



# NEWS

Nelly's Dell RTV  
3rd May 2009



July / August 2009





Nelly's Dell RTV 3rd May 2009



## Editor's bit....

As you can see, I've re-arranged the magazine a little to use the colour cover sheet for event photos. There have been a couple of changes in the 'rogues gallery' line on the next two pages so take note.



Deadline for the next issue is August 25th. Don't wait until then, start sending in your contributions now. Articles can be in almost any word processor format but if you have taken photos but do not wish to write anything, just e-mail the photos to me. Ideally, identify the driver in each case where you know their name.

Technical tip here, add the driver's name to the filename of the photo so they can't be mixed up or separated. My e-mail is [Steve.Kirby@hbro.co.uk](mailto:Steve.Kirby@hbro.co.uk)

Steve Kirby, Editor.

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## Green Laning trip to Wales

I have been contacted by a few people who are interested in repeating the trips to Wales that we did a couple of years ago. If you are interested I was thinking that late September/early October would be a good time to go because the 'Gap' will be open and the weather is likely to still be reasonable.

I would imagine that we would stay at Llanerchindda farm again as we have done previously but we may also be able to stay further north for a few days as well to investigate the lanes up there. The cost will vary depending on how many people go - the more go, the cheaper it may be as we can hire the whole cottage or the farmhouse instead of just getting rooms in the main house. We paid about £45 per night 2 years ago as we had a large group but I would expect that to have gone up by now.

My plan would be to go on the weekend of the 26/27th September and return by mid afternoon on Saturday 3rd October in time for the AGM that evening.

Please contact me asap through the website if you are interested so that I can book accommodation.

Regards, Julian  
RoW Officer

## Officers and Committee Members

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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# Hugh's Hectic Happenings

Hello All

Since I spoke to you last, a lot has happened. The first Bank Holiday in May, we had a camping and trialing weekend at Nellies Dell (Woodside Farm). We arrived at the farm on Saturday morning only to find the gate to the camping field had been padlocked. Mild panic, but an hour or so later and a few frantic phone calls, we were in and setting up camp, not too bad for us but Phil and Shirley who had arrived on Friday evening had camped outside the field in the little Caravan & Camping Club site and had to up sticks and move their caravan in with the rest of us.

The two young guns, Tim and Henry, who had volunteered to set out the trial, were well into it when we finally went to help, so all was finished reasonably quickly. The trial on Sunday had another excellent list of entries including a couple of tyro-ers. The sections were challenging and varied. It's good to get a different slant on the same ground by having new minds setting out. The day went off well apart from a breath stopping moment when Joe Stacey's Discovery thought about doing a backward flip. I had a good day for a change, I was beginning to think the old codger was getting past it!

The end of May saw us along with several Club members traveling to Manby Showground in Lincolnshire for the annual ALRC National competitions. Having just purchased a 1996 300Tdi Discovery with auto gearbox, air con and cruise control (oh dear, I must be getting old) it gave us a chance to see how it would cope with five hours towing the caravan. The auto box makes you lazy, the air con keeps you cool when under pressure from scrutiny from the other half and cruise control, well, I have never before been able to tap both feet to the music while driving. Now, I bet you lot can't wait to get old so you can go out and buy one!

Anyway, back to the Nationals, how did we all get on? Poor Matt Hewitt was out of luck, his rear crown wheel decided to split its teeth through the back casing near to end of the CCV trial on Saturday. He also had a rear S/a mounting break. All repaired that night, he started the RTV on Sunday morning and after few sections had an electrical fire under the bonnet which put paid to his weekend of competition. The rest of us managed to escape any damage on this tough trial but we had two leaf sprung Landys in our group, one fell on its side once and the other fell over on two consecutive sections. It was a hard trial both under foot/wheel and terrain but I enjoyed the challenge.

The safari was held on Monday as usual and Mark Ambler was our only entry from HBLRO. Again, the ground was hard and had many deep cross ruts. Mark had covered four of his laps when he had to retire after a weld broke, mounting the steering to the chassis. Our only claim to fame this year was Chris Wood who came second in the Tyro event. Well done Chris.

Now to a bad news/good news bit. Sam Parker has decided to give up the post of Competition Secretary after eighteen months and at which she has excelled (that's the bad news) but the good news is Ian Parker has taken over the position and I am sure he will do just as well.

Talking about committee positions, don't forget a lot of the present committee and officers are not standing for re-election at the AGM in October, so you people out there, don't be shy, please step forward, come and see/ask what we do. If we can do these jobs, I am sure you can.

This time, I am going to finish with a whinge, we all like getting the magazine through the post as opposed to email don't we? Then please could we have some write ups and/or photos to put in it. Let us know what you have been or are getting up to (only if it's legal), it does not necessarily have to be about Land Rovers.

Cheers

Hugh Duffett  
Chairman (Grumpy Old!!)

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## Invite from Southern Counties Off Road Club.

We would like to add your club to our invited clubs list for this years Randonnee on the weekend of the 19 - 20<sup>th</sup> September 2009. You may not be aware that this is the 20<sup>th</sup> year that the Ebble Valley Randonnee has been run.

We intend to make the event special and bigger. We have negotiated to use extra tracks on Salisbury Plain to give us a 100 mile night route with virtually no tarmac roads.

This will be along with the two day sections and hopefully a trial . added in a barbeque, a midnight curry, if you can find it, and two days of great laning what more could you ask for.

By adding your club to our list it will reduce the over all cost to your member by £10.00 as they won't have to join SCOR in order to compete.

If you wish to be added to our list of invited clubs please send a short acceptance email as the MSA now require proof of invitation. If I have not received an acceptance email within 7 days I will take you off our invitation list.

Thanking you in advance.

Tony Wingrove, SCOR Magazine Editor, Randonnee Co-ordinator  
Tel 01722 504402, mobile 07790 248526. e-mail [www.scor4x4.co.uk](http://www.scor4x4.co.uk)

# Abingdon 4x4 Festival 26-27 September 2009

Dalton Barracks, Abingdon Airfield, Oxfordshire.  
All makes of 4 wheel drive welcome.

