

***Clwb Land Rover Gogledd Cymru***  
***North Wales Land Rover Club***

# DRAGON'S DRIVEL

February 2012

*And we're off! 2012 RTV and CCV Championships are under way once more and the Annual General Meeting is just around the corner. Plenty to get stuck into, so come along and be a part of it all.*



**Events Hotline:** Always ring : 07768 958906 before setting off.

**Club Night:** 8:00 pm on the third Monday of every month at the **Faenol Fawr Hotel, Bodelwyddan**, which is beside the Glan Clwyd (Bodelwyddan) Hospital.

# [www.nwlrc.co.uk](http://www.nwlrc.co.uk)

## NWLRC OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEE

### Officials & Committee Members

Chairman.....	Mike Goodall.....	01244 571566
	<a href="mailto:mike.goodall@yahoo.co.uk">mike.goodall@yahoo.co.uk</a>	
Secretary.....	Stuart Guy.....	01244 547940 07933 795275
	<a href="mailto:stuart.guy@btinternet.com">stuart.guy@btinternet.com</a>	
Treasurer.....	Jackie Lewis.....	01492 650004
Membership Secretary.....	Dave McKay.....	01824 780893
	<a href="mailto:dmckay@btconnect.com">dmckay@btconnect.com</a>	
Social Secretary.....	Gareth Wheaver.....	01745 337189
Competitions Secretary.....	Colin Davies.....	07778 540020
	<a href="mailto:davies735@btinternet.com">davies735@btinternet.com</a>	
Non-Competitive Secretary.....	Dave Whormsley.....	07776 310344
	<a href="mailto:dave&amp;kim@talktalk.net">dave&amp;kim@talktalk.net</a>	
Child Protection Off.....	Stuart Beeston.....	07977 075520
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Minutes Secretary.....	Denise Ponton.....	01352 720529
	<a href="mailto:denise_ponton@yahoo.co.uk">denise_ponton@yahoo.co.uk</a>	
Scrutineer.....	Barry Marshall.....	01352 733436
	<a href="mailto:barcar3@googlemail.com">barcar3@googlemail.com</a>	

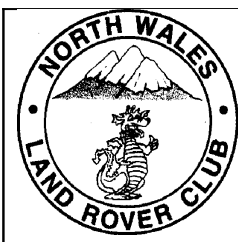
### Committee Member

David Mitchell.....		01745 860265
	<a href="mailto:david@landcraft4x4.co.uk">david@landcraft4x4.co.uk</a>	
Dave Lewis.....		01492 650004
Club Shop.....	Pat MacKenzie.....	01824 780893
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### Non-Committee Members

Trophies Officer.....	Dave Lewis.....	01492 650004
Equipment Officer.....	Colin Davies.....	07778 540020
	<a href="mailto:davies735@btinternet.com">davies735@btinternet.com</a>	

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# DRAGON'S DRIVEL

Newsletter of the  
NORTH WALES LAND ROVER CLUB Ltd

**Editor: Dave McKay, [dmckay@btconnect.com](mailto:dmckay@btconnect.com)**

Bryn Iâl, Ffordd Rhiw Iâl, Llanarmon-yn-Iâl, Denbighshire, North Wales. CH7 4QE

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## Editorial

And so another year and another season kicks off. The Awards Night was a great success, with some new twists provided by Gareth Wheaver. The handing out of the 2011 trophies marked the final action of the last Championship and set the scene for this year's. With new drivers coming through and some established competitors moving into CCV from the RTV, this year's Championship is going to be an interesting one to watch.

I've been up to the first RTV & CCV trial at Gwyddelwern this morning to collect and process the membership renewals and the new memberships. I couldn't stay, sadly, because I had to come back and finish the Drivel, but it was a great to see such a good turnout for the CCV. By comparison the RTV was down in numbers. A lot of the regular RTV competitors had one reason or another that they couldn't be there today, but there was still enough there to make a competition out of it. And the weather was dry!

Keep the renewals rolling in – if you're going to renew at a trial or Club night make things simpler and faster for yourself by bringing along a completed form, and if you are paying cash try to bring the right money.

I'm standing down from Membership Secretary at the AGM in March 2012 when my replacement will be voted in. I can't remember exactly how many years I've done it for now, but I think it is time to let a fresh pair of eyes take over. I think a reasonably regular rotation of the officers holding posts is a good thing for the Club. It is easy to get stagnant in the same post for too long. We already have a great candidate lined up as my replacement and I know you'll be well looked after in the future.

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## **New Members**

**Dave McKay**

As of 29<sup>th</sup> January we have exactly 100 members in the Club, which is a good figure for this point in the year. In early February 2011 we had 102 members and in 2010 we had 83. So far so good. It was great to have a decent number of renewals this year that came in early by post – it makes the morning of the first trial of the year a bit more manageable.

