

# Hants and Berks Land Rover Owners'

## NEWSLETTER

August 2008

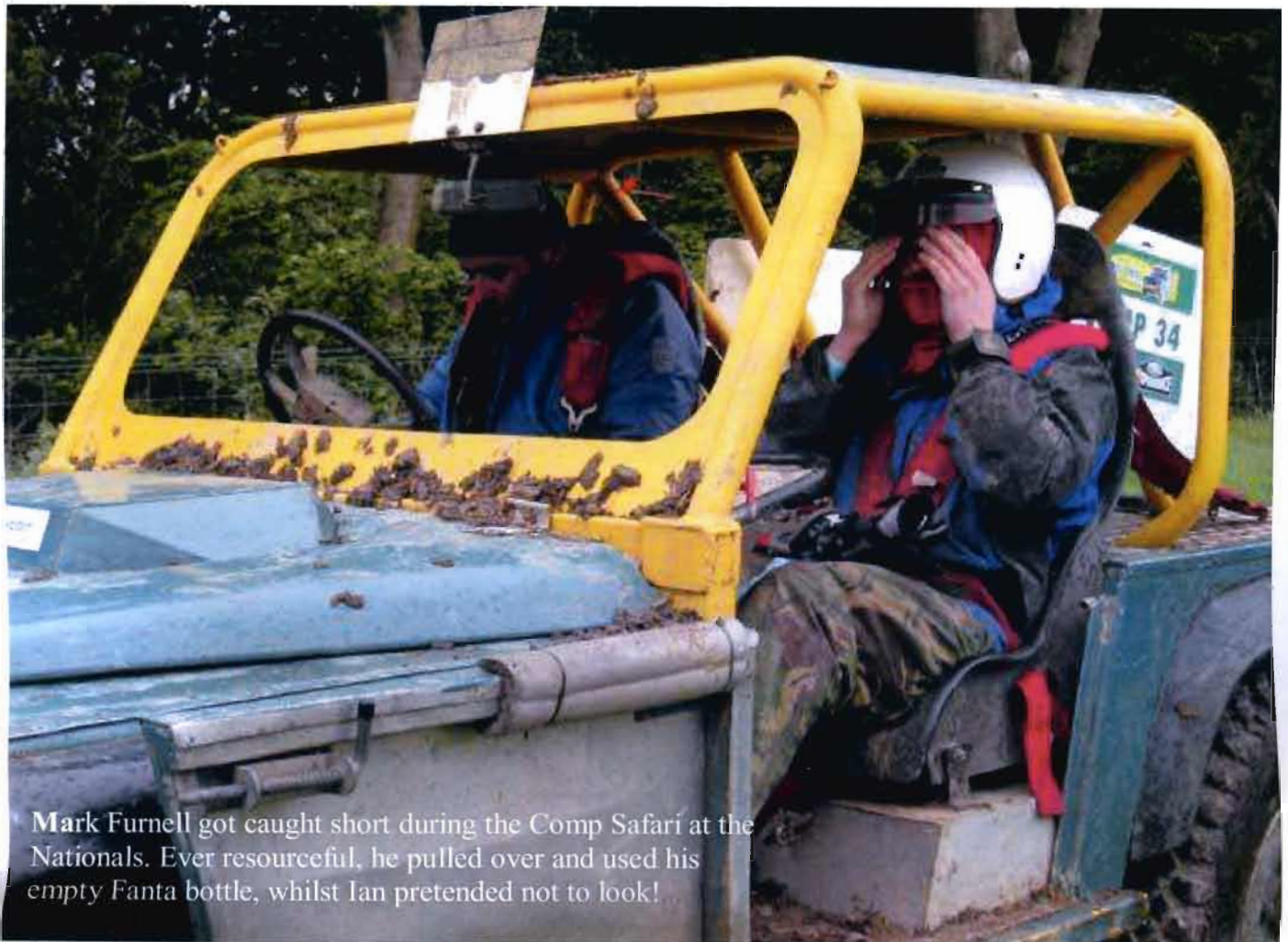


Cornwall & Devon Charity RTV  
June 2008



I know Sarah will write about the event in more detail, but we wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to everyone who went to this event. The HBLRO members made it a great weekend, with plenty of laughs, but more importantly for us, rallied round to try and help our very sickly motor! Yet again we were shown how people pull together to keep everything going, and are prepared to give up their free time to lend a hand. Unfortunately, although the trialling went ahead, we still had to come home on the back of a recovery truck. We did all look fab in yellow, but lets hope they pick a less bug friendly colour for next year! Huge thanks also to the team from Cornwall and Devon LRC for putting on this fantastic event, all in aid of charity.

