



VIRAGO STAR OWNERS CLUB



JULY 2006 NEWSLETTER

As Little Malc had organised this ride out I think it should be called "Little Malc's ride out to Willingham Wood" and we should make it a yearly event. And here's hoping you are on the mend Malc, and will soon be back riding with us.

The day couldn't have been any better for a ride out, the sun was glorious and it had been too long since it had been with us on our rides. I was just leading a group of about 10 of us when a group of three bikes joined us, having travelled down from Cleethorpes to join the ride, they were most welcome.

A 30 minute ride found us at Ollerton and the Big Fish restaurant car park, where we were soon joined by a group led by Chris bringing the number up to 30. It was time to hand over the lead to Malc and for me to don an orange hi viz and bring up the rear.

Heading off towards Lincoln everyone seemed to be in very high spirits, it is surprising what a dose of sunshine can do to lift your spirits. Malc paid for 30 bikes to pass the toll bridge at Dunham, the toll keeper thought we would never stop coming!, and he didn't notice a couple of non-VSOC bikes blagging through for free! Past Lincoln and we had a petrol stop and to a man or person to be PCI it was off with helmets and most of our clothing and cold drinks and ice creams were the order of the day! It was a revelation to see just what some people wear under their leathers Hmmm! Don't go there!

We were soon on our way and at our destination before we knew it, we were joined at this point by another 8 riders from south of the centre and out came the picnic baskets full of goodies, and bodies were seen going into the trees and coming back dressed in all shades of shorts and holiday gear, it was a great atmosphere and a good time was had by all.

All too soon it was time to set off for home, saying our farewells 'til next time we set off in several groups, the sun was still shining on us all the way home. We arrived back in Chesterfield at 6 pm still smiling from ear to ear, they just don't get much better than that, see you on the next ride out.

Ken (Derbyshire Rep)

Ride to WILLINGHAM WOODS 11th June



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WOLDS BIKERS EVENT

JULY

- 4  Ride-in to C9 meeting from Derbyshire - led by Ken - leaving The Dusty Miller at 6.15 p.m.
- 4  **VSOC C9 - 11th ANNIVERSARY Meeting at the Grey Goose, Gedling** - Lets show what we're made of in Centre 9 - please be there if you can. By now Ride-ins should have been organised, contact your County Rep.
- 5 Bike Night Cruisers: Trent Port, Gainsborough // Royal Oak, Kirton in Lindsey & The Talbot, Caistor.
- 6 **Boston Bike Night** - Lincolnshire Area may have a stall again. Usually meet around the back - look around for us!
- 8  Ride-out, leaving **Alfreton Leisure Centre car park at 11 am.**
- 9 **Lincolnshire Area BBQ at Rutland Water** - Barnsdale car park area. Food can be provided but YOU have to cook it!
-  Ride-in from Coningsby 12 noon. Let Roy know if you are coming.
-  Ride-in from Derbyshire area - leaving the Dusty Miller, Barlborough at 11.00 am, led by Ken.
- 10 **VSOC Derbys Area meet, Barlborough**
- 11 Ashby Foleville - a gathering of bikes & cars -classics and customs alike, from mid-afternoon onwards.
- 12 **Barton on Humber Bike Night and has now been uncancelled** - this is the **BIG ONE** of the season 10,000 bikes is not unusual.
-  Lincolnshire members are having a ride-out to the event - see separate ad in this newsletter for details.
- 12 **VSOC Lincs Area Meet, Castle Inn, Coningsby** - Informal meet after the ride to Barton (above) - see Lincolnshire Letter elsewhere in this newsletter.
- 12 **VSOC Leics/Northants meet, Walcote**
- 12 *Deadline for receipt of items for inclusion in the July newsletter - this is earlier than usual but holidays dictate!*
- 14-16 **Centre 9 National Party - The Sherwood Shift Big** - *see lost riders website for info.*
- 19 Bike Night Cruisers: Cider Centre, Brandy Wharfe // Fox & Hounds, Willingham by Stow & Coach & Horses, Foldingworth.
- 23 Hog on the Humber - see Lincolnshire letter.
- 26 Bike Night Cruisers: Dog & Gun, Butterwick // 8 Jolly Brewers, Gainsborough.
- 28 Bike Night: Hartsholme Park, Skellingthorpe Rd, Lincoln.
- 28-31 **Centre 2 Ireland - Laughin' Leprechaun Rally.**
Bike ferry places limited - if you haven't booked already then you're too late!