Please welcome these new members to the Club.

1854	Mr. Sean Awbery	Full	Flintshire
1856	Mr. Barry Scott	Full	Cheshire
1859	Mr. Owen Francis-Jones	Full	Denbighshire
1859	Mr. Richard Wynne-Williamns	Full	Denbighshire
1857	Mr. Daniel Lokko	Associate	Denbighshire

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I would like to start my first Dragon's Drivel update of 2012 by offering congratulations to our 2011 trophy winners:

- Colin Davies – Club Person of the Year
- Wyn Williams – CCV Champion
- David Lewis – RTV Champion (for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year!)
- Gina Williams – Marshal of the Year (It's the first year that this trophy has been awarded. Thanks to Derek Jones for suggesting this award and for providing the tankard trophy.)

The trophies were presented at the Annual Awards Night on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January by Club founder member John Nuttall (Club Membership No. 2!) and I am pleased to report that we had a great turn-out at this event. Many thanks for the efforts of Gareth Wheaver, our Social Secretary.

### Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March at the Faenol Fawr Hotel, starting at 8:30pm.

Inside this Drivel you will find the AGM notification (with agenda) as well as a separate form for your nominations for Committee posts, and any new rule proposals that you would like to suggest.

At this year's AGM Dave McKay will be standing down as Membership Secretary and Barry Marshall will be standing down as Club Scrutineer. Thanks to Dave and Barry for their efforts and contributions in these vital roles over many years. (*Handsome lads too, the pair of them. Ed.*)

### 2012 Events

The website has been updated with dates of green laning events, RTV and CCV trials and other events throughout 2012. Please take a look to see what you fancy taking part in this year.

### Interclub launch

We will once again be running our Interclub event over the Late Summer Bank Holiday from 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August.

If anyone would like to help (even in a small way) or have any ideas as to making it even better please contact me or any other Committee member with your ideas.

### Comp Safari

A discussion regarding the Comp Safari took place at last October's Committee Meeting. Although the 2011 Comp Safari was a success the Committee took the decision not to run a Comp Safari in 2012.

A decision regarding a Comp Safari for 2013 will be taken later in the year.

### Membership Renewal

Don't forget to renew your Club membership **before** 1<sup>st</sup> March to take advantage of the preferential rate, and save yourself £5.00 off a full membership.

### Club Night

Please support your Club by attending the Club Night on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. Having a healthy turn-out for these nights is important because as well as providing a means of interacting with other Club members outside of the trial environment it shows prospective members that there is a social side to the Club. For many new members the Club night is their first glimpse of the Club.

### Committee Meetings – It's Your Club

As a Club member you are fully entitled and very welcome to attend the Committee Meetings of the Club which take place on the first Monday of each month\* at 8:00pm in the Faenol Fawr Hotel, Bodelwyddan.

(\* If the first Monday of the Month happens to fall on a Bank Holiday, such as in May, the Committee Meeting will take place on the second Monday of that month.)



The Faenol Fawr Hotel, Bodelwyddan

## **Rules of NWLRC Drivers Championship 2012**      **Colin Davies**

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At a recent meeting of the Competition's Sub-Committee the following rules were drafted for the 2012 championship.

These rules include a number of clarifications for questions that have been asked over the past year.

**Please take time to read and understand them.**

Each competitor must be a member of NWLRC, i.e. Championship points will only be awarded to NWLRC Club members .

To qualify for the championship each Competitor must set out at least one trial during the course of the year. 100 points will be awarded for setting out a trial. A maximum of 200 points, i.e. for setting out two trials, will be taken into account for the Championship.

Setting out may be split into 75 points for a Saturday and 25 points for a Sunday - mixed and matched - this is at the discretion of the Clerk of the Course.

In the event of a tie 100 points awarded for winning a trial over rides 100 points awarded for setting out.

The best 7 of 9 trial scores to count for the 2012 championship - the number of trials to be at the discretion of the NWLRC Committee.

All competitor vehicles must comply with ALRC rules.

Drivers may not be permitted to change vehicles during the course of a trial.

Championship points will be awarded on overall position regardless of vehicle class.

The nominated 2012 NWLRC Championship stewards are:

- Neil Heyward CCV
- Dave Mitchell RTV

The following prizes for the 2012 CCV Championship have been generously donated by G & E Contractors:

£100 voucher for the CCV driver with the most clears at any 2012 trial.  
£150 voucher for the overall winner of the CCV Championship.

Good luck to all of competitors for the 2012 season and many thanks to all of the officials and marshals that make these events possible.

## **War of the Roses 2102**

**Neil Heyward**

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Dates for this years War of the Roses are as follows.

- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June the campsite opens.
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June Tyro Trial.
- Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June RTV & CCV.
- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July ***The 25th War of the Roses***
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July the campsite closes.

