



NEWSLETTER

April 2023



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



Valentines Day Run

Starting off from the Club House is our President Steve, with young Trent Potts as his very willing navigator in the Presidential Sports. Behind waiting patiently in line, from Left to Right: The "Hon" climbs into "Albert" the Sports Seven while Robyn supervises., Trent's Dad Matt is ready to follow along in the Pott's family Chummy while ~~Pter~~Peter Baker warms up his Wolseley Hornet!

Austin 7 Register Club Events for April

General Meeting Friday 14th April

And the Sunday run "A Day at the Bay 2" is on the 16th April.

Editorial Comments

Been a very quiet couple of months for the Club, unfortunately the weather gods tricked the club into postponing our March rally. Personally it was a bit of a chance for a breather for me, as I had two successive weekends away later that month. One was up to Bundaberg, towing a trailer for my model train club. It was really nice to see Anne and Brian Brindley come a long and say hello. It is 4 years since we had our Bundy Bash in 2019 and I can tell you the surrounding countryside is nice and green and the city is looking prosperous. The only blight on the weekend was driving home at night through the continuous roadworks that are blighting our main highway north. For instance there we were at 8:30 pm crawling in one lane past areas where new tarmac was being laid. Could have been worse, there was a 2 km long snarl heading north!

The Man with the Graflex Camera-Postscript

I have heard no more from Geoff Dale, only that he was affected greatly by the recent wet weather across the top half of New Zealand's North Island.

Editor Tim Braby

A7 Register of Qld. Committee 2022 - 2023

President:	Steve Davidson 0418 814 501
Vice President:	Lindsay Jordan
Secretary:	Robyn Clark (07) 3800 1965
Treasurer:	Sharon Cowden
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
(Southside):	Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
Librarian:	Lindsay Jordan
QHMC Representatives:	Steve Davidson & Justin McKeering
Raffle " Stinger":	Valda McDowell



The A7RQ Inc. Online

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

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

austin7.org.au/events & Face book **Austin7 Register of Qld Inc.**

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. EVENTS

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



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

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

Always check our A7 Register Qld Web site for possible recent

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

Neil Thyer (ph. 0431 067 909) A7 Qld Reg. Events Coordinator & A7 Web Master Also note!! Some details and or dates of these events are still to be confirmed.

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

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

EVENTS FOR 2023

Friday 14th April: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 16 April: A7 Register April Event: A Day at the Bay 2. This Run will be organised by Hugh & Judy Cullen (ph. 0412 096 186) and is to commence from the Carindale Clubrooms at 9am and travel to the Volunteer Marine Rescue, Cleveland, for morning tea followed by a talk & tour of the VMR facilities. Parking will be as directed on site. Lunch will be at a nearby bayside park. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

Saturday 29th April : (External Event) Ipswich Railway Workshops Planes, Trains and Automobiles.

Sunday 7th May: (External Event) LAMA Annual Swap Meet organised by the Lockyer Antique Motor Association Inc. to be held at the Laidley Showgrounds. Contact The Secretary email: sec.lama@hotmail.com for more details. Members to make their own arrangements re. travel, etc.

May 2023 MACS BRIDGE Sports Car EVENT – CANCELLED FOR 2023

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

Saturday 13th to Sunday 14th May : Dalby Invitation Event Contact Bev 0428 622 736

Saturday 20th to Sunday 21st May: A7 May Event - Our Club has been invited to attend the **Inaugural National Motoring Heritage Weekend** organised by the QHMC and BVRC at Ormiston State School. ENTER VIA WELLINGTON STREET, ORMISTON. Saturday: Static Display from 7am – public from 9am – activities, stalls, displays incl the Curator of Brisbane Motor Museum Stall, Period Dress Stall, DC3 Truck and Messerschmidt Scout Car, Room for 650 Display Vehicle. Sunday: Assemble 8am for one of three Runs. \$5 cash/car. \$2 cash/public. RSVP or enquiries: president@qhmc.net.au or phone Carl on 0413 553 173. Register with A7 Secretary, Robyn, ph. 3800 1965, if you are attending.

Saturday 20th to Sunday 21st May: External Event: Heritage Truck Association Annual Truck Show Our Club has been invited to attend this event at the Rocklea Showgrounds. Gates open 8am to 5pm on Saturday & 8am to 3pm Sunday. Spectator Adult entry \$5. Trucks, Tractors, Cars, Trade Stalls, Food & Refreshment Vans. For more information contact our A7 Secretary, Robyn ph. 3800 1965.

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th May: External Event: 2023 Gold Coast Autorama organised by The Gold Coast Antique & Classic Auto Club on the Gold Coast. For more details email: thegcaasecretary@gmail.com Members should make their own arrangements re. travel, registration, accommodation etc.

