



# NEWSLETTER April 2016

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



## THE EDITOR'S BIT

The year 2017 promises to be a very busy one for the 7 Register of Qld. Not only will we be hosting the National Rally in Toowoomba but also next year the Register will be 50 years old. The Committee have been thinking about producing a 50th Anniversary Booklet to document the history and achievements of the Register from 1967 to 2017, similar to that was produced for our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2007.

This could include the annual display in the Gardens, and at Sherwood, as well as the many big rallies the members went to such as Canberra in 1988, 1992 and 2002, the other National Austin 7 Rallies, Austin over Australia, the two Longreach Leaps, the rallies to Peregrine Beach, the Kern Rallies and others

I have been lucky to receive some from Valda McDowell that her father Roy Ducat took in 1971 and 1981 on his trips north. The photo above may have been taken in 1981. Cars I can identify (because they are in colour) are the Guthries Saloon, Peter Bakers Chummy and Roadster, Greg Riddell's Roadster, Keith Collins' Roadster and an unknown Sports. Some of the members may recognise themselves or the cars. For instance I think I know the lady on the left as she is very well known in the clubs earlier days and still arrives with her husband in their grey saloon, and I think Peter Baker is just to her right behind what appears to be a tent. I think the venue is the Sherwood Arboretum, there is an old wooden house in the background.

This issue of the newsletter we are light on for rally write-ups due to wet weather washing out the Presidents Run in March, so please excuse the inclusion of two articles, one by Wayne Styles and one by myself about our earlier days involved with Austin Sevens. Hopefully this may inspire the start of a series of similar articles by other members, it is up to you dear reader/contributors!

*Editor Tim*

## YOUR CLUB COMMITTEE

**President:** John Que (07) 3396 0882

**Vice Pres.:** Lindsay Jordan 0414 708 158

**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 web site 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/carclub/austin-seven-register-of-qld/>**

**& Facebook Austin7 Register of Qld Inc.**



## AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. CLUB EVENTS

**Friday 8th April 2016: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Sunday 10th April 2016: A7 Register Rally. NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE** This month's event will be a TOUR OF THE PENRITE OIL FACTORY at 172 Magnesium Drive, Crestmead. Members are to make their own way there (preferably in their A7) for 9am with a 9.30am tour start. Event will conclude around 12 to 12.30pm. Parking will be available inside factory grounds. A charity Sausage Sizzle at the factory will be available for lunch. Please RSVP John Que by 26 March by ringing 3396 0882 or 0409 893 305 or email jque@bigpond.net.au

**Friday 13th May 2016: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Sunday 15th May 2016: A7 Register Rally. Mother's Day Fun Rally** organized by Grant & Jackie Preddy (ph. 0488 375 804). Rally to commence at 9.00am from Centenary Pool Carpark. Rally details to be provided on the day. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

**Friday 10th June 2016: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Sunday 12th June 2016: A7 Register Rally.** Winter Rally organized by Ian & Valda Mc Dowell (ph. 3803 2835). Rally details TBA

**Friday 8th July 2016: A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Sunday 10th July 2016: A7 Register Rally. RACQ Motorfest.** Static display from 10.00am to 3.00pm at Eagle Farm Racecourse. A7 members to meet in Hamilton Hotel Carpark for departure to Motorfest entry at 7.30am or make own travel arrangements to venue. Members to make own arrangements re. Registration etc.

**Friday 12th August 2016:**

**A7 Register General & Annual General Meeting** commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

**Saturday 13th August 2016: 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 2016: A7 Club Weekend Static Display** at C.T.White Park, Kangaroo Point organized by Robyn Clark (ph 3800 1965). Static Display to commence at 9.00am. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. Display to conclude around 1.30pm.

## INVITATION RALLIES AND SWAP MEETS

**Friday 25th to Sunday 27 March 2016: April 2016 Roma Historical Motor Club's Easter in the Country Rally.**

For details phone 0433 144 525. Members to make own arrangements re. travel, accommodation & registration.

**7th – 8th May 2016 Restored Vehicle Association Dalby invitational rally.** Contact Peter Evans 07 4662 4889

**Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd May 2016:** Truck Show organized by the Heritage Truck Association Australia Inc. to be held at Rocklea Show Grounds from 8.00am. For details contact Phyllis Davies (ph. 0417 002 386). Members to make own arrangements re. travel, registration etc.

