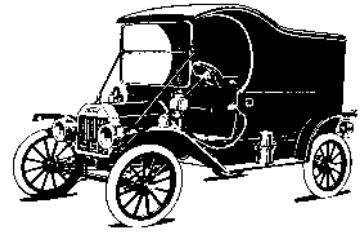




# "model T" Torque



The Newsletter of The Model T Ford Club of Victoria (Inc.)  
Reg. No. A0000819S

Web: [mtfcv.com](http://mtfcv.com)  
Facebook: [Model T Ford Club of Victoria](https://www.facebook.com/ModelTFordClubofVictoria)

Volume 47

NUMBER 11

December 2025



*This is our 1924 Model T Pickup. We have had it for around 25 years. It's still on full rego I love driving it as it seems to just make people of all ages smile. Every year we head down to Montrose Xmas tree farm to do our pick up. y all remember it there. I do also sometime do the school kids drop off and pick up and maybe the office lunch run. Dillions Motors has been a great help in the past keeping it running great. Happy safe Xmas to all! — Michael Trewin*

*"Christmas stands for the human factor which makes life tolerable midst the hurry of commerce and production.  
-- Henry Ford --*

## **IN THIS ISSUE...**

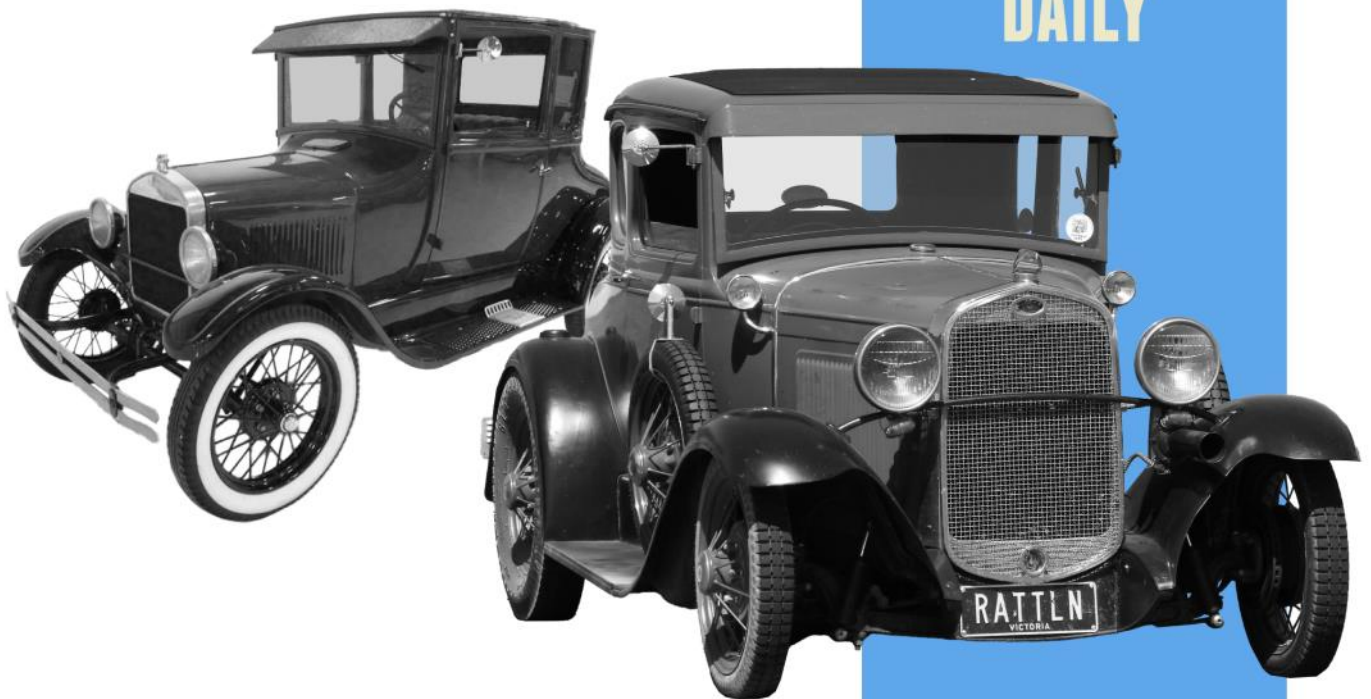
- Alan Flude member profile (Part 2)
- A Special Restoration story-1926 Roadster
- Bendigo and T Club Swap reports

## **NEXT MEETING: December 12, 8pm**

- An update on all things financial for the club from a club accountant
- Christmas Pizza Supper and Socialising  
Vintage Drivers Club Rooms,  
Factory 8, 41 Norcal Road, Nunawading



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## RESTORATION & HOT ROD PROJECTS

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## President's Message



**G**reetings to all Members,  
Hoping you are all well and ready for Christmas. This year has gone so fast as we had a fairly busy start and probably with the lead up to the National Rally made for an interesting time.

In November our Sub Committee met to review our club constitution and bylaws and have settled on some issues that needed addressing. It proved to be a worthwhile effort. Thankyou to all of the subcommittee members for their input and effort to resolving this matter. We look forward to sharing these proposed changes with members at an upcoming meeting.

