



NEWSLETTER

("Covid-19" Special)

April 2020



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



"It may be a while before we are on the Road again, Mate!!"

(Ken Bell's 1934 Saloon is waved off by Brett Reif from Doug and Robyn's)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT APRIL 2020

Hi Fellow Members

A word from our President: All members,

Members will not need to be told that Covid-19 has turned all our worlds upside down. Our home and work lives have experienced a seismic shift the size and speed of which is unparalleled in recent history. As you'd be aware we have new legislative and moral conditions around what we can and cannot do in order to protect our society from the worst that Covid-19 can wreak. In light of this, the Committee has resolved that all club activities will cease for April, May and June. The meetings and monthly runs have been cancelled while the Rocky and Country Runs have been postponed till 2021. I'm sure this will be disappointing news to all members but there is no viable alternative.

So what can we do to fill the gap left by our regular meetings and runs? I'd hope that we can keep the A7RQ torch burning by regularly checking in on each other and where possible posting on Facebook or Instagram anything that we think other members would be interested in. I'm sure lots of our members have projects, both Austin and non-Austin that the rest of us would be interested in while we do our self-isolation time.

Steve Davidson President, A7 Reg. Qld

28 March 2020

EDITOR TIMS BIT:

The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men Go oft astray,
An' lea'e us nought but grief an' pain, For promis'd joy!

("To a Mouse" by Robbie Burns, 1785)



This half forgotten bit of poetry written by the famous Scotsman Robbie Burns over 200 years ago has oft run thru my mind the last few weeks when I think of the World-wide events that have suddenly engulfed us all and shutting down all our gatherings in a once in a Century event. When I sent out the last newsletter who could have imagined that the contagion occurring in far away China would develop into a catastrophe leaving many of us isolated due to circumstances.

But thanks to modern technology friends and relatives stay in regular contact, we all have projects and restorations to start or complete or a room or house to tidy or repaint.

On a lighter moment, I had signed up for a replacement for my 9 year old Hyundai Santa Fe early last month, a brand new 2020 Hyundai Tucson with all the bells and whistles. I now have the oldest car and newest car in my street, a 91 year difference. The car arrived with the extras fitted just as the current crisis kicked in! Wonder what the neighbours think? Methinks I have lost a lot more from my Super Fund than the car cost!

This turn of events is obviously going to affect what appears in your newsletter for the next few months so I invite contributions about your Austin 7, and photos of any current restoration projects you may have.

Tim Braby

PS Thank to the contributions to this Newsletter by Karyn, Lindsay & Sharon, Neil, Robyn and Steve.

A7 Register of Qld. Committee

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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. EVENTS *from Neil Thyer*

I will endeavour to keep you regularly informed of A7 Reg. Qld updates as they occur.

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 cancel 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.

IF IN ANY DOUBT - contact the 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

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 10th April 2020: A7 Register General Meeting Cancelled this month as clashes with Easter.

Wednesday 29th April to Monday 4th May 2020: A7 Register April Event: Rocky Run CANCELLED
The Rocky Run has been postponed till 2021.

Friday 8th May 2020: A7 Register General Meeting CANCELLED

Sunday 17th May 2020: A7 Register May Event: President's Run CANCELLED

Friday 12th June 2020: A7 Register General Meeting CANCELLED

Friday 19th, Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st June 2020: A7 Register June Event: A7 Country Run. POSTPONED

Friday 10th July 2020: A7 Register General Meeting ????

Sunday 12th July 2020: A7 Register July Event: RACQ Motorfest. **CANCELLED by the RACQ.**

Past entrants invited to join in for "a virtual display" by registering their vehicles online. Details are to be published in the RACQ's June-July "Road Ahead" magazine and will be available on the Motorfest Website.

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

Please note the below events may all be cancelled.

10th - 12th April 2020 North Qld. OHMC Rally - CANCELLED

Saturday 2nd - Monday 4th May 2020 Southern Qld. OHMC Rally CANCELLED

Tuesday 5th - Wednesday 6th May 2020 DDV & VMC. Toowoomba Club 50th Anniversary Rally Postponed to October???

Saturday 16th to Sunday 17th May 2020 Heritage Truck Association Annual Show- CANCELLED.

?????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 . PLEASE NOTE The 2020 event will now only be considered a simple park and display event and all other planned attractions and entertainment will not occur. You may bring your car, park, display and enjoy a relaxing day in the park. Please BYO morning tea and lunch.

It is important to note that given it is still a month away the QHMC have not decided to cancel the event. The event attracts a relatively low number of people and is currently nowhere near the large numbers the Federal Government made rules about. Please call **Jason Dodge** on 0414 066 121 if you have any questions.

Sunday 24 May, 2020 MacLean's Bridge Sports Car Display: Maclean's Bridge **CANCELLED**

30th May QVVA swap CANCELLED

Sunday 28th June 2020: Vintage Car Club of Queensland Annual Concourse ALL VCCQ Events **CANCELLED** for the duration

??????Friday 17th to Sunday 19nd July 2020: 8th Biennial Queensland Heritage Rally. 9th Biennial Queensland Heritage Rally. Rally is to be held in Ayr, Queensland. Members are to make own arrangements for Travel, Registration & Accommodation. For information contact Sam Licciardello, Chairman. Phone 0408 182 105. **Now Under review 21/3/2020**

????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 A7R9 MEETINGS

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc

Meeting No 592, 14th February 2020

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

The President opened the meeting at 7.45 pm with a welcome to all.

Attendance: 27 members signed the attendance book.

Apologies: L & S Jordan, M Potts, S & J Hayes, J McKeering

Minutes: Robyn read the minutes of the January meeting & moved they be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Neil Thyer. Carried

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

Correspondence IN Newsletters as tabled and emailed to members

Membership application from Brett & Donna Dunmore, Gympie. Roadster & Neville Legg, Russell Island, 1932 Meteor.

Lama Swap= 3rd May

Email QHMC re meetings each month, next meeting 27th February

Email re Bay to Birdwood 27th Sept (1950)

Vintage Car Club 65th Anniversary 28th June Ormiston House

OUT: Nil



Robyn moved the inward correspondence be accepted as read & Dunmore & Legg be accepted as members.
Seconded by Ted Bale. Carried

Treasurer's Report: John gave his report on the clubs finances, asked for any questions, he moved his report be accepted. Seconded by Alan Couser. Carried.

QHMC Report: Nil

Spare Parts Report: Trevor reported \$85 for the club from scrap metal & sales going good.

2nd Hand Parts Report: Doug would like to say a Thank You to Ken Folliott for donating parts to the club.
A lot of members will be able to make good use of them.

Editors Report: Newsletters emailed and ready for posting.

Dating Officers Report: Nil

Web Master Report: Neil reported everything up to date.

Club Events:

16 th Feb	Valentine's Day Run, organised by Neil & Karyn, Meet Clubrooms 8am, Byo m/t & L
15 th March	Organised by Alan Couser. Meet clubrooms 9 am
29 th April-4 th May	Rocky Run organised by Greg & Kay Shuker (General Meeting to be held)
17 th May	Presidents Run, meet Centenary Pool 7 am
19 th -21 June	Organised by Jo & Margaret McCormack, Boonah area.

Other Events:

28 th Mar-4 th April	AHMF 2020 National Motoring Festival, Albury Wodonga
29 th March	Bayside Swap
2 nd -9 th May	Darling Downs Veteran & Vintage 50 th Anniv. Rally
16 th May	Bayside Biggest Morning Tea, Ormiston State School
17 th May	National Motoring Heritage Day, Cameron Park, Ipswich

Past Events:

14 th Jan	A7 Breakfast, Manly Deck
25 th -26 th Jan	Allora Heritage Weekend
26 th Jan	Australia Day, Bayside Club.
1 st -2 nd Feb	Toowoomba Swap

Check out our website for information on all of these events.

Library Report: Nil

General Business: vale Jack Kelly: Some members may remember Jack & Yolanda who came on our first A7 trip to Longreach.

Bushfire donation discussed: Bushfire Brigade, Wires (animals) or RSPCA. Decision \$200 to go to RSPCA.
Constitution: To be discussed next month.

John Que suggested members going to Rocky may vary their trip by going up the Brisbane Valley not just up the coast road.

Report of Cars &/or Car Troubles: Tim has his A7 back on the road.

Birthdays: Members having a birthday in February wished many Happy returns.

Sick members wished a speedy recovery.

Raffle: Valda selling tickets in tonight's raffle.

