BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

With this Issue, I'd like you all to cast your mind forwards to our May 20th-22nd BEC Rally and AGM. The AGM is the chance to have your say in how the BEC is run, so please submit any resolutions to me (duly seconded) for inclusion in the agenda. As always, there will be AOB, but time constraints do not guarantee that any issues you may have will be heard.

Likewise, and in keeping with my current policy, it would be appropriate to nominate the time, date and location of the 2017 BEC AGM/Rally. With this in mind, I would invite any member(s) who think they could organise our next event to fully research their proposals and offer them for consideration by the committee. Ideally, the location will include an affordable camp site with basic washroom/toilet facilities, plus a room/hall (either on site or nearby) to hold the AGM. Suitable venues must be able to accommodate twenty to thirty people, with refreshment facilities and tables/seating included in the hire fees. In terms of general location, it would also help if there is at least one place of interest nearby to serve as destination for a pre-arranged road run. As with our previous meetings, we like to move the location around the country as much as is practically possible, thereby giving the UK membership equal opportunity to attend an event that is relatively near to them. Having said that, for practical purposes geographically this usually centres around a 'cell' of active Berkeley users and drivers.

Looking at the *Events* list, there is a choice of three events which the discerning Berkleteer can choose to attend on the weekend before our AGM/Rally! 'Early Doors' seems to be the order of the day, with most events falling in April and May. Let's hope that the weather holds out for those attending.

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

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NEWS

Southern Area 'Drive It Day' Gathering, 24th April 2016

In addition to our regular meetings (normally on the second Tuesday evening of the month), the BEC Surrey 'chapter' are planning to meet up on Sunday 24th April.

Drive It Day was devised by the FBHVC in commemoration of the historic Royal Automobile Club 'Thousand Mile Trial', which took place in April 1900. As indicated in previous bulletins, the idea is that old vehicles of all types are seen to be actively used en masse on this one day of the year, thereby raising awareness of the 'classic' movement, and it has been estimated that something like a quarter of a million historic vehicles take to UK roads.

Unfortunately, other than the B95 of Club President Mike R-S, the majority of our regular

attendees don't actually have a car on the road at present, so our contribution to the day is the invitation for any available members/owners to head in our direction in their Berkeleys and join us for a chat and pub lunch. Our hope is that there will be a selection of different models and you'll be able to jump between passenger seats to experience how the different models compare on a quick jaunt around the local roads.

The venue is The Saddler's Arms, Send Marsh, Woking (just off the A3 a few miles North of Guildford, postcode GU23 6JQ). If you would like to join us, please contact the organiser Club President Mike Rounsville-Smith (see BEC magazine for contact details) or regular attendee Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*).

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Motors by the Moat, Leeds Castle, Maidstone, 7th/8th May

Leeds Castle is located in Kent (postcode ME17 1PL) and this event is billed as 'the perfect weekend for anyone with a passion for cars', with over 500 vintage, high performance and classic cars from around the world displayed on the Castle lawns, plus plenty of other entertainment for the whole family.

The exhibition fee of £10 per vehicle (per day) also covers entry for up to 4 passengers (a massive saving on the normal cost of entry to the castle), and all profits go to the Leeds Castle Foundation, which is dedicated to the preservation of the castle and its grounds for the benefit and enjoyment of the public (fee to be paid within 14 days of application being accepted). Display vehicles will be allocated an arrival time slot between 07:00 and 09:00, and no vehicle movement is allowed between 09:30 and 16:30.

See website *www.leeds-castle.com* for further details and online aplication form if you are interested in displaying your Berkeley at this event.

Geoff (Bill) Toyer

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UPDATE: BEC Rally/AGM, 20th-22nd May

The 2016 BEC Rally & AGM weekend is now only about eight weeks away and we are hoping for a good turnout of members and cars, to help us celebrate the Sixty years since the original 'Sports' Anzani SA322 model was launched. As indicated previously, the venue is Copt Oak Memorial Hall, near Markfield, Leicester (postcode LE67 9QB) and the rally site should be open from late Friday afternoon, with access to the hall until around 22:30 (if planning to arrive late, please let us know in advance).

The Saturday road run is a 40-50 mile trip through the local countryside and will head off at around 11:00 with a half way stop for lunch. The group evening meal (in the pub adjacent to the hall around 18:00) will be followed around 21:00 by a Berkeley film show to round the evening off.

