



NEWSLETTER

February 2020



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



The cars of Doug and Nancy Soden - 1929 Chummy "Gus" and 1932 10/4 "The Duchess" (We salute Doug's passing inside on Page 10)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT MARCH 2020

Our club recently celebrated its 50th birthday and like many of our members I wonder what our club will look like in another 10, 20 or 50 years' time. Anecdotal evidence suggests that clubs like ours are finding it harder and harder to attract new members but we are not alone in this regard. Last month I was lucky enough to have a conversation with a passionate enthusiast from the UK who's doing a lot of work with others to solve this problem. I understand that a paper will be published this year and it will provide clubs with suggestions on how to attract new members, as soon as it comes out I'll be sure to let you all know.

2020 is shaping up to be a good year with lots going on in the A7RQ. Plenty of runs are planned and these will vary from short hops around town to longer multi-day runs so I hope there will be something there for everyone. I expect we will get a few more cars on the road as members finish projects, I only wish I could report that mine was ahead of schedule but it's not.

A shoutout to Ken Folliott who has donated a great collect of parts to the club, it's very generous of Ken and I'm sure I speak on behalf of all members when I say thanks very much.

Enjoy the newsletter and I hope to see you all soon at a monthly meeting or out on the road.

A7RQ President Steve Davidson

EDITOR TIMS BIT:

Due to the two monthly timing gap between newsletters this is the first of the Austin 7 Register Newsletters for 2020, so excuse me if I wish you a much belated Happy New Year.



NOT A GOOD START? For some it has already been a difficult year with health problems that come with an aging population. But more importantly has been the recent problems many face with drought and more devastating bushfires (and now floods!) Having travelled twice over the break, once to Tasmania and also to the ACT and down the Monaro highway to Cooma and can tell you not everyone has been blessed with the recent rains that we have received in parts of Queensland. Many of my relations are still reliant on the land for a living and are facing huge feed and water bills and the possibility of having

valuable stock die and crops wither on parched soil. Driving thru to Cooma for a family birthday we could see the fires in the hills to the west, and while we relaxed and chatted, fire trucks and the men and women of both the NSW and Qld Fire and Emergency Services racing over both sides of that same highway we were on only a few hours before containing fires as they raced down the hills, across large paddocks and thru properties. Flying home two days later many of the same QFES volunteers were on my plane, flying home for debriefing and rest, you could see beneath the mateship and banter that they were are very, very tired. It was a emotional moment when the flight captain personally thanked these men and women in their distinctive dark shirts and caps for their courage and skill, and the rest of us passengers clapped in appreciation. **So Go the Firies!!!!!!**
👍👍👍👍

(The photo above of smoke billowing up through clouds was taken on December 19th somewhere southwest of Sydney, I am pretty sure it is the Greenwattle Creek bushfire that blazed for two months, the day I flew over was when two firemen died and 3 were injured due to their fire truck rolling over.)

Tim Braby

A7 Register of Qld. Committee highway

President:	Steve Davidson 0418 814 501
Vice President:	Brett Reif
Secretary:	Robyn Clark (07) 3800 1965
Treasurer:	John Que (07) 3396 0882
Editor:	Tim Braby 0405 740 418
Spares/Tech:	Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
Second Hand Parts:	Doug Clark (07) 3800 1965
Runs & Events Coordinator:	Neil Thyer (07) 32179880
Webmaster:	Neil Thyer (07) 32179880
Dating Officer (North side):	Tim Braby 0405 740 418
Dating Officer (Southside):	Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
Librarian:	Alan Couser (07) 33499628
QHMC Representatives:	Steve Davidson & Justin McKeering
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.

austin7.org.au/events

& Face book Austin7 Register of Qld Inc.



AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. CLUB EVENTS

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 14th February 2020:A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 16th February 2020: (Early Start – hot weather!!!!) A7 Register February Event Valentine's Day Run. Run to be organized by Neil & Karyn (ph 0431 067 909). Run to commence from Carindale Club Carpark at 8.00am. Run will be to the Bay area for morning tea and returning back to the city outskirts for lunch. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. (There is a café adjacent to the morning tea stop)

Friday 13th March 2020: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 15th March 2020: A7 Register March Event: Librarian's Run to be organized by Alan Couser (ph. 0403 504 709). Run to commence at 9am. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

April 2020: A7 Register General Meeting to be held in Rockhampton during the Rocky Run (See event below).

