



CentreSpoke

November 2023

Thought for the month

"If you are going to make something fool proof,
should never underestimate the intelligence of a fool"

Final newsletter for 2023

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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	0439 040 188
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

This year is quickly drawing to a close.

We Have had some great events with car runs, shed visits and meetings.

I think that our Xmas Dinner at the Golf Club organised by Doug was one of our best (Thanks Doug for arranging).

Our Club Meetings are always a pleasure for me, we get a chance to talk amongst ourselves and then enjoy the great nibbles after.

I have finally got my Jag going and looking forward to some runs early next year.

Club Members Cole and Trevor have settled down in their new homes and continue to keep in touch with us.

Thanks everybody for continuing to contribute to our venues and activities.

I wish you all a terrific Xmas, hopefully with family visiting, stay well and healthy and look forward to catching up again in Feb, 2024;

Don't forget the Bunnings BBQ in December

Merry Christmas

Tony O'Brien





The Sec's Desk

MECCA General Meeting Sunday 12 November 2023

Held at Harry Griffiths Masonic Hall Allchurch Street

Meeting opened by President Tony O'Brien at 9.07am

Present

Aileen Kennedy, Allan Campbell, Liz Driver, Russ Driver, Neil Tranthem, Neville Heness, Lisa Heness, Mick Ryan, Doug Draeger, Adrian Cousins, Brian Eather, Stephen Dinner, John Hubner, Raelene Beale, John Cooper, Garry Bentley, John Wischusen.

Visitors or Provisional Members

Max Broadway, Charlie Carter, David Hurst.

Apologies

Pete Hilliard, Sean Heenan, Pietje Span, Robyn Lambley, Mike & Michele Thompson, Trevor Jacobs, Stuart & Marie Gear, Bryan Cartwright, Fred & Lyn Twohig.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 October 2023 and distributed via CentreSpoke were accepted.

Moved Tony O'Brien, Seconded Allan Campbell.

Presidents Report

President Tony O'Brien's report as per distributed. Enjoy Christmas!

Presidents report accepted moved Tony O'Brien, Seconded Allan Campbell.

Secretarys Report

Correspondence In:

Bike Torque

Correspondence Out:

Nil

Secretary's report moved Tony O'Brien, Seconded Lisa Heness.



The Sec's Desk (2)

Treasurers Report

Information available read by Liz Driver.

Income: family membership deposit. Balance \$5,968.56.

Treasurers report accepted. Moved Tony O'Brien, Seconded Lisa Heness.

General Business

Calendars available today.

Donation from Robyn Lambley \$500.00 contributed towards printing of calendars.

Christmas Buffet at the Golf Club today. \$60 per head.

Pay at the Golf Club.

Secret Santa being held after meeting.

Doug Draegar organising BBQ at Bunnings on Saturday 16 December.

Working on discounts with suppliers of BBQ supplies.

Roster being organised from 9am to 3pm.

Please assist if possible – contact Doug to organise a time on the roster

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

Numbers will be required in January.

Next meeting: Breakfast meeting Sunday 11 February 9am at Olive Pink

Today's run is Christmas dinner at the Golf Club.

Meeting closed 9.51am



MECCA

MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA Inc

CLUB Calendar 2023 - 2024

16th December - fund raiser - Bunnings - BBQ

2024

11th Feb **2024** - Breakfast meeting - Olive Pink Reserve 9am

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

CLUB MEETING 12/11/23

Ah the last meeting for the year and a great turn out.

Surprise, Surprise look who turns up just after we had cuppa with Neville's' famous vanilla slice and Raelene's chocolate slice..

Santa Clause (actually Doug dressed up) and he did a marvellous job handing out the presents - Ho Ho Ho

Merry Christmas to all



MECCA CHRISTMAS DINNER AT GOLF CLUB **12/11/23**



Present: John Cooper, Raelene Beale, Douglas Draeger, Max and Annie

MECCA CHRISTMAS DINNER AT GOLF CLUB 12/11/23



Present: Tony and Brigitte O'Brien, Fred and Lyn Twohig, John and An Hubner, Garry Bentley, Allan Campbell, Aileen Kennedy, Neil Tranthem, Stephen Dinner, Neville and Megan Heness, Russ and Liz Driver, Mick, Marlene, Cassie and Matt

The smorgasbord was delicious - Ham, Turkey, vegies, oysters, prawns, pasta coleslaw, potato and mixed green salad and bread rolls.

