



# The 'CON-ROD'

Web site <http://www.narc.org.au>

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHERN AUTOMOTIVE RESTORATION CLUB S.A. INC.

NARC was formed in 1974 to encourage the regular use, restoration and preservation of veteran, vintage and classic motor vehicles, tractors and engines.

## March/April 2011

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT April 2011

Another active two months for NARC has passed by. Our February Workshop Night at Goode Restorations was well attended and many positive comments have been received about the variety of interesting presentations on the night. (see page 10) Particularly pleasing was the participation of Kapunda Chapter members, paving the way for increased cooperation with this very active group.

The Kadina Shed Day saw a good representation of cars and members, and was very well hosted by members of the museum, many of whom are NARC members. See page 8.

NARC's recently renewed presence in the Club Entry segment at Power of the Past certainly paid dividends this year, with our club taking home four of the awards. Most pleasing was our success in winning the Best Club Entry award, helped in no small way by Dave Dunstan taking out the best Velocette award, and Craig Thomas and Ian Radford gaining two awards for their Austral engine and pump display. (See page 7) The featured makes for Power of the Past 2012 are in our favour, as our newly updated club Register features examples of all categories. You will hear more of next year's NARC entry in due course!

The March meeting was particularly interesting to our newer members who had some difficulty recognizing the key players in NARC's 1985 Alice Springs trip, despite their presence on the night. Nostalgia certainly has a place in our meetings, judged by the enthusiasm shown.

We were lucky with the weather for the annual Swap Meet. Saturday saw a good number of helpers to set up and an enjoyable barbecue meal at the Goode's that evening. Sunday morning went very smoothly with over 1,000 through the gate (despite it being Clipsal weekend) and a jovial mood all round. Then just before 10am came the thunderstorm! The rain briefly held off long enough for a successful auction and then seriously set in to ensure that we were soaked by the time we had cleaned up. By midday nearly all sellers had departed without incident or damage to the grounds. A big "thank you" to all who helped stage our main event of the year. (see page 9)

Several members took the opportunity to display their cars at the Booleroo Steam and Traction Day. This was fortunate, as the number of cars attending was quite low this year. Many more NARC members were observed attending on the day, so please consider taking a historic vehicle rather than your modern.

A few members attended the Laura Folk Fair with their vehicles which along with local PADARC members cars made for an interesting and varied display. Thanks again to members for your support.

The traditional June long weekend Camp Out Weekend will be at Kapunda, giving the parent club an opportunity to catch up with Kapunda Chapter members and to explore the many local attractions. Details are on page 6 in this Con-Rod edition.

Our April meeting is at Port Broughton Golf Club and will be a Member's Profile. Brian Beyer has hinted that there is a lot we don't know about him, so this promises to be an interesting night.

Apologies for the length of my screed this edition, but we **are** an active club!

Safe Motoring  
John Birrell

.

## **NARC Calendar 2011**

<b>April</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	Meeting Pt. Broughton Golf Club. Member Profile ... Brian Beyer
<b>May</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	Meeting Pt. Broughton Golf Club. Peter Eaton's Whippets for Wishes III
	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	Con-Rod - deadline for article submission
<b>June</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	Meeting Pt. Broughton Golf Club. Identification & film night
	<b>11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Camp-out Weekend - KAPUNDA details page 6
<b>July</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	Pt. Broughton Golf Club. <b>AGM</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	Con-Rod - deadline for article submission
	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	Meeting Pt. Broughton Golf Club. Guest Speaker
<b>September</b>	<b>TBA</b>	Shed Day Merv Robinson's collection
	<b>10 &amp; 11<sup>th</sup></b>	NARC Rally Burra ..... details in last edition.
<b><u>2012</u> October 13<sup>th</sup> &amp; 14<sup>th</sup></b>		
		The Burra to Morgan event will be held over these two days.

