

Western Model A New Yestern Model A

VOLUME 44, ISSUE 2

MARCH 2023



Model A Restorers Club of Western Australia, Inc.







NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dean Roberts

We had a well-attended breakfast meeting at Point Reserve in Bassendean on 26th of February. Thank you to Anthony Gilberthorpe for arranging.

One of the discussion points for the meeting was the 2026 Model A National Meet here in WA. It was announced that we have secured a sponsor for what will be our major raffle prize. Yesteryear Garage and Parts is donating a Burtz block kit to the club so we can build a complete running Model A Engine to be used as first prize in our raffle.

To achieve this, on top of the Burtz block donation (valued at \$6,300), we will need assistance from club members to supply the rest of the parts needed and to assist in building the motor.

Yesteryear Garage and Parts have agreed to supply any further parts they have, at their cost price. It was also agreed at the meeting that any money raised from the sale of club spare parts could be used to assist in acquiring the parts needed.

Anyone who would like to assist with this project with physical or financial support, please contact me.

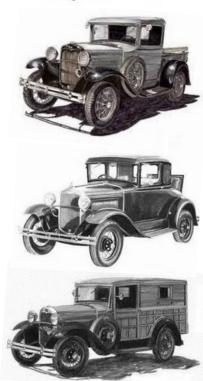
It is planned to have this motor finished in time for the 2024 national meet in Maryborough. Yesteryear would freight the motor over to Maryborough (at their expense) to help promote our 2026 meet, as well as assisting Yesteryear promote the Burtz block, as well as their business.

Stay Safe

Regards Dean



Front Cover: Part of the impressive turn-out of 13 Model A's at the breakfast meeting at Point Reserve..



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SECRETARY COMMENTS

Kathleen Kuenzel (secretary@modelafordclub.com.au)

We had a great turn-up at the meeting on 26 February and it was good to see so many members chatting to neighbours where they sat as well as moving around to speak with others. I was very pleasantly surprised later, when I was writing the minutes, to discover that here had been 43 members and 2 visitors present. The February meets are well known for good attendances compared with other months in which we usually have gatherings of between 25 and 30, but that was exceptional. At AGMs we can count on 34 to 38 and tracing back over 5 years, the 40th birthday celebration took the prize with 54 members present. I wonder, though, is it the time of day at which the February meeting occurs; is it the cooking or taking of breakfast, or is it the early finish leaving time for other activities or even just quiet time during the day? Maybe we need to take a survey of members' preferences.

On a less happy note, 11 members have not yet renewed their memberships for 2023 so their memberships have ceased until such time as they rectify the matter.

Kathleen Kuenzel



March Birthdays

| Elizabeth Calhoun | Lorraine Steele |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Frank Farrelly | Lachlan Steele |
| Evan Gobby | Cerena Stratford |
| Shirley Hall | Sue Swindell |
| Tom Hart | Gerard ten Bokkel |
| Alex Kirkwood | Pamela ten Bokkel |
| Rob Mawson | Matthew White |
| Daniel Pinnington | Steph Will |

Western Model A News is the official newsletter of the Model A Restorers Club of Western Australia Inc.

Copy deadline 1st of each month to: maofwainc@gmail.com or 7 Gransmoor Way, Willetton WA 6155

VIEWS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF MARC of WA Inc.

| | | MARCWA (INC. |) CLUB CONTACTS | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--|
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| Committee Member: | Horace Misko | 9256 1895 | Regalia Officer: | Marilynn Horgan | 0403 434 004 | |
| Committee Member: | Ian Steer | 9457 4968 | Librarian: | Dianne Paisley | 9456 1184 | |
| Committee Member: | Andrae Moore | 0427 773 621 | Spare Parts Officer: | David Bussard | 9524 1086 | |
| | | | Property Officer: | Ray Mahony | 9271 7630 | |
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| | | | Delegate: CMC | Dean Roberts | 9295 2588 | |
| Website: www.modelafordclub.com.au MARC Email: info@modelafordclub.com.au | | | | | | |

MARC WA Life Members: Bill & Mavis Spencer (1987), Max & Dora Annear (2000), Ray & Toni Mahony (2004), Barrie & Gwen Guest (2006), Reg & Coral Blewett (2020), Alan & Edith Jeffree (2020), Steve Read (2020)

EDITOR COMMENTS

Ian Steer

(editor@modelafordclub.com.au)

A big thanks to Horace and Daniel for their contributions this month (and Ron Andrews for the little snippets he finds on the internet). Also a big thanks to the Editor and Sub-Editor for writing 3 of the articles in this edition!

