



NEWSLETTER August 2016

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



THE EDITOR'S BIT

The Big men of the League may have hung up their footy boots for another year, but the great struggle that exists for supremacy between the Premier and the Sunshine State known as the State of Origin still rages on within other fields of endeavour and excellence. And it is my melancholy duty to tell you that the Cockroaches from south of the Tweed are **LEADING!!!!!!** Yes, those Sydney-Centric acolytes of the sky blue jersey have more entries than our own State which is the host of next Year's National Austin seven Car Clubs Get Together in the Garden City. So just where are all YOU Queenslanders???? The election is over, spring is just around the corner. A third of the entries are from sterling NSW Austin Seven enthusiasts, but we Cane Toads only muster 1 in 4 of the entries so far!!!! C'mon, Queensland, there are no only 8 months left!!!!!! Get those entries in, QLD. Where are you? Are you coming? Have you booked your accommodation?

Yes there may be plenty of accommodation in Toowoomba but the motels that have vacancies near the time will be the most expensive.

And the Early Bird concessional on the Rally Entry runs out on the 1st of October, which is now only a few weeks away!

The price increases as from 1st October, so get your entry in before the end of September, please!!! And final entries should be in before November the 30th please, except for very exceptional circumstances!

The first national Austin Seven Rally we attended as a club was in Canberra in 1992.



Editor Tim

YOUR CLUB COMMITTEE

President: John Que (07) 3396 0882

Vice Pres.: Lindsay Jordan 0408 876 559

Spares/Tech: Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575

Rally Co-ordinator: Neil Thyer (07) 32179880

Dating Officer: Tim Braby (07)33592086

Secretary: Robyn Clark (07) 3800 1965

Treasurer: Amanda Wilson (07) 3389 3821

Webmaster: Mike McGuill (07) 33512598

Librarian: Alan Couser (07) 33499628

The A7RQ Inc. On Line

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

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

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

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

& Facebook Austin7 Register of Qld Inc.



AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. CLUB EVENTS

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

Saturday 13th August: A7 Club Weekend Rally organized by Justin McKeering (ph 0439 712 731) commencing from Club Room, Carindale at 9.00am and to finish at Club Room, Carindale for BYO BBQ Lunch. Rally to Bay area and return. BYO Morning Tea & BBQ Lunch.

Sunday 14th August: A7 Club Weekend Static Display NOT AT KANGAROO POINT, now to be held at Capalaba Regional Park, Pittwin Street, Capalaba, UBD 183 P14, (behind Bunning's) organized by Robyn Clark (ph. 3800 1965). Members are to make their own way to the venue. Display to commence at 9.00am and conclude around 1.30pm. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. **PLEASE NOTE the Static Display IS NOT at C.T.White Park this year.**

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

Sunday 18th September: A7 Register Rally. All British Day at Vivian Street, Tennyson from 8.30am to 2.00pm. Display Cars - \$15 with metal Souvenir Badge. No pre-booking required. Contact Trevor Moore (ph 3848 5575) for details. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. Food also available at venue. A7 members to make own arrangements re. travel, registration (on arrival) etc. Those wishing to travel as group to meet at Yeronga RSL Car park (Cnr Fairfield Road & Kadumba Street) for departure to venue at 8.00am.

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

Sunday 16th October: A7 Register Rally. Rally organized by Alan Couser (ph 0403 504 709). Rally to depart from Centenary Pool Car park at 9.00am. Details TBA. BYO Morning Tea and Lunch.

Friday 11th November: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 13th November: A7 Register Rally. Rally organized by Trevor and Elaine Moore (ph 3848 5575). Details TBA. Rally to depart from Centenary Pool Car park at 9.00am. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

Friday 9th December; A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 11th December: A7 Register Rally. A7 Club Christmas Lunch. Venue TBA. Lunch organized by Robyn Clark (ph 3800 1965). A7 members to make own arrangements re travel.

2017 National A7 Rally Toowoomba, Queensland

Saturday 8 April to Thursday 13 April 2017 Hosted by Austin 7 Register of Qld Inc. information available on our club's website!!!!

INVITATION RALLIES AND SWAP MEETS

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th August: Northern Rivers Vintage & Veteran Car Club Annual Weekend Rally at Italo Sport & Recreation Club, Lismore. Contact Norm Clapham (ph. 02 66215767 or 0429 115 767) for details. A7 members to make own arrangements re. registration, accommodation, travel etc.

