BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

Firstly, may I thank all those members who supported Pistons & Props, Sywell on the 19th-20th September. We managed to display six Berkeleys, three four wheelers and three three wheelers. Considering the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the show was generally successful in spite of being arranged at the last minute. The only obvious loss being the live entertainment, both during the day and on the Saturday night.

Since our last Bulletin, the BEC, via Nigel Halliday, received some potentially exciting news from a firm called Berkeley Industries Ltd, of whom under a subsidiary called 'Berkeley Cars' announced a grandiose plan to re-launch a modern version, nay several modern versions, of the Berkeley car! From the outset they stated that they wanted full liaison and cooperation with the BEC, as they fully accepted the Club as the 'custodians of the brand for the past 50 years'. All seemed well until it emerged that they, or rather their CEO, Martin Rees had secured the Intellectual Property Rights to the Berkeley badge and had further registered it as 'Berkeley Cars' logo! They stated from the outset that it was not their intention to stop the BEC from continued use of the logo, but a list of conditions was produced for doing so, that both myself and your committee found totally unacceptable. Obviously, this came as a bit of a shock. The Club, having limited funds for professional advice, had to rely on sympathetic past members who were considered knowledgeable in such matters. Our member Graham Higgs suggested that I contact ex-BEC member and present owner of the only known surviving Berkeley Bandit, Mr Mike Webster, on account that he owns the rights to 'Bond Cars Ltd' and to ask him his attitude toward the various Bond orientated classic car clubs that continue to use that name, or a derivient thereof.

The information and advice I received from Mike in the short, but very direct telephone conversation I had with him proved invaluable and, along with supplementary advice supplied from both committee members and other outside sources, formed the basis of my negotiating stance with Berkeley Industries Ltd's representatives at a meeting I attended, along with Nigel Halliday at the Shuttleworth Trust, Old Warden, Bedfordshire on 25th September. The outcome of this meeting was that Berkeley Industries Ltd completely withdrew their former list of 'conditions' to be replaced by the agreement reached in the letter you will find attached, this being framed around the advice I had received mentioned prior. I urge you all to read it, noting both the 'goodwill' intentions of the company and more specifically, the last paragraph that includes the all-important word 'unhindered!'

With this contentious issue considered settled, both the Company and the BEC can now continue forward, they with their grandiose plans and us as we have done for the last 56 years! Of course it is in both parties' interests that we continue as first envisaged in the spirit of mutual

cooperation. With this in mind they have invited BEC members to bring along their Berkeleys to the proposed launch announcement ceremony to be held at Old Warden Aerodrome on 28th October. We have it on good authority that the only known surviving example of the 'Berkeley Bandit' will be making a very rare appearance, so for those members who have not yet seen it, the event represents an ideal opportunity!

See both 'Events' and Nigel's news section for full details. Any member wishing to bring their Berkeley, please contact either Nigel or myself. It is open to all BEC members but you will need to register your intention to attend first, no 'turn ups on the day'. Please note that this event is on a Wednesday, also note further Covid 19 restrictions may cancel it, but the present guidelines of compliance have been accepted by the Shuttleworth Trust and the local authorities and at time of writing the event is still on.

Please also see in 'Spares' an update on the Tytronic EI System from Neil Barber, plus a generous offer by member Alan Broughton on an oil additive supplement.

Keep well, keep safe and keep Berkeleying, if only in the shed!

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

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A very special invitation -Wednesday 28th October

As mentioned in the Chairman's Report, a new modern Berkeley company 'Berkeley Industries' is about to be announced to the public, press and officials at the end of October 2020. They hope to develop and produce a new range of cars and other products using modern innovative materials, composites and power plants from a new factory unit located on the Old Warden /Shuttleworth estate, near Biggleswade, literally across the grass runway from where Charles Panter built his first caravan in the late 1940s/ early 1950s and two miles from the factory where Berkeley Cars were manufactured.

The new company has approached the BEC, recognising the large and important place that the BEC has played in keeping the Berkeley name alive for the past 56 years. As such they would like the BEC and its members, but more especially the heritage cars to attend the company's launch to the world and press on Wednesday 28th October 2020 at the Shuttleworth Collection, Old Warden, Biggleswade. The launch event will be held under an airy marquee to meet Covid Guidelines and will be timed around lunchtime so it is planned that refreshments will be available to all. There will be a separate photo opportunity before lunch with a selection of original heritage Berkeleys posed in/ in front of the original aircraft hangar (hopefully weather permitting with some heritage Shuttleworth Collection aircraft). Depending on the Covid restrictions, the number of people and the number of Berkeleys attending, it is hoped that all cars will be accommodated under cover in one of the two large marquees.

The aircraft collection and museum will be open all day for viewing.

The BEC has been consulted in the planning of the event and inspected the Shuttleworth

Collection's proposed site arrangements

All Berkeley models are invited to attend this very special day – (the last one was at Goodwood with Stirling Moss in September 1956!) - Wednesday 28th October 2020 from/at 10.30 am.

