



# CentreSpoke

August 2021



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)

# **HISTORY OF OUR CLUB 1968 to 2021**

The Alice Springs Vintage and Veteran Vehicle Club recorded its first public meeting called by Mr R Bean on 31/7/1968 and was held at R. Beans residence 5 Hele Cres Alice Springs.

Meeting opened at 8.30pm with G Fawcett in the chair.

Present: G. Braham, G. Milgate, E. Doust, G. Verral, I. Wilson, R. Waite, R. Bean, L. Perry, N. Fullerton and G. Fawcett

Apologies: J. Arkey, Tony Maloney.

General business: G Milgate opened general discussions on the merits of forming a club to promote the interest in veteran and vintage cars, both restoring vehicles and sponsoring rallies.

There was further general discussion and comments were given by Roger Wait with the suggestion that groups of interested persons could work on the restoration of a single vehicle at any one time, until each interested member had a vintage or veteran car of his or her own.

On general discussion it was suggested that the chairman contact the S.A.V.V.C.C for suggestions re forming a constitution. This idea met with a mixed reception as a few persons present did not favour the advertising of the fact that a V.V. club was being formed in the centre.

Moved: by R Waite that the name of the proposed club be N.T.V.V.C

Seconded by G Braham

Motion carried

Moved by R. Waite that the chairman contact the S.A.V.V.V.C advising them that we are intending to form a VV. Car club and requesting any advice and to ask for a copy of their constitution.

Seconded ; J Vonox                      Motion carried

The meeting appointed the following committee to examine the S.A.V.V.C.C constitution.

R Bean, G Fawcett, J Vonox, R Waite and I Wilson

There were general discussions on a night for the next meeting and it was generally agreed that Wednesday night was most suitable.

R Bean requested that the expenses such as advertising printing and postage paid by persons before the formation of the club be refunded on formation.

Meeting closed 9.40pm

( this is a copy of the original minutes which can be viewed by contacting Stuart Gear)

Cont.

## **HISTORY OF OUR CLUB (2)**

It appears looking at meetings the last entry 14/11/73 no more meetings as it appears members were few and far between.

On 5/10/75 the club has reformed and meeting was held at residence of G.P France 21 Bruce St.

Present: Paul France, Bernie Kilgariff, Alf Goater, Noel Fullarton, Keith Ashby, Barry Sweetman

Apologies: Don Grant and Phil Davenport.

At this meeting it was decided a new club badge be designed - a circular badge, designed exactly the same as the old one except for words "Historic Motor Club" colours to be - car black and silver on ochre background. Outer band to be white with black lettering. CentreSpoke it appears became alive however the editor was replaced A Goater and would be put out by-monthly starting June 1976. The clubs bank balance was \$323.60.

Meetings were once again at residences or the Telegraph Station.

In 1977 the club had a Patron: Bernie Kilgariff and meetings moved to Shell Todd Restaurant

At the 20th general meeting held at Shell Todd Restaurant on 29/9/78 It was suggested by D Grant that the club be incorporated thereby protecting all individual members and that a public officer be appointed and this was carried unanimously.

In 1978 at 22nd general meeting it was decided to give adults christmas presents to maximum value of \$3.00 and gifts marked Male or Female.

At this time Bank Balance for the club was \$92.76.

The 31st general meeting on 25/11/79 at Simpson Gap

In general business there was much discussion about the club acquiring land for the purpose of building its own club rooms. Dave Simpson offered land for yearly lease at a nominal rate. Club talked about gaining a government grant for land and then obtaining a loan at 1percent for a building to be erected. Don Grant moved that the secretary write to the Minister for Youth Sport and Recreation Nick Dondas as to the possibility of the acquisition free government land within or near the town area for the formation of clubrooms of the Veteran and Vintage Car Club of Alice Springs or the possibility of purchase of such land at a reasonable price

Moved: Don Grant Seconded Dawn Hume

The Club held raffles, cake stalls handcraft, pot plants car wash, and received donations from business's for the building fund for club rooms.

Don Grant was awarded life membership at the 46th meeting 22/5/81

Meeting 27/8/82 the 60th meeting

President reported Stuart Auto Museum for sale \$500,000 and was looking at possibility of club financing.

On 63rd meeting 26/11/82 President spoke on the development of proposed Crispe St Land.

Cont.

## **HISTORY OF OUR CLUB (3)**

On 63rd meeting 26/11/82 President spoke on the development of proposed Crispe St Land.

