BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB
BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

Some sobering thoughts for you all this month. As you may or not know, 'our sporting member from Kent' Mr Jeremy (Jeff) Payne, having had an excellent day at Brands Hatch doing what he does best, namely Auto Solo, where he managed to get 'second in class' yet again was, on his homeward bound journey, involved in what could have been a potentially fatal accident when a Land Rover Freelander coming from the opposite direction suddenly and without warning decided to cut straight across Jeff's path to enter into a side road! Jeff was travelling at approximately 55 mph at the time and had very little time to brake or take evasive action, consequently the front near side of his Berkeley collided with the near side 'A' post of the Freelander. The Berkeley is potentially a Class B Insurance write off, but more importantly Jeff escaped with a broken left arm, bruised right eye, glasses broken and bruised left leg shin bone. This sounds bad enough, but believe me, it could have been much worse!

I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing Jeff a speedy recovery, but the sad facts are that this is the second bad accident to happen to one of our members inside a year. If you recall, Martin Archer suffered a similar fate whilst travelling to last year's NMCR when a car, yet again without warning, suddenly pulled out of a side road in front of him. In this case Martin managed to take evasive action by swerving left, but in doing so the front near side wheel hit the kerb, thus turning the Berkeley onto its side throwing Martin out and into the ditch.

Obviously these two events alone pose the question of whether it is safe to drive our very vulnerable, small and lightly constructed cars on roads where modern cars, or rather their drivers, seem to have no awareness of other road users in small vehicles, riding motorcycles, bicycles, or even pedestrians! It also raises the question of seat belts - not a legal requirement when our small cars were made and virtually impossible to retro fit without major structural strengthening of the body. In both these recent cases it would seem to be obvious to pose another question in so much as, would the wearing of seat belts have minimised the injuries both parties received? Another alternative: do we travel with a visual flashing orange warning light or, as has been suggested, paint our cars some bright garish colour!

Your thoughts on this subject would be greatly received.

Next, some slightly better news regarding 'Wheelnuts', St. Roses School, Stroud. Those of you who are intending making a full weekend of it camping at Tobacconist Farm, Minchinhampton will be pleased to learn that our Membership Secretary has negotiated permission to display your cars at the Cotswold Motor & Toy Museum in Bourton-on-the Water on Saturday afternoon's planned road run. See 'Events' for further details. Whilst still on the subject of

'Wheelnuts', I can report that I've recently received the 12 passes we asked for. I will be sending these out to those eleven committed to the event, along with a copy of the 'conditions' etc. Finally, to remind you that we still have one spare ticket, if any of you wish to attend and utilise this ticket, please let me know asap.

In my last report, I mentioned the festivities being arranged across the nation for Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth 2nd Jubilee Celebrations. If you recall, I advised that as there was so much going on across the Realm, especially with regard to Classic Vehicle invitation, it would be advisable for members wishing to take their 'cherished possession', maybe even their Berkeley to a locally organised event.

However, having said that, it has come to light that there are two events being held on consecutive dates over the weekend of the 4th and 5th June in both Northants and Buckinghamshire that may be of interest to BEC Central Chapter Members. See 'News' for further information and proposals.

The weather over the past week has taken on all the attributes of being Spring, even maybe Summer(!) - time for you to get your cars sorted and checked out ready for the forthcoming rally season!

Keep safe and keep Berkeleying!

Geoff (Bill) Toyer

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BEC Central Chapter

It has become apparent that four members wish to attend the Nether Heyford Platinum Jubilee Fete & Classic Vehicle Show on Saturday 4th June. It also transpires that on Sunday 5th June, the next day, is the Classic Vehicle Show at Stony Stratford, of which the majority of those attending the Nether Heyford event wish to attend as well. As these two events are in close proximity, it has been suggested that some sort of co-ordination be employed. If a Market Square position is required at Classic Stony, it has to be pre booked at a donation to charity of £10.00. Two members have already done this, so if we all want to be together, I suggest others wishing to attend do the same asap, as places are limited. (Note: you can just turn up on the day and make a charity bucket donation, but you will be directed to one of the many car park ups throughout the town.)

As for the Nether Heyford event, our member Bob Wilkins has agreed to liaise with the organisers so we all get placed together. To do this he will need your name, car model and car registration number, so if you let me, the Chairman, know I will pass the details on to Bob. Lastly, as both these events run on consecutive days, those wishing to attend both who have to travel some distance, it would make sense if some sort of overnight accommodation could be arranged. Please register your interest with myself and I will make enquiries.

