

Volume 44 NUMBER 6 July 2022

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- · Old Victorian T era garage; continued Colac Victoria



Pictured is the Wotherspoon family Tarrant Tourer. Read more about this car and the Wotherspoon family's contribution the MTFCV inside!

"To teach that a comparatively few men are responsible for the greatest forward steps of mankind is the worst sort of nonsense." - Henry Ford



# **President's Message**



reetings to all,

Well we have passed the Winter Solstice so our daylight days are getting longer. Garage lights won't be burning as long from now on.

July is **AGM time for our Club**. Remember that the AGM meeting is 1 week later than usual due to Library availability. Our AGM is set for July 15th at Ashburton Library so try and attend in person or by Zoom. Don't forget to make Club Person of Year nominations ASAP! Nominations for Club person or Committee positions can be e-mailed to the Secretary on email. <a href="mailto:secretarymtfcv@bigpond.com.au">secretarymtfcv@bigpond.com.au</a>.

We plan to setup a **Zoom link opening at 7.30** to allow members to connect & be ready to start the meeting at 8pm. Please remember to mute yourself after you have established your connection (most important). There were a few minor hiccups at the last meeting ,all part of the learning curve of technology. We are modifying our methods each time as glitches show up. The Zoom moderator will be able to allow you to speak if you desire. The method will be outlined when our meeting starts.

As is usual, our **Annual Club lunch** is set for Sunday 17th July - 12 Noon @ Cardinia Park Hotel, 200 Emerald-Beaconsfield Rd , Beaconsfield. The Hotel is adjacent to the roundabout of Inglis & Payne Roads. NOTE! Please let the a Committee member know if attending, as the Hotel will need numbers etc.

As part of the Club's 40th Anniversary Celebrations, the Committee have decided to acknowledge **our Pioneer/ Foundation members** that still hold current memberships. Our criteria was set from 1980—June 1983. I am very pleased to announce we have 11 members that fit the criteria. We have had certificates produced & intend to present them at the AGM or Club Luncheon. These awards also include an Honorary Membership. Our recipients are, in no particular order:- Vic Ashton, Ivor Austin, Alan Fairnie, Laurie Ford, Barry Hancock, Bill Landy, Ian McLaughlin, Ian Seamer Laurie Wadeson, Colin Wiedemann, and Roger Wotherspoon. Without these & the other pioneers foresight to preserve Ford T's we would not have a Club today! Thanks go to all involved in prior years at 42 years it is a proud achievement!

The **Dubbo National rally** is approaching fast, car preparation is at fever pitch. The event looks to be a excellent rally with 100 odd entries. The **Flathead Ford Festival** is reappearing! The Festival organising committee have set 23rd October @ Caribbean Markets for the event. The event is from 10am - 3pm, entry fee is \$5 per car. Entry is from Stud Rd only. Food & drink available.

Our 2025 Rally Committee are moving ahead with plans & organization. Committee positions & banking are sorted. Funds have been approved & transferred. Rally Director Geof Baulch will be ready to officially launch the rally at Dubbo Nationals in September. Don't forget to share any ideas for major rallies, local runs, drives & outings. Please let the Committee know of any possible rally or 1 day activities so we can fill the event calendar for the next year!

**Melbourne Cup Weekend rally** in Bairnsdale is our next major event following Dubbo Nationals. Swan Reach Caravan park is our headquarters for the weekend. We now have March Labour Day weekend rally set around

Benalla area. This will be hosted by Don & Linda McPherson, so see you there!

I am looking forward to seeing you either at the AGM in person or by our Zoom connection.

Well that's all for now, good health & safe driving,

"See You Over the Running Board"

~Dave & Chez~









# **General Meeting Minutes**



Meeting Opened on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 8:10PM by President David Weatherhead at the Ashburton library Ashburton and via Zoom.

New Members: Nil Visitors: Rachael Brown

Present: 19 as per sign in register, 11 on Zoom

Apologies: Ivor Austin, Bernie McKeegan, Rhonda and Noel Huitt, John and Thelma Huitt

**Confirmation of minutes:** 

Moved: Barry Hancock Seconded: Bill Wallace

**Business arising from minutes: NIL** 

<u>Correspondence In:</u> Emails From AOMC – restoration seminar, postponement of restoration seminar, delegates meeting, group insurance scheme, Country Motor Magazine, Automotive Historians Australia, Lane Auto VIP Day In house emails:

- Federation volunteers for Bendigo Swap
- Backfire magazine, The Side Valve V8 Times magazine
- Bank statements

Correspondence Out: Nil

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

The treasures report was presented to the members by David Jones, <u>seconded</u>: Barry Hancock

<u>COMMITTEE MEETING:</u> Committee discussed club finances, permit register is now up to date, Vic Roads signatories, we need more raffles and need to bring back Auction Night. Honour Roll is now updated and on club website, Club lunch has been organised, advertising rates to be increased, people to volunteer for Bendigo Swap, club clothing

#### Reports

#### **Delegate's Reports:**

- AOMC: The restorers seminar has been postponed
- Federation: Geof Baulch gave a brief report. Full report will be in this copy of magazine.

For Sale: Evelyn Hill has some parts for sale. Please see the "For Sale" section of this magazine.