Beg, beg, grovel, grovel - please can I get a few more contributions?

Newsletters from Other Clubs

Newer members might not know that we get newsletters from the other Australian clubs, a UK club, and a few US clubs. I forward these to those members interested - let me know if you are interested (you can change your mind at any time). (It probably doesn't average 2/week.)

Potentially interesting items out there on the web

• Vintage Motor Trend Road Test: 1931 Ford Model A Roadster – 0-60 In...∞ https://www.curbsideclassic.com/vintage-reviews/vintage-motor-trend-road-test-1931-ford-model-a-roadster-0-60-in-%e2%88%9e/

HENRY'S \$100 YOUCHER WINNER

For those who were not at the Christmas Lunch to see the draw for the winner of the Early Bird Membership Renewal Prize, the winner (after the Fred Kuenzel (as first name drawn) generously called for a re-draw) was

Rob Mawson

The voucher has been posted to Rob.



MARC WA members Wes Hartley, Paul Kelly, Brett Pollock and Beverley Biggs at the Garden Party High Tea at Winchcombe Gardens at the current NZ National Meet

EUENTS COORDINATOR

Horace Misko

(events@modelafordclub.com.au)

Plenty of opportunities to drive our cars this month but <u>April, May and June are yet to have a club run organised</u>. The Tractor Museum in Serpentine will be one we have not been to yet, but that will happen when the weather cools down. Please feel free to propose runs where there is no formal meeting and raffle - something as simple as a picnic in a park in one of the nice spots around the metropolitan area. Check out the website for details of the most up to date list of club sanctioned events.

March

Event: Nungarin Heritage, Machinery & Army Museum Vintage rally

Date: Saturday 4th March

Time: Gates open 2pm, exhibited vehicles in position by 1pm

Location: Nungarin

Details: Exhibitor's Form to be lodged by Feb 24th (contact the editor or Ray Major if you need a form).

Contact the organisers on Ph: (08) 9046 5040, or email: nungarinheritage@bigpond.com

Organisers: Contact Ray Major (0435 616 820) if you are interested in going as a group

Event: MARC Coffee Run Please let Ron Andrews know by Tues 14th if

Date: Thursday 16th March you plan to attend so he can confirm

Time: 9:30am numbers with the venue (ph: 0499 347 312,

Location: Oakover Grounds, 80 Yukich Cl, Middle Swan
email: roneandrews@icloud.com)

Organisers: Ron Andrews

Event: Custom Cars & Coffee

Date: Sunday 19th March

Location: Midvale Speed Dome

Event: Brookton Old Time Motor Show

Date: Saturday 25th March

Time: tba
Location: Brookton

Organisers: Peter Sartori & John Moorehead

Event: Classic Car Show

Date: Sunday 26th March

Time: tba

Location: Ascot Racecourse

Details: So far, I have the following cars attending: Paisley, Steer, N.Roberts, D.Roberts, Pinnington,

Moore (2), Misko, Major, Mahony (2), Fowler, A.Jeffree.

Anyone else coming?

Organiser: Ian Steer

EUENTS COORDINATOR (CONT)

Horace Misko

April

Event: Vintage Automobile Association Swap Meet

Date: Sunday 2nd April **Time**: 7am to noon

Location: Swan Athletic Club, McDonald St, Herne Hill

Details: See the full flyer http://www.vaawa.org.au/files/VAA%20Swapmeet%202023.jpg

Event: MARC Run & Meeting

Date: ???

Organiser: desperately needed

Event: Custom Cars & Coffee

Date: Sunday 16th April

Location: Perth Motorplex, Kwinana

Event: (Proposed) MARC Wheat Belt Run

Dates: Friday 21st April to Tues 25th April

Locations: Staying at: Wongan Hills, Wyalkatchem, Narembeen, Narrogin

Details: See item on page 7. Please let Edith know as soon as you can if you are interested so she can

check enough accommodation is available.

Organiser: Edith Jeffree

May

Event: MARC Run & Meeting

Date: ???

Organiser: desperately needed

July

Event: Cape York Run

Date: July 3rd (departing Perth)

Details: Expected to take 6 weeks. Very strong preference for Model A's, but exceptions will be

considered. Participants: Brett Pollock, Paul Kelly, Tania Piercy, Darryl Freind, Peter Eardley, Des

Addison. Contact one of the participants if you interested.