Sam, Ian, Lewis and Daniel Parker



Mark Furnell got caught short during the Comp Safari at the Nationals. Ever resourceful, he pulled over and used his empty Fanta bottle, whilst Ian pretended not to look!

## Your Officers and Committee Members - 2007/8

Some new, some old (I mean in the Committee sense!). Give them all your support; let them know what's done well, what you enjoyed, any new ideas. Write to the Newsletter Editor and get any Land Rover thoughts printed and off your chest. Most importantly, get along to the events, get involved and get more out of HBLRO by putting a little in.



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### Website Stickers

Large £3.00  
Small £1.50

### HBLRO Stickers

Both available in white for inside and outside or in black for outside only

### HBLRO Shields

Large £4.00  
Medium £3.00  
Small £2.00

All available in white and yellow

### HBLRO Viking Long Ship

Large £4.00  
Medium £3.00

Both available in white only

### HBRO Shields (old stock)

Large £2.00  
Medium £1.50  
Small £1.00

Available in black in all sizes and in white in medium only

### Solid block stickers

One size £0.75

Available in gold/black, silver/blue and silver/green

### Long stickers

One size £0.50

Please see a member of the committee if you wish to purchase any stickers

## MIDLAND ROVER OWNERS' CLUB

Invites you to

## THE 10<sup>th</sup> MAJOR'S MEMORIAL TRIAL

12-14 September 2008

(For Entry forms please contact Sam Parker,  
HBLRO Competition Secretary)

## In The Bog!



In my last letter you will remember that I had turned my 90" into a truck cab and was hoping to be finished in time for the Newnham RTV in Plymouth. Well, it was.

I hitched up my caravan and arranged to meet Ian & Sam Parker at Segensworth and make our way down to Plymouth. On our way down the Land Rover overheated after over taking a slow lorry up a hill. Typical. I then had to pull in, only for the lorry to overtake me! Eventually I caught up with Ian & Sam in a lay-by where I replenished the radiator. While doing this, Hugh & Sarah Duffett caught up, as did Roy & Sally Friend.

After a five minute stop we were underway again, only for me to get an hour down the road for the radiator problem to happen again! So the rest decided to carry on and kept in contact by phone. In the meantime, I filled the rad with water again and carried on the journey. This happened about 3 times before I got to the site about 20 Minutes behind the others. (Note to oneself - Must remember to check radiator is clean next time).

Once there, we all pitched our caravans and then I washed the radiator out on the Land Rover and put a new header tank on. From then on and all the way home pulling the caravan up and down those hills the Defender did not over heat once.

Once we had done scrutineering we then could relax and have a few drinks and light barbecues in caravans! (Tim Wishaw).

The next morning we all lined up at our start lines for the drivers briefing. We had ten sections each day, totaling twenty sections over the two days. HBLRO had entered three teams of three vehicles out of a total of twenty five teams. Our first team came twelfth out of twenty five with a score of 131 points. It was a really enjoyable weekend and as this is only the first RTV comp that I had entered outside of the club, I was surprised how easy some of the sections were compared to our sections; so some of you RTV people out there should enter the Nationals next year. Or maybe the Mendips in October? I think we as a Club would do well and most of all you'll enjoy it!

Now on to club events: the Mike Wolfe challenge is all booked for November 30<sup>th</sup> so why not enter? You don't need a tricked up vehicle (apart from a winch). Or if you're unable to enter why not see Sam Parker and offer to be a marshal? On September 6/7<sup>th</sup> we will have a Tyro and RTV. This is on a brand new site to the club—Sommerly Estate near Ringwood. It is very extensive, has camping facilities, water and toilets. The site is made up of pine forest, hills and gullies. The ground is gravel and peat with some bog areas and suitable for CCV, RTV, TYROS and possible Comp safari. I have driven round parts of it myself and the fixed track is five miles. So come down to the site and try it out. Address and details will be posted later on the HBRLO web site ([www.hbro.co.uk](http://www.hbro.co.uk))

Also, look out for club clothing page on the web site which will be set up soon with a new line of clothing which you can order at sensible prices. And if you're going to the Berkshire 4X4 show on August 16/17<sup>th</sup> come and see us - we will have a HBLRO stand there. If you want details drop me a line.

