



NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2025



Our sister Club, Canada's Capital A's is also celebrating 50 years in 2025. Part of their main celebration was to gather 35 Model A's to form the numerals "50". An extra 8 A's underlined this great event at the bottom, making a total of 43. Members gather in "0" to complete the picture. A drone was used to take the photo which was supplied by Amir Anders.

#### In this issue

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| President's Message.....           | 4 |
| Vale Alan Wilson.....              | 5 |
| Canada's Capital A's Raffle.....   | 6 |
| Coming Events.....                 | 7 |
| Ian Lightowler's Garage Visit..... | 8 |

#### Technical

|                                                 |       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Cleaning the Working Parts of Your Model A..... | 9     |
| Care & feeding of Engine Thrust Bearings.....   | 11    |
| Dangers of Using an Original Model A Fan.....   | 12-13 |
| Protecting & Enhancing Your Car's Finish.....   | 13    |
| Long Distance Travel Tool Kit.....              | 15    |





# MODEL A FORD CLUB of VICTORIA Inc.

A000048Y ABN 38 251 342 083

A Chapter of the Model A Ford Club of America (MAFCA)

[www.modelafordclub.org](http://www.modelafordclub.org)

The main aim of our Club is to encourage the purchase, preservation and use of the Model A Ford, relevant literature & technical & historical information.

## WHO'S WHO 2025

### President:

**Greg Rose & Leah Young**  
0417 582 414  
[greg301@bigpond.com](mailto:greg301@bigpond.com)

### Vice President:

**Mark & Elizabeth Dohrmann**  
0419 347 436  
[mark@ergonomics.com.au](mailto:mark@ergonomics.com.au)

### Treasurer:

**Erica & Kevin Churchill**  
0404 811 422  
[Churchill.eric@gmail.com](mailto:Churchill.eric@gmail.com)

### Secretary:

**Rob & Sue Rush**  
(03) 9457 1377  
[srush38@bigpond.net.au](mailto:srush38@bigpond.net.au)

### Committee Members:

**Russell & Gillian Boyle**  
0488 246 070  
[rbrustya14@gmail.com](mailto:rbrustya14@gmail.com)  
**Kevin & Erica Churchill**  
0412 802 177  
[28tudor@protonmail.com](mailto:28tudor@protonmail.com)

**Roz & Ross Fisher**  
0402 107 300  
[rwafisher@gmail.com](mailto:rwafisher@gmail.com)

**Brenda Smith & Allan Jones**  
0407 644 777  
[warbrapark@gmail.com](mailto:warbrapark@gmail.com)

### Non Committee Positions:

**Webmaster:** Mark Apterman  
[Mark.apterman@gmail.com](mailto:Mark.apterman@gmail.com)

### AOMC Delegates:

Kevin Churchill

### Library & Club

### Merchandise:

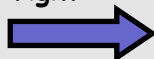
Sue Rush (03) 9457 1377

**Editor:** Kevin & Erica  
**Churchill** 0412 802 177  
editorial contributions to:  
[75fordtorque@gmail.com](mailto:75fordtorque@gmail.com)

### Club Permits:

**Brenden Wolfe & Lualla Tong**  
0409 145 282  
[brendenwolfe123@gmail.com](mailto:brendenwolfe123@gmail.com)

See box at right



### Life Members:

Kevin Churchill 2011  
\*Bob Fretwell 2018  
Ron MacDonald 2018  
\*Bill Mayberry 2018  
Rob Griffiths 2021  
Joan Griffiths 2021  
Faith Hayhow 2021  
\* In Memoriam

The Model A Ford Club of Vic. Inc. was founded 50 years ago in 1975 as the Model A Restorers Club (Aust) Vic Branch and changed its name to Model A Ford Club of Vic in 1982. We have hosted National Meets in Echuca 1982; Wangaratta 1988; Wodonga 2000 and Launceston 2010. Members possess a wide range of Model A Fords of both Canadian and U.S. of A. origin including some rarer examples of the marque.

We meet bi-monthly in the Phyllis Hore room at Kew Library — see page 3 for details.

## CLUB PERMITS

The Club will sign permits for Ford vehicles manufactured between 1918 and 1948. NEW permits require a current road worthy certificate.

Send Permit applications & renewals to:

Brenden Wolfe  
45 Hacketts Creek Road  
Three Bridges 3797

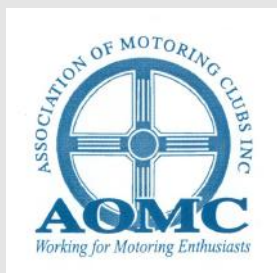
and include a stamped, addressed envelope for onforwarding to VicRoads or return to you.

Other signatories are Russell Boyle; Brenda Smith whose details are at left and Peter Churchill 0422 265 555 or [1929modelatudor@gmail.com](mailto:1929modelatudor@gmail.com)

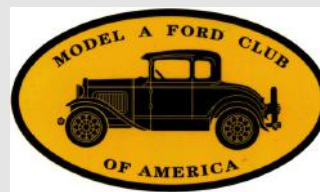
## CORRESPONDENCE

Please address all non permit correspondence to: The Secretary  
P.O. Box 72 Bittern 3918 OR  
[srush38@bigpond.net.au](mailto:srush38@bigpond.net.au)

## AFFILIATIONS



Since 1975



All information & views expressed in Ford Torque are the opinions of the writers & do not necessarily represent the views of the Model A Ford Club of Victoria Inc. Authors of articles provide their suggestions and opinions as general information only and they, the Club and the Club Committee cannot be held responsible for any liability arising from your decision to follow up their suggestions.

## LOOKING FORWARD

Club meetings are held bi-monthly in the odd months. Meetings are on the FIRST Wednesday evening EXCEPT January which is usually the LAST Wednesday, at 8.00 p.m. SHARP in the Phyllis Hore Meeting Room, Kew Library, Cnr. Cotham Road & Civic Drive KEW. Melway 45 D6. NOVEMBER is our AGM

### NEXT MEETING

5th November  
General Meeting & AGM.

Short stories from Members about life or Model A experiences, with good or not so good results.

