

The Dorset Land Rover Club Newsletter December 2014 - January 2015 Volume 28 Issue 5





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THE DORSET ROVER December 2014 - January 2015 The Magazine of the Dorset Land Rover Club Ltd A member of the Association of Land Rover Clubs

If you need to contact a committee member please try to do so before **8.00pm**

All entries for the next newsletter to be received by Wednesday 14th January 2015

Club Night in December: Friday 5th December Quiz night at the Bryanston Club, Blandford

There is no Club Night in January, because of the Awards Dinner on January 10th

Up to date information and more contact details can be found on the Dorset Land Rover Club website:

www.dorsetrover.co.uk

A PLEA FROM THE EDITOR...

Are you bored with reading the same old stuff? Then act **NOW**! I need your contributions! Please e-mail articles, reports, pictures (original jpegs please), jokes, stories etc to **editor@dorsetrover.co.uk** to arrive by the deadline given in the box above. I'd rather have too much than too little! And have you got a 'top' cover picture? It must be in portrait format, and

preferably with light tones top and bottom.

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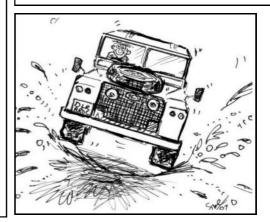
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The complete draft 2015 Calendar is on pages 26 and 27 of this issue of The Dorset Rover, but here are a few highlights for your immediate attention...

ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Elsewhere in this issue of The Dorset Rover you'll find a booking form for the Annual Awards Dinner which will be held at The Chequers Inn at Lytchett Matravers on Saturday 10th January. It's excellent value (no increase on last year's price) for what promises to be a very enjoyable evening. Places are limited, so get your booking in to Caz as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

DLRC GALA WEEKEND

If you look at the draft calendar that will have come to you with this issue of the magazine, you'll see that on 24th-26th July we're aiming to hold a DLRC Gala Weekend. There is still lots to plan and organise for this weekend of fun and frolics (with lashings of ginger beer no doubt ... anyone spot the Purbeck connection?) but it will include camping, barbecue(s), a tyro event, green laning and other Land Rovery stuff. So put it in the diary now!

EXTRA RTV OPPORTUNITY

For those intrepid souls that have still got the urge to get down and dirty at an RTV event, DLRC members are invited to compete at a trial being held by Somerset & Wilts on 14th December at Charlton Mackerell, Somerset. The closest postcode is TA11 7AX, and coordinates 51.060765, -2.661067. There will be a burger van, toilet and raffle at the end of the day (xmas wrapped donations to the raffle gratefully received). There is a special prize for the best dressed truck!!! Scrutineering 8.30: Drivers Briefing 9.45: Trial Starts 10. For more details, see the website!

URGENT MESSAGE TO ALL RTV DRIVERS

Please be aware that as a member club of the ALRC we have to abide by the regulations set out by them. Please make sure your vehicle complies or you might be excluded from taking part in trials. The rules are in the green book (I still have some if you need one) & on our website & the ALRC website. They're very easy to stick to so please comply. *Rog*

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Joe Davidson - Horsington John Moran - Wimborne Chris Rice - Wimborne Matthew Moore - Upton Aiden Lofthouse Trevor Baldock - Bournemouth Ron Darwoo - Alderholt Joe Viveash - Poole

CHAIRMAN'S WAFFLE

After voting at the AGM, I was asked by a member 'why did I want to still be chairman?' Simple answer really is I enjoy doing it. Otherwise there's no way I'd have been in the position for 10 years! Ron has moved on as our treasurer after several years of sterling service and Polly has taken on the job. Polly is also Membership Sec which makes a lot of sense in the way the 2 roles work together. Rich needed time to concentrate on his career so Jason has taken over from him. Jase is



already getting to grips with planning our trials and is keen to do a good job, 1 reason he was awarded the 'best newbie' trophy last year, a trophy he's loathe to give up!

The 3rd place position in SWB went down to the wire at the last rtv of the year. Mike & Jase went to Bransgore with 2 points separating them by the last section of the day. More on that later but a very excited climax to the year.

Club night at the Frampton Arms went well. A few of us decided to have some food whilst others just met for a drink and a natter. Caz and I ate and were very happy with the food. As it turns out, Wimborne Football Club has removed its skittle alley. However, the Frampton has one which we can use as long as they don't have a match on, so we could be back there at some point.

The next club night is a quiz at the Bryanston club where Kit gave his excellent talk about his travels. Hopefully you will have seen that club nights are now 'roaming' around the county. We have a few months next year that have no venue, partly so that you can have some input. So, if you have a favourite pub that you think would make a good club night then get in touch. You will ideally be around to 'host' the evening.

Halloween green lane night was a success with 8 vehicles braving the spooks and ghouls! I arrived early to set up the bbq at our meeting point and to get food cooked for the hungry hordes. It also gave me the chance to get into character!! The fake blood hasn't washed out of my top unfortunately... We raised £200 for Ickle pickles (the charity supplying life saving neonatal equipment). Our open driving day attracted over 60 vehicles and was another success. If you weren't there, you missed out on a lot of fun. I have to ask though.... with well over 100 members, what do you do with your Landie?? Coz you're not coming to the events that we put on for you!

I have to admit that being in this position sometimes has its benefits! Because I get to meet quite a few of you and chat about hobbies (Landies being one), I have had some very amazing and generous invitations to see some of yours. Ron and I had an evening at Willem's house to see his collection of cars and chatting later in his bar till stupid o'clock!! My last invite was to member Dougal's to see his brewery, oh yes! I do the odd beer kit (as some may have tried) but Dougal does his the proper way and makes some amazing beer. Thanks mate, a lovely evening with a fascinating host.

