

SEAX

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

June 2012 Issue 197 contents:

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COPY DATE FOR NEXT SEAX is Monday 25th June.

Centre 19 meeting's dates:

June

North meeting.

8 pm Monday 11th June 2012. *** Monday 4th June is Bank Holiday***
The Anchor, Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary, CO7 6LW.

South meeting.

8pm Monday 18th June 2012.
The Bell Inn, Main Road, WoodhamFerrers, CM3 8RF.

July

North meeting.

8 pm Monday 2nd July 2012.
The Anchor, Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary, CO7 6LW.

South meeting.

8pm Monday 16th July 2012.
The Bell Inn, Main Road, WoodhamFerrers, CM3 8RF.

Reps Rambling

May has certainly been a busy month, we were in Holland at the beginning of the month for the YCCNL start of season party, a bit disappointing as not very well attended, at least the weather stayed dry which was a bonus. The following weekend, 9 of us departed Thurrock for Mercedes World and Brooklands museum in Weybridge; a brilliant day out. It is really a boy's toys day out. Mercedes World, which is free to get in, had on show old and classic cars up to all their current models, including several past years F1 racing cars. Brooklands museum, which is next to Mercedes World, has a very good collection of vehicles of all types going back the last hundred years. Included in the collection are racing cars from the 20's and 30's that used to race around the Brooklands circuit, a smaller version of the London Transport museum to various aeroplanes including a retired Concorde. It is well worth the visit. It was back on the ferry again, the next weekend, for the Belgium rally which was being held in the Ardennes near the German border. It was a very good weekend, good camp site, live band in the evening, D.J. and best of all sunshine. A lot of the smaller Belgium roads are not in the best of condition, the good thing is that you know when you are in Germany, (you do not need signs to tell you that you have left Belgium), the roads become billiard table smooth. The roads in the Ardennes are a biker's paradise with sweeping bends and fantastic scenery.

Last Thursday, we were heading north to C6 rally in Lytham St. Annes, with 15 centre 19 members making the 250 mile plus journey. This was the weekend that summer finally arrived, high 20's everyday, there were quite a few fluorescent red bodies going home Sunday. C6 put on a brilliant weekend with nearly 300 turning up. It was good to see old friends again at the first rally of the season, after a winter break of nearly nine months.

The challenge of the rally was for centres to make a kite and fly it in a competition to see who had the best kite. C19's master kite maker gave us our first glimpse of the kite that was going to win the competition. When asked the 64,000 dollar question, how well does it fly Trevor, there was silence all around the C19 camp when the answer came back, "I do not know as it has not flown yet." We were thinking that's confidence from a master kite maker, but we insisted on a test flight just to fine tune it's flying capabilities. The tension mounted as the line to this flying machine was slowly unwound, when we thought that we had enough line for this work of art to take to the skies, the wind conditions were excellent, sun shining the word went out to release the kite, it rose slowly into the sky, it brought a tear to the eye to see such a magnificent

machine take to the skies, 5foot, 10foot, 15foot then disaster struck, it was as if someone did not want us to win, the kite in all it's wisdom decided it did not want to fly any more, did a summersault and very quickly nosedived into to ground with such force that all you could hear was this flying machine disintegrating before our very eyes. There was stunned silence and disbelief as it lay at our feet broken beyond repair. After getting over the shock of not being able to enter the competition we picked up all the bits and found the nearest dust bin to put them in. What shall we do now???, most of us jumped on the bus and went to Blackpool for the rest of the day. Back to the drawing board Trev.

Although being a brilliant weekend unfortunately there was a downside to this rally, one of our members had an I-pod taken from within their tent late Saturday afternoon. It was connected to speakers at the time when somebody had to disconnect them to remove the I-pod. There was excellent security at the site which begs the question was it a VSOC member???

Membership for C19 is 63 as of the end of May, down 3 on the previous year. Although we do not like to lose members it is good news compared to losses of some of the other centres. The VSOC membership is down 89 compared to this time last year, we do expect to get new members over the next 12 months, so the membership should increase a bit.

We have a new associate member Brian "Tulip" Sparrow, some of you will remember him when he was a club member a few years ago. Welcome back to the club "Tulip"

ESSEX CRUSADERS RALLY 2012

There will be a rally meeting on Saturday 30th June at Runwell Sports and Social Club just for a bit of fine tuning to the rally and how your involvement can turn a good rally into a great rally. If you can attend this meeting it would be very much appreciated. All the main aspects of the rally are now in place. Ticket sales are down a little compared to our previous rally, unfortunately more people are now buying their tickets on the gate, this is a trend that has been happening over the past few years. We still want raffle prizes for the rally. For those who can turn up on Thursday 5th lunch time onwards and help with setting up the site it would be a greatly appreciated.

John

Deputy Rep (North)

Charsfield Village Fete - Saturday June 23rd

Bikes on display (weather permitting) at Charsfield Village Fete;
Charsfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk, (Entrance off Chapel Lane).

