

# Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club



No 74

April 2013

# 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)

## Backyard Barbie Boogie Woogie Blues



Have you ever been to a barbie where they play music that does not suit your taste?

John Krumbeck obviously had that in mind when he created this beautiful work of art.

You probably would be right to think it a mission to move a barbeque with a beaut, but heavy, Ford sidevalve V8 engine attached to it. Not so in this case. The black battery box does contain a battery, and its primary role is to start the V8, its secondary role is to power the back wheels of the barbeque. It all started as a large industrial floor polisher that may have accidentally fallen from the 2nd floor window. There is a diff and a 12volt electric motor to power the whole thing to where you need the barbie to be. There is a gas bottle to cook the snags up on top, but the main part is to keep you happy while the meat is cooking . There is an ignition switch and a starter button to make some seriously lovely music while you are waiting for your tucker to cook. There is a radiator on the other end so there is no problem of having to shut it down due to overheating. Ahhhhhhh the joys of living in the rural area where the neighbours are conveniently a little further away!



*Left: 1963 and John at the wheel of his 1928 Chev.  
Below: John and some of the toys in his shed. There is a 1928 Chev in there too at the photographer's back*

## **John Krumbeck**

This story started when he was about thirteen years old in Sydney. The bloke at the service station had a 1930 Chrysler 66 sedan for sale. The asking price was £2. With £1 down he took it home. John doubts he ever got round to paying the second quid but after a lot of messing around with it he still hadn't got it started. Then someone showed him what firing order is all about. The engine ran fine after that but it became apparent the service station feller was a bit of a hoon and had blown up the diff. With the engine running fine and the clutch and gearbox working ok, he could run it up through the gears but with the car sitting on blocks he was actually going nowhere.

The next car was a 1928 Chev, the year was 1963 and John realised he wanted to be a mechanic. Once he finished his apprenticeship off he went around Australia for about 5 years and ended up in Darwin for the second time in 1976. Back in Sydney he had been involved in speedway, so when he crossed paths with Trevor Feehan, Trevor was quick to point out there was a stock car for sale here. That led to racing stockcars for three seasons, enduros with Darwin Motorcycle Club which naturally included Kamfari, and rallying





in 1979 and 80. After building an LC Torana rally car he tried the Wynns Safari, but rallying was very strong right here in Darwin in those days, so most of the action was close to home. The big event was the Darwin Cup over 1000 miles. Eventually John got involved with the Variety Club bashes.

Naturally you need to make a living to support these fun pastimes. Long time Darwinites may remember "Supertune" on the Stuart Highway at Stuart

Park. That was his business,



dyno tuning and mechanical repairs. It ran successfully but eventually he changed to selling used cars and moved to the 11 mile where he has been operating since as "Arthur Daleys Autos".

Having a car yard has its good times too. One day in 1996 a gentleman rolled up in his 1964 Cadillac Coupe De Ville wanting to trade it in. John swapped it for a V8 Holden HX ute. John still has the Caddie, I wonder if the gent still has the Holden?



He still has the car yard too, but back home he has a shed and it doesn't just have a 1964 Cadillac in there. This is one of those sheds you could go into time after time and every time you went in you would spy something different. Naturally it is full (really full) of neat cars but between those cars and around them and all over the walls and hanging from the roof is all sorts of neat stuff. Most of it is to do with motoring but there is the odd bit of aviation stuff (a bent propeller) or just stuff. It's just great!

This is a feller that has spent his lifetime of working hours with cars, fixing them, tuning them or selling them and in his leisure time was making them go faster and racing them. He is still making his living with them but finds time to collect all sorts of motoring memorabilia. I bet if he goes to the blood bank they list his blood type as super or standard or maybe unleaded or premium!

*Top: John with his newly acquired stock car, no 47*

*Middle: In action at Bagot park speedway.*

*Bottom: LC Torana rally car in action.*



*Living above the Cadillac, on the hoist is a 1935 Plymouth. He bought it off his brother who in turn bought it off a bloke in Geelong, Victoria. It was a one owner car until the gent that owned it died and willed it to his son who lived in Cairns. The son wasn't really into cars so he sold it to John's brother. When the brother decided to retire overseas he had to sell it so John bought it to keep it in the family. It is remarkably original. The engine has been reconned at some stage and the colour has been changed from its original black. The interior has never been touched from new and is in remarkably good condition. They drove it from Cairns to Darwin over 4 days, the longest distance in a day was 850 Kms. A trouble free trip.*



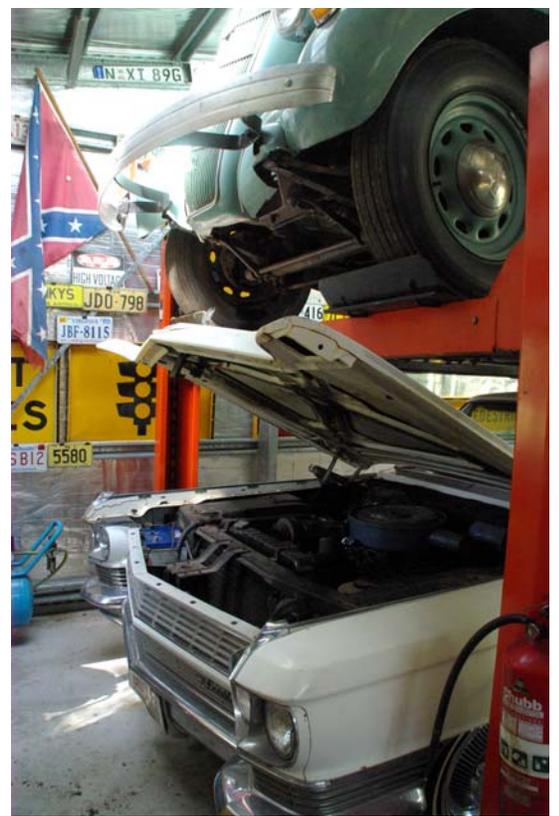
*Left, above and below: The current project. A Ford Mainline ute. Bought in Adelaide for \$3000. Who could resist. It wasn't cheap to get trucked up to Darwin though. 272 Y block powered, already reconned. Body is straight, just needs paint and trim. Keeps the Customline next door company.*





*Above: The 35 Plymouth lives right above 1964 Cadillac Coupe De Ville that he swapped for a Holden ute*

*Left: 1928 Chev. A bit of nostalgia about the one he owned back in 1963. Bought locally from a RAAF bloke. Just needed minor stuff to bring up to speed.*



*1954 Customline. John found it in a paddock at Dalby in Qld where a grass fire had burned the lower parts. He brought it home where he stripped it. Although he was able to get the motor going he reckons it was the rattliest engine he ever heard. When pulled to bits he found 1/8" play in the big ends. Rather than fix it he found another car laying around at Batchelor Station with a full size tree growing out of the engine bay. It cost him a carton of beer. He rebuilt the engine from that car, being the same model, it was the last Customline to have a sidevalve V8.*



No doubt its been a while since you saw a Golden Fleece petrol bowser. But this is no ordinary bowser, it opens up and reveals all these lovely cold beers! And the whole shed is filled up with bits and pieces of cool stuff. Lots of it from the likes of Ballarat swap meets, other stuff is from the dump. The beaut illuminated HMV sign is one from the dump!

Naturally a car dealer would have a couple of international trade plates. Below: The venerable Seagull out-board.





More sights around the shed. A set of traffic lights, a small airconditioned office is loaded with old photos n stuff, and a Plymouth grille makes a great wall deco.

Below: A bent propeller is always more interesting than a straight one. This one is from a Cherokee Chieftan that conked out on final approach at Darwin airport.



Above: Views from outside the shed. You can see she's chockers but any real collector can always find room for more good stuff!

Right: A view of the Ford sidehacker powered barbie from the front. Tradition says the front is where the radiator lives.

## Events coming up

**25th April is ANZAC day.** (Thursday) The hangar will be open for visitors and any members who would care to be available on the day to show visitors around would be appreciated.

**28th April is the open cockpit day at the Aviation Heritage Centre.** MVEC have traditionally held a barbeque at this event selling sausage sandwiches. The takings being donated to legacy. In addition to the takings MVEC has made the figure donated up to \$500 from its own funds. We need people to man the stall and cook sausages. If you would like to donate a bit of your time to this worthwhile cause please call Brian 0407 103 167 or Peet 0417 855 222.

**19th May is the motor-bike run to Wangi Falls.** This run is especially designed with bends in the route to keep motorcycle people happy. So make sure your bike is running well for the day. Last time we did this, bikes came from everywhere. It matters not if it is old or new, just come. Cars are welcome too. The run will be from the Noonamah Pub to Wangi. Enquiries to Ted 89886049

The Motor Vehicle  
Enthusiasts Club



**The**  
**Gangsters Ball**

Live music by **"Bonnie & Clyde"**

Aka **Hidden Agenda**

**Ballroom & Rock n Roll dancing**

**Sat 6 July 2013 at 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 smuggle in your own.**

**Please bring a plate of supper.  
Tea and coffee provided.**

**Any kind of guns welcome but please ensure safety is on.**

**Dress: Formal as the 1920's prohibition era. Prize for best gangster couple**

**Please note there are no drinks or food on sale**

**Bring your van or swag and stay the night.**

**Entry \$15 kids free Counterfeit notes not accepted**

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



## 6th July is the Gangsters Ball

Here is an event where you can have a top class night out for not many dollars. This is also a great chance to show off your twenties or thirties car to all the non car people that come along for the dancing. Experience shows these outrageously dressed people just love to have their photos taken with the old cars. So bring your old car along and see it appreciated.

### Love is in the air

Joel and his bride to be are getting married on Sat 22nd June and are looking for an old car from before the sixties to transport the bride to the altar.

If you fancy having a lovely bride to decorate the back seat of your car please contact Joel Shaw on 0423 107 348

### Even more love

Shannan Dent and Anthony Murphy are tying the knot on 14 June and are after some old cars to transport them on the day.

If you would like to be part of this happy occasion please call Shannan on 0400 170 371 or [shannan.dent@hotmail.com](mailto:shannan.dent@hotmail.com)

### Plus a bit more

And on the 30th August Ruth Nairn is also tying the knot. Naturally she is after a cool car to transport her there. She likes Holdens but will be happy with any make. 0408030597. or [ruth.nairn@defence.gov.au](mailto:ruth.nairn@defence.gov.au)

### And more

And on the 4th May Margie is to be married at the Water gardens. She too desires to be taken there in a classic car.  
Ring Margie on 0408898493

### 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...the end of the month

### Wanted: Shed Stories

I have had a lot of feedback over 74 issues of Transmission. Most of it has been reflecting that there are lots of enthusiasts out there that like reading about other peoples stuff. And I totally enjoy visiting the owners of all this terrific stuff and writing about it. And I have been known to drive hundreds of Kilometres or even thousands of miles to get these stories. A few years ago someone spoke up at the AGM and suggested there should be more local content in these stories, so this year it is possible I may keep my feet planted firmly in OZ with only a couple of brief trips interstate, both to do with car stuff. Therein lies the problem. When I am away I can generally find something interesting to write about and keep you readers interested, but I have with this issue, exhausted my known list of interesting sheds in the Northern Territory. You see I have no idea what cars or other interesting stuff anyone has in their shed apart from those I have already written about..

So... if you enjoy reading about other's collections, maybe you would consider inviting me to check out your shed and share it with all the other enthusiasts out there.

An alternative is to fill the magazine with a list of office bearer phone numbers, a presidents report and a calendar of events. And maybe a report on the scones at an afternoon tea someplace.

Cheers  
Ted

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



## WOTS ON THIS YEAR

**Heaps. 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.

**21 April** 2013 Howard Springs Mystery Run. Very mysterious, sorry, the details are a mystery too.

**25 April** 2013 (Thursday) ANZAC day parade and Open Day. See page 8

**28 April** 2013 Open cockpit day aero museum

**19 May** 2013 club motorbike run to Wangi Falls

**19 May** 2013 AHMF day of motoring

**23 June** 2013 Club Run to Adelaide River

**6 July** 2013 Gangsters Ball Berry Springs

**14 July** 2013 Cricket Match MVEC vs CHCC

**21 July** 2013 Taminmin Darwin to the Doo

**26 July** 2013 Darwin Show Parade

**10 August** 2013 Overnighter at Coomalie

**25 August** 2013 Motorbike Run

**1 September** 2013 Fathers Day Open Day

**22 September** 2013 Mystery Run

**20 October** 2013 Fannie Bay Breakfast

**9 November** 2013 AGM

**30 November** 2013 Christmas Dinner at Nightcliff Sports Club

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**A minister decided** that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon. Four worms were placed into four separate jars. The first worm was put into a container of alcohol. The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke. The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup.

The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon, the Minister reported the following results:

The first worm in alcohol... Dead.

The second worm in cigarette smoke.... Dead.

Third worm in chocolate syrup... Dead.

Fourth worm in good clean soil... Alive .

So the Minister asked the congregation, 'What did you learn from this demonstration?'

Maxine was sitting in the back, quickly raised her hand and said,

'As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!'

