



# CentreSpoke

September 2022

**NEXT MEETING:** Sunday 2nd October starting at 10.30 am - 7 Mile Aerodrome Historic Precinct –  
Tour cost - \$10- per car donation to 7 mile museum followed by general meeting – please bring a chair  
Tour starts 10.30 am



**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 2022/2023

PRESIDENT:	Trevor Jacobs	0417 824 684
VICE PRESIDENT:	Tony O'Brien	0438 530 366
TREASURER:	Sean Heenan	0439 040 188
SECRETARY:	Aileen Kennedy	0491 266 246
PUBLIC OFFICER:	Brian Eather	0428 758 002
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Peter Inkster	0432 310 911
	Neville Heness	0428 740 964
	Bryan Cartwright	0479 096 203
	Stephen Dinner	0409 525 350
VEHICLE REGISTRAR:	Allan Campbell	0491 266 246
EDITOR:	Douglas Draeger	0428 676 741
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:	Tony Bullock, Alvena Spears, Stuart & Marie Gear, Col & Vicki Jarrett ,	
HONOURAY MEMBER:	Lorraine Braham	
LIFE MEMBERS (dec)	Dave Simpson Walter Spears, Len Davenport	
PATRON:	Bernie Kilgariff (dec)	



## *Presidents Report*

Hello Members,

The year is rapidly coming to an end and soon Christmas will be upon us.

Luckily the weather is holding for now and I hope you are making the most of the driving conditions, especially in some of the older cars without air conditioning.

At the last committee meeting it was decided to shift our usual meeting date of the second Sunday of the month and bring it forward one week.

This is to avoid the clash with the Bathurst Car Race and will allow members to enjoy the three day car fest uninterrupted.

Our October meeting will be a car run to the old airport at the 7 Mile Aerodrome where a tour guide will show us through the buildings and provide us with an insight as to what life was like in 1939.

Meet at 10.30am Sunday 2 October for the tour and this will be followed by a short meeting.

Also at next week's meeting we'll need to discuss options for the Christmas party. Shaun Heenan has been busy obtaining quotes and can run us through them on the day.

Other club news - Col Jarrett was seen in town recently and I believe he returns to Perth later in the week. Apparently he found some more treasures hiding in a couple of sheds and is organising how to get them back to Perth. (Jeep perhaps ??)

That's about all from me, see you at the 7 Mile ,

Happy motoring  
Trevor Jacobs



## *The Sec's Desk*

### **MECCA General Meeting Sunday 11 September 2022**

Held at Harry Griffiths Masonic Hall

Meeting opened by President Trevor Jacobs at 9.05am

#### **Present**

Garry Bentley, Allan Campbell, Stephen Dinner, Douglas Draegar, Sean Heenan, Lisa Heness, Neville Heness, Peter Hilliard, Peter Inkster, Trevor Jacobs, Aileen Kennedy, Ross Murphy, Tony McKenzie, Michele Thompson, Mike Thompson.

#### **Visitors or Provisional Members**

Bill Yan

#### **Apologies**

Brian Cartwright, Russ & Liz Driver, Stuart & Marie Gear, Margaret McKenzie, Tony O'Brien, Mick Ryan, Alvina, Dallas, & Jane Spears, Fred Twohig.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 August 2022 were read and approved - moved Gary Bentley seconded Doug Draegar.

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

##### **Club BBQ**

Cost of Weber Q being looked at is \$800.00. Michele queried if there was a cheaper option considered. The Weber Traveller is \$599.00. The Committee had also discussed the BBQ at their recent meeting. Concerns for purchase include where will it be stored, who will clean it, and who will make sure we have enough gas each time it is taken on a run. Doug is able to borrow the Corrections BBQ if given enough notice. Also Mike said that Brenton Joy - Mitre 10 has a BBQ for Hire. The meeting attendees voted for the purchase of a BBQ to be put on hold. Moved Trevor Jacobs. Seconded Michael Thompson. Carried.

#### **Bright Spark Award**

Stephen gave an overview of discussions so far, including that the award could be for best car, good project, and other options. Whoever receives the award works out who to give it to next time, and what the person is receiving the award for. Stephen will be donating the Awards this year, which will be four award. Spark plugs are required so the awards can be made.

