ISSUE 819

OCTOBER 2026

THE VINTAGE DRIVER

The official magazine of the Vintage Drivers Club

Patron: Brian Tanti



THE VINTAGE DRIVERS' CLUB INC

Established 1958 Reg No. A0110905M ABN 30 004 426 528

'Catering for those who own or appreciate Vintage Vehicles'

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Stuart McCorkelle, Doug & Edith Stevenson, Garry Jewell, Holly Samson, and Doug Sterry.

Safety Check Officers

The following Club Members are eligible to conduct Vehicle Safety Inspections on Members vehicles and sign Vehicle Safety Reports:

John Rhodes	0400 118 309
Brian Smith	0401 802 264
John Davis	0418 998 520
John Johnston	0417 354 998
Hein Otten	0418 390 538

An inspection fee will be charged by the safety check officer which will include an amount of $40 which is returned to the club. If travelling is required to carry out the inspection a further fee will be payable.

BOOKING DOC's DODGE

Simply complete the online booking form and then contact David Jenkins to confirm availability.
Email: docsdodge@vdc.org.au

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Vintage Drivers Club or its officers. Whilst all care has been taken, neither the club nor its officers accept responsibility for the accuracy of information printed and or the quality of any items or services advertised or mentioned in this publication. The editor reserves the right to edit contributions submitted for publication.

CALENDAR 2026

October	23rd	Friday	Members Meeting & AGM
Nov.	3rd	Tuesday	Cup Day Party
	14th-15th	Sat-Sun	Bendigo Swap Meet
	27th	Friday	Members Meeting
	29th	Sunday	Christmas & Presentation Luncheon
Dec.	6th	Sunday	Christmas Picnic TBC
	12th	Saturday	Christmas Coffee & Chat
	13th	Sunday	VSCC Two Wheel Brake Rally

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Members Meeting & AGM

Friday 23rd October 2026

Enjoy a drink and a chat from 6:30pm.

Pizza from 7pm Meeting starts at 8pm



Front Cover:



Shay with mum Katrina McDonald competing in a 1928 Ford Model A Speedster in the recent B40 rally. Photo Courtesy of Amelia Chapman.

Magazine Closing Date

Closing date for contributions for the November magazine is:

Thursday 5th November 2026

Membership Enquiries

New Membership Applications & all membership enquiries to Doug Stevenson Mob: 0419 319 977

Email: membership@vdc.org.au

Permit Renewals & Applications: are to be sent to the Club Permits Officer, Arnold Chivers 10 Beaufort Rise, Warrandyte Vic 3113. Documentation should include—**1**. VicRoads Renewal Application Form **SIGNED BY THE MEMBER 2.**Cheque or money order made payable to VicRoads **3**.Stamped envelope addressed to VicRoads. OR Stamped self addressed envelope if you want the signed form returned to yourself. The Club Permits Officer will: Confirm the applicant's membership, financial status and vehicle eligibility and will post all relevant documents in the envelope provided. **NEW PERMIT APPLICATIONS** are to be sent to the Club Permit Officer as above and include **1.** Vic Roads Application Form **2.** VicRoads Eligibility Form **3.** Photos as per VicRoads requirements **4.** For vehicles pre 1948, a vehicle safety report signed by an authorized Vehicle Safety Check Officer as appointed by the Club or a roadworthy certificate. Vehicles post 1948 a Roadworthy Certificate. As it is better for the owner to personally collect the new plates from VicRoads the application should be accompanied by a stamped self addressed envelope and no payment need be included.

From the President

Another month has rolled around, and once again there has been plenty happening around the club.

Firstly, a thank you to the few of you who have put your hands up to help out with the coffee van, your support is much appreciated! We are still looking for a few more helpers, so if you can spare a little time, please consider getting involved. We would like to have a group of people who can help look after the van, bring it along to Coffee and Chats, and take it to other events throughout the year. The more people we have sharing the load, the easier it will be for everyone.

I decided to enter the Vintage Sports Car Club hill climb at Rob Roy this year, and what a lot of fun it was! There were a number of club members competing, and it was great to see so many old cars being put through their paces up the hill, including Doug “Kangaroo Hunter” Sterry. If, like me, you’ve wanted to give a competitive event a try but aren’t sure whether your car (or driver!) will be up to it, I’d encourage you to give it a go. It’s a great experience, the VSCC are very helpful, and if my WWII Jeep can get through scrutineering and up the hill, I think anyone can!

I also attended the Grand Final camping weekend at Walmer, which was a great fun event. I took the coffee van, and it was put to very good use. The BBQ got its first proper workout, while the coffee machine provided a continuous flow of hot drinks throughout the weekend. The van also performed flawlessly on the long drive up and back and once again proved to be a great asset to the club and its events. Many thanks to Hein and Dominique for hosting the club and helping make the weekend such an enjoyable one. It was a terrific opportunity to get away, catch up with fellow members and enjoy some good old-fashioned club camaraderie.

Cheers,
Richard



From the Editors Desk

Welcome to the October edition of our magazine.
The year flies when you are preparing eleven editions of the publication, you get one to bed and you need to start thinking about the next one.

Thanks to all those members who have been providing me with content it is appreciated.

The world of club magazines is not getting easier with increased amounts of material being protected by copyright and new electronic systems developed to scan publications for protected information. So much concern is being expressed by local clubs that the AOMC is promoting a seminar to discuss and inform clubs of their responsibilities to only include unprotected copy. I will be attending to represent our club.

More positive news I believe our club is leading the way locally by promoting our B40 rally to encourage younger enthusiasts to experience the delights of vintage motoring.

The B40 concept was developed in the European countries and recently was conducted in Britain.
This initial event attracted over fifty entrants and was sponsored by an insurance company Fiskens. I gather it included some activities at the Goodwood circuit.

