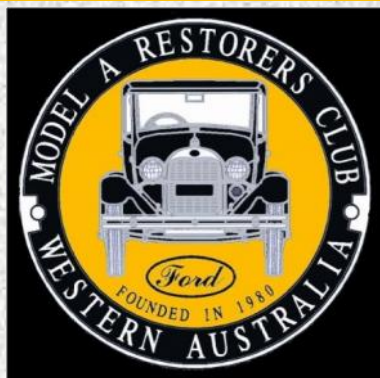




Western Model A News

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 05

JUNE 2026



Model A Restorers Club of Western Australia, Inc.



NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Paul Kelly

president@modelafordclub.com.au

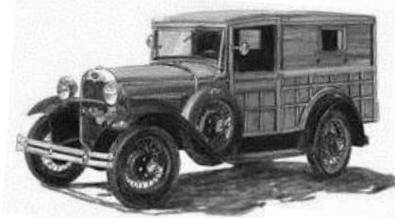
Well, the rain has finally arrived and winter is about to commence. A great time to be in the shed preparing the Model A for the forthcoming Albany rally. I had intended to help Dean Roberts, Peter Sartori, and Darren and Allan Jeffree install Dean's Burtz engine a couple of weeks ago. As you can see from the photos (p12), I was a



bit incapacitated and forced to take a passive, advisory role for the project! What I was able to do, was sit and appreciate the incredible knowledge and understanding of Model A's within our membership group. What I observed, was some pretty slick and well coordinated workmanship. It resulted in removing the old engine and replacing it with the very slick looking Burtz, with an incredibly flash-looking oil filter - well worth taking a look at. I believe it to be the only one in Australia.

Unfortunately, I also missed the rally committee meeting on Wednesday night as a result of having a knee operation. I understand however, that it was a highly productive meeting - together with the hosts Toni and Ray Mahony providing a beautiful roast dinner. We have been very fortunate in successfully obtaining a grant from the City Of Albany of funds to assist with the rally. This was a highly competitive process, and it is fantastic that the City was keen to support our event, and recognised the importance of attracting the event to Albany. Whilst we are well advanced with the planning, there are a lot of small details still to attend too. However, we are all excited and confident that it will be a great success.

Remember if you need help or advice in preparing your car for the next run, or the Albany rally, we are an incredibly resourceful and friendly Club and are all keen to help each other - so don't be shy about seeking advice or assistance.



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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Ian Steer

editor@modelafordclub.com.au

On behalf of myself, and all you (two?) readers, thanks so much to Germaine Jeffree for filling-in as Temporary Caretaker Editor last month while Anne & I were away.

Also, thank you hugely to the contributors this month (Darren & Germaine Jeffree and Ron Andrews). It makes the newsletter production a (relative!) pleasure to not have to be hunting around for material (which inevitably, is not as relevant to MARC WA as "local content").

Potentially interesting items out there on the web

Some weird and wacky early car innovations in this [video](#) - and the Model A puts-in an appearance as the first car to climb Ben Nevis.

REGALIA

Marilynn Horgan

Stocktake time is coming up so please buy stuff so I don't have to count it!

We have plenty of stock in-hand, with a range of sizes in polo shirts for \$32.50 and jackets for \$55 to meet your cooler weather needs. Caps, and both cloth and metal badges, are also available.

There is also the option of a blue Chambray shirt in both men's and women's sizes for \$55. The Club logo is above the left pocket, and there is an option to have your name embroidered above the right pocket for an extra \$5.

Have a look at [Regalia - Model A Restorers Club of WA Inc.](#)

Give me a call on 0403 434 004, or email me to place an order. Regalia can be posted or, if you live in the metro area, I am happy to arrange a suitable drop off for you.

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

Volunteers to organise the September and November runs are needed - please give it some thought as to how you can contribute to your club.

Is there any interest in going to the **York Motor Show** as a club on Sunday August 30th? Anyone interested, please contact me (Ian Steer) on 0403 811 911, or using the "events email" above.

