

SEAX

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

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Centre 19 meeting's date

December 2016

North meeting

8pm Monday 5th December 2016
The Crown, Old Ipswich Road, Ardleigh, Colchester CO7 7QR

South meeting

8pm Monday 19th December 2016
The Lodge Country Inn, Hayes Chase, Burnham Rd SS11 7QT

January 2017

North meeting

8pm Monday 2nd January 2017
The Crown, Old Ipswich Road, Ardleigh, Colchester CO7 7QR

South meeting

8pm Monday 16th January 2017
The Lodge Country Inn, Hayes Chase, Burnham Rd SS11 7QT

Reps ramblings

Hi Folks

How are you all doing, fighting fit I hope.

I will be attending the National AGM on the 4th December so its your last chance if you want me to ask anything, as of yet all is ok and all I have to report is that the rally is all up and running. You never know we may get away early for a change(that would be nice Peter)

The Christmas meal is just around the corner with 36 booked, unfortunately a lot of usual suspects had to work, any raffle prizes are welcome .

Bowling, the inter centre bowling competition is in Stevenage this time hosted by C10, so come on C19 lets see if we can get the trophy back. If you haven't tried this before its a great afternoons entertainment with 3 centres, 1 game with 2 from each team on a lane then the highest 2 from each team enter a final, so far it has been won by in order C10, C19 and then C13. Details below

February Sunday5th 2017 - 12.30 for a 1pm start

<http://www.hollywoodbowl.co.uk/our-centres/stevenage>

**Stevenage Leisure Park
Six Hills Way
SG1 2UA**

Don't forget 10 30 at Boreham if you fancy going for a ride, apologies (in advance) now for not being out as I have been away.

Ride out to Felixstowe 30.10.16

As the weather looked promising and it is good to grab the opportunity I put an e mail out to all advising that we would ride from Langham at 10.30, Little Sue dont pay let me know she was coming and Phil from the North of the County so with Alan and Tony that was 5 of us. I also heard from Chas in France as a result of my e mail, to tell me that they were doing a ride to Bordeaux, I had a quick think and decided it was probably a tad to far to join them in view of the clocks going back !!

The day looked a bit murky to start with but as usual, if it starts misty it usually

ends up sunny and it did.

Off we went and then took a de tour on the back roads to Felixstowe ably led by Alan on a Virago 535, we went through Trimley St Mary and all places in between arriving through the top end of Felixstowe which I have to confess I have never seen before and it was very nice.

We had to stop at the statutory fish and chip shop where those that wanted it had it and Sue paid !!

Off we went again to the 'viewing point' where I was very nearly T boned by a jeep driver who came from my left out of a side turning without looking, made my bum cheeks clench a bit I have to say and he got a few polite words to boot.

Considering it was October 30th the weather at the viewing point was excellent, very warm and no breeze off the sea which all made for a good excuse to be there. I received a text to say it was dull and cold in Colchester and I have to say as we got nearer home it was, so maybe a good idea to go to sunny Suffolk for the day.

Shame more members didn't turn out but on the plus side we met a C10 member who lives in Felixstowe and rides a Sstratoliner.

Peter

Here is the C19 rally patch designed by Garry



I hope it meets with your approval.

South African tour



Having ridden the iconic Route 66 in the US in 2013, Chris and I decided to book a guided tour in South Africa through a German company – ReuthersEntertainment. The Wild Garden Tour started on the 16th October so we decided to arrive early in Cape Town and visit the sites – Table Mountain, Robben Island and Cape Town itself – we did a couple of guided walks in the Historic and District 6 areas.

The group consisted of six Germans (including the guide Hermann the German, the boss of the company), 3 Swiss, 1 Aussie, 1 Swiss/Aussie, 1 South African (the back-up vehicle driver) and us 2 Brits – a good mix of people.

After collecting the Harleys on the second day of the tour we rode around the Cape Peninsula, visiting South Africa's oldest wine estate Groot Constantia for a coffee stop – we tried the Rooibos Tea cappuccino – not to my taste but Chris enjoyed it. We continued along the coast to the rock promontory of Cape Point, where we visited the famous Cape of Good Hope. Along this road, we had three ostriches running along side us at about 40 km per hour. Couldn't believe how fast they were going. In Simon's Town we saw the African penguins.

