

THE Centralian *Today*

TennantCreek *Today*

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ALICE SPRINGS **LMCT+** **5-7 SEPT 2025**
PRESENTS

RED CENTRE NATS 11

IN ASSOCIATION WITH **SUMMERNATS**

BURNOUTS • HEAVY HITTER DRAGS • DOORSLAMMER SHOW • ROLL RACING
JETCOR BIKE SHOW • DIRT DRAGS • SHANNONS SHOW AND SHINE • POWER SKIDS
DRAG RACING • BLOWN CARS CRUISING • NIGHT MARKET • FRINGE FESTIVAL
YEPERENYE STREET PARADE • FMX HIGH AIR • LASSETERS MOTORKHANA

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OFFICIAL
RED CENTRENATS PROGRAM &
RED CENTRE MOTORING
LIFTOUT INSIDE

PLUS: "SEND IT" POSTER
GRAB IT, WAVE IT, OWN IT AT
RED CENTRENATS

12/25/2025 10:06:25

WHAT'S WHEN



THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

ALICE SPRINGS CBD - TODD MALL & TODD STREET	5pm - 9pm	Red CentreNATS Night Markets & Fringe Festival [FREE!] - A Thursday night takeover of Todd Mall featuring a Show & Shine cruise & park up, bike ride through Bojangles, pro driver meet-up, and roaring burnout and drag car start-ups.
	5pm - 9pm	Aces & Eights Cruise and Show & Shine Park-Up
	6pm - 9pm	Bojangles Bike Ride Through
LASSETERS HUB	9am - 5pm	Entrant Scrutineering [FREE!]
ALICE SPRINGS STREETS	8am - 10pm	Street Cruising - Green Cruise Route
	8am - 6pm	Street Cruising - Red & Yellow Cruise Route

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2025

ALICE SPRINGS INLAND DRAGWAY	4:30pm - 9:45pm	Precinct Opening Hours
	5pm - 7:30pm	Open Burnout Qualifying FEATURING - DJ D-DAY - 6:00pm - 9:00pm
	8pm - 9:30pm	Pro Burnout Series Qualifying
LASSETERS HUB	SESSION 1 9am - 2pm	Entrant Scrutineering [FREE!]
	SESSION 2 5pm - 10:15pm	Precinct Opening Hours
	5pm - 10pm	Shannons Show & Shine s'KID Row - This ones for the kids! Facepainting, Photobooth, Kids Activities and more!
	5pm - 10pm	Drag Car Cacklefest Park-Up Carnival Zone Open
	5pm - 10pm	Jetcor Bike Show FEATURING - DJ/Live Music - 5pm - 6.30pm
	5pm - 10pm	Finke Desert Race Trophy Truck & Buggy Display
	6pm - 10pm	Street Machine Elite Shed
	7pm - 8pm	Webby's Shed Show DJ/Live Music - 8pm - 10 pm
	7:50pm - 8pm	Finke Desert Race Trophy Truck & Buggy Display
	8pm - 8:15pm	Drag Car Cacklefest Fire Up Displays MulletFest & Tattoo Competition - 6.30pm - 8pm
LASSETERS HUB	7pm - 8pm	Webby's Shed Show DJ/Live Music - 8pm - 10 pm
	7:50pm - 8pm	Finke Desert Race Trophy Truck & Buggy Display
ALICE SPRINGS STREETS	8am - 10pm	Street Cruising - Green Cruise Route
	8am - 6pm	Street Cruising - Red & Yellow Cruise Route

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2025

LASSETERS HUB	10am - 3pm	Precinct Opening Hours s'KID Row - This ones for the kids! Facepainting, Photobooth, Kids Activities and more!
	10am - 3pm	Street Machine Elite Shed Carinval Zone Open
	10am - 3pm	Jetcor Bike Show DJ/Live Music
	10am - 3pm	Burnout Car Cacklefest Park-Up Mini Motorheads Mulletfest - 11am - 12pm
	10am - 3pm	Shannons Show & Shine Live Music - 1:50pm - 2pm
	1:50pm - 2pm	Finke Desert Race Trophy Truck Start-Ups Webby's Shed Show
	2pm - 2:15pm	Burnout car Cacklefest Start-Ups Show and Shine Awards
DIRT DRAGS @ NATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT HALL OF FAME	9am - 2pm	Dirt Drag Racing [FREE!]
ALICE SPRINGS INLAND DRAGWAY	SESSION 1 8:30am - 3pm	Precinct Opening Hours
	9am - 11am	Drag Grudge Racing FMX High Air Show - 11am & 1pm
	11:15am - 1pm	Roll Racing DJ D-DAY - 11am - 3pm
	1:30pm- 3pm	Heavy Hitters Qualifying - Top Doorslammer Testing
	SESSION 2 6pm - 11:15pm	Precinct Opening Hours DJ D-DAY - 6.30pm - 10pm
	6:30pm - 11pm	Heavy Hitters Racing Top Doorslammer Family Feud FMX High Air Show - 7.30pm, 9pm & 10.15pm
BLATHERSKITE PARK	3pm - 6:30pm	Precinct Opening Hours Entrant Vehicles only. NO WALK INS.
	3pm - 4:30pm	Yeperenye Street Parade Form-Up
	4:30pm - 4:45pm	Yeperenye Street Parade Drivers Briefing
	5pm - 6pm	Yeperenye Street Parade
ALICE SPRINGS STREETS	8am - 10pm	Street Cruising - Green Cruise Route
	8am - 6pm	Street Cruising - Red & Yellow Cruise Route
	5pm - 6pm	Official Yeperenye Street Parade

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

LASSETERS HUB	SESSION 1 9am - 12pm	Road to Red CentreNATS Champion - Form Up & Departure [FREE!]
	9am - 11am	Lasseters Motorkhana Lasseters Fathers Day on the Lawns
	11am - 12pm	Road to Red CentreNATS Champion - Lasseters Motorkhana [FREE!] Including coffee, bacon and Egg rolls
	SESSION TWO 5pm - 9pm	Red CentreNATS Champion Finalist Display [FREE!]
	6pm - 7pm	Lasseters Podium Party Awards [FREE!]
	7pm - 9pm	Lasseters Podium Party Concert [FREE!] Featuring Dr Elephant and DJ Nicko
DIRT DRAGS @ NATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT HALL OF FAME	9am - 2pm	Dirt Drags Grudge Runs [FREE!]
	12pm - 2pm	Finke Desert Race Trophy Truck & Buggy Grudge Racing [FREE!]
ALICE SPRINGS INLAND DRAGWAY	8am - 4pm	Precinct Opening Hours
	8am - 10am	Fathers Day Cars & Coffee Free cuppa and breaky for Daddio!
	9am - 9:30am	Road to Red CentreNATS Champion - Drag Racing
	9:30am - 11:30am	RCN Power Skidfest DJ D-DAY - 11am - 3pm
	12pm - 12:45pm	Open Burnout - Ultimate Redemption Round Mulletfest - 11.30am
	1pm - 2pm	Open Burnout - Top 20 final
	2pm - 2:45pm	Pro Burnout - Ultimate Redemption Round
	2:45pm - 3:30pm	Pro Burnout - Top 10 final
	8am - 10pm	Street Cruising - Green Cruise Route
	8am - 6pm	Street Cruising - Red & Yellow Cruise Route

