

#### The newsletter of the Essex Crusaders, Centre 19, Virago Star Owners Club.

#### February 2009 Issue 158

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# Rep's Rambling.

#### Happy New Year to you all.

The AGM was held at the Bell Inn, Woodham Ferrers on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January, thanks to all those who attended. Thanks for voting me in for another year as your representative, I must be doing something right!

The minutes of the AGM are included in this issue of Seax

This is the time of year when we start to look forward to riding our bikes again, and making plans for the forthcoming riding season. We have a varied list of events and ride-outs, a copy of which is in with this Seax. I hope there is something to please everyone, most are tried and tested favourites but if you find something of interest at a later date, we can always make adjustments to accommodate any suggestions you may have.

The day trip to France will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> June. The price I have been quoted for a group booking is £22.00 for bike, rider and pillion. This price is valid only until the 16<sup>th</sup> February so a deposit of £10 is required to secure a place at this price as per Euro-tunnels booking conditions. The balance must be paid by the 5<sup>th</sup> April. If you are interested, please contact me as soon as possible.

I know it is early in the year but I would ask that if you are going to attend any rallies this year that you book your tickets as soon as possible. Having held a rally ourselves last year we know how important it is to the rally organisers to have some idea of numbers expected.

Centre 19 has been asked to meet the Danes and Swedes at Harwich and escort them to the International Rally site in Southampton. We do not have details of dates or times yet, but if you can help please let me know.

Please note that membership renewals are due by the 31<sup>st</sup> March. Renewal form is attachment to this SEAX.

I hope that you have taken the time to read Kevin Hoyte's "discussion document" that was sent out with the December issue of Seax regarding the future of the VSOC.

This matter was discussed at our AGM and it is clear that most members have strong views on the subject. It is important that you send an e-mail to Malcolm Bland at <a href="mailto:secretary@vsoc.org.uk">secretary@vsoc.org.uk</a>. expressing your views. You can write to him at Malcolm Bland, P O Box 188, Cleckheaton, BD19 9AA.

The VSOC committee want to know the opinions of individual members as this is such an important issue that it cannot be dealt with at Centre level.

Please do take the time to pass on your views to Malcolm by the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Now for some fun stuff.

Is anyone interested in a couple of social evenings in March at the Runwell Sports and Social Club?

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March they have ABBA re-BJORN - should be good to sing along to. £5 entry and basket meals available.

Friday 27th March - a Quiz night. Teams of up to 8 people.

If you would like to join in with either evening please let me know as soon as possible.

I would like to start a "Tried and Tested" page in Seax.

The idea is that if you know of a company or service that you have used and would be happy to recommend, then please let me know so that we can make this information available to all members via the Seax. This could be a shop, a good mechanic, tyre fitter, insurance company etc.. It can even be a café that serves a good breakfast or a pub that does good food.

The aim is to build up a list of reliable companies and services in Essex.

Looking forward to some warm sunny riding weather.

John

## **ESSEX CRUSADERS AGM 2009**

# MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY AT THE BELL INN, WOODHAM FERRERS

#### **Opening**

The meeting was opened by centre rep. John Evans at 8.10 pm and attended by 30 people.

Apologies were received from David Moore, Sue Haynes, Cheryl Myhill, Fred, Kevin Ward and Jim Truscott.

Peter Gauntlett was congratulated on his appointment as Vice Chairman of the V.S.O.C.

#### Club Officers

John Evans agreed to continue as centre Representative and as there were no other nominations, he was voted in by the attending members.

Peter Gauntlett agreed to continue as deputy rep (north) and was voted in.

Sue Haynes did not attend and does not wish to continue as deputy rep (South). John thanked her for all the hard work she had done in helping to raise funds for the club. There were no nominations to take over this post and it remains vacant. Carol Evans (treasurer), Alan Ferry (Seax editor), and Claire Gauntlett (webmaster) all agreed to continue in their posts and were voted in by the attending members.

#### Accounts

The club accounts for 2008 were presented by the treasurer, Carol Evans. The club made a profit of £473.78 resulting in a balance of £1534.09 at the end of the year.

#### <u>Merchandise</u>

Members were asked what merchandise they would like to see for 2009. Several of those present requested embroidered polo shirts or t-shirts. It was agreed that we should obtain some samples to be approved by the members. Gary Daisley has kindly offered to do the art work for 2009 merchandise.

