



# CentreSpoke

October 2019

## BATHURST 2019

AS SEEN WITH NO POWER IN ALICE SPRINGS



AS SEEN ON THE ACTUAL BATHURST TRACK



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](mailto:mecca@mecca.asn.au)

Web site: [www.mecca.asn.au](http://www.mecca.asn.au)

# MECCA Committee 2018/2019

PRESIDENT:	Tony O'Brien	0438 530 366
VICE PRESIDENT:	Trevor Jacobs	0417 824 684
TREASURER:	Russ Driver	0408 002 907
SECRETARY:	Douglas Draeger	0428 676 741
PUBLIC OFFICER:	Brian Eather	0428 758 002
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Mandy Vandenberg Neville Heness	0409 098 987 0428 740 964
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:	Lisa Heness	0422 041 449
LIFE MEMBERS:	Dave Simpson, Tony Bullock, Walter & Alvina Spears, Stuart & Marie Gear, Col Jarrett	



## *Presidents Report*

Another month has passed us and here we are heading into the Xmas Season.

We all had a pleasant social meeting at Simpsons gap Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October, attended by 17 members.

Douglas provided the BBQ and all the food and supplies and did a terrific job on the hotplate, a five dollar donation covered costs.

We feasted on Bacon and egg sandwiches, sausages topped off by pancakes with strawberries and cream. YUMMY

We presented our Marie Gear with an appreciation sandstone gift (pic attached) in recognition of all the great work she (and can't forget hubby Stuart) have carried out over the years, Marie is a true gem.

Alvena cracked us up with her usual funnies.

Much talk and gathering about cars and motorcycles. Peter brought along his bike with side car always a winner at our events, along with Stuart's immaculate Jag.

Many of us also attended at Repco car park with display vehicles weekend 26/27 Oct. There were going to be some radio control car exhibitions by another group but they were unable to make it. Still a good catch up though, must remember to bring along seating next time.

I have forwarded several pics of our gathering, the weather is getting a bit warm but otherwise a very pleasant day.

Looking forward to our Xmas lunch, don't forget 10<sup>th</sup> November from 12 noon Gillen Club. Adults \$30 and kids \$15, seafood \$10 extra (prawns and oysters). Please contact Douglas on email [dougdraeger@hotmail.com](mailto:dougdraeger@hotmail.com) or phone/text 0428 676 741.

My bush work should quieten down a bit soon so will be able to devote more time to our club.

Safe travelling and looking forward to catching up again soon.

Thanks.

Tony O'Brien.

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**MARIE FOR YOUR DEVOTION AS HOSTESS**  
**FOR OUR CLUB OVER THE YEARS**



Tony O'Brien presenting Marie with her sand stone presentation in appreciation of her services to the club over the years.



## *The Sec's Desk*

### **GENERAL MEETING Minutes**

**Simpsons Gap BBQ Run 9.00 am start for run – Diarama Village  
MEETING Simpsons Gap SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

**Meeting Opened:** 10.10 am

**Present:** As per attendance list – 17 Members – Tony O’Brien, Marie and Stuart Gear, Peter Hilliard, Col and Vicki Jarrett, Tony McKenzie, Margaret McKenzie, Alvena and Wally Spears, Douglas Draeger, Stephen Dinner, Cameron Dinner, Karl Smith, Brian Eather, Michael Hanrahan and Trevor Jacobs.

**Apologies:** Nil

#### **Secretaries Report:**

- Correspondence In: Various club magazines
  - Correspondence Out: Framed Certificate of Appreciation for REPCO delivered by President Tony O’Brien
- Today’s BBQ trailer supplied by Corrections, Bacon and egg sandwiches and BBQ sausage followed by pancakes strawberries and cream.

#### **New General Business:**

October Club Run to Simpsons Gap – BREAKFAST Run Depart 9am meet at Diarama Village, members bring chairs, plates and cups (\$5- per head) Club supplies bacon, eggs, portable BBQ and urn, tea, milk and coffee – club meeting on return run.

