



# NEWSLETTER

## October 2023



Official Newsletter of the Austin Seven Register of Qld. Inc. (formed 1967)



### **On the Road from Evans Head to Casino 10/9/23**

*Doug and Robyn lead from the rear as the cars cross over the Richmond River on the way to Casino.*

### **Austin 7 Register Club Meetings and Events**

**General Meeting Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

**General Meeting Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

**Presidents Run Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November.**

## Editorial Comments

The run to Evans Head, was everything we had expected. Rhonda and Ross, and their family, consisting of Ross Jnr and Jenny and Mia and Cameron, who did a fantastic job keeping us informed and on track! It was just a pity that some cars played up more than others, such are the joys of veteran and vintage motoring, eh, Ross? Rhonda and Ross have been in this game for many years and richly deserved the thanks of all who attended, and it is nice to see younger generation of young Guthrie's coming on board.



Incredible Coincidences. As you will read, both Trevor and myself, celebrated together at Evans Head on the Sunday, sharing September the 10<sup>th</sup> as our birthday. I have never received so many hugs in one day! But we must also note that President Steve and David Neville also share that day as their day of birth! We have a bumper crop of spring babies in our club, also on the run were Karyn and Robyn who are also Virgos. Many

thanks to Karyn and Neil and Robyn for their contributions to the newsletter **Editor Tim Braby**

### **A7 Register of Qld. Committee 2023 - 2024**

<b>President:</b>	Steve Davidson 0418 814 501
<b>Vice President:</b>	Lindsay Jordan
<b>Secretary:</b>	Robyn Clark Mob. 0412 276 313
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Sharon Cowden
<b>Editor:</b>	Tim Braby 0405 740 418
<b>Spares/Tech:</b>	Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
<b>Second Hand Parts:</b>	Doug Clark (07) 3800 1965
<b>Runs &amp; Events Coordinator:</b>	Neil Thyer 0431 067 909
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Neil Thyer 0431 067 909
<b>Dating Officer (North side):</b>	Tim Braby 0405 740 418
<b>(Southside):</b>	Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
<b>Librarian:</b>	Lindsay Jordan
<b>QHMC Representatives:</b>	Steve Davidson & Justin McKeering
<b>Raffle " Stinger":</b>	Valda McDowell

### **The A7RQ Inc. Online**

We have a website which you can view at. Here you can find past newsletters, rally reports and a regularly updated list of events.

All our websites have now been updated with photos and reports of our last runs.

**[austin7.org.au/events](http://austin7.org.au/events) & Face book Austin7 Register of Qld Inc.**

## **AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. CLUB EVENTS & INVITATION RUNS FOR 2022-2023**

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. EVENTS**

I will endeavour to keep you regularly informed of A7 Reg. Qld updates as they occur by updating our website. Please let me know if you hear about any of the "External Events" that I have listed on the A7 Website that have been cancelled or postponed.



**Also Very Important: Make sure you have cancelled any accommodation bookings you may have had for any cancelled or postponed A7 Event.**

Please contact me if you have any suggestions/comments etc. about our A7 Websites.

Always check our A7 Register Qld Web site for possible recent

updates/cancellations/postponements prior to attending any event. And IF IN ANY DOUBT - contact the event organisers to find out what the situation is. Happy Motoring and stay safe & well in these difficult times,

**Neil Thyer (ph. 0431 067 909) A7 Qld Reg. Events Coordinator & A7 Web Master.**

**Also note!! Some details and or dates of these events are still to be confirmed.**

**Please check for updates on the A7 Register Website: <http://austin7.org.au/>**

**Do not forget it is always recommended that while on all Events and Runs, you carry your current Membership Card along with any information about the event you are attending. It will be necessary to produce this information if you are confronted, for any reason, by a member of the Police Force while participating in an Event.**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023: A7 Register November Event:** A7 Club President's Run. This event, organised by President Steve (ph. 0418 814 501), will commence at 9am from Centenary Pool Carpark. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. Further details to be announced.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale. Members are requested to bring a plate of Christmas Food to share.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023: A7 Register December Event: A7 Club Christmas Lunch** to be held at the Carindale Clubrooms and is to commence at 11.30am. Chicken, Salads and desert will be provided but drinks (hot or cold), cutlery and plates are BYO. As this is an A7 Register event, members are encouraged to wear their name tags and drive their A7s. For catering it is essential that you RSVP Robyn Clark by 1 December – Ph. 0412 276 313.

**Dates for 2024 will be in the December Newsletter and posted on our website.**

## **MINUTES OF PAST A7RQ MEETINGS**

### **Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc**

#### **Meeting No.627, 12th August 2023**

#### **Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale**

**Meeting opened:** The President declared the meeting opened at 7.50 pm with a welcome to all. Thanked Neil & Karyn for filling so many positions last month so we could have a meeting. Well done.

**President:** 24 members signed the book.

**Apologies:** M Rix, J&M McCormack, Sharon, T&B McCulloch, R&R Guthrie, T Bale

**Minutes:** Robyn read the minutes from the July meeting & asked if someone present could please move & second them. Moved by Karyn                      Seconded by Colin J                      carried

**Business arising from Minutes:** NIL

**Correspondence IN:** Newsletters from other clubs

QHMC re survey & Minutes etc.

Nominations for AGM

Membership payments from various members & membership application

Flyer re All British Day 17<sup>th</sup> Sept

Gallagher Insurance due 31<sup>st</sup> August

Brisbane Motor Museum re advertising

**OUT:** Receipts & membership cards to various members.

Robyn moved the correspondence be accepted as read & the outward endorsed. Seconded by Trevor M. Carried.

