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# "THE LIGHT SHAFT"

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October 2021



Many of our members have got a bloody big caravan and a huge four wheel drive - but Barrie Fisher does holidays in style.

**AUSTIN 7 CLUB INC. Reg No. A0003290N**  
**P.O. BOX 462**  
**MOORABBIN VIC 3189**  
**[www.austin7club.org](http://www.austin7club.org)**





Where is it now? Asks Simon Anderson, see Page 24.

Who thought an Austin 7 was a small car? This bloke's a small car fanatic.





**Magazine of the Austin 7 Club Inc. In its 72nd year**

**Foundation Patron of the Club**

**Col. A C R Waite,(dec.) MC, OStJ, DL, JP, Freeman of the**

**City of London 1894—1991., Life member of the British Racing Drivers Club.  
Winner of the first Australian Grand Prix.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### OCTOBER

3	Sun	7	A	<del>Annual Austin 7 Rally—CANCELLED</del>
2/3	Sat/Sun	7		<del>O.S.T. 12 Two Day Trial—Gilderoy</del>
6	Wed	7	A	M.G.M./A.G.M.
9	Sat	7		Spares/B.B.Q. Bathurst W/E
20	Wed	7	A	H.A.S./Spares
23/24	Sat-Sun		S	Mt Tarrengower Hill Climb
30	Sat	7		OST End of year/Presentations

### NOVEMBER

29/2	Fri/Tues	7		Bob Booth Pub Crawl
3	Wed	7	A	M.G.M.-Subcommittees/AGM/SGM Elections
6	Sat	7		Spares/B.B.Q.
7	Sun		S	MGCC Classic & Historic Rob Roy Hill Climb
5/7	Fri/Sun			Historic Sandown
17	Wed	7	A	H.A.S./Spares
22	Mon			AOMC Delegates Meeting/AOMC AGM
26-28	Fri/Sun			<del>Geelong Revival</del>
28	Sun		S	Rob Roy Historic Hill Climb

The Club's Meeting and Spares Days will recommence, *from time to time*, but with an expectation that everyone will "socially distance".

***This use of the Clubrooms is only possible if attendees "CHECK-IN" their attendance with a "QR" code.***

***Spares Hours Saturday - 12:00 Noon to 2:30pm***

***NOTE NEW HOURS FOR SPARES***

***Spares Hours for Hot Air Session. - 7:30pm to 9:00pm sharp***

**Keep in touch regarding whether other events have been cancelled, rescheduled, or in another format.**

**The Editor clearly is unable to keep up with the last minute cancellations.**

**LIGHTSHAFT COPY CLOSING**

Copy for Lightshaft **closes** late on

***Sunday 17 October 2021.***

## **Austin Seven Clubs Association**

### **The Online Archive**

Handbooks, Parts Books, Body Parts Book and lots more.

Just download it to your computer - all part of our membership of the Association.

More being constantly added.

These references are a great way to identify parts for your Austin7.

Also it may help to determine the year of the various parts.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Pleased to report that last month we introduced a zoom Hot Air Session (HAS) and it has been received well. Many thanks to Courtenay Rumble for being first to give it a go with his presentation on the differences with the early 1923 model Austin 7. If you missed it or were unable to be on zoom at that time, the club has recorded this presentation for reference. All members will receive an email with the link to enable you to watch the presentation at your leisure.

This month we will have another informative (HAS) and you will receive an email with the zoom link. In November we will be presenting a (HAS) from our spares department, which will give you an opportunity to see what we have both new and second hand, as we walk down the aisles to show you a large range of spares for your Austin. If COVID still restricts our club activities we will still be able to receive and send mail orders for spares just in time for that Christmas gift.

In this month's Light Shaft you will find nomination forms for the committee positions for 2022, please give this consideration, as there will be some vacancies. Please also note, as the committee have recommended that there be no increases to the annual membership fees, there is no requirement for a special general meeting to be conducted. There will still be an Annual General Meeting to present the end of year statement and the financial report, with audit report for the year.

2021 was meant to be fun!

Len Kerwood 0419 504 233

## Editorial Historical Ramblings

### **OOPS!**

Last month I published a list of early members that were still active in the Club.

However, I made a grave transcription error and omitted:-

Geoff Taylor Member No. 562

He joined the Club in about June 1956.

I say “grave”, as Geoff was also the longest serving Committee Member of all on that list, having served 26 years, mostly as Membership Secretary (for 20 consecutive years) but also as Club Secretary for 5 years (from 1961 to 1965).

Geoff has competed in more Observed Section Trials than any other member, and still competes.

In past years, Geoff was also active in all forms of motor sport, as well as working as a communications official at Sandown and Phillip Island.

Geoff, whose family were close neighbours of ours in Hampton, was my greatest influence in joining the Austin 7 Club, in 1966.

Rob.H.

### **GET COMPUTER SAVVY**

I know you may enjoy receiving a printer copy of the Lightshaft, as it's easier to read while otherwise occupied, in places that do not have a computer.

HOWEVER, you will be missing out on many other important aspects of the Club.

If we do not have your email address, you will not be able to receive various updates that we send regarding various events, but possibly more

importantly, you will not receive copies of the newsletters of the other Austin 7 Clubs in Australia, PLUS a range of other brilliant motoring magazines.

I also note that the Bay to Birdwood has moved on-line, so this may have been a unique opportunity to take an active part in this event, in the comfort of your own home, or wherever you are relegated whenever watching car stuff.

I have made particular reference to one of those magazines on Page 19.

