

Chapter Members of:



MODEL A TORQUE

Month: February 2023 Issue Number: 2023/1



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 using the Model A Ford.

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

[Visit our website www.modelafordclub.co.nz](http://www.modelafordclub.co.nz) for new events, articles & updates.

North Island Model A Ford Club Upcoming Event Planner 2023

All subject to Covid restrictions <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

Date	Day	Thoughts and upcoming Events	Status
4 th -10 th March		Methven National Rally	
16 th April	Sunday	North Shore Run	Details to come
28 th May	Sunday	Drury and south to truck museum	Details to come

The committee are working on events for the upcoming year. Please keep a watch on the website www.modelafordclub.co.nz for any recent updates.

FYI below – Non-North Island Model A Ford Club Events 2022

If you are aware of an event coming up, please let the editor know so we can share, thank you.

Date	Day	Event
5 th March	Sunday	All Ford Day Tauranga
22 nd -26 th March	Wed-Sun	Beach Hop Whangamata

**Print this page off for reminders and stick to your fridge!
or keep an eye on the website for updates.**

All Ford Day 2023

Come and join in with the biggest single brand car show in the Bay of Plenty.

Every year the Ford Muscle Car Club hosts the

All Ford Day at Wharepai Domain Tauranga

We are proudly supporting waipuna hospice by collecting public donations at this event. Thanks for helping us to make a difference for local people!

Have you got a Ford? Bring it along for the day. With spot prizes throughout the day and the main prize giving in the afternoon.

Hope to see you there!

Prize giving at 2.30pm

Show opens from 10.00am to 3.00pm

All Vehicles entered eligible for spot prizes

The gate for show cars opens – 8:00 am \$5.00 per car

The show starts at 10:00 am – Adults \$5.00 under 14 free

Club Captains Report



Well here we are Xmas, New Year gone and nearly 2 months into the year. With the rain the country has had this summer, one could almost imagine there is no summer, however, I do have a tan so somewhere must have had some sun. I will openly admit I am not one that is a climate warming advocate (not to get political) but think we could do more to ensure we keep our drains, creeks and rivers clear of debris and the way we clear large blocks of land from trees etc. fell timber. Fortunately in my area in the Friday storm (which I admit was the most continuous heavy rain I have seen in my life) there was just one house down the road that suffered flooding through it but no doubt some others with leaks of some kind or just over the hill businesses and residences were flooded. I look at our local creek, Deep Creek in Waiake, and wonder how on earth someone's painting plank could end up in the creek as they are not lightweight. I believe councils could be doing more to maintain drainage systems from blocking.

Bottom line though I hope you all managed to stay safe and keep Model As dry. I do know of one who had a flooded garage and had to dry it out. I hope there was no lasting damage as no doubt you may all have a story to tell, like me with my mobile phone. I trust in times of need you all would reach out to the club as it is a good network to belong to, to gain assistance if required.

In my old days when there was no technology and in north we were quite isolated, floods were a regular occurrence with stock been shifted to avoid been stranded but of course it also meant school day ended early so buses could get students home and of course often than not there were no school days because of it as well

I am sure we will at least have an Indian summer with a nice autumn, especially hoping that everyone going to Methven will have good weather, maybe not as hot as Canterbury can be but enjoyable. Looking forward to hearing all about it. As we have mentioned Tricia and I will not be attending as she also retires that week so many ventures are waiting for us in the future.

The first event of the year organized by Hugh and Anne-Marie, Andrew Costello was the Onehunga BBQ. With the weather we decided, thanks to Terry Costello, to have it at Terry's shed in Onehunga. Definitely a successful event with many attending, from afar, setting up our chairs, having a good natter and some yummy sausages as well as sharing nibbles. The sun even came out so some were standing out getting their share of vitamin d. Though the weather behaved itself I think the change of venue was good as we did not have to contend with wind and weather had looked threatening for a while during the afternoon. We had Alan Minson, one of the originators of our club come to catch up with us, so we could award him a 50th year life membership badge.

Sunday the 5th, was Martin's (Rees) Meander through the back blocks from the Drury BP to Hunua falls and then out to the Toy Museum opposite Martin's place, before ending at Martin's home where we shared food and drink. Parking was a problem at Hunua, very frustrating for the officials who were responsible for the Kauri dieback education who tried to get hold of council to get paddock unlocked for extra parking but got the same response we would – put on hold with continuous music. They could not understand why the paddock was locked Sunday, as it had been unlocked on Saturday! From Hunua we meandered to the top of a roller coaster hill with magnificent views out to the gulf, city and Manukau-who needs sky tower.