Monthly

Event: LBW (Leeming, Bullcreek, Willetton) Coffee Run

Date: 1st Tuesday of every month (except January)

Time: 10am

Location: RAAFA Club, Air Force Memorial Estate, 2 Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek

Organiser: Steve Seddon (VCCC)

MARC WA MOUIE NIGHT

Daniel Pinnington

We had a good showing of around 40 members to this year's movie night. The weather was kind to us as it was hosted a shade earlier in the year due to Covid restrictions imposed last year. Members brought a good selection of salads and desserts to share and I organised a spit roast.



Keeping with the car / motor theme, this year's film was "The World's Fastest Indian" which is based on the true story of Burt Munro, a New Zealander, who was famous for setting an under-1,000 cc motorcycle world record at Bonneville USA on his highly modified 1920s Indian Scout motorcycle. The plot revolves around



his struggles to even get to the starting line, and once there, being able to register to compete. Being a likeable person, Bert manages to win the support of other competitors.

It was a very enjoyable night for all and I hope to do it again next year.

PROPOSED WHEAT BELT RUN

Edith Jeffree

To suit members who are still working, I am starting our journey from Guildford on Friday 21st April. This will create a long weekend and hopefully they will be able to at least have 2 days with us. The run will finish on Tuesday 25th April (ANZAC Day).

If you are interested in coming along, please let me know to enable me to make sure I have judged the available accommodation right. ejjeffree@bigpond.com, or 9275-4106.

A brief outline of the proposed run:

- Meet at Guildford 8am Friday 21st April to Wongan Hills (via Toodyay (Chittering Road), Bolgart and Calingiri) - Friday night's stay
- Wongan to Wyalkatchem (via Goomalling, Dowerin, Minnivale) Saturday night's stay
- Wyalkatchem to Narembeen (via Yorkrakine, Tammin, Kellerberrin, Bruce Rock) Sunday night's stay
- Narembeen to Narrogin (via Kondinin, a dash up and down Tin Horse Highway, Jitarning, Wickepin) - Monday night's stay
- Narrogin to home (via Williams, Quindanning, Marradong, Dwellingup, Pinjarra)

FEBRUARY BREAKFAST RUN

Ian Steer

We had a great turn-out of both people and cars for the ever-popular February breakfast meet, that was again held at Point Reserve in Bassendean. In addition to a great roll-up of 13 Model A's, we had Ron Andrew's tasteful Model A hotrod, and Ross Letch's beautiful V8. It was delightful to see Coral Blewett at the meeting (brought along by one of her lovely, supportive grandchildren).

It was a glorious morning for a leisurely breakfast - and what a range of options there were. Ranging from simple cereal (Steers), to the traditional Maccas for the



Paisleys, the pre-prepared meal kept warm on the journey in the 12V cooker (Bristow-Staggs), to the barbequed concoctions (by many).

The ants were their usual inquisitive selves, but I don't think anyone managed to park themselves on a nest this year.

It was again organized by Anthony Gilberthorpe (maintaining the family tradition), who also fought-off an attempt by the council to charge us for the privilege (stay tuned for next year's developments on that front!).



Jeffree Model A's



Horace with his "new" Cocks Model A and Vince Candy's coupe behind



The great turn-out in a lovely setting

THE COCKS MODEL A STORY

Horace Misko

Yeah yeah - heard it all before - only two careful owners, genuine 194,635 miles on the clock, never been restored etc... for a 93year old car!

The remarkable history of this 1929 Model A starts when Frank Cocks (senior) (pictured playing drums in his jazz band) purchased this car new from the Ford dealer in Kalgoorlie in 1930 for £198. It was registered as K•83 on the original license plate.

His son Frank was born in November of 1932, with his first ride in the Model A was when he was one day old coming home from the hospital to be shown to his Grandmother who lived next door in Kalgoorlie. Frank pestered his Dad to teach him to drive the Model A when he was old



Frank Cocks senior

enough. Young Frank became an apprentice carpenter to a builder in Kalgoorlie. Frank got his driver's license in the Model A but was given a truck license at the same time as the policeman had seen him driving the builder's AA truck delivering materials to worksites for 6 months before!