Supper Organiser: Thank you to Elaine for tonight's supper.

March organiser = Rhonda Guthrie.

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: 13 March 2020

Meeting closed: 8.25pm

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc

Meeting No 593, 13th March 2020.

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

The meeting was declared opened at 7.45 pm by Neil Thyer (Presidents Plane delayed) with a welcome to all.

Attendance: 23 members & 3 visitors signed the book.

Apologies: T & E Moore, A Couser, P Baker, J Wilson, S Jordan, B Reif, B & A Brindley, M & K McGill

Minutes: Robyn read the minutes of the February meeting and moved they be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Ted Bale. Carried

Business arising from minutes: Bushfire Appeal = \$250 donated to RSPCA

Correspondence IN: Newsletters as tabled and emailed to members

M/S applications from Michael Dodge, Kerry 1925 Chummy & Edward Abrahams, Laidley.

RACQ Motorfest entry forms for 12th July 2020

Veteran Car Club re rent & 412

OUT: Newsletters, Register & Parts Books.

Robyn moved the inwards correspondence be accepted as read & the outward endorsed, also membership applications be accepted. Seconded by Peter Cahalane. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: John read his report and moved it be accepted. Seconded by Doug Clark. Carried. Also stated trouble with the MYOB file.

QHMC Report: Nil

Spare Parts Report: Nil Trevor away

Second Hand Spare Parts Report: Doug was given more parts from Gary Noble including 2 1937 roadster doors.

Editors Report: Tim heard from Barry Leeming about selling his cars and John Zerbst who is chasing some good 16" wheels.

Dating Officer Report: Nil

Web Master Report: Neil has website up to date. Thank You.

Club Events:

15 th March	Club run organised by Alan Couser. Meet Clubrooms 9am
29 th April – 4 th May	Rocky Run organiser by Greg & Kay Shuker (General meeting held there)
17 th May	Presidents Run. Meet Centenary Pool 7am
19 th -21 st June	Organised by Jo & Margaret McCormack, Boonah area

Other Events:

28 th Mar-4 th April	AHMF 2020 National Motoring Festival, Albury Wodonga
29 th March	Bayside Swap
10 th -13 th April	Easter in the Country, Roma
2 nd -9 th May	Darling Downs Veteran & Vintage 50 th Anniv. Rally
16 th -17 th May	Heritage Truck Club Show, Rocklea Showgrounds
16 th May	Bayside Biggest Morning Tea, Ormiston State School
17 th May	National Motoring Heritage Day, Cameron Park, Ipswich
24 th May	Macleans Bridge Sports Classic Car Festival, Belmont Rifle Range
31 st May	QVVA Brisbane Swap, Carina State School
12 th July	RACQ Motorfest

Past Events:

15 th Feb	Valentine's Day Run organised by Neil & Karyn
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Library Report: Nil

General Business: Karyn tabled a report on the RSPCA about the work they do.

Duncan Logan's register & parts book returned.

Russell & Vanda would like the club to visit on a club run sometime.

Ken Folliott to receive a Thank You from the club. Also Thank You to Gary for parts.

Report on Cars &/or car troubles: Justin McKeering has his Austin back on the road.

Neil Thanked Peter Baker for fixing his Austin with a bottle of K-Seal (\$20) from Supercheap.

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

Raffle: Valda's raffle tonight is Toilet paper & Bath Towels.

Sick members wished a speedy return to good health. Alan Wood & Mike McGill out of hospital

Supper Organiser: Rhonda thanked for tonight's supper.

May organiser= Steve Davidson

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: NO Meeting in April (Good Friday)

Between 29th April & 4th May in Rockhampton

Meeting Closed: 8.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE ALL CLUB MEETINGS AND EVENTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Robyn



NEWS OF MEMBERS AND CARS

WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS

Member #363 **Brett and Donna Dunmore** of Gympie have a vintage roadster.

Member #364 **Neville Legg** of Russell Island has a 1932 Meteor Sports.

Member #365 **Michael Dodge**, with parents Phillip and Cathy, have a 1925 Chummy and they live in Kerry, south of Beaudesert.

Member #366 **Eddie Abrahams** from Laidley has a 1932 Saloon, and has renewed his membership after an absence.

HONOURS LIST

These gents are due to receive their OBE's* this year, ("Over Blimmin' Eighty").

