



# ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT

Story and pics by Craig 'Style' Counsell

## ▶ ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT

The stance of Scottie and Rach's 1923 T-bucket certainly screams attitude. Rebuilt in a short space of time, these rodders have their T just how they want it. Don't let the showroom looks deceive you though, one blip on the gas pedal and your mind gets adjusted, real quick...

If the phrase 'attitude adjustment' sounds familiar, perhaps like Scottie (and now Rach, as she's had no choice, Scottie has the remote) you've caught one or two episodes of WWE wrestling on TV. John Cena, one of the high profile wrestlers on the show, delivers his signature move that's known as the 'attitude adjuster'. Attitude adjustment usually means that it's game over for Cena's opponent, and that's the sentiment behind naming this T-bucket 'Attitude Adjustment'; it's tough and has the right attitude.

When Scottie and Rach found the T on the 'net they acted quick to be the new owners, however the eye-catching bucket wasn't always the show stopper you see here. Purchased over a year ago in running condition and warranted and registered, the T needed work so it was ripped apart in the couple's shed. Years of use meant that the 'glass body needed a few repairs, so Scottie took it to Paul at Auto Image in Petone. The body was sorted, and the paint shop guys sprayed it in a new Commodore Atomic Green.

Before the body was slotted back on to the chassis it too got painted the same green, and its chromed drop tube axle with four-bars, and the nine-inch and four-bar rear were retained. Bevan and the team at Road & Track in Petone sourced and supplied almost everything the keen couple needed to rebuild the rod. Road & Track's efficient service made the rebuild flow pretty easy, and the couple is quick to chuck plenty of accolades Road & Track's way.

Up the coast from Scottie and Rach is Otaki, where Kohl Rod & Custom is based. That's where Danny and Zac trimmed the bucket's interior; tuck 'n' roll is hard to beat and the guys did a cool job on it. Awesome paint and a swish interior are only part of the equation, which is why Zinc and Chrome Custom Platers (Formerly Valley Platers) was called upon to ensure that the bucket has plenty of sparkle and shine.

The bucket went back together pretty easily and because they're new members of the NZHRA fenders had to be fitted. This kept the bucket legal, and the happy couple clocked up a few miles until the old 350 started making noises that it was on its way out. A call to Road & Track soon had a 330hp Chevy ready to go in; it was dressed up then slotted into the T's rails. It provides plenty of attitude and is easily capable of making the rear tyres squeal into submission!

That massive big 'n' little wheel and tyre combo was already in place when Scottie and Rach purchased the T. There's no need to reinvent the wheel, so the pro street look was retained and keeping it correct are the

(Continued on page 28)



## NZR FEATURE:

### 1923 Ford T-bucket Scottie and Rach, Wellington

#### CHASSIS

**Frame:** Traditional T Bucket RHS chassis, 3 x 1-1/2 box section.  
**Suspension:** A chrome four-bar front end locates a chrome dropped tube axle with lever action shocks. Four-bars out back are joined by adjustable coil-over shocks.

**Brakes:** Drums on the nine-inch, front brakes are ventilated disc brakes pilfered from a HZ Holden. A BMC master cylinder is bolted to a booster from the same factory.

**Steering:** BMC rack and pinion with a custom fabricated column and Momo wheel.

**Wheels:** Mangel chrome wheels measure 15x15 out back, 14x7 on the front.

**Tyres:** Mickey Ts cut the tape at 31x18, with Bridgestone 195/60 series at the other end.

#### DRIVETRAIN

**Engine:** A new crate 350 Chevrolet small-block puts out 330 horsepower, was supplied by Road & Track and sports flat top pistons, a decent cam and Vortec heads. Holley 600 carb and same brand fuel pump. Dress up goodies from Road & Track comprises ball milled rocker covers and a cool finned air scoop. An Edelbrock Enduroshine air gap manifold sports a 600 Holley with vacuum secondaries. Igniting the pump gas is a MSD 'ready to run' electronic ignition system from Road & Track. Custom built chrome headers allow the burnt gasses to check out, they leave via the lake pipes. A custom three-core radiator is housed in a custom shroud built at Nostalgia Motors in Hamilton, and there are twin electric fans.