Wednesday 29th April to Monday 4th May 2020: A7 Register April Event: Rocky Run organized by Greg & Kaye Shuker (ph. 0429 911 022). Run details, accommodation & general information etc. is located on this website under the heading: "AUSTIN 7 ROCKY RUN & COUNTRY RUN 2020". Also see notes regarding accommodation on next page.



Friday 8th May 2020: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 17th May 2020: A7 Register May Event: President's Run to be organized by Steve Davidson (ph. 0418 814 501). Run to commence at 9am. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

Friday 12th June 2020: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Friday 19th, Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st June 2020: A7 Register June Event: A7 Country Run. Run organised by Joe & Margaret McCormack (ph. 0438 192 788). Come for a leisurely weekend to experience the delights and history of Boonah. Come old, come modern. Stay a day or two or more. Come and see the toys that the Australian Champion Acrobatic Pilot has in his own hangars. The Boonah Motel Managers and the Showgrounds Caretakers are happy to welcome us for the weekend, of the shortest day of the year. Run details, accommodation & general information etc is located on the A7RQ website under the heading: "AUSTIN 7 ROCKY RUN & COUNTRY RUN 2020". Also see notes regarding accommodation below.

Friday 10th July 2020: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 12th ? July 2020: 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 "British" entry point at ...am. Members may also independently travel to venue. Members to make own arrangements re. registration or speak to Robyn about A7 bulk booking.

Neil Thyer - A7 Qld Runs & Events Coordinator. ph 0431 067 909

ROCKY RUN UPDATE from Kaye and Greg



_A Happy New Year to you. We have started working on the daily runs, but I now need to know who is intending to come and whether they have booked accommodation yet or not, so that we have numbers for the morning tea and lunch stops. A list of participants and their details would be helpful so that we can keep in touch.

We have 2 days organised and have to do the run for the other 3 days to organise the smoko and lunch stops.

Accommodation for Rocky Run 29 April to 4 May 2020.

All of the cabins are taken at the Country Club Caravan Park, but there are motel units at the Parkhurst Motel and Van Park, phone 07 4936 1126, this motel is only 300 metres from the Country Club.

We also have available 2 private campers if anyone wants to stay at our headquarters, if so please contact us - phone 0429 911 022.

We will update again soon.

Greg & Kaye Shuker ph. 0429 911 022 email: shookershack@bigpond.com

The Country Club Caravan Park at Parkhurst.

The Country Club Caravan Park address: 870/886 Yaamba Road, Parkhurst Qld 4700.

This is a basic van park with clean and newly renovated amenities. There are permanents in the park but plenty of camp sites (all cabins now booked, sorry) and plenty of room for trailer parking. It is less than 1 km from a shopping centre and fuel, there is also a Tavern. The Van park is North of the shopping centre.

Julie, Ph. 07 4936 1022, at the Caravan Park has made a note of our dates and you just need to say it is for the Austin 7 Register. No deposit is required.

The highlighted Van Sites ~~& Cabins~~ on the attached map of the Park shown (on the Clubs website austin7.org.au under Austin 7 Rocky Run) are the ones available to be booked.

Greg & Kate Shuker, your hosts, have booked site No. 4, close to the Park Camp Kitchen.



The Capricorn Motel

The Capricorn Motel address: 703/751 Yaamba Road, Parkhurst Qld 4700.

The Capricorn Motel phone 07 49364600 and is about \$115 per night and is about 1 km from the shopping centre towards Rockhampton. Information provided by Greg & Kaye Shuker ph. 0429 911 022

<http://austin7.org.au/a7-bundy-bash-2019/>

ACCOMMODATION - A7 COUNTRY RUN 19 to 21 JUNE 2020



Boonah Motel

Motel Accommodation for our Boonah Country Run is available at: Boonah Motel, 1 Mt Carmel Road. Trailer parking is available. Hosts: Barry and Janet Harm on 07 54631944. Email: contact@boonahmotel.com

Showgrounds Caravan Park

Caravan park accommodation is at the showgrounds for those with their own van, 8 Melbourne Street. Hosts: Wayne and Nicole on 07 54634080. Email: boonahshowgrounds@gmail.com

When booking, please advise the Hosts that you are with the Austin 7 members.

Boonah is a very popular weekend spot. Please book as early as possible.

Our run is being organized to cater for troops who are able to stay for the whole time, possible including the Monday morning, and for those who may wish to come for a day or part of the weekend. We are also looking at Breakfast and a short run on the Monday, if anyone is staying longer.

Please let us know by the end of April if you are able to attend this country run.

