



Welcome to this special edition of The Good Oil magazine!

Our editor had so many photos and articles it was decided we would produce a special edition. A big thank you to everyone who continues to contribute to our very interesting magazine.

Cheers, Rob.



## Street Art in Chur



In a recent tour to Europe, John and Gail Munro visited the Swiss city of Chur on the Rhine. Here they were amused to see the big rock sitting on top of a car wreck. Street Art!



## Annual Ford Day at Willowbank-2025

Peter Kraschnefski and Bevan Wilson made their annual pilgrimage to Willowbank to celebrate the centenary of Ford in Australia. The best place to see the 'Blue Ovals' roar down the track is to sit on the grass on the hill. However quite a few blew up unfortunately. Thanks to Peter who took lots of photos of the many different models that were displayed on the day.



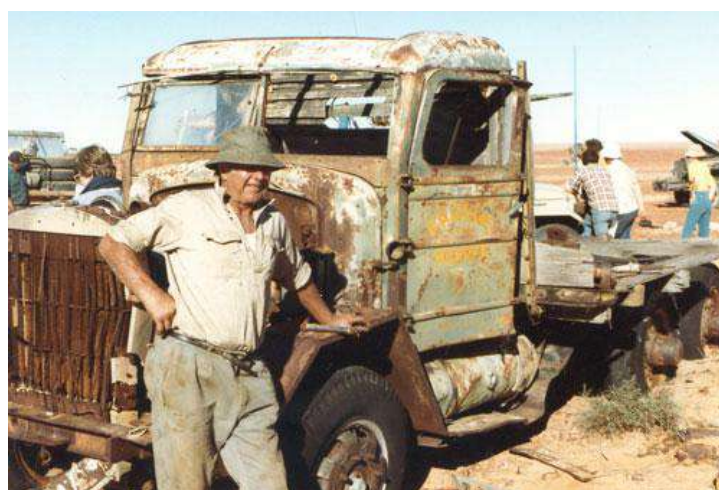


# Strzelecki and Birdsville Tracks

IVVVC member, Bruce Price relates the stories of his Great Great Grandfather, Robert Johnston who came from Petrolia in California. The first ever oil well was drilled there. Bruce's Great Grandfather, also Robert Johnston brought drilling rigs to Australia and his Grandfather, Bert Johnston started drilling in 1898. His Great Uncle, Wallace Johnston also migrated here.

Wallace Johnston became something of a celebrity in the outback when he arrived in Farina in 1911, in his T Model Ford motor car, hoping to negotiate the heavy, perpetually shifting sands of the Strzelecki Track. His attempt was watched with interest by the locals who hoped Wallace might revolutionise the mail service. Predictably, he failed when he made an abortive attempt but he paved the way for the motor transport along the Birdsville and Strzelecki Tracks. Wallace was affectionately referred to by the locals as 'Lawrence of Australia' as he rode his camel to the Patchawarra Bore north of Innamincka. The Johnston brothers were famous for sinking bores for water stations in South Australia and along the Indian Pacific Railway. Jean Johnston, the daughter of Bert Johnston married Jack Price. Jean is Bruce Price's mother.





**Wallace Johnston repairs his T Model Ford**

**Tom Kruse and the old 'Badger'**

Tom Kruse, the mailman of the Birdsville Track became a household name in Australia. He drove a 1936 Leyland Badger mail truck from the home base in Marree to Birdsville 519 km away. It took three days up, a day in Birdsville and then three days back to Marree. He first delivered mail in 1936 but took over Harry Ding's run in 1948. He delivered mail until 1963.

He had to deal with vicious dust storms, soaring temperatures, massive sand dunes and at times the Cooper Creek in flood. Tom endured the worst conditions imaginable to 'get the mail through'. The Cooper Creek flood was his greatest challenge. What adds to Tom's legendary status, besides his gentle nature, his bush skills (they reckon he could 'get a bucket of bolts going') was his physical strength. He could toss 200kg 44-gallon steel fuel drums onto the back of the truck – and think nothing about it!



