BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB
BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

I find it hard to believe as I'm writing this report that it will be the third Bulletin issue since we went into lockdown. As I recall from the April edition, there was a resurgence of people utilising their newly found spare time in either restoration or maintenance of their cars. From what I continue to read on social media, this situation hasn't abated. I also recall, back in that edition, asking those involved in this activity to consider putting their efforts into words and pictures for future articles for the BEC quarterly magazine. This would be of great interest to those members who do not participate in social media forums. Having recently been in correspondence with our acting editor Dave Perrin, he informs me that to date he has not received any submissions and I therefore again ask you to reconsider.

Looking forward, it would seem that there will be no lifting of sanctions on large scale gatherings that will allow us to continue with our usual summer activities. Sadly we have just received notification from the organisers of the popular annual Silverstone Classic event, after earlier indications of a possibility of it going ahead in some form or another, they now have taken the decision to cancel for this year (see News section for details and reasons). Obviously this does not bode well for any similar events and it is looking more likely that Autumn will be the earliest time that events of this nature will be able to take place, if at all.

In my last Report I mentioned that the National Micro Car Rally in September could be the earliest opportunity to display the rewards of all our efforts with regard to work on our cars. I apologise for failing to mention the Micro Car Marathon in Spain, organised by Malcolm McKay is still scheduled to take place in the same month. For those suffering from withdrawal symptoms from lack of use of their cars, this event will more than compensate. Those interested who have not already committed, please read Malcolm's latest correspondence on this subject in the News section, whereby the situation is fully explained with note to the delay for final entry payment.

On a lighter and more inspiring subject, our ever enterprising member Graham Higgs recently staged his own one man 'Worcester Classic Car and Bike Show' by arranging his extensive Berkeley car collection, including Caravette and his equally impressive motorcycle collection on his front drive and lawn! As Graham is one of our members who does not participate on social media, we hope to bring to a wider audience (other than fellow residents within the Close where he lives) pictorial evidence of his glorious efforts in a future Magazine. Well done Graham!

Keep well, keep safe and keep the work on your Berkeleys progressing.

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

NEWS



News from Malcolm McKay - upcoming Micro Marathon September 2020

Dear Friends

We very much hope that you and your families are keeping well.

We are all fervently hoping that Micro Marathon can go ahead as planned in September. Currently the omens look promising, but we are watching developments very closely and keeping all options open.

Today, of course, it would not be possible to run the rally - FCO advice is not to travel and restrictions on travel in France, Spain and Andorra remain in force.

However, those restrictions are already beginning to be lifted in France, and Spain has begun a staged lifting of restrictions that aims to see the country pretty much back to normal by September. Our rallies are actually a very low risk activity, as we spend most of the time in our cars or out in the open, and we are not a particularly large group.

Clearly the lifting of restrictions is conditional on virus cases remaining at manageable levels, and right now many people feel uncomfortable with the lifting of restrictions. We therefore feel that the best way forward for us is to delay the date for final entry fee payments, and the date by which you can withdraw from the rally and receive a full refund. Your final payments are therefore now due by 30 June 2020, and Article 5.3 of the Regulations can be amended to read -

Article 5.3: Refund or Supplementary Entry Fees
Participants withdrawing by July 1, 2020 will receive a full refund less GBP 250 administration fee (which can be written off against future events). Participants withdrawing after that date but by August 1, 2020 will receive a 50% refund. After August 1, 2020, the Organisers reserve the right to retain the full entry fee. No refund will normally be made to non-starters or participants withdrawing during the event.

We hope that this will give you the confidence to 'stick with us' and of course, we will keep you informed as the situation unfolds. We are in fact still hoping to run our Liège-Brescia-Liège rally for MGs in July, though it is in far greater danger of being postponed than Micro Marathon. If it does have to be postponed, we may be joined by a small coterie of MGs, in a separate category of course!

Our wonderful RAC team, Simon and Mike, are well and looking forward to joining us and our hotels and circuits are very much hoping that we are coming. EM Rogers will offer a transport option to/from Toulouse - they are currently running a skeleton office staff so we don't yet have a firm price for the service, but we will confirm as soon as we have it. The current entry list is below and we would of course be delighted to hear from anyone else who might like to join us!

All best

Malcolm

Malcolm McKay
Managing Director, ClassicRallyPress Ltd
Steps Farm, Brook St, North Newton, TA7 0BL UK
Tel: 0044 7711 901811 *www.classicrallypress.co.uk*

MICRO MARATHON 2020 PROVISIONAL ENTRY LIST

AUTHENTIC CATEGORY

Messerschmitt KR200	Andy & Rachel Woolley	UK
BMW Isetta 300	Mick & Sara Bell	UK
BMW Isetta 300	Chris & sister Bell	UK
Berkeley SE492	Andrew Isherwood/Hilary Farbowski	UK
Fiat 500D	David & Lynette Harris	UK
Messerschmitt TG500	Mark & Jane Smith	UK

