

Model A Flyer

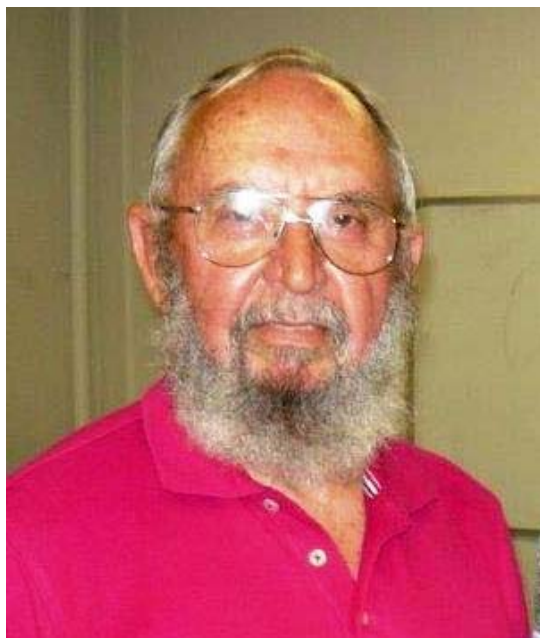


Model A Ford Club of NSW Inc

Web site www.modelafordclubofnsw.com.au
February 2021

Club Meetings are held at Holroyd Community Centre, Miller St., Merrylands. The parking entrance is in Newman Street. Meetings are held from 8 pm on the second Friday of each month unless otherwise stated.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As the year started with our January meeting cancelled, it was pleasing to hold our "Twilight" get together as an unofficial evening picnic.

As the restrictions eased the Wednesday Wanderers held an outing at Prospect Reservoir picnic area. It was great to catch up with everyone at both events.

The 4sq meter rule was reduced to 2sq meters on Friday 12th, and allowed us to hold a meeting that night. I had the pleasure on behalf of the Club to wish Mal Bradley a very Happy 80th Birthday, certainly a great way to celebrate our first meeting back after so very long.

Upcoming events discussed at the meeting include the Tramway Museum in February, a Maintenance Day and Wanderers outing in March and Ken Warburton is waiting to hear from Cronulla Council about the Car Show.

I would like to hold a President's Run to the Mudgee area in October (15th - 18th Dates to be fixed). Could interested members please let me know either by email (tryntje@live.com.au) or SMS 0492 872 477 to give me an idea of numbers. Thanks

To any of our members that are feeling unwell, including Ron Cox, I wish you a speedy recovery and hope you are back on your feet as soon as possible.

Every ten years, the monks in the Monastery are allowed to break their vow of silence to speak two words. Ten years go by and Brother Ignatius, a new monk, gets his first chance. He thinks for a second, before saying "Food Bad". Ten years later, he gets his second chance and says "Bed Hard". When another decade goes around, he stands before the Head Monk and gives him a long hard stare and says "I quit!"

With a smirk the Head Monk replies "I'm not surprised Brother Ignatius, you've been complaining since you got here".

Have a great month, and look forward to seeing you all soon.

Stay safe and well
Col

Your 2021 committee

President	Col Bootle	0400 076 255	CFC & CMC	Phil Dalton	0413 970 704
V/President	John Hyland	4657 1734		Ron Elks	0419 296 201
Treasurer	Robert Brown	0439 731 066	Librarian	Carol Butler	4739 5723
Secretary	Rob Taylor	0434 314 198	Wanderers	Tom Virgona	0420 342 392
Committee #1	Ken Young	0428 697 717	Newsletter	Rob Taylor	0434 314 198
Committee #2	Ron Elks	0419 296 201			
Public Officer	Rob Taylor	0434 314 198			
Membership	Robert Brown	0439 731 066			

thetaylors79@bigpond.com

Mail: PO Box 1038 MERRYLANDS 2160

Sunday 28th February—Sydney Tramway Museum—IT'S ON!!!!

Event: Vintage Tramway Festival 2021

Where: Sydney Tramway Museum, Cnr Rawson Avenue (Old Princes Highway) & Pitt Street, Loftus NSW 2232

Arrival Time: Please arrive between 9am & 10am

Activities: Come on down and enjoy a day of fun, riding on some of Sydney's oldest trams doing what they do best. This year will feature a cross of our older cars (L/P 154 & N 728), middle range cars (O's 1111 & 805) and the later trams (P 1497 & R 1740, R1 1979 & R1 2001)

So you'll be able to experience the very earliest to the latest in Tramway design that graced Sydney's streets for over 100 years. This year will also feature our recently repainted R1 corridor car 2001 now back in green and cream. As this is also the 60th Anniversary of the closure of Sydney's Trams in 1961 the end of the day will feature 3 corridor cars running together as they did on the very last day.



