

## NORTH ISLAND MODEL A FORD CLUB INC NEW ZEALAND

# Model A Torque

October 2025

Issue No: 2025/09

**Chapter Members of** 









Wade Alexander accepts the "Best Amateur Restoration" Cup from Terry Costello

#### Welcome to the North Island Model A Ford Club Inc.

The purpose of our club is to enjoy, restore, preserve and protect the Model A Ford automobile and to foster a spirit of good fellowship and family participation through the use of the Model A Ford.

Membership is open to anyone with a sincere interest in the Model A Ford. Ownership is not a prerequisite.

Website: www.modelafordclub.co.nz





#### **OCTOBER**

Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Birkenhead Village Heritage Festival – 10am – 3 - 4pm. Free entertainment, music

and plenty of lunch venues available. A few club members will have their cars on

display. Come along and enjoy the day. To view further details see page 5.

**NOVEMBER** 

Fri - Sun 7-9th Annual Hubley Weekend Taupo. Make your way to Taupo or buddy with another

Club Member and create your own journey. Dinner organised for Fri and Sat with a boat ride on Saturday midday. Hubley racing will take place at the Cosmopolitan Club

with dinner following. Further details page 6.

**DECEMBER** 

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Club Christmas Party Cornwall Park – 10am – 2pm. A fun day and final get-together

before the festive season. Bring along the grandchildren as Santa is coming. Further

details for this great day can be viewed on page 7.

**JANUARY 2026** 

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> – Sun 18th Kumeu Classic Car & Hot Rod Show. Further details to come. View Page 17.

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Mangere Beach BBQ 5pm onwards Mangere Beach Reserve. Details page 12.

Sat 24th Wings n Wheels Thames. 10am – 3pm at Sir Keith Park Memorial Airfield. Page 17.

**FEBRUARY** 

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Ellerslie Car Show and Intermarque Concours D'Elegance. 10am – 4pm at the

Ellerslie Racecourse organised by the Auckland Mustang Owners Club. Page 12.

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Kumeu Model A Run – Mark Corbett, Details to come.

#### **NON-CLUB EVENTS – These may be of interest to some members**

Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Nov Waikato Vintage Swap Meet, Karapiro Domain Cambridge

28 Feb – 1<sup>st</sup> Mar 2026 Highland Fling Te Awamutu, Waikato

**15-21**<sup>st</sup> Mar **Vero International Festival of Historic Motoring Nelson –** VCC event.

25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Mar Whangamata Beach Hop 18<sup>th</sup> April Warbirds at Ardmore

30 – 31<sup>st</sup> May Irishman's Rally, Fairlie, Canterbury

## Print this page off for reminders and stick to

## your fridge!

Do not forget to visit the Club Website, click on the Events Calendar. If you are unable to use the website and have questions a committee member would be only too willing to assist. Give them a call!!



#### Hi Model A folk.

A very successful AGM was held at the Remuera Club Sunday 5 October with 39 attendees. The AGM was followed by a buffet dinner and prizegiving. On arrival at the venue Martin Rees, Club Secretary made sure all members were kept up-to-date with reports presented by Executive Members along with the Financial Statement for the year ended 31 August 2025. We thank you all for your input – the written reports certainly make a difference.

Wade Alexander, past Club Captain stood down after years of dedicated service. Wade has done an excellent job as Secretary and Club Captain and the Club will miss the dedication and hard work that he has shown. We would like to thank you Wade for the hours of work that went into revising the Club Constitution to incorporate the many new requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 2023.

Unfortunately, a new Club Captain was not elected at the AGM however we have strengthened the committee with 5 new committee members. We now have 10 elected working committee members. The election of a Club Captain will be discussed by the newly elected committee. Your new committee is as follows: Vice-Captain Andrew Costello; Secretary Martin Rees; Treasurer Marlene Costello; Newsletter Editor Karen Thomas; Website Andrew Costello; Committee – Terry Costello; Don Windley; Shane Hegh; Grant Barry; Mark Corbett and Graham Thompson. Thank you we look forward to another successful club year.