As you could imagine there was a lot of exotica amongst the entries. A good innovation was a ladies award won by a trio of young ladies in a 1923 Sunbeam.

Our Club should take a bow for its foresight in sponsoring the B 40 rally. We need every young enthusiast we can encourage into the movement.
Enjoy the read

Iain R

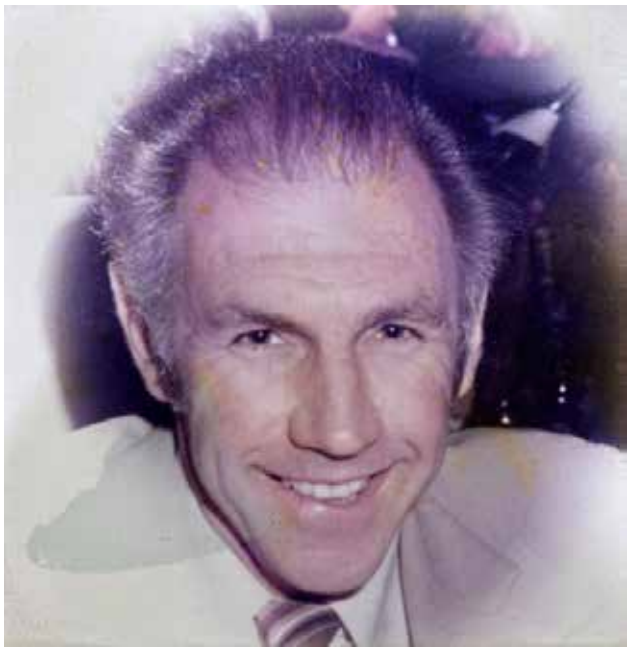


Vale - Malcolm Sterry

The Vintage Drivers Club farewells long-standing member Malcolm Sterry, who passed away on 24 September 2026, aged 85.

Malcolm joined the Club in 1971, beginning an association with the Club that would span more than 55 years. During that time, the club became an important part of Malcolm's life – and of the Sterry family.
Malcolm was never one for committee positions, but he was always willing to lend a hand. Over the years he contributed many hours working on the Clubrooms, including at Fitzroy and later Nunawading, and for many years was a regular at the monthly magazine fold nights.

Malcolm enjoyed many years of rallies and motoring with the Club. His 1928 DeSoto became the family rally car and was part of many Club adventures, with a 1936 LaSalle later joining the family.
For Malcolm, the Club was about more than old cars. It was about the people, the friendships and being part of the Club.



After more than 55 years of membership, Malcolm leaves behind many memories within the Club, along with a family connection to the Club that continues today.

He will be greatly missed.

Our sincere condolences to Helen, Doug, Melissa and Family

Vale - Wayne Styles

We have recently been advised of the passing of very early member Wayne Styles.
Wayne joined the club in 1970, and his passion was Austin Sevens.
Our sincere condolences to Jenny and family.

Vale - Lynne Simpson

We were recently informed of the passing of Lynne Simpson wife of member Graeme Simpson.
They originally joined the club in 1958
Our sincere condolences to Graeme and family.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of The Vintage Drivers' Club Inc Registered No. A0110905M will be held before the Members Monthly Meeting on Friday 23rd October 2026 where the following business will be conducted.

- To confirm the Minutes of the previous annual general meeting held on 24th October 2025.
- To receive and consider the Annual Reports of the Committee on the activities of the Club during the preceding financial year.
- To receive and consider the Financial Statement of the Club as at 30th June 2026.
- To Consider Proposed Special Resolution to make a change to the Vintage Drivers Club Incorporated Rules. The reason for the proposed change is to align with changes in the Incorporated Association Model Rules made by Consumer Affairs Victoria in 2023. The main changes are simplification of the disciplinary action process (Division 2), clarification on the use of electronic communications & signatures, revision to the conflict of interests process and definition of additional membership categories (life & honorary membership).

NOTE: Details and Minutes of the 2025 AGM were printed in the November 2025 issue of "The Vintage Driver" magazine.

The following nominations have been received for the Executive Committee of The Vintage Drivers Club Incorporated for 2026 / 2027.

President	Richard Badham	Vice President	Iain Ross
Secretary	Daine Alcorn	Treasurer	Maureen Ross

Nominations for Executive Committee Positions are:

1.Trevor Barby	2. Arnold Chivers	3. Glenda Chivers
4. Stuart McCorkelle	5. Melissa Sterry	6. Doug Stevenson
7. Iain Ross		

The Vintage Drivers Club would like to thank the following people for their kind donations in the 2025 – 2026 financial year.

Ross Ansell, Fred Ates, Trevor Barby, Andrew Battersby, Mark Blackman, Wes Braden, Robert Calnon, Brendan Collier, Trevor Davey, Angela Giannuzzi, Garry Jewell, John King, Jim Lambert, Grant Lane, John McEwen, Fred Menke, Travis Morgan, Ron Pearce, David Peck, Anne Phillips, Geoffrey Philp, Nico Polato, David Smith, Aub Smith, Gwen Swingler, Ross Tatam, Mark Wallington and John Zakula.

Minutes of the Vintage Drivers Club Meeting

DATE: 25 September 2026, 8pm
MEETING CHAIRED BY: Iain Ross, Vice-President
ATTENDEES: There were 51 members in attendance present.
NEW MEMBERS PRESENT: None
VISITORS PRESENT: Ronnie Heagney (previous member), Viv McPherson (Member John Macgibbon's daughter)

APOLOGIES: Richard Badham, Glenda Chivers, Arnold Chivers, Kris Cunningham, Alan Lade, Sharyn and Chris Wells, Iain welcomed members to the monthly meeting. He reminded members to fill in the attendance sheet and to check circulation of the raffle.
Iain advised members of the passing of Mal Sterry, on Thursday last. Funeral arrangements will be notified when available. Also notified in the current magazine was the passing of George Hetrel, Carl Barnard, and Ian Morley. More recently we were advised of the passing of Wayne Styles, and of Lynne Simpson, wife of Graeme Simpson; they joined the Club in 1957. The Club's sympathies are passed to the respective families.

