

No. 281

DECEMBER 2006

A30 MINUTES

A NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB INC.



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Club Minutes, News, Photos and More



From the Front Seat

A message from Club President, Don Jones

Welcome to December

With Xmas just around the corner I wish you all a merry Xmas and a safe New Year. The Xmas lunch at the Austrian Club was a great success with over 35 members and friends enjoying a good day. Thanks must go to Fred and Bob for organizing this day.

With no meeting in January and 2 runs in that month, that is The Great Australian Rally to Mornington and the Australia day in the City. We will talk more on these at the December meeting.

I believe the jolly red giant has been booked again for the next meeting, so lets see as many members as possible at this one.

Could those coming to the meeting, not forget to bring along a plate of Xmas goodies to share for supper.

In closing the committee and I wish you a safe holiday season.

From the Editor

This is my fifth Newsletter completed and I think I am getting into the swing of it. I though they would take less time to do but are actually taking more time, it takes me a long time to put a few words together. I am always after feed back on the form of the Newsletter, more technical articles, club outings, photographs or whatever. (I have just been give a book of puzzles, "Hint", the solution is on page 7).

I hope everyone has a top holiday season, I will, as I get next month off, no Newsletter.

Graeme McIntosh

Membership Report:

Currently 84 members.

Tom reported on photo of Christine Jewison in Tradsheet from U.K.

Club Captain:

Past Events:

Waragul / Old Wares Expo: A good day. Lots of old trucks and tractors, tractor pull and a flyover.

Possibly combine with A40 Club next time so that we can park together.

Coming Events:

3rd December / Christmas Party / Austrian Club.

Regalia:

Bob Talbot:

Review new merchandise early 2007.

Order grille badges / minimum?

Suggestion: George James" original A30 Club badge to be mounted and presented as a perpetual trophy.

General Business:

Bob Talbot: Association of Motoring Mag./ Seminar Vicroads 90 day permit scheme: Bal-larat 25th November.

Members Reports:

Mario: R.W.C. and seats and also query on generator, negative to earth or positive earth.

Don Jones: Bendigo Swap / 18-19-20 November.

Don also reported on the great job Graeme McIntosh has done with his van.



Please note that the next meeting is one week earlier than usual.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as

WEDNESDAY THE 13th December 2006

At the Camberwell Uniting Church, 314 Camberwell Road, Camberwell at **8-00pm**

The meeting was closed at 9-16pm

Bob Dickson
Hon. Secretary

NOTE: There is no Club
meeting in January.

Bendigo Swap 2006



Myself and my 2 boys Sam and Jack headed for the swap on Friday for this annual event. After erecting the tent on our site and doing my two hour stint on the gate it was time to hit the sack for the forth coming day.

The day started about 5:30am to the sounds of rusty tin hitting the ground, by 8:00am all the good junk on the site had been sold, not that I had much to sell.

I had a few persons enquire about the A30 club but the greatest one of all was the guy who came from Interstate, he told me about his 2 A30's he had in his possession, one being a 4 door and the other one an A30 Ute. When he mentioned the Ute my eyes and ears sprang into life to enquire how, when, where and why. With great joy I continued the conversation on only to be interrupted by Dot Bacon to introduce her brother who was standing in front of me, talk about being sucked in.

With other members coming and going from the site it just goes to show you what the club is about, good friendship.



On the buying side, not much was taken home by myself but I hope the other members who attended did well.

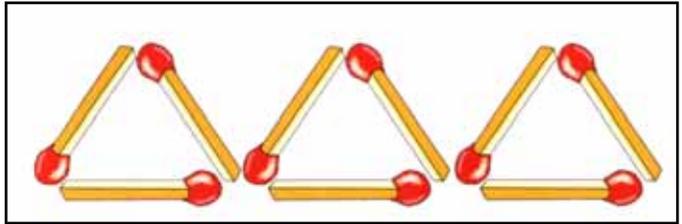
I did buy something that I think all members will want, I will bring it to the next meeting, for those members from outside Melbourne I am sure our editor will have a picture in the next newsletter with all the information required to purchase said item.

Don Jones

Matchstick Puzzle

This shape is made up of three triangles in a line. Move two matches to create a shape made up of four triangles in the same line.

(Solution page 14)



For all those members interested in Embroidery Dot Bacon has obtained a Heritage Classics design for an Austin A35 sedan.

For more details Dot can be contacted on 03 93181846

ARCHIVE BINDERS FOR YOUR 'A30 MINUTES'



complete with
25 plastic pockets

Each Binder will provide you with a handy reference of over 2 years of Austin A30 and Club information.

