



CentreSpoke

February 2024

Thought for the month

"Why should we worry about what others think of us, do we have more confidence in their opinions than we do our own?"

Brigham Young

***There was a reason
they were called
Service Stations.***



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

Happy New Year to all Members—2024 is off and Running.

Our Feb Breakfast Club Meeting at the Olive Pink Reserve well attended.

Great to see so many fresh faces, sad to hear at the meet that John Hubner will be leaving us soon and moving to Mount Gambier.

Our next Meeting will be on Sun March the 10th where we are looking at a possible Shed Run, I will keep you up to date on that.

The Hot weather has not been too kind so keep Hydrated.

Not a Lot to discuss this early in the year, thanks again to all involved in keeping our club running.

There are some issues to discuss regarding Club Vehicle Specifications, relevant emails will be circulated for later discussion.

Stay well, looking forward to our Club Events.

Thanks.

Tony O'Brien





MECCA

MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA
Inc

CLUB Calendar 2023 - 2024

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

BEAN TREE CAFÉ MECCA BREAKFAST 11/2/24

An enjoyable get together on the beginning of our exciting year ahead .

The food was great as per usual and lots of tales to tell of holidays from last meeting to now.

Well done to all that attended.

Tony O'Brien, Douglas Draeger, Stuart and Marie Gear, Neville, Lisa and Megan Heness, Adrian Cousins, Charlie Carter, Dave Hurst, Mike Thompson, Paul Hinkley, John Cooper, Raelene Beale, John and An Hubner



We have a famous person in the club launching her Uu-mAH- miA
chili crunch sauce - available at Milner Meats

Well done Raelene



JDFPG Family day photos 9th September 23

Photos compliments of JDFPG

Present,

John Hubner, Ross Murphy, Douglas Draeger, Peter Hilliard, John Cooper,
Peter Dunn, Allan Campbell, Aileen Kennedy, Adrian Cousins, Luke Cousins
and Tony O'Brien



Secret to staying married and keeping healthy



Everyone was asking a 100-year-old man for his health secrets: The old man said: I'll tell you a secret. I've been married for 75 years. Promised my wife when we got married that when we quarrel, the loser has to walk for 5 kilometers. I've been walking 5 kilometers every day for 75 years! Everyone asked again: But how come your wife's very healthy as well? The old man answered: I'll tell you another secret. She'd been following me to make sure I really finish the 5 kilometers!

BUNNINGS BBQ FUNDRAISER 16/12/23

After booking the only date available left in the year for a BBQ, I was surprised that no other community group had not taken up already the last shopping weekend before Xmas as I expected it would be great for sales

I was wrong

Found out only the day before the BBQ that this weekend is one of two for the lowest customer weekends at Bunnings for the whole year ?

The reason given – schools closed and most building trades and builders had finished for the year the week before and staff had already left town for the holiday break

Of course it transpired that she was right – sales were slow and \$ takings low
Fortunately I did hold back on buying too much food and drink so to avoid left over food

Sausages and drinks sold out.

Some left over bread and condiments I bought for the volunteer fire station (made cash donation)

If the club is still keen for another opportunity, we are promised a choice date in winter for better turnover and maximum profit

I especially would like to thank the members who helped on the day

Sean Heenan, Tony and Margret McKenzie, John Cooper, Tony O'Brien, and Neville Heness for bringing down the club banner and Liz Driver for bringing down printed club information flyers

Douglas Draeger

Takings for the day -

Expenses per receipts kept	\$ 413.95
Income – EFT (square)	\$ 319.28
Cash	\$ 614.05
Donations (rounded up)	\$ 80.62
Total to club account	\$ 600 .00

Not a bad income for such a hot day - Congratulations

Correspondence below

Cads Stafford

Bunnings Activities Organiser Alice Springs

I heard you finished early, I think the heat is far to much. I am sorry it wasn't the greatest BBQ. If you would like to plan another date, I am taking booking for the new year. The cooler months are definitely the months you will take a greater profit. Can range between \$900 to \$1700.

Kind Regards,



Bunnings Group Limited

Cnr Stuart Highway & Power Street, Braitling, NT 0870 | PO Box 1446, Alice Springs NT 0871

(08) 8959 8200 | alicespringsao@bunnings.com.au

[bunnings.com.au](https://www.bunnings.com.au)

