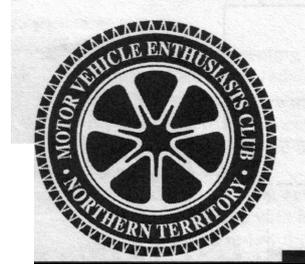


Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club

JULY NEWSLETTER



Revheads Terrorise Tourists On Mitchell St.

More than a couple of MVEC members took part in a public display of horsepower in the GASSERS crooze to commemorate the holding of the annual V8 SUPERCAR RACES at Hidden Valley.

The cruize was held on the Friday night of the event and was started at the 17 mile tavern to cruize into town and to meet at the esplanade to discuss the workings of the good old Otto cycle engine and the benefits and disadvantages of blonde and brunette.

Due to a rather large amount of talking bulldust, a large proportion of drivers, and navigators, never got to drivers briefing until the closing moments. Consequently there were quite a few routes taken so that the vehicles could be seen in Palmerston etc. Nevertheless it was a fine

Motor vehicle enthusiasts club (MVEC)

For club info pls ring the President 89279640

GPO BOX 911

Darwin 0801

or if you're in Katherine President 89711325

For correspondence regarding this newsletter

Ring Ted Mumme

89886049 or email

Propellers@bigpond.com



Everyday's a Corvette Summer in Darwin. Mike O'Malley's immaculate red Stingray. Mike carries a big stick to keep the excess ladies away.

sight to see this procession of 40 odd gleaming vehicles, dripping with chrome and with an exhaust note that meant business. What was unusual about this event was the good nature between creeds. There were hot rods, cruisers and a good proportion of modified modern cars and their younger drivers. And everyone got on great. Each group could

Continued next page

appreciate the other's cars even if they didn't quite understand the finer points. For instance I was at the traffic lights on poll position when a neat commodore pulled alongside. We were eyeing off each others car in admiration and the bloke in the Commorore asks me if my car was a ZA (for you non Ford people that's a model of Fairlane). My car is a Pontiac. No matter they are all neat cars. The bulk of the cruizers followed the Stuart Highway into town, and stopping for the lights at the RAAF gates the Ponti stalled. No worries but nothing happened when I hit the starter. How embarassing. You know that when you drive these cars everyone is looking at you. Its real bad when they don't work and your mucking around under the bonnet. Anyhow I was poking around in the dark trying to stick a screwdriver across the starter solenoid but its a bit hard to see as the starter is hidden by the right bank of cylinders and the brake booster, steering column etc, so as soon as you put your arm in there you cant see the starter anymore. Which means you do it by feel. Lucky its spotlessly clean under the bonnet, but the exhaust manifold is still hot. I couldn't find the right spot to make it arc up when a good Samaritan driving a Mercury going the other way, offered to have a go. A couple of minutes later off we went hoping we could catch the others up. We needn't have worried. They were cruising back and forth along Mitchell St giving the terrorists something to check out and there were plenty of attractive terrorists too. And once I parked the car I fully expected to start it again with a screwdriver, but, miraculously it had fixed itself, or at least till next time...

Stop press.

Shannons Hidden Valley day was such a hoot some people coulnt decide which car to take. Gary Colliver fixed this problem by taking two. More stories, photos next month.

My Bit

Fellow petrolheads,
Gday. As I am your new newsletter scribe, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Ted Mumme, my hobbies include but aren't restricted to playing with cars (I never grew up]),motor bikes, vintage engines, model engines and model planes. What do all these things have in common? That beautiful sweet sounding smelling and looking internal combustion engine. That statement was not meant to put down the lovely device, the steam engine. That is also cool. Matter of fact I have been building one from a set of plans and steel from the scrap heap for quite a few years. I have recently joined the unemployed (permanently) so I will now get time to finish it. So you see my interests lie with things generally mechanical and the dedication, ingenuity and patience that goes into making these things work again and to keep them working. Of the more unusual stuff that I have working are mechanical telex machines and a step by step telephone exchange, that's the type that responds to the impulses of the old rotary dial. This stuff is poetry in motion to see all those intricate bits whizzing round each other. Plus the usual stuff, around a dozen old stationery engines, a couple of bikes, a 1970 Norton Commando Fastback, and a Montesa King Scorpion. And a couple of cars, 1964 Pontiac Parisienne (real low), 1962XL Futura Falcon, 1921 T Ford, 1949 Mk v Jag and a 1939 Bedford ute destined to become a hotrod.

So there you have it,you know all about what makes me tick, and I intend to fill this newsletter with all kinds of stuff do with these kinds of toys in general.

