



Austin 7 Club of S.A.

70th Anniversary 1953-2023

Bulletin Number 167

14.7.23



What's on and What's not.

- 16.7.23 Burra – Morgan Run**
- 18.7.23 A7C Leisure Run to Old Noarlunga**
- 23.7.23 A7C Hills Luncheon to the Blacksmiths Inn**
- 23.7.23 A7C TTM Regularity#4**
- 24.7.23 A7C Technical Night**
- 13.8.23 Willunga Swap Meet**
- 14.8.23 A7C Monthly Club Meeting at 7.30pm.**
- 18.8.23 A7C Leisure Run**
- 27.8.23 TTM Club Championships**
- 28.8.23 A7C Technical Night**
- 1.9.23 Old Car Day at Bethany**
- 11.9.23 A7C Monthly and AGN Meeting**
- 15.9-17.9.23 A7C Border Run to Mount Gambier**
- 17.9.23 Gawler Swap Meet**
- 17.9.23 Morgan Swap Meet**
- 19.9.23 A7C Leisure Run**
- 24.9.23 Federation Picnic Day at Macclesfield**
- 25.9.23 A7C Technical Night**
- 15.10.23 A7C Anniversary Celebration**
- 22.10.23 Bay to Birdwood**

Please check with the organisers as dates and events may be subject to change.

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Sports and Specials



Tony Johns

Sillier than a Seven





2023 Dates

Our competition dates for 2023 are as follows.

July 23, Aug 27, Nov 5

All at Mallala



BAY to
BIRDWOOD

A decorative flourish consisting of a central fan-like shape with five points, flanked by two horizontal lines.

Registrations
Now Open!



Leisure Run 18th July 2023

The next Austin 7 Club Leisure Run is on Tuesday 18 July 2023 where we'll be meeting for morning tea at Caffe Buongiorno Hilltop Main South Road O'Halloran Hill from 10am. . Afterwards heading off at 11.30am to the Old Noarlunga Hotel for lunch at 12noon.

Please advise of your attendance by Friday 14 July as only a limited number of seats has been booked. (I will be able to adjust the booking to suit).

THE 'OLDY'

You haven't really visited historic Old Noarlunga unless you've spent time at the famous Old Noarlunga Hotel.

We're a genuine Australian country pub... but one that's been upgraded inside and out, with re-energised [food and wine menus](#).

Locals and tourists come for the food and live music, then stay for the fun and friendship.

BTW, we're family friendly, have gluten-free and vego options on our menus, and dogs are welcome on the verandah.



Hills Luncheon 23rd of July 2023

Meet at Price's Bakery 463 North East Rd Hillcrest 10.30 for Coffee

Travel to Blacksmiths Inn Black Top Road One Tree Hill for Lunch

Bookings essential Closing 14th July

Contact Christine Cutting 0412 092 760

- **10.30 am Meet at the Bakery for coffee /morning tea.**
- **11.30 am Leave for Blacksmith's Inn**

Turn Left on North East Road for approx. 6 k / 3.5 miles

Then turn left on to Golden Grove Road

Follow Golden Grove Road for approx. 6.4 k / 4 miles.

(through 1st roundabout at Golden Grove Supplies)

Then taken 3rd exit at next roundabout on to One Tree Hill Road

Follow One Tree Hill Road for approx. 9.5 k / 6 miles to Cross Hill Road

Turn left on to Cross Hill Road for approx. 1 k / .5 mile to Black Top Road

Turn left on to Black Top Road

Blacksmith's Inn will be on the left.

- **12.30 pm Lunch at the Blacksmith's Inn Black Top Road One Tree Hill**

Note ...If you miss the Cross Hill Road turn off go a little further to the Black Top Road turn off on the left.

Return route if required.

Turn left out of the car park follow Black Top Road down to Main North Road comes out just North of the Old Spot Hotel then to your destination.



Austin 7 Club of S.A.

Technical Night 24th July 2023

Held at the Clubrooms

262 Tapleys Hill Rd Seaton.



We will be having a presentation from the South Australian Historical Tool Association Inc.