Hopefully you will have seen by now that next year's diary has been published. We have already tinkered with it at the last committee meeting but for the better. Plans are afoot!!! There's loads to do so get your renewal in and lets have some fun. *Rog*

MAGAZINES NEED A NEW HOME

Jim Welch has a large number of Land Rover Magazines from 2008 - 2013, he is reluctant to just recycle them so has decided to up cycle them. Person collects and a donation to Caz's Charity Ickle Pickles would be most appreciated. The Magazines he has are: Land Rover Owner International, Land Rover Monthly and Land Rover World. If you're interested, give Jim a call on 07768585081

DLRC CALENDAR

Rog has been putting together a 2015 calendar featuring pictures of members' vehicles in a variety of places and 'poses'. Cost of the professionally printed calendar will be £10. Limited availability – only 20 copies will be printed - first come first served. Cheque made out to Dorset Land Rover Club and sent to Caz Hart, Secretary DLRC, Boar Hill Lodge, Charborough Park. Wareham, Dorset, BH20 7EL

DECEMBER CLUB NIGHT – QUIZ NIGHT

The December Club Night will be a quiz night run by club member Jayne Simmons. It will be held at The Bryanston Club, Hillside, Bryanston, Blandford, DT11 OPR. There will be an entry fee for the quiz of £1 per person - proceeds to be given to the winning team. There will also be a little something for 2nd and 3rd prize winners. The quiz will start at 8.00 but food will be served at 7.30. You will need to pre-order your food by Friday 28th Nov – e-mail Caz to place your order (secretary@dorsetrover.co.uk). Adult portion £5, kids ± 3.50 - Sausage, Egg and Chips OR Fish and Chips OR Ham, Egg and chips. There might even be a spot-prize on the evening for the 'best Christmas jumper or xmas decorated person'

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 1

RENEWAL DEADLINE

Elsewhere in the magazine you'll find a membership renewal form to cut out, complete and send off with your subscription. There is a deadline for renewals which must reach the Membership Secretary by Friday 23rd January. If you don't renew then this will be your last copy of The Dorset Rover! So don't delay!

IMPORTANT NOTICE # 2

Don't forget that the deadline for booking a place at the Awards Dinner (to be held on Saturday January 10th) is Friday 19th December. It's bound to be popular, so remember: *Prevarication is the thief of time*!

HALLOWEEN NIGHT LANING RUN

Just heading out of the door when a phone call came in from Caz – "Rog has left half the burgers behind – can you pick some up on the way?" Then a fairly uneventful run to the meeting site apart from the Sat-Nav telling me to turn right when it should have said "<u>U</u> turn to right". Sorry hedge. After finally squeezing between the Ibberton entry markers I was greeted by seven other trucks and hungry crews. A bloodied Rog and the BBQ were at the far end surrounded by dismembered body parts. Simon and family had taken the fancy dress theme to heart and apart from their costumes his truck looked as though he had driven through a Halloween grotto and collected everything. Very impressive - you get the prize.

Due to one of the group leaders being taken ill (hope you are fully recovered now Jim) we split into two groups of four to be led by Rob and Tom. Tom led off and about fifteen minutes later group two – Rob & Lisa, the Addams Family truck, Ron and Angela plus myself and Greenlane Dog followed.

The first lane ran through some appropriate spooky woods with foliage hands and fingers reaching for the trucks and sliding up the windscreens. Hope the lights weren't too obtrusive in your mirrors Ron – I was trying to get enough illumination for the video. For the second lane we had been advised that low box and diff lock were required and as the track steepened downwards I wondered if this was indeed the famed "Road to Hell".

We continued to a short lane entered by a sharp right into a ford. This was a little unsettling in the dark as a depth gauge suddenly flashed into the headlights and the bonnet dived into the murky depths.

We progressed onward through water splashes, between fences and hedges and along open spaces where we seemed to be running along a disembodied track with only blackness to the sides. It became increasingly difficult for the followers to know where they could possibly be - especially as my navigation device battery had refused to charge! I recognised some of the lanes from previous forays but have to admit that as all cats are grey at night so tree lined lanes in the dark are nearly as bad.

There was one lighter moment when a bright star appeared and seemed to be showing the way but it finally revealed itself as a lamp on a pole in the farmyard. No divine guidance then – good job Rob had researched the route well.

We finally emerged at The Clay Pigeon and re-oriented ourselves before going our separate ways. Everyone expressed their enjoyment of the evening and the novel experience of driving the lanes in the dark. Let's hope that the DCC lane maintenance plan does not include street lighting.

Many thanks to all involved in the organisation of a great event especially Rob, Tom and Jim for recce-ing the route and Rog for his culinary skills. *Graham Glover*

MATCHAMS OPEN DRIVING DAY

Open Driving Days are part of the life-blood of the club - attracting new members, spreading the word and of course generating some very welcome funds, and the most recent Driving Day at Matchams in October was very well attended and there was lots of fun to be had for vehicles ofg all shapes, sizes and types. Huge thanks go of course to the 'usual suspects' who braved somewhat inclement weather on the day before setting up all the signage and taping off the really impassable areas, but fortunately on the following day, the sun shone more or less all day, and a stiffish breeze dried things out very nicely (though some people seem magnetically attracted to mud! The Matchams Leisure Park is criss-crossed with some pretty (especially at this time of year) woodland trails, and there are lots of wide-open tracks, slopes and banks and ditches – interspersed with some exceedingly gloopy bomb-holes.

As befits a driving day organised by The Dorset Land Rover Club, the vast majority of vehicles originated from Solihull, although there were one or two from much further east. But the general consensus was that everyone enjoyed themselves hugely, with the club's marshals kept busy keeping everyone safe and occasionally pulling the over-ambitious or just very brave out of the swamps.

The club was very pleased to welcome along not only all the drivers who signed on (60 or so!) but also NFU in the shape of Ben Davies with his caravan and key-ring freebies. He thoroughly enjoyed his day with the club, a\nd it's hoped that that this relationship with NFU (one of our advertisers) will develop further.

Club Chairman Rog Pardy (who gave his challenge truck 'Baby' an outing) was gratified that so many drivers had attended, and said afterwards: "Matchams is a great venue with something to suit all kinds of drivers and vehicles, and The Dorset Land Rover Club is pleased to run these events for everyone who comes along."

One of our newer members - Joe Viveash from Poole - came along and was kind enough to write to the magazine (and even sent some pictures!). Here's what he thought:

I joined your club just before the Matchams Open Day on 19th Oct 2014. Having just procured my first Defender 110, the temptation to get it muddy and see the much coveted tractability in action was high. On arrival everyone was very friendly and welcoming. There was definitely a "go for it attitude" and if in doubt give it a go as there are lots of marshals on call for recovery duties - 3 bips of the horn and they will appear!

So we set off and had a brilliant time going around the area. Finally made the steep hill climb after about 5 goes. Very satisfying indeed. Never experienced such adrenalin rushes at 5mph! So after a couple hours learning the defender we sought out some deep mud and promptly got it stuck. Loved every minute, even the 2 hours later that day cleaning all the dirt off it.

