

# SEAX

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

June 2017 Issue 257

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## *Centre 19 meeting's date*

### **June 2017**

North meeting

8pm Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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

South meeting

8pm Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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

### **July 2017**

North meeting

8pm Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017

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

South meeting

8pm Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017

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

## Reps ramblings

Hi guys and gals

congratulations to this year's long service awards, they go to....

20yr patch to Trevor Lathrope, Phil red rag Stevens and Geoff Whitcomb

15yr patch to Cheryl Myhill [ maybe she will turn up to a meeting to pick it up !! ]

10yr patch to Clive Clark and Dawn Chamness

Welcome to Tony Head our newest member who joined up at the MCN

Peterborough show, I am sure you will all make him feel welcome when you meet him.

Merchandise, I have some interest in some zip up fleeces so if anyone wants one or polo shirts as they have the same design I can mix the order to get the discount, let me know please.

It's been a slow start with the sun popping out now and then, we have had a good week let's hope it keeps up, it can rain in the week but let's have that sunshine out on a weekend and see more of you out on those bikes, there is lots to look forward to,

Alan's fete at Charsfield, the dummy run for our rally, and the Mersea picnic. now we need a good turnout for that, and then the show at the museum of power where we have got a stand again,

Rally season is now here with C3 hosting the first one in Denbigh, and then we have Holland INTL so looking fwd to that 1 as Germany was my last one.

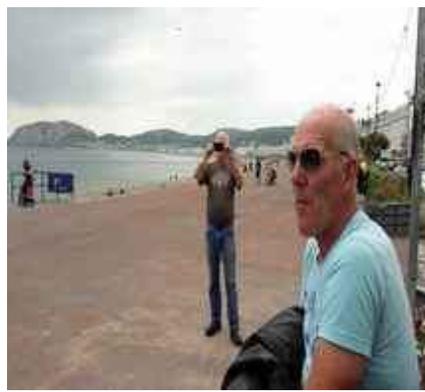
C3 Denbigh, 9 Crusaders attended this rally, and about 160 through the gate, considering the weather I thought it would be a bigger turn out. Overall a great rally to start the season off. On the Saturday Alan Dave and Bob waited for me to finish the reps meeting so we could go and explore the area, so it was off to Rhyl about 15 miles where we had fish and chip lunch by the sea, so all fed and watered we made our way to Llandudno via Colwyn bay, where we managed to get in a motorcycle bay, and this woman comes up and says I just got a ticket here, so we said its ok we have motor bikes, and you don't as the you are inside the bay, once explained she was happy, sort of lol.

Anyway Alan got out his map to plan the next part of journey on a route back to rally site, now this was the fun part as it was through the mountains up and down the twisties, a bit damp higher up so it was rain then sun and so on, all in all a great day thanks to Alan. The bands were great something for everyone and they got people up dancing.

After the awards on Saturday night, it was Kevin Hoyte's turn to be surprised as Sally presented him with a nice 60th birthday cake, which tasted great. Sunday morning we were all up and done early and breakfast was ready on time too, so we managed to get started on our way home about 09.15 and it was back over horseshoe pass, passing the Ponderosa café at the top and loads of twisties, did it improve my corners, it's debatable. Thanks to Alan for leading and doing a great job, and special thanks for the skies staying dry. Next stop Borculo, see you there.



Bikes in Rhyl



Alan looking pensive



Bruce & the acorn

## *Ride out to Route 11 cafe 16.4.2017*

The weekend of the run to the route 11 diner was as good as weather you could ask for. Spent the Saturday cleaning and polishing the bike and was really looking forward to a run out on the Sunday with our centre and meeting up with the 2 other centres. Got up nice and early, checked the weather, all good. Loads of time to get ready, time for tea I think. And as usual for me I left it to the last minute to get ready and get to Boreham service's by 10. But did just get there in time. Did have to gun the bike down the A130 to do it though.