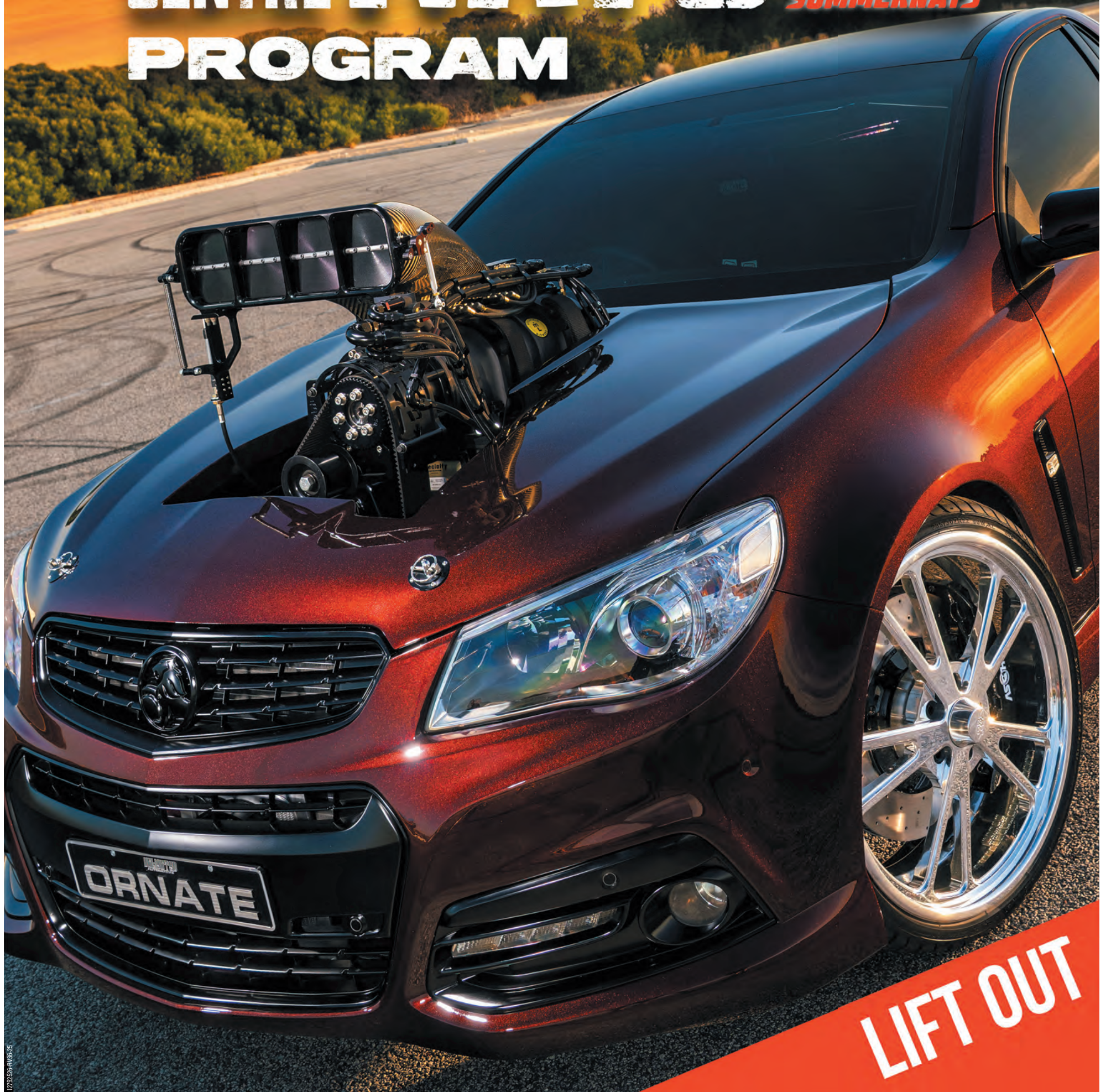


RED CENTRE MOTORING

LMCTH
PRESENTS

RED CENTRE NATS 11
PROGRAM

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
SUMMERNATS



LIFT OUT

Keeping Alice Springs on the road since 1991

FOR more than 30 years, locals have trusted Sprint Mufflers, Exhausts & Mechanical Repairs to keep their cars, 4WDs and light trucks running smoothly.

What started as a small workshop back in 1991 has grown into a family-owned and operated business, now run by Steve and Mel Howell.

Steve knows the place inside out, having worked here for more than a decade before taking over in 2021.

Sprint offers the full package: logbook servicing, roadworthy checks, diagnostics, brake and clutch repairs, exhausts, suspension work, tow bar installs and even custom sports systems.

They've seen it all - from worn suspension after long trips down rough Territory roads to urgent exhaust repairs for vehicles that need to get back on the highway.

Steve and his team take a straight-up approach.

They'll tell you what needs doing, explain why, and won't push anything unnecessary.

As Steve puts it, "We only do the work that's required. Our customers know they can trust us to be upfront".

That honesty has earned them plenty of loyal customers.

Patricia summed it up simply: "Great customer service and very fast and reliable. I'll go back there because of the service they gave me".

Another local added: "A massive thanks to Kim and the crew for squeezing me in the same day and sorting it without a fuss".

With quality parts, experienced hands and a fair price, Sprint Mufflers is a workshop that's kept Alice moving for decades - and isn't slowing down anytime soon.

Check out sprintmufflers.com.au to find out more.



Owners Steve and Mel Howell and the team at Sprint are proud their honesty has earned them plenty of loyal customers.



TyrePlus Alice Springs owner Garry and his team also handle wheel alignments, balancing, rotations, tyre repairs, exhausts, car batteries, oil changes.

Keeping you rolling safely

FOR more than 12 years, TyrePlus Alice Springs has been keeping locals on the road with reliable tyres, wheels, and mechanical services.

Owned and operated by Garry, the workshop has built its reputation on friendly service, honest advice, and getting the job done right the first time.

Specialising in cars, 4x4s, and light trucks, TyrePlus stocks a wide range of premium tyre brands including Michelin and BFGoodrich, along with options to suit all budgets.

Whether it's everyday driving, off-road adventures, or commercial work, the team makes sure you leave with the right fit for safety, comfort, and performance.

But it's not just tyres. The workshop also handles wheel alignments, balancing, rotations, tyre repairs, exhausts, car batteries, oil changes, and more.

They're equipped for logbook servicing, rego checks, clutch and brake repairs, and cooling systems, making TyrePlus a one-stop shop for Alice Springs motorists.

Local customers appreciate the no-fuss service. As Sahal says: "The staff members are the best. They explain the errors well and clear. I've been servicing our vehicles here and would recommend them to anyone."

Phill agreed. "The guys did a great job fitting four new tyres later in the arvo with no notice... they even made sure the tyre pressure sensors weren't playing up," he said.

Conveniently located near town, TyrePlus Alice Springs is ready to help with jobs big or small.

For trusted local service, drop in or book your appointment today. Find out more at tyreplus.com.au/tyre-shop/alice-springs

**A MECHANIC
YOU CAN TRUST**

Reliable, honest mechanical repairs to keep your vehicle running strong in Territory conditions.

Why Choose Sprint?

✓ **Local & Trusted** – 30+ years serving Alice Springs.

✓ **Honest Advice** – No upselling, just what's needed.

✓ **Fully Equipped** – Modern tools, diagnostics and tech.

✓ **All Vehicles** – Cars, 4WDs, fleets – we do it all.





Exhaust Repairs & Upgrades



Brake & Tyre Check



Vehicle Servicing & Diagnostics



Roadworthy Inspections



CONTACT: 08 8952 7999 sales@sprint7.net.au

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Brake Servicing



Passenger



4x4



Commercial







"There is no job too big or too small"

8952 4505 0434 065 570

46 Smith Street, Alice Springs



★★★★★ (4.9)

24 TODAY | Thursday, 4 September, 2025

Revved up for the weekend

ALICE Springs Town Council is proud to join in the excitement of Red CentreNATS weekend once again, helping to showcase our town as the heart of motorsport in the Outback while offering something for the whole community to enjoy.

At the centre of Council's celebrations are the Red CentreNATS Night Markets and Fringe Festival, set to transform the Todd Mall into a hub of colour, flavour, and festivity.

On Thursday 4 September, the Mall will come alive with food stalls, local crafts, live entertainment, and a vibrant atmosphere.

With thousands of visitors expected in town for Red CentreNATS, the Night Markets provide the perfect chance to wander through the stalls, taste delicious local food, and pick up a handcrafted souvenir while soaking up the buzz of the weekend.

There will be special live sets from Wolfpack Amadeus and The Holy Dimes, plus DJ Midas-T spinning all evening at the Chamber Lawns.

Car lovers, don't miss the Aces and Eights Cruise & Show and Shine parade, and Burnout and Drag Car Startups lighting up Todd Street.

Little ones can bounce into the Kids Zone on the Council Lawns with a giant slide, face painting, and more.

This year, Council has added a special monitoring twist to the weekend's program at the Alice Springs Public Library.

Families are invited to take part in Red Cen-

treNATS-themed LEGO Legends Club, where budding builders can design and create their own dream machines. Whether you're into muscle cars, hot rods, or futuristic speed machines, the LEGO workshops encourage creativity and fun, giving children (and parents!) a chance to get into the spirit of the Red CentreNATS in a hands-on, imaginative way. It's a great family activity that connects the excitement of the event with learning and play.

Red CentreNATS weekend is one of the biggest annual events on our calendar, and Council is excited to play its part in making the atmosphere around town as memorable as the cars themselves.

Whether you're a motorsport enthusiast, a market-lover, or a family looking for something fun and creative, Council's program of events means there's something for everyone to enjoy.

So rev your engines, gather your friends and family, and join us for a weekend that celebrates Alice Springs in full throttle.

The Night Markets provide the perfect chance to wander through the stalls, taste delicious local food, and pick up a handcrafted souvenir.



Alice Springs Town Council

NIGHT markets

5 - 9 PM

TODD MALL & TODD ST

4 SEPT

RED CENTRE NATS

FRINGE FESTIVAL

astc@astc.nt.gov.au
(08) 8950 0500
alicesprings.nt.gov.au

ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

RED CENTRE NATS 11 SUMMER NATS

Gig Guide

17:00 - 20:30	Dj Midas-T Chamber Lawns
17:00 - 18:00	Georgia Ivens Todd Mall Stage
18:00	Aces and Eights Cruise and Show & Shine parade Todd Street & Gregory Tce
18:30	Bojangles Saloon Bike Ride Through Todd Street & Gregory Tce
18:30 - 19:30	Wolfpack Amadeus Todd Mall Stage
19:30	Interviews: Pro Burnout Drivers & Heavy Hitters drag racers Chamber Lawns
20:00	Burnout & Drag car startups Todd Street & Gregory Tce
20:00 - 21:00	The Holy Dimes Todd Mall Stage

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Stress free panel works

GLADYS BARRETA

IF you've driven Territory roads long enough, chances are you've seen your fair share of panel damage caused by anything from roo strikes to carpark scrapes.

