

R F N I

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Just a Nice Little Hike Across England



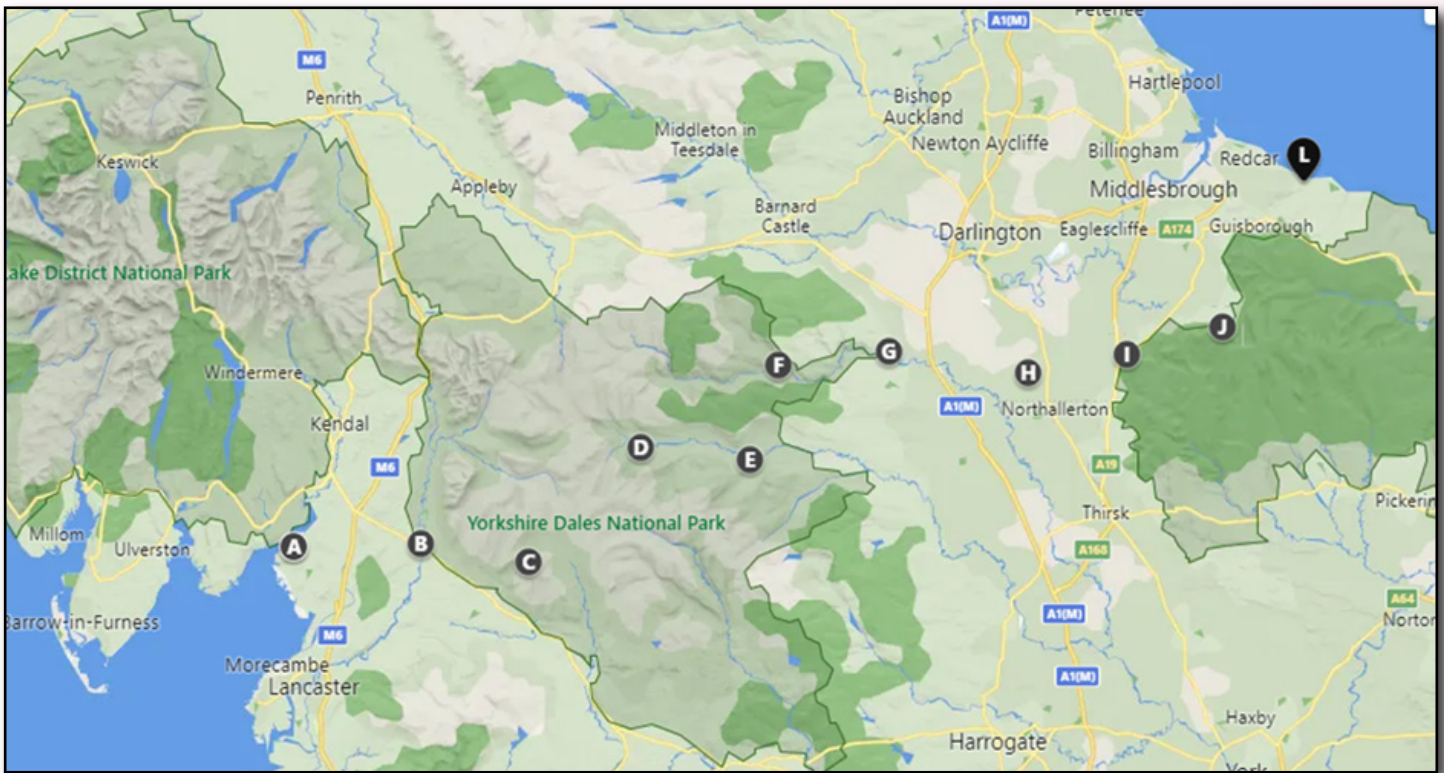
London

Coast-to-Coast England Hike/Pub Crawl Extraordinaire

By Listy Gillingham

It all started when we were talking about walking the Camino in Spain. Bob kept thinking about how hot Spain can be and suggested we consider a self-guided walk in England because of the cooler climate. I got to work right away researching hikes we could take and came across the idea of a Coast-to-Coast walk across England. Contours was the travel company as they specialize in England and had a beautiful website with many options which included bed and breakfast stays with luggage transfer services for each day. There was the traditional Coast-to-Coast walk made up by connecting dozens of existing footpaths, bridle ways, minor roads and other rights of way crossing the breadth of England, from St Bees in Cumbria to Robin Hood's Bay in North Yorkshire. It's a network of paths created by Alfred Wainwright which ends up being close to 180 miles long and would take close to 3 weeks to complete. Given that Doug was still working, we opted with an Alternative Coast-to-Coast walk that was 133 miles long (if you don't get lost) and takes you on a different network of trails for over half the trip. We selected this route because we weren't sure of our hiking abilities to make it that far and didn't want to be away from home for that long either. Here's what the hike looked like with our destination planned out for us.