PRICE

\$10.00 EACH

plus postage, if applicable

An Ideal Christmas Gift

Not an A30 in Sight

A kayak trip down part of the Murray River by Graeme McIntosh

After playing with several inflatable Zodiac's and rubber canoes last Christmas I bought myself a solid kayak, one that would slip through the water with minimal effort. I had a couple of trial weekends paddling through the Barmah forest which is flooded for a few weeks each year before Christmas for the gum trees. Thirty degrees, a slight breeze, blue skies and a sea of wild flowers to paddle over was magic. With a head full of wonderful memories and a lot of ignorance, myself and two older mates planned an extended trip going down the Murray River from the Hume Weir to Lake Mulwala, a river distance of 207km.

Eleven months went by before we arrived at the bottom of the Hume Weir wall with three kayaks on the roof and a heap of gear in the back. An hour later and we had unloaded the kayaks, loaded our gear, posed for the departing photo and were off down stream. Perfect weather on a perfect river and away we went taking a short cut down Wodonga Creek. The scenery along this part of the Murray and Wodonga Creek is through cleared stock country with mountain views in the distance, all very scenic. Finding a nice camp spot at four o'clock and after forty five kilometers of paddling for the day we all decided it was enough.

While sitting around the campfire eating my can of dog food (can of curried vegetables) I was going over the events of a great day when I made two observations. Firstly the sky was rapidly clouding over and secondly I feeling very tired.

Next morning was not looking good, there was plenty of wind and rain overnight.

Several firefighters later sitting around the smoky fire having a breakfast of warm porridge and the day started to look much better.



Loaded up Ready to go



The weather only slightly improved in between the showers and blustery wind. We did a lot of paddling as it was warmer in the kayaks than standing out on the banks of the river in the wind. Another day of 40km traveled. Our luck with the weather changed and we had two good days with crisp sunny mornings and overcast afternoons, ideal for paddling. We still cruised at 40km a day (for me 30km would have been better as I was slowly getting more tired each day), and ended at Bundalong our final destination. That last day was very windy, the wind would blow the kayaks upstream. We were all pleased to finish that day.

Back home after a good hot shower, a feed of proper food and a good nights sleep in a proper bed and we have already planned the next trip, a camp at the Barmah Lakes and day trips exploring the area.

(Our week trip down the Murray coincided with the worse cold snap Victoria has had at this time of the year, it snowed in Gippsland so I guess we did not have it that bad)



A perfect morning for kayaking

Graeme McIntosh





Graeme McIntosh's 1956 A30 van

For me it all started one Sunday afternoon in February 2006 when standing in the backyard checking out one of our truck club members latest acquisition, an ex Queensland road train International Transtar prime mover, with it's huge V8 Detroit diesel and 15 speed Roadranger gearbox, driving back to the tandem rear axles in the extra long wheelbase American chassis.

He said what do you think. I said I would prefer to be liable for something a little smaller, older and simpler to work on, like an Austin A30 van. He said 'I have one hidden in a shed.'

Two weeks later we were in my truck heading to Orbost to bring the van back to its new home in Heatherton. My memories of A30's had faded over the last 30 years (my first car was a Volkswagen) so the first sighting was a bit of a shock. Sitting under the carport of the old house in the back streets of Orbost with its faded grey paint, red oxide primer patches and many little dints it looked more like an abandoned kitten than an A30.



All ready for the trip back to Melbourne

Our first meeting

With its new battery the engine fired up and I drove the van onto the trailer, gently tied it down and off to Melbourne we went. (Now that I have driven the van on the open road I realize what a shock it must have been for it, hanging onto the trailer behind the truck at 100kph plus would have been quite an experience for the little car.)

I am lucky that I live on a five acre farm that has a dirt track so I could drive the A30 around to get the mechanicals working ok.

I replaced all the rubber components in the suspension and fitted new king pins and shockers which fixed up the front end wobbles on the bumpy dirt track down the back. The engine ran fine, just a couple of oil leaks fixed, and a new exhaust and some new engine mounts. I found the diff made noise over 60kmp and was replaced. The gear box has not been touched as yet.

The bodywork was the most expensive and took the most time. Seats, floor covering and all trim was replaced, not to original as I have used cloth seat coverings, modern car carpet and modified the Countryman seat style conversion rear seats. I also changed the sliding windows to fixed rubber mounted side windows to make it look more like a commercial van. (this fits with the Historical Commercial Vehicle Clubs trucks).