Sunday is display day, with the line up cars growing through Sunday morning as members arrive for the AGM (due to start around 12:30). Judging will take place towards mid-day and awards for the best cars in their category will be presented once the AGM proceedings have drawn to a close.

Breakfasts will be available on Saturday and Sunday mornings at cost - please register now with a preference for porridge, sausage/bacon 'butties', scrambled egg on toast, etc., or to request vegetarian or other alternatives, so that we have a good idea of the items and quantities required). Hot & cold drinks will be 'on tap' whenever required, with the possibility of other warm snacks throughout the day (kitchen facilities also available to heat your own meals).

The rally field behind the hall is more than big enough to accomodate us, with plenty of room for tents, caravans, motorhomes, trailers, etc.. For those staying on site overnight, the Tent/Caravan/Motorhome charge is £5 per plot per night, to be paid upon arrival (please bring the appropriate amount). Markfield Travelodge is just a few minutes drive away from the rally site (postcode LE67 9PP), with Double rooms (1 or 2 adults) or Family rooms (up to 3 adults or 2 adults & 2 children) available:-

Rate	Friday 20th	Saturday 21st	Total
Saver	£30	£40	£70
Flexible	£40	£53	£93

For further details, go to webpage *https://www.travelodge.co.uk* , select 'Search and Book', enter 'Leicester Markfield Travelodge' in the Location box and add the required dates.

Further details of the event will be included in the April bulletin, with the possibility of an early May issue if things work out as currently planned. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries about the Copt Oak venue, facilities or location.

Dave Perrin *dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*

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Service Interruption!

There will be no BEC Spares or Vehicle Registry service from Easter 2016 until mid-April, as Nigel will be away on holiday.

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Postage Rates

Please note that UK postal rates are due to increase on 29th March, so the P&P figures in club price lists will no longer be valid. The updated Club Publications list will be enclosed with the April bulletin and a revised BEC Spares list will be published in April or May.

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SPARES

T60 Chassis Members & Sills

Our second batch of internal steelwork for the bucket seat model T60 three-wheelers (chassis #600 onwards) was collected from the fabricators at the beginning of the month and four of the ten sets are already spoken for. The cost is £350, and each set consists of footwell and seat/gearchange crossmembers, central seat support rail and both side sills (with fully formed cutouts for the factory bucket seats), and are also suitable for the much rarer T60/4 models

(albeit, with the addition of further panels between the back end of the sills and the rear wheel tub).

As indicated previously, various other spares items (including similar metalwork for the earlier T60s and four-wheeler models) are now at the top of our priority list and club funds are obviously limited, so we will not be manufacturing any more late-T60 sets in the foreseeable future. It is therefore recommended that any members planning to rebuild their T60 or T60/4 contact us sooner, rather than later, to stake a claim on one of the six remaining sets. Please make contact with Dave Perrin (dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk) or Nigel Halliday to reserve a set and avoid disappointment.

So far, only one member has expressed an interest in remanufacture of the aluminium crossmembers and plain sills (in steel or alloy) for the earlier bench seat T60s - this project will only go ahead if there is sufficient demand, so please let us know if you will need these items over the next year or two. It is looking as though the alloy T60 side sills are effectively the same as the SA322/SE328/SE492/B95/B105, so we would also be interested in hearing from any members who expect to need alloy sills and/or alloy footwell and seat/gearchange crossmembers in the near future for their four-wheelers.

Glass Windscreens in the UK

BEC Spares has just restocked with new glass screens for the T60 and SE492/B95/B105 models in addition to holding stocks for the T60 hardtop. Each screen is £170.00 plus shipping/transport arrangements.

UPDATE: Windscreen Glass for the USA

The UK Pilkington factory have now completed manufacture of a batch of new windscreen (windshield) glass for four-wheeler models with the sloping leading edge doors (SA322/SE328/early-SE492s) and they are due to arrive in the USA shortly. The factory currently have a backlog of work, so this batch only comprises 10 screens; the balance order for additional SE 328 glass screens and the late-SE492/B95 screens will follow over the next few months as they increase capacity of production.

Wheel Bearings, Engine Bearings & Oil Seals

Apologies to overseas and UK members who have outstanding orders for these items, but we have encountered difficulty in sourcing them at reasonable prices. It seems that Imperial sized products are now only produced in smaller batches and costs have therefore risen. We hope to have new stocks available in late April - our apologies once again.

