

# Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club



No 54

**JUNE 2011**

# TRANSMISSION

If you find you need more information about this club or just can't wait to join ring Peet Menzies on 0417855222.

GPO Box 911 Darwin 0801  
In Katherine call 89710605 .  
Newsletter enquiries to Ted  
[propellers@bigpond.com](mailto:propellers@bigpond.com)



*Butcherbob's Model A rod at the Repco Show n Shine*



ButcherBob is no newcomer to the hotrod scene. He has built four of them for himself plus been involved in three others while helping mates with their build. I came across him and his latest creation at the Repco Show n Shine at Winnellie. From Tweed Heads in NSW he is in the middle of a 4 month holiday towing a caravan round Australia. Naturally the van is painted to match the rod. This is no ordinary car. You won't see anything like it elsewhere because Bob makes just about all of the bits himself. The chassis is a replica 1928 Ford model A. He bought a donor Fairlane for the engine and transmission, the seller it said he had reconditioned the motor. Generally you take these claims with a pinch of salt as everyone has a different idea what "reconditioned" means. Bob expected it had a new set of spark plugs. Anyway he installed that motor and it hasn't missed a beat in 2 ½ years. Sometimes you get lucky. That engine is a 302 Cleveland with a C4 behind it. The rear end is from a XJ6 Jaguar and the front end is HT Holden. Basically everything else Bob made himself. That includes the body and the interior and all those little bits and pieces that make up a vehicle. The Guards and valances, door shells, radiator shell and dash are all fibreglass. Bob made the moulds himself then cast the pieces. The front fenders and valances are built as one unit and the whole package looks outstanding. Lets face it, there were dozens of neat cars at this show but this is the one that really stood out. And as far as being something you can use, this car has more than proved itself cruising all over Australia and towing a van as well. The gearing is very tall just ticking over at 2100 rpm at 100 Kph. It'll probably never wear out!

*Pic: Butcherbob*



*Butcherbob, the man that created this masterpiece. Above you can see he is right into the Nostalgia drags. Butcher was also on the original committee that created the Winter-sun Festival at Coolangatta and Tweed Heads. Although that name has moved he assures me the festival continues in the same format but is now known as "Coolie Rocks On". If you like cars and or Rock n Roll, you need to go. From experience I can assure you its just like heaven!*



*Those beer kegs are fuel tanks. Maybe.*



*Butcherbob made that radiator surround. It took him a mere 11 months to build the whole rod!*





*The valve caps are skulls of course.*



*This is what having petrol in your blood is all about. Remember I said the kegs were fuel tanks.*



*Remember I said Butcherbob's cars are always different. This one has different wheels on each side. Those emeralds sparkle in the sun!*

*He went all the way to Tijuana in Mexico to buy a bunch of blankets to cover the seats in. (Listen carefully you can hear Herb Alpert playing on the radio). There are also matching trims on the outside of the doors.*



*Skull suffers from headaches!*





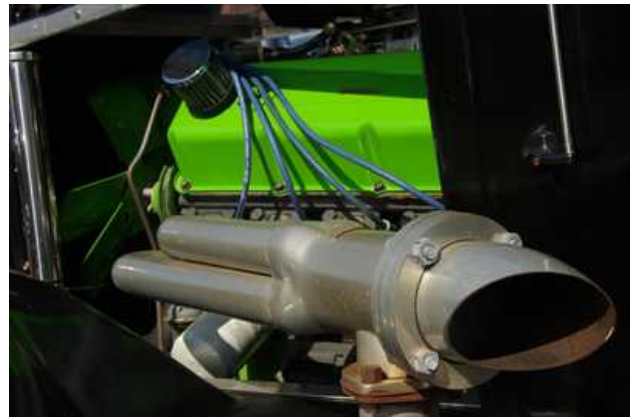
*The dash is another of Butcherbob's fiberglass creations. Wife needed an aircon. The fan is the compromise.*



*There was a foxtail on another aerial when they left home. Maybe the skull ate it.*



*Travelling long distance you need a boot full of spares and tools.*



*Those straight out pipes look mean and noisy but if you actually have a dekkko up them you come across the message below!*



*View from the pilot's seat. Check out the back of the skull on the cowl. No wonder its got a headache.*







*Taken in 1971 Butcherbob built this rod named "Casper" then towing a 22 foot caravan headed off working his way round Australia for three and a half years. Pic: Butcherbob*

To give the reader an idea how long Butcherbob has been in the hotrod game check out these photos.

Fancy building your own rod using fiberglass parts? Bob makes and sells the parts you see in this article. Fibreglass Ford "A" model parts. Guards, grilles, dashes etc.