The honourable gents include Austin 7 enthusiast **Monty Schofield**, and A7RQ members **Mike Hawthorne** and **Joe Wilson**.

PAST RALLY REPORTS

Saturday 15th February : 2ND HAND A7 PARTS CLEARANCE SALE.



The editor arrived at Doug and Robyns Boronia Heights Estate just 5 minutes after the appointed hour and saw a line of cars out in the road, and a "buzz" of activity down the back where the Club's second hand spares were kept. Parts were being put into piles ready for some heavy negotiation and heavy lifting back to the car/trailer/truck.

It is good to see that new members were collecting parts for their various projects, in particular the

Dodge family who are looking for parts for their 1925 , Michael is looking for brake and hub parts, these being different to later model Austin 7s.

The editor got "stung", I had wandered over to corner of Dougs truck shed to take a photo of the scene from a set of steps when I disturbed a nest of paper wasps, not fun getting stung in 6 places at once on the legs and elbows. Excuse me for using a



naughty word but it was like getting 6 years of flu shots at once! In compensation I was allowed to purchase a spare pinion for the 1929 and a crown wheel and pinnion for the red Ruby, and some free ice to ease the stings. (Doug said he had sprayed one nest but they must have rebuilt a new one!).

Talk about rebuilds, what a wonderful job Doug is doing in his garage of miracles on a 2/3 rd scale recreation of a 1903 Curved Dash Oldsmobile. I can image Doug and Robyn in motoring coats, hats, goggles and scarves sedately driving down the road to the tune "Come Ride with Me Lucille, in my Merry Oldsmobile"!



Left to right, Sirilak and Geoff Shepherdson, and David Mitchell, and Russell Curtis, and Eddie Abrahams.

Many thanks to Doug and Robyn for storing the parts and putting on an afternoon tea.

Tim

Sunday 16th February 2020: Valentine's Day Run

After a week of heavy rain, it seemed risky getting out in the Austins for our monthly run but then again it was St. Valentine's Day and as all good Austineers know, nothing is too risky when demonstrating true love.

Luckily the day dawned fine and promised to be a warm one too so the early start was appreciated. Rolling up in their Austins were Ian and Valda, Russell and Vanda (with their dog Lulu), President Steve, Alan, Kylie and Brett and daughters Clare and Tessa in the back seat taking their Austin on its first run, then Irene and Ken and Sharon and Lindsay.

Modernists were Elaine and Trevor, Robyn and Doug, Margaret and Joe, Karyn and Neil, and John showing off a more debonair style in his new Jaguar, recently imported from Melbourne.

All were rewarded with a beautiful hand-made, stained glass, heart shaped pendant cleverly made by Neil (a true Valentine) as well as a red rose - an excellent way to start the day.

On time, we left the clubhouse with our rally instructions adorned with hearts and made our way towards the bay and its cooling breezes. Like all good Austin runs, we never go direct but always wend our way through interesting suburbs. Indeed John was particularly interested in the many multi-million dollar estates that we passed, feeling they would be suitable digs for his new image and his new Jaguar.

After the usual cutting off, rude gestures and near misses that Austineers are noted for, we all arrived safely at a lovely park at Thorneside ready for some morning tea, a chat and the cooling bay breezes.



We had no sooner settled down when Karyn announced it was quiz time and the theme was L-O-V-E. The quiz sheets were handed out and after serious head scratching, blank faces, cheating and moaning, the sheets were handed in to Karyn. With the skills of an experienced school

teacher she soon had the quiz marked and the answers read out. One group of answers were love songs and Karyn demonstrated a hidden talent by trilling away the first verses of every song in a beautiful yet unusual voice.

Anyhow, if it had been Naplan, there would have been a serious enquiry into the results but luckily Valda and Ian, the club's resident OP1 members, won decisively and after being married for over 50 years they had an advantage. Equal second prize was awarded to Kylie, Brett, Clare and Tessa and to Lindsay and Sharon. The prizes were very generously organised by Neil and Karyn and were handed to the winners whilst the losers accepted the results in the usual good spirit (ie dobbing in each other for cheating).

It was soon time to set off for part two of the day's run. Again it was an interesting drive marred only by gossip that one or two of the club's high ranking officials had driven straight through a red light. Their defence that they not only missed seeing the red light but the whole intersection was noted grudgingly by those who are sticklers for road rules.

