

“When's The Next One?”

Back on April 8th 2019 I was shocked and saddened to learn that my friend Robin Dickson had unexpectedly passed away. Robin had a strong interest in the old car disease and a vast knowledge and I spent a lot of time with him discussing veteran and vintage cars. We had also done several deals with early T parts and helped each other with getting castings done in multiples. I visited Robin's large shed at Pukerau to see the changes and additions and was always amazed at the size of his collection but a little concerned at what would eventually happen to it all. I spoke to Robin's wife Susan after his death and I could see she was stressing about the collection and how was it going to be disposed of. Having a reasonable knowledge of his collection I offered to handle the organizing and compiling of the cars and projects and also to deal with the hopefuls wanting to get in early.

For those who never had the pleasure of a visit to view the collection there is in fact two sheds and 63 vehicles inside and no room for more or to move. So, a plan was needed and I decided to split the collection into two. The later era cars which in most cases were rolling cars of the 50's 60's and 70's with one 1984 car and the oldest being an Austin 7 of 1937. In total the 1st Auction was to be 32 cars including parts from this era as well. Believe me Robin threw nothing away.

Next issue I had was where, as Robin's shed location wasn't ideal for large numbers attending. The Southern Field Days site with an incredibly large shed, parking, toilets, cooking facilities and security, all of which Robin's shed lacked, seemed well suited. Negotiations completed favourably, along with our local VCC branch organized in the catering and moving each car the 25kms to the Waimumu site. Then came the 2020 Covid lockdown with the restrictions that followed, which made holding Auctions impossible until all these mandates were lifted. Eventually in September 2022 the date was set and re negotiations and reorganizing, along with advertising completed. A very successful auction was undertaken by William Todd & Co (2011) Ltd with everything selling.

So now my most asked question is.... “When is the next one?”

With the first auction the cars mostly rolled onto trailers and even though Robin had shoe horned them into some tight spots 32 were moved in approximately 3 days with a great band of willing helpers. This next one is definitely going to require more time and in organizing parts etc. Of the remaining 29, approximately 17 are in project form with multiple parts to gather, identify, compile and stack onto pallets. Model T cars and parts are of no problem to me, however, Reo, Cadillac, Overland, Oakland, Buick, Hudson etc are more of a challenge to me requiring more research and time so items are with the correct car. So, believe me there is a lot of parts and luckily Robin had certain things in areas and in some instances written on the make.

Nothing will be sold out of Auction so everyone gets a chance and all the better items don't get picked through leaving the less desirables. As I am mostly doing this on my own time along with running my business it is impossible to estimate a date for completion but we will have it well advertised when it is due to happen.

I have thought long and hard for the best method for favourable results and can see another Auction working the best. A note from William Todd & Co (2011) Ltd, the Auctioneers, is there will be no online internet bidding. So, it's a case of being there in person or arrange an absentee bid or via a phone bid. Based on previous auctions with William Todd & Co (2011) Ltd, it is always an entertaining event being there in person, even if you have no intentions of buying anything.

List of cars involved which are either in restored, original or as projects being:

1902 Rambler/Jeffery

1909 Maxwell 2cyl

1911 Overland

1912 Overland

1914 Overland

1910 Ford T x2

1911 Ford T x3

1912 Ford T

1914 Ford T

1917 Ford T

1922? Ford T Coupes x3

1922? Ford T

1916/17 Chevrolet 490

1926 Ford T

1924 Buick

1930 Hudson 8

1924/25 Oakland

1915 Cadillac V8 x2

1916/17? Dodge

1908 Cadillac 4cyl

Vintage Fordson tractor

Vintage McCormick tractor

And many, many, many parts brass or otherwise.

If anyone has questions or want photos, I am taking a lot of each car as I process them.

Or if able to help with identification do not hesitate to call.

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