



CentreSpoke

June 2019

REPCO EVENT JUNE 19



See page 10

Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia

Incorporating The Alice Springs Vintage & Veteran Car Club

PO Box 1506, Alice Springs. NT. 0871

Email: mecca@mecca.asn.au

Web site: www.mecca.asn.au

MECCA Committee 2018/2019

PRESIDENT: John Hubner 0435 293 146

VICE PRESIDENT: Allan Campbell 8953-4573

TREASURER: Russ Driver 0408 002 907

SECRETARY: Douglas Draeger 0428 676 741

PUBLIC OFFICER: Brian Eather 0428 758 002

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Neville Heness 0428 740 964
John Bridgefoot 0418 223 557

VEHICLE REGISTRAR: Col Jarrett 0457 297 271

EDITOR: Liz Driver 0427 970 744

WEB MASTER: Tony McKenzie 0412 853 072

HISTORIAN: Stuart Gear 0418 898 361

CRANKHANDLE: Alvina Spears 0417 169 452

CLUB HOSTESS: Marie Gear 0407 399 551

LIFE MEMBERS: Dave Simpson, Tony Bullock, Walter & Alvina Spears,
Stuart & Marie Gear.



Hi all,

The club been busy lately, following the June meeting we had a run up to the Tropic of Capricorn. After, a few of us had lunch at Olive Pink, a very nice day.

Presidents Report

In June we were also invited to be part of the Repco open day and thanks to the members who got together at short notice to have a few of our vehicles on display.

A big thanks to Mick from Repco for donating a tool box (valued at \$300), to the club. We will be raffling off the toolbox during the Alice Springs show, make sure you buy a ticket or two.

Talking about raising money, at the last meeting there was discussion on the dwindling state of our finances now that we have higher expenses with running the club.

We as a committee, met recently to discuss this matter and we are recommending membership fees be increased to \$50 for single and \$70 for family memberships. By increasing fees we will maintain the financial stability of the club.

I'd also like to remind everyone that membership fees are due now, so please renew your memberships asap, still currently \$35 single and \$50 for family, memberships. To maintain membership you must be financial and attend a minimum three club events per year.

Coming up we have the Alice Springs Show, where we have been allocated the same space as last year. So, everyone please polish up your pride and joy and bring it along as we want to have a really good display to showcase our Club. I'll be posting more details on Facebook and via email so look out for those

Following the July meeting, we will be having a BBQ cost \$5.00 per person at Russ & Liz Drivers place and to view the new Taj ma-shed.

August will see the AGM and new committee take the reins, so start thinking about what you can do to help with the running of MECCA.

As usual, If you have any stories for the newsletter, make sure you put pen to paper and send it through to Liz. We are always look for more stories to print and as I always say never let the facts get in the way of a good story. Don't forget we have a webpage and Facebook page so keep an eye on those for any upcoming news or last minute changes to events. Also for correspondence email; Membership email via. members@mecca.asn.au Committee email via. committee@mecca.asn.au

If you don't get the occasional club email it means we probably don't have your correct email address.

See you soon
Cheers
John



The Sec's Desk

MECCA

MOTOR ENTHUSIAST CLUB CENTRAL AUSTRALIA inc

MEETING SUNDAY 9th June 2019.

Meeting Opened: 09:15 am.

Present: Allan Campbell, John Cooper, Douglas Draeger, Russ + Liz Driver, Mark Dunn, Brian Eather, Marie + Stuart Gear, Lisa + Megan Heness, Peter Hilliard, John Hubner, Trevor Jacobs, Col + Vicki Jarrett, Aileen Kennedy, Karl Smith, Alvina Spears, Mandy Vandenberg

Apologies: Wally Spears, Steve Vandenberg, Tony McKenzie, Raelene Beale, Neville Heness.

Visitors: Sam Vandenberg and Bryce Wright

Previous Minutes:

Previous minutes sent out in email earlier this week. Motion John Hubner, minutes be accepted as true and correct Seconded: Allan Campbell
Pass All: in favor yes

Treasurers Report:

Bank balance end May \$4,782.46 Only Income this month two memberships.

Less expense – BBQ at Aviation museum and due soon – Web hosting approx. \$140-. Tony McKenzie reimbursement \$19.90

EOFY balance will be approximately \$1,718.50 less than last FY balance

Outstanding – Donation from RTHF. Secretary is following up.

Club membership fees are due now and members must be financial to vote at the AGM (August)

Club main outgoings each year summarized as meeting room rent \$130 per meeting x 8, Insurance \$880.00, Club Trailer Rego \$153 and insurance \$385 plus \$50 Inspection, AS Show \$374, Web hosting \$ 140, PO Box rental \$35, BBQ \$70 to \$100 pa.

Club income is memberships and donations.

Possible future income sources suggested from members might consider, Bunnings BBQ (potential to raise \$700+ net), Fees for attending club runs, Fee for attending meetings, Fee for club plates (extra membership fee), increase membership fees.

Committee to review options next committee meeting and address at AGM

(August meeting). Colin Jarrett Motion - Treasurers report be accepted

Seconded: Lisa Heness

Pass All: in favor yes



The Sec's Desk 2

Secretaries Report:

Correspondence In:

No club magazines in the mail this past 4 weeks – previous issues all available to peruse at the meetings.

Various emails regarding upcoming classic and vintage car / memorabilia auction reminders Log into www.shannons.com.au if interested in following their numerous auctions or register to join their on line club and receive their edition of Retroautos. Click on this [LINK](#) to read the magazine and subscribe.

Various Emails / newsletters from www.cams.com.au log in and register if interested in following. The Confederation of Australian Motor Sport is the official governing body of motor sport in Australia.

Various Emails / newsletters from info@motorex.com.au log in and register if interested in following

Emailed club magazines received and printed as per list below: all available to peruse at the meetings.

Crank Talk To subscribe – email – scarmank@internode.on.net

Email from Australian Historic Motoring Federation. (AHMF) - Flyer and Entry Form for the All Ford Day this weekend at the Darwin Showgrounds.

Email from Maria Panaligan Records Officer, Motor Vehicle Registry, Please find your Club Rego report attached. Copy attached to June meeting minutes for members review.

Correspondence Out: nil

General Business:

Change of venue for lunch after run – Olive Pink Botanical Gardens.

Alice Springs Show – Same set up in Greatorex Shed as previous year, Club Banners to be brought. 5 or 6 member's vehicles at this stage

Club AGM is August meeting, need audited financials in the required word format. John has contact with person we use as auditor.

Red Centre Nats – register on line, price of entry goes up as event nears, web site registration works well.

Alvina Spears thanked the members for well wishes received for Wally who is recovering well from his accident. Now mobile on a gofer and back on his feet next month.

Thank you Marie for the morning teas, much appreciated.

Next meeting followed by BBQ at Russ and Liz Drivers home on Ragonesi Rd includes inspection on shed progress.

MECCA
MOTOR ENTHUSIAST CLUB CENTRAL AUSTRALIA inc

CLUB Calendar 2019

July 5th and 6th Alice Springs Show- bring your pride and joy and show off to the public our club and how enthusiastic we are - See you there

July 14th Club meeting followed by BBQ at Russ & Liz Driver's property

August 11th – Club meeting then **AGM**, followed by lunch at Golf Club

August 24th – Sat night, RTHF Reunion dinner, members work bar

September 8th – Club meeting followed by run to Standley Chasm for lunch

Details to follow / suggested:

Social Night – BBQ / Film Night – members property – details tba
Weekend run / Glen Helen – Sat night stay and / or Sunday morning tea run
Joint run with Aces and Eights (club calendars to be shared to organise a joint run)

TROPIC OF CAPRICORN RUN 9/6/19
WHAT A MAGNIFICENT DAY



Socializing at Tropic of Capricorn were Peter, Col + Vicki,
Allan + Aileen, John + An, Stuart + Marie, Brian + Michael,
Mandy, Sam + Bryce, Russ + Liz, Lisa + Megan

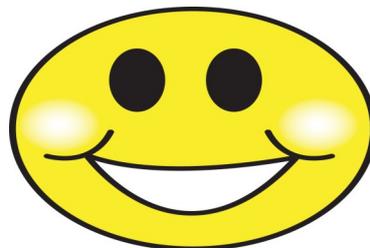


Why not top it off with lunch at Olive Pink Reserve

“Oh my what a life”



Present were Allan + Aileen, Stuart + Marie, John + An, Mandy, Sam and Bryce



"The story of 'Middle Wife' by an Anonymous 2nd grade teacher"

I've been teaching now for about fifteen years. I have two kids myself, but the best birth story I know is the one I saw in my own second grade classroom a few years back.

