BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

With arrangements for this year's AGM and subsequent BEC Rally settled (as posted in last month's Bulletin), I ask you all to look forward to the 2018 Rally/AGM. We will be looking for a venue that is of adequate size with rudimentary camping facilities, located ideally in a rural setting with local place/places of interest which can be incorporated as stop-off or destination points on a road run. We also need a room that can hold approximately 20 to 30 people (either on the same site or close-by) for the AGM. As we are a small club, funds are limited in this respect, so stately homes and the like are unfortunately out!

It has now become an established club tradition that this annual event takes place in different areas of the country. Of course, we have to take into account our membership base in said areas, along with the geographical location of members that use and show their cars. With this in mind, we invite you to put forward any proposals you may have for consideration at the 2017 AGM.

Ideally we are looking for a member (or group of members) able to present a full package including costings, location availability, etc, for the committee to consider. So, if you feel you have the organisational ability and know of a suitable location, please don't hesitate to contact me, or any other committee member with your proposals or initial ideas.

Returning to this year's split event, there is still time to register for the Wheel Nuts show which will be taking place the day after the AGM, but if you haven't yet decided whether to bring your Berkeley, I suggest that you don't leave it too long, as spaces are limited: see overleaf for details. Wheel Nuts is a charity event run in support of St. Rose's School, Stroud; they cater for the education of severely handicapped children, a most worthy cause that our club has supported over the past three years and I would urge you all to make maximum effort to help make our fourth appearance there even more memorable.

Re. the 2017 BEC Rally in Wingfield over the weekend of 19th to 21st May, could those of you planning to join us please let me know if you wish to attend the Saturday evening meal. There is a degree of flexibility, but the pub owners need some idea of numbers prior to the event. The Plough Inn is directly over the road from the rally/camp site, but obviously you don't need to be camping or attending the rally both days to partake - as we have a very active membership in this area, I fully expect that many of you will prefer to travel home to the comfort of your own beds for this one, once the meal is over! Further AGM details will follow in the March bulletin, but now is the time to be out there wielding your spanners to get that 'Berk' in good shape.

Keep Berkeleying!

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

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NEWS

BEC Calendars

If any more of you would like another 2017 BEC calendar to hang at work or present to a deserving friend/relative (limited to one copy per member), there are still a few left. Since we are now two months into the year, the price (including postage) has been dropped to £6.00 (UK), £8.50 (Europe) or £9.50 (Rest-of-World). If you are interested, please contact Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*).

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UPDATE: Classic Motor Show, Old Warden, Sunday 2nd April 2017

There are now 7 members booked in to display their Berkeleys alongside the hundreds of other classic vehicles, but I need to finalise the club booking by Friday 3rd March. So, if you would like to join us at this popular event, please contact me as soon as possible.

As detailed in the January bulletin, the display charge is only £4 per car which includes free show entry for 2 adults & 2 children PLUS discounted entry to the Shuttleworth Collection or Gardens, so represents a worthwhile saving over the normal £8/adult entry fee. See the January bulletin for further details.

Geoff Dabrowa *BECmembership@googlemail.com*

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UPDATE: Wheel Nuts, Stroud, Sunday 7th May

As indicated last month, I provisionally reserved 14 spaces for the club ... and we now have nine confirmed entries. However, space at the show ground is at a premium and there is no turning up on the day hoping to get in - this event is always over-subscribed and any unclaimed places need to be re-allocated to applicants who didn't get their requests in as early as us! So, if you would like to join us with your car, please contact me as soon as possible, as I need to confirm the final numbers to the organisers by mid-March.

See the January bulletin for further details, but if you have any queries please send an e-mail or ring me on 01453-547708 (if I am not available when you call, just leave a message on the answer phone and I will get back to you).

Dave Rich *2kats@tiscali.co.uk*

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Classic Vehicle Show & Autojumble, Sunday 5th June

This well established event organised by the South Hants Vehicle Preservation Society is located at Queen Elizabeth Country Park, Gravel Hill, Horndean, Hants (3 miles South of Petersfield on the A3, postcode PO8 0QE).

It offers a family day out with something to interest everyone, with over 300 Cars, Commercials, Motorcycles and Military Vehicles of all shapes, sizes and makes dating from the early 1900s to 1990. Over 160 Autojumble stalls selling vehicle parts and accessories of all ages, as well as some general stalls with garden plants, etc.. Full refreshment and varied

catering facilities, Licensed Bar, Live band, Punch & Judy plus other Children's entertainment, Toilets and First Aid facilities. Easy access and free public car parking on site.

Gates: 10:00 – 16:00. Entry: Adults: £5.00, Under-16s: Free, Website: *www.shvps.org.uk* .

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National MicroCar Rally, Grasmere, 7th - 10th September

The 2017 NMCR is being held in the Lake District at The Showfield, Grasmere Sports Show Ground, Stock Lane, Grasmere, Cumbria (postcode LA22 9SL). It will be a four-day event, with road runs to local places of interest on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, plus the usual display line-ups of all the different marques on Sunday.

The organisers (Marilyn Bryce and Alan Prince of the Scottish Microcar Club) are making full use of their local knowledge to ensure that attendees get the best sights and attractions, and (to make life easier for those travelling from far afield) the rally site will be available from the afternoon of Wednesday 6th through to lunchtime on Monday 11th.

Further details will be included in the bulletin as they are released (or check the NMCR website *www.national-microcar-rally.co.uk* for updates), but if you have any immediate questions please contact Marilyn (e-mail: *mbryce132@gmail.com* or Tel: 07979-622580).

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OTHER EVENTS

If you know of any worthwhile events which you feel other members would be interested in please contact Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*) with the details, so that they can be included in the bulletin.

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NEW: Internal Door Hinges

The BEC Spares service has recently commissioned a small batch of these hinges for later style 4-wheelers with the vertical leading edge doors (B95/B105, Foursome and later 'Sports' SE492). They were also fitted to early T60s, but cannot be easily retro fitted to later cars with external hinges unless your front section A-post and door skins have the necessary mounting points moulded in.

The hinges come complete with mounting brackets & door opening limiter plates, and have been manufactured via the kind and substantial efforts of long-term member Ian Danaford.

Eight pairs are available (one pair per door, supplied in bare mild steel finish) and they are priced at £60.00 per pair, plus £5.00 UK postage & packing (overseas p&p rates on request).

BEC Spares List

The revised BEC Spares List will be included with your March bulletin.

Nigel Halliday

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EVENTS

Apr 2nd: **Classic Motor Show**, Old Warden, Bedfordshire.
See December '16 bulletin & above. *www.classicmotorshows.co.uk*

Apr 23rd: FBHVC Drive It Day, events across UK promoting awareness of historic vehicles.

May 6th: **BEC AGM**, 'The Hub', Tobacconist Road, Minchinhampton, Stroud, GL6 9JJ.
See January bulletin.

May 7th: '**Wheel Nuts**' Classic Car & Bike Show, St. Rose's School, Stroud, GL5 4AP.
See January bulletin & above.

May 13th/14th: Ingliston Revival, Royal Highland Centre, Edinburgh.
See October '16 bulletin. *www.Ingliston.co.uk/Revival*

May 13th/14th: Prescott Hill Climb, Cheltenham.
See October '16 bulletin. *www.cleevevale.org.uk*

May 19th-21st: **BEC Rally**, The Plough Inn, Wingfield, Leighton-Buzzard, LU7 9QH.
See January bulletin.

Jun 3rd/4th: Classic Car Show & Autojumble, Tatton Park, Cheshire.
See December '16 bulletin. *www.cheshireautopromotions.co.uk*

Jun 4th: SHVPS Classic Vehicle Show & Autojumble, Queen Elizabeth Country Park, Hants.
See above. *www.shvps.org.uk*

Jul 7th - 9th: Bristol MicroCar Club Rally, Keynsham Rugby Club, BS31 2BE.
See September '16 bulletin. *www.bristolmicrocarclub.com*

Aug 19th/20th: Classic Car Show & Autojumble, Tatton Park, Cheshire.
See December '16 bulletin. *www.cheshireautopromotions.co.uk*

Aug 26th: Classic & Retro Festival, Gloucester City Centre. See November '16 bulletin.

