

Chapter Members of:



MODEL A TORQUE

Month: July 2019

Issue Number: 2019/07

Season: Winter



Winter Wonderland – Aoraki Mount Cook, (Highest Mountain in NZ)

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

Inside this Issue:

- Upcoming Events – (Page 5 - 7)
- Coming up – Club Tech Night – Wed 3rd July
- Competitive Club Run – Sunday 21st July



Vice Captain's Ramble

Hi folks, well seeing that Hugh & Anne-Marie are away on an extended trip, it's me you must put up with this time.

Past events including the Mid-Winter social @ Ryders for a hearty roast dinner followed by a couple of movies including a Documentary style film outlining the life of Randolph Hirst publishing magnate and the building of his Castle which was his dream from a very young age, followed by the showing of a classic movie "every which way but loose" dating back to the mid 70's which starred a youthful Clint Eastwood.

Coming up is a visit to Gordon McIsaac's private collection of Speedway on the 3rd July memorabilia a recommended visit for any petrol head.

We are heading on towards our club's AGM so it's time for members to have a thought about putting your hand up to help fill some vacancies on the committee and bring some fresh ideas forward.

So I will sign off now and remember.....

"if you can't afford a Ford dodge a Dodge"

Cheers, Errol McAlpine



Officers of the Club/Committee

Position:	Name:	Contact details:
Club Captain	Hugh Hulse	Phone 021 599 981 Email: gatland.park@xtra.co.nz
Vice-Captain	Errol McAlpine	Phone 027 4543 983 Email: errolmac@xtra.co.nz
Secretary	Karen Thomas	Phone (09) 443 5253 or 027 419 0191 Email: mosseykar@gmail.com
Treasurer/Memberships	Ralph Levinson	Phone 021 1727 637 or (09) 578 3000 Email: ralphlevinson1@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Kay Palmer	Phone 021 0731 542 Email: nimafc@outlook.com
Committee (Event Co-ordinator & Tech Nights)	Bruce Stratton	Phone 027 485 3634 Email: brucestratton@xtra.co.nz
Committee (Club Records & Assets)	John Castle	Phone 021 957 032 Email: jmcastle@xtra.co.nz
Committee (Event Co-ordinator & Tech Nights)	John Ross	Phone 021 437 267 Email: jr@acrostic.co.nz
Committee (Club Health and Safety)	Andrew Costello	Phone 021 943 063 Email: gizmoccat@slingshot.co.nz
Historian	Paul Smith	



Treasurer's Report

(with apologies for my attempt at poetry)

*The bills are paid, subs up-to-date
A report to write, just don't be late (says Editor, Kay)
Your Treasurer needs to find
Some news to fill your heart and mind
And not repeat or dupli-cate*

- **Here's a short film** – includes many Fords – made about 1928, *Ma and the Auto*. This poetic gem, 6 minutes long, is about back seat drivers. Notice too, the lack of road markings in those "olden days". Click on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-FNkWeGANA>

- **Club member, Brandon Elder**, must have set some sort of a record returning to Hamilton from this year's Te Anau Rally. That's around 1600kms, with a sea journey en route! Driving his 1930

(Flying) Roadster, Brandon made the trip in 53 hours – actual driving time, 22 hours. A cracking pace in an A.

- **Before the NZ Automobile Association (the AA) was formed in 1991**, there were 17 District Automobile Associations. Some of the oldest AA badges feature Mercury – the winged Roman god regarded as the protector of travellers. Mercury also had other work to do – amongst others, he was also the god of shopkeepers and good fortune.
- **Parkable is an app originally used by** locals around Auckland's Eden Park, to rent out their driveways during rugby test matches. Today, it's a 55-person company with around 5500 NZ carparks on its books. Their next move is into China. You can use *Parkable* to list a carpark online, or search for space. Our son-in-law who works in Auckland's Viaduct Basin area, reports driveway carparks are much in demand if they're within walking (or scootering) distance of the central city.
- **100 Hour Non-Stop Model A Test.** Following is an abbreviated version of an article in the April-June 2019 *Model A News*, the journal of the Model A Restorers Club (Australia) Inc.
In January 1929, Brisbane Ford dealers collectively arranged a 100-hour, non-stop, endurance test, using a 1928 Model A Phaeton. Hood up throughout, windscreen closed, at all times with at least 4 passengers on board, plus MTA scrutineers – a total of 5 or 6 persons. (Presumably brief stops were made to refuel, change crews ... and respond to nature's call).
Results. Total mileage, 2563. 29.12 miles per gallon. Average speed, 25.18 mph. Less than 1 cup of water was added to the radiator. An MTA inspector said the car's performance and comfort were to be admired, "notwithstanding the diversity of the roads between Ipswich and Redcliffe". Immediately after the run, the engine head and sump were removed, plus 1 piston and con rod. Very little carbon was present in the combustion chambers, or on the valves. The oil retained good lubricating quality. The examination concluded the car was immediately capable of a further 100 hour, non-stop test! Yet another recognition of the remarkable, durable Ford Model A.
- **Congratulations to Club member, Bill Beard** (Whitianga), who entered his 1929 Tudor in the 2019 Coromandel Charity Cruise. Bill's car was not only the oldest competitor, but also won the Overall People's Choice 1st place. Well done Bill.
- **In April I visited the car wreckers of all wreckers**, Horopito Motors, south of National Park, (featured in the film, *Smash Palace*). Acres and acres of old cars, 1920s – 1970s. And more stored parts than you could imagine. Click on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKAhOm4mQaM>. The owner, Colin Fredricksen, has 9 driveable Model A's ... several are on display. Colin also considers the site is unique in Australasia – it would be difficult to argue with that claim.

