



THE AUSTIN SEVEN CLUBS' ASSOCIATION



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

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Room – The Green Man PH, 14 Daventry Road, Dunchurch CV22 6NS

11 am Sunday 5th August 2018, commenced at 11.00 am

Present:

Chris Garner	Chairman, PWA7C
Nick Turley	Vice Chairman, PWA7C, VAR
Phil Baildon	Archivist, PWA7C
Roger Brown	Registrar, A7OC, 750MC
Paul Lawrence	CA7VCC
Stuart & Pat Phillips	SWA7C
David Charles	A7 Specials, Norfolk A7C, Cornwall A7C
Stewart Robinson	PWA7C
Roy Goodrum	Essex A7C
John Fromont	Essex A7C
Charlie Plain-Jones	750MC
David Rock-Evans	VAR4

Apologies:

Chris Charles	PWA7C, Pramhood Register
David Cochrane	Dorset A7C
Ian Mason-Smith	Devon A7C
David Aylmore	Midlands A7C
Andy Lowe	Bristol A7C, Scottish A7C
Nick Beck	Norfolk A7C
Paul Maulden	750MC
Gill Davis	750MC
Janet Edroff	Scottish A7C
Ruairidh Dunford	CA7VCC
Hugh Barnes	On Line A7C
John Cox	
Malcolm Watts	

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held 8th April 2018 were deemed correct

Matter Arising:

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1 Westminster Close
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chairman@a7ca.org

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None

Officers' Reports

Chairman:

Firstly I would like to apologise for having to delay this meeting from July. My indisposition, coupled with Nick being away on business, and also without a Secretary, would have led to difficulty in conducting a worthwhile meeting. Now we are in August we have several members absent, due I expect, to holidays and summer events. I hope we do not have to delay the July meeting in the future.

Since the last meeting in April work within the Association has been perhaps at a slower pace than we would have liked but we continue to move forward. Our previous Secretary, Hugh Barnes, is continuing the mammoth task of digitizing more of the archive and is now, together with Chris Charles, in the process of cataloguing and placing the items up on our website. This includes both the Russell Curtis and Gladys de Havilland material. Bob Wyatt, our President, continues to be most supportive and has lent us his remaining Seven material. Unfortunately Bob is not well, is currently in the Royal Berks Hospital and has requested some of the material back to look through. I'm sure we wish Bob our very best wishes and hope to see him up and about very soon. I am in touch with his son, Michael, and intend to visit Bob in the near future.

The Archive Open day was not particularly well attended but I'll let Phil expand on this more.

The General Data Protection Regulations, like many other organisations, has given us a few headaches. However I would like to thank all the Club contacts who have agreed to continue in having their personal details remaining on the website. A few tweaks were requested but all contact information is now back up on the website.

Charlie Plain Jones is doing sterling work both with the Garage and vigorously promoting sporting Sevens throughout the land!

I am delighted with the way the Magazine is coming together. The team is working well and a longer report will be read out later. We do however need an Editor. It has been suggested in certain quarters that the current Editorial team wishes to exert control over the Editor. Nothing could be further from the truth. An editor has complete freedom on content and involvement in layout – the rest of the team is there to assist with adverts, artwork and final production

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Finally; you will have seen the advert in the 2018C mag – we also need a Secretary. The Officers, and especially myself, cannot function efficiently without one. This is an urgent matter. Full support will be given to a prospective candidate.

Finally, as ever, I would like to thank my fellow Officers for their work and support and also to you, the Committee, and the wider membership.

Treasurer:

As you can see in the attached spreadsheet, there is currently little activity compared with previous years. Invoicing will happen in the next quarter which will bring the funds back to a sensible position compared with the report. However it does highlight the way funds have reduced compared to the past couple of years. Conscious decisions to spend some of the reserves of digitisation and archive purchases have led me to close the savings account (which was performing badly) and transfer the cash to bolster the current account.

Financial Report 1 January to 30 June 2018

	£	£
Balance 1 January 2018		28,682.74
<u>Receipts January-June 2018</u>		
Magazine sales	437.00	
Sale of back numbers	0.00	
Subscriptions for 2016/7	40.00	
Magazine distribution recharged to clubs	209.77	
Receipts Identifying Austins Booklet	0.00	
Receipts Warwick DVD	0.00	
Advertising	1,962.00	
Interest received	0.50	
Receipts for Jack French Garage Project	0.00	
Sale of binders	0.00	
Insurance Payouts	0.00	
Archive sales	0.00	
Digital Archive Receipts	0.00	
Other miscellaneous income	600.00	
Production Changes Book	80.00	
Index Booklet Receipts	0.00	
<u>Total receipts</u>	<u>3,329.27</u>	

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Payments January-June 2018

Printing magazines	4,904.00	
Magazine distribution (postage)	826.39	
Identifying Austins Booklet Costs	0.00	
Subscriptions (ie FBHVC)	30.00	
Room hire for meetings	96.00	
Binders Costs	0.00	
Insurance	2,229.19	
Archive costs	602.02	
Archive purchase	470.00	
Digitisation of Archives Project	0.00	
Website cost	0.00	
Officers expenses	1,210.02	
Production Changes Book	0.00	
Index Booklet Costs	0.00	
A7CA contribution to Jack French Garage project	0.00	
<u>Total payments</u>	<u>10,367.62</u>	
Balance June 2017		21,644.39

Analysis of Account balances at the end of June 2018

Lloyds: A7CA Funds	-124.34
Lloyds: Jack French Garage project fund	1,711.90
Scottish Widows	<u>19,977.83</u>
	<u>21,565.39</u>

Payments Jan-Jun

Framing of orig adverts, Nick Turley	350.00
Chairman expenses Garner	37.66
Mag layout Brainstorm	1,110.00
Mag print Automedia	1,672.00
Meeting room (D Cochrane)	48.00
Registrar Expenses Brown	47.50
Secretary expenses Barnes	41.47
Chairman expenses Garner	25.05
Archive picture framing	26.02
Editor expenses Gammon	178.00
Archivist expenses Martin	42.50
Editor expenses Dunford	9.10
Howard Annett expenses	

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	132.42
Mag print Automeida	543.31
Archivist expenses Martin	42.50
Archivist expenses Payne	57.00
Chairman expenses Garner	160.70
Secretary expenses Barnes	23.99
Archivist expenses Martin	42.50
Archive cuttings Stuart Ulph	120.00
Secretary expenses Barnes	110.00
Chairman expenses Garner	60.55
Insurance Routen Chaplin	2,229.19
Mag print Automeida	1,642.00
Dropbox	79.00
Archivist expenses Martin	42.50
Editor expenses Gammon	26.94
FBHVC membership	30.00
Archive Storage Safe Hold	576.00
Mag layout Brainstorm	480.00
Treasurer expenses AGM wine	27.07
Howard Annett expenses	300.66
Treasurer expenses printer ink	84.99
Meeting room (D Cochrane)	48.00

Advertising Manager:

No report.

Archivist:

Archivist-July/August 2018

ROOM The new tenant has left the end room and is now using the inner rooms, so the end room could be available for future Open Days.

OPEN DAY 23rd May, 14 attended, not as many as last time but rally and holiday season imminent. John Ward met Mike Costigan and Tony Griffiths for the first time in about 40

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years, all looking forward to the 1968-2018 founders meeting planned for mid-November at the original venue, the Manor Hotel, Meriden.

PHOTOS Phil Parsons' and Bob Glenister's photos are sorted and hand scripted-to be put on computer. Mike Stewart's slides are next.

DRAWINGS With Fenella Leigh's previous checking we think all Seven drawings are now accounted for. Non-Austin drawings-suitable clubs need identifying and approaching.

HADLEY OVERALLS, HELMET etc now safely returned from Donington via Geoff Roe.

HANDBOOKS, LITERATURE etc from Bob Wyatt and others. New items require scanning. Some duplicate items to be offered to a7ca members.

Phil Baildon & Dave Martin to arrange a visit to Gaydon to offer about 50 non-Austin items 1922-85 to Gillian Bardsley, and visit Faye Mcleod at Jaguar next door who set us on the road over 10 years ago and invited us to her archive.

Phil & Dave have placed the present brochure collection in clear viewing sleeves in 4 ring binders which will make insertions from the Russell Curtis collection straightforward when received from Hugh Barnes' scanning.

FILMS A bag of films from Andy Lowe/MA7C to be checked then kept/digitised or moved on.

1972 Jubilee, 8mins, has this gone from Nick Turley to John Ward for names ready for a commentary to be voiced over?

EBAY The BACHELORS photo bought by Timothy Payne, a copy has been given to Dec Cluskey, and the press copyright people written to but no reply from the current address.

The car has been located with a Cambs a7c member who knew of its past owner(s) and he and Dec would like to be in contact. Dec lives near Brighton plus still touring with the Con and Con's son Phil. Phil Baildon proposes we do a *then and now* feature using Andy Carpenter, the photographer who did the *Fosse Way then and now* for 2014D.

HERBERT AUSTIN 3rd prize book from 1885 Hotham School of Art, Melbourne, Australia, has been donated by John Davey of Teignmouth via David Aylmore of Devon a7c.

LES GAMMON offered his 4 boxfiles of letters and photos to a7ca after valuation by Bonhams at £1000. Phil Baildon has agreed we pay £750 and a sample is here to see.

Comments:

The Chairman confirmed that all non Austin materials from the Edge Collection had been redirected to the relevant Clubs and Lincolnshire Archives.

Discussions took place on the Les Gammon collection. It was agreed that the views on whether to purchase must be sought from all Clubs and Committee members. Later decided to better evaluate more of the material material before a decision can be made. Request to LG to borrow the collection.

Editor:

Inn the absence of a formal Editor, the Team reported that 2018C was produced by the co-ordination of Hugh Barnes, Ruairidh Dunford, Nick Turley and Chris Garner. Authors volunteered articles or specific articles were "commissioned". Considerable effort was put

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into the layout and illustrations in the Magazine and the team worked well, each taking different roles and responsibilities.. The team would like to thank David Cochrane for his help in proof reading. Feedback is always sort from the readership and articles welcome. 2018D is already being planned. The work of Brainstorm, our designers, and Automedia, our printers, has been of of excellent quality and the team has high hopes for the upcoming editions. A permanent occupant in the position of Editor is still sought. We can cover the role up to 2019A but, by then, a replacement is both sought and necessary.

Comments:

The Chairman emphasised the role of the Editor in that he will have complete autonomy in the content and style of the Magazine and with rest of the team giving their support to the post.

Registrar:

Find attached my report for activity from April to July 2018.

To the end of June the number of Sevens and their derivatives on the Register comprises:

Austin Sevens	10,973
Big Sevens:	638
Bantams:	15
Dixis	369
Rosengarts	26

It must be recognised that these figures will include a few “ ghosts “ but they do give a general figure on the survivors.

Carrying out an analysis of cars attending the 750MC Beaulieu rallies in 2017 and 2018 showed 138 entries in '17 compared with 153 in '18. Only 53 cars attended both years, but most of the repeat attendees were on the Register. In '17, 115 were on the Register, in '18, 107. As ever there are still cars out there which are not recorded. I would ask Clubs to both encourage members to Register their cars and additionally for Clubs to update their own Registers which are often inaccurate or poorly maintained.

The list of associate Clubs and Registers has hardly changed during my tenure and I am occasionally aware of other Clubs to which owners belong. I am suggesting that perhaps these Clubs be added to Club Record Number list so they can be referenced like those already on the list

Please take these totals from the Register at the end of June with a pinch of salt as they must include a few ghosts for - various reasons:

A7 - 10973, B7 - 638, Ba - 15, Di – 369, Ro – 26.

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After analysing the Beaulieu programmes, there were 138 entries last year, this year 153. So far so good, only 53 cars attended both years. And all but a couple of the repeat attendees were on the Register, but overall last year 115 were on the Register, this year 107. So there are still a few to be added.

Activity in the last four months is summarised in these tables, and this report will be attached to the Committee Meeting minutes. The stream of information from members, clubs and model seems to have slowed when compared to last year. If anyone has a car not yet on the Register I would be pleased to hear from them, or to correct or add details for existing entries.

Submissions Apr – July 2018 (2017)	
eform	email
66 (69)	19 (53)

For security reasons, 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 don't personally check every Austin 7 that I come across and enter it regardless.

I try to respond to submissions within a week, but not all result in a change to the Register. It is **your** data which I accept 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 my aim and no offence is intended when I seek clarification.

A7CA all marques Register 2018 (2017)			
	all	new	change
Apr	16 (38)	7 (5)	9 (33)
May	14 (22)	7 (13)	7 (9)
Jun	12 (23)	7 (13)	5 (10)
Jul	22 (48)	10 (11)	12 (37)
Aug			
Sep			
Oct			
Nov			
Dec			
Jan			
Feb			
Mar			
year			

Register entries, especially new entries, 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. I also ask club and model registrars to check their records against the Association Register, appropriately sorted spreadsheets are available to download. Please let me know what needs to be added or changed. I believe the information held by club and model registrars is 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. And whilst on the subject of clubs, I've seen a few clubs' websites which contain reference to the number of surviving cars. Most are now wrong (even ours) and ought to be revised – **Webmasters** please note.

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The list of associate clubs and clubs recognised by the Association has not changed during my term in office. I am occasionally aware of other clubs to which owners belong. When they appear operate as a club - ie. formal membership, meetings, events, publications etc. I want to add them to the Club Record Number list so they can be referenced like clubs already on the list. Maybe they could also be approached and sold the benefits of joining the Association. More members should be good for everyone.

R G Brown - A7CA Registrar - 31.07.2018

Comments

It was decided that if a Seven owner belonged to another marque vehicle Club and wished his Seven to be recorded on the A7Ca Register then the particular marque Club be noted, but nothing more.

PB asked that the contents of Graham Baldock's book, "Identifying Austin Sevens" be placed on the A7CA to assist visitors to identify an A7. Agreed. PB to action.

Webmaster:

The website hasn't seen much new content in the last quarter, there are lots of exciting events and meetings happening out in the world of Sevens but for it to appear on the website I need to be sent photos and reports!

In summary, the events calendar continues to be updated when clubs send in changes, whilst GDPR required personal details of club contacts to be removed until permission had been obtained to display them on the website.

As a brief overview we still have thousands of visitors to the site, just shy of 30,000 since the beginning of the year. As always the Chassis Register search facility is the most popular, 3817 searches since January. The events page has seen a 5% increase in traffic compared to the same period last year.

The Archive site has remained very popular both in terms of viewers and various contact forms from around the world with questions asking whether an old car still survives or details of other artefacts they believe are Austin 7 related. It has had 15,101 views in the first 7 months of the year, interestingly 1421 views on the 'How to identify your Austin 7' page.

Social media continues to be growing with 684 likes on Facebook, 48 more since our last meeting.

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Finally, I am now 9 months away from stepping down as Webmaster, I am happy to have 'informal' conversations with any interested members on what the role entails etc. My phone number can be found on the 'Committee and Officers' page of the website and the Grey Mag.

Public Liability Insurance:

As reported earlier, the previous Secretary had been negotiating with Routen Chaplin to add additional cover to our PLI policy. The two aspects were the Insurance required by the Atwell Wilson Museum for cover required for the Jack French Garage and, as a result of a suggestion made by the insurers, the addition of Driving Tests cover to the policy. The former was dealt with quite smoothly with a small extra premium added.

Regards the Driving Tests a rather slow negotiation (in waiting for both the broker and insurer to respond) came to nothing as their proposal was not deemed satisfactory in adding a very small amount of cover to existing cover but with a huge increase in premium – some £600 pa.

PLI should be revisited in a more timely manner before the next renewal in February 2018.

Jack French Garage:

The Garage structure

The major structural work is almost finished as the floor and pathways have now been completed by BC Building to a very high standard. The Museum directors are delighted with his work and it has been signed off and his invoice paid by the A7CA.

The remaining work to the external structure is:-

1. To tidy up the end gables using matching trim panels that have already been purchased and need cutting to size and fitting.
2. To fit windows which, for safety sake, it has been decided to use single sheets of Acrylic with wooden batons to replicate the original window frames.
3. Offers of help with these tasks and the fitting out of the exhibit have been received from Ian Mason-Smith, Dorset Club and Dan Cole of the Bristol Club.

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Electrics

A quotation has been requested from the electricians who work closely with the Museum. This work to take place once the windows are in place.

The objective will be to keep the modern installation and lighting as discreet as possible to avoid distracting from the 'period feel' of the building and its exhibits. A combination of period hanging lights offered by the museum plus led spotlights will be controlled by a PIR switch to come on automatically when people enter the garage. A generous donation has been received which it is hoped will cover this work.

Roger French visits the Garage

Thursday 28th June

We were delighted to welcome Roger, Jack French's only son, wife Pat and their niece to the AWMM to inspect his father's Garage which he had not seen for many years. Both were surprised and delighted to see that it had not only survived in a much better shape than it had been for a very long time.

The memories came flooding back and when Roger sat down to record a 'Living History' for the A7CA archive he kept going for 1 hr 40 mins of fascinating recollections – all without a break! This recording has now been transferred to the Archivist who will be faced with the task of editing it down into manageable chunks.....

Roger and Pat hope to be able to return for a grand official opening of the Garage next year.



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Silverstone Classic



In July the Historic 750 Formula were, for the first time, invited to exhibit at the Silverstone Classic event. This is a massive 3 day festival of mouth-watering classic racing with everything from Austin A35s to the awesome Lola T70s and McLaren CanAm cars from the 1960s taking vigorous part!

The H750F were invited to a parade lap of the full Grand Prix circuit which was a great privilege and taken at a far from a pedestrian speed!

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Graham Beckett brought Simplicity along and together with 'cut out Jack' it took pride of place in the racing Austin 7s and Jack French Garage exhibit, which many visitors rated as one of the best club stands at the event. Anne Becket was persuaded to share the Parade Lap, which is probably an experience she will never forget!

Historic 750 Formula news

It is great to be able to report that the Historic formula is undergoing a remarkable upturn in numbers this season with both Mallory and Cadwell having capacity grids. A large part of this is the number of 'new' Austin 7 cars competing for the time, including drivers who are making long journeys from the Continent to compete as the word gets around via Facebook etc.



of
first

A wet Cadwell last weekend saw some particularly exciting A7 racing with 8 Austins out of 24 formula cars lining up.

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



Another exciting new venture:



VS

The **VSCC** (with a little encouragement) has challenged the **Historic 750 Formula** to take part in an **All Austin 7 Race** at Mallory Park next Saturday 11th August.

This will be the first time that such an event has been attempted in many years and the response has been marvellous with another full grid of 24 cars and reserves booked in.

There will be a full day the usual VSCC race action as well so why not bring your Austin 7 along to watch and enjoy the fun?

Discounted tickets are available for '750MC Members' so email cplainjonesaustin7@gmail.com if you can make it.

This is turning out to be a very busy Austin 7 Season indeed!

Chairman: Chris Garner
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AOB:

- David Charles request that his son, Chris, as Webmaster, really did need a break after six years in the post and that a replacement will definitely be need by 2019.
- After some discussion the meeting felt that the summer meeting could be dispensed with and that it would not be detriment to the running of the Association. The Chairman pointed out that perhaps the only downside be the distribution of Magazines via Howard Annett.
- PB advised that the Austin Motor Company name, having laid dormant as a registered name for two years had now been bought by an individual in London.

Finally after the Vice Chairman made a final plea for a new Secretary, Paul Lawrence, current Secretary of the Cambridge Austin Seven and Vintage Vehicle Club, offered to fill the vacancy. This was gratefully accepted by all present and by way of a thank you to Paul a round of applause was enthusiastically given!

There being no further business the meeting ended at around 12.30 pm

Date of the next meeting with be Sunday 14th October 2018 at a venue to be confirmed

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