Information provided by Joe & Margaret McCormack ph 0438 192 788.

INVITATION TOURS AND SWAP MEETS (AND OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST).

Saturday 28th March to Friday 3rd April 2020:: Australian Historic Motoring Federation is hosting the **2020 National Motoring Festival** at Albury – Wodonga. All information and registration is on the AHMC website or contact Christine Stevens (a Festival coordinator) on 0419 789 151.

10th - 12th April 2020 North Old. QHMC Rally - hosted by the Townsville Veteran and Vintage Historic Motor Club details to be released by the QMHC on their website

Saturday 2nd - Monday 4th May 2020 Southern Qld. QHMC Rally and Tuesday 5th - Wednesday 6th May 2020 DDV&VMC. 50th Anniversary Rally - hosted by the Darling Downs Veteran and Vintage Motor Club inc. - The DDV&VMC is celebrating its **50th anniversary in 2020.**

To celebrate this milestone, our club will be holding a five day hub rally based out of Toowoomba, from the 2nd – 6th May 2020. This event will also incorporate the 2020 Southern Queensland QHMC Rally.

The event will celebrate 50 years of rallying taking in all areas surrounding Toowoomba.

Mark the date on your calendar. **Download your form from the DDVVMC Website under 50th Anniversary.** For more information/registration phone: 0400 163 703 or (07) 463 3181.

Sunday 17th May 2020 National Motoring Heritage Day - Cameron Park, Booval, Ipswich. The Queensland Historic Motoring Council will be holding a picnic in the Park to celebrate National Motoring Heritage Day . The Event is free to enter is free. You do not need to register for the event. There will be food, drink, ice cream vendors and entertainment and trophies.

Sunday 24 May, 2020 MacLean's Bridge Sports Car Display: Queensland Rifle Association Belmont Range, 1485 Old Cleveland Road, BELMONT QLD. Display car entry from 7.30 to 1 pm Spectator entry 9.00 <https://macleansbridge.com/index.php/macleans-bridge>.

Sunday 28th June 2020: Our A7 Club has been invited to attend the **Vintage Car Club of Queensland Annual Concourse** to be held at Ormiston House from 10am on 28th June 2020. For details contact VCCQ President, Ronnie Brown, phone 3202 7462 or 0419 702 329. Members are to arrange their own travel etc. for this event.

Friday 17th to Sunday 19nd July 2020: 8th Biennial Queensland Heritage Rally. Rally is to be held in Biloela, Central Queensland. Members are to make own arrangements for Travel, Registration & Accommodation. For information contact Cindy Cooper, Rally Coordinator. Phone (07)4992 2400 or 0429 383 296.

Sunday 12th Jul 2020 The Original Gold Coast Swap at the Mudgeeraba Showgrounds HMC .

Wednesday 12th to Sunday 16th August 2020: Northern Rivers Vintage & Veteran Car Club will be holding their **60th Year Anniversary Rally in Lismore, NSW.** Contact the Club President, Chris Loadsman (ph. 0417 630 244) for registration and rally details or talk to Ross & Rhonda Guthrie (ph 0417 737 773

Saturday 22nd August Veteran Car Swap: VCCA (Q) Hall, Old Cleveland Road, Carindale.

2022 - Saturday 9th April to Thursday, 14 April 2022- Austin 7 100 Years - Warrnambool National Rally Any queries Rally Committee at 2022rallyinfo@gmail.com



MINUTES OF PAST A7RQ MEETINGS

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc

Meeting No 590, 14th December 2019

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale

The President declared the meeting opened at 7.50pm with a welcome to all.

Attendance: 25 members signed the attendance book.

Apologies: Neil & Karen, Steve & Chris Went, Sharon Jordan, Brett Wilson, Ted Bale, Matt Potts.

Minutes: Robyn read the minutes of the November meeting & moved it be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Peter Baker. Carried.

Business arising from minutes: To be discussed in General Business.

Correspondence IN: Newsletters from other clubs as tabled, also emailed newsletters.

Membership application from Robert & Marguerite Reith

Membership renewal form from the Melbourne Club.

OUT: Get Well card to Daphne Bale.

Robyn moved that the inward correspondence be accepted as read & the outward endorsed.

Also Robert Reith be accepted as a member. Seconded by Peter Baker. Carried.

Business arising from correspondence: NIL

Treasurer's Report: John gave his report on the Clubs finances, asked for questions, then moved his report be accepted & any bills be passed for payment. Seconded by Alan Couser. Carried.

