

Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club



No 18

Mar 2008

TRANSMISSION

If you find you need more information about this club or just can't wait to join ring Peet Menzies on 89814746.

GPO Box 911 Darwin 0801

In Katherine call 89711325. Newsletter enquiries to Ted propellers@bigpond.com

Power of the Past

While cruising to Adelaide after visiting Victoria for the infamous Ballarat swap meet, purely by chance we called into a place called "Mt Barker". Big deal you say. Well that was what I thought but then I spied these signs all over the joint promoting something called "Power of the Past". I had heard of this

Darwin standards it was gigantic. Already having the car drooping at the back from the Vic swap meet I had to be a bit conservative. You need to know what you are looking for as some stalls have a particular theme

but there are countless bits in boxes and they may be off anything. You could buy a whole car or a stationary engine on a transport, a book or an antique vase. Prices were a heck of a lot cheaper than you would pay at a second-hand shop and it was very interesting. I was always on the lookout for the elusive 1928 Dodge updraft carby. It didn't show. We didn't come out unscathed though.

Onwards to the machinery. The engines were starting to chug into life. At the same time the cars started to roll up. One of the organisers had told me there would



*The nameplate says
"International Harvester Co. Chicago. No 764. Model D. Wgt 1900"*

event so I had a closer look to see how long ago it had been on. A couple of days later I was back right in the middle of the show. There was what I was told would be a "mini" swap meet at 7 am till 9 when the engines and stuff would fire up. I was there early for it but while it was not in the same calibre as Ballarat, by

be more cars on Sunday. I wasn't disappointed. There was one of just about everything ever made plus a lot more than one of every classic Holden, then just to make my heart beat fast the SA Model T Ford club rolled in with an endless stream of em. There were mobs of antique tractors including some seriously large



Check out the crank gearing on the model

crawlers but I felt the main attraction at this show was the stationary engines. The cars were arranged in ranks around the perimeter of the oval and the main area had rows and rows of vintage engines driving a variety of stuff. The biggest was a twin cylinder Blackstone of 150 HP. It used to be one of a pair and they pumped water to Woomera rocket range from 1957 to 1992 and still runs fine. And they started it properly with compressed air. The



All these engines were running at the same time. The sound of it all together was amazing



These larger engines are surprisingly quiet



This workshop was 4 feet wide. Check out the detail. Remember everything here works!



This sight made a Model T owner's heart beat a bit

wise, it ran perfectly. There were no future projects at this show, everything was chugging, wheezing, puffing or making a sound that is difficult to convey in the written word. Rest assured they all ran as perfectly as they should. Personal taste showed in the area of presentation however. Some of this machinery was finished in a way that made them gleam as their manufacturers would never have dreamed possible. Others were covered in a hundred years of grime but still ran perfectly. A shearing demonstration with a two head shearing plant left the sheep looking a lot cooler on a hot day while the ladies in the tent next door converted the wool into thread on a spinning wheel. Baling machines clunked away next to a gigantic machine with more belts and pulleys than I could count and it was supposed to sort grain out from other stuff. And just to prove you cant hide no matter where you go I bumped into ex Darwinite and Mvec member Rein Gerritsen checkin out the stuff but unfortunately, no, he didn't have his Indian there.



*This Austral engine got my vote
Absolutely spotless!*



*A pair of immaculate Velocettes cruised in after
having a blast through some of the best road
bike county on OZ..... The Adelaide Hills. The
only prob is they have put speed limits on a lot
of the good bits*



Venerable FJ needs no comment



Norvin, Vincent Rapide and Black Shadow



Vauxhall Club in force



New Way engine. "Goes and Goes Right"



Plymouth Barracuda. Just what Ive always wanted!

Back and front of the Firesweep!

Nothing but Chryslers!!

While attempting to navigate the suburbs of Adelaide I spied a Valiant up ahead. Seeing I was on my way to the "All Chrysler Day" I took a guess that if I followed it, it would lead me to my destination. My hunch proved right. We pulled into a side street and at least one in two cars parked were Chryslers. I had been given a leave pass allowing me only one hour to check out this venerable event so I wasted no time in hotfooting it to the gate. Inside, even though it was not opening time yet, there was a treasure trove of not just classic cars, but new ones too. I skipped the late model stuff to drool on





Maxine & Harry with the Imperial Southampton by Chrysler

the classics. With my limited time I homed in on the nearest, a couple of AP6 sporting v8's. It became apparent white was the most popular colour here and really made the spotless engine bays stand out. Taking time to look around I was surrounded by Valiants, Dodges and other Chryslers, all needing my attention.

