



NEWSLETTER

February 2018



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



Above is Russell and Vanda Curtis's new toy, their delightfully original 1927 R type Saloon that they brought back from the UK. Hopefully Russell may be persuaded to give a brief outline of their adventures driving a 90 year old car around the UK?

THE EDITOR'S BIT

A belated Happy New Year to you all. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and the New Year is full of promise to you all. Some of you may have even had some time away from the oppressive heat of what is proving to be perhaps the hottest summer in recorded history. I spent 12 days in Tasmania, but even there it gets up to the high 30s.

I must admit I did enjoy the new Book "Immortal Austin Seven" over the break. It is well written, beautifully illustrated and full of interesting facts and stories about our favourite little car. I got mine just before Christmas as a present to myself. I have noticed one caption error, but that is not the author's fault as he has merely copied information from a past 750 MC magazine and an entry in the Bryan Purves "Austin7 Source Book. Can you spot the error (Clue "it is close to home")?

Are you getting excited, well you should be as your Tour Organisers (or should that be Organizers?) have some great away tours for you. Firstly is the Yamba Tour in late March, the entries have been coming in fast, seems like a touch of wanting to capture the fun of Toowoomba and Dalby. The other is short run south of Beaudesert being presented by Joe and Margaret McCormack for our Winter Run, please consider both of these events, we would love to see you there.

Editor Tim

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YOUR CLUB COMMITTEE

President: Lindsay Jordan 0408 876 559

Vice President: Duncan Logan 0458 125 490

Spares/Tech: Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575

Tour Director: Neil Thyer (07) 32179880

Dating Officer & Editor: Tim Braby (07)33592086

QHMC Rep: John Que (07) 3396 0882

Secretary: Robyn Clark (07) 3800 1965

Treasurer: John Que (07) 3396 0882

Webmaster: Mike McGuill (07) 33512598

Librarian: Alan Couser (07) 33499628

Second Hand Parts: Doug Clark (07) 3800 1965

Raffle "Stinger": Valda McDowell

The A7RQ Inc. On Line

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.

<http://austin7.org.au/>

<http://www.shannons.com.au/club/carclub/austin-seven-register-of-qld/>



&Face book Austin7 Register of Qld Inc.

AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. CLUB EVENTS FOR 2018

Run Cancellation: Please note that if there is any doubt that a Run may be cancelled due to extreme weather conditions or any other reason, please ring the particular Rally Organiser or the Run Coordinator, Neil, phone:0431 067 909, early on the morning of the Run and prior to proceeding to the Run start point.

Friday 9th February - Club General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 11th February 2018 - Valentine's Day Run. Run to be organized by Ian & Valda McDowell (ph. 0439 677 379) and to commence from Club Room, Carindale at 9.30am. Run to go to BYO Morning Tea location TBA. Run then to go to Cannon Hill Bowls Club for a game of Barefoot Bowls. Cost will be \$5 pp which includes equipment (Bowls) and basic instruction. The Club will set up a table for us but does not provide food except for toasted ham & cheese sandwiches – BYO Lunch and purchase drinks inc. Tea & Coffee at Club.

Friday 9th March - Club General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Friday 23rd March to Monday 26th March - 2018 Yamba Weekend Tour. Tour is being organised by Rhonda & Ross Guthrie (ph. 5536 2717 or 0427 175 099 – Rhonda or 0417 737 773 – Ross). The Tour will be based at the Calypso Caravan Park, Yamba, NSW (approx. 3.5hrs drive from Brisbane). The Park is situated in the heart of Yamba within walking distance of surf & shops. The Caravan Park has camping sites, caravan sites and cabins. Members are to make their own way to Yamba and book their own accommodation. Yamba Caravan Park – ph. 02 6646 8847 or calypso@clarence.nsw.gov.au. The complete Tour info (inc. Agenda) is on the A7 Web site section “A7 Qld Yamba Tour 2018” for your reference.

Friday 13th April - Club General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 15th April - President's Run organised by Lindsay & Sharon (Ph 0408 876 559). Run to commence from Club Rooms, Carindale at 9am. Run details TBA. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

Friday 11th May - Club General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

SATURDAY 12th May - Mothers Day Run. Run to be organised by Peter & Sue Waller (ph. 0410 456 616) and to commence from Centenary Pool Carpark at 9am. Run details TBA. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

Friday 8th June Club - General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 10th June - Beaudesert Winter Run. Run to be organised by Jo & Margaret McCormack (ph. 3379 9189). Run commences at 9am from the Annalee Motel, McKee Street, Beaudesert. Members may either drive or trailer their A7s to Beaudesert. The Run will go to Christmas Creek (for Lunch) via Kerry and return to Beaudesert via Laravale (approx. 100klm return trip). Those wishing to arrive on Saturday are to arrange their own accommodation. Car & Trailer accommodation is available at the Annalee Motel where guests may leave their trailers until the completion of the run on Sunday afternoon. Advice is to book early as weekends are usually heavily booked. Limited accommodation is also available at the Beaudesert Camping & Tourist Park. Storage of cars & trailers may be available at the adjacent Showgrounds, depending on what may be on in the Showgrounds. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

Friday 13th July Club - General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 15th July - A7 Register July Event: RACQ Motorfest. Static display from 10am to 3pm at Eagle Farm Racecourse. A7 members to meet in Hamilton Hotel Carpark for departure to Motorfest entry atam. Members may also make own independent travel arrangements to venue. Members to make own arrangements for registration etc.

Friday 10th August - A7 Register Club Weekend - General Meeting & AGM commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Saturday 11th August - A7 Register Club Weekend Run. Run organiser TBA. Run to commence from Clubroom Carpark, Carindale at 9am. Run to finish at Clubroom, Carindale for BYO BBQ Lunch. BYO Morning Tea & BBQ (or other) Lunch.