## **Invitation Events**

<b>April</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> (Easter)</b>	Alfa Romeo National Rally. The Concours is being held at Melrose Park Clare at the Lakeside Railway from 9.30 till Noon. Members are invited to bring their cars and meet fellow enthusiasts
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## **Swap Meets**

<b>April</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	Valley Rodders Tanunda Oval. Sellers 6.30am \$10.00 Buyers 7.30am \$3.00 ph 0432 653 796
<b>May</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Kapunda at the Trotting Track, Sellers 7am Buyers 8am Rodney Whenan 8562 3155 <a href="mailto:kapharn@yahoo.com.au">kapharn@yahoo.com.au</a> .
<b>July</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	ALL MAKE at Greyhound Park, Days Road, Angle Park Sellers 7.15 am. Buyers 8.10 am to 12.10 Sites; \$15.00 Buyer \$5.00
<b>August</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	Willunga, Sunday 7.00am-12noon at Willunga Sale Yards. ph: Graham, 0412 578 188
<b>September</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	Gawler at showgrounds (Princes Park) sellers 6-30am \$10 .. buyers \$5 Bob Perry 8396 1007 0418 821 944 bob@perry.net.au <a href="http://www.perry.net.au/gawler.htm">www.perry.net.au/gawler.htm</a>
<b>October</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Balhannah Motorcycle only at the oval, 7.00 a.m., sites \$12 , entry \$5 contact: Peter Yates after 6.00 pm ph: 8255 8856

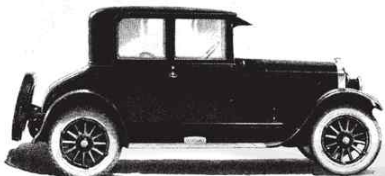
## **Other events of interest**

<b>October</b>	<b>29 &amp; 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Extreme Horsepower Show, Wayville Showgrounds.
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For more information on most of above... [www.bevenyoung.com.au](http://www.bevenyoung.com.au) swap meets

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Chapter Reps are Chairman and Secretary.

**Kapunda Calendar**

- 25<sup>th</sup> April      Anzac Day. Meet 10.00am, Dutton Park Memorial Gardens. BYO morning tea. Drive to Clare for pub lunch. Those wishing to attend notify Jean Burns, 8847 2423 if you have not already done so.
- 29<sup>th</sup> April      Chapter meeting, 8.00 pm, Lutheran Church hall, South Terrace, Kapunda. NOTE change of date !! Bring information and photos for May history week display.
- 15<sup>th</sup> May        Sunday, 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. Kapunda history celebrations. We will display our old vehicles in Hill Street and have an information display in the Institute building. Bring photos and information about N.A.R.C., chapter history, outings etc.
- 27<sup>th</sup> May        Chapter meeting, 8.00 pm, Lutheran Church hall, South Terrace, Kapunda.
- 11<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> June      NARC camp out. Refer to page 6 for details. Please try to be a part of this event.
- 24<sup>th</sup> June        Chapter meeting, 8.00 pm, Lutheran Church hall, South Terrace, Kapunda.
- 26<sup>th</sup> June        Progressive Lunch. Meet at Brian and Irene Woodcock's, High Street, Kapunda at 11.00 am for soup. Then main course at Eudunda, and sweets at Riverton. An easy drive for your historic motor vehicle. Attendance numbers to Dianne Palamountain, 85 811071. chit chat could include ideas for the next twelve months.
- 17<sup>th</sup> July        Meet Hill Street, 10.00 am for easy drive. BYO morning tea. Pub lunch. Numbers to Dale, 85 811071.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> July        Annual General Meeting, 8.00 pm, Lutheran Church hall, South Terrace, Kapunda.



## **Visit to DJ's Restoration at Eudunda, 27<sup>th</sup> March**

By Brian Haines

Another great run! The chapter members met, with the Austin 7 club, at Davidson reserve in Kapunda. It was a fine crisp morning, and after a morning tea or coffee, the rather large group set out for Eudunda.

A fine procession of historic vehicles left Kapunda including a number of Austin cars, A30s, A40s, A95s, an Austin Healy, an Austin 16, a MG and of course, the inevitable Austin 7. Chapter cars included a Rolls Royce, Citroen, Ford, Triumph, Jaguar and a number of moderns.

DJ's Restoration is a couple of kilometres south of the town, and we met by David Scholz, the owner of the business, who welcomed us and spoke briefly about the history of the business. He then led us around the facility, explaining the various projects, machines and tools.

The workshops were well equipped, and spotless. We inspected two vehicles under restoration, a Torana hatchback and a Ford Falcon being modified. The quality of workmanship was most impressive. The sandblasting workshop was well equipped with quality machinery necessary for carrying out quality work. Then on to view David's collection of tractors and old cars, some being restored, others waiting.

