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Durham Dales A Big Success With Location Seekers

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TV and Film location seekers zoomed in on the Durham Dales when they paid a visit to the area's attractions today.

It is hoped the Eastgate Renewable Energy Village, Auckland Castle or Harperley Prisoner of War Camp could be used for television productions or future films as the two day trip proved very popular.

Five members of the Guild of Location Managers and one independent scene setter toured the North East today and yesterday as part of the Location Seeker Showcase organised by Wear Valley District Council, Steve Reed Tourism and Northern Film and Media.

Location seeker Tessa Crocket said: "I've had a wonderful two days and I didn't realise, coming from London, just what a variety of things there are and how pretty it is up here.

"I particularly liked the quarry and the he Wurlitzer and the (Weardale) Railway is an absolute gem."

The team also visited Killhope Lead Mining Museum, The Bay Horse in Wolsingham, North East Theatre Organ at Howden-Le-Wear and the supposedly haunted Manor House at West Auckland.

Mike Richardson, Tourism, Promotion and Development Officer for Wear Valley District Council, said: "Apart from a patch of foggy weather when we visited Killhope, the two days have gone exceptionally well.

"We have an awful lot to offer in this area and it would be great to see something develop from the film location seekers visit.

"We'll keep our fingers crossed."

A surprise trip from Stanhope to Wolsingham on the Weardale Railway, the unexpected appearance of the Wurlitzer organ and an Exploration of the quarry at Eastgate ensured a constant glare of flashbulbs throughout the two days as the managers and their colleagues craned their necks for a better glimpse of the area's many attractions.

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