



CentreSpoke

November 2019

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A

HEALTHY 2020



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



Presidents Report

Here we are again at the end of another year, the last few months or so with some pleasant outings with many day drives to the Gorges and our recent get together at Simpsons Gap

I would also like to really thank those amazing members who always present those delicious nibbles/cakes/pastries for us at the end of our meetings. Special thanks to Lisa and Neville Heness, Marie Gear, Michele Thompson and others who I am getting to know better. Please accept my apologies if I have left anybody out here. I will put coins into the little silver bus if I have forgotten anyone.

The Xmas lunch went off well with some 30 plus members and their partners attending. John Bridgefoot entertained us with a knowledge quest which taxed our minds. Thanks for putting all those questions together John, brilliant stuff. So much I did not know. I believe that John Hubner topped scored with some others giving not so exact answers, I think that one of the few that I got right was where Jaguar cars were manufactured. (I remembered seeing it in the compliance plate only last weekend.)

Prior to the lunch we had our last meeting at the hall where amongst other matters we discussed our involvement with the Transport Hall of Fame Committee, please keep in touch with Russ and Liz Driver here if you can offer any assistance with sub committees etc. Thanks Douglas and Liz for all the work that you put into the Club, where would we be without you.

I will be in touch with Peter Hilliard, and see how he is getting on, I believe that he had a bit of a health scare, and keep members posted.

I would like to thank all those members who have always been there for the Club, and everybody for making our Club such a successful group.

Enjoy your Xmas with family and friends and I look forward to a great 2020.

Drive safe.

Tony OB.
Club President.



The Sec's Desk

MECCA **MOTOR ENTHUSIAST CLUB CENTRAL AUSTRALIA inc**

GENERAL MEETING Minutes

Simpsons Gap BBQ Run 9.00 am start for run – Diorama Village

MEETING Simpsons Gap SUNDAY 13th October 2019.

Meeting Opened: 09.09 am

Present: As per attendance list – 16 Members – Tony O'Brien, Stuart Gear, Douglas Draeger, Brian Eather, Michael Henrahan, Raelene Beale, Garry Bentley, John Bridgefoot, Allan Campbell, John Cooper, Clinton Dennison, Liz and Russ Driver, Phillipe Freidel, Neville Heness, Trevor Hymen, Aileen Kennedy, Craig and Robyn Lambley, Jasmina Muhic, Michele and Mike Thompson, Mandy and Steve Van de Berg.

Apologies: Jared and Katy Bentvelzen, Mark Dunn, Peter and Judy Inkster, John Syme, Tim Schubert, Brian Cartwright, Peter Hilliard, Alvina Spears is with Wally Spears (in hospital), Fred Twohig, Tom and Margaret McKenzie, John Hubner (also not well atm) Col and Vicki Jarrett

Corrections to previous minutes Apologies were received for Allan Campbell and Aileen Kennedy for the last meeting (Oct) and Simpson gap run

Presidents Report: Welcome all members and review of the first half of the club's year – great so far

Secretaries Report:

•Correspondence In: Bank statement (to treasurer), Various club magazines including (all available at meeting for perusal) Shannon's Classic car auction catalogues, Bike Torque (Sept / Oct), Austin 7 Journal, Auto Torque, Gawler Car Club, Steering Column, DMV – Club Rego Report (copies at meeting for members review)

Emails from motoring clubs and motoring organizations to committee including:

Retronaughts, CrankTalk,

•Correspondence Out: Gillen Club Xmas Lunch booking,

Thank you to Liz for the ring around of members to firm up attendance for Xmas Lunch during the week



The Sec's Desk

Treasurers Report:

Balance at end of October	\$ 7,046.41	
Balance with October income	\$ 8,421.41	Hall of Fame, hats and shirts
Less expenses	\$-1,040.00	Hall hire,
November opening balance	\$ 7,381.41	
Add Nov income	\$80-	Simpson Gap BBQ
Current Balance	\$ 7,461.41	

General Business: Previous minutes of October general meeting as sent out (email and published in the club magazine) accepted with correction to minutes as recorded above (Apologies)

Proposed: Stuart Gear Seconded: Raelene Beale All in favor

New General Business:

