

SEAX

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

August/Sept 2018 Issue 267

contents:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. C19 Meeting Dates. | 2. Reps ramblings, obituary |
| 3/4. International rally | 4/5. C7 rally |
| 6/7. Christmas party, from the Editor | 7/8. Ride outs |

Centre 19 meeting's date

August 2018

North meeting

8pm Monday 6th August 2018

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

South meeting

8pm Monday 20th August 2018

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

September 2018

North meeting

8pm Monday 3rd September 2018

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

South meeting

8pm Monday 17th September 2018

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

Reps ramblings

Hi Crusaders,

I hope you are all enjoying this heatwave, and getting out on those bikes. We have just had our picnic and had a great turn out, 21 bikes and about 40 members inc 5 from C13 and 4 from C15, so thanks to you all for the support of this annual event.

With the Welsh rally coming up I hope it stays dry for all of you who are going, and have a great time.

I have been informed by Alan Ward dep rep North that he is also standing down this year, I have said in the past that this is your centre and someone needs to come forward, as now 3 positions need filling. It would be nice to get some positive interest for these positions as October is only around the corner.

I can't believe it but USA here I come, I fly out on the 12th July and return on the 10th Aug, so I will see you when I get back, any problems you can contact Trevor or Alan.

Lastly I would like to thank you all for the support that turned up for Alan Ferry's funeral, it was a very nice service.

PS and Chris Dear from C10 also came to the picnic.

Sadness

With great sadness, I report that Brian O'Callaghan-Westropp, the Rep for Ireland has lost his life in the Greek fires. Brian married Zoe on 19th July and went to Greece 2 days later for their honeymoon, the full circumstances are not known at this time but Zoe managed to flee the fire and get on the beach, she is now in hospital with some burns which are not life threatening.

RIP Brian a larger than life character who will be sorely missed.

International Rally, Denmark 8th to 10th June 2018

Preparations all made, accommodation and ferries booked 30+ of us left Harwich for the Hook on Tuesday 5th June 11pm ferry. Arrived at the Hook

about 8am and straight through passport control without showing our passports, certainly a first for me !! 26 of us assembled ready for the next stage of the journey to our hotel in Northern Germany where we would stay the night, 280 miles, which we have done before.

It was very warm and getting stuck in traffic jams on the autobahn didnt help, filtering isnt allowed in Germany but it just had to be done with most vehicles being very considerate until a VW van decided he wasnt going to let us through, crime number 2 was committed and we all went up the hard shoulder and came out clear of traffic problems, happy days .

We left about 10am on Thursday morning to do the 180 miles to the International rally site which was 400mtr over the German/Danish border, arriving in good time, still very warm by the way.

We then sorted out our accommodation for the weekend and the house 17 of us had been allocated was an old thatched house, with more then adequate facilities, comfortable bedrooms, a large living area, dining room, large kitchen and several showers and toilets, there was a patio area outside with large tables and chairs and adequate parking for all the bikes right on our door step, it was located up a small slope overlooking the rally site so an ideal situation and it seems like we had hit the jackpot. 3 Scrumpies thought so as well and lodged with us for the weekend.

It seemed there were no tea and coffee making facilities so a quick word in the right ears soon sorted that although very minimal by normal standards. .

Over 100 bikes went on the Saturday ride out which returned in time for some on the ride out to attend the Presidents meeting early Saturday pm.

The Presidents meeting is an annual event where all the countries Presidents get together to discuss various issues and plan the way forward, this one was a bit ad lib with no agenda provided so a hit and miss meeting but nevertheless, hopefully covered everything that needed to be discussed with me in the ' chair ', a first for me, but someone had to do it. Minutes will be circulated when available but we have 2 new countries in ' the group ' Norway and Spain who both asked to host an International rally, this was agreed so it will be Norway in 2022 and Spain in 2023.

Entertainment over the weekend was good as was the food which was served in a large dining room and organised by the camp site owners rather than YCCDenmark.

We left on Sunday when it decided to rain and rode to a ' villa ' we had rented for the extended trip after the rally, only 130 miles but very wet.

The villa was large enough to accommodate 20+ of us with indoor pool, sauna and jaccuzzi, large living, eating and kitchen areas, plenty of showers and toilets all very clean and that is the way we left it. We rode out a few times and had a nice meal one evening in a local hotel who opened up specially for us, traditional Danish food was the order of the day.

The ride back from the ' villa ' to the German hotel was long and slow riding on normal roads as opposed to motorways most of the time, we left at 9.30am and arrived at the hotel at 7pm, 320 miles and the last 20 it rained heavily but dry on the Friday morning when we had another 280 miles to the Hook for the night ferry crossing and I was home at 7.15am on Saturday morning .

The International rally is in Germany next year, the same place as it was held in 2014 so put it in your diaries now !!. They are an experience not to be missed.

Peter

C7 rally and C19 mini break

The rally was at a new venue in Aberaeron which is on Cardigan Bay on the west coast of Wales and over 300 miles from here.

Months ago I suggested we have a pre rally holiday and 8 of us decided to take advantage and a 5B bungalow at Cross Inn about 9 miles from the rally site was rented from Sunday 15th July to Friday 20th July and a very nice place it was to boot. A very quiet area [until we got there...joking] with a pub and 2 shops in the village .