#### **Presidents Report**

There were nine participants from MECCA at the Red Centre Nats. There was lots of lining up this year. There should be more motorbikes next year as the Rockhampton Bike Club is doing a run here. The Parade was exciting. Russ Driver had the best car in the Classic section. Brian Cartwright is not sick. The Committee drew up the new Calendar at their meeting. Read the Centre Spoke to check dates of meetings and runs.

Presidents Report moved Peter Hilliard, seconded Ross Murphy.

### Secretary's Report.

Very little mail coming through now. Communication is more via email and websites.

Secretary's report moved Tony McKenzie, seconded Michael Thompson.

### Treasurers Report.

Sean gave the Treasurers report, including needing another signature to view the bank details. Sean is currently looking into payments online and via square tap and go.

Treasurers Report moved Allan Campbell seconded Peter Inkster.

### General Business

Storage of MECCA Club owned items:

Drivers will no longer be storing MECCA Club items. The gazebo, chairs and table are at Trevor Jacobs place. The Club trailer is at Stephen Dinners' place, bookings to be made as per the original arrangement – submit request on the form. Moved Trevor Jacobs, Seconded Stephen Dinner.

### Next meeting / 7 Mile Run:

The date for the next meeting clashes with Bathurst race. Also, the 7 Mile official tours costing \$10 per car finish on Sunday 2nd October. Trevor Jacobs is contacting 7 Mile regarding MECCA going out there for a tour. The meeting will need to be brought forward to the 2nd so we can go out to 7 Mile. Sean will do a group phone text notification. Moved Trevor Jacobs, Seconded Allan Campbell.

### Christmas Party:

The Christmas Party was scheduled in for Drivers shed, but if Drivers are unavailable an alternative will need to be sought. The Turf Club was suggested as a possible venue. The Heenan family has recently been there for a birthday party. Sean will forward the menu and check availability for 13th November. Should be approximately 50 people attending. Either Sunday lunch time or Saturday 12th if Sunday unavailable. Moved Trevor Jacobs. Seconded Sean Heenan.

### Calendars:

Doug is going to order 200 calendars, \$731.50. Please send pictures to Doug to use in the calendar – maybe RCN pictures or something with car and owner in it. Moved Trevor Jacobs, Seconded Neville Heness.

Meeting closed at 9.40am.

**Special Notice – Change of date and location for next general meeting**

To avoid clashing with Bathurst – our next meeting has been brought forward 1 week and in a different location and new time (regular club rooms unavailable)

**Sunday 2nd October starting at 10.30 am - 7 Mile Aerodrome Historic Precinct –  
Tour cost - \$10- per car donation to 7 mile museum  
Tour starts 10.30 am  
followed by general meeting – please bring a chair**

Brunch at the end – pancakes (strawberries / cream / maple syrup), tea, coffee, bickies

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*Spitfire Squadron on route to Darwin, 1942*

The **Australian National Aviation Museum Alice Springs** members share a passion for Central Australian Aviation history, heritage and Australian Aviation generally.

The Seven-Mile Aerodrome story must be told. Do you have a story or photos that you may wish to share? if so please contact us.

#### OPENING HOURS

May to October, 12pm - 2pm

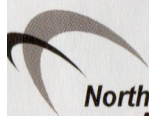
1st Saturday in the month

Tours by appointment MECCA 2-10-22

e. 7mileaviation@gmail.com

p. 0438074304

ANAMAS would like to acknowledge the support of the N.T. Airports.



**Northern Territory**  
Airports

WELCOME TO

# Seven-Mile Aerodrome

IT IS BELIEVED TO BE THE  
MOST INTACT PRECINCT OF  
THAT ERA LEFT IN AUSTRALIA





*Aerodrome Circa, 1950\**

**Seven-Mile Aerodrome and Alice Springs were key to Australia's Defense of the North during World War II.**

Road movements along the Old South road and Rail on the old Ghan railway line are located right next to Seven-Mile Aerodrome. It was critical to maintain supply lines to the North, especially after Darwin was bombed.

Seven-Mile Aerodrome was established in 1939 due to the demands on aviation in Alice Springs. By the late 1950's with an increase in air traffic a new runway became operational.

