



Norfolk nA7ter



October 2018

Norfolk Austin Seven Club

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Club Meetings

are held on the third Tuesday of each month
from 7.30 pm at

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Club Website – www.na7c.co.uk

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It may be necessary to condense or alter some of the articles submitted for publication to suit the space available.
The Editor apologises in advance if this is unavoidable.

The NA7C is a member of the Austin Seven Clubs Association, the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs and the Association of Norfolk Car Clubs.

In This Edition of the

Norfolk NA7ter

	Page
News	
Editorial	1
Chairman's Chatter	2
Obituaries	3
90th Birthday Run	4
Skittles Night	5
New Members	6
Macmillan Coffee Morning	6
The Trophy Cabinet	7
Christmas Dinner	8
Our Cars	
Hazel	9
Runs & Rallies	
An Evening at the Flixton Buck	11
Heveningham Hall Country Fayre	12
Sutton Village Gala Weekend	14
Rixy's Riverside Ramble	15
Beighton House Garden Party	17
NA 7C Rally at Hoveton Summer Fete	19
Picnic in the Paddock at Pelham House	21
Harleston Fun Day	25
Forncett Industrial Steam Museum	28
What's On	30
NA7C Christmas Dinner	31
And Finally...	Inside back cover

On The Cover



Well, it makes a change from a Seven!

**Elaine Newton's splendid
1926 Crossley 15-30, seen at the
June Drive It Night barbecue.
Learn more about the car on page 9**

Editorial

As autumn makes its presence felt it is nice to reflect on a generally warm, dry summer with a full programme of events, virtually none of which were spoiled by the weather.

Following a break of a couple of years, the Committee tried to revive the annual major summer get-together and chose as a venue the Wroxham and Hoveton Lion's Summer Fete, held on the Hoveton Village Hall Playing Field. As we report on page 19, this was poorly-attended and not a success.

The Committee still feels that a major summer rally is an important part of the club's calendar of events and welcomes any suggestions as to where and how this might be arranged.

In the meantime, we hope you enjoyed the events that you attended and are looking forward to 2019.

Whilst on the subject of looking forward, Christmas is coming and details of the club's Christmas Dinner are now

available. We are holding it at the same venue as previous years – Wensum Valley Hotel, Golf and Country Club, Taverham – and have managed to hold the price at £20 per person.

In addition, we will be providing after-dinner entertainment in the person of character comedian Stephen Bayfield. We have a lot to get in on the evening, so please try to be there on time! Full details are on page 8 and a booking form is on page 31

We are also pleased to announce that the stock of 10th Anniversary mugs is finally down to single figures and will soon be exhausted. If you want one of the remaining mugs, contact the Editor immediately. When they're gone, they're gone – thank the Lord!

Finally, the user name and password to access the on-line, full colour version of this NA7ter are in the printed copy.

Rick

**The next edition of the *NA7ter* will be published in January 2019
Please let the Editor have any contributions before 31 December
Contact details are on the inside front cover**

www.na7c.co.uk

"Members Only" user name: *** Password: *******

Chairman's Chatter

It will soon be time to put our Austins back in to hibernation for the winter once again but what a summer we have had, at last. There are some hardy souls who use their car throughout the year and I must admit we try to use them as much as possible whenever weather permits. We have Mabel for that purpose. She is a 1932 RN saloon which may look rather tatty but starts on the button without fail and can really put on a turn of speed. We have used this car on our long trips to the North and she can hold her own on the motorway which always saves a lot of faffing about trying to find smaller roads.

We used Mabel to motor to the Henham Steam event in mid-September. This must probably be the last show of the year and what a day it was, with clear blue skies and warm sunshine. We even caught up with some other Norfolk members, although Barney and Jean were the only members we saw with a Seven. This event was also a bonus for me as viewing the various tractors and, in particular, the grey Fergies, we noticed a trailer hooked up to a grey Fergie – and it was also for sale!

Frequent phone calls to the owner were fruitless due to poor mobile signal so there was no alternative but to take Karen on to the Big Wheel to get a better signal once we were at the top. She was not impressed, but brief negotia-

tions were conducted and the trailer is now mine.

We were delighted to host another picnic at Pelham where our skittles, beautifully made by Mr Maulden, made their debut. My proficiency at the game was again put to good use – by the opposition! However, there was a gasp of shock from the spectators when, probably by accident rather than design, I actually knocked a skittle over. They soon relaxed when they realised it was just a fluke. Our rather large cat Ted, obviously knew this as he chose to sit down totally unconcerned on the grass behind the skittles!

