

# CentreSpoke

April 2021



Could not resist putting the photo's of the stunning Bolwell Nagari belonging to Michael and Michele Thompson

#### **WOW**



#### 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 2020 /2021

PRESIDENT: Tony O'Brien 0438 530 366 VICE PRESIDENT: Trevor Jacobs 0417 824 684 Russ Driver TREASURER: 0408 002 907 SECRETARY: Trevor Jacobs 0417 824 684 PUBLIC OFFICER: Brian Eather 0428 758 002 **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Carl Blackmore 0490 024 102 Neville Heness 0428 740 964 VEHICLE REGISTRAR: Col Jarrett 0457 297 271 **EDITOR:** Liz Driver 0427 970 744 WEB MASTER: Tony McKenzie 0412 853 072 Stuart Gear 0418 898 361 HISTORIAN: 0417 169 452 CRANKHANDLE: Alvina Spears Lisa Heness **CLUB HOSTESS:** 8952-8564

LIFE MEMBERS: Dave Simpson, Tony Bullock,

Walter & Alvina Spears, Stuart & Marie Gear,

Col & Vicki Jarrett



## Presidents Report

The year seems to be racing along pretty well, our BBQ at Tropic of Capricorn a few weeks back well attended.

Unfortunately the May Day Parade is a non-event again this year, but the red Centre Nats looking to be a go ahead.

Please don't forget to register your vehicles for this event, their site is on Line, I believe the cost is the usual \$60.00 Entry Fee.

Also most importantly, Aces and Eights are having Coffee and Chrome vehicle Display on the Town Council lawns this Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> May. \$5.00 Entry/ Display 8 am Roll up, contact Peter Hondo on site if you would like to display your Pride and Joy.

Looking forward to some great Club times ahead.

See you next meeting 9/5/21 Mothers Day and no run

Keep well and those motors running.

Regards

Tony O'Brien



## The Sec's Desk

## MOTOR ENTHUSIAST'S CLUB CENTRAL AUSTRALIA INC. MINUTES

MEETING 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2021 at the Masonic Lodge

Meeting Opened: 9.25 am

Present: Garry Bentley, Allan Campbell, Stephen Dinner, Cameron Dinner,

Douglas Draeger, Liz Driver, Russ Driver, Brian Eather, Marie Gear, Stuart Gear, Sean Heenan, Peter Hilliard, John Hubner, Colin Jarrett,

Vicki Jarrett, Aileen Kennedy, Tony O'Brien, Tom Slattery, Michele Thompson, Mike Thompson, Mandy Van den Berg.

Wally and Alvina Spears will be joining in the run to the Tropic of Capricorn.

Visitors: Nil

Apologies: Sam Salmon Philipe Freidel, Peter and Judy Inkster, Trevor Jacobs

Lisa and Neville Heness, Bryan Cartwright, Jared Bentvelzen,

Robyn and Craig Lambley, Steve Vandenberg, Wally and Alvina Spears, Derek Poolier, Raelene Beale, John Cooper, Tim Schubert, Carl Blackmore,

Mark Dunn

Business Arising from Minutes of previous meeting 14th March, 2021

President's Report: Presented by Tony O'Brien

Report accepted. Moved: Stuart Gear Seconded: Garry Bentley

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Russ Driver

Bank Balance as at 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 \$6,439.26 Report accepted.

Moved : Colin Jarrett Seconded : Mike Thompson

Secretary's Report – Trevor Jacob away attending family wedding.

Incoming Mail – Gawler Car Club Newsletters

Bike Torque

Outgoing Mail – Email to the Rotary Club enquiring if the Bangtail Muster will be held.

Unfortunately, not this year.

General Business:

Aces & Eights will be holding a run on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May.

Alice Springs Show – Trevor will be following up with the Show Society regarding the Club attending.

MECCA will be 25 years old on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August – discussion was held whether to hold a celebration as part of the Red Centrenats which is the Father's Day weekend in September

Moved that MECCA holds a stand alone celebration inviting past members.

Moved: Mike Thompson Seconded: Everyone!



## The Sec's Desk

The National Road Transport Hall of Fame was 25 years old last year but will be celebrating, in conjunction with, the Back to the Track event in July and August this year.

Overlander Badges – Stuart Gear has a list of all badges in stock for those people who may be travelling to Alice Springs in their vehicle and may qualify to receive them.

Red Centrenats – Early Entries may have closed but members are encouraged to enter as soon as possible, may be a higher price, to give the organisers an idea of how many club vehicles we will have to display and work out a location for us.

Moved that we approach Shannon's Insurance to assist with the cost of the purchase of a new banner celebrating the Club's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to be displayed at the event

Moved : Colin Jarrett Seconded : Mike Thompson

Discussion was held as to what extra things we may require.

Sean Heenan offered the use of a BBQ

Mighela Thompson offered the use of a tent from letter

Michele Thompson offered the use of a tent from Jetcor

MVR Club Registrations: Colin presented and circulated the report from MVR listing which vehicles have been registered on Club plates under MECCA. Members were asked to check to make sure their vehicles are on the list. We currently have 33 registered Club vehicles. If there are changes to be made, Colin will notify MVR by email.

Club Shirts: A display of current stock is here today and may be purchased. We may need to order more hats as only one left.

Wally & Alvina Spears – Colin Jarrett had been to visit and said although the health is not the best they are in good spirits. They will meet us at the Truck Stop and attend the run today.

Stuart Gear reported that the build on his car is going well and has parts being prepared in numerous locations ready for the reassemble.

Mike Thompson gave a run down on the history of his 1971 Bolwell Nagari. It had started life as a purpose built race car and had won the Australian Sports Car Championship. Eight years ago it was changed into a road car.

Peter Hilliard said that his 1950 AJS is nearly complete.

Douglas Drager is rebuilding his Jeep in Peter's shed with some guidance.



The Sec's Desk

Liz & Russ Driver gave a run down on their event filled trip in the 6 wheel truck. They provide water to a tourist company and on their latest run with 8 tonne of water and lots of rain, became bogged in the National Park. A hose line in the truck had become so hot it had melted and locked on the brakes.

They hitched a ride back into town on a tour bus from Mt Sonder. Three days later they were able to continue the trip, only to be bogged again but with some ingenuity, and lots of rocks, were able to get out and complete the run.

Colin & Vicki Jarrett have 3 granddaughters in Perth now and are waiting for the completion of their new home so they can be near them. They will be back for the Red Centrenats – if they have gone by then!

Douglas Drager reported the Seven Mile Aerodrome is being opened as a tourist site from the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. He said it has lots of memorabilia.

The National Road Transport Hall of Fame has the Ghan running again on their track.

Brian Eather reported that the Aviation Museum will be hosting MECCA for the National Motoring Day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in May.

A show of hands for members attending today's run to the Tropic of Capricorn after morning tea.

Meeting Closed: 10:05 am

# BANGTAIL MUSTER PARADE 3/5/21 CANCELLED THIS YEAR

Northern Territory celebrates May Day (Labour Day) with a public holiday on Monday 3rd May 2021.

Labour Day is an annual public holiday that celebrates the eight-hour working day, a victory for workers in the mid-late 19th century.

The argument for the eight-hour day was based on the need for each person to have eight hours labour, eight hours recreation and eight hours rest.

In the early 19th century, most labourers worked 10 or 12-hour days for six days each week. The 1850s brought a strong push for better conditions.

A significant part of the push began in 1855 in Sydney. On 21 April 1856, in Melbourne, the stonemasons workers staged a well-organised protest. They downed tools and walked to Parliament House with other members of the building trade. Their fight was for an eight-hour day, effectively a 48-hour week to replace the 60-hour week. The government agreed to an eight-hour day for workers employed on public works, with no loss of pay.

The win was a world first but did not end all labour problems. Many working conditions were harsh and demanding, and women were paid a lot less than men. But the victory for the eight-hour day was significant and several hundred building workers marched in a parade in May 1856 to celebrate their win.

Tinsmiths, bootmakers, tailors, metal workers and stonemasons were amongst many of workers' groups that protested and fought for better working conditions across the country. Over the next two decades, one by one, the states brought in the eight-hour-day although the working week was still officially six days until 1948 when it was changed to five days.