The journey down was uneventful and we made good time with 2 stops en route for petrol and food, the last 50 odd miles on very scenic roads as you would expect in Wales arriving at the bungalow about 4.30pm.

Bedrooms chosen, gear unloaded and down to the pub for a meal and the obligatory drinks.

Monday it rained off and on all day, it wouldn't be Wales if it didn't really !! so no one ventured too far away but did find the pub again.

Tuesday we met C13 for lunch and who were on holiday in the Forest of Dean, we all then rode across the Black Mountains, a scenic twisty, hilly road with stunning scenery

Wednesday some of us caught the steam train from Aberystwyth to Devils Bridge, a narrow gauge with lovely scenery, sheep on the line and a sheer drop on one side, it took about an hour with 1.5 hours at Devils Bridge and time for an ice cream. Trev, Gary and Barney rode there .

We then did a long ride across some Glen [name escapes me] with a newly surfaced road that more resembled a beach in places so coupled with hills, drops, twists and turns I took my time and eventually we got back to the bungalow. Alan turned up in the afternoon to spend a couple of days with us before the rally.

Thursday we went to the rally site and put our tents up as rain was forecast for Friday and then everyone did what they wanted to do for the rest of the day ending in the pub for some for a nice meal and drinks.

Friday off to the rally and it rained, good old Wales. A lovely venue right on the beach so with a cool breeze it was very pleasant,

The rally was full of normal stuff, but well organised, food was from a burger van so not a lot of choice but the town was not too far away so easy access for food and drink.

The weather stayed dry and warm from Friday PM onwards and I saw many new faces and some that came out of the woodwork for this one,

Well done C7 another rally done and dusted and a cracking venue,

I was packed up and ready to go by 7.30am on Sunday so made the home trip alone, a great ride in very good time, 327 miles and 6 hours from door to door with 2 stops but the heat was very uncomfortable the further East I got

Peter

Christmas Party 5th January 2019

If you remember back in November 2017 it was mentioned in Seax that we intended to host a joint centre post Christmas party at the Holiday Inn, Eight Ash Green, Colchester CO63QL. This has been booked so we just need to fill the spaces.

The venue is large enough to have 100 people [maybe slightly less for more comfort] and we are hoping to fill the function room which we will have to ourselves.

We have hosted Christmas parties at this venue previously with great success which is why it was decided to go back there

We need to start getting an idea of numbers from C19 before opening it up to other centres so can you please think about it and let Bruce or myself know

The cost for those deciding to stay over is £60 for a double or twin room with full, eat as much as you like breakfast, the Christmas meal is £24.95 for 3 courses and you will have use of all hotel facilities from 2pm on Saturday 5th January, swimming pool, spa, jacuzzi and gym for those feeling energetic !!

We also need to consider if we need a disco for the evening, our experience is that it was too noisy for the space and was very intrusive to chat, a lot of people left the room and went in to the reception area. This is a decision to be made by members of course so up to you.

Please consider this event and put it in your diary now with a call to confirm your attendance. Thank you

Peter

From the Editor

Not wanting to labour the point but I will all the same and referring to Bruce's Reps Ramblings above, Bruce, Alan and Trevor are all standing down in their respective committee positions at the next AGM so there will be a vacancy for a Centre Rep and 2 x Deputy Reps, the jobs are not difficult and there is enough experience in this centre to help you if you need it so come on the

rest of C19, someone please step up and take on one of these roles. If anyone wants to speak to Bruce, Alan and /or Trevor I am sure they will be pleased to talk you through the responsibilities, no job is very time consuming so don't worry on that score. Look forward to hearing from someone or the centre could be in trouble. Thank you.

The Xmas party on the 5th January 2019 has now been offered to 3 other centres so if anyone is still thinking about it please let me know so I can ensure you don't miss out.

August 5th Museum of Power, we have a stand there which Trevor is in charge of as Bruce is away, any help to set up the gazebo would be helpful, say 9am , thank you.

Ride outs

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

Please note that Ride outs from Boreham will revert back to 10.30am from the 3rd December and back to 10am from the 4th March 2018, if anyone is up for braving the weather of course !!

Centre 19 Rideouts 2018

Ride outs for August and September

August 5th

Museum of power, Langham, Maldon CM9 6QA

Trev will be going straight there to set up so either go direct or meet at Boreham 10.00 where there will be someone to lead in.

August 12th

Norfolk Tank Museum, Station Rd, Fornsett St Peter, Norwich NR16 1HZ

Boreham 10.00, Langham 10.45

August 19th

Aldeburgh, Suffolk

Boreham 10.00, Langham 10.45

August 24th-27th

Fourgasm V, Centre 4 Rally, Redcar Rugby Club, TS10 3RW

September 2nd

Greenwich, South London

Thurrock services 10.30

September 9th

Gorleston & Beccles, Norfolk

Boreham 10.00, Langham 10.45

September 16th

Walton on the Naze

Boreham 10.00, Junction 28 A12, opposite football stadium 10.45

Maybe a change or diversion to a Residential home where a resident wants a ride on a motorbike. More info to come

September 23rd

Silverball cafe

Boreham 10.00

September 30th

Holly's diner, Latchingdon, Essex. Scenic route.

Boreham 10.30

Oct 7th Copdock Bike show

Oct 14th Brightona

Oct 21st C19 AGM