Dear Readers

This has been a year to remember, or perhaps forget, and yet vintage life goes on. This summer revivalists and hipsters pushed the limits of possibility and made the unexpected happen. Outdoor cinemas showing classic movies, club rides, beach races, hill-climbs, drag racing, rambling and lone performances of style in Instagram. And, although much of this activity was done in private, Men's File was there to record the action and the elegance.

What we have missed and what we look forward to

In this issue we welcome Daniel Månsson back to the pages of this publication with a high-powered series of action images taken (on analogue film) at the Barona dragstrip, located between the coast and the mountains of Southern California. The intense colours, heat and latent power of these images reminds us of how lucky we have been in the pre-Covid era and how much we have to look forward to when this is all over! At the opposite end of the world we find a new story from that quintessential English photographer, Hanson Leatherby. For Mr Leatherby there is only one way to do things and that's the right way and rambling across the countryside of southern Britain is no different. Following in the footsteps of walkers of the past he creates a fascinating record of what it is like to walk free and unhindered across the open fields with immense elegance and a level of sartorial detail amongst his companions seldom seen today (in town or country!). Next summer we at Men's File hope to do the same.



Cover Photograph:

Jamie Delaney: Vintage dealer, collector and musician wears vintage Lewis Leathers Motorway boots from Blighty Militaria. Photography: Nick Clements

A Summer of Petrol Fuelled Noise and Futuristic Electric Silence

Even with the restrictions to our liberty, many events took place with the VHRA's GOW! Climbing hills, Malle London racing miles and Olivier le Quellec's Elektrafuture blasting into silent action. The diversity of styles and techniques continues to grow and although mid-century aesthetics still remain in a plethora of scenes, these are being mixed with technical fashions – that provide both great looks and practicality. Just scan the first pages of this issue and you will find an impressive selection of items of this type all 'Made in Japan, Sold in Europe'.

Men's File is Keeping Time for Once

In the past decade we have never featured vintage or antique watches, simply because we didn't have the expertise or access to the collectors who might supply us with watches to scrutinise. However, in this issue we have two, quite different, sections on cherished timepieces and we hope to do more in the future. Like everything in the realm of collectables, watches have rocketed in value and although this time we've gone expensive, in the next issue we hope to review something a little more affordable.

Please Sign-up to our Website

Like so much in the world of vintage-style, Men's File is run by a few individuals as a labour of love. Likewise, our website is being slowly, but lovingly, developed. There are already great products and editorial stories to read at the time of going to press, however, by Jan 2021 there will be a lot more to see in terms of photography and videos. We also have a podcast! Please go to the site and sign-up for our newsletter to get updates on features, events and exclusive products.

Nick Clements (Editor-in-Chief)

www.mensfile.com

Masthead

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Elektrafuture (Saint-Tropez)

Photography: Fabio Affuso

It's a hackneyed cliché but here on the Cote d'Azur the old guard and new technology came together. That doesn't mean there were no youngsters - there were - but it was interesting to see a hardcore of gas-heads experiencing the future of two-wheeled transport. Some were impressed and some not. That's normal, but good times were had by all and we can speculate that this gave everyone concerned a lot to think about. Both Harley-Davidson and the newly formed Curtiss (previously Confederate Motorcycles) are pushing the limits with electric power and it's only a question of time until custom builders get on this train - and that's going to be interesting. Elektrafuture markets an amazing ultralightweight off-road all-electric machine

Sweden called the Cake. Being forward thinking the brand has developed a standard off-road circuit that can be installed very simply anywhere to allow the potential for an international race series. And this event was a fun-filled dress-rehearsal in the picturesque Place des Lices in the heart of the old town.

Organised by Olivier Le Quellec (right) with help from Vincent Pratt, the boules players were moved for the weekend and the

bulldozers moved in. The result was a thrack that might be described as 'urbancross' designed specifically for the Cake.

Olivier Le Quellec and the Cake

Hot young riders and some almost as hot older jockeys came from far and wide to compete and soak-up the vibes. After the races was a gas-fuelled ride out!

www.elektrafuture.com ridecake.com