Desert Apple crumble with cream



GREETINGS FROM CLARENDON,

TREVOR AND ANNE JACOBS

We arrived in Clarendon in early August and camped in the new house for about 10 days waiting for the furniture to turn up. This duly happened and on about the same day Liz and Russ Driver arrived from Alice Springs and delivered the Jaguar Etype. Many thanks to these two for this service, quite an effort really and much appreciated.

It arrived in pristine condition and I simply started it up and drove it into a waiting container. We are in the process of building a shed on the property and it is taking a while but that is another story. The Jag is now registered and happily scooting around the Adelaide Hills on historic registration.

To register a classic car on historic registration in South Australia is quite simple. Prove ownership, be a member of an approved club and maintain a logbook, 90 daily entries a year- that's it. No stamp duty, no 30/60 test - club days, no 3 meetings, restrictions or yearly vehicle inspections. Plates are current issue so we don't look any different to anybody else on the roads and the onus is on the owner to make sure it is roadworthy, just fill out your logbook.

The photos show my car at the South Australian Jaguar Day on 29/10/23 where there were approximately 130 Jaguars of all models and years on display.

Jaguar heaven some might say!



GREETINGS FROM CLARENDON, (2)

TREVOR AND ANNE JACOBS



Of other interest is that I found a Model T Ford differential down a well on our property. The shape looked familiar and certainly old so I fished it out to have a closer look. It's hard to determine the year but probably around 1920's and had been converted to a reduction drive for a bore pump. Out of interest I pulled it apart and the photo shows what is inside. Having been down the well for so long it is beyond use and showing huge wear and corrosion. I've cleaned it up and will be a conversation piece in the shed whenever it is built. I'm now wondering where the rest of the car is?



When next in Clarendon please call in.

Cheers for now.

Trevor Jacobs

Dad calls son to tell him he is getting a divorce

An old man calls his son and says “Listen your mother and I are getting divorced 45 years of misery is enough.

“Dad what are you talking about”

“We can’t stand the sight of each other any longer, I’m sick of her face and I’m sick of talking about this”

“So call your sister and tell her” and Dad hangs up

Now the son is worried so he calls his sister and tells her what Dad said.

“Sister says like hell they are getting divorced.

Daughter calls her father immediately.

“Dad your not getting divorced! Don’t do another thing, the two of us are flying home tomorrow to talk about this. Until then, don’t call a lawyer and don’t file for divorce.. Do you hear me?

Daughter hangs up

The old man turns to his wife and says “Okay they are both coming home for Christmas and paying their own air fares - mission accomplished.



Thank you Lisa Heness

A VELO IN THE RED CENTER

This photo was taken in 1922 at the old Alice Springs Telegraph Station.

The Velo Fellow is HG (Harry) Nelson about to set out on the campaign trail as a candidate for the first House of Representative seat for the Northern Territory.

Harry ran as an Independent and was successful in the election.

Could that be Rampaging Roy looking on?

Thank you Fred Twohig



SANTA JOKE PAGE



Why is Santa scared of chimneys?
Because he's claus-trophobic.

Why does Santa go through the chimney?
Because it soots him.

How does Santa take pictures?
With his Pole-roid camera.

Who is Santa's least favourite reindeer?
Rude-olph.

Why don't you ever see Santa Claus in the hospital?
Because he has private elf care.

What is Santa's dog's name?
Santa Paws.

What does Santa say on the night of Christmas?
"Time to hit the sack!"

What does Mrs. Claus sing to Santa on his birthday?
"Freeze a jolly good fellow!"

When Santa doesn't want to do something, what does he say?
"Snow thanks!"

When someone delivers a package to Santa, what do they do?
Ring the (jingle) bell.

What breakfast do Santa and his wife like to eat together?
Mistle-toast.

What did Mrs. Claus say to Santa as she looked up at the sky?
"Looks like rain, dear."

Why does Mrs. Claus love the Christmas season?
It makes her feel so santa-mental.

What would Santa be called if he went down a chimney with the fire going?
Crisp Kringle.




