

Austin 7

Clara the Flying Banana was not mine. My father bought it when I was 17, a 1935 Austin 7 saloon. Next he bought some bits from a failed project, including a boxed in chassis with hydraulic front brakes, and an alloy cylinder head, transferred the old body onto the new bits and had it painted bright yellow. The accelerator pedal used to catch in its slot in the floor, so I tied a piece of string to it, in case I needed to back off before a corner. Eventually I sold it to pay for a garden shed as a study.

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