Friday 9th June : A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 11th June A7 : Register June Event: VCCQ Annual Concours d'Elegance We have again been invited to attend this event to be held at Sherwood Arboretum from 10am to 1pm on 11 June 2023. For details contact Barry Morris, VCCQ, ph. 0431 812 173. Members are to arrange their own travel etc. for this event.,

Sunday 18th June : RACQ Motorfest RNA Showgrounds Static display from 10am to 3pm . A7 members may wish to meet at Centenary Pool Carpark for departure to Motorfest “British” entry point. Members may also independently travel to venue. Members to make own arrangements re. Registration. Contact Robyn Clark (ph. 3800 1965) if you are attending.

Saturday 24th June: Caboolture 2023 Show, Shine and Swap: (External Event) Caboolture Showgrounds, Beerburrum Road, Caboolture

Friday 14th July : A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 16th July 2022: TO BE CONFIRMED A7 Register July Event: Our July event will be a run on the North-side of Brisbane. The run will be organised by John Que and details of the run will be announced closer to the time. The run will commence from the Centenary Pool Carpark at 9am.

Sunday 23rd July 2023: External Event: Gold Coast Swap Meet to be held by the Gold Coast Antique and Classic Auto Club at the Mudgeeraba Showgrounds. Gates open from 6 to 12noon. Free parking. Adult admission \$5. For more details contact David 0428 279 291 or Colin 0409 825 913, swap.gcaac@gmail.com

Sunday 23rd July 2023: TO BE CONFIRMED External Event: Noosa Beach Classic Car Show2023. This 35th year static display event is to be held on Sunday 23 July 2023 at McKinnion Drive Sports Complex, Tewantin. This is an all-models car show from 9.30am to 2.00pm. Adult entry \$12, display vehicle \$25. For more information log onto www.noosacarclub.com.au or phone Steve 0429 999 683. Members who wish to attend are to make their own arrangements re. registration, travel, accommodation etc.

Saturday 29th July : Annual Nambour Swap: (External Event), Nambour Swap Meet organised by the Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club to be held at Nambour Showgrounds commencing at 6am and concluding at 12noon. Pedestrian entry: \$5. Information & Bookings ring 0427 596 973 or google www.SCACC.org.au

Saturday 5th August :TO BE CONFIRMED External Event: The annual Rotary Multicultural Festival & Car Show & Shine is being held this year at the Mt Gravatt Showgrounds from 9.30am to 4.00pm. Food & drinks available. Free car entry and parking. For more info email: chris.ellissbhrotary@gmail.com. Members attending are to arrange their own travel etc. for this event.

Friday 11th August: A7 Register Club Weekend – General Meeting & AGM commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Saturday 12th August :A7 Register August Event: A7 Club Weekend – Saturday Lunch. A lunch will be provided to members at the Club Rooms, Carindale, commencing at 11am. Food (Sausages, Salads & Desert) will be provided but drinks (hot or cold), cutlery, plates, cups etc. are BYO. As this is an A7 Reg. Event, members are encouraged to wear their name tags and drive their A7s. It is essential for catering that you RSVP Robyn Clark (ph. 3800 1965) by 1 August 2023.

Sunday 13th August: A7 Register August Event: A7 Club Weekend – Static Display. Display to be held at Morningside School of Arts hall & grounds, corner Wynnum &Thynne Road, Morningside (in Morningside shopping village precinct – UBD p24 Q1) Entry off Wynnum Road. Ample trailer & public parking on site. The display is organized by Robyn Clark (Ph. 3800 1965). Members are to wear their name tags and make their own way to the venue. Display to commence at 9am and conclude around 1pm. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch but there are many food shops & cafes adjoining the venue.

Wednesday 16th to Sunday 20th August : External Event: Members of our Club have been invited to attend the **Northern Rivers Vintage & Veteran Car Club’s “Come To Lismore in 2023”**. For an Expression of Interest Form and more details of this event, please contact Narelle Middleton ph. 0412 299 393 or our Club members, Rhonda and Ross Guthrie on 0417 737 773

Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th August :TO BE CONFIRMED External Event: Our A7 Club has been invited to attend the **41st Anniversary Roma Historical Motor Club Rally** in August. For details of the event, ring Karen Dawes 0429 442 286 or Ken Dawes 0429 452 286 or log onto the RHMC Website: 41st Anniversary Rally (romahistoricalmotorclub.com.au) Entry Forms, Accommodation options & tourist packages are on the above website. A7 members are to make own arrangements re. travel, registration, accommodation etc.

