

December 2018

Editor this month *Caroline Boswell*

Mighty Motoring in Miniature



Meshing Point

The Magazine of the Scottish Austin Seven Club



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USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

Breakdown Cover

When insured with Richard Hoskin Breakdown Cover is automatically provided. Emergency call-out numbers are: -

UK Breakdown 01277 720 763

European Breakdown 00-31-26-355-3344

Spares and Service

The Red Cross Directory is now online at www.oldcarservices.co.uk

ScA7C Website:

www.scottishaustinsevenclub.co.uk



The ScA7C is a member of and affiliated to, the Austin Seven Clubs Association and the Federation of British Historic Vehicles Clubs.

Data Protection Act 1998. The information contained in the Membership application form will be recorded electronically for the purposes of mailing the Club newsletter.

In order to keep the Chassis register of surviving cars produced by the Austin Seven Clubs Association up to date, details of your car(s) will be forwarded to them from time to time. Names and addresses will not be included.

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Cover Photo: What the AGM is *really* all about— Marion Morrison

Contributors to this edition: Caroline Boswell, Gavin Boswell, Ruairidh Dunford, Charlie Carpenter, Fiona Dobie, Nancy Vada Gibb, Judy Goodfellow, David Lodge, Marion Morrison, Felix Sears, Simon Scott, Barry Steele, Jenn Wallace, Neil Williams, Clare Young, Steve Young

Editorial

When I started work on this edition of *Meshing Point* I discovered to my horror that there was only one article in the Editor's in-tray. Thank you, Fiona, for that precious document! I mentioned it to Gavin and he, being the helpful person that he is, immediately fired off a 'send to all' e-mail somewhat forcefully requesting articles for *Meshing Point*, pronto.

Although this e-mail was not quite authorised it was effective. Thank you to everyone who responded—the Editorial team are most grateful. I have not been able to include everything we received into this edition of *Meshing Point* because of the amount of 'copy' generated by the AGM and various Club concerns. If your article does not appear here, please do not be offended—it will appear in the next edition or so. It is *such* a comfort to know that there is some material in reserve, especially for the February edition when there is no Club outing to report on.

It was clear to us from the conversation at the AGM that the Club cares very deeply about its magazine and that many folk would like to contribute but do not know what to do, or are unaware of the deadlines. Judy Goodfellow has put together some advice on writing for *Meshing Point* (see page 28) and a guide for those charged with doing the write-ups for events (see page 29) which includes the deadlines for submissions. I hope you find this advice helpful. Please keep writing—*Meshing Point* depends on you!

On behalf of all the Editors, I would like to say 'thank you' to the Committee and the Club for the magnificent bouquets of flowers we received at the AGM. It was such a surprise, but a lovely one!

Enjoy your Christmas and New Year—and all your garage jobs over the winter!

Caroline



Clarelady's Chat

Hello there!

I write to you from the peace and quiet of Mavis Mansions having just returned from the AGM.

The first thing I need to say is that the 2019 AGM is to be held at Blair Atholl on 16th November. You can book your rooms now; I hope to have negotiated the price for next year within the week and will do my best to make it affordable for you and fair to the hotel.

We were not joined by our President, Harry Law, because of family sickness. We send Harry, Rosie and the family our best wishes and hope they are well soon. Harry will have to work twice as hard presenting awards at Guildtown next year!



You will see from the reports of the AGM that there have been some changes on the Committee, most significantly that David Lodge has stepped down as Secretary. David is going to continue in his role as the DVLA authenticator although he has left the Committee. We have done our best to show our thanks to David at the AGM but anyone should feel free to continue that process by buying him a pint when they see him.

On arrival at the hotel I was allocated Room 101 and thus wondered if this was a message from someone who knew something I didn't. However, it seems this had not been planned and I am lucky enough to remain your Chairlady for another



Joan Lodge collects her bouquet and David's 'thank you' gift

year. Marion Morrison has been good enough to remain our Treasurer and we have four additional new Committee members taking up significant duties. Ruairidh Dunford is offering his services as Secretary, Neil Gibson is Events Co-ordinator, Rupert Pugh is the Social/Electronic Media guru and John Davies is Club Holiday and Cider Consultant. These new (and pre-loved) young men will join with remaining Committee members in a meeting as soon as we can to get things moving forward ready for next year.



The 2019 Club Calendar is out and was selling well at the AGM. There are a few left so please contact Jenn Wallace at regalia@scottishaustinsevenclub.co.uk with your orders soonest. Price £8 plus £2 postage.

Next year's planned events are all on the calendar as well as on the back of *Meshing Point*, so please try to include as many as you can in your schedule for 2019. The AGM was ever so slightly less well attended this year and it would be nice to see more of you next time. The hotel itself is being renovated room by room and several of us benefitted from lovely new bathrooms which made our stay more comfortable.

My own weekend was pleasantly disrupted by a surprise bouquet from the committee for my own services to *MP*: thank you, I really appreciate both the flowers and the ambush!

I think I have fulfilled my official duties of informing, thanking and nagging now so I'm off to talk to the hens then have a long nap.

I wish you Happy Holidays and the very best for 2019.

Clarelady

Membership Matters

The AGM has come and gone and it was good to see some of you there for the weekend.

In October we welcomed to our Club Paul and Sharon Watson from Sutton-in-Craven, North Yorkshire and they own a 1927 AD Chummy Tourer.

Our membership now sits at 183.

Wishing you all a happy Christmas and a wonderful A7 trouble-free 2019.

