BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

Due to the escalation of the Covid 19 virus and consequently along with Government advice, your Committee has taken the unanimous decision to cancel the BEC AGM/Rally set for the weekend of the 13th-14th June. This at present is a postponement; if things improve the Committee will look at the possibility of staging it later on in the year.

Whilst we're on the subject, I would ask you all to look through 'Events' and to take special care to check what has simply been cancelled until 2021 and those events that have just been postponed. Many notices have a PDF or Word document attached explaining the whys and wherefores of the organisation's decision to do either or. Please take the time to open these and read. For example, Wheel Nuts, Stroud has been cancelled until 2021, as has Biggleswade Community Carnival. The REOC Autojumble has been postponed until further notice, whilst Prescott Classic Hill Climb has been re-scheduled to September. The NMCR at WEM Shropshire at the time of writing has not been cancelled nor postponed; neither has the Micro Marathon Rally 2020 in Spain, both scheduled for September.

Just as the Pandemic broke, I finally received confirmation of our invite to attend the 'Biggles Flying Event' at Old Warden, Shuttleworth Collection 20th June. At this time of writing I have not heard that they are cancelling the event! I strongly suspect that it will be though. However, I have received notice from most of those who originally intended to go that, due to being in the vulnerable age group, some also having underlying health problems as well, they will not be attending even if it does go ahead.

The FBHVC 'Drive It Day' is no longer scheduled to go ahead on the 26th April (see attached). Government guidelines are now saying not to go out unless expressly necessary and if you do you're to keep distanced from others. The BEC Committee's advice is to abide by government guidelines at all times.

On a much brighter note, you will all by now have received the BEC Quarterly Magazine, a little out of sequence maybe, but this is due to reasons explained in last month's Bulletin issue. As stated, it will be the final roundup of comments and reports from the 2018 LBL Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Rally. A big thanks must go to our Temporary Editor Dave Perrin and all those who helped him with both contributions and production, an excellent effort!

Whilst on the subject of the magazine, Dave is now requiring material by way of articles on restorations, technical tips and just plain Berk stories for future editions. With what may be a long layoff in our rally activities in store, I ask you all to think about putting pen to paper and, of course, don't forget the photographs!

Keep Berkeleying, albeit in the shed!

Stay safe and keep well.

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

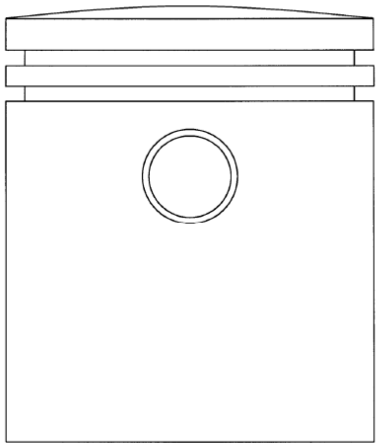
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NEWS

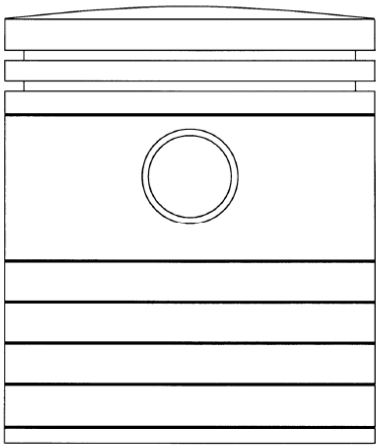
All Excelsior twin and triple engines were fitted with pistons and rings manufactured by Hepolite. The 328cc and 492cc pistons all had a Standard diameter of 58mm, with oversizes available up to +0.060 inch (59.5mm).

Single carb 328 piston assemblies had Excelsior part number #3210 (Hepolite #36110), but these were replaced by Excelsior #3259 for the later 328s with twin carbs (virtually all of which were exported to the USA). This 'Super Sports' piston has thinner rings (to prevent ring flutter at higher rpm) and six shallow grooves around the skirt (to retain oil, thereby reducing risk of siezure), but was never listed in the Hepolite catalogue.

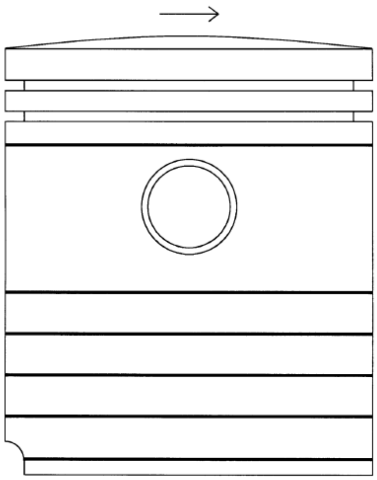
Triple engines used a piston similar to that of the the twin carb 328s, with Excelsior part number #3273 (Hepolite #14029), but it has a scallop cut out of the skirt (to change timing of the inlet port) and a slightly less domed crown.



