



Welcome to the October issue of the Durham Centre Newsletter – our newsletter is 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 **27/10/2019** please forward your articles or celebrations to [The Editor](#) .

Following the AGM our new committee are in place and it is lovely to see that several new members have stepped forward, full details on the website. The new rally programme has been released, well done to our secretary Dave Wilson for pulling it together. Do take a look as there are several new venues for the coming year and booking are now being taken. When making a booking for a rally on a Caravan & Motorhome club site your full detail must be with the rally marshal 15 days prior, which is the new time limit set by the Caravan & Motorhome Club. By popular request we have re-booked two live professional entertainers for our Easter rally which will be held at Stanhope, we have also re-booked the indoor barn so do make sure you secure your place and get booked. We do hope that members will support the centre over the next rally season. When paying by cheque can you please make it payable to 'The Caravan & Motorhome Club Durham Centre', cheques will be returned if not properly address this is not our centre rule this is the banks request.

## **Rally Reports:**

Rally report for Manfield Christmas Rally in July

We arrived on the Rally field to be welcomed by the four Marshalls Julie, Shaun, Sharon & Kevin. They all looked very Christmassy so did the rally field and there caravans.

On the Friday evening we joined with them for a social in the hall. As you went it felt like Christmas we were given a Christmas card and wished a Happy Christmas. We came dressed in our favourite Christmas Eve Pyjamas. We were greeted with punch and

nibbles. Again the Marshalls made us all feel welcome. Then the fun began we played toss the hoop on the reindeer. This was a laugh we finished the evening having a catch up and mixture music was on to dance to.

Saturday morning came out of van to be wished a Happy Christmas. The Marshalls were on the go all day going backwards and forwards to the hall. We went into the hall early evening dressed in Christmas outfits /jumpers. It was like walking in to a family Christmas dinner the room was decorated with a Christmas tree and the tables looked Christmassy even each had a cracker we were greeted with punch and gluhwien. We were then served a full Christmas dinner even Yorkshire puds all the trimmings not to forget the cranberry sauce it all tasted very good I know where I am going for my Sunday dinner. Well done to all four Marshalls. After dinner we played games, chatted and music on. But it would not be Christmas without Santa coming, he brought a present for each of us and the little lad was made to feel Special and also Mary had her 1<sup>st</sup> birthday on Christmas day and got to sit on Santa's knee. Thanks again all of you we had a great fun packed weekend. Sarah and Eoin Dugdale

We arrived at **Bolam** with the grandchildren in tow after a hectic holiday rally at SKEGNESS which by the way went very well.

Friday the arrival day was very over cast but as Durham members do we made the best of it .Although there was only nine vans in attendance it was very clear to see it was going to be a very friendly rally.

Olivia & Emily made friends very quickly with Holly & Lucy Newton and they all went off to the playground to enjoy what children do even though at times it was raining.

We stayed in the van Friday night but a few members went up to the pub for a "swift half" or two or three or maybe even four.

Our rally marshal SHARON had a little mishap falling off the caravan step so it was off to hospital for her; she came back limping only because she was after sympathy after hubby KEVIN was getting all the attention after collecting a double fracture of the collar bone at SKEGNESS during a game of rounder's.

Kevin wasn't the only casualty at Skegness (members in their latter years will have to accept some things you just can't do).

Back to Bolam, Saturday was a much better day with plenty of sunshine so we could go ahead with the B.B.Q. our marshals had planned, up went Kevin's gazebo / Pod, Sharon & Julie had put on a lovely spread of salads and we all took our Barby,s and meat up so we could have our B.B.Q. together (men cooking of course ).

After eating and a drink or two we set to playing silly games, sorry it would be too difficult to explain but I can say it's a long time since I've seen three people, Julie, Sharon, and Barbara have "BELLY" laughs like they had.

We packed up at 11pm (I think) well that's what the rules say and got ourselves tucked up for the night.

Sunday morning, sunshine again some went early so they didn't get hemmed in by the car park getting full the rest of us (8) attended flag, well if that's what you can call it as we were still laughing off the night before.

Ang took over from me and presented the marshals with their plaques.

All I can say is although there were only 9 vans we had a great fun packed weekend, many thanks to SHARON, KEVIN, JULIE & SHAUN ably helped by DAVE & BARBARA

### **Weekending of September 5th was the date of our 4th annual Horticultural show at Crimdon House Farm.**

We had 20 vans in attendance including 2 from North Yorkshire Centre and 1 new member from Whitley Bay.

The weather on Thursday was fine and sunny but a little cool and we had the normal Crimdon wind.