Entry fees for the RTV & CCV are £15 per event pre-booked (that is, before 1<sup>st</sup> May) or £25 on the day.

Tyro trial entries are £10 pre-booked [before 1<sup>st</sup> May].Or £15 on the day.  
I have some entry forms (and I will be at most trials).

### Directions to the Camp Site

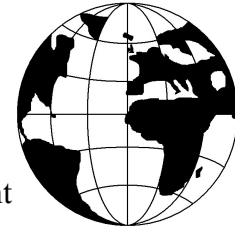
- Leave M6 motorway at junction 36,join A591[T] towards Kendal.
- After approximately 3 miles turn left onto A590[T] sign posted Barrow-in-Furness.
- After turning right at a roundabout and climbing the steep hill of Lindale by pass, turn first left after the crest of the hill,then turn at the T junction.
- Continue straight across first cross-roads, then turn right at T junction,
- and then second left towards Wood Broughton.
- Take the second left at a small grass triangle junction,and follow the road down to Cartmel racecourse.

Note: Please only use this approach as the centre of Cartmel village is very difficult for caravans and trailers.

Cartmel racecourse: Map Ref SD 378 790



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**SNOWDONIA ADVENTURE DRIVES in 2012**

***We at the Land Rover Experience Cheshire & Snowdonia would like to invite you bring your own vehicle and join us on one of our day long Snowdonia 4x4 Adventure Drives through the beautiful mountains and forests of North Wales.***

Usually starting in the Bala area, it will take you through stunning scenery with spectacular views along forest tracks and hillsides, all on private land, available only to LRE Snowdonia. These Drives will be open to any 4x4 Fully Legal Road Taxed Vehicle, (no quads, no vehicles on trailers). We recommend that you should have attended an off road driving course before taking part. You will need to use four wheel drive, but the tracks chosen will be suitable for all Land Rovers, and all other makes of 4x4s are welcome. There will be alternative routes in places to take into account the differing capabilities of the vehicles and skills of the drivers. Whilst these drives are suitable for all levels of experience, you should be familiar with your vehicle's controls. All drivers must hold a full driving license and insurance for the vehicle they are driving, and all occupants must be seated on a proper seat and wearing their seat belt, if fitted. They start at around 9.30 a.m and run until approximately 4 p.m, so you will need lots of fuel and a packed lunch. Due to the size (5000 acres) and terrain it is not suitable for spectators who are not in a participating vehicle. Dogs must be under control at all times. You will be travelling with a group of like-minded Land Rover owners led by experienced marshals. Whilst this is not a training day, they will be able to give you advice should you require it.

**Adventure Drives Dates are as follows**

8 <sup>th</sup> January	12 <sup>th</sup> February	11 <sup>th</sup> March	8 <sup>th</sup> April
13 <sup>th</sup> May	10 <sup>th</sup> June	8 <sup>th</sup> July	12 <sup>th</sup> August
9 <sup>th</sup> September	14 <sup>th</sup> October	11 <sup>th</sup> November	9 <sup>th</sup> December

**Adventure Plus Days**

For those looking for something more challenging we will be running some Adventure Plus Days. These are for people who have already attended several Adventure Drives and are looking to move on. You will need more aggressive off road tyres, substantial recovery points, in fact a vehicle equipped for serious off roading. We will take you to more challenging terrain, and although, as always, the aim is to get as much driving as possible during the day, there is a greater possibility of spending longer periods stuck, or assisting other who are stuck. Dates are:

**Adventure Plus Dates are as follows**

29 <sup>th</sup> January	26 <sup>th</sup> February	25 <sup>th</sup> March	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	
27 <sup>th</sup> May	22 <sup>nd</sup> July	30 <sup>th</sup> September	28 <sup>th</sup> October	25 <sup>th</sup> November

All these dates, Adventure and Adventure Plus, are provisional depending on sufficient numbers of bookings being received. All vehicles must be in an appropriate condition (any correctly maintained Land Rover should be sufficient)

The cost of the Snowdonia 4x4 Adventure and Adventure Plus will be  
**£50 per vehicle.** (£ 41.67 + Vat £ 8.33 = £ 50-00)

**The site is available for private events, please call to discuss.**

*Attendance should be pre booked with, and payment made in advance to,*  
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Colwyn Bay  
January 2012

Dear Dave,

*I feel as a former Editor I owe you a bit of an apology, in particular I attended the unveiling of the plaque to Maurice Wilks at Ysgol Dwyran, but it coincided with the start of my latest round of Chemo, and so I never got round to writing it. You covered the background to the event in the December Drivel, so what happened on the day?*

*Land Rover had supplied "Huey" whilst Conwy Land Rover arrived with an Evoque Coupe, so we had the oldest and the newest. There were a number of people there, including media, with all the pupils, local guests and a number VIP guests, so the hall was fairly full.*