Now you can visit the Tom Kruse Museum at the Marree Hotel. **Wikipedia**



# IVVVC Annual Dinner 2025

The IVVVC Annual Dinner at the Ipswich Knights Soccer Club was a fantastic evening enjoyed by 82 members. The night was filled with laughter, fun trivia games and the always-popular 'guess the weight' of the fruit bag competition. Our lucky door prize winners were grateful for the generosity of our loyal sponsors whose support is always appreciated. The meals were delicious and a big thankyou goes to Len and his team for their hard work in making the evening such a success. Thanks also to everyone who helped make it a truly memorable night. Jenny Eggar









## DINNER - PRIZE LIST WINNERS— 2025

*Thank you to our generous Sponsors.*

ESK GRAND HOTEL - \$50 VOUCHER – *Dorothy Prasser*

\$50 VOUCHER - *Robin Jacobsen*

\$100 BOTTLE OF SCOTCH – *Carolyn Kerr*

HARRISVILLE ROYAL HOTEL - \$50 VOUCHER – *Lynette Hall*

BOTTLE OF RED WINE – *Janelle Strybos*

BOTTLE OF WHITE WINE – *Bill Seng*

GLAMORGAN VALE BOTTLETREE HOTEL - \$50 VOUCHER- *Rosemary Withers*

REPCO WEST IPSWICH – CAR POLISHER – *John Hines*

SUPER CHEAP AUTO (JINDALEE) – CAR PRODUCTS – *Gwenda Kanofski*

DONATED – BOTTLE OF WINE – *John Jones*

DONATED - PICNIC BASKET – *Melissa Edwards*

DONATED - PICNIC BASKET – *Lyn Jaenke*

EGGAR – RUM (ESK) – *Ashley Trevis*

IVVVC COFFEE MUGS – *Errol George*

IVVVC COFFEE MUGS – *John Hill*

CHOCOLATES - *Barbara Dickenson/Narelle Way*

MAXI PARTS IPSWICH – CAR MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS – *Val Berlin*

TOTAL TOOLS – FOLDING CHAIR & MERCHANDISE – *Lorraine Gralane*

IPSWICH CITY BEARINGS – 25M AIR HOSE – *Bevan Wilson*

IPSWICH CITY BEARINGS - GAS FLAME TORCH – *Ian Bell*

BURSONS AUTO PARTS (SUMNER PARK) – CAR CARE PRODUCTS - *Debbie Bell*

BURSONS AUTO PARTS (SUMNER PARK) – 20L HYDRAULIC OIL – *David Weber*

GUESS THE WEIGHT OF THE FRUIT BAG – 5.555kg – *Lynda Fletcher*



# 160 YEARS of QUEENSLAND RAIL



Fourteen IVVVC vehicles were part of the celebrations at the Grandchester Station where the Australian Railway Historical Society, together with Queensland Rail hosted a special event to commemorate 160 years since Queensland's first train service. An historic steam train carried more than 300 passengers on a journey from Ipswich to Grandchester, adding to the day's nostalgic atmosphere. A big thankyou to all our club members who contributed to making this milestone celebration so memorable.







Cup cakes were handed out to the many enthusiasts who venture out to Grandchester.



There were plenty of displays including Tia and Tash from the UK with the pig and goats.







The locomotive arrived and the passengers alighted to enjoy the great celebration.



Thanks Jenny and Daryl for the many wonderful photos and reports on the day.

