



April 2026



Nigel and his Flower Power Chummy 2016. See page 7



The magazine of the Cornwall Austin Seven Club

Seven Focus

This week was due to be a major milestone in the life of my car, as it was going to become a low mileage motor once again, by passing the 99,999 miles and therefore returning the “clock” to 0. However, as I write this on the day before I shall be leading the Club Run to Crantock, “Coco” is stuck in the garage with a severe case of hot flushes. She began overheating on the most recent Wednesday Wander creating the fourth unscheduled stop of a very eventful run (see the Editor’s comments regarding another of the unplanned pauses). Some investigation revealed a warped head. So another head was borrowed from our favourite local farm and fitted...unfortunately this did not stop the problem. So that’s an investigation to shelve for another day, a change of plans for leading the Club Run and poor old Coco is stuck at 99,998 miles!

Better news for the Club in general this month, with the sun finally shining and a flurry of new members over the last month or so. We look forward to seeing you out on a run soon.

Happy Easter to all!

See you on Drive it Day!



Diary Dates

Events Secretary

ca7cevents@yahoo.com

Instagram: [cornwallaustin7_club](#)



For stop press information, check out the “Friends of the Cornwall Austin Seven Club”. Please check your monthly Focus, social media and our website to confirm the latest details nearer the date of the event, in case of any unforeseen changes.

2026

April

Sunday 26th

Dean Waller

Drive it Day!

Meet at 10.30 am at Waitrose, Truro for a run through various Cornish towns and villages to show off our cars and highlight Drive it Day. We will be finishing somewhere near Marazion for a picnic.

Buy your Drive it Day plaque at www.driveitday.co.uk and display it now! All money raised is once again going to support Childline.

May

Saturday 16th

Paul Stevens

A run around the St.Austell area finishing for lunch at Wheal Martyn

June

Sunday 21st

Tony Deeley

Western group to meet at 9.30 am at Waitrose, Truro. Eastern group to meet at Minions 11 am. A run around the Looe area finishing with a picnic at Lerryn.

Sunday 28th

National A7 rally at Beaulieu

July

Saturday 4th

CA7C Rally run

Sunday 5th

Club Rally at Higher Polighey Farm

Sunday 19th

Mike Thorn

Western group to meet at Morrision's, Pool at 10 am. Eastern group to meet at 12 noon, Trelawney Garden Centre, Sladesbridge. Run around Wadebridge/Camelford areas.

August

Friday 14th-Sunday 16th Club enclosure at WESES

Stithians Showground. Former entrants should receive application forms. Anyone new interested, speak to Andrew Jarmin. Everyone must submit their own application form to receive entrance passes. Without it, you will have to park in the public car park and pay the regular entry fee!

September

Saturday 12th

Ian Deakin/Dean Waller

Cream Tea run around Lizard are ending with cream tea at Ian and Esther's house.

October

Sunday 11th

Zach Doyle

Treasure Hunt

November

Sunday 8th

Remembrance Run in West Cornwall

December

TBC

Club Christmas meal

Wednesday Wanders Please check Facebook or contact Chris Gill
(01209 820825
chriswhealbusy@tiscali.co.uk)
on the Tuesday. Each Wednesday we meet up
for a shortish run to a café in winter or picnic
in summer. Everyone welcome! No need to
book but be ready to leave promptly at the
start time of 10.30 a.m..

Invitation Events

Black and White

Coffee morning on 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at The Inn for
All Seasons, Treleigh

Rosudgeon Meet

A similar coffee morning on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month
at the Coach and Horses, Rosudgeon.

Rotary Club of Chippenham & Calne Classic Cars Run Sunday 17th May

Entry details available from Editor.

Scottish Rally

3rd-6th July. See February magazine.

Fowey Classic Car Show and Car Parade

Thursday August 20th: See February magazine.

A bumper month! We welcome three new members.

354. David Blake who lives in Fowey. A long time Austineer whose previous car was a Box Saloon which he owned for forty-five years. It was sold to one of our Club members about ten years ago. Since then it has had a further three owners and has just had a full restoration by its current owner and is still in the Club!

He has now acquired another Box Saloon from within the Club. All those spares that have been gathering dust in the garage for the last ten years will now come in useful.

355. David Reynolds from Liskeard. Another longtime Seven owner who has a '33 Box Saloon.

356. Richie Morris from Ponsanooth. New to the world of Austin 7s he has become the owner of '36 Ruby Tourer again from within the Club. He joined us on a recent run on the Lizard and judging by the smiles on his and Hannah's faces they were enjoying the new experience!



Obituary

It is with much sadness that I have to record the passing of long time Club Member, Dr. Nigel Coward on the 27th of February.

A founder member of the Club, Nigel was a lifelong petrol-head, owning many cars of diverse marques. His particular love for Sevens started with his first car, a Box Saloon, purchased when he was still a medical student. He kept it for nearly sixty-five years only passing it on when he was unable to drive anymore. A Chummy and Ulster replica kept it company in the garage along with a Daimler Dart and a Marlin!

He and his wife Jo, spent happy hours amongst their many A7 friends on Club Runs and Holidays in the UK and Europe.

He was always very generous with his time and support for our activities.

We will miss you, Rest in Peace.

Andrew & Regi Jarmin

Nigel also took part in various other club's activities and the cover photographs show him and his 'flower power' Chummy in Aberystwyth on such an event back in 2016. It is good to hear that the car's latest owner would possibly like to redecorate the 'new' body with similar motifs.

Pic: Tamsin Coxen

Lizard Foray. Nick & Teresa Rouse

It was really heartening to see so many 'Sevens' in Sainsbury's car park, Helston, on Saturday and to catch up with several members we don't get to meet with very often. What an interesting and testing route Ian Deakin devised! I couldn't even begin to describe it, except to say that we basically followed the coast around the Lizard from Gweek to Coverack then back to Roskilly's for lunch. Other than a few engine related problems along the way and Nick's Ruby getting a rather large stick (bough?) jammed under the car making an alarming noise, the run along waterside tracks and buried lanes went well although by the time we convened at Roskilly's car park the number of cars had dwindled by around fifty percent as some folk had peeled off at various points with other places to go, being a Saturday I guess. The food on offer at Roskilly's, or certainly what Teresa and I had, was very tasty and much enjoyed, but left no room for one of their famous ice creams.



Snapping the photographer Leonard Adams at Coverack.

The weather had been amazing all day, with mainly blue skies and sunshine, but with a sneaky wind, so the drive home, for us to Redruth was very pleasant and the roads were really quiet for a Saturday. I want to say a big thank you to Ian and Esther for all the work they put in arranging the outing and working out a route based on an original one created by Dean Waller but which had suffered the usual current fate of road closures... A not inconsiderable task as those of you who have organized a Club run will know only too well.

I know Ian would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be prepared to organize and arrange such an outing on a weekend. His contact details on the back of the Focus magazine.



Queuing in the sunshine near St. Anthony in Meneage waiting for the road to be cleared of a fallen tree.

Pic: Tamsin Coxen



Lizard Run – Organising Our First Event

Ian and Esther Deakin

After many weeks of stormy, grey, wet weather, the first event Esther and I organised and led on Saturday 28th February was dry, bright and sunny! Hard to believe it was a lovely early spring day. Well really Dean Waller initially jointly organised it, but as Dean was going to be away for the run, we offered to continue to organise and lead the run as our very first event.

I had already driven the route on an initial recce with Dean, starting from Sainsburys, Helston to Porthallow, Coverack, Cadgwith and then we planned to have lunch at nearby Roskilly's Farm. We checked the roads out and the timing for the run, bearing in mind all the recent storm damage. I then put the details on Facebook as an Event and confirmed numbers with Roskilly's.

All was going well, then I found out by chance the Coverack seafront road was closed for nine weeks of repair work due to storm damage, which prevented the run passing through that lovely coastal village. I needed to check things out, so after a Wednesday Wander, I set off in Betsy down The Lizard to find out and also explore nearby Kennack Sands as a possible alternative to Coverack. Well, the end of the lane to Kennack Sands was quite badly damaged due to the storms and quite unsuitable for Sevens at present. Coverack seafront was closed to cars in the middle, but would be a great place for a seaside photo, as currently quiet with no passing through traffic. I therefore revised the route.

Dean had kindly emailed me the route highlighted on several paper map pages, which I taped together to see the complete route. I then transposed the route onto OS Maps on our mobile phones, enabling Esther and me to follow it in real time.

So we were well prepared and went early to the starting point at Sainsbury's, Helston. We were expecting about eight cars and I was just hoping some of them would turn up for our first event. Well I had no need to be concerned, as cars started to arrive, and just kept coming, until we had twelve in total parked in a line-up with one more

joining us on the way. Richie and Hannah Morris had also just got their car and this was their very first club run. Thanks to Andrew Jarmin for encouraging members to join the event. The weather was fantastic and it was just amazing to have so many cars out on our first event run. However, it was also a little daunting as we were going to lead them round for the first time, without us getting lost; without losing any cars and hopefully arriving at Roskilly's for lunch at 1pm. I informed the group the first stop on the route would be Porthallow beach for a coffee stop after about one hour. The lanes were beautiful in the sunshine with glorious views and displays of spring flowers. There were some interesting narrow lanes, steep hills and still large puddles, mud and broken branches in places.

Malcolm and Maggi Watts were following us until Gweek when they sadly had to return home with distributor points problems. We continued further into this quite remote area of The Lizard. We heard from Regi that they had stopped near the back of the convoy to fit a new coil in Martyn Rosevear's car so he could carry on. This delayed them a while, but they carried on a more direct route. Meanwhile we carried on the planned route around St Anthony-in-Meneage, where we encountered a log truck in a narrow lane, which kindly moved allowing us to pass after a several minutes. Shortly afterwards we encountered Andrew and Regi; yes the back markers and two more cars. Not sure how the run leader ended up behind the backmarker, but we carried on regardless to Porthallow Beach where a wonderful sight of twelve Sevens assembled overlooking the sparkling sea. As we left for Coverack, the new landlord of The Five Pilchards pub had spotted us and asked us to line up at the front for a photo, which we kindly obliged. Time constraints meant Cadgwith would have to wait for a future event, which was a slight relief, as I was a little anxious about threading twelve cars through quite a narrow, windy and very hilly fishing village.

Some Sevens went straight to Roskilly's for an ice cream, whilst others followed us to Coverack for a few minutes taking in the amazing beach views and a photo opportunity along the seafront. Then back to Roskilly's for 1pm, for a delicious lunch and chat for sixteen of us all sat around one large table.

So what did we learn from organising and leading our first event ? Well, prepare and plan the route as much as possible, but things often

work out quite differently on the day. Time, number of cars, route, breakdowns, weather etc all changes things, but that is fine, because we want everyone to just enjoy the event. Try and keep to convoy rules for runs and ensure everyone knows the destinations, especially with large numbers of cars.

So will we organise and lead another event?

Yes of course we will; now we have recovered from this one! It was great fun and good to see so many members out enjoying the event. Thank you to everyone for your kind support and making the Lizard Event a success.



What Roskilly's
is all about...

Sheila Hodson's
ice cream!

Pic:

Tamsin Coxen



April Caption competition

Pic: Ian Deakin

Suggestions to the Editor please!

“You are the pits of the world: John McEnroe”

Tamsin Coxen

Ever since I learned that Gwennap Pit was not the only tourist-worthy preaching pit in Cornwall, I was keen to discover more. I learned that there was one in Indian Queens...apparently, but I had never seen signs to it and so my curiosity was piqued. Coincidentally a friend raved about a new bakery she had discovered on an industrial estate, of all places (!), in Indian Queens. So... maybe we could take a Wednesday Wander up there and find out?

Although the Wanders are more casual than a club run, the proliferation of road works, closures and probability of flooding, still means that planning a route is best done by map work and then actually driving it. Map work means finding the old Ordnance Survey maps, then looking at Google Maps and then using Google Map's pegman feature to digitally follow the route. Once that is done, I go and drive.

So, the Tuesday the week before the Wander in question saw me experimenting with a twisting, tortuous and damp (due to the depth of the ford) route around the back of Truro and up to Waitrose, That was a five mile, twenty minute diversion which I decided was just too much at this time of year. Maybe in the summer? Starting afresh from Waitrose in Truro, I followed my route out of Tresillian and then made a mistake. My error saw me descending a road that I felt a challenge in the modern car, let alone with Seven brakes (or lack thereof). Turning round and retracing my steps up a long steep hill decided me: not suitable for my planned route. I hesitated on a bridge, double checking the physical map and gained large paw prints on my car from a very friendly and curious dog. The owner apologised and was able to confirm exactly where I was. Useful as there were no signposts to be seen. Had there ever been signs or was this some long ago war-time protection against invasion? Weird what thoughts rattle around the brain doing this sort of thing alone.

The route took me through places unknown and finally a road I don't think I have ever used before through the marvellously named Boswiddle and on into Mitchell, around St Enoder, through Fraddon

and into Indian Queens to park outside the ‘pit’. It’s huge! I took a series of photographs and wondered about the acoustics from the preacher’s section. Was it like some of the Roman amphitheatres where someone speaking on stage can be heard throughout?, I was able to test this on the Wander with Leonard Adams obliging by being a member of the congregation, and yes, it does work. It was then off to the bakery and a restorative Danish pastry and coffee.

Route planned! I then checked the roadworks map of the country council and was astonished to discover that none were scheduled over the next fortnight on my route. And so it turned out on a chilly sunny Wednesday the following week. We were delighted to be joined by some infrequent Wanderers and eventually mustered nine Sevens .



Our Editor and temporary Webmaster Tamsin Coxen certainly pulled out all the stops route-wise for this Wander. Nine 'Sevens' gathered in Waitrose car park before ten thirty then chat and pleasantries exchanged, their occupants climbed aboard and the cars, leaving Waitrose to the left, set off in the direction of Tresillian and on the far side, before the bridge the convoy of vehicles turned left on to a small lane leading away. I can't even begin to describe the roads, small lanes and what I would describe as little more than 'tracks' with grass growing in the middle of the carriageway! Winding our way through rabbit warren type lanes with high hedges on both sides, hamlets and villages and along hedgeless roads with large fields stretching away on either side, the group eventually passed St Enoder church (address 1 Narrow Lane!) and emerged onto the 'old' A30 just below Fraddon, then, following the road to the left eventually turned right, through an estate of bungalows then up a narrow lane to a set of gates. Here we left the cars and walked a short way to be faced with a huge preaching pit or amphitheatre, beautifully cared for and lushly grassed. This being Indian Queens Pit, built in 1850 in a former tin mining excavation. It is interesting to note that Indian Queens Brass Band was founded around the same time. Pictures taken our group returned to the Sevens and having reversed out of the lane and residential estate Tamsin led the convoy on and into the Industrial Estate to the da Bara (Cornish/Welsh for bread) bakery where tables had been reserved for us in the cafe. Suitably refreshed and 'chatted out' we eventually returned to our Sevens and made our various ways homeward. Well done Tamsin, an excellent route, excellent food and drink and brilliant weather.



St Enoder
Church.

Pics: L. Adams



It looks different in the sunshine! Pics: L. Adams



Federation news: Edited Highlights from Historic Issue 9

These notes are presented as simplified highlights of key topics. Further detail can be found in Historic itself, all copies of which are available online. In case of doubt the definitive version is that published in the magazine.

Budget and Road Pricing

It is noted that the November Budget contained no measures specifically affecting historic vehicles... the nil VED concession for forty plus year old vehicles remains. The newly introduced mileage charge for electric vehicles does not apply to any vehicle registered in the historic tax class, even if electrically powered.

Automated Vehicles

A further consultation pertaining to automated vehicles has been issued... The Federation will respond as necessary to protect the interests of the historic vehicles and their drivers.

Insurance

Three aspects of insurance are covered.

The first refers to the not always entirely clear designation of a public space in the context of vehicles at shows and similar events and hence the full extent of the cover provided by the “rally and show” endorsement on normal on-road insurance in those circumstances. The issue may arise from a European Court case now reversed in the UK but clarification will be pursued. Information is sought from anyone with relevant experience.

The second refers to the recent reissue of the Association of British Insurers (ABI) Code of Practice concerning the classification of damaged vehicles deemed ‘write-offs’ in insurance terms. This latest edition has removed a previous clause that permitted historic vehicles to be considered as special cases and not subject to wholly economic judgement. The current version of the Code would seem to permit the final destruction of valuable heritage vehicles without any reference to their possible historic significance. Discussions continue with ABI.

Thirdly attention is drawn to the possible pitfalls of the continuous insurance requirement, with particular reference to vehicles which may be off the road for repairs, and the need to declare SORN.

Road Safety Strategy

Some comments on this much publicised Government initiative.

Speedometers: It is noted that an inaccurate or erratic speedometer is not a valid excuse for speeding and may technically constitute a Construction and Use offence in itself.

Martyn's Law: It is noted that with regard to some of the potential issues, particularly those around events using 'bare' sites (i.e. farmers' fields) for events, further guidance is awaited from Government as the regulation is implemented over the next two years.

DVLA: Report from the very positive December HVUG meeting. Detailing shared and positive feedback on the policy revisions introduced last August



Pic: Regi Jarmin

March caption competition:

Captions suggested:

“I swear the pot holes are getting bigger!” N.Rouse

“ I know about Sevens, happens quite often . Definitely a leaking radiator hose!” Anon.

“Last one in the bath gets the dirtiest water.” Anon.

“Talk about throwing the baby out with the bathwater!” Anon.



Austin Seven Clubs' Association

Dear Member/Club contact, A7CA Reps and Editors,

Please see the link to the Agenda and Officer reports for our upcoming AGM on Tuesday 21st April at 7pm: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fnTvv4UuTsbj_UhloUYsVW10fD_rpoq2YWy9PQ7mp4/edit?usp=sharing

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Last AGM

Clubs must vote to approve the minutes of the previous AGM.

2. Addition of "Associate Member (Advertiser)" category to the Constitution

Proposed wording would allow individuals, businesses or groups related to pre-war

Austin Seven matters to become Associate Members in order to advertise in the Quarterly Magazine, paying a nominal fee set at the AGM.

3. Reversal of the ban on trade "cars for sale / wanted" advertisements

Motion proposed:

Allow **trade adverts for cars bought and sold** to appear again in the Association Magazine.

4. Increase in Advertising Fees

Proposal to **increase advertising fees by 3%**.

5. Increase in Magazine Cover Price

Motion:

Increase the Association Magazine cover price to **£2.25 per copy**, effective from **2027A edition**.

6. Approval of the 2026 Association Budget

Clubs must vote to approve the **proposed budget for 2026**.

7. Approval of Magazine Pricing Strategy

Clubs to vote on the **proposed magazine pricing structure**, linked to the cover price increase and financial projections.

8. Election of Officers

Clubs must vote to approve the officer appointments for the coming term, including:

Chairman – Nick Salmon

Vice Chairman – (vacant)

Treasurer – Hugh Barnes

Secretary – Rualidh Dunford

Advertisement Manager – John Davies

Archivist – Gordon England

Editors – Stuart Upton, Jack Peppiatt, Robert Foreman

Registrar – Peter Hales

Webmaster – Chris Charles

Insurance Liaison Officer – Nick Salmon

Publicity Officer – Steve Earl

Wednesday Wander 18th March

Dean Waller had managed to pick the best and warmest day of the year for his trip 'way down west'. We started at Dobbie's Garden Centre, Hayle and then went via Lelant Downs to Halsetown and then along the coastal road to Pendeen. At Pendeen we cut inland through Madron and Heamoor to end at the Agapanthus Tea Rooms in Gulval.





