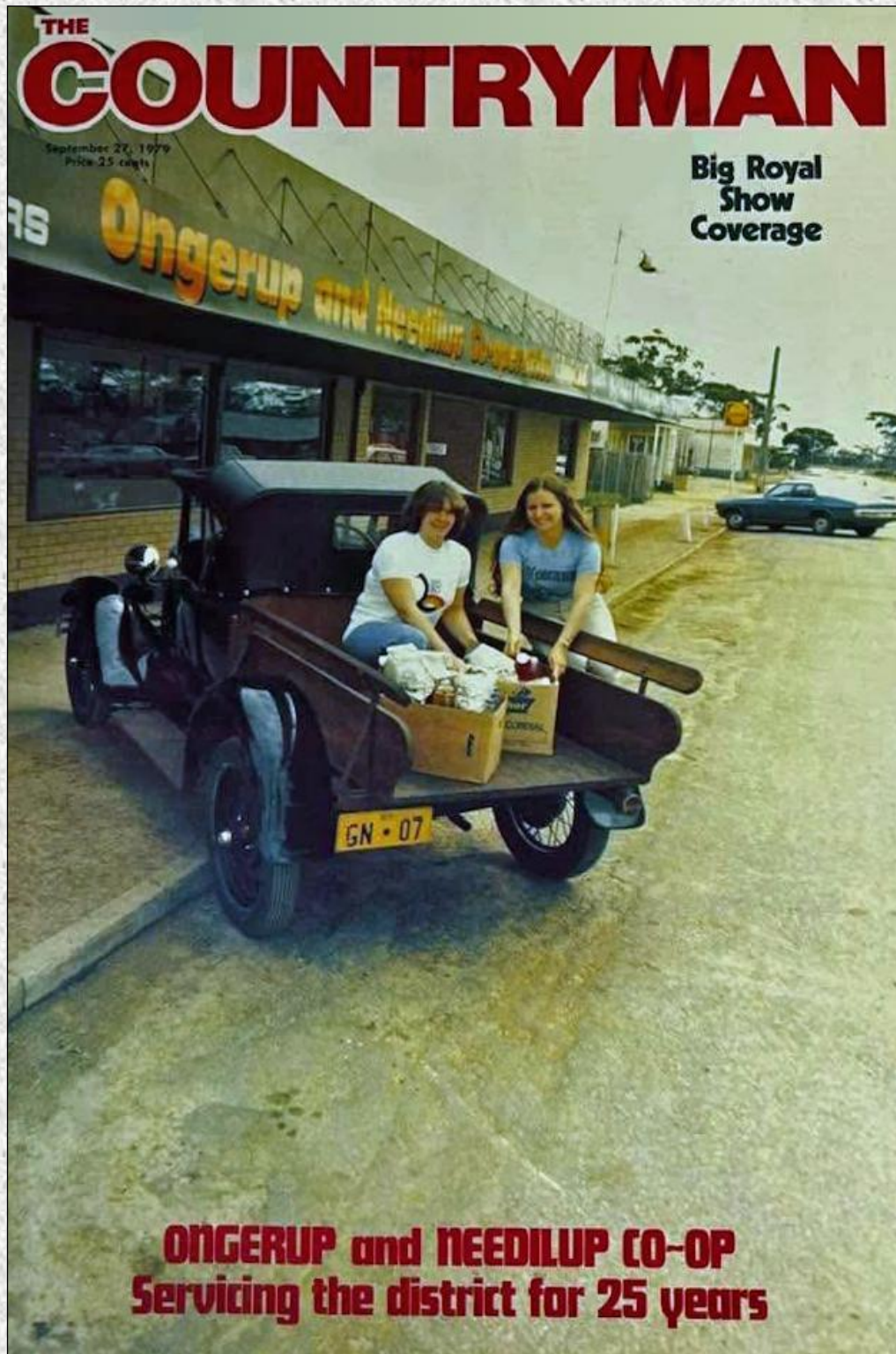




Western Model A News

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 02

MARCH 2026



Model A Restorers Club of Western Australia, Inc.



NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Paul Kelly

president@modelafordclub.com.au

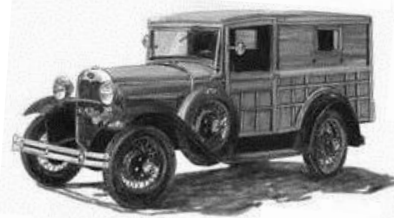
We had a great breakfast gathering and general meeting on Sunday 22nd of February at Point Reserve Bassendean. As I missed the January event, it was great to get together for my first occasion in 2026.

We did have a follow up discussion on the future of a club (following-on from discussion at the previous meeting in January). Peter Sartori provided some information regarding the VCCC's operations as he is a member. He was meeting later that day with the President of the VCCC, and would endeavour to seek additional information. There is no intention of doing anything at this stage other than generate discussion amongst members. We certainly have enough on our plate with the National Rally in October, and I suspect it would be well into next calendar year before we even contemplated giving it any serious consideration. The rally will also be a great opportunity to talk to members from other states and learn what they are doing about membership.

It was announced at the meeting that Dean Roberts unfortunately can no longer continue as the Events Coordinator, so we are seeking any expression of interest from somebody to take on the role. In many respects, runs are the very essence of the club - so it is really important that we have somebody in the coordinator position.

Club membership is actually doing pretty well at this stage with almost everybody having renewed for the 2026 calendar year. I have followed up with a very small number of members that had not renewed, but of the six, I think 4 have already renewed (or are about to) which is very pleasing. We also had a committee meeting at the same location after the meet (which is really a good model as the committee members are spread far and wide across the metropolitan area!)

Keep the A wheels rolling and start ensuring it is shape for the October Rally.



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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Ian Steer

editor@modelafordclub.com.au

Many thanks to Colin Riley for his contribution this month. If this sort of content interests you, then please think about writing something for the newsletter when next you are doing *anything* to/with your Model A.

You  can help make this newsletter interesting

Potentially interesting items out there on the web

"An unbelievable car collection: <https://www.ba-bamail.com/vehicles-of-ground-air-and-water/this-man-sold-an-incredible-car-collection/>

CHROME PLATING FACILITY IN PERTH

John Moorehead

Sterling Electric Plating, Unit 4-6, 8 Carole Road, Maddington WA (phone 9452 7055) have now installed a chrome plating tank and can handle items up to 800mm in length.

There is a minimum charge of \$300, but this would cover several smaller items etc. Delivery times currently range from 2 to 6 weeks.

Sterling originally specialized in silver and other metals and removed their small Chrome plating tank many years ago. With larger premises and suitable staff decided to have a go at Chrome plating again.

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: editor@modelafordclub.com.au

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

MARCWA (INC.) CLUB CONTACTS

ELECTED:

President:	Paul Kelly	0419 666 233
Vice-President:	Dean Roberts	0408 913 355
Secretary:	Andrae Moore	0427 773 621 (AH)
Treasurer:	Germaine Jeffree	0427 421 653
Committee Member:	Darren Jeffree	0428 421 653
Committee Member:	Brett Pollock	0427 637 973
Committee Member:	Colin Riley	0417 954 549

APPOINTED:

Editor / Web site:	Ian Steer	0403 811 911
Printer:	Daniel Pinnington	0400 132 445
Registrar:	Ray Mahony	08 9271 7630
Events Coordinator:	Situation vacant	
Regalia Officer:	Marilynn Horgan	0403 434 004
Librarian:	Dianne Paisley	9456 1184
Spare Parts Officer:	Darren Jeffree	0428 421 653
Property Officer:	Gary Moore	0409 337 629
Delegate: CMC	Toni Mahony	08 9271 7630
Delegate: CMC	Dean Roberts	0408 913355

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), John Moorehead (2023)

EVENTS COORDINATOR

events@modelafordclub.com.au

For anyone who wasn't able to attend the February Breakfast Meeting, we are seeking a new **Events Coordinator** for this year.

The role is not an onerous one. The Events Coordinator doesn't need to organise every event personally — rather, it's about ensuring each event has someone lined up to take the lead.

Our **Monthly Runs**, usually held on the **third Sunday**, are the main focus. The coordinator simply needs to confirm an organiser for each run and pass the details to the newsletter editor as early as possible. Occasionally, you may need to ask for volunteers at a meeting.