Russ Driver provided an update on the RTHF including local sub committees formed to manage specific areas of the museum
 Invitations received for some members to provide vehicles for school formals
 Thank you to Liz for organizing the club calendars that were available at the meeting for members – look fantastic
 October Club Run to Simpsons Gap – BREAKFAST Run Depart 9am from Diarama Village, was well attended.
 November Christmas meeting / Lunch Group booking of 20 from 12 Noon
 Masonic Lodge has raffle raising funds for Butterfly Connection if any members interested in tickets – see Stuart Gear
 Secretary to contact Barra On The Todd for our February meeting
 Secretary will deliver club calendars to businesses that support the club

Chris Cringle to be carried out at the end of the meeting with morning tea

Next Meeting February 9th 8.30am Breakfast meeting Barra on Todd (Mercure Hotel)

Meeting Closed: 09.39 Hrs

MECCA
MOTOR ENTHUSIAST CLUB CENTRAL AUSTRALIA inc

CLUB Calendar 2020

February 9th 8.30am Social Breakfast at Barra on the Todd (Mercure Hotel)
No Meeting Cost \$20- per person (Residents) but club will subsidize @ \$10- per head

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

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

May 4th Bangtail Muster – Monday May Day Public Holiday

May 10th Club meeting Mothers Day – Club General Meeting / No run

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

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

July 3th 4th and 5th – Alice Springs Show

July 12th Club meeting followed by BBQ at Russ & Liz Driver's property

August 9th – **Club meeting and AGM**, followed by lunch at Golf Club

August 22th – Sat night, RTHF 25 year anniversary Reunion Truckers Dinner,
 members work bar

September 13th – **Club meeting** followed by run to Standley Chasm for lunch

October 11th – 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

Mecca 2019 Christmas Lunch



Present: John + An, Mandy + Steve, Jared, Katy and children, Marie + Stuart, Clinton, John Cooper + Raelene, Allan + Aileen, Neville, Lisa + Megan, Col + Vicki, Mike + Michele, Tony, John Bridgefoot, Brian, Michael, Russ + Liz



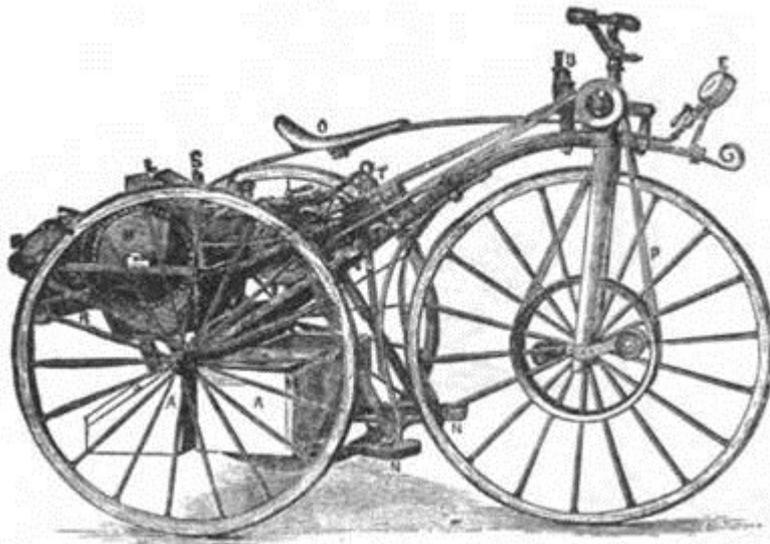
Who Invented the First Motorcycle?

After the discovery of the bicycle in 1860s France, inventors all around the world started formulating their designs for automated version of this transport device. With the help of machines available to them in that time, they produced several prototypes of motorcycles that would pave the way for all the future models. Here we will describe the how the first motorcycle came to be.

From the 1820 to 1860s, Europe and USA became first acquainted to the simple velocipede device called Dandy Horse. This simple design (modelled after the Baron Karl von Drais velocipede "Draisine") enabled its rider to drive it using the power of its own feet. Lack of pedals or chain drive limited its use to small percentage of drivers, mostly children and younger men. All that changed during early 1861 when French blacksmith Pierre Michaux patented bicycle pedals and presented to the world his first "boneshaker" bicycle. This marked the point in from bicycle transport received massive boost of popularity and sales.

While bicycles continued to get continuous improvements over the next 40 years (especially in English model "Rover" which featured chain drive, pneumatic tires and many more safety devices), early motorcycles prototypes started to be produced all over the Europe.

First known steam motorcycle was produced in the factory of the famous bicycle inventor Pierre Michaux. His son Ernest managed to attach small steam engine to one of their early bicycle designs. In the following years several more inventors managed to repeat similar feat, all using the steam engines with various (solid, liquid or gas fuelled) combustion chambers. Steam engine motorcycles worked fine, but they had several big drawbacks (mainly, low power production and constant need of refuelling).