This ends the Treasurer's non-Treasury report. I hope you found at least something of interest.

Best wishes

Ralph Levinson



What's Happening

SECRETARYS REPORT

NIMAFC Committee Meeting

held

Wednesday 05 June, 2019 – 6.40pm

55 Victoria Street, Onehunga

Meeting chaired by: Errol McAlpine

Present: Errol McAlpine; Karen Thomas; Ralph Levinson; Kay Palmer; Bruce Stratton; Andrew Costello; John Castle.

Apologies: Hugh Hulse; John Ross.

Correspondence: Inwards – Chevrolet Club Newsletter; MAFFI – The 'A' Preserver and Minute Liaison; Jim Cannon; John Marshall; Glenda Chivers; Very Vintage Day Out; John Anderson; Karol Snowsill.

Outwards: Emails to Jim Cannon and John Marshall, Executive Director MAFFI.

Treasurers Report: Cheque Account \$4,193.15; Savings Account \$ 132.24; Term Deposit (1) \$18,823.76 (2) \$5,000.00.

Newsletter Editors Report: June newsletter was a big edition. Kay is trying to encourage as many members from outside the Auckland region to contribute articles. Would like more Club member profiles.

Club Events: Tech Night – Tech Night - Gordon McIsaac's speedway memorabilia – 03 July; Competitive Run – 21 July; Tech Night – motors – 07 August; 'First Scene' party and costume – 18 August; Club Awards Evening – 07 September; Swap Meet – 08 September at Bruce Stratton's workshop; International Model A Day – 22 September; AGM – 18 October; Christmas Party, Cosy Corner Tauranga – 29/30 Nov and 01 Dec.

Health & Safety: No problems to report.

General Business:

Club events – All events were discussed and confirmed. Must correct address for Gordon McIsaac, Tech Night on Speedway memorabilia – should read '14' Parawai Cres, Grey Lynn.

Competitive Run – 21 July – held out west driving through back roads with lunch at Ginger Crunch Cafe. See details in newsletter.

Tech Night – 07 August – general discussion on motors at Errol McAlpine's Veteran and Vintage.

Awards Evening – 07 September - Theme this year 'I Remember' – get your thinking caps on.

First Scene – 18 August – costume and party hire company. Has tours around 1.5 hours including refreshments, tour of departments and photo opportunity.

An invitation to participate in The Very Vintage Day Out ASB Showgrounds. It was decided to advertise in newsletter but not as a Club activity. Up to individuals to attend if they wish. Ten spots available for our cars. Contact Ralph Levinson.

Meeting closed 8.40 pm

Next Meeting Tuesday 02 July, 2019 at 6.30pm


Karen Thomas
Secretary NIMAFC

Upcoming Event Calendar

North Island Model A Ford Club Events – confirmed dates as follows.

The calendar will be updated as event details are finalised for publication.

Don't forget your attendance at the Club Events also counts towards the 'Attendance Cup' which is presented at our Annual Club Awards Dinner in September.

<p>Wednesday 3 July 2019</p>	<p>Club Tech Night – Vintage Speedway – 14 Parawai Crescent, Grey Lynn, Auckland, 7pm (refer Flyer emailed on 24 June) An opportunity to view Vintage Speedway Memorabilia. This is a must see!</p> <p>Club Contact: Andrew Costello Phone: 021 943 063</p>
<p>Sunday 21 July 2019</p> <p>Counts towards the Competitive Events Trophy!</p>	<p>Norwest Run to Helensville</p> <p>When: Sunday 21st July 2019 - Meet at 10.00am Where: Meet at the Westgate Shopping Centre Carpark opposite The Warehouse and next to the Public Toilets. We will be leaving from 10.30am and travelling the back roads (all sealed) ending at the Ginger Crunch Café next to the Railway museum at Helensville for a light lunch. We have arranged for the Railway Station Museum to be open for those who may wish to visit, entrance fee \$5. This is a morning run and will have some competitive elements to it.</p> <p>Contact: John Castle. Phone: 021 957032 if you need any further information.</p>
<p>Wednesday 7 August 2019</p>	<p>Club Tech Night – Discussion on Motors – Errol McAlpines Workshop, Veteran & Vintage, 1127 Scenic Drive, Swanson 7pm (BBQ will be fired up) Contact: Errol McAlpine 027 4543 983</p>
<p>Sunday 18 August 2019</p> 	<p>Club Visit and Tour to 'First Scene', 334B Rosebank Road, Avondale, AUCKLAND (behind BOC Gas) – Meet at 11am</p> <p>First Scene is New Zealand's largest costume and party prop hire company with over 400,000 items in the Avondale premises. Product is supplied to international and local films, TV and theatre productions as well as corporate events, schools, community groups and general members of the public. Previously owned by TVNZ, First Scene has been the core supplier in their field for over 30 years.</p> <p>There is an amount of walking around the building. Tour is approx. 1.5 hours. Tour includes Costumes, Productions Wardrobe and Props Department.</p> <p>Tour numbers strictly limited to a group of 25 people – You must book to secure your place before the day – limited spaces – please register with Committee Member, Kay Palmer Phone: 021 0731 542 (text or phone).</p> <p>Morning Tea at 11am in the Retro Lounge and then the tour starts (allow for a finish time around 1.30pm). Tea/Coffee and Biscuits provided.</p> <p>Group Photo opportunity on conclusion of the tour – 1920/30's style.</p> <p>If want to learn about the history of this very interesting company, this is the event for you.</p> <p>Organiser: Kay Palmer (NIMAFC Editor) and Era Fashion Supporter.</p> <p>Large carpark available at the back of the building, wear warm clothes.</p>

