



Welcome to the third edition of the Durham Centre Newsletter.

Our Newsletter includes any news articles, rally reports, messages, successes and celebrations. If anyone has anything that they would like included do get in touch.

We have managed to hold several rallies since we received the go ahead from the Caravan & Motorhome Club. These were well supported and everyone who attended had a great time. Members have advised the committee and Marshals how save they felt with all of the measures the centre has put in place, so well done to everyone concerned.

Unfortunately the CAMC have once again stopped all rallies in restricted areas from mid-September. Regrettably that means that all of our rallies for the rest of this year have been cancelled. The committee are in the process of putting together a comprehensive rally programme for next year. Keep an eye on the website. Hopefully, we will see you on the rally field in 2021. If anyone would like to help run a rally please do get in touch.

We, like everyone else have and must continue to follow Government guide lines during these times. We must also abide by the guidance that the CAMC provided to all of its members.

Anyone that has paid a deposit for a rallies would you please get in touch with Dave Morgan and provide your full details including amount paid, rally name and your bank details in order that he may refund any monies.

Our AMG was due to take place on 4 October and for the same reason this has had to be postponed until Sunday 1 November. Anyone wanting to attend the AGM please complete the form on our website, this is required in order that we may conform to social distancing measures imposed by the Government. If anyone would like to put themselves forward to give something back to the centre next year and join our committee please get in touch with Barry or any member of committee for full details.

Rally Reports

Farmer Parrs 15 – 25 August

This was the first Durham Centre Holiday Rally since Covid19 restrictions were eased.

We arrived in beautiful weather on Saturday afternoon, to a very warm welcome from our Rally Marshals Kevin and Sharon, with Co- Marshals Dave and Barbara.

Although both couples have organized weekend rallies before, this was their first Holiday Rally, and it was absolutely brilliant. Well done to the four of you !!

As the field, unfortunately, was rather wet, we were advised to park our motorhome at the side of the rally field, on hard-standing. We were though, still very much part of the rally, as many of the get-togethers were just to the side of us.

As I have some underlying health issues, I didn't feel comfortable about sitting with other people, all be it with strict social distancing.

Ralliers Mark, Wendy and their two daughters from Spalding, were celebrating their 17th Wedding Anniversary and very kindly bought a selection of delicious cream cakes for all to share. Our marshals, Sharon and Barbara then brought cream cakes over to our van for Val and I, which we thoroughly enjoyed.

Our resident singer Fred then sang a selection of songs, with subsequent renditions at every other rally get-together. We were extremely well looked after by our Rally and Co Marshals for the rest of our time at Fleetwood.

Hot Dogs were on the menu for Tuesday evening, but again, no prob's for Sharon and Barbara, as Hot Dogs with a selection of toppings were brought to our van!!

Thursday was BBQ time. Two young girls came to our van to collect our plates. Barbara then delivered two very full plates of deliciously cooked food to us. Well done to all of the cooks. I am now in need of a diet !!

Some members of the travelling community turned up on site with a car and campervan, but they were persuaded to leave by Dave and Kevin in a very professional manner. No harm done.

Unfortunately the weather took a turn for the worst by mid-week, with strong winds and rain. This didn't deter Sharon and Kevin, Barbara and Dave at all. Making sure that everybody was happy and enjoying the rally.

We thought we were going to win the Bingo, but were just pipped at the post by George Davison. Well done George.

As gale force winds were forecast for Monday evening and Tuesday, we decided to leave on Monday morning. I believe the majority of the vans also moved on to the hard standing, although one or two did become bogged down.

Once again a big THANKYOU to Sharon and Kevin, and Barbara and Dave for an excellently run rally.

Your help and support was very much appreciated.

Val & Stuart x

Just back from 10 days with the Durham Centre, should say eventful days because to say the weather was unkind ? That did not stop the team from putting on a first class rally. We came down from Scotland not knowing what to expect with restrictions in place but had no need to worry. Areas that people may have to mix were marked off and hand wipes and other items were available.

Three nights of entertainment and a BBQ provided by the team and members of the group who attended the rally What more could you ask for, OK so the wind and rain was not on the list but when the sun came out it made it all the better.

As the result of the rain the field became very difficult to get on and off with a number of cars finding it very if not impossible to cope

In the true caravan fashion almost every one offered help with one member towing a number of units off the field and others pulling and or pushing.

Well done again to all concerned and a big thank you from Bryan and Janette Raine along with Robert Wilson in Scotland.



Celebrations:

Happy Birthday to:

22nd Deb Atkinson

October

1st Brian Pounder

2nd Stephen Hanson

17th Christine Thomas

Beryl King

November

20th Meg Leigh

Anniversary

3rd John Joan Costello

12th John Debra Atkinson 12th

December

Dave Adamson,

Carol Adamson

22nd Sharon Hanson

27 Pam Mottram

29 Brian Mottram,

11th Peter Kath

12 Alan and Mildred Morrison

Obituary



It is with sadness we wish to announce the death of Christine E. Thomas, former Chairperson of Durham Centre, and longstanding committee member. She died peacefully in her sleep on 7th October 2020 after a long illness.

Christine and her family joined Durham Centre in 1959 when it was evolved from the original North East Group. Her Father was the first Chairman of Durham Centre and at her death, Christine was the longest serving Durham Centre member.

During her time as Durham Chairperson, she was also the chairman of the then, Northern Centres Rally, when Durham was the host centre.

She had many friends within the wider Caravan Club community, will be very sadly missed and remembered with fondness.

Harry Thompson

Former Durham Centre Chairman & Christine's partner

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this newsletter, if anyone has anything that they would like to be included in the next one please do get in touch. You can view all Durham Centre activities on our website <http://www.durhamcentre.co.uk> Bernadette Smith (Editor) – newsletter@durhamcentre.co.uk