BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

As predicted in previous issues, it would seem that some 'early doors' events for 2021 have had to be either cancelled until 2022, or postponed until a later date in this year in the hope that the C19 crisis will have subsided enough for the government to ease restrictions on movement and gatherings.

Those that I know of that have been cancelled until 2022 are: The Monte Carlo Classic & Historic Rallies (now also including the European start at Valence); Biggleswade Community Carnival and The Chiltern Hills Classic. I have not heard that 'Wheelnuts', St. Roses School, Stroud, is going ahead this year, I'm assuming that it is not. Sad as these cancellations may seem, they do not impact on us as much as those postponed until later on in the year! Many organisers, thinking that they are 'playing safe', have chosen dates in September to reschedule their events, which has inevitably caused some clashes, along with almost every weekend in September offering somewhere to take your treasured possession and even maybe your Berkeley to display as well!

Pistons & Props Sywell on the 18th-19th September conflicts with The Goodwood Revival, not that the BEC has a commitment to the latter, but many of our members like to attend the event as spectators.

Prescott Classic Hill Climb has rescheduled from May to the 11th-12th September, possibly the same weekend as the National Microcar Rally at Wem, Shropshire. If so, this one is problematic, as a few BEC members, including myself, have paid entry fees held over from 2020 for Prescott and as such will have to decide which to attend. Kop Hill Climb has rescheduled to 25th-26th September so as to avoid a clash with both Goodwood Revival and P&P Sywell. Malcolm McKay's 'Micro Marathon' in the Pyrenees & Northern Spain is scheduled to take place on the 10th-20th September, so all in all a very busy September with some hard choices to be made.

Talking of Pistons & Props, Sywell 18th-19th September, I have already been asked by the organisers, 'Live Promotions Ltd', to confirm as to whether the BEC wishes to exhibit by way of a Club Stand this year. If the rules remain the same, we will need a minimum of five cars per day, with this in mind, I would ask those members interested in attending with your Berkeley to contact me asap. Please state on which days, or both, you can attend.

We have received a request from a US member Lewis Smith of Shreveport Lousiana requiring assistance in restoring an early SE492 Sports. If any of our experienced US members can help Lewis, please contact him directly at *lewis@rlscpa.com.*

Lastly, but equally important, I have reliably heard that our newly appointed BEC Quarterly Magazine Editor is still looking to you, the membership, to provide him with articles and/or usable information for future inclusion. So, put that pen to paper or bash that laptop keyboard and get your tales spent in the shed on 'Berk time' written down, along with any photos and sent off to him!

Stay safe and well and keep Berkeleying, if 'only in the shed', or 'only in your head'.

Geoff (Bill) Toyer *geedadtee@ntlworld.com*

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NEWS

Museum or Sales room in the USA?

As per the posting on the Facebook Berkeley Car Owners site on 24th January, it appears that the large Dezer Automobile collection, once of Miami, Florida has now moved to form the basis of the Orlando Auto Museum in Orlando, Central Florida, USA.

It seems that they have six Berkeleys or Berkelys,(they have mis-spelled the name in the museum directory so 2 cars are Berkelys and four cars are Berkeleys !) The 4 T60s are all ex-UK, one being a 328cc original or near original spec, one has a 500cc twin BSA engine conversion whilst the other two have not been identified at present but seem to have front hub and wheel conversions.

The two four wheelers are both we suspect USA export cars but again at present cannot be accurately identified. One is listed as a Sports Anzani SA322, but we believe that it is either a very late SE328 or an early example of a Sports SE492 with the earlier sloping leading edge to the doors body style, it now has a Japanese motorcycle engine. The other is a restored yellow and black strip painted Sports SE328 which looks as though it is original.

It seems from reading through the museum website that the museum also acts as a broker for sales and as such it mentions that everything is for sale. Therefore, if any USA members are looking for a complete car or project it may be worth enquiring.

In the meantime, if any USA Berkeley Enthusiast is in the area the BEC Vehicle Registrar would like to learn the full details of the cars located at the museum.

Note from Nigel Halliday and Dave Perrin - some of the years of the Berkeleys on the Orlando Auto museum website may also be incorrect.

Images from *www.orlandoautomuseum.com/sales/vehicles*
Search for 'Berkeley' and also the misspelt 'Berkely'.