## Karen Thomas NIMAFC Committee.





#### Hello to all our Model A Friends

After 8 years absence I have again stepped into the role of Newsletter Editor. This is your newsletter and your contribution is valued. Do not hold back any news, big or small, as this could be of interest to others. I aim to provide club members with a well informed newsletter so join me for the ride and let's go with the news. You may notice a few changes while I endeavour to create my own style however, I need to keep your interest peaked so if that is not happening then let me know - your feedback is very important. If you have any news for publication be sure to send this to me by the **20**<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Karen Thomas, Editor** 

Email: nimafc.editor@gmail.com





Although our new members are welcomed officially by our Secretary Martin Rees, I felt it appropriate for them to be welcomed in our club newsletter. Our present club members may have already become acquainted with these new members and I thank you for including them and making them feel welcome within the membership. These members have joined the club prior to the AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> October. We look forward to meeting with you on one of the many club runs, events or tech nights.

Members Name	Town	Model A
Jordan Heath	Castro Valley, California	1930 Sports Phaeton RHD
Tony & Maree Raffles	Auckland	1930 Closed Cab Pickup Truck
Richard Ward	Kumeu	1930 Tudor
Steve & Helen Simonsen	Carterton	1929 Colonial body Pickup Truck
Andrew & Fiona Beattie	Martinborough	1930 Coupe
Kelvin Trevor	Auckland	No Model A
Ryan Henderson	Taupo	1931 Roadster pickup & 1927
		Model T Roadster Pickup Truck
Shane Hegh	Waimauku	1928 Roadster
Richard Guthrie	Kaeo, Northland	1928 Pickup Truck
Trevor Hughes	Tauranga	1927 Roadster
David & Valerie Stafford	Tauranga	1930 Fordor & 1931 Roadster
Steve & Minda Gray	Whangarei	1931 Deluxe Roadster
Ted Spain	Auckland	1930 Project
Graham & Lorraine Hallen	Whangamata	1930 Fordor
John Urlich	Whangamata	1931 Fordor
Mark & Suzanne Jennings	Whitianga	1930 Deluxe Roadster



Russel McAlpine - 1930 Ford Phaeton

#### Birkenhead Village Heritage Festival – Saturday 25 October

We have our annual request for display cars for this event. Parked outside the library from about 10am until 3 - 4pm. Free entertainment, music and plenty of lunch venues available.



## BIRKENHEAD VILLAGE PRESENTS OPENING PERFORMANCE

The Swing Jazz Bands of the Era for your enjoyment

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October NELL FISHER RESERVE BIRKENHEAD LIBRARY

12 - 2 The Madeleines Trio



Celebrate the opening of our fabulous Spring Fling Vintage Carnival with the Madeleines Trio concert performance. The vintage vocal trio will transport you back to the golden era of music!

These ladies have worked internationally in theatre – in West End, Hong Kong and Melbourne. Dress up in your vintage best and bring your dancing shoes to join the vintage swing dancers from 12 noon to 2pm outside / or inside Birkenhead Library!



# ANNUAL INTER-CLUB HUBLEY CHALLENGE WEEKEND - TAUPO

7<sup>TH</sup> – 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER



Annually there has been an inter-club challenge between the Hawkes Bay Model A Ford Club and the North Island Model A Ford Club. This is always a good weekend, especially if you enjoy racing a Hubley and chance testing your skills against other club members. To refresh your memory I have outlined the weekend activities below. The registration form and outline of activities are noted on the club website <a href="https://www.modelafordclub.co.nz">www.modelafordclub.co.nz</a>. Any questions please contact Andrew Costello.

**Friday Night Dinner:** 5.00 - 6.00pm Finn's Bistro and Beer Garden – 10 Tuwharetoa Street, Taupo. Friday night Special – fish, chips, salad \$24. Option choose from i.e. Pizza, Burgers, Taco etc.

