



JANUARY 1985.

## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Whatcher!! Wally 'ere. I seem to have acquired a new image, so to live up to this I am sending out a plea. I would like to acquire a suitable vehicle to live up to this new image. Anything considered, preferably a Reliant Robin with four wheel drive. Must have fluorescent pink paintwork, furry dice etc., and jacked up 10 x 15 rear wheels!!

## NATIONALS 85

Remember last year? Doggy powered parasols, Treasurer on bonnets of P6 saloons, 3 wheeled Range Rovers, and at one point, human powered Land Rovers. Well! that was last year and this year promises to be just as crazy. Venue is the same at Priors Dean on 20/21st July. We already have a couple of novelty events to be tried out on the Saturday night which involves tightrope walking with Land Rovers. The pub we are using has been nominated 'Pub of the Year' and was on TV about 2 months ago, so we will be in good company. I won't reveal too much, but evil thoughts and plans are afoot to try and make this an event to remember!

## YEAR BOOK

Having produced one attempt at such a book, I intend to do the same again. What I would like are articles and contributions. The intention is to have it produced and ready for the Nationals on 20/21 July 1985., as this is the Club's birthday. Any articles considered, such as your motoring experiences, articles on cars, events attended, histories, technicalities, in fact anything of interest. Photographs as well.

## SHOW TIME

Friends, chaps, fellow Rover owners, HELP!!

In the following months we hope the Club will be attending various shows, fetes etc and what we need is your help, plus vehicles of course. The reason for all this pleading (and I can be a rotten pleader at times) is, I have responded to a request from the organisers of the Bristol Classic Car Show, to provide a stand. A reply has been sent back requesting space for four vehicles, and can confirm that we have been booked in. The date is .. 23/24th March .. and the Show has a feature on Rover, so lots of effort, please.

## REGALIA

I have been moaned and groaned at, for some time, about this so we have taken the plunge. Badges are being prepared for windscreens and should be with us in the middle of January. Same design as that which appears on the Newsletter, but in yellow and black. Price is .. £1.50 each. Details from me on Tadley 5194.

Now that towing time has arrived, it's worthwhile having a look at the towing/towed arrangements on the Landie and Rangie. Those towhooks, towballs and lifting rings which are for cosmetic purpose will undoubtedly be the first thing that someone else will try to use as an attachment point, so it's a good idea to get some proper nuts and bolts and fix them on properly, or else removing them.

For those who don't have a tow point on the front of the Landie no problem unless you have a capstan winch fitting through the front cross member (then you won't have problems with a winch fitted in any case!). Pass the tow rope under the front bumper (making sure that it's over the steering track and drag arms), and pass the rope through the hole in the front cross member. It's easier if the rope has an eye spliced at the end, as a shackle can then be put through the eye and round the rope. If it's just a plain rope then a bowline or slipped half hitch can be used. For those with non military Landies the pto hole in the rear cross member is a useful towing point. Both these front and rear points are better than using the spring shackles which have sharp edges and can cut the rope and also jam it. If you are being towed (it happens to most of us!) via front cross member, then make sure you don't get the front wheels over the tow rope or you'll find out very quickly how track and drag rods get bends in them!

Yet another wet journey south to Petersfield on 2nd December, where 9 Landies and 1 Rangie met at the railway station for our most memorable day out green roading in the mud. A short drive up the A3 then into the woods. The strange lurching of Alan's Rangie on a narrow downhill track over some rather large roots, showed that the rear of a Rangie sticks out a bit more than a Landie. I prefer the convex rather than the concave panels. Mike's V8 Lightweight with a new radiator (after the Devil's Highway) decided to melt a petrol pipe but piping and hose clips appeared from various tool boxes to repair the damage and we were soon off again. At about 11:45 it seemed that we were driving about on metalled roads waiting for the hostelry to open but no, we were off to THE mud section. Roy's attempt to see how deep a pond was heralded the start of double tows. The mud we found on the track gave virtually no traction and the main problem being the axles and chassis ended up resting in the mud. Not only had opening time cost but closing time went and the 10 vehicles had progressed all of 200 yards. A stream in a gully was eventually negotiated by Mike with the aid of muscle power pushing. Much towing and pushing was needed to get the vehicles through, and darkness arrived before we got onto terra slightly firma at about 6:30, having broken 2 tow ropes, double towed at the end of 25 yard tow ropes, got very wet and muddy and travelled  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile in 6 hours. It's amazing that a Landie that can't be towed out of mud can be physically pushed. It was good to see everyone working very hard together, so that the Rovers wouldn't have to stay until Spring!

