



# CentreSpoke

November 2020

WHAT AN EXCELLENT WAY TO END THE  
YEAR WITH AN EXTRAVAGANT  
CHRISTMAS PARTY

MANY THANKS TO ALL THAT HELPED



**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 2020/2021

PRESIDENT:	Tony O'Brien	0438 530 366
VICE PRESIDENT:	Trevor Jacobs	0417 824 684
TREASURER:	Russ Driver	0408 002 907
SECRETARY:	Allan (Sam) Salmon	0409 033 257
PUBLIC OFFICER:	Brian Eather	0428 758 002
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Carl Blackmore Neville Heness	0490 024 102 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	8952-8564
LIFE MEMBERS:	Dave Simpson, Tony Bullock, Walter & Alvina Spears, Stuart & Marie Gear, Col & Vicki Jarrett	



## *Presidents Report*

### Members

What an interesting year, COVID really messed things up but overall I think that here in the Alice Springs we managed it all pretty well (touch wood).

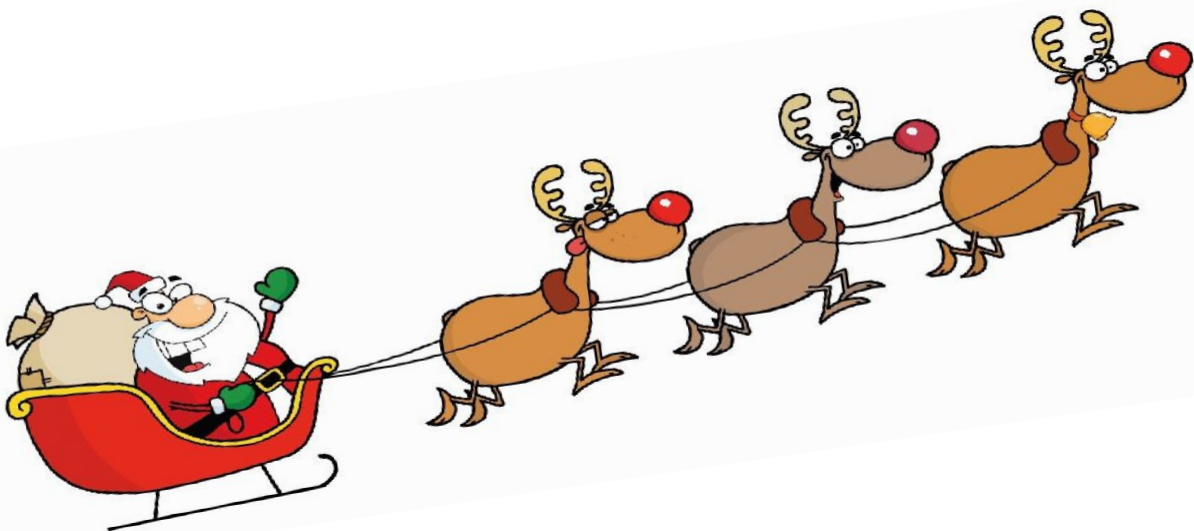
Our Club rallied and had some great events, Road Transport Hall of Fame; Picnics at various venues, the gathering at Standley Chasm was terrific and only got better with lunching at Trevor and Anne Jacobs splendid home, and then onto Russ and Liz's Ponderosa for a magnificent Xmas Lunch.

Club Membership is growing and I think that everyone is enjoying our Monthly Meetings. Great to see so many new members attending, many of them young people with kids.

I can not thank members enough for their assistance and contributions through the year, and would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a terrific Xmas and New Year and looking forward to catching up again in 2021 for more terrific events.

Keep those Motors Running.