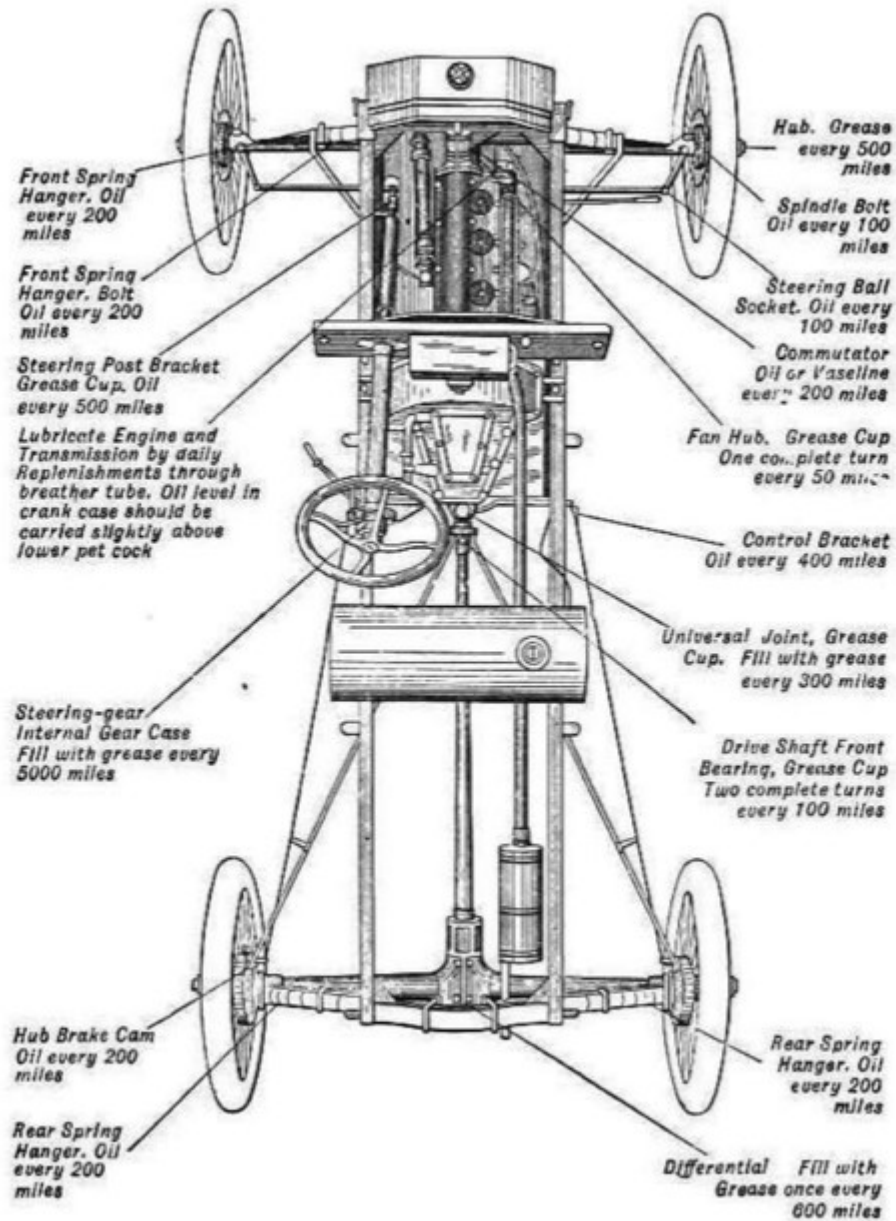
BUNNINGS BBQ FUNDRAISER 16/12/23



BUNNINGS BBQ FUNDRAISER 16/12/23 (2)



MODEL T OILING POINTS



REPCO STARLIGHT FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER 26/12/23

Mick Ryan from Repco approached members re a fundraiser and wondered whether we would like to bring our vehicles to promote the club and raise money. What else did we have to do on boxing day but support our member. Well we had a ball, taking to the public and of course sausage sizzle was hot on the agenda so we did not starve.

Repco raised approximately \$145 for the Starlight Foundation.

Mick also donated to Mecca for a raffle 'Meguiar's endurance shine bucket'



Mick also donated to Mecca for a raffle 'Meguiar's endurance shine bucket'

LIFE

Thank you Fred Twohig

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later.

I don't have to go to school or work.

I get an allowance every month.

I have my own pad.

I don't have a curfew.

I have a driver's license and my own car.

The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant and I don't have acne.

Life is great.

I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds.

People get out of the way much faster now.

Gone are the days when girls used to cook like their mothers. Now they drink like their fathers.

I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row. I decided to stop calling the bathroom "John" and renamed it the "Jim". I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

Old age is coming at a really bad time.

When I was a child I thought "nap time" was a punishment. Now it feels like a small vacation.

The biggest lie I tell myself is... " I don't have to write that down, I'll remember it".

I don't have gray hair... I have "wisdom highlights"! I'm just very wise.

If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would've put them on my knees.

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet.

Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

Of course, I talk to myself. Sometimes I need expert advice.

At my age "Getting Lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for.

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names.

Now, I'm wondering... did I send this to you, or did you send it to me?

