



NEWSLETTER

April 2026



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



“Goodbye Singo”

Pictured at Ballarat in 2012 Geoff and June Singleton meet up with their old car “Samson” the 1937 “Arrow” Sports. Inside we bid a sad farewell to Geoff.

Key Austin 7 Register Club Meetings and Events

A7 General Meeting - Friday 10th April - 7:30 pm start

Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th April: The President’s Long Run

A7 General Meeting - Friday 8th May - 7:30 pm start

Thursday 10th to Monday 15th June - Austins Over Australia.

Maryborough

Editorial Comments

I received a call from Stacy and Jamie Curtis which resulted in my visiting them. They were very happy to show me that Ted Bale's, Stacy's father, Austin 10 is now running again after sitting for a few years. We also talked about Stacy's car "Little Miss" which is also running well and next year will have been on the road for 30 years.

Sad to see the old MacLean's Sports Car meet has been cancelled finally after being held at different venues over the last 50 years or so. Originally it started at MacLean's Bridge at a picnic ground on the Logan River, later it moved to various other venues including, the Belmont Rifle Range, and lately the Caboolture Airfield. The first time I attended was in about 1976 in a 1927 Chrysler 66 Tourer driven by a dear old mate who introduced me to the world of vintage cars. With the current world crisis and uncertainty with fuel supplies and prices going up I do hope we do not see any events cancelled or postponed.

Finally many thanks to Karyn & Neil and Peter B. for their contributions. Especially to Robyn who was able to type up the March meeting minutes after having a medical procedure on her eyes.

Editor Tim Braby

A7 Register of Qld. Committee 2025 - 2026

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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 2025

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 2025 A7 Events is now posted on our A7 Website & our A7 Facebook site.

Neil Thayer (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.

An addition to our A7 Website is the inclusion of a list of new A7 spare parts available to members. The Catalogue of parts can be viewed in the "A7 Spare Parts" section of our A7 Website. For spare parts enquiries, phone our Spares Technical Officer, Trevor, on 3848 5575 or email temoore@live.com.au.

Friday 10th April 2026: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.30pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th April 2026: The President's Long

Run is on again in 2026. Like last year the run will span over a weekend with members welcome to attend on both days or just one. Our overnight stop will be at Esk.

The exact route is yet to be confirmed but the dates will be the 11th and 12th of April. Our current plan is to leave from Mount Coot-Tha and head to Esk via Dayboro, Woodford and Somerset Dam.

After spending the night in Esk, we'll head to the Walkabout Creek Discovery Centre that's adjacent to Enoggera Reservoir. Sunday drivers can meet us there for lunch or at Mount Glorious for morning tea. The route will be tested sometime soon but it's likely that we'll cover around 220km on day one and maybe a bit over 100km on day two.

There are multiple accommodation options including the Esk Caravan Park and Hotel. I've made some inquiries already and it seems that the single night stays fill up pretty fast so bookings will be essential. I'll book a room at the Caravan Park or their nearby Valley Trail Motel, but most places are within walking distance. For further information, or to register your interest, contact President Steve 0418 814 501.



Friday 8th May 2026: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.30pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Thursday 10th to Monday 15th June 2026: A7 Register June Event: Austins Over Australia. This event is hosted by the Austin Motor Vehicle Club of Qld and is to be held in Maryborough, Qld. The weekend consists of organised drives, car displays and visits to local places of interest. To register your interest, email AOA2024@amvcnsw.com.au or contact Tony Groom 0412 036 774. Information about this event can be found in the "2026 Austins over Australia" section of our A7

STOP PRESS! Entrants have been informed that the Rally committee are having a rethink on this event this month, and will inform them of any route changes, etc. We will keep you informed if they do.

Friday 12th June 2026: A7 Register General Meeting commencing at 7.30pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Sunday 14th June 2026: A7 Register June Event: RACQ Motorfest. Static display for public from 10am to 3pm at Brisbane RNA Showgrounds. Members will independently travel to the venue and make their own arrangements re. Registration. Contact Robyn Clark (ph. 0412 276 313) or Neil (0431 067 909) if you are attending. Registration online will be open on Monday 2 March 2026.

Sunday 28th June 2026: External A7 Register Invitation Event: Our A7 Club has again been invited to attend the **VCCQ Annual Concours d'Elegance** to be held at Sherwood Arboretum from 10am to 1pm on 28 June 2025. For details contact Barry Morris, VCCQ, ph. 0431 812 173. Members are to arrange their own travel etc. for this event.

Wednesday 10th to Monday 15th June: External A7 Register Invitation Event: **Austins Over Australia.** (YES, IT IS ONLY TWO SHORT MONTHS AWAY!) Several Members are attending. See December and February newsletters for details. Entries have CLOSED!

Friday 10th July: **A7 Register General Meeting** commencing at 7.30pm at Clubroom, Carindale.

Friday 14th August: **A7 Register Club Weekend – General Meeting & AGM** commencing at 7.30pm at Clubroom, Carindale. (not date change as some members will be up in Biloela the following weekend.

Saturday 15th August: A7 Register August Event: **A7 Club Weekend – SATURDAY LUNCH & A7 STATIC DISPLAY** commencing at 11am at the Club Rooms, Carindale. BYO Morning Tea. A lunch will be provided at around noon to members present. Food (BBQ Meats, Salads & Desert) will be provided but drinks (hot or cold), cutlery, plates, cups etc. are BYO. As this is an A7 Reg. Event, members are encouraged to wear their name tags and drive their A7s. It is essential for catering that you RSVP Robyn Clark (ph. 0412 276 313) by 1 August 2026

Sunday 16th August: **TO BE CONFIRMED** A7 Register August Event: **A possible short Run.**

OUTSIDE EVENTS BY OTHER CLUBS

Sunday 3rd May: **Lockyer Swap Meet** organized by the Lockyer Antique Motor Association Inc. to be held at the Laidley Showgrounds beginning at 6.30am. Vendor sites are free. Vendor and public entry \$5. Contact The Secretary email: sec.lama@hotmail.com or phone Paul Matthei 0434 161 434 for more details. Members to make their own arrangements re. travel, etc.

