



H&H Live Auction Online (616)

Wed, 24th Nov 2021

Estimate: £3000 - £4000 + Fees

c.1958 Berkeley SE-492

Registration No: UN-REG

Chassis No: RAG3

MOT: Exempt

Motor Car Location: Lancashire

- Very rare four-wheel Berkeley Sports Deluxe SE-492
- Previously uprated with bodywork and an engine change for hillclimb competitions
- Offered as a stalled restoration project from a deceased estate

Maverick but brilliant freelance car designer Laurie Bond designed the Berkeley sports car in response to the Suez crisis. Small and incredibly light, with composite glassfibre/steel/aluminium monocoque, transverse engine, front-wheel drive and all-independent suspension with twin wishbones at the front and coil spring/dampers all round, it was way ahead of its time at launch in 1956. Unfortunately, most sports car types didn't adapt well to low-powered, high maintenance British two-stroke motorcycle engines of the time, despite some significant racing successes, assisting their rarity now.