QHMC Report: Justin McKeering gave the report, and stated they will be holding a meeting every month.



Spare Parts Report: Trevor will close the spare part over Christmas.

Second Hand Parts Report: Doug had a Starter motor for Bill Ryan.

Editors Report: Newsletters ready for postage. Tim has had good feedback from UK, Pacific West USA, about our newsletters.

Dating Officers Report: Bill & Karen Ryan, & Ian & Mary McCorkindale have both had their cars dated this month.

Web Master Report: Everything up to date including the newsletter. Asked if someone could please take photos & give a report on the A7 Christmas Party.

Club Events:

14th Dec Christmas Party, Greenbank RSL, \$17.50 pp, \$3.00 gift (31 PEOPLE)

2020

12TH Jan A7 Breakfast, Manly Deck, 8am, \$14-00 Adult

26th Jan Australia Day Run, Ormiston State School

16th Feb Valentine's Day Run, Neil & Karen, 8am Centenary Pool, BYO m/t & lunch

15th March Club Run organised by Alan Couser.

29th April-4th May Rocky Run organised by Greg & Kay Shuker (General meeting to be held)

19th-21st June Organised by Joe & Margaret McCormack, Boonah area

Other Events 2020

25th-26th Jan Allora Heritage Weekend, Showgrounds

1st-2nd Feb Toowoomba Swap

28th Mar-4th April AHMF 2020 National Motoring Festival, Albury Wodonga

29th March Bayside Swap

2nd-9th May Daring Downs Veteran & Vintage 50th Anniv. Rally

16th May Bayside Biggest Morning Tea, Ormiston State School

17th May National Motoring Heritage Day, Cameron Park, Ipswich.

Past Events

Reports on web site & in newsletter.

Library Report: Will book clubrooms when date decided to update library.

General Business: Static Display Weekend there will be a BBQ on Saturday

Our April meeting will be in Rocky because of Good Friday.

Members to check their insurance & CTP

Report on cars &/or car troubles: A new supplier to be found for fabric universals.

Hare & Forbes have heavy lifters for \$40-00

Birthdays: Members having a birthday in December wished all the best.

Raffle: To be drawn at the Christmas Party.

Sick members wished a speedy recovery.

Super Organiser: Thank you to everyone for tonight's supper.

Gail Cahalane January

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting 10th January 2020

Meeting closed: As there was no further business the President closed the Meeting at 8.35pm wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc

Meeting No 591, 10th January 2020

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

The President Steve Davidson opened the meeting at 7.50 pm wishing everyone Happy New Year.

Attendance: 26 signed the Attendance Book & 1 visitor

Apologies: Lindsay & Sharon Jordan,

Minutes: Robyn read the minutes of the December meeting and moved it be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Trevor Moore. Carried

Business arising from minutes: Nil

Correspondence IN- Newsletters from other clubs as tabled

Membership application Jim & Sharna Graham, Highfields

OUT Membership form to Brett Dunmore, Gympie & Gordon Robinson, Ningi

Robyn moved the correspondence be accepted as read and the outward endorsed, also Jim & Sharna Graham be accepted as members. Seconded by Trevor Moore. Carried

Business arising from minutes: Nil

Treasurer's Report: John gave his report. Asked for any questions, then moved his report be accepted. Seconded by Alan Couser. Carried

QHMC Report: Nil

Spare Parts Report: Good sales and another order to be sent to the Victorian Club.

2nd Hand Parts report: A few enquires but no sales

Editor's report: Tim questions the date & place for the QHMC Run

Dating Officer: Nil

Web Master Report: Up to date but some dates still missing.

Club Events:

12th Jan A7 Breakfast, Manly Deck 8am \$14-00 Adults

26th Jan Australia Day Run, Ormiston State School

16th Feb Valentine's Day Run Neil & Karen, 8am Centenary Pool, BYO M/t & Lunch

15th March Organised by Alan Couser

29th April-4th May Rocky Run organised by Greg & Kay Shuker.(General meeting to be held)

19th-21st June Organised by Jo & Margaret McCormack, Boonah area

Other Events:

25th-26th Jan Allora Heritage Weekend, Showgrounds

28th Mar-4th April AHMF 2020 National Motoring Festival, Albury Wodonga

20th March Bayside Swap

2nd-9th May Darling Downs Veteran & Vintage 50th Anniv. Rally

16th May Bayside Biggest Morning Tea, Ormiston State School

17th May National Motoring Heritage Day, Cameron Park, Ipswich

Past Events:

14th Dec A7 Christmas Party

Library Report: Thank you to Russell Curtis for books donated to the library.

