of the vehicle during his ownership, and it looked just like the one we purchased in 1993. He knew that the back was unusual. He sent along information which he prepared when he was selling the Model A Roadster, which follows:



Neville Taylor's Information:

FORD A 1928 Yellow Body – black mudguards. Engine No. CA 73364, Licence No. XYT 109 (Class B)
The basic vehicle was bought in 1973 from John Taylor (no relation) who was the proprietor of the Esso Service Station at Brunswick Junction, for \$700.00. At that stage, he (John) had completed the basic restoration of the running gear and body panels. I subsequently completed the upholstery, hood and reconditioning of the motor and the paint job. The brakes were completely reconditioned about 12 months ago. The only things I know of that are missing are the button off the accelerator pedal and parts of the electro-lock.

The motor has been bored and sleeved back to the original specifications. It has also had new rings and the bearings have been re-metalled. Apart from a small oil leak at the rear of the motor, it runs like a clock. The gear box is in good order, however it sometimes come out of top gear when going downhill on over-ride. The hood bows are not original and do not fold back though by undoing two sets of screws near the windscreen and the knurl knobs on the side of the body, it is a simple matter of undoing the clips running along the side of the hood.

The dickey seat has been upholstered, however there are no floor coverings. As far as the upholstery is concerned it has all been made out of deer hide and pleated and is not original.

The vehicle is well shod, in fact since the total reconditioning was finished, the vehicle has only done about 1000 miles.

Back to Pat:

I have spoken with Neville Taylor several times. He explained that the Roadster was painted yellow by accident. It was being restored in the Avis workshop in Welshpool, and when he went to look at it one day, it was yellow.

I believe that Neville and Merle purchased the Roadster to participate in Rally West '73, where it was awarded Concord D'Elegance.

Neville and I have been unable to find any information about John Taylor of Brunswick Junction.



Owned by Geoff Paynter 1984—1993

Registration Numbers: KMC 1928 and KMC 6601

David has given me his folder relating to the purchase of the Roadster from Geoff Paynter of Kalgoorlie at the end of July 1993. The 1928 Model A was advertised in Unique Cars with a b/w photo:

1928 FORD A ROADSTER FULLY RESTORED,
orange/black excellent rally car used regularly, club licenced, run
out of shed space, can arrange transport. KMC-1928.

Following contact from David, Geoff sent a video and some background:

Please find included a quick video we did of our Ford A Roadster.

Brief History:

We bought it in 1984 off the manager of AVIS – I believe he bought it from Bridgetown partly restored.

We've done "Rally West" in '86 and 92 – the WA National Rally, as well as SA's "Bay to Birdwood".

Locally, we've been to Esperance a number of times as well as many shorter runs.

The 1928 Tourer I've been doing up very slowly over the past 20 years is nearing completion, and last year I bought a '25 Bullnose Morris – so one must go!

The Roadster is very clean – good paint and chrome, which mechanically I believe is near perfect.

Early last year I had the motor/gearbox out and rebuilt the gearbox and lipped in the valves – piston rings and bearings all looked excellent.

Geoff Paynter

Owned by David & Pat Bussard 1993 - 1995

*Engine Number *CAW 4710**

Registration Numbers: 8NY 764 and 28A 40A

Body changed to Special Coupe 1995

The story of our ownership was included in the September 2012 issue of *Western Model A News*. David is still working on the description of the rebirthing as a Special Coupe.

Pat Bussard

January 2012