

Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club

No 15

Nov 2007

TRANSMISSION



The voice of the Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club

If you find you need more information about this club or just cant wait to join ring Peet Menzies on 89814746 GPO Box 911 Darwin 0801 In Katherine call 89711325 Newsletter enquiries to Ted propellers@bigpond.com or 89886049

Do you ever get sick of seeing pictures of the sun falling in the sea around Darwin? Ah well, as long as this devoted bunch of car enthusiasts keep having social events centred around this sun thing, you will just have to put up with them. It's such a beaut place to kick back and socialise. I cant see it's going to slow down in a hurry though. And you don't even have to drive an old car, as plenty of folks come along in their shiny new ones as well. (The old ones are shinier though).



Pancho n Gary doin' it real hard. We were so organised there was even a light so you could find you drink (or tucker) after dark.

ARE YOU A MORE MACHO TYPE AND RECKON SITTING ON YOUR ARSE LIKE THIS A BIT BORING. NEXT TIME WE ARE GOING FOR A PUSH BIKE RIDE FIRST. BACK FOR SUNSET. CRUIZY OR GUNG HO CYLISTS WELCOME



All kids of cars roll up to these shows. Darwin sure is a good place for sunsets.

BUFFET BREAKFAST

Following the interest shown at last Wednesday's general meeting a table for 20 has been booked and prepaid at the SKYCITY Casino.

Date: Sunday 25th November

Place: The Sunset Lounge at SKYCITY on Mindil

Time: 9.00am for a buffet breakfast

Cost: \$12.95 per head payable to MVEC on the day

Note* Should more than 20 turn up extra seating may be available at \$12.95 per head.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

As advised in last months newsletter Christmas Dinner this year is again at The Hub in Palmerston

DATE: Saturday 8th December

PLACE: The Angel Room at the Hub, booked for minimum 35 and maximum 45 people, there is no room hire charge and includes Christmas bonbons and decorations.

TIME: Doors open 7.00pm food starts at 7.30pm

COST: members \$25.00 per head non members \$30 per head children under 12 free

PAYMENT: *as the Hub requires a firmer idea of numbers nearer the date we ask that all payments are received by the 30th November.*

Payments can be made at the Hangar, please put your payment in an envelope with your name on it and place in the slot provided in the MVEC lectern, do not leave on the table

By post to, MVEC PO Box 911 Darwin 0801

By electronic transfer, to C B A 5903 0090 4994 but please make sure your details are included when you make the transfer

DRINKS: New treasurer Chris has kindly agreed to supply a bottle each of red and white for each table, Cascade Light, Carlton mid, and VB. and a few spirits will be at standard bar prices.

BRING A SMALL PRESENT Each couple is asked to bring a small present worth no more than around \$10 for our Christmas Raffle

MVEC PATRON: Invitations have been sent to our Patron Dr Chris Burns MLA and Transport and Lands Planning Minister Delia Lawrie MLA

MENU

ENTREE: Pumpkin soup

MAIN COURSE: Warm glazed Ham w/ Mustard and Apple Sauce
Roast turkey w/ Cranberry sauce and Gravy
Baked Seafood Mornay
Guinness Lamb Shanks
Chicken in Champagne and Mushroom sauce
Roast and Steamed Vegetables
Salads
Cold Meat Platter

DESSERT: Christmas pudding w/ custard
Trifle and Fruit platters

If you need more information give me a call on 0417 855 222 or 89814746

Cars on the World Wide Web

By John Price

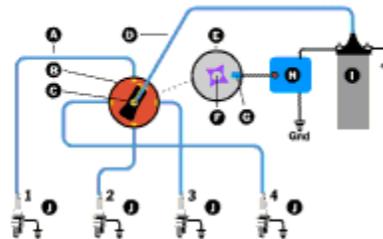


Well this month we've chosen an educational site for your monthly fill of Internet Motoring. How Stuff Works can be found at www.howstuffworks.com.

This site will tell you the inner workings of just about anything you want to know from DNA to Shark attacks. From Computer hard drives to How to cook a turkey. But we're looking at the automotive section. And at

<http://auto.howstuffworks.com/ignition-system.htm>

You can get the inside information on how your ignition system brings the spark to the spark plug at the right time.