**Sunday 15th May 2016: National Motoring Heritage Day.** A National Day to promote & display Australia's strong motoring heritage & movement to the community, Government & business. To be held at Queens Park, Ipswich.

**29th May 2016 QVVA swap** – Carina State School – QVVA

**Fri 3 to Sun 5 June 2016:** 2016 QHMC/RACQ Rally in Toowoomba. Rally to be hosted by the Queensland Vintage Vehicle Association. Members to make own arrangements re registration, travel, accommodation etc.. For details contact Graham Ph. 0407 257 440.

**Sunday 26th June 2016: Vintage Car Club Static Display** at Ormiston House, Ormiston commencing at 10.00am. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel, registration etc.

**Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th July 2016: 15th Annual Old Wheels in Motion Rally & Swap Meet** at Biloela, Central Queensland organized by the Callide Dawson Machinery Preservation Club Inc.. For information contact CDMPC Secretary, Cindy Cooper ph. (07)4992 2400. Members to make own arrangements re. travel, accommodation & registration.

**Saturday 23th July 2016: Ipswich Jets Football Club's "Christmas in July"** to be held at North Ipswich Reserve from 12.30pm. For information contact Nicole McPhee ph. 3202 1887 or 0438 328 254.

# MINUTES OF PAST A7RQ MEETINGS

**Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc.,**  
**Meeting No 545, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016**  
**Held at the Veteran Car Clubrooms, Carindale.**



The President declared the meeting opened at 7.55pm welcoming everyone.

**Apologies:-** Grant & Jackie Preddy, Lindsay Jordan, Brett Wilson , Judi Livingston, Ted Bale & Peter Goldsworthy.

**Attendance Book:-** The attendance book was signed by 21 members.

**Previous Minutes:-** The minutes of the January meeting was read by the Secretary and then asked that it be adopted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Graham Gledhill. Carried

**Business Arising from Minutes:-** Instead of the 2017 Rally having to pay for a Post Office Box, Ross & Rhonda Guthrie will allow them to use their address.

10<sup>th</sup> April will be the tour of Penrite Oil. Members wishing to go to make their own arrangements. This is the same day as our Club Run organised by Trevor & Elaine Moore.

Rego stickers must be removed.

## **Correspondence: - OUT**

Sympathy card to Tim Braby (on death of his father)

Membership Form to Mike Hawthorne

Register & Parts Book to G Pilgrim

Phone calls to Amanda inquiring about Brett

**IN** - Newsletters from other clubs as tabled

Expression of Interest from K Lewis, P & A Pui, H Lewis, Glove, L McKinnon.

Membership from Mike Hawthorne

Email re Honk Run, Ipswich 16<sup>th</sup> April

Morris Minor Display Day, 16<sup>th</sup> October, Ormiston

Membership Card from A7 Victoria Club

Advertising Material

Secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted as read and the outward endorsed. Seconded by Trevor Moore. Carried

**Business arising from Correspondence:-** Nil

**Treasurer's Report:-** Amanda gave her report on the clubs finances and moved that it be accepted. Seconded by Rhonda Guthrie. Carried.

**Queensland Historic Motoring Council Report:-** QHMC tour of Tassie in April 2017.

2020 National Rally in Victoria. Robert Shannon Award .

3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June South Qld QHMC RACQ Rally, Toowoomba

**Spare Parts Report:-** Trevor reported that he had a special Parts order and a few other sales for the month.

**Second Hand Parts Sales:-** Doug reported \$170 of second hand parts sold at the BBQ. Also thanked Grant Preddy for the donation of a A7 chase.

**Events Organiser:-** Neil Thyer

14<sup>th</sup> Feb Valentines Day Rally, organised by Lindsay & Sharyn. Meet Centenary Pool Carpark, 9am. BYO M/T & Lunch.

13<sup>th</sup> March Combined run with Bayside Club. Meet Clubrooms, Carindale to depart 9.30am. Morning tea at Raby Bay, lunch Talburpin Park, Redland Bay.

10<sup>th</sup> April Run to be organised by Trevor & Elaine Moore.

15<sup>th</sup> May Meet Centenary Pool 9am. Organised by Grant & Jackie Preddy.

## **Other Events**

20<sup>th</sup> March Bayside Swap, Ormiston .