Joe Viveash



Joe's pictures from his driving debut at Matchams

It's not just Driving Days that enthuse newcomers - Jayne Simmons hadn't done any green laning before, and she's now well and truly hooked. Some of her pictures appear in the colour centre pages, but here's what she wrote about her trip in September:

CALLING ALL GREEN LANE VIRGINS!

My very first off road experience with Dorset Rovers was when Ian & I attended a pay and play day at Matchams earlier this year with our previous vehicle, a Land Rover Defender. This was a great day and gave Ian the chance to try out an off road course. This was all fine, but we had also heard of something called Green Laning......

We had some idea of what this entailed but for me this just sounded like driving around the countryside for hours on end and seemingly not doing much at all. We wanted to give it a go and so agreed to join a day out locally with a small group, which was ostensibly to map the green lanes in and around the local area. We were, bizarrely, asked to bring some hedge clippers and any other implements for pruning we may have available – suddenly it sounded like we were off on a gardening expedition! The day was also to be followed by a BBQ at a designated meeting place which was the first of the club's first outing and where the other groups of club members would convene following their respective green lane outing.

We met the other drivers at Corfe in the National Trust Car Park and were soon introduced to Rob, along with Lisa, Rich, Ruth and Toby, who began working out the route we were to take. I still wasn't sure where the hedge clippers came into the equation, but were we told that some of the lanes may be overgrown and therefore we would remove any overhanging branches etc to keep the route clear. I must confess I still really had no idea what the day would entail but everyone we met seemed really nice and friendly and it was a lovely day for a road trip. *Continued overleaf*

We started the drive out of Corfe and it wasn't long before we were 'off road' and driving on a lane which was bumpy and uneven, through long grass and bramble, Daisy (our 2 yr old Parson Russell dog) bouncing along on my lap! And so it went on, through the day, driving small byways and lanes, some more accessible than others, carefully driving along taking care as we drove. We soon realised why the hedge cutters were necessary when a couple of lanes, which had become a little overgrown, required some pruning and maintenance work. This never took too long and soon we would be on our way, driving the lanes once more. We stopped frequently, to view some of the most glorious scenery we have ever seen. In places, we could see for miles and were able to view iconic Dorset landmarks such as Corfe Castle, from places we had never been to before. Soon it was time for a lunch stop at another area of natural beauty and this gave Daisy a chance to run and run, oh and scrounge some lunch and Rob's strawberries!!

The term Green Laning suggests a certain degree of establishment of the routes travelled. The reality, once or twice, was very different. It is an almost surreal experience to be driving along a metalled road, turn off, through a barely perceptible gateway, and find yourself driving along the edge of a ploughed field. The lane, such as it is, comprises a 7 foot wide strip of grass between a hedge and the ploughed area. We also found ourselves driving across the middle of a meadow, from one gate to another, surrounded by cows, with no trace of a track to be seen. But, visible or not, all these tracks and byways exist in law, and if they are not driven, and the driving recorded, we stand every chance of losing access to them.

At the end of the day all the other laners gathered at lbberton Hill for a muchanticipated BBQ and to discuss how many lanes we had all managed to drive and to regale everyone with mishaps that had befallen others on the way (did someone mention hedges and a Discovery, Tom?)

Since this day, we have attended three other laning days. The second was a 12 hour marathon drive across Salisbury Plain and Wiltshire before heading home. Other days have allowed us to experience drives around Dorset, Blandford and beyond and see some absolutely stunning scenery and landmarks we never knew existed. We have met some great people and had a lot of fun. Other future days out will involve more pruning and maintenance, a Halloween run and, who knows, maybe even to enjoy some challenging driving in the snow.

There is of course a serious side to green laning – the lanes and byways need to be driven regularly to ensure they stay open to clubs like ours. They need to be kept clear and regular maintenance is so important to make sure they continue to be accessible. It is also important to report back on those areas which have been abused as sadly, there will always be an element of the public who will drive around making as much mess as possible with not a care for the consequences. There is also the chance to test your recovery skills when, despite being careful, one (or two) of the party get stuck – never a dull moment!

I can honestly say that I have never had such a good time just 'driving around'. I would urge anyone who has not been green laning to come and have a go – at this time of the year there is plenty to do and the help will be much appreciated. It really is a great day out! With thanks to Rob Elliot, Tom Bayford and Jim Welch

Bransgore rtv (a fight to the finish)

Set up day was horrible, wind and rain - but I wasn't there for a change! Well done chaps.

Only 11 drivers signed on. I was double driving Robin's 90 as Bertie was still broken. We stayed in one group which is more sociable and gives more chance for leg pulling and banter. It also gave the fight for trophy places more energy.

Mike and Jason were battling it out for 3rd place SWB and with only 2 points separating them it was going to be fun. Right from the start on section 1, Jase gained valuable points getting past a tricky 7 gate putting more pressure on Mike.

There were 7 sections in the quarry and I threw out 2 in the woods in the morning with a further 1 later to make our normal 10 sections.

I was doing rubbish, getting lost on 2 sections in the quarry but I was having fun. But I wasn't the only one getting frustrated with the unforgiving ground.

By the last section, Mike was leading Jase by 2 points but Jase was leading the championship between them by 2 points leaving them neck & neck. Mike was first up on section 10 and slithered his way through the woods to gate 1. Jase was a couple of places behind and had to watch the end of the section getting dug up. By the time he got there, there were ruts leading to gate 1 and he had to try and power his way through. But he over cooked it trying to stay out of the ruts and hit gate 2, giving Mike the trophy for 3rd.

A great end to the season and I'm thinking some ammunition for some good banter at the awards dinner!

Rog

Before the start of driving at Bransgore, it being Remembrance Sunday, there was a very moving two minutes silence held, with all the drivers in a circle in the autumn sunshine. A very special moment.

Also special - though for very different reasons, was watching Ron Hogg doing his Basil Fawlty impression by giving his V8 a jolly good thrashing after making a big mistake on the first section.