It has articles about the steam locomotives that worked at Longbridge.



**THE AUSTIN 7 CLUB ROOMS AND CLUB SPARES  
are located at  
UNIT 8/9, 19-23, KYLIE PLACE, CHELTENHAM NORTH.**

**All correspondence to the Secretary:**

**Austin 7 Club Inc. P O Box 462, Moorabbin. Vic 3189**

***Please do not send mail to clubrooms***

Spares are open:-

M.G.M. from 7.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

H.A.S. from 7.45 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. and between 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on the Saturday following the M.G.M. (or the following Saturday if the former clashes with a Club Event)

Spares can be ordered by mail from:

Janne and Robert Humphreys, 27 Peters Drive, Cheltenham Vic 3192

Or [mailorderparts@austin7club.org](mailto:mailorderparts@austin7club.org)

## COMING EVENTS

### SPARES

*To comply with COVID requirements and being fair to others, Graeme Logan has asked that you come to Spares with a list prepared beforehand, to speed up being served, and enable compliance with our COVIDSafe Plan.*

*Please also be prepared to use the QR Code, from your phone, which saves the Club from needing someone to act as “SIGN-ON MARSHALL”.*

### Monthly General Meeting/Annual General Meeting – Annual report

#### Wednesday 6 October 2021

It is expected that the MGM/AGM will be a Zoom meeting commencing informally at 8:00pm, with the formal MGM commencing at 8:00pm.

As usual an email invite will be sent to all members with email addresses.

It is hoped that a draft of the Financial report may be available, but the formal AGM has been deferred to November, at which time it is hoped that an audited financial report will be available.

### CLUB VISITOR

If you know of a Member who is unwell or in Hospital please contact Bruce Walker, our Club Visitor. He will visit or send a card to the Member.

Contact Bruce on [brucewalkerartisan@gmail.com](mailto:brucewalkerartisan@gmail.com)

9807 1729 or 0409 410 700.

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **Hot Air Session/Spares - Wednesday 20 October 2021**

It is expected that this will be a zoom HAS, with Spares as usual available by mail order.

### **Bob Booth Pub Crawl - ‘A step back in time’**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

#### **Update**

At the time of going to print we are assuming that this event will proceed as planned. We still have some rooms available, so book now if you wish to join us.

**Contact John McMillan**

**Email: [mcmillanj9@bigpond.com](mailto:mcmillanj9@bigpond.com)**

**Mobile 0408 994 510**

### **Monthly General Meeting**

### **Election of Sub-committees and Delegates**

### **Wednesday 3 November 2021**

At the November Monthly General Meeting it is proposed to form all subcommittees, other than Historic Winton subcommittee, and nominate club delegates for the coming year.

For expediency of the zoom meeting, it is expected that the persons who currently appear in the October 2021 Lightshaft will be the nominations unless advised otherwise.

Nominations are invited for positions on the Sub-committees and as Delegates.

**Club Secretary**

<b>COMING EVENTS</b>
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**Annual General Meeting – Annual report****Wednesday 3 November 2021**

The Annual General Meeting of the Austin Seven Club Inc. will be held at 8:15pm on Wednesday 3 November 2021

The ordinary business of the meeting is:-

- ⇒ to receive from the Committee reports upon the transactions of the Club during the preceding financial year; and
- ⇒ to receive and consider the financial statement submitted by the Club in accordance with Part 7 of the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012.

**Club Secretary**

**Special General Meeting – Annual Elections****Wednesday 3 November 2021**

A Special General Meeting of the Austin Seven Club Inc. will be held at 8:30pm on Wednesday 3 November 2021

The purpose of the meeting is to elect the Officers and ordinary members of the Committee and acknowledge the ongoing Auditor.

Nominations are invited for these positions, and a nomination form for the Committee positions is included with this Light Shaft.

Nominations shall be delivered to the Secretary not less than 15 minutes before the time fixed for the start of the SGM.

**Club Secretary**

## COMING EVENTS

### Hot Air Session/Spares - Wednesday 17 November 2021

It is expected that this will be a zoom HAS, and will take you on a virtual guided tour of our Club Spares.

Spares as usual will be available by mail order.

**RACV ALPINE RALLY - ~~Saturday 20 to Saturday 27 November 2021~~—Deferred to 15 October 2022**

**BUT**

See Article about history of the Alpine Trials available from Bob Watson.

### **Federation “Golden Oldies Tour” News.**

It has been decided to delay the Golden Oldies to 27 March 2022.

**To all of you who have a car under the Club Permit Scheme.**

**Check your date of EXPIRY of your Permit.**

**ALSO check ALL details - including expiry date, addresses etc.**

**When paying ALWAYS retain your receipt.**

**Keep a scanned copy of your receipt with your logbook.**

**Renewal Notices are a bit flakey, as it appears that VicRoads is becoming more reliant on YOU having a**

**My VicRoads Account.**

**A My VicRoads Account also assures you of an email reminder for renewal.**

**Check your My VicRoads Account to ensure that your CPS cars appear**

## COMING EVENTS

### Geelong Revival 26 – 28 November 2021

The quarter mile sprint track along Richie Boulevard on Geelong's picturesque waterfront will roar to life on the weekend between the [F1 Australian Grand Prix](#) and the [Australian International Airshow at Avalon](#),

The Geelong Revival Motoring Festival – its predecessor, the Geelong Speed Trials – have been around since 1956. Usually on the last weekend of November, and is a celebration of the rich motoring history of Geelong, Australia and beyond.

