

# SEAX

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

October 2015 Issue 237

contents:

- |                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. C19 Meeting Dates.          | 2. Reps ramblings.           |
| 3-4 Peterborough vehicle show. | 4-5. Ride to Bletchley Park. |
| 5-7. Dutch National.           | 7-8. From the Editor         |
| 8. Ride outs.                  |                              |

## *Centre 19 meeting's date*

### **October 2015**

North meeting

8pm Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
The Anchor, Upper St, Stratford St Mary CO7 6LW

South meeting

Cancelled due to AGM on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015

### **November 2015**

North meeting

8pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015  
The Anchor, Upper St, Stratford St Mary CO7 6LW

South meeting

8pm Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
The Lodge Country Inn, Hayes Chase, Burnham Rd, SS117QT

## Reps ramblings

**Hi there Crusaders, well it's that time of year again, rallies are finished and coming to an end of listed ride outs, well done to Trevor for another good year of leading Trevor's tours.**

The Christmas meal, we only have 23 booked so come on I am sure there are more of you out there in the wood work, brush off those cobwebs and come and join in.

The AGM agenda is attached for your attention,

There will be no South meeting on the 19th Oct as the AGM is the day before, so November 16th will be the next one.

I have received this invitation from C13, contact me for more info if interested.

### Centre 13 Roadrunners would like to extend an invitation to Centre 19 to join us at the Roadrunners Christmas Party 2015.

We are not inviting all VSOC Centres but in recognition of our joint events this year and close bond with C19, we hoped you might like to take this opportunity to come and join us for a great social gathering before Christmas. We recognise of course that you will have your own Centre Xmas event and this is not intended to replace that.

We have booked a limited number of spaces within a Hollywood Party themed night on Saturday 12th December 2015 at the Hatfield Oak Hotel, Roehyde Way, Hatfield. We will form part of a group 120 max. Tickets are priced at £32 per person and overnight accommodation is available at the venue.

The theme is Hollywood so dress is as smart as you dare - there are prizes for best-dressed couple. You will be met by a red carpet and after cocktails at the bar we will sit down to a three course dinner and coffee. Each course has three choices, including traditional Christmas dinner, and nearer the date I will be circulating menus and asking for choices and special dietary requirements.



It was a great rally wasn't it Dave !!

## *Ride to the Peterborough Vehicle Show, September 6th*

Wasn't sure how many would turn up as this was also the Air Ambulance Show at Harwich. So there I am, 9-30 Boreham, billy no mates, when suddenly who appears from nowhere but Del. Del was out on a rare Sunday and thought he'd drop in at Boreham to see if anybody was there, he was going to the Museum of Power American Car Show, but when I told him I was going to Peterborough he said, "I'll come with you then". Quite why he thought someone would be at Boreham at 9-30 and not the usual 10-00 I've no idea, but welcome never the less. We hung about till about 9-35 and decided that there wouldn't be anybody else coming so left for the rest area on the A120. We got there by 10-00, 15 minutes early. For the future it doesn't take three quarters of an hour to get from Boreham to the A120. As soon as we parked up in rolls Mark and Kay followed shortly after by Bruce, that was it. Now the obvious route to Peterborough is M11, A14, A1[M], shit right, so I decided to ignore the M11 and stayed on the A120 to the A10 and then all the way to Royston, from there just a short hop on the A505

to the A1198 which took us all the way to Huntington, nice little ride, unfortunately A14 then A1 from there. Finally arrived at the show approx 11-45. As leader they made me stop and register while the other buggers just rode in, now they know who I am and my email address so I suppose I'll get bombarded with emails. We parked the bikes along side some other bikes, not many it has to be said, where was C10's stand, this was predominately a classic car show. Made a bee line for the toilets for a wee and lost Del. He did say he was starving so we went over to hot dog stand and got ourselves something but no Del, where the friggin hell is he. Turns out he was lazing down by the river. We then split up to browse the cars, and some lovely cars there was too. After about an hour we met up back at the bikes to get ready to go. As we were getting ready a crowd started gathering, and gathering, by the time we were ready there was a big semi-circle of people waiting with their cameras, like the paparazzi. As we pulled away a gap opened up to allow us through and cameras were snapping away, talk about centre of attention.

Bombed it home from there, after a stop for petrol, most direct route. Not a bad day, the weather was perfect, company great, but I'm not sure we'll do this one again.