Name Section	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
Ron Hogg	8	7	0	2	8	1	7	0	5	1	39
Robin Dumbreck	1	4	5	2	1	7	6	8	0	9	34
Jason MacDonald	1	6	4	2	0	2	0	8	0	2	25
Rob Shadbolt	7	7	6	9	9	4	8	7	0	1	58
Martin Dover	1	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	8
Rog Pardy	8	5	5	4	0	1	0	1	0	4	28
Rob Jenkins	2	3	6	2	0	2	6	8	0	1	30
James Gray	4	4	6	9	8	7	7	8	0	2	55
James Pinfield	1	5	9	7	8	7	8	1	0	5	51
Andy Palmer	1	7	4	9	8	2	8	8	0	1	48
Mike Webster	8	2	4	2	0	2	7	0	0	1	26

GREEN LANE CLEARANCE

I have at last, after months of work, received confirmation from Dorset County Council that Dorset Land Rover Club can now go ahead and organise and commence Lane Clearance on BOATs, Bridleways, Restricted Byways and UCR's. These works will be carried out in accordance with D.C.C. and D.E.F.R.A. Policies and Procedures.

These lane clearance days will be done under the "GLASS" (Green Lane Association) umbrella, as they have the infrastructure to supply the Public Liability Insurance. We as a club are Affiliated to GLASS and I am also the Dorset Area Representative for GLASS. Solent and District Land Rover Club and the Dorset Series I Club will also be assisting us. Regarding Club members who hold relevant and in date NPTC qualifications these members will be able to use their own tools and equipment in due course; I am currently working with the relevant organisations to work through insurance issues which are yet to be finalised.

I have also arranged for two sets of noticeboards which will be supplied to me as the GLASS Rep; at nil expense to the Club. These noticeboards will be used at either end of the areas where we are working. I, with assistance as necessary, from our Club Greenlanes Officer Rob Elliott will be co-ordinating and overseeing the work. Dorset County Council have also confirmed with me that they are happy to supply road planings, as and when required, these will be delivered to the most suitable access point close to where we are carrying out remedial lane clearance work.

This I believe is a great chance for the 4×4 Community to put something back and considering the cloud on the horizon with the De-Regulation Bill this cannot come soon enough.

TEMPORARY RESTRICTION ORDER LEWELL MILL LANE – BYWAYS 5 & 12 SY73869001 - SY73879025

Dorset County Council's Rights of Way Department have informed me that they will be issuing a Temporary Restriction Order on the above Byways with effect from the 22nd September 2014 for a period of approximately 12 months. This means that there will be no vehicular access to the route and the reason for this is so remedial works and improvements can be carried out as follows:

1. The footbridge is to be repaired and reinstated as necessary.

2. The routes of these Byways are to be re-directed back to the original track which is shown on the 1981 Survey; further details of this will be made available once works have been completed.

I am currently awaiting receipt of the relevant documentation and paperwork which is currently being prepared by D.C.C. Legal Services and appropriate Departments and Agencies.

The result of this is that the Appeal lodged by the Landowner to close these byways was rejected and therefore D.C.C. has decided to carry out the necessary works. This is a good result for those who use these lanes responsibly and shows that our County Council is very much in favour of keeping such Rights of Way open. A direct involvement of this, for us, is that due to financial constraints placed upon our Council we will need to be proactive in working with them to ensure that these routes are kept tidy and in a good state of repair. Another positive impact this may have, is through lane clearance days we will possibly be working in conjunction with other user groups; this can only help to promote good relationships and build a reputation that not all 4x4 drivers are irresponsible and have no regard for the flora and fauna of this beautiful part of the world.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me by email on dorset.rep@glass-uk.org

JIm Welch Rights of Way Officer - Dorset Land Rover Club

MANNINGTON RTV

Getting towards the end of the season, perhaps some drivers had decided that the championship was beyond reach, but whatever the reason fewer than usual signed on at this popular site. At the end of a competitive and at times tricky day, it was clear that with just Bransgore to go, Martin's position was looking unassailable, though Jason's efforts had put him in contention for a final podium place.



Mannington RTV pictures and results table

LWB	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL	RANK
James Pinfield	0	0	0	1	0	2	8	0	1	7	4	9	32	1
SWB														
Martin Dover	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	6	3	1	13	1
Jason McDonald	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	7	3	1	15	2
Rob Jenkins	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	7	4	1	16	3
Rog Pardy	0	0	0	6	1	0	1	0	1	7	3	1	20	4
Mike Webster	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	7	6	1	22	5
Ron Hogg	0	6	1	1	0	0	8	0	1	3	3	1	24	6
Tim Cox	0	6	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	7	4	1	24	6
Matt Ricketts	0	0	0	1	2	2	1	3	1	7	3	5	25	8
Nigel Carter	0	6	0	6	1	0	8	0	6	7	3	4	41	9
LEAF	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL	RANK
Andy Palmer	3	5	6	1	1	5	1	1	1	7	3	4	38	1

Readers will undoubtedly have enjoyed the first part of Martin Dover's latest travel saga as he and Jan spent some time on the Isle of Man (as reported in the previous edition of The Dorset Rover) and so here's the continuation of the story (with colour pictures on page 20)

Travels in my Defender Camper 2014 Part 2 – the Emerald Isle.

Or... Amazing landscapes and strange surprises.

In the last edition of Dorset Rover Jan, Anya and I had reached the ferry port at Douglas on the Isle of Man and were bound for Belfast on the high speed ferry. Well, it wasn't as fast as it should have been because one of the V16 CAT diesels had a broken crankshaft so with two engines pushing at one side and only one at the other we crabbed our way across the Irish Sea to Ireland.

Following our arrival in Belfast we did something we would not have dreamed of doing twenty years ago – I drove down the Falls Road. This is one of the streets that has large murals depicting the troubles and I stopped and took photos of some of the murals. These murals have created an industry where cab drivers do murals tours and give a commentary on what was depicted. Belfast is pretty much closed on a Sunday so we headed north out of the city towards the Antrim Coast. Our first objective was the coastal path north of Whitehead that I had seen on BBC's Countryfile programme last year. This was constructed in the 1800's to encourage tourists to the area and the path was built out of the cliff through caves and across bridges. It had fallen into disrepair but since the programme the path had been rebuilt and reopened.

