



AUSTIN 7 CLUBS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE HERITAGE MOTOR CENTRE, GAYDON

AT 1100 HOURS ON SUNDAY 13th APRIL 2014

| | | |
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| Present | Andy Lowe | Chairman; MA7C |
| | Chris Garner | Vice Chairman; PWA7C |
| | Bob Wyatt | President |
| | Phil Baildon | A7CA Archivist |
| | John Wyett | Treasurer; and NA7C |
| | Jim Blacklock | A7CA Registrar; Cambridge A7 & VCC; Arrow Register |
| | Hazel Gore | Advertising and MA7C |
| | Howard Annett | Grey Mag Distribution and Back Issues; A7OC |
| | Ed Waugh | Editor the Grey Mag; PWA7C |
| | Chris Charles | A7CA Webmaster |
| | Brem Bremner-Smith | MA7C |
| | Arthur Davies | MA7C |
| | Mike Ward | Hereford A7C |
| | Nick Beck | Bristol A7C and Scottish A7C |
| | Ian Mason Smith | Dorset A7C |
| | Geoff Roe | PWA7C |
| | Dave Martin | PWA7C |
| | Charlie Plain-Jones | PWA7C |
| | Laura Cooper | PWA7C |
| | Gill Davis | 750 MC; Cambridge A7 & VCC |
| | Janet Edroff | 750 MC |
| | Graham Smith | Solent A7 Club |
| | Steve Hodgson | Worthing A7C |
| | Gail Hodgson | Worthing Gp |
| | Les Morley | EA7C |
| | Dave Orange | EA7C |
| | Tony Hartnell | Bristol A7C |
| | Roger Price | Online A7C |
| | David Charles | Cornwall A7C; A7 Special Register |
| | Susan Martin | Cambridge A7C |
| | Bob Prophet | Secretary; MA7C; PWA7C |
| Apologies | Graham Baldock | A7CA Publicity |
| | Ruairidh Dunford | Gordon England Register |
| | Robin Boyce | Former Editor the Grey Mag |
| | David Cochrane | Pram Hood Register 1922 - 26 |
| | Lorna Mountford | Swallow Register |
| | John Small | Rosengart Register |
| | Paul Maulden | Norfolk A7 Club |
| | Peter Relph | Sports Register |

Action

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| <p>Welcome</p> | |
| <p>1. The Chairman welcomed the meeting to The Heritage Motor Centre.</p> | |
| <p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</p> | |
| <p>2. The Chairman asked for comments on the Minutes of the previous AGM held on 14th April 2013: one error was noted and the Secretary was asked to amend the date in paragraph 8 from 1934 to 1932 – when the building of PD Tourers started [<u>Secretary's Note</u>. Done]. David Charles duly proposed and Gill Davis seconded the Minutes as a true representation of the proceedings. All present agreed.</p> | Secretary |
| <p>Election of Officers</p> | |
| <p>3. The Chairman said that he was delighted to see the Association's President, Bob Wyatt, who had volunteered to remain as President for a further year, and announced that all those of the Committee who were due to stand down had done so and had offered themselves for re-election. He asked for volunteers to stand for the vacant Committee places and was greeted with silence. He asked if anyone present had any objections to the outgoing Committee's re-election: again, he was greeted with silence so the Chairman duly announced that the Committee had been re-elected for a further year. He then announced that John Wyatt, the Treasurer, had tendered his resignation with effect from the 2015 AGM: he had given sufficient notice for Clubs to ask amongst their members for someone suitably qualified and willing to start to take the reins during the year. He said that John Wyatt had offered to assist and guide the new Treasurer over the next few months and even to submit the invoices for the Grey Mag before the next AGM. He said that the task was not onerous. Ian Mason Smith proposed and Gill Davis seconded the re-election of the Committee. Gill Davis then thanked the Committee on behalf of all present for their hard work and devotion.</p> | All Clubs |
| <p>Chairman's Report</p> | |
| <p>4. The Chairman reported that prominent Austin 7 personalities Viv Orchard, Mick Kirkland and Herbert Nocker had died recently and that Den Huek and Arnold Crowe had died during the year. Also, he gave news of John Barlow's progress and asked about Bernard Cowley. He mentioned that Beatrice Canning-Brown had had a fall, had broken some bones and was in hospital. He stressed the need to encourage younger members to join the Austin Seven movement and reminded the AGM that RH Insurance were quite happy to give insurance cover to Under 21s: he recommended that owners of Austin 7s take advantage of this to get the young interested and, perhaps, to allow a youngster to drive when s/he could not get insurance cover for a modern car. He reminded the AGM that Austin was founded in 1905 and that the Centenary was celebrated in Cofton Park in 2005; he pointed out that 2015 would be the hundred and tenth anniversary; he reminded Ruby owners that the first Ruby appeared in 1934 and that they could be celebrating the 80th anniversary this year. He suggested that moving the Ruby to the forefront of displays would be appropriate. Finally, the Chairman wondered whether the 95th Anniversary of the introduction of the Austin 7 should be celebrated in 2017 or should we wait until the Centenary in 2022 – if any of us are still here!</p> | All All Ruby Owners All |

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| <p>Secretary's Report</p> <p>5. The Secretary told the AGM that, as the result of a nonsense, the Association's membership of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC) had lapsed but that he had now renewed it. He said that Heritage Insurance had offered a motor insurance deal to A7CA but that he hadn't pursued it; Hazel Gore then said that she would not take advertisements for the Grey Mag from any insurer other than RH Insurance because RH had been so loyal for so many years. The Secretary mentioned that he had received a number of invitations to overseas events – particularly the Classic Car Event in Turin and the Pre War Car Party in Minto in the Borders: he had passed on such invitations to all Association Clubs and would continue to do so. He then told the AGM that the Association's insurance policies had been renewed and that the paperwork had just been received: he reported that it was incorrect in that the Public Liability Policy (Towergate Underwriting) did not list all of the A7CA full member Clubs whereas the Traders' Combined Insurance (Markel (UK) Limited (WN)) listed many of them – quite unnecessarily. This subject produced a great deal of comment from the floor and the Secretary was instructed to speak to the Brokers [<u>Secretary's note</u>. Done: acknowledgement has been received and fresh policies are awaited from the two Companies involved]. The Secretary then reported that he had made contact with John Small, the Rosengart Registrar, whose report is shown below. He agreed to contact the Rosengart co-registrar, Paul Smith, with a view to sorting out the apparent lack of information on the register [<u>Secretary's Note</u>. Done: results awaited].</p> | <p>Secretary</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p>Secretary</p> |
| <p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>6. The Treasurer explained the 2013 Accounts [they are attached to these Minutes] and said that they had been reviewed and agreed by an Independent Reviewer; in response to questions about the legality of this, he explained that the Reviewer was not an Accountant (whereas the Treasurer is) and that the rules stipulated that this procedure was perfectly legal and that a full audit was not required. He went on to explain that he had hoped to use the Association's Santander account for the Jack French Garage Project but that this had not been possible for a variety of reasons: he was accounting for the cash and expenses in a column of the main account. The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for running the accounts so well during the year. David Charles proposed and Jim Blacklock seconded the Accounts which were accepted unanimously.</p> | |
| <p>Information Report</p> <p>7. <u>Publicity</u>. In the absence of Graham Baldock, the Secretary told the AGM that the project to create an App had been abandoned as the costs were going to be prohibitively high. A full report is attached to these Minutes.</p> <p>8. <u>Magazine</u>. Ed thanked the many Clubs for sending him magazines and newsletters and he put out a plea for even more material. He explained that he had to stick to a deadline and to space limitations and he asked readers to accept his decision on which articles and obituaries would appear. Howard Annett said that distribution under the new system was going well and that overseas distribution was proving to be cheaper through the printers' channels. The Chairman asked about the issues of The Grey Mag which were missing from the CD and asked Phil to arrange to put them on the website. He then congratulated the Editor on his first two issues of The Grey Mag.</p> | <p>Archivist</p> |