To make things easier, all previous runs and run sheets are available on the **MARCWA website**, and many fantastic destinations haven't been visited in years — perfect opportunities to revisit and enjoy.

If you're interested in taking on this role or would like to know more, please have a chat with any committee member.

As for the monthly runs for this year, see below for the proposed monthly run dates, and which months still need organisers.

March

Event: MARC WA Club Run
Date: Sunday 22nd March
Details: tba
Organiser: Daniel Pinnington & Peter Sartori

Event: Classic Car Show
Date: Sunday 29th March
Location: Robinson Park, Tuart Hill
Details: Cars to be there between 10am and 3pm. Contact Ian Steer if you would like to take your car along. Ian will advise details for entry to the participants closer to the date.
Organiser: Ian Steer

April

Event: VCCC Esperance Branch "Easter in Esperance"
Dates: Easter (Fri April 3 to Mon April 6)
Location: Esperance
Details: (not a rally/no online registration required) We would be pleased to host you and partner and recommend you get your accommodation requirements sorted ASAP due to high demand. On-site camping is available with a limited number of powered sites and toilets/showers accessible in the clubrooms. The basic format will be similar to the last few Easters in Esperance; Friday evening check-in, welcome nibbles 6.00pm, Saturday morning cruise to various attractions, Saturday night meal (maybe burgers or pizza), Sunday morning public display in conjunction with the Markets, Sunday night BBQ and Monday morning breakfast to help you on your way. Small cash only per head fee for evening meals. There may be other activities added in due course with an emphasis on laid back relaxation. Hope you can join us!

EVENTS COORDINATOR (CONT)

events@modelafordclub.com.au

April (cont)

Event: Pingelly Heritage Festival
Date: Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th April
Details: Visit <https://www.pingellyheritagefestival.com.au/> for more information

Event: **MARC WA Club Run**
Date: Sunday 19th April
Details: Destination Gingin, more details tba
Organiser: Colin Riley

May

Event: **MARC WA Club Run**
Date: Sunday 17th May (proposed)
Details: tba
Organiser: Organiser needed

Event: **MARC WA Bunnings Sausage Sizzle (National Meet Fundraiser)**
Date: Sunday 24th May
Location: Bunnings Bayswater
Details: Volunteers needed - please contact Ray & Toni Mahony
Organisers: Ray & Toni Mahony

June

Event: **MARC WA Club Run**
Date: Sunday 21st June (proposed)
Details: tba
Organiser: Organiser needed

July

Event: **MARC WA Club Run**
Date: Sunday 19th July (proposed)
Details: tba
Organiser: Organiser needed

August

Event: **MARC WA Annual General Meeting**
Date: Sunday 16th August
Details: tba
Organiser: Andrae Moore

EVENTS COORDINATOR (CONT)

events@modelafordclub.com.au

September

Event: MARC WA Club Run
Date: Sunday 20th September (proposed)
Details: tba
Organiser: [Organiser needed](#)

October

Event: MARC WA 29th National Meet
Date: Sunday 18th - Sat 24th October
Location: Albany, West Australia
Details: Get your [Entry Form](#) in, and get your accommodation booked NOW. Refer to the National Meet [web page](#) and [Facebook page](#)

November

Event: MARC WA Club Run
Date: Sunday 15th November (proposed)
Details: tba
Organiser: [Organiser needed](#)

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)

MODEL A COMINGS AND GOINGS

Colin Davidson has been reunited with his 1931 Slant Window Town Sedan!

Colin sold it two years ago to a bloke in Sydney and kept in contact with the new owner. Late last year the new owner said he wasn't driving it enough (150km in two years) and wanted to move it on to someone else who would use it and care for it. Colin suggested he would be interested in buying it back - and so the deal was done for the original price!

The car arrived back in WA on Christmas Day. It comes back with: electronic ignition, 16" rims and radials, 4 wheel disc brakes - and a brand-new Burtz engine ready to go in (but the existing engine is very good anyway).

The car has now had an engineering report done and is waiting on a backlog in the DoT before going onto full license.