A message from the Magazine Editor

As you read this the next magazine should be heading towards the printers, it's another 20 page version, which leads me to the next mag. Currently I have no new articles to put in the next magazine and I do need some content please. No content, no magazine, so it's up to all of you to keep it going. The closing date for publication is April 30th.

On another subject, I sold my Berkeley to a club member in Belgium (nobody interested in the UK). The car had been sat about for a while and I needed the space, so I had no option other than to sell it. Shame really, a very special car in the Berkeley car history, being probably the first Excelsior powered SE328, but the car didn't want to leave! It started ok but the clutch was sticking or wouldn't enable selecting gears. The new owner either had to drive back to Belgium without the car or take it as it was, which is what he decided to do (on a trailer). I hate selling any car that doesn't work perfectly, not a good end to my Berkeley ownership experience.

I shall carry on with the magazine, but I do need your stories as I have none of my own Berkeley stories now ...

Terry Scott *thebecmag@gmail.com*

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Update: Membership Secretary Report

The following figures relate to the 'current' membership as of 20th March 2022.

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

This month shows the slightest of increases in current Membership.

Subscribing members now total 201 with 14 Honorary and Car Clubs resulting in 215 total overall Membership.

There are still some potential New Members awaiting to join but have not completed their Applications and a few whose Membership is expired, otherwise numbers would be a little higher.

- United Kingdom 150 subscribing members
- Europe 23 subscribing members
- Rest of the world 28 subscribing members (21 subscribing members in USA)

The BEC welcomes one New Member this month and a lapsed Member re-joins.

#2775	Ty Palmer	SE328	Mill Valley	California	USA
#2666	Ian Landon	SE328	Horley	Surrey	UK

I'm afraid I am now unable to offer the service of reprinting old Magazines and Newsletters/ Bulletins, also the printing of the monthly Bulletin is now going to be limited in what I can do because of unforeseen circumstances.

Currently 15 UK Members are receiving their Bulletins printed and posted each month.

Please advise any changes to your preferred email address and of course any postal address change.

Just a reminder when renewing your Membership by Bank Transfer please do notify when this has been done especially if you are unable to send me a "copy".

Thank you.

Happy Berkeleying

Geoff Dabrowa – Membership Secretary

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EVENTS

Classic Festivals

We have received a full itinerary of Show dates for 2022: Essex, Suffolk, Surrey, Buckinghamshire, Kent, Cambridge.

Contact: *www.classicfestivals.co.uk*

April 2022

BEC Southern Chapter Monthly Meet Up: Tuesday 12th April 2022

The monthly BEC Surrey area meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th April from 7.30 pm at 'The Saddlers Arms', Send Marsh, Surrey, GU23 6JQ (just off the A3 a few miles north of Guildford). You may care to contact Mike Rounsville-Smith before you leave home and travel a long distance.

Mike Rounsville-Smith – President/Secretary **Tel:** *01932 560160*

Newcomers planning to attend, please contact Dave for details, maps, whereabouts in the pub we meet etc.

Email: *dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk* **Tel:** 02392 250880

The Best of British Classic Car Show: 23 April 2022
Santa Pod Raceway, Bedfordshire.

Classic Car show with the added opportunity to run on the drag strip and enter an Autotest.

Contact: *Santa Pod Raceway - Best of British Car Show*

May 2022

Wheel Nuts 2022: 1st May 2022 Bank Holiday weekend
St Roses School, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

We owe it to the late Dave Rich to get more than 10 Berkeleys there. Let's make a weekend of it. So far we have 11 responses.

Great campsite nearby in Tobacconist Farm Campsite, Tobacconist Road, Minchinhampton, Stroud GL6 9JJ. Those making a weekend of it please note that Geoff Debrowa has secured permission to display your cars at Cotswold Motoring and Toy Museum at The Old Mill, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire GL54 2BY. On the Saturday afternoon planned road run, we will depart campsite late morning for the 30 mile drive and have lunch in the beautiful tourist attraction village.

Also note that we still have one unclaimed ticket if anyone would like to bring a Berkeley please contact the Chairman asap.

Tel: *Lucy for camping booking, etc 07854 750473*

Classics at Prescott 2022: 14th and 15th May 2022

Road Tour available on Saturday 14th May. Sunday 15th May: Hill Runs and Paddock Display. Please note there are only 200 places available for the hill runs so if you intend to participate please book early.