In 1885, two German inventors -Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach managed to produce first modern model of motorcycle. They managed to attach small petroleum based combustion engine to the wooden bicycle frame. This motorcycle called "Daimler Reitwagen" is today regarded as the first true motorcycle and it was a starting point for all future motorcycle based innovations and improvements. Development of "Reitwagen" started in 1882 when Daimler and Maybach started the production of their experimental high-speed single-cylinder engine. Their initial plan was to make small automobile, but they opted to test their engine design on a bicycle frame. Small 264-cubic-centimetre, single cylinder 0.5 horsepower engine managed to power the motorcycle with the speed of only 7 miles per hour 11 km/h). During the one of the first test runs seat of the motorcycle caught fire from the heat emanated from the nearby engine. Daimler and Maybach patented during August 1885, and the final version of "Reitwagen" was presented to the public in 1886.

Original models of the "Daimler Reitwagen" were sadly lost in 1903 factory fire at Cannstatt, Germany. Several replicas exist in museum collections in Germany, USA, Australia and Japan.

1967 Jaguar Mark II 3.8 litre Saloon GHG 615F



Illustration only this is not GHG 615F

This car is one of the last 3.8 litre MkIIs to be built, in August 1967, a few weeks before production stopped, and is the 24th right-hand drive car from the end of production. Finished in Opalescent Dark Green, the car was originally sold in Lancashire, and little is known about its history except that it was the subject of a 1,500 hour rebuild from a bare shell to *concours* standard before it was purchased for the Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust in 1992. It was thought to have covered some 40,000 miles from new until restoration.

Made from 1959 to 1967, the Mark II saloon was the most successful Jaguar model until that time, with total production of 83,701 units of which the 3.8 litre version accounted for 27,848.

The 3.8 litre engine developed 220bhp, leading to a top speed of 125 mph (201 km/h), and a 0 to 50 mph (80 km/h) time of 6.4 seconds. This was always considered the most desirable of the Mark II models, especially when fitted with wire wheels and the overdrive gearbox. With these extras, together with leather upholstery and metallic ('Opalescent') paint, the Mark II 3.8 litre cost £1,764 in 1967.

The Mark II had a successful competition history in International Touring Car racing, and in rallies. It was driven by Roy Salvadori and Duncan Hamilton amongst others, as well as by European drivers such as Bernard Consten and Peter Lindner. Always a favourite with Police forces, Mark IIs were often also driven by those on the wrong side of the law! A Mark II was memorably used as a getaway car in the Great Train Robbery in 1963.

In 1967, the Mark II models were replaced by the 240 and 340, which continued in production until 1969. These cars had only the two smaller engine sizes, and Ambla rather than leather interior trim, together with slimmer bumpers. Production of the 3.8 litre was however discontinued, except for a dozen or so of the 340 models which were fitted with 3.8 litre engines on special requests from customers.

Registration Mark: GHG 615F (11 Aug 1967)

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Registration Mark: GHG 615F (11 Aug 1967)

Chassis Number: 235360 DN

Owner: The Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust

JOKE TIME



A few days after Christmas, a mother was working in the kitchen listening to her young son playing with his new electric train in the living room.

She heard the train stop and her son said, "All of you sons of bitches who want off, get the hell off now, cause this is the last stop! and all of you sons of bitches who are getting on, get your asses in the train, cause we're going down the tracks."

The mother went nuts and told her son, "We don't use that kind of language in this house.

Now I want you to go to your room and you are to stay there for TWO HOURS. When you come out, you may play with your train, but I want you to use nice language."

Two hours later, the son comes out of the bedroom and resumes playing with his train. Soon the train stopped and the mother heard her son say, "All passengers who are disembarking from the train, please remember to take all of your belongings with you. We thank you for riding with us today and hope your trip was a pleasant one. We hope you will ride with us again soon."

She hears the little boy continue, "For those of you just boarding, we ask you to stow all of your hand luggage under your seat. Remember, there is no smoking on the train. We hope you will have a pleasant and relaxing journey with us today." As the mother began to smile, the child added, "For those of you who are pissed off about the two hour delay, please see my mum in the kitchen."



