BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

With this issue, we see the coming to a close the 2022 Rally season. In fact, by the time most of you are reading this, the annual NMCR event near Ripon, Yorkshire will have taken place, leaving only the Biggleswade Historical Society and Pistons & Props, Sywell extant. Unfortunately, it would seem that this summer's heatwave has started to take its toll on attendance figures, but we did manage to get Berkeleys represented at both 'Specials Day, Burford' and 'Party on Potton'. Well done those members who 'stuck with it'!

I can report that we've had our application once again accepted for a Club stand at P&P, Sywell although, having said that, commitment from the membership is decidedly down on previous years! We have however got an additional attraction so as to boost our stand this year, which is rather unique. Read more by way of Graham Higgs' in 'News'.

Also of note in this issue is the 'coming into post' of our new Membership Secretary Elect, Bob Wilkins; please take time to read his introductory report. Also, bear in mind that there may be some transitional problems arising during the initial stages of Bob's takeover, so I ask you to be patient if renewing, joining, or re-joining.

On a final note, those of you who already take 'Car & Classic Weekly', will not have failed to see our member, Alex Ferrada, with his Berkeley B95 featured. Well done Alex, any publicity to get our marque to a wider audience cannot be at all bad, in my opinion!

Keep safe and keep Berkeleying!

Geoff (Bill) Toyer

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NEWS

Get Ready To Rock & Roll! P&P Sywell 24th-25th September 2022

Come see and more importantly, hear what's under the covers!

Graham Higgs has created a trailer display of the four principal motive power units fitted to production Berkeley Cars from 1956-1960 and better still, they all run!

BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN



A message from the Magazine Editor

The next magazine is in the final stages of preparation prior to going to Dave to be prepped for publication and distribution.

Don't forget as always send me any story or item you would like published, or even a request for a technical article you would like published.

Terry Scott *thebecmag@gmail.com*

BEC Central Chapter

Over this last month two events were chosen to focus our attention on. Sunday 14th August 'Specials Day' Burford, saw three members of CT, plus support from 'The West', totalling four Berkeleys. These consisted of two B95s, one B105 (the Late Eric Bayliss built Saab engine special) now in the custody of Tim Bishop of Connaught Racing, and one early SE 492 'Sports'.

The weather was hot but bearable. We were also joined by BEC members Nigel Halliday, displaying his Lotus Mk 2 and George Moore, displaying his immaculate Rochdale GT, which won the 'The Best In Show' award. Sadly, George has informed us that he has now sold his Berkeley B95, as advertised in last month's Bulletin and it will now be making its way 'across the pond' to the USA.

Saturday 27th August saw three members of CT along with support, this time from 'the east' at 'Party on Potton'. For those not familiar, Potton is a village in Bedfordshire barely three miles east of Biggleswade. We haven't attended this event for some years now, so it was good for us to be invited back. The event consisted of a short carnival parade, mostly comprising vehicles, some steam, of which all terminated in a Public park where events took place and where we

was able to display our vehicles statically. Unfortunately we had one DNS that had to be left on the campsite.

The three cars that made the parade and park up were: one SA322 Sports, one B95 and one B65. A highlight of the day was meeting the inevitable ex-Berkeley Coachworks employee! Although he only started there at the age of 15 straight from school and was subsequently only there for a couple of months before the closure, it was still interesting to hear what he had to say! Saturday evening saw four of us spend a very convivial night dining and having a few beers down at 'The Kings Reach,' a Public House, which would seem to have been built in the last few years especially to accommodate us Berkeletteers who stay at Turnpike Farm Campsite!

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Update: Membership Secretary Report

Hello from Bob Wilkins! I volunteered to take over the role as Club Membership Secretary after learning that Geoff Dabrowa announced that he would be stepping down. It seemed that there were few members willing to take over the role, so I tentatively showed my interest in doing my bit to support our Club and the Club members who are in roles that allow the Club to function.

I am a relatively new Club member and do not propose to be an expert on Berkleys. I have however been an admirer of these fantastic micro sports cars for some years, having seen my first Berkeley at a classic car show back in the late 1980s.

I have owned a number of classics over the years from Minis, Austin Healeys, Triumphs and Volkswagens. My first Berkeley is a car I'm sure many of you may know: 2243 HJ Foursome with a 492cc Excelsior triple. I acquired this unique car from our Chairman Geoff Toyer back in January 2018. It's been quite a learning curve for me, having experienced many of the trials and tribulations that other owners have also experienced. Luckily Geoff T lives close by and has given me a large amount of advice and support in keeping this rare 4 seater on the road and in regular use.