Saturday 7 September 2019	North Island Model A Ford Club – Awards Dinner – CT Club, Greenlane, Auckland Start booking your Tickets NOW – A must do event on the Club's Calendar – more details on Page 7
Sunday 8 September 2019	North Island Model A Ford Club – Swap Meet Held at Committee Member Bruce Stratton's premises, BBQ included More details to come Make it a weekend – Awards Dinner and Swap Meet
Sunday 22 September 2019	International Model A Ford Day More details to come – in the planning stages – Keep this date free
Friday 18 October 2019	AGM – North Island Model A Ford Club VCC Rooms in Penrose, Auckland
Wednesday 13 November 2019	Club/Tech Night – in the planning stages
Fri 29 Nov/Sat 30 Nov/Sun 1 Dec	Club Christmas Party weekend – Mount Maunganui, Bay of Plenty Club Christmas Party BBQ will be held on the Saturday
Sunday 15 December	Cornwall Park Christmas Picnic, Auckland A relaxed, casual picnic in the lead up to the big day

North Island Model A Ford Club – Annual Christmas Party – Tauranga Advance bookings now open for accommodation



When: Friday 29 November/Saturday 30 November/Sunday 1 December 2019

Where: Cosy Corner Holiday Park, 40 Oceanbeach Road, Mount Maunganui

Overview: Details of the weekend are in the planning stages but will include Friday (optional dinner), Run on Saturday, Hubley Challenge, Saturday BBQ Christmas Dinner and Club Party at Cosy Corner Holiday Park.

Lead Organisers: Tony and Pam Mannington (Members NIMAFC)

Assisted by: Kay Palmer (NIMAFC Committee Member)

Cosy Corner Holiday Park Hosts: Greg and Vicki (Members NIMAFC)

Checkout website: www.cosycorner.co.nz

To book accommodation, please email stay@cosycorner.co.nz or phone direct 07 5755899. There are mainly Kitchen Cabins and Caravans available. The cabins are near the main amenities and bathrooms in the Park.

Other Motel options nearby: Blue Wave Motel or Blue Haven located in Tweed Street who will give a discount (mention Model A Christmas party), and Gateway Motor Inn on Maunganui Road. Or there are plenty of motels located in the Mount Manganui area.



AWARDS NIGHT



SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER

Remuera Club, Ohinerau Street, Remuera

Come on along and take a trip down memory lane.....

Our Awards Night this year will have a theme I am sure you can all relate to

'I Remember'

You will need to put on your thinking caps and tell us what you remember. Was it your first boyfriend? Maybe when you brought your first car or maybe even your first job?

I am picking there will be some memorable remarks madeprepare yourself for laughter when we find out some of our members most precious memories.

TICKETS AVAILABLE Now

\$28 per person Members - \$38 per person Non-Members

You may deposit the amount into Club Bank Account No 123068 0187485 00 (reference your name), or send a cheque to PO Box 99-249, Newmarket, Auckland 1149 – attention Ralph Levinson.

Tickets will be supplied and must be brought along on the night. There will be a lucky door prize and a welcome glass of champagne on entry.

Attire – era costume – take yourself back in time.

Enjoy a tasty buffet meal with dessert. Cash bar entire evening.

Don't miss out on this fun entertaining evening – While its party time let's celebrate.

Enquiries to Karen Thomas 027 419 0191 or 443 5253 – email mosseykar@gmail.com.

SEE YOU ON THE NIGHT



It's "A" Puzzling Problem



Can you find the 10 things that are different in these photos?

Puzzle courtesy of MAFCA

Other events of interest



Rotorua Vintage & Veteran Car Club Inc



THE THIRTY NINETH CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND SWAP MEET & CAR SHOW SPECTACULAR

STOCK CAR RACEWAY PARADISE VALLEY
ON SUNDAY JULY 14TH 2019



FEATURING VINTAGE, VETERAN, CLASSIC CARS AND HOTRODS

This event will be of interest to all collectors of Vintage, Veteran, Classic and Collectable Cars, Motorcycles, Hot Rods, Memorabilia, Old Car Books, Old Toys, Model Cars & Trains, and anything of a Collectable or Antique Nature.

Opens from 7am till 2pm with hot food and refreshments available

FOR SITE ENQUIRIES

Neville Harper Ph: 07 348 2412 Mobile: 027 494 7249 Email: daharpers@gmail.com

Car Show Enquiries Ph: Bob Mackay ph 07 332 3849 Email: bob.mackay@clear.net.co.nz

Website: www.rotoruvintagecarclub.org.nz

Admission —
Seller's vehicle and driver
\$10.00 per site

ALL others —
\$5.00 per person
(Accompanied children FREE)



25th Annual Henry Ford
Memorial Day Display & Swap Meet

"Calling all FORD owners"

CLAUDELANDS EVENTS CENTRE
Gate 4 Brooklyn Road
SUNDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 2019
Rain Date Sunday 22nd September
GATES OPEN FROM 8am NO DOGS ALLOWED

PEOPLES CHOICE - BEST - AUSTRALIAN, EUROPEAN, AMERICAN, COMMERCIAL,
VINTAGE & FPV, COMPETITION, CLUB AND HOTROD
Proceeds towards **WAIKATO AIR AMBULANCE**

\$10 per show car - Spectators / Adults \$10 - Children under 12 free with an adult
Swappers (Auto Related Items) \$15 - Trade stands \$25 - *Childrens entertainment*



For further information contact: Paul 027 548 8145 - Bob 027 478 5912
HOSTED BY...
THE WAIKATO MUSTANG OWNERS CLUB
Proudly Sponsored by...



