



THE AUSTIN SEVEN CLUBS' ASSOCIATION



President: Bob Wyatt
Past Presidents: Donald Doughty, Stanley Edge, Bert Hadley and Freddie Henry

AUSTIN 7 CLUBS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE HERITAGE MOTOR CENTRE, GAYDON

AT 11 AM ON SUNDAY 12th APRIL 2015

Present	Andy Lowe	Chairman; MA7C
	Bob Wyatt	President
	Chris Garner	Vice Chairman; PWA7C
	Howard Annett	Grey Mag Distribution and Back Issues; A7OC
	Phil Baildon	A7CA Archivist
	Graham Baldock	A7CA Publicity
	Roger Brown	A7CA Registrar; A7OC; 750 MC
	Chris Charles	A7CA Webmaster
	Hazel Gore	Advertising and MA7C
	Chris Heeley	Treasurer; PWA7C
	Ed Waugh	Editor the Grey Mag; PWA7C
	Nick Beck	Bristol A7C and Scottish A7C
	Jim Blacklock	Cambridge A7 & VCC; Arrow Register
	Robin Boyce	MA7C
	Brem Bremner-Smith	MA7C
	David Charles	Cornwall A7C; A7 Special Register; Norfolk A7C
	Arthur Davies	MA7C
	Gill Davis	750 MC; Cambridge A7 & VCC
	John Gallon	Swallow Register
	Dave Martin	PWA7C
	Susan Martin	Cambridge A7C
	Les Morley	EA7C
	Dave Orange	EA7C
	Howard Palmer	Devon A7C; PWA7C
	Janet Palmer	Devon A7C
	John Pike	SA7C
	Roger Price	Online A7C
	Angela Smith	SA7C
	Robin Taylor	Austin Big 7 Register
	Harry Teather	Swallow Register
	Mike Ward	Hereford A7C
	Bob Prophet	Secretary; MA7C; PWA7C
Apologies	Ruairidh Dunford	Gordon England Register
	David Aylmore	Devon A7C

David Cochrane
Lorna Mountford
Paul Maulden
John Williams
Ian and Pam Mason-Smith
Charlie Plain-Jones
Steve Hodgson
Tony Hartnell

Pram Hood Register 1922 - 26
Swallow Register
Norfolk A7 Club
SWA7C
Dorset A7C
PWA7C
Worthing A7C
Bristol A7C

Action

Welcome

1. The Chairman welcomed the meeting – especially the Association's President, Bob Wyatt – to The Heritage Motor Centre and invited all assembled to introduce themselves. The Chairman then introduced Emma Airey from RH Insurance who gave a short talk on the RH Classic Car insurance operation; she then answered questions from the floor.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

2. The Chairman asked for comments on the Minutes of the previous AGM held on Sunday 13th April 2014: the Minutes were passed by a unanimous show of hands as being a true record of proceedings and were duly signed.

Matters Arising

3. There were no matters arising.

Election of Officers

4. The Chairman said that he was delighted to see the Association's President, Bob Wyatt, who had volunteered to remain as President for a further year, and announced that all those of the Committee who were due to stand down had done so and had offered themselves for re-election with the exception of Jim Blacklock who wished to spend more time on and under an Austin Seven rather than inside his computer. The Chairman asked for volunteers to stand for the vacant Committee places (except that of Registrar) and was greeted with silence. He asked if anyone present had any objections to the outgoing Committee's re-election: again, he was greeted with silence so the Chairman duly announced that the Committee had been re-elected for a further year. Jim Blacklock was then invited to say a few words: he told of having discovered and added to the Register some 800 "new" Austin Sevens including a Grasshopper in Portugal, another in Argentina, a Boyd Carpenter in Italy and a Hamblin in Italy; further discoveries included a Seven in Colombia and another in Zimbabwe. He said that he had found his time as Registrar hard work and intensive but rewarding and fun. He then introduced Roger Brown who had volunteered to take over the post of Registrar. The Chairman thanked Jim for his excellent work and devotion to the cause of Austin Sevens and asked for any other volunteer to take over the post of Registrar. Nobody volunteered except Roger Brown, who was duly proposed by Jim Blacklock and seconded by Andy Lowe. A unanimous show of hands in favour confirmed his appointment. Roger said that he looked forward to using his spreadsheet and database skills for the benefit of the Association.

<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>5. The Chairman reported that he had had contact with an Irish enthusiast who had spoken of the possibility of forming a new Club in Ireland. Jim Blacklock remarked that he had always found it difficult to contact the Club in Northern Ireland. He then asked for any photos of damaged Austin Sevens which he could pass on to Emma Airey for use in the company advertising. The Chairman then asked for a volunteer to update the index for The Grey Mag.</p>	All Clubs
<p>Secretary's Report</p> <p>6. The Secretary told the AGM of the invitation from Dominic Santana, T175 Classic Car Cavalcade Curator (07752 411728), who had invited members to join Cunard's 175th Anniversary Celebrations in Liverpool over the weekend 4th/5th July. He advised that there were two parts to the event: a display on the Albert Dock as part of the Vintage Festival on Saturday 4th July (limited to sixty places) and a Classic Car & Motorbike Cavalcade which would take place on Sunday 5th July through the heart of the city; this would be limited to 175 places. The organiser sought all marques and ages (Veteran to Classic up to the 1980's) with an emphasis on British and American vehicles to tie in with the transatlantic theme. All applications were to be made online by filling in the details on the following link: http://thebmrc.us8.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=6ed913f5684b023acefa010bc&id=881f24befb&e=1a8a924a70. Those who require a hard copy application form should contact Dominic Santana by phone.</p> <p>7. The Secretary reported that he had been advised of an Austin 6 for sale in Colombia.</p>	All Clubs
<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>8. The Treasurer said that the 2014 Accounts [they are attached to these Minutes] had been presented to the Committee in January having been reviewed and agreed by an Independent Reviewer; the Committee had approved the accounts. He then explained that he had paid the renewal premium for the insurance policies and that the paperwork was awaited. When asked why the same broker (Routen Chaplin) had been used and Aston Scott (the broker used by FBHVC) had not been invited to bid, he explained that, when he was on the point of renewing, a claim had been submitted for the flood damage in Lubenham. The Secretary then explained that FBHVC was in the middle of their three-yearly re-assessment of broker and could be changing, depending on their findings.</p>	All
<p>Information Report</p> <p>9. <u>Magazine</u>. Ed noted that the grey cover of 2015B was not quite the same as that of 2015A as he had had trouble finding the correct colour; he was continuing to look. However, it was generally agreed that there was little difference. He continued that the printers had notified a printing and distribution price increase. For this reason, he had used an insert to advertise forthcoming events which had saved magazine space. He said, also, that he had had to find space for more advertisements which produced more income but which effectively forced the exclusion of some copy and pictures. He suggested that the question of advertisements be looked at by the</p>	

<p>committee. He suggested, also, that the Club Events Calendar be inserted (either directly or as an insert) in the A issue only: publication in later issues was too late. This was agreed as a good idea and Clubs were warned that events had to reach Bernard Griffiths well before Christmas each year. Jim Blacklock and Gill Davis both suggested that Club Events be put on the website only. This, too, was agreed as a good idea. Concern was expressed that some Clubs were not sending information on events because the request "...had not been passed by the A7CA Committee...".</p>	<p>Committee All Clubs Webmaster</p>
<p>10. <u>Advertising</u>. Hazel Gore reported that she had she had received £255.08 for advertising between January and March which should be added to the annual income received in October: this brought the annual income to £1770.72.</p>	
<p>11. <u>Website</u>. Chris explained to the AGM his proposed new website layout and showed various improvements. He said that his new version would bring the website up to date and would be more user-friendly and much easier to use. Those present thought that the proposed new website was brilliant: by general consent, it was accepted. Chris thought that it would take a couple of weeks or so before it went live. Chris continued that he was looking at Twitter and Facebook for the Association: many Clubs were using these media already. Again, it was generally agreed to be a good idea and the Chairman invited Chris to pursue this further. Jim Blacklock suggested inviting RH to sponsor the website (some £30 pa): this was acknowledged to be a good idea.</p>	<p>Webmaster</p>
<p>12. <u>Publicity</u>. Chris Garner showed the assembled company a modern copy in water- and oil-proof plastic of an Austin Seven Garage Chart: this was available from him at a cost of £18.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Archivist Report</p>	
<p>13. <u>New Location for Archives</u>. Phil Baidon told the AGM that the Archives had been moved successfully within the TRRC building and that he had made some new acquisitions. He went on to say that, as a result of a leak from a pipe in the TRRC area above the Archives, the Archives had suffered some damage in February. Triumph staff had discovered the leak and had provided excellent assistance in repairing it and helping with clearing up. He, Dave Martin and a couple of committee members had spent a number of days clearing the area affected by the flooding and he had sent some paper items away to be restored. Some items were lost but the damage was not too bad overall. The building was covered by TRRC insurance whilst the A7CA items were covered by A7CA insurance: the A7CA claim was likely to be in the region of £5k. He continued that it was his intention to acquire and install a Plan chest which would protect the contents; he proposed to store books in plastic tubs. Restoration was being handled by a firm in Harlow. The Chairman thanked Phil and Dave for their hard work in recovering items and sorting out the stores. The Chairman then took up Phil's idea of a Plan chest and told the AGM that he was pursuing one on e-Bay. He recommended to the AGM that the Association should invest in suitable containers for the preservation of the Association artefacts. After some general discussion about the types of containers, this was agreed by those present.</p>	<p>Chairman</p>
<p>Registrar's Report</p> <p>18. The Chairman thanked Jim Blacklock very much for his hard work and</p>	<p>Archivist</p>

<p>perseverance in bringing the Austin Seven Register up to date and maintaining it so efficiently. He then re-introduced Roger Brown and assured him that a report was expected of him at the AGM but that, on this occasion, he was excused.</p>	
<p>Registrars' and Club Reports</p>	<p>Registrar</p>
<p>19. The Secretary reported that he had received reports from a number of model registrars and clubs which he did not read out (they are attached to these Minutes). Howard Annett asked whether or not anything had been heard from Ashley Hollebhone (Military Register). Nobody had heard anything. Howard continued that Steve Hodgson would be prepared to take over that register if Ashley felt that he didn't have the time to devote to it. Jim Blacklock then pleaded with all owners/builders of Specials to give the car a Special name – even naming it after the builder – so as to identify it in the register.</p>	<p>Ashley Hollebhone</p>
<p>Any Other Business</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>20. <u>Warwick DVD</u>. Chris Charles asked whether or not any Clubs had indicated how many Warwick DVDs were required. The Secretary reported that he had heard nothing. After some discussion, it was decided to produce 100 copies of the DVD and to make the DVD available on the website.</p>	<p>Webmaster All</p>
<p>21. <u>Austin Seven Club Calendar</u>. Mike Ward, Secretary of Hereford A7C, showed the AGM a Calendar which Hereford A7C had commissioned and which had proved to be very popular. The cost was some £5 and the Club sold it at £6. It was understood that Essex was doing the same.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>22. <u>Identifying Austin Sevens</u>. Phil Baidon expressed his congratulations and thanks to Graham Baldock and his team of helpers [Phil himself and Dave Martin] on the production of his booklet "Identifying Austin Sevens". He said that this booklet was free to recipients of The Grey Mag whilst spares were available from Graham Baldock for £5 a copy.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>23. <u>"1922 – 1939 List of Changes"</u>. Phil showed the AGM a draft copy of the booklet "1922 – 1939 List of Changes" and Dave Martin explained the information had been taken from official sources only. This booklet, also, will be issued free with The Grey Mag in due course.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>24. <u>Bristol A7C</u>. The Chairman congratulated Bristol A7C on their 50th Anniversary. Details of events to celebrate this achievement were available on the Club website.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>25. <u>Austin 10 Club</u>. David Charles mentioned the Austin 10 Club 50th Anniversary and the Club AGM.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>26. <u>DVLA</u>. Chris Garner suggested that A7CA compose a letter to DVLA explaining what an old car was made of as it was very obvious that they didn't understand. In similar vein, Howard Annett suggested that the word "replica" be abolished from the Austin Seven vocabulary: he recommended the word be replaced by the word "re-bodied". After some discussion, this was agreed.</p>	<p>Chairman/ Registrar</p>
<p>Trophies</p>	

<p>27. <u>Editor's Trophy</u>. Ed Waugh presented The Editor's Trophy to Phil Baildon for his Fosse Way photograph and for his Buenos Aires article.</p> <p>28. <u>Ray Morley Trophy</u>. The Chairman presented The Ray Morley Trophy for sporting endeavour to Mick Hannah and Peter Hornby for their book on the Grasshopper. Last year, this trophy was awarded to Geoff Roe who had added a brief inscription to the trophy on Ray Morley's background – a gentle man and driver extraordinaire.</p> <p>Date of Next Annual General Meeting</p> <p>29. The next Annual General Meeting will be held at 11 am on Sunday 10th April 2016 at The Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon.</p> <p>30. The next Committee Meeting will be held at 11 am on Sunday 12th July 2015 at The Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon.</p> <p>31. There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 2.05 pm.</p>	<p>All Committee</p>
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Chairman:

April 2016

Secretary:

Club and Register Reports

PWA7C (Chris Garner)

The Club continues to thrive although we are currently seeking a new Editor to take over from Peter Relph who is doing an excellent job. Additionally, we are looking to make changes to our Magazine.

We enjoyed a successful stand at the NEC Classic Car Show where we had three Grasshopper models on display to mark the launch of our latest book on this marque. The publication has been very well received with good sales. Alongside this, the Bert Hadley book continues to sell.

Recently we have had printed Garage Charts in non-tear plastic, suitable for the motor house. These again have been well received.

A new Register of members' cars is being drawn up and later in the year this will be passed to the Association Registrar for incorporation.

The Grasshopper Trials have suffered through lack of entries and we have suspended these, a review being made next year on whether to continue. Our Dave Wilcox Trial had to be cancelled twice due to heavy snow on both occasions.

Our members continue to come up with a wide range of interesting events and we look forward these throughout the year.

Gordon England Register (Ruairidh Dunford)

The GE Register is still working towards producing an on line information site relating to Gordon England and in particular his association with Austin Sevens. I am working with a Web Developer, who also shares an interest in Austin Sevens, to work out how the information gathered so far can be laid out and then added to over time. I am still keen to receive any information and/or pictures relating to Gordon England people may have.

Swallow Register (Lorna Mountford)

2014 was another successful year with membership now having risen to 55 encompassing 43 Austin Swallows, 7 Wolseley Hornet Swallows and 1 Swift Swallow; many are roadworthy and a couple are in a good state of progress to full restoration. The membership also includes 4 overseas members. 17 members receive the A7CA newsletter via the Swallow Register, many others affiliate via their local A7 club. Many thanks to Howard Annett in managing the additional members who have requested the A7CA Mag having joined part way through the year.

We have had a few contacts enquiring about the history of cars or bringing cars previously unknown to the register to our attention – much of this contact has been via the A7CA in particular via enquires through the recently updated Register.

The Register had a very successful meeting at Upton House in Banbury this year and we highly recommend this venue to other clubs – the décor of the house is 1930s and there is an interesting exhibition of period Shell publicity artwork at the country home of a 1930s millionaire, the 2nd Viscount Bearstead, Walter Samuel, the 1930s chairman of Shell Oil. At Upton House we were greeted by a very impressive drive lined by massive fir trees which led down to the main gate and the front door of the property. The 4 Austin Swallows and sole Hornet lined up in front of the

house for the public to see. We were later joined by a 1930 Swift Swallow and three Swallow Doretis which are a very unusual sight at any car show, adding another dimension to our display. A similar event is planned in the south west this year on 23rd August at Barrington Court, another National Trust property. Should other Austins wish to join us they will be most welcome.

The Register Editor, Jamie Holdaway, continues to produce four excellent newsletters each year and has been active in helping members obtain replica parts for their restorations. Members are grateful to Ann Walker – aided by Harry Teather – for running the Swallow Register.

2015 looks like another good year for the Register.

Austin 7 Clubs' Association

Financial report 1 January to December 31st 2014

	£	£
Balance 1 January 2014		29023.31
<u>Receipts January-December 2014</u>		
Magazine sales	14783.00	
Magazine distribution recharged to clubs	741.26	
Subscriptions for 2014	465.00	
Advertising	2396.12	
Archive sales	237.21	
Interest received	47.30	
Sale of binders	115.60	
Sale of back numbers	37.20	
Other miscellaneous income	28.50	
Receipts for Jack French Garage Project	<u>1711.90</u>	
Total receipts	<u>20563.09</u>	
<u>Payments January-December 2014</u>		
Room hire and meetings	732.98	
Printing magazines	6094.50	
Magazine distribution	1156.96	
Insurance	1823.93	
Archive costs	3885.32	
Archive purchase	95.00	
Website cost	29.99	
Officers expenses	1347.88	
Audit fee	50.00	
FBHVC subscription	45.00	
Warwick 2012 late expenses claim	495.25	
Commission on foreign income	8.11	
A7CA contribution to Jack French Garage project	500.00	
Total payments	<u>16264.92</u>	
surplus for year		<u>4298.17</u>
Balance at 31 December 2014		<u>33321.48</u>
<u>Analysis of Account balances at the end of December 2014:</u>		
Lloyds: A7CA Funds		11787.09
Lloyds: Jack French Garage project fund		1711.90
Santander		0.00
Scottish Widows		<u>19822.49</u>
		<u>33321.48</u>
<u>Payments October - December</u>		
Gaydon museum (October meeting)		126.06
Postage 2014D		166.00
Lavenham Press printing & magazine delivery 2014C		1632.35
Treasurer expenses 2014		284.92
Vice chair expenses		33.50
Editor expenses		185.00
Warwick expense claim, (Saturday route planning)		495.25
D Martin Archives assistance		85.00
Archivist postage and travel		122.32
Advertising expenses		<u>48.32</u>
		<u>3178.72</u>

John Wyatt, A7CA Treasurer, December 2014

Austin Seven Clubs Association

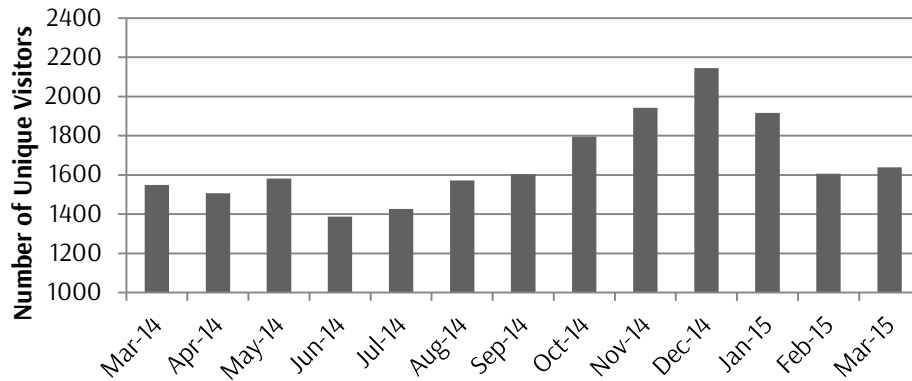
Website Traffic Analysis

March 2014 to March 2015



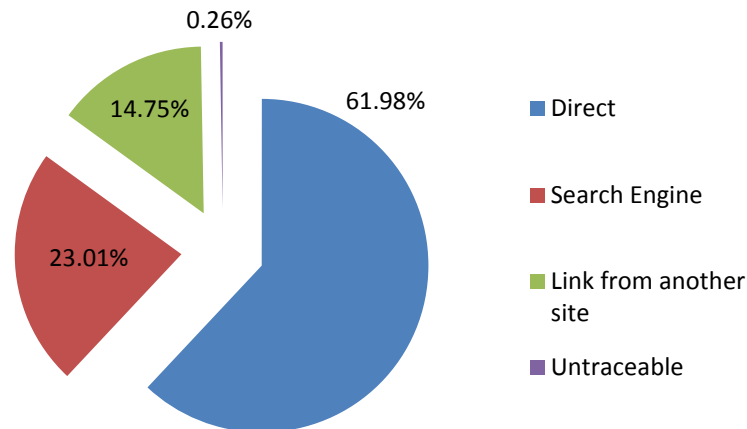
Unique Visitors

This is the number of people who have made at least 1 hit on 1 page of the web site during each month. If this person makes several visits during this period, it is counted only once. On average over the last year there are 54 unique visitors per day.



How did they find us?

On average over the last year 61.98% of visitors found the website by knowing the web address off by heart. 23.01% found it using a search engine such as Google or Yahoo. While 14.75% navigated to us from another website.



Chassis Register

The Surviving Chassis Register continues to be the most popular area of the website.

The graph below shows the number of downloads of the Excel files of the complete register and also the number of searches performed on the Online Chassis Register.

