

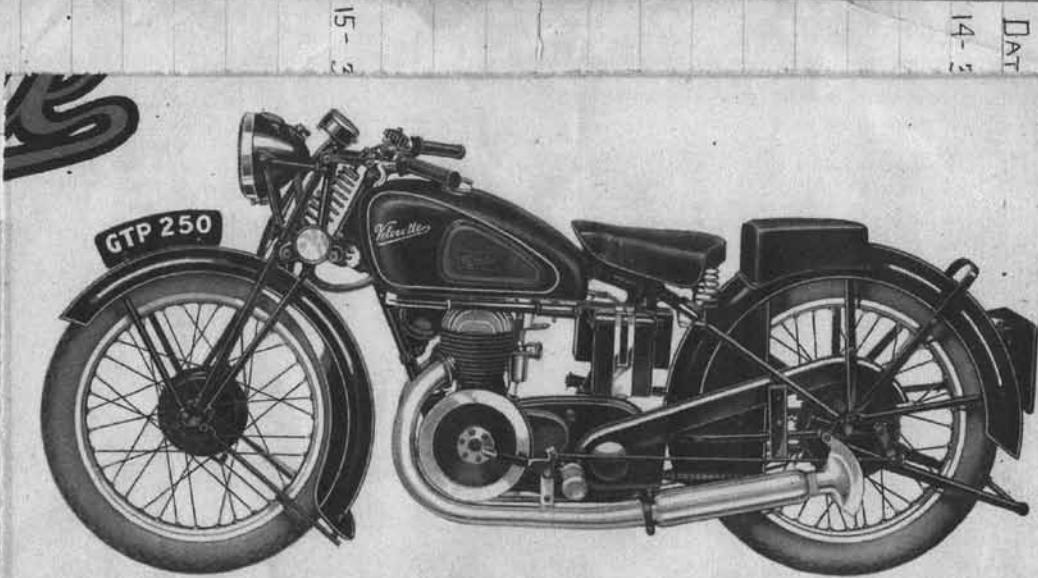
1938 VELOCETTE GTP - EXA 746

This is the story of the life of a bike from 14th March 1940 to 5th November 1942 - about 8,500 miles and ... 3 decokes! We do not know the name of the author, but he was a civil servant and was able to both retain a motorcycle at a time when they were frequently 'requisitioned', and to obtain fuel.

He describes the ups and downs of ownership of a two stroke in those wartime days, complete with air-raids... He also describes frequent 'outing' - strictly for pleasure - around the local countryside. It would be interesting to plot each of these journeys and gain more clues as to where he was based. This would appear to be on the outskirts of London, in North Kent, possibly at Bexley.

He speaks affectionately about his partner, Rene - she obviously shared his enjoyment of the bike. One or both of them may have retired to the Isle of Wight, where this book was discovered in a loft, after the death of the resident.

Now, read on!



Model GTP

As illustrated, complete with electric lighting, high frequency horn, licence holder, trip speedometer with illuminated dial, pillion seat and pillion footrests.

£44.0.0

SPECIFICATION

LIGHTING. Dynamo 6-volt with voltage control. Accumulator 13-ampere hour. Headlamp dia 6½" (16.5 cm.) with dip-light, parking light, rear light and illuminated speedometer dial. Warning lamp for ignition incorporated in lamp, together with switch and ignition key.
ENGINE. Velocette 249 c.c. (63x80 mm.) Twin exhaust ports. Aluminium detachable head, giving high turbulence. Aluminium piston. Roller bearing big end.
LUBRICATION. Engine by mechanical pump interconnected with the throttle. Primary chain is enclosed in oil bath chain case. Gearbox filled with oil; other parts by grease gun.
CARBURETTOR. Single control quick action, thin pull-push twist grip. Strangler for starting.
IGNITION. By coil in conjunction with 6-volt dynamo lighting set. Ignition lever control on handlebar.
GEARBOX. Velocette 4-speed twin top. Gears controlled by foot gear levers; gear change mechanism is enclosed in the gearbox. Kickstarter fitted with folding crank. Clutch—three plates. Hand control lever on handlebar. Extra strong clutch cable 2.8 mm. dia.
GEAR RATIOS. 20T sprocket. Top, 5:3; 3rd, 7:1; 2nd, 8:2. 1st, 13:6.

TANK. Capacity petrol 2½ gallons (10.2 litres), oil 3½ pints (2 litres).
BRAKES. 6" dia. (15.23 cm.) with hand adjustments. Provision is made for keeping mud from both the front and rear brakes.
TYRES. 3.00x19.
RIMS. WM 1-19.
MUDGUARDS. 6" (15.23 cm.) wide, ribbed centre. Valanced front, detachable rear.
SADDLE. Flexible top with adjustable fixing.
FOOTRESTS. Steel forgings, rubber covered and adjustable.
STANDS. Rear, spring up type. Front with locking nut.
SILENCER. Chromium plated with fish tail. Easily detachable for cleaning carbon from inside baffles.
TOOLKIT. Complete kit for all running adjustments, including grease gun and inflator.
GROUND CLEARANCE. 5½" (139 cm.)
HEIGHT TO TOP OF SADDLE. 26½" (67.9 cm.)
WIDTH OVER HANDLEBARS. 27½" (70 cm.)
WHEELBASE. 50" (127 cm.)
WEIGHT. 235 lb. (107 kg.)

MATCHED WITH RELIABILITY

33 Lewis Rd,
Awanley
Kent.
15.3.40.

Received with thanks
the sum of Twenty
Three pounds (£23.)
in full payment for
Velocette B.T.P motor
cycle. Registration No.
EXA 446



point fixing.
BRAKES. 7" (17.7 cm.) dia. with hand adjusters. Provision is made for keeping mud from both front and rear brakes.
WHEELS. Detachable rear wheel. The wheel itself is mounted on two self-contained journal bearings and can be quickly removed, leaving the brake shoes, drum, sprocket and chain in position.
SADDLE. Flexible top, adjustable fixing.
large all-metal tool box with spare room. Also grease gun and inflator.
GROUND CLEARANCE. 4 1/2" (11.42 cm.) Crankcase is protected by the lower part of the frame.
HEIGHT TO TOP OF SADDLE. 28" (71 cm.)
WIDTH OVER HANDLEBARS. 27 1/2" (69.8 cm.)