**Business arising from Correspondence:** Trevor M has been asked to display his Austin at the Museum from the 5<sup>th</sup> of Sept for 3 months.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lindsay gave the report on Sharon's behalf, then moved it to be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by Neil T. Carried

**QHMC Report:** Justin McK gave this report.

**Spare Parts Report:** Trevor has made some good sales. Also purchased a 1927 Chummy in parts for the club to sell.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Parts Report:** Doug has sold a flywheel.

**Editor's Report:** Newsletters on website & others ready to post.

**Dating Officers Report:** NIL

**Club Events:**

12<sup>th</sup> Aug A7 Lunch at clubrooms 53 people & Static Display 21 cars.  
13<sup>th</sup> Aug A7 visit to Tramway Museum. Members to make their own way there. 32 members  
7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Sept A7 tour of Evans Heads organized by Rhonda.  
17<sup>th</sup> Sept All British Day, Tennyson  
7<sup>th</sup> Oct Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group Invitation 155 years  
10<sup>th</sup> Dec A7 Christmas Lunch, Clubrooms

**Other Events:**

26<sup>th</sup> Aug Veteran Vintage Swap, Clubrooms  
9<sup>th</sup> Sept Gympie Swap  
10<sup>th</sup> Sept Chrysler Expo, Rocklea Showgrounds  
15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Sept Qld Heritage Rally, Kingaroy  
7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Oct LAMA, Gatton  
15<sup>th</sup> Oct Kalbar Swap, Showgrounds  
28<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Oct Tadoms Qld Machinery Expo, Oakey Showgrounds

**Past Events:**

14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> July Old Wheels in Motion, Biloela  
23<sup>rd</sup> July A7 run organized by John Q

**Library Report:** NIL

**General Business:** Justin McC will be at Leyburn next weekend.

John reported Lang Kidby is doing London to Sydney in a 1927 Bean, April next year.

**Raffle:** Valda selling tickets tonight but will be drawn tomorrow.

**Report on cars &/or car troubles:** two broke down on Johns run & taken home on a tilt tray.

**Birthdays:** Members having a Birthday in August wished Many Happy Returns.

Sick members wished a speedy recovery. Please think of Ken F & Sharon

**Supper Organizer:** Thank you to Molly for tonight's supper.

September: the meeting will be Evans Heads

October: Steve D

**Committee Meeting:** TBA

**Next Meeting:** 8<sup>th</sup> Sept in Evans Heads

**Meeting Closed:** The President declared the meeting closed at 8.31pm stating we will go straight into our AGM Meeting, also asked if some of the men could please help set up the room for tomorrow's lunch before leaving tonight.



*Tram Conductress lowers pole on a tram at the Gabba 5 ways in 1947.*

**AGM of the A7 Register of Qld. Committee for 2023 -2024 12th August 2023**

President Steve read his summary of 2022-23 telling us that it was another good year for the club. The election for club officers was straightforward with all previous incumbents stepping up for another year. The results were:

**Steve Davidson - President & QHMC Representatives**

**Lindsay Jordan - Vice President & Librarian**

**Robyn Clark - Secretary**

**Sharon Cowden - Treasurer**

**Tim Braby - Editor & North side Dating Officer**

**Trevor Moore - Spares/Tech & Southside Dating Officer**



**Doug Clark - Second Hand Parts**  
**Neil Thyer - Runs & Events Coordinator & Webmaster**  
**Justin McKeering - QHMC Representative**  
**Valda McDowell - Raffle "Stinger"**

**Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc**

**Meeting No. 629, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Held at Evans Heads**

**Meeting opened:** 4 pm by Vice President Lindsay thanking everyone for coming.

**Present:** 27 members signed the attendance book

**Apologies:** Steve D., Mat P., Campbell G., Mia G., Ted B.

**Minutes:** Robyn read the minutes of the August meeting & moved it be accepted as a true & correct record. Seconded by Peter B. Carried.

**Business arising from Minutes:** NIL

**Correspondence IN:** Newsletters from other Clubs.

Membership application from Ken & Val Bossom

Email from the Office of Fair Trading re changes

Email from England re Brett Reith's Car & Brett's reply

Email re "distinguished Gentleman's Drive"

Email from Tim re Joyce Dannenberg

Email re Change of address for JOE & Judie Sciacca

Tamworth Regional Council re advertising

**OUT:** Email to Brett R

Form for QHMC

Newsletters to various members, also membership reminders.

Phone call to Ron Turnbull re membership renewal

Tramway Certificate

Robyn moved the correspondence be accepted as read & the outward endorsed. Seconded by Tim, Carried.

**Business arising from correspondence:** The new rules from the Office of Fair Trading to be looked into by the committee.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharon gave her report on the club's finances & moved her report be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by Doug. Carried. Also Thanked Lindsay, Trevor & Karyn for reading her report in her absence.

**QHMC Report:** NIL

**Spare Parts Report:** Trevor has made two sales worth \$2,000.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Parts Report:** NIL

**Editors Report:** Tim has seen a Chummy for sale on Facebook & Marketplace. It is on the Gold Coast.

Ann B Thanked Tim for all his work in doing the excellent Newsletter.

**Dating Officers Report:** NIL

**Web Master Report:** Neil has it up to date.

**Club Events:**

17<sup>th</sup> Sept All British Day, Tennyson

7<sup>th</sup> Oct Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group 155 yrs. 9am to 12 noon

12<sup>th</sup> Nov Presidents Run

19<sup>th</sup> Dec A7 Christmas Lunch in clubrooms.