3210: Standard Twin



3259: 'Sports' Twin



3273: Standard Triple

Excelsior Hepolite pistons and rings went out of production decades ago and new old stock examples were quite difficult to find even 30 years ago, so it was good news back in the early 2000s when (with some BEC support) UK specialist piston supplier F.W. Thornton & Sons of Shrewsbury arranged for South Australian company JP Pistons to re-manufacture them.





However, over time, as enthusiasts using these pistons in their Excelsior engines have 'put some miles on the clock', it has become apparent that they are not up the same standard as the Hepolite originals. Specifically, they tend to suffer from enlargement of the gudgeon pin bores, sometimes at surprisingly low mileages.

The BEC are investigating further and JP have now definitely been made aware of the issue, but in support of this it would be advantageous to hear from any members/owners who have driven their Berkeley(s) with Excelsior engine rebuilt using JP pistons. Please let us know your experiences, so that we can quote specific examples of what approximate mileage problems became apparent (or perhaps how many miles you have driven without any problems?) and how many dissatisfied owners are out there.

More on this important matter to follow in future Bulletins, as things develop.

Nigel Halliday

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SPARES

Spares Update

Spares-New

New in stock – VR Gearbox Clutch Cap Pins –(Star shaped clutch spring plate 'bolts') Part Number G80. Illustration No 84.

These bolts fasten the star shaped clutch spring retainer /cover plate down to the posts on the main clutch plate against the pressure of the clutch springs.

Although the Excelsior parts book shows them as plain ¼'' BSF bolts , the Berkeley factory parts lists shows them as special bolts Part No MB 1092 in that they were drilled with holes to accept locking wire .Therefore the BEC, (courtesy of, and thanks to Graham Higgs) has had some modified with the holes added .3 No required per clutch cover.

Cost is £2.50 each plus £ 1.10 P&P UK

Arriving soon

New stocks of the front and rear sidelights, indicator and stop and tail lights in both the flat glass lenses (generally found on the four wheelers)and domed type (T60 models) .To respond to requests from members we will be able to supply some of the components on their own -ie rubber cases, chrome trim rings and glass lenses .

We will also be able to make up to order USA spec red lensed taillight and indicator/flasher lamps as well.





Nigel Halliday

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Update: Membership Secretary Report

The following figures relate to the "current" membership as of 21st March 2020. The figures exclude all members that expired at the end of February 2020 and beyond.

Membership numbers remain as last month however late payers of Renewal Subscriptions continue to affect overall membership numbers.

Although numbers are the same, we continue to lose a few members each month through sales of cars and members passing on, a notable and sad loss in the USA is that of Harry Connors, a member of The BEC for over 20 years who helped many in the USA with his knowledge and spare parts.

It's great to see a continuation of new members to the Club.

The Club currently has a grand total of 206 Members.

- United Kingdom 137 subscribing members
- Europe 19 subscribing members
- Rest of the world 33 subscribing members. (27 members in USA)

Subscribing members total 189 plus 17 Honorary and Car Clubs resulting in 206 total membership.

We welcome three new members this month;

#2735	Maurice Ogier	(no car details)	Guernsey	Channel Islands	UK
#2736	David Grinham	T60	Steyning	West Sussex	UK
#2737	Anthony Pettingill	T60	Gt. Yarmouth	Norfolk	UK

Please can you keep me updated with changes of address and email addresses etc, if you have moved in the past 12 months – thank you.

If you prefer to read your Bulletin in a booklet format and don't have a printer just send me stamps for the postage and I'll gladly print and post it to you each month, eleven UK members currently receive their Bulletins by post.

Happy Berkeleying..

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

April 2020

Local BEC Gathering: Southern Area Meetings

POSTPONED

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.

Royal Enfield Owners Club Autojumble 18th April 10.00am - 16.00pm

POSTPONED

Organised by the REOC, all makes welcome., buying or selling. Tea, coffee and cake. Entry £3, sellers £5 per table, all proceeds to REOC and chosen charity - MIND. Held at Yardley Gobion Village Hall, Chestnut Road, Yardley Gobion, Towcester, Northants NN12 7TW

Contact: Mark Mumford **Email:** *trials59@yahoo.co.uk*

FBHVC Drive It Day 26th April

CANCELLED

An invite for all classic card drivers to dust off their classics and get out on the road wherever you live.

May 2020

Wheel Nuts Motor Show Sunday 3rd May

CANCELLED

Now in its 16th Year, Wheelnuts it is a truly amazing array of hundreds of classic cars and motor vehicles from motoring's earliest days. Getting bigger and more popular every year, the annual Classic Motor Show 'Wheel Nuts 2020' will be held in the beautiful grounds at St Rose's in Stroud, on Sunday 3rd May. There has been a Berkeley presence for several years now - and the BEC are keen to get 'Ten for Dave' in memory of the late Dave Rich. Contact Geoff Toyer asap if interested.