#### Future Green Roading Dates

6 January                      Meet at Wheelgame Tadley for a New Year's  
amble in the Berkshire Downs, at 9 30

3 February Meet in layby opposite Viabes Craft Centre Basingstoke at 9 30. Leave Basingstoke on the Alton Road(A339), turn right at the roundabout by the Crest Hotel; if coming from Alton, it's the first roundabout after going under M3; then straight on at the roundabout by the garage, layby is further on the right.

3 March Ridgeway.

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For those of you who got Company cars for Christmas, you may not appreciate that they are able to do things that privately owned cars are not able to do, and that they are also constructed slightly differently.

They can go much faster in all gears, reverse especially, and have much better acceleration and require a shorter braking distance, with a much tighter turning circle and able to drive over ramps at twice the normal speed.

Oil, battery and water levels, and tyre pressures very rarely need checking, and can be driven for 150 miles with the oil pressure warning light on. The suspension is heavy duty to allow paving slabs and building materials to be carried, whilst the tyres are designed to let you drive over kerbs without damage.

They don't need to be kept in a garage at night and can be left unlocked with ignition keys left in at all other times. Sudden and unexpected engine noises can be eliminated by adjusting the volume of the fitted stereo.

ANON.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

9th January - Film Night. This is intended to be a visual evening of prints, slides and video. It is a chance for you to show off your pictures to other members, but to make it a good evening, we need your material in advance. Roger Pattie is mounting the prints whilst I will be sorting out the slides and videos. At present it is showing a strong off road bias, so come, let's have some pictures of saloons in action.

Additions to Library:

"Tale-Gate" Staffordshire & Shropshire Land Rover Club	Vol.2 No.3.
"Southern News" Southern Rover Owners Club	Nov.84
"Southern News" Southern Rover Owners Club	Dec.84

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## MONEY GRABBERS REPORT

We had 26 members at the Wheatsheaf for our Christmas Dinner, which was very enjoyable; At the bar when Kathy and I got there was Pete with his hand in his pocket and saying "What are you drinking?", so grabbing the golden opportunity with both hands I said "Drambuie Shandy" which nearly brought on a heart attack.

During the excellent meal we had many laughs, Ian Hancock proved that you could wear a paper hat as a collar, and paper pellets kept whizzing up and down the table. At the end of the evening, Roaring Rat (or Throbbing Robin, as the roar has changed to a throb, according to Pete) called for HUSH, and he gave one of his better speeches, presenting Kathy with a beautiful bouquet for all the hard work she had done during the year, typing and photocopying all the newsletters (including this one) and not least, READING PETE'S HANDWRITING.

The last award was to Throbbing Robin as WALLY OF THE YEAR, which was a magnificent trophy manufactured from solid brass, and attached to a rod which in turn was pushed into a solid piece of wood (from an old chair). This was finished off with a plate (made from paper) stuck to the front and engraved with a felt pen. As you can see, no expense was spared.

We were very pleased to have Pete Anderson from London who came to the dinner, in fact, he stayed at our house for the Wednesday night (cheaper rates for B & B). After some discussion we have persuaded him to come green roading (snigger!!). I wonder if he knows what he is letting himself in for!! Maybe after the trip he will write about it.

In the last newsletter I did say if you didn't joint the Club it would be your LAST, but as you can see there is a brochure included, and we have been sponsored for this month, so if you want another N.L. then send your AKKERS, PRONTO. If you are leaving us, then we wish you all the best. (I only put that in because I cannot write the sound of a raspberry!!! (only joking)).

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### SPARES AND TECH.

After having a chat with Hugh Glossop the other day, he revealed how cheap he can get parts for Land Rovers, Range Rovers and some items for the saloon guys, especially V8 parts. So after some friendly persuasion (and a few pints of beer) he has agreed to stand as spares secretary. Admittedly, this is mainly off roaders but saloon owner can benefit as well. Hugh can be contacted on Mortimer 332475.

Workshop manuals for the following :

P6 2000/2200 - Tadley 5194  
P6B 3500 V8 - Woolhampton 713826  
P5 3 litre - Tadley 2708  
P5B Supplement - " "  
Range Rover - Woolhampton 713826  
P4 - Tadley 2708

Land Rover Series 1 - Woolhampton 713826 or contact Club Librarian Richard Stewart. These are being lent to members only.

WANTED : Anybody got the following items for P6 2000? Series 2 trim, Rear offside window trim, front offside plastic headlight surround, pair of hubcaps, rear bumper.

### EVENTS

9th Jan. Film night - Hinds Head  
23rd Jan. Meet - Hampshire Bowman  
27th Jan. Lunchtime - Hinds Head.