If you have a story to tell, an experience or maybe the drawn out saga of how it took you five years to get that "nearly complete with all the hard work already done"project you bought once. These stories can be an inspiration for others to keep working on their car so please come forward so with can keep this publication full of good stuff



FUN RUN & SHOW

To the Katherine Flying Fox Festival August 12th 2006

This is a combined car club event and all are welcome for a run to the Grand Finale of the Katherine Flying fox festival. The aim is to set up a combined display of cars for the people of Katherine to appreciate. There will be something for everyone including market stalls, live performances and pony rides. Come on down and get out of Darwin for a fun filled weekend.

This year we will be combining the run with the Annual Variety Bash, and depart together from the Jape Complex Millner (The bash cars will continue on their journey to Port Douglas)

Itinerary Saturday Itinerary Sunday

If you are interested please fill in your details below and contact Wilko Van Syl on wilkovansyl@bigpond.com or 0438029274. There is a possibility that a car trailer will be available throughout the weekend in the event of a breakdown

8am	Assemble at Jape Complex (breakfast available from 7AM)
8:30am	Depart Jape Complex travel to Katherine with Variety Bash Cars
	Check in to accommodation lunch at leisure
3pm	Set up display at the Katherine Civic Centre
4pm – 8pm	Show and Shine (market stalls, art & culture, live music)
8:30PM	BBQ at Neil Engineering (Gorge rd)
9am	Check out
9:30am	Brunch Kumbidgee tea rooms, optional cruise to the Gorge
11am	Run to Pine ck with MVEC Katherine (Lunch at Pub)
	Return to Darwin

Name: _____ Contact: _____
Make: _____ Model: _____

Camping is available at Neils Engineering on the Gorge rd. For those who prefer comfort accommodation at Knotts Crossing Resort can cater for all budgets. You will need to book you own accommodation on 89722511.

Boring Department

Have you noticed the title of this newsletter? It is "July newsletter". Pretty exciting stuff eh? I would call it 'Cruizin' but another mag has beaten me to it. So readers I throw the task out to you to come up with a better name than "August newsletter." Email propellers@bigpond.com or phone me 89886049 with suggestions. I am the feller that's makes the final choice though.

Helpful Lady

One of our members is a very rich prostitute. She is always driven around in her limousine by her chauffeur. One day the limo got a flat tyre and it fell on the chauffeur to fix it. He duly got out the jack and wheel brace but try as he may, after considerable time he could not get the hubcap off. Seeing the problem and considering she was an MVEC member and an enthusiast, she had a toolbox in the back seat with her. She wound down the window and called out to the chauffeur, "would you like a screwdriver" to which he quickly replied "might as well, I cant get this bloody hubcap off."

Is it any good Dept

You may have noticed the format of this publication has changed. I need feedback and plenty of it to find out if it accepted positively or negatively . So please air your thoughts. I don't want to waste my time putting a lot of effort into something that no one likes, but if it is well received it can get better. So please let me know one way or the other. If no feedback I assume its ho-hum.
email propellers@bigpond.com or phone 89886049 Ted

Get yourself out of the shit dept.

Getting stuck at the traffic lights with starter problems has given me an idea that might help people in trouble, where there are simple ways to get yourself mobile again. The idea is a column every month where you people tell me the times you got stuck and what the fix was. Ive got a couple to start the ball rolling.

Press starter button and nothing happens.. We suppose lights work so battery is not flat. Possibly your starter button crook or wiring, but to get yourself going merely take a screwdriver or a shifter or anything that conducts electricity and stick it across the starter solenoid to connect the heavy lead that comes from the battery to the small terminal which comes from the starter switch. Viola there will be a bit of a spark but the engine will, with a bit of luck, start turning over and if you already have the ignition on it should start. If there are 2 small terminals and you had no luck, try the other small terminal. If your car doesn't have a solenoid just stick the afore-said spanner or screwdriver (better make it a big one this time) straight across the terminals on the back of the switch. You will get some sparks but if the switch is crook it will make the starter spin. If these tricks don't work , well that's a bummer because it wasn't the starter switch crook.

This article is from a US aviation mag. Car is a Victorian built and registered vehicle.