More recently I acquired a very handsome SA322 fitted with a 328cc Excelsior twin (T60) engine. This car has been restored and maintained in great condition by its previous owner. Although I'm also a member of a few other car clubs I have never taken on an active supporting role in any of these before.

I will be leaning as I go in this new role and welcome any feedback on how we might improve on anything relating to Club membership. Please feel free to email me if you have any thoughts or ideas.

I'm sure, like myself, all Club members would like to thank Geoff Dabrowa for his time and commitment over the past years as Membership Secretary; he may now have more time for a few more Berkeley restorations.

I try to use my Berkeleys as often as possible, attending local events and on occasion places of automotive interest and they always draw lots of interest and discussion from people I meet. I also frequently post trips I make on the Berkeley Facebook page. I will endeavour to have some contribution to a few Club magazine articles in the near future.

Happy Berkeleying

Bob Wilkins

The following figures relate to the 'current' membership as of 30th August 2022.

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

We have no New Members this month.

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

- United Kingdom 145 subscribing members
- Europe 25 subscribing members
- Rest of the world 29 subscribing members (23 subscribing members in USA) Howdy Y'all

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Classic Festivals

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

Contact: *www.classicfestivals.co.uk*

September 2022

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

Planning for this year's NMCR is progressing extremely well. All road runs are now confirmed and instructions prepared and checked. Ray has driven the routes in his Isetta to check suitability and parking has been checked. The rural country lanes of North Yorkshire and quaint market towns are ideal microcar territory. The annual rally memento has been designed, produced, delivered and will be well received. The onsite bar and restaurant will be available throughout the rally and evening activities are currently being planned.

As of the 13th July, there are 50 pitches and 3 pods booked at Woodhouse Farm Holiday Park. Whilst there are still pitches available, we would recommend prior booking. Entry to the site - every person/unit that arrives to reception will be given their own personal gate entry number which is not transferable. If someone arrives "out of hours" you will see a telephone number to ring and you will be attended to. Please support your club and the NMCR by ensuring you attend this year's rally.

Ray can be contacted at: *bubblecarray@gmail.com*
or via messenger at the NMCR FB page
or **Tel:** *01274 218455* **mobile** *07977 445694*

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*

Biggleswade Historical Society 'Astonishing Inventions': Saturday 10th September 2022 11.30am-3.30pm
Trinity Methodist Church, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade

The Biggleswade Historical Society will be mounting a small exhibition of local businesses: Berkeley Cars, Dan Albon's Cycle and Tractor Works, etc, mostly written and photographic. The Society would like to see Berkeley cars represented and therefore is inviting BEC members to attend.

Please contact the Chairman if interested.

Amersham Heritage Day 2022: Sunday 4th September

As well as vintage vehicles there will be a whole host of other entertainment and activities running throughout the old town.

There's no need to register, just turn up on the day! There will be stewards on site to direct vehicle owners. There will be an allocated area reserved specifically for classic and vintage vehicles, which will be accessed from the top end of the Old Town High Street via Shardeloes and Mill Lane.

Vehicles will be able to arrive anytime from 09.30am until 10.30am. There will be lots of people, pedestrians and cars on Sunday morning, so we would ask that you please take extra care when arriving on site.

BEC Southern Chapter Monthly Meet Up: Tuesday 13th September 2022

The monthly BEC Surrey area meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th September 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

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

A Club Stand is now booked for this event. At present we have five cars committed. It may be possible to take more at the last minute, contact Chairman. See 'News' for a new attraction.

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

June 2023

Monte Carlo Historique: 25 January 2023
As referred to in Chairman's Report and News (June Bulletin). For further information see attached PDF (June Bulletin). More news and updates to follow.

BEC AGM/Rally: the date will be as agreed at the last AGM we held in 2019, the second week in June. Please make a note in your diaries now!

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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 send any items before **Sunday 25th September** for inclusion in the September 2022 Bulletin.

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MARKETPLACE

BEC Regalia, Clothing, Badges

Don't forget the extensive range of quality BEC clothing available by mail order from Ark Trading.

Many items in different colours (additional colours available on request), etc.

www.arktrading.com
Select Club Sites: Motor Clubs: Berkeley Enthusiasts Club on the drop down menu

Wanted

A pair of cylinder barrels for an Excelsior 328cc engine. Standard bore, or up to .015 inch oversize. Bore condition unimportant, as wish to bore out to .020 inch.

