BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

'Fifty Years, Fifty Cars' was the rallying call - a little ambitious perhaps, but not a bad motto to boost enthusiasm for our 'Golden Jubilee'. In the end we achieved over half that figure, for which all those who made the effort to get a car there are to be congratulated (whether it was 'trailer wreck', 'pristine' or 'those in-between'). I was most impressed by the collective mileage amassed by the T60 line up, driving from Cheshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Suffolk, Essex, Warwickshire and Kent.

On a more sombre note, upon returning home on Tuesday I received an email from Thomas Lueck informing me that Trevor Gillard (the founder member of the original 'Berkeley Sports Car Club') had died suddenly the previous night. Thomas had arranged to visit Trevor that very night to present him with a superb model of the red hardtop 'Sports' SE492 which he used to own; those of you who attended the Golden Jubilee may have seen it. Understandably, the news came as a great shock to Thomas just before his trip back to Germany. A full obituary will appear in the next quarterly BEC magazine.

Don't forget that the Golden Jubilee Celebrations are far from over; we have the rest of the year left to celebrate, and intend to do so at every event we attend, large or small. So, please do your best to get that Berkeley out and seen! Keep your eyes on the bulletin 'Events' section to see what's going on.

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

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APPRECIATION - INSPIRATION - ANTICIPATION

A little message following our 50th Anniversary:-

The entire Membership ought to be exuding strong APPRECIATION vibes, to show your Club Officers that the sterling job they accomplished at our Quainton Weekend did not go unnoticed. No need to single out specific names – a great Team effort resulted in a great Weekend. Those who attended were impressed. Members who could have made it (even as a non-Berkeley driver, like myself), but didn't turn up, will have regrets when they see the resultant photographs.

Graham Higgs won a special INSPIRATION award - others may now attempt to emulate his incredible record of rebuilding & refurbishing these fine little cars (and now a Berkeley teardrop caravan too!). Personally, I was also inspired by the car of overseas driver Thierry Staath; needing to find a suitable alternative to the Excelsior engine he "Thought Outside the Box" ... and discovered that within the world of Quads, ATV Trikes and 3-wheeled oddities

there are some VERY interesting options. We were presented with an immaculate 4-wheeler with a 250cc OHC single-cylinder power unit incorporating a reverse-equipped gearbox. As a passenger in Geoff Dabrowa's Sports 322, I was amazed at the mid-range acceleration, as it roared past en route back to the field.

Now, we should all have ANTICIPATION … for upcoming events this year and the 2015 AGM/Rally on a May weekend next year. Who will be the first to save a rolling bodyshell by fitting the engine and drivetrain from a VENTO Reptile 400 (392cc Triple) or brave enough for the 49bhp of the APACHE 450? I dream of a Nasal Invasion – the acrid stench of burning rubber!

Very Best Wishes to you all.

BEC Founder Martin Allsop

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NEWS

BEC Rally Sunday Awards

As they say, all the best laid plans go wrong! For many years the club has awarded trophies for three classes of Berkeleys: 3-Wheelers, 4-Wheelers and Conversions. In accordance with this practice, trophies were ordered for these classes, but on the day we had to amend the classes due to the high turnout of cars, particularly four wheelers. A great sight to see!

Additional trophies are therefore being ordered and/or amended and will be forwarded to the winners in several weeks time. Further details and photos will be included, along with a full report on the weekend, in the next full-colour BEC Magazine (in case you hadn't noticed, the change to an alternative printers means that we are now able to include colour photos on every page), but the awards were as follows:-

'Sports' SA322/SE328/SE492

1st SE492 .. Show Coupé .....Graham Higgs
2nd SE328 .. 485 UXP .....Di Stringer
3rd SA322.. RFH 512 .....Guy Lachlan

Three Wheeler

1st T60 ..... YSL 701 .....Graham Higgs
2nd T60 ..... LFO 422 .....Phil Tetley
3rd T60 ..... OJT 675 .....Dave Traylor

B95/B105

1st 'B105'... JON 355 ..... Neil Barber
2nd B95 ..... 390 BMJ ..... Guy Lachlan
3rd B95 ..... TVS 992 ..... Daren Jeff

Conversion

1st SE328 .. AY-304-DC ..... Thierry Staath
2nd B105 .... 957 UXR ..... Guy Stallard

Charles Panter Trophy 2013

SE492 Show Coupé .....Graham Higgs

Inspiration (Special One-Off Award)

Graham Higgs

Excelsior Endurance Trophy

Kevin Kalman USA

Furthest Distance Travelled

Thierry & Jeannine Staath (850miles!)

NOTE: A journalist from Classic Car Weekly paid us a vist on the Sunday, which apparently resulted in a feature in their issue dated 28th May, which included a couple of photos.

