The Cotswold Section



Final Newsletter

Covid19 Issue 11 Lockdown week 12





Riding this 1929 Sunbeam Model 80 has helped me through the Covid 19 Lockdown Editor: Reg Eyre KOBI

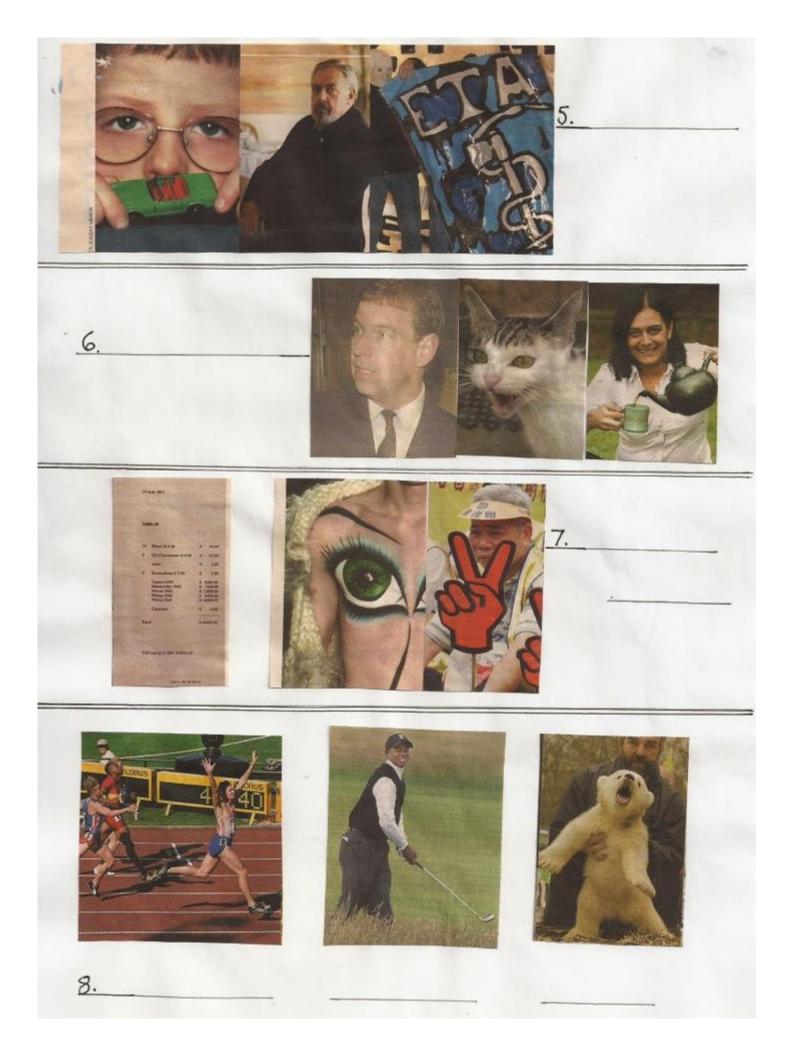
www.vmcc-cotswold.org or dr.reg.eyre@gmail.com