Itinerary for the day is as follows:

Meet at Langham Services at 11:30, ride to Alan Ward's building site, arriving at approx 12:30 for tea and light refreshments etc.

- Fete starts at 14:00 hrs, so I suggest we set up at approx 13:15 on the recreation field.

- Attractions include Beer Tent, BBQ, etc, with added Village Fete attractions.

- The function goes on into the evening with the Beer Tent open all evening and music into the late hours.

For anyone wanting to stay and enjoy the late festivities, they will be more than welcome to stay the night at my house with a full English breakfast thrown in on the Sunday morning. Just bring a sleeping bag and airbed/rollmat. Alternatively, anyone wanting to pitch a tent on the lawn is more than welcome. The following day is a ride to Yarmouth so as you will already be more than halfway there you could have a longer lie-in in bed.

- Anyone interested, please contact myself (Alan Ward: Dep. Rep North) 07879 491241, as I shall need to know approximate numbers for breakfast catering. Alternatively, contact John Evans (Centre Rep) 07778 643986 or Trevor Lathrope (Dep Rep South) on 01245 320525.

I hope to see you there.

Regards,

Stainless.

Manningtree Vehicle Show - Saturday June 16th

As advertised in the SEAX, the Manningtree Vehicle Show is planned to take place on Saturday 16th June.

We have attended this event in the past as a club and have found it to be very worthwhile. I am applying to the organisers for 12 free passes for the show and I plan to bring the support vehicle complete with gazebo and tea making facilities on the day.

This event is now held at Lawford Football Club, School Lane, Lawford, Essex CO11 2JA and not at the high school as before.

Anyone interested please contact myself (Stainless) on 07879 491241.
If the interest exceeds 12; I will apply for more free passes.

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Centre 19 website : [http :/www.essex-crusaders.org.uk](http://www.essex-crusaders.org.uk)

JUNE RIDEOUTS AND EVENTS

SATURDAY 2ND

EAST ANGLIA D. DAY MEMORIAL RIDE.

Registration from 10-00 onwards, Ride departs Merville Barracks, Colchester, CO2 7UT at 13-00 for Whitehouse Memorial, Main Road , Rettendon, CM3 8DL
Proceeds to ABF The Soldiers Charity.

SUNDAY 3RD

JOUSTING WITH THE KNIGHTS OF ROYAL ENGLAND HEADINGHAM CASTLE, CO9 3DJ

Depart Boreham services 10-00 for the top of Halstead High Street, depart Halstead 10-40 for Headingham Castle. Ticket prices, Adults £11-00 concessions £10-00.
There lots to see and do at this event so why not bring your chairs and a picnic.

SUNDAY 10TH

SHOTLEY MARINA, SHOTLEY GATE, IPSWICH, IP9 1QJ

Depart Boreham services 10-00 for Langham services (A12 north of Colchester, Shell garage). Depart Lang ham services 10-45 for Shotley. Excellent pub lunch by the river.

SUNDAY 17TH

WESSONS (OGRI'S) CAFÉ, HORAM, EAST SUSSEX, TN21 0ER

Depart Marks Tey 09-30 for Thurrock services, depart Thurrock services 10-30 for Horam
Then perhaps a ride on to Beachy Head.

SATURDAY 23RD

CHARSFIELD SUMMER FETE, SUFFOLK

Depart Langham services 11-30 for Charsfield,
See this months SEAX for more details.

SUNDAY 24TH

YARMOUTH, NORFOLK

Depart Boreham services 09-30 for Langham services, depart Langham services 10-15 for Yarmouth

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

No more MoT tests for old bikes

Pre-1960 vehicles exempted from annual tests

Posted: 21 May 2012 by [Visordown News](#)



BIKES (and cars) made before 1960 will be exempt from the MoT test after 18th November this year after a change in the law.

Since such old vehicles make up only a tiny percentage of vehicles on the road (0.6 percent), and account for an even smaller percentage of accidents (0.03 percent), the government has decided they shouldn't have

to go through the same roadworthiness testing as more recent machines.

The theory is that owners of cars and bikes that old tend to treat them with kid gloves and look after them meticulously, so there's no need to check if they're skimping on maintenance.

Roads minister Mike Penning said: *"Owners of classic cars and motorbikes tend to be enthusiasts who maintain their vehicles well. They don't need to be told to look after them."*

While no longer annually tested, pre-1960 machines will still have to meet all the usual legal requirements to be used on the road, with the right lighting, tyres, brakes etc. They just won't be tested on them.

With classics also qualifying for cheap insurance and free road tax, the case for running one as an everyday commuter seems to be getting increasingly strong. Would it be enough to persuade you to swap to classic bikes?

Read more: <http://www.visordown.com/motorcycle-news--general-news/no-more-mot-tests-for-old-bikes/20692.html#ixzz1wC1P4ap1>



***Congratulations to Kev & Emma
On the occasion of their Marriage
Wishing you the very best for the future***