Tony O'Brien





## *The Sec's Desk*

### **MECCA**

#### **MOTOR ENTHUSIAST'S CLUB CENTRAL AUSTRALIA Inc**

#### **Minutes – General Meeting Masonic Hall, 8 Allchurch Street, The Gap 9.00 am Sunday 08/11/2020**

#### **Meeting opened:**

9.10 am

**Present:** 31 members + 1 visitor = 32 attendees

#### Members:

Raelene Beale	Brian Eather	Margaret McKenzie
Garry Bentley	Phillipe Friedel	Tony O'Brien
Carl Blackmore	Marie Gear	Sam Salmon
Brian Cartwright	Stuart Gear	Tom Slattery
John Bridgefoot	Lisa Heness	Michelle Thompson
John Cooper	Peter Hilliard	Mike Thompson
Jared Bentvelzen	John Hubner	Fred Twohig
John Cooper	Trevor Jacobs	Mandy Van den Berg
Douglas Draeger	Col Jarrett	Steve Van den Berg
Russ Driver	Vicki Jarret	
Mark Dunn	Tony McKenzie	

Visitors: Randall Holmbeck - 2005 Lotus Elise

#### **Apologies:**

Allan Campbell, Trevor Hyman, Aileen Kennedy, Judy Inkster, Peter Inkster, Craig Lambley, Robyn Lambley, Derek Poolier, Pietje Span, Alvina Spears, John Syme, John Wischusen, Liz Driver

Moved: Raelene Beale Seconded: Steve Van den Berg Carried: All in favor

#### **Minutes of previous 11/10/20 meeting:**

Motion to accept the Minutes:

Moved: Tony McKenzie  
in favor

Seconded: Mandy Van den Berg Carried: All



## *The Sec's Desk (2)*

### **Minutes of previous 11/10/20 meeting:**

Motion to accept the Minutes:

Moved: Tony McKenzie Seconded: Mandy Van den Berg Carried: All in favor

### **Business arising from previous Minutes:**

Members were reminded of the pending Christmas lunch at 12.30pm at Russell and Liz Driver's home.

The Club sent its best wishes to Alvina Spears who is undergoing medical treatment in Adelaide.

The Meeting was advised of the recent death of Jim Lawrence.

### **Presidents Report:**

Motion to accept the President's Report:

Moved: Tony McKenzie Seconded: Mandy Van den Berg Carried: All in favor

### **Treasurers Report:**

Balance as at 11/10/2020	\$7,693.91	
plus Income	\$120.00	2 memberships
	\$120.00	BBQ
	\$715.00	Christmas lunch DD
Total	\$8648.91	
less Expenses	\$0.00	
Balance as at 07/11/2020	\$8,648.91	

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report:

Moved: Stuart Gear Seconded: Steve Van den Berg Carried: All in favor

### **Secretary's Report:**

#### **Correspondence In:**

2020 Shannons Spring Timed Online Line Auction Catalogue  
*Bike Torque* September 2020 - the VV&CMCC ACT Inc (Veteran  
 Vintage & Classic Motorcycle Club of ACT Inc).  
*Bike Torque* October 2020– as above  
*The Auto* October / November– Collectors Club of Murray Bridge SA





## *The Sec's Desk (3)*

### **Correspondence Out:**

Nil

### **General Business:**

#### Members contributions:

Col Jarrett referred to the amalgamation of various car clubs, and the National Motoring Body which represents most Clubs in the country.

The advantage of belonging to the National Body is that a Club is kept in the loop and made aware of trends and other issues. About 10 years ago the Body held its AGM at the Road Transport Hall of Fame.

National Motoring Day is held in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May.

He also referred to the MVR register of Club vehicles which occasionally lists vehicles as belonging to incorrect Clubs, despite the correction attempts by Col.

Member were saddened to hear Col also advise the Meeting that he and Vicki will probably have relocated to Perth by March next year.

### Raelene Beale

Raelene suggested that Members be careful of what they say at Meetings as there's a risk they'll be misquoted in the associated Minutes.

Her suggestion was prompted by the fact she'd like to be a Land Rover spokesperson and was therefore disappointed at being misquoted in last month's Minutes which claimed she described the latest Land Rover Defender as being: "Heaps of shit, no long range fuel tanks and all plastic"

I take full responsibility for inadvertently misquoting Raelene as saying *"Heaps of shit, no long range fuel tanks and all plastic"*



## *The Sec's Desk (A)*

Accordingly, and on behalf of MECCA:

I wish to amend last month's Minutes by retracting Raelene's alleged quote ("*Heaps of shit, no long range fuel tanks and all plastic*") which was a misquote by me.