Saturday 20th August 2016: External event. Canungra Show Static Display of Vintage Vehicles and Machinery. Venue is to be Moriarty Park, adjoining the Show Grounds. Display will be from 9.00am to 5.00pm. For information phone Secretary, Ken Moriarty (ph. 0403 278 556). Members are to make own arrangements re travel etc.

Sunday 28th August: Jimboomba Auto Extravaganza at Maclean's Bridge from 6.00am. Swap Meet & Vehicle Show organized by the Queensland Early Ford V-8 Club. Contact 3341 9618 for more details. Members to make own arrangements re. travel etc.

Saturday 10th September; The Gympie Swap Meet at the showgrounds, Southside (follow the signs)
<http://www.gympiehistoricaclub.com.au>

NOTE THE BEAUDESERT SWAP WILL NOT BE HELD THIS YEAR - but will return in 2017,
Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th September: Mighty Mack Trucks Muster organized by The Historic Commercial Vehicle Association to be held at Gatton Showgrounds. For details contact Mark & Donna 07 5546 7050. Members to make own arrangements re. travel, accommodation, registration etc.

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd October: LAMAI Weekend Rally organized by the Lockyer Antique Motor Association Inc. commencing from Gatton. Contact LAMAI Secretary, Jim Scott (ph 4615 5802) or Trevor Moore (ph 3848 5575) for details. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel, accommodation, registration etc.

MINUTES OF PAST A7RQ MEETINGS



Austin Seven Register of Old Inc

Meeting No 549 10th June 2016

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

John Que the President declared the meeting opened at 7.50 pm, with a welcome to all. Also a welcome to our new member David Mitchell who now owns Jack Whittaker's car, and visitor David Bee.

Attendance :- The attendance book was signed by 25 members.

Apologies :- M & K McGuill, J McCarthy, R & V Curtis, E Moore, G & J Gleadhill, B Wilson, H Whitehouse & L Jordan.

Previous Minutes :- The Secretary read the minutes of the May meeting and moved that they be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Ross Guthrie. Carried

Business arising from Minutes :- John has priced computers with all the extras. Rhonda Guthrie moved that the club purchase them, second by Amanda Wilson. Carried.

C T White Park :- Because the BCC now requires the registration and CTP Insurance of all cars entering the park we will be unable to meet their demands. Trevor Moore moved and Justin McKeering seconded that we move. Carried.

Correspondence OUT

Parts book etc sent to Alan Roberts

Email to Bill Martin & Penrite Oil as a thank you.

IN Newsletters from other clubs as tabled.

Entry forms for the 2017 National Rally

Email from Old Petrie Town 3-4th June 2017

Email from Bay to Birdwood 25th Sept 2016, Vintage, Veteran & Classic Cars built before 31st December 1959

Veteran Car Club re hall rental 1/7 to 30/9

Membership application request from Frank Carroll

Membership application from David & Rena Mitchell

Advertising Material

Secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted and the outward endorsed. Seconded by Rhonda Guthrie Carried

Business arising from Correspondence :- David & Rena Mitchell be accepted at members. Carried.

Treasurers Report :- Amanda Wilson reported on the club finances and asked for her report to be accepted and moved that all invoices be paid. Seconded by Alan Couser. Carried.

QHMC Report :- Motoring Heritage Day at Ipswich was attended by over 200 cars.

Everyone to check the 3rd Party Insurance to ensure who is covered in an event of an accident.

RACQ is now insuring old cars.

Spare Parts Report :- Trevor Moore has sent an order to Melbourne but half of the items are already sold.

Second Hand Parts Report :- Nil

Club Events :- Neil Thyer reminded members of the following

12th June Winter Run organised by Ian & Valda McDowell. Depart 9am from the Clubrooms for Beenleigh Historic Village.

10th July RACQ Motorfest, Eagle Farm Racecourse. Meeting place & time TBA

13th August Justin McKeering Run. Meet 9am at Clubrooms. Byo M/T and lunch. Returning to clubrooms for BBQ lunch.

14th August A7 Static Display location to be discussed in General Business

Other Events :-

26th June Invitation from the Vintage Car Club, Ormiston House

18th Sept All British Day, St Josephs College Sports Grounds, Tennyson

Past Events :-

15th May Mothers Day Run by Grant & Jackie. Excellent (in newsletter)

21-22nd May HTA Truck Show, 5 members attended

Other events listed no reports.