Finn's is open from 5pm onwards so head on down when thirsty. Number's required for this, pay on day.

Saturday Breakfast: - Lacus Café, The Landing, 650 Lake Terrace, Wharewaka, Taupo.

Only available from 8.00 - 9.00 - \$16 Special - Eggs, bacon, toast with coffee of your choice.

Saturday 'Midday only' Cruise – "Ernest Kemp-Lake and Maori Rock Carving Cruise"

First 40 people enables club to book the boat for seniors however we need numbers and payment of \$45pp.

Complimentary tea, coffee, cookies on board. Wine and beer available for sale.

(You can do your own thing if you so wish. There are many adventures around Taupo.

**Saturday afternoon** – Hubley Practice Run, Cosmopolitan Club, Taupo.

4pm – bring your hubley for practice – 4.15pm cut-off for entries – 5pm racing starts.

**Saturday Evening** – Cosmopolitan Club, Taupo – Smorgasboard. **Important** *need numbers please*. Buy your own drinks at the Club. **\$45pp pay on night**.

All persons attending weekend: \$20 pp payable to NIMAFC Bank Account 12-3068-0187485-00 Reference: "Hubley Taupo" 2025			
Name:		Club:	
Name:		Club:	
Hubley Entries: Na	me of Car		
1		2	
Checklist:	Saturday Cruise	Numbers required Numbers required Numbers required	+ payment prior
	Registration for Hubley Weekend \$20 pp		+ payment prior

### CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK



## Sunday, 7 December 2025



10.00AM – 2.00PM (arrive/depart as you wish)

#### If seriously wet, we will postpone to Sunday 14 December

**Where:** Cornwall Park, Greenlane in our usual spot.

**Directions:** From Greenlane West (opposite Puriri Drive), turn into Cornwall Park (Pohutukawa Drive),

then right at the first roundabout into the carpark (adjacent to the Cherry Tree Grove).

Bring: Model A or modern, picnic lunch + drinks, chairs, sun umbrella (optional), sunscreen,

children/grandchildren/family. Wear something Christmassy – hat, socks, whatever! Feel free

to decorate your Model A. Prizes!

Quiz: Ralph's annual Club Mastermind Quiz. This year, anyone can win – it's all multichoice! Bring

a pen. More prizes!

Santa: Yes, Santa is coming! If you're bringing children (we hope you will), please bring a small

wrapped gift for each child, clearly showing their name. And ... all adults at Christmas in the

Park will receive a gift from Santa.

**Hey Kids!** Fun competition with prizes! Still working on this. Ideas welcome.

**Enquiries:** Ralph & Jenny Levinson

021 1727 637 (Ralph) 027 2848 666 (Jenny)

#### COME ALONG AND JOIN US FOR THE FINAL CLUB EVENT OF THE YEAR



#### PRESENTATION CLUB AWARDS 2025 at AGM



Jim and Jan Corbett – Attendance Cup



Mark Corbett, Best Commercial



Steve Driver – Ron Griffen Award Fastest Hubley



Stuart and Diane Jordan – Aubrey Bateman Award In recognition for Services to the Club



Ralph and Jenny Levinson Pride of Ownership



Alayne Rees - Ladies Cup



Martin and Alayne Rees – Endeavour Cup for 17<sup>th</sup> National Rally organisation



Bruce Stratton and Rae Emus Most Elegant Model A



Stephen and Kay Upson Competitive Events Cup

#### 20 Year Membership Badges

Ross Bolton Brian and Kay Hosking Paul and Kerrie Hunter

#### 50 Year Membership Badges

Murray and Anne Ashby John and Mary Castle

#### 30 Year Membership Badges

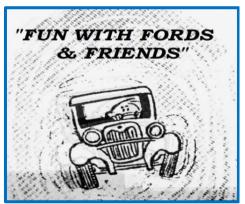
Norman Geary Graham Somervaille





Martin Rees presents prizes to the best dressed lady Kay Hosking, and best dressed man, Stephen Upson at the recent AGM.