Again we all arrived safely for lunch, this time at Colmslie Beach Reserve beside the Brisbane River. We settled down in the shade happily eating, chatting and relaxing.

It was a great run and beautifully planned by Karyn and Neil who went to great lengths to ensure it was a special day. A big thank you to them for organising the run, the quiz and the prizes, and also a big thank you to everyone who attended. We hope you had a happy Valentine's Day, Austin 7 style.



Lunch at Colmslie Beach Reserve.



Whizz Kids Ian and Valda won the Quiz!!!

Sharon and Lindsay



LIBRARIAN'S RUN – 15 March

The long-anticipated Librarian's Run saw A7 members meet at the Clubhouse, ready for a 9am departure. On exiting their vehicles, members had to take care to avoid a pair of angry plovers protecting their nest next to the carpark. As we grouped around the table under the pine trees, talk inevitably focused on the current Corona virus pandemic and whether everyone had sufficient toilet paper. We were all wishing we



had won Friday night meeting's raffle prize, a pack of 32 toilet rolls!

There was a slight delay at the start, caused by the Librarian having to shuffle around his papers officiously and the Club Treasurer having to mark the plovers' nest of eggs with tree branches in order to protect them (or was it the other way around?). Departing in their A7s were Doug & Robyn,



Lindsay & Sharon, Ian & Valda, and Librarian Alan; they were followed in moderns by Neil & Karyn and by Treasurer John. President Steve in his A7 joined the group at the morning tea stop.



The trip to morning tea was a short but pleasant run through the suburbs of Mackenzie, Rochedale and Burbank, with everyone admiring the acreages with very large houses, tennis courts and horses along the way. Morning tea was at the Brisbane Koala Bushland Reserve, where we shared a shelter with hungry mosquitoes. Unfortunately, Doug had told Robyn that insect repellent would not be required! After eating, Robyn suggested that we walk the 1.4km

Circuit Track to find some koalas. It was a very pleasant half-hour walk, but unfortunately all the koalas must have heard us coming and gone into hiding.



After time to recover from the walk, the cars set off again, travelling eastwards towards the Bay through Sheldon and Thornlands. At Victoria Point, the cars veered towards the water, where unfortunately it was discovered that Sundays is a very busy time at the Point. No parking bays could be found, despite our cars even driving the wrong way through the carpark!

Fortunately, Doug and Robyn knew the way to another nearby park, Yeo Park at Thompson's Beach. Here we found plenty of

parking, a lovely tree to sit under, and a cooling sea breeze. While most of us settled in to eat our homemade lunches, several others went off to buy fish and chips. While waiting for their return, Librarian Alan demonstrated his contortionist abilities in his ageing camp chair. He will soon be making a shopping trip to replace it!



Lunch was a relaxed affair, with plenty of amusing conversation amongst the group. The cars also generated much interest from people passing by, including one gentleman who chatted to the group about his father's 1927 Chummy which is in a garage but has not been started in

over 25 years.

At the conclusion, President Steve, on behalf of the group, thanked Librarian Alan for organising the day's run. Everyone then packed up and headed off on their different routes home.

Karyn

-----oooOooo-----

The (Steam) Car Vs the Train- 1903



"In later years William Howard recalled an early trip in Dr Francis Voss's Locomobile steam car to the seaside location of Emu Park in 1903, approximately 50 kms (29 miles) north - east of Rockhampton . The pair started out for Emu Park just after breakfast and everything went smoothly until they pulled into a hotel along the way. Parked outside said hotel was a horse attached to a cart . A child sat patiently in the cart while Dad was inside sampling the wares . As the car pulled up the horse bolted in fright, but fortunately the child was plucked from the cart



Dr. Francis Voss
(State Library of Qld)

by a bystander . Dr Voss attempted to head off the horse, but the horse tripped over a stump in the track and ended up going over with its heels kicking in the air . Some damage was done to cart and harness, but the doctor generously recompensed the owner for this sometime later.

Continuing on their journey it was necessary to fill up with more water at Tungamull , roughly the halfway point, and from there they just managed to reach Emu Park with this supply thanks to a breeze behind them. If the breeze was against the car, more water was consumed, and supplies had to be either carried or obtained along the roadside . One of steam's great drawbacks was not just the constant demand for water, but for water of good quality , as any sediment reacted adversely with the boiler.