We very rarely stay on campsites and much prefer doing our own thing but sometimes needs must and for our first night on Irish soil we stopped near Larne at a super site to do laundry duties. Next morning it was the Antrim Coast Road which totally lived up to expectations as it hugged the coastline and passed through some pretty coastal villages. We did the tourist bits and I walked over the Carrick a Rede rope bridge before moving inland to look at the famous Beech Lane near Ballymoney. Ballymoney is also home to the Dunlop family and we went to see the memorial to Joey Dunlop who I had cheered to success in the TT races of 1983. He, inevitably, died in a motorcycle crash whilst competing in a road race in Estonia in year 2000, RIP Joey you were "Yer Maun". We then returned to the coast and to one of nature's wonders - the Giants Causeway. The car park for the Giants Causeway visitor centre is about a mile from the actual site and a bus runs a regular service up and down the hill. We, therefore, had to wait until after the service had stopped at 9pm to take the truck down for the essential photo. That night we wildcamped in the car park for the Dunluce Castle and whilst Jan made dinner I explored the area that was accessable with Anya. There is a huge cleft in the cliff below the castle called the Mermaids Cave and in the half-light this was really spookv.

Next morning we headed west to Downhill Beach which is open to vehicles and I drove for miles along the almost billiard table smooth sand. It is really strange, however, how light the steering goes, especially if you haven't lowered your tyre pressures. We then rejoined the tarmac and made our way to the Loch Foyle ferry and the crossing into Southern Ireland. Our first destination was Mizzen Head which despite being in Southern Ireland is the furthest point north in Ireland. *Continued on page 21*



ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER Saturday January 10th 2015 Arrive from 7.30pm to start eating at around 8.00pm.



This year's Awards Dinner will take place at The Chequers Inn, 75 High Street, Lytchett Matravers BH16 8BJ

We have booked the whole of the much-revamped conservatory area, and so there will be ample room for up to 50 diners. The meal will comprise a two course meal from the Carvery. There will be three choices of meat (and of course a vegetarian option) with seasonal vegetables, followed by a choice of dessert (typically Sticky Toffee Pudding or Home-made Fruit Crumble with a choice of cream, custard or ice-cream), followed by coffee or tea. The all-in price per diner will be a very reasonable **£15.00** (no increase on last year's two-course menu!). There is no children's menu as such, though a 'small appetite' booking can be made if you wish to bring children (though it is stressed that this is **only** available for **children**, at a cost of £12.00). The Club will be providing a modicum of table wine!

We will also be holding our traditional raffle and donations of prizes will be gratefully received; these can be brought along on the night.

To book a place, please complete the tear off form overleaf & return it with your cheque, made payable to **Dorset Land Rover Club Ltd**, to: Caz Hart Secretary DLRC (Dinner) Boar Hill Lodge Charborough Park Wareham Dorset BH20 7EL Places are limited to 50, and your booking (and payment) must be received by Friday 19th December 2014

ANNUAL DINNER & PRIZEGIVING

BOOKING FORM

Remember - the deadline for Booking is Friday 19th December 2014, and you must include payment with your booking form

Name of member	Full carvery (Please tick)	Vegetarian (Please tick)	'Small appetite' NB Children ONLY	

TOTAL @ £15.00 each =

TOTAL @ £12.00 each =

TOTAL TO PAY =

I enclose a cheque payable to Dorset Land Rover Club Ltd for



Please fill in the names for whom the booking is being made; make sure you have clearly indicated your choice of meal option; make sure you have enclosed a cheque for the total amount payable!

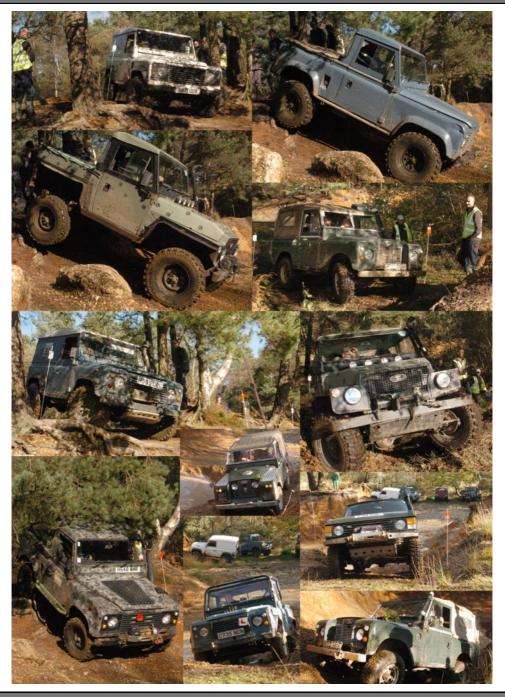
Send your completed booking form and cheque, to arrive by Friday 19th December 2014, to: Caz Hart, Secretary DLRC (Dinner) Boar Hill Lodge Charborough Park Wareham Dorset BH20 7EL



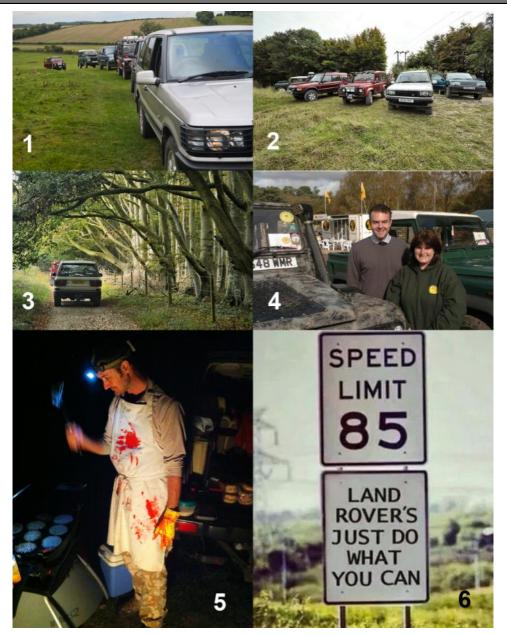
MATCHAMS OPEN DRIVING DAY



BRANSGORE RTV



RANDOM PICTURE PAGE!



1, 2 & 3 Green laning trip in September
4 Ben Davies (NFU) with Caz at Matchams Driving Day
5 Rog cooks up a treat on the Halloween GL run; 6 Rob spotted this sign....

MARTIN'S TRIP TO IRELAND



 Parked in County Kerry; 2. On the beach again; 3. Follow the signs!;
Wild camping at Clifden; 5. Another beach; 6. In the mountains 7. Green laning near Sligo; 8. County Donegal; 9. The Giant's Causeway; 10. Beech Lane

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM



Membership Renewal Form 2015 Dorset Land Rover Club Ltd.