Contact: *classicsatprescott.com*

Fenland Classic Vehicle Show: Sunday 15th May 2022 10am-4pm

Ramsey Rural Museum, Ramsey PE26 2XB

For more information see *www.ramseyruralmuseum.co.uk*
To contact the museum or the camp please email *ramseyfenfair@ramseyruralmuseum.co.uk*
or call *01487 815715* **on Thursdays**

Cars at the Castle: Sunday 15th May

Hertford Castle, Hertfordshire. Classic, unusual or sports cars: display for free.
Application forms can be downloaded at *www.hertford.gov.uk/events*

Classic Wheels: 22nd May 2022

Rutland Showground. **Contact:** *info@livepromotions.co.uk*

June 2022

Proposed BEC AGM and Rally. Date and location to be confirmed.

Nether Heyford Classic & Vintage Vehicle Show: Saturday 4th June 2022 2pm

Platinum Jubilee Fete on Village Green. Set up from 11am.

This event could represent an ideal meet up for BEC Central Chapter. Access is either via the A5, just North of the old 'Jack's Hill Café', or by J16 M1/A45 intersection via Upper Heyford. For information, this village boasts the largest village green in England.

Pre-booking is essential, please contact the BEC Chairman if interested.

Email: *geedadtee@ntlworld.com*



Jubilee Classic Stony: Sunday 5 June 2022 9.30am-4.00pm
Market Square, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes MK11 1BE

An informal gathering of classic, vintage and interesting vehicles. Spectators free – display your vehicle from £5.00. The event is run in aid of Willen Hospice.

Website: *www.classicstonyvintagestony*
Email: *info@ssccf.co.uk*

Sandringham Pageant of Motoring: 5th June 2022
Sandringham Estate, Sandringham.

This highly prestigious event is a celebration of motoring throughout the decades combined with exciting aerial displays and live music throughout the day.

Contact: *www.sandringhammotoringpageant.co.uk/clubs/?*

Biggleswade Community Carnival: Saturday 18th June 2022

The theme is Let's Go Travel. We have recently heard from the organisers who are very keen to have Berkeley cars in attendance. If you wish to enter your Berkeley for the day please contact Hazel Clarke. It would be greatly appreciated if you could also inform the Chairman.

Email: *hazel@biggleswadecarnival.co.uk*

July 2022

The Bucks Festival of Cars (alongside The Bucks Country Show) 2nd-3rd July 2022
Penn Estate, Amersham HP70PS.

Contact: *www.buckscountryshow.co.uk*

Historics On The Hill: 3rd July 2022
Lydden Hill Raceway, Canterbury Kent

An event organised by the HRDC. Classic Car Clubs are invited to display their vehicles.

For more information **Contact**: *www.lyddenhill.co.uk* **Tel:** *01304 830557*

Baston Car and Bike Show: 10th July 2022
Grimsthorpe Castle, Bourne. **Contact:** *info@livepromotions.co.uk*

August 2022

Rushden Classic Car and Bike Show: Sunday 7th August 2022 11am-4pm
Hall Park, Rushden *More details to follow*

Stroud Classic Car Show: Sunday 21st 11am
Mason Road Playing Field, Bisley Old Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 1NN

No entrance fee, no booking, just turn up on the day. Show starts 11am, trophies for best cars and bikes. Club Stands free of charge but please inform us of size needed (dogs allowed but must be kept on lead). Please feel free to ring or email me for further details. It would be nice to hear from you if you can make it.

Tel: *07883604522*
Email: *jwiddey@aol.com*

The Classic Silverstone 26th-28th August 2022

Taking place over the August Bank Holiday weekend, The Classic will mark Silverstone's end of summer celebrations next year!

Tickets are on sale from Thursday 25th November.

September 2022

2022 National MicroCar Rally: 1-4 September 2022
Woodhouse Farm Holiday Park, Winksley, Ripon, HG4 3PG

Early arrivals and later departures welcomed. Please be aware that this year bookings must be made direct with Woodhouse Farm (who will automatically inform Ray) quoting 'National MicroCar Rally' in order to get our preferential rates.

Please see attached .pdf for full details
Contact: *www.woodhousewinksley.com* **Tel:** *01765 658309*

The Raunds Festival of Transport 2022: Saturday 3rd September 2022
(See Facebook Page.)

This event is similar to the one held at Stony Stratford New Year's day, which involves the whole town, with display vehicles parked both in the town centre and available public places.

Tel: *07740 644242*

Sywell Classic: Pistons & Props: 24th and 25th September 2022
Sywell Aerodrome Sywell.

Kop Hill Climb 2022: 24th and 25 September 2022 **Contact:** *www.kophillclimb.org.uk*

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Reports, Event News, For Sale/Wanted, etc.

