



Welcome to the September 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 **27/09/2016** please forward your articles or celebrations to [The Editor](#)

Regrettably this last month we had to cancel one of our rallies due to lack of bookings. However, some of the other rallies were full with a reserves list in operation. If you do want to go to a rally can you please book early, which allows Marshal's to prepare or prevents a rally being cancelled due to lack of bookings. It's easy to book for Durham Centre, bookings can be made on line by clicking into the 'book' button on the rally calendar page. Alternatively please complete the booking slip in your handbook and hand it into the Marshal.

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

Jervaux Abbey 29 – 31 July 2016

After spending four nights at Hawes CC Site, we arrived at Jervaux Abbey just as the rally opened to a friendly welcome from our rally marshalls and co-marshalls. It was a bit damp while setting up the van but that didn't dampen our enthusiasm. The heavens opened just as Harry and Christine were going to serve tea, cue Harry and his umbrella with the message tea was off. Woke up to brilliant sunshine on Saturday, had a ride to Masham and Ripon, and spent the afternoon sunbathing, after a walk round the beautiful tranquil

grounds of the Abbey. Saturday night Harry and Christine organised games and quizzes (Shakespeare) and provided nibbles, and a hilarious time was had by all. Sunday, we



again woke to beautiful weather for flag. Jervaux Abbey is a beautiful setting with the caravans sited in a walled garden, if you are looking for a peaceful tranquil weekend this is perfect! Thanks to Harry, Christine, Meg and Ian for a lovely weekend.

Ann and Terry Noddles

5 – 7 August – Farnless Farm, Bishop Middleham

Arrived to a very warm welcome from a (cowgirl on a horse Bernadette). The girls did a great job siting vans alas the boys were at work ah!!

Friday night a great night in the O.K. coral, free bingo and fires to keep us warm.

Saturday couldn't have been better sat in the sun all day, (lazy or what). Saturday evening another night of fun and games and a very nice supper hot dogs and plenty of beans and I mean plenty of beans. The visitors from North York's and Cheshire had a great night the fires again where lit for marshmallows on sticks the kids really enjoyed them (supervised of course) the grown-ups also had fun some even managed to burn them. Derek brown will have to buy a

new chair for next week oh! Dears it collapsed but he was ok after we all stopped laughing. Our marshals worked very hard to give us a great weekend. Why not have a look at the photos on the web and see for yourself.

I wonder what happened to all the beans as the (terrible two).

Ang and Barry Dodd.



12 – 14 August – Bents Park, South Shields

Colin arrived on his own and was shown to his pitch by Dave and quickly got set up.

Thanks to Michael Mortimer for supplying him with a coffee whilst he set up, as I was on a train home from a week in London (work!). After Colin picked me up we arrived on site at 9pm to a lovely tea made by Debra and John and of course the chilled wine was really well received after a stressful day. Regrettably we never got to the 'get together' however; the evening was well supported with over 40 people attending. Barry had put together a couple of quizzes which everyone enjoyed and of course the infamous Durham Centre prizes, no tat in Durham. Saturday the weather was lovely and we went for a walk with the dog along the beach, it's hard to find a better venue than Bents Park. A great beach kept beautiful by South Tyneside Council a fantastic place for families and anyone else young and old. In the afternoon we went into the park and watched a band sitting on the grass in the sunshine with a couple of beers, what a way to spend a Saturday, to finish it off we

September 2016

went along Ocean Road for an Indian meal at a very reasonable price. Saturday evening we all gathered in the windbreaks, the wind prevented us putting the gazebos up but the night was still well attended. Barry was the quiz master for the night for the two centres and thankfully Durham managed to take the trophy back from Northumberland Centre, well done to our team, Debra & John Atkinson, Carol & Dave Adamson and Carol Door who did a tremendous job bringing the cup back to Durham for the next year. Well done to all who took part and to our quiz master for pulling the quiz together.



Sunday morning the weather was good for flag and most people attended for competition results and announcements. Thanks to our marshals Barry & Angie, Dave, Carol and Kim

Thornton Watless Review August 27th-29th 2016.

Wow! What a fantastic Rally with Durham Centre now where to start!

Friday- We headed into the beautiful village of Thornton Watless and was greeted at the site by some fantastic sunshine and some amazing people namely our Marshals for the weekend. Bernadette, Debra, Colin and John who showed us to our available pitches, advised us where water and the dreaded Elsan were and supplied us with our itinerary for the weekend.

After taking a while to set up and rescuing the Sister and Brother in law we relaxed into the evening's sunshine, we read the itinerary and what a busy weekend we had to look forward to.

Now as the theme of the Rally was a musical one the quiz which would have stood up to a Mastermind Quiz Champion was found to be just a little taxing for ourselves nevertheless not to the worthy winners well done to those guys!