I unreservedly apologize to Raelene for any character slurs which may have eventuated when I misquoted her by writing "*Heaps of shit, no long range fuel tanks and all plastic*"

I acknowledge that Raelene did not say "*Heaps of shit, no long range fuel tanks and all plastic*" but actually said "*What a brilliant vehicle the latest Land Rover Defender is. So much thought has gone into its design, and John and I were especially impressed by its long range fuel tanks and copious use of real steel*"

Carl Blackmore Carl is searching for vacuum lines for his Willys Knight, preferably copper rather than plastic.

John Cooper John is also searching – in his case for the forward gears a Borg Warner gearbox in his 1976 XJV12 Jaguar. He's found reverse and so will continue to sit in the car reading a book with the engine running until the other gears return.

Stuart & Marie Gear Stuart described the hassles of removing the left hand hub from the back axle of his 1962 MGA 1600, claiming "*Perseverance wins*"

Sam Salmon Sam's been searching for a high beam of his 1964 Series 1 E-Type. KC Auto Electrics finally found it. Being Lucas, the high beam has the same intensity as the low beam. KC also made good the non-operating electric radiator fan.

Trevor Jacobs Like all of us, the Mark II Jaguar's upholstery has shrunk with age. It'd been in storage for about 5 years and has shrunk by inches, not millimeters.

### **Next Event**

14/02/2021 - Breakfast venue TBA

### **Meeting closed:**

09.50 am



**MECCA**  
MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA Inc

## **CLUB Calendar 2020 - 2021**

Unless otherwise advised, all meetings will be held at the Masonic Hall, Allchurch Street, The Gap.

<b>Dec 2020</b>	<b>no meeting</b>
<b>Jan 2021</b>	<b>no meeting</b>
<b>14/02/21</b>	No meeting – <u>8.00am</u> Breakfast at - TBA
<b>14/03/21</b>	9.00am General Meeting <i>Followed by:</i> A garage crawl and end up at Trevor Jacobs for BBQ. Cost \$5.00 per person
<b>11/04/21</b>	9.00am General Meeting <i>Followed by:</i> A drive to Tropic of Capricorn then lunch - TBA
<b>03/05/21</b>	Bangtail Muster – meet on Gap Rd – time to be advised
<b>09/05/21</b>	9.00am General Meeting - Mother's Day – no run
<b>16/05/21</b>	National Motoring Day <b>9.00am</b> meet at Masonic Hall for drive to Aviation Museum for BBQ lunch. Cost \$5.00 per person
<b>13/06/21</b>	9.00am General Meeting <i>Followed by:</i> A run to Corroboree Rock for picnic lunch
<b>02/07/21</b>	Alice Springs Show Day – MECCA stall at Show – times to be advised
<b>11/07/21</b>	9.00am General Meeting <i>Followed by:</i> A run to Road Transport Hall of Fame for "Back to the Track" military vehicles.
<b>08/08/21</b>	9.00am General Meeting then AGM <i>followed by:</i> Lunch – TBA
<b>28/08/21</b>	Road Transport Hall of Fame reunion – MECCA for Bar Service
<b>05/09/21</b>	Red Centre Nats & Father's Day – MECCA - to display vehicles – times to be advised
<b>10/10/21</b>	9.00am General Meeting <i>Followed by:</i> A BBQ at Simpson's Gap



## CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE 'DRIVERS'

60 bookings for lunch - 55 attended  
Not bad, usually we are lucky to get  
20 for Christmas lunch.

And what a smorgasbord.  
(even if I do have to say it myself)





## CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE 'DRIVERS' (2)





**LUNCH IS SERVED ON A 4 POST HOIST**  
**FULLY ADJUSTABLE TABLE AT THE PRESS OF A BUTTON**





## CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE 'DRIVERS' (4)





## DESERT— OOH, LA, LA

What a magic selection YUMMY





## Winner of Christmas Raffle

Michael Hanrahan

Raffle raised \$150 for the club



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN NEXT YEAR**





## 2020 The year as it was for M.E.C.C.A

### 9/2/20 Breakfast at Mercure Inn (Barra on Todd)

Attended 31 adults, 4 children and  
2 new members

What a fabulous start for our club




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### 8/3/20 our first official club meeting

Hosted by Lisa Heness and what a great job  
she has done keeping us watered and fed.