Weekend Camping Available.	Children's Entertainment.
Refreshments Available all weekend.	Club Stands.
Auto Jumble & Trade Stands.	On Site Photographer all weekend.
Non Damaging Army Off Road Course.	Flight Experience.
Experienced Off Road Drivers available.	Coverage by local Radio.
A Full Weekend of Arena Displays &Activity.	On Site Jetwash.
Model Radio Control Off Road Course.	Climbing Wall.

Check out the off-road course - 4.5 miles of muddy fun!

Vehicles will be scrutineered before accessing the course and must be road legal!

Book on <http://www.abingdon4x4festival.com/pdfs/public-entry-2009.pdf>

Abingdon is located on the A34 North of the M4 and South of the M40. Take the A415 Marcham Interchange exit, taking the 1st exit if coming from the south or the 3rd exit if coming from the north. The festival is about 2 minutes from this roundabout on the right.

GPS NORTH 51° 40.640.601 WEST 1° 18.870 for the entrance gate.

**Event Information Line 0844 884 999 0**  
**[www.abingdon4x4festival.com](http://www.abingdon4x4festival.com)**



# ALRC NEWS

The Newsletter of the Association  
of Land Rover Clubs

Issue 73

June 2009

## STEERING COLUMN

Once again on the May Bank Holiday weekend we assisted the Heritage Motor Centre with the Land Rover Heritage Run. This year the cut backs by Land Rover Limited were obvious as I was honoured with the task of flagging off the 126 entrants. The standard of the vehicles taking part was very high and a credit to their owners. Thanks to Ian and Sue, Ken, Andrew, Elinor, Adrian, Anthony, Caroline, Steve and Sandra who did the marshalling and signing in at The Home of The Legend also to Land Rover's own club members for assisting with the line up. We had a good weekend and as usual there wasn't enough time for me to attend all of the activities and talks that were on offer.

The 2009 National Rally had been a year in the planning and has now been and gone, I said all of my thanks at the prize giving that took part each day. Those of you that attended know how it went, for those that didn't attend you missed a good weekend. I am now looking forward to seeing you at next year's event at Newnham Park near Plymouth.

Denis Bourne  
ALRC Chairman.

## ALRC NATIONAL RALLY 2009

Well the 2009 ALRC National Rally has been and gone, it was a very good event with excellent weather. I would personally like to thank everybody who donated their spare time over the weekend and for weeks prior to the event for making this a very enjoyable weekend. The number of individual thanks would take up too much space so one big THANK YOU to all concerned.

The camping/caravanning numbers were down by about 100 and competitive entries were only down by a few except for the competitive safari which only attracted 59 entries, we seemed to have more children in the bike trial than drivers in the comp. Safari (but we have to look after our drivers of the future). This year we were lucky to have been donated a number of gifts for the children as rewards for entering the bike trial.

This year our official photographer and producer of the 2009 ALRC National Rally DVD was Picture Management - photographs can be viewed on [www.picman.co.uk](http://www.picman.co.uk).

The 2010 ALRC National Rally is being hosted by Cornwall & Devon Land Rover Club at Newnham Park, near Plymouth over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> May 2010. Entry forms can be found on their website.

At the time of writing no Club has volunteered to host the 2011 National Rally, if any Club wishes to know any information regarding running a National Rally we would be happy to answer any questions.

Sandra Bourne  
National Rally Liaison Officer

### **PROPERTY FOUND AT THE NATIONAL**

**Set of keys** on key ring. The key fob is from Lookers of Colchester. This item was handed in at the National Rally. Contact Sandra Bourne on 07810 686325.

**2 bike helmets** left in the signing on tent at the ALRC National Rally. Contact Simone on 0116 2867913 and they can be returned to you.

### **Countryside Issues**

**Green Lane Traffic Ban Quashed as 'Unbalanced and Irrational' by the High Court.**

The decision handed down by His Honour Judge Behrens, QC, in the Administrative Court in Leeds has restored four important green lanes in the Yorkshire Dales National Park to recreational motor vehicle use.

The Motoring Organisation's Land Access and Recreation Association (LARA) challenged the decision of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority to discard the recommendations of its own Green Lane Advisory Group, and instead to impose full-time prohibition of driving orders. Judge Behrens held that the Park Authority had not conducted the necessary degree of balancing of movement of traffic, and acted irrationally when moving to exclude recreational motor vehicles from 'green lanes' in the National Park.

LARA has worked tirelessly over a number of years to fairly regulate and manage the use of green lanes in the National Park, despite the YDNPA adopting a policy to not liaise with recreational motor vehicle users. The Authority has also lobbied for national legislation against recreational motor vehicle activity in the Park, and has accepted the exaggerated lobbying of the anti-vehicle Yorkshire Dales Green Lane Alliance,

Geoff Wilson, one of the claimants in LARA's case, is a great advocate of the principles of national parks, and is a past member and chair of the YDNP Local Access Forum; however he has become increasingly concerned at the arrogant and irrational manner in which the YDNPA, and in particular its Access Committee was performing. As the judgment was handed-down in Leeds at noon on 19<sup>th</sup> June, Geoff said,

"I have a great fondness for the Yorkshire Dales and in many respects applaud the examples set by the Authority, but there are examples of the Authority acting unfairly and without appropriate balance for all elements of the Park community. The issues exposed by this judgment are a clear illustration that my concerns are well founded."

"Throughout the long and often complex process adopted by the YDNPA, I, along with others, have sought to persuade the Authority to adopt a more inclusive and evidence-based approach, and to expose its procedures to greater scrutiny. However, in my view, it was a combination of underlying arrogance and lack of objectivity on the part of Park Authority officers and committee members that resulted in them falling foul of the errors identified in the judgment. In addition the Authority allowed itself to be guided by its own confused and contradictory Access Strategy. We told them that they were wrong, and why, but they just would not listen".

"Through YDNPA intransigence this case must have cost the YDNPA, and tax payers, upwards of £50,000. It is time and money that need not and should not have been expended had the NPA been more rational in its approach. As a gesture of goodwill LARA even withdrew part of its original claim and made offers that would have avoided the greater part of these costs but typically in arrogance the Authority turned them down and cost the taxpayers a lot of money."