When it was time to head home they noticed the daily train to Rockhampton was also just leaving the Emu Park station, so Dr Voss decided they would race it home . By Tanby the train was ahead and a patient had to be seen at Tungamull , delaying them a little . To make up for lost time they took a shortcut through a large paddock. This didn't turn out to be such a great idea as they ran into a stump , which bent the back axle . With the aid of a sapling and some ingenuity they managed to straighten it sufficiently to enable them to get going again .

Thinking the train was now well ahead they decided to abandon the idea of beating it back to Rockhampton.

On reaching Sleipner, much to their surprise they not only caught up to the train, but then passed it while it was waiting at the station .

The race was back on! At Lakes Creek the train had caught up again, and they raced on together.

From Koongal to North Rockhampton the train and car ran alongside each other, and the passengers cheered and waved the motorists on . Eventually both train and car puffed into the city centre along Denison Street, neck

and neck, and the race was declared a dead - heat . Nothing would be thought of such an incident now , but over 100 years ago it must have created much interest. The winding Emu Park line was closed in 1964 ."

© "Queensland's Motoring Dawn" by Robert McDonough, published by Boolarong Press, Brisbane 2015

More on the Emu Park/Yeppoon Railway

The Emu Park Railway from North Rockhampton to the seaside town of Emu Park was opened in 1888, however the Alexandra Bridge link to the Central Railway didn't open until 1899. An extension to Yeppoon via Mt Chalmers opened late 1909, giving area residents access to both seaside towns. The original impetus for the Emu Park line was seaside recreation, responding to Brisbane's Sandgate line. Once connected to the Central Railway traffic developed with the Lakes Creek meatworks and passenger schedules provided a 90 minute commute to work in Rockhampton for coastal residents. A small amount of traffic was generated by the Broadmount Port as well.



Source: Mt Chalmers
Community History
Centre

The daily commute, the
seaside trade, some
agricultural produce and

general freight for locals kept the lines operating until closure (Broadmount in 1929, Emu Park in 1964 and Yeppoon in 2004 -- freight only from 1978).

© Archer Park Rail Museum. Photo of Emu Park Station above.

Across the Continent in an Austin Seven Sports

(By Theo Shepherd of Bomaderry)

Part 1 of 3

Published in The Nowra Leader, Friday 24 July 1936

Pictures below 1930s Map & 1933 Austin 7 Ace Advertisement



Positively devoid of any sprit of daring, my co-traveller and I packed a part of necessities, and headed our tightly fitting transport carriage out of the great Australian metropolis of Sydney.



Choosing the Hume Highway, we passed through that rich and picturesque country which supports such attractive commercial centres as Picton, Mittagong, Moss Vale, Marulan, and historic Goulburn, about five miles from where we turned off for Canberra, where we dined at the Blue Moon Cafe.

Here we were veritably thrilled as we revelled in the blaze of autumn colours which almost dazzled our theoretical mind into a dream. Hundreds of trees, shrubs, hedges and flowers, massed, laid-out and arranged in such a profusing variety of colours that would put to an insignificant standard the work of the most romantic bushland artist.

This is undoubtedly the modern setting of a model city, with roads to and from that make it a place of royal interest, which anyone on the coastline from Newcastle to Eden has no excuse for neglecting.



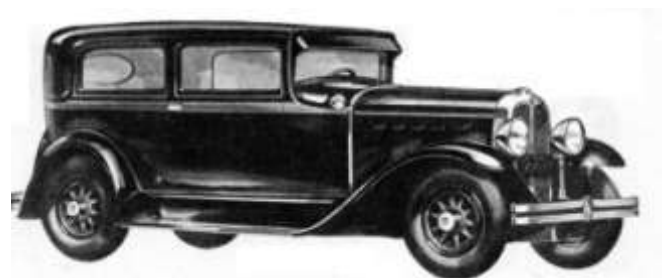
The Ace at home

We had to leave this juvenile city of nine thousand souls, and passing through unlimited areas of the most interesting and profitable sheep and wheat producing country, entered that town of such fame in song, Gundagai, which we honored with our presence for tea.