The gymkhana with the teddy bear and crankshaft hurling was popular although tinged with a little sadness as last year, this part of the day was prepared and set up by the late Dave Orange. Les Morley from the Essex A7 Club who was a close friend of Dave, kindly stepped in to get everything ready for us.

Phil Sharpe is busy planning events for the winter evenings to keep us entertained and elsewhere in these pages you will find a booking form for our Christmas meal at the Wensum Valley Golf Club. This is always an enjoyable evening and I look forward to seeing as many as possible of you.

Safe and happy motoring.

Dave Witton

Norfolk Motor

News

Bryan Norfolk

As many of you will be aware, Bryan Norfolk sadly passed away in July.

Bryan had been a member since the early days of the club, having joined in March 2005. His permanent home at the time was in Harpenden, Hertfordshire, but he had a holiday home in Norfolk and combined visits with attending club events. In 2017 he and Hazel moved permanently to Holt, in Norfolk.

A well-respected member of the Austin community, Bryan was always willing to offer help and advice. He was also the author of several books on stamps and trade cards featuring the Austin Seven.

He will be sadly missed and our condolences go to Hazel and his family and friends.

Pam Roper

We are also saddened to report the death of Pam, mother of member Martin Roper.

Pam died peacefully at home on 12 September after a long illness. Our thoughts are with Martin.



90th Birthday Run

Phil Sharpe

Last year, as a result of an email to the club, I had a run to ferry a Diamond Wedding couple from Holt to Kelling, which generated a donation to club funds.

Earlier this year I had another enquiry from a gentleman asking if the club could provide an Austin Ruby to ferry his mother from Norwich to Coltishall for her 90th birthday lunch, as she part-owned a similar car in her youth.

So it was that on Saturday 5 May I duly arrived at her home in Thorpe, where

her family was assembled. It was here that I found that the brother of the enquirer was one of my old colleagues from British Telecommunications who I hadn't seen for many years – talk about coincidence.

Anyway my arrival was a complete surprise to their mother, who thoroughly enjoyed the trip from Thorpe to the Norfolk Mead Hotel in Coltishall. Another donation to club funds followed, so all in all a good day in perfect weather.





Photo courtesy of Phil Sharpe

Skittles Night – 17 July

There was a good turnout on the July club night, with 31 people competing in what has become a popular annual event.

Each contestant bowled two rounds of three balls each. As usual, there were mixed fortunes, as talent – or lack of it – was put to the test.

At the end of the competition, there was a clear winner – Liz Maulden, with a score of 14. However, three people were tied for second place on 12 – Keith Barber and Phil and Pat Sharpe. A play-off was held, which resulted in Pat Sharpe being placed second and Phil third.



Photo courtesy of Phil Sharpe

New Members

Please join us in welcoming the following new members to the club:

Eric Ramm lives in Thursford, near Fakenham and has just completed the long-term restoration of a 1936 Ruby.

Jamin and Shirley Wilson come from Winfarthing, near Diss and have recently become the owners of a 1936 Pearl.

Finally, it is with great pleasure that we welcome **Nick Walmsey** back to the club after a four-year absence. Nick lives in Hoveton and now owns a 1928 RK Saloon.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Several club members (and their cars) were among the guests at the recent Macmillan Coffee Morning hosted by John and Elaine Newton at Northall Green Farmhouse, near Dereham.

The event raised £377 for Macmillan Cancer Support

The Trophy Cabinet

Competition success for club members

Since the publication of the last *W47ter*, several members have been fortunate enough to win trophies in various competitions.

At the **56th National Austin Seven Rally** at Beaulieu, **Karen Witton** was awarded the **Mike Brigg Trophy** for the best open chrome radiator four seater, while your **Editor** received the **Long Haul Trophy** for

the furthest distance travelled to the rally.



At a Snetterton sprint meeting organized by the **Fressingfield Oily Rag Club**, **Charles Levien** was competing against a wide variety of cars, only two of which were pre-war – his Paxton and a 1935 Lagonda Rapier. Over six runs he was just a few seconds slower than the Lagonda. Charles was awarded the **Peter Andrews Shield**, basically for having a good go in a sporting fashion – he thinks!