Established in 2012 with the Objective to Advance the history, development and use of tools and the people and trades that use them.

www.sahta.org.au

Bring along your old tools

Spares from 6.00pm Meeting starts at 7.30

ADELAIDE BURNOUTS ARE BACK

JULY 29th



MALLALA
MOTOR SPORT PARK

Border Run 2023

Friday 15th September to Monday 18th September

Bulletin No. 1

This year's Border Run for the Austin 7 Club of SA Inc and the Austin 7 Club Inc (Victoria) will be centred at **Mount Gambier SA**.

This first Bulletin will provide an outline of the programme so members can begin to arrange their calendars. More complete information (including pricing and booking instructions) will be provided in subsequent Bulletins.

While previous Border Run activities have effectively commenced on the Saturday afternoon upon arrival at the selected base town/city, most of the SA club members have historically travelled part way on the Friday, while those who were still on somebody else's payroll travelled the full distance on Saturday.

Some Victorian members have also travelled part way on Friday and may choose to do so again this year.

This year the SA first contingent will travel to **Naracoorte** on Friday 15th September. The option remains for others to travel direct to Mount Gambier on Saturday.

Any Victorians who would like to travel to join us at Naracoorte are most welcome to do so. Google maps indicates that it is only 14km further than the direct trip to Mount Gambier – but it is a long haul from Melbourne in one day in a "7".

As the convoy leaves Naracoorte en-route to Mt Gambier we will have a guided tour of the famous **Naracoorte Caves**, followed by lunch at Penola. As we pass through Nangwarry (32km north of Mt Gambier, or 130km west of Hamilton (via Coleraine and Casterton) we will stop to have a look at the **Nangwarry Forestry & Logging Museum**. The Victorian members can rendezvous with the SA group at Nangwarry at about 2:00pm they wish.

Two nights' Accommodation and Saturday night's dinner in Mt Gambier will be at the **Presidential Accommodation & Suites** which has been renovated since we were there about 6 years ago. Sunday night's dinner will be at the Western Tavern (3 minutes walk from the Presidential)

Sunday's run will be to Port Macdonnell, with the main feature being a visit to **Feast's Classic Car Collection and Memorabilia**, lunch, and an optional visit to **Collectormaniac Antique Store**. It won't be a big driving day – approx. 80km round trip.

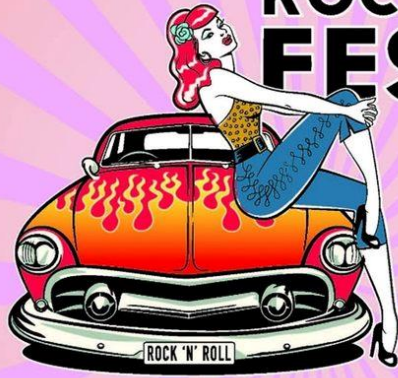
Additional details will be provided in Bulletin #2 in a few weeks. No action is required from you yet.

We are looking forward to good numbers from each side of the Border, and a bit warmer weather than our previous June events.

Christine Cutting 0412 092 760 Martin Lewis 0414 727 893 Austin 7 Club of SA Inc. touring@austin7clubsa.com.au	Austin 7 Club Inc secretary@austin7club.org
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VICTOR HARBOR ROCK 'N' ROLL FESTIVAL

16-17 SEPT 2023



City of
Victor Harbor



WWW.ROCKNROLLFESTIVAL.COM.AU

WHAT'S ON AROUND TOWN

Friday 15th

Hotel Victor - **The Windsor Kids** (8.30pm - 11.30pm) free entry

Grosvenor Hotel - **The Rollbacks** (8pm - 11pm) free entry

Town Hall - **Midnight Shift** (8pm - 11.30pm) Legends R'n'R Club ticketed event

Saturday 16th

Hotel Victor - **The Vigilantes** (8.30pm - 11.30pm) free entry

Grosvenor Hotel - **In The Doghouse** (8pm - 11pm) free entry

Anchorage Hotel - **The Memphis Suns** (7pm - 11pm) free entry

Town Hall - **Lengends R'n'R Club** (8pm - 11.30pm) ticketed event

Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th Sept:

There's 2 full days of entertainment for the whole family including a variety of new and second hand trade, memorabilia, market stalls, food vans plus Warland Reserve will also be hosting Shannon's Show'n'Shine including Hot Rods, Customs, Classics and Bikes.