The Model A took the family to Perth on occasions. It was a 2 day trip, with an overnight stop in Merredin. As building work ran out in Kalgoorlie, Frank moved to Perth with the builder to finish his apprenticeship in carpentry.



Frank Cocks junior with the Phaeton

Eventually Frank senior moved to Perth in the 60's and the Model A had to give up the original license plate of the municipality of Kalgoorlie and was registered with the Perth metropolitan plate of UFA-183.

This Model A has been carefully maintained in good condition all of its life. The car was repainted in Kalgoorlie by brush with the paint rubbed back between coats by a tradesman painter. It has been kept under cover for most of its life. The roof material has been replaced and the interior reupholstered as it wore out.

The engine was reconditioned quite some time ago. Servicing was recorded with date

and mileage on Frank senior's shaving cabinet door.

A truly remarkable, original Model A, still has the pop-out ignition switch, still 6 volt positive earth, original radiator (serviced once), nickel plated bumpers, original chrome radiator shell. For modern traffic conditions I will add indicators because today's drivers only recognise only one type of hand signal!

I am grateful to Frank for choosing me to be the next owner of his Model A. I can only imagine how hard it was to give up the car after 93 years in his family. This car will be maintained, kept under cover and driven occasionally on some club runs to preserve its unique history. A wooden trailer built by Frank and his dad in Kalgoorlie for gathering firewood behind the Model A has been located. Negotiations for its purchase will commence soon.

WYNYARD UETERAN CAR COLLECTION

Anne Steer

On a recent trip to Tasmania, Ian and I visited the town of Wynyard. What to do in Wynyard? A quick look on my Wikicamps App and I discovered The Ransley Veteran Car Collection. So, off we went.....

Francis Ransley, a Wynyard local, owned a very successful radio and electrical repair business. In 1983 he began collecting and restoring veteran and vintage cars, beginning with a 1913 Ford Model T. From there, Francis went backwards, purchasing pre Ford T cars. In 2005, the collection was opened to the public and is now Australia's largest collection of early Ford cars. In August 2022, it was sold to the Elphinstone Group.

So, what Ford cars are in the collection?

The oldest Ford is a 1903 Model A, then a 1905 Model F, a 1906 Model N, a 1907 Model K, a 1908 Model S, a 1911 Model T, a 1916 Model T and a 1928 Model A coupe. Each car is in immaculate showroom condition and has a descriptive sign next to it, telling the story of the car and its history. The cars all seemed to still be licensed.

The 1903 Ford Model A on display is believed to be the oldest Ford in Australia. Records indicate that Ransley's car was the 23rd 1903 Model A sold on August 4, 1903.

It has a 2-cylinder, horizontally opposed, 8 horsepower engine with chain drive to the rear wheels. It weighs 567 kgs and has a 2-seater body. The car could reach a top speed of 45mph.

The purchase price was \$600 for the basic car, with 'extras' such as headlights for \$9.60, and an extra 2 seats for \$80.

During 15 months of production there were 1,700 1903 Model A cars built. The engines for these Model A's were supplied by Dodge Brothers.

Francis Ransley bought this car in the USA, just 300kms from where it had been built in Detroit.

In 2003, Francis Ransley, and his wife Elayne took the car around Australia to celebrate Ford's Centenary. They visited 58 cities and travelled 26000kms.



1903 Model A at Wonders of Wynyard



1928 Model A coupe at Wonders of Wynyard.

Editor's note: With drip-free mirrors under the Model T's, surely they had been drained of fluids?

BUILDING A MICRO A

Ian Steer

Someone (who I had previously thought to be a friend) bought me a fiendish Model A kit. It was an all metal, 71 piece kit that used no glue to assemble it. I needed a good light, my head magnifier, and a lot of patience spread over many building sessions.



It started with this simple packet...



containing all 71 parts



work starts



I had to fold this in 3 places!



starting to be recognisable

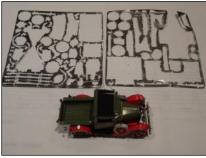


a "rolling" chassis



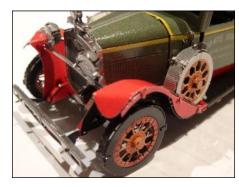
now the body







The final product - 85mm long.





A MODEL MODEL A

From Rob Valentine, Las Vegas

Just another Model A restoration - or is it.....









