



# NEWSLETTER

February 2014

## One Door Opens while Another Shuts

Every New Year brings changes, from the usual unpleasant increases in the cost of living to a change in lifestyle for others.

In my case I have finished 27 years working as a technical officer in a major water supply and treatment utility. Just before Christmas we were offered a very good voluntary termination. My decision was NOT a difficult one. I walked out the door on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December and an hour later I was asked to join a brand new engineering firm that will doing outsourced work from various water authorities! The same work but for more money! Talk about luck!!!

Tim (tim.braby@bigpond.com)

## A Request from Mike the Webmaster!

Mike and I have found that it would appear that some of our members have changed their Email Addresses. Could you please send your current web address's to [mikekathy@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mikekathy@optusnet.com.au) and put under subject "email address". This way Mike can keep you updated with any changes and updates to our Web Sites.

(Also as Editor I wish to thank Mike and Neil for the magnificent effort they have put into creating and maintaining our strong presence on the internet, which ensures our cub will be still be relevant and growing into the future.)

The Austin Seven

MOTURING Less than 1d a mile. TRAM FARE

What more could you wish?

SPECIFICATION:  
Electric starting,  
lighting and horn.  
Full all-weather  
equipment, spare  
wheel and tyre.  
Four-cyl. water  
cooled engine.  
3 speeds; brakes  
to all four wheels.  
Price complete

£165  
AT WORKS.

A PERFECT "big car in miniature," taking two adults and two children in comfort, and all protected by the hood. A sweet running 4-cyl engine, with power and to spare for all the hill-climbing and speed you can desire. An economy in fuel, oil and tyres that is positively amazing—that makes tram and bus fares an extravagance. That's the "Austin Seven," the "Motor for the million," which is winning golden opinions everywhere.

## **Your Club Committee**

**President:** Lindsay Jordan (07) 3809 2031  
**Vice Pres.:** Brett Wilson (07) 3389 3821  
**Editor:** Tim Braby (07) 3359 2086  
**Webmaster:** Mike McGuill (07) 33512598  
**Rally Co-ordinator:** Neil Thyer (07) 32179880

**Secretary:** Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575  
**Treasurer:** Amanda Wilson (07) 3389 3821  
**Spares/Tech:** Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575  
**Dating Officer:** Tim Braby (07) 33592086  
**Librarian:** Alan Couser (07) 33499628

..ooOoo..



## **AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. CLUB EVENTS**

**Sunday 16TH FEBRUARY 2014**

**AUSTIN 7 VALENTINES DAY RUN** Hosted by Merv & Margaret Thompson

8.30am Meeting at Clubrooms

8.45am Departure

9.30am to 9.45am approx. 2nd pick up will be at the Ipswich - Boonah Rd turnoff (just off the Cunningham Hwy)

If you wish to join us at any other point along the route please give us a call and we will make arrangements.

10.30am approx. Morning tea at

**SPIRIT OF THE 50s MUSEUM and COFFEE CLUB** in Kalbar

Memorabilia and Automobilia from The Happy Days 1946-1966 (\* this when most of us were born and grew up!)

Where Vic will give us a guided tour and provide us with a Devonshire Tea for the modest cost of \$8. After morning tea we will drive to a local park for BYO lunch.

After lunch we are booked for a visit to **Wiss Emporium** where owner Kristine will give us a talk about the history of the Emporium and Cottage.

Great photo opportunities are available with the cars in front of the Emporium.

Merv & Margaret Thompson

Ph 0408 150 982 (Margaret)

Ph 0408 783 580 (Merv)

**Sunday 16th March 2014:**

**A7 Club event. President's Rally organized by Lindsay Jordan (ph 0408 876 559). BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. Rally details to be confirmed.**

19th -25th April –

## The A7 2014 Austin Seven Tour to Rockhampton

See last newsletter for full details, possibility of extending our time in Rocky

### Saturday 10th May 2014:

A7 Club event. Rally organized by Howell Whitehouse (ph 0439 441 670). Rally to commence from Centenary Pool Carpark at 9.00am. Rally details to be confirmed. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

### Sunday 15th June 2014:

A7 Club event. Winter Fun Run organized by Grant & Jacki Preddy (ph 0488 375 804). Rally to commence at 9.00am from Centenary Pool Carpark. Rally details to be confirmed. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

### Sunday 13th July 2014:

A7 Club event. 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. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel, registration etc.