Sywell Classic - Pistons & Props 18th - 19th September

Let's get this on the calendar- something to look forward to! We really can't wait to see the classic vehicle displays, vintage and classic traders and aerial displays. Great fun for all the family! It's going to be brilliant- tickets available now

Book yours today at *www.sywellcassic.com*

Celebrating the great classics both on the ground and in the air- see you there!!

The BEC has had a presence here for several years now. Please contact Geoff Toyer asap if you are interested in attending as part of the club stand .



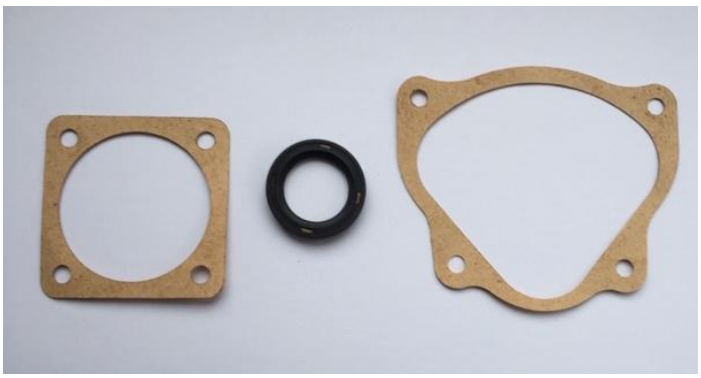
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SPARES

Spares Update

Steering Box Overhaul Kits

Coming soon we hope! BEC Spares has found a supply of new steering box light overhaul kits. The kit comprises the paper gaskets for the steering box end and top plates and a neoprene oil seal that replaces the original felt seal that fits around the drop shaft at the bottom of the box (and through which the oil normally escapes from).

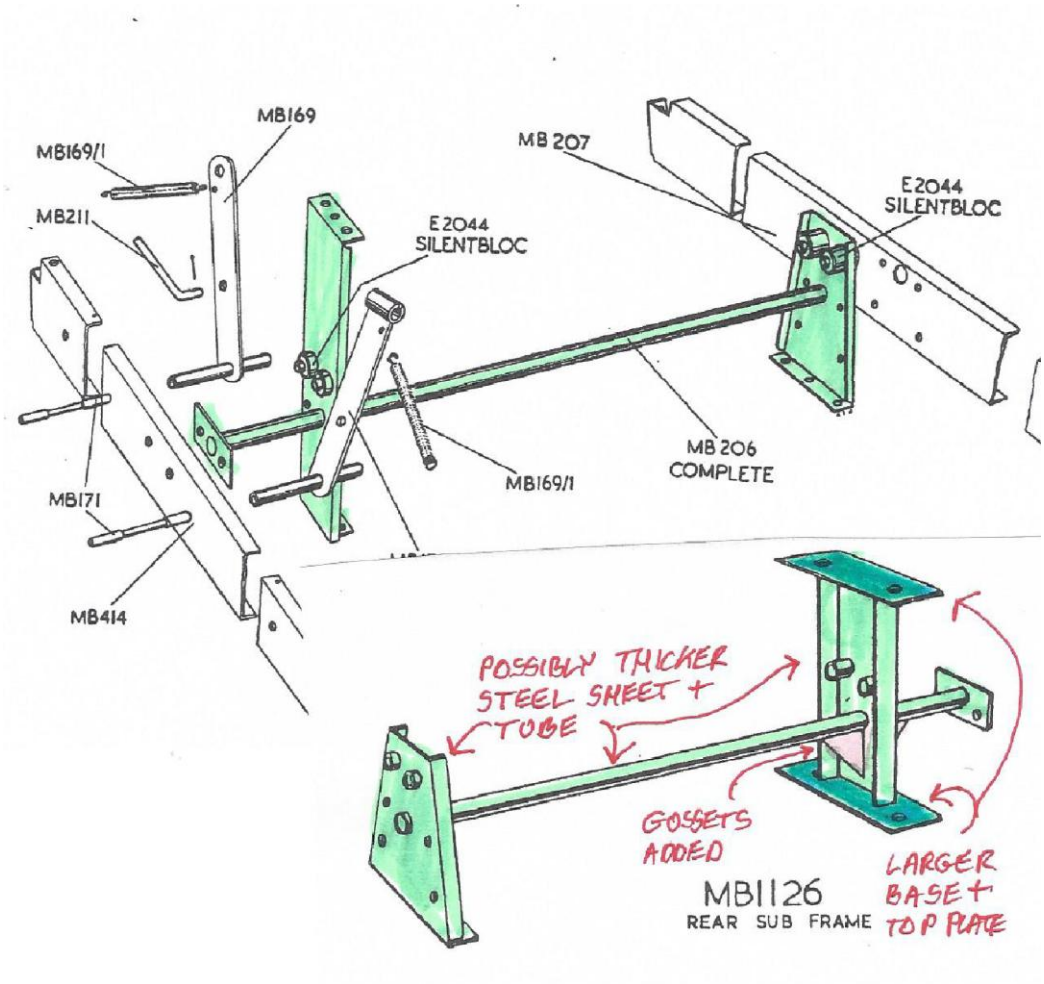


More details on price and availability to follow soon.

