BERKELEY ENTHUSIASTS CLUB BULLETIN

Chairman's Report

Apologies for missing the last bulletin - must have been the early May issue that threw me out. Our AGM/Rally attracted twelve cars in total, five of which were SA322s and two of those are running original Anzani 'Unitwin' engines. Thank you to all who attended, particularly Guy Lachlan, who took part in the road run, but was busy most of Sunday. He kindly left his very original SA322 on site Saturday night for the display line-up next morning, only to travel back up to collect it on the Sunday afternoon - that's dedication for you! However, with that event now behind us (and what an event it was), we must now look towards the rest of the season.

The organisers of Pistons & Props, Sywell (24th-25th September) have contacted me to enquire whether we wish to have a club stand at this year's event. The maximum stand capacity is ten cars, but we need a confirmed minimum of five *now* to be able to make the booking; I can take two cars and I have another member also committed (making three), so we need at least two more of you to join us. The cars need to be on display both days and there is a £5 'administration' fee. For those needing to stay overnight, there is a standard £60 fee for each camping pitch - this covers up to 4 people in up to 2 tents (or a motorhome & small tent) for up to 3 nights (mid-day Friday through to Monday morning) with access to toilets and showers. I therefore suggest that you liaise to spread the costs, as £30 (or less) per head seems somewhat more reasonable to me! The camping fee does also cover entry to the Saturday evening entertainment, which this year includes Lonnie Donegan Junior and his band. Please contact me immediately to express an interest in displaying your Berkeley on the club stand, as our application has to be in before August 14th. NOTE: Although I will need to submit the form once we receive two more 'definites', further cars can be added beyond that initial deadline.

We already have three cars (possibly four) committed to attend the Potton Carnival (near Biggleswade) on August 27th. As indicated in the April bulletin, camping is free from Friday for anyone bringing a Berkeley, and the event is quite 'elastic' re. attendance registration, so if you're undecided as yet, no matter - please let me know right up until the date.

Further to our mention in last month's Bulletin of the secure 'members only' section of the BEC website, as discussed at the AGM, our webmaster Peter Smyth has requested that you, the membership, indicate what type of content you would like to be included (beyond an archive of club bulletins and magazines). Please either email Peter directly or through the site itself with your suggestions, to allow us to review their feasibilty. Alternatively, if you contact any other committee member, your views will be passed on to Peter.

Keep Berkeleying!

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

NEWS

Mongol Charity Car Trek: "To Boldly Go ..."

With only a few hundred proving miles under his belt, recent new member Will Bazely is currently enduring an 8,000 mile journey across Europe in a Berkeley! Following a group send off at Goodwood race track on Sunday July 17th, he and various other intrepid (or should that be insane?) adventurers set off to each make their own way to Mongolia in/on a cross section of older vehicles, without any accompanying support. At the time of writing, he had already reached Bulgaria, but has another couple of months travelling ahead of him (if all goes well)!

His T60 is a quite original example which had apparently been 'stored' in a vegetable patch for the last 40 years and was only rescued by him 3 months ago! Will has temporarily fitted a Honda CB400N 'Superdream' motorcycle engine and modern seat in order to make the journey slightly more bearable (and due to the lack of time). All the remaining original Berkeley running gear has been refurbished over the last few weeks (fortunately, as an early bench seat model, it has the alloy sills, which are much less prone to corrosion related structural problems than the later cars with the steel crossmembers and sills). Meanwhile, the car's original Excelsior 328 power unit is safely ensconced at home waiting to be restored and reinstated when he returns from this mammoth trek.

The preparation work was recorded on his *www.facebook.com/TeamHileyUnlikely* Facebook page and he is posting progress updates from significant landmarks when able. For those of you who were wondering, the curiously spelt team name is apparently a play on the name of his home street. He is keeping an extensive photo diary of the journey, so expect to see a full feature in an upcoming issue of the BEC Magazine.

Will describes his motivation as "stupidity, ambition and a damn good cause" and will no doubt be delighted if those of you wishing to support his chosen charity (Parkinson's UK) are able to make a donation. Please go to web page *www.justgiving.com/fundraising/TeamHileyUnlikely* .
Nigel Halliday

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Historic Specials Day, Burford, Sunday 14th August

This well established Fairthorpe Sports Car Club event attracts around sixty cars each year (mainly Ford Ten and Austin Seven based specials) and, as usual, the venue is the Cotswold Wildlife Park, Burford, Oxfordshire.