When I arrived centre 13 had made a good turn out and out numbered us CRUSADERS. But then the faces drifted in and we had a decent turn out as well. Trevor was going to lead and gave us a little pep talk regarding the route and the 2nd man system. Dave was our tail end Charlie, And then we were off, the 2nd man system seemed to be working. There was a few times we got strung out but we always knew where to go and always bunched up again We was heading for Halstead to pick up a couple more members there. I think there was close to 17 bikes which made the way from Boreham to Halstead. Nice country lanes, on route. We arrived at Halstead and picked up another 3 bikes. So our convoy then headed off to a services in Thetford to

meet up with centre 10. All through nice Suffolk village's, we did touch a bit of dual carriage way but all in all it was a nice relaxed ride. And we must of looked quite impressive riding all together.

Anyway we arrived at the services in Thetford, but I must say our approach was a little interesting. I was about mid way in our column and all of sudden there was brake lights every where. Like the 2 guys in front of me I over shot the entrance of the services and rode on to the exit and rode in from there. But everyone got in safely and centre 10 were already there and with our number the bikes swelled to over 40 I think. I was told 45 bikes was there , not bad for a Sunday ride out.

Before I knew it we were off again. For the final ride in to the diner. We were not that far away really and we seemed to be there in a flash. Anyway it was lucky the diners car park was fairly empty so we all found a parking spot and as an old hand in these ride outs I stopped the bike got off sharpish and got into the diner asap. Nice, 5th in queue.

I got table with Barney and didn't have to wait long for the breakfast to arrive, even though it was more like lunch time, but food was pretty good.

After stuffing my face I wondered about a bit had a few chats, but then I had to depart for home, I don't know if anywhere else was going to be visited that day, but I had to get home, the journey home uneventful, just retraced our route back through the Suffolk villages till I got on the A14 near Ipswich then shot down the A12. Must admit I did shift, .

So to cap it all it was a very good Sunday run, good weather, good company. And a very nice collection of motorcycles. And nice grub.

Gary

A good write up Gary but make sure you don't ' shift ' too fast now the new speeding laws have kicked in !!

*Saturday 22nd April*

*FUNDRAISING QUIZ NIGHT FOR HARVEY*

*POTTER*

Thank you to those that came to the quiz night Saturday to support a local little lad who suffers from cystic fibrosis and is in desperate need of physiotherapy which is unavailable on the NHS. A fun night was had by all – we had three teams from the club. Myself, Kevin and our daughters, against Essex Crusaders A made up of Paula, Bruce and friends and Essex Crusaders B made up of the legends Peter, Trevor, Terry and Chris and guest

Liz, needless to say none of us won but neither did any of us come last! The evening raised a total of £698 going towards Harvey's physiotherapy and other needs. Well done guys – feel proud.

Tara Jones

It was a fun night Tara and glad that a substantial sum of money was raised Ed.

### *Rally in a Hotel*

I have just got back from the first Rally in a hotel and the general feeling from those attending is that it was a huge success, 7 of us went from C19, Bruce, Paula, Gary Mc, Dave's Enefer and Winning, Mr K and myself.

It was in a hotel in Gloucestershire, near the Welsh border and a very picturesque area to say the least. Gary led the way there and back as he had travelled that way previously, he did a good job with no one getting lost. Nice one, thanks Gary.

We arrived at the hotel about 3pm and checked in, it was like a Travel Lodge with its own bars, restaurant and function rooms and not to forget the swimming pool.

We numbered about 116 in all, so well attended, the evening meal on Friday was a buffet, help yourself style and a choice of curry with rice and salad or lasagne with salad followed by apple pie and custard or profiteroles or a mix and match of whatever you liked !! The meal was followed by a disco with the usual bopping on the floor.

Saturday started with breakfast in the restaurant with just about anything you wanted and as much as you could eat which proved popular as you can imagine.

A ride out was on the programme for Saturday, a distance of approx 170 miles and was well attended by 40 to 50 bikes, it took us through some very beautiful parts of the country and into Wales. We ended up on a lofty escapement looking down in to the Wye valley hundreds of feet below and riding through twisty mountain roads and pretty river valleys, they chose the route well and the memories of that day will stay with me for a long time, it wasn't just a ride it was an experience and I expressed my personal thanks to the organisers

We arrived back at the hotel about 5.30pm, just in time for a shower and dressing up for the evening meal, a 3 course affair which was very nice but could have been a tad larger, but then I suppose not everyone is such a gannet as me !!

Entertainment for the evening was by Two non Blondes, who sang very well

to an electric accompaniment, plenty of people dancing and drinking of course.