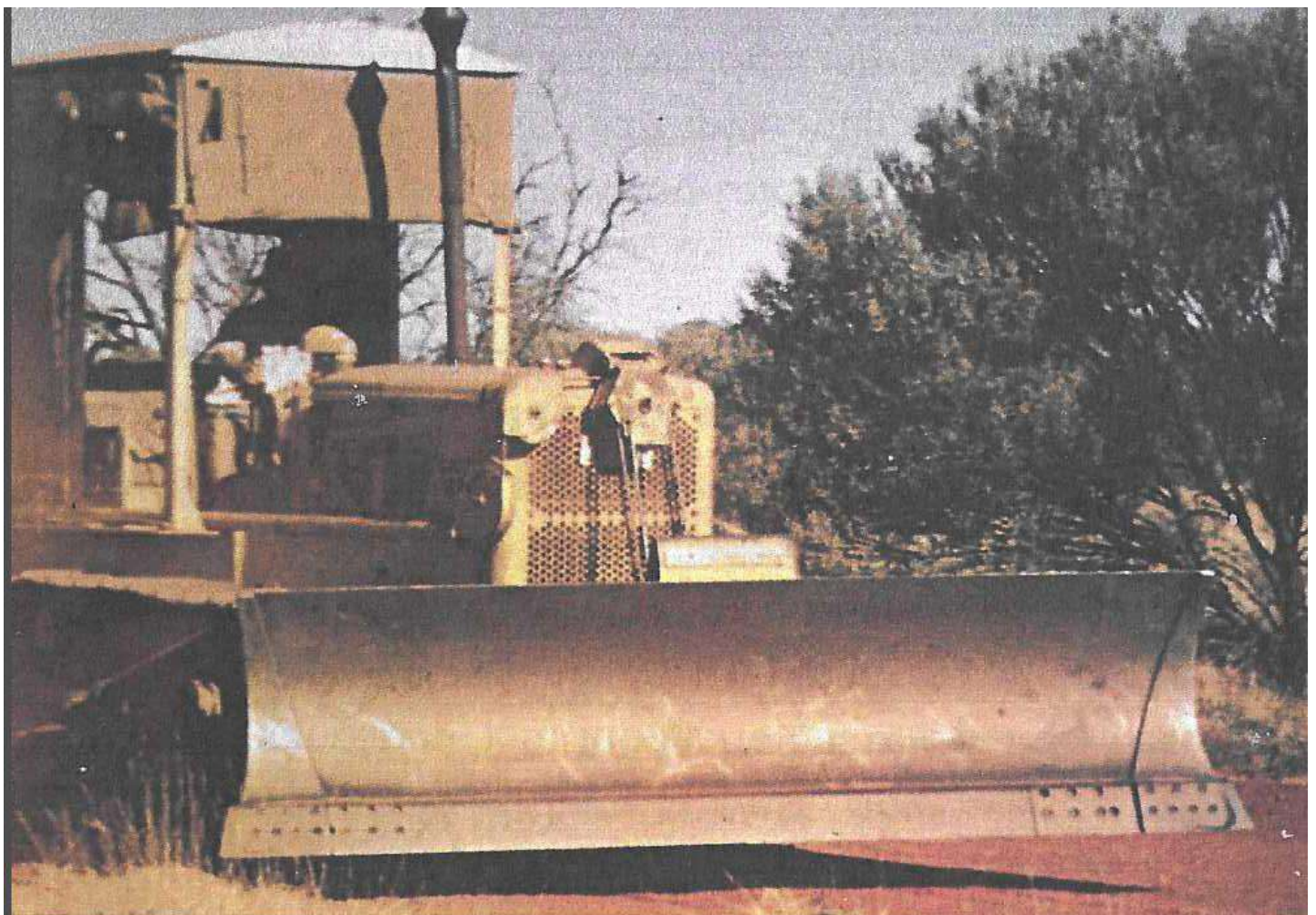


## BEATING ABOUT THE BUSH - Len Beadell

Len Beadell made 6000 kms of lonely roads across Central Australia, including the famous Gunbarrel Highway. He also carried out the first survey for the establishment of the Woomera Rocket Range. There were many points of interest along the way. Len and his mates were excited in discovering the surprises contained in the unknown country: unusual flora and fauna, impressive mountain peaks, including Mt Leisler and fantastic piles of boulders, desert tribesmen and historic relics like the famous tree blazed by the explorer Harry Tietkins three-quarters of a century earlier.