The 67th Meeting on 26/5/83 at Telford Alice  
Life membership was granted to Len Davenport

The 72nd meeting at Telford Alice on 23/9/83  
President or Chairman - Sylvia Davenport first ever female since foundation meeting 1968

The 82nd meeting on 24/8/84 held at Telford Alice  
A Building committee for the new club rooms were formed  
Des Whan, Graham Baily, Paul Roughan

3/1985 the signing and sealing of documents from Lands Dept for Crispe St was executed.

Concerns re cost of council rates for the property - on approach to Council to reduce rates for the club were extinguished as we were not eligible - members were doing more fundraising to pay the bills and the social outings were nearly non existent.

Special meeting on 20/9/85 at YMCA

Secretary outlined various proposals for building  
Wytons shed 60' x 30'x10' supply only \$6730.00  
Glen Sawtel shed 60' x 30' x 10' completely erected \$20,000  
Lysaght easy frame 60' x30' x 10' \$9,200.00  
Concrete for floor \$2,100.00, footings \$500.00, Weldmesh \$400.00,  
Fordicon \$130.00, Electrical wiring \$2,000.00 all up cost \$14,430.00

Motion was passed by Peter Anderson that the club use demountable building from McMahon Constructions as proposed by  
P. Roughan, seconded L. Davenport

Cont.

## **Crispe St Club block was cleared 2/87**



29/3/87 Demountable put into position on blocks - by Trevor Jacobs, Stuart Gear and other helpers

Members were always on the new club block working

7/3/88 Finally Building Approval—Yippee after a 4 month wait

The Building Committee reported -

Sewer and Water will be at government expense—funds available June.  
Water for site will be accessed by neighbours property  
Building site excavated and levelled, compacted, Kerb cut and driveway excavated, slab ready to be boxed by builder.

Building materials finally on site and in August 1988 building at lock up stage, there was still work to be done however it felt like the end was here and members could enjoy being a club again.

Members had put their heart and soul into building clubrooms and were looking forward to previous club room days

## **Crispe St club rooms today**



Meetings were held in the new club rooms, however it was not long before the women became discontent.

Previously meetings were held at eating venues so they could order and be waited on and no dishes, with the new club rooms they were expected to cook, wash and clean the clubrooms and the women eventually let their memberships lapse as they felt used and unappreciated. Club rented the property to a Art Society so monthly rent was received

The remaining members found the bills keeping the club rooms were ridiculous and no matter what rent, fundraisers were held, the club fell into further debt and members decreased dramatically.

It was decided to relinquish the club rooms so a letter was sent to the Chief Minister Shane Stone to dispose of the property and possibly hand it over to Central Australian Art Society, they were happy to take over Premises

It was harder to dispose of premises than it was to receive - eventually the Art Society took premises over and they still occupy premises today



5-8-76

Alice Springs Vintage and Veteran Car Club Inc  
Crispe Street, P.O. Box 1506  
ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871

To the Office of the Chief Minister  
Mr Shane Stone  
G.P.O. Box 3146  
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Sir

We the members of Alice Springs Vintage and Veteran Car Club Inc. (currently in process of changing name to M.E.C.C.A - Motor Enthusiasts Car Club of Central Australia) wish to relinquish our use of the club rooms and land as of the earliest possible date. We appreciate the use of this property but it is no longer required due to the following reasons:

Many of the old members left the club because of the time commitment to maintain the premises and meet club demands. This left them little or no time to attend to the maintenance of their cars, which of course is their chief enjoyment. They also found that they were left with little time to participate in other club events.

Club membership slowly dwindled away due to these time commitments leaving the club in a state of dormancy until the present revival. New members do not require the premises as it is not essential for planned activities.

The current members are happy to hold meetings on any of the rallies or in the members homes. This situation is quite acceptable to the long term members of the club.

Alice Springs Vintage and Veteran Car Club Inc. obtained a Government grant for the land and construction. Building material costs were approximately \$55,000 and the club contributed approximately \$30,000 as well as providing all labour.

The Central Australian Art Society Inc. have been utilising the building for the last two and a half years. During this time it has been fully maintained by them.

Our club has not received remuneration apart from service costs (i.e. Power and Water, etc) from the members of The Central Australian Art Society Inc. and we have been delighted with the care taken by this group in maintaining the premises. We strongly support their Society retaining this facility.

Cont 2

## Letter to Office of the Chief Minister (2)

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The above is an outline of the present situation. We would welcome the opportunity for further discussions with you regarding this matter.

