



# NEWSLETTER

## June 2023



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



### **Wheels of the World Car & Bike Show 7<sup>th</sup> May**

*Justin McKeering's 1929 Chummy joins a select gathering of cars from the Vintage Car Club and other vehicles at the Pat Rafter Arena (Queensland Tennis Centre), Tennyson. Entrants put their vehicles on display for the Variety foundation supporting children in need. Another club Austin 7 was going to attend but ran out of petrol just after it left home!*

### **Austin 7 Register Club Events for June**

**General Meeting Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

**And on the VCCQ Concours d'Elegance" on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June.**

## Editorial Comments

It has been a fairly busy time since the last newsletter, with your rally committee organising events for the august and a touring run in September down in Evans Head, a lovely spot on the NSW North Coast. It promises to be a great event, with all the activities previously tested by the Veteran Car Club of Qld.

As you read this, former members, John and Suvipa Smith are no longer in Queensland, but now domiciled permanently in Thailand, Suvipa's homeland, and a place John has lived in many times and likes very much. They sent me this email at the beginning of May.

*"Just to let you know we're we are up to. The Citroen has gone to Ralph Richardson in Gympie who will complete the restoration and keep the car local, the Capri is also going to the Gympie club, The A7 and Morris Oxford are going to Malaysia mid-May. The (Little) Grey Fergie sold in an hour and gone down the road. The J40 pedal car had not sold but hope it will sell soon. Our house has sold. Stress, what stress? It has been a great pleasure to know our friends in the A7 Club and we both appreciate your kindness and friendship, and you are always welcome to visit us in Thailand. Cheers for now from Suvipa and John "*



And news from Al Anderson. He says many thanks to the A7 Register for advertising his car. After enquiries from various parts of Australia, the car is going to a car enthusiast about a mile down the road from Al's home in Bowen. Al only rang me a few days ago and was pleased that, Troy, the new owner, has joined the Register, Al has also formally resigned from the club.

Trevor and Elaine Moore are happy to announce the arrival of a new baby, Baby Austin that is! It is a newly restored 1927 Chummy that they bought off Brett and Amanda Wilson 7 years ago as a project. *Photo left!*

Finally, we need to remind all members it is once again time for **membership renewals**, these were emailed out several weeks ago, but some did not receive or do not have email addresses. I understand, the invoices were posted out to those without email. If you did not get one please contact [admin@austin7.org.au](mailto:admin@austin7.org.au) or ring Robyn Clark on 0412 276 313 (not the land line, the messages do not work)

**Editor Tim Braby**

### A7 Register of Qld. Committee 2022 - 2023

<b>President:</b>	Steve Davidson 0418 814 501
<b>Vice President:</b>	Lindsay Jordan
<b>Secretary:</b>	Robyn Clark Mob. 0412 276 313
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Sharon Cowden
<b>Editor:</b>	Tim Braby 0405 740 418
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<b>Second Hand Parts:</b>	Doug Clark (07) 3800 1965
<b>Runs &amp; Events Coordinator:</b>	Neil Thyer (07) 32179880
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Neil Thyer (07) 32179880
<b>Dating Officer (North side):</b>	Tim Braby 0405 740 418
<b>(Southside):</b>	Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
<b>Librarian:</b>	Lindsay Jordan
<b>QHMC Representatives:</b>	Steve Davidson & Justin McKeering
<b>Raffle " Stinger":</b>	Valda McDowell



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Always check our A7 Register Qld Web site for possible recent updates/cancellations/postponements prior to attending any event. And IF IN ANY DOUBT - contact the event organisers to find out what the situation is. Happy Motoring and stay safe & well in these difficult times,

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

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

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

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

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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. Vehicle registration (online) closed Friday 12 May (unless the event capacity was not reached.)

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June: Caboolture 2023 Show, Shine and Swap: (External Event)** Caboolture Showgrounds, Beerburum Road, Caboolture

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 16 July:** External Event: Our Club has been invited to attend the **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Old Wheels in Motion Rally** organised by the Callide Dawson Machinery preservation Club inc. The event will be held at Queensland Heritage Park, 11 Exhibition Avenue, Biloela, Central Queensland. For more information visit the website: [cdmpc.com.au](http://cdmpc.com.au) or phone 07 4992 2400. A7 members attending are to make their own arrangements for registration, travel and accommodation.



**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July: A7 Register July Event:** **A7 Register July Event:** Our July event will be an A7 run to the areas of Sandgate, Redcliffe and Scarborough on the north-side of Brisbane. The run will be organised by John Que (ph. 0409 893 305) and details of the run will be announced closer to the time. The run will commence from the Centenary Pool Carpark at 9am. BYO Morning Tea and BYO Lunch or Fish'n'Chips may be bought at the lunch stop.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July: 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](mailto:swap.gcaac@gmail.com)

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July: 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 McKinnon 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](http://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](http://www.SCACC.org.au)

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:chris.ellissbhrotary@gmail.com). Members attending are to arrange their own travel etc. for this event.

