



THE AUSTIN SEVEN CLUBS' ASSOCIATION



President: Bob Wyatt
Past Presidents: Donald Doughty, Stanley Edge, Bert Hadley and Freddie Henry

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD IN THE W.I. HALL

Mill House, Mill Yard, Southam Rd, Dunchurch, Rugby CV22 6NW

11 AM, SUNDAY 8th APRIL 2018

Present

Bob Wyatt
Chris Garner
Nick Turley
John Williams
Howard Annett

Stewart Robinson
Chris Charles

Andy Lowe
Phil Baidon
Nick Beck
Roger Brown
David Cochrane
Chris Heeley
Arthur Davies
Gill Davis
Ian Mason-Smith
Charlie Plain-Jones
Steve Hodgson
Hugh Barnes
Gerald Mullord
John Ward
John Fromont
Geoff Roe
Robin Taylor
Terry Bonner
Roy Goodrum

President
Chairman; PWA7C
Vice Chairman, PWA7C
SWA7C
Grey Mag Distribution and Back Issues;
A7OC
PWA7C
Webmaster A7CA Cornwall A7C; Norfolk
A7C
MA7C
A7CA Archivist
Bristol A7C and Scottish A7C
A7CA Registrar; A7OC; 750 MC
Pram Hood Register 1922 - 26
Treasurer A7CA; PWA7C
MA7C
750 MC; Cambridge A7 & VCC
Dorset A7C
PWA7C and Jack French Garage Project
Worthing A7C
Secretary, Cambridge A7 & VCC
PWA7C

EA7C
PWA7C
Big Seven Register
EA7C
EA7C

1. Apologies for Absence

David Aylmore
Brem Bremner Smith
Paul Maulden
Malcolm Watts
John Cox
Mike Tebbett

Devon A7C
Midlands A7C
Norfolk Austin 7 Club
Cornwall A7C
Online A7C
Mulliner Register

David Charles
Janet Edroff
Ruairidh Dunford
Lorna Mountford
David Rock Evans

A7 Special Register
750 MC
Advertising A7CA
Swallow Register
VAR

2. Minutes of the previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 9th April 2017 were deemed correct
Proposed: Phil Baidon, seconded, Gill Davis

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. Officers Reports

- Chairman

This last year has seen the Association grow in terms of its expansion and assistance given to Members and their Clubs. Notably has been the work done by the Secretary and Vice Chairman with regard to both public liability and vehicle insurance. I would like to thank them both for this valuable contribution. Material being acquired and given to the Archives is encouraging together with the support that our President, Bob Wyatt, continues to give in this area. The team continues to sort through the material, and very soon, much of this will be appearing on our website. We have commenced acquiring all the Austin Works press cuttings as a result of our closer ties with the Vintage Austin Register.

The Magazine in its revamped form has been widely welcomed and we expect the publication to grow in interest. We were delighted to welcome Les Gammon as our new Editor but sadly Les will not now continue beyond 2018B. Our thanks go to Les for his work and also to the whole team for theirs.

Challenges face the Association, many of these money related, and we have been mindful that increased costs generally, the Centenary of the Seven in 2022 and the publication of the Motor for the Million, all need funding. The Committee is determined to continue to ensure that this Association is run correctly, profitably and to the benefit of its members. I feel privileged to be its Chairman and thank all my fellow Officers for their support.

- Secretary

This last year for the Secretary has been quite a busy one with things happening on many fronts. One of the main topics was re-engaging- with Hiscox Insurers, through establishing a more productive relationship with Emma Airey from Hiscox, who is responsible for the RH Austin 7 Insurance scheme. As a result, the scheme has been enhanced to include cover for vehicles not currently on the road, self-assessed valuations up to £8000 and, most importantly, the opportunity for people between the ages of 18 and 25 to drive Austin 7s under the supervision of the Insured. This will help enormously in bringing young people into the Austin 7 community.

Similarly, there was much discussion with the ERS insurers responsible for the breakdown service with a review of the current offering highlighting shortcomings and a revamp and subsequent improvement of the service.