An incident of surprise and interest entered the realm of our experience at a small town, called by those who know it

Tarcutta, where we had eased off for the night, after some three hundred and thirty miles had been traversed.

Sitting in the lounge room of the boarding house, we overheard a party discussing roads and towns, which, though strange to our geographical knowledge, were marked off for our itinerary to Adelaide.



Our inquisitiveness, plus my friend's charm, brought us to the knowledge we were talking with a Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore, who, in an Oakland Six, were making the same road as we to Adelaide. This news held an element of terror, for we had no desire to overtax our infant charge in order to maintain a pride of place with the big South Australian Oakland.

Theo in his Ace at home

Peeping out next morning, like timid rabbits, we were happy to

discover that our big friend had quite disappeared. At 8.15 a.m. we trickled out and soon reached Holbrook, where we were informed the notorious Mrs. Holbrook's great-grand-ma was born.

Soon the very fine town of Albury was entered, and wished us au revoir on behalf of N.S.W., and crossing the Murray River, another pretty town, called Wodonga, gave us a cheery greeting for Victoria.

The most unsensational or the least sensational - to those who prefer that term - part of the journey, though not the most uninteresting or the least interesting, was produced in the queen's state, to within a few miles of the late Federal Capital. Not a turn, not a bend, not to rise or descend, but with natural bush trees making an unusually rustic archway, forming an unending vista fore and aft. Just set the throttle wide open, fix the steering straight on, and watch for a drove of sheep. There is practically no unutilised land, and therefore no unutilizable land visible from the Hume Highway in Victoria, yet the stock, i.e., the sheep, did not appear to be as well kept, nor the station-house as elaborate, nor the station is well equipped as those in New South.

280 miles from Tarcutta, at 6 p.m., Victoria's capital was entered. This is a very busy and a very pretty city, though its police, its trams and its buses are conspicuously out of keeping with population and prosperity of such an important city.

As well as some very fine business houses and government buildings, the War Memorial Shrine, situated on the apex of a pyramid lawn of some acres is undoubtedly in advance of anything in the Commonwealth of Australia.

The Yarra River, meandering its lazy course through [sic] the city and suburbs would promote the aesthetic assets of any such place but for the fact that its waters are so yellow that no life ever inhabits them.

A notable feature of the place is the close proximity of farming areas (wheat and wool) to the settled areas of the city.



Theo with Ace & Bike

Twenty-five and a half hours were spent in Melbourne, when after some difficulty in extracting ourselves from the awkward plait of Melbourne's suburban streets, we chose the Prince's Highway from the three roads open to us.

In a little over the hour Geelong was reached. This town compares with Newcastle (N.S.W.) in both size and industry, having its mines and factories, and running a very efficient tram service to meet the demands of its 4500 inhabitants.

Even in Melbourne the quaint old underground cable train still has its route through the city area. In this very curious old English style carriage, of about ten feet overall length, some with no side walls, the driver takes his place in the centre and clangs his lever backwards and forwards according to the speed required: this lever grabs the revolving cable underground and takes the car with it. The driver also has charge of the cow bell above his head, which is continually rattling, and thus adding oddity to this touch of antiquity.

However, 93 miles from this capital the country town of Colac was entered, which saw these two Sydney tough guys humbled, as no bed was provided, nor would petrol be supplied during the next day, being Anzac Day.

Having made up our minds to travel the rest of the day after attending an Anzac service, we directed the bowser attendant to aim the end of the petrol hose into the tank and pump until Christian measure had been given: and accordingly when the tank had overfilled, the hose was dashed over to a waiting Harley outfit to be emptied. Could we strike a bed just when that 5 gals of Shell was eking out? was our problem.

However, Saturday awakened us with rain and heavy wind. The going was very rough against the head-wind and our five gallons were existing beyond terrific odds. Passing bowser after bowser, all stubbornly locked, we began to feel like a yacht in mid-ocean with a dying breeze.

Empty tins by the roadside reminded us that travellers had carried their supplies. In the distance we could see a car filling up. On drawing closer the driver stepped onto the road and waved his hands frantically. We stopped and were greeted by the S.A. Oakland.

As evening came upon us, fortune played a good win when a wayside bowser yielded to the pleading of our last few ounces of Shell. Such a revival, as can only be partly understood by those who have either been half drowned or half shot and recovered, enabled us to enjoy the splendid highway of Victoria during the evening hours, passing through more or less rich sheep and wheat country, and a fair percentage of bushland, until the South Australia border was incidentally crossed.