We would appreciate your prompt consideration to this business.

We look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully

*T. D. Bullock 5-8-96*

**Tony Bullock**  
**PRESIDENT**  
**(08) 8952 9889**



## **Revitalise the Club**

In June 1996 a new steering committee in Tony Bullock's shed was formed to revitalise the club as follows

President: Tony Bullock  
 Vice President: Alvena Spears  
 Treasurer: Craig Baxster  
 Public Officer: Merv Matthews  
 Historian: Dave Simpson  
 Editor: Lorraine Morgan  
 Crank Handle: Shaun Morgan  
 Committee: Chris Brockhoff, Rodney Crush, Cliff York, Ralph Yates, Ray Bayney, Wally Spears, Mark Sheedy and Jeff Thomas

### **The first President Report 1996**

#### **PRESIDENTS REPORT 1996**

Hi to all Motor Enthusiasts and welcome to all past, present and future members of our growing Motor Enthusiast Club of Central Australia. M.E.C.C.A

On behalf of myself and our enthusiastic committee I would like to thank all members who have participated in the club activities so far, and for their efforts in getting together and making this new revised club work.

The new news letter which Shaun and Family members, not excluding Keith Julie and the committee's contributions will be a great and exciting addition to our club.

As I pointed out in my president's introduction our news letters are the lifeline of our club and takes time and effort to put together. If you have anything of interest For Sale or you just don't want to miss out on something please read it, or enter it in the News Letter.

I will sign off by finally stating how pleased and proud I am to be a member of "M.E.C.C.A" and hope to all members and possible hopeful new members that our club will be a beneficial club to all concerned in every aspect, either it be friendship, camaraderie, helpfulness, productive, educational or whatever is necessary to make this a successful club.

Until our next News Letter,  
 SAFE CRUZIN

Tony Bullock

## **Revitalise the Club (2)**

In August 1996 Alice Springs Vintage and Veteran Car Club inc was in the process of changing its name to Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia inc. Office of Business Affairs approved change of the name on 22/8/96.

The club prospered with new members, finances were now sound without the expense of the club house.

Club meetings were again held at Dave Simpsons place, Showgrounds and various locations before hiring Masonic Hall which has great parking, good facilities, and meeting room with affordable rates.

The club as been privileged to having great people on the committee to name a few—from the beginning G. Braham, N. Fullarton, R. Waite, R Bean, B Zadow, L Davenport, W & L Pfau, P & J Mostram, J Lawrence, T & Y Owen, M Matthews, M & S Trull, and R Yates

And the stay-hards S & M Gear, W & A Spears, C & V Jarrett, B Eather, A Frank, T Bullock, T Jacobs, and of course can't forget our politicians G & L Braham, R. Lambley, B. Kilgariff who have helped the club with support for printer requirements, levy for car club registrations and donations.

Shannons Insurance for giving the club great insurance rates for club vehicles and donations.

Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia Inc has thrived every since, involved with Show and Shine, Red Centre Nats, Bangtail Muster, Alice Springs show and club events. The Club moral was very strong.

The change of name and the ongoing success we have to congratulate Merv Matthews, Public Officer for all he had to do and follow guidelines he had plenty of headaches—congratulations

# CHANGE OF BUSINESS NAME



NORTHERN TERRITORY ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT  
**OFFICE OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS**

Our Ref: 00682C

22 August, 1996

Mervyn Kenneth Matthews  
Public Officer  
MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CAR CLUB OF  
CENTRAL AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED  
PO Box 1456  
ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871

Dear Sir

RE: **MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CAR CLUB OF CENTRAL  
AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED - CHANGE OF NAME**

Enclosed is the Certificate of Incorporation on Change of Name of the above-named association incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act*.

Please note that the correct name of the Association is "MOTOR ENTHUSIASTS CAR CLUB OF CENTRAL AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED". **This name must not be shortened, lengthened or used in any other form EXCEPT that the word "INCORPORATED" may be shortened to "INC."**. Should a different version of the name be deemed more desirable, the members will have to vote again to change the name.

Yours sincerely

Terence M. Kelliher  
**DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF ASSOCIATIONS**

Enc.



Northern Territory Government

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT JUNE / 1997

Well! Here we are a complete circle. From the start of our new revised club last year to the first A.G.M. under the new banner on 29<sup>th</sup> June 1997 to be held at Mr. and Mrs. Simpsons residence. I hope everybody will make it.