9. Website. Chris said that, since January, a few updates to the Association website had been made. In February, the Surviving Chassis Register was updated with the addition of separate Rosengart, BMW Dixi and American Austin and Bantam Registers. The Calendar of Events was added in February when clubs sent details of events after a reminder from the Chairman. Also, Roger Brown, a member of A7OC (London) liaised with Phil Baildon to scan a copy of the 1169 Parts Lists which is now available to download on the website; Roger Brown had offered to scan more in so that they would be available on the website. The Webmaster explained the website traffic analysis sheet [attached to these Minutes]: on average over the three months, the site had received on average 51 visitors a day, with 57% going directly to the website without using a search engine. He said that, as reported at the last meeting, many hits came from around the world. He explained that the most visited pages were listed on the reverse. Of these, the Chassis Register was the most viewed part of the website, with the page containing the colour schemes for 1936 to 1939 cars the fourth most viewed page. He reported that, otherwise, it was used mainly to look for contact details of the Association officers, Clubs and suppliers. He pointed out that the new pages, Publicity and Archive, featured in the top most viewed pages. He went on to say that, as expected, the different versions of the Chassis Register had been downloaded collectively 8,564 times over the last three months; the next most downloaded file was the Quote this number file with 439 downloads. This file was prepared by Phil Baildon and the Registrars to show the location of Chassis, Engine and Body numbers on Sevens. Graham Baldock's Publicity work was also downloaded frequently: the Letter Reference and Model Types had been downloaded 357 times in total. The Calendar of Events had been downloaded 369 times despite the actual calendar not going live until 23rd February 2014. He hoped that this breakdown of website traffic was both useful and interesting and he offered to continue to monitor it.

All
Roger
Brown

10. Chris continued saying that another addition to the site was a collection of over 300 images from the Association's Archive; Chris Garner had put him in touch with Ruairidh Dunford of the Scottish Austin Seven Club who found them on a hard drive. Hard copies are in the Archive. While sufficient and suitable online storage for these images was being sought, Ruairidh had uploaded them to his photo sharing space on Photobucket: this can be accessed via a link on the Historic Images page. The Webmaster continued by mentioning his attempts to find suitable online storage for these photos and for more photos which could be added in the future. He proposed, therefore, that a possible solution could be to purchase a Dropbox Pro account for \$99 (around £60) a year for 100GB of space. He explained that Dropbox was an online cloud storage facility which could hold thousands of photos: these could be made publicly available online and could also be viewed in an easy album layout. In addition to the Association Archives Photos, this space could be used to store the online copies of Handbooks and Parts Lists as well as the Surviving Chassis Register files. In the future, this collection could be expanded and an online archive of the Grey Mag could be added. This would relieve space on the website hosting as currently these files take up 40% of the space. He suggested, however, that he began with a standard Dropbox Account with 2GB of space which was free and then upgrade to the Pro when more capacity was needed. The Chairman thanked Chris for his work on the website and for his comprehensive report and suggestions; he then asked for the AGM's approval to allow Chris to acquire storage space as he felt necessary. This was proposed by Chris Charles, seconded by Phil Baildon and agreed by all.

Webmaster

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| <p>11. <u>Advertising</u>. Hazel Gore reported that she had liaised with the Editor over the latest issue of The Grey Mag as advertising usually filled 8 – 11 pages per issue. Advertising revenue consisted of Business/Trade and Services with the balance being made up of Clubs advertising their events: a single page advertisement cost a Club £36 with a half page advertisement free of charge: classified advertisements were free to an A7CA member. Hazel reported that some advertisers had retired or semi-retired but that their businesses were being taken over by others: she thanked all those who had remained faithful to A7CA and The Grey Mag and she welcomed the newcomers. She then reported that advertising revenue for 2013 had been £2189.28 and that the revenue for 1 Jan – 31 Mar 14 had been £528.50 with income of £255 awaited once 2014B had been issued. The Chairman thanked Hazel for her persuasive powers resulting in the acquisition of a good income and reminded members that they could advertise their parts, spares and services in The Grey Mag which guaranteed them good visibility amongst the Austin 7 fraternity.</p> | All |
| <p>Archivist Report</p> | |
| <p>12. <u>Move of Archives</u>. Phil Baildon told the AGM that the Archives had moved within the TSSC building into a single, smaller – but still adequate – room on the ground floor which would save the Association money in rent. Some local members had kindly helped to move the boxes. He told the AGM that access to the Archives was between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday, by arrangement with himself.</p> | All |
| <p>13. <u>Further Archive Material</u>. He said that Geoff Roe had presented A7CA with three more boxes of artefacts, archives and records which he had used in writing his book 'Bert Hadley, a Son of Birmingham'.</p> | |
| <p>14. <u>Card Records</u>. Phil reported that Dave Martin had been going through the Austin Motor Company cards which had been collected from Bob Wyatt; consequently, he had started a new list of changes: he had reached 1935. He said that it was his intention to publish this in 'Parts List' format when pictures could be added to the text.</p> | |
| <p>15. <u>DVLA</u>. Phil Baildon said that he had been helping Clubs to authenticate cars since the early 80s and that, having helped with two Chummies this year, it had been suggested that he add his name to DVLA's list as a back-up to the Club system. After much discussion, it was agreed that the Secretary write to Clubs first to ask whether or not they felt that this was a good idea.</p> | Secretary |
| <p>16. <u>RP Saloon Template</u>. Phil reported that a full-size Austin Motor Company metal template (approx 10' x 5') had been donated by Hazel Gore: it had been "acquired" originally when the factory closed by John Jones who worked in the Austin experimental department it; Hazel had stored it in her garage and then at Gaydon. He reported that Hazel was arranging for a file to go with it and a presentation plate to be attached to it. He thanked Hazel for her foresight and thanked, also, Arthur Davies, Brem Bremner-Smith and John Roberts of MA7C for delivering it. Howard Annett asked who had bought the Cup with Bert Hadley's name on it: Hazel Gore mentioned a break-in when much silver had disappeared. She mentioned, also, that a number of trophies were stored at Gaydon and that it would be nice to re-claim them.</p> | Chairman |
| <p>17. <u>Printer's Block</u>. Phil then showed an A7 printer's block which had been donated by Robin Boyce.</p> | |

Registrar's Report

18. Jim Blacklock reported that, since January 2013, 541 previously unknown Surviving Austin 7s and 9 Big 7s had entered the A7CA Register. As at the beginning of April 2014, there were 11,331 entries in the A7CA Surviving Austin 7 Register which break down as follows:

- Austin 7s 10,376
- Austin Big 7s 555
- American Austins and Bantams 8
- Dixi/BMWs 368
- Rosengarts 24

19. He said that interesting types of Austin 7s which had surfaced in 2013 included a Wasp in Australia, a Tickford ARR Convertible, 3 Hamblins (1 of which is in Italy), a Boyd Carpenter (which was previously thought to have been written off after colliding with a telegraph pole in the 1970s) also in Italy, a Grasshopper (in Portugal) and a Willys Overland Crossley Type EB Nippy. Much to Phil Baildon's delight, 10 Austin 7 Milk Delivery Cars are recorded in the Register. Jim was delighted to say that it was one of the joys of his job as A7CA Registrar when these special Austin 7s turn up. He expressed his thanks to all the Austin 7 club chairmen, secretaries, membership secretaries and editors who had taken the trouble to notify and chivvy their members to update the club registers and submit them in to him to update the A7CA Register. He thanked, also, the eleven individual Austin 7 owners who took the trouble to check the Register on the A7CA website and let him know of any errors or omissions on their own cars. Finally, he told the AGM that the A7CA Surviving A7 Register on the website had been updated by Chris on 22nd April and he invited owners to check it a number of changes had been made in the layout of the entries. The Chairman thanked Jim Blacklock for his perseverance in compiling an extremely comprehensive register of all known surviving Austin 7s and encouraged individual registrars to compare their own lists with the A7CA master list.

All Clubs

Registrars

Registrars' and Club Reports

20. The Secretary reported that he had received reports from a number of model registrars and clubs which he did not read out: they are attached to these Minutes.

All

Support

21. Phil Baildon showed the meeting a short chassis propeller shaft and said that these were now available: details from him. Jim Blacklock mentioned a company which made LED conversions for Austin 7 headlamps: however, they had not yet perfected the dipping system but hoped to do so shortly. Howard Annett reported that he had some 6 Volt batteries (at £65 each).

All

Jack French's Garage

22. Charlie Plain-Jones explained that the Garage had been dismantled, panels had been repaired with reclaimed timber and was being stored by Nick Allen. Planning Permission had been submitted to Bromsgrove Council who, being short-handed, were unlikely to give an answer for some months. He reported that, when

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| <p>constructed, the Garage would contain a rolling chassis on stands with engine, gearbox, steering wheel, pedals and a seat on which youngsters could sit and operate the controls. He asked for volunteers to give of their time and expertise rather than donate money (£47 had been spent so far) and suggested that a JCB for the foundations, a concrete mixer for the base and a means of moving a genuine Jack French chassis from Devon would be good starters (Devon A7C promised to investigate moving the chassis).</p> | <p>All</p> |
| <p>23. He continued that all work had been on a volunteer basis but he warned that there would be costs which could not be avoided. He said that A7CA was contributing towards the cost of the new concrete base to be constructed at Avoncroft but that other costs would include Planning Permission, the reclaimed timber and, of course, paint for inside (white matt) and outside (metal primer and dark green matt). He sought either donated materials or funds to purchase them. [Secretary's Notes. PWA7C have since agreed to provide funds; see the photos attached to these Minutes].</p> | <p>Devon A7C</p> <p>All Clubs</p> |
| <p>24. <u>Sunday 29th June 2014: A7s Meeting at Avoncroft.</u> Finally, Charlie Plain-Jones told the AGM that A7CA had been invited to put on a display of Austin 7s at the Avoncroft Museum alongside the Vintage Austin Register who had a long-standing meeting arranged on that day. He had been in touch with David Cantor of VAR and they were enthusiastic supporters of the idea. The event was open to all A7s with particular emphasis on early post war Specials of the kind that Jack French built and supported. This would be an ideal opportunity to raise the profile of the project and also gather some more donations. Those hoping to attend were asked to let Charlie know via e-mail (cplainjones@gmail.com) so that he could get some idea of numbers. The usual show conditions of early arrival and no departure until the end of the day would apply.</p> | <p>All</p> |
| <p>Any Other Business</p> | |
| <p>25. <u>Car Insurance.</u> The Chairman noted that many insurance companies were pressing A7CA for motor insurance business. He suggested that these companies be directed to Hazel Gore although she had declared that she would not take advertisements from other companies. Hazel said that RH were aware of her 'preference'. Jim Blacklock remarked that RH seemed not to be interested in insuring an A7 which is not on the road but seemed to be happy to insure the car as a bundle of parts. Much discussion ensued about insurance cover of cars under restoration/repair. Howard Annett recommended that those whose cars were in bits should not declare that fact: RH will then cover the car. He suggested speaking to Emma Airey on 01473 223145 or emma.airey@willis.com.</p> | |
| <p>26. <u>Links with Auction Houses.</u> Mike Ward, Secretary of Hereford A7C, said that his Club had been approached by Hereford Vintage Auctions with a view to a mutual link on banners and websites: he asked whether or not this was acceptable to A7CA. After much discussion, it was thought that such links would be good for all concerned with excellent publicity and visibility for the A7 movement [Secretary's Note. As a result of subsequent e-mail discussion, the general consensus is that such a link with this or any other Auction House is not a good idea as A7CA or a Club could be sued if a car was found to be in bad order and also because this could open the door to other traders from which withdrawal could be difficult].</p> | <p>All</p> |
| <p>27. <u>Warwick Film.</u> Phil Baidon mentioned that the film of the Warwick 90th</p> | <p>All</p> |

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| <p>Anniversary was finished and available. He said that Chris Charles had priced production at approx £1.24 per copy for 500 copies. David Charles agreed to look into the question of production and distribution so that it could be offered for sale.</p> | David Charles |
| <p>28. <u>The Automobile</u>. Chris Garner said that he was in discussion with The Automobile and The Pre-War Morris Club with a view to an article comparing the Austin 7 and Morris 8.</p> | |
| <p>29. <u>Motorsport</u>. Charlie Plain-Jones mentioned that Motorsport was publishing an article in the 16th April 2014 issue in which Austin 7 would feature.</p> | |
| <p>30. <u>Chip 'n Trac</u>. The Chairman mentioned that the Chip 'n Trac company was now offering for sale a camera which could be used for recording accidents or complete journeys: the camera was waterproofed.</p> | |
| <p>31. <u>In Sickness and in Health</u>. The Chairman reported that Bernard Cowley was comfortable, that John Barlow was better but not yet allowed to drive.</p> | All |
| <p>32. <u>Stationery</u>. Ed Waugh offered some Post-It Notes, cards (and envelopes) with A7 pictures on. He offered, also, polo shirts with A7 crests and, for a small extra charge, the registration number on the front. See the flyer attached to these Minutes.</p> | |
| <p>33. <u>Inaudibility</u>. Les Morley (from the back of the room) commented on the noise of the air conditioning and the lack of an amplifier system which made hearing difficult. The Committee were tempted to say that they couldn't hear him but the Chairman said that he would try to remember to switch the air conditioning off next year.</p> | All |
| <p>34. <u>Holiday Destinations</u>. Ian Mason-Smith said that Dorset A7C was enjoying MA7C hospitality at Warwick School and suggested creating a list of possible A7-friendly holiday destinations. Ian promised to start the ball rolling and asked that all Clubs contribute to his starter list [<u>Secretary's Note</u>. The starter list has been circulated separately to UK Clubs and Registers].</p> | Chairman |
| <p>35. <u>Trophies</u>. The Chairman presented trophies as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ray Morley trophy to Geoff Roe [the trophy is with Andy Storer and will be retrieved in due course: in the meantime, the Chairman presented Geoff with a bottle of wine as a consolation prize...]. • The Editor's Award of the Ken Warren trophy for magazine articles to Dave Martin [Again, the trophy was not available so the Chairman presented a temporary consolation prize]. | All Clubs |
| <p>36. <u>Grasshoppers</u>. Chris Garner reported that Mick Hanna and Peter Hornby were in the process of writing a definitive history of the Grasshopper models. The book would be published by the PWA7C and would hopefully be available for launch on Pre War's stand at the Classic Car Show, NEC, in November.</p> | |
| <p>37. <u>President's Word</u>. The President said how delighted he was that electronic media was being used so effectively in the Austin 7 world and promised to hand over his son's 8 – 10 hours' worth of video material on Warwick to David and Chris Charles.</p> | David and Chris |
| <p>38. <u>Secretary's Postscript: Calling All Tourer Owners!</u> Some of you may know</p> | Chris |