Shock Absorbers and Spring Units

Several members have recently mentioned e-Bay adverts listing spring/damper shock absorber assemblies for various Berkeley models. Although they are of Hagon manufacture (a manufacturer that the club definitely approve of), we note that these units are not to the full correct specification, in that the length of the unit are incorrect for the B95/105 and the spring ratings are not quoted, this is a critical area on Berkeleys because the weight at the front end varies between models.

There are currently two advertisers; 'Brooks Barn' and 'Bits 4 Motorbikes'. We have no reason to doubt the companies' integrity, as we suspect that both of them and Hagons are confused by

the variety of Berkeley applications. Indeed, we have been discussing this with Hagons since the 1980s!

In addition to the above warning, there has been recent discussion at BEC Meetings, and on the Facebook site, about the short life of the rubber/metal bushing in the spring shock eyes. This has always been a problem with Berkeleys even in their original days, so it is not surprising that the problem still occurs (the eye bush on a Berkeley has to withstand different stresses and forces compared to a motorbike; the lower eye in particular travels through a much greater angle of movement than any motorcycle application and the loadings are much higher too).

We therefore suggest that all members interested in purchasing new spring/shock units should go direct to Hagons in Essex, after first discussing exact specification with a BEC club official. This is especially important for Sports SE492, B95/B105 and the T60 and T60/4 models as tyre fouling and rubbing can result.
Nigel Halliday

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2016 Events Listing

April 3rd: Classic Motor Show, Old Warden. See Dec '15 bulletin and above.
www.classicmotorshows.co.uk

April 24th: FBHVC Drive It Day, events across UK promoting awareness of historic vehicles.

April 24th: 'Wheel Nuts' Classic Car & Bike Show, Stroud, GL5 4AP.
See Jan and Feb bulletin.

April 24th: Croydon Rotary Club 'Classic Car Run' (Dorking to Tangmere).
See Nov '15 bulletin.

May 1st: 'Soft Top' Breakfast Club, Goodwood Motor Circuit, West Sussex.
See Dec '15 and Jan bulletins.

May 7th/8th: 'Motors by the Moat', Leeds Castle, Kent, ME17 1PL. See above.
www.leeds-castle.com

May 14th/15th: Prescott Hill Climb, Cheltenham. See Sept '15 bulletin.
www.cleevevale.org.uk

May 15th: Vintage Car Show & Hill Climb, Westerham, Kent. See Jan bulletin.
www.friendsofvalence.com

May 15th: Vintage Vehicle Rally, Weedon Park, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP22 4NN.
See above. *www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk*

May 20th-22nd: **BEC Rally & AGM**, Copt Oak Memorial Hall, Leicester.
See Feb bulletin and above.

June 5th: SHVPS Classic Vehicle Show & Autojumble, Queen Elizabeth Country Park, Hants. See Jan bulletin. *www.shvps.org.uk*

June 18th: Classic Transport Picnic, Fairclough Hall Farm, Halls Green, Weston, North Hertfordshire, SG4 7DP. See Feb bulletin. *www.lgccvcc.co.uk*

July 1st - 3rd: Bristol MicroCar Club Rally, Keynsham Rugby Club, BS31 2BE. *www.bristolmicrocarclub.com*

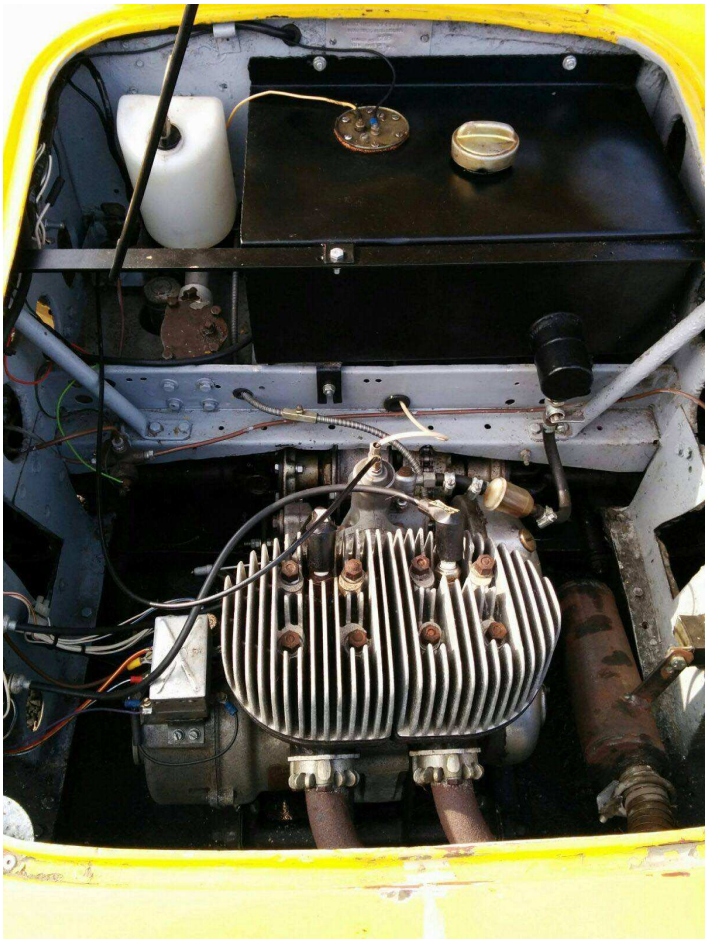
Sept 8th - 11th: National MicroCar Rally, Lower Lacon Caravan Park, Wem, Shropshire, SY4 5RP. *www.national-microcar-rally.co.uk/*