The Epic Alternative Coast to Coast Hike



1. Arnside (12.5 miles)	5. Aysgarth (13 miles)	9. Ingleby Cross (12.5 miles)
2. Kirkby Lonsdale (14 miles)	6. Reeth (10.5 miles)	10. Claybank (12 miles)
3. Chapel-le-Dale (Ingleton) (13 miles)	7. Richmond (14 miles)	11. Capt. Cooks Monu. To Saltburn by the Sea (12 miles)
4. Hawes (10 miles)	8. Danby Wiske (8.5 miles)	

11 days of hiking across England

We flew into London and got delayed with our flight to Glasgow because Queen Elizabeth was reportedly not doing well, and the family was all rushing to her bedside. Camilla (the new Queen in Consort) was placed on our flight to Glasgow with one bodyguard. We spent the 8-hour delay with a trip to Windsor Castle not knowing that we were about to be part of a historic moment for the United Kingdom with her passing shortly after we arrived. According to a fellow hiker we met on the trail, we learned that Charles was grouse hunting with him in Scotland when the Queen had a sudden heart attack. That made sense with the timeline and how quickly the news went from her being sick to dying so quickly. So, we didn't get to see much of Glasgow, as we had hoped, but the stop in Windsor was very special given that Windsor was where the royal family had taken up residence prior to the queen's death.



Our hiking journey started out in Arnside. Arnside is a sleepy little town on the Irish Sea just below the Lake District in England. We took a train from Glasgow and enjoyed the anticipation of a true adventure. Our first day was booked at Ye Olde Fighting Cocks which is a 17th century old pub with its own bed and breakfast. We were delighted with this layover as we found new friends in the pub who were very curious about our adventure. We found that by doing the Alternative walk there was far more curiosity about our trek as the places we stayed in were more remote. The first part of the journey was to select a pebble from the Irish Sea to carry in our backpacks and drop in the North Sea when we arrived at our final destination in Saltburn. We were warned by the officials at the train station to not walk on the sand as it was known as quicksand (warnings were posted) when the tide gets too high, and many people get stuck in the sand needing emergency assistance to get them out. You can google Arnside quicksand if you want to watch a rescue out of curiosity.

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Day 1, Arnside to Kirby Lonsdale

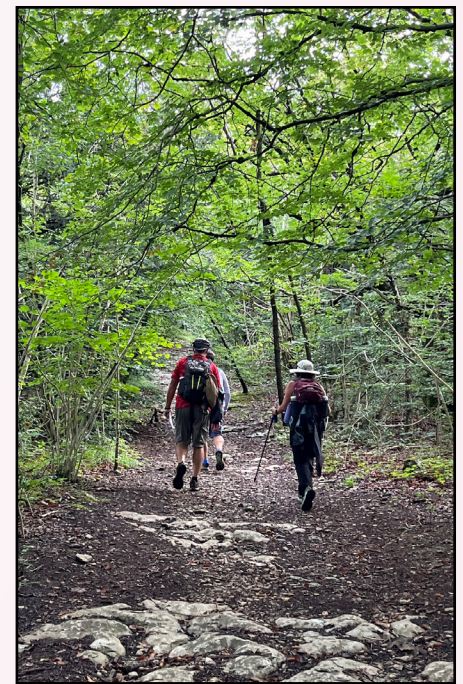
It was supposed to be about 12 miles, but we got lost and ended up hiking 14.1 miles with 1500 feet of climbing. Getting lost would prove to be the norm as we were following directions which used language that was a little different than we're used to using. It felt like a scavenger hunt as we learned the differences between a kissing gate, fingerposts, stiles, squeeze stiles, climbing stiles, tarmacs etc.

We trekked across open fields, in the woods, through moors, and on shared farmlands across the way. I think the most notable part of Day 1 was the fairy stairs. They used to be known as the Coffin Road as they carried coffins from Arnside to another parish, but later folklore said that if you could climb through the gap without touching the walls, you might see a real fairy. It was super narrow at the top and none of us got through without touching the sides. Completing day 1 went well, with a little rain (drizzle) to start but then later it cleared up for us.