Saturday 16th May: External A7 Register Invitation Event: The Bundaberg Vintage Vehicle Club are holding the **2026 Heritage Car, Truck, Bike & Machinery Show** at the Recreation Precinct, Bundaberg. Public Entry \$5pp. Public Entry: 9am to 2.30pm. Entrants Entry: 6am to 8.30am. For more information, contact Reuben ph. 0456 647 280. Members are to make their own arrangements re. registration, accommodation, travel, etc.

Saturday 16th May: External A7 Register Invitation Event: Our Club has been invited by the QHMC to attend the **National Motoring Heritage Day** at **VCCQ Clubrooms, Carindale** (*incorrectly noted as Ormiston last newsletter*) – enter via Wright Street, Carindale. Gates open from 7am. Entry: Display Car \$10, Motorcycle \$5, General Public \$2 – cash only. Activities, stalls, food & drink available. There will be a Heritage Day Run later in the morning. Proceeds of day to the Robert Shannon Foundation and the Wynnum Community Place. RSVP and Enquiries: president@qhmc.net.au or phone 0413 553 173.

Sunday 17th May: External A7 Register Invitation Event: The President of the Bayside Vehicle Restorers Club (Albert Budworth) has invited our Club to join their Club on a **Run to Celebrate National Motoring Heritage Day** on Sunday 17th May. The run will commence from Ormiston State School, Dundas Street, Ormiston at 9.30am.

Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th May: **TO BE CONFIRMED** External A7 Register Invitation Event: Our Club has been invited to the **Heritage Truck Association Annual Truck Show** at Rocklea Showgrounds. Gates for public open 8.30am to 4pm on Saturday and 8.30am to 2.30pm Sunday. Exhibitor entry from 1pm Friday 16th May. Visitor Adults \$10 entry. Trucks, Tractors, Cars, Trade Stalls, Food & Refreshment Vans will be on site. For more information contact our A7 Secretary, Robyn ph. 0412 276 313.

Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th May: **TO BE CONFIRMED** External A7 Register Invitation Event: Our Club has been invited to attend the **Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club Motorkana** to be held at their

Clubhouse, Heritage Terrace, Nambour Showgrounds. For details, registration and accommodation options, phone the Secretary 0401 015 207 or email scaccsecretary@gmail.com

Saturday 23rd May: External A7 Register Invitation Event: BVRC are organising a **Cancer Council Australia's Biggest Morning Tea** and Vehicle Display at Ormiston State School, Dundas Street, Ormiston. Entry at 9.30am for a 10am Morning Tea. \$5pp entry for the Morning Tea. RSVP for catering purposes by 24 April 2026 to secretary@baysideclub.org.au

Friday 29th & Saturday 30th May: DETAILS TO BE CONFIRMED ; External A7 Register Invitation Event: Our Club has been invited to the **Static Display & Cavalcade on Saturday at the Boonah Show**. On display on Saturday only from 8am to 4pm will be vintage machinery, tractors, cars, trucks & motorbikes. Free entry to show for display car driver only. A cavalcade of all vintage machinery etc. will take place from 4pm. For more information contact Vince Herrmann 0409 075 919.

Sunday 12th July: 2025 McLeans Bridge Classic Car and Aircraft Festival. THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED (due to a lack of availability of volunteers to run the event).

Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th July: External A7 Register Invitation Event: Our Club has been invited to attend the **20th Annual Old Wheels In Motion Rally** organised by the Callide Dawson Machinery Preservation Club inc. who are also celebrating their 30th anniversary. The event will be held at Queensland Heritage Park, 11 Exhibition Avenue, Biloela, Central Queensland. For more information email: cdmpc@bigpond.com or phone Cindy Cooper 07 4992 2400 during business hours or 0429 383 296 after hours. A7 members attending are to make their own arrangements for registration, travel and accommodation.

Sunday 19th July: External Event: **The Original Gold Coast Swap Meet** to be held by the Gold Coast Antique and Classic Auto Club at the Mudgeeraba Showgrounds. Gates open from 6 to 12noon. Free parking. Adult admission \$5, Outdoor sites \$10. For more details contact David 0428 279 291.

Saturday 25th July: External Event: Annual Nambour Swap Meet organised by the Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club to be held at Nambour Showgrounds, Coronation Avenue, Nambour, commencing at 6am and concluding at 12noon. Pedestrian entry: \$5. Catering & paid parking. Information & Bookings ring 0427 596 973 or google www.SCACC.org.au



Thursday 20th – Sunday 23rd August: External A7 Register Invitation Event: The Northern Rivers Vintage & Veteran Car Club Inc. “Driving the past into the future” - Annual Rally

Calling all vintage, veteran, classic, and historic vehicle enthusiasts!

Mark your calendars and get ready to celebrate the beauty, history, and craftsmanship of motoring heritage at the Northern Rivers Vintage &

Veteran Car Club Inc. Annual Rally.