Friday Evening took us into the Marquee full of bunting, banners, music and of course the Durham Centre people, along with a few tipples. Bernadette, Deb, John and Colin were all set up for a fun night starting with Bingo where I believe the Centre strap line is "Durham Centre has no tat!"

Leading on from Bingo and well done to those winners we were treated to some of our favourite tunes and again nothing was too much trouble for the Marshals, they were truly great hosts and made everyone feel welcome. Barry and Angie were on top form and Barry came around with the Bonus Ball numbers –well done to those guys who won– me being one of the lucky winners. (Had to get that one in!) Music could be requested and Colin kindly obliged all requests and we danced the night away enjoying the company and meeting new people.

Saturday Morning came – the Marshals were up and at it again making breakfast for those that fancied socialising together. Today there was a treasure hunt to do in the village with the questions guiding the thirsty participants to the local Pub which seemed to go down very well. The marshals again had everything prepared for the Saturday evening with "Tak Ya Bak" whom we had personally never seen before. We had met Brian on the site though and that man has some fantastic Craic!

September 2016

Unfortunately the rain decided it would make a guest appearance and so again the marshals made the decision to run with Karaoke instead of the Duo due to equipment worries and flooding in the Marquee. However spirits were not dampened and the guys had everything ready for the Saturday evening for us all- There were some fantastic costumes on display here From Michael Jackson and his 80's wife-but for me the stars of the show had to be their two little lads who looked fab in their braces and punk make up !

After some fantastic singers – (not me by the way – I will not give up my day job!) we turned in ready for what was in store on Sunday and were intrigued at the idea of Chicken hurling.



Sunday came and so did a lot of rain , Bernadette , Deb and the boys worked tirelessly all day again with some willing helpers so I was informed to again dry the Marquee and get everything ready for the evenings festivities- this time “ Tak Ya Back “ would be performing ! Anyway I digress, Sunday was chicken hurling day and Frisbee golf which I had not heard of

before so off we went to join in – Frisbee golf was a great laugh – apologies for the broken Frisbee and again well done to the worthy winners and to Barry who had a Frisbee in one !– it was harder than it looked ! Then Colin arrived carrying a box which was aerated to ensure those chickens could breathe. The two little lads were there waiting with baited breath as the box was clucking! A Few of the members had now appeared as curiosity was kicking in as to be there a real chicken in the box? Which Brian informed us he didn't think so as it wouldn't be legal to throw a “real “chicken!

Deb then raised more curiosity over what was in the box with her tales of Northumberland chickens, Border Reivers and their Bastles –and as Bernadette described these Castles but with a B much to peoples amusement. So to the event itself – Colin wrestled the box



down whilst two little lads faces were a picture of curiosity- When Colin Finally let the chickens out I'm not sure what the boys thought , but no real chickens were present thankfully for Brian ! Flinging of the chickens commenced for most of the participants – Unfortunately Bernadette's chicken flinging didn't quite go the distance so to speak but it's the taking part that important better luck next time Bernadette!

Sunday evening came around quickly after a fab pub lunch– Tonight the Marshals and the centre members again had provided refreshments a fantastic Cheese fest with crackers, Chutneys, olives etc the list goes on all washed down with Scrumpy cider kindly waitress served at your tables by Deb and Bernadette. Prizes and announcements followed from Barry and Harry then to the entertainment – Tak Ya Back and wow these guys were fabulous – a little bit of everything from Brian and Pauline for all ages and with quite a bit of innuendo/ humour thrown in for good measure they had the place up and jumping – the Scrumpy was flowing- a little too much for some – but for the most part there were smiles and laughter all round and Colin's Camera was never far away!

Monday morning came around a little too quickly for some and some of the members were having a cuppa and enjoying the sunshine on site before packing ready to leave.

I am new to this centre and I have to say its brilliant ,This Rally was fantastically organised and hosted, The Marshals need a gold medal for the amount of work seen and unseen that they undertake and well done to Deb, Bernadette Colin and John for providing everyone with a brilliant weekend . Durham Centre certainly rocked this weekend.

Looking forward to the next one. – Julie Haworth

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

2 – 8 September – Lockside Ripon Holiday Rally – Marshals: Harry Thompson & Christine Thomas

9 – 11 September – Marshals: George & Yvonne Davis

15 – 18 September – Crimdon House Farm – Nomination Horticultural Rally – Marshals: Brian & Pauline Pounder

23 – 25 September – Bradley Burn – Stanhope Show Weekend – Marshals: Ray Sherrington



Celebrations.

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

Birthday:

George Burrell

Ann Burrell

2nd Hilda Braddock

9th Kath Clements

Wedding Anniversary

29th Steve Carol Doors

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

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September 2016