Sunday 12th August - A7 Register Club Weekend Static Display. Display to be held at Morningside School of Arts Hall & grounds, corner Wynnum & Thynne Road, Morningside (in Morningside shopping precinct – UBD p24 Q1, opposite Subway) Entry off Wynnum Road heading out of town. Ample trailer & public parking on site. The display is organised by Robyn Clark (Ph. 3800 1965). Members are to make their own way to the venue. Display to commence at 9am and conclude around 1pm. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch but there are some food shops & cafes adjoining the venue including take away and a bakery.

Friday 14th September - Club General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 16th September - A7 Register Event All British Day at Vivian Street, Tennyson from 8.30am to 2pm. No pre-booking required. Contact Robyn Clark (3800 1965) for more details. Byo Morning Tea & Lunch although food is also available at the venue. A7 members to make own arrangements re.travel, registration on arrival etc.

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th October - A7 Register October Event LAMA Annual Invitation Run Weekend organised by the Lockyer Antique Motor Association Inc. and commencing in Gatton. Contact Elise Pakeman, Secretary, Ph. (07) 4697 6462. for more details. Members to make their own arrangements re.travel, registration, accommodation etc.

Friday 12th October - Club General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Friday 9th November - Club General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 11th November 2018 Winter Run. Run to commence from Centenary Pool Carpark at 9am. Run details TBA. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

Friday 14th December - Club General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 16th December - A7 Register Christmas Buffet Lunch to be held at Redlands Sporting Club, Anson Road, Wellington Point. Members are to meet in the Sporting Club Foyer at 11.30am. Cost for the buffet lunch (inc. seafood) is \$.....pp. Members are requested to bring along a wrapped unisex Christmas gift per person to the value of \$3 to be shared over lunch. As this is an A7 Register event, members are encouraged to drive their a7s. RSVP Robyn Clark by 1 December – Ph. 3800 1965.

Neil Thyer A7 Qld Runs & Events Coordinator.

INVITATION TOURS AND SWAP MEETS

(The editor would like to know if there are any other vintage car related events you wish to see listed here)

Saturday 3rd - Sunday 4th February 2018 Toowoomba Swap Meeting Toowoomba Show grounds

Sunday 25th March Bayside Swap Meet - 6am to 2pm at Ormiston State School.. **2018 (TO BE CONFIRMED)**, due to the timing of Easter this year.

Friday 30th March to Monday 1st April Escape To The Country Rally - 2018 Easter in the Country in Roma

Sunday 27th May 2018 QVVA Brisbane Swap Meet – Carina State School 7am to 2pm.

8th to 10th June 2018 OHMC South Queensland Rally - hosted by the Blackall Range Horseless Carriage Club and based in Maleny. Details to be released soon. Website www.malenycarclub.com.

MINUTES OF PAST A7RQ MEETINGS

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc

Meeting No. 566, 8th December 2017

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.



The President Lindsay Jordan declared the meeting opened at 7.45 pm with a welcome to all and introduced our visitor Roscoe Richards.

Attendance: The attendance book was signed by 23 members

Apologies: Peter & Gail Cahalane, Sharon Jordan & Merv & Margaret Thompson

Previous Minutes: The secretary read the minutes of the November meeting and moved they be accepted and adopted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Neil Thyer. Carried

Business arising from Minutes: Report on tenants meeting (General Business)

Morningside School of Arts Hall (General Business)

Correspondence OUT: Official Invitation sent to A7 owners wishing to attend the Yamba Tour

Membership Form to Frank Carroll. Maroochy River

IN: Newsletters from other clubs as tabled

Veteran Car Club re Hall rent

Advertising Material

Robyn moved that the inward correspondence be accepted as read and the outward endorsed. Seconded by Tim Braby, Carried

Treasurer's Report: John Que gave reports on the club finances for the last 2 months.. Then moved they be accepted and accounts passed for payment. Seconded by Amanda Wilson. Carried

QHMC Report: Reduction in Motor Bike Registration

Dept of Main Roads re 25years for buses

8th – 10th June Maleny Car Club

Spare Parts Report: Trevor reported \$873 sales for the month. Spare parts will be shut over the Christmas New Year period.

Second Hand Parts Report: NIL

Editors Report: Tim stated that the newsletter has been emailed out and the rest ready for postage.

Web Master Report: Everything up to date.

Club Events: Neil informed members of the following events.

10th Dec A7 Xmas Party, Redlands Sporting Club 12 noon

14th Jan Club Breakfast, Colmslie Hotel, \$16-95 pp

26th Jan Australia Day, Ormiston State School, 7.30 am for breakfast

11th Feb Valentines Day Run, organised by I & V McDowell (Barefoot Bowling)

23rd-27th March Yamba Tour

Other Events:

27th-29th Jan Allora Heritage Weekend and 20th-22nd July Biloela Heritage Weekend

Past Events:

12th Nov Justin McKeering run reported in Newsletter

Library Report: Alan thanked Steve Davidson for his donation to the library.

Historic Racing Report: Justin McCarthy told members of his latest outings.

General Business: Lindsay spoke about the Morningside School of Arts Hall for our next Static Display after inspection with other members. Neil Thyer moved that we book the hall, seconded by Doug Clark. Carried

Tenants Meeting:- President informed members of the new Key System, Display of Club Memorabilia in hall, the use of the Vehicle Ramp and Shed Survey.

New Register of Members and Spare Parts Books coming.

Report on Cars &/or Car troubles: Ted Bale told about the new A7 generator and distributor he ordered from the UK.

Birthdays: Members having a birthday in December were wished a happy day.