LARA now urges the YDNPA to go back to the considered proposals of its Advisory Group as the basis for any orders to be remade, and undertakes to work positively with the YDNPA to achieve a fair balance of management measures.

The lessons learned from this case are widely applicable to the making of traffic regulation orders everywhere, and not just on green lanes. The rules and considerations identified here apply to sealed roads just as much, and will help regulate spurious 'access only' prohibitions.

More details can be obtained from:

Geoff Wilson: [geoffmoto@aol.com](mailto:geoffmoto@aol.com), 01768 898584; 07768 055937.

Alan Kind: [lara@mac.com](mailto:lara@mac.com)

Tony Kempster  
ALRC Countryside Officer

## **LAND ROVER NEWS**

### **Land Rover Confirms Grant to Build New Model**

The UK Government has confirmed a grant offer of up to £27 million is to be made available to Land Rover for the production of an all-new car. The company is due to make a final decision on the go-ahead of the project at its award-winning

plant in Halewood, on Merseyside, later this year.

The car would be based on Land Rover's acclaimed LRX Concept vehicle, first shown at the Detroit Show last year, and would be the smallest, lightest and most efficient it has ever produced.

"We welcome the Government's support for this project, which would form a key part of our future product plans and which we very much want to put into production," said Phil Popham, Managing Director of Land Rover.

The grant offer will be made available under the Government's Grant for Business Investment scheme and is an important contribution towards the overall £400 million cost of the project. This is separate from the broader automotive support package currently being unveiled by the Government.

Although it still has to go through a number of approval gateways in the product development process before getting the final go-ahead, Land Rover has also confirmed that the new car would be a key addition to the Range Rover family of luxury vehicles.

Phil Popham said, "Our engineering feasibility study has shown that we can very successfully deliver Range Rover levels of quality, drivability and breadth of performance in a more compact, more sustainable, package. Feedback from the most extensive customer research we have ever undertaken also fully supports our belief that a production version of the LRX Concept would further raise the desirability of our brand and absolutely meets all those expectations."

"It would be the smallest, lightest and most efficient Range Rover that we've ever built," Phil added. "The compact size, lighter weight and sustainability-focused technologies of the LRX Concept showed how Land Rover is planning to respond to the needs of a changing world. Despite the current economic challenges, we remain committed to investing for the future, to continue to deliver relevant vehicles for our customers, with the outstanding breadth of capability for which we are world-renowned."

The new Range Rover would embrace excellent levels of refinement and all-round capability and also introduce new powertrain options, providing a major step forward in enabling the implementation of Land Rover's e-terrain technologies strategy and achievement of its goal to exceed a 20 per cent improvement in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

"Both the design and size of the LRX Concept have generated a hugely positive reaction wherever it has been seen and we've also gathered fresh insights on what potential owners would look for in a production equivalent. That knowledge is now being applied to the process of refining the vehicle as it heads towards final approval," said Phil.

The Halewood facility employs 2000 people and is a recipient of the JD Power Gold Standard. It currently produces the Land Rover Freelander 2 and Jaguar X-TYPE.

### A.L.R.C. MEETING DATES FOR 2009

A.L.R.C. meetings take place at NFU Mutual Tiddington Road, Tiddington, Stratford-upon-Avon - all A.L.R.C. members are welcome to attend EGM and the AGM meetings which are open to any member of A.L.R.C. EGM and AGM meetings start at 10.00am. Please note that A.L.R.C. Council meetings and Scrutineering and Off Road Committee meetings are open only to elected representatives or their guests.

### **ALRC Meeting Dates for 2009**

S&ORC - 12<sup>th</sup> September Please note date changes to previously advertised

Council - 17<sup>th</sup> October.

AGM / EGM - 11<sup>th</sup> July and 14<sup>th</sup> November (10.30am start).

### SCRUTINEERING MATTERS

Just a reminder please that club members seeking advice should initially direct queries to their club scrutineers or local log book scrutineers with further enquiries to Simone Birch or Andrew Flanders, 3 Mortimer Hill, Tring, Herts, HP23 2JJ. 07813085325. [andrewflanders@btinternet.com](mailto:andrewflanders@btinternet.com) (not as printed in handbook).

### NON-COMPETITIVE CLUBS NEWS

As the Non Competitive clubs coordinator I have also taken on the job of Shows & Events. In this capacity, I have booked stands at the following shows on behalf of the ALRC.

17/19<sup>th</sup> July - Land Rover Magazine show at Newark showground, Newark and Live Promotions event at Billing Aquadrome.

29/31<sup>st</sup> August - Stoneleigh Park Country Festival, Warwickshire

12/13<sup>th</sup> September - Live promotions event at the Peterborough showground.

I will receive a limited number of vehicle passes for these shows so if you are interested in displaying your vehicle can you please send me a S.A.E with the name of the show you wish to attend written on it. If possible, I would like a couple of competitive motors on display i.e. Trials motor, comp motor and/or one used for RTV. I think it is important to put across to the public the responsible and safe use of land that the ALRC competitive clubs have. As with my own club all I ask is that, you make yourself available to talk to the public at intervals during the show.