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### 12/4/20 Club Meeting

### 4/5/20 Bangtail Muster,

### 10/5/20 Mothers Day,

### 17/5/20 National Motoring day



Coronavirus - No Meetings or runs

## 2020 The year as it was for M.E.C.C.A (2)

### 14/6/20 No Meeting

#### **Run to Tropic of Capricorn**

Highlight was Peter Hilliard breaking down in his Jeep and Douglas Draeger having the pleasure of rescuing him with the Club Trailer




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### 3rd/4th July Alice Springs Show Cancelled - Coronavirus

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### 12/7/20 Meeting and Road Transport Hall of Fame then BBQ at Russ and Liz's place

Excellent meeting, out to RTHF to display our vehicles.

Then off to BBQ lunch at Russ and Liz's place




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### 9/8/20 Meeting, AGM 2020—2021 and lunch Golf club

Short meeting then the notorious AGM, new committee sorted in a very short time obviously every one wanted to be head of the table, or they just wanted lunch?

New Executive committee on right



President  
Tony O'Brien



Vice President  
Trevor Jacobs



Secretary  
Sam Salmon



Treasurer  
Russ Driver

## 2020 The year as it was for M.E.C.C.A (3)

### 6/9/20 Fathers Day and Red Centre Nats

The best turnout of vehicles and bikes on this wonderful weekend



Our club takes out winners  
 Russ Driver - 1925 Buick  
 Steve Vandenberg - Toyota SWB  
 Peter Hilliard - Montessa Motorbike



### 13/9/20 Meeting Lunch at Standley Chasm

Fabulous meeting and morning tea then a leisurely trip to Standley Chasm for Lunch.  
 Great Food and some indulged in famous milk shakes topped with cream of course.

Only casualties on way home Russ and Liz's Buick decided it did not want to go any further and let out a puff of smoke and ground to a halt. Rescued by Heness family so Russ could get his tow truck to all up lift Buick home.

Sam's Jaguar also had a hiccup and a friend helped get his home





## 2020 The year as it was for M.E.C.C.A (4)

### 11/10/20 Meeting BBQ lunch at Trevor and Anne Jacobs place

Wow what a meeting 34 attendees

Must have been the thought of going to Trevor's and looking at all his toys and lunch of course

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### 8/11/20 Meeting Christmas Lunch at Russ and Liz's place

Great meeting and morning tea for the last meeting for the year. Followed by Christmas lunch smorgasbord and desert with 55 attendees - a great day had by all. Fitting end to the Clubs year.

