



CentreSpoke

October 2023

ANOTHER MEMBERS GEM— A SWEETIE IT IS



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 2023/2024

PRESIDENT:	Tony O'Brien	0438 530 366
VICE PRESIDENT	Douglas Draeger	0428 676 741
TREASURER:	Sean Heenan	0408 002 907
SECRETARY:	Aileen Kennedy	0491 266 246
PUBLIC OFFICER:	Brian Eather	0428 758 002
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Stephen Dinner	0409 525 350
	Adrian Cousins	0427 455 009
	Bryan Cartwright	0479 096 203
	Margaret McKenzie	0412 853 072
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:	Marie Gear	0407 399 551
CLUB HOST	Neville Heness	0428 740 964

LIFE MEMBERS: Tony Bullock, Stuart & Marie Gear,
Col & Vicki Jarrett ,

HONOURAY MEMBER: Loraine Braham

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

PATRON: Bernie Kilgariff (dec)



Presidents Report

Members

Well the year has nearly come to an end.

Our Club has enjoyed many Events during this time and looking forward to a break over Xmas.

I was unable to take the trip to Ross River last meeting, but from all reports everything went great, the journey itself along that road is always a pleasure, and the Lunch provided enjoyed by all.

Don't forget the Xmas Dinner (not Lunch) at the Golf Club, and the gift giving fun.

Then we have the December BBQ at Bunnings and ready ourselves for Xmas.

Great to see so many members at our meetings and the conversations about our present projects.

Keep well and those Motors Running.

Cheers.

Tony O'Brien





The Sec's Desk

MECCA General Meeting Sunday 15 October 2023

Held at Harry Griffiths Masonic Hall Allchurch Street

Meeting opened by President Tony O'Brien at 9.11am

Present

Gary Bentley, Allan Campbell, Stephen Dinner, Douglas Draeger, Liz & Russ Driver, Brian Eather, Marie & Stuart Gear, Karen & Sean Heenan, Lisa & Neville Heness, John Hubner, Aileen Kennedy, Tony O'Brien, Tim Schubert
Neil Tranthem, Mandy & Steve Van Den Berg.

Visitors or Provisional Members

Paul Hinkley

Apologies

Raelene Beale, Charlie Carter, John Cooper, Adrian Cousins, Mark Dunn
Peter Hilliard, Carol & Ross Murphy, Margaret & Tony McKenzie, Mick Ryan,
Dallas & Jane Spears.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 September 2023 and distributed via CentreSpoke were accepted.

Moved Gary Bentley, Seconded Russ Driver.

Presidents Report

President Tony O'Brien's report included that the runs have been good, club going well.

Presidents report accepted moved Lisa Heness, Seconded Allan Campbell.

Secretarys Report

Correspondence In:

Bike Torque

Correspondence Out:

Nil

Secretary's report moved Tony O'Brien, Seconded Allan Campbell.



The Sec's Desk (2)

Treasurers Report

Read by Sean Heenan. Opening balance \$5,907.08.

Income: membership \$70.00;

Donation from Robyn Lambley \$500.00;

Donation from Red Centre Nats for Mick Ryan donating his time \$300.00.

Nil expenses. Closing balance \$6,777.08.

Treasurers report accepted. Moved Lisa Heness, Seconded Stuart Gear.

General Business

Doug Draegar organising BBQ at Bunnings on Saturday 16 December.

Please assist if possible.

Breakfast meeting will be at Olive Pink on Sunday 11 February at 9am.

Numbers will be required in January.

Next meeting: The Christmas Dinner will be held at Alice Springs Golf Course on Sunday 12 November at 6.30pm. \$60.00 per head. Bring a \$10.00 Kris Kringle present. Please notify attendance as soon as possible so numbers can be provided to the Golf Club.

Today's run is lunch at Ross River Homestead.