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| <p>that Graham Baldock, the A7CA Publicity Officer, is producing a poster and a booklet detailing every Seven model produced by Austin and listing the correct prefix. His accuracy in the naming of Tourers has been challenged and he seeks help from any Tourer owner or from anyone who can produce chapter and verse to support or oppose his views. The Bristol A7C claim that the AJ Tourer as described in the Source Book by Brian Purves did not exist and that all late chassis Tourers were, in fact, AHs. Graham has checked with the A7CA Archivist and Registrar and, surprisingly, the results are inconclusive. It seems that more than 160 cars are registered in the A7CA register as AJ but only a handful registered as AH; only two, however, actually say that the body number is AJ. Graham would be grateful if Tourer owners could check the car's transmission tunnel for the body number to see whether or not any have the prefix AH or AJ. He asks that the results of owners' inspections and any useful information be e-mailed to him soonest at gbwork@tesco.net.</p> | <p>Charles</p> |
| <p>Date of Next Annual General Meeting</p> | <p>All owners of Tourers</p> |
| <p>39. The next Annual General Meeting will be held at 11 am on a date and at a location to be decided in April 2015.</p> | |
| <p>40. The next Committee Meeting will be held at 11 am on Sunday 20th July 2014 at The Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon.</p> | <p>All</p> |
| <p>41. There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1.35 pm.</p> | <p>All</p> |

Chairman:

April 2015

Secretary:

The Austin Seven Clubs' Association.

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013.

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| 4 | Archive items |
| 5 | Stocks & Reviewer's report |

Treasurers Report:

The financial statements are attached and have been independently reviewed. No issues arose as a result of the review.

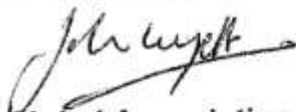
The receipts and payments account showed a surplus of receipts over payments of £2,441 for the year ended 31 December 2013 and a total balance of £29,023 in the Association's current account and deposit account. Members are reminded that the balance in hand continues to lose value in real terms due to the poor rates of return on invested funds, a problem which is endemic throughout the UK for all clubs, societies and charities as well as individual investors.

There are no outstanding debtors at the end of the year and no known liabilities.

The Association remains in sound financial health and in my opinion there is no need for an increase in subscriptions or the price of the quarterly "Grey Mag" in 2014.

I have, for the first time, included a statement of the Association assets in the form of a balance sheet. Details of the assets (mainly archive items) are shown on page 4. Where possible, these items have been the subject of an external valuation. However, many items are unique and consequently very difficult to value.

John Wyett



Austin Seven Clubs' Association Treasurer March 2014

A7CA Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013

Receipts and payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2013

| <u>Receipts:</u> | <u>£</u> | <u>£</u> | <u>Note</u> |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Subscriptions | 475.00 | | |
| Magazine net surplus | 6,721.74 | | 1 |
| Advertising receipts | 2,189.28 | | |
| Archive sales | 538.40 | | |
| Bank interest | 202.46 | | |
| Donation from Willis Gp | 500.00 | | |
| Sundries | 153.24 | | 2 |
| Total receipts | | 10,780.12 | |
| <u>Payments:</u> | | | |
| Meeting expenses | 562.76 | | |
| Insurance | 2,197.18 | | |
| Archives | 4,126.64 | | |
| Officers expenses | 1,011.88 | | 3 |
| Publicity | 252.00 | | |
| Sundries | 188.00 | 8,338.46 | 4 |
| Surplus of receipts over payments | | <u>2,441.66</u> | |

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2013

| | <u>£</u> | <u>£</u> | <u>Note</u> |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Non-current assets</u> | | | |
| Archive assets at valuation | | 45,610.00 | 5 |
| <u>Current assets</u> | | | |
| Inventory | 3,254.00 | | |
| Cash at bank | <u>29,023.31</u> | <u>32,277.31</u> | 6 |
| Total assets | | <u>77,887.31</u> | |
| <u>Represented by:</u> | | | |
| Accumulated fund 1.1.2013 | | 75,445.65 | |
| Surplus | | <u>2,441.66</u> | |
| Accumulated fund 31.12.2013 | | <u>77,887.31</u> | |

Notes

1. Magazine surplus:

| | £ |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Sales | 14,922.5 |
| | 0 |
| Distribution | 1,286.36 |
| Printing | -8,110.00 |
| Distribution cost | <u>-1,377.12</u> |
| Surplus | <u>6,721.74</u> |

2.Sundry income:

Comprises a donation and sales of registers

3. Officers expenses:

| | £ |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Secretary | 106.00 |
| Treasurer | 224.20 |
| Archivist | 106.69 |
| Registrars | 270.90 |
| Advertising | 50.60 |
| Chair & Vice | 138.49 |
| Chair | |
| Publicity | 90.00 |
| Former editor | <u>25.00</u> |
| Total | <u>1,011.88</u> |

4.Sundry expenses:

| | £ |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Commission | 17.00 |
| Gifts to retirees | 71.00 |
| Audit fee | 50.00 |
| Website | <u>50.00</u> |
| Total | <u>188.00</u> |

5.Non-current assets

Non current Assets are shown at valuation, these are not depreciated as they are considered to have an indefinite life.

6.Cash at bank:

| | £ |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Lloyds Current | 9,248.12 |
| a/c | |
| Scottish Widows | <u>19,775.19</u> |
| Total | <u>29,023.31</u> |

A7CA Financial statements y/ended 31 December 2013.