Gavin Boswell - Membership Secretary

Dear All

Just to let you know that I am now fully recovered from the stomach bug suffered over the AGM weekend and would like to thank members for their kind comments. I was disappointed that I was not present at the AGM and would like to thank Joan and Judy Goodfellow for taking the minutes on my behalf.

I would also like to thank the club for my gift and the flowers for Joan for my time on the committee. I would like to wish the incoming committee members continuing success for the forthcoming year.

Joan and I really appreciated being presented with the Spirit of the Club Award (The Wadie Sutherland Memorial Trophy) presented at the dinner. We look forward to seeing you all at the events next year and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

David Lodge

Winter weekend and AGM



As we headed off to the Club's Winter Weekend it seemed misnamed as temperatures were in double figures. In Aberdeenshire this passes for summer! Oh the dilemma, would I really need a hat, scarf and gloves? There was the usual bundling of the small person into the car straight from school, then off we sped to make the Friday night dinner.



All such worries were soon forgotten as club friends and hotel staff alike greeted us warmly on arrival. This was ably assisted by the open fires which, although not needed for warmth this

year, bring such life to the place and are great for bringing people together. Friday night passed in a warm fuzz of good food and kindred spirits.

After the AGM on Saturday morning, which is the supposed reason we have this get together, Jen and Jamie Wallace led several of the club on an afternoon walk through the grounds of Blair Castle and Glen Tilt. This included all eight of the children attending with hopes of tiring them out. Not a chance. As the



photos show the walk was a great success and could become a regular feature of the Winter Weekend.

As afternoon turned to evening the company gathered back around the fire for refreshments and a good old natter. Many of our club members are keen crafts people too and the AGM is a great swap shop for patterns and ideas along with a show and tell of garments being worn. What a diverse club we are.

It was also great to see new faces at the weekend – new and old club members at their first winter weekend outing. I hope everyone found it to be an enjoyable weekend.

During all this sitting around by adults, the children of the club were very industrious. Guess the birthday of the dog, fortune telling, you name it – all to raise funds for Children in Need. By dinnertime on Saturday they had raised £30.13. Well done kids.

Club regalia and 2019 calendars were available throughout the weekend and over £400 was taken. The 2019 calendar has some lovely pictures so don't miss out – contact Jen Wallace to snap up the remaining few.

Saturday night dinner saw the club in their finery as club regalia was set aside for something altogether more sparkly. As the dinner came to an end the awards were announced. (Details and photos on page 11.)

The raffle followed with its usual hilarity. Ian Dunford's wearing of the much sought after hand-knitted beret was a delight. The raffle raised £325 and, as had been decided at the AGM, half was donated to SAMH – Scottish Association for Mental Health. See the message from SAMH overleaf.





Peter Kendrick was delighted with his success in the raffle

As Saturday night turned to Sunday morning the stragglers sought their beds. All too soon it was time for breakfast and the good byes. As people gathered in the reception area it was clear that no one really wanted the weekend to end. The last stance before Christmas and the realisation that for many we won't see our club friends until the spring.

On all fronts a very good weekend. And no - the hat, scarf and gloves were not required.

Marion Morrison



Thank you! You're a SAMH superhero.

With your donation of £162.50, you have supported Scotland's mental health. Your generosity tells people experiencing mental health problems that someone believes in them and in their future. Your donation will help to achieve change – for individuals, for families, and for communities.

Special Award



Andrew Goodfellow. If you want to know why you will need to ask him but it involved a tow rope and Fergus Dobie.

Awards



Ruairidh Dunford - Giselle Flockhart hip flask

John Davies - J& M Blakely shield



Kenny Jack, (Paul and Lenore Rickard's grandson) - Millennium Junior Cup. Collected by his Gran.



Neill Williams - Millennium Trophy



David and Joan Lodge - Waddie Sutherland Memorial Trophy. Collected by Joan.



Anneke Wallace - The President's Cup



Club Accounts

The Scottish Austin Seven Club Company

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

Information

Chairman	Clare Young
Directors	David John Lodge Clare Young
Company secretary	Marion Campbell Morrison
Registered office	North Craighead, Skelmuir, Mintlaw, Peterhead, AB42 SAL

Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2018

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2018.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with FRS 105 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the Micro-entities Regime.

Directors of the company: The directors who held office during the year were as follows: David John Lodge and Clare Young - Chairman

Small companies provision statement: This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board on 26 October 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by - Clare Young - Chairman

The Scottish Austin Seven Club Income Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2018

	2018	2017
	£	£
Turnover	8,738	10,296
Cost of raw materials and consumables	(2,251)	(3,045)
Depreciation & other amounts written off assets	(17)	(143)
Other charges	(3,404)	(4,721)
Profit for the year	<u>3,066</u>	<u>2,387</u>

(Registration number: SC233785)

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 August 2018

	2018	2017
	£	£
Fixed assets	1	18
Current assets	12,549	9,466
Creditors:		
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Net current assets	<u>12,550</u>	<u>9,467</u>
	12,551	9,485
Capital and reserves	<u>12,551</u>	<u>9,485</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions of the Companies Act 2006.

