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# THE "LIGHT SHAFT"

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August 2023

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*Vale Neil Johannesen* - Bob Watson, in passenger seat, and Tony Press.

They all joined the Club in 1956. - Three mates from Caulfield Tech.

They all gained Engineering Diplomas. See tribute Page 8.

**AUSTIN 7 CLUB INC. Reg No. A0003290N**  
**P.O. BOX 462**  
**MOORABBIN VIC 3189**  
**austin7club.org**



Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/Austin-7-Club-Inc-1544252182541126/>



Brian Williams gave me an advert for the Sale of his 1928 Austin 7, but then, almost immediately, sold it - A much travelled partner on many Austin 7 adventures.

New member, Michael Lambert from Mitcham, will now have the same opportunities.

Vale—Neil Johannesen

Neil competing at Darley 1958.

For younger members, Darley is a virtual suburb of Bacchus Marsh, immediately north of the Western Highway.

Photo David Lowe





**Magazine of the Austin 7 Club Inc. In its 73rd year**

**Foundation Patron of the Club**

**Col. A C R Waite,(dec.) MC, OStJ, DL, JP, Freeman of the**

**City of London 1894—1991., Life member of the British Racing Drivers Club.  
Winner of the first Australian Grand Prix.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### AUGUST

1	Tue			MA State Council - Delegates Mtg
2	Wed	7	A	M.G.M./Spares
5	Sat	7		Spares/B.B.Q.
	Sat			Federation Delegates Mtg – Melbourne
4/6	Fri/Sun			VHRR Winton Festival of Speed
6	Sun	7	A	Day Run - Charlie's Auto Museum
12	Sat	7		Club hire – Janne's All Day Craft Day
		7		Austin 7 Heaven Training Day
13	Sun	7		O.S.T. 8- 72nd John Pryce Memorial Trial - Lilydale
	Sun		S	V.S.C.C. Rob Roy (CANCELLED)
16	Wed	7	A	H.A.S./Spares
18	Fri	7		Tool Up at Austin 7 Heaven
27	Sun	7		O.S.T. 9 - Three Bridges
27-1	Sun-Fri			Federation North West Tour
30	Wed	7		URRRS - Cancelled (See Day Run on 6 August)

### LIGHTSHAFT COPY CLOSING

Copy for Lightshaft **closes** late on

***Saturday 19 August 2023.***

**SEPTEMBER**

1	Fri	7		Tool Up at Austin 7 Heaven
3	Sun	7	A	History Tour CANCELLED
3	Sun	7		O.S.T. 10 - Strathewen
6	Wed	7	A	M.G.M./Spares
8/10	Fri/Sun			All Historic Racing at Pheasant Wood Circuit
9	Sat	7		Spares/B.B.Q.
9	Sat	7	A	Crazy Whist Night
14/18	Thurs/Mon	7	A	Border Run
17	Sun	7		O.S.T. 11 - Glenburn
20	Wed	7	A	H.A.S./Spares
22	Fri	7		Tool Up at Austin 7 Heaven
29	Fri			AFL Holiday W/E Run?

**COMING****ANNUAL RALLY 8 OCTOBER 2023**

**You can see an updated Club Calendar on our website**

**Club Calendar Information**

- A** Event counts towards the 750 Shield and Frank Walter Trophy
- S** Event counts towards the Sprint – Hillclimb and Doc Grosvenor trophies
- 7** An event conducted by the Austin 7 Club

At the Club's Meeting and Spares Days you should "socially distance" and respect any COVID-19 Rules.

*Social distancing rules may limit number of attendees*

*Spares Hours Saturday - 12:00 Noon to 2:30pm*

*Spares Hours for MGM. - 7:30pm to 8:00pm sharp*

*Spares Hours for Hot Air Session. - 7:30pm to 9:00pm sharp*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Historic Winton sub committee have had their debrief meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate where we did well and where we could improve. In general, most areas of the event were successful, smooth running and the results were reflected in the outcome being on budget with expenses and revenue. Well done to all.

This all sounds as though Historic Winton is in great shape, however the question has to be asked how much longer can we rely on a few to do all the preparation work. This year was the last year for several key position people.

- ◆ I am referring here to the mouse house where with the death sadly of Gary Hawkins, John McMillan stepped in to help the club. John does not enjoy Winton, it's not his scene and will not continue. We thank John for his support.
- ◆ Greg Drummond whose role has been Advertising and Sponsorship and Mouse House support, has also advised that he is unable to continue for personal reasons. We thank Greg for this outstanding work.
- ◆ Michael Shegog will no longer be available to organise special events for the corporate centre, and we thank him for his contribution.

All three have indicated that they will give support for whoever succeeds them in these roles.

The simple facts are that if we don't find replacements for these roles there will be no 47<sup>th</sup> Historic Winton or any other Historic Winton. The main committee is trying to address these problems, however we need the members to help us. Do you know some one either in the club or outside the club who may be able to assist? Is there a family member with computer skills i.e. spread sheets or has an interest in motor sport. If you have any ideas or comments please contact any one on the main committee.

Thank You

Len Kerwood.

The Austin 7 Club is where to be in 2023.

## Editor's Wafflings



### ***CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING***

#### ***FOR the 47th HISTORIC WINTON***

***Historic Winton is the largest event that the Club conducts each year, and it is the event that we get the greatest participation by:***

- ⇒ ***Club Members, and their families, as Officials, and***
- ⇒ ***Club Members, and former members, as Competitors.***

***There is a job for everyone, some of these do not require attendance at the event.***

**THE AUSTIN 7 CLUB ROOMS AND CLUB SPARES  
are located at**

**UNIT 8/9, 19-23, KYLIE PLACE, CHELTENHAM NORTH.**

**All correspondence to the Secretary:**

**Austin 7 Club Inc. P O Box 462, Moorabbin. Vic 3189**

***Please do not send mail to the clubrooms***

Spares are open:-

M.G.M. from 7.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. sharp

H.A.S. from 7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. and between 12:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on the Saturday following the M.G.M. (or the following Saturday if the former clashes with a Club Event)

Spares can be ordered by mail from:

Janne and Robert Humphreys, 27 Peters Drive, Cheltenham Vic 3192

Or [mailorderparts@austin7club.org](mailto:mailorderparts@austin7club.org)

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Whilst it is good to welcome new members it is even better to welcome them in person. At the July MGM we were pleased to meet Stuart and Rebecca Hewson who were visiting from Dunedin in New Zealand and Michael Lambert from closer by Mitcham. Michael is looking for an Austin 7 that he can hopefully drive with the hood down. His first step to Austin 7 ownership has been to join the Club. *(Late Update:- Michael has purchased Brian Williams chummy)*

We also welcome Craig Transton from Casino NSW who has a vintage roadster and a fiberglass body Meteor project, and Graham Fleming from Swan Hill who has a 1936 Austin 7.

Recently we have received notification that VicRoads has issued a number of Club Permit renewals that are incorrectly dated 2023 instead of 2024.

This error only seems to affect renewals that should correctly expire between 1 and 25 July 2024. There are a number of Club Members we are aware of that have been impacted by this.

Double check the dates on your renewal notices and if the year is incorrect they can still be signed and processed as usual. VicRoads will then issue a correct label and logbook once the renewal has been paid.

Russell

### **DISCLAIMER**

The Austin 7 Club Inc. (A7C), its Officers and the Committee will not be held liable for any errors and/or omissions in items that are published in The Light Shaft in good faith. Publication of an advertisement, or expression of views in articles and reports, does not necessarily imply endorsement by the A7C.

## Vale - Neil Johannesen “Nhejo”

Neil, Bob Watson, and I spent so many hours together talking about and driving Austin Sevens, and had a memorable trip to Phillip Island to help Neil compete in the first Armstrong 500 race, in a Mini.



Neil & Myrna at the National A7 Rally.

He had a great career working for the Cooper racing TEAM IN England, and later became involved in wine making in Australia.

Neil was a member of the 'Hand Tool Preservation Association of Australia Inc'. He took me to a couple of meetings which prompted me to write a large article on Austin 7 Tools and toolkits, later published in their newsletter.

He was fascinated by the minute detail of the variations in Spanner sets made for Austin Motor Company. - <https://www.htpaa.org.au/>

Neil's dad was a chain smoker with terribly nicotine stained fingers- he died relatively early from emphysema.

I remember navigating for Neil in his mother's Morris Minor. Later I remember he had a Holden- on one trial we cornered at high speed on a dirt road - up scarily high up on two wheels- crashed down - shook ourselves and pressed on. Geoff Taylor was in the back seat. It was up near Bylands - north of Melbourne.

Neil attended Caulfield Senior Technical College with myself, Bob Watson, Geoff Taylor and Glen Ferris, all graduating in 1957.



## Vale - Neil Johannesen “Nhejo”

My first Austin Seven was a 1929 Utility, bought in August 1955-

After removing the utility body I gave it to Neil

The Utility after Neil sold it, for £5, in 1958, to Vaughan Gibson, aged 14.



I rebuilt the chassis and put on a complete original 1929 James Flood Austin 7 Meteor body bought from a wreckers in Oakleigh. It was similar to Stan Rodda’s Meteor ‘The Yellow Peril’, shown here.

We all (except for Glen Ferris) joined the Austin Seven Club in 1956, regularly attending meetings at St Silas Church Hall, Albert Park.



The club then comprised many Austin Seven names from the past such as Fred Thorne, John Pryce, Frank Walter, Trevor Cole, Stan Rodda, Doug Veel, John Fleming and Fred Darling-

## Vale - Neil Johannesen “Nhejo”

### Editor’s Notes

#### Austin 7 Club Memberships 1956 (with original membership numbers)

- ◆ Neil Johannesen      516
- ◆ Tony Press            520
- ◆ Bob Watson          523
- ◆ Geoff Taylor         562



Since first joining, Neil, and Myrna, continued to compete and participate in Club activities, and also served on the Club Committee for 4 years, as Editor in 1962, Competition Secretary—Open in 1970, Vice President/Treasurer in 1971, and President in 1972.

Right:- Neil  
competing at  
Templestowe  
Hillclimb

Photo David Lowe



### FOOTNOTE:-

Vaughan Gibson went on to a career in the Motor Trade and Motor Racing - competing in an MG at Historic Winton in the early days.

## Letter to Editor

Lorraine & the Townley Family would like to sincerely thank all members for their kind thoughts, messages and cards at the passing of Ron.

The tribute in the light shaft to Ron was wonderful.

It was all

really appreciated

Life well Lived.

## PAST EVENTS

### WHAT NO PHOTOS OF HISTORIC WINTON?

Better still - you can watch a great HW Video.

**From:** Albert Phillip <[albertandphillip@gmail.com](mailto:albertandphillip@gmail.com)>

Hi there,

Please find a link to our latest video on this year's Historic Winton.

<https://youtu.be/t4HJLf1mAwY>

You are most welcome to use on your website and share as you wish.

Thanks again for your support.

We'll be back next year.

Will



## COMING EVENTS

To all of you who have a car under the Club Permit Scheme.

Check your date of EXPIRY of your Permit.

ALSO check ALL details - including expiry date, addresses etc.

When paying ALWAYS retain your receipt.

Keep a scanned copy of your receipt with your logbook.

**Please get a My VicRoads Account.**

**A My VicRoads Account also assures you of an email reminder for renewal of all your car registrations, permits and Drivers Licence.**

**Check your My VicRoads Account to ensure that your CPS cars appear - you may need to take some additional action, for this to happen, but it is worthwhile**

## SPARES

*PLEASE come to Spares with a list prepared beforehand, to speed up being served, and make it easier on our volunteers.*

*PLEASE When you visit Spares try to make all your purchases in a single transaction.*

*This makes the book-work much easier for our volunteers, and respects other members who also want to make purchases.*

## EVENTS FOR YOUR AUSTIN 7 IN 2023

If you have an idea for an event for our Austin 7s, or if you want to help run an event, but need help, let a Committee member know, and it can become part of the Club Calendar for 2023.

Perhaps you could even revive, or recreate, a form of event that was popular in the past but lacked an active organiser.

PERHAPS VOLUNTEER TO RUN *“The Frostbite Run”* on 30 July

## COMING EVENTS

### Monthly General Meeting / Spares- Wednesday 2 August 2023

There may be a further update on the potential strategies for managing future HISTORIC WINTON , and how the first weeks of the OST season has fared.

### Spares / BBQ Saturday 5 August 2023

We have ordered some special weather for this day, so it may be an opportunity to bring your Austin 7, and get some oohs and ahs.

Come along and talk to others with experiences, or just spend the house-keeping.

The BBQ is also a great time to share stories.



### PARKING AT CLUBROOMS

In the interests of all members could those attending meetings please park only *in the marked spaces*. Please leave the forecourt for *AUSTIN 7s ONLY* and any *handicapped members*, and please make access available for those *delivering or collecting* goods or club equipment.

**DO NOT OBSTRUCT ACCESS TO OTHER UNITS**

**COMING EVENTS**

**DAY RUN- Sunday 6 August 2023**

*No longer a mystery tour.*

**Meet at McDonald's, Chelsea Heights**

Cnr Wells Rd & Edithvale Rd at 9:00am

**Leisurely drive down beside the bay and then up Arthurs Seat to**

**Charlie's Auto Museum**

175 Purves Rd, Arthurs Seat

Arrive Approx. 10:30am - Discounted entry

**Lunch at Dromana Hotwl**

Please notify Russell Dickson on 0409 577 215 OR

russelldickson115@gmail.com if you plan to attend

**JANNE'S SCRAPBOOKING DAY—SATURDAY 12 AUGUST 2023**

I have opened the booking for - *WINTER WARMER*

There will be a card making session from 1.30 to 3.30 in the afternoon where you will be making 6 cards. The cost for this workshop is \$15.00.

The cost of just attending the all day scrapbooking session is \$40 and if you wish to do both sessions the cost is \$50.00.

I require payment when you book to come. and I can give you my bank account details when you contact me so you can pay me directly.

Please contact me as follows:

Email: [janne.humphreys@yahoo.com.au](mailto:janne.humphreys@yahoo.com.au)

Mob: 0427 772 261

Phone: (03) 9583 6316

## COMING EVENTS

### TRAINING DAY - Saturday 12 August .2023

The subject will be  
**Austin 7 Differentials, Differences and Refurbishment**  
with reflection on two recent rebuilds.

The training day will be hands on, (gloves provided ) and a barbecue lunch, coffee / tea provided.

This is at 3 Murdock Street, Clayton South at 10.30am, so drive your Austin 7 and park out on the front apron.

PLEASE email your attendance to Michael Shegog at [shegoga7@gmail.com](mailto:shegoga7@gmail.com) or Russell Dickson on [russelldickson115@gmail.com](mailto:russelldickson115@gmail.com) .

### LIGHTSHAFT ON THE WEBSITE

*You can receive the electronic Lightshaft, the whole of the magazine is in glorious technicolour - if you are happy with only receiving your magazine in this form, then please let the Membership Secretary know.*

*Renewing your membership, was the time to update your subscription and select whether you want to pay for a mailed Lightshaft.*

*It has become obvious that a number of members made an error, when renewing for 2023, and opted for an electronic copy, let the Membership Secretary know if you were one of those who made an error*

**More Photos and news on the website**  
**[www.austin7club.org/](http://www.austin7club.org/)**

My favourite part of attending a marathon is, watching runners who grab my plastic cup of vodka.

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **OST 8 72<sup>nd</sup> John Pryce Memorial Trial**

#### **Sunday 13 August 2019 – Lilydale**

This trial is named in memory of John Pryce, who introduced the sport of Observed Section Trials to Australia, in 1950.

For a long time, John was one of the prime driving forces, not only within our Club, but in the whole of the Australian motorsport community, known as “Mr Motorsport”, his day job was a Competition Manager for BP.

Come and enjoy seeing others avoiding the mud-holes, OR getting stuck.

A great day in the country.

Bring a picnic lunch.

**70-80 Leonard Road.** From Lilydale travel east on Maroonday Highway for approximately 4 km , turn right into Ingrams Road, travel 1.7 km turn right into Leonards Road, property on left under power line, look for OST signs.

### **Hot Air Session / Spares Wednesday 16 August 2023**

Found a magic way to get better performance - from your car.

Come and share it with others.

### **Tool Up at Austin 7 Heaven - Friday 18 August 2023**

A good time to get help on some task, or to learn a new skill.

Fully equipped workshop.

With lots of skilled helpers



## COMING EVENTS

### OST 9 - Three Bridges - Sunday 27 August 2023

#### 1020 Little Yarra Road.

Proceed along Warburton Hwy to Yarra Junction. At the only set of traffic lights turn right into Yarra Junction Noojee Rd ([Little Yarra Rd](#)), proceed 10.2 kms, look for OST sign on right (an apple orchard) and proceed to the rear via the road, please do not go near the trees and park in the area signed parking.

### FEDERATION OF VETERAN VINTAGE & CLASSIC VEHICLE CLUBS

The North West Tour is just one of many events conducted by the Federation. Details are available on the Federation website.



#### Federation's North West Tour 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023 to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

The Federation North West Tour is open to all Vehicles 25 + years. The Tour will start on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at Federation's "Marong Picnic", travelling to Kerang for our first overnight stay. The Tour is being sponsored by RACV and Federation.

We are seeking **Expressions of Interest** for people to attend the North West Tour travelling through the October 2022 Flood Affected Areas of Victoria.

#### The Tour Itinerary

Day	Travel
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	Marong-Kerang
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	Kerang-Quambatook-Kerang
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	Kerang-Lake Boga-Nyah-Swan Hill
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	Swan Hill-Benjeroop-Cohuna-Echuca
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2023	Echuca-Moama-Rochester-Shepparton
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2023	Shepparton-MOVE
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	Shepparton – Farewell Breakfast

### URRRS - Wednesday 30 August 2023

Cancelled - See replacement event on 6 August.

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **Tool Up at Austin 7 Heaven - Friday 1 September 2023**

What project do you need help with, or some machining?

### **HISTORY TOUR - Sunday 3 September 2023**

Unless someone else wants to volunteer, it's cancelled.

Robert's too engrossed in other things.

### **OST 10 - Strathewen - Sunday 3 September 2023**

**625 Eagle Nest Rd Strathewen** See **Melway Key Map 9 M2** Property is exactly 6.25K from the start of Eagle Nest Rd. Follow OST (Observed Section Trial) signs

### **Monthly General Meeting / Spares- Wednesday 6 September 2023**

Get an update on our Coming Events, and hear a few stories about our past events.

### **Spares / BBQ Saturday 9 September 2023**

Hoping the weather is fine, so it may be an opportunity to bring your Austin 7, and get some oohs and ahs, or wanted (or unwanted) advice.

No other vice is offered.

The BBQ is also a great time to share stories.

### **CRAZY WHIST NIGHT Saturday 9 September 2023**

It's crazy, but there's no more news.

## COMING EVENTS

### BORDER RUN to South Australia

Thursday 14 to Monday 18 September 2023

This year's Border Run will be around Mt Gambier. We are planning to leave on Thursday 14th Sept 2023 staying overnight somewhere ( yet to be determined) and travelling on to Naracoorte on the Friday 15th Sept 2023. This is where we will meet some of the South Australians and stay with them.

We are expecting another bulletin in the next week, telling us of costs for accommodation, meals and various events. We are looking forward to having a good number of Victorians, as the weather will be warmer than in June.

Please call Glynis (0427 837 555) if you are interested in coming along or you need more details.

### **THE VICTORIAN CLUB PERMIT SCHEME**

*It is the policy of our Club that owners of Austin 7 Club Club Permit vehicles **MUST** maintain financial membership at all times.*

Your Club Permit Officers are, our Membership Secretary Russell Dickson and Robert Humphreys.

**Remember to plan ahead if you need a Club Permit Scheme application or renewal signed or issued. You will find more detail on the club permit scheme on the Web Site**

**<http://www.austin7club.org/>**

Be grateful, no matter how much chocolate you eat, your earrings will still fit.

## Border Run 2023

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September

### Bulletin No. 1

This year's Border Run for the Austin 7 Club of SA Inc and the Austin 7 Club Inc (Victoria) will be centred at **Mount Gambier SA**.

This first Bulletin will provide an outline of the programme so members can begin to arrange their calendars. More complete information (including pricing and booking instructions) will be provided in subsequent Bulletins.

While previous Border Run activities have effectively commenced on the Saturday afternoon upon arrival at the selected base town/city, most of the SA club members have historically travelled part way on the Friday, while those who were still on somebody else's payroll travelled the full distance on Saturday.

Some Victorian members have also travelled part way on Friday and may choose to do so again this year.

This year the SA first contingent will travel to **Naracoorte** on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September. The option remains for others to travel direct to Mount Gambier on Saturday.

Any Victorians who would like to travel to join us at Naracoorte are most welcome to do so. Google maps indicates that it is only 14km further than the direct trip to Mount Gambier – but it is a long haul from Melbourne in one day in a "7".

As the convoy leaves Naracoorte en-route to Mt Gambier we will have a guided tour of the famous **Naracoorte Caves**, followed by lunch at Penola. As we pass through Nangwarry (32km north of Mt Gambier, or 130km west of Hamilton (via Coleraine and Casterton) we will stop to have a look at the **Nangwarry Forestry & Logging Museum**. The Victorian members can rendezvous with the SA group at Nangwarry at about 2:00pm they wish.

Two nights' Accommodation and Saturday night's dinner in Mt Gambier will be at the **Presidential Accommodation & Suites** which has been renovated since we were there about 6 years ago. Sunday night's dinner will be at the Western Tavern (3 minutes walk from the Presidential)

Sunday's run will be to Port Macdonnell, with the main feature being a visit to **Feast's Classic Car Collection and Memorabilia**, lunch, and an optional visit to **Collectormaniac Antique Store**. It won't be a big driving day – approx. 80km round trip.

Additional details will be provided in Bulletin #2 in a few weeks. No action is required from you yet.

We are looking forward to good numbers from each side of the Border, and a bit warmer weather than our previous June events.

Christine Cutting	0412 092 760
Martin Lewis	0414 727 893
Austin 7 Club of SA Inc.	
touring@austin7clubsa.com.au	

?
Austin 7 Club Inc
secretary@austin7club.org

## COMING EVENTS

### OST 11 - Glenburn - Sunday 17 September 2023

From the Glenburn Roadhouse continue north on the Melba Highway for about 6.5 kms . Turn right into Murrindindi Road., travel approximately 2 km, turn right into Old Murrindindi Road , follow for about 2 km, property is on the left

### Hot Air Session / Spares Wednesday 20 September 2023

Found a magic way to get better performance - from your car.

Come and share it with others.

### Tool Up at Austin 7 Heaven - Friday 22 September 2023

What project do you need help with, or some machining?

### **COMING** **ANNUAL RALLY** **Sunday 8 October** **2023**

See Flyer and Centrefold

*Austin  
Seven*  
CLUB

**55th ANNUAL RALLY**  
Sandringham Anglers Club  
Sunday 8th October 2023



Enquiries: Phillip Hallo 0413 185 576

## COMING EVENTS

### LADIES - Saturday 21 October 2023

*It's a day for you.*

*Have you ever wondered how the jewellery you wear  
and love is designed and made?*

Well wonder no more.

Presentation by Diamond setter and jeweller Nick.

Also Presentation by geologist Jennifer.

Austin7 Clubrooms

**10 am start**

Morning tea and lunch . Glass of wine optional. Also afternoon tea all provided and served by the blokes.

Bring your jewellery to be checked and cleaned.

A range of jewellery will be available to be Purchased

Please contact Brian Gibbons for catering purposes 0418 508 611



## Bendigo National Swap Meet

**Featuring:**

- 4 Wheel Drive Display
- Barn Finds & Survivor Car Display
- Die-cast Models & Toys
- Over 1700 Sites

**11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023**



**Entry Prices**

Saturday Only \$15  
Sunday Only \$5  
Children 15 and under Free  
(if accompanied by an adult)

**Gates Open to the Public**

Saturday 6am  
Sunday 7am  
Sheds Open 7am



[www.bendigowap.com.au](http://www.bendigowap.com.au)  
Site Bookings 0427 446 660  
General Enquiries 0434 730 822  
[info@bendigowap.com.au](mailto:info@bendigowap.com.au)



## COMING EVENTS

### 2023 Bob Booth Pub Crawl Castlemaine

This year's Pub Crawl will be based at Castlemaine in the goldfield's region.

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November.**

We will be staying at the Castle Motel, which has a variety of rooms ranging in price from \$452 to \$732 (deluxe family room) for 4 nights. There are a few rooms left.

Further costs will be advised at a later date.

To secure your place, email your expression of interest to [c.mcheesman@bigpond.com](mailto:c.mcheesman@bigpond.com) ( preferred) if that's not possible ring Maria 0417 252 916.

We are taking bookings for the Motel until the end of August, any unbooked rooms will be released after that. So if you are wanting to attend and stay at the Motel, please contact us ASAP.

*Get your Austin 7 ready*

Maria and Colin Cheesman

## AUSTRALASIAN MOTOR MUSEUMS

### *Private Collections Open to the Public*

Discover the best collections of motor vehicles and related memorabilia in Australia and New Zealand?

Members of the Australasian Motor Museums Association proudly display their collection for your pleasure. These collections represent a unique combination of history and design, making a visit to each museum an

enjoyable experience.

All displays are staffed by individuals who are excited to share and discuss the stories behind the wheels. Many member museums will open outside normal house by appointment. Some museums don't open on Christmas Day and good Friday. Please confirm before travelling.

The associating represents and promotes the common interest of those

who collect, preserve and promote vehicles and related memorabilia for public display, educational and research purposes. AMMA also acts as a public voice and facilitates the exchange of knowledge and skills to assist members. For more information refer to the AMMA website:  
[www.australasianmotormuseums.com.au](http://www.australasianmotormuseums.com.au)  
*(from the newsletter of the Australian Historic Motoring Association)*

**URRRS****Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023****Calling for expressions of interest****Proposed Visit Melbourne Water Western Treatment Plant Werribee****Outline of plan:**

Tour takes 2.5 hours, and we need to provide our own bus. So, propose we hire a bus for early pickup at club rooms leaving no later than 8.30am. All members living east of the Westgate bridge travel by bus and meet members from the western suburbs at the site.

To keep costs down we need fifty members and partners to attend rough costings \$8.60 per person for the tour plus \$18.00 per person for the bus hire.

Fifty people maximum number for the tour.

Propose we start the tour at 10.00 am allowing sufficient time for a 1pm lunch at a local hotel. Envisage returning to the club rooms at approximately 3.30pm.

**Can you please indicate your expressions of interest to John McMillan by our September MGM Wednesday 6th, please email or message me**

**do not call my land line.**

Mobile 0408 994 510 Email: [mcmillanjp9@bigpond.com](mailto:mcmillanjp9@bigpond.com)



*Austins Over Australia 2024*

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March to Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
in Orange, NSW



A programme of events showcasing the beautiful city of Orange, our Austin Motor Vehicles, and a time to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

Contact details for this event:

Tony Groom, Tour Director AOA 2024

Mob: 0412 036 774

email: [AOA2024@amvcnsw.com.au](mailto:AOA2024@amvcnsw.com.au)



## WHOSE AUSTIN ??



Hello Rob

This is a photo that came from my friend Bob King, Bugatti fame.

Is it possible to include it in the Lightshaft with the hope that Doug Veel or another of our early members may be able to add more?

My research, to date, confirms it is John Fleming's first special, number plate matches, but the two men standing next to the Austin do not look like John. Also I have been unable to identify location.

Bob's involvement was to confirm the identity of the Bugatti in the background.

Many Thanks    Regards    Tony Johns

The Austin looks to have a Z plate at the front.

If you think that you know any of answers, please email [editor@austin7club.org](mailto:editor@austin7club.org)

**Where is it now?    Where was it then?**

**Who are the blokes?    When was it?**

Now's the time to make a decision about whether to plan for this 2024 Austins Over Australia event.

It showcases all the various Austin vehicles, including commercial and military versions. Well worth attending.

## INTO THE MUD

### OST 6 Narbethong.

Cracking day for our 6th trial of the season. A chilly start but blue sky and sunshine all day.

Some challenging sections pegged with not a lot of mud, making the day interesting for the drivers and passengers and cars.

Jesse Stritch was the winner today, his 3rd for the season, Mark Filsell 2nd and Cooper Schweiger 3rd.

These 3 have been at or around the top all season claiming all 6 wins so far between them in some very tight finishes.

#### **Driver Profile**

**Driver: Cooper Schweiger**

**Age: 23 years old**

**Car: Front engine OST Special.**

**Known as "HOS".**

Joined the Austin 7s OST as an 8 year old, with his family in 2008, started as a passenger with his dad Stuart in 2014, in 2015 purchased "Hos", and did a rebuild with his dad, using a Honda Civic 1.5lt and a

cut down AU Falcon diff, and started to drive in 2016. In recent years Cooper has been a consistent driver with plenty of podium finishes. 2023 has been a great year for him clinching his first win at OST 4, winning again at OST 5 and podium finishes at OST 3 and 6.



## INTO THE MUD

**Date: 16th July 2023    Narbethong    OST No 6    MA Permit:323/1607/03**

Driver	Crew Member	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total	Placing
Jesse Stritch	Lyrick Vecchio	10	8	6	10	8	9	9	6	10	76	1
Mark Filsell	Jeff Webb	9	7	7	9	9	8	8	6	9	72	2
Cooper Schweiger	Alicia Randall	9	7	9	10	9	9	9	4	5	71	3
Stuart Schweiger	Lucas O'Sullivan	9	3	6	9	9	9	5	9	9	68	4
Grant Della	Gabrielle Della	7	3	6	9	9	9	8	4	9	64	5
Jake Filsell	Lori Filsell	10	8	3	5	6	8	8	6	9	63	6
Grant Campbell	Lori Filsell	10	5	6	10	4	8	9	+0	9	61	7
Brandon Schweiger	Lucas O'Sullivan	6	2	6	9	8	8	9	4	5	57	8
Declan Caldecoat	Nakita Stock	7	2	4	8	9	9	8	4	4	55	9
Iain Stone	Gabrielle Della	10	5	6	5	1	5	9	4	9	54	10
Geoff Taylor	Leanne Coakley	1	3	6	8	8	10	1	7	9	53	11
Jason Stock	Nakita Stock	6	3	2	8	2	8	9	4	9	51	12

+ no glasses

## **MY AUSTIN by Richard Mitchell**

### **Reliving my youth**

I live in Sydney. Back in 1965 when I was 19 – do the maths – for reasons which are now unclear I decided to build an Austin 7. I put a classified ad for parts in the Saturday Sydney Morning Herald and received several responses. Two guys in their late 20s arrived at my home in an FJ ute and unloaded a heap of parts onto the front lawn, including a chassis and about four engines.

I also paid £5 for a much-bodged Meteor body.

I began building the car and gradually realised that I did not know what a complete car consisted of. Accordingly I bought a running 1936 Ruby for £20, disposed of its Tourer body, and replaced it with the Meteor, handling the six inch mismatch in length via some primitive mods.

Just as I completed the car I got married and that ended the project. I left the car and the heap of original parts in the back of my mother's garage and moved on in life.

When my mother died in 2000 I had to extract the car and parts to sell her house. I cleaned up the "Meteor" and resprayed it (although the 1967 vacuum cleaner spray job had held up very well). I then parked it in another garage, this time at our weekender in the Blue Mountains, and transferred the original heap of parts to under our own house on Sydney's northern beaches. We have a sloping block and there is good head height at the rear.

When Covid arrived in 2019 I decided to finally carry out another long-threatened project and lay concrete under part of the house and install some lights. The lighting revealed just how extensive the old pile of spares was. So I decided that, as a further Covid project, I would reincarnate my original youthful plan and build up an Austin 7.

Not having a body, I decided to build a special. I had two major questions – the original one of what parts were missing and a new one of what would I build the body out of?

## MY AUSTIN by Stuart Steinfort

Sifting through the parts revealed that, amazingly, I seemed to have everything other than a rear end. I did have the innards of a diff, complete with rear half shafts, but no casing, hubs or brakes. Via Google I found that a Courtenay Rumble had various rear end components for sale. Some had been stored outside for many years. However I bought them and some other parts and learnt from Courtenay of the existence of the new spares stock held by the Victorian Austin 7 Club. These included an outer hub which I was still missing.

I was now able to build a complete car, albeit with mismatched brake systems at the rear.

Turning to the other question – what to build the body out of - it had to meet two main criteria - cheapness and be within my very limited skill capabilities. I decided to try ABS sheeting over a non-stressed space frame made from square steel tube.

A significant disadvantage of ABS sheet is that you cannot produce compound curves in a home environment. Non-compound curves and straight bends are relatively straightforward. You just need a hot air blower. Also, thermal welding is fairly simple.

Other advantages are that it is fairly light, it can be cut with simple hand tools – hacksaw, jig saw – and the speed of construction. With the design now finalised, I could probably build the same body again in two days. It took me about four weeks.

My effort is shown in the photos – certainly a five metre plus viewing car. I acknowledge that the rear end is somewhat aesthetically challenged.

If anyone has any semi-Girling brake parts - particularly the operating and adjusting mechanisms and cam levers - that could help me out at the rear I would be very pleased to hear from them. I have backplates and drums.

Richard Michell

See Photos Page 30

## PAST EVENTS

### URRRS at Moorabbin Airport

The day was really really wet and cold, but the Austin Seven Club was going to this aeroplane museum and the President of the Austin 7 Club took us, Zach and Luke, along.

To start the day off, the Austin 7 Club went to this place called The Naked Racer to have some morning tea.

Once the Austin 7 club were finished morning tea, we went to the aeroplane museum and we had booked a tour for the Austin 7 Club.

Luke and Zach are still young and so we decided to go play and explore some planes.

Zach's favourite thing was the flying simulator.

Luke's favourite part was the flying doctor's plane with two seats so that we could both sit in it. The flaps went up and down.

After all of that we went to the Royal Victorian Aero Club to have some lunch.

We had lots of fun!

BY ZACH [12] & LUKE [8]



## PAST EVENTS



## MY AUSTIN by Craig Transton



Craig has recently joined, and has an Austin 7 Roadster and a fibreglass body Meteor project.



## SUB-COMMITTEES 2023

### HISTORIC WINTON SUB-COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs - Peta Lee —Secretary of the Meeting,  
Entry Secretary & CoChair, Len Kerwood CoChair,  
Noel Wilcox, Tony Press (Minutes), Mike Belcher,  
Colin and Maria Cheesman, Paul Goethel, Robert  
Humphreys, Faye Stevens, Ron Crellin, Alan Barnes,  
Leanne Goethel, Yolanda Filip, Graeme Logan, Bruce  
Rogers, Greg Drummond

### HISTORIC SPRINT

Secretary & Entry Secretary – Phil Fitton,

### OST SUB -COMMITTEE

Chairperson – Mark Filsell, Treasurer: Leanne  
Coakley—Finance & Entries, Stephanie Cox, Cooper  
Schweiger, Jason Stock, Alicia Randle.

### SPARE PARTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Graeme Logan John Shiells (Facilitator), Janne  
Humphreys/Neil Rickard (Spares Treasurers), Courtenay  
Rumble, Roger Nation, Alan Barnes, Richard Kempster,  
Graeme Burbidge, Robert Humphreys/John Neve (Bill  
&stock entry), Ted Thompson, Brian Gibbons, Bruce  
Shearer, David Easton, Yolanda Filip, Mike Belcher,  
John Fatouros, Tony Press (Minutes)

### SPARES MAIL ORDERS

[mailorderparts@austin7club.org](mailto:mailorderparts@austin7club.org)

Robert Humphreys/Janne Humphreys (03) 9583 6316

### CLUB VISITOR

Bruce Walker 9807 1729, 0409 410 700

### PUBLICATIONS and ARCHIVE SUB-COMMITTEE

Robert Humphreys, John Neve, Robert Taylor, Allan  
Tyrrell, Tony Press, Archive Curator—David Easton

### LIGHTSHAFT MAIL OUT SUB-COMMITTEE

Manager - Russell Dickson, John Fatouros, John  
Shiells, Robert, Janne & Fiona Humphreys, David,  
Katrina, Alice & Georgia Easton.

### URRRS EVENTS COORDINATOR

John McMillan

### CLUB LIBRARY

David Easton

### TECHNICAL ADVISORS

#### *Model & Parts Identification, Bodywork & Literature*

Bill Sheehan 0435 582 294

Tony Press 0409 948 430

#### *Mechanical and Engineering*

Tony Press 0409 948 430

#### *Racing and Special Construction*

David Lowe 0458 172 494

#### *O.S.T. and Motorkhana*

Grant Campbell 9787 3640

#### *Spares Engineering Review*

Brian Williams, Russell Dickson, Denis Hourigan,  
Tony Press (minutes )

### RACING SPOKESMAN

Phillip Hallo 0413 185 576

Noel Wilcox 5428 2689 AH

### Motorsport Australia State Council Delegate

Vacant

### MA HISTORIC MOTORSPORT PROMOTERS GROUP

Noel Wilcox

**CLUB WEBSITE** Tony Press, Manager

**HW WEBSITE** Leanne Goethel, Manager

### TIMING TEAM SUB-COMMITTEE

Daniel Morling, Gary Hawkins, Geoff Taylor,  
Stephen Harrison

### AOMC DELEGATES

Len Kerwood and Robert Humphreys  
alternate John McMillan

### FEDERATION DELEGATES

Vacant &/or Remote Member as agreed

### CLUB BUILDINGS OWNERS CORPORATION DELEGATES

John Shiells, Robert Humphreys, John McMillan

### CLUB PERMIT OFFICER

Russell Dickson, Robert Humphreys (Deputy)



## AUSTIN 7 CLUB INC. - COMMITTEE 2023

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<b>TREASURER</b>	Paul Goethel	treasurer@austin7club.org	0412 534 131
<b>SECRETARY /VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Glynis Gibbons	secretary@austin7club.org	0427 837 555
<b>MINUTE SECRETARY</b>	Tony Press	minutesecretary@austin7club.org	0409 948 430
<b>PROPERTY OFFICER</b>	John Shiells	propertyofficer@austin7club.org	0403 228 559
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<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>	Russell Dickson	membership@austin7club.org	0409 577 215
<b>COMPETITION SECRETARY</b>	Jason Stock	competitionsecretary@austin7club.org	
<b>SOCIAL SECRETARY</b>	Ron Crellin	socialsecretary@austin7club.org	

## Austin Seven Clubs Association The Online Archive

Handbooks, Parts Books, Body Parts Book and lots more.

Just download it to your computer - all part of membership of the Association.

More being constantly added.

These references are a great way to identify parts for your Austin7.

Also it may help to determine the year of the various parts.

*An original Parts Book, for your model is one of the most  
valuable resources, especially for remote members.*

*An original Handbook is also a handy reference.*

## NEW FROM SPARES

### SPARES

*PLEASE come to Spares with a list prepared beforehand, to speed up being served, and make it easier on our volunteers.*

*Please be prepared to follow any current COVID restrictions.*

***PLEASE*** When you visit Spares try to make all your purchases in a single transaction.

*This makes the book-work much easier for our volunteers, and respects other members who also want to make purchases.*

***We hope to soon publish a new Spare Parts List, which will not only update the prices, and some descriptions, but will also list a few additional items that have been added since early 2020.***

***An electronic version will also give access to a photo of most of the parts that deserve a photo.***

David Lowe provided the photo, on next page.

Seems you'd need a lot of parts to get this going - OR a few carrots.

### MAIL ORDER PAYMENTS TO AUSTIN 7 CLUB SPARES

***Payment for parts is preferred by Direct Deposit.***

Please note Spares Banking Details, located at the bottom of our Invoices.

*Bank branches are making banking cheques difficult, and Credit Card payments, without card, are a risk to the Club and the member.*

**Robert & Janne Humphreys- [mailorderparts@austin7club.org](mailto:mailorderparts@austin7club.org)**

## SEVEN HEAVEN WORKSHOP DAY

Another busy day today at our Austin 7 Heaven workshop (Victoria).

Two rear axles were disassembled for new CWP's (JohnK, JamesS and DesC),

a 1937 cylinder head was pressure tested (Ted),

a broken torque tube was welded up (Greg),

a muffler/silencer outlet was welded up (Greg),

the Austin Seven Nipplica (Nippy body) was masked up and wheeled across the road for painting,

SU carb lever work was done by NeilR,

Chris's engine new big end bearings were fitted to the Phoenix Shaft for crush and clearance (.003 for both) (Greg and Ted),



a brake pedal was drilled and bushed (Ted),

I grafted a 1929 gear lever from unrelated parts. a BBQ lunch was prepared (Glynis and I).



Cheers Brian



# HISTORIC WINTON







## MARKET PLACE

Shannons Autumn Timed Online Auctions are a bit like our Market Place.

The highlights at a recent Auction, although I did not follow up on the results, were:-

Ferrari Watch & Cuff Links - Time flies, and it ends in cuffs.

Then All those collector number plates - for Victorians, there is "52" for a cool \$1,300,000 to \$1,600,000, or the bargain basement numbers are a paltry \$40,000. BUT you could have fun and start the bidding, for \$100.

There was a beaut collection of morbikes, all makes and sizes – quite a few with sidecars, so you could scare someone else (in comfort).

There was lots of '50s, '60s and '70s cars of all makes.

After reading all that I suppose you were disappointed that there were no Austin 7s, so that you could feel virtuous, after saving your money.

I've never tried to outrun a police car. But, if this shows up behind me, yeah, I'm taking my chances.



### GEARBOX REPAIRS

To ALL AUSTINS, including F.W.D.

Special Ratios and Standard Ratios

Austin 7 - 4 speed boxes with better ratios from \$1,700

Changeover or yours rebuilt

John or Ben Needham

OLD CAR GEARBOXES P L (03) 9553 3203

## MARKET PLACE

**The Club proudly supports Penrite Oil and stocks Penrite Vintage Car Oils exclusively in Club Spares.**

Unfortunately, not available by mail order.



It was good to see this Austin A30 motoring quite rapidly at Historic Winton.

### FOR SALE

Len Kerwood received photos published in past Lightshafts.

This late Ruby is complete, but requires a full restoration.

Bob Barnett 0455 995 497 - open to reasonable offers.



**MARKET PLACE**

***Market Place advertisements will normally appear for FREE in two consecutive Lightshafts Editor***

**FOR SALE.**

Austin 7 Ulster set of special bits.  
Cast iron Ulster cylinder head, unused.  
Ulster Vinyl hood storage bag.  
Dashboard items as follows  
Ulster choke puller.

Smiths sports PA 100mph speedo.  
Lucas SM5 switch panel.  
Tachometer, period style.  
Lucas 7" R47 headlights, pair.  
Rist, genuine horn.  
Plus more.  
Wayne Styles. 0417 532 412

**FOR SALE**

***1935 Austin 7 tourer  
Ready to go***

New pressure fed crankshaft  
New Pistons plus 0.060"  
New Mini valves  
New Timing gears  
New Electronic Distributor  
New Springs  
New bushes & Kingpins  
New radiator  
4 speed Needham gearbox  
Perry Exhaust



LED blinkers  
5 new tyres  
12 Volt generator  
New trim and roof  
Hydraulic brakes

***\$\$ BEST OFFER \$\$***

***This space is for you to advertise the useless junk in your shed.***



**MARKET PLACE**

**FOR SALE - Complete 1937 Ruby Sedan:**

It is with sincere sorrow, that I offer my Austin with spares and garage equipment.

**\$20,000.00 (NEG)**

Eng. M229690. Chassis: 285350. Miles on speedo: 12779

**With a load of Spares - see past Lightshafts**

**Russell** Hook, Albury

0403 443 064 rlmhook@me.com



**FOR SALE**

***Separately to car:***

*Trailer, heavy duty single axle, with over-ride disc brakes, hand winch and tie-down rings, 3 new 8ply tyres, loading ramps. Also 2 wheel clamps.*

*(Built for my Austin 7)     \$2,800.00*

Russell Hook, Albury 0403 443 064  
rlmhook@me.com

**FOR SALE - Trailer**

Rugged trailer, with electric brakes ,heavy duty tyres , aluminium planks - takes an Austin 7 with ease, could fit a wider car or mower.

Registered until March 2023.    **\$ 2,800**



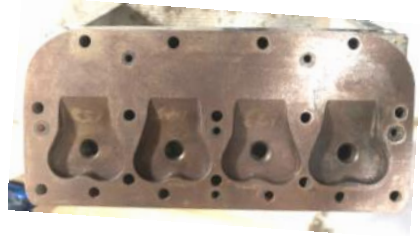
## MARKET PLACE

### FOR SALE -

8 - 19" Austin 7 wheels

Price \$110 for 4 wheels

Stewart Bush 5435 2536



### FOR SALE

Austin 7 Head special new with long reach spark plugs over valves for better performance. \$300.00 plus freight.

Michael Shegog 0419 007 033.

### FOR SALE.

Austin 7 chummy [van or ute if you prefer] 1929 project. Aluminium scuttle model.

Wayne Styles. 0417 532 412.

Spreading the mud at OST 4, at Gilderoy.

### WANTED TO BUY

1 Lucas Type CF-1 Cut Out Unit To Suit 1929 Austin 7 6 volt.

Contact Stephen Lance

See Results on Page 24

### FOR SALE

See "Side Lights", the magazine of the Mornington Peninsula Historical Vehicles Club.

This 1932 long wheelbase car is in Hastings.

## APRIL 2023



*"Looking for love! ... Slightly older 1932 Gal. Stylish, trustworthy, in great running condition. Sure to please, with classic looks and a body to crave!"*



WHERE IS IT NOW? WHERE WAS IT THEN? WHO ARE THEY?

If you think that you can solve the mysteries, please go to Page 20.

Below: Scenes from OST 6





# Austin Seven

CLUB

## 55th ANNUAL RALLY

Sandringham Anglers Club  
Sunday 8th October 2023



Enquiries: Phillip Hallo 0413 185 576