



Devon Sevens

July 2023

Issue 162

Newsletter for

The Devon A7 Club



*A taste of the recent visit to
Michael Thorne's tractor collection.*

Chairman's Chat

Its been a funny couple of months. Sort of 'Woe is me' and 'Not Whoa is me'

I got struck down with a sore throat, and although I told the GP that whatever was causing it was likely to have ambition to drop down inside my chest, he didn't agree. However the bacteria did just that and when I returned with a severe chest infection he did dole out the necessary. The whole thing left me tired and weary for some time which I am told is likely if you have suffered from Covid.

The 'Not Whoa' occurred when the Ruby headed for the kerb when I braked. Inspection revealed that only one brake shoe was moving when I pressed the pedal, as the piston in the brake cartridge was seized, it didn't help that enthusiastic riveting of the brake lining had split it across. It took me some time to free up the piston, but I was fortunate (you could say) that the hub which has to be removed to get the brake shoes off, was only held on finger tight.... The nearside brake also proved to be of doubtful use. Having a stretched brake spring which just flopped about, and another seized piston, I think I'll take the Ruby to the GP next time, he may give me some pills I can pop in the tank which will cure all ills!

Consequently I've missed many of the runs organised by the club and have had to sit out this glorious weather with some frustration.

I have managed to restore the leather on the seats with copious amounts of Connolly Hide Restorer, it does bring them up well, though my wife thought the seats sticky when she made one of her rare trips in the car. I told her that it was a safety feature to prevent her getting flung out if the door should spring open on a corner!

Looking forward now, of course, to Powderham and the great get together. I suppose we will have the oldest vehicles on display unless you count Traction Engines. It opens up that debate about what is a 'classic car', but that's a winter discussion in front of a roaring fire with a pint in your hand!

I suppose I'd better get out and look at the brakes on the other two wheels, though 'if its not broke don't fix it' comes to mind.

Viv Gale



Club Tool Loan Scheme

Any Club Member can ask to borrow one or more tools free of charge. There will be a refundable deposit of £20 to be paid, in cash if the tools are collected, or by BACS to the Club Bank Account if they are to be posted. The cost of postage to be met by the Club Member.

Request for any tool can be sent by e-mail or by telephone to the Club Secretary, David Aylmore. Contact details on the back page.

These are the tools that are available:-

Brake shoe adjustment gauge.

Clutch plate riveting anvil.

Flywheel fitting spacer.

Guide for drilling out broken cylinder head stud.

Tool for drifting rear main bearings onto crankshaft.

Wheel bearing drifts.

Stud removal socket set.

Engine lifting rig using 2 x spark plug threads (14mm & 18mm available)

Note this tool can also be used to lift a 'stuck' cylinder head from the engine block.

Clutch alignment tool.

Cylinder Head & Block core plug punches.

Front main bearing removal jig.

Tool for drifting front main bearing onto crankshaft.

Tool for removing rear spring bolt.

King Pin reamer.

Secretary's Notes

The summer season of car events is now in full swing and I hope that all members will be able to find something in their part of the County to enjoy.

Our largest Club event, the Historic Vehicle Gathering at Powderham Castle, is coming up in July and although the entry list is now closed, you can still come along and enjoy the show. Full details are on page 4 and everyone is welcome to drop in for a chat and some refreshment. Although the final show layout has still to be finalized, we are usually given a spot to the rear of the main ring, but our Club flags and banners should be easy to find. If you do have trouble finding us, please just give me a call on 07850 581322.

David



FBHVC Matters

The Autocar

The FBHVC have noted that front cover artwork from The Autocar is available on the Great British Car Journey website. Go to Merchandise to find The Autocar artwork

(Link:- [Autocar Art Posters from £16.95 Archives - Great British Car Journey](#)) featuring 1925 Chummy, 1928 Chummy, 1931 Brooklands, 1933 Sports 65 and 1934 Box Saloon, as well as other Austins.

John Turley, FBHVC Rep



The 'Golden Jubilee' 60th

National *Austin Seven* Rally

Beaulieu - Sunday 2nd July 2023

The largest annual gathering of
Austin Seven enthusiasts, vehicles and trade suppliers.

Special Display:

**'COMMERCIAL & MILITARY SEVENS
+ BIG SEVENS**

Please Note -

It is now too late to enter your car
at this event, but you can still have
an interesting day out as a visitor.





HISTORIC VEHICLE GATHERING POWDERHAM Castle, Nr Exeter.

8th & 9th JULY 2023

Organised by the Crash Box & Classic Car Club.



One of the major Club events this year will be our stand at the Historic Vehicle Gathering at Powderham Castle, Kenton near Exeter.

The show is organised by the Crash Box & Classic Car club of Devon Ltd, and is widely recognised as one of the very best in the country. It offers a huge range of attractions and displays for all members of the family.

Bookings for the club stand are now closed, but why not come along as a spectator. You will be very welcome at our stand for a chat and refreshments. Have a look at the website:

www.historic-vehicle-gathering.info it really is a great day out.

Please Note: Below is the list of entries for our stand at Powderham. It is important that we know how many cars to expect on each day, so please check the list and contact me if your name is on the list, but you no longer plan to attend, or if you think you have booked a place but your name isn't on the list.

By the time you read this, you should have received your wrist bands and entry passes in the post, if these have not arrived, then please let me know. My contact details are on the back page.

Many thanks.

David Aylmore. Secretary.

Rosemary Pratt	Sat & Sun	Paul Sleeman	Sat & Sun
Viv Gale	Sat	Andrew Scarrott	Sat
Eddie Eddles	Sat	Lawrence Peters	Sat & Sun
Michael Tabert	Sat & Sun	Lee Curtis	Sat & Sun
Mark Nutbeen	Sat	Pete Gilbert	Sat & Sun
Bob Downey	Sat & Sun	Barry Sangster	Sat
Nick Borst-Smith	Sat & Sun	Nick Brooks	Sat & Sun
Nick Jones	Sat & Sun	John Turley	Sat
Philip Burrow	Sat	Steve Herwin	Sat
Pete Oakley	Sat	Ed Bird	Sat & Sun
Andy Grabham	Sat & Sun	Chris Elliot	Sun
		Philip Snell	Sat
		Adam Mason	Sat & Sun
		Jude Zebedee	Sun



Zoom Club Night



A chance to safely catch up with other DA7C members,
without leaving the comfort of your own home

Monday 17th July at 7pm

Guest Speaker - Jude Zebedee recent DA7C new member,
and even more recent proud owner of a Chummy.

Jude will be talking about her unusual introduction to A7s -
how she came to drive across Siberia in 2019 with Chris Blakey.
Chris from the Bristol A7 Club was driving his 1937 Austin overland to
the Rugby World Cup in Tokyo.



The Zoom link will be sent out by e-mail during the week preceding the meeting.

(photo taken from The Beaulieu website from 2020, unfortunately Jude isn't in the photo!)

RHS Garden Rosemoor Classic and Vintage Weekend

RHS Rosemoor, Great Torrington, EX38 8PH

July 29th and 30th 10am - 4pm

An eclectic range of vintage and classic cars, motorcycles, tractors and caravans - a chance to reminisce about the good old days. There will also be Punch and Judy, steam traction engine rides, vintage games and food and drink available - something for the whole family. Learn all about civilian life during the Second World War with 1940's re-enactors or enjoy music from a bygone era, with 1940's singers and Lindy Hop Dancing.



This is a free to enter event for vehicles, which will provide you with entry to all of Rosemoor Garden for you and a guest. There will be a pop up beverages tent where exhibitors will be able to enjoy free teas and coffees, and also separate portable toilets will be available for exhibitors.

Caravans, vans and camper vans etc can stay on site overnight - if you plan to stay on site, please state this on your vehicle entry form. There are no shower facilities, but a toilet block will be available overnight.

Vehicle entry forms are available on the club's website or from Nick Borst-smith, or David Aylmore (contact details on back page). **Please send your entry form directly to Rosemoor**, but let Nick B-S know that you plan to attend so that he can arrange the space for DA7C members to park together:

nickbs@outlook.com or 01363 866819

Please Note that dogs are not allowed at Rosemoor (unless they are registered assistance dogs)

Widecombe Fair - Tuesday September 12th

This is always a great day out and you can expect all the old favourite events like the family dog show, local handicraft and produce tent, bale tossing, tug o' war, sheep, cattle and horses, classic cars, vintage machinery, music and food and drink - plus a few new ones for 2023

see www.widecombefair.com for more information.

The Devon Austin 7 Club will be at the fair, and if you would like to join us, you can book on line at <https://www.widecombefair.com/vintage> or you will find an entry form on the DA7C website.

You need to send your application directly to the fair organisers.



Please book directly with the fair organisers, but do let David Aylmore know that you are attending, so that he can arrange for the 7s to be parked together.

Barnfield Revival takes place in Barnfield Crescent in the heart of Exeter

**on Sunday September 17th
between 11m and 4pm, a come and go event**

Classic cars, motorbikes and bicycles from the 1900's -1960's.

Drivers and their guests are invited to dress up in period costume.

Live music from The Humming Bird trio.

Refreshments.

Entry is £15, in support of the RD&E charity in their efforts to raise funds to redesign the new Children's Emergency Department (www.rdehospital.nhs.uk/rd-e-charity/#) - plus you receive a T-shirt!

Entry forms on the DA7C website or from Nick Borst-smith (details on back page)



An Extraordinary Event

It was a pleasant evening and I was out in the Ruby on a drive to test the brakes. The sun shone and I had opened the windows and the sunshine roof to get all the summer benefit the Ruby could offer.

Many years ago I taught Biology in a secondary school and in the lab we used to breed locusts, so when I saw the cloud of something in the air ahead I was immediately reminded of those films we used to watch showing swarms of locusts over Africa.

I needed to be more wary, for my imagined locusts turned out to be a swarm of bees, which I could not avoid. They did not move aside but entered the car through window and sunshine roof. I exited the car promptly through the door leaving the car in the middle of the road.

Thankfully the bees neither took up residence nor stung me and after a while I waved away a few stragglers from inside the car and went on my way.

Gave me a fright and taught me that past experience with flying insects is not always apposite to the present!

Viv Gale

Adventures with Gladys

As probably Devon's newest Austin 7 owner, I thought I would give you a little update on my progress so far....

I fell in love with the Austin 7 in Siberia, but that's a story for another day. My love was cemented at the Goodwood Revival last year where I found myself surrounded by a "Heaven of Sevens" and decided I needed one in my life.

After much help and sage advice from your good selves, on Friday 26th May I became the proud owner of a 1929 Austin 7 Chummy in immaculate condition. I purchased her from a gentleman near Bideford, who had only driven her a mile or two in the three years he had owned her. As the sum total of my experience of driving vintage cars consisted of driving twice round a tree in a pub carpark at Exebridge, I had been considering getting a friend to help me trailer her home where I would then learn to double de-clutch whilst indicating with hand signals. However, for some crazy reason I allowed myself to be persuaded that there is no time like the present, so, after two circuits of an industrial estate I found myself setting off on the 52 mile journey home.

I was assisted in preparing for the journey by the wonderful Jeff Blight, who drove me to his garage in Bideford to check the car over and teach me to drive her before setting off. Apart from running out of petrol at the first sight of a hill (schoolboy error!) all seemed to be in order and before I knew it I was crunching my way through the gears along the Mid Devon link road with my good friend Mark tailing me at 30mph in my Ford Fiesta.

Well, somehow or another we made it home in one piece and I have driven her every day since (the weather helps!). She has been on outings to the supermarket, to the local town and more pubs than I care to mention. She is doing nothing for my waistline as I have barely walked anywhere since getting her and have been out for more pub lunches than is strictly good for me!

She is a proper attention seeker! As you all know, you can't go far in an A7 without being deluged with questions and requests for a ride. Within 48 hours of owning her I have been asked to take someone to their wedding and a random stranger knocked on my door asking to buy her (the answer was a definite "No"!)

I have named her Gladys, after Gladys de Havilland, and I very much look forward to introducing her to you.

All I need to do now is learn to maintain her!



See you all on the road very soon!

Jude Zebedee

PUZZLE PAGE

by Julie Eddles

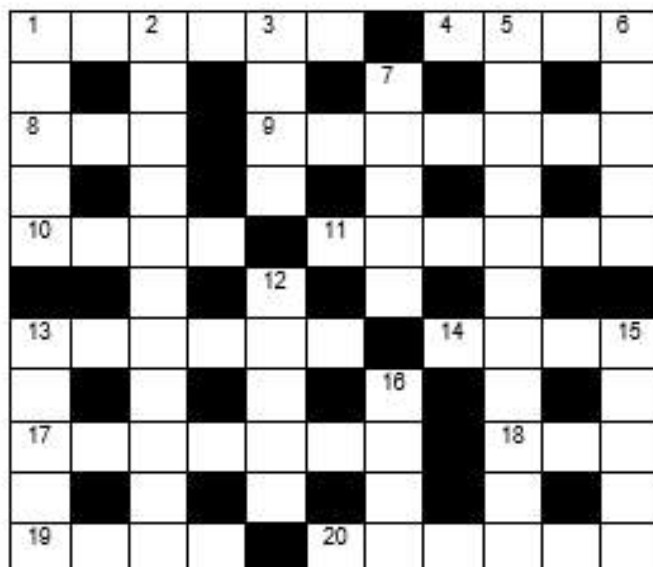
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Geel! Was mixture effluent? (6)
4. Wild West dish in a crock-pot (4)
8. It's no good either way (3)
9. Saul and Zoe became very enthusiastic (7)
10. It's hammered home (4)
11. Animal found in Karlsbad, Germany (6)
13. Strange greed over English qualification (6)
14. Mix up in the best Irish tradition (4)
17. Unpleasant moose in for treatment (7)
18. Tree in travel magazine (3)
19. Change gear in uncontrolled anger (4)
20. A place for skeletons (6)

DOWN

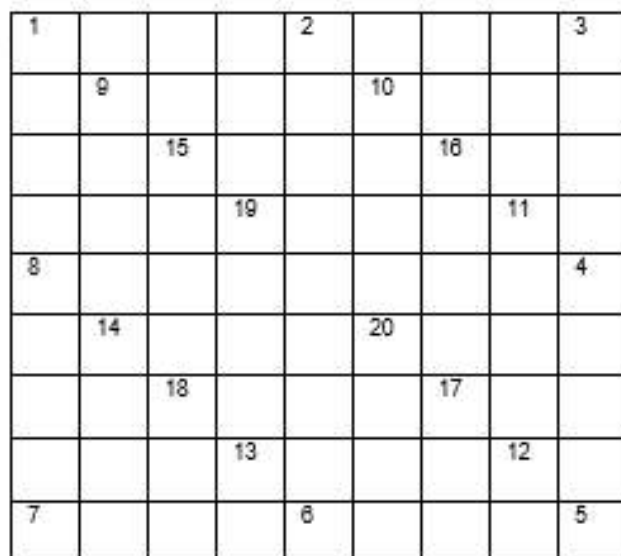
1. Dean's convertible vehicle (5)
2. Band used at the match (7,4)
3. Stare into a crystal ball? (4)
5. Hugh lost set badly, being uncaring (11)
6. Wife is queen, being more astute (5)
7. Clan moved around a waterway (5)
12. Melon or a different fruit (5)
13. A café is in red after restoration (5)
15. Send back timer (5)
16. Source of water in fine fettle (4)



WORD SPIRAL

Starting with 1. enter the first of the 5 letter words going clockwise towards the following number. The last letter of each word becomes the first letter of the next, creating one long chain of words in a spiral.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Male singing voice | 11. Poppy juice |
| 2. Awaken | 12. Join together |
| 3. Finished | 13. Be |
| 4. Journal | 14. Hooked claw |
| 5. Young person | 15. Bare |
| 6. Lift | 16. Reside |
| 7. Poisonous | 17. Midday meal |
| 8. Timepiece | 18. Red dye |
| 9. Dust-coloured | 19. Greek letter |
| 10. House made of ice | 20. Unaccompanied |



QUADRUPLES

Select the word with the correct definition from the four choices.

- | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. QUOTIDIAN | (a) a few verses | (b) part share | (c) daily | (d) a division |
| 2. MENDICANT | (a) a beggar | (b) a drug | (c) glue | (d) councillor |
| 3. EXPUNGE | (a) expand | (b) search | (c) efface | (d) disclose |
| 4. PHONEME | (a) telephone hacker | (b) speech sound | (c) a vision | (d) a virus |
| 5. TAMBOUR | (a) drum | (b) interfere | (c) twill | (d) slight slope |
| 6. ORMOLU | (a) waistband | (b) armour | (c) a shell | (d) gilt ware |

Rookie Racer's Diary

After a not very auspicious first outing in the car at the Angouleme centenary race last September, improvements were in hand for this years VSCC Wiscombe Park Hillclimb on Sunday 21st May. On the to-do list was a new brake compensator, new brake linings, a new radiator, a period supercharger, some blue paint, and a real throttle pedal (previously I hadn't allowed room within the pint-sized bodywork for my oversized foot to go alongside the brake pedal, and in a last-minute dash to finish the car for the Angouleme race I'd hastily put the throttle cable up the steering control tube and operated it via a lever in the middle of the steering wheel. Needless to say, going round a hairpin at speed whilst spinning the wheel and blipping the throttle to drop down a gear was virtually impossible!)

Around 4 weeks prior to Wiscombe I'd collected a Cozette supercharger from David Dye who is an expert engineer in all things Cozette and A7, and had not left myself much time to then mount the blower, build the drive assembly, make a new inlet manifold, fit a new camshaft, add extra studs to restrain the block from trying to free itself from the crankcase, and get it all setup and running in time - what could possibly go wrong!

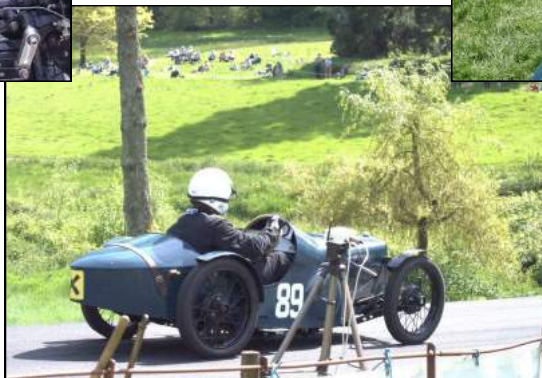
Much midnight oil was burnt and the engine came to life literally 10 minutes before it was due for a rolling road session at Tipton garage on the Friday before the event. After checking the timing and changing to a richer needle on the SU carb it made 50bhp at a conservative 4500revs.

Sunday arrived and the weather was glorious. This year's sub-1100cc specials class consisted of 11 cars, eight A7 specials, a Riley 9 special, a Humber 8/18 special and a very pretty Amilcar CGSS. Chris Pickering from Chard was also making his debut at Wiscombe in a very tidy Ulster replica, neither of us had ever driven the course before and were full of trepidation. The VSCC staff and other experienced competitors were very helpful in getting us through scrutineering and in the right place at the right time.

Opinions vary on which is the trickiest part of the hill, but most agree that the Gate corner at the end of Wis straight is hard to get right as the entry is blind and on a sunny day the light suddenly darkens as you enter the wooded section, increasing anxiety and causing early braking. Despite my new Holland-Birkett inspired chain & sprocket brake compensator, I had less faith in my brakes than I've had with previous A7s that had the normal brake bar! (although this might have been because with the new supercharger the car was now going somewhat faster than any of my previous A7s), so I was instinctively braking early and not carrying enough speed into the Gate.

On the last run I managed to carry a bit more speed through the Gate and into the esses for a best time of 61s, coming 3rd in the class and 2nd fastest vintage. Kevin Morton in his 1931 Riley 9 special won the class at 59s, and Stuart Rose was 2nd fastest and fastest vintage at 60.2s in his 1927 Austin 7 special.

My thanks go to all the marshalls and organisers for making the event possible, to Stephen Miles at Tipton Garage, and to my wife Catherine for putting up with all my late nights!



Sam Archer

D DAY COMMEMORATION at the Fox & Grapes

On Saturday 3rd June, 10 Sevens assembled in the Beer Garden of the Fox and Grapes, Lifton for their D Day Commemoration Event . Only 2 were 'Devon ' cars but a contingent of 6, up from Cornwall including a very rare Military 2 seater and a 1930 Boat tailed 2 seater together with local 'Dig on for Victory ' special and the Landlord's own special made a much admired display.

Our cars complimented the WWII theme provided by the numerous Willys and Ford Jeeps ,other Military Vehicles and reenactment exhibits and demonstrations

Needless to say plenty of refreshments were available and after a convivial afternoon highlight of the day for many was the evening entertainment of song and dance by the amazing Hummingbirds in the period atmosphere of the superbly decorated 1937 Coronation Hall. Well done Landlord Phil and his helpers.



Philip Snell

Answers to puzzles on page 8

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Sewage 4. Stew 8. Dud 9. Zealous 10. Nail 11. Badger 13. Degree 14. Stir 17. Noisome
18. Elm 19. Rage 20. Closet

DOWN

1. Sedan 2. Wedding ring 3. Gaze 5. Thoughtless 6. Wiser 7. Canal 12. Lemon 13. Diner
15. Remit 16. Well

WORD SPIRAL

1. Tenor 2. Rouse 3. Ended 4. Diary 5. Youth 6. Hoist 7. Toxic 8. Clock 9. Khaki 10. Igloo
11. Opium 12. Merge 13. Exist 14. Talon 15. Naked 16. Dwell 17. Linch 18. Henna 19. Alpha
20. Alone

QUADRUPICS

1. (c) daily 2. (a) a beggar 3. (c) efface 4. (b) speech sound 5. (a) drum 6. (d) gilt ware

Dauids Diary

This month has been quite busy with our three A7's one way and another.

A little progress has been made on the Box Saloon project. The initial welding on the 'A' post and windscreen top has reached the stage where some new ash framing needs to be put in place.



To do this work, I needed to make some more space at home and with only an open tarmac area available, I bought a small temporary garage which is just A7 size!! This was quite easy to erect and is quite substantial and at a cost of around £275 is, I think, a better alternative to some of the outdoor car covers that I have seen advertised. With the very generous help of John Pine, work is now underway to replace the rotten ash frame where required, before the car returns to the body shop for more welding. If all goes to plan, Reggie might appear on the Powderham stand as a 'work in progress' exhibit.

Ernie, our Milk Delivery Car had an outing to Michael Thorne's Tractors on the 20th May. Just over an 80 mile round trip including a lunch stop at Winkleigh and, I am pleased to report, no problems. This was a really lovely day out to a most interesting and unique collection of agricultural vehicles and memorabilia. I do hope that we will be able to repeat the trip in future years.

I have also done some cosmetic work on Ernie this month. For a long time I have been debating what to do with the signwriting '**Cream Cracker**' on the doors. The writing had started to deteriorate and in truth, I have never really been comfortable with the size of the sign. *Cream Cracker* was the nickname given to the car by Ralph Villis, the original restorer and I didn't want to lose that link. After much thought, I asked Swift Print in Dawlish whether they could copy the original signwriting, reduce the size and make a vinyl transfer which could be put on the scuttle. I think that they have done a brilliant job. All I have to do now is remove the original painted sign without damaging the cellulose – That is proving to be a challenge but will hopefully be completed in time to take the MDC to Beaulieu for the National Rally on the 2nd July.

I mentioned last month that we had experienced some overheating problems with Mabel, our 1934 AH Tourer when out and about on Exmoor in May. Back home and I took her out for some test runs up the local hills without any problem so put it down to not having checked the coolant level while on Exmoor. We had entered the Beamish Reliability Trial on the 18th June, and with this event's reputation for including many long steep hills in the 155 mile route through the Yorkshire Dales, I thought that some pre-event checks were in order. I did an oil change, ignition clean up, fitted a long-awaited new emulsion block gasket, fitted a new steering arm (see page 14 for the full story on that), cleaned and adjusted the brakes.

Continued on page 12



Continued from page 11

Whilst doing the back brakes I noticed that despite the split pin still being in place, the hub retaining nut had come lose. Luckily, several years ago when I built up the rear hubs, I had taken advice and marked the nut and hub with paint so that any movement would show up. This is what alerted me to the problem. Had I not spotted this, the likelihood was that a broken halfshaft or mangled woodruff key would soon follow. Out came the length of scaffold pole and large socket and after an inspection to check all was well, the nut was re-tightened and the split pin replaced. A short local test run followed and all was ready.



The plan was to trailer the car up to Yorkshire with our Camper and spend a few days around Hawes before going to a caravan site in Durham which was only 12 miles from the start of the Beamish Run. The trip up was very long and delayed with diversions and route changes due to accidents and hold-ups on the M5/M6 so were hoping for a relaxed first day in the Dales. However, Mabel had other thoughts and within a few miles of exploring the local lanes, a misfire was apparent. Back at the site and I checked everything I had done at home, then kicked myself for not bringing any electrical testing equipment – Took loads of other bits I never used but nothing to test an electrical circuit!!!! Over the next 2 days, I changed the plugs, checked and cleaned the points, took the carb to bits and checked that I had put the new gasket in correctly. I then wondered, after a suggestion from Jan, whether it was fuel vaporisation as it was a very hot day. We waited until the cooler evening and took a ride out for a Fish and Chip supper in Hawes and Mabel went great – no misfire – sorted!!! – Well, no the misfire returned, even worse on the way back to the site. I had brought a spare coil, so as dusk fell, I fitted that and waited until the morning as I thought that the others on the caravan site had seen and heard more than enough of a misfiring A7 engine for one day. We went out for a final test into Durham the day before The Beamish Trial and no misfire. On the event itself, we had no problems apart from a re-occurrence of over heating on two of the steepest climbs. It was a severe test, but I still feel that there is something wrong as I have not experienced this problem before this Spring so more investigation is needed. The event itself was a real challenge and the route took us over some beautiful remote moorland roads, but our abiding memory will be of the hundreds, if not thousands of spectators who were out on the route. There were people out in their gardens and on their doorsteps waving us through every village we passed. Even on the most remote roads there were families picnicking and spectators out with cameras. We even had a drone follow us on one section!! There were 150 cars and motorbikes on the entry list with several A7s and two other Devon members were also there – Andy Grabham and Adam Mason on their Vintage bikes.



Back home now and getting ready for Beaulieu on the 2nd July and Powderham the following week. No rest for the wicked!!

David.

Fitting a new pulley to drive the fan

I had to order a new pulley that drives the fan belt and the fan, and thought these pictures might be of interest to members who, like me, are not the most accomplished mechanics.



1. shows the old pulley off.

2. shows the new pulley on and the fan belt fitted.

3. shows the radiator all back together just waiting for the bonnet.

4. shows the bonnet back on and Max patiently waiting for his promised ride.

There was a lot learnt by me in doing the job, like don't tighten up the bolts when refitting the radiator before checking it's in the right position for the top bar that supports the bonnet...



Michael Tabcart

Steering Arm Update

Members may recall that in December 2021 I reported on a crack that I had found in the steering arm on our 1934 AH Tourer. This is apparently a common fault, and as at the time there were no new ones available, I refitted it with every intention of making regular checks. That of course never happened!!

Having completed over 4,500 miles since then and with the Beamish Trial coming up, I finally gave the matter some more attention. On enquiring, I found that David Cochrane now had new ones in stock and one was ordered up. These have been forged and machined to a higher quality than the originals and even to my, non-engineering eye, look more substantial. The replacement process is quite straightforward and although there is no noticeable change in the steering, I must admit that I felt more confident when negotiating all those Yorkshire hairpin bends.

After completing the work, I cleaned up the old Steering Arm and took a photo of the crack. Whilst it may not show up clearly in these photos, the crack has 'grown' quite a bit and I do wonder how much longer it would have lasted.



June 2023



June 2023



December 2021

If anyone wants to test their steering arm, it is a quite straightforward job to remove it and in the Jan 2022 Newsletter I gave details of the process I used to crack test mine. If you would like a copy, please let me know.

David Aylmore

Out and About



In May Doug and Steph Whittlestone took part in the Mendip Tour organized by the Classic & Historic Motor Club.



Steve Herwin says, "Our chummy was made very welcome at church, easily passing through the entrance gates.

It was a joy to find out how many admirers were knowledgeable on the working of a 7!

The vicar is in the driving seat, Carl, assistant priest somehow managed to squeeze into the back in all his robes, Jenny is next to him, she is from Germany and will soon be ordained. Jo our curate is in the passenger seat. A right holy shower!!!"



The weather was good when the Somerset Seveners got together for their May gathering at the Lamb & Lion.

Steve Herwin says, "Our Chummy created much interest at the local car show, despite being parked next to a Lotus Carlton, a car who's existence prompted questions in Parliament due to its outrageous speed!

From the car show we went to friend Shirley's 83rd birthday party. These photos show 'Opi' taking Shirley and other family members for a 'trip around the bloc', including little Emily, Shirley's great granddaughter, 80 years between them!"



Out and About cont.



Richard Soffe out and about in the sunshine.



Mark Nutbeen with his Ruby at the 'Dig for Victory' weekend at the North Somerset Show Ground.



Michael Tabcart says, "Philip Snell and I were the earliest arrivals at the Lamb and Lion in Hambridge. We were later joined by some of the Somerset Severners, and had a pleasant evening, always helped along by a drop of the 'Proper Job' which the pub has on draught.



John Pine enjoying time with his great grandsons - Reggie and Sydney.

Philip Burrow enjoyed a trip to Fingle Bridge. Philip says that the bridge was built with Austin Sevens in mind !!



Wanted

We have several members looking to buy an A7, so if you know of any cars for sale, please let David Aylmore know - contact details on back page.

For Sale

1935 Austin 12 Ascot. Very solid car but some minor work required. Starts well, runs smoothly. New brake linings. Good tyres. Car is near Exeter. Just not being driven as I have an A7 and until recently an A10.

£6000 ono. David Kernick 07584 562629 e-mail: dkernick@gmail.com



For Sale

1936 Austin 7 Ruby, gloss black paintwork with green interior, 63,927 miles. Lovely restored condition. Engine rebuild in 2014 at a cost of nearly £4,000. Lots of paperwork and manuals. Sliding sunroof and opening hinged windscreen. Delivery available at cost.

Contact Carol Stafford at: cestafford1@gmail.com

Offers around £9,500



For Sale

Austin Seven Chummy.

First registered on 30.05.1928. In present ownership since 1995 when it was re-registered with an age related plate following a full restoration. History and information from previous 2 owners is available.

£12,500

Austin Seven Nippy.

1936 Re-registered in 01.12.1995 with the original number after a complete restoration. Full photo record of restoration available.

Offers in excess of £17,000

Both cars are, overall, in excellent order but will require re-commissioning as they have been off the road for 10yrs. Both are on SORN.



For more information, please contact David Aylmore. Details on the back page.

2023 Events

- Sunday July 2nd** National A7 Rally – Beaulieu. Entry form available on the Devon A7 Club Website or from the Pre-War Austin Seven Club www.pwa7c.co.uk.
- Sat/Sun July 8th & 9th** Historic Vehicle Gathering, Powderham. Full details on page 4.
- Saturday July 15th** Ideford Vintage Fayre, 11am - 5pm, postcode TQ13 0AE. Vintage and classic cars, vintage tractors, motorbikes, stalls etc. More details from idefordfayre@gmail.com or from David Aylmore.
- Sat. July 29th** Honiton & District Lions Classic Car Day at the Allhallows Ground. Information from Michael Tabcart, Entry forms from David Aylmore (contact details on back page). Michael has attended this event before and found it very enjoyable.
- Sat/Sun July 29th & 30th** Rosemoor Vintage Weekend, Great Torrington, Details on page 5
- Friday/Sunday Aug. 4th 5th & 6th** Torbay Steam Fair. We will be linking up with Devon Vintage Car Club for this event, as in 2022.
- Sunday Aug. 13th** North Devon Festival of Transport, Bideford. Entry form from David (details on back page), or on the DA7C website or Clare Kane on: ndsccecsec@gmail.com
- Sunday Aug. 13th** Re-Fuel Revival - contact Nick Borst-Smith (details on back page) for information.
- Thursday Aug. 17th** Chagford Show Entry form from Paul Greenwood e-mail vintage.chagfordshow@gmail.com More information at www.chagfordshow.co.uk
- Sunday Aug. 27th** Chanters Classic Car Show – Ottery St. Mary. Details to follow later.
- Sunday Aug. 27th** Seaton Carnival Classic Car Show – Contact Mike Tabcart (details on back page).
- Monday Aug. 28th** Merry Harriers Classic Car Show. **This show has been cancelled.**
- Tuesday Sept. 12th** Widecombe Fair. Details on page 6.
Apologies - we have been publishing the wrong date for this event over recent months!!
- Sunday Sept. 17th** Barnfield Revival - details on page 6.
- Saturday Sept. 23rd** Sidmouth Classic Car Show. Entry forms available on DA7C website, or www.sidmouthclassiccarshow.co.uk or from David Aylmore (details on back page)

Regular Monthly Meetings

- 1st Thursday monthly, 8pm** Combined BSAOC Tamar Valley Group/DA7C/CA7C meet at the Fox and Grapes, Lifton (landlord is DA7C member Philip Hockin) Contact Philip for details: philip.hockin@gmail.com
- 2nd Wednesday monthly** The North Devon A7 Group have an evening run out or visit in the North Devon area. If you would like to join them please contact Chris Hartnoll on chartnoll@icloud.com for details.
- 3rd Monday monthly, 7pm.** Members Zoom meetings with a Guest speaker every 3 months if possible.
- 3rd Wednesday monthly,** DA7C Members are invited to join the Somerset Seveners who meet at the Lamb & Lion, Hambridge, TA10 0AT at around 7.00 p.m. (Note some winter meetings are changed to lunchtime.) Contact Anne Whellock on 01460 66434 for more details
- Every Sunday morning,** DA7C Members are invited to join the Somerset Seveners who meet at Upton Bridge Farm, Long Sutton, TA10 9NQ, from 9am - 12noon for a Cars and Coffee gathering.

Keeping in touch with the Devon Austin 7 Club

Remember that as well as the Monthly Newsletters you can keep in touch and up to date daily with both our Facebook Page: Devon Austin Seven Club and the Website: www.devonsevens.co.uk



Also of interest:

www.austinsevenfriends.com - the one stop web site for Austin 7 enthusiasts across the world. Austin 7 news and events throughout the country and beyond!

Useful Facebook Groups:

Austin Seven
Austin 7 Spares/Cars for sale Group

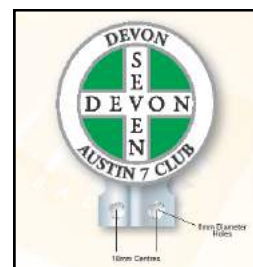


DA7C badges for sale

Car Badge.

There is a choice of 2 styles of Car Badge. Both have the same Green & White motif with black lettering.

1. A small windscreen self adhesive badge which is ideal for a "Modern" if space for a larger external badge is not available. - £1 each
2. A high quality Chrome & Enamel external badge as shown in the Illustration.
1 badge £13.50 inc. 2nd class post, 2 badges £25 inc. 2nd Class post.



Embroidered Badge.

We also have a very smart embroidered club badge available. It is 3 1/4" (80mm) in diameter and is, as shown in the picture, very similar in design to the car badge.

Cost is £3.50 (plus 50p postage)



Lapel Badge.

These metal badges measure 25mm diameter, and the cost is a very reasonable £2.25 inc. p & p.

All badges can be purchased by contacting Joe Rowing by phone or e-mail or can be collected from any club event.

Contact details are on the back page.



August 2023 Newsletter

Please send your letters, comments, articles and photos to devon.sevens@hotmail.co.uk or by post to Janet Aylmore, Corner Cottage, Ideford, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ13 0BG.

Copy for inclusion in the August 2023 issue should be with me by **Wednesday July 19th 2023** and the newsletter will be distributed on or before **Wednesday July 26th**.

To avoid any possible problems with copyright, please confirm, when sending in articles, photo's diagrams, maps etc, that they are free from any copyright restrictions. For information, the copyright remains with the originator of any photos etc for 50 years and the originator's permission is required before they can legally be reproduced or distributed. Within the very friendly A7 world, there is generally not a problem, so long as the originators copyright is acknowledge but I need to be made aware of the situation before publishing.

Many thanks. Ed.

Devon Austin 7 Club - Officers & Committee members 2023/24

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E-mail: vivgeogale@gmail.com



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Treasurer:

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Car Identification Number Registrar:

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If you need to know a Committee Member's postal address, please feel free to give them a call.

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The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Editor or the Devon Austin Seven Club. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the technical advice and information, the Club and its officers accept no liability for loss, damage or injury from persons acting upon the advice or information given in this publication.