



VIRAGO STAR OWNERS CLUB

www.vsoc.org.uk



LOST RIDERS



Centre 9

DECEMBER 2007 - CHRISTMAS ISSUE

East & North Midlands; Derbyshire, Notts, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Northants, Rutland

ELVIS FOUND ALIVE TWICE AT LOST RIDERS EVENTS!

The standard story is that Elvis died in 1977: Shortly after midnight on August 16, 1977, Elvis returns to Graceland from a late-night visit to the dentist. Through the early morning of the 16th he relaxes with family and staff. He retires to his master suite at Graceland to rest. By late morning, Elvis Presley is dead of heart failure. In a matter of hours the shock registers around the world. (In fact, it is commonly believed that Elvis had a heart attack while sitting on the toilet - Ed.)

The *Lost Riders Newsletter* can now reveal exclusively that Elvis is not dead at all, but appears regularly at **Lost Riders Rallies and Parties**.

He first appeared to faithful believers (Praise His Blue Suede Shoes) at the **Sherwood Shindig** on the evening of 30th June 2007.

Some doubting Thomases whispered that it was Warren, but you can see from these exclusive pictures that this is a dreadful calumny put around by unbelievers.



ELVIS APPEARS AT BRANDY WHARF!

Elvis's next appearance was at the Brandy Wharf Caravan Park on Saturday 3rd November 2007, where astonishingly he was seen singing and dancing with various Lost Riders (mainly lady members) during the course of the Bonfire Party evening.

Unfortunately we don't have pictures of this amazing event, but we can exclusively reveal that you can see the photographic proof for yourself, by going to the **Lost Riders website** and watching the absolutely brilliant, stunning slideshow put together by our own **Big Tel**:

www.lostriders.co.uk/slideshows/brandy_wharf_07.htm

If Carlsberg made biker slideshows, this would probably be the best photographic record of a Lost Riders Party we have ever seen! Photo-journalism at its finest! If you haven't seen it yet, for the Sake of Elvis (Bless His Jumpsuit) go and have a look!

(Big Terry, thanks for the Brandy Wharf photos you sent - see page 5 - can I please have some of the Elvis ones as well for next month's Newsletter if I promise to be your bitch? - Ed.)

Happy Christmas and a Bonza Biking New Year to you all!

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DECEMBER 2007

Sun. 2nd December at 10.00 am:
Ken's 1st Sunday of the Month Breakfast Meeting and Mystery Ride-Out to Arkwright Arms

Tues. 4th December: Centre 9 Monthly Meeting - Grey Goose Gedling

Sat. 8th December: Derbyshire Christmas Party at 7 o'clock for 7.30 at the Dusty Miller Pub at Barlborough.

Saturday 8th December: Lincolnshire Christmas Meal, at The Royal Oak, Tattershall Bridge. This will also be our Lincs. Dec. meeting.

Sunday 9th December: Bottesford Toy Run, leaving the Red Lion pub at 11.00 am, leaving CMC Chesterfield at 9.15 am to meet up with Bottesford Toy Run

Monday 10th December from 7.30 pm
Last Derbyshire meeting at Dusty Miller, Barlborough

JANUARY 2008

1st Tuesday - New Year's Day
- NOTE: Centre Nine 1st Tuesday of Month Meeting cancelled - see 8th Jan. below

6th January - Ken's 1st Sunday of the Month New Year Breakfast Meeting & Mystery Ride-Out (weather permitting) - Stratstone PowerSports Clay Cross from 10.00 am

8th January - Centre 9 Monthly Meeting, Grey Goose Gedling from 7.30 pm

13 January- Lincs. Sunday meeting to plan 2008 activities. Venue TBN.

14th January - Derbyshire 2nd Monday of Month meeting at Arkwright Arms, Sutton-cum-Duckmanton, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S44 5JG (note: new meeting place)

19/20th January - The Springfields Bike Show

26th January - 'Post New Years Party' at the Grey Goose from 7-30pm, live entertainment, buffet, fun and laughter, FREE raffle (prizes - eg. unwanted Christmas presents - gratefully accepted), late bar, tickets only £5 pre-booked, £7.50 on the gate - will this be our last meeting at the Goose? You, the C9 membership will decide!