**Other Events:**

9<sup>th</sup> Sept Gympie Swap

10<sup>th</sup> Sept Chrysler Expo. Rocklea Showgrounds

15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Sept Qld Heritage Rally, Kingaroy

7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Oct LAMA, Gatton



*Our Outdoors Committee*

15<sup>th</sup> Oct Kalbar Swap, Showgrounds  
29<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> Oct Tadoms Old Machinery Expo, Oakey Showgrounds.

#### **Past Events:**

12<sup>th</sup> Aug A7 Lunch & Static Display  
13<sup>th</sup> Aug A7 Tramway Museum (Thank you certificate sent)  
26<sup>th</sup> Aug Veteran & Vintage Swap, Clubrooms. (Trevor purchased a Crank Handle)

Members were reminded to check out our website for photos & reports on these events.

**Library Report:** Looking into a 50 yearbook for Joyce Dannenberg and family.

**General Business:** Doug & I have been to Bev & Lang K & seen his 1923 Bean.

Peter B has purchased the Chummy from the club (mentioned in August minutes).

Ross & Rhonda thanked for organizing our time in Evans Heads & presented with a Certificate.

Justin McC has been presented with two trophies at Leyburn. One for the Spirit of Event. Next event 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Oct Noosa Hill Climb

Trevor McC had Honey for sale.

**Raffle:** No raffle in October. Valda would like members to bring items to the October or November meeting so we can have a Christmas Hamper for the raffle. (Trevor donated a jar of honey)

**Report on cars &/or car troubles** Colin J & Ross G cars have both stopped during our stay at Evans Heads

**Birthdays:** Members having a birthday in September wished a Happy Birthday. Trevor & Tim then cut the birthday cake presented to them.

Sick members wished a speedy recovery. Good to see Bev McC & Sharon J both with us at Evans Heads after Hip Replacements.

**Supper Organizer:** October Steve D

**Committee Meeting:** TBA

**Next Meeting:** 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Meeting Closed:** Lindsay declared the meeting closed at 4.51 pm.

Apologies for Ross & Rhonda at the next meeting.

*Robyn*



### ***Stop Press : To be discussed at our October Meeting,***

The Qld. Historic Motoring Council had an enquiry from one club about the possibility of introducing a Logbook system as used in other states and they wish clubs to renew discussions for this idea. Previously the Department of Transport and Main Roads had not been keen on this idea, and after it was put to a vote most member clubs voted against the idea, including A7RQ inc.

## **PAST RUNS AND EVENTS REPORTS**

### **A7 CLUB WEEKEND - LUNCH & STATIC DISPLAY (12 AUGUST 2023)**

On Saturday 12 August, cars started arriving at the Carindale Clubrooms, ready for a day of Austin 7 cars on display,





lunch and social interaction.

In total, there were 14 Austin 7s on display, belonging to the following members: Doug & Robyn, Trevor & Elaine (a recently completed A7), Ian & Valda, Ross & Rhonda, Russell & Vanda (with Tilly, the dog), David C, Ian Waring and family, Colin & Gay, Hugh & Judy, David & Kirsty, Justin McC, Murray & Fiona, Matthew Potts, Neil & Karyn and John T. Dr Peter arrived in his Wolseley, while other members and their families arrived in modern cars.

Given the fabulous weather, a warm and sunny 27 degrees, most people gathered on the veranda for their BYO morning tea. Many also milled around and inspected the cars on display, including an engine on the back of his ute brought by John Turnbull. Meanwhile, others were busy in the kitchen preparing lunch.

At around noon, a delicious lunch of chicken, rolls, coleslaw, potato salad, tomato, lettuce, cucumber,



beetroot, pineapple and cheese was served to the 48 people present. Lunch was eaten inside the cool Clubroom at tables of six or so people, with much chatting going on between bites.

Prior to dessert, members were encouraged to vote for the car they believed should win the People's Choice Award. Secretary Robyn also distributed a wordsearch of car parts, which kept everyone studiously busy.



Dessert was a sumptuous affair, with a choice of profiteroles, vanilla slices and chocolate souffles, accompanied by vanilla ice cream. (A huge thank you to CEA (Construction Engineers Australia) for kindly sponsoring this dessert course!)

Formalities commenced after lunch, with President Steve welcoming everyone and thanking them for making the effort to attend the day. In particular, he welcomed new members David & Tracey and John T, as well as other seldom-seen members. Organisers of the lunch and helpers were also thanked. Matt & Kylie were congratulated on their recent

engagement and given a card from the Club. President Steve then presented David, Kirsty & Molly with wine glasses for winning the wordsearch competition. Next, President Steve announced this year's winner of the coveted People's Choice Award, with this going to Murray & Fiona's well-



*Murray and Fiona's  
1934 Sports won  
People choice!*



presented Austin 7 (shown at right). They were presented with the prize of a power bank.

Rally Coordinator Neil then addressed the audience, thanking members who had organised the interesting runs over the past year and the attendees of those runs.

He then announced the 2023 winner of the Cam and Judy McCulloch Memorial Trophy for the best run supporter, with the Trophy going to Doug & Robyn for the eighth time – fantastic effort!

The mega-raffle organised by Valda was then drawn, with winners and their prizes as follows:

- Justin McC & Patty – meat tray
- Gayle & Peter – fruit tray
- Neil & Karyn – six-pack of beer
- Ian & Valda – hand-cut glass acid etched with 'Austin Seven' (made by Neil)
- Dick & Patricia - bottle of chocolate almonds

With the help of many hands, tables were packed up, floors cleaned, and chairs returned to their usual positions. On completing this work, everyone started to pack up their own gear and head for home.

