



NEWSLETTER

October 2026



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



"A7RQ Inc. Annual Static Display 2026"

Peter B. starts up the supercharged motor he built up for Russ C.

It started easily and ran faultlessly in front of the band of keen observers.

Key Austin 7 Register Club Meetings and Events

Friday 9th October – A7 Club General Meeting 7:30 pm

Saturday 10th to Sunday 11th October 2026: External A7 Register Invitation Event: LAMA Annual Invitation Weekend Run

Friday 13th November – A7 Club General Meeting 7:30

Editorial Comments



People ask me if I miss my Austin 7, well, yes I do. We have been on lots of rallies with the Austin crew over 30 years. The Austin 7 is also special it represents a tangible part of motoring history, something which has interested me since I started building model cars from kits in 1970. The Austin 7 is also one of the most versatile motor cars ever built, (along with Henry's Model T Ford of course). But as you will see 'Tim-Tam' is now safely stored with several other fine Austin 7s in "Seven Heaven" as seen in the photo. The sign above the lineup of Austin 7s says **"ALL SEVEN DAYS OF THE WEEK ARE AUSTIN 7 DAYS"**.

ARE AUSTIN 7 DAYS".

At the back of this newsletter you will find some information about Sporting Ausin 7s in Australia, written by Victorian Austin 7 Officiano Tony Johns. This book is worthy a spot in any library.

Your Editor: Tim Braby

DISCLAIMER

While all care is taken to ensure the articles and events in this newsletter are accurate as possible, the Austin Seven Register of Qld. Inc. and the Editor take no responsibility for errors, omissions or content. Also, the opinions expressed by the Editor and contributors are not necessarily the views of the Committee of the Austin 7 Register of Queensland Inc.

A7 Register of Qld. Committee 2026 - 2027

President:	Steve Davidson 0418 814 501
Vice President:	Lindsay Jordan
Secretary:	Robyn Clark Mob. 0412 276 313
Treasurer:	Sharon Cowden 0429077905
Editor:	Tim Braby 0405 740 418
Editors Assistant:	John Que
Spares/Tech:	Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
Second Hand Parts:	Doug Clark (07) 3800 1965
Runs & Events Coordinator:	Neil Thyer 0431 067 909
Webmaster:	Neil Thyer 0431 067 909
Dating Officer (North side):	Tim Braby 0405 740 418
(Southside):	Trevor Moore (07) 3848 5575
Librarian:	Brett Reif
QHMC Representatives:	Steve Davidson & Justin McKeering
Raffle " Stinger":	Valda McDowell

The A7RQ Inc. Online

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

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

austin7.org.au/events & Face book Austin7 Register of Qld Inc.

AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. CLUB EVENTS & INVITATION RUNS FOR 2026

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF QLD. EVENTS

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



Website that have been cancelled or postponed.

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

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

Always check our A7 Register Qld Web site for possible recent

updates/cancellations/postponements prior to attending any event. And IF IN ANY

DOUBT - contact the event organisers to find out what the situation is. Happy Motoring

and stay safe & well.

A list of all the 2026 A7 Events is now posted on our A7 Website & our A7 Facebook site.

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

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

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

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

Friday 9th October 2026: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.30pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Saturday 24th October 2026: External A7 Register Invitation Event: Friends of Tingalpa Cemetery Heritage Group have invited our club to their Decoration Day & Fun Fete at 1341 Wynnum Road Tingalpa commencing at 9am and completing around 12noon. Morning Tea & Lunch will be available for purchase or BYO. A musical and Historical program will be presented. Bring your A7 and park in the grounds or come modern and park in Smith's Chips Carpark next door. For further info contact Neil ph. 0431 067 909

Friday 13th November 2026: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.30pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 15th November 2026: A7 Register February Event: Welcome to the West Run 3. This Run, postponed from February, is organised by Colin & Gay Jacobson Ph. 0407 627 206. Run participants are to meet from 9am at the Botanical Gardens Café, bottom of Mt Coot-tha, where Morning Tea can be purchased or BYO. The Run will then commence at around 10am to 10.30am following Morning Tea at the Café and proceed to Fig Tree Pocket Riverside Reserve for a BYO Lunch.

Friday 11th December 2026: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.30pm at Clubroom, Carindale. **Note: Members are requested to bring a plate of Christmas Food to share.**

Sunday 13th December 2026: A7 Club Christmas Lunch to be held at the Carindale Clubrooms and is to commence at 11.30am. Ham, Chicken, Salads and Dessert will be provided but drinks (hot or cold), cutlery and plates are BYO. As this is an A7 Register event, members are encouraged to wear their name tags and drive their A7s. For catering it is essential that you RSVP Robyn Clark by 1 December – Ph. 0412 276 313.



60th Anniversary Rally

Austin 7 Register of Qld. Inc .

