# **HANTS & BERKS**



# **ROVER OWNERS**

#### PETERSFIELD '85

#### AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Saturday 20th July started with the inimitable lunchtime downpour that nearly got us going home again. By 7 o'clock most of those who were staying overnight were there except for Ken Drackett who made a great entrance by turning up late, walking round for a brief look at things then promptly making a beeline for the bar.

True to his word Ken provided the entertainment at sub zero temperatures. Sunday morning, dawn breaks (nice girl, Dawn). By Ten most things had started to happen with the first of the early arrivals. With early panic over, the rhythm of the day started to settle down. With P.A. in hand and causing all sorts of noises that made the sound barrier seem quiet, the Chairman got the Driving Tests underway. The only problem was that at 12 noon the pub opened!! So, earlier starting time for this event next year!! However, with a video being taken, the Chairman saved the situation by taking the quickest time of the day round the course and doing his own impers nation of the Dukes of Hazzard. Its one thing going at speed forwards, but backwards is another ball game. By mid afternoon we tried a mini convoy to show the Rover History. This was put together at about 20 mins. notice, and seemed popular as a fair crowd had gathered by now at the ringside. A few more rounds of the Driving Test and it was prize giving time.

Believe it or not, one person actually came from Newmarket in Suffolk, a distance of 147 miles. Also during the day there was an Auto Jumble in one corner of the field with a Barbecue in the other. At one point they ran out of rolls, so things must have been hectic. The Raffle proved popular with a small donation being raised for Haemophilia Research. At the end of the day it was so nice for people to walk up and say what a good day they had had, that all the effort was certainly worth-while. We haven't got it all together just yet, but we're well on the way. Weather permitting and if I'm still Chairman next year, I hope to improve upon what we have already done, and perhaps make next years event an International one. Perhaps.

# YEOVIL

We have the passes for the weekend at last and still have one spare. If you wish to put your car on display for August IO/II, please contact me on **Tadley 5194.** 

#### PROJECT XX

Many months ago I informed you about the 213 series and Project XX for 1986 to replace the SD1. My spies inform me that there is a new Rover Model in America. Apparently, this model is quite something else, for example, most manufacturers list a range of options for their cars, but for this car its easier to list what the car does not have. If this is so, then it will be interesting to see one of these vehicles in this country, or is Project XX already in production for the American market.?

# MASHER'S EXPLORATORY TRIP TO AMSTERDAM

On 8 July Kathy and I decided to make our way to Amsterdam, for two reasons:first and foremost to see our son Roger on his 21st birthday, and secondly to have a good look round bearing in mind the HBRO October trip.

We decided to go by boat and train, so we booked through our local Travel Agent. First mistake: after we had booked the boat tickets they then told us they did not deal with British Rail, so we had a second trip into Basingstoke to get our London tickets only to be told they did not supply the Continental tickets and we would have to buy them at the Continental Ticket Office at Liverpool Street Station.

We started off on Monday evening by way of the Hampshire Bus Co. Blimey, its a long time since I have been rattled so much (makes you appreciate the Rover), caught a slow train to Woking where they advised us to change onto the fast train from Basingstoke. Apart from this, British Rail were very good and on time. Making our way to Liverpool Street Station, me, being a Londoner says "Follow me, I know all about the Tube" (famous last words). Down the tube we read the sign "City Line to Bank for Liverpool Street Station". I had not heard of this one before, but down we go, and along comes a train CIRCA 1910. It still had Southern RAilways on it. We pile aboard, and it creaks, roars and sways to the Bank. Kathy and I watched all the people getting off and noticed all the people on the platform peering at us. Eventually they streamed on and off we go, BACK TO WHERE WE GOT ON. No wonder they were waiting for us to get off. The ticket collector couldn't believe her eyes. Still, back we went to Bank for the second time. This time we got off and changed for Liverpool Street Station where we had to queue for our Continental tickets. Then onto the Harwich train. Here's a hint-if ever you catch a train to a port, always pick a seat by the window as you will get bashed by all the students with their rucksacks!! Train again on time, all linking up easily and onto the Prinses Beatrix Sealink Ferry. On top deck we watched the sunset and sailed off on a pink millpond (this is Kathy's description). Down to our cabin and kip. Woken at 6.30 am by the steward at Hoek Van Holland, through Customs and onto the linking train to Amsterdam. Scenery so flat that if someone grew a pimple on his --- it would We arrive at Amsterdam Centraal Station at 9.30 am. No Roger. so we asked a hotel runner, who happened to know Roger as it turned out and he directed us to his hotel. Guess who had overslept!! We travelled by tram a lot. They are great. They accelerate from O to 40 in about 1.3 secs and stop in about lO yards. Quite exciting, especially if you are sitting on the division between two parts of the tram and your seat goes one way and your feet swivel another. We eventually found Rog. fast asleep. Off we go sight-seeing. ....... Before we went to Amsterdam we were told some very disturbing things about the City such as drug addicts, vandals, muggings etc, and very expensive. Well, we can report that we saw nothing to worry us, we did not get mugged although Kathy did get chatted up three times when shop gazing. We did see one broken side window in a car, but we didn't see any trouble around this car. It was not so expensive, in fact somethings were even cheaper than here. So there appears to be no problem at all. We went on a boat trip on the canals. There are about 2,000 bridges and I think we went under every one. The trip lasted hour and a half and cost 10 guilders (£2.approx.). way the Captain (?) handled the boat was Magic. The boats are about 60ft long and they steer them around like dodgems. The city has lots of Art museums. Gough etc. We saw the Palace, which is very drab outside but beautiful inside with marble walls and chandeliers etc. What we found most appealing about the City is that it is so relaxing. No mad dashing everywhere. Everyone spoke English so we had no trouble in that area. On our last day we sat in the sun at the Leidsessplein which is a square where a restaurant has tables and chairs outside and we were entertained by buskers and a Mime Artist. The funniest thing we have seen. This was the life. Sitting in the sun, drinking lager and talking and laughing for about Roger took me to the Red Light district !! That's a real education. The next bit of description has been censored by the typist. Basically, if you want that Sort of Thing, it is in one area only, and you should know what to expect and so not get offended.......The trip back was in Reverse, but this time we got off the tube at the right station.....To sum up the Expedition - it is very worthwhile going. It cost us a bit extra because we did not go on a package deal. Cost:-Boat £42 each return (included berth) Train £53 two returns. Should be cheaper in October with Townsend Thorensen.

