



CentreSpoke

June 2022

Life is hard on a Sunday Afternoon,

BBQ under the gum trees at Corroborree Rock



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: Tony Bullock, Alvena Spears, Stuart & Marie Gear,
Col & Vicki Jarrett ,

HONOURAY MEMBER: Loraine Braham

LIFE MEMBERS (dec) Dave Simpson Walter Spears, Len Davenport

PATRON: Bernie Kilgariff (dec)



Presidents Report

Great to see our Club enjoying this cooler weather.

The Finke Race has certainly brought Visitors to town, causing the odd Traffic build up but so great for the town.

I enjoyed the Road trip to Corroboree Rock last Sunday 12/06;
Great attendance too, Douglas came to the rescue with his personal BBQ.

So good to see Alvina out there enjoying the day with us.

One thing that I did not do was collect \$ for the tucker so that we can reimburse Doug for the food, we can catch up next meet.

Another reason for the Club to look into buying our own. I will look around for some Prices and bring it up with Members.

The Alice Springs Show Starts on July 1st; so those of us who are Shine and Show need to get our Rigs into the Pavilion on time.

We will Email time slots for our Club to bring the vehicles in.

Hopefully further Field Trips then onto the Nats in Sept.

Catch up again soon.

Keep those Motors Running.

Tony O'Brien



The Sec's Desk

Trevor Jacobs

MECCA meeting Held at Harry Griffiths Masonic Hall Sunday 12/06/22

Meeting opened 9.16 am

Present

Raelene Beale, John Cooper, Douglas Draeger, Stephen Dinner, Cameron Dinner, Liz Driver, Russ Driver, Marie Gear, Stuart Gear, Lisa Heness, Peter Hilliard, Trevor Jacobs, Robin Lambley, Tony McKenzie, Margaret McKenzie, Tony O'Brien, Alvina Spears, Fred Twohig, Mandy Vandenberg

Apologies

Alan Campbell, Aileen Kennedy, Steve Vandenberg, Neville Heness, Craig Lambley, Pietje Span, Ross and Carol Murphy, Derek Poole, Shaun Heenan, Mark Dunn, Gary Bentley, Dallas and Jane Spears, Tim Schubert, Brian cartwright, Brian Eather

Visitors

Elaine Draeger

Minutes of previous meeting

With the Secretary away the previous meeting minutes were as published in Centre Spoke.

Moved Liz Driver Seconded Doug Draeger.

Business Arising

Nil

President's Report

Tony O'Brien thanked everyone for coming. A new member enquiry from The Rock has prompted discussion on relaxing the 3 meeting attendance requirement and possibly doing it via Zoom. Tony said he would look into remote membership further. The MVR monthly club membership list which goes to all committee members seems to contain people and vehicles that members don't know. Tony in conjunction with the Club Registrar will check the register and advise at the next meeting.

Moved Tony McKenzie seconded Fred Twohig

Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer circulated a written statement with bank balance as at 11/6/22 of \$6,546.58

Moved Raelene Beale seconded Marie Gear



The Sec's Desk 2

Trevor Jacobs

Secretary's Report

As the secretary was away, no report was available.

General Business.

Alice Springs Show Society has allocated the usual 10 bays opposite the butchers in the Greatorex Pavilion. Vehicles can start assembling on Thursday 30th up to 7pm that night and the club will erect the banner and marquee to promote the club.

Red Centre Nats- the club is looking for numbers so get your entry in now. Russ Driver has volunteered to pick up and deliver your entry to this event and the one above free of charge, so if you are stuck for time or it's not quite going, give him a call.

Tony O'Brien would like to introduce a trophy to recognise outstanding member contribution. Possible trophy samples were circulated and a suggestion was made that the trophy could of more practical use such as an engraved wine glass.

A general discussion took place on the Covid bug following Raelene Beale's trip to Kintore.

Members Projects-

Stuart Gear has ordered his upholstery kit for the MG from the UK.

Doug Draeger has advised that the prison will shortly be starting up an upholstery workshop. The work he has seen to date is first class.

Fred Twohig has had a nut made for his 1938 BMW motor cycle by Fossil (Neil Tranthem) who now operates on a "when he wants too" basis out of Peter Illamayer's shed.

Alvina entertained us with the Ferrari and scooter joke.

Details of the run to Corroborree Rock were finalised.

Meeting closed 10:15am



MECCA

**MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA
Inc**

CLUB Calendar 2021 – 2022

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.