Finally, following the King's Lynn and District Motor Club's 41st **Classic Car Rally**, **Cherry and the Editor** were singled out as the "Most Appropriately Attired Crew" and were presented with the Hillebrand Brothers Memorial Trophy. Amazing what a helmet and a pair of goggles gets you!



Christmas Dinner

Tuesday 11 December

7 for 7.30pm - please be prompt!

Wensum Valley Hotel, Golf and Country Club, Beech Avenue,
Taverham, Norwich, NR8 6HP

Three-course waiter-service meal, followed by coffee and mints.

There will be the usual raffle and donations would be appreciated.

Dress Code – Smart Casual

After-Dinner Entertainment by Stephen Bayfield – Character Comedian

The cost is £20 per person

A booking form is on page 31

Menu

Chef's Home-made Soup with Croutons or

Prawn & Paprika Marie Rose Cocktail or

Melon & Prosciutto Ham with a Raspberry Dressing

Roast Sirloin of Beef with Yorkshire Pudding or

Pan roasted Chicken Breast Stuffed with Wild Mushroom Ragout or

Grilled Fillet of Salmon on Roasted Asparagus Spears with a Crab, Chive
& white Wine Sauce or

Sauteed Leek, New Potato & Spinach Puff Pastry Pie

Cherry & Almond Bakewell Tart with Wild Cherry Ice Cream or

Homemade Bramley Apple Crumble with Vanilla Custard or

Ice Cream or

Cheese & Biscuits

Coffee & Chocolate Mints

Please talk to Paul Maulden

(01986 872537 or paul_liz@maulden21.plus.com)

if you have any questions about the Christmas Dinner

Our Cars

Hazel

The story of our cover girl, a 1926 Crossley 15-30 (2400cc) two-seater.

In 1970 the radiator, engine and gearbox of a 1926 Crossley 15-30 was found in Delungra, Australia by Bruce Burge. It was in an abandoned sawmill, where it had been used to power the saw. After an extensive search the chassis, bonnet, bulkhead, back axle and the remains of a tourer body and windscreen were found around the site.

Crossley cars sold well in Australia in the 1920s as they had been used for the Prince of Wales's tours and were considered very desirable. As such a lot of parts had survived well in the good climate. Bruce was able to locate all the remaining parts to complete the car mechanically. All parts were over-

hauled and the compression ratio was raised to increase the performance.

Bruce designed and built the current two-seater bodywork which has a much longer bonnet line than the standard tourer. This involved moving the windscreen back nine inches and raking the steering column. When complete the car was entered in the 1988 International rally and it performed faultlessly.

In 1992 Bruce brought the car to England and used it for a year while he was working as a lecturer on an exchange scheme. When he returned, he left the car with a friend to sell it. After 3 years





various friends had garaged the car and it became homeless. John and Elaine Newton had met Bruce when he was in England and were asked to garage the car whilst a buyer was sought. The deal was that it would be garaged if it could be used. Elaine started driving the 15-30, which has always been known as *Hazel*, and loved it. In 1997 a deal was done and *Hazel* joined the Newtons.

In June 1999 cash was needed by the Newtons – something had to go and *Hazel* was sold. She was bought by a very eccentric gentleman who has an extensive collection of veteran cycles and cyclecars and regularly uses “penny farthing” bicycles (more correctly *Ordinaries*) on the roads of Suffolk. John and Elaine made it clear that if *Hazel* was ever to be sold they would

like first refusal on her.

In December 2017 something amazing happened. A postcard arrived on the mat at Northall Green Farmhouse. “I don’t know if you still live at the same address but I am thinking of selling the Crossley”. This was a “no brainer”. Within a couple of hours contact was made, after a few weeks the deal was done and *Hazel* returned home in March 2018.

Time has been good to *Hazel*. She has had a partial engine rebuild, and a new radiator core. She still drives well and most importantly Elaine still loves driving her even though she can’t reach the pedals without cushions. Adjustable seat runners will be the next upgrade.

Runs & Rallies

An Evening at the Flixton Buck – 20 June

Phil Sharpe meets up with the Bungay Car Club

Close on the heels of the NA7C BBQ – in fact the following evening! – was the Bungay Car Club's get-together at the Flixton Buck, to which our club members were invited. Making an appearance were myself and Patricia (without Winston) in Pat's Triumph Spitfire plus Paul and Liz in their Ruby. Barney and Jean were in their modern as were Dave and Tricia, as their first attempt to leave home in the Lotus revealed a flat tyre. Also attending were Anne and Hamish Alger and David Charles Apologies for any other members present but not mentioned.