The club's swap meet held at Dillons Workshop on Nov 9th was another enjoyable day. Thankyou to Dean, master BBQ cook. A Big Thankyou to Chris for providing his workshop premises for the event and service on the day.

Next was the Bendigo Swap Meet making November this year a busy month.

Special thanks to our Secretary Ann and Dean for manning the sight once again, as they do each year. Much appreciated.

Whilst Thelma and I manned it on the Sunday, it was fairly quiet, but we had a great weekend. While we are talking about swap meets, we heard a whisper that Ballarat Swap Meet is returning next year.

By the time you read this report, we will have had our combined T & A Christmas Party at Ashburton and we hopefully will have retained the Cup for the most Ts!

**Events** : 18th January. **Cruden Farm Festival of Motoring**. Always a fantastic day, so hopefully we all have our reservation ticket done by December 7th.



The 26th January. is the **Australia Day Picnic** at the Maroondah Dam, Healesville that Chris Dillon has welcomed us to. Chris has to arrive early to reserve the rotunda at the park. Thanks Chris.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for their help & support over the last year and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy & healthy 2026 from Thelma & myself.

That's all for now, so from over another running board,

— John & Thel —



**Top:** At our Christmas gathering on Sunday it was unfortunately time to hand over the 'Most Cars in Attendance' trophy to the A Club.

**Above:** Raffle and speech time at the Christmas party.





## November General Meeting Minutes



Friday 14th November 2025 — Meeting opened at 8:00PM by President John Huitt at the VDC rooms, and via Zoom.

**New Members:** Nil

**Attendance:** 16 present at VDC rooms and 4 on Zoom

**Apologies:** Dave Weatherhead, Geof Baulch, Noel and Rhonda Huitt, Robbie Dalton, Alan Flude, Bruce Csorba, Peter Ninnis, John Fotakis

**Confirmation of Minutes:** N/A **Moved:** -Orlando Talamo **Seconded:** -Steve Brown

**Business arising from Minutes:** Nil

**Tonight's Meeting:** Quick meeting, then a social night

### **Correspondence**

**In:** Email: AOMC bulletin

**MAIL:** Backfire magazine, The Vintage Ford magazine

**Out:** Nil

### **REPORTS**

- **Treasurer's Report:** N/A

### **Last Month's Rally Report:**

- ♦ Thelma Huitt gave a report on the Club Swap Meet at Dillon's Motors. We had 26 people turn up. It was a great day with great people and great food. Thanks for once again letting us use your premises Chris.
- ♦ **Swap Meets / Clearing Sales Reports:** N/A

**Upcoming Swap Meets:** 15th-16th November Bendigo Swap Meet, 16<sup>th</sup> November Cobden Swap Meet, 23<sup>rd</sup> November Wangaratta Swap Meet, 30<sup>th</sup> November Malden Swap Meet, 6<sup>th</sup> December Geelong Collectables Swap Meet, 7<sup>th</sup> December Geelong Swap Meet

### **DELEGATE'S REPORT:**

- ♦ **AOMC:** No AOMC delegate here tonight
- ♦ **FEDERATION:** No Geof Baulch tonight

**THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITY/RUN:** Bendigo Swap Meet

**TECHNICAL TIPS AND QUERIES:** Brian had the adjustable transmission nut on backwards, he took it off to put it on the correct way but dropped it in the sump. He tried everything to get it out, magnets, tipping it upside down, he tried everything. Eventually he said "Gosh darn it. I'm going to mow the lawn". He came back an hour later and got it out first go. So this month's technical tip, if your Model T is getting the better of you, go mow your lawn.

**RESTORATION PROGRESS:** Dean William's '22 Tarant Roadster will hopefully be painted in a month

**PARTS WANTED:** N/A

**FOR SALE:** N/A











**GENERAL BUSINESS:** We received an email back from the South Australian rally Committee saying they have considered our request to change the dates of the 2027 rally. They have acknowledged the issues outlined in our letter and assured us had been considered in the early planning stage. It continues to be their Committee's view that the advantages of the existing schedule outweigh the disadvantages. It would also cause considerable disruption at this stage for external stakeholders to make any alterations.