**IMPORTANT!** All members should be financial to vote but due to the amnesty we had for 1996 / 97 it will be waived, but please make sure you are financial after the A.G.M. as for the club to function successfully a full majority membership vote creates a strong executive and committee.

I guess this is the appropriate time to inform you and all members of our club that due to intense business and private commitments I will not be standing again for the position of President or any committee position this coming A.G.M.

During the past year that I have been your representative as President I have enjoyed the time and the experience immensely and would like to have continued; but with the combination of work, looking after my aged mother, children at school with greater demands as they get older and so on there are some down sides; one being time.

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to the members of the committee of the last year for their great support and help and to you our members, for your continued enthusiasm.

Cont.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT JUNE / 1997 (2)**

### **Reflections of the past year:**

**The** revival and renaming of the old club "Vintage Car club" to Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia Inc. was a great success.

**The** sorting out of the clubrooms,

**The** remaking of the Overlander Badges,

**The** Club runs throughout the year,

**The** attendance at committee meetings,

**The** new memberships through the year,

**The** Club raffle underway,

**The** introduction of the News letter,

**The** excellent deal we received with the producing of our news letter and all other photocopying,

**The** introduction of Members name tags,

**The** introduction of Family membership,

**The** success of the combined car show,

**The** making of the Membership card,

**The** erasing of stamp duty on classic vehicles,

**The** clarification of Club members and their addresses etc, advertisement sponsorships in our news letter,

**The** producing of the club banner,

**The** revising of membership forms and Overlander Forms,

**The** introduction of Historian and Crank handle Positions, **and** all the things that are in the pipeline; like club "T" shirts, club lapel badges and car club badges etc. all this and more was accomplished for 1996 / 97.

Cont.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT JUNE / 1997 (3)**

The combined Motor Show was a great success. In my view the public attendance was greater than in previous years and everyone appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. I was a little disappointed that a lot of vehicles that were there last year were not there this year but still it was a good show. The weather was beautiful and the atmosphere was most pleasant. Congratulations to all the winners.

I would now like to express my thanks to all the people who so willingly helped make the Motor Show a success particularly to the members of our club. I must also include all the non members of our club who so willingly gave up their time to contribute to the success of the combined Motor Show.

For the interest of members who may not be aware of the support our club gave towards the success of the Motor Show I would like to tell everyone what we did. This included all the following :-

Designed, had photocopied and distributed the Motor Show Poster.

Designed, had photocopied the application forms

Worked in with the judges sorting out the results etc.

Designed, had photocopied the judging sheets.

Designed, had photocopied then cut, the "Peoples Choice" leaflets.

Revamped, had photocopied then stapled with the entry form the disclaimer statement.

Arranged the marshalling

Supplied the barbecue.

Contributed to the purchase of the trophies and all other expenses.

Arranged the Judges.

Helped with advertising by phoning various news media.

All these and more incidentals our club has contributed.

I would like once again to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all for a job well done. Thank you all.

To round up the final President's report for 1996 / 97, I would like to wish our Club M.E.C.C.A. Inc. a Good, Prosperous, Friendly and enjoyable year to come for 1997 / 98 and wish the new committee a great success in keeping the Club Strong and Active.

**SAFE CRUZIN !**

YOUR 1996 / 97 PRESIDENT

TONY BULLOCK



**“Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia”  
Members list Date 07 July 1997.**

<u>Club No:</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Owners Vehicles</u>
033	Ballantyne	Lex	1980 Triumph TR7
050	Baney	Ray	1984 XF Falcon S.W.
051	Baney	Marion	Supporting Member
009	Baxter	Craig	1986 Ford LTD
011	Brockhoff	Chris	1972 XU- Torana A.9.X Torana 1993 V.R. Holden Ute, 1994 Holden Statesman
047	Brockhoff Stapleton	Lyn Bruce	Supporting Member 1966 SS Chevy. Chevalle 1967 A. code Mustang coupe
002	Bullock	Tony	1959 Ford Sunliner Convertible 1966 Mustang G.T. Coupe ,
040	Bullock	Linda	Supporting Member
035	Chabrel	Meg	Supporting Member
025	Connellan	Chris	Supporting Member
021	Crush	Rodney	M.G. TD 2000
054	Johnson	Val	Supporting Member
003	Dodkins	Keith	1975 Escort
005	Dodkins	Julie	Supporting Member
014	Driver	Russ	1933 Rockne (Studebaker 1952 Buick, 1949 Vauxhall, 1944 WW2 Jeep (and others)
041	Driver	Liz	Supporting Member
042	Glover	Ruth	1982 E.S.P 351 Ford Falcon
024	Glover	Peter	Supporting Member
057	Ebdon	Wally	Supporting Member
058	Ebdon	Norma	Supporting Member
001	Grant	Don	Life Member
037	Hains	Simon	1972 M.G.B Roadster
036	Hains	Vanessa	Supporting Member
034	Hodge	Les	HK. Holden Monaro
017	Jacobs	Trevor	1925 Chrysler

Cont.