Maree Gear presented with a sandstone club appreciation award by the club president, Tony, for dedicated time and effort over many years as club hostess REPCO club vehicle displays on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October. A good variety of club vehicles on both days would be great. REPCO have offered another gift for club to raffle for our efforts

November Christmas meeting / Lunch – menu confirmed. Need numbers for group booking – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November from 12 Noon, Gillen Club, Adults \$30- each, Kids \$15- each – Seafood \$10 extra per person ( Prawns and oysters) Bookings: [dougdraeger@hotmail.com](mailto:dougdraeger@hotmail.com) or text 0428676741

#### **November activities:**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas 2019 Lunch**

**Meeting Closed:** 1100 Hrs

**MECCA**  
**MOTOR ENTHUSIAST CLUB CENTRAL AUSTRALIA inc**

**CLUB Calendar 2019**

**November 10<sup>th</sup>** – Club meeting with Kris Kringle then Christmas lunch at Gillen Club 12pm cost approx. \$30.00 ea tba -  
 call Douglas Draeger 0428 676741 so he can book numbers

**CLUB Calendar 2020**

**February 9<sup>th</sup>** 9 am Social Breakfast at Barra on the Todd (Mercure Hotel) **No Meeting**  
**Cost \$20- per person (Residents) but club will subsidize @ \$10- per head**

**March 8<sup>th</sup>**, Club meeting followed by run through White Gums and Honeymoon Gap and ending for lunch at Star of Alice, Palm Circuit (The Gap)

**April 12<sup>th</sup>**, Club meeting followed by shed run, destination tba  
 Easter long weekend Fri 10<sup>th</sup> – Mon 13<sup>nd</sup> April – EASTER

**May 4<sup>th</sup>** Bangtail Muster – Monday May Day Public Holiday

**May 10<sup>th</sup>** Mothers Day – Club General Meeting / No run

**May 17<sup>th</sup>** National Motoring Day, Run starting at Masonic Hall 10.30 for 11am . . .  
 start, run to Aviation Museum for BBQ lunch

**June 14<sup>th</sup>** Club meeting followed by run to Tropic of Capricorn and return, followed by lunch at RFDS Café (Noted FINKE weekend 7-10 June)

**July 3<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>** – Alice Springs Show

**July 12<sup>th</sup>** Club meeting followed by BBQ at Russ & Liz Driver's property

**August 9<sup>th</sup>** – Club AGM, followed by lunch at Golf Club

**August 22<sup>th</sup>** – Sat night, RTHF 25 year anniversary Reunion Truckers Dinner, members work bar

**September 13<sup>th</sup>** – Club meeting followed by run to Standley Chasm for lunch

**October 11<sup>th</sup>** – 8am – 9am BBQ Breakfast before run followed by club meeting on return. Details tba

**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 organize a joint run)  
 ASTC – Coffee and Chrome – date tba

# HO HO ITS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

DATE AND VENUE BOOKED. NEED NUMBERS.



## MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA CHRISTMAS 2019

Where:- the Gillen Club

When:- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November

Time:- 12 noon (following the November meeting)

Price:- \$30.00 per head *t.b.c. #*

Meal includes: Roast Turkey, Glazed Ham, Roast Beef, Cold meats, Butter Chicken, Sweet & sour Fish, Selection of Salads, Vegetables, Christmas Pudding, Brandy Custard and Chocolate Mud Cake.

**We will run the November meeting as normal (9:00 am)  
followed by morning tea and  
Kris Kringle,**

**Everyone please bring a gift wrapped present to the value of  
\$10.00 to the meeting.**

DRESS CODE: Christmas party!

### RSVP essential

To help assist with catering numbers we ask that you RSVP  
**NO LATER THAN THE 27<sup>th</sup> October.**

Please email: [dougdraeger@hotmail.com](mailto:dougdraeger@hotmail.com)

