DORSET AUSTIN SEVEN CLUB NEWSLETTER - JULY 1982

EDITORIAL

Hello everyone.

High season and high jinks in the Rally business. Dorset were very strongly represented at Caldicot and Berkeley Rallies taking award after award.

One notable member of the A7 movement said how good it was to see such an enthusiastic club, and said he envied our fresh approach. A nice compliment!!

There should be reports on the rally scene from members who attended but not yet to hand at the time of writing this editorial.

Beaulieu National Rally went off well last week with a pleasant day made all the more interesting because it coincided with the Museum Action Day. I met some old friends and I am sure all the many Dorset Members attending enjoyed the day.

During the last couple of weeks, we have been making major changes in the garden, I am shattered, and I am sure my Joy is too, see you at Dormers.

Yours Exhausted,

George

Copy date for August Newsletter 31st July.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are very pleased to welcome two new members this month.

Mr. Pete Treliving, 36 Lynwood Drive, Merley, Wimborne.

Pete has a 1936 Ruby, a 1934 Box and a 1927 Chummy.

L. G. Graham, Mount Farm, Highwood, Ringwood, Hants.

Mr. Graham has a 1927 and a 1928 Chummy.

SPARES REPORT

The following spares available on club nights.

Felt oil seals King pin sets early and late

Gaskets Lock washers

Studs and stepped studs Manifold nuts and studs

brake cables Oil pump springs

Brake cams Prop shaft universal joints

Brake cam bushes Radiator hoses

Brake drum screws Rim tapes 17"

Clutch linings Rear spring pins and bushes

Clutch mousetrap springs Rad. caps (Ruby)

Clutch comp. springs Spring shackle bushes

Lge. and small core plugs Spark plugs

Distributor caps (late) Shock absorber rubbers and washers

Engine mounting rubbers Shaft keys

Exhaust flange nuts and bolts Track rod kits

Distributor points (Ruby type) Valves

Dynamo brushes Valve guides

Fly wheel keys and nuts Valve springs

Fan belts early and late Complete LWB and SWB exhaust systems

Silencers Exhaust clamps and straps

+60 rings T type pump diaphragms

Starter brushes Rad hoses

Radius arm socket bolt + spring Spring pins + bushes

Head stud sets with nuts and washers Side water stud sets

 High tensile little end/flywheel

Big End nuts bolts + washers

Shock absorber star springs 26VA spindle and bushes

Pin and collet valves Oil strainer gauze

Rear hub retaining nuts Rear bearing retaining nuts

and mag. patent plates

EVENTS CALENDAR

15th July Club Night at Dormers, Wimborne. A light hearted Concours.

16th July An Evening with John Coleman

18th July Club run to Warbarrow Bay. No pub stop so bring your own picnic and drink.

22nd July Committee meeting at Tyrells Ford.

15th August Club run to Marwell. Depart 10.30 am from Ringwood. We are pleased to tell you that WVPC are joining us on this run.

19th August Club night at Dormers, Wimborne. .

22nd August Afternoon in the New Forest with the. Solent Club.

26th August Committee meeting at Tyrells Ford.

27/30th August Longbridge Diamond Jubilee Rally.

16th September Club night at Dormers.

19th September Club run to Bath. Depart Square at Wimborne 10.30 am

23rd September Committee meeting at Tyrells Ford.

BEAULIEU NATIONAL RALLY

The day was rather dull again at the start, but it was not as cold as last year. My daughter Susan and Gary her husband went in the Ruby to the Action day An event which coincided with the Rally, Joy and I went in the Box to the main rally.

The standards seem to get higher year by year with superb examples of just about every model you can imagine. There was a beautiful replica of a Doctors Coupe and a special racing car which caught

my eye.

I saw an American Bantam for the first time at the rally, quite a beautiful two-seater convertible.

Best car in show was given to a Milk-carrying Seven with a rear access door and complete with two milk churns.

The driving tests are always a favourite feature of this rally and some really expert driving was witnessed. I was pleased to collect the winner’s prize for the individual driving test! but not for me. Simon Holden of PWA7C won the event with a very substantial time advantage over everyone else. Simon has been creating miracle feats in his Chummy for years, it was nice to see him win.

A fantastic 1923 totally original Chummy really should have taken best car!

There was a good selection of Autojumble and so much to see. We had a lot of Dorset members there but as far as I am aware we took no trophies this time.

A great day made all the more fun by the look on the judges face when he saw our very special colour scheme.

George and Joy

BERKELEY CASTLE RALLY

Full of hope for good weather following the Caldicott success we set out on the Friday afternoon with the Ruby loaded with three children and pulling our trailer with the kitchen sink bursting it at the seams. We were in advance of the main club group who were leaving later in the

evening.

After a good trip we arrived at Berkeley and set up in the usual Dorset place in the middle near the hump. We had only just got the tent up when Brent, Wendy and family arrived in the Ruby. Soon after I got back from the fish and chip shop (who were eager for an estimate of their increased trade over the weekend!) the main Dorset group arrived consisting of Bernard, Jackie and children plus all their camping gear in the Chummy, Glyn in “Chocbox" and Pat in the Ruby, John, Cynthia and family in the Mulliner and Ruby, Gary with his Box and Debbie in the Chummy which she needed to pop up to Birmingham to see Martin.

Later in the evening we had a camp fire around our instant tree with the children being a little over enthusiastic with their wood collection!

In the morning Debbie set out for Birmingham and the rest of us joined forces behind John for our scenic trip taking in a 1 in 3 hill and other interesting scenery. After a very pretty run we arrived at the famous Waterly Bottom where there is a super pub - I counted ten draught bears including the dreaded "Old Roger". While the children sheltered from the showers under sun umbrellas we all sheltered in the bar (how unusual).

While at the pub we had a mad idea to have a DA7C Morris (sorry ­Austin!) dance team for the evening Ceilidh in the marquee. Bern managed to borrow some bells that were decorating the bar with the promise of returning them on the Sunday morning.

Emerging suitably refreshed we set out to tackle the fantastic hill climb out of the valley which has a wet hairpin section through trees approaching 1 in 3. In spite of considerable efforts, we all 'died’ due to excess weight and considerable effort was exerted in jumping out and pushing our own and other cars up the worst bit. Gary and John went up backwards both encountering wheel slip on the wet road. Not to be out­done Brent and I went down for a solo attempt only to meet Munwellyns coming up! At the end of it all we had to agree that it was only possible to get up the hill solo or in reverse with two up.

After a further pleasant run which took us through Dursley (home of Lister engines) we made the trek up to the local folly and John was able to obtain the key from a local shop. The climb up to the top of the tower proved a bit scary for the children!

On the way back to Berkeley we broke away to buy a roll of wallpaper for our DA7C Austin dance group vests. We arrived back to see Richard, Margaret and Rosie arriving, both looking remarkably fresh after con­siderable nocturnal disturbance (sounds good!) from Rosie. Later John and Janet arrived from a trip out having stayed overnight in Bristol. Later Debbie arrived back with Martin following in his modern.

When we arrived at the marquee in the evening we were greeted by Ian with his leg still in plaster (dancing on the Scrumpy run!) operat­ing as chief ticket collector and bouncer!

Berkeley really is a super rally with a fantastic marquee, good beer served from the back of a 1946 Bedford and a great Ceilidh band complete with squeeze box and fiddle. The DA7C Morris men had managed to smuggle in their Union Jack top hats (thanks to the Stone family) paper vests, string and bells. After a lot of dancing and drinking yours truly was pressed (I mean pushed) into a solo warm up to demon­strate the versatility of our membership (it’s a good job I had been drinking!) complete with bells and rolled up trousers. Following this display of madness our DA7C team consisting of Bernard, John, Gary and myself went outside for a practice under the direction of our choreographer Bernard.

Having sorted out our steps I wrote them on my arm only to find I did not have time to look at them once we had started doing our dance. I think most people enjoyed watching us acting the fool with our paper vests, rolled up trousers, top hats and toilet roll streamers - it’s amazing what a few pints will do!

On Sunday the weather was kind to us again and after Bern and I had taken the bells back we joined other Dorset members who were up for the day for the rummage through the autojumble, tried the driving tests, had a laugh at the Krazy Kops in their paraffin powered Austin 10 and then had an extra good laugh at Martin who threw the tyre in the inter-club contest and hit the Marshall!

At the end of the day we were pleased to see Stanley Edge doing a fantastic job of presenting the most prizes I have ever seen at a rally. It is great to be able to attend a rally, enjoy using your car, have a good time and perhaps even come home with a prize at the end. Dorset successes were as follows; Bernard 1st Pram Hood; Richard - 2nd Box; Gary - first over 10,000 miles per annum. Debbie - Ladies Prize; Me - 3rd Ruby (Brent would have won if they got his name right!); Inter club - B team and not only, but also A team.

Thanks once again to Bristol for a super rally with a great band and a good stiff doorkeeper! well done Ian.

Phil Whitter

SPARES REPORT EXTRA

Recent additions include:

Distributor springs and brushes

Spokes - all sizes

Dynamo bushes

Updraught choke springs

All cotter pins

Wiper blades

Oil pump vanes

Spring shackle pins

shock absorber springs

\*Austin Seven Competition Cars 1922-1982" £2.50

Note:

450-17 Tyres - because of organisation problems it has not been possible to arrange a pick up from Tony Etheridge. They are now £19.50 + VAT and will be at the autojumble in September or before if you can arrange to pick them up.

SOLENT PRE-BEAULIEU BARBEQUE

Hello everyone, I thought I would put pen to paper to say we went to the barbeque. Sadly, not many of our barn dancers were there but at least I came home with my arms the same length thanks to a certain mem­ber being on holiday in France - I missed you really!!

We were pleased to see Rosemary and Roger Ballard and their lovely son Edward and Dave Tanner and family, also Hugh Evans and Kay who are both working in London.

We had a very enjoyable evening thanks to Heather, Keith and all the hard working Solent members.

Hilary Whitter

LONGBRIDGE RALLY SPECIAL NOTE

As some members are not having the dinner at Longbridge other DA7C members will be holding a barbeque and we would be grateful if anyone would lend us a barbeque for the weekend.

Please ring on Ringwood 5558 if you can help. Thanks, Hilary.