Schedule of Archive items.

| Item | Description | Valuation £ |
|-------|--|---------------|
| 1 | Arthur Waite Trophy collection (11 items) | 8,435 |
| 2 | Silver bronze Trophy by Gennarrelli | 20,000 |
| 3 | Silver plated salver | 475 |
| 4 | Cased gold wrist watch | 250 |
| 5 | D Doughty 1929 gold fountain pen | 220 |
| 6 | The Bert Hadley collection 17 items | 2,360 |
| 6a | Bert Hadley collection (3 Boxes Dec 2013) | 1,000 |
| 7 | Collection of various drawings by S H Edge | 2,350 |
| 8 | Twin cam engine drawing | 800 |
| 9 | Drawing Board and T square | 100 |
| 10 | 3 Ikea display cases | 120 |
| 11 | Approx 100 parts lists/handbooks | 1,500 |
| 12 | Approx 100 assorted brochures | 2,000 |
| 13 | Approx 100 assorted books | 2,000 |
| 14 | A collection of approx 1000 photographs | 1,000 |
| 15 | Folder of "specials" literature A-Z | 100 |
| 16 | A7CA "grey mags 1970-date (40 years +) | 400 |
| 17 | PWA7C newsletters 1962-date | 100 |
| 18 | 750 MC bulletins | 100 |
| 19 | A collection of VHS tapes/films | 200 |
| 20 | AMCo record cards | 2,000 |
| 21 | Trophy from Essex A7C | 100 |
| Total | | <u>45,610</u> |

Basis of Valuations:

Items 1,2,3,4,5 By T J Thornton Sept 2012-insurance valuation.

Items 6 By T J Thornton January 2013 insurance valuation.

Item 7 By Toby Wilson (Bonhams mid-range verbal valuation)

Item 8 as Item 7

Item 9 nominal figure

Item 6a/10 Archivist valuation

Item 11 Based on recent "Ebay" realised prices for parts list/handbook (Av £15 each)

Item 12 Archivist valuation

Item 13 Archivist valuation

Item 14 Archivist valuation

Items 15-19 Nominal values

Item 20 Valuation of irreplaceable items by archivist/assistant archivist.

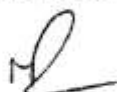
Inventory:

| <u>Item</u> | <u>£/item</u> | <u>£</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 140 Fosse Way Chummy posters | 1 | 140 |
| 145 Longbridge body posters | 1 | 145 |
| 27 Postwar special posters | 1 | 27 |
| 263 Ruby "Cliff top" brochures | 1 | 263 |
| 372 Ulster "trifold" brochures | 1 | 744 |
| 406 Van brochures | 1 | 812 |
| 519 St Ives brochures | 1 | 519 |
| 465 "comes of age" brochures | 1 | 465 |
| 25 "covers the country" brochures | 1 | 25 |
| | | |
| Binders 38 | 3 | <u>114</u> |
| Total | | <u>3254</u> |

Inventory held at archives, valuation at estimated NRV.
Binders held by H Annett, valuation at cost (2010)

Report of the independent reviewer:

I have reviewed the financial statements of the Austin Seven Clubs' Association for the year ended 31st December 2013. I confirm that they are in agreement with the accounting records of the Association.



Matt Dingle
Hon Reviewer

Date: 18 MAR 14

The Proposed App by Graham Baldock

Firstly, my apologies for not attending the AGM as I will be on an Austin Seven Rally in deepest Wales, which is a link between the South Wales Club and the Hereford Austin Seven Club, but I will be there in spirit if not in body. My report follows:

As you know, I have been trying for well over a year to have an Austin Seven 'app' designed. With complete ignorance of how to go about it, I first approached Tim Griffiths followed later by Chris Charles to see if they could help make this project a reality. Until recently, I didn't realise how much work would be involved to get this up and running and my undying thanks go to both of them for the time they must have spent on it. In an effort to finally get the project off the ground I have recently also approached a professional 'app' designer to see just exactly how much the costs would be. The results are detailed at much length below. Unfortunately (as I read it), with initial costs working out at around £2,400 plus running and updating costs, I feel that, unless we still have a philanthropist (or an enthusiast) in the movement who can spare the cash or the time to work on it as a 'labour of love', sadly I have to declare the project a non-starter. It would have been a huge asset to the club - the Ford Owners' Club, for example, have one - and it could have been interactive; as an example, any Seven driver could have used the app to get in touch directly with the Breakdown Register wherever and whenever s/he was in trouble. This was the letter I received from the professional, Martyn Wendon:

Chris has forwarded me your details with regards to the possibility of developing an App for you.

While I'm more than happy to take on this type of development work, I have to point out that typically an App like you are describing would be best developed by somebody associated with your Club as a 'labour of love' - a hobbyist project.

The main reason for this is that in most cases the costs could prove prohibitive as quite often this type of project can easily swallow up many hundreds of hours of development time just to get an initial version up and running. Don't get me wrong, I'm not trying to talk you out of it or do myself out of work but I feel that it's best to be honest up front!

Based on the brief specification that you've provided, there are a number of possibilities as follows:

1) Mobile web site. This would essentially be a duplicate of the existing web site but optimised for mobile devices. The screenshot that you provided could be the 'landing page' and then link through to existing content that was re-coded to suit the resolutions of mobile devices. Once completed, the on-going running of the site, for example, in relation to updating of content, would be handled in the same way as your existing web site. The mobile web site approach has the benefit of being a cheaper option, since it is not a 'native' App as such but simply uses the native web browser on the device to display the mobile optimised content. From the initial screen shot and description that you've given and assuming that the content and functionality for the pages indicated on the icons already exists on your current web site and would simply need optimising for mobile display, I would estimate that around 80 hours of development would be required to create the mobile web site. This figure would increase dramatically for example if you don't already have the functionality for 'Upload Pictures/Stories' as that functionality would need to be developed.

2) Native application. This would be a complete App, downloadable from the Apple or Google Play App Stores. All the data for the App would be entirely self-contained. On-going running of the App also becomes more costly, since all the data is 'baked in' to the App itself and any changes to the content would need to be made in the source code of the

App and then re-released as an update. A native App definitely looks and feels slicker; typically, however, your development costs increase significantly as a different App is needed per platform. A rough rule of thumb is that costs for this type of development are usually two or three times the cost of the simple mobile web site option.

3) Hybrid application. This is a mixture of the above approaches and is undoubtedly the most flexible. An App would be created for each platform as a 'navigation frame-work' but all the content data would be loaded from the Internet using a web-service. This would require work on your existing web-site to ensure that the data contained within the pages are in a suitable format for dynamically loading into the App. On-going running is then a case of simply updating the content on your existing web-site and the App simply refreshes its data when it is opened. This type of App is the most costly to develop initially as it requires development both of the App itself and of the supporting infrastructure – it's often referred to as a Client/Server App. As a rough estimate, this is usually three or four times the cost of the simple mobile web site option.

For the work that I take on, I usually quote in two different ways:

1) Where a full and detailed specification is provided where I can accurately predict the amount of development required, I would quote on a per-project basis and request a 25% payment up front once the specification has been agreed upon and signed off, with the balance paid once the specification has been fulfilled.

2) Where the specification is less detailed and more open to interpretation, I would quote an hourly rate (£30) and then estimate the amount of hours required to complete each stage as the project progresses, invoicing periodically along the way. This can and does get very expensive, very quickly, so I would always advise that a detailed specification be created in the first instance to allow a reasonably accurate assessment to be carried out and a per-project quote to be agreed upon.

