

# THE MOTOMETER

February  
2026



## FRIENDS OF VINTAGE MOTORING INC



**“The Voice of Friends of Vintage Motoring”**  
**“Timeless Stories, Technical Wisdom,  
and Club News”**

# Committee Members

**President** - Adam Jones

**Secretary** - Maxine Martin

**Treasurer** - Bob Yates

**Public Officer** - Ian Russell

## Inaugural Committee Members

Mik & Marg Bojko

Gary Warren

Dale & Kay La Vars

Trevor Martin

Kelly Russell

Rosa Yates

## Registrars

Bob Yates - 0448 865 967

Adam Jones - 0430 118 446

Mik Bojko - 0438 814 810

**Friends of Vintage Motoring email address**

[friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com)

# WELCOME

**Nigel & Georgina Wooster**

**Ian Johnson**

**Robert Santin**

**Alan & Kym McLeod**

**Eva Kamanga**

**Graham Stewart**

**Alana Millard**

*Welcome to this exciting new chapter in Vintage/Veteran Motoring*

Welcome to 2026! I hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and had a great start to the New Year.

A special welcome to those who have joined our club over the past month or so - we're delighted to have you with us.

By the time you are reading this, we will have already held our first get-together for the year. A huge thank you to **Mik and Marg** for organising a fantastic trip to **Cummins House** - your efforts are very much appreciated.

Thank you also to those members who have contributed to this month's edition. I am always on the lookout for interesting stories and warmly welcome your input. If you have a story you would like to share, please email me.

We're pleased to share that we now have a new club email address and an active Facebook page, with our website currently under construction thanks to the hard work of Jess and Adrian.

**Email:** [friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com)

**Website:** [www.fov.com.au](http://www.fov.com.au) (*not live just yet, but stay tuned*)

**Facebook:** Now live, with moderators Kelly, Adam, and myself.

Please keep an eye on your **Motormeter** magazine for updates on the events and activities we have planned for the year ahead.

A reminder that membership fees are due on **1 July** each year. However, if you join on or after **1 May 2026**, your payment will cover the **2026/27 financial year**.

We look forward to another exciting year together.

**Payment Notification Reminder**

When making any payment into the Club's account - whether for membership, memorabilia, or club runs - please email :

[friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com)

clearly stating:

**Who the payment is from**

**What the payment is for**

This helps us correctly allocate and track all payments.

Thankyou

**Friends of Vintage Motoring**

**Beyond Bank Australia**

**BSB: 325185**

**Account Number: 04162535**

# The La Vars Family 1949 MG TC

## A Love Story in Chrome and Grit

I had been searching for an MG T-Series for a very long time - ever since I first stumbled upon one under a tarpaulin at a truck company down the Port while working for Adelaide Steamship Industries. There, buried under dust, packing boxes, and layers of time, was the distinctive silhouette of a car I instantly recognised as something special.

Lifting the corner of the cover revealed a beautiful MG, left in near-forgotten storage. After speaking with the trucking company's boss, I learned of its fascinating backstory: during World War II, an RAF pilot had been stationed at a South Australian airfield and had this MG TC shipped over. Tragically, he was lost during the conflict before the car ever arrived, and it was tucked away and forgotten - until I stumbled upon it.

We struck a verbal deal, and I handed over all the money I had in my wallet as a deposit. I rushed back to work, asked the foreman and my manager for an early knock-off, and made my way to the bank and then home to grab the car trailer. But when I returned, I was told the car had already been sold - someone else had walked in, seen the dusted-off MG, and made a better offer. The boss gave me my deposit back and said, "Sorry." I asked what he'd sold it for, then showed him what I had withdrawn from the bank - nearly everything I owned at the time. It was significantly more than he had taken. In trying to make a quick gain, he had actually cost himself. I left bitterly disappointed, but knowing I had done everything I could.

**Missed Chances and Fate's Detour**

Years passed. Life moved on. When we were finally in a position to start searching again, we heard of a Model T Ford, a MK IV Jaguar, and a few other cars for sale out near Two Wells. To my surprise, there was also an MG TF there. I made an offer on all three that interested me, but again, no luck - the offers were rejected, and the cars sold to unknown buyers. But then, fate stepped in. One day, while driving past MG Sales and Service on Torrens Road, I spotted an MG TC sitting in the showroom. I managed to talk Kay into having a look - and as they say, it was meant to be. That was the car. **Our MG.**



## 19 Years of Joy and Grease-Stained Hands

We've now owned the MG TC for 19 years. In that time, we've made numerous upgrades and restorations to make it the reliable, usable car it is today. Kay has become the MG's most regular driver, especially during events like the **Bay to Birdwood**, where I typically take the Model T. As such, the TC has affectionately become "**Kay's car.**"

We've also attended several **All-British Car Days**, though we've politely declined multiple invites to join the MG Car Club. Our early experiences weren't the most welcoming - on one run, we were even left behind because we weren't yet in an MG. But times have changed. At the last All British Day, MG Club members approached us to register the car's details for the MG Factory Reference Log, as these 1949 MG TCs are becoming increasingly rare.

Now that I'm retired from full-time work, I've finally had the time to get "Tic" roadworthy again. We've been tidying things up, fixing the fiddly bits, and preparing to enjoy it once more - especially with the better weather rolling in.

### British Engineering: A Labor of Love

Working on a post-war British car is not for the faint-hearted. What might take two minutes on a modern vehicle - like topping up brake fluid - takes 20 to 30 minutes on the MG. You crawl under the steering wheel, remove the carpet, unscrew the cover plate on the wooden floorboard, and use a mirror and a torch to access the brake master cylinder. It's a test of patience, flexibility, and perseverance.

But that's the beauty of it.

Owning a vintage car isn't just about driving - it's about the journey, the self-satisfaction, and the pride in keeping history alive. Every wave, every smile from a passerby, every thumbs-up on the road - that's what makes it all worth it. Safe and happy motoring and enjoy the waves, cheers and smiling faces of others around when you take to the road.

***Cheers, from the La Vars Family  
and our 1949 MG TC***



**Club Polo Shirts & Caps are now  
available**

Polo shirts - \$35.00, Caps \$20.00  
email Maxine to place your order  
[friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com)



# GREAT NEWS!

Friends of Vintage Motoring is now a **recognised club through DPTI**.

This means we are now authorised to **issue MR334 forms and Logbooks** 🍷

**What do you need to do to transfer your vehicle to**

**Friends of Vintage Motoring?**

**Prior to 30 June 2026**, you must complete the following steps:

1. **Have your current logbook cancelled**

This must be done by a registrar of the club you are currently a member of. If you are a member of the *Model T Ford Club*, Bob is a registrar of that club and can cancel your logbook for you.

If you are a member of another recognised club you must go to a registrar of that club to have your logbook cancelled

2. **Have a new MR334 form completed**

This will be completed by one of our Friends of Vintage Motoring registrars. Our recognised registrars are Bob, Mik, and Adam.

3. **Complete a MR1 form**

Available from one of our three registrars

4. **Lodge the MR334 form along with the MR1 Form**

Take the completed MR334 along with your MR1 forms to your local Registrar of Motor Vehicles.

5. **Purchase a new logbook \$5.00**

Buy a new logbook from one of the Friends of Vintage Motoring registrars.

## Important Note

You **must be a financial member of Friends of Vintage Motoring** before a new MR334 form and logbook can be issued.

Membership Fees for 2025/26 are \$15.00

Membership Fees for 2026/27 are \$25.00 (due 30th June 2026)

If you have any questions or need assistance, please speak with either myself or one of our registrars - we're happy to help.



# Penfield Park

Woomera Ave, Edinburgh

Sunday 29th March 2026



## RIDE THE TRAINS

**Meet 10.45am**

**Officeworks carpark - Parafield**

**Entry fee, including unlimited train rides**

**\$10.00 per person**

**children under 3 free**

**BYO Picnic lunch or canteen facilities available**

**club cars will be displayed inside the grounds**

**RSVP - [kiar@bigpond.com](mailto:kiar@bigpond.com)**

**to receive the discounted entry fee you will need to pre pay to the clubs account no later than 17th March**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT COVERED SHOES MUST BE WORN**

## Cummins House

The Russell family had big plans for this day. To take 2 cars the T Ford and Rolls Royce as Mik had said there was amazing horseshoe driveway with nice gardens. I'm always up for a good background to take photos of the cars, and to meet at Adams at 12noon to drive down together. Well, nothing went to plan as usual. Rolls had flat battery which then meant we



couldn't get the T Ford out as that was parked in the front, so the trusty Stateman came out for a ride and of course we were running late so Adam and crew started off without us, we caught them on the way. What a start to the morning.