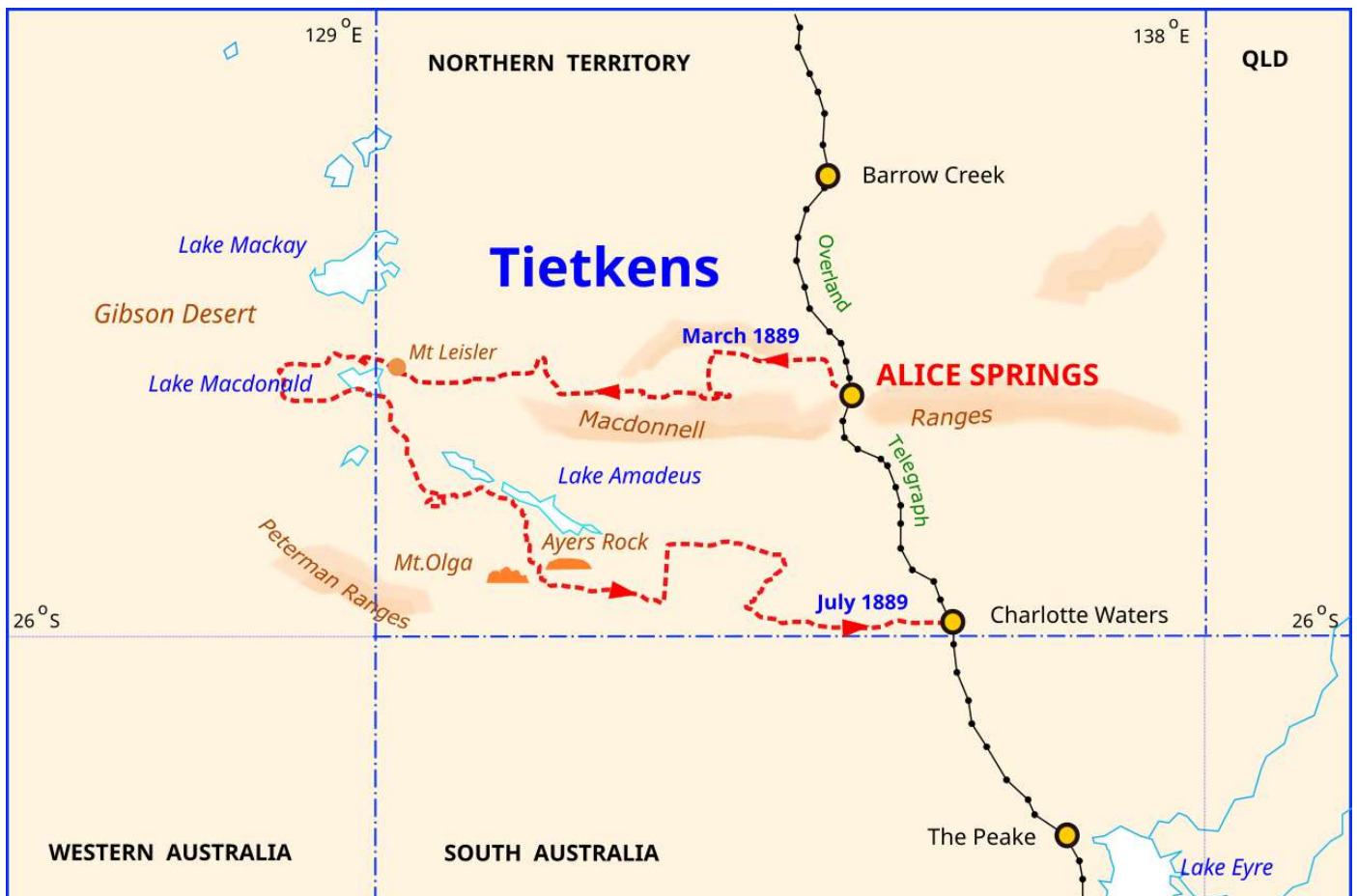
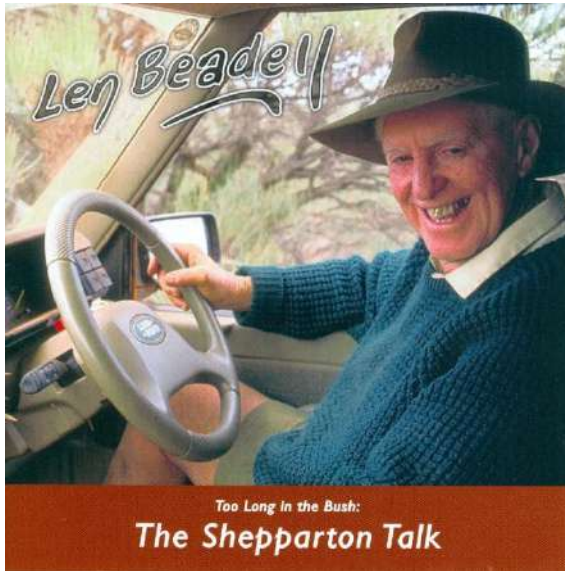
On one occasion his grader broke down in the middle of the desert. There was only one thing to do: attach it to a bulldozer and tow it back to the nearest centre of civilisation. For Len Beadell and his construction team, that meant a journey of 800 kms at three kms per hour – the longest towing operation in the history of Central Australia.