Sunday 10th September: External Event: THE 33RD ANNUAL CHRYSLER EXPO ; Presented By The Chrysler Owners' Club Of Qld Inc. Rocklea Showgrounds. Includes a wide range of historical and old vehicles, motor cycles , bicycles, speedway machines, stationary engines, and other unusual exhibits and a swap meet. Also, a presentation of new electric and hydrogen vehicle exhibits.
Entry details: From 6am via Pegg road - Vendors, Exhibitors, Suppliers: From 7am via Goburra Street - General public and Show Cars

Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th November External Event: Bendigo National Swap Meeting

Over 1700 Sites Fwww.bendigowap.com.au Site Bookings 0427 446 660 General Enquiries 0434 730 822
info@bendigowap.com.au

MINUTES OF PAST A7RQ MEETINGS

Austin Seven Register of Qld Inc

Meeting No. 621, 10th February 2023

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

Meeting Opened: The Vice President declared the meeting opened at 7.46 pm with a welcome to all.

Attendance: twenty-seven members present

Apologies: J Que, T Bale, A Couser & S Davidson

Minutes: Robyn read the minutes of the January Meeting & moved it be accepted as a true & correct record. Seconded by Tim Braby. Carried

Business arising from Minutes: NIL

Correspondence In: Newsletters from other clubs

Membership application from Greg & Julie Morris

Letter from P Hawkins re selling A7 books etc.

OUT: Membership commemoration Certificate to Joyce Dannenberg

Robyn moved the correspondence be accepted as read & the outward endorsed. Seconded by Rhonda Guthrie. Carried

Business arising from Correspondence: Nobody interested in books.

Treasurer's Report: Sharon reported on the clubs' finances, then moved her report to be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by Neil Thyer. Carried.

QHMC Report: NIL

Spare Parts Report: Trevor will be sending to Melbourne for more parts.

2nd Hand Parts Report: Doug reported \$350 sales & \$46 in scrap metal.

Editor's Report: Newsletters ready to post. Please send Tim articles for the newsletter.

Dating Officers Report: Robert Reith has had his A7 dated by Tim.

Web Master Report: Neil has the website up to date & events listed up to May.

Club Events:

12th Feb Valentine's Day Run, organized by Lindsay. Meet clubrooms 9am. BYO M/T

12th March Presidents Run, Meet Centenary Pool 9am

16th April Hugh Cullen to organize. Meet Clubrooms 9 am

Other Events:

7th-11th March OAO, Orange

26th March Bayside Swap, Ormiston State School

30th-21st May National Motoring Heritage Weekend
20th-21st May HTA Truck Show, Rocklea Showgrounds
27th-29th May Gold Coast Autorama

Past Events:

15th Jan 2nd Hand Parts Sale & get together (32 People)
26th Jan Australia Day, Ormiston SS.

Reports on club website.

Library Report: NIL

General Business: Mary McCorkindale is selling a 1937 Ruby.

Apologies for next month from Lindsay & Sharon Jordan & Peter & Gail Cahalane.

Raffle: Valda selling tickets in tonight's raffle.

Report on Cars &/or Car Troubles: Russell Curtis A7 has a cracked crankshaft.

Birthdays: Members having a birthday in February wished Many Happy Returns.

Sick members wished a speedy return to good health.

Supper Organiser: Rhonda Guthrie thanked for tonight's supper, March to be Ian McDowell

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: 10th March 2023

Meeting Closed: 8.22 pm

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc

Meeting No. 622, 10th March 2023

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

Meeting Opened: The President declared the meeting opened at 7.50 pm, with a welcome to all.

Attendance: 18 members

Apologies: Peter & Gail Cahalane, Lindsay & Sharon Jordan, Trevor & Bev McCulloch, Murray Rix, Ted Bale, Karyn Matthews, & Joe & Margaret McCormack.

Minutes: Robyn read the minutes of the February Meeting & moved it be accepted as a true & correct record. Seconded by Tim. Carried.

Business arising from Minutes: NIL

Correspondence IN: Newsletters from other clubs

Veteran Car Club re Residents Clubs Newsletter.

AHMF Newsletter No 2

Email from Jo & Margaret McCormack re apology for tonight & offering to do April supper.

VCCQ invitation to their Concours 11th June Sherwood Arboretum, 10am to 1 pm

Phone call from Ray Forman thanking members for the card.

Email from QHMC President re Special Edition Newsletter on Electric Cars

Invoice from Veteran Car Club re Rent

OUT: Newsletters posted

Register & parts books & membership card to Greg & Julie Morris

Thinking of you card to Ray Foreman

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

Business arising from correspondence: NIL

Treasurer's Report: Trevor Moore gave this report on Sharon's behalf. Then moved it be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by David Neville. Carried

QHMC Report: NIL

Spare Parts Report: Trevor has made some sales & another order to be sent to Melbourne.

2nd Hand Parts Report: NIL

Editors Report: Nil

Dating Officers Report: NIL

Web Master Report: Neil has the website events listed until August.