A good turnout from the Bungay club and a decent gathering of Lotus and

Aston Martins (whose attendance had been postponed from the previous week due some clashing football match) meant that the pub was very busy, although even so the food orders were prepared in short order. Offerings such as chicken/sausage etc. and chips were presented in a basket (more Classics!).

A variety of vintage and classic cars were in evidence, and a good evening was had, with the weather dry and thankfully a little cooler than earlier. With a decent sized field for parking/display this could be one for next years calendar.



Heveningham Hall Country Fayre – 1 July

Phil Sharpe reports

With the promise of hot dry weather, we met up with Phil and Tricia Jepson and John and Christine Lain in the usual lay-by between Poringland and Brooke a little after eight o'clock. It was a fairly early start to get to Heveningham in good time, as no entries were to be allowed after nine thirty.

As the three of us entered the site we found we were following Barney and Jean Barnard over the bridge, but ended up parking in the row behind them next to Stewart and Stephanie

Anderson-Cousins but close enough to set up camp for the day.

As far as static events go this event has to be one of the best, with an enormous site and such a variety of attractions and activities that the day is easily filled.

Although it was indeed very hot and dry an intermittent gusty wind was in evidence – good for cooling – and we managed to get a couple of sun umbrellas airborne! At a slightly higher altitude we were regaled with two flying displays – a wingwalking biplane and





Sun umbrellas safely grounded!

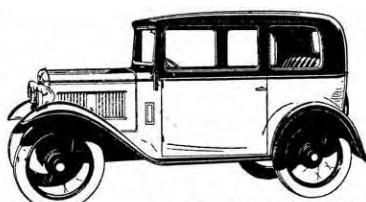
then a Spitfire and Messerschmitt bf109 simulated dog-fight. The aircraft were on site prior to the displays and could be seen by visitors.

A decent mix of vehicles attended (with the addition of the millionaires' enclosure!) without too many "new showroom" examples, and plenty of stalls, demonstrations and ring action made the time pass quickly.

Although the departure time was quoted as five o'clock some exhibitors were seen leaving before four o'clock without incident, and we started leaving ourselves from four fifteen, so any concerns that we would not be able to leave as at some other events were allayed – indeed staff were in place at the exit to assist. All in all a good day out.

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Sutton Village Gala Weekend – 7/8 July

Dave Rix

Mrs R and myself took the RN over the Reedham Ferry to the USA (Uther Side of Acle) on a brilliant sunny day, which we are beginning to take for granted these days.

We arrived to find a good selection of cars, machinery and an array of tents and gazebos offering choices of things to eat, buy or bounce around on (now then!). It all seemed such a typically English scene. The happiest person I imagine would be the ice cream man, although we found a pastry come cake stall which sold home made Eccles cakes – just about my favourite treat – which seemed to be very popular and doing OK.

We came across a tortoise tent. I shall never look upon tortoises as being slow movers again after seeing a 60yr old male trotting around in his enclosure. Apparently the hotter the weather the quicker they move – not at all like me.

It was an open garden day in the village and two tractors and trailers were kept busy ferrying visitors around the various attractions. The village hall had an art display and the Methodist hall also put on a craft fair and flower festival. Among the other activities was archery, a ‘find the frog’ trail for children, a dog show and even a mini digger demonstration! A couple of singers

supplied 60s style music, which added to the carnival feel of the place.

There were seven pre-war cars including an immaculate Model T Ford and about 20 classics on display. An interesting old tractor took my eye, a 1929 Canadian Walls. Under the grime of 90 years was a carburettor which fed into what must have been a turbocharger before going into the inlet manifold. It had a petrol OHV engine, but you just don’t expect to see a ‘blown’ tractor. Five military vehicles were also displaying their armour and a couple of big old Yankee cars took up a lot of space.

I spoke to a guy with a smart green Ruby with the idea of persuading him to join our club, only to find he was already a member! He is Peter Iddon who hails from Yorkshire and has recently joined our motley crew. Although we have been members since ‘06 there are still a lot of fellow members I haven’t met, which seems rather odd.

It was a most enjoyable visit with plenty to do and see. Thanks must go to the Makepeace family for their part in making the day a success (and providing such perfect weather!).