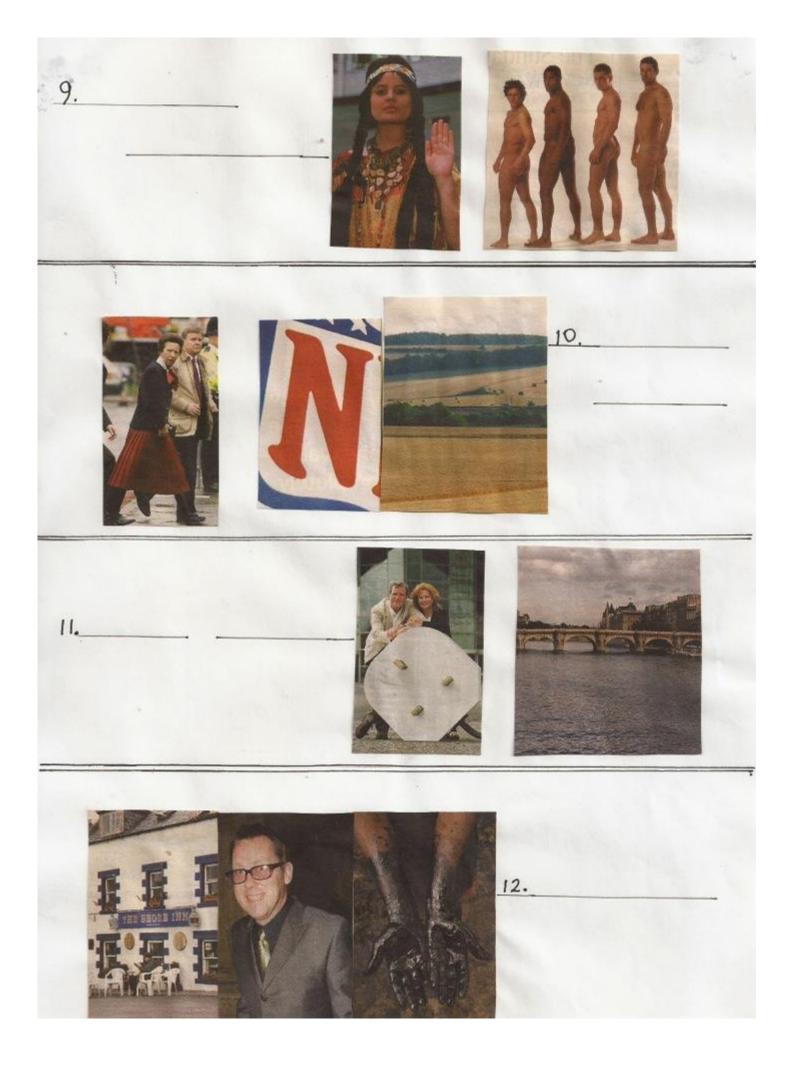
The purpose of these mailings was to occupy the thoughts of members of the motorcycling fraternity during the current crisis when non-essential riding might have been deemed to be unlawful. It is hoped that the articles, which were technical, thought provoking, humorous, accompanied by images, etc, were about our hobby of motorcycling. The editor would like to thank all friends that have contributed and read these Newsletters.

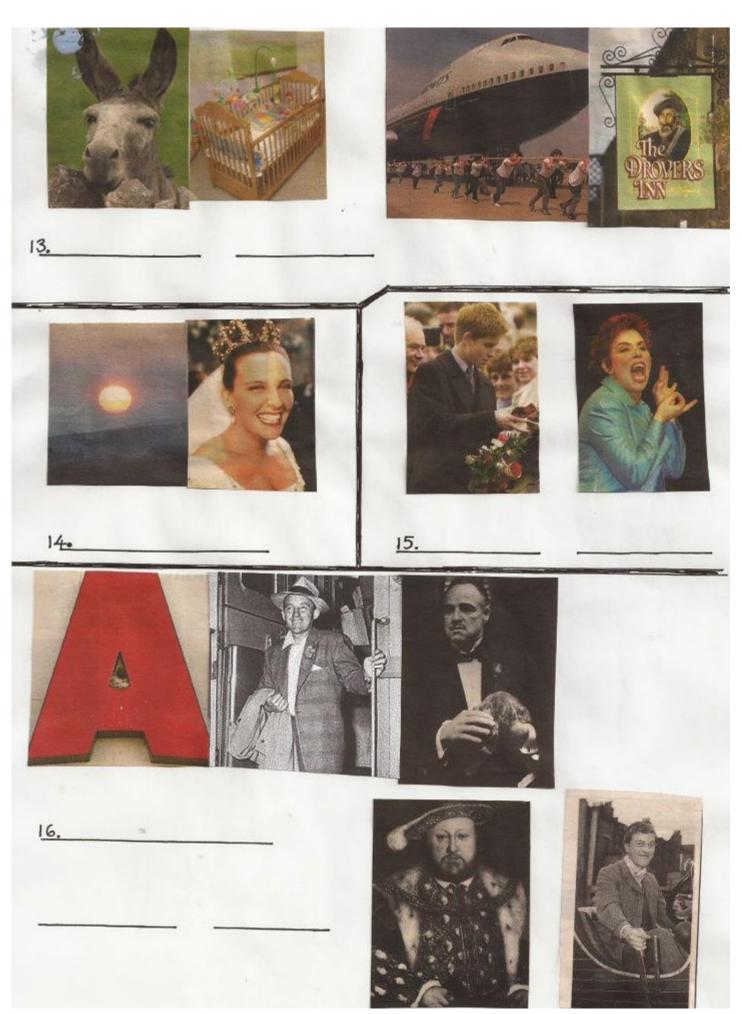
From the B190

The lock down is ending and so is this publication. I hope you have been challenged, amused, entertained, informed, or just plain occupied for a few moments during this spell with these missives. I hope to see you all somewhere at gatherings of old motorcycles, wherever they take place. The final challenge comes courtesy of Lois, my wife, who devised this picture quiz for one of our Signpost Rally's. Following the quiz are the final round-ups.

