February 2015

NOOZE

The Suffolk Land Rover Owners Club Magazine



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NOOZE

is the "mouthpiece" of the

Suffolk Land Rover Owners Club

SLROC welcomes any comments, contributions or complaints from our members. Send your contributions to:

Andy Jeff

51, Woodbridge Road

Newbourne, IP12 4PA.

Tel: 07801 470055

Or email me at:

nooze@slroc.uk.com

COPY DEADLINE:

15th of the preceding month at the very latest please.

SLROC uses CB Channel 7

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We would like to thank **BETTAPRINT Woodbridge Ltd** For their help in producing Nooze

SLROC Supports both national and local 4x4 response groups

Cover Picture

Simon Cullum creating a splash at the November driving day in Newbourne!

Nooze News!

The coldest part of the year is now upon us and dare I say it, there's been no significant snow yet here in the east of England. It's often at this time that we think of summer holidays and warmer climates. This month's edition of Nooze is no exception with a double dose of Land Rovering adventure in Africa with James and Liza spending time on a caravanning trip in South Africa and the next instalment from Rob and Ally who have now reached the Congo in their trip through the continent.

There's also a report from Bugs and Kevin and their exploits that led them to win the recent winch trial at Snuggs Pit. It was a thumping event, more so for some than others and carries on the fun of great events being held at this venue. It's also useful to note that the night winch trial usually held at Snuggs on the first Saturday in March is this year a regular daytime winch event and will be held on Sunday March 8th - further details are inside!

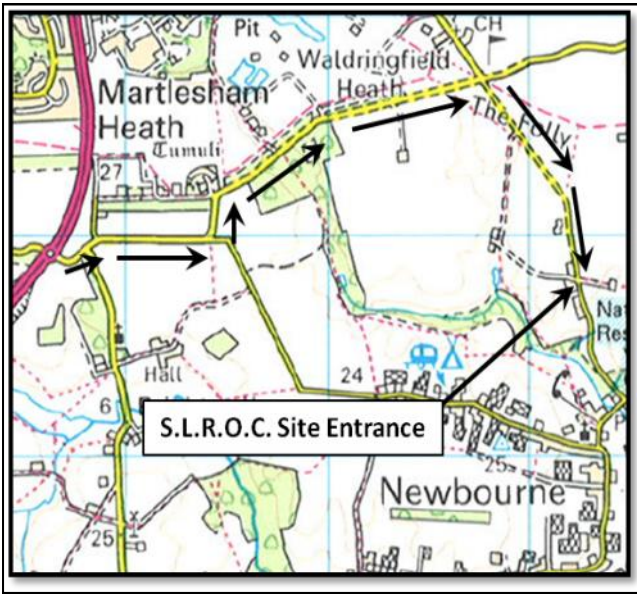
Keeping with the competition theme, the first trials of the year at Newbourne are on the first weekend of February and details were in last months Nooze. Which brings me neatly to the 'Nooze Archive' that we now have on our web site. Since producing Nooze in both printed and electronic formats, we've been building up back copies 'online' and have now given you the ability to access them via a dedicated web page. So if you need to refer back and you can't locate you copy, go to the club web site and hover over the 'Nooze' tab!

Another printed archive that we've gained this month are a few back copies of LRM and LRO, or at least that's what we thought it was going to be. John Ward, a long time friend of David Roots and his family was having a bit of a clear out and has donated magazines that cover the last 24 years of Land Rover articles. It's an amazing 'library' and as you can imagine says something about more or less everything Land Rover. If you want to access this amazing archive just drop me a line or give me a call.

So for now, keep the articles coming in and read on!

All the best... **Andy**

Directions to the Newbourne club site



The club has it's very own off-road driving site which we use monthly for weekend events, and competitions. The site is situated to the east of Ipswich, near to the village of Newbourne. Strict rules must be adhered to when using the site, to protect the safety of all users. Please keep your speed down around the village, and especially on the access track which has a 5mph limit. See you there!

Badwell Ash



OS sheet 155 grid ref TL 000 693

Snugg's Pit



OS sheet 155 grid ref TL 826 421

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Chat From the Chair

Just before I get into my February Chat From the Chair I'd just like to say how nice it was to see so many members at the Mince Pie Driving Day at the end of last year and once again to thank Maureen and Norman for the fantastic spread of food they laid on.

So we continue on into 2015, this month we kick off with the first trials of the year with the clubs most popular weekend of trials, the Day into Night trial on the 7th Feb. and the first tyro of the year on the 8th. Pre-booking is looking very healthy with double figures for both events. Help is always needed at these events so if you're interested in helping out just turn up on the day and make yourself known, as you might guess, you can never have too many observers and don't worry if you haven't done it before, you'll be teamed up with a marshal who will show you the ropes until you feel confident.

Looking ahead to next month we have the Clubs AGM. Following positive feedback from last year's meeting it will once again be held at the club site at Newbourne during the lunch break of the March Driving day on the 15th March. The AGM will follow the usual format with reports from the Treasurer and Membership Secretary as well as a summary of the past 12 months and forthcoming year from myself. It's also the time for the members to vote who they would like to stand on the committee. If you're interested in having a hand in how the club is managed and run and would like to give something back then why not put your name forward to join the committee. Nominations of candidates for election to the committee must be received by the 1st March 2015, nominations should be sent to the club secretary at secretary@slroc.uk.com. If you would like more details about being a committee member or have any specific question, please don't hesitate to give either myself or any of the current committee a call, contact details can be found at the back of Nooze.