(Membership is for you, plus partner, plus children up to 18 yrs of age.)

Please complete <u>all</u> sections on <u>both</u> sides of this renewal form! Your renewal must be received by the Membership Secretary by 23rd January 2015

Name
Address
Post Code
PhoneMobile
Email
Annual Subscription: please indicate clearly which level of membership!
Electronic PDF Magazine £20.00 p.a.
Or Paper copy Magazine £25.00 p.a.
Please make your cheque payable to Dorset Land Rover Club Ltd. and write your address on the back and send it, <u>with this form to</u> :
DLRC Membership Secretary 132 Northmoor Way Wareham Dorset BH20 4EU please complete overleaf as well!

THE DORSET ROVER

sup3

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM (contd)

Membership Renewal Form (contd) Dorset Land Rover Club Ltd.

(Membership is for you, plus partner, plus children up to 18 yrs of age.)

Under the terms of our Child Protection Policy, publication of images including Children attending our Land Rover Events is prohibited unless we have their parent/guardians consent to do so. Please tick the box if you are happy for images taken of children in your care to be used in the promotion of our club.

I hereby give permission for images of children in my care to be used in the promotion of DLRC *(please tick the box to indicate agreement)*

Signed;

Print Name:

Date:



If you are an e-member (or a paper member, come to that!), you can renew and pay (*via* PayPal) electronically. Go to the website and follow the tabs!

DATA PROTECTION

Please tick this box if you are happy for the club to use the information in this form to contact you regarding forthcoming events. (We will not pass any of this information on to anyone else!)

Please feel free to add any comments or suggestions:

Thank You for re-joining

sup4

The Emerald Isle (continued)

We had started coming across signs for the "Wild Atlantic Way" and it turned out that this was a new-for-2014 fully signed route which precisely followed the west coast that we intended to follow - Jan's job as navigator therefore got a lot easier. If you are travelling the route northwards you follow the (N) signs or, as we did, the (S) signs for southbound travellers. We were immediately struck by the enormity of both the landscapes and seascapes we encountered. This, and the relative lack of traffic, made travelling the Wild Atlantic Way a visual feast and a very enjoyable experience. The diversity of terrain we came across was amazing and we kept remarking on where we had encountered this type of landscape before. This included, almost predictably, the Scottish west coast, the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales and the Northumberland hills – but less predictably Canada's west coast of British Columbia and the barren wastes of Novascotia! As before we wildcamped in some fantastic locations, mostly by the beach with Anya having some lovely runs before bed chasing rabbits through the dunes – her idea of heaven!

Just south of Sligo "it" happened. I am not sure if "it" had happened all of a sudden or if "it" had been a gradual process, but whichever, and for a change, "it" was good! When I first put the Allisport intercooler and tweaked the injector pump on the 300Tdi I was astounded by how it had improved the vehicles performance. With the camper loaded 30 to 50mph in fourth gear had previously taken 20 seconds and after the mods this had fallen to just over 14 seconds (using the same bit of road and the same foot to the floor technique). After my engine issues on the way to Portugal in 2012 the 300Tdi just never felt as sprightly (!) as it had, and on the mountain climbs on the Spanish and French motorways I sometimes had to go right down the box to make progress. After Sligo I became aware that on gradual climbs I could stay in fifth gear, provided I kept above 50 mph, and on steeper terrain I could generally be in a gear higher and going 10 mph faster than I had been able to before - for some reason the engine torque had improved considerably.

Just south of Galway we headed inland to the amazing landscapes of The Burren. This has massive exposed limestone pavements with a considerable number of antiquity sites – the most famous being the Poulnabrone Dolmen where in excess of 30 "bits" of bodies were found. I must admit that we were rather surprised at the small scale of the stone tomb as in the photos we had seen it looked huge but it was in fact only about twelve feet long, six feet wide and five feet high.

We crossed the Shannon Estuary between Killier and Tarbert by ferry and entered the more well known tourist areas such as the Dingle Peninsula and the Ring of Kerry. The roads did get busier but never too congested to be enjoyable. There are two routes to Dingle from the north – the relatively low main route and the Conor Pass – the highest drivable pass in Ireland. I decided on the latter as it sounded more interesting. I didn't realize that there were any restrictions on the pass until I passed a couple of signs informing drivers that the max weight on the road was 2 tonnes and the maximum width 6 foot 6 inches. Ummmm, I thought I was pushing it a bit as we weigh in at just under 3.5 tonnes and my width is just over 7 feet. I decided that if we were challenged I would pretend that I hadn't seen the signs. All was going well, the road was wide and the gradient not too steep and after I was committed (you may say I should be) I had to keep going onward and upward.

The road got narrower and narrower and steeper and steeper ending up just a single car width dug into a cliff-face - with pull-ins so you could pass opposing vehicles. I had the overhanging cliffs against the near side of the camper which made judging how close I could get to the cliff difficult, particularly when I had to allow opposing traffic to squeeze past – then there was the issue of cyclists also going uphill at about 5mph!! We eventually made the top of the pass and, with a sigh of relief, I pulled into the viewpoint car park. I heard several people mumbling about how the feck did that get up here. Suffice to say once was enough and if we travel that way again I will avoid taking the camper over the Conor Pass!

At one of our lunch stops we came across a Toyota Series 70 camper owned by a Swiss couple who have taken a year off work to drive around the world. Ireland was part of their European trip and was a shakedown before having the truck shipped over to Canada. We checked out our different living arrangements and there's were far more utilitarian than ours, but well thought out and executed. Their truck, like my 300Tdi, had been chosen as it was the last of Toyota's non-electronic engines and, despite being a 2006 model, it had only covered 70,000 kms. They were amazed that mine now had over 240,000 kms under its tyres.

West of Dingle town is a lovely drive around Slea Head. The road is superb with photo opportunities, and pull ins, every few hundred metres – well worth doing if you are in the area. This is also where the films Ryans Daughter and Far and Away were filmed. Just east of Dingle is Inch Beach which, again, is open to traffic and we had fun belting down the 6km sandbar playing in the softer sand where others drivers feared to tread.

The Ring of Kerry lived up to its reputation as a scenic route with stunning vistas all the way around. The only issue was the traffic. As we were doing it anticlockwise we were going the same way as the tour buses and, even in the 130, I kept catching them up. Apparently doing it clockwise is even worse because you then end up meeting the buses head on which can be awkward on the narrow twisty roads.