SPIRIT CATEGORY

Autobianchi Bianchina Cab	Sheridan & Angela Bowie	UK
Citroen 2CV	Brendan Coyle/John Scanlon	EI
Fiat 500L	Jenny & Vittorio Squillaci	UK
Fiat 500L-650	Richard & Nicola Bullen	UK
Fiat Gamine	Sheridan & Angela Bowie	UK

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SilverstoneClassic
31 JULY-2 AUGUST 2020

News from the organisers of The 2020 Silverstone Classic Event

We promised you an update before the end of May, and it is with a heavy heart that we bring you news that the 2020 Silverstone Classic will not be going ahead. Following the latest Government advice, we have reached the inevitable conclusion that we will need to cancel this year's event. Given the current circumstances and the outlook on timescales, a postponed event - which was our original back-up plan - in a way that enables us to run the Classic in the manner that you know and love isn't a feasible option. Our priority at all times is the safety and wellbeing of those attending our events as well as our own team and we know that you'll understand why this step has been necessary. Our heartfelt thanks must go to all of you for your patience throughout this period of uncertainty.

As an independent events company passionate about what we do, we are proud to have developed the Silverstone Classic into an internationally renowned historic motorsport festival enjoyed across generations of car enthusiasts, families, racing drivers, and petrolheads. In times of difficulty, communities tend to come together and we're incredibly grateful for your continued support. It means a lot. All of you are what makes the event the success that it is and we hope to celebrate our 30th anniversary with you next year instead.

2020 tickets

Anyone who has a ticket will have the option to roll their tickets over to the 2021 event or request a **full refund**. There are a number of measures we need to put in place first, but we will be back in touch with all ticket buyers in June with details of the next steps. In light of the current situation, we have a reduced team who are dealing with a high number of enquiries, so please do bear with us. We'll be in touch soon. In the meantime, and above all else, stay safe and healthy.

With our best wishes,

The Silverstone Classic Team

Our FAQs have been updated on our website ***www.silverstoneclassic.com***.

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SPARES

Spares Update

Body Moulding Suppliers

To our knowledge there are currently two UK based 'mainstream' suppliers capable of manufacturing fibreglass body mouldings for Berkeleys. Additionally, BEC spares holds one or two of the more unusual small moulds and there may be other individuals in the UK (and possibly in the USA) who have 'bucks' or moulds for body repair sections.

We will include futher details and a few pictures of the parts available from both the following suppliers in a month or two, but suggest that anyone interested in ordering body panels first contacts myself or Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*) to clarify exactly which specification parts you need, as there are a lot of subtle variations between different ages and models of Berkeley.

1. Peter & Paul Exton

Email: *peterexton@outlook.com* **Tel:** 07504-034917.

See '*Berkeley Bodies*' Facebook page.

Peter has been storing the family T60 for over 40 years and come back 'into the fold' in the last 5 years. His brother Paul is a practical person with fibreglass moulding experience and based in the Midlands. During the early 2000s, Phil Turner made a full set of moulds for SE328s & T60s and these were bought by the Extons a couple of years ago, the plan being for Paul to use them to repair Peter's T60, but also to offer new mouldings to other enthusiasts.

Phil made a few alterations to the factory specifications (particularly on the T60), but Paul is in the process of making the moulds closer to original and they are now ready to receive orders for the following parts: -

'Sports' SSA322/SE328 (twin droop dashboard and sloping leading edge doors with external hinges)

- Full length 'punt' floor section.
- Front Body section (for sloping leading edge doors).
- Rear Body section.
- Doors (with sloping leading edge).
- Bonnet Assembly .
- Rear Compartment Cover.
- Hardtop (based on the standard T60 top, but with external mounting flange around the rear).

T60

- Full length 'punt' floor section (state whether bench seat or bucket seat).
- Front Body section (for vertical leading edge doors).
- Rear Body section.

- Doors (with vertical leading edge and dog-leg rebate for budget door latch).
- Bonnet Assembly.
- Hardtop (based on the standard T60 version, but with non-factory external mounting flange around the rear).

Steering Wheel

In addition to the body moulds they also have Phil's repair mould for the original plastic-coated Berkeley two spoke steering wheel (ex-Standard 8, 10 saloon), which accepts the stripped metal core of an original cracked/damaged steering wheel, allowing it to be remoulded using modern resin, etc..

2. Phoenix Classic Auto Panels (ex-CaSCU)

Contact: Andy & Carol, **Email:** *phoenixclassics@yahoo.com* or **Tel:** 07941-677385.

The Old Depot, Cess Road, Martham, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, NR29 4RF.

See '*Phoenix Classic Auto Panels*' Facebook page.

The origins of this range of moulds are varied - at least one is ex-Berkeley factory, but most came from Dave Ratner in the 70/80s and further augmented by Andy Carter (of Mini and Metro conversion fame) in the 80/90s, before luckily finding their way to Mark at CaSCU in the 2000s. Mark now principally lives in France, so passed the Berkeley moulds (and various other car and motorcycle moulds) over to Phoenix a year or so ago. Phoenix's main business is more mainstream moulding, but they are happy to take orders from Berkeley enthusiasts.