### Sunday 13th July 2014:

A7 Club event. Breakfast at Mowbray Park, Lytton Road, East Brisbane commencing at 7.00am organized by Brett & Amanda Wilson (ph 0402 143 420). BYO Breakfast (on site electric BBQ)

### Saturday 9th August 2014:

A7 Club event. A7 Club Weekend Rally & BBQ Lunch organized by Justin McKeering (ph 0439 712 731) commencing from Club Room, Carindale at 9.00am. Rally details to be confirmed. Rally to conclude with BBQ Lunch at the Carindale Club Room. BYO Morning Tea & BBQ Lunch.

### Sunday 10th August 2014:

A7 Club event. A7 Club Weekend Static Display at C.T.White Park, Kangaroo Point organized by Trevor Moore (ph 3848 5575). Static Display to commence at 9.00am. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. Display to conclude around 1.30pm.

### September 2014:

A7 Club event. All British Day at Vivian Street, Tennyson from 8.30am to 2.00pm. Contact Trevor Moore (ph 3848 5575) for details. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel, registration etc.

### Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th October 2014:

A7 Club event. 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, registration etc.

**Sunday 16th November 2014:**

A7 Club event. Rally organized by Ian & Valda McDowell (ph 0439 677 379) commencing from Club Rooms, Carindale at 9.00am. Rally destination to be confirmed

**Sunday 14th December 2014:**

A7 Club event. A7 Club Christmas Lunch at Orleigh Park, West End commencing at 10.00am. Lunch organized by Trevor Moore (ph 3848 5575). BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel.

## **INVITATION RALLIES AND SWAP MEETS**

**(From the QHMC Website)**

March 31st BVRC Swap Ormiston State School Gates open 5.45 am

March 15th and 16th Ipswich Veteran and Vintage Vehicle Club Inc. 40th Invitation Rally

Phone Barry Blair - Treasurer 0408 723 800, Clayton Wilson - President 0400 577 355 email contact brb1979@hotmail.com or Club web page [www.iwvc.org.au/home](http://www.iwvc.org.au/home)

April 6th Buick Car Club of Australia Inc Shannon's Queensland Auto spectacular – Willowbank Raceway. Check website for details – [www.queenslandautospectacular.com.au](http://www.queenslandautospectacular.com.au)

April 18 to 20 Easter in the Country Rally 2014 from Friday 18th April to Sunday 20th April 2014.

Roma Historical Motor Club Inc; <http://romahistoricalmotorclub.weebly.com/>

April 25 to 27 Warwick Veteran and Vintage Vehicle Club 40th anniversary event, details from committee not yet decided. For more information contact the club Email:

[info@alloraheritageweekend.org.au](mailto:info@alloraheritageweekend.org.au) Phone: 46671570 this should be a very good event watch this space for more details but reserve the dates now

May Tweed Valley Vehicle Restorers Club Invitation Rally. Contact Trevor Moore (ph 3848 5575) for details. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel, registration etc.

June 2014: QHMC Rally hosted by Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club Inc. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel, registration etc.

June 2014: Vintage Car Club Static Display at Ormiston House.

The Original' Gold Coast Swap Meet Mudgeeraba QLD

Original Gold Coast Swap at Mudgeeraba | 6am – 2pm Sunday 20th July 2014

Venue: Mudgeeraba Showgrounds, Cnr Mudgeeraba & Worongary Rds, Mudgeeraba QLD .

Free parking in grounds. Entry from Worongary Rd. One of the biggest swaps in SE Qld. Historic Car parts, Memorabilia, Model Cars, Antiques, Collectables.

Adult Entry \$4; Outdoor sites \$10 inc driver (no booking required).

Saturday set up 2pm to 5pm. Camping available \$15 inc. amenities & limited power sites. Sunday – Gates open 5am for stall holders. Trading 6am 2pm Sunday only. Full catering available.

Dick [07]55358856 or 0407758542, John 0412958839 Email [swap.gcaac@gmail.com](mailto:swap.gcaac@gmail.com)

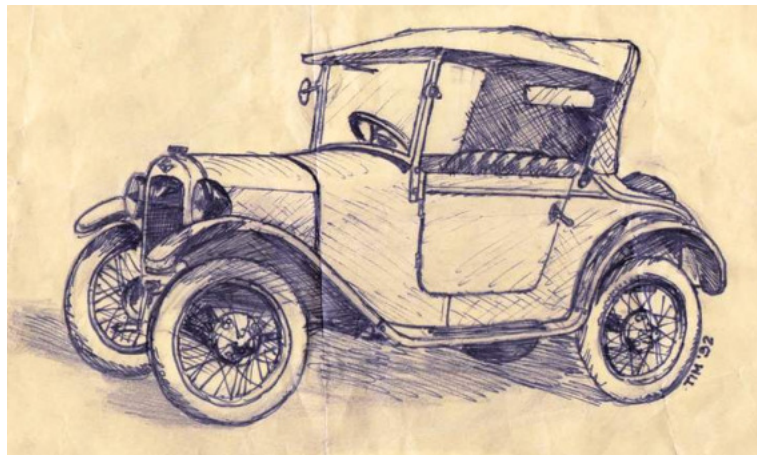
Official Site: <http://goldcoastswap.zzl.org/>



# NEWS OF MEMBERS AND THEIR CARS,

## LES HARVEY'S PASSING-

Members of longer standing will remember Les Harvey. Les was a school teacher with 2 Daughters and his wife Faith. His first A7 was a magneto ignition chassis in need of a body. A fibre-glass Milano body was found but the pair never were married up. The running chassis was displayed in the old lower part of the Botanical Gardens at our annual display. He owned and partly restored a very rusty 1929/30 Charles Hope body Roadster\*, then a magnificently restored MGTF. He took part in many spring parades in Wynnum in the A7 and MG. Les also drove a MG Magnette Saloon which he drove daily to work at the Birkdale state School He held a number of positions in the A7 club: Secretary, Rally officer etc when the club used to meet near the XXXX brewery in Milton. He was as you say one of nature's gentlemen and will be missed by all.



\*This car was owned by an architect, Geoffrey Nimo, and then passed thru the hands of Tim Braby who sold it to Les in 1980; Les then sold the car to Steven Morey who finished the car. The car originally was from Bundaberg)

*Tribute Courtesy of Terry Hicks, one of our founder members*

## KEVIN MACKAY'S CAR RETURNS TO THE CLUB.



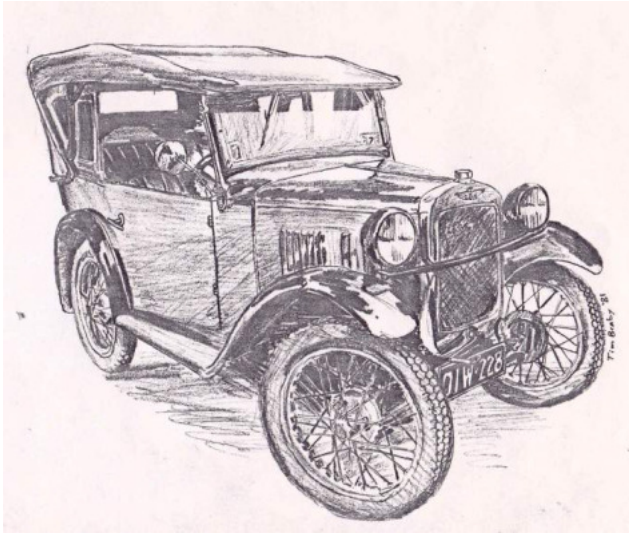
Kevin and Pam MacKay were also members several years ago, and owned this little 1931 Ute which they found under a tree at Gympie. The car was restored and moved with the family from Bribie Island to Canberra. Unfortunately Kevin passed away two years ago and Pam decided to sell the car, and last month it came back to Gympie again to join Peter Goldsworthy's fleet. The car is in running condition but needs a bit of sort out. The Ute

body is original and built in Montague Road, South Brisbane, but the removable roof is a later addition built by Kevin. Peter was hoping to drive the car on the Run to Rocky.



## JOHN PERHAM'S CAR GETS CLOSER

John Perham's Ruby Saloon is coming along nicely; we called in to visit him and Marianne in the New Year. The car is now running sweetly as all good Sevens do and the body is now all repaired and primed.