For one local business, turning those dents and dings into showroom finishes has been a passion for more than two decades.

Established panel beater and spray painter P & V Panel Works began in the smash repair industry in 1999, completing trade qualifications in panel beating, spray painting, and air conditioning mechanics.

What started as a step into unfamiliar territory quickly became a lifelong trade built on skill, precision, and trust.

"We've got the most qualified range of staff in town," owner Hayden Foley said.

"Between us, we have over 45 years of experience, the best equipment and a full water-borne paint system to help care for the environment."

More than just experience sets the workshop apart, it's also a deep connection to the local community.

Staffed by true locals, the team supports a wide range of sporting and motorsport groups through sponsorship and volunteer work.

While the majority of the workshop's work comes from rental and fleet vehicles, the team also services private and insurance customers across all makes and models.

Mr Foley said common Territory-specific damage ranged from animals and carpark in-



PANEL: Business owners Hayden and Kylie Foley at P&V Panel Works. (Gladys Barreta)

cidents to stolen-and-recovered vehicles.

To ensure repairs are safe, high quality and look like new, the workshop uses genuine

OEM parts whenever possible and puts every vehicle through a strict quality control process before pickup or delivery.

Alongside panel and paint work, the shop offers air conditioning servicing, vehicle detailing (when time permits), and is also the only local supplier of 2-pack paint spray cans that can be colour-matched to any vehicle, which is a key difference from generic enamel sold by major retailers.

Helping customers through the often-stressful insurance claim process is another top priority.

"We try to make the experience as stress-free as possible. We explain the insurance protocols, offer a cuppa, and walk them through their claim," Mr Foley said.

To stay up to date with modern vehicle materials and methods, the team completes regular ICAR training, an industry-leading standard that ensures technicians stay current with evolving technology.

Mr Foley has done some work on cars of different needs over the years and has some top tip for drivers.

"Protect your paint. The NT's UV rays are incredibly harsh. Park under cover when possible and give your car a yearly wax to help prevent fading," he said.

At its heart, the business is a small, family-run operation that proudly services customers all the way from Tennant Creek to Uluru and down to Coober Pedy.

"We're here for the community. That's what drives us is helping locals get back on the road safely, and doing the job right the first time."

Ready for open road

FOR visitors and locals alike, Alice Car Rental makes getting around Central Australia simple, affordable and stress-free. Owned and operated by Pamvir, who brings more than six years of experience in the industry, the business has built a strong reputation for reliable vehicles and genuine local service. With a team of four, they focus on making car hire as straightforward as possible.

What makes Alice Car Rental stand out is their flexibility. All bookings include 200 kilometres a day in the price meaning you can travel further without worrying about extra costs adding up.

For those who want to explore beyond the bitumen, the fleet also includes 4x4 vehicles, giving customers the chance to experience Central Australia's rugged country at their own pace.

Convenience is another key drawcard with airport pick-up and drop-off available, allowing customers to start their journey as



RELIABLE: Alice Car Rentals has a reliable fleet of vehicles. (499344)

soon as they land at Alice Springs Airport and from there, they've got the freedom to head out on the open road!

Backed by well-maintained vehicles, competitive rates, and the kind of personal service only a small local team can provide, Alice Car Rental is all about giving people the confidence to explore the Red Centre safely and comfortably.

Find out more at alicecarrental.com.au



OPEN ROAD: Alice Car Rental bookings include 200km per day. (Phil Williams: 499344)

WHAT WE OFFER:

- Panel Beating
- Fiberglass Repairs
- Spray Painting
- Car Detailing
- Air Conditioning Re-Gassing

WHY CHOOSE P&V?

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QR code and social media icons

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BOOK YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY!

127825-46-0335-25

Rally-bred, outback-ready

BORN from the rally stage and built with Toyota's legendary reliability, the GR Yaris is a true driver's car - raw, powerful, and thrilling.

But this isn't just a hot hatch made for the city.

Thanks to its rugged roots and clever engineering, the GR Yaris thrives just as much on winding outback roads and rural terrain as it does on tight urban streets.

WRC DNA that handles Australia

Crafted with the help of Toyota's World Rally Championship team, the GR Yaris was designed from the ground up to conquer real-world, uneven, unpredictable surfaces just like the conditions you'll find across much of regional Australia.

Whether you're winding through red-dirt roads, gravel-covered tracks, or undulating bitumen in the middle of nowhere, the GR Yaris stays planted, confident, and composed.

GR-FOUR AWD: confidence in every condition

The standout feature for regional and outback drivers is the GR-FOUR all-wheel drive system a performance-tuned AWD setup that's rare in this segment.

It offers variable torque distribution that adapts to changing surfaces, delivering outstanding grip and control on loose gravel, wet roads, and winding country bends.

Unlike most hatches that are built for city-only thrills, the GR Yaris is just as comfortable kicking up dust on a back road as it is cornering through tight suburban roundabouts.

Light, tough and nimble

Weighing in at just over 1280kg, the GR Yaris is lightweight and agile, making it a joy to drive on winding hills or twisty rural passes.



The GR Yaris is now available for test drives at Alice Springs Toyota.

And with a reinforced body, widened track, and rally-spec suspension, it's built to take on uneven roads without sacrificing comfort or confidence.

The carbon fibre roof, flared arches, and forged alloy wheels aren't just for show.

They reduce weight and increase strength, letting the GR Yaris dance across roads that would rattle lesser cars.

The hot hatch that handles the hard stuff

While the GR Yaris may not be your traditional off-roader, it's tailor-made for the kind of spirited driving that regional Australia offers, from winding coastal roads to high country hill climbs and even spirited gravel detours.

For enthusiasts who want a high-performance car that doesn't feel out of place in the bush, the GR Yaris is an unexpected but brilliant match.

The GR Yaris is now available for test drives at Alice Springs Toyota. Come in, get behind the wheel, and see why this rally-bred hot hatch is turning heads across the Red Centre.

GR Yaris. Built for the world stage. Ready for the Aussie outback.



The GR Yaris is lightweight and agile, making it a joy to drive on winding hills or twisty rural passes.



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OH WHAT A FEELING



Business that will never die

GLADYS BARRETA

SINCE 2015, WB Mobile Windscreens and Tinting (WBMWS) has been a trusted name in auto glass repair and replacement across Central Australia.

The current owners purchased the business from its original founders after recognising the long-term potential of the industry, describing auto glass repair as a “business that will never die,” since vehicles of every kind will always require safe and reliable windscreens.

What sets WBMWS apart from other similar businesses in the region is its strong commitment to quality workmanship, efficiency, knowledge, honesty, and exceptional customer service.

Every repair or replacement is carried out with care and precision, ensuring customers receive the best possible result with the business catering to all types of vehicles, from everyday cars, 4WDs and utes to trucks, caravans, coaches and even heavy machinery, making it a versatile service provider for both individuals and commercial clients.

On Territory roads, the most common issue the team encounters is damage caused by flying rocks from passing traffic.

These chips and cracks, if left untreated, can quickly worsen, so WBMWS provides prompt and professional solutions to keep drivers safe.

Safety is always at the forefront of their work, with all repairs and installations carried out by qualified fitters and installers who follow strict Australian Standard protocols.

In addition to windscreens, WBMWS also supplies and fits a wide range of automotive



TINTING: Owner Steve Hampel with WB mascot Kevin and auto glazier Ben Rosco. (Gladys Barreta)

glass which includes side and rear glass, custom-cut glass, Perspex, and side mirrors, offering customers a complete solution for their vehicles.

The business also provides tinting and oth-

er services to meet varied needs.

Above all, WBMWS prides itself on customer service.

Every customer is treated as a VIP, whether the team is helping at someone’s home, work-

place, or even out bush.

It is this combination of professionalism, reliability and genuine care that has made WBMWS a trusted and respected name in the Territory for more than a decade.

Experts in autotrim, upholstery and shade sails

GLADYS BARRETA

WHEN it comes to keeping your car seats, bike seats, or roof lining upholstery in good nick, Spectrim is the go-to in Alice Springs.

Manager Billy Laherty has been with the business for eight years, learning the ropes under founder Hamish McGauchie before taking over in 2023.

Now running the show from their new shed on Smith Street, Billy and the team continue to offer the same reliable service locals have trusted since 2013.

While shade sails are a big part of their work, they also offer expert autotrim repairs.

From sagging roof linings to worn seat covers and custom vinyl detailing, Spectrim handles it all.

Territory conditions are tough on vehicle interiors, so whether it’s a daily driver, camp-

er or work ute, they’ve seen and fixed it before.

Beyond cars, Spectrim’s skills stretch to both indoor and outdoor upholstery - from re-covering old couches to making hard-wearing cushions built to last in the sun.

They also manufacture and install custom shade sails, giving homes and businesses much-needed relief from the heat with UV-rated fabric designed for local conditions.

For Billy, the variety is what makes the job rewarding.

“Every project is different. One day we’re replacing a truck seat, the next we’re putting up a shade sail or reupholstering a lounge. It keeps things interesting.”

Whatever the job, Spectrim’s focus is simple - honest advice, quality work, and making sure every customer leaves satisfied.