NEWLY RESTORED VEHICLES PRESENT: None

DISPLAY VEHICLE: Franks Braden's 1929 Chrysler
Frank spoke about the restoration of his 1929 Chrysler and the welcome help he'd received by Club members.

TREASURERS REPORT: Maureen
For the period 19 August to 15 September 2026, the operating expense was $7,267. This consisted of B40 Rally, Council Rates, and our normal monthly costs for the magazine and club rooms. Income for the period was $8,426. The majority from membership renewals, monthly rental income and our Christmas/Presentation lunch.

NEW MEMBERS REPORT: Doug
There were no new members this month.

EVENTS REPORT: Doug (Stuart an apology)
Past Events
Hurstbridge Wattle Festival, 30 August
Coffee and Chat, 12 September
Rob Roy Hill Climb, 13 September
Current Event
Grand Final Camping Weekend. 25 – 27 September 2026, Hein Otten's property in Walmer.

Coming Events
Coffee and Chat Saturday 10 October, at the Clubrooms
Mid-Week Run Mad Hatters Collection Wednesday 14 October. Sign-up sheet at this meeting or contact Frank Braden 0401 275 545
Club Meeting and AGM, Friday 23 October. Pizza Dinner before the meeting at 7.00pm
Bendigo Swap Meet Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 November. Club site as usual details in magazine.
Christmas and Presentation Luncheon Sunday 29 November. Details in magazine. Sign Up sheet at this meeting.
MAGAZINE: Iain
Iain thanked members for keeping up the supply of interesting articles for the magazine.

MYSTERY CAR: Iain
This month's mystery vehicle was a light commercial manufactured by REO. It was a 1928 REO van that served the RAC in Rhodesia. The REO Speed Wagon, a lightweight, fast delivery truck is widely considered an ancestor of the modern pickup. Correct answers were received from Matt Lack, Ian McCulloch and Rob Coney.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Iain
Iain reported that the club was in the process of selling its share of a register of car springs specifications that had been purchased for the benefit of vintage car owners, to the AOMC, to simplify access to the spring details. Our club members will have access to the specifications of automotive springs as required.
AOMC has set up a Foundation to assist financially motor trade apprentices and to encourage trades that supply services to heritage vehicles and eventually to encourage the establishment of "Heritage motoring apprenticeships" in Victoria.
AOMC is holding a seminar on copyright issues related to the use of copyright material in Motoring Clubs magazines and printed materials.
The last AOMC delegates meeting was held in Maffra and was a useful interaction with country vehicle owners.
The next members meeting includes the AGM and Iain reminded members about submitting nomination and proxy forms.

PRESENTATION TO THE CLUB
Ronnie Heagney presented Iain with a Clubman trophy, awarded in 1975 to John Heagney, for the Club trophy collection.
Following John's passing, Ronnie organised restorations to the trophy on 20/9/2026
and found stuck under the mounting screw, a piece of paper with the following poem. The trophy had been made by George Cox.
The poem reads: "Twenty Nine is young enough to dig a well & sow at least a dozen kids & leave another song or so for us to sing & hike a half dozen hills
Poets after all should walk & be content to take their time"
My Regards Geo Cox. 24/5/1975
Iain thanked Ronnie for the Trophy which the Club would honour in its Trophy Display.

GEARBOX REPORT: Garry
There was nothing to report from the Gearbox.
Garry spoke about some of the history of the Club Magazine and the effort involved in its production over the years. From Addressograph Multigraph processors, mimeograph machines, Xerox copying and the teams of members necessary to collate the printed pages, assemble them into envelopes for sending out via postal services. Today, the computerised version is less people intensive but requires highly dedicated effort from the current editorial pair.

GUEST SPEAKER: No Guest Speaker

GENERAL BUSINESS:
Ross Tatum has advertised in the next magazine a tools etc sale on Sat 24/10/26.
Dave Jenkins has a box of components etc and a Model A steering Box for interested members.
Clem Slater requires a 1928 Chev 6-volt windscreen wiper motor.

RAFFLE:
The raffle was drawn as usual with lucky members rewarded with a selection of prizes. Many thanks to those who contributed to and organised the raffle.

The meeting concluded around 9.10 pm and was followed by an enjoyable supper. Thanks to all who contributed.

COMING EVENTS

Doc's Dodge - Our club car is available for use by members to attend any of the events. Booking form is on our website or contact club car manager - Dave Jenkins 0413 901 734 or email: docsdodge@vdc.org.au

Club Meeting & AGM
Friday 23rd October

Pizza Dinner before the Meeting available at 7.00pm





Melbourne Cup Day Party
Tuesday 3rd November



Cup Day will be at the clubrooms from 10.30am with a BBQ Lunch. Wear your racing attire and join in the fun of cup day. race car.

Bendigo National Swap Meet

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th November
Prince of Wales Showgrounds Holmes Rd.

Vintage Drivers Club members and friends are invited to meet at club site number 63, Bendigo swap map ref 6 H. You will be welcomed with a cuppa, bickie and a chair This can be your rest stop to pick up club information, chat with other members or use as a prearranged place to meet a member or friends. There will be a variety of historic motoring magazines for sale along with other motoring literature, technical books. VDC Caps, Lapel Badges, VDC club car badge, (members only). If you find that precious part for your collector vehicle that is heavy or large and your transport is parked outside, you can leave it at the site and pick up when leaving. Saturday drop offs to be picked up by 4pm. Sunday drop offs to be picked up by 11am. Mobiles at VDC site: Garry Jewell 0417 157 343.
Doug Stevenson 0419 319 977
Stuart McCorkelle 0423 939 653.