Meeting closed 9.57am



MECCA

MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA
Inc

CLUB Calendar 2023 - 2024

**12th November - Meeting 9am Masonic Hall - Christmas party
and Kris Kringle
Alice Springs Golf Club - Cost \$60.00**

16th December - fund raiser - Bunnings - BBQ

2024

11th Feb **2024** - Breakfast meeting - Olive Pink

10th March - Meeting 9am Masonic Hall - shed crawl TBA

29 Mar to 1st April - Easter

14th April - Meeting 9am Masonic Hall - run to Standley Chasm for lunch

May - Coffee and Chrome - date to be advised

6th May—Bangtail Muster - details to be advised

12th May - Meeting 9am Masonic Hall - Mothers Day - no run

19th May - National Motoring Day - run TBA

7th - 10th June - Finke Desert Race

16th June - Meeting 9am Masonic Hall - run to Stuarts Well

5th - 6th July - Alice Springs Show

10th July - Willys Overland Club of Victoria arrive in Alice Springs

11th July - Willys Overland Club dinner and awards night

14th July—Meeting 9am Masonic Hall—no run

11th August - Meeting 9am Masonic Hall and AGM- run to Russ and Liz's
place lunch - International food - members to contribute

1st Sept - Red Centre Nats and Fathers Day

8th Sept - Meeting 9am Masonic Hall - no run

Ross River run 15/10/23,

A wonderful day a bit warm and the flies were friendly outside. Inside no flies, nice and cosy, company great and the food was great. Great outing.

Well done Allan, Aileen, Stephen, Neville, Lisa, Megan and baby

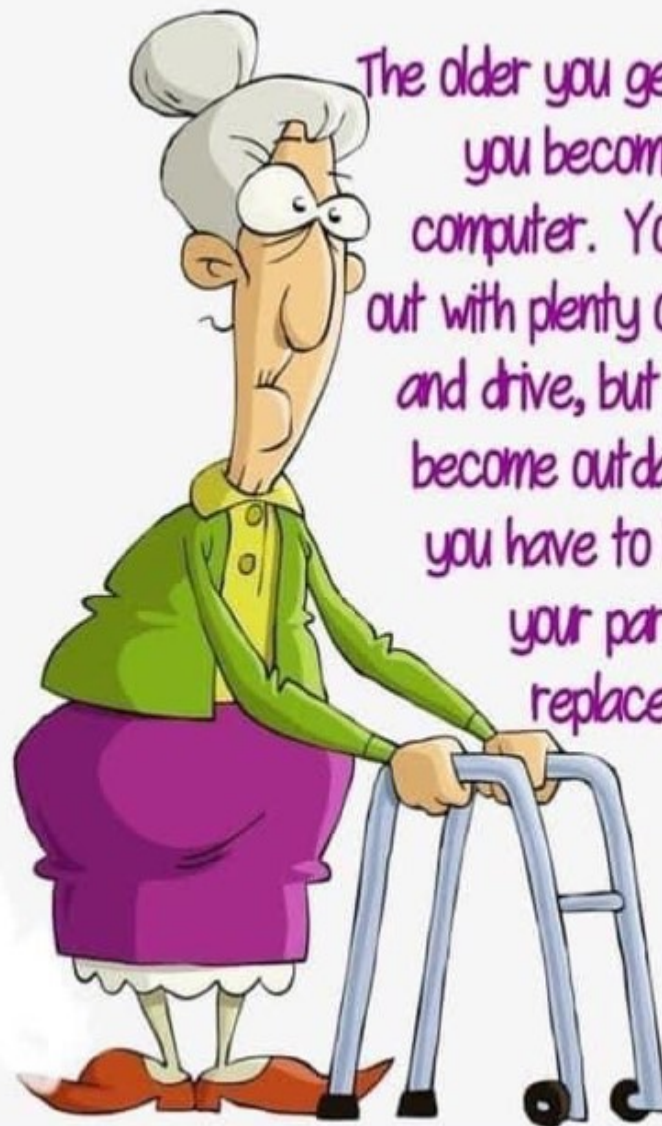


Members and their toys - how good are these?



Well done a magic collection





The older you get the more
you become like a
computer. You start
out with plenty of memory
and drive, but then you
become outdated and
you have to have all
your parts
replaced.

J



Renault type B 1899

Founded in Paris' Billancourt neighbourhood in 1899 by Louis, Marcel and Fernand Renault, the marque is resilient, having endured two world wars on home soil.