At the show were Karen and Max Mitchell showing off their 1936 Plymouth. A bit before Xmas they reckoned it would be good to get a classic car. They had had nothing to do with old cars up until this time. They checked out a few around the place but weren't inspired until they came across this one in a car yard that specialises in our sort of stuff. They were hooked as soon as they laid eyes on it. Karen said she couldn't figure out why people fall in love with a vehicle but now she knows what it's all about. The car is remarkably original even has the original engine and wiring loom. An old gentleman had been working on it but when he moved into a retirement village he had nowhere to work on it and let it go. The Mitchell's had to do very little to have the Plymouth a useable registered vehicle. No vintage rego here. They want to use this car, a club run to Broken Hill is planned soon. As with quite a few cars at the show the car was imported as a chassis and engine and was fitted with a locally built body at T.J.Richards whose premises are now a gigantic LeCornus furniture warehouse in the Adelaide suburb of Keswick. They are after one little badge for the car. See the wanted ad in the back. Maybe you can help make this beaut car even better.

Moving on to more modern classics I came to a brace of beauties owned by Maxine and Harry Kloss. The first one was a 1958 Desoto Firesweep. Once again it was assembled in LeCornus showroom from bits imported from U.S. and was right hand drive from new. They have owned it for about 4 years and have done quite a bit of work restoring it as it had a bit of rust. The result is bloody breath-



Karen & Max's 1936 Plymouth

taking. Those enormous fins at the rear give it some serious style. It is just rearing to go. Parked right next door is their 1962 Imperial Southampton by Chrysler. They have only had this one for about a year. It needed a touch up on the bonnet for some stone chips. The rest, including the interior is original. It came standard with a 413 V8 and a 3 speed Torqueflite tranny (what else could handle it), power steering, windows, seat, and airconditioning. In short it is just toooooo lovely. They are both on full rego. And it went on and on and I had but one hour of heaven!!

Remember the Six Pack!!





You could drive this one home for \$28000



How this got in beats me!

More Chrysler stuff



And they have Rat Chryslers too!!

WOTS on March 16th

A trip to Livingstone Recreation Reserve for lunch

TIMES:

9am for the city types

Meet at the service road out the front of Les Wilson's place, the address is 1051 McMillan's Road Knuckeyes Lagoon, between Stevens and Farrer Roads

9.30am meet at Wishart Siding for the outer towners and those who can't find Les's place

Getting There

Turn right off the Stuart Highway into Livingstone Road the Reserve is off Livingstone, you can't miss it

For those who want a longer run a trip from Wishart Siding to Manton dam and then back to the reserve for lunch is planned

Wot to bring

Bring a salad or sweets and your drinks

The club will supply the cold meats, bread, tea and coffee

After Lunch

For the gardeners there is an open garden show at 12 Triller Court Bakewell

Getting there

Turn left off the highway at Howard Springs lights onto Lambrick Avenue then right into Forrest Parade then left at Boobook St and into Triller Court

From the President

Hi all

Not a lot to report this month.

The 66th commemoration of the bombing of Darwin was held on the 19th in pouring rain with around one thousand souls braving the weather at the Cenotaph. Several members had been busy preparing our military vehicles for the day but it was too wet so we were a no show and stayed at the Hangar to welcome visitors. Once again thanks to the people who turned up on the open days to help.

This year we were not on the official visits sight as the organiser (Darwin Council) changed the format for the veterans to include visits to wartime campsites and to show the veterans progress or otherwise since WW2 and included an overnight stay and visit to the Tindal Airbase, however this did not stop 3 busloads of old diggers turning up to see what we had been up to since last year. One old chap made a beeline for the Howard Rotary Hoe Trev Feehan is restoring as he had seen it last year and was worried it was gone, imagine his delight when he saw the Howard gleaming as new as he patted it with a tear in eye and said hello mate. Turns out this chap looked after Adelaide River war cemetery for several years during the war and used a Howard to keep the weeds down.