General Business: Vale past members Doug Soden and Joan Glidden

Club to donate \$200 to bushfire appeal,

Members to consider which

organisation by next meeting.

80 cars lost in fires across the country

April meeting is Good Friday so no

meeting at Carindale. It will be held in

Rocky.

Report on cars &/or car troubles:

Brett Reif has his car running.

A discussion held on the BMW Dixi in

Tasmania.

Birthdays: Members having a

Birthday in January wished Many

Happy returns,

Raffle: Valda selling tickets in tonight's

raffle.

Supper: Thank you to Gail for

tonight's supper.

February organiser Elaine Moore



Vice President Brett's 1934 Saloon at the Samford Historic Village. Australia Day January 26 (photo courtesy of the VCCQ)

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: 14th February 2020

Meeting closed: As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35pm

Robyn



NEWS OF MEMBERS AND CARS

WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS

Member #361 **Robert and Marguerite Reith** and young son Lachlan live at Forest Lake and have a restored red 1930 Chummy.

Another Renewal, Members 310 **Greg and Maralyn Keller** from Yungaburra with a 1927 Van.

New Members Jim & Sharna & Connor Graham of Highfields are optimistic about a collection of parts they have.



Back on the mend in Mackay after spending half a year in a Sydney Hospital, **Barry Leeming** sent me this photo. He says his surgeons Xmas present to him was a new lifestyle!! Unfortunately it also means Barry needs to sell his cars

The Editor also received this nice email from the A7CA in the UK, apparently our fame is spreading!

Tim,

Thanks for sending your Newsletters over 2019. They've been very much enjoyed and have been passed on as far away as the Pacific West Of the US. I wish you and all in the A7R of Q a Very Happy Christmas and the Very Best for 2020.

As I look out of the window at the driving rain and cold, would you send a little of your heat over here please?!!

Best Chris Heeley, Chairman of the Austin 7 Clubs Association of GB

IMPORTANT NOTICE: MONSTER 2ND HAND A7 PARTS CLEARANCE SALE.

Saturday 15th February FROM 1 pm to 4 pm:

Come one, come all to Doug's Monster 2nd Hand A7 Parts Sale to be held at 195 Middle Road, Boronia Heights. Heaps of A7 parts at unbelievably cheap prices including engines, wheels, cylinder heads, gear boxes, springs, carbys, axles and heaps more. For more information



contact Doug Ph 3800 1965.

FAREWELL TO DOUG SODEN.



Mansfield home.

Doug was always meticulous, being a retired manual trades teacher and this went for their cars. Doug also collected and restored camera, fishing reels and old hand reels, as well as old Hornby model trains. Pictured here is an example of Doug's beautiful wood carving skills.

One happy incident I recall is on the 1988 Bicentennial rally when Nancy and Doug provided back up to our convoy of Austin 7s from Brisbane to Canberra, following in their Toyota camper/ van/bus (their 1932 car was not considered old enough). We were jealous when we found out their van was using even less fuel than our A7s as Doug and Nancy comfortably cruised behind the busy little Austins.



JOAN GLIDDON

Longer term members will also recall with fond memories **Ron and Joan Gliddon** who owned a 1926 Chummy, which now belongs to Librarian Alan Couser. Ron passed away a few years ago. Joan was the public face of their Brisbane family owned and run "Window Exchange Service", Joan was "Mum" in their TV adverts in the 1990s. There was a club representative at her funeral at Mt. Gravatt.

Ron and Joan also owned a metallic blue Austin 10/4 Tourer and the red 1933 Nippy Sports that was sold to Brian King, who then sold to the Editor (how many cars have I owned?) and now resides up in Gympie.

PAST RALLY REPORTS

A7RQ Christmas Lunch Greenbank RSL Sunday 14 th December

"A7RQ 2019 Christmas party ends in disaster! Amanda thrown out for intoxication, Alan ejected for tipping over pokies and Helen barred for life due for giving what she described as a "reality check" to the head chef." FAKE NEWS!

The truth is that we all had a whale of a time while celebrating Christmas 2019. First up a big thank you to Robyn (and Doug) for organising the event, where would we be without you?

We ended up with a terrific crowd with club stalwarts like Amanda and the Toy's along with newer members like the Wents and McCorkindales attending.

By the time Helen and I arrived at the Greenbank RSL nearly everyone was there including our soon to be returning to Australia friends, Lindsay and Sharon. Due to the size of our crew we needed a few large tables and from what I could see we all did as much chatting as eating.

