

TURBO'S TALES 13 Day 26 (A bit of politics)

I have been listening to the Guvnor in the biggest bate I have seen him have for some time. It has all stemmed from a letter seen in the Salisbury Journal of 16 April that sent his equilibrium spiralling out of normal control and when his wife asked him what had wound him up so unusually, he replied and I listened and made notes. In summary:

- The letter from Trowbridge was unbalanced, super-critical and libellous – and, horrors, contained exclamation marks!
- The Salisbury Journal should never have printed it but, now that it is in the public domain, it should not go unchallenged. After all, the Salisbury Journal has a circulation of some 22,000 and a readership of about 60,000. Many of them will have read Mr Milory's diatribe but in Salisbury, and even in the wider Wiltshire, we hope not many will have agreed.
- That said, we live in a democracy which means, among other things, freedom of speech.
- It doesn't, however, mean sedition.

See what you think.

INEVITABLE PM WOULD GET ILL

That Boris Johnson would catch Coronavirus was entirely predictable. His sense of entitlement made him feel invulnerable, an attitude stemming from Eton, the Bullingdon Club, et, etc. His risky lifestyle, the long string of affairs, infidelities and broken marriages are testament to this. Even as Foreign Secretary, he jetted off to a Russian party in Italy, leaving behind his police protection team. His numerous Russian friends meant he was seen as a potential security risk. Johnson finally encountered something not impressed with entitlement, which did not see him as invulnerable, merely as a juicy host. The coronavirus!

No other G7 leaders have been infected, every other leader was responsible enough to follow their own guidance on social distancing. But Johnson boasted of shaking hands with Coronavirus victims in hospital! Even worse, he then carried that infection into the heart of government. Key people were infected and incapacitated, creating a serious void at Westminster. His recklessness even extended to his heavily pregnant fiancée who ended up with symptoms of the virus.

The remarkably inexperienced cabinet is now reputedly controlled by Dominic Raab with little experience of the major offices of state; who did not even realise the Dover-Calais link was important. It is this inexperienced government which has mismanaged the critical shortage of personal protection equipment (PPE) for key NHS workers leading to avoidable deaths, the remarkable lack of coronavirus testing compared with other countries, preventing the targeting of resources and therefore resulting in further unnecessary deaths.

Then we come to the lack of ventilators. The Government is desperately searching for new suppliers, but strangely, when Johnson became ill, due to his own irresponsible behaviour, a ventilator somehow became available for him!

Boris Johnson was “entitled” to the use of a ventilator, yet many other victims of the virus may well be denied such equipment because of the inadequacies of Johnson’s government.

PETE MILORY
Trowbridge

PM’S ILLNESS NOT INEVITABLE AT ALL

I was saddened, dispirited and infuriated in equal measure by Mr Milory’s bitter, personal attack on the Prime Minister and the Government over their behaviour and handling of this crisis. His whole thesis was based on criticism, no doubt from his comfortable armchair, without a single constructive comment to mitigate the condemnation he hurled out. I was appalled that he mocked a PM who almost died in the service of his country.

I doubt that Mr Milory is in government, and I am certainly not, but we are lucky to have an elected PM who leads a Cabinet considerably more experienced than any other this country can produce at this time. Their handling of the crisis so far has been clear, robust and responsible supported by some highly qualified and brilliantly competent advisers who will be studying other countries’ successes and failings carefully. Naturally, they will be listening to the criticisms of a democratic public and even considering procedures for the future – such as perhaps surrounding the PM, and others on whom we rely, with a bespoke medical team as happens in many of the other G7 states.

When we are all out on our pavements on Thursday applauding ALL key workers, I will certainly be including the PM and our Government who, like so many others, are working so hard doing the best they can in unprecedented circumstances.

DAVID SHAW
Codford St Mary

I’ll let you know if any more comes of this. T x