**BALLARAT 2025 RALLY:** Geof and Jo Baulch are our rally directors. There is now a name and logo for the rally. They are looking at a digital online booking system, which will have a small fee of 30c or 40c per credit card transaction. Rally will be approx. \$250.00 per car and driver plus extra for passengers.

#### **General Business:**

- Ballarat rally: Geof and Jo Baulch, the rally directors, have written a letter to the club asking for a \$10,000.00 start up cost. They will need to make a presentation at the Dubbo rally in September. Profits made will be returned to the club.
- David Jones moved that \$10,000.00 be moved out of investment account. This was seconded by Barry Hancock. There were no questions. The vote was unanimous.
- Secretary of Ballarat rally is Maree Hadden and Treasurer is Cheryl Weatherhead.
- Advertising in TTorque: Henry's going to take a full page, Andrew Phillips RV Repair Centre is taking half a page with Shannon's. We are putting up advertising to raise funds to make printing of magazine more cost effective. David Weatherhead and Chris Dillon also have advertisements but we still do have some room. Please contact a committee member or Warwick Landy if you would like to advertise.
- Our club Facebook page was brought up. We are trying to decide if just for our club or is it open to anyone. Jo will speak to Warwick to clear this up.
- There are 22 members with no email.
- We have club hats for sale for \$12.50. If you're interested, please contact Geof or Jo Baulch.

Next Meeting/Activity: AGM

Raffle Draw: Drawn by: Cheryl Weatherhead, Won by: Brian Smith, Prize selected: Snatch cable

Meeting Closed: 9:00pm

# Club Calendar 2022





**CLUB MEETING:** 15 8PM (Note: 3rd Fri of month due to library availability) AGM & Supper Night

**CLUB EVENT:** Annual Club LUNCH - 12 Noon @ Cardinia Park Hotel, 17

200 Emerald-Beaconsfield Rd. Beaconsfield



**CLUB MEETING:** 12 8рм

13 9AM Safety Day, Dillon's Motors, Ringwood CLUB EVENT:

28 **Federation Picnic, Marong** OTHER EVENT:



CLUB MEETING: 9 **8PM** 

CLUB EVENT: Club Swap Meet, 9am, Dillon's Motors Ringwood

25 Sep — Oct 1 National T Rally 20T2, Dubbo, NSW.



**CLUB MEETING:** 14 8РМ

**CLUB EVENT:** 28 Oct – 1 Nov, Cup Weekend Rally - East Gippsland, (Bairnsdale & District)

> 23 'Flathead Ford Festival', Carribean Markets, 10-3pm, \$5 per car



**CLUB MEETING:** 14 8рм

**CLUB EVENT:** 28 Oct – 1 Nov. Cup Weekend Rally - East Gippsland, (Bairnsdale & District)

12 - 13 Bendigo Swap Meet



**CLUB MEETING:** 9 8РМ

**CLUB EVENT:** T & A Christmas Party — tbc

# Next General Meeting — Friday July 15 at the library (also via 'Zoom'!)





# Club Permit Renewals



Club permit renewals must be signed by the club permit holder and an authorised MTFCV officer to confirm that the permit holder is a current member of the club. Members having vehicles permitted through MTFCV must be a financial member. If you no longer own or have the listed vehicle on red plates, please contact the secretary. Ann Cupid, 0427 984797

secretary@mtfcv.com

July

August

Chris Cansdale 09187H

September Geoffrey Brooke 7376

Geof Baulch 546A-H Paul Daley 988, 752 Chris Dillon CH4195

Bernie McKeegan 08777H Malcom Moors 1506

Peter Natoli 7-636

Brendan Pell 1318H9

Dorothy Reddick 7389 Peter Rutley 8083

Bill Wallace 5922

Robert Dalton 5110 David Dare 799 Alan Flude 4590 Russell Hughes 834 Malcom Moors 3478 Norman Morgan 6278 John Morrison 6692 Linda Phillips 1568H2 Brian Smith 5494, 5111

David Weatherhead 158BH

Dean Williams 5415

Bruce Csorba 5251 Paul Daley 791 Alan Fairnie 3550 Barry Hancock 3719 Noel Huitt 45515H Rodney Kieseker 8201 Peter Natoli 6202 Andrew Phillips 09594H, 73804H, 73805H Linda Phillips 84347H, 4193H7, 96801H Gregory Russell 6100

Scott Staples 316 David Weatherhead 4378



# 'Under the Hood' by the Editor



Greetings Members,

Our Top end Northern Territory holiday was a wonderful experience but is was not nice to return to the Arctic blast July cold! Good weather for holing up inside by the heater and writing some T Torque material.

I hope all members have been enjoying the member profiles that have been shared up to date. Please take the time to share one with us from yourself. The variety and content of those that have been shared up to date has provided some great reading. A typical profile may contain some words about your working career, how you came to be involved in the



Model T Club, something about your favourite T event attended, and of course something about your car!

We would be pleased to receive more content at any time, particularly with regard to the newsy bits column that has been appearing. Any birthdays or anniversaries of club members of note, local event attended, newspaper clipping, Facebook content. Please forward to the editor for inclusion.

