BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB
BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

Sad news has eventually come to the attention of the BEC of the passing over of Jon Goddard Watts this February past. Jon was the former premier works racing driver for Berkeley Cars. We thank Nigel Halliday for both informing us of the news and for writing his Obituary for this issue, of which is self-explanatory. Nigel has kindly sent commiserations on behalf of the BEC to Jon's surviving family.

As reported in last month's issue, Silverstone Social Car Club held its postponed March 'meet' at Turweston Airfield this past Sunday. I have not been to any classic car/bike meets since 'Jack's Hill Café', the weekend after the Monte Carlo Rally Passage Control in Banbury, in what seems like being in another age back in early February of this year! With this in mind I thought I'd dust off 166 ERA and take the 26 mile trip down there to see what was happening.

My main purpose in attending was to see and report to you the measures taken, health and safety wise, taking into account that we're still officially in the C19 Pandemic. The hosts, Silverstone Social Classic Car Club, have a reputation for their organising capabilities and Sunday was no exception. The main problem I found, although not necessarily a health and safety issue, was getting into the venue. The small 'B' road that leads to both the airfield main entrance (not used) and the 'crash gate' entrance can be accessed from both the A43 and the A422, which compounded the problem. I approached from the A43, through the small village of Whitfield and hit the tail back just as I was exiting this village. The time at that point was 11.15am and I finally parked up at ten minutes past midday!

The first thing I noticed was that face coverings were not mandatory and it was interesting to note that most were NOT wearing masks! The parking up of display vehicles seemed to be no further apart than at shows prior to the Pandemic, however the lanes in between opposing vehicles were at least 20ft wide, giving ample room for those walking around viewing to exercise current Government Social Distancing Guidelines.

Portaloo style toilets were provided, suitably spaced apart, with a table outside providing alcoholic cleansing gel and wipes. A one-way system into and out of the area, including the catering van, along with the organisers' control point was in operation and all seemed to work well.

However, notwithstanding the organisers' efforts, I concluded that it was left up to those in attendance to exercise social distancing measures as they saw fitting for individual circumstances. The event was reported to have attracted 580 vehicles through the gate during the day and in the light of these numbers, all went very smoothly with enough space so as not to make one feel crowded in, threatened, or uncomfortable. Common sense being the prevailing

factor made for a good day to be had by all.

I also had the opportunity to catch up with BEC members Mike and Di Stringer, new member Dave Keen and Tim Bishop with Stephanie, who brought along their Berkeley Three Wheeler, which is now running very nicely since its engine rebuild post Banbury Monte Carlo meet!

Whilst still on the subject of events, the 'Wingfield Classic Vehicles Show' scheduled for 23rd August has received a positive response. There could be up to five Berkeleys present if all those who expressed interest attend. Also, since last month's Bulletin issue, it has been made known that Pistons & Props, Sywell will still be going ahead on the 19th-20th September. There having been no announcements prior to this latest release, I assumed that it had been cancelled and as such had not contemplated the BEC taking a Club Stand at this year's event, as we have done in previous years. As many of you will already be aware, this particular weekend now has two conflicting events, these being the rescheduled Prescott Classic Hill Climb, and now Pistons & Props Sywell. With this in mind, I would remind you all that to qualify for a 'Club Stand' at P&P, we would need a minimum of five cars in attendance on both days of the show, a feat hard to accomplish in the light of current circumstances. Your comments are invited.

Finally, those of you who follow 'Berkeley Car Owners' Facebook Page will know that Neil Barber has requested all who are interested in the possible purchase of one of the two Tytronic EI Kits, either twin or triple Excelsior engine, which he has been developing with the company, to let him know so he can give the manufacturer some idea of quantity. Please note: Neil will not be placing the order with the company himself, his request being more a market survey exercise. When the finalised version of the kits has been agreed, subject to testing, you will be able to order direct from the company yourselves.

On the subject of testing, Graham Higgs has recently reported favourably on road tests utilising both systems, the twin version now being installed in a British Anzani 322cc Unitwin powered car! As I understand it, there are a couple of manufacturing points that need to be addressed with the triple system before production can take place. Neil is awaiting delivery of the second prototype with the features that Graham has pointed out incorporated.

Keep safe and keep Berkeleying.

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

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NEWS

Sad News

We have just recently learnt via the proverbial 'grape vine' that Jon Goddard-Watts, the Berkeley works racing driver, died in February at the age of 90 years. We have yet to learn more from his family but this is a sad loss following the death of his beloved wife Jennie last year and of course the club have passed on our condolences to his two sons and their families.

Jon was a great supporter of the BEC and attended many of our special anniversaries in the '90s and '00s , he very sadly could not make the National Microcar Rally in Somerset last September

despite being close to his home village. He often made generous donations to our club funds.