Four-wheeler rear suspension sub-frames.

For a little while the BEC has been considering having a batch of rear sub frames manufactured for the four wheelers. We know that there were definitely two versions of the sub frame made by the factory. The earlier version as fitted to the SA322 and SE328 cars MB 206 and a later stronger versions with welded in gussets MB 1126 as used from the SE492 onwards. However, there may be, similar to the rear wishbones a third version as used on the more powerful Royal Enfield engine cars. Can anyone confirm details of this third type?

In the meantime, if you might be in need of a rear subframe please let us know so we can estimate demand for a batch of new ones.



Nigel Halliday

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Update: Membership Secretary Report

The following figures relate to the "current" membership as of 22nd January 2021.

The figures exclude all members that expired at the end of December 2020 and beyond.

A promising influx of New Members means a small jump in "current" Membership with four New Members from "across the Pond" three in the USA and one in Canada.

Subscribing members now total 202 plus 16 Honorary and Car Clubs resulting in 218 total membership.

- United Kingdom 144 subscribing members
- Europe 24 subscribing members
- Rest of the world 34 subscribing members. (25 subscribing members in USA)

The BEC welcomes the following New Members this month:

#2755 Lewis Smith	SE492	Shreveport	Louisiana	USA
#2756 Matt Molson	SE492	Mississauga	Ontario	Canada
#2757 James Shubin	SE328	Mission Viejo	California	USA
#2758 Bob Dixon	SE328	Longmont	Colorado	USA

I hope that with the re-introduction of a regular Magazine being produced in the Spring by our New Magazine Editor Terry Scott that Club Membership will continue to increase.

It is important please to help Terry by submitting anything you think others would be interested in seeing by way of articles, stories and pictures to *thebecmag@gmail.com*

Thank you for your support.

Please keep me updated with changes of address and email addresses etc.

Currently 10% of the subscribing UK Membership are now receiving their Bulletin in the post each month. If you prefer to read your Bulletin in a booklet format or have no printer, just send me stamps for the postage and I will gladly print and post it to you each month.

During these difficult and restricted times with few chances of meeting up with other Members do have a look on Facebook to view the Berkeley Car Owners site. Details can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

Geoff Dabrowa – Membership Secretary

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EVENTS

Due to the current public health crisis and UK Government directives, events over the next few months are likely to be either cancelled or postponed. Please check with organisers before attending any of the upcoming events that are not currently showing as cancelled or postponed

February 2021

Local BEC Gathering: Southern Area Meetings



BEC Southern Area meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of the month. Due to the current health crisis, meetings are cancelled until further notice

April 2021

FBHVC Drive it Day April 25th 2021

Annual drive your classic car day

Website: *https://www.fbhvc.co.uk/*

Berkeley Industries Ltd Launch Event April 26th 2021

Proposed launch day for the 'new Berkeley Bandit'.

Website: *www.berkeleysportscars.com/berkeleycoachworks*

July 2021

Silverstone Classic Event 30th July - 1st August 2021 (Provisional Dates)

Website: . *www.silverstoneclassic.com/welcome*

September 2021

Micro Marathon 2020 10th -20th September 2021

Microcar rally through the Pyrenees and Northern Spain run by the organisers of the Liege - Brescia - Liege - Rallies and the 2019 NMCR (Malcolm & Helena McKay).

Email: *LBLrally@aol.com* **Tel:** 0044 (0)7711 901811

Website: *www.classicrallypress.co.uk/*

Beaulieu International Autojumble 4th-5th September 2021

It's back! The iconic International Autojumble will be returning for 2021, following its postponement last year. So join us on September 4th and 5th for the biggest outdoor sale of motoring items this side of the Atlantic.

