



# CentreSpoke

June 2021



Brian Eather

Austin 1800

Still going strong

**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*

### Members

Our first half of the year has nearly come and gone,  
Some great Club events looming up.

Doug's epic "Back to the Track" military vehicles in July.

The Alice Springs Show first week of July

AGM and 25th Celebration of our Club in August

Fathers Day and The Red Centre Nats first week Sept.

My apologies for not making the last Club Meeting, some heavy Work Commitments.

Acting Secretary come Vice President Trevor Jacobs held the fort admirably along with other great members,

We will be able to get in some more Club Drives shortly, perfect weather for these trips.

It was an unfortunate incident at the Finke Desert Race, hopefully this will not cause the event to stop.

Looking forward to catching up next meeting.

Cheers for now and keep those motors running.

Tony.



## *The Sec's Desk*

### **MECCA General Meeting Sunday 13-6-21**

Held at Harry Griffiths Masonic Hall

Meeting opened by acting president Liz Driver 9.14am

#### **Present**

Raelene Beale, Allan Campbell, John Cooper, Stephen Dinner, Liz Driver, Marie Gear, Stuart Gear, Peter Hilliard, John Hubner, Trevor Jacobs, Aileen Kennedy, Margaret McKenzie, Ross Murphy.

#### **Visitors**

Nil

#### **Apologies**

John Wischusen, Michele Thompson, Mike Thompson, Doug Draeger, Lisa Heness, Neville Heness, Tony O'Brien, Tony McKenzie, Russ Driver .

**Minutes of the previous meeting** 9-5-21 were read-  
Moved Allan Campbell, accepted Raelene Beale.

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

Acting Treasurer advised that the Show Stall had been paid.  
Those attending the Show were advised to obtain their own vehicle passes and 2 day entry.

Moved John Hubner, seconded Trevor Jacobs

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

Tony O'Brien was an apology and as such no Presidents report was received.

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

Russ Driver was an apology and provided a written statement for the meeting.  
The net balance as at 12-06-21 is \$5756.36

Moved Raelene Beale, Seconded John Hubner

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

Correspondence In

- Shannon's Robert Berry- Try Australian Flag Makers for quotes on Marquees
- Email from Trevor and Christine Wehrman with an Overlander badge application.
- Show Society requesting a Covid plan.
- Shannon's online Show and Shine
- CBA Society Cheque Account statement.

Cont.....



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

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

#### Correspondence Out

- email to Shannon's requesting donation for our gazebo
- Email to Australian Flag Makers requesting Marquee quote
- Email to Extreme Marquees ditto
- Reply to Trevor and Christine Wehrman wishing them well for their trip.
- Covid plan to the Show Society.

### **General Business**

Member in waiting Ross Murphy gave an introduction to his 1945 Studebaker 6WD Military vehicle.

Secretary to proceed with the purchase of a Gazebo as presented including water ballast tie downs.

Moved Raelene Beale, seconded Allan Campbell.

With the up and coming 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Mecca, it was decided to combine this event with the AGM.

Secretary to investigate options for lunch at The Star in Alice for Sunday 8-08-21.

Fees need to be updated in the By laws, Secretary to present current fees for approval for publication at the next meeting.

An announcement regarding reduced RTHF celebration activities will be released this coming Tuesday and may affect MECCA manning the bar for future fund raising efforts.

Aces and Eights have verbally invited MECCA to join them on a cruise through town, ending up at the RTHF during their Truckie Reunion weekend.

Meeting closed at 10.09am

## 02/07/21 Alice Springs Show Day

MECCA stall at Show – at this stage vehicles into the Hall Thursday 1/7/21 from 3pm to approx. 5pm then Hall will be locked up and will have security over the weekend

**NOTE** We have 10 vehicle / bike spaces at the show -

contact Trevor Jacobs 0417 824 684 to secure your spot

And go to Showgrounds and buy your trade tickets and vehicle pass's for Friday 2/7 and Saturday 3/7/21







## MECCA

MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA Inc

## CLUB Calendar 2020 - 2021

- 02/07/21** Alice Springs Show Day – MECCA stall at Show – vehicles to show grounds Thurs 1/7 to be put in Hall between 3pm and 5pm. Hall will be locked and vehicles secure for the weekend.
- 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:* 25th Anniversary Lunch – Hideaway Palm Crt.
- 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



**MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL  
AUSTRALIA INC.  
ALICE SPRINGS VETERAN AND VINTAGE  
CAR CLUB**

**Sunday 8/8/21 after the AGM**

The Committee welcomes you to help us celebrate 25 years as a successful club which you have all helped to make.

Venue: Hideaway Palm Crt. Ross  
Time: 12.30pm

Tell past members to come and tell their stories of how the club came into existence.

Bring the Wife, Husband, Partner, Kids etc.

**RSVP** to Trevor Jacobs on 0417 824 684 by 28/7/21 so he can finalize bookings





To the M.E.C.C.A car club

Ross Murphy

And

Carol Murphy

Proud owners of

1945 Studebaker WW2 truck

1943 Willys MB

1942 Chev Blitz 4x4

1977 Harley Davidson

We look forward to seeing your collection



## SPECIALIZED BRITISH SERVICE TOOLS



Thank you John Cooper

## LUCAS WIRING HARNESS SMOKE

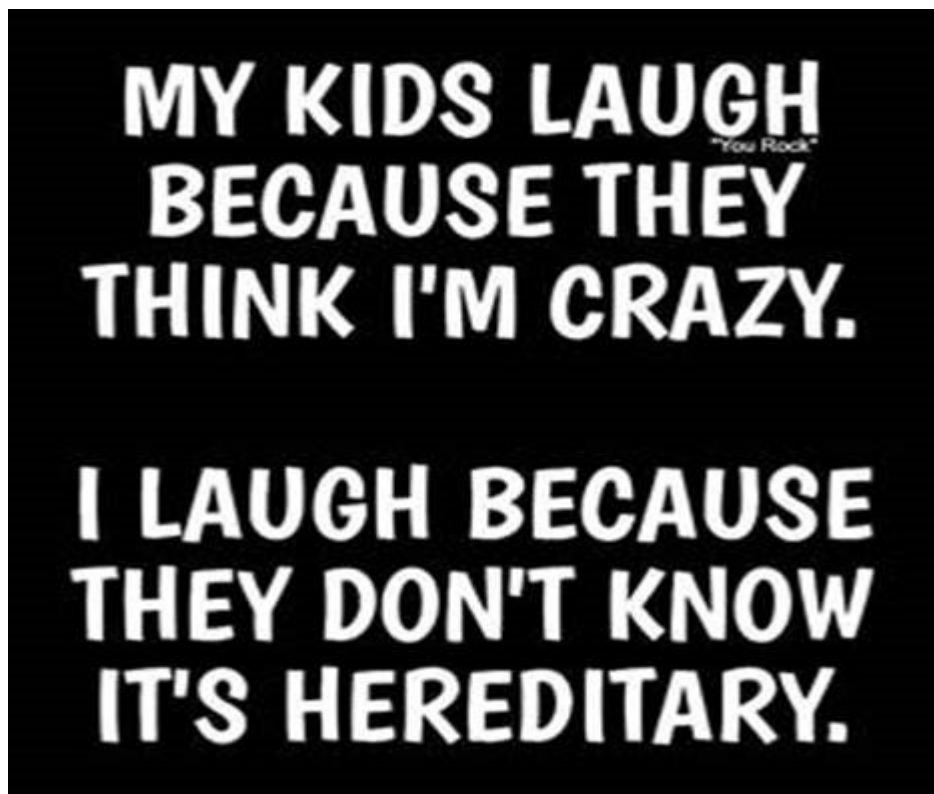


Thank you John Cooper

## TODAYS CHUCKLE



Thanks Fred Twohig



Thanks Tony Bullock

## **M.E.C.C.A CLUB COMMITTEE HISTORY 2016—2019**

**Continued from February 2021 issue**

### **Committee 2016—2017**

President	Col Jarrett
Vice President	John Hubner
Treasurer	John Syme
Secretary	Michelle Thompson
Public Officer	Brian Eather
Committee Members	Russ Driver, Mal Trull
Vehicle Registrar	Michele Thompson
Editor	Stuart Gear
Webmaster	Frank Allan
Historian	Stuart Gear
Crank Handle	Alvina Spears
Club Hostess	Marie Gear

### **Committee 2017- 2018**

President	John Hubner
Vice President	Col Jarrett
Treasurer	John Syme
Secretary	Jasmina Muhic
Public Officer	Brian Eather
Committee Members	Russ Driver, Fred Twohig
Vehicle Registrar	Col Jarrett
Editor	Pietje Span
Webmaster	Jasmina Muhic
Historian	Stuart Gear
Crank Handle	Alvina Spears
Club Hostess	Marie Gear

### **Committee 2018 - 2019**

President	John Hubner
Vice President	Allan Campbell
Treasurer	Russ Driver
Secretary	Douglas Draeger
Public Officer	Brian Eather
Committee Members	Neville Heness, John Bridgefoot
Vehicle Registrar	Col Jarrett
Editor	Liz Driver
Webmaster	Tony McKenzie
Historian	Stuart Gear
Crank Handle	Alvina Spears
Club Hostess	Marie Gear

## GRAND KIDS JOKE PAGE



What do you call a shoe made out of banana peels?  
Slippers

What is a knight's favourite fish?  
Swordfish.

What do you call someone with no body and no nose?  
Nobody knows.

What did the police man say to the belly button?  
You're under a-vest.

Why shouldn't you write with a broken pencil?  
Because it's pointless.

Why did the baby strawberry cry?  
His parents were in a jam.

Why wouldn't the shrimp share his treasure?  
He's a little shellfish.

Why are there gates surrounding cemeteries?  
Because people are dying to get in.

What do lawyers wear to court?  
Lawsuits

Why did the golfer bring an extra pair of pants?  
In case he got a hole in one.

What has ears but can't hear?  
Cornfield

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

What do you call a boring dinosaur?  
Dino-snore

What did the laundryman say to the impatient customer?  
Keep your shirt on







July 2021

Katy and Jared Bentvelzen, John Cooper,  
Russ Driver, Margaret McKenzie, Sean Heenan

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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 Liz on 0427 970 744

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### SERVICES

Trev's Auto Repairs

For Rego checks, repairs and wheel alignments etc

Phone **8955-5568**

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

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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](mailto:liz@always17.com.au)





## EDITORS PAGE

### Members

With no club run in June I have no gossip or photos to include in this issue.

It is great to see we are getting new members in the club and to have their input to make our club bigger and better.

With the last meeting with only a few members—13 to be exact , with Tony and Russ not present I was asked by Trevor to be Acting President—WOW—I have been the Boss before but never President and this lasted for ONE whole hour—now don't get any ideas I am **not** putting my hand up for this job in August but it was fun—thank you for the opportunity



Oh Oh what  
have I done ?

Then I was Acting Treasurer - I was exhausted with 2 jobs in the one hour, so it was probably great I had the afternoon off to rest before I became Editor again.

Alice Springs has been busy with Finke Desert Race participants and spectators—great to see the town full of people again.

Shame we had a tragic incident—hope this does not effect future races.

Alice Springs Show next on the agenda so let Trevor Jacobs know if you want to put your vehicle / Bikes in the shed to secure your spot - always a great couple of days—don't forget we have the club trailer for use, if you have no way of getting your vehicle to the show.

See you at the Show and if not at our next meeting 11/7/21

Take care and I look forward to any thing you want to put in July's Newsletter

Liz Driver  
Email [liz@always17.com.au](mailto:liz@always17.com.au)  
Ph 0427 970 744

## 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](mailto:mecca@mecca.asn.au) Web Site: [www.mecca.asn.au](http://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 vehicles own power.

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

Veteran:	Up to 1919	500 kilometres
Vintage:	1920 to 1930	1500 kilometres
Classic:	1931 to 1946	3000 kilometres
Special Interest:	1947 to 30 years old	3000 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.

