

SEAX

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

November 2011 Issue 191

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COPY DATE FOR NEXT SEAX is MONDAY 28th November.

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Centre 19 website :

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

VSOC website :

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

Rep's Rambling:

There will be no input from John, this month, as he has rather a lot on his plate at the moment!

Carol has been into hospital for her knee operation and, now that she is home, will require much care and assistance from John.

Added to this; John is due to go into Hospital, in a couple of weeks time, so close family will be looking after Carol and then John, when he returns home.

I am sure Centre 19 would wish them both a speedy recovery and look forward to a more enjoyable 2012.

Take care John & Carol!

Deputy Rep (North):

C19, North meeting 3rd October 2011.

It is getting very dark in the evenings now although still warm enough to ride to meetings as was evident, well done those that did.

There was not a lot to say really as the season is nearly finished as far as rideouts, rallies etc is concerned, we are still meeting up at 10am on a Sunday at Boreham, weather permitting should anyone feel the urge . 6 of us rode to the Oakdene café in Wrotham on the 22nd October when it was dry and warm, Just a reminder that I have now sent out 3 e mails asking for those that are attending the Xmas meal on the 21st January to chose their food and I am still waiting to hear from some of you.

If anyone wants to pay the balance of their Xmas meal I am happy to receive that, some people have already paid me and when I offered them change from a £20 note they said, " don't bother, put the money in the coffers " which led me to think that if everyone could pay £20 as the balance the extra £1.05 per person could be used to fund some raffle prizes, I mentioned this at the South meeting and it was agreed. Can I ask therefore that when you pay, it is cash and not a cheque. I would like the money by the 18th December 2011 please and if anyone has anything at home they don't want which would make a good raffle prize then

please can I have it or let me know that you will be bringing it along on the night.

Thank you

Thanks to Peter Osborne for his ' Olympic ' themed rally patch design, we have had one or two members designing patches , so well done everyone, a final decision is still to be made.

It is my intention to stand down as Deputy rep for C19 at the AGM in January, I cant remember how many years I have been in the position, suffice to say, it is many !! I now feel it is time to let someone else have a go, would you all therefore give it some thought and if you feel you could take on the roll please let John and myself know in advance of the AGM. Thank you

Ta ta for now

Peter



Daytona Beach, Florida - Bike Octoberfest.

On the 11th October my friend Marian and I headed off to Florida for a 10 day break. In the middle of this holiday was Bike Octoberfest. An annual event held in Daytona. This year was the 19th year of the event. Upwards of 150,000 bikes converge on Daytona and mostly meet in Main Street in the centre of the town. Being the USA you can imagine most of the bikes were Harley Davidson's. We saw them in all shapes, sizes and colours. Amazingly in amongst all the H D's we found two, yes two, Yamaha Road Stars. They were parked along the beach where the competition for the best custom bikes was being held. The artwork on one of the bikes was truly stunning. It must have taken hours to do. It was called the Geisha Bike. There were too many to tell you about but it was well worth spending an hour or two just looking at them all. The atmosphere in Main Street is overwhelming. The noise, from all those noisy pipes, smoke from burning rubber of the tyres and the crush of hundreds of people and music from rock bands playing along the street, scantily clad young ladies, for all you fellas out there, and lovely beefy bikers for us girls. We had an amazing time. Hope you enjoy the pictures. I would recommend this event to you all even if you have to put up with, you know, Those Bikes!!!!

Cheryl.....



Speed Limits In Europe

A consultation is underway to decide if the UK motorway speed limit should be increased from 70mph to 80mph. Motorists in this country will have strong views on the merits of that but how would car owners across the rest of Europe look at the maximum speeds we set for our roads?

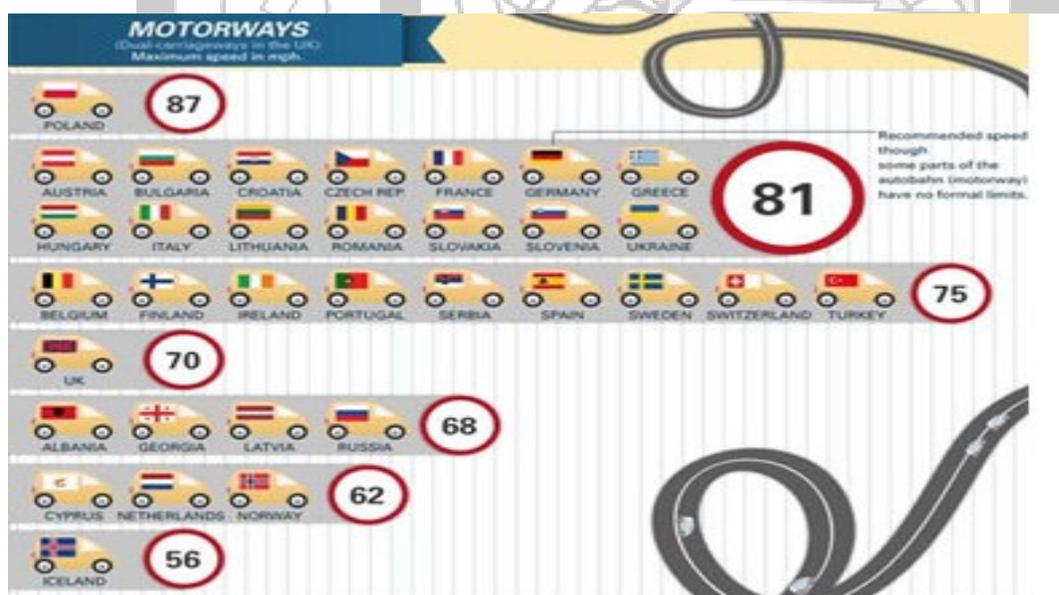
The graphics below from confused.com compares the UK's speed limits for motorways, rural roads and urban areas with those set by our European neighbours. You'll spot that there's quite a disparity between the maximum speeds allowed in different countries and that there are plenty of nations where it's legal for motorway traffic to travel a lot faster than it currently can here.

