

Hants and Berks Land Rover Owners'

NEWSLETTER

October 2008



Hugh makes a splash

Newnham Park Charity Event
Part 1



SROC Summer Rally—RTV
Part 2



Hants and Berks Landrover Owners Club

would like to invite you to the annual

Christmas Dinner and Disco

at

Greatham Village Hall

(located just off the A3 Petersfield)

**On Saturday 6th December 2007
at 7pm**

*Tickets are £15.00 per head and include a free buffet,
licenced bar to fill you with festive spirit, and Disco to boogie
the night away!*

*The annual prize giving for events and raffle will be held following the
serving of food.*

*For those who don't want to drive home, there are 10 caravan pitches available if you want to
stay (£5 fee per pitch,
otherwise you will have to leave when the clock strikes midnight....*

Please Contact Lee Claydon at hblro@claydons.org or 07748 608880 for your tickets.
We ask that you please book well in advance to assist us in ordering food etc.



Wishing you all a Happy Christmas!

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to members.**

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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Large £3.00
Small £1.50

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

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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

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One size £0.75

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

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One size £0.50

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



In The Bog!

Here we are at the beginning of October and what Summer we've had is just about over! The nights are drawing in and it's that time of year when we have our AGM. What changes have happened? ... I don't know yet, its not until the 4th October and today is the 24th September! However, by the time you read this, changes could have happened to the Committee.... did you do your bit and attend the AGM? If not, don't moan about the decisions later!

It has been a packed year with events happening nearly every month from green lanning, to RTV, drive round, paint balling and clay pigeon shooting. The Club has had a stand at the Eastnor Show and Berkshire 4x4 Show to attract more members and to make us known. We've also been Club Of The Month in Land Rover magazine and more of our events have been published in the various Land Rover magazines. Lots more events will be happening in the coming year and we even have a new line of clothing which some of you will already know. We still have an RTV in Aldermaston on 26th October, and national green lane clearance day as well. On the 16th November there's a public drive round at Slab Common (spread the word - it all helps towards the clubs funds) and on 30th November it's the Mike Wolf Challenge event for all skill levels. Why not enter or help - its a great day out which is supported by KCC. Then, to round off the year we have the Christmas party on the 6th December at Greatham Village Hall in Liss, Nr Petersfield. There will be food and a disco provided and presentations of the trophies for the year. It would really be good to see you there.

I don't think I have any more now to add, apart from make use of your Club and enjoy it! See you at the next meeting.

Richard
HBRO Chairman



Comp Sec's Round Up
September 2008

I have been a bit caught out this time round. This past couple of months seem to have gone by in a blur of activity and events. Unfortunately, that has meant my round up is flung together at the last minute. Therefore, I apologise in advance for any omissions!

So, what has been going on? Following on from the tyro at Ingrams Green, we had a second trip out to Hook End for another tyro on the Saturday, followed by an RTV on the Sunday. This was interspersed with a BBQ on the Saturday night, with some pole climbing entertainment laid on by the children (and a couple of light erecting adults).

The following week, it was the first ever West Berkshire 4x4 Show. Mark Ambler had offered for us to leave the van at the farm the previous week, so we did not have to tow that all the way up again. The show was a good opportunity to target 4x4 owners in the areas that we cover by our Club, but the only drawback was the low number of Land Rover owners! However, it was a great weekend, filled with birthday cake, marking celebrations for both Chris and Richard. I will remember in future though, that sparklers are not the best thing to light in a breeze!

Less than a week after the show, a small contingent from HBLRO made their way to Copford Farm to join with SROC for their Summer Rally. There was a big turn out from their Club, and we were made to feel very welcome. The site is fantastic for camping and even better for trialling. Saturday saw the RTV, with myself, Hugh, Chris and Kevin entered. A small technical problem, mainly involving smoke for Hugh, did not hamper his driving, and he ended the day on joint third overall. Sunday was the CCV, with Mark A and Ian entered. Hugh had offered to sit with Ian for his pre-Majors practice, and judging by the smiles, thoroughly enjoyed his day being on the other side of the vehicle (well and truly out of control!) Monday was the day for the children, and Lewis, Daniel and Emily represented the Club at the JTV. They really had fun at their first ever trial, and are now looking forward to the Club running their own events. They may be looking for something with a bit more speed, though by the time they move on to the tyros.

On that note, the Club has on its way, a JTV motor, which is on loan from the MSA. Tricia and Matthew also have a vehicle which will be used alongside the other one when we run JTV's. It is hoped to get these events started in the early part of next year. We have got to maintain the MSA vehicle, so if anyone out there would like to volunteer to do periodic checks on it, we would be really grateful. Make yourself known at the next event!

The annual Majors Memorial CCV trial was supposed to be the second weekend in September. But we had a phone call just a week before to say that the event was cancelled due to the heavy rain affecting the area. The Deer Park had been closed to the public, and so the event was off. Ian was, however, marginally relieved as it meant he did not have to trial after all!

The next HBLRO event was a driving day and RTV at Slab. Unfortunately we were unable to use Broxhead as originally planned due to the military requiring the area. We had glorious sunshine and a great trial. What more could you want from a weekend out?! The trial produced a real mix of scores, and some new faces to the trialling league. Hopefully you enjoyed your day and we will see you back at the next event.

By the time you read this, the AGM will be upon us, possibly just gone. I want to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the folks that have helped out with various things over the past year. In particular, those who have done official roles, helped set out for events and towed the trialler to the sites. Your help is very much appreciated, and hopefully I do remember to say thanks to you most of the time! Looking forward to the next round of events, and to catching up with all the members who really do make this a great club to belong to.



Sam Parker
Competition Secretary



Wiltshire Lanes - Green Laning Trip
on the 20th August



It was a long way from home but it was a great day out with a round trip of 215 miles for me from the south of Hampshire. It was drizzling with rain when the four of us met at Bullington Cross, pulling up next to a broken down old Transit whose driver was waiting for somebody to recovery him. I think he thought that it was his lucky day when four Rovers turned up and he apologised for getting in our way. We said that it was not a problem and after checking the maps we bid him farewell and hoped that he would get going soon.

We were heading for the north of Salisbury Plain to our first lane and had a long wait on the A303 at the roundabout where the dual carriageway finishes where we wanted to turn north. By the time we got to the first lane, the sun was just breaking through and we stopped after about 4 miles to have a quick break and watched the hills appearing through the low clouds as they lifted.

The second lane we got to had a traffic restriction order (TRO) on it as from the 18th March, so we went down an adjacent lane into Easterton. The third lane out of Easterton was also TRO'd, not the best start to the day finding 2 lanes that my research hadn't found to be closed. However, things got a lot better after that and we found some great lanes.

I had planned a route that took in many lanes initially around the Devizes area and then zig-zaged around the west of the Marlborough Downs which would allow Nige to leave mid afternoon whilst the rest of us continued.

We worked our way up via Potterne and then did a loop around the north east of Devizes and then up to Beckhampton. We were thwarted by the dredged white concrete cones that Wiltshire uses to close lanes off, particularly east of Oliver's Castle where we had to double back.

We stopped just north of Yatesbury for lunch - sandwiches by the side of a pleasant lane that had recently had a huge ditch dug by the side of it. I'm still wondering why it was so deep, you could have lost vehicle in it. Some of the lanes after lunch were tarmac'ed even though they were marked up as BOATS - very unusual. The next lane was a cracking lane and great fun to drive and obviously not used very much. This was a good thing as I suspect with a lot of use the lane which was quite wet would have cut up badly.

All of the lanes were in good condition with the exception of one lane that I got stuck in after lunch, and had to be winched out by Nick W. This was a good shake down for Nicks new winch which he had only recently had replaced. The lane near Yatebury needs a lot of maintenance where it goes through a wooded section which had made it soggy and with farm vehicle use has left it badly rutted.

We had to make a decision as to whether to carry on or turn back. I went through the first part of the ruts but got high centred with both diffs grounded. John who was following me in a Disco got stuck a few yards into the ruts because of the lower ground clearance and had to be pulled back by Nige. Nick and I walked further up the lane and agreed that as the lane got worse before getting better then we would abandon this lane and carry on to the next lane, there was just the small matter of recovering my 90 stuck in some very gluey stuff. (the power washer wouldn't touch it when I tried to wash it off later in the day!).

My passenger Chris had not done a winching exercise previously and watched the recovery with interest. Due to the position that Nick could get to, he did a pull using a pulley block so that we had a straight pull as he didn't want to pull me sideways into the bank. A quick pull and my diffs were free of the high centre part and Nick continued to winch me over the first 'hump' and I was free to turn around to find the next lane.

Wiltshire Green Laning



If anybody has a new winch and wants to learn how to use one safely you could go on a training course run by one of our member, Nick Jennings. If you are interested then contact him via www.jencav.co.uk and he will put you on the list for the next training session.

We said our good-byes to Nige who had to get home early and set off again trying to match the terrain to the map as it was not obvious where some of the lane went, especially around Barbury Hill. We worked our way eastwards along some more nice lanes and stopped for another coffee break near Aldbourne. A loop north east then we headed south as it was getting late afternoon and ended up back in Marlborough at 5:20pm.

We managed to drive 20 lanes out of the 100 or so that are in the area, so we will definitely be back to drive some more, although it was a long way, there are some great lanes and they are well signposted.

Thank-you to John and Chris for the photos and I look forward to seeing you on the next outing. You can contact me through the website.

Don't forget that your lanes need you - National Green Lane Day is on the 26th October and it is your chance to put something back, so we can continue to enjoy the lanes. See the article elsewhere for details of the lane just south of Droxford.

Julian
RoW Officer

**Cornwall & Devon Charity Event
28 & 29 June 2008**

After several months of trying to organise teams to represent HBLRO we finally had three teams of three drivers.

Friday morning arrived - up and way at 6.30am. Already the M27 was flowing with early rush hour traffic. An hour or so down the road we decided to stop for breakfast - coffee and a roll. Pulled into the services and Roy and Sally were already there having a cuppa. Ten minutes later the Parkers went past followed closely by The Chairman. Oh well, no doubt we will catch up with them somewhere!

Half an hour later going up the first of many hills we passed Richard parked on the verge with his caravan. We carried on to the next lay by where we found Sam & Ian. Apparently Richard had overheated and Sam and Ian were waiting for him to catch up - some ten minutes later he arrived. The lay by then turned into a service bay, while Richard did some running repairs, Ian was now dealing with a puncture and the rest of us did the usual checks before pulling away again.

Anyway half an hour later we all carried on our quest to Newnham Park. The journey continued with stops and starts for various reasons but we eventually arrived 15 minutes before the site was due to open.

Hugh quickly made friends with the signing on team and once we were all signed in, we then had to find somewhere to camp. We had a whole field to choose from and after some discussion, chose an ideal spot with a view (that was up until Mark Ambler arrived with his lorry, thanks Mark). Once set up, we took our seats and watched the merry band of revelers arrive. Midland ROC arrived all together covered in an array of big yellow spots.

We established when and where scrutineering might be - not the entertainment tent as some of us thought! This was a case of "you know what you're doing, gotta handbrake, gotta towpoint, that's fine then". Well it was only four weeks after the Nationals which we had all been to.

A sensible evening followed !! - food, drink, conversation and then to bed.

Next morning, I looked out of the window and yes there was an array of yellow polo shirts wandering around the HBLRO camp. The necessary group photos were taken then away for the drivers briefing and on to the first day of the competition.

We had three teams taking part:

Team 1: Chris Homewood, Hugh Duffett and Tim Wishaw

Team 2: Sam (also known as Samantha) Parker, Kevin Wood and Richard Salter

Team 3: Mark Ambler, Jonathan Ambler and Roy Friend.

Each team was in a different group so we had to compare notes and damage at the end of each day.

There were two trials sites, one was actually on Newnham Park and the other was in a quarry two or three miles away.

By the end of the first day, we had all managed to survive, the only damage being to Mark's Range Rover but there had been some good driving. The Newnham site sections were varied with a couple of the sections driving through and crossing a river at some point as well as the usual hills, side slopes and some mud. The quarries were chalk and clay with puddles and drop offs.

That evening saw the usual food and drink and a visit to the C & D beer tent with disco but most of us were tucked up in bed way before the party finished - 2am I think.

The next day saw some blurry eyed competitors but this did not dampen their eagerness to carry on with the hope of winning something.

Day 2 turned out to be a better day for the HBLRO teams with a record number of ones and zeros being scored throughout the day. Sadly though, this was not enough to collect a prize.

I think however we might hold the record for the number of people we can get into Chris and Jan's awning - 17 of us I think complete with chairs, a table and a selection of beverages.

I think the weekend was a success and would like to thank all that took the time to enter and represent the Club for a charity event and hope that you all enjoyed yourselves.

I hope this might become a regular feature within the HBLRO calendar and next year we have more teams for the event.

I would also like to thank Cornwall & Devon LRC for hosting the event and making everyone welcome.

Sarah Duffett—Treasurer



CALENDER OF EVENTS 2008

Check for updates and maps on our website hbro.co.uk

Date	Event	Venue	Contact Details
4 Oct	Green Laning	Selbourne	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 www.london2brighton.org.uk
11-12 Oct	SWLRC RTV & CCV Challenge	Mendip Hills	Hosted by Somerset and Wilts swlrc.co.uk
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	Greatham Village Hall Liss	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



SROC Summer Rally
JTV Trial
HBLRO Contestants Placing
2nd Daniel Parker
3rd Emily Brooker

SROC Summer Rally
JTV Trial
HBLRO Contestants Placing
1st Lewis Parker