It is a pleasure this month to share a profile from James Wotherspoon. The Wotherspoon family have been part of the T Club for many years with Roger serving in many capacities on the club committee, including President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary for a number of years. Roger and James are the only father and son combination to serve on the club committee at the same time which they did in 2002.

Until next month, keep touring in your T's and I hope to catch you in person at the annual club lunch.

Email your contributions to <a href="mailto:ttorquenews@hotmail.com">ttorquenews@hotmail.com</a> or send to the club mailbox.

— Warwick Landy



# **'Zoom Zoom' Update**



During the Covid lockdowns it became necessary for the club to put in place new functions and technologies to ensure the club remained active and communicative to members. Zoom, pre Covid, was not something many of our members were familiar with, but have since adapted and integrated Zoom into many aspects of work and family life. Like anything, the more you use it and practice with it, the better it gets.

The use of Zoom at general meetings has been an evolving process, with several challenges. Initial Zoom calls hosted by the club with online participants only, proved to be a great success. It was wonderful to have regular long-distance participation from regional members such as Peter Ninnis, Glenys Moors, and Evelyn Hill, just to name a few. The ability to show virtual tours, host international guest speakers and share online videos is a big bonus for the club.

Combining general meetings at the club library and Zoom meetings has provided more of a challenge. The meeting room equipment allows for the video and audio of the zoom call participants to be displayed in the room. The caller's audio can be heard on room speakers, however, for the callers to hear the meeting room participants required the purchase of a room microphone to be set up. This has proven to work effectively, but unfortunately

the library Internet connection does not allow for lengthy connections and multiple participants. This problem has been solved by connecting to a mobile phone plan with unlimited data and hotspot connection. This technology requires some change and the willingness of the executive to adapt and learn to build a better club and allow greater participation. Part of the process will be to have a call administrator to oversee the call so the President can focus on running the meeting.

Hopefully all problems have now been solved, and we look forward to having all those that have previously participated in a Zoom meeting to again jump back on for the July AGM. As you log in to the meeting be sure to mute yourself on the call unless you are invited by the chairman to speak. Zoom meeting notification and link will continue to be sent out with your T Torque.



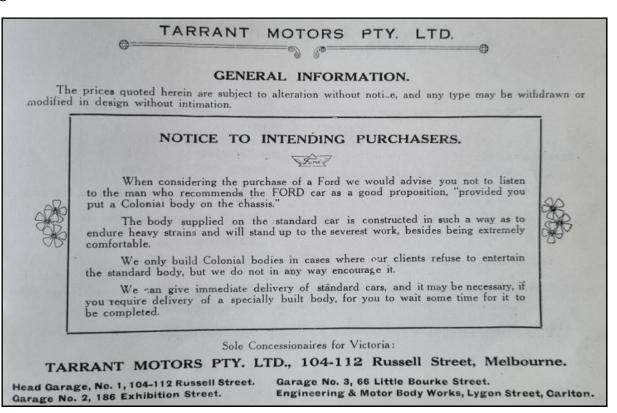
I finally remember what Zoom meetings remind me of!



# The Tarrant Story continued...



It has been awhile since the first T Torque we put together and the promise of more articles about our own Victorian Ford agent, body builders and distributors, *Tarrants*. Finally getting back to something Tarrant, is a copy of the first page from the full 1915 advertising catalogue. The notice to impending purchasers is interesting reading.





Also we have a contribution from South Australian T Historian, David Chantrell, providing a copy of the winter Motoring add, courtesy of the State library of Victoria archives.

Do you own a Tarrant body T? To support future articles on this subject we would love to receive photos and history of your car featured in this space.

Contributions to torquenews@hotmail.com or to the club mailbox—thankyou!



# **Technical Tip**



# 'How I Straighten Model T Ford Axle/Diff Housings' — by Robbie Dalton

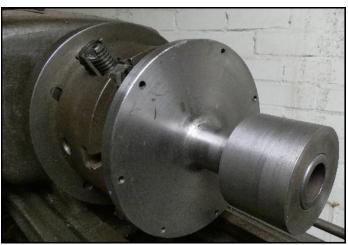
Some years ago, I purchased a dismantled Ruckstell Diff. It came with some new parts and some good parts that were used. The housings had been masked up and repainted so I thought that they would be good.

When I finally got around to looking at it prior to assembly, I found that the Ruckstell housing was badly bent. After a lot of in depth thinking, mainly while supposedly working or driving, I decided that I would need to manufacture a fixture to enable me to straighten it. As I don't have a press, that option was out of the equation. I decided to fabricate and machine a fixture that would mount in my lathe. This would then line up both bearings in the axle housings, the inner bearing at the headstock in my fixture and the outer bearing in a live centre in the tailstock.

The diff end of the housing is bolted to a machined face of the fixture with a protruding spigot to slide into the bearing opening, after the Hyatt sleeve has been removed.



This is the fixture that holds a standard axle housing. The axle housing bolts to the flange and the extension slides insides where the bearing sleeve would normally be.



The same fixture but with a bush on the bearing spigot to fit where the ball bearing race inside the Ruxstell housing normally fits.



When rotating the chuck of the lathe by hand the outer end of the axle housing will either run true or out of alignment with the live centre.