When I was a kid, I loved show-and-tell. So I always have a few sessions with my students. It helps them get over shyness and usually, show-and-tell is pretty tame. Kids bring in pet turtles, model airplanes, pictures of fish they catch, stuff like that. And I never, ever place any boundaries or limitations on them. If they want to lug it in to school and talk about it, they're welcome.

Well, one day this little girl, Erica, a very bright, very outgoing kid, takes her turn and waddles up to the front of the class with a pillow stuffed under her sweater. She holds up a snapshot of an infant. 'This is Luke, my baby brother, and I'm going to tell you about his birthday.'

'First, Mom and Dad made him as a symbol of their love, and then Dad put a seed in my Mom's stomach, and Luke grew in there. He ate for nine months through an umbrella cord.'

She's standing there with her hands on the pillow, and I'm trying not to laugh and wishing I had my camcorder with me. The kids are watching her in amazement. 'Then, about two Saturdays ago, my Mom starts going, 'Oh, Oh, Oh, Oh!' Erica puts a hand behind her back and groans. 'She walked around the house for, like an hour, 'Oh, oh, oh!' (Now this kid is doing a hysterical duck walk and groaning.)

'My Dad called the middle wife. She delivers babies, but she doesn't have a sign on the car like the Domino's man. They got my Mom to lie down in bed like this.' (Then Erica lies down with her back against the wall.) 'And then, pop! My Mom had this bag of water she kept in there in case he got thirsty, and it just blew up and spilled all over the bed, like psshhheew!' (This kid has her legs spread with her little hands miming water flowing away. It was too much!)

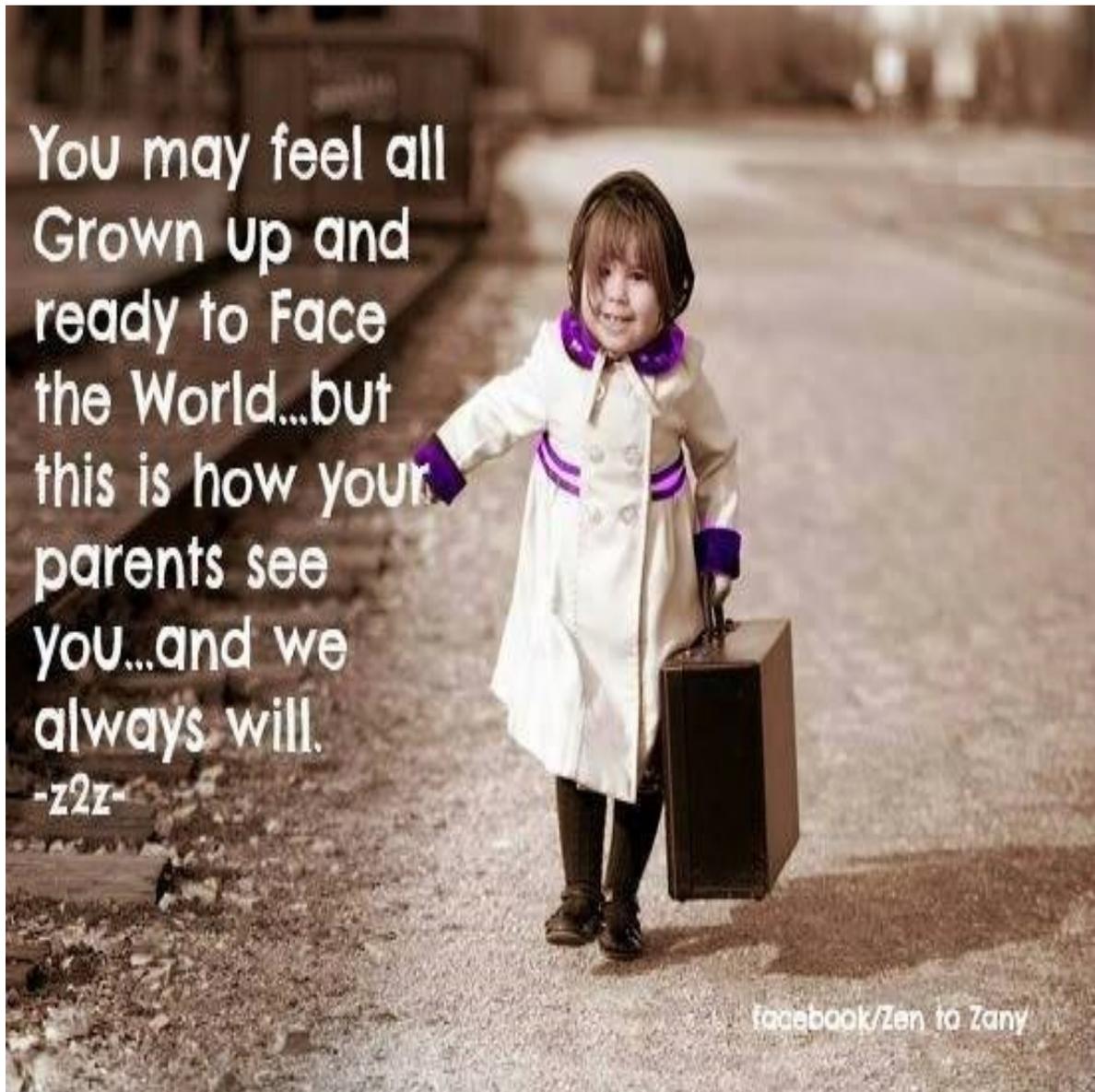
'Then the middle wife starts saying 'push, push,' and 'breathe, breathe. They started counting, but never even got past ten. Then, all of a sudden, out comes my brother. He was covered in yucky stuff that they all said it was from Mom's play-centre, so there must be a lot of toys inside there. When he got out, the middle wife spanked him for crawling up in there in the first place.'