Regalia

In celebration of 50 years of the BEC, two special limited edition items are being offered this Summer. The graphics for both have been designed by our USA racer Jamie Pfeifer and they have been sourced by Graham Higgs; Graham incidentally has his own range of Berkeley designer mugs which you can only receive if you partake of a mug of tea with him at his recently restored early-Fifties Berkeley Caravette teardrop caravan.

See the next BEC mag for details!

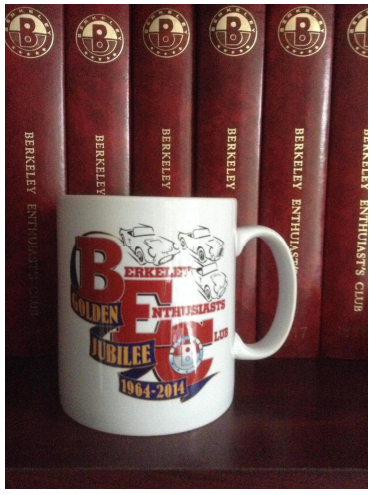
China Mugs

£6.00 (plus £4.00 UK p&p) each.

Better still, why not collect yours at a BEC event this summer!

At the time of writing, it wasn't clear whether we still have stock of the BEC newsletter/magazine binders shown in the background, but fresh stocks can no doubt be obtained if anyone is interested.

NOTE: The binders pictured are from an early batch with mis-spelt spines and are not representative of the actual items.



Sweatshirts

Grey round-neck machine-washable polyester/cotton sweatshirt featuring prominent 4-colour BEC Golden Jubilee logo design. Sizes: Extra Large, Large, Medium, Small and Childrens.

Advance orders only - please e-mail or write to BEC Regalia Officer Colin Pears, stating size(s) and quantities required. Price will be *approx.* £30 each (plus p&p). DO NOT send payment yet - the final cost will be announced in the bulletin.



Medals

We have a supply of 'gold' coloured metal medals with central BEC emblem, complete with neck ribbons striped in white and maroon Berkeley factory colours.

The reverse face could be engraved if so desired.

Cost is £1.50 (plus £1.00 p&p).





EVENTS

Kimbolton Classic Car Show: Sunday 13th July

This looks like an impressive show and is local to Bigglewswade. Daren Jeff tells me that the Club has supported it in earlier years, but it is now a huge event and seems like a good opportunity to show off our cars.

See *www.sportingbears.co.uk* and *www.kimboltoncountryfayre.com* for details.

A few of us are already signed up; the admission cost is £8 per car (£10 if more than one passenger, but that doesn't seem very likely in a Berkeley!) and the proceeds go to charity. I already have 'single' admission passes for a few cars, but if we can manage 8 or more Berkeleys, then a BEC Stand space will be reserved for us, rather than just parking up separately amongst the other cars.

If you are interested in joining us, please e-mail me as soon as possible.
Geoff Dabrowa geoffdabrowa@hotmail.co.uk

Silverstone Classic: 25th-27th July

As indicated previously, the BEC has booked a club stand at this event and our request for the display cars to drive the full Grand Prix circuit in celebration of our golden jubilee has been approved.

Although the entry price is relatively costly the event is huge and you are very unlikely to get anywhere closer to a full range of classic racing, sports and ordinary classic cars except perhaps at Goodwood (and that is more expensive!). Bookings for display cars closed on 31st May, but it is still a worthwhile event for any car enthusiast just as a visitor, with the added bonus that you can stop off and have a chat with fellow Berkeley owners and check out their cars!

Not only is there the circuit racing, classic car stands and displays, but also shops, trade stands and other displays. In the evening there are free funfairs and music concerts.

See previous Bulletins for more details.
Nigel Halliday

Ian Mantle Memorial Run

Having taken the opportunity to canvass those who usually attend the IMMR, it was clear that most were in favour of Daren and I running another one in 2014, so we are now trying to figure out the most convenient date and will report back shortly.

Rare Breeds Motor Show: Sunday 7th September

I attended the re-opening of the Haynes International Motor Museum on behalf of the club/committee in April and very good it is too! This event is intended for vehicles that were produced in small numbers, so any Berkeley would/should certainly qualify. The museum is at Sparkford, Nr Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 7LH and entry is free for car and driver, but it is necessary to pre-book.

See *www.haynesmotormuseum.com/events/2339-9700/rare-breeds-motor-show.php* for details and a link to the application form.
Geoff (Bill) Toyer

Microcar, Bubble Car and Three Wheeler Show: 6th & 7th September

This is a new National Annual Event run by the Heritage Motor Centre at Gaydon, Warwickshire. The date is a little worrying, since it would normally be a direct clash with the well-established National MicroCar Rally, however, the NMCR is being run a week later than usual this year, so you could view this as a practice run for the following weekend!