25-27<sup>th</sup> March Easter in the Country, Roma

16<sup>th</sup> April HONK Ipswich Car Festival

17<sup>th</sup> April Queensland Autospectacular, Willowbank Raceway

15<sup>th</sup> May National Motoring Heritage Day, Queens Park, Ipswich

21-22<sup>nd</sup> May Truck Show, Rocklea Showgrounds.

22<sup>nd</sup> May Lockyer Antique Motor Assoc Swap  
29<sup>th</sup> May QVVA Swap, Carina State School  
10<sup>th</sup> July RACQ Motorfest, Eagle Farm Racecourse. Anyone wishing to attend please give entry form to Robyn ASAP

### **Rally Reports – Past Events**

10<sup>th</sup> Jan BBQ & Parts Sale 30 people attended.  
26<sup>th</sup> Jan Australia Day, Bayside Club report in newsletter  
6-7<sup>th</sup> Feb Toowoomba Swap.

**Web Master Report:-** Mike reported everything OK.

**Library Report:-** Nil

**Editors Report:-** Tim had newsletters to post. Also thanked anyone who writes reports on our runs as it makes it easier for him.

**2017 A7 Rally Report:-** John reported the P O Box had been sorted. Merv & Margaret are following up on the catering, Neil working of the Entry Form and newsletter. Expression of interest forms still coming in. Justin asked about flyers advertising event.

Mike & Kathy thanked for organising 100 caps for rally.

**General Business:-** 21-22<sup>nd</sup> Feb Historic Racing Car Club meeting, Warwick

Justin has contacts for A7 Cloth badges \$8-00 each if club interested.

Apologies from Guthries & Thompsons for the next two meetings. Rhonda volunteered to do supper in May.

**Report of Cars &/or Car Troubles:-** Justin McCarthy thanked Trevor for his help.

**Raffle:-** Valda had raffle tickets for sale with a Valentines Day Prize.

**Birthdays:-** Members having a Birthday in February were wished many more.

Sick members were wished a speedy return to good health. Everyone wishing Brett all the best in his recovery.

**Supper Organiser:-** Thanks to June Gleadhill for tonight's supper.

March meeting ?????

April ?????

May Rhonda Guthrie

**Committee Meeting:-** TBA

**Next Meeting:-** 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016

There being no further business to come before the meeting it was declared closed at 9.20 pm

### **Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc**

#### **Meeting No 546, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

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

The President opened the meeting at 7.50 pm with a welcome to all and a special mention to our new member Robin Lewis. Also Ken Folliott and David Barnett whom we have not seen for some time.

**Apologies:-** Apologies were received from Grant & Jackie Preddy, Ross & Rhonda Guthrie, Merv & Margaret Thompson, Mike & Kathy McGuill, Brett Wilson, Mat Potts, Peter Goldsworthy, Janette Sims, Karyn Matthew & Judy Livingstone.

**Attendance Book :-** The attendance book was signed by 22 members.

**Previous Minutes :-** The Secretary read the minutes of the February meeting and moved that they be adopted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Amanda Wilson. Carried

**Business arising from Minutes:-** NIL

**Correspondence = OUT**

Membership form to David Barnett

IN = Newsletters from other clubs as tabled

Expression of Interest for 2017 Rally from D Scanes, E & A Bourn, B Scrivenor, V&I Theyer, D&R Clark, I&V McDowell, M Carlelly, R Skelcher & P Monaco

Membership from D Barnett

Email Re World Greatest Shave from Christine Stevens

16<sup>th</sup> October 23<sup>rd</sup> Morris Minor Display Day, Ormiston

4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June Old Petrie Town Steam Fair

Advertising Material



Secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted and the outward endorsed. Seconded by Alan Couser, Carried.

**Business arising from Correspondence :-** Justin McCarthy moved that the club donate \$25 to the World Greatest Shave. Seconded by Doug Clark. Carried

**Treasurers Report :-** Amanda Wilson reported on the club finances and deposits paid for A7 2017 Rally. Then moved that her report be accepted. Seconded by Doug Clark. Carried

**Queensland Historic Motoring Council Report :-** Nil

**Spare Parts Report :-** Trevor Moore reported an order been sent to Melbourne for parts. Mike Hawthorne and Robin Lewis have purchased parts.

