

THE WEARING OF THE MASK

A tentative user's guide



Once upon a time we moved around – yes you're guessing right - without face masks. Free like birds we travelled around, visited foreign countries and didn't bother about borders or oceans. We didn't even know about the existence of the word "quarantine". Occasionally we would use an improvised face covering. But only after the first blisters appeared on the lips.

But the times have changed. And not for the better. Everybody has to wear now a face mask. Even my velomobile has one.





Wearing a face mask can – depending on your activity – pose tremendous problems. The quality of sound of a French horn for instance is impaired considerably by a face mask. Cutting a hole in the mask might seem to be the obvious solution. But this is definitely against the rules, as it prevents the mask to perform its intended function.



A revolutionary new mask has been developed by one of the most famous harmonica players in the northern atmosphere. It seems that hitting the right hole – pardon, the right tone - is greatly facilitated. C'est le ton qui fait la musique.

As usual people tend to focus mainly on the negative aspects. But there are also positive sides in wearing a face mask. For instance, cycling activities below freezing point tend to be much more enjoyable with a properly fitted face mask.



One of the best products available is the FFM. Yes, the Full Face Mask as presented below by my grandson Raphael. It offers superior protection although a little bit at the cost of a clear view.





In spite of the obvious advantages of face masks, some people have tremendous difficulties with the concept of wearing a face mask. In some way I can understand these Covid critics. I think not everybody must wear a face mask.