The pre-eminent sibling, Louis, was awarded the Legion of Honour in World War I but was branded a traitor in WWII.

The gifted engineer built his first car in 1898, the Voiturette 1CV. It was an instant hit, while 1899's Type B was the world's first sedan.

Louis' early innovations included drum brakes, hydraulic suspension and gearing that optimised hill climbing.

Last century

Renault made its own engines from 1903, when half of the 63,000 cars built worldwide were French.

In the same year, Marcel was killed while competing in the Paris-Madrid car race. race Sunday.

In 1905, a taxi operator bought 1500 AG1 models, the fare meter a feature.

When a small car cost 10 years' wages, Renault pared prices via mass production in 1905 and Taylorism in 1913. The latter, devised by American Frederick Taylor in 1911, maximised job fragmentation to minimise individual skill requirements. By 1908, Renault had become the first Grand Prix winner, France's biggest car maker and New York's favourite foreign brand.

In WWI, the car maker diversified into tanks, aircraft engines and an unlikely war machine. With Germany's lightning-fast Schlieffen battle strategy threatening Paris in 1914, a thousand taxis were requisitioned.

In poorly camouflaged vehicles, red bodywork and yellow spokes, cabbies undertook their riskiest fares - whisking troops six-at-a-time to the Marne battlefield.

Renault (2)

The sight of taxi drivers heading to war helped Parisians, used to Belle Epoque comforts, to empathise with the president's call for a "sacred union" of the people and soldiers.

Today, France reveres this cab as Taxis de la Marne.

In the 1920s, the brand was making trucks, tractors based on wartime tanks and myriad car models in eight body styles.

Late 1920s, early 30s models included the Renault 6CV, 10CV, Monasix, 15CV, Vivasix, 18/22CV, 40CV, Reinastella and Vivaquatre.

During this time, the brand's sales were surpassed by the more innovative Citroen. Not known for sensitivity, Louis Renault referred to Andre Citroen as "the little Jew".

Renault regained top spot when the Great Depression affected Citroen more than the diverse Renault.

Amid the economic malaise, hard-left car-industry unions intensified strike action.

Hard-right Louis, seeing communism as France's biggest threat, reacted by sacking 2000 workers.

When Paris came under Nazi control from mid-1940, Louis gave "the Germans butter so they wouldn't take the cows", as he explained to a friend.

He refused to build tanks but agreed to make trucks to prevent Renault's production and workforce being shifted to Germany.

Renault's factories were twice bombed in Allied raids.

In September 1944, after Paris' liberation, Renault was jailed on enemy collaboration charges, his earlier strike - breaking tactics leaving him bereft of political support. He died within a month, officially due to a urine infection though his widow claimed he had been beaten to death.

Some historians have attributed the faltering of Renault trucks on the Eastern front to deliberate manufacturing faults.

Renault was nationalised at war's end without compensation to Louis' family.

Post-war, the brand thrived under Resistance hero Pierre Lefauchaux on the back of the 4CV, developed secretly during the war.

Lefauchaux resisted directives to turn Renault into a truck-only producer, being vindicated posthumously when annual sales passed one million in 1970.

Renault (3)

Also fresh were the 6, 8, 10, front-wheel-drive Estafette, 12 and 16, a pioneering hatchback. Renault Australia assembled Renaults, Peugeots and Ford Cortina's in the 1960s and 70s.

The brand had significant global tie-ups with American Motors, Volvo and General Motors at various times.

Acquired were the Gordini and recently revived Alpine sports brands while the Renault Sport division was set up.

Racing triumphs included Mille Miglia, Le Mans, Dakar, ERC and, repeatedly, Formula One.

An iconic car was 1972's Renault 5, a stylish, versatile small car which racked up 5.3 million sales. Added, too, in the 1970s were the 15, 17, 18 and 20 variants. Early-1980s models included the pioneering Espace minivan, award-winning 9 and aerodynamic 25, but poor quality control and bloated expenses were undermining factors.

In 1985, new chairman Georges Besse slashed costs via non-core sell-offs, motorsport minimisation and mass sackings. He was gunned down in 1986 outside his home by communist terrorists.