#### AMSTERDAM TRIP

The trip is still ON, the date will be the week ending 25 October 1985.

As was written before, we go from **Dover to Zebrugge**  $(4\frac{1}{2}$  hours sailing time) at approx. 9.0 a.m., so it may be policy to stay overnight in B and B before the sailing otherwise you could have a very long day (4.0 a.m.) start to get to Dover by 9.00 am). The Brochure is not out yet (by the time you read this, I should have one), so full details will be published in the September Newsletter. So, we will need from you: 1. Confirmation that you want to go,

- 2. Make and size of car
- 3. Name of driver
- 4. How many passengers.

We <u>must</u> have a deposit of £30.00 (non-returnable) for each person, whether driver or passenger. At the moment the cost may be approx. £56 each. So, you <u>must move</u> fast. All cheques made payable to H.B.R.O.

## MEMBER'S CARS

Sorry, but no article this month as Muggins never got the film developed in time. I promise the return next month.

# REGALIA

Apart from the windscreen stickers we now have Car Badges. These are in solid brass with the Club's name over the top and the Viking Long Boat in the Front. Very similar to the ARC badge. These can be mounted to the grill and/or badge bar. Because they are a limited number (in other words, to order only) they have to have the mounting kit supplied separately. The badge is £IO and the mounting kit if required is 50p. These are high quality and very durable. Orders to Howard on Tadley 2708 or myself on Tadley 5194.

## AGM - OCTOBER

The date will be published in the September newsletter. As Dave has stated, this is your opportunity to let us know how you wish the Club to be run. We will need a new Treasurer as I will not be standing for re-election. Even though I have enjoyed the last two years, I am not very good at book-keeping and therefore hope that whoever takes over will be good with figures. I hope to stay on the committee, and remain as Editor of the Newsletter. .. Masher.

#### FOR SALE

3500 S (P6) auto white
Good runner, No MOT (sills)
4 good tyres, new rad/oil cooler
Mike Coussens, Goring (O491) 873563

Bracknell 481000 x 5458

## FOR SALE : LAND ROVER SPARES

Series II Body Parts (mostly SWB):-

- 2 Deluxe Bonnet Lids-one with spare wheel attachments.
- 2 (one pair) front wings
- 2 seat boxes:

one aluminium without seat fittings

one aluminium & steel

- 1 rear body (needs some work)-no tailgate
- 1 bulkhead (needs some work)
- 1 windscreen (one glass cracked)
- 1 set valence panels & floor panels
- 1 front bumper.

# LETTER OF APPRECIATION

#### **OXFORDSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY**

# OXFORD HAEMOPHILIA CENTRE

Tel: Oxford (0865) 64841 Ext. 575 Churchill Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LJ.