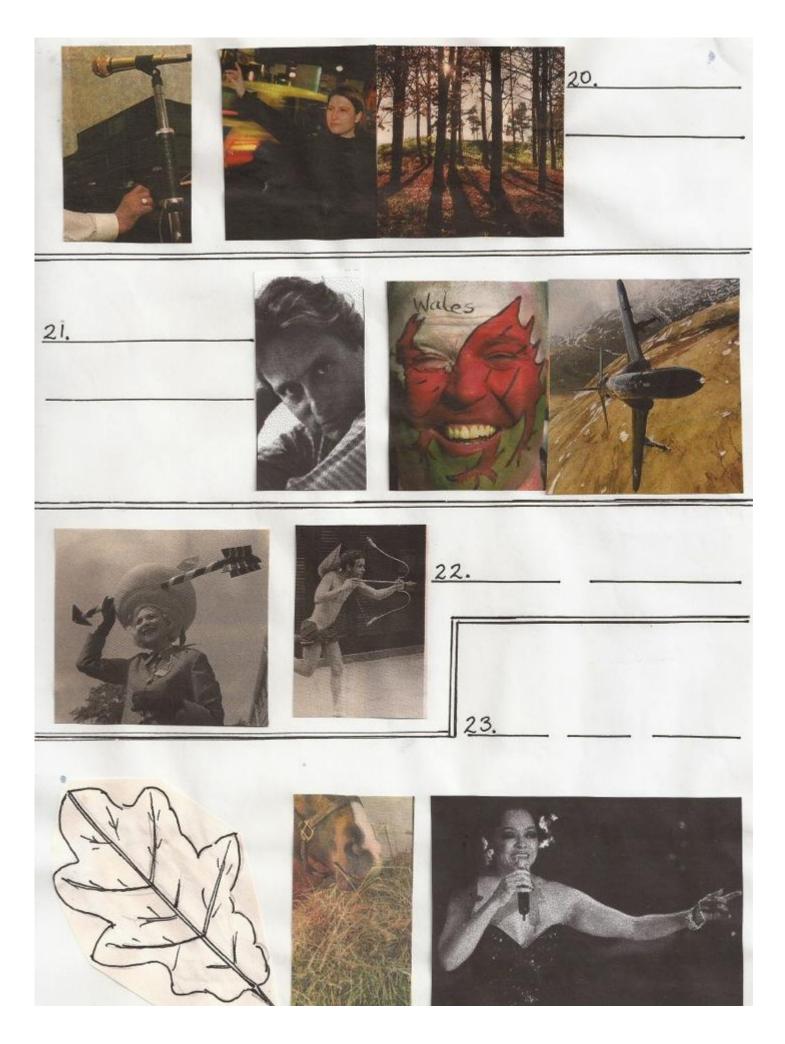
















And Finally!

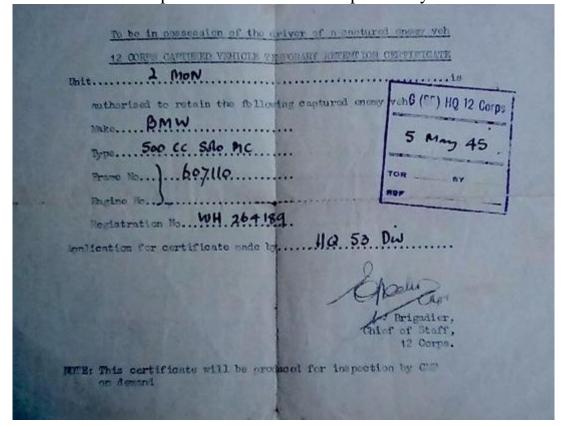
Some people have found the reasons for spending so much time in the workshop:

First – Paul from New Zealand with his BSA Round Tank, "I've finally tracked down the cause and solution. The cause was an old one - **Incompetent Maintenance**. When I reassembled the timing gears I mixed up my dots and dashes such that, although the inlet timing was right, the exhaust timing was six teeth out on a 44tooth gearwheel. Dohhhl! How it ever ran at all is a mystery. I've just taken it on a six miler around the fair city of Katikati and it went well despite the indignity I'd put it to what with barks and shakes aplenty. The Covid thingy gave me a bit of legitimacy in that although the tax and test had run out in mid April we have all been granted use of our vehicles and driver licenses until October. I'll not tempt providence by using it till it's tested and taxed anew.