#### **Recipe Ginger and Lemon Slice**

125g Butter, chopped ½ cup (110g) caster sugar 2 Tbsp dessicated coconut

1 tsp grated lemon rind

2 Tbsp lemon juice

250g milk coffee biscuits (or other plain sweet biscuits)

150g finely chopped crystallised ginger

½ cup (65g) dried cranberries

2 tsp ground ginger

2 eggs, beaten lightly



ICING: 1 cup (160g) icing sugar; 1½ Tbsp lemon juice; tiny drop pink food colouring (optional)

#### METHOD:

- 1. Preheat oven to 180C fan bake. Grease 18cm x 27cm slice tin. Line base and sides with baking paper, extending the paper approx. 3cm over the sides.
- 2. Place butter, sugar, coconut, rind and juice in a small saucepan; stir over low heat until butter is melted.
- 3. Crush biscuits and combine the crushed biscuits, chopped ginger, cranberries and ground ginger in a large bowl. Stir in the warm butter mixture. Add the eggs, stir to combine. Press the mixture into the prepared pan.
- 4. Bake the slice for 25 minutes or until golden brown. Cool in pan.
- 5. ICING sift the icing sugar into a medium bowl; add enough lemon juice to make a drizzling consistency. Tint with the food colouring if you wish.
- 6. Drizzle the icing over the cooked slice. Stand for 30 minutes or until set. Cut into squares and lift from pan. Suitable to freeze. ENJOY...

#### TECH NIGHT - Wednesday 15 October - Model A Differential



There was a good turnout to learn about the Model A's differential, about twenty people arrived including several new members David Harold, Shane Hegh and Grant Barry who were welcomed.

Steve Driver and Terry Costello had removed the rear axle from Ross Bolton's 1930 Coupe as Ross had detected a slight whine in the 'diff'. Someone quipped 'perhaps the whine appeared because of Ross drinking wine' all meant in good fun. Ross could not be there to 'defend himself' as he is unwell at present.

We wish him a speedy recovery.

Steve described how to set the pre-load on the pinion gear twin tapered bearings showing the use of a small torque wrench in lbs/ft to set the required torque to about 3-5 lbs/ft (just enough!).

The wear pattern between the crown wheel and pinion teeth looked very even with a broad and smooth contact surface but there were about ten-15 degrees of excess 'back-lash' between the two gears that needed to be 'removed'. Steve explained how this could be reduced by varying the number and thickness of the gaskets acting as shims on either side of the diff housing to alter the contact between the crown wheel and pinion. The concept is simple but the executing more difficult as it requires many attempts of 'trial & error'. That process to get the correct setting has to be done after the Tech night followed by installation of the rear axle and a road test to see if the 'whine' has been banished!

Terry has Peter Crowley's green 1928 pick-up truck for sale and Ross's Coupe may be for sale shortly so Terry asked as many people as possible to write down what they thought each vehicle was worth to help set a market price for both. The result is only known to Terry! He has a trailer full of spare Model A parts that he is taking to Bruce Stratton's 'swap-meet' on Sat 18th October.





#### Mangere Beach BBQ – Wednesday 21 January 5.00pm onwards

Come along and join fellow club members at the Mangere Beach BBQ. This annual event is now being held at Mangere Beach, which is more sheltered from the prevailing SW winds, on the southern side of the Onehunga Harbour (not Onehunga Beach). This area does have easy motorway access.

The Club traditionally has always had a very good turnout at this event so come along and join us – share your Christmas stories or your New Year wishes. Please bring your own picnic dinner plus choice of sausages/steak to cook on Club BBQ. Also supply your own drinks, folding chair, table, cutlery and drinking vessel and soak up the atmosphere of a summer evening in the fresh air.

