

Austin Seven Clubs Association (A7CA)

Meeting on 19 April 2009 at Gaydon

Minutes

1. Welcome

Bernie again welcomed all attendees to the Meeting explaining that tis one was our regular quarterly meeting covering anything note addressed at the AGM

2. Attendees & Apologies

Ian said he'd take it as the same as for the AGM, unless noted on the attendance/apologies sheet now circulating

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

3.1 Approval

Ian said he hoped all 'internet-connected' members had received a copy via e-mail – but if not there some hard copies are available.

Agreement to the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 January 2009

Proposed by: John Williams

Seconded by: Bob Cross

All attendees agreed.

3.2 Matters Arising

Ian noted there were no items arising not covered in the Agenda

4. Chairman's Report

Bernie had nothing to add beyond his remarks at the preceding AGM.

5. Secretary

Ian thanked Members for putting me on the spot in filling the position as Association Secretary and underlined that he welcomed *any* inputs on how both he and the Association could function better.

He also thanked everyone for their help to date in getting the Association E-mail Distribution up and running over the last few months.

6. Treasurer's Report

Eric had nothing to add to what he'd provided at the AGM

7. Information

7.1 Magazine

Bernie reminded the Meeting that, at the previous meeting, it was agreed that:

Nick Beck would present the Editor's 'Ken Warren Award' to Ian Moorcroft (Bristol A7 Club) and send Robin a short article and a photo of the occasion. **Eric Miles** confirmed that this had been done.

a. Editor's Comments

Robin reported that he'd enjoyed looking after our Magazine and especially following up leads that he'd found or been given.

He said he would like to include more Club News and articles about Club Events.

ACTION: ALL to let Robin have articles about their Club activities.

Note: Robin was not concerned if the Article was already included in a Club Magazine/Newsletter – he would ensure fully recognition of the source.

The Meeting noted with regret that Alan and Lorna had informed the AGM of their decision to step down from the role of distribution the Association Magazine after years of dedicated and demanding service. Their agreement to see through distribution until a replacement was up and running was warmly welcomed and much appreciated.

URGENT ACTION: ALL to canvass their members to see who might take on this task and inform Ian.

7.2 Website

Bernie repeated our thanks and best wishes to Malcolm and was much relieved that **Iike Cochrane** had stepped forward so promptly to fill this important role

7.3 Advertising

Hazel reported that with support from Phil Baildon an A7CA promotional advert had been placed in the April 2009 issue of the *Classic Car For Sale Magazine* and probably in *The Automobile*.

The Austin Seven Clubs Association

Promoting the Austin 7 Worldwide since 1969

16 Member Clubs, 24 Associate Clubs and Registers
monthly meetings, static and navigation rallies, runs, trials,
and tours at home and abroad. Specialist publications.

*High quality quarterly magazine with historical and technical articles,
classified suppliers and services advertisements*

For more details contact the Association Secretary Ian Mason-Smith
Tel: 01425 473949 email: hollybushcottage1@btinternet.com

Phil reported that the A7CA entries in the Club Directory of 'Classic Cars for Sale' included many errors.

ACTION: IAN to update

8. Archives

Bernie reminded the Meeting of a number of Actions from the previous meeting:

- **PHIL** to have done a Letter of Thanks to Doug Skerritt's widow Evelyn for a gift of Archive Material - **COMPLETED**
- **IAN** to contact Ruairidh and Malcolm re electronic scanning of the A7 Handbook and Parts Book – **COMPLETED** and delivered to the Meeting.

The Meeting expressed its grateful thanks for this extremely time-consuming work.

- **DAVID COCHRANE** to check the availability of some Arthur Waite Trophies from his former PA via Nigel Coulter – **IN HAND**
- **PHIL & ERIC** to reimburse Wayne Styles £100 for A7 Oiling Charts - **COMPLETED**

PHIL to report back on engaging a paid Archivist for 6 months and on the progress of the A7CA Archive Project

Phil reported that he had received several offers from professional Archivists but the most promising – very enthusiastic and supportive - was from Faye Mcleod of the Aston Martin Heritage Trust, who has provided help initially in her own time (petrol expenses only) to advise on cataloging, materials and storage from Monday 2nd March 2009.

