



February 2026



See page 9
onwards for
details.

The magazine of the Cornwall Austin Seven Club

Seven Focus

From the Front Seat

Dean Waller

Well 2026 certainly got off to an interesting start. I hope you weathered the storm successfully. We were without power for three days although I know many people also lost water as well. Sadly we didn't make the Soup Run but a few intrepid explorers made it out!

Ian Deakin, our new Events Secretary, is working hard on our schedule for this year. We are trying hard to run events in different areas of the county. They will only be successful if enough people turn up, so please make every effort to attend events in your area. We are hoping to visit Looe and the North Coast this year so watch out for more information. As always if you can offer to lead an event in your area then please get in touch with Ian - he'd love to hear from you!

Membership News

Andrew Jarmin

Two membership enquiries currently being followed up.

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

February

Saturday 28th

Ian Deakin

Run from Sainsbury’s car park, Helston at 10.30 am for a run around The Lizard.

We will be visiting some of the small villages that are difficult to visit in the summer like Coverack and Cadgwith. Please bring a flask for a coffee stop if the weather is dry. We will finish somewhere with indoor seating!

March

Sunday 22nd

Dean Waller

Run from Waitrose car park, Truro along the roads and lanes to the E/NE area of Truro. More details will be in the March edition of Focus.

April

Sunday 26th

Dean Waller

‘Drive it day’ showing people our lovely Sevens driving through the towns and larger villages in central Cornwall finishing at a beauty spot for a picnic. More details will be in the March edition of Focus.

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.

Scottish Rally

3rd-6th July. Please note the dates have previously been incorrectly printed.



Fowey Classic Car Show and Car Parade

Thursday August 20th: See next two sides for details.

Fowey Royal Regatta

Fowey Classic Car Show & Car Parade 2026

Thursday, August 20th



Fowey River Academy, Windmill, Fowey, PL23 1NE



Over 450 Pre 1990 Classic Cars,
Bikes & Sports Cars



Registration on our website open from March 1st
www.foweyclassiccar.com

No charge for Entrance, Voluntary Donations Welcome at the gate

Vehicles Arrive: 11:00 - 1:15 p.m.

Public Viewing: 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Car Parade Commences: 5:00 p.m.



Email: foweyclassiccars@gmail.com

Prints of this artwork available at <https://johndyergallery.com/>



Sorry, **STRICTLY** no dogs allowed on Academy Grounds



www.foweyregatta.co.uk

Fowey Classic Car Show and Car Parade

Many thanks for your support in 2025 and previous years.

As you will probably know 2025 was another record year, with 440 cars on the show field, and an amazing 400 driving through Fowey to cheering crowds, most continuing through the Pinnock tunnel.

Our unique format of Show/Parade/Tunnel Run has made our event the most popular weekday car event in Cornwall, it was also good to see more pre 1990 motorbikes and scooters.

REGISTRATION

2026 registration will be open from MARCH 1ST

Sadly in 2025 despite the great weather we had approaching 100 'No Shows', depriving other car owners the chance to participate.

PLEASE be sure you can attend , and let us know if the situation changes.

For information August Bank Holiday is Monday August 31st.

PARADE and TUNNEL RUN.

Our huge popularity brings its own issues, before registering and opting for the Parade and Tunnel Run please be aware the last car left the show field at 5.45pm , 45 minutes after the first at 5pm.

Likewise , the last cars finished the Tunnel Run at 7pm.

Obviously we are considering ways to smooth progress at the event up while maintaining a safe environment.

This may include limiting numbers of Parade participants.

Have a great motoring year, no doubt many of your cars are garaged and on SORN for the winter.

Regards

Dennis

(Chair)

Plugging the gap

Mike Thorn

One never knows what's around the corner when owning an Austin Seven or any car come to that.



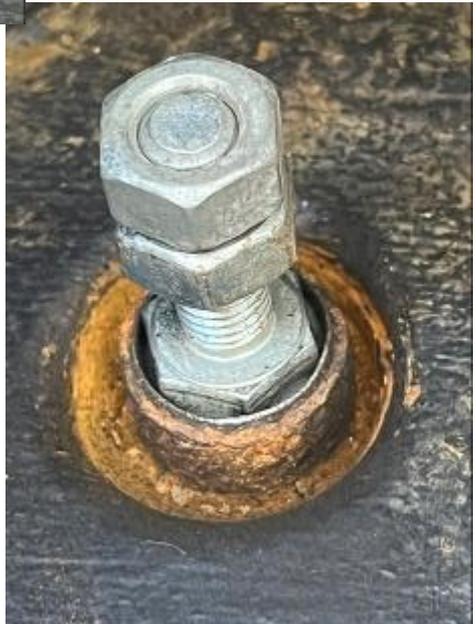
In all the years of owning and working on cars, I have never had a spark plug snap off in the head. I have now.

I was unable to grip the remaining plug due to the recess in the cylinder head. Now thinking, "Ok don't panic! What's our options?" I decided against a chisel due to the head being cast. I phoned Andrew Jarmin. I'm so glad I did.

Knowing the plug is made of steel, he suggested welding a bolt or bar to it. I ended up mig welding on an Allen key and

unscrewing the old plug thread (I did try welding bolts but they kept shearing off).

I just love the Austin side valve flathead engine, one can only imagine the grief or cost when a plug snaps on a modern.





After half a lifetime of supporting our Cornish town and parish councils, keeping them under control and pointing them in the right direction, Sarah last year, finally decided it was time to kick off her enormous shoes and retire.

A suitable retirement trip you might think would be say, a visit to Australia, maybe New York on the Queen Mary, or a world cruise. Nope!

She wanted to take an Austin to France. Our little RK- Walter was the chosen vehicle as he hadn't been abroad before, and he behaved impeccably.

Our editor was looking for some filler for the February edition of Focus, so I hope you won't mind me indulging myself, by sharing some of our holiday trip in photo form. (*Editor: I was also looking for some sunshine!*)

Our journey was basically a round trip, Roscoff and back, with the ultimate, furthest destination, St Claude in the French Jura, with lots of stops in between, over three and a half weeks.

I have to own up, that the boring longer chunks of the journey were achieved with Motorhome and trailer. But, the little Austin did cover somewhere between 800 and 1000 miles on its own wheels, including a long day trip over the mountains of the high Jura in to Switzerland. Climbs of over 1000 metres.

One amusing anecdote from our day out at the Puy de Dome- we met up with a group of twenty-seven priceless racing Bugattis, and parked next to them. The majority of the crowds ignored the Bugattis, and crowded around the Austin!!

Please enjoy, probably best viewed on your electronic version of Focus.



1. Cave 'Ackerman' a regular stop near Saumur in the Loire valley.

2. The chateau at Saumur (cover image)



3. Coffee stop, during the climb in the Haute Jura.

4. Lac Lemman in Switzerland near Geneva



5. Americas' Cup yachts practising.



6. Starting the climb back out of Switzerland, Lac Lemman in the background.



7. Lunch at 1000m above sea level

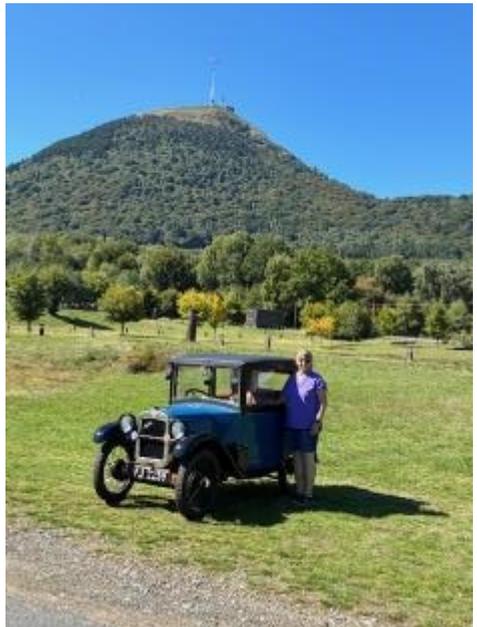


8. Les Bouchoux in the Jura

9. Jura escarpments



10. Puy de dome. The largest extinct volcano near Clermond Ferrand



11. Remnants of the French Formula 1 Grand Prix track at Clermont Ferrand



12. Walnuts in the Auvergne



13. Creysse in the Auvergne



14. Dwarfed by the mighty Chateau at Amboise back in the Loire valley



15. A group of French utility vehicles. Not quite the same style as the Austin 7!!

16. The peaceful Gulf of Morbihan near Vannes in Brittany on our way back up to Roscoff
17. Ditto



Malcolm & Maggi's Soup Run - Sunday Jan. 11th

Nick & Teresa Rouse

After the horrendous storm that raced over Cornwall and the reported devastation it left in its wake, it was to be expected that when the seven Sevens set off from the B&Q car park at Penryn they would almost certainly experience an 'interesting' outing around the local lanes and byways. Expecting the possibility that the little convoy could get separated Malcolm Watts produced route sheets for everyone. With the heading to the sheets reading, 'modified run due to road closures. Take care lots of debris on the roads' we were well prepared for the occasional problem or detour.

Making their way out of the car park, in the rain and mist, the group of Sevens turned left and passing through the industrial estate eventually passed Penryn School and the Rugby Club. Traversing Green Lane and turning left at the T junction the cars made their way to the round about at the top of the hill and going right joined the A39 for a short distance before turning into a narrow lane sign posted Boswin. With much debris (branches and twigs) littering the lanes, which in many cases had grass or mud in the middle, and many hedgerow trees that had previously lain across the road having been cut up and moved off the carriageway, the group made its way onward, then taking alternative routes to avoid lanes still closed to traffic, and sign posted as such. On several occasions taking alternative lanes only to find a short way in, these too were obstructed by fallen trees, and in some cases public spirited folk actually cutting up and clearing obstructions.



Having already abandoned the route sheet and now on a mystery tour led by Malcolm, the intrepid group were driving along a particularly attractive lane beside a fast flowing river, thought to be the Kennall when confronted by a very large, multi trunked tree sprawled across the lane and, according to Malcolm the larger road we were heading for was just a few hundred yards further on beyond the fallen tree.



Retracing the route and taking another lane brought the Sevens down a hill and into Ponsanooth. From there it was a clear run back through Stithians, on around the end of the lake and taking a left turn up the drive to Higher Polighey. The group were greeted by Regi Jarmin and Maggi, handed a mug of steaming soup and a roll and directed to the lounge that was warm and cosy and where a wood burner roared in the grate.

Well done Malcolm for your sterling efforts under very trying conditions and thank you Maggi & Regi for the warm and very tasty welcome.



Soup run pics:
Leonard Adams



A diversion from the soup run.

Pics: Leonard Adams



Recent Wednesday Wanders.

Words: Tamsin Coxen

Pics: Leonard Adams

7th January

It's been a few weeks since I've been out and about properly in my Austin and I was looking forward to the short run Dean Waller had promised to blow the New Year cobwebs away and end at Trevaskis. We met at Morrison's, Pool and went down the North Coast. At Gwithian, I expected a left turn to Connor Downs...no. Maybe at Gwithian Downs... no. Oh we must be going into Hayle and up Angarrak Hill. Help! My car isn't running too well...no! We carried on through Hayle and down the A30 towards Penzance. Maybe Dean has forgotten he is leading a convoy and is just going home? No...we've gone past his turning. Ah, we must be going to Marazion. Please don't let us turn up the steep hill to the surgery in the middle... Really? Ok, deep breath, up the steep hill. Let's just sit back and follow the road... By the time Trevaskis came in sight, I was feeling quite jelly-like in the leg having forgotten that it is a whole body experience for me to reach the pedals. But how lovely to be back out, even if the weather was a bit dull.



14th January

After last week I was feeling much happier about being back out on the road except this was only a few days after Storm Goretta had ripped through Cornwall and many roads were still full of debris and random road blocks caused by toppled trees. Nick Rouse was leading and had had a real challenge planning the route to avoid all the closures. Nick took us from Wheal Busy around Blackwater, Manor Parsley, up the first gear hill out of Porthtowan, up around Illogan, back down into Portreath and eventually to the Gold Centre. Dave and Pam Treloar joined us there, (along with the Masons) and it was lovely to catch up with them.



A7CA Committee Meeting – 13th January 2026 –

Summary Notes from our rep Sarah Mason

The Quarterly Business Meeting of the Austin Seven Clubs' Association was held via Zoom on 13 January 2026 at 7.00pm. Representatives attended from 16 member clubs, along with Association Officers and register representatives.

The Chairman, David Cochrane, welcomed attendees and wished members well for the coming year. He reflected on the enjoyment and opportunities available within the Austin Seven community and encouraged members to continue supporting events and volunteering. David noted that this was his penultimate report as Chairman and confirmed his intention to step down at the April AGM, with Vice-Chair Nick Salmon standing for Chairman. Consequently, clubs were asked to seek candidates for the Vice-Chair role. The Chairman also reported the successful transfer of the Jack French Garage to the Atwell-Wilson Motor Museum, removing ongoing maintenance and insurance responsibilities from the Association while retaining an interest should the museum ever wish to dispose of the garage. In addition, work has begun on creating a permanent digital record of the Centenary celebrations.

The Archivist, Gordon England, reported continued progress in cataloguing, conservation and storage, alongside a major audit for insurance purposes. The migration of archive records from Dropbox to Microsoft SharePoint is largely complete, improving access and collaboration. No new spending occurred this quarter, with total archive expenditure standing at £1,834.73. Archive insurance renewal is due in February 2026, with updated valuations being prepared and insurance quotes awaited.

The Secretary, Ruairidh Dunford, reiterated the need for a new Vice-Chair and outlined succession plans. He also reported on discussions with Centenary event leads regarding the proposed digital record which will incorporate images, films and personal recollections. He confirmed the completion of the Jack French Garage donation and reported that the current Webmaster intends to step down at the AGM, with a potential replacement identified.

The Treasurer, Hugh Barnes, reported that all club subscriptions and advertising invoices have been paid. As of 9 December 2025, the Association balance stood at £53,264.11. but warned that the figure would be reduced by future spending. He noted anticipated annual outgoings of approximately £26,000, a projected deficit of around £1,200 for 2026, and concerns regarding declining magazine sales and rising archive insurance costs. Revised financial reporting formats, including a formal balance sheet, are being developed for presentation at the AGM.

The Editorial team reported a healthy pipeline of commissioned articles, with a surplus already in hand for future editions. Issues with SharePoint access were noted, as well as recent printing errors caused by the printers publishing the incorrect version. Volunteer proof-readers were sought, and negotiations were suggested with the printers regarding compensation for the printer errors in 2026A.

The Registrar reported steady additions to the vehicle register and requested updated club lists. The Webmaster role update was covered by the Secretary.

The Insurance Liaison Officer reported that RH Insurance has rebranded as Howden, confirmed new learner and young driver cover, and clarified that MOT-exempt vehicles remain eligible for AA breakdown cover.

The Publicity Officer reported growth across Facebook and YouTube platforms. The Advertising Manager reported a decline in advertisers and highlighted concerns regarding advertising formats and pricing, these are to be addressed and reported on at the AGM. Other reports included events calendar planning, progress on the Stanley Edge memorial, and the news that entries for the “Back to the Track” event sold out within 48 hours.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm. The next meeting (our AGM) is scheduled for 21 April 2026.

Full (unconfirmed) minutes can be found here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MDmzsQ2psr4yU43GBZPYXSrrNusQ0DIffadJlbU6OA/edit?usp=sharing>

I may be getting paranoid about driving my Austin now after what seems a long string of weird and routine failures to proceed... I have some kitty-litter on the floor of my garage to soak up any oil seepages and I was concerned to see a new egress of unidentified fluid. Sticking a tentative finger into the moisture confirmed it as very clean oil (obviously not from inside the engine then!) and so I wriggled under the car to see a large hole in front of me. A hole I didn't recognise had appeared in the gear-box. I thought it prudent to stop driving until I checked it out. For various reasons this didn't happen for a while and I discovered that it was a blanking plate on the gearbox that had gone. I asked for information and was reassured when I was told that it was very common and I could safely drive. Phew!

Back on the road again, I took the car to the "Punchbowl & Ladle" for the New Year gathering. Due to the weather it was a low turnout but it was very nice and it was great that Dave had joined me for the event. I suddenly had one of those flashes of panic as I realised that I hadn't switched the battery isolator off and so the battery would be leaking juice. By the time we came out, it was completely flat. So flat that it wouldn't even bump start... Fortunately another club member was on hand to give a quick boost with jump leads from his 'other' car. Rescued by Riley... how ignominious.

After using the battery charger and leaving the trickle charger going, I was able to get out and about on the Soup Run and the next two Wednesday Wanders. Storm Goretti has certainly left a trail of destruction to add to the usual collection of randomly closed roads. Today I was out in the modern planning tomorrow's Wander and encountered flooding. A couple of times the water was too deep to chance it and I was much entertained that the diversion route from the officially-closed road in my own village was, in its turn, impassably flooded. We seem to have had a lot of weather already this year?!

I hope you had a great time over Christmas and the New Year and am very much looking forward to your submissions coming in... I had to 'persuade' a couple of people for this edition and I'd really rather not have to do so in future. Keep it all coming! Please!



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 Austin 7 AAL 1936

Four seat tourer, older restoration, Maroon and Black, Black trim in very good condition. Black hood and side screens also very good. A lot of money spent on it in the past by previous owner/restorer

Regret unable to garage now, Very reluctant sale

£6250 ono

Clive Peerless 01872 870721

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 1934 RP saloon

First registered July 1934. An older restoration with a non-transferable registration. Mavis has been around Cornwall for quite a few years and until recently has been seen quite regularly on Wednesday Wanders . Can be inspected in Goldsithney. £4750 ono. Phone 01736 711122 for details.



Price reduction!

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 or 01752 339639 for further information.



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.

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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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