Club Meeting
Friday 27th September



Christmas & Presentation Luncheon
Sunday 29th November

Venue: Chirnside Country Club
68 Kingswood Drive Chirnside Park
Time: Arrive at 11.30 for meal at 12.00 noon
Meal: 2 Courses Main & Desert Alternative Drop
Cost: $30.00 per person. The cost is being heavily subsidised by our club. Drinks are at bar prices.
Bookings essential: Advise Edith Stevenson if you wish to attend. Email: edithstevenson@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0417 343 796
Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.
Bookings & Payment must be made in advance by 15th November and can be made at club meetings, Coffee & Chat or via direct deposit to club bank account:
The Vintage Drivers Club.
BSB 033-089 Acc. No. 723301
Please quote your name as the reference

Family Christmas Picnic
Sun. 6th Dec.

Details of this event will be emailed to members & in the November magazine



VSCC Two Wheel Brake Rally.
Sunday 13th December.

VDC Members with Two Wheel braked cars are invited to take part in this event. Further details in November magazine

Note as usual there will not be a Club Meeting in December

Save the Date:
Our club will celebrate our 70th Anniversary in 2028.



There will be many activities throughout the year to celebrate our 70th Anniversary including a special rally. Tentative dates for the rally are 20th April to 25th April 2028 at Swan Hill.
Further details will be available closer to the date.

COMING EVENTS

Doc's Dodge - Our club car is available for use by members to attend any of the events. Booking form is on our website or contact club car manager - Dave Jenkins 0413 901 734 or email: docsdodge@vdc.org.au

Two very popular AOMC events for next year

Details & Entry Forms on AOMC Website https://www.aomc.asn.au/aomc-events

Festival of Motoring

- Sunday 17 January 2027
- 9:00 am 10:00 am

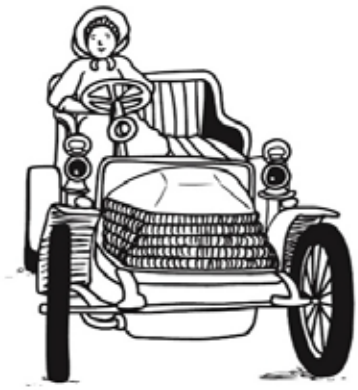
The next Festival of Motoring at Cruden Farm will be held on Sunday 17th January 2027.

Cruden Farm
Cranbourne Frankston Road, Langwarrin
Open to Historic, Veteran, Vintage and Classic vehicles over 25 years old.

This annual event at Cruden Farm brings together a vibrant community of automotive enthusiasts set against a backdrop of breathtaking scenery and a lively atmosphere, for all ages and interests.

Florence Thomson Tour

- Friday 30 April 2027 to Sunday 2nd May 2027



FLORENCE THOMSON Tour

Ladies, the Florence Thomson Tour for female drivers in classic cars is happening again. Applications Are Now Open on AOMC website!

The Vintage Drivers Club presents

YARRA GLEN 2027 SWAP MEET

VINTAGE & CLASSIC CARS, PARTS & ACCESSORIES

Garagenalia – Collectibles – Show & Shine



Change of date!

New Date: Sunday 18th April 2027

Yarra Glen Racecourse

Armstrong Grove, Yarra Glen VIC

Gates Open:

Sellers: 6:30am Buyers: 7:30am Show n Shine: 8:00am

Gates Close: 3pm

Entry – $10 (children under 12 free) , Display Cars $10 per person

Site Fees – from $25

** No Camping **

Online Site Bookings through trybooking or scan the QR code:

Enquiries – yarraglenswapmeet@gmail.com

www.vintagedriversclub.com.au

Find us on Facebook

Search for Yarra Glen Swap Meet

PAST EVENT
B40 Report by Seven Year Old Evelyn Yorston

Day 1
On the 21 of August dad and I went to Torquay for the B40 rally in the Vauxhall first we drove there we listened to lots of music, and on the way there we went to a bakery. When we got there, we set up our cabin, went to a pub and played a night driving game, called the Night Trial. Where we had to find landmarks from around the town of Ocean Grove.

Day 2
We gathered along Torquay esplanade for breakfast, which was a ham and cheese muffin. We made a sand castle on the beach together, before departing for our morning cruise to lunch via Whittlesea to Lorne. We went to the bakery, and a cockatoo stole my rocky road and nearly ate it, dad got it back for me. I got a teddy mermaid names Alice from the shop. We then headed along the great ocean road for the scatter run, we had to find a lighthouse, horse statue, lookout at the lookout we did a picture like the titanic and the chocolate shop but sadly closed when we got there.
Dad got to watch the Cat's play Football at the pub for dinner while I played with random kids and then we got back to our cabin and watched High School Musical 3 before bed.

Day 3
We again went for breaky and had a hot chocolate and got a toy, we then went on our morning drive, which was an average time speed trial, to a paddock. At the paddock we had a little motorkhana and dad drove over a cone and won the blindfolded driving challenge, it was very fun and funny. Dad ate at the paddock for lunch. Then we said goodbye to all our new friends and listened to music over the bumps on the way home.

I really enjoyed this trip with dad and I was very happy.

By Evelyn,
with help from Mum and Dad.