Content-Type: text/html IMPORTANT: This e-mail is intended for the use of the individual addressee(s) named above and may contain information that is confidential privileged or unsuitable for overly sensitive persons with low self-esteem, no sense of humour or irrational religious beliefs. If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail is not authorized (either explicitly or implicitly) and constitutes an irritating social faux pas. Unless the word absquatulation has been used in its correct context somewhere other than in this warning, it does not have any legal grammatical use and may be ignored. No animals were harmed in the transmission of this e-mail, although the kelpie next door is living on borrowed time, let me tell you. Those of you with an overwhelming fear of the unknown will be gratified to learn that there is no hidden message revealed by reading this warning backwards, so just ignore that Alert Notice from Microsoft. If you have received this e-mail in error, by pouring a complete circle of salt around yourself and your computer you can ensure that no harm will come to you and your pets.

JOKE PAGE



As a butcher is shoos a dog from his shop, he sees a \$10 note in the dog's mouth and a note reading "10 lamb chops, please."

Amazed, the butcher takes the money, puts a bag of chops in the dog's mouth and quickly closes the shop.

He follows the dog and watches him wait for a green light, look both ways, and trot across the road to a bus stop.

The dog checks the time table and sits on the bench.

When a bus arrives, he walks around to the front and looks at the number, then boards the bus.

The butcher follows, dumbstruck.

As the bus travels out into the suburbs, the dog takes in the scenery.

After awhile he stands on his back paws to push the "stop" button, then the butcher follows him off.

The dog runs up to a house and drops his bag on the porch.

He goes back down the path, takes a big run, and throws himself -Whap - against the door.

He does this again and again.

No answer.

So he jumps on a wall, walks around the garden, beats his head against a window, jumps off, and waits at the front door.

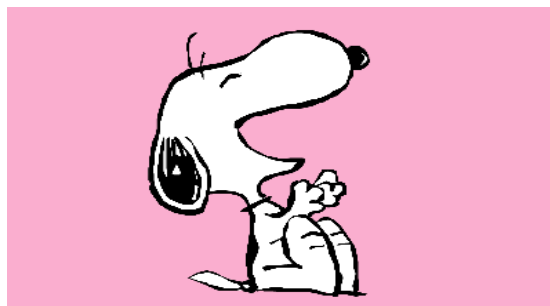
A big guy opens it and starts cursing and shouting at the dog.

The butcher runs up screams at the guy: "What the hell are you doing?"

This dog's a genius!"

The owner responds,

"Genius my ass, this is the second time this week he's forgotten his key!"





March 2024

John Bridgefoot, Liz Driver, John Hubner, Derek Poolier

Club Merchandise For Sale

Club shirts various sizes \$45.00 each

Available at Club meetings or contact Sean on 0439 040 188

Club Calendar

Available at club meeting or contact Neville Heness 0428 740 964

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

Hello every one. Well nearly 3 months off with no commitments and do whatever we want. Christmas was quiet for us, many members went away interstate, others enjoyed a quiet hot muggy time here at home LOL. Time certainly gets away, Mecca Brekky done and dusted and only 10 months to Christmas - I know don't say that.

We had a road trip to Adelaide and dropped off Trevor and Anne's Chrysler to Clarendon. Absolutely amazing Trevor put a battery in the Chrysler, some petrol and wham O up she started after all these months - incredible. Anne was particularly excited to get the car back as it has precious memories of them getting married. Chrysler is now safe and sound in its new home until the garage is built. Love the ramps into the container.





EDITORS PAGE (2)

We had the pleasure of having a tour of the property, beautiful trees, shrubbery and flowers, and heaps of pear trees with some apple trees. By the way they are sick of eating pears, so if you want some go on down help yourself to the pears

Just for a laugh Anne was not impressed with their new house it needed lots of attention, the roof was falling in and in places no wall or if there was a wall it was at 90 degree angle, the dust, rain, wind and what ever was coming inside.

Home sweet home—see what I mean



Anne decided enough is enough instead of Trevor going to golf, Trevor needed to spruce up the place.



EDITORS PAGE (3)

So Trevor thought this is no good I had better get cracking and put effort into this place.

This is the outcome



Trevor and Anne have a magnificent weather proof home plus their own vintage fuel bowser (no fuel) and lots of pears





EDITORS PAGE (4)

Oh dear nearly forgot, you blokes will be interested in this. Trevor's Man cave, it is literally a Man cave, you need to be short to enter.



Yep you guessed this is the entrance, bob down low and come on in.

Russ and Trevor checking out the goodies in the Man cave





EDITORS PAGE (5)

All jokes aside Trevor and Anne have a magnificent property and if you are down that way call in they would love you see you.

I have been sprucing up the place - obviously bored - or crazy.
Decided that my Halloween shopping should be on display.
Grandson donated the toilet and out came the paint and brush.
So don't enter on a dark night you might be scared out of your wits LOL.



Our next club meeting 10th March at 9am at Masonic Hall with a shed crawl etc.

Have fun, stay healthy

Liz Driver

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

Email: mecca@mecca.asn.au Web Site: www.mecca.asn.au

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.