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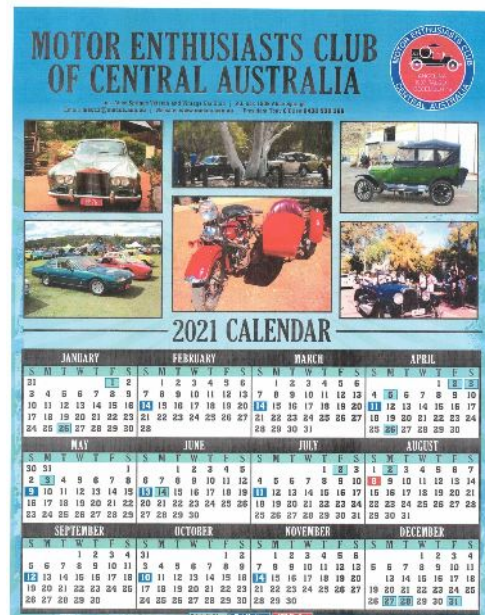
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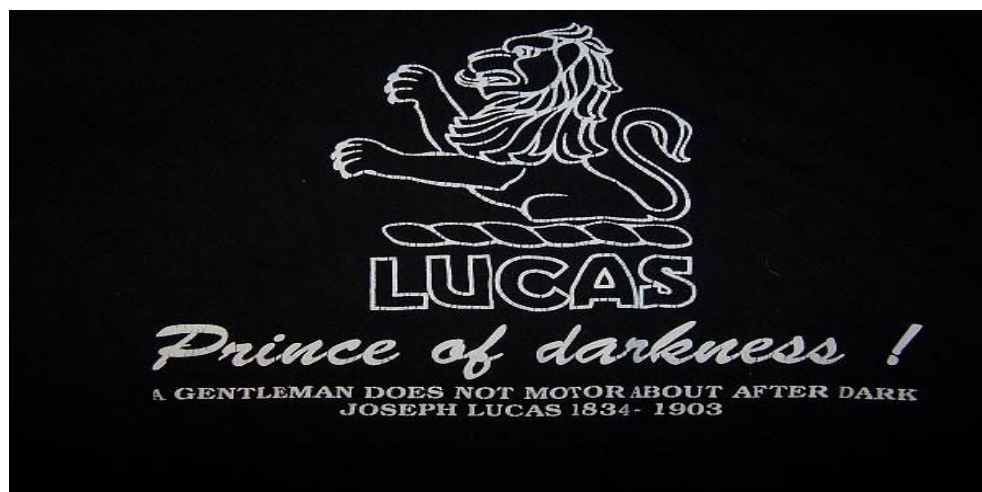
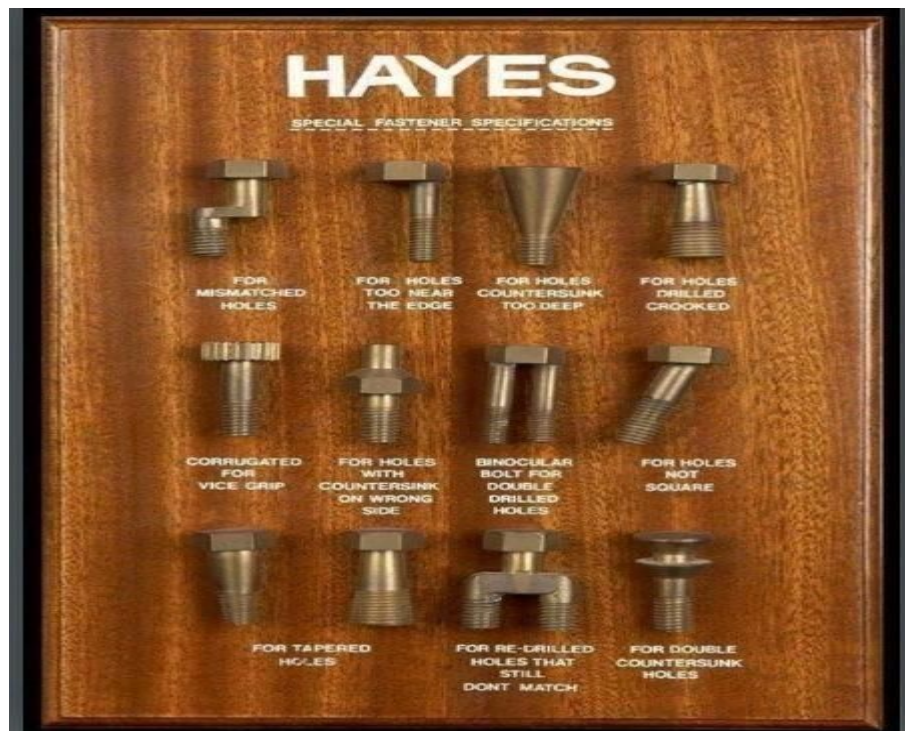
### Launch of 2021 Calendar

Great response from members and if you don't have yours give me a call to collect or if I'm out I will deliver.

It looks better in real life - trust me !!!!!!!