If running out, I then work out where the bend is and mark with chalk. I then heat it up and push the outer end of the housing over with a steel bar in the tool post using the cross slide of the lathe. It needs to line up with the live centre I made. Sometimes it needs to be pushed past centre a little to allow for spring back when it cools down. I did try the heat and shrink method but that was a bit too technical for me! When I am happy with the result, I remove it and clean out the axle housings with a long length of multi strand steel wire (Old clothes line)

in a battery drill. It really gets going when on high speed and removes any scale from the heating process. Then a blow out with compressed air and a wipe out with an oily rag. A squirt of paint on the outside and all should be good.

So far it all seems good as I have done a few now. Thanks to Borg Sorenson for use of his lathe to turn down the outside of the face plate (Mine was a bit small), Russell Medhurst for some steel for the live centre and Alan Flude for the photography. If I can help anyone with straightening a housing please let me know.



# **Technical Tip**



# 'How I Straighten Model T Ford Axle/Diff Housings'

by Robbie Dalton



Live centre in the outer housing bearing opening, sitting right up on the taper ready to spin and check for straightness.



# **NOTICE TO MEMBERS**

# Annual Subscriptions 2022-2023

The recommendation by the treasurer at last AGM 2021 was that our fees rise to:

- \$55 emailed T Torque or...
- \$70.00 for Printed/Posted T Torque copy.

This recommendation was taken by Committee starting as of July 2022 & on. If you intend paying the Subs early, please pay at updated rates. If you have paid prior to this notice could you contact the treasurer to correct any balance outstanding.

Subscriptions are due annually in July

## **BANK DEPOSIT:**

BSB: 083-004 Account Number: 03-923-0022 National Australia Bank Please put <u>your name</u> as a reference.

#### **CHEQUE PAYMENT:**

Must be made to: <u>'Model T Ford Club</u> of Victoria' (NOT MTFCV)



Standard housing and Ruxstell housing set up in the jig, checking for straight.



# **Federation Meeting Minutes**



# Federation Meeting—14/05/2022

The meeting opened at 1.00pm after a light lunch put on by the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Colac Scout Group with the previous meetings minutes read which was by Zoom and all matters relating to the meeting were dealt with, the business of this meeting was opened.

- First it was the Club Permit Scheme Review update by DOT where they indicated new application forms would be available when placing a vehicle on CPS. Also there is a requirement for VIN numbers on imported cars before a set date (in the 1980s).
- AHMF update: Their AGM will be held in September in Sydney. If Delegates or Clubs have issues to go onto the Agenda please let the Federation members know. These have to be National Issues not state specific. Zero emissions from 2050 which is to start from 2030 will be one of the main issues discussed.
- The National Motoring Day was held on 15<sup>th</sup> May and all recorded as went well.
- Open Tour: We were to hold one in 2020 but COVID stopped that so the next one is to run in 2023 and 2025.
- Australian Tax Office Changes: Not for Profit organisations that are carrying their own self-assessment for income tax should become aware of new requirements from the ATO. These will apply for the tax year starting 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023. If you assess as income tax exempt you will need to submit a self review return each year.
- Peter McCallum Hospital Fundraiser: We are looking to hold an event for vehicle, trucks, bikes, tractors and machinery at The Bendigo Show Grounds in early April 2023. This would be a 2 day display.
- 2022 Events: Bendigo-Castlemaine event 27<sup>th</sup> August, Marong Picnic 28<sup>th</sup> August 2022, Bendigo Swap 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November is a go ahead event. Baw Baw Picnic 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022
- Bendigo Swap is definitely on, planning is well underway and volunteers are needed. Enrolment forms have been sent to all Clubs so please help out if you can. We have investigated another site for the Swap but it lacked shedding and space for our event.
- The Golden Oldies Event went well, they left from the Wunghnu Picnic on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- Next Meetings: Shepparton/Congupna 6<sup>th</sup> August, Baw Baw/Warragul 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Meeting Closed 2.42pm with afternoon tea Regards, — Geof Baul

VICTORIAN CIVIL AMBULANCE

CENTRAL THEVICTORIAN

TO 2.

CIVIL AMBULANCE SERVICE

S JAN ANGULANCE ASSOCIATION.

1923 T model Ford ambulance outside the old Melbourne hospital in Lonsdale Street.

Model T Ford ambulance photo contributed by Russell Medhust.

Perhaps a visit to the ambulance museum by our club would be a good event?



# **Member Profile**



# James Wotherspoon

Our association with Ford goes back to the early days of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century when J. R. Wotherspoon opened a car dealership as an extension of the other parts of the family business in Beaufort Victoria. They not only dealt in Fords but also De Dion. Prior to Ford offering dealerships in 1925, the business would buy Model Ts from Tarrant Motors in Melbourne and drive them back to Beaufort. In 1925 when Ford established dealerships across Australia, J.R Wotherspoon and Co were being accredited with being the first Ford dealership in Australia.



The Tarrant Tourer, the TT Truck and my 1915 Tourer project.