Contact: *Bob Wilkins box200@yahoo.com*

Wanted

Desperately wanted in the UK to complete my Sports SE 492 restoration: a chromed windscreen frame with or without glass. This is the type that is more rectangular in shape compared to the Sports SE 328 and T60 ones, it is the same screen that the B 95 and B 105 utilise with a double channel top rail.

Also required, the windscreen frame support stays which are round pillar shape at the base with a single stud fixing into the dashboard/ scuttle top.

I have other screens and parts if you prefer to swap or trade parts.

Please help me if you can or even giving me information as to where I might find one would be good. Thank you.

Contact: *Colin Baker, Halesowen West Midlands, UK*
Tel: *07719816652* **Email:** *hbmlimited10@aol.com*

Information wanted

Martin Allsop, founder member of the IBEC is seeking the following. If any Member currently owns any of the cars listed please P.M. me (via the Berkeley Facebook page) with your email address. I will scan photos via iPad 7 (VHR imagery) and attach to an emailed reply message. Not a 'next - day service' as I still work full time! Thanks.
Martin

8001NK - T.60 Hardtop with Mk.1 Cortina grille
52 DKC - Foursome / Factory Hardtop / Ex - Pete Whalley
TLR429 - Red 492 / Ex - Les Johnson of Caversham (former Club Secretary)

VMJ488 - 692 Enfield (B- 95/105)
284HWL - T.60 soft top
2120NB - T.60 hardtop
XRY691 - Enfield - powered T.60/Ex - Stew Busby
TLM662 - Red 4 wheeler soft top
TLP674 - Red 4 wheeler soft top
353CNB - Red T.60 soft top
VNV327 - Red T.60 soft top
370COM - Blue T.60 soft top
RTL332 - Red T.60 soft top
747EWO - Dark Blue T.60 soft top
STP917 - Red Foursome soft top
130RE - 492 for wheeler
TXY488 - 492 four - wheeler Hardtop
631OVO - T.60 soft top

Martin the Founder, I.B.E.C. (1964)

SPARES

Berkeley Windscreen frames - different types

We have covered this matter before on these bulletin pages but we make no excuse in covering it again as we currently have several cars in the UK which have their restorations halted as they do not have the correct windscreen frames and glass. In particular there is an immediate requirement for the wider more rectangular chrome windscreen frames, which also have a double channel in the top rail for the hood. This type fits the later Sports SE 492, B 95 and B105 models in the UK. These screens also have the round pillar style of base windscreen support stays with a single stud fixing into the dashboard top.

The windscreen frames and the respective glass that fit the earlier Sports SA 322 and SE 328 models and the T60 are of a more trapezoidal shape with stays that have a three-screw 'over the edge of the dash' shaped fixing or in the case of the T60s a two-screw fixing on a rectangular base. There are further differences between these Sports and T60 screens (if you are unsure please contact BEC Spares).

We are aware however that over the years Berkeley spares and screen types get mixed up, with the result that often the early cars and the T60s end up with a Sports SE 492, B95, B105 type of screen. If by any chance you have one of these SE 492 screens with your car or in that large box of spares please let BEC Spares know and we will provide an exchange for the correct type of screen for your Berkeley model.

BEC Spares back in stock



Wheel trims and spinners

Both early deeper type to fit the three legged spider mount Part No MB 735 £30 each disc only and the later hub nut fixing type MB1177/7 £27 each disc only.

Spinners with B badge MB 1177/6 £15 each

Front and rear wheel bearings

Front axle hub wheel bearing MB 166/3 £9

Front axle oil seal MB 141/6 £7

Rear axle large bearing MB 166/3 £9

Small bearing MB 166/4 £8

Rear hub oil seal MB 166/6 £7

Tachometer cable MB 1159/2 £34

Speedometer cable MB 326/1 £36

Secondary handbrake cable (Umbrella dashboard hand brake) fits SE 492, B 95 B 105 MB 1063/1 £36

Secondary handbrake cable (Umbrella dashboard hand brake) fits T60 MB 533A £40

Throttle cable 24 inch (barrel nipple end) MB 1622 £12

Choke cable MB379/48 40 inch (disc nipple end) £12

All above parts are subject to additional post and packing costs.

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Berkeley Enthusiasts Club

www.berkeleycarclub.com

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Bob Wilkins, e-mail: Box200@yahoo.com

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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*.
'Welcome to Berkeley Cars': *www.pearsy.co.uk*