Rod Hadfield's 1956 Chevy is either a potential candidate for the Darwin Award or one of the most awe-inspiring paint jobs on a car surrounding a Merlin engine you've ever seen. As you know, the 12 cylinder V-1650 liquid-cooled engine was the U.S. version of the famous British Rolls-Royce "Merlin" engine which powered the "Spitfire" and "Hurricane" fighters during the Battle of Britain in 1940. In Sept. 1940, the Packard Co. agreed to build the Merlin engine for both the American and the British Governments, and adapted it for American mass-production methods. By the end of World War II, 55,873 Merlins had been produced in the U.S.A. The Army Air Forces used the engine almost exclusively in the famed P-51 "Mustang," for it provided greatly improved high-altitude performance over the Allison V-1710 engine used in earlier series of the airplane. Hadfield had a simple ambition - he wanted to build the most powerful Chevy on the planet. Somehow, he's gotten his 1,650 cubic inch Mark IX Merlin up to a claimed 3,000 hp (up from 1,650 hp; he didn't say how) retaining the Mustang's two-stage supercharger and twin five inch barrels in the carb. There's a lot of parts never meant for a Chevy on it for strength and durability, such as a differential housing and a set of 3.24 gears from a Chevrolet pick-up, Ford F350 discs adapted to specially designed hubs with six pot calipers and twin master cylinders (gonna' need brakes!) and a Ford XD power steering box. A Detroit Locker with splined axles mate to Toyota Landcruiser floating hubs. It's all held in place with by a four bar suspension on adjustable coil over shock absorbers with 15X18" Mag wheels. The front end is hand built, using purpose built coil-over shocks. A steel flywheel mounts a triple-plate clutch driving a two-speed Lenco transmission from a top fuel dragster while a 2X4" square tube truss chassis carries water from the front radiators to the rear radiators by way of two electric pumps. Oil and transmission coolers are also housed in the rear, along with two internal fuel tanks; there's also fuel in the rear spoiler. The body is designed for quick release while the oil tank is housed between the two seats and four hydraulic rams built into the chassis lift the car for servicing. Hadfield, who calls his finished car "Final Objective," got the idea when he saw a drag racer in the early '60's with a Merlin engine and began collecting parts. And, like a drag racer, the driver's seat is was back, near the rear window. The paint job is pure WW II fighter, with simulated rivets, tail fins (representing rudders, we presume), semi-lascivious nose art and 11 kill marks. The car made an appearance at the Pacific Coast Dream Machines show and was seen again at Chino, where these pictures were made. We were hoping that Rod was going to blast it down Chino's new runway but it remained a static display.



Note the machine guns in the doors
I have seen a picture in a European
mag of a cop giving this bloke a ticket



HJ Holden

1975 Kingswood
club rego june 2007
140000 kms 2nd owner
very good condition
\$3000 ph Dale 89710254 A/H
Katherine

GOT SOME STUFF
TO SELL OR GIVE
AWAY OR SWAP.
PLACE AN AD
FOR FREE
RING OR EMAIL
ME

They will run as long as
you want but you have to
let me know each month
to renew them or they will
automatically stop

How about this for a kit
Car. It's a model T Ford.
You can buy it as a kit.
I need one badly



The motor vehicle Enthusiasts Club
Extends its thanks to
**Shannons
Insurance**
For its continued support for the club



The riveting look of concentration at the recent MVEC & CHCC(HOLDEN CLUB) demonstrates there was some action . Possibly a Holden lighting up!

Whats on dept

August

- Sat 5 Rejex Rally send-off – Mindil Beach (north end) 7.30am Breakfast for 9am send-off of cars. Due to the number we need to cook for we will need another BBQ to handle the cooking.
- Sat 5 & Sun 6 Rejex Rally : MVEC is providing Saturday lunch at Adelaide River. MVEC volunteers are needed to help with the lunch and at various functions during the Rally
- Sat 12 & Sun 13 Flying Fox Festival, Katherine, travel down on Saturday morning, exhibit your car that afternoon, stay overnight and return Sunday morning (see notice). Keep your fuel and accommodation receipts for possible reimbursement by the Club.
- Sun 13 7.00pm Duo Lointain - A classical music & light show at the Hangar (see notice). Volunteers needed for the evening
- Sat 19 & Sun 20 Shannons Darwin Motor Extravaganza (see notice)
- Sun 27 Crypic Rally around town. Unless a member volunteers to organise the run from the hangar to a venue / bbq, set by the organiser, it will be cancelled at next month's meeting. If interested in organising contact Stuart Duncan.
- SEPT
22-25 30th National Chevrolet Festival, Merimbula NSW. Contact Sparrow 89851022

President Report

I apologise for not having a report in last months newsletter, but by the time I had finished my report, the newsletter had been sent to the printers.

On behalf of members, I wish to thank Leigh for her dedication over the past 3 years for putting together *MVEC News* and I thank Ted Mumme for offering to be our new newsletter editor.

I also apologise for the length of this report by a lot has happened over the past month and August will again be the club's busiest month.

Following last month's meeting at which the Committee, including Leo Izod, agreed on a new lay out of exhibits within the Hangar, members reorganised the Hangar. Visit the Hangar and check out the new layout.

With the increase in tourists visiting Darwin, the Committee has decided to open the Hangar over the weekend. Members are asked to volunteer for the occasional Saturday or Sunday, either full day or half day. Wash and clean your vehicle – old or new. Ring Aileen to book your time at the Hangar.

As mentioned in previous month's newsletters, MVEC is not be holding a Motor Show at the Hangar this year, but will be involved in the Motoring Council (formerly Motoring Federation) motoring extravaganza on 19-20 August at the Show Grounds. For MVEC to put on a successfully display of our members' vehicles, we need 5 members to co-ordinate a group (ie Veterans, American, British, 1950s, sports cars, etc). Co-ordinators will be provided with a list of members and their vehicles to get an exhibit together. The club has indicated it will provide 50 plus vehicles.