### **2023 AUSTIN 7 REGISTER CLUB WEEKEND:**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August: General Meeting & AGM** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August: SATURDAY LUNCH & STATIC DISPLAY** commencing at 9am in the Club Rooms, Carindale. BYO Morning Tea. A lunch will be provided at around noon for members present. Food (Chicken, Salads & Desert) will be provided but drinks (hot or cold), cutlery, plates, cups etc. are BYO. As this is an A7 Reg. Event including an A7 Static Display of our vehicles, members are encouraged to wear their name tags and drive their A7s. It is essential for catering that you RSVP Robyn Clark (Mob. 0412 276 313) by 1 August 2023.



*(This photo above was taken c 1969 before the new Victoria Bridge was built and as the last of the old Trams were taken out of service.)*

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023: A7 Weekend Run to the Brisbane Tramway Museum,** Tramway Street, Ferny Grove. Members are to make their own way to the Museum to arrive at 10.30am for a BYO Morning Tea. The Museum staff will open for us at 10.30am - 2 hours before the general public. Members will be able to view the various attractions before the Museum opens and staff begin tram rides at 12.30pm. BYO

Lunch. Admission to the Museum, normally \$16pp or \$12pp for group bookings, will be subsidised by our Club so attending members will need only pay \$5pp. Payment is to be made to our Treasurer, Sharon, sometime prior to the event or at our Saturday Lunch. So please remember to pay, if you forget to pay Sharon prior to the event may result in members having to pay full price on entry. As this is an A7 Qld Event, members are encouraged to drive their A7s. The Tramway Museum does not open if it is raining.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August: TO BE CONFIRMED External Event:** Our A7 Club has been invited to attend the **41<sup>st</sup> 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: **41<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023 A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Evans Head (during A7 away event), venue to be decided.

**2023 A7 AWAY EVENT: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023: A7 Register September Away Event: Evans Head Run.** This 2023 Away Event is organised by Ross & Rhonda Guthrie (ph. 0417 737 773) and will be based in Evans Head, NSW. Details and information on this event are posted on our A7 Website in the "A7 Evans Head Run September 2023" Section. **The Entry Form needs to be sent to Rhonda Guthrie (separate attachment with this newsletter !)**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> 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, motorcycles, 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

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September: TO BE CONFIRMED External Event:** Our Club has been invited to attend the **Queensland Heritage Rally** hosted by the Kingaroy & District Vintage Machinery Club to be held at 2 Geoff Ralph Drive, Kingaroy. For more details contact Charmaine Osbourne ph. 0434 074 340 or email: [kdvmc2022@gmail.com](mailto:kdvmc2022@gmail.com) Members are to make their own arrangements re. registration, accommodation, travel etc.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September: A7 Register September Event: All British Day** at Vivian Street, Tennyson from 8.30am to 2pm – gates open at 7am. Display vehicles \$20, spectators \$2, parking \$5. No pre-booking required. Contact Robyn Clark (0412 276 313) for more details. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch although food is also available at the venue. A7 members to make own arrangements re.travel, registration on arrival etc.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October: A7 Register October Event:** Friends of Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group have invited our club to their **Decoration Day – 155<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** at 1341 Wynnum Road Tingalpa commencing at 9am and completing around 12noon. Morning Tea & Lunch will be available for purchase or BYO. A musical and Historical program will be presented. Bring your A7 and park in the grounds or come modern and park in Smith's Chips Carpark next door. Attendees are requested to follow Qld Gov. Covid conditions of entry. For further info contact Neil ph. 0431 067 909

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023: A7 Register October Event: LAMA Annual Invitation Run Weekend** organised by the Lockyer Antique Motor Association Inc. and commencing in Gatton. Contact The Secretary, email: [sec.lama@hotmail.com](mailto:sec.lama@hotmail.com) for more details. Members to make their own arrangements re.travel, registration, accommodation etc.

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

# **MINUTES OF PAST A7R2 MEETINGS**

## **Austin Seven Register of Qld Inc**

### **Meeting No. 623, 14th April 2023**

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

**Meeting Opened;** The President declared the meeting opened at 7.47 pm with a welcome to all & hoping everyone had a Happy Easter.

