BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB
BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

Firstly, on behalf of the BEC committee I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate those BEC members who made the 'epic' journey to Grasmere, Cumbria in early September to attend this year's National Micro Car Rally. They were Geoff Dabrowa, Colin Pears and Martin Archer, who all drove their T60s incredible mileages to attend, along with Graham Higgs, SE492 Sports, who this time preferred to 'trailer' and Martin and Gina Forrester with their B95, who live 'locally', a mere 60 miles away. Five cars in total, with Barrie and Jan Holding also making an appearance, but without car.

Mileages reported were Martin Archer, 200; Colin Pears 400; and Geoff Dabrowa 600, plus a further 140 travelled in his avowed determination to get ADA to Scotland, making a grand total of 740 miles! For Geoff's efforts he won the 'Longest Distance Travelled' award presented by Malcolm McKay on behalf of 'Liege Brescia Liege'. Malcolm was in attendance with his Trabant. Whoever said that Berkeley's were unreliable? Other awards were: Best T60 Colin Pears, 24 FKF; second Geoff Dabrowa, 320 ADA; Best Four Wheeler Martin & Gina Forrester, B95 TAS 255; second Graham Higgs, SE492 Sports, 902 EBO. 'Highly recommended' award went to Martin Archer, T60 216 EKF.

Once again, well done! You are all a credit to our club and an inspiration to our membership.

Quarterly BEC Magazine production: having failed to recruit a new Editor, your committee has been in constant email discussion to see what alternatives are available to resolve the situation. We have decided that the best short to medium term solution, or at least until next year's AGM takes place in May 2018, is for our current Bulletin compiler, Dave Perrin to take on the magazine editor's role on a temporary basis. For those who do not know, Dave edited the BEC magazine some years ago so is quite conversant with the procedure and computer systems the club currently use. Ian & Melanie Danaford have been recruited to fill Dave's vacated post; in fact, as I understand it, this present Bulletin issue has been compiled partially by their good selves so the results of their capability will be self-evident. A quarterly magazine issue is expected to be published after this year's rally season is finished, our last official commitment being Pistons & Props, Sywell, on the 23rd-24th of September. This will mean a full review of this year's activities will be incorporated into one edition.

In response to my appeal in last month's issue for a location for next year's BEC AGM & Annual Rally, the club has been made aware of 'Turweston Airfield' NN13 5YD, in South Northants, not far from the A34 Oxford Road and the Brackley junction on the M40 Motorway. On checking their website, the facilities look good. They're also trying to promote 'small to medium' classic car clubs to hold their events there. The location geographically is excellent. We will be investigating costs and facilities regarding viability as a possibility for 2018. More updates in the future.

Keep Berkeleying!
Geoff (Bill) Toyer *geedadtee@ntlworld.com*

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Berkeleys in the Press

The September issue of the American classic racing magazine 'Victory Lane ' has a three page article with five black and white photos titled 'The Berkeley and Bond Cars' written by Art Evans. The article includes reference and a photo of enthusiast Jim Fox who raced a Berkeley in 1958/59 in California. The article goes on to describe the Laurie Bond projects after his Berkeley project. Whilst the magazine is freely available in the USA it is only available in the UK from specialised car bookshops or distributors or possibly via Amazon. For those of you signed up to the Yahoo Group Berkeley USA website, Mark Schoenlein has placed a copy in the Files section.
Nigel Halliday

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Breakfast Scramble Meeting - Bicester, Oxfordshire

On Sunday Oct 1st : Bicester Heritage are holding a breakfast 'Scramble 'Meeting. from 9am to 2pm. Does anyone fancy going to wave the Berkeley flag? The owner of 'Classic Oils' is a BEC member and has his office there, so is happy to provide a parking space for your Berkeley. Otherwise it costs £8 per person on gate entry or £6 in advance with even as low as £4 if you turn up in a pre-1990 car.
See more on *Bicester heritage.co.uk* -- But please contact the BEC if you are intending to attend.

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Kawasaki Triple Berkeley 'SE492' - 'found' on Facebook

An interesting conversion for anyone who ever wondered about 'other' triple two stroke engines. Introduced in the early 1970s the 748cc 'Mach IV' Kawasaki H2s (with claimed 74 bhp as standard originally, but dropping to 71bhp for later models) didn't have an electric start, so intriguing as to how this works out as fitted to the Berk below. The original bikes are supposedly listed in the 'Top ten most frightening motorcycles'.







This Berk conversion, running on Nitro (according to the fuel tank label in the photos) appears to have a modified upper front suspension crossmember to clear a larger diff sprocket, although it's not clear how a tuned exhaust system (like the one shown above on a modified H2) could fit in the engine bay, so it may just be someone's incomplete pipe dream!