PAST EVENT

B40 Report by Seven Year Old Evelyn Yorston



















PAST EVENT
Golden Oldies Tour 2026



The 2026 Golden Oldies Tour was run by the Federation and very well organised by Anne Davis. The event was for vehicles up to 1930. A total of about 42 vintage cars took part including 18 Members of our club. The Event started on Sunday 30 August at the Federation's Morong Picnic with lunch provided to all entrants. We had two nights in Bendigo and visited many collections and attractions. This included a very interesting visit to our member Hein Otton's property near Maldon. He has a very large collection of vehicles including an Otton motorcycle manufactured by his family in Holland in 1901. No further info here as the club camping weekend is at Hein's property and they will be reporting on their stay.

The highlight of the Bendigo section was probably our tour of Langley Estate. Built in 1904 as "Bishopscourt" for the first Anglican Bishop of Bendigo, Henry Langley. It has had many uses over the years: A Red Cross convalescent home, a theological college, and St Luke's Toddlers' Home/orphanage before transitioning into a private venue and bed-and-breakfast. We were entertained by a Pipe Organ recital in the church on the grounds by Thomas Heywood. The mansion and its furnishings are magnificent.



From Bendigo we travelled mostly via minor roads to Barham. We had lunch at a farm in Bamawm. We were able to inspect a large collection of early tractors and other farm machinery including some very large modern units.
That's an Austin Seven almost under the very large spray unit



Dinner at Barham on the first night was at the Barham Flywheelers Club Museum. A fantastic roast dinner and a wonderful display that included just about anything you can think of, and more.



It sure is big!

Next day we had a car display at Barham Riverside Park which is on the main street. Our cars attracted a lot of attention and discussions with the locals and visitors.
Also, a guided tour of the Red Gum Sawmill at nearby Koondrook.



PAST EVENT
Golden Oldies Tour 2026





On Thursday we travelled to Swan Hill, while the direct route is about 45 miles the trip via Moulamein Heritage Village on minor roads was about 91 miles.

While in Swan Hill we travelled to Nyah to visit Ron Dehne Tractor Collection More than 100 Ford tractors of various vintages. Also, in Nyah we visited Dolltown Abbey with more than 3000 dolls.



Friday afternoon and evening we gather at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement where Anne had arranged for us to park our vintage cars inside the settlement grounds. After visiting all the different buildings and displays we enjoyed a cruise on PS Pyap on the flooded Murray which was right up high on its banks. Our evening meal was at the Settlement and afterwards we enjoyed a sound and light show Legends of the Mallee which is projected onto water sprays.





On the Saturday we had a car display as part of Kerang Museum's Annual Heritage Day.
The Tour finished with a final Dinner at the Swan Hill Bowls club and a Sunday morning breakfast at the Mallee Steam, Oil and Machinery Club at nearby Woorinen South.

A most enjoyable week and a special thanks to Anne Davis for all the work she put into organising this tremendous event.

Edith and Doug Stevenson

PAST EVENT
September Coffee and Chat

Once again, we enjoyed reasonable weather for our monthly get together at the clubrooms
We had fifty three members and three visitors in attendance. It was not long before most of the attending vehicles had their bonnets up and owners present to discuss their vehicles attributes. There was a chill in the air so both the car park and clubrooms were busy with the usual chatter and lie telling. Our new club coffee van was available and well used by our members

You are most welcome to attend our monthly get together and bring along your club car.
It's a great way to get to know your club. See you at our next one.













Photos courtesy of Malcolm Savage and Maureen Ross

PAST EVENT
Grand Final Camping Weekend

Thursday afternoon saw the first arrivals at Hein Otten's beautiful property near Muckleford, in central Victoria. We were joined by the others on Friday.

Hein had arranged portable toilets, and a fantastic fire pit, which we put to good use that night….there being no shortage of wood available.

The afternoon's adventure was all of us being picked up in a 1924 Morris truck and heading to the main house to view some of Hein's collection of Vintage cars and motorcycles, which was outstanding, as was hearing the Otten's family history and how their motorcycle business began.

Friday night's dinner was provided by the Coffee/BBQ van, with delicious hamburgers being cooked for all. Such a fantastic game changer, feeding all of us with ease… followed by an evening of catching up with each other and discussing plans for the remainder of the weekend.

Saturday morning saw the coffee van again being the star of the breakfast scene, with bacon and egg muffins being enjoyed by all.

After a 10am start, we followed, Hein into Maldon, via the backstreets, dropping Alfie off at the doggie beauty parlor for a haircut.

From there we made our way up the hill to Tarrengower Tower to take in the view. After leaving there, we made our way to the Heritage Museum, which had some great displays of old machinery, much of it working. Including a 1924 Graham Brother's truck and a vintage Dodge tractor.

The rain made an appearance, which kept the dust down, but made the dirt roads a little more adventurous.

We headed for Castlemaine, following the railway line. Just before Muckleford station, the track became quite rutted and greasy. There was a creek crossing beside a beautiful trestle bridge, which we all managed to cross without mishap and enjoyed immensely.

Cruising into Castlemaine, Hein led us to an Austrian restaurant, with our own rustic dining room. The food and service were both excellent, right down to 7 different schnapps with dessert…We could not have asked for better!

The rain was still with us when we got back to camp, so Hein kindly offered his house to us for dinner. Melissa and Glenda were our chefs for the night and did a magnificent job, feeding us all Spaghetti Bolognaise, which was delicious!

Sunday morning saw breakfast once again being provided by the coffee van, which is very quickly becoming everyone's favourite vehicle.

The packing up of our camps followed, and most of us headed for home before lunch.

All in all, it was a fantastic weekend, and huge thanks to Doug and Melissa who organised it, Richard for driving the coffee van up, and Glenda for keeping everything running smoothly.

Most importantly, an enormous thank you to Hein and Dominique for allowing us to run feral for a few days….

Looking forward to the next Grand Final weekend, and other events along the way.