My father, Roger Wotherspoon, had wanted a Model T for a number of years. In 1982 mum's cousin said that he had a Model T Truck sitting in his shed. It was in pretty sad shape, but it was largely complete and completely original. Negotiations began and shortly thereafter we were arranging to bring the 1926 C Cab Truck back to Glen Iris. Restoration began in earnest and as a 10-year-old, I had no concept of how long a process this was going to take. In my mind, we would have it back on the road in a matter of weeks. The restoration of this truck took around 6 years. In 1988 we took the truck on its first rally. It was to Williamstown, South Wharf (when it was still being used as a Wharf) and to the Polly Woodside. What made it so memorable was that Dad and the neighbour from up the street were in the cab, and 3 teenage boys sat on a makeshift bench seat across the tray. Going over the Westgate Bridge on the back of the truck was something I'll never forget, and nowadays would likely see DOCS paying a visit to mum and dad.

In 1984 as the truck was progressing, Mum commented that she wouldn't ride in the truck as it didn't have doors. Those of you that knew Mum, know that once she had made up her mind, no amount of persuasion, pleading or coercion would ever get her to change her mind. The decision was made to buy another Model T, one that had doors. A friend in Swan Hill told us about a neighbour who had a Model T and parts on the property. I



The T Trailer project. Was sold to Club member Bruce Csorba and is now owned by the editor!

remember seeing dog kennels made from Model T bonnets and a very early veteran chassis and motor propped on its side against the shed wall. In the shed was an unrestored 1923 3 door tourer. It was in remarkably good condition. A price was agreed upon and the deal was done, we were going to go back in a couple of weeks with a trailer to pick it up. The deal fell through after the seller was told by a friend in Sydney that he sold the car too cheap. His new price was twice the original asking price and we walked away from the deal. This prompted us to look at other alternatives.



# **Member Profile**



# James Wotherspoon continued...

Not long after this, a beautiful 1924 Tarrant Deluxe came up for sale at Shannons. This was to become Mum's car; she loved the car and drove it like she'd stolen it. Back then she was one of very few women in Victoria who drove Model Ts. I remember the day when we picked up the car from Shannons, we had Alan Fairnie help us bring it home. The trip home was eventful with the car running poorly; years later we would work out that the vacuum tank was the source of the problem. That Tarrant now resides in my garage and is on club registration. As an interesting aside, I drove this car home from the T Time 89 national rally after Mum had injured her back. I'd only had my learners permit for 10 days at that stage (5 of those we were on the rally). Driving a Model T 260km from Wangaratta through the city to



Body frame from the Tourer project has found a new home and this neat commercial body has been built by James

Glen Iris was a baptism of fire. All of that with less than 1 hour driving experience.

For my 13<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1985, mum and dad gave me my first Model T project, a 1920 rolling chassis purchased from Ian Smith in Footscray. When we were cleaning it up we established that it was actually a Palm. As we pulled it apart we noticed every trace of Ford had been removed, even down to the triple gears in the transmission. Over the next 6 years we restored it, basing it loosely on a Manchester styled baker's van. In the mid 1990s, Ferguson Plarre bakery



approached me to have it sign written in their company livery. They did an amazing paint job and it spent quite a bit of time visiting different Ferguson Plarre stores and shopping centres. When it came time to sell the van in 2004, they were the obvious first choice. I'm not sure where the car is now, but I suspect that it's sitting in a warehouse somewhere.

I've always had a passion for early Ts and in 1994 I had an opportunity to buy the bare bones of a 1915 Tourer from Andrew Brand. I still have this 1915, I've spent a lot of time and money to ensure that it is period correct for 1915. Andrew Brand and the late Neil Feldtman were great sources of information, especially when I needed to carbon date the right pieces to put on the project. Today the '15 is mechanically restored, but the body still needs a little bit of work. It sits over at Dad's place approx. 75% restored, the distance between the two houses and a lack of motivation is stopping it from being completed. Maybe one day I'll summons the energy to get it completed.



# **Member Profile**



# James Wotherspoon continued...

We've had a long association with the MTFCV. Dad joined the MTFCV back in early 1983, just before the very first national rally held in Parkes NSW. Dad has held numerous positions on the committee including President, Treasurer, Secretary and general committee position. I joined the club in my own right in 1990, during that time I've held the role of secretary, general committee and was part of the original start up committee for the 2008 Centenary rally.

Whilst I still have a love for Model Ts, I also have a couple of other projects that I have fun with. Over the journey I've had a number of Morris and Leyland Minis, doing a full nut and bolt restoration of my 1966 Mini Deluxe. Driving this is fun, it keeps up with modern traffic and I can stop in a hurry if I need to.

My other newer projects are Honda Z50 motorbikes. Between Angus and I, we've got a couple of them, a 1975 Z50 J1 and a 1982 Z50R. These were bought for something for Angus and I to work on during the 262 days of lock down. These too have been fun little beasts – when they're not trying to kill me.



The 1916 Project before restoration

# A little more abut the rear cover photo form June T Torque...





The rear page photo for June T Torque featured the picture on the left. A happy couple in transit on the outback South Australian station, Yadlamanka. The car is possibly a cut down 1912 tourer, with all that is remaining being the upper front seat section. Of note is the spectacular accessory Livingston radiator and the external cross drive magneto set up. Photo 2, is clearly later in the journey with car bogged to the rear axle in mud and the sad looking female passenger on the roadside.

Yadlamanka is still a thriving cattle and sheep farm offering guests the opportunity to stay over. The text below outlines the current day operations of the station. I wonder if the remains of the T are still there?