A special thanks to Secretary Robyn for her tireless efforts in coordinating today's lunch, and to all those who helped in some way. It was yet another successful A7 event, enjoyed by all in attendance.

### **Karyn**

Report bought to you by **CONSTRUCTION - Engineers Australia**  
proud sponsors of the Dessert for the A7 club Weekend Lunch



## **A7 CLUB WEEKEND – SUNDAY RUN 13 August 2023**

The quiet suburb of Ferny Grove came alive on the Sunday morning of 13 August with the arrival of Club members in both old cars and moderns to the Brisbane Tramway Museum. In their Austin 7s were Trevor & Elaine, Russell & Vanda, Justin McK, and Justin McC's on his trailer. Lyn S arrived in his Austin 20, Ian & Valda in their Austin Lancer and Doug & Robyn in their Mini, while others arrived in their modern cars. We were privileged to be allowed to park our cars, both modern and old, inside the grounds, where we were warmly greeted by Museum Volunteers Glen and Kevin. The old cars were lined up next to the tram tracks, providing the opportunity to take photos of the cars along with the trams. The cars also gained the attention of members of the public visiting the Museum in the afternoon, with many stopping to inspect the cars and take photos.

In total, 32 members (and Tilly, the dog) enjoyed the beautiful warm and sunny 29-degree day, eating morning tea in the shade of the trees in the middle of the Museum grounds.



*David Cross and his 1960s style A7 based racer.*





It was a lovely, peaceful setting, particularly given that up until 12.30pm our group had the Museum to itself, as the Tramway Museum staff had kindly opened the Museum doors two hours early for us.



At 11 o'clock, after morning tea, everyone moved to the Restoration and Maintenance Building, where Volunteer Glen gave an interesting talk to us about the Museum and the history of the trams in Brisbane. After watching a short video, Rally Coordinator Neil thanked Glen for his informative talk and for the Tramway Museum hosting us. Glen then led the group on a tour of some old trams undergoing restoration or major maintenance, and then we headed to the Trolley Bus Building to look at more historical vehicles, photos and

memorabilia.

Everyone gradually returned to our 'campsite' under the trees to eat lunch. Unfortunately, Robyn discovered that, while we were at the talk, the birds had helped themselves to her bread roll out of her open esky!

No sooner was lunch over, when the trams began running from the Terminus Area and, together with members of the public, our group enjoyed unlimited tram rides,



starting from an early 1901 tram (first of the electric trams) and working our way chronologically through a range of Brisbane's trams. On each ride, our tram drivers, Museum Volunteers Sal and Ian, talked knowledgeably about different aspects of the trams and their history, ably assisted by Volunteer Thomas.

After Club members had had several tram rides, most ventured into the Museum Display Room and Shop to look at more old photos and memorabilia, as well as books, DVDs about Trams (naturally) and souvenirs for purchase. Gradually members

headed for home, carefully driving their cars out of the Museum grounds, making sure to avoid **any moving trams**.

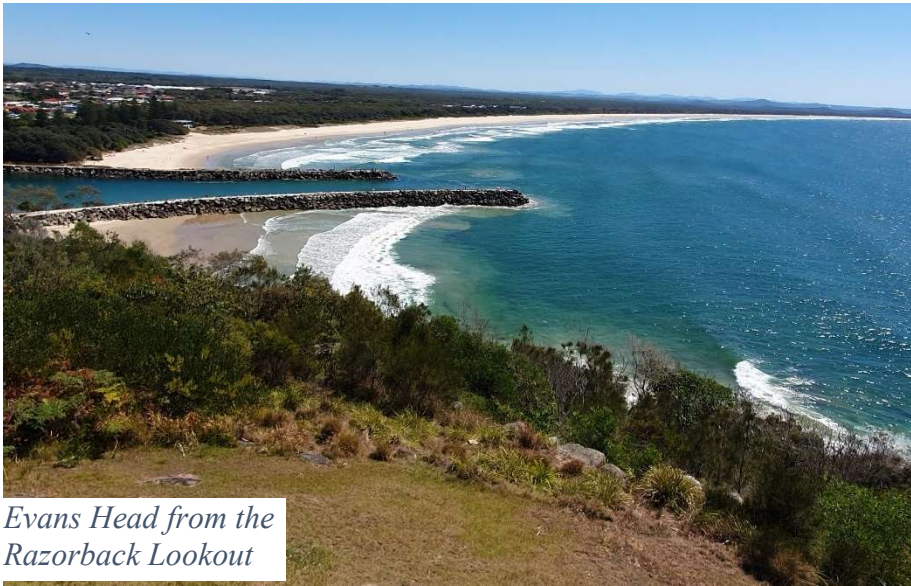
A big thank you to Rally Coordinator Neil for organising this very interesting day, as well as to Brisbane Tramway Museum Coordinator Peter and the various Museum Volunteers for allowing our group to enter early and providing us with a very interesting destination for our A7 Club Weekend Sunday Run.

**Karyn**



# **EVANS HEAD A7 AWAY RUN**

## **THURSDAY 7TH TO SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2023**



*Evans Head from the Razorback Lookout*

### **Thursday – arrival day**

The quiet coastal town of Evans Head in northern New South Wales was brought to life with the arrival throughout the afternoon of members of the Austin 7 Register of Queensland and their cars.

The group gathered that evening for dinner at the Bowls Club, choosing between Chinese cuisine or pizza. Rhonda and Ross, the weekend's Rally Organisers, distributed folders containing run instructions and maps for the weekend.

Following a filling meal, drinks and plenty of conversation, everyone

headed home to their respective accommodations to get a good night's sleep before the weekend's rallying began.