Once a project is completed I would usually enter into a maintenance agreement of some sort, based on a 'retainer' of a certain number of hours' development being invoiced each month. You would then call off any amendments and adjustments against those hours, although obviously larger requests (such as additional functionality) would be quoted and agreed upon separately.

Please let me know if and how you wish to proceed.

Register and Club Reports

RN saloon register report 2013 by Dave Mann

The RN saloon register was started by Dave Martin in the 1970s to collate as much data as possible on the many changes this model underwent in its one year of production. The RN saloon was the first long wheelbase saloon, introduced in October 1931 with a 3-speed gearbox, scuttle-mounted fuel tank, instruments mounted centrally on the dashboard and two exposed vertical rear body seams. It finished life with a 4-speed gearbox, rear-mounted fuel tank, offset instrument panel and concealed vertical rear body seams such that, at a glance, it could be mistaken for the later RP saloon. It had two different types of scuttle fuel tank and floor-mounted starter switch, at least two styles of headlining and four or more door trim panel styles to name but a few changes.

I took over the register in 1995 and have continued Dave's work, accumulating a large number of details and photographs of RN saloons together with sketches of various details and patterns of wood framing. This information is available to any owner wishing to restore his/her car: it has been e- mailed and posted worldwide. I've also had visits from owners as far away as Perth, Western Australia. The information comes from owners, cars seen by Dave, various friends, myself and any relevant documentation. For instance, Dave recently found on the card index donated by Bob Wyatt that the later floor-mounted starter switch was introduced on 20th January 1932 on chassis 148500. Spin-offs of the register have included finding one of three RN saloons reported stolen over the last 30 years and being able to identify correctly a car for a new owner which had had its chassis number ground off and its registration number changed such that, when the owner tried to tax it, he received a visit from the local Constabulary. In both cases, all the details (chassis, car, engine and body numbers) were on the register although, in the case of the latter car, the seller didn't know about the body number.

Finally, this year I have provided information for a model manufacturer to produce a 1:43 and 1:76 scale model Austin Seven RN saloon for the model railway market. At this stage, the manufacturer does not want to be identified until the model is ready for release.

The Scottish Austin Seven Club by David Lodge

Not a great deal to report. The club is currently sitting at around 180 to 190 members and renewals are coming in. We have a full list of events throughout the year starting with Drive It Day which will be at Summerlee Heritage Centre in Coatbridge. We have now had a committee meeting on line as the Chairman (Geoff Morrison) has moved to Aberdeen. We had a few teething problems with this but we hope to continue this format. The AGM will be moving from New Lanark to Pitlochry to try to encourage other members to attend. The Club's main event will again take place at Guildtown.

The Vintage Austin Register New Zealand Inc by Chris Wood, Chairman

The Vintage Austin Register New Zealand Inc is the only club in New Zealand dedicated to owners of Austin cars manufactured prior to 1946. In that regard, our club most certainly caters for Austin 7s and we are proud of our membership of A7CA.

At present, we have approximately 600 members, spread throughout both North and South Islands. In total, our membership lists 807 Austins in various states of repair, of which 436 are 7s, the balance comprising all other models of Austin built before 1946. Bearing in mind that 7s are more than 50% of our 'fleet', they are a very important part of our club. Organisation of VAR (NZ) is headed up by the executive officers and a committee, the members of which are drawn from across

the country. At a regional level, there are 14 Branches, each with their own Area Organiser and sub-committee. Whereas VAR (NZ) runs two National events annually (National Rally and AGM), branches run regular events in their own areas. All club events are designed to suit the performance and capability of our cars and are typically runs or rallies with pre-planned route and destination.

The services provided to members include a quarterly magazine and a spares section. The majority of spares stocked and sold are for 7s. The spares are distributed by one of our husband/wife member teams from their home in Christchurch: spares are supplied to members only. Distribution of the A7CA 'Grey Mag' is an important service which we provide for our members. The service we enjoy from A7CA is excellent. We moved to Air Mail delivery from UK only two years ago and this was a big improvement in timeliness for subscribers. At this time, we have 45 subscribers and regularly advertise the 'Grey Mag' in our own magazine.

The A7CA Surviving A7 Register has been well publicised to our members via the magazine and also on our website (www.austin.co.nz) and we expect that many members will do their best to ensure that they submit the information on their cars.

In conclusion, we would like to send our best wishes to A7CA and its members.

The Pre War Austin Seven Club Limited by Chris Garner, Vice Chairman

The past year has seen the Club grow both in its membership, currently approaching 1200, and in its activities.

The Bert Hadley Championship is now well established in sporting Seven circles in the capable hands of Anna Spensley with additional support being given Charlie Plain-Jones. Geoff Roe's superb biography of Bert Hadley has been a resounding success and very well received by press and enthusiasts alike.

Numbers are increasing in our Grasshopper Trials thanks to the efforts of Nigel Glover. Our Groups around the country continue to thrive and we have recently given a warm welcome to the newly-formed Humber section. Peter Relph took over as editor of our Club magazine and is doing sterling work. Together with our usual attendance at the Classic Car Show, all the above are helping to maintain our profile as a premier Austin Seven club. Many diverse tours, rallies and events are enjoyed by our members and we have to report that Pre War is in good health and looking to the future.

The Cambridge Austin 7 & Vintage Car Club by Paul Lawrence, Secretary

The Cambridge Austin 7 & Vintage Car Club is going strong with over 50 members. A number of new members have joined in recent months; some are new to Austin Sevens and others are returning to the fold after a sabbatical. The new membership brings with it some interesting cars which include a left hand drive Opal recently brought over from America, a healthy number of restorations and 'Special' builds which have been either completed recently or are well underway.

The club organised a prestigious event last June to re-enact and celebrate the 1958 Cambridge University student prank of placing an Austin 7 on the roof of the Senate House in Cambridge. This re-enactment attracted considerable media interest and was reported on local and national radio, regional ITV News and in The Daily Telegraph. Through local sponsorship, £1000 was raised which was shared between two charities, Combat Stress and Jimmy's Homeless Shelter.

The club has recently established its own Facebook page which is helping members to forge links with the wider Austin 7 community. The club continues to provide a monthly newsletter, hosts regular club nights and organises driving events throughout the year. Consideration is currently being given to a holiday in Holland next year.

Rosengart Register by John Small

The Rosengart Register consists of two people. I have the 1928 Rosengart LR2 Van. The other member is Paul Smith, 210 Northwick Road, Northwick WR3 7EH (01905 454050). He bought a 1931 LR4 Rosengart Restoration project off me and created a Special out of it. We both share the responsibilities of the Rosengart Register, as he has more experience rebuilding Rosengarts. If you can put both our names/numbers on the register details, that would help others to get in touch with someone.

Cornwall Austin Seven Club by Sarah Mason

The Cornwall Austin Seven Club continues to go from strength to strength, welcoming new members throughout the year. We continue to have a full and varied calendar of events which are always well attended. The geography of Cornwall means that it is hard to find opportunities for us all to meet up but a number of annual events attract a high turnout including our annual rally and the steam show at Stithians.

