



# CentreSpoke

May 2021

## HOW CUTE IS SEAN AND KAREN HEENANS 1978 MINI ?



**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:	Trevor Jacobs	0417 824 684
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*

The year seems to be moving along at a rapid rate, Easter/Anzac Day/ Mothers days well behind us.

Coming up now is the Alice Springs Show (hopefully) and the Red Centre Nats. (don't forget to register your vehicles).  
Be great to have our Vehicles well represented in the Pavilion, we will work on that next meeting.

We had a brilliant day a few Sundays back with our visit to the Seven Mile Aerodrome, will have a talk about that also at our next meeting.

Then onto the BBQ at the Old Connellan hanger, weather perfect.

I have some great Pics taken at the Alice Springs Welcome Monument of our members taken on the trip to the Seven Mile, will attach shortly.

Keep those motors running.

Cheers for now,

Tony Prez.



## *The Sec's Desk*

### **MECCA General Meeting Sunday 9-5-21**

Held at Harry Griffiths Masonic Hall Meeting opened 9.11am

#### **Present**

Raelene Beale, Garry Bentley, Carl Blackmore, Allan Campbell, John Cooper, Stephen Dinner, Cameron Dinner, Liz Driver, Russ Driver, Mark Dunn, Brian Eather, Phillippe Freidel, Marie Gear, Stuart Gear, Sean Heenan, Karen Heenan, Lisa Heness, Neville Heness, Peter Hilliard, Trevor Hyman, Trevor Jacobs, Col Jarrett, Aileen Kennedy, Tony McKenzie, Tony O'Brien, Derek Poolier, Pietje Span, Mike Thompson, Mandy Vandenberg.

#### **Apologies**

Steve Vandenberg, Fred Twohig, Vicky Jarrett, Robyn Lambley, Craig Lambley.

**Minutes of the previous meeting 11-4-21** were read-

moved Stuart Gear, accepted Mandy Vandenberg.

#### **Business arising from the minutes**

Numbers attending the RCN are needed now to advise the organisers to place MECCA cars together. Russ Driver to follow up and contact Owen from RCN. Also, there is an email from RCN offering first tier pricing after the cut-off date.

#### **President's Report**

Tony O'Brien was pleased to see again a large number of people turn out for the Mother's Day meeting and thanked the members for their support on the Tropic of Capricorn run and the more recent Coffee and Chrome meet hosted by Aces and Eights. Work commitments will hopefully tone down in the near future and he hopes to be able to get along to a few more runs.

Moved Russ Driver

Seconded Gary Bentley

#### **Treasurer's Report.**

Russ Driver provided a written statement for April 21.

The net balance as at 8-5-21 is \$6529.26.

Moved John Cooper,

Seconded Mike Thompson

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

Correspondence In

-Show Society invoice

-Email from Doug Draeger BTTT- no numbers for Overland badges yet.

-Other car club magazines-Auto Talk Murray Bridge, Bike Talk ACT, Gawler car club journal.

#### **Correspondence Out**

-email to members requesting numbers for Coffee and Chrome and RCN

-Doug Draeger requesting possible Overland badges

-entry form for MECCA display at the Alice Springs Show.



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

### **General Business.**

Shannon's have indicated they will pay half the costs of a new shade structure. The secretary and Neville Heness to firm costs and provide details and costs for the next meeting.

Members car/bike projects were updated- Trevor Jacobs had nothing to report due to a recent family wedding, Stuart Gear advised he has parts being prepared in all locations and awaiting reassembly, Col Jarrett has his shift to WA under control apparently and it all starts happening in 4 weeks, Pietje Span described his latest find – a 1984 Subaru Sherpa which only required a polish and blessing of the engine, and the Driver's advised they are not bogged this month. Trevor Hyman arrived on his 1985 Yamaha 1200 Bmax, and Shaun Heenan described how to drive a very tidy 1985 Mini in Hi-Viz and steel capped work boots.

MVR club rego rules were discussed when travelling over the border and how it is important to start early when planning to attend an interstate rally. Fred Twohig is planning to attend the Velocette bike rally in Beechworth Vic in October 2021 and the club wishes him well with his 1956 Velocette motor cycle.

National Motoring Day is next week, and members are asked to assemble at the Harry Griffiths Masonic Hall carpark at 10am. The route is to be decided during the week/on the day and end up at the Aviation Museum for a \$5 BBQ lunch.

RTHF to approach the Show Society separately re stall space at the show rather than joining the MECCA stall, otherwise happy to assist in any other way. MECCA still hopeful to man the bar as a fund raiser at the Truckies Reunion later in the year.

Club shirts are available at \$45 each and the silver Kombi was passed around to collect fines for no club badge.

Coffee and Chrome – 3 club members won awards at this event- Peter Hilliard (Jeep top 10), Trevor Jacobs (1925 Chrysler special interest), and John Hubner (2021 Victory best bike)

The President then wished all a Happy Mother's Day.

Meeting closed at 10.09am

## MECCA



MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA  
Inc

## CLUB Calendar 2020 - 2021

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>13/06/21</b> | 9.00am General Meeting<br><i>Followed by:</i> A run to - Members to decide outing   |
| <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<br><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<br><i>followed by:</i> Lunch – TBA  |
| <b>28/08/21</b> | Road Transport Hall of Fame reunion – MECCA for Bar Service -TBA  |
| <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<br><i>Followed by:</i> A BBQ at Simpson’s Gap  |



OLD AUTOMOBILE ADD





## Aces and Eights—Coffee and Chrome 2/5/21

Mecca club winners - John Hubner, Trevor Jacobs and Peter Hilliard





## SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANINGS

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.

2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.

3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set alarms to wake up. That is hope.

4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.

5. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.

6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That is attitude.

**Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!!**



## NATIONAL MOTORING DAY RUN 16/5/21

We all gathered in Allchurch St at 10.00am with our vehicles some had heaters others had layers of warm clothes. The sun was shining however a cold southerly wind let us know the warm weather was going to turn very cold shortly.

Well off on our run, out to Seven-Mile Aerodrome on Maryvale Rd.

What a exciting spot, just looking at the buildings and picturing what may have been going on the premises many years go—a hive of activity—with a lot of infrastructure now gone however with volunteers and government funding it is hoped this will be reconstructed and in the mean time there are tours of the premises the first Saturday in the month from May to October from 12pm to 2pm

Another Alice Springs Icon



Cont

## NATIONAL MOTORING DAY RUN 16/5/21 (2)





## NATIONAL MOTORING DAY RUN 16/5/21 (3)

Being at Seven-Mile Aerodrome for approximately 1 hour Tony decided we should head back to our lunch venue -  
with a detour to Welcome to Alice Springs car park





## NATIONAL MOTORING DAY RUN 16/5/21 (4)

As we finished playing tourists off to Aviation Museum for our BBQ lunch.

It had warmed up considerably by the time we got to the Aviation Museum.

Out with the BBQ and food - woops we had a teething problem with the regulator sealing rubber, it was split and would you believe no one had a rubber in their back pocket.

Well Trevor Jacobs to the rescue he was off and running to find a new rubber.

Next challenge Neville and Lisa had gone home to get the rest of the food and had it all packed away in the car and guess what - the car refused to go. Not able to get another vehicle as they had parked in front of the garage - Col to the rescue, helped Neville get the car out of the way so Neville and Lisa had other wheels .

Our knights in shining armour arrived back at the Aviation Museum with the regulator rubber and the rest of the tucker.

Whoops one other snag (pun) Marie and Tony bought sausages, onions bread etc for the BBQ - double the order.

Marie claimed victory so Tony took his lot home with the view of a staple diet of sausages, onion and bread for the next week



All jokes aside every one was happy



## NATIONAL MOTORING DAY RUN 16/5/21 (5)

Teething problems out the way and the BBQ is hot and food is cooking, table is set, with Salad, plates, bread butter etc and a late lunch however it was well worth the wait at 1.30pm





## NATIONAL MOTORING DAY RUN 16/5/21 (6)

Tony O'Brien presenting Brian Eather from Central Australian Aviation Museum a cheque for \$250.00 donation from Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia inc.



OH OH  
IS THIS YOU - CAUGHT OUT AGAIN ?



Many thanks Tom Slattery



## **M.E.C.C.A CLUB COMMITTEE HISTORY 2013—2016**

**Continued from February 2021 issue**

### **Committee 2013—2014**

President	Tim Schubert
Vice President	Col Jarrett
Treasurer	Dieter Hentschel
Secretary	Laurie Trimper
Public Officer	Brian Eather
Committee Members	John Bridgefoot
Vehicle Registrar	Coralie Boyd
Editor	Dieter Hentschel
Webmaster	Frank Allan
Historian	Stuart Gear
Crank Handle	Alvina Spears
Club Hostess	Marie Gear

### **Committee 2014—2015**

President	Col Jarrett
Vice President	Tim Schubert
Treasurer	Ron Kern
Secretary	Laurie Trimper
Public Officer	Brian Eather
Committee Members	Dieter Hentschel
Vehicle Registrar	Derek Poolier
Editor	Mal Trull
Webmaster	Frank Allan
Historian	Stuart Gear
Crank Handle	Alvina Spears, Heather Trimper
Club Hostess	Marie Gear