*Start of the motoring part of the event on Friday, near the Information Centre and Caravan Park*

### **Friday – Trip to Coraki for lunch**

Ten A7s and a number of moderns arrived at the meeting point at the Information Centre carpark by the river in Evans Head. Despite the forecast of a possible thunderstorm, it was a beautiful warm, sunny day.

It was amusing to see the Jacobsen's short-cutting through the caravan park pedestrian gate to the morning meeting point in their A7 from their nearby cabin.

After a briefing by Rhonda, the group set out, except for the Guthrie's as Ross Junior had minor car trouble. However, Dr Baker soon had him on the road again.

It was a short drive to morning tea at a park in Broadwater, near the local sugar mill. This small town had been badly flood-damaged last year.

After morning tea, the cars set off in a westerly direction, driving through lovely countryside - sometimes rainforest, sometimes fields and rolling hills. Despite Rhonda's best attempts to alert us to a hidden turning sign, most vehicles failed to see the sign, which meant a slightly longer trip to lunch for many.



*First sign of troubles for the Guthrie Ruby*



On arrival at the Coraki Hotel on the river, we seated ourselves in the beer garden to await our light lunch, which turned out to be a sumptuous affair of sandwiches with a variety of delicious fillings, pizzas, Chinese deep-fried items and fruit. After lunch, the cars departed (with



*Morning tea at Freshwater. Where we were parked the houses were flooded last year*



around 9am, some buying coffees at the neighbouring cafe. Neil and Rhonda briefed us on the day's program. Eleven A7s and a couple of moderns were at the start.

At 9.30am, we entered the Evans Head Living Museum located at our meeting point, where we listened to a very interesting talk by Richard about the history of Evans Head and the role Evans Head played in WWII. After looking at the displays, we set out in our cars travelling to our morning tea stop via Razorback Lookout. Morning Tea was at Dirawong Reserve at Chinamens Beach, which was where the

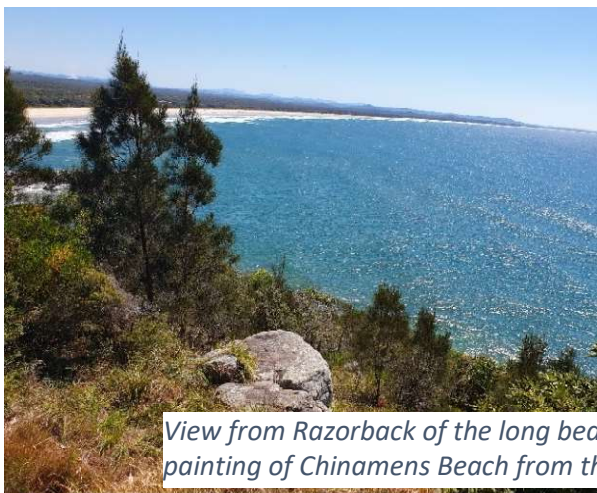
Ross Junior's now on the back of a trailer\*) and made a direct beeline back to Evans Head, with some cars short-cutting down eight-kilometres of gravel road. The afternoon and evening were at leisure, with some people visiting the small farmers' market, some having drinks at the SLSC, others dining at the Bowls Club again, and some staying in at their accommodations.

### **Saturday - Evans Head Living Museum and Lunch at Woodburn**

We gathered at the Information Centre meeting point at



*Our Host Richard gives an interesting local history talk.*



*View from Razorback of the long beach that runs from Evans Head north and a painting of Chinamens Beach from the same lookout seen at the Illawong Hotel*





Chinese who arrived for the gold rush lived.

It was then a short run to Woodburn for lunch at the Rod and Reel Tavern, where we ordered our lunches off the menu.



of Appreciation and chocolates to Ross and Rhonda for their excellent organisation of the weekend's rally. The birthdays of Tim and Trev were then celebrated by the cutting of a cake on the Club Executive's Park bench and a rousing chorus of 'Happy Birthday' from the meeting attendees.

Drinks, nibblies and social chat followed the meeting, until the setting sun and dropping temperature caused us to head back to our respective accommodations for the evening.

### **Sunday – Final Day - Aviation Museum and Lunch at Casino**

It was a cool and windy morning at the meeting point for our final day of adventure in the Evans Head area. Ten A7s were ready at the start for the final day.



*Above F111 on display*

At around 9.15am, we set off to the nearby Evans Head Heritage Aviation Museum, where we were greeted by Joel, John and David. Joel gave us an informative talk about the airstrip, hangar and the F-111 fighter jet that

On the return trip to Evans Head, Colin & Gay experienced car troubles, and had to return with their car on the trailer.

After returning to our accommodations for some relaxation time, we gathered in the Spring sunshine under the trees in front of the Information Centre and Museum for our September monthly A7 General Meeting. The meeting was run by Vice-President Lindsay in President Steve's absence. Highlights of this meeting were the Librarian's Report, as well as the presentation by Rally Coordinator Neil of a Certificate



*The Committee in the fresh air and daylight!*



was on display. We then we browsed the various aeroplanes and exhibits on display within and outside the display hanger.



*Above The A7s outside the Air Museum*



*Large flying scale model of a Hawker Demon Fighter and picture of F/A 18 Hornet flying over Brisbane.*

Not long after departing the museum, Trev & Elaine's A7 taxi experienced car trouble. Fortunately, it was just a minor gremlin that corrected itself, and we were all soon at the park in Broadwater enjoying our morning tea. The drive to our lunch destination in Casino was very pleasant, along country roads through fields and small towns. However, the group had to again pull over when Ian & Valda's A7 van stopped, but it was just another minor gremlin, and we were soon on our way again.