The party hitched together their 'train' and set back along the road they had just built, prepared for a slow and arduous journey. The last thing they expected was for their ration truck to melt. This had its disadvantages: but as Frank Quinn remarked, it was the best entertainment they'd had for a year. It was only the beginning of a series of related incidents which marked out this particular journey as one of the more eventful episodes in the team's experience.

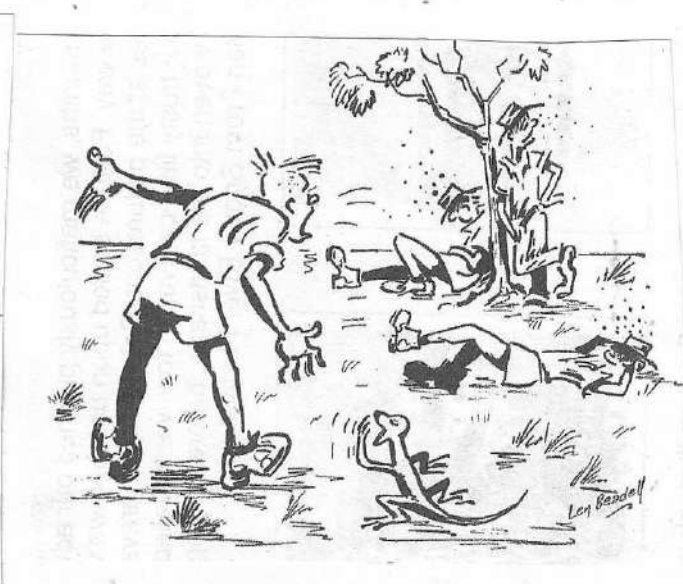
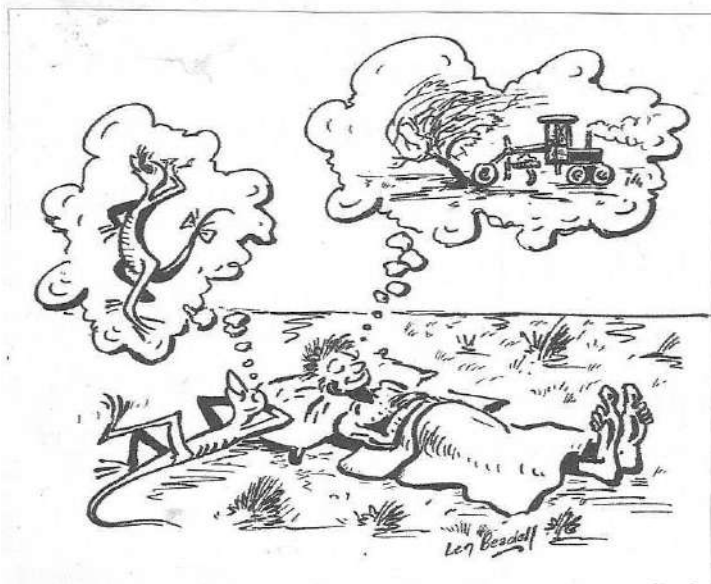
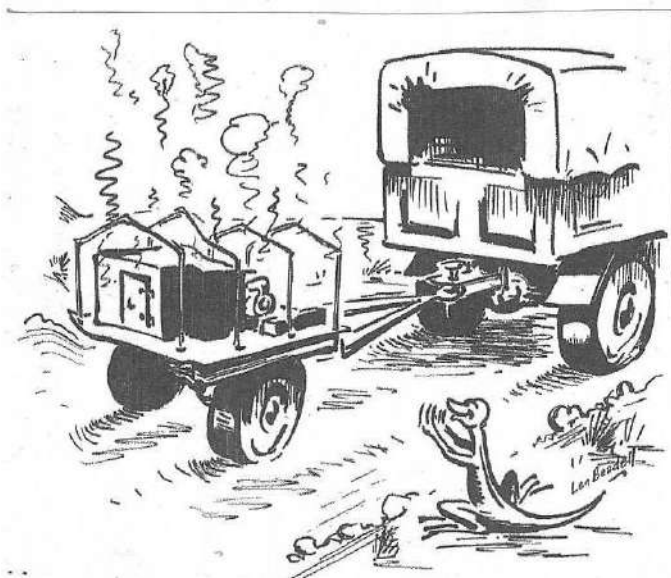