Then Erica stood up, took a big theatrical bow and returned to her seat.

I'm sure I applauded the loudest. Ever since then, when it's Show-and-tell day, I bring my camcorder, just in case another 'Middle Wife' comes along.

Live every day as if it is your LAST chance to make someone happy!"

THIS IS SO TRUE



REPCO SALE 8TH AND 9TH JUNE FEATURING M.E.C.C.A



Members with their pride and joy at Repco either Saturday or Sunday.

Neville + Lisa, Col, Trevor, Peter,
Allan + Aileen, John + An and Mark

Well done your time for the club is appreciated



**Presentation to Mecca from Mick at Repco
a Mechpro 173 piece Toolbox in appreciation to
Mecca for the display
Toolbox will be in a Mecca raffle at a later date**

FINKE DESERT RACE 2019



The good old days



Kings Cross, Sydney. 1950. Lots of crooks, gangsters, prostitutes and thugs here even then. The music was better.

Getting rid of trams, digging up the tram lines and discontinuing double decker buses was a serious series of stupid, short sighted decisions. Melbourne was far smarter.

In Its heyday the Sydney tramway network spanned almost every major nook and cranny of the eastern suburbs — making it the largest light rail network southern hemisphere.

While the NSW Government acted to remove tracks and trams from Sydney streets, Melbourne sought to expand its tramway system, and currently has the largest tramway network in the world,”



Mount Panorama Motorcycle Races, Bathurst NSW. 1950. Conrod Straight did not have a slow down chicane then and speeds of 180 mph (290 km/hour) were common.

Narrow gutted tires and a 500 cc engine – they were fast with no modern day safety features.

The good old days Cont



RAAF PBY Catalina, 1952, for Rathmines.



HMAS Anzac II and Fairy Firefly on the HMAS Sydney. RAN. 1953.



Australian rabbit plague. Narromine, NSW. 1953.

Thank you Fred



MY CHRYSLER BEFORE
AND AFTER RESTORATION
 By Trevor Jacobs

In 1925 the Chrysler 70 tourer caused a sensation when it was first released. The 70 stood for 70MPH and it was the first production car to have 4 wheel hydraulic brakes. Not only could it go, it could also stop, a big selling point back then when a lot of cars still had only rear wheel mechanical brakes. Another feature of this model was that the ignition came with a new fangled distributor or you could have the tried and tested magneto. Mine has a distributor, the cast metal plinth for the magneto having been removed with a hacksaw many years previously. The only security feature was a transmission lock. You could start the car but needed the key to unlock the transmission to drive it.

The Chrysler was advertised for sale in the Adelaide newspaper and I purchased it for \$60 in 1974. It came with its original registration plate SA 15-730 and the picture shows a pile of junk arriving at its new home in Colonel Light Gardens with the proud owner sitting on top. After some cleaning and de-rusting not much happened and the car languished in boxes for the next 10 years. By 1983 my working life had taken me to Alice Springs and I decided to relocate the car here and continue the restoration. The road to Adelaide was still dirt and it took Ann and myself 30 hours to trailer it home to Alice Springs.