Lunch was at the Casino Golf Club, where everyone ordered off the menu. There was a bit of confusion over the meals when it was discovered that the Golf Club's buzzer system telling you when your meal was ready had stopped working. The problem was soon sorted out by the staff. After lunch, most members headed back to Evans Head, while a few set off for home. Those who returned to Evans Head spent the evening either eating out or relaxing in their accommodations, preparing for their departure next morning. A huge THANK YOU to Rhonda and Ross for organising a very interesting weekend of runs in a lovely area. A great time was definitely had by all who attended. **Karyn and Neil**



# All British Day Sunday 17th September 2023:

This years All British Day was again held at Tennyson on Sunday 17th September 2023. Six A7s were present to represent our Club. The A7s belonged to Doug & Robyn, Trev & Elaine, Ken, Colin & Gay, young Justin and the Haig family. Also present were Dick Sorenson in his 1948 Type TC Midget, John Turnbull in his Morgan, Peter and Jo Baker in their Wolseley Hornet.



Also visiting were Ian and Valda McDowell, Steve Davidson, Geoff & Sirilak Shepherson and John Que who came modern.

Thanks to Justin who provided the pictures used on the website. *Karyn and Neil*

## “Well done, old Bean” or “Bean there, done that!!!!”



recreation of Francis Birtles 26,000 km overland trip.

Those who are in the RACQ who receive “The Road Ahead” magazine and attended the All-British Day last month, will recognise this nice-looking red vintage car with the name Bean emblazoned across the radiator. This car is the latest project by Lang and Bev Kidby who previously have driven an Austin 7 to Cape York to re-enact Hector MacQuarrie’s epic 1929 journey, as well as tackling the Peking to Paris Rally in a 1907 Itala amongst 20 epic adventures Lang has undertaken successfully over recent years. In April next year Lang and Bev will undertake a



**Francis Edwin Birtles** (1881 - 1941) was an Australian adventurer, photographer, cyclist, and filmmaker, who set many long-distance cycling and driving records. Birtles had set a speed record driving from Darwin to Melbourne in 1926 in a modified Bean 16hp car from Darwin to Melbourne. With his co-driver Alec Barlow, they left Darwin at 4 am on 23 October 1926 and completed the 5,440 km (3,380 mi) journey in eight days and 13 hours, a record. The car was dubbed the Sundowner by Birtles.

Following this success, Birtles was asked to try becoming the first person to drive from England to Australia. He departed from Australia House in London on 19 October 1927, farewelled by a crowd of well-wishers including the 1927 Miss Australia. In an era when there were few roads and gasoline supplies sparse, the epic eight-month journey carried him across mountains, deserts and through tropical jungles and included several sea voyages – the last being from Singapore to Darwin. He travelled via Europe, Egypt, Persia (now Iran), India, Burma and Malaya.



*left the record-breaking Bean 14, now on permanent display in the National Museum of Australia in Canberra.*

On arrival in Darwin, his car was seized by customs officials demanding import duty, until direct intervention by the then Prime Minister Stanley Bruce averted the situation. He continued south via Brisbane and Sydney to the official finishing point of the journey at the General Post Office on Elizabeth Street, Melbourne on 25 July 1928. He was promptly asked to move on by a policeman for obstructing traffic. The journey was not repeated until 1955.

Birtles had completed more than 70 transcontinental crossings of Australia by mid-1927.

In 1929, the *Bean* car was presented to the Australian Government on condition that it be placed in the national museum. As there was no such museum at the time, the car disappeared for many years before being recovered in the 1960s and placed into the National Motor Museum in Adelaide in 1980 before moving to the National Historical Collection in the National Museum of Australia in Canberra in 2001.