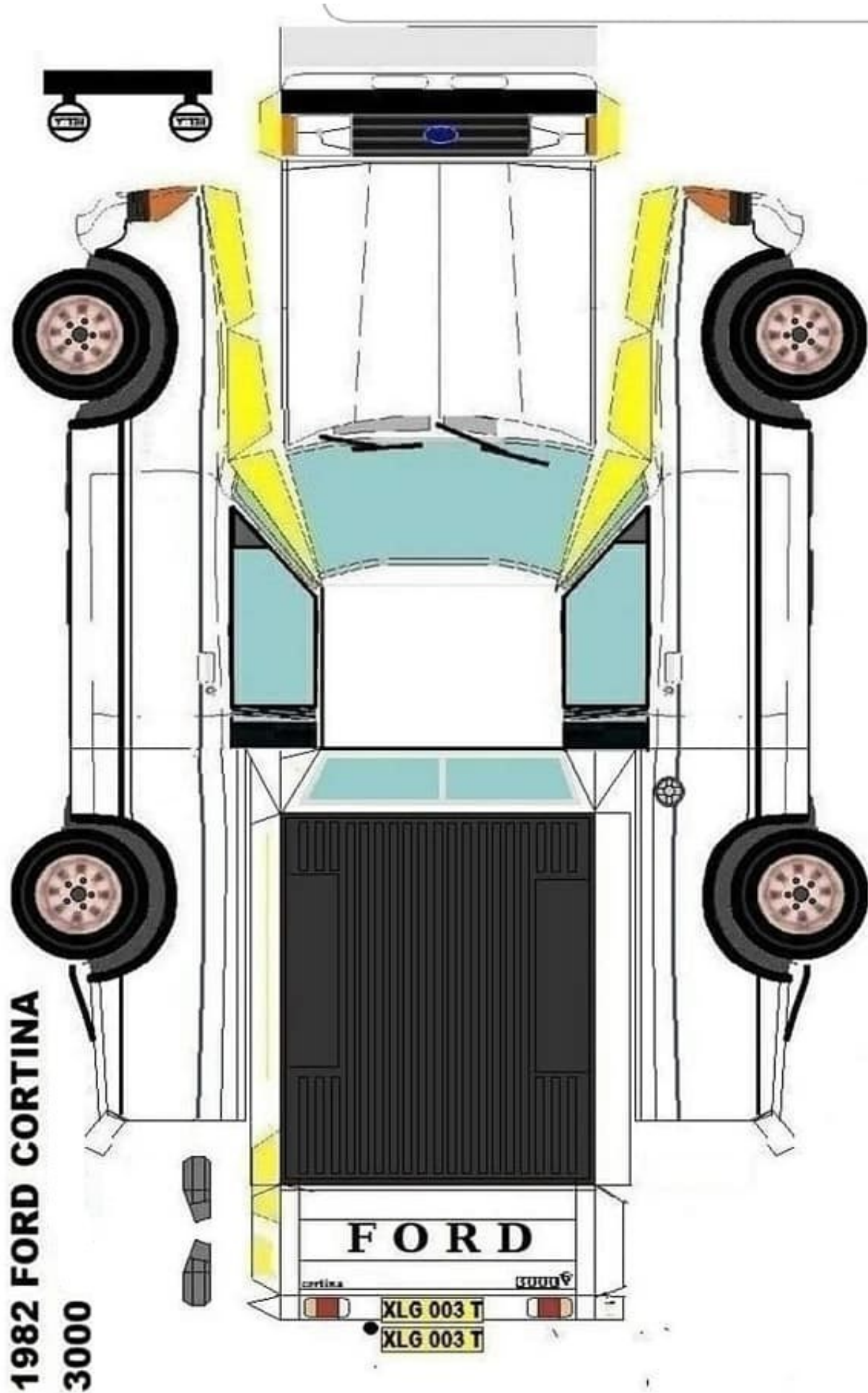
The Seven-Mile Aerodrome remained the main airport until 1965 when a new terminal and fire station were opened east of the existing facility.

In 1994, the 1965 terminal was replaced by the present Alice Springs Airport air terminal situated a little further east.

The stories of Seven-Mile Aerodrome need to be told of the Royal Australian Airforce (RAAF) and the United States Army Airforce (USAAF), and Guinea Airways through the War and beyond.