Raffle: Valda was selling tickets in tonight's raffle. Also thanked Ted & Daphne Bale for donating the Ginger Bread House, as second prize. Congratulations to the winners.

Sick members were wished a speedy return to good health.

Supper Organiser: Everyone thanked for tonight's supper.

January Gail Cahalane has volunteered

Next Meeting: 12th January 2018

The President then declared the meeting closed at 8.40 pm, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year with safe motoring in 2018

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc.

Meeting No 567, 12th January 2018

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

The meeting was declared opened at 7.50 pm by the Vice President Duncan Logan with a Happy New Year to all.

Attendance: The book was signed by 23 members

Apologies: Lindsay & Sharon Jordan, Graham & June Gleadhill, Ross & Rhonda Guthrie, Peter Goldsworthy

Previous Minutes: The Secretary read the minutes of the December Meeting and moved they be accepted and adopted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Neil Thyer. Carried.

Business arising from Minutes: Nil

Correspondence OUT: Letter to Port Macquarie Car Club & email to NSW Austin 7 club re Yamba Tour.
Veteran Car Club re survey on shed

IN: Newsletters from other club as tabled

15th July RACQ Motorfest date confirmed

Robyn moved that the inward correspondence be accepted as read and the outward endorsed; Seconded by Alan Couser. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: John informed the members on the clubs finances and moved his report be accepted and accounts passed for payment. Seconded by Trevor Moore. Carried

QHMC Report: Nil

Spare Parts Report: Trevor Moore explained about brake linings and how to test them. Information on the internet under Combined A7 Clubs Assoc.

Second Hand Parts Report: Nil

Editors Report: Tim is working on the 50th Anniversary Book.

Web Master Report: Neil stated it was up to date and the second hand parts are now on the web as well as the newsletters.

Club Events: Neil reminded members of the outings organised by the club.

14th Jan Club Breakfast, Colmslie Hotel, 8am \$16-95 pp

26th Jan Australia Day, Ormiston State School, 7.30am for breakfast.

11th Feb Valentines Day Run, organised by I & V McDowell, Barefoot Bowling

23rd-27th March Yamba Tour.

Other Events:

27th-29th Jan Allora Heritage Weekend & 20th-22nd July Biloela Heritage Weekend

Past Events:

10th Dec A7 Xmas Party. In newsletter & on website.

Library Report: Alan thanked Russel & Vanda Curtis for the leaflets from England to go into the library. Also moved that the club purchase the book "Immortal A7" for the library. Seconded by Trevor Moore. Carried.

General Business: New Register of Members & Parts Books now available.

Robyn asked if the 50th Anniversary Badges could go to members before the book was finished. After a discussion Robyn moved for the badges to be posted. Seconded by Alan Couser. Carried

Merv Thompson asked about the Toowoomba Book. John still working on it.

Report on Cars &/or Car Troubles: Ted Bale has sold his car advertised in the last newsletter.

Birthdays: Any member having a birthday in January were wished a Happy Birthday

Raffle: Valda had tickets for sale in tonight's raffle

Sick members were wished a speedy return to good health.

Supper Organiser: Gail was thanked for providing tonight's supper

Neil & Karyn February

Rhonda Guthrie March

Committee Meeting: 5th February, 10 am McDonalds, Macgregor.

Next Meeting: 9th February 2018

Meeting Closed at 8.20 pm.



NEWS OF MEMBERS AND CARS

Sold!! lady Jayne, Ted and Daphne Bale's daughter Sharon's 1937 Roadster has been sold for restoration. It has gone back to Caloundra where it spent about 40 years of its life.

The Brindley's Racer also sold! They had over 11 calls, lots of interest from WA, SA, Vict and Qld. A chap from Brisbane collected the racer before Xmas and was very happy with his purchase.



At left is Robert Douglas of Charters Towers 1929 Roadster which he has put onto Club Registration. Robert tells me it originally came to the club when it was owned by Bill and Dell Parker in Townsville, then it changed hands to Bev and Bill Bunt some time ago and was purchased by us three years ago. Robert's father bought when he was about 14 yrs (now 73) don't know what happened to it!!! When he saw the roadster he just had to have it!.



The Editors '36 Ruby is in the garage with the motor out. There seems to be some wear in the rings & valves, the Ruby has done an original 80,000 miles (although the speedo was disconnected when I got the car), and when I eventually was able to remove the head (which was very well glued down, can't use that head gasket again!) it had 3 original std sized pistons and a set of worn down valves that you could almost shave with. No.4 piston has been replaced and there is a mark up the bore.

Austin 7 Qld Yamba Tour - March 23 / 26 2018 *Clarence Valley Discovery Tour*

Note Important: If you are planning on attending the Yamba Tour you need to contact Rhonda Guthrie the tour organiser ASAP on 07 5536 2717 or guthrie45@bigpond.com

Details were published last newsletter, We have had plenty of inquiries, a lot of our members who live out of Brisbane want to come as well as a few friends from South of the Border who are in our club. The Numbers are swelling and the accommodation shrinking!

Oh No - it is nearly time to pack for the Yamba Rally

What will we take????

- 1. Austin 7** - well you can't go without that. Ha Ha
- 2. Picnic Chairs** and may be an outside table – it does make life more comfortable.
- 3. Drinks and nibbles** - yes there is going to be plenty of time for cups of coffee and cake.
- 4. Well we are camped beside the Clarence River** so why not bring your fishing rod and tackle – you may be lucky and catch dinner for us all.
I'm sure someone will know what to do with a beautiful fresh fish. (Remember you will require a fishing permit, but these are quite cheap and can be purchased when you purchase your bait.
- 5. And all the other stuff** you would normally take on a Holiday



Yes this is planned to be a relaxing holiday, a few days away with friends old and new.