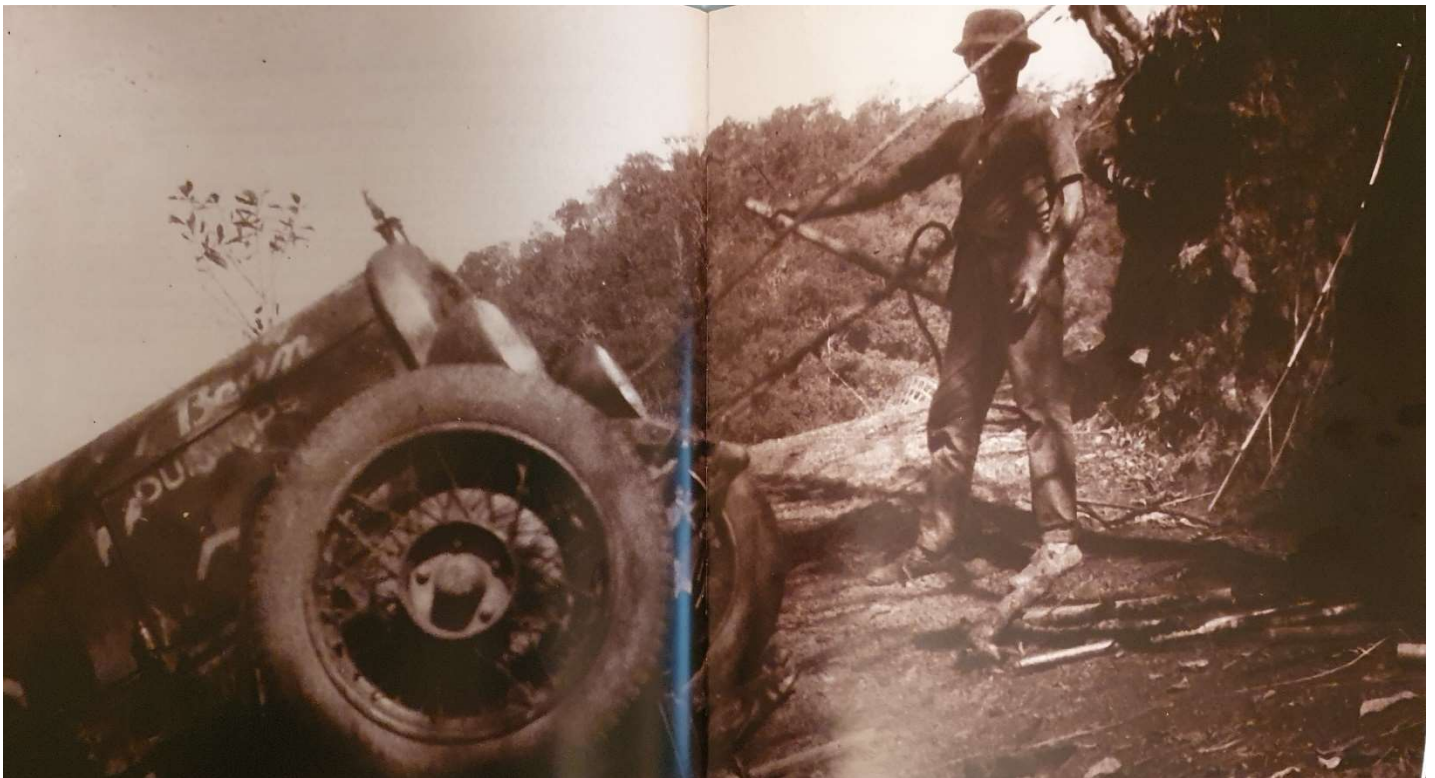


*Above is a photo of the Bean in Arnhem land and Birtles after a particularly gruelling trip for man and machine.*

The **Bean** car was made by in Staffordshire from 1919 to 1929 by a company that supplied parts to half the car manufacturers in the UK. Afterwards they went back to making parts which they continued to do for many more years. Francis Birtles is very little known these days, but thanks to Lang and Bev and their Bean, his name will be in the spotlight again.

For those who are interested in Francis Birtles I can recommend two books. One is “**Francis Birtles-Australian Adventurer**” written by Warren Brown, the cartoonist and co-driver with Lang Kidby in the 2005 re-enactment of the 1907 Peking to Paris trek. This was published in paperback by Hatchette in 2012. (It was the subject of a TV series which is still around on DVD).

The second is “**True Grit, and Epic Adventure around the World**”, written by the late Peter Wherrett, motoring journalist and presenter of Top Gear on the ABC. It was paperback published by Ibis in 2005 as a soft covered book, it is quite large and features Birtles trips in the Bean in 1927-28 and has many excellent large photos. There is also photos and stories about Birtles on the National Library of Australia and National Museum of Australia websites. Lang and Bev have a website at [next-horizon.org/the-greatest-drive/](http://next-horizon.org/the-greatest-drive/)



Getting over mountains thru Southeast Asia the hard way where there are no roads, using a rope and piece of wood to make a Spanish windlass. One of many pictures in “True Grit”.

**Tim**

## **A Lucky Coincidence – the power of the Internet!**

The club received this email from a former owner of Brett and Kylies 1934 Austin 7 RN Saloon

“Hello Austin7.org.au

I used to own Austin 7 Saloon AYM 324 above.

I saw it recently in a publication of yours dated 2019, the car then owned by Brett and Kylie Rief. If they are still the owners of the car, I can send them receipts of original purchase in 1933 plus a schematic of the car (rather oily but otherwise good).

Should they be interested in having those things I can send them to them or subsequent owner if that is the case.

They would be a small present from myself which I am pleased to send.

Kind Regards

Hello David”



In reply Brett sent this message to David

"Can I start by saying what a pleasant surprise I received today when Robyn Clark contacted myself today with news of your generous offer.

My wife and I are the current custodians after buying the car in 2019 in Southern Tasmania, from the fellow who imported the car from England in 2008.

It was by pure chance that I found the car and shipped it to southeast Queensland along with the original number plates and extensive MOTs dating back to 1960 which still has the same engine numbers recorded on the first MOT. From these I can see you owned the car from November 63 until May 65 which is 4 years before I was born so I'm amazed you still have the paperwork.

I would be very pleased to receive these items and happy to pay costs as I'm a strong believer in keeping history together wherever possible. I must admit that at times whilst I'm driving AYM around, {cooking my legs against the scuttle in our summer heat} I feel a little embarrassed and sad that this little car is so far from home even though it was not my doing. To think our car lived most of its life in the London area surviving WW2 only to end up out in the antipodes almost 90 years after she rolled out the factory door. Who knows one day I might drive it back to London.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards Brett Reif.



PS. I've attached a photo of the car with myself and my mother, but don't let the Phone booth fool you. It's at an English themed cafe in Samford village not far from where I live. The car is displaying a standard Queensland number plate, but I think you have given me the inspiration to

personalise AYM324 on a QLD plate."

## Austin 7 Register Classifieds

**Please note: to avoid congestion, adverts may only be printed for 3 issues (6 months) depending on space. If you have also sold your car, PLEASE do tell the Editor, DO NOT assume I know! I have deleted a couple of adverts over the year as we have other members who wish to showcase their cars.**

### **FOR SALE Wayne Styles is having a GARAGE SALE.**

Wayne Styles is having an Austin & parts as he is moving. Parts include these items which are pre-1934.  
(a) Engines, reconditioned, (b) Rear axle, reconditioned, (c) Front axles, reconditioned, (d) Radiator shells, restored, (e) Honeycomb rad core. NZ, (f) Gear boxes, 3 speed, (g) Starter motors & generators. reconditioned.