Rixy's Riverside Ramble – 15 July

The Editor enjoys a sunny day on (or, at least, close to) the Yare

A bright sunny Sunday morning saw Cherry and me in the Special bowling down the Southern Bypass to Poringland and the rendezvous at Elvin's Garage.

We found new member Peter Crane waiting there with his RP and were soon joined by Dave Rix and John Lain in Dave's Chummy and Tricia Rix and Christine Lain in the R. Phil and Tricia Jepson also came in a Chummy, while Dave and Karen Witton tuned up in their RN. Last to arrive were Hamish and Annie Alger in their A35 and Mavis and Trevor Jenkins in a Bentley Bentayaga. Apparently there was some tennis and football on TV that afternoon, which may have accounted for the numbers.

We got under way for the short trip to Highway Garden Centre for coffee and

loos, then headed off for our first riverside stop, at Surlingham Ferry.

After checking out the drinks on offer, we continued on to Coldham Hall for another look at the river.



Runs & Rallies

This was followed by a pleasant drive through the countryside to Hardley Staith. By this time the majority were suffering hunger pangs, so we headed to our picnic destination – Seething Control Tower.

Tricia and Dave had provided tea, coffee, cakes and strawberries to supplement our own supplies and a pleasant hour or so was spent in the shade of a

convenient tree, or looking round the Tower.

There was talk of travelling on to a “mystery destination”, but time was against us, so it will have to remain a mystery. Maybe next time? In the meantime, our thanks go to Tricia and Dave for providing us with a delightful summer’s day outing.





Beighton House Garden Party – 29 July

Dave Rix

A wet and windy start to the day on Reedham Ferry saw us at Carol and David Charles's abode for their annual club get-together. It must have been Sod's Law which decreed that, after several weeks of fine hot weather, it turned a bit stormy on the day.

However by the time we had had our picnics and eaten our fill of the various tasty cakes (generously provided, along with tea and coffee, by our genial hosts) the rain had ceased, although the wind stayed blustery throughout the afternoon.

It was good to meet up with their son Chris again. He had travelled from London in his classic Mini for the

weekend to join the party. Now he has started on his career path we all wish him success in the future.

Due to various circumstances, several regulars could not make it this year so numbers were down and only three Sevens made it to the venue. These were Rick and Cherry in their bakers van, Graham and Claudia with the garden centre van and Paul and Liz in the Ruby.

Hamish, Annie and Molly the dog brought the A35 as their Sevens are presently immobile, whilst Mrs R and myself were cossetted in the 100E, due to a hot ignition switch in the RN and

Runs & Rallies

the Chummy being in the wrong end of the garage!

Two friends of the Charles's, Mike and Gary, who attend from away every year, had their Triumph Stag and Chris's Mini completed the line up of "mates-in-crates".

It was good to see Henry and Jennifer Thorne along for their first visit as well as Barney and Jean Barnard, Martin Jones and Dave Witton with wife Karen. Although fewer in number, we all enjoyed a convivial afternoon in the shelter of the large covered area in the garden, with the never-empty teapot on

the go and a cake table to tempt the weak-willed.

This is the most relaxed venue of the summer season and long may it so be, so thanks to David and Carol for inviting us all and to Chris, who keeps us in touch with the younger generation!

It was in 1958 that the original Little Nell, a 1932 RN, entered our lives. Father taught me to drive her – but to take my test I had three lessons in a 100E from Guntons Driving School in Norwich. Sixty years on and we are driving around in... an RN and a 100E!



...only three Sevens



**...the line up of
“mates-in-crates”**

Austin



NA7C Rally at Hoveton Summer Fete – 5 August The Editor reflects on a disappointing day

Since the inception of the club, we have tried to stage a major get-together sometime during the summer. The first was at the Police Gala/BBC Radio Norfolk Old Car Rally at the Showground in 2006. This became an annual event, but in 2009 the police pulled out and it became the Norfolk Gala Day, and we attended again in 2010 and 2011, which proved to be the last event of this kind. In 2013 the Wroxham and Hoveton Lions moved their Charity Motor Show to the Showground (albeit in one of the car parks) and we attended for three years. The 2016 Show was cancelled by the Lions due to a bereavement and has not been held since.

This year the committee decided to try and revive the annual get-together and

chose as a venue the Wroxham and Hoveton Lion's Summer Fete, held on the Hoveton Village Hall Playing Field.