Web Master Report :- Up to date.

Library Report :- Nil

Editors Report :- Newsletter ready to be posted.

2017 A7 National Report :- 24 entries received (51 People)

Sponsors needed. Merv Thompson displayed his Car direction sign.

General Business :- Members asked for suggestions where to hold our Static Display.

Conclusion being Capalaba Regional Park, Pittwin St., (behind Bunning's) was agreed on. Notice to be added to newsletter.

Amanda thanked members who have helped her & Brett pack & remove rubbish from their home before their move.

Also members who will be taking cars & garage tools etc. on trailers to Port Macquarie for them. She then asked for a volunteer to take on her job as Treasurer (No Volunteers) She was then presented with a gift from the members.

Report on Cars &/or Car Troubles :- Ian & Valda's modern car was recently flooded in the heavy rain down the Gold Coast. (Insurance wrote it off) They were presented with a car dehumidifier cloth.

Raffle :- Tonight was a Lucky Door Prize of Heavy Duty Hand Cleaner.

Birthdays :- Members having a Birthday in June were wished Many Happy Returns.

Sick members were wished a speedy return to good health. With special thoughts to Elaine Moore & Alan Wood.

Supper Organiser :- Thank you to Gail Cahalane for tonight's supper.

July supper will be organised by Neil & Karyn

Committee Meeting :- TBA

Next Meeting :- 8th July 2016

The meeting was declared closed at 9.10 pm.

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc

Meeting No 550 8th July 2016

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

The President John Que declared the meeting opened at 7.52 pm with a welcome to all. A welcome to Peter Baker and Joe Wilson were noted.

Attendance :- The attendance book was signed by 22 members

Apologies :- Apologies were received from R & R Guthrie, L Jordan, E Moore, H Whitehouse, T Bale & J Gleadhill.

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

Business arising from Minutes:- John spoke about the computers and trying to master the treasurers program.

Correspondence OUT

Vintage Car Club re rent

Membership form to Frank Carroll

Correspondence IN Newsletters from other clubs as tabled

Email from Beenleigh Historic Village re donation \$26-00

Email from Canungra Show Society re Car Display 20th August, Moriarty Park 9am-5pm

All British Day 18th Sept, St Josephs Sports Grounds, Tennyson. \$15-00 8-30am -2pm

Note from Gil Leach re start 6 weeks Radiation at RBH

Membership Application from Joe & Bev Wilson.

Membership renewals and Raffle tickets.

Advertising Material.

The secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted as read and the outward endorsed. Seconded by Mike McGill. Carried

Business arising from Correspondence : Joe & Bev Wilson welcomed as members.

Card to be sent to Gill Leach.

Treasurers Report :- John Que gave the treasurers report and moved that it be accepted. Seconded by Tim Braby.

Carried

QHMC Report :- Nil

Spare Parts Report := Trevor Moore reported he had been busy with spare parts and sold around \$800 worth of parts. The stock take for the financial year had been done with the club holding around \$20,000 worth of parts. Another had been sent to Melbourne. Also asked for permission to purchase a roll of High Tensile Wire from EBay. Seconded by Justin McKeering. Carried

Second Hand Parts Report - Nil

Event's Organiser:- Neil Thyer reminded members of the following runs.

10th July RACQ Motorfest, Eagle Farm Racecourse. Meet Hamilton Hotel Car Park 8am

13th August Justin McKeering, Meet clubrooms 9am, tour to the Bay area for M/T, and back to clubrooms for BBQ Lunch

14th August A7 Static Display, Capalaba Regional Park, behind Bunning's. 9am

11th Sept NO CLUB RUN

16th Oct Alan Couser to organise

Other Events

20th Aug Canungra Show

18th Sept All British Day, St Joseph College Sports Grounds, Tennyson. Members attending can meet 8am at Yeronga RSL Car park.

Past Events

12th June Winter Run organised by Ian & Valda to Beenleigh Historic Village. Report written by Alan Couser will be in newsletter.

26th June Vintage Car Club Static Display, Ormiston House. 2 Austin's present.

Web Master Report :- Mike McGuill reported all sites (Shannon's, Face book & our own web site) are up to date. Also thanked Alan for his report on our Winter Run on the 12th June.