Date: Location: Lismore, NSW 2480

Based in the Lismore area, this rally will feature scenic destinations throughout the Richmond Valley, showcasing the region's charm and countryside. Participants will enjoy quiet country roads, thoughtfully selected and well suited to Veteran and Vintage vehicles, providing relaxed and enjoyable motoring conditions. We warmly invite you to join us for a relaxed and enjoyable weekend of motoring and fellowship. The rally will follow the successful format of our 2024 and 2025 rallies.

Thursday 20th - Check-in and registration at Lismore Showground, from 1 pm.

Friday 21st - Early check-in, followed by a run to the Northern Rivers Military Museum and lunch in Casino.

Saturday 22nd - Rally run and BBQ lunch, with dinner at Lismore Heights Bowling Club.

Sunday 23rd - A short morning run followed by a farewell lunch at Lismore Showground. We look forward to sharing a wonderful weekend of driving, friendship, and classic motoring with you. If you will require accommodation, please start organising it early to avoid disappointment, as availability in the area can be limited during busy periods. Whether you own a historic vehicle, are restoring one, or simply enjoy the sights

and stories of motoring's past, this event promises to be a memorable and enjoyable weekend. More information coming soon — for now, SAVE THE DATE!

Hosted by: Northern Rivers Vintage & Veteran Car Club Inc.

Contact: Rally Directors - Graeme Gill 0428 100 374 Email: Rally Secretary Sharin Gill nrvvccsecretary@gmail.com

or contact our Club member, Rhonda Guthrie on 0427 175 099.

MINUTES OF PAST A7R9 MEETINGS

Austin 7 Register of Old. Inc

Meeting No. 658, 13th February 2026

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

Meeting Opened: The President Steve declared the meeting opened at 7.37 pm with a welcome to all.

Present: 26 members signed the Attendance Book

Apologies: Matt P, Trevor & Bev MCC, David & Molly N, Murray & Fiona R & Gay J

Minutes: Robyn read the minutes of the January Meeting & moved it be accepted as a true & correct record. Seconded by Trevor M. Carried

Business arising from Minutes: NIL

Correspondence IN & OUT:

IN: Newsletters from other clubs

Old Wheels in Motion, Biloela 17-19 July entry form

MYOB Invoice

Bundaberg Heritage Car, Truck, Bike & Machinery Show, 160' May flyer

National Motoring Heritage Day, 1601 May at the Veteran Car Club Hall flyer

Membership Application from Christine Kidd, 1937 Big 7 4 door saloon

Phone call from David Y re 2nd Hand Parts

QHMC January 2026 meeting minutes

Officeworks Invoice re Newsletter printing

OUT: Sympathy Card to Ken Folliott's Family

Robyn moved the Correspondence be approved as read & the outward endorsed. Seconded by Colin J, Carried

Business arising from Correspondence: Welcome to Christine, some members have seen a photo of her car, (a 1937 Big Seven saloon).

Treasurer's Report: Sharon gave the report on the club's finances. The Auditor still has not given us his report. Sharon then moved her report be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by Lindsey. Carried.

QHMC Report: Justin went through some of the items discussed at the Meeting. Report attached.

Spare Parts Report: Trevor has had some good sales.

2nd Hand Parts Report: Doug thanked everyone who came to the sale, some sales but thinks more parts came in the gate then went out the gate.

Editors Report: Tim thanked John for his help & the newsletter is ready for posting & publishing.

Dating Officers Report: NIL

Web Masters Report: February Newsletter on website

Club Events:

19th Feb Valentines Day Run organized by Colin & Gay J, 9am start at Mt Coot-Tha

15th March Pinelands Centenary Festival. Runcorn organized by Hugh C

Other Events:

7th March Dalby Swap

29th March Bayside Swap, Ormiston State School
3rd May Lockyer Swap, Laidley Showgrounds
9-10th May Dalby Invitational Rally
10-15th June AOA, Maryborough

Past Events:

11th Jan 2nd Hand Parts Sale
24-25th Jan Allora Heritage Weekend
26th Jan Australia Day, 730 vehicles, approx. & \$5000 donated to "Sailability"
(A charity to facilitate sailing for people with disabilities)
7th Feb Toowoomba Swap. John Q & Lindsay reported.

Library Report: NIL

General Business: Discussed Sunday's run. Decision = We will go modern to morning tea because of the wet weather forecast

Tim knows of the number plate 1 HOT 7 which is for sale.

Rhonda is organizing a 60th Club Anniversary run in Stanthorpe for April 2027

Peter B spoke about our A7 sign in the clubrooms & has the story for Tim to publish in the newsletter.

Birthdays: Members having a birthday in February wished Many Happy Returns

Sick members wished a speedy recovery

Raffle: Jo L won the Wine (donated by Ewen), Tim B the chocolates & Diane Y the poster.

Supper Organizer: Thank you to Rhonda for tonight's supper.

March = Gail C

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: 13th March 2026

Meeting closed: 8.21 pm.

Austin 7 Register of Qld. Inc

Meeting No. 659, 13th March 2026

Held at the Veteran Car Club Hall, Carindale.

Meeting Opened: The President Steve declared the meeting opened at 7.33 pm, with a welcome to all. Also nice to meet our new members Pauline & Christine.

Present: 28 members signed the attendance book

Apologies: Norman Wilson. Colin Vaughan & Gay Jacobson

Minutes: Robyn read the Minutes of the February meeting & moved it be accepted as a true & correct record. Seconded by Lindsay. Carried.

Business arising from Minutes: NIL

Correspondence IN & OUT: Newsletters from other clubs

M/S Application & Apology from Norman & Shandaleigh Wilson, Elimbah, 1927 Chummy

M/S application Steve & Tracy Barry of Draper, 1926 Chummy

AMHF Newsletter

Gold Coast Swap, 19th July

RACQ Motorfest, 14th June

Form to be filled in from Veteran Car Club re-dates we use the clubrooms.