Accompanying the speed trials along Richie Boulevard will be a host of other displays, activities, entertainment and food, ensuring a fun day out for all members of the family.

For more information visit [geelongrevival.com.au](http://geelongrevival.com.au)

Motorsport Australia (CAMS) - website Event Entry



GET  
WELL  
SOON

**COMING EVENTS****COVID breakout lunch!!!*****A7 Club Christmas Lunch 2021******Mulgrave Country Club*****(Cnr Jells & Wellington Roads, Wheelers Hill)****Noon Sunday 5 December 2021** in Panorama Room**Seniors Mains & Dessert – Menu TBA, but likely to be as follows:**

- \* **Roast Turkey & Baked Ham served with Cranberry and Seasonal Vegetables &**
- \* **Plum Pudding with Brandy Custard**

including one bottle of red and white wine per table, other drinks at bar prices with complimentary tea and coffee

**\$Cost TBA****Austin 7 General Account****083 323 811316316 “surname MCC LUNCH” or cash/cheque****BUT we need your INTENTION to come to be with me asap****[ronandhelencrellin@bigpond.com](mailto:ronandhelencrellin@bigpond.com) or [socialsecretary@austin7club.org](mailto:socialsecretary@austin7club.org)****PARKING AT CLUBROOMS**

In the interests of all members could those attending meetings please park only ***in the marked spaces***. Please leave the forecourt for ***AUSTIN 7s ONLY*** and any ***handicapped members***, and please make access available for those ***delivering or collecting*** goods or club equipment.

**DO NOT OBSTRUCT ACCESS TO OTHER UNITS**

## COMING EVENTS



# AUSTIN 7 NATIONAL RALLY 2022

Newsletter No 1 tells all about this exciting National event, for all Austin 7 enthusiasts, including Big 7s and Austin 7 derivatives.

It also comes with an EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM.

If you know of Austin 7 owners who are unlikely to receive news of the event, have a chat with them, and give their contact details to the Rally Sub-Committee, so that they can receive news about the event.

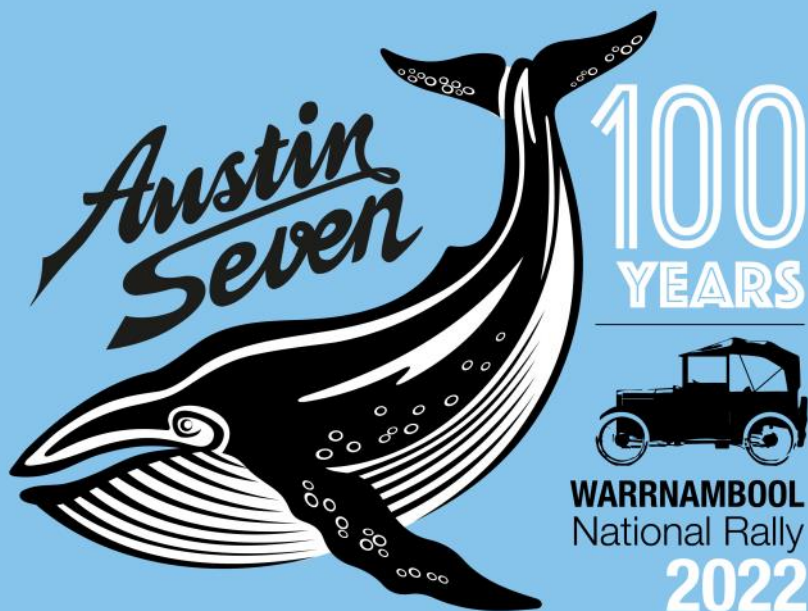
*A copy of the Newsletter No 1 and the Expression of Interest is available on the website.*



If you can help in some way to make our 2022 Austin 7 National Rally a great event, please contact the Rally Committee

## **AUSTIN 7 NATIONAL RALLY 2022 SUB-COMMITTEE**

Chair- Andrea Casabene, Peta Lee (Minutes), Graeme & Bev Logan, Tony Casabene, Russell Dickson, Greg Drummond, David & Judith Finn, Peter & Lesley White, Ron & Helen Crellin, Carole & Len Kerwood, Maria & Colin Cheesman, Robert Baudinette, Helen & Michael Shegog, Neil Rickard.



We are excited  
And you are invited!

**National Rally**  
Saturday 9th April - Thursday 14th April

Celebrate 100 years of Austin Sevens  
whilst exploring this beautiful part of Victoria  
Come have a whale of a time in Warrnambool!

Enquiries: [2022rallyinfo@gmail.com](mailto:2022rallyinfo@gmail.com)

## BOOK REVIEW

I have attached some information about my book on the history of the Australian Alpine Rally, titled the Great Alpine Contest.

I am hoping you may publicise this to your members.

Cheers Bob Watson

As an introduction Bob Watson joined the Austin 7 Club in about April 1956, about the same time as fellow students at Caulfield Tech., Geoff Taylor, Tony Press and Neil Johannesen joined the Club.

Bob authored “Going Strong - The History of the Austin 7 Club”

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To celebrate the centenary of the Australian Alpine Rally 1921 to 2021, **Bob Watson** has written a comprehensive history of the historic event, titled **The Great Alpine Contest**. The book covers the history of the Alpine Rally from its inauguration in 1921 by the RACV through to its adoption by the Victorian Historic Rally Association and the centenary event to be held at Lakes Entrance in December 2021.

The Australian Alpine Rally is the **world’s second oldest car rally**, behind the Monte Carlo Rally, making The Australian Alpine Rally an event of world importance. It was conceived in 1921 by the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria and organized by a proven director of long distance motoring events, Harry James. The object of the event was to demonstrate the beauty and attractions of Victoria’s Alpine region and thereby stimulate the interest of tourists.

