BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB
BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

The main news this month concerning the Classic Vehicle fraternity is the announcement by the DOT of the banning of retro fitted LED headlight bulbs to headlight units not originally designed to take them, with the resultant instant MOT Test failure by doing so.

This was first brought to my attention via reading the over inflated report in 'Classic Motor Monthly' newspaper. On reading this report, my bowels immediately began to loosen as many members will remember that during last year's lockdown I took the time, along with the inevitable expense, of converting two of my Berkeleys completely to LED lighting. However, on further research via various 'social media' reports I was suitably convinced that initial reports were a complete 'false flag' and consequently my bowels again began to tighten!

It would seem that a concerned member of the public and active campaigner for better lighting on road vehicles, Mr Gil Keene, had taken the opportunity to write to his local MP on this contentious issue and as a consequence said MP Nadhim Zahawi asked for confirmation from the Under Secretary For Transport, The RH Baroness Vere of Norbiton. The reply from the RH Baroness (which is attached) is self-explanatory, but in precis states that the new DOT ruling on LED replacement headlight bulbs does not apply to any vehicles exempted from MOT testing by way of 'Classic Vehicle' registration. The letter also affirms that the MOT Testers manual will be amended to make this clearer to testers when classic vehicles are voluntarily presented for an MOT test. I point this last fact out, as I know that many of you still prefer to get your cherished possessions MOT'd. For those of you in the latter, I would suggest that you print off a copy of this letter to take with you if you are contemplating an imminent MOT test, as I feel sure that it could take a considerable time for the DOT MOT Manuals to be amended to reflect this and, in doing so, you may head off any unpleasant confrontation. Of course, this would only apply if you have fitted LED headlight bulbs!

In last month's issue I reported on the 'Festival Of Transport' Show proposed to be held at the Peterborough Showground on 3rd-4th July. In doing so, I asked if any members would be interested in attending and if so the possibility of taking a 'Club Stand' at the event. I was also of the view that it could be an opportunity for our members living in East Anglia to attend a BEC event more local to their area. I must apologise for the confusion, as the show had to be postponed for this year. The dates of the 3rd-4th. July relate to 2022, not 2021 ! Thank you again all those who did respond. Let us hope we can make the most of it next year.

Also from last month's issue, I asked you all for feedback on 'Pay To Display' type shows, of which I thank those of you who emailed me your responses. It would seem that most were along similar lines to my own personal views, that being, other than a small charge to cover administration costs it was felt attendance should be on a 'quid pro quo' basis. You will note that shows organised to raise funds for charity were not included and also that the BEC has no official policy on this matter.

Lastly, and to end my report on a 'high', those of you who follow 'social media' will be aware that 'our sporting member from Kent' Jeff Payne, after taking a week's holiday from work specifically to get his long term project of building a competitive 'track, rally and autosolo Berkeley' further progressed, finally got it fired up and running.

It is a far too long and complicated story for me to go into detail in this organ, but suffice to say that building the car aside, Jeff has also built himself a three cylinder triple unit from scratch using Excelsior 328 twin component parts, which is a massive engineering feat in itself!

Well done Jeff! I hope your endeavours will be translated into a fine BEC Magazine article at some time in the future.

Keep safe and keep Berkeleying!

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

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A message from the Magazine Editor

Your next BEC Magazine is now written and by the time you read this should be at the printers, or even possibly in the post to you.

It's now time for you to send me articles for the next magazine, the deadline for the next mag is 30th April.

They don't have to be big stories, any part of a restoration would be great, a complete restoration is usually quite big and not possible to put in one magazine, but every contribution is appreciated by me and all the other BEC members, so please e-mail to *thebecmag@gmail.com,* thanks.

Terry Scott

From the Organisers of 'Pied Piper Appeal'

This year we are opening the beautiful gardens and grounds at Highnam Court for a one-day event, on Sunday 20th June, showcasing hundreds of Classic Cars and Motorbikes from across the ages up to 1995 and we would love it if members of your car group wanted to attend!

While meeting other car enthusiasts and admiring their vintage vehicles, you can also enjoy the beautiful Highnam gardens including the famous lake, picturesque rose gardens, flowering borders, and the wooden sculpture trail.

We will be serving a range of hot and cold drinks, snacks, and cakes in the Orangery for visitors to purchase.

It's super value at just **£5 entry per person** and promises to be a great day in the fresh air with all social distancing and crowd monitoring to make it a safe, comfortable experience for all.

If you would like to attend with your car, please download our sign-up form from our website **here! (***www.piedpiperappeal.co.uk/classic-cars-and-gardens).*

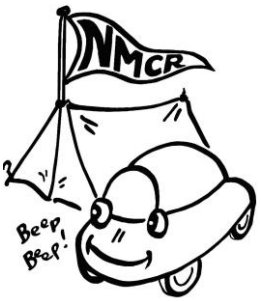
Sadly, due to Covid the charity lost £130,000 last year and so we are very excited about holding this event which will help to start recouping some of that loss. It will be our first outdoor event in over a year.