**Attendance:** 22 members signed the attendance book

**Apologies:** Alan C, Ted B, Bill & Karyn R, Ross & Rhonda G, Molly N, David N, & Fiona R

**Minutes:** Robyn read the minutes of the March meeting & moved it be accepted as a true & correct record. Seconded by Trevor M. Carried

**Business arising from Minutes:** NIL

**Correspondence In:** Newsletters from other clubs

QHMC March Minutes

Chrysler Expo 19th Sept., Rocklea Showgrounds

Logan City Heritage & Machinery Fair. 28th May, 8am to 2.30 pm

**OUT:** Parts Book to A Blair

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

**Business arising from Correspondence:** NIL

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharon reported on the club's finances. Asked for questions then moved her report be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by Trevor M. Carried.

**QHMC Report:** Tabled

**Spare Parts Report:** Trevor reported good sales.

**2nd Hand Parts Report:** Bill R has picked up 2 19" wheels.

**Editors Report:** Newsletters ready to post. Tim told how he enjoys talking to people worldwide who comment about our newsletter.

**Dating Officer:** NIL

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

#### **Club Events:**

16th April Hugh C to organise. Meet Clubrooms 9am. BYO M/T & Lunch

20th-21st May National Motoring Heritage Day

20th-21st May HTA Truck Show, Rocklea Showgrounds

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

23rd July A7 Club Run organised by John Q. Will be on the Northside.

#### **Other Events:**

7th May LAMA Swap, Laidley Showgrounds

28th May Logan City Heritage & Machinery Fair, Kingston Butter Factory, 8am to 2.30 pm

27th-28th May Gold Coast Autorama

18th June RACQ Motorfest, Brisbane Showgrounds

14th-16th July Old Wheels in Motion, Biloela

#### **Past Events:**

12th March Presidents Run, postponed.

25th March Bayside Swap.

**Library Report:** NIL

**General Business:** We will be visiting the Volunteer Marine Rescue on Sunday with Hugh C A7 run. It was moved by Trevor M & seconded by Colin J that the club donate \$250 to the Volunteer Marine Rescue. Carried.

July Meeting will still go ahead without a lot of the main officers being there. (7 officers going to Biloela)

John Q spoke about the new Brisbane Motor Museum & A7 Centenary photos from UK.

Rhonda G is willing to organise a A7 away run in Evans Head, 6th-10th Sept.

Raffle: Valda had tonight's raffle drawn. Tim & John were the lucky winners.

Report on cars &/or car troubles: Brett R is having trouble with sticking valves.  
Birthdays: Members having a birthday in April were wished Many Happy Returns.  
Sick members wished a speedy return to good health.  
**Supper Organiser:** Thank you to Margaret McC for tonight's supper.

May organiser: Steve D

**Committee Meeting:** 17th April, 9am MacDonalds Coorparoo.

**Next Meeting:** 12th May 2023

**Meeting closed:** 8.30 pm.

**Austin Seven Register of Old Inc**

**Meeting No. 624. 12th May 2023**

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

**Meeting opened:** The President declared the meeting opened at 7.43 pm with a welcome to all.

Attendance: 28 members signed the book

**Apologies:** Sharon J & Hugh C

**Minutes:** Robyn read the minutes of the April Meeting & moved it be accepted as a true & correct record.  
Seconded by Peter C. Carried.

**Business arising from minutes:** NIL

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

Thank you letter from VMR.

Cheque for membership & Centenary Badge from David B

QVVCA re Tenant's Newsletter

Email from John Q re Static Display Weekend

Email re Battle for Australia Tour 2nd-6th Sept

QHMC April Minutes

**OUT:** Newsletters posted

Phone call to David B & Mike H re Centenary Badges

Robyn moved the correspondence be approved as read & the outward endorsed. Seconded by Brett R  
Carried

**Business arising from Correspondence:** to be discussed in General Business

**Treasurer's Report:** Lindsay read the report from Sharon's notes. Moved it be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by Brett R. Carried.

Lindsay then moved \$20,000 be deposited in a term deposit. Seconded by Doug C. The President asked if all were in favour. Carried.

**QHMC Report:** Minutes tabled.

**Spare Parts Report:** Trevor reported good sales in the last 4 weeks.

**2nd Hand Parts Report:** Doug has made a rough list of spare parts.

**Editors Report:** NIL

**Dating Officers Report:** NIL

**Web Master Report:** Neil has the web site up to date with the events he knows of for the year. If you know of an event happening, please let him know.

