

Seven Heaven



AUSTIN SEVEN CENTENARY Fire Services college, Moreton-in-Marsh

One of the finer points of the British psyche is the ability to “put on a show”. Whether it be a Royal Pageant, the Olympics, or spectacular celebrations of great events, we can always put on a show.

So to celebrate 100 years of the Austin Seven, the Committee of the Austin Seven Clubs' Association stepped forward and did just that: put on a show — and what a show it was.

Planning started in 2019 and many A7 clubs, including the A7OC, each took on the responsibility for an aspect of the event's organisation. We all know that by early 2020 the Covid pandemic had reared its ugly head; however, planning continued and the various club representatives who made up the Centenary Committee met via Zoom. Who knew what Zoom was before all this lockdown business started?







a small local hotel in Stow, a few miles down the road from Moreton-in-Marsh, as we weren't staying the whole week and it had good security for our unlockable cars. Sadly, my Nippy let me down just before the event so I was in my

Only when you saw the site and the attention to detail in all aspects of planning did you realise what an amazing feat the Committee and all the volunteers had achieved, despite all the problems they had encountered due to the various lockdowns and restrictions. Well done, and thank you all. I know what it is like organising events and you surpassed all expectations.

I and a few friends from the Kent Centre individually booked into

modern.

I booked into the College site before going on to my hotel on the Thursday afternoon, collected my Goody bag with its glossy programme, an exhibition guide, a book about Stanley Edge, a souvenir Ordnance Survey map of the Cotswolds, a wonderful boxed commemorative plaque, a car rally plate, lapel badge and much more.



It immediately struck me that the College was an ideal site in terms of available display areas, both inside and outside. Already hundreds of Sevens had arrived, and in fact were being used to drive around the site as if in a small town, which is what the College is like, surrounded by grassy sections and tarmac areas. I quickly found the autojumble area and purchased a replacement part for my ailing Nippy while it was still available, as the stalls were busy even then.

There was so much to see and so many old friends to catch up with. The next day and the main display day, Saturday, were filled with marvelling at the cars, the Pop-Up Museum containing so much memorabilia, and the racing cars display.

Then there was the David Mawby collection of original cars, and even a fly-past of a Spitfire. In short, too much to describe here, so I hope that the photos in this issue, and probably more to come in future issues, will give you a flavour of this wonderful, probably never to be equalled, event.

I am grateful for additional photos from Bob West from the Kent



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*Cars from the David Mawby collection:
Top to bottom, Mulliner Coupe. 1931
Milk Delivery Car. 1931 Rosengart.*

*Norman Purves 1922 creation of the
coupe that never was*



Centre and Mario de Rosa, a Ruby owner from Stuttgart in Germany, who brought his car to the event.

Dave Waller