## CHIPPER RETURNS

Ken & Merle Bradford of Agnes Waters buy the 1931 Tourer belonging to Graham Cogzell (who christened the car "Chipper". This was a well know car in club circles for years as Graham was our club president. It has a Charles Hope body built in the Valley in Brisbane. Graham found the car under a house at Howard (between Childers and Hervey Bay) and restored in the early 1970s. Graham sold the car to Paul and Maree Hewitt in the 1990s.

## ROSS'S REMARKABLE RESTORATION



As one of the newest members of the Austin 7 Club, I would like to share with you my Austin 7 story. This little car was abandoned by persons unknown on my wife's' family farm approximately 50 years ago. I managed to acquire this car last year after a major clean up when the farm was sold. It was going to the dump. My main incentive for restoration of this little beauty is because my wife has many fond memories of playing in it as a child. I am not dear as to when it was last driven as her memory is only of seeing and playing in it in the old shed.

As you can see by the photos I have a lot of work in

front of me. Call me insane or just plain stupid but I will finish this project. With the help of mechanical friends other local car restoration enthusiasts and myself with 48 years' experience in the cabinetmaking and glass industry I am sure the finished product will be well worth the hair pulling, swearing, insane moments ahead of me.

I would like to say a big thank-you to all the club members that have come to my rescue already with photos, advice and parts etc. More photos to follow as to the slow progress of this insane project I have taken on.



Ross & Sylvia Chapman of Ayr



# Minutes of Past A7RQ Meetings



## **Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc** **Meeting No.519, 13th December 2013** **Held at Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale**

The President Lindsay Jordan declared the meeting open at 7.45pm

**Attendance Book:** 27 members were in attendance

**Apologies:** Peter & Gail Cahalane, Judi Livingstone, D & K Moore, Pater Goldsworthy, Ted Bale

### **Minutes:**

The Minutes of the November Meeting were read and the Secretary moved that they be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded – Tim Braby. Carried

**Business arising from the Minutes:** Nil

### **Correspondence:**

OUT: Nil

IN:

1. New sletters from other clubs as tabled.
2. Fees from Baker, Topping & Boland
3. Flyer for Ipswich Veteran car Club re their 40th Anniversary Rally 15 & 16 March 2014
4. Flyer from Bayside re Australia Day and Ormiston Swap.
5. Thank you note from Ian & Valda McDowell.

The Secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted and the outward be endorsed, and the accounts passed for payment Seconded by Robyn Clark - Carried

**Business arising from the Correspondence:** Nil

**Treasurers Report:** Trevor Moore presented the treasurers report and moved that it be accepted. Seconded Alan Couser carried.

**Queensland Historic Motoring Council Report:** Nil

**Parts Report:** Trevor Spare Moore reported having a quiet month due to Christmas.

**Second Hand parts** Nil

**Run/Rally Director** by Neil Thyer

- 15th December club breakup at Orleigh Park West End 10am
- 12th January 2014 Buffett Breakfast
- 26th January Australia Day Bayside Club at Ormiston State School.
- Valentine's Day run by Merv & Margaret Thompson
- Neil also advised that he can email 2014 events to members if requested.
- 16th March Presidents rally

**Other Events:** Justin McCarthy reported that his A7 got best post vintage car on the Gold coast Rally

### **General Business:**

Justin McCarthy advised that he had a Christmas card to send to Judy McCulloch and for members to sign it for him.

Bret Wilson mentioned that Brisbane markets would like to promote car clubs and for the clubs to have a static display at the Eagle Farm Race course. They would require 4 – 8 cars, two to three times per year from 6.30am to 12.30pm on a Sunday. Entry cost is not known at this point.

Ken Folliott wished to thank Tim Braby for his editorial skills in producing the Newsletter. *(Thanks Ken)*

### **Report on Cars and or Car troubles;**

Brett Wilson reported he changed the oil in their A7 and found the remainder of some split pins, sump and gauze filter removed revealed 2 big ends were loose as a result had beggar to rattle. Retightened and new split pins on all big ends.

**BIRTHDAYS:** - Judy McCulloch, Ian Waring, Howell Whitehouse, Bret Wilson, Noelene Schiefelbein, John Davies, Jim Leslie, Bob Rogers.

The President wished all sick members a speedy return to good health.

Raffle tickets were sold by Valda.