In the next month, MVEC members have the opportunity to participate in the Rejex Rally, Katherine's Flying Fox Festival, Darwin Festival's Duo Lointain and the Shannons Motor Extravaganza. Members are needed to help out at the Rejex Rally, Duo Lointain and the Motor Extravaganza.

I wish to thank the 80 members who have already returned their membership renewals. If you one of the other 135 members who haven't renewed your membership please complete and return your renewal form and money to the Committee via the hangar or by mail. We are again asking members to provide details on all your pre 1980 vehicles, including those laid up, in parts or being restored. We are also asking members to indicate if they wish to receive this newsletter by email, in colour and under 1GB. Each newsletter not printed and mailed out will save MVEC around \$1.00 per issue.

The Club's recently developed database came in very handy earlier this month when the Chamber of Commerce requested some 1950s open top American vehicles for their annual dinner in three days time. Thank you the Mummies and Bamfords for accepting this short notice request and I believe Ted and Shirley had a very enjoyable night courtesy of the Chamber.

I hope to organise a representative of TIO to be at our next meeting to advise members of what MVEC and its members are covered for under our public liability and accident insurance.

If you know of anyone who wishes to advertise their business to 220 plus dedicated motoring enthusiasts, please contact the Editor, the Treasurer or myself to arrange advertising in this newsletter.

Lastly I wish to welcome Luke Norrington (Leo Izod's grandson), Graeme Copley, Jack Burr, Darren Chidgey, Peter Soulos, Paul Zlotkowski, James Morrison, Peter Colley, Kel and Michael Larfield and Graeme Ostle to MVEC.

Stuart Duncan
President

Presidents report continues...

Rejex Rally 2007

This interesting and fun annual event will this year be heading to the Douglas / Daly area. The Rejex Rally costing \$250 for driver and navigator, includes all meals and incidentals over the weekend. Price excludes fuel and accommodation, other than camping. Positions are still available – contact Ron and Aileen if you wish to participate or work as a marshal over the weekend.

Shannons Motoring Extravanza

Shannons and the NT Motoring Council have hired the Darwin Showgrounds for the Extravanza on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20. Included in the hire are all three buildings and the grass area from the main entrance to the buildings.

For the Extravanza to be a success all vehicles, running or not, will be needed for display. As mentioned by Leigh in last months *MVEC News*, our President would appreciate five members offering to organise a group of vehicles (American, sports, military, British, Fords, Holdens etc). It is expected MVEC members will have at least 50 vehicles on display.

As all previous Motor Shows have been run by the Club, MVEC has not had the chance to win the club trophy. Lets try and make this, the year.

MVEC will be selling sausage sandwiches etc over the weekend. Volunteers are needed to cook and sell food and souvenirs.

Flying Fox Festival

MVEC is using the Flying Fox Festival to acquit the NTG Community Benefit Grant received for the proposed travelling motor shows which did not happen due to lack of interest. In order for the Committee to acquit this grant, Darwin members who travel to Katherine and participate in the Festival Show and Shine event are asked to forward their fuel and accommodation receipts to the Club President. All receipts are needed by 9 September so the Committee can determine how to allocate the reimbursement.

Duo Lointain – Sound and Vision

An evening of classical music accompanied by a visual image display.

Sunday 13 August, 7.00pm - QANTAS Hangar, ParapThis *Festival of Darwin* event is the first large non motoring activity to be held in the Hangar. It is expected that between 200 and 250 people will sit down in the Hangar for this sound and light show. See www.duolointain.com/index.html

In preparing the Hangar, Gus of Power Industrial Sweepers, has offered to use one of his machines to scrub the Hangar floor. A group of school children who visited the Hangar during a school holiday excursion went away with very dirty clothing after sitting on the Hangar floor. Although the organisers will have a number of volunteers helping out, MVEC members are NEEDED to serve drinks and help out on the night. MVEC members are asked to arrive at the Hangar at 6.00pm, wearing club T shirts.

The organisers will be holding a dress rehearsal on Friday 11 August and have asked if MVEC members could bring additional vehicles to the hangar for display at the evening performance. During the evening, historian Bob Alford will give a brief history of the Ross Smith Aerodrome and the QANTAS Hangar.

Other than the exposure the Hangar and MVEC will get, MVEC will benefit from the profit from drink sales and the hire fee.

Stuart Duncan



This is one of the coolest cars ever built.. It is called the Blas-tolene Special and I will give you a bit of a story about it later. Its awe inspiring stuff.....

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

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MVEC MOTIONS

"That a précis of all branch Minutes only be printed in the MVEC Newsletter"