**Club Events:**

20th-21st May National Motoring Heritage Weekend

20th-21st May HTA Truck Show, Rocklea Showgrounds

11th June VCCQ Concours, Sherwood. 9am to 1pm

23rd July A7 run organised by John Q. Meet Centenary Pool 9am. M/t Redcliffe, Lunch Morgan's Seafood

13th Aug A7 Static display & lunch

5th-19th Sept A7 tour of Evans Heads organised by Rhonda. (Book Pacific Motor Inn)

**Other Events:**

27th-28th May Gold Coast Autorama



28th May Logan City Heritage & Machinery Fair, Kingston Butter Factory. 8am to 2.30pm

18th June RACQ Motorfest, Brisbane Showgrounds

14th-16th July Old Wheels in Motion, Biloela

**Past Events:**

16th April Hugh C visit to VMR

7th May Trevor M Wheels of the world car & bike show

**Library Report:** NIL

**General Business:** John's email re Static Display Weekend. The Committee will change it to a lunch on Saturday at the clubrooms & have our Static Display also. Neil to investigate having a run to the Tram Museum on Sunday. *(Now explained in our events section, bottom of page 4)*

Al Anderson has sold his A7.

Steve then reported on things discussed at the committee meeting.

Memberships to remain the same \$50 & plus \$15 for printed newsletter. Will notify unfinancial members from last year before deleting them from list.

Suggested club invest in an EFTPOS machine for membership & Parts. 1½% surcharge, free 12 months trial.

Donations to be \$250 with a limit of 3 per year.

**Raffle:** Valda sold tickets. Winner Steve D, 2nd Murray R

**Report on cars &/or car troubles;** Brett R valve fixed, Hub not for his car. Steve had wiring troubles, Trevor M fuel. *(Ran out on way to the Wheels of the World Car & Bike Show.)*

**Birthdays:** Many Happy returns to members having a birthday in May.

Sick members wished a speedy recovery.

**Supper Organiser:** Thank you to Rhonda for tonight's supper. Gail volunteered for June.

**Committee meeting:** TBA

**Next Meeting:** 9th June.

*Robyn*



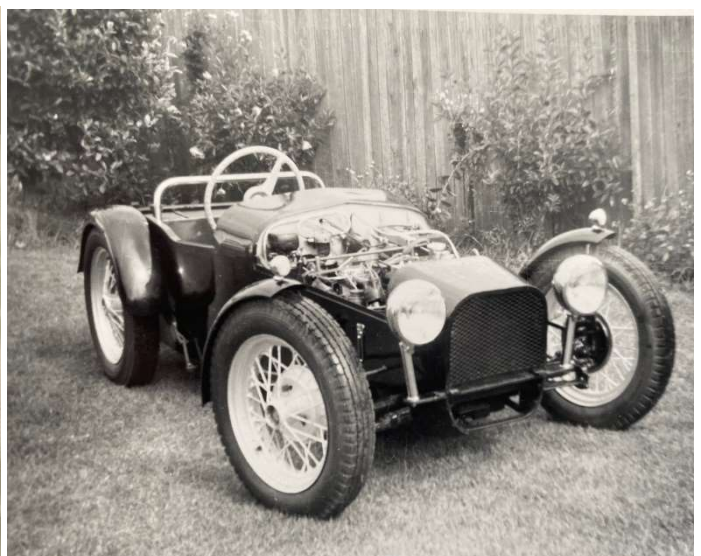
## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Member 388 Troy and Justine Domrow from Bowen now owns Al Anderson's c1937 Open Road Tourer which has been advertised in the newsletter this past year. Troy owns other cars, including two vintage Dodges and another younger Austin, a A55 Cambridge saloon which is used for club events.

Al has now resigned from the club.

Member 389 John and Julie Turnbull of Mt. Lofty (in Toowoomba) own a restored Ruby Chassis, onto which John plans to build an Ulster Sports style body.

Below is a photo of the chassis and a photo from 1964 of a previous Austin 7 based special that John built.





# **PAST RUNS AND EVENTS REPORTS**

## **A Day at The Bay – Part 2 – 16 April 2023**



Under a blue, sunny sky with a forecast temperature of 30°C, a large group of Club members gathered at the Clubhouse for the much-anticipated A Day at The Bay 2 run, organised by Hugh & Judy.

In attendance on the day in their A7s were Trevor & Elaine, Robyn & Doug, Matt, Joe & Margaret, Lindsay & Sharon, Colin & Gaye, and Russell & Vanda with their dog Tilley. Merv & Margaret were in their Austin Freeway, Peter & Jo were in their Wolseley, while Dick & Patricia were in their Chrysler together with two friends. Travelling modern were Tim, John, Steve (joining enroute), Hugh & Judy together with their granddaughter Emily, Neil & Karyn, and Ian & Valda joining us later at the lunch stop.



The start of the day was difficult for some due to car issues. Ian & Valda's 7 had clutch problems near to home and had to await the RACQ for a tow, while Steve's 7 had electrical problems and remained at home. Trevor & Elaine also had a badly behaved car, not only before leaving home but also enroute. Fortunately, the mechanically adept Trevor was able to resolve the fuel issues both times.