The Pied Piper Appeal makes a difference to sick and disabled children in Gloucestershire in four main ways:

- Funding the Children's Centre at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital and other county hospitals
- Supporting SEND Schools in the county with equipment and resources
- Sending children with life-limiting illnesses and their families on memory making Wish Holidays
- Improving children's experiences with Mental Health Facilities in the county.



From the Organisers of the National Microcar Rally 2021



The NMCR Administrators are delighted to announce that following the Governments road map out of lock down, the 2021 NMCR will go ahead. The event will be organised by Alison McCarthy of the Heinkel Trojan Club and will be based again at Lower Lacon Caravan Park, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5RP, *www.llcp.co.uk/*

This brilliant venue was first used for the 2016 NMCR which Alison organised and was the planned venue for the 2020 NMCR which unfortunately had to be cancelled due to Covid restrictions.

The event will formally start on Thursday 9th September through until Show day on Sunday 12th. First arrivals for the rally will be Wednesday 8th after 4.30pm and last departures are Tuesday 14th.

Earlier arrivals are welcomed and bookings prior to the 8th need to be made direct with Lower Lacon Caravan Park. Alison is currently working on the details and regular updates will be made on the NMCR website and on the NMCR Facebook page. Alison is looking forward to receiving advanced bookings especially for those wanting electric hook ups. The booking form can be found on the website and Facebook page. Alison can be contacted at: *alisonmccarthy264@gmail.com*

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Spares Update

As spares officer I wish to apologise for the slower than usual operation of the spares service over the past 6 weeks and possibly going forward for a few more weeks. My personal life and work life has taken over a little more than usual over the past month or so. Please bear with me – I am a volunteer of my personal spare time to the BEC!

Watch the UK Bookstalls?

Apparently, there is an article featuring a Berkeley in the next edition of the UK classic car magazine 'Practical Classics', May edition as available approx. from mid-April on the bookstalls.

Is the featured Berkeley one of our members cars?

BEC Regalia

With the chance of a few rallies or classic car runs on the horizon in the UK do not forget the extensive range of BEC regalia and clothes that are available via Ark Trading (see back page for contact details).

Nigel Halliday

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Update: Membership Secretary Report

The following figures relate to the "current" membership as of 25th March 2021.

The figures exclude all members that expired at the end of February 2021 and beyond.

Subscribing members now total 211 plus 12 Honorary and Car Clubs resulting in 223 total membership, this total is same as last month although we have done some Spring cleaning and "trimmed back" 4 associated Car Clubs.

- United Kingdom 151 subscribing members
- Europe 25 subscribing members
- Rest of the world 35 subscribing members. (27 subscribing members in USA)

The BEC welcomes just one New Member this month:

#2761 Derek Green B95 Cirencester Gloucestershire UK

Currently 15 UK Members are receiving their Bulletins printed and posted each month, if you would like to get your copy posted rather than emailed please contact me and just send me stamps for the cost of postage.

As I reported last month, I am now able to reprint Magazines from the past, I have recently scanned and printed for some Members copies going back to 2008. Older copies are yet to be scanned. My stocks of Magazines for "Welcome Packs" for new Members are now well replenished. My scanner/printer has been working "overtime" and produced around 100 Magazine reprints in the past few weeks.

The cost of the reprinted Magazines is £1 per copy plus postage. Payment is to The BEC by cheque or PayPal. (Bank Transfer only if copy of the transaction is sent to me).

Please do contact me if you would like any reprints.

I am missing issue #323 and #340 if anyone has good copies of either, please contact me so that I can complete my files.

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 2021

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

FBHVC Drive it Day April 25th
Annual drive your classic car day

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

Berkeley Industries Ltd Launch Event April 26th
Proposed launch day for the 'new Berkeley Bandit'.

Website: *www.berkeleysportscars.com/berkeleycoachworks*

July 2021

East of England Festival of Motoring July 3rd & 4th POSTPONED TO 2022
At The East of England Showground, Peterborough.
Club stands, trade stands, feature displays, interviews, Q&A's, Live Group B motorsport Action, Stunt Cars and much more.

POSTPONED

Website : *www.thefestivalofmotoring.co.uk*

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

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

September 2021

Beaulieu International Autojumble 4th-5th September
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/*

National Microcar Rally 8th-14th September
To be held at Wem in Shropshire.

Website: *national-microcar-rally.co.uk*

Micro Marathon 2020 10th -20th 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/*

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 - T60 and Trailer

Immaculate T60 and purpose built Trailer to be sold together. Car restored by previous owner to a very high standard. The restoration which was done over several years is recorded.

Bodywork, Seating, Carpets, Hood, Side Screens and Tonneau are all "like new." Starts and drives as it should.

With two other Berkeleys I have decided three is just too many.

£8500 ovno for car and trailer (trailer advertised in last month's Bulletin).

Would consider delivery.

Contact : Geoff Dabrowa

Tel : 07751 288329





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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 25th April** for inclusion in the April 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
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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 March 2021 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Ian & Melanie Danaford