Sunday 28th February, Northern A's Mystery Run

Meeting - 930am for coffee at Portland Drive, Cameron Park Plaza.

After Coffee - we then depart on short mystery tour south followed by lunch.

Please contact Di Paice, 0408-414-681 if you are attending.



Saturday 20th March, Maintenance Day, Sydney Safety Training

Meet - 9am at Sydney Safety Training, 395 Guildford Road Guildford. Model A's drive in and park in rear, moderns on the street please.

Topic - How to adjust 7 and 2 tooth steering boxes. Plus any other topics you wish to raise on the day.

Refreshments - There will be morning tea and BBQ snags on bread roll for lunch

Please let Rob Taylor know if you are coming for catering... thanks. 0434 314 198

Sunday 21st March, Northern A's Run to Tocal Homestead


Join us for a regular Sunday opening, with a twist! Bring your own picnic, or purchase something (a sausage sizzle, cold drink, or your own picnic box) on the day. Relax and enjoy the family activities, our resident blacksmith, photos on the vintage tractor, roaming bush poet, history talks, and farm animals. Not forgetting our famous wood fired scones!

Location - 957 Tocal Road, Paterson

Timings - Meet there at 10am



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Can you guess who are these men??

Can anyone identify the two Model A Ford tragics in the picture from some years ago.

If you know who they are, please email their names to:

thetaylors79@bigpond.com

Cheers Rob Taylor

Wednesday Wanderers

The Wanderers Visit Prospect Reservoir Once Again – Wednesday 3rd February 2021.

It seemed like it was only a short while ago that Thomas Virgona, our fearless Wanderer's leader, took members to Prospect Reservoir for a picnic. In fact it was quite recent being on Wednesday 4th November 2020. We Davis's didn't make it however on that occasion. Not being renown for our navigating skills we were unable to find the place and ended up having lunch by ourselves in Parramatta Park.

This time I did go to much trouble to research where to go. Even so it wasn't easy and whilst getting lost a number of times we eventually arrived. However it was some time before Tom and Carol arrived who had to admit they had also become lost. Much of this confusion however is due to the extent of development and new roads in the Prospect region. We knew that we had to navigate along Reservoir Rd until we came to the reservoir entrance where we were then to travel down the recently named William Lawson Drive to Walder Park.

For those who are interested in Australian history there is considerable information on the web of William Lawson (1774 -1850), an explorer and pastoralist who with Gregory Blaxland and William Charles Wentworth found a route over the Blue Mountains in 1813.

We spent a lovely morning catching up with fellow members. Peter Butler had brought his drone so we watched as he put it through its paces. There were some issues with its operation however, so Peter has some sorting out to get it to fly perfectly. Peter had also made two railway rolling stock models of wood to show us which were excellent. As usual the men formed their own group to natter on and likewise so did the women members. Only one Model A had come, and that was Ron and Edna Cox's 1929 Model A Tudor.

Thank you Tom and Carol for making our day.

The photographs shown were taken in Walder Park at the reservoir.

Compiled by Trevor Davis.