In the last decade he managed to purchase back , restore and race, via Andrew Tart Engineering /Racing, the two Formula Junior Bonds (the single seater Berkeleys) which he raced in 1961. Also in the last three years he purchased back his works Berkeley B105 JON 355 .It is understood that these cars remain in the family collection.

A fuller dedication to the life of Jon Goddard Watts will be published in a future edition of the BEC quarterly magazine.

Nigel Halliday

Classics at Prescott - News from the organisers of Classics at Prescott

"We are now in a position to give you an update on our event as it stands currently whilst recognising that things are in a constant state of flux. We have been in discussions with the Bugatti Owners' Club for several weeks now and I am pleased to say that subject to some restrictions our event will go ahead on the weekend of 19th - 20th September 2020. Some of the restrictions will mean that the event will be different to previous years but not so different that we can't have a very successful and enjoyable day. The main restrictions are:

1. *We will not be allowed spectators, the only people attending will be entrants and their passengers. Entrants include those who have booked to drive the hill and those entered into the Static Display.*
2. *We will need to space out the cars parked in the paddock more generously to facilitate social distancing which will mean that we will need to expand parking into the upper paddock.*
3. *There will be limited catering as the clubhouse is closed. BOC will however offer a pre ordered and paid for catering service e.g Fish and Chips, Afternoon Tea etc (more details later)*
4. *The BOC marshals will operate a modified system of releasing cars onto the track to ensure they can remain safe and be socially distanced.*
5. *A modified registration and briefing system will be in place with as much as possible being done online.*

At the time of writing BOC have held two events under these conditions and they have worked well and been successful; the experience from these events will be used to help develop the best possible practice for future events including ours.

As I said these restrictions are a nuisance but will not affect us too badly and I feel we are lucky to have an event at all. I'm sure you are aware that several similar events are not going ahead. It also means that the Rotary Clubs will raise some funds to enable us to continue to support some very deserving Rotary charities. We will be issuing final instructions in a few weeks time and we are already looking forward to seeing you on the 20th This mail shot is being sent to all those who entered in case anyone who cancelled in March now finds that they would like attend after all. "

Geoff Kimber - Winchcombe Rotary Club

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SPARES

Spares Update

Brake Shoes

Unfortunately the BEC lost the brake re-lining services provided by its Cornish member Peter Tilling a year or so ago with the result that our stocks of re-lined shoes were dwindling. We have now managed to locate a re-lining company just down the road from Biggleswade(!) with the result that we can now re-supply on a new for old exchange basis the brake shoes for both front and rear on the early four wheelers and the front shoes for the later four wheelers and the T60.

Later rear brake shoes are also available.,

All sets are £ 15.00 a pair plus £3.75 a pair UK post and packing (or £5.60p for 2 pairs)



Front engine mounts

Our suppliers have located more of these rare Metalastik mounts so we have purchased them while we had the opportunity (just as well because we have had several orders during the recent ‘’lockdown’’)

Sold on an exchange basis, they are £20.00 plus £3.70 Post and packing UK

Other engine mounts are available from BEC Spares.



Help Wanted

As many of you will have read before, the club is currently expending time in trying to gather more information about the Anzani engines used in the early Berkeley 'Sports'. Good progress is being made by members Graham Higgs and John Brimson and more recently by re-joined member Colin Baker, but it is slow going due to the sheer rarity of the Anzani engine variant as fitted to Berkeleys.

The team are currently looking for an Anzani engine cradle to copy in order that a small batch can be manufactured. Have you got one in your spares by any chance? Please contact John Brimson as per the Wanted advert section in this bulletin .

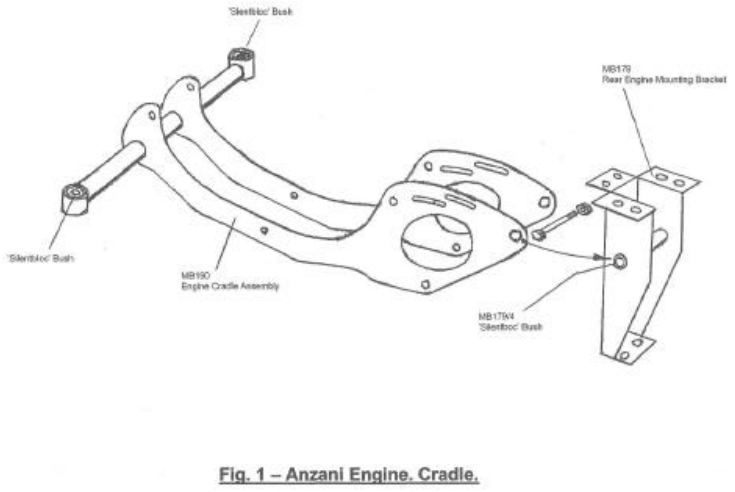
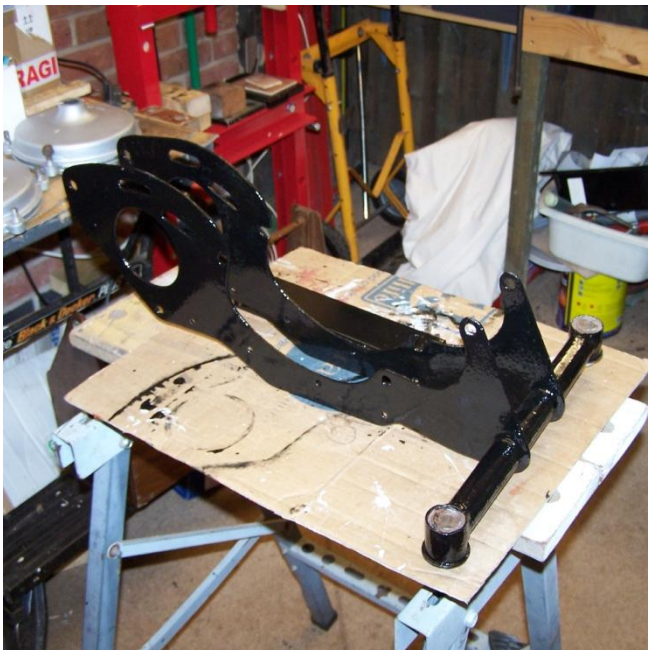