**NEXT MEETING ACTIVITY:** Talk from tax man and Christmas Breakup

**RAFFLE DRAW:** **DRAWN BY:** David White, **WON BY:** Steve Brown, **PRIZE SELECTED:** Car care cleaning kit

**MEETING CLOSED:** 8:34PM



 <b>Club Calendar 2025 / 2026</b> 			
 <b>December</b>	<u>CLUB MEETING:</u>	12	8pm Christmas Break-up - Pizza Supper!!
	<u>CLUB EVENT:</u>	7	T & A Christmas Party
 <b>January</b>	<u>CLUB MEETING:</u>	No meeting	
	<u>CLUB EVENT:</u>	18	Cruden Farm Festival of Motoring, details <a href="#">here</a> , entries close Dec 7
 <b>February</b>		26	Australia Day Rally Maroondah Dam picnic
	<u>OTHER EVENTS:</u>	11	Korumburra Swap Meet
 <b>March</b>	<u>CLUB MEETING:</u>	13	8pm— Talk by 'Peter Natoli' - Electrical Stuff!
	<u>CLUB EVENT:</u>	15	T Run Narbathong Pub for lunch (Dean Williams)
 <b>April</b>	<u>OTHER EVENTS:</u>	6-8	Longwarry Heritage Vehicle and Truck Display
	<u>CLUB MEETING:</u>	13	8pm
 <b>May</b>	<u>CLUB EVENT:</u>	27-30	Echuca / Moama Rally
	<u>OTHER EVENTS:</u>	8	Yarra Glen Swap
 <b>June</b>		29	Kalorama Rally, All Ford Day, Mortlake Federation Picnic
	<u>CLUB MEETING</u>	10	8pm
 <b>July</b>	<u>CLUB EVENTS:</u>	12	Coffee Run / Garage Crawl to Andrew & Linda Phillips
	<u>OTHER EVENTS:</u>	18	AOMC Heritage Festival, Steam Centre Scoresby
	<u>CLUB MEETING</u>	8	8pm
	<u>CLUB EVENTS:</u>	TBA	
	<u>OTHER EVENTS:</u>	23-24	Historic Winton
	<u>CLUB MEETING</u>	12	8pm
	<u>CLUB EVENTS:</u>	TBA	
	<u>OTHER EVENTS:</u>	TBA	
	<u>CLUB MEETING:</u>	10	8pm General Meeting—activity to be confirmed
	<u>CLUB EVENT:</u>		Annual Club Lunch TBC

 <b>Club Permit Renewals</b> 			
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>Ann Cupid, 0427 984797</b>  <a href="mailto:secretary@mtfcv.com">secretary@mtfcv.com</a></p> <p>If members need a permit signed &amp; can't meet a safety officer in person, mail the permit with a stamped self addressed envelope to a safety officer.</p>	<b>December</b>		
	David Beaty 6967 Paul Daley 7870 Chris Dillon 2106H4, 8037H5 Bob Draper 342 Norman Morgan 6155 Kirsten Morton 481 Andrew Phillips 4731 Linda Phillips 52322H, 77872H, 87725H David Weatherhead 3035H		
	<b>January</b>		
	Stephen Brown 660 Peter Brown 8009 Paul Daley 983 Justin Deakon 513EH John Huitt 12239H Andrew Phillips 20526H Linda Phillips 67029H, 89755H, 89754H, 89753H, 10905H Cher Wallace 46GH-6 David Weatherhead 54598H		
	<b>February</b>		
	Geoffrey Brooke 6417 Peter Brown 7396 Paul Daley 774 John Docker 5814 Phillip Dorne 7253 Alan Flude 7408H8 Laurie Ford 7430 Noel Huitt 06072H Linda Phillips 2674H3, 96456H, 34052H Gregory Russell 8401 Bruce Weatherhead 3135		



## Under the Hood - Editorial



**G**reetings Members,  
As I write this, we have just returned from another very successful gathering of the combined A & T Clubs' Christmas Party at Ashburton.

Fortunately the weather cooperated and we had a very pleasant afternoon enjoying the company of both clubs members and the display of vehicles. Even a non-member, local, enjoyed the club gathering and the food and drinks that weren't exactly there for random neighbourhood drop-ins was enjoyed by her! Her visit was taken in good spirit by the members and will be talked about for years to come!

As we travelled home we reflected on just how many Christmas parties and venues we have attended over the years. I was not able to recall when exactly we started to enjoy the company of the A club but it was certainly a good initiative of whoever set that up well over 30 years ago. Can anyone recall who it was? In the march of progress some of the venues such as the Berwick Airfield where a few very successful Christmas parties were held, has been swallowed up by suburbia! Christmas rally reporting and photos will be included in February T Torque.

Our club constitution and by laws review has made great progress and should be ready for adoption by the club in the new year. As the subcommittee worked through the project it became very apparent how the world has changed in a short time as we worked through addressing such things as how the club handles social media, privacy laws, online meeting participation and various other subjects. The group had a very lengthy meeting to ratify all the changes look forward to presenting it to the members in the new year for adoption.

We thank you all for your support during the year with photos and articles which of course is what makes up this publication! Some editions have run a bit close to the wire with regard to filling our allocated pages but we have always gotten over the line with a few last minute callouts for content!

Over your Christmas break if you are out in the T or in your workshop doing some restoration be sure to take a few pictures and write us a few lines to share with the members.

Paula and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and all the best for the new 2026 year!

Until next month, keep touring in your Ts,

— **Warwick & Paula Landy** —

All contributions to [ttorquenews@hotmail.com](mailto:ttorquenews@hotmail.com)







## Historical Photo



### Old Victorian Photo

*A nice Gippsland photo, with a C1917 Tourer out the front!*

*It was fun to find this online photo of 1917 Tourer outside a factory in the nearby Gippsland town of Sale. I often drive my T up to Sale area in my T. I was a bit captivated by the photo as I have never known the Sale area to be a producer of flour. Sale and the surrounding district is more traditionally known for its dairying industry. Of course, to make flour, you need to have wheat. Sale and surrounding areas are now pretty much devoid of grain crops and it is hard to believe the Silver Lake company had an export contract to send flour to Russia. — Ed.*



**SILVER LAKE, FLOUR MILLING COY. SALE, VICTORIA.**



## Farmers' Industry

---

### The Silver Lake Flour Milling Co.

IN 1901 THE LATE PETER ECKHARDT CONVERTED THE OLD STONE ROLLER FLOUR MILLS INTO A STEEL-ROLLER MILL.