Craig Singleton re the passing of Geoff

MYOB Know your customer.

OUT: Sympathy Card to the Singleton Family

Return Veteran Car Club form.

Robyn moved the Correspondence be accepted as read & the outward endorsed. Seconded by Molly. Carried

Business arising from Correspondence: NIL

Treasurers' Report: Sharon informed members of the Clubs finances, Also the Statement of Accounts has returned from the Auditor. The meeting was informed that after the next General Meeting the AGM will be reconvened to consider the Clubs financial statements. This year the Austin 7 Register of Queensland Inc audit requirement is known as a special purpose financial report as required by the Association Incorporations Act of Queensland. The report is now complete & available to view & after 21 days' notice the meeting will consider it on the 10th of April 2026. Sharon also stated the committee has agreed that membership will increase next financial year. Membership will be \$55 & printed newsletter \$25 due to increase cost of printing & postage. Also, MYOB has risen to \$120 per month she then moved her report be accepted & all accounts be passed for payment. Seconded by Trevor M. Carried.

QHMC Report: given by Justin, among other things there are 93 clubs register with QHMC, & their swap will be 28th August.

Spare Pares Report: Trevor has made some sales & will look for Engine Mounts for a Big 7

2nd Hand Parts Report: NIL

Editors Report: Tim is looking for items for our newsletter. If you have a story please send it to him, especially from our country members.

Dating Officers Report: NI:

Web Master Report: Neil has the website up to date until August.

Club Events:

15th March Pinelands Centenary Festival, Runcorn. Organized by Hugh

11-12th April Presidents Long Run

Other Events:

20th March Bayside Swap

3rd May Lockyer Swap, Laidley Showgrounds

9-10th May Dalby Invitational Rally

10-15th June AOA, Maryborough

Past Events:

15th Feb Club run to Mt Coot-Tha

Library Report: NIL

General Business: Pauline talked about their Austin

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

Sick members wished a speedy return to good health.

Raffle: The winners were Doug, Valda & Alan

Supper: Thank you to Gail for tonight's supper
April = David N

Committee Meeting: TBA

Next Meeting: 10th April 2026

Meeting Closed: 8.17 pm.



Robyn

News of Members

Welcome to Steve and Tracy Barry of Draper who have a 1926 Chummy which was restored in 1980 and is still in good condition,

And just recently we were contacted by Bruce and Bridget Macintyre have taken on the restoration of Bruce's brother's (the late Don Macintyre) car, a Ruby Tourer, they have now joined and come from Gundiah, which is between Gympie and Maryborough.

Goodbye to Geoff Singleton

Geoff Singleton was President of the club from 1990 to 1992. For many years Geoff was a teacher at Brisbane Boys Grammar School, teaching Latin and was known by the boys as "Zap" because of the skinny little cigarettes he used to smoke quickly out of view of the headmaster! I am told he chose to teach Latin thinking that he would not have many boys in his class!



Geoff and June Singleton lived in a lovely house at Chapel Hill when they joined the club with "Samson", their 1937 "Arrow" Sports". This car had sat in a garage at the Esk Turn off for many years. Geoff and June restored the car with a lot of cosmetic work by Guthrie's Crash Repairs. (I think they also owned a MGTD.)

Geoff took over from Peter Baker as President of the Austin 7 Register of Qld. in 1990, before then handing over the reins to Colin Jones in 1992 when Geoff and June moved up to Maleny and became founder members of the Blackall Range Historical Motor Vehicle Club with whom our club had a close relationship over the years. They also went touring on the road with Peter and Nell Dorman and Tony and Lois Pavan.

Eventually Geoff and June moved back to River Hills and sold Samson in 2006 after many happy years of motoring. They spent their last years at Forest Grove retirement home at Durack.

Geoff passed away on Friday the 4th of March at the age of 94 while in palliative care. A few members of the Austin 7 Register, past and present, joined Geoff's family in a celebration of his life.

Geoff always had a kind word for everyone and was a popular President.

Our kindest condolences to Geoff's dear wife June and children Melanie, Craig and Donald and their families.



*Tim and the
Committee*

Happy 80th Trevor!!



Back to the 1970s! Bev, Tanya and Trevor with Brad standing in their 1929 Chummy, "Gus".

Coast Club where some of the members know how to handle the guitars, ukuleles and the piano accordion, playing some nice good old country and western tunes, such as the "Light on the Hill" to "The Ladies of the Harem of the Court of King Caractacus".

Those attending from our club included Ross & Rhonda, Doug & Robyn, Lindsay & Sharon, Joe & Margaret, Greg & Kaye, Merv & Margaret. Trevor & Elaine and Tim B. We were fed like kings and queens, nice fresh ham and chicken with salads and the ice cream and cake, mmhh!!!

Formalities included cutting the cake and speeches from some of Trevor's many car club mates. It was also great to meet Trevor's family, with Tanya and Brad, and their families joining in the proceedings!

Tim

On a much happier note many club members travelled up to Nambour earlier last month to join the McCulloch family in celebrating Trevor's 80th Birthday. As Trevor and Bev invited many members from the Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club, plus with all the folk who travelled from as far as Mount Morgan and Tweed Heads they used the club hall at the Nambour Showgrounds, site of many a Motorkhana over the years!

