BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

You will hopefully be reading this issue of the Bulletin prior to our very own BEC AGM & Rally (Copt Oak Memorial Hall, Leicestershire, 20th - 22nd May), where of course as you already know we'll be celebrating 60 years since the launch of the first ever Berkeley car, the 'Sports' Anzani SA322. It would seem that the weather has now made a change for the better, with the temperature rising somewhat over the last fortnight, so let's keep our fingers crossed! I am looking forward to meeting as many of you who can possibly make the event; old established members and new alike.

Those of you who checked out the News and Events columns in the last bulletin will have noticed the listing for Potton Carnival on August Bank Holiday Saturday. As indicated, this is in close proximity to Biggleswade (the home of all Berkeleys) and, I would suggest, therefore an ideal opportunity for a gathering? The only downside to this idea is that it is a Bank Holiday weekend and, as such, many of you may already be committed. I am personally in favour of the event … particularly as Simon Auckland (at the campsite we've used many times before for the IMMR) is generously offering free camping for anyone entering a Berkeley in the carnival.

I would therefore ask those of a similar disposition to contact me (by e-mail or telephone) so that I can assess/co-ordinate a BEC presence and possibly expand on the event. Simon's farm also offers the rare opportunity for us to indulge in some off-road 'Gymkhana' activity with our cars and, since the carnival is on the Saturday, that leaves the Sunday morning free for those camping over to 'indulge'. We could also encompass a social gathering on the Saturday evening at a pre-arranged local hostelry, if so desired, so please make contact now to express an interest.

Keep Berkeleying!

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

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NEWS

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

The 2016 BEC Rally & AGM is now only a week away. One member is travelling all the way from Austria with his SA322 for the weekend and we expect many more of you living somewhat nearer to also join us in celebration of the Sixty years since the original 'Sports' Anzani model was launched. As indicated previously, the venue is Copt Oak Memorial Hall, near Markfield, Leicester (postcode LE67 9QB) and the rally site will be open from late Friday afternoon, with access to the hall until around 22:30. If planning to arrive late (or early), please let me know in advance, as the site gate will be locked overnight both nights.

The Saturday Road Run is a 50 mile trip through the local countryside, heading off at around 11:00 and with lunch or snacks available at the half way stop (clear and concise simple directions and a back-up map will be provided, so no previous navigating experience is necessary). The group evening meal (in the Copt Oak 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 of cars growing through the 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. As indicated previously, BEC Spares will also be available, but although it is planned to have a spare set of the recently produced T60 metalwork available for inspection/purchase on the day, it is now too late to order any other large parts for collection at the event.

Hot & cold drinks will be available free throughout the weekend, and breakfasts will be available on Saturday and Sunday mornings (at cost) for those who have requested them. The hall kitchen facilities will also be open to all attendees and meals will obviously also be available from the adjacent pub during their normal opening hours.

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) both still available:-

Rate	Friday 20th	Saturday 21st	Total
Saver	£36	£48	£84
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 (or phone 02031-954871).

UK members will have received a pdf of directions to the rally site with this bulletin. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any final queries about the venue, facilities or location. Likewise, if you are unsure when you may arrive and may need to contact us during the weekend, drop me an e-mail now and I will let you know my mobile phone number.

PLEASE NOTE: We will be setting off towards Copt Oak on the Friday morning and I will not be able to view any e-mails whilst away from home.

Dave Perrin *dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*

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Classic & Prestige Car/Bike Day, Wingfield, 17th July

Now in its fourth year, this charity event starts at mid-day and is held at The Plough Inn, a 350 year old thatched country pub near Toddington, Bedfordshire (postcode LU7 9QH).

A trophy will be awarded to the 'Vehicle of the Day' at 16:00 (voted for by attendees) and there

is also a raffle. The 'Plough' will be open and, in addition to the usual drinks, there will be real ales, guest ales and ciders on sale. Hot Dogs and Burgers will be available on site at reasonable prices, also Tea/Coffee and Cakes, and there will be a selection of other side stalls. Proceeds go to the local hospice.

Admission is free and there is ample parking for show cars and visitors.

Contact Ken, Mob: 07813-758401 or 07940-095982 .

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Gear Selector Quadrants - Your Help Needed

BEC Spares is keen to learn more about the floor mounted gear selector quadrants fitted to the SE328. All 322cc and 328cc 'Sports' were fitted with the HJR5 3-speed-plus-reverse gearbox, but the SA322s and early-1957 SE328s had steering column mounted gear levers. These cars represent the majority of SE328 sales in the UK and over the years many of them have been fitted with floor mounted selectors adapted from other models, the upshot being that there are very few (perhaps none) of the original floor mounted 3-speed quadrant here in the UK.

The Berkeley factory floor mounted quadrants were only fitted to later SE328s, the vast majority of which went to export markets, in particular North America. We are therefore hopeful that an overseas owner can assist us. We would also like to hear from any owners of early 'Sports' SE492s still fitted with the TR 4-speed gearbox quadrant.