"The main homestead was built in the 1920's replacing the earlier one from the 1860's. The property has been with the family since the 1890's. Most stations are stock specific, however we have both sheep and cattle on Yadlamalka which is just under 1000 square kilometres in size. Our place is located in the Far North region of South Australia and lies at the southern tip of Lake Torrens, the second largest salt lake in the southern hemisphere. It is 60 kilometres north of Port Augusta City, on the western side of the Flinders Ranges. Evening sunsets highlight the spectacular ridge-tops of the ranges. We can accept people all year round and given that we are just north of the Spencer Gulf we tend to be cooler in the summer than other stations."



# **Old Victorian Ford Dealer Garages**



### **Colac Victoria**

In a 2010 edition of T Torque, it was reported that Bill Landy drove his 1910 T to Colac to celebrate its 100th birthday. The trip included photos outside the original owner's house and also the original building of the local Ford dealer from the era, WR Edgar Ford. At the time the assumption was made that this would have been the dealer and building that the 1910 Ford would have been sold new from. While researching looking for more Edgar Ford dealership history to share here, I became aware of another early Ford dealer in Colac, prior to the Edgar Ford Dealer agency.

After finding this original add for Ford cars in Colac and searching further information, it appears another local businessman, Mr Hancox held the Ford sales rights in Colac for some time around 1916. I have been unable to locate any pictures of the building they operated from, but the text from the newspaper report in the Colac Herald, Wednesday November 15, page 4, gives an interesting report on the Ford dealer's stand at the Colac Agricultural Show, 1915.

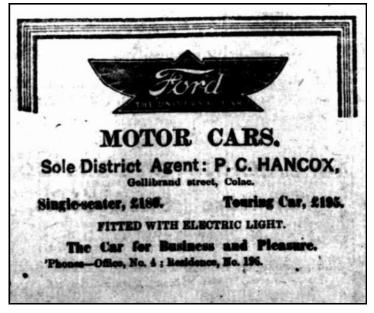
"Mr P. C. Hancox, the local agent for the Ford Motor Cars, had on exhibition a model of a car, minus the body, showing the complete working g parts of the famous Ford cars. The radiator is shown, making clear the method of how the engine is cooled by a thorough circulation of water. The engine four cylinders showed the various parts in operation, demonstrating the mode in which the valves piston, and piston rings are worked. The differential gear was shown, by which the assembled gears are constructed, working in a superior bed of roller bearings, whilst all the gears revolve in a reservoir of oil. The lubrication is most complete, thereby reducing the friction to the least degree of a minimum. The chassis on which the body is attached is of pressed Vanadium steel, and the ingenious design is equalized to carry an average weight. One advantage with these cars are that the Ford Motor Co. only specialise in the one model of car, therefore improvements and parts are all interchangeable, which is a considerable advantage especially to a country purchaser. This company claims to be the largest motor car company in the world, over twenty thousand workmen being employed working two shifts, and the total output for one month was at the rate of 2,000 a day (46510 cars). The price for the single seated cars is £180; the touring model, to seat five being £1 the collection of vehicles of Messrs. Powell and McDougall, of Manners- Sutton-street, Colac, most of which were built to order. Conspicuous



The WR Edgar Ford Dealership Colac, C1924.



Club members pictured outside the original WR Edgar Ford Dealership building, which still exists, and in 2010 was home to a La Porchetta Pizza restaurant.



amongst the exhibit was a bakers' motor delivery wagon, the body of which was built by the firm to the order of Mr.Jas. Thwaites, of Colac. It was mounted on a chassis of the Ford motor; the design of the body was on fine lines and neatly finished, the body of which was painted in Brunswick green, with lettering in gold, and shaded with chrome green. The whole looked very neat and reflected credit on the firm, as the workmanship was of the best."



# Newsy Bits



#### TONY CLARKE'S BIRTHDAY!

Club member Tony Clarke celebrated a birthday in June. Happy birthday Tony from the Model T club! Tony's daughter shared a lovely picture of Tony and his Model T at her wedding as part of her Facebook birthday greetings.





Last month's newsy bits sent our March long weekend hosts, Cam and Belinda Smythe off up north on holiday.

This month the other half of the March long weekend rally hosts, Alan and Caroline Weatherhead have headed off on 3 months of long service leave. They plan to see a fair part of our great country as they travel north and then east by air and west by rail! I assume there will be some vintage machinery for Alan to see in their travels and maybe a Model T or 2? I am sure Caroline will be sure to seek out all the

best coffee places Australia has to offer! Safe travels and we look forward to hearing of their adventures on their return. Maybe a guest speakers at a club meeting??