#### PLANNING AHEAD 2025/2026

Club Event

Invitation Club Run

PAGE

#### NOVEMBER

|       |                                                                        |   |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| 5     | AGM & General Meeting                                                  | 3 |
| 9     | Historic Commercial Vehicle Club Display Day. Yarra Glen Racecourse    | 7 |
| 15-16 | Bendigo Swap - sites 1396 & 1397                                       | 7 |
| 15    | Bendigo Swap Meet Dinner at Botanical Hotel 555 Napier St. White Hills | 7 |

#### DECEMBER

|   |                       |   |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| 7 | T & A Christmas Party | 3 |
|---|-----------------------|---|

#### JANUARY 2026

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                            |   |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| 11 | Breakfast on the Yarra                                                                                                                                                                     |   |
| 18 | Cruden Farm MUST be prebooked.<br>Book on line at <a href="https://www.aomc.asn.au/festival-of-motoring">https://www.aomc.asn.au/festival-of-motoring</a><br>BOOKINGS CLOSE 7 DECEMBER '25 | 7 |

#### FEBRUARY 2026

|       |                                                                                             |   |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| 6 - 8 | Darnum Heritage Display<br>48 Pedder Street DARNUM.<br>Trucks, Cars, Boats, Motorbikes etc. | 7 |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|

#### OCTOBER 2026

|       |                                   |    |
|-------|-----------------------------------|----|
| 18-24 | Model A National Meet Albany W.A. | 10 |
|-------|-----------------------------------|----|

Thank you to the following contributors to this edition:

Russell Boyle; Rob & Joan Griffiths; Greg Rose; Rob Rush; Amir Anders; Chris Wickersham; Bob Harbicht



## T & A CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 7

**Where:**

Ashburton Scout Hall in Ashburton Park, High Street Ashburton

(Melway 60 F9)

**Note:** If coming from Warrigal Road direction there is NO RIGHT HAND TURN INTO THE PARK.

**From:**

10 a.m. til finish—rock up in your A or modern and enjoy the festivities.

**Bring:**

Lunch, tables & chairs, hat & sunscreen. Tea/coffee provided.

**Activities:**

Bring extra gold coins for the raffle. See below for details

### Raffle Prizes

Just a reminder to please look out for gifts that would be suitable for the raffle at the Christmas Party.

This helps finance the day as well as being great fun. Please give your gifts to Rob or Sue Rush.

For further enquiries re gift collection leave a message on 03 9457 1377 - Sue & Rob Rush.

## President's Message



Hi Model A'ers,  
It's getting close to the end of the year - better weather to get out and about, Christmas present buying and, most importantly - the Model A annual general meeting!!

Looks like we'll need a new Secretary or Minute Secretary and President at least! Rob Rush has done an outstanding job for 7 years (it might be more-but it's a long time), and is looking for assistance, if not

replacement. Thanks for your dedication to the club and members - hard shoes to fill but I'm sure there's someone out there that can spare some time for that position - fingers crossed!

I'm also not putting my name forward for club President - just like Donald Trump - I can only serve two terms (hang on, can I stay on for another term? Is that legal?) Jokes aside, it has been a pleasure holding this position, but life is getting kinda busy and tricky at the moment, so it's up for grabs people. C'mon, if you haven't put your hand up before, give it a go!!

Cheers  
Greg

### Birthday Wishes

Happy Birthday to all of our Members celebrating a Birthday in November & December including:

#### NOVEMBER:

6th Annette Moodie; 8th Ria Mc.Mahon; 9th Ray Gillson; 13th Lloyd Cameron; Peter Ryan; 23rd Iain Ross; 24th Ray Newell; 26th John Penhall; 27th Stewart King.

**DECEMBER:** 2nd Joanne Wastle; 6th Karen Stokes; 11th Evie Wuchatsch; 12th Angela Woodman; 18th Arnold Chivers; 24th Marsha Cameron.

### Welfare

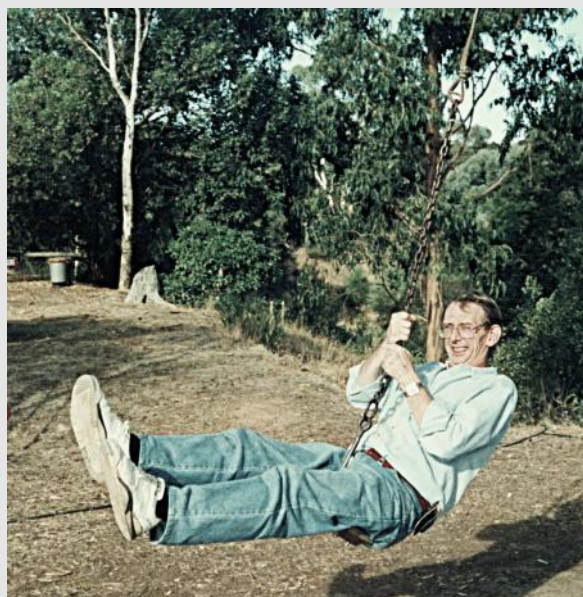
If you are not feeling 100%, we are thinking of you and hope that life improves for you.

### 2026 FORD TORQUE DEADLINES

**Note:** Please observe deadlines as it makes the job easier for everyone. Late items may be held over. Ed. Photos, articles, hints etc. always welcome to: [75fordtorque@gmail.com](mailto:75fordtorque@gmail.com)

Jan-Feb 2nd January; Mar-Apr 6th February; May-June 8th April; July-August 5th June;

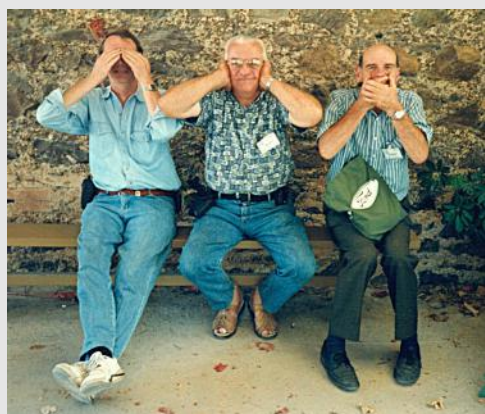




Alan was born in Queensland and moved with his parents and brother to Melbourne when his father left the Air Force. Alan passed away suddenly in his 84th year, at his home in Drouin on the 20th August. A family man who was hard working, happy go lucky, always with a smile, Alan adored his wife, Dini, daughter Jackie, son Andrew and his extended family.

Alan met Dini when they worked for the same company and they have been together, through thick and thin wherever life's adventures took them. Alan worked in Real Estate before moving to his family owned carpet business. He was smart and creative and enjoyed spending time in his shed.