Jo and Margret were in attendance and I think it was their calming influence along with Russell and Vanda that kept Alan from getting too rowdy. It was great to catch up with "Mr Fix-it" Peter Baker and the quite achiever John Que, both members who continue to bind our club together.

After we'd all got our fill at the buffet (Alan might have had two serves of prawns but who's counting) it was on to gift giving time. Margret and Merv had to leave early due to work commitments so they started things off and from then on it was a steady flow of members trying to guess what could be hiding inside all those wrapped pressies. Whoever gave me the potted plant I'm happy to report it's still alive.

I can't remember all the goodies but I can tell Justin McCarthy that he'll not be getting that hat back that Helen picked out. Was it Steve and Jen Hayes that picked up the excellent books, I can't recall? What I do know is that no one left empty handed.

Before things came to a close Valda and Ian sold the last of the raffle tickets and a very happy Colin and Nancy who took home the "cash tree" with the Trevor and Elaine picking up the second place. Thanks to everyone for coming, I'm looking forward to doing it all again in 2020.

Steve





A7 Annual Buffet Breakfast at Manly Deck – 12 January 2020

If one were to believe the Bureau of Meteorology over the last couple of days, Sunday morning was going to be a 45mm deluge – rainfall that we desperately need in south-east Queensland. The forecast, as usual, was somewhat incorrect. The actual Sunday morning weather was fine with a cloudy sky as we gathered outside 45 Cambridge Parade, Manly, waiting for the Manly Deck to open its doors at 8am.



Margaret and the Champagne threesome Merv, Margaret & Karen.

The 21 of us were located at the northern end of the deck to take advantage of the Bay breeze and elevated view of the Manly surrounds. Food then became the focus of the hungry Austineers. We all enjoyed the large variety of breakfast food on offer along with fruit, tea & coffee and juice & yoghurt.

An hour or so later and after several returns by some members (not to mention any names!) to the buffet food cabinet, we all sat back with satisfied stomachs and enjoyed the usual A7 chatter and banter that eventuates on these occasions.

At around 9.30am there was a mass exodus of members, led by our female members, to view the regular Sunday Manly Markets just down the road – an acceptable exercise regime to settle the recent food consumption.

In all, members were pleased with the new 2020 buffet breakfast venue chosen this year.

Neil



Australia Day Breakfast/Rally – Ormiston State School

26 January 2020

As we left home in Morningside, I reckon that the odour of bacon and sausages on the barbie at Ormiston was in the clear morning air. Sure enough, when we arrived at Ormiston State School at around 7.30am, Master Chef Doug, ably assisted by the Master's Apprentice Trev, was slaving over the BBQ plate. They were busy preparing breakfast for the hundreds of car enthusiasts present for this popular Australia Day event, organised by the Bayside Vehicle Restorers Club.

As we walked through the gates into the grounds, we were met by the Revenue-raising Roving Raffle Robyn and Elaine, who immediately sold us tickets in the day's huge raffle.

As in past years, the school ovals, under a clear sky, were absolutely loaded with an extraordinary variety of 562 vintage, classic and special vehicles. Our lone A7 representative on the day was Ernie, who transported Lindsay & Sharon to the event. The Master Chef and wife Robyn were present in their second-best car, the red Mini. Our Librarian's absence was noted; it was presumed that he was probably busy at the Club Room cataloguing our library collection! Those of us who arrived in modern cars (some of whom had other places to go that day) were Treasurer John & his sister Twink, Spare parts Trevor & Elaine, Web Neil & Karyn, Greg & Yuriko and young Justin.



The school tuckshop and covered play areas were almost at capacity with the breakfast feeding frenzy. Adding to the festivities was an authentic Aussie band playing many old and nostalgic songs.

Early in the day, the formal proceedings took place, including speeches by the local Councillors. As the morning progressed and some of us backed up for a second sausage and bacon roll, it was time to draw the raffles around 10am. After the prizes were distributed, the participants in the various rallies set out on different routes around the Bay, with all routes to finish at the Redlands Sporting Club for lunch. Unfortunately, none of our Austineers present were successful in winning any of the raffle booty on offer. At the completion of proceedings and following a clean-up of the venue, our members headed off home.

Our thanks go to the Bayside Vehicle Restorers Club and Ormiston State School for yet another hugely successful breakfast, static display and local rally on this important day on our calendar, Australia Day 2020.