**Gearbox:** TH350 three-stage automatic, fully rebuilt, shift kitted, heavy duty clutches and the cogs, floor mounted B&M 'Smack Shifter'.

**Rear end:** Ford nine-inch with gears in the low threes.

#### INSIDE AND OUT

**Body and Paint:** Replica 'glass bodied T-bucket, origin unknown. Bodywork and paint by Auto Image in Petone. The paint is Commodore Atomic Green, Paul at Auto Image added a bit of a 'twist' to the striking hue. A chrome roll bar, seven-inch King Bee headlights and a polished screen frame add glitter. The only piece of glass is the severely chopped front screen. A custom built stainless tank is located under the pick-up bed.

**Interior:** Repro 23T dash. Custom marine vinyl interior by Danny and Zac at Kohl Rod & Custom in Otaki, it's hot rod perfect tuck 'n' roll in black vinyl with the tuck n roll theme following through to the pick-up bed. Black carpet covers the T's floor. Pricol gauges are joined by a genuine Moon tacho, the mirror's off a Harley Davidson.

**Audio:** Scottie reckons that with Rach advising him on driving etiquette, and dropping hints on speed etcetera, they don't need a CD player... yet.

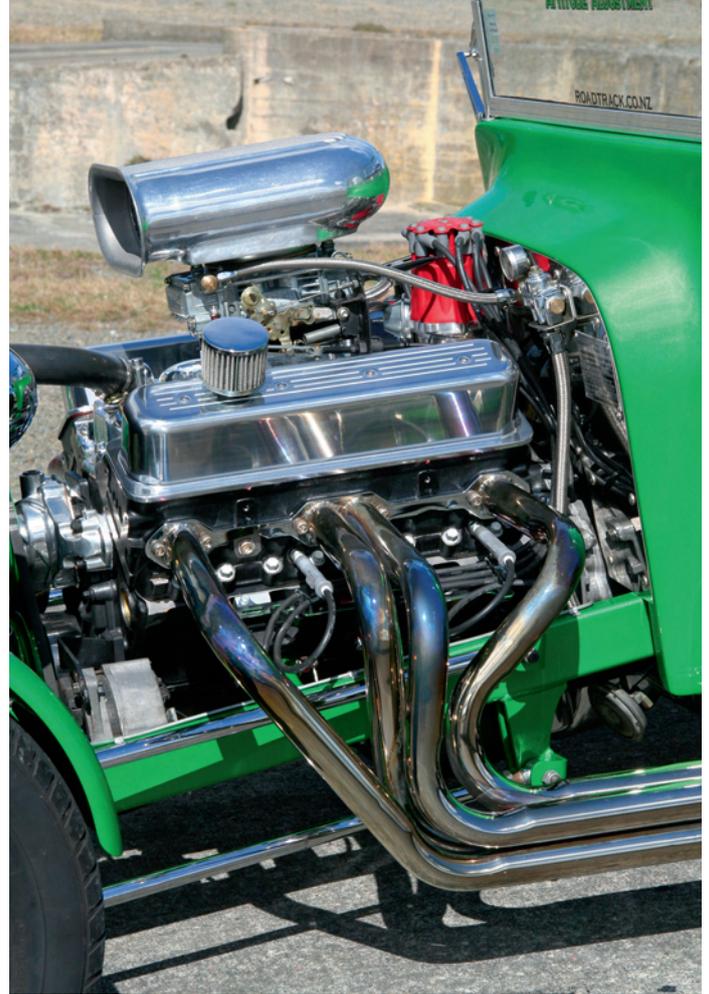
#### THANKS

Scottie and Rach thank the following for helping make the T-bucket happen: Bevan and the crew at Road & Track, Sheldon Currington from Motorsport Development, Auto Image, Carl at Saxton Motors, Danny and Zac from Kohl Rod & Custom, and Zinc and Chrome Custom Platers (Formerly Valley Platers) out in Seaview for the bling.



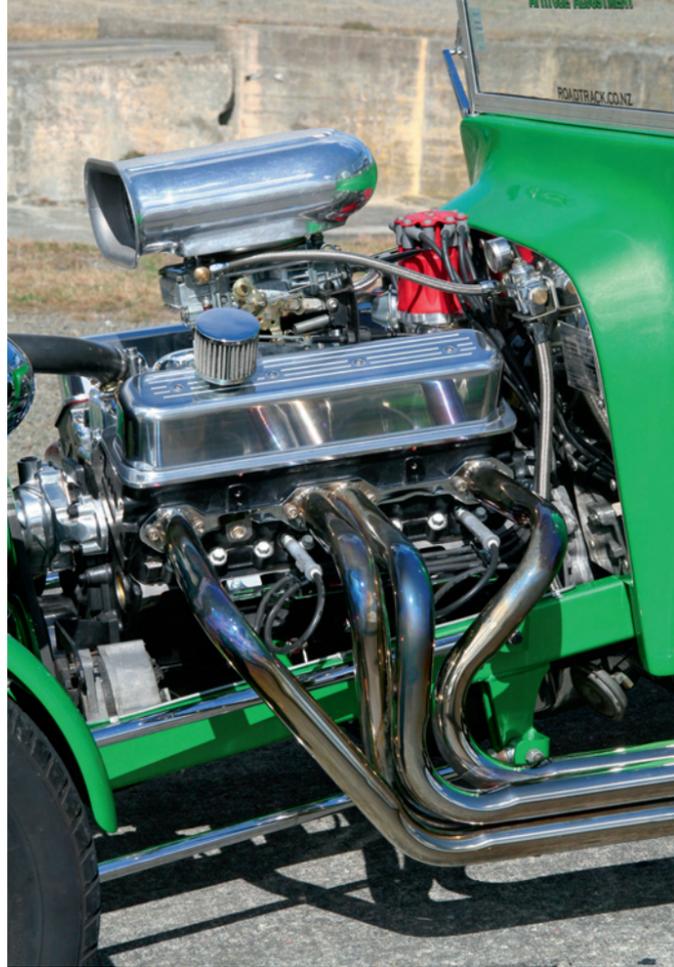
## ▶ ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT

genuine Mickey Thompsons out back. Now that the regulation period for having fenders is over and an exemption has been granted, the rebuilt bucket looks more like it should with the rather excessive rear fenders removed. But why keep the front fenders? Well, Scottie and Rach dig the green paint so much they wanted to carry the colour through to the front of the hot rod, so the fenders stayed. They also help keep the bucket almost free of road grime! With the NZHRA Nationals in Blenheim fast approaching the T is booked on the ferry and this Capital Rodders couple can't wait to enjoy the action down south (They're recording the WWE wrestling shows while they're away). And what about 'Animal', the little furry fella who hangs out in the bucket? "The Muppet often does a better job of reading a map than someone else," reckons Scottie. Ouch, that's one attitude that's going to be adjusted.

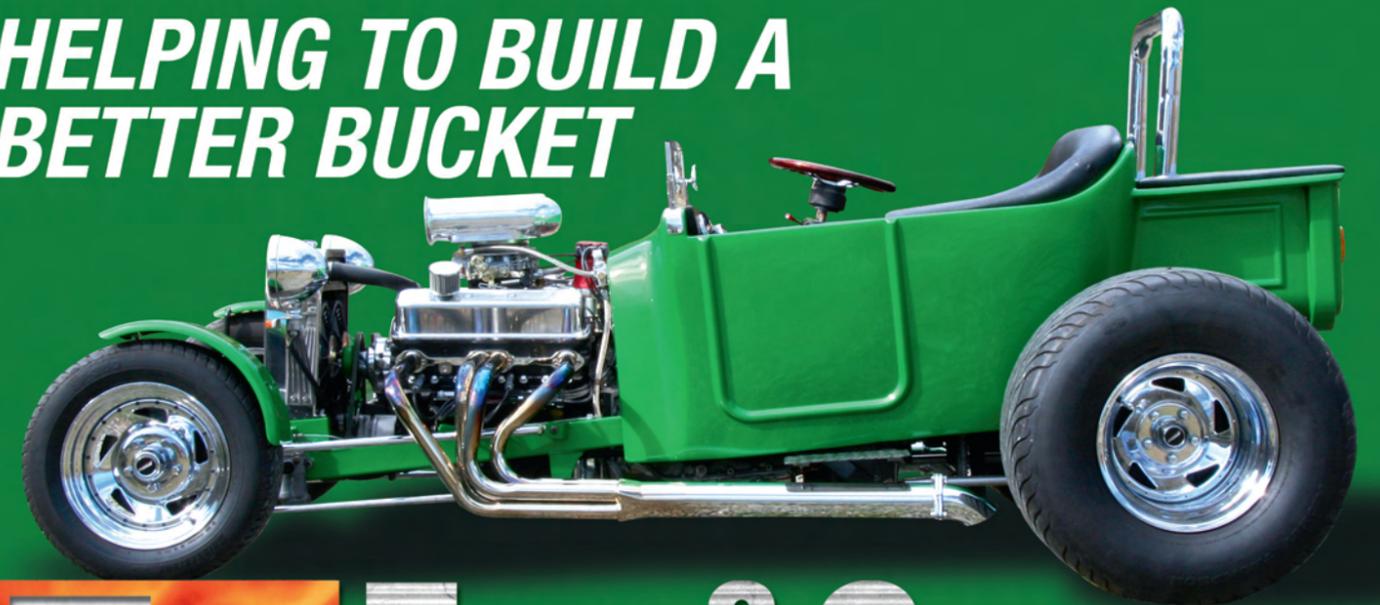


## ▶ ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT

genuine Mickey Thompsons out back. Now that the regulation period for having fenders is over and an exemption has been granted, the rebuilt bucket looks more like it should with the rather excessive rear fenders removed. But why keep the front fenders? Well, Scottie and Rach dig the green paint so much they wanted to carry the colour through to the front of the hot rod, so the fenders stayed. They also help keep the bucket almost free of road grime! With the NZHRA Nationals in Blenheim fast approaching the T is booked on the ferry and this Capital Rodders couple can't wait to enjoy the action down south (They're recording the WWE wrestling shows while they're away). And what about 'Animal', the little furry fella who hangs out in the bucket? "The Muppet often does a better job of reading a map than someone else," reckons Scottie. Ouch, that's one attitude that's going to be adjusted.



## HELPING TO BUILD A BETTER BUCKET



**ZINC & CHROME**  
Custom Plating

*Our commitment to you is quality and service*

162 Gracefield Rd, Seaview, Lower Hutt 5010

P 04 568 5974 F 04 586 5920 [www.zincandchrome.conz](http://www.zincandchrome.conz)



**FOR ALL YOUR  
PERFORMANCE PARTS  
AND EVERYDAY  
AUTOMOTIVE NEEDS**

458 High Street, Lower Hutt

Phone: 04-566 4515. Fax: 04-569 1096.

Email: [road.track@xtra.co.nz](mailto:road.track@xtra.co.nz)



**"THE GREAT LITTLE SHOP WITH THE CAR IN THE WINDOW"**



**Kohl Rod & Custom**



**- MOTOR TRIMMING  
- CLASSIC CAR RESTORATION  
AND MODIFICATIONS**

Phone (06) 367 3330

421 Muhunoa West Rd, RD20, Ohau

[www.kohlrodandcustom.co.nz](http://www.kohlrodandcustom.co.nz)