Not often do you go to a birthday party and find the Birthday Boy is up front as part of the live entertainment, but not so in the Sunny



PAST CLUB EVENT REPORTS

MORNING TEA AT MT. COOT-THA BOTANIC GARDENS CAFE - SUNDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2026

Valentine's weekend was predicted to be a rainy one in Brisbane, with constant rain and flash flooding forecast for some areas. In light of this forecast, the decision was made at Friday evening's meeting to cancel the scheduled Sunday run. It turned out to be a good decision, with Sunday proving the Bureau of Meteorology correct with steady rain falling throughout the day.



**Col's
"Little" Breakfast**

Colin and Gay, who were the organisers of the cancelled run, had planned to begin the run with morning tea at the Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Gardens Café. Although the run was cancelled, attendees at Friday evening's meeting decided to still come together at the Café for morning tea only, driving their modern cars there rather than their A7s. Colin and Gay had made a booking at the Café for 12-15 members, but instead a whopping 22 members attended, including Russell and Vanda who had travelled from Woodford. The waitstaff kindly added some more tables and managed to fit us all in. While some members ordered breakfast or tasty morning tea treats, others were happy just to sip a warm drink on this unusually cold and bleak February morning. There was much convivial conversation and laughter around the table as usual, and members stayed chatting for about an hour and a half before

heading home in the steady rain.

Thank you to Colin and Gay for organising an enjoyable social morning, and we look forward to going on their planned Welcome to the West Run 3 later in the year.

Karyn



**22 members for
Morning Tea**



PINELANDS CENTENARY FESTIVAL – Sunday 15 March 2026

This month's Club run was a little different with Hugh, who is a member of both our Club and the Pineland Lions Club, organising for us to display our Austin 7s at the Pinelands Centenary Festival in Runcorn. This Festival was organised by the Pinelands Lions Club to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Club's beautiful Heritage Hall.

By 10am, the start time of the Festival, our cars were in pride of place in front of the Heritage Hall, and the place was already abuzz with visitors. Displaying their A7s were Brett, Doug & Robyn, Steve, Joe & Margaret, Trev & Elaine, Merv & Margaret, Hugh & Judy, Colin & Gay, and Matt & Trent. In addition, Ian & Valda displayed their Austin Lancer, while Lyn displayed his Austin 10. Our cute cars attracted much attention from attendees, with many photographs being taken of the cars.

Other members drove to the event in their modern vehicles: Allan, Ewen, John, Twink, Neil & Karyn, and Lindsay & Sharon. Lindsay & Sharon had planned to arrive in their A7, but it had unfortunately broken down on the Gateway Motorway near



The RACQ van was on display, and was not required for assistance



the Mt Gravatt-Capalaba Road. Ernie (their A7) had to be trailered off the Motorway by Transurban and then trailered home by the RACQ. The issue was that the points had closed on Ernie's new distributor. It was great to see that Lindsay & Sharon finally made it to the event, and that Ernie had been safely deposited at home.

Fortunately, the weather remained fine, with just a light sprinkle of rain at one point. The day passed quickly, with members inspecting the other vintage cars and trucks on display; browsing the market stalls; enjoying the stage entertainment; partaking in the offerings of the numerous food vans; as well as simply sitting, chatting and enjoying each other's company. Neil's daughter, Ellen, also dropped in to the event and met the crew.

Congratulations to the Pinelands Lions Club for their excellent organisation of the Festival, and many thanks to Hugh for involving our Club in this enjoyable event.

Karyn

A little History of the Hall

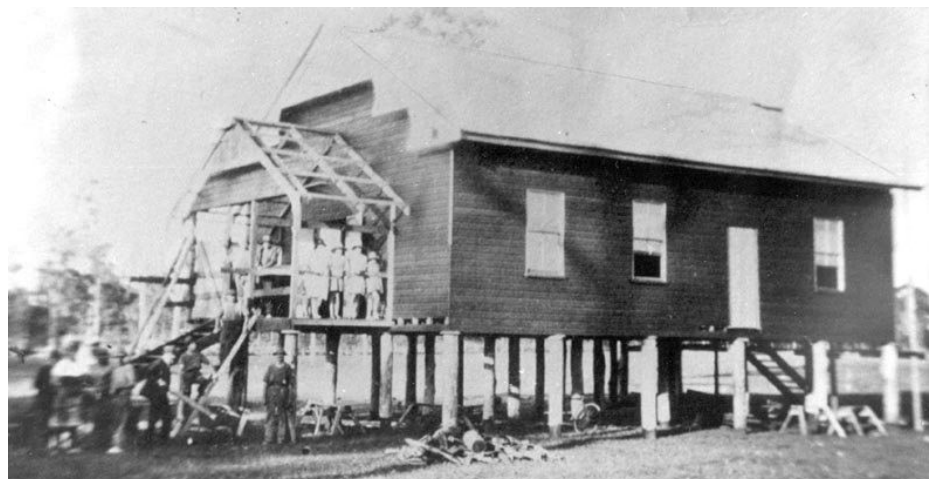
Otriginally called the Runcorn Progress Association Hall, it was opened by the Mayor Brisbane, William Jolly, on 23 January 1926.

Funds to build the hall were raised by the Runcorn Progress Association which bought an acre of land, near the railway station, from a local fertiliser company. Members of the community volunteered their labour to construct the hall.

As a gesture, the Mayor suggested the Council buy 10 acres of land adjoining the site. I believe that land is now Souths United Football Club at Runcorn.

The hall faced demolition in 1979 but was saved by the local Lions Club which gained title to the hall in 1988.

In 2024 the Lions club gave the hall a complete make over and repaint. Go Lions!!! (From the heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au website)



**NEIL & HUGH WITH
LIONS PRESIDENT, KEN**

The Fascinating Story Behind the Austin 7 Illuminated Advertising Sign on the Wall at Our Club House.

I can't remember the exact date or how it came about. I had a meeting with Doug Head who was living not far from Gilltrap's Motor Museum (Kirra Beach). He introduced himself and told me that he had been Captain Arthur Waite's motor mechanic and co passenger in his Austin 7 Ulster Special when he won the first Australian Grand Prix at Phillip Island in 1928. Doug and his brother Clarry ran a motor garage and agency in Melbourne.



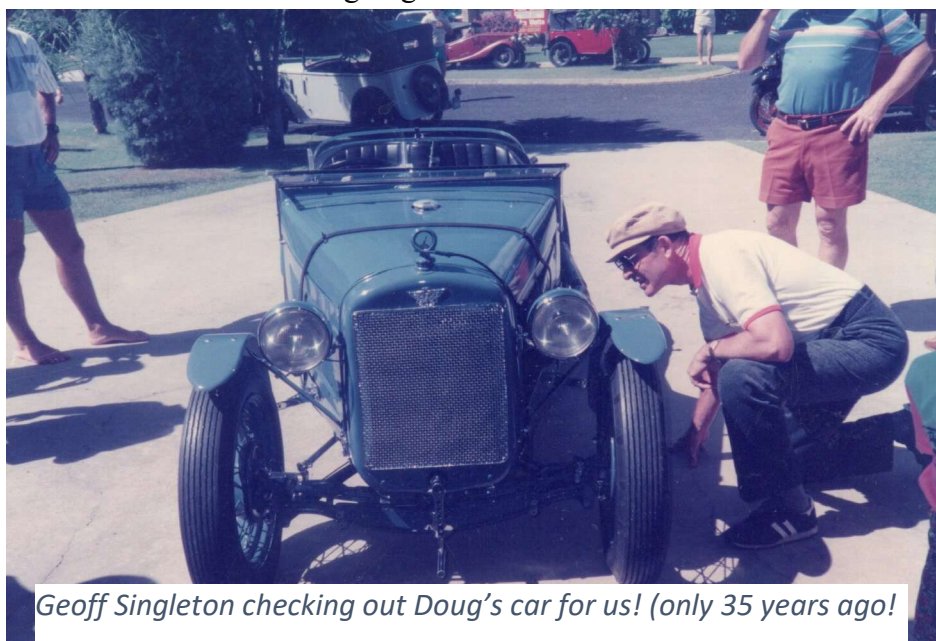
Peter and Doug in Peter's 1936 Nippy Sports

I was invited into his garage at the Gold Coast in 1984 and hanging from the rafters was an old Ulster aluminium body in poor condition. Doug explained it was the car that won the grand prix Race. He said that he was going to restore the car down at his brother's workshop in Lismore at a

later date.

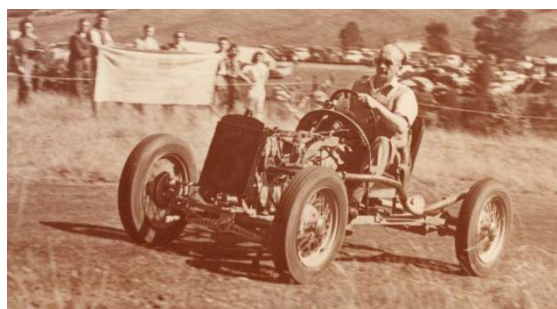
While I was there looking over all the car parts, he picked up the Austin 7 sign and asked if I might like it for our club house. The sign was the pride and joy in their showroom window in Melbourne and was sent out for Austins when they had the agency for Austin 7/s. During Captain Waite's visit in 1926.

Captain Waite was I believe from Adelaide and was highly decorated in the First World



Geoff Singleton checking out Doug's car for us! (only 35 years ago!)

War (Military Cross) and married one of Herbert's daughters. He was keen on racing cars and was responsible for the early racing history with the Austin 7. He was sent out to Australia in 1926 to look at Austin agencies and thus the meeting with the Head Brothers. Captain Waite ordered a special racer to be sent out from the Austin Works. This car was used in the first Australian Grand Prix on Phillip Island. During practice for the race, Doug was hit in the eye with gravel and although he competed in the main race, he lost sight in the damaged eye shortly after but that did not stop him enjoying racing. Here he is in the Len Phillips Single Seater at the Rob Roy Hill climb.



Left to right we have Doug and his wife, with Peter Dorman, Henry Anderson and Kathy McGill



Some years later the A7 Register had a run down to Doug's new house at the Gold Coast in 1991. We were able to view his restored Austin 7 Ulster that had been rebuilt by his brother Clarry.

It had a new body as the original one was badly corroded and broken. He started the supercharged engine, and it sounded wonderful. I can still smell the "Castrol R" coming out of the exhaust system. He also showed us some original parts from the original engine. We

were told the car was going to Phillip Island Motor Museum when Doug passed away however I understand that the family sold his car on, after his death.

We noticed recently that the illuminated "Austin" sign has a small patent number and the London address of the supplier on plate at the bottom. It is therefore of historical value, and it would be nice to make up a suitable sign to add to its origins for future club members.

(The small plate reads "Patented No. 240873 Glow Activa Sign Company, 15 Cecil Court, London W.C.2.")



The 100 year old sign from The Head Brother's Austin Agency in Melbourne - It is now hanging up in the Veteran Car Club Hall

Editor's Notes:

According to Arthur Waite his mechanic in 1928 was Guy Barringer. (Foreword in "A History of Australian Grand Prix 1928-1939" - Published 1981)

Doug Head was hit in the eye by a flying stone at the 1935 Jubilee Day Motor Races at Phillip Island in May. The 1935 Australian Grand Prix was held in April (from the Car Magazine May 15th, 1935)

The 1928 AGP car was a Super Sports, not an Ulster (from the history of the Austin 7 Club 1950-2016)

Technically the 1928 Race was "The 100 Mile Road Race", in 1929 it was first called "The Australian Grand Prix" on the program.