Alan and Dini joined the Model A Ford Club of Victoria in 1981 when Alan visited our Bendigo Swap Meet site and signed up. Not long after Alan joined MAFCV we realised that he was a special person who had the drive to meet any challenge put in front of him. When Alan & Dini joined MAFCV, Alan was restoring a 1928 Tourer which he finished and registered in 1986. That car took them everywhere including National Meets and Club runs. The picture at right shows Alan "filling" his tank from an historic petrol pump at Old Sandhurst Town. He then built a Speedster - before it became "the thing to do" and his third restoration was a 1930 Town Sedan which, just after restoration, he drove to the Toowoomba National Meet in 2002, effectively without a second gear. Alan was Club Secretary from 1988 to 1990 and when we did not have a Secretary elected at the 1996 AGM, he, in January 1997 offered to be Secretary and continued until November 2007. His service continued beyond being Secretary and in 2008 Alan was awarded Club Member of the Year.



Alan's sense of humour matched that of some other members, notably, Frank Smith & Bob Fretwell. The photo at left speaks for itself and shows Alan on the left, Frank in the middle and Bob on the right. I am not party to the mischief that may have preceded this photo and the photographer shall remain nameless but it is just possible that he may have been the fourth member of this mischievous quartet. Alas, they have all gone to the A Model garage in the sky.

The Model A Ford Club of Victoria members extend our condolences to Dini, Jackie, Andrew & Sherrin, Steven & Kat, Thomas & Stacy, Jamie, Kris & Meg and the youngest clan member, Alan's Great Grandson William.



## Boyling Point

Humour collected by  
Russell Boyle from:  
"Script A News"  
Ford Model A Club of Michigan

### Baby Gate

A Model T guy I know has an expandable luggage rack attached to his running board. Two ladies in their twenties asked him why he had a baby gate attached to the running board. He says that, with a very straight face, he told them it was safer for the baby because the car does not have a baby seat.

### Some One Liners

- ♦ The older I get, the earlier it gets late.
- ♦ Remember, if you lose a sock in the drier, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.
- ♦ I had my patience tested. I'm negative.
- ♦ When someone asks what I did over the weekend, I squint and ask, "Why, what did you hear?"
- ♦ If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"

### Canada's Capital A's Raffle Winner

By Amir Anders



The picture above is of the winner, Diane Jaakkola. She and her husband AL are long time members of the club, with AL having served for many years as the editor of the Radshell, our club's monthly newsletter. Standing to the left of Diane is Randy Richardson, our immediate Past President, who chaired the raffle committee. The two gentlemen holding the quilt both joined the club in 1976, the one year after the club's formation. Steve May, who is standing on the right side, went on to serve as President of the club in 1989-90. The other holder is Ken Morgan, our Activities Director and unofficial club photographer who snaps pictures at every club event. This is a rare picture because Ken is normally on the other end of the camera (he's holding his video camera even as he's holding the quilt).





## HISTORIC COMMERCIAL VEHICLE CLUB

# Display Day

CELEBRATING THE BEDFORD TRUCK



### FAMILY DAY OUT! SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER '25

- ✓ Touch a Truck, Petting Zoo, Face Painting, Playground, Live Music
- ✓ Sausage Sizzle, Food Trucks, Barista Coffee, Slushies, Market Stalls
- ✓ SES Road Crash Rescue Demonstrations with 'Jaws of Life'
- ✓ Historic Commercial Vehicles on Display, inc Emergency Vehicles
- ✓ Chrysler Restorers' Club Vehicles on Display, and More!



Yarra Glen Racecourse  
2a Armstrong Grove  
Yarra Glen VIC 3775

*From 9am!*

[www.hcvc.com.au](http://www.hcvc.com.au)



THE ASSOCIATION OF  
MOTORING CLUBS

## Festival of Motoring

at Cruden Farm

Sunday 18th January 2026

Open to all Historic, Veteran, Vintage, and Classic vehicles over 25 years old.  
Club displays welcome

A Celebration of Motoring Throughout the Decades.

**BOOK NOW**  
Online entries close 7 Dec.  
See link below

- Cruden Farm, Cranbourne Frankston Rd, Langwarrin
- The McClelland Drive gates open for display vehicles from 9am
- \$20 Entry for display cars (Includes passengers)
- Spectator entry and car park off Cranhaven Rd.
- Spectator Admission \$10 per person, Children free
- All profits from this event will be donated to Redkite
- Childrens Entertainment, Music, Food & Trophies



Presented by the Association of Motoring Clubs in association with RACV  
For further details contact 0473 832 277  
[www.aomc.asn.au](http://www.aomc.asn.au) and aomc facebook

## BENDIGO SWAP MEET

15 - 16 NOVEMBER 2025

Look for us at site 1396 & 1397 on the oval. We will have the marquee up where you can stop and chat, have a cool drink or leave your purchase with us temporarily.

We will also have some items for sale. Help with setting up & leaving would be greatly appreciated.

## SWAP MEET DINNER

WHEN: 15 NOVEMBER 6.30 p.m.

WHERE: Botanical Hotel  
555 Napier Street  
White Hills (Bendigo)

TO BOOK, please **text or email**  
Peter Churchill 0422 265 555 or  
[petechurchie@gmail.com](mailto:petechurchie@gmail.com)

Proudly supported by

Community Bank · Drouin & District

**Bendigo Bank**



48 Pedder Street, Darnum, Victoria.

February 7th and 8th 2026



Gate open to public -  
Saturday 10am to 4pm  
Sunday 9:30am to 3pm



Admission - Adult : \$15.00 - Children 5 to 12yrs \$5.00

## Saturday Night Dinner

Bookings Essential. Contact Helen 0437953304

Display contacts - Peter 0419001948

Vyn- 0419315423 Ross - 0407860248

Email : [heritagetrucks3820@gmail.com](mailto:heritagetrucks3820@gmail.com)

The Display will have trucks ,cars ,stationary engines ,tractors ,earth moving equipment, motorbikes ,steam traction / engines, boats, plus much more

All Displays are to be 25 years or older

Unpowered Camping Exhibitors Only

No dogs allowed in public area

<https://www.aomc.asn.au/festival-of-motoring>



## Visit to Ian Lightowlers Collection 26/07/2025



A couple of cars hidden to the back are a last run model FPV GT Falcon and an early model GT Falcon, also a must have 30/31 Model A Coupe.

A diverse collection of makes and models, I was particularly taken by the as new 1953 Ford Prefect.

The day was not just about cars. It was good to see Shirley & Tony, right, able to attend after their health issues.

Below, we have L-R our host Ian, Vin, Ray, Charlie and Phil.