The route from the Clubhouse took us straight down Old Cleveland Road to Cleveland Point. Easy, you might think, but not for our members, who when presented with a fork in the road split into two groups, with half of the cars taking

the left fork and the other half the right fork. Fortunately, everyone ended up back on the route and arrived safely at the headquarters (HQ) of the Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR) Raby Bay.

At HQ, we were ushered into a room for a safety induction followed by morning tea. After we had finished our morning tea, Cliff Matfin from the VMR gave us an informative presentation about the operations of the VMR,



a volunteer organisation that provides rescue services to those on the water in distress and that is funded purely through donations and its own fundraising activities. Our members were particularly captivated by the photo of the damage to a VMR boat by a whale and photos from the Brisbane floods.

On conclusion of the presentation, President Steve thanked Cliff and the VMR for hosting us and for the excellent service they provided to the community. He then presented Cliff with an A7 Certificate of Appreciation and a monetary donation from our Club to the VMR.

We were then invited to tour the other areas of HQ, including the radio room and the rescue boats, one inside and several outside. Even while we were present at the VMR Raby Bay HQ, rescues were taking place, with a stranded jet ski being towed back to Victoria Point, and a young lady with a severe leg injury being



*President Steve formally thanks Cliff Matlin for his hospitality with a donation and Certificate of Thanks*



*Loading the now empty stretcher back on the Rescue Boat*

transported from Stradbroke Island to the mainland and onto a waiting ambulance. And no sooner had that patient been delivered when the boat had to return to Stradbroke to pick up yet another patient.

On leaving the VMR Raby Bay HQ, we travelled a short distance to loop around the Cleveland lighthouse peninsular, before heading to nearby Raby Bay Boulevard Park for our BYO lunch. Here we found Judy and her granddaughter Emily, patiently reserving the undercover picnic tables for our lunch. They had also prepared a delicious gourmet cheese platter for us

to snack on.

After the usual congenial conversation over lunch, Hugh handed out a quiz sheet, involving general knowledge questions as well as lateral-thinking questions relating to country names. After much studious contemplation of the quiz questions, Hugh gave the answers. The winners, Colin & Gaye, were presented with a box of chocolates, while Doug & Robyn and John shared a bag of chocolates for their valiant efforts in completing the quiz. Everyone was a winner, though, with Emily handing out a chocolate to all participants.

Having thoroughly enjoyed the day, members started to depart for their respective homes. A big thank you to Hugh & Judy for yet another well-organised and interesting run. Our thanks also go to the Volunteer Marine Rescue Raby Bay for hosting us.



*President Steve announces the quiz competition answers and winners.*

**Karyn**



# **Logan City Historical Museum Heritage and Machinery Fair Sunday 28th May 2023:**

Held at the Kingston Butter Factory Cultural Precinct, Doug and Robyn in their Sports and Merv and Margaret in their Tourer and the Thompson family (BMC era) Austin Wagon.



## **THE AUSTIN 7S OF GLYN BLAIR.**

**(This article kindly sent to us by Alan Blair, our member in Innisfail.)**



I am Allan Blair, the nephew of Glyn Blair. Glyn was one of the original members of the Austin 7 register. Glyn has restored 2 Austin 7s and 2 MGBs in recent years. My intention is to focus on the Austin 7s.

### **The 1929 Austin 7 Charles Hope Sports.**

This vehicle was found under a lantana bush in Southeast Queensland in the mid to late 1960s. I asked Glyn "Why an Austin7". His reply was that the vintage car people seem to have more fun than the sports car club and an A7 was the cheapest way of owning a vintage car. The vehicle was partially rebuilt in Brisbane at a place called "Brighties". Apparently

Brighties place was legendary in the sports car world during the 1960s. Somewhere in all this the Austin 7 register was formed. Glyn always talks about Peter Baker, Trevor Moore, Brightie, Crawford and Franklin.

Glyn left Brisbane and went farming at Tungamull near Yeppoon. It must have been in the mid-1970s because I was a student at Gatton College at the time of his departure. I remember taking the Charles Hope in pieces up to Tungamull on the back of Dad's Hilux Ute in about 1975. I was amazed how small it was. The vehicle had some work done on





it during the next 30 years, but progress was slow due to farming commitments. A rebuilt engine was found in Rockhampton, and this again spurred interest in the restoration.

In the early 2000s Glyn retired to Cawarral, just inland from Yeppoon. This is when the restoration really took off. With the aid of a lathe, welder, panel beating tools and various other implements the little Austin started to look almost like a car. The top of the boat tail is the only original piece of aluminium bodywork. Glyn hand beat the rest. He also painted it in acrylic lacquer. Only the upholstery was outsourced.