Other dates for your diary's are:

26/28<sup>th</sup> June - Manby Land Rover show, Manby Motorplex

22/26<sup>th</sup> July - War & Peace show at Beltring, Kent

If there are any more shows that you think I should know about or book a stand for please ring me on 01204 396449, Email [em\\_sue55@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:em_sue55@yahoo.co.uk) or write to Sue Foster, 31, Slimbridge Close, Brightmet, Bolton, BL2 5NT  
Hope to see you during the year. Sue

#### ALRC National Rally 2009 Concours D'Elegance awards

**THE ROVER SPORTS REGISTER CUP** - Dave Mitchell - Range Rover Sport.

**DAVID BOWYER CUP** - Andrew Mason - Series I 80".

**THE PHILIP BASHALL CUP** - Alan Philips - Series III 109" Ambulance.

**THE DUNSFOLD LAND ROVER COLLECTION RANGE ROVER CUP** - Daniel Atkinson - Range Rover Classic.

**THE FARVIS BOILERS SHIELD** - Andrew Sinclair - Series I 86".

**THE MERLIN-NOTTINGHAM LAND ROVER TROPHY** - Derek Spooner - Range Rover P.38.

**LAND ROVER REGISTER 1948-1953 SHIELD** - Andrew Neaves - Series I 80" Soft Top.

**THE FARVIS CONTRACTORS PLANT SHIELD** - Dennis Wright - Series I 107" Station Wagon.

**THE ALRC 1958-ON LAND ROVER CONCOURS AWARD** - Ken Knight - Land Rover Experience Defender 110" Station Wagon.

**THE SAVIDGE FAMILY CUP** - Dave Try - Series III 109" Fire and Rescue Tender.

#### *Non Concours d'Elegance*

**WILLIAM FARVIS TROPHY** - Andrew Birch - Series IIa.

**GILL FLOYD FORWARD CONTROL CUP** - Andrew Neaves - 101" G.S. Forward Control.

#### *Others*

**TONY HUTCHINGS SALVER** - Detlef Achtelik from Germany - Land Rover 110" fitted with ex. MOD Ambulance Body (Camper).

**THE FARVIS " SPIRIT OF THE EVENT " AWARD.** - Gary Kenworthy.

Sue Foster

Non Competitive Clubs/ Shows and Displays Co-ordinator

#### NEWS FROM NFU

##### **Road Rescue service added to award winning car insurance**

Statistics suggest that there are around 20,000 incidents\* each day requiring breakdown assistance. NFU Mutual's car insurance policies now have the perfect antidote - built in RAC breakdown cover as standard, anytime, anywhere, for any member of the family.

Mutual Assist, which is now automatically included on all new and renewed car insurance policies, covers a car for breakdowns more than quarter of a mile from the

policyholder's home and, if necessary, recovery to a garage within ten miles of where the breakdown occurred.

There are also options available to enhance cover should you wish to:

National Assist - all the benefits of the standard Mutual Assist service, plus nationwide recovery and full onward travel services

National plus Home Assist - the highest level of cover with all the benefits of the National Assist service, but including breakdown at home.

"Without cover the cost of a breakdown can be expensive and cause a great deal of inconvenience. Our policyholders now have peace of mind as standard, with an option to take out the higher levels of cover", says NFU Mutual's Blanche Surman.

"One of the reasons we chose to partner with the RAC is because, like our car insurance, its road rescue service is award winning."

A horsebox and trailer can also be covered, so discuss your individual requirements with your NFU Mutual agent.

Find your local agent at [nfumutual.co.uk](http://nfumutual.co.uk) or call 0800 197 1283.

\*Source: [www.breakdowncover.co.uk](http://www.breakdowncover.co.uk)

### **Address changes for Club Secretaries and ALRC Treasurer**

Club Secretary address details / Council member

Aylesbury LRFC - Dawn Carter, 2 Lisburn Path, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 2BQ. 07768 085325 [minidawn@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:minidawn@hotmail.co.uk)

Leics & Rutland LRC - Viv Wing, 4 Tyson Close, Grantham, Lincs, NG31 9HT, 01476 575660. [vivwing@btinternet.com](mailto:vivwing@btinternet.com). Simone is the ALRC delegate.

ALRC Treasurer - Derek Spooner, Thorny How, Canon Pyon, Hereford, HR4 8NT. 01432 830046. [dspoone1@btinternet.com](mailto:dspoone1@btinternet.com)

Camel Club - Will Unsworth, 10 Dowie Way, Crich, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5NJ [wpunsworth@vkonline.co.uk](mailto:wpunsworth@vkonline.co.uk)

### A.L.R.C. MEMBER CLUB EVENTS FOR 2009

#### CORNWALL AND DEVON LRC

June 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> Charity Two Day RTVT, Cornwall & Devon LRC

**This is the 4TH CHARITY RTV EVENT AT NEWNHAM PARK 27th -28th JUNE 2009**

Let's Go Yellow Again for Charity St Lukes Hospice Our chosen charity St Lukes Hospice is again going yellow for 2009. After the fantastic show of support last year "Can you go one better?"

2008's Best Yellow Theme award went to Midland Rover Owners Club. What theme will your club come up with this year? The wackier the better!! Cornwall & Devon LRC look forward to welcoming you again

For a fun filled weekend with two whole day's trialing in support of St Lukes Hospice. See you soon. See C&D Website for forms at <http://www.cornwallanddevon-landroverclub.co.uk/>

### **SOUTHERN ROC**

There is an invitation to all ALRC competitive clubs from the Southern Rover Owners Club who are planning to hold their annual 2 day CCV trial and 4 Comp Safaris in 2009

The two-day trial will be open to all ALRC competitive clubs, and will be ALRC only. It is to be held at Knowle Farm, Broad Oak, Heathfield, East Sussex and will take place on 1/8/09 & 2/8/09

The 3 Comp Safaris are as follows:

11 and 12/7/09 - Dartford Gun Club Near to Junction 1 of M25 Dartford Tunnel

16/8/09 - Darwell Beech Farm, Netherfield, East Sussex

27/9/09 - Monkings Farm, Northiam, East Sussex

The Comps will be open to all ALRC competitive clubs, and also SCOR and Anglian Rover Owners Club.

The SRs will be posted on the Southern ROC web site prior to the events and will include an entry form as part of the SRs

### **MIDLAND ROC**

10<sup>th</sup> Majors Memorial Trial 2009 - 19<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> September 2009 - Eastnor Deer Park, Eastnor. Booking forms and further details available on the MROC website at [www.mroc.co.uk](http://www.mroc.co.uk) closing date for entries is 10<sup>th</sup> July

### **WYE AND WELSH BASKERVILLE CHALLENGE 2009**

The Wye & Welsh LRC is holding the annual Baskerville Challenge on the August Bank Holiday 29th to 31st August 2009.