NOW...

60,000 Bags of Wheat are Treated Annually, much of which is Grown in This District.

1500 Tons of Flour are Sent from Sale per Year.



THE QUALITY OF

## SILVER LAKE FLOUR

IS RENOWNED.

PROPRIETORS: WILLIAM, PETER AND CHARLES ECKHARDT.

### SILVER LAKE FLOUR MILL

---

The Silver Lake Flour Mill at Sale has been operating for the past 21 years with increasing success. A new suction gas plant of 74 horse power is at present being installed. In addition to local grain, the product of the Northern district is also operated on. Besides executing orders from various parts of the Commonwealth, 250 tons of flour on an average are consigned monthly overseas.

The [Silver Lake Flour Mill](#) in Sale, Victoria, is no longer in operation; it was deregistered as a company in 1964 and is now a historical site. While it was a successful mill for many years, a notice of winding up was issued in 1964, and it has since been a topic of discussion among local historical societies due to its previous prominence.





## Member Profile



### Alan Flude — 'My Life With Cars & Model T Fords' Part 2(continued from Nov T Torque)

In 1989 I attended my first national Model T rally, *T Time 89*, without a Model T. My parents came as well. My father Doug, a retired builder, intended to help me build the body for a veteran T. We had experience in repairing the wooden framed DKW body together. On that event I met Neil Feldtmann, who became a close friend and was instrumental in guiding me towards building an authentic 1913 Tourer. Neil, his father Bruce and I shared a long friendship. We went to the 1992 national rally without a T, then our family co-entered with Neil's 1911 T Tourer in both the 1995 and 1998 national T rallies.

We were building an early 1913 Canadian-bodied Tourer (December 1912 build) in the late 1990s. However, I wanted a T on the road for our family to enjoy together. In 2000 I purchased a 1927 Tudor Sedan. With the Feldtmann's help we completely rebuilt all the mechanicals and I made repairs to the body. Our first outing was the 2001 national T rally in Goulburn. Since then, that car has been our steady rally vehicle, attending every national rally with family, in later years with Jill and myself. That same year I purchased a totally original 'Geelong T', a 1927 T Ford Deluxe Roadster that will require some work. Other cars have been added since, to further clutter my garage workspace.

Interesting how paths cross in this hobby. I came second in class competing at Morwell Hill Climb in the mid 1970s in my modified VW Beetle, beaten by a dark blue 1972 Ford Escort GT 1600 (Lotus Twin Cam Engine). That car was owned and driven by Robbie Dalton, who held the class record for years. Robbie still owns this Escort GT 1600. When racing go-carts in the late 1970s I saw a demonstration lap at the Brooklyn track, a previous National record holder.

Top: 1927 T Deluxe Roadster, as purchased in 2001

Right: Goulburn National Rally 2001, first family outing in our 1927 Tudor  
Below: Bendigo & Ballarat swap meet memories







## Member Profile



### Alan Flude — 'My Life With Cars & Model T Fords' (Part 2) continued...

A unique 6 wheel equipped go-cart with 4 front wheels, this go-cart was owned, built and successfully raced by Bill Wallace. Both Robbie and Bill are active members of the Club.

My working life was closely tied to the automotive industry, in both auto manufacturing and aftermarket suppliers. For forty-five years the two Australian companies I worked for had contracts with all Australian auto manufacturers, Ford Australia especially going back to the 1960s. That expanded to Ford globally, and more recently most USA, Japanese and Korean auto manufacturers. My job role regularly took me interstate and overseas, our company establishing offices in Michigan USA and Cambridge UK. My numerous trips to the USA enabled visits to fellow enthusiasts and museums. In the USA I frequently visited the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Also visited the Ford and Edison winter estates at Fort Myers, Florida, and other Ford and Edison legacy sites. I retired from work in 2019, soon after Ford, Holden and Toyota ceased manufacturing in Australia. Closures in the automotive component sector quickly followed. The personal impact on me was almost like a death in the family, with the end of the Australian automotive manufacturing industry as we knew it. The loss of knowledge, skill, prosperity and Australia's future security will be immeasurable. My daily driver is a 2016 Ford Territory built just days before the end of Ford Australia production, the end of an era going back to 1925.

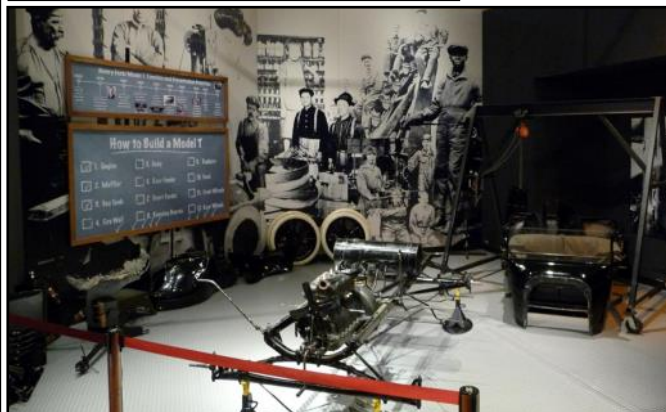


In retirement time spent with family is precious, especially grandchildren. At this stage in life my beloved sports boat was sold, replaced by a caravan with more mundane holiday activities. Jill and I are moving into another home with a significant newly-built garage and workshop complex. We intend to renovate this house after moving. Supposably, I now have time to restore the cars and projects I've collected over the years. A priority is to finish my 1913 T Tourer and get my 1927 T Roadster drivable. There are numerous other cars to keep me busy, I do enjoy working on projects and maintaining the vehicles that have shaped so much of my life.