Next Meeting 10 January 2014

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

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

### **Committee Meeting 19 January 2014**

#### **Held at the 174 Hyde road, Yeronga**

#### MEETING ORDER

Declare meeting opened Time 4.05pm Welcome Members

**Apologies:** Alan Couser, Tim Braby,

**Members Present:** - L Jordan, T Moore, Amanda Wilson, N Thyer, John Que, Brett Wilson,

**Minutes of previous meeting** Moved Moore Seconded Amanda Wilson

**Business Arising from Minutes** Nil

#### **Correspondence**

OUT. Receipts to members.

IN

Moved T Moore Seconded

**Treasures Report** It was decided not to present a treasurer's report as it is the same as the previous general meeting.

**Combined Council Report/Business** Nil

**Spare Parts Report** Order to be sent to Melbourne as parts required were not in stock.

Rally Director Neil Thyer tabled a document (printed from the A7 Web site) of the completed 2013 rallies along with the 2014 proposed rallies.

#### **General Business**

1. 2017 National Rally update if anything to report. Any costing developed, next meeting for the committee.

Response: Nothing further to report at this time

2. Donation bowl for the supper at meetings should we have a sign Club accepts voluntary donations. Response: Collection dish to remain as it has always been, if any member wishes to make donation they so can.

3. \$10 fee for the static display to be scrapped. It was thought that this may encourage more members to attend and display their vehicles.

4. AGM nominations.

Response; Nomination forms to be available and displayed 2 meetings prior to the AGM. The forms would be available on the table to members who attend general meetings.

5. Rally reports are not being done on all occasions so the meeting considered who is to delegate someone to do a rally report for each event.

6. Response: It was decided that the rally organiser for that rally appoint a member at the rally, during lunch, to undertake a rally report for that rally for publishing. Alternatively, the A7 rally co-ordinator (presently Neil Thyer) if present, could nominate a rally attendee to do a report on that rally.

7. Subsidised outings and events.

Response: After discussion, and in that the club did not obtain any monies from swaps etc., it was agreed that it would not be a tax issue to subsidise in certain cases. For example, if a rally organiser for an event requested a subsidy, they would have to approach the committee prior to the rally for that subsidy. Each case would be considered on merit. In brief, it was agreed that if any club costs are to be requested as part of a club outing or event, such matters are to be brought up at a meeting prior to the event. It was also generally agreed that A7 Club breakfasts, lunches or dinners would not generally be subsidised.

8. Rockhampton trip not long enough in Rocky. Response: Brett to discuss details of the rally at the next general meeting following the Rally Report.

9. *(Note from Tim) Can we set up some sort of account for getting the newsletters paid for, instead of my being out of pocket, perhaps a cash float of \$100 every two months (last one cost \$90, after they first charged me \$190!) also cost of stationery, computer downloads, ink for printing labels, labels, etc? I use Office Choice in Virginia.*



Response: It was agreed that Tim should not be out of pocket and that Tim to take up with Amanda the procedures for account payments.

10. *(Note from Tim) Do people want minutes in the newsletters, especially the QHMC ones, perhaps these can be condensed, I have done this a few times when trying to cut the page count down to 16! I am happy to make the newsletter shorter if need be to just info and rally reports.* Response: Club minutes to be printed in full. QHMC minutes that have pertinent points of interest to the A7 Club are the only ones to be printed.

Meeting Closed 5.03pm

**Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc**  
**Meeting No. 517, 11th October 2013**  
**Held at Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale**

The President Lindsay Jordan declared the meeting open at 7.45pm

Attendance Book: 19 members were in attendance and 1 visitor Chris Brocklehurst from the UK

Apologies: Mike & Kathy McGuill, Darren & Kirsten Moore, Ted Bale, Justin McCarthy & Judy, Peter Goldsworthy

**Minutes:**

The Minutes of the September Meeting were read and the Secretary moved that

They are accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded – Robyn Clark. Carried

Business arising from the Minutes: Nil

Correspondence:

**OUT:**

1. Receipts sent to members.
2. Application To Hugh Carter
3. Application to Steve Davidson

**IN:**

1. New letters from other clubs as tabled.
2. Renewal membership from Hugh Carter
3. Membership application and payment from Steve Davidson

The Secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted and the outward be endorsed, and the accounts passed for payment Seconded by Howell Whitehouse. - Carried

**Business arising from the Correspondence:** Nil

**Treasurers Report:** Amanda Wilson presented her report and moved that it be accepted. Seconded Neil Thyer carried.

**Queensland Historic Motoring Council Report:** Nil

Spare Parts Report: Quiet month we were able to purchase some second hand parts from Michael Kenward whose parents, Howard and Alison, had been members of the club

**Second Hand parts** Nil

**Run/Rally Director** by Neil Thyer

- 10th November Ian & Valda McDowell leave from Club Rooms 9am
- 15th December club breakup at Orleigh Park West End 10am
- Neil Thyer put to the meeting that the All British Day be classed as a club run, with points being awarded for attending members from 2014. All in favour.