In order to comply with Covid Shuttleworth Collection guidelines all BEC members hoping to attend will need to pre-register themselves and their car beforehand with the BEC by Friday 23rd October.

Register your interest to attend this event as soon as possible by contacting:

Nigel Halliday Tel: 07733462404 or email: *nhalliday1@aol.com* or

Geoff Toyer Tel: Tel: 07773119216 or email: *geedadtee@ntlworld.com* .

With 2020 having had so few opportunities to show and drive your Berkeley you really cannot miss the invitation to this very special day!



Image from Berkeley Industries Ltd promotional material

FBHVC Drive it Day April 25th 2021

The FBHVC has announced it will run the 2021 Drive it Day, scheduled for April 25th in support of the NSPCC's Childline® service. Please see attached flyer for details.

New Facebook Group site

Many BEC members from across the world are members of the Facebook Berkeley Owners site, as administered by perennial Berkeley restorer Neil Barber. This group is great and has largely taken over from the old Berkeley USA Yahoo group.

A fairly new group has opened recently the 'Two stroke Excelsior Motorcycles' group. It is worth a look as it quite often has interesting entries about the 328cc engines as fitted to the Talisman Excelsior motorcycle.

Regalia

Do not forget the extensive range of BEC clothing and regalia – these make ideal Christmas presents for all Berkeley Enthusiasts and their families. We suggest ordering as soon as possible for pre-Christmas delivery especially if you are overseas.

Full details of the range and current prices are available from the website:
www.arktrading.com shop: clubsites: motor clubs: Berkeley Enthusiasts Club



Nigel Halliday

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SPARES

Spares Update

Tytronic Electronic ignition

Subscribers/ readers of the Facebook Berkeley Owners pages will be aware that the tests by a few BEC UK members of the Chinese manufactured 'Tytronic' electronic ignition systems have been progressing during Covid lockdown and over the summer on both the Excelsior 328cc twin cylinder and 492cc triple cylinder engines. Tens of miles have now been run on cars fitted with the ignition sets and it is hoped that when normality returns further '00s and '000s of miles will be attained. The tests carried out so far have thrown up a few design tweaks and hence the third revision of the design is now available. This latest design enables easier adjustment of the baseplate for fine ignition timing.

The range of Tytronic ignition now includes both the large and small 492cc triple Excelsior engine. A set has also been fitted to an Anzani 322cc 'Sports'.

If any member is interested in placing an order for a Tytronic ignition set they should contact Neil Barber via the Facebook Berkeley Owners site or by email: *neiljbarber@aol.com* . It is understood that 3 No 492cc sets are available for immediate dispatch whilst Neil is preparing to place another bulk order of 328cc and 492cc sets dependent upon demand in the next few months. Anyone interested will need to reserves sets by payment in advance

If any member wishes to learn more about the experiences of fitting and running the system, they may like to consult with BEC Club chairman Geoff Toyer or BEC member Graham Higgs

Cables

After a 'lockdown ' shortage, we are delighted to report that the clutch cable MB 1009 as fitted to most models of Berkeleys are back in stock. Cost is £32.00 plus £3.00 UK P&P

For all those members awaiting the clutch cable please re- contact the spares Officer immediately.



Other cables recently back in stock: -

MB 326/1 Speedometer cable all models £34.00 plus £3.00 UK P &P

MB 1159/2 Tachometer cable (mechanical Icknield tach only) £34.00 plus £3.00 UK P&P



MB 1063/2 Short handbrake cable front wheel arch, umbrella handbrake, four wheelers, early T60 - £10.00 plus £1.20 UK P&P

MB 553 Handbrake floor mounted handbrake cable, later bucket seat T60 £ 40.00 plus £3.70 UK P&P



MB 1622 Throttle cable 24" barrel / bar nipple to pedal. Most models £12.00 Plus £1.50 UK P&P

MB379/48 Choke cable. most models £25.00 plus £ 3.00 UK P&P



Oil Additive Offer to Members

Member, Alan Broughton, has offered the BEC the opportunity of a quantity of the X-1R lubricant with the idea of supplying to members in smaller quantities. Although not suitable for our engines it may be suitable for gearbox or diffs. Please express an interest if this is a product you may want to use.



Nigel Halliday

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Update: Membership Secretary Report

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

Another good month, two new members and another three members re-joined the Club this month, overall figures increase again by a few more even though some overdue renewals continue to minimise the overall Membership figures.

The Club currently has a grand total of 211 Members.

- United Kingdom 143 subscribing members
- Europe 22 subscribing members
- Rest of the world 30 subscribing members. (25 members in USA)

Subscribing members total 195 plus 16 Honorary and Car Clubs resulting in 211 total membership.

The BEC welcomes four new members this month:

#2749 Keith Styles	SE328	Knighton	Powys	UK
#2750 Matthew Morris	SE328	Dublin	Ohio	USA

We welcome back this month

#2583 Neil Willatt	B105	Sheffield	South Yorkshire	UK
#2018 Peter Locke	No car	Wimbledon	London	UK
#2439 Phil McCabe	SE492	Derby	New York	USA

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.