The car was completed in 2016 and its first official outing was at the A7 annual gathering in Toowoomba in 2017.

### **The 1927 or 28 Austin 7 E Super Sports.**

Well, we think it started as an E super sports. The body profile is about right. It does have the Ulster dropped front axle. The body is two factory aluminium pressings oxy welded down the middle. There are no timber



*Allan Blair at Leyburn Sprints in 2022*

formers in the bodywork, nor has it ever had a hood fitted. It has always been an open vehicle. It was probably modified over the years. The vehicle came from a shed in Emu Park. It was apparently raced quite successfully in New Zealand prior to importation to Australia. We don't know much more than that. Any comments or ideas would be greatly appreciated.

The body restoration included new guards and various panel repairs. brake rebuild and

stripping back and repainting. The modifications over the years appear to be SU carb and extractors, high compression head, drop front axle, hydraulic brakes. It also seems to have a very tall final drive and a lumpy camshaft.

The car was completed in 2022 and its first outing was the 2022 Leyburn Sprints. I must have driven it a bit hard. Spun the rear axle on the tapered keyway in the last sprint but now fixed. Those rear axle nuts need to be really tight.



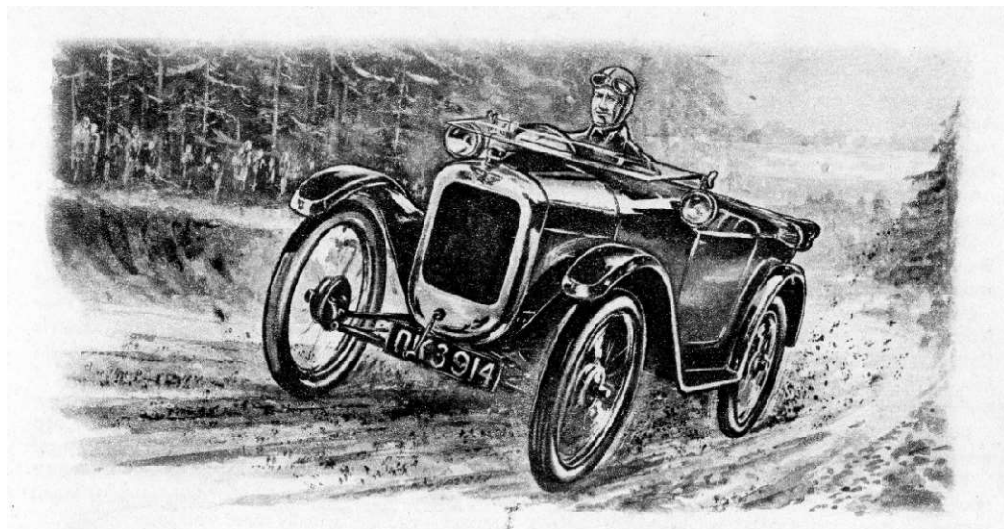
Glyn Blair during the restoration. Can get in but can't get out!



# The *VERSATILE* A7

## from runabout to racing car

WRITTEN BY PETER ROBERTS • ILLUSTRATED BY GORDON DAVIES



On an August day in 1922, a tiny, car fought its way to the top of Shelsley Walsh, Britain's most famous hill-climb course, in the leisurely time of a minute and a half.

The Austin Seven, destined to be one of the immortals among cars, was making its first major public appearance.

Few who saw it among the first of Shelsley, that day, could have guessed that it was to

become one of Britain's greatest little racing cars of pre-war days. Still less could they have guessed that Austin Sevens — modified, but still Austin Sevens — would be popular racing cars as far ahead as 1960. Yet, today, there are so many converted pre-war Austin Sevens being raced that there is a special formula for them — the 750 Formula.

The formula has its own championship on the same lines as the World Driving Championship. Two years ago, in 1959, it was won by bow-tied Jem Marsh, of Luton, in an Austin Seven that can reach nearly 90 m.p.h.

Before we see the way these vintage cars are hotted up for racing today, let us look at the original model.

It was a classically simple design, really a scaled down version of a big car. A side-valve engine of 747 c.c. produced 10½ brake-horsepower at 2,500 revolutions per minute and was capable of about 50 m.p.h. (Compare this with the new Austin Seven and Morris Mini-Minor, which have overhead-valve engines of 848 c.c. producing 57 bhp at 5,500 revs per minute, and which are capable of over 70 m.p.h.).

It weighed only 8½ cwt. (as against 11½ today) and sold in 1929 for £125 UKP. (1 UKP equal to \$2 in 1966)

The fact that it had brakes on all four wheels tiny ones admittedly — was something new in ultra-light car design. And, though it looked frail, all its parts were tremendously strong.

It was a man named Gordon England who saw that the engine could be modified to produce much greater power, and he persuaded Lord Austin, then Sir Herbert Austin, that the Seven would make an exciting little racing car. The result — the Brookland's Austin, named after the famous pre-war racing circuit. The Brooklands Austin was guaranteed to do over 75 m.p.h. and would go up to 5,000 revs without blowing up.

Gordon England won many events in his hotted-up Seven, and covered the flying kilometre at the record speed of 85 m.p.h.

More sports and racing versions of the Seven followed: the Sports Seven the Gordon England Cup model . . . the Nippy the Speedy . . . the Ulster. They each won race after race in their respective classes.

But why are these out-dated cars being rebuilt to make 1961 racers?

Well, immediately after the war, cars, fuel and tyres were all very expensive. Many enthusiasts, who wanted to race, simply could not afford the fantastic cost of buying and maintaining a car with any chance of success in the big-time formula races. But these Sevens could be bought for a song, and their side-valve engines were so simple that any driver could maintain one. So, the 750 Formula was the answer to the problem.

The rules stipulated that all cars, to qualify, must be powered only by a genuine side-valve Austin Seven engine; that they must keep at least the side members of the chassis, and an Austin Seven back axle; and that they must

be two-seaters and equipped for normal road use. But, apart from these regulations, there was still ample opportunity for hotting-up!

So fantastically good were those early Austins that champion Jem Marsh still uses a 1934 Nippy engine in a 1933 chassis! His modifications include a special four-branch manifold, twin carburettors, a special, finned, alloy cylinder head, enlarged valves, lightweight tappets, close-ratio gears, Morris Minor brakes and light-alloy wheels to replace the original wire-spoked ones. The body is made of aluminium panelling, over a frame of light-weight tubing, and the car weighs less than seven cwt., including fuel.

It does not have the sleek and beautiful lines of a Jaguar or an Aston Martin sports car. But it travels — fast!

For the Austin Seven enthusiast who wants beautiful lines, and has money, it is now possible to buy a super-



streamlined glass-fibre shell which will make an Austin Seven look like a 1960 sports car. This shell costs £70. It is also possible to buy a prefabricated aluminium body for under £50, and a ready-made kit for hotting up an Austin Seven for £105. But most enthusiasts prefer to design and make their own car bodies, and to buy, swop and barter the necessary parts.

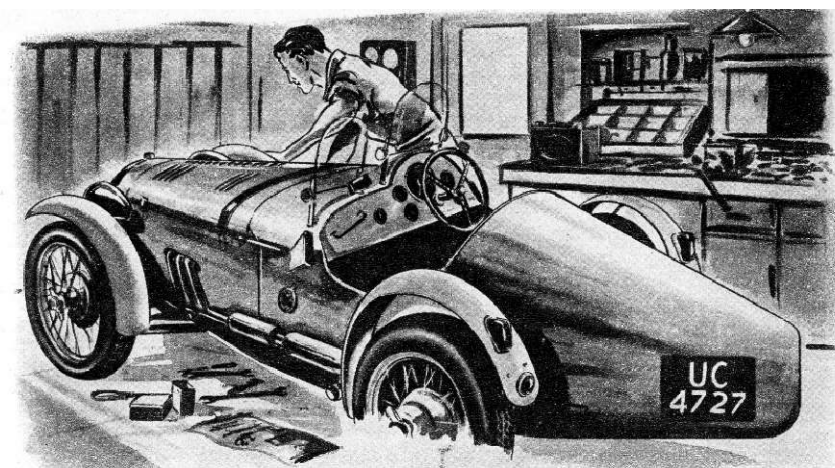
The majority of these owners reckon to spend between £100 and £300 in buying and converting their car. Racing it costs them about £40 a season, which is a good deal less than an Aston Martin costs, as David Brown would tell you!

Austin-Seven-based specials have been built in garages, garden sheds — even in dining rooms and bedrooms. A big advantage is that the engine

is small enough to be lifted out without the need of a block and tackle. Now let's follow the construction of a real special — one that actually raced with success.

Pat had only an ordinary garage, equipped with the usual tools of the average handyman -- saws, hammers, spanners, screwdrivers and soldering irons. He had no specialist knowledge - he was not an engineer.

He bought a welding outfit for just under £20, and after adding a portable power drill, and one or two other



tools, he was ready. For £85 he bought a 1928 Austin Chummy, one of the best-known versions of the Seven, with an unblown Ulster engine.