Or call or text Doug on mobile: 0428676741

*# CHRISTMAS CATERING COST AND MENU STW TO BE  
ANNOUNCED (GILLEN CLUB) AS AT 25 SEPT 2019.  
t.b.c = TO BE CONFIRMED*

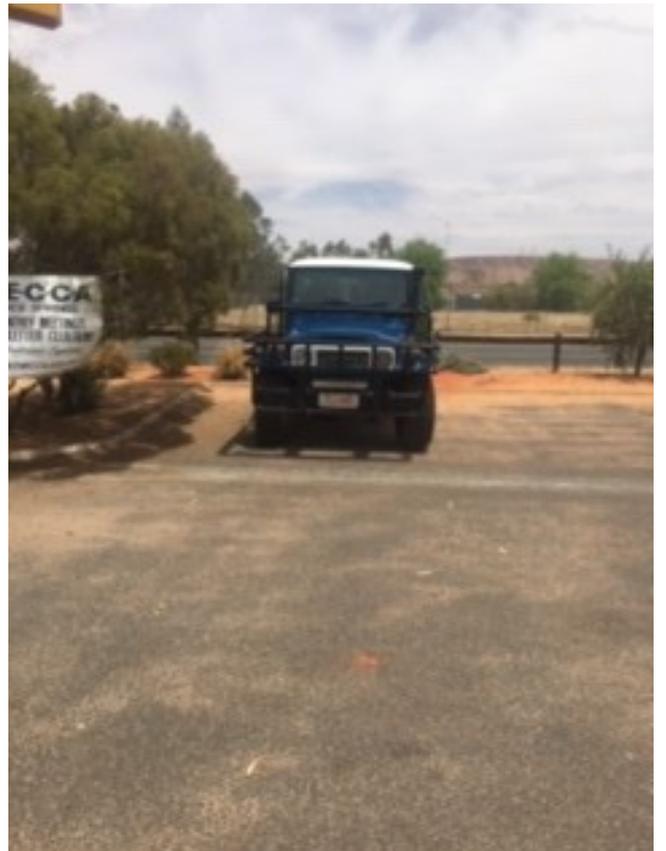
## REPCO WEEKEND 26TH AND 27TH OCTOBER



Another magnificent social outing with  
Douglas Draeger,  
Peter Hilliard,  
Aileen Kennedy, Allan Campbell,  
Tony O'Brien,  
Neville and Lisa Hennes,  
Mandy and Steve Vandenberg  
and  
Russ and Liz Driver



**REPCO WEEKEND 26TH AND 27TH OCTOBER**



### A job interview between an Employer and prospective Employee 'Amy'

**Employer** ' Amy, it says you are trained in Technology, that's very good. Are you adept at Excel?

**Amy** ' No

**Employer**' PowerPoint?

**Amy** 'No

**Employer** ' Publisher?

**Amy** ' Not really

**Employer** ' Exactly in what area of technology are you proficient?

**Amy** ' Snapchat, Pinterest, Instagram, Vine, Twitter..... You know, the big ones.

**Employer** ' I'm surprised you didn't say Facebook.

**Amy** laughs and says that's for old people, like my parents.

**Employer** looks stunned as he is possibly older than her parents.

**Amy** says 'That's funny'

**Employer** says 'Well Amy, when you're working for me, you have to have those kind of research skills. Because I'll send you things to comb through to get the answers to send through to me. So for that you've got to be really good at technology.

**Amy** ' For that stuff I'll just ask Siri

**Employer** ' You'll ask Siri?

**Amy** ' You know, Siri, tell me this, Siri Tell me this

**Employer** says 'Tell Siri I want you to start at 8 sharp each and every morning'

**Amy** says 'I don't understand'

**Employer** says 'what don't you understand?'

**Amy** 'What you just said

**Employer** 'Be ready to go?

**Amy** ' No - 8 like, in the morning?

**Employer** 'Yes 8 in the morning

**Amy** 'I skype my boyfriend and my parents until about 3 in the morning. Who gets up at that hour I don't even get to Starbucks until like, 10am where I order my Grande chai-tea latte, 3 pumpkin milk white water, 2 % foam extra hot, but not too hot.

**Amy** ' So if it's o.k I work best in the morning at 10.45

**Employer** ' Wow' Amy I don't think we make a good fit.

**Amy** ' Why are you so negative? I can sense your hostility, and right now I am not feeling very safe, I have been here for over 5 minutes and the only nice thing you have said to me was a 'nice resume' Which I typed all night for this meeting with you. You have given me no guidance, no validation, no encouragement or supervision. Is there a HR director I can talk to?

**Employer** ' Hr Director?

**Amy** ' Yes I need to talk to someone, I may have to take the day off today as mental health day

**Employer** ' Take today off? Amy look at me, You don't work here

**Amy** ' Are you firing me?

**Employer** ' O.K - Yes

As Amy walks out of the room disgusted.

