



CentreSpoke

September 2021

AH

The thrill of September

Ready Set Go



Famous once a year

Everyone waves -
feels like Royalty

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 2021 / 2022

PRESIDENT: Tony O'Brien 0438 530 366

VICE PRESIDENT: Trevor Jacobs 0417 824 684

TREASURER: Russ Driver 0408 002 907

SECRETARY: Aileen Kennedy 0491 266 246

PUBLIC OFFICER: Brian Eather 0428 758 002

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Sean Heenan 0439 040 188
Neville Heness 0428 740 964
Bryan Cartwright 0479 096 203
Fred Twohig 0437 778 819

VEHICLE REGISTRAR: Allan Campbell 0491 266 246

EDITOR: Liz Driver 0427 970 744

WEB MASTER: Tony McKenzie 0412 853 072

HISTORIAN: Stuart Gear 0418 898 361

CRANKHANDLE: Alvena Spears 0417 169 452

CLUB HOSTESS: Lisa Heness 8952-8564

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



Presidents Report

Members

The Club Committee had a meeting at the Gillen last night putting together the following years events/meeting.

We have planned many travels and BBQ events for the new year.

Suggestions even made to perhaps have some overnights at such places as Stuarts Well, Ross River or even Aileron; I think this is a great idea, those who wish to overnight for some fun while others can head back to town on the same day.

In addition to our usual monthly meetings, we can also have some fun with other trips on other weekends, only a matter of some suggestions.

Planning a trip BBQ to Simpsons Gap next meet 10th October, great to get in some fun before the Heat hits us.

Liz and Russ have offered to have our Xmas Party this year 14th Nov, at their Ponderosa same as last year, perfect choice.

Funeral arrangements for Wally Spears made with the Club attending Wednesday 22nd Sept at the Cemetery, request for our vehicles to be parked outside the fenced area.

Keep well and those motors running.

Thanks.

Tony O'Brien

The Sec's Desk



MECCA General Meeting Sunday 12 September 2021

Held at Harry Griffiths Masonic Hall

Meeting opened by President Tony O'Brien 9.09am

Present

Garry Bentley, John Bridgefoot, Allan Campbell, Brian Cartwright, Stephen Dinner, Douglas Draegar, Liz Driver, Russ Driver, Mark Dunn, Brian Eather, Marie Gear, Stuart Gear, Sean Heenan, Karen Heenan, Lisa Heness, Neville Heness, Peter Hilliard, John Hubner, Trevor Jacobs, Col Jarrett, Aileen Kennedy, Robyn Lambley, Margaret McKenzie, Tony O'Brien, Derek Poolier, Alvina Spears, Michele Thompson, Mike Thompson, Fred Twohig, Carl Blackmore. Due to vehicle issues, Tony McKenzie arrived late.

Visitors

Ross Murphy

Apologies

Cameron Dinner, Tim Schubert, Mandy and Steve Van Den Burg, Tom Slattery, Craig Lambley.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 August 2021 were read-and approved - moved Col Jarrett, seconded Sean Heenan.

Business arising from the minutes

Nil

Presidents Report

Tony O'Brien gave an update on his health. Well, but gets weary.

Treasurers Report.

Russ Driver provided a verbal statement for the meeting.
The net bank balance as at 12 September 2021 is \$6643.23
Moved Brian Cartwright, seconded John Bridgefoot.

Secretarys Report

Correspondence In
-Club magazine Bike Torque.
-Shannons Auction Catalogue

Correspondence Out
Nil

The Sec's Desk 2



General Business

-John Cooper has been in Alice Springs Hospital, and had to go to Adelaide.

-Mike Thompson notified meeting attendees that Ivan Bain passed away.

-Alvina advised that the funeral for Wally Spears is being held on Wednesday 22nd September at 11am, taking place at the Garden Cemetery Chapel. Wally's vehicles will be parked outside the chapel. Take your old cars to the funeral but don't overshadow what Dallas is doing. Park outside in the carpark area.

-Trevor Jacobs is getting to know his red car – E Type Jag purchased 6 years ago site unseen on Ebay. Drives nicely.

-Red Centre Nationals continues to amaze. 900 entries, 800 vehicles in the parade. They have signed on for another 4 years of RCN. The rain on Friday created obstacles.

Owen organised from Sydney this year. There were a few mysteries in setup, but all were resolved.

MECCA were allocated 20 spaces, and had 16 cars on display of which Al Campbell put in 6. People showed interest in the display and asked about the club.

Two members won trophies for their vehicles. Russ Driver won a trophy for Best Classic Car and Pete Hilliard won a trophy for Best Presented 4 Wheel Drive.

There is talk of future events being 5 day or 10 days long.

Sean Heenan has pre-registered for the next Red Centre Nats event.

His registration number is 260, so there are already a large number of people registered to attend.

A notable figure in the parade was Doug Draegar on his Penny Farthing bicycle, which he rode from Ilparpa, in the parade, and back home to Ilparpa. This came about due to issues with his Jeep so he decided to bike it instead.

-MECCA calendar 2022: Robyn Lambley donated \$300.00 to go towards producing the calendar. Liz requested any vehicle photos to be emailed through to her. Liz aims to have the calendars ready for the final meeting in November.

The Sec's Desk 3



-Trevor Jacobs has given the historian a memory stick containing the 1978 club trip to the Rock, donated by Jeff Purdie.

-Col Jarrett gave an update on his move to Western Australia, and reported that there will be no more comeback tours.

Several members gave updates on their current projects and the progression they have made on their vehicles.

-Sean Heenan informed meeting members that he has been in Darwin this week where his father was awarded the Order of Australia.

-Back to the Track

Peter Hilliard drove his Jeep in the Darwin run.

Doug Draegar only made it half way before his vehicle broke down. There were 46 military vehicles and 90 people. It was a really good trip. Back to the Track attendees renovated rooms at the Road Transport Hall of Fame and created a display of the RSL memorabilia. The official opening of the display is on Friday 17th September.

-Road Transport Hall of fame had 300 inductees, and 3 days of events.

-25th MECCA Anniversary held at the Hideout – food was great.

-Run for meeting being held on 10th October is to Simpsons Gap for a BBQ. BYO drinks.

-No run today.

-Alvina provided some laughs with her witty insights.

-Glen Helen is open again, and is the same as in the past – but there is no fuel there.

-Christmas Dinner to be discussed at a committee meeting this week.

Meeting closed at 10.06am

MECCA

MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA Inc

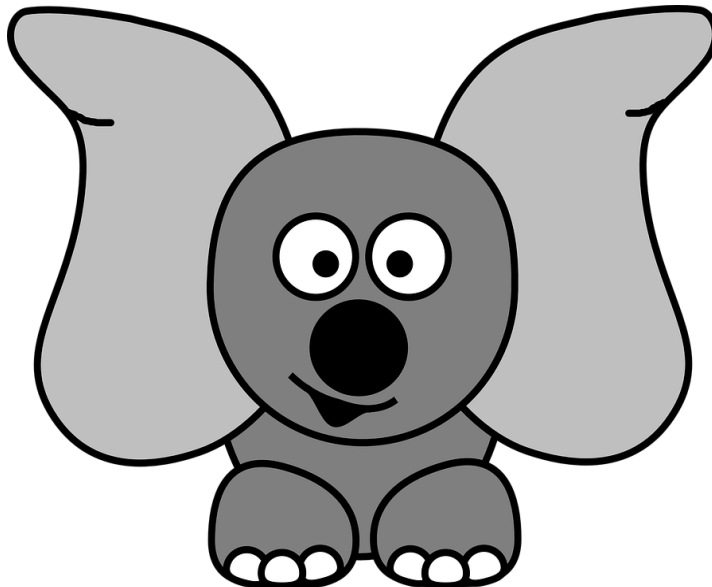
CLUB Calendar 2020 - 2021

10/10/21

9.00am General Meeting

Followed by: A BBQ at Simpson's Gap

Stay tuned for the next exciting club events



WHOOPS SPOKE TOO SOON - SEE NEXT PAGE



MECCA

MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA
Inc

CLUB Calendar 2021 - 2022

- 14 Nov 2021 Meeting at 9am at the Masonic Lodge Hall
12 noon Russ and Liz Drivers place Christmas Lunch.
-
- 13 Feb 2022 Breakfast Meeting at Bean Tree Café, Olive Pink Botanic Gardens – to be confirmed by Secretary.
- 13 March 2022 Meeting at 9am at the Masonic Lodge Hall
Followed by a run to Women's Museum
– to be confirmed by Secretary.
- 10 April 2022 Meeting at 9am at the Masonic Lodge Hall
Followed by a Shed Crawl to Allan Campbell's,
then Fred Twohig's, then a BBQ at Sean Heenan's place,
Ragonesi Rd
- 8 May 2022 Meeting at 9am Masonic Lodge Hall
Possible Drags—to be confirmed by Secretary
- 12 June 2022 Meeting at 9am at the Masonic Lodge Hall
Followed by a Corroboree Rock Road Trip
- 1st / 2nd July 2022 Alice Springs Show, Blatherskite Park Static Display.
- 10 July 2022 9am for a 9.30 start run from Masonic Lodge Hall to
Stuarts Well for lunch
- 14 Aug 2022 Meeting at 9.00 am the Masonic Lodge Hall followed by the
AGM—lunch venue TBA
- 26 to 28 Aug 2022 RTHF Festival
- 2 – 4 Sept 2022 Fathers Day / Red Centre Nats.
- 2 Oct 2022 7 Mile outing meet at Masonic Lodge Hall - times to be advised
- 9th Oct 2022 Meeting at 9am at the Masonic Lodge Hall
Run TBA

FATHERS DAY

All Dads, Grandpa's, Great Grandpa's,
adopted Dads are special.
hope you all had a great day and were
spoilt.



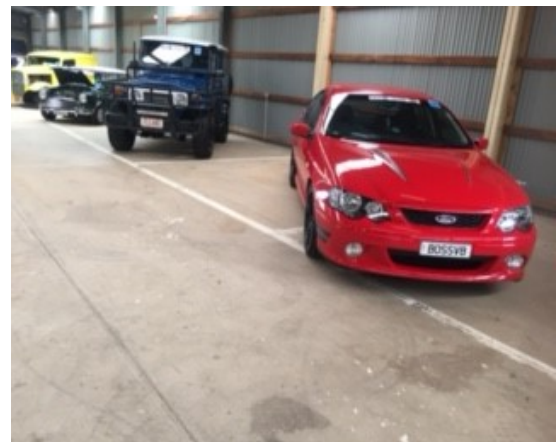
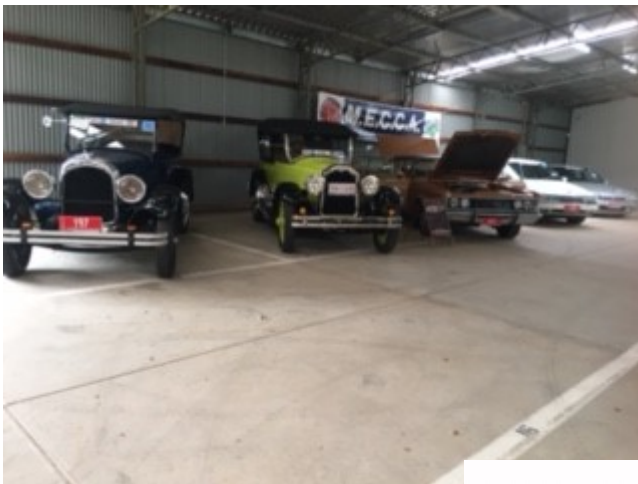
RED CENTRE NATS NO. 7



Our own Marquee set up inside how good is that?



Allan and Aileen put in 6 Cortina's a big effort and congratulations



Trevor, Pietje, Neville put in
2 vehicles
Russ won trophy



Steve and Mandy put
in 2 vehicles



RED CENTRE NATS NO. 7



Peter - won Trophy



Mike and Michelle



Jasmina



John -
The one and only
motorbike





Joke page



Did you hear about the guy writing a construction book?
He's still working on it.

Why are eggs bad at telling jokes?
They always crack each other up.

What animal is the worst at hiding?
The leopard — he's always spotted.

What do you call a pony with a sore throat?
A little hoarse.

If you have 13 apples in one hand and 10 oranges in the other, what do you have?
Big hands.

What did the duck say when he bought lipstick?
"Put it on my bill."

How did the bullet lose its job?
It got fired.

Why are skeletons so calm?
Because nothing gets under their skin.

How do moths swim?
Using the butterfly stroke.

Did you hear about the power outlet who got into a fight with a power cord?
He thought he could socket to him.

Why do smartphones ring?
Because they can't talk.

Why did the onion get flustered?
It saw the salad dressing.

Can you put the cat out?
Why is it on fire

What do you call a fancy seafood meal?
So-fish-ticated.



October 2021

Phillipe Freidel, Tony O'Brien,

GET WELL SOON

John Cooper
Cameron Dinner



Club Merchandise For Sale

Club shirts various sizes \$45.00 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**



Reminder - if you have not paid your membership it is now overdue.
Fees have remained the same: Family \$70.00, single \$50.00, Country \$20.00
residing over 50km's from Alice Springs.

Bank details BSB 065 900 Account No 0090 0920 Name Motor Enthusiasts Club
please put as reference Your Surname

Many thanks



To Alvena and the Spears Family

From all of us Condolences for your loss.

Wally was a very special person and member of our club.

Always wanting a chat, pleased to see you, had plenty of stories and always had a project on the go.

Nothing stopped him even when he got his Gofer - who would think spanners and parts were part of the Gofer package.

Wally is a true legend of Central Australia, with Alvena and the family by his side anything was achievable.

If we could achieve what Wally achieved in his life we would end up at his level he was an inspiration to all of us.



Wally inducted into the Road
Transport Hall of Fame



Wally before the Gofer
Passed away 1/9/21 aged 93

Wally Spears final send off



Under the verandah the Austin Truck that bought Wally and Alvena into Alice Springs

Wally's Gofer and his last project



Rear of Truck with Wally on board and flowers from MECCA

RIP 4/10/1928—1/09/2021

FAREWELL

COL AND VICKI



Col

Finally you have taken the plunge, cleaned up home, with a lot of blood sweat and tears, as you look around at what you and Vicki have achieved loaded the car and trailer taken a friend with more belongings and headed to WA to begin a new chapter.

Vicki will be waiting in anticipation and when you get there she will say "What the hell - why did you bring that it should have stayed in Alice Springs" and you will say - "I thought she would say that however it is now here and it is staying."

However she will be ecstatic that you actually made it and did not stay in Alice and her in Perth.

Now the big move both of you in your new home.

We would like to congratulate you and Vicki for all you have done for MECCA and you will be sadly missed.

Keep in touch and let us now your new adventures, projects and new club events in your area.

Stay well, active and happy from all of us.



EDITORS PAGE

Well what can I say - what a action packed month.

Aces and eights had a drive night before Red Centre Nats - wow talk about grid lock in town every roundabout was jammed, no one could get in or out of town and guess what when town looked like being cleared they came back again and jammed up the town some more - surprising enough no one appeared to get upset.

Then to Hideout on Palm Crt for Dinner—what a night.

Fathers Day / Red Centre Nats, and two of our members scored trophies again—well done.

RTHF - Festival went off with a bang with open day Sunday gold coin donation.

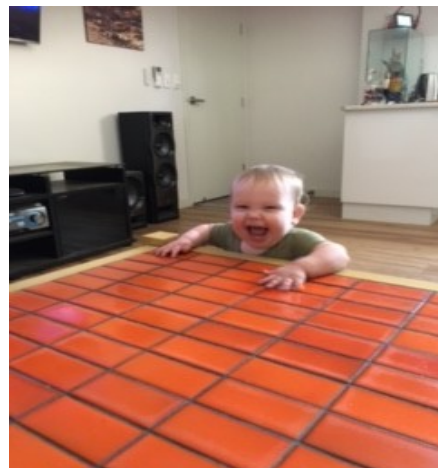
Looked after our Great Grandson Nixon and wow he was great until he decided to do more than just wet his nappy.

Yep I pondered what to do as Mum was going to pick him up in three quarters of an hour - do I just let him sit in it?

Could not get close to him as I was chugging at the smell. I felt sorry for him so got everything ready and then an idea popped into my head - wear a face mask so it might be bearable.

It worked - clean bottom, no chugging and I could not have looked any worse than those states who have to wear masks everyday - and no one saw me except for Nixon and he just laughed.

Everyone was happy.





EDITORS PAGE (2)

Exciting news Vicki will finally see Col again after at least a couple of months apart. - Happy Days

Well I must admit funerals are not my thing not that I have been to too many (thank goodness). Wally Spears send off was amazing, so much thought went into this.

What a busy family 6 Children which comes out to 30 great grand children and 7 great great grand children with another one about to drop the bundle.

Well done to the Spears family you have done our town proud.

Our family has had health issues which have been rectified by amazing surgeons and hospital staff.

When something like this happens you see what is important in life and what you value.

It is not the possessions it is the love of family and friends that get you through tough times. Enjoy every day and live it to the fullest.

Enough of the teary bits - Well an exciting new calendar of events coming up in 2022.

Yep life is tough - again this year the Committee voted to have Christmas lunch at our place.

Russ and I look forward to you all joining us for our final event to 2021.

Before that happens October 10th is meeting at Masonic Hall 9.00am followed by BBQ at Simpson Gap

Well that's it for now

Stay safe and well

Liz Driver

Ps need more photos for 2022 Calendar - please email to liz@always17.com.au so we can distribute Calendar at our last meeting this year

