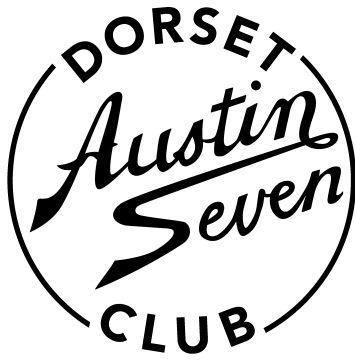




NEWSLETTER

July 2000



The Motor for the Million
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CONTENTS

Club Contacts	2
Editorial	3
Secretarial	3
Club Run	4
Committee Business	9
The Way We Were	9
Here & There	11
Family News	11
Letters	
Recipe	
Tip of the Month	
Future Events	12

FEATURES

Pit Stop	4
Technical Torque	5

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 feature picture this month shows a very proud Ian Mason-Smith with Box after successfully completing the JOGLE this Easter with Pamela in a brilliantly relaxed time of 72 hours 44 mins. The sign post reads John O'Groats 874, Ringwood 210. Thanks for the pic Ian - how about an arti-

EDITORIAL

George's Ruby at Swanage

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

SECRETARIAL

Hi Gang

What a terrific turn out for the concours and photo-shoot last club night. It was lovely to see both families of Bishops made the trip - Richard and Marlies from Exeter in their Ruby and Joe and Lynda from Swindon. George and Joy Mooney won the concours with their super Cambridge special, newly modified with new doors and a respray. A bottle of something, probably alcoholic, was their prize.

Barry Goodman, Mum Jane and girl friend Elaine worked very hard all evening taking photographs of members with their Austins as they arrived. Thank you all very much, I look forward to seeing the results.

There was no club run as such in June as we had two events both on the Sunday that we usually have our run. Pat and I, along with a strong 'Dorset' following, went to the 'Bristols' Spye Park Rally. The weather was superb and

we had a great weekend with George Mooney once again winning silverware. The other event that weekend was the Copythorne fete, I trust an article will be forthcoming.

Quite a number of us will be off to foreign parts on 24th/25th June as we sail away to the Isle of Wight, more of that next month. July, it appears, will be a very sporty month, even though Euro 2000 will have finished, as we have games on the lawn on Club night - Croquet, Boules etc. followed on run day by a picnic plus rounders match. I'll have to dig out my Eric Morcambe shorts !

See you club night.

Glyn

COPYTHORNE CAPERS

Sunday 18th. June

Nobody here, first again. Stupid!! Try reading the newsletter as well as posting it! 10:30 meeting time not 10:15. Never mind, time for a 'penny', oh no! the loos aren't open.

Ah here's David and Bobbie closely followed by Alf and Ivy (Double trouble) Just four Austins with Ben and Marion. Last but not least Colin and Sylvia in their modern. OK all? That's great, so off we go, but just a minute, a garage - Colin to fill up (petrol) and the rest of us to empty (loos). Must prioritise.

On our way again towards Ibsley then turn off to Alderholt. Ah! that's better, onto the Quiet country roads, looking beautiful on such a gorgeous day - not a cloud to be seen. On we go through the villages towards Breamore. How do you find these roads? Oops! Breath in, not much room there, left turn, right turn, this is great, such lovely little places. Some of the properties not so little perhaps.

Now our David's pulling in and Bobbie's getting out, they haven't had a row? Nah! A planned surprise, park on this forecourt, Bobbie has a key for Woodgreen village hall. How splendid, all the walls hand painted with old village scenes - Sunday school, cider pressing, farming and a flower show etc. Each scene having the names of the people on small plaques beneath. Any relatives? what a super surprise, fascinating as well as very interesting and so beautifully done - a real treat to see.

Come on folks, off we go again down some

more beautiful little roads, some of which completely tree covered, like driving through a tunnel. On towards Nomansland, never seen so many cyclists, feel tired just watching them. Also great to see the ponies with their mums and a couple of deer. Aah! A signpost to Romsey and Ower, tummy's rumbling now, Yippee! The Vines, that means lunch.

All refuelled (us, that is, not the cars), off to Copythorne Fete. Have a quick look round, then onto a vintage bus for a free return jaunt to Stoney Cross. Smashing, a great little trip to bring back memories (There's a sign of age!) Back to the fete, spoil yourself with a double ice cream while having a good look round the exhibits. A really good little show and very successful. Then, to end a fantastic day, back to David and Bobbie's for an enormous piece of gateau and a cup of tea. So a great big "Thank you" to David and Bobbie for arranging everything so well again, and for their generous hospitality. Marks out of ten = fifteen

Suzie & Gary Fatt

thank you both for reporting on another successful Copythorne Fete - Ed.



From the Internet

25th.June SYDNEY

Hi! - I'm in Sydney and have been working on a building site. Maybe starting bar work for a few months - I'll just see how it goes.

2nd.July SYDNEY

I'm missing driving my car but I'm kept busy working. I'm now working in the Central Business District in a bar. It's shirt & tie as everyone is in suits - makes a change from a Wimborne Pub!

matthewcheeseman@hotmail.com

Austin MILLENNIUM Rally

27 - 29th May 2000

The Austin Millennium Rally at Gaydon seemed like a good way to spend a long weekend the company of two good friends in their 1936 Austin 12/4 Ascot, bed & breakfast in a Warwickshire farmhouse, a massive gathering of Austins, some of which were bound to be unusual, and of course, some glorious May weather. Well, it didn't turn out to be quite like that.

The first thing that struck me about Gaydon was a sense of isolation - we seemed to be down in a hollow and miles from anywhere except the motorway. The next thing was the wind - although we were in a hollow, it was a very high hollow and it was clear that the glorious May weather I had anticipated was not going to materialise. It seemed an appropriate time to look at the Museum and try out the cafeteria (the latter became something of a refuge over the next couple of days).

The men had a quick look around the Austins displayed outside and then it was time to find our accommodation and get ready for the evening's Celebration Dinner. The B&B, in a small village a few miles from Gaydon, was excellent with our bedroom being bigger than any room in our house and a shower that could easily take 2 people (we'll leave it to your imagination to decide whether or not we tried that out!).

The Celebration Dinner was excellent and well organised although we were disappointed that there were no celebrity speakers as promised. The evening ended with music and dancing to a jazz band - Ray and Phyll Stevens, who have recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, were by far the best dancers and seemed to be on the floor for every dance.

Sunday, and more wind but this time with rain and

hail. I was glad we were not camping since the area set aside was by this time very muddy. A few more cars turned up than on the previous day but it was becoming clear that the event was not very well supported. According to the programme a total of 364 cars were entered, 237 of which were A7s (the Bristol A7 Spye Park Rally attracts about 150 A7s!); however the display seemed much smaller than this. By mid- afternoon, we decided we had seen enough and headed off for a nearby National Trust house and garden.

We had planned to return to the Rally again on Monday but the cold, wet weather caused us to abandon this idea. It was time for the women to take their revenge and we headed off for the National Herb Garden (on top of another hill) where my friend and I spent a good hour studying various herbs while the men stood around trying to find a sheltered spot.

In some ways it was a disappointing weekend. The committee responsible for the Rally had clearly put an enormous amount of work into its planning and they must have felt great disappointment at the lack of support, especially from A7 clubs. The appalling weather didn't help either!

However, there were good points; we enjoyed the company of our good friends, had some enjoyable meals, were very comfortable in our B&B and I bought a Dark Opal Basil!

Margaret Cressey

You'll always be able to make the best of a bad job in an Austin! - thanks Margaret for the report, especially as it was by E-mail - Ed.



COUNTRY POLICEMAN (to motorist who has over-run the mark): "Now then, young woman, I 'ope you don't often come this way, muckin' up my traffic!"

Another Expedition - **Le Tour de Bretagne** by the **Travelling Bishops**

Marlies and I set off very early on a Friday morning in June to meet up with the Crash Box Club at Plymouth. We set sail for Roscoff with twenty other cars including four 3-litre Bentlies, two Austin 7s and a 1929 Rolls Royce. We all motored down to meet with our French hosts and the formal welcome and drinks with the Mayor of Lannion followed by an excellent supper with the Calandre Club. In the morning it was off to our starting point – a lovely old town called Guingamp.

Because of the sheer numbers of cars, motorbikes lorries etc. (2000 in total!) we were split into two routes and ours was the northern one. But first there was wine to be drunk, oysters to be eaten, Breton dancing to be watched and then – lunch! What organising – the French really are brilliant at these events. So, off in our cars through cheering crowds, the route taking us through wonderful countryside with many official drink stops. Finally we reached our first night stop, an enormous sports hall where we were to be wined, dined and entertained. Unfortunately, disaster struck when I was parking the Ruby. I went over a tree stump and the front cable was ripped out and the handbrake mounting bent. In the end I found some French guys who had a van with a vice, oxyacetylene and we were in business! Of course, we celebrated by opening a bottle of whisky and the rest of the evening is a bit of a blur!!

The next day was more stunning views of the Brittany coast and even more hospitality and enthusiasm. Marlies managed to get picked up by a very handsome Frenchman who took her off for the whole day

on the back of his 1934 Terrot motorbike! The evening saw the two routes come together at Rennes airport with everything housed in two enormous hangars. The evening meal was also in a hanger with 4000 revellers, most in fancy dress, ready to party the night away.

The final day, Monday, took us out of Rennes on various routes with the, now, obligatory drink stops and an incredible picnic lunch. We arrived back in Rennes through cheering crowds to receive our trophies and prepare for the evening meal.

Tuesday dawned and it was time to leave for Cherbourg for the 0630 ferry. We chose the motorway and the little Ruby went like a bird. The final leg from Poole to Exeter was done in two and a half hours bringing the total mileage to 555 miles.

What a brilliant experience – meeting so many people, seeing so much countryside and, on top of it all, all those cars. Wonderful!!

Richard and Marlies Bishop

and many thanks to you both for reporting another mammoth expedition that puts the rest of to shame - Ed.

LE MANS OR BUST!

28th.May - 2nd.June

SUNDAY 28th.MAY

0700 - four A7s, two Tourers and two Rubies met at Rownhams Service Station for a tour of northern France and Le Mans in particular. We arrived in France after a very choppy crossing at 1430 and set off for a 4½ hr. journey to Caen and our stop for the night at the hotel in Mondeville. We had an excellent meal at an adjacent hostelry washed down with home-made beer.

MONDAY 29th MAY

A visit to the local supermarket to re-fuel and buy lunch and then on to Le Harras National Dupin (French national stud) built by Louis XIV with its rare breads and Arab racehorses, one a relative of Mill Reef! Then on to Chateau Sassy, a small church dedicated to transport and Le Mans.



TUESDAY 30th.MAY

Up bright and early for our trip to Le Mans race track. Unfortunately it was an appalling day with torrential rain which



thwarted our turn on the Bugatti Circuit but, after lunch in the main stands some very brave drivers decided to get in some wet weather training

and we were treated to some high speed thrills. We did eventually get onto part of the Road Circuit which was a great experience.

WEDNESDAY 31st.MAY

Back to Caen through beautiful Normandy countryside in glorious sunny weather with the top down, stopping for coffee in Serans and arriving at 1800h.

THURSDAY 1st.JUNE

On our trip to the local supermarket there was a little problem with one of the Rubies' fuel line which chief mechanic Tony soon made good with rubber tube, jubilee clips and mysterious bits and pieces. On to Honfleur with its marvelous, new suspension bridge to Le Havre and a visit to the famous Pegasus Bridge.

FRIDAY 2nd.JUNE

How soon the time flies and our final day. Stopping at a local pottery on the way to see an old farmer friend who always gave us a warm welcome and, on this occasion, a wonderful lunch and copious amounts of cider and calvados.



THE END

A total of 650 miles covered virtually trouble-free.

Thank you Sir Herbert for that excellent Austin Depend-

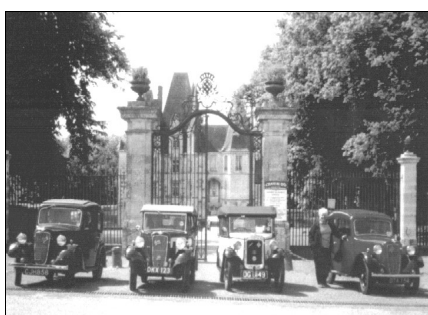
ability and a very big thank you to Bobby & David Burris for yet another successful trip.

Ivy and Alf Edwards

POST SCRIPT - by David & Bobby

We had two petrol leaks - one at the soldered joint of the petrol pump and the other in the rubber hose, both ingeniously solved by Tony Thomas. Also, problems with refuelling were revealed on return to have been a perished filler hose. I agree with Christian about French petrol - the car performed better on 98 octane.

thanks to you all for putting together a fascinating report of another Dorsets' Expedition and to David for the pics - Ed.





PIT STOP



MOUSE WIN-WIN AT CADWELL

CADWELL PARK 24th June

THE STORY SO FAR

Austin Sevens have always depended on string and glue to keep them going and readers of this column will remember that The Mouse is no exception. We left Mallory a lot happy than when we arrived having won the last race with number 1 plug glued in place with Loctite 211. Safely back home, a swift check revealed that whilst said plug was still in place, a valve collet had gone AWOL. After several 'phone calls, kind Club members came up with a spare collet and an old-fashioned cast-iron head to replace the new-fangled ali one. "It's the spirit of our Club", said a misty-eyed Dorset Dave.

PRACTICE

The morning broke dull and dreary and soon so did DD's humour. "It started at home, it started last night but why won't it start this bl**dy morning" grised a despairing Dave. The Mouse carries no charger so all you have is what you bring with you and when that's gone - goodbye racing! Now I know why all mechanics are Big Blokes - it's the muscles they develop with all the pushing. Eventually we got to Scrutineering, which took 10 seconds as the boys in blue (RAC not Police) were behind, and out for practice. A delighted Dave put in the fastest A7 time and would start half

way up the grid. But what to do about the ever diminishing power supply? Then a devious Dave had one of those rare flashes of inspiration - download the power from the camper-van's auxilliary battery.

THE RACES

Both races were the most exciting I have ever seen with four evenly matched A7s racing wheel-to-wheel the whole time. I was standing at the hairpin (a complete 360°) and, every lap, four Sevens would be hammering down towards me, neck and neck, daring who will brake last, who will "lock-up" and disappear in

a cloud of blue smoke, who might over-shoot or spin-off. The commentator got so excited he started to sound like Murray Walker! And our boy won! "In the end it came down to road craft", said a delirious Dave. "It was very exciting, especially wondering if the



battery would last!"

Or the glue?

Silverstone next - if I can stand the excitement.

Penelope Pitstop

LETTER BOX



Dear David,

I am so proud to tell the Club that I have raised £700 myself and my family have also raised £600 at their work for the Royal Bournemouth Hospital's Gamma Camera Appeal. £1,100 will go directly to the Appeal and £200 to the Women's Health Unit (Ward 17/18 RBH). Everyone knows someone who will or who has benefited and, of course, I am one of the lucky ones.

I have so much to thank the hospital for, this is my gift to them. But I could not have done it without all the Club members' support. I am feeling my old self now after two hard years. This is my gratitude,

Marion Trimby



CLUB FAMILY NEWS

BEST BIB AND TUCKER

It was great to see the 18 Sevens lined up at the last club night, all polished and gleaming in the late evening sun. It was particular good to see the Ulster Replica of 'Spares' Phil. Phil's spent a lot of time on the car recently and it looked a real beauty.

TRAVELLING BISHOPS

We've got two couples in the club with the surname of Bishop, Joe & Linda and Richard & Marlies, and both live many miles from the club being from Swindon and Exeter respectively. Not only did they both make the last club night in their Sevens (I'm told it takes about three and a half hours each way from both locations) but both had just returned from foreign lands. Linda and Joe had been visiting Linda's daughter Sabrina in Canada. Whilst there they visited the Rockies and encountered bears, elk, martin and mule deer. They also crossed the prairies with their "wide open skies" as Joe described them. I think it must have been a life changing experience for Joe as he shaved his beard off as soon as he got back (it's only the second time he's had it off in 26 years - the other time being when he played Mother Goose!). Meanwhile Richard and Marlies had been in their Ruby on the 20th 'Tour de Bretagne' from Brittany to Renne. As it's the millennium there were 2000 vehicles taking part, including motor cycles, and Marlies even ended up riding pillion for a day!. They covered 555 miles in total and only got home the day before club night but still managed the trip to the Tyrrell's Ford. Now that's what I call having Bishops on the move.

ENGINE REBUILD - VOLUNTARY

Paul Perry is currently rebuilding the engine of his cabriolet. He's having it rebored and new exhaust seats may also be necessary. He'll also be getting a reconditioned carburettor from George Mooney who, when he finds a bit of time (I know the problem) is looking to set up a carburettor exchange program - "New carbs for old!" as George remarked. Paul hopes to have the car on the road for the October run - I'll keep a look out.

ENGINE REBUILD - COMPULSORY

On the way back from Spye Park the other week our chairman Bernard broke the crank of his Chummy and he and Jackie had to be towed home by "that very, very nice man". Fortunately the

(Continued on page 15)

THE WAY WE WERE - a blast from the past

From the Club Newsletter for July 1979

21

I thought disaster had struck this month when my file of newsletters disappeared but luckily I have just found it stuffed in the children's toy box!

Did you see Richard Hamly hit the front page of the Echo with his military tourer? - Austin motoring will certainly come into its own now that petrol prices are so high. The A7 must be the cheapest thing on the road even beating a Morris Minor.

From time to time I hear members saying they feel out of things if they do not have a car on the road. I think we need to give them a greater sense of belonging and it is essential not to have an "us and them" atmosphere in the club. I also feel we need to encourage more new members and I am sure with discreet advertising at static rallies we could increase our membership to over 60.

BEAULIEU REPORT

The DA7C were well represented with most of our cars in attendance. Most people made a bee-line for the autojumble and I was surprised to see the range of parts that Keith Roach & Co. are producing at Woodgreen near Fordingbridge. Did you see that beautiful two-berth folding caravan which Jack Ascot was towing with his 1928 van? - Surely the ultimate combination! On the awards front, Lawrence Rideal got a "highly commended" for his '33 Box and Nigel Ricardo got a 1st. Class for his Nippy.

Phil Whitter

BERKLEY CASTLE RALLY

5 o'clock Friday evening, the Ruby fully loaded with the four of us, the dog and a fully laden camping trailer, we set off to rendezvous with Gary Munn and make our way through Devizes, Chippenham and Malmesbury to Berkley Castle - Gary travelling the 90 miles on 3 cylinders! Later, we were joined by John & Cynthia Page in their Mulliner. The following morning we went in search for petrol and eventually found some after a round trip of 25 miles! When we got back we found Roger Ballard, Nigel Ricardo and Bernard, Jacky and entourage. The evening was spent dancing to Jazz and Square Dance bands and was only slightly marred by a younger member getting very drunk on scrumpy cider. (*Does nothing change?* - Ed.) In the judging on the Sunday Bernard, Gary, Nigel and John all took second places with their cars.

Glyn

FUTURE EVENTS:

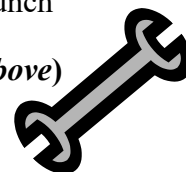
/ August DA7C Camping w/e at Alderholt.

/ August DA7C Camping w/e at Longbridge Rally

TIP OF THE MONTH

If you have a Seven with a droopy number plate on the luggage rack (e.g. '33/'34 Saloons) don't try and hammer the steel rivets. Instead, dot punch the perimeter of the spacing washer between the rack and number plate brackets. An "Automatic Eclipse" punch does the job very well, spreading the washer to make it grip.

Phil Whitter (*from the July 1979 Newsletter above*)





FOR SALE

1929 TOP HAT SALOON. MOT & taxed. With original spare engine. £5000. Tel: Ivan 01305-826422

1937 RUBY. Re-upholstered & resprayed. MOT to May 2001. £3750 ono Tel: David Burris 01703-292768

1935 RUBY. Maroon + black, very good condition, MOT to June 2001, £3500 ono. Tel: Peter Redding 01202-828488 (eves.)

CLUB FAMILY NEWS (Continued from page 13)

damage to the crankcase was slight and so Bernard is hoping to salvage it. Still the old girl will be off the road for some time (the Chummy that is). And then there's the case of Glyn Llewellyn's Tickford. He set off for the last committee meeting and only just got up the road when there was an awful 'scrawnching' noise (what do you mean there's no such word!). Glyn got Pat to come and tow him home and then dashed off to the meeting. At the time of writing he wasn't sure whether it was the gearbox or the crank (surely not two in the club in less than a week). No doubt we'll find out at next club night what the problem was.....

'INTENSE' IMPULSE BUY

And talking of Pat Llewellyn, she went into Dolphin Leisure to buy a couple of chairs to take to Spye Park, and came out with a six man tent! Pat's only disappointment was that the six men weren't included!!

NEW CAR IN THE CLUB

I think Scott Whibley must be taking lessons from Pat L. He went to Spye Park with an MGB for sale and, although he didn't sell the car, he fell for a 1930 blue Chummy and bought it from the Welsh owner who'd had it for 34 years!

FIRST CLASS

Last month I wrote about the work George Mooney he had done to his Cambridge. Well at the last club night the car won a bottle of sparkling wine for being the landlord's choice. That was then followed with first prize in it's class at Spye Park. Well done George.

IT'S A GIRL

Congratulations to Jane and Dusty on the birth of their granddaughter Megan Louisa Jane Whibley. Megan was born at 12.15am on 31 May and weighed 6lb 1.5oz. Mum Mandy and dad Marc are of course chuffed to bits and little Chloe now has a sister to play with (well, soon anyway). Congratulations to you all and everyone in the club wishes Megan a very healthy, happy life.

SWANAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Barry Goodman & Lorraine Palmer who announced their engagement at this year's show.

TREBS

oO CLUB DIARY Oo

oO FUTURE EVENTS Oo

- Thursday 20 July** **CLUB NIGHT** An alfresco evening of games on the lawn.
(Croquet, Boules, Bowls etc.)
- Sunday 23 July** **CLUB RUN & PICNIC IN THE FOREST** plus rounders/softball
match

LONGFORD CASTLE VISIT

This residence of Lord Radnor is not usually open to the general public but tours can be organised for parties more than 20.

BEN TRIMBY is willing to arrange another visit for us in August/first week of September but needs an indication of interest.

COST £6 per person
Monday to Fridays only.
see Ben at Club night or ring 01202-515667

Breamore House Classic Motor Show

**August 27 Bank Holiday
Sunday**

Greenwood's exhibitions are again running this event. Last year they claim that 1,200 classics attended the event and 7,000 people visited on the 2 days of the show.

Dorset A7 club had a display on the Sunday last year, if you would like to be on the club stand this year and wish to get in FREE please let **Roger Ballard** know by **July club night, latest**. If you wish to attend the show for the 2 days or take another classic or have an autojumble stand, contact Greenwoods direct on 01296 631181.

**HAPPY
MOTORING**