For anyone wanting to own a Model T, I feel it helps to have an interest in automotive history and the willingness to maintain the car to a certain level. The reward is not just the enjoyment in driving a unique piece of motoring history, but being part of a community of people who share the same passion. Attending the national Model T rallies has been a real highlight. Within the Club I've served as Secretary and Treasurer across multiple years. These roles gave me the opportunity to give something back to the Club that has provided Jill and me with so much pleasure.

**Left & Above:** Henry Ford Museum, Model T display

**Below:** Bendigo & Ballarat swap meet memories







## Rally Report



### Annual Club Swap Meet at Dillons Motors

The 2025 Club Swap Meet was one of the best-attended club swaps in recent years. After having to postpone the event once due to inclement weather, we managed to find another date that didn't seem to clash with too much at this busy time of year. The only problem was, the weather for the rescheduled date wasn't looking too flash either. It rained all day on the Saturday and showers were forecast for Sunday as well. Fortunately, the weather did not deter people from coming. Attendance was great - we had about 10 sellers and overall about 30 members present. Luckily we only had a brief light shower and even managed to enjoy some blue sky.

Some members travelled a fair distance to be there which is appreciated. Lots of parts changed hands, with some sellers happy to clean out some spares and buyers pleased with their purchases. There were some very rare early parts for sale, and it was great to hear of at least one new project in the works.

There were 3 Ts there - Chris Dillon's 1911 Tourer, Colin Weidemann's Tudor and Bill Wallace's Fordor. Bill's exhaust pack nut came loose on the way there but was duly repaired for the trip home. As always we had a sausage sizzle which was well patronised. Thanks to Chris for hosting, Dean for collecting attendance fees and cooking the snags, and John and Thelma for setting up the refreshments table.

— **Andrew Brand** —

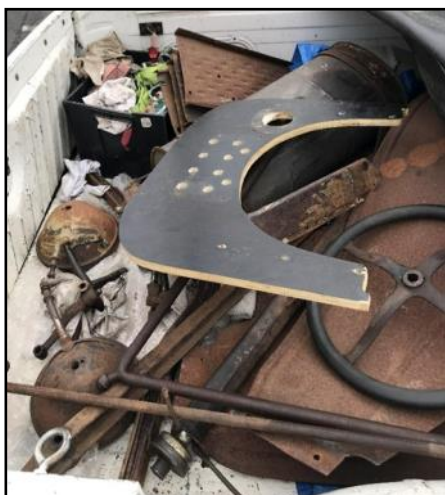


**Top:** No shortage of help to fix the loose exhaust nut

**2nd Top:** Looks like Bill even managed to fit some goodies inside the Fordor to sell

**Right:** Goodies for sale and members socialising

**Below:** A ute load of goodies







## Event Report



### Bendigo Swap Meet — November 14-15

We arrived at our club site around 8:30am to find they had put a walkway in between our 2 sites. Annoying but we made it work. Thankfully, Bendigo Party Hire had set up our marquee under a beautiful, big, shady tree so it did actually work to our advantage. (Ann rang them on the Monday and thanked them very much).

Dean took off straight away, as usual. While he was gone Ann had a visit from some of our country members. Dean soon came back and not long after a guy from the site opposite ours came over with some gas head lamps and asked if we knew what they were off and how they worked. Dean said that they run on carbon but didn't think they were off a car cause they were all one unit. He said he thought they were off an old buggy. A colourful character rolled up, said his name was Gary. He was wearing a Davey Crockett hat. He told the guy the lights were definitely off a horse and cart. After the guy took his lights back to his site, Gary told us that he was looking to buy a Model T. He had one in the 70s for his tree lopping business in Ringwood that he ran for over 40 years.

He had some great old stories to tell. He eventually said he had better go. He had been walking around for 5 hours and needed a can of Coke. We offered him one of ours and he sat round telling more stories. The next random person that came along asked us how he could sell a Model T. He told us it was one of his Dad's projects but as his Dad had too many projects he needed to sell some

of them off. We told him to get in touch with Andrew Brand. We had some old magazines at the site so he took a photo of our website address. Within that Gary's ears pricked up. He was still there. He asked about the Model T for sale and asked where it was located. I don't know where it was but Gary didn't live far from him. Turns out the Model T seller drives down Gary's street every day.



While all this was going on Thelma Huitt, Glenise Moors and Emily and Catherine Dillon attached our new address stickers on all our club flyers. Thank you so much for doing that ladies.

