



All the photos show Syd at the wheel and indeed he did drive all the way – Frank was the

navigator – in a letter back to family Syd wrote “Birtles has not spoken to me for 3 days – each morning he gets in the Brush and points the way – he is a strange fellow”.

***Across Australia by Motor Car - by Francis Birtles
In The Lone Hand July 1 1912***

On Easter Monday we arrived at Broken Hill, and next day passed through Willcania and Cobar, in a hurricane of dust. Three days later we were in Bathurst, both of us very tired as we had to watch the track continually for obstacles.

Next day, April 13 we arrived in Sydney.....

Summing up – with a car its all worry - with a bicycle its all work.

Personally I prefer the work.

THE WESTERN MAIL - *Birtles and Ferguson.....arrived at their destination last Saturday afternoon. The journey which was full of interest and hardships occupied 28 days, and, considering the nature of the country passed through, and the adverse weather conditions, the performance is a particularly fine one and will take a lot of beating. The success of the trip was no doubt due to the lightness of the car, as the little 10 hp single cylinder “Brush” motor could be easily handled and lifted out of the very soft sandy patches and bogs..... Their mechanical and tyre troubles were practically nil, and, during the 2,584 miles over the worst tracks possible their Dunlop tyres did*

Director’s note *that is where the news clipping finished –however I believe that Frank said that they did the whole trip on one set of tyres – believe it or not ??????*