CMC NEWS

The Feb 2026 CMC Voice Newsletter can be found here:

<https://councilofmotoringclubswa.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/CMC%20February%202026%20Newsletter.pdf>

FEBRUARY BREAKFAST RUN

Anne Steer

On Sunday 22 Feb, Anthony Gilberthorpe organised our annual Bassendean Breakfast Meet at Point Reserve. This particular meet continues to be our most patronised each year. Maybe because it is east of the city and 'central' to everyone? Maybe it is easy to get to? Maybe everyone finds it easier to drive at this early hour? Who knows.

It was wonderful to see Kelvin and Kath Pepper, Barry and Sylvia Bristow-Stagg make the big drive down the hill from Northam.

It was a lovely day weatherwise, and our members all brought a variety of breakfast foods. Some did it simply, some used the barbecue facilities.

After a General Meeting and (as Paul Kelly says) the BEST raffle, members stayed to enjoy the delightful surroundings and catch up on all the news.



NATIONAL MEET - ALBANY 2026

Andrae Moore (Rally Director)

Registrations are officially open!.. and things are off to a flying start. In the first 24 hours we have had 25 entries — including our first international entrants from New Zealand. If you haven't jumped in yet, make sure you get your entry sorted and book your accommodation soon.

Behind the scenes, everything's ticking along nicely. Grant applications are being put together, display permissions are underway, daily runs are being mapped out, entertainment and catering are coming together, and merchandise options are almost locked in. The excitement is definitely building.

As mentioned at the February Club meeting, we'll need volunteers before, during, and after the rally for a whole range of jobs — some we already know about, and others that will pop up as we get closer. Many hands make light work, so if you're able to help out, we'd really appreciate it.

Please keep those Containers for Change donations coming. And if you have any scrap metal to contribute, get in touch with Ray Mahony on 9271 7630. Every cent helps make the rally even better.

We've also locked in another **Bunnings Sausage Sizzle** — this time at the **Bayswater store** on **Sunday, 24 May 2026**. If you can lend a hand on the day, please let Ray and Toni Mahony know.

Model A Restorers Club of WA Inc

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Colin Riley 0417 954 549



MEMBER'S SHED ACTIVITIES

Colin Riley

A DIFFerent story

What started out as a pleasant Sunday drive suddenly came to a grinding stop when trying to enter a roundabout only 6km from home.

The black 28 Coupe had performed beautifully until I stopped at a roundabout to allow a car on my right to pass. On attempting to proceed, I was suddenly greeted with a horrible "banging" sound that shook the car violently as I attempted to move forward.

This sounded expensive! This was time for a quick running diagnosis. Clutch in, rev the engine - all sounds fine. My next step - select overdrive - still that horrible noise when proceeding. Try second gear take-off, still the same. By this time I was half-way



through the large roundabout, so decided to try and at least exit the roundabout and move down the road a little. Fortunately it was slightly downhill so very little drive force was required and I made it 300m to a side road to park. A few more checks, and at that point and I thought it was probably the universal or differential. I did however discover I could drive in reverse with no signs of the problem?? I was now thinking universal.

By this time it had started to rain, so a quick call to Chris to bring the Landcruiser down (6km) and give me a tow home. What a frightening return trip that was! I said "go slow", meaning maybe 20km/h, not 40+. With a short tow rope, Model A brakes and tyres, rain and not game to take my hand off the steering wheel to phone her to slow down, all I could do was

Cont. over

MEMBER'S SHED ACTIVITIES (CONT)

Colin Riley

hang on and pray. Somehow we made it home and with my diagnosis that I could drive in reverse, I got it into carport where it will now sit for a couple of months awaiting repair (other things to do).

With some further checks during that time, I determined it was the differential (I suspected the crown-wheel). I was ready to start the repair. So a quick trip to the parts shed to find a

usable crown-wheel. Jackpot, I found two in good condition but as I discovered, I needed a 37 tooth and one turned out to be a 39T. Not to worry, I had the one I needed. Next step was to remove the diff. Challenging but finally it was out and on the carport floor. On opening the diff housing, there it was - two teeth stripped from the pinion gear and damage to the crown-wheel. It now became evident as to why I could drive in reverse. The teeth were broken on an angle which allowed some

contact with the crown-wheel, but with forward drive action and with inadequate pinion and diff preloads, the crown-wheel could "jump" over the broken pinion teeth. Hence the violent banging when attempting to drive. There was also evidence on the broken teeth that they appear to have been cracked for some time??