Rob & Joan glad to be with Model A friends.

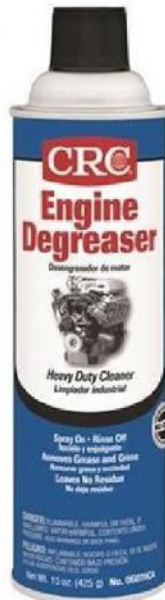


## Cleaning the Working Parts of Your Model A

Recently while replacing the engine in one of my Model A's, I was confronted with the problem of what to do about all the dirty nuts, bolts and small parts that I removed and was intending to re-use with the new engine. About 15 years ago, I had completely restored this car with the intention of using it for local Model A outings and club events but also as a car to take on long distance tours. I had powder coated the frame and other major under chassis components to make it easier to keep clean and looking nice. After 19,000 miles of club events and long distance touring, while the engine and undercarriage looked reasonably clean, when I started to take things apart, I found everything was a bit dirtier than expected and most components had a coating of grease and oil. Certainly, with a new freshly painted engine being installed, I wanted everything else to be clean and presentable.

After removing the old engine and transmission, I sprayed CRC Engine degreaser on the front suspension components and areas of the chassis that were dirty and greasy. After letting it set over night, I pushed the car outside and just hosed off the front suspension and engine bay. I was surprised how clean everything was. The powder coated components were really easy to clean up. I was careful not to get any engine degreaser on the fenders or body as I was not sure how it would react with these paint finishes. To clean the firewall, I used Simple Green spray cleaner. I have been using this cleaner for many years with very good results. It is not hard on finishes and does a good job of removing dirt and is easy to rinse off with water.

I used a shallow flat metal tray to clean all the small parts and nuts and bolts. I then sprayed both sides of everything with the engine degreaser and let it set for an hour or so then rinsed them off with hot water. For a final clean, I could use either Simple Green or liquid dish washing soap and then rinsed with hot water. Liquid dish washing soap does a good job of removing the oily film that can remain after using the engine cleaner. Dish washing soap also does a good job cleaning your hands and the lemon scent will make everything smell good.



For really dirty parts, I will first soak them in kerosene and then use simple green or dish washing soap. Be careful using kerosene. It is flammable but does a good job cleaning really grimy parts. If you are cleaning parts with kerosene, use in a well ventilated area away from any open flame and be sure to store it properly.

With a little effort and good cleaning agents, it is not difficult to keep the working parts of your Model A clean and presentable.



## Tech Tip

### Use Hand Protection When Working on Your Model A

To protect your hands when working on greasy or oily components of your Model A, it is a good idea to use disposable gloves made especially for the mechanic. This is especially true when using solvents or harsh cleaning agents. When finished, be sure to wash your hands thoroughly and use a good hand lotion. Good oil and solvent resistant disposable gloves are available at most auto parts stores.





## EDITORIAL

I don't often take "pen to paper" but the time has come. A lot of Clubs, when it comes to their AGM are unable to find, or it is very hard to find, a workable Committee and MAFCV is no different.

As we get older we find it harder to volunteer for committee or in some cases we "have been there, done that" often not just in car clubs. I am probably preaching to the converted but it is vitally important, if we are to continue successfully, that we elect a committee at our AGM in November.

As Greg said in his bit, we need, at least, a Secretary or some assistance for the Secretary and a President. I sincerely hope that we can get a committee, but we need every member's help with this. If there is

someone you know who might join committee, please talk to them.

We had a great weekend in the Sale area, earlier in October. David Tulloch - who spoke at our 50th celebrations in Shepparton - and his team organised a number of visits to collections and other venues that we would not normally be allowed to visit, and were just amazing. We also had three guest speakers at our meal venues. All very interesting.

Season's greetings to all of our Members and families. Please drive safely and take care wherever you go.

Cheers

Kevin

## MODEL A FORD NATIONAL MEET ALBANY W.A. 2026



If you are heading for Albany in 2026 it's not too early to start planning. Will I drive my Model A or modern or will I fly? These are some of the questions we will need to answer.

Melbourne to Albany via Esperance is 3387km (2,032 miles), a long drive. Fuel, accommodation and meals will make up the bulk of the cost.

It may be an option to freight your Model A over and back and fly both ways. There may be other options, but whichever way you go it will be a lot of fun.

The West Australians are well known for turning on an excellent rally and this one won't be any different. There will be plenty of things to see and do in Albany and along the way if you decide to drive.

SEE YOU THERE!



## Care and Feeding of the Engine Thrust Bearings or - Keep Your Foot off the Clutch Pedal !!!

The Model A Ford engine is equipped with bearings that are designed to limit the fore and aft movement of the crankshaft and keep it centered in the engine block. These thrust bearing surfaces are designed into the rear main bearing of the engine. The Babbitt bearing material overlaps the front and rear of the rear main bearing bore and is finished machined when the main bearings are line bored. The crankshaft has a flange on both sides of the rear main bearing that is finish ground. These flanges will bear against the thrust surfaces of the rear main bearing Babbitt and keeps the crankshaft centered.

Normally there is very little for or aft load on these thrust surfaces but that all changes when you put your foot on the clutch. It takes considerable force to push on the fingers of the clutch to cause it to release. This force wants to push the crankshaft toward the front of the engine and up against the rear thrust surface of the rear main bearing. Extended use of the clutch or using a heavy duty clutch with stiff springs will increase the load on the thrust bearing which can lead to premature wear.

The Model A crankshaft thrust bearings were not over designed and it is not uncommon at all to find the rear thrust bearing all worn out. When Henry designed the Model B engine, the crankshaft bearing diameters and the thrust bearing surface areas were increased and the lubrication to the rear thrust surface was improved. You will find many Model A engines that are in good condition and should run for many more miles but the rear thrust bearing material is badly worn or missing entirely.

Now what do you do if you have an otherwise perfectly good engine that has a bad thrust bearing. The better parts supplier offer a replacement rear main oil seal insert that is made out of brass and incorporates a new thrust surface for the rear flange of the crank. With a little work, this part can often be installed without removing the engine. At this time, there is not a similar part available for the Model B engine.

How do you prevent this from happening with your Model A? The best thing you can do to make life easier for your thrust bearings is to KEEP YOUR FOOT OFF THE CLUTCH!!! When you come to a stop light and you find you may have to wait for a period of time before you can proceed, put the transmission in neutral and take your foot off the clutch pedal. This will take the load off the thrust bearing and also will take the clutch load off the throw out bearing which will add to its life. Another thing you can do is to adjust the clutch so it has a lot of free play, or engages when the pedal is closer to the floor. This will reduce the amount the springs in the clutch assembly are compressed which reduces the forward load on the crankshaft. Just be sure the clutch will fully release when the pedal is fully depressed.