Sep 7th-10th: NMCR, Grasmere, Cumbria, LA22 9SL.
See above. *www.national-microcar-rally.co.uk*

Sep 23rd/24th: Pistons & Props, Sywell Aerodrome, Northamptonshire, NN6 0BN.
http://www.sywellclassic.co.uk

MARKETPLACE

For Sale: 1959 T60 Rebuild Project

This serious restoration project is offered for sale having just been rescued by BEC Spares. It is chassis no 492, a relatively late bench seat model. The body comprises punt, rear section (removed from punt) and damaged front section, with bonnet and two doors. Standard chromed windscreen surround (with glass) and hood frame are included, but there is also a hardtop moulding with damaged lower rail (believed to be from another car). Soft top, sidescreens and original bench seat are all missing.





The front body section is in poor condition and we think that a replacement new front section would be the best solution. These are available from CaSCU in Norfolk at approximately £300 (this was the price listed by them at the 2012 NMCR) or possibly elsewhere (keep an eye on the bulletin for expected announcement about new body sections). The original engine, gearbox and transmission are present, but will also need a full rebuild.





Front wheels, suspension and driveshafts are all still fitted to the car, as is the rear swinging arm assembly. The original alloy footwell crossmember is still in place, but the alloy seat/gearchange crossmember is missing and the original steel sills have rusted away, so it will ideally need to be transported on a wooden framework of some kind to minimise any damage to

the punt section (a basic ladder frame made of 2" x 4" timber works well, and a snug fitting van can be hired quite cheaply). However, BEC Spares hopes to be able to offer new steel sills for the T60 interim models by June 2017, so the new owner won't need to fabricate their own. The engine bay top hat sections have also rusted away, but BEC Spares is currently considering remanufacture of these too.

The car has a chassis plate, but at the time of writing no registration mark entitlement has come to light. However, we see no reason why (with the assistance of the BEC's vehicle registrar) it will not be allocated an age related registration by the DVLA, provided it is restored to original condition.

The power unit and other loose parts/assemblies have already been recovered, but the bodyshell is currently still in the Birmingham area - due to imminent sale of the property, we plan to move it to the South Coast if a local buyer cannot be found over the next week or so.

Viewing possible at either location by arrangement and BEC Spares will do our best to ensure that a complete package of parts is included in the sale, but we have not been able to assess exactly which smaller parts may be missing and some components are now very rare or unobtainable. Further photos available upon request.

Offers of £500 or more to be made NOW via Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*).

This car will be listed elsewhere if there is no interest from members.

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Blanchard 492 Special

This unique motorcycle, as featured in a 1963 issue of Motor Cycle magazine, was ridden by the owner (prolific specials builder David Blanchard) throughout the 1960s. David passed away a few years ago and the bike was bought at auction by Colin Powell - it is in good condition and has now been recommissioned by fellow Talisman Telegraph man Chris Ellison, but Colin has decided to cut back on his collection.

There wasn't time to include details or photos in this bulletin, but if any of you are interested, please contact Dave Perrin for pictures and further details. £6,000 o.n.o.

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

If you wish to place a News Item or an Advertisement in the BEC Bulletin, or have any queries about an item or advertisment that has already appeared, please contact Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*).

Please DO NOT contact Geoff Dabrowa, as he only e-mails the bulletin to you.

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'Berkeley-USA' Yahoo Group: *https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Berkeley-USA/info*

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'BerkeleyCarOwners' Facebook page: *https://www.facebook.com/groups/berkeleycarowners/*

Berkeley Enthusiasts Club

www.berkeleycarclub.com

Website for BEC members and anyone interested in our cars.
Webmaster: Peter Smyth

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The February 2017 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Dave Perrin