A budget restoration commenced in 1984 and was mostly finished by 1987. It was used as our wedding car at that time and has done a further 30 weddings over the years, as well as school kids formals, numerous shows, special arrivals and pickups for family and friends.

Following a trip to Glen Helen around 1993 the engine did a bearing resulting in a full engine rebuild in Adelaide using Austin A40 pistons, and in 2002 the wooden spokes were renewed after the original ones had finally worn beyond repair.

Through a website called South Australian Motor Vehicle Registrations 1906 -1927 I discovered that it was first owned by H G Bradke of Yongala (Peterborough area). This led to the great great-grandson of HG going for a ride in it while he was passing through Alice Springs. He also related their family story of HG driving the car into his 90's and running into a power pole in the main street of Yongala. I often wondered what caused the bend in the front bumper bars of the car- finally after all these years I know.

Cheers
 Trevor Jacobs

RESTORED



LOOKS LIKE A GREAT EVENT IN SEPTEMBER 19

Thankyou Peter Inkster



Continued next page

(2)
It Time to Get Some Dust in Your Veins!
We're going to Perko!

The Red Dust Revival will be held at the old Lake Perkolilli motor circuit near Kalgoorlie from 12 to 16 September 2019.

We're punting on great weather in September, after all, that is the month when the original events were held.

Since we announced the dates at Christmas, the response has been amazing. Enquiries have come from the Northern Territory, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia — and even from as far away as the UK where a true enthusiast is thinking of shipping his Lagonda for the event. We've already got 15 pre-war motorbikes ready to go.

So why celebrate Lake Perkolilli? The clay pan has a remarkable history which goes back almost as far as the motor vehicle in Western Australia. The first racing began at the clay pan in 1914 and continued right through to World War II. A grandstand was even erected to cope with the crowds. It is our own Brooklands or Indianapolis. Lake Perkolilli has always been a legendary part of our State's motoring history and we think that it is appropriate to celebrate this history and have some fun.

The cars which competed at Perkolilli were not just racing cars – vintage sedans and tourers, even taxis raced for many years. Every year, cars and motorcycles would be driven from all over the State, shipped on trucks or loaded onto the express train to get to Lake Perkolilli for the September event timed to coincide with the Goldfields horse racing round. The teams often arrived at the clay pan a week before and set up camp to tune their machines. On race day, thousands of people arrived by car, truck, motorcycle, bicycle, charabanc and often aircraft. A line of cars stretching a kilometre along one side of the clay pan would be full of picnickers and the races would begin!

Pre-war cars and motorcycles are welcome at the Red Dust Revival 2019 just like the good old days. It's a very simple event. Grab your pre-war car or motorcycle, strip it for racing if you wish (optional), get up to Perko, camp in the bush or stay in town, then spend four days roaring around the clay pan. Your car will get dusty, you'll get dusty, your stuff will get dusty but you'll have a ton of fun and rediscover the love of motor sports from the good old days.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST Lake Perkolilli Red Dust Revival 2019
Send to: Graeme Cocks or Greg Eastwood, PO Box 297, Inglewood WA 6052



AUGUST 11th AGM COMING SOON ALL POSITIONS WILL BE VACANT

One of these positions could be yours -

1. **President**
2. **Vice-President**
3. **Secretary**
4. **Treasurer**
5. **Public Officer**
6. **Registrar**
7. **Editor**
8. **Webmaster**
9. **Historian**
10. **Club Hostess**
11. **Committee Members**
12. **Crankhandle**



Duties of Office Bearers

President:

- Conduct Cub meetings
- Co-ordinate club runs and activities
- Liaise with visiting clubs
- Approves reporting of club activities to other clubs and media
- Liaise with government departments when required.
- Liaise with N.T Motoring council
- Liaise with other Committee members to ensure their duties are carried out
- Hand duties over to Vice President or Secretary when absent
- Signatory for Club cheques
- Signature for Club Registration form R42

Vice-President:

- Stand in for President when absent
- Stand in for other Committee positions as required
- Signatory for Club cheques
- Signature for Club Registration form R4

Secretary:

- Set Agenda for meetings
- Take minutes at meetings
- Responsible for Correspondence in and out
- Collect mail
- Compile information for AGM
- Set agenda for AGM and notify members of AGM date as per Constitution
- Compile annual report for Department of Business Affairs
- Assist Public Officer with annual report
- Maintain membership list with Registrar
- Signatory for Club cheques
- Signature for Club Registration form R4