Yamba has the world's best climate as stated by the CSIRO and Stanford University, so what are you waiting for, come and enjoy it, with your friends and the Austin 7 Club Members. (on the 15th of

January while the rest of the East Coast sweltered in the high 30s the maximum at Yamba was reached a maximum of a nice 25 degrees. A very comfortable temperature to be touring in our Austin 7s.)



Fresh water pool – Angourie Friday tour



Beach at Broomshead – Monday M/Tea stop

THE CLUB IS NOT PRE BOOKING CABINS FOR THIS EVENT

YOUR ACCOMMODATION IS UP TO YOU

The Calypso Caravan Park, Harbour Street, Yamba Phone 02 6646 8847

calypso@clarence.nsw.gov.au

Please Register your interest for the Tour with:

Ross & Rhonda Guthrie Ph 07 5536 2717 Mobile 0417 737 773 Ross

Mobile 0427 175 099 Rhonda email: guthrie45@bigpond.com

Any questions please don't hesitate to contact us!!!!!!

PAST RALLY REPORTS

A7 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH 10 DECEMBER 2017

At around 11.30am on the morning of Sunday 10 December, the foyer of the Redlands Sporting Club was filled with the chatter of A7 members eager to commence their Christmas lunch at the Buffet World Restaurant. In the carpark were four A7s (Duncan & Crystal Logan; Russell & Vanda Curtis; Ken and Irene Bell; and Peter & Sue Waller) and a multitude of modern vehicles driven by A7 members (Doug & Robyn Clark; John Que; Lindsay & Sharon Jordan; Mike & Kathy McGill; the Potts Family; the Davidson Family; Peter & Nell Dorman; Alan Couser; Margaret and Joe McCormack; Ian & Valda McDowall; Trevor & Elaine Moore; Amanda Wilson; Roscoe Richards; Justin McCarthy; and Neil & Karyn Thyer). It was gratifying to see that Duncan & Crystal Logan, Russell & Vanda Curtis and Amanda Wilson had driven such long distances to be with us on the day.

At 12 noon sharp under Robyn's direction, we lined up at the restaurant entrance, eager to partake of the buffet lunch comprising seafood, salads, Chinese and Italian foods, and a selection of delicious desserts. The prawns were, as usual, the most popular item on the buffet.

Following the sumptuous feast and congenial conversation, Robyn took the floor to present humorous Christmas gifts to Club members. Thank you to Robyn for being so thoughtful and for the fine effort in providing these gifts.

Next on the agenda was the Secret Santa \$3 gift draw, with our illustrious President, Lindsay, acting as MC. As usual, members were surprised by the inventiveness of the Secret Santa gifts they received. Then, on behalf of the members present, the President thanked our Secretary, Robyn, for her efforts in organising this year's Christmas lunch.

The day concluded around 2pm with members departing to their respective abodes for their daily afternoon nap!



RUSSELL HEADING HOME WITH HIS CHRISTMAS BOOTY



Duncan & Crystal preparing for the trip home



TABLE OF MEMBER'S SHARED CHRISTMAS GIFTS



Our Librarian
cataloguing a plate of prawns



Sharon & Lindsay
opening Robyn's "Gift"

ANNUAL A7 NEW YEAR BREAKFAST – 14 JANUARY 2018

With an exceptional 38 degrees predicted for today, it was no wonder that most members attending the Annual New Year Breakfast arrived at the Colmslie Hotel in their air conditioned modern cars. The valiant group arriving in their A7s were Trev & Elaine, Alan, and Steve & Davo. Others arriving at the Hotel carpark for the 8am commencement of the gastronomic extravaganza in their moderns were Tim, Ian & Valda, John, Jo & Margaret, Justin with Mum Inis & Uncle John, Neil & Karyn and Doug & Robyn in their Red Mini.

Upon entry, members observed that the Colmslie Hotel had as usual presented a large variety of buffet breakfast choices for us to enjoy. Set out before us were sizzling bacon strips, tasty tomatoes, hot hash browns, buttery mushrooms and fresh pancakes with maple syrup and lashings of whipped cream and berries. There was also an inviting array of fruits, cereals and yoghurt. With plates in hand, we wasted no time in “sampling” the hot and cold food delights offered. The normal congenial conversation was temporarily halted while jaws were preoccupied in matters of food consumption.

After around an hour, members appeared to have fulfilled their morning hunger and were content to sit and chat while enjoying a state of passive digestion.

Close to 10am and after accusations that a certain member (or is it two) had been chatting up the waitress staff, we all decided to depart the air conditioned comfort of the Hotel dining area and head for home to avoid being on the road during the anticipated heat wave conditions forecast for the middle of the day.

Neil



*Alan's 1925 Chummy on the move !!
Well done Alan!*



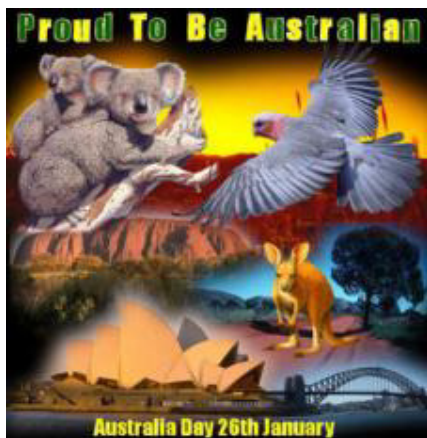
*Doug and Robyn's Mini, the Austin 7's grandson?
A very smart little bus indeed.*



*Alan making another sort of a move, quite the
one for the ladies!!!*



*Doug chatting up the staff, again!!! (the negatives
are in a safe place!)*



THE AUSTRALIA DAY RUN 26TH JANUARY 2018

You sure know when the new year is starting up again because the Australia Day Rally that is conducted by the Bayside Car Restorers' Club is usually the first event on the new calendar. And so it is that no sooner are the bonbons and New Year resolutions packed away than it's time to polish up the Austins and get them ready for Australia Day.