A large space was allocated, the gazebo was erected and, with free admission, a good number of "Sevens" were expected.

Unfortunately, this didn't happen. In the end, seven 7s, two 12s and an MG Special – ten cars – turned up. These comprised the Rubies of Phil and Pat Sharpe and Paul and Liz Maulden; the Opals of John White and Graham and Claudia Makepeace; the RNs of Dave and Trish Rix and Warwick Springall and Susan Reed; and the Editorial van. The Twelves belonged to Michael Spinks (accompanied by Sue Hunt)

Runs & Rallies

and Colin and Mossie Aldridge. Paul Bellison brought the MG Special. Other club members were also about. David Wall stopped by for a chat and Bob Davison was there with a nice pre-war Rover saloon. Ken Rivett was in attendance as the sole “auto-jumbler”.

Apart from the disappointing club turnout, the show itself never seemed to get off the ground. None of the stalls

appeared to be doing much business and there was a sparse attendance. However, we had several chats with a few people, including a potential new member, so the day was not completely wasted.

The committee are keen to continue the practice of a get-together during the summer. If you know of a suitable event or venue, please let them know.



Picnic in the Paddock at Pelham House – 11 August

Dave Rix reports

It was while travelling down on the annual get-together day at David and Karen Witton's home in Suffolk that we had our first and unexpected house tour of the day. Travelling in convoy with Phil and Tricia Jepson, we always pull into the car park of the Fox pub in Garboldisham for a leg stretch. However, today a couple were opening the doors and invited us in for a look around. The central section is 17th century with low beams and atmosphere and the two sides have been added over the years. It is community run and is doing nicely, with a cider weekend coming up.

Arriving in time to give a sort of a hand to the gazebo erectors, the next task was to meet the smiley faces manning

the bacon and sausage bap counter and the tea and coffee table. As we didn't want to disappoint them by not having their grub we had both a bacon and a sausage bap to show our appreciation of their efforts. At this point, and on behalf of everybody who came along, I would like to thank Dave and Karen for supplying the bap feast. Thanks also to the many ladies who contributed the selection of cakes and "naughties", and a special mention to the stalwart Annie who stood and served countless mugs of tea and coffee throughout the day.

While most of us were chewing and chatting, Les Morley and his young assistant Tom Meade busied themselves setting out the driving skill test circuit. Volunteers were to reverse in

**Most of us were chewing
and chatting**





here, drive in there, drive in circles trying not to touch the ground with a bucket on a rope and, my downfall, driving onto a plank with a bucket on my head - see right! After being deafened in the bucket we were then required to hurl a seven crankshaft and a Teddy Bear across the field!

The arrivals came thick and fast from the Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk Clubs, the last being Richard Bohannan making a stately entrance in his lovely open Twelve. In all we had 21 cars on show comprising six Rubies, three RNs, two Big Sevens, a pair of two-seaters, two vans, one Chummy, a Pearl, an RP, a Twelve, a Riley Monaco and a Little Grey Fergie. That's ten Norfolk, four Suffolk and seven Essex. Unusually there were no "mates in crates" (classic) cars this year, so the entire line up was pre-war cars – except for the Fergie.

Young Tom enjoyed driving Les's Ruby round the meadow, watched with

a mite of apprehension by his Grandparents, Roger and Sue Harnor, but all was well. It was good to see Roger again, but he has been hampered for a long while as his leg has been pinned in a circular scaffold-like support which looks the height of inconvenience. How he has coped with that I can't



imagine and we wish him well in the coming days.

Suffolk member Peter Golding driving his Ruby won this driving test. Quite what he won I'm not sure, but we all enjoyed taking part, it was great fun! Thankfully Annie was still serving coffee after our traumatic experience!

During the day Karen gave house tours to the delight of the ladies although the chaps were interested as well. The implications of the ideas the dames

might get was in the back of their minds but we managed not to let it spoil the day. The difference between the stripped out shell of two years ago and now is amazing. Haven't they done well!

Picnic time came round and we were royally entertained by Peter Lawson playing a selection on his accordion, which made the afternoon feel quite continental somehow. (Peter also gave some of us a short recital on the piano



Runs & Rallies

during our house tour, he really is good).

Finally, the Third Annual Skittles Battle got under way. Norfolk kindly allowed their Chairman and our host for the day to lead the Essex and Suffolk team and he obliged by scoring nil at the first attempt, but made up by scoring his personal best of three later on. Tom was top scorer with eight. An objection by the Norfolk team that being under 60 years old he should be

ineligible was overruled! At any rate it was a close fought contest with Norfolk the victors with a score of 78 to 75.