Labour Day is also often referred to as May Day around the world. Internationally it is celebrated on 1 May and is known as International Workers' Day in more than 80 countries. International Workers' Day traces its international routes back to the 1886 Haymarket affair in Chicago, USA. The universal significance is that, across the world, the eight-hour day is considered the fairest working hours in a day for people in any industry.

Today, Labour Day in Australia is known as Eight-Hour Day in Tasmania and May Day in the Northern Territory. It is always on a Monday, creating a long weekend. Marches or parades only usually occur in Queensland now, and not always there depending on the state government at the time.

#### Labour Day Weekend 2021 Australia

1 Mar Mon Labour Day WA

8 Mar Mon Labour Day VIC

3 May Mon Labour Day QLD, NT

# Sunday 2nd May Council Lawns Coffee and Chrome



# M.E.C.C.A. MEETING MASONIC HALL 9/5/21 FOLLOWED BY NO RUN SPOIL YOUR WIFE, PARTNER, LOVER, MUM etc ON THIS SPECIAL DAY



#### **MECCA**



## MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA Inc

## <u>CLUB Calendar 2020 - 2021</u>

03/05/21	Cancelled - Bangtail Muster – meet on Gap Rd
09/05/21	9.00am General Meeting - Mother's Day - no run
16/05/21	National Motoring Day <b>9.00am</b> meet at Masonic Hall for drive to Aviation Museum for BBQ lunch. Cost \$5.00 per person
13/06/21	9.00am General Meeting Followed by: A run to - Members to decide outing
02/07/21	Alice Springs Show Day – MECCA stall at Show – times to be advised
11/07/21	9.00am General Meeting Followed by: A run to Road Transport Hall of Fame for "Back to the Track" military vehicles.
08/08/21	9.00am General Meeting then AGM followed by: Lunch – TBA
28/08/21	Road Transport Hall of Fame reunion – MECCA for Bar Service - TBA
05/09/21	Red Centre Nats & Father's Day – MECCA - to display vehicles – times to be advised
10/10/21	9.00am General Meeting Followed by: A BBQ at Simpson's Gap

# TROPIC OF CAPRICORN CLUB LUNCH BBQ 11/4/21



OO LA LA Tony's vehicle and trailer with all the BBQ goodies

Thank you lan for bringing Wally and Alvina to the Tropic of Capricorn for lunch







Michael and Michele's Bolwell Nagari

# TROPIC OF CAPRICORN CLUB LUNCH BBQ (2) 11/4/21

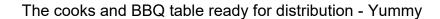
Marie and Stuarts - Jaguar Russ and Liz's Isuzu Truck in back ground





The motorbike brigade

Fred Twohig Peter Hilliard Douglas Draeger







# Just shows you just because you are over 90 you can still restore vehicles from your Gofor



Wally Spears in his Gofor tools on the floor, every thing at his finger tips

Restoring A Model Ford

Wally and Alvina after a hard days work.

Hope we can perform as well as you do at your age



#### ANZAC DAY

I saw a kid marchin' with medals on his chest. He marched alongside Diggers marching six abreast. He knew that it was ANZAC Day - he walked along with pride. He did his best to keep in step with the Diggers by his side.

And when the march was over the kid was rather tired.
A Digger said "Whose medals, son?" to which the kid replied:
"They belong to daddy, but he did not come back.
He died up in New Guinea on a lonely jungle track".

The kid looked rather sad then and a tear came to his eye.
The Digger said "Don't cry my son and I will tell you why.
Your daddy marched with us today - all the blooming way.
We Diggers know that he was there - it's like that on ANZAC Day".

The kid looked rather puzzled and didn't understand, But the Digger went on talking and started to wave his hand. "For this great land we live in, there's a price we have to pay For we all love fun and merriment in this country where we live. The price was that some soldier his precious life must give.

For you to go to school my lad and worship God at will, Someone had to pay the price so the Diggers paid the bill. Your daddy died for us my son - for all things good and true. I wonder if you understand the things I've said to you".

The kid looked up at the Digger - just for a little while And with a changed expression, said, with a lovely smile: "I know my dad marched here today - this is ANZAC Day. I know he did. I know he did, all the bloomin' way".

D. Hunter (A veteran of Shaggy Ridge with the 2/12 Battalion in WW2)



A history photo of a very youthful Trevor Jacobs and Bazil Zadow with Trevor's Chrysler under restoration.

Taken back in the 1980's, not sure of the exact date.



#### OLD ADDS—THINK WHAT YOU MAY WON'T BE ADVERTISED IN TODAYS CULTURE THE TOP ADD ANYWAY



TOW TRUCK - NOTE 23HR SERVICE NOW WHICH HOUR WERE THEY CLOSED?



## M.E.C.C.A CLUB COMMITTEE HISTORY 2010—2013

#### Continued from February 2021 issue

#### Committee 2010—2011

President Mal Trull Vice President Col Jarrett

Treasurer Dieter Hentschel Secretary Derek Poolier Public Officer Brian Eather

Committee Members Laurie and Heather Trimper, Trevor Hyman

Vehicle Registrar
Editor
Frank Allan
Webmaster
Vacant

#### Committee 2011—2012

President Mal Trull Vice President Col Jarrett

Treasurer Dieter Hentschel Secretary Laurie Trimper Public Officer Brian Eather

Committee Members Heather Trimper, Derek Poolier, Marcus Seidel

Vehicle Registrar Vacant

Editor Allan Campbell
Webmaster Frank Allan
Historian Stuart Gear
Crank Handle Alvina Spears
Club Hostess Marie Gear

#### Committee 2012—2013

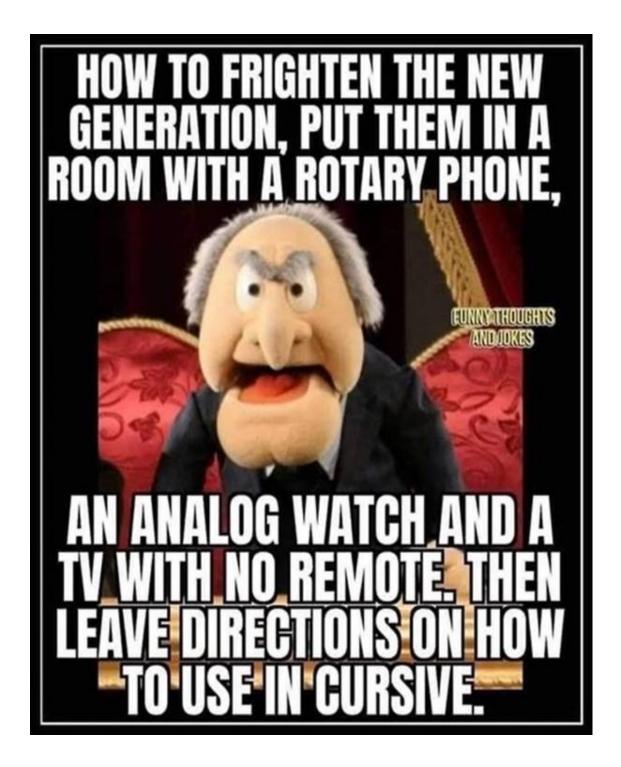
President Col Jarrett
Vice President Darren Pfitzner
Treasurer Dieter Hentschel
Secretary Laurie Trimper
Public Officer Brian Eather

Committee Members Heather Trimper, Derek Poolier, Coralie Boyd, Ron

Kern

Vehicle Registrar Vacant

Editor Allan Campbell
Webmaster Frank Allan
Historian Stuart Gear
Crank Handle Alvina Spears
Club Hostess Marie Gear



#### **LEMON SQUEEZE**

There once was a religious young woman who went to Confession. Upon entering the confessional, she said, 'Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned.'

The priest said, 'Confess your sins and be forgiven.'

The young woman said, 'Last night my boyfriend made mad passionate love to me seven times.'

The priest thought long and hard and then said, 'Squeeze seven lemons into a glass and then drink the juice.'

The young woman asked, 'Will this cleanse me of my sins?'

The priest said, 'No, but it will wipe that smile off of your face.'

#### INTERESTING READ

#### **Butcher and Meat**

My Darling Sweetheart I'm in an awful *stew* as to how to re *veal* my love to you. I feel so *sheepish*. When you are near me my *heart* fails me. I know I'm up to my *neck* in love. This may seem a lot of *tripe* to you, but believe me it's not just a *tale*. I don't wish to *mince* matters as I feel happiness is at *steak*, so with my *head* in a whirl, perspiration *dripping* from my brow and my *tongue* in a *flap*. I plead with my cause. Oh please don't give me the cold *shoulder*. Your true Love. John *Bull*.

#### Every Answer is a Letter of the Alphabet.

- 1. An insect B
- 2. An exclamation of surprise O
- 3. The Ocean C
- 4. Part of the verb "to be" R
- 5. For what reason Y
- 6. An interjection A
- 7. A Vegetable P
- 8. A Line of waiting persons Q
- 9. A well known Beverage T
- 10. One of which you have two, I
- 11. The first letter of distress signal S

#### **Every Answer is the Name of a Bird**

1. A Tailors smoothing iron -	Goose
2. A Cotton fabric-	Duck
3. Used as a Toy-	Kite
4. To show Fear-	Quail
5. What we do at the table-	Swallow
6. A Country in Europe-	Turkey
7. A Joke-	Lark
8. To carry wares for Sale-	Hawk
9. A Golf term-	Eagle
10. To Dupe-	Gull
11. An act of unfair play-	Fow1
12. A night bird-	Owl
13. A careless walker-	Jay
14. Used to lift weight-	Crane

#### GRAND KIDS JOKE PAGE



Why did Grandma put wheels on her rocking chair?

She wanted to rock and roll

How do hair stylists speed up their job? They take short cuts

What do you call a story about a broken pencil? Pointless.

How do you get a squirrel to like you? Act like a nut.

Why did the cookie go to the hospital? Because he felt crummy.

Why didn't the quarter roll down the hill with the nickel? Because it had more cents.

How do you stay warm in any room?

Go to the corner—it's always 90 degrees.

What is a cat's favourite colour? Purrr-ple.

What song does a cat like best?
Three Blind Mice.



#### **Brand New Hearing Aid**

Grandma had serious hearing problems for a number of years went to the doctor to be fitted for a hearing aid that would return her hearing to 100%.

The grandma went back for further tests a month later and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect.

Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

To which the elderly woman replied,

"Oh, I haven't told my family yet.

I just sit around and listen to the conversations.

I've changed my will three times!"

#### MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA (MECCA)

Incorporating the Alice Springs Vintage & Veteran Car Club Inc
Postal Address: PO Box 1506, Alice Springs NT 0871
Email: mecca@mecca.asn.au Web Site: www.mecca.asn.au

#### Overlander Badge History & Particulars

The members of the Alice Springs Vintage & Veteran Car Club originally created this very special and much sought after award in the mid 1970s in recognition of the many Veteran, Vintage and Classic motor vehicles whose drivers took up the challenge to travel from interstate to visit Alice Springs. Back in those days the roads to Alice were not the wide, smooth roads we have today but were narrow, undulating strips of bitumen with rough shoulders and causeways where we now have all weather bridges. The Stuart Highway from Port Augusta to the Northern Territory border was still a rough boulder strewn, bull dust and corrugated dirt track which tested the endurance of man and his machine. The sealing of this part of the Stuart Highway was not completed until 1987. The award was appropriately named the OVERLANDER BADGE to commemorate the vast distances covered on these roads, the confidence or blind faith the owners had in their vehicles, and the courage of the drivers and passengers who travelled in them to reach Alice Springs. In July 1996 when the Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia was formed and incorporated the Alice Springs Vintage & Veteran Car Club it was decided that a new category be established to award vehicles from 1947 to a rolling date of 30 years old that make the journey to Alice Springs. This is called the Special Interest category.

Today the **OVERLANDER BADGE** is available to anyone who is confident enough to take up the challenge to drive their Veteran, Vintage, Classic or Special Interest vehicle or motor cycle either to or from Alice Springs over an approved distance. The Badge can only be awarded to the nominated driver and vehicle which must arrive at or depart from Alice Springs and cover the specified distance under the <u>vehicles own power</u>.

#### THE APPROVED DISTANCES FOR THE FOUR CATEGORIES ARE:

Veteran:Up to 1919500 kilometresVintage:1920 to 19301500 kilometresClassic:1931 to 19463000 kilometresSpecial Interest:1947 to 30 years old3000 kilometres

The badges differ in design to distinguish the different categories:

Veteran Badge:White tyre, red spokes, silver grey background and yellow scroll.Vintage Badge:Black tyre, green spokes. Silver grey background and yellow scroll.Classic:Black tyre, orange spokes. Silver grey background and yellow scroll.Special Interest:Black tyre, blue spokes. Silver grey background and yellow scroll.

**TO APPLY** for the badge, contact your club secretary, or apply directly to the MECCA Club secretary. An application form will be sent to you or your club secretary, as required. This form is self-explanatory and must be returned to the MECCA club secretary on completion of the road kilometre requirements. Fee for the badge and engraving is \$75.00. We recommend payment in advance, ie., upon application, to ensure engraving is completed in time for presentation at the completion of your trip.

ALL APPLICANTS, whether arriving from interstate or originating in Alice Springs, must submit reasonable proof of their completion of the qualifying road kilometres in order to be awarded the Overland Badge. This is typically in the form of fuel receipts from the service stations along the route.

AFTER APPROVAL by the Overlander Badge committee, the badge applicable to your vehicle will be duly inscribed with the applicants name and vehicle and registered in our files. The badge will then be posted to you or your club secretary's postal address, as specified. If you have completed your required kilometres upon arrival in Alice Springs, MECCA can present the badge to the applicant in person.

For further inquiries email us, or drop us a line at the above addresses.



#### May 2021

#### Neville Heness

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

#### Club Merchandise For Sale

Club shirts various sizes \$45.00 each

Club Hats \$20.00 each

Available at Club meetings or contact Liz on 0427 970 744

#### **SERVICES**

Trev's Auto Repairs

For Rego checks, repairs and wheel alignments etc

Phone **8955-5568** 



If you would like to advertise your business or goods or a story or joke to put in the newsletter send me a email liz@always17.com.au



#### EDITORS PAGE

Wow April nearly dun and dusted.

A great start to April with Easter being early so we had our Easter eggs and hot cross buns—what a way to go.

Then our club meeting with Marie taking over Lisa's place as Club hostess (just for the one meeting until Lisa is back) making the famous Mecca pie.

Then off to Truckstop to meet Wally, Alvina and son Ian, and the rest of Mecca group and a leisurely drive to Tropic of Capricorn for BBQ lunch.

Surprise, Surprise when we got there BBQ was no where in sight so we commandeered the shaded area with tables in anticipation.

The weather was perfect not too hot or cold and we enjoyed looking at the vehicles and discussing pros and cons until Tony drove up with the trailer full of goodies— then quick unpack and get the BBQ fired up and get the snags, burgers and onions on the burner.

Lunch as per normal was yummy and the company was great. A leisurely trip home to start the next venture.

Thank you Tony for supplying the BBQ, food etc.

A busy time ahead. Aces and Eights have invited us to Coffee and Chrome on Council Lawns 2/5/21 fee \$5.00 from 8am

No Bangtail muster this year 3/5/21

National Motoring Day 16/5/21 meet at Masonic Hall for drive then to Aviation Museum for BBQ lunch. Cost \$5.00 per person

Red Centre Nats 4/9 and 5/9/21 get on line to register your vehicles and get your tickets, and let Secretary know so we can possibly negotiate good spot in the shed - if we don't have many we may be outside

Alice Springs Show 2/7 and 3/7/21 let the Secretary know you are entering vehicle or bike so we can get good shed space.

Next meeting 9/5/21 9.00am at Masonic Hall - Mothers Day and no run

See you then Liz Driver

