

## THE AUSTRALIAN

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# Car employees to be paid before Christmas

TONY BARTLETT AAP NOVEMBER 13, 2012 9:39PM

**FORMER employees of a used car dealer which collapsed in July will be paid in time for Christmas.**

But more than 1000 owners around Australia who sold their vehicles through We Buy Any Car will have to wait between four and six months to hear if they have any hope of getting their cash.

We Buy Any Car traded in Queensland, NSW, Victoria and Western Australia.

Worrells Solvency and Forensic Accountants announced on Tuesday that all 53 full time staff would be paid outstanding wages, including holiday pay, this week.

But people who worked for the company under tourist visas aren't so lucky - they are not covered by the federal government's General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme.

Liquidator Raj Khatri says the incomplete state of the company's books is making the job difficult.

"Something has gone very wrong here and our accountants are conducting an in-depth investigation, made more difficult as we cannot speak to the managing director who has disappeared overseas," he said in a statement.

Mr Khatri said the company was only trading for 12 months and he could not say when, or even if, people would see any money.

"This company incurred debts of at least \$10 million over a short time period and we need to find out why this happened and where all the money went.

"We understand and empathise with the many people who sold their car in good faith - many of them have endured significant financial difficulties due to this loss."

Customers of We Buy Any Car can still register a proof of debt at [Worrells.net.au](http://Worrells.net.au).