One interesting place we visited in Kerry was Valencia Island, which sounds as if it should be off the Italian coast rather than Ireland. This is where the first viable trans-Atlantic telegraph cable from Newfoundland was landed in 1866 which was followed by 100 years of use before communication satellites took over. There is also a quarry on the island which has been working slate for centuries. The Louvre in Paris, the Houses of Parliament and many other famous buildings are roofed with slate from Valencia quarry.

South of the Ring of Kerry is the Beara peninsula and this, though less well known, is also fantastic. At the extreme west point of the peninsula is the only cable car in Ireland which allows visitors, and livestock, to access the off-lying island of Dursey. It made me smile that the people being carried were instructed that they had to close the door themselves before they were winched 30 meters high across to the island (I'm not sure who does it when its only livestock being transported)!

Our time in Ireland was coming to an end and we were now on the south coast and we completed the Wild Atlantic Way in the town of Kinsale. We then headed east to Rosslare and the ferry back to Pembroke in Wales.

Our Land Rover related adventure was not, however, complete.

We were one of the last vehicles to be loaded onto the ferry and by the time we got up to the information desk the ship had sailed. This meant we could not put Anya in the kennels which were on a different car deck as the area had now been sealed. We were therefore escorted down by a lady called Patricia. Whilst we waited for the door to be unlocked I told her we often had a group of people at the side of or vehicle some wanted to talk about Anya and some to ask questions about our interesting camper which is based on a Land Rover. Patricia went on to tell me about one of the captains who had recently driven to Australia in his Land Rover before returning home and selling it. I asked if he was called Simon Maple and Patricia was amazed that we knew him. Simon's Defender was an ex Southern Electricity 130 which was prepared for him by Douglass Motors. We had been in contact with him and also followed his adventures on his "Trip to Oz" website. Unfortunately Simon was not on board as he does three weeks on and three weeks off but Patricia treated us to complementary tickets to the Club Lounge and, as we approached the Welsh coast, she sought us out and asked if we'd like to go up to the bridge. We didn't need to be asked twice and we were soon up with the Captain-in-charge and we watched in awe as he took the massive vessel up Milford Haven and inched it in gently into its berth at Pembroke Dock. I had a lot in common with the captain and, in the lulls between his actions, we exchanged photos of our dogs, motorbikes and yachts.

Having looked up at ferries from the deck of my yacht for many years it was really interesting looking down on boats from 11 stories up! This had been a fantastic way to end our trip and it would not have happened if it hadn't been for a strange set of coincidences and my Land Rover.

Water crossings: 7 ferries, 2 big bridges, 2 very big bridges and a multitude of smaller crossings Mileage driven: 2363 Fuel consumption: 25.6mpg – pretty dammed good I reckon Mileage on breakdown truck: 173 – well on the bright side it saved me nearly 8 gallons of fuel *Marin Dover*



A LAND ROVER LAMENT

To be sung to the tune of 'The Wild Rover'

I've owned a Land Rover for many a year And I've spent all my money on spare parts and beer But now that it's working, I'll drive a green lane And afterwards re-do the prop-shaft again

Chorus: And it's no, nay, never; no nay never no more Will I buy a new "project"; no never, no more

I went to a garage I used to frequent And I told the mechanic my half-shaft was bent; I gave him some money to order the part And the bill when he fixed it just broke my heart.

Chorus.

I trialled on the side-slopes, I trialled in the mud And when I scored zero, the feeling was good; But each time I trial-led, the next bit fell off And the engine expired with a bang and a cough.

Chorus.

I've tried using waxoyl to tackle the rust, And I've tightened the cambelt – the book says you must; It's cost me a fortune, there's nothing that's cheap But even with all that I won't buy a jeep.

Chorus

The wipers won't wipe, and the spark plugs won't spark And as for the headlights, don't drive in the dark; And if driving through water, you're in for a soak: I'm a Land Rover owner, so I'm piston broke.

Chorus (to be sung until you feel better...)





Sometimes you need a sense of humour to own a Land Rover...

Land Rovers have the best fuel consumption of all 4x4's - That's because they are always being towed by something else.

Q: What is the sport-version of a Landy?

A: The driver wears Nike shoes

Q: How do you make a Landy go faster uphill?

A: Throw out the passenger.

Q: What goes on pages 4-5 of the Landy's user's manual?

A: The train & bus schedule.

Q: What do you have to do if your Landy gets in the way of a swarm of killer bees? A: Stop pushing and take refuge inside the car

Land Rover has a special this month!! If you buy one, you get a dog for free!! Then you do not have to walk home alone

But it could be worse you know...

Guy goes to Toyota Head Office in Toyota City Japan and gets in the lift.

A voice asks '"Where would you like go?"

'Recalls department.' he answers.

'Which floor?' the elevator replies!



CLUB MERCHANDISE



We're always open to ideas for Club Merchandise, and our popular 'lines' are doing very well. If you've already ordered

something, hopefully you've paid and collected! Our new supplier is able to supply the usual range of shirts, sweats and fleeces. We have also got a few remaining Special Edition 25th Anniversary mugs (dark green with yellow printing, and they make tea taste much better....) - bargain price of £5.00

Just to be going on with though, at the moment, clothing consists of:

Polo shirt with logo, flag & website	£20.00
Summer-weight fleece with logo, flag and website	£29.50
Hoodie with zip with logo, flag & website	£28.00
Hoodie (no zip) with logo, flag & website	£26.00

In the meantime, if you have any other ideas for club merchandise that you think might be good sellers (and good advertising for the club!), please contact Caz with your ideas. And she's the person to contact to place an order as well.

DLRC CALENDAR 2015

pages in future editions!