We all met up at West Lakes shopping car park, my favorite part to our runs is to see all the different cars turn up, the new members coming on their first run with our club, and everyone turning up with their new fancy club shirts, badges and even the hats. Mik handed out the run sheet and gives out some directions, but as usual when you need to remember street names you never do which then turned into a



guessing game of the street we are looking for. Time to leave after everyone has had a chat to catch up. One thing I'm not a fan of on car runs is to be the first person to leave because if I mess up the directions everyone gets lost. So, we waited a minute and I saw Kay, Dale & Jarrod leave and I'm like Ian follow them and next minute everyone pulled out and we were on our way. Only to get down the road a bit and Ms. Speedy Kay took off and then we were first, but we made it and Mik wasn't wrong the gardens and house are amazing.



The staff met us outside with a warm welcome they showed us the way to go for afternoon Devonshire tea. When you walk to the tearoom there is a big sign that says sale, and not any sale but a plant sale so most of the women have totally forgotten what we are suppose to be doing and off to the sale we go. Only 5 minutes later Ian came to get us and told us they are waiting for us to serve tea. The room was set out beautifully and the scones were delicious, but I only eat scones with butter and VEGEMITE, so it was a



little weird having jam and cream. Once we had finished Afternoon tea they split us into groups of 10 to take on a guided tour of the house.

Our tour guide was Andrew and he was a hoot, that man can definitely talk and was



full of information and random facts, and while doing all this he kept setting off his watch that calls for emergency services. Once the tour was finished off to the plant sale we went, I do believe most of us walked out with a few plants from their pretty gardens.



Now back to the beginning of the day and the dilemma of the flat battery. Of course Mik has a spare battery charger (doesn't everybody have a spare) It is just such a pleasure to be a part of this club because everyone is happy to help each other... Off to Miks we went Debs and I got to go see Marg's amazing miniature dolls house, It definitely very fancy and Ian got to see Miks shed.

**Thanks, Mik and Marg for organizing a great run and to somewhere I never even knew was in Adelaide.**

**Kelly Russell**



## Cummins House

Our meeting place was West Lakes at around 1.00 pm. The first thing I noticed was the wonderful variety of motor vehicles scattered around the car park, followed closely by the friendly faces of fellow members. After wishing everyone a Happy New Year, it was clear that, like us, everyone had enjoyed a great break — although it was nice to be getting back to a bit of normal life.



Mik called us all together to give a rundown of the afternoon, and then it was time to leave. What a lovely drive it was through the seaside suburbs, passing through Henley Beach where I grew up in the fifties and early sixties. How things have changed since then! We continued through West Beach and up Tapleys Hill Road, passing the airport before turning left at Warren Avenue and weaving our way to Cummins House.

Members who arrived first were fortunate enough to park under a couple of huge trees, while the rest of us were in the sun. Luckily, the day was very pleasant, with a cool breeze blowing. Once everyone was accounted for, we headed inside for a very enjoyable afternoon tea.



The coffee, tea, scones, homemade jam and cream were absolutely delicious and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We were then divided into three groups for the guided tour of the house. Cummins House is one of South Australia's earliest surviving buildings and was the residence of South Australian pioneer and politician John Morphett, purpose-built for him. Remarkably, it was lived in by five generations of the Morphett family and was never sold, remaining in the family until it was taken over by the State Government in the 1970s. Morphett himself was of considerable significance to the establishment and development of the Colony of South Australia.

Today, historic Cummins House and its gardens are carefully maintained by the dedicated volunteers of The Cummins Society Inc.

It was also a lovely surprise to catch up with Beth Martin on the day.

A big thank you to Mik and Margaret for organising such a great outing.



**Kay and Tony Russell**

# The Cedars

## Home of Hans Heysen

Sunday 12th April 2026



**HEYSEN**  
**THE CEDARS**

**Meet Gillies Plains RSL**

**cnr. Ways Road and Bennett Ave Manningham**

**08.45am**

**\$20.00 per head payable to the clubs bank account when  
confirming your participation**

**at the conclusion of the tour we will enjoy lunch at**

**Auchendarroch house**

**RSVP Adam [adam.jones6@bigpond.com](mailto:adam.jones6@bigpond.com)**

# Upcoming Events

## Friends of Vintage Motoring

**Sunday  
29th  
March**

**Penfield Trains**  
**Organisers: Ian & Kelly Russell**  
[kiar@bigpond.com](mailto:kiar@bigpond.com)

**Sunday  
12th  
April**

**Presidents Run - Adam Jones**  
**The Cedars - Hahndorf**  
[adam.jones6@bigpond.com](mailto:adam.jones6@bigpond.com)

**Sunday  
3rd  
May**

**Breakfast Run**  
**Organisers: Maxine & Trevor Martin**  
[trevmax1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:trevmax1@bigpond.net.au)