When rebuilding the engine or replacing the clutch assembly, consider using a later ford "V-8" clutch or a more modern diaphragm clutch. These clutches take less force to disengage and not only will it be easier to push the clutch pedal down but they also lessen the load on the throw out bearing and the crankshaft thrust bearing.

Remember, when waiting at a stop light, put the transmission in neutral and **TAKE YOUR FOOT OFF THE CLUTCH PEDAL !!**



**Crankshaft  
Rear Main Bearing  
Thrust Surfaces**



**Replacement Thrust  
Bearings**



## The Dangers of Using an Original Model A Fan

The subject of the dangers of running an original 2 blade Model A fan has been discussed many times in the past, so you may be wondering why once again it is being talked about. Well, it seems there are folks out there who are still driving their Model A's with an original 2 blade fan who have not gotten the message, so again this issue is being discussed.

### Why Are We Again Talking about 2 Blade Fans?

One of the participant's was returning from the recent CCRG Convention in Santa Maria in his Model A when all the sudden there was a big bang and the car started to shake violently. The engine was shut off and after the hood was raised it was found that one blade of the 2 blade fan was missing and the fins on the whole backside of the radiator were mashed flat.

Upon closer inspection, it was discovered that the fan was an original factory steel 2 blade fan that would have been installed on the car when it was new. Luckily, the missing blade did not go thru the hood or do additional damage. With all the past articles that have been written and all the many discussions about the dangers of continuing to use original fans, you would think that everyone would have gotten the word but I guess it is still necessary to periodically bring up the subject.



*Original Model A fan that failed*

### Why Do Original 2 Blade Fans Fail?

More than 60 years ago, when I first came into the Model A hobby, it was commonly known that the original 2 blade fan was subject to fatigue and cracking and it was not uncommon to hear about a fan blade breaking off and either going thru the hood or taking out the radiator.

Ford even changed the design of the fan in late '31 to help prevent this from happening and after the end of Model A production, Ford offered a fan of a completely different design as a replacement part.



*What can happen when a blade breaks off*

The main reason that the original fan blades fail is that they are made from 2 pieces of formed sheet metal that are welded together and then welded to a center hub and pulley. When completed, each blade is actually 2 thicknesses of sheet steel. Moisture will get between the 2 layers of steel and corrosion will set in. After time, the corrosion will weaken the blades where they attach to the hub and stress cracks will begin to appear. Eventually, these cracks will progress to the point where a blade will completely break off. This usually happens at higher engine speeds when the fan blades are under the most stress. If you are lucky, the blade will go down and get caught in the cross member behind the radiator but most often, the blade will either go thru the hood or severely damage the radiator.

### How Do I Know If My Model A Has an Original 2 Blade Fan?

Original 2 blade fans are easy to detect. Raise the hood and see if you have a 2 blade fan which is shaped like a propeller, like the original design. If so, hold a magnet up to it and if the Magnet sticks to the fan it is made from steel and it is most likely an original fan. If the magnet will not stick, the fan most likely is a copy of the original 2 blade fan but made out of aluminum.



*Original Model A fan*

### What Do I Replace an Original Fan With?

Currently, there are two options when choosing a new fan. The aluminum copy of the original fan is a popular choice. This fan has the same shape as the original and works very well. Many choose this fan because it has the same appearance as the original steel fan.

A second option is the multi blade plastic fan which also works well but some consider the appearance to be too "modern" for a Model A. Both fans are available from most of the better Model A parts suppliers and both will give good service.



*Good quality replacement Aluminum 2 blade and Plastic multi-blade fans*





## Protecting & Enhancing Your Car's Finish

By Bob Harbicht

### New Fans to Look Out for

Currently on the market are both a 2 and 4 blade version of a fan with steel blades that are attached to an aluminum or steel hub with 4 bolts. The single thickness steel blades are not stiff and will flex, eventually fatigue and fail in the same manner as the original factory fans. These fans, while available new, should be avoided.



*Poor quality replacement fans that use bolts to attach the blades to a steel or aluminum hub*

### Other Fans That May Be in Service

Ford also made 4 blade fans for the 32-34 Model B 4 cylinder engines. Thru the years, these were often used as a replacement for the original 2 blade fans and a lot of them are still in service. These fans should be periodically inspected for cracks in the blades and the rivets attaching the blades to the hubs becoming loose.



*Original 32-34 Model B Ford*

Under no circumstance should a fan with badly rusted or pitted blades be used. Fatigue cracks can develop which can lead to blade failure.

### Summary

Having a blade separate from the rest of the fan can cause extensive damage. Do not use an original factory 2 blade fan. Do not use the poor quality 2 and 4 blade fans where the blades attach to the center hub with bolts. Do not use any fan where the blades are badly pitted or rusty. Periodically inspect the fan to be sure the fan is tight on the water pump shaft and the blades are all in good condition. Consider using either an aluminum 2 blade fan or a multi-blade plastic fan when purchasing a replacement fan.

### Tech Tip

When installing an aluminum fan, use a flat washer under the nut. This will help keep the nut from digging into the aluminum and the fan becoming loose on the water pump shaft.

### Protecting & Enhancing Your Car's Finish

by Bob Harbicht

Our Technical Director, Chris Wickersham, provides lots of valuable information on how to keep our cars in top running condition. Every member should pay careful attention to his words, because the man knows whereof he speaks!

In addition to the mechanical aspects of our cars, we want them to look good. So I thought I would look into various ways of protecting the finish of our cars, while making them as shiny as possible.

There are any number of commercial products available, many of which do a pretty good job. Meguiar's, Turtle Wax, Mother's, and others have a wide variety to choose from. I decided to test some of the offerings to see what I would recommend to Santa Anita Aers to keep their cars shiny and protected.

I also spent some time on the Internet searching for alternatives to these better-known names. Looking for that little-known trick that would give us a leg up on others. My time was rewarded when I came across a scientific-sounding article extolling the benefits of an unexpected alternative: bacon grease.

Now bacon grease is a little tricky to apply to your car's finish. You need a lot of it! But, that's also one of the benefits: it gives you an excuse to eat a lot of bacon. Now, some of us may have blood pressure that's a little high and bacon is one of the things our doctor has mandated that we steer clear of. But, after all, we do have a duty to take care of our favorite car. And sometimes we need to consider competing interests. I, for one, am willing to sacrifice for my trusty Model A. Besides, I like bacon!

