THE BUGEYE BURBLE

The Official Bulletin of the Sprite Club of SA



-REMINDER!-

The May meeting of the Sprite Club of SA will be held at Classic Sportcar Boutique, Sydenham Road, Norwood!

THIS MONTH

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CONTACT US

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PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Mumblings from on high...

Here we are in May and it used to be bitterly cold by now! Touch wood I haven't just jinxed the weather for the 26 Nationals but for the last few years it's been relatively mild in late April so fingers crossed for next year!

April has been quite busy classic motoring wise. The Collingrove Hillclimb and MSCA seasons are both off to a great start and the Victorians have brought their MSCA super sprint series across the border to The Bend once again with packed field. The picture on the front cover of the Burble has been 'borrowed' and edited from Dean's racing Sprite (if you hadn't figured it out) after he chased down most of the field in one the events. I believe Hillclimb SA even ran a practice event at The Bend's new 'hill climb' circuit ahead of the 2025 Australian Hill Climb Nationals.

Detailed more later in this magazine, the Clubbies crew organised a great run to Gilberts Motor Museum last Sunday attended by about 15 Clubbies and (eventually) two Spridgets - with the Jaguar Drivers Club All British Picnic event on there was a bit to choose from on the last weekend in April!

Oh, and not to be left out, we had a great Mid Week run. We didn't quite manage a lap of the GP circuit, but there was great food at the Lobethal Bakery and a great lunch at 'Same But Different' in Hahndorf. A fabulous run for those to attended! Next midweek run (in June - sorry!) will start further South I believe, starting at the Blackwood Railway Station. Please refer in the Events Calendar section and let Gary know if you are coming along.

Keep an eye out for the next Burble where I'll attempt to put in some details on how to build a Rocker Cover Racer for our trial run later this year. Some volunteers may be needed to help Kerry make the new track after the last one became water damaged (and I think attacked by termites!). My racer is about to be pulled to pieces to see if I can extract some more speed from it.

Don't forget, the next General meeting will be at Classic Sportscar Boutique in Norwood (not the clubrooms) and we have a great morning planned down at Apogee Motorsport later in month!

Anyway, that's more than enough from me, see you out on the road!





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CLUB PRESIDENT Robin Dunk president@spriteclub.com.au

SECRETARY Peter Stanley <u>secretary@spriteclub.com.au</u>

TREASURER Kerry Fisher treasurer@spriteclub.com.au

CLUB REGISTRARS Gordon Boyce and Don Cardone FEDERATION REP Don Cardone MOTORSPORT SECRETARY Pat Miller Social Secretaries Grant Stephenson and Angela Wicks Regalia Gary Dodd CLubbiesSA Rep Sean Power Librarian Miles Jackson Magazine Editor Robin Dunk Web Person Vacant

2026 Nationals Contact Sue Stephenson 2026NationalChallenge@spriteclub.com.au

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CLUB NOTICES

Nationals Fund Raising - SOLID GPS

I know, I know, I've said this before but I was pretty sick last meeting so this has a month sorry!

Solid GPS have kindly donated three of their 'mega battery' units to the Club to raffle. Valued at \$247 each, the Club will soon be selling raffle tickets at \$10 each. I will be heading to Officeworks for the tickets and they WILL BE on sale at meetings, starting with the coming meeting at Classic Sportscar Boutique. Please bring cash OR a direct bank deposit will also be fine.

This is raising funds to help reduce the cost of Nationals so the more tickets we sell (up to 400), the more money we can put into kitty to held reduce the final cost. And yes, if you are from another club or from interstate YES, you can buy tickets! Just contact the us at

2026NationalChallenge@spriteclub.com.au and we will let you know how!

AI Tech Tip - Setting the Points

Once again I've gone to the well of artificial intelligence and challenged it to tell me how to set up the points on a Lucas distributor. Again, I'm surprised by what it came up with! Now, if only it could help me right the many wrongs with my Alfa Romeo. I guess Al isn't that good yet!!

Setting the points gap in a classic Lucas distributor is a crucial step in ensuring optimal engine performance. The contact breaker points control the ignition timing by opening and closing in sync with the distributor cam, triggering the ignition coil to fire the spark plugs. If the gap is too wide or too narrow, ignition timing and spark intensity suffer, leading to poor running and potential engine damage.