Thanks Fred Twohig



**Q: What car was the first to place the horn button in the centre of the steering wheel?**



**A: The 1915 Scripps-Booth Model C. The car also was the first with electric door latches**

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**Q: What autos were the first to use a standardized production key-start system?**



**A: The 1949 Chrysler**

Thank you Derek Poolier

## JOKE TIME



A child asked his father, "How were people born?"

So his father said, "Adam and Eve made babies, then their babies became adults and made babies, and so on."

he child then went to his mother, asked her the same question and she told him,

"We were monkeys then we evolved to become like we are now."

The child ran back to his father and said,

"You lied to me!"

His father replied, "No, your mom was talking about her side of the family."

I was in Germany at Oktoberfest and they asked me how many beers I wanted...  
I said nine, but they didn't bring me any.

Newlyweds wake up one morning on their honeymoon and the man suggests:  
"Darling, why don't you brew us some coffee?"

Wife looks confused: "But that's your task, honey."

"What? Why?"

"It's all over the Bible, dearest."

"The Bible says nothing about who's supposed to be brewing coffee!"

The wife grabs hold of a copy and starts flipping pages at random:

"See? Everywhere: Hebrews, Hebrews, Hebrews."

Despite protests, I put a high-voltage electric fence around my property.  
My wife's dead against it.



## WHY NOT TO TAKE YOUR HUSBAND SHOPPING

### **The Retired Husband**

**After I retired, my wife insisted that I accompany her on her trips to Target.**

**Unfortunately, like most men, I found shopping boring and preferred to get in and get out. Equally unfortunate, my wife is like most women - she loves to browse.**

**Yesterday my dear wife received the following letter from the local Target:**

**Dear Mrs. Harris,**

Over the past six months, your husband has caused quite a commotion in our store. We cannot tolerate this behaviour and have been forced to ban both of you from the store. Our complaints against your husband, Mr. Harris, are listed below and are documented by our video surveillance cameras:

1. June 15: He took 24 boxes of condoms and randomly put them in other people's carts when they weren't looking.
2. July 2: Set all the alarm clocks in Housewares to go off at 5-minute intervals.
3. July 7: He made a trail of tomato juice on the floor leading to the women's restroom.
4. July 19: Walked up to an employee and told her in an official voice, 'Code 3 in Housewares. Get on it right away'. This caused the employee to leave her assigned station and receive a reprimand from her Supervisor that in turn resulted with a union grievance, causing management to lose time and costing the company money.
5. August 4: Went to the Service Desk and tried to put a bag of M&Ms on layby.
6. August 14: Moved a 'CAUTION - WET FLOOR' sign to a carpeted area.
7. August 15: Set up a tent in the camping department and told the children shoppers he'd invite them in if they would bring pillows and blankets from the bedding department to which twenty children obliged.
8. August 23: When a clerk asked if they could help him he began crying and screamed, 'Why can't you people just leave me alone?' EMTs were called.
9. September 4: Looked right into the security camera and used it as a mirror while he picked his nose.
10. September 10: While handling guns in the hunting department, he asked the clerk where the antidepressants were.
11. October 3: Darted around the store suspiciously while loudly humming the 'Mission Impossible' theme.
12. October 6: In the auto department, he practiced his 'Madonna look' by using different sizes of funnels.
13. October 18: Hid in a clothing rack and when people browsed through, yelled 'PICK ME! PICK ME!'
14. October 21: When an announcement came over the loudspeaker, he assumed a foetal position and screamed 'OH NO! IT'S THOSE VOICES AGAIN!'

And last, but not least:

15. October 23: Went into a fitting room, shut the door, waited awhile, then yelled very loudly, 'Hey! There's no toilet paper in here.'

I wonder if the wife took him shopping again?

## **SERVICES**

Trev's Auto Repairs

For Rego checks, repairs and wheel alignments.

Phone 8955-5568



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## **Club Merchandise For Sale**

Club shirts various sizes \$45.00 each

Club Hats \$20.00 each

Overlander Badges \$75.00 each - conditions apply

Available at Club meetings or contact Col if required before.