**Where:** Mangere Beach peninsula that has the Mangere Beach Boating Club building and the Mangere Beach boat launching ramp Kiwi Esplanade Road. Lots of sealed parking, trees and picnic tables set in a grassy reserve. For further information contact Andrew Costello 021 943 063 or view the club website for detailed driving instructions.





#### Ellerslie Car Show - Sunday 08 February 10.00am - 4pm

Don't forget to put a ring around this date, a great day for car enthusiasts at the Ellerslie Racecourse. Meander in the sun and view the vast selection of vintage, classic and modern vehicles on display. Always worth a visit – you always meet up with someone you know. Keep an eye out for further details re club participation at this event.



#### SPEAKING FASHION

## The PERFECT BOW TIE

#### The BOW TIE

#### "A Tying Guide for Tying Times"

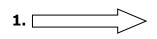


For the Model A gentleman, one did not go out and about in public without a tie around his neck. A bow tie is a necessary accessory for formal wear, and can be a fun addition for casual fashions. However, tying the perfect bow takes practice to get it perfect. Some friends in the Model A hobby happened upon an expert who gave them the following step-bystep process in an effort to help their men "get it right." I thought I would share these steps for the rest of the men out there! IF YOU LIKE, HANG THIS GUIDE NEXT TO YOUR MIRROR .....

Then match your movements to those seen below. The illustrations appear as you would see yourself in the mirror. So when we say "left," we mean the "left" you see in the mirror.

- 1. Slide the unformed tie under your collar. Extend the end of the right 1" further than the end on the left.
- 2. Cross the long end over the short end. Then pass it back and up through the loop at your neck, making a loose, over hand knot. Gently tighten the knot so it fits snugly around your neck.

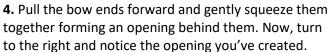


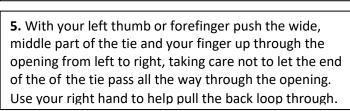


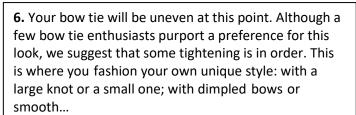


3. Fold the lower hanging end up and to the left, as shown. Make sure the unfolded end is hanging down over the front of the bow.

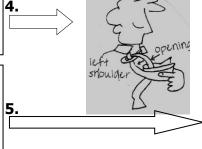




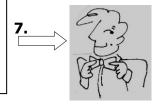




7. Gently manouvering, pull the loops and watch the knot grow smaller. Then, pull both flat ends and loops, lightly tugging up and down to straighten. This tightens the knot...and will smooth out the bow...and viola! Your bow is tied!







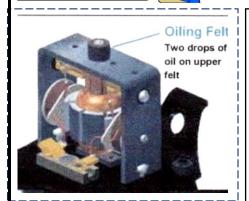
With a bit practice, you will give your bow tie the dash and flair that is yours and vours alone.

**Remember** if at first you don't succeed tie and tie again.

# TECHNICAL ARTICLE

#### **HORN BASICS - Reprinted from modelabasics.com**

By Paul R Modlin





## **OILING Tools and Supplies:**

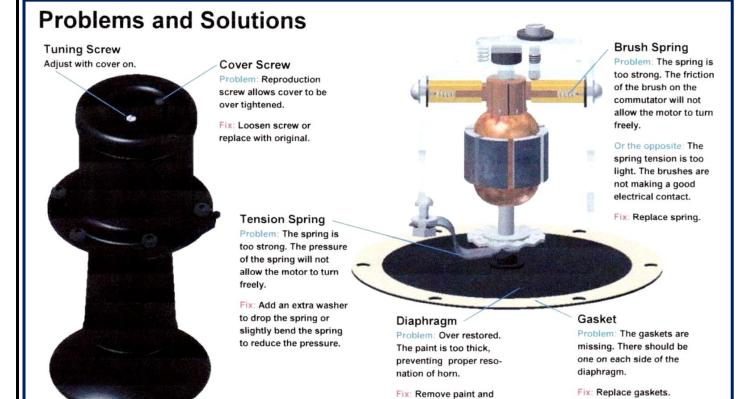
- + Flat Blade Screwdriver
- + Scotch Brite Pad (or similar)
- + Sewing Machine Oil or 3 in 1
- + Kerosene
- + Toothpicks