2024 Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia Calendar

Now available - ring Neville Heness on 0428740964 to collect
yours this year or collect at breakfast meeting
11th February at Olive Pink

**MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB
OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA**

Inc. Alice Springs Veteran and Vintage Car Club | PO Box 1556 Alice Springs
Email: mecca@mecca.asn.au | Website: www.mecca.asn.au | President Tony O'Brien 0428 630 366

**MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB
ANGELINA
1917 TALENT
DECEMBER 11
CENTRAL AUSTRALIA**



2024 CALENDAR

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
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26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31										
SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
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29	30						27	28	29	30	31		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					

Public Meetings Club Meetings AGM Meeting

Mecca Memories 2023

12/2/23 Breakfast Olive Pink Reserve



12/3/23 Garage Crawl
To Stuart and Marie Gear,
Doug and Elaine Draeger,
and Peter Hilliard

Great day with BBQ at
Allan Campbell and
Aileen Kennedy's place

16/4/23 run and BBQ at RTHF



Mecca Memories 2023

1/5/23 Bang Tail Muster



7/5/23 Aces and Eights Coffee & Chrome

14/5/23 Mothers Day lunch at Hilton

(this was a non Mecca Event
some members celebrated the day
together)



Mecca Memories 2023



21/5/23 run to Simpson Gap
and end up at
Doug Draeger's place
for BBQ lunch

18/6/23 run to Standley Chasm -
lunch—Yummy



7th - 8th July 2023
Alice Springs Show
Great members turnout

Mecca Memories 2023



13/8/23 New Committee formed



2/9/23
Red Centre Nats

Aileen showing off
the Mecca Marque



2/9/23
Red Centre Nats
Winners
Neville and Russ



Mecca Memories 2023

15/10/23 Run to Ross River for lunch



12/11/23 November Kris Kringle giving out present at meeting.

Golf club for Christmas dinner





Raelene Beale, Garry Bentley, Mark Dunn,
Peter Hilliard, Steve Vandenberg

January 2024

Douglas Draeger, Robyn Lambley, Pietje Span,
Mike Thompson,

February 2024

Brian Cartwright, Marie Gear, Mandy Vandenberg, Karen Heenan

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



EDITORS PAGE

Its been a very interesting month. As you may know we went to Adelaide for Bay to Birdwood Rally, had a magnificent day we were 4th to exit Barrett Oval for the run to Birdwood. Total of 1500 participants and a great variety of vehicles and bikes.





EDITORS PAGE

I forgot to say on the drive to Adelaide we had a generally uneventful drive except our trailer brakes did not perform the way you would want. After stopping several times, checking connections, fuses and all the obvious, we disconnected the trailer plug and reconnected and whamo we had trailer brakes - a dry joint some where, always pays to go back to basics.

After a magnificent day at Birdwood catching up with Adelaide friends and relies, we passed the following days with locating tie rod ends for the Rockne and found Rod Collins from Rod-Tech at 190 Hampstead Rd Clearview and he looked at our tie rod and sample and came out with a left and right hand tie rod total cost \$66.00 we were excited. While down I had a doctor check up and results at present I have all clear of Cancer - such a relief.

Our Son rang and said Mum and Dad please stay in Adelaide for a few more days don't come home. I immediately replied what disaster has occurred and was informed an early Christmas present was on its way by email. On opening email we had return tickets from Adelaide to Gold Coast, B&B paid for 3 nights and 2 tickets to Paul McCartney concert. Well what could we say?

On arrival to the concert we located our seats - nothing but the best seating to be confronted by our Daughter in law's parents - Yep they also got an all expense paid holiday. And we all had a great time.

Moral of the story is be nice to your kids they may reward you in the future.

We finally got home 3 weeks later - there is no place like home.

We have been flat out with family, our eldest grand daughter has gone to Canada for a year working holiday, Our Grand son and partner have gone to U.K visiting in laws (or should I say outlaws LOL) will be coming and going back to Australia for the next couple of years - where they end up who knows. Our Son and family are going to Japan for Christmas. So peace and quiet on the Driver property this year for Christmas.

Time to do modifications before every one gets home - surprise surprise.

Well we have had a excellent year with the club and the new members - welcome. Our new Host has served excellent cuppa's and nibbles. Other members have chipped in and helped out and attended runs. Other members have had health issues and hopefully on the way to full recovery.

Well here is to 2024 stay cool, eat lots, drink lots, laugh lots, sleep lots, stay healthy and if you are bored or lonely give some of the members a call, they will appreciate hearing from you.

Merry Christmas to All
Liz Driver