Neil

AT LAST the 2017 SHOW

The Annual 750MC Club rally at Beaulieu

Classic car enthusiasm is, for many in the UK, an exhilarating hobby and pastime. Younger generations may not be aware that Britain has a huge worldwide motoring heritage. Major worldwide brands such as Mini, Land Rover, Bentley, Rolls-Royce, Vauxhall, Aston Martin and hundreds of other car manufacturers have their origins here.

One of the first British car manufacturers was the Austin Motor Company, founded in 1905. By the first World War it had benefitted from the massive expansion in British manufacturing and grown to 22,000 employees.

Austin then merged with Morris Motors to form the British Motor Corporation (BMC), which later in the century became part of British Leyland. Years of difficulty followed and even the ownership of British Aerospace followed by BMW could not solve the inherent problems and, known as the MG Rover Group, the business finally went bankrupt in 2005 and not without some degree of scandal.

The Austin brand had long disappeared after manufacturing ceased in the 1980's along with other great marques such as Morris and Triumph.

Fortunately, many of the now classic cars remain on our roads and we can still appreciate their heritage.

Left Two very proud owners of an Austin 7, taking part in the rally at Beaulieu, our very own Russell and Vanda all the way from Wamuran with their then recently acquired 1927 Saloon.



There are a great many Austin models to be found. One of the most famous is the Austin Seven; a small, inexpensive vehicle launched in 1922 as one of the first cars targeting the mass market. Indeed, the first Japanese Nissans were based on the Austin 7.

Austin enthusiasts still meet every year at the annual Austin Seven Rally, held in the beautiful grounds of Beaulieu, in Hampshire.

Over 200 Sevens were on display with



600 enthusiastic supporters.

This year MotorEasy was proud to sponsor the event, and I was lucky enough to pop down for the day to enjoy the Austin Seven Rally experience.

As you entered you could hear the engines running and there was a great feeling of excitement in the air. People were chatting and smiling, enthusiastically gossiping over their shared hobby.

Special thanks to Ian Nelson for organising this special event, Nick Salmon for sharing photographs with us as well as Richard & Sue Perkins for their kind hospitality on the day!

<https://www.motoreasy.com/magazine/125/Classic-Cars-Austin-7-Rally>

Many Thanks to Duncan Logan for sending on this article to the Editor.

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A Tasmanian Dixi Mystery

Over the Christmas break I visited my sister in Tasmania. Based in a small seaside hamlet known as Lewisham, we often did day trips to see points of interest. One day we drove over to Hobart for a pre Christmas Lunch at the Casino and then on to Kingston which is part of the way down the "Huon".

Here we visited Doug Elliot who owns a 1930s Bedford Truck, a Vauxhall Scoota-Car and more relevant to us, the Dixi which was mentioned in the last newsletter. Doug is a sprightly gent of later years and he and his wife are very keen collectors of almost everything. My sister, her husband and I were given the full tour of their house, including the Boat Room and The Doll Room. Out back is a purpose built two storey shed that also doubles as a fascinating private museum, with everything from Petrol Pumps to Pedal Cars and Tractors to Dinky Toys. Interesting there were two Austin Joy40 pedal cars and a even rarer Austin Pathfinder pedal car based on the A7 Twin Cam Racing car from the 1930s. These were built in a factory by disabled British miners.



The Rytcraft Scoota-Car, seen perched on the Bedford is one of a handful commissioned by the Vauxhall Car company in 1934 to promote the new Vauxhall Big Six, complete with Vauxhall style radiators. It originally had a 98cc Villiers motor and flat out at 15 mph. Stars of stage and silver screen of the time, including George Formby, were called to pose with it in a splash of publicity.

Finally we go to the back of the garden to a little timber shed where the Dixi lives. Unfortunately it has been suffering from motor trouble and Doug tells me he had trouble matching the pistons and rings. Interesting Doug called the car the "Austin" so perhaps our Victorian Cousins have been down to inspect the car.

I was able to check a few things within the shed and can tell you it has an Australian body with the pressed rings in the back floor, it had holes on the firewall for the Austin Factory ID plates, the motor was standard Austin 7 from 1929. The only Dixi parts I could see were an enamelled badge on the Radiator, an engraved 'thistle' badge on the core and a Dixi-Werke id plate on the dashboard, but with no details of specifications or identification marks. The switchboard was Lucas, the speedo Smiths

According to Rinsey Mills book "The Original Austin Seven" , at the end of 1927 components for 100 cars were sent to Dixi and these first cars were identical to the Austin Factory cars. However after that Dixi had tooled up for the new cars and these were LHD with reverse engineered running gear with carby and exhaust on the right and metric threads and Bosch electricals.