As is the norm for weekend rallies, there is a road run on the Saturday, and Sunday is the main Show & Vehicle Display day. The show is open from 10:00 to 17:00 (gates open at 08:00 for entry/unloading of exhibit vehicles) and the entry fee is £3 per adult (under-16s are free). Attendees can also visit museum (normal charges apply)

Booking forms are available on the website or can be sent (Tel: 01926-645029). The fee is £7 in advance and £10 on the day, which includes your vehicle pass and tickets to the show (not the museum) for the driver and one passenger.

The Centre houses the world's largest collection of British cars, with over 180 vehicles on display, so this is the ideal opportunity to combine the Show and a visit to the Centre. Gaydon is just off Junction 12 of the M40 (CV35 0BJ).

Camping (tent/caravan/motorhome) is available for Friday and Saturday nights, with free on-site showers. Campsite opening times for arrivals are 14:00 to 21:00 Friday & Saturday and there is 24 hour on-site security. Cost for one or two nights is £30 in advance (£40 on-the-day).

To book Camping and Admission Tickets without a vehicle call 01926-645029.

General Museum, Ticket & Camping enquiries, e-mail *events@heritage-motor-centre.co.uk* or Tel: 01926-645029.

Web: *www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk/event/microcar-bubble-car-and-three-wheeler-show*

Kop Hill Climb: 20th and 21st September

Bookings for post-war cars are now closed and the organisers are considering which applicants will be given the chance to drive up the hill. It is hoped that a Sports SE492 and a T60 will be running this year, in order to provide a change to the SE328s and Royal Enfield powered cars which have run in previous years. See the Kop Hill website *www.kophillclimb.org.uk* for further details.

The BEC is once again considering a club stand on which we can display a selection of Berkeleys, so if you are interested in attending this relaxed 2-day event in mid-Buckinghamshire with your Berkeley, please write to me or e-mail Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*) as soon as possible.

Nigel Halliday

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June 7th - 8th: Retro & Classic Show, Old Warden Park, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. 3 or 4 owners/members expressed an interest in showing their Berkeleys at this event when it was mentioned on Neil Barber's Facebook Berkeley page back in February.

www.billingshows.com

July 4th - 6th: Bristol MicroCar Club Rally, Keynsham Rugby Club, BS31 2BE.
www.bristolmicrocarclub.com

July 13th: Country Fayre & Charity Classic, Kimbolton Castle, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE28 0EA. *www.kimboltoncountryfayre.com*
www.sportingbears.co.uk

July 25th - 27th: Silverstone Classic, see January BEC Bulletin. *www.silverstoneclassic.com*

?July 27th?: Hammond Collection (RUMCars) Open Day (includes an unrestored SA322), Hawkenbury, Kent.

August 10th: Historic Specials Day, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Burford, OX18 4JP. Annual gathering of kit cars from the Berkeley era.

September 6th-7th: Microcar, Bubblecar & Three-wheeler Car Show, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire, CV35 0BJ. *www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk*

September 7th: Rare Breeds Motor Show, Haynes Motor Museum, Sparkford, Somerset, BA22 7LH. *www.haynesmotormuseum.com/events/2339-9700/rare-breeds-motor-show.ph*

September 11th - 14th: National MicroCar Rally, Wetherby Racecourse, West Yorkshire, LS22 5EJ. *www.national-microcar-rally.co.uk*

September 20th - 21st: Kop Hill Climb, Princes Risborough, HP27 0LB
www.kophillclimb.org.uk

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Windscreens

As those members who subscribe to the Berkeley USA Yahoo group will already be aware, we recently met with UK glass manufacturer Pilkington to arrange the remanufacture of new windscreen glass for early 4-wheelers. These screens are suitable for 1956 to '58 Sports SA322s, SE328s and early-SE492s with the sloping leading edge doors. They have not been available new for many years and there was no tooling (or drawings) for anyone to be able to put them back into production. However, the BEC has now arranged for Pilkington to borrow an original screen from which they will manufacture a pattern and former. We have a limited stock of used screens available in the UK, but this project is obviously good long term news for all Sports owners. There are a lot of these cars in North America and quite a few of them are in need of new screens, so USA Berkeley owners should be able to reap the benefits of this project very soon.

North American owners now need to get together (and, we suggest, also contact KIP Motors) in order to place a multiple or bulk order with the USA Pilkington agent Classic Division, Pilkington AGR (Automotive Glass Replacement) North America, Tel: 614-539-8430 (contact Matt J Lane). They will then place a manufacturing order with Pilkington UK.

We will of course be supporting Pilkington in the UK, as required, but are unable to provide further assistance with regard to the ordering process.

It is therefore necessary for all those in the USA to co-ordinate this bulk order amongst yourselves, in order to obtain the best economies and price. An alternative is that you route your bulk order via the Pilkington agent in Canada who we understand can be very helpful.