**Second Hand Parts Report :-** NIL

**Events Organiser =** Neil Thyer informed members of the following runs.

13<sup>th</sup> March Combined run with the Bayside Club. Meet at Clubrooms, Carindale to depart 9.30 am.

Morning Tea Raby Bay, Lunch Talburpin Park, Redland Bay.

10<sup>th</sup> April Organised by Trevor & Elaine Moore. Meet Centenary Pool 9 am

15<sup>th</sup> May Mothers Day Rally organised by Grant & Jackie Preddy. Meet Centenary Pool 9am BYO M/T & Lunch.

#### **Other Events**

20<sup>th</sup> March Bayside Swap, Ormiston

25-27<sup>th</sup> March Easter in the Country, Roma

16<sup>th</sup> April Honk, Ipswich Car Festival

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22<sup>nd</sup> May Lockyer Antique Motor Assoc, Swap

29<sup>th</sup> May QVVA Swap, Carina State School

19<sup>th</sup> July RACQ Motorfest, Eagle Farm Racecourse.

#### **Rally Reports – Past Events**

14<sup>th</sup> Feb Valentines Day Run by Lindsay & Sharyn enjoyed by all who attended.

**Web Masters Report :-** Mike McGuill reported the website is down at present due to server update.

**Library Report :-** NIL

**Editors Report :-** Tim Braby reported that 3 cars have been sold from the last newsletter. (Well done Tim, good photos and information.)

**2017 A7 Rally Report :-** John Que reported that Neil Thyer has the Entry Form and Meal Forms completed. Sunday will be Swap & Sell day. Breakfast will be cooked by the Toowoomba Club. There are 2 options for trailer parking. Looking into Rally badge for cars. Justin McCarthy asked if there will be shirts available. (Committee to decide).

**General Business :-** John Que stated that old cars are going up in price if you look on the internet.

Justin McCarthy will be in Bathurst on the 26<sup>th</sup> April collecting for Cancer. There is a Motor Home Club of Australia Rally.

#### **Report on Cars &/or car Troubles:-**

Graham & June Gleadhill have sold their car to Joe & Margaret McCormack.

Graham has since bought a Morris Minor.

John Cleveland has sold his fathers car to Robin & Amanda Lewis (our new member).

**Raffle:-** Valda had ticket for sale in our raffle for a fire extinguisher .

**Birthdays:-** Members having a birthday in March were wished many happy returns. A couple were having the big 70 birthdays.

Sick members were wished a speedy return to good health.

**Supper Organiser:-** Thank you John for tonight's supper.

April = Ian McDowell

May = Rhonda Guthrie

June = Gail Cahalane

**Committee Meeting -** TBA

**Next Meeting :-** 8<sup>th</sup> April 2016

As there was no further business to discuss the meeting was declared closed.



Robyn

# NEWS OF MEMBERS AND CARS

Advertising DOES work! Maralyn and Greg Keller from Yungaburra tell me their 1927 Van has been sold and gone down to Sydney, let us hope we see it in Toowoomba next year! June and Graham Gleadhill have also sold their 1930 Chummy, but it had not gone very far, only across town to Sherwood, to the home of Margaret and Joe McCormack who have decided that their 1929 Roadster may take a bit longer to restore. I am sure they will have many miles and many smiles in the years ahead with their "New" Baby Austin!

You will see a new car for sale, this is familiar to anyone who has been on rallies to Warwick and is Tony Mauhan's little red sports which has been around on the club scene for a LONG time. There are some spare parts, and if I recall correctly from a visit to Tony's place well over 25 years ago or more you may need more than a box trailer to carry them all!

Meanwhile I had offers of 19" wheels from 4 different sources, some are better than others and ranged in price. Thank you all the kind people who looked in their piles of parts for me.

*Tim*

## *Congratulations and welcome to our New Members*

New - Robin & Amanda Lewis of Tamborine - 1938 Big 7 Forlite Saloon

Re-joined - Ray Campbell, David Sweetapple, Ken Folliot & David Barnett \

## **Notice from the Queensland Historic Motoring Council\** **NATIONAL MOTORING HERITAGE DAY – PICNIC** **IN THE PARK**

Sunday 15th May 2016 The committee of Queensland Historic Motoring Council Inc. are again hosting National Motoring Heritage Day - Picnic in the Park in Queen Park Ipswich. National Motoring Heritage Day is always the 3rd Sunday of May and the date in 2016 is 15th May.