Dave Perrin

UPDATE Birmingham 2018

This is a reminder of the announcement made in the July BEC Bulletin about the proposal for a Birmingham based joint rally with the Excelsior Talisman motorcycle club in the spring or early summer of 2018 – We are looking for any suggestions and ideas that any member may have.

Nigel Halliday

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UPDATE: L-B-L European MicroCar Rally, 11th-22nd July 2018

So far there are eleven provisional Berkeley entries listed for next year's Diamond jubilee Liège-Brescia-Liège Rally, from the UK, the USA and New Zealand!

You can see the latest newsletter packed with information and photos of interest to anyone thinking of taking part in LBL 2018.

www.classicrallypress.co.uk/mediapool/77/772273/data/LBL_News_Aug_2017.pdf

For more information contact *Malcolm McKay* (e-mail: *LBLrally@aol.com* … or message on Facebook)

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CLUB WEBSITE INSTRUCTIONS

Enhanced Login instructions for the 'Members Only' area of the BEC website have been emailed to you with this bulletin. As indicated last month, thanks to the efforts of Peter Smyth, in addition to archive copies of the bulletin, the website also now contains 'ShedTime Stories', the Berkeley restoration book written by active club member Graham Higgs.

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Braking systems

The BEC has recently taken delivery of new stocks of new brake parts for both the older braking systems fitted to the early cars (Sports SA322, SE328 and early sloping edge door SE492s) as well as the systems for the later models.

Handbrakes for later T60s

We have also received several enquiries from later bucket seat T60 owners for the floor mounted T60 handbrake mechanisms. From early research, we think there are in fact two variations on this floor mounted handbrake which is a Berkeley only part rather than the earlier under dash mounted umbrella handbrake which is a part found on Ford Sidevalve powered cars of the period.

Our research continues but if you think you need one of these handbrakes for your restoration please let us know.

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EVENTS

Sep 23rd/24th: Pistons & Props, Sywell Aerodrome, Northamptonshire, NN6 0BN.
http://www.sywellclassic.co.uk

Oct 1st: Breakfast 'Scramble 'Meeting - Bicester Heritage, Oxfordshire, Bicester.
From 9am to 2 pm (please contact BEC if attending)
www.Bicester heritage.co.uk

OTHER EVENTS
If you know of any worthwhile events which you feel other members would be interested in, please contact Ian & Mel Danaford (*m.danaford@gmail.com*) with the details, so that they can be included in the bulletin.

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MARKETPLACE

BEC Spares has for sale a 1960 late chassis style bucket seat, soft top T60. The car is on its wheels, movable and virtually complete, but will need a complete restoration of body, paintwork, mechanicals, braking systems, etc., etc.. The good news is that the punt chassis has at some stage had its original steelwork sills and bulkhead cross members replaced with new stainless steel or aluminium items, so will require less work.




The original engine bay floor 'top hat' section engine support members have rusted away (new ones are available via some BEC Members), but early indications are that, despite some light rust, the components and fittings will dismantle relatively easily. The bucket seats, windscreen, glass, electrical loom, instruments and all mechanical fittings are present. There is a set of hood sticks, tonneau cover, sidescreens and hood, but the material is aged and stiff, so may only be any good as patterns.

As can be seen in the photos, the car has been modified to accept 7" diameter headlamps which have been recessed back into the wings. Separate low level mounted sidelights have also been fitted (these will need to be matched or replaced).




A complete engine with all its components, gearbox, transmission etc will be supplied with the car, but the engine will require a full rebuild and re-assembly.




The car does not have a V5C registration document, but the BEC believes there is sufficient documentation/proof to recover its original registration - it will only be sold by the BEC for full restoration to an original specification (due to the relative rarity of T60s, no offers from members planning conversions or modification projects will be considered).

Viewing by arrangement in South Bucks, close to the M40/M25. Please contact Dave Perrin (dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk) to express an interest and/or for further photographs.

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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 advertisment that has already appeared.

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NOTE: Membership Details

Please contact Geoff Dabrowa (*BECMembership @gmail.com*) in order to update club records and ensure that you continue to receive BEC bulletins and publications when changing e-mail address, moving house, etc.

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'Berkeley-USA' Yahoo Group: *https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Berkeley-USA/info*

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'BerkeleyCarOwners' Facebook page: *https://www.facebook.com/groups/berkeleycarowners/*

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Berkeley Enthusiasts Club

www.berkeleycarclub.com

Webmaster: Peter Smyth

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BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

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The September 2017 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Ian & Melanie Danaford