First, he stripped the car right down to the chassis, which he scraped and painted. He bought special shock absorbers to replace the existing ones; these were not suitable for racing. He bought special wheels of 15-inch diameter with a type of hub that helped to cool the brake drums. The back

wheels were offset an inch to provide extra track, and to improve roadholding. He also fitted new brake-linings, new brake-cables, and a softer-than-usual set of rear springs.

Then he lengthened the chassis at the rear with an angle iron. This was to stiffen the frame generally, and to anchor the new shock absorbers. He devised a scheme to mount the radiator four inches lower, to improve the driving vision. Then he began on the new body. First came the main bulkhead hoop, bolted to the chassis, just forward of the driver. This provided the dashboard mounting. Next came another hoop behind the driver. All

the metal was painted as he went along. He added the dashboard, made of aluminium, with holes cut for his instruments.

Finally came the day when he tore round Silverstone, through Copse and Woodcote and Stowe, to win his first race at an average speed of over 52 m.p.h.

Even a Grand Prix ace, winning at an average lap speed of over 100 m.p.h. in a works car, cannot feel the thrill that comes to a 750 Club driver when he wins in a car that he has created with his own hands from a 25-year-old 'has-been.'

**(This article came from the popular British children's Eagle Annual for 1961, former property of the Vintage Car Club of Qld., and inside, was the name of one of our earliest members, George Elfick! The Editor read these books as a kid, and 60 years later they are still bringing pleasure!)**

## TIPS FOR ADVENTUROUS RESTORERS

### Removing rust with your battery charger (electrolysis method)

By Paul Nelson (reprinted from *Ferguson Furrows*)

Sandblasting and paint remover have been two of the most commonly used methods for removing rust and paint from tractor parts. However, both of these methods have their drawbacks. Sand can get into critical areas and sandblasting may damage fragile sheet metal. The use of phosphoric acid to treat sandblasted surfaces can also damage some surfaces. Paint removers are labor intensive, messy, and toxic.

On the Internet I recently ran across a description of a method to remove rust (and paint). I was intrigued by the prospect of trying it. I did so and am very pleased with the results. I am presently restoring a 1957 Ferguson F-40 and have de-rusted most of the removable parts, including several pieces of sheet metal. This article is a combination of what I've read and what I have personally experienced.

How does your battery charger come into the picture? Well, it supplies 12v power for the electrolysis process. Electrolysis has been used for many years by professional restorers. Anything that is made of steel, cast iron, or wrought iron can be de-rusted by the electrolysis method.

What is electrolysis? Strictly speaking, it is a method of using electricity to break down water into hydrogen and oxygen. To use this process for rust removal requires the water to contain an electrolyte, such as washing soda or lye. An electrical current running through a solution of water and electrolyte will convert red rust into black rust (black oxide). Black oxide is a stable compound that doesn't want to react with oxygen any longer as does red rust.

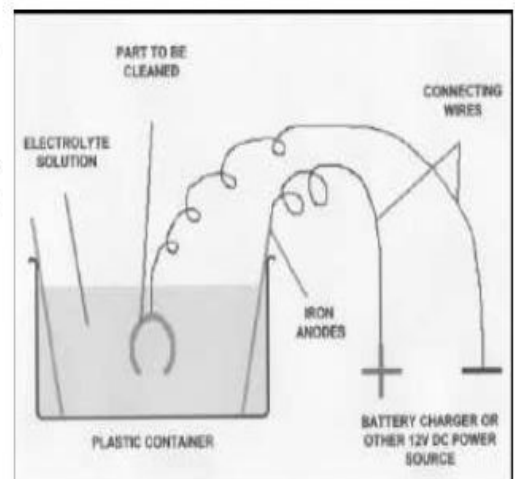
When black oxide dries it can be painted, but it is preferable to brush and wash the surface with water before drying and priming. When the black oxide is removed, the bare metal is revealed.

#### Safety precautions

The solutions used in this process are relatively weak but lye, for example, is still caustic. Proper steps should be used to protect skin and eyes. Store all chemicals in proper containers. Disposal of the solution will be discussed later.

#### Washing Soda

Washing soda is simply *sodium carbonate*. Do not confuse washing soda with baking soda! Baking soda is *sodium bicarbonate*. Arm & Hammer® washing soda can be found in almost any grocery store. *Do not use baking soda.*





# **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](mailto: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, DO NOT assume I know!



**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 themselves 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.

[martaroony@hotmail.com](mailto:martaroony@hotmail.com) (2<sup>nd</sup> 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 are one set with 40-year-old tires and another full set of wheels that have been painted.

**Spares:** 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 (5<sup>th</sup> 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. (5<sup>th</sup> advert)



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*"What do you mean, you've never heard of one that goes 'AH-OO-GHA'?"*  
(Cartoon courtesy of the Russell Brookbank family")