Club Events:

- 12th March Presidents Run. Postponed due to the weather forecast.
- 16th April Hugh Cullen to organize. Meet Clubrooms 9am. BYO M/T & Lunch
- 20th-21st May National Motoring Heritage Weekend
- 11th June VCCQ Concours, Sherwood 10 am to 1 pm.

Other Events:

- 26th March Bayside Swap, Ormiston State School
- 7th May LAMA Swap, Laidley Showgrounds
- 20th-21st May HYA Truck Show, Rocklea Showgrounds.
- 27th-28th May Gold Coast Autorama
- 18th June RACQ Motorfest, Brisbane Showgrounds.

Past Events:

- 12th Feb Valentine's Day Run. Lindsay & Sharon thanked for providing a BBQ lunch. Neil thanked for the gifts to the ladies.

Library Report: NIL

General Business: NIL

Raffle: Valda thanked Tim for the donation of a model as part of tonight's raffle

Report on cars &/or car troubles: Peter Baker is working on Russell Curtis's car.

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

Sick members wished a speedy return to good health.

Supper Organised: Thank you to Ian McDowell for tonight's supper, April to be Margaret McCormack

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: 14th April 2023

Meeting closed: With no further business to discuss the President declared the meeting closed at 8.23 pm.



Robyn

PAST RUNS AND EVENTS REPORTS

Valentine's Day Run – Sunday 12 February 2023



Fine, sunny and a predicted 36°C in Brisbane – fortunately, we were heading out of town to the cooling sea breeze of Moreton Bay.

At about 8.30am, the Club grounds at Carindale were buzzing with eight A7s (Sharon & Lindsay, Ian & Valda, Doug & Robyn, President Steve, Merv & Margaret, Trevor & Elaine, Matthew & Trent), Dr Baker in his Wolseley, and four moderns (Tim, John, Russell & Vanda, Neil & Karyn) arriving in preparation for the much-anticipated Valentine's Day Run eastwards. Everyone was looking forward to enjoying morning tea and a sausage sizzle at the Jordans'

residence on the water at Wynnum.

Following a run briefing by Lindsay, Sharon distributed the run instructions while Neil presented the ladies with a handcrafted Valentine's Day ornament. Everyone then jumped in their cars and headed towards the Bay, passing through the suburbs of Belmont, Capalaba and Birkdale. As the cars approached Wellington Point, they stopped to regroup before making a stunning procession around the circle at the Point, attracting much attention from onlookers.

On departing Wellington Point, the cars headed back towards Birkdale, turning off to detour along the coast through Thorneside. At Wakerley, the cars again headed towards the water at Lota, continuing along the Esplanade through busy Manly and past Wynnum Wading Pool full of children cooling down in the hot weather.

On arriving at the Jordans' residence, it was amusing to see the little A7s drive through under the house into the backyard to park. Everyone alighted their cars to set up camp under the marquees, providing shade from the hot summer



sun. Here we were joined by Colin & Gay, Karen & Bill, Alan, and Casey & Paul (all in moderns). While MasterChef Lindsay cranked up the BBQ and Sharon organised food for the sausage sizzle, casual conversation was carried out over morning tea. Lindsay & Sharon's dog,

Pongo, together with Russell & Vanda's dogs, Louie and Tilly, had a whale of a time chasing each around the yard and being lavished with attention by the humans.

Fortunately, our proximity to the Bay meant that there was a cooling breeze in which to enjoy our sausages and onions in bread over the next few hours. These were washed down with tiny mauve and white chocolate hearts provided by our hosts. No one was in a hurry to head home, instead enjoying the delicious food and fun company.

After a short speech by President Steve thanking Sharon &



Lindsay for their hospitality and Neil for his artistic glasswork skills, members started to take their leave, heading to their respective homes.

On behalf of all the attendees, thank you to Sharon & Lindsay for organising a most enjoyable Valentine's Day Run.

Karyn & Neil



Sunday 12th March : A7 Club President's Run.

Cancelled due to anticipated major wet weather event, which did not eventuate! So in its place I bring you one from 6 years ago!