On the third day, we rode around False Bay via Gordons Bay and Betty's Bay, and on to the historic coastal resort of Hermanus. We continued to Cape L'Agulhas, the southern most point of Africa and the meeting point of the Atlantic and Indian Ocean.

Day four was a cruising day, visiting the picturesque town of Swellendam with its historical cape Dutch buildings. In Mossel Bay we visited the Bartolomeu Dias Ship museum.

On Day four we visited the Knysna Elephant Park and had an unforgettable African experience – we were actually allowed to feed, walk with and touch the elephants.



We also visited the Plettenberg Bay Game Reserve and I had my longest off road experience. The drive to the reception from the main entrance must have been at least 4 kilometres.

Day five entailed riding along the Garden Route, via the Grootrivier Pass, the Bloukrans Pass and a stop for lunch at the Tsitsikamma National Park.

Our first highlight on day six was the amazing Game Drive at the Addo Elephant National Park, which has over 700 elephants roaming. The park had not had rain for over a year so the elephants, in their groups, made their way to the watering hole each day. We witnessed three groups in the area. Chris was in her element as they are her favourite animal and the camera did not stop clicking.

On Day 8 we visited the Valley of Desolation – the scenery was breath-taking.

Day 9 entailed visiting an Ostrich Farm where Terrie (the Aussie) entertained the group riding an ostrich. The Cango Caves were very impressive.

On Day 10 we rode the infamous Route 62 – the South African Route 66.



Days 11 and 12 were spent riding back to Cape Town. The total distance was about 2,500 kilometres.

After the Harley tour, we then spent three days at the Sanbona Wildlife Reserve, which was a wonderful experience. Our Ranger – Josh – was very enthusiastic and we saw most of the species on the reserve.

Overall Chris and I think this was our best holiday ever and wish we had visited South Africa before.

Terry & Chris

Bike show

Approximately 29th July 2017 is the Calne, Wiltshire, bike show. The organisers boast their show as the biggest free bike show in the country. I'm looking at the possibility of maybe having a weekend ride out, maybe Friday to Sunday or depending on response, Saturday to Sunday. I was thinking B&B but I'm sure there are camp sites nearby, again depending on response. Anybody interested please let me know as soon as possible. If there is enough interest and as soon as I can get a definite date I'll look into taking it further.

Trev

From the Editor

Ride outs from Boreham will leave at 10.30am now , as it is colder !!

Dont forget to rack your brains for ride out destinations for 2017 and pass your ideas to Trevor and Alan. What about a day trip to Bruges ?

Rally in a hotel 5th to 7th May 2017

Bruce has sent details to all members by e mail but I thought I would send a reminder in Seax.

We have been asked for a while now to put on something that may appeal to the non-camping brigade so this seemed to be the best alternative.

So come on you non-campers, bed, breakfast, and evening meal all in with the price, just some drinks money and maybe a contribution towards the band and patch cost. Just think a warm bed for the night must appeal, no trekking across a damp field to the toilet and a shower that you don't have to share, unless you want to of course !!

Names as soon as possible to Bruce please so we can get an idea of numbers.

More details now available and the booking line is open , tel 01452 374116 and quote VSOC. A £50 deposit per person is required when booking with the balance due 28 days before the rally, so not until April 2017.

Raffle prizes for the Xmas meal on the 17th December and for the C19 rally in August 2017 needed please, I can store them if you want me to.

For sale, 2001 Yamaha Wildstar

Custom suspension, Barnett clutch, forward controls, 4" risers, leather tank bra, tow bar, sissy bar and rack. A bike to tour on. Had major service this year, including new rectifier, new battery, new rear tyre, cylinder head check and adjustment, new fluids, brake calliper rebuilds front and rear, I have owned it for the last 14 years, just less than 50k miles. Full history .£3500

If anyone is interested please contact Peter on 07531614887.



For Sale

Henderson electric garage door opener, suitable for single garage door or medium size double up and over door.

In perfect working order and originally fitted by Trevor, our ride out man.

£50 tel Peter 07531614887.

Ride outs

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

Impromptu rides from Boreham will continue throughout the winter unless the weather dictates otherwise.