Website: *https://stroses.org.uk/event/wheelnuts-2020/*

'Classics at Prescott' Open Hill Climb Event 9th-10th May - RESCHEDULED TO SEPT 19th-20th

POSTPONED

Saturday and Sunday Hill Climb event and static display. For more details and entry see website.

Email: *Wrcprescott@gmail.com* **Website**: *www.Classicsatprescott.com*

Spring Autojumble - Beaulieu 16th - 17th May

CANCELLED

Lower key than September event. at Beaulieu Motor Museum, Beaulieu, Brockenhurst, Hants

Website : *https://www.beaulieu.co.uk/events/spring-autojumble/*

AoHE Cars and Coffee Meet -Shuttleworth Cafe / Car park Sunday 17th May 10.00

Coffee meet at the world famous Shuttleworth Collection - ONLY by ticket so if you would like to be there please book now.

Website: *https://www.facebook.com/events/753195881858212/* .

June 2020

BEC AGM & Rally 13th & 14th June

POSTPONED

The 2020 BEC AGM & Rally will be held over the weekend of 13th-14th June at 'The Gate Things Well' public house in Syston, Leicestershire (close to junction of the A46 and the A607). More details to follow closer to the event.

Störy Revival Microcar Meeting June 12th-14th

CANCELLED

Based at the PS Speicher museum, Einbeck, Germany. The third Störy Revival Microcar Meeting

Website:*https://www.ps-speicher.de/kleinwagentreffen.php*.

'Biggles' Evening Flying Event Saturday 20th June

The Shuttleworth Collection, Old Warden Aerodrome, Nr Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. Further details to follow.

Website: *www.shuttleworth.org/events/juneeveningairshow/*

Biggleswade Community Carnival 20th June

CANCELLED

Biggleswade Town's annual carnival parade. This year with a 'Let's Go Travel' theme, Berkeleys are invited back to their hometown to join the parade. As this may need some planning please contact Geoff Toyer. Further details to follow.

July 2020

Messerschmitt Owners' Club International Rally 30th July - 2nd August

CANCELLED

To be held at John Ruskin School, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8EW. Berkeleys are most welcome to attend

Simon Fisher (Rally organiser) **Website :** *www.mocrally2020.weebly.com*

Silverstone Classics 31st July - 2nd August

Track events and static classic car club displays.

www.silverstoneclassic.com/

August 2020

'Bubblecar' and Scooter Event - Bourgogne -28th - 30th August

Annual microcar-friendly event in the Burgundy region of France. Berkeleys are most welcome to attend.

Jean- do Jacotte (Rally organiser) **Website:** *www.aero-jean-do.com/bubblecars*

September 2020

The Carole Nash - Eurojumble 4th-5th September

One of the UK's biggest bike autojumbles. Held annually at Netley Marsh just outside Southampton SO40 7GY

Website : *https://www.netleymarsheurojumble.com/*

International Autojumble - Beaulieu 5th - 6th September

Europe's largest Autojumble held annually at Beaulieu Motor Museum, Beaulieu, Brockenhurst, Hants

Website : *https://www.beaulieu.co.uk/events/international-autojumble/*

The National Microcar Rally 9th-13th September

Organised by the Heinkel Trojan Club at Lower Lacon Caravan Park, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5RP. Starts from 4:30 on Wednesday the 9th September through until final departures on Monday 14th at 11am. Regular updates will be made on the NMCR Facebook page.

Micro Marathon 2020 11th -21st September

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/*

'Classics at Prescott' Open Hill Climb Event 19th-20th September

Rescheduled from May - Saturday road run , and Sunday Hill Climb event and static display. For more details and entry see accompanying flyer or website.

Email: *Wrcprescott@gmail.com* **Website**: www.classicsatprescott.com/

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MARKETPLACE

Wanted - Wheels

One or two wheels desperately needed for T60 restoration, can be from any model. Distance no object, fair price paid, any condition considered

Please contact Membership Secretary.

Seen on Ebay- Berkeley SE328 1958 sport Deluxe

EBay item number: 133365838585

"Rarely do you see one of these for sale

This little Berkeley Se328 has been restored to original spec. Fitted with the excelsior talisman twin. Being the deluxe model it has twin carbs ,fuel/amp gauges and the rare tachometer.

Finished in old English white with tan trim she really is an eye catcher always catching people's attention and putting a smile on your face when driving her.

Sadly over the last couple of years I really haven't used her as much as I should hence the reason for sale. Appeared a couple of years ago on the tv show .The love of cars (The lost lotus episode.)

I can arrange for transport at very reasonable cost. Just ask for a quote."

Tel: 07816351491

(Images on next page)









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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 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 **Monday 20th April** for inclusion in the April 2020 bulletin.

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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: *berk2me@yahoo.com*

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

Technical Editor, Acting Magazine Editor, Magazine Distribution
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Spares Officer, Vehicle Registrar, Treasurer
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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 March 2020 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Ian & Melanie Danaford