Other Events:

- Crestmead Neighbour Hood Watch is having a Road Safety Expo at Waller Park on Sunday 20th October 2013. There was an indication that there would be some members attending
- Boronia Heights State School Car Show & Shine 9am -2pm Sunday 3 November 2013, There was an indication that there would be some members attending

**General Business:**

- QHMC SVI S Questionnaire urgent. There were several questions that were required to be answered and

they were answered and it was also voted to leave the SIV Scheme as it stands with no alterations.

- Tim Braby mentioned that he had been asked by Graham Cogzell to try to get members to attend the Gold Coast Rally 16/17 November 2013, application forms left for members.

Report on Cars and or Car troubles; Nil

BIRTHDAYS: - Neil Thyer, Joyce Dannenberg, Dennis Gillbard, Ann Duncan, Gary Rayner

The President wished all sick members a speedy return to good health.

Raffle tickets were sold by Valda McDowell

Next Meeting 8th November 2013

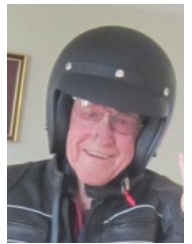
There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 8.125pm.

## The Ferret's News (Just a bit of fun)



Doug Clark is one for always being busy, not only does he have his own projects by has undertaken to restore a Thornycroft truck cabin for Ron Toy, and Austin ten for Rod Sims and now he has purchased a Mini from Mike McGuill and Ron and Rod what to know when they can expect their projects to be completed.

Howell Whitehouse the "old Bieke" has had second thoughts about riding his Ariel motor bike so he has sent it south to have a side car fitted he is of the opinion that it won't fall over with 3 wheels. He hopes to have it in the new year.



Now Ian McDowell has to be Irish as after stretching the oil line whilst removing the engine from his A7 it was too expensive to have a new one and as the stretched one was now a lot longer he did a cut and shut on the oil line to save money.

Alan Couser, Budda, has been down in Tasmania Budda camping with his son. Information received he has had trouble getting out of his sleeping bag in the early morning whilst sleeping on a camp stretcher. It would appear that it would be like a Christmas beetle upside down trying to right its self



The Editor went to NZ for a bit of a break and got more than he expected, a 6.2 magnitude earthquake struck just 50 km north. At the time he was up a ladder and did not notice anything and wondered why his Kiwi sister grabbed the ladder for support, having seen what happened in Christchurch and felt again in Wellington only 8 months ago'

*Picture to the left-Just to prove you can fit an Austin Seven into a Hyundai iLoad Van, with all four wheels on and steering column with wheel attached. In theory it should be possible to load a vintage Seven sports, roadster or chummy in as long as you remove the windscreen frame FIRST.*



# 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 in 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; [jque@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jque@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



# PAST RALLY REPORTS

## CHRISTMAS RUN SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2013



The day started well till I noticed the puddle under the Austin 7, it was fuel and after an hour it was not fixed to drive so modern it would have to be, oh well, fact of driving a vintage car.

We arrived at Orleigh park West End to find Trevor and many others set up for the day and it was good to see Ron Toy with an Austin truck and two Austin 7 on the back of the truck.



We ended the day with 8 Austin 7 and meet some new members with a newly restored Ruby roadster and renewed some old friend ships as the day was a social event with a good turnout, of cars as well as a good old chin wag, with good weather and good time had by all.