Right I'd better get this sent off to *Ed* as I have to head off to the garage to finish rebuilding a couple of diffs. Some of you will recall I decided to teach myself the correct way to rebuild differentials, it's been a satisfying process all in all. The first two have now done approx 2000 and 1000 miles and still seem to be problem free. It's my intention to swop out the rear diff around Easter time and see how the first one that I rebuilt looks. Fingers crossed it should be ok and I'll start putting pen to paper for a write-up.

Happy Landrovering

Chris.

EVENTS PLANNER 2015

This planner is intended as a guide and as such any event may be subject to change.

When	Club Event	Where	Org
Feb 7th	**Day into Night CCVT & Camp Over**	**Newbourne**	**T. Gant**
Feb 8th	**Tyro CCVT**	**Newbourne**	**C. Finbow**
Feb 22nd	Driving Day	Newbourne	M. Whitting
March 8th	**Single Vehicle Winch Trial**	**Snuggs Pit**	**D. Rolfe**
March 15th	Driving Day & AGM *(12:30-1:30pm)*	Newbourne	C. Finbow
March 29th	**CCVT**	**Badwell Ash**	**D. Rolfe**
April 18th	1St Training Day & Camp Over	Newbourne	P. Corps
April 19th	Driving Day	Newbourne	TBC
May 16th	**Novice Winch Trial & Camp Over**	**Newbourne**	**TBC**
May 17th	Driving Day	Newbourne	J. Smith
June 13th	2nd Training Day & Camp Over	Newbourne	P. Corps
June 14th	Driving Day	Newbourne	TBC
July 25th	3rd Training Day & Camp Over	Newbourne	P. Corps
July 26th	Driving Day	Newbourne	TBC
Sept 6th	**CCVT**	**Badwell Ash**	**M. Whitting**
Sept 26th	**Tyro CCVT & Camp Over**	**Newbourne**	**M. Whitting**
Sept 27th	Driving Day	Newbourne	TBC
Oct 24th	**"Ladies" Tyro CCVT & Camp Over**	**Newbourne**	**C. Finbow**
Oct 25th	Driving Day	Newbourne	C. Finbow
Nov 8th	**CCVT**	**Snuggs Pit**	**TBC**
Nov 22nd	Children in Need Driving Day	Newbourne	H. Jeff
Nov 29th	**Single Vehicle Winch Trial**	**Snuggs Pit**	**R. Lambourne**
Dec 27th	Mince Pie Driving Day	Newbourne	D. Rogers

*****Events requiring Pre-Booking are in bold type*****

Driving Days - **£10***

CCVT and Tyro Trials - still only **£15 Pre-Booked**

CCVT and Tyro Trial - Arrive & Drive (where permitted) **£20**

***Don't forget: It's only a fiver for each extra driver**

EVENTS PLANNER 2015

This planner is intended as a guide and as such any event may be subject to change.

When	Show	Where	CoC / Org
April 11th – 12th	Custom Car show	Stonham Barns	TBA
April 25th – 26th	Mid and West Suffolk Show	Stonham Barns	TBA
May 23rd – 24th	Land Rover Spring Adventure	Harrogate	N/A
May 27th – 28th	Suffolk Show	Trinity Park	C. Finbow
June 20th – 21st	Vintage Rally and County Fair	Goodrich Park	N. Warden
July 4th – 5th	Long Melford Show	Long Melford	TG + JO
July 11th – 12th	Country Fair, Wings & Wheels	Heveningham	R. Heather
31/7 - 2/8	Land Rover Fest	Billing	N/A
Aug 16th	Classic Car Show	Stonham Barns	TBA
Sept 13th	Club Open Day	Newbourne	H+C+A Jeff
Sept 19th – 20th	Henham Steam Rally	Henham Park	R. Heather
Sept 19th – 20th	LRO Show	Peterborough	C. Finbow

Single Vehicle Winch Challenge 8th March 2015 @ Snugg's Pit

Snugg's Pit is a heavily wooded site and has much to offer drivers who enjoy powering up long hills and dodging between trees, there's also open areas of soil heaps and streams. With trees at every turn this is a fantastic venue for this type of winch event.

Each team will consist of two team members and one vehicle, the trial will be run in two classes "Class One" for trucks with multiple winches and additional traction aides and "Class Two" for vehicles with single front mounted winches and no additional traction aides.

Pre Booking for this event is via the Club Forum or compsec@slroc.uk.com . Remember pre-booking entrance fee £25 or Arrive and drive £30, please remember ALL competitors must be club members. (pre-booking closes 2 weeks prior to the event to allow time to arrange the event insurance)

The day will begin at 9am for Scrutineering, followed by a prompt 10 am start (sorry, no late entries) and be prepared for a full day's winching aiming to finish at around 4pm.