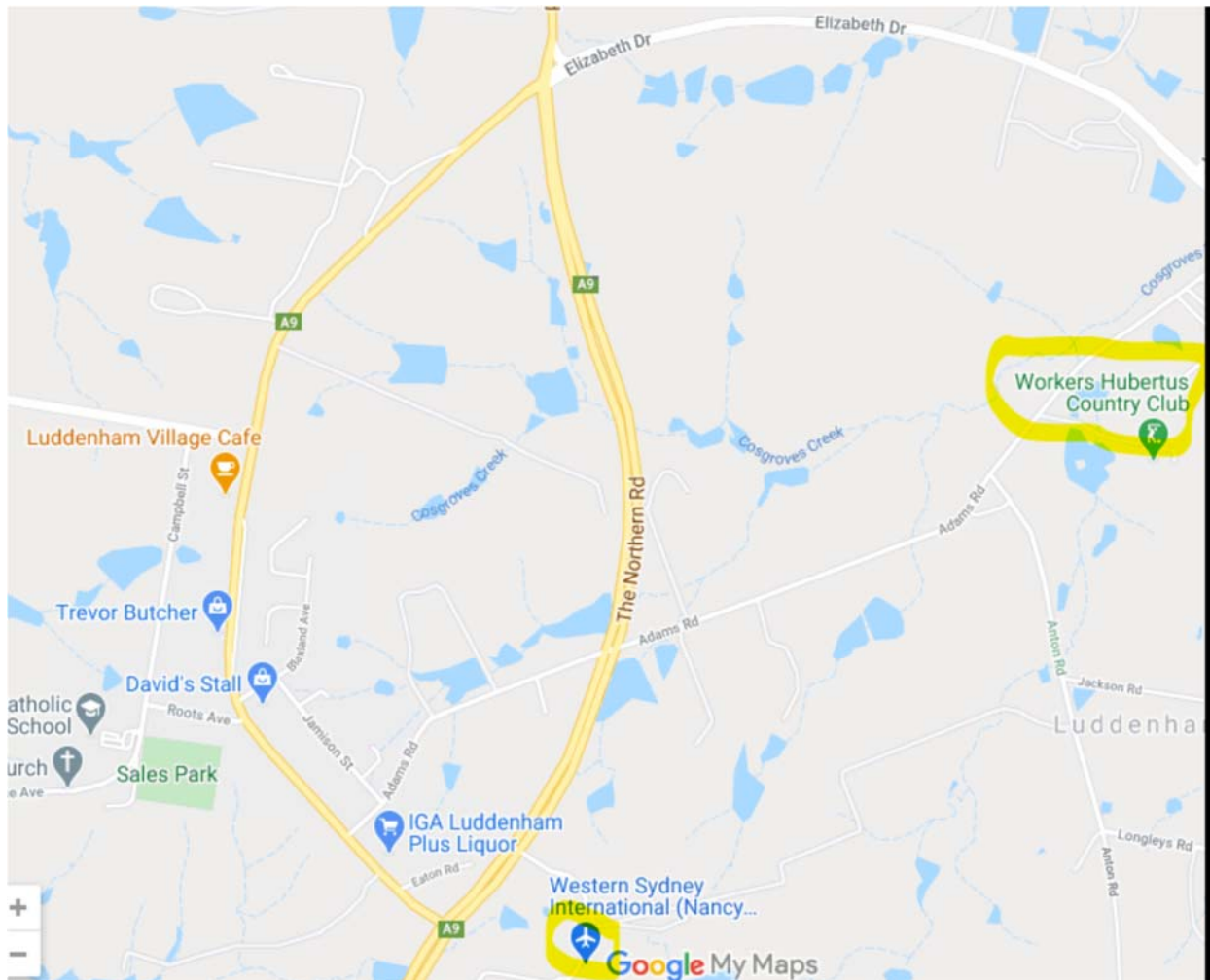


Wanderers Next Outing Wednesday 3rd March - Western Airport Experience

We are visiting the **Western Sydney Airport Experience Centre** which is located at 100 Eaton Road, Luddenham. We are booked in at 11:30am for the tour, so please arrive around 11am.

Please meet in the carpark at the centre. The New Northern Road Luddenham Bypass is open and access is left turn in and left turn out only, so you will need to be travelling south, or if travelling north, travel through Luddenham on the old road and turn right onto the new bypass road.

The WSA Experience Centre is a community engagement and education hub, where you can depart on a journey to discover how Western Sydney International will help shape the future of Western Sydney.



Lunch will follow after the tour at the Workers Hubertus Country Club. Organiser Robert Brown

Wanderers outing on Wednesday 7th April is proposed to be to the Mount Annan Botanical Gardens.

Our host will be John Hyland.

More details next issue.

Market Place

For Sale: 5 x 19" rims with tyres in good condition \$1000 ONO. Martin Whitehouse 0425 330 206

Wanted: 30 Model RHD (Gema) steering box, 600x20 tyre suitable for spare only,

John Hyland 0246571734 or waikato.park@bigpond.com

Wanted: Closed top Model A Ford, Peter Huckstepp Mob 0413377640

For Sale

1930 Model A Roadster

Beige, an original Australian colour from new.

Extensive mechanical work has been completed on the car, and a list can be provided for interested parties.

The price is \$37,000 or near offer.

The car is located on the NSW Central Coast, any enquiries please contact Dennis Ashton on 0409 044 340.



Amazing 1929 Model A Ford Journey

In the NRMA Open Road magazine of November/December 2020 there is a mention of an amazing journey into the Burragorang Valley in a new Model A Ford. The story appears together with a number of reader's letters in an article titled:

"Lost But Not Forgotten. In the 1950s, the Burragorang Valley slowly filled with water and disappeared. More than 60 years later, some readers still mourn its loss."



The article resonated with me as in 1948 a high school friend and I were silly enough to attempt to hike from the Burragorang Valley along the river up to the Megalong Valley. We did not have maps and had little experience in hiking in isolated areas. We travelled by train to Camden and then by bus to the Oaks and on to the guest house called 'The Knoll'

in the Valley. From here we set off and camped overnight. In the morning we had to admit that we were fools to go into that wilderness, So we packed up and went home. In about 1953 I returned to the same spot with friends in my new Morris Minor. This area in the valley would now be many metres under water. I can therefore appreciate the story about Reg Johnson, who was the NRMA's Open Road's photographer and explorer in the late 1920s. The Burragorang Valley was one of his favourite places to visit and in 1929 he drove a new Ford Model A up the valley to the Megalong Valley. This journey required him to make 16 river crossings.