It was now nearly lunchtime so we asked Gary if he would like to stay for lunch, which he did, and had 3 sausages. Lunch went off without a hitch and was almost right on 12. John Huitt once again did Uber Eats to Dave Weatherhead and Geof Baulch who were volunteering in the Big Shed. We all had a great feed of sausages in bread with onions and sauce and an ice cold soft drink or water.

Dean's Model T got plenty of attention and so many people took photos. It's a great attraction and gets people talking and asking questions. We usually get a few new members out of the Bendigo Swap. We almost have Gary. Ann did give him an application form as he doesn't have a computer. Next year if anyone has a Model T to sell or would just like to display their car, please let us know. We have a double site so always have two car stickers.

It's always great to see our members catching up and socialising. It's also really exciting to meet random people and hear all their incredible stories. Can't wait to do it all again next year,

— Dean Williams and Ann Cupid —





## Restoration Story



### 1926 Roadster

*It is a pleasure this month to present the restoration story of a very special 1926 Model T Roadster. The following text is provided by a former club member, Ian Mallows, who provided a diary and photos detailing his involvement in assisting with the restoration of Jacinta Bagot's Roadster in time to participate in the National Rally at Ballarat.*

*Ian is most certainly not new to Ts, and through the earlier Years of the MTFCV developed a strong friendship with Neil Bagot and assisted him with restoration of several of the Bagot fleet of Ts. Ian served on the rally committee for the club's first National T rally at Wangaratta, served as the club secretary and also shared the position of Editor with his wife Carol. Ian's hobby interests diverged from Model Ts to restoration of classic motorcycles and later model Classic sportscars, but he has always maintained a strong interest in Model Ts, the club activities and the Bagot family T club participation. We thank Ian for documenting the project and sharing the following text and pictures of this project. Ian's mechanical, panel, paint and upholstery skills were all utilised during the project!*

— Ed.

The Project commenced January 2023, preparing chassis to accept motor which was already repaired but hadn't started. The spring sets, differential and rear axle were assembled



after careful selection of bits from the collection at the end of the shed.

Next came the selection of all the necessary 1926 panels from the various collections of left over parts, making sure the bits were repairable where necessary, and trial fitting them together till we were satisfied we had enough of the correct bits. The first setback was after we selected and repaired the best 2 doors only to find the hinges were wrong and would not come off so the second best doors with the correct hinges were selected. Then came the cutting out of all the rust or badly damaged metal and welding in new pieces. Lots of panel beating and grinding/sanding till they looked ok.

100 year old timber acquired by Christopher, sawn down by David Dryden and dressed to size by Declan before preparation of the timber frame upon which the body panels were to be attached. We purchased a morticing tool online that allowed us to assemble the wooden frame as it was done in 1926, then the body panels were attached and tacked or screwed into place before more heating and panel beating to get them true so doors would open and close correctly.







## Restoration Story continued...



### 1926 Roadster

The first coats of primer filler paint became a slight disaster over the following month as small pieces started peeling off and the decision was made to sand blast it all off and start again with a different brand of paint, and this time I applied a coat of etch prime before the primer-filler.

After that setback, in early 2024 we began the tedious task of doing all the surface prep again and finally in May 2024 I could finally apply the first coat of final colours- Seagull grey. (same as FB Ute) and black. About this time we had the wire wheels sand blasted and painted 2-pak black. The next 12 months seemed to go very quickly and 2025 was upon us.

Weather is not conducive to spray painting so I have moved to the task of making suitable hood irons from earlier tourer irons. Hood bows made using 3mm



plywood cut into strips and glued together in a makeshift jig. Upholstery came next during the winter months.

The safety inspection for club plates was done in September then a longer drive Up the hills in East-West Rd was done mid September and decision made that it was ready for the big National Eureka T rally in Ballarat at the end of September 2025.

Jacinta quickly adapted to driving her Roadster and completed the National Eureka Rally successfully.

— Ian Mallows —







## Article of Interest



### 'The need for Speed' - Some Model T Speedster related content

*A few months ago we featured an article from Mark Herdman including some information on his Ted King Rajo powered Model T Racer. Mark has been busy preparing the vehicle's restored chassis and running gear, less body for possible display at the upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sydney's famous Maroubra Speedway. This car finished 3<sup>rd</sup> on the track in one of the events 100 years ago!*

— Ed.

#### Maroubra Speedway Centenary

Officially *Olympia Motor Speedway*, opened on Saturday 5 December 1925. A wide range of cars and motorcycles competed, with many celebrated cars being imported to race there including Bugatti, Grand prix Sunbeam, Delage, Indianapolis Ballot, Brooklands Alvis and even Model T Ford specials. Speeds around the banking were astounding for the time approaching 100mph, 2 - 3 times the speed the thousands of spectators would ever have experienced. Unfortunately the Speedway had a short life and after financial difficulties and a number of fatalities was closed. It became the site of Coral Sea Park and housing development after WW2.

The Vintage Sports Car Club of Australia is celebrating the centenary in the south west corner of Coral Sea Park on Sat 6 December from 10am to 2pm, with a number of cars which competed there attending. Friends are welcome. The NSW Model T Club will be attending this event. More pictures of the speedway and detailed stories can be found [here](#). — Photos & Update by Mark Herdman



The banked oval track at Maroubra.



#### Brown Speedster at Sandown Historic

Recently at the Sandown Historic race meet one of the Brown family speedsters took pride of place on the apron behind the main pit area. (see left). The following text and photo was featured on the VHRR Facebook page.

*"There's historic, and then there's really historic! On display this weekend is this 1915 T-Model Ford "race car". This car was built into a race car in 2017 (yes, you heard that right - 2017) from "a pile of bits" apparently by the grandfather of Rachael Brown who is a Junior Member here at the VHRR.*







## Article of Interest continued...



### 'The Need for Speed'

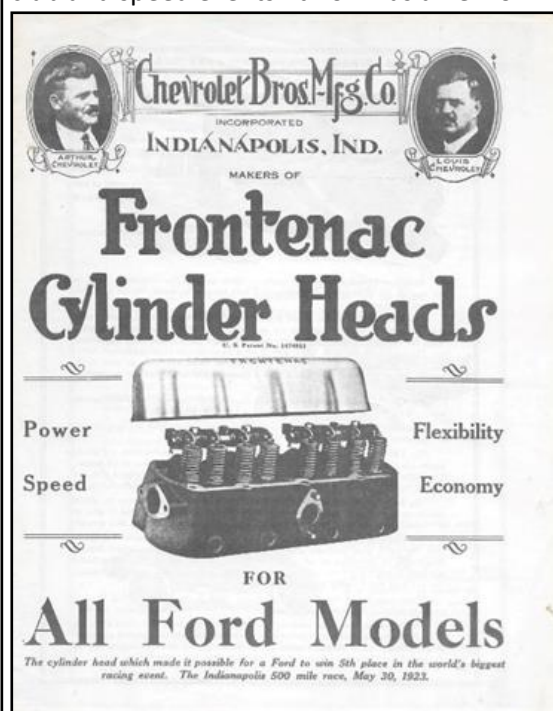
*Back in the day, when race cars were first being developed, the first modification they did, was rip off the body work! Hence what you see before you today. According to Rachael's father, another "big mod" back then was to add one bucket seat. The really wealthy people would put in two apparently! Back in the day, when race cars were first being developed, the first modification they did, was rip off the body work! Hence what you see before you today. This Model-T has also been lowered 4 inches with period brackets. The engine has also been modified in the same style an engine was modified in 1920 being an overhead valve conversion.*

*The car has been a regular at Victorian hill climb and sprint events for many years but today is now a show piece of how race cars were made back when it all began."*

### The Lake Perkolilli Red Dust Revival 2025

This event seems to land around the same time as the Model T National Rally but is a must do for some Model T and Speedsters builders from all over Australia. Held at an original Speedster racetrack in the Western Australian Outback it usually features a number of Model T based speedsters and historic racers. For more information and pictures, visit the event [Facebook page](#).

Some members may recognise the car below. It was restored by long time club member, Vic Ashton and rallied at early club and speed events. It now has a new owner in Western Australia.



Above: WA Speedsters at the lake Racetrack.





## Trad'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 ads to the Editor at [torquenews@hotmail.com](mailto:torquenews@hotmail.com)

### FOR SALE: 1916 Tourer

Complete and running and on club permit. USA body with 4th drivers side door added to to right hand side to appear like a Canadian Tourer. Lots of accessories on the car. Runs and drives well.

Extra spares included. **\$11000.00**

**Ph: Ivor Austin 0428 578222 (Hastings, Vic.)**

### FOR SALE: Australian 1923 RENOWN

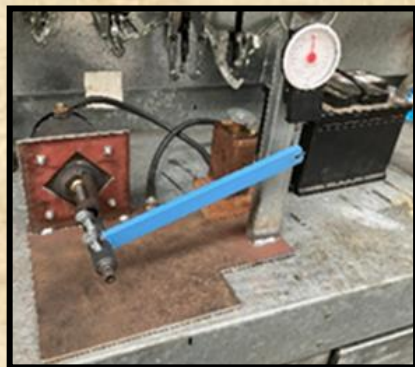
Based on the Model T Ford with chassis and running gear being Ford and Coachwork by Holden. Runs and drives but currently not running. A fine example of only a very few (Six) remaining RENOWNs in existence.

Includes top mechanism, spare parts. Engine no. 1231.

**\$19,000 ONO**      **Located In Bacchus Marsh Vic.**



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## Newsy Bits



### Wotherspoon T Sells at Auction!

Previous attempts to sell via social media and T Torque had been unsuccessful, so member, James Wotherspoon made the decision to sell at Burns & Co Auctions. James's sale was aided by a great catalogue description detailing the authenticity of the car's components and complimented by excellent photos. [Here is a link](#) to the auction listing. A late spirited bidding war ensured James was able to get a great sale price and it was encouraging to see that Veteran era Ts are still sought after.



### Restoration Progress

After many years lying idle in the shed, I have been inspired to get back into the re restoration of my Dad's old 1916 Tourer. The mechanical restoration was completed not long after the roll over incident but with other distractions and wood work not being a skill of mine, the project stopped.

Recently inspired, I have made patterns for a skilled tradesman to make new seat frames a few other bits of wood in an effort to complete the body framing again. I am hoping to possibly have it back on the road for the March Echuca rally. Nothing like a deadline to get me motivated!