You can also learn about flying cars on this site at <http://travel.howstuffworks.com/flying-car.htm>. Their history and current development are on display here.

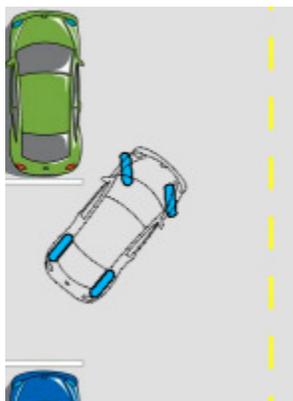


In 1917, Glenn Curtiss, who could be called the father of the flying car, unveiled the first attempt at such a vehicle. His aluminum Autoplane sported three wings that spanned 40

feet (12.2 meters). The car's motor drove a four-bladed propeller at the rear of the car. The Autoplane never truly flew, but it did manage a few short hops.



Find parallel parking a chore, then take a look at <http://auto.howstuffworks.com/self-parking-car.htm>



Parallel parking is an ordeal for many drivers, but with parking space limited in big cities, squeezing your [car](#) into a tiny space is a vital skill. It's seldom an easy task, and it can lead to traffic tie-ups, frazzled [nerves](#) and bent fenders. Fortunately, technology has an answer - cars that park themselves. Imagine finding the perfect parking spot, but instead of struggling to maneuver your car back and forth, you simply press a button, sit back, and relax. The same technology used in self-parking cars can be used for collision avoidance systems and ultimately, self-driving cars.

This website has MANY more articles on how things work, you name it, they've probably got it. The only thing I couldn't find is how a Public Servant works.

THE GREAT DORSET STEAM FAIR



This is what it's all about. Four engines linked together. Lots of grunt!

Several Km from the venue a sign advises to switch to a particular frequency. Then with a blink, the dial reads out "STEAM FM". This is going to be a good day. The station

plays music from 1950's to 70's. Suits me fine. Over a few rises and there stretching out in a valley seemingly forever is what we have



Radio dial says it all

come for. The whole thing is on 400 acres. A fair bit is parking area and camping ground, but it is massive. Keeping in mind we are in a generic hired car that looks just like all the other cars we take careful note of where it is and decorate it so we can find it later. Off to the fair.

We arrived just after opening time 8.30 on Friday. We were told the crowds would be massive on Sat or Sun (it runs Wed to Sun). Once we got in the gate we were amazed just how far it goes. The other side of the show is easy a km away and carpark beyond that. Massive marquees house various displays and there are old tractors chugging around mingling with the crowds. We followed some tractors and came to an area full of em. There were a serious lot of tractors here. I bought a programme of the event and it shows there were 145 static vintage tractors plus 110 working ones. Some of em had been restored to new

condition, some looked like they had just knocked off work for the day. Fordsons seemed to have an amazing variety of drive systems in place of the rear wheels. One looked remarkably similar to the "Pedrail" invented in Australia. There were a couple a T Fords which had been turned into tractors. The most versatile vehicle in the world I reckon. I was shocked back into the real world by the unmistakable sound of a solo speedway bike. A short quick walk brought us to an



T Ford tractor. Verry inivative final drive.

arena with 139 vintage bikes. The oldest was a 1908 BAT. I had never heard of the make, same deal with quite a few others. The most modern was a 1959 Rickman Metisse scrambler. It was bloody beautiful. They were all parked in a couple of rows and one by one they did a lap and were introduced by a bloke on the p.a. Some of the blokes with racers just couldn't resist

boring it on and doing a bit of speedway during their lap. No helmets or anything. Neat. After they had all done their single lap it was all out together for a few more laps. Bloody poetry !! The bikes cleared off which allowed me to raise my sights a bit and see the next paddock. It was full of old cars and caravans. 113 cars to be exact and about a dozen caravans.



B.S.A. three wheel car

Funnily enough they were all Pommie cars except, you guessed it, the model T Fords, and the Poms take a fence with them to put round their caravans.



A.C. grille is familiar for our Darwin members

Everywhere you go there are massive fairground organs pumping out their music, trying to outdo the one nearby. Some of them were 100 years old, others only a couple of years old. They all had fantastic carvings and masses of organ pipes, cymbals and drums and operated with compressed air with the notes keyed by a punched card system a bit like a pi-anola. The tunes varied with some playing modern stuff, Beatles plus the traditional music. I had to tear myself away....