d.
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DATE	MILOMETER. EMPTY		
28-3-40	9730.	1 GAL PETROL	10688 9730 958 - 10 1/2 galls = 93.5/gall.
31-3-40	9781	2 GAL PETROL	10623 9730
7-4-40.		3/4 GAL PETROL	576 per quart = 288/gall.
9-4-40		2 GAL PETROL	
14-4-40.	10046	DE COKE.	
14-4-40	10047	1 QT CASTROL XL.	
20-4-40		1 GAL PETROL	
23-4-40		1 GAL PETROL (NET)	
28-4-40		1 GAL PETROL	
5-5-40		1 1/2 GAL PETROL	
5-5-40	10623	1 QT CASTROL XL.	11137 10688
7-5-40	10688	1 GAL PETROL.	45 149 9
10-5-40		1 1/2 GAL. PETROL	
18-5-40		1 GAL PETROL	
20-5-40		1/2 GAL PETROL	
20-5-40		3/4 GAL PETROL	
24-5-40			
25-5-40			
25-5-40	11137	2 GALS. PETROL.	
6-7-40	11906	GEAR BOX.	
6-9-40	12653	DE. COKE. & NEW BATTERY.	
28-3-42	16643	DE COKE.	

SPEED. 50/55 m.p.h. (80/70 k.p.h.) standard. FINISH. Black and chromium. Tank, black and gold.
FORKS. With hand adjusted shock absorber and steering damper.

DATE		£	s.	d.
14-3-40.	EXTRACT FROM "THE MOTOR CYCLE". VELOCETTE 1938 G.T.P. 9,000 miles, showroom condition £27/10, or near offer. - By appointment -135, Swanley Lane, Swanley, Kent. (6275) b31 All letters relating to advertisements			
	SENT TELEGRAM 1-15 P.M.:			
	"OFFER 23 CASH SUBJECT INSPECTION VELOCETTE. REPLY BRINTON 63 HUDSON ROAD BEXLEY HEATH BEFORE SAT. NOON RENE PRODUCED SHORT NOTE FOUND IN DOOR UPON RETURN FROM WORK. PHONED JAMES BROS. LEFT 63 ABT 9 P.M. WITH RENE FOR SWANLEY. AWAITED MR MOSS TILL 10 PM INSPECTED VELO. ACCEPTED MY OFFER.	1	6	
	HOME MIDNIGHT. SENT OFF FOR NEW COVER NOTE TO STAINES BY MORN POST.			
15-3-40	EXCITED ALL DAY, COULDN'T WORK. SID CAME FROM OFFICE 7-45, AWAY DIRECTLY, FOUL NIGHT WITH RAIN. ARRIVED SWANLEY 8-15 BIKE RAN O.K. IN SHED. SID TRIED IT UP THE ROAD. CONSIDERED ENGINE BETTER THAN HIS. NO KNOCK. HEADLIGHT NOT WORKING ON MAIN BEAM. SETTLED PURCHASE AT ONCE.	23	0	0

DATE		£	s.	d.
15-3-40	CHECKED SPEEDO 9583. HOME TO SID'S (CONT). VIA RUXLEY, FOOTS CRAY, DANSON PARK LIGHTS. SHOOTERS HILL. 10 MILES.			
16-3-40	TO SID'S SAT. AFT. 2-30-5-45 PM CLEANING BIKE. FITTED NEW DUMMY GRIP. FIXED FOOT BRAKE PEDAL {ASSEMBLED INCORRECTLY} BUSH FOR SAME NOT REQUIRED AFTER ALL. BOUGHT TIN KARPOL II, TIN GREASE II, & 2 SMALL TINS ENAMEL, (BLACK & WHITE) II.	1	8	
	FOUND BATTERY IS ALMOST DUD. HAVE DECIDED TO BUY ANOTHER, ALSO TO TRY & RE-PACK THE WHEELS WITH GREASE. ADHESIVE TAPE WILL BE REQD TO REPLACE THAT WHICH I REMOVED TO-DAY. FOUND PRICE FOR NEW HEADLAMP RIMS IS BETWEEN 6/6 & 10/-. WILL HAVE TO WAIT.	7		3 0
17-3-40	TO SID'S LATE IN AFT. RAINED ALL DAY & MY NECK HURT BADLY IN MORNING. REMOVED FRONT NO PLATE. STRAIGHTED PILLION FOOTREST. GREASED			

- 17-3-40. ALL ROUND HEAD & LINKS. PUT GREASE IN FRONT HUB (SHOWED AT R.H. SIDE OF SPINDLE). TAPED END OF SPEEDO DRIVE & ALSO ELEC. CABLE HOUSING. BROUGHT RIM & N° PLATE HOME FOR ATTENTION. PAINTED WHITE ON FRONT & REAR MUD-GUARDS. HARRY WITH ME ALL TIME, HE HAS TROUBLE WITH ELEC SYSTEM. HAD TO DASH HOME AS IT WAS NEARLY DARK AS I LEFT.
- 18-3-4. RENE PAINTED ONE SIDE OF N° PLATE LOOKS O.K. & SHE ALSO TOOK RIM IN TO BE STRAIGHTENED AT TIN WORKS NEAR THE UPTON. CLEAR'S CLOSED AT LUNCH TIME, DECIDED TO GIVE OLD BATTERY A LONG CHARGE & TRIAL. COVER NOTE ARRIVED BUT I MISSED GETTING P. ORDER
- 19-3-40. RENE COLLECTED RIM & TOOK SAME FOR PLATING TO THACKERAYS IN GRAHAM R° N° PLATE ALSO FINISHED BY RENE. TO SID'S IN LUNCH HOUR FOR ACCUMULATOR. HAD ACID TESTED BY PYRO. AT GARAGE, ^{OK} NOW ON SLOW CHARGE TILL THURSDAY NIGHT. SENT OFF TAX & ALSO FEE FOR C.S.M.A & 1/- FOR PLAQUE TONIGHT.
- Bought GAS LIGHTER TODAY. STAMPS & P.O. CHARGE.