11 Sept 2022 Meeting at 9am Masonic Lodge run TBA

2 Oct 2022 7 Mile outing meet at Masonic Lodge Hall - TBA

9th Oct 2022 Meeting at 9am at the Masonic Lodge Hall - Run TBA

INFORMATION ON RED CLUB PLATES

A short review of use of registered red club plates– for full details follow the web address at the end of the page

Club Registration Scheme is designed to provide for concessional registration of eligible enthusiast vehicles.

The scheme is intended to support and encourage Northern Territory motor vehicle enthusiasts to maintain the operational status of historic and individually constructed vehicles and allow them to have restricted access to a road or road related area at a reduced rate of registration and compulsory third party insurance. Club Registration is not an alternative to normal vehicle registration and it is not a short-term registration scheme. This document recognises the limited road use of specific types of vehicle, which includes vehicles with a manufactured build date of over 30 years.

Limited road use under the Club Registration Scheme is intended to assist the owner in maintaining the vehicle in a roadworthy condition for participation in “Approved” Club events such as vehicle displays to the general public and club organised functions.

There are two specific types of use applicable to vehicles with Club Registration.

1. Approved Club Events, including events organised by other clubs or organisations which are supported and approved by the Club.
2. Maintenance, Test Driving or Restricted Personal Use. Vehicles registered under the Club Registration Scheme are registered for 12 month period only.

A condition of the scheme is that a ‘Log book’ must be filled out to record each and every journey undertaken by the vehicle.

Use of vehicle is restricted to 60 days - for Approved Club Events
and 30 days - for maintenance, test driving/restricted personal use
So total of 90 days

Interstate travel is permitted on programmed Club events or when the Club, or a Club member, receives a written invitation to attend an event from the organisers of a formal interstate Club event - application must be made to Club Committee for the event.

- The Club committee is required to advise the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, in writing, that members of the club intend to participate in an interstate event.
- This advice should be received by the Registrar at least one month prior to the start of the event. The written advice should include the registration number of the club registered vehicle/s intending to travel interstate, the departure and return dates of the vehicles, full contact details of the organisers of the event and a copy of the formal invitation or documentation associated with the event

Vehicles registered under the Club Registration Scheme have not paid full registration fees, and as such, are not entitled to full and unrestricted road use.

For more details copy the web address below and put into your browser

<https://nt.gov.au/driving/rego/registration-other-vehicles/motor-club-vehicles/apply-for-club-vehicle-registration>

Books that were never written:

**"Running to the Outhouse"
by Willy Makit.
Illustrated by Betty Wont**

OFFICIAL CONVERSION CHART

HOW TO INTERPRET

ANTIQUE CAR ADS

IF IT SAYS:

IT REALLY MEANS:

Rare model.....	Nobody liked them when new either
Older restoration.....	Can't tell it's been restored
Needs engine work.....	It's been frozen for 30 years
Uses no oil.....	Just throws it out
No rust.....	Body and fenders missing
Rough.....	It's too bad to lie about
One owner.....	Never been able to sell
No time to complete.....	Can't find parts anywhere
Needs interior.....	Seats are gone
Rebuilt engine.....	Has new spark plugs
May run.....	But it never has
Low mileage.....	Third time around
Many new parts.....	Keeps breaking down
29 coats hand-rubbed paint....	Needed that much to cover rust
Clean.....	It sat out in the rain yesterday
Best offer.....	About what I expect to get
Always driven slowly.....	Won't go any faster
Prize winner.....	Hard luck trophy 3 times in a row
Stored 25 years.....	Under a tree
Real show stopper.....	Orange with purple fenders
Easy restoration.....	Parts will come off in your hand
Ready to show.....	Just washed it
Top good.....	Only leaks when it rains
Good investment.....	Can't depreciate any more

CORROBOREE ROCK RUN AND BBQ 12/6/22



Yep - Douglas and Elaine meant business when BBQ was mentioned at Corroboree Rock.

Full sized BBQ, snags, onions, hamburgers, pancakes, coleslaw salad, bread, sauces, maple syrup, cup cakes and of course tea and coffee



Table at site under the coolabah trees (well I guess gum trees), perfect day sun was shining, cooler in the shade with only a couple of friendly flies.

Present first lunch sitting - Tony O'Brien, Stephen and Cameron Dinner, Peter Hilliard, Doug and Elaine Draeger, Fred Twohig, Russ and Liz Driver, Alvina Spears.