National Motoring Heritage Day is an initiative of the Australian Historic Motoring Federation Inc. The aim is to concentrate one day of the year when enthusiasts throughout Australia drive and display their historic vehicles to promote and celebrate the preservation of Australia's motoring heritage.

This is to show the strength of the historic vehicle movement and the contributions made to the community and to charitable organisations.

All motoring clubs are encouraged to participate as, without promotion of our hobby, the government and community support may gradually fade and concessional registration schemes may be lost. Our vehicles are a "Mobile Museum", of which we are the custodians, and need to be viewed and enjoyed by the public. At the inaugural event in 2015 there were over 150 historic vehicles on display. Many entrants were dressed in period clothing, including music matched to the era of their vehicles played on their gramophone. All costs and activities will be funded through Queensland Historic Motoring Council with the assistance of sponsors. This is a non-profit event. There is no entry fee for the participants and no charge to the public.

This will be a fun day for the family with entertainment including free Historic bus tours, music, roving entertainment, face painters and a clown.

This is additional to a group of hand selected trade relevant displays - i.e. Vintage Tyre Service, Vintage Rims Australia, Penrite, Shannons and Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Entry is Free (free display and free for the public)

Registration (as per the 2015 event) is NOT required - just turn up and enjoy the day

The event starts at 10:00am and finishes at 2:00pm - vehicles and traders must be in position by 9:30am with no vehicle movement until 2:00pm



## **PAST RALLY REPORTS**

### **VALENTINE'S DAY CLUB RUN - SUNDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2016**



On Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> February with perfect weather conditions, seven Austin sevens, one Austin Freeway and one modern left Centenary Pool for what was to be another enjoyable day out in our Baby Austins. Those participating were Lindsay Jordon and Sharon, Ian and Valda McDowell, Douglas and Robyn Clark, Trevor and Elaine Moore, Duncan Logan and daughter Crystal, Alan Couser and John Que in Alan's other car. Also attending was Merv and Margaret in their Freeway, Neil and Karyn travelling modern. Mike and Kathy Mc Guill joined

us part way thru and Justin McCarthy made an appearance at our lunch stop.



After perusing our rally instructions before departing it became obvious that a lot of thought went into making for some interesting comments in Sharon's Tidbits!! (You will have to ask someone that was on the rally).

After leaving our starting point, we headed off through the older inner city suburb of Fortitude Valley via Constance St, St Pauls Tce and Gipps St towards the Story Bridge. We then drove along Lytton Rd and then down Hawthorne Rd and turned left towards the river where we observed some LOVE-ly homes. (ed.note-



After a few left and right turns without anyone getting lost we turned into LOVE St (get it) and arrived at Bulimba Riverside Park for our Morning Tea stop. This park was the original site of Hornibrook Constructions, one of the builders of the Story Bridge and builders of the original Hornibrook Hwy that links Sandgate and Redcliffe that this rally had close encounters with.

We left the park and headed towards Oxford St (home of the LATTE MOB). We drove the length of Oxford St and then along Lytton Rd towards the Gateway Bridge. Crossing the Gateway Bridge, we joined the Southern Cross Way until just after Nudgee Rd we turned left and joined Sandgate Rd right thru to Sandgate where we turned right then left past the Sandgate wetlands lagoon (which had water in it!). After passing the



(some streets we found six times!!), however we all caught up in one of the back streets behind BEE GEES WAY and close to where what turned out to be our own 'private' car park where we were able to all park together for lunch and visit BEE GEES WAY.

*Alan Couser*



# COMBINED RUN WITH BAYSIDE RESTORER'S CLUB

## SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

The combined Bayside/Austin 7/President's March run was cancelled on the Sunday morning early because of continuing showers and the gloomy weather forecast.

Robyn and Doug Clark, Justin Mc Keering, Justin Mc Carthy and John Que attended the VCCAQ clubroom start and then went home. Cheryl Nott and a small Bayside group were there also and continued on to the Bayside. Thanks to Cheryl for inviting our club and organising the run and also the members who turned up at the start.

## The Editors' First Austins

*BY Tim Braby*

My first modern car was could now be considered a "Vintage car", a humble little 1967 VW Beetle which I bought in 1974, the year I started work. It had been supposedly done up by a mechanic for his wife, but it was very sluggish, the front mudguards did not seem to match and the rear engine lid was from an earlier model.

