

# SEAX

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

November 2013      Issue 214

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## *Centre 19 meeting's dates:*

### **November**

#### **North meeting.**

8pm Monday 4th November 2013.  
The Anchor, Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary, CO7 6LW.

#### **South meeting.**

8pm Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2013.  
The Rettendon Bell, Rettendon Common, Main Road CM3 8DY

### **December**

#### **North meeting**

8pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013.  
The Anchor, Upper Street, Stratford St. Mary, CO7 6LW.

#### **South meeting.**

8pm Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013.  
The Rettendon Bell, Rettendon Common, Main Road CM3 8DY

## *Reps ramblings*

**Non this month due to the AGM**

### *Ride-out to the Comfort Café*

Left Boreham at about 10.15, did not show anyone a map; Cogie was tail end charlie but did not wear a high viz; and I led also not wearing a high viz. Didn't second man just line of site as has been the case for 22 out of 23 rides this year, everyone stayed together nobody got lost which proves it can be just as simple and effective.

I decided to avoid the usual A130 Regiment Way, and head into Chelmsford [Broomfield to be exact] for a change. Followed the Broomfield Road past the hospital and turned off for Great Waltham through the village to Howe Street through that village and on to the roundabout on the B1008. We stayed on the B1008 to Dunmow then picked up the B184 through Thaxted to Saffron Walden. Round the one-way system in Saffron Walden, turned left too early and took a Trev's tour of a car park, then the next left [20 yards further along] onto the B1052 to Linton then left on the A1307 to Little Abington and the World Famous Comfort Cafe.

While standing in the queue for our breakfast who should turn up but Bruce, Paula and the girls on their way back from C10 charity party at Meldreth. After a cuppa and a bite to eat it was time to leave for Finchingfield. Ray at this point decided to go straight home but Paula made the number up in her car at the back [she wasn't wearing a hi viz either]. Back through Linton and Saffron Walden onto the B1053 through Radwinter and Great Samford into Finchingfield for a nice relax in the sun before heading home.

Trevor

## Where is C19 Rally Badge?

Having had a holiday of a lifetime riding Route 66 “The Mother Road of the US”, 2300 miles into the journey we stopped at Roy’s Petrol Station in Amboy for a pit stop.

In his shop/café window we noticed that he had biker club badges from riders around the world. Chris and I decided to remove a C19 rally badge from our rucksack and we gave this to Roy to add to his collection. Can you spot it below?



Overall we rode 2578.6 miles from Chicago to Los Angeles. We were in a group of nine people on five bikes. We have made some new biker friends from the UK.

Unfortunately due to the US Government shut down, the National Parks were closed so we were unable to visit the Petrified Forest and the Grand Canyon. We did however take a helicopter flight over the Grand Canyon which was awe inspiring.



Terry & Chris  
PS: I can see it.

## *C19 AGM Minutes 20<sup>th</sup> October 2013*

29 in attendance; 28 x C19 members; 1 visitor.

Apologies received from Cheryl Myhill, Austin Hendren and Bob Owen

BT called meeting to order at 8pm

### **Election of Officers**

Centre Rep	Bruce Thompson (BT)
Deputy Rep South	Trevor Lathrope (TL)
Deputy Rep North	Alan Ward (AW)
Treasurer	Paula Ferreira (PF)
Merchandising	Gary McHiggins (GM)
SEAX editor	Peter Gauntlett (PG)
Ride outs and Events	Trevor Lathrope and Alan Ward
Web Master	Bob Owen (BO)
Winter Events Organiser	Vacant

All rep, deputy reps and all other officers were willing to stand again, BT asked if anyone else wanted to stand for these positions with no volunteers, so the committee remains the same for the next year.

We have a vacant position for winter events organizer so if anyone is willing to take this on please contact BT directly.

BT reminded everyone that the winter ride outs from Boreham will move back to 10.30 from Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December until 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2014.

### **Accounts**

PF went through the club accounts explaining that we now hold more in the way of assets i.e. new party tent, flag pole, BBQs in stock, some storage containers etc, the Mersea BBQ was our biggest loss for the year as we had to pay for the salad stuff, rolls etc, a donation was made for the field and Kevin was given a token for the use of the tea tent. A breakdown of accounts is available if required.

### **Rideouts**

TL discussed the ride outs for 2013 which were considered very successful with only 2 missed due to the weather. Suggestions are needed to add to the forthcoming ride out calendar for 2014 a couple of places suggested are Kentwell Hall, Audley End and a bike display at Southwold, including the use of the boating lake, minus the bikes of course!!

The traditional "lunch at the Anchor" will be revised as it was felt that the food/service received this year was not as good as it could have been, there will still be a "lunch" somewhere but the venue is to be decided.

The resurrection of the Day trip to France was discussed with favourable responses; Neil Smith will look into this in more detail.

Another suggestion was the memorial at the Menin Gate at Ypres, there was a fair amount of interest in this too. Bike and Barges at Maldon was suggested but clashes with a national rally so cannot be advertised in line with club policy, however it will remain as an alternative ride over that weekend.