Viv and Jeff Falcone



PAST EVENT

Grand Final Camping Weekend













R'Oil Can Rally by Brenda Smith

Allan and I recently spent a weekend touring the Taranaki region of NZ, this rally was terrific fun as apart from the start you didn't know where you were heading North, South, East or West. We were to be in Otorohanga 7.00 am on the Saturday morning to be given instructions for the first leg.

We left Napier on Friday morning and headed west toward Taupō then onto Otorohanga by late afternoon. We started out with the hood down enjoying patchy sunny weather complete with heated blanket as temperatures were not too tropical. By the time we got to Taupō it was drizzling and YEP! hood went up.

Onto Otorohanga and a night's accommodation ready for our early start at 7.00am. What we didn't count on was a very early start when there was a 5.9 mag earthquake at 4.59am I must admit I didn't feel it but Allan sat bolt upright in bed and was saying earthquake earthquake… so we were awake and ready for our adventures.

Arriving at The Fat Kiwi cafe we were given three large envelopes, number one to open and follow to the morning tea stop, our route took us off all main roads and on mostly unmade (shingle) roads fantastic. A delicious morning tea provided by PioPio primary school mums waited for us. It almost lived up to CWA morning teas. Seriously it was great and a very welcome HOT cuppa and delicious cakes along with three different soups. Sure, warmed us up for the next leg.

Next envelope opened and we headed off and back onto the shingle roads mostly single lane with plenty of tight corners and lots of up and downs but again scenery was fabulous.

We arrived Ohura public hall, again the local school mums provided lunch, it is a school of only twelve students so great effort by the mums.

How exciting time to open our third envelope and to follow instructions to our overnight accommodation. Off we took taking to the shingle roads, mostly single lane, again up hill and down dale around left hand corners and right hand corners, crossing railway lines following our instructions to the letter.

Whoop! whoop! We arrive at Timber Trail Lodge, where we were greeted by a gorgeous warm fire and a hot pizza for afternoon tea. Social get together until 7.00 pm and dinner was served.



After a well-deserved good night's sleep we all gathered for breakfast and chit chat prior to heading for home before being given a lunch pack to have en-route. When we ventured outside the car were frozen up ice everywhere but no stopping a Model A off, we headed. We travel with another Model A from Hawke's Bay so we ventured our way home circumnavigating the ski fields of Mt Ruapehu and Mt Tongariro. We visited historic Horopito Motors (from the movie Smash Palace) we continued onto Waiouru then headed toward Taihape and back to Hawke's Bay via Gentle Annie. Car went well only casualty a broken shock absorber, but we weren't surprised as roads may have been a tad rough in areas. We had certainly been well fed and watered for the weekend and met lots of other equally keen, and maybe just a little mad, old car enthusiasts.

R'Oil Can Rally by Brenda Smith



Left: Shingle Road

Bottom: Land slip after earthquake





Top: Another land slip



Right: Alan outside Horopito Motors

Early Motoring in Highlands

Colin Handasyde was reading a history book on his hometown of Highlands in Victoria and came across this story from his neighbours family dairy.

Jan. 25th 1918: We are getting a Motor Car ..... I think it will revolutionize my quiet life to be able to get away on long journeys.

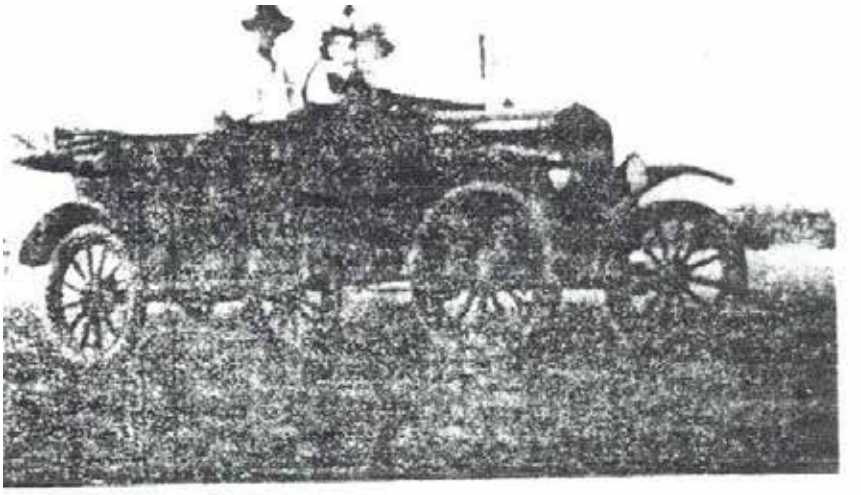
June 11th 1918: Today I have had my first ride in my own motor car. Archie was at Alexandra for a week learning to drive. The agent told me I could go anywhere with him now.

Of course, he will have to be careful not to go too fast and he wants experience, but he has got on wonderfully well.

It will mean a new era for us. Never again will I try to go to Yea when it rains, in a buggy. And with our new motor it ought to be delightful when the roads are good.