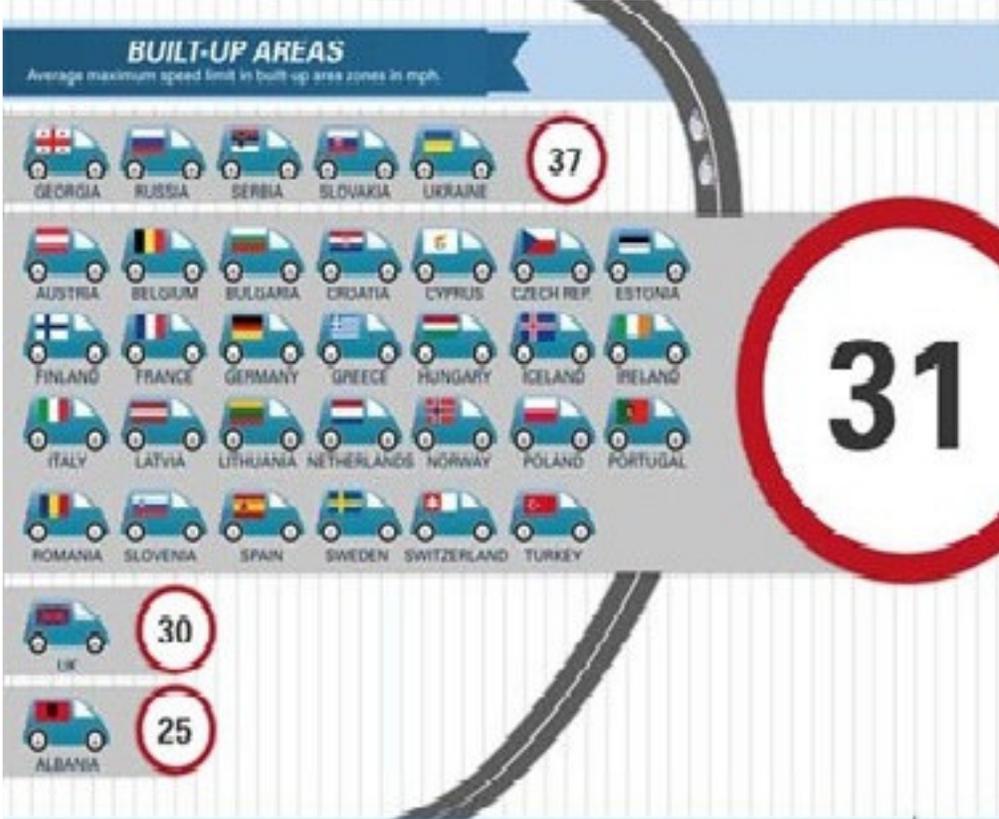
Is it time to raise the UK speed limit?

If you ignore Germany's derestricted autobahns, Poland has the highest motorway speed limit with 87mph while Iceland has the lowest, enforcing a 56mph maximum. On rural roads, however, only Germany and Austria allow vehicles to travel faster than the UK's 60mph limit. That's in stark contrast to our 30mph limit for built-up areas, which is the lowest of all the countries included except for Albania.

Local weather, road and driving conditions clearly have a big impact but there still doesn't seem to be too much consensus around Europe and some might say that's not unusual.

Understandably, there are lots of strongly held and emotive opinions around the issue of how fast is fast enough for UK roads. Questions on the kind of impact any move to raise speed limits might have on journey times, vehicle efficiency and road safety will continue to cause controversy.





Centre 19 meeting's dates:

November

North meeting.

8 pm Monday 7th November 2011.

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

South meeting.

8pm Monday 21st November 2011

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

C19 Rideouts

Essex Crusaders rideout all year (weather permitting) from Sunday 16TH October we will be meeting at Boreham services 10-00 for impromptu rideouts, turn up and decide where you would like to ride to.

Please have sufficient fuel for rideouts so we can keep fuel stops to a minimum.

For more information contact your rep.

STOP PRESS

AIR AMBULANCE RUN – 2012

Sunday 16th September