

DURHAM NEWS



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 **27/10/2016** please forward your articles or celebrations to [The Editor](#)

Well the summer is over and we are now getting into autumn, with the changes to the trees a wonderful time of year. An ideal time to get out and about in your caravan and enjoy our beautiful country side, so do take a look at the website and contact your rally marshal and get booked onto one of our forthcoming rallies.

Did any of our members listen to Radio Two on Friday 23 September to Simon Mayo at 17.40? Durham Centre got a [shout](#) on the Radio!

Durham Centre once again had a mention in the Caravan Club magazine, how many times is that this year?

Our AGM is to take place on Sunday 2 October at Sherburn Community Centre at 14.00, do try and to attend and show your on-going support to Durham Centre. Details of members who have kindly volunteered their time to be put forward for committee will be announced.

Anyone wishing to give up some of their time and volunteer as a Marshal or Co-Marshall please speak to our Rally Secretary. Our rally programme for the 2017 season is in progress and without the willing volunteers you will not have a rally programme for 2017. It is rewarding and a great deal of fun, speak to any Marshal and they will tell you!

Don't forget our Dinner Dance is on 26 November, places are still available; speak to our Vice Chairman, Barry Dodd or any member of the committee.

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

Rally Reports - If anyone would like to submit a report about a rally they have attended please forward it, as our readers do like to read about what the centre has been upto.

2 – 8 September Lockside - Ripon

We arrived at Lockside on a beautiful sunny day. The entrance to this site puts quite a lot of people off attending the rally, but once you get into the site it is quite nice with all the flower pots etc. The canal running past the lower half of the field is nice to look out onto. We were given a warm welcome by Harry Dave and Carol and were shown to our pegs with the assistance of Kim. The grass had been cut and the site is well kept.

This time we had use of the hall which we could use even if the rally marshal had it marked as a free night and rally goers did turn up most evenings.

Friday evening all the ralliers turned up for Bingo and a cup of tea or coffee. There were paper quizzes which taxed our brains. We stayed in the hall until about 11pm.

Saturday was spent lounging around in the sunshine. In the evening it was back into the hall where hot dogs and drinks were served. The atmosphere in the hall was very friendly with guests and Durham members mixing and chatting together.

Sunday was a free day but the boot fare was within walking distance and many of us on the rally went there. We went into the hall again in the evening. I think this was the night that we played Dominoes with a difference (*these dominoes had 9 spots*)

Monday evening there was cheese and wine in the hall. Later everyone joined in a game of chase the ace which was won by Jim Anderson. Agnes thought that the prize would be a bar of chocolate so she was very surprised when he was handed all the money (*no tat from Durham*)

Tuesday Harry struggled to get anyone to put their name down for the sports and at one time only Agnes had put her name down. Michael Mortimer organised the games and once it got started people turned out to watch and most joined in or sat watching in the sunshine. In the evening two sequence boards were brought into the hall and we all played sequence.

Wednesday In the evening we were instructed to take a bowl a plate and a spoon into the hall. There was soup, bread buns, sandwiches, scotch eggs, pie, sausage rolls, cake and lots of goodies. The rally plaques and van prizes were given out and because there were no rally officers present Bernard King presented the marshals and co marshals with their plaques. A Yorkshire centre chairman stood up and gave thanks on behalf of the visitors. Then one visitor after another got up and told jokes which were very funny and we all had a good laugh. Later we played the game of left right and centre which was won by Bernard King.

Thursday the site had to be cleared by 2pm. Now it was time to go home having enjoyed a very good rally

Well done and thanks to Harry Christine Dave Carol and Kim (Beryl & Bernard King)

9 – 11 Snods Edge

We set off for Snods Edge, a new Durham Centre venue after Aaron finished school and got there about 4-30pm, we were greeted by new marshalls George and Yvonne Davison and (not so newer marshalls) Barry and Ang Dodd!! Aaron received a tube of smarties on entry with the instructions of eat all but one (yes that took some doing) then fill with as many objects as possible.

Legs down (smarties already gone), some tea and then we were off to the gazebo for 'Free Friday' (as always with superb Durham Centre prizes). We had a fun night doing quizzes and finished off with a humming contest of which some were better and some were worse (I firmly stayed in the 'worse' category!!).