Library Report :- Nil

Editors Report :- Nil

2017 A7 National Rally Report :- John stated he and Merv Thompson have been to Toowoomba to try and secure Grant from the Council. Still receiving enquires about the rally.

General Business :- Mike McGuill spoke about and Congratulated the members who helped Brett & Amanda at home and help transport cars etc to Port Macquarie..

We can no longer call our Events a "RALLY" as we do not race our cars. They must be called a Run, Tour or Outing because of Insurance.

Members were reminded that **Membership renewal was now due.** Also Raffle tickets to be returned if you want to win. AGM next month. All positions will be up for offer so think about taking a position on the committee.

Report on Cars &/or car Troubles:- Nil

Raffle :- Valda had tickets for sale in tonight's raffle of a box of chocolates.

Birthdays :- Members having a birthday in July were wished many Happy Returns.

Sick members were wished a speedy return to good health with special thoughts for Gil.

Supper Organiser:- Thank you to Karyn & Neil for tonight's supper.

August supper organiser Peter & Sue Waller

Committee Meeting :- TBA

Next Meeting 12th August 2016 followed by the AGM

As there was no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.46pm by the president wishing everyone a safe journey home.

Robyn



THE LAST WORD FROM ROBYN

If you have not paid your Membership dues please do so as soon as possible, also if you have any of the National Rally raffle tickets still could you please return or pay for same.

Also an important matter is if you change your email address could you please advise us so we can amend our records. **Thank You.**

NEWS OF MEMBERS AND CARS

Not much to report this time as I have had two family visitations over the last few weeks, so I have not had my ear to the ground as much as usual. I am happy to report that Stacy and Jamie Curtiss have purchased John Perham's Ruby. I travelled with Stacey's dad, Ted Bale, to bring the car back. And while there is the little matter of upholstery and painting to be done on the car, it is remarkably complete and has a very nice and sweetly running little motor, thanks to John and his brother in law. his car will join Stacy's 1936 Sports at Burpengary. On the right is a photo of Ethan and Jayden with Mum's new car!

Peter Baker has been burning the



midnight oil in order to have his Ulster replica ready for next as well. Mechanically the car is finished, and it only needs some paint to pretty well finish it off . Well know and long time Vintagent Joe Wilson has returned to the fold with a project car for which he would like a body!

On sick parade is Alan Couser who spent time in hospital to sort out a gall stone, but is not home yet as I write this.

Justin McCarthy was on his way back from a race meeting down

south with Alfred when he had a sudden forced stopover in Southport Hospital for a check up of the old ticker! Justin says there is still a lot of racing in the old dog (the car or Justin?)

GET WELL SOON GUYS!!

The Editor's right hand has been in for a bit of a bashing lately. first it was a nasty little skin cancer to be cut out with a nice long cut, and now there is trouble with swelling in the joint due to osteoarthritis, too many years on the drawing board and keyboard perhaps. At present it in a splint and movement seems to be coming back again.

Finally, I called in to see Peter and Nell Dorman at Maroochydore early this month and Peter showed me his latest "toy", the "Austoy", an Austin seven special fitted with a Toyota Corolla motor!!!

Tim



Congratulations and welcome to our New Members

Joe and Bev Wilson of Kenmore - a pile of parts found at the late Ken Mather's property!
Stuart Bowen of Ashmore on the Gold Coast - 1929 Sports in parts for restoration.

PAST RALLY REPORTS

A7 CLUB WINTER RUN Sunday 12th June 2016



On Sunday the 12th June with perfect weather conditions, four Austin sevens, and two moderns left our Carindale Club Rooms for what was to be another enjoyable day out in our Baby Austin's. Those participating were Ian and Valda, Peter and Sue, Alan, and Justin McK, in their Austin's, Mike and Kathy, and John travelling modern. Lindsay and Sharon, Doug and Robyn, went direct to our destination in their Austins while Ron and Daphne drove their HR Holden and Neil and Karyn travelling modern.

After perusing our rally instructions that Valda had presented in large print for those that have trouble reading instructions whilst driving without a navigator (which can also be a blessing depending who the navigator is!!!) it was time to "Start Our Engines".