*The day started with Huw Thomas, the head teacher, explaining the events leading up to the day. Fortunately the letter seems to have landed on the right desk, and Jaguar Land Rover agreed something should be done. Enter Martin Peach. Martin started as a textile designer, joined the motor industry and ended up as Chief designer for the Land Rover colour and materials studio. He now runs Peach Design so was the obvious person for JLR to turn to.*

*He explained first the thinking behind the design, a road looping through the countryside, with a dotted gold line depicting an alternative off road route. At points along this route he inserted little plaques explaining the relevant facts. He then went on to describe how he had made the plaque itself, about 6 ft high and a mosaic of glass pieces.*

*By now we were getting a bit stiff squeezed into child sized chairs, so we went outside for the grand unveiling. And who better to do that than Stephen Wilks, who had come up from southern England to unveil this plaque to his father.*

*At the time he was about eight, so has many memories of riding round in new and often experimental Rovers, cars as well as Land Rovers, and even remembers engineers driving up from the factory to swap them over. He had many tales of the testing itself, although some of them don't rest too happily today. Much of the time seems to be spent driving over beaches and sand dunes punctured with shouts of "Soft bit ahead, I'll have to charge it. Hold tight!"*

*Not very PC in the 21st Century, but life was different in those days.*

*The only slight disappointment is that the main plaque is on the corner of the School building, so will not be easily seen out of hours behind a locked gate. It is not a good idea to be caught exploring a school, particularly if you are a typical Land Rover Owner!*

*There are two smaller plaques on the gateposts one explain the history, the other showing the sites of Wilks's history in the area.*

*All in all a good day out, but more to the point a great man has at last received a bit of the recognition he deserves.*

*For this thanks are particularly due to the pupils of Dwyran School, their head teacher Huw Thomas, all those who supported it locally and everyone at the various parts of Jaguar Land Rover who made it all possible.*

*Yours,  
Dave Cuthbert.*



Martin Peach (left) and Stephen Wilks in front of the plaque.

**The 2012 Annual General Meeting of the  
North Wales Land Rover Club Limited**  
will take place on  
**Monday, 19 March 2012 at 8.30 pm** at the  
**Faenol Fawr Hotel, Bodelwyddan, LL18 5UN**

*The entrance to the Faenol Fawr Hotel is next to Bodelwyddan Hospital*

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

- Apologies for Absence
- Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- Matters Arising
- 2011 Club Officer and Committee Member Reports
- Election of 2012 Club Officers & Committee
- Election of Directors
- Proposals
- Any Other Business

Any Club rule change proposals should be received by the Secretary **at least 5 days prior to the meeting** (no later than Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012).

Nominations for election to the Committee may be accepted on the night.

Stuart Guy  
Secretary  
Clwb Land Rover Gogledd Cymru ~ North Wales Land Rover Club  
07933 795275  
[secretary@nwlrco.co.uk](mailto:secretary@nwlrco.co.uk)

## **Land Rover Funds Emergency Response Bikes     Dave McKay**

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Even more British Red Cross first aiders will be geared up for emergencies, thanks to Land Rover UK, who donated four extra Cycle Response Units (CRUs) this week. Two of the brand new bikes will be based in South Wales and will be the first of their kind in Wales. The new additions bring the total CRUs donated by Land Rover UK up to a fleet of 30, along with 30 UK-based donated vehicles, a mixture of Defender, Discovery and Freelander models.

The bikes are part of Land Rover's three year global initiative of 'Reaching Vulnerable People Around the World' which was launched in August 2010. They have been helping to strengthen the ability of the Red Cross to respond to emergencies and people in need of assistance.

Developed together with 2x2, Land Rover's bicycle manufacturer, the bikes will work in pairs and in tandem with a Land Rover vehicle, as a mobile medical unit. Each CRU is fully equipped with a defibrillator, advanced first aid kit and resuscitation equipment, enabling first-aiders to respond to incidents swiftly.

British Red Cross first aiders will now be able to effectively navigate through urban and crowded areas, reaching people faster in times of emergency with life-saving care. Since their launch the CRUs have already been operational at major UK events such as the Great North Run, the Essex Country Show and they even attended an on-site emergency at the Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials, within 24 hours of being rolled out nationwide.

Laura Schwab, Marketing Director for Land Rover UK said; "We are extremely proud to be contributing to the vital work of the British Red Cross. It's absolutely fantastic to see the Cycle Response Units (CRUs) reach that magic number of 30. The cycle response units fit perfectly with our 30 previously donated all-terrain vehicles, forming a mobile medical unit, especially in areas where access is limited. Well done to all those UK dealers who raised money to fund the units."

Richard Hankins, Head of Event First Aid for the British Red Cross said; "Our 30-strong fleet of cycle response units will now enable us to respond at even more events, ensuring that we reach more people in need of critical care. In an emergency, every second counts, and being able to cover all sorts of terrain and move through crowds swiftly could make the difference in medical crises such as cardiac arrest."

The collaboration between Land Rover UK and the British Red Cross is part

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of the major global partnership between Land Rover and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), announced in August 2010. It involves Land Rover supporting national Red Cross societies in 15 countries, with each country adopting a priority programme. This initiative builds on the help and funding Land Rover have donated to the Red Cross in recent years.

In 2011, Land Rover Experience provided 27 driver training places for emergency responders, in preparation for off-road driving in severe weather conditions. In addition, Land Rover provided e-tutorials, off-road driving materials for British Red Cross staff and volunteers.

In 2010, Land Rover donated 30 defibrillators to go in the 30 previously-donated vehicles, and loaned vehicles to the British Red Cross over the severe winter weather period, helping them reach vulnerable people in affected areas across the UK.

In 2008, as part of Land Rover's 60th Anniversary and the 100th anniversary of the Royal Charter being granted to The British Red Cross by HM King Edward VII, the company donated 60 vehicles to the charity. Half of the vehicles were allocated to projects around the world and the other half were distributed throughout the UK.



Two of the Cycle Response Units

November 23rd

Well it's almost 4 months since we flew home to Wales after completing the first leg of our journey. We arrived back in Quito (Ecuador ) on Tuesday night 15th Nov after 27 hours travel. We had booked a night in the same hostel we had used before expecting to collect Freddy on Wednesday but although all the work had been done the exit papers for the truck had not arrived and it was not until Friday at 6.30 that we actually received the paper work and then after paying \$250 each for the privilege. Also found out that although P&Js document gave them 30 days in Ecuador ours was only for 5 days. As it was late and dark we headed back to the hostel for one more night.

Next morning we had breakfast at 7.0 and headed of for our first camp at Otovalo where we stayed 2 nights and left early Monday heading for the Columbian Border, arriving there at lunchtime. Passport control was OK but the vehicle documents were a problem, as we suspected bribes had changed hands at some point and it took a while to get the document authenticated and we had to pay another \$25 each. So it took about 2 hours to exit Ecuador, but entering Columbia was no problem. We set of and stayed at a hotel on the main road amongst mountain and jungle which we had used on our last visit, I made ham and vegetable omelette for us with twelve eggs!



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Well it's Wednesday now and I am sitting in a covered picnic area in a national park near Buga, looking down and across a valley. It's 5.15 and the sun is going down. It's still about 25 degrees, chicken casserole for supper tonight yummy!

Thursday 24th. Slow travelling today and arrive in Solenito a very touristy town in the heart of coffee country. We stay at Plantation house, a backpackers place run by an Englishman. We can't get the trucks in so we park outside and sleep in them. It's very safe and quiet but we pay to use the facilities. There are lots of Europeans passing through it's nice to hear some English spoken. Town is very colourful and we climb up 250 steps to a view of the town.

Friday, we go on a tour of the plantation with a talk first describing the various stages of the coffee process. After an hour we walk down a wet and muddy track to the plantation. The tour is in Spanish but we understand the basics of what's going on. As well as coffee plants there are bananas, pineapples, oranges, lemons and huge bamboo trees. He finally roasts, grinds and makes a pot of coffee (it doesn't come any fresher). We decide to stay another night and get an early start tomorrow.

# STEWART'S 4X4 CENTRE

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**MANY THANKS - STEWART**

Saturday 6.30am set off for Bogota. Long slow journey, bad roads, lots of landslides and police diversions. At one roadblock Pam persuades the nice policeman to let us go along a closed road with the lorries that are removing the landslips rubbish. It saves us a long detour and is quite safe. Arrive in Villeta about 4pm find a hotel and at last an ATM that lets us get money out with our new no charge card for the first time.

We arrive on the outskirts of Bogota where we are supposed to meet up with the local Land Rover club but we have come in on the wrong road, but after help from some local girls and their phone we eventually meet up with Alexandro and Fabio then meet Carlos and Oscar the two people we have been talking to. We drive up to a viewpoint overlooking the huge city, then it's off to a typical roadside restaurant for some authentic food.

We try two types of soups, one very thick with a huge ham bone in, the other thinner with a quarter chicken in then a huge platter of meats chicken, pork, beef, various spicy sausage, ribs and even black pudding, plus fried potatoes. All very tasty but there were a lot of people at our table so it didn't go far. When we finished Oscar took us back to his place where we could sleep on his drive and we had full use of his house.

There was even WiFi which was great. All the other guys went off on a green lane drive.

