

OCTOBER 1945.

This, Dear Friends, is No. 19 sheet one and last. Pause, for weeping !

Not the war, but Peace, has finally defeated us.

Strange as it may seem, we have experienced far greater difficulties in producing the E.G. as the war approached its end, than we did at its inception in the sombre years of the war's beginning. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (Sorry, folks.)

We finally went down for the count when 'Bert Martin wrote in to say that because of circumstances arising far beyond his control, he would no longer be able to print the E.G. for us. We toyed with the idea of duplicating again as we did with the first numbers, if you remember, but unfortunately, our military duties (now devoted almost solely to the cause of the Release Scheme !) do not leave us with sufficient time and opportunity for that long and tedious job, even if we could scrounge sufficient paper it. So, pals all, the old E.G. has 'had it' for the time being. When you are all home again, and the times and prevailing conditions allow, we hope to resume production again, - not as an Exiles Gazette, but as a real pukka Club Mag.

At the moment we can only give you a very sketchy outline of the activities of the membership during the past 3 months.

We are extremely happy to tell you that most of the news is of returning Exiles. David Cross was our 'first' 'repat' as noted in our last number. Ken Tomlin is No. 2. After his years as a POW Ken is more than happy in being able to get out up the road again with Alfreton Sec. as in the old days. No. 3 to return is another Club veteran - Jim Cole. No doubt Jim is as equally pleased to see the green fields of Old England again. We welcome you too James to the old roads you knew so well. We shall be looking for the tandem up the road. No. 4 is George Clapton. At the time of writing we havnt seen George, but we understand he is still as keen on the game as ever he was which is saying summat. Drop us a line George and let us know how you are getting on now you are home. Returnee No. 5 is Matt Martin, home from the fires of the B.L.A. - sorry - the B.A.O.R. Welcome home to you Matt. we are looking forward to seeing you again.

Raymond Cross isnt home yet, but he has high hopes of making it for Xmas. Good Luck to you anyway Ray. We shall be delighted to see your big smile lighting up the room at the next annual dinner, -- hope you make the date.

Sgt. John Inkpen sends us a cheery word from S.E.A.C. Thanks John. Now the Japs have packed it in we hope it wont be long before you too are hitting the homeward trail.

If ever you do get up to Derby again we shall be mighty glad to see you once again. Jack Wain is still in India, about 400 miles N.E. of Bombay, and not having too bad a time. Thanks for your chatty letters Jack, even if the old E.G. has become temporarily defunct we shall still look forward to your letters.

In this single page effort we havnt space to mention every correspondent by name but Eric Atkin certainly claims a line, 'cos he has discovered a new and highly efficient method of recruiting for the Club, - he marries 'em. Congratulations Eric, from all of us. We are looking forward with interest to the advent of the tandem - or new single. The last letter on the file is from Frank Potter, from East Africa. Frank is well and as happy as circumstances permit. We are always interested to hear from such 'Furrin' parts as have fallen to your lot Frank. Please keep us posted as to your adventures.

The general news of the Club is " Good ". All Sections are lively and enthusiastic, and are carrying out regular and interesting programmes of runs. More members than in previous years have been able to indulge in long distance touring during the Summer. The past season has been one of the most successful for several years, and judging by the preliminary announcements the winter session will be a top liner too, with a full agenda of social events and winter riding activities. So hurry up you Exiles still out there and lets be all enjoying the game together again. When all our Exiles have returned, and that happy time cant be far off now, we shall be a proud and happy family of members, with a wartime record ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ of second to none, and a future promising many hours of content and pleasyre to us all.

Sorry this effort is such a poor one this time folks, but.....

We would like to say "Thankyou" to all who have contributed to or have helped in any way at all to the past success of the E.G. We may be seeing you all again before the end of the year, so thanks again and Au-revoir.

Keep Smiling and may all your rides be happy ones.

G.S.F.