Considering I now needed both crown-wheel *and* pinion, I opted for new rather than 100 year old parts (if a pinion was available in the parts shed?). A quick call To Dave Slater and the parts were on their way (made in Italy). Re-assembly has been slow over the past couple of weeks due to correcting other issues, and a couple of other parts needed. Hopefully the offending item will be back in this weekend, and I should be on the road to enjoy the car again.

It's amazing how many things you can find wrong if you look hard enough. It is at that point you have to assess the risk and proceed with your decision.



Happy motoring.

Colin Riley - 1928 Special Coupe

CLUB MEMBER KEN HALL TURNS 103

From The Narrogin Observer / West Australian 25 Feb 2026

Only a rare few Wheatbelt farmers can tell stories of working the land nearly 100 years ago — and Brookton farmer Ken Hall is one of those lucky few.

Born in Tocumwal, New South Wales in 1923, Mr Hall moved to Brookton when he was five years old and celebrated his 103rd birthday on February 19 in his beloved town.

The milestone was commemorated with a morning tea shared with friends and family at Brookton's BaptistCare Kalkarni Residential Care. BaptistCare Kalkarni lifestyle co-ordinator Laura Yau said Mr Hall's tales were often shared around the care home. "There's not much Ken hasn't seen," she said. "He enjoys talking about the changes in farming and the old motor trials, and he still likes to know what's happening in the world."



Mr Hall made the trek across Australia in the late 1920s with his parents, William and Ivy, to Hillside Farm, later renamed Hillroy Farm. As a boy in the early 1900s he rode to school on horseback, dug fences by hand, and guided ploughs behind a team of horses during harvest.

Every task was dependent on daylight and the weather, which remains apparent as Mr Hall continues to measure life in seasons.

During World War II, Hillroy Farm was contracted to supply produce to support Australian troops, and despite fuel shortages and a lack of machinery, Mr Hall rose to the challenge and was later deemed essential to the war effort.

Mr Hall has seen the modernisation of farming, trading horse-drawn ploughs for early tractors, hydraulics and electrics, and adopting automation and GPS technology as it emerged. He was always eager to ride the new waves that came with passing time. Before electricity reached the rural district, he had wired his own home by using salvaged cables and fittings.

Mr Hall's interest extended beyond the farm gate, becoming Brookton Car Club president in the 1950s, restoring vintage tractors and cars exhibited at the Brookton Old Time Motor Show, and competing in multi-day endurance car trials navigated by compass and stopwatch.

While the world around him has been ever-changing, Mr Hall's love for farming has not, growing the 700-acre farm to 6000-acres by 1996, when he officially passed the business on to his sons.

Son Murray said his dad was "still driving around checking sheep at 95", and often commented "hard work never killed anyone". "Dad loved machinery and was always looking for a better way to do something and was fascinated by technology," Murray said. "Even in his late 80s and early 90s, he'd ring us on his iPhone and ask what help we needed," he said.

During his 103 years, Mr Hall has enjoyed a loving marriage with Coral and raised their four children, Trevor, Murray, Ian and Nola.

When asked the secret to reaching such an impressive age, Mr Hall said without a moment's hesitation: "Be happy every day."

TECHNICAL TIP

Jim Canon, MAFCA, from Script A News, Feb 2026

Infrared (IR) Thermometer Guns

These little IR thermometer guns are amazing. I use mine to check coolant temperature at the outlet of the engine, look for cool spots on radiators, check tire sidewall temperatures, and to see if all of my brake drums are at about the same temperature after a hard brake (to confirm even braking action at each wheel).

If you are going to get a reliable, consistent, and reproducible reading with these guns, you need to understand a bit about how they work. When you aim the gun at something and press the button to read the temperature, the gun reports to you the average temperature of everything within its "Field of View".

If you want to read the temperature with a spot circle diameter of $\frac{1}{2}$ " (a very handy size), you must hold the gun 6" from the object. I have seen some guys hold the gun several feet from a radiator hose and not understand why the reading is so low; their 3" diameter spot circle includes a lot of cool air on either side of the radiator hose. Get in the habit of holding the gun up close to the object for the best readings.