At present, we are less sure of exactly which moulds they have, but they definitely include:-

T60

- Full length 'punt' floor section (state whether bench seat or bucket seat).
- Front Body section (for vertical leading edge doors).
- Rear Body section.
- Doors (with vertical leading edge and dog-leg rebate for budget door latch).
- Bonnet Assembly.
- Hardtop (standard T60 version, with internal mounting flange which drops down into the rear compartment).

Later 4-wheeler (single droop dashboard and vertical leading edge doors)

- Full length 'punt' floor section.
- Front Body section (for vertical leading edge doors).
- Rear Body section.
- Doors.
- Bonnet Assembly.
- Rear Compartment Cover.
- B95 Bonnet - "*Please note this is a modified version with a widened exit aperture, also with a slightly incorrect radius making the fitting of the BEC supplied production grille difficult" - Geoff Toyer*

- Bucket Seat (basic moulding requiring vinyl/padding).
- 'Racing Buttresss' Headrest

Newly back in stock

Rear engine mounting bolt. This is the large 3'' long bolt which passes up from under the engine bay floor through the large Metalastik rear engine mounting (Part MB 1102) into the engine cradle. As fitted to SE492s, B95/B105 and T60 models. Price is £ 7.50 plus £ 3.70 P&P UK.



Technical

Steering box drop arms. Over the years BEC Spares has come across a few seemingly modified Steering drop arms Part No MB 140, these connect the steering box to the centre track rod. The machined pin at the bottom end has been lengthened by a welded and brazed on extension of approx 1/"2. See photo below.



Originally we thought that the first one we found was a 'one off' but as we have now across several we think that the modified ones might be from the very late T60s and T60/4s. These cars had a different front suspension and suspension cross member arrangement so it is possible

that the geometry of the A steering idler bracket and drop arm needed to change . As these models were introduced in late 1960 it is likely that the Berkeley factory parts listings never caught up with the change ---Does any BEC member know more or has come across this variant?

There is also a suggestion that these drop arms may have been connected to Left hand drive four wheelers with TR gearboxes –due to the LHD configuration and the relative positions of the TR gearbox gear change drop arm several components had to be modified. However, these modified parts are listed in the factory parts manuals of the time.

Speedometers

There have been several enquiries about the factory fitted original AC speedometer recently. Although similar speedos were fitted to Vauxhalls and Bedford vehicles of the period, the 120 mph dial markings make the Berkeley one unique. Unfortunately, as a make, AC instruments are not as common as Smiths and also their construction makes them harder to overhaul –All in all original ones are hence hard to come by.

BEC member Graham Higgs has built up a fair few year of experience of these speedos and while 'lockdown' is on is currently offering a bench examination, inspection and possibly a rebuild service to members. He and BEC Spares would also love to receive any speedos or components that are broken, damaged or incomplete.

Nigel Halliday

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Update: Membership Secretary Report

The following figures relate to the "current" membership as of 26th May 2020. The figures exclude all members that expired at the end of April 2020 and beyond.

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

It is great to see more new members join the Club this month.

The Club currently has a grand total of 202 Members.

- United Kingdom 133 subscribing members
- Europe 19 subscribing members
- Rest of the world 33 subscribing members. (25 members in USA)

Subscribing members total 185 plus 17 Honorary and Car Clubs resulting in 202 total membership.

We welcome three new member this month:

#2739	Steve Courts	T60	Southam	Warwickshire	UK
#2740	Gary Ramsey	SE328	Spokane Valley	Washington	USA
#2741	Will Benton	T60	Neston	Cheshire	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 will gladly print and post it to you each month, eleven UK members currently receive their Bulletins by post.

My stock of Club Magazines is somewhat diminished, this means New Members at present will only receive Two ("#357 and #358) I have therefore started scanning my copies of previous issues.

Available now to be emailed is #356 Winter 2018. If you would like it (or any other recent year's copy) please contact me.

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

June 2020

Local BEC Gathering: Southern Area Meetings

POSTPONED

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

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 Hangs 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

CANCELLED

Track events and static classic car club displays.

www.silverstoneclassic.com/

August 2020

'Bubblecar' and Scooter Event - Bourgogne -28th - 30th August - **Rescheduled to 26th-28th August 2022**

POSTPONED

Annual mini car 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 - T60 Hood

Hood wanted for T60 new or secondhand or anything I could use for a pattern. In a previous life I used to make mini convertibles and I made the hoods as well so I still have all the gear to make them.

Contact: Keith Crabb **Tel:** 03330146008 **Email:** *keithcrabb666@yahoo.com*

Wanted - SE328 Hood Frame and Side Screen

Three hoop, two stick hood frame and sidescreens for a Sports SE 328

Contact: Brian Bliss, Newbury **Tel** :01635-865432 **Email** :brian.bliss@btinternet.com

Wanted - SA322 Engine Cradle

Anzani engine mounting cradle to suit a Sports SA 322

Contact: .John Brimson **Tel**: Potters Bar 01707- 658236.

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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 **Saturday 20th June** for inclusion in the June 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*

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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 May 2020 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Ian & Melanie Danaford