**Bob's Rods**

07 55905745, 0404399570  
butcherbob1@bigpond.com



*Casper at the Streetrod Nationals in 1973 Pic: Butcherbob*



*How many people do you know that have made that statement "I never should have sold that car." Butcherbob still owns Casper. This is a recent photo. He and a mate nicknamed it "Violet Crumble" but its still Casper and always will be. Pic: Butcherbob*





*Maxwell Smart and Ninety Nine were at the roulette table so couldn't be interviewed at the time but Max's Sunbeam Alpine was spotless*

tra slowmobile and chose the short route. We were given a route sheet to follow. Lucky I had Shirley as a navigator. Stan Perron forgot to bring one so he elected to follow us. If we got lost, so did he. He also had to put up with our snail pace. A 28 Chrysler goes faster than a 21 Ford. After the normal show off through the busy part of town we ended up in the back blocks around the Berrimah Wharf. This is a spot I haven't been to for a few years and was amazed to see how much it had changed. From there we did the same thing around the newer bits of Palmerston. Same deal there. The faster cars headed out into the rural area to witness

### National Heritage Day of Motoring

The national day of heritage motoring is a good demonstration that everyone has a different idea what heritage means. The age of the vehicles is my point. The newest were from the nineteen seventies with a good spread right back to the nineteen twenties. (Its a worry when anything in the nineteen hundreds is considered old). And while most of those cars and motorbikes were like they had just come out of the showroom, it was great to see a couple that hadn't been tised up and had just survived.

When I rolled up at the carpark next to the casino there was already a large gathering and more kept turning up till there were about 30 cars. Often with this sort of event there is a parade through the most populated areas where the cars get shown off to the max. Not this time. There were three routes of varying lengths for different types of cars. A short 80km route for real old stuff, an intermediate and a long 180km route for the fastest. We drove an ex-



*Open bonnets often signifies problems but these drivers just wanted to show off their lovely clean engines.*



*Nice EJ Holden. Rope holding boot shut. Good to see it out on the road.*



*Another one with the bonnet up. Jag was freshly restored and just registered. Absolutely lovely. Stand by for complete story.*



*Good to see some bikes came along*

similar changes out there. This wasn't so much a drive to show your car off. It was a drive to see parts of your backyard you might have forgotten were there.

Our tour also took us to the northern suburbs, but rounding the roundabout at cop headquarters the model T decided to prove that the 4<sup>th</sup> cylinder is only a spare and not really necessary. That didn't really slow us down but I always find it embarrassing when an engine is running on less than all of it's cylinders, so we skipped the final cruise through the city centre and dropped into the hangar for a drink and an early start on the barby.



At the barby there was the added bonus of a bunch of beaut prizes. Lots of vouchers at car accessory shops plus buckets of car care goodies. And the judging to decide who won what, was the best I have ever come across. All the entrants names went into a hat and the winners were drawn at random. An absolutely great way to do it. I hope the idea catches on!

It was a good day but writing this story three weeks later has reminded me I had better go and investigate the lack of the 4<sup>th</sup> cylinder.





The Motor Vehicle  
Enthusiasts  
Club  
presents

# The Gangsters Ball

Live music by **“THE MOBSTARS”**

Featuring **Alan Campbell & Bill Roy**

**Ballroom & Rock n Roll dancing**

**Sat 9 July 2011 7pm**

Berry Springs Recreation Reserve Hall  
Cox Peninsular Rd , Berry Springs (Next door to the school)

Due to prohibition era all alcohol is bootleg and you will have to bring your own.

Please bring a plate of supper and anything you require to drink Tea and coffee provided.

Tommy guns and all other guns welcome please ensure safety is on.

Dress: Formal as the 1920's prohibition era.

Prizes for....

best gangster and moll couple  
best gangster car

Bring your van or swag and stay the night. Alternatively accommodation available nearby at Lakes Resort. For accommodation book well in advance.

Entry \$15 kids free Counterfeit notes not accepted Bookings welcome

Contact Ted 89886049 or [propellers@bigpond.com](mailto:propellers@bigpond.com)



Two years ago we held the Gangsters Ball as a one off night of fun. Everyone had a ball (no pun intended) and there have been numerous requests for it to be held again. So we are, on the 9th July.

This is a car club event so there has to be a car show involved. There is. The cars will be under floodlights on the oval next to the hall. Gangster cars will be at the front. There will also be plenty of non car club patrons to check out the vehicles.

Gentlemen tended to carry their firearms as you might carry your briefcase. It was just a tool you

needed to carry out your work. The ladies were much more outrageous and liked to flaunt their guns. You could see them protruding from garters and bras and bumps where they might be tucked away in some piece of underwear. And all this while dancing!