Day 2, Kirby Lonsdale to Chapel le Dale

This portion of the hike was supposed to be 13 miles but ended up being 14.69 miles with over 1600 feet of climbing. We loved staying in Kirby Lonsdale as it was a bustling town with shops and fun old buildings. We all decided this was a fun town to visit compared to some of the other stops. This trek included walking through farms and across many fields. It was fun to see the tributes to the queen with flags set at half-mast being displayed everywhere we went. Bob read the directions and played out tour guide as we made our way through each town. We quickly got used to walking by sheep, lambs, rams, and ewes (couldn't tell you the difference from one to another) and plenty of cows and large bulls were also seen as we worked our way through the different areas.



Day 3, Chapel le Dale to Hawes

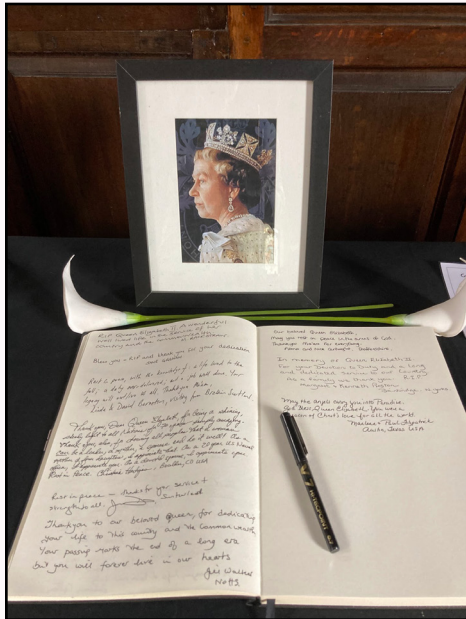
It was only supposed to be a 10-mile trek except for getting lost, again, which brought us up to 13 miles with 1200 feet of climbing for the day. The prettiest part of this walk was the Ribbleshead Via Duct built in 1875. It was so tall and impressive to walk under. There was a long and steady climb after passing this which made us wonder if it would ever end. But we made it and realized that the English don't believe in switchbacks because most of their climbs were straight up the hills. When we arrived in Hawes we found lots of areas prettied up with Disney-like characters and pictures made of yarn done by the Hawes Yarn Bombers as a fundraiser.



Day 4, Hawes to Ayesgarth

This was supposed to be 13 miles, but we got lost again and found a short cut to make it 11.5 miles with very little elevation climbing (only 700 feet). It rained at the start but then it dried up and proved to be a great day with a slightly shorter trek.

We stopped in a small town and visited the local church as they had a tribute to Queen Elizabeth where we got to participate in history by signing a book of condolences that would be forwarded to the royal family.



Day 5 Ayesgrath to Reeth

Today was supposed to be a 13-mile hike and we ended up with 13.5 miles so we must have not gotten as lost this time. This was a hilly day with long treks up some steady climbs with an overall 1,750-foot gain. We exited Ayesgarth towards their falls (which is a loose definition of falls after traveling to Hawaii where there are really falls) but the moving water was nice to see in various places. We then crossed over some beautiful grassy terrain and started to climb up to the Castle Bolton.

The Castle Bolton is a medieval castle with a dragon sculpture outside of the gates to put you in the proper mood or setting. It's famous for being used to house Mary the Queen of Scots who was arrested by Queen Elizabeth for arranging the murder of her husband and for conspiring to seize the throne from Elizabeth. She had knights and servants staying with her which sounds very medieval like.

From there, we climbed and climbed and climbed up several long and steady hills to get to the fields where the new King (Charles) likes to go Grouse Hunting. It's on this trail that we encountered how the grouse (funny red birds that they like to hunt) like to hop out of the brush quickly to startle you. They have grouse





blinds, for lack of better word, set up throughout the moors for hunters to take shelter in and lie in wait to shoot at the unsuspecting birds. I'm not sure what makes this so fun, but as we were walking through the fields, we met a man who told us that he takes King Charles grouse hunting and in fact was doing that with Charles the day the queen died of her heart attack. He apparently has been hunting with the royal family for many years and had a wealth of stories to share with us. We crossed the swinging bridge (got to love their names) and finally ended our hike in Reeth.