— Ed.



### Members Assist with Updating Cub Promotional Materials!

We attended the Bendigo Swap Meet in November and it was a most enjoyable weekend, with a few members stopping off at the sight to grab a BBQ sausage and refreshments. Dean was showing his expertise on the BBQ as usual.

We made good use of the time with the assistance of Emily & Catherine Dillon, & Glenise Moors giving me a hand putting stickers on pamphlets. This came about due to the fact that we had 420 Coloured Club Pamphlets all having the old address & contact details on them.

We had stickers made at Officeworks to display the now current details, bringing them up to date.

Thanks again girls, much appreciated. Great Day!

— Thelma Huitt —



### Random Model T Image!

Often unique Ts turn up on the internet. This one I just love! Perhaps the Ford Henry never built but should have? A TT Truck closed cab fitted to a standard car chassis with a nice timber pickup bed added!



Do you have any 'Newsy Bits'?

Send them to [ttorquenews@hotmail.com](mailto:ttorquenews@hotmail.com)





PO Box 383, 148 Springvale Road, Nunawading, Vic, 3131, Australia

[mtfcv.com](http://mtfcv.com)

## Committee

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David Jenkins (Karen)  
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Email: [davidjenkins1959@gmail.com](mailto:davidjenkins1959@gmail.com)

## 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 **Vintage Drivers Club Clubrooms, Factory 8, 41 Norcal Rd, Nunawading** 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—Base Membership Subscription**  
(incl 11 Emailed Newsletters)  
**\$88—Printed & Posted Newsletter**  
11 Editions (Members Only)

### BANK DEPOSIT:

- BSB: 083-004
- Account: 03-923-0022

Please put your name as a reference.

Payment by cheque must be made to:  
'Model T Ford Club of Victoria' (NOT MTFCV)

## Commercial Advertising Rates

(11 copies of T Torque)

**\$100 - 1/6 page**  
**\$200 - 1/3 page**  
**\$300 - 1/2 page**  
**\$500 - Back cover**

## Club Information

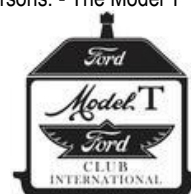
The Model T Ford Club of Victoria (MTFCV) was formed in 1980 and is aimed at encouraging and promoting Model T Fords, to help in the restoration of Model Ts, and to create a register of Model T owners.

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, 310 N. 8th Street Richmond, IN 47374-3035, USA ([www.mtfca.com](http://www.mtfca.com)) and the Model T Ford Club International P.O. Box 355, Hudson, NC, 28638-0355, USA ([www.modelt.org](http://www.modelt.org)).

Both clubs produce excellent magazines (Vintage Ford, Model T Times) and the Model T Ford Club encourages membership of both organisations.







## Upcoming Rallies and Events



### MODEL T FORD CLUB AUSTRALIA DAY RALLY



**26th January 2024**

Meet at Maroondah Reservoir Park out past Healesville off Maroondah Hwy.

Enter the park via Main entrance (Maroondah Main Loop Road) then take the Henderson Loop Road. The red star marks the location of the rotunda and parking. There are toilets, shelter, BBQ and lots of nice grass.

BYO all picnic gear you require, there are no shops nearby. (Apart from Healesville)

As we cannot book this area it is on a first come basis, someone will be there to reserve the site by 8:30.

There are a lot of nice drives to this spot, one of my favourites is via Yarra Glen, past the Chocolatier on Old Healesville Road then the back way to Healesville.

Hope to see you there. All welcome.



### MTFCV ECHUCA / MOAMA RALLY

**Fri 27—Mon 30 March**

(Note: this is not a long weekend!)

#### Caravan Park:

We have booked cabins at **Big 4 Moama**, 2 Blair Street, Moama, NSW 0354 809 899 Call Molly and Sam and say you are with **The Model T Ford Club of Victoria**. There is plenty of safe trailer parking and modern car parking.



- Fri 27 night — Welcome BBQ at the caravan park
  - Day 1 Sat 28 Backroads drive out to Deniliquin
  - Day 1 Sat night Port After Dark Tour (for those interested)
  - Day 2 Sun 29 TBD
  - Day 2 Sun night dinner TBA
  - Day 3 Mon 30 Cruise on a Paddle Steamer (for those interested)
- Contact:** Dean Williams: 0413 462224



### **Darnum Heritage Display**

**7 & 8 February 2026**

**48 Pedder Street, Darnum, Victoria**

A wide range of heritage trucks, cars, stationary engines, tractors, earth-moving machinery, motorbikes, steam traction engines, boats and more will be on show. All displays must be **25 years or older**.

#### **Public Opening Times**

**Sat 7 Feb:** 10am – 4pm **Sun 8 Feb:** 9:30am–3pm

**Admission:** Adults – \$15 Children (5–12 years) – \$5

No dogs are permitted in the display area.

#### **Saturday Night Dinner**

A Saturday night dinner will be held for exhibitors and guests. Bookings are essential.

Contact: Helen – 0437 953 304

For vehicle or machinery display arrangements, please contact:

- **Peter:** 0419 001 948, **Vyn:** 0419 315 423, **Ross:** 0407 860 248

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