President's Rally 9th & 10th March 2013



This will not be a blow-by-blow account of the recent President's Run to Toowoomba, but a telling of the highlights of the weekend. At the start Alan Couser drove his 1933 tourer and President Lindsay and his friend Sharon travelled in Ernie the 1929 Chummy, Whilst Russell and Vanda Curtis brought their Austin Roadster up on the trailer behind their trusty old Ford Ute all the way from Woodford, and the Austin was then driven around Toowoomba. Travelling modern were Ross and Rhonda Guthrie, Ian and Valda McDowell, John Que and the Editor. Rally man Neil was busy On the Saturday but came up early Sunday to join us. The reason behind the change in Rally destination from our usual Sunny Coast tour, was d so we could check out the various options for the 2017 National Rally we will be conducting in 2017. The weekend was one of the first nice ones free of any rain since Australia Day' Which mean there was plenty of traffic and just about every motel in Toowoomba was booked out. I must take my hat off to our intrepid Austin Drivers' the cars ran faultlessly except Alan getting a flat tire on the way to Toowoomba, but he carried on and beat Ernie to the top of the Toowoomba Toll Road, without losing a drop of water. The humans however seemed to be running on Coffee all weekend, with stops at the pub at Plainlands, a breather at Withcott, and lunch at Picnic Point. We then spent the afternoon at the Cobb and Co. Museum for a guided tour (both the museum and guide come highly recommended.) For dinner we checked out the superb facilities of the Toowoomba Golf Club, a very busy spot on a Saturday night. Sunday morning the weather held, bit of a breeze, whilst Brisbane sweltered with a 33 scorcher. We gathered for breakfast at the hotel across from our motel and then headed out to the clubrooms of the Darling Downs Veteran and Vintage Car Club to see the setup there. Coincidentally this was the day of their monthly club run. The DDVVCC has done very well from their swaps over the years and has a nice block of land with a large club building, a Very comprehensive and spacious workshop and black hard top car park. We were invited by Jeff and Ann Cox to join them on a run the DDVVCC were having down to historic Glengallan Homestead, but as the journey would take us halfway to Warwick, we all demurred politely. We waved all the locals off on their run, and then mounted up our motley selection of motorised steeds to head out to the Showgrounds. Just as we were leaving a late DDWCC club member, a large desert sand painted Blitz truck came up the road, and thinking we were part of the rally and followed us out to the Showgrounds at Glenvale, Where John was able to slow his progress and tell him he was with the wrong rally. At the showground we were impressed by the sheer size of the place. Next Clifford Park Racecourse, which was another venue under consideration. To finish off our tour we retired to Queens Park, near the Cobb and Co. Museum, where a craft market was in full swing on the other side of the park. Here we had morning tea, and while some explored the market, the 3 little Austins headed home to Brisbane. We never did catch up to these mighty little Atoms' but Alan's was reported outside a shop in Brisbane later! John and I joined Ross and Rhonda for a final light lunch at Plainlands (not the pub this time but

the pleasures of Subway and the Coffee Club!). Only one more hour and I was almost home so I could write up the rally report that night! *Tim March 2013*

AUSTIN 7: BUYING GUIDE AND REVIEW (1922-1939)

Being a full buyer's guide for the Austin 7 (1922-1939) including specs, common problems and model history...

From the: Auto Express team 5 Nov 2018



The Austin 7 was a great departure for the Austin brand, which at that point was focussing on larger cars. While the board was not interested in Herbert Austin's proposal of a budget car for the masses, so he set up shop in his home, employing a 17-year-old draughtsman by the name of Stanley Edge and some technical advisers. After a number of very left field and somewhat eccentric ideas, Herbert settled on a conventional frame and engine to power his entry-level car, which was called the Austin 7. This little car was at first met with derision by some however its

light weight, eager acceleration and wallet friendly pricing soon endeared it to the motoring public.

• Best British cars

By the time the dust had settled in 1939, over 290 000 cars had been sold, transforming the British motoring scene.

Which Austin 7 to buy?

As a first step into pre-war motoring, the Austin 7 is a fantastic entry point. It's still an affordable proposition with great parts availability. If you want speed and creature comforts however, then look elsewhere as this is motoring at its most basic level.

There were many changes made throughout its long production life, incremental upgrades continually improved the little Austin, but successive owners have generally improved most cars over the years.

There was a bewildering array of body styles for the Austin 7, you can choose between saloons, convertibles and vans to name a few. BMW even licensed the Austin 7 under the Dixie name, becoming the German company's first ever production automobile.

The very earliest models in 1922 came with a 700cc engine, but this was soon increased to 750cc, with small power gains made along the years. Do not be too fixated on what engine your potential purchase has under the bonnet, because whatever model you choose, performance will be sedate by modern standards.

Initial pull-off is energetic but the acceleration soon tapers off and even the fastest Austin 7 will struggle to breach 60mph. The real fun to be had is from the lively nature of these cars at modest speeds, with an average weight of around 330kg, the almost single digit power output is enough to put a smile on your face on even the shortest journey.

Later models received some welcome upgrades such as a four-speed gearbox with synchromesh, as well as a much needed upgrade to the braking system.

Austin 7 performance and specs of the 1933 – 34 Austin 7

Engine 747cc 8 valve Inline 4

Power 24 bhp

Torque N/A

Top Speed 60 mph

0-50 mph 25 secs

Gearbox 4 speed manual

Wheelbase 2057mm

Length 3023mm

Width 1588mm

Weight 330 kg

Austin 7 common problems

The Austin 7 is a very basic car and while it is rugged, with something this old you need to be willing to get your hands dirty to keep it running smoothly. Parts and advice are in abundant supply. As these cars have been around for almost 100 years anything that can go wrong has probably done so at some point.