Day 6, Reeth to Richmond

This was an easy 10-mile hike with no surprises from getting lost and the paths were mostly easy to follow. It was in this town where the Coast-to-Coast traditional hike meets up with the Alternative Coast-to-Coast hikers and that meant better trail markings and more people on the trail.

We met several people over the next few days that were doing the longer hike. They were mostly from England but we did meet a couple from Wyoming as well. It was fun to talk with the other travelers and meet people who knew about the walk, but we also enjoyed our segments where it was just us too.

The “finger posts” were clearly marked with C2C (Coast-to-Coast) which made following the directions much easier for all of us. We stopped by the church in Richmond to view the tribute to the queen and visited another castle that was nearby. The Richmond Castle was built in 1060 and looked a little worn from the wear and tear of owning a castle. In World War II it was used to house war deserters who did not want to fight in the war. They created a block with graffiti drawings to depict their varying points of view that are maintained as part of the preserved history of the castle.



Day 7, Richmond to Danby Wiske

This part of the trail was supposed to be 14 miles long, but we made it 15.4 miles as Doug wanted to stop at a pub halfway, so we had to leave the trail for a bit to find an open pub, but at least we didn't get lost!



This was an easier day because it was mostly down hill for a nice change. Beautiful, wooded areas and a cute little village called Bolton on the Swale that came up at about the half-way mark so we can get a fun rest stop. There was a nice church (St. Mary's) that offered snacks and restrooms for the weary walkers. It had a lot of tombstones situated as you entered that were dated back to the 1500s.



We walked into the town to visit the quaint little pub (only one in town) where we had french fries with cheese and bacon on them. We then continued our journey towards the next town by crossing through pastures with horses grazing on the side. This path took us down a



paved road for almost two miles which was along time as most of our hiking had been on trails. We were very happy to see the sign that we had made it to the next village.



When we got there the pub/hotel was not open until 4:00 but did have a sign posted that said we could visit Tuck's Shack for snacks and drinks. So, we walked down the road and found a cute church that had been converted from a shed into a "trust store" where you could pick up food, books, ice cream, drinks, etc. and hoping you would leave the proper payment behind. They had benches and picnic table set up for anyone who wanted to camp out as well.



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Given there was only one hotel in town, the likelihood of getting a last-minute room was surly not going to happen to the walkers who were doing it on their own. Fortunately, we had the arrangements made through the company we were using and had some nice cozy rooms waiting for us at the local pub/hotel. Once the doors opened, all was good, as our bags were already there, and the beer was ready to be poured for all!

Day 8, Danby Wiske to Ingleby Cross

This was supposed to be our easiest hike with only 8.5 miles listed, however we got lost and it ended up doing 11 miles. I know it's hard to imagine how you could get lost so often but the signage in England isn't always visible and the directions don't really help you when you're off by one direction. In our defense, we saw other hikers turn around on this one and go down another path, but the directions were clearly saying to go forward, so stubborn as we were, we followed the flawed description and after almost a mile, had to turn around because they were clearly wrong. But we were rewarded with a pub stop at mile 8 which made everyone happy and most of the walking was flat and easy so that made up for it too.



On some of the stops, if there aren't a lot of hotels, the company will have a cab meet you and take you to a different hotel down the road (maybe off the hiking trail) and then have the cab company return you to the same spot the next day. That happened at this junction of the trip.

When this happened, it seemed as though we'd end up with a better hotel, so we weren't so disappointed to have a taxi ride on this leg. We ended up in a hotel that used to be a horse stable (early 1800s) and was converted to a fine dining and bed and breakfast hotel.



We had a big room, with king size beds for a change, and a second story bathroom that was bigger than some of the rooms we have stayed in during our trip. That part was great but going up and down the stairs in the middle of the night to use the bathroom made it a not so favorite hotel knowing we had a big day of hiking the next day. But we had a great meal and felt pampered in some ways. It was definitely "posh" as defined by some of the locals we met at previous Inns we had stayed at.



