



**Model 'T' Ford for restoration**

With all the components set on the workshop floor, the chassis rails, cross members laid between the engine and gear box, propshaft, front and rear axles, roughly in place, we were able to assess what parts were missing. Fortunately, it was all there (see photo). Bob built up the Ford until we had a running chassis. I decided that we should build another replica van body. The finished article was well received in vintage circles. Lesley and I took the 'T' van to Knowl Hill Steam Rally, 35 miles away and slept in the back. We were pulling out of a petrol station on the way home when there was the most violent front wheel wobble, so much that I could not hold the steering wheel properly.



**1925 Ford (Reg. No. NP6583) finished**

A visual inspection found no reason for it. We pressed on home experiencing the problem once more near Windsor. It seemed to happen at about 15 mph. The following day I spoke with Roger Florio of Surbiton Mini Centre who had several Ford model 'T's. The answer was to have the front axle slightly twisted back. Bob made up some wedges to achieve this. No more problems.

When the time came to sell this Ford 'T' van I advertised it in the 'Automobile.' A phone call one day, answered by Lesley, was from a woman with a Japanese accent. "You have old van for sale." Lesley replied "Hello Maureen." "You have an old van for sale," Lesley again thinking it was our friend Maureen, wife of Alan Brunt said "Stop messing about Maureen." "Me no mess about, me telephone for (Mr unpronounceable) Japanese business man who speak no English." Lesley replied "Yes, we do have an old van for sale." I picked up the Japanese business man and his secretary from the local railway station about two hours later. The van was garaged at home which was a thatched property. On getting out from the car, camera flashing, he pointed to the thatched roof and said ah ah. He had never seen a thatch before, perhaps. I started the 'T' van up. He looked around it then, through his secretary, made a bid on the price which I refused politely. Well they did give us enough grief in the war. He agreed