



1999 Christmas Cracker.

Position		Points	Tie decider
1 st	Ted Saunders/Graeme Ross	23	+179
2 nd	Graham Ford/Ewan Hopes/ Sheena Horan/Steve Loveridge	21	+263
3 rd	Richard Smith/Bev Preston	18	-183
4 th	Richard Clayton/Phil King	17	-201
5 th	Tim Purvey/Dave Gregory/ John Gregory	14	-153
6 th	Dave Cooper/Kathy Cooper/Jonathon Cooper	14	-253
7 th	Jeremy Cooper/Chris Thomas/Becca Cochrane	11	-216
8 th	Nick Hawkes/Bill Hawkes	8	-271
9 th	Richard Burdett/Steve Atkinson Retired	7	-3

The evening of Monday 27th December saw nine CMC crews out on the annual 'Christmas Cracker'. In 2¼ hours crews had to plot the 24 clues and visit as many of them as possible. On their return they had to complete a tie decider which involved guessing how many mixed size nails made up the 500g of nails I bought loose at Wilkinsons.

First crew back was Richard Burdett and Steve Atkinson.... after about 40 minutes! I'll find out what happened one day but they had decided to retire. Before Richard - the proprietor of a hardware shop - left, I asked him to have a go at the tie decider. His answer of 400 was just 3 away from the correct answer of 403. The next closest was 153 away! Thanks also to Richard for providing the best prizes we've been able to award on the 'Cracker' for many a year.

Good to see more than one generation involved in the 'Cracker' - Dave/Kathy Cooper and son Jonathon in one crew, Dave and Kathy's other son Jeremy out in his own car with friends Becca and Chris, Bill Hawkes out with son Nick, Dave Gregory out with son John (and regular competitive partner Tim Purvey). Bev Preston was out with her boy Richard. Although my son Tim didn't do the event, without his help it wouldn't have been ready in time!

Other than Dave/Kathy/Jonathon Cooper who used 3 minutes of the maximum of 15 minutes lateness, all made it back to CMC in time. Sorry about the fog.... but judging by the number of clues visited it didn't seem to hold anybody up too much

Thanks to Graeme Ross for the mince pies and see you all next year.

Phil and Tim Cork.