North American members with other Berkeley models should note that the following are already available to order from Pilkington North America:-

- Glass Ref HT 30: late-SE492, B95/B105.
- Glass Ref HT 29: T60 3-wheeler (for metal surround only).

For other Berkeley models, please contact BEC Spares for clarification.

Meanwhile, we now have fresh stocks of new windsceen glass in stock for Softtop T60, Hardtop T60 and late-SE 492, B95/B105, all priced at £175 each. All screens must be collected or other transport arrangements made, as it is not feasible for us to send screens through the post.

Brake Slave Cylinders

New alloy slave brake hydraulic cylinders for the early four wheelers (SA322, SE328 and early-SE492) have been unavailable for over 30 years, but we are delighted to be able to announce that they are finally back in production:-

- Front Slave Cylinder (handed) ..... £36.00 each (plus £2.00 UK p&p).
- Rear Slave Cylinder ..... £42.00 each (plus £2.00 UK p&p).
- Rubber Seal Overhaul Kits (axle set) ..... £15.00 (plus Stamped Addressed Envelope).

Brake Light Switch

We believe that we have found a source for the original style hydraulic brake light switch with the screw clamp wiring terminals - more details next month.

Siba Condensers

BEC stock of original Siba Condensers is now exhausted; over the last 30 years we have sold over 400 of them (which begs the question 'where are those getting-on-for 200 restored Berkeleys?'! We are now looking for new supplies either of the Siba condenser or perhaps a similar shaped and rated alterantive.

If any members are aware of an alternative supply, we would be grateful if you could make contact, so that we can investigate.

T60 Steel Chassis Sections

As indicated last month, we have heard back from the metal fabricators with a budget guide price for the steel side sill sections fitted with the recess for the bucket seat. The cost will be around £600 plus VAT. Would all potential customers please make content to confirm your interest. Please note that this is for the unpainted side sill sections only.

We will now be refining the fabrication drawings for these complicated sills and completing the drawings for the cross bulkhead sections, prior to placing an order for five complete sets.

Nigel Halliday

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MARKETPLACE

Wanted

Right hand (UK driver's side) windscreen stay for SE328/early-SE492 (the type that overlaps the Dashboard edge with 3 fixing holes in the base).

Please contact Ken Eardley, Tel: 01326-569988.

For Sale

Rodney Milling Machine Attachment to fit a Myford ML7, ML7R or Super 7 lathe.

Also, boxed Vertex collett chuck and colletts.

I am offering this to fellow BEC members before I put it on e-Bay.

Buyer to collect from Cam, Gloucestershire.
£350.
Contact: Dave Rich, 2kats@tiscali.co.uk



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AGM Update

For the benefit of those unable to attend the 2014 AGM, Geoff Dabrowa will shortly be taking over from Ron Wagstaff as Membership Secretary.

PLEASE NOTE: All existing membership Renewal and Expiry forms should be returned to Ron at the listed address, but the forms sent with the next BEC Magazine will be updated with Geoff's details.

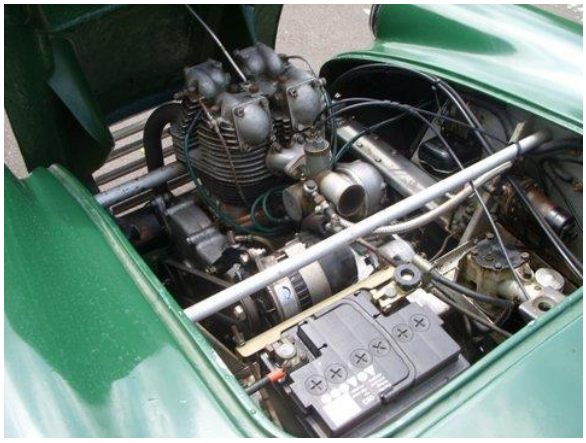
The BEC membership e-mail address will not be changing.

I'm sure you will all join the Chairman and rest of the BEC Comittee in thanking Ron for his hard work in the role over the last 5 years, which included setting up the current PayPal arrangements and enhancing the database setup.
Dave Perrin

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For Sale: 1959 B95











22,880 miles. Original 40bhp 700cc 'Super Meteor' specification Royal Enfield power unit. A nice car which I have refurbished/improved over 19 years of ownership, with everything working well. Hagon shock absorbers, Pirelli P1000 tyres, alternator conversion, oil pressure gauge. Currently fitted with short polycarbonate screen, but the stays and rest of standard windscreen surround are present, also wiper mechanism/arms, wheel trims, hood frame, unused hood and workshop manuals, etc. (sorry, no sidescreens). £5,950.

MikeWilcox, South Somerset (e-mail: mikejohnwilcox@gmail.com or Tel: 01963-370938).

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Berkeley Enthusiasts Club



www.berkeleycarclub.com

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

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The May 2014 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Dave Perrin