Swallow Register by Lorna Mountford

Following the expansion of the Swallow register to include other Swallow-bodied cars, our membership has swelled, attracting new members from Wolseley Hornet owners and Austin Seven Swallow Owners. Membership now stands at 48, consisting of 37 Austin owners, 8 with Hornets and 3 members without cars. Many owners are currently working on a car at some stage of refurbishment and the new life injected into the group is allowing stronger co-operation on essential component re-manufacture for the cars. Details of the Annual Swallow Gathering have just been finalised: this year we shall be meeting at Upton House, near Banbury, the 1930's home of Shell Oils Chairman, Lord Bearstead. Cars will be on display in front of the main house from 11 am on Sunday 31st August.

The Norfolk Austin Seven Club by Paul Maulden, Secretary

The Norfolk Club has around eighty full members and seventy partner members, all with voting rights. We have a very good treasurer in John Wyett: he runs a tight ship and we have a very healthy bank balance; we have a lot of help from members on club nights to run a draw, make and sell cakes, and serve tea and coffee to members who do not want bar drinks: this covers day to day running costs without dipping into main funds. Rick Fryer is our membership secretary who also produces a very good club mag. Dave Rix sorts out all the club events with static days and runs out: we try to find something for everybody. Club nights sometimes have speakers and slide shows or we hold a Bar-B-Q night, the rubber band race car night and sometimes just a drink and chat night. We do lose some members because of age and poor health but there is still a fair rate of new slightly younger members each year.

Austin Seven Special Register by David Charles (mail@a7special.co.uk)

The Register was started in 2010 and I took it over in 2011 when my son, Chris [the new webmaster], created the "A7 Special" website (www.a7special.co.uk). We are particularly interested in the one-offs which owners have built over the years, in very low volume Austin 7

Specials and, of course, in information about and pictures of old Specials – some now in the scrap yard in the sky.

We have 129 Specials registered by owners and we have collected additional details/updates for 189 Specials, doing our best to collect information on those which come up for sale. There is an area on the latest A7CA Chassis Register for Specials and owners are encouraged by the Registrar to name the Special after themselves or even Aunt Winnie! This will make identification of Specials easier in the future. I have still not identified the original builder of mine, so it is listed as the DCC Special (David and Chris Charles Special).

A Registered Member Newsletter published via our website can be accessed by the registered owners through a password protected area. This is published twice a year relying on articles written by owners about their cars and also reports of Specials at rallies around the country or the world. In the past year, Bob Flockhart (President of the Scottish A7 Club) has given us - as a suitable repository - the information which he has collected on Boyd Carpenter A7s. Phil Baidon has collated considerable information as an "A - Z of Specials" so, last summer, Chris copied all his information onto a CD which is now held by Phil as it is his copyright material; however, a copy of this CD can be obtained from Phil (for a consideration to help A7CA funds).

Sixty One photo galleries of registered owners' Specials are shown on the website with owners' permission. New registrations of Specials filter through slowly so numbers are growing gradually. Keep them coming in!

Jack French's Garage Project by Charlie Plain-Jones

The pictures below show the work underway to repair the six panels which make up Jack French's Garage prior to moving it to the Avoncroft Museum. Magnificent progress has been made by Andy Lowe (Chairman A7CA), Nick Allen (PWA7C) and Arthur Davies and John Eden (MA7C). A really quality job was made using reclaimed timber to keep the 'period feel' of this historic building. The frames are now structurally sound with new bed plates fitted where appropriate. Only the door posts need to be fitted. We are all very grateful to Nick for storing the panels in his barn while this work is underway.

A final location at Avoncroft, next to the 1947 Pre Fab, has been agreed and a site drawing for the planning submission is being donated by David Morgan of 750MC.



Austin Seven Clubs Association

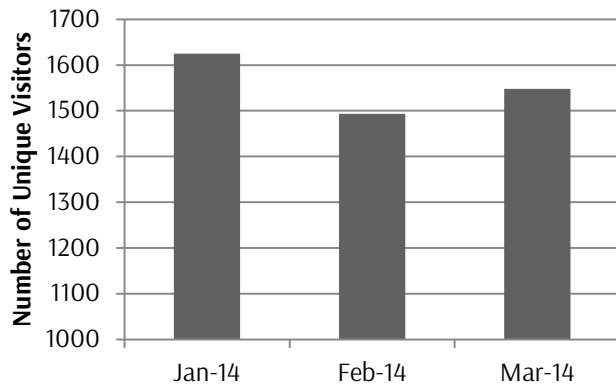
Website Traffic Analysis

January 2014 to March 2014



Unique Visitors

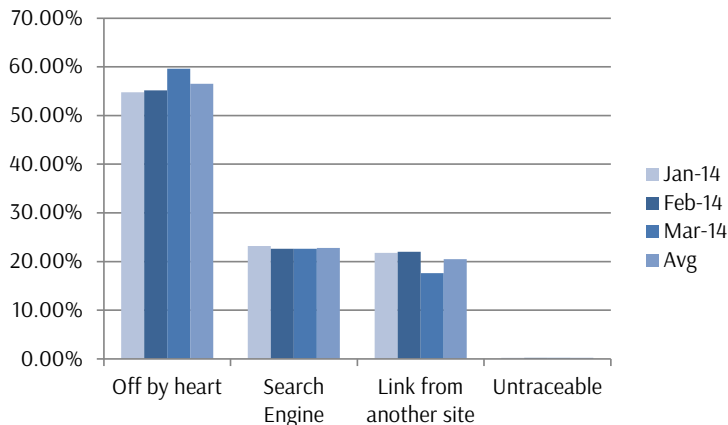
This is a number of people who have made at least 1 hit on 1 page of your web site during the month. If this person makes several visits during this period, it is counted only once. Each visitor on average over the last 3 months makes 1.67 visits.



| | Jan 14 | Feb 14 | Mar 14 |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Unique Visitors | 1625 | 1493 | 1548 |
| Hits | 27,829 | 24,193 | 19,209 |
| Visits per Visitor | 1.84 | 1.74 | 1.44 |

How did they find us?

On average over the last 3 months 57% of visitors found the website by knowing the web address off by heart. 23% found it using a search engine such as Google or Yahoo. While 20% navigated to us from another website.



Did you know...

Our website is most visited at 20:00 (GMT). The most popular day of the week is Friday and Saturday is our least busiest day.

Search Engine Phrases

Here are a few examples of phrases people have put into Search Engines, such as Google or Yahoo, to find the website.