Tom and Billy from Spectrim pride themselves on delivering reliable service.

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28 TODAY | Thursday, 4 September, 2025

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Gear up for Red CentreNATS

HAVE you ever considered what it might take for a car to get show ready?

From the paint jobs to the transmissions and more, it requires an understanding of mechanical systems, attention to detail, and a bit of creativity.

At Charles Darwin University (CDU), the CDU TAFE Automotive team offers a range of practical courses that equip students or car enthusiasts with the skills that can take their cars from an everyday runabout to a show stand-out.

From your basic mechanical foundations to the installation of sound systems and lighting each CDU qualification will give students the knowledge to improve both the function and aesthetics of their cars.

CDU's AUR30620 Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology offers apprentices the nuts and bolts of making sure a car can run as well as it looks. This course will teach you how to service and repair engines, transmissions, brakes and suspension systems.

An AUR30320 Certificate III in Automotive Electrical Technology qualification will ensure both the function and the aesthetics of the car match.

This course includes units on installing sound systems and lighting upgrades to troubleshooting wiring faults.

CDU also offers pathways into apprenticeships through VET in Schools in partnership with the Department of Education and Training - these courses offer students the opportunity to build young people's confidence when working with cars and pathways into apprenticeships or workplace qualifications.



CDU's AUR30620 Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology offers apprentices the nuts and bolts of making sure a car can run as well as it looks.

All of CDU's Automotive courses are all hands-on experience in real life conditions.

CDU works closely with industry and industry groups to ensure its automotive pro-

grams remain relevant in a changing industry, including the growing presence of hybrid and electric vehicles.

So, whether you are a car enthusiast or

looking to finesse your workplace, CDU TAFE offers the gears you need to build your confidence and turn your skills into a workplace qualification.

CDU TAFE

Automotive courses

Gain industry-ready skills with hands-on training at CDU TAFE. Whether you're looking to upskill yourself, your employees or apprentices, our courses are designed to keep you ahead in the automotive industry.

Choose from a range of industry-relevant certificates, diplomas and short courses in mechanical trades, automotive electrical and air-conditioning, vehicle spray painting, panel beating, light to heavy rigid license training, warehousing, logistics and more. Our nationally recognised qualifications will give you the skills employers demand.



Scan here to explore CDU TAFE automotive courses

cdu.edu.au/tafe

CRICOS Provider No. 00300K | RTO Provider No. 0373 TEQSA
Provider ID PRV12069 Produced March 2025 UniPrint 82599





Powered by community

FOR Peter Mabasa, owner of Auto Sparky, running a business in Alice Springs has never just been about cars but also about its people, community, and giving back to the town that he and his family call home.

Peter, known to many as “Peejay” has owned Auto Sparky for 15 years. In that time, he has built more than a business, he has built a team and a reputation defined by trust, quality service, and community values.

With nine staff and more than 40 years of combined experience, Auto Sparky has become the go-to workshop for auto electrical, air conditioning, and audio system servicing, maintenance, and installation.

What sets Auto Sparky apart is their approach.

Rather than claiming to be “the best in town”, Peter believes in sharing business around to support other local operators.

He knows that a strong community depends on everyone playing their part, and he is proud to see Alice Springs thrive when people choose to shop local and support local - a philosophy that runs deep in both his professional and personal life.

Outside of work, Peter is involved in a range of sporting clubs, community groups, and charities.

Sponsorships, volunteer hours, and genuine grassroots involvement are part of his everyday routine.

Auto Sparky also supports motorsport events, invests in school-based apprenticeships, and encourages young people to gain hands-on skills that could one day lead to a trade career.

Behind the workshop doors, the team delivers reliable, high-quality service for all vehicle types.

Whether it’s wiring repairs, air-conditioning work, or fitting out a sound system, they ensure every job is done with care and attention to detail.

It’s this mix of professionalism and personal connection that keeps customers coming back and recommending Auto Sparky to friends and family.

Peter and his wife, Jackie, who run the business together while raising their three children, say they are grateful for the community that supports them.

“We are fortunate to be a part of our wonderful community within the heart of Australia. We take immense pride in delivering high-quality auto electrical services... and our affection for our community compels us to provide nothing but the best,” Peter said.

Success isn’t measured only in jobs completed for the business but in the relationships built along the way and Auto Sparky believes they provide a service that not only keeps your car running but also getting to support a business that gives back to the Alice Springs community at every opportunity.



Auto Sparky gives back to the Alice Springs community at every opportunity.



LOCAL TEAM SUPPORTING
LOCAL PEOPLE:



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Specialised auto-electrical servicing and maintenance for all vehicle types.



Air Conditioning

Comprehensive automotive air conditioning servicing and maintenance for all vehicle types.



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Specialised auto-electrical servicing and maintenance for all vehicle types.







4.6/5




35+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

We are committed to helping the Alice Springs community thrive by buying local wherever possible.

We are proud to be part of the Alice Springs community. We live here, we work here, and, most importantly, we raise our families here.

Keeping Territorians moving

IF you've spent any time driving Central Australian roads, you'll know that breakdowns and accidents don't always happen in easy spots.

That's where Outback Vehicle Recovery comes in.

Owner Jimmy Hapke and his crew have been running the business for eight years, but between them they've got decades of experience hauling, towing, and recovering gear in some of the toughest conditions the Territory dishes up.

No two jobs are ever the same, and that's half the challenge.

Jimmy reckons the work teaches life skills you wouldn't learn anywhere else.

"You've got to be a forward thinker, super prepared, and keep calm no matter what's happening," he said.

"Out here, you always carry extra supplies and never rely on Google Maps - a real map can save your life."

The jobs range from simple roadside call-outs to full-scale recoveries that look more like construction projects.

Take one recent job, for example.

"Late Thursday night, we got a call from an insurance company. 'We've got some gear on fire 190km south of Alice Springs. Can you help?'" Jimmy said.

"The next morning we headed down in the LandCruiser and, sure enough, the trailers were still burning.

"I spent the drive back to Alice planning how we were going to fix this mess in one day.

"By some miracle, we lined up tilt trays, a super tilt, side tippers, a Bobcat, an excavator, and even a spare prime mover.



Owner Jimmy Hapke and his crew have been running the business for eight years, but between them have decades of experience.

"The crew hit the road at 5.30am, and within 10 minutes of getting there, everyone was into it.

"Bit of mechanical Tetris, bit of dirt and sweat, but by the end of the day the site was cleaned up better than a teenager's room before mum gets home.

"Big job, big machines, and a great team effort."

Alongside heavy recoveries, Outback Vehicle Recovery offers 24/7 roadside assistance,

vehicle storage, heavy haulage, side lifting, tilt trays, and accident towing.

They'll recover or relocate just about anything their trucks can handle - cars, trucks, machinery, even shipping containers.

Locals know the value of having a crew like this on call.

As one customer put it: "Wicked service from a local business. Jimmy did a six-hour return run on a corrugated road, then helped me again the next morning. Couldn't ask for

better."

Another said: "Professional, confident, and honest price. If you get stuck in the outback, call Jimmy - he'll get you sorted".

From burnt-out trailers to Friday afternoon breakdowns, Outback Vehicle Recovery has seen it all.

For Jimmy and the team, it's not just about towing - it's about keeping Territorians moving, no matter where the road leaves them stranded.

IF IT NEEDS RECOVERING WE DO IT!



*Anyway, have
a good day!*

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25 years of local know-how

WHEN you talk about four-wheel driving in Central Australia, one name that comes up time and again is Arid Offroad.

It's a business with deep roots in Alice Springs, starting life back in 1975 as Central Comms.

Over the years the name has changed, but the focus has always been the same - keeping locals equipped with the gear they need to get out bush safely.

Owner Sandra Hill knows the journey well, having worked her way up through the business as it transitioned from Central Comms to Farmer Electronics, then into TJM, and finally into what we now know as Arid Offroad.

This year marks 25 years under that name, and Sandra and her team are proud of how far the store has come.

From suspension and vehicle protection through to lighting, camping gear, storage and emergency communications, Arid Offroad has become the go-to spot for anyone who spends time on Territory roads.

Their workshop is fitted with state-of-the-art facilities, but what really stands out is the experience behind the counter.

Sandra's crew aren't just selling gear - they're using it themselves.

Many of the accessories on the shelves have already been tested on their own vehicles, which means customers get honest advice that comes from real experience.

Central Australia isn't the kindest place to vehicles. Long stretches of rough road, the risk of animal strikes, and unpredictable weather can push cars and drivers to the limit.

That's why the team at Arid Offroad spends time making sure each customer gets the right setup.



Carlos, Lachlan, Sandra, Graham, Stephen and Junior from Arid Off-Road.

Whether it's a daily driver needing some extra protection, a serious tourer heading up the Tanami, or a first-timer looking for recovery gear, they work with budgets and goals to find the right solution.

It's that personal approach that keeps people

coming back.

"We'll supply and fit almost anything, as long as it's gear we can stand behind," Sandra said.

"We'd rather get it right the first time, because out here reliability isn't optional."

Arid Offroad's role in the community goes beyond the workshop.

The business regularly supports local clubs and events, and Sandra says sharing knowledge with the next generation of four-wheel drivers is just as important as selling products.

Your Ultimate 4x4 Parts & Accessories Pit Stop

Central Comms

Alice Springs

5 Whittaker St,

Alice Springs

P: 8952 2388

W: aridoffroad.com.au

Alice cars on the move

FOR Alice Springs drivers, having a trusted local workshop is invaluable and that's exactly what Ben Gaff and his team at Alice Mechanical Solutions provide. What began nine years ago with Ben working as a mobile mechanic from his van has grown into a fully equipped, certified service centre specialising in light and heavy vehicles, all under one roof.

Alice Mechanical Solutions is a family-run operation, with Ben and Lavinia at the helm supported by their skilled crew – Shane, Harper, Clayton and Nuwan and even a few four-legged supervisors: Turbo the dachshund, Kaiser the German Shepherd, and Courage, who keeps a watchful eye over the workshop.

Certified as a Tesla, Mahindra and Mazda service outlet, the workshop offers everything from log book servicing and mechanical repairs to fault testing, engine rebuilds, dual battery and solar installations, DPF regeneration and more.

Whatever the issue, Ben's team ensures every job is checked thoroughly, completed safely, and built to last.

"We take the time to do it right – it's about keeping people safe and their vehicles reliable," Ben said.

Alice Mechanical Solutions also works closely with their sister business, Alice Automotive, creating a complete vehicle service network for the town.

While Alice Mechanical Solutions handles mechanical and electrical work, diagnostics and specialist servicing, Alice Automotive provides general servicing and support for new vehicle purchases, giving locals access to a full suite of automotive solutions under one trusted banner.

The team's reputation has been built not



MECHANICAL: Owners Ben and Livinia Gaff with Nuwan, Clayton, Shane and Harper and dogs, Turbo, Courage and Kaiser.

just on skill, but on honesty and communication with local customers sharing what they loved about the service they were provided labelling it a "top mechanic, honest and reliable".

"Great communication on progress of work and expected cost and quick but great service from all fellas," Tiff said.

Whether it's suspension repairs, misfires, oil cooler leaks, or more complex diagnostics, the team keeps pace with modern technologies and constantly updates their equipment to ensure they can service anything that hits the Territory roads.

For anyone in Alice Springs needing expert, friendly service from a local team who know their vehicles inside and out, Alice Mechanical Solutions and Alice Automotive are names you can count on.

From everyday servicing to specialist repairs, Ben and his crew are keeping the wheels turning across the Red Centre.

We're here for all your vehicle's needs!

With professional. and friendly customer service

Alice Mechanical Solutions

Light Vehicles

- Log book servicing
- All mechanical repairs
- Fault testing & diagnosis
- Engine rebuilds
- Head servicing & shaving
- European vehicle specialists
- DPF burn off & regeneration (diesel particulate filter)
- Shocks supplied and fitted

Heavy Vehicles

- Engine servicing (all makes & models)
- Diesel repairs
- Fault testing & diagnosis
- Diesel engine rebuilds
- Transmission repairs
- Diff & Brake repairs

Auto Electrics

- Fault testing & Starter motors
- Lighting & wiring
- Alternator & instrument repairs
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4.7/5

Thursday, 4 September, 2025 | TODAY 33



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LMCTH
PRESENTS
RED NATS 11
CENTRE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
SUMMERNATS

Authentic style at Outbush

IN the heart of Alice Springs, Outbush has long been a name synonymous with quality Australian fashion.

Established nearly 30 years ago by the Dew family, the store is now proudly owned by Lhere Artepe Enterprises (LAE), a charitable trust dedicated to supporting the Arrernte community, the native title holders of the region.

Since purchasing the business in November 2022, LAE has honoured the Dew family legacy while breathing new life into the store.

A stunning renovation, completed in April this year, has been warmly embraced by both locals and travellers.

This Red CentreNATS weekend, Outbush, located in Todd Mall, is the perfect stop between the roar of the engines and the desert nights, with new arrivals from Wrangler, RM Williams, Thomas Cook and Pure Western's spring/summer collections.

For evenings under the stars trackside, you'll also find coats, jackets and knitwear to keep you warm.

Add to that a fresh range of Akubra hat colours and brand-new RM Williams boots, and you've got a store as iconic as the event itself.

Open seven days a week, Outbush welcomes racegoers, visitors and locals to step inside and experience authentic Australian style.



Experience authentic Australian style at Outbush.

OUTBUSH
ALICE SPRINGS

GEAR UP FOR
RED CENTRENATS AT
OUTBUSH – YOUR LOCAL
PIT STOP FOR ADVENTURE

Outbush Alice Springs has you covered this
Red CentreNATS with trusted brands like Blundstone,
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46 Todd Mall, Alice Springs (opposite NAB)
Open 7 Days

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"Fun Park"

Gates open
11.30am

Dress code:
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High Tea in the Member's Lounge.

Refer to the website www.alicespringsturfclub.org.au
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Service Centre

Driving precision service

AT the Wheel Alignment Centre, no job is too big or small.

Whether it's a light truck, caravan, 4WD or daily driver, the team prides themselves on being willing to work on just about anything.

Owner Riana has made sure the workshop is fitted with the very best gear.

"We use American Hunter fitting, balance and alignment equipment, made in the USA," team member Aldrich said.

"Honestly, they are the best machines I have ever used, and they have never failed me."

Backed by 3D scanning diagnostic technology, every job is carried out with accuracy you can trust.

Locals rely on the Wheel Alignment Centre for a full range of tyre and alignment services, from puncture repairs and tyre rotations to full wheel balancing and truck tyre sales.

They also stock caravan, tractor, forklift and machinery tyres, making them a one-stop shop for both town drivers and those working on the land.

Being locally owned and operated means every customer gets a personal experience.

The team takes the time to help you choose the right tyres for your vehicle, whether you're tackling bitumen, mud or rough country roads.

If your car is pulling to one side, your tyres are wearing unevenly, or you're heading off on a trip and want peace of mind, the Wheel Alignment Centre is ready to get you back on track.

Visit wheelcentreasp.com for more.



Aldrich says every job is carried out with accuracy you can trust.

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38 TODAY | Thursday, 4 September, 2025

50 years of turning wheels

THIS year marks 50 years in the machinery game for Chris Jones, a man whose name has become well known among farmers, contractors and community organisations right across Australia.

From tractors and backhoes to graders, excavators, skid steers and specialist equipment, Chris has spent a lifetime helping people find the right machine for the job.

It all started back in 1975, when Chris took on a role at Herbert Motors in Cleve.

What began as cleaning cars soon turned into selling tractors and farm gear, and from there the machinery world became his life's work.

By the early '80s he had stepped out on his own, determined to make a go of business.

Over the decades since, Chris has built a reputation for tracking down whatever a customer needs and that's where his well-known motto came from: "If you can't find it, I will!"

That determination has taken him far and wide, from Aboriginal communities across the NT, WA and Queensland, to overseas deals in places like New Caledonia, Pakistan and Kenya.

Chris has built strong relationships and supplied everything from graders and buses to agricultural gear.

Plenty of Territorians will tell you they've turned to Chris when they needed something specific, and he's delivered at a fair and realistic price.

Today, he continues to work closely with clients throughout Australia, focusing on earthmoving and agricultural machinery.

Whether it's a farmer after a reliable tractor, a contractor chasing a skid steer, or a council in



MACHINE-MASTER: Chris Jones in Pangarinda.

need of a grader, Chris's half a century of experience means he knows the market inside out.

More importantly, he takes the time to listen and find what suits best, rather than pushing what's easy to sell.

Reaching 50 years in business is no small feat, and it speaks to the trust he's built over time.

Territorians in particular value honesty, straight talk and follow-through and Chris has based his career on those principles.

After five decades in the trade, chances are Chris can track down any piece of machinery you'll be looking for.



FAMILY: Serag, Jediah, Jack and Chris.

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50th
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EXCAVATORS - LOADERS - SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT**

- Chris Jones



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Trusted by the Australian Machinery Industry for 50 years!

True family operation

FOR Riana and Johan Cloete, Alice Springs wasn't just another stop on their travels - it quickly became home.

Originally from Botswana in Southern Africa, the couple, along with their eldest son, Jeandre, moved to Australia for a fresh start.

Their younger son, Aldrich, was born here, and the family soon found themselves drawn to the Territory's wide-open spaces, bush camping, and outback lifestyle.

It wasn't always easy in the beginning. Riana wasn't sold on Alice at first, but within six days she was working shifts at Coles.

Johan juggled three jobs while Riana held down two, determined to give their boys a future in the centre of the country.

Their hard work paid off. In 2016 they bought Outback Mechanical NT, a well-regarded local workshop.

Two years later they added Red Central Towing to the mix, and by 2022 they had launched the Wheel Alignment Centre for Aldrich to manage with his partner Issy.

Today the family runs three strong businesses that keep Alice Springs moving.

Outback Mechanical handles everything from diesel repairs and air conditioning services to suspension upgrades and roadworthy certificates.

Red Central Towing offers 24/7 roadside assistance, accident recovery, machinery and container transport, and specialist 4x4 recovery.

As approved partners with RACV, RACQ, NRMA and RACWA, the team is trusted by both locals and visitors alike when things go wrong out on the road.

The family doesn't just stop at towing and mechanical work.

Jeandre has grown into the role of driving much of the towing and recovery side, while Riana keeps things organised in the office.

Their love of motorsport shows too - on weekends you'll often find them around the speedway or rally tracks, cheering each other on.

What sets this family apart is their willingness to jump in and do the hard work.

Whether it's a flat battery in the middle of the night, a truck that's gone off the road, or a family car that needs a service before a long trip, the team pride themselves on being reliable and approachable.

Most recently, Red Central was chosen as the Alice Springs representative for Control Insurance Solutions - another sign of the trust they've earned through years of honest work.

There are also plans in motion to expand further by purchasing another local business.

For Riana, Johan, Jeandre, Aldrich and the whole crew, Alice Springs has become much more than a place to live.

It's where their family, their businesses, and their future are firmly planted - right here in the heart of the outback.



Riana, Johan, Jeandre, Aldrich Cloete run three strong businesses that keep Alice Springs moving.



RED CENTRAL TOWING

- ✓ 24/7 Roadside Assistance
- ✓ Prompt & Reliable Services
- ✓ Official Repco Service Partner



WEBSITE



-  24/7 accident, breakdown & roadside assistance
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INTER: A 1944 KS International on display at the RTHoF. (Kathryn Gilbert)



KENNIES: A trio of Kenworths in the Kenworth Dealership Hall of Fame.

It's more than a museum...

KATHRYN GILBERT

UNLIKE most vehicle museums, the National Road Transport Museum houses both historic vehicles and vehicles waiting to become historic.

The Kenworth Dealership Hall of Fame welcomed its newest vehicle just this week – a 2024 C509 straight from the Bayswater factory in Victoria.

This joins the other 21 brand new trucks purchased through the dealership fund.

Visitors to the museum often query why new trucks are on display and the reason is purely economics.

A restored 1971 Grey Ghost Kenworth, a

truck that changed the Australian transport industry, is also on display.

The cost to refurbish it to original condition was five times the purchase price.

So, the Kenworth dealership group now donate a percentage of the profit from the sale of a truck, which is then matched by Kenworth.

When the kitty is full, another truck is built and rolls into the museum for all to enjoy.

The museum also houses purpose-built vehicles, such as the six-year-old 2019 Kenworth C510.

With a back axle too wide to travel legally on Australian roads and a cab that starts where your average family car ends, it is intimidating

to stand beside.

Considering the first 20 metres of the road is out of view from the windscreen, it's a good thing this vehicle is not on the road.

The C510 was developed specifically to meet the needs of mine hauling operations and has worked extensively in the coal mining sector pulling five-trailer road trains filled with a total of 160 tonne of iron ore.

At the other end of the scale there is a 1944 International KS5 on display in the Buntine Shed.

This old truck could carry 6 tonnes, although there is a fair chance that farmers in those days would have loaded it up a little

more than that.

While the Kenworth trucks are Australian made, this particular international truck was built from components made in America.

There are literally hundreds of other trucks on site, from trucks that carted general freight from one end of Australia to the other, to those that drilled water bores opening up the out-back.

From sought-after trucks, such as the 1985 Mack Superliner with its big V8 engine and 19 speed Mack Box to trucks few have seen before, such as one of only two ever built 1957 Rotinoff GR7s commissioned by Lord Vestey, the museum has something for everyone to look at.



NATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT HALL OF FAME

Incorporating the Shell Rimula Wall of Fame, Kenworth Dealer Hall of Fame, Old Ghan Railway and RSL Military Museum there is something for everyone to see!

Please see website for opening hours. Entry fees apply

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12795308-KF-36-25



Sean from TME Alice Springs says New Power Tyres are designed to last.



TME is the only business in Alice Springs with a mobile truck tyre fitting machine, meaning Sean and the team can come to you.

New Power Tyres now at TME

TYRES don't have an easy life in Central Australia.

Between the heat, corrugated dirt roads and heavy loads, they wear out fast.

That's why Transport Maintenance & Engineering (TME) Alice Springs has introduced New Power Tyres - tough, reliable and now exclusively available through TME.

New Power has been around since 2002 and is backed by one of the world's largest tyre makers.

Their Australian team has adapted designs and compounds to suit local conditions, making them especially suited to cattle crates and heavy vehicles that spend plenty of time on the dirt. They also perform extremely well on the highway.

Built strong and designed to last, they're a practical choice for anyone relying on their rig to keep moving.

TME isn't just about selling tyres, though.

They're the only business in Alice Springs with a mobile truck tyre fitting machine, so if you can't get to them, they can come to you.

For operators working long hours and

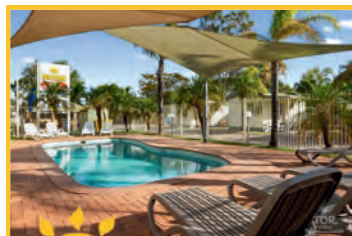
tight schedules, that service can make all the difference.

Whether you're running trucks, buses or heavy gear out bush, New Power Tyres offer good value, dependable performance and the kind of backup you need out here.

When the work depends on your wheels, you can count on TME & New Power Tyres to keep you rolling.

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Industrial strength service

ALICE Hosetech & Industrial Supplies has been part of Alice Springs since 2014, helping locals and businesses keep their gear running with reliable products and services.

From hydraulic hoses and fittings to welding gear, tools, trailers, forklifts, and a full towing service, the team has worked hard to be the go-to spot when something breaks down or a job needs to keep moving.

But this year has been tougher than most.

Back in March, the workshop in Ciccone went up in flames in the early hours of the morning.

The fire tore through the building, destroying stock and equipment and leaving owner Andrew Mowles and his family facing the unthinkable.

"Our lives were turned upside down overnight," Andrew said. "It's been a long road back, but the support from locals has kept us going."

Despite the setback, Alice Hosetech is rebuilding and still delivering the same no-fuss, dependable service they've always been known for.

Conveniently located on George Crescent, the shop carries a wide range of industrial supplies, including hydraulic equipment, hoses, fittings, power tools, generators, and safety gear.

They also provide trailer sales and repairs, new and used forklifts, and on-site or emergency repairs when breakdowns happen.

The towing side of the business is equally strong, with AHT Towing offering car, caravan, truck, and machinery transport.

They're the only operators in town with a 4WD tilt tray, which means they can get to



Alice Hosetech & Industrial Supplies owner Andrew Mowles.

places others can't.

"We limped in today with a flat tyre on the ute towing a caravan. These guys went the extra mile and really helped us out. Thanks heaps. Awesome service," one grateful customer said.

Andrew, who has called Alice home for

more than 40 years, is known as a hard worker who never really slows down.

He says the next chapter is still uncertain, but for now, he's focused on rebuilding the business and continuing to back the local community the way they've backed him.



Alice Hosetech carries a wide range of industrial supplies, including hydraulic equipment, hoses, fittings, power tools, generators, and safety gear and the team offers expert advice.

For quick, reliable service and a full range of industrial and towing solutions, drop by Alice Hosetech & Industrial Supplies at 28 George Crescent or call (08) 8953 8222.

For emergencies, their 24-hour towing line is 0428 614 914.

ALICE HOSETECH

AND

AIS
THE TRADESMAN'S CHOICE

INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES

A collection of various industrial tools, hoses, and equipment arranged on a workbench.

Industrial Supplies

A white 4WD truck with a yellow tow bar towing a caravan on a dirt road at sunset.

4WD & Remote Recovery

A white flatbed truck towing a silver car on a dirt road.

A close-up of a complex hydraulic system with various hoses and fittings.

Hydraulics & Repairs

24HR
AHT
TOWING

12/9/530-1035-25

Workshop 8953 8222 Equipment 0427 614 914

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63 Smith Street, Alice Springs alicehosetech.com.au

12/9/530-1035-25

Local know-how, quality parts

WHEN it comes to keeping vehicles running in the Territory, Alice Springs Auto Parts has long been the go-to for locals.

Run by Jayne and her team on Smith Street, Ciccone, the business has been operating for more than two decades, with the past 10 years under Jayne's watch.

What makes them different is simple: they're the only independent parts store in Alice Springs.

That means they can offer advice and solutions that aren't tied to one brand or supplier.

Whether it's a family sedan, a touring 4WD, a work ute, or even your dirtbike, if it's got an engine, they'll do their best to find the part you need.

Stocking everything from batteries, filters, and oils through to performance gear and suspension components, the store carries products to suit everyday drivers and motoring enthusiasts.

And if they don't have a part on the shelf, they'll go out of their way to source it.

Jayne says local conditions are tough on vehicles, and wear and tear on things like filters, suspension, bearings, belts, and hoses is all too common.

That's why honest advice, regular maintenance tips, and good old-fashioned customer service are at the heart of what they do.

It's an approach that has earned them praise from locals, with one customer saying, "Service is always knowledgeable and speedy! Highly recommend!" - Doug K.

With a strong reputation, glowing reviews, and a loyal customer base, Alice Springs Auto Parts continues to back the community with quality parts and practical know-how.



Zane, Jayne, Winnie the dog, Gemma and Joe.

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Specialising in hard to find parts.**



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12796298-EB35-25

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Mark 1400

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44 TODAY | Thursday, 4 September, 2025

A warm welcome in Alice

GLADYS BARRETA

THE Heenan family are no strangers to the caravan park industry.

For 37 years, they owned and operated the much-loved BIG4 MacDonnell Range Holiday Park before selling it in 2021.

But their passion for the industry didn't end there.

In 2022, they purchased Wintersun Cabin & Caravan Park, drawn once again to the lifestyle and the potential they saw in providing quality accommodation for visitors to Alice Springs.

With decades of experience behind them and a deep love for Central Australia, the family has quickly made Wintersun a welcoming stopover for all types of travellers.

Whether it's caravanners, long-haul workers, tourists, or event-goers, the park offers a safe and relaxing environment tailored to both short and long stays. Their self-contained cabins provide extra comfort and space that a standard hotel room can't match, and with events like the Red CentreNATS, guests enjoy the convenience of having their vehicles right beside their site or cabin.

For many visitors choosing where to stay in Alice Springs, value for money, security, and cleanliness are at the top of the list.

Wintersun has focused on all three, with well-maintained facilities and a team of staff who genuinely care about their guests' experiences.

Owners say the key is employing the right people: when staff love their job, it shows in the customer service, the upkeep of the park, and the welcoming atmosphere that guests feel on arrival.

The park has also invested in safety, provid-



Wintersun Cabin & Caravan Park owner Brendan Heenan can often be found cooking up a storm at the barbecue.

ing CCTV security, boom gates, and secure entry for peace of mind.

Facilities include powered sites for caravans, camper trailers, motorhomes and tents, along with a camp kitchen, laundry, dump point and swimming pool. Small touches like a herb garden at the kitchen and a book exchange add to the community feel, while re-

ception offers brochures and helpful advice for exploring the region.

Above all, customer service remains at the heart of the Wintersun approach.

Staff go out of their way to assist travellers, especially those who are new to the area or far from home.

And for anyone planning a trip through

Central Australia, the Heenan family's top advice is simple: don't rush it. "Plan for at least a week in Alice Springs – there is so much to do," the Heenan family said.

To help, the park has even created a detailed 10-day itinerary available on their website to guide visitors through the best of what the Red Centre has to offer.

Trailers in the Centre

GLADYS BARRETA

IF you're travelling with a trailer in Central Australia, chances are you've heard of Centre Trailer Sales, a long-standing local business that's been servicing the community for more than a decade.

Now under new ownership for the past year, the team is continuing its reputation for quality repairs, custom builds, and honest service.

With the rough terrain and tough conditions of Territory roads, trailers often cop the brunt of the journey.

Snapped springs, bent axles, worn-out hitches, collapsed bearings, and incorrect tyre pressures are just some of the common issues the team at Centre Trailer Sales see every week.

"We mostly do repairs, but we also hire out trailers and build custom trailers to suit our customers' needs," the team said.

"Whether it's box trailers, campers, tradie trailers or caravans, we work with it all."

What sets Centre Trailer Sales apart is their commitment to quality using solid Australian steel axles and sourcing locally made products wherever possible.

They're also an approved repairer for Cruisemaster suspension systems and offer Lacan paint, as well as a range of rims and tyres to keep trailers rolling.

When it comes to custom trailers, the team takes time to understand what each customer needs.

"We chat through what they're using the trailer for and where they're taking it. If a custom build isn't within budget, we can offer more affordable options shipped in although those aren't as heavy-duty as our locally built ones."

For those looking to keep their trailers running smoothly, regular servicing is key. The team recommends getting bearings checked or replaced, applying grease where needed, and keeping an eye on tyre pressure, especially in the Territory heat.

Above all, Centre Trailer Sales prides itself on being a helpful, community-minded business.

"We provide full trailer servicing, including tyres and rims, and aim to deliver friendly, high-quality work every time."



Territory Wrecking offers a tough new tyre option - Black Bear Tyres - built for Territory roads and off-road conditions.

Proud home of Black Bear Tyres

TERRITORY Wrecking has been part of Alice Springs since 1970, and has a well-deserved reputation for quality mechanical repairs, towing, spare parts and second-hand vehicles.

It's still family-run and continues to deliver the down-to-earth service locals rely on.

These days, the team is also the proud home of Black Bear Tyres Central Australia, offering a tough new tyre option built for both Territory roads and off-road conditions.

Part-owner and manager Bod Nightingale has been with the business for nine years.

He says the Black Bear story started with a simple customer request.

"Someone asked if we stocked them. I hadn't heard much about the brand, so I looked into it, spoke to Territory Tyres in

Darwin, and before long we became the local exclusive supplier."

Until then, Territory Wrecking mostly handled passenger tyres, but Black Bear has opened the door to fleet and 4WD work.

The range includes Rugged Terrain, All Terrain and Mud Terrain designs, all built strong and tested in off-road conditions worldwide.

The brand is gaining ground fast. Territory Wrecking has signed on as a sponsor for the Red CentreNATS Dirt Drags and the 2026 Finke Desert Race, putting Black Bear Tyres in front of thousands of off-road enthusiasts.

Distribution has also recently expanded into South Australia.

Between the wrecking yard, workshop and now Black Bear Tyres, Territory Wrecking has locals covered - whether you need a part, a repair, or tyres ready for the red dirt.



TRAILER: Owners Charlotte and Danny Fisher of Centre Trailers. (Gladys Barreta)

Keeping Alice Springs rolling

FOR drivers in Alice Springs, having reliable tyres is non-negotiable.

From the daily commute to off-road exploring, tyres cop a real hiding in Central Australia's conditions.

That's why Bridgestone Tyre Service on Fogarty Street has become a trusted name in town, making it easier for locals to get the service and products they need without the hassle.

At their Fogarty Street workshop, Bridgestone offers an extensive range of tyres for just about everything with wheels.

Whether it's cars, 4WDs, SUVs, light trucks, buses, or industrial vehicles, there's stock on hand to suit.

Families heading off on holidays, tradies working tough jobs, or businesses needing reliable fleet support all know they can turn to Bridgestone to get the right fit.

But it's not just about selling tyres and sending customers on their way.

The team knows that keeping vehicles safe and road-ready is about the service that follows.

That's why they provide puncture repairs, wheel balancing, wheel alignments and run-flat tyre repairs.

These are practical services, carried out by people who live here, who know the Territory's roads and understand the kind of wear and tear that vehicles cop.

What sets this Bridgestone apart is the local knowledge behind the counter.

The staff are part of the community, they drive the same highways, hit the same corrugated dirt roads, and face the same tough conditions as their customers. That means they're well placed to recommend the right tyres and services for whatever journey lies ahead, whether it's tackling the Stuart Highway, hauling gear out bush, or simply running around town.

For the team, it's about more than just tyres, it's about giving people confidence.

They take the time to explain the options



Billy, Damon, Syrina, Ryan and Mahim from Bridgestone Tyre Service Alice Springs.

available, help customers make informed choices, and ensure every vehicle leaves the shop ready for the road. There's no hard sell, just genuine support from locals who care about keeping Alice Springs moving.

That effort shows in the feedback. As one

customer put it: "We limped in today with a flat tyre on the ute towing a caravan. These guys went the extra mile and really helped us out. Thanks heaps. Awesome service."

With a wide range of tyres, trusted services, and strong ties to the community, Bridgestone

Tyre Service continues to be a cornerstone for drivers in Central Australia.

Whether you're in need of a new set of tyres, a quick wheel alignment, or some straight-up advice, you'll find the help you need at Bridgestone Alice Springs.

Joe Thring bringing burnout masterpiece

A copper bronze burnout machine with 1600 horsepower under the bonnet is heading from Darwin to Alice Springs and to make its first ever appearance at Red CentreNATS.

Darwin local Joe Thring will debut his new VF Commodore ute, known as ORNATE, and it is already turning heads.

Built to be as beautiful as it is powerful, ORNATE's shimmering paint shifts in the light, while its methanol-fuelled V8 can turn tyres into thick smoke in seconds.

"Every section of the car has been fine-tuned," Joe said.

"The engine is one thing, but the body, paint, tub and interior are next level.

"So much love and patience has gone into every decision. Even the bonnet went back and forth about a dozen times before we got it right.

"I hope people can see and appreciate all the hard work and effort that has gone into it."

While ORNATE will be on display in the Shannons Show 'n' Shine at Lasseters, Joe will also bring his second burnout car, TURMOIL, to take on the famous pad.

"I will be busy enough throwing TURMOIL around the pad, so it is a great chance for people to have a proper look at ORNATE on display," Joe said.

"The longer you look at it, the more you will appreciate the time and effort that has gone into the build."

For Joe, Red CentreNATS is about more than cars, it is an event that brings people together.

"Red CentreNATS has such a strong community and family friendly vibe," Joe said.



Joe Thring's ORNATE will be on display in the Shannons Show 'n' Shine at Lasseters. (Street Machine)

"There are so many different sections, from the activities and displays at the showgrounds, to the cruise through town, the burnouts and the drags.

"There is something for everyone to enjoy across the weekend.

"I might be biased, but my favourite is the Pro Burnout Competition. Seeing cars from all over the country compete makes for an

incredible atmosphere."

Joe is a strong supporter of events like Red CentreNATS and encourages others to get involved.

"Events like the Red CentreNATS are super important. I try to attend as many local events as possible because these things do not happen without competitor support," Joe said.

"For promoters to keep bringing big events to the NT, we need to have a great variety for spectators to keep coming back.

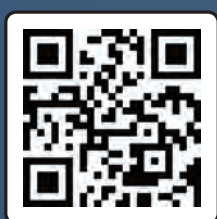
"The Red Centre is special for my family. We love coming here for this and the Finke Desert Race.

"They are both so unique in what you can do, and it is amazing to see the community spirit that comes with them."

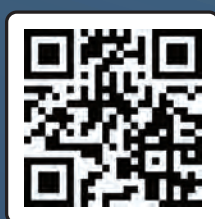
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Smallmon brings winning form

THE burnout pad in Alice Springs is set for fireworks when reigning Pro Burnouts champion Chris Smallmon rolls into town for Red CentreNATS, presented by LMCT.

The 41-year-old from Junee in New South Wales is the defending Pro Burnouts Champion and will once again be behind the wheel of his unmistakable Commodore VY, BLWNVY.

With its LS 360 engine and raw, aggressive driving style, BLWNVY has become one of the most recognisable cars on the circuit.

Smallmon enters this year's competition with momentum on his side after a remarkable victory at Tropical Meltdown in Cairns in August.

Against a stacked line-up of national talent, he came out on top in the Pro Class, claiming \$10,000 of the \$25,000 prize pool and securing a Pro Burnout Series

Qualifying Ticket for Summernats in Canberra in January.

It was no easy road to get there. The journey north brought plenty of headaches, and Smallmon admits he and his crew had serious doubts about even making the start line.

"Honestly, there were times during the trip we thought the car wouldn't even make it to the competition, let alone do three skids in a day," he said.

"We had trouble with suspension, fuel lines, headers and the starter motor, all while travelling to the show and on the day.

"To deal with all that and take home the win at our first ever Queensland competition was a good feeling."

The triumph in Cairns was about more than just prize money and silverware.

For Smallmon, it was validation of the



Chris Smallmon has his sights set on another Red CentreNats Pro Burnouts title.

countless hours poured into his machine.

"To win a Pro Burnout Series entry to Summernats is something that always gives you a sense of worth, that you're doing something right," he said.

"Personally, it means I get to skid with my mates on the big stage and, regardless of which one of us places where on the day, it's a feeling of achievement."

This relentless drive is what has made Smallmon one of the most respected names in the burnout scene.

Having already captured the Burnout Championship at Summernats 36 in 2024 and last year's Red CentreNATS title, he knows exactly what it takes to perform under pressure.

"Yes, we are heading back to Red CentreNATS this year," he said.

"It will add pressure because we did well last year and took out first place.

"The game plan will be to just take it as it comes and hope for a good result. I've been around skid competitions long enough now to know anything is possible on the day."

What sets BLWNVY apart, Smallmon explains, is the bond between car, driver, and community.

"What makes BLWNVY special to me is that, personally, when I have the car out and about, it generally means I'm with friends and family. To drive the car is a mix of emotions, from the highest highs to the lows. Things don't always go to plan," he said.

"I'd like to think the fans like the aggression of the car and the way I drive it. My favourite is the noise, the smoke and the smell of methanol," he joked.



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Global tricks from High Air

SKY high stunts and full throttle action will explode onto Alice Springs Inland Dragway as FMX High Air makes its Red CentreNATS, presented by LMCT+, debut this Father's Day weekend.

This exclusive freestyle motocross demonstration lands Saturday 6 September, bringing jaw dropping tricks, massive airtime and the world's only Moto quarter pipe airbag landing.

FMX High Air is led by Queensland's Corey Creed, a three-time X Games gold medallist and former world record holder for Quarter Pipe High Air.

"We're new to Red CentreNATS and putting on a one-of-a-kind show," Creed said.

"Our show features the only Moto quarter pipe airbag landing in the world and next generation ramps that separate us from the rest.

"We're stoked to be bringing something completely new to the event."

Creed, 35, has won gold at X Games events in Ventura, Minneapolis and Norway and is fresh off a bronze medal at the X Games in Salt Lake City.

He also performs stunt work for major films including The Fall Guy, Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga and Godzilla vs Kong.

With more than 16 years of competitive riding experience and live stunt shows around the world, he knows how to put on a show.

"The crowd benefits hugely by seeing the only show of its kind in the world along with the choreography and production we bring to

the table," Creed said.

"It's non-stop action and some of the biggest FMX tricks in the world."

He's bringing a special guest to Alice Springs, X Games Best Trick gold medallist Cameron Sinclair.

"Expect huge heights and huge tricks," Creed said.

"As the owner and rider of the show, all I want to do is bring the heat and send it for the crowd."

"A special guest will be Cameron Sinclair who's got some insane upside-down tricks to keep an eye on."

This is no easy feat. The skills on show have taken years of elite level practice.

"A lifetime of training and competing on the world stage at X Games and performing in shows around the world for Nitro Circus and Freestyle Kings is what brings a huge asset to FMX High Air," Creed said.

For Creed, performing in regional locations like Alice Springs brings it all full circle.

"Regional events are the backbone and the start of any performing and entertainment show, so we have a soft spot for the regionals," he said.

"Doing it alongside the drags is the icing on the cake."

Creed urged fans not to miss the show.

"Come and see some of the best riders in the world perform in the world's only Moto quarter pipe show," Creed said.



Freestyle Motocross champ Corey Creed is headed to Alice Springs. (Sheppard Photography)

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RED CENTRE NATS GRAND CHAMPIONS

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**FX HOLDEN
("BOOGY" FX)
INAUGURAL GRAND
CHAMPION**

2016 GREGG FOSS

XP FAIRMONT

2017 LAYTON CRAMBROOK

HUMBLE HQ MONARO GTS

2018 TROY DAVID

PRIMED FJ HOLDEN UTE

2019 BRENT MURRAY

EVL68 DODGE DART

2020 GRAEME MILLER

EH HOLDEN SEDAN

2021 BILLY SHELTON

**VL COMMODORE
("SICKEST")**

2022 NIGEL WARR

HQ HOLDEN UTE

2023 BRENT MURRAY

**EVL68 DODGE DART
MAKING HIM THE FIRST
TWO-TIME CHAMPION**

2024 THOMAS (TOM) WARR

**1974 HOLDEN HQ UTE
(IN HONOUR OF HIS LATE
FATHER NIGEL WARR)**



THIS FEATURE HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY THE TEAM AT RED CENTRE NATS AND THE LEGENDS AT STREET MACHINE MAGAZINE.

WHAT'S WHERE



< JOHN FLYNN'S GRAVE

ALICE SPRINGS
DESERT PARK

LARAPINTA DR

BRADSHAW DR

TELEGRAPH TCE

GAP RD

SOUTH TCE

HEAVITREE GAP

PAUL COT

ROGNESS RD

ROSS HWY

LEWIS DR

STUART HWY

ALICE SPRINGS
TELEGRAPH STATION

1

4

LASSETERS
HUB

BLATHERSKITE
PARK

BLATHERSKITE
PARK

Street Parade
Form up.
ENTRANTS ONLY!

NATIONAL ROAD
TRANSPORT HALL
OF FAME

2

3 ALICE SPRINGS
INLAND DRAGWAY

MCN
PRESENTS
RED CENTRE NATS
IN ASSOCIATION WITH SUMMERNATS



1

ALICE SPRINGS
STREETS & CBD

Street Cruising

Red, Yellow & Green Cruise Route

Red CentreNATS Night
Markets & Fringe Festival

Bojangles Bike Ride Through

Aces & Eights Cruise and Show
& Shine Park-Up

Yeperenye Street Parade



4

LASSETERS HUB

Entrant Scrutineering

Lasseters Carnival

Shannons Show & Shine

Drag car Cacklefest Park-Up
and Fire-Ups

Jetcor Bike Show

Finke Desert Race Trophy Truck
& Buggy Display and Start-Ups

Street Machine Elite Shed

Mulletfest

s'KID Row and Carnival Zone

Show & Shine Awards

Motorkhana

Podium Party Awards & Concert

Fathers Day on the Lawns



2

NATIONAL ROAD
TRANSPORT HALL
OF FAME

Dirt Drags

Finke Desert Race Trophy Truck
& Buggy Grudge Racing **FREE!**



3

ALICE SPRINGS
INLAND DRAGWAY

Burnouts

Open Burnout & Pro Burnout Series

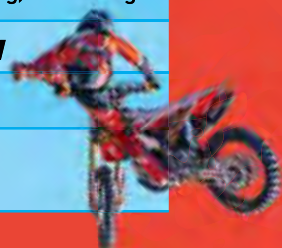
Drag Racing

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Feud, Drag Grudge Racing, Roll Racing

FMX High Air Show

Fireworks Display

Red CentreNATS
Powerskid Fest



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