Immediately, almost as if the line was physical, the scenery changes. The roads are no longer straight, level and well-surfaced, and the country is no longer farming country. The telegraph posts now consist of old railway rails, serpentine knotty wooden posts, the old style iron post and a special iron one. Instead of the plain white roadside post, these very helpful guides to the tourist have a black band of about nine inches dividing the white.

The curse of these gravel roads is the terrific and agonizing corrugations. Miles and miles of pine forest also mark the entrance into South Australia, a large quantity of which timber is almost ready for market. Here, too, our watches had to be put back one half hour.

During that day, Saturday, we travelled about 300 miles, including an hour or so of night driving in which wombats and bush tracks were very much in evidence.



Hume Highway

On Sunday we were not negligent of the day's divine calling and were aided in our thanksgiving to God by the magnificent scenery in this part of South Australia. Of all the variety of sights on any day, this short tour of two hundred miles held the greatest. Here we passed desert, sand plain, salt bush pastures, sheep stations, bushland, ocean, river, lake, salt industries, and were accompanied still by the magpie, crow, hawk, jackdaw, and of course, the bunny, and many other types of animal life.

While enjoying a leisurely meal at a lone refreshment room at Salt Creek, who should burst in upon us but the S.A. Oakland driver, who bade us farewell, and has since not been seen or heard of from us.

Murray Bridge was reached that night, where we attended divine worship. This was the second and very picturesque crossing of the great Murray river. It appealed to me here as of peculiar interest that such large and permanent fresh water lakes as the Lake Albert and Alexander [Alexandrina], covering, as they do, miles of surface, should be in such close proximity to the great salt lakes such as the Kooran [Coorong], from where, as we saw, tons of salt is lifted annually

Part 2 next Newsletter!!

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 - 46 years of "Restored Cars" Magazine.

This is a full run from when I bought the first copy in November 1973.

There are 256 magazines placed in magazine holders, sacrifice at \$50 the lot as I am trying to clear shelf space. Prefer to sell to an enthusiast, not a dealer. I think most are in excellent condition.

Tim Braby, Aspley 0405 740 418



Wanted 1936-38 Ruby Luggage Rack, dimensions as shown. Please contact Ted Bale on 3351 4737 or email to edwardbale@optusnet.com



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: 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 or best sensible offer **Call John Farrier on 0400759256 (Sunshine Coast)**

FOR SALE: 1938 Austin Seven Sports Special." Zorro ", (Ex. Mike Hawthorne racer)

Converted to road use (not registered) Project needs finishing (only a week's 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 cleanup). Close ratio racing gear box. Cruising gearbox (overhauled) available as separate item. Tow away price, dropped now to \$20,000 Will not disappoint.

Barry Leeming (Mackay) Phone :- 0412 77 1800 or email barryleeming@gmail.com

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 its type, a steal now at \$6000. **Barry Leeming (Mackay) Phone :- 0412 77 1800.**



For Sale - 1929 Austin 7 Ute.

Was painted green and repainted yellow with black guards and named "The Bumble Bee" for the 2017 National Rally. Car on concessional rego. Car for sale for health reasons - contact Merv & Pam Briggs, 1 Wattlebrae Street, King Scrub, Dayboro, Qld 4521 email pambriggs123@gmail.com

Photos from the Archives - Some Undergraduate Humour

This photo arrived very recently from Chris Hoole of the Yorkshire Pre-War Austin 7 Club. The bridge is the famous Bridge of Sighs at Cambridge University upon the River Cam. this neo-gothic covered bridge at St John's College links the new court of St. John's with the older original college buildings. Built in 1831 and named after the covered bridge in Venice, on which prisoners would sigh as they were escorted to their cells. The Bridge of Sighs is best seen from a chauffeured river tour.

On two separate occasions, students have pulled the prank of dangling a car under the bridge. In the first incident (in June 1963), a 1932-33 Austin 7 was punted down the river using four punts that had been lashed together, then hoisted up under the bridge using ropes. The second incident (in 1968) a Bond or Reliant Regal three-wheeler car was dangled under the bridge. In neither case was the bridge damaged.



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