The good news is that since the Austin 7 has such an enthusiastic following the solution has more than likely been extensively documented and a replacement part made available. All potential owners should get in touch with their nearest 750 motor club and benefit from the wealth of knowledge and contacts that are available through this channel. Here's what you need to look at when buying a 7.



- **Gearboxes:** three-speed gearboxes have a weak spot on the clutch thrust bearing, but this can be replaced with the item from the later four-speed boxes.
- **Corrosion:** rust and rot can attack body panels and various parts of the metal and wooden frames. A thorough inspection of the car by a specialist is recommended to uncover any potential problems here. Restoration is simple, but often time consuming.
- **Fires:** the Austin 7 has a propensity to catch fire, so check for signs of previous fire damage.

One of the main causes is when an errant spark strikes engine oil around the starter motor, so it is vital to keep the engine bay clean. Another potential fire hazard can be averted by not overfilling the fuel tank.

- **Overheating:** overheating can be caused by overly retarded ignition timing, a blocked radiator or a slipping fan. All are simple to fix.
- **Dampers:** shock absorbers have rubber links that can deteriorate leading to erratic steering and wayward handling.
- **Trim:** finding interior trim isn't always the easiest task, but most parts from replacement seats to dashboard parts can usually be tracked down through the various clubs or specialist autojumbles.
- **Modifications:** several upgrades such as electronic ignition, 12v conversions and headlight upgrades are widely available, and if the car you are looking at has had some of these modifications carried out, it is vital to ensure that it has been done to a profession standard.
- **Electronics:** several electrical and charging issues can affect these cars due to age and corrosion. Contact cleaning and wiring replacement is sometimes required however there are several helpful tips on the club sites to diagnose and cure electrical maladies.
- **Engine:** the engines are strong and tend to go on for ages as long as they are well lubricated and received regular maintenance.
- **General:** methodical inspection of the common issues affecting these cars, as well as some background knowledge is key to an enjoyable experience of your Austin 7. While these are just a small insight into the areas you should check with these cars, they are not inherently troublesome and anyone with even a moderate understanding of car mechanics should be able to tackle most of these checks.

Austin 7 model history

1922: Austin 7 launched.

1923: Larger capacity 747cc engine and electric starter motor introduced.

1932: Four-speed gearbox introduced.

1933: Synchromesh added to third and fourth gears.

1934: Synchro now on second gear as well.

1936: Engines upgraded to three main bearings.

1939: Last Austin 7 rolls off the production line.

Austin 7 clubs and websites

- www.750mc.co.uk - The original motor club, which championed the Austin 7 for competition use.
- www.7ca.co.uk - 7 County Austins, a great source for new and used spares.
- www.pwa7c.co.uk - The Pre-War Austin Seven Club, an international owners club for 7s.
- www.da7c.co.uk - Dorset Austin 7 Club, with a fantastic technical resource for the 7.

• www.austinsevenfriends.com - International club and forum supporting the Austin 7.

Austin 7 summary and Prices

The entry point for Austin 7 ownership today is around £9000, for a car that will need some work. Well cared for and immaculately restored examples can go for around £16,000. Very limited-edition cars, or ones with specific racing history can command much more.

Running costs need not be exorbitant as the aforementioned clubs and parts suppliers are always on hand to help keep your Austin 7 on the road, and expenses are further kept in check by the fact that no road tax or MoTs are required. Insurance is generally very reasonable too thanks to readily available classic policies. These fun little cars transport you back to a time when motoring was an adventure. If you're looking for a car to brighten up your weekend and leave you with a smile on your face, then look no further. The Austin 7 is what you have been waiting for.

BENEATH THE BONNET - A HISTORY OF AUSTRALIAN AUTOMOTIVE PARTS MANUFACTURERS SINCE 1896

By J. D. Beruldsen

(I had a copy of this book and found it very interesting and this review by Ron Gay of Ballarat gives an excellent overview of motor vehicle assembly in Australia from early days - Editor Tim)

For Federation of Automotive Products Manufacturers Canberra Published in 1989 258 Pages

