



NEWSLETTER *October 2015*

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

*Three little Sports are we!
From left to right, 1929 Meteor- Steve Davidson
1930 Meteor - Duncan Logan
1934 Nippy Sports - Tim Braby*



Only 18 months to GO!!!

It is now only 18 months until the 2017 National Rally to be held in Toowoomba. Time to complete your Expression of Interest Form and post it off pronto. Also it is time to get serious about getting your Austin ready. If you are only half way thru a 10m year nut and bolt restoration, it may be better to aim for the 2022 rally instead! If it only needs a polish and oil change that is fine, but perhaps the steering is a bit loose, the exhaust a bit smoky, the brakes a bit sloppy and the tires getting a bit thin, don't put it off any longer, support your Local Spare Parts man Trevor and order those parts you need.

ARE YOU AND YOUR CAR READY?

PS Thank you all for paying your membership fees

Editor Tim

Your Club Committee

President: John Que (07) 3396 0882
Vice Pres.: Lindsay Jordan 0414 708 158
Webmaster: Mike McGill (07) 33512598
Rally Co-ordinator: Neil Thyer (07) 32179880

Secretary: Robyn Clark (07) 3800 1965
Spares/Tech: Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
Dating Officer: Tim Braby (07)33592086
Librarian: Alan Couser (07) 33499628

The A7RQ Inc. On Line

We have a web site which you can view at <http://austin7.org.au/>. 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 10th October Club Meeting Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale, Commencing at 7:45 pm.

Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th October: A7 Register Rally. LAMAI Weekend Rally organised 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.

Sunday 11th October Optional/Informal A7 Register Rally: Details TBA.

Friday 13th November Club Meeting Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale, Commencing at 7:45 pm.

Sunday 15th November A7 Register Rally: Rally organized by Alan Couser (ph. 0403 504 709) Details TBA.

Friday 11th December Club Meeting Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale, Commencing at 7:45 pm.

Sunday 13th December A7 Register Rally: A7 Club Christmas Lunch. Venue TBA. Commencing at 10.00am.

Lunch organized by Robyn Clark (ph. 3800 1965). BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel.

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

Sunday 10th January 2016: A7 Register Rally. Annual New Year Breakfast organized by Neil Thyer & Karyn Matthew (ph 0431 067 909). Buffet Breakfast (all you can eat!) at Colmslie Hotel, Junction Road, Morningside. Breakfast commencing at 8.00am. Cost: \$14.95pp. Undercover parking available below hotel if required.

Tuesday 26th January 2016: A7 Register Rally. Australia Day Rally organized by BVRC commencing with Breakfast from 7.00am at Ormiston State School. Rally around 10.30am to follow around Moreton Bay area - finishing at Alexandra Hills Hotel for lunch. Contact Robyn Clark (ph 3800 1965) for more details. A7 members to make own arrangements re travel, registration etc.

Friday 12th February 2016: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 14th February 2016: A7 Register Rally Valentine's Day Rally organized by Lindsay & Sharyn (ph 0408 876 559). Rally to commence from Centenary Pool Carpark at 9.00am. Rally details TBA. BYO Morning Tea & Lunch.

Friday 11th March 2016: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.45pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 13th March 2016: A7 Register Rally. President's Rally organized by John Que (ph 0409 893 305). BYO Morning Tea & Lunch. Rally Details TBA.

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

Sunday 10th April 2016: A7 Register Rally. Rally organized by Trevor & Elaine Moore (ph 3848 5575). Rally to commence from Centenary Pool Carpark at 9.00am. Rally details TBA.

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

Saturday 14th May 2016: A7 Register Rally. Mothers' 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

INVITATION RALLIES AND SWAP MEETS

14th – 15th November Gold Coast Antique Auto Club AUTORAMA.

6th a- 7th February 2016 Toowoomba Swap Meeting (95% sites booked already!)

23rd – 24th January 2016 Allora Heritage Weekend – 20th Anniversary Rally. Allora Showgrounds. Warwick Veteran and Vintage Club

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

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

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th 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 17th 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.

Sunday 26th June 2016: Vintage Car Club Static Display at Ormiston House, Ormiston commencing at 10.00am.