June

Event: **MARC WA Club Run**
Date: Sunday 21st June
Time: 11:30am
Location: Roam Distillery, 445 Morangup Rd, Morangup (between Gidgegannup & Toodyay)
Details: Lunch at Roam Distillery, with distillery tours for those interested. Their special winter menu appeared in the May newsletter.
RSVP to Andrae Moore by June 7th, ph: 0427 773 621 (AH)

[See next page](#)

Organiser: Andrae Moore

July

Event: **MARC WA Club Run**
Date: Sunday 19th July **Details:** tba
Time: tba
Details: tba
Organiser: Toni Mahony

August

Event: **MARC WA Annual General Meeting**
Time: Noon for a sausage sizzle (provided) and meeting to start at 1pm.
Date: Sunday 16th August
Details: tba
Organiser: Andrae Moore

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](#)

EVENTS COORDINATOR (CONT)

events@modelafordclub.com.au

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)

JUNE CLUB RUN (ROAM DISTILLERY)

Andrae Moore

Our June club run is shaping up to be a relaxed and enjoyable outing, with a visit to the charming Roam Distillery in Morangup on **Sunday, 21 June at 11:30am**. Located approximately 40 km from Midland just off Toodyay Road, this will be a self-drive event, giving everyone the flexibility to enjoy the scenic trip at their own pace before gathering at the venue.

Set amongst picturesque surroundings, the distillery offers more than just great food and drinks. You'll be able to unwind over a lovely lunch while taking in views of the vineyard, poultry yards, and even meeting their friendly pet camels — a truly unique experience!

Roam Distillery is a small, family-run business led by a passionate husband-and-wife team, with support from parents, grandparents, and a few local youngsters. Their commitment to quality and community shines through in everything they do.

As outlined in last month's newsletter, their winter menu may not be extensive, but it's thoughtfully curated with a strong focus on quality and value. Impressively, the ingredients used in their meals are home-produced, as are those featured in their on-site distillery creations. Their range includes whiskey, vodka, gin, and limoncello — with the creamy limoncello in particular being a standout favourite and well worth a try.

For those interested, our host will be offering a tour of the distillery, providing insight into the processes involved in producing their spirits. There are also tasting platters available, complete with one-on-one explanations of the drinks and tips on how best to enjoy them.

No need to worry about the weather, as the venue offers both indoor and outdoor seating options to ensure a comfortable experience for all.

If you're planning to attend, **please let Andrae Moore know by texting 0427 773 621** with your numbers so arrangements can be finalised.

This promises to be a fantastic day out combining a scenic drive, great company, and delicious local produce. We look forward to seeing you there!

NATIONAL MEET - ALBANY 2026

Andrae Moore (Rally Director)

The countdown is well and truly on, with our rally fast approaching, and preparations coming together nicely. The committee has been working hard behind the scenes, and it's safe to say the excitement is building!

We're also pleased to share that we've secured a substantial grant from the City of Albany. This support will go a long way toward keeping participant costs to a minimum and helping us deliver a fantastic event for all involved.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Success

On Saturday, 24 May, we held a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Bayswater — and what a day it was! A big thank you to the volunteers who generously gave up their time to make it happen: Ray, Toni, Darren, Germaine, Gerry, Jean, Adam, Melyssa, Gary, and myself.

Although the store operates shorter hours than some other Bunnings locations, our 4.5-hour stint was incredibly busy. At times, the queue stretched roughly 15 metres to the end of the building, and we could barely keep up with demand. We timed our stock perfectly, selling out with just five minutes to spare — a great result!

This was our third sausage sizzle, but our first at Bayswater, and it certainly won't be the last. Amazingly, we raised more in those 4.5 hours than we did across two full days at our previous location. An outstanding effort by everyone involved — well done!



Containers for Change code



Rally Entries – Don't Delay

For those who are planning to enter the rally but haven't yet done so, now is the time. Final numbers need to be confirmed soon, so please get your entries in as quickly as possible to avoid missing out.

Ongoing Fundraising

Our fundraising efforts continue through Containers for Change and scrap metal recycling. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed so far — it's been fantastic to see how quickly these small efforts can add up and make a real difference.

With the rally just around the corner, and strong support from our fundraising activities, things are shaping up to be a great success. Thanks again to everyone involved — we look forward to seeing you all at the rally!

Proudly sponsored by Henry's Model T & A Parts, Yesteryear Garage and Parts, and Early Ford Parts

WE BOUGHT ANOTHER "A"

Darren Jeffree

We recently had the opportunity to purchase Ian and Sharon Lawson's 1928 Model A Phaeton. The body was originally restored by long-standing member, Alan Smith (dec). Alan had decided he wanted a Tudor, so purchased a body and swapped them over. Ian (Reg Blewett's son-in-law) purchased the Phaeton body, and restored some running gear with Reg's guidance. Late last year, Ian and Sharon decided it was time to make space in the shed, and we thought it was a good "project" for the family to work on. Reg and Ian had done the motor, and we were able to drive it into the shed at home. Not sure what the timeline is at this stage, but we plan to get it registered and on the road as soon as time allows.

It is pretty special to have a car that long time Life Member Reg Blewett had a hand in restoring.



Thanks Ian and Sharon – we will take good care of her.

(Editor: For those curious, the current stock of Model A's at the Jeffree (junior)'s house is now four: 2 restored, 1 in progress (a pickup), and 1 unrestored (the Lawson's phaeton))

MEMBER'S SHED ACTIVITIES

Ron Andrews

After suffering a water pump failure, followed by a split seam on the radiator, Adam Milner's phaeton had been languishing in the shed for a few months. The radiator was removed and repaired locally, and new hoses and clamps sourced from Henry's Model T & A Parts. Daniel Pinnington spoke to Adam and arranged a time for us to go and give him a hand to get it back on the road.

The first job was to install a leakless new water pump and two blade aluminium fan. We then made new rubber pads for the radiator to sit on and fitted the radiator and the bonnet. After a bit of adjustment, we had the bonnet fitting well with good gaps all around.

Adam placed an order for a new thermometer probe pipe for the top hose, and new head lamp bolts which should arrive quickly.

A bit of a degrease, oil change and thorough clean should see the Phaeton ready for the road and then to Albany for the National meet.

(Editor: Wonderful examples of true clubmanship by Ron & Daniel)



KEN HALL'S BIG AUCTION

Member Ken Hall (103 years old - refer March newsletter) is no longer able to pursue his passion for old cars (including Model A's and tractors) and his collection is going to be auctioned-off on the family farm in Brookton on **October 3rd**.

Some interested MARC members will make a "reconnaissance trip" before then to scope-out the Model A stuff, and maybe help the family with palletisation. Hopefully we will then be able to give members some indications of the Model A content before the auction to help them decide whether it is worth attending.

SUPPLIER RECOMMENDATION

Darren Jeffree

Recently I had to purchase a new 6v battery for my Phaeton and so my internet search began. 6v batteries are proving to be a little harder to find. After a few phone calls and visits to various local suppliers and club members, Peter Sartori referred me to Goodchild Enterprises. I found them to be very helpful and reasonably priced.

Goodchild Enterprises

6 Pusey Road
Cockburn Central WA 6164

Ph: (08) 9417 7033

www.goodchild.com.au

sales@goodchild.com.au



Editor: I also backup Peter & Darren's recommendation for Goodchilds

USA ADVENTURES - JUNE 2025

Darren Jeffree

Steve Read has been going to America for the last 20 years taking various groups on swap-meet and car shopping tours. His "last" trip finished just as Covid hit. In late 2024, we had been discussing previous trips when he suggested he might be going to do one last trip and would I like to join? The family suggested it would be a good early 60th birthday (next year) celebration. Steve invited another Model A owner from Victoria, Rod Webster.

June 3 Steve and I left Perth bound for Los Angeles via Singapore. We flew premium economy from Singapore to LAX - not only for the extra leg room, but we also had 2 bags allocated each with a weight of 23kg each. Perfect for the trip home!

We arrived at LAX on midnight June 3, picked up our hire car and drove an hour on the wrong side of the road at night, on freeways, to our motel. We stayed at a motel in the centre of the Orange County Area.

In the first week, we visited CW Moss for some new parts, dropped off some nickel plating to be done that I had taken with me. We visited many hardware and tool shops, Walmart, Supermarkets for supplies etc.



We went into Hollywood Boulevard and did the tourist bit. Plenty of souvenir shops and bright lights. Also autonomous carts driving along the foot paths doing deliveries. We had lunch at Mel's Diner (famous for being in movies including American Graffiti).

Car shows are popular in the USA. We visited The Main Street car show, where they block off the street and fill it up with show cars. Everything is big in the US!

Donut Derelicts - every Saturday morning in Longbeach, cars gather in a carpark and they open a coffee shop with donuts. Great donuts but the worst coffee I have

ever not been able to drink!

We had dinner at Ruby's Diner for my birthday, and Steve arranged for the wait staff to sing me happy birthday. Also a huge hot choc sundae with a candle in it.

Sunday was the Long Beach performance swap-meet. A large swap-meet. Around 200 – 300 sellers. We arrived when it opened at 7am, and left with a car full of parts after lunch. As the name suggests, there was a lot of performance parts for a wide cross section of cars. I didn't buy a lot from here, but I did pick up a nice accessory clock to suit a Model A, and an era steering column fan with switch and speed controller. Rod filled our car up with 1932 ford parts.

The next week, we drove the Pacific Highway to Long Beach, walked the pier, visited the Queen Mary, went to Seal Beach and walked the pier. At Seal Beach, I visited a little second hand shop and found an original Model A Tyre pressure gauge in it's original leather pouch. Purchased it for \$15USD.

We visited MAFCA Headquarters in La Habra. Sandra gave us a guided tour, and we bought some merchandise, books etc. We had lunch with Sandra and Jay McCord. Jay is a past MAFCA president

Cont. over

USA ADVENTURES (CONT)

Darren Jeffree

who is now in charge of membership and marketing.

One of Steve's contacts in California contacted us and said he had found an old guy with a yard, sheds and a house full of Model A stuff. Sounded like a usual story that had been exaggerated as it got passed along. Not so! What a collection! The nice old guy was named Mac and is suffering from advanced Parkinsons Disease. We spent quite a few hours exploring and digging through sheds, shelves and cupboards. At the time we were there, the house with more model A stuff was being painted outside and the doors were all taped shut. I managed to get just about all I needed to complete my Roadster pickup project, including an early original Model A flip top jack to suit my Phaeton. We stashed our loot in a pile at Mac's and returned a few days later when the painting was finished and spent a couple more hours looking in the two



storey house, paid for it all and proceeded to cram it all into our hire car. We finished with 2 wheels tied to the roof.



around 2000 sites.

Rod hired a U-Haul van and booked a seller site just to be there on setup day. He slept the night in the back of the van to get an early start on the first day of the swap. A lot of trading is done between vendors



before the public are allowed in.



They have a courtesy shuttle tram continuously running around the swap to ferry people to and from the gates. Steve passed by about every half an hour calling out from the shuttle on his way past - just joy riding. Hundreds of roadsters of all brands and years on show. It was very hot being all set out on bitumen.

This is a 2 day event but we had seen and bought what we needed and didn't need to go back Sunday.

Cont. over

USA ADVENTURES (CONT)

Darren Jeffree



The following week, I spent a day at Disney Land, and we toured down the Pacific Highway visiting Huntington Beach, Laguna Beach, Newport Beach, Emerald Bay, Venice Beach, Santa Monica Pier (the end of route 66), and the Korean



Friendship Bell. I picked up my nickel plating, and visited the historic Santa Ana court house. We hired a U-Haul Chev Silverado to go and collect wheels for Gerry Ten Bokkel and proceeded to clean everything at a car wash for quarantine. Everything was then labelled and taken to our shipper (picking up tyre tubes on the way).

Our final swap-meet was also at Permona. This is a general swap - mostly automotive and memorabilia. This is by far the biggest being 3000 – 4000 stalls and hundreds of cars for sale.