Colonel Arthur Cyril Roy Waite MC (1894–1991)



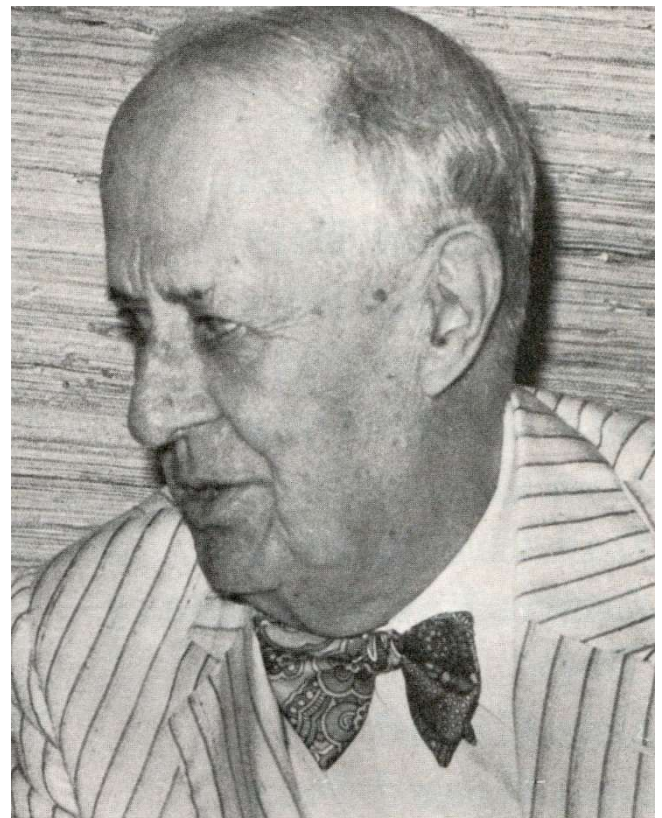
Arthur Waite's little Austin 7 rushes on to victory. In those days crowd control was virtually non-existent as can be seen here

Born in Adelaide, a son of William Nicholas Waite and Annie Waite, née Weston, Waite was employed with the engineering firm of Southcott Limited. He served at Gallipoli and was later hospitalised where he met his future wife, Irene Austin, the eldest daughter of Herbert Austin. After World War 1 Colonel Waite joined his father-in-law's firm, the Austin Motor Company.



While in the employ of Austin, Waite was sent back to Australia, where in Melbourne he established Austin Distributors. Prior to leaving for Australia he had established the firm's motor racing efforts, winning races himself at Brooklands first in an Austin 20, and Monza in 1923 with Alf Depper as his mechanic (Alf was the Staff foreman who could make or repair anything!)

While in Australia he sent for his Austin 7 racing car in order to compete in the 100 Miles Road Race, later to become known as the 1928 Australian Grand Prix. A different car was sent however, but despite it being a relatively standard sports model it was

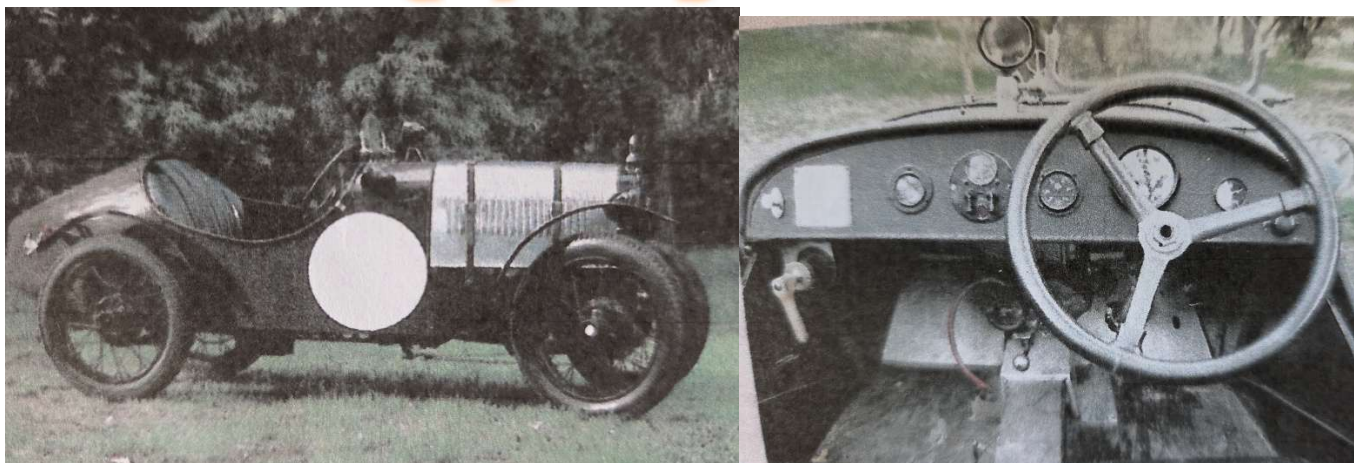


a supercharged for racing version of the Austin 7. Despite this, Waite won the Grand Prix held at Phillip Island. (Because the driver of the leading Bugatti, Arthur Terdich, thought he had run out of petrol! He hitched a ride on another Austin 7, while his mechanic found it was a problem in the pressurized petrol system!)

