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

February 2016 Issue 241

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Centre 19 meeting's date

February 2016

North meeting – New venue

8pm Monday 1st February 2016
The Crown. Old Ipswich Road Ardleigh, Colchester CO7 7QR,

South meeting

8pm Monday 15th February 2016
The Lodge Country Inn, Hayes Chase, Burnham Rd, SS117QT

March 2016

North meeting

8pm Monday 7th March 2016
The Crown. Old Ipswich Road Ardleigh, Colchester CO7 7QR,

South meeting

8pm Monday 21st March 2016
The Lodge Country Inn, Hayes Chase, Burnham Rd, SS117QT

Reps ramblings

Hello everyone, as you know we have a new venue for the North meeting, yes and it is in Essex..The Anchor has served us well but lately has got lax in its service so a change was needed, so from the 1st of Feb it will be at the Ardleigh Crown.

As you will see further down it is time for our inter centre bowling comp so please let me know ASAP if you want to be in team C19.

Rallies, take advantage of the early bird as you can save a few pints worth. C10 flyer will be on the VSOC and C19 websites very soon as there has had to be some changes and the webmaster has been away

C19 rally, we need to decide if we are going to have a theme or keep it simple and go as bikers, the patch and poster will have to be done as well. Bearing in mind this will be the 5th rally by us, C19 THE FIFTH CRUSADE maybe ? We will be checking out sites from Feb so watch this space for details.

The ride out list is coming together so any new ideas please to Trevor or myself by the 28th Jan.

Merchandise, how many for tour t-shirts, and any other item you may need let me know ASAP, Girls if you want those vests let me know and I will see what colours are available.

Take it easy out there, see you all soon.

As from Friday, January 1st 2016, it is compulsory for all motorcyclists in France to carry reflective vests and wear them in the event of an incident or accident.

From January 1, 2016 French police can demand bikers show a yellow bib (or *gilet jaune*) with failure punishable by an 11 € fine, escalating to nearly £100 during a breakdown, incident or accident.

Contrary to rumours, there is no obligation in the decree to wear the vest at all times, only to carry it on the bike or person.

High visibility jackets, shirts, vests and bibs carrying a CE mark for luminosity will all be accepted but simple reflective armbands or stripes will not.

British bikers planning a continental tour will not be exempt from the requirement.

For years, car drivers in France have been required to carry a high vis vest so the law change closes this gap.

There is still no legal requirement to carry spare bulbs or a first aid kit on a bike and whilst many of us do (and it would seem a sensible precaution) it is currently still a matter of individual choice.

There is also no requirement to carry a warning triangle on a bike although it is required if travelling by car.

As far as we can ascertain the law relating to carrying a breathalyser was enacted but has never been enforced and there is no ability for the French Police to fine non adherence to this piece of legislation.

New rules on bikes between lanes *December 29, 2015*

MOTORCYCLISTS around Paris, Bordeaux, Lyon and Marseille will be formally allowed to ride between lanes of traffic next year - a practice which 97.5% of bikers say they already do.



The four-year experiment from February will apply to all of the Ile-de-France region plus the Gironde, Rhône and Bouches-du-Rhône departments, and its effectiveness will be assessed at the end of each year.

French road safety body CNSR recommended in 2013 that the practice be allowed in a number of pilot areas. A major information campaign will be unveiled in the new year to ensure drivers and motorcyclists are aware of the rules.

A decree published in the *Journal Officiel* says riding between lanes will be authorised only on dual-carriageways and motorways, where the usual speed limit is at least 70kph and when all the available lanes have solid traffic.

Bikes must stick to the two lanes furthest to the left and not exceed 50kph.

Nathanaël Gagnaire, from the motorcyclists' federation FFMC, said the move was "a positive step forward", although he said it had taken authorities a long time to

respond to a practice that has been "commonly applied by bikers for the past 30 years".

A 2012 survey by the Mutuelle des Motards found 97.5% of motorcyclists rode between lanes at times.

- See more at: <http://www.connexionfrance.com/motorcyclists-ride-between-lanes-new-rules-france-experiment-17573-view-article.html#sthash.5mCAHyJi.dpuf>

Centre 13 Roadrunners are delighted to invite you to the annual C10/C13/C19 Bowling Tournament.

Date: Sunday 28th February 2016

Time: Start at mid-day - estimated finish 3pm.

Venue: Hollywood Bowl Finchley, Great North Leisure Park, Leisure Way, Finchley High Road, N12 0GL.

Cost: £8 per person

Each Centre should limit itself to ten players (we have booked max capacity of 32 players). We will split players into four equal cross-Centre groups (max 8 per group) and play one game across four lanes. The highest two scorers from each Centre will go forward to a six person final played on one lane. The individual winner takes the trophy off C19's Dave Enefer for the next twelve months. Costs have been apportioned so that £8 covers all activity including the final.

Please can players submit names to their Centre Rep who should forward full teams to me by 19 February. Full payment required on the day please.

From the Editor

Please note the change of venue for the North meeting, it is in Essex now so give us a look and see if we can get in to double figures.

Jump Start tickets now available, rally tickets for 2016 also available with a buy in advance discount of £5, see VSOC website for details.

It's that time again, when you should be thinking about renewing your membership which is due on the 1st April and once again is £17.50. Renewal forms will be coming out with Clatter or you can do it online and pay by Pay Pal at the start of February, there will be a £5 surcharge if you don't renew by 30th April and membership ceases if renewal is not done by 31st May. If you have changed your bike please provide new details on the renewal form.

Rideouts

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

There will still be impromptu ride outs during the cold weather, Boreham 10.30am unless otherwise stated, Maybe best to check with someone before turning up, just in case, as you could be Billy no mates. !!