Directions: Take the A131 or A134 to Sudbury and head for Ballingdon at the crossroads with the Kings Head Public house turn onto Bulmer Road heading for "The Belchamps"

Follow the road for about half a mile and then turn right onto "Finch Hill" follow this road over a small bridge and then follow the road round the sharp left hand bend. Continue on past the turn for Foxearth and take the next turn on the right signposted "Belchamps". The entrance to Snugg's Pit is about half a mile on the right. OS sheet 155 Grid ref TL 826 421

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Notice of Annual General Meeting

14/01/15

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Suffolk Land Rover Owners Club Limited will take place on Sunday 15th March 2015 at the Newbourne SLROC site commencing at 12:30pm to transact the following business.

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 16th March 2014.

3. Reports.

- Chairman's Report.
- Membership Secretary's Report.
- Treasurer's Report.

4. Election of officers.

(Officers serve 3 years before re-election is necessary)

Chairman	-	Chris Finbow	(re-election due 2016)
Vice Chairman	-	Andy Jeff	(re-election due 2017)
Treasurer	-		(re-election due)
Secretary	-	Michael Whitting	(re-election due 2017)

5. Election of Committee Members to serve for the following year.

Nominations for any of the above posts to be passed in writing to the registered address or via email to secretary@slroc.uk.com by 1st March 2015.

6. Any Other Business.

All items for AOB to be sent in writing to the registered address or via email to secretary@slroc.uk.com by 1st March 2015.

Note: Only members whose subscriptions are up to date at the time of the AGM will be entitled to attend or vote.
Please bring your membership card with you.

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Caravanning in Africa by 110

As keen campers we were very excited when in July last year, my mother-in-law (who lives in South Africa) offered to lend us her Pop Top Caravan to tour around the country. Fantastic we thought…but how would we tow it?

Now there are friends and then there are Best Friends and my pal Mark offered to lend us his 110 Defender, which he uses for his Overlanding trips around Southern Africa. I couldn't believe it, we were set! We had met Mark & his wife Annetjie many years before on a Tour in Mozambique. Our TD5 90 we had at the time and their 110 CSW got us chatting and we have been friends ever since.

Flights were booked, my wife Liza and my little 3 year old boy Michael left a few weeks ahead of me, so they could get around and see all the family back home. I had wanted to thank Mark for letting us use his Landy and so on asking him if there was anything he needed, we took over a Power Steering Box (it wasn't the first time we had happily packed land rover stuff for Mark in our suitcases, like rear rubber floor mats!). Liza picked up the steering box in our little Freelander from JSF 4x4 in Manningtree and they kindly agreed to a longer than normal exchange period (yes we brought the old one back as well!). We packed it in bubble wrap and I emptied out one of my stout tool bags to pack it in. It weighed 17Kgs and went as little Michael's luggage allowance… Mummy had to fit his things in her bag.

We persuaded the airline to take Michael's bicycle on the plane with them (one well-travelled bike….he took it with him to France & Italy on a previous trip in our camper, but that's another story…) and they were off! Mark met them at the airport and picked up the Steering box. The Steering box was soon fitted and all was going well. About a week before I was due to fly out I had a text from my pal. "Bud the Power Steering Box is great, but the Power Steering Pump AND the Injector Pump are Stuffed, what do we do now?"

I phoned around calling everyone I knew, my mate and club member Simon Hinchcliff had a spare Injector pump but wasn't sure what state it was in. I wasn't sure I could get a used pump on the plane, so I called my old mate in Australia who is an experienced Landy mechanic for some advice. Fortunately Mark found a Injector pump from a guy locally and it was time for me to catch the flight.



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Liza picked me up from the airport and we dashed straight to our storage lockup garage to get my 2 tool chests. A quick hello to Liza's Mum, Karin and Sister Vicky down in Vanderbijlpark and we shot off to Mark's house - 130kms away in Pretoria, to get the Landy ready. I worked for 2 days sorting out wiring issues, getting the tow bar ready and refitting the back seat and rear seat belt for Michael as Mark doesn't use them when he's travelling in the 300 tdi. I had to borrow a rear seat belt out of Marks Td5 90 as we couldn't find the old belts. Liza had a great time picking up sewing tips from Annetjie, in between coming out to hold the other spanner for me (why do Land Rovers always use nut and bolt?). Michael rode his bike up and down the yard next to me, whilst I got our tow car ready.



The last day I worked with a guy by the name of George Botha at his home based independent garage, specialising in Land Rovers (well only doing Land Rovers as George is ex-LR dealer trained and the street outside had a row of his customers LRs - he had kindly squeezed us in, whilst also doing a Range Rover L322). We changed the Power Steering Pump and the Injector pump - after a long day of helping George and fiddling with the Fuel Solenoid the Landy was on its way.

We got back to Liza's Mum's house for the night and had a nice evening visit. We had lost a few days of our tour but had a great time with everyone so it didn't really matter. The next day my towing mirrors were out of my suitcase and on the Landy, it was hitched up to the caravan and we were ready to go. I had one of those coming of age moments were I realised I must be grown up enough to be allowed to tow Liza's Mum's caravan. I felt proud!



After some careful manoeuvring we were out of the yard and happy days - we were finally off! Bella Bella – Warm Baths was the first stop on route for a couple of nights which meant heading back up North past Pretoria. The camp site was beautiful with superb facilities and an indoor-outdoor linked geo-thermally heated swimming pool which really warmed us up.