Ho ho its Santa jokes for christmas day

How can Santa deliver presents during a thunderstorm?
His sleigh is flown by reindeer

What do you call a pig that does karate?
Pork chop

How does a snowman get to work?
By icicle

What do snowmen call their offspring?
Chill-dren

How do Christmas angels greet each other?
"Halo!"

Where do Christmas plants go when they want to become movie stars?
Holly-wood!

Which of Santa's reindeer has the worst manners
RUDE-olph, of course!

What do sheep say to shepherds at Christmas time ?
"Season's bleating's!"

What do you call an outlaw who steals gift wrapping from the rich to give to the poor?
Ribbon Hood.

What Do You Sing At An Elf's Birthday Party?
Freeze A Jolly Good Fellow!

What would you call an elf who just has won the lottery?
Welfy

How did the ornament get addicted to Christmas?
He was hooked on trees his whole life

What do the elves call it when Father Christmas claps his hands at the end of a play?
Santa-plause!

Why does Santa have 3 gardens?
So he can ho-ho-ho.



SERVICES

Trev's Auto Repairs

For Rego checks, repairs and wheel alignments.

Phone 8955-5568



To all members.

Our Club 2020 Calendar is out and some members received them at November meeting.

If you do not have your complimentary Calendars please ring me so you can pick up.

If you would like to purchase extra Calendars to give to family and friends for Christmas they are \$3 each

Call me Liz on 0427 970 744

If you are away give me a call when your return next year to collect.

Looking forward to hearing from you.





Editors Page

During November we had remembrance day, a very important day to realize how lucky we all are to live the life we have.

The fires in Queensland, New South Wales, Perth, Pt Lincoln the latest today is horrific. How some one can light a fire and ruin so many lives - with lost homes and lost lives. These people should be made to live in these towns and help to clean up and see what agony they have caused. With it not being Summer yet it is a worry plus the lack of water in dams at this stage of the year - it is going to be a hard summer for every one, lets hope we get some decent rain.

Well another interesting club meeting with terrific attendance.

We had our morning tea - WOW - who needed lunch - the variety was astonishing. The outstanding platter for me was the vanilla slice that Neville Heness made - melt in your mouth not too sweet with just enough coconut on top - (my mouth is watering and I have just had lunch).

To all that contributed to morning tea well done - come again.

Then off to the Gillen Club for our Christmas lunch - a shame the Gillen Club pulled out at the last minute to supply a buffet.

However we commandeered tables inside the Gillen club and altered the structure to please us. We ordered off the menu and we all got out of lunch cheaper than the Christmas buffet.

It was lovely that Col and Vicki flew in to Alice that morning - missed the meeting however came to lunch

Our illustrious John Bridgefoot who obviously worked very hard before the Christmas lunch supplied us with a brain wrenching quiz - just shows you how ill informed I was with a lot of the questions, which for others were just general knowledge, then of course we had Aileen who answered all questions with humour. We all oohed and ard with the answers and kicked ourselves when we should have got them right. John Hubner won the quiz, however John Bridgefoot reckoned we were all well below par.

After a fabulous day we went home to have a siesta before it was time again for a fiesta (family dinner)



Editors Page

Busy time for every one this time of the year - some packing up to go to another state where it is cooler (or so they think).

Others end of year school is nearly over and now its time to think about their future and jobs (or was it parties and a carefree life?). Time to realize life is very different in the real world and life's lessons can be very harsh.

Others time to think about visiting families and relies interstate and whether to drive or fly and of course the christmas presents you have to give. (They should realize you are the present as you have made your way to them)

Others have family and friends visit here in Alice Springs and possibly stay with them - trying to get every thing in order to make the place look good, and of course work out what to feed and entertain them. This could be a very stressful time. If this is you - make sure you take time out for your self and or your partner - so you have your romantic time this Christmas.

This year our family is heading down south for Christmas to our daughter in laws parents - which will be a treat for them seeing our youngest grand children and they will all have loads of fun.

We will have the oldest grand children left in town - some will be working Christmas Day and they will also be visiting their other families on the day, and of course will drop in to see us (if not they will be scrubbed of next years Christmas list) - only kidding We will have a relaxing day watching TV hopefully some great Christmas movies, eating, snoozing and socializing.

For any one who is having a Christmas alone you are quite welcome to come over and veg out with us and we would love to have you. Give us a call so we can cater - and I can assure you it will not be flash and it will be help yourself Phone 0427 970 744

My next newsletter will be after our February Breakfast 2020 so have a great holiday and stay healthy, cool and safe

Liz Driver 0427 970 744



HO HO HO



