

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Ladies and gentlemen,

Be Merry but stay alert!

As we drive around, I'm sure that you'll agree, more and more Christmas trees and decorations are popping up. Indeed the West Devon Team Christmas Dinner is this coming Thursday.

However let's not forget, this is the time of year that weather can change overnight. I remember vividly being called out a few years ago over the Christmas period to Princetown in deep snow, I had a call the evening before to be put on standby, made sure that I didn't have anything to drink and was on the road at 6.00am.

We've had a "standby" test due to adverse weather reports last month, so please familiarise yourself with the SARCAL procedure. You'll receive a text asking to go on standby, you need to respond on 07537 415551 with a message SAR followed by A (available), L (limited availability), N (not available), finally when and how long you're available.

I've discussed the procedure with Ian Nelson and it would be very helpful, if everyone could respond in a timely manner and to the correct number, rather than hitting reply. Also all future "standby" will be official Emergency status or where the Chair and Control feel that we need to be "ready".

So please stay within ear shot of your mobiles in case you are needed over the festive period. However please enjoy yourselves, spend time with loved ones and remember that it is the season of goodwill.

If I do not have the opportunity to speak to you between now and the 25th December, I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

The very kindest of regards and greetings.

Neal

Devon and Cornwall 4x4 Response

Charity 1154370

Volunteer Emergency Logistical Support

Hello again. Welcome to our 60th edition.

Firstly, a message from **Kevin Phillips** to Devon & Cornwall 4x4 Response

Thanks to those that turned up to help with marshalling this year's **Tour de Moor**. There were about 1000 entrants in all, with very few problems. A few bikes to retrieve following breakdown and I think three to retrieve due to injury. We were lucky this year with it being sunny & dry. Was a fairly quiet event incident wise. 2 or 3 people taken off with injuries by St. John so we recovered their bikes for them, plus a few breakdowns that needed to be recovered. Main role was to help marshal the busier of the road crossings & junctions.



Secondly, a message from **Graham Harris** to Devon & Cornwall 4x4 Response

Enhanced Driving Day;

What a great day; many thanks to Devon & Cornwall 4x4 Response for arranging it, Pentillie Castle for allowing it, and finally thanks to the training team at Land Rover Experience.

Of course there is always a special thanks to the members who turned out for making it such a fun day.

When we gonna do it again?

So what is an **Enhanced Driving Day**? An opportunity to hone your driving skills in a relaxed atmosphere making use of the skills and knowledge of the Land Rover Experience instructors. Something you would normally only be able to do by purchasing a brand spanking new vehicle from Mr

Land Rover or experience in return for a sizeable chunk of money. DC4x4R has laid on these days at various venues as a no cost option for members. 40 have taken up this opportunity to date. I can assure members that, no matter how experienced you may consider yourself to be, you will always learn something to improve your knowledge and/or skills.

Ted Coryton, the owner of Pentillie Estate which lies on the Cornish side of the River Tamar, allowed us to use the old sawmill and his estate woods for no charge for which we are most grateful. However, free of charge does not mean free of future obligