

# **BABY TORQUE**

## **AUSTIN 7 CLUB NSW INC**

◆ Number 306 ◆



**November | 2021 | Edition**

# Baby Torque

Committee Members	Executive		Name	Home Phone	Mobile Phone	
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	Vice President		Kevin Lewis	(02) 9614 6030	0414 906 591	
	Treasurer		Brad Sheringham		0401 254 286	
	Secretary / Public Officer		Maureen Boatwright	(02) 9822 8609	0413 017 263	
	Non-Executive		Name	Home Phone	Mobile Phone	
	Spare Parts		Mervyn Boatwright	(02) 9822 8609	0412 940 001	
	Membership		Amy Pui	(02) 9958 1791	0481 771 523	
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	Editor		Amy Pui	(02) 9958 1791	0481 771 523	
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			Mark Wellington		0409 121 576	
	Chassis Register Officer		Mark Wellington	(02) 9545 1507	0409 121 576	
	CMC Delegate		Robert Byrne		0414 351 246	
	Committee Member		Russell Linfoot	(02) 9624 2801	0408 488 523	
	As a courtesy, please do not contact Committee Members after 9:00pm					
	Banking Details	Austin 7 Club NSW Inc			Austin 7 Club NSW Inc Spare Parts	
		Bank	Laboratories Credit Union		Bendigo Bank	
BSB		802-841		633-000		
Account		100008499		128875804		
Meetings	The Austin 7 Club NSW Inc holds its General Meeting at 8.00pm on the second Wednesday of each month normally at Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown.					
Deadline	This magazine is published seasonly. Contributions to Baby Torque should be sent to The Editor, Baby Torque, P.O. Box 6009, North Ryde NSW 2113					

## President's Report

The year 2021 has been a trying year for the world with the pandemic and in Australia we also coped our share of bush fires and floods. Now with the pandemic almost under control, we look forward to seeing the economy picking up and people get back to their near normal lives.

Due to the dedication of many of our members and the committee members, we have been able to keep the club running smoothly with monthly zoom committee meetings and the few General meetings earlier in the year at Bankstown Sports Club. We also managed to put in 5 runs this year and forfeiting 4 in the second half of the year which is pretty good considering the Covid-19 situation. We will continue to publish the club magazines on a regular basis and Kevin Lewis will take over the editorship role from next year onwards.

Many thanks to Maureen Boatwright, a wonderful Christmas lunch was enjoyed by all on Sunday 21 November with a total of 30 people attended. The children have all grown another few inches and it is always nice to have the young ones attending and hopefully sharing the interests of their dads' in the Austin.

The 2022 National Rally in Warnambool will now be going ahead and Maureen has all the details, please fill in the form for the registration of interest and make bookings for accommodation if you wish to attend.

Our club committee has discussed at length on numerous occasions to consider volunteering for 2027 National rally. The subject was also discussed in the general meetings and published in the club magazine to ask for volunteers. Despite a successful Mudgee rally held in 2007, the consensus is that our club is a small club, our enthusiastic members are all getting on with age, the club is unfortunately not capable of undertaking such a huge task to host the event.

I would like to extend our welcome to Richard Holding from Hunter Valley to be our new club member.

Keep safe, stay safe, and happy motoring,

A very happy Christmas to all and a happy 2022!

*Paul Pui*



### CAR FOR SALE:

Enquiry: Alan Ray  
0417 263 288



#### Austin 7 Club NSW Facebook

Kevin Lewis has created an Austin 7 Club NSW Facebook page and invited everyone in the club to be a member. This will allow people to check on what's happening in the club and add comments and photos if they wish to.

**The Austin 7 Club NSW Spare Parts Section has purchased a trailer load of Austin 7 second-hand parts. A flyer will be emailed/posted to all members of this club in the near future. Please do not phone prior to receiving the flyer as parts have not been unloaded at this time.**

When you receive your new style Log Book please contact  
Mervyn Boatwright and provide your Log Book Number.

# Events Report

As the majority of our club members had been in lockdown since the beginning of July, we have not been able to go on club runs, log book runs and static events like Shannon's Eastern Creek and All British Day at North Parramatta. It seems like forever since the "Babies" had an outing. Actually, our last run was held on June 20 this year with a breakfast run starting from Auburn and breakfasting at Cattai Ridge and then a leisurely drive through Pitt Town before heading back toward Sydney. Big excitement to the lead up for our Christmas Party that actually happened. Members were so happy to be able to catch up with friends as we celebrated our Christmas Luncheon at Amaroo Park. Members can check on the Christmas Party by looking at the photos in this magazine.

Hopefully, we will be able to have some good runs in 2022.

I wish all members and their families a wonderful Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2022.

Happy Austin 7 Touring

*Maureen Boatwright.*

## *Club Membership Renewals*

**Please be advised that Membership renewals are due on 1st January 2022 and if not paid by that date, you cannot drive your vehicle registered with HVS Plates until your 2022 membership has been paid.**

**Fees : Family Membership: \$55.00    Single Membership: \$50.00  
Joining Fee    \$30.00**

**Payment method:    Direct Credit to LCU (details on page 2) OR cheques.**

**Cheque payments to be sent to the following address:**

**Mrs. Amy Pui, Membership Officer (Austin 7 Club NSW Inc)  
P.O. Box 107, Northbridge NSW 2063**

## **CLUB CAPS FOR SALE:**

**For those who wish to purchase more club caps, please contact Maureen Boatwright.  
The cost remains the same at \$20 + postage.**

Special thanks to Bankstown Sports Club for providing a meeting room free of charge to our club for our monthly meetings. Without the support of Bankstown Sports it would be difficult for the Austin 7 Club to hold meetings without passing on some costs. With their continual support our club is also able to enjoy the various facilities available to us.



# UPCOMING EVENTS >>

**16 Jan 2022** **Breakfast Run.** Meet at Heathcote Railway Station car park at 8.30 am.  
Breakfast provided at small cost.  
*Plases contact Maureen with number attending.*

**9 Feb 2022** **Annual General Meeting (for 2021).**  
To be held at Bankstown Sports Club following the General Meeting.

**20 Feb 2022** **Club Twilight Run.** Meet at 2.30 pm near Bankstown Sports Club  
in Ross St. off Restwell Street

**20 Mar 2022** Meet at Liverpool Regional Museum, crn. of Hume H/Way & Congressional Dr  
to depart 9.30 am. Scenic drive to Penrith Museum of Fire.  
*Numbers essential please contact Maureen.*

**9 - 14 Apr 2022** **Austin 7 National Rally – Warrnambool Vic.** Expressions of Interest & Entry Forms  
now available. Have you sent your Form back yet?

**13 April 2022** **No Club General Meeting.** Due to members being in Warrnambool for A7 National Rally.

**15 May 2022** **Don Avery Memorial Shield Run.** Location to be advised. (North)

**19 June 2022** **Club Run.** To Be Advised

**17 July 2022** **Club Run.** To Be Advised

**Aug 2022** **Shannon's Eastern Creek.** To Be Advised

**Aug 2022** **All British Day - Kings School - Parramatta.** To Be Advised

**Sep 2022** **President's Run.** Date and Location To Be Advised

**16 Oct 2022** **Centennial Park Display Day.**

**20 Nov 2022** **Club Christmas Party.**

**14 Dec 2022** **Club AGM/General Meeting.**



Drawing of Phryne by Kath Cole



*I'm pretty sure the battery  
No longer has a spark  
And I feel it in my waters  
That the points are going to arc.*

*I thought it was a cataract  
That made my headlight dim,  
But discovered that a spider  
Has spun a web around the rim*

*The windscreens gone all bleary  
And the petrol smells quite stale.  
The tyres are now completely flat,  
And of course the horn will fail.*

*A wasp has blocked up my exhaust  
Which also feels quite rusty,  
The clutch I'm pretty sure is stuck  
And the motors sort of crusty.*

*Because I am immobile  
There are some puddles on the floor  
And I hate to have to tell you  
That at my age there'll be more*

*But what an opportunity  
To look back at my past.  
Created in the 1920s  
Being young was such a blast!*

*We were part of picnics,  
Of births, baptisms and marriages,  
We shared the roads with all sorts  
Of different horse drawn carriages.*

*Some of us became explorers  
In places quite remote  
With our intrepid drivers  
Fixing all the bits that broke.*

*Others took to racing  
At the new Maroubra Speedway,  
As well as Goulburn Racetrack  
And Phillip Island in their heydays.*

*Then came the great depression  
But we were survivors here  
We supplied a means of transport  
That wasn't very dear.*

*Next we knew we were at war  
The nation's youth went off to fight,  
And sad farewells were to become  
An all too common sight.*

*The English Austin 7s  
Disguised themselves as army tanks  
They took the fire as decoys,  
And earned their country's thanks.*

*Postwar the countries needed time  
To mend so many scars  
But one sport that remerged  
Was racing Austin 7 cars*

*A very youthfull Peter Brock  
Learnt his driving skills,  
With a rolling Austin 7 chassie,  
Going up and down the hills.*

*But thats enough of reminissing  
Now to the problems of today  
We have another global war to fight,  
But in such a different way.*

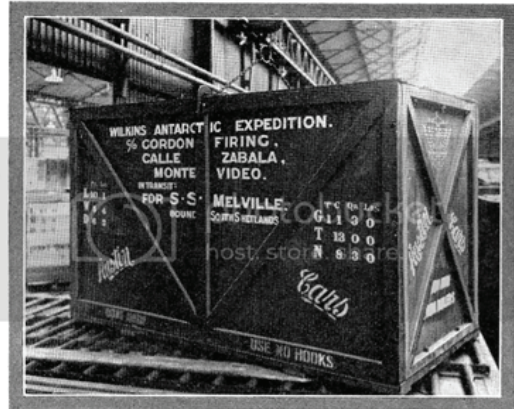
*Staying home and isolating  
Has stresses all its own.  
Communicate? Well when I was born,  
They didn't know I'd need a phone.*

*But I'm looking to a future  
With more picnics in the sun  
And celebrating wildly  
That Covid 19 hasn't won.*

*I'll need some lubrication  
Especially in my gears,  
And that tickle to my carby  
Which has worked for many years.*

*But there is a final warning  
That providing I can start  
I intend to clear my airways  
With one almighty .....(backfire)*

# ***Austin 7 in Antarctica***



The Byrd Antarctic Expedition carried as part of its equipment an Austin Seven, and the above photograph shows another of these little cars leaving the Austin factory for the Wilkins Antarctic Expedition.

Two photos re the Austin 7 shipped to Antarctica as part of the Wilkins/Hearst Antarctica Expedition of 1929. One photo shows the shipping crate leaving the factory bound for South Shetlands where presumably it was transferred to the "William Scoresby" for on-freighting to the Antarctic. Note the crate's nett weight is 8 cwt 3 qrs imperial, equivalent to 438 kg., similar to the weight of a Baby.

The second photo shows the Austin 7 next to a caterpillar tractor sent with the Austin as part of the expedition. Both vehicles appear to have just been unloaded from the "William Scoresby" which can be seen docked in the background. The Austin's windscreen is still folded, the dual wheels and chains appear not yet fitted thereby enabling a smaller crate volume for shipping.

One wonders what became of the Austin – I feel sure that further research might provide more details and photos.

***Russell.***





This is one of the Lockheed research plane unloading from "William Scoresby" at Antarctica base reveals the nose of our Baby peeping out from its shelter, ready for action. It must have been unpacked from its crate after its arrival at the Shetlands where facilities were more accommodating.



This photo was probably taken soon after the car had been unloaded from the ship William Scoresby which can be seen in the background.

*Sunday 21 November 2021*  
*Christmas lunch and Presentation Day – Vanilla Café, Amaroo Park*



Our club's yearly Christmas lunch finally was going ahead with months of uncertainty due to Covid. Maureen has been busy organizing and making all the preparations and with a bit of summer rain, everyone turned up with a big smile and in anticipation of a good gathering and catching up. It was good that we were able to book the same big room as last year at the café and everyone enjoyed their meals of hot food, desert and coffee or tea. We also managed to hold a general meeting, the last one held was at Bankstown was in June this year just before the lockdown. We also have two new members approved, Mr. Gordon Critcher and Mr. Richard Holding, bringing the total number of members to 68.



Two lucky door prizes were won by Russell Linfoot and Noelene Byrne.

The first raffle ticket was won by Tara Lewis and the second by Laura Sherringham.

*Amy Pui*



*Sunday 21 November 2021*  
*Christmas lunch and Presentation Day – Vanilla Café, Amaroo Park*



Sunday 21 November 2021

## Christmas lunch and Presentation Day – Vanilla Café, Amaroo Park



"You misspelled 'constant criticism'."



Supplied by Helen Lewis





*Sunday 21 November 2021*  
*Christmas lunch and Presentation Day – Vanilla Café, Amaroo Park*





*Sunday 21 November 2021*  
*Christmas lunch and Presentation Day – Vanilla Café, Amaroo Park*



## **FOR SALE**

**Contact:**

*Wayne Styles.*

0417 532 412.

A fully reconditioned coil engine [1929/30] by **S Rodda engineering** to a high standard with all new items fitted where required, crankshaft fully balanced etc. **READY TO INSTALL.**

# *North Pole*

## *The adventures of an Austin Seven Driver*

In my chosen sport as skydiver (Parachutist) I have been fortunate to visit many countries and take part in adventures that may seem to some as scary or even stupid. I recall having joined a small group of adventurers and travelled to Russia during 1994 from where we set off to make the seemingly dangerous trip to the North Pole, simply to parachute from an aircraft. For no better reason than it would be difficult, it would be dangerous, it would be expensive and because it had never been done before. More than six months of correspondence to Russian aviation organisers eventually secured an aircraft for the journey.

It turned out we were unknowingly in contact with people of Russian Mafia who saw their opportunity to make money, the way the Mafia does. My story in the overall scheme of things is too long to report here, but suffice to say there were unforeseen dangers as well as political and legal dramas that would have turned us away from the event had we known. The aircraft they supplied was apparently stolen, with the compliance of the military personnel who we later discovered were also profiting from the scam.

The giant illiushin jumbo jet was parked at the huge Nuclear air base 80 km outside Moscow where we arrived at midnight and were hurried aboard. The plane took off into the arctic sky and we noted no navigation lights were displayed. Disquiet among the parachutists was allayed when we learned there were military senior personnel aboard, who would explain away any problems we might encounter. Arriving at Khatanga, a Russian re-fuelling base in the Arctic wasteland of Siberia we were advertised the weather at the Pole was deteriorating and the group would have to wait several days until it was clear to jump. The local people provided food for the party which consisted of gruel and reindeer soup. Clearance came for the jump and we departed for the four hour flight to the North Pole at 11pm. As there was perpetual daylight at that time of the year we were mostly confused as to when we should be resting.

The plane approached the Pole and three Russian Commandos parachuted out from 500ft, and using triangulation marked out the precise North Pole on the ice with huge die markers. Meanwhile the aircraft climbed to ten thousand feet for the jump. When the giant rear doors opened the noise of forty thousand horsepower jet engines flooded plane as we leapt out from the ramp at 370km/ hr and 100 degrees below zero. Free fall at 240 km/ hr saw chill factor temperatures of 200 degrees below which could blast freeze any body parts that become exposed.

# ***North Pole***

## *The adventures of an Austin Seven Driver*

Many adventures ensued before returning to Moscow via the Siberian Rescue M18 huge helicopters which transported us to latitude 89 degrees where an Antonov 50 place jet plane was waiting on the ice to ferry the group to Shredney Island on the frozen Arctic Ocean. While boarding the jet we observed a man running across the ice towards where we were. The man was a lone adventurer who was hiking across the Arctic from Franz Joseph Land to Alaska. He had been followed and attacked by a Polar bear and had been running for four days to reach our plane before we departed. In the bear attack he had lost all his food and equipment except for his small HF radio which he used to home in on our position.

Paramedics in our group attended to his terrible injuries as we transported him back to civilization from where he was intending to return to his native country of Japan, re-equip himself and return to complete his crossing. There are many nut cases to be found among adventurers and we believed we had found one there on the frozen Arctic Ocean. After arriving at the isolated Shredney Island Russian outpost, the local inhabitants refused to supply water for us and referred to us as 'Western Imperialist Dogs'. The lack of external news available to isolated military people that the Cold War was beginning to thaw was obvious.

Arriving back at the military air base in Moscow we were among secret MIG 29 jet fighter aircraft that until then had never been seen by Western Allies. After taking many discreet photos we were warned that photographing in the airbase would mean long prison terms at least. The lady at the gatehouse on receiving a US five dollar bill gave us permission to take any photos we wanted. Such was the value of US dollars in Russia.

The conclusion of the successful North Pole expedition was the catalyst for planning yet another difficult adventure to the South Pole where once again nobody had ever attempted a parachute jump. That story has a different ending.

**Graham the Nutter**

**Austin Seven Club NSW**

# 1932 Australian Grand Prix

The 1932 Australian Grand Prix was a motor race held at the Phillip Island circuit in Victoria, Australia on 14 March 1932.<sup>[1]</sup> It was the fifth Australian Grand Prix and the fifth to be held at Phillip Island.<sup>[1]</sup>

The race was organized by the Light Car Club of Australia, formerly known as the Victorian Light Car Club, and was limited to cars having an engine with a piston displacement of 2000cc or less.<sup>[1]</sup> It was the first Australian Grand Prix to be decided on a straight handicap basis,<sup>[2]</sup> with the winner being the first car to complete the 31 laps.<sup>[1]</sup> The two “scratch” competitors had to concede starts ranging up to 29 minutes, equating to an advantage of four laps.<sup>[3]</sup> The previous practice of cars contesting four classes was discontinued.<sup>[1]</sup> Weather conditions were reported to be “ideal”.<sup>[3]</sup>

The race, in which there were 18 starters,<sup>[3]</sup> was won by Bill Thompson driving a Bugatti.<sup>[1]</sup> Thompson was also awarded the Herald Trophy for recording the fastest time of the race.<sup>[1]</sup>



*Race winner Bill Thompson (Bugatti Type 37A) contesting the 1932 Australian Grand Prix*



*Cyril Dickason placed third driving an Austin 7 Ulster*

# 1932 Australian Grand Prix



Race winner Bill Thompson (Bugatti Type 37A) contesting the 1932 Australian Grand Prix

Pos <sup>[4]</sup>	No. <sup>[1]</sup>	Driver <sup>[4]</sup>	Entrant <sup>[1]</sup>	Car <sup>[1]</sup>	Handicap <sup>[1]</sup>	Laps <sup>[4]</sup>	Handicap time <sup>[4]</sup>	Actual time <sup>[4]</sup>
1	1	Bill Thompson	Woolworth Tyre Co	Bugatti Type 37A s/c	Scratch	31	3h 15m 11s	2h 40m 11s
2	12	Geoff Disher	G Disher	Salmson	16 min	31	3h 19m 11s	3h 00m 07s
3	5	Cyril Dickason	Austin Distributors P/L	Austin 7 Ulster	8 min	31	3h 24m 28s	2h 57m 28s
4	9	Mert Wreford	M Wreford	Bugatti Brescia	15 min	31	3h 28m 51s	3h 08m 51s
5	3	Carl Junker	C Junker	Bugatti Type 39	4 min	31	3h 34m 27s	3h 03m 27s
6	22	Bill Northam	J Wall	Austin 7 s/c	29 min	31	3h 36m 24s	3h 30m 24s
7	20	Les Jennings	L Jennings	Morris Cowley	26 min	31	3h 39m 31s	3h 30m 31s
8	18	Clarrie May	Austin Distributors P/L	Austin 7 s/c	26 min	31	3h 40m 36s	3h 31m 36s
9	14	Bill Williamson	W Johnson	Riley	18 min	31	3h 58m 07s	3h 41m 07s



**NOTE:** When registration is due on your Historic Vehicle, you need to make an appointment for the inspection of your vehicle, fill out your 1259 Form and bring it with you at the time of Inspection.

Once the vehicle has passed the Inspection, the paperwork will be signed and stamped, photo copied for our Club records and the originals returned to you so you can register your vehicle.

**Please phone Mervyn Boatwright on 0412 940 001 for Inspection.**



*Thank you for supporting your Club by purchasing parts through the Austin 7 Club NSW.*

*There are second-hand parts now available for sale through our Club. Please contact me on 0412 940 001 should you require second-hand parts.*

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.*

*Mervyn Boatwright*

### *From the editor:*

*Many thanks to those club members who have supported me in the past with the club magazines. This edition is my last and your new editor will be Mr. Kevin Lewis from the next magazine onwards. Please contact him for any future publications.*



### **Point Score Trophy**

Don't forget the Austin 7 Club NSW Point Score program. Our aim is to see as many people as possible attending events and meetings (including monthly general meetings). Participation in an event or outing from the starting point to the finish will score you 2 points, while attending a general meeting will score you 1 point. These points are awarded whether you attend in your Austin 7 or modern car. The person with the highest points tally will receive a trophy at our Christmas Luncheon / Presentation Day. Come along and get involved.



**DISCLAIMER:** The Austin 7 Club NSW Inc (the Club), its Officers and the Committee cannot be held liable for any errors and/or omissions in items that are published in good faith in this Baby Torque magazine. It should be noted that the publication of an advertisement or expression of views in articles and reports in this magazine does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Club.

# Austin 7 Club NSW Inc

*"Dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of all types of Austin Sevens"*

## **Our Club is a member of The Council of Motor Clubs, Inc**

The Austin 7 Club NSW Inc has been active since 1984 and aims to bring together people with the common interest of restoring, preserving and driving Austin Sevens. We are an informal family club that regularly takes our "Babies" to the road for some fun social touring. Spare parts are available to Club Members through the Club Spares Division and our technical people will give advice, where possible, in regards to the restoration of these cars.

## **RMS Regulations & Club Rules**

Members are to observe all RMS Regulations and Club Rules as contained in our current Constitution and Members Mate booklet.

If this Club is nominated as your Primary Club under the RMS Historic Conditional Registration Scheme (HCRS) then the following documents MUST be carried in your vehicle at all times.

- a copy of your RMS Certificate of Approved Operation of Vehicle
- a copy of this Clubs Certificate of Insurance (Public Liability)
- a current or recent Baby Torque magazine
- a current yearly membership receipt

## **If bad weather conditions are looming:**

please contact Maureen Boatwright (Home) 02 9822 8609 (Mobile) 0413 017 263  
or Paul Pui (Home) 02 9958 1791 (Mobile) 0413 621 078  
Saturday evenings or from 6.30am on the Sunday of the run.

## **Welcome New Members:**

Mr Richard Holding

Postal Address: P.O. Box 6009, North Ryde NSW 2113

Email: [info@austin7clubnsw.org.au](mailto:info@austin7clubnsw.org.au)

Website: [www.austin7clubnsw.org.au](http://www.austin7clubnsw.org.au)