A centenarian who has been spending his holidays in Westward Ho! for almost 40 years has celebrated his birthday with more than 100 friends in North Devon. George Gigg, from Norfolk, had a small family gathering with his children on his birthday in June but wanted to host his special bash in North Devon.

And now, joined by more than 100 friends and family from across the world, he has done just that.

George, who was born in Axminster and grew up in Devon, was the guest of honour at a celebration at Braddicks Holiday Park, Westward Ho!

Under a marquee on the site, 108 of his friends celebrated his centenary and the well-wishers had come from as far afield as Dubai, Mozambique, Israel and the Philippines.

According to his son-in-law Peter Greenfield, George is an active man and Peter said: "He is very well and lives independently. He looks after himself and is a good cook and keen gardener."

George left school aged 13 and worked as a handyman. He later served an apprenticeship as a printer at the Bideford Gazette before moving to Derby and later Norwich.

When he turned 60 he started a mail order business called Stamps Direct, which now has four branches.

Daughter Faith Greenfield said her dad had a great day, adding: "It was excellent and he..."
Dating

was absolutely thrilled. He congratulated Braddicks on the catering."

While some of the guests departed after the party, around 80 have stayed on to holiday and the family took 20 chalets in the park before heading home over the weekend.

Sharon Snell, of Braddicks, said: "It is lovely to have them here and nice to get to know them. George is absolutely amazing and he deserves congratulations."