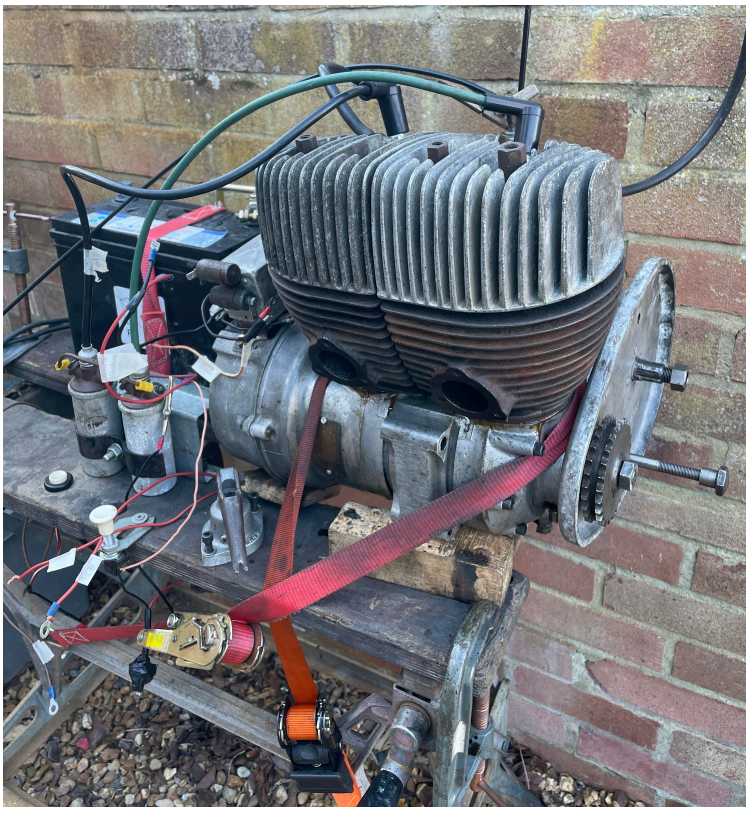
Please contact Lorraine Thomas (*lorrainecourse@gmail.com*) if you wish to place a News Item, Event or an Advertisement in the BEC Bulletin, or have any queries about an item or advertisement that has already appeared. Please note new terms in 'News'.

Please send any items before **Sunday 24th April** for inclusion in the April 2022 Bulletin.

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MARKETPLACE

For sale 328 engine



Recently rebuilt, starts and runs fine.

Supplied assembled and complete with gearbox, dynastart, coils, control box and condensers, carburettor, plugs and leads, clutch lever housing, primary case backplate and primary drive sprocket.

There are some clutch components and primary case cover included but not shown in picture.

Offers in region of £650: video clips of engine start/running available.

Contact: *Geoff Dabrowa*
Tel: *07751288329 or message me*

T60 for sale

A restoration project T60.

Engine, transmission, windscreen and complete interior missing.

I have the V5 in my name.

No reasonable offer refused.

For any more information please contact:

Chris Elliott on **Tel:** *07974 258585*





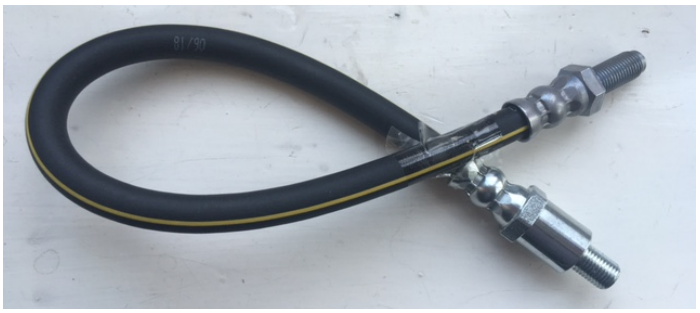
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SPARES

At long last back in stock after supply delays:

Front brake hoses MB 339/10 14 inches long to suit all Berkeley models

£14.00 each plus £2.00 P&P UK.



Desperately wanted



3 speed and reverse HJR 5 gearboxes or parts.

BEC Spares is currently urgently trying to assist BEC members in Belgium and Australia in getting their Sports SE 328s back on the road; both have suffered from breakages in their Albion HJR5 three speed and reverse gearboxes.

BEC Spares would therefore like to ask all its members to see if they have any spare HJR5 gearboxes or HJR5 parts in their stash of spares. If so, please contact the BEC Spares Officer Nigel Halliday.

We are also aware that some members still have their restoration projects in boxes and that sometimes this includes the wrong gearbox for the wrong car! So, if you have a T60 restoration project that finds itself with a HJR or TR gearbox rather than the correct larger and stronger VR gearbox, please contact BEC Spares and we will see about an exchange.

Similarly, if you do not know what box you have or you cannot recognise it/them then contact any BEC committee member who will assist you in identifying parts or the correct relevant gearboxes.

Illustration of HJR5 3 speed and reverse gearbox as fitted to SA 322 and SE 328 Berkeley 'Sports' models

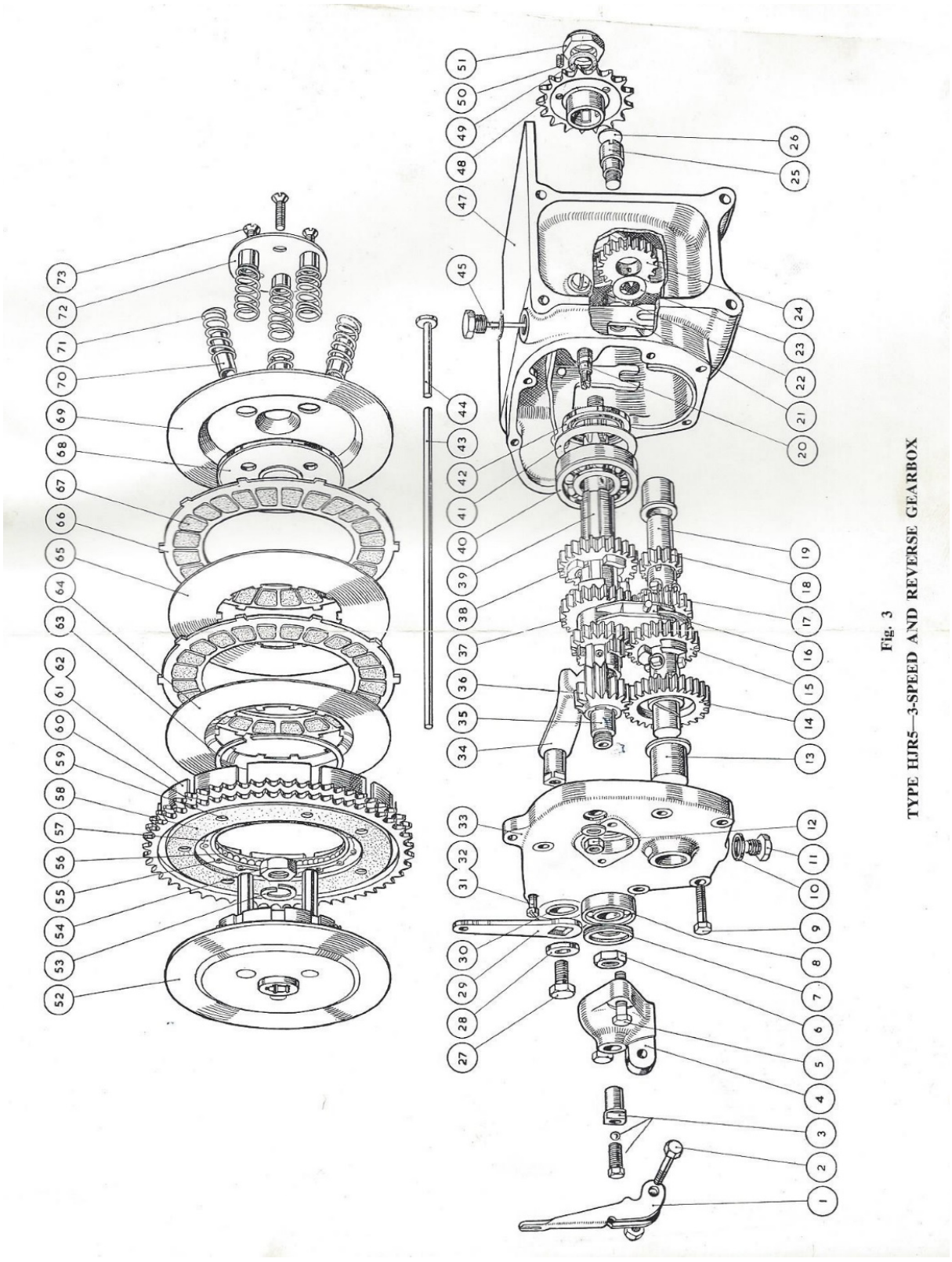


Fig. 3
TYPE HJR5—3-SPEED AND REVERSE GEARBOX

Berkeley Enthusiasts Club

www.berkeleycarclub.com

Webmaster: Peter Smyth

Club Contacts

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

Other Berkeley related links:
'BerkeleyCarOwners' Facebook page: *https://www.facebook.com/groups/berkeleycarowners*.
'Welcome to Berkeley Cars': *www.pearsy.co.uk*