AUGUST

- 1 **VSOC C9 Meeting at the Grey Goose, Gedling**
- 2 Bike Night: Cruisers; Kings Head, Tealby // Waterfront Inn, West Stockwith.
- 4-6 **Barn weekend, North Yorkshire** - contact Ken Collingwood
- 8 Ashby Foleville - a gathering of bikes & cars -classics and customs alike, from mid-afternoon onwards.
- 9 **VSOC Lincs Area Meet, Castle Inn, Coningsby**
- 9 **VSOC Leics/Northants meet, Walcote**
- 9 Bike Night: Cruisers; White Swan, Torksey // Ferry Boat, Burton on Stather.
- 13 **BIG Bike Fest, Lincoln** - see separate ad in this newsletter.
- 14 **VSOC Derbys Area meet, Barlborough**
- 25-28 **Centre 4 The Northern Raiders**
FOURGASM II Rally (The Second Cumin')

MEETING DATES & VENUES

CENTRE 9

Grey Goose Public House
Gedling, Nr Arnold
NOTTINGHAM
1st Tues of the month from 7.30pm
includes FREE BUFFET

DERBYSHIRE

Dusty Miller Public House
BARLBOROUGH
(just off J30 M1)
2nd Monday of the month from 7.30pm

LEICESTERSHIRE / NORTHANTS

The Tavern Inn
WALCOTE,
Nr Lutterworth
1 minute from J20 M1
2nd Wednesday of the month from 7.30pm

LINCOLNSHIRE

Castle Inn.
CONINGSBY
2nd Wednesday of each month
from 7.30pm

WOLDS BIKERS EVENT Lincoln BIG Bike Fest

Wolds Bikers are organising
Lincoln BIG Bike Fest
for Lincoln Business
Improvement
Group (BIG).

To be held along Brayford
Wharf North, Lincoln
on
Sunday 13th August
10am til 5pm
with trade and club stands,
BBQ on the Barge and
hopefully live music.

Separate bike parking has been
organised in the university car
park with the helmet park bus
from Riders for Health.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON LINCOLNSHIRE BIKE NITES -
GOTO: [www.spen-crowson.co.uk/
lincs_bike_nights.htm](http://www.spen-crowson.co.uk/lincs_bike_nights.htm)

NEXT MONTH:

- ★ Pics & Thank-you from Nick & Jane.
- ★ Cottesmore Camping weekend report and pics.
- ★ Reports & pics from the International Rally, Denmark.

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL



The C9 newsletter is
available by email and
takes the form of a
6 page 'Word' document
of around 3mb size and
in **FULL COLOUR.**

If you would like to be included on my
circulation list, please email me at:
jayne.bell@hemacoll.net
The emailed file should reach you up
to 5 days before the Gedling meeting.
PS: PLEASE ASK FOR A READ-RECEIPT
ON YOUR REQUEST SO YOU KNOW I
HAVE RECEIVED IT!

Lost Riders Web Site

The LOST RIDERS website has
now been restored to it's original
location at:
www.lostriders.co.uk

WEBSITES

www.vsoc.org.uk
www.lostriders.co.uk

MALC'S Bit

Hi everyone I hope you're all fit and well and enjoying a typical British summer . . . we are now well into our party and rally season as well as trying our hardest to squeeze in some of our centre ride-outs. Early in June many of our members travelled to Denmark for this years International Rally, a big number of these then continued on into other countries and turned it into a mega-trip, everyone whom I've spoken too has really enjoyed the experience and have stories a plenty to tell. Before the International rally we had the first VSOC rally of the year at Tonna. Almost 400 people ventured into deepest South Wales for a splish splash - sorry the weekend. Our ride down was fairly pleasant and easy, things sort of changed when we stopped for a brew at Pencraig on the A40. As we got off the bikes and walked in, something out of the black lagoon looked at us and spoke in some foreign tongue only recognisable by trekkies or Dr Who aficionados - mind you that's probably being unfair to those guys. Any way this café (and I use that term very loosely) was gross, filthy, disgusting and 'orible with a capital 'O, the only thing worse than the café was its loo's.



The weekend followed the traditional pattern that everyone enjoys, bikes, beer food, bikes and beer. Saturday was a bit of a washout, but Sunday was very pleasant with the big majority of people going off site to explore. We did the same, well as far as the nearest Tesco's for some supplies for the evenings BBQ back at ours. We had a very pleasant couple of hours talking, eating and drinking before once again going to the clubhouse. Thanx everyone for making the evening go so well, it really was a team effort with a number of folks turning the tucker (turning not burning either) the onions and mushrooms were cooked in Worthingtons Smooth, I couldn't even count how many were there, not the onions or mushrooms done in beer - people, they just didn't stand still long enuf. I'm guessing that we had at least a couple of dozen Centre 9'ers plus some of our cousins from Centre 6.