You need to apply the bacon grease in an enclosed garage. Otherwise, you'll have every dog in the neighborhood crowded around your car, impeding your progress. The bacon grease should be warm. In fact, every 15 minutes or so you'll need to go back in the house and fry up two or three more strips of bacon. Bon appétit!

Apply the bacon grease with a brush, preferably a 2-inch, high quality paint brush. After applying a liberal dose, let it dry thoroughly. There is no need to buff it; it will naturally dry to a tough, very shiny finish. One caution, do not park your car for any length of time in direct sunlight! It tends to melt in heat, running down the sides of the car. Sometimes it drips on the brake drums and those mechanical brakes are even less effective with bacon grease on the drums.

I haven't actually had the opportunity to try this out on my car yet. Let me know how it works out for ya.

P.S. You might try adding a quart of wine to the mixture. Mix one pint with the bacon grease then consume the rest yourself; It makes the application a bit easier.



## Model A Ford Club of Victoria General Meeting Minutes.

Wednesday, 3rd Sept. 2025.

Phyllis Hore Meeting Room, Kew Library and online via Zoom.

Meeting opened by our President, Greg Rose at 8:06 pm.

**Attendees:** 31 and 7 via Zoom. Attendees noted on the register.

**Apologies:** Brenda Smith, Ray and Faye Gillson, Russell and Gillian Boyle, Vin O'Brien and Ned Rouse.

**New Members:** Nil.

**Visitors:** Danny George has a Model A Coupe and is joining the club.

**Sick List:** Members who were wished a speedy recovery: Tony Howard, Rob Griffiths, Russell and Gillian Boyle.

**Vale:** Alan Wilson, Bruce Anderson and Dave Cornell.

**Confirm the Minutes of the last General Meeting:** The minutes taken at the 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2025 General Meeting as published in the September/October 2025 edition of Ford Torque were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Greg Rose. Seconded: Richard Miles.....Carried.

**Business arising from the minutes:** Nil

**Correspondence Inwards:** Usual correspondence from the AOMC with the relevant information and invitations passed on to Club members as well as their News Bulletin // CCA's latest 'Radshell' and Country Motor Australia publications // VicRoads have sent us their list of MAFCV CPS registered vehicles // We have received an invitation from Shaun and Angie to visit Henry's at a date to be decided. // 1 nomination and 2 proxy forms have been received for November's AGM.

**Correspondence outwards:** The relevant information, publications and invitations emailed to members including November's AGM details // Funeral notices for Alan Wilson and Bruce Anderson // Canada's Capital A's raffle. Tonight was the last opportunity to purchase tickets. // Rob Balfour was thanked for sending us copies of the Shepparton Advisor and supplying information for the article on our visit to the area for the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration.

\*Rob Rush moved that the inwards correspondence be accepted and that the outwards correspondence be endorsed. Seconded:

Charlie Grima.....Carried.

**Business arising from the correspondence:** Nil.

**Treasurer's Report:** Erica Churchill presented her report indicating the Club is in good shape financially and gave a run down on the changes to the bank balance since the last General

Meeting in July. Copies of the report are available on request.

\*Erica Churchill moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as a true and accurate record. Seconded:

Mark Dohrmann.....Carried.

**Past Events Report:**

**July:**

2<sup>nd</sup> MAFCV General Meeting

26<sup>th</sup> Club Run to Ian Lightowlers premises in Carrum Downs...Charlie Grima gave members a run down on a very successful visit to Ian's premises. His vehicles and projects were most interesting. We

thanked Ian and his assistants for having us visit and for the magnificent food they supplied. Lunch was at the Baxter Tavern. Vin O'Brien braved the weather forecast and had the only Model A in attendance.

**August:**

14<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting.

31<sup>st</sup> Federation Marong Picnic....John Penhall attended in a 1964 Anglia. He enjoyed the day but thought numbers were down on last year.

**Coming Events Report:**

**September:**

3<sup>rd</sup> MAFCV General Meeting

14<sup>th</sup> International Model A Ford Day & Memorial Day at Ashburton Scout Hall....Rob Rush informed Members that the Ashburton Hall was booked and to let the Committee know of any members who they would like added to the Memorial List.

**October:**

9<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting.

10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Club weekend away to Sale... Kevin Churchill gave a run down on the activities that David Tulloch has put in place for the weekend. Visits to a Blacksmith's, a Clockmaker, dinner on Friday and Saturday nights, a visit to David's property and a possible trip to the Esso Helicopter Terminal are just some of the planned activities.

12<sup>th</sup> Yarrambat Historical Society open day....Rob invited members not going to Sale to consider going to Yarrambat which is always an enjoyable outing.

18<sup>th</sup> AOMC & Penrite Club & Trade Expo. Members were encouraged to attend and bring their A's for a Club display. The AOMC has designated a spot for our Club given it's our 50 year anniversary.

19<sup>th</sup> Ford Flathead Festival at the Scoresby Steam Centre. The FFF is planned to become a major calendar event for the Ford Side valve Clubs. Members were encouraged to bring their cars and enjoy the many attractions at the Scoresby Steam Centre.

19<sup>th</sup> Bay to Birdwood.

**November:**

5<sup>th</sup> MAFCV General Meeting & AGM

9<sup>th</sup> Historic Commercial Vehicle Club at Yarra Glen.

15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Bendigo Swap & Dinner at The Botanical Hotel on Saturday. Contact Peter Churchill.

16<sup>th</sup> MG Car Club 100 year celebration at Rob Roy. A suggested run for those not going to Bendigo.

**December:**

7<sup>th</sup> A&T Christmas Party...The Ashburton Hall is booked. Donated gifts for the Christmas raffle are always appreciated.

Richard Miles is to be thanked for his donated gifts.

11<sup>th</sup> MAFCV Committee Meeting

2026: Sun 18<sup>th</sup> to Sat 24<sup>th</sup> October:-

National Meet - Albany, WA

2028: Sat 21<sup>st</sup> to Sat 28<sup>th</sup> October:-

National Meet - Ballarat, VIC

Members are encouraged to suggest or help organise an event or outing.

**General Business:-**

**Membership Report:** Kevin Churchill reported 181 memberships. He thanked those members who have paid their membership dues on time and encouraged the few late respondents to reply.