Second – I have finished struggling with the carburettor on my 1913 Motosacoche. A near neighbour, just a few doors away, who does work on the Crofton Beam engine asked to take the carburettor home to study it. He realised that the seal between the top and bottom parts of the float chamber were leaking fuel. He then lapped these two parts together but fuel was still leaking out profusely. He then suggested a silicon seal, but this was not the answer and then had a moment of inspiration. For this you may wish to refer to the diagram on the front cover of an earlier Newsletter. He realised that the screw holding the tickler should be used to clamp the top and bottom parts of the fuel chamber together. Amazing! With everything so clamped, I spent a long time trying to pedal the bike into life but was still rewarded with excess fuel. Again, David took the float chamber away, because we (?) thought the tiny jet slots maybe too large. Now the Motosacoche will run freely on the stand but it did not burst into life with pedalling along the road. I know it will with practice.

My gratitude to David Throup is boundless, so here's hoping.

Third - This document belonged to my late father, a keen motorcyclist he took part in the D-Day landings and eventually ended up in Germany. This document shows that he was authorised to use a BMW motorcycle that he captured, it was painted up in British colours and he said it was far superior to the M20 he had previously.



I have a photograph of him on this somewhere, but not on the BMW. On the 60th anniversary of VE day I asked him where he was in 1945 - like most he didn't speak about it much, his answer was unexpected, he replied "I was sitting on the BMW in Berlin and became completely surrounded by a very large crowd of defeated, exhausted, and demoralised German troops who were retreating back from Russia, there were hundreds - like a huge football crowd, so many that I couldn't move in either direction". I asked if he was frightened, he said that although most were unarmed it did cross his mind that so many of them could have physically trampled him or torn him limb from limb, especially as he was on one of their bikes! The majority were just staring ahead without even seeming to notice him; he said, "I just think they wanted to get home".

That has always stuck with me, and I thought of him again on the 75th anniversary sitting on that BMW amongst all those German soldiers.

He always wished that he could have kept the BMW, but had to relinquish it and just keep the little document.

Mike Gardner

Answers to Covid 10 Word Search

PAINTWORK. NORTON. TANKSLAPPER. PITCH. WILKINSON. RELIC. KICKSTART. HUTCHINSON. NERACAR.

PISTON. TRIUMPH. ACU. FORK. MORGAN. CLYNO. WOOLER. CORA. NUT. ITOM. SCOTT. TT. COMET. PECO. NORBRECK. CC. PENNIB. BAT. REDRUP. SILK. BARON. DANE. DOT

Answers to Picture Quiz

- James or Dene (James Dean)
 Dot (preferred) or Cotton (Dot Cotton)
 Eland (Elle McPherson, landing)
- 4. Clyno (c-line-o)
- 5. Carburettor (car, Raymond Burr, 'eta')6. Ducati (Duke of York, cat, tea)
- 7. Bill Ivy (bill, eye, **v**-sign)
- 8. Triumph Tiger Cub (triumphant, Tiger Woods, bear cub)
- 9. Indian Four (Indian, 4 men)
- 10. Royal Enfield (Princess **Royal**, n, field)
- 11. Plug spanner (plug, bridge **spanning** a river = a **spanner**)
- 12. Invicta (inn, **Vic** Reeves, tar) 13. Ascot Pullin (ass, cot, pull, inn)
- 14. Sunbeam (sun, beam)
- 15. Royal Ruby His **Royal** Highness Prince Harry, **Ruby** Wax)
- 16. Abingdon King Dick (a, **Bing** Crosby, **Don** Corleone, **King** Henry Viii, **Dick** van Dyke)
- 17. Tourist Trophy (tour bus, wrist, t-row-f-e)
- 18. Cotton (cot, tun)
- 19. Bearings (bear, water **rings**)
 20. Mike Hailwood (mike, hail, wood)
- 21. Douglas Dragonfly (Michael **Douglas**, dragon, **fly**ing)
- 22. Pierce Arrow (pierce, arrow)
- 23. OK Supreme (oak leaf, hay, Diana Ross was a Supreme)
- 24. Norman Nippy (Norman Wisdom, Nipper with 'er' deleted = nipp, e)
- 25. Norton model 18 (Graham **Norton**, a catwalk **model**, 18)
- 26. Tax discs (road fund or **tax**, discs)
- 27. British racing green **British** bulldog, **Ray** Davies, **sing**ing, green)
- 28. Ariel Red Hunter (air, reel, red, huntsman or **hunter**)
- 29. Vincent Black Shadow (Vinny (= **Vincent**) Jones, **black** swan, shadow)
- 30. BSA gold star (bee, s, a, **gold star**(s))