After leaving our starting point, we headed off towards Melbourne (South that is!!). We somehow found Mt Petrie Road once again, which really gives our Austin's a good test on the hills. After crossing Mt Cotton Road we proceeded along Gardner Rd where much development is taking place with new housing estates and Commercial sub-division well under construction. At the end of Gardner Rd we turned left and then right into Rochedale Rd, which took us across Underwood Rd right thru to the service road in Springwood. After some distance and around some bends here and there, we crossed the Pacific Motorway into Loganlea and past Logan Hospital. Turning left into Albert St we followed this into Beenleigh, and upon reaching Main St in Beenleigh we arrived at our destination, Beenleigh Historical Village.

Well done Ian and Valda in keeping us off the busy Motorway and getting us to our destination.

On arrival at the village, we were allocated parking within the grounds where we parked our Austin's together and where the public could check our cars out, while we all headed for the Coffee Shop and all sat around on the veranda and had Devonshire Tea and hot scones with Jam and whipped cream. It was so different sitting on proper chairs and having a table to rest our coffee on instead of being on grass.

After morning tea we visited the many exhibits in the village and all of the displays were very well presented. It was very easy spending a couple of hours looking over the many exhibits. If you haven't been to the village, it is well worth a visit.

After looking over the displays we all then adjourned to the veranda where quite a few purchased lunch of hamburgers, calamari, (all with chips) or whatever took your fancy. Over lunch we gave the usual cheek and solved the world's problems it was time to hit the road again and head home. It is worth noting that all cars completed the run with no car problems.

Thank-you Valda and Ian for a very interesting and successful run.

Alan Couser

RACQ MOTORFEST Sunday 11th July 2016

The Sunday of the 2016 RACQ Motorfest was a glorious Brisbane winter's day - a crisp cool morning with a blue cloudless sky, warming up to a beautiful sunny 23 degrees. Club members displaying their A7s met at the Hamilton Hotel car park - Doug and Robyn, Ian and Valda, Peter and Sue, Alan, Tim, Justin McK. with his Uncle John, Trevor, and Neil and Karyn. They were joined at the event later by other A7 members - Janette, John, Peter C., the Potts family, and Duncan with his daughter, Crystal.



Trevor's new Queensland State of Origin maroon-coloured truck kept everyone entertained, with a very cute tethered Babe and Baby Babe sitting in the back. Add to this Trevor's Klaxon horn, which he squeezed on a frequent basis to ensure that the Hotel's neighbours were all awake early! Unfortunately, Trevor didn't realise that Babe and Baby Babe needed to be toileted during the day, and hence 'pig droppings' appeared in his truck tray during the day. Where did those droppings end up by day's end?

After leaving the Hotel car park, we lined up at the Motorfest entrance in the British queue for about 10 mins, waiting for our turn to be admitted. Entry was single file through a very narrow opening - thank goodness our Austin 7s are so small! Justin's car had a slight hiccup on entering, stopping for a brief moment. Trevor's car had to enter under manpower, being pushed in by some of the RACQ staff. After much fiddling about with it by the men, he received a spare coil from Peter and Sue and it was fixed.



The Austin 7s were positioned in the British section in front of the Grandstand, and there was plenty of visitor interest in and much photo-taking of our little cars. Eagle Farm racecourse has been newly renovated but the markets remained, giving us all something to look at. Coffee and food stalls were plentiful, and there was also a range of roving entertainment throughout the day. A highlight of the day was a fly past by the RACQ Care Flight Helicopter, for which the Motorfest raises much needed funds.

During the day the judges came around to judge the vehicles. Alan received a finalist ticket once again. Neil might have received one, except that he left Karyn to talk to the judges and she managed in the space of thirty seconds to misinform them totally about their car. We all attended the 2.30pm Prize Presentation to eagerly see if Alan won a prize. He was in the final three in the Post-Vintage (1931-1939) category, but unfortunately was not the winner. Ian and Valda received a Special Mention from the judges for the quality of the

restoration of their Austin 7 van. Well done, Alan, Ian and Valda!



On conclusion of the Prize Presentation, cars began to depart. We all waited patiently for the crowds to disperse before joining the Cavalcade (humorously referred to as 'Brexit' as the British cars left), heading in different directions to our respective homes after another excellent Motorfest. Congratulations to the organisers of this always enjoyable annual event!

Karyn and Neil

BMW – The Austin Connection

This year the German Car maker BMW celebrates their centenary. But very little is made of the fact that the very first BMW was not even a vehicle, but engines for aircraft, and when BMW did start building cars they were Austin Sevens built under licence to the Austin Motor Company.

In the mid 1920s Austin Sevens were imported directly into Berlin first by Koch und Weichsel. They managed to sell quite a few cars but Sir Herbert Austin could see it would be considerably more profitable for him to sell the manufacturing rights rather than depend on one importer, In 1927 he met Jakob Schapiro who had amassed a considerable investment and management empire including NSU and Daimler Benz. He also had a major interest in Gothaer Wagonfabrik, a large manufacturer of railway rolling stock which also owned a car manufacturer Dixi Automobil Werke AG of Eisenach. The company stated in 1898 making a license copy of the French Decauville car called the Wartburg, named after the mediaeval Castle that overlooks the town of Eisenach. The name changed to Dixi in 1904 when the founder of the firm left.. Dixi literally means "I have spoken" or "The last Word" (in cars).

Moving forward again to 1927 Jakob Schapiro saw Austin's proposal an easy and profitable way to move into the small car market which was wide open in the inflation plagued Germany of the 1920s. The deal was concluded rapidly with Gothaer Wagonfabrik with the proviso that the cars were built with German materials and a minimum of 2000 cars per year, Schapiro hoped for at least 10,000.

At end of 1927 Austin sent several cars and components to build more to set the assembly process up. These



cars were badged as Dixis but were pure Austin 7s.. By December that year Dixi had tooled up to make their own version, The Dixi DA-1 3/15PS, which meant German Version 1, 3 rated and 15 developed horsepower. The components were almost identical to the Austin &, but the steering, gearbox and engine casings were cast in reverse and all threads were metric, rather than imperial. The electrical components were made by Robert Bosch. By the end of 1928 there had been 6000 DA-1s sold.

The photo left is a restored version of the 1927-28 Dixi DA-1 which is almost a dead copy of the Austin Seven Chummy.

Meanwhile the Bayerische Motoren Werke (BMW), based in Munich, had been toying with the idea of going in to car production. This firm has its origins in 1913, founded Karl Rapp to build and supply engines for marine and industrial use as the Rapp Motoren Werken (RMW). This company got a big break at the beginning of World War One when Austro Daimler subcontracted to Rapp to help with production to meet demand for the big V12 engines used in the giant Zeppelin air ships that were to fly over the North Sea to raid Great Britain. RMW became the Bayerische Motoren Werke in 1916 as it expanded. But at the end of the war it was vastly over capitalised with large debts, a huge factory and 3000 workers suddenly standing idle. For a brief period BMW was making air brakes for the railways and aero engines, whilst severely restricted by the controls put upon Germany by the Versailles Treaty. They also made engines for lorries and a small flat twin motor for a cycle car, which proved to be better used in a motor cycle. This first design proved to be not a very good design at first, but in 1923 BMW produced the first of a long line of well designed and made motorcycles with the distinctive BMW flat twin engine and shaft drive. BMW then recommenced making successful aero engines, a stylised spinning propeller being the inspiration for the familiar BMW circular badge we see so often everyday on our roads.

Now BMW was ready to acquire a car business that they could absorb and make their own. The popular little Dixi DA-1 was selling very well but Jakob Schapiro owed a lot of money to the banks and a takeover was very welcome at the time so mid 1928 BMW gave him a sum of cash plus 800,000 shares in BMW. The little Dixi was now sold as the BMW Dixi DA-1 until the restyled (but not re-engineered) BMW DA-2 was introduced in 1929. The running gear was still pure Austin 7 except for a change in rear axle ratio and coupled



foot and hand brakes, one year ahead of Austin. Successive models edged away from the Austin 7 formula to avoid having to pay royalties to Longbridge until the all new BMW 6 cylinder sports models were introduced in the mid 1930s. So next time someone tells you how good their latest BMW is, just remind them of the humble beginning of this company owes a lot to a little mechanical wonder from the British Midlands!

photo left is a 1929-30 BMW DA-2, the first car to wear the BMW badge, body now completely different to the Austin.

Tim (based on text from the book "Original Austin Seven" by Rinsey Miles, Bayview Books, 1996)

A Letter to the Editor

Dear editor Tim.

In reference to the photograph on the front page of the April newsletter perhaps I can shed some light on the 'unknown sports' as featured.