Specials and limited production sports cars of all makes are invited, although cars built or designed after 1964 may be asked to park outside the display area. Some of the marques that have been to previous shows include: TWM, Turner, Fairthorpe, Elva, Lotus, Ginetta, Lola, Martin, Rochdale, Siva and Dellow.

Admission is FREE for the driver of a special or the tow car of a special and the park opens at 10:30am.

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National MicroCar Rally, Shropshire, Thursday 8th - Sunday 11th September

This year's NMCR is being organised by Alison McCarthy of the Heinkel Trojan Club and the venue is Lower Lacon Caravan Park, Wem, Shropshire (postcode SY4 5RP). It is a large site with first class toilets & showers, electric hook-ups, site shop, a cash machine and even an open-air heated swimming pool!

Friday's road run is to Cosford Air Museum and the Saturday run includes stops at beauty spots and places of local interest, including the odd castle (NOTE: Car park charges may be in operation at some of these stops).

Entertainment has also been booked for the Saturday night and attendees of an outgoing nature are instructed to 'bring your dancing shoes'!

The rally area has its own entrance, but there is a limit on number of 'camping' pitches (each pitch being for one tent or one campervan with awning). Special rally rates have been arranged (£11/night Without Hook-up and £15/night With Hook-up). Additional pitches will also be available in the main campsite, but it is advisable to book in advance, as these will be charged at their usual rates (£19/night upwards).

To book your pitch, please write to Alison McCarthy, 1 Windmill Meadow, Wem, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 5YH, stating which nights you wish to stay and enclosing a cheque (made out to 'The Heinkel Trojan Club LTD') for the £10 non-refundable deposit. The balance of payment will be taken upon arrival at the rally.

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Front Hubs

We have been out of stock of new front hubs for a while, but a new batch has now been cast and machining is underway. We anticipate delivery at the end of the summer, with price expected to be approx. £150 each.

Excelsior Pistons

328cc and 492cc pistons were put back into production with BEC encouragement and support approximately 15 years ago. The facilitating company was specialist engine component supplier F.W. Thornton of Shrewsbury, who persuaded the Australian piston manufacturer JP Pistons to add them to their range.

John Chatfield at FWT recently confirmed the following current UK stock:-

- Single carb 328cc pistons (JP1052) in Standard, +20, +30, +40 and +60 thou. @£87.10 each (plus VAT), with additional Rings available @£39.85 per set (plus VAT).
- 492cc (or 328cc twin carb) pistons (JP1054) in Standard, +20, +30, +40 and +60 thou. @£84.21 each (plus VAT), with additional Rings available @£47.80 per set (plus VAT).

Contact: F.W. Thornton & Son Ltd., Orelton Lane, Wellington, Telford, Shropshire, TF1 2BG. Tel: 01952-252892. e-mail: *enquiries@fwthornton.co.uk* . Website: *www.fwthornton.co.uk* .

Recent BEC Spares experience has proven that rejuvenating the Excelsior engines is becoming

very costly!! The rebore of a pair of barrels to +60 thou. (at a quality engineering shop) came in at £165, plus a further £211 for the new oversize JP piston assemblies.

As already mentioned in recent bulletins, the price of imperial sized bearings for the Excelsior crankshaft has also risen significantly, with the upshot that the full overhaul of a twin 328cc engine can now easily exceed £1,000!

Engineering Machinist Wanted

A year or so ago the engineer who had produced a lot of machined or turned components for the club retired due to health grounds. We are therefore in need of a new reasonably priced machinist or engineering company who can make batches of hub nuts, clutch components, etc. for us.

If anyone can assist in our search please let us know.
Nigel Halliday

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EVENTS

2016 Events Listing

Aug 14th: Historic Specials Day, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Burford, OX18 4JP.
See above for details.