#### 2008 Events

Peter Gauntlett went through an extensive list of ride-outs, rallies and events attended in 2008. As usual it reminded us all of some very good week-ends and some bad ones!!!!!

#### 2009 Events and Ride-outs

John Evans presented a proposed ride-out list for 2009. This was generally agreed upon , with a change to some dates to accommodate requests from some members.

Break - sandwiches, etc were provided.

#### **Kevin Hoyte Discussion Document**

The proposals put forward for future changes to the VSOC constitution were discussed. All those present were urged to put their views forward in writing or by e-mail to Malcolm Bland or Janet Butterworth by the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

#### Associate members

John Evans proposed that the fee should be increased to £17.50 putting it in line with the standard VSOC membership fee. This was voted against as most of those present wished the fee to remain at £15.00 per year.

#### **Any Other Business**

#### 1) Use of Club Funds

Members were asked for suggestions on how to spend some of the club funds in ways which would benefit our club and its members. Ideas put forward were, a trophy to be awarded to the crusader of the year, and a ground anchor for our sail banner.

#### 2) Christmas Dinner

It was agreed that as the Christmas dinner 2008 at Runwell Sports and Social Club was a great success, the club will use the same venue for 2009. A provisional booking will be made for 19<sup>th</sup> December 2009

#### 3) VSOC Membership

Members present were asked to provide up to date information on their membership renewal form so that Malcolm Bland is kept informed of any changes. i.e. make of bike.

#### 4) <u>SEAX</u>

Peter Gauntlett expressed his concern over the lack of articles submitted to Seax and Clatter by members of centre 19.

#### 5) Eastern Cruisers

Peter informed us that Tim no longer works at Eastern Cruisers.

#### 6)International Rally

The International Rally is being held in Southampton from 12<sup>th</sup> June to 14<sup>th</sup> June. Centre 19 has been asked to meet Danish and Swedish club members at Harwich and escort them to the rally site.

The meeting closed at 10.30 pm.

# Celebrating Christmas Centre 19 Style

Good venue, good food, good service company – that's what you expect at 19 Annual Christmas Dinner and we disappointed this year. About 70+ of us Runwell Sports and Social Club where seated in groups of about ten on round was wine flowing and plenty of chatter. The food was served quickly and tasty. There was the customary nearly everyone won something from a nutcracker to a flying helicopter!



and good the Centre were not gathered at we were tables. There animated and was hot 'raffle' where squirrel

It was a chance to meet with friends old and new and catch up on what happens when we are not out on our bikes. Stories of holidays in the sun, decorating, building extensions, doing things with grandchildren, new jobs and plans for 2009. Then there was the disco to dance the night away to.

Everyone seemed to have a great night.



Thanks once again to John and Carole for a splendid evening.

# Happy 60th Birthday

I would like to thank all my friends from Centre 19 who turned out on a very cold and frosty evening to celebrate my 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The whole thing was a total to surprise to me and I would especially like to thank Alan for helping Susan to arrange it and keep it secret. Of course Jane excelled herself with an amazing buffet, which I hope you all enjoyed and the cake was something special. I was overwhelmed by the presentation of the gift certificate for my bike service which has now been carried out. I have to say the Ultra Glide is now running like a dream and I am looking forward to seeing you all again soon when the new ride out programme for 2009 begins. Many thanks once again for all your kind thoughts and good wishes.