Somewhere we remembered this was a steam fair. Where was the steam? It was afternoon so we had better find some. Consult the map and off to the far side of the fair. When we got near you could smell it.

Burning coal mixed with steam. Makes you step it out a bit and then we came to the "Heavy Haulage" area. It was an amazing sight! More steam traction engines, steamrollers, steam trucks (and a model T with a fair-ground organ in the back) than you thought existed in the world today. And they are just hooning. Reckless abandon. They are generally cruising the 40 acre area

in an



Not all steam engines are big

anticlockwise motion but cutting across where they feel like and having friendly races. Sort of like ski boats on Manton Dam. And around the outside of the fence there were miniature varieties of the same engines doing their stuff. There was a sizeable hill on



Imagine having military collections like this in the Territory. The cops would probably suicide.

the area and the operators were determined to make their machines work hard (steam engines sound lots better when they are working hard). To do this they were towing various heavy items around, especially up the hill. Some of the stuff they were towing was a jinker with a massive (real massive) log, another jinker with boulders, an Antar Tank Transporter complete with Centurion Tank and a Railway Locomotive. Some of these, like the tank, were a bit much for one steam engine so they linked up 3 in front and one behind and choofed up the hill. Lots of smoke and dust



Traction engines everywhere

and bloody fantastic. Down on the flat the steam traffic was so heavy that with the smoke and dust you couldn't see the other side of the area at times. We paid a couple of pounds (yep pounds bit no shillings only pence) and went for rides in a trailer behind one of the engines. It was great to be out there amongst them. We wrenched ourselves away a bit to the next paddock where they were ploughing. No dragging ploughs behind here. One traction engine either side and winch the plough back and forth across the paddock using the steam whistle as communication. Moving on there were steam driven implements where the steam engine stays still and the machine is driven by flat belts. Mobs of threshing machines and chaff cutters had a team of blokes feeding the apparatus. Circular saws were quite a sight. Once again driven by a flat belt about 6 metres from the engine, 5 foot diameter saws made short work of the timber on hand. It was great to see all this stuff in use with no guards or any safety equipment. All the operators were

model engines, but when I got to the stationary engine area, they had all been wrapped up (literally) and put to sleep for the night. Heading down the hill I found the collections to be closed (there is about 5 acres of collections of absolutely anything) and most exhibitors were either covering up or driving away their treasures. Ah well. There is still the fairground and it is getting dark. Once the sun



These blokes got right into it when they rode

sets the place takes on a new atmosphere. The Showman's engine is a traction engine which has no winch for ploughing, but has a large generator mounted on the front of the machine and is driven by a flat belt. The engine is tissued up with shiny



They literally tuck their engine in for the night

paint and lots of polished brass which reflects the dozens of light bulbs around the roof. Originally these machines towed a road train containing the amusement equipment, possibly a merry go ground, and the operators caravan. Once set up at the show, the generator supplied the electricity to run the show. There were 58 of these showman's engines at the Dorset Fair and most of them were in a line all running and lit up and supplying power to run the show. It was the most incredible sight. After a ride in the Ferris wheel and getting a birdseye view there was one last must do..... They had a wall of death. Just like I remember as a young bloke. Out front of their tent and up on a stand a



Foden runs on boiling water

able to get their hands within a couple of inches of the blade and everyone kept their fingers and arms n stuff. Those engines with all the gears and reciprocating parts never claimed any victims and no hassles from authorities. Real good. Anyhow the afternoon was getting on so we reckoned we better get a move on. There was a large (real large) marquee full of

couple of metres high a young lady rides a motor bike then sets the throttle and rides side saddle and stands up on the seat and other tricks. You pay to go upstairs and in the tent is the wall of death, a wooden planked cylinder on its end and around 10m diameter and 4m high. You stand around the top and look down. There is a white line 1 foot from the top. You assume the bikes won't come past the white line. Three riders ride the wall in turns doing various tricks like sitting on the handlebars and standing on the seat with no hands, and they did come past the white line. The grand finale was all three riders riding the wall at once weaving in and out of each other. One of them was the little honey that gave the demo at the start. The bikes were J.A.P v sidevalve twins with no mufflers, no helmets on the riders. Great!