Day 9, Ingleby Cross to Clay Bank



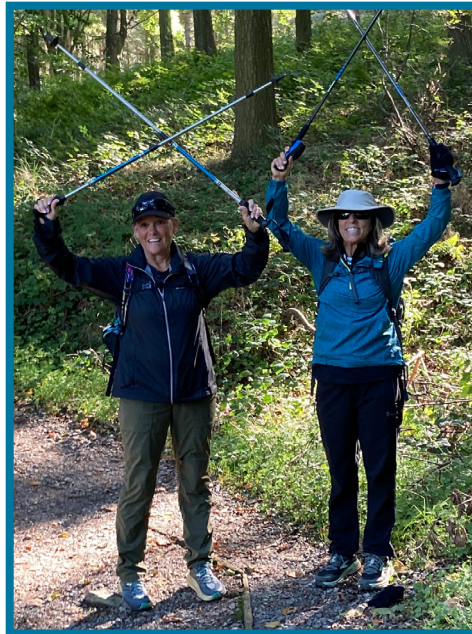
This was probably one of our tougher days with close to 3,000 feet of climbing during a 12-mile hike. But it also was worth it as we got our first glimpses of the North Sea, our final destination.

We have noticed a common theme when it comes to trails in England. Switchback hiking is not the way they carve their trails. They seem to like to go straight up each hill and straight down which made for some arduous treks. The trails were laid down with large stones which also made it tricky to cut through the paths. We could see the wooded area when we began so we knew we were going up from the beginning, but we had no idea what laid behind those hills. It was also super windy which brought the temperatures down into the 50's for this day of hiking.





We then shifted into walking in the moors which look like open fields with low lying plants all over the place. We went in and out of forests and back into the moors. It was a nice balance of beautiful trees and open fields. We had 4 hill tops that on the relief map looked like sharp ups and downs, which is exactly what they were. You climbed straight up and then back down and then repeated it over and over again. Lucky for us, at about mile 10, we were rewarded for our efforts with a pub stop for all hikers.



Bob and Doug were thrilled to get a carbo load (giant beers) and we were happy to have a short rest before we resumed climbing over the moors. We finished that hike and were picked up by the owner of the Pub/Inn that we would be staying in that next night. He was the owner, renovator, cook, and shuttle driver. He originally came from Germany and thus our dinner options included some great dishes from Germany. We had goulash in memory of Mom's many goulash dishes she served us up when we were young.



Day 10, Clay Bank to Captain Cook's Monument

This was an 11.5-mile day hike with 1400 feet of elevation climbing. It was from this point that we shifted gears and moved off the Coast-to-Coast hike and headed towards the Cleveland Trail to complete the Alternative Coast-to-Coast trek.

It was nice to get off the main road and have the trail to ourselves again. We stopped at a small village named Kildale hoping we would find a pub, but unfortunately, there wasn't one nearby, so we stopped on the side of the road and had some snacks. After that, our hike turned back to the woods as we hiked to the top of a mountain where we would find Captain Cook's Monument (Kildale was the boyhood town for Captain Cook). We could see it in the distance so that pumped us up even though we knew we would be hiking up hill again. The tree's leaves were just beginning to turn yellow reminding us that fall was in the air. It was truly a beautiful area to hike through.

We found many visitors at the top and enjoyed the 360-degree views around the monument. From there we hiked down the hill and met up with a cab that would take us to the city we would be sleeping in (nearby) as there were no accommodations in the local area. The plan would be for the cab to return us to the trail the next day to begin again on our final day of hiking.



Day 11, Captain Cook's Monument to Saltburn by the Sea



It was our last day for the hike which included lots of hill climbing and a half marathon distance (13.7 miles). It was my favorite hike by far because we were in and out of wooded areas and farms. We started in the Moors and were guided to view Roseberry Topping which from the distance looked like a mound sitting up in the field. As we got closer, it looked more like Cowl's mountain without the switchbacks. The stairs led down to the base and back up to the top and the view was totally worth the extra effort to climb it. We felt right at home as we saw a trail running group come up from behind us, running in single file towards the top. They had trail shirts on and seemed very adept to the challenge.



At the top, we found a small monument with a picture of Queen Elizabeth and beautiful views of the area we would be hiking across as we made our way toward the coast. We technically didn't have to climb to the top of this hill, but they made it an option for the day (adding a little over a mile more to the day) but we felt as though it would be worth it and so up we went, with the running group! We worked our way down hill for a little bit, but then we shifted back up towards the woods again.



We found a pub in a small village called Skelton which promised us a place to rest halfway through our hike. Unfortunately, Monday, Sept. 19th was declared a day of morning for the Queen who was to be buried in London. It was a National Holiday which closed all restaurants and pubs until 4:00 p.m. so we were forced to push on, much to Doug's disappointment. It wasn't too bad because we did find a pub open just outside of Saltburn and cheered our near arrival to our destination. We continued our trek though some beautiful trails that were wooded and covered by trees.



