

Model A's in WA
1928 Phaeton
Engine number CA 03221
Registration 1928MM
Restored by Doug Netherway completed 1986– 2002
Owned by Brian Vary 2002— 2004
Owned by John Smith 2004—2012
Peter Barr 2011 –2012
Oliver Newman 2012 -

This Phaeton's story has been featured in our newsletters several time in recent months as we follow the trail of ownership. We have documented Doug Netherway's restoration and John Smith's ownership. At the 2013 Easter visit to Esperance, our club bestowed Honorary membership to current owner, seven year old Oliver Newman. His grand father Peter Barr, who owned the Phaeton died and left his beloved Model A to Oliver.

In recent times I contacted Brenda Barr who lives in Esperance, to forward a copy of both the Doug Netherway and John Smith Phaeton stories. Brenda was pleased to hear that the Model A Phaeton her husband purchased and loved, was being recorded and filed.

Brenda emailed me some details, for me to record and to add ,to this vehicle's history.

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Hi Alan!

Here is a story of Peter's Model A. Please edit what is relevant for your needs.

Peter's restoration over the years was many and varied, he had no formal qualifications in mechanics or painting/panel beating but was a person who tried his hand at all of these and achieved pleasing results, anything vintage was his passion. He would love the thought of you keeping details of the Model A Ford.

His restorations have been a 1938 Pontiac, 1945 International K5 truck, 1925 Brockway truck which is in a museum in Colac Victoria. Various tractors including Farmall, Bulldog, Field Marshal and Chamberlain 9G which was part of the inaugural 2000 Steep Point to Byron Bay, in 2002—the year of the Outback Canning Stock Route, and 2006 Northam to Normanton Treks.

Peter restored stationary engines also, namely Waterloo Boy, Lister Junior, Fuller & Johnson and Simplicity, which are on display at the Esperance Mechanical & Restoration Group.

Peter's friendship with John and Lesley Smith started with being members of Tracmach for over twenty years together.

In October 2010 Peter bought a 1928 Essex car, he had always longed to own a Model A and in July 2011 after the diagnosis of his illness he was speaking to John and Lesley Smith about this and John replied “ mine is for sale”.

I encouraged Peter to purchase it so he would be fulfilling one of his dreams.

In September 2011, at the opening of a new bridge here in Esperance he drove his Model A with dignitaries aboard. He was so humbled by the gesture of the Esperance Veteran Car Club of asking him to participate.

Peter had a lot of enjoyment from his cars.

From a conversation when I phoned Brenda I told her Doug Netherway sold this Model A in 2002 because he had a new hip fitted and he was told he wouldn't be able to drive a manual car again. Brenda relayed this. Near the end of Peter's life the local Dr who visited him at home regularly, was taken for a ride in the Model A by Peter and he physically had to lift his leg up with his hand to use the clutch and took joy out of tooting the claxson. Peter died a few days after this drive

Peter bequeathed his two vintage cars to his grandsons in the hope that they will cherish his beloved cars and will find enjoyment from them the way he did!

I hope this story is OK Alan, Thank you for asking me to be part of this. It is lovely to keep the dream alive.

Regards Brenda.

This Vehicle story development is time consuming and I some times wonder if it is appreciated! It is stories like Brenda's that make it Well Worth While! Many thanks Brenda!

Scribe Alan Jeffree