#### **Procedure:**

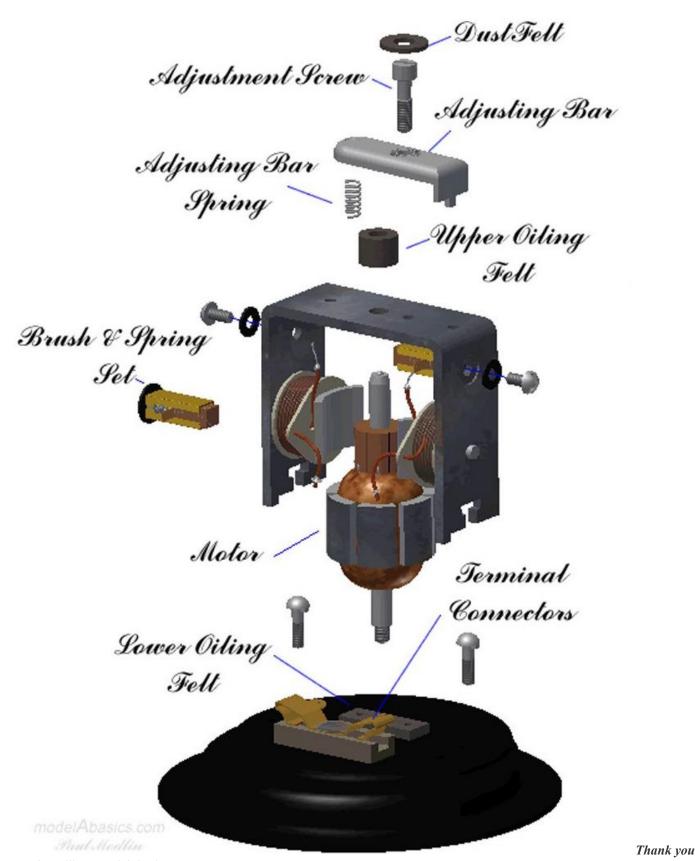
- Remove the dirt from the Upper and Lower Oiling Felts. Clean with kerosene and pad dry.
- Polish the Commutator with a Scotch Brite pad. Clean between the gaps with a toothpick.
- Add two drops of 3 in 1
   (or sewing machine) oil to
   both the Upper and
   Lower Oiling Felts.
- Lightly grease the upper and lower tips of the Motor shaft, as well as the bottom of the Rachet.







repaint sparingly.



Paul Medlin - modelabasics.com

#### **TINY TIP**

Water accumulated inside the bell of any Model A horn (even the repro's) can lead to serious rust and corrosion of both the bell and the diaphragm. Make sure the holes are not blocked by either rust or dirt; and while you are at it, give the diaphragm a coating of rust-inhibiting black paint. Most repro horns don't have a drain hole, so get busy with the electric drill on these.

Egan Lamprecht (Sooner Model A Club)



MAFFI'S goal is to preserve the Model A and memorabilia through research, education and various programmes

Model A Days was a great experience for all who attended! There were a total of 1100 people who attended and were able to see the ribbon cutting of the new expansion to the museum, including the Garage Learning Centre. 210 model A's took over the Gilmore in support of the event as well as a registered 80 swap vendors at the swap meet making this the largest swap meet to date!

The ribbon cutting ceremony was led by John Begg, with former MAFFI President Stan Johnson and Brad Minners (on behalf of former MAFFI President Howard Minners) cutting the ribbon. While we may be finished with the expansion, there are plenty of ways to still be involved with the museum for continued projects such as the "My A Program" as well as the memorial bricks. If you did not get a chance to get up to the museum or the see the expansion yet, you can still check out the expansion on maffi.org under the "Cameras" section of the website. It was really cool to see our hobby come together to celebrate our beloved cars! I know the Gilmore is equally proud to be partnered with us.