AUGUST 11th AGM COMING SOON ALL POSITIONS WILL BE VACANT



One of these positions could be yours -

Duties of Office Bearers continued

Treasurer

- Keep financial records
- Collect and bank membership fees
- Receive and bank income from donations, sale of Memorabilia and any other revenue
- Pay club bills
- Present monthly financial report to committee meeting
- Liaise with Auditor to prepare annual financial report
- Liaise with Secretary to notify members prior to AM that the Club annual financial statement is ready for review, as per time frame set in the Constitution
- Compile and present annual report at AGM
- Signatory for Club cheques
- Signature for Club Registration R42 form

Public Officer

- Monitor club activities to ensure compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws
- Review and update Club Constitution and By-Laws as required
- Review and update Club Constitution and By-Laws as required
- Present Annual report to the Department of Business Affairs after the AGM

Registrar:

- Maintain Club Registration register
- Keep Club membership register
- Signature for Club Registration R42 form

AUGUST 11th AGM COMING SOON ALL POSITIONS WILL BE VACANT



One of these positions could be yours -

Duties of Office Bearers continued

Editor

- Produce and distribute the club CentreSpoke monthly magazine and club flyers for special events

Webmaster

- Updating Names of club Office Bearers and contact details as appropriate on the website
- Updating the Club calendar as appropriate on the website
- Updating the website with new issues of "CentreSpoke" as they become available
- Maintaining the list of Members and Committee Members in the email program

Historian:

- File and archive club records
- Oversee the requirements and presentation of Overland Badges.
(Recipients must prove they have met the requirements before badge will be issued)

Club Hostess:

- Provide refreshments at meetings
- Co-ordinate food and refreshments at club activities

Committee Members:

- Assist to run club activities
- Duties as directed by the President

Crankhandle:

- Honorary position to ensure dress codes and behaviour of members is acceptable
- Not wearing name tags at events incurs a small fine for the petty cash tin

SERVICES

Trev's Auto Repairs

For Rego checks, repairs and wheel alignments.

Phone 8955-5568



To sell your business's services and products call
Liz on 0427 970 744 or
email wheelnuts@always17.com.au

Sell, swap, giveaway, goods wanted,
Advertise here call Liz on 0427 970 744 or
email: wheelnutsalways17.com.au

Club membership renewals are due,

Must be paid by the 11th August 19 before the AGM
and to continue your NT Registered Red Plates under
Mecca Club Constitution

Cost: Family \$50.00

Single \$35.00

Country (reside over 50km's from Alice Springs) \$15.00

Bank details:

BSB: 065 900

A/C: 009 00 20

Name: Motor Enthusiasts Club

Ref: Your Surname



Or bring your form and correct Cash at July or August
Meeting and the Treasurer will accept your membership

Renewal form on next page -if you can fill out and bring to
next meeting so we have your up to date details

Thank-you to all that have already paid.



Editors Page

Wow - June what another exciting month, Finke Desert race was another excellent event seeing great influx of people to Alice Springs.

Caravan parks overflowing, food vans from interstate giving us a greater selection of take a way. Lack of food on super market shelves as tourists and locals stock up on essentials for the weekend (any one would think they were going away for weeks instead of days the way the shopping trolleys were piled up)

For the first time living in Alice Springs I was unable to buy the essentials called Bread - had to wait till the next day and shop early to get some.

Great weather for Finke cool nights and warm days and of course plenty of flies to keep the spectators busy and in between they saw the race go by.

The Executive Committee had a meeting to discuss membership fees, Sponsors, fundraisers for the club to get extra revenue.

I guess President will give us the good news in July 14th meeting.
And of course they had dinner at the Gillen Club

Tough life hey!!!!!!





Editors Page cont.

Our run after June's meeting to Tropic of Capricorn was great. Even better when we parked and had a social event. You learn so much from other people by asking questions e.g Allan showing Liz his made up tool for getting awkward hoses out of awkward places - fascinating what you do when you have time.



At last a member to use Mecca car trailer - poor trailer felt very unloved until John and Raelene wanted to load the mighty Triumph up to deliver to Trev to give her some tender loving care.

Thanks John and Raelene



Well that's it for another month from me. July looks like another exciting month with Alice Springs Show and a barbecue at our place. Look after yourselves and have a great month. Liz