## Editors Page

Well what a month.

Russ and I went to Adelaide for the Bay to Birdwood run. We had the pleasure of driving Russ's Uncles 1956 Leyland Comet Truck which was used by the family to drive the produce to the Adelaide market every week. This year we were privileged as the truck had brakes and the gearbox splitter system worked however nothing had changed the motor was so noisy you could not talk to each other without yelling and people knew what you were taking about 3 blocks away - so we were good vegemite's and said very little. (we called it our quiet time)

The day was perfect, temperature just right and the organization of the event was well executed. This year there was 1750 classic vehicles entered.

The Haflinger and the Mini celebrated their 60th year on this earth.

We had a fabulous day and celebrated the evening with relatives and friends at Hahndorf with a great smorgasbord.

Monday we decided to head back to Alice Springs to do some more work to clear the property in Sargent St, before we headed back to Bathurst.





## Editors Page 2

Off we go again with our Son, daughter-in-law and 2 youngest grandchildren. It took us 3 days to drive to Bathurst as we had camp sites booked at the campground. We arrived on Tuesday and eventually found our site and set up. I can tell you it was a dismal, cold, rainy, and windy day and I was ready to go home to the warmth - this did not seem like a good holiday to me. We stayed of course.

There are 7 camp sites at Bathurst and 7000 sites and all up there were over 50,000 people camped - unbelievable.

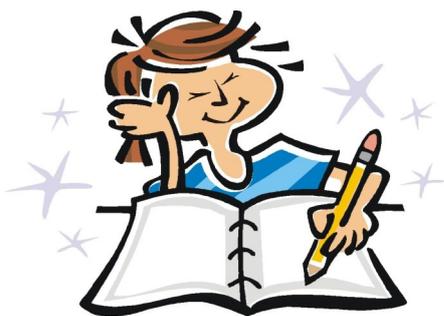
You could have a camp fire and there were trucks driving up and down the rows to sell you firewood. If you wanted you could have your own portable toilet on site for approx. \$100 a day. There was also a ice-cream van and a person selling ice - with the cold weather I don't think they sold much.

It was well worth going to Bathurst we walked the track and was amazed how steep the track was it gave you a new perspective of what the drivers go through and you don't see this on TV (if you have power of course).

We thought the ending was a let down with the pace car taking lead at the last lap - however we can not help there was a accident and they had to do it this way. All in all we had a good time. After the race we also drove the track which was excellent - actually we could not resist and drove it twice.

We packed up on Monday and took a leisurely drive to the Jenolan Caves.





## Editors Page

Off to our next accommodation - yes we spoilt ourselves we got a cabin at Jenolan Cabins ( not at Jenolan itself) - can highly recommend - self contained cabins with combustion heater with firewood etc. Jenolan Cabins have 6 cabins on site and moved far enough away to make it feel like you were there by yourself.

We drove to Jenolan the following day and wow what a drive - steep with magic views. We toured 6 caves in 2 days. The tour guides we had were Sarah, Ian and Morris. Each cave was unique and had its own stories - well worth the visit.

You can stay at Jenolan and they have everything from backpackers to motel rooms, restaurant and separate eatery and of course a gift shop.

We left Jenolan Cabins on Thursday morning and got back to Alice Springs Saturday late arvo.

We had a fabulous time with our family Wayne, Cate, Leah and Shae on this superb holiday.

Back to the real world to plan for the next adventure. Yeah



Another sad however joyful day,

Russ and I went to Wulf Phau's funeral today 31st October 2019 to celebrate his life and achievements over his 80 years.

Wulf was a inaugural member of Veteran and Vintage car club when it began and into the beginning of MECCA car club.

Wulf had many achievements—involvement in the rotary club, played Santa Clause every year because of his big white beard, ran his own business making rain water tanks, involved in the Alice Springs show., Wulf was known as the chicken man as he was put in charge of the poultry shed, In the morning and afternoon was the lollypop man at Olsh School Bath St making sure the children crossed the road safely.

Wulf was his own person, if you wanted something done he would do it and wait for no one, if he believed in something he was right and you could not convince him otherwise. Wulf was a family man and was adored by his 4 children (well adults now), grand children and great grand children.

Rest in Peace