Oh well, I must go, hope to see you at the next club event.

Richard Salter

### **Abingdon 4 X 4 Event 26 & 27 September 2008**

This year, Hants & Berks have been invited to have a stand at this event free of charge.

If there is anyone planning to go to this event and might like to help with the HBLRO stand and promote the Club please contact a member of the committee for further information.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **AGENDA**

**4 October 2008**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Chairman's Report - Richard Salter
4. Treasurer's Report - Sarah Duffett
5. Secretary's Report - Tricia Jacobs
6. Membership Secretary's Report - Jan Homewood
7. Competition Secretary's Report - Sam Parker
8. Rights of Way Officer's Report - Julian Mallard
9. Newsletter Editor's Report - Matthew Brooker
10. Social and Camping Secretary's Report - Lee Claydon
11. ALRC Liaison Representative's Report - Steve Kirby
12. Child Protection Officer's Report - Sam Parker
13. Resignation of Committee
14. Vote in New Committee and Officers
15. Limited Company Directors
16. Any Other Business



ALRC National Rally 2008  
Eastnor Deer Park  
Hosted by Midland Rover Owners Club



Here we were again, heading off for the Nationals, this time at Eastnor Deer Park, Ledbury. The Midland Rover Owners were hosting this years event, marking the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Land Rover. It is hard to believe that we were all here 10 years ago, same time, same place, marking the 50<sup>th</sup>. How that time has flown! So after our 3 hour journey, we arrived at 9.30am to an already fairly full campsite. We joined the other HBLRO Club members in the row and set about getting pitched. It was a glorious day, and we made the most of chilling out before the weekend got into full swing.

All too soon, it was time to go to scrutineering, so I headed off with Lisa in the passenger seat, following Hugh and Chris for the trek all the way round the site to get to the marked out area. Despite the fact that scrutineering was only in the next field, we had to follow the one way system all round the site to get there, a journey of about 10 minutes. During the wait for the handbrake ramps, we had to park on a very slight hill, so I thought I would try out the handbrake. Not such a good feeling when I started to roll back towards Chris' motor behind me. Anyway, I decided to go for it, but of course rolled straight back off the ramps. I was sent away to sort it out, or rather get my mechanic to deal with it!

Ian tightened it up, saying there was no more room for manoeuvre, and tested the handbrake out on the hill behind the van. It held steady, so off me and Lisa went again. Took the long drive round, and again I thought I would try the handbrake out on the small incline. So onto the ramps again and again we rolled back, this time with Ian watching, who could not believe it! We were once again sent away. Only this time, we realised that Ian had put the motor in park on the hill behind the van - no wonder it held so well!

With Ian in his overalls and the tool kit out, the handbrake was dismantled. Unfortunately, the problem was quite terminal, but thanks to Brian Warn, and a quick call to the Land Rover dealership in Ledbury, we came up trumps with a replacement.

So Ian and Roy dashed off to part with some hard earned cash (genuine parts you know!) and then back to spend the afternoon doing repairs. All this ably assisted by Chris, who was willing to help out, but not part with his beer. Once all that was done, it was back AGAIN to the ramp (and yes, the long trek round - by which time I had used most of my fuel) to show off the staying power of my handbrake. The rest of scrutineering was still not a breeze, however, and I managed to get as far as a failed chit, only to have to go back to Ian again and get more things tighten up. By my fourth and hopefully final trip, I was not particularly happy, and Mark A had a bit of a job keeping me calm. However, success this time and I was given a pass card to get signed on.

By this time, more people had arrived, and we were treated to Nick Woodage and the carpentry skills that were employed to prop up the front of his van. All I can say is that I would have entered very carefully, and kept very still once inside! Mark and Claire had set themselves up, and had only the best of kitchen furniture to grace their veranda. The ice cream van, that came right to the door, finished off a sunny afternoon as we made the most of what was to be the last of the chill out time.

Up early Saturday morning, as we had to line up at 7.30am and it was quite a chilly start. We were, however, hanging around for a while before the drivers briefing was made and we could get underway. HBLRO had a few people entered for this event, namely; Hugh & Sarah, Tim & Nick, Chris & Jan, Roy & Nick Woodage, Kevin & Ann and myself & Mark A. Myself, Kevin and Tim were all in the same group, but the others were all in separate groups, so we were not to see much of each other during the day. Soon into the event, Tim managed to banana his steering rod, and there then followed some running repairs involving a rope and a tow motor. It did the job though, until the next stump grinding session! The three of us in group 'F' were having a good day, but soon into the afternoon, we got news that Hugh had managed to break a diff and had to retire. He and Sarah came to join us, and watch some trialling, as they were not able to get the motor back until the event had finished.

We were still having to do a make do job on Tim's motor to keep him going, and I am not quite sure how it was achieved, but Tim completed the event, and did pretty well out of it too by coming second in class 5. Meanwhile, elsewhere on the site, Ian was watching the team recovery, in which Malcolm, Brian and Chris Bowler were entered. It was quite a show with the two 101's battling their way through the mud, and Chris trying out his new build.

Luckily the day was dry and ideally suited to RTVing, and I managed to better my score from last year, of 5<sup>th</sup> in the ladies, to 3<sup>rd</sup>, being beaten to the top spots by a class 9 and class 10 vehicle. By the time we got back to the van it was past 7pm and we were all pretty tired. Ian and Mark F had taken the triallers to scrutineering, so all that was left was to get signed on. Me and Mark A walked down (with his failed chit as Ian did not have his booking reference number) and did the paperwork. We eventually sat down for tea at about 9pm, and were only capable of a few beers before bed.

Sunday, and another early start for the CCV. This time though, we woke to find pouring rain and episodes of high winds. We lined up and started to feel the cold pretty quickly. And with no windows to wind up, we were in for a chilly day. Unfortunately, the day started with a some bad news from Dennis Bourne, who had to announce that one of the competitors had had his motor sabotaged to such a degree it could not be driven. It was not a good start to the day, and never have I heard of any similar incidents occurring at an ALRC event before.

So off we were led into the dark realms of the woods for our day of wind and rain. We were treated to the occasional brightness to the day in the form of our singing clipboard marshal, Adrian, who was determined to keep us all in good spirits. The first section started badly for us, hitting the five gate and nearly turning the motor over in the process. Luckily the mire was on Mark's side, so I was not too concerned! Most of the following sections were better scorers for us, but with the rain not letting up, some were proving rather difficult to overcome.

Luckily, though the day proved fairly uneventful, with no rollovers, and only two injuries; one to Kevin, the chairman of Breckland, who needed a rather large amount of dirt removing from his eye, and myself when I elbowed Kevin's motor and ended up with a quite badly bruised arm. I also managed to get my camera quite wet during the day and it began to play up. Would need some serious drying out overnight.

We completed the day with a score of 43 and Mark finishing 48th in class. We came back to find that Mark Furnell had only completed one section before buckling a front rim and cutting into the brake pipe and had to spend the rest of the day fixing his motor ready to take part in the comp safari the next day. Ian had also managed to waterlog his phone, and that was now out of action too! Back again quite late, and again having to get the motor ready for scrutineering for the next days event. Mark fitted the horn and mud flaps, assisted by Tim, and off we went to get seen too, only to find that they had just packed up to go home. So back to the van, to dry off and have some tea, before a couple of beers and bed.

Up even earlier on Monday, as we were supposed to line up at 7am to be escorted across the road, but first of all was a trip to scrutineering and to get signed on. The day was even more miserable than Sunday, and we had the wind to contend with too. We loaded up Mark F's motor with all the kit, and myself, Ian and the two Marks headed over to get ready to race. Ian parked the Land Rover under some trees, only for a couple of large branches to fall off in the wind. So the motor was soon moved to a new spot, and the gazebo strapped down with tyres and anything else remotely heavy we could find. We had a long wait before we finally had the drivers briefing, in which we were informed that the event would go ahead and we would have to try and get as many runs done as possible. With the wind picking up, we headed back to get ready to roll.

Ian was keen to get going, as he had not done comp safari before and wanted to put his nerves to rest. So he and Mark kitted up and headed to the start. There were big queues and people were having to wait a long time before getting to the start line.

There were problems fairly quickly, with people getting stuck and with no where to overtake, it soon became clogged up out there. Myself and Mark lined up and set off for our first run. Unfortunately, we got caught behind someone who had been stuck, and lost some time on the run, but it quickly became clear that it was not worth taking re-runs, as we were going to struggle to get more than a few in anyway. We lined up again quite soon after coming back, but had over an hours wait to get round, so time for lunch and a cup of tea to try and warm up.

Also managed, in the interlude, to get a ride up the field in Malcolm's 101, which he then let me drive back down to the comp area. Thanks for that, Malcolm, and not being too critical of my driving, although Roy was a little concerned that I was going to run him over! They are completely different to drive, and feels like you are going to fall out the front at any moment! So back for the second run, which was fairly uneventful, except not being able to see anything for most of it. And then it had all finished. The marshal came down the queue of motors, and anyone who had managed to do 2 laps was deemed to have completed the event and sent away. It was pretty disappointing, especially as this was the second year this had happened at a Nationals. But given the conditions they had little option but to finish early.

So we packed up all the very wet gear, and myself and Claire headed back, closely followed by Mark, Mark and Ian. We sorted out the motors, and loaded them back onto the lorry, ready to be taken home by Mark A that night.

And so the weekend was over. Unfortunately, due to the weather, it was not really that sociable. We got together in the evenings in someone's van or the beer tent, but it is not the same as being able to sit out and chat to everyone that goes by. Many of us waited until Tuesday to pack up and go home, and luckily it was dry to do so. On the way home, we stopped off at the nearby petrol station (like you do when these juicy LR's need filling up all the time) and bumped into Disco Pete (don't know his real name) but had a good chat with him about the weekend and how it had all gone.

Big thanks to Midland ROC for hosting the event, and keeping everything going despite the adverse conditions (particularly when the signing on tent blew away!). And to all the marshals who stood in the rain for very long days, without whom there would be no event. No matter what the weather, I always enjoy the Nationals, for the spirit of the event and meeting up with a bunch of really friendly people. And most importantly, the crew from HBLRO, who are great friends and will always pull together for you when help is needed.

THANK YOU!!



Sam Parker  
Competition Secretary



**Southern Rover Owners Club invites HBLRO members**  
**to their Summer Rally at Copford Farm**  
**21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2008**

JTV Trial	Sat 23/8/08
RTV Trial	Sat 23/8/08
TYRO	Sun 24/8/08
CCV Trial	Sun 24/8/08
Chairman's Challenge	Mon 25/8/08

Camping from pm 21/3/08 to am 26/3/08 3.00 pound per night.  
Please contact Tricia Jacobs (via committee page on the website  
or in person),





### Comp Sec's Round Up

How the time has flown since the last write up. Reading the last mag, I was fascinated by Dave Cuthbert's article about the beginnings of the Club. However, it did leave me wanting to know more. If you could do another couple of installments, that would be great! I am also captivated by the 'Disco Dream' and enjoying each episode as it comes along. It would be good to get more people writing about their 'projects'. I am working on Ian to do a bit, but he does not feel he has progressed enough to start sharing it all yet!

Following on from the last write up, we have done numerous different events. After the Nationals, we did not have much of a break before it was back again for the LRW Show at Eastnor Castle. This time the weather was kind and the sun shone for the whole weekend. The Club stand looked fab and left me looking forward to the next show we will be doing. More of that later. Thank you to all those members who came along and helped out with the stand. And particularly to John Dingle, who, along with his wife Corinne towed the trailer home to prevent Richard being stranded with it en route somewhere due to overheating and a very poorly transfer box.

We had a days clearance at Ingrams Green, which is Neil Reid's place near Midhurst. A small band of people worked in the soaring heat to clear stumps and branches for the forthcoming Tyro. Your hard work was very much appreciated. We could do some more assistance at the next clearance though, so watch this space for future dates.

At the end of June, quite a substantial group from HBLRO headed down to Newnham Park in Devon for the two day RTV trial hosted by Cornwall and Devon LRC in aid of charity. The event consisted of teams of three, and the Club had three teams entered. It was a fantastic event (helped by the weather of course!), and all very relaxed. Look out for the entry forms for next years event, as I am sure there will be more teams going again.