Camp Site Opens Friday Noon 28th August, CCVT Saturday 29th, RTVT Sunday 30th, Time Trial Monday 31st. TYRO Trial runs over Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Further details available on the Website [www.wyeandwelshlrc.co.uk](http://www.wyeandwelshlrc.co.uk)

END

## SARN HELEN ROMAN ROAD - BANWEN TO ABERDULAIS

This byway open to all traffic is regularly used by equestrians, walkers, mountain bikers, off-road motorcycles & 4x4 vehicles. The route has some quite unique features including, the Roman Road itself which runs along the ridgeway of Hirfynnydd, (translates as 'Long Mountain'), near Glynneath. From the triangulation point, it enjoys some spectacular views including, to the South, a panoramic view of much of West & Mid Glamorgan, the Bristol Channel & the coast of Devon. The view to the North is the vista of the Black Mountains running into the Brecon Beacons. It presents a challenging drive for off-roaders with the fabulous views from the summit as an added bonus there are few byway roads left where this level of access can be enjoyed by motorised vehicles and which are so rewarding in terms of driving experience & views. The 7 mile long mountain is set in amongst some spectacular rolling hillsides and thousands of acres of forestry.

This amenity has also proved to be very popular with disabled 4x4 drivers as it is a route which can be negotiated in a suitable vehicle. Disabled motorists would lose this amenity if the TRO is extended as, unlike many other members of the public, they aren't going to be able to use a disability scooter to get up there, they won't be able to walk up there & in all probability won't be able to ride a horse or cycle up there.

This area is criss-crossed by public footpaths, bridleways, byways, etc. There have been frequent access problems over the past couple of years with byways being illegally obstructed on numerous occasions, as well as ongoing attempts to intimidate legal users of the bridleways & footpaths in attempt to erode use of these routes. There is a currently 7 month closure period in place - a TRO detailing a seasonal prohibition of driving. The landowner, (Walters Mining Ltd), is requesting an extension of conditions on the TRO to extend the closure period & to include all linked byways with the erection of locking barriers. Officials in Neath, Port-Talbot Council seem to be giving their unofficial backing to these extended TRO conditions.

- It is apparent that the landowner is antagonistic towards public use of public rights of way over this large parcel of mountain & forestry. Locals believed that the landowner is trying to erode public access until the only vehicles that can get onto the land are those prepared to pay to use the Walters Motorsports Complex. Neath, Port-Talbot Council appears quite prepared to allow this to happen. The need for extending the TRO are cited as:
- Improvement of the amenity through which the byways pass.
- To prevent damage to the road-surface by 4x4s & off-road motorbikes.

The landowner, is seeking to enhance the amenity of the area by erecting several wind-turbines, installing a waste-recycling plant generating 100+ heavy lorry movements a week & running regular motor events here.

The landowner is helping to preserve the road-surface by running Rally's, off-road events for 4x4s, off-road training for motorcycles as well as driving Plant through to their quarrying operation - 14 ton JCBs, tracked diggers, etc. It seems that off-road motorcycles & vehicles are not to be excluded by this TRO as paying for the privilege of using the facility appears to negate any of the damage that might be caused. This, on a road, which does not appear to have benefited from any maintenance work by the local authority for very many years - despite regular promises to do so.

A number of individuals from local communities have decided to unite to form an alliance to fight the gradual loss of rights of way on Hirfynnydd. R.O.W.A.N. (Rights Of Way Alliance

Neath) has the primary aim of protecting **ALL** Public Rights of Way at Hirfynydd for use by **EVERYONE**.

This amenity has always been very well used by members of local communities. Due to the extremely attractive nature of the route, visitors from across the UK enjoy coming to walk, ride or drive the Sarn Helen. This extended closure order isn't about improving the amenity or preserving road surfaces - it's all about a wealthy corporation making more money at the expense of others, increasing land values & the Councils lethargy, (or worse), that is helping it happen.

We are convinced that if the Sarn Helen is lost, access to the bridleways & footpaths will be gradually eroded over time until these are also lost. This would be tragic if allowed to happen and future generations would be the losers - this on a road which has been in public use for the better part of 2 Millennia.

This TRO extension request is being put out for consultation. The Councillors on the Committee which will make the decision have already looked at the issues & are justly concerned.

If you are able to help us in this fight to stop this TRO from being extended we would be very grateful. There is to be a consultation period before this TRO request is considered again by Council. If you have enjoyed using this road or if you plan to use this route in the future - please back up our opposition to this TRO extension request. The stronger the level of opposition, the more likely we are to stop it happening. Contact details are below;

If you haven't yet experienced the delights of Sarn Helen, please make the most of it - in case we do lose it!

My apologies to anyone I have inadvertently omitted If you can think of any other clubs or individuals to forward this onto, please help our cause by doing this. I also apologise if I've duplicated your email address & mailed you more than once. Also we'll help with any similar problems by voicing our concerns on e-petitions / objections - just let us know.

If you're able to mention this on your website or in your club magazine - that would be brilliant!

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarn\\_Helen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarn_Helen)

<http://www.geograph.org.uk/search.php?i=2734190>

Best regards, *Chris Williams*  
R.O.W.A.N. (Rights Of Way Alliance Neath)

**Details for sending objection;**  
**To be received by 27th July - please try to get them in sooner if you are prepared to help us out.**

**Ref: Proposed Traffic Regulation Order Sarn Helen**  
[environment@npt.gov.uk](mailto:environment@npt.gov.uk)

or

Environmental Directorate  
Neath, Port-Talbot County Borough Council  
Civic Centre, The Quays  
Brunel Way, Baglan Energy Park  
Port Talbot  
SA11 2GG

## Hindhead green laning trips in May 09

This was a laning trip in two parts, the first was in early May and the second in late May to finish the route that I had planned. The first outing finished with us collapsing in a pub to recover from too much exercise, but more of that later.

My idea of green laning is a nice gentle drive in the countryside preferably along sunken lanes or tree lined routes that are not too narrow but also offer a few challenging obstacles to keep the interest up. On some of our previous outing I had not even engaged low box or diff lock - if you are constantly needing those you need to go and find a local play site.