It was winter in South Africa, so was sunny in the day but quite cold at night. We headed to the North Eastern province of Limpopo for warmer climes and the Game viewing. Liza and I had lived in that area when we met. I'd been visiting South Africa, having immigrated to Australia 2 years earlier and after falling in love I went back to Oz, quit my job, sold my Landy and was soon relocated in South Africa where she was a manager of a Safari Lodge.

I'd made a good friend, Louw Booysen, who lived in a town about an hour from the Lodge – he's also a Land Rover enthusiast and lead off-road tours in the surrounding mountains, predominately using the Sekororo trail (one of the toughest 4x4 routes in South Africa) with its infamous "Staircase" and Cycad trees. He'd heard about our caravanning trip with the Landy and invited us to stay at his Safari Lodge for a few days. We looked forward to catching up with him and his family again.



We headed to Thornybush Reserve and left the caravan at the main gate of the Lodge. We were the only people staying at the camp for the first two days and were privileged to be treated like guests – Louw was also the game driver and wasn't afraid to get us right up close to the animals. It was the trip of a life time for Michael! He saw Giraffe, Elephant, Rhino, Hippo, Leopard, Zebra, and got breathtakingly close to a pride of lionesses….when one of the lionesses heard his tiny voice, she looked sharply in our direction and was very interested in the youngest, smallest member of our group! He was so good, I told him to be really quiet and get down into the foot well of the completely open Land Rover, where I then covered him with a blanket and their interest soon died off – thankfully!

He soon learned that when the engine when quiet he had to be quiet too and really picked up some knowledge of nature. He could soon identify elephant poo; elephant inflicted tree damage and could name a lot of the animals. Melman, Marty, Alex and Gloria from the Madagascar movie were all there.

Thorny Bush Safari camp has no electricity or gas so the fantastic meals are all cooked over the fire. We sat around the fire and listened to the sounds of the bush until late in the evenings. It had been a great experience for 3 days and it was nice to catch up with Louw and his family after so many years.

Louw could arrange special trips for our club to incorporate the Safari as well as the Sekororo trail if anyone wanted to experience this - it's truly worth it.

Leaving the Reserve with the Caravan in tow, we headed for Hazy View Campsite. The site was lovely with a mountain stream passing by and Michael made many friends whilst riding his bike around the campsite. As we were leaving the next day we copied Dutch caravanners we'd seen in Europe and left the caravan hitched up for the night.

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Most Land Rovers in South Africa have a smart low cost device added called a Little Black Box which monitors things like Coolant Water Loss, Battery Charge Output and Water Temperature. Today was the day the Little Black Box earned its keep. En -route to Liza's Dads house in Newcastle, Kwazulu-Natal the Charge Light began to flicker from Green to Red each time the Engel fridge kicked in. I thought it was strange and turned the fridge off until eventually the Red lamp was solid. "That little box is faulty" I said to Liza. Getting out my voltmeter I soon saw it was right, 10.7V was the remaining battery charge and we still had about a 100 miles to go. Well the 300 is totally mechanical I thought so as long as its running it wont stop if the battery is dead, then I remembered what I had learned about the Fuel Line Solenoid. The only thing that would stop this Landy was if the battery dropped enough the Solenoid would shut off the Fuel supply to the engine.

Liza's friend Lammie works at Battery Centre in Newcastle and kindly agreed to drive out to us with a good battery if the battery died. It was getting dark so resisting the need for lights we made it to Lammie who promptly diagnosed the alternator brushes. That night, with a beer each in hand, Lammie and I stripped the brushes out - he was spot on. I replaced them in the morning; 14.7V was a happy sight on the voltmeter. I then bought two Little Black Boxes and plan to fit them on the Freelander and our Campervan.

A few days later having visited family & fixing the caravan lights and dinette table, we were soon travelling the 350kms home to Liza's Mums house. We drew up in the Landy and safely returned the Caravan to its undercover spot. It was great to see everyone! Before we knew it the holiday was running out and we got the Landy back to Mark before flying home.



It was a great trip - one we look forward to doing again someday -to the Cape maybe….

James & Liza

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Charity Fundraising 2014

You're more than likely aware that throughout the year SLROC visits various shows around the county and gives 4x4 off road rides to the public in order to raise funds for our nominated charities. 2014 was a very successful year and all in all we raised **£8435**, a fantastic sum and credit to all those that have helped in whatever way throughout the year. The funds were split as follows:

Suffolk Family Carers	**£5500**
Upbeat Heart Support	**£1500**
Suffolk Animal Rescue	**£560**
Heveningham Hall Charity	**£475**
Man Utd. (Prostate Cancer UK)	**£200**
Newbourne Village Hall	**£200**

If you'd like to nominate a charity for inclusion in 2015, could you please send your suggestions, with a brief note saying what they do and why they should be considered to Michael at secretary@slroc.com. The club committee will make the final determination as to which charities are successful.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS

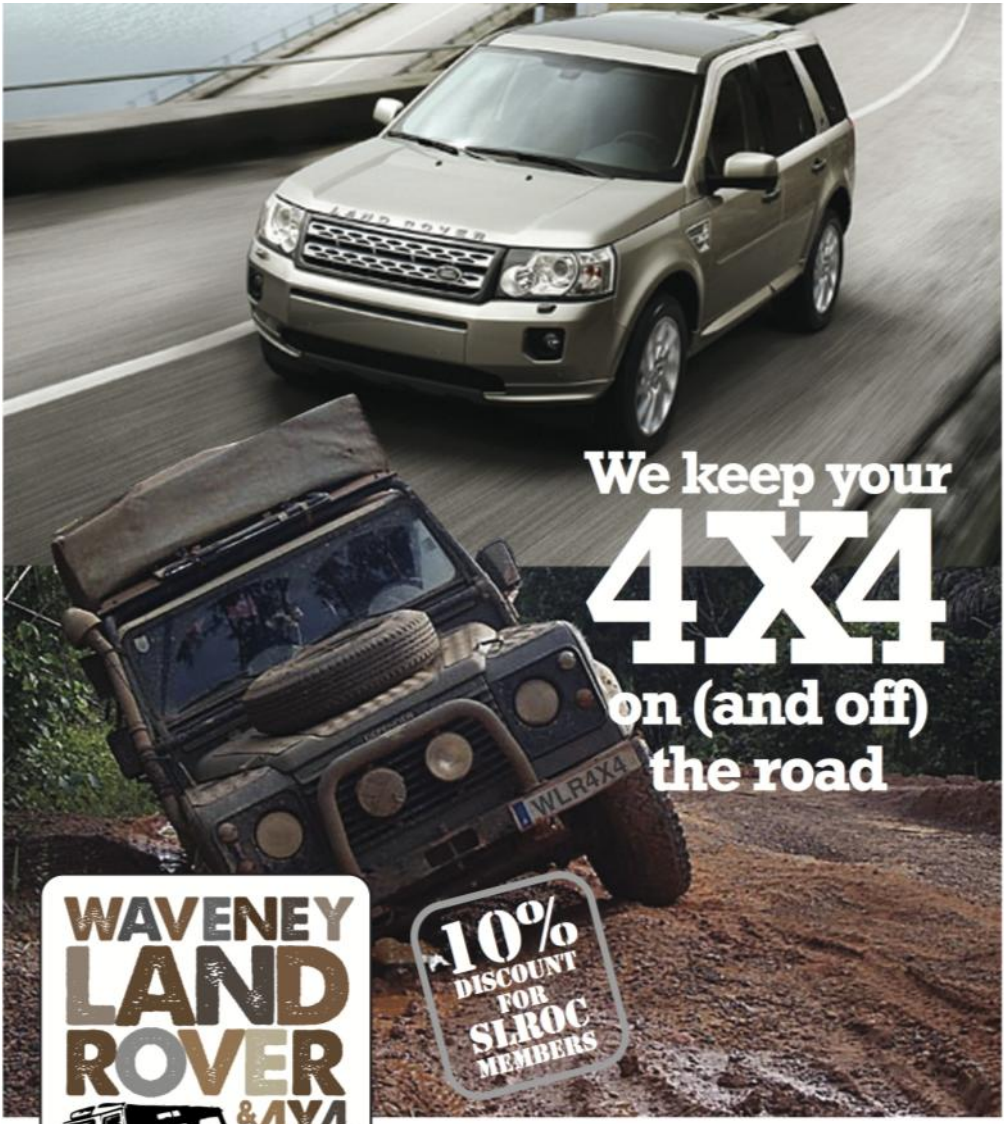
Upbeat Heart Support is a self financing charity that gives rehabilitation exercises and support to people with Cardiovascular Disease and Heart related illnesses and their Carers.

On behalf of all members of Upbeat Heart Support in Bury St. Edmunds and Sudbury may I convey our grateful thanks to all of your members for raising money for charities throughout the year. Your £1500 donation which was a lovely surprise, will be spent on helping to pay for our Cardiac Nurses who are present at every exercise session. These sessions keep our members as fit as possible, keeping them well for longer. This is a wonderful little charity helping members with their physical and mental health.

Good luck with next years fundraising and thank you to Wayne for putting our case forward.



Hilary Neeves
(Upbeat Secretary)



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Winch Trial – Snuggs Pit – Sunday 14th December 2014.

We arrived at a cold, frosty and very slippery Snuggs Pit to find lots of vehicles ready for scrutineering. It was good to see several new faces and vehicles keen to take part. With scrutineering over, we walked the course to see what challenges had been set. About eighteen sections had been devised, with two stamps required in each section. As we only had a single winch, we could see that it would not be possible to get the two punches on all of the sections, but we knew that we were going to have fun trying!



As usual, the competition was divided into two classes ('vehicles with lockers and multiple winches' and 'vehicles with single front mounted winches and no additional traction aids') and the challenge began just after 10am.

The sections varied in difficulty and teams could choose which sections to attempt. Some were incredibly long but luckily there was no time limit for each section. However, as the frost thawed, conditions became even more sticky and slippery underfoot, which meant that both vehicles and team members seemed to get covered in even more mud than usual!

As is usually the case, the challenge was too much for some vehicles, with a few winches failing and one or two rolls. Some vehicles got stuck in sections for quite a while, and as far as we know, no vehicle managed to complete every section but determined teams gave it their best shot until 3.30pm when it was time for all hands on deck to begin the clearing up. All cards had to be handed in by 3.45pm to enable the organisers to work out the scores.