Attendance was Trevor and Elaine, Karyn and Neil, Doug and Robyn, Tim, John, Alan, Ian and Valda, Justin and Judy, Ron and Daphne, Grant and Jacki, Rod and Janette, Matt and Boys, Peter and Joanna and Amy and Kristy the new

roadster. (Photo above)

See you at the next Austin 7 run  
Brett

## A7 ANNUAL BREAKFAST AT THE COLMSLIE HOTEL ON 12 JANUARY 2014

The weather forecast was for the possibility of showers, but the reality was a fine morning without a cloud in the sky. Twenty-two A7 members assembled outside the Colmslie Hotel prior to opening for breakfast at 8am. Five shiny Austins, a record I believe for this annual event, assembled below the large shady Leopard tree on the edge of the hotel carpark. Trev & Elaine Moore, Alan Couser, Justin & Judy McCarthy, Merv & Margaret Thompson and Neil Thyer & Karyn Matthew were those who had arrived in their Austins.

Once in the restaurant, members took little time to sit at the large reserved table before tackling the adjacent scrumptious buffet. Over the next couple of hours, members enjoyed the breakfast cereals, hot food, fresh fruits, fluffy pancakes, cold juices and hot coffee and tea.

Entertaining and robust conversation continued for some time following the meal. We all departed with a little more effort required by our baby Austins to carry the extra breakfast kilograms.

Members thanked us for once again organising this successful annual event.

Neil

## **AUSTRALIA DAY RALLY – ORMISTON STATE SCHOOL**

“Isolated showers, more frequent around the Bayside areas with a 30% chance of 0 – 0.04mm rain” was the 7am forecast for 26th January – Australia Day, 2014. Even a brief shower over Morningside as we cranked up “Harry”, didn’t deter us from the run to Ormiston State School for the annual Oz Day Breakfast and Rally organised by the Bayside Vehicle Restorers Club.

The normally quiet Sunday morning drive along Old Cleveland Road towards the Bay was noticeably busy with the many veteran, vintage and classic cars heading for the same Ormiston School breakfast venue.

Not bothering to put up Harry’s hood in the event of rain, and to the amusement of other rally participants, a passing shower close to the arrival point had us driving in with our umbrella held high!

After we parked, the aroma of the BBQing sausages and bacon had us heading for the School’s covered area for the free breakfast on offer. The BBQs were ably staffed by two of our A7 members, Doug and Trevor. In an adjacent location Elaine and Robyn were busy selling raffle tickets.

Within the couple of hundred or so cars present, we were represented by six A7s. The A7 members and their cars were Trev & Elaine Moore, Doug & Robyn Clark, Merv & Margaret Thompson, Lindsay Jordan, Justin McKeering and Karyn & me. Also present were Ron & Daphne Toy in their Austin Healy Sprite. In all, twelve A7 members were there to represent our Club. With many other commitments to celebrate the special day, we all headed off around 10.30am after a couple of hours of stimulating conversation with fellow A7 members and other motoring colleagues.

Neil Thyer

## **An unofficial version of the origins of the Old Imperial System**



There may be among our readers some who, coming from parts of the world where people toil with the complexity of the metric system, are not aware of the simplicity, the stark beauty or the crystal clear efficiency of British measuring methods.

Europeans, traditionally lacking in true British grit, cricket and boiled cabbage, are also demonstrably short of the quality of Anglo-Saxon imagination which makes a gambol through the garden of rods, bushels and pennyweights a delightful and stimulating experience.

We propose spreading the message of British measurement by bringing to you the derivation of some of the more commonly used units of length. The basis for measurement of length is the yard. This unit was very sensibly defined as the distance between the fingertips and nose of a King looking straight ahead with his arms outstretched.

It is believed that a platinum-iridium replica of the original King is now used as, after a long and useful life of holding his arms outstretched and looking straight ahead, he suffered some distortion in the embalming Process. Now, obviously, the yard was too big to measure all things. For example, the maximum extension of a recalcitrant serf on the rack was only a small part of a yard if he was to maintain his service and work ability. So the unit was divided into 36 sub-units, called inches. Thirty six was chosen because the King was just 36 days from being 49 years old at the time. Had he acted a day earlier the intrinsic tidiness of the whole system would have been jeopardised.

Unfortunately, the inch proved impracticable for some purposes. The royal throne maker would have been extended by several parts of a yard had he worked only to this tolerance in his craft. So, the inch was further divided into 64 parts. Sixty-four was chosen because this was in fact one year before the age at which the King was to be superannuated and because he liked the number better than 93, Historians differ on this point and some say that 64 was chosen because this made 1/64th of an inch around 1/2304th of the distance between the King's nose and fingertips.

There still existed a need for a unit between the inch and the yard for measuring such things as the correct drop of a well-constructed gallows and so the foot was devised. This unit was called the foot to confuse industrial spies from European gallows manufacturing concerns who, of course, thought it was the length of the King's foot, which was actually only '10-39/64th inches. As a result European gallows made to these pirated specifications, never really worked well and many criminals escaped because they dropped only 679/768th of the proper distance.



Many people think that the most important unit of length in the whole British system, the chain, was made exactly one cricket pitch long because the King was a promising off-spin bowler. They are wrong. Twenty-two yards was chosen as the length of the chain because that was the maximum range at which the King ever felled a vassal with a pewter between August and December. So, we again see providence and Britannia in collusion. A faster vassal, heavier

pewter and who knows, a chain may not have equalled 792 inches'

There were still other length measurements to be made - the distance covered in one day by a deserting serf pursued by dogs, the ground put the King's army in retreat and the enemy between matins and vespers, the perimeter of the estates seized by the King from barons not contributing sufficiently to the King's comfort. All these things needed a much larger unit - consequently the mile.

The King, a quick-witted man decreed that the mile should be 3-9/16 times the range of the second most powerful crossbow in the castle when fired into a force 3 headwind. Fortunately, this distance was found to be 5280 feet or 1760 yards which luckily turned out to be exactly 1408 ells'

(See footnote)

Table of everyday equivalents of length measurements.

1 mile = '1408 ells	league = 2640 fathoms	
1 furlong = 1980 hands	chain = 352 nails	
1 skein = 545-5/11 links	rope = 6-213 yards	
	rod = 16 feet	
	cable = 8640 inches	

Footnote

Note: English ells, of course. The Flemish had 1760 ells to the mile and hence undershot, while the French had 1173.33 of their ells to a mile and after many years of overshooting, invented the metric system to maintain the status-quo vis-a-vis perfidious Albion.

**Courtesy of the Community Chronicle and Matt Potts who will explain it all at the next meeting when he comes back to earth after flying Airbuses!**





## For Sale, Original, fully restored 1928 Roadster,



Probert Body, (name badge on body) built in N.S.W. The body on the Roaster is a one piece body. Body Woodwork frame rebuilt, ORIGINAL, Engine M74778, and Manufactured Dec 1928. Diff 1928, Distributor 1928, Generator 1928, Starter 1928, Body #42269, new honeycomb Radiator, Motor Meter, Full hood & side curtains. Maroon Body, Black Guards. Roadworthy 12 months ago, Melbourne Austin 7 club owner. \$22,000.

Michael Shegog

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## For Sale 1938 Austin 10 Cambridge Saloon

**1938 Austin 10/4** painted BRG with retrimmed cream interior

Asking price is \$12900 with the car with its original Qplate and open registration. The Owners, Jim and Bev Burton of North Rockhampton, will listen to near offers. Ph No: 49286924 Mob 0438 287050. Or [jimbev2@bigpond.com](mailto:jimbev2@bigpond.com)

Transporting can be undertaken by Kings Transport of Kawana in North Rockhampton to Acacia Ridge in Brisbane for \$417.75



## For Sale. Austin 7 rolling chassis [no, 41741] 1927-29.

Ideal for a chummy, van or Latrobe bodied sports project.

All the hard bits included, i.e., guards, radiator surround, windscreen, Engine [m41311], bonnet, steering etc, etc. contact.

Wayne Styles.

03 9592 1672. Ah. Or [jenayne45@bigpond.com](mailto:jenayne45@bigpond.com)

## Wanted

For 1925 A7---- Wheels or centres, and brake shoes/return springs for "6 inch" brakes.

Thanks

Peter Goldsworthy.

pgoldsworthy3@gmail.com

## Wanted

Complete Fuel pump to suit Ruby  
John Perham  
jpglenwood@gmail.com

## **PHOTOS FROM THE ARCHIVES** **WORKING AUSTIN SEVENS**



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A lovely little 1927/28 Utility from Western Australia, period advertising photo from the JS Battye Library of West Australian History

This magneto engine 1927/28 Austin Seven Roadster was used by NSWGR as a platform luggage vehicle. Believe somewhere in Sydney in the late 1930s or 1940s. They also used cut down Austin 8 tourers in this role.



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