When we talked of the Australian automotive industry in 1989 when this book was written, our thoughts often turned first to the large, well-known car makers such as Ford or Holden and the others. Yet the car makers whose brands are household names, in general, make only about half of the motor cars. They rely on independent parts manufacturers to provide the components that make up the other half of the cars. When this book was written these parts manufacturers were a well-established, integral section of the automotive industry in Australia. However, this was not always the case. Although local companies began making parts for the first horseless carriages in the 1890s, they had a long struggle to achieve their present-day prominence. Herbert Thomson produced the Thomson steam cars in Melbourne from 1896. Small engineering firms, blacksmith shops, carriage makers, tyre manufacturers all contributed to the production and maintenance of the newly arrived motor cars. Then came the First World War, and, with it, the mass-produced car, in particular the Ford Model T. Local car makers could not compete, and imported cars dominated the Australian market. For local parts makers this trend was a benefit, as most car importers did not bother to cater for spare parts. But it also had its drawbacks, as demand was spread over many makers and models. Part makers had to produce in ones and twos to a sample. This volume demand increased with the two World Wars and the Depression, with the shortage of shipping space. During the First World War in 1917 the Commonwealth Government placed limits on the import of cars with bodies. This allowed an extensive body-building industry to begin. In 1920, when there were 75000 cars on Australian roads, the Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce formed the first association representation of parts manufacturers and car repairers as a section within its chamber. Local parts manufacturers struggled between the two World Wars as the industry had to contend with competition from the Commonwealth Government who permitted the Ordinance Factory, Melbourne and the Small Arms factory in Lithgow, N.S.W. to produce a range of automotive parts when there were no orders for defence materials. But the outbreak of the Second World War changed things. Because the automotive manufacturers had operational production lines and expertise in production control, the local industry was able to change from peacetime to war-time operations. It thus offered immediate and valuable support to the Australian Defence Forces of ships, aircraft, guns, gyroscopic mechanism and aircraft engines. It was also unusual that Australia could produce aircraft engines before the country made car engines, other than in ones and twos. This vitality of the industry strengthened the resolve of the Curtin Government to produce an Australian car after October 1944. It is well-known that the Holden Car was the consequence of this, and by the early 1960s, with the help of the local parts Industry had attained a local content level of nearly 97% without seeking any special tariff protection or other assistance measures. The Ford Motor Company of Australia Ltd, Chrysler Dodge Desoto Distribution Ltd, and the International Harvester Company Pty Ltd all responded with increased local content in their existing range of vehicles – which included

cars, trucks and tractors to the highest practicable level. During the period of 1965 to 1984, there was a significant erosion of market access for parts makers because of the staggering increase in imported vehicles. From a 5% market share in 1965, the figure increased to 39% in 1984. Because this increase far exceeded market growth, the volume of locally manufactured cars fell from 334000 in 1965 to 320000 in 1986. Of course. Because of the Federal Governments of both political persuasions, we have ended up losing all of our Australian car production since this book was written. Very sad! Another change that has occurred with this is the price of vehicle spare parts. With few imported vehicles and a high level of local content in cars during the latter 1960's, Australia held control for at least 90% of prices. That local influence has fallen very low today with no local price controls and poor parts supply from overseas. At the back of the book there are 26 pages of 7 very extensive Appendices covering all the parts manufacturers and what they produced during the period 1896 until 1989. I wonder how many of these companies have survived in 2023? New car registrations in Australia in 1921 was 9300 vehicles, and in 1987 was 451800 vehicles.

Sourced from Ron Gay Librarian, Vintage and Classic Car Club of Ballarat

AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD **MERCHANDISE**

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

Ph: (07) 3848 5575 OR Email:
temoore@live.com.au

PRICES:

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

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

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

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

Additionally official A7
Register Name Badges can also
be obtained from Rhonda
Guthrie for \$10 each email
Rhonda at
guthrie45@bigpond.com.

Pricing MAY vary with future
availability.



Austin 7 Register Classifieds

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

For sale: Original 1928 Austin 7 "Chummy".



This car has been in our Family for close to 50 years with very small Kms... Originally a Museum Car in the "Ben Bronks" Car Museum in Watsons Bay, Sydney.

The Car does come with a good amount of accumulated spares, including engine and Gearbox.

And we believe the Car has had 1 paint in its life , and a lot of the interior is still original.

Car does run, however has not been registered for 35 years.... So obviously the new owner would need to go through the car to satisfy themself before re-registering... Car is located at

Runaway Bay on the Gold Coast.

Feel free to call me for more details and history...

\$19,900. Ono. Marty Smith. 0418 758 458.

martaroon@hotmail.com

(1st advert)

(Editors note: I am told by the vendor that his father never joined a Austin 7 car club. It has a magneto motor and what appears to be a standard type Australian body, with steel tub, doors and aluminium scuttle. It would be interesting to know if anyone recalls a bright yellow chummy) The badge on the fronts are the Victorian A7



Club, and the Vintage Vehicle Club of Australia, a Sydney Club. It appears the car was registered in NSW previously)

FOR SALE - CAR COLLECTION - "Going-Going-GONE"



It may be too late now for purchasers to act as John and Suvipa Smith are leaving Australia for good and needed to sell their collection of cars residing at Cooran. They include a 1929 Austin Sports that has been recently rebuilt. Other cars include a 1926 Morris Oxford 2 seater which have both been restored, a 1922 Citroen 5CV $\frac{3}{4}$ finished painted in traditional lemon (The French word for Lemon is "Citron"!