# TRIP ACROSS AMERICA BY EUROPEAN CONTINGENT



A group of intrepid European Model T enthusiasts are currently half way through a journey from Coast to coast of America in Model T's. After purchasing and storing a bunch of Model Ts, the team flew in from Europe, loaded luggage and headed off. Typically, a bunch of untried and proven newly purchased Ts have been presenting the tour group with daily problems but in true Model T style they are progressing well across the nation with the support of many new Model T friends. Loose spokes, burnt out bands, burnt valves and flat tyres are just some of the issues that have been overcome. Find out more about the tour here...

https://www.facebook.com/FlivverChannel/photos/pcb.315818910763839/315818430763887/

## Henry Ford's 1908-Built Detroit Mansion Is For Sale For \$975K

Looking to invest in a unique piece of Ford history? A Detroit



mansion formerly owned by Henry Ford is on the market! It's not too often that we cover real estate listings on Motor1.com, but we make an exception when an opportunity to own a piece of automotive history is possible. The home Henry Ford built in 1908 in Detroit has come up for sale with an asking price of \$975,000. The home is three stories and offers 7,263 square feet of living space. There are four bedrooms and 4.5 bathrooms. It sits on a 0.77-acre lot. There are all of the amenities you'd expect from an opulent home in the early 20th century. A gorgeous entryway has a mix of wood and stone details. Built-in bookshelves are in several rooms. A walk-in pantry offers space for all of your kitchen supplies. You can imagine Henry Ford in the study working on the fledgling auto company that he founded in 1903. For full details of this unique listing, click here.



# Newsy Bits



# MUSEUM GRANT TO TRAFALGAR HOLDEN MUSEUM!



All participants in the March long weekend rally took the opportunity to visit the Trafalgar Holden Museum.

The Museum had its first ever visit recently from a Victorian State Government Minister. Minister of Agriculture & Regional Development, Ms Mary-Anne Thomas visited THM to announce a major grant to help fund the new Holden Heritage Centre building to be constructed on site. The Museum has been recently gifted a number of significant Heritage Holden Vehicles which will add to the already impressive display and will be housed in the new building. If you are in the area, be sure to drop in and as well as the Holdens, take a look at the Museum's own Model T.



# MODEL T FORD CLUB OF AMERICA NATIONAL TOUR JUST COMPLETED!

MTFCA board member, Kathy Tagert who joined our club meeting zoom call earlier in the year, has been posting daily updates and photos of the week long tour held in Wisconsin. Lots of nice pictures here.



Some of our MTFCV members have taken the time to attend an international tour and all highly recommend it.



Do you have any 'Newsy Bits'?? We are always looking for more! Send to ttorquenews@hotmail.com



# Shepparton Motor Museum Redevelops!

While talking Museums, we are fortunate in Victoria to have numerous

**EXTRA!** motoring museums worth a visit.

Recently featured in the Federation

Newsletter is a very expansive article outlining the redevelopment of the former Shepparton Motor Museum. Redeveloped and rebranded as the 'MOVE', the Museum of Vehicle Evolution, the full story of the redevelopment is featured in the April 2022 AOMC newsletter. Read more here in the <u>April AOMC News...</u>

'Shepparton's Museum of Vehicle Evolution is thriving after a \$6.7 million redevelopment that cements it as a mecca for motoring enthusiasts. The expansion has created 10,000sqm of floorspace including a 900sqm undercover area which is perfect for visiting car clubs to park up on the hard standing. "We want clubs to see MOVE as a rallying" point to explore the Museum but also the region and all it has to offer."

Perhaps the club could plan a future rally to Shepparton to check out this great venue?



The Museum's only Model T on display.

Does anyone recognise it?



# **Upcoming Rallies and Events**



# **ANNUAL CLUB LUNCH**

17th July, 12 noon @Cardinia Park Hotel, 200 Emerald-Beaconsfield Rd, Beaconsfield

The Hotel is adjacent to the Roundabout of Inglis & Payne Roads. NOTE! For bookings please let a Committee member know if attending.



# Marong Picnic - August 28

Normal rules will apply, that it is free to members of Federation VVCC to enter. All others in historic vehicles are welcome but there will be a fee per car. This is a private event and not open to the public. There will be no traffic movement between 10.30am and 1.00pm. Rotary will be onsite providing catering.





# National Rally 20T2 Dubbo



## 25th Sep—1st Oct 2022

National Rally 20T2 Dubbo Entry Information

www.modeltfordclubnsw.org.au Facebook: 20T2 NSW Rally Email: <a href="mailto:rally20t2@gmail.com">rally20t2@gmail.com</a> Don't miss a great national T Model

event!

# Annual Cup Weekend Rally Oct 28- Nov 1, 2022

Our 2022 Cup weekend rally is to be held in the Bairnsdale area and hosted by the *Bairnsdale Classic Car Club*.

Our accommodation will be centred at *Swan Reach Holiday Park*, 2143 Princes Hwy, Swan Reach.

https://www.cpoaus.com.au/caravan-holiday-parks/gallery/swan-reach-gallery/Ph: 03 51564366

The club has arranged for cabins to be held in MTFCV name, so when you book mention you are with the MTFCV group. Swan Reach is 20Km east of Bairnsdale on Princes Hwy and the Holiday Park is over the river east of town centre on the left hand side. We are looking forward to catching up with everyone at this event.





# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SHOW AND SHINE Seven Creeks Park – Euroa Vic.











SUNDAY 2nd October 2022



# T-RAD'N' TABLE



A free trading place to advertise your goods. Note that an ad stays in for two issues unless otherwise advised. All 'For Sales' must include prices. Vehicles for sale must include engine number or registration number (not club permit number), by law. Publication of ads does not constitute endorsement of price, condition or authenticity by the club. Please send your ads to the Editor at ttorquenews@hotmail.com

#### **FOR SALE:**

## 1924 Model T Van Project

Needs mudguards, valance, radiator, bonnet, headlights and battery to finish. Has all running gear including starter motor. Modernised electrical system. 5 new tyres. Eng. No. C484966. \$13,250.—PRICE REDUCTION!