15th – 19th April 2027 - Stanthorpe Qld

- Thursday 15th** 1 - 4pm Registration – **Top of the Town Caravan Park**
5pm Welcome Reception – need Chairs BYO Drinks
Top of the **Town Caravan Park** Camp Kitchen
6pm Pizza Evening 2 drops
- Friday 16th** 9am assemble Rally - **Lavender Farm** Morning Tea
Afternoon – free to explore the **town & museum.**
- Saturday 17th** 9am assemble Rally - Visit **Truffle Farm Discovery Centre**
Lunch – **Granite Belt Winery**
- Sunday 18th** 9am Assemble Rally - **Blue Pot Pantry** Morning Tea
Lunch BYO – **Wallangarra** – need your own picnic & chairs.
- Monday 19th** 9am Assemble Rally – Morning Tea
Lunch BYO - **Amiens Soldier Settler Display** - need your own picnic & chairs.
- Monday 19th** Farewell Evening Dinner – R.S.L.

Your Rally Committee

Merv & Margaret Thompson	0408 150 982	champagnecarriages@bigpond.com
Ross & Rhonda Guthrie	0427 175 099	guthrie45@bigpond.com
Sharon Cowden	0429 077 905	sharonleacowden@gmail.com
Lindsay Jordan	0482 979 416	lindsaydjordan@gmail.com

Entry Form now available from the club website. <http://austin7.org.au>

OUTSIDE EVENTS BY OTHER CLUBS

Saturday 3rd to Monday 5th October The 11th Queensland Heritage Rally 2026 External A7 Register
Invitation Event: presented by the Stanthorpe Historical Vehicle and Machinery Group at the Stanthorpe Showgrounds. Contact Garry on 0418 832 175, or on Facebook. Members to make their own arrangements re.travel, registration, accommodation etc.

Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th October LAMA Annual Invitational Rally, External A7 Register
Invitation Event: organized by the Lockyer Antique Motor Association Inc. and commencing in Gatton. Contact The Secretary, email: sec.lama@hotmail.com for more details. Members to make their own arrangements re.travel, registration, accommodation etc.

Tuesday 27th April to Monday 3rd May 2027 Pre31 Rendezvous Rally,
External A7 Invitation Event: The Stanthorpe Historic Vehicle & Machinery Group inc. extend a hearty invitation to all owners of pre-1931 cars, trucks and motorbikes to join them for the Pre 31 Rendezvous Rally on the Granite Belt. The 7 day event is limited to 150 eligible vehicles. Please book your accommodation early as Stanthorpe is a busy destination. Upon entering the rally you will receive your Rally Pack which includes a list of accommodation.

For details please contact the Rally Director Garry Ellis on 0418 832 175. Look for us on Facebook.



MINUTES OF PAST A7RQ MEETINGS

Austin 7 Register of Old. Inc.

Meeting No 663, 14th August 2026

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale

Meeting Opened: The President declared the meeting opened at 7.33 pm with a welcome to all.

Present: 24 members signed the Attendance Book

Apologies: Trevor & Bev MCC, Murray & Fiona R, David & Diane Y

Minutes: Robyn read the Minutes of the July Meeting then moved it be accepted as a true & correct record. Seconded by Brett R. Carried

Business arising from Minutes: NIL

Correspondence IN & OUT: Newsletters from other Clubs

IN: MYOB Invoice

Change of address for Bill R, Change of email for Steve H

QHMC Minutes July 2026

OUT: Membership Card & receipt to various members

Various phone calls re A7 lunch & Static Display

Sympathy Card to Joe & Margaret McCormack

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

Business arising from Correspondence: NIL

Treasurer's Report: Sharon informed the members of the club's finances, then moved her report be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by Tim. Carried

QHMC Report: Justin gave this report. QHMC to inquire about our SIVS Rego increase.

Spare Parts Report: Trevor has had some good sates this month.

2M Hand Pans Report: Daphne Toy has some A7 parts she will donate to the Club. **Editors Report:** Tim has some valuable feedback from the UK about our newsletter.

Dating Officers Report: NIL

Web Master Report: Our website is up to date. Thank you, Neil.

Club Events:

15th August A7 Club Lunch & Static Display at the Clubrooms 11 am

16th August Club run cancelled due to lack of interest.

27th Sept All British Day, Tennyson

Other Events:

20-23 August Northern Rivers Vintage & Veteran Car Club Rally, Lismore

29-30 August Antique Machinery Restoration Society Qld. Rally, Woodford Showgrounds

29th August QHMC swap, Clubrooms

12th Sept Chrysler Expo, Rocklea Showgrounds

10-11th Oct LAMA Rally, Gatton

Past Events:

18-19th July Old Wheels in Motion, Biloela

19th July Gold Coast Swap

25th July Nambour Swap

Library Report: NIL

General Business:

Norman Wilson thanked Ewen & Tim for their help.

Robyn asked if Committee members could be at the Clubrooms by 9-9.30 tomorrow.

Could we please have the tables set up tonight?

Please sign the Wedding Card for Matt & Kylie

Read out a list of Club Property, (If you have anything please let me know.)

A 60 year book of our Club is being organized & all members will receive one next year.

Birthdays: Members having a Birthday in August wished Many Happy Returns

Sick members wished a speedy recovery.

Raffle: Tickets sold tonight but will be drawn tomorrow

Supper: Thank You to Gail for tonight's supper.

September Sharon

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: 11th September 2026

Meeting Closed: 8.08 pm. AGM to follow.

Club Annual General Meeting

President Steve and Treasurer Sharon give their reports which are well received by the attending members.

The 2025/26 Committee were re-elected without any opposition. The only change is that Sharon told us that after another year as Treasurer that she would like to step down for the following year (2027/28)

Austin 7 Register of Qld. Inc.

Meeting No. 664, 11th September 2026

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale

Meeting Opened: The President declared the meeting opened at 7.34 pm with a welcome to all.

Present: 22 members signed the Attendance Book.

Apologies: Trevor & Bev MCC. Peter B, Colin & Gay J, Fiona R

Minutes: Robyn read the Minutes of the August Meeting & moved they be accepted as a true & correct record. Seconded by Alan. Carried

Business arising from Minutes: NIL

Correspondence IN & OUT: Newsletters from other Clubs

Email re Wayne Styles passing.

QHMC August minutes & newsletter No 30 re swap

LAMA Rally entry form 10-11th October

Email forwarded by Sharon re BOQ no longer accepting cheques.

MYOB Invoice

Gallagher Insurance

VCCAQ re Defibrillator in clubrooms

AMHF Sept Newsletter & &I.O billion spent annually on upholstery & auto electrical by Australian.

Motoring enthusiasts

Annual return

OUT: forwarded emails to various members

Get well card to Margaret T & Ann B Sympathy card to Jenny S

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

Business arising from Correspondence: NIL

Treasurer's Report: Sharon reported on the club's finances. The Annual Return has been sent & reminded members about personal cheques. She then moved her report be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by David, Carried

QHMC Report: Justin reported on the QHMC meeting & things discussed.

Spare Parts Report: Trevor had not had many sales this month, but another order has gone off to Melbourne.

2nd Hand Parts Report: Doug had an inquiry from Ken b re Ruby Seats but could not help. Daphne T has some A7 parts-to donate to the Club. Editors Report: Tim would like more reports from members.

Dating Officers Report: NIL

Web Master Report: Neil has it up to date.

Club Events:

27th sept All British Day, Tennyson

24th Oct Tingalpa Decoration Day, 9 to 12

15th Nov Colin J to organize.

13th Dec

Other Events: A7 Christmas Lunch

12th sept Chrysler Expo, Rocklea Showgrounds

10-11th Oct

Past Events: LAMA, Gatton

15th Aug A7 Lunch & Static Display 12 cars & 50 people

16th Aug A7 Club run Cancelled.

20-23rd Aug Northern Rivers Vintage & Veteran Car Club Rally, Lismore

29-30th Aug Antique Machinery Restoration Society Qld Rally, Woodford Showgrounds

29th Aug QHMC Swap, Clubrooms (24 sellers)

Library Report: Brett is going over some old NSW Newsletters

General Business: Robyn asked if members would like newsletters from other clubs forwarded to them, just ask. Also, if you know of anyone sick, so we can send them a Get-Well Card.

Thank you to Mike & Kathy McGill for the donations of books to the club.
John Q asked for a thank you be sent to the Austin Motor Vehicle Club for organizing the AOA in Maryborough.

Birthdays: Members having a Birthday in September wished Many Happy Returns
Sick members wished a speedy recovery.

Raffle: Winners Kempii & Ian McD. Thank you, Trevor M, for the donation towards the raffle prize,

Supper: Thank you to Sharon for tonight's supper. Next Month Norman

Committee Meeting: TBA Next Meeting: 9th October 2026

Meeting closed: 8.18 pm.



Robyn

News of Members

Welcome new members Richard and Anne Harris of Carters Ridge who have a very nice 1936 Ruby which has a lot of its history which indicates it was originally registered in Hastings, in Sussex in the UK!

PAST CLUB EVENT REPORTS

2026 A7 WEEKEND LUNCH AND STATIC DISPLAY – Saturday 15 August 2026

The 2026 A7 Weekend Lunch and Static Display was held at the Clubrooms, with cars rolling in for the 11 o'clock start. Fortunately, it turned out to be a sunny winter's day,



despite the Bureau of Meteorology forecasting showers from late morning.

There were 12 Austin 7s on display, owned by President Steve, Doug & Robyn, Neil & Karyn, Trevor & Elaine, Ian & Valda, Young Justin, Colin & Gay, Murray & Fiona, Ewen, Brett, Merv & Margaret, and Ian W. with his son, Jared. Attracting the most



attention, though, was a supercharged A7 motor displayed by Russell & Vanda. Other people arrived in their modern cars, and in total there were 50 members and guests in attendance.

Over the next hour, our Grill Masters, Trevor and President Steve, showed off their expertise, cooking a variety of meats on the BBQ. Meanwhile, other food preparation was taking place in the kitchen, Raffle Organiser Valda was busy selling raffle tickets for the array of prizes available to win, and Treasurer Sharon was overseeing various financial transactions. Others enjoyed viewing the cars and the motor on

display or simply catching up with members and guests they had not seen for some time.

At midday, President Steve warmly welcomed everyone and announced that lunch was served. Attendees lined up outside to be served a delicious lunch of sausages, bacon, hamburgers, fried onion, coleslaw, lettuce, tomato, beetroot, cucumber, pineapple, cheese and rolls. Conversation continued at the tables, and there was plenty of food left for second servings.

While dessert was being prepared, President Steve invited Rhonda to address the room about the Stanthorpe run being organised for April 2027. Rhonda encouraged members to participate in this 5-day event, which was being organised to celebrate the Club's 60th anniversary.