Citron/Citron!)

Also a 1989 Ford Capri for everyday driving and a 1948 Austin "J40" Pedal Car". For all enquiries, please email john and Suvipa at suvipahotmail@icloud.com or ring John tel. 0480 274 512. All cars situated in Cooran,(just up past Noosa, near Pomona.) They need buyers, otherwise they will leave Australia, for good! (3rd advert)



FOR SALE 1938 Austin 7 Ruby tourer (part restored)

Former member Don Macintyre met up with our club at the All-British Day in September and tells us he wants to sell his 1938 Ruby which is in pieces but pretty much all there with a few extras.

Motor: there are two complete motors. There are two reground crankshafts and 4 matching rods that have been re metallised and ground to suit. There is a set of new 20 thou o/s. pistons.

The body has been painted light blue with dark blue mudguards about 20 years ago by a retired spray

painter. **The seats** were redone about 20 years ago but filled with foam rubber. The fronts are modified buckets from an Austin A30. Being a 1938 tourer, it has the sporty cut down doors which makes more comfortable driving.

Lights and instrument are all there as well.

Wheels and tires: There is one set with 40-year-old tires and another full set of wheels that have been painted.

Spare parts: Don says there is 20 plastic boxes of spare parts which have been kept shut and everything is all together and been in dry storage and ready to inspect by any prospective buyer or buyers?

Gearboxes: there are two

Missing Hood (but there may be some bows?) and it will need to be all rewired as there is no harness!

Price \$8000 ono for car and all spares

If you want to know more, please ring Don and Jenny McIntyre on 0406 047 327 (4th advert)



This is not the same car but would be similar when finished with the cut down doors.

FOR SALE 1927 Austin 7 Chummy in Restored Condition

Amazingly Alan Couser is still trying to sell his 1927 Chummy. The car was professionally restored 20 plus years ago by Guthrie Crash Repairs for Ron and Joan Gliddon to a high standard (cost was not a factor). but is still in excellent running order on club registration. The body is pale yellow with black mudguards It has been in the club for many years. Asking price is \$16000 ONO (and good value). Please contact

Alan on 0403 504 709 or (07) 3349 9628, Mansfield, Brisbane. (4th advert)



FOR SALE 1936 Austin 7 Tourer (restored)

Only 61350 miles on the speedo. The colour is BRG. With black guards and new grey upholstery. It is a 4-seater. It runs quite well except for a bit of a flat spot in the carby. The last previous owner passed away a few years ago. He spent a lot of money on it. Including a new wiring harness, 4 new tyres and had the differential overhauled. He also had the upholstery done as the original. The hood is in good condition and folds easily. Also has a full set of side curtains I believe that the clutch linings need replacing and would like to do it myself, but ongoing health issues don't permit me. Trevor tells me that the cost of parts is about \$200 and a very straight forward job (Ask an Austin 7 owner to help), I live in Bowen and am asking \$15000 (but willing to negotiate!!!) new owner to arrange for pick-up. I am prepared willing to listen to reasonable offers, as enquiries are far and few between-



Regards Al. Anderson

21Argyle Street, Bowen Qld 4805

0421 956 569 aganderson40@gmail.com (5th advert)

Photos from the Archives – Tony Maughan's Sevens



Left, Doug and Robyn Clark's 1929 Sports in an early part of its metamorphosis from a rusty relic on the late Tony Maughan's farm in Warwick.

L to R we have Pym Hills, Peter Cahalane, Doug Clark (with hair!), unknown young girl, Ross Guthrie talking to Jeff Jones, Ian Waring and Peter Baker. Possibly in the 1980s? Both Pym and Jeff have left us.



Tony Maughan's "Belly Flopper paddock basher". Taken sometime around 1980 by the editor when he and Trevor McCulloch visited Tony and his collection at Warwick



Another photo taken on the same day at Tony's farm. Trevor investigates a JWF Milano body shell. These were a fibreglass kit car body that was sold in the early 1960s to fit cars like Austin 7s, Big 7s and Ford 8s. there have been to cars with these

bodies in our club, one is Ruby based version belonging to Keith Collins and another was based on a Big 7 chassis, and at one time belonged to Greg Stevens.

EDITOR/PUBLISHER

Tim Braby, 43 Arcola Street Aspley Brisbane Q4034

Mob 0405740 418 H. 07 3359 2086 Note NEW email: timbraby108@gmail.com

DISCLAIMER

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