2 6

11 4

7 0

6

- 21-3-40. A TRUE CASE OF "THE BEST LAID SCHEMES OF MICE & MEN ETC." AWOKE WITH GERMAN MEASLES, MESSED UP EVERYTHING FOR EASTER. RENE COLLECTED RIM, BETTER THAN NEW. N° PLATE FINISHED. LICENCE & C.S.M.A CARD & PLAQUE ALL ARRIVED. RENE HAS BOUGHT HERSELF A FINE LEATHER HELMET. 7/6.
- 22-3-40. "GOOD" FRIDAY IN BED. SYD CAME ROUND FOR A FEW MINS. FROM WORK IN EVENING.
- 23-3-40. GOT ERIC TO TAKE ME TO SID'S AT NOON. PUT ON BATTERY ADJUSTED CLUTCH, PUT ON RIM & N° PLATE ALSO LICENCE. ROAD SAME HOME & ON TO PICK UP RENE AT MARJORIE'S. TO HALFORDS, RENE ON PILLION. BOUGHT SKI CAP 5/11 & PUNCTURE OUTFIT 1/- MENDED PUNCTURE FOR ERIC. HOME ON 'IDES' LEFT HER IN GARDEN. GOING OUT TOMORROW. 6 MILES TODAY
- 24-3-40. SID & VERA CAME ROUND ABOUT 10, COLLECTED MARJORIE & ERIC ON WAY OUT. VIA BEXLEY, RUXLEY CRN., ORPINGTON & LANES TO TITSEY. HEAVY MIST HERE SO WENT DOWN TO WESTERHAM

2 3.

7 6

1 0

6 11.

& UP TO DEVIL'S ELBOW FOR LUNCH & MESS ABT.
 THEN VIA FOUR ELMS CHIDDINGSTONE PENSHURST
 & LEIGH TO RIVER HILL (MORLEY'S HUT) FOR CUPS 1 10
 OF TEA, EGG ON CHIPS ETC. ON WAY MY HEAD-
 LAMP RIM CAME ADRIFT, SID RAN OVER IT &
 IT IS NOW WORSE THAN BEFORE "BLUE CRAYON".
 HOME VIA SEVENOAKS, SEAL (STOPPED FOR A
 WALK IN WOODS NEAR), EXEY HILL, ASH, LONGFIELD,
 DARENTH, 5 MILE RD, DARTFORD HEATH, &
 ROCHESTER-WAY. 71 MILES. SPEEDO. 9673.

BIKE RAN WELL. GREASE RAN OUT OF
 FRONT HUB, PROBABLY GOT HOT WHEN I USED
 FRONT BRAKE A LOT.

25-3-40 EASTER MONDAY. WITH MARJORIE & ERIC TO LUDDSDOWN
 VIA ROCHESTER WAY & COBHAM 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ MILES INCLUDING
 GOING DOWN TO 40 HORSHAM. WALKED IN WOODS. BACK VIA
 LANES TO LONGFIELD & HOME. 38.3 MILES TOTAL.

27-3-40 FINE AFTER ALL DAY RAIN YESTERDAY. SID DOWN WITH
 MEASLES. WENT TO SEE HIM IN MORNING & SPENT
 3 HOURS CLEANING UP SIDE CAR IN HIS GARAGE IN PRE-

PARATION OF HOPED FOR SALE TOMORROW. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ MILES APPROX.
 28-3-40 AWAY FROM MARJORIE'S 10-30 AM DELIVERED INSURANCE
 FORM ON WAY TO SIDS. FOUND HIM UP & O.K. COLLECTED
 KEYS MET MR PEACOCK (DECENT CHAP ALL ROUND)
 TOOK HIM TO SIDS & SOLD SIDECAR FOR £3. LESS THAN
 I'D HOPED FOR, BUT GLAD TO GET IT OUT OF THE WAY AS
 SID HAS BEEN JOLLY DECENT HAVING IT SO LONG AROUND. COMING
 HOME TRIED FOR GARAGE, CHEAPEST £5.50. N.B.G. BOUGHT 1 GAL 1 10
 SPEEDO READ 9730 & TANK NEARLY DRAINED AT TIME.
 WITH RENE TO THORN'S AFTER LUNCH, I THOUGHT FOR NO GOOD
 BUT, BY AID OF MR HERN, THERE DUG OUT OLD SECTIONS
 TO BUILD UP 8 FT X 5 FT SHED. RENE A REAL BRICK 2 0 0.
 HELPED ME GET IT HOME ON A HAND CART IN TWO JOURNEYS
 SEEMS PRETTY COMPLETE EVEN TO ROLL OF FELT. RENE
 CLEARED GARDEN TONIGHT WHILE I HUNTED OUT BITS TO
 MAKE SOME SORT OF FOUNDATION. WORKED TILL DARK.
 MOST ENJOYABLE DAY, HAD REALLY JOLLY TIME TOGETHER THIS
 AFTERNOON, RENE KEEN AS I AM 14.75 MILES TODAY.
 29-3-40 PHONED SID, HE CAME OVER ABT 11 AM & WE ERECTED 2
 SHED. BOUGHT HAMMER 2/, NAILS & CREOSOTE & ORDERED 3 1

CEMENT & BALLAST. PUT IN WHOLE HEAP OF FLINT FOR FLOOR. MADE $\frac{1}{2}$ ROOF OK. FROM BITS. SID REPAIRS SHED OK FOR JOB EVEN TRIED "JEETY" INSIDE. OUR WEDDING ANIVERSARY & IN EVENING SID TOOK PHOTOGRAPH OF RENE & SELF INDOORS. HOPE IT TAKES. HEARD FROM FRIZZELL TODAY - COVER NOTE

30-3-40. SID ARRIVED EARLY, WEATHER IMPROVED AS DAY WENT ON. BOUGHT FELT TACKS & CREOSOTE ETC. SID 2 9.
"CLEARED" BACK ALLEY & I REMOVED HEAPS OF STONES. COLLECTED BRICKS & BROKE THEM UP FOR FOUNDATION. RENE WELL CREOSOTED WHOLE OUTSIDE. IN AFTERNOON. BALLAST ARRIVED ABT 4PM. SID 6 0
& I CARRIED IN $\frac{1}{4}$ YARD IN BATH & STARTED MIXING. SID HAD TO GO AFTER 4-30 BUT ERIC & DOLL ARRIVED & ERIC LAID CEMENT DOWN WHILE I MIXED. FINISHED FLOOR 6PM. TIRED OUT. FOUND AMT. OF FELT INSUFFICIENT, ARRANGED WITH "EARNY" DREDGE FOR LENGTH OF OLD TARPAULIN. GOT SELF OFF "CLUB" TONIGHT. HAD RE-NEWAL NOTICE FROM FRIZZELL.