*\* Photo courtesy of Central Australian Aviation Museum*

This edition: Cortina Cut Out, New vehicle cut out each edition—collect all Ten





From the Editor

Last chance to send me pictures of yourself with your cars or your car in a public event for inclusion in the club calendar for 2023

Email [dougdraeger@hotmail.com](mailto:dougdraeger@hotmail.com) or message 0428676741





Liz Driver  
In Adelaide for an overhaul—best wishes for a full recovery  
from your friends in the club



Happy Birthday wishes for month of September to members:

John Cooper, Trevor Jacobs, Vicki Jarrett, Blair McFarland,  
Tony McKenzie,

Happy Birthday wishes for month of October to members

Stephen Dinner, Tony O'Brien,

## **Congratulations**

Lisa and Neville Heness

Daughter Megan a proud new mum to a baby boy

# CLUB CALENDAR

September 11th General Meeting followed by Run—TBA  
Ilparpa / Honeymoon Gap / Larapinta Dve  
Lunch Alice Springs Brewery from 12 Noon

**October 2nd (1 st Sunday) Historic 7 Mile aerodrome visit—Tour starts 10.30 am**  
**\$10— per car**  
**Followed by general meeting after the tour**

Bathurst 6th—9th Oct

November 13th Christmas Party—Location and details TBA

December / January—No meetings

February 12th General Meeting—followed by breakfast run—Olive Pink

March 12th General Meeting—followed by shed crawl  
Trevor Jacobs organiser + BBQ

April 8th—9th FINKE Desert Race  
**(3rd Sunday) 16th General Meeting** followed by drive to Drag Strip

May 14th Mothers Day

**(3rd Sunday) 21st General Meeting** followed by drive to Simpsons Gap  
21st—National Motoring Heritage Day (Drive It Day) - NRTHFame

June 12th Queens Birthday Long Weekend

**(3rd Sunday) 18th General Meeting** followed by drive to Stanley Chasm

July 9th General Meeting only as following Alice Springs Show Displays (Fri + Sat)

August 13th General Meeting then AGM  
followed by Shed crawl (Sean Heenan organiser)

September 10th General Meeting (Red Centre Nationals)  
followed by run Corrobooree rock and lunch Alice Springs Brewery—TBC

## **Services**

Trevs Auto Repairs

For rego checks, repairs and wheel alignments etc

Phone 8955-5568

## **Club Merchandise For Sale**

Club shirts in various sizes \$45– each

Club hats \$20– each

Available at club meetings—See treasurer or secretary

## **Club Car Trailer**

Stephen Dinner is currently the club car trailer manager and currently resides at his property in Ilparpa for pick up and return

Trailer hire bookings and forms (Conditions for hire) are available from Stephen Dinner

0409 525 350      [stephendinner@bigpond.com](mailto:stephendinner@bigpond.com)

## **Who has some spare shed space ? :)**

Club has some tables, chairs, Gazebo, looking for a home between club events.

Can you help with undercover storage

See the president—Trevor Jacobs—if you can help



# PROJECT CARS

Because clean fingernails, free weekends, intact knuckles and financial stability are totally overrated.



## **Jokes Page—Ladies this month—we pick on the gents next issue**

An old lady in a VW Bug drives down the freeway. All of a sudden the motor breaks down and she has to stop on the side. She gets out of the car, walks to the front and opens the hood. Another lady in a VW Bug comes by, stops and walks out to the lady. She asks: "Whats the problem?"

"Oh, I must have lost my motor!"

"You're lucky, I have a spare engine in the trunk of my car! You can have it!"

Blanch walks in the house and says "there's something wrong with the car".....

John: Whaddya mean there's something wrong with the car

Blanch: Well, I think there's water in the carburettor

John: Blanch, How would you know wither there is water in the carb or not? You not a mechanic....

Blanch: Well, I'm pretty sure it's water in the carb

John: Why do you say that?

Blanch: Cause the car's at the bottom of the Lake.

A while back I was having some work done at a local Ford Dealership. A blonde came in and asked for a seven-hundred-ten.

We all looked at each other and then finally another customer asked, "What is a seven-hundred-ten?"

She replied, "You know, the little piece in the middle of the engine, I have lost it and need a new one."

She said that she did not know what it was, but this piece had always been there.

He gave her a piece of paper and a pen and asked her to draw what the piece looked like. She drew a circle and in the middle of it wrote 710. He then took her over to another car, which had its hood up and asked, "Is there a 710 on this car?"

She pointed and said, "Of course, it's right there."



# **JETCOR**

**ALICE SPRINGS - NORTHERN TERRITORY**

Mike and Michele Thompson



REPCO Alice Springs — For your car parts



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