CRR/MB

24th July, 1985

Mr. Andrew Smith, 29, Silverdale Road, Tadley, Hampshire

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for sending the cheque for £9. as a contribution to our Blood Coagulation Research Fund. It was kind of you and other members of the Hants & Berks Rovers Owners Club to think of us. Your help is much appreciated and will be put to good use. Please pass on our thanks to your club.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

C.R. Rizza

Consultant Physician

FOR SALE: LAND ROVER SPARES continued

Odd bits for Series I 80"

1 windscreen

1 bonnet lid

1 seat box

odd tatty doors & panels (no doortops)

Also loads of small items, 1.5 litre engine parts, complete gearbox, part of front axle, dynamo's & starters.

1 Fairy Overdrive that has been rebuilt.

FOR SALE :

1949 80" LAND-ROVER complete and in full working order.

Offers for any of the above to:

A.R. THOMPSON

CHIEVELY 0635 248439

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

On looking back through recent newsletters I have noticed that my reports are getting shorter and shorter, even on occasions not apearing atall, though I'm sure not many of you are complaining.

In recent months the club has attended several motoring events and should be attending several more. The next one will be Yeovil Festival of Transport on the 10/11th August. Some of these are arranged at fairly short notice so if you want to find out about them come along to our monthly meetings.

Talking of monthly meetings some of you who have joined recently at shows, or even at our nnual Rally, may not know where they are. They are at the Hinds Head, Aldemaston, Berks, (0.S. sht 174 GR 589653) on the second Wednesday at 8 and the 4th Suhday at noon, and at the Hampshire Bowman, Dundridge, nr. Bishops Waltham, Hants, (0.S. sht 185 GR 578184) on the 4th Wednesday. If you can not find either of these give me a ring.

In October we have our AGN. Details hopefully next month but it's not as far off as it seems so start thinking. Its your chance to have your say on what the club does. If you have any points you wish to raise we would like to know in advance so that the committee can consider them. One subject that has already been raised is the location of both monthly meetings. If you have any views come along and air them. If you want to move then please let us know where you think we should go as soon as possible so that as many members as possible can visit the alternatives before voting. This is the sort of decision that can only be taken at the AGN. Remember it's also your chance to stand for the committee.

To return to a subject that I've raised before I know many of you would like to see us holding trials. The biggest block at the moment is finding a suitable site. Surely someone in the club must know of one?

We have a number of new members to welcome, many as a result of Notorcade 85 at Breamore House.

098	T Elkin	Bracknell	P6B
099	I Tristram	Acton	LR2 88
100	W Butcher	Shirl <b>e</b> y	_ P5B
102	T Hill	Southampton	P 5B
103	M Fife	Salisbury	P4
112	E Kemp	Bournmouth	Р6
113	P Tarrent	Bournmouth	P6(x2)

#### Club Calender

10/11th August Yeovil Festival of Transport

14th August Hinds Head

25th August Hinds Head

25th August P4 Guild, Quainton Railway

28th August Hampshire Bowman

25th October(?) Amsterdam

If you require any information don't forget that the phone numbers are on your membership card. The Chairman is best for the various shows and rallies, the Treasurer for Amsterdam, and if all else fails try me.

# SECRETARY'S REPORT

It was nice to see so many members at our 3rd Annual Rally. Those who didn't go missed a good day. I hope you all go to the 4th.

I'd like to thank all of you who did come and help make it go so well.

I'd particularly like to thank Ray Page who not only lent me his Land Rover so that I could attempt the driving test, but lent it to me again for the three way run off, of which he was one of my opponents. As so often happens, the owner obviously treated his vehicle with more care!

# ANNUAL RALLY RESULTS

Concourse

K. Balcombe Rover 95

Condition Award, Saloon

D. Bridge Rover  $3\frac{1}{2}$  litre Coupe

Four wheel drive

C. Shaw Land Rover Ser 2a LWB

Rover Derivatve

J. Heagren MG MGB GT V8

Rolling Disaster

Mr Graham Rover 3 litre

Distance Award

C. Wallis, Newmarket (145miles) Rover 3500

Self Judging Awards

P3 or before
P4
R. Black
P5
W. Voweles
P5B
D. Bridge
P6
D. Patrick
P6B
J. Alexander
SD1 & 213/6
A. Wilkes

Land Rover P. Burton Ser 1 SWB V8

Range Rover H. Glossop

Driving Test .

Saloon Mr Graham 3 litre
Off Road D. Cuthbert IR lt/wt

WANTED

P2

P5B any interior trim Mulberry (dark maroon) Mainly back seat etc. Tom Matthews O9O8 583548 after 7.30 pm.

## MAIN EVENT AT THE RALLY

Andy Smith's dog, MAC, grabbed and chewed one of Pete's balls.

#### SAYING OF THE MONTH

The Chairman was heard to say at one of the committee meetings, during a heated discussion that he "maintained a 'neutral bias'"!!!.