Thanks Peter Duncan











## HALF a MILLION HOLDENS – December 1958 – Motor Manual

Just one month before the tenth anniversary of the **Holden** car, G.M.H. invited the editors of our leading newspapers to witness at Dandenong the 500000<sup>th</sup> **Holden** to come off the assembly line. ( Sedans, Station Wagons, Panel Vans and Utilities )

In the ten years, the cost of living index has risen by 100% but the price of the **Holden** rose by only 31%. 68700 workers contribute to Holden here, not all of course are employed by G.M.H. Mr. Earl Daum said G.M.H. factories only received about 35% of the car's cost.

### WHAT IT TOOK TO MAKE 500,000 HOLDENS

G.M.H. are indebted to more than 4000 suppliers. G.M.H. has paid those suppliers in excess of 280,000,000 pounds. To give some idea of the dimensions of G.M.H. buying of materials, it required the following, among many other items, to make possible the production of 500000:-

**Steel** in various forms – 330,535 long tons. **Pig Iron** – 74,390 long tons. **Tyres** – 2,500,000.

**Metallurgical Coke** – 37,805 long tons. **Paint** products – 3,387,455 gallons.

**Forgings** – 35,329,500. **Batteries** – 500,000. **Rubber** components – 31,524,375.

**Body Hardware** (handles, locks, hinges etc). 37,370,925 **Upholstery**. – 1905 acres

**Cotton Piece Goods, Padding and Wadding** – 2475 acres. **Trim Tacks** – 395 million.

**Bituminised Paper Board** – 5,760 tons. **Screws, Nuts, Rivets, Washers** etc – 1,340,000

**Zinc Alloy** (for die castings) 1,550 tons. **Arc Welding Electrodes** – 49,750,000 feet.

### HOLDEN IS 97 PER CENT. AUSTRALIAN

There are more than 17,000 different parts in each **Holden**, about 11,000 being body parts. The remainder are mechanical components of which the carburettor had 137 parts.



120000



169969



155161



191724



## COOL CARS – Q – Thanks Peter Kraschnefski

# Maserati QUATTROPORTE

The **Maserati QUATTROPORTE** is a four-door luxury sports sedan produced by Italian automobile manufacturer Maserati. It was first introduced in 1963 and was a large saloon powered by V8 engines. The task of styling was given to Turinese coachbuilder, Pietro Frua who drew inspiration from a special 5000 GT. Body construction was carried out by Vignale. Maserati manufactured 230 of its first generation **QUATTROPORTE**s between 1963 and 1966. In total, 7598 vehicles were built from 1963 to 2012.



Series II Quattroporte



2009 Sport GTS



Series I Maserati Quattroporte



Another Series II



3.2 L twin-turbo supercharged engine



Luxurious interior of a Quattroporte



## Alex Gow's Vintage Cars in Queensland – Thanks Greg Hill



Moggill Ferry and a Rugby model R



1904 Talbot Ambulance in Wharf Street



UQ students with a Whippet model 96



Queensland geologists in a 1924 Gray Tourer



Overland, Buick, Dodge & Ford - Armistice Day



1920's Hudson in Stanley Street



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