Monday. Catch up on emails and talk to Jean and Brian and then Alexander. We are told that there is a Club meeting at 3.30 to welcome us, but first Oscar shows us where the Salt Cathedral is. There are various options but we choose the main visit plus the mine visit. It turns out to be a fantastic place, all underground. We expected to see a church of some sort built out of salt but it consists of a labyrinth of tunnels and a huge effigy of the fourteen stages of the cross of Jesus which were all made of salt stone by the miners who used to work here. The main Cathedral is a huge cavern with a massive cross at one end. You can only appreciate the enormity of this place by seeing it. The mine tour is hilarious: most of it in the pitch dark, with us all in a line hands on each others shoulders tripping and banging our heads as we went (we did have helmets on). We then simulated lighting and setting of dynamite with sound effects which deafened, and smoke.

The whole visit was an unforgettable experience.



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We head back to Oscars but are told the meeting is now 4.30 then it's 6.00 then it's 7.00 this is typical Columbian organisation, we head off for the venue which is a huge ice cream restaurant owned by a friend of Oscars when we arrive there is no one there so as we haven't eaten we buy Epanadas

(pasties) from a takeaway, eventually we get in and Land Rovers start to turn up mostly Santanas but real straight and tidy lots of kit on them they are all over our Landys but mainly under the bonnet, defenders are rare and very expensive here a new 110 is about £45000.

It starts to rain so we go in. They want to see the pictures of our journey so far which our shown on a big screen after taking an age to set up. It's now getting late so they present us with 2 T shirts each plus stickers. We are overwhelmed by the generosity. I can only offer them a half dozen stickers but I promise to send some when we get home. It's 11.0clock now and Oscar insists on going home even though people are still arriving, so it's outside for a quick photo shoot and then off we go.

Tuesday. We decide to move on today but first we take Oscar and his wife and mother to a pancake restaurant, fantastic food and ice creams, a big meal and costs less than £40.00 for seven people including drinks and coffees. We say our good byes and drive off arriving in Villadeleiva late and in the dark, but eventually find a nice hostel on the outskirts where we can sleep in our trucks in the grounds, very safe.

Wednesday 31st. After breakfast we wander into town, very pleasant with a huge open square in the centre with the ubiquitous church at one end. We walked down the main street for bread then back up to the Hostel for coffee before moving of about 12 o'clock. Heading for the town of Barichare takes about 4 hours, all the roads are slow and lots of diversions and huge potholes. We probably average about 30kph camp-site is a farm we park in front of the buildings,we are told that the toilet and shower are a 300mtr walk up a very steep farm track,but later we are told we can use a toilet in the barn right by the trucks, we still have to climb the hill for a cold communal shower but it's a very warm day so no problem, a quiet night.

Next morning we walk into town for provisions. It's another very pleasant town with the typical square surrounded by shops and restaurants. We have cappachinos and cakes in a very modern looking Panaderia. We also buy bread for lunch costs about £8.00 all in for four. Back to the camp then off for a scenic walk across a winding mountain track, fording streams as we go. Takes about 3 hours and is very hot. When we arrive at the tiny village of Guane it's ice cream time while we wait for a local bus to take us back to camp.

The square is almost deserted but when the bus arrives hordes of people appear, locals and tourists, but we get seats until a little old lady gets on and

muggins gives up his seat and stands the rest of the way! Ah well my good deed for the day? Back in Barichare pick up some pork sausage and pork steaks for supper and walk back to the farm. I barbecue the meat, Jackie scrambles eggs with onion and peppers.

Friday 2nd December. Bucuramanga is not too far on our map but it is early afternoon when we arrive, don't want to stop here so we head for a touristy place in our guide book called Giron. We stop to ask directions and are told to wait a minute, then a small lorry comes out and they lead us in the right direction finally pulling over at their turn off and pointing the way.

When we arrive it seems a very tacky place. We ask a young lad for directions and he insists in getting in to show us the way, after a maze of narrow streets and really tight turns we arrive at a hostel recommend in our guide, but it's very expensive in Columbian terms £45 per room so we try to find our way out of town intending to move further north.

But two police officers on a motorbike pull us over and offer to guide us out of the town. Once out they pull over and ask where we are heading when Pam tells them about the expensive hostel they insist on taking us to a hotel which they say is clean cheap and safe.

It turns out to be a truckers hotel but it's very nice, and clean and only £20.00 per room. A truck stop restaurant across the way provides a huge Pizza for £8.00, and a tasty breakfast of eggs bread and coffee for £1.75 each.

## **STEWART'S 4X4 CENTRE**

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APPRECIATED - HOPE TO SEE YOU IN THE NEAR FUTURE**

**MANY THANKS - STEWART**

## 50 Years at Eastnor Castle

**Dave McKay**

Land Rover is celebrating 50 years of using the Eastnor Castle estate in Herefordshire as its centre for off road testing and development. Tucked away in rural Herefordshire, this historic piece of English countryside is still an important tool in the research and development of new Land Rovers as well as offering a completely unique Land Rover driving experience to members of the public.

