BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

Not much to say this month, as the deadline for this edition of the Bulletin falls in a rather busy period. Last weekend (6th & 7th of July) I attended the Prestwood Chilton Steam Rally, as part of the 'MicroCar' contingent organised by Lee Turnham of the Isetta Owners Club. I elected to give the Foursome an airing and Ian Parris took along his T60 (the yellow one featured in Practical Classics magazine a few years ago). The weather that weekend was very hot, so attendance was good and the general public showed plenty of interest in the cars on both days.

14th July will also have seen 'Team Berkeley' competing in the Borough 19 Motor Club Autosolo at North Weald and, of course, the IMMR is the following weekend on 21st July, so there should be plenty to report next time!

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

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Local Berkeley Gatherings

The UK membership is spread quite thinly around the country, but there are two regular Berkeley social gatherings:-

For the last 4 years or so, BEC President Mike Rounsville-Smith has been organising monthly gatherings in Surrey at The Saddlers Arms in Send Marsh (just off the A3 a few miles north of Guildford, postcode GU23 6JQ). A number of members (and the occasional non-member) from surounding counties attend regularly to have a meal and discuss problems/progress with their cars and other Berkeley related matters. A few of the respective partners usually come along too and sit nearby discussing more important issues than 'boys toys'. Nigel Halliday is a semi-regular (when his busy schedule allows), so this can also be an oportunity to discuss spares requirements or collect a spares order. It has occasionally even been known for there to be a Berkeley or two parked outside too! These 'meetings' are generally on the second Tuesday of every month, but please check with Mike or Dave Perrin to avoid a wasted journey (see newsletter Club Contacts page).

Likewise, in Northamptonshire, Chairman Geoff Toyer has been taking advantage of the established Classic Car gatherings at The Queen Eleanor Hotel in Wootton, Northampton (postcode NN4 7JJ) for a couple of years now. A number of fellow Berkeleteers are also regular attendees (some of them also with their cars). These 'meetings' are held on the second Tuesday throughout the Summer months, but switch day during winter. As above, please contact Geoff Toyer to confirm how many members/cars are likely to be present.

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NEWS

STOP (KEY) PRESS

We have just heard that 'first timer' Geoff and Jeff Payne came third and fifth, respectively, in their class at the Autosolo (Geoff having the advantage of the 3-cylinder engine in his car)!

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SPARES

New Wheels

We have been advised that manufacture of our batch of Berkeley wheels has been slightly delayed due to slow delivery of the bespoke die tool necessary to form the centre discs, however, assembly and welding is otherwise ready to proceed once this tooling arrives. We are now expecting the wheels to be available during August.

T60 Metal Chassis Sections

Our long-standing project to re-manufacture floor metalwork for T60s and T60/4s has been on-hold due to the demands of the wheel project, however, we now have several T60 owners queuing up for replacement sections.

Research and double-checking of the dimensions is now just about complete, so we need to get a feel for how many members have an immediate need for a set of sills and crossmembers for their cars (i.e. in the next 6 months or so), but also how many of you may be interested in the longer term (i.e. over the next couple of years).

The sections we hope to be able to offer are:-

- Side sill sections for bench seat model in ALLOY.
- Side sill sections for bench seat model in STEEL.
- Side sill sections for bucket seat model in STEEL (with seat recesses).
- Centre crossmember under gearchange for bench seat model in ALLOY.
- Centre crossmember under gearchange for bucket seat model in STEEL.

Bench Seat Frames

The availability of bench seat frames for restoration of the later 4-wheeler models and the early T60s is often queried by owners on both sides of the Atlantic - we are therefore looking at the possibility of remanufacture.

Although the two seats are essentially the same, there are minor differences between the SE492/B95 and T60 variants, specifically around the top of the backrest and in the location of the rear-facing mounting tabs (due to the greater width of the rear compartment on the 3-wheelers).

Again, at this stage we are interested in getting an idea of how many members may be interested.

Please contact Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*) to register interest in either project.
Nigel Halliday

EVENTS

- Ian Mantle Memorial Run, 21st July (Biggleswade).
- Classic Car Summer Picnic, 21st July, (Amberley Industrial Museum, Sussex).
- National MicroCar Rally, 29th August - 1st September (Three Counties Show Ground, Great Malvern).
- Hervé Caffier's 3-wheeler gathering, 1st September, Gratibus (small village in the 80500 Picardie, Somme region of northern France).
- Bubble Car Museum Halloween Event, (Boston, Lincolnshire).
- Bubble Car Museum Christmas Event, (Boston, Lincolnshire).

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MARKETPLACE

T60

British Racing Green - resprayed a few months ago and looks beautiful. Body recently rebuilt, with new steel chassis sections. The original bucket seats have been re-upholstered. New piston rings, ignition coils, condensers, plugs and leads - engine starts, sounds and drives very well (tyres are good). Half tonneau cover. Good repainted hood frame, but requires hood and sidescreens.



I would prefer the car to go to a club member, but if there is no interest I will be listing it on e-Bay. Will bring it along to the IMMR on 21st July, if it hasn't sold beforehand.

£3,500.

Tel: Geoff Dabrowa, 01638-780500 .

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T60 (1275cc Mini conversion)





Red, with bench seat. Registered ODY 935 in May 1960. Converted many years ago and returned to the road in 2007 by former BEC club member Malcolm Snell of Yorkshire.

Disc brakes and 12" alloy wheels. Rear trailing arm suspension is a mini arm conversion. Strong removable roll-over bar (not currently fitted). Tonneau cover and sidescreens, plus soft top tailored to fit over bar. Comes with bespoke 'A' frame for towing.

On the road, with recent MoT certificate (expires June 2014) and free 'historic' road tax. Have done 5,000 reliable miles in my two years of ownership.

~~£6,000~~ £5,250 ono

Contact: Roger Green, Margate, Kent.
Tel: 01843-844989
Email: 644G@live.co.uk

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STILL Wanted in the UK

New or secondhand Sports SE 328 slant door front body section; must be complete, but not necessarily in perfect condition. Contact: BEC Spares Officer.

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The July 2013 BEC Bulletin was compiled by Dave Perrin