He also reported receipt of a number of interest additions including:

- Return of original of Stanley Edge's own Professional Certificates (including one signed by Lord Austin)
- Official Handbook of the *Austin Seven Car Club* founded in 1926 - a copy issued to Mr. Engelbach; and a photo of the Club's badge
- A photograph and contact details of a 1929 Export Model A7 Tourer in Jamaica
- Two brochures: 744A of 1931 – *The Austin Seven Excels*; and 1677/1 of 1938 – *Saloons and Tourers*

Finally Phil reminded the Meeting of the forthcoming A7CA Archive Centre Open Day

THE MEETING once again thanked Phil for undertaking this important Association work so enthusiastically and effectively

9. Support

9.1 Suppliers and Spares

David Cochrane advised the Meeting that Oil Baffles and Stainless Steel Wheel nuts were again available from himself or the A7 Workshop.

Bob Cross had no new news to report but advised members to keep an eye on appropriate Websites as the supply situation was always changing.

9.2 Breakdown Support

Gordon reported that he'd had a number of individual responses to his request at our last meeting.

Whilst these offers were very welcome, he much preferred that Clubs provide him with details of Breakdown Support volunteers in their area – which would make the whole task much more manageable.

The Meeting thanked Gordon for continuing with the important task of keeping our Sevens rolling along

ACTION: ALL CLUBS to collect details of volunteers and pass to Gordon

RECOMMEND: Put this request on Club Membership Forms

10. Events

Bernie introduced the following events:

10.1 Association

- **A7CA/750MC Lowestoft to Lands-End** **12 - 15 April 2009**
A very enjoyable and well run event thanks to Janet Edroff and her Team, the Norfolk folk and the Cornwall A7C - with 20 cars taking part
- **A7CA Archives Open Day TSSC, Lubenham, Leics.** **Sat. 25 April 10am-4pm**

A7 Coast Update

Ian reported that there had been a pleasing initial response to the notion for this A7CA Project floated at our previous meeting. Attached is an update which includes a 'First Cut' at allocating each section of the UK Coast to a Club/Centre – Note: Unitary Authorities eg Bristol, Southampton etc had not been separately listed. It has been suggested that we only include the 'most permanent' accommodation as these facilities change frequently – perhaps reference to the 'Local Tourist Boards' instead?

All inputs relating to the development of the Project, the presentation and most of all offers of participation very welcome.

ACTION: ALL to contact Ian with offers of taking on a specific part of the Coast and ideas

10.2 Clubs

A7OC: London to Brighton 5 April 2009

*The Event was very well supported with 370 vehicles taking part
- the new, more rural route, was welcomed and found enjoyable*

PWA7C: Autokarna Nottingham 31 May 2009

Wollaston Park – Nottingham

- Mick Brodribb 77 Meadow Lane, Newhall, Swadlincote, Derby. DE11 0UW
Tel: 01283 219541

750 MC: National A7 Rally Beaulieu 27-28 June 2009

National Motor Museum, Beaulieu, Hampshire SO42 7ZN

- Sharon Elliott 750MC Office, Rose Farm, Upper Street, Oakley, Diss, Norfolk IP21 4AX
750membership@btconnect.com

MA7C: Stanford Hall Rally 6 September 2009

OA7C: Drive in the Park 3 October 2009

The Palace Hotel, Buxton, Peak District

- 'Online Austin Seven Club' 26 Beech Road, Erdington. Birmingham B23 5QN
or: www.aa7c.com

10.3 Other

National Motor Museum, Beaulieu – 50th Anniversary of the Montagu Motor Museum Monday 4th May 2009

- Bernard Griffiths will attend on behalf of the Association/Pram Hood Register in his 6in-braked GE Brooklands

National Motor Museum, Beaulieu – ‘Calling All Classics’ 4, 11 & 18 July and 1 August 2009

- Margaret Rowles, PRO Beaulieu Tel: 01590 614603 E-mail: pr@beaulieu.co.uk

HSCC Oulton Park Gold Cup – 40th F 5000/50 Years of Minsi/100 Years of Morgans 30/31 August 2009

- Oulton park Circuit Phil Hosker www.oultontpark.co.uk

Goodwood Revival 8 – 20 September 2009

- Goodwood Motor Circuit Tel: 01243 755055 or www.goodwood.co.uk

11.AOB

- Ian** reported on A7CA Public Liability Insurance – now cleared up by Howard
 - If any Club has NOT received the Policy, contact me and I will get it sent

AGREE: We should record our thanks to Howard for doggedly pursuing this important item on our behalf

12. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

- Ian** said he will circulate the Minutes of the AGM and this Meeting asap
 - DO let me know when you get them – just to finally check the system!

Our NEXT Meetings are all at Gaydon on:

12 July 2009

11 October 2009

17 January 2010

18 April 2010 (AGM)

18 July 2010

17 October 2010

ACTION: Ian to confirm all bookings with Gaydon [Post-Meeting Note: completed]

CLOSE:

Bernie thanked everyone for coming and hanging on through TWO Meetings! and for all the work they do for Austin 7 Enthusiasts in their Clubs back at home and wished all a safe journey home and see you next time!

A7CA – ‘A7 Coast’ Project

Update April 2009

Hi All

At the A7CA Meeting of January 2009, Ian floated an idea to establish a ‘Route Book’ for Austin 7s around UK that runs as close to the coast as is practicable (copy attached).

In a nutshell each section would include:

- The details of nearest practical route to the coastline
- Reliable B&Bs, hotel, campsites that could be used
- Places and topics of interest along the way
- Local Tourist Information Contacts
- Support services and petrol stations
- Points of Club/Centre contact(s)

Since then there has been a number of expressions of interest and support for the idea from a several Clubs and individuals.

Now is the time to formalise this support!

To assist, I have attached here an outline map of the UK (showing Counties) and a tentative list of Clubs and Centres who seem to have a coastline.

Just to get things started, it would be great to have a named person from each Club/Centre who’d be willing to coordinated getting ‘their’ section put together – for Clubs/Centres with no coastline, you might care to team up with a ‘coastal club’ or volunteer to fill one of the ‘gaps’!

To give you all a bit of a kick start, I attach an extract from our 1991B Magazine when Peter Towler and Neil McLeland of the 750MC undertook this trip in a Chummy.

And in this Summer, Glyn and Pat Llewellyn of the Dorset A7 Club are attempting to cover a good part of the route in their A7 Tourer.

So do join in the fun and let me know who can help get this idea off the ground and what you are able to do.

Many thanks.

Ian Mason-Smith

A7CA – New Project Proposal - ‘A7 Coast’

11 January 2009

Background: Over the years, Austin 7s have explored nearly every part of the UK either in groups large and small or as solo efforts. We have done JOGGLES and Le JOG and East to West and West to East but no one as far as I know has done the entire UK coastline in a Seven. Now this is a quite daunting challenge unless you have lots of time, masses of information and a load of dosh. But here’s an idea of how we might overcome these obstacles.

The Idea: Inspired by the excellent BBC Programme ‘Coast’, the notion is to develop a ‘package’ that sets out a route for Austin 7s, with useful supporting information, that runs as closely as possible to the coastline that can be used by our Clubs and Members in any way they choose. An extension of the idea is to offer a challenge over the years for Clubs to complete the entire route building up their accomplishments as a form of ‘geographical jigsaw’ until the whole map is filled in.

The Proposal: is to invite our Member Clubs (and ideally our 750MC Centres) that have a coastline to develop their part of the route showing:

- The details of nearest practical route to the coastline
- Suitable B&Bs, hotel, campsites that could be used
- Places and topics of interest along the way
- Support services and petrol stations
- Points of contact

For those Clubs/Centre not blessed with a coastline it is suggested that they could:

- fill in any nearby gaps in the route, or
- support a nearby Club/Centre with their part, or
- assist with coordination, compilation, publicity

Note: where there are interesting roads/tracks leading to/from the coast, these could be included in each section with items of interest as ‘optional extras’.

Implementation: it is suggested that we might start with just England and Wales (less any offshore islands) as a pilot to iron out any teething problems with a reasonable target date for a ‘first draft’; from what I hear a number of our members would be prepared to assist in coordinating the start up of Project and assess the level of interest in it if supported by the A7CA; one couple from our Club (Glyn & Pat Llewellyn) are having a shot this summer at completing part of such a coastal route.

Question: Would the A7CA support this initiative? – all thought and ideas welcome!

Ian Mason-Smith

A7 COAST



MAP of ENGLAND - showing Counties

A7 - Coast	Possible	Support	First Cut
COUNTY	A7 CLUB	750MC CENTRE	PW A7 CLUB
Dorset	DA7C		
Devon			
Cornwall	CA7C		
Devon			
Somerset			
Gloucester		Wooton Under Edge	
WALES	SWA7C		North Wales
Cheshire		Cheshire/NW	
Merseyside		Cheshire/NW	North West
Lancashire		Cheshire/NW	North West
Cumbria		Cheshire/NW	
SCOTLAND	SA7C		
Northumberland	NE C for PW Austins		
Durham	NE C for PW Austins		
N. Yorkshire	NE C for PW Austins		
E. Yorkshire			
S. Yorkshire			
Lincolnshire			Lincoln
Norfolk	NA7C	Norfolk	
Suffolk		Mid Anglia	
Essex	EA7C	Mid Essex	
Kent		Tunbridge Wells	
E. Sussex		Mid Sussex	
W. Sussex		Southdowns	
Hampshire	Solent A7C		North Hampshire