Trev

## *Ride to Bletchley Park [not] September* *13<sup>th</sup>*

8 o'clock Brentwood services, what was we thinking, saw Bruce, Paula, Tony, myself and two new members Kev and Tara meet for the ride to Bletchley Park. Now the forecast was dry till about mid day-ish then heavy rain for the rest of the afternoon. A unanimous decision was made to just do something more local and try to avoid getting too wet. A phone call to Terry & Chris, they said they'd come out if we weren't going to Bletchley, "get

the kettle on” I said “there’s six of us coming round”. We decided to go to Mountfitchet Castle, but how to get there, that was the question. I got the map out and plotted a route, Billericay [where Terry & Chris lives], Blackmore, Hatfield, Takeley, Mountfitchet, that’ll be a nice ride. I was ok once we were at Blackmore but not sure of the scenic route to there from Billericay. Terry knew so I put him directly behind me to indicate when to turn. Fine till we came to a sign post that said Blackmore straight on, Mountnessing left, he and Chris gesticulated for me to turn left, two minutes later they pull up alongside me “u turn”, THIS WAS NOT MY FAULT. Country roads all the way as far as the M11, and then just a little bit of the A120 then into Stansted, Mountfitchet and the Castle.

Mountfitchet Castle is a reconstructed 11th century fortification and village which shows how people lived in those times. Also on the same site and included in the ticket price is a toy museum with every conceivable toy you can think of, really takes you back. You can get sandwiches, cakes, hotdogs, tea and coffee etc, which we did, then it was time to go, had to beat the rain remember.

Got home safe and sound, and dry. That’s because there was no friggin rain, it was a lovely day ALL DAY, bloody BBC.

Trev

## *Dutch National rally 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September*

Al and Paula C6 stayed here on Wednesday night and we then caught the 9am ferry Harwich to the Hook on Thursday, I did my usual and stayed with Fred. The C19 boys, Dave, Dave, Gary and John caught the Thursday night ferry and in the end there were 9 from C19 in attendance, so a good effort.

It was a dry ride to the rally site and only 68 miles from Fred's so leaving about 8.30 got us there for 9.45am to see that Al, Paula and the crew from C4 were already pitched,

The rally was on an up market holiday camp with mobile homes being sold for €140,000, it was sited alongside a lake with lovely views, the toilets and showers were spotless and hot water all day, so another bonus, we were let down by some rain on Saturday night which caused problems to some of the tents, the downside was that it was a long trek to the club house over wet grass or the long way round on a road but still had to negotiate wet grass for the final 50mtrs



Shotgun on the slide



The food was of a high standard with an eat as much as you like menu, with plenty of choice for the evening meal, even a huge platter of prawns one evening, brekkie was traditional Continental.

There was no live music but the disco played the right type of music so a good time was had by all. I believe there were a few heavy heads on Saturday morning !!

Saturday's ride out was via lots of smaller roads and tow paths as is typical of a Dutch ride out, very scenic and not much traffic, it ended as usual in a pub/restaurant for lunch, I think there were 40



bikes on this ride and everyone got a chance to take part in aggressive marshalling [ stopping traffic at roundabouts and junctions ] as is necessary with this number of bikes, it worked very well and is food for thought.

Everything was wet on the Sunday morning so packing up was ' damp ' but no rain so struck lucky there, back to Fred's for the night and home with Paula and Al, Nick, John and Carol on the Monday day boat, quickly off the ferry and home by 8.30, Al and Paula left at 9.30 on Tuesday for the long ride to Chorley, but that's Al and Paula for you, no distance is too far for them and their Yamaha Wildstar which has now done 100.000miles and still going strong. Well done.

Well, that is it rally wise for the year, time to start planning for next years events with an International in Sweden to consider. There is also the C10 Charity party on the 27<sup>th</sup> September to think about and support. It is an easy one to go and come back on the day.



Take care

Peter

## *From the Editor*

Christmas party, slight change of date. Names and deposits to Clive by the 18<sup>th</sup> October, which is the date of the AGM, after that we will open it up to other centres, payment in full by 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**Starters** winter veg soup, prawn cocktail, brie wedges, breaded mushrooms

**Mains** roast turkey, roast beef, breast of chicken with creamy leek

and pancetta sauce, salmon with cream of parsley and white wine sauce, parsnip, sweet potato & chestnut bake.

**Dessert** xmas pud, lemon & lime cheesecake, rocky road brownie square, profiteroles & chocolate sauce, cheese & biscuits [ £2 supplement to be paid on top of the £17 if required ] coffee & mints.

Please contact Clive on 07971 692333 to book, choose your menu and pay your deposit.

## *Rideout*

October 3rd [Saturday]

Ride to the Wall, National Memorial Arboretum If anybody is doing this please let me know because Kevin Blythe C13 is organising something whereby all VSOC members will get together for a photo, also to try and meet to ride in together.

October 4th

Copdock Bike Show

Meet Boreham 10-00, Langham 10-45

October 11th

Brightona Bike Show, Brighton.

Meet Thurrock services 9-30 [bit earlier than usual to maybe get parked a bit better ]

If the weather is inclement can you phone the reps to see if the ride is still on.

October 18<sup>th</sup>

C19 AGM at the Bell and Chimes in Rettendon.