Tea and cakes were served to round off a really splendid day and after stowing away the gear and saying goodbyes we went our different ways.

Many thanks to Dave and Karen and all the other helpers who made it such an enjoyable day.

The Third Annual Skittles Battle got under way





Harleston Fun Day – 27 August

The Editor goes round the houses (and shops and offices!)

Last year several members attended this event as an alternative to our normal Bank Holiday Monday visit to Village at War. This year we decided to join them.

We like to arrive early at an event, but quiet roads and a trouble-free drive meant that we actually turned up at the meeting point (which took a bit off finding – it was our first visit to Harleston)

before the organiser. A friendly hi-viz jacket was there, though and directed us to the car park, while ex-member Peter Metcalf, the organiser of the car section, turned up soon after in his A7 Special.

We were soon joined by other entrants, including members of the NA7C, with whom we formed an enclave at the top of the car park (see below). Eventually



we totalled 10 cars. Dave and Tricia Rix brought their Chummy and RN, Barney and Jean Barnard came in the RP, Mavis and Trevor Jenkins arrived, with their friend Phil driving Trevor in the Big Seven and Mavis and Val in the Nippy. Paul and Liz Maulden and Phil and Pat Sharpe came in Rubies, while Cherry and I brought the van. The “moderns” comprised Hamish and Annie Alger in their A35 and John and Christine Lain in the MGBGT. The whole ensemble was rounded off by the canine contingent of Molly, Winston, Frankie and Chippy.

The plan was to drive in convoy through the centre of Harleston to the recreation ground. Peter Metcalf led the way out of the car park and into the

town, where we completed a circuit of the one-way system. Cheering crowds – OK, several people – greeted our passing as we circled the town. They had increased in number when we completed our second circuit, but enthusiasm seemed to be waning after the third time round. Fortunately Peter led us out of the centre at this point and we made our way to the recreation ground.

Once on the show field we commandeered the “back row of the grid”, set up our picnic area and hoisted the club banner.

During the afternoon there were childrens’ races, a demonstration by the Army Cadets and a driving test compe-



We set up our picnic area and hoisted the club banner

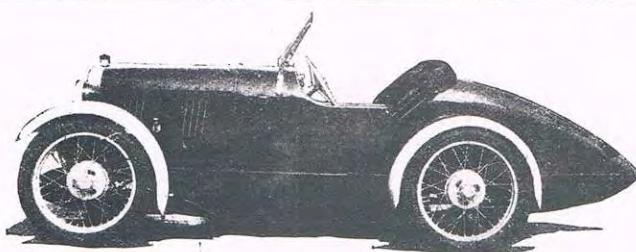


tition, which both Barney and Mavis entered. Despite demonstrating considerable hockey skills (see above), Mavis's reversing and hoop-la techniques let her down and resulted in her finishing low down the list. Barney came third.

Elsewhere on the field there were the usual craft and charity stalls and food and drink outlets – in fact, a typical summer fete. The weather was kind, the company was good and we all had a real good time.

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Forncett Industrial Steam Museum – 2 September

The Editor enjoys a steamy session

It was – officially – the second day of autumn, but it felt more like a mid-summer's day as we wended our way south in the special, heading for Fornsett St Mary and the Industrial Steam Museum.

Reserved parking had been arranged and we arrived just before opening time, much to the relief of Phil Sharpe, already parked up with the club banner flying and wondering if anyone else was coming!



He need not have worried. We were soon joined by ten more cars. vintage cars were represented by Dave Rix in his Chummy, Martin Jones with friend Les Maddocks in the Model A Ford and ourselves. Later Sevens included Phil and Pat, Paul and Liz Maulden and David Sturman in Rubies, Graham and Claudia Makepeace in an Opal, new members Jamin and Shirley Wilson in their Pearl and Mavis and Trevor Jenkins in the Big Seven. In more modern vehicles were Hamish and Annie Alger (A35), John Lain (MGBGT) and Paul Bellison and his wife (MG Special). All in all an excellent turnout.