Fig. 1 – Anzani Engine. Cradle.



Nigel Halliday

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Update: Membership Secretary Report

The following figures relate to the "current" membership as of 23rd July 2020. The figures exclude all members that expired at the end of June 2020 and beyond.

With several Members not having renewed their June Membership the numbers have dropped from last month. It is good to see another Member re-join the Club this month after a few years lapse.

The Club currently has a grand total of 206 Members.

- United Kingdom 136 subscribing members
- Europe 21 subscribing members
- Rest of the world 32 subscribing members. (25 members in USA)

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

We welcome back one member this month:

#2324 Paul Smith T60 East Cowes Isle of Wight 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 or don't have a printer just send me stamps for the postage and I will gladly print and post it to you each month, twelve 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 to anyone is, #356 Winter 2018. If you would like it (or any other recent years copy) please contact me.

Happy Berkeleying..

Geoff Dabrowa – Membership Secretary

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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

August 2020

Local BEC Gathering: Southern Area Meetings

POSTPONED

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

Silverstone Classics 31st July - 2nd August

CANCELLED

Track events and static classic car club displays.

Website: *www.silverstoneclassic.com/*

Wingfield Car Show Sunday 23rd August - from 12 Noon

Classic and Prestige Car day. Exhibitors £3, other visitors £1. All show cars please be there by 11 am. All proceeds to local charities.

Ample parking, refreshments available. Near Toddington, LU7 9QH.

Contact: Ken Wright **Tel:** 07813 758401 or 07940 095982

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

POSTPONED

Annual [illegible] Rally 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

CANCELLED

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

CANCELLED

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.

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

Sywell Classic - Pistons & Props 19th - 20th September

Two day event celebrating classic motoring on the ground and in the air. Displays, entertainment and camping.

Website : *www.sywellclassic.co.uk*

Events for next year 2021

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

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

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MARKETPLACE

Wanted - Anzani Parts

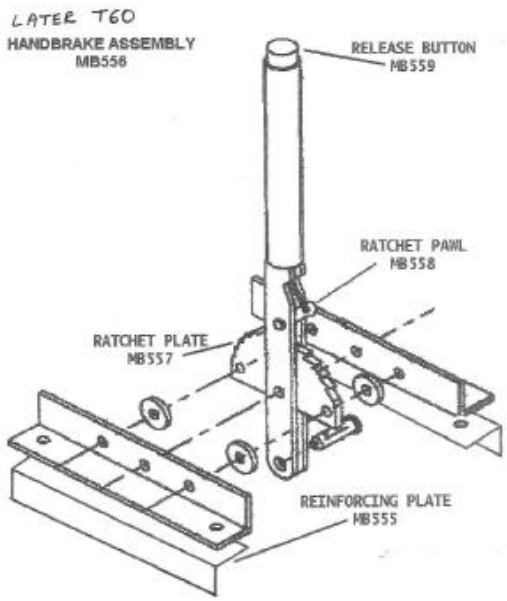
Anzani engine, engine cradle parts in fact anything Anzani !

Contact: John Brimson **Tel:** 01707-658236 (Potters bar).**Email:***marciajohn@btinternet.com*.

Wanted - T60 Handbrake parts

T60 floor mounted handbrake lever and components in any condition and in either of the two variants. Desperately need these components to get the car on the road next month!

Contact: Will Benton. **Email:** *willbenton@hotmail.com*



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 22nd August** for inclusion in the August 2020 bulletin.

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Berkeley Enthusiasts Club

www.berkeleycarclub.com

Webmaster: Peter Smyth

Club Contacts

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Geoff Dabrowa, e-mail: *BECmembership@googlemail.com*, Tel: 01638-780500 or 07751288329

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