Regards Roger



V.S.O.C. C19, ESSEX CRUSADERS RIDEOUTS AND EVENTS 2009		
	APRIL.	
3	FRIDAY-SUNDAY 5	C6 JUMPSTART PARTY, GOLBORNE, WA3 3HG nr. WARRINGTON
5	SUNDAY	WHITSTABLE EASTER EGG RUN, T.B.C.
	SUNDAY	LOG CABIN, ABRIDGE
		ACE CAFE, SOUTHEND SHAKEDOWN
	SUNDAY	LUNCH, THE ANCHOR PUB, STRATFORD St. MARY
	FRIDAY-SUNDAY26	VSCN SOUTHERN SNAKES, KONINGSBOSCH, HOLLAND.
26	SUNDAY	INPROMTU
	MAY.	
1	FRIDAY-MONDAY 4	V.S.O.C C2 IRELAND RALLY, BALLYMENA, BT43 7SX
8	FRIDAY-SUNDAY 10	WORLDS END MCC, WEAK END RALLY, STEEPLE
10	SUNDAY	WALTON ON THE NAZE.
16	SATURDAY-SUNDAY 17	B.M.F. SHOW, EAST OF ENGLAND SHOW GROUND, PETERBOUOGH.
17	SUNDAY	MANNINGTREE HIGH SCHOOL, VEHICLE SHOW.
00	EDIDAY CUNDAY 04	B.D.V.S. 2 BELGUIM RALLY, St.JOSEF 56, RIJKEVORSEL 2310,
	FRIDAY-SUNDAY 24	BELGIUM.
	SUNDAY	INPROMTU
	SATURDAY-SUNDAY 31	B.M.F. GARDEN OF ENGLAND MOTORCYCLE SHOW, DETLING, KENT.
31	SUNDAY	BARTON MILLS, SUFFOLK
7	JUNE.	AGE CAFE LONDON MOTOROVOLE MUCEAM OREENEORD, AAO
7	SUNDAY	ACE CAFE, LONDON MOTORCYCLE MUSEAM, GREENFORD, A40
	FRIDAY-SUNDAY 14	V.S.O.C. INTERNATIONAL RALLY, EASTLEIGH, HANT'S, SO50 7SX
	SUNDAY	DAY TRIP TO FRANCE
26		VSOC C8 MIDLAND MEYHEM 4, BROMSGROVE B60 4AL
_	JULY.	DATTI FORRIDOF MOTOROVOLE OLIOM
5	SUNDAY	BATTLESBRIDGE MOTORCYCLE SHOW.
	SUNDAY	BAR-B-CRUISE, CUDMORE GROVE COUNTRY PARK, MERSEA ISLAND.
	FRIDAY-SUNDAY19	YORKIES WEDDING PARTY, DONCASTER RUGBY CLUB, DN2 5QB
19	SUNDAY	INPROMTU
24		V.S.O.C. C14 REJECTS SUMMER BALL, ESHER RUGBY CLUB, KT12 3PF
31	FRIDAY-SUNDAY 2	SCRUMPIES PARTY, BANWELL, SOMERSET, BS29 6DL.
•	AUGUST.	COMPORT CAFE LITTLE ARINGTON. FINGUINGFIELD
2	SUNDAY	COMFORT CAFE, LITTLE ABINGTON, - FINCHINGFIELD
9	SUNDAY	YARMOUTH- ORANGE COUNTY CHOPPERS.
16	SUNDAY	CHISELHURST CAVES, BROMLEY
23	SUNDAY	SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK
28	FRIDAY-MONDAY 31	V.S.O.C. C6, RALLY, BARNOLDSWICK, LANC'S.
•	SEPTEMBER.	COVENT CARREN LONDON
6	SUNDAY	COVENT GARDEN, LONDON
11	FRIDAY-SUNDAY 13	V.S.C.N. DUTCH NATIONAL RALLY, REEUWIJK, nr. GOUDA
13	SUNDAY	A.C.E CAFE TO BRIGHTON
19	SATURDAY-SUNDAY 20	B.M.F. TAIL-END, PETERBOROUGH
20	SUNDAY	BOXHILL AND NEWLANDS CORNER.
27	SUNDAY	OAKDENE CAFE, WROTHAM.
	OCTOBER.	
4	SUNDAY	COPDOCK BIKE SHOW, SUFFOLK SHOW GROUND, IPSWICH
11	SUNDAY	BRIGHTONA, CUSTOM BIKE SHOW, BRIGHTON.
	NOVEMBER/DECEMBER	MOTORDIKE CHOW N.E.C. DIRMINICHAM

27 FRIDAY-SUNDAY 6 MOTORBIKE SHOW, N.E.C. BIRMINGHAM

# Centre 19 meeting's dates:

### **February**

#### North meeting.

8 pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009.

The Anchor, Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary, CO7 6LW. West of A12, North of Colchester

#### South meeting.

8pm Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

The Bell Inn, Main Road, Woodham Ferrers, CM3 8RF.

On the B1418 between Bicknacre and South Woodham.

# **March**

#### North meeting.

8 pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009.

The Anchor, Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary, CO7 6LW. West of A12, North of Colchester

#### South meeting.

8pm Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

The Bell Inn, Main Road, Woodham Ferrers, CM3 8RF.

On the B1418 between Bicknacre and South Woodham