Present second lunch sitting - Stuart and Marie Gear, Tony and Margaret McKenzie

A big thank you to Doug and Elaine for a fantastic day

Alvina's joke for the day - page 1 of 3

Wally's girlfriend sent it to him for his birthday

A SORRY FERRARI



An OLD GUY on a scooter pulls up alongside a young guy driving a Ferrari.

"NICE CAR," says the Old guy.

"How fast can she go?"

"220 mph," replies the young guy.

Just then the light changes, so the young guy decides to show the old guy what the car can do.

Within 10 seconds he's going 100mph.



Alvina's joke for the day - page 2 of 3

Wally's girlfriend sent it to him for his birthday

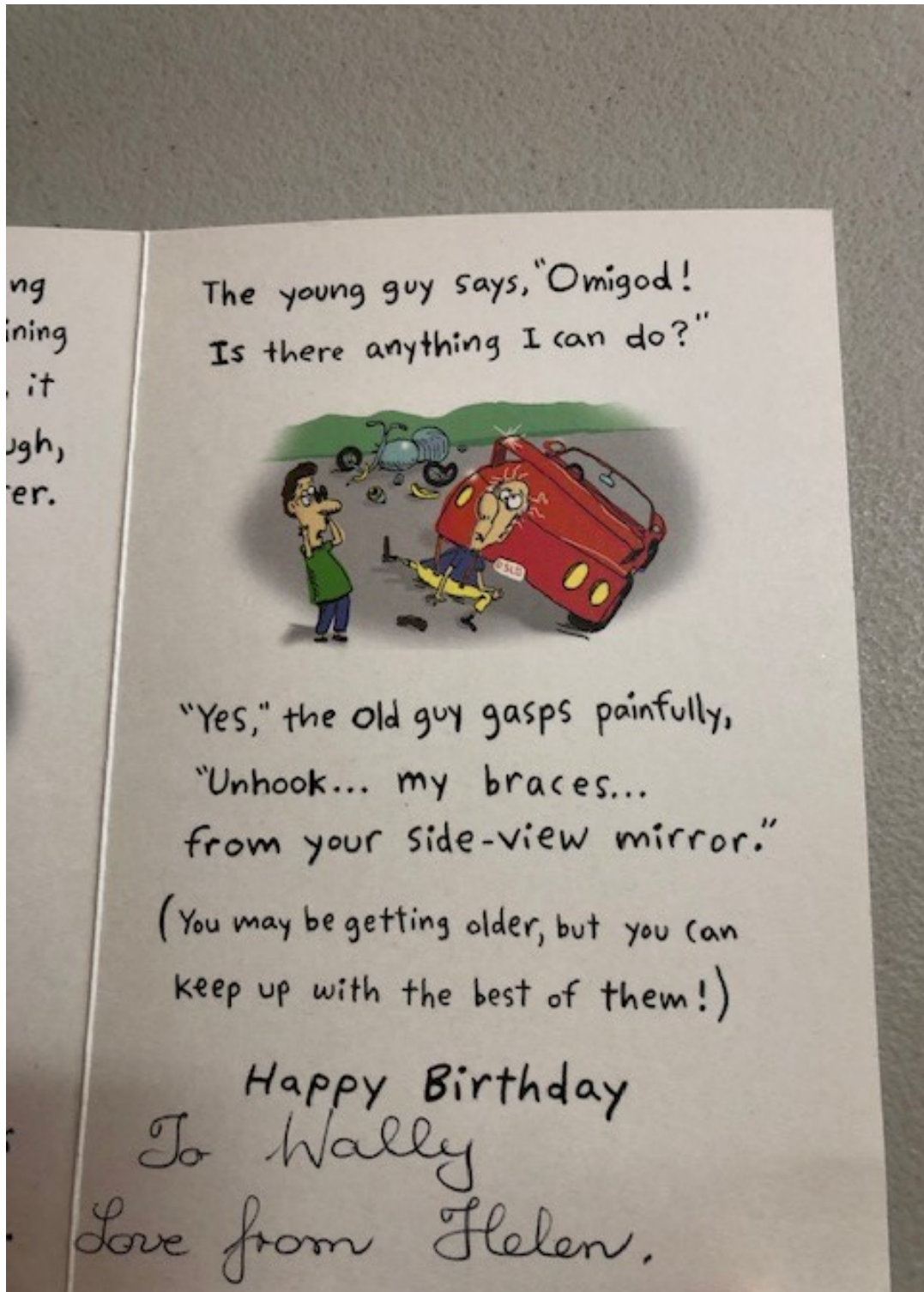
Suddenly, he notices something in his rear-view mirror gaining on him. Then, WHOOOSH, it whips right by him. Sure enough, it's the old guy on his scooter.