This Australia Day saw the sports oval at Ormiston State School soon fill up with vintage, veteran and classic cars of all shapes and sizes all arranged in lines for admirers' easy access. More than 600 cars and some trucks were on display in the warm summer sun so typical of Australia Day. Holding pride of place at the top of the oval were 6 Austin Sevens that belonged to Alan Couser, Robyn and Doug Clark, Trevor Moore, Steve Davidson and his son 'Davo', Justin McKeering and yours truly. John Que and Greg Riddel came modern while Daphne and Ron Toy attended in their HR Holden.

While Robyn and Alan sold raffle tickets, cooking up a storm on the brekkie barbecues were Doug and Trevor. All up 80 kg of sausages, 40kg of bacon and dozens of onions were cooked and placed on 70 dozen bread rolls. Again it was all free and while we ate, live music was provided by a band singing good old Australian songs that added to the atmosphere.

Of the 16 raffle prizes drawn, Alan Couser



won the 10th prize and you could tell it was going straight into the pool room.



After the official welcome by Redlands Councillors and then the raffle draws, car owners divided into two groups for the organised runs that ended with lunch at the Redlands Sports Club; 175 people attended and as usual enjoyed themselves.

Special thanks go to the Bayside Car Club for their continued organisation of the Australia Day Rally and to all members who helped out.

Lindsay Jordan

*Sorry I missed the Australia day display but instead I was at a Community Services Award Ceremony. It was very interesting to see 57 ordinary people who were mostly volunteers in nursing homes, schools, neighbourhood watch and sporting groups freely giving their time to do extra ordinary acts of kindness. One lady has for 50 years helped out at her local school, teaching the kids to swim, and do craft as well as helping out at the tuckshop for 50 years, another 40 years with her local parish church. **Amazing true Aussie Heroes!** (Tim)*

Getting Technical Article - BETTER BRAKES FOR YOUR SEVEN

Ron Hayhurst of the Austin Seven Clubs' Association of Great Britain supplies these tips for getting 100% out of Seven brakes

One way to get the best performance out of the brakes is to make sure that both brake shoes operate together and that the cam starts from the "fully off" position.

None of the brake systems used on Austin Sevens (including the semi-Girling types) had any sort of mechanism to ensure that both shoes shared the braking load until they were bedded in. With the passage of time and swapping of parts you may find that newly lined shoes can be spaced at different distances from the drum surface when fitted. To compensate for this the ends of the shoes in contact with the cam need to be packed with steel sheet or shim so that they are on the point of contact in the drum with the brake cam in the fully off position. The steel packing needs to be made up with turned up ends so that it stays in place. This isn't easy to set up as you can't see what is happening after you have replaced the drum. We can adjust the packing thickness until we can hear and then feel some resistance; but we don't know if one or both shoes are touching the drum surface.



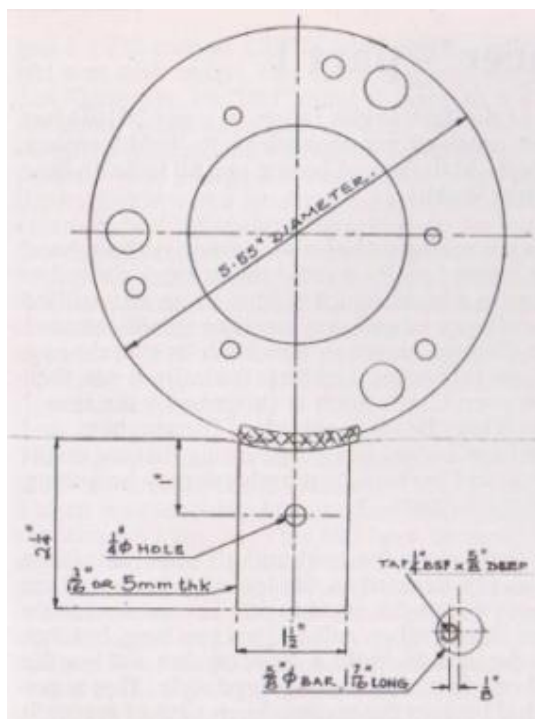
The picture below shows a tool that can be used to check the position of the brake shoes. This gadget, which is attached in place of the brake drum, has been devised by Nick Beck, with a couple of mods by myself. The raw materials are a scrap brake

drum, a piece of steel plate, 1 1/2" wide, and no more than 3/16" thick, and a 1 7/16" length of 3/8" diameter bar. It is best to start of with the steel plate being about 8" long.

The brake drum is machined to leave a disc with an outer diameter of 5.55" - say 142mm. Having filed a flat on the periphery of the disc and having made the usual 30° prep, the steel plate is welded on

to the disc making care to keep them aligned flat. By filing or machining ensure that the attached plate is true to the inboard face of the disc.

A 1/4" hole is drilled on a line passing through the diameter of the disc and 1" away from its periphery, as shown in the sketch. Finally the plate is shortened to approximately 2 1/4"



The next stage may prove to be a little tricky unless 'done in a lathe. The piece of 5/8" diameter bar needs to be taken dead square, at least at one end. Into this end a tapping size hole is drilled 1/8" off" centre some 5/8" deep to allow a 1/4" BSF thread to be tapped, - if it is more convenient this could be an M6 thread. A couple of flats, to suit a spanner, at the out board end could prove useful.