You can also get your dancing shoes on with DJ's plus live Rock'n'Roll and Rockabilly bands all on one stage this year from 10am - 5pm.

WARLAND RESERVE STAGE

Saturday 16th

11.00am - **The Chevytones**

2.15pm - **The Satellites**

Sunday 17th

11.00am - **The Silverados**

2.15pm - **The Lincolns**

For further information go to

www.rocknrollfestival.com.au

www.facebook.com/victorharborrocknrollfestival

For Car Cruise Registration information go to

rocknroll@hmv.org.au

HMVC Events Coordinator: 0402 495 708 or 0417 857 325

Arthur Clisby Memorial Picnic Day

Sunday 24th September 2023



Macclesfield Oval & Sporting Complex
Cnr. Davies & Kingrose Streets Macclesfield

An old-style club drive and picnic day, a perfect opportunity to the give your vehicle a shakedown run prior to Bay to Birdwood.

Entry is FREE*

No entry fee but no free lunch unless you bring your own!

All we ask is the Club does a count of how many vehicles are coming and how many would be buying food on the day.

Please let Brian Davey know on 0400826969 by Friday 15th Sept.





BAROSSA VINTAGE COLLINGROVE HILLCLIMB 2023

OCTOBER 1ST 2023
COLLINGROVE HILLCLIMB



FEATURING CARS AND MOTORBIKES, PRE WAR AND INVITED POST WAR. HISTORIC CARS ON DISPLAY.

WWW.SPORTINGCARCLUB.COM.AU



Federation of Historic Motoring Clubs SA Inc

Federation Motorfest for 2023 is here and welcome to this year's events. The events

have been organised by some of South Australia's great historic car clubs and will certainly be of interest to our Interstate, Country and local enthusiasts. Again the various day outings will take you to many well-known, and some not so well known places of interest. For this Federation Motorfest we go to destinations which range from the Lower Mid North to the Fleurieu showcasing so much of our great state of South Australia. We trust that as many of you as possible will take advantage of this wonderful programme and avail yourselves to as many Federation Motorfest events as possible. Please be aware that you do not require a specific vehicle to enter any of these events. You may use any vehicle you wish to, including your current model family car. Happy Motoring. Graham Tonkin. Federation Motorfest Director

Entries are now open.

Click on the link.

[Cruising Classics 2009 Programme \(fhmcsa.org.au\)](http://fhmcsa.org.au)



The Bendigo Swap Meet

**The next Swap Meet will be held
11-12 November 2023**



**WAYVILLE SHOWGROUNDS ADELAIDE
Friday night November 17th &
all day Saturday November 18th**

Austins over Australia 2024

7th March -11th March 2024

<http://www.amvcnsw.com.au/aoa/Expression%20of%20Interest%20AOA%202024.pdf>



Expressions of Interest forms available from Martin Lewis (0414 727 893) so you will receive newsletters as they are issued by the organisers.

If you are even slightly interested, please advise Martin by 30th April so tentative accommodation bookings can be made – no obligation at this point.

Out and About with the Thorpe's Or Austin spotting in the West



Whiteman Museum W.A.



Whiteman Museum W.A



1925 at the York Motor Museum



Austin Pathfinder Pedal Cars

THE BEGINNING

It was in 1943 that Parliament passed an act that recognised that many miners were being struck down with what the miners called "The Dust" (pneumoconiosis's). The Government decided to encourage employers to give ex-miners employment. Leonard Lords had taken this to heart and decided that those (in this case South Wales miners) who had been cut down by this respiratory condition could still earn a

wage. It was stated that in 1945 there were over 5,000 miners suffering from this disease. The plan was that they would build a Toy Pedal Car based on the current models. To keep the cost down, it would use metal off-cuts.