When paying your renewal by Bank transfer please ensure you notify me you have done it and please send copy of the transaction. This helps eliminate time spent following up on renewals that may have been paid already.

Note; PayPal notify me automatically when you pay by this method.

Your completed Renewal Form IS still important in maintaining Club records of vehicles, so please try and return a completed Renewal Form with your subscription.

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

October 2020

Local BEC Gathering: Southern Area Meetings



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

Berkeley Industries - Public Launch Day- Wednesday 28th October 10.30 am

All Berkeley models are invited to attend this very special day. BEC members hoping to attend must pre-register themselves and their car beforehand with the BEC by Friday 23rd October at the latest.

Register your interest to attend this event as soon as possible by contacting:

Nigel Halliday Tel: 07733462404 or email: *nhalliday1@aol.com* or

Geoff Toyer Tel: Tel: 07773119216 or email: *geedadtee@ntlworld.com*.

November 2020

The Lancaster Insurance Classic Motor Show at the NEC 15th - 19th November,

"No matter what you're looking for this is the ultimate season finale for any classic car/bike owner, collector, enthusiast, club member, or simply anyone with a passion for classic vehicles!" This event is confirmed as going ahead, but with enhanced Covid 19 measures. Booking in advance advised.

Website : *www.necclassicmotorshow.com*

Events for next year 2021

FBHVC Drive it Day April 25th 2021
Annual drive your classic car day

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

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

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

Micro Marathon 2020 10th -20th September 2021
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/*

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MARKETPLACE

Wanted - Gear lever Quadrant

Still wanted - Gear lever quadrant for a T60 to suit a VR gearbox.
Contact: Peter Bassett (Kent) **Tel:** 01304-363886. **Email:** *petebassett@yahoo.com*

Wanted - Sports SE 492 Door Lock

Sports SE 492 door lock for UK passenger side door as per photo but opposite hand / side. It does not need to have the chrome lever.

Contact: Jean Louis Icardi

Email: *jl.icardi@gmail.com*



Wanted - T60

T60 wanted either complete or as a restoration project.
Contact: Zac Hollis (via Geoff Toyer or Nigel Halliday)

Wanted in UK -A Sports SE 492 bodyshell

Ideally a complete Sports SE 492 or a B95 or B105 bodyshell less running gear required by a BEC member in the West Midlands .Replies to Nigel Halliday via the 9th October post on the Berkeley Car Owners Facebook page or contact Nigel directly.

For Sale (By Auction) - SE328 Sports

Sports SE 328 1958 Four-Wheeler. For restoration. Located in Flintshire with BEC member Russell Hancock. Will be put up for auction in the H&H October auction on the 21st October. For photos and details see:

Quick link to Website *: http://bit.ly/BerkHH*

Website: *https://www.handh.co.uk/auction/lot/-1958-berkeley-sports-deluxe/?lot=51127&so=4&st=berkeley&sto=0&au=&ef=&et=&ic=False&sd=0&pp=96&pn=1&g=1#*





For Sale (By Auction) -

As an ex-Berkeley member and owner (lived near Mike R-S) I take an interest in the marque, so there is a stripped but complete car for sale by auction at Hobbs of Ashford, Kent, on 30th October, lot 922. Original engine, gear change looks odd, and seats are not kosher but the rest is possible



Regards to all and hope to hear the car has gone to a good home. Can help anyone who needs a trailer or auction friend on the day.

Barry O'Sullivan

Quick link to Website: *http://bit.ly/HobbsParker*

Website: *https://www.hobbsparker.co.uk/car-auctions/auction-dates/catalogue/lot/?departmentId&saleTypeId=49&auctionId=452517&lotId=10049293*

For Sale (Seen on Facebook Berkeley Car Owners Page) - Berkeley Spares



Berkeley spares for sale --SA 322 early welded lug road wheel , some hub brackets (king pins) steering track rod and track rod ends (drag links).

Also battery tray and dynastart Contact Pablo Hull.

See Clive Matthews post from 5th October on the Facebook Berkeley Car Owners Page.

For Sale (Seen on Facebook Microcar World Page) - Berkeley 328



"Hope it is OK to post up a friend's Berkeley for sale, he is not on FB so I am happy to forward his details to all interested.

Really great condition Berkeley with 328cc engine, drives and looks fab. Available in Norfolk near Diss.

Looking for offers over £7k"

Quick link to Website:
http://bit.ly/DissNorfolk

Website:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/950689934973969/permalink/3380334698676135

For Sale (Seen on Facebook Berkeley Car Owners Page) - Berkeley Caravette

Berkeley Caravette 1950's for sale. See Face book Berkeley Car Owners page, posted by Shane Hiller (Essex) 3rd October 2020.





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*

Membership Secretary & PayPal Payments Coordinator
Geoff Dabrowa, e-mail: *BECmembership@googlemail.com*, Tel: 01638-780500 or 07751288329

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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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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 October** for inclusion in the October 2020 bulletin.

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