

HEREFORD AUSTIN SEVEN CLUB.

The Crankhandle

NEWSLETTER. NOVEMBER, 2011.

Greetings all Sevensers,

Well it has been a busy two months since the last Newsletter and continues to be so into the run-up to Christmas. We have enjoyed good weather for our events and I for one have made good use of it to get out on to the road to do some vintage motoring.

You will see reports later on for the two main runs. My thanks go to Stuart Howard, Michael Harcourt and Glenn Sanger for their contributions this issue and to Gill Harcourt who never forgets her camera!

Brief notes of the Committee meeting held on the 3rd. October are included and also the forthcoming events.

My own restoration of the Opal continues, slowly but positively. My attention is transferring from the body to the chassis; which means walking from one end of the garage to the other!

Keep those Seven wheels turning and enjoy the issue,

Mike.

Comments from the Shed.

The club has had two very productive months, which other people will comment on in this letter.

Thank you to Mike for editing, and those who contributed articles for the last newsletter, please keep contributions coming.

Many people have commented on the excellent events organized by club members and how they are looking forward to future events, the club is building a reputation of being friendly and welcoming, that's down to the members.

-----Please remember our meeting on 29th, November.-----

MINCED PIES AND MULLED WINE

At Eversley House. HR4 7QA 01432 353100

Everyone welcome 7-30 for 8 o'clock.

We shall be having a prize draw.

Let's enjoy our Austin Sevens.

Stuart.

A Swallow Saga

Hi everyone

Episode 9

What is a nose cone? Is it a smell detector? Or maybe a funnel shaped filter? Well, it's neither! In fact it's a starting handle shaft and gear wheel enclosure on an Austin seven engine. (bet you knew that!)

It is situated at the front of the engine block and to start up the engine the starting handle is engaged on to the shaft and rotated until (with ignition on) the engine fires. Now with the Swallow, the shaft is set too far back due to the rounded shape of the radiator cowling. To overcome this, the Swallow coach builders made an extended version of the shaft, and together with an extended starting handle that could reach over the front body scoop, the problem was solved.

Unfortunately my Swallow didn't have one, until now! As you can see in the picture we now have an original nose cone extension shaft fitted. It was acquired with many thanks through my friend and Austin Seven technical guru, Mr Eddie Loader. Cheers Eddie.

Photo Omitted

*Regards
Glenn*

The Wye Valley Wander; Sunday 16th. October, 2011.

The day dawned brightly and although fresh at first, soon turned into a lovely Autumn day with a back drop of clear blue skies and warm sunshine. Seven cars met at the Whitchurch Garden Centre at Symonds Yat West, ready for a mystery tour lead and organised by Gill and Michael Harcourt. The Forest of Dean is the highest area in Gloucestershire and we were soon climbing out of Lower Lydbrook en route to the ancient port of Lydney docks, currently about half way through a seven year restoration. We spent some time learning of the destruction of the bridge in the early sixties that linked the two banks of the River Severn, before it was demolished by two large oil tankers that hit it in thick fog, sadly causing some loss of life.

We left Lydney Docks to wind our way on to Chepstow where lunch had been arranged at the Boat Inn; a superb location with excellent food. There followed a conducted tour of the ferry that used to transport passengers and vehicles across the Severn at this point, right up until the suspension bridge was built to form part of the M4. When we drove out of Chepstow there were plenty of spectators as there had been a motor cycle event in the town that day; a few vintage cars turned a lot of heads!

A fascinating drive across the hills then ensued on our return to Symonds Yat for afternoon tea at the Royal Hotel. Michael had even got us free car park tickets in advance. At one point on this drive I saw the four seat tourer of Ray and Barbara Moses complete with their dog, passing Michael and Gill Harcourt's Ruby on a 1 in 9 hill. Ray said to me later that he had to overtake through fear of stopping! For those of you who may not know, this is the Tourer that did the Peking to Paris owned at that time by Kip and Carmen Waistell. Clearly, the car is still in peak condition.

This was a most enjoyable Club run and I look forward to next years' Wye Valley Wander, wherever that may be. Our thanks to Gill and Michael for a wonderful day.

MW.



The members' after lunch admiring Derek Choppen's new Austin Seven.

Notes of The Committee Meeting held Monday 3rd. October, 2011.

Present; Stuart Howard, Mike Ward, Michael Harcourt, Ron Sadler, Eddie Loader, Pat Caine.

*The latest 'members list' had been updated by RS.

*Club events for 2012 will be discussed at AGM. MW.

*Possible extra events next year to include visit to the Morgan factory, to JCB at Uttoxeter, Alderton Austins and West Country museum. MH.

*Proposed to keep subs. £6. RS.

*AGM. Date is Tuesday 31st. January, 2012. Combine with Quiz night. EL.

*Update on 90th. anniversary of the Austin 7 to be obtained from A7CA. PC.

*Annual Club Lunch to be arranged for Sunday 5th. Feb. 2012. MH.

*All 2011 events reviewed. Will be used as the basis for 2012 calendar.

*Future postage and printing to be paid for by the Club and not individual committee members. RS.

*Offer of A7 spares to HA7C declined. Refer seller to BA7C. MW.

Forthcoming Events.

Sunday 27th November

Film about Ayrton Senna

At Cawley Hall, Luston at 12.00 for 12.30 for lunch @ £10.00 pp
Or film only at £5.00 pp starting at 3.00

I have heard that this is really something worth watching so do come along.

Ring Hugh Girvan on 01568 612567 after 30th October as he is away until then.

Tuesday 29th November

Pre Christmas Party

At Stuarts 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Mulled wine and mince pies! I have heard that the mince pies will be made by Rosemary again this year because they are absolutely fantastic, so starve yourselves for a week and come along and enjoy!

Stuart needs to know by the 21st November so please e-mail (stuarthowardpsbh01@yahoo.co.uk) or ring him direct on 01432 353100. There will also be a raffle on the night so bring something along and then buy a ticket to win it back again!

Thursday 1st December

Talk and film show

At Vowchurch Village Hall 7.00 pm for a chance to hear about Kip and Carmen's trip earlier this year from Peking to Paris. They are hoping to raise lots of money for Smile Train, so do come. There is a light supper included in the ticket price of £7.50, but please bring your own drink. Please contact Mrs Anne Langton by e-mail on annelangton@hotmail.com or ringing 01981 550123, as they need to know numbers in advance. There is also a raffle if you missed out at Stuart's, so come along to what promises to be a most interesting fun evening

Any Other Dates?

Have you got any exciting events that you feel may be of interest to club members? If so send me details and I will circulate them to all the members. In the meanwhile I look forward to meeting up with you all again at these events.

Best wishes.
Michael Harcourt

Bar-B- Cue; Sunday 2nd. October, 2011.

The Club were blessed with fine weather for the Bar-B-Cue held at Jan and Pat Cain's house. Most met at Ludlow before arriving at Culmington to enjoy congenial company, good food and a lot of Austin Seven chat. Many thanks to Jan and Pat for their hospitality and kindness.



After the Food (and drink !).

The Treasures of Suckley; Sunday 30th. October, 2011.

Sunday 30th October members met with their cars at Burly Gate School for a 10-30 start. Brian and Sue Bedford led the way to Bromyard, then on towards Suckley. Our first stop was on Dave Reynolds and his partner Jan. Dave showed us various individual items of interest whilst we were in his barn.

From the barn we ventured into his museum which houses the most amazing collection of automobilia he has put together over twenty years. Speaking to Dave a few days later ,he was concerned we would not find much of interest[he's got to have been having a laugh!] As we left, Dave handed bunches of flowers to the ladies-such kindness.

We then motored on a few miles to the home of Mel and Roz Henson, where we saw the fantastic two seater Mel is creating on a Ruby chassis. I'm told the work has been done in a very short period of time by Mel, it is looking impressive already.

We then moved on to be shown their Schneider, restored by Mel and next came their model 'T' Ford. Both magnificent vehicles, it was interesting to hear there history.

We enjoyed refreshments courtesy of our hosts whilst we collected £54 which was presented to Mel and Dave, they are donating it to the Air Ambulance, before leaving for lunch.

An excellent lunch and good company rounded off a most enjoyable day. Thank you to Dave, Mel, Roz and Jan for their hospitality and Brian and Sue for arranging a most enjoyable day.

SH.

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