Complied by Trevor Davis



Peter and Jenny Thompson's -1929 Model A Phaeton

Our 1929 Phaeton has been in the Thompson family since 1930 and came from St Mary's. My grandparents worked and lived on the family farm at what is now Kemps Creek. They had 4 children, Wallace, Elton, Keith my father and the youngest Esme. Until my Auntie Esme was born the family had a 1928 Model A Ford ute. My grandmother Ruby, who my phaeton is named after refused to ride in the ute with a new born baby. The ute was hastily swapped with the next neighbour for the phaeton.

The phaeton has spent most of her life in Western Sydney and Canberra. She had travelled 133,200 miles before she was put back on the road in 2003. Her original registration number was 210-444. Most of these miles were done from the farm at Mt Vernon, now kemps Creek to St Marys or a big day out drive to Liverpool. All the 4 children learnt drive on the phaeton. In 1948 my great grandmother passed on and the family farm was sold. My grandparents moved to 72 Jersey Rd South Wentworthville. The phaeton went with them and then did errands around Wentworthville and trips to Parramatta. In 1955 the phaeton's engine was tired and was rebuilt. The engine in 2000 was opened up to see what needed to be done. Everything was fine and only the gaskets and rings were replaced.

My grandmother then decided to buy a new car as my grandfather had passed away and she wanted a closed in car with wind up windows. The phaeton was replaced by a new 1955 Morris Oxford. My Uncle Wallace then bought the phaeton off my grandmother for 100 pounds. The phaeton was then driven to his home at 69 Limestone Ave Canberra. The War Memorial is just down the street. The phaeton was registered in the ACT. Her rego number was 11092. The phaeton was a daily drive to the Foreign Affairs Department in Canberra. After 5 years of driving the phaeton succumbed to a rego check defect. The phaeton had a cracked windscreen and a sloppy kingpin.

The phaeton was once again replaced by a new car, a 1960 FB Holden station wagon. The phaeton was then retired to a "lean to carport" in the back yard. She was visible from the street and over the years many a person came to my uncle with the possibility of a purchase. As more people approached him, he always said an "Emphatic no!" I think he enjoyed wrangling. The phaeton sat for 27 years in the lean to. Unfortunately, my Uncle Wallace in 1987 was diagnosed with terminal bowel cancer. My Uncle knew that I liked the Model A as I use to ask after it as a kid and told him I would buy it if he ever wanted to sell it. My uncle rang me and said that his 4 sons were not interested in the phaeton and was I still keen. **You bet I was!** The only condition was that I take the phaeton the following weekend. You have never seen move so quickly. My uncle didn't want anything for the phaeton as long as I restored it and kept it in the family.



CONTINUED

The phaeton was bought home to Penrith and put in the shed. It wasn't long before the Model A Club tracked me down. Neville Jones and Gordon Brown came over with a membership form and offered to start the phaeton. The A hadn't gone in 27 years and fired straight up. Impressive! Its next outing was the All-Fords Day at Warrick Farm. The phaeton was put on display as an unrestored Model A. The phaeton was like bees to honey. People and the A club were all over it. My Dad was in his element as he told everyone who wanted to listen that he learnt to drive on the phaeton, then started her up. The phaeton purred like a kitten. The phaeton sat for another 4 years waiting. By this time being a school teacher, I had no car skills. In 1995 I took myself off to Granville TAFE with my brother-in-law to undertake a spray-painting course. The result was what I was looking for. I met Geoff Patman, Head of Paint Refinishing and Jeff Rudd, Head of Panel Beating at Wetherill Park. The phaeton was stripped, sand blasted, prepped and painted. Jeff Rudd did all the panel work and every panel was re-sprayed meticulously.

Geoff Patman suggested we change the phaeton's original colours from tan to Empire and Saxon Green. An outstanding choice. The dark green upholstery is the original colour. The phaeton was then put back together with the help of Des Fitzgerald from the Model A Club who I will be for ever grateful. I did give him a job as my general assistant at Ingleburn North P.S. Another master stroke by me, as he was brilliant at that also and lived close to the school and I could give him A parts to work on. My neighbours, Bob and Phil Mack worked on the engine and the wiring. Ian Carr Upholstery at Fairfield Heights did all the upholstery and soft top.

The phaeton finally became road worthy in 2003. She was awarded Restoration of the Year by the Model A Club in 2005. Rugby the phaeton is still a work in progress and continues to be tweaked and improved. Rugby now has now a synchronized gearbox and a Fred Motschall steering box. My lifelong friend Mark (I don't mind spending your money) Tait, who I also met at TAFE has taken Rugby to the next level and I thank him for his persistence.

We are only custodians of these marvellous cars and I am proud to be a third generation Model A owner. Peter and Jenny Thompson