Website: *www.beaulieu.co.uk/events/*

Classics at Prescott 11th-12th September 2021

The Annual Classics at Prescott event run by Winchcombe Rotary Club will take place in September which is a change from the usual May slot. This will hopefully mean the Covid restrictions will have eased. It will be held at the Bugatti Owners' Club at Prescott. Classic Cars are invited to run the famous hill for charity. We also arrange a Classics Tour of the Cotswolds, a Static Display and hopefully invite spectators to be part of this iconic event.

Website: *www.winchcomberotaryclub.com/classics-at-prescott*

Sywell Classic - Pistons & Props 18th - 19th September 2021

Classic vehicle displays, vintage and classic traders, family entertainment and aerial displays. Great fun for all the family!

Website: *www.sywellcassic.com*

Goodwood Revival 18th - 19th September 2021

The only historic race meeting to be staged entirely in period dress, the Revival sees a return to the halcyon days of Goodwood as the spiritual home of British motor racing. It's a celebration of bygone days, vintage fashion and wheel-to-wheel racing around this classic circuit, which remains unchanged since its heyday.

See website for more details **Website:** *www.goodwood.com/motorsport/goodwood-revival/*

Kop Hill Climb 25th-26th September 2021

Kop Hill climb festival with categories for Veteran, Vintage and rare or interesting cars up to 1980,

See website for more details **Website:** *www.kophillclimb.org.uk*

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MARKETPLACE

For Sale - Advance For Sale Notices

As seen recently on the Facebook Berkeley Car Owners site: -

1.Berkeley Sports SE328 and SE492 bodies with some parts- projects

There are two cars coming up for sale in 2021 due to a forced house move. They are located in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia. There are no original engines present but alternative replacement engines maybe available. The suggestion is that the bodies and all parts could be placed in a large trailer and put on the ferry to Melbourne.

The BEC will send on any early expressions of interest, please contact Nigel Halliday.

2.Restored red Sports SE328 chassis number 1229

By the looks of the photos, it is very original and has been nicely restored possibly by its last owner in Boise, Idaho. Planned to go up for auction sale in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA later in the Spring.





3. Sports SE 328 Mini Conversion, Manchester UK

The strange case of the disappearing advert! - This advert appeared for a day or so on the Facebook site. It featured a blue painted Sports SE328 which had a part completed or part dismantled Mini engine conversion. It is a car not heard of by the BEC since the late 1960s, it still has its original registration which was registered with a modern V5. It seems in the early 2000s it still had its original 328cc engine and the owner never got around to advising the DVLA of the Mini engine replacement. Mini engine conversions that are four wheelers are not that common so if anybody is genuinely looking for such a car the BEC may be able to pass your name on.

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NOTE: Event News, For Sale/Wanted, etc.

Please contact Ian & Mel Danaford (*m.danaford@gmail.com*) if you wish to place a News Item, Event or an Advertisement in the BEC Bulletin, or have any queries about an item or advertisement that has already appeared. Please send any items before **Sunday 21st February** for inclusion in the February 2021 bulletin.

Berkeley Enthusiasts Club

www.berkeleycarclub.com

Webmaster: Peter Smyth

Club Contacts

President/Secretary
Mike Rounsville-Smith, Tel: 01932-560160

Chairman
Geoff (Bill) Toyer, e-mail: *geedadtee@ntlworld.com* Tel: 07773119216

Membership Secretary & PayPal Payments Coordinator
Geoff Dabrowa, e-mail: *BECmembership@googlemail.com*, Tel: 01638-780500 or 07751288329

Technical Editor, Magazine Distribution
Dave Perrin, e-mail: *dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*, Tel: 02392-250880

Magazine Editor
Terry Scott, email : *thebecmag@gmail.com*

Bulletin Editors
Ian & Mel Danaford, e-mail: *m.danaford@gmail.com*

Spares Officer, Vehicle Registrar, Treasurer
Nigel Halliday, 'Burlington', 59 Orchehill Avenue, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, SL9 8QH or e-mail via Dave Perrin (above).

Regalia Secretary
Colin Pears, e-mail: *colin@pearsy.co.uk*, Tel: 01162-848016
BEC badged clothing available *at www.arktrading.com* (select Main Menu: Shop: Club Sites: Motor Clubs: Berkeley Enthusiast)

Webmaster
Peter Smyth, e-mail: *banditberkeley@virginmedia.com*

Other Berkeley related links:
'BerkeleyCarOwners' Facebook page: *https://www.facebook.com/groups/berkeleycarowners*

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The January 2021 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Ian & Melanie Danaford