As we made our way into Saltburn we finally got to see the North Sea up close and personal. We were surprised to see waves and people boogie boarding in the water that was super cold. The view reminded us of San Diego in many ways with many people sitting on the beach sand enjoying the beautiful day.

It was here we would leave our pebbles which we had collected from the Irish Sea. We ceremoniously tossed them into the North Sea to officially complete the Coast-to-Coast walk!



Our last hotel on the walk was an 18th Century Victorian house that was a great treat and a fun way to end the hike. It was called the Brockley Hall Boutique Hotel and boutique it was decorated with a fun collection of all kinds of antiques and displays to put you in a nostalgic mood and captured a celebratory finish for us.

We had dinner that night in the dining room and our breakfast was served with chandeliers and a grand piano in a breakfast area. This was a perfect way to finish our long trek across England!

From there we hopped on the train to Edinburgh so we could play tourist and see and experience a new country in a regular mode of transportation. I do think this trip made the train ride more enjoyable as we made our way north because there was no mystery as to what the woods, farms, and trails might bring while walking across them. We knew the landscape from our adventures which felt satisfying on so many levels.



The Rest of the Trip



We started our morning in a fun café with a Greek waiter who was a comedy act all on his own. We asked for a group photo and of course he didn't want to be left out and added a selfie with us as well.



We then set out on our day in Edinburgh castle before the crowds got too crazy. We saw the stone of destiny which will be moved for the coronation for King Charles as it seems to be a rock the Scottish and the English people fought over in medieval times. We wondered if that's where the story of the stone and sword came from.



We learned about the Black Dinner that ended in death in David's Tower. Apparently, King James II decided to take out his rival by inviting him to dinner and served him a



bull's head on a platter which was a sign that someone would die soon. After dinner, they were dragged into a side room and were charged with treason and then it was off with their heads. Black dinners don't sound very inviting to me.



We also got to see the Scottish Royalty crown jewels that were buried under David's tower during World War II when the Germans were invading Europe. Lots of fun history to read about and enjoy.





After the castle we walked the Royal Mile and then did a hop off and hop on bus to get a bigger view of the city. We saw fancy churches and the Scottish Palace as well. Everything was impressive and fun to wander around in. It was much easier to see and enjoy the area on foot, and it was great to see the various sites that Scotland is famous for.

We of course had to stop at the White Hart Inn which is the most ancient tavern found in Edinburgh found in 1516 with lots of famous travelers who have stopped there over the years.



We joined the millions of travelers who touched Greyfriars Bobby's nose, a Skye Terrier who guarded the grave of his owner for 14 years after his passing (or that's how the story goes), and is the most famous dog in Scottish history.





The next day we were back on the train and headed to Glasgow to spend our last night in Scotland before heading back to the states. We walked all over Glasgow. It was a great way to see and experience the city. We visited a museum and saw lots of cool displays that caught our attention like this cool old car and a floating head display.

We were lucky to have nice weather and clear skies to make our walk around the city fun. We finished the day celebrating with a fun dinner and then took a cab to the airport to fly back to London and then San Diego. We feel super lucky to have our health and the physical strength to see Europe like this and hope to return for another hike/trip where we truly get to see the country in the intimate way, we all agreed this is the best way to see Europe!



Desert Stay with the Family

By Birdy Hartman Hall



Lyle had a racing weekend up in Buttonwillow, CA., with the guys, from September 30-Oct.2. I never like being alone in the house and hate to watch weekends drag by when he is gone. So, I emailed some kids and asked who was interested or available for that weekend. I got a few kids that were happy to join me. Michelle, Dave, Owen, Rhys, Scott, Krissy, and Zeke packed their bags and made the trek to Palm Desert to meet me at Marriot's Shadow Ridge Villas.



We were right on the golf course and enjoyed a great time relaxing by their beautiful pools. Unfortunately for us, the main pool and slides were closed for maintenance repairs. But we kept ourselves happy, nonetheless. I love just sitting by the pool and seeing the kids splash like kids (young and old). We also got some fun Pickleball games in the mornings. Even though it was warmish, those boys are happy to play and have fun.



Sunday evening, I got a nice dinner visit with Craig's crew. I got a full report on soccer games and what was going on at school. I want to thank the kids for joining me as I waited for my hubby's safe return. Rumor has it that Lyle blew up the motor after the first hour on the track...ugh, (not his fault, says he) but they had it fixed by Sunday and back on the course to finish off their fun weekend of racing. Zoom, zoom! So glad that Lyle came home in one piece.



