

SEAX

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

June 2011 Issue 186

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COPY DATE FOR NEXT SEAX is MONDAY 27th July.

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<http://www.essex-crusaders.org.uk>

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<http://www.vsoc.org.uk>

Rep's Rambling:

Firstly I must apologise for the SEAX not coming out on time over the last six weeks. Unfortunately, I have one or two health problems at the moment, and not feeling too good some of the time. I have been in hospital a couple of times, and not much improvement, it is just a nightmare dealing with the NHS. Hopefully things will get sorted out in the very near future.

As some of you have noticed I have not been on any rideouts since April due to my health problems, my thanks go to Trevor as he volunteered to lead some of the rideouts, he enjoys it really!!

The French trip, July 3, is still on and I will be sending out the details quite soon.

ESSEX CRUSADERS CHRISTMAS MEAL

21st JANUARY 2012

The Holiday Inn Hotel, Eight Ash Green, Colchester. CO63QL

3 course meal £18.95 per person (was £24.95) and this includes a disco supplied by the hotel.

A double room with breakfast £59 either a double or a twin bedded room.

A 20% discount on the cost of drinks on the night has been agreed.

The function room can cater for 95 people comfortably and 100 at a push.

The hotel requires a £10 deposit per person payable by the end of July 2011.

names and deposits will be collated by Peter Gauntlett.

I feel that the hotel has bent over backwards to cater for our needs so lets make it a fun night in decent surroundings and there will not be any black cobwebs in the chandeliers this time.

Look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible

Please could you get your names and deposits in ASAP as the hotel needs numbers.

Hope to see you soon

John

Deputy Rep (North):

C19 North meeting 9th May 2011.

Not so many this time at the meeting but we shared it with the MG club due to our meeting being a week late, so the pub was full.

The 'season' is now well under way and people are beginning to venture out on their bikes,

I mentioned the Christmas meal which seemed to be well received by those that were at the meeting, just needs the deposits to be paid so I hope I don't have to keep reminding!!

Due to Sea France reducing, yes reducing their ferry prices for the crossing and return on the 13th and 15th May (Belgian rally) now £7.50 each way it has attracted several others making the trip from the UK including Kevin and Emma from C19, look forward to that.

I know Kevin and Emma won't mind me saying it but they have got engaged, so best wishes to them for a long and happy future together.



I visited the Youth Camp at East Mersea to investigate the possibility of using it as a rally site for 2012, it is an expensive site to hire but has all the facilities as those that have been there previously will vouch for, the hire price certainly makes it a non-starter and I told them we couldn't afford it, they have not dismissed us out of hand because if they have not got an event on the week end we want it their attitude is that something is better than nothing so maybe we can get it at a

reduced rate, we will see. Several other sites are being looked at so it seems there are a few options.

Before we know it Bomber Bash will be over and the International in Denmark will be upon us, let's hope the weather holds up !!

I have said it before but will say it again, I do hope we see some of our 'sleeping' members at a meeting or an event this year, you may get more out of our club then you thought you would.

The Holiday Inn has now been booked for C19 Christmas meal on the 21st January 2012, any booking of rooms must be done by the individuals concerned, there are 109 rooms so there should be enough to go round.

Telephone Fiona on 01206 363471 to make your booking and mention the Virago Star Owners Club.

In the meantime I just need your deposits of £10 per person by the end of July. Balance payable by the end of December 2011, or full amount now if you feel flush!

Ta ta for now

Peter

Belgian Dutch Virago Club rally May 2011

It seemed that about 32 Brits intended making the trip to Zandvliet, just North of Antwerp so not too far to travel.

I arranged to meet Len C20, Roger and Julie (the Pinkies C10) Rodders C10 and Kevin and Emma C19 at a petrol station on the A12 so that was a nice little possee from the North of the county, we called in at Thurrock and picked up Jan from C13 and made our way to Dover via the M2/A2, what a pleasant way to go with the sun coming over the horizon.

Having got there in plenty of time Sea France decided to cancel the ferry so we had to wait another 2 hours for the next one hmmm. Could have stayed in bed another 2 hours! By this time Kevin, Sally Rosie and Andre had joined the group. The journey on the other side was uneventful and we got there with NO de tours, the weather was bright and sunny.



I had a bonus when I got to the site as my tent was erected for me, thanks guys, Friday night was 'party night' when it is OK to get seriously pissed and have a good time, photos on the C19 website will justify that! The food was good, the band was excellent and a good time was had by all, what more could anyone want Saturday was warm and breezy and after a hearty breakfast of bacon, eggs and toast washed down with fresh orange it was time for the ride out.

I had Jan as passenger on the ride out so she was able to take a lot of photos from the back of the bike, I have to say that the rideout was probably one of the most pleasant that I have ever done (and I have done a few) it took us on no major roads and mostly on country lanes alongside dykes, fields and countryside and at one point over a dam, that was a bit windy. By the time we got to our destination we had covered 37 miles and my feet didn't touch the floor once, let's see if we can do that in the UK on side roads !!, after a nice lunch of savoury pancakes, apple strudel, cream and ice cream it was time to ride back, again, no major roads. I gave my camera to Emma on the way back so she kindly took some pics. for me. Thanks Emma.

It was good to see Fred and Annie who turned up for a couple of hours on Saturday PM.



The mood was as normal, a bit subdued on the Saturday night and alcohol consumption was restricted, I think, although early on the Sunday morning whilst having an early morning cuppa I was surprised to see Peter Lucas who advised me that he hadn't been to bed, a swift run to his tent amongst the rain drops then produced another bottle of Jamesons and that was 7am Lucky he only had a short distance to get home.

We then packed up in between the rain showers and left at 11am for the journey to Calais, by then the rain had stopped so it was a dry journey marred only by a small detour in to Gent.

It was a very nice week end with good food, good company and mainly good weather so look forward to next time.

Mr K

JUNE RIDEOUTS AND EVENTS

SUNDAY 11TH

SILVER BALL CAFÉ, A10, LONDON ROAD, REED, ROYSTON, SG8 8BD

Depart Marks Tey 09-30 for Boreham services, depart Boreham services 10-00, scenic ride to the Silverball Café

SUNDAY 19TH

MANNINGTREE VEHICLE SHOW, COLCHESTER ROAD, LAWFORD, CO11 2BW.

Depart Boreham services 10-00 for Langham services, A12, north of Colchester, depart Langham services 10-45 for Manningtree.

FRIDAY 24TH

C10, FEN FROLICKS 3, ETERNIT SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB, MELDRETH, HERTS. SG8 5RL

Depart Boreham services 11-30am for rest area on the A120 between Dunmow and Takeley, depart the rest area 12-15 for the rally.

This is the nearest rally to C19 this year, hopefully C19 members will support it with a good turn out as you have in previous years, look forward to seeing everyone for a great weekend.

For more information contact your reps
Please have sufficient fuel for rideouts so we can keep fuel stops to a minimum

Centre 19 meeting's dates:

June

North meeting.

8 pm Monday 6th June 2011.

The Anchor, Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary, CO7 6LW.

West of A12, North of Colchester

South meeting.

8pm Monday 20th June 2011.

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

On the B1418 between Bicknacre and South Woodham.

July

North meeting.

8 pm Monday 4th July 2011.

The Anchor, Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary, CO7 6LW.

West of A12, North of Colchester

South meeting.

8pm Monday 18th July 2011

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

On the B1418 between Bicknacre and South Woodham.