31-3-40. ROUNDED & COLLECTED ENOUGH TARPAULIN, RENE DID GOOD WORK IN HELPING ME PUT IT ON. WORKED HARD & NOW SHED IS ALMOST FINISHED. ROOF VERY TIGHT NOW. FINISHED 1 PM FOR DAY. TRIP IN AFTERNOON WITH MARJORIE & ERIC TO IDE HILL WHERE WE WALKED ROUND. BACK & HAD TEA AT HUT. BACK VIA BIZZELL 8
GREEN, SUNDRIDGE, POLL HILL, SHOREHAM, FARNINGHAM, 5 MILE RD, DARTFORD HTH, BEXLEY. 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ MILES. HAD 2 GALLS IN AT BLENDON GARAGE. SPEEDO 9781. 3 8
LENT ERIC 1 COUPON. TEA AT MARJORIE'S. TOOK "IDES" HOME & PUT HER IN SHED FOR 1ST TIME.
1-4-40. TOOK BIKE TO WORK. SENT OFF FOR INSURANCE TO FRIZZELLS. 3RD PARTY, FIRE & THEFT. TRIP JUST OVER 1 18 2.
4 MILES EACH WAY. HOME TO LUNCH. RUNNING OK. SENT OFF SUPPLEMENTARY COUPON REQUEST COMPLETE WITH 3
LOG BOOK & WORK'S CERTIFICATE
FITTED PLAQUES.
5-4-40. ADJUSTED FORK LINKS & HEAD LAMP MASK.
6-4-40. COMPLETE WEEKLY MILAGE TO D FROM WORK 93. DID 7 MORE DURING REST OF DAY.
7-4-40. PUT IN 3 QUARTS PETROL FROM STOCK BEFORE TRIP

- WITH SID & VERA, SID & SALLY, MARJORIE & ERIC, LEM, NORMAN & IVY, PRIMROSEING
TO COWDEN PONDS VIA IDE HILL BOUGH BEECH HEVER (HENRY VIII INN)
BIKE TENDING TO SIEZE UP ALL DAY. TIED UP OIL PUMP.
STOPPED AT COWDEN X ROADS BY PUB FOR LUNCH. SID ADJUSTED 1 3
THROTTLE, CAN NOW SHUT ENGINE OFF. ALSO DROPPED NEEDLE
IN CARB 1 NOTCH. STILL 2 FROM TOP POSITION. FEW FLOWERS
SO HAD HECTIC RUSH ACROSS COUNTRY TO TOMBRIDGE
VIA THE LAMES. RIDE VERY WILD & AMUSING. TO MORELY'S TO 1 8
TEA (PEAN CHIPS 8^p). HOME VIA TOP OF RIVER HILL, GODDEN GREEN
SEAL, KINGS DOWN, LONG FIELD & ROCHESTER WAY 75 MILES.
IN DOORS 7-15 PM. JOLLY GOOD DAY. BIKE NOT GOING
AT ALL WELL 35 MPH MAX. DECIDED TO DE-COKE. CLANKING NOISE.
9-4-40 HAD 2 GALLS IN AT PICKFORD LANE P.O. LOST APT 1 QT OVER TOP. 3 8
TOOK RENE INTO WOOLWICH AFTER LUNCH.
13-4-40 WEEKLY MILEAGE TO WORK 93. HOME EARLY TO
DE-COKE STARTED 1-30. SID & LATER LEM CAME OVER.
MILOMETER 10046 FOUND CYL HEAD BOLTS VERY TIGHT &
WASHER UNDER BARREL OF THIN POST CARD. REPLACED THIS AGAIN
WITH SAME ON SID'S ADVICE. COULD NOT GET GUDGEON PIN OUT
EVEN WITH SID'S EXTRACTOR SO HAD TO CLEAN PISTON IN SITU.

- BROKE LOWER RING GETTING SAME OUT SO REPLACED 2 9
THE PAIR ALSO CIRCLIP. SID & LEM WENT OVER TO TOOLEYS FOR ME 7
& GOT 7^p RE-BATE ON FOOTREST DISTANCE PIECE. CLEANED
HEAD & BARREL WELL. CARBON REASONABLY HARD &
THICK. PAT & TIM ARRIVED TO TEA & AS THEY WANTED TO
DANCE IN EVENING I STOPPED WORK.
14-4-40 SID CAME OVER DURING MORNING, CLEARED CYL HD BOLT HOLES,
& TURNED UP THE OIL FOR ME WHILE I CLEANED WORKS. WASHED
EVERYTHING WELL WITH PETROL BEFORE ASSEMBLING. SID STAYED
TO LUNCH AFTER JOB WAS DONE. CLEANED BIKE AFTER & GREASED
REAR CHAIN. RENE & TIM POLISHED. TRIED HER OUT WITH TIM ON
PILLION, RATHER STIFF, FOUND OIL WAS NOT ADJUSTED ON
CARB. DID THIS & HAD 1 QUART CASTROL XL IN AT HOLMES 2 2
HOME AGAIN, DRESSED & TOOK RENE UP TO SID'S FOR EVENING
(TO DANCING PRACTICE). BIKE RAN BEAUTIFULLY COMING HOME IN DARK.
16-4-40 COMPLETED 500 MILES ON RETURN TO WORK LUNCH TIME TODAY.
20-4-40 WEEK'S RUN 94.6 MILES. OUT WITH RENE IN AFT VIA
LONGFIELD, LONGFIELD HILL, NURSTEAD, COBHAM, & LUDDSDOWN TO
GET 4 BUNCHES OF GRAND PRIMROSES. VIOLETS GALORE. GRAND AFT
IN SUN. HEARD 1ST CUCKOO OF THE YEAR SOUNDED GRAND. TOOK THE

R.H ROAD AS YOU COME FROM COBHAM & CAME OUT IN ROCHESTER.

CAME HOME ALL THE WAY ALONG A2. HAD 1 GALL IN AT LONG LANE GARAGE. 41.4 MILES THIS AFTERNOON. 1 10

21-4-40 SUNDAY. LOVELY DAY STAYED HOME & PLANTED THE GARDEN & DID THE MODS TO SHELTER.

23-4-40 TOOK OUT $\frac{1}{2}$ GALL IN ANTICIPATION OF BUDGET RISE IN PRICE, & BY ACCIDENT HAD $1\frac{1}{2}$ GALLS IN AT PICK.LANE P.O. 2 9

DOWN TO DOLL'S TO PICK UP RENE IN EVENING.

25-4-40 TO SYD A'S FOR TABLE TENNIS. EVERYONE PRESENT INCLV'S NORMAN. RENE PLAYED WELL.