The court is adjourned and the Jury has retired to consider its verdict, I leave you to decide if it is a Dixi DA1 or an Austin 7. And in fact it could very well be the same car that Ross Guthrie repainted several years back, Just below are photos of the car minus its motor, the firewall with the holes for the normal Austin ID plates, the Dixi badged radiator and the Dixi-Werke ID plate on the dashboard.

Tim



1928 Dixi Advert

The family resemblance is quite apparent in this advertisement. The body is pure Longbridge rather than Teutonic or even Antipodean, but steering is on the left. Interesting the image is the message here, no need here for a list of specifications.

Austin 7 Classifieds

Please note: to avoid congestion, adverts may only be printed for 3 issues (6 months) depending on space. If you have also sold or found that item you wanted PLEASE tell the Editor.

FOR SALE.

Austin 7 chummy, 1929 coil ignition model. A nice shiny red paint job, excellent hood and upholstery and fitted with a Holden body. It drives nicely and ready to rally. Car in Victoria. Call Wayne Styles. 0417 532 412



FOR SALE: Brand new Ruby type pin type valves and pins (bought in error)
Contact Ken Burton on 0407 017 187

FOR SALE: 11ftx6ft covered tandem box car trailer with part fibreglass/part vinyl cover.

Includes Electric winch & good battery, Ramps & tie downs, ATM 2000kg and Over ride brakes. RWC supplied on sale. \$3900.00 Call John Farrier on 0400759256



FOR SALE: 1938 Austin Seven Sports Special." Zorro ", (Ex. Mike Hawthorne racer)
Converted to road use (not registered) Project needs finishing (only a weeks work required)
Black with red wheels x 6. Birds eye maple dash with full instruments. Semi Girling brakes. Extractors, " Speedex " alloy head.



New body and cockpit cover. Re wired. Top speed in racing trim 75-78 mph." Brooklands " racing screens. Beaver tail vinyl covered. Anti roll bar fitted. Spare wheel mounted on tail . Spare engine (needs overhauling). Custom built trailer (registered) with ramps, winch and spare wheel. (needs a clean up). Close ratio racing gear box. Cruising gearbox (overhauled) available as separate item. Tow away price, \$25,000 Will not disappoint. **Barry Leeming (Mackay) Phone :- 0412 77 1800**



Spare

FOR SALE: 1939 Austin 14/6 " Goodwood " Roadster (with dickey seat) Body by Charles Hope, Wandoo, Brisbane. This car was bought in 1940 by a Mackay cane farmer, and, has never left Mackay. There were two cars made with a roadster body, this is the only surviving example (the other one was wrecked in Proserpine in the 1960's.) The only missing item is the windscreen (easy to make one). All chroming is done. Engine, chassis was overhauled years ago (would need re doing) New wiring loom. New radiator. Wheels have tyres (old ones, but, hold air to tow) Body needs finishing. Dash with instruments is overhauled ready to fit. Lots of history comes with the car. You will have the one and only car of it's type, a steal at \$8000. **Barry Leeming (Mackay) Phone :- 0412 77 1800**



FOR SALE: 1929 Austin 7 Ute. seen on the 2017 National rally. Currently on concessional club registration. Car for sale for health reasons - contact Merv and Pam Briggs, 1 Wattlebrae Street, King Scrub, Dayboro, Qld 4521, email



pambriggs123@gmail.com

Photos from the Archives - More Dixis and Scoota-cars



Dixis from Germany, at left is a young Frau keeping warm on a winters jaunt on a LHD Dixi DA1. While her boy friend struggles with a spare engine. Note this photo has NOT been reversed, the inlet and outlet manifold is on the Right Side! The drawings for these engines were drafted in the Austin Factory and the prototype motor built and tested at Longbridge.



This is a shot from a long forgotten movie. A Marlene Dietrich look alike is being escorted by her dashing beau to a Hoffbrau Haus in das eine kleine Dixi DA1. The radiator is black painted and the headlights are Bosch make and considerably different to the more rounded Lucas products .

And last but not least, the Rytcraft Scootacar



The Rytcraft Scootacar was a British microcar built by the British Motorboat Manufacturing Company in London between 1934 and 1940. The company later changed its name to BMB Engineering. About 1000 were built. They began

as a electrically powered dodgem car and later fitted with the 98cc Villiers motor for road use.

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