It also had an annoying problem of not wanting to start. I was told to rock the car in gear, apparently this would move the ring gear to another position. This was eventually cured by paying an auto electrician \$21 to fit a relay, a mysterious black box fitted to the fan housing. I have no idea what this did but the car now started every time on every turn of that lovely big key with the VW insignia on it.



But I guess my first interest in vintage cars came from building plastic kits of them as a teenager and reading about them in the "Veteran and Vintage" & "Restored Cars" Magazines that were catering for the hobby. When I started work I would do sketches of them during lunch breaks and one of the draftsman there told me his brother had an old Austin he was restoring and suggested I go and have a look at it. His car was a 1928 Austin 16hp Six tourer. It was pretty well all there, but missing most of the seats and a vital water pump. In 1976 I was told it would be sale and somehow I persuaded my Dad to tow it home from Sunnybank to Ascot (gosh what did the neighbours think!)

Nobody seemed to know what much about the model, but after meeting Pym Hills at a Vintage

Club of Qld. Meeting at the old church hall at Kangaroo Point, he put me in contact with David Vaughan of the Vintage Austin Register of Australia, as well inviting me to also join the Austin Seven Register. Progress was slow, all I had was a book on restoration written by Morgan and Wheatley plus what I read in Restored Cars magazine and talking to fellow Register including Terry Hicks, Ralph Cooter and Peter Baker who tried to point me in the correct direction as to where



to get things done, what sort of timber to use for the body (kwila).

Just before Xmas 1978, the weekend before the 7 Register had held it's Christmas break Up Party at Carbrook, and I was allowed to try out Trevor McCulloch's 1929 Chummy "Gus" on a quiet stretch of road, and I was hooked, I had to find myself a Seven.

A few days later as luck would have it one was advertised in a weekday Courier Mail, and I was lucky enough to have a sympathetic workmate called Bruce Burke who lent me the keys to his

old Mkl Cortina so I could journey from the office in Spring Hill to the Hendra Woolstores on Nudgee Road. When I arrived I thought I was too late, two men were chatting beside a pair of shrouded shapes in the gloom of the old wool store. One of the shrouded cars was a Blue 1930's Rolls Royce, the other a tiny orange pram. This was in fact an Austin, one of the last of the traditional Chummys, built in early 1930, within weeks the new model with the tall radiator was introduced, and the bodies were made wider and longer. It had the new model Harcourts dial type oil gauge and deep one piece front mudguards with an edge moulding, but lacked the coupled brakes of the later cars. The chassis dates to May 1930, but the body came later after it arrived in Australia, in all probability the car was sold via Austin Cars on the corner of Adelaide and Creek Streets, in Brisbane, as the original radiator core is marked King and Katts who were in Bowen Hills. The original colour appears to have been a terracotta brown colour, rather than the orangey brown colour it was when I saw it.

The car first came to light in the 1960's thanks to a very young Greg Riddell, one of the founders of the A7 Register, who was told of its existence by some Council Workers. Greg found the body was sitting on pathway between a back fence and a park, the owner had been working on the chassis under the house, the chassis was painted a shade of purple and the motor a grey hammer tone effect! Greg bought the car to save it from the now disinterested owner, and later gave me a photo as he acquired of the car as he received it.

After Greg's ownership it ended up in Brian McKeering's care, he did quite a bit to the car to get it closer to completion, but later it passed to the owner of Metro Ford, David Morris, who had quite a collection of cars, including that blue Rolls Royce, a white Bentley DHC that once belonged to John Laws and a T Ford. At one time the car was at Metro Ford in Spring Hill, a previous employee remembers the little car was used once to carry parts from one level to another, just drop in an old 12v battery and away it went! Then in 1978 Mr. Morris decided to sell the business and all his cars, and the ever observant Cam McCulloch saw the car for sale at the UK Dominion Motors showroom in Redcliffe.