27-4-40 WEEK'S RUN 102 MILES. WITH RENE VIA SAME ROUTE AS

LAST WEEK TO LUDDSDOWN. STOPPED TO LOOK AT NURSTEAD CHURCH. BUILT 12TH CENT WITH PECULIAR 15TH CENT. TOWER CHURCH SEEMS DEVOTED TO THE EDMEAD# FAMILY OF NURSTEAD COURT FROM APT 1700 ONWARD TO 1928. BACK VIA THE LANES TO HOLLY HILL, VIGO, WROTHAM HILL, TURNED OFF AT TOP TO ASH, HARTLEY, LONGFIELD, DARENTH, DARTFORD HEATH & BEXLEY. 43.1 MILES TODAY. GAVE PRIMROSES TO MARJORIE, STAYED THERE TO TEA. AFTERWARDS ERIC MADE VERY NECESSARY REPAIRS TO MY ELECTRIC HORN.

28-4-40 WITH MARJORIE & ERIC TO TITSEY HILL, VIA ORPINGTON GREEN ST GREEN TO ~~COBHAM~~. TURNED OFF HERE BY POLICE HIGH ELMS

GUARD OVER BIGGIN HILL AERODROME. WENT ON VIA DOWNE GOLF COURSE & TWISTING LANES & HILLS TO STEEP CUDHAM HILL.

WENT UP O.K. 2 UP IN BOTTOM. WAY CARRIED ON TO TITSEY WHERE WE ADMIRER VIEW. CRUISED ON DOWN TRACK AT SIDE OF HILL, VERY GREASY. WENT INTO LIMPSFIELD - VERY PICTURESQUE OLD

HALF TIMBERED BUILDINGS MAYBE GENUINE - COMING OUT TOWARDS WESTERHAM HAD MISFORTUNE TO COME UPON AN ACCIDENT ON BEND WHICH WE ALL ONCE STOPPED UPON ON ROUTE TO LEITH HILL SPOILED THE WHOLE DAY FOR ME I REGRET TO SAY. HOME VIA SUNDRIDGE

& POLL HILL. HAD 1 GALL IN AT BLENDON GARAGE. SPENT EVENING AT MARJORIE'S HELPING ERIC IN GARDEN. 47.5 MILES 1 10.

29-4-40 TOOK RENE DOWN TO SEE VET ABOUT CAT. LATER WITH SID & VERA VIA BEXLEY, DARENTH, HORTON KIRKBY, HORTON WOOD, TO BRANDES HATCH. HOME VIA FAWKAM & BACK TO DARENTH

& BEXLEY A REALLY GOOD EVENING IN THE LANES. 39

1-5-40 SENT OFF EXTRA CASH TO FRIZZELL AS REQD. BY THEM IN THEIR LETTER 3

2-5-40 PICKED UP RENE AT 6-15 & TOOK HER TO WELLING TO GRANADA.

4-5-40 WEEKS RUN 129 MILES. IN AFT TOOK RENE TO HALFORDS, BOUGHT LYCETTE PILLION & A PAIR OF GOGGLES FOR SELF. WENT DOWN TO ERIC'S & FITTED SAME. RENE CONSIDERS IT FINE. ALSO BOUGHT PAIR SHOES TODAY 18/11. 170 44

ERIC HAVING TROUBLE WITH BROKEN EXHAUST VALVE CAP. WE TRIED BUT FAILED TO FIND BITS INSIDE THE CRANKCASE.

7.9 MILES TODAY. SPEEDO 10513. TANK APT 1/4TH.

5-5-40 PHONED SID APT TRIP, BEAUTIFUL DAY. MET HIM AT THE 2

BLENDON WITH MARJORIE & ERIC AT 11 AM. HAD 1 1/2 GALL IN (1/2 SUP. 2 9

& 1 FOR MAY) OUT VIA POLL HILL SEVEN-OAKS (16 MILES) ON TO TOMBRIDGE (22 MILES), PEMBURY, GOUDHURST (LOVELY OLD PLACE

LIKE GULLIVERS TRAVELS TOWN ON STEEP HILL WITH CHURCH AT TOP & SHARP LH. BEND IN ROAD) SISSINGHURST (STOPPED FOR DRINK). 2 3

TURNED LEFT TO TENTERDEN. (REALLY FINE OLD TOWN BEAUTIFULLY LAID OUT) TO APPLEDORE. THIS

TRIP IS THROUGH THE FINEST PART OF KENT. THE TREES ON THE WHOLE ROUTE WERE IN FINE BLOSSOM - WE EVEN SAW A MAGNOLIA

TREE IN BLOOM. SID TOOK PHOTOGRAPH HERE & THEN WE WENT ON TO DYMCHURCH WHERE AFTER SID & I WALKED ON SAND WE HAD TEA 1 6

CAME BACK ON SAME ROUTE TO TOMBRIDGE. HAD 1 QUART OF CASTROL XL IN SPEEDO 10623. TURNED OFF TOWARD PADDOCK 2 2

WOOD, TO TUDELEY, EAST PECKHAM, HALE ST, MEREWORTH WOOD (WHERE WE GATHERED BLUE BELLS TO GO WITH THE PRIMROSES

WE HAD GATHERED EARLIER. WHILE DOING THIS I LOST MY KEY, BUT

LUCKILY SID LENT ME ANOTHER TO GET HOME.) UP WROTHAM HILL, OFF TOWARDS VIGO. TO STANSTED WHERE WE DID A SPOT OF TRIALS WORK (MARJORIE GOT HUNG UP ON A TREE). THEN DOWN TO RIDLEY, ASH, FAWKHAM GREEN, THE LANES TO HORTON KIRKBY, DARENTH, SUTTON AT HOME, WILMINGTON, DARTFORD HEATH & ROCHESTER WAY. 140.6 MILES. GRAND DAY, ALL QUITE SUNBURNED. RENE FOUND PILLION O.K.

7-5-40 FOUND I HAD NO PETROL WHEN COMING HOME TONIGHT. BORROWED 1 10

2/ FROM BOB THOMAS. SENT OFF FOR SUP. PETROL (WITH CERT) & 5. WROTE TO FRIZZELLS RE INSURANCE CERTIFICATE

10-5-40 KING'S BIRTHDAY HOME TO LUNCH 86.4 MILES FOR WEEK.

CALLED IN AGAIN BY WIRELESS HAD 1 1/2 GALL IN ON WAY BACK 2 9 WASTED AFT. SENT OUT TO CALL IN PERSONELL 13.8 MILES.

HOME 6-30 PM. FOUND SID & BERT COX AT MY PLACE. STAYED TO TEA & TILL APT 10-0 PLAYING CRIB.