**“Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia”**  
**Members list Date 07 July 1997. (2)**

<u>Club No:</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Owners Vehicles</u>
039	Klarenbeek	Mike	1954 Chevrolet 1951 Ford Tow Truck, 1972 Leyland Truck
055	Klarenbeek	Faye	1973 XA Falcon 2dr Fast Back
022	Levett	Peter	Austin A 40, Toyota, Maverick
007	Matthews	Merv	M.G.B. GT 1974 Jaguar XJ6
053	Matthews	Adrienne	Supporting Member
016	Morgan	Shauns	Supporting Member
015	Morgan	Lorraine	Supporting Member
032	Pearn	Hippie John	1974 Jaguar X.J.12 L 1996 Triumph Trophy 1200
018	Pfau	Wulf	Supporting Member
019	Pfau	Lorraine	Supporting Member
038	Redden	Luke	1970 X.W. Fairmont
056	Redden	Marilou	Supporting Member
004	Riede	Lyndon	1958 Customline (star model)
013	Riede	Kathy	Supporting Member
048	Rowe	Tommy	1995 Mustang
049	Rowe	Mona	Supporting Member
059	Sheedy	Mark	1994 Nissan Bluebird Triple S.
060	Sheedy	Dianne	Supporting Member
008	Simpson	Dave	1924 straight 8 Packard 1910 Model ‘T’ Ford, 20s Austin Seven Early 20s Ford Tractor.
043	Simpson	Belinda	Supporting Member
029	Smith	Les	Holden’s:- 1948 F.X., 1957 F.E. 1959 F.C., 1962 E.K., 1963 E.J., 1964 E.H., 1967 H.R., 1962 R. series Valiant, 1961 Bedford tip Truck, 1983 R.X.7,
030	Smith	Julie	Supporting Member
020	Spears	Wally	1921 Model .T. Ford 1939 Buick.
006	Spears	Alvena	Supporting Member

Cont.

**“Motor Enthusiasts Club of Central Australia”  
Members list Date 07 July 1997. (3)**

<u>Club No:</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Owners Vehicles</u>
028	Stainer	Alan	50cc Road Race replica Motor Bike Drag Car junior Rail, Drag Car Mitsubishi with 302 Ford V8 Drag Car Mitsubishi with 302 Ford V8
046	Thomas	Jeff	1975 Chrysler Gal.
044	Thomas	Noelene	Supporting Member
026	Waller	Darryl	1972 X.A.GT. Falcon Coupe Lancer Coupe, Lancer Hatchback 1976 XC Street machine 460 engine.
027	Waller	Patricia	Supporting Member
045	Warner	Chris	1971 X.Y. Falcon Ute.
031	Webb	Marilyn	Supporting Member
012	Yates	Ralph	1926/27 Overland Whippet 1925 Overland
010	York	Cliff	M.G.TD 2000 1966 Mustang Convertible in USA 1966 Mustang Coup in USA 1958 2.door Chevrolet Impala in USA
052	York	Maureen	Supporting Member

## 1998 Show and Shine Lasseter Casino





## 1998 Show and Shine Lasseter Casino (2)





**1998 Show and Shine Lasseter Casino (3)**





## 1998 Show and Shine Lasseter Casino (4)



## **1998 Show and Shine Lasseter Casino (5)**





Dave Simpson with his 1926 Buick now located at RTHF



Cliff Yorke sorting out the wiring

Dave Simpson and Tony Bullock





**Don McInness and his mother with Vincent Black  
Shadow motor cycle and Dusting side car**



**Des Whan in Morris '8' in Bangtail**





**Rolls Royce and Chevrolet part of Dave Simpsons collection. Photo taken at opening of early Masters Games.**

**Rolls Royce driven by Wulf Pfau, passenger Dawn Fraser  
Chevrolet driven by Stuart Gear, passengers Chief Minister Steve Hatton and Mayor of Alice Springs Rosemary Oldfield.**