In 1961, Land Rover first chose the 5000 acre Eastnor Castle estate located near Ledbury, Herefordshire to assess the off-road credentials of their vehicles. Half a century on, the tradition continues, with Eastnor playing a pivotal role in the research and development of Land Rover's outstanding all-round capability and class-leading off road performance. As well as the cars themselves, Eastnor has been instrumental in developing an impressive collection of Land Rover technologies; such as Anti-lock Brakes, Adjustable Air Suspension, Electronic Traction Control, Hill Descent Control and Terrain Response – many of which were world firsts in the 4x4 sector.

The tradition of testing all Land Rover models at Eastnor continues to this day. The Range Rover Evoque was the most recent model to complete its off-road apprenticeship and a large part of the Evoque's technology, including MagneRide, was proven on the estate, where ride dampers were tested extensively. Terrain Response offers drivers optimal vehicle set-up (electronic and mechanical), and performance, under a variety of off-road conditions.

Eastnor has been used as not only an ideal off-road engineering ground, but since 1989, as an off-road learning centre for the emergency services, explorers, humanitarian societies such as the British Red Cross and, more recently, the general public.





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## Green Laning Contact Page

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This list is to enable Club Members to make contact with each other to arrange *ad-hoc* (non-Club) Green Laning events.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Tel.</b>	<b>Mobile</b>
Dave Whormsley.....	01244 547341..... <a href="mailto:dave&amp;kim@talktalk.net">dave&amp;kim@talktalk.net</a>	07776 310344
Adam Gardner.....	01978 843533..... <a href="mailto:AdGard007@aol.com">AdGard007@aol.com</a>	07751 299298
Stuart Guy.....	01244 547940..... <a href="mailto:Stuart.guy@btinternet.com">Stuart.guy@btinternet.com</a>	07933 795275
Dave McKay.....	01824 780893..... <a href="mailto:dmckay@btconnect.com">dmckay@btconnect.com</a>	07875 551097
Dave Shearer.....	01978 263001 ..... <a href="mailto:david.shearer124@btinternet.com">david.shearer124@btinternet.com</a>	07716 123100
Matt Stevens.....	01244 547976..... <a href="mailto:mattnju@talktalk.net">mattnju@talktalk.net</a>	07764 190607
Neil Heyward.....	01978 820258..... <a href="mailto:neilheyward101@btinternet.com">neilheyward101@btinternet.com</a>	07530 048548
Mike Weigh.....	01244 550920 <a href="mailto:mikeweigh@talktalk.net">mikeweigh@talktalk.net</a>	
Martin James.....	0151 348 4358 <a href="mailto:mcct.james@btinternet.com">mcct.james@btinternet.com</a>	
Darryl Colson.....	01978 855057 <a href="mailto:darryl.colson@tiscali.co.uk">darryl.colson@tiscali.co.uk</a>	
Dave Cumming.....	01352 715607..... <a href="mailto:cumm.1@talktalk.net">cumm.1@talktalk.net</a>	07704 417644
Steve Tudor .....	01244 543957 ..... <a href="mailto:alan.tudor@o2.co.uk">alan.tudor@o2.co.uk</a>	07702800319

*All North Wales Land Rover Club members are welcome to add their contact details to this page for inclusion in future editions of Dragon's Drivel.*

**To add yourself to this list please contact the Editor.**

## **NWLRC Costs**

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### **Trial (e.g. RTV, CCV, Tyro)**

Costs for participation in a Trial organised by the NWLRC are as follows:

£20.00 per competitor if received by the Competitions Secretary prior to the day of the Event.

£25.00 per competitor if paid on the day of the event.

Note that only Full Members (of NWLRC or another recognised club) can compete at a trial. One Associate Member (aged 14 or over) may sit in as a passenger in a front seat.

### **Costs For Participation In A NWLRC-led Green Laning Event:**

£10.00 to pre-book attendance (sent to Non-Competitive Secretary).

Note that **only pre-booked attendance** can be accommodated for green laning events and that vehicle numbers may be restricted.

This is so that the organisers within the Non-Competitive Committee can schedule enough group leaders to be able to split the participants into small vehicle groups, enabling a sympathetic and responsible use of green lanes.

Some of the events planned for 2012 will have a night's optional camping.

## **Dragon's Drivel – Copy Deadlines**

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Deadlines for articles and advertisements for future editions:

<b>Edition</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
April 2012	April 5 <sup>th</sup>
June 2012	August 15 <sup>th</sup>
August 2012	August 15 <sup>th</sup>

For costs to advertise in the Dragon's Drivel, please contact the Editor.