Well at long last we have made the internet, sometime early last year the committee decided it would be an advantage to have email facilities at the club using the near new computer donated by Tom Bertinshaw all we needed was a internet provider and we finally settled for a mob called Internode in Adelaide.

The email address is mvec@internode.on.net but there is more John Price has shown what a clever bugger he is and has started a website, it is not fully functional yet but have a look you will be impressed, the web address is www.users.on.net/~mvec

The next club run is to Livingstone Recreation Reserve NOT Berry Springs as advertised in last months newsletters as we couldn't get any response from Berry Springs re using the oval, detail of time and how to get there is in this newsletter.

Peet Menzies

Now you figure this one out!!



Cars BBQ's on the World Wide Web



By John Price

I found a web site call neatorama that lists what they called the TOP 10 COOLEST BBQ GRILLS (and then some)

What is listed on this site is some fairly unique bbqs from around the world, and a lot of them are people who have combined a love of motoring with a love of barbecuing. (and there is a lot more than 10 bbq's listed here too.)

Now the web site address is fairly long this time

<http://www.neatorama.com/2006/06/08/top-10-coolest-bbq-grills/>

If that's too hard, go to www.google.com and search for

neatorama coolest bbq

and it should be the first result that returns.



A Hemi powered BBQ, part of a competition "What can you HEMI"

Take your BBQ with you on your next motorcycle rally.



FINALLY a good use for Holdens

The Austin Healy Grill



Disaster

To the kind person that emailed me the article on Citroens.
Please send it again as it and your details were lost in a catastrophic hard drive failure.

To the kind people who allowed me into their homes and sheds to write stories of their toys, I regret to admit I have lost the details and the photos. My sincere apologies and I hope you will allow me back to do it again when I return.

Ted

Free Ads

Got some stuff to sell, swap or giveaway. Maybe you are after something or some advice or knowledge? Here is your chance to tap into a network of like minded enthusiasts.

To have your free ad here email Ted propellers@bigpond.com
Deadline first Sat in the month

**Tilt Tray Truck Hire
Call Geoff Smith
0417 843 728**

Discount for MVEC Members

Rock n Rod Show Sept 20th

Have a "drive in era" car ?
Have any neat car you like to show off ?
Fancy dancing but never got round to it ?
Here's your chance to show off your car and have a go at rock n roll dancing. Heaps of fun!!
Proceeds to cancer council
Need some dance tuition
Contact Ted
propellers@bigpond.com

Wanted

**Bonnet & l/front guard suit 1967 XR Falcon
For sale
250 2v factory alloy head + extractors
XT Falcon front guards
Neil Brown
0400259461**

Wanted

**For 1936 Plymouth....
Chrome boot badge, wide wings**

**Karen & Max Mitchell
0438618657
kmi56153@bigpond.net.au**

**The Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club
extends it's thanks to
Shannons Insurance
For it's continued support for the club**



WOTS ON THIS YEAR

For info on any of these events call Chris on 0419 489 816

March	12	Monthly meeting
	16	Livingstone reserve
April	9th	Monthly meeting
	20	Classic Holden Car Club / MVEC cricket match
	25th	Anzac Day Adelaide River
May	11	Adelaide River & Ted Mumme's place. Its Mother's Day
	14	Monthly meeting
	18	National Motoring Heritage Day
June	11	Monthly Meeting
	14-15	Shannons Motoring Extravaganza
	30	Talbot Crossing re enactment begins
July	19	Progressive dinner
	20	Town run
	5 - 8	9g Chamberlain Katherine to Katherine

If undeliverable return to
MOTOR VEHICLE ENTHUSIASTS CLUB
GPO BOX 911 DARWIN 0801

**PRINT
POST
PP 545393-00032**

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

	27	Alice Springs Shannons Motoring Extravaganza
August	2-3	Rejex Rally
	13	Monthly Meeting
	16-17	O/night Mandorah
	20	Crossing re-enactment concludes
September	6	Katherine Flying Fox Festival
	17	Fathers Day Open Day
	10	Monthly meeting
	20	Rock n Rod Show
	21	Mystery Run
October	8	Monthly Meeting
	11	Agm
	19	Bark Hut/Deck Bar
November	12	Monthly meeting
	16	Les Wilson's
December	13	Xmas Party