Renault revitalised in the 1990s via the Scenic, Clio and clever Twingo.

Privatised in 1996, the marque cut costs and adopted Japanese production efficiencies. Seeing benefits in consolidation, Renault allied with Nissan in 1999.

This century

Design innovation, revealed in concept cars such as 2010's Dezir and 2016's Trezor, has been a strength.

Current models such as the Clio and Captur are head turners. The company has also specialised in small, fun-to-drive sports hatches, such as the Clio RS.

Spreading its interests, Renault has done technology swaps with Mercedes Benz, invested in Silicon Valley, linked with Chinese car China's Dongfeng and added Mitsubishi to the alliance.

Renault's future focuses are electric power, connected vehicles and autonomous cars.

Last year, the alliance was the world's leading seller of light vehicles, which excludes heavy commercials.

Who would have thought, back in 1899?

Two women working as ice deliverers carry a large block of ice from the back of a wagon using ice tongs, September 1918



Thank you Fred Twohig



November 2023

Carl Blackmore, Tom Slattery

Club Merchandise For Sale

Club shirts various sizes \$45.00 each

Available at Club meetings or contact Sean on 0439 040 188

Club Trailer

Stephen Dinner is trailer manager contact details
Stephen 0409 525 350

JETCOR MOTORCYCLES

SHOP 1 + 2 Stuart Hwy Alice Springs
Yamaha, Honda and Harley Davidson motorcycle dealership
Ph 8952-4884

REPCO ALICE SPRINGS

For your car parts
2 Whittaker St Alice Springs
Ph 8952-2377

For Sale

JOKE PAGE



What's the secret to having a smoking hot body as a senior?
Cremation.

How is the moon like dentures?
Both come out at night.

Where can single men over 65 find younger women who are interested in them?
In the bookstore, under "Fiction."

Bickering with your spouse is like trying to read the Terms of Use for a new service.
In the end, you just give up and click "I agree."

To whoever stole my copy of Microsoft Office,
I will find you. You have my Word!

What do you call a fish wearing a bow tie?
Sofishticated.

What do you call a sick lemon?
Lemon-aid.



Why did the teddy bear skip dessert?
She was stuffed.

Did you hear about the man who fell into an upholstery machine?
He's fully recovered.

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

What's the astronaut's favourite part of a computer?
The spacebar.

Why are elevator jokes so good?
They work on so many levels.

Singing in the shower is fun until you get soap in your mouth.
Then it's a soap opera.



I know they are sick however just one more issue for the year to go - enjoy

MECCA Xmas Party

Meeting Masonic Hall Sun 12th November 9am

Secret Santa to be held at end of the meeting business

Members can bring a wrapped Xmas present to max value of \$10 and marked HIS or HERS if they wish to receive back a gift from Santa

MECCA members Xmas Dinner – Sunday Night

Alice Springs Golf Club from 6.30 PM (Reservation in name of MECCA already made)

\$60- per person for the special 3 course Xmas menu pay as you go

Bring your club car to display outside the restaurant

Ring Aileen on 0491266246 or email al_campbellau@bigpond.com re how many attending by Friday 5pm so we can update numbers at Golf Club

Buffet Options

(Minimum 20 People)

Traditional Christmas Buffet

\$60 Per Person

Hot Dishes

- Turkey & Ham roast
- Seafood selection of cooked prawns & natural oysters
- Roast potatoes and vegetables
- Christmas pudding & apple crumble for dessert

Salads (Choice of 3)

- Coleslaw
- Caesar Salad
- Potato Salad
- Pasta Salad
- Garden Salad



Mecca Christmas at Golf Club alternative menu - order as you wish and pay as you go

Range View Restaurant

DINNER MENU

APPETISERS

BOWL OF CHIPS 8.00
Potato chips served gravy, tomato sauce or BBQ sauce

BOWL OF WEDGES 10.00
Bowl of seasoned wedges, served with sweet chilli & sour cream

CHICKEN WINGS (GF)
Served with your choice of buffalo, BBQ, honey soy sauce, cajun dry rub or lemon pepper dry rub
10pcs 15.00
20pcs 24.00

