NOVEMBER 1979

DORSET AUSTIN SEVEN CLUB

CLUB NIGHT: THURSDAY 15th NOVEMBER QUIZ AT THE NAGS HEAD, RINGWOOD

EDITORIAL

We're off, my first newsletter compiled and ready for printing. Our thanks go to Phil Whitter for his hard work as newsletter editor over the past two years. Phil has now taken on the job of spares secretary, and has kindly offered to finance the scheme entirely out of his own pocket. He will advertise and buy spares and offer them to members through the newsletter, at cost price. Any unsold spares, Phil will dispose of at a small profit on the open market. So watch the newsletter for spares.

Our sew social secretary John Stone has been very busy organising a new Xmas event for December (details in this newsletter). This event is in addition to our skittles evening which will probably be in February. Your support for this new event is vital. We cannot afford to make a loss, so please send your money to John now. There is an entry form at the cad of this newsletter.

John Stone is also busy looking over likely pubs in the Wareham area, with a view to changing the venue of our monthly meetings. I don’t know how he finds time to go to work!

I would like to hear from members restoring cars, on their progress. Perhaps they could send me a short report, or tell me at club meetings, about their progress, and if they have any problems. I could include this in the newsletter each month, and members could help each other with technical advice or parts. Also anyone with any tips on any aspect of owning or restoring sevens, send it in, that is what the newsletter is for.

I would also like to see more letters from the ladies, dare I say it, you must have some suggestions concerning the club. So let’s hear from you, I shall expect a hall full of letters during the next couple of weeks.

Glyn

NOTE

SUBS ARE NOW DUE Membership without association Mag. £3.00.

Membership with association Mag. £4.75

See renewal form at the end of this newsletter.

NEXT MONTH’S COMMITTEE MEETING 22nd November The Tyrrells Ford, Avon, at 8.30 p.m.

SECRETARIAL

Well here we are with another club year and the A.G.M over. We have now been officially a club for 3 years, - a short time compared with most clubs, but I feel we have achieved something in this area for Austin 7 owners.

The AGM went well with no problems. After the vote we went on to discuss the sore point of money. Lawrence stated that costs had risen (as we all know) since last year. The price of the Austin 7 Clubs Association magazines has also risen, so it was decided to put up the subs (see above) to cover the costs for the next year.

Bernard

THE NEW COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN Derek Munn

SECRETARY Bernard Cowley

TREASURER Lawrence Rideal

EVENTS SUB COMMITTEE John Page

Gary Munn

Glyn Llewellyn

SOCIAL SECRETARY John Stone

COMMITTEE MEMBER Mike Wragg

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Glyn Llewellyn

SPARES SECRETARY Phil Whitter

CHRISTMAS BARN DANCE

The committee decided it would be rather nice to hold a club social before Xmas, and after a lot of discussion we agreed on a barn dance to be held on the 1st December at the Scout Hall, Redcotts Lane, Wimborne. Turn left before the Kings Arms, the hall is at the end of the road. It will start at 8 o'clock and a Ploughman’s Supper will be provided, the coat of which is included in the tickets which are £1.60p each. Due to the difficulties of the licensing laws, it will be necessary for you to bring your own drinks. There will be music (records) laid on and a professional culler, to tell you how to do it!! This event can only go ahead if you support it. You may bring along non-members for the same price. The more the merrier. Please let John Stone have your entry form and cheque NOW.

Report on the last Austin 7 Clubs Association meeting at which we were represented by Phil Whitter & Willie McKenzie

The editor told us that the mag. is now running on schedule although he is desperately short of-copy for 1980 issues. For those who want to build a complete set of mags. from 1970A to date, it is hoped to reprint 1970A - 1972B at 75p, each or £6 for ten. Club returns required by January 11th (I ordered five sets for Dorset) Let the Secretary know if you want a set so we can order accordingly. I think this could be your last chance to acquire a unique library of A7 information.

It was in any other business that the real crunch came when the Treasurer suggested that the £5 per annum club levy for A7CA membership which had stayed constant since the start, should be increased. Initially it was suggested that it be put up to £20 (this represented nearly 50p. per member for Dorset) and it was at this point that our presence as the only representative of a smal club became necessary. Willie and I argued the case for over an hour with three proposals on the floor including an increase or 5p per member for the whole A7CA which I supported for the club but it was defeated. At one point we looked like becoming Associate members as the Dorset Austin Seven Register!

It was thanks to our colleagues in Bristol A7C who recognized our predicament that we finally ended up a proposal that clubs pay £15 levy per annum with small clubs being able to apply to the committee for a reduction. Following this there was some discussion on the problems which some members had encountered with the Everest insurance scheme and it was hoped to get the London Lloyds broker to the next meeting to explain weaknesses.

We also heard from Neil Bateman that possibly up to £20,000 in sponsorship may be available for 1982 Diamond Jubilee year including Longbridge Rally. Finally the calendar of events for 1980 was compiled but we were unable to give details of the Hurn Air Pageant. Phil Whitter

TECHNICAL TIP

When overhauling the rear axle be sure to check the bearings inside the torque tube. There are 4 bearings, one just behind the pinion gear, 2 together near the centre, these are the thrusts, and one at the flange end. The bearing behind the pinion seems to be the one to wear first as it takes all the radial load. Test it by gripping the centre ring in a vice, then try rocking the outer ring. There should be very little, if any movement. If this bearing is worn, be sure to replace it, or the radial load wll be transferred to the two thrust bearings which will then quickly wear. The other bearings are checked in the same way. The one at the flange end does not seem to wear so much as it doesn’t carry so much load. The two centre thrust bearings prevent the pinion shaft from moving in and out of mesh and are tested for wear as a pair. There should be no play. All these bearings are still available and are easily obtainable from local stockists, but take plenty of money with you! Those four plus the two thrusts on the differential will cost over £60.

Whilst on the subject of back axles, guess who broke a half shaft outside the Nags Head after the AGM – Me! It's a good job I was not the last leave, or it would have been a long walk home. As it was, Gary & Derek Munn very kindly towed us to their house at Avon Castle, and Derek even left his Mercedes outside, so that I could leave the Ruby in his garage overnight. Then they took Pat and I home. Many thanks to Derek and also Gary for helping me to put in a new shaft (purchased from Bernard the following evening. It took us just two hours from start to finish.

Ed.

RESTORATION OF WL 1133 – 1926 CHUMMY

Two months now have passed since I got the Chummy home. After ten years standing it burst into life first time and off we roared down the road in the dark with no lights! The started the stripping down. I must admit I was a bit reluctant to rip it all apart as it was practically on the road albeit a bit tatty but I knew if I didn't start straight away it would never be stripped down. Well, at the moment   
everything has now been stripped out, the body has been farmed out to Chris Smith for welding etc., and the chassis is all restored complete with re-set springs and new chassis extensions. Now the front axle assembly is in bits but the rest of the running gear still has to be stripped and restored. But hopefully it will be fully restored and on the road in time for the Daffodil Run.

GARY & DEREK MUNN

RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTION

I wish to renew my subscription to the Dorset Austin 7 Club

I enclose £3 for membership without Austin 7 Clubs Association magazine

OR

I enclose £3.75p for membership including Austin 7 Clubs Association magazine.

(Please delete which does not apply)

NAME ………………………………………………………………………..

ADDRESS ……………………………………………………………………

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………………………………………………………………….

MODEL OF CAR OWNED …………………………………………………..

YEAR ……………………………..

Please send cheque/P.O. made out to Dorset Austin 7 Club to the treasurer, Lawrence Rideal 36 Diprose Road, Corfe Mullen, Dorset.

CHRISTMAS BARN DANCE 1st DECEMBER 1979

Please reserve me ………………………. Tickets at £1.60p each

Cheque/P.O. enclosed for …………………..

Send to John Stone, 22 Cobham Way, Wimborne Dorset Tel: 886537. Cheques made payable to Dorset Austin 7 Club.

NAME ………………………………………………………………………..

ADDRESS ……………………………………………………………………

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TELEPHONE NUMBER ……………………………..