The first Alpine contest was a great success, the competitors enthusiastic about what they did and what they saw. The second event in 1922 had double the number of starters and began what was to be a continuing series

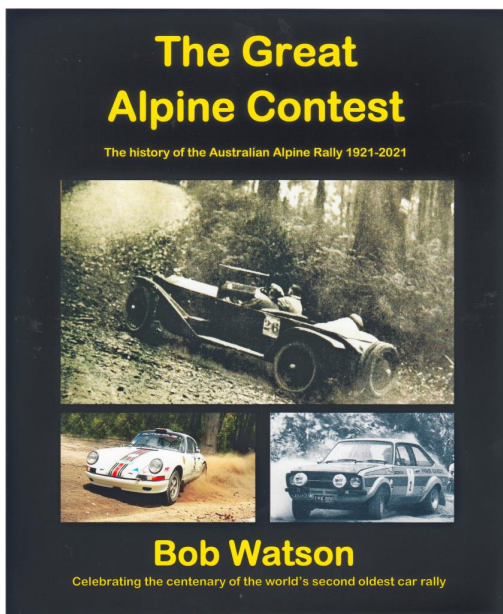
## BOOK REVIEW

of event for a century.

The early Alpines initiated improvements in Alpine roads, and with increased tourist interest, the hotels and services along the way also improved. By 1926 the RACV was being overwhelmed by business activities such as road services, insurance and matters of importance to the rapidly increasing number of normal motorists, so the organisation of the Alpine Rally was taken over by the Victorian Light Car Club, later to become the Light Car Club of Australia.

After the hiatus of World War 2, the event continued, with more emphasis on competition. The Alpine region had been opened up and motor cars were common so the event changed in nature to place more emphasis on driving and navigation skills. The Alpine continued through the golden era of rallying in Australia, growing in stature year by year until the unfortunate bankruptcy of the Light Car Club in 1992.

After a period of uncertainty the event was taken over by the Historic Rally Association, which had been formed to foster historic rallying as run in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. The club had already organized events to commemorate the International BP Rally of South Eastern Australia, so the Alpine was a natural follow on. The first HRA Alpine Rally was run in 1991, and has been run every alternate year since.



## BOOK REVIEW

The Great Alpine Contest records the history of this classic event from 1921 up to the present time. It is a hard cover book, containing hundreds of photos, many from the 1920s era and many from Australia's best contemporary rally photographers. It has original contributions from several of the most important Alpine Rally directors and, in their own words, stories from the most successful drivers including Harry Firth, Frank Kilfoyle, Greg Carr and Geoff Portman.

The author of The Great Alpine Contest **Bob Watson** is the oldest living winner of the Alpine Rally and the oldest living Australian Rally champion driver. He is a Life Member of Motorsport Australia and the Historic Rally Association and an inaugural inductee into the Australian and Victorian Rally Halls of Fame.

The Great Alpine Contest can be ordered through the web site **[www.bobwatsonrally.com.au](http://www.bobwatsonrally.com.au)** The price is \$40, or \$35 to members of Motorsport Australia affiliated clubs.

### LIGHTSHAFT ON THE WEBSITE

*You can receive the whole of the magazine in glorious technicolour - if you are happy with only receiving your magazine in this form, then please let the Membership Secretary know.*

*Rob. Humphreys*

*Even if you want a hard copy, consider updating your email, and requesting an electronic copy as well.*

## THINGS AUSTIN

Recently circulated to all email members was “Country Motor” Issue 39, edited by David Vaughan, who is a lifetime old vehicle historian, and Austin enthusiast.

The article is about the Locomotives that worked at the Austin Motor Co. Longbridge works - it is well worth a read.



**More Photos and news on the website**

**<http://www.austin7club.org/>**

**And you can check for up-to-date information on events and news.**

## OUR AUSTIN 7s

### MyAustin with Caravanette - Barrie Fisher

#### *Editor's Note*

I recently forwarded a video clip to a number of members involved in running Historic Winton.

It was tongue-in-cheek, showing stock cars with caravans racing on a speedway, and I suggested that it could be a drawcard at Historic Winton. Mind you the clean-up costs would be prolific.

In turn Barrie Fisher, who has been a member for about 50 years, sent this photo of his Austin 7 Open Road Tourer with caravanette.

Both Barrie and his son Cameron, are into caravans, and usually manage the caravan display on the skid-pan at Historic Winton.



Barrie's current project is working on his Milano, which he wrote about earlier this year (which follows).

With the COVID lockdown he's advancing his work on the Milano with Renault Gordini engine. Some club members will remember this car on Border Runs in the far distant past.

I saw an ad for burial plots, and thought to myself "That's the last thing I need."

Whatever you do, always give 100%--unless you're donating blood

## OUR AUSTIN 7s

Hi Rob.

Good to see your article on the Milanos.

I remember Jim Wilde did a terrific job building one—does it still exist.?

I still have mine which is undergoing a rebuild with a Renault Gordini motor etc.—was to have been finished last year but was locked down at the back of Alexandra so this Xmas is now the deadline.



Cheers - Barrie Fisher

### WHERE IS IT NOW?

The following advert appeared in a Lightshaft in about 1960.

*Standard Swallow 2 seater , fabric bodied Sedan. Some restoration is required to make this into a good vintage car. Price 25 or offer*

*Charles Fallow 32 Eastern Beach Rd Geelong.*

freedumb

*noun*

- 1 the belief that your personal freedom outweighs others' personal safety.

## OUR AUSTIN 7s

Barrie has already asked "Where is it now?" regarding Jim Wilde's Milano bodied Austin 7, and here's another.

Geoff Taylor's advert in the June 1959 Lightshaft may enlighten newer club members to the fact that Geoff, as well as many of our other older club members were ardent racers in the 1950s and 1960s.

### ADVERTISEMENTS:

**FOR SALE:** My successful AUSTIN 7 sports is reluctantly offered for sale. This car is quite fast (44.18 sec. Rob Roy) and extremely reliable. This car has had numerous successes in all fields of competitive motoring. The car is registered to Feb. 1960, is in excellent mechanical condition, and has excellent tyres. The car is fitted with '37 front brakes, '37 head, twin Amal carburettors, Tachometer, Windscreen washers, Hood etc. The reason for sale is I have just bought a Morris Major and can not afford the luxury of two cars. The price? Only £60. All enquiries to -

CEOFF TAYLOR, 52 Littlewood Street, Hampton. Tel XW 3397. Bus. MU 8101 Ext. 293.

**FOR SALE:** Tube frame Sports body for 37 Austin 7 with MG headlights and 6 Volt battery 2 months old. Apply J. Robertson, 37 Nelson Street, Windsor.

Preceding the above advert, was the following report about the Club's communications team, that provided comms. equipment, trackside personnel and essential coordination as the eyes and ears for the Clerk of Course. Frank Walter and Fred Darling jointly lead the team, while Frank also provided technical support on all manner of timing and other electronic equipment at many of our race circuits.

This service spanned the years from early 1950s to about 2010.

### PHILLIP ISLAND:

The usual race meeting will occur on Queen's Birthday weekend at Phillip Island Circuit. The Austin 7 Club will not be represented among the racers this time as those who are racing will do so at Darley.

However, the communications department will be in full swing as always and a troop of assistants for the various telephones will be required as usual. As this is a long week and we expect that some of our usual team will be away, so any and all who can come will be most welcome. Practice is on Sunday, so if possible, come down and spend the weekend there as we need help for practice also.

Names will be collected at the June M.G.M. but if you can't be at the M.G.M. write to me as soon as possible and let me know how many will be in your party and whether you will be there Sunday as well. The address is: Frank Walter, 35 Cobden Street, Kew E4, WM. 7021.

.... F.A.W.

## OUR Garages

Photo is of a local garage that was lifted by roots of a falling tree during the big storm earlier this year. I was told that no damage to the car inside but they did have to cut the door to get the car out.

The caption could be "never plant trees close to your sheds unless you want unplanned modifications" John McMillan

**“I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your house in”**

I’ll be terribly boring, but if your version of the rhyme substitutes “down” instead of “in” (which then does not rhyme), both are rather unlikely.

These photos show a variation, as the building is rooted “up”.

Why unlikely? -

Observing TV footage of wind damage is a good lesson, that most buildings are blown “up” OR “out” - suction is the usual culprit.

It is rare for a roof to fall down, but all too common for the roof cladding to be sucked upwards.

Many of our members suffered property damage in the wind storms earlier this year, including Graeme Logan who had a large tree limb that badly damaged the roof and wall of his shed.



## OUR AUSTIN 7s

Please find attached a picture that I showed on the zoom Club Meeting.

The past owner Graeme Tonkin would like to track down his old car if any one know of the whereabouts please give Graeme a call on 0400 847028.

The car was located in Geelong in the 1970s to mid 80s before it got sold off.

Simon Anderson



Hi. Rob

In response to Tony Johns requesting information on Austin 7 people and cars within Ansett I sent an email to my aviation coffee group. Robert Keon forwarded the following on his brother's car. Peter Keon was in-charge of the Ansett Training School and Robert was a avionic engineer at Ansett. Peter sadly died about two years ago and at his funeral the Austin got mentioned.

Len Kerwood

Found it.

Len won't recognise this light weight sporty model. Not sure where Pete got all the aluminium.

This is the one that I was a passenger in when, on the way, from our home in North Essendon, to our summer camp in Blairgowrie, Pete decided to

## OUR AUSTIN 7s

pass some modern thing and spun 180 degrees in the process, ending up departing the road backwards. He picked the right place to do it, coming to a stop in small salt bushes.

This would have been around 1958. Cheers  
Bob



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Unfortunately, Pete's not around anymore to ask. I've put the word out to the family to see if anyone knows where it ended up.

I'll let you know if anything comes up.

It was a standard Austin 7. I can't remember the exact model. He cut it down to the chassis and built the new top on it using steel frame and aluminium skin. Lots of panel beating. Perhaps he was trying to impress the Ansett sheet metal guys.

It was registered when he first bought it and I don't think the modification was ever notified to the registration branch of the time. It wasn't in our DNA to consider such complications back then.

Those were the good old days. Once you registered your car you could do what you liked with it.

## OUR AUSTINs

My other brother, Max (2 years older than Pete) who also had Austin Sevens, had upgraded to a 48 Ford which he lowered by cutting a piece out of each roof pillar and welding the top back on to create a windscreen which was more like a slit.

Being young and adventurous he decided he would use a glass cutter to cut the old windscreen down to fit the new space. Of course, it was tempered glass so you can imagine what happened.

So, he drove it around without a windscreen for some time before the cops caught up with him and put him off the road. That story made the newspapers in the late fifties.

If anyone knows where the Austin 7 with nose like a Sprite, is now.