Fairview Ford
HAMILTON TE AWAMUTU MATAMATA CAMBRIDGE

Is there an event happening in your region? – there is space here to advertise

Important information – Model A Ford Club Victoria National Meet 2020

If you are interested in attending this Meet in Australia – please take note of this important detail when booking accommodation – the phone number listed for the Mercure is not always manned – please use the phone number 03 5327 1200 when booking accommodation at the Mercure. –
National Meet Secretary

Our people



David Wight awarded QSM

David Wight and his wife Christine have been Club members since 1989.

Our congratulations to David who was awarded a Queen's Service Medal for services to the community, in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours.

David and Christine bought a property in Opito Bay, in the northern Coromandel, 47 years ago. Their community spirit is legendary and David is a well deserving recipient of his QSM.

Further details https://www.nzherald.co.nz/bay-of-plenty-times/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503343&objectid=12236565 This article in the *Bay of Plenty Times*, also gives credit to the community services of fellow NIMAFC members, Dugald and the late Barbara Hoyland.

Congratulations David, North Island Model A Ford Club members are very proud of you.

Advertisement



15th National Model A Rally

Gisborne – New Zealand

2021

Sunday 28 March – Sunday 4 April
(these dates may vary slightly)

Earlybird Registration Fee \$20

Gisborne is a lovely part of New Zealand, being located on the East Coast of the North Island. It is known for its wineries, beaches, brilliant scenery, culture and a lot of history. The country is flat to the shoreline, but forested and hilly inland. Good driving roads for Model A's. The City maintains a rural charm and is a popular holiday spot.

'Earlybird' indicates to the organisers you have chosen to receive your rally information early and avoid missing out on the news as it comes to hand, or tours that have limited numbers.

If you are interested in attending the National Rally and becoming an Earlybird Member registration forms are now available and can be forwarded to you by email or posted. You will be kept updated throughout our journey leading up the rally. Our organising team consists of David Mossman, Tony Bartlett, Robert Brown and Errol McAlpine.

Please contact Karen Thomas, Secretary - 027 419 0191 or (09) 443 5253 or you can email us gisbornemodelafordrally@gmail.com for further information.

Advertisement

NIMAFC member, Bruce Snowsill, sadly passed away in June 2018. In his obituary, we included some Model A stories sent by his wife, Karol. Karol has since sent us some further entertaining stories of Bruce and his various Model A's.

Bruce's first Model A Truck (1962)



* * *

1. **This is a yarn Bruce often told. At the time Bruce was single and off work with an injury. He was helping his builder brother-in-law, Ian. The weekends were spent hunting deer. Their favourite spot at the time was along the Taupo-Napier highway. Bruce's blue Model A truck was the mode of transport and it would be parked down a short side road to hide it. Bruce and Ian would then climb down from the highway to hunt.**

One weekend however there were survey poles along their path designating where the new Taupo-Napier deviation was to be built. Horrified that the new road was to go through their favourite hunting ground, they spent all day moving the poles, re-routing them to where they thought the road should go. When they had finished they went back to the truck and drove home to Taupo.

The next two weekends after dropping down off the highway and finding the survey poles back on the original route, they worked again all day painstakingly rearranging them. After the third weekend they gave up and moved on and hunted elsewhere.

Years later Bruce was at the Tokoroa Pub and started chatting to the chap next to him.

"What's your line of work?" Bruce asks. "Surveyor," the chap replies. "I have done a bit of that," Bruce says. "Where have you worked?" the chap asks. Bruce replies, "The Taupo-Napier deviation." "Well", the chap says, "I never saw you there, but I tell you that job was a challenge as someone kept moving the survey poles every weekend. We even got security out after a few weeks. But they had obviously moved on."

2. **When Bruce was off work and helping Ian, one of their pastimes in the evenings was driving around the streets of Taupo, with Ian sitting on the tray of the Model A truck playing the bagpipes, while Bruce drove.**
Once while Bruce was driving towards the main street in Taupo, a car backed out of a park right in front of him. The driver still didn't have room to pull out so Bruce reversed a bit, but when he looked forward the car was still backing towards him. So he backed some more and still the driver kept coming, so making use of his homemade railway iron bumper, he pushed the car down the street until he was able to pass.
3. **In the late 1960s Bruce lived in a single men's camp in Tokoroa called "Braeside." He worked in the bush planting and pruning pine trees. Bruce was well known in town, driving his blue Model A truck with snap on side windows. His favourite petrol station was on Bridge Street. After fitting his truck with an extra long radio aerial, he was banned from filling up there as the aerial would hit the fluorescent lights on the forecourt roof and break them.**
4. **When our first child was born in 1970, we lived in a milling village called Barryville. Our vehicle at the time was a Model A truck. Most weekends we travelled along the Waikato River to my parent's farm at Maroa. Driving home one day we were discussing the fact that the Public Health Nurse was going to test the baby's hearing at her next visit. So Bruce leaned over and switched the key of the motor off then on. "Bang" went the exhaust, the baby jumped in my arms and Bruce said, "She's not deaf."**
5. **Another time we were driving at night on the same road. I was thinking about what I would do if we lost control of the truck and ended up in the river. Just then the headlights failed. I grabbed the torch between us and turned it on, only to be yelled at to turn it off as Bruce was blinded by the sudden glare. Somehow Bruce managed to gain control of the truck and stop safely. He hopped out and did some mechanical adjustments, the lights came on and we were away motoring again.**
6. **Another time we were driving the same stretch of road with my German Shepherd dog Lester loose on the truck's tray. He loved to pretend to playfully bite at oncoming traffic. He paced from one side of the cab**

to the other. When Bruce next looked in the rear view mirror Lester was gone. He had fallen off. So we stopped, turned around and picked up a rather sheepish looking unhurt dog further back along the road.