What we require is several photos of the quadrant, some overall dimensions (including the exact location of the pivot bolt hole with reference to the base and angled underside) and the distance between centre of the lever pivot point and centre of the lower eye which the gearbox linkage attaches to. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Oil seals and bearings

We are expecting stocks of the oil seals and bearings shortly and therefore hope to complete member's outstanding orders very soon - our apologies once again for the delay.

Front Suspension Shims

BEC Spares has just obtained a stock of thin metal shim washers which can be used to properly set up the hub brackets on the front suspension. They are suitable for the top and bottom wishbone connection and the top and bottom trunnion connection. More details next month.

UPDATE: Windscreens Now Available in USA

Further to our last mention in the February bulletin, Pilkington Classics in Cleveland, Ohio have now confirmed receipt of the ten SE328/early-SE492 'windshield' screens and two late-SE492/B95 'windshield' screens. The final cost has now been confirmed at $345 each, plus $150 Shipping & Handling to a commercial address, with a further $65 charge for shipping to a residential address). The SE328 screens are already spoken for, but a further batch will be manufactured for delivery to the States later in the year, so any USA members who were somehow unaware of the project have not missed out long term.

Nigel Halliday

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EVENTS

2016 Events Listing

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 Mar bulletin. *www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk*

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

June 18th/19th: Classic Vehicle Show, HMS Sultan, Gosport, Hampshire, PO12 3BY. See Apr bulletin. *www.sultan-classic-cars.co.uk*

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

Aug 27th: Potton Carnival, Sandy, Bedfordshire. See Apr bulletin. *www.partyonpotton.org.uk*

Aug 28th: Ormskirk MotorFest, West Lancs. See Apr bulletin. *www.ormskirkmotorfest.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: B95

The e-Bay listing of this hard top B95 restoration project must be imminent now, as the seller recently announced that he has received all the registration and other paperwork from the previous owner. As already seen in the pictures posted on the Berkeley Facebook page, the car has its original engine and is complete, BUT the engine was partially dismantled decades ago for a rebore and the whole power unit ended up being stored in the open car in a back garden for a few years with the primary cover and timing cover off (and most likely with the top end also removed). So, despite the encouraging photos, viewing is VERY DEFINITELY recommended before making any committment to buy, as it is highly likely that the engine internals are corroded beyond redemption!

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For Sale: Two T60 Restoration Projects

Two NEW T60 bodyshells, either/both of which are available just as a set of fibreglass body panels/sections or as rebuild kits including all the major components necessary to build a car (power unit, driveshafts, hubs, wheels, steering, etc.).





Each body set consists of NEW punt (floor) section, front & rear upper sections, bonnet and doors, plus optional hardtop. These are all Phil Turner mouldings, so thicker/stronger than standard and the punts also have his strengthening modifications (i.e. bonded in ribs, which will be hidden inside the sills, and a revised join line around the rear, as shown above). Although the ribs could be cut away to allow later-style sills (with the seat cutouts) to be fitted, and one of the cars was originally a bucket seat model, it makes more sense to take full advantage of the extra strength and build both in bench seat form with the full sills, but that is your choice.

You are welcome to buy a set of fibreglass for £1,500 or £1,600 with hardtop (less than Phil was charging 8 years ago!). However, for those wanting to build a really good car without all the hassle of repairing old fibreglass, for around £2,500 you can have a set of fibreglass and a kit of all the major rare/unobtainable parts necessary to build a complete car. Both vehicles have current DVLA V5Cs, so no risk of losing their original registrations. Viewing is essential, as this is a major undertaking and not recommended unless you already own a T60, or have previously owned/restored one. NOTE: Depending which car you buy, fabrication of sills and crossmembers may also be required and both cars will need replacement engine bay metalwork (top hat sections, crossmembers and sidewalls, etc.), but as far as I can make out originals of all items are present, allowing copies to be made. Obviously. if you already have some of the parts and only need certain items to be able to return one of these cars to the road then the price will drop accordingly. Both car projects will be listed on e-Bay if there is no response to this advert.

Contact: Rod Porteous (Hayling Island, Hants), Porteous.rod@gmail.com, Tel: 02392-460746 .

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For Sale: T60 Rolling Bodyshell (with Driveshafts)

This car is still being listed on e-Bay under 'Vehicle Parts and Accessories' at £695. See e-Bay auction #311609504416 or phone 07538-138651 (located in Exeter).

Wanted: T60 Bonnet

I intend travelling abroad in my T60, so want to improve the engine cooling. Rather than modify my standard bonnet, does anyone have a spare one that I could buy to experiment with? If it already has additional cooling slots and/or bulges to clear taller engine, then all the better!

Anything condsidered. Please contact: Will Bazely (Colchester), *willbaz@googlemail.com* .

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NOTE: Event News, For Sale/Wanted, etc.

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 only e-mails the bulletin to you.

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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 May 2016 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Dave Perrin