By bolting on the short length of bar and assembling to the wheel hub, with three countersunk screws, the gadget will now look as shown in the picture. Slacken the set screw sufficient to allow the bar to be rotated relative to the plate and "explore" the business face of the brake shoes by rotating the hub. Tighten it at the highest point on either of the shoes and now note how well the shoes are set up. As well as the checks on the "operating" end of the shoes, the pivot pin should

also be checked for tightness and alignment. It may even be necessary to change the pin or seek replacement shoes. A check should be made on the state of the cam bushes by rocking the brake lever and noting the movement of the shoes.

Once all the brake shoes are set up the brake cable lengths then need to be adjusted so that the brakes on all the wheels come into action together with perhaps a slight bias to the front brakes.

Note. The late Girling, (rear only) brake drums sit on larger hubs and have an inside diameter of 3.091". The disc for these will need to be taken to this size as the first machining operation.

This article was sourced from the Austin Seven Clubs' Association Publication No 2011a by Trevor Moore.

THEY DON'T MAKE THEM LIKE THEY USED TO! **PENSIONER'S CAR WHICH SURVIVED NAZI BOMBING RAID PASSES** **ITS FIRST MOT 71 YEARS ON WITHOUT A SINGLE FAILURE**

By [Tom Gardner](#) 15 March 2012

A pensioner's car which survived a Nazi bombing raid during World War Two is back on the road 71 years later - after passing its first ever MOT without a single failure.

Alice Day, 97, was surprised when her prized Austin Seven Ruby flew through the test despite not being driven for over half a century.

The car, which clocked up 73,000 miles, came just inches away from being crushed by falling masonry after a Luftwaffe bomber carpet bombed the street where it was parked in



February 1941.

Good condition: Alice Day, 97, stands next to her vintage Austin Seven Ruby, bought for £145 from her father in 1938, which passed its first MOT - despite surviving a Nazi bombing raid during World War Two

Damage: The Newmarket Bomb, which hit Eaton House, High Street, in 1941, opposite the site of Alice's ladies hairdressers, damaged the car which was parked outside

Alice parked the car outside the hairdressers minutes before the entire street was destroyed.

The day-time raid killed six people in the High Street of Newmarket, Suffolk.

Incredibly, Alice escaped unharmed and her car also survived despite being badly damaged from shrapnel and falling rubble.

Alice continued driving the car until 1958 when she put it into storage for almost half a century.

But Alice and husband Fred, 98, decided to get the car roadworthy after giving it to their daughter Jennie, last year.

Now almost exactly 71 years to the day since the deadly bombing raid her car is back on the road after it passed its first ever MOT.

Alice said: 'I can remember it as if it were yesterday. 'As the sirens went we started to go downstairs but I went back to get my handbag because my engagement ring was in it.

'As I put the ring on my finger I remember the yellow walls of the salon seemed to bend in two and without any bang whatsoever this tremendous force hit me in the back and blew me the length of the salon through the open doors.

'I finished up on a narrow ledge a large beam over the top of me holding up what was left of the building.



'I lay under the beam until I heard Mr Jellis the hairdressing trainer yelling at me "Stay where you are someone will come and get you".'



Rationing: Back when the car was last in service, fuel ration coupons were need in order to fill the car with petrol

Road worthy: The vintage Austin Seven Ruby is still going strong having just passed its MOT an amazing 50 years after it was last on the road Alice survived the blast along with her sister, Marjorie, and was taken to Newmarket's White Lodge Hospital - but six others, including a three-month-old boy, tragically died.

Alice bought the Austin Seven Ruby with a £145 loan from her father in 1938.

The married couple drove the car for the next 20 years until they put it into a shed for storage in

1958 - two years before the MOT exams were introduced.

When it was given to Jennie, she contacted the Austin Seven Club for help in restoring the car.

Gerald Walker, from the club, said: 'Thankfully it was a very dry shed so there was no rust on the car.

'We started the restoration work in August last year and apart from the tyres nothing else much had to be replaced.

'We restored the original leather seats and the blind on the back window and I did have to re-make the roof lining because there was quite a lot of damage.

'The car had stood the test of time extremely well but still bears the scars of the bombing raid.'

The Austin is now proudly driven by Jennie, from London, who was a child when she last rode in it in the 1950s.

Jennie, a mother-of-two lives with her husband Christopher, 67, in Dulwich, south London, said: 'I have been driving my mum's old Austin every weekend since we got it back.

'It goes along well, you can get 40 out of it. The brakes are nothing like the brakes on normal cars and the gear stick is a bit tricky but it's great to drive.

'We went to school in it, my mother drove it every morning and we sat in the bucket seats.

'I used to hang over the front seat and sometimes the roof leaked and you would have to put up an umbrella.

'It's been a great car and it's absolutely brilliant to get it back. It's a lovely little car, it's so tiny as well. It was so cosy.'

Jennie added: 'She (Alice) thinks it's marvellous. She taught herself to drive in it when she was 18 and she taught my father how to drive it.

'She has been in it a few times as I have driven it around on the weekends. She loves it. I keep it at my mother's house and when I go up there on weekends I take it out.'



Photos from 1982

At left Fibreglass Milano Body by JWF laying in Tony Maughan's famous Austin 7 farm. These were designed to be fitted to Austin 7, Big 7 and Ford 8hp chassis.

To the right Cam McCulloch's Ruby rolled out into the sunlight back in the same year at Bill Moreau's Panel Works at Windsor



Austin 7 Classifieds

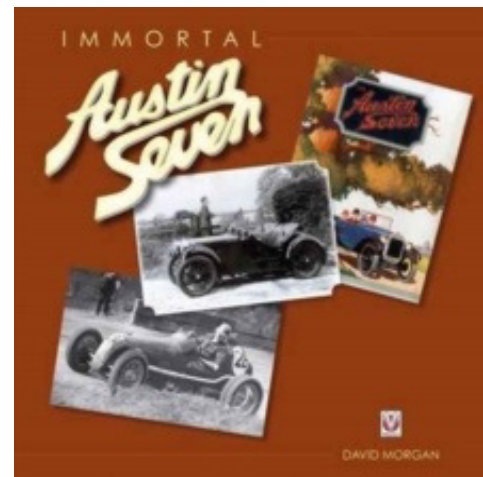
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Only 3 copies left over from second shipment. Covers Chummies & Saloons to the exquisite Twin Cam Racers of the late 1930s. The book contains period, detailed drawings and rarely seen photographs.