Minutes of Past A7RQ Meetings

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc.

Meeting No 539 14th August 2015

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale

The meeting was declared opened by the President John Que at 7.50 pm, with a welcome to everyone, including Ian & Valda's Granddaughter Emily McDowell.

Attendance: The attendance book was signed by 18 members

Apologies: G & J Preddy, J McCarthy, R Curtis, B & A Wilson, M Potts, P & N Dorman, G & J Gleadhill, R & R Guthrie, M & K McGuill, L & B Kidby, S Davidson and R & J Sims.

Minutes: The minutes of the July meeting were read and the Secretary moved that they be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Tim Braby. Carried

Business Arising from Minutes: Nil

Correspondence: OUT

- IN**
- Newsletters from other clubs as tabled
 - Expression of Interest 2017 Rally from Ron & Alice Turnbull
 - Membership renewals
 - Office of Fair Trading
 - 22nd Aug Veteran & Vintage Swap, Clubrooms 8.30 am. Gold Coin Entry
 - Email All British Day re number attending and club Marshall 20th September
 - Holden Club Rocklea Auto Roundup, 27th Sept, Swap and Show & Shine
 - Email Mossgreen Auction Armadale 18th October
 - Bayside Club Australia Day Rally, 26th January
 - Samford District Historical Museum, 26th January Australia Day Static Display
 - National Motor Racing Museum Newsletter

Secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted. Seconded by Neil Thyer. Carried

Business Arising from Correspondence: Secretary to notify number going to all British Day. Justin McKeering volunteered to be Marshall

Treasure's Report: Trevor Moore read the report in Amanda's absence and asked for it to be accepted. Seconded by Alan Couser. Carried

Queensland Historic Motoring Council Report: John Que gave this report and tabled the flyers on a USA Trip.

Spare Parts Report: Trevor Moore reported a few sales this month and a supply a parts ordered from Melbourne Club. Spare Parts will be closed from 1st to 22nd September.

Second Hand Parts: Doug has been asked for a lid off a 4 speed gear box.

Events Organiser: Neil Thyer reminded members of the following runs.

10th Aug Run organised by Justin McKeering, Meet clubrooms 9 am. BYO M/T & Lunch. BBQ lunch if required a clubrooms.



11th August Static Display, C T White Park, 9am to 1-30 pm.

20th Sept All British Day, meet Yeronga RSL carpark, 8am

Other Events:

22nd-23rd Aug Auto Spectacular, Cairns

30th Aug Jimboomba Auto Extravaganza, Swap Meet & Vehicle Show

3rd-6th Sept Red Centre Nats, Alice Springs

12th Sept Gympie Swap

13th Sept Beaudesert Swap

20th Sept Swap Beenleigh Showgrounds

26th Sept HCVA Truck Show, Gatton

27th Sept Bay to Birdwood Classic

3rd-4th Oct LAMA Rally, Gatton

14-15th Oct Gold Coast Autorama Rally

Rally Reports: Past Events

12th July RACQ Motorfest numbers down from previous years

18-19th July Old Wheels in Motion, Biloela. Trevor & Elaine Moore took their A7 Sports. Other members attended.

19th July Jumpers & Jazz Festival, Warwick. Nil

9th Aug Chev Swap, Rocklea Showgrounds. Trevor Moore attended.

25th July Nambour Swap. Members reported it was very big.

Club Web Master Report: Nil

Library Report: Nil

Editors Report: Tim reported the newsletter has 16 pages which is the limit for postage. But members to please send in articles as he will print them when room is available.

2017 A7 Rally Report: John told us 5 members of the committee have been to Toowoomba and visited quite a few places of interest and received some prices and quotes on things that will be needed for the rally.

General Business: Bev Kidby has agreed to give a talk on their trip to Cape York in the A7 next month. She has recently been to Victoria and was invited to talk at the Melbourne A7 Club meeting.

A number of members attended Rex Dannenberg's Funeral.

Greg Stevens is organising a visit to 2 radiator workshops in October (Ormeau & Gold Coast) If you wish to attend please notify John Que.