7. **Bruce was always prepared for any mishap. He was driving the Model A truck down Bridge Street in Tokoroa, towards the railway line.** I glanced in my side mirror and spotted the back wheel and axle slowly coming out. I shouted to stop and we stopped near the railway line. Bruce jumped out of the cab and rummaged in his tool box, finding a sheer pin and hammer. He hammered the wheel and axle back in place, put the new sheer pin in, started the truck and off we drove.
8. **Bruce once explained to me that the passenger side wheels nuts were left-hand threaded on the Model A,** so they often needed to be checked and tightened. So one day not long after I met him, we were driving from Litchfield to Tokoroa when the truck lurched and graunched and I spotted the wheel bouncing along the road in front of us. When we came to a halt, Bruce started jacking the truck up while I was sent to retrieve the wheel. It was soon put back in place.

The same thing happened a few years later when our first child was almost due. We were going for my last check-up at Mangakino in the Model A. Same thing, the wheel came off, but it had disappeared into the bush so the spare was put on. We were rather late for my check-up and Bruce spent the following weekend searching for the lost wheel which had travelled quite a distance - luckily breaking branches off trees to show Bruce where to go.

9. **A Tokoroa hunter who died recently prompted Bruce to tell me this tale. Bruce and his mate went** hunting in the Maroa forest on dusk, where Bruce shot a deer. After searching in the dark with no success, they headed home in the Model A truck and it was decided that Bruce would return in the morning and hopefully find it. The next morning early, Bruce was driving along the bush road when coming over a steep hill, spotted five deer in the distance. He grabbed his rifle, jumped out and shot all five. He managed to put all five on the tray of the truck and carried on to look for the last night's deer. Walking around in wider circles, he found it and struggled with it to the truck - it went on the tray too. He headed for home back up the steep hill, but 6 deer was too much for the truck to handle so Bruce stopped. Next, a car stopped behind him and two hunter mates hopped out. Bruce offered them a deer if they could tow him over the hill, but they refused and drove off. So Bruce dumped 3 deer on the side of the road and drove over the hill. He then dumped 3 deer there, drove back and picked up the first 3, drove back over the hill and picked the second 3, then drove home. No mean feat for a guy who was 5 ft 5 inches tall and weighed 8 stone.

10. **At that time Bruce owned two Model A trucks. It snowed one** year at Maroa and when Bruce went to go to work in the morning, the truck was covered with snow inside and out, as the truck was windowless. Bruce opened the door, scraped the snow from the seat and then he got in and it started first go. He was about to drive off when his father yelled out for a tow. The brand new Land Rover he was issued with wouldn't start!



11. **A year or so later the white truck broke down, so Bruce** bought the blue one. With nothing to do one weekend Bruce and my two brothers, both apprentice mechanics, towed the truck to the farm and worked on it to see if they could get it going. It took all day, but finally the truck fired up. With no floor boards and flames shooting from the exhaust, it was an experience to be driven in it. They drove the truck to the hay paddock, but dad wasn't happy as the hay underneath the truck kept catching fire. After driving around a while the motor started making funny noises, then there was a bang and it stopped dead. Raising the bonnet they found a connecting rod had smashed right through the block, so they tied it to the starter motor. The truck was mobile again, but from then on they needed to carry waste oil with them to pour into the hole in the engine, when the oil got low. It went for a few more weekends, then all 4 flywheel bolts sheared off. It was time to sell it, so Bruce found and bought another block which Laurie did up. Some head bolts were missing, so they sold it with a wire strainer holding the block together.
12. **Bruce's Uncle George was visiting when the white Model A truck was going well, however it had no floor** boards or exhaust pipe. Uncle George wasn't popular with the family and had earned himself the name Scrooge. Bruce offered him a ride around on the bush roads. They hadn't got far when the exhaust

warmed up and flames were shooting from it. Uncle George asked where the petrol tank was and when Bruce said above the exhaust he was very quiet until they returned home.

13. **Our first baby was due and we had a long drive from Barryville to Tokoroa, so at the first signs of labour** early in the morning we jumped in the blue Model A truck and headed down the hill from the village into extremely thick fog and a gravel road. We travelled along at snail's pace, both doors open with me trying to spot the edge of the road and Bruce feeling for and looking for the camber of the road. Both also watching for oncoming traffic. The fog only cleared when we came into Tokoroa. That trip was enough to delay labour and we spent the rest of the week at the farm at Maroa, before making the journey again.
14. **A common pastime for forestry hunters at that time was poaching and Bruce's truck's tyre marks were all** over the forestry roads. He often boasted he could outdrive any patrolman and any obstacles they put in his way. One favourite was dropping a small tree in his way, but with the axe flying he was soon on his way again. Also if a barrier arm was closed, he would bounce over the mounds on the side. Morrie Veale was a patrolman who Bruce knew well. He knew Bruce was poaching so one day asked if he would like to ride shotgun with him when he was patrolling and shoot as many deer as he could. Morrie would sell them, saving money to build a house. In two years he was able to build a house on the hill near Taupo. Bruce, on the principle of old-style hunters, refused to accept money from deer sales.
15. **With nothing better to do one day on the farm, we decided to go for a drive along some bush roads and** firebreaks. I was in the cab with Bruce in the Model A truck, while my brother, sister and her fiancé were standing on the tray behind the cab. Off we drove. After driving for some time we started to get tossed around as recent rains had formed some rather large washouts. My brother on the back had a better view of the road than Bruce and saw that he was driving towards a huge washout. He grabbed the other two to stop them from falling and the truck bounced into the washout, straddling it and making the truck sag in the middle. This caused the chassis to twist and the clutch pedal to stick. The truck couldn't drive. So we all pushed it onto level ground again. Bruce got it started and we drove home, having to weld the chassis later.
16. **Bruce drove his blue truck into Rotorua early one morning. Sometime later I saw he was being dropped** off at the gate by a friend. When I asked him where the truck was he said, "It broke down one time too many and a chap offered me fifty dollars for it so I sold it." Bruce owned four Model A trucks in his early years.

Early 2000 he came home with a friend to tell me that they had purchased an old falling-to-pieces Model AA truck, which was due to arrive on the back of a tow truck shortly. Bruce had not long retired, so it was his project to restore it and get it going so he could take the grandkids in the town's Christmas parade. It took him five years to achieve that goal. The truck was painted pink. Bruce had a lot of half tins of paint and he was noted for his paint mixes. When every half-tin went into the pot it looked terrible, so I agreed to let him buy a litre of a colour to fix it. He ended up with pink.



Bruce with his last Model A Truck. Found in a shed in Tokoroa, it was purchased for \$300.00 and took 5 years to restore.

LUBRICATION & PERIODIC MAINTENANCE – MODEL A FORD

ALL ITEMS ARE TO BE LUBRICATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

EACH 500 MILES

- inspect radiator hoses
- adjust fan belt
- inspect fan for cracks
- change crankcase oil (if not using filter)
- check fan bearing for looseness (side play)
- test windshield wiper
- check wiper blade rubber

EACH 1,000 MILES

- | | |
|------|-------|
| Left | Right |
|------|-------|
- front spindles (upper & lower)
 - steering tie-rod
 - front brake camshafts
 - front spring shackles
 - front shock links
 - rear spring shackles
 - rear shock links
 - rear brake camshafts¹
 - rear wheel bearings¹
 - do all 500-mile items
 - test emergency flashers²
 - test wheel bearings for looseness, spin³
 - tighten accessory mountings (windwings)
 - tighten spring U-bolts, front & rear⁴
 - tighten all wheel lug nuts
 - test lights (head, tail, stop, dash, etc.)
 - inspect all engine compartment cotter pins
 - inspect all brake system cotter pins
 - inspect all steering system cotter pins
 - service brake cross shaft
 - parking brake cross shaft
 - engine control link joints
 - wipe out headlight switch
 - door dovetails (light coat of vaseline)
 - door striker plates (same)
 - door latch mechanism & lock (white graphite)

- go over entire fuel system for leaks
- go over entire exhaust system for leaks
- clean distributor cap, lid, rotor, and check each for cracks
- check steering wheel free play (1" max.)
- battery high discharge voltage test⁵
- check battery with electrical tester
- clutch pedal bearing
- brake pedal bearing
- drag link (both ends)
- U-joint
- check lubricant level in differential
- check lubricant level in transmission
- check lubricant level in steering gear
- fan bearing
- water pump bearing
- check for tight electrical connections⁶
- distributor shaft (fill oiler)
- distributor cam (very light coating)
- check points gap. (.018" to .022")
- check points for pits, misalignment
- remove crank from front of engine
- generator bearings
- clean & re-oil air cleaner
- clean battery cable clamps & vaseline
- tighten battery ground connection
- oil horn bearings
- clean horn commutator
- clean generator commutator, check brushes
- drain fuel sediment bowl
- clean carburetor filter screen
- oil main throttle shaft (rear of engine)
- door hinge pins (1 drop light oil)
- hook hooks (same)
- check clutch pedal for 3/4" free play
- check tail lamp lens mounting screws
- test ground wire on all power tools⁷

EACH 2,000 MILES

- do all 500 and 1,000-mile items
- check shock fluid
- inspect starter commutator & brushes
- grease steering gear sector shaft
- examine tires for wear, cracks, damage
- clutch release bearing (under floor board)
- check engine timing⁸
- remove crank from front of engine
- adjust service brakes
- inspect main leaf springs for cracks
- repack upper ends of shock links
- test parking brakes for hold on hill
- drain & flush radiator with clear water⁹

EACH 5,000 MILES

- do all 500 and 1,000-mile items
- check headlight focus and aim
- drain, flush, refill transmission
- same for differential
- tighten engine, chassis, body bolts & nuts
- front wheel bearings: clean, inspect, pack
- inspect front brake drums, linings, springs¹⁰
- spark plugs: clean & regap (.035")
- give cooling system a chemical flush⁹

EACH 10,000 MILES

- do all previous items
- clean, inspect, pack rear wheel bearings
- inspect & clean rear drums, linings, springs¹⁰
- lubricate speedometer cable
- polish headlight reflectors