This is when I came on the scene, that young and inexperienced enthusiast with a tired old 1928 Austin 16/6 that was proving a challenge to restore, and now yearning to find a driveable car at the right price. In the Shed one person turned out to be Peter Cahalane on his lunch break who was having a bit of a "sticky" (still not too sure if he was



actually interested or not). Peter was good counsel that day, telling me that "if I didn't like it I could get my money back as it was a good price." \$1500 as is with no roadworthy or warranty. Needless to say that day was the start of many years of ownership, during which I built a hood and side curtains, a luggage rack, rebuilt the front end, motor and brakes over the years, finally treating the

mudguards and wheels to a complete strip down to bare metal and repainting. Trips we shared were all around SE Queensland from the Gold Coast up to Bundaberg and Maryborough and out to Toowoomba, and we were there with all the others for the 1989 epic Longreach Leap trek, in 1990 it was driven to the inaugural AOA in 1990 in Tamworth by Geoff Singleton's son, Craig. Then in 1991 due to space problems I sold it to Mike James of Bli Bli. I did buy the car back many years later in 2007 but 4 years later after an unfortunate accident I sold the remains, but that is another story!

This car was called "*Porkchop*" for many years. This dates back to a spring day in 1980 in Bundaberg on an extended week-long tour with the BVAC. A rather well known Chummy belonging to Trevor McCulloch had been featured in Restored Cars Magazine and was also on the tour. I was rather jealous of all the attention it was getting, especially when someone in the Bundy Club gave them a motor, gearbox and radiator on an old rotary hoe, the Bundabergian had spoken to me first for several minutes before the other car arrived, and in a weak moment I later said to the other Chum's navigator, "What did he think I was driving, a blimin' 'pork chop'? Trevor's wife Bev thereafter called my car "*Porkchop*" for the rest of the trip and the name stuck for the next 25 years!

# **Finding and using and Austin & in the 1970s**

*by Wayne Styles*

I have talked before in previous scribbles about the Austin seven opportunities that came my way as a 20 year old corporate commercial traveller servicing Victoria's north east and Gippsland but one such story sticks in my mind that I will share.

By 1971 my chummy restoration was progressing slowly from a financial point of view and being away every two weeks I was time poor. Major items were still needed to complete the car i.e., rear and front axle, engine and gear box etc. thus I was always on the lookout for Austin seven items when travelling.

Once a month my business cycle took me to the border towns of Albury/Wodonga where I stayed for three nights. By this time I had met a number of the Austin seven folks in the district and had attended the local vintage car club meetings also. A number of the local enthusiasts were aware of my pursuits and were willing to help when A/7 lead surfaced.

During the year the motel owner where I stayed monthly who was well connected in the Wodonga area due to his involvement with the chamber of commerce and the Rotary club had also been on my case and when I arrived on an occasion advised that he had located an Austin seven for me to see. At this point I thought hmmm I've been here before, yeah right!, it's probably an A40 or similar however, In this instance the vehicle was located nearby and all leads needed to be explored.

The following morning I was introduced to the elderly gentleman that owned the car and his son. His name was Andrew Cole and at 92 years young was in poor health. Mr Cole was keen to move the car on as he was still paying the motor registration and no longer using the vehicle. At this stage I hadn't seen the car and he enlightened me that he had had a P.M.G [now Australia post] contract to deliver the mail from Wodonga to Corryong in the high country on a regular basis, a distance of approximately 300km's round trip thus needing a small van.

Eventually I was taken out to the garage to inspect what he had been using since 1960 to deliver mail and to my surprise this one was indeed a 'Seven'. It was a very tired Austin seven Latrobe [Standard sports] that he had converted into a masonite bodied van. A 1929/30 model with the rear boat tail body, guards and windscreen removed without doors to suit his delivery needs.

I paid his asking price of \$150 which included an additional 19 spare wheels. I asked Mr Cole why he had so many and he replied that it was cheaper to buy a wheel with a tyre from a wrecker than than just a new tyre.

The acquisition of the car came at a good time because whilst my chummy restoration was well under way I was frustrated that I didn't have a seven to participate in events. The rear timber body was removed spiders and all. The engine smoked so badly and was clogged up with old oil that I decided to flush out it with 3 short terms of Kerosene which did the trick but of course it still smoked. A replacement masonite ute style body was fitted painted blue and a green canvas tray cover sewn up for the rear at a total cost of \$3.50. Odd as it appeared it served its purpose as it allowed us to participate in club events as it was still fully registered, functional and presentable as long as it didn't attract the attention of Mr Plod.