It was Leonard Lord, Chairman of the Austin Motor Co who in April 1946 summoned Rod Phillips who was an Artist attached with the Post War Planning whose brief was to look into the future of how the factory would look in the Post War period. He was joined by Jim Blaikie who had join him after serving in the war, (it was a government directive that any person who was employed before the war, his employer would have to offer them their old job back on returning to civilian life.

Both Rod and Jim had no experience of body design and the tooling needed. This is where a third member Alf Ash joined the team who had the expertise.

The team were given a disused workshop in South Works in which to set up a design office and experimental build. So it was down to looking at the specification.

- a) Suitable for children in the age range four to nine.
- b) Most be able to have room in the front for a smaller brother or sister.
- c) Bonnet and boot to open.
- d) Lights that work along with a dummy engine

Although the original idea was to use up scrap sheet metal from Longbridge, this was only possible for small parts, the larger panels would be produced from fresh steel strip. The Government were willing to pay for a new factory, so it was decided to build the factory at Bargoed in Wales. To set the factory up second hand presses a total of nine were sent down from Longbridge. The Body Sides needed a larger capacity press and so these panels were pressed in West Works Longbridge

The factory in Bargoed was starting to take shape, and covered an area of 24,500 sq ft. This included a production area along with stores, offices and canteen. An up to date medical centre was essential for the work force who would be employed, and staffed with nurse and a part time Doctor. Twice a year the hospital in Cardiff would send a team along with a mobile X-Ray machine, to check on the workforce.

Although the Government funded the factory, Austin still had to pay rates, but this was reduced to 50% because only disabled staff were been employed on the production side. It was decided to get the plant up and running by Christmas 1948, in fact things were slipping badly and the factory was not finished till January 1949. With a manager installed and various staff from Longbridge arriving to install the necessary equipment. One interesting piece of new equipment was a process supplied by Carrier Engineering for the preparation prior to painting of the bodies. The process was called the Rotodip which the company were hoping to get Austin to installed at Longbridge. The process involves putting the

welded body on to a shaft that rotates as it goes through baths of metal preparation chemicals. The management at Longbridge must have been impressed as the process was later installed in West Works.

It was decided in the early stages to make the Pathfinder version first, the main reason for this is that the main body was only two pressings, and these were been made at Longbridge. With less parts than the saloon version it was easier to bring it out first. The first public advert for the cars was by Selfridges in June 1949 although the company had contacted their dealers in mid May stating that "Delivery of Pathfinders will commence almost immediately, and the 'Joy Roaster' will be in production in about three months time." Supplies were slowly been built up, ready for the official opening of the Factory in July 1949. The press were quite intrigued by the cars and gave the company much valuable publicity, although I don't think there were any free samples given away. It appears that the Pathfinder was joined by the Roaster at the end of 1949, which was just right for the Christmas period. The cost of the Pathfinder was £25. 4s with the Roaster at £20. Production figures for the two models is unknown, as no figures were kept before 1955.

In the early years the workforce was around the 110 mark, but in 1953 suddenly increased to just under 150. From then on it rose nearly every year until it reached a peak in 1965 employing 514. The reason for this increase was that over the years the factory had the presses and welding equipment to produce other small components needed by other factories in

the BMC empire. Parts such as rocker covers, timing covers and number plates were the main items,

As stated earlier, the Pathfinder were the first to go into production. The main components were the body, trim, front and rear axles, pedal assemblies and wheels and tyres.

With the Pathfinder it only had two main pressings which were supplied from Longbridge. The pressings were spot welded together along with the fascia and seat panels. As you can see from the picture below, after having a pre-treatment via the Rotodip and primer it passes to the paint spray booth. It would be hand sprayed and as can be seen in the picture the bonnet travels separately. They were available in Cream with Red Trim and also Wheels and Grille, the other option was Red body with Beige/Tan Trim and Silver/White wheels and grille.





Old Adelaide



King William St 1959

Buy, Sell & Exchange



Flip up garage

Friday Funny