I went up to see the Barn that the land owner kindly let us use for our "socials" and Horticultural show which was a big bonus.

Only half a dozen vans arrived on the Thursday night so it was a nice chilled out night.

Friday morning it was all hands on deck siting the remainder of the vans and getting the Barn ready for the night time social, Bingo & Line dancing. Most people came up and joined in although the line dancing soon turned into DISCO, Ang put out nibbles and we had a good night although it did turn cold about 9pm.

11pm Saturday it was time to put out the exhibits for the Show and the ralliers didn't disappoint us, from Colin Watkins life size SCARECROW to Julie Howarth putting in a pair of matching BEETROOTS (bought from Sainsbury's in a jar), CHOCOLATE CAKES to die for & a vast array of meat pies and sausage rolls that Agnes Anderson cooked in the caravan it was a fantastic effort from everyone.

Oh sorry there was a Quiche that Mary Wilson not only had the cheek to buy from ALDI it won the FIRST prize, I'm sure she bribed the judges.

All in all we had a fantastic day, the pies & cakes were cut up in the afternoon & I auctioned all the other produce on Saturday night, all the proceeds were going to our centre charity and we raised £146 Can I thank everybody who contributed.

Also Saturday night Ang gave out all the prize winners their “STICKERS” for their proud efforts. (Check out photos on the website)

Ang & our helpers then served up Hot Dogs for everyone and Ray Chetter provided freshly cooked onions donated by Maureen Watkins.

After we cleared away it was time for Dave Morgan to turn to his D.J. skills and provided us with dancing music for the rest of the night.

Sunday was a lovely day enabling us to have our Flag outside and enjoy the sunshine.

There was a tremendous amount of work that went into this rally and I wish to thank, MAUREEN & COLIN WATKINS, PAULINE & BRIAN POUNDER, RAY CHETTER, DAVE MORGAN & OUR CO, MARSHALS MARY & DAVE WILSON, but most of all I want to thank everybody who contributed to the show as without them doing so this great weekend would not have been the success it was, and you know what? We are going to do it all again NEXT YEAR.

Thanks to all

Ang & Barry Dodd.

Hammer & Pinner 20 – 22 September - Colin arrived on site early afternoon to a very warm welcome from all of the Marshal's after being shown to our pitch he settled in for the afternoon before coming to the station to pick me up. I arrived on site to another very warm welcome from the Marshals. Sarah and Eoin had taken Norma and Colin under their wing to show them what being a Marshal was all about and I must say that they took to it like a duck to water. The sun was shining so a quick change into shorts and a wander around the field. Friday evening we all gathered around the Marshals van for a chat and catch up. Sarah and Norma brought around nibbles and homemade 'shots', which were an acquired taste! However, think several members had a couple too many and where slightly worse for wear the next morning, you know who you are. Saturday once again the weather was very kind to us so off we went for the day and returned after lunch to enjoy the sunshine. Must say it was lovely to see so many people sitting outside their caravan on a late September afternoon. Saturday evening most of the ralliers attended the meal in the restaurant to celebrate Eoin 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. The room had been decorated beautifully well done to Sarah, Norma and everyone else involved. Everyone enjoyed their meals lots of clean plates were taken back to the kitchen. Birthday cake cutting by Eoin followed and then cake was handed out to all to enjoy or take back for later, which we did as we were full up following our meal. The evening was finished off with a great music set by Fred (one

of our ralliers). Sunday as always came around far too quick and after flag and announcements we were all packing up to leave. A fantastic rally thanks and well done to all of our Marshals Sarah, Eoin, Norma and Colin. Looking forward to the next rally the four of you are marshalling.

Bernadette & Colin

Hi as visitors from east Yorkshire centre your hammer and pincers Eoin 60th birthday bash we would like to thank everyone at Durham centre who were on the hammer and pincer rally for the warm welcome we were given.

We really enjoyed ourselves Sarah and Eoin did a good job with organising the rally with the meal in the pub. The food was excellent and also the entertainment was superb. Kind regards ken and Sandra Andrews east York's centre.

Celebrations:

Happy Birthday wishes for October to:

Brian Pounder, Christine Thomas and Beryl King

Happy Anniversary for October to:

3<sup>rd</sup> John Joan Costello celebrating 50 years married congratulations to you both.

12<sup>th</sup> John Debra Atkinson and 12<sup>th</sup> Alan and Mildred Morrison

## Remembering our dearly departed friends



Our condolences go to the families and friends of:

Peter Ledington

John Pybourn

Rene Whitwood and

Vera Dunn

With deepest sympathy remembered with great affection.

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>

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