The vehicle was purchased new at a price of three hundred and ten pounds twelve shillings by Mr, Bowie from Stanthorpe in 1930. It is a Proport [Sydney] bodied 'deluxe sports' model which was marketed with or without a front



cowl. The car was on sold and the second owners name is unknown but the third owner was Shirley Frome who was a friend of the mum of the still current owner.

Proport body builders were not unlike James Flood in Melbourne in that they simply bodied standard rolling chassis kits as available from Longbridge and whilst this car was originally standard it now has many genuine Ulster components fitted to improve its handling and performance.

When purchased by the current owner in 1962 it was painted in red and black livery and had 24000

miles on the clock, I suspect that it has travelled five times that by now as it is seen everywhere by its aging owner. He refurbished the car in 1975.

Wayne Styles

Photos from the Archives



Construction of the Hastings Deering Building, Crown Street, Sydney, 1930s, early Austin Seven Chummy with black radiator, pre 1928 magneto model?



Austin Seven Ruby to the fore in wartime Cairo - photo taken by my Dad Alan Braby on leave in 1942. Note the horse drawn "Taxi" to the right. In those days Cairo was under British Control and very European with a mixed population. Dad was a quartermaster with the 2/6 Australian Army General hospital in Greece, Crete, Palestine, Egypt, Syria, Townsville and the Islands. He was a keen photographer.

EDITOR/PUBLISHER

Tim Braby, 43 Arcola Street Aspley Brisbane Q4034
tim.braby@optusnet.com.au

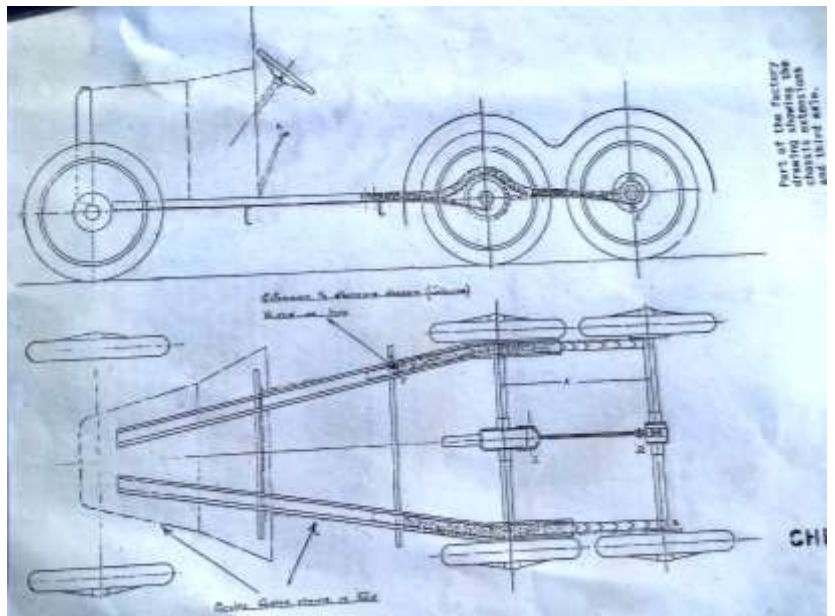
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Continuing on from the article in the last newsletter about Trevor's Tri-Axle Truck, Trevor showed me these pictures.

First is a previously not commonly seen photo of one of the original Gardener Austin Seven Conversions



Here is a General Chassis Arrangement of the 6 wheel Chivers van which shows the extension of the original Austin Frame.



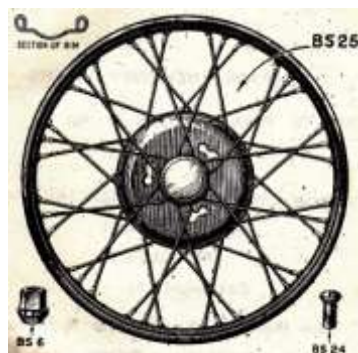
Austin Seven Classifieds

For Sale:

Austin Seven source book.

mint condition. 544 pages of information about the Austin Seven, its evolution and its derivatives. A must have for every serious Austin Seven owner

Please contact **Wayne Styles.03 9592 1672.**



Still Wanted- one or two 19" wheels in reasonable condition, type with small stainless steel hubcap centre. It is proving very hard to get new any new tires to suit 17" rims in Australia but very easy for 19" which is what my 1933/34 Nippy should really have. I will buy at your price or have some useable 16" rims to swap. **Tim Braby 0405 740 418, 07 3359 2086.**