Tools Needed:

- Feeler gauge (0.014-0.016 inches for most Lucas distributors)
- Screwdriver
- Clean rag
- Light machine oil

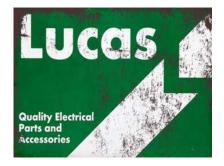
Setting the Points Gap:

- 1. Access the Distributor: Remove the distributor cap to expose the points and rotor.
- 2. Rotate the Engine: Use a wrench on the crankshaft pulley to turn the engine until the contact points are fully open.
- 3. Measure the Gap: Using a feeler gauge, check the space between the contact surfaces. Standard Lucas distributors require a gap of 0.014-0.016 inches.
- 4. Adjust If Necessary: Loosen the locking screw and carefully move the fixed contact plate until the correct gap is achieved.
- 5. Tighten & Test: Secure the screw, double-check the measurement, and rotate the engine to ensure smooth operation.
- 6. Lubricate the Cam: Apply a small amount of oil to the distributor cam to reduce wear on the contact arm.

Once set, reinstall the distributor cap and start the engine. A properly adjusted points gap ensures reliable ignition timing, smoother running, and extended component life in your classic Lucas-equipped vehicle.







SOLID GPS RAFFLE

The Sprite Club of South Australia is fundraising for the 2026 Nationals!

Win one of THREE SOLID GPS car trackers!

\$10 per ticket Only 400 tickets!

Drawn Display Day on 2nd November 2025 (unless tickets are all sold prior!)



Cash or direct Debit EFT to BSB 085-005 Acc No. 2074 32628



Email the club at: <u>2026NationalChallenge@Spriteclub.com.au</u>









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- CLUB GOLF UMBRELLA \$35

FOR ORDERS PLEASE CONTACT Gary Dodd on 0411282045 or regalia@spriteclub.com.au







Rod Wells m: 0487 821 362

Narre Warren South, VIC 3805 E: thebugeyebarn@bigpond.com

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2025 CALENDAR

AKA WHAT WE THINK MIGHT HAPPEN NEXT YEAR!

Februa

3rd - Club General Meeting 16th - Clubbies Kick Off 22nd - Annual Ice Cream Run - Postponed 23rd - MSCA Presentation Day

March

2nd - All British Day 3rd - Club General Meeting 16th - MSCA Super Sprint (Rd1) 29th - Come and Try Hillclimbing 30th - Challenge Trophy Rd 1

April

7th - Club General Meeting @ Fullarton Centre 11th-13th - All Historic Mallala 16th - Midweek Mystery Run #1 27th - Ray Pank Winter Cup Rd 1 27th - Sprites & Clubbies at Gilberts Motor Museum 27th - Jaguar Drivers Club 'Just British Picnic'

May

3rd-4th - Peter Hall Memorial 6 hr 5th - Club General Meeting at Classic Boutique 18th - Apogee Motorsport Day 18th - Challenge Trophy (Rd2)

June

1st - Ray Pank Winter Cup (Rd2)
2nd - - Club General Meeting
11th - Midweek Run #2
22nd - MSCA SuperSprint (Rd2)
29th - Challenge Trophy (Rd3)

Clubbies

1st Sunday of ever month - Coffeed 3rd Sunday of every month - The Rezz All members welcome and encouraged to join in!

July

7th - Club General Meeting 13th - Midwinter Pub Run 20th - Ray Pank Winter Cup (Rd3)

August

3rd - MSCA SuperSprint (Rd3) 4th - Club General Meeting 16th - Come and Try Hillclimbing (2) 17th - Ray Pank Winter Cup (Rd 4) 30th - Pea and Pie Night plus Interclub Rocker Cover Racing Challenge

September

1st - Club General Meeting 13th - 53rd Annual Dinner 18th - Midweek Run #3 21st - MSCA SuperSprint (Rd4) 28th - Challenge Trophy (Rd4)

October

5th - Picnic Run to the Barossa Vintage Collingrove Hillclimb 6th - Club General Meeting 11-12th - Australian Hillclimbing Championships 15th - Mid Week Run #4 18th - Australian SuperSprint Championships 31st - SA Hill Climb Championships

November

2nd - Annual Display Day (with the Austin Healey Owners Club of SA) 3rd - Annual General Meeting 7th - Climb to the Eagle 40th Anniversary 15th - AROCA Advanced Driver Training 16th - Collingrove Finale 16th - MSCA SuperSprint (Rd5) 22nd - Sports Car Cruise

December 1st - Club General Meeting + Chrstimas BBQ

To Be Planned:

An Overnight Adventure - Proposed Sep or Oct



MAY GENERAL MEETING

5 May

126 Sydenham Road, Norwood from 7:30pm onwards

May's Club General Meeting will be held at Classic and Sportscar Boutique in Norwood.

Come along and support a local business w supporting the classic car community!

Guests and new members always welco

APOGEE MOTOR SPORT

18 May

Meet at Chrome in the Valley for a morning of cars and coffee from 8am before departing at 10am for a leisurely drive to Scott and Helen Stephenson's Apogee Motorsport for what promises to be a fascinating morning!

This is one not to be missed!

JUNE MIDWEEK RUN

11 June

From: Balckwood Railway Stn 0915 for a 0930 departure

Gary has planned a fabulous run through the hills to Classic Motor Studio at Totness and then on to the Oakbank Hotel for lunch.

Coffee and tea will be available for purchase at Classic Motor Studio for morning tea.

Bookings are essential. Please RSVP Gary at gary@doddpc.com or 0411 282 045



Sunday 4 May | 8:00am to 11:00am

on Hutt Street





ROAK





CLUBBIES CORNER

Gilberts Motor Museum Run

A round 16 cars met, mostly Clubbies, (there was also a lovely blue Renault Alpine - one of only 4 in Adelaide!) at Fullarton Park on Sunday morning and headed off for Strathalbyn along some twisty roads. A few rain drops did not dent enthusiasm. Although some slight separation of cars occurred during the drive there, as we entered High Street in Strath, all of us joined together to park outside the Gilberts Museum or in the adjacent car park that had been held for us.

Shepherded in by Sean's brother Eamon, who is on the museum committee and had helped arrange the day, we were welcomed in by Committee members providing an overview and away we went to explore a lovely feast of 'motorabilia'. A great time there. Most of us then headed next door to the Appleseed Cafe and to then enjoy a great lunch there.

With a number of events on across the state, including a round of MSCA (Vic) at The Bend and the British Breakfast Day across in Handoff, the Sprite's were down a little; however, few managed to filter across to the museum during the day. Two Sprite Club members eventually made across to the museum. Terrific!

A lot of tourists and local in the street wanted to get their kids in clubbies for photographs, which we were happy to obliger.

Eamon had recently bought a 1988 Volvo 240GL with around 120K on the clock. Who doesn't like an old Volvo! Had not been started for 8 years. A quick polish, new tyres and new petrol, it became the centre of attention for quite a few chats.



PETER HALL MEMORIAL 6 HOUR

Thank you for all the people who have volunteered to help with the event. Most pleased and grateful. The weather forecast for next Sunday looks like a max of 25 degrees. Amazing and lets hope it stays that way. However, always come prepared for the worst.

It is always a big day and a long one but any time you can give, is welcome, even just to relieve someone for a lunch break.

As usual, we will base ourself for dumps of gear in 100/101. This is the garage right next to the canteen area and has been our usual place for 20 years! Team meetings and emergency meetings should take place here please. Drivers don't have to put their cars in a garage, but they are helpful if weather is inclement or you need repair or have to check a breakdown. Work with your team manager to get access.

We still need volunteers so if you can help, please let Sean or Pat know.

NATIONALS 2026 UPDATE -Accomodation

Its official. Its 12 months (nearly to the day) until the 2026 Sprite and Midget Nationals in Murray Bridge! With the MGCC (SA) officially announcing their plans for 2026 we can now let the proverbial cat out of the bag and reveal that the Sprite Club and the MGCC(SA) will be working together on some of the events, particularly the motor sport events which will see the clubs sharing the track and skid pan at The Bend for the Sprint and Motokhana events, with other collaborations being considered across the week-long event.

Accommodation. As many of you already know, the Sprite and Midget Nationals includes all accommodation, meaning you don't have to worry about planning it! This year we will be using the BridgPort Hotel, overlooking the Murray River, in Murray Bridge. Without a doubt it's one of the best regional hotels you will find anywhere and the Sprite Club has been able to negotiate a preferred rate for the week. Its a 100 room hotel and indications are that we will be taking around 50 of the rooms, so get your expression of interest in quickly before they are all gone!

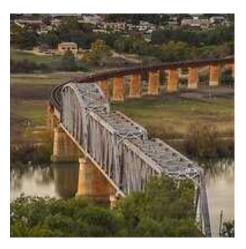
We think the Bridgport Hotel is a perfect base for the Nationals! Boasting a fabulous restaurant and walking distance to other local eateries, as well as on a short stroll to the actual 'Murray Bridge' and the parks and gardens along the river (including the famous Bunyip!), we hope that everyone's needs will be met!

The Bend Motorsport Park is less than 30 minutes up the road and the National Motor Museum is about 45 minutes away in the Hills, and a range of local wineries in the Langhorne Creek area less than 30 minutes away, there is plenty of scope to entertain everyone! And don't forget, the sinuous driving roads that wend their way through the Adelaide Hills all make for what we hope will be an amazing week exploring the region, rekindling old friendships and perhaps making some new ones.

Not to forget what its all about; getting out and about in your Sprite or Midget, or indeed, any car, to enjoy the sights and scenery of the lower River Murray!







MG Nationals. In many ways it will be a festival of all things Abingdon (where our cars where originally made!) with the MG Nationals basing themselves in Hahndorf for the week. Following our Display Day the current planning is to drive up to Mount Barker, an easy 40 minute run up the freeway or a little more via the 'old road' through the hills, where the MGCC Display and Concours is being held and spend a couple of hours looking at the always fabulous array of MGs that the Nationals brings together.

From there we will be off for an Observation Run taking you to destinations unknown with challenging (but solvable!) cryptic questions and highly questionable route directions!

Stay tuned for more information as we work with the Nationals team at the MGCC to see if we can bring all of the Sprites and Midgets together at some point!

RUN THROUGH THE NIGHT TO THE 2026 SPRITE & MIDGET NATIONAL CHALLENGE!

MURRAY BRIDGE 27 Apr - 1 May 2026

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2026 Sprite & Midget National Challenge

Murray Bridge, South Australia April 27th – 1st May 2026

Bulletin 1 - February 2025

Welcome to Bulletin 1 for the 2026 Sprite and Midget National Challenge!

As it has been 25 years since the last SA based National Challenge, there has been a lot of discussion and planning for this event by the Organising Committee, so we would like to keep you updated on the latest information.

As you can see by the title block the National Challenge will be held in Murray Bridge during Late April-Early May in 2026 and will provide the attendees the opportunity to enjoy the surrounds and attractions of this Riverland town.

While there are more details to follow here is an overview of the events planned for the Challenge:

- Display Day/Show n Shine
- Social Drives and Observation Run
- Motorkhana
- Super Sprints
- Welcome and Themed Dinners
- Final Dinner/Presentation Night

The Accommodation will be at the Bridgeport Motel in Murray Bridge , where there are a number of room options for guests, plus secure underground parking for vehicles:

- · Twin share single travellers who wish to 'bunk in' with another single traveller.
- Single for those travellers who would like a room to themselves
- Couples they get the full room for themselves.
- These options will be priced accordingly more information to follow

For those with a "need for speed" the competition part of the event will be held at The Bend Motorsport Park at Tailem Bend, located approx. 30 minutes drive from Murray Bridge. Here we will combine with another Car Club for two days of events:

- Motorkhana on the Skid Pan
- Super Sprints on the West Circuit

And not forgetting the Social side of the event with many local attractions to visit and view during the event. These include:

- Display Day on the banks of the River Murray
- Observation Run approx. 100 120km
- · Social drives to wineries, car museums, and other points of interest in the area
- Themed Dinners
- Presentation Dinner

With a number of expressions of interest registered so far the 2026 National Challenge is starting to gain momentum, so these bulletins will keep you updated with the latest developments. Pricing for the accommodation, meals, social and competition events will be available soon.

Here are a few other points to note:

- Secure trailer parking will be available for those towing Sprites and Midgets or Race cars
- · Themed merchandise will be available to commemorate the event

Here are some links that might help stir your interest in the event

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murray_Bridge, South_Australia
- https://bridgeporthotel.com.au/
- https://www.thebend.com.au/
- https://strathalbynmotormuseum.com.au/
- https://motor.history.sa.gov.au/
- https://www.spriteclub.com.au/?page_id=12814

For more information contact with the organising committee at 2026NationalChallenge@spriteclub.com.au



2026 Sprite & Midget National Challenge

Murray Bridge, South Australia April 27th - 1st May 2026

Bulletin 2 - April 2025

Welcome to Bulletin 2 for the 2026 Sprite and Midget National Challenge.

Planning continues to progress for the South Australian based 2026 Sprite and Midget National Challenge. With the draft program coming together the National Challenge will follow the format listed below:

| Monday 27th April | Welcome Event & Registrations Dinner | Murray Bridge |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| | | |
| Tuesday 28 th April | AM - Display Day | Murray Bridge |
| | PM - Social Drive to Mount Barker with a | |
| | Scenic Observation Run to Murray Bridge | |
| | Dinner | Murray Bridge |
| Wednesday 29th April | Motorkhana – Bitumen | The Bend |
| | | Motorsport Park |
| | Social Drive - Murray Bridge and Surrounds | |
| | Dinner | Murray Bridge |
| Thursday 30 th April | Super Sprint | The Bend |
| | | Motorsport Park |
| | Social Drive - Adelaide Hills and Motoring Museums | |
| | Presentation Dinner | Murray Bridge |
| Friday 1 st May | Farewell Event | Venue - TBA |
| | | |

With 65 Expressions of Interest registered so far, plus about 50% having paid a deposit, the 2026 National Challenge is starting to gain momentum, so these bulletins will keep you updated with the latest developments.

The Accommodation will be at the Bridgeport Motel in Murray Bridge, where there are several room options for guests, plus secure underground parking for vehicles:

- Twin share single travellers who wish to 'bunk in' with another single traveller.
- Single for those travellers who would like a room to themselves
- Couples who get the full room for themselves.

Pricing for the Social and Competition Options, including Accommodation and Meals, etc will be available soon.

For those with a motorsport interest the Marque Sports Car Association SA will be conducting the Peter Hall Memorial 6-Hour Relay Sprint on Sunday 3rd May 2026 at the Mallala Motorsport Park for those wishing to stay on and either enter and compete in a Team or help and spectate at this annual event. http://www.mscasa.com/

Or if you wish to stay and enjoy the Adelaide Hills and all it can offer here is a guide from the RAA that might give you some ideas of places to visit, taste and enjoy. https://raa.foleon.com/samove/autumn-2025/adelaide-hills

Here are some other links that might help stir your interest in the event

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murray Bridge, South Australia
- <u>https://bridgeporthotel.com.au/</u>
- https://www.thebend.com.au/
- <u>https://strathalbynmotormuseum.com.au/</u>
- https://motor.history.sa.gov.au/
- https://www.spriteclub.com.au/?page_id=12814

For more information please contact the organising committee: 2026NationalChallenge@spriteclub.com.au



EOI 2026 National Challenge

2026 Sprite and Midget National Challenge - Expression of Interest

Note - this is an EOI to help us with event planning. You can change your mind!

| Name (s) | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Name (s) | | | |
| Home Club | | | |
| Address | | | |
| Phone | | Mobile | |
| Email | Note – your email address will be the primary point of contact for the event | | |
| Vehicle | Sprite | Midget | Other |
| | Couple | Twin Share | Single |
| Accommodation Parking/Garaging | Note – event costing is based on a twin share basis. Members travelling along and wanting a room on their own will be liable for full room costs | | |
| | Car only | + standard car trailer | + large/outsized car trailer |
| | Please indicate your likely parking/garaging request | | |
| Events | I/we are interested in participating in the following events (circle/tick): | | |
| Social | Display/Concours | Observation Run | Regional Touring |
| Competition | Sprint | Motorkhana | Both |
| | Likely Competition Vehicle | Sprite/Midget | Other/Associate |
| Post Tour Event Interest? | Post-Tour Tour | Yes / No / Maybe | |
| | Peter Mall 6Hr @ Mallala | Yes / No | / Maybe |
| General Comments? | | | |

If you could please complete and email Sue Stephenson *at the email address below* at your earliest convenience it will help greatly as we look to reserve accommodation.

This is not a commitment - an official registration form will be forwarded separately!

| Email Address | 2026NationalChallenge@spriteclub.com.au |
|-------------------------|---|
| Post: | Sprite Club of SA, PO Box 21 Fullarton, South Australia, 5063 |
| 'Challenge 26' Contacts | Sue Stephenson (0408 858 046) and Robin Dunk (0431 247 746) |

An event webpage at www.spriteclub.com.au will soon become active for all your Challenge updates!

2025 | CLUB SPONSOR - SOLID GPS



SOLID GPS TRACKERS

Keen readers may remember a member talking about GPS trackers and the peace of mind a new Australian product gave him. You may also recall a short article in last years Sprouting Forth about Solid GPS.

Since then a few of us have followed suit and purchased a Solid GPS unit to help protect our prides and joy. In return, Solid GPS have come on board to help the Sprite Club of SA deliver the 2026 Nationals and have kindly donated three GPS units that the club will be raffling off across 2025 to raise funds for the Challenge - stay tuned for details early in the new year as to how you can get involved and maybe win one of the units.



1. Charge It. Once you receive your tracker, charge it overnight and turn it on.

Then, download the Solid GPS app on the App Store or Google Play Store, or log in to our website.

How Solid GPS Works



2. Hide It.

After charging and turning your tracker on, hide it nearly anywhere inside your vehicle. Such as: - Caravans: Inside a cupboard or drawer Cars: Inside the boot, glovebox, dashboard,

etc Motorcycles: Anywhere inside your bike • Trailess: Securely hidden underneath • Boats: Inside or near the dashboard



When your vehicle moves, your tracker wil detect that movement and update your vehicle's location at its quickest, every 2 minutes. (Or up to every 10 minutes).

Then, track your vehicle 24/7 through your phone or computer.



*Requires a \$6.99 F/M or \$69.99 F/A subscription. 31-day Free Tracking Before Subscription Begins.





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We appreciate vehicles of all sizes, makes and models. We work on Australian, European, American and Japanese vehicles. For any enquiries, please give us a call or pop in and see us in person.

Marque Restoration has had the privilege of restoring many shining examples of motoring history. Many Concourse de elegance and Concourse de Originale winners have passed through our skilled hands. Our aim is to exceed our customers' expectations of quality workmanship and attention to detail while delivering a fair price.

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Coachwork

Marque Restorations are one-off Coachwork specialists. We can take your vision, whether inspired by the past or a totally unique concept, from drawing board to driving car. Using the best of both traditional and modern techniques, our master craftsmen can bring your idea to life.



Mechanical Repairs

Mechanical repairs and part fabrication to classic cars, pro 70's vehicles a speciality. We can rebuild or repair to "as new", engines, gearboxes, differentials, suspension and exhausts etc. We also offer general servicing, maintenance and tuning services to keep your prized machine in tip-top shape.



Resprays

First impressions count, if your paint finish isn't up to scratch, it won't matter how good the bodywork is. Getting the paint right is as equally important as the body repair process itself. We take pride in our craft, and using only premium quality products, with end results worthy of a concourse winner.



Panel Repair

Marque Restoration also provides general panel repair services, from fixing minor dents and scratches to custom fabrication to replace damaged bodywork, whether collision damage or corrosion. It doesn't matter if your vehicle is steel, aluminium, composite or a combination thereof, we can repair it.

SPRITE & MIDGET NATIONAL CHALLENGE '26

Murray Bridge 27 Apr - 1 May 2026

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