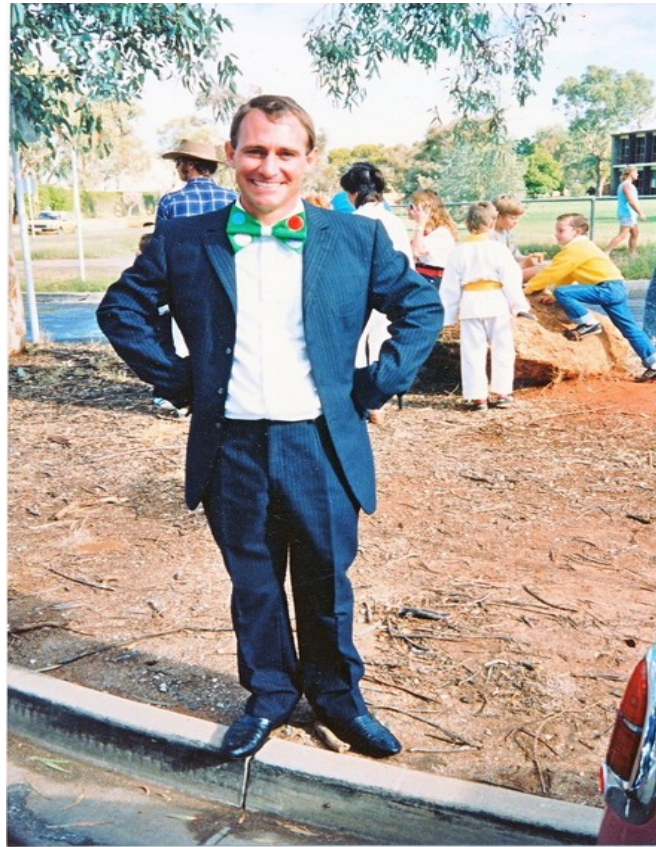


**Trevor Jacobs showing Basil Zadow the latest of his restoration on the Chrysler - third person unknown**





**Trevor Jacobs believe it or not at early Bangtail Muster**



**Mike Drogemuller's Studebaker Rockne at Bangtail Muster  
Now owned by Russ and Liz Driver**





### **Ross River Homestead**

Left to right - Tom Cormack's Morris convertible, Merv Matthews MGB GT, Mall Trull Austin '7' Special, Pfau's Austin A40, Gears, MGA MK-2, Jim Lawrence Morris Minor



### **Pine Gap picnic grounds Kuyunba Conservation Reserve**

Left to right Felicity Gear, Marie Gear, Lyn Zadow and Loraine Pfau



## **MECCA 1999**

### **Committee members 1998 –1999**

President: Jeff Thomas  
 Vice President: Alvena Spears  
 Secretary: Keith Dodkins  
 Treasurer: Shaun Morgan  
 Public Officer: Merv Matthews  
 Historian: Dave Simpson  
 Crankhandle: Keith Dodkins  
 Editor: Ray Baney

Committee, Tony Bullock, Ralph Yates, Wally Spears, Les Smith, Colin Jarrett

Jeff Thomas April 99 President report talks about the MECCA and Off-Road Racing Clubs Annual Motor Show held at Lasseter Casino 15/5/99 and hoping all members will participate, cost per vehicle \$25.00 and you could pick your entry class Veteran to 1919, Vintage to 1930, Classic to 1946, Special interest up to 1999 (there were 5 categories approx. 10years apart,) Military, Truck, Motorcycle, Four-wheel Drive, Kit car, Racing Machine, Abused ute, Off Road Racer and Drag Bike.- obviously a great success.

On Sunday 19/6/99 The Just Rock Alice Springs Rock 'n' Roll club hosed "Step back to the 60's" night at the Settlers Function Room Ross Hwy.

10—2pm Swap meet and collectables sales

5pm Supa Cruz through town

6pm BBQ tea for car show entrants

7pm Doors open to public, DJ and live band and light supper provided

Trophies were awarded to Best Aust. Original, Best Aust. Modified, Best Imported Original, Best Imported Modified, Best Motorcycle, Domestic car, Peoples Choice and Presidents choice

Mecca received advice from Alice Springs Council that their grant application was successful and they were granted \$200.00, Loraine Braham Member for Central Australia made a donation so the advertising cost for the motor show cost the club nothing.

