BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report: Important Announcement

Unfortunately, due to the number of other events being held at Quainton Railway Heritage Centre over the May Bank Holiday weekend, we have been forced to change the date of our 'Golden Jubilee/AGM Weekend' from 24th/25th May to the preceding weekend, 17th/18th May.

We would like to apologise to any members who have been inconvenienced by this change, but unfortunately it was unavoidable. All else as before, so keep an eye on the 'Events' column for updates and please try to help us meet our dream target of "Fifty Years, Fifty cars"!

Wishing you all a Happy Festive Season & a Happy New Year! Keep Berkeleying.

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

V V V

NEWS

Dynastart Tool

I recently bought a dynastart extractor tool from Dolphin Engines and would like to recommend it to fellow members.

It does the job well and I'm very pleased with it; the Dolphin part number is 71250DDD 'Extractor - early type' and the price is £24.09 (plus VAT and p&p).

Dave Rich



Dolphin Engines,
The Forge Workshops,
Tresillian,
Truro,
Cornwall,
TR2 4AX,
UK.

Tel: 01726-824726
Fax: 01872-520796

Email: *enquiries@dolphinengines.co.uk*
Web: *www.dolphinengines.co.uk*

BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Berkeleys on Film

A club member recently drew our attention to a film on You Tube which includes a couple of Berkeleys. It is nearly 24 minutes long and covers two driving test events held by the Eastern Counties Motor Club in 1958.

Go to *www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjXIpy3cldE* :-



It is great to watch anyway for all the period cars, but if you want to jump straight to the Berkeleys, here are the relevant timings:-

02:34	Blue SE328 (or early SE492)
04:34	Red hard top B105, registration 223 ATM
07:58	" " " " " " "
11:35	" " " " " " "
15:44	" " " " " " "
22:58	" " " " " " "

223 ATM is one of the final batch of Royal Enfield powered cars built during the summer of 1960 (the only B95/105s with bucket seats) and the driver is certainly at home behind the wheel; it seems likely that it is Ian Mantle.

BEC AGM/Golden Jubilee

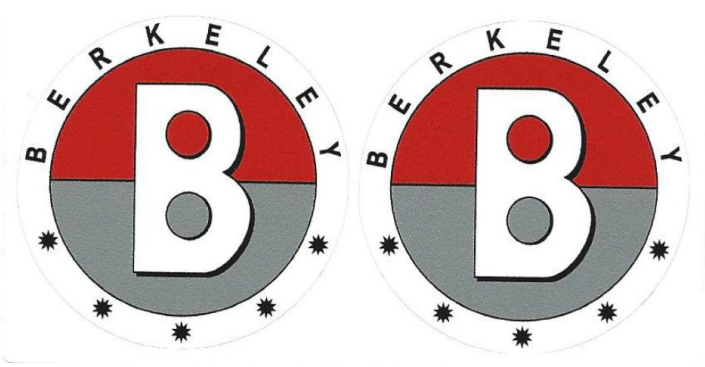
As our plans come together, we are beginning to consider special events to hold over the weekend. One suggestion is to have a panel of old BEC committee members and old hands on a question and answer session concentrating on the old times.

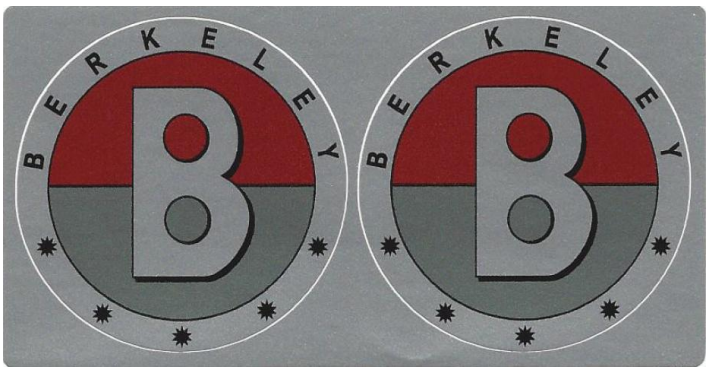
With this in mind we are keen to locate BEC members from the early days of the club (we have a few in mind already – Dave Ratner, Martin Allsop, etc), but there must be a few more still out there, so if any of you know of owners or ex-owners who were part of the club scene back in the 1960s please let us know so that we can invite them along.

Also, we have decided that we will need a large tent or marquee (at least 20ft by 20ft or equivalent area) at the site in case of inclement weather - obviously we would like to keep the costs as low as possible, so would appreciate it if any members owning one or with possible access to one (e.g. via boy scouts or girl guides, etc., in return for a small donation to group funds) could make contact.

BEC Regalia - New Item

As indicated last month, we recently came across a range of Berkeley self adhesive coloured vinyl stickers and have purchased a few as a possible new BEC Regalia item. They are normal surface mount stickers, not window stickers (i.e. the adhesive is on the rear face) and the design is the standard round Berkeley 'B' logo:-





- 50mm diameter, with a choice of white or silver background @£5.00 per pair.



- 58mm diameter (black & silver) @£2.50 each.

Available initially from BEC Spares; please send a stamped self addressed envelope and cheque for the relevant amount (payable to 'BEC Regalia') to the BEC Spares Officer.

Nigel Halliday



Wheels

As indicated last month, manufacture of the new Berkeley wheels is now complete. All available wheels have been delivered to the club, and most of those members who placed orders have already received theirs. Unfortunately, the manufacturers had issues with the rims and, despite buying a reasonable number of spares, too many of them failed quality inspection to allow completion of the full order quantity of 100 wheels.

This has not impacted any of those members who placed orders, but it was not deemed cost effective to try and rectify the problems, so BEC Spares will have 5 fewer wheels than originally planned.

NOTE - There also appears to be some confusion over whether our supplier included UK tax in their original quote, so there is a small chance that further monies may have to be paid by the BEC. We are hopeful that this will not be necessary, but if it is unavoidable then we will have to pass this on to those members who bought wheels.

Cables: New stocks of brake, speedo, choke and throttle cables have arrived, unfortunately with inevitable cost increases.

Excelsior Engine Spares: We hope to receive new stock of Excelsior gasket sets, bearings and seals shortly.

Sports 4-wheeler Door Hinges: A new batch of door hinges for SE328s and early-SE492s should be available in the Summer of 2014.

Metal Sill Sections: Further to last months announcement, we will be placing an order for new T60 chassis sill sections in January 2014. Any members wishing to purchase new alloy sill sections for early T60s (with bench seat) or steel sill sections for later models (with cutouts for bucket seats), should contact BEC Spares without delay, as we need to confirm our initial order quantities. NOTE: It is believed that the alloy bench seat type T60 sills will also be suitable for 4-wheelers, but we have not fully confirmed this yet.

Manufacture of Seat and Footwell Crossmembers will also be going ahead and we are investigating the possibility of producing a small batch of upper and lower front bulhead panels for T60s, late-SE492s and B95/105s. Long term, depending on demand, engine bay sidewalls for these later models may also follow.

BEC Spares List

You should have received the updated BEC Spares List with this Bulletin - UK members will also receive a printed copy in a few week's time with the next newsletter.

Nigel Halliday

EVENTS

Prescott Hill Climb

Entries are still being invited for the Prescott Hill Climb Charity Event on Sunday 11th May 2014, however, at the current rate the Paddock will be full well before May (there will always be 'display' room in the Orchard, though, which includes a gentle drive up the hill). This event is run by the Cleeve Vale Rotary Club and is a lovely day out in nice surroundings; it has been enjoyed by several members of the BEC for the last two years.

As indicated last month, if any members are interested in driving their Berkeley (or other classic car) up the hill, we recommend that you make your application shortly. The entry 'fee' is a donation of £50, which gets you at least two runs up the hill.

For more details see *www.cleevevale.org.uk*

Events List

The 2014 events list will be included in the January BEC Bulletin.

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MARKETPLACE

For Sale: T60 Power Unit

Completely Rebuilt 328cc Excelsior Engine complete with dynastart and VR gearbox/clutch/primary case:-





Work carried out includes a +0.040" rebore with JP Pistons and new small end bushes. All engine and Dynastart bearings and seals renewed with quality items, not the cheaper alternatives.

Engine casings have been fine blasted and cleaned up along with the cylinder heads and the barrels have a light coat of VHT paint (all done prior to rebuild).

There are a few other odd parts along with the engine as shown in the photograph which include the siamese exhaust pipe. More photographs available on request. £1,250.

Contact: Keith Wylde, Mob: 07502-155940 (South Yorkshire).

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Berkeley Enthusiasts Club

www.berkeleycarclub.com

Website for BEC members and anyone interested in our cars.
Webmaster: Peter Smyth

A lot more people have signed in and registered on the forum over the last few weeks and by the time you read this, the BEC website will have had over 7,000 hits.

We are actively seeking material to expand the website, so if any of you have Berkeley photos (new or old), or would like me to add new topics to the forum, please e-mail me at *banditberkeley@virginmedia.com* . Likewise, if any of you are able to write a few words about your current Berkeley activities or historical ownership of a Berkeley for the website and possible inclusion in the BEC Newsletter, please send to myself or our Editor Ray Bell (*rbell@ntlworld.com*).
Peter Smyth

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Finally, the BEC Committee would like to wish you a (belated) Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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The December 2013 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Dave Perrin