3rd February - Ken's Stratstone Powersports 1st Sunday Meeting at 9.15 am for Ride-Out leaving 9.30 am to meet up with Scrumpies at Stratford-upon-Avon

Wat's On



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

Ken's 1st Sunday of the Month Breakfast Meeting and Mystery Ride-Out from 10.00 am starting at Stratstone PowerSports Clay Cross - **DON'T MISS** the meeting on **SUNDAY 2ND DECEMBER** WHEN THE MYSTERY RIDE-OUT WILL FINISH FOR LUNCH AT THE NEW DERBYSHIRE VENUE, THE ARKWRIGHT ARMS. See menu online at:
http://www.arkwrightarms.co.uk/pub_food.html

NEW VENUE FOR DERBYSHIRE for 2nd Monday of Month Meeting **STARTING 14TH JANUARY 2008: THE ARKWRIGHT ARMS, Sutton-cum-Duckmanton, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S44 5JG**
Tel: (01246) 232053 (just off J29 or J30 M1)
- see p.4 and back page for directions.

Last meeting at Dusty Miller, Barlborough - 10th December.

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 8pm **ALSO**
2nd Sunday's - various locations!



Please email me your February dates to rumblingstar@aol.com soon so I have time to lose them and have to ask you again for them in January - Ed.

Malc's Bits

Hi everyone, hope you are all fit and well, first of all I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas from everyone on Centre 9's committee. This year has flown by, you may not agree with me but it has been a very busy year, tho' not necessarily a very biker friendly year – especially during the summer.

In the spring I was out of action with my ankle injury, but although I couldn't get out much, most of our rally was organised from the comfort of my living room. For some of us the rally preparation took up much of our time. The correlation of the goodie bags was an interesting project and if I was the boasting type I would say it hasn't yet been surpassed. One of my main concerns was the finances of the rally, ideally we would have made a slight profit without wasting or frittering away your hard earned cash. We had considered returning a



small amount back per person at the end of the weekend to bring our profit margin to an acceptable level – in my opinion a lot of profit isn't necessarily the sign of a successful rally. After much discussion it was decided that it was a good idea but would cause precedence for future rallies – which you could argue isn't too bad a thing.

In my opinion our rally weekend was extremely successful, ok we have many members so it should be good, but we all know the truth don't we? The

Men of a certain age

Men are a bit strange as Sue my long suffering wife will agree. Sometimes we want to do something. Sometimes we **need** to do something. Last year on reaching 55 years old I took stock of our lives. I felt like I was sitting in God's waiting room, listening out for someone shouting "NEXT". I **needed** to do something and Sue as tolerant as ever, asked, "why you old fool, aren't we okay as we are?" So we looked at some options and it mostly boiled down to me wanting to retire. That agreed, the only way we could afford that, was to move to Portugal and start afresh. We will miss our friends, family, the club, Rallies and rideouts. The winters will be warmer, friends and family will visit, keeping in touch by phone and email, and there will be bike stuff there.

No more getting up at 4.45am to go to work. Then our aforementioned friends got together on Saturday the 29th (September) and had us a superb leaving party. Sue gave a lovely speech - I was too moved to say anything. They had a whip around to make sure we actually did leave and that amounted to £160. (we never thought for a moment that you wanted us to go that badly). So a big thank you to everyone, for your friendship, good wishes, comradeship, the best holidays one could ever wish for, rallies, hangovers, getting lost and not caring, etc etc. We will try to get back next year for a couple of rallies, you must think seriously about visiting us or getting down to the Faro Rally. See you later, Ride carefully... (NOT!!!...There's no fun in that) Love

(Little) Malc and Sue

(With apologies again from the Editor for not having published this last month - don't hit me, Sue!)

weather played a huge part of the weekend and with it peoples' decision on whether to attend or not. Looking at figures for all the 2007 rallies more than the average number came to our Shindig – Centre 9's very first rally – true we've held a couple before but jointly with the West Midlands and in their territory. This was a true Centre 9 Rally. Our committee had no experiences of the organising of these rallies at all, so it was a very steep learning curve for all concerned. Lessons have been learnt and valuable experience gained for next time.

Sorry if I've gone on a bit but Centre 9's big event of the year was the Shindig. In fact the Shindig was our biggest event to date, and I am proud to have been part of it. It was our turn to step up to the oche in front of everyone and shoot for the bulls-eye. And guess what . . . we did it, a 9 dart finish.

Ride safe and be happy.

Ps January Centre meet will be on the second Tuesday.

Malc

Happy Christmas

new venues needed?

Hi again every one. The debate for our meeting places goes on - which it should. I know that there are concerns with ALL of the the pubs we use. We shouldn't become complacent - we should always be looking for better facilities for us to give our members, but if no suggestions of new meeting places come from local members there is little we can do.

County meeting places can easily be changed as its main function is to serve that county - so get your county's heads together and go for it - the only problem this time of year is the commitment to the xmas parties that have been booked...so probable changes all round in the New Year.

cont.. on next page....

BIG JOHN'S CORNER

Hi folks,

Just back from the ride out to the **Barge at Newark**; you all missed a good ride and I mean ALL as I was the only prat that turned up; the weather as you know was crap.

Well its not over yet - we still have plenty of parties to go to over the festive season so make sure you dont miss out.

As the summer seEm's to be over I would like to thank you all for your support over the last year both in club events and my personal problems (time to turn the page).

Remember to support your county reps and officers of the club in the new year; they all work very hard to make our club what it is today.

A Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to you all,

Big John



Brandy Wharf Bonfire Night 2007



FROM THE YORKIES

Could you please inform the club and your centre members of the following winter rally, this is not a VSOC rally, but it has been organised by a **Centre 5 Yorkie member**.

Karl and Sally who many of you have seen at the club rallies with their trade stand have decided to organise a winter rally to see who is hardy enough to venture out.

with a good location on main York / Filey road (A64). The site can offer camping (some with electric hook up) or lodge facilities - these will need to be booked in advance.

All the usual facilities will be on offer - see below:

Thanks and regards,

Terry (Yorkies Rep.)

February 1st to Sunday 3rd 2008

SNOOTY'S FROZEN BRUSH RALLY

At **"The Snooty Fox"** on A64 East Heslerton North Yorkshire YO17 8EN
Free Tea and coffee
"bring your own mug"
Chuck Wagon or good pub food

Tickets £8.00 pre-book or £10 on the gate
Band both nights – Trade stalls

No Cars on Camp site but large car park
Camping / or accommodation on site

Phone 07873905636 for more info
Or EMail
sall127@hotmail.com



DARWIN AWARDS 2007

Yes, it's again that magical time of the year when The Darwin Awards are bestowed, honouring the least evolved among us. Here is the glorious Winner:

1. When his 38-calibre revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked! And now, the Honourable Mentions:
2. The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat-cutting machine and submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company, expecting negligence, sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and he also lost a finger. The claim was approved.
3. A man who shovelled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.
4. After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby busstop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The deception wasn't discovered for 3 days.

Directions to Arkwright Arms (New Derbyshire Venue)

From Junction 29 of M1:

On roundabout, take Chesterfield direction up dual carriageway (A617), take Bolsover Castle slip road exit off to the left, turn right towards Bolsover, follow road until you come to a T-junction, turn right, follow road (A632) straight on until you come to Arkwright Arms on left after traffic lights.

Approaching from centre of Chesterfield:

go out towards Royal Hospital, past CMC, through Calow, going straight on past Arkwright village, straight across any roundabouts in direction of Bolsover. At lights, straight across as above, Arkwright Arms is on left.

**SEE LOST RIDERS WEBSITE
FOR MAP**



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Strappy – Female Logo

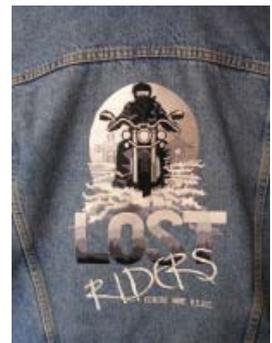
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