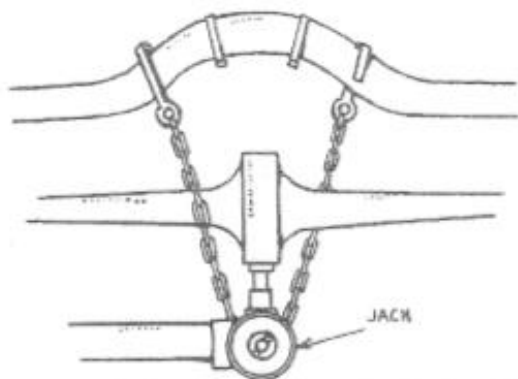
Tip from the Club Health & Safety Officer – Andrew Costello

Always go down the hill the same gear you would normally go up the hill in

SHORT CUTS FOR THE MODEL A RESTORER

Rear Spring Removal

WHEN removing rear springs, the regular equipment is not always available, and in such cases an emergency method is to use two hooks fastened to a short length of chain. These hooks are attached to the cross member of the chassis frame, then the chain is brought down and



under a garage jack and up and attached to the other side of rear cross member. By operating the jack, the axle is moved toward frame and the spring is compressed.

Replacing Front Spring

TO MAKE replacement of front spring more easy, we cut a piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (inside diameter) pipe as long as the distance between the spring eyes when spring is compressed to its working position on car, or slightly longer. Then we flatten both ends of pipe to chisel-like



points and place the pipe in position between the ends of the spring, while the weight of the car is on the springs. Remove spring clip bars and lift chassis frame or car

off spring as high as shock absorber arms will permit. Spring will then be clear of cross member, because pipe is holding spring in flat position. Spring hangers are now easily removed, because there is no spring tension on them.

To install a new front spring, compress it, by using press or other method, and place pipe between ends. Release pressure, allowing ends of spring to press against ends of pipe. Place spring in position under car, install hangers, then let car down on spring, which will release pipe. Install spring clip bars and nuts. Can install a spring in 30 or 40 minutes by this method.

Replacing Drive Shaft or Pinion

TO REPLACE drive shaft or pinion, without removing torque tube, remove rear wheels, also left housing, and pull differential. Disconnect banjo from right housing and torque tube and pull drive shaft. Repair or replace parts.

To install, remove speedometer drive gear assembly. By guiding lock ring with screwdriver, and tapping on banjo housing with wood block, drive shaft may be inserted easily into universal joint. Then assemble rear end in usual manner. This method saves nearly two hours' labor, as compared with the usual way, where rear end is taken out at universal joint.

Rattle in Steering Column

THE rattle near the top of the steering column is not always in the control tube, as shown in a previous short-cut. We find that the *hard* wire inside is the cause of most of the rattles at this point. In Ford Tudors, roadsters, touring and Fordors, where it is possible to remove the tube, we unsolder the lower connection and remove button at top. Then pull wire out. Next tape the wire, starting at the top. Don't wrap the tape too loosely or too tightly. Leave about three inches of wire untaped near the bottom where it passes through insulator. This is about a 20-minute job and a positive cure for rattles.



SUNSHINE REPORT

With the colder weather upon us colds flu and chesty coughs appear particularly in the older person. I am not saying you are old but I am indicating that as the years pass by your resistance to these is not quite the same. Wrap up warm and don't let these viruses catch up with you. Plenty of Vitamin C won't go astray. There is too much on the club calendar to miss out.

Sadly, we lost a long-time member of the Club this month, Liz Somerville. Liz lost her battle with cancer and passed away on Tuesday 4 June. Our thoughts go out to her family at this sad time.

This month has seen some of our members lose loved family members and on behalf of the club I send our condolences to you all at this difficult time.

*Even when the sky is filled with clouds,
The sun still shines above.*

*Karen Thomas
Secretary NIMAFC*

Obituary

Liz Somerville

In 1969 Liz and her husband Graham purchased 'Speigal', their very smart 1930 Model A Sport Coupe, registration plate 'Somers'. They have been members of our Club since 1995.

Sadly, Liz passed away on 4 June and was fondly remembered at a service held in St Mark's Anglican Church, Remuera. It was a great tribute to Liz that the church was packed with her family and many friends. Her brother, children and grandchildren all spoke at the service which was truly a celebration of a very full and well-lived life. A constant theme was Liz's devotion to and love of her family and her many friends. Karen Thomas and Ralph Levinson attended Liz's funeral on behalf of our Club.

Club members who came to our Eden Gardens event in April 2018 will remember Liz, who spoke of her childhood playing in the former Winstones Quarry site (now Eden Gardens). The Gardens adjoin Government House, Auckland, the magnificent former home of Liz's grandparents, Sir Frank and Lady Mappin.



Liz and Graham with 'Speigal'

Fashionably Speaking

By Fern Davis

Outfits For Winter Sports



Winter sports were widely enjoyed in the Model A era. Comfort is the prerequisite for these clothes, practical, yet smart! Smart women are forsaking eccentric, modernistic designs, in favor of somber colors as navy, black or brown and combine brightly colored accessories, bright blue, vivid green, yellow and red. For skiing and lugging the long trousered suit is preferred in either serge, jersey, gabardine or waterproofed whipcord. The top may be a heavy woolen shirt tucked into trousers that fit tight at the hips or a short jacket that comes over the trousers which come to the normal waist and can be worn over or under boots.

For skating, clothes are a little different. The short tweed skirt and jumper topped by a short cloth or fur jacket is the most usual costume, but long, tight trousers with a 3/4 belted coat proved practical last year, and are worn by some of the smartest women this year.

Caps and scarfs remain the decorative accessories they have always been. Knitted hats are new for winter sports. Left is a beige chenille jersey, right a blue novelty woolen and center Patou's fur cap in black astrakan.

Our illustrations are from *Good Housekeeping* January 1930.



Sourced from 'The Fashion Files – Compiled by the Era Fashion Committee – The Model A Ford Club of America

North Island Model a Ford Club is a registered Chapter Member of the **Model a Ford Club of America (MAFCA)**.

Classified Advertisements

There is no charge for members selling their own items. Items will be advertised 3 times unless renewed or cancelled. Business size commercial ads are \$25 per year. For business ads contact Ralph Levinson (09) 578 300.

Sorry I haven't been a very active member. If possible please put a note in the next newsletter that I'm looking for a Model A Coupe please. I'm happy to consider any condition as long as the price reflects work required to get it back on the road.

Contact: Matt on Mobile 029 200 8153

For Sale

1930 Model A Pickup adapted from Phaeton done 800 miles on rebuilt motor re bored new pistons, shell bearings, over size valves, high comp head 5.5;1,cam to 100e spec fly wheel lightened balanced. v8 pressure and clutch plate. Hydraulic brakes, new lines master and wheel cylinders, tyres done same miles, new kingpins, rims acid dipped and powder coated, recon generator, plus other stuff. First NZ rego. was in the 1960s as far as we know.

Contact: Brian Marshall, Papakura 027 2960047



For Sale

I recently purchased a collection of mainly early 1928 and 1929 original parts and have aimed to offer these to club members where possible first so if you need an original part I may have it.

Phone John Castle 021957032

Classified Advertisements

For Sale

I am putting my 1930 closed cab pickup up for sale for \$70,000:00. It has done barely 500miles since it was completed in 2014 & is running really sweet.

The modifications on the vehicle are a lightened fly wheel, high ratio crown wheel & pinion for quicker speed on the motorway (80 to 90Kms/hr comfortably) & flathead Ted brakes with new cast iron drums. All else is standard 1930 Ford.

It will also come with a chest full of spares (incidental bits & pieces), a spare running engine, a usable gearbox & a spare rear end & also a full width chromed bumper (front one) with the rear steel brackets to fit it to the rear of the vehicle. The rear tail-lights need to be moved onto the rear mudguards to fit.

The vehicle will be sold with a current WOF & registration but not with the personalized rego. plate.

Phone Ray, 0274 836 236, (09)4138 059 or (09)4139 705

email.raymargaret@xtra.co.nz



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From the NIMAFCA Editor:

Winter has arrived. I thought I would share the cover photo with you from my archives, taken in the South Island, on a stop-over at Mt Cook.

The photo at right, a popular spot at the base of the South Island after attending the National Meet.

The award for 'Best International' Newsletter was a surprise, and special thanks to previous Editors and especially Paul Hunter who set up a framework to deliver our Club Newsletter electronically. Thank You MAFCA for the recognition, this is much appreciated.

If you are interested in being our next Club Newsletter Editor, please contact me now – I would be more than happy to speak to you about a very rewarding role, and share my skills, knowledge and tips putting the monthly publication together.



This Newsletter shares some stories about our Model Aers. I hope you enjoy reading the July edition.

Best Wishes, Kay Palmer (NIMAFCA Newsletter Editor)

Editor email: nimafc@outlook.com or editor@modelafordclub.co.nz

Please send articles/reports/photos to the Editor by 15th of the month (or earlier if you can).

In Microsoft Word or directly into an email (Editor can format to publish in the Newsletter).

The views and articles expressed in this Newsletter are the views of the authors and may be reprinted provided acknowledgement is given. Where articles have been reprinted, the NIMAFCA recognises those authors and thanks them for allowing their article to be used in our Club Newsletter

On a final note:

Newsletter Awards

Most MAFCA chapters submit copies of their newsletters to the Chapter Coordinator each month. From those newsletters, MAFCA presents awards based on criteria in the Newsletter Award Policy.

MAFCA Chapter Newsletter Awards for this year, designed to recognize the Editors of Chapter Newsletter, were presented at the National Awards Banquet.

Award	Newsletter	Chapter	Editor
Newsletter of the Year	Motometer	Utah Valley	Robert Mack
Newsletter of Excellence	Ahooga News	Beaver	Jeanie Adair
Newsletter of Distinction	The Roadrunner	NW Missouri	Sheri Winkinhofer
Certificate of Merit	The Spartan	Hangtown A's	Tom Jeanes
Certificate of Merit	Ford Script	50th Anniversary	Patsy Desaulniers
Certificate of Merit	Running Boards and Rumble Seats	Big Sky	Scott Savage
Certificate of Merit	Flying Quail	Sierra	Tom Dodd
Certificate of Merit	Manifold News	Rockford A's	Chris Aupperle
Certificate of Merit	Choke and Rod	San Francisco Bay Area	Walter Caplan/Scott Williams
Certificate of Merit	Distributor	Alamo A's	Paulette Saenz
Best International	Model A Torque	New Zealand	Kay Palmer
Best Regional	Northern Wheels	No. California Region	Tom Jeanes
Best Special Interest Group	Ahooga News	SE Touring Group	Happy Begg

Extract from MAFCA website