**New Member application:** Nil

**AOMC:** Kevin Churchill reported that

Federation and the AOMC are working with VicRoads on aspects of the CPS system. The AOMC have implemented an Apprentice & Business Support Grant Scheme and are seeking suitable applicants. The MAFCV have applied to join the AOMC's Membership Plus Scheme.

**Ford Torque:** Photos or stories of past events or activities are requested.

**CPS:** We have received VicRoads current register of MAFCV vehicles on their CPS system so that we are able to update our Membership records.

**Website:** Mark Apterman was pleased with the number of members who look at the Club's website, and he is always happy to receive photos.

**Library:** Please don't lose track of books or magazines you have borrowed from the library. Sue thanked Phil Bradshaw for the book he donated to the Club on cars from 1920 to 1940.

**Clothing & Merchandise and Property:** Stock on hand:- 2 men's chambray shirts & 1 women's chambray shirt, 2 men's & 2 lady's polo tops, 2 rugby tops, 3 caps, 9 MAFCV badges+ @ \$15 ea. A few more items need to be ordered before another batch can be embroidered.

**Other general business items or items from the floor:**

\*Kevin Churchill gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining to Members the developments taking place at the Kew Library next year and the necessity for the Club to find another venue for 2026. The options were Balwyn, Hawthorn and Camberwell libraries. Wednesdays were the preferred day on which to book a facility. Further work to be done before a decision is made.

\*Rob Webster gave a short demonstration on the subtle difference to the louvre configuration on the very early Model A Ford bonnets. This was something he had not expected and he noted there was always something more to learn about our Model A's.

\*Brian Churchill invited Members to attend a talk he was giving at the Veteran Car Club on a Model T Ford that climbed Mt Ben Nevis, Scotland in 1911.

**Cars/ Parts for Sale or Car/Parts**

**Wanted:**

\*Our ongoing thanks go to Peter and Dulcie Lachmund for the tools which they have donated to the club. At each meeting a box of tools will be available from which members can select items.

\*Brenda Smith has a 1931 Slant Windshield, LHD 'Barn Find' for sale, which goes well.

**Tonight's Activities:**

A nibble and natter night with pies and sausage rolls was enjoyed by the Members present.

**Tonight's Raffle Prizes:** Kevin and Erica Churchill were thanked for bringing the raffle prizes as were Members who donated items.

**Supper:** Greg thanked those involved in supplying the food and preparing the evening's supper.

The meeting closed at 9:05 pm.

Next General Meeting & AGM: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

RR



# LONG DISTANCE TRAVEL TOOL KIT

## What should you take?

Things to consider for your trip - with acknowledgment to the ever-prepared **Russell Boyle**

### Tools

- Circuit tester
- Tyre lever
- Jack
- Wheel brace
- Large screwdriver
- Small screwdriver & tester
- Socket set and angle
- Jacking plate
- Jumper leads
- Clamps, various
- Plug cleaner
- Small shifter
- Leatherman
- Multimeter
- Timing spanner (Nulon)
- Points file
- Feeler gauge
- Spanners
- Hammer and nails
- Side cutters

### Spares

- Reco distributor and shaft
- Points set
- Starter switch
- Wiper arm and blade
- Tube - 5/25

- Water pump
- Set of radiator hoses
- Side bowl Zenith carby
- 6v coil and drop resistor/12v
- New distributor cap
- Distributor top and rotor
- Spare fuel cap
- Fan belt

### Other parts

- Manifold gasket
- Crank handle
- Gasket set
- Fuses: 25A, 35A
- Condenser
- Hose clamps
- Jumper cable - ignition
- Needles and seat
- Fuel line and connections
- Carb gaskets and jets
- Petrol, radiator cap gaskets
- Bendix spring & bolts
- Exhaust flange
- Axle shims
- Axle keys

- Wheel chock

### Connectors

- Nuts and bolts
- Wheel nuts
- Manifold nuts
- Cable ties
- Split pins
- Tape - duct and 2 inch

### General

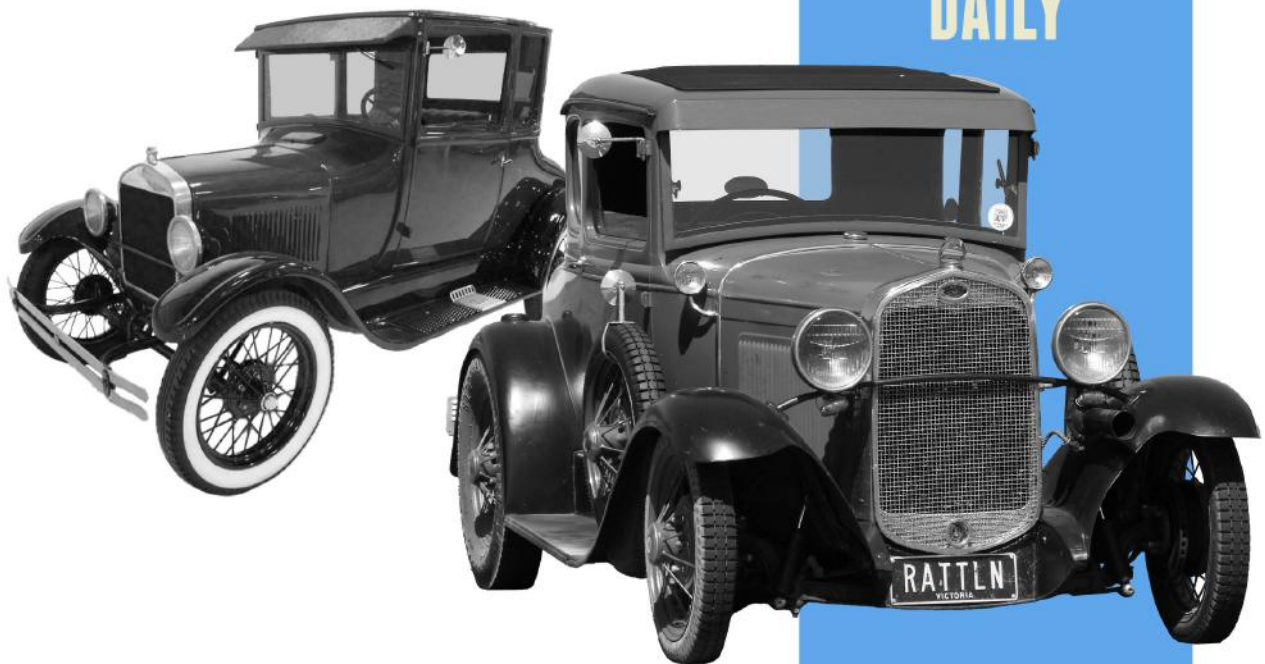
- Hand cleaner
- Rags
- Car wash
- Oil (HPR 30) and water - 7 litres
- Rubber gloves
- Umbrella
- Flat tow strap
- First aid kit
- Scotchbrite
- Torch, and forehead-strap light
- JB Weld
- WD 40
- Instant gasket
- Gasket sealant
- Trouble light, long lead
- Sandpaper