This was one of the stops to get answers for a questionnaire, naming all the islands you could see from the vantage point.

The museum was a collectors haven! Bringing back memories of toys from yesteryear (plus real toys) and some I had never seen before, with the mechanics intriguing but simple. Surely with modernisation of the mechanics we could come up with some good technology but I guess that is how we developed our motors of today. So very interesting. From there to Martin and Allayne's place where they hosted the club members in their home for more refreshments, two birthday celebrations for Dave Mossman and Martin Rees. Congratulations to them and any other members who have recently had birthdays. Unfortunately Tricia and I had to take off to get to Algies bay for a family function so had to leave before questionnaire results (so hopefully someone else got our prize, haha) but two things we took away with us.

Don't make another commitment after a club event so as not to put pressure on ourselves so we can stay as long as we want.

It does not matter how many runs may have been done in a certain area, there are many different roads (routes) and things to see.

Thank you to all those for attending, to our American guest Eric from Washington, I am sure you all enjoyed it as much as we did. I would love to work with a few from other areas of the club so that we can organize a run in your area to save you having to come to us all the time. If you have any suggestions please make to any club committee member and we will endeavour to coordinate it. Always after ideas .Especially when I need to get my "a" into gear (I write this thinking of something else but guess it would help if I got my "a " into gear) to run a club captains event.

To those who are Off to Methven National Model A rally I wish you safe travels, great adventures and happy times. Cars go well for you (no pushing on and off ferries) but the main thing is to enjoy and stay safe. No shame if you are getting tired too take a brake (break) even if it means an extra night.

To all, as this rally takes place to start thinking about the next (17th) National rally which our club is hosting in 2005. I can say planning is already underway with a subcommittee formed, venue selected. More at a later date to be released soon especially if you are not going to Methven.

There will be a special meeting at a later date to discuss a few things such as a new subscription fee/structure, accounting procedure and database use. Communication will come out about it soon.

I have also been in touch with another person from the USA, Jack Crabtree, he was involved in the Model A around the world tour. Recently there was an article in a Restorer magazine about it, you may have read it. He is coming out with his wife to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and really they want to just meet and greet people. He is happy to do a presentation of their ventures as well which we will arrange as a tech night. If you already know Jack from the 2016 MAFCA Convention in Loveland, make touch with me and we can include you in his itinerary or even if you would like to host them. I am arranging to meet them at the airport and make our place the first port of call for them to recover from jetlag.

Will just take time to thank everyone for commitment to the club and especially to the committee and event organizers. Well that's two pages nearly, one a month more than enough.

Cheers Club Captain Wade Alexander.

Observations of a Navigator-less Driver on the Hunua Rally

On arriving at BP early, there was already 2 Model A's waiting. Eventually 17 (and a few moderns) fronted up. Come 10 o'clock Martin handed out instructions. As I was navigator-less, I read thru them and quickly gathered that I knew where to go, such was my wealth of local area knowledge, and so that I didn't need to look down while driving.

Followed Terry & Joss as far as Drury where they stopped (to allow the driver to check what the navigator was saying?) off, up and over Ponga Road (very little signs of road damage – in fact on the whole route). Wow!! who stopped to admire the deer stag with a huge head of antlers near the top. Also noticed quite a bit of noxious wild ginger flowing brilliantly. (mostly on council road reserve land)

Heading left back down the Hunua Gorge seemed a bit off as the falls were to the other way. Then up and over Red Hill Rd, great views. Out on to the main road heading for Ardmore. Passed a couple of other Vintages going the other way. Up Ardmore Quarry Rd to the sound of Motorbike scramblers in some of the old quarry area.

Got a bit confused at Jones Rd, as I knew that took us back over to the falls, so had to stop and check instructions. No, back down almost to Clevedon where the traffic management were just removing road closed signs for the Market. (It was about here the Costello's moved from page 1 to page 3 of the instructions, - found out later they took a nice drive to Alfriston – not where we were going so went direct to the Museum)

Back over yet another up and down hill and into Hunua Township, passed by a few of the subdivisions I worked on when Surveying. Alex was refueling, and various others were going in all directions (and reported at Lunch many more were also seen going in all directions expect where they should have been – would be a rally without someone getting a bit mixed up with the instructions / route).