AW talked about the severe lack of attendance to the North meeting, and at the AGM with no one attending the last meeting apart from AW, PG and BT, and no one at the AGM. There was a discussion regarding what to do about this and whilst it is appreciated that work commitments may play a part, we need to discover if there are any issues that can be addressed to improve this situation. It was suggested that a survey is sent out with SEAX asking for people's thoughts/explanations etc. Once we have this information it will be decided if it is appropriate or necessary to continue in the North.

### **2/11/2013 Fireworks on Southend Sea front,**

C19 will be riding from The Rettendon Bell at 6pm to arrive on Southend Sea front in time for the fireworks at 7.30 pm; Sue Haynes will contact C13 and arrange a rendezvous point.

BT asked that the people going to the German rally next year let him know if they require food on the Thursday eve/Fri morning and again Sunday eve/Monday morning as there is a charge of 12 Euros per person per extra night if so.

### **Merchandise**

Dealt with by GM, there is a limited amount of "old" stock available which we really need to clear before 2014, if anyone has any ideas on new designs or items please contact GM, so he can look into the costs etc. A pennant was given to PG as a raffle prize at the Xmas meal.

### **SEAX**

PG to include national information in SEAX such as flyers for rallies, links to websites of interest and so on. We are one of only a few centre that offer invites to our ride outs and events and rarely receive anything back but it was felt that we should continue to do this as it helps keep our member numbers up, we currently have 65 members in C19.

### **A.O.B**

BT asked if there was anything that to be raised at the National AGM, the issue of family membership was raised but it needs to be clarified to ascertain that each adult on the family ticket still receives their own vote.

C19 is of the opinion that 3 rallies a year is adequate especially with the international events that occur in the year.

BT also mentioned that some items that he knows will be on the agenda for the National AGM. Clatter by email, it was a unanimous vote against this for C19, Clatter is the only thing a member receives from the club out of the annual fee so to remove the paper copy whilst cost cutting is deemed to be unnecessary. Once a member always a member, again overwhelmingly C19 want this to continue as to remove this privilege could penalize someone who for health reasons or financial reason cannot be an active member at that particular time.

As we have purchased a new flag pole it was suggested that it is time to get a new sail too. This was voted on and carried, PF to investigate.

Suggestions were made regarding what to do with the club funds, subsidising the Xmas meal in 2014 was mentioned as was purchasing raffle prizes of greater value.

**Final Note:** Can everyone please ensure that PG has the correct email addresses to avoid people not getting regular emails/SEAX.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

An issue was raised at the AGM regarding non attendance at scheduled centre meetings. Particularly in the North of the County.

At the last North meeting there were only 3 members, one of which was Bruce, who, due to mileage only attends the North meeting every 2 months.

The meetings are held for the benefit of the members.

We know that historically the cold weather seems to keep people away and other things can have an affect, work, sickness, lethargy, comfort of your own home, etc etc.

If things continue as they are, we may have to consider postponing the North meetings until further notice, I think the saying is, use it or lose it !!

Would you please put your thinking caps on and tell us if you want things to change or maybe do things differently. Maybe a change of venue. Thanks.

## *For Sale*

Red Hoody XL, the new type with embroidered logo on the front left, and writing down the sleeve, see Gary our centre merchandiser if interested.

## *November Ride outs*

Impromptu only, nothing planned, meet at 10:30 Boreham from 1<sup>st</sup> December (through to 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2014).

## *Ride out list 2013*

November 2nd, Southend Firework Display, meet at the Bell, Rettendon at 6pm, maybe meet up with C13 when we get there.

## From the Editor

Rally dates 2014

23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May C7 Wales

13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June International Germany, see national website for details

27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June C12 Thames valley Vultures.

25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> July C16 Solent

22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> August C4 Northern Raiders at North Shields.

I would also like to tell you that we have 57 booked and paid for the C19 Xmas meal, not too bad, all things considered.

If anyone has a burning desire to join us, it can be arranged, just let me know, it would be great to see a few more. Winter is long and can be boring so a bit of frivolity in January may go a long way to relieving the pain.

Can I remind those of you that **haven't** done it that you need to choose your Xmas meal menu and let me know as soon as possible please.

So far 17 x C19 members have said they are going to the German International next year. If **extra** meals are needed at the rally in Germany [dinner Thurs night, breakfast Friday 12 Euros, dinner Sunday, breakfast Monday 12 Euros] they must be booked through Bruce and myself. It is important that meals are booked as the Germans are on a tight budget and need to know in advance what they have to lay out for. Arrangements for payment to be agreed later. No booking, no meals !!

A tentative date 20.7.2014 has been set for a day trip to the Continent, more details to follow.

Can I advise everyone [meant to do it at the AGM] that I wont be organising the Xmas party anymore. I have done it for 3 years and would like to give someone else the opportunity cos I know someone out there is anxious to have a go. Good luck.