## **NWLRC Trial Dates 2012**

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### **Championship: 9 events, best 7 scores to count**

- **Always** check the Event Hotline 07768 958906 prior to setting out for an event.
- For details of trial site locations please see the Site Locations web page
- For trial results, see the Results web page
- Please arrive **no later** than 09:30 on the day for vehicle scrutineering

Jan 29	Trial No. 1 Gwyddelwern
Feb 29	Trial No. 2 Gaerwen
Mar 25	Trial No. 3 Pant-y-ffordd
Apr 22	Trial No. 4 Bryn Gwyn
May	Non-Championship Event - Details TBC
June 17	Trial No. 5 Harlech (Birthday Rally)
July 22	Trial No. 6 Gwyddelwern
<b>Aug 24-27</b>	<b>- NWLRC Interclub, Plas Einion &amp; Gwyddelwern</b>
Sep 23	Trial No. 7 Llangefni
Oct 28	Trial No.8 Froncysyllte (near Chirk)
Nov 25	Trial No.9 Ceirgeiliog

### **Championship Trophy Sponsors**

**RTV: Landcraft Trophy**  
**CCV: Peter Gleave Trophy**

The **Club Person of the Year** trophy is sponsored by  
**BL & CA Marshall, Hauliers.**

The Tankard for **Marshal of the Year** has been donated by  
**Derek Jones.**

**G & E Contractors** are donating these two prizes:  
£100 voucher for the CCV driver with the most clears at any 2012 trial.  
£150 voucher for the overall winner of the CCV Championship.

## NWLRC Non-Competitive Dates 2012

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### NWLRC Non-Competitive Dates for 2012

Pre-booking is essential.

*Forms will be available on-line and in the paper Drivels*

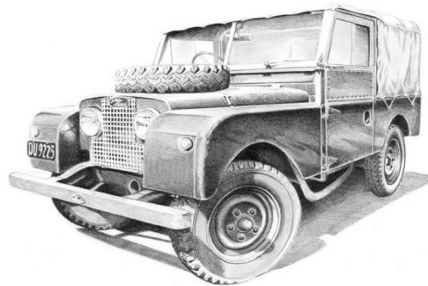
- 1 4th March
- 2 1st April
- 3 6th May Camping on 5<sup>th</sup> & some laning *en route* to site
- 4 10th June
- 5 15<sup>th</sup> July
- 6 Green Laning at the Interclub
- 7 15th & 16th September, a camping special
- 8 14th October

We've set out the calendar for 2012, and these are the dates we have selected. They avoid trial dates and things like the Caerwys Show. We've been busy behind the scenes, and have driven some new lanes ahead of this year's season to see what they're. We have also verified them as legal with the authorities. We still have some more new lanes to check out. Once we've done that we'll put the locations to the dates above.

If you have any questions about the Non-Competitive activities of the Club, please contact any member of the Non-Comp Sub-Committee.

Dave Whormsley (Non-Comp Secretary) .....[dave&kim@talktalk.net](mailto:dave&kim@talktalk.net)  
Dave Cumming..... [cumm.1@talktalk.net](mailto:cumm.1@talktalk.net)  
Matt Stevens.....[mattnju@talktalk.net](mailto:mattnju@talktalk.net)  
Mike Weigh.....[mikeweigh@talktalk.net](mailto:mikeweigh@talktalk.net)

*Phone numbers are listed on the Green Laning Contact Page, as usual.*



## **CLUB CALENDAR**

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### **February**

6<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting, Faenol Fawr, 8:00pm

20<sup>th</sup> Club Night, Faenol Fawr, 8:00pm

29<sup>th</sup> Trial No.2 Gaerwen

### **March**

4<sup>th</sup> Green laning, details tba.

5<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting, Faenol Fawr, 8:00pm

19<sup>th</sup> **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**, Faenol Fawr Hotel, 8:30pm

25<sup>th</sup> Trial No. 3 Pant-y-Ffordd

## **LOCATIONS**

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Gaerwen : Take the “old” A5 across Anglesey, and then turn north in the middle of Gaerwen. The site is at GR SH478728..

Pant-y-Ffordd, Llanarmon-yn-Ial: The entrance to the site is at SJ 189 541. From the centre of the village of Llanarmon-yn-Ial take the B5431 (Llandegla Road) heading south. After about a mile take the ninety-degree turn left onto Pant-Y-Ffordd. Look out for the yellow arrows. From the south take the B5431 Llandegla Road from the A525. After about 2 miles take the ninety-degree turn right onto Pant Y Ffordd. Look out for the yellow arrows..

*Entries for all competitions should be received by the Competitions Secretary by the weekend **before** the event. That's not a pre-booking, its a normal booking. Anything else is a late booking!*

***Please get your booking forms in on time.***

**Colin Davies  
Trigfa  
Holyhead Road  
Lanfairpwll  
Anglesey  
LL61 5SZ**

Please arrive on site by **09.00**; the scrutineering queue will close at **09:30**. You will need your Club Card, Scrutineering Log Book (if you have one) and your ALRC Log Book for CCV entries.

**Check the Event Information Line for changes  
before attending Any Event on: 07768 958906**