Easy run down to the Falls except it was Sunday, a fine day, and a long weekend, and so the carpark was chocka!. Gary did try and get the paddock parking open, but didn't see that before I left. Great toilet stop, but lots of people. Most the A's managed to park in the Bus reserved area.

Read the afternoons instructions, again knew all the roads, much shorter and much simpler. Alex wanted someone to follow, so when finally got my A started we headed off. Simple run down to Clevedon and thru Twilight Rd and over to Whitford. Also waiting was Eric from the USA, chatted, we are sure we had net before, he has a number of Cabriolets in his collection and was impressed with Alex's.

Bill & Kathy's (and daughter's) Museum is impressive, made my 20 pedal tractor collection look small! Something for everyone, toys, old prams, bikes, several displays of Dolls, Kathy put on a talk and a cuppa for those inside at the time. Thanks to them.

After again more difficulty getting the Coupe started, and as I had an appointment with the NZ Grand Prix, I departed without enjoying the hospitality across the road at Martin & Alayne's. Thanks Martin for a great run and even putting on the right weather.

p.s., the Coupe had to be pushed into the garage, it now refuses to start at all – this weeks job! - looks like the shakedown run for Methven proved its worth. **Paul Smith.**



50 years ago in the Club
(February 1973)



From Newsletter Volume 1 Number 6, February 1973.

A profile of Warwick Woollams – (current member too)

I am an Auckland, 25 years old, married and my wife has just presented me with a baby daughter. I am at present Assistant Sales Manager for a company of Engineers Supply Merchants and machinery importers. Previous to this I worked for a company manufacturing home appliances as a design draughtsman, where I studied for my NZCE. (NZ Certificate of Engineering – then a very important tertiary qualification)

I first became interested in Model A's at age 16 when I bought ½ shares in a 1929 truck, which was bought for £10 and driven with a slipping clutch and no WOF. About a year later after having driven many miles, using many gallons of oil and having much fun, we sold the truck for £45.

I next bought a 1930 Roadster and participated in many rallies (VVCC) in this car before I decided to buy a 1930 Coupe to restore. After much hunting I found one in Papakura which I bought for £45 and drove it home with badly run bearings. This car I still own (1973) (not his current one of course) It has now been restored for about 5 years and amongst other journeys has been all around the South Island twice.

The old Roadster was traded for another Model A of the same variety and year, but vastly improved condition. This is awaiting restoration, while I work on an "unmentionable" non-ford.

Bob Pipe (secretary) departed for Australia, and his work was applauded at a farewell function. Bob Comer will stand in as secretary until a replacement is appointed.

Seen For Sale in Papatoetoe a 1930 Fordor with cowl lights, no horn, hubcaps and worn tyres, in restorable condition price = \$850

A descriptive technical tip was presented by Bob Comer for the removal, repair / replating and replacement of the gearshift lever.

From the Minutes Book:-

Committee advised a new updated membership list to be in March Newsletter. A Club dinner was planned to be held at Alan Minson's house. A tour thru Goodyear Factory is being planned. A special General Meeting was arranged for 27th Feb to elect a new secretary. (that meeting failed to get a quorum) A membership drive was discussed.

Paul Smith (Club Historian & Life Member)



Bay of Plenty Model A Crew

After a wet start to the year with fine weather on the horizon out went the email let's get together. 7 Model A Fords met at Papamoa Plaza Tauranga, Sunday 15 January, for a short drive to Black Stump Berry farm, downed our Strawberry smoothie, ice cream or coffee while waiting for our last car to arrive (after their campers departed).



All enjoyed a nice leisurely drive through Te Puke spotting the many Kiwi Fruit orchards (sorry lost count), tall shelter belts and lush green farm paddocks.



The route continued driving to Pukehina Beach, then on to Maketu for a fish & chip lunch at the beach side café, a perfect location with an outdoor table and view of the sea, with live entertainment. Here's a few pics of the day.