Arrrrrrro Turns 1



By Brett Sorem

Picking a theme for your child's first birthday is almost as important as the name you chose to give them. They will live with it for the rest of their life, as will you. Pirate parties are always a stellar choice but having your kid's name as Aro makes it pretty convenient.

Carinda did an amazing job picking out all the decorations and Pirate swag for the Party. Karin knocked it over the starboard bow with the Pirate cakes and smash cake. Big Al did Big Al things like picking up the balloons and helping get the house together while drinking diet cokes every five minutes. Keven (Carinda's dad) shot down to Costco and snagged the Pizza's for us. Big thanks to anyone else who helped out during the day that I missed.

Thankfully people started showing up around noon. It took me forever to get the house and yard into prime shape. Carol and Jeff were the first to arrive, Jason Chavva and the kids not too far af-



ter that, then the flood gates opened. Kendahl and I smoked brisket for 16 hours, which once it was ready, it was gone in an instant.

There were the typical activities you'd expect at a Sorem function; soccer, skateboarding, swimming, and hydrating...most of the time with beer, but there were waters and sodas downed in between.

My Godmother Marrienne Felice wins the prize for commuting the furthest from Boston MA. It was great to have her down even if it was only for a short while.

Lots of family and friends came. I think we had around 60 people from beginning to end. It was almost like a mini wedding reunion for us, but plus all our kids. Once Aro said goodbye and went up for bedtime, the adults continued the party in his honor till the wee hours of the night (like 9:30 pm...we're old now)

We know it was not convenient for any of our friends or families living in SD or LA but we are very thankful for those who could make it.

Aro enjoyed meeting his cousins, aunts and uncles, and all the other new faces. He keeps asking why it's not his birthday all the time. We have no answers for any of his questions but are just enjoying it day by day. He's only a few days older than 1, a pretty young guy, but I hear it goes by fast.

Ready for the next one!
Love Y'all.
The Sorem's



Anniversary Road Trip for Ed and Jan

By Ed Riel



There is nothing like a good old road trip. Covid is diminished, and its high time for Jan and me to actually go somewhere for our Anniversary. A month ago, we decided on Lake Tahoe since neither of us have been there. And since it is so conveniently close to San Francisco we could then drive up to spend time with Timothy and Federico. But days before our well-planned trip The Mosquitoes Fire happens just east of the lake. Bad enough that air quality and road selection might be compromised, but even the fires name was unappealing. So instead, we opted for a drive up the coast mostly on Highway 1, up to San Francisco stopping at mid Californian cities along the way.



We started with Solvang, an easy day drive from SD to a city which has transformed itself into a Danish Disneyland. It must be city code that all buildings have gabled roofs with slopes greater than 1 to 1; plaster walls divided by thick beams and a ground of cobblestone; not to mention full scale 2 story replica of windmills on every other block. A fun little shopping town and the Hans Christian Anderson Museum was very cool.

Then to Paso Robles, another easy drive through feel-good, abundant agricultural fields. The draw to this city was its much publicized outside lightshow. Otherwise, we discovered a very inviting little city to

spend our anniversary night in. In the center of the city is a park with an old very-grand library, now a museum to which the curator gives you a personal history of her home city with well-deserved pride.

The next day we saw the Mission of San Miguel; protected, but not over preserved so you see the original work of 200 years ago. The other must-see if you are in the area is the Pioneer Museum of Paso Robles. From old horse drawn carriages and cars to cowboy stuff, old typewriters, telephones, kitchen tools, blacksmith shop; each with its own space, not polished or restored, but as if it was recently found in your attic. But enough of the old.

Next it was up Highway 1 to Monterey; the drizzle rain was perfect for the very scenic drive. As a West coaster I found Monterey (Cannery Row) disorientating in that the sun rose over the water (Monterey Bay) and sets over the land. But ignoring this oddity it was fun to watch the abundance of ocean sea life; seals and otters; and the Monterey Aquarium is incredible. Then on to the highlight of the trip; to San Francisco to stay with Tim and Federico. Tim took a couple days off from work to make a four-day weekend to spend with us. We traveled both down and up the Coast visiting every pier and lighthouse along the way. The choicest lighthouse is the one on the north side of the Frisco Bay. It sits on a cliff rock needing its own mini suspension bridge to get to.