Pics: L. Adams



On the opposite page is a picture of the Editorial Box Saloon being bump started...again. Relishing being back on the road after her engine re-build and enjoying the gorgeous spring sunshine didn't last very long as she once again showed off her tendency to strip. This time it was the bolt holding the flywheel cover in place which led to a loud bang and the cover shearing off.



Andrew Jarmin removed the offending cover and with bump starts, it was possible to run the car for the rest of the Wander. On the way home, battling against gusty winds was a bit of a challenge but a welcome cuppa at Higher Polighey and a replacement cover fitted meant a happy return to her own garage ready for the club run at the weekend.

Why my car has to try to find peculiar ways to breakdown I don't know. I guess it must be the owner...!



For Sale 1938 Austin Big 7 Forlite Deluxe.

Blue with blue interior. Sunroof. Starts and runs well, needs using. Ideally needs some paintwork doing but can be used as is.



Comes with original registration and lots of history/books. Recent 6 volt battery. Only two known in the county! Local delivery arranged

£3695 ono.

John Doyle 07989321409

For Sale

New 6 volt battery modern black 421 type 80AH.

Limited stocks available.

Local delivery a pleasure, can dispose of old battery.

£80.00 each.

John Doyle 07989321409

For Sale Austin 7 RP March 1933

Engine M237971 Body 171203

Dark blue, black wings. Good new brakes and tyres but needs a battery as it was not charging.

Stored in warm and dry in Camelford.

£5800 ono

J. W. Middleton 01840 212811



For Sale Austin 7 Opal 1936

Last restored sometime in the 1980s.

Blue with black wings.

In good overall condition and runs well.

The price is £ 6,500 ONO

Contact

Tel 01209 861534,

barnesdai803@gmail.com

Dai Barnes

For Sale 1937 Ruby

Austin Seven Ruby.. Green with Black wings. First registration 19 06 1937.

We have owned the car since May 2013. In recent years the car has been little used, but starts and runs well. Various receipts, almost full history and some spares to be included in sale.

Asking price £6500.

Please call Anne mobile 07779 524375, Andy 07910 581848



Cornwall Austin Seven Club clothing.

We are now using Creative View, a local company near St Agnes to supply members with various items of clothing. Creative View do not carry items in stock, they will supply to order so please give them at least a week's notice when you want an item. They have a variety of colours of clothing available. They will supply items with the Club logo as below.



Polo shirt £14.40 each embroidered, £13.20 printed.

Sweatshirt £22.20 embroidered, £21 printed.

Dover Jacket £43.68 embroidered, £42.48 printed.

Carriage between £5 & £10 depending on the weight and quantity of garments.

Orders taken by phone on 01872 249631 or by email
contact@creativeviewcornwall.co.uk

NOTE TO ADVERTISERS...

PLEASE let me know if you have sold your vehicle or changed your mind! I will keep running an advert until you tell me not to...

TECHNICAL HELP CONTACTS

Don't get stuck, get help!

If you need some help with your Austin, whether it's a chat about a snag over the phone or someone to shove a head under a bonnet, the Club aims to provide a network of assistance throughout the County. We're not offering a restoration service, but advice and aid to help keep you on the road for frustration free motoring!

Andrew Jarmin	Redruth	01209 861212
Malcolm Watts	Falmouth	01326 319485
Mike Davies	Callington	01579 370499
Alastair Wreford	Port Isaac	01208 880002
Bob Kneale	Bodmin	01208 850248

This help is available to everyone whether you have just joined or have been a member since the start! Don't struggle with a problem when help is only a phone call away!

Individually we may not have all the answers but collectively we've probably seen most problems and can point you in the right direction for advice.

The views expressed in this magazine are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Editor or the Cornwall Austin Seven Club. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the technical advice and information, the Club and its officers accept no liability for loss, damage or injury from persons acting upon the advice given in this publication. Anyone following the advice given by this publication shall be deemed to have accepted this statement.

Published by the

Cornwall Austin Seven Club

www.austin7.org



Publication Information

Publication date is the **last day** of the month
Last date for article submissions and
advertisements is the **20th day** of the month,
subject to space.

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**All material submitted must be free from any
copyright claim.**

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