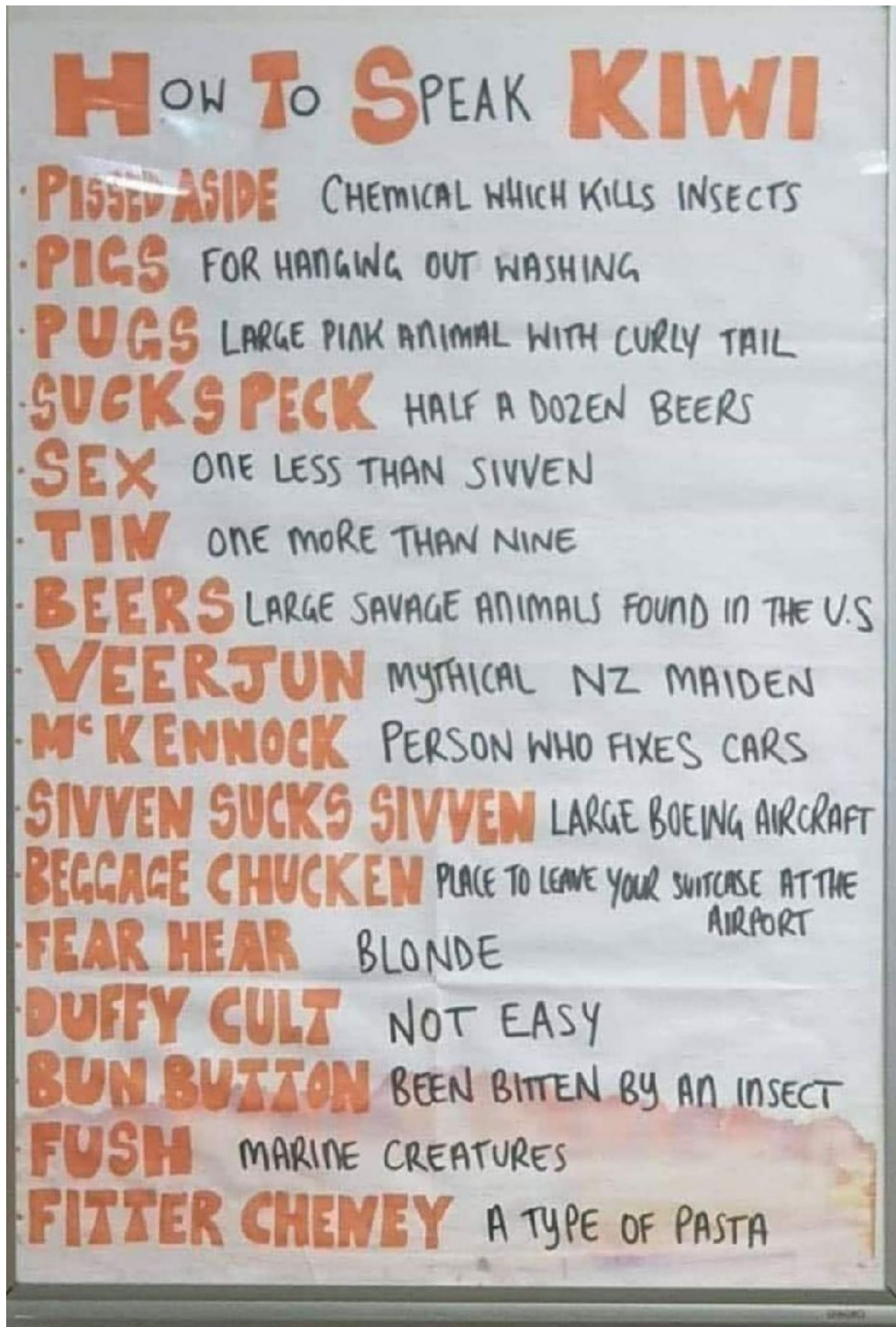
# ITEMS OF INTEREST - Many thanks John Cooper





# EDUCATIONAL IF GOING TO NEW ZEALAND

Many thanks John Cooper





**I got myself a seniors' GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.**

Thank you John Cooper

## **M.E.C.C.A CLUB COMMITTEE HISTORY 2001—2004**

### **Committee 2001—2002**

President : John Oliver  
 Vice President: Keith Dodkins  
 Treasurer: Jeff Thomas  
 Secretary; Lyn Oliver  
 Public Officer: Col Jarrett  
 Committee Members: Tony Bullock, Allan Campbell, Col Jarrett, Merv Matthews,  
 Jeff Farmer, Wally Spears, Rod Crush, Brian Eather  
 Vehicle Registrar: Vacant  
 Editor Shaun Morgan  
 Web Master: Vacant  
 Historian: Dave Simpson  
 Crank Handle: Alvina Spears  
 Club Hostess: Belinda Simpson