All body panels and glass were removed and repaired or replaced, some minor rust in the body was fixed and then repainted with all new rubbers fitted.

At this stage some eight months after starting the restoration I could not wait any long and after a bit of trouble with the young bloke doing the roadworthy understanding the A30's technology finally got MYA30 registered.

Since then I have been using the van as my main form of transport clocking up 2000km in the first month, sorting out a few minor bugs but nothing that has stopped me so far.



Ready for it's new coat of paint



Sandown HCVC display day

The van fits neatly into my fleet of vehicle between my scooter and my trucks and will be used as much as the other vehicles. I will use it at all our truck shows as it is a true British commercial vehicle, not quite as big as the Fodens and AEC's but just as unique and attracts just as much interest. (More amongst the general public as it brings back their memories of 30, 40 or 50 years ago).

Almost every day using the van I get passers by waving or shouting comments, all good ones luckily. I do find with the original engine it is a bit slow at the traffic like starts, although it cruises good at 80kph, its pretty busy at

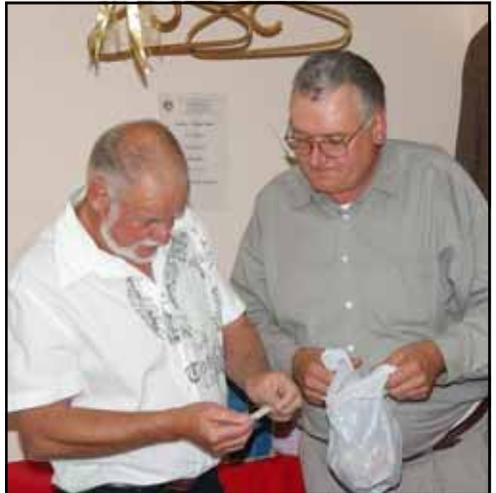
90kmp which is much more compatible with today's highway speeds. (May have to slip in a 948cc engine with a higher speed diff.)

I am looking forward to my first big trip which is planed to go up to Bundaberg, a 6000km return trip, carrying my camping gear and keeping to the back roads.

The A30 has turned out very much like that stray kitten, within less than 12 months it has wriggled itself into prime position in the fleet, it is using up all my money and most of my time, and was my introduction to the A30 Club, which is using up the rest of my time. Luckily time is to be used and spending it with MYA30 is a very pleasant way of using it, I hope we can grow old together.



Graeme McIntosh





AUSTINS OVER AUSTRALIA 2007
Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
EASTER
Friday April 6 to Monday April 9

From Kev Airton

Hi all

I realise there are a lot of nervous Austin people out there regarding AOA 2007. I have been speaking to Joe Vavra and this is what is planned:

Friday: Meet and Greet at the Club which does not include food but does include tea and coffee and is free. Food and drinks will be available at the Club for those who wish. (sounds good to me)

Saturday: 40 minute drive to Goulburn and there will be several venues to visit. eg brewery, water works, steam display, rail museum. No meals are arranged and people can arrange for them selves as there is plenty of choice (something for everyone).

Sunday: On the lawns of Parliament house for the display. The Vietnam Vets will be catering the day. The Mustang will be on display at the area next door. Sunday night will be the dinner with a three course meal with table service.

Monday: A trip to Yass to a local cottage for a provided lunch. For who want to depart north it will be part way home or you could return to Canberra for more sight seeing.

Notes for the weekend:

A DVD has been arranged and will include the stills that each entrant sends of their car plus the display day.

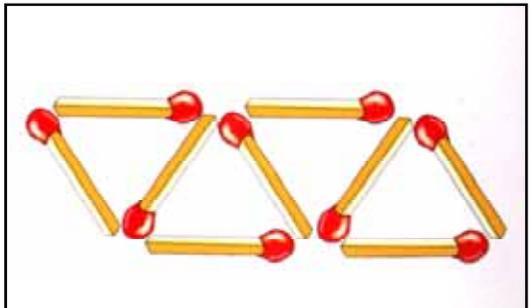
Cheers

Kev

(For details about Registration Forms, Merchandise Order Forms and Meals Order Forms contact Bob Dickson 03 98501471)

Matchstick Puzzle Solution

Move the two bottom left matches and place them over the spaces between the middle and right triangles and you have your four triangles.