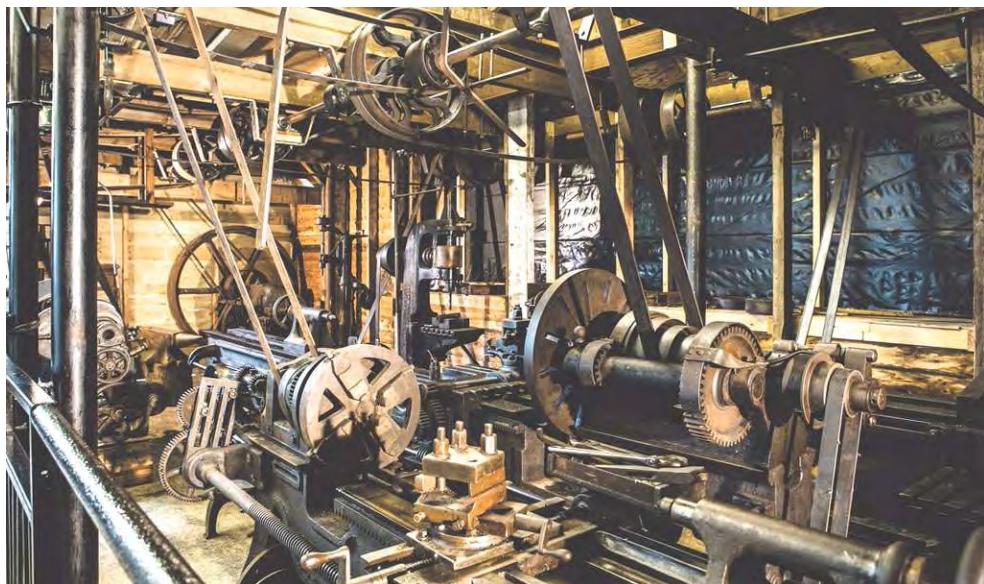
Having sorted the parking out, most of us headed into the museum to join the founder, Dr Rowan Francis, on a conducted tour of the various engines on

display. These range from small launch engines to huge beasts weighing close to 100 tons and are of all types – vertical, horizontal, beam engines and turbines.

Each engine was steamed in turn, accompanied by a commentary from Dr Francis describing its history, technology and how the museum acquired it (see opposite).

There is also a wonderful Victorian engineer's workshop, driven by a system of line shafts, belts and pulleys, (see below) powered by a Marshall steam engine.

Following the tour we returned to the car park and enjoyed our various picnics before making our way home.



For more details on the museum, visit www.fornettsteammuseum.co.uk

What's On

Not much left on the Events Calendar for 2018, but Phil Sharpe is already working on next year's programme. Watch this space!

NA7C Events Calendar 2018

Bold type Underlined = NA7C Organised Event **Bold type = NA7C Supported Event**

Normal Type = Event not organised by NA7C but recommended or suggested by NA7C

Grey shaded – a new or amended event added since last issue

Note: Please let the organiser know if you plan to attend an event

Date			Event	Venue	Contact
Oct	16	Tues	<u>NA7C Meeting Guest Speaker: Tony Leslie - 50 years of vintage motoring and racing</u>	Jubilee Hall, East Tuddenham - 7:30pm	Phil Sharpe
Nov	20	Tues	<u>NA7C Meeting - Guest Speaker: Peter Coats - Rallying</u>	Jubilee Hall, East Tuddenham - 7:30pm	Phil Sharpe
Dec	11	Tues	<u>NA7C Christmas Dinner</u>	Wensum Valley Hotel, Golf and Country Club, Beech Avenue, Taverham, Norwich	Paul Maulden 01986 872537 paul_liz@maulden21.plus.com

Please Note: All the above events and dates are subject to change.
Visit our website at www.na7c.co.uk for the latest information

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NATC Christmas Dinner

Please complete and return to Paul Maulden, at the club nights on Tuesday 16 October or 20 November, or by post, by 28 November at the latest, to:

“Corryghoil”, Wissett Road, Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 8PS

with the appropriate remittance (Cash, or Cheques made payable to Norfolk Austin Seven Club)

£20 Per Person)

And Finally...

Pictured here at the recent Picnic in the Paddock (see page 21), Mavis Jenkins' Big Seven seems to be attracting a lot of attention...



There will be no shortage of advice or opinion as to what's amiss under the bonnet, but who's saying what?

The Editor will award a
Free Year's Membership
to whoever submits the most amusing (and printable!) caption to the photograph

Entries by email or post
Address on inside front cover
Closing date – 1 December

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