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. See above for details. *www.national-microcar-rally.co.uk*

Sept 18th: Classic Car Show, Orpington, BR6 7RS. See Jun bulletin.
www.stchristophers.org.uk/carshow

Sept 24th/25th: **Pistons & Props**, Sywell Aerodrome, Hall Farm, Sywell, Northampton, NN6 0BN. *www.sywellclassic.co.uk*
Contact: Geoff Toyer (*geedadtee@ntlworld.com*)

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MARKETPLACE

Berkeley Developments: Old Stock Clearance

BEC Spares took on the main Berkeley Developments stock a few years ago, but Dave Ratner has been clearing out his garage and came across a few more parts; most were sold at our Copt Oak Rally a few weeks ago, but the remainder were left with BEC Spares. The following headlamp kits were not mentioned in the last bulletin, but all the other items pictured last month are still available:-

Wipac 5¾" Headlamp Mounting Kit (Model S5568)

This kit features a black plastic headlamp bowl approx. 3½" deep and a black plastic shroud rim

with a single screw fixing. The bowl is attached to the car body using 3 self tapping screws (with a black neoprene gasket to give watertight seal to the body), whilst the light unit mounts via a chromed metal bezel to posts on the bowl which provide final light unit aim adjustment.





Still available from Wipac distributors at approx. £22.00 (without lamp unit). Two kits are available; one comes complete with a Lucas dip/main beam sealed unit worth £10.00 (branch loom, grommets and 3-way Lucar connector NOT included). For more dimension details, see JCR Auto electrical supplies website.

Mock Wire Wheel Trims These chromed plastic trims are 12" diameter and Dave advises that they are proud enough to clear a non-domed type Berkeley hub nut. They are retained by metal teeth which grip the inside wheel rim. Also ideal for a special conversion using Hillman Imp or Fiat 126/127 12" wheels. Overall depth is 90mm, with depth from edge of rim to centre of approx. 50mm. Several pairs are available and we can add Berkeley 'B' emblems if required.

Sports Mirror These wing mounted cast alloy mirrors are finished in smooth matt black with a black plastic plinth and have two fixing studs. They are a Unipart product sourced from Italy, with flat mirror glass and we suspect they were originally a British Leyland Mini accessory. Four available, but three of them have tarnished glass, which will need to be replaced to ensure a perfect image.

Chrome Exhaust Trim These cosmetic items have a flared outer end and clamp to the tail end of your exhaust pipe (clamp screws missing). One is 5½" long and fits 1¼" diameter pipe, the other is 5¾" long and fits 1⅞" diameter pipe.

Final Drive Sprocket: Machined to fit the standard Berkeley differential, this alloy sprocket was orignally cut for a Honda motorcycle engine conversion and has 35 teeth with an external diameter of approx. 7⅜" (standard Berkeley chain pitch).

If you would like to see higher resolution pictures, please contact Dave Perrin (*dp_berkeley@yahoo.co.uk*). If you wish to buy any of these items, please contact Dave Ratner (e-mail: *rattyone@tesco.net* or Tel: 01773-629860) and, once he has agreed a price, BEC Spares will advise the total (including P&P) and send the parts to you.
Nigel Halliday

Wanted: T60 or SE328



My wife and I are long term car enthusiasts with fond memories of the T60 which we owned in the early-Sixties, and have joined the BEC in the hope that we can find a good roadworthy example to allow us to get on the road without embarking on a major restoration project.

We are currently undecided on whether to go for another T60 or a 'Sports' 328, so please give us a ring if you are considering parting with your 3 or 4 wheeled pride and joy.

Contact: Alan Broughton (Swansea), Tel: 01792-882193.

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For Sale: Various T60 Spares & Detachable Hardtop

Large quantity of T60 spares; covers most areas of the car, so ideal if you are rebuilding one. Too much to list, but includes a pair of side screens for soft top model, two steering columns, kingpin/trunnion assemblies, brake drums, brake master cylinder (new), cylinder heads, engine bay crossmembers, etc.. Would prefer to sell as a job lot - please ring for further details.

Also for sale, original factory hardtop modified to mate up with soft top windscreen surround (requires painting), includes sidescreens with new perspex panels.

Contact: Peter Locke (Wimbledon, London), Tel: 02085-404891 (daytime only please).

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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 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 July 2016 BEC Bulletin was compiled and edited by Dave Perrin