Cont. over

A MODEL MODEL A (CONT)

From Rob Valentine, Las Vegas











Material courtesy of Ron Andrews many hours spent trawling the web $\ensuremath{\odot}$

TECHNICAL TIP

John Wyld, Quill & Quail, Feb 2021

Ring Gear Repair

The other day when cleaning my workshop, I came across a memory. Many years ago when I rebuilt my engine for the first time, I noticed that the ring gear showed some significant signs of wear. Model 'A' engines when shut off usually come to rest in one of two positions and this was evident by the wear on my ring gear. This repair was done before digital cameras so I don't have any pictures of the ring gear - so you will just have to imagine what it looked like.

Being frugal and not having a lot of cash at that time, I decided to repair the ring gear rather than buy a new one. First, I punched witness marks on the ring gear and the flywheel to act as reference points when putting the ring gear back on the flywheel. I used a drift and hammer to slowly work the ring gear off the flywheel. Using the good portion of the ring gear, I made up a template of the gear profile, see the photo below. Using my oxy/acetylene torch, I built up each of the worn gear teeth with braze. Next using my template and a file, I filed each tooth profile to match the template and followed the angle and shape of the teeth that were in good condition.

Now the next part that I still get some complaints from my wife about. Using our oven, (make sure your wife is not home as they are somewhat protective of the stove), I placed my ring gear in the oven at 350 deg. F for about 20 minutes. That will ensure a nice even heat and expansion of the ring gear. Next with the flywheel on the floor in the kitchen (make sure it is clean or you will get more complaints about grease on the floor), remove the ring gear from the oven and position the witness marks at 90 degrees from the original position. That way the starter will be engaging the original teeth and only pass over the repaired teeth while starting the car. I actually had time to make sure the gear was positioned correctly and firmly against the flywheel edge before it cooled and locked onto the flywheel.

Now the most important step! Open all the doors and windows to air out the house. I failed to do this step and was busted by my wife as soon as she stepped in the door. It seems women have very good sniffers when you are up to no good. In future I will have to put an old stove in my workshop if I have to repeat this repair. Fortunately the repair I did has worked for many years now.



MODEL A COMINGS & GOINGS

The excited new owner of **David Bussard's Special Coupe** as the car is being loaded. The new owner is from Esperance and is friends with the Eardleys and Seinors. He will hopefully be joining the club.



Sue Swindell has sold her 1929 Fordor to a VCCC member from Boyup Brook who already has a number of old trucks and cars.

MARC MARCH ACTIVITIES IN YEARS GONE BY

10 Years Ago: Reports on the Sandy Beach breakfast meeting and Hubley racing at the Jeffree's. The Garrick Theatre National Meet fundraiser event raised \$603.

20 Years Ago: Report on the Breakfast barbie in the Park, and the Rock & Roll Night (National Meet fundraiser) at the Guest's house in Cardup where 219 people attended.

30 Years Ago: Report on the long weekend jaunt to Kirup at the Wringe's farm.

40 Years Ago: Report on a run to Churchill Park in Rockingham. Note about member Don Philps' plans to do a trial casting and machining of cast iron drums for the Model A. Discussion about whether Concourse judging was appropriate for the club.

A MARATHON IN REVERSE

The West Australian, Thursday 12 March 1931

To most motorists, running a car backwards further than one has to seems pointless and unnecessary. Actually it is one of the most difficult and exacting tests for motor oil that can be demonstrated.

James B. Hargis and Charles Creighton backed their Model 'A' Ford roadster out of New York City and continued backing until they reached Los Angeles; then they turned round and backed all the way to New York, a distance of 7,180 miles in 42 days. Encountering nearly every possible weather condition, high altitudes and varying temperatures with radiator ventilation and cooling practically eliminated, they maintained an average of 12 to 13 miles per hour on the trip. Engineers estimate that the gear ratio and this average speed approximate driving the car forward the same distance at 50 to 60 miles per hour.

FOR SALE

A magnificent 1929 Model A Ford Phaeton

Lovingly restored and on the Road for many years, attending National Model A Rallies and other Events.

Asking price - \$30,000. Enquiries and further information please contact Barry Bristow-Stagg:

Email: sabs2@bigpond.com Mobile: 0417 976699



Reg Blewett's Red Ute

Restored and running, but never licensed \$13,000 (*reasonable* offers considered) Enquiries to Ian on 9459 5251





MEMBER'S SHED ACTIVITIES



Allan Jeffree's Burtz engine coming together

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