NACHOS 12.00
Corn chips served with avocado, salsa & sour cream
Add Beans 3.00
Add Chilli mince 4.00

ENTREES

GARLIC BREAD 7.00
Add Cheese 3.00

SOUP OF THE DAY 12.00
Served with garlic bread & croutons
Please refer to specials board for today's soup

BRUSCHETTA (V) 16.00
Crunchy grilled sour dough rubbed with fresh garlic topped with a tomato, onion & basil salsa, drizzled with balsamic reduction topped with feta

LEMON PEPPER CALAMARI 18.00
Deep fried lemon pepper calamari served with a side of chips

(GF) Gluten Free
(GFOA) Gluten Free Options Available
(V) Vegetarian

MAINS

BEER BATTERED FLATHEAD 24.00
Served with chips

CHILLI PRAWN LINGUINE 26.00
Prawns, chilli flakes & spinach sauteed in garlic butter & olive oil. Served with an aged parmesan cheese

PAN SEARED SALMON FILLET (GF) 28.50
Served with oven roasted chat potatoes, vegetables & topped with hollandaise sauce

BUTTER CHICKEN (GF) 24.00
Served with rice and papadum

PORK BELLY (GFOA) 29.00
Twice cooked pork belly on a bed of garlic mash potato served with marinated fennel slaw, char grilled asparagus and an apple cider jus

BEEF LASAGNE 18.00
Home made mince beef in marinara sauce layered with bechamel and pasta sheets served with chips


SPAGHETTI BOLOGNESE 16.00
Home made mince beef in marinara sauce served with spaghetti and parmesan cheese

CHICKEN SCHNITZEL 24.00
Home made chicken schnitzel served with chips & your choice of gravy

CHICKEN PARMIGIANA 27.00
Home made chicken schnitzel topped with napoli sauce, ham & mozzarella cheese, served with chips

MEXICAN CHICKEN PARMIGIANA 28.00
Home made chicken schnitzel topped with napoli sauce, jalapenos, cheese, corn chips & sour cream, served with chips

Alice Springs Golf Club
50 Cromwell Drive, Desert Springs, NT, 0870
www.alicespringsgolfclub.com.au
(08) 8952 1921



SALADS

CLASSIC CAESAR SALAD (GFOA) 16.00
Cos lettuce, bacon, croutons & parmesan cheese with caesar dressing
Add Chicken 4.00
Add Prawns 5.00
Add Calamari 5.00

PUMPKIN SALAD 16.00
Oven roasted pumpkin with salad, feta cheese, pine nuts and a balsamic dressing
Add Chicken 4.00
Add Prawns 5.00
Add Calamari 5.00

THAI PORK SALAD 20.00
Twice cooked pork belly tossed with a garden salad, fresh bean sprouts, vermicelli noodles & a thai chilli lime dressing

CHECK THE BOARD FOR TODAY'S SPECIALS

ADD A SIDE FOR ONLY \$5

CHIPS
GARDEN SALAD
STEAMED VEGETABLES

Range View Restaurant

DINNER MENU

OFF THE GRILL

300gm SCOTCH FILLET 38.00
Scotch fillet served with your choice of chips & salad, roast potatoes & vegetables with your choice of gravy

400gm T-BONE STEAK 38.00
T-bone steak served with your choice of chips & salad, roast potatoes & vegetable with your choice of gravy

LAMB BACKSTRAP 38.00
Char grilled lamb backstrap served with oven roasted chat potatoes & vegetables topped with rosemary gravy

GRILLED BARRAMUNDI 30.00
Grilled Barramundi fillet served with mash potato & steamed vegetables topped with garlic butter sauce

VEGETARIAN

VEGETABLE STIRFRY 22.00
Fresh seasonal vegetables sauteed in garlic & sweet soy sauce served with rice, topped with sesame seeds & onion flakes