It was also discussed with the possible appointment of Loraine Braham as Club Patron however Bernie Kilgariff was still a patrol of the former club which was now incorporated with MECCA. It was suggested that Loraine Braham could become an honorary member and this would save hassles and changes to the club constitution prior to the AGM. Loraine Braham was officially made Honorary member 27/6/99

Financially the club had \$1800.00 in the account and was happy to see new members join. It was decided to do quarterly CentreSpoke to cut costs The members requested club shirts and it was decided if they had 10 or more orders they were happy to place an order.

This was the last meeting before the AGM in June

Cont.

On Sunday 27/7/99 was AGM day however the Secretary and Vice President were absent and there were only a few members in attendance and it was decided to postpone the AGM until 25/7/99 to be held at Wallis Fogarty Restaurant

### **Committee members 1999 – 2000**

President: Jeff Thomas  
 Vice President: Colin Jarrett  
 Secretary: Trevor Rowse  
 Treasurer: Shaun Morgan  
 Public Officer: Tony Bullock  
 Historian: Dave Simpson  
 Crankhandle: Alvena Spears  
 Editor: Ray Baney

Committee, Merv Matthews, Wally Spears, Les Smith, Peter Glover, Rod Crush, Ruth Glover, Ross Holmyard

August meeting was held at Beaurepairs and it was discussed to held a Swap meet and to go to Undoolya station to see what the club could collect as saleable items. A good turnout for the swap meet and the club made \$240.00.

Club shirts and caps were ordered.

September run was meet at Beaurepairs at 4pm and arrive at Wally and Alvena's place for evening meal - kindly provided by Spears.

Wally proudly showed everyone his workshop and swooned over his Ford V8 flathead purring away in the shed.

His A model Ford project was well under way.

Trevor Rowse was the first to arrive at Spears place and as no one was there he left and did not return for dinner as he thought he had the wrong day.

October run was to Allan Campbell's residence and was eyed with envy the Jaguars, Ferrari and Ford Taunus all of which were currently receiving from minor to major restoration.

November meeting and Christmas show was held at Kings Restaurant cost \$20.00 per member and the club subsidising \$4.50 to members only.

### **April to May 2000 Events**

Easter long weekend—Riley club Rally Observation Trail plus presentation of Overlander Badge Recipients

May - Motor Expo Traeger Avenue - members needed to run the gate as well as vehicle entry

June - Meeting at Dave Simpson's place, then AGM and BBQ

July - August Transport Hall of Fame Reunion

Cont.

### **Committee Members 2001– 2002**

President: John Oliver  
 Vice President: Keith Dodkins  
 Secretary: Lyn Oliver  
 Treasurer: Jeff Thomas  
 Club Photographer: Jeff Farmer  
 Editor: Jan Dunk/Jeff Farmer  
 Crank Handle: Alvena Spears

February - breakfast meeting at McDonalds and then a short run to Emily Gap.

March - meeting at Dave Simpsons then to Transport Hall of Fame to tour the exhibits and have morning tea

July - cold and wet best place to be is by the heater

Seven members took part in the grand parade at the Alice Springs Show - the cars were used to carry the show girls in.

July—Run to Jims Place - 8 cars and owners braved the cold wet conditions.

Loraine Morgan arranged morning tea at the 40 mile stop before Jims place for lunch and the food was great

August—overnighter to Gem Tree camping fees were \$8 per Adult and \$5 per child bring swags and food.

October - Simpson Gap for BBQ club supply meat members bring salad and anything else.

November - Christmas dinner at Hong Kong restaurant—club pays \$10 towards members meal.

It was suggested the club should get email address's instead of posting CentreSpoke

### **2003 - 2021 highlights**

Gary Turnbull from Shannons Insurance attended and spoke how he could help the club and offered to Mecca to have their own website free of charge.

February - Breakfast at McDonalds - club to pay and aa great turn out of members. It was also Merv Matthews and Marie Gear's birthday so Happy birthday was sung

Meet at Mobil Larapinta and breakfast at Simpson Gap BYO  
 Run to Glen Helen  
 Run to Ross River

Approximately 2008 CentreSpoke went to colour

Cont.