Some guns have a laser pointer built in that helps you see where the temperature readings are being taken. The laser does not read the temperature, it just helps you see where the reading is from. You have to visualize the spot circle size, depending on how far the gun is from the object.

I hope this helps you get more out of your IR thermometer. If you don't have one, they are handy to have around the shop and on the road.

Until next time, Have a Model A Day!

Jim

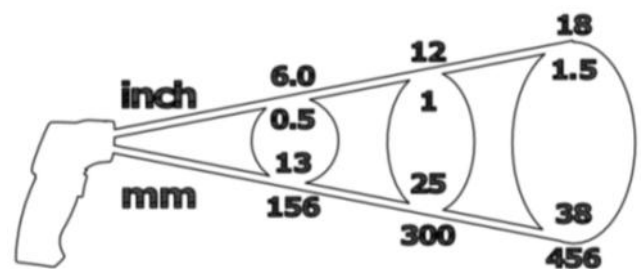
Editor's Note:

The measuring area (or "spot") of an IR thermometer is a circle. The thermometer averages the temperature of *everything* in the circle. So if your spot is too big, you will be measuring the temperature of "stuff" you don't want to be included in the measurement. The target to be measured must be bigger than the spot size.

The "Distance-to-Spot Ratio" (D:S) of an IR thermometer tells you how big the spot is at any distance from the thermometer. For a D:S of 12:1, this means the measuring spot is 1" in diameter at a distance of 12", 2" at a distance of 24", or $\frac{1}{2}$ " at a distance of 6" etc.

The higher the ratio, the smaller the measuring area (spot) is at any given distance - meaning you can measure something from further away.

Infra red thermometers are available in a variety of "Distance-to-Spot Ratios". 12:1 is a common ratio, my unit is 13:1.

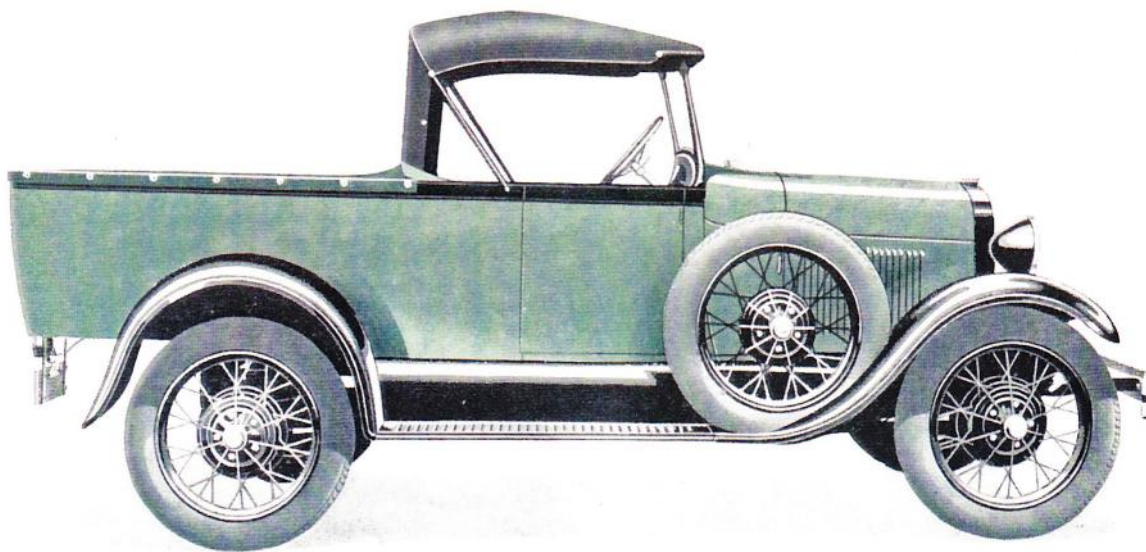


Spot sizes and distances for a 12:1 thermometer

Note that the size of the visible laser spot is NOT the size of the measuring spot (the laser spot is typically much smaller than the measuring spot).

BOLTONS BODY CATALOGUE

Courtesy of Ron Andrews



TYPE No. 302.—FORD SPECIAL LIGHT DELIVERY
(Full particulars overleaf)

[[SPRING AND SHOCK ABSORBER SYSTEM REDUCES TYRE WEAR]]

TYPE No. 302.—FORD SPECIAL LIGHT DELIVERY

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This Special Light Delivery model is preferred by some users for the reason

that its appearance is less obviously commercial than other Light Deliveries. With Tonneau cover in position it is suitable for personal use when desired—for touring or camping trips where bulky luggage is necessary it is ideal. Normally, however, it serves the same purposes as the Flare Side Light Delivery, with the additional advantage that the goods are completely protected when the cover is used.

LOADING SPACE—

Length, 55 in.

Width, 44 in.

HEIGHT OF SIDES, 18½ in.

[[FORD TRUCKS OFFER VALUE FAR ABOVE THE PRICE]]

MARC MARCH ACTIVITIES IN YEARS GONE BY

10 Years Ago: 23 Model A's attended the Sandy Beach Run. Ian & Anne Steer join the club.

20 Years Ago: nothing of note.

30 Years Ago: Reports on a candlelight tour of Fremantle Prison, and the annual breakfast BBQ at Como.

40 Years Ago: The annual Como breakfast BBQ was held in much cooler conditions than the year before. Noted that in the 6 years since the club was founded, the numbers have grown to over 50 families.



Composite photo from the archives of Edith Jeffree

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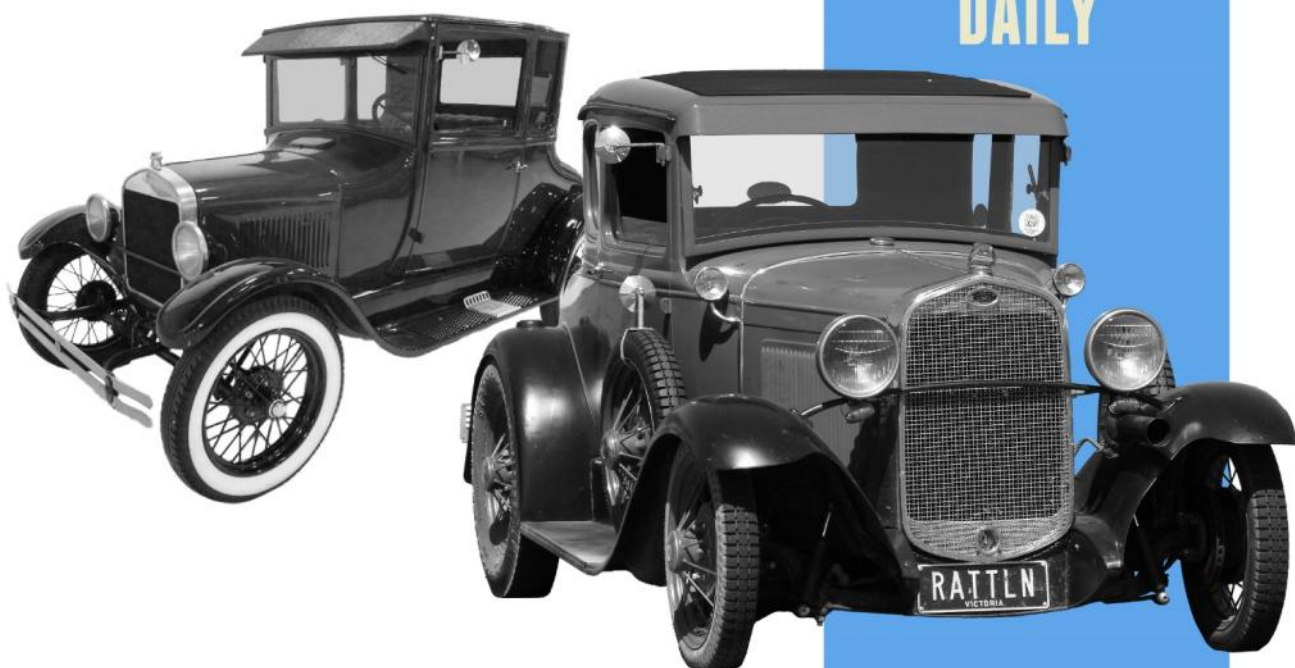
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