Monday's ride home was fine until we got near Birmingham when we uncountered several heavy downpours making the journey a bit of a test, but saying that we all got home nice and safe. We were then hit with the news that on Tuesday Little Malc had had a bit of a heart attack and been rushed into 'ospital. Luckily everything's ok now and he's at home recovering, I'm sure we'll see him soon.



The following weekend we had a ride to Willingham Woods in North Lincolnshire, and wot a cracking day it was too. This ride involved quite a number of people from all over the centre liaising together - one of little Malcs babies - conceived I think by Trevor and Rachel- and it worked brilliantly. 29 bikes met up at Ollerton to ride into Lincolnshire to join up with the bikes already there, an excellent day, teamwork, pure teamwork



The following weekend many of us set off to Mallory Park to the wedding of VSOC Webmaster and Centre 9'ers Nick and Jane's wedding. The weather was once again spot on for us. We met up with the newly married couple just a couple of miles the other side of Leicestershire/Northants meeting place and escorted them back the 20 odd miles back to the Leicestershire race track to party the night away. There was a little hiccup with the wedding car as we got close to base but it didn't take too long to sort it out. The night went well, the majority singing away to the karaoke till the early hours of the morning.

Lastly a bit of information for Royal Star owners, apparently in America they ride-um like they've stole-em. Treat them as tho' you've got three gears and two overdrives, you ain't hurting anything. You can go to the rev-limiter - not a problem. Whatever you do don't drive it like a vee-twin, it'll be rubbish.

Anyway that's it for now, see you all soon at the Sherwood Shindig

Malc

Lost Rider Merchandise 2006

This year we are selling Lost Rider Merchandise on a pre order Mail Order basis. This helps free up the clubs Finances as we only produce what is required and has been paid for! Depending on demand and success of this system, we will probably produce the merchandise **ONCE MORE** this year.

Please note that if your order arrives **LATER** than the cut off dates below then it will not be processed until the next order run!

Lady Rider Prints BACK by public demand!!!

Last Date for Orders 16th JULY 2006
Orders posted out w.c. 13th August 2006



Ladies Design		S	M	L	XL	2XL	£ TOTAL
T Shirt	£10						
Sweatshirt	£20						
Hooded Sweatshirt	£27						



Mens Design		S	M	L	XL	2XL	£ TOTAL
T Shirt	£10						
Sweatshirt	£20						
Hooded Sweatshirt	£27						
Sew on Patch one size	£5						

NOTE * Prices INCLUDE post & packing

TOTAL CHEQUE

Cheques payable to VSOC Centre Nine

Name	_____
Address	_____

Post Code	_____
Member Number	<input type="text"/>

Post Completed Form to
VSOC Orders
8 Hollythorpe Place
HUCKNALL
Notts
NG15 6RP

	S	M	L	XL	2XL
Chest	38	42-44	46	48	50
Length	28	29	30	31	32



Virago Star Owners Club

CENTRE 9 RIDE-OUT PROCEDURE

Getting everyone to a given destination is **not** always an **easy task**. It cannot be done by one man alone, it **needs everyone's co-operation**. To help things run as smoothly as possible we use a **'second man' (or woman)** system.

Second Manning works like this:- The group rides in a staggered formation; this allows us to ride as a tighter group. The space between machines will depend on road conditions, speed and of course confidence. **Remember to try and keep your position**, especially when cornering. If the road narrows you will have to ride one behind/other, leaving a bigger gap between bikes.

The leader (and marshals if we are using them) will wear **YELLOW VESTS**, and the **LAST MAN** will wear an **ORANGE VEST**. The rider immediately following the leader is the **'second man'**; it is their responsibility to mark any deviation from the straight ahead route and position themselves at the junction so as to mark which direction the leader went, taking up a **safe yet visible position to following bikes and waits, and waits, until the LAST MAN arrives and then rejoins behind the group but in front of the last man**. Occasionally on left turns if visibility is poor, it may be better to stop just before the turn. The new second person follows the same procedure at the next junction.

When making PLEASE position yourself so that bikes that may have become separated from the group can see you easily, and keep a watch for the Orange Vest of the Last Man when you see him approaching be ready to pull away swiftly as he will slow down for you and may be putting himself in a precarious position holding back other traffic whilst allowing you to pull away.