Having met at the Hindhead café carpark we set off to find the North entrance to the new Hindhead tunnels. After getting lost we found a dog walker who put up on the right track and parked up close to a footpath sign to the tunnels. The path led us to the tunnels down a steep path to the entrance, about a 10 minute walk.

A viewing point above the entrances gives a brief history and a few diagrams. To see the actual tunnel entrances you need to walk down and away from the tunnel face. If you want to see pictures that other people have taken, then the web has many good pictures that are well worthwhile viewing, (try [www.a3tunnel.blogspot.com](http://www.a3tunnel.blogspot.com)). Expect the tunnel to be opening in autumn 2011 which will be a godsend to travellers up/down to London and the locals who have to suffer the delays.

We set off north east after having crossed the A3 and went down into the Devils punchbowl, this is a hard surfaced track that can be used all year round, after a few miles we rejoined the A3 and continued north. We turned off at Norney and went past St.Mary's church which looks really pretty and headed for the tracks close to Shackleford which are quite good but a bit narrow for shiny motors. Nige and myself stopped for a coffee and Harvey was eating (as normal) whilst Mike returned up the track to collect one of his rear spot lamps, after it made an unscheduled exit from his roof rack after being introduced to a low branch. He didn't manage to find the projective grid cover from the other one either.

A lane close to Lascombe was enjoyable and then we turned north via Wanborough wood to another lane where we stopped for our picnic lunch in the sunshine. We had had a nice easy morning laning and had enjoyed some great lanes and had met quite a few walkers, some out walking their dogs, who all smiled and waved back when we went past them.

We set off after lunch and were soon going down some more lanes to the north of Wanborough. The next lane was close to Ash Vale. The entrance was muddy but passable but further up the lane the track deteriorated and was getting very rutted between the trees. Time to reverse back? Too late the Disco with its smaller ground clearance was well and truly high centred with all 4 wheels spinning. The other two vehicles being 90's on bigger tyres negotiated the ruts without problem. Nige reversed back and a rope was connected to the stricken Disco but it was not going anywhere fast. We walked down the lane and decided that other than a half cut tree blocking part of the lane that the rest of it was driveable (which it was in the higher vehicles). Some sawing with the bow saw soon had the offending 30cm trunk cut to size and moved out of the way, so back to the Disco.

We decided to winch it forward rather than cause any damage by doing a snatch recovery with a rope, so out with the hand winch and find a nice sturdy tree for the strop to go around. Electric winching is so easy - just press the button and hey presto - lots of effort from the motor, and out pops the stuck vehicle; assuming you have the winch vehicle in the correct place to use the winch in the first place. Hand winching with a titor is another story - lots of effort

and little to show for it except a vehicle ever so slowly moving forward. What we hadn't bargained for was that the high centre was quite long and we had to winch the Disco for the best part of the two whole lengths of the vehicle. Mike was then able to drive further down the lane until it got stuck again. Time to find another tree and repeat the exercise, now we have Harvey enjoying himself running around in the wood and four knackered blokes taking it in turn to collapse over the winch. When this happened a third time we decided it was easier to get the Disco straddled across the ruts so out came the waffle boards and the Disco was pulled out onto the hard dry surface to continue down the lane. The next lane had been closed, for some time by the looks of the rusty posts blocking the entrance, another lane close by had also suffered the same fate - I suspect the locals had been busy visiting the local council. Time to find the nearest pub and collapse in the garden with a pint. So here endeth the first part of the Hindhead trip.

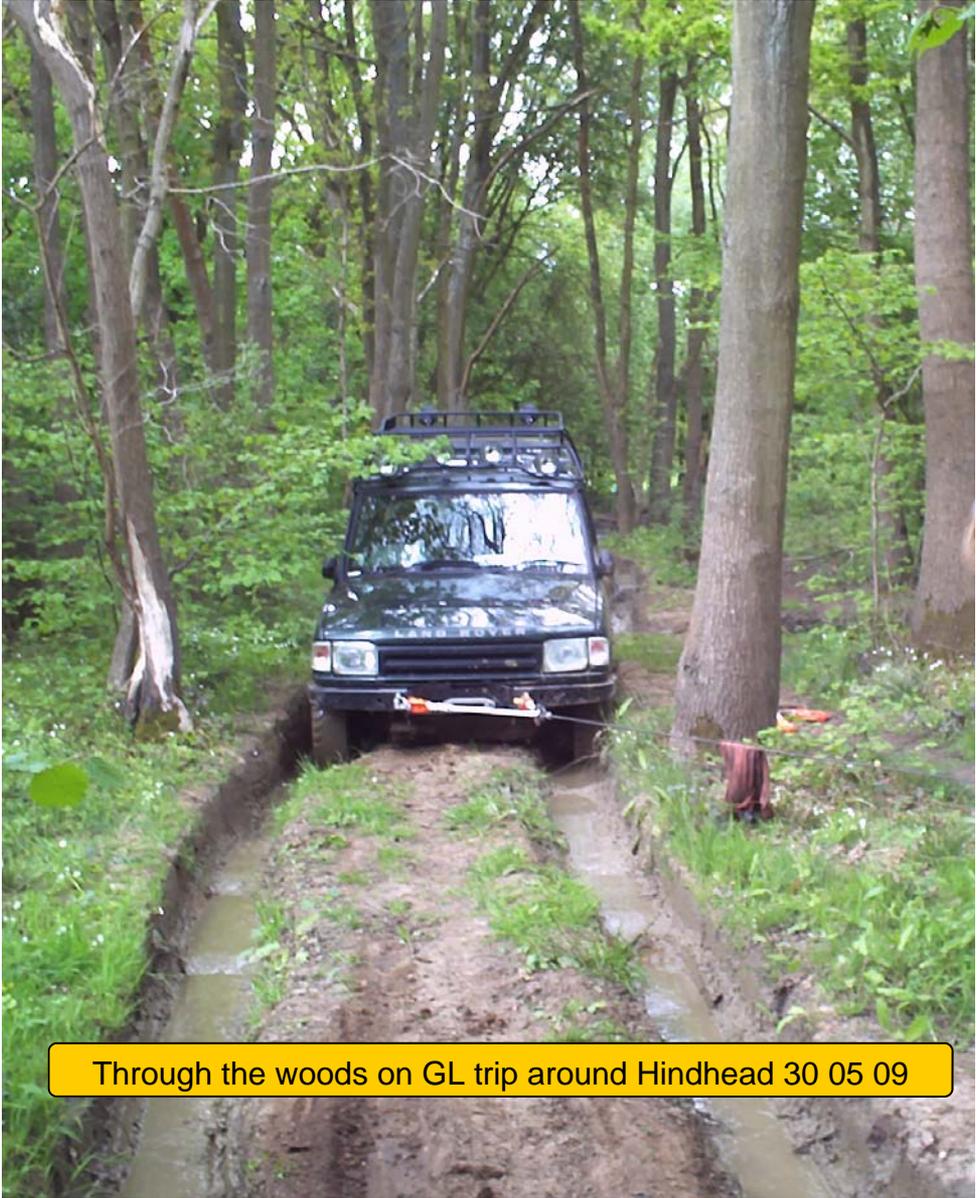
The second trip 4 weeks later saw two 90's and a 110 - so plenty of ground clearance this time and time for a few challenging lanes. The lanes around Grayshot can be very challenging as they are sandy and I decided it was probably best to drive them from the North and then go West, they would therefore be mainly downhill. The last time I had done these we had gone from the south and had found them extremely difficult. Nige had one moment when he got stuck and had one wheel about half a metre in the air. After reversing up and trying again with a little momentum plus following my tyre tracks he was up and over the obstacle.

At the end of the track we came back onto the road and was stopped by a female motorist wanting to know whether the road was still closed ahead (A3 tunnel roadworks), sorry we can't tell you was the reply. I don't think she realised that we had come 'across country' and not along the road. Nige had some colour back in his cheeks so we set off to find the next lane which took us north to the Devils punchbowl where we joined the route we had taken 4 weeks earlier. We stopped in Wanborough woods for our picnic lunch and discussed the merits of 110's over the limited space in a 90, the back seat being essential if you have children who want to ride in comfort when off-roading. One track was partially blocked by someone dumping the remains of a new block paving path ie blocks, turfs and 2 pallets - nice people I think not. A quick tidy up and we flattened out the rubble and we continue on our way - this had happened in the previous 4 weeks since we had last driven this lane.

This time we missed out the rutted lane and headed towards Crooksbury and Tilford via another couple of lanes. This led us to Frensham Ponds and we crossed the fine sand without any problems travelling from north to south. We then went via Churt to Frithend and discovered that the lane had been turned into a footpath apparently due to it being too wet for vehicular use! Locals at work again I think. We turned south and headed for 2 lanes around Newtown and said goodbye to Nige who had to be home for a BBQ. We headed for Steep and investigated another lane that was on the map that I had looked at years ago. This was really impassable with a steep entrance and many trees down along the length of it. It will need some heavy machinery to get in there to clear it, so that lane will probably be lost forever.

We decided that we had had a great day out and that we needed a pint before heading home so Paul and I went back into Steep and found a pub for a quiet drink. Here's to the next day out.

Enjoy your lanes  
Julian  
RoW Officer



Crossing a ford on GL trip around Hindhead 30 05 09



Discussing the route on GL trip around Hindhead 30 05 09



## Competition Events; General Information

- Events are open to all paid-up HBLRO members. Bring your membership card.
  - Entries to be on an official HBLRO entry form whenever possible.
  - ALRC rules and HBLRO Supplementary Regulations apply. 2007 ALRC Handbooks (2009 version coming soon) are available to all HBLRO members.
  - All HBLRO RTVs are qualifying rounds for the "Red Leader Shield" (standard class Leaf sprung LRs), the "Pilot Trophy" (Standard Range Rover) and the "Performance Trophy" (for 90s)
  - When you come to help set out the sections on the day before the competition, please find the Clerk of the Course (or whoever is in charge at the time) and sign on the attendance sheet. The event insurance covers those members setting up the event and is there for your benefit; but it is valid only if you sign to say that you are there.
  - Please help to marshal the event. Attend the marshals briefing and then ask an experienced marshal for guidance on how to score and how to assist in the safe running of the event. We'll show you how to score if you've not done it before. A Marshalling Guide booklet is available on request.
  - If you are interested in scrutineering, please ask to accompany one of the scrutineers on the day. They'll show you how the checks are done and what to look for. A Scrutineering Guide booklet is available on request.
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## For Sale

Note that small ads are free but please let the editor know when a sale is complete so we don't keep printing an out of date ad each month.

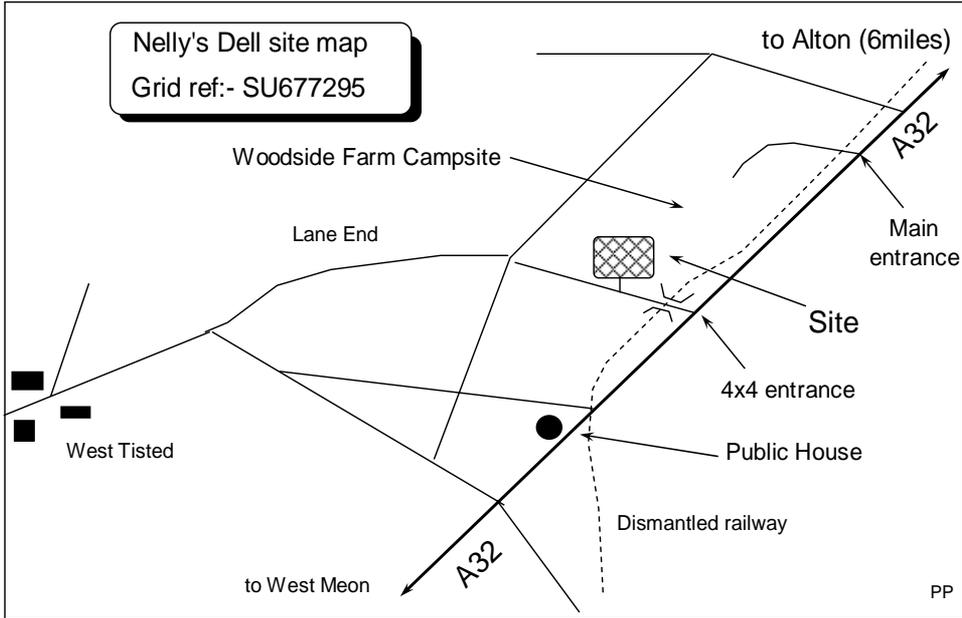
HBLRO accepts no liability for the accuracy of the descriptions or the serviceability or suitability of items or services advertised in this section.