We arrived at 8.30 AM, left at 9.30 PM and we saw maybe ¼ of the exhibits. As well there were tractor pulls, dancing exhibitions, craft exhibitions, heavy horses, military vehicles. I could go on for ages. 2 or 3 days might satisfy.

I think I have to go again!



The wall of death



Showman engines at night are too beautiful for words and they provide electric power for the sideshows!!



Ever try tow starting a diesel locomotive?





We have had the hemi barbie, then a GTS barbie.

This one is a bit different.

I can imagine wifey dear cracking up.....You are supposed to be cooking the barbie not working on your engine!!



Stuff

Is your shed so full of stuff you haven't got room to work on your chosen project. This page is designed to help you get rid of that stuff and make someone else happy at the same time.

Your wife will certainly be happier.
And it is a free service

Free

1000s of PMG type relays
Also 5 or 6 digit stepping meters. The uses are limited by your imagination. Count how many turns you wound in that coil in the lathe or in the drill. How many times you opened the door or started the car. Take one, Take 1000 or 2. Save em from the dump. Might be the meter you used to get your fone bill from

Ted 89886049

More stuff

Mini radiator, good cond free
Toyota 18r engine free
Yamaha 1100 motor good bottom end..free
Ford 302 Windsor dismantled...carton crownies
T Ford stuff free
Ted 89886049

BANNER SLOGAN

We are after a slogan to put on a club banner.

'Enthusiasts love shapely bodies'

'Enthusiasts dream about attractive, unique
bodies'

These are a couple of beauties but if you have
got some ideas give Peet a call.

For your ad email to propellers@bigpond.com

Or ring Ted 89886049

Deadline first weekend of the month

No edition of transmission in January

More Free Stuff

Bob Schulze has **all these bits** to give away.

Get em from the hangar

Assorted Series III Land Rover parts, including, 16" x 5.5" Rim (one piece), 4 cyl Exhaust Manifold, Zenith Carbie (36 IV), Lucas Distributor and Cap, Flat Wiper blades.

Renault R12 Starter Motor x 2.

Austin 1800 Sump Guard, Generator, Front Disc Brake Dirt Shield x2.

Towing Mirrors "Trail Vu" across bonnet type.

Spark Plug Tyre Pump.

Gutter mounting Roof Rack Brackets.

SAAB 99 (1974) Metal Wheel Caps x 2.

Oscillating dash mounted fan.

12v Fan ex Fiat cir 1970.

Holden Rim with 6.40 x 13" cross ply Tyre (Recap).

Tram XL5 HF CB Radio and Aerials.

Suzuki LJ50 Rear Vision mirror x 2.

Lukey External Rear Vision mirror.



The motor vehicle Enthusiasts Club

Extends its thanks to

Shannons

Insurance

For its continued support for the club

Wots Left This Year

Page 3 for details

Sunday 25th November: Buffet Breakfast

Sunday 2nd Dec Beat the heat Christmas Cruise 11.30 am Hidden Valley \$5 +a toy to enter

Saturday 8th December Christmas Dinner

Sat 26th Jan Aussie Day Ute Run Starts Hidden Valley 12.30pm

17th Feb Open Day at Hangar

A woman scanned the guests at a party and spotted an attractive man, standing alone. She approached him. "My name is Carmen," she told him.

"That's a beautiful name," he replied, "Is it a family name?" No," she replied. "I gave it to myself. It reflects the things I like most -- cars and men."

What's your name?" she asked.

He said, "Bob Titsnbeer"

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

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POSTAGE
PAID
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Paddy was walking home late one night when he heard a sound in the dark bushes. "Twenty dollars" the voice offered. Paddy had never been with a prostitute before and he thought "what the heck its only 20 dollars" and he accepted. They were hard at it in the bushes when a policeman's torch stabbed in the dark and a voice said "eh, whats going on here". Paddy replied indignantly "I am making love with my wife"

The policeman apologised saying "I'm sorry I didn't realise it was your wife"

"Neither did I" replied Paddy "until you shone that torch in her face"

A bloke walks into a Glasgow library and says to the prim librarian, "Excuse me Miss, dey ye hiv ony books on suicide?"

To which she stops doing her tasks, looks at him over the top of her glasses and says, "Fook off, ye'll no bring it back!"