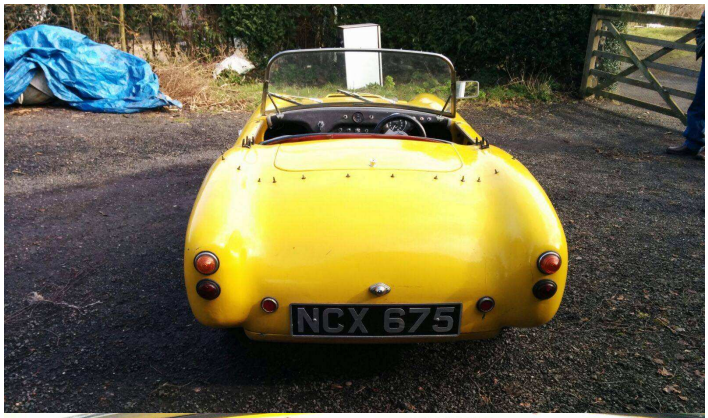
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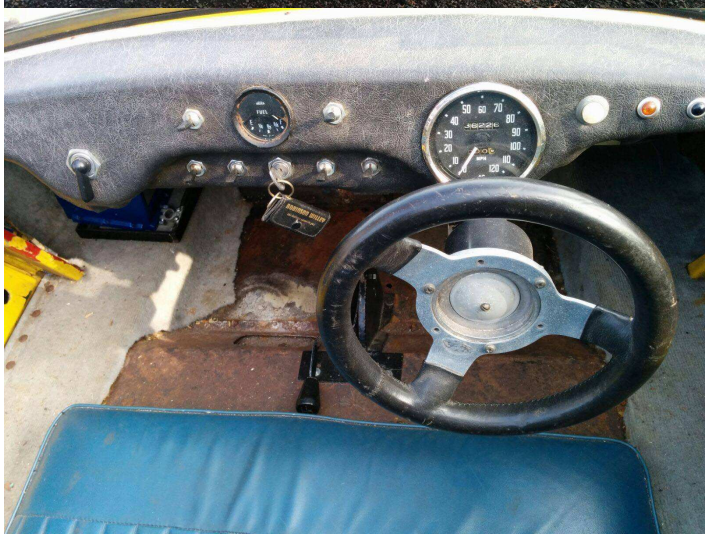
MARKETPLACE

For Sale: SE328

Sound basis for restoration. Receipt for £500 engine rebuild in 2009 (new crank bearings, bores honed and new rings fitted). Standard HJR5 3-speed + reverse gearbox. Has soft top (non-standard frame), but no sidescreens.







Gel coat stress cracks in usual places. Engine bay sidewalls suffering from usual fatigue problems, so require repair or replacement. Original alloy sills and crossmembers had already been replaced with steel when I bought it, but the new owner may decide to redo to a higher standard and to improve alignment of upper sections on punt (for further pictures, see

December bulletin or contact Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*).





Reluctant sale; only owned for a year, but now unable to continue restoration due to illness.

£3,500 ono.

Contact: Keith Mills, Kidderminster, DY14 9TP, Tel: 01299-266742 .

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Event News, For Sale/Wanted, etc.

NOTE: 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, please contact Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk* or see BEC magazine *Contacts* page for phone number). Please do not contact Geoff Dabrowa, as he is only responsible for e-mailing the bulletin to you.

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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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'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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The March 2016 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Dave Perrin