### **Committee 2015—2016**

President	Col Jarrett
Vice President	John Hubner
Treasurer	Ron Kern
Secretary	Michelle Thompson
Public Officer	Brian Eather
Committee Members	Russ Driver, Heather Trimper
Vehicle Registrar	Derek Poolier
Editor	Stuart Gear
Webmaster	Allan Campbell
Historian	Stuart Gear
Crank Handle	Alvina Spears, Heather Trimper
Club Hostess	Marie Gear

## GRAND KIDS JOKE PAGE



### **Out in my Austin Healey**

I was in out in my Austin Healey the other morning when my boss rang up and informed me "You've been promoted". And with that I swerved.

And then he rang up a second time and said "You've been promoted again".

And I swerved again. He rang up a third time and said, "Now ... you're the Managing Director".

And I drove into a tree. Then a policeman came up and humorously asked, "What happened to you?"

So I told him, "I've careered off the road".

### **Two Kids Arrested**

The police arrested two kids yesterday, one was drinking battery acid, the other was eating fireworks.

They charged one,  
and let the other one off.




---

How do trains hear?

With Engine - ears

How do hair stylists speed up their job?

They take short cuts!

Why can't you tell a joke while standing on ice?

Because it might crack up!

What do you call a story about a broken pencil?

Pointless.

How do you wrap a cloud?

With a rainbow



**June 2021**

Michelle Thompson

---

**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**

---



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

---

---

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

Well doesn't time go fast?

Seems it was just the other day we got into things and now it is full bore ahead. Alice Springs is buzzing with activity - lots of grey nomads around, caravan parks are filling up, Blatherskite park has got its share of motorists, Transport Hall of Fame with volunteers and one night stayers never mind the hotel/motels and backpackers. Plenty of jobs available if you want to work.

With that in mind have you had your jab for covid19? In my opinion with tourists in their droves in town there is a good possibility at some stage we will get it here. So protect yourself and book in for the jab. From experience it does not hurt, just a sore arm for a day or two.

Well that's the politics out of the way.

Our run to Seven-Mile Aerodrome was fascinating and always great to hear the history in our region, also our yearly run to the Aviation Museum for a BBQ is enjoyable and we enhanced the numbers as a couple of tourists came in as they saw our vehicles and were astounded at what was in the museum.

Have you got your vehicles ready to go into the Alice Springs Show into the M.E.C.C.A stand? Have you let the Committee know you are coming so they can make sure there is adequate space for your pride and joy? Also knowing your vehicle is safe in a lock up shed with security overnight. Don't just think about it let the Committee know you want to be involved they will love you.

11/07/21 9.00am General Meeting *followed by:* A run to Road Transport Hall of Fame for "Back to the Track" military vehicles lots of new faces and vehicles, bring family and friends

Wow then it is our AGM - all positions vacant - no one in charge for approximately half an hour - think about what position you would like in our club and talk to that person to see what is involved - don't be shy the club needs new blood to keep it going.

August 28th MECCA will celebrate 25 years - any ideas how you would like to celebrate - let the Committee know your ideas so it happens.







## EDITORS PAGE (2)

Road Transport Hall of Fame - Australian Festival of Transport is still a go ahead for August 23th to Sunday 29th - so tell your friends and Rellies and be a part of the festivities - and if you want to volunteer just get in touch with Road Transport Hall of Fame they could use your expertise.

Then Red Centre Nats - Friday 3rd Sept to Sunday 5th Fathers day - go online and get your tickets for a great weekend. M.E.C.C.A have shed space for your vehicle however you need to let Russ Driver know you want to be there so he can make sure we can fit you all in - ring RCN to secure your tickets at the old price just mention MECCA by 30/6/21

Russ and I have been busy, yep you are not surprised - out volunteering at the Road Transport Hall of Fame getting ready for the festival, at long last a newsletter will go out so you all know what is happening. The new Manager Nick is making it all happen with loads of changes at the Hall. You really need to go and have a look or if you are bored volunteer for a few hours a week.

I have been roped in (no not really) to look after our 9 month old great grand son Nixon on Thursday and Friday's for 4 hours each day - a eye opener after all these years but very enjoyable and entertaining.

Yep I've got his first wheels and he's off and running—just don't tell Mum and Dad however he goes go home dirty enough when he's around me so they must know ????????

Well that's it for this issue - stay safe

Liz Driver



