Alice Springs local Jason Edwards is making sure that the inaugural Red CentreNATS has a true Aussie icon represented among the hundreds of cool cars that will be cruising and growing around the streets come September.

Jason is a local sign writer in the Alice and the vehicle he has entered is a 1976 Holden Sandman Ute.

His Sandman is a yellow HZ with a 253 V8 donk, an Aussie 4 speed, and has 176,000 on the clock. The car was originally sold by Hage Holden in Tanunda in South Australia and Jason bought it about 10 years ago and is the third owner, with the unique attributes coming with all the original books and paperwork including the order and delivery documentation.

Jason has tidied the car up but it’s very original, although he renewed those legendary Sandman decals, seeing that he is in the signage business.

As for the Red CentreNATS, he just wants to be ‘part of the event’, and we are glad that he does. Jason’s Sandman Ute is one of more than 120 entered vehicles coming out of Alice Springs diverse automotive community.

Red CentreNATS has caught the imagination of motoring enthusiasts around the country with more than 300 registrations already received, 44 per cent of which will be travelling from interstate.

Registrations remain open until the 15 August at a rate of $75.

The Red CentreNATS is proudly presented by the Northern Territory Government in association with the team from Australia’s favourite horsepower party - the Summernats.

The Territory Government is also giving entrants the unique opportunity to apply for temporary registration permits to use Red CentreNATS road cruise routes around Alice Springs over the weekend.

Tickets for Red CentreNATS go on sale locally in Alice Springs as of next week.

A special edition 3D souvenir three Day Chrome Pass is $50 and covers entry to all Red CentreNATS events at Blatherstone Park and Alice Springs Inland Dragway including the Rock N Rumble concert featuring Chocolate Starfish and Da Elephant.

Single day tickets will be $20 per day.

All Centralians are encouraged to bring out your Sandman or maybe a Valiant Drifter, Falcon Sunowner or Foot Falcon to keep company with Jason’s cool ute at the 2015 Red CentreNATS.

**NEW VISION FOR WHITTAKER STREET**

A new hotel and exhibition centre is at the heart of a new plan to transform a vacant site in Alice Springs.

The plan for Whittaker Street also includes new shops, restaurants, a plaza and transport interchange, and promises to both create local jobs and attract more visitors to Alice.

The Territory Government wants to work with the private sector to revitalise the community and create new jobs in construction, tourism, accommodation and retail.

Expressions of interest in developing the two lots of land in Whittaker Street, were invited in December last year with Whittaker Street Developments selected as the preferred proponent to proceed to the next stage and will now begin detailed planning and commercial studies to realise the project.

Michael Sitzler of Whittaker Street Developments said the plan would create a ‘uniquely Central Australian’ destination for visitors.

“I am extremely excited to be given the opportunity to further develop my vision for this key site, in consultation with the Northern Territory Government, I am determined to see this happen,” Mr Sitzler said.

**DEVELOPING THE CENTRE | What’s happening across our regions**

**RED CENTRENATS SET TO MAKE IT’S MARK ON Alice**


**CENTRE EVENTS HEATING UP**

The second half of the year will bring a feast of major festivals and sporting events to locals with Alice Springs hosting a calendar full of exciting events to take part in!

Come along and soak up the festive atmosphere, and enjoy the warmer weather that is approaching.

8 August ..................... Old Timers Fete
15 August ..................... 54th Henley on Todd Regatta
19 August ..................... Adelaide United FC v Alice Springs All Stars
20 – 23 August .................. The Redbull MRT Race
25 – 31 August .................. National Road Transport Hall of Fame Reunion
27 – 30 August .................. Run Larapinta Stage Race
27 August – 6 September ........ Alice Desert Festival
3 – 6 September ................. Red CentreNATS
22 – 25 September ............. HKTU Alice Springs Open
18 – 25 October .................. World Solar Challenge

**ICONIC TERRITORY LANDMARKS TO BE SHOWN ON GOOGLE STREET VIEW**

Anyone around the world will soon be able to experience the wonders of the Territory’s most iconic landmarks first hand from their computer screens, tablet or mobile thanks to a partnership between the Northern Territory Government and Google.

Territory Government staff have been on the ground in recent weeks using the Google Trekker camera, taking panoramic photos as they walk through our famous and remote natural landmarks.

This is an exciting opportunity to showcase Central Australia’s most spectacular natural attractions like Uluru, The Rim Walk at Watarka National Park, and the Larapinta Trail.

The imagery captured will be published on Google Maps next year – allowing tourists around the world to take a virtual trip to the Territory online and better plan a future holiday here.

The Street View Trekker is Google’s newest Street View camera platform and features a wearable backpack with a camera system on top. The camera has 15 lenses, each pointed in a different direction to create a 360-degree panoramic view.

Google Trekker footage allows viewers to go on a personalised virtual trek with the viewer deciding which path to take and which direction to look.

**GOOGLE STREET VIEW ON CENTRE**

The Camera has 15 camera system on top.

The Street View Trekker is Google's world to take a virtual trip to Australia for five years, with Central Australia having been a total of 14 projects as awarded to Central Australia.

This will provide a unique perspective of the Territory’s most iconic landmarks, allowing viewers to experience them from any angle.

**NEW TIMETABLE FOR THE LARAPINTA AND LOVEGROVE DRIVE INTERSECTION**

The installation was undertaken in consultation with the Northern Government.

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A new 3D model of the intersection and the potential for a serious accident.

Roundabout delays follow driving through the area with the single lane roundabout the preferred solution to ensure a safer commute.

**ASIA ABLOY ROTARY HENLEY-ON-TODD REGATTA**

The ASIA ABLOY Rotaray Henley-on-Todd Regatta.

**NEW HOTEL AND EXHIBITION CENTRE AT WHITTAKER STREET**

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