## Bits & pieces

- 4 off Discovery 2 / Range Rover, Steel wheels with worn tyres, Ideal to fit off road tyres. £100 Lot. Classic Range Rover heavy duty rear bumper (for off road) £25. Southampton 07748636355 Paul Webb (MAR09)

# MAPS FOR EVENTS





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2009

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

*(Events in italics are provisional)*

Date	Site	Event
<b>July</b>		
25 <sup>th</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup>	Aldermaston	RTV, Tyro (3).
25 <sup>th</sup>	Green Laning.	Contact RoW officer for details.
<b>August</b>		
<i>1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> ##</i>	<i>Ingram's Green</i>	<i>Split day. ## POSTPONED ##</i>
14 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup> / 16 <sup>th</sup>		West Berkshire Show
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Green Laning.	Contact RoW officer for details.
28 <sup>th</sup> / 29 <sup>th</sup> / 30 <sup>th</sup> / 31 <sup>st</sup>	Nelly's Dell	Summer Rally RTV / Tyro
<b>September</b>		
<i>11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Eastnor Deer Park</i>	<i>Majors</i>
19 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup>	Somerley Estate near Ringwood.	RTV / Tyro (4) / Public Driving Day.
26 <sup>th</sup>	Green Laning.	Contact RoW officer for details.
<b>October</b>		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Queens Hotel, Selbourne.	AGM. Followed by quiz and buffet.
<i>9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Lamb's Lair</i>	<i>Mendips</i>
25 <sup>th</sup>	Green Lane Clearance	Contact RoW officer for details.
31 <sup>st</sup> / 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Hook End Farm	RTV (X) Camping from Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>
??		<i>National Green Lane clearance day.</i>
<b>November</b>		
<i>Nov 15<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Site TBA</i>	<i>½ and ½ day.</i>
Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	Green Laning.	Contact RoW officer for details.
Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>	Somerly nr Ringwood, Camping available.	Mike Wolfe Challenge.
Nov		BAFMA Roadmaster 09.
<b>December</b>		
Dec	Xmas laning. Salisbury Plain.	Contact RoW officer for details.

Those with internet access can go straight to the events calendar at:-  
<http://www.hbro.co.uk/calender.htm>

## Regular Events

- \* Last Wednesday of each month, Noggin & Natter at The Hogs Lodge, Gravel Hill, Clanfield, Petersfield, Hants. PO8 0QD just off the A3, grid ref. SU714174 approx (From 7:30 p.m. Plus Land Rover related videos if possible.). Tel 02392-591083.
- \* Green-lane trips will usually be as advertised elsewhere. There will be someone present to indicate rights of way on the maps. Please bring your own maps of Hampshire and Berkshire, in case you get lost. If there is a lot of rain on the few preceding days, anticipate postponement.

I've printed the dates of everything I know about at the moment on the previous page, so get your diaries out! Note that *provisional* events are printed in *italics*. Will event organisers please let me know when any of these is confirmed / changed / cancelled etc.. Major changes, cancellations etc. Will be highlighted in **bold text**.

Green laners:-See article(s) elsewhere for details of the next trip(s).



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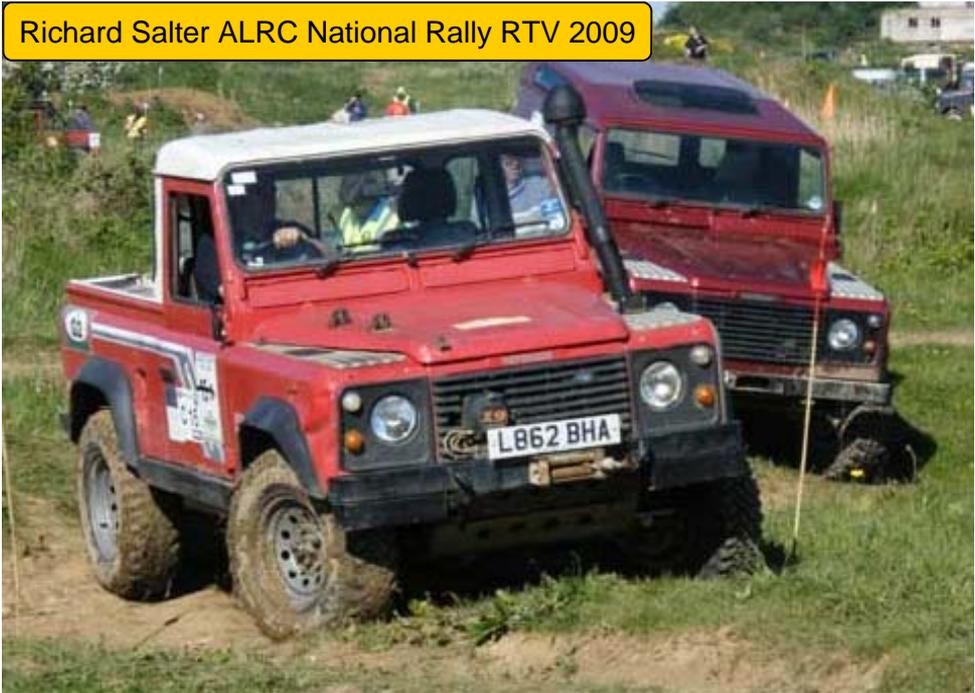


Hugh Duffett, ALRC National Rally RTV 2009



Matt Hewitt, ALRC National Rally RTV 2009

Richard Salter ALRC National Rally RTV 2009



Andrew Bridger ALRC National Rally RTV 2009