VEGETABLE CURRY 22.00
Served with jasmine rice & papadum

VEGETABLE LASAGNE 18.00
Cheesy vegetarian lasagna served with chips

LITTLE GOLFERS - ALL \$10

FISH FINGERS & CHIPS

CHEESEBURGER & CHIPS

CHICKEN NUGGETS & CHIPS

BURGERS

Greg Norman Aussie Beef Burger 16.00
Homemade 125g beef patties, bacon, egg, onion, beetroot, lettuce, tomato and cheese served with chips

Eagles Nest Mexican Burger 16.00
Crispy chicken, jalapenos, avocado, sour cream, lettuce and tomato served with chips

Bogey Beef Burger 18.00
Scotch fillet, lettuce, tomato, aioli, cheese, smoky BBQ sauce served with chips

Birdie Chicken Burger 16.00
Grilled chicken, lettuce, tomato, aioli, cheese, smoky BBQ sauce served with chips

Greenkeeper Vegan Burger 18.00
Grilled vegan patty, Portobello mushroom, lettuce, tomato, grilled capsicum, beetroot, onion and cheese, aioli, served with chips

Vijay Singh Tandoori Burger 16.00
Tandoori chicken, lettuce, tomato, raita served with chips

Gimme Chicken Burger 16.00
Crunchy deep fried chicken, coleslaw and cheese served with chips

One Putt Smash Burger 10.00
80g ground mince patty, melted cheese, onion, pickles, mustard and ketchup served with chips

Every extra Putt - one more patty and cheese 3.00

PIZZA

	10 inch	12 inch
CHEESE	14.50	16.00
Choose from a garlic oil or napoli base topped with mozzarella		
MARGARITA	16.00	18.00
Napoli sauce base with fresh tomato, basil & mozzarella		
HAWAIIAN	19.50	22.00
Napoli sauces base, with ham, pineapple & mozzarella		
ROASTED VEGETABLE (V)	19.50	22.00
Napoli sauce base, eggplant, spinach, tomato, capsicum, mushroom, onion, zucchini with mozzarella		
PEPPERONI	19.50	22.00
Napoli sauce base with pepperoni & mozzarella		
BBQ CHICKEN & BACON	21.00	24.00
BBQ sauce base with chicken, bacon, onion, mushroom & mozzarella		
SUPREME	23.00	26.00
Napoli sauce base, ham, bacon, pepperoni, mushroom, red onion, capsicum, pineapple, olives & mozzarella		
TANDOORI CHICKEN	23.00	26.00
Napoli sauce base with tandoori marinated chicken, capsicum, onion, jalapenos & mozzarella topped with a tandoori yogurt sauce swirl		
SPICY MEXICAN	23.00	26.00
Napoli sauce base with Mexican beef mince, red onion, capsicum, jalapenos, mozzarella & topped with hot sauce		
BBQ MEAT OVERLOAD	24.00	27.00
BBQ Sauce base, with ham, bacon, chicken, ground beef & pepperoni with mozzarella		
GREEK LAMB	24.00	27.00
Napoli sauce base, marinated lamb, onion, olives, spinach, feta & mozzarella		
GARLIC PRAWN	25.00	28.00
Napoli sauce base, garlic & pesto prawns, fresh basil, tomato & mozzarella		

Gluten free pizza bases available for \$3 - 12 inch only

SAUCES

GRAVY - EXTRA GRAVY \$2

Plain
Mushroom
Pepper
Dianne
Gluten Free Gravy

SURF & TURF - \$8.00
Garlic marinated prawn & calamari



EDITORS PAGE

Well Bathurst dun and dusted what a magnificent day - in front of the big screen with family and friends, good food, wine and plenty of yahooing.

Election re Constitution done and dusted - what happens now?

Wars erupting such violence against humans never mind what is happening in this country.

We all need to get back to basics and be thank full for what we have and if we want more, work for it - its that simple - or help those who are not as well off. The world would be a much happier place.

That's my ranting over and done with.

We have been away and I'll up date you in November the last edition for the year.

CentreSpoke is very late and with the club meeting and Christmas dinner only a few days away I will end it.

Thank you to the people who have sent contributions in, I have not forgotten you and will add to November CentreSpoke.

See you Sunday

Liz Driver



I'M NOT OLD



★ ★ ★ **I'M** ★ ★ ★
CLASSIC