I had a ball at this one buying more treasures. The limiting factor was weight since we had to have our other purchases at the shipper before this swap. There was a lot of nervous luggage weighing and shuffling to get it all home within the correct weight. Steve only ended up using one of his bag allocations, so I had three.



The last few days, we visited MAFCA again to collect some advanced copies of the Restorer magazine with Cara's article published (Sandra from MAFCA kindly got us express copies before they had been mailed to the USA members just so we could bring them home). We spent a leisurely day in historic Orange City and had a nice lunch at Two's Company Café, a regular stop for Steve on his trips.

We were there for 23 days, we ate at many retro diners, travelled over a 1,000 miles in our hire car, saw so much shiny chrome and spectacular paint, had

Mexican food made by Mexicans (awesome). Visited Starbucks every day. The people we met were all very polite, respectful and great to talk to. We saw a lot of history, all due to my private tour guide and chauffeur Steve Read. We left LAX airport June 26. Our weather the whole time we were in LA was between 28 – 35 deg C. Prices of most things were comparable to here when you convert the money. Our exchange rate was around 65cents. Alcohol was cheap. I bought a 1 litre bottle of Chivas



Cont. over

USA ADVENTURES (CONT)

Darren Jeffree

from the supermarket on sale for US\$16.95.

Our shipping “turned south” after we left, long story short, we had arranged to share some space in a container bound for Fremantle which fell through. Our parts ended up having to go to Melbourne and



Steve, ever-ready for a road trip, drove across the Nullarbor and collected them. Steve arrived back in Perth early October.

It was a truly memorable trip with a great mate, and has provided more motivation to get the Pickup project underway.

CMC NEWS

The 2026 CMC Voice Newsletters can be found [here](#)

DEAN ROBERTS BURTZ INSTALL



Paul Kelly (supervising), Allan Jeffree, Peter Sartori and Darren Jeffree: old engine coming out, and the Burtz installed

TECHNICAL TIP

Tim Diehn, as appeared in the NIMAFC Newsletter May 2026

Locking Down Your Pressure Plate Adjustors

Doing a clutch job on a Model A is a true "adventure"—and by adventure, I mean you're either pulling the engine or the rear end. Neither is a quick afternoon task. When you finally get that clutch replaced, you want the peace of mind that you won't have to see the inside of that bell housing again for a long, long time.

The Solution: **Flex-Top expanding nuts.**

A critical step in any clutch job is adjusting the pressure plate fingers. The trick is ensuring each finger is exactly the same depth from the surface of the pressure plate collar. The specification is tight: no more than 0.002" difference. If they are uneven, the throw-out bearing will engage the fingers at different times, causing the clutch to engage unevenly against the flywheel. This results in dreaded clutch "shudder." We all want that silky-smooth engagement that makes the Model A pleasurable to drive.

The problem with traditional lock nuts once you've dialed in that perfect adjustment, you need to ensure those nuts stay put. The original design used distorted-thread lock nuts. These work by having the threads punched in two places to create a friction fit. The downside - they are essentially one time use. Once you remove them, the threads reform, and they begin to behave like a regular nut—making them prone to backing off due to vibration.



For my builds, I prefer Flex-Top locking nuts. These work on a similar principle to distorted threads, but with a clever engineering twist: the top of the nut is sectioned and tilted inward. This creates a spring-like grip on the bolt that doesn't damage the threads. Therefore, they are reusable*. I recommend the "thin" (low profile) version as the flex top sits lower on the screw, gripping securely below the screwdriver cutout where the screw itself is more rigid.

You might be tempted to use Nylocks, but don't. Nylon inserts typically soften around

120°C. On a hot summer day after a long cruise, your clutch housing can approach those temperatures, risking a failure.

Specs: 5/16"-24, Thin Profile.

It's a small investment for the "set and forget" confidence every Model A owner deserves!

* - Even flex-top locknuts will need to be replaced after a few uses, but probably not within the ownership life of a typical Model A hobbyist.