On the Road

with Bob Laughton

Ho Ho Ho "Tis the season to be jolly", and so by tradition Christmas is with us again. I guess I will be cooking the "Christmas Dinner", yep, turkey this year, sometimes turkeys can be dry, but I seem to have the secret on a moist, delicious roast. Had to drive to Wangaratta recently and the thing that took my eye was all along the Midland Hwy from Tatura to Benalla was the "Green" Lucerne paddocks. The Midland follows the Broken Creek and farmers are only irrigating their lucerne while "Beef" cattle in the area look ok it's not strong beef area in The Goulburn Valley. Dairy cattle are feeling the pinch. One of the good things to come out of the drought is the bailing of poor quality "Canola" crops, it seems the cattle and sheep love it. It has to be mown and conditioned, that is put through fluted rollers that crimps or breaks the hard stems before being bailed.

My old friend Ford are still in trouble in the USA. They will be lucky to see out this year, before calling bankruptcy. GM are just holding on but looking better than this time last year. On the home front Ajax Fasteners is finishing in a few days, - more families having a "not so Merry Christmas".

The 14th Spring Car Nationals was a great success for Shepparton, but numbers were down on previous years. The champion Kyle Heppell shredded enough rubber to keep my A30 going for five years and enough noise to take the 2006 crown.

Locky plays in the local grand final tonight and Saturday and Sunday. The Shepparton Tournament has 137 teams playing, in actual fact Shepparton (Lockys a Shepparton Jr Gator) play Tatura on Friday night. There will be three games at Tatura Friday night, under 12yo, under 14yo and under 16yo. Teams are coming from Mildura, Swan Hill and the Melbourne "Tigers" and from lots of towns in Victoria.

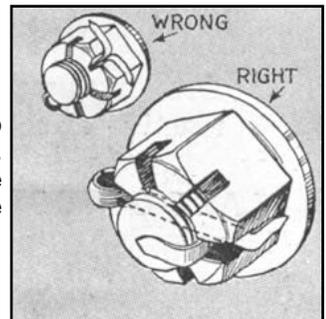
Enjoy ya Austins.

A Merry Xmas and Happy New Year to all Members and Families.

Bob Laughton

The Right Way to Install a Cotter Pin.

Did you know that so simple a job as installing a cotter pin to lock a castellated nut could be done in the wrong way? Always use a pin that fits snugly in the hole, and insert it so that the side of the head lines up with the slot in the nut. Drive the head in firmly, bend one leg of the pin over the end of the bolt or shaft, and the other one back over the side of the nut.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

21st January 2007 (Sunday) (Event Contact: Don Jones 0427 392 219)

RACV Great Australian Rally - Melbourne to Mornington.

This very popular Rally attracts many A30 cars each year. Choose from four starting points. Our Club will meet together for Morning Tea at the Western Port Marina. There is still time to enter the Rally, it closes on 16th January 2007.

26th January 2007 (Friday) (Event Contact: Don Jones 0427 392 219)

Australia Day Historic Vehicle Display in the King's Domain, Melbourne.

Sponsored by the RACV and the Federation of Veteran, Vintage and Classic Vehicle Clubs entry to this annual event is now closed. However, even if you haven't entered you can still come along and enjoy the day in the company of several hundred Classic and Historic cars. There is lots of entertainment and interesting activities happening in the parkland setting - bring the kids, too.

3rd February 2007 (Saturday) (Contact Don Jones 0427392219)

Berwick Swap

Akoona Park, Berwick

11th February 2007 (Sunday) (Event Contact: Fred Brauneis 0412 100 144)

Picnic at Hanging Rock

The Picnic has always been well attended by our club and we look forward to another great show in 2007.

We will meet at the Clock Tower in Woodend at 9.00 am for a 9.15 am SHARP departure to the Rock.

Fred Brauneis - Club Captain. Tel: (03) 9457 4038

CLUB PERMIT VEHICLES ARE AUTHORISED TO ATTEND THESE EVENTS.

Note: Owners of vehicles operating with Club Permits should carry a current copy of this Newsletter & a copy of the AOMC Club Permit Handbook in their car at all times.

*Another example of
Global Warming*



Buy, Swap & Sell

FOR SALE

1956 AS4 sedan, sound condition, sun visor but will need total restoration. Has been in shed for last 25 years.

Contact: Trevor, Phone 5968-9219 Best Offer, Emerald.

(2/2)

FOR SALE

I am selling my Austin A30; not enough time available to restore it. Body has rust, engine not going. Original condition with no modifications.

Austin A30 4 Door Sedan, 1956 AS4, 61005 miles, red, car located in Mentone, body has rust. \$900

(1/2)

Contact: Robert 0407 093 967.