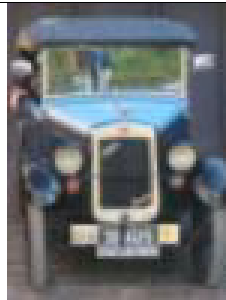
Hardback * 224 pages * 248 x 248 mm 228 pages, 319 colour and b&w pictures

For the first time in over 20 years since the 'Austin Seven Source Book' [now out of print and very collectable] was published a new book will be available hopefully in time for Christmas titled 'Immortal Austin seven', consisting of 224 pages and 250 photographs. This a must for Austin seven owners.



I have ordered a quantity and I expect that they should cost less than \$100 to be confirmed, please contact me if you would like a copy.

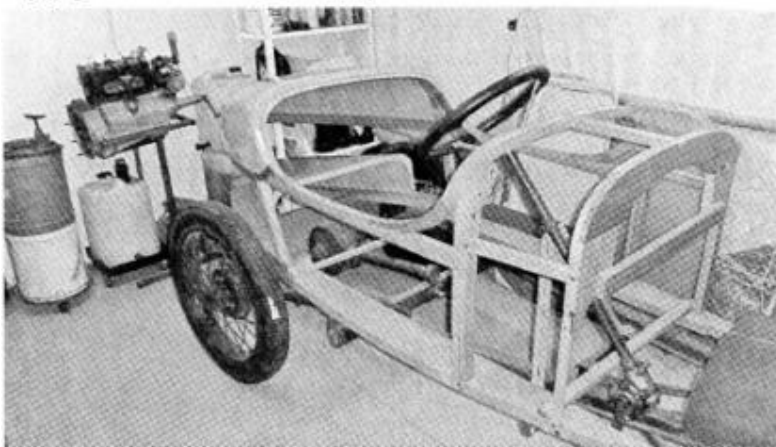
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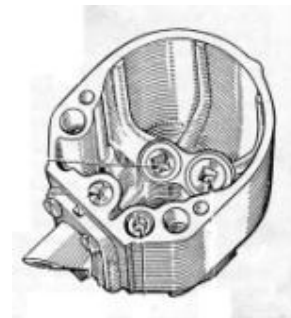
Carburettor Bowl & Jets to suit 1936-38 Austin 7 Ruby

Ken and Merle Bradford 32 Countess Russell Crescent

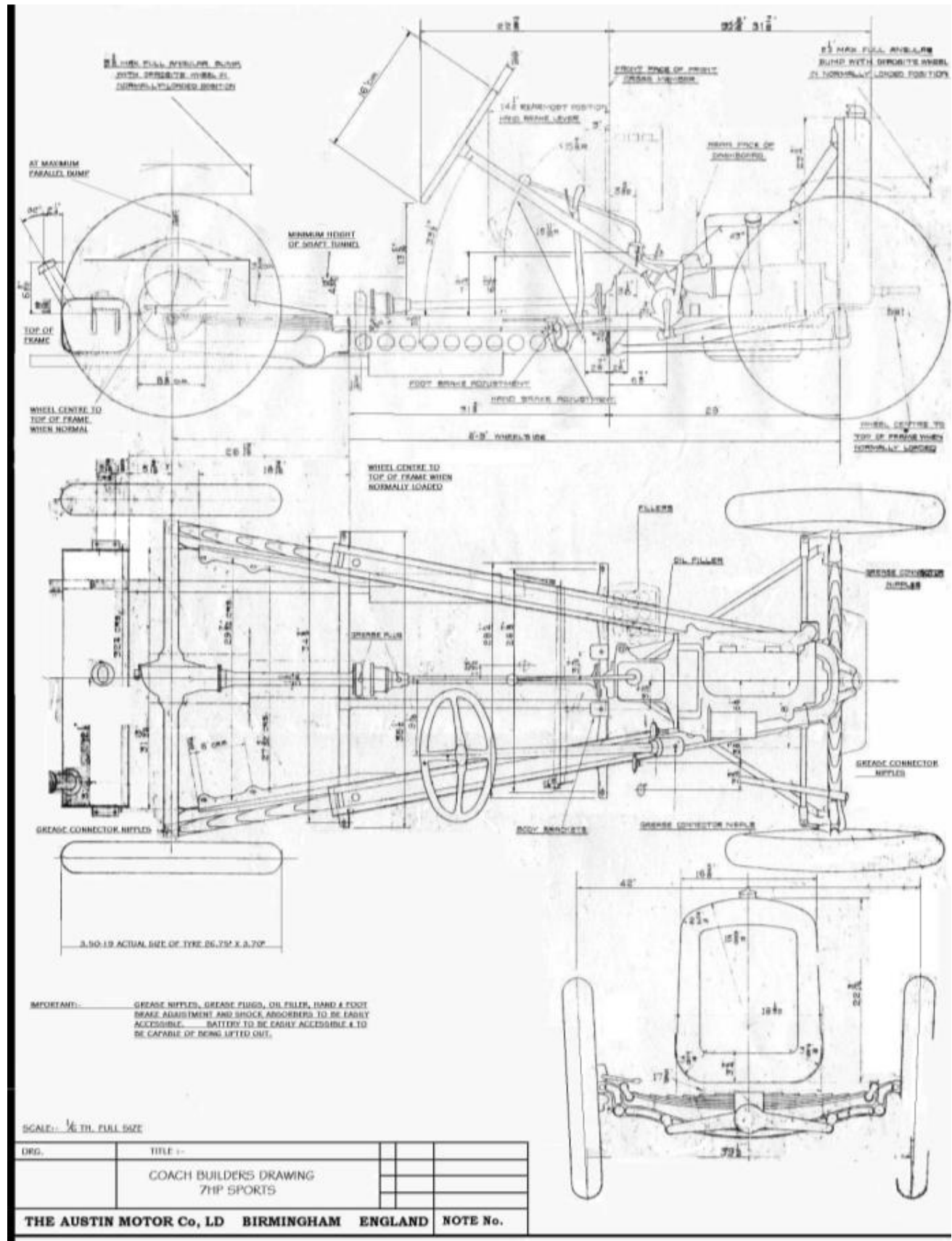
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07 4974 9494

0458 749 684



If anyone is interested I can send you a larger sized file of 750 KB via email. It can printed out as a A2 or A1 sized print. This drawing was supplied to coachbuilders to build special A7 Bodies (Tim)





The new Oxford Diecast Ruby.

Following on from the 1/43rd scale 1933 Saloons and Vans issued 2-3 years ago, Oxford Diecast are now about to release the 1935 Ruby Mk. I Saloon in red and dark blue.

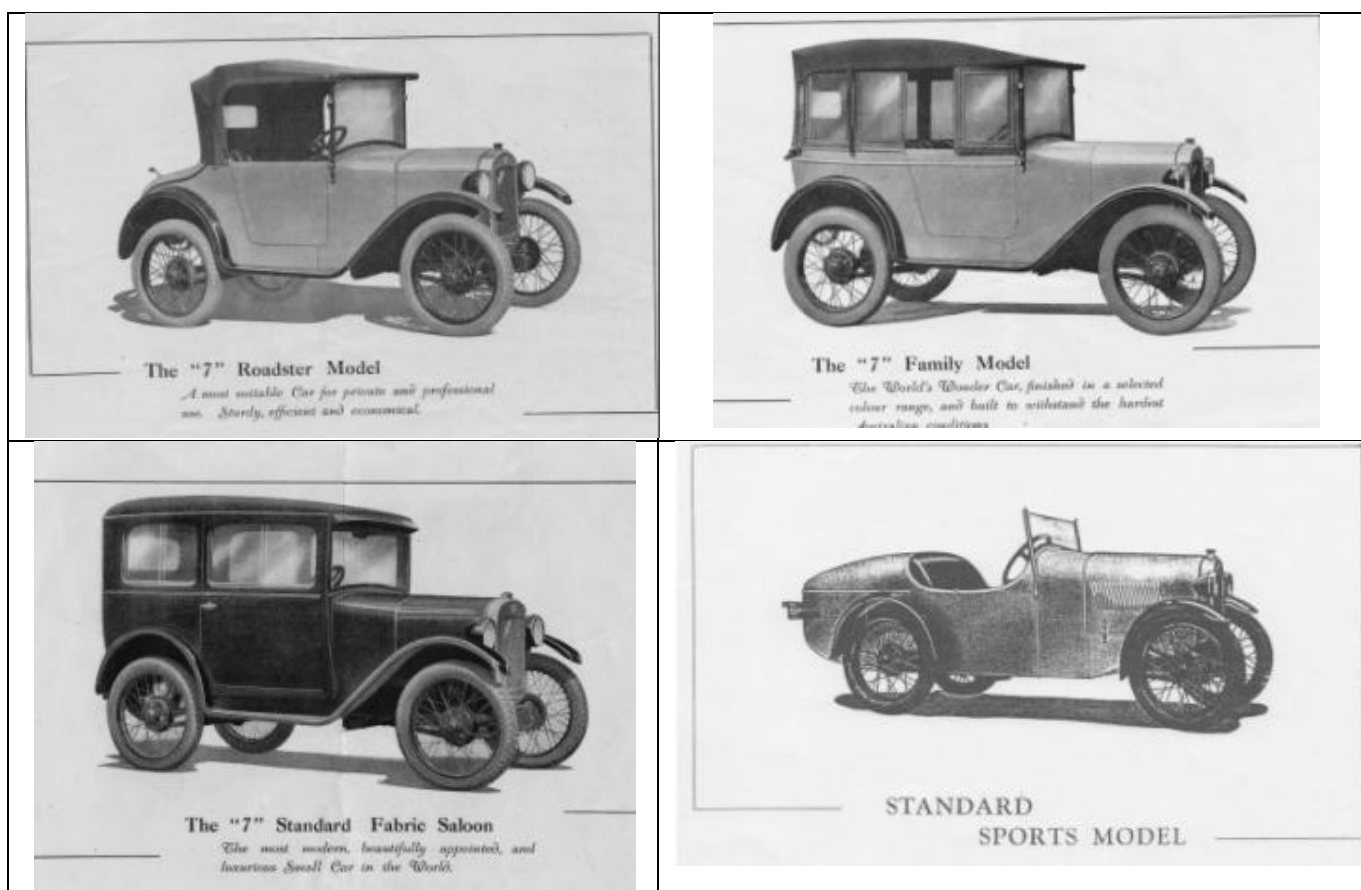
Size is about 3 inches over the bumpers.

I ordered mine from Sydney before Christmas but am still waiting! (Ed.)



Also From the Archives - Australian 1929 A7 Sales Photos

3 of these retouched photos come from an original 1929 sales brochure I bought several years ago. Interesting the cars are all wearing rounded motor bike pattern tires, maybe Olympic Patrols?



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