11-13-5-40 MUM & DAD UP WITH DOLL. RENE & I WENT TO LUDG'S DOWN TO

PICK BLUE BELLES ON SAT AFT. RODE THROUGH WIND UP, VERY HARD WORK, GOING VERY RUTTY & WET IN PARTS. CAME OUT

AT HOLLY HILL. GRAND VIEW HERE. BACK THROUGH LANES, VIGO MEOPHAM & HOME 43.6 MILES. CHOCOLATE AT GREAT BUCKLAND FOR RENE 9

CARDS WITH MUM & DAD ALL EVE. CLEANED BIKE WELL FOR INSPEC.
BY CIS & FRED ON SUNDAY. SPENT DAY AT DOLL'S. TO WORK ON
MON. MUM & DAD UP TO LUNCH. TO DOLL'S IN EVENING FOR CARDS.

18-5-40. 103.4 MILES THIS WEEK HAD A GALL IN. WITH RENE TO 1 9

EYNSFORD IN AFT. LAY IN GRASS IN BRILLIANT SUNSHINE BY
ROADSIDE, OVERLOOKING VALLEY. BACK TO DOLL'S FOR TEA. 35.5 MILES

19-5-40. WITH SID & VERA, DOLL & ERIC TO 1 TREE HILL (MT.) VIA BEXLEY
RUXLEY, FARNINGHAM, EYNSFORD, SHOREHAM, OTFORD, KEMSING
SEAL, GODDEN GREEN, STONE ST. BRILLIANT DAY. SUNBATHED.
PLAYED TENNIS ON OPEN SPACE. DRIVEN OUT BY THIRST. DOWN TO

MORLEY'S FOR LOTS OF TEA. THEN SHORT WAY DOWN ROAD WHERE WE 1 0

SAT ON BANK WATCHING TRAFFIC. I. ADJUSTED REAR CHAIN & MADE
HORN WORK. HOME VIA EYNSFORD, ^{LULLINGSTONE &} CROCKENHILL, SWANLEY JUNC, SWANLEY

WILMINGTON & DARTFORD HEATH. GOOD DAY 42.1 MILES.

20-5-40. HAD LAST REAL COUPON $\frac{1}{2}$ GALL ONLY. IN EVE TOOK M^R MULLADY 11.
TO ORPINGTON FOR M^{RS} M's MOTHER. 18 MILES TOTAL. PUT IN 1 QT FROM STOCK.

23-5-40. RENE & I WENT FOR RUN IN EVE TO ORPINGTON UP THE HILL TO CHELSFIELD
TURNED OFF TO LEFT TO SHOREHAM. LOVELY ROAD WITH WOODS THICK WITH
BLUE BELLS. STOPPED JUST OUTSIDE SHOREHAM TO WATCH RABBITS PLAYING
HOME VIA EYNSFORD, CROCKENHILL, ST MARY CRAY, & CRITTALS CORNER. APT 25 MILES.

£245.40. HAD TO PUT IN 1 QT FROM STOCK TO GET TO WORK THIS MORNING.

25.5.40. DAY MESSED UP. REGISTERED AT LUNCH TIME IN WELLING. TANK DRY WHEN
I WANTED TO TAKE RENE TO BROADWAY. PUT IN APT 1 QT FROM STOCK.
MANAGED TO GET 2 GALLS FOR 1 COUPON THIS AFT AT RED GARAGE. NO COUPONS LEFT 4 0
FOR MAY. 146.5 MILES THIS WEEK.

6-9-40 AN EFFORT TO WRITE UP LOG. WHILE ON VAC. (FRIDAY)

MILAGE 12653 DE-COKED YESTERDAY. BROKE TOP
RING SO PUT OLD SPARE BACK. RENE MADE WASHER FROM P.C.
BOUGHT & FIXED NEW BATTERY (JEWEL), CHARGED, AT 14 10
HALFORDS TUESDAY. FIXED UP SHED OK THIS WEEK. PUT
IN SPARE "CHAMPION" PLUG WHICH "UNCLE BERT" GAVE ME.

SINCE WRITING UP LAST HAVE HAD :- ~~2 GALS~~ CASTROL (NOT ALL 4 4
USED ON ROAD AS I HAVE DONE GEAR BOX TWICE & PRIMARY CHAIN ALSO)
18 GALS PETROL. TANK FULL NOW & TOTAL RESERVES 1 16 0.
APT 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ GALLS. VIZ APT 6 IN ALL REPRESENTING 12/
RE-PLACED 3 GEAR BOX WHEELS FROM TOOLEY'S. THIS WAS 3 2 9

CAUSED BY THE FACE OF THE TOP ACTUATING FORK
WEARING ABOUT .1 DEEP & NOT DIS-ENGAGING THE SLIDING
PINION BETWEEN 2ND & BOTTOM. HAD TO WAIT A WEEK FOR
SPARES. & MADE 3 TRIPS TO TOOLEY'S FOR 'EM. WENT FIRST

ON MONDAY JULY 8TH WITH RENE BY TRAIN & AFTERWARDS WENT ON TO LONDON TO SEE "GONE WITH THE WIND". VERY FINE. LEN HELPED ME TAKE BOX DOWN ON THE SUNDAY AFT. AFTER WORK IN MORNING, & ALSO TO RE-ASSEMBLE IT WHEN EVENTUALLY I OBTAINED THE SPARES. JOB FINISHED 21ST AFTER TOOLEYS HAD SENT SHAFT & ALL BACK TO VELO'S WHO FITTED THE WHEELS & REPLACED SHAFT. BATTERY THEN FOUND TO BE FLAT & I HAD IT CHARGED AT M^R SMITHS ALL DAY SUNDAY TRIPS HAVE BEEN IN-FREQUENT SINCE THE FRENCH AFFAIR & THE FOLLOWING COVER NEARLY ALL EXCEPTING FOR WORK TRIPS JUN 2ND WITH SID, VERA, LEN, DOLL & ERIC TO TOMBRIDGE. MARJORIE VERY UPSET (ALMOST QUITE) BY RAMMING ATTEMPTS ON RIVER AS ERIC SPOONED WATER INBOARD. BACK TO MORLEYS & THEN ON TO TREE JUN 9TH AFTERNOON TRIP TO MAGPIE BOTTOM. BEAUTIFUL SUNNY AFT. ERIC HAD BAD SPILL AT SHART R. H. BEND ON THE HILL GOING UP FROM SHOREHAM ROAD. MARJORIE NOT AT ALL HURT (DID SHE JUMP OFF?) BUT ERIC HAD A TERRIFIC SWELLING AT HIS ANKLE FOR WEEKS AFTER & HAD TO GO TO DR. CLOUDS CAME UP AFTER WE'D SETTLED & WE JUST MANAGED TO GET HOME AS THE MOST AWFUL THUNDERSTORM BURST. RAINED FOR AGES.

10

6TH JULY. SID & VERA MARRIED. RAINED BEFORE WE WENT. RENE & I WENT BY BIKE TO TOM SMITHS & ON IN HIS CAR. JOLLY FINE WEDDING. VERA LOOKED "SUPER", SID CALM. STAYED TILL THEY LEFT THEN CAME HOME TO CATCH THE SHOPS. IT WAS AS I STOPPED AT THE GATE THAT MY GEAR BOX CRASHED. SHOULD HAVE ATTENDED TO IT BEFORE I SUPPOSE.

28TH JULY. WITH HARRY, SID, VERA, LEN, TO TOMBRIDGE. HAD 3 CANDLES FOR 5 HOURS ON RIVER. WENT LONG WAY UP PAST THE LOCK THROUGH LONG STRETCHES WHERE TREES HAD BEEN FELLED IN THE RIVER & WE HAD TO PUSH OUR WAY ALONG. HARRY BATHED IN HIS PANTS IN THE TORRENT CAUSED BY A NEW LOCK BUILT FAR UP RIVER. MANY BLOCKHOUSES BEING BUILT ALONG BANKS. BACK TO MORLEYS TO TEA & LATER UP TO TREE. SID & LEN TOOK THEIR BIKES UP THE FOOTPATH. PIGS GONE. AS IT WAS HARRY'S "FAREWELL" HE DROVE MY BIKE OUT FROM BLENDON WITH ME ON PILLION & VERY WELL SHE WENT TOO. HOME APT 8.

31ST TO SID'S IN EVENING TO SAY AU REVOIR TO HARRY WHO GOES TO POMPEY TOMORROW. REALLY JOLLY EVENING WITH LOTS OF LAUGHS.

4TH AUG. ETHEL & GEORGE MARRIED. SOME DO & NO MISTAKE.

11TH AUG. BY ROAD WITH RENE TO WHITTON TO SEE PEG & AUNTIE P. LOST IN KINGSTON GOING & IN HAMMERSMITH RDY COMING HOME, DID

59 MILES INSTEAD OF APT 30. ALL THE WAY FROM THE OVAL IN THE BLACK-OUT COMING HOME. NO JOKE. GLAD TO ARRIVE SAFELY THOUGH IT WASNT SO BAD FROM BLACKHEATH. AUNTIE P OVER AT OUR PLACE ALL THE FOLLOWING WEEK TILL THE FRIDAY. FIRST A.A. FIRE SEEN IN THE SKY ON THURSDAY 15TH DURING EVENING RAID. 18TH AUG. PEG OVER FOR WEEK END. WITH SID, VERA, LEM, PEG, RENE & SELF TO TONBRIDGE. HAD 2 CANOES. AT LUNCH TIME WHILE ABOVE LOCK HAD AIR RAID. WENT ASHORE INTO A PILL BOX. COUNTED 67 JERRY BOMBERS AT ONE TIME OVERHEAD IN FORMATION. OUR FIGHTERS UP. TRACER BULLETS & MACHINE GUN FIRE ALL ROUND. SAW SKY SIGN 9 OVER TONBRIDGE. STARTED FOR HOME WHEN THINGS WERE QUIET. & ALL CLEAR WENT AS WE ARRIVED BACK TO MORLEYS. HEARD THAT 10 OF OURS CRASHED BEHIND THERE & A JERRY FURTHER UP. SAW COTTAGE SMASHED UP AT DUNTON GREEN ON WAY HOME. STOPPED TO WATCH TRAFFIC APT 1 MILE TOWARDS ORPINGTON FROM POLL HILL ROUND-ABOUT HAD ANOTHER AIR RAID WARNING BUT SAW NOTHING, THANK GOODNESS. THEN HOME. PEG LEFT AT 9 PM & ARRIVED HOME OK. HEARD LATER.

6-9-40. TOOK RENE OUT SHOPPING THIS MORN AFTER HECTIC NIGHT IN SHELTER HEARD BOMBS DROP. HEAR THEY FELL AROUND CROOK LOG AREA. BAD BUSINESS.

7-9-40 START OF BLITZK. HUNDREDS OF BOMBERS OVER TO WOOLWICH. ABOUT 5 PM. SKY LIKE A TERRIBLE STORM WITH SMOKE ALL ALONG THE RIVER. HELL. FLATS AT END OF ROAD BLOWN UP DURING NIGHT.

9-9-40. BACK TO WORK. C.O. & ARSENAL BADLY HIT. D.A. BOMB IN ROAD AT SIDE & OUTSIDE C.I. GEN. OFFICE. ESTIMATORS & CANTEEN WRECKED. EVACUATED TO ROAM SCHOOL BLACKHEATH. WENT UP WITH COX & WORKED LIKE HECK CLEARING PLACE OF DESKS ETC. CAME HOME AT 5 PM TO FIND 2 HOUSES IN HEATHSIDE AVE BLOWN DOWN IN AFT.

14-9-40. 2 GALLS IN AT BLACKHEATH. SAT LUNCH TIME. 4 0

21-9-40. 12984 MILES. FITTED 2 NEW DUNLOP UNIVERSAL SPEED TYRES 3.0x19 FRONT 3.25x19 REAR 26/6 & 28/6. DONE 2 15 0 BETWEEN 6 PM + 7-30 AT WELLING TYRE SHOP WITH AN AIR RAID GOING ON OVERHEAD. GREAT DIFFICULTY IN GETTING FRONT WHEEL OFF AS I COULD NOT GET BRAKE CABLE FREE FROM ARM. ADJUSTMENT SEEMED GONE ON FRONT BRAKE WHEN I RE-ASSEMBLED. SID (J) ADVISED LOOSENING TOP ADJUSTER WHEN I SPOKE TO HIM ON MONDAY RE SAME. I DID THIS & BRAKE IS NOW O.K. FREED LOCK NUT WITH 1/2" SPANNER.

- 22-9-40 RENE & I WELL CLEANED BIKE ON SUNDAY. PUT ABT $\frac{3}{4}$ (TOTAL) OF HEINZ CREAM JAR FULL OF OIL IN PRIMARY CHAIN CASE & GEAR BOX TO TRY & STOP CLUTCH SQUEAK. WELL GREASED ALL NIPPLES ESPECIALLY FORK LINKS.
- 28-9-40. HAVE HAD TOTAL $2\frac{1}{2}$ GALLS IN SINCE LAST. BLACKHEATH $1\frac{1}{2}$ WELLING SID (J.) KINDLY GAVE ME A PRIVATE $\frac{1}{2}$ UNIT. FOR I HAD USED ALL MINE. WENT TO TOOLEYS BETWEEN 4 PM & 5 & BOUGHT NEW LAMP RIM $5\frac{1}{6}$ 10% = $6\frac{1}{2}$ " & DECENT NEW LAMP MASK 5/. GLAD TO SAY THE WHOLE LOT IS FITTED & SECURED BY RUBBER & SPRINGS. MASK IS NON RUSTING. RECEIVED LICENCE FOR NEXT QTR BACK TODAY, SENT FOR IT LAST MONDAY 23RD. WILL GET PETROL REQUEST OFF TOMORROW. TOPPED UP BATTERY WITH DISTILLED WATER THOUGH IT LOOKED NEARLY OK WEEK. ~~2~~ 175 MILES. 5 0
- 5-10-40. GALLON IN ON SAT. ALSO ABT $\frac{1}{2}$ GALL FROM STOCK. TOWED HOME BSA EMP. STAR 250 TO ERITH IN AFT FROM DANSON LIGHTS. WEEK 154 MILES. 2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
- 7-10-40 QUART CASTROL X.L. AT BLACKHEATH. 13319 MILES ON SPEEDO. 2 2
- 9-10-40 BIRTHDAY. $\frac{1}{2}$ DAY LEAVE WITH RENE TO REGAL. (WESTERNER)
- 12-10-40 RAN OUT OF JUICE AT BOTTOM OF SHOOTERS HILL. ALF HOLTON TOWED ME TO BLACKHEATH VILLAGE. TANK EMPTY. 13449 MILES ON

- SPEEDO. 2 GALLS IN. 4 1.
- 19-10-40. TANK EMPTY SPEEDO 13630. 1 GALL IN AT BLACKHEATH... STILL DOING 90 PER GAL. 1 GALL FROM STOCK 2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
- 20-10-40. PUT IN ON SUNDAY
- RE-WRITTEN 7-1-41 COVERING INTERVENING PERIOD.
- BIKE RAN WORSE & WORSE DUE PROBABLY TO OVERLOADING TILL ONE MORNING IT REFUSED TO START AT ALL. I HAD HEAD OFF & DECORATED THAT. ERNST DREDGE TOWED ME ROUND THE STREETS BUT SHE WOULD NOT FIRE. EVENTUALLY I PUSHED IT INTO WOODWICH BUT COULD GET NO GARAGE TO ATTEND TO IT. LEFT BIKE AT J. CAMBELLS, COLLECTED IT IN POURING RAIN ON SUNDAY MORNING. TOOK ME OVER AN HOUR TO GET HER HOME UP THE HILL. J. C. SAID TROUBLE WAS OBSCURE BUT THOUGHT COMPRESSION HAD GONE. HE SOLD ME 2 NEW RINGS & TOOK 2/6 FOR HIS ADVICE. SET TO WORK IN AFT. FITTED NEW RINGS. I JAMMED & BROKE IN COMING OUT, & I FILED TOO MUCH OFF THE OTHER. RENE WENT DOWN ON MONDAY AFT. (JUST AS GERRY BOMBED THAT CORNER NEAR SQUEAK) & BOUGHT ANOTHER RING. FITTED THIS & BIKE RAN AGAIN. NOT TOO WELL THOUGH & IT LACKED POWER. ALSO SQUEAK GOT WORSE 18-12-40. WED. DECIDED TO GET TOOLEY TO FIX IT. WENT 5 0
- 1 3

BUT MECHANIC SAID I COULDN'T GET IT BEFORE SAT. HE ADVISED ME TO TRY. SOLD ME A NEW THRUST RACE. I ALSO BOUGHT 2 NEW RINGS & A 1st WASHER TO GO UNDER THE POT. 21-12-40. CAME HOME SAT AFT & SET TO WORK TO GET ALL THE GEAR DOWN. COULDN'T GET FLYWHEEL OR DYNAMO PULLEY OFF. SO REMOVED HEAD & POT, & DECORED THEM ALSO DID PISTON & RINGS. PUT CARB NEEDLE BACK IN MIDDLE SLOT. NEXT DAY LEM CAME OVER ABT. 11AM. BEFORE THEN I HAD FITTED THE NEW RINGS & WASHER & PUT POT ON AGAIN & HAD REPLACED HEAD. DYNO. PULLEY COMES OFF WITH A TAP ON END OF SPINDLE. FLYWHEEL IS DRAWN OFF BY TIGHTENING SECURING BOLTS. PRIMARY CHAIN COMES AWAY WITH CHAIN CASE. WE FOUND RACE DEEPLY GROOVED & BALLS LOOSE IN CAGE. NO WONDER IT SQUEAKED. ERIC CAME UP & TALKED OF THE TRIP HOME AT XMAS. THE WHOLE JOB WAS COMPLETE BY 5PM. COMPRESSION WAS EXCELLENT & FINE AFTER ALL THE ROTTEN COMP I'VE HAD. NO NOISE AT ALL FROM CLUTCH. RENE & I WENT TO WORK ON IT TO HALSTEAD FOR 2 DAYS BEFORE GOING HOME ON XMAS DAY TO RUN IT IN. 1. BORROWED SID JAMES HOT PLUG. AWAY AT 8-30 ON XMAS DAY

6 10

2 6

ARRIVED SOTON 12-25. EXCELLENT TRIP THOUGH COLD. SNOW IN PLACES. MADE 1 HALT AT NEWLANDS CRN. FOR SANDS & HOT MILK. LEFT BIKES AT KEMS & WENT TO PIER BY CAR. SOTON A BURNED OUT RUIN A TERRIBLE SIGHT HOME AT 5. TAKEN UP IN CAR BY VIC.

AN EXCELLENT BUT TOO SHORT SPELL. BACK ON FRIDAY MORNING HAD GOOD RUN HOME. IN ALL ABT 205 MILES. BIKE RAN BEAUTIFULLY ALL THE WHILE. VERY STEADY & CLUTCH & GEAR CHANGE FINE. LETS HOPE I'VE HAD MY SHARE OF "HARD" WITH IT.

28/3/42. DECOR. NEW RINGS. MILAGE. 16643.

NEW INSURANCE YEAR £2-8-6 + 6/- MEMBERSHIP 2 14 6.

SEE NEW LOG.

5/11/42. DECOR. NEW RINGS. MILAGE 18219

18219
16643
1576