The venues for club nights have not all been decided yet - look out for details in future magazines and on the websites (and don't forget that if you have a suggestion for a club night venue, let Caz know!). Similarly, not all RTV venues have been confirmed yet - further details will be published in due course. And inevitably there will be changes and additions - so watch these



4 th January	New Year Green Lane Run TBA					
NB - no club meet in January						
10 th January	Awards Dinner Chequers, Lytchett Matravers					
18 th January	RTV Matchams (provisional)					
23 rd January	Membership Renewal Deadline					
6 th February	Club Night – Skittles Evening Venue TBA					
8 th February	RTV Mannington - Inter-Club event					
1 st March	RTV Crossways					
6 th March	Club Night – Maps & Mapping Venue TBA					
29 th March	Driving Day Matchams – TBC					
2 nd April	Club Night Venue TBA					
2 nd – 6 th April	Social Weekend (Easter Weekend) Venue					
	and details TBA					
	Convoy for Heroes Stratford					
26 th April	RTV Venue TBA					
-	Bournemouth Preservation Soc Heritage Run					
1 st May	Club Night Venue TBA					
2 nd – 4 th May	Abbey Hill Steam Fair					
10 th May	Piston Broke Challenge TBC					
24 th May	RTV Venue TBA					
29 th -31 st May	Bournemouth Wheels					
5 th June	Club Night – Film Night/Lecture Venue TBA					
6 th -7 th June	Wessex Classic Cars @ Lulworth Castle TBC					
14 th June	Ladies Day Venue TBA					
20 th -21 st June	Malvern 4x4 LR Show					
21 st June	RTV Venue TBA					
27 th -28 th June	Newnham Charity Event RTV					

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DLRC CALENDAR 2015

3 rd July 4 th -5 th July 5 th July 11 th -12 th July 18 th -19 th July 19 th July 24 th -26 th July	Club Night – Outdoor Event Venue TBA Stevens Cider Festival TBC Club Green Lanes Day Wimborne Heritage Show Langport RTV Venue TBA DLRC Summer Gala Weekend Details and venue TBA
7 th August	Club Night
7 th -9 th August	Purbeck Rally
15 th -16 th Aug	Yesterday's Farming TBC
23 rd August	RTV Venue TBA
4 th September	Club Night – Activity & venue TBA TBA
5 th -6 th Sept	Dorset County Show
11 th -13 th Sept	Harmans Cross Show
19 th -20 th Sept	LRO Show TBC
27 th Sept	RTV Venue TBA
2 nd October	Club Night Venue TBA
4 th October	L2B TBC
9 th October	AGM Venue TBA
10 th -11 th Oct	Mendips Challenge
18 th October	Driving Day Matchams TBC
6 th November	Club Night - Activity & venue TBA
15 th November	RTV Bransgore TBC
4 th December	Club Night Venue TBA

And obviously if you want to arrange an event or organise something, let a member of the committee know and we'll do everything we can to help.

Not listed yet are the club's regular green lane trips. These will be added in due course and will be published in the Green Lane section on the website. They can't be organised too far in advance because of the need to observe possible TROs and also short-term climate-induced factors!





RTV CALENDAR 2015

Please be aware that dates and venues could be changed dependent on weather and ground conditions, and availability of venues. For up to date information, including any changes, please see the website!

PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE BEFORE TRAVELLING! 18th January MATCHAMS (provisional) 8th February MANNINGTON (see note below) 1st March CROSSWAYS 26th April TBA 24th May TBA 23rd June TBA 19th July TBA 23rd August TBA 27th September TBA 15th November Bransgore



The RTV scheduled to take place at Mannington on 8th February will feature an interclub competition (as well as our own league event) - invited clubs will include Hants & Berks LRC and Somerset & Wilts LRC

URGENT MESSAGE TO ALL RTV DRIVERS

To all RTV drivers. Please be aware that as a member club of the ALRC we have to abide by the regulations set out by them. Please make sure your vehicle complies or you might be excluded from taking part in trials.

The rules are in the green book (Rog still has some if you need one) & on our website & the ALRC website. They're very easy to stick to so please comply.

If you want to access StreetMap to find the venues, go to the club website, then go to categories > trial results > trial site list and click on the appropriate link.

18th January MATCHAMS (provisional)

Matchams Leisure Park, Ringwood BH24 2BT

8th February MANNINGTON

A very popular site, with a great variety of terrain. A good one to attend if it's your first 'outing'. Can have some 'interesting' watery sections! If you're using a SatNav, **BH21 7JX** gets you more or less to where Burt's Lane meets Horton Road. The entrance to the venue is on the other side of this crossroads.

Important information for competitors

If you wish to take part in events please take note of the following points:

- 1. Vehicles must have front and rear recovery points
- 2. Seatbelts
- 3. The battery must be secured
- 4. Any load must be securely tied down
- 5. The hand brake must work
- 6. No passengers under 14 years (except for Tyros)

7. MOT or photocopy of your MOT must be shown (if an MOT is required for your vehicle)

- 8. An additional return spring is required on mechanical throttles
- 9. Steering linkages will be checked

10. Rear springs on coil-sprung trucks to be jubilee clipped (or similar) to prevent springs dislocating

11. Wheel spacers are not to be used

12. A 24mm, 3 strand, 8 ton tow-rope in nylon or polypropylene and suitable shackle to be carried for recovery user

13. Fire extinguishers are advised but not essential

THESE THINGS WILL BE CHECKED

Will vehicles please be at the site by 9.15am for scrutineering Anyone arriving after 10.00am will NOT be allowed to compete

You are reminded that you should check by phone before arriving at an event. If you arrive and there are no club officials then the event has been cancelled and no attempt should be made to drive round the site.

Site Directions

For a list of current site directions and up-to-date event information, please visit the club website: www.dorsetrover.co.uk, or contact a committee member.

SPECTATORS

It's never really mentioned that much, but the committee would like to remind you all that spectators are always = welcome at any event. Feel free to bring along any = friends or family to help make the trials an even better day out. Children are welcome at all sites and dogs at T



most, so long as they are kept under control. Please be aware that at most events people will be taking photographs which could be used in web or paper-based publications.





GR: SY828869

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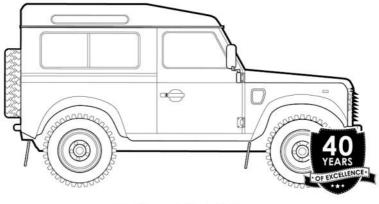
Our two large restaurants provide a wonderful range of meals to suit all tastes and pockets. Ranging from snacks, starters, steaks, fresh fish, vegetarian meals and specials of the day, complemented by a fine selection of wines from around the world. We also offer a choice of 9 beers, lagers and ciders including 4 real ales (alternating regularly) Over the years we have had 450 guest ales.

When you've driven though the Moreton Ford (SY806895), or pottered along the Jubilee Trail (SY 788884- SY 809882) why not have a well earned break at The Seven Stars?





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DPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK