

NEWSLETTER

March 1999



The Motor for the Million
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Member of the Austin Seven Clubs Association

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CONTENTS

Club Contacts	2
Editorial	3
Secretarial	3
Club Run	4
Family News	9,1
1	
Tip of the Month	10
The Way We Were	10
Here & There	11
Future Events	12
FEATURES	
History Dept.	4
Poets' Corner	5
Is it the Traffic?	6

CLUB NIGHTS

are held on the third Thursday of every month at
The Tyrrell's Ford Hotel, Avon
(on the Ringwood/Christchurch Road)
B3347

Our picture this month features BARRY GOODMAN'S Cambridge-style Special finished in good time following all his hectic searching for his Grandfather's car. In the course of its life it had even been through Glyn's hands! Nice one!!

EDITORIAL

This month's apology goes to BARRY GOODMAN, Chris Biggins and Peter Trebilco for getting confused over the beautifully restored Cambridge-style Special that appeared last Club Night. It is, of course, the now famous special that went through Glyn's hands at one stage and has been completely restored by Barry. To make absolutely sure I've got the story right this time, Barry's restoration is featured on the front page. Well done that man! And while I'm setting the record straight, the SWANAGE RALLY starts on Friday the 9th July and goes through to Sunday 11th July. The AUSTIN MAGAZINE for June 1936 has furnished us with lots of good material this month and I have re-published an article on "MODERN DAY TRAFFIC" in full as it makes fascinating reading. Thanks again to Mike Topham for spotting it in Wimborne Market. If anyone else has good original material, please share it with us.

And talking of sharing things, the queue for Members coming forward with NEW RUNS hasn't been too long - so please contact any Committee Member with your favourite spot or favourite pub.

This month sees the welcome return of some old favourites - the POET FATT, another HOME-DRAWN CARTOON by TREBS and another EMBARRASSING PICTURE from the editorial files plus TIP OF THE MONTH from ALF EDWARDS. PHIL WHITTER has had a brush with the past and we've got one of the longest FAMILY NEWS yet!

Don't forget this is your last chance to book your places for the GRAND SKITTLES NIGHT on March 27th - see Pat Llewellyn on Club Night

David

Deadline for the next issue is 26/03/99 . Please send material to me by post, fax or E-mail or pass it over to the Editorial Team at Clubnight.

SECRETARIAL

Hi Gang

It was good to see so many people at the Tyrrell's Ford last month for the talk by Pat Haskell of Knowle Gardens. A report appears elsewhere in this newsletter I understand.

The French trip at Easter is all booked, Gary informs me with nine cars booked for the four night break including yours truly with Pat in the Tickford - we are both looking forward to it enormously.

The February run was organised by Bernard and Jackie who arrived at Q.E. school in their Chummy, resplendent in it's new hood. Jackie won't have to wear waterproofs in the car when it rains now !

Gary Munn tells me that his 1930 Box is almost finished, just the carpets to fit and new engine to be put in. Can it be ready for the March run? watch his space. Barry Goodman, owner of the white special seen at January club night, is racing on with the restoration of his Chummy and he tells me that it should be

finished for the summer, but, worried that he may get bored, he has just bought a long wheelbase box so that he will have something to do on long summer evenings. Another car, not seen for many years, is George and Joy Mooney's Ruby which is just coming to the end of a complete restoration and should be back on the road towards the end of the summer. Just in time to start a similar job on the Box George ? I have had a sneak look at the lonely and nearly completed tourer of Kevin and Marion Wissett and can't wait to see that one on a run in the summer. So by and large we should see a lot of newly restored cars on club runs and summer club nights this year. I'll certainly drink to that.

Glyn

Not-the-Mud-Run (but nearly)

21st. February 1999

I stroked her affectionately , for once again she had been wonderful and the experience had been exhilarating. I was tired, but a very happy chappy . I turned out the light and left her alone warm and dripping the usual few spots of Castrol GTX on the garage floor.

It had been a good run of a hundred miles through the best of Hampshire, Dorset and even venturing into Wiltshire. We had left the others 'enjoying' a walk in sub-zero wind chill on the common at the top of Zig- Zag Hill where they had gone to shake down the very good lunches and pints of Fox's Nob provided by the short staffed but none the less very professional landlord of the Two Brewers in Shaftesbury.

Prior to this we had cruised the Dorset lanes and explored the extremities of Cranborne Chase Some of the views from the higher ground were spectacular. I had always felt we knew the countryside well, but the villages of

Semley and Tisbury were previously unknown to us. In particular I would like to explore the Benett Arms at Semley ,which looked particularly enticing, more fully.

We all met at 10.15 at Wimborne . It was Bernard's run and he did us well. He was also one of the poseurs with a new hood . The other was Glyn . The rest of us were mere admirers, although all kitted out in pre-war Austins.

9.10 we left home, bright sunshine, full of joy and expectation.

Thought I'd do it backwards for a change.

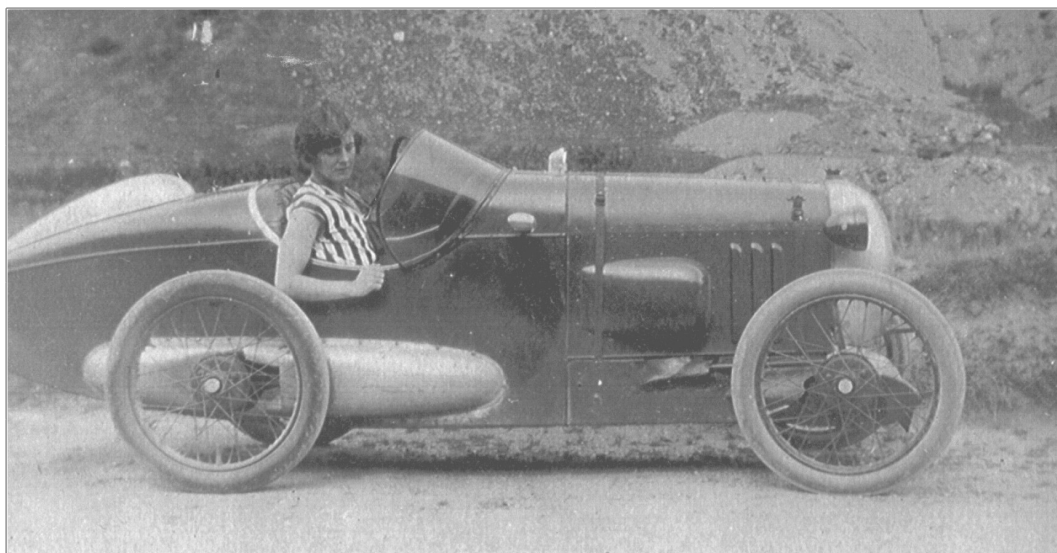
Lawrence

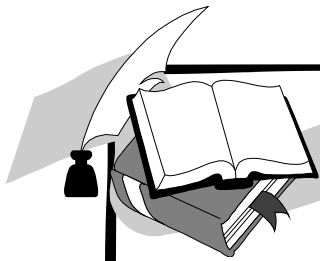
HISTORY DEPARTMENT

At our Christmas dance I had the pleasure of being introduced to PAT LOKATIS and husband Tony. Pat has an interesting connection with AUSTIN RACING HISTORY in that her father SIDNEY MARSTON worked at Longbridge in the early 20s and purchased a Gordon England Racing Car in pieces from CAPTAIN ARTHUR WAITE after a blow-up.

The chassis number was thought to be SPXP2 but the registration number has been forgotten. Sidney Marston rebuilt the car and the photo shows Pat's mother in the driving seat. Does anyone have any more history of the car that we can pass on to Pat?

Phil Whitter





Poets' Corner



*I am an Austin Sevens,
I do have lots of fun.
My little car's my pride & joy
When I'm out on a Run.*

*We go on Sundays when it's
quiet
Down country lanes.
I have my vacuum
windscreen wiper
Just in case it rains.*

*I am an Austin Sevens.
Friends - I've met so many.
When I drive my modern car
It seems I haven't any!*

*When I drive my Austin,
People stop me and they say
"I had one years ago, I paid
five pounds for mine. Nine of
us went on holiday in it,
4d. of petrol lasted a month.
The hill was so steep Aunt
Ethel had to get out with the
luggage and I had to reverse
up it!"*

-You've heard it too?

*I am an Austin Sevens
And enjoy it through and
through.
Effort put in pays double back
I have found- Have you?*

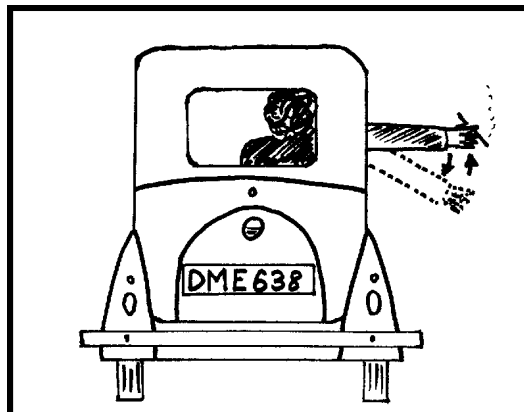
*I am an Austin Seven,
I fill my owner with delight.
But he doesn't like my
headlights much
They are so dim at night.*

*I am an Austin Seven
With shiny paint and chrome.
My owner takes good care of
me
And I always get him home.*

*I am an Austin Heavy
Twelve
I sit here in the garage.
The only time I see daylight
Is when there is a marriage!*

Gary Fatt

**KNOW
YOUR
HIGHWAY
CODE 2**

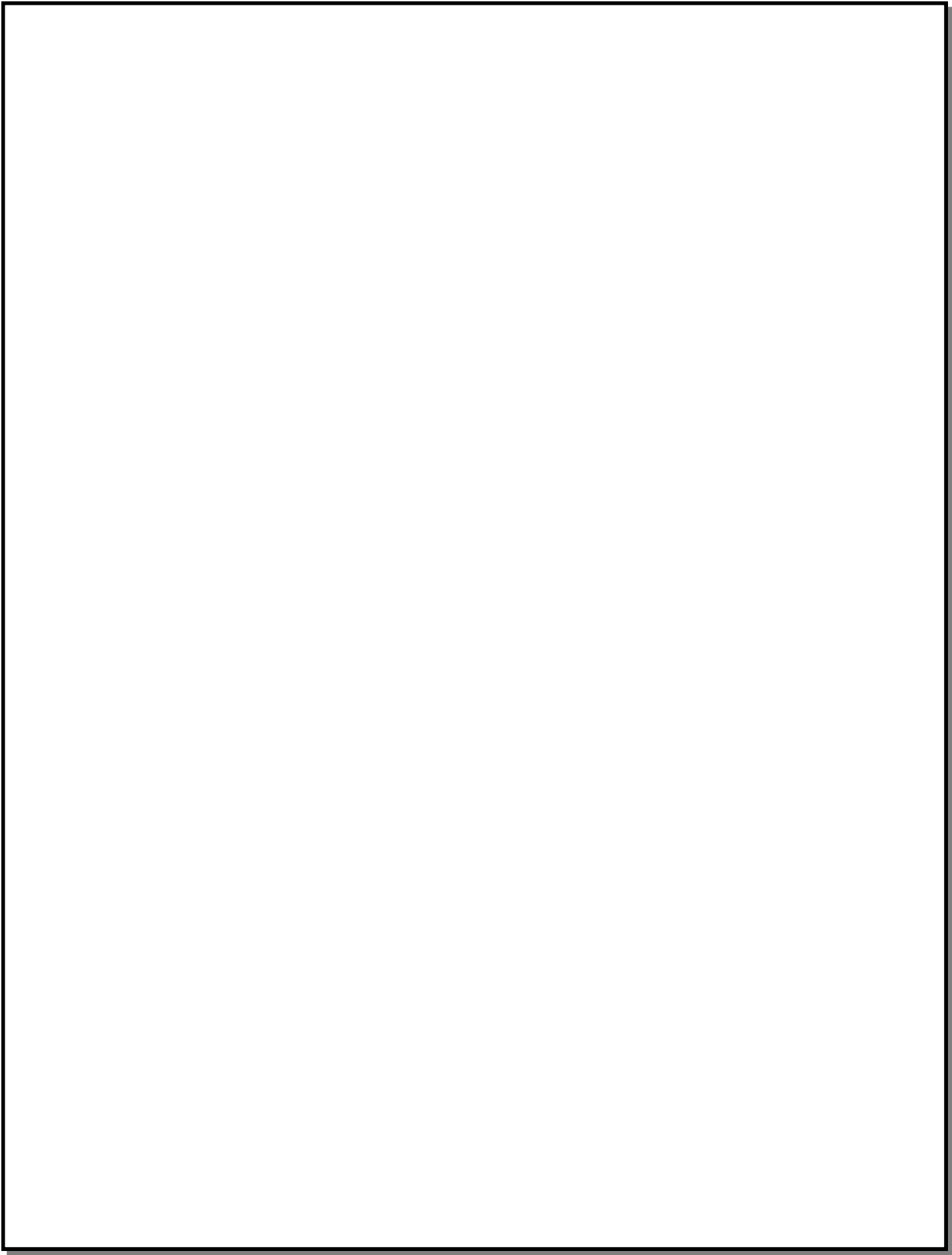


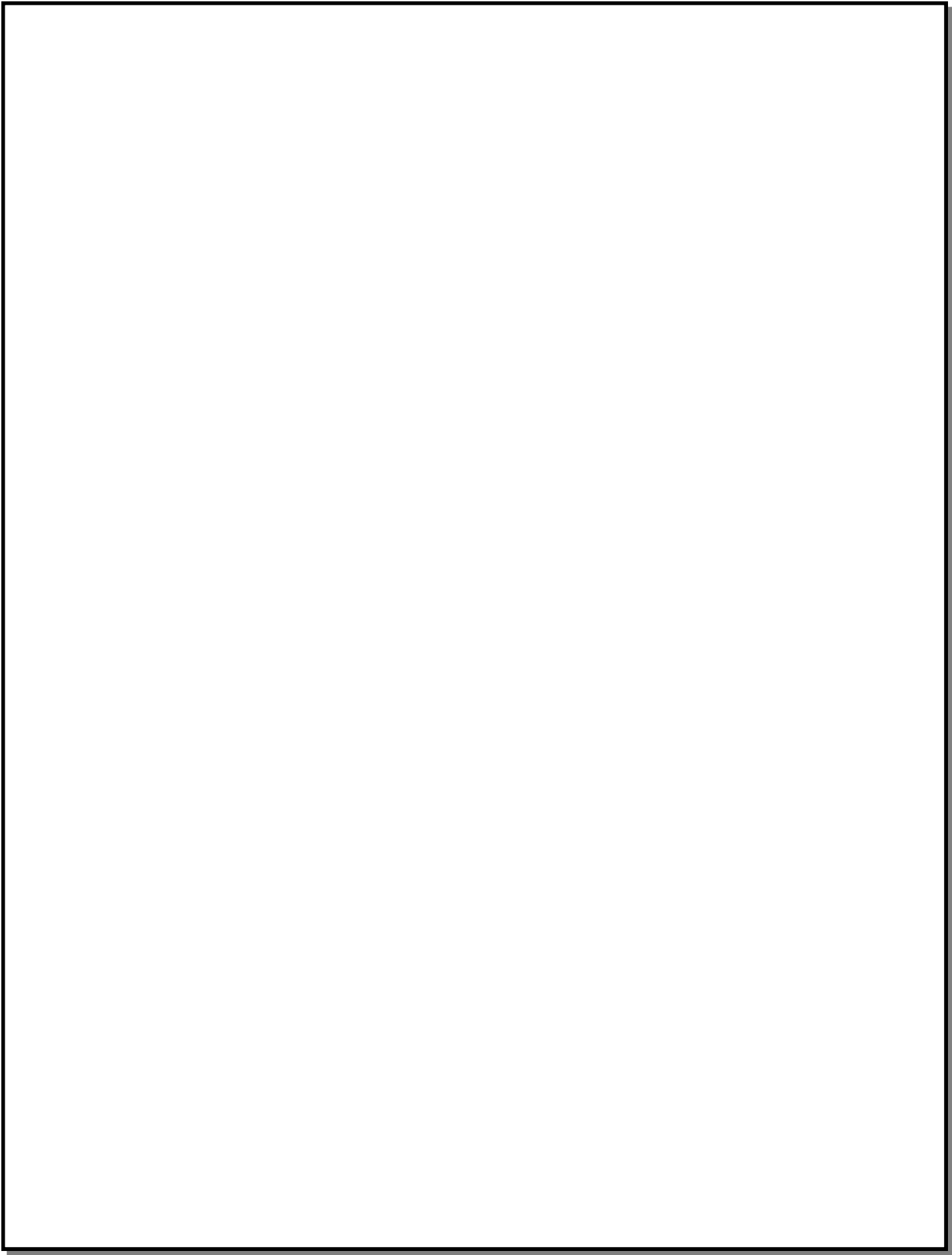
*"I'm just shaking the ash
off my cigarette"*

An original cartoon by
Peter Trebilco

IS IT THE TRAFFIC OR THE DRIVING?

(3 PAGES)





A BLOOMING GOOD NIGHT OUT!

February Club night had a very different theme this year, with a talk by Pat Haskell from Knowle Gardens nr. Wimborne. We have an interest in this garden, as one of our committee members Gary Fatt is the gardener there.

Pat started the talk by telling us that the garden was originally a nursery started in the 1970s which grew into the very impressive garden it is today. It specialises in various species and propagates from seed many plants which can be bought by the visitors to the garden.

We were shown various slides showing how the garden was and all the improvements which have been made over the years. All the seasons were shown in her slides giving us a taste of what to see if we were to visit the gardens in the future.

Thanks to Gary for organising a very interesting evening.

PAT LLEWELLYN

EMBARRASSING PICTURE NO.4 ~



*Chairman
Bernard on
an economy
run*

CLUB FAMILY NEWS

NOT THE OLD 'AUSTIN-in-a-BARN' STORY ~ "A friend of mine," relates BARRY GOODMAN, "said his cousin in Devon had found an Austin 7 in a barn he had been asked to clear for nothing and was I interested?!! Unfortunately, by the time I arrived the old fellow had some idea of what it might be worth but the price was still right so I purchased what appears to be a 1922 CHUMMY but in need of a great deal of restoration. So far I have completed the chassis/engine/gearbox/wheels/starter & dynamo and hope to have it on the road this year - well, maybe"

HOT STUFF! Congratulations to SHEILA PERRY who was presented with her 20 Years Long Service & Good Conduct Medal from the London Fire Brigade on 4 February. Sheila, who is a Fire Brigade Control Officer, received her award from the Fire Brigade Chief Officer.

FLYING THE FLAG - Welcome to IAN and PAM MASON-SMITH who are now able to join us at club nights. Ian and Pam have been members for many years but during that time have spent most of their time in Belgium, returning only occasionally to their house in Crow Oust outside Ringwood. Well they are back here permanently now and so we hope we'll see them every month! They have a 1931 Box on the road, a Chummy replica which is 80% complete, and a pile of bits which one day may end up as an A7 pick-up truck!

RING A BELL? Chris Tucker, the Wessex Ducks Chairman, has been sorting through his late father's

(Continued on page 11)

THE WAY WE WERE - a blast from the past

From the Club magazine for February 1978

21

"We all enjoyed the films of Solent A7C runs which Keith Roach kindly brought along to our last meeting. It will be nice when we can see our own events on film.

Thanks to Reg Stones for a letter and I hope that some more of you will put pen to paper to help stimulate the contents of the Newsletter - Tell us about your Austins, tell us about your problems, tell us how to help others etc. Reg tells me no-one has taken up his offer of a Ruby body which he has in his garden and it will now be scrapped.

Lastly, I see that the Bridgewater Building Society is pushing the individualist theme by using a peculiar Chummy in their advertising. - Phil Whitter

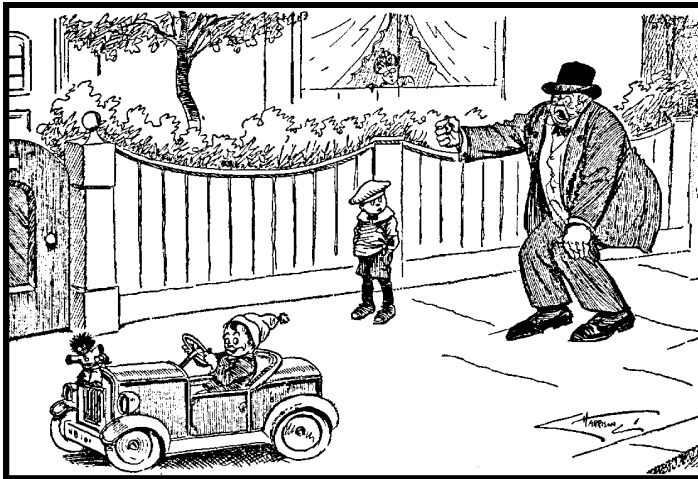
THIS MONTH'S MEETING is at the Nags Head, Ringwood and we will be holding an Austin Quiz - see you all there.

FOR SALE: The new 750MC Austin 7 Handbook is available at £3.

FUTURE CLUB RUNS:

30th April	Daffodil Run
7th May	DA7C Run to Weymouth
27/28th May	East Hants Vintage Display at Blackmore
4th June	Visit to HMS Sultan Gosport
2nd July	Beaulieu

We are also organising an evening run across the Studland



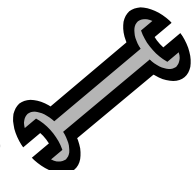
TESTY OLD GENTLEMAN
(bumped into by toy
motorist):

"Pavement Hog!!"

TIP OF THE MONTH

If you're putting together a nut & bolt and might want to get them to come apart again one day, then smear some COPPER SLIP on the thread and they'll never become corroded. -

ALF EDWARDS





FOR SALE

1935 RUBY - fully restored, MOT, £3750 ono. Ron Sinden 01202-779590

1933 A7 BOX part restored, part re-sprayed yellow/black, all mechanics done, engine ready to reassemble, wheels & tyres sorted, old log book. £1,800 Tony Boddy 01929-550270 or 0860

WANTED

1927 CHUMMY steering wheel, front & rear wings: Barry Goodman 01425-618746

1929/31 RADIATOR SHELL in nickel or chrome with sound plating and a nice, used patina. Possible swap with similar needing re-plating (with cash adjustment) - Phil Whitter 01425-475558

Urgently required - **LATE RUBY HEAD (14mm plugs)** Peter Trebilco 01425-477226

CLUB FAMILY NEWS *(Continued from page 9)*

effects. One item of particular interest which he would like any information on is an Austin key-ring. The pendant is an Austin radiator (you can even see a little starting handle) and on the back is inscribed "Property. Member of the Austin Club T141. Return To Austin Motor Co Ltd Birmingham. Finder Rewarded". If anyone can offer any information on the key-ring and/or the Austin Club, can they please get in touch with Gary Munn (01202-683848) who will pass it on to Chris.

IT'S A DOG'S LIFE - It was nice to see RUPERT, Vince's ageing Bull Mastiff, at the last club night. The old fella was to be seen in his coat propping up the back seat of the car. Apparently when Vince went to leave home for the club, Rupert made it very clear that he wanted to go too, although whether that was because he also likes club nights or because he wanted some peace from the new member of the family (a Boxer called Barney) was not certain!

A BLAST FROM THE FUTURE - It was a case of R.I.P. recently for the NAG'S HEAD in Ringwood. This large hostelry, the original meeting place for the Dorset A7 Club, has just been demolished and a collection of houses is now rising from the ashes. I'm sure there are many who will have fond memories of the place.

BUSKERS UNITED! Entries for the SWANAGE RALLY are already coming in thick and fast. Whilst a band is booked for the Saturday night, if there are any club members who will be attending on Friday who are (budding) musicians and would like to sing/play the odd(!) song, can they please let Lawrence Rideal know. Don't worry, I'm told you won't be the only one and the more the merrier.

IT'S A GIRL - Congrats to Jane & Dusty on being grandparents to Cloe Jane born to MARK & MANDY on

oO CLUB DIARY Oo

March

- Thursday 18 March** CLUB NIGHT **Noggin 'n Natter** NO NEW SPARES - but a few second-hand ones to rummage through.
- Sat/Sun 20/21 March** **London Classic Motor Show, Alexandra Palace.** Ring 01296-631181 for further details.
- Sunday 21 March** CLUB RUN **Phil Whitter's Avon Valley Ramble** - 10.30 for 10.45 off Ringwood CP
- Thursday 25 March** COMMITTEE MEETING Tyrrell's Ford
- Saturday 27 March** SKITTLES NIGHT, AVON CAUSEWAY INN, 7.30pm. See flyer from last month or ring Pat Llewellyn (01425-613080).

oO FUTURE EVENTS Oo

- Thursday 1 April** EIGHT-TIL-LATE - White Hart, Wimborne
- Thursday 15 April** CLUB NIGHT QUIZ NIGHT with Lawrence - be early.
- Sunday 18 April** CLUB RUN - MEMBER'S CHOICE with Richard Cressey
- Thursday 6 May** VISIT to Old Christchurch Electricity Generating Museum (& Bar!) organised by Pat Llewellyn.
- Thursday 20 May** CLUB NIGHT - Talk by ALDERNEY PLATING
- Sat/Sun 22/23 May** Coast to Coast Run with PWA7C (01845-537318 for details)
- Sunday 13 June** Austin Day at Mid Hants Railway with Solent A7C friends.
- Thursday 17 June** CLUB NIGHT - Concourse: Manager's choice gets a bottle of fizz
- Fri/Sat/Sun 18/19/20 June** SPYE PARK RALLY with BA7C. Details from Gary Fatt
- Thursday 1 July** 8-TIL-LATE EVENING RUN
- Sat/Sun 3/4 July** NATIONAL BEAULIEU RALLY Details from Gary Fatt in due course.

Next Month - Gary Fatt's BIG LIST of Ever

**HAPPY
MOTORING**