*what is the car number on an austin seven photos of a7 rk saloons
austin 7 meets in buckinghamshire 2014
handbook of the austin 7 / 21st edition
austin 7 ruby colour scheme
austin seven sheffield*

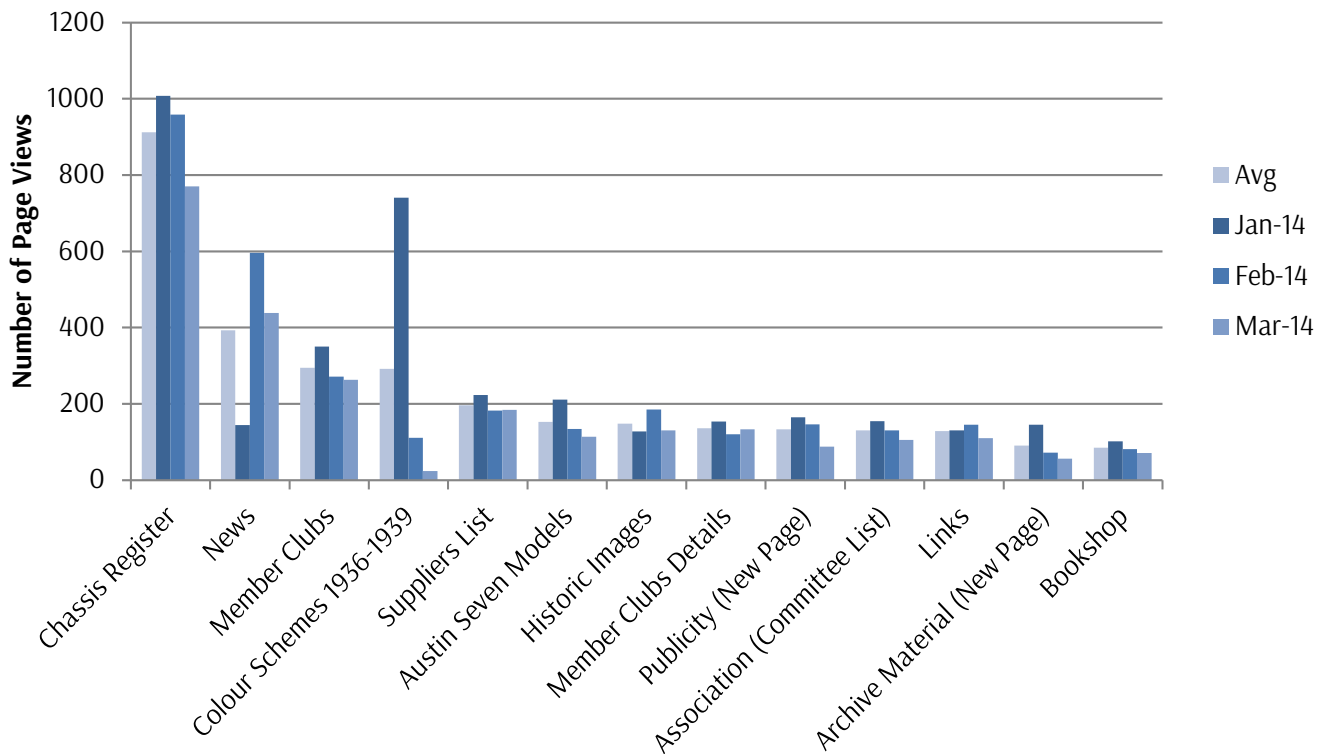
*austin seven in northamptonshire
s e hamblin ltd dorset
where are austin seven chassis numbers stamped
austin 7 nippy register
austin seven engine numbers*

Where in the world?

During January to March we have had 'hits' from around the world including countries such as; Azerbaijan, Peru, and Ghana. However Great Britain tops the list with 44,982 hits.

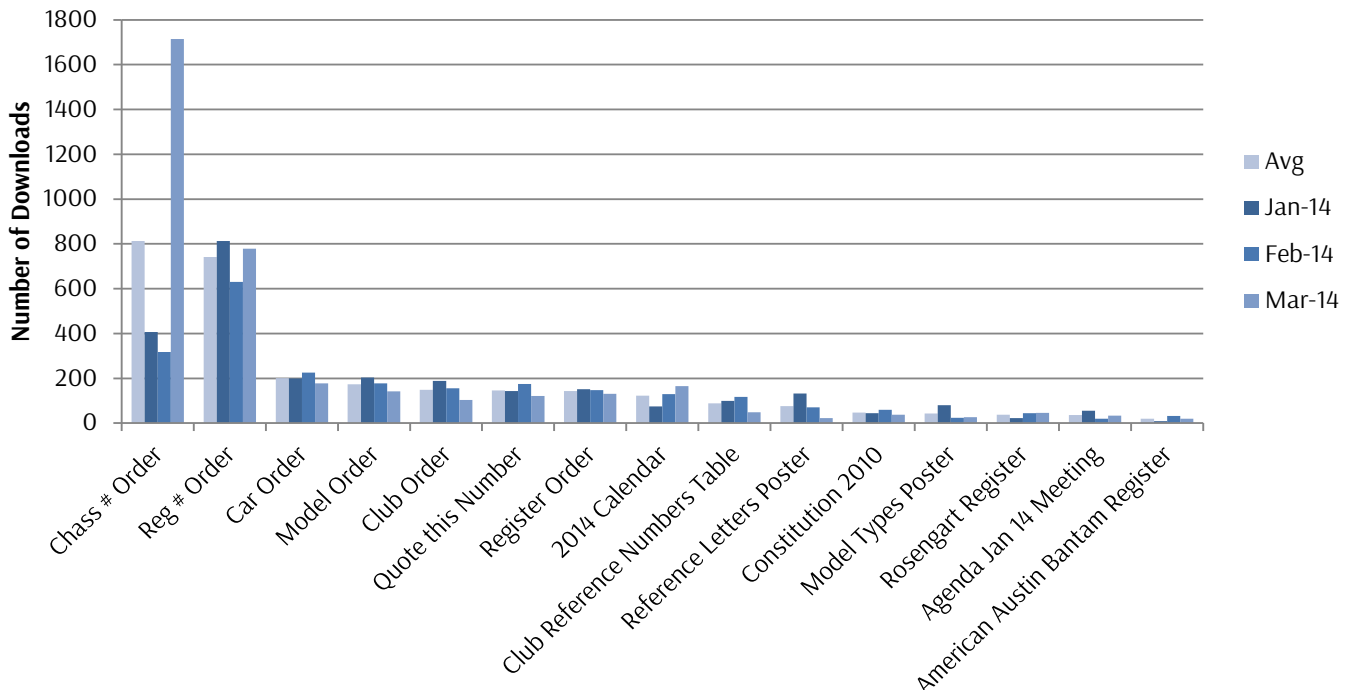
Pages

This graph shows the most visited pages. As expected the Member Clubs and Chassis Register comes out high up although Colour Schemes 1936-1939 has made an appearance with 876 views in the last 3 months. The new Publicity and Archive page have also proven popular. The News page is visited frequently although it is rarely updated so more news needs to come in to be put up there!



Downloads

As expected the Chassis Register is the most popular especially in March, but this also shows that files such as the Quote this Number document is used (439 downloads) and also a fair number of people download the agendas and minutes of these meetings.



Handbooks and Parts Lists

During January to March the total number of downloads for Handbooks has been 1936 and Parts Lists have been downloaded 1743 times.



Ed Waugh's Austin Seven Cards:

Produced by an enthusiast for the enthusiast. Each card has a small picture on the back along with a bit of information on the model of Seven in question. Packed in 5's, these cards are printed single-sided in full colour on thick card, leaving the inside blank for your own unique message, are creased and folded and they are supplied with good quality envelopes; they are presented in a cellophane envelope.

£10 50 inc p+p

We offer far more than just greeting cards/notelets. We can do flags, pvc banners, roller banners, magazines, in fact all the needs for your Club or even workplace. For further information please contact Ed Waugh on 0131 447 3992 or by e-mail: a7ulster9305@hotmail.com



something **NEW** for the *Austin Seven* enthusiast



**greeting cards/notelets featuring
some of your favourite Sevens**