(h) A chummy project. 1929, (i) Set of 17inch wheels, painted, (j) Wheels 19inch, script, painted.  
(k) Dashboard instruments, restored, (l) Headlights, 5 and 7 inch, restored, (m) Tail lamps.  
(n) Plus, much, much, more.

When.....Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023 9.00am -2.00pm. OR BY APPOINTMENT.

Where.....16/260-264 Wickham Rd. Highett. 3190, Melbourne, Victoria.

Wayne Styles. 0417 532 412.

### **FOR SALE 1937 Austin 7 Ruby roadster (part restored)**



Club member Keith Ryan down in Woolgoolga tells us it is time to sell his 1937 Roadster.

The car is now restored with a rebuilt engine rebuild. (have all the receipts). Also has new green paint, new tyres and a new soft top.

Have complete History of the car, reluctant sale due to ill health. Asking \$10,000 firm

Car located Coffs Harbour area. Contact Keith Ryan Phone 0430 166 133 and leave a message with your name and contact details please. Or email [keithryan2@bigpond.com](mailto:keithryan2@bigpond.com)

### **For sale 1930 Ulster sports replica**

Originally the work of Brisbane Austin 7 "officiano" Peter Baker who took 33 years to build this authentically detailed and well engineering recreation using a composite body made by Chris Gould in the UK, imported as one of a pair in 1984 by Peter Baker and Wayne Fisher. Peter followed a book written by Chris (the Editor has a copy of this, and a letter wrote to David telling him the build details of the



chassis, axles, brakes and motor.)

Present custodian, David Ure, says it now time to sell it on and he really would like it to stay in Queensland, so here your chance, everybody, for a very Special Austin 7 in your life!

David is in Warwick. We need someone in our club, north of the Tweed River, to buy this wonderful car, so it stays in our Queensland club and does not head south across a border or two! You will find the car in Warwick. Price is a firm \$29,000.

Contact David and Karen Ure for more photos and details.

Ph 07 4661 7933 (work hours), or email

[david@showribbons.com.au](mailto:david@showribbons.com.au) (2nd advert)



## FOR SALE 1927 Austin 7 Chummy in Restored Condition

Amazingly Alan Couser is still trying to sell his 1927 Chummy. The car was professionally restored 20 plus years ago by Guthrie Crash Repairs for Ron and Joan Gliddon to a high standard (cost was not a factor). but is still in excellent running order on club registration. The body is pale yellow with black mudguards. It has been in the club for many years. Asking price is \$16000 ONO (and good value). Please contact Alan on 0403 504 709 or (07) 3349 9628, Mansfield, Brisbane. (7<sup>th</sup> advert)



## FOR SALE 1934 Austin 7 Special

Seen in the "Coffs Splutter" for August 2023, newsletter for the COFFS HARBOUR VETERAN, VINTAGE AND CLASSIC CAR CLUB INC.

4-speed gearbox, coil ignition, S/U carb, lowered suspension. Full rego and NSW pink slip (expires late Oct 23). \$19,500 o.n.o. Phone Martin on 0473 857 874 (not a A7RQ member)



## AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF OLD MERCHANDISE

All Merchandise can be purchased from the Spares/Tech. Officer, Trevor Moore.

Ph: (07) 3848 5575 OR Email:

temoore@live.com.au

### PRICES:

a Cloth Badge (sew to shirt or cap): \$10 (75mm tall) NEW ITEM b Lapel Badge: \$7:50 (30mm tall)

c Dash Badge, 25th Anniversary 1967 – 1992 \$5 (35mm tall)

d Longreach Leap Badge 2009 \$8 (60mm wide) e Brass Car Badge \$50 (85mm tall)

f A7 baseball Cap with adjustable strap \$20 NEW ITEM one size fits all!

Additionally official A7 Register Name Badges can also be obtained from Rhonda Guthrie for \$10 each email Rhonda at [guthrie45@bigpond.com](mailto:guthrie45@bigpond.com). Pricing MAY vary with future availability.







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## **DISCLAIMER**

While all care is taken to ensure the articles and events in this newsletter are accurate as possible, the Austin Seven Register of Qld. Inc. and the Editor take no responsibility for errors, omissions or content. Also, the opinions expressed by the Editor and contributors are not necessarily the views of the Committee of the Austin Seven Register of Qld

# **FROM THE ARCHIVES - MORE PHOTOS OF FRANCIS BIRTLES**

**ENGLAND TO AUSTRALIA!**  
(Approximately 12,000 miles)  
**BIRTLES COMES THROUGH!**

**DUNLOP**  
impresses its tread where  
tyres have never been!

**FRANCIS BIRTLES and his 16hp. "BEAN."**

In undertaking to travel from England to Australia Francis Birtles deliberately selected Dunlop Tyres. Can further proof be needed of Birtles' confidence in Dunlop? His perilous venture across thousands of miles of arid deserts, peopled by unfriendly tribes... across scorching plains... through primeval jungles... over mountain ranges never previously travelled on wheels... is one of the most outstanding achievements in automobile history.

... and Dunlop carried the load in the typical Dunlop way... no trouble!

**— such are the tyres that Dunlop builds — sturdy — enduring — reliable !**



National Library of Australia

nla.pic-vn3303106-v



Top left 1927 Publicity for Dunlop tires after the England to Australia Trip

Top Right Birtles at an earlier stage in his life

Lower Right Birtles with his faithful companion Rex the Terrier in the 1912 Brush on the Perth to Sydney trip.