FOR SALE

Morris Minor Traveller, Current full Victorian registration, no RWC, HHU386, First registered Jan 1961. 1098 motor, reconditioned 1988, very little use since.

Rib case baulk ring gearbox, Major front brakes and VH44 booster.

Starts and runs well, currently needs brake master cylinder to be driveable. Like any Minor owner, I have a range of spare parts which will go with the car. \$7000 or near offer.

Contact Graham on 0438 046102 or email wolstenholme@aanet.com.au

(1/2)

FOR SALE

New A30 windscreens. Cost \$60 each.

New Hinge Pivot Balls (These are the small brass balls that fit into the door hinges.)

Two balls are required per door). Cost \$20 per set of two balls.

(A percentage from the sales of these items is donated to the club.)

Contact: Dianne Davies Phone 0421 666203 for more details

An item in the May Newsletter had an error.

Austin A30/A35 Grille Badges

(May Newsletter - page 17)

Correct Telephone Number and Fax

02 380873478

Mobile

07931102367

Prefix for UK required

Advertisements in this section will be inserted, free of charge, in two issues unless I am advised otherwise. The notation at the end of the advertisement indicates how many times it has been displayed. ie: (1/2) - first insertion, (2/2) - second insertion. Ed.



December 2006

Northern South Australia

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 <u>Club Meeting</u>	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Great Aust Rally
22	23	24	25	26 Historic Vehicle Display	27	28
29	30	31				
No Club Meeting in January 2007						

AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB INC.

CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are held on the **3rd Wednesday** of each month from **February to December**. Commencing at **8.00 pm**.

VENUE

CAMBERWELL UNITING CHURCH
314 Camberwell Road, CAMBERWELL. VICTORIA.
(Near Camberwell Junction)
Melways 45 J1

Parking available at front and rear of the building.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

Club Lapel badge	\$ 5.50
Club Cloth Badge	\$ 5.00
Club Window Sticker Badge (internal)	\$ 3.00
Club Key Ring	\$ 8.00
Club Grill Badge (Members)	\$20.00
Club Grill Badge (Non Members)	\$25.00
Tea & Coffee Mug with Club Badge	\$ 6.50
A30 50th Year Rally Grill Badge	\$20.00
A30 50th Year Rally Cloth Badge	\$ 9.00
Club Umbrella (Dark Green with Flying 'A' logo)	\$30.00
A5 Binder for copies of 'A30 Minutes' inc. 25 pockets	\$10.00

All items are plus postage, if applicable

**All Club Merchandise enquiries to Bob Talbot
Telephone: (03) 9546 1347**

CLUB CONTACTS

Please direct information & enquiries as follows:

Correspondence to the Secretary – Bob Dickson

Newsletter articles to the Editor – Graeme McIntosh

Membership enquiries to Membership Secretary – Tom Bacon

(Contact details are shown inside front cover)

SPARE PARTS

Contact Thorpe at

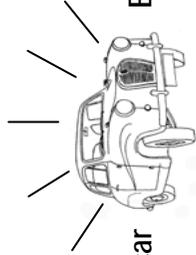
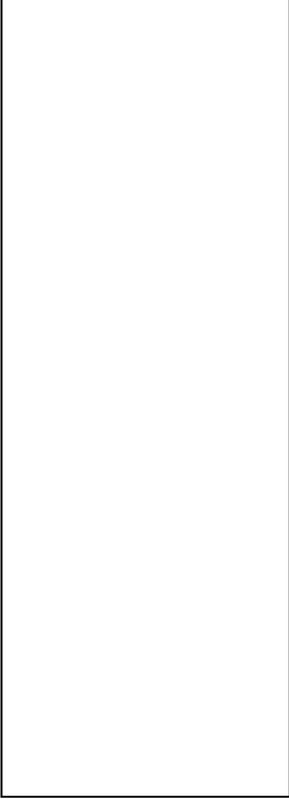
Morris Minor Australia, 56 Alex Avenue, Moorabbin. Victoria. 3189

Telephone: (03) 9555 1793 Fax: (03) 9532 2241

Note: The current membership card is now laminated and has the Club stamp on the reverse side. Members wishing to purchase items from Thorpe of Morris Minor Australia, Moorabbin, Vic. should present the card to obtain a discount. Country & Interstate members must quote their name and membership number. Thorpe has been provided with a current membership list to identify members.



IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:
THE SECRETARY, AUSTRALIAN AUSTIN A30 CAR CLUB, 6A DUMOSSA AVE, BULLEEN, VIC. 3105.



Austin A30 - small car

BIG personality!