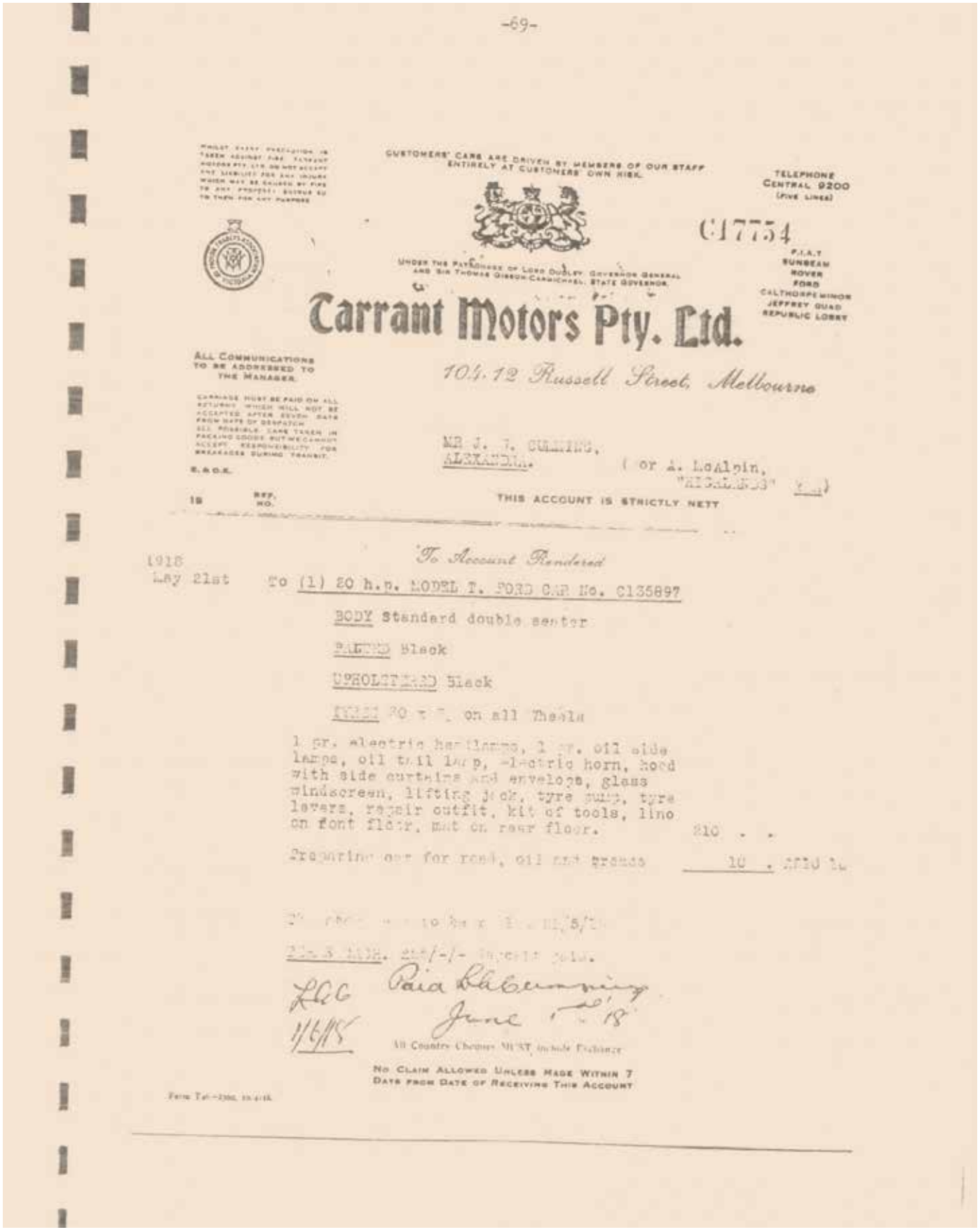
July 1st, 1920: The car is a source of great enjoyment to me. I am sure I go out three times as much as I used to, since we got it. Motor travelling has “got” me altogether. I am always ready to go out in the car. It is wonderful how much faster we can get about. When we go to Seymour, we need not start ‘till Midday, can see (our friends), chat and have afternoon tea and yet get back before 8 o’clock at night. In the old days going to Seymour meant staying a night. It was often twelve months between my trips. Then Yea; why with the car we can have lunch before we start, do our business in the town, then get back by seven. Oh, no doubt, a motor car is a grand thing to have and makes life more enjoyable. I used seldom to go to town in the winter; I did not like the long drag home.

Slowly, one by one, more cars were purchased, and Archie, being the expert, was called in to advise on most occasions. When cars became the vogue, so did the white dust coat. No self-respecting man would think of driving any distance without donning his coat. Another important accessory was a set of chains, these being essential for negotiating the many bogs and springs, particularly during the winter months. Nor was it long before women were driving in Highlands. Miss Joyce Minchinton was the first to acquire a licence, followed closely by her aunt, Mrs Sophia McAlpine.



The McAlpine Car

Early Motoring in Highlands



-69-

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Last Month's Mystery Vehicle



Last month's mystery vehicle was for something a little different a 1928 REO speed wagon van used by the Royal Automobile Club of Rhodesia as a patrol van, with an Australian waterbag on the side!

The picture was sourced from the Alex Gow collection of images that your editor receives regularly.

Reo was a pioneer company in the automotive world commencing in 1904 and named in honour of Ransom Eli Olds. In 1905 they produced the REO Runabout a one cylinder chain driven passenger vehicle. During the late twenties and thirties, they produced their Reo Flying Cloud. The Flying Cloud was the first car in its class to utilize Lockheed's new internal-expanding hydraulic brake system, Car production ceased in 1936, and the REO company concentrated on the production of commercial vehicles. In 1957 REO was purchased by the White Motor Company manufacturers of heavy duty trucks.



White Motor Company combined REO with the Diamond T Motor Car Company in 1967 to form Diamond Reo Trucks, Inc. The company declared bankruptcy in 1975, ending its long manufacturing run. Queensbridge Motors in South Melbourne held the REO agency like this brand it was a long established agency!

Locally our club has approximately ten REO's owned by members.