Report on Car and/or Car troubles: Nil

Birthdays: Members having a birthday in the month of August were wished many Happy Returns.

Raffle: Valda had a money plant for the raffle and it will be drawn at the Static Display on Sunday.

Sick members were wished a speedy return to good health.

Supper Organiser: Thank you extended to Elaine for tonight's supper.

Volunteer for September meeting = Joe & Margaret McCormack.

October: Rhonda Guthrie

Committee Meeting – TBA

Next Meeting – 11th September 2015-09-08

As there was no further business to discuss the President closed the meeting at 8.45 pm., stating the AGM meeting will follow before supper.

Austin Seven Register of Queensland Inc.

Meeting No. 540 11th September 2015

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

The President John Que declared the meeting opened at 7.55 pm, with welcome to all, including our visitor Noel Clarke, who was a member when he lived in Queensland.

Attendance: The attendance book was signed by 22 members

Apologies: Apologies were received by T & E Moore, M Potts, M&K McGuill, B Wilson, R & R Guthrie, P Goldsworthy, and Lindsay Jordan & Sharon.

Minutes: The minutes of the August meeting were read and the Secretary moved that they be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded by Neil Thyer. Carried

Business Arising from Minutes: Nil

Correspondence: OUT Membership form to B Roser, Alligator Creek

Email to All British Day re members attending

Office of Fair Trading re annual return

IN: Newsletters from other clubs as tabled

Expression of interest forms – D & C Smith, K & I Bell, T & D May

Membership renewals

Brisbane City Council Cheque Re C T White Park

Insurance Renewal

Email Matt Potts apology for tonight

VCCA Tenants Newsletter & Notice re carpark

21st Sept Shannon's Auction

31st Oct Shannon's Car Show, Strathpine

1st Nov Wheels of the Century. Redcliffe Showgrounds

The Secretary moved that the inward correspondence be accepted and the outward endorsed. Seconded by Judith Haig Carried

Business Arising from Correspondence: Nil

Treasurer's Report: Amanda presented the Auditors report. She was not happy with their service or work and asked for the Auditor to be changed next year. Four signatures to be on our cheques. (President John Que, Vice President Lindsay Jordan, Secretary Robyn Clark & Treasurer Amanda Wilson.)

Payment for Clubrooms and Less Stress Auditors. Amanda then asked for the report to be accepted.

Seconded by Alan Couser. Carried.

Queensland Historic Motoring Council Report: John reported on the QHMC Risk Management Report all clubs have to have.

Spare Parts Report: Nil Trevor away

Second Hand Parts: Doug had nothing to report but Grant Preddy asked if anyone had a door handle.

Events Organiser: Neil Thyer

13th Sept NO RUN

22nd Sept All British Day, meet Yeronga RSL Carpark 8am

11th Oct Do Members want a Run.

15th Nov Alan Couser to organise

13th Dec Do members want the same park or a different one or go to lunch at a Hotel?

Members to decide at the next meeting.

Other Events:

12th Sept Gympie Swap

13th Sept Beaudesert Swap

20th Sept All British Day

26th Sept HCVAQ Truck Show, Gatton

27th Sept Bay to Birdwood

27th Sept Rocklea Auto Roundup, Rocklea Showgrounds, Swap and Show & Shine

3rd 4th Oct LAMA Rally, Gatton

18th Oct Mossgreen Auction, Armidale

Rally Reports – Past Events:

19th Aug Justin McKeering's run in newsletter

11th Aug Static Display 15 Cars

Auto Spectacular, Cairns Nil

Jimboomba Show & Shine and Swap, Grant stated it was very American.

Red Centre Nats, Alice Springs Nil

22nd Aug Veteran & Vintage Swap, Clubrooms. Good for pre 1931 parts

Web Master Report: 2016 Rallies now on site.

Editors Report: Tim has done the design for the 2017 Rally Badge.

2017 A7 Rally Report: Members of the committee still going to Toowoomba inspecting places the rally can visit.

General Business: John asked if anyone was interested in going to the Radiator Workshops Greg Stevens has organised on the 7th November. 3 members going.

Justin McCarthy came 2nd in his category at the Leyburn Sprints, also looking for an oil filter Cap.

Bev & Lang Kidby then gave a talk on their adventure to Cape York in DAISY their Austin 7. John then presented them with a Certificate of Achievement from the club.

Report on Cars and/or Car Troubles= Nil

Birthdays: Members having a birthday in September were wished Happy Returns. It was a special year for Trevor Moore and Tim Braby.

Raffle: Valda had tickets for sale.

Sick members were wished a speedy return to good health.

Supper Organiser: Thank you to Margaret McCormack for the supper.

Rhonda Guthrie volunteered for October meeting.

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: 9th October 2015

As there was no further business to discuss the President closed the meeting at 9.45 pm.

Robyn



PAST RALLY REPORTS

Austin 7 Run - 15th August 2015

We had planned to take our van on the Saturday morning run but it wasn't running properly and with no time for checks it went back into the garage and we went modern.

There were six Austins waiting at the club rooms including new member Steve and daughter Remy in their red Austin 7 sports, previously owned by Brian King. Also Neil, Lindsay & Sharon, Trevor & Elaine, Duncan



with his nephew as navigator and Lang & Bev in the green chummy that they drove to the top of Cape York. It wasn't long before Alan's two Austins arrived, Alan in the chummy and John Que driving the maroon tourer. Justin was still at work so Neil handed out the rally sheets and we hopped in with Doug & Robyn, who were also travelling modern, and followed the Austins for a

pleasant drive through Tingalpa and Wynnum West.

After checking out Elanora Park at Wynnum we continued on to the foreshore at Oyster Point for a leisurely morning tea. We were joined here by Karyn who had a special delivery of coffee for Neil.

Continuing with the run, three cars had left before Steve discovered that his Austin was not going to start. With the rest of us waiting and phone calls to Trevor for advice they worked out the problem and after disconnecting the starter motor and a push start, Steve was on his way again.

As it was now close to lunchtime we all decided it would be better to take the quickest route back to the clubrooms where other members were waiting.

Mike & Kathy, Matthew & boys and Justin were there to join us for a BBQ lunch and a good natter.

Thank you Justin for organising an enjoyable run, even though we only managed to complete half of it.

Sunday morning at CT White Park Doug & Trevor arrived with spare parts and in no time had Steve's sports repaired and starting better than ever.

Valda & Ian McDowell

Austin 7 Annual Static Display- 16th August 2015



At around 9am on Sunday morning of 16 August, residents around the usually quiet environs of C.T.White Park at Kangaroo Point were gently woken by the characteristic "hum" of Austin 7 engines. Austineers were assembling for the 42nd Annual Static Display. The weather prediction was for a few clouds and a 50% chance of showers. Fortunately for the duration of the display, lunch and presentations, it was a beautiful day.

In all, 15 bright, shiny and not so new Austins assembled on the park slope overlooking the Brisbane CBD. Most cars were driven to the park, while a few from greater distances were trailered to the venue.

It was good to see our illustrious President John, who's Birthday it was, once again behind the wheel of an A7 – albeit belonging to Alan Couser. Great work Alan for your kind gesture of loaning your car to John and thus presenting two cars at the Static Display.

An immediate priority for Steve Davidson once he arrived, was, with the assistance of fellow Austineers headed up by Trevor, reinstalling his car's starter motor. At the rally on the previous day his car had "seized" which necessitated the removal of the starter motor. The job was successfully completed around 10am.

Following much Austin chatter between members and the usual enthusiastic interest by the passing public during the morning, we all settled down to enjoy our BYO lunches. After lunch and with some dark clouds threatening to "rain on our parade", President John commenced the formal proceedings. Formalities were temporarily halted when Robyn presented John with a birthday cup-cake complete with candle to which we all sang "Happy Birthday".

The raffle prize was then drawn and was won by the Cahalanes. The money tree prize was accepted by Gail. The Cam McCulloch Memorial Trophy was then presented by Neil Thyer to the members who attended the most A7 Rallies throughout the last twelve months. The presentation went to Trev & Elaine Moore. Well done Moores. To positively top off Steve Davidson's A7 weekend adventures, his car was chosen as the "people's choice" on the day.

This concluded the events of the day and we all motored off home under a rain-threatening sky. Well done Robyn and helpers for yet another successful A7 Static Display.



Neil

All British Car Clubs Display Day 20th September 2015

This is an event that has been going for many years now, moving from its original venue at the Taringa Rovers Soccer Field, a brief stint at the Woolshed at Ferny Grove before that was sold up for a townhouse development, to its present long time venue at the St Josephs college ("Terrace" as it is more commonly known) Sporting Complex at the end of Vivian Street, in sleepy Tennyson.



Attendees included Valda and Ian McDowell - 1937 Van, Doug and Robyn Clark - Chummy, Lang Kidby - Chummy (fresh from Cape York), Justin McKeering - Chummy, "Alfred" (1936 Special) - Justin McCarthy, Tim Braby - Nippy

Sports and Emma Baker Nippy Sports, and arriving a little late Duncan and Crystal Logan in the 1930 Meteor after blowing a head gasket at Strathpine on the way from the Sunshine Coast. Thank you John Que for going to rescue them! There were some other British cars there I believe, including an Austin 20/4 and a Castrol Green 1967 Mini Cooper,

which is the actual car raced by Brian Foley and Paddy Hopkirk at Bathurst in 1967.



Left

At last Brisbane's two running Nippies rub shoulders, the Editor and Peter Baker's cars. We had fun comparing details, there are plenty of differences between the two cars after 80 years of use!



Left

Mini Mayhem, this is the original 1967 Bathurst Car driven by Paddy Hopkirk and Brian Foley. They came 4th in their class of 15 that year, Bob Holden and Tony Fall came first in Mini Cooper Number 30C

Below

A Lovely big vintage Austin 20/4 Tourer made from 1919 to 1930. This was to be Austins only model after WW1, but it took the Austin 12/4 and more importantly the Austin 7 to save the company after the Great War. 3.6 Litre car inspired by Herbert Austins

personal Hudson Motor Car





20th Historic Leyburn Motor Sprints

A HUGE field of 230 cars spanning 100 years of motoring entered for the 20th annual Historic Leyburn Sprints.

The classic and high-performance entries range from a 1925 Austin roadster to a 2015 sports car called an RSS and represent every decade in between except the 1940s. The round-the-houses time trials mark the 20th year since the community of the small Darling Downs village created an event to commemorate the running of the 1949 Australian Grand Prix on a disused wartime airstrip nearby.

This year the event also pays tribute to the late Sir Jack Brabham, who won the Queensland Road Racing Championship on the bush circuit in his Cooper-Bristol four years later.

Cars race one at a time against the clock in 55 classes covering sports, racing and touring cars. With seven runs per car across Saturday and Sunday, spectators enjoyed non-stop action.

Taking part in the pre WW2 sections were 3 little Austin Sevens including Russell Wright in his 1925 Gordon England Brooklands Supersports and our very own Team Alfred Justin 1936 Austin 7 Sports Special crewed by Justin "Lighting" McCarthy and Russell "Squeak" Curtis.

The official Leyburn Sprints websites lists the following results. Photos kindly sent in by a very proud Justin.



Group Jb Vintage Cars

Car No. 1 Russell Wright 1925 Gordon England Austin Brooklands Supersport 750 cc 01:49.681 221st overall 1st in class (of 1)

Group Kb Historic Cars

No. 4 Justin McCarthy Russell Curtis 1936 Austin 7 Sports Special 750cc 01:30.855 fastest time 219st over all (beat an MG and a Lotus!) 2nd in class (of 2)

Fastest speed recorded was a 1997 model 3500 cc Formula Libre car at 00:42.954

CAPE YORK BY 1929 AUSTIN SEVEN



CAPE YORK BY 1929 AUSTIN 7

In late June we will be heading off to recreate the first car journey 1,000km from Cairns to Cape York (Australia's most northerly point). In 1928 Hector Macquarrie and Dick Mathews drove a tiny Austin 7 on a heroic journey through the bush and over numerous tropical rivers to be the first vehicle to reach Cape York.

We have acquired an identical 1929 Austin 7 and will attempt to take this little 86 year old car on the same route. The Cape York trip is still the great four wheel drive destination as the way is closed for 6 months of the year due to monsoonal rains and high rivers. There are gravel roads now built around the most difficult sections but we will attempt to follow the original unmade route along the old overland telegraph line - the same horse track Hector and Dick went on in 1928.

Many four wheel drivers steer clear of this difficult track but we reckon that the groups of helpful aboriginals who helped push and actually carry the tiny car through deep creeks in 1928 might be replaced by the odd helpful Landcruiser in 2015 to assist us up the near vertical banks. Apart from ad hoc pulls on the rope if required from passing 4x4's we will be going completely alone and unsupported.

Whatever the outcome it will be a lot of fun and we will keep you posted.

ON THE ROAD

After some great hospitality, we set off from John Lenne's house in Cairns (where the ute and trailer are stored) on Thursday 26th June for all points north.

The little car, now christened "Daisy" by Bev, has been cruelly loaded despite all efforts to reduce the weight. Initially the engine sounded like a machine gun but it was discovered the timing was extremely advanced. With a bit of fiddling the distributor has been modified to use both its internal automatic advance and the original hand lever on the steering wheel and now is purring nicely.

The very steep 15km climb up the range from Cairns tested the little girl with a stop halfway to replenish the radiator. On arriving at Barry Dick and his partner Linda's place at Mareeba the left rear brake was removed after it was found dragging and frozen. It is amazing how much better a car goes without the brakes half on!

A nice night at Lakeland Downs pub was followed by an early morning run into Cooktown. Some seriously steep hills were now taken "in its stride" by Daisy using the increased performance. Although she will go faster we find about 60kph is a nice comfortable cruising speed. Fuel consumption, once over the range has come it at 52mpg - about 15km per litre. Fuel is not going to be a big expense and the 20 litre tank should get us easily between stops.

Cooktown has been great with an interview by the local paper who were fully expecting us - how we do not know. As the Austin 7 in 1928 was the first car ever to drive to Cooktown their interest is keen.

Tomorrow on the Battle Camp Road and our first dirt to Laura.

COOKTOWN TO COEN

On June the 27th we set off from Cooktown in the rain.

But the weather cleared once we were over the range.

We forded the Normanby River on the Battlecamp Road with no problems and then struck out on the gravel which had a few corrugations but the car handled it well.

We arrived at Laura late morning and set up camp behind the pub. Daisy had her photo taken with the Austin 7 parked at the Laura Store. During the afternoon Lang worked on the brakes removing each wheel and adjusting each one in turn. Seems all



brakes were seized - something we had not spotted before leaving home.

In 1928 Hector and Dick in Emily put their Austin 7 on the railway that ran from Cooktown to Laura but this fell into disuse after the gold and other local demand finished shortly thereafter. Laura's big weekend was on with Picnic Races and bull riding but all the crowd were camped well away from us at the show...

Leaving Laura on the 28th we had no oil pressure. The thin wire from a wrap tie from a motorist parked at the roadhouse to clear out the oil jets soon had us on the way again.

We then headed for Lakefield National Park on relatively good roads. We arrived at our pre booked camp site at Hann Crossing on the North Kennedy River before lunch and enjoyed a very relaxing afternoon at this idyllic spot totally out of sight of any other campers on the banks of the river.

On the 29th we continued through the National Park calling into Lotusbird Lodge – a beautiful resort 28 kms out of Musgrave where Sue and Gary the owners treated us to morning tea. We stopped at Musgrave Roadhouse and topped up with fuel and as we were leaving we passed Jan and Alan Pike returning from Weipa. Alan boiled the billy and we swapped tales of our trips. They were travelling south so were able to give us some clues about the road ahead...

Now we are on the main north-south road the conditions are fairly horrendous. The corrugations really make poor Daisy do a merry dance, and there is a lot more traffic to contend with.

We have been having trouble with Daisy overheating and during the afternoon she just stopped dead and Lang found the points closed. The new points are wearing their rubbing block very quickly and will need checking regularly.

We arrived at Coen at 3pm and were able to get a room at the hotel for the night. In 1928 Hector and Dick talk about what once had been a thriving inland town dying because the high cost of labour had forced the gold mines in the neighbouring mountains to close.

COEN TO BRAMWELL

June 30th and we are off by 7am and very few cars on the road through to Archer River. The road conditions vary from OK to downright awful. After refuelling at Archer River and having some breakfast we made the decision to not side-track into Weipa, and put Daisy through another extra 200kms of corrugations.

Turning onto the Telegraph Road we decided we had made the right decision as this part of the road seemed to be in much better condition. We called into Moreton Telegraph Station for lunch and continued onto Bramwell Station for the night. During the day we struck quite a bit of rain which made it fun when cars passed and the windscreen turned red. As the wiper does not want to work we



found we could tilt the whole windscreen and wipe with paper towel each time someone passed us. At Bramwell Lang with the help of Les, a volunteer at the station again worked on the brakes which continue to give us problems. In the evening though, we were able to relax and enjoy a very nice meal and live music until 9pm.

BRAMWELL TO SEISIA

Ju1st before setting off Lang had to fix the accelerator cable and then we went 10km Bramwell Junction Roadhouse and refuelled. We are getting 17kms to the litre so Daisy is proving very economical. She has a 20 litre tank and we are carrying two 10 litre jerry cans. During the day all brakes failed so Lang is just reading the road and using the gears, emergency stops are achieved by turning the ignition off.

We called in at Fruit Bat Falls which are lovely but over-run with 4WD's and people so continue on to the Jardine River Ferry crossing. Again there is a huge line up of vehicles and it takes about an hour and the help of Tina who is driving the car in line behind us to cross. We tied a rope between the cars so we didn't get away and go down the slope across the barge and end up in the Jardine. We had considered trying to re-enact the 1928 crossing and even brought a large tarp with us to float the car across. Unfortunately there did not seem to be anybody who was willing to wade across the river with the crocodiles, Lang probably would have given it a try but this little duck certainly wasn't going to.

The roads again go from OK to awful and we eventually hit bitumen just out of Injanoo and head through Bamaga and onto Seisia. This is a tiny but pretty seaside town with a very nice caravan park. What it also has is Mark the mechanic at Top End Motors. We organise to have Daisy looked at the following day and book a donga at the park for the next three days.

(Text and pictures taken with Kind permission from Bev and Lang Kidby's Web at next-horizon.org)

NEXT NEWSLETTER: WE MAKE CAPE YORK AND THEN THE HOMEWARD JOURNEY.



Road, Griffin Qld 4503

Austin Seven Classifieds

For Sale Ruby Chassis – no mechanicals included - Grant Preddy 07 3202 7110

For Sale 1929 Chummy. Own a bit of Austin 7 History, Daisy has recently returned from an epic trip to Cape York. On concessional club rego. \$20,000. Has hydraulic brakes and ready for more expeditions.

Lang and Bev Kidby. langleykidby@gmail.com
0439 677 279 07 3886 1688 at 1024 Dohles Rocks

PLEASE NOTE WHEN ORDERING NEW SPARES PARTS BY EMAIL

Just to advise that our only email address is temoore@live.com.au
the email address temoore@bigpond.com no longer exists.

Trevor & Elaine Moore



Photos of Interest

A photo from the Forgotten Perth series. This little 1928-29 Chummy has just competed in a trial held across the Nullarbor, the P3 plate may be a sign of the city of origin, being Perth. Obviously a very well-travelled little car.



Mystery photo? - no not really, this is a detail of Duncan Logan's head gasket that blew on his Meteor halfway on the way the All British Day. Special mention must be made of John Que who went to the rescue with a replacement head gasket and they swapped the offending item on the side of the road. I assume that Duncan and his navigator Crystal made it home safely again at a slightly slower rate, as the replacement gasket was a thicker low compression one rather than the thinner high compression one usually fitted!

EDITOR/PUBLISHER

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Please note that my old email account tim.braby@bigpond.com will be taken down in a few days



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

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