Arthur Waite became a member of the Austin Board of Directors and often returned to Australia., including a trip in 1950 where he did a big tour around Australia, including Brisbane, promoting the Austin Motor Company. He was on the Council of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders in the UK from the 1940s to the 1970s. In 1978 he agreed to be the Patron of the Austin 7 Club of Australia (Victoria).

Your Editor has been looking up Arthur Waite and found his WW1 war records and numerous references on the Trove Website. Interesting that Arthur was a Captain of Artillery at the end of the war, but after WW2 he is referred to as being a Colonel, but he did not serve again in Australia. (One guess is that as he was involved with wartime production at the Austin Motor Co. during WW2 he was made an honorary Colonel?)
(Information from Wikipedia and various other sources and books) Tim

More on the Mighty racing Atoms!



The 1928 AGP car had a special four speed gearbox that had no room for reverse gear, and the chassis was lowered dramatically to improve handling. There was no time to road test the car before it was shipped to Australia, although it was driven to a speed of 144 km/hr during a test on a public road near the Austin Factory in Birmingham. Arthur Waite did not like the bulbous body so had modifications done by a local body builder. The cylinder head, crankshaft, cylinder block, conrods, valve gear and camshaft were far from standard! It had a Rene Cozette carburettor and supercharger. The oiling system was pressurized, and it had a water pump. It went thru the race averaging 89 kph/56 mph , stopping only once for refuelling in the 100 mile race. The car above is a replica. The original was sold in 1933.



Above To go with this story about the Australian Grand Prix we have this wonderful photo that was taken in 1930 and shows the Austin 7 Team lined up ready for the AGP. (Arthur Waite was back in the UK by then.)

Car #1 is Cyril Dickason, #2 Clarrie May and #3 Harry Burkil. Cyril came first in the up to 750cc class A, Harry second but Clarrie crashed out, rolling over after nearly clipping the tail of another car on Lap 18. One would assume that Doug Head and his brother are in the background of this photo. *Tim*

Leaving Home?

Another photo find, not a racing car this time, and I just not sure from where I found it! The date could be



late 1930s to 1940s looking at the more casual clothing only one tie and no hot jackets, somewhere in Australia, the whole family has come out to see the car's owner leaving home! The front gate has a sign that says "Barne" above it which may be a clue? The car is a c1926-28

Australian bodied

roadster, probably fitted with magneto ignition, You can see the aluminium beading around the back, which is typical, of these cars. often a chummy rear end was cut down, timber framing fitted and pressed steel deck fitted, this one had the metal supports and leather straps to carry the owner's suitcase. *Tim*

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 \$10 each email Rhonda at

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



Austin 7 Classifieds



For Sale 1929 Austin 7 RK Saloon.

Genuine Austin factory wide door aluminium body saloon built late 1929 with wind up and sliding windows. One of possibly only two of the type in Australia. Car came from New Zealand in the 1980s and I bought it as a rolling restoration project in 1989. Restored for the 1997 A7 Rally at Maroochydore. Driven to Canberra and back in 2001. Car has not been driven on the road for 3 years, but still in running order. Has new 6 volt battery. Body professionally painted by Guthrie Crash Repairs in Ford Bahama beige with russet brown top and black mudguards and wheels. Has cloth

interior, has black vinyl covered roof, twin tail lamps and luggage rack. Running on a SU carburettor. Asking \$16,500 as is. Heaps of spare parts and tools if needed. Contact Tim Braby 0405 740 418 or email timbraby108@gmail.com. Car at Aspley, Brisbane northside.

For Sale 1930 Austin 7, "Egan" bodied saloon



Older restoration, current owner 40 years and believed to be the only surviving example in Oz. \$26,950. December 1930 build. Please contact Wayne Styles. 0417 532 412. Car in Melbourne.

(The Egan Motor Body Works were situated in Geelong Victoria, besides building bespoke bodies, in 1935 they introduced the Egan "Six", a short lived locally built Australian car, only two were built.)

For Sale 1931 Austin 7 Two-Seater

The car was imported from England in 2013 Boat tail models are extremely rare in the UK. It has a full history of ownership certificate and authenticated by the Wiltshire Council The motor was completely rebuilt in 2013 by Peter Barker He overhauled the diff and the gearbox the distributor starter motor and generator The car was rewired Brakes updated to take cast iron brake drums I have the complete reports from Peter Baker with regard to all of what he did . He basically had an open chequebook with the instructions to finish up with a tune key ready car as a result everything that he found it was necessary to be done was done. I have all the reports from Peter and can mail email them to



people if you're interested. It comes with a pile of spare parts and interesting memorabilia. Asking \$15000. Blair and Jan Martin, at Yandina. Please Call 0407 120 337 or email bjslmartin@hotmail.com

For Sale 1929 Austin 7 Meteor Project

All parts are there. The motor, gearbox, differential and chassis have been restored. Have all the lights and instruments. Good bonnet and proper Meteor type mudguard and vee windscreen. Main body needs a lot of work as the tail section is badly damaged. Has good wheels and tires. Owner unable to work on the car due to health issues. Asking \$5000. Car situated just north of Toowoomba.

Please contact Steven Morey on 046308356 for details.



For Sale Hydraulic engine hoist

Sturdy engine hoist which has only been used a few times on Austin 7s. Proven ideal to remove engine from a vintage A7 or a Ruby. Rated to lift to 1000kg, so could lift the whole car (but best to stick to an engine!). Cost over \$300 when new, sell for \$150 ono. Contact Tim Braby 0405 740 418 or email timbraby108@gmail.com. Hoist located at Aspley. Brisbane.



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