For the financial year ending 31 August 2018 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved and authorised by the Board on 26 October 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Clare Young Chairman

**Detailed Income Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2018**

	2018	2017
	£	£
Turnover		
Subscriptions	5,225	5,681
Rally income	2,065	3,055
Donations	125	225
Regalia income	<u>1,323</u>	<u>1,335</u>
	<u>8,738</u>	<u>10,296</u>
Cost of sales		
Purchases	(1,332)	(1,335)
Direct costs	<u>(919)</u>	<u>(1,710)</u>
	<u>(2,251)</u>	<u>(3,045)</u>
General administrative expenses		
Office expenses	(3,085)	(4,015)
Computer software & maintenance costs	-	(106)
Trade subscriptions	(112)	(600)
Sundry expenses	<u>(207)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>(3,404)</u>	<u>(4,721)</u>
Depreciation costs		
Depreciation of plant & machinery (owned)	(17)	(143)

Committee Meeting Minutes

Unconfirmed minutes of committee meeting Scottish Austin Seven Club Ltd, Upper Largo, 23rd October 2018

Present: Clare Young (CY), David Lodge (DL), Marion Morrison (MM), Gavin Boswell (GB), Anneke Wallace (AW), Johnny Johnson (JJ), Chris Lambert (CL), Jenn Wallace (JW) – by Skype, Neil Williams (NW) – by Skype

- 1) Apologies.
No apologies were received.
- 2) Previous minutes.
The previous minutes were agreed with no changes and proposed by MM and seconded by CL.
- 3) Chairman's report.
CY commented that the Guildtown Rally had been a success and had made a profit this year. She gave thanks to CL for coordinating the event and to the other committee members that had helped out over the weekend. Changes are being made to the committee this year with Rhuiridh Dunford putting himself forward to replace DL as Secretary, Rupert Pugh as Social Media Administrator, Neil Gibson as Events Coordinator and John Davies also nominated for the committee.
- 4) Secretary's report.
DL had nothing to report except to confirm that he will be stepping down at the AGM in November.
- 5) Treasurer's report.
MM has prepared the summary of accounts which she has now sent to the accountant. She has asked the accountant to get the completed accounts back to her for the AGM. MM wishes to put forward an alternative accountant though this may well involve a cost which we do not pay to the current accountant. The club bank balance opened with £7,800 at the beginning of our financial year and closed with a balance of £11,500 with some costs still outstanding. Therefore the closing balance will be £9,200 once these costs have been paid. CY asked what a reasonable balance would be for the club to maintain. MM suggested a nominal value of £10,000 and said that the club funds increase by approximately £1,500 per year. She also asked that committee members should make realistic claims for expenses when incurred.

A discussion took place regarding the club funds and the possibility of paying towards updating the club website or reducing club subscriptions. CY stated that the website should really only be used to direct interested people to contacts and club information. AW suggested that the website should therefore only act as a link. JW said that she did want to put regalia onto the web site but had received spam as her own e-mail address was used. CY thought that e-mails should be forwarded from a generic A7 e-mail address to the personal addresses of committee members. GB reluctant to use funds to reduce subs due to the additional administration required. CY said that keeping a reasonable amount in the club account would be good as costs were generally increasing.

MM suggested that the members could each receive something from the club and following further discussion she suggested looking at car badges and other specific regalia to celebrate the clubs 50th anniversary and in 2022 the 100th anniversary of the Austin 7.

6) Membership Secretary's Report.

GB stated that after the Guildtown Rally, the Club has seen three new members join. Membership is now at 183.

GB asked that the new revised membership form for 2018, with his new address be uploaded to the website with immediate effect. Any applications sent to his old address will not be forwarded by Royal Mail if only addressed to ScA7 Membership Secretary as his name is not on the envelope.

The welcome pack will need to be amended with changes of address for Committee members, after the AGM. GB will be looking for suggested changes to the welcome pack at the next committee meeting.

GB continues to send any new car details to the A7CA register to keep it up to date.

7) Meshing Point report.

JJ complimented the excellent standard of MP with CY responding that it is easier to produce now with the number of issues per year, however she did ask that more pictures are sent for inclusion. The committee agreed that we are lucky to have three good editors.

8) Regalia report.

JW had noted that sales prior to Guildtown had not been as much as expected but sales were good at Guildtown. She suggested that we limit the colour options and sizes so that we can keep a reasonable stock of available items. MM suggested that we have different colours for different years. CY said that she thought most purchases were impulse buys and suggested a Guildtown T-shirt which could be pre-ordered. T-shirt order to be put on the Guildtown entry form. Some buying is anticipated at the AGM for Christmas. It was agreed that

a core stock of basic coloured would be kept with special orders for other colours available.

9) Website report.

The committee are aware of the difficulties that NW has had with the Website and getting suitable access to amend and update it. It is anticipated that if Rupert Pugh comes on to the committee he could use his computer skills to restart a club owned web site. It was agreed that the club should own the web site domain name and efforts will be made to acquire the existing site name, or a new one. NW wishes to step down from the role of Website Coordinator but wishes to remain on the committee.

10) Events secretary's report.

Simon Rooney was unable to attend the meeting and no report was received. The dates for the 2019 season have been agreed and will be in the 2019 calendar.

11) Guildtown Rally co-ordinators report.

CL is stepping down as Guildtown Rally coordinator but told the committee that all of the relevant arrangements and bookings had been made for 2019. He commented that the event had made a profit and that a new band had been hired to provide entertainment on the Sunday. AW suggested that the committee should think about providing new and more exciting things to do, particularly on the Sunday. CY told the committee that there had been wasted beer at this year's event and MM offered to bring her big jugs next year to bring the unused beer to the marquee for consumption on the Sunday night.

Additional Item

12) Committee member roles and responsibilities.

DL confirmed that he was putting together the written roles and responsibilities and thanked the committee members for their contributions. A discussion followed. DL will continue to revise the document until he passes it on at the AGM.

13) Any other business

Nominations for AGM awards.

DL had received two nominations for one of the AGM awards and others were put forward by the other committee members. Further discussion took place and the award recipients were noted by AW.

AGM location

Complaints had been received by committee members that the AGM was being held too far north for some members. CY has suggested looking around the Callander and Perth areas and will carry out some initial enquiries.

David Lodge

Easter 2019

Return to Kildonan

19th April to 22nd April 2019



After a very successful visit to Arran in 2010 and 2011 where we all enjoyed glorious food in a superb hotel I decided that we would return to Arran for 2019.

The room rate on dinner bed and breakfast is £75 per head per night so £450 for the three nights. The food is great, the views over Pladda stunning, and the whole experience super.

We can visit the castle or brewery or go over the Ross road and a visit to the distillery can also be planned. We can also eat there even if we do not take the tour.

The hotel has 10 rooms available, five of which are already booked. However there is camping at the Seal Shore campsite opposite the hotel. The cost of a motor home site (up to 6 meters) with hook up is £24 per night.

The ferry prices are not out yet for 2019 but I expect them to be around £50.00 for a car and 2 passengers which is half the cost in 2011. If you were coming with a camper and trailer it would cost £32 more.

As rooms are strictly limited please contact me as soon as possible as when they are gone there is no further accommodation.

Charlie and Myra 0141 956 5428 or Charlie.carpenter1@ntlworld.com.

Touring France in an A7

Part 2

Preparing the car to carry five and maximise on space

Several non-permanent changes were made to the car for touring - these were based on my experiences with the Chummy two years back and my own experiences as child in the back of my parents' cars. I removed the original rear seat and, using some unwanted upholstery a friend gave me, set about making a new one. This new design allowed for a storage slot behind:



Rear seat with cover fitted



Rear seat with cover removed

With the cover removed I was able to fit in one full-size fiddle, a pocket fiddle, a ukulele, a travel guitar and two penny whistles.

Music is an important part of our family life so this particular adaptation was a huge success. The slot, once packed with instruments, left sufficient room on top for our waterproof coats, pack-up rucksacks and hats etc. The position meant that they were always at hand, if needed.

The shelf was a welcome addition for the girls to store their teddy bears and other 'things' they collected on route - also a useful place for our daily baguettes! By packing these things away behind the seat we were never really bothered by them getting in the way. I made a storage facility under the rear squab for the girls to store their Kindles (genius device that saved us bringing the 30 books which they read on route) and the few toys they chose to bring.



Under rear seat storage

I removed the original rear side panels and made new ones with a slot for storage, mainly used for notepads, colouring books and knitting projects and the black plastic cups kept their pencils and iPods safe off the floor.

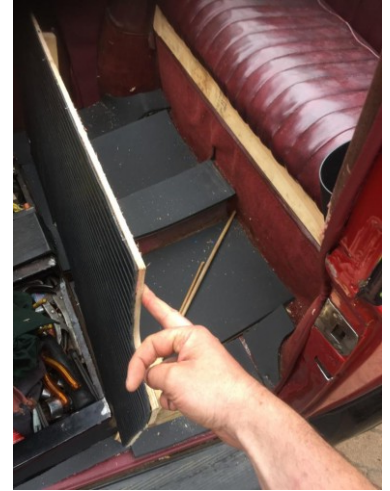
The final adaptation, in the rear, was to add a fake floor to allow for storage in the foot wells. I used this for parts and gifts we took.



Rear trim panels modified for books and pens, etc.



Under floor rear storage covered.



Under floor rear storage uncovered.

Turning my attention to the front I made a map storage shelf and fitted a small basket to house our sun cream, bulbs and the other small items we would need to hand.

Under the bonnet I fitted the spare fuel can I commissioned from Andrew Goodfellow.



Map storage slot



Handbrake storage basket



Under bonnet fuel can

Peter Naulls made me a superb trunk that I covered and mounted on to the rear of the car. This had two internal compartments, one for our cool box and the other for our cooking equipment and dry food - this proved invaluable.



Rear trunk

Finally I attached the lightweight trailer, packed in everything we planned to take and headed off to Loch Lomond for a test run/camp. A test run is very important and helped us to ditch some gear, take more that we had forgotten and set up the car to run fully loaded (this included pumping the tyres up to 38psi to get it to run straight). When everything was packed we weighed in at just under a tonne.



Trailer and trunk fitted

Ruairidh Dunford

Miss Daisy goes south to the Ayrshire Amble

Friday 21st September saw the return of the Austin Sevens to The Ranch Holiday Park at Maybole where hosts David and Joan Lodge organised two days of ambling around Ayrshire.

I had planned an intricate round trip from Aberdeenshire, towing Miss Daisy and parking her in Aviemore with my brother-in-law before heading over the hills to Applecross for a meeting. I had intended to return the next day to Aviemore to pick up the trailer and then to drive down to Bearsden so that Ruairidh could tweek Miss Daisy's carburettor before driving south to stay with David and Joan on Thursday night. However, the forecast storm in the west made me realise that crossing the *Bealach na Ba* with a van, in the dark and with strong winds was crazy and that I should learn to act my age and concentrate on getting to the rally in one piece!

I was loaded up and ready to go early on Thursday and arrived at Ruairidh's house for lunch and for him to do his magic: checking the mixture and the needle settings in my SU carburettor. I had had problems with fuel and with my plugs coking up even with the settings as lean as possible. So the final tweek included changing the fuel filter, blowing all the pipes, and fitting a brand new set of plugs before I set off for leg two of my journey south.

After a pleasant evening with David and Joan I set off as the forerunner to The Ranch while the others sorted the logistics of sourcing a battery and getting the motor home and two vehicles on to the site.

The Sevens trickled in throughout the day and the early birds filled the lower part of the site to avoid the wind. It was good to see the Goodfellows, the McNaughtons, the Sutherlands, the Newsomes and John McVeigh with his friend all in Rubies. The Armours came in their green Box, Charlie and Myra Carpenter with their Van. I was pleased to see Diane Crisp arrive in her small camper and hoped she would join me on the runs. Niall Mackie and Elizabeth live locally and joined us for the runs during the day. The deep rumble of two other engines was heard during the



weekend as Fergus appeared for a visit in his Jeep and the owner of the campsite decided to join in the fun and inspected the visiting small fry with a few laps in his powerful American vehicle.

It was quite windy and after a few failed attempts to erect an awning (which David had procured for us all to congregate in during the evenings), every one retreated in smaller groups to the shelter of motor homes and awnings. Myra and Charlie kindly invited me to join them and Diane for supper and generously looked after me all weekend.

Having had a bumper crop of plums this year I had brought some bowls and buckets and went knocking on camper doors to offer them around, a good excuse to go visiting! This became a bit of a fruit exchange as later Alan Tett returned with a bag of apples, which were duly made into apple pies when I returned home.



The Saturday run was a beautiful route via Crosshill and Straiton to the Galloway Forest and I was very glad to have Diane as navigator so I had a little time to take in the wonderful scenery, although the road was quite hairy at times. We stopped at the Bell Memorial near the top at a view point overlooking the Galloway Hills. David Bell was an enthusiastic local cyclist and writer who died in 1965.

Onwards and downwards, cattle grids, lefts, rights, hump-backed bridge, speed bumps, all following David's excellent route descriptions to Dailly to find our lunch destination at Brunston Castle overlooking a wonderful golf course. The Dine Restaurant were ready for us and offered a good set menu or a wholesome soup and bread lunch which set us up for the remaining 10 miles back to The Ranch.



Had we all arrived? Not quite. Earlier we had passed Andrew Goodfellow busy filling up his Ruby from his spare tank. He had waved us on, but it seems the problem had not been quite that simple. Joan was sent back in her Mazda to find them. They duly arrived but the problem turned out to be more than just fuel shortage.

With less wind and many helpful hands it was possible to erect the awning for Saturday night. With the addition of some spare blankets and car covers we made a cosy communal entertainment space which steadily filled with people, bottles, chairs and heaters.

Sunday's run was the route we did not drive at the last Ayrshire Amble because of bad weather. We headed for the coast via the Electric Brae. The views over the sea and the coast were great as usual and we made our way via Monkton, the Royal Troon Golf Course, Symington and Tarbolton to The Gemmells Garden Centre for lunch. To my surprise Christmas decorations and Santa's Grotto were already in place which sent me scuttling to the plant section where, I admit, I had to go and buy some plants instead.



I must report here that the intricate route was no problem because the Convoy Rules worked a treat. Everyone kept an eye on the mirror and slowed down if the car behind was lost from sight and it was reassuring to know that when there was a big gap before a turn there would be someone hovering in sight down the road making sure you did not miss the turn. Well done everyone.

After lunch we finally felt cosy enough to drop the hood for the run home. The road was easier and faster and we enjoyed ourselves pushing the Yellow Lady a little harder and I turned to Diane to comment how well she was running...fatal words! Shortly before Maybole I felt a loss of power. There was plenty petrol on the gauge, but the engine was very unhappy. We slowed down and knew something was very wrong. We turned up the hill towards The Ranch and pulled over, thankfully with Charlie right on our heels with an instant diagnosis of a blown head gasket.

On arriving at the campsite after limping back it turned out that the communal awning had been well and truly blown apart so the socializing took place in smaller groups in the warmth of the vans or out for a meal in the town.



Thank you David and Joan for yet another great weekend in Ayrshire.

Anneke Wallace

Andrew Goodfellow dealing with his Ruby

Fixing the Speedex

My Austin Speedex seized at the Bo'ness Hill Climb, but we broke it free for Robin Liddell to drive on both days, winning the class with an Austin against MGs, Frazer Nashes, Connaughts, and Singers, all worth tens of thousands of pounds and huge power competing against my Austin which revs to 8.5k with 54/56 bhp.

Meshing Point readers may be interested to find out how the problem was fixed.

Felix Sears

Hi Felix,

Turns out the fix for the problem is fairly simple.

The threaded retaining collar for the outer bearing on the torque tube has unwound itself when the car was reversing. This caused the collar to run up against the input flange and locked it up. I have cleaned up the torque tube assembly and all the bearings seem fine.

The only other problem was the key for the input flange to the pinion shaft had sheared and the tapers were slightly scored. I have lapped the tapers to eliminate the worst of the scores and I will order up a new key. I will Loctite the threaded retaining collar in place when I reassemble the torque tube and hopefully that will stop the problem recurring.

Regards

Douglas Anderson



Collecting Chummy at Kaikoura

Hi Fiona,

Of course you can copy my blog and also the photos. The owner's name is Jacqui Madelin, she is quite a well known motoring and motorcycle journalist in New Zealand and probably overseas too - oh and originally English but NZ is now her home.

Love,
Nancy (Vada)

“Recently we received a surprise email from an Auckland friend – could she come and stay with us in Christchurch and hitch a ride to Kaikoura to inspect and probably buy a tiny little vintage Austin tourer circa 1927? But of course! And so it was arranged.

We were keen to see Kaikoura where there was a major earthquake last year; the coast road was blocked by landslips, etc. exacerbated by wild weather for almost a year and is still being repaired so it was interesting to see how it was going. That stretch of coast is a favoured seal habitat and also Kaikoura is a well-known whale watch centre; very fortunately the sea life has all returned even though the sea level is now about a metre lower than it was before and the seabed near the coast has some new topography.

We set off for Kaikoura one rainy morning (after first feeding the cats and giving Oscar his twice-daily insulin injection – so we had to be back in time for the evening one). The weather wasn't too bad but did not improve as we approached Kaikoura despite a hint of blue skies. Recent wild weather had caused numerous slips on the top of the range as well as the coastal highway so it was occasionally slow going.

We had time for a warming cup of coffee at our favourite Kaikoura cafe and waited for Jacqui's Knight in Shining Armour (as will be seen) to turn up, having arrived on his motorbike by a devious route after leaving his ute and trailer at Wellington. Crossing the Straits with just the bike he was not content to ride to Kaikoura by the newly-opened coast road but elected to ride mostly in the rain (hence he arrived shiny despite a thick layer of mud!) via the Molesworth Track to Hanmer then North-East to join the main highway not far behind us. Not that we knew!

After coffee it was just a short walk in the rain to inspect the Austin "Chummy". An enchanting little red car with a fabric hood.

Jacqui immediately took it for a short run – after a push-start as the battery was flat – without the side windows of course, no rear view mirror, and a split windscreen.



Then back into the shed and, transaction concluded, the side windows were fitted (sort of) and the little car loaded up. Our old leather trunk slid into the space behind the driver perfectly. Jacqui had brought an assortment of useful tools including special rare Austin spanners, which all fitted into a small tin trunk.



A quick lunch then it was out onto the road – and another less successful push-start down the road and a section of the footpath to the nearest garage. Petrol was poured straight into the engine, or so it appeared (the tank inlet is under the bonnet), tyre pressures were checked and adjusted, then with some more huffing and puffing and pushing from various helpful males finally the engine fired and Jacqui was off!



Pete followed behind on his bike, to pick up the pieces (surely not). We followed too for a short way, then turned back for the run back to home, a diabetic cat, another cat and a foxie dog who had managed not to wreck the place in our absence, apart from a little pile of tissues (her specialty – always in a pile, not scattered) and some mysterious doggy footprints on the forbidden bed.

Meanwhile "Chummy" had decided to misbehave. First the hood literally blew off or rather backwards; Pete following on his bike helped secure hood and windows down with tape. Then at the 60 km mark, or was it 90 km, the engine decided it had had enough. In fairness it was the first real run it had had in a very long time.

A helpful policeman stopped and enlightened them where they were and was most cooperative. Then the AA arrived with a trailer, they got to Picton and not only got a berth on the late ferry but a tow into the bowels of the ferry. The ferry staff enjoyed helping offload such a cute little vehicle at Wellington, where Pete AKA the KISA 9knight in shining armour) speedily went off to collect his ute and trailer and arrange with a friend for a bed. Next day we were told they managed the long haul all the way to Auckland.

We hope to see "Chummy" again one day, back in the south island in a Vintage car rally or two.

Nancy Vada Gibb”

For Sale

1935 Austin Seven Ruby For Sale

I am reluctantly selling my Mk 1 (ARQ) Ruby.

It is a smart little car that was restored by a previous owner. She has always been garaged and well looked after since I bought her.

The paintwork has odd chips and use scars but it is basically sound.

She has a nice leather interior, and the head-cloth, sunroof, etc. are in very good condition.

Mechanically in good order. Regularly/well used throughout the Scottish Borders and North of England.

Many new parts fitted in my 8½ year ownership. There are some wee jobs to do.

I'm looking for offers around £6,750.00.

Please call Barry Steele on 07748 195609 for full details and photos. Car can be viewed at Berwick upon Tweed.



Writing for Meshing Point

Are you thinking of writing an article, but don't really know where to start?

Here are a few pointers that may help you to compose something for *Meshing Point*. I have used bullet points for clarity.

- Do you have a wee story about you and your Austin that readers would enjoy?
- Has your car been undergoing some restoration?
- Have you learnt something new recently that you want to share so others don't experience the same pitfalls?
- Have you got an A7 garage project this winter that others would be interested in?
- Where have you been in your Austin 7 recently or in days gone by?
- Do you have technical questions and you're not sure who to ask?
- Have you got some entertaining breakdown story to report? Share your adventures!
- Have you been instrumental in encouraging new members to join? This is important as the Club moves forward, how did you persuade/coerce/brainwash, etc.?
- Are you good at creating wordsearches/quizzes/crosswords on an A7 theme?
- Should we have a kids' corner? **From** the kids or **for** the kids or both?
 - There are a number of crafters in the membership, what would you like to see? Patterns, ideas, Pinterest corner, photos of finished projects by members?



Please could your contributions be typed (on computers/laptops/mobile phones) in Microsoft Word and sent to editor@scottishaustinsevenclub.co.uk. Articles should be in Arial font size 14 – but we can change that if you forget! We will accept handwritten items only if you are over 65 and we can read your handwriting!

Please keep the photos separate and send them to us in JPEG format. As none of us are A7 technical wizards it would help us enormously if you indicate in the text where the photos should go. Please, please, please do not send us anything in .pdf format – we won't be able to do a thing with it!

SA7C write-up guide for events

Remember to

- Name check and thank the person who has organised the event.
- Comment on camping/hotel/motor home sites.
- Mention the routes travelled on runs and points of interest *en route*.
- Tell us about the entertaining events, i.e. things that made people laugh.
- Include breakdowns, significant car-related happenings.
- Send photos of cars, people, views (we will fit in whatever we can).
- Indicate where in the text the photos should go and label the photos accordingly.
- Mix things up, we don't want every article for every club event to sound the same. Let your personality and humour shine through!
- Send your article to editor@scottishaustinsevenclub.co.uk in good time.

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the previous month, i.e.

Submission deadline

15 January
15 March
15 May
15 July
15 September
15 November

Publication date

February
April
June
August
October
December

We welcome your contributions big or small. Bigger articles often lend themselves to a series of smaller ones.

We hope this is helpful.

The Editors

Ps You may find it helpful to record at the beginning of the outing who was there and what they were driving, for example:

Event	Names of participants	Reg. No.	Colour/make of vehicle

Two years with Sevens

In response to the heart-felt plea for articles I thought I would share a few thoughts as I reach nearly two whole years of Seven ownership.

I'm not really sure why I have always wanted a pre-war car but it was an itch I knew I would have to scratch sooner or later. I'll try not to bore you too much but a bit of history might help you understand how I got here. In my mid-thirties I bought a Morgan 4/4 because it had a pre-war look but I could use it on a daily basis and a hugely entertaining time it was as I fell in with a bad crowd and ended up trialling, autotesting and hillclimbing it. One rebuild later I got T-boned by an uninsured driver. I have the bits in the garage but can't face rebuilding it again so I sold the remains and think I rather fancy a +8. This thing has four twin-barrel carbs and side exhausts, goes like **** off a shovel and is getting used for all the above events.

Then a few things happened: I wrote off my wife's MX5 whilst driving at a sensible speed which destroyed my confidence; and I got moved from a handicap class into a road car class in the hillclimbs. Knowing how competitive I can get I realised this was likely to end in tears so I retired – which makes it hard to justify owning a car that can pass anything but a filling station.

I'd been idly looking at pre-war cars on *Carandclassic* for a while looking for something I could use for the sort of things I had been doing with the Morgans. Being a fresh air fiend it had to be open. Budget constraints pretty much narrowed the field to Austin 7 derivatives. I found a pretty looking car but at the other end of the country and then did pretty much everything you shouldn't do when buying a car. On the other hand he was willing to do a deal with the Morgan which saved me the hassle of trying to sell it.

The first event I did was a grass autotest which passed with no issues and the car felt and sounded good even if the steering lock left a little to be desired. At least it took less than a turn lock to lock so I'm not spinning the wheel like a madman.

Next was a hill climb where the car just wouldn't pull up the steeper bits. The plugs were very sooty so the carburettor was leaned off a couple of flats and the air filter removed. The second run was better but she still wasn't feeling happy, the points had closed up so I regapped them and tried again. That was better but she just didn't feel right. I did, however, reduce my times from 111 seconds to 97. I decided to leave the trailer at the venue and drove the car to the friends I was staying with. She felt as if she wanted to go but something was holding her back. After a ponder Tom and I looked at the distributor and noticed that there seemed to be a lack of insulation and that the spring arm on the contact breaker is very close to the body which might not have been such an issue if the bakelite base hadn't been painted

with aluminium paint. Anyway, I went out for a wee blast to see if she was better and she felt as if she was flying. The following day it was raining so I did not push her but I still got down to almost 96 dead. I was a happy boy on the way home.

I have been attempting to use the car more as they tend to work better if used regularly and there were no problems (apart from what felt like a fuel issue where the engine would die then restart without a problem) until the trial I did at the start of November when the gearbox jammed. I had failed the section and went from 2nd to 1st to restart and then couldn't get it out of gear. I had to take the top off the box and put selectors in neutral to free it. Having done a bit of research this appears to be a known problem if the synchromesh springs and balls are worn so I guess that is the next job to keep me out of mischief.

Simon Scott



Design Competition

The committee are looking for new artwork or slogans that can be used on the club T-Shirts, mugs, postcards, etc. We know there are inventive people within the club membership so we're looking to YOU to get creative and involved. Are you artistic or witty, good with a camera or computer? allow those pens and puns to flow and get your ideas to us.

There are three categories that can be entered and there is no limit to the number of entries per person/couple. There will be a prize for the winning entry in each category and the winners can be guaranteed that their design will be used somewhere on our regalia.

Categories

Artwork

Drawing or paintings of the cars (inside or out) – the bits you love best

Cartoons

Photographs

Slogans

Original slogans, witticisms, puns, etc.

Choose a font that suits your slogan.

Children's category

A category for those twelve and under. *Only the work of the child, please.*

Conditions and criteria

We only have a few conditions that must be met:

Your design must be relevant to the club; something to do with the cars or the troubles and joys of Austineering.

Your entry is **entirely original** to you. It cannot have been copied/derived from somewhere else. Other work can inspire you but your design must be distinctly different.

All work entered becomes the property of the Club and the committee can use it in any way it sees as appropriate.

Keep it clean please. All entries may be seen publicly so they should be suitable for viewing by all: children and adults.

Please do not portray recognizable people. We would run the risk of either their head getting too large to fit in an Austin or they may even be offended.

Entry instructions

The deadline for entries is 31st January 2019 and voting will take place in February.

If at all possible entries should be made via email attachment as a Word document, JPEG or PDF. If this isn't possible for you then get in touch with the committee and we'll sort something.

Each person/couple should complete an entry form which will be emailed out. Only one form is required regardless of the number of designs entered. If you do not use email and want to enter then please get in touch.

Jenn Wallace

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- ◇ A range of styles and colours will be available to view at Guildtown National Rally and the AGM.
- ◇ Order by 31st May for pickup at Guildtown.
- ◇ Order by 30th September for pickup at the AGM.
- ◇ Order anytime for postal delivery.



Contact Jenn Wallace at regalia@scottishaustinsevenclub.co.uk to discuss your requirements.



Trade Adverts

Goodfellow's Creative Metalwork

A range of new reproduction body panels are available for the following A7 models:-

- > Chummy
- > Box Saloon
- > Ruby



RP & Ruby Sunroofs, Sunroof rails, Chummy Wings floor pans, rear floor pans, sills, seats, fitch panels, running boards, battery box, inner wheel arches

Many more reproduction panels are available please call or email for parts list.

Andrew Goodfellow
Goodfellows Creative Metalwork
 Auchterhouse, Nr Dundee, DD3 0TS
 Tel: 01382 320284
 Email: metalwork@ossian4.co.uk

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Hydraulic brake conversion £450.00

Girling brake drums, ideal for hydraulics £55.00

Sae straight 140 back axle oil £7.00

We have in stock a one-off alloy body built for a long wheelbase Brooklands-style car, as shown in picture. Priced at £3,900

Reconditioned front shackle set £35.00

Recon oil pump bored 1/32 o/size £30.00

Cast iron Nippy heads £175.00

Austin dummy mascot, 1920s copy £39.00

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0116 2867522
free price list
www.7ca.co.uk



Ruby / Opal / Pearl, new rubber tool box lids for sale (to fit between front seats — as photo).

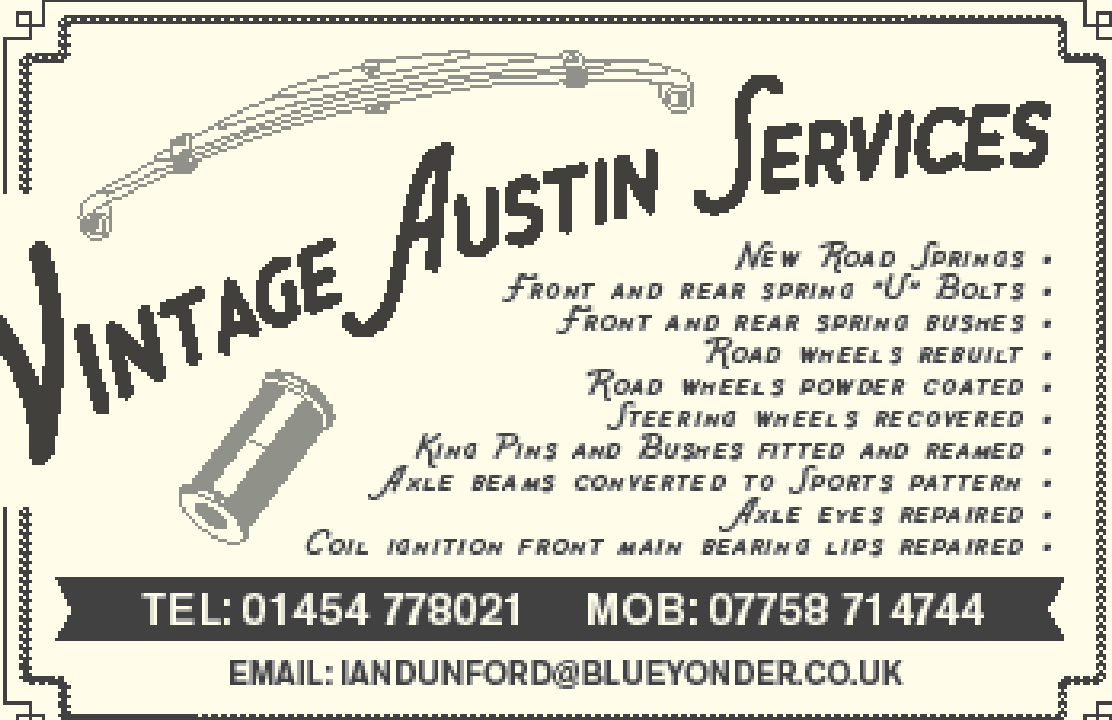
Excellent quality manufactured from new pattern.

Price £57 each plus £6 p+p per order.

Transmission tunnel covers (front section) still available.

Price £84 each plus £6 p+p

Tel. Grace Naulls on 01463 234208 or E-mail grace@naullsie.plus.com

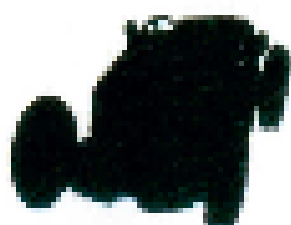


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Events Diary 2019

**Drive It Day April
Event to be Confirmed**

**Easter Weekend 19-22 April
Return to Kildonan
Charlie Carpenter**

**Return to Loch Lomond
3-6 May 2019**

**Brideswell Revisited
24-27 May**

**Borders Raid
14-16 June**

**Guildtown Rally
26-28 July**

**Ayrshire Amble
September**

**Winter weekend and AGM
(Blair Atholl)
15-17 November**

For those who have not been on one of the club run weekends, they are truly a weekend of kindred spirits in matching jackets and sweatshirts delighted to join heads under a bonnet and troubleshoot the reason for a breakdown!

Good fun, good roads and good company.