Public Liability Insurance is also currently undergoing a review, after yet more discussion with the Insurers and I am hopeful that PLI cover for Driving Tests will soon become part of the PLI cover.

As well as the administration of the 4 quarterly meeting of the Association, there have been a number of initiatives where the Secretarial role has played a part, not least of all the revamp of the Association Magazine as part of the Editorial Team.

The Secretary views the past year as one of significant growth and enhancement of the Association and with his standing down under the terms of the new Constitution, looks forward to the continued progress the Association has made in the last few years.

- Treasurer

The main function since the last report has been in invoicing all of the *overseas* member clubs and registers for their subscriptions, magazines and related postage, plus chasing up outstanding payments from UK clubs.

2017 total invoiced was £15,564.08

2016 total invoiced was £16,186.08

2017 UK invoiced total was £13,558.59

2016 UK invoiced total was £14,268.45

- There were a couple of instances of clubs reducing the quantity of magazines they require after evaluating how many members received duplicates as a result of being members of more than one club.

2017 Overseas invoiced total was £2,005.49

2016 Overseas invoiced total was £1,917.63

Total number of magazines invoiced in 2017 was 14,462.

Total number of magazines invoiced in 2016 was 15,391.

Significant payments October to December 2017:

£3,360.00 – Annual rental of rooms for Archive

£2,031.25 – Hamps CC Digitisation of Archive (project)

£1,500.00 – Archive purchase (posters)

Cash in Current Account (Lloyds) at 31st December 2017 is £7,308.66

Cash in Savings Account (Scot Widows) at 31st December 2017 is £19,976.83

Total at 31st December 2017 is therefore £28,682.24

Total at 31st December 2016 was £36,148.94

Comparing the 2017 end of year figures to 2016 it is also worth noting that we had received cash to fund the Production Changes book, the invoice for which was paid in 2017 which makes 2016 roughly £2,000 better off.

A significant difference between 2017 and 2016 costs is that of magazine printing, a difference of £3000. The reason for this is timing as the 2016D invoice was paid in January 2017, again making 2016 look healthier.

Officers expenses for 2017 (£2,770.03) are higher than in 2016 (£1,613.04).

Meeting room hire has dropped considerably following efforts to find more economical rooms, down to £159.00 for 2017 from £682.24.

Archive purchases in 2017 were £2,179.90 against £0.00 in 2016.

The Association continues to place great emphasis on its main asset, the Archive, and making it available on-line through both external digitisation and that done by volunteers. The Jack French Garage restoration and relocation has been handled extremely professionally by a small band of volunteers that have kept cost to a minimum but will end up providing a superb tribute to Jack, the Austin 7 and its part in the history of motorsport and no doubt result in continued and increased interest in this branch of Sevensing – the Association is very lucky to have Charlie and his team working so hard. Advertising was handed over slickly between volunteers and continues to provide a steady income.

The full financial statement can be found in the Appendices

- Advertising Manager

The Advertising Manager sent his apologies and the Secretary read a written report:

Hazel passed all of the paperwork and job spec. on to me following the AGM last April – the handover was very smooth and I am very grateful to her for all her help and time, a number of calls to her were made, with requests for her help from me!

One of my first jobs was to thank trade advertisers and seek business from them for the coming year. Nick Turley secured an excellent deal with a design firm, allowing us to offer a redesign service for those who wished to have an advert that was more in keeping with the new-style Magazine we introduced in January.

I contacted all current advertisers to see if they wished to take up the redesign offer. One declined as he had retired, eight chose to take up our service, three provided their own redesign and one chose to keep their advert as it was. Only one advertiser did not reply and another came back with amendments too late for 2018A, but their updated advert is included in 2018B.

The redesign process has been extremely well received by those who took it up and also prompted new advertising for 2018B, this continues with a further advertiser booking space in 2018C onwards.

We have received a small, but steady, trickle of private adverts over the year.

In October I raised the topic of advertising rates and if they should be reviewed – the budget statement was not available at that meeting so my question was unanswered until the January meeting. Thankfully the response to look into this was positive and my suggestions, based on that discussion, have been submitted to the Treasurer for inclusion in his Budget report. If the increases are accepted at this meeting I will draw up a new table of advertising rates in time for the July meeting to allow invoicing at the new rates from October.

- Archivist

Archivist Report April 2018

ROOM MOVE and photos were going to be next. Nope Him upstairs had other plans. Triumph Club had a re-think and thankfully let us stay in our room (the new tenants are both sides)

PHOTOS Dave Martin and I did sort slides from Phil Parsons of Bristol and a shoebox of prints from Bob Glenister. These will be listed on our website for possible re-homing to current car owners. Bob as *Available Austins* bought and sold Sevens for decades.

Further neat albums of slides have been donated by Mike Stewart-these need checking with a projector etc.

DRAWINGS were next and Fenella Leigh took home rolls of mixed drawings and sorted them into origin and cross-referred with those digitised by Hants CC. Some non-austin will be offered to possible other motoring archives. There are still a few more to be checked.

HADLEY OVERALLS, HELMET etc The 10 year loan to Wheatcroft expired on 23rd August 2017 and Geoff Roe has retrieved them, to be shown today then taken to our room at Lubenham.

HANDBOOKS, Literature etc from Bob Wyatt and others

New ones to be scanned 930 Oct 32; 1223 late 34; news Aug 36; 1677 Jul 38; The very first Austin Seven Club 1927.

Consideration whether to offer to VAR or Gaydon-a long list of AUSTIN not SEVEN; almost 50 items from a pre 1922 Huntingdon garage road guide to a 1985 Sinclair C5 leaflet!

Russell Curtis' collection of c100 brochures has been scanned and still with Hugh Barnes, to go to Lubenham room.

SERVICE JOURNALS donated by Bob Wyatt have been checked by Dave Martin and I against those we have, to form a complete set. Occasional pages missing have been transferred both ways. The ones Dave Phillips used in his Sevens-only 1970 reprint were a second set bought from John Ward.

FILMS Nick Turley has put the 8min of Rivers-Fletchers 16mm of the 1972 Jubilee rally onto disc for John Ward to take home and name names so that a voiceover can be added. Nick has interviewed more personalities to follow the excellent edited talk with Bob Wyatt. More to be done!

EBAY member Timothy Payne is our new scout for A7 items and so far we have bought several good photos or unseen press clippings, the latest being a 1967 BACHELORS press photo next to an earlier chummy than the well-known red one. We are requesting copyright approval to scan and put on our archive web.

OPEN DAY has been fixed with Triumph Club for Sun 23 May. The silverware and literature will be on display, the better for the shelving now being racked flat to the long wall.

David Cochrane asked about the use of Hampshire County Council in future. Hugh Barnes replied that the acquisition of a scanner meant that much of the items still in need of digitisation could be done at no cost in house but that HCC would continue to be used where size, fragility or specialized nature of the image required would indicate professional services.

- Editor

From 2013D Ed. Waugh ably acted as our Editor, stepping down after 2017D to allow Les Gammon to take up the position. We would like to thank Ed. for his four year stint, one which we know he enjoyed. With Les in the post it was decided that, to assist the Editor, a team be formed to take on the various tasks involved in the production of the Magazine. One of the first tasks was to completely revamp its appearance to make it more period and similar to the original Austin handbooks. These changes have extended to the interior layout, and by working very closely with both an external design company and a new printer, we are delighted with the result. It is gratifying that these changes have met with considerable approval from the

membership. Les, as Editor, having overseen the production of the first two Magazines of 2018, decided not to offer himself for the post in the future. We would like to thank Les for his work and enthusiasm in the short time he held the position.

Currently the Editor's post remains vacant and for now future Magazines are being overseen by an Editorial Team comprising several Officers. Further ongoing improvements to the Magazine are planned, as the Committee recognize the value and necessity of offering a top class publication to its members.

Finally, now we have a team in place, the post of Editor is not as arduous as it once was and thus the Chairman would welcome interest from anyone who feels they could take up this rewarding role.

The Chairman then read a prepared statement (see Appendix 4) regarding the Editor's position. An Editorial Team that was created when the previous Editor stood down, and was responsible for the re-launch, will continue to produce the magazine whilst a permanent replacement for Editor responsible for content is sought.

Nick Beck asked about the positioning of the adverts in the Magazine. Chris Garner replied that the Magazine layout was now done by a professional Designer and the layout was considered a matter of constant improvement and would be refined, issue by issue, based on feedback received.

David Cochrane asked about the publication of Club details. The reply was that Club details are now published on the Association Web site and could be kept up to date in a more timely manner (Club Secretaries to note) but that the A edition each year would likely carry a printed version.

Arthur Davies asked if the constitution should be changed to reflect the Team approach. Chris Garner replied that would be kept in mind and addressed if deemed necessary

- Registrar

The Registrar reported that he had been in office for 3 years, and had prepared a detailed report and summary of the three years activity which is attached. In general terms the Register has grown to about 12,000 cars, and more than 1,200 data submissions processed in that time. The total cars figures in the summary are not precise, may include some scrapped cars, duplicate entries and probably ghosts. Strictly, to have a car you need a chassis, engine and body separately identifiable. There are quite a lot of entries which wouldn't meet this test. So don't be surprised when applying cumulative changes to the start totals, you don't quite reach the end figures.

In accordance with the Constitution it is time to stand down, so to facilitate transition, the process which has evolved over the last three years has been documented to enable future registrars to proceed with confidence, but of course, they may choose to do the job any way they wish. However, in the event that a successor Registrar has not yet been found, the present Registrar is willing to continue for the time being. And in any case will not be going anywhere so will be available to do what can be done to ensure a smooth transition.

Roger's full report can be found in the Appendices.

Chris Garner noted that a willing successor to Roger had come forward for the position of Registrar but had recently had to deal with some health issues that prevented them taking up the post at the AGM. It was hoped that a speedy return to health would enable the transfer of responsibilities in the next few months. In the interim, Roger had indicated a willingness to continue.

- Web Master

The website hasn't seen as much significant work compared to the previous year, however there has been continuous updates and additions to the Archive Website.

Comparing statistics for the main A7CA website from this year compared to the previous year there has been a 17% increase in visitors at 11,112. 16.8% of those are returning visitors having previously viewed the website before.

Also it must be noted the 30% increase from visitors on a mobile device.

The most popular area of the site continues to be the online chassis register with over 7.5k searches in the last year, on average over 20 a day.

The Archive site has continued to grow with the help of new content, additions including Films and Interviews and this continues to organically grow as the archive team digitise more content. In the past year we have welcomed nearly 3,800 visitors of which 80% have never visited before. 41% of visitors have viewed the site via a Tablet or Mobile device.

Social media continues to be growing with 636 likes on Facebook, over 110 new in the last year. This continues to have increased engagement from around the world.

As per the updated constitution this will be my last year in the webmaster position so please get in contact if you are interested in taking on the role.

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4. Budget

The Treasurer read a budget statement (attached as Appendix 3 to these minutes) This provoked a number of comments/questions and subsequent debate. Various members raised the following points:

Andy Lowe Q. Were overseas Clubs now not going to have the postage on their magazines.

A: All postage costs would be spread across total distribution, removing the 'penalty' incurred by Club members who did not live in the UK

Gerald Mullord: When events are subsidised, should the majority subsidise the few who attend. Events should either be profitable or cost neutral

Ian Mason Smith responded saying that it may appear (by entry numbers) that only 537 people attended the 2012 Warwick Rally, but in truth, many more Austin 7 people attended. He added that Dorset were supportive of monies spent on the Archive Project, supportive in the increase of the cost of the Magazine etc to boost income. Subsidy is good for major events but cost neutral is encouraged where possible

Hugh Barnes made the comment that the Association is not a profit lead Organisation and will always subsidise events and other projects that bring good to the global Austin 7 community.

Gerald Mullord suggested that income could be derived from sale of reproductions of items from the Archive.

Nick Turley replied that that was being considered but that time and energy is needed for that to happen from a volunteer group who are already hard pressed

A number of people question the projected costs of the planned Warwick 2022 rally.

Nick Turley replied that the current estimates were based on a forward projection of the 2012 costs and would be refined further as the event was planned and true costs became known.

Hugh Barnes made the comment that as far as he knew, the Association had *never* set a budget before and embarked on any form of financial planning. This view was supported by Andy Lowe. Although it may not be perfect, it is better than nothing in the new spirit of funding projects etc. that is the outlook of the Association now. Future annual budgets will be refined and become progressively more accurate.

Gerald Mullord suggested that Association Membership should at least cover the cost of Public Liability Insurance premium. This suggestion was noted but reference was made back to the Association subsidising certain costs, this being one of them.

Chris Heeley summed up the discussion by pointing out that in the 3 years he has been Treasurer, Association funds have steadily decreased in every year and that something needs to be done to reverse that trend.

The Chairman asked for 2 votes on fundamental aspect to be taken:

- i) That the cost of the Magazine should increase to £1.50 per issue from 2019 and rise again to £2 per issue in 2021.

This was carried by a vote of 9 for, 3 abstentions and none against

- ii) The Association Membership fees should be based on individual Club membership numbers
 - a) Up to 100 members - £25
 - b) 101 to 200 - £50
 - c) 201 to 500 - £75
 - d) 501 and above - £100

This was carried by a vote of 9 for, 3 abstentions and none against

Other recommendations in the budget will be implemented accordingly.

Gill Davis proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for his hard work

5. Election of Officers

By the terms of the Constitution, three Officer positions fell vacant at this AGM

- a) Editor
- b) Registrar
- c) Secretary

The Editor post remains vacant with Magazine production being handled by the now well established Team. A permanent Editor is sought whose responsibility will be articles and other Editorial content.

The Registrar position was resolved but the candidate coming forward has had recent health issue and has had to decline for a few months while they recover from that. The current Registrar has indicated a willingness to continue in post until such time as a permanent replacement can be found. Any other volunteers would be welcome.

The Secretary position, despite regular pleas and reminders over the last 12 months, has failed to throw up a candidate. The position is now vacant.

The meeting was reminded that, apart from one notable exception, the Clubs had voted in favour of the new Constitution 12 months prior and should actively encourage candidates from their own membership to play a part in running the Association.

6. Presentation of Awards

The Association presents 2 awards each year.

- a) The Ray Morley Trophy – for Sporting Endeavour.
This year the Ray Morley Trophy is awarded to Anna Emden of the Pre War Club who has recently stood down as Administrator of the Bert Hadley Race Championship
- b) The Ken Warren Trophy – for an article of note in the Association Magazine.
This year, the Ken Warren Trophy is awarded to Peter & Dawn May and Robyn Coleman in Australia for their article on the 95th Toowoomba Rally in Queensland, Australia

The awards were greeted with a hearty round of applause

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting, will be held at 11.00 am on Sunday April 7th 2019 venue to be confirmed.

Chairman:

April 2018

Secretary:

Appendix 1 - A7CA Registrar's Report 2017-18

This is the end of my Registrarship after 3 years in office, so I have prepared a detailed summary of my three years activity which is attached. In general terms the Register has grown to about 12,000 cars, and I have processed more than 1,200 data submissions. The total cars figures are not precise, may include some scrapped cars, duplicate entries and probably ghosts. I could be strict and say that to have a car you need a chassis, engine and body separately identifiable. There are quite a lot of entries which don't meet this test. So don't be surprised when applying cumulative changes to the start you don't quite reach the end figures.

In order to facilitate transition, I have documented the process I have evolved over my three years to enable my successors to proceed with confidence, but of course, they may choose to do the job any way they wish. Whilst I am offering my resignation now, I don't think a successor has yet been found. In this event I am willing to continue for the time being, but in any case I'm not going anywhere and will do what I can to ensure a smooth transition.

The stream of information from members, club and model registrars is variable, but overall it seems to be slowing. Maybe we are approaching the limit of what can be done, but if anyone has a car not yet on the Register, the Registrar will be pleased to hear from them, or to correct or add details for cars that are already there.

In the interest of security the Register does not hold contact or location details. Club and model registers are recorded if the details are offered, and this is the only way owners might be contacted. Some owners do not want their cars included, so I haven't personally checked every Austin 7 that I came across and added them regardless.

I have tried to respond to submissions within a week, but not all result in a change to the Register. It is *your* data which I think should be accepted at face value unless there is an obvious problem, for example with the format of chassis or engine numbers. Also, your submission may suggest that a vehicle no longer exists, and it is a register of *surviving* cars. Sometimes I am right, sometimes wrong. Accuracy is the aim and no offence is intended when clarification is sought.

I am happy to report that the spreadsheets downloadable from the Association web site should now be updated each month. The downloadable sheets are formatted so that users of spreadsheet viewers can see all the data.

The spreadsheets were changed last year with sort orders which I believe are now more logical and easier to use. Please be aware that these sort orders cannot be easily reproduced using Excel. There have been no comments, good or bad, since the change, but if there are problems please let the Registrar know and a solution will be sought.

Register entries, especially new entries these days, often omit club or model register details. If the A7CA record of your car has no club or model register information, it would be helpful to add it. Club and model registrars should check their records against the Association Register, and appropriately sorted spreadsheets are available for download to help. Please let me know what needs to be added or changed. The information held by club and model registrars ought to be the best record since they should be in regular contact with their members. Maybe club chairmen can from time to time check that their end is working as intended? The on-line submission form makes it easy to submit a few records, but if there are a large number of please get in touch to agree a better way.

R G Brown - A7CA Registrar - 31.03.2018

registrar activity 2015-18

emails	15/16	16/17	17/18		eforms	15/16	16/17	17/18	
apr	8	17	10		apr	7	21	11	
may	7	17	16		may	37	20	25	
jun	12	21	13		jun	31	19	17	
jul	16	12	14		jul	21	23	16	
aug	9	19	8		aug	22	24	30	
sep	8	9	18		sep	21	15	9	
oct	21	16	11		oct	20	20	11	
nov	17	15	8		nov	21	16	18	
dec	10	9	8		dec	26	17	18	
jan	20	15	5		jan	33	18	25	
feb	17	11	6		feb	21	17	42	
mar	13	6	6		mar	46	12	23	
total	158	167	123	448	total	306	222	245	773
all changes	15/16	16/17	17/18						
apr	30	35	38						
may	47	24	27						
jun	29	31	25						
jul	31	88	50						
aug	34	64	27						
sep	23	16	17						
oct	36	20	15						
nov	26	41	20						
dec	34	16	19						
jan	37	29	22						
feb	21	16	46						
mar	37	12	23						
total	385	392	329	1106					
new entries	15/16	16/17	17/18		amendments	15/16	16/17	17/18	
apr	5	12	5		apr	25	23	33	
may	14	10	8		may	33	14	19	
jun	13	16	13		jun	16	15	12	
jul	10	18	11		jul	21	70	39	
aug	10	15	11		aug	24	49	16	
sep	11	4	8		sep	12	12	9	
oct	13	8	4		oct	23	12	11	
nov	14	11	10		nov	12	30	10	
dec	9	6	6		dec	25	10	13	
jan	21	7	6		jan	16	22	16	
feb	7	5	18		feb	14	11	28	
mar	17	6	13		mar	20	6	10	
total	144	118	113	375	total	241	274	216	731
approximate cars	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18					
A7	10579	10729	10843	10955					
B7	627	634	636	638					
Ba	8	8	9	15					
Di	368	369	369	369					
Ro	23	26	25	25					
total	11605	11766	11882	12002					

Appendix 2 – Financial statement

Austin 7 Clubs' Association

Financial Report 1 January to 31 December 2017

	£	£
Balance 1 January 2017		36,169.01
<u>Receipts January-December 2017</u>		
Magazine sales	14,462.00	
Sale of back numbers	54.72	
Subscriptions for 2016/7	395.00	
Magazine distribution recharged to clubs	1,018.50	
Receipts Identifying Austins Booklet	10.00	
Receipts Warwick DVD	0.00	
Advertising	2,309.19	
Interest received	19.14	
Receipts for Jack French Garage Project	20.00	
Sale of binders	144.00	
Insurance Payouts	0.00	
Archive sales	108.00	
Digital Archive Receipts	0.00	
Other miscellaneous income	0.00	
Production Changes Book	1,321.50	
Index Booklet Receipts	0.00	
<u>Total receipts</u>	<u>19,862.05</u>	
<u>Payments January-December 2017</u>		
Printing magazines	7,869.00	
Magazine distribution (postage)	1,100.66	
Identifying Austins Booklet Costs	0.00	
Subscriptions (ie FBHVC)	30.00	
Hiscox ads rebates to clubs	411.00	
Room hire for meetings	159.00	
Binders Costs	0.00	
Insurance	2,169.60	
Archive costs	4,171.25	
Archive purchase	2,179.90	
Digitisation of Archives Project	4,060.24	
Website cost	177.94	
Officers expenses	2,770.03	
Production Changes Book	1,915.05	
Index Booklet Costs	0.00	
A7CA contribution to Jack French Garage project	0.00	
JFG Costs	335.15	
<u>Total payments</u>	<u>27,348.82</u>	
Balance December 2017		28,682.24

Analysis of Account balances at the end of December 2017

Lloyds: A7CA Funds	7,308.66
Lloyds: Jack French Garage project fund	1,396.75
Scottish Widows	<u>19,976.83</u>
	<u>28,682.24</u>

Payments Oct-Dec

Expenses Chris Garner	305.08
Expenses JFG CJP	49.08
Expenses Editor	374.63
Expenses Editor	262.75
Meeting Room Green Man	30.00
Hampshire CC Archiving	2,031.25
Expenses Dave Martin	42.50
Archive room rental TSSC	3,360.00
Lavenham 96881	231.11
Lavenham 96882	1,656.00
Archive Purchase (Turley) Posters	1,500.00
Expenses Roger Brown	47.50
Expenses Howard Annett	144.28
Expenses JFG CJP	178.15
Expenses Dave Martin	42.50
Expenses Chris Garner	227.65
Hampshire CC Archiving	175.00
Expenses Chris Charles	50.95

Appendix 3 - A7CA BUDGET STATEMENT for 2019

The Officers of the Association have been looking into the way that the Association operates in recent months. There has been a feeling that there have not been any fundamental changes to the way that it operates for many years and that it was becoming out of step with its current situation.

The 'flood' experienced by our Archive was a turning point in reassessing the assets held by the Association. The archive was for many years a collection of items held by the Archivist at his home. Some years ago, the archive was recognised as being of significant value, both in monetary terms and historical interest. The archive was not particularly accessible in the past, but post-flood and with modern technology now available the Association has thrown itself into a project to make its contents available to all. In order to do this quickly and professionally, a lot of work was contracted out. We now have a large and organised Archive which is growing steadily. The Association recognises this resource and aims to begin capitalising on it by the sales of reprints of brochures, advertising literature, posters and possibly signs.

Housing the collection is an ongoing cost, both for premises and insurance. Digitisation will, for the foreseeable future, be an ongoing cost.

The Association has generally operated a surplus in years gone by. This has been used for a variety of things. From significant anniversary celebrations to supporting volunteer lead projects such as the recent Jack French Garage, or a few years ago the Speedy returning to Le Mans. Future projects already earmarked for funding include the rewrite of an important book and the 2022 centenary celebrations.

Currently the **Jack French Garage** account, whilst holding around £1400 surplus will require a projected expenditure of £2500. This figure may be reduced in the donations of equipment etc.

The **Motor for the Million** project, whilst we aim to make this self-funding from sales of the book, could take several years before profit is seen and in the meantime funds are required for research, travel and production.

The **2012 Celebrations** cost the Association around £9500 and this is after the 500 entrants paid £10 each. At present we are expecting the net cost of the event to be in the region of £11,400 for the Centenary celebrations at Warwick school. Additional the Centenary being such a large event we expect to put on other celebrations which may have a cost implication.

The Magazine.

The quarterly Magazine has been rejuvenated with a classic "old " look, the printer has been changed and a team formed to look after all aspects of its production. This has meant an increase in Magazine production costs. Postage and mailing has also increased both here in the UK and to our friends across the world.

It is proposed that delivery costs to overseas members will be apportioned over the total membership so not suffering greater delivery costs than those in the UK. Total cost of delivery and packaging amounts to £543 per issue, of which around £350 is overseas. With the estimated Magazine quantity being 3700 per issue, this adds £0.15 to the cost of each copy

These costs have and will in the future steadily reduced the amount the Association holds available for these extra contributions.

Commercial advertising rates have remained static for several years and for 2019 are projected at £1920. We are proposing an increase of 20% in 2019 so bringing the income to £2340. It is further proposed that a nominal 2% per year is applied thereafter. It is suggested that this increase be incorporated into the Constitution to ensure continuity moving forward.

The Association has looked to its cash reserves to overcome extra expenditure such as increased production and mailing costs. This cannot continue if we wish to provide funding for other avenues of expenditure to promote the Austin 7 and link like-minded enthusiasts around the world.

The Association should continue to produce a high quality quarterly magazine which is delivered to all members of member clubs for a bargain price.

The Association should continue to make its Archive available to all. In the future it is envisaged that certain archive items be reprinted and available for sale.

The Association should continue to acquire Archive material, either by donation or purchase.

In order to meet all of the financial obligations associated with the above, the Association is recommending that each magazine increases in price from the current £1 to £1.50 per copy from 2019.

A further increase is also proposed in 2021 to £2.00 per copy. The target of £2.00 per magazine will, it is felt, still provide excellent value for money. Bear in mind that whilst the Association is invoicing for a magazine, the actual benefits include all of the above, not just the magazine!

The increased cost of the magazine (and related benefits) will also become 'postage paid'. There will no longer be any additional postage charges to clubs, this being accounted for within the uplift in price, making it a more straightforward cost for clubs to pass on as their number of members varies.

Currently each Club pays an annual subscription of £20 to be a member of the A7CA. It is proposed that this be raised on a sliding scale related to the number of members per Club. This better reflects the benefit each Club accrues as a result of both Public Liability and Road Insurance.

To summarise:

Assets and Income

- Bank currently £26,500
- Magazine sales £22,200
- Advertising £2,304
- Club Subs £850

Expenditure

- Magazine production £8,000
- Insurance £2,200
- Archive costs £4,300
- Rents £3,960
- JFG £2,500
- Motor for the Million rewrite £1,000
- Misc. £1000

Appendix 4 - Statement to the Committee from the Officers remaining in the Editorial Team.

Last summer a small team of the A7 Association was formed due to the loss of the previous Editor who was responsible for content, layout, adverts and print.

Chris Garner, Nick Turley, Ruairidh Dunford and Hugh Barnes spearheaded trying to take the magazine forwards.

Les Gammon, who had a great deal of experience, volunteered to take up Editorship, at the time expressing the need for support with the design and artwork and advertising and print.

Ruairidh volunteered to deal with the advertising.

Nick volunteered to deal with getting the mag. redesigned and sort out production of print ready artwork.

Chris agreed to take on responsibility for the printing.

Hugh agreed to support the team with communication.

The outcome of this approach seemed a positive step forward.

Subsequent to the first magazine, which appeared to be very well received by Clubs and their members, the team organised a meeting, with an agenda prepared from feedback, to discuss various points that seemed potentially to make further improvement.

Before we could start our agenda Les wished firstly to make his feelings clear.

Les felt that his position was “constantly being eroded and undermined”. It must be stated here that up to this point there had not been any attempt to interfere with any of the editorial content .

This was, at the time, a bit of a bombshell.

It was a very uncomfortable situation for all at the time. Les went on to say he had had “sleepless nights with the stress” and further “could not cope with our input”.

This was a very upsetting situation for all present, especially following what seemed to be such a great improvement in the magazine and a job well done by all.

Les then decided to leave the room to let the remaining team discuss his comments.

The team decided that its approach was the right one, but that in going forward, Les was clearly very distressed by it.

Les returned to the room and Hugh, on behalf of the team, suggested that it would be better if the next edition was the last one edited by Les, as to have Les in such a stressful situation was not wanted by anyone.

The team are currently producing the next magazine jointly but are looking for an Editor who wishes to work with them.