As everyone gathered to hear the results, we were pleasantly surprised to learn that not only had we won our class, but we had also scored the most points overall so were presented with the challenge trophy. We would like to say a big thank you to Ralph and his team of helpers for organising a brilliant event with some fantastic sections. Although it was cold and slippery, we think that everyone taking part enjoyed themselves. Some sections were trickier than others, and a few were pretty extreme but this did mean that there was challenge for all. We look forward to the next one!

Julian Eley (Bugsy) and Kevin Beal



SV Winch Trial @ Snuggs Pit, 14/12/14 - Results

Class 1			Class 2		
1st	J. Eley & K. Beal	1130 pts	1st	A. Lambourne & T. Dyer	1060 pts
2nd	D. Gillings & A. Julian	840 pts	2nd	J. Oxford & J. Rout	1020 pts
3rd	J. Smith & A. Jeff	730 pts	3rd	D. Matthews & J. Bullen	810 pts
4th	A. Cutting & M. Whitting	660 pts	4th	B. Welburn & H. Jeff	150 pts
5th	E. Hanser & D. Keane	450 pts			
6th	C. Oakley & D. Rolf	170 pts			

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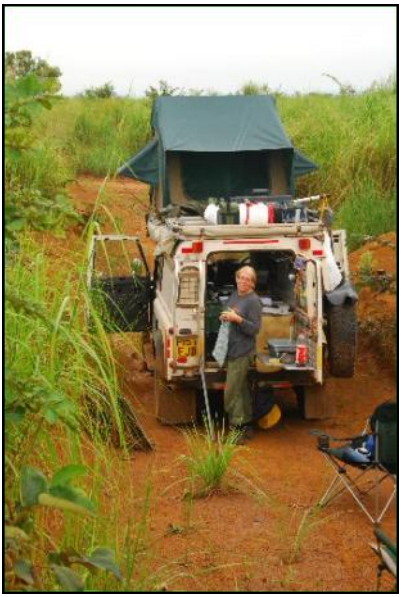
Day 131 10/4. Bush camp, 50km South of Nyanga, Congo
3°12.17'S 12°05.38'E. Miles today 90, Total Miles 11988

We made our way into the nearest shack, where a steady beat of the Congolese sound was blasting from the radio. We waited for the "official" to painstakingly slowly complete our details in the big black book but he still did not actually stamp the passports. Absolutely no conversation took place, purely as the music was so loud and we found ourselves bopping away to the tunes. We were approached by a rather jovial chap who introduced himself as the customs man. Hurrah, we can get our carnet stamped here, we thought, as we had been told that we normally had to get it done in Nyanga, 50 km away. He spent ages searching our car and said we were to come to his office for the carnet stamp. But before that, we still had to walk across the track to the "real immigration office. This man had four big stamps, flowers, a somewhat tacky Christmas tree (isn't it April already?) and an enormous and rather shiny poster of a Halberg Rassy 42 sailboat. Passports stamped, we finally made our way to the customs for the carnet and after much chit-chat, he asked us for a fiche with all our details on it and then promptly told us we still had to actually go to Nyanga to get the stamp. Rob lost his temper at this point. "So, you're not the Customs" he said, " You're just wasting my time" and promptly snatched the carnet out his hand and stormed back to the car. And so we drove the 50km to Nyanga on a pretty special road. Once again, we were stopped at a police barrier (they block the road so you can't just sneak though) who insisted we had to get our passports stamped again. "But we already have our entry stamp, you see, right here" This particular process took some time as no matter how many times we showed him the visa and stamp for Congo, he insisted on randomly writing the details for our Mauritania visa down. But this is the Congo? Once again, we keep thinking about buying ourselves a set of fake stamps, as they also made a right balls-up by filling out the exit section instead of the entry. Feeling quite exasperated at this point, we looked for a quiet bush camp for the night and found a superb spot amongst the tall grass. I attempted to whip up a spaghetti cabonara but we were soon invaded by some very scary sounding buzzing creatures and so dived into the safety of the tent to munch away.



Day 132 11/4. Yacht Club (Club Naval), Point-Noire, Congo
4°47.37'S 11°50.91'E. Miles today 173, Total Miles 12161

We sure caused a stir amongst the locals going about their morning duties, stopping them dead in their tracks as they spotted us amongst the tall grass. I can't help feeling this part of the trip would be so much more if only we could muster more than a "Bon Jour. Ca va? in French" Quite soon after breakfast, we made our way back on the bumpy, muddy track, marvelling at the openness of the grassy flat stretches of scenery. Everyone carries their load in a basket here (not on their heads like the rest of Africa) and it is held on by a piece of cloth tied around their forehead. They look exactly like Teenage Ninja Turtles. Upon reaching the town of Kibango, we were stopped yet again by the police for yet another frigging stamp. We had enough time to look around the office and what greeted me, was shocking and disturbing. On the walls was a series of photos of some hangings and killings that had taken place near here. Pretty grim and gory photos, this was a stark reminder that we are actually in Deepest Darkest Africa. However, the police were super amiable and told us we should take the new road to Point Noire, and so we took their advice and took a right turn after 10km or so. Now nick-named "The Rainbow Road" as the colour of the surface changes so often, it was still a pretty long and scary road, mostly used by logging trucks and wound it's way through contrasting dense steamy jungle and flat grassy savannah. Miles later, the road ahead suddenly turned to tarmac and with only 46km to go to Point Noire, we decided to go for it. We found our way purely by luck to the Yacht Club, (us ex-yachties always know where these places are) where we heard that you could camp for free. There was nobody around apart from a lot of military but they showed to the spot where the "tourists" usually camp. Keen to investigate the bar "Vegas" next door, we were delighted to find an air-conditioned haven with cold beers and scrummy free snacks. Our GPS has being playing up over the last few days and we both went to bed dreading the thought of having to replace it here.





Summary of SLROC Committee Meeting.

Date: Wednesday 3rd December 2014

Attendees: Andy Jeff (Chair + Minutes), Hannah Jeff, Chris Finbow, Pat Corps, Andy Beavers.

Apologies: Michael Whitting, Dan Rogers.

Notes from previous meetings:
Agreed Proposer: **AB**
Seconded: **PC**

Actions from previous meetings
05-04-14 - 02-05-14 - HJ to create 'Club in the media' and 'Chosen charities', 'useful links', 'SRR' and pages on the new website. And 'club advertisers' section on the forum. - **Ongoing**
02-06-14 – CF to organise a meeting with the Suffolk show organisers re: maintenance to the off road course. - **Ongoing**
02-10-2014 – AJ to get quotes for the signs that are required for the club site. **Ongoing**
06-10-2014 – CF to look into getting string for winch event punches. **Done.**
07-10-2014 – CF to contact **JB** re: interclub trial in March. **Ongoing**
01-11-14 – AP to contact **AB** with member details re: the returned cheque. **Done.**
02-11-14 – AJ to put a copy of the insurance certificate up on site **Done.** and pass actual certificate to **MW Ongoing.**
03-11-14 – AJ to post 2015 calendar on the marshals section of the forum for volunteers for organisers/Cocs. **Done.**
04-11-14 – PC to look into the IOPD rules regarding under 21s giving rides to the public. **Done.**

Membership - No Report
CF Check with **AP** that everything is OK for signing up members at MPDD and the subsequent January Driving Date

Finance
AB IOPD and MSA have been paid
AB Still chasing one advertiser for Nooze advert subscription.
AB The charity fund this year is £8435 Split as follows:
Suffolk Family Carers £5500
Upbeat £1500
Suffolk Animal Rescue £560
Heveningham Hall £475
Man Utd. (Prostate Cancer UK) £200
Village Hall £200

Club Site - **DR via MW**
Not much to report, I'll continue to monitor the water erosion.
With regards to the setting up for the mince pie driving day set up can you put me down as I have it in hand I'll put a thread up in the marshals section asking for help to erect the small marquee either on the Saturday or the Sunday as I will be about both days.
HJ Message **DR** regards the effect the previous events had had on the courses

Website and Social Media
HJ 300+ likes on Facebook
HJ Twitter followers continues to increase.
HJ Need to update galleries with outstanding pictures, also to add a general 'Archive' gallery.
HJ Messaged **SR** about changing forum name away from 'Club Shop' as it causes confusion

Nooze
AJ Now using a different printers and Nooze is now full colour and cheaper than the previous printer.
AJ 250 ordered, 231 posted, 6 by hand, 32 by email.
AJ Looking at further improvements in Nooze format but stay with what we have for the short term. Nooze is still expensive to produce we may think of further cost reductions.
AJ Articles sent to LRM and The Landy.
HJ Already have an action to add an 'In the media' section to the web site for such articles.

Shows and Events
HJ CIN Day raised £161.07 probably one of the worst weather condition days in recent years so good considering.
Mince Pie DD:
DR - With regards to the setting up for the mince pie driving day set up can you put me down as I have it in hand I'll put a thread up in the marshals section asking for help to erect the small marquee either on the Saturday or the Sunday as I will be about both days.

Maureen and Norman for Buffet - in hand with **CF**
Inviting representatives from SFC, Upbeat, SAR, VH and Man Utd. **AJ**
Inviting other representatives **CF**
Inviting landowners to event - in hand with **CF**
Availability for membership renewals on the day **AP**
Christmas Raffle - In hand with **HF**

Public Relations
CF there is a candidate interested in the PR role. Clear definition of role is important.

Safety and Training
PC Close to sorting out a day for 'trainers winch training'. This should be done before the novice winch trial.
PC Fife extinguishers now done.
AJ need to ensure marshals attend events now they have been trained.
PC to sort out list of marshal attendance to ensure marshals attend enough events throughout the year

Competitions
Snuggs winch trial in a couple of weeks **CF** to manage sign on, **RL** to set.
HJ to add a push for marshals on the forum in the existing thread.
CF, **DR** has sorted dates for site hire for competitions for 2015.

Correspondence
CF (via **DM**) Demand Engineering are having a 'limited' open day, details to follow.
HJ contact regards photo's from Suffolk Show.

IOPD
CF We have been in contact with IOPD and confirmed that there are no problems with driver ages at shows. We do not use the generic IOPD risk assessments and method statements etc. from the web site, indeed we have had our own developed specifically for us.
CF 2016 is the year for three yearly IOPD inspection.
CF Offering assistance to further clubs who are looking to go down the IOPD route.

Club Shop - no report

AOB
AJ would like to purchase rechargeable batteries for the walkie-talkies – Look into best cost and purchase.

Summary of new actions
03-12-14 - CF Check with **AP** that everything is OK for MPDD and the subsequent January Driving Date.
03-12-14 - HJ Message **DR** regards the effect the previous events had had on the courses.
03-12-14 - HJ Need to update galleries with outstanding pictures, also to add a general 'Archive' gallery.
03-12-14 - PC to sort out list of marshal attendance to ensure marshals attend enough events throughout the year.
03-12-14 - HJ to add a push for marshals on the forum in the existing thread.
03-12-14 - AJ to purchase rechargeable batteries for the walkie-talkies

Meeting closed 9:40pm
Next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 7th Jan 2015 at the club site.

SLROC CLUB SHOP

Clothing, Stickers, etc

All clothing is available to order in a range of sizes and colours, just ask!

T-Shirt	**£10.00**
Polo Shirt	**£13.00**
Sweatshirt	**£16.00**
Hoodie	**£16.00**
Rugby Shirt	**£24.50**
Fleece	**£20.00**
Bomber Jacket	**£32.00**
Overalls	**£34.00**
Children's T-Shirt	**£9.50**
Children's Polo Shirt	**£11.50**
Children's Fleece	**£19.50**
Children's Polo Hoodie	**£14.00**
Children's Bomber Jacket	**£29.00**
Baseball Cap	**£10.00**
Embroidered Hat	**£10.00**
Door / Panel Sticker	**£4.00**
Small Sticker	**£1.00**
Window Sticker	**£1.00**
www.slroc.uk.com Sticker (Black, Orange, Silver, Yellow, Red & White)	**£1.50**
Cap Light	**£3.00**
Childs Hi-Viz Vest	**£2.50**

Prices are correct at time of going to print but may be subject to change.

SLROC CLUB SHOP

Recovery Gear

2M Bridle	**£21.00**
5M Rope	**£30.00**
7M Rope	**£35.00**
9M Rope	**£40.00**
Bow Shackle	**£8.00**
'Jate' type Recovery Ring	**£15 .00**
Battery Clamp	**£6.00**
Rigger Gloves (1 pair)	**£1.00**

Prices correct at time of going to print but may be subject to change.
The Club Shop is at most events, and items are also available from:

Dave Marriott: 07891 917056 - Email: clubshop@slroc.uk.com

Please get in touch if you wish to collect items from a Show.
Items will soon be featured on our web site at **www.slroc.uk.com**

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Position Vacant

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CLUB P.R. & PROMOTION OFFICER
Position Vacant

SOCIAL MEDIA & WEB SECRETARY
Hannah Jeff
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Please note: Some of the Committee Members have requested that details of their addresses are not published within the newsletter for personal reasons. Please do not let this put you off contacting any of the Committee, they will be only too glad to receive phone calls (as long as they are at a reasonable time of day, say **no later than 9:30pm**).
If you have any mail you wish to pass on to a Committee Member then it can be sent via any of the published addresses above. The Committee also respects the privacy of each and every Club member, and to that end, we do not give out details of Club members to any other organisation.

Important Information

On entering the access lane to the site, please adhere to the **5mph** speed limit. Failure to do so, may result in removal from the site with no refund of fees.

If only watching or socialising, please turn right to park in the rear car park. Do not park in the main car park or proceed to signing-on/scrutineering.

Trailers to be parked in designated area in main parking area.

If taking part in the event please stop at the signing-on hut first:

For insurance purposes, membership cards **must** be available for inspection at **any** club driving event, if requested. Only members holding a full UK driving licence* and who have **signed on**, may drive at any club event. *With the exception of 'Tyro Trials' where Supplementary Regulations may allow drivers of 13 years and upwards.

Then continue to scrutineering: **All** vehicles must be scrutineered prior to driving onto the courses. Minimum requirements for recovery points are two-points at the front with bridle, and manufacturer's tow hitch at the rear or two 'Jates' and bridle. Please fit bridle before scrutineering.

Seat belts (inc. lap-belts) must be fitted and worn by all occupants.
(**No belt, no ride.** This is for your own safety).

Once signed-on and scrutineered, you may continue to the parking area.

All loose items must be removed from the vehicle before going on the courses. Vehicles will be checked for these items and stickers.

15 mph site speed limit

No driving along the footpath at the bottom of the site, except at the designated crossing point for access to and from the Woodland Course.

All recoveries under the supervision, and at the discretion of a Marshal. All facets of winching operations may only be carried out by persons aged 18 and over, including rigging.

Pedestrians must not walk on the courses, only the access roads- this is for your own safety.

Children (under 16's) remain the sole responsibility of parents/carers at all times. Children must wear a Hi–Viz vest whilst outside a vehicle in all areas. Children must be accompanied by an adult in all active vehicle movement areas.

Dogs must be kept on leads and under proper control at all times.
It is the responsibility of the owner to clear up after your dog(s).

Do not drive roped-off areas.

Do not remove ropes or posts unless instructed by a Marshal.

Strictly no drinking and driving. No motorcycles or quad bikes.
No tractor, Implement or overly-aggressive treaded tyres.
Please take all your litter home with you.

The Marshal's decision is final

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