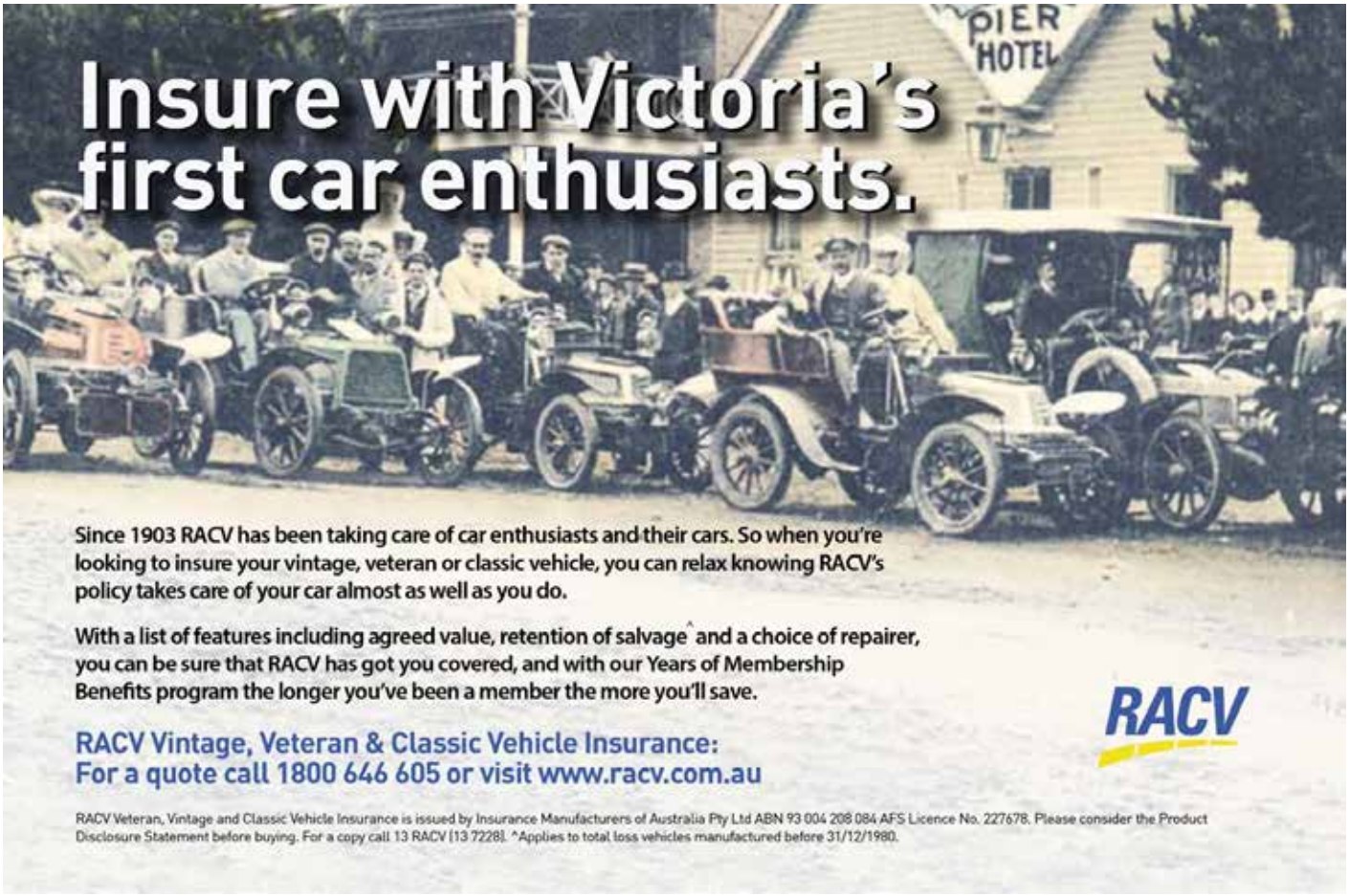
This Month's Mystery Vehicle



A sporty convertible made in tiny numbers maybe we have an owner of one of these in the club?

Contact: Iain Ross Mob: 0409 027 392 or

Email: imgross@bigpond.com



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The Vintage Drivers Club gives no undertaking or representations accepts no liability or responsibility and has no control regarding: (a) the accuracy or details in the advertisements; (b) the quality or safety of the items advertised; (c) the transactions between vendors and buyers.

Advertisements for private sale of registered vehicles must comply with the current Motor Traders Act and must contain the cash price of the vehicle, registration number, engine number and chassis or VIN number. Club permit vehicles are considered to be unregistered.

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Greg Taplin 0428 355 815 or tappers@iprimus.com.au

WANTED

SEV Type A 4 cylinder magneto. (This is a French unit)
Richard Unkles 0411 185 779 or richard@unkles.com

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Dodge 4 1924/1925 Radiator (fair condition) plus Cowl and DB badge (good condition).
$180 the lot.
Dodge 4 1924/1925 Headlight buckets (sand blasted and primed), Reflectors (need plating), DB lenses and bezels in very good condition. $400 the lot (won't separate)
Dodge 4 20" spare wheel carrier and chassis attach brackets. $80
Dodge 4 R/H Tail light and number plate bracket. $25
Dodge 4 up to October 1922 Gearbox reverse idler gear and bracket 12 teeth, Cluster gear driven gear 28 teeth. Both gears in excellent condition. $120 the lot.
Robert Kirby Mob: 0494 740 422

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Call: Ray 0411 424 546

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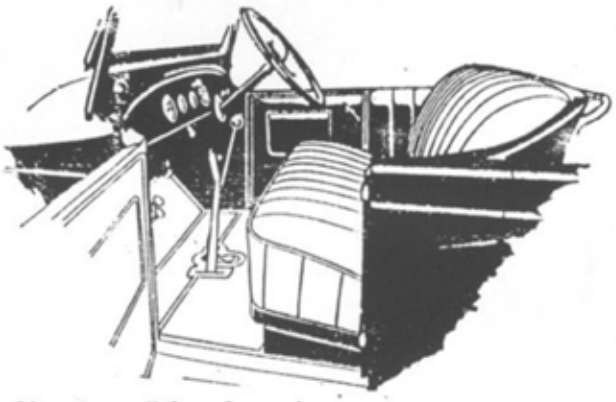
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