# ONLY ONE PLACE FOR MODEL T & A FORD PARTS

# 40

**YEARS  
EXPERIENCE**

**ORDERS  
SHIPPED  
DAILY**



## RESTORATION & HOT ROD PROJECTS

**FOR YOUR  
MODEL T & A**

**SERVICING  
TUNING  
UPHOLSTERY  
ELECTRICAL  
MAINTENANCE  
LIGHT FABRICATION  
EXHAUSTS & PARTS**

**HENRYSPARES.COM.AU**

**03 5368 1088**





## FORD TORQUE BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

There are several back issues of Ford Torque available For FREE! If you are missing copies from your collection or want replacements, or if you are missing the issues from prior to your join date, now is the time to do something about it. The list at right shows the issues that are available.

One copy or all of them - we really don't want to throw them out. We can mail one or two copies free, or you can pick up multiple copies at meetings. If you don't attend meetings we can possibly find someone from your area who does, or perhaps even organise a "relay" delivery.

Kevin 28tudor@protonmail.com

2009 Jan-Apr; May-June; July-Oct & Nov-Dec

2010 Full year.

2011 Full year.

2012 Full year.

2013 Full Year.

2014 March-April to November-December.

2015 Full year.

2016 Full year.

2017 Full year.

2018 Full year.

2019 January- February & March-April.

# EARLY FORD PARTS



Specialising in New Old Stock and  
Reproduction 1909 - 1948 Early Ford Parts.

**Dave Slater**

✉ dave.slater@casmn.com

☎ 0412 59 3535

🚚 We post Australia-wide

🏠 5 Chauncey Court, Wodonga VIC 3690

## FOR SALE

HOOD, sand blasted and prime coated.  
Needs some work. \$450 ONO



FRONT NUMBER PLATE MOUNT -  
painted black \$50 ONO

John Aird

0407 804 827

5/25



## FOR SALE

New Burns aluminium  
inlet manifold with 3  
bolt pattern to suit  
Stromberg 97, 81 or  
Holley. \$350.00 plus  
post

Bernard Livingstone  
(BLIV3502) Mildura  
0423 509 538 9/25



## FOR SALE

2 of, ex U.S.A. Model A or similar car,  
EXPANDABLE RUNNING BOARD  
LUGGAGE RACKS. \$220 or \$110 each OBO

Alan Bergman 0419 353 233 or

[alanbergmangt@gmail.com](mailto:alanbergmangt@gmail.com)

11/25

## FOR SALE 1928 MODEL A FORD TUDOR SEDAN



Double leader front brake shoes, 6 volt  
alternator, low mileage tyres and battery.  
Some spares, goes well, and on club plates  
(early number). Selling because not being  
used. Engine # CAQ 3747 \$21,000

Craig 0419 365 271

## WANTED

For 1929 Model A Ford Tourer  
Main Hood Bow and Rear supports that  
mount onto Prop Studs Left hand and  
Right hand Ray 0411 424 546 5/25

## WANTED

**Door Sill Plates** - 1928-29 Model A Ford  
Phaeton Front - require left and right.  
**Cowl Lacing Original Style** 1928 - 29 ,  
original style used a wire to hold down the  
lace over the gas tank

Wayne Hembury 0417 337 180 5/25

## WANTED

Model Ford Diff for 1930 model

Andrew Rankin Bendigo

0428 230 868

[Andrewrankin68@gmail.com](mailto:Andrewrankin68@gmail.com) 3/25

## WANTED

Fuel Tank for 1930 Model A

Rob Scaddan 0407 078 302

Email : [rob@scads.com.au](mailto:rob@scads.com.au) 5/25



## MARKET PLACE Please send "For Sale" & "Wanted" ads to Editor by:

(i) mail to P.O. Box 72 Bittern 3918 or (ii) by email to: [75fordtorque@gmail.com](mailto:75fordtorque@gmail.com) Photos should be emailed as .jpg attachments. ALL ads for cars for sale must, by Victorian law, show the registration # and the engine #

For Sale and Wanted ads are free to Members and will appear for two (2) issues of "Ford Torque" if there is space. (Wanted ads may run longer depending on space availability.)

SOLD your vehicle/parts or found the elusive part? Please notify the Editor at [75fordtorque@gmail.com](mailto:75fordtorque@gmail.com)

### FOR SALE 1931 MODEL A FORD SEDAN



Slant Windshield Sedan, "Barn find", Left hand drive. Goes well . POA

Brenda Smith 0407 644 777  
[warbrapark@gmail.com](mailto:warbrapark@gmail.com)

3/25

### FOR SALE

'B' Model Camshaft \$50



Single Plate Bell Housing

\$200 Moyle Bunworth

0417 556 694

[mbunworth4@gmail.com](mailto:mbunworth4@gmail.com) 7/25



### FOR SALE

#### Model A Ford Rolling Chassis

Mostly complete. Motor spins free.

No body parts. \$3,750.00

Ray 0411 424 546

5/25

### FOR SALE

Model B Engine, dismantled. Consists of block, crank & rods. 2 heads, reground camshaft, B timing cover, distributor.

Price? Let's talk. Arnold Chivers

03 9844 5432 [arglen10@bigpond.com](mailto:arglen10@bigpond.com)

### FOR SALE

Rear spring - 5 leaves \$80

Quail Radiator Cap 30-31 \$80

2 cylinder Running Board Pump \$100

Ron MacDonald 03 9723 1468 or  
0407 303 355

## BENDIGO SWAP MEET

15 & 16 November 2025

MAFCV Site 1396 & 1397 on the oval

Drop in for a chat at our marquee. You can also:

have a cool drink;

store your large purchases temporarily;

check out our for sale items;

book for our Saturday night dinner.





Charlie & Linda's Rare 1931 Two Door Phaeton and Chris & Sharyn's 1929 Phaeton at Holey Plains Homestead, Rosedale Victoria, during the Gippsland Weekend.