### **2003 - 2021 Highlights**

2010 we met at the Mobil Larapinta car park and then proceeded in an orderly fashion to Fred and Mien Blom's house, where we were in for a fascinating morning. On arrival we were welcomed by Fred and Mien with a lovely morning tea overlooking their magnificent garden. We then were taken to Fred's workshop where he makes his bellow organs. Fred has made four of these so far each one a little bigger and more complex than the other. We were given a wonderful insight into these magnificent instruments. Our group then proceeded to the Inland Nursery where we rounded out the morning with a great lunch.

2010 Club Registration system, now one year old. !

Club vehicle on club rego, should not be used for hire or reward.

2018 Grant approval for club car trailer

John Hubner and An married in 2019 and still together - congratulations

As we all know going for club runs and picking something different to do is very hard to do as distances are far and few between, we can only go on long runs when the weather has cooled down May to beginning of September and this is the time when we can go away and of course family and friends come and visit never mind all the events that are open to us in Central Australia.

Over the 18 years the club has managed to do some very successful runs e.g

Runs to Simpson Gap, Standley Chasm, Glen Helen, Ross River, Aileron, Corroboree Rock breakfast at Jessie Gap, Mystery run, Camel farm , Home movies and high tea, Bangtail muster, Connellan air museum, Red Centre Nats, National motoring day, Desert Park, Henley on Todd, Ross River, Olive Pink Reserve, Christmas lights car run through town, Go Karts to name a few.

Plus overnight stays where accommodation is available.

Approximately 2010 moved from having breakfast at McDonalds to Hungry Jacks to upmarket 2019 Barra on Todd, then Coronavirus hit so breakfast places were limited so 2021 Stumps Café and with all our first breakfast meeting we have the majority of members attend no matter where we go.

Cont.

### **2003 - 2021 Highlights (2)**

Club Christmas functions over the years were at Jim's Place, Kings Restaurant, Hong Kong Restaurant, Blue Moon Restaurant, Gillen Club,

In the early days before going to Christmas party drinks and nibbles on the banks of the Todd.

Members to supply - just imagine doing that now - jail for sure.

In 2016 Raelene Beale and John Cooper put their hand up to have Christmas at their place.

Raelene and John transformed their home into a gourmet restaurant - tables, chairs outside, all the christmas trimmings, the weber BBQ's busy out the back cooking the roast and vegetables, members assisted in making salads and deserts and making the day a success.

A credit to Raelene, John and all the members on the day to make it a success.

In 2020 Russ and Liz put their hand up to have Christmas in their new shed. Were expecting approximately 20 people and got 60 bookings for lunch. They used the 4 post hoist as the food table that could be adjusted at any height. Tables and chairs decked out with a couple of water coolers to keep the temperature down. The members assisted with deserts and other goodies to make the day a great success.

A credit to Russ and Liz and all the members on the day to make it a success.

On reading all the information on the ins and outs of the club the people who started, left, started again with new blood, all members past and present loved and still do love MECCA. It is a credit to the members who get on extremely well, no politics and all get on and work together to make it a success.

I commend all the people that have held positions and have started low and ended up being President to being members again. The positions have evolved and every one puts their personality into the club.

Our club is no different to any other - we have our ups and downs and certainly Coronavirus has not helped however it has made us realize what is important in life.

Our website has interesting CentreSpoke magazines for your perusal and I love the photos and for those who you know how they may have changed.

Here's to another 25 years of MECCA





**25TH MECCA ANNIVERSARY 8/8/21**  
**AT HIDEAWAY ROSS HWY**



We were honoured to have Lorraine Braham come and have lunch with us.

Lorraine was made an Honorary member of MECCA on 27/6/99



Present. Jasmina Muhic, Raelene Beale, John Cooper, Garry Bentley, Peter and Judy Inkster, Stuart and Marie Gear, Allan Campbell, Aileen Kennedy, John Bridgefoot, Brian Eather, Michael Hanrahan, Russ and Liz Driver, Margaret McKenzie,

## 25TH MECCA ANNIVERSARY 8/8/21 (2) WHAT A BLAST AT HIDEAWAY ROSS HWY



Present: Neville, Lisa and Megan Heness, Tom and Belinda Slattery,  
Col Jarrett, Tony and Bridget O'Brien, Fred and Lyn Twohig, Trevor Jacobs,  
Sean, Karen, Mick, Kay, Brendan, Bev, Tara Heenan,

## **Masonic Club Rooms today**



This 25th Anniversary edition was compiled from information supplied to me. Apologies if I have left anything out or if I have offended any one - it is not intended.

I hope you get as much enjoyment out of this as I have compiling it.

Liz Driver  
Editor