Please let Len Kerwood know.

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### SLIMLINE CLUB PLATES

VicRoads is now making same number club permit replacement number plates and same number club permit slimline replacement plates available. Because of systems limitations they are only available for order online for permit holders who have a myVicRoads account. Replacement and slimline club permit plates cannot be ordered at VicRoads' Customer Service Centres (CSC). Slimline club permit plates are only available for new issue club permits at CSCs.

Currently, only H or CH plates are available in the slimline format. M plates and SR plates will be available shortly.

## Austin 7 National Rally

Our Club conducted its first Annual Austin 7 Rally, at Chadstone Shopping Centre in October 1967, and it has been conducted annually since then.

However, it was recognised that the 50th anniversary of the Austin 7 warranted a special effort, and a National Austin 7 Rally was conducted at Emu Bottom homestead, with Tony John as Director, in 1972. However this was not planned, at that time, to be an ongoing meeting.

That's a different story:-

\*\*\*\*\*

### First Austin 7 National Rally

Austin Seven vehicles and their owners are constantly changing and I am aware that a significant number of the owners have joined the movement during the past 5 years.

There are approximately 600 owners and 1500 'sevens' in Australia and many more under restoration. It is anticipated that 10% of them will be present at the forthcoming 100th anniversary rally to be held in Warrnambool in 2022, but how did it all start?.

Four Austin Seven folk drove from Victoria to spectate at the 1989 Adelaide AGP, during the journey one of the travellers floated a long time idea off the others about organising a major event that would interest the 4 larger Austin seven clubs in getting together possibly somewhere central like Wagga Wagga etc and to make it a long weekend event.

This was not an entirely new idea as the Victorian and South Australian clubs had been sharing a social weekend event annually since the 1950's, but not a rally.

## Austin 7 National Rally

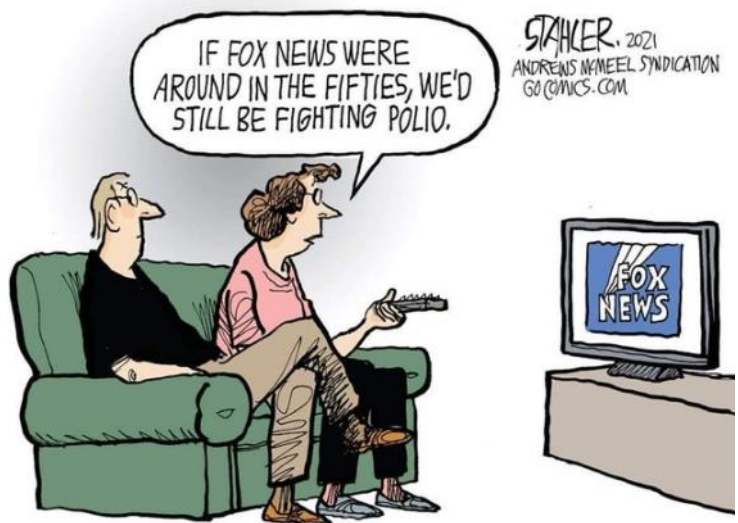
The new concept was to organise a major national Austin seven rally to celebrate the forthcoming 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the marque in 1992.

Upon returning from the AGP the idea was presented to the Victorian club for consideration and approval, a sub committee was formed to make it happen, who subsequently contacted the NSW club who joined the fray and the a decision was made to jointly organise the event in Canberra.

The event was a major success being supported by all the clubs and a decision was made to accept an offer from the Queensland Austin Seven Register to organise another rally to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Maroochydore in 1997 which was to become the practice on a 5 yearly basis ever since.

As a result of the first rally in Canberra where the spare parts managers held their first meeting a cooperation of spare parts trading has flourished between clubs to this day plus a number of long standing friendships from Austin seven people.

Wayne Styles.



**AUSTIN 7 CLUB INC. - COMMITTEE 2021**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Len Kerwood	president@austin7club.org	9435 2544
<b>TREASURER</b>	Paul Goethel	treasurer@austin7club.org	0412 534 131
<b>SECRETARY /VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Glynis Gibbons	secretary@austin7club.org	0427 837 555
<b>MINUTE SECRETARY</b>	Tony Press	minutesecretary@austin7club.org	9509 7115
<b>PROPERTY OFFICER</b>	John Shiells	propertyofficer@austin7club.org	0403 228 559
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<b>COMPETITION SECRETARY</b>	Gary Hawkins	competitionsecretary@austin7club.org	(03)5461 4460 0459 135 496
<b>SOCIAL SECRETARY</b>	Ron Crellin	socialsecretary@austin7club.org	9431 0502

**AUSTIN 7 NATIONAL RALLY 2022 SUB-COMMITTEE**

Chair- Andrea Casabene, Peta Lee (Minutes), Graeme & Bev Logan, Tony Casabene, Russell Dickson, Greg Drummond, David & Judith Finn, Peter & Lesley White, Ron & Helen Crellin, Carole & Len Kerwood, Maria & Colin Cheesman, Robert Baudinette, Helen & Michael Shegog, Neil Rickard.

**DISCLAIMER**

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## SUB-COMMITTEES 2021

**HISTORIC WINTON SUB-COMMITTEE**

Co-Chairs - Peta Lee—Secretary of the Meeting, Entry Secretary & CoChair, Len Kerwood CoChair, Noel Wilcox, Tony Press (Minutes), Mike Belcher, Graeme Burbidge, Colin and Maria Cheesman, Paul Goethel, Russell Dickson, Robert Humphreys, Faye Stevens, Ted Thompson, Ron Crellin, Alan Barnes, Tony and Andrea Casabene, Leanne Goethel, Yolanda Filip, Graeme Logan, John Needham, Greg Drummond

**HISTORIC SPRINT**

Secretary & Entry Secretary – Phil Fitton,

**OST SUB -COMMITTEE**

Chairman – Geoff Stritch, Vice Chair Grant Della, Finance: Leanne Coakley, Promotion: Cooper Schweiger, Alicia Randle.

**SPARE PARTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

spareparts@austin7club.org  
Graeme Logan (Spares Coordinator), Neil Rickard (Spares Treasurer), Dennis Hourigan, Graeme Burbidge, Robert Humphreys, John Shiells, John Neve, Ted Thompson, Mark McKibbin, Ken Stuchbery, Brian Gibbons, Bruce Shearer, David Easton, Tony Press (Minutes)

**SPARES MAIL ORDERS**

[mailorderparts@austin7club.org](mailto:mailorderparts@austin7club.org)

Robert Humphreys (03) 9583 6316

**CLUB VISITOR**

Bruce Walker 9807 1729, 0409 410 700

**PUBLICATIONS and ARCHIVE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Robert Humphreys, John Neve, Robert Taylor, Allan Tyrrell, Tony Press,

**LIGHTSHAFT MAIL OUT SUB-COMMITTEE**

Manager - Russell Dickson, John Fatouros, John Shiells, Robert Humphreys, Lyn Innes-Irons, David Crebbin.

**URRRS EVENTS COORDINATOR**

John McMillan

**TECHNICAL ADVISORS*****Model & Parts Identification, Bodywork & Literature***

Bill Sheehan 0435 582 294  
Tony Press 9509 7115

***Mechanical and Engineering***

Tony Press 9509 7115

***Racing and Special Construction***

David Lowe 9827 8124 AH

***O.S.T. and Motorkhana***

Grant Campbell 9787 3640

***Spares Engineering Review***

Brian Williams, Russell Dickson, Denis Hourigan,  
Tony Press (minutes )

**RACING SPOKESMAN**

Phillip Hallo 0413 185 576  
Noel Wilcox 5428 2689 AH

**WEB MASTER** Tony Press 9509 7115**TIMING TEAM SUB-COMMITTEE**

Daniel Morling, Gary Hawkins, Geoff Taylor,  
Stephen Harrison

**AOMC DELEGATES**

Len Kerwood and Robert Humphreys  
alternate John McMillan

**Motorsport Australia DELEGATE**

Gary Hawkins 0459 135 496

**CLUB PERMIT OFFICER**

Russell Dickson, Robert Humphreys (Deputy)

**FEDERATION DELEGATES**

Noel Wilcox &/or Remote Member as agreed

**CLUB BUILDINGS OWNERS  
CORPORATION DELEGATES**

John Shiells, Robert Humphreys, John McMillan

**CLUB LIBRARY**

David Easton

**COVID19 Event Controllers**

Two vacancies

## NEWS FROM SPARES

### **NEWS FROM SPARES – October.**

Last Sunday I watched our fearless Leader, Dan the man, deliver his version of a roadmap out of our latest lock down. It sounded more like a ramble in the bush to me.

On the Spares front, mail orders are still going out, thanks to Robert & Janne.

I have added some new items on the shelves and these are; tin caps that go on the end of the early aluminium brake shoes, the tapered pins that locate the clutch withdrawal levers on the clutch pedal spindle and a top water outlet repair kit, for an early head. I hope to have all of these photographed and printed in the next Light Shaft.

Graeme Logan

0409 963 091

Next month we will have a few photos of new stock items.

More donations are needed of useable parts. Can you assist with those obsolete bits and pieces down the back of the shed you no longer need. Panels, Suspension, Engine, Gearbox, Tools all required to top up our stock for you the members.

One's trash is another's treasure .

We want to continue providing this essential service to all our members both near and far.

## MARKET PLACE

***Market Place advertisements will normally appear for FREE in two consecutive Lightshafts Editor***

### **1923/27 Austin 7 Gordon England Brooklands Replica**

**A beautiful light car that accurately replicates a significant Austin 7 racing car built by English aviator E.C Gordon England in the 1920's.**

This accurate and well-built replica is a culmination of decades of collecting period correct parts.

The aluminium body was one of a batch constructed by noted Scottish expert Tom Abernathy (number TA8) that was imported by myself in the eighties.



The car was assembled around this body to a high standard by Grant Cowie and his team at Up the Creek Workshop. A vintage Austin chassis was fitted with a set of early 6 inch brakes, brand new wheels with centres spun from solid material, a three speed close ratio John Needham Austin 7 gearbox and vintage differential.

The very early engine (no. 1405 – August 1923) was built by Grant Cowie to a very high standard for proper motoring. Fitted with a pressure fed English ‘Phoenix’ crankshaft and rods, sports camshaft, period correct extractor exhaust system and a Bob Booth magneto/distributor conversion. Original magneto can be supplied if desired. The carburettor is an updraft ‘barrel throttle’ bronze 30mm Solex that is correct for this model.

The car has the correct CAV headlights and Lucas sidelights, early CAV push-pull control panel, Smiths 0-60psi oil pressure gauge and ‘AT speedometer’ RPM/MPH rev counter. The staggered leather swab seats



beautifully made by Grant White Motor Trimming nicely finish off the period cockpit.

