



**ASSOCIATION OF
LAND ROVER CLUBS**

A.L.R.C. NEWS

The Newsletter of the Association of Land Rover Clubs

Issue 74

January 2010

NFU Mutual is pleased
to support The Association
of Land Rover Clubs



NFU Mutual

Each edition of ALRC NEWS can be found on the **ALRC website** www.alrc.co.uk

STEERING COLUMN

On behalf of the ALRC Council I wish all our members a very happy New Year's motoring simply enjoying your land rover and for the competitors amongst you a successful year competing in off road events during 2010. I am looking forward to seeing you at this year's ALRC National Rally at Newnham Park near Plymouth and hope that those of you who plan to be there have already booked or are about to book. It will help Cornwall and Devon Land Rover Club to have bookings as early as possible so that they can plan ahead for what I know will be a very well organised and enjoyable National.

Denis Bourne
ALRC Chairman.

A.L.R.C. NATIONAL RALLY 2010

The 2010 A.L.R.C. National Rally is being hosted by Cornwall & Devon Land Rover Club at Newnham Park, near Plymouth over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend 29th- 31st May 2010. Entry forms can be found on their website at www.cornwallanddevon-landroverclub.co.uk and you will also find the Supplementary Regulations, clothing order form, application for trade stands and see the preparations already underway all by clicking on the 2010 NATIONAL tab on the Home page.

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

Sandra Bourne
National Rally Liaison Officer

Countryside Issues

The successful outcome of the Yorkshire Dales National Park case means LARA are being asked to make a pro rata refund to constituent organisations who contributed to the legal action.

LARA's future continues to cause concern and the ALRC EGM in November endorsed the view that it is the most effective body to safeguard our countryside interests against legal threats to what is for many of us our main pastime and hobby. To do so effectively means ALRC needs LARA with its specialist knowledge to act for us when such threats arise. There is currently no other body able to do so as effectively.

Tony Kempster
ALRC Countryside Officer

A.L.R.C. MEETING DATES

A.L.R.C. meetings take place at NFU Mutual Tiddington Road, Tiddington, Stratford-upon-Avon – all A.L.R.C. members are welcome to attend EGM and the AGM meetings which are open to any member of A.L.R.C. EGM and AGM meetings start at 10.30am. Please note that A.L.R.C. Council meetings and Scrutineering and Off Road Committee meetings are open only to elected representatives or their guests.

A.L.R.C. Meeting Dates for 2010

S&ORC – 16th January, 17th April, 11th September

Council – 13th February, 12th June, 16th October

AGM / EGM – 29th March (AGM), 10th July, 13th November all 10.30am start.

SCRUTINEERING MATTERS

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

MSA CHANGES - Anti spill Kit

With effect from 1st January 2010; The Common Regulations for Vehicles (Part J of the 2010 MSA Yearbook at page 157) includes a new section;

(J) 5.20.13. It is strongly recommended for all competitors participating in single venue competitions to have available at their paddock base, and for multi venue competitions to carry within their vehicle a self contained spill kit capable of effectively absorbing minor spillages of up to 1.5 litres of all vehicle fluids – oils, fuels, coolants, battery acid. Used spill kits are to be disposed of in accordance with local or National guidelines.

The following supplier is able to supply an individual spill kit for £6.95 inclusive of VAT & P&P
Each kit will absorb up to 2ltrs.

Product details; Manufactured from hydrophobic polypropylene.

- **Absorbs only hydrocarbons**
- **Repels water**
- **Absorbs oil on both land and water**
- **Unaffected by temperature**
- **Will not sink even when fully saturated**
- **Capacity: 1 litre per pad**

Would member Clubs please note that for bulk orders of 10 or more sent to one address, we can do for £6.25 each.

Our contact details are below. We accept credit cards or cheques with order.

Richard Smith (ALRC Member of MROC)

SPE Ltd

10 Kingfisher Business Park

Lakeside

Redditch

Worcs

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info@spe.ltd.uk

www.spe.ltd.uk

NEWS FROM NFU

NFU MUTUAL COMES TOP FOUR YEARS IN A ROW - IN AUTO EXPRESS SURVEY Customers vote NFU Mutual UK's best car insurance provider

For the fourth year in a row, NFU Mutual the UK's leading rural insurer, has been rated as Britain's best car insurance provider by readers of Auto Express magazine.

The magazine's 'Driver Power' survey results covered 45 leading insurance providers and readers were asked to rate their own insurer across four categories – value for money, helpfulness, communication, and overall service.

NFU Mutual was ranked top in all areas.

Auto Express also asked its readers whether they would buy another policy from their existing insurance provider. An overwhelming 96 per cent of NFU Mutual's customers said they would.

Lindsay Sinclair, Group Chief Executive at NFU Mutual said: "For me awards based on readers' surveys are the most valuable because they are what our customers really think.

"So, to know that we've won this award for the fourth year running is truly a ringing endorsement of our philosophy of providing our customers with the extent of cover they need, at a fair price – with first class service.

"That's what makes NFU Mutual so special."

David Johns, Editor in Chief of Auto Express, said: "Our readers are very difficult to please, so NFU Mutual's unprecedented achievement of winning the top Driver Power award four years in a row is all the more impressive.

"No matter what they are choosing – whether it is a new car or insurance policy – Auto Express readers demand not only great value but great quality and service, too. Clearly NFU Mutual ticks all the right boxes, year after year."

One of the readers surveyed said of NFU Mutual: "Simply the friendliest, most helpful and quick to respond of any others I have heard about. I now wouldn't think of leaving them."

Top Ten Tips - Protecting Yourself from Fire at Winter Time

Over the years NFU Mutual has built up lots of experience on the main causes of house fires and how to avoid them. This is particularly important at wintertime, when the number of fires increases significantly.

The practical suggestions below will help you keep your home and family safe this winter:

- 1 Smoke Alarms – fit smoke alarms on each floor of your home (preferably hard-wired alarms which are connected to the mains circuit). Test alarms once a week and replace worn-out batteries immediately.
- 2 Cooking Equipment – stay in the kitchen when cooking, as most kitchen fires occur because people get distracted and leave their cooking unattended.
- 3 Heating Equipment – have your boiler inspected annually by a qualified technician, and your chimney cleared and inspected annually. Keep portable heaters at least 1m away from anything that can burn, e.g. curtains, furniture, etc.
- 4 Electrical Equipment – ensure your electrical appliances don't have loose or frayed cords. Don't overload plug sockets.
- 5 Christmas Decorations – keep your Christmas tree away from all heat sources, including television sets. Check decorative lights and discard any frayed or damaged lights or cords. Switch off the lights when you leave the room.
- 6 Careless Smoking – always extinguish cigarettes properly and do not smoke in bed.
- 7 Children Playing with Fire – children cause fires out of curiosity or mischief. Keep matches and lighters away from the children.
- 8 Candles – keep candles in a sturdy holder on a level surface, away from combustible materials and out of the reach of children and pets. Blow them out before leaving the room.
- 9 Thatched Properties - if you have a thatched property, please refer to our specialist guide on thatch fire safety on www.nfumutual.co.uk
- 10 Insurance - make sure your possessions and home are insured. Are any policy limits sufficient for your needs? Does your insurer have a Defaqto 5 star rating? The Defaqto Star Rating reflects the quality of features and benefits. Visit www.defaqto.com to check what Star Rating your existing policy has.

Contact us today to discuss your own insurance requirements. Find your local agent at www.nfumutual.co.uk or call 0800 197 1283.

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LAND ROVER NEWS

20 YEARS OF DISCOVERY!

Adaptable, capable, indefatigable, unmistakable

Workhorse, tow car, law enforcer, status symbol, people carrier, mud plugger; few cars can claim to fulfil any of these duties with genuine conviction. Yet since 16 November 1989 – 20 years ago today – one car has consistently met all those challenges and more, earning itself iconic status as the ultimate all-purpose vehicle. That car is the Land Rover Discovery.

Designed originally to plug the gap between the utilitarian attributes of the iconic Land Rover Defender and the more luxurious characteristics of the flagship Range Rover, Discovery soon became the perfect niche vehicle for the growing demands of the family 4x4 market.

"The Discovery legend has been built on innovative design and advanced technology. From the introduction of high-efficiency direct-injection diesel technology into the 4x4 market in 1989, to pioneering occupant safety with the adoption of twin airbags in 1998, Discovery has led the way." says Phil Popham, Managing Director. "It is truly the best loved SUV the world over. Today, we sell the Discovery in 91 countries and sales to date have hit over and above 900,000," he adds.

Having revolutionised the mid-sized 4x4 sector in 1989, it's no surprise that the Discovery evolved to reflect the needs and tastes of its increasingly urbane and discerning buyers. By 1994 range-topping Discovery models featured leather upholstery and wood veneer trim, and when the Series II Discovery was introduced in 1998 it added a sophisticated new heating, air-conditioning and ventilation system for increased comfort in all climates. Today's Discovery 4 continues that ethos of evolution to winning effect: Its strikingly architectural interior design, clear-yet-stylish dashboard, user-friendly features and luxurious interior creating an attractive, well-appointed and practical environment for driver and passengers alike.

The Discovery will be forever renowned for its legendary exterior shape which to this day still continues the stepped roof and asymmetric rear glass theme, giving all occupants a clear view of the journey ahead. To provide a contemporary edge to the interior design, Land Rover turned to the Conran Design Studio who for many years have been held in high regard for influencing 'modern day living'.

"Discovery has evolved its own clear design heritage over four generations.

Today, Discovery 4 stays true to its clean, geometric, architecturally-inspired predecessors. Its new front bumper, lights and face, smoother lines and subtle curves, combine to enhance the overall impression of premium quality," says Gerry McGovern, Design Director.

Versatile and Practical

While go-anywhere ability is synonymous with any Land Rover product, the Discovery's enduring success comes from a combination of all-terrain capability and all-important practicality for the demands of family life. Like its predecessors, Discovery 4 comes with seven seats – the rearmost pair now offering legroom for full-sized adults, providing a versatile space for family and friends.

Increased style and comfort have never come at the expense of the Discovery's dynamic ability. Indeed generations of horse riders, caravaners, boat owners and car racers can all testify to the Discovery's towing prowess. It's a tradition Discovery 4 proudly upholds with Tow Assist, which helps the driver perform otherwise tricky towing manoeuvres, and Trailer Stability Assist, which reduces engine Torque and uses programmed

braking applications to regain control over a snaking trailer. Two honours at the recent Caravan Club Towcar of the Year Awards 2010 are fitting recognition of Discovery 4's utilitarian qualities and on-going commitment to safety.

The evolutionary Discovery 4 looks set to follow on from the enormous success of its predecessor. Since its launch back in 2004, the Discovery 3 has achieved global acclaim winning a staggering 111 awards worldwide, including the honour of SUV of the year from countries as diverse as Mexico, Russia and Greece.

In 2004, the Discovery 3 introduced another significant first: Terrain Response™. This patented system allows the driver to actively tune the car's systems (including engine, suspension and Traction control settings) to optimise their vehicle for virtually any driving situation, from urban jungle to gnarly wilderness. Terrain Response has since been recognised in the Queen's Awards for Enterprise for Innovation. Land Rover previously received this prestigious award for its patented Hill Descent Control and an enhanced version of this technology remains key to the dynamic capabilities of the new Discovery 4 with the addition of Gradient Release Control.

In 2006, Land Rover launched a pioneering CO2 offset programme with Climate Care which is now the biggest scheme of its kind in the world. The emissions from the first 45,000 miles of all new Land Rovers sold in an increasing number of markets is offset to help fund environmental projects on a global scale. Improvements introduced with the launch of Discovery 4 earlier this year, now help deliver substantially lower emissions with the highly fuel efficient LR-TDV6 3.0 sequential turbo diesel, delivering over 30mpg on the combined EU cycle.

Adaptable, capable, indefatigable, unmistakable; the Discovery legend is wholly deserved. Here's to the next 20 years.

FBHVC NEWSLETTER No 6, 2009

The Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs exists to uphold the freedom to use old vehicles on the road. It does this by representing the interests of owners of such vehicles to politicians, government officials, and legislators both in UK and (through membership of Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens) in Europe. FBHVC is a company limited by guarantee, registered number 3842316, and was founded in 1988. There are nearly 500 subscriber organisations representing a total membership of over 250,000 in addition to individual and trade supporters. Details can be found at www.fbhvc.co.uk or sent on application to the secretary.

LEGISLATION

David Hurley

Tachographs and Towing

We recommend viewing the website of the National Trailer and Towing Association (www.ntta.co.uk). The site should be essential reading for people who tow anything. By kind permission of the NTTA we reproduce from the site a flow chart for tachographs and trailers. Please note that this is based on their understanding of the law and is not a definitive legal document.

[The tachograph chart is available from www.ntta.co.uk.]

Consultation on Regulations to control the sale and installation of replacement tyres on motor vehicles

All new vehicles registered on or after 4 February 2005 had to be fitted with tyres which conformed to EU Directive 2001/43/EC; this measure was enacted to reduce tyre noise. The intention is that replacement tyres will from 2010 or 2011 have to conform to that standard. However the following exemptions will apply:

1. Retreaded and part-worn tyres irrespective of size.
2. Temporary use spare tyres.
3. Tyres with a speed rating below 80km/h.
4. Tyres designed only to be fitted to pre-1980 vehicles.

For the purposes of this legislation trailers are deemed to be vehicles.

Continuous insurance

Just after the last (FBHVC) newsletter went to press, there was a sudden flurry of enquiries following media reports about new measures to enforce motor insurance regulations. The reports were triggered by a press announcement issued by the Department for Transport to coincide with the publication of their analysis of the responses to the consultation on a 'Scheme of Continuous Enforcement of Motor Insurance' (see *Newsletter 2/2009*).

There has been a series of consultations on this topic, going back several years. The underlying proposal is to undertake regular comparison between the DVLA database of vehicles that are licensed for road use and the motor insurers' database (MID) of vehicles that are insured. The comparison would identify vehicles that appear only on the former, and keepers of those vehicles would then become liable to penalty, whether or not the vehicle concerned was actually in use. Legislation to make this possible was contained in Section 22 of the Road Safety Act of 2006, allowing the Secretary of State to make appropriate regulations for the application of the new law and to decide when it should start. The latest consultation was concerned with the detail of those regulations.

Typically, some of the media reports caused needless anxiety for some whose vehicles were licensed, but temporarily out of use and uninsured, by suggesting this was some new idea and hinting that the new system was already in operation. A closer look at the press announcement would have shown the journalists responsible that DfT expects the new enforcement regime to come into force in the 'next financial year'.

At present, it is only illegal to use, or keep, an uninsured vehicle on the road - provided it is off the road, it doesn't matter whether it is insured or not. However, once the new regulations come into force, and Section 22 of the Road Safety Act of 2006 commences, it *will* be an offence to keep an uninsured vehicle unless it is SORNED (or has been off the road since before the SORN system began in January 1998).

FBHVC supports the principle of this scheme as it believes it will reduce the number of uninsured vehicles on the roads. The obvious caveat is the risk that a properly insured vehicle may not show up on the MID for some reason, such as being one of many vehicles on a multi-vehicle policy. Owners can check that their vehicles appear on the insurance database by checking at www.askmid.com - and we recommend that everyone should make that basic check shortly after each insurance renewal.

ALRC MEMBER CLUBS - Address changes for Clubs

Aylesbury LRFC - Rachel Taylor, 32 Landford Gardens, Bicester, Oxon, OX26 2NA. 01869 244894.
taylorfamily3@sky.com

Hants & Berks LRO - Elton Jonsson, 102a Redlands Lane, Fareham, Hampshire. PO14 1HE 07973 797190
elton.jonsson@hbro.co.uk

Red Rose LRC - Sue Maynard, 29 Highfield Road, Darwen, Lancs, BB3 2DN 01254 619567 / 0796 2268653.
sueandsteveham@yahoo.co.uk

South Coast LRC - Ian Cosham, 54 Hawkins Crescent, Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex, TN21 8AU
Peak & Dukeries LRC change of URL to www.panddlrc.co.uk

A.L.R.C. MEMBER CLUB INTER CLUB EVENTS FOR 2010

ESSEX EASTER INTER CLUB 2nd/6th APRIL 2010

ESSEX LRC plan to have a TYRO, RTV, CCV, Winch challenge, Team Recovery, Bike Trial and Comp Safari over the Easter weekend. More details on this as soon as available.

For those of you with internet access you can view the event details once they are posted at www.elrc.info/

CORNWALL AND DEVON LRC 2 DAY CHARITY EVENT - TO BE RUN BY WYE AND WESH LAND ROVER CLUB WEEKEND 26th/27th June 2010

Wye and Welsh have kindly agreed to run the 2 day charity trial normally run by Cornwall and Devon Land Rover Club in recognition that the National falls just 4 weeks before the annual charity 2 day trial. The venue will be Maesllech Farm in Radyr South Wales. W&W wish everyone to be clear that they hosting this for C&D LRC on the basis it will be in the same format and the SR's will remain the same. W&W also want to make it clear that this is

the C&D event and do not wish to take any credit for the idea which has raised such much for charity over recent years.

Further details as soon as they are available.

RED ROSE LAND ROVER CLUB WAR OF THE ROSES 2010 2/3/4th JULY 2010

A flyer advertising this event and giving booking details has been circulated recently to secretaries of member clubs

SOUTHERN ROC 2 DAY CCV TRIAL – AUGUST 7th/8th

Once again SROC are hosting their popular 2 day trial at Knowle Farm, Broad Oak, Near Heathfield in East Sussex This is a two day CCV trial with up to 20 sections. Booking details as soon as they are available.

MIDLAND ROC

11th Majors Memorial Trial 2010 – 18th/19th September 2010 – Eastnor Deer Park, Eastnor. Booking forms and further details will be available in due course on the MROC website at www.mroc.co.uk

IMPORTANT – Participation at any competitive event or show is at your own risk or that of the organisers. Although the A.L.R.C. is happy to publicise such events it does not act as an agent for the organisers. Statements or opinions expressed in A.L.R.C. News are not necessarily those of the A.L.R.C. Council. You are advised to obtain independent advice on all matters involving safety, finance or legislation.

This Newsletter is compiled and edited by Paul Barton, ALRC Newsletter Editor, for the Association of Rover Clubs
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