Happy motoring!
John Grossheim
MAFFI Trustee/ Secretary



1928 Phaeton – Sweepstakes Car – who will be the lucky winner!!

#### KUMEU CLASSIC CAR AND HOT ROD FESTIVAL – 16 – 18 January 2026



As the engines fire up and the chrome begins to gleam, there's a familiar buzz rolling back into Kumeu this summer. The Kumeu Classic Car & Hot Rod Show 2026 is set to return bigger, bolder, and brighter than ever — a celebration of horsepower, craftsmanship, and community spirit that has long stood as a highlight on every car enthusiast's calendar. For decades this iconic event has drawn gearheads from across New Zealand and beyond — uniting classic car lovers, builders, and families for a weekend of nostalgia, innovation, and good old-fashioned Kiwi camaraderie. More details to come on the club's participation at this event in November newsletter.



#### Wings & Wheels, Thames - Saturday 24 January 2026

This event will be held in the New Year at the newly named Sir Keith Park Memorial Airfield, 395 State Highway 25, Thames from 10.00am – 3.00pm. A day full of entertainment with food stalls and many car displays of vintage vehicles, classic trucks, tractors, FMZ Bikes, military vehicles, aircraft and classic Cars. Further details to come.













#### **CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS**





There is no charge for members advertising in this newsletter. Items will be advertised 3 times unless renewed or cancelled with the Editor.

**1928 Truck** with Kwila deck. Registration is on hold and no current Wof but passed last time. Runs well and new starter fitted. \$22,000. Contact Clive O'Halloran at <a href="mailto:clive.o@xtra.co.nz">clive.o@xtra.co.nz</a>

**1929 Pickup** excellent condition \$42,000. Phone Terry Costello 0274920642 or email <a href="mailto:tcmodelanz@gmail.com">tcmodelanz@gmail.com</a>





**Multi Disc clutch flywheel** in good condition. Contact Terry Costello if interested. Rare to see one with the internal teeth in such apparent good condition.





Wanted Engine in good running order wanted. Please call/text Shane on 027 296 2965.





#### **Committee Contacts**

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• <u>Secretary</u> Martin Rees	0274964200
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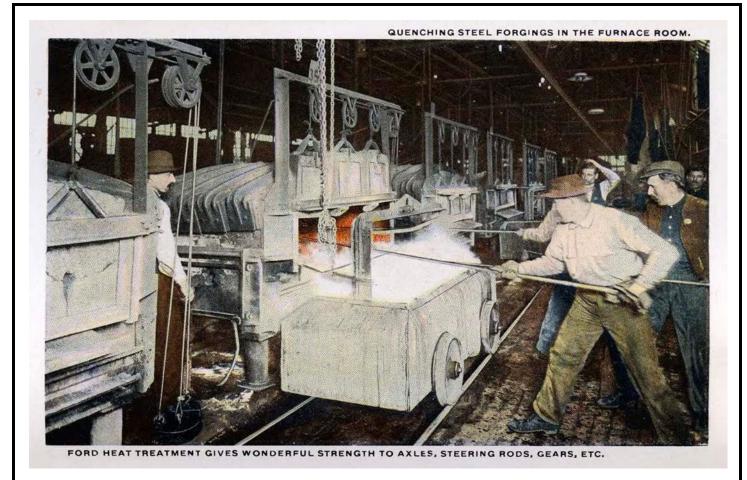
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Please send articles/reports/photos to the Editor by 20<sup>th</sup> of the month (or earlier if you can) in Microsoft Word or directly into an email. Editor will format to publish in Newsletter.

#### Thank you to all contributors to this newsletter







#### The last words are from the man himself.



One man's rule is another man's ruin.

Henry Ford



Website: www.modelafordclub.co.nz



Facebook: Model A Ford Club