At Hook End we had a weekend of shooting and trialling, all laid on by Mark Ambler. Saturday afternoon saw a group of us line up to take instruction from Rodney and then have a go at hitting the clays. There was a second trap set up around the corner, manned by Matt and Chrissy. Photos of this on the website. Following this was a BBQ in the evening, and the next day the RTV. Mark always go out of his way to lay on a good weekend and make everyone welcome, and this time was no exception. So thank you!

Just a week later, and it was off to Ingrams Green for a Tyro. Again, the weather was kind and superb hospitality on the part of Neil made this a great weekend. We were joined on the Sunday by new members Andrew and Lisa Gamblin, and their two really cute dogs! Hopefully you enjoyed the day and we look forward to catching up with you again soon.

The only disappointing thing to come out of the last couple of events, is the low numbers turning out. Holiday season does have a part to play, and maybe we need to not do so much during the 'summer' months. The rising cost of fuel is also forcing folks to be more cautious over driving too much. If anyone has other ideas to encourage more people to attend, please let us know! We have discussed joint Tyro and RTV days, rather than splitting it over different days or weekends, and maybe this would make it easier for people to justify the trip. Let me know what you think, and any other suggestions you have on the competitive front.

Despite any of this, myself and Ian have had some great weekends away, all because of the other members who make the Club what it is.



Sam Parker  
Competition Secretary

# CALENDER OF EVENTS 2008

Check for updates and maps on our website [hbro.co.uk](http://hbro.co.uk)

Date	Event	Venue	Contact Details
2 Aug	Green Laning	TBC	Jullian Mallard - ROW Officer
8-10 Aug	Tyro (6), RTV (SS5) & CCV	Hook End Farm Pangbourne	Neil Tomlinson - Tyro Competition Secretary Sam Parker - Competition Secretary
16-17 Aug	Berkshire 4 x 4 Show	Newbury Showground	Richard Salter - Chairman
21-26 Aug	Summer Rally	Copford Farm	Tricia Jacobs - Secretary (Site opens 12pm Thursday until 12pm on Tuesday)
6-7 Sep	RTV &/or Tyro	New Site details to follow	Sam Parker - Competition Secretary
13-14 Sep	Majors' Memorial CCV Trial	Eastnor Castle Nr Ledbury	Hosted by MROC Sam Parker - Competition Secretary
20-21 Sep	RTV (SS7)	Broxhead Common Nr Bordon	Sam Parker - Competition Secretary
26-28 Sep	Abingdon 4 x 4 Festival	Abingdon	<a href="http://www.abingdon4x4festival.com">www.abingdon4x4festival.com</a>
28 Sep	Competative Safari	Monkings Farm (Provisional)	Hosted by the Southern Rover Owners
4 Oct	Green Laning	TBC	Julian Mallard - ROW Officer
4 Oct	AGM	Queens Hotel Selborne	Tricia Jacobs - Secretary
5 Oct	London to Brighton  Land Rover Run		Organized by the South London & Surrey Land Rover Club  <a href="http://www.london2brighton.org.uk">www.london2brighton.org.uk</a>

Date	Event	Venue	Contact Details
11-12 Oct	SWLRC RTV & CCV Challenge	Mendip Hills	Hosted by Somerset and Wilts <a href="http://swlrc.co.uk">swlrc.co.uk</a>
26 Oct	RTV (WS1)	Aldermaston Berkshire	Sam Parker - Competition Secretary
9 Nov	Green Laning	TBC	Julian Mallard - ROW Officer
15-16 Nov	PDR & RTV (WS2)	Slab Common Nr Bordon	Sam Parker - Competition Secretary
30 Nov	Mike Wolfe Challenge	Slab Common Nr Bordon	Sam Parker - Competition Secretary
6 Dec	Christmas Meal	TBC	Lee Claydon - Social & Camping Secretary
13 Dec	Green Laning	TBC	Julian Mallard - ROW Officer
14 Dec	RTV (WS3)	Military Land TBC	Sam Parker - Competition Secretary

**One from the picture archive! Go Hugh, Go!!**



Tim Whishaw's Range Rover after the Nationals, not sure which way to turn!