We went on to see the big trees and visited the “Mystery Spot” (www.mysteryspot.com). Traveling south we shopped the Santa Cruz Pier and walked the boardwalk, this after walking “Devils Slide”. Back at the City we watched a musical play “Goddess” that we expect one day to make it to Broadway, and we saw the De Young Museum, in Golden Gate Park, one of the best art venues I have ever been to. Jan and I really enjoyed dinner in their home where on the first night, Tim made his family renowned enchilada dish. Then, on the last night, we shopped fisherman’s wharf’s, farmers market, for fresh vegetables to create several custom pizzas in his pizza kiln. Our love to Tim and Federico for being the metaphoric icing on our great anniversary road trip.



CRYPTO RICH



WHAT DO SLOT MACHINES AND CRYPTO CURRENCY HAVE IN COMMON?

By Rich Riel

No one knows for sure who invented them, and they are electronic gaming machines where millions of dollars are played by millions of people every day.

Like crypto currency, the origins of slot machines are shrouded in secrecy and speculation. Also, like crypto, it was an emerging technology based on gaming for money. According to legend, the first slot machine was invented in 1894 in San Francisco by Charles Fey. Like crypto currency, it revolutionized not only gaming but our relationship with gaming machines.

Satoshi Nakamoto, like the legendary Fey, is an enigma. Nakamoto is credited as the creator of the first blockchain database. In the same year he is credited with being the author of the 2010 seminal work on bitcoin, "The Bitcoin White Paper." This defining documentation created and deployed bitcoin's original implementation plan. Nakamoto owns over one million bitcoins. As of November 2021, that puts his net worth at 73 billion US dollars, which would make him the 15th-richest person in the world. Like Fey, no one has ever seen Satoshi Nakamoto.



I have opened the first retail store on the West Coast selling to consumer's hardware, software and educational courses that facilitates playing in the crypto currency game. What qualifies me to open my store is my lifetime involvement in gaming, computer technology and finance.

The crypto currency industry began in 1999 with the widespread panic on what would happen on Jan 1st 2000. People hoarded cash and gold fearing the collapse of the banking industry. One dire prediction was all electronic means of getting cash out of banks would fail and cash would once again be king. The second event that was a catalyst for the creation of crypto currency was Swiss bankers started to open their bank records to the American Justice Department.

I followed and have been involved in the technical discussions centering on encryption solutions eliminating the need for banks and bankers. In 2006, tech papers on the future of banking began referencing crypto currency. The goal being a way to providing a safe and secure way to store wealth digitally.

The solution was block chain technology. The vehicle was an innovative use of shared processors. In order to eliminate third party verification, you need to have a system that allows two parties to believe that their transaction has occurred and is irreversible. In order to provide the encryption or security of the block chain you need massive amounts of processing power. It is the harnessing of a googolplex of shared processors worldwide that guarantees the encryption process. The large numbers of worldwide dispersed processors allows us to believe the results of the encryption. If encryption is dispersed to a worldwide set of processors it is impossible to intercept individual processors. Most importantly the system is so large; no one has the processing power to defeat the system.

My store, "Crypto Rich," brings this cutting-edge gaming technology to the consumer. "Crypto Rich" is the T-Mobile model of cyber currency and emerging 3D technology. We educate the consumer in the use of the technology and sell the technology. We are a certified dealer for 3D printing and accept commissions for 3D Projects. Our store holds education classes on the use of both technologies.





On September 29th I turned 75 and held my birthday party at my store the day before we opened for business. “Crypto Rich” is located inside the Regional Shopping Center Parkway Plaza across from ULTA and Five Below. The physical address for the shopping center is 415 Fletcher Parkway Plaza, El Cajon, CA 92020.

The picture above at the restaurant was a surprise birthday party given me by my choir mates from St. Columba.

The dichotomy of aging is the older you get the more you know, but it is done at the loss of your friends and family. In the Riel family the only deaths that we have reported are for Frank, Edith, Bruce and Francie. I am the oldest of the family. God has blessed our family with Love, Peace, Health and Happiness.

Today I am blessed with many of my family and friends who are alive with me to enjoy God’s continuing gift of life.

On my birthday I reflected on the gift of living three quarters of a century. I wish all of you what God has given me; love, peace, happiness and health. At peace with all is richinspirit aka crypto rich aka Rich Riel