

Driving with Austin 7s

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*Driving
with
Austin 7s*

written and published by

Chris Rush

*Dedicated
to*

My Family

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Preface

There was once a transport museum in England full of motor cars, Model Ts made by Henry Ford and semi modern cars called Austin 7s. Ruby and Chummy are two of the design names given to these much loved models. These days newer cars take over the roads, but there will always be vintage enthusiasts who keep their story alive.

This is a story about three vintage Austin 7 motor cars. Elky, Dark Blue and Maroon had been friends for many years, but for the last decade had been stuck in a museum as part of an historical display. The Austin 7s looked like any other Austin 7 car, but they had a secret... They were enchanted !

* * *

Driving with Austin 7s

Part 1

The Plot of the Austin 7s

Chapter 1

Escape to Scotland

Our story begins with three Austin 7 cars who are feeling left out. Elky, Dark Blue and Maroon were bored with being display pieces. Elky especially was keen to leave the long standing exhibition in the museum and to feel the fresh air and the thrill of the open road once more. The museum director had denied them their freedom several times and they were not happy.

The only opportunity the Austin 7s had to stretch their wheels in recent years was the annual fair held in April where they were on display yet again in all sorts of weather. Elky had had enough.

"That museum director can't keep us in the museum, lads. In the old days we used to roam on and off the roads. I feel like moving. Do you want fresh air?"

"Yes we do!" cried Dark Blue and Maroon.

They resolved to settle the matter before the annual fair.

Elky continued, "How about we escape to Scotland. I've been there lots of times."

Over the next week Elky took extra interest in the routines of the museum. He noticed that the main entrance was left open at morning tea time each day while the museum

director drank his cup of tea. It gave him an idea. They could make their move at last for old times sake.

The very next day Elky, Dark Blue and Maroon began their quest for freedom.

"See that door left open?" whispered Elky. "We'll go through it then we can make the journey to Scotland."

"There's one thing we should do first," said Dark Blue. "We should put on fake number plates."

"Good idea," laughed Elky. "The museum director will have the dizzies."

One by one, the Austin 7s sneaked out of the museum. Free at last! They drove to a scrapyard nearby where they each found a spare number plate to disguise their own. There used to be an old van that worked in the scrapyard, a very shady character. The Austins had seen him try to run cars off the road in an effort to ruin them for scrap. He had even chased them after the annual fair last year and they were frightened about having an accident. Fortunately he had been found out and was no longer working in the scrapyard, even so the Austins did not want to stay there long. Once the spare number plates were fixed they started their journey to Scotland.

Meanwhile, back at the museum, the director had finished his cup of tea and was making his regular security check of all the displays. On reaching the Austin 7s area he let out a noisy gasp.

"Hey, where are my Austin 7s? They can't have escaped! It's against my rule!"

You see, the museum director did not like Austin 7s. He went to his desk straight away and called the police.

By this time Elky, Dark Blue and Maroon were

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kilometres out of London and pleased to have fresh air. By and by they stopped at a service station to fill up with petrol. Beforehand Elky had signaled to his friends to be casual at the pumps because of the security cameras on site. They didn't want to cause any uncertainty about their presence. They made good time and set off again.

"That went well," said Maroon. "I can't wait to get to Scotland."

"We can have time to enjoy it," said Elky. "For now we need to find a shed I used to come to and talk through a plan. Until then just be polite to people we see as we don't want them asking awkward questions."

"We're checking our mirrors too," said Dark Blue.

The highway was quiet for the moment but they knew the museum director would be after them. News would be spreading.

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