

CHALLENGE II

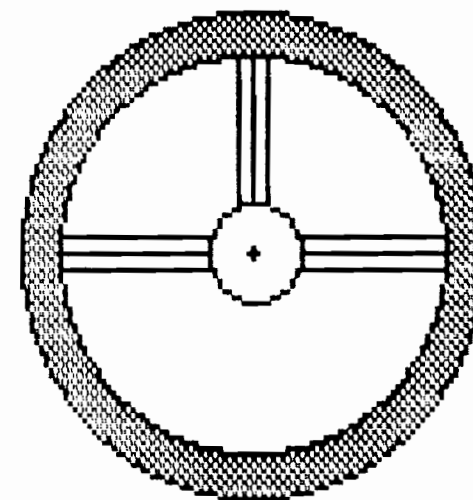
Last year we had a challenge match trial against the ANGLIAN club. We acquitted ourselves very well. We've got another one this year on April 3rd. It will be held at Isle of Wight Farm, which you will be relieved to hear, is just NW of London. The map reference is 176 018 885 for the site, the entrance being at 176 012 883. See map above. The event is classed as a Novice Trial; that's like an RTV but is not guaranteed to be non-damaging as there are lots of trees around. Colin Gross will be laying it out in his Rangy.

Please arrive by 09:00 at the latest.



PANTS
&
BARKS

March 1988



Newsletter of the Hants & Berks
Rover Owners Club

OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

CHAIRMAN	Pete Nightingale	Tadley 5194
SECRETARY	Andy Smith 29 Silverdale Rd., Tadley, HANTS.	Tadley 3395
TREASURER	Roger Pattie	Pangbourne 2884
RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER	Steve Kirby	01-894-3961
COMPETITION REPRESENTATIVE	Roger Pattie	Pangbourne 2884
EDITOR	Steve Kirby 244 Staines Rd. Twickenham, Middx TW2 5AR	01-894-3961

EDITORIAL.....

A quick perusal of the above list will show that the constitution of the club continues to change. A change of circumstances and personal commitments now prevents Howard and his wife from jointly producing this magazine. In the absence of any other immediate takers, I got lumbered with the job! Roger Pattie has agreed to take over the task of organising the competitions from Colin Gross. We would like to thank those retiring for all their hard work done in the past and hope that they can give assistance to those taking over should they be in need. I am hopeful that someone will be able to take over the production from me sometime as the job of Rights of Way Officer takes up a lot of my time as it is.

Any contributions to the magazine will be gratefully received. If you can type them out in magazine format (A5) then that would be a great help. The mixture of typefaces that results from this is a small cross to bear. Anything that

reduces the amount of typing I have to do will help.

Last months issue had a lovely picture on the front but a lot of the inside was unreadable. It's not your fault Howard. An expert has identified the fault as being in the copier, the printers should have spotted it and reprinted it. Pages 11 and 13 were completely blank. Perhaps it's just as well that we're going to a new printing house!

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Firstly, let me pass my grateful thanks to Howard and Kathy who have steadfastly maintained the newsletter since our very first issue back in June 83.

It may not seem a lot but it seems a lifetime, but due to other commitments he has had to step down as editor. I for one shall miss his own style of literary genius. So now having said all that perhaps I can now be released from this half-nelson. But seriously, a very grateful thanks for all the effort put in over the years.

Steve Kirby has agreed, or was he forced, to carry on for the time being. I know we all wish him well in this unenviable task.

A couple of months ago, you may remember, I wrote about a 12 hour driving marathon. Well, I have contacted Thruxton, Lyddon and Castle Coombe but to no avail. I have been advised to contact Snetterton or Cadwell but due to distance this seems prohibitive, so I hope to get Mallory Park or MIRA. That's the industry's proving ground. But thinking, perhaps Brooklands may be worth a look.

Now to project Roaring Rat 2, as it's become christened. A donor car has been found and hopefully by the beginning of March work will be under way; the donor car supplying much needed panels. By the time you read this, a fireproof race-suit should also be in the offing, along with Nomex underwear set.

It may sound as if I am trying to pose, but I believe in safety, or in other words, having had a couple of demo' runs and frightened the life out of the opposition, I appreciate the safety products on the market today. It stops one having one's anatomy singed! It may only be used for hillclimbs and sprints but if the unforeseen happens, I for one certainly won't be sorry for investing in such a suit.

Now to change the subject slightly. It has come to the committee's attention that a mini-safari is on the cards. firstly, when I spoke with the other committee members, nobody seemed to know about it. Secondly, having discussed at length the options open to stage such an event, we came to the conclusion that it was not a viable proposition. This is due to limited numbers and lack of manpower to run such an event.

If anybody wishes to run such an event, we have no objection, but they do it on their own back and do not use the club's name.

Finally, if you wish to use this club's name, then seek permission of the club first. After all, if something dreadful happens and we get people beating an angry path to our doors, we shall naturally deny it as we will know nothing about it. I'm not moaning at anyone in particular but you have been warned.

Pete Nightingale.

Treasure Hunt. April 10th

Meet at ALTON station car park at 4 p.m.
Finish will be about 7 to 7:30 p.m. at a pub serving food, next to the M3. Event organised by Gary Hodgson. Tel: 0730-67146.

The first green lane trip of 1988 was on Jan. 3rd and was intended to be an easy drive. We met at Four-Points near Aldworth and six vehicles turned up. Andy Smith arrived in his Rangey with Roy Michael as passenger and Malcolm Whitbread had Mike Maskelyne as passenger in his Ninety. I was there in my Rangey and Richard Maskelyne and Roy Wordingham were in their own Landies. Notable was our guest Fabio Bezoari from Italy in a Turbo-diesel Pajero. Fabio has done much green-laning in Italy and I hope he'll be able to tell us all about it sometime.

We investigated some easy lanes including part of the Ridgeway Path, then we looked at some of the Ridgeway's feeder lanes. These clearly don't get used much and some of the group went the easy way whilst the rest barged their way through!

We drove some new lanes and also noted some marked on the map of which there was no sign when we looked for them. Some were in Oxfordshire, the County Council of which is noted for not being too forthcoming with information, but obviously I'll try a letter to them in hopes. One lane in that area had been ploughed and fenced off; some time ago too by the look of it. Fortunately we were able to exit through the farmyard. Pity the farmer wasn't there really!

The day ended with a run along part of the Ickneild Way but the lane plunged into a deep hole with a river at the bottom and a plank footbridge across the water. It would have made a superb Team-Recovery site but that wasn't on the agenda!

Next outing will be on March 6th in the Alton/North Downs area, lead by Gary Hodgson, but this one will get a bit adventurous I suspect! Those interested please phone me on 01-894-3961. Please note that outings are usually on the first Sunday of the month, so please phone the number above for details in case the magazine doesn't get to you on time.

ARC NATIONAL RALLY 1988

Last month you will have received with your newsletter a booking form for attending the ARC National Rally at Trentham, North Staffordshire.

Note that the dates on the back of the form do not agree with the dates on the front. The rally starts on Friday the 27th May and not the 29th May.

For those who have not attended the "Nationals" before, you don't know what you have missed. The long weekend is a very sociable gathering of Rover enthusiasts, many of whom do not take part in any of the events but just go to watch the many events taking place. This year the programme has been changed so that the RTV and the Safari are on different days. On Previous occasions there has been a clash of interests.

The 'sites' that are provided are intended to take at least a caravan and the towing vehicle, so there is plenty of space available if you are taking a tent or whatever; some people sleep in the back of their vehicles! Hardy souls or mad!. Facilities are provided for being fed and watered so it isn't really primitive.

Booking forms sent in separately are allocated sites on an ad-hoc basis so if any members are interested in having adjacent sites then I can send off the application forms in one envelope. Hopefully I will be going on the Friday lunchtime and will be taking the 'Shed'- caravan- so that anyone going and taking a tent can have a certain amount of comfort whilst there. If there is any interest in going to the Nationals then I can arrange a convoy. I will probably be returning on the Monday but this is not definite. Note that the site fee is irrespective of the time you stay.

Even if you do not want to travel on the Friday or in convoy but would like adjacent sites,

then send the completed form to me- Rog Pattie- with the appropriate amount, cheques payable to "S & S.L.R.C. Ltd" as noted on the booking form and NOT "HBRO". I will then send them all off together. Don't wait until you see me to give me the forms etc. but send them to me now. It will cost you a postage stamp irrespective of who you send it to!

Roger Pattie,
Firhill Cottage East,
Whitchurch,
Oxfordshire,
RG8 7HQ

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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|-------------|--|
| MARCH 6th | Green Lane outing. Meet at ALTON Station car park in time for 09:30 start. Gary Hodgson leading. |
| MARCH 9th | Hind's Head, Aldermaston, 7:30 p.m. Pub Meet, Noggin & Natter. |
| MARCH 18-21 | Club Mini-Hol to Erwood (Wales) Sight-seeing & green-laning. Contact Roger Pattie on 07357-2884. |
| APRIL 3rd | 2nd Challenge Match against Anglian. Isle of Wight Farm, Bucks (not on the Isle of Wight!) Be there by 9. See article on back cover for details. |
| APRIL 10th | Green lane outing. Phone Steve. |
| APRIL 10th | Treasure Hunt. See article. |
| MAY 1st/2nd | Essex Motor Show. See Jan's mag for details. |
| MAY 1st | Green lane outing. Phone Steve. |

WANTED

Good radiator & front bumper for Series II.
Phone Tim Moore on 0628-29073, and haggle.