Saturday we had a ride into Consett for a look round the shops and lunch in Weatherspoon's. We arrived back on site after lunch and spent the afternoon sat out chatting with everyone. Aaron enjoyed playing with Georgia, Abbey and Olivia and brought his lego to amuse them all.

Saturday night we were back in the gazebo with our small wrapped gift in which I splashed out and spent 39p on a posh Asda shower gel!! I was then informed we should have had a gift each so I hastily wrapped a tin of beans and a jamaica ginger cake!! The gifts were for a game of Greedy Bingo but I would like to complain there was a lot of cheating going on because after a couple of rounds the amount of prizes was greatly reduced!!! Yes,



again, it was mostly the adults being naughty and I'm sure there were lots of prizes hidden under clothes.

After another fun night Sunday came round too quickly again and as usual its 'going home day' so the sun was shining brightly. We had announcements and all competition winners at flag and then it was time to pack up and head home.

We would like to thank George, Yvonne, Barry and Ang for a super weekend. We had a great time and look forward to coming back here next year.

Carol, Steve and Aaron Door (and Jackson the dog).

PS we managed to squeeze 40 items into the smarties tube!!!!

15 – 18 Crimdon House

We arrived on the Friday night a little later than usual and on arrival we were shown to our pitch promptly. After setting up we were off to the gazebo for some fun on a Friday night. Chairs firmly in place and drinks open we were ready to sample some of Pauline's vegetable broth and crispy dumplings and trust me it was good. There were even seconds and more of Pauline's crispy Dumplings. This was washed down with some Drunken Punch that was scrumptious and very strong (even though I didn't think it was at the time but next day my headache confirmed it). Finishing the night off with some bingo and a quiz. The kids had a great time playing out and then painting on the rug.

Up early on Saturday getting ready for the Horticultural show we had a few hours to prepare. So it was a quick breakfast and then down to making the ship out of vegetables. Once done it was up to the gazebo for 10am and place your items in the selected show areas. The gazebo was decorated lovely and there must not have been a single caravan table left in anybody's caravan as they were all here. We entered 8 of the competitions. There was a wide range of categories ranging from Flowers to Cakes and from Pies to Vegetables.

The judges were in at 11.15am, so it was time to sit back and relax in the beautiful sun shine and admire the view over the North sea.

3pm we were allowed back in to the gazebo to see how we had done and of course to sample some of the cakes and corned beef pies.

We had a winner in the two identical leeks

competition and the chocolate cakes and Pies were beautiful. (I felt stuffed)



Back in the gazebo on Saturday night the medals were handed out to all the category winners (It felt like the Rio Olympics) after this all the produce was auctioned off for charity.
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Then the heater was fired up to keep us warm for the night and bingo and quiz commenced. (If you went outside you could see the wonderful Harvest moon shining down onto the north sea in all its glory)

Sunday it was another sunny day and after flag and the announcement that a good bit of Money was raised for charity after the entries to the competition and auction of the produce it was time to start taking down the gazebo and packing up.



What a brilliant weekend we had and the Rally Marshalls Brian and Pauline and Colin and Maureen must be congratulated for all the hard work they put in over the weekend and anybody else I missed.

Can't wait for next year's event and thanks for making it special

All the best The Wilkinson's.

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

3 – 10 October – Cotherstone Doe Park Holiday Rally – Marshals: Harry Thompson & Christine Thomas

14 – 16 October – Hargill House Caravan Club Site - Marshals: John & Debra Atkinson

20 – 24 October – Seaburn Illuminations, invite to North Yorkshire and Northumberland – Marshals: Barry & Angela Dodd

28 – 30 October – Halloween Manfield – Marshals: Colin & Bernadette Smith



Celebrations.

If anyone has anything to celebrate, a birthday, anniversary, exam result etc. please let me know so we can all celebrate with you

Belated Birthday wishes to Karl Davis who was 31 on 14 September

October

Birthdays

1st Brian Pounder

17th Christine Thomas

Beryl King

7th Paula Petty

Anniversary

3rd John & Joan Costello

9th Kevin & Paula Petty - 12yrs

12th John & Debra Atkinson - 25 years Silver Wedding Anniversary

11th Peter Kath Clement

Thanks to all those who have contributed to this month's Newsletter

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