I had purchased the car on the 17/09/71 and by mid 1972 had participated in a number of activities including an annual pilgrimage to the steam and traction rally held in June each year in the Murray river town of Echuca.

Mr Cole was well known in Wodonga by vintage enthusiasts possibly due to his age and persistence of the P.M.G run that he had for so long. Some months had passed and a local enthusiast contacted the aforementioned motelier after learning that the car had been sold as he had in his possession part of the car. Latrobe sports have an all aluminium body and the top piece of the 5 panel tail is the most difficult to replicate but I couldn't believe my luck when advised that this item is what he retained. After a reasonable sum changed hands to the caller the deal was done.

At this point in time I doubt that I had any idea of what future this car had with me as I already had a 1929 wasp sports that I had acquired as a future project some two years earlier and the new Latrobe sports was merely a fun dry weather car. All of the while my career path had offered up other cars and parts in the bush.

During the return journey to home of this monthly cycle I had struck up a friendship with an elderly chap in one of the country towns who owned a 1936 seven as his day car and I would randomly drop in and chew the fat over a period of about 5 years. Sevens of this period didn't appeal to me one bit and I never once asked him if it was for sale, apparently unlike every other caller. During 1972 he suffered a health issue and out of the blue he rang me and



wanted me to purchase his car. As it was well maintained, mechanically sound, registered and could be used in all weathers I agreed to buy it with the intention to replace the Latrobe.



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days after rescuing the Latrobe it was sold to Wayne Gould who commenced it's restoration and then moved it on to Rex Dyer for further work. Richard and Sandra Hubbard completed the task and use the vehicle on a regular basis. Ironically, they live in Corryong where it spent a lot of it's youth.

I continued to use the 1936 car for many years until my chummy was completed and that is another story.

## *Austin Seven Classifieds*

### FOR SALE 1930 AUSTIN 7

#### METEOR,

property of the late Tony Maughan of Warwick. Older restoration with red pointed 2 seater body and black wheels and guards

Asking \$12,000 with all the parts included.(see photos next page)

It is still registered under original Queensland Vintage plates on concessional registration.

Not running at the moment but engine is not seized.

Please contact Rose-Ann & Ian Oxenham - phone no. 0478 776 120 or by email.







**FOR SALE 1934 AUSTIN 18/6 HERTFORD RESTORATION PROJECT.** Rare car. Suspension, steering, brakes, differential and engine all done. Chassis blasted & painted, wire wheels powdered coated. Car assembled but motor out, some tin work and interior needs to be done. All complete except for starter. Some paperwork and books. \$4,000 or offer.

Anne and Brian Brindley  
Bundaberg Ph. 0409561517  
*(Details of this model Austin 18/6 1933-1937, 2511cc Monobloc six cylinder engine with 4 main bearings. 4 speed gearbox with synchro on 2-3-4 on later cars. Hayes preselector gearbox was a RARE option. Shares body and chassis with the 1933-36 Austin 16/6 (not to be confused with the 1928-1933 16/6 with aluminium crankcase with 8 main bearings) Only 2630 18/6s were made in*



1934. Body Style "Hertford" (9'-4" wheel base), York 7 seater (10' wheel base) and Chalfont 7 seater (10' wheel base) with glass division.)

### *Photos from the Archives*

Two people have told me the Picture in the last newsletter it is the Mary River at Conndale during a flood



King William Street and North Terrace, Adelaide late 1930's

### **EDITOR/PUBLISHER**

Tim Braby, 43 Arcola Street Aspley Brisbane Q4034

Mob 0405740 418 H. 07 3359 2086



# Expression of Interest Form

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc.  
**2017 Austin 7 National Rally,  
Toowoomba**



I wish to express my interest in attending the Austin 7  
National Rally to be held from  
8<sup>th</sup> April to 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017 in Toowoomba.

Name/s			
Postal Address			Postcode
Phone	Home Number	Mobile Number	
Email address			
Number attending			
Club			
Signed	Date / /		

Please return the completed Expression of Interest form by

Post to; Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc.,  
1376 Old Cleveland Road,  
Carindale Qld 4152

Or by email to; [iqque@bigpond.net.au](mailto:iqque@bigpond.net.au)

On receipt of the Expression of Interest form we will add you to our mailing list and send updates.

For enquiries contact John Que by phone on 07 3396 0882

***Only 12 months to GO!!!***