### **Committee 2002—2003**

President: John Oliver  
 Vice President: Tim Schubert  
 Treasurer: Jan Dunk  
 Secretary: Lyn Oliver  
 Public Officer: Col Jarrett  
 Committee Members: Jeff Thomas, Allan Campbell, Jeff Farmer, Wally Spears,  
 Chips Carpenter, Brian Eather  
 Vehicle Registrar: Vacant  
 Editor: Aileen Kennedy  
 Webmaster: Vacant  
 Historian: Dave Simpson  
 Crank Handle: Alvina Spears  
 Club Hostess: Belinda Simpson

### **Committee 2003—2004**

President: Jo Parker  
 Vice President: Jeff Thomas  
 Treasurer: Jan Dunk  
 Secretary: Chips Carpenter  
 Public Officer: Col Jarrett  
 Committee Members: Allan Campbell, Aileen Kennedy, Jeff Farmer,  
 Antony Haywood, Rod Crush, John Oliver, Gordon Parker,  
 Brian Eather  
 Vehicle Registrar: Vacant  
 Editor: Suellen Schubert  
 Webmaster: Vacant  
 Historian: Dave Simpson  
 Crank Handle: Jan Dunk  
 Club Hostess: Belinda Simpson

## Grand kids Joke Page



What did one eye say to the other?  
Between you and me something smells

Why was the robot tired when it got home?  
It had a hard drive

Why did the boy eat his homework?  
Because his teacher said it was a piece of cake

What day of the week do potatoes hate the most?  
Fry-days

What do you call a dinosaur that is sleeping?  
A dino-snore!

Why did the teddy bear say no to dessert?  
Because she was stuffed.

Why was the baby strawberry crying?  
Because its parents were in a jam

What is a tornado's favourite game?  
Twister

What do you call having your Grandma on speed dial?  
Instagram

What does a computer do when it gets hot?  
It opens windows

Why was the report card all wet?  
Because it was well below C - level

Why did the smartphone need glasses?  
It lost all its contacts

Why was Cinderella so bad at sports?  
She had a pumpkin for a coach

Why were the teachers eyes crossed?  
She could not control her pupils





## SERVICES

Trev's Auto Repairs

For Rego checks, repairs and wheel alignments etc

Phone **8955-5568**

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### Club Merchandise For Sale

Club shirts various sizes \$45.00 each

Club Hats \$20.00 each

Available at Club meetings or contact Col on 0457 297 271

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**2021 MECCA Calendars** available to members if you don't have yours - give Liz a call on 0427 970 744

We will need volunteers early December to distribute calendars around Alice Springs - give Liz a call



NOV, DEC, JAN Birthday wishes

Raelene Beale  
Douglas Draeger  
Peter Hilliard  
Alvina Spears  
Steve Vandenberg  
Tom Slattery

Visitor

Garry Bentley  
Mark Dunn  
Pietje Span  
Mike Thompson  
Carl Blackmore  
Randall Holmbak



## EDITORS PAGE

WOW WEE the year has gone very quickly

This is my last newsletter for 2020, lets hope 2021 will be less disruptive and Coronavirus finds a lonely island to infect - we can only wish.

The Club wishes Alvina Spears a speedy recovery and back in Alice Springs with her family for Christmas.

With all the disruptions during the year the club in my opinion faired very well, new members, new ideas and exciting outings.

Christmas venue at our place was a great success, thank you all who contributed and helped make it a success

We received this email from a new member who had attended Christmas lunch

'Thanks for a fantastic day yesterday.

It was very generous of you to open you home to us all and what a feast we had.

I reckon you may have created a tradition as I can't see how the Golf Club or the others, could match the wonderful selections you and your helpers put out for us'

I must admit we had tears - Thank you for all your praises it made our day even more special and we loved having you at our place.

Christmas around the corner and I hear many members going away for the festive season - hopefully borders will be open and stay open.

Russ and I will be home over the Christmas, New Year period and you are welcome to pop over - just give us a call.



*Merry Christmas*