Robyn then distributed the annual wordsearch puzzle, which kept people busy as they vied to be the first to finish the puzzle and work out the secret message from the leftover letters. Congratulations to Margaret on being the first to solve the secret message and winning a travel toiletry bag for her efforts.

Following dessert of individual warm apple or berry pies, served with custard or vanilla ice cream, several presentations were made. This year the coveted People's Choice Award went to 'Harry,' Neil & Karyn's



1929 Roadster. President Steve presented Neil & Karyn with a gift card for the win.

Next, Neil presented the Best Run and Events Supporter for 2026. Given their unwavering commitment to the Club and all its events, there was enthusiastic applause when Neil announced that Doug & Robyn had again won the trophy.

It was then time for the much-anticipated raffle draw to take place. The raffle display table was laden with a dozen prizes, the centrepiece being a

large fruit and vegetable box. And the lucky



winners were (drum roll).....Brett (winner of the fruit and vegetable box), Aileen, Ross & Rhonda, Kempie (lucky winner of 2 prizes), Vanda, Trevor & Elaine, Norm, Doug & Robyn, Twink, Dianne & David, and Ewen. Many thanks go to those members who generously donated raffle prizes.

Finally, President Steve announced that, although the day's formalities had concluded, everyone was encouraged to continue socialising and enjoying the day. Many thanks to President Steve for doing such an excellent job with the day's MC duties.

A big thank you to the Committee and others involved in organising, catering and running today's event, and to members who pitched in to help with various tasks and the clean-up. A special thank you to Secretary Robyn for her tireless and detailed work which ensured that the day was a success.

Karyn

45th Annual All British Day Brisbane Sunday 27 August 2026



Under cloudless blue skies and what eventually became an extremely hot sun, a large number of veteran, vintage, classic and modern British cars of all makes and models rolled into St Joseph's College Tennyson Playing Fields for the 45th Annual All British Day Brisbane. The cars lined up neatly across the fields, ready to be admired and photographed by the viewing public.



Representing our Club in their A7 cars were Doug & Robyn, Trevor & Elaine, Brett, Colin & Gay, Justin McK, Judy H and Stacey & Jamie with their boys. Peter & Jo were there in their Wolseley Hornet. Other Club members also in attendance but arriving in their modern cars were Allan, John, Russell & Vanda, Greg and Neil & Karyn.



The Official Opening took place at 9.30am. Throughout the morning, there was always a core group of our Club members sitting near our cars, but the members changed constantly as they went to take a stroll and look at the other cars, to talk to friends and acquaintances, to answer questions from other car enthusiasts and members of the public, and to line up in the long queue for coffee. Those seated sought the small patches of available shade, put on sunscreen, wore hats and put up umbrellas in a bid to protect themselves from the heat of the sun.



At about 1.30pm, the Trophy Presentation took place, and this year one of our A7s was presented with an award. Congratulations to Doug &

Robyn on winning the Best Veteran and Vintage category! A well-deserved win for their Sports “Albert”.



Following the Presentation, a procession of vehicles made its way out of the grounds and headed for home.

Many thanks to the organisers, sponsors, trade exhibitors and food and beverage sellers who made the day such a success, and to our members who flew the flag for our Club by attending the day.

Karyn

Restoring “Tim-Tam”

It was mid 1989 when a letter was read out at one of our club meetings with news about an Austin 7 for sale down at Beenleigh. The letter was from the Morris Register, who were told about a Morris 12 tourer and the Austin 7 that were for sale in a BP service station at Beenleigh. Just out of curiosity I went for a look. When

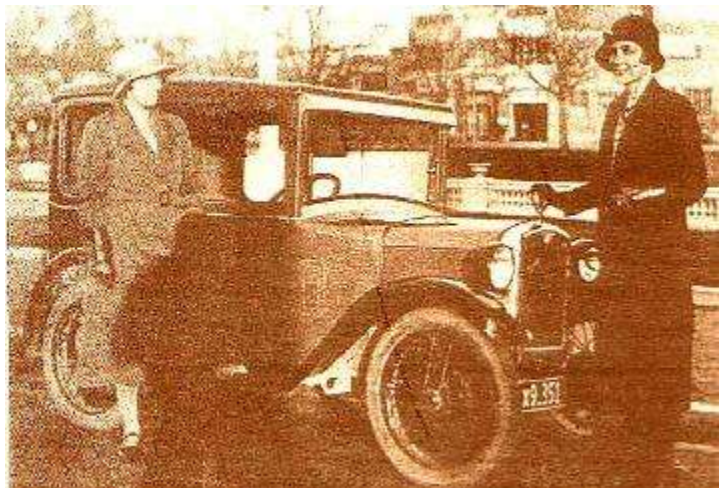


I was shown to the back of the building where the partly dismantled tiny shell of a 1929 A7 saloon was sitting. I was immediately interested because it had the Austin factory aluminium bodywork. The garage owner was selling the Austin for a chap named Patchett who brought two Austin 7s when he moved over from New Zealand to the Gold Coast. There was no history with the car, but it still carried a set of 1960s issue Kiwi black and white number plates and a New Zealand Warranty of Fitness sticker on the windscreen from 1980. (the VARNZ told me there were sadly no old rego records saved from the period) Unfortunately I

never met the owner as all the negotiating was done with the garage owner. We agreed on a reasonable price for the car but a fortune for the spare parts! But it was now MINE!