There was also a large 2 cylinder oil fired engine from Tarcoola. It was nearly sent for scrap but was rescued by David, who intends to restore it 'one day'. The next shed contained a collection of "stuff" including stationary engines of a variety of types, petrol pumps, plough seats, signs plus many more items of interest. It was quite impressive as all exhibits were well restored and well displayed.

Lunch was served at Dales Workshop. Dale and Dianne must have worked extremely hard, as they had cleared enough floor space to seat over 70 people and cook a barbecue lunch. Dale's workshop also houses a great collection of interesting "stuff" and of course, Austins and Jaguars.

Around 30 cars were parked outside of Dale's classic garage, providing an interesting display for the many locals that found time to inspect.

Many thanks to our generous hosts David, Dale and Dianne for providing an excellent and informative day and also to the members who cooked and provided the salads and/or sweets. A most enjoyable lunch.

## **Australia Day, 2011**

A quick report by Duncan McDonald

Members of the Gawler and Barossa clubs met with the Kapunda Chapter at Davidson Reserve, Kapunda. After a morning smoko session we travelled to Riverton where we met with members of MAPS. There were even a couple of vehicles from the Rover club.

The weather was excellent and we had a picnic lunch on the lawns of the swimming pool, after which I strolled around noting the vehicles present. There were 77 and only 9 of them were modern. Most excellent!! Many makes were represented, even a Lightburn Zeta. There was also a small Fiat 500, which I thought would fit into the boot of a large Ford Marquis nearby and a very impressive Austin Sheerline.

Before leaving for home, interested persons were able to visit the Riverton museum, which Ray Edwards had arranged to be open for the occasion.

## Kapunda Camp-out weekend 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June

The annual “camp-out” caters for all tastes, in that we have booked all the cabins at the Kapunda Tourist Park from Friday night to Sunday night. There is ample provision for true campers as well.

The suggested programme includes

- An informal pub meal for the Friday night starters
- Saturday morning shopping and visitor info centre
- Museum visit Saturday pm
- Dinner at Wheatsheaf Inn, Allendale North
- Sunday morning free time
- Sunday pm local attractions (galleries, heritage trail, members collections, etc)
- Dinner at North Kapunda hotel with Chapter members
- Monday am Visit to Aviation museum at Greenock, lunch and depart.

To book a cabin, please telephone the Tourist Park on 8566 2094. One night's tariff will be required as a deposit (Deluxe \$100, Standard \$85) and mention NARC.

**Cabins will be held for NARC until FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL, so book early!**

These weekends have been a lot of fun in the past, so please join us in June

## Historic Motor Vehicle Display

This display was held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March. It was held at the parklands off Anzac Highway just off South Terrace Adelaide. It was a fine day about 30 degrees but humid.

About 80 cars were on display and the majority were pre 1931 but ranged up to the 60's. There was a very rare 1923 Straker Squire in chassis form that was able to drive off its trailer. Another very rare car was a 1928 Courier that I last saw at the first Bay to Birdwood in 1980. There were only about 1,000 of these made. A racing version of a mid 20s Bugatti was on a trailer but was started by its owner.

Other cars that interested me were : 1929 Essex, 1918 Hupmobile Roadster, 1925 Overland, two 1925or 26 Humbers, 1927 Whippet, 1920 Rolls Royce, two 1935or 36 Armstrong Siddeleys one of which I had not previously seen at a rally.

I saw 2 cars that I had not seen for over 30 years and another not seen for 23. It goes to show that by not going to car displays regularly you can easily miss seeing some cars. I saw eight cars at this display that I had not seen before.

This is the second of these displays that I have been to and I enjoy them particularly as it is meant to be pre - 1931 cars only. However there were a few more later ones there. It would be good to see some NARC cars on display next year even though it does clash with the All Ford Day.

Leon Darley

## Power of the Past 2011

NARC members made a concerted effort to repeat our presence at Power of the Past 2010, and to help re-establish the club competition segment of this excellent annual event.

In keeping with the featured makes this year, David Dunstan displayed no less than four Velocette motorcycles, including the feature model as part of NARC's club entry. John Birrell ran his tiny Kelly and Lewis pump, powered by an Amplion 1 HP engine, all weekend.

In size contrast was Craig Thomas and Ian Radford's Austral oil engine belt driving a Comet pump jack, all mounted on a wheeled transport. This outfit also ran splendidly for the two days.

John also displayed the Haflinger as an independent entry.



**THE TEAM**

The weather was perfect, the participants enjoyed much camaraderie, the Sunday morning swap meet produced a few treasures and to cap it all, NARC was awarded the Best Club Display trophy. Craig and Ian took out the Best Unrestored Engine award **and** the Patron's award, while David took home the Velocette award. Many NARC members were observed in the crowd during the weekend.



**THE TROPHIES**

Next year, the featured makes are:-

- Valiant cars
- Olds engines and machinery
- BSA motor cycles
- Ransome tractors

All of these makes appear in relative abundance in NARC's new register- how about we attempt to make it a double for 2012?



## NARC VISIT TO THE FARM SHED MUSEUM, KADINA, FEB. 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Kadina has had all sorts of inclement weather recently: heavy rain, gale force winds and extreme heat. However, Sunday February 13<sup>th</sup> developed into a perfect day to visit the vast and interesting collection at the Farm Shed.

Around forty NARC members, Kadina National Trust representatives and guests gathered at the on-site restoration workshop for morning tea at 10.30 am. It was especially pleasing to see Audrey and Patron John Hunt enjoying the day, with John looking in much better health. NARC has some members who are also long-term Farm Shed volunteers with extensive knowledge of the complex and its exhibits. In the workshop, under restoration by the volunteers, was an early 50s Commer truck used for AMPOL deliveries around Wallaroo for many years by local identity and volunteer, Mick Mellow. NARC President John Birrell introduced long-time supporter of the complex and National Trust representative Graham Hancock, who welcomed us and thanked NARC for their support. Expressly mentioned was NARC making possible the chrome work required to complete the restoration of the 1937 Diamond T semitrailer.

Directly from here we all watched as NARC members and volunteers Jeff Roberts and Geoff Polgreen, with sentries posted, carried out an army-like manoeuvre, and the huge 1940 RUSTON HORNSBY softly swooshed into life. This 12-tonne engine originally supplied power to the Lochiel Salt Works.

As a group we went to the new Rural Transport display, especially to view the Diamond T restoration supported by our club. This truck has a local history and was donated to the Museum by the family of the late Wilf Harris, who purchased it new in 1937. It has the original Hercules diesel engine, a sleeper cab by Lawton's, Adelaide and a 22-foot trailer. It was repainted in the original cream colour and resplendent with gleaming chrome bumper, grille, large hub-caps, side flashes and windscreen frame. It was a proud moment for both the restoration team and NARC members. 3 years were spent on this restoration.

Nearby was Kevin Weckert's Model T charabanc looking magnificent and coaxed into life by Brett Colliver on the crank and Darkie Fiedler on the controls. Present on the day was Paul Coole, who over all was responsible for the restoration of both these vehicles, plus many others in the collection. Other exhibits ranged from drays and wagons, pre-1900, solid-tyred trucks of the 1910s, and examples from the 20s, 30s and 40s.

From here we went our individual ways throughout the complex. The ladies no doubt were intrigued by Matta House, with its original furnishings and displays. The placard says, "Take a step back in time" and this is apt. I remember as a small boy visiting relatives who lived in houses like this, with the same heavy-curtained dim look, the linoleum smell and the furniture not to be jumped on. Most of the men went on to the adjacent "Colin Coleman Building" with the tractor and farm equipment display with such wondrous things as winnowers, strippers, threshers and ploughs. Then we went to view old printing equipment, land-clearing with stone rakes, many stationary engines and an interesting display entitled "Her Side of the Story". Household equipment of a bygone era aroused many memories. Recognisable local names such as "Bowman's" butcher's cart and "Pannan's" shoemakers further coaxed brain cells into action, as did a large man-trap high on a wall. This was in our yard during my childhood and by two of us jumping on the huge spring we could latch the jaws open. Throwing a brick on the plate would cause the jaws to bang shut with frightening violence. My father always said it was made by a local blacksmith. Why would you?

By 12.30 pm most members were having lunch in the restoration workshop after a great visit. Farm Shed volunteers not only locate, transport, restore and display items, they have also modified or built most of the shed complex as well. They are to be congratulated on a job in progress. Well done.

Noted in the car park were:

Brett Colliver	1929 Desoto
Moranne Coombs	1965 Valiant
Brian and Eleanore Beyer	1947 Triumph 1800
Alan Pitchers	1926 Gardner

I also saw a nice Chev, about 1966, but did not catch up with its owner.

Kevin French

## **CLARE SWAP MEET 2011**

A total of 1100 people went through the gates of the Clare Swap Meet on Sunday, despite competition from the Clipsal 500 motor race in Adelaide and the threat of rain.

The gates opened at 7am and the rain stayed away until 10am, giving sellers and buyers three hours to do their deals before hastily packing up.

Co-convenor Graham Goode was delighted with the cooperation of sellers as they entered the Clare Showgrounds.

It's helped that we no longer require sellers to fill in a prescribed goods form before entering the swap meet and sellers are familiar with the standard layout and operation of the swap meet," he said.

He also said the club was happy to have 1100 paying customers, only about 300 down on last year.

Many people still attended the swap meet despite the fact it was raining at their homes, including Crystal Brook and the Yorke Peninsula.

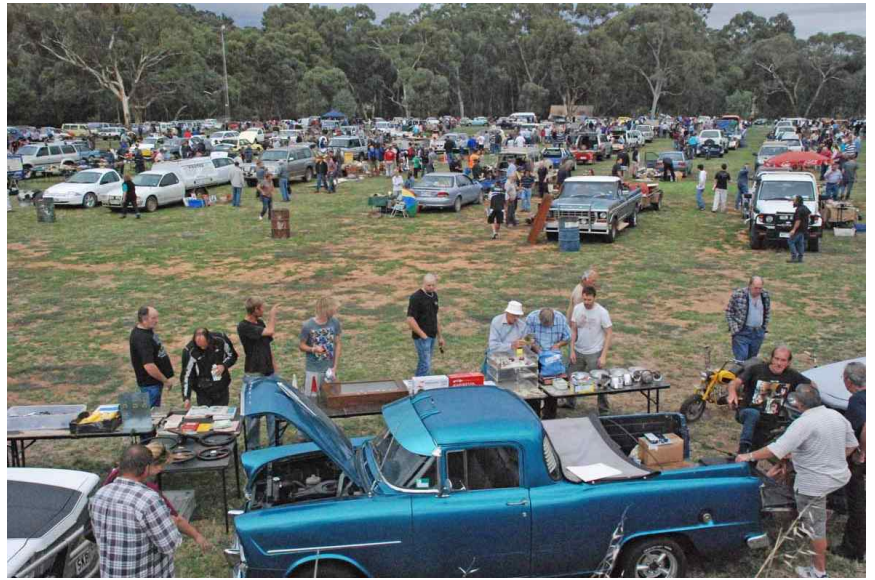
In addition to an excellent selection of automotive parts and accessories, a number of complete and running cars were on offer at the swap meet including a Ford Falcon XB ute, a HT Holden, and a 500-series two-door Mercedes.

The 10am auction went ahead in the rain, thanks to the enthusiasm of auctioneer Alan Pitchers, with the club setting a new record for the number of people able to fit under a portable shade tent.

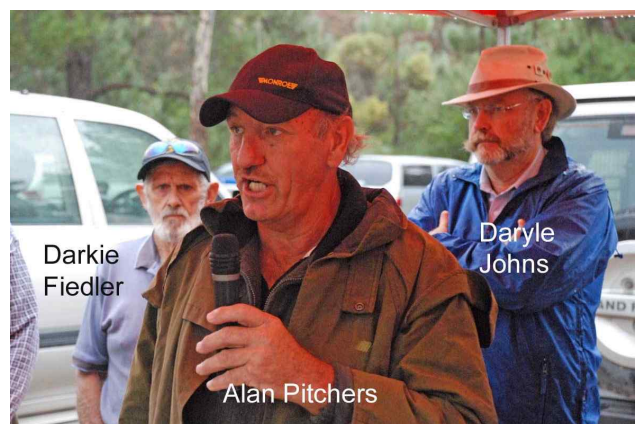
"It became a bit cosy at the end of the auction when bidders came to settle up and collect their goods," Mr Goode said.

Lions Club of Clare District members were out in force offering bacon and egg sandwiches and iced coffee for breakfast, followed by steak sandwiches and other delights for lunch. NARC members offered coffee and cake in the showgrounds brick pavilion, which also hosted a craft stall.

The Clare Garden Club's magnificent plant stall enjoyed greater visibility this year under the Dunstan's Electrical shelter.



**KEEPING DRY?**



**THE AUCTIONEER AND HIS MINDERS**

Courtesy of Northern Argus  
and David Wright



## DERUSTING – THE EASY WAY by John Birrell

For members not using the electrolytic method of removing rust from iron and steel parts, here's the information necessary to set up. This method was demonstrated at the Feb. Workshop Night.

You will need:-

A container large enough to suspend the rusty bit(s) without them touching the sides or bottom.

A packet of Washing Soda from the supermarket

A 12 volt battery charger – 4 or 5 amps rating is plenty

Metal for the anode (the liner inside the plastic container)– zinc flashing, stainless steel or plain steel. Not necessary if you use a metal container. This does, however, require the parts to be hung from an insulator, eg plastic pipe

Wire to hang the parts from a rod or pipe above the container. They can't touch the anode or the metal container.

Water straight from tap or tank.

Fill the container with sufficient water to cover the parts. Add Washing Soda at the rate of about a handful per 10 litres of water. It's not at all critical.

Connect the POSITIVE (Red) charger lead to the anode or direct to the metal container. Connect the NEGATIVE (Black) charger lead to the wire(s) holding up the parts. The above is critical! Note that the hanging wire(s) must make good electrical contact with the parts, or nothing will happen. Turn on power.

Leave for 24 hours or more (It doesn't matter how long you leave the parts in – only the rust will be removed, not the parent metal)

The parts will come out with a black slimy coating which comes off easily with a pressure cleaner for large bits, or under a tap with a wire brush for small ones.

It pays to dry and prime paint the parts as soon as possible – they come out so clean that surface rust will immediately start if left damp.

**SAFETY** – Even though it is only 12 volts, you are working around water. Only switch on after all is in place, and remember to switch off before taking parts out.

**The following is very important:-** The process gives off hydrogen gas as the water is slowly consumed. Make sure that your set up is in a well ventilated space and avoid using angle grinders in close proximity. The frothy bubbles on the surface do explode when grinding sparks reach them. Learned from experience!!

It is easy to scale this process up to suit large parts. I have successfully treated telephone poles by building a dam from timber sides lined with Forticon plastic, and using a larger power supply to get more current. Once you have used this method you won't want to know about molasses baths!





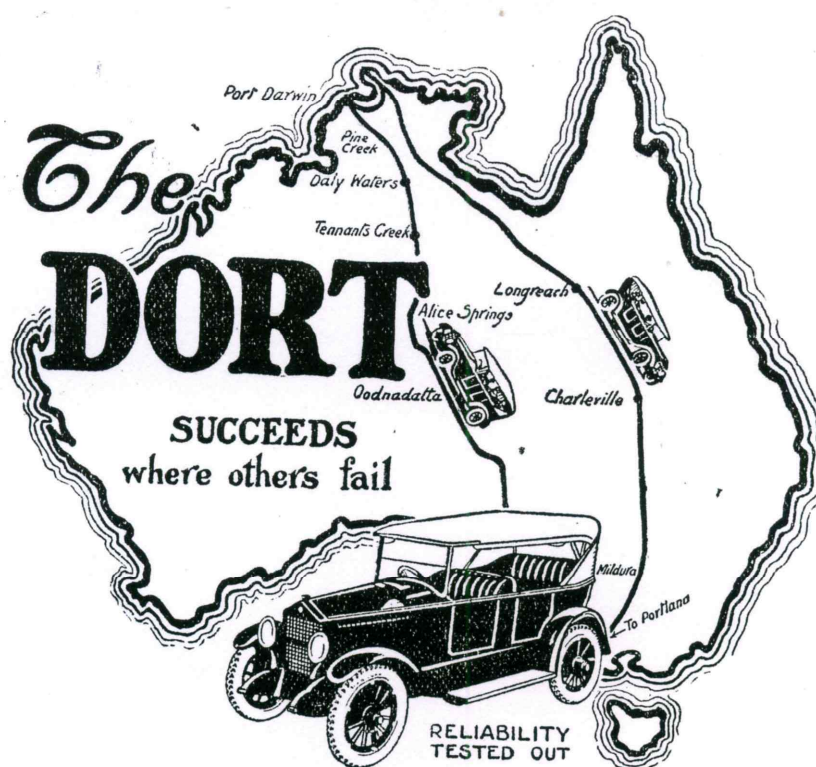
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Contact Geoff, 0438 662 084 or [qrbusch@bigpond.com](mailto:qrbusch@bigpond.com) Kapunda

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