



Welcome to the October issue of the Durham Centre Newsletter– this is a monthly newsletter aimed at all members of Durham Centre and any visitors to our site. It includes up to date news articles, rally reports, forthcoming events, messages, successes and celebrations.

The deadline for the next newsletter is **27/10/2018** please forward your articles or celebrations to [The Editor](#)

It is with regret that we have had to cancel our Dinner Dance due to lack of number.

We are selling raffle tickets for a duck race which will take place during our 60th Celebration Rally 23 May 2019 at Stanhope Show Ground. Tickets cost £1.00 or £5.00 for a book. Please do support the centre and purchase a ticket, you never know you might win 1st prize of £75, 2nd £50 and 3rd £25.

Barry Dodd has a football card at £3 per team. There are 80 teams in total and the winner can win £200 worth of Elsan products. Buy a couple and share with a friend. A great prize so get in touch with Barry to purchase a ticket, all proceeds will go towards our Celebration Rally.

Our Christmas Party will be held on Sunday 9 December 2pm – 6pm please contact Barry Dodd if you are interested in going. All children will receive a gift from 'someone special'. Cost only £5.00 per child and £2.00 per adult.

Rally Reports:

Durham Rugby Club 17 -19 August

Well, we waited a long time for this rally and it was worth the wait as Sarah, and Eoin as first time marshals put on a fantastic weekend, supported by Barry and Ang as co marshals. Originally planned at Houghall, Durham for much earlier in the year, due to a
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problem with the rally site it was postponed till August, still in Durham, but at the Rugby Club.

Being born and bred in Durham, it was amazing to pull up to the rally field and discover just how much things had changed since those long gone days of the Sunday night Rugby Club disco- not the same ramshackle building but a modern, purpose built venue with the most beautiful, mature tree lined field behind.....just perfect for a weekend of fun and relaxation. We knew we were in for a treat as our rally marshals and co marshals greeted us in German headgear, entering into the spirit from the start and making everyone feel 'willkommen'. We paid our rally fees and were handed a little project to work on over the weekend- 'Build Me'.

We were last to arrive but a slightly later evening get together at 8 pm meant that we were in time to join everyone for a catch up in the gazebo which was heaving when we got there, which shows the popularity of a Durham Centre social evening! The rain decided to make an appearance but that didn't dampen spirits or deter us as we tucked into a delicious German themed supper of bratwurst sauerkraut, with traditional warm Gluhwein



and cupcakes to follow. The bratwurst were a big hit with everyone, including Colin who went back for seconds as did so many more! Friday night wouldn't be Friday night on a rally without the obligatory game of bingo. Even if you're not a lover of bingo, It's not the bingo itself but the hilarious wisecracks which transform it into the

great fun that it usually is! Together with music and good company, the evening was enjoyed by all.

Saturday was a free and easy day with Durham offering so much in the way of riverside walks, visits to local attractions such as the cathedral, lovely pubs etc and we spent time doing a mixture of these with a bit of chill time thrown in. A get together was planned at the gazebo for 1 pm where the more energetic joined in games of lawn darts etc. We watched and enjoyed from a distance- which is perfectly fine on a Durham rally - you're free to join in or not as the mood takes you.

As the evening approached, one by one (or two by two!) the knobbly knees made an appearance as some donned their lederhosen and everyone entered into the spirit of the German themed evening with German quiz, music and beer/ wine tasting. I couldn't

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wait to wear my blonde wig complete with plaits as I'd heard blondes have more fun- not sure whether it was the plaits or the German beer and wine tasting which influenced that but it was another great night. Some of the wine was very palatable while some was like paint stripper, but it all added to the fun! However, I began to regret coming out in a blonde wig as Colin took a shine to it.



We were remarkably fresh on the Sunday morning following our wine and beer tasting extravaganza and were up bright and early. After a chilled start to the day and a hearty breakfast we joined everyone for flag at 11. There was an amazing display of 'Build Me' models - everyone had used matchsticks, beads, pom poms etc so creatively and a worthy winner was announced- George, with an awesome aeroplane! Other competition results were announced and van prizes given out. The winner of the charity fund raising 'Guess the Racecourse' was announced and I couldn't believe my luck as I'd won. Thanks were given to the Eoin and Sarah, Barry and Ang, and visitors from Lancashire gave their personal thanks for a most fantastic weekend.

We second that and appreciate all the hard work that made it such a success.

THANK YOU!

Norma and Colin

Midridge Meadows 21 – 23 September

We arrived on Friday to be met by our lovely rally marshals, Colin, Bernadette and Debra as unfortunately John was at work! Midridge Meadows is a beautiful venue we even had little white goats to greet us! We met in the little pool room for an impromptu get together and lovely catch up! Saturday was a free day so our Colin came to visit and went with his



dad to Shildon Steam Gala where they met some of the other ralliers! Saturday evening and back into the pool room again only this time it was transformed into "THE SMITKINSON ARMS" a "proper" pub! We had a fantastically challenging pub quiz which I thoroughly enjoyed! I didn't win it that pleasure went to Eileen

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Hughes and Dave Morgan! Well done to both! The nibbles provided were delicious a fabulous unexpected night! We had the usual announcements etc at flag on Sunday morning where I did win the envelope quiz and a van prize!

Thanks to Debra, John, Bernadette and Colin for a fantastic weekend!

Carol Adamson

Forthcoming Rallies – before you travel to any Rallies please check the website first for any updates?

7 October - AGM Sherburn Community Centre 2:00 pm

8 – 14 October – Doe Park Cotherstone Holiday Rally – Marshal: Harry Thompson & Christine Thomas

11 – 14 October – Seaburn – regrettably no illuminations the council has moved the date.
– **Marshal:** Barry & Angela Dodd

19 - 21 October – Catterick Racecourse – Marshal: Kevin & Sharon Showler

26 – 28 October – Unthank Park Stanhope - Halloween – Marshal: Colin & Bernadette Smith

2 – 4 November – Joint Bonfire & Fireworks night with North Yorkshire

Happy Birthday for October:

Brian Pounder, Christine Thomas, Beryl King, Paula Petty

Anniversary

John Joan Costello, Kevin Paula Petty, John Debra Atkinson

You can view all Durham Centre activities on our website <http://www.durhamcentre.co.uk>

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