A heavy breakfast on Sunday morning again left us just to book out, I heard no moans about packing up a tent or stiff backs from camping or trekking across a dark campsite in the middle of the night to the toilet, the only thing that woke me up in the night was Dave's snoring [ too much info Alan !! ] we were in separate beds I hasten to add, no funny business in my room [ so you say !! ]

The weather for the whole weekend was brilliant and not a drop of rain fell on us [ not bad for being near Wales !! ] I feel like I have been riding my bike for 3 whole days, what a lovely way to spend a weekend. I hope we have another rally like this.

I know I am in a Yamaha club and I ride a Harley [ some people have to I suppose ] which lets be honest comes in for a lot of strife from other members [ dont know what you are talking about ]. I get comments like ' anything dropped off lately 'quite frequently, as far as I can remember both Harleys covered the miles with no problem and returned home intact, in fact the only bike to lose parts this weekend was , wait for it, Peter's new Raider, his number plate fell off and went bouncing down the A40, I am wondering however if the number plate fell off the bike or the bike fell off the number plate. Just a thought. [ I just thought I would mention that I hit some horrendous potholes which jarred my back and the number plate was attached with sticky fixers which under normal circumstance would have been adequate, I had 2 ' friends ' behind me that didn't even stop to pick up the plate, you know who you are !! ]

Thanks for your company over the weekend guys

Stainless

PS a new number plate is now firmly attached with bolts.

## *From the Editor*

C19 Rally tickets now available from me at the bargain price of £14. Please get them NOW so you don't forget !! Price goes up on the 1st July to £20, early purchase also helps the organisers with cash flow. I will bring them to meetings/ride outs so you can save the postage costs. Thank you

Thanks to the 147 who have bought their tickets already including 20 from C19 so a great effort. 43 sold at C3 rally, thank you.

## Ride outs (includes the correction to June)

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

As from April 2nd impromptu rides from Boreham 10.00

On July 29th there will be a ride to the Calne bike show in Wiltshire, returning on the 30th. So far 7 rooms have been booked in a hotel [all taken] but there should be a possibility to book more, price is £43.00 per room plus £10.00 for breakfast, all rooms are double NOT TWIN so it would be one person to a room unless two want to share, YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE. [ Dave and Alan !! ]

3rd June [Saturday]

Charsfield fete, Suffolk IP13 7PZ

This annual event is the village fete where Alan Ward [Stainless] lives and he will do some lunch for those who attend. Please let Alan or Trevor know in advance if you intend going so that Alan can get enough provisions in.

Meet at Boreham 10.30, 11.15 Langham

4th June

Hollyville cafe, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 6SW

10.30 Thurrock services

9th-11th

Dutch International rally

Bruce or Peter will advise on meeting time and place

18th June

Dummy run for the C19 Rally Rideout

25th June

St Ives Festival, Cambridgeshire

10.00 Boreham

July 1<sup>st</sup> C10 bonding weekend

July 2<sup>nd</sup> Enfield air museum

July 9<sup>th</sup> C19 Picnic Mersea Island

July 16th-18<sup>th</sup> C8 Rally

July 23<sup>rd</sup> If weather is inclement on the 18th June and are unable to do the rally dummy run the this the alternative, otherwise the Route 66 bikers cafe and Hastings

July 30<sup>th</sup> Inter centre meeting at the Silverball cafe or a weekend at the Calne bike show in Wiltshire

August 6<sup>th</sup> Museum of power bike show [we have a stand] or Scrumpies party

August 13<sup>th</sup> Gorleston on sea, Norfolk

August 20<sup>th</sup> Santa Pod drag racing [Monster trucks]

August 25th-27<sup>th</sup> C19 rally

September 3<sup>rd</sup> Krazy Horse cafe and bike shop with C13

September 10<sup>th</sup> Ace to Brighton burn up

September 17<sup>th</sup> Log Cabin cafe, Abridge

September 23rd [Saturday] C10 charity party

September 24<sup>th</sup> Beccles, Norfolk

October 1<sup>st</sup> Copdock bike show

October 8<sup>th</sup> The Fossils cafe, St Osyth Road, Clacton

October 15<sup>th</sup> C19 AGM

December 2<sup>nd</sup> C19 Christmas Dinner – The Lodge Country Inn, SS11 7QT.