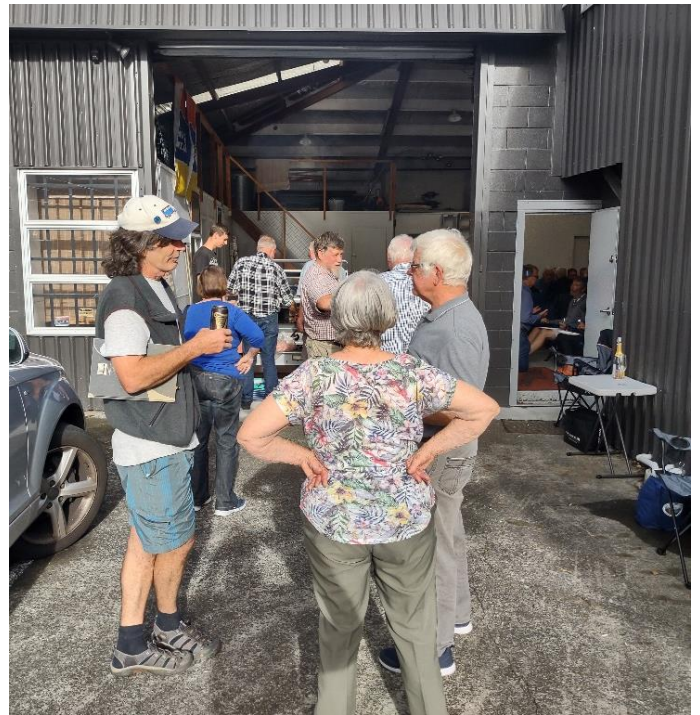


Thanks to Bob & Margaret McGarva for organising a lovely day in the sunny Bay of Plenty.



Report by: Stephen & Kay

The Onehunga Beach BBQ that transferred to Terry Costello's workshop



Alan and Ruth Minson with Club Captain Wade Alexander at the Onehunga indoor BBQ where foundation and life member Alan was presented with his 50 year badge.



Martin Rees Hunua run in photos



What is going on here?



I am told that Santa was giving advice to Samuel Bowden, but from this angle he looks grumpy.



The organiser of a recent club run said that this gentleman was seen attempting to steal a tractor in good working order during a museum visit.

A Car Museum in Canada

The “Second Chance Car Museum” is in Treherne, a small town near Winnipeg in Manitoba Canada. It is owned and operated by Ken Van Deynze with volunteer assistance. There is a good range of vintage and 50’s and 60’s classics. Of course I was only interested in the Model A’s of which there were a few. The “as found and original” Model T’s also caught my eye.



While definitely the low season for this part of the world with temperatures in the mid teens below, when they heard visitors were coming from New Zealand, they said “we will make it happen” On our arrival however, they were dissappointed that it was not our recently retired Prime Minister coming to see the cars.



Rob Brown

The Aubrey Bateman Memorial Trophy



For outstanding achievements and services to the North Island Model A Ford Club

This award which is not made every year, was last year, presented to Fiona Learmonth in recognition of her tireless work on the club website, newsletter and finances. In 2011, the trophy was presented by Bruce and Colleen Smith in memory of Aubrey Bateman, who with his 1930 black phaeton was something of a legend in the club. A full story of Aubrey's life will be posted on the club website in due course.



There is no problem in gaining new and younger club members in the Heilbron family





NORTH ISLAND MODEL A FORD CLUB INC

Website: *modelafordclub.co.nz*
Facebook: *North Island Model A Ford Club*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The NIMAFC no longer has a PO Box address. If you need to post something to the club that cannot be sent by email, please contact the club secretary.

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Things Mechanical (or electrical)

Newsletter Editor/Website Corner - www.modelaford.co.nz

Good luck and safe travels to everyone driving their Model A to Methven. Bring back plenty of stories for the newsletter. I always carry too many spares, but have decided that the most important tool after the cellphone, is a test light that works on 6 or 12 volts.



(NIMAFC Newsletter)

Editor email rtmgbrown@xtra.co.nz

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

In Microsoft Word is the preference.

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 NIMAFC recognises those authors and thanks them for allowing their article to be used in our Club Newsletter.

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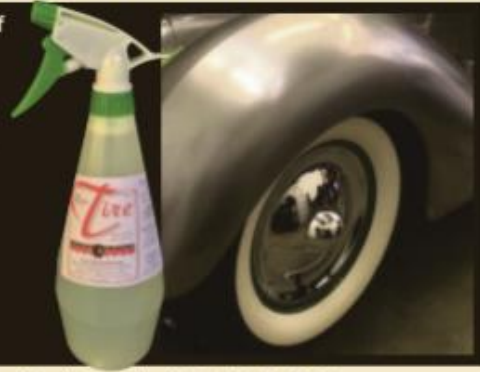
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