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

October 2016 Issue 249

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Centre 19 meeting's date

October 2016

North meeting

8pm Monday 3rd October 2016

The Crown, Old Ipswich Road, Ardleigh, Colchester CO7 7QR

South meeting

8pm Monday 17th October 2016

No meeting in view of the AGM on the 16th October 2016

November 2016

North meeting

8pm Monday 7th November 2016

The Crown, Old Ipswich Road, Ardleigh, Colchester CO7 7QR

South meeting

8pm Monday 21st November 2016

The Lodge Country Inn, Hayes Chase, Burnham Rd SS11 7QT

C10 rally Holt.

Well was really looking forward to this one as it was near one to one of my favourite places Sheringham. Had a couple of options regarding run up there, but decided both a bit too early as I had a bit of running around to do before I left. So decided to go it alone. As much as I enjoy riding in a group it's nice to ride alone and at your own pace and stop when you want to. So I loaded up my trusty steed and headed off to sunny Norfolk. Nice route A12 to Ipswich then A14 to A140 which took me all the way to Norwich. Then round ring road to the B1149 which in turn took me to Holt. Perfect weather for riding. When I arrived was a bit nervous about crossing the heavily gravelled car park. But as there seems to be more and more cars attending rallies wouldn't be a problem for some. Sorry about my little pop, lol.

Well once on site found my little bit of grass to stick my tent on ,problem is it's a bit of a pig to put up alone so went and found some fellow crusaders to help me. Thanks Pete and Fred. Venue really good except for phone service but I suppose that could be a good thing. Friday night was a good one with a good band and a few beers. Saturday morning a few of us decided to visit Sheringham via the choo choo train. Alan got really excited . But I'm sorry to say a train to me is just a train, steam what ever. But we did travel first class. Sheringham was crowded but nice as ever. Walk round town, coffee break. Then a bit later lunch in a local inn. Then back on the Black Prince, the train lol, and back at rally site.

Saturday night for me was a bit flat don't think band as good , but that could just be me as I was feeling a bit tired, must be getting old. Sunday morning a bit greyer but still fairly warm. Packed tent up then had to get bike out of gravel. Thanks Dave E. Headed off home with Barney , 2 heritage softails together. Nice sound,lol. Journey home via same route. Good ride home. Did I enjoy rally? Well yes I did and would go again. Well done C10. Just a suggestion as there are some nice biking roads up that way, be nice for one of our Sunday ride outs.

Gary

Impromptu - 18th September

Two members turned up at Boreham – Trev and myself plus Chris as pillion. After a quick catch up, Trev suggested riding to Cressing Temple Barns through the country lanes – thought Terling was a very pretty village.

Once at the barns it turned out we had chosen a Wedding Fair day – but still able to walk round barns and then the walled garden.



After a coffee/tea/coke break, Trev rang Margaret and we arranged to meet in Maldon to have a meal as Margaret was out with her sister and niece. A good meal and company.

Took country route back to Trev's and then home.

All in all a good ride.

Terry

Lollipop Diner

On Wednesday, Trevor and I had a Retired & Retarded ride out to find out what an American style diner was like. After a country ride through Braintree, Halsted, Sudbury & Stowmarket we arrive at the café, which is situated on the A143, Bury Road, Hepworth.

We arrive at the diner to find lots of parking and were very impressed with the décor of the diner and the food was also good. We asked if we could reserve

tables if we wanted to do this as a Sunday ride out and were shown another room with more seating, so think this will be added to the rideout list next year.

We parked our bikes in Elvis's spot but this was OK as he didn't turn up.

Terry



Colombia 2016

As most of you will know I have just returned from an organised trip to Colombia with 16 other Brits and several from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Holland and Belgium, so a multi national representation. The purpose of the trip was to attend the 2016 Colombian rally with an interesting route on motorbikes selected.

We were there 3 weeks in all starting on the 12th September with 2 internal flights also included to the Amazon jungle where we trekked through it in 40 degrees for 2.8kms, we also took a 'speed boat' ride down the Amazon and saw pink and grey dolphins playing close to the boat. A visit to Monkey Island saw monkeys jumping all over us. The guide called Caymans in the jungle and the return was by a basic long boat.

Once back from the Amazon, bikes were picked up and the tour began.

There were one or two spills, breakdowns, sliding in ditches sideways and dirt track roads that can only be described as dire and have to be seen to be believed, the bikes we ride were certainly not made for these conditions and in the main stood up to the task very well. I will never moan about the English roads ever again !!



We stayed in hotels of varying standards every night and once the tour had finished we then flew to the Caribbean island of San Andres and felt like ' rich ' people as it was very presentable with private facilities attached to the hotel.

Four of us hired a beach buggy for the day and toured the island, mixing it with the locals on their many scooters and driving like mad men, no L plates in sight and many vehicles with no number plates.

We did a lot of walking and sweating but it was a real adventure, not sure if I would do it for 3 weeks again but never say never !!



Peter

From the Editor

Not a lot of content this month, please try and contribute a little, some of you must be doing something.

Rideouts

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

Oct 9 Brightona, Brighton – meet at 10:00 Thurrock Services

Oct 16 C19 AGM – 19:00 at The Lodge

Dec 17 C19 Christmas dinner – 19:30 at The Lodge.