Come along and be a part of a memorable night.

There are no facilities for buying food so remember to eat beforehand and to bring a plate of food to share for supper, and camp overnight if you wish. The more the merrier!



### **Wrecking HR Holden**

Has good running gear ,body is rough, extra motor and gearbox ,doors and glass and chrome strips. Set of 13x7 steel chromed rims, carbies & dizzy, gauges plus 2 commodore rims and brake rotors. \$400 the lot .  
Mick 0428827179

### **1980 XJ6 Jaguar**

Reconditioned motor fitted, MVR inspected and registration renewed this month. New motor fitted by reputable mechanic (Keith, 17 Mile Service Centre) exceptional good condition

Priced to sell **\$8,000.00**

Tony Hardwick **0408 847 000**



### **Free stuff**

Get your free ads in here. Give stuff away, sell stuff, get information, find a lover.  
Got a story to tell? Whatever you like.  
Email Ted at [propellers@bigpond.com](mailto:propellers@bigpond.com)  
or phone 89886049  
Deadline: end of the month

### **Auction of all sorts of old car stuff**

**WEDNESDAY 22ND JUNE 2011 AT 10.30AM**

The auction is in Adelaide but you can bid on the net.

Rolls Royce and Bentley stuff also.

[http://mgs.net.au/auctions/auto22\\_06/details.html](http://mgs.net.au/auctions/auto22_06/details.html)

### **1989 Honda Accord 2litre**

Another failed project has log books not registered, good body and mechanicals suit restore or parts

\$400 or will haggle

phone Craig 89451955

### **1955 MK1 Ford Zephyr**

In Katherine

\$5500 firm, can put onto Nighthawk Couriers to get it to Darwin if needed

Phone 0400786647 or 89721668 for more details

Ask for Heath



### **The Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club**

extends it's thanks to

**Shannons Insurance**

For it's continued support for the club





## WOTS ON THIS YEAR

Lots!! Come along and enjoy

On the 2nd Wed of every month there is a members meeting at the hangar 7.30 pm plus bbq beforehand. Also there is a working bee at the hangar the following Sunday.

June	19 Run to Bark Hut – meet at 10am at Coolalinga United. Purchase lunch at Inn
	25 Fund raising at hangar (SIDS for kids) <b>Cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control.</b>
	26 Parap Arts Festival – car/ club display from 12 noon until 5 pm
July	9 Gangsters ball at Berry Springs Hall. Get dressed up. Have a go at Dancing.
	17 CHCC/MVEC Shannons Trophy Cricket Match at Batchelor
	30 31, 1st. Rejex Rally
August	21 Club run Jim Coopers amazing Ford collection plus late breakfast at Charles Darwin Nat Park
	27 Club Run Katherine festival or Alice Springs Transport Hall of fame reunion

If undeliverable return to

MOTOR VEHICLE ENTHUSIASTS CLUB

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POSTAGE

PAID

AUSTRALIA

Sept	4 Fathers Day Open Day HANGAR. Show off your cars.
	18 Club run
Oct	8 AGM
	23 Club run Daly Waters pub anniversary
Nov	20 Club run
	26 Christmas dinner at CAZALYS
Dec	9 Chris and Kathy's Christmas show

**Julia Gillard was visiting a Sydney primary school** and the class was in the middle of a discussion related to words and their meanings.

The teacher asked Ms Gillard if she would like to lead the discussion on the word 'Tragedy'.

So our illustrious leader asked the class for an example of a 'Tragedy'.

A little boy stood up and offered: 'If my best friend, who lives on a farm, is playin' in the field and a tractor runs over him and kills him, that would be a tragedy.'

'Incorrect,' said Gillard. 'That would be an accident.'

A little girl raised her hand: 'If a school bus carrying fifty children drove over a cliff, killing everybody inside, that would be a tragedy.' 'I'm afraid not', explained Gillard, 'that's what we would refer to as a great loss'.

The room went silent. No other children volunteered. Gillard searched the room.

'Isn't there someone here who can give me an example of a tragedy?'

Finally, at the back of the room, little Johnny raised his hand and said:

'If a plane carrying you and Mr. Rudd and Mr. Swan and Mr. Garrett was struck by a 'friendly fire' missile & blown to smithereens, that would be a tragedy.'

'Fantastic' exclaimed Gillard, 'and can you tell me why that would be a tragedy?'

'Well', said Johnny, 'it has to be a tragedy, because it certainly wouldn't be a great loss, and it probably wouldn't be a f...ing accident either!'