Original nut



MARC JUNE ACTIVITIES IN YEARS GONE BY

10 Years Ago: Nothing of note

20 Years Ago: Daniel Pinnington re-joined the club

30 Years Ago: Report on an "Avon Ascent" run to the Avondale Research Station near Beverley. Members had to call in to a farm to refill water containers for one problematic phaeton, and other members were unable to get there due to a road closure because of a double fatality.

40 Years Ago: Run report of a trip to Walyunga National Park organised by the Blewetts. Letter received seeking interest in joining two cars in an "around Australia" trip in 1998 to celebrate the 70th birthday of the Model A (ie in 12 years time - that's what I call planning ahead!)

MAGISTRATE'S COURT No 313679
[Date-stamp] 17 DEC 1957
No. of Case 26104
AUCKLAND Date of conviction / /
OFFICIAL RECEIPT
RECEIVED from the defendant the sum of £ 1 15:-
pounds fifteen shillings and pence being fines and costs in the case of
(Police) (Transport) (Council) v. G. B. Steer
J. D. O'BRIEN Registrar.
All receipts issued by Government Officers for the receipt of public moneys must be given on numbered official forms.

1957 Auckland fine receipt for the Steer's Model A for failing to have a "Warrant of Fitness" (ie roadworthiness certificate)

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Come in or call us for all the parts for your project

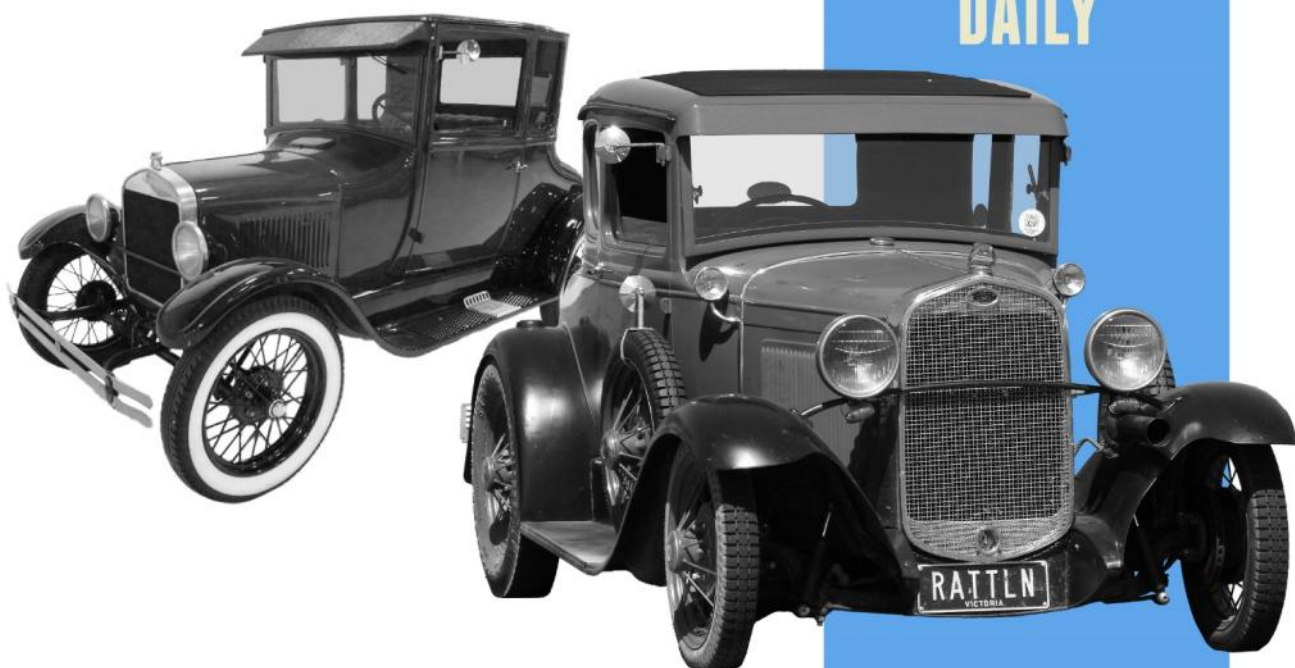
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