Prepared for sale by Grant Cowie and his team at Up the Creek Workshop, this little Austin is at home on both club rallies or Sprints and Hillclimbs. Perfect for the Austin 7 centenary rally next year at Warnambool.

Austin 7 Club member's price - \$40,000

For initial enquires please contact Stuart Steinfort 0419114222 (after 4pm please during weekdays) or [stuart.steinfort@gmail.com](mailto:stuart.steinfort@gmail.com)



## MARKET PLACE

### SOLD • THE AUSTIN 7 FLEMING SPECIAL.

*Jon advises that the car has been sold to a NSW buyer*



### FOR SALE - A7Badge

David has inherited an Austin 7 club car badge (for attaching to bumper).

The writing on the badge is 1950 1990 FORTY YEARS in burgundy red on gold with “Ruby” on the car number plate.

The badge is numbered 103 and is still in its original packaging.

The Badge is in Alphington, Melbourne.

If interested in purchasing this, please send an offer to David by 14th October - email address David McKenzie [david@jandmck.com](mailto:david@jandmck.com)

*EDITOR'S NOTE These badges were minted by the Austin 7 Club and released for sale at the Club's Ruby Year Reunion, at Domeney Reserve, Park Orchards, on 21 January 1990.*

*150 badges were minted.*



**MARKET PLACE****FOR SALE**

Four – 16” x 4.50 Firestone tyres with tubes

Good Condition – Plenty of tread.

\$120.00

David Lowe 9827 8124 or 0458 172 494

**FOR SALE**

1928/29 Austin 7 Sports Special (E Super Sports Evocation). Light-weight 1.5mm plywood body, fibreglass sheathed. Standard motor and 3 speed gearbox. Bosch distributor. Recently reconditioned 22FZB Zenith carb and 6v generator. Linked brakes, alloy sump, reset springs and re-cored radiator. Completed about 5yrs. ago.

\$18,000 ono

Alan Ray 0417 263 288 Bermagui NSW

**THE VICTORIAN CLUB PERMIT SCHEME**

*It is the policy of our Club that owners of Austin 7 Club Club Permit vehicles **MUST** maintain financial membership at all times.*

Your Club Permit Officers are, our Membership Secretary Russell Dickson and Robert Humphreys.

**Remember to plan ahead if you need a Club Permit Scheme application or renewal signed or issued. You will find more detail on the club permit scheme on the Web Site**

**<http://www.austin7club.org/>**

**MARKET PLACE**  
**Or SITUATIONS VACANT**



**McDermott's Workshop.**

Although now better known for his Silver Ghost restorations and repair and service on later model Rolls-Royce, Bentley and Bristol cars, previous member Robert McDermott is still involved in Austin 7 restoration and still owns the 1934 Roadster that he purchased when he was a small boy.

His Footscray workshop currently have ***3 positions available*** that may be of interest to club members.

- ◆ One for an interested person experienced in mechanical repairs,
- ◆ A second position for an enthusiastic young person wishing to start an apprenticeship,
- ◆ A third is for an experienced coachbuilder or woodworker.

Robert can be contacted 9362 0291 or 0416 074 120

## MARKET PLACE

**WANTED** (See photos in September LS)

CAV starter Switch and Ammeter for '26 Chummy

Please contact Jim Runciman

[runcimans@westnet.com.au](mailto:runcimans@westnet.com.au) or Phone 08 9295 4592

**FOR SALE**

New Vintage Radiator Company replacement radiator core for a Ruby.

Located in Malvern and for collection only. \$875

Contact Jim Runciman at P 08 9295 4592 or at [runcimans@westnet.com.au](mailto:runcimans@westnet.com.au)

**WANTED**

Copy of the Operations Manual for a Vane 600  
Alternator and Starter Test Bench as shown

Happy to pay copying and mailing costs

Jim Runciman Perth, Western Australia

p: +61 8 9295 4592 email:

[runcimans@westnet.com.au](mailto:runcimans@westnet.com.au)



**FOR SALE**

A fully reconditioned coil engine [1929/30] by S Rodda engineering to a high standard with all new items fitted where required, crankshaft fully balanced etc. READY TO INSTALL.

Contact. Wayne Styles. 0417 532 412.

## MAIL ORDER PAYMENTS TO AUSTIN 7 CLUB SPARES

*Payment for parts is preferred by Direct Deposit.*

Please note Spares Banking Details, located at the bottom of our Invoices.

*Bank branches, if open, are operating reduced hours, making banking cheques difficult, and Credit Card payments, without card, are a risk to the Club and the member.*

**Robert & Janne Humphreys-  
mailorderparts@austin7club.org**

### GEARBOX REPAIRS

To ALL AUSTINs, including F.W.D.

Special Ratios and Standard Ratios

Austin 7 - 4 speed boxes with better ratios from \$1,700

Changeover or yours rebuilt

John or Ben Needham

OLD CAR GEARBOXES P L (03) 9553 3203

**These are the LAW!**  
**SIX hand signals you should always use...**

Road users! It is your responsibility — to use these hand signals! Failure to do so in an appropriate case is an offence punishable by fine. Your neglect may also affect your liability in the event of an accident. Make your intentions clear, early . . . . . **BEFORE** you act!

Issued by the  
**QUEENSLAND ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL**

*Observe  
Road Safety Laws*  
**FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY  
AND FOR OTHERS**

# The Great Alpine Contest

The history of the Australian Alpine Rally 1921-2021



## Bob Watson

Celebrating the centenary of the world's second oldest car rally



## 1923/27 Austin 7 Gordon England Brooklands Replica

See For Sales - a chance to own a bit of history