**Sunday  
14th  
June**

**Registration Day  
&  
AGM - Our 1st Birthday**

**Saturday  
11th  
July**

**Mid Year Dinner**  
**Organisers: The Committee**  
[friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofvintagemotoring@outlook.com)

# MEETING MINUTES

## 17/01/2026

Welcome	Adam welcomed all those present to the January Committee Meeting	
Present:	Bob & Rosa, Adam, Trevor & Maxine, Dale & Kay, Mik & Marg, Ian & Kelly	
Apologies:	Gary	
Acceptance of Minutes:	As published in the December Motometer and distributed by email with amendments: Approval with DPTI - Approval was received on 11th December 2025 Munno Para Foodland should have read - Chapley Group Norwood/Saints Foodland	Moved: Mik Seconded: Kay That the minutes as distributed by be accepted with amendments <b>Carried</b>
Secretary's Report:	Email sent to all members re upcoming events email to 100 club re update to Membership forms, email address and web address Thankyou to the Chapley Group (Foodland) for their donation Welcome—Ian Johnson, Nigel & Georgina Wooster, Robert Santin, Alan & Kym McLeod DPTI re new MR334 book for Bob & Mik IN: advise from DPTI re recognition for conditional registration	Moved: Dale Seconded: Kelly That Secretary's Report be accepted <b>Carried</b>
Treasurers Report:	Bob presented the Treasurers report As per the financial statement signed by President Adam	Moved: Ian Seconded: Trevor That Treasurers Report be accepted <b>Carried</b>
New Membership:	Nigel & Georgina Wooster Ian Johnson Robert Santin Alan & Kym McLeod Eva Kamanga	Moved: Maxine Seconded: Mik that we accept these 7 new members <b>Carried</b>
Monthly Runs:	<b>1st February:</b> Cummins House - Mik & Marg Bojko <b>29th March:</b> Penfield Trains - Ian & Kelly Russell <b>12th April:</b> The Cedars - Adam Jones <b>3rd May :</b> Breakfast Run - Trevor & Maxine Martin All members present agreed that the Christmas party was a wonderful event and look forward to next years Christmas party.	

Memorabilia	Polo shirts - \$35.00 Name Badges available - \$5.00 Key Rings - \$6.50	Hats—\$20.00 Biro's - \$2.00 Stickers - 2 for \$5.00
General Business:	<p>Logbook - member purchase price          It was agreed that we would charge members \$5.00 per logbook</p> <p>Membership price for Associate Members          It was agreed that we would charge Associate Members the same price as full members \$25.00          Dale and Maxine explained that it was upon the advice of corporate affairs that we needed to offer more than one membership category.          Dale spoke about the inclusion of a seniors membership—to be discussed again at a later date</p> <p>The committee would recommend to the AGM that the membership fees for 2026/27 be \$25.00</p> <p>It was agreed that members who pay their fees in May 2026 will be covered until 1st July 2027</p> <p>It was agreed that we would hold a registration day on 14th June 2026 from 10.00am—2.00pm followed by the AGM @ 2.00pm. Location to be advised.          It was also agreed that we would have a free sausage sizzle for members between 12.30pm and 1.30pm.</p> <p>Under the constitution we must have a common seal held by the Public Officer. It was agreed that we would purchase at a cost of \$32.90</p> <p>Website update: Maxine gave an overview of the progress of the website. The committee thanked Jess and Adrian for their work so far.</p> <p>The committee also thanked Allmat building supplies for their financial support.</p> <p>Adam spoke about his experience transferring his cars through Motor Reg and stated that it was a very smooth transition.</p>	<p>Moved: Ian          Seconded: Mik  <b>Carried</b></p> <p>Moved: Mik          Seconded: Kay  <b>Carried</b></p> <p>Moved: Maxine          Seconded: Bob  <b>Carried</b></p> <p>Moved: Trevor          Seconded: Bob  <b>Carried</b></p>
Meeting Closed:	Adam thanked all those for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed.	

# SWAP MEETS & CAR SHOWS

**Sunday February 22nd - All British Day**

**Sunday 15th March - Woodside Swap Meet**

**Sunday 15th March - Gawler to Springton Veteran & Vintage  
Run**

**Sunday 22nd March - All Ford Day**

**Sunday 19th April—GM Day**

**Sunday 3rd May - Old Crocks Run Wigley Reserve Glenelg**

**Sunday 14th June—Sedan Swap Meet**

**FIND TREASURES YOU NEVER  
KNEW YOU NEEDED!**