Astounded, the young guy floors it and takes the car all the way up to 220 mph. Sure enough, the old guy is right on his tail, but this time he plows right into the back of the ferrari.

Alvina's joke for the day - page 3 of 3

Wally's girlfriend sent it to him for his birthday



JOKE PAGE



What do dentists call their x-rays?
Tooth pics!

Why should you never trust stairs?
They're always up to something.

Why did the bullet end up losing his job?
He got fired.

What does a house wear?
Address!

Why is Peter Pan always flying?
Because he Neverlands.

You heard the rumour going around about
butter?
Never mind, I shouldn't spread it.



Want to hear a job about a roof?
The first one's on the house.

Why do teddy bears never want to eat anything?
Because they're always stuffed.

Did you hear about the cheese factory that exploded in France?
There was nothing left but de Brie.

Did you hear about the painter who was hospitalized?
The doctors say it was due to too many strokes.

Why are frogs always so happy?
They eat whatever bugs them.

Whenever you jump on a trampoline, did you know it changes the season?
No matter what time of year, it always becomes [spring](#) time.

What happened when a faucet, a tomato, and some lettuce ran a race together?
The lettuce was ahead, the faucet was running, and the tomato was trying to ketchup.



JULY 2022

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

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**



2022 MECCA Calendars

2022 Calendars still available if you don't have yours.
Pick up at next meeting 10/7/22
or give me a call 0427 970 744



Time is moving on and all committee members will get the sack at August meeting

SO

ALL POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT AGM 14/8/22

<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	Head of our organization - the Boss
<u>VICE PRESIDENT</u>	Helps the Boss if he/she is away
<u>TREASURER</u>	Looks after the money
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	Collates minutes of meeting, checks letter box for mail and helps the Boss organize the meetings.
<u>PUBLIC OFFICER:</u>	Keeps us compliant with Business Affairs
<u>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</u>	Helps advise President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer events for the year
<u>VEHICLE REGISTRAR:</u>	Looks after Club vehicles with MVR and advises MVR if club members are going interstate
<u>EDITOR:</u>	In charge of CentreSpoke and keeps members up to date with club events and vehicles of interest
<u>WEB MASTER:</u>	Looks after our Webpage and updates
<u>HISTORIAN:</u>	Keeps the History of our club
<u>CRANKHANDLE:</u>	Keeps us laughing with jokes.

Which position is yours remember all positions become vacant 14/8/22 and a new committee is formed

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

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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.



EDITORS PAGE

What a month, so much happening in town.

We were invaded by tourists for the Finke Desert Race - Caravan Parks full, accommodation full and people looking at where they could camp.

Supermarket shelves looked like Covid times, never mind the traffic on the road.

Certainly good for the town, hopefully not too many caught Covid or the Flu.

Our meeting in June was great and wasn't it wonderful for Raelene to make those magnificent scones with jam and cream. Also Lisa's hard work with supplying coffee, tea and making a wonderful atmosphere before heading out for a magnificent drive to Corroboree Rock then a wonderful BBQ that Douglas and Elaine provided.

Alice Springs Show around the corner Friday 1st July - also Territory Day so plenty of fire works heading our way. Also Show day Saturday 2nd July, we are granted 10 bays at the show so it will be a huge success as every one has missed out on so many events the past 2 years.

Our Show weekend has been sponsored by Rod Berry - Shannons Insurance - how good is that? **THANKYOU** Rod from all of us.



So much on the cards the next few months - our next meeting 10/7/22 run out to Stuart Well for lunch - we have not had a outing with that distance for years - so get your cars ready to roll.

August - time to vote in a new Committee (some of the Committee is looking a bit tired what do you think? Which position will you put your hand up for?

August - the famous Henley on Todd Regatta is back on.

September - Fathers Day and what a better present for Dad, GPA, partner etc than Red Centre Nats so have your cars ready to rock and roll

After all that I also need a break - see you next time Bye

Liz Driver



MECCA Club appreciates the help given to us by Shannons.
Please support those that support us.



SHARE THE PASSION