Contact Phil Ruge: 0408994952



#### **FOR SALE:**



Model T FORD Circa 1922 Engine Number C 427566
Unrestored "Barn Find" condition. From Harrow, Victoria, and prior, believed to be from Towitta and the Eyre Peninsula, South Australia. Original[?] rear. Registration plate '29:761'. A hazy plaque on Firewall says "DUNCAN MOTORS DISTRIBUTOR"

Originally a 4 Door Towar converted to a Lite in the best Austin

Originally a 4 Door Tourer converted to a Ute, in the best Aussie farming tradition, very early in its life. Upon purchase 8 years ago, the Engine was freed up and de-sludged. Head cleaned with valves cleaned. New gasket set fitted including Head and Sump. New wiring loom partly installed. New king pins and front wheel bearings fitted. Trembler Coils have been serviced and repaired. Engine and radiator holds water.

Ready for original fuel tank connection to Carby prior to a "halleluiah" re Start after 25-30 years of dormancy.

#### Price is \$12,500 ONO

Includes half a dozen spare wheels, a few other bits and pieces and an original Model T Ford jack.

Email enquiries first please to Darren Overend at <a href="mailto:ove@bonapark.com">ove@bonapark.com</a>, then inspections to suit for collection in Brighton East.







#### **WANTED TO BUY:**

We are on the hunt for a few more items to progress our project, 1927 Roadster.

Front spring (flatter type), hood shelves, top irons & bows, front seat, original condition would be fine.

Thanks Contact Chris Bagot: 0407 827671

#### **FOR SALE:**

1926 Roadster ute project. All original roadster ute panels, not cut-down tourer. (incl. Bonnet, r/boards, aprons and guards) to suit "As found" style car. Wire wheels and hubs. Complete motor unit #TK1006. Complete windscreen. Chassis and axles etc. Don't have correct hood irons, have some that may do. (Could build roof?). No Seats. Needs complete rewooding (whole timber sub frames can be bought in NSW) Comes with very sound wood pick-up bed with lovely iron work. \$4500 (Many photos can be sent)

Contact Bruce Csorba: 0425 749 273 doodlebugt@gmail.com





PO Box 383 Chadstone Centre, Victoria, 3148, Australia <u>mtfcv.com</u>

#### **Committee**

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03 53424837

AOMC:

Bernie McKeegan (Jill)

0418 543939

# Membership

The club welcomes new members who have an interest in the Model T Ford.

Members receive 11 monthly editions of the Model T Torque newsletter. The Model T Ford Club participates in and administers the VicRoads Club Permit Scheme.

Members have access to a full register of Model T owners and their vehicles.

A full calendar of club activities including monthly meetings, annual rallies and other motoring events is planned annually. Generally, three annual rallies over the traditional, March, June and November public holiday weekends are planned in Regional Victorian locations for member participation. The club conducts an annual Model T only, cars and parts Swap Meet.

Member participation in other club gazetted events is also encouraged.

## Meetings

General meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of each month (except January) at **8pm** at the **Ashburton Library Meeting Room**, **(**154 High Street, Ashburton) and / or via 'Zoom' online. Meetings start promptly and usually include a guest speaker and informal supper. They conclude at approximately 10pm.

# **Annual Subscriptions**

\$55 (emailed newsletters)

\$70 (newsletters printed & posted)

Subscriptions are due annually in July.

### **BANK DEPOSIT:**

\*BSB: 083-004

\*Account Number: 03-923-0022

\*National Australia Bank

Please put <u>your name</u> as a reference.

Payment by cheque must be made to:

'Model T Ford Club of Victoria' (NOT MTFCV)

#### **Club Information**

The Model T Ford Club of Victoria (MTFCV) was formed in 1980 and is aimed at encouraging and promoting Model T Fords, to help in the restoration of Model T's, and to create a register of Model T owners.

Opinions expressed in articles appearing in this publication should not be taken as necessarily representing the official view of the club. No responsibility whatever can be accepted in respect of the conclusions or terms expressed therein. In no event will the club, or authors of articles in this publication be liable for direct, indirect, credential or consequential damages resulting from any reliance placed on this material by any real or legal person or persons. - The Model T Ford Club of Victoria Inc.

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Chapter Member of the Model T Ford Club of America P.O. Box 996, Richmond, IN 47375-0996, USA. (<a href="www.mtfca.com">www.mtfca.com</a>) and the Model T Ford Club International P.O. Box 355, Hudson, NC, 28638-0355, USA., (<a href="www.modelt.org">www.modelt.org</a>). Both clubs produce excellent magazines (Vintage Ford, Model T Times) and the Model T Ford Club encourages membership of both organisations.







# **Our Valued Sponsors**









~ Model T Specialist ~ R.W.C.~

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This photo is displayed in the town store and service station in the main street of Dargo Victoria in the Eastern Victorian high country. The caption reads, "Local Graziers arrive in Dargo from Bairnsdale in their 1916 Model T Ford to inspect their herds."

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