



MMCCNSW 2021 Show and Shine

Once upon a time, in a land not that far away, there lived a small group of motor car enthusiasts. These quaint people all drove variants of an old English design, commonly called a 'Morris Minor'.

These quaint people came together once each year to show off their cars, and compete for the 'Best Car', a highly-prized award, and one which encouraged these quaint people to spend a lot of time preparing their cars for the 'big show'.

However, one year, along came a monster to spoil the car club's fun. This nasty monster was named 'COVID-19', a strange name indeed, but one which forced everyone to stay indoors and not venture out past their letterboxes for months at a time. This 'lockdown' made the people either a hunk, a chunk, a monk or a drunk, depending on their choices during the lockdowns.

We thought the lockdowns were over in 2020, but the monster returned in 2021. The quaint



people were very disappointed, mainly because they couldn't go out and show off their wonderful cars again.

However, there was a chink in the COVID-19's armour... It was called 'reopening', and it gave the quaint Morris Minor people hope that their car show might actually happen! It gave them hope - and that is all they needed.

As they say in the classics, "The show must go on!" And so it did - the annual MMCCNSW Show-and-Shine. Normally held in conjunction with a fun outing the people call 'All British Day', the past two years have seen ABD cancelled due to the COVID-19 monster, so what about our Show-and-Shine?

A small group of members got together to organise the 2020 show - so they organised the 2021 event, too!





In 2020, we just had to worry about the COVID-19 monster, but in 2021 there was another problem... the nasty little wet weather event known as La Nina, causing considerable rain problems and cancellations. Although La Nina was a problem, she wasn't nearly as bad as her evil (dry) twin brother El Nino (2019-20 bushfires, anyone?).

So a date was set for the 2021 Show-and-Shine, with a back-up day a week later, just in case La Nina came to visit and force a postponement.

With a week of wet weather leading up to the SnS, the forecast for Sunday 14 November looked at best mostly rain-free, so much better than all the days either side. Should we cancel and go for the back-up date of Nov 21?



In the words of Clint Eastwood from the movie *Dirty Harry*: "Do I feel lucky?" Well, yes, we did feel lucky, and very lucky indeed as the following spare Sunday was a complete wash-out.

So it came to pass that the quaint people of the MMCCNSW did have their annual Show-and-Shine in 2021, the day itself was a mostly fine day weather-wise, and all the participants had a wonderful time.

It wasn't perfect, mind you. A few participants confused Cataract Dam with Cordeaux Dam, a completely understandable mistake, but normal transmission was restored and we all ended



Even the friendly wildlife came dressed in MMCCNSW colours!



"Life wasn't meant to be easy."
Judges Bob and David hard at work

up at the correct location.

One enthusiastic member counted a total of 4 raindrops, so the predicted possible inclement weather didn't stop our celebrations.

Celebrations??? There were prizes to be won, so on to the judging process. David Bursill, fresh from his experience in judging the 2020 SnS, teamed up with club president Bob Gilliland, to judge the two main categories: best Standard Morris Minor and best Modified Morris Minor.

One of these categories was slightly easier than the other. By 'slightly', we mean 'this cannot be



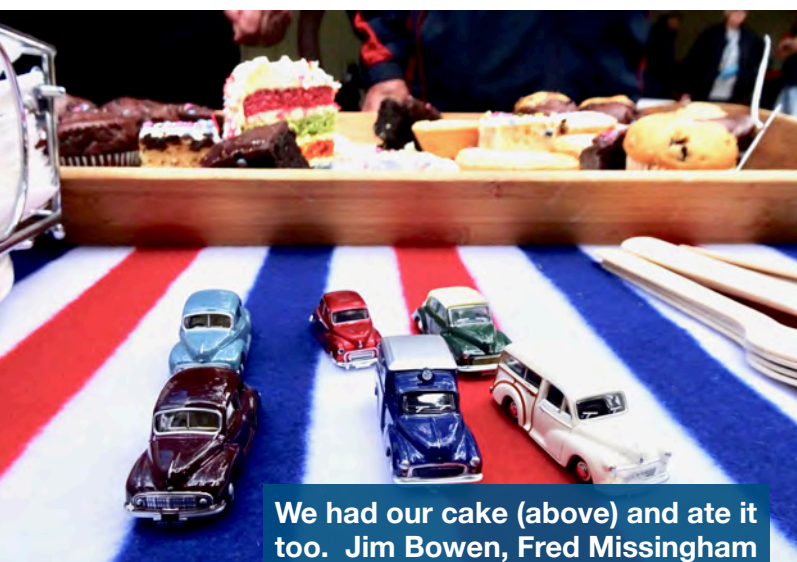
any easier!' As luck would have it, John Bowmer was the only club member who brought a 'Standard' Morrie to the SnS, so decisions for that award were somewhat simplified.

However, that meant that every other car at the SnS was entered in to the 'Modified' section. Therefore, difficult decisions had to be made - and President Bob and David were the ones who had to make them.

Just prior to the final announcements, the numbers were run by the Club's resident numbers person (and Treasurer) Ann Thompson, just to make sure everything added up correctly.

Some went to extraordinary lengths in order to make their cars look as good as possible, incurring injuries in the process, notably Les Whale,





We had our cake (above) and ate it too. Jim Bowen, Fred Missingham and Peter Fogarty enjoy dessert



Terry Cullen won Best Interior



The injuries were worth it! Les' sparkling engine bay and equally sparkling trophies

who had the numerous scratches and multiple bruises to show for his commitment to an ultra-clean engine bay. It was worth the effort as the extra points scored under the bonnet resulted in Les winning not only Best Modified but also Best In Show.

And so the quaint people of the MMCCNSW celebrated. They celebrated the prize winners, they celebrated because of the chance to escape lockdown, and they celebrated just because they could - because COVID-19 was beaten and because La Nina had taken a most-welcome break from spoiling their beloved Show and Shine.

And remember, you have to be in it to win it - so try to enter your car in the 2022 MMCCNSW Show and Shine, wherever that might be held (hopefully at All British Day).

Thanks to everyone who took part in our Club's 2021 Show and Shine and to the organisers of the day (your efforts were well worth it). And a bit of thanks to Clint Eastwood's inspiration, too. (Photos by Les Whale, John Bowmer and Owen Sinden)





MMCCNSW SnS Winners 2021

President Bob Gilliland
presents the trophies
(clockwise from top right)

1st STANDARD
John Bowmer

1st MODIFIED
Les Whale
2nd MODIFIED
Peter Franzeskow
3rd MODIFIED
Owen Sinden

BEST INTERIOR
Terry Cullen

BEST ENGINE BAY
Mark Sullivan

BEST OVERALL
Les Whale