When you are at your destination, check with the organiser for departure time. On your journey home, the group often fragments as people turn onto their individual route home. It has been known for some of the group to follow another rider to their home - 20 coffees please!!!!

Sometimes we have to use motorways and experience has shown that occupying the centre lane is often safer than keep moving from one lane to another. Keep an eye on your mirrors, the group can on occasions move into another lane led by the rear marker.

Confused!! it's not that bad. If in doubt start at the rear of the group, hopefully by the time it's your turn you'll have got the hang of it. If you are unclear about any of this procedure, please speak to the leader of the ride before you set off.

Enjoy your ride.

Leicester and Northants Presents

A ride-out to the

ACE CAFÉ LONDON

It's the **CRUISER and VALKYRIE Special Day** on Sunday the 17th Sept 2006 Meeting at the **Walcote 10am** setting off promptly at 11am

Make a note in your diaries - join the ride-out

For more detail, contact **Pete Brown 01162 916809** or your County Rep

BIKE Normandy

for further information, phone: 0033(0) 233 350065 email: info@bikenormandy.com or visit website: www.bikenormandy.com

Forget the maps and leave the potholes behind! Come and enjoy the freedom of riding on quality French roads with bikers based in Normandy.

- Accommodation
- Guided Ride-outs
- Dry, Secure Parking
- All Evening Drinks

For the benefit of all new members and those with limited experience of our ride-outs, we are publishing again our Ride-Out Procedure. Please cut it out and keep it in your usual motorcycle jacket pocket for reference when you next join a ride-out!



Lincolnshire Letter

Once again a good meeting, many things were discussed. Sad news was read out by John and myself, unfortunately we seem to

be losing through ill health too many good people, good friends and family alike, we want all the families concerned to know that our thoughts are with them in these sad times. Several of our club members were thanked for their help in the running and organisation of events in and around the county.

A lot of events have been organised and are going ahead.

- Road Runners Rally at the end of the month, 30 June till 2 July

Next month is full:

- Boston Bike Night 6 July
- BBQ Rutland Water between 1&2 o'clock meet at Coningsby 11.30 for ride-in
- Lincs meeting 12 July, Humber bike night, Trevor has arranged a ride to it and an informal meet after has been arranged, contact Trevor for details.
- C9 party of course 14/16 July please turn up if you can and help out.
- Hog on the Humber 23rd July - ride across the bridge in protest of costs to us all.
- Irish Rally 28/30 hope you have booked your ferry, as they are all full up now

Hope to see you all there!

August Meeting will be on 9th - I unfortunately will not be there but will leave you all in the capable hands of Steve.

Roy



BARTON ON HUMBER BIKE NIGHT



The Barton on Humber Bike Night has not been cancelled. It will be held on **Wednesday 12 July 2006.**

The Lincolnshire members are having a ride-out to attend the event. We will be meeting at the **Cherry Tree Cafe** on the A158 at **18:30. Departing there at 18:45** and traveling to **Caistor Top for 19:30**, where we will meet with members from the north of the county who will take us into Barton. If any members from the other counties would like to join us they are very welcome.

For further details contact Trevor Bridgwood (see Centre 9 contacts section).

FOR SALE

VIRAGO XV 750 N REG 1996

Lovely condition, plum and cream

- ▶ sissy bar
- ▶ datatagged
- ▶ noisy exhaust (although still have original)
- ▶ crash bars
- ▶ Rider back rest
- ▶ panniers
- ▶ screen
- ▶ good runner
- ▶ mileage 19782
- ▶ belly pan available
- ▶ Taxed till end of October
- ▶ MOT'd till Feb 06

£2695 O.V.N.O **tel: 01623 793375**
(Notts Area)

RIDE OUT FEES

Since I took over the duties of Derbyshire Rep. I have reinstated the old procedure of collecting £1.00 per bike for taking part in Ride outs organized by Derbyshire members, but are of course open to any member of Centre 9, and as has been the norm as of late, non VSOC members have been joining us for rides, which I believe can only do our Centre good, and maybe pick up a few new members on the way!

The purpose of the collection is to build up a small fund that we can use to some good for us all, examples being the toll charges at Dunham Bridge and for the excellent BBQ that Malc and Liz put on after the recent ride out I led to the Peaks last month.

These collections are not compulsory so if you feel they are not for you it doesn't matter, but joining the ride-outs are, so keep on joining us!

Safe riding
Ken (Derbyshire Rep)



THE 'SECOND MAN' SYSTEM - CUT IT OUT AND KEEP IT !