The car appeared complete as far as the mechanics and bodywork went. I collected the car just before did our Longreach leap in June 1989. Ross and Rhonda loaned me their trailer, and we brought they car plus a delightful selection of parts up to my house at Kedron Street, Kedron where it shared accommodation with my 1930 Chummy and 1929 Wasp.

Now it was time to access what I had. For the experts it is a RK Wide Door Saloon, built in October 1929, with the 1 inch and 5/16ths crankshaft, and roomy 36” wide doors with combination sliding and wind up windows. This



model was never imported to Australia when new, but they were common in New Zealand where there was no restriction on importing complete cars. In Australia there was a tariff on complete cars, thus protecting the local body building trade, which is how companies such as Holden's took off. In Australia Holdens and a few other firms built saloon bodies for Austin 7s which differ in detail and are panelled in steel except for the scuttle, whereas the imported British bodies were all aluminium in the 1920s.



Now to see what it could do. The first step I decided to put the radiator back on and bolt the seat back in a see if it could be made to run, and yes it did, including a brief test run up and down short Kedron Street on a quiet Sunday afternoon!

Knowing that the motor was ok I then pulled the body off and dismantled the chassis, replacing brakes, bushes and bearings with new parts from "Ted's Spares" and cleaning everything of old paint, rust and grime and then repainting the components. Much advice and help were asked of our members at, although the mists of time have faded my memory of the details. The motor was dismantled and rebuilt with new roller bearings, seals, gaskets and valves. The gearbox was fine. The differential was also just cleaned and fitted with new bearings and seals, the brakes relined, and new cams and bushes fitted. Similarly the front axle was

refurbished. Although after later use I found the chassis cross member under the gearbox was bent in, which meant the front axle had a negative camber. This was solved by putting a 12mm spacer behind the rear mount for the radius rods which straightened the steering geometry up. Another change was the carburettor. The car had a non-original white metal updraft carby which may have come from a tractor originally. I had already put a 1 1/8th" carby on the 1929 Wasp Sports, so I fitted one to this car as well.



Next the bodywork!.



I removed the aluminium scuttle panel which also formed the outer sill panel. Evidence showed the inner sill panels under the doors back to the rear wheel arch were rusted, so this was cut out and the late Ted Bale

generously made new replacements for me.

The rest of the body and inner timber framework was good; the only timber I replaced were the wood slats in the roof and the pieces inside the bottom door sill. The rest was cleaned, rust treated with phosphoric acid and fisholene and then primed and painted before the scuttle was replaced.

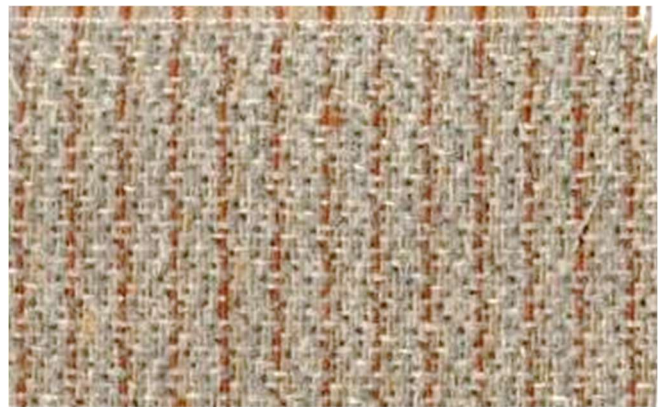
Body now back on the chassis I then redid the black vinyl covered roof, choosing a day when the sun was hot so I could pull the material tight over the roof contours.

Finally after 7 years it was time for repainting!



When I bought the car there were traces of marron on the body but underneath that colour I did find evidence of green. However, I liked the idea of a two tone effect as seen in this page from the 1929 catalogue. With the help of Ross and Rhonda Guthrie, who at the time were running “Guthrie Crash Repairs” in Fortitude valley. Mudguards and wheels were black of course, but the body was a rich creamy yellow Ford Bahama Beige, the top of the body Mitsubishi Auckland Brown. Most of the preparation and painting was done by Simon, who was working for the Guthrie’s. The paint

was a two pack finish, which ensured it has now endured 30 years without any deterioration, Next the interior. Being a lazy so and so I only had the inside roof lining and front seats done in a nice woven material called “Richmond Blended Classic Beige” by Cryan’s, a trusted company recommended by the Guthrie’s. The doors and inner panels I did my self and the rear seat which I should have had done at the time, I just covered in a beige material. Luckily, I kept a roll of the material used on the front seats for a future final job (which never happened).



The car now painted and upholstered, the wheels powder coated in black, it was time to finish the wiring and



lights. No plating was required (although years later a patch of chrome came off the radiator shell!) Just as I was finishing the car I did a trip to the UK and picked up a pair of matching 1 inch taillights from the Seven Workshop in Bradford-on-Avon. There I met the manager Ian Dunford who showed me the latest letter he received from Ted Bale ordering parts for the Austin 7 Register of Qld. There was also a couple from Perth buying parts! There was an identical car to mine at the Austin 7 rally at Beaulieu in Hampshire (where I saw Lord Montague awarding trophies to the cars). I took internal photos of that car which helped me with the finishing details.

Back home it was time for the finishing touches, old wiring was long gone so I used new cloth covered wiring which was obtained from a dealer at the Sandgate swap meet.

We were now finished.

Then it was a matter of getting the car insured thru Shannons, get a day permit and drive the car up to the motor registration office at Chermside and then I put on the personalised "TIM 77" plates which were previously on my 1929 Wasp (which I sold to finance my overseas trip.) The car was now finished just in time for our big Austin 7 rally at Maroochydore!

Finally. just where did the nick name "Tim Tam" come from? Well look at the colour of the body, it was chocolate over cream, just like the well-known Aussie biscuits. (Arnott's got the name from a famous racehorse!)

Tim the Editor

A new book for the serious Austin 7 Enthusiast!

COMING

"Sporting Austin Sevens in Australia"

After more than three years of research and writing I am pleased to have now completed my book on *Sporting Austin Sevens in Australia*.

It was my intention to create a serious quality book, not a coffee table book with pretty pictures, but a historical work that captures the role Austin Sevens played in motor sport in Australia.



Starting with a reliability trial in October 1923, Col Arthur Waite's win at Phillip Island in 1928 and ending with the UK Raid in 1981. There are more than 75,000 words (420 pages) and close to 500 photos.

The Club will have a supply of these in plenty of time for an ideal Christmas present for

the Austin 7 enthusiast.

Watch this space !!

Tony Johns (Victoria) (Email Tonyjohns98@gmail.com)

'Sporting Austin Sevens in Australia' - A Review in the Light Shaft Magazine

By Tony Johns.

The Austin Motor Company added a two-seater Sports model Austin 7 to their range in January 1924 with a guaranteed top speed of 50 mph.

The Victorian and Riverina, NSW Austin agents shipped one to Melbourne to promote sales of the small 7 hp Chummy Tourer model.

Around this brief introduction Tony Johns has crafted a fascinating story about the amazing story of Sporting Austin Sevens, starting with the early history of Herbert Austin and his engineering history and going on to the vast story of the amazing car and the Australian drivers who so successfully campaigned them.

Beautifully written by a club member and published by the Austin 7 Club, this book is a must for all who have an Austin 7.

The book has 405 pages and contains a huge variety of photographs, some never seen before—a tribute to Tony and his assiduous research over many years

The book will be available in mid-November 2026

The next two pages have reduced images of extracts from the book

(Rob Humphreys in the Victorian A7 Club "Light Shaft" - October 2026)

A bargain at \$99.



Tony Johns' great-aunt has much to answer for! It was annual Christmas holiday trips with his parents to Brisbane and constant exposure to her 1931 Austin 7 Tourer — a car she owned throughout her long life — that fired his interest in the motor and in motor sport.

Before turning 18, he acquired his first Austin 7, a 1928 'Chummy'. The Johns family backyard soon looked like a used car lot; some of the Austins came and went over the years, with spare parts smuggled home under cover of darkness. He built his first racing car in 1945, followed by a very competitive supercharged Ulster in 1977.

Tony joined the Austin 7 Club in 1963. High office beckoned with committee membership, then elevation to the presidency in 1973 before the inevitable work stint in London. He was honoured with a life membership in 1977.

The 1981 'UK Raid' was the high point of Tony's competition career. Before he retired in 1999 after 34 years behind the wheel of his racing Austin, he won the Colonel Arthur White Trophy four times, and the Porsche Shield (for the fastest lap in an Austin 7 at Historic 'Winton') on 13 occasions from the 16 times the trophy was presented.

Tony spent two decades as Porsche Cars Australia's accountant from 1978, playing a key role in the exponential growth of the Hamilton family's business and helping weather the occasional storm. In 1990, he established a boutique dealership importing specialised motoring books to Australia. The Johns ranch house was both a subtle retail outlet and a convivial place for Australian enthusiasts to gather on Saturday afternoons for over 25 years.

In more recent years, Tony and his wife Christine have participated in many Bentley Drivers Club rallies, both in Australia and overseas, in their 1924 Bentley 3 litre. Tony was a co-author of *Vintage Bentleys in Australia*, a limited edition book published in 2018, and now sold out.

This century-old story has finally been told. Austin 7s have been around since 1922, first arriving in Australia in 1923. This book relates compellingly their important role in the history of Australian motor sport from the early days of amateur owner-drivers competing in trials and hillclimbs to Captain Arthur White's victory in the first Australian Grand Prix held at Phillip Island in March 1928 aboard a factory supercharged Austin 7 ahead of a classy field including Bugatti, Alvis, Amilcar and other sporting cars.

Drawing from historical documents, including original programs, the pre-war era is well researched. The post-war special building and club racing have been sourced from drivers who participated in those events.

The story ends with the 1981 UK Raid, when five racing 'Australian Austins' and their owners spent a month racing the Poms on their home turf in a hard-fought series of races akin to 'The Ashes'.

With nearly 500 photos and images, this book deserves a place on the bookshelves of Austin 7 enthusiasts, motor racing readers and automotive historians.



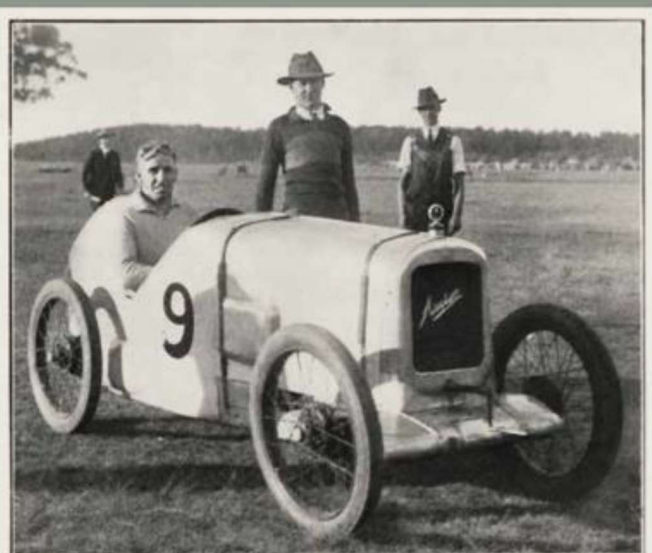
Left: Malory Park, Leicester UK 18 August 1981. The Australian drivers and their 'Raid' Austins. From left Bob Duguid, Tony Johns, John Ould, Graeme Stainforth and Max Foster. (Source: Sheelagh Adams)

Front cover: Captain Arthur White crosses the finishing line at Phillip Island to win the first Australian Grand Prix, 31 March 1928. (Rob King Collection)





Jack Cantor (closest to #1) is assisted in carrying the Brooklands Austin across the creek to avoid water damage to the magneto on his way to Gerringong Beach on Saturday 9 May 1925. The wet weather conditions resulted in the meeting being abandoned after the second heat. Adrian Patterson Collection.



Ted Patterson at Penrith Speedway 1 August 1925, in the Larke Hoskins Brooklands Austin. He won both his heats and the final of the All-Powers Handicap. These were the first victories for a Brooklands model Austin 7 in NSW.

The Motor in Australia, 1 September 1925, p. 517. State Library of New South Wales.



More on Tony's Book

As you read on the previous page Tony Johns of the Austin 7 Club of Victoria has finally completed his book on Sporting Austin Sevens in Australia. It finished being larger than he planned, 27 chapters,. The book is a hardcover one with a landscape format. Most of you will know that in Australia the Austin7

has a rich history of competing both in Grand Prix events and club circuits and continues to do so in regularity runs and hill climbs.

One chapter includes a photo of the first sporting event in Australia with an Austin 7 in a Reliability Trial from Brisbane to Sydney held in October 1923.

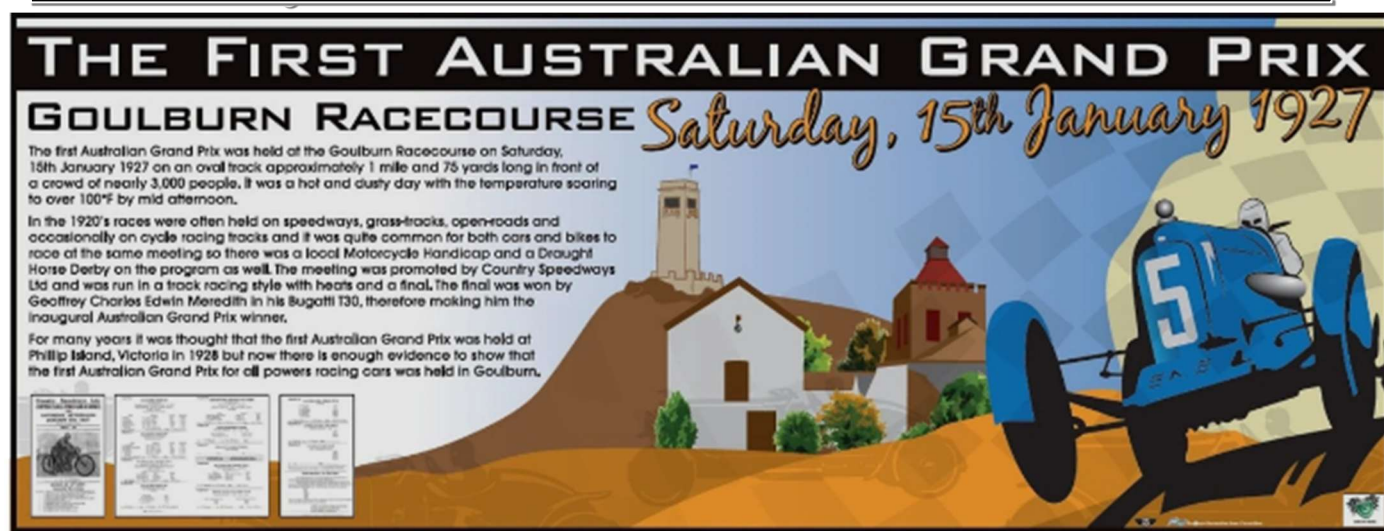
The club in Melbourne will cover the cost of printing the books and the distribution. Tony personally paid all the costs associated with getting the book to the point of being ready to publish and print. The Victorian club has kindly agreed to undertake those tasks.

The print run will be 500 copies.

If you are interested, please contact me and I will forward you the ordering details, or if you like the Austin 7 club of Victoria directly. Five Queensland Club members have already put their hands up for a copy. Note all payments are made to the Victorian club and there is a \$20 packing and postage charge for each book.

Tim the Editor

The Story of the 1927 Australian Grand Prix



Overlooked by history for many years is the fact that On 15 January 1927, Goulburn hosted the Australian Grand Prix for All Powers Racing Cars at the local showground. The historical research argues that this event was the first Australian Grand Prix for motor cars and that it shifted the origin story of Australian Grand Prix racing back to regional New South Wales.

The significance of the race rests not only on memory, but on naming. The documentation shows that the Goulburn event was promoted and run as the Australian Grand Prix, unlike the 1928 Phillip Island race, which was not initially promoted under that title before it was staged.

A race rediscovered

For decades, many enthusiasts assumed the first Australian Grand Prix had been run at Phillip Island in 1928. The research material explains that the earlier Goulburn event was rediscovered through newspaper references and later investigation by historians including David Manson, helping correct the historical record.

This rediscovery gave Goulburn a new place in the national story. It showed that the race held there in January 1927 was not a misprint or myth, but a documented and historically significant motorsport event.



A different era of racing

The 1920s were a fluid period in Australian motorsport, when cars and motorcycles often raced at the same meetings and on the same kinds of venues, including speedways, showgrounds and grass tracks. The Goulburn race belongs to that world before later distinctions between road racing and speedway racing became more rigid.

The research also notes that there was no settled Australian rulebook defining what did or did not qualify as a Grand Prix in the modern sense. That makes the contemporary naming of the Goulburn event especially important.

Why the 1927 event stands out.

The Goulburn race was notable for its title, its setting and its outcome. It was promoted as the Australian Grand Prix, run at the Goulburn Showground, and won by Geoff Meredith in a Bugatti after a sequence of heats and a final.

For the city, the event represents more than a historical footnote. It is the starting point of a century long story that now connects Goulburn to one of the best known traditions in Australian motorsport..

The Centenary Celebrations will be held in Goulburn on the 15th -18th January 2027. Check out the website at [Goulburn's First Australian Grand Prix for All Powers Racing Cars](#)

Going Spare – some Choice Parts!

Our parts men, Trevor and Dougie went to Mike Hawthorne's and purchased his remaining A7 parts for the club. Photos are some of the interesting parts.

If you are interested please contact Trevor ("Mr. T") at the spare parts department.

"Mr T"



Zenith Carburettor



Early distributor



Ruby model semaphore style trafficators



Switchboard for early model coil motor



Ruby type forwarded mounted starter motor

Generator

AUSTIN 7 REGISTER OF OLD MERCHANDISE

All Merchandise can be purchased from the Spares/Tech. Officer, Trevor Moore.

Ph: (07) 3848 5575 OR Email:

temoore@live.com.au

PRICES:

a Cloth Badge (sew to shirt or cap): \$10 (75mm tall)

b Lapel Badge: \$7:50 (30mm tall)

c Dash Badge, 25th Anniversary 1967 – 1992 \$5 (35mm tall)

d Longreach Leap Badge 2009 \$8 (60mm wide)

e Brass Car Badge \$50 (85mm tall)

f A7 baseball Cap with adjustable strap \$25 - one size fits all!

Additionally official A7 Register Name Badges can also be obtained from Rhonda Guthrie for \$13 each. Please email Rhonda at

guthrie45@bigpond.com. Pricing MAY vary with future availability.



Austin 7 Classifieds

For Sale 1934 Austin 7 Race Car Special



This vehicle was owned and driven by my late father, Roger Gaunt, and was actively campaigned at Historic Winton 2023 & 2024, where it appears in official race field documentation.

Vehicle Summary

- 1934 Austin 7 Special (Austin Ruby chassis)
- CAMS / Motorsport Australia Certificate of Description
- Recognised Historic Vehicle
- Pre-war style open wheel race car configuration

Historic Motorsport Background

The car was driven by Roger Gaunt

at Historic Winton, one of Australia's leading historic motorsport events, confirming its place within the historic racing community and its suitability for ongoing club and event participation.



Condition & Presentation

The vehicle is running and operational, presenting as a complete and functional historic special. It has been stored indoors, maintained as part of a private collection, and preserved rather than heavily used.

Additional Inclusion

Included in the sale is a purpose-built



custom trailer, designed specifically for transporting the vehicle.

Price Guidance

The vehicle is being offered at \$49,000, including the trailer.

I am happy to provide CAMS documentation, additional photos and video, and arrange inspection by appointment.

Chris Gaunt 0412 107 205 cgaunt50@gmail.com



EDITOR/PUBLISHER

Tim Braby, 43 Arcola Street Aspley Brisbane Q4034

Mob 0405740 418 H. Note NEW email: timbraby108@gmail.com

DISCLAIMER

While all care is taken to ensure the articles and events in this newsletter are accurate as possible, the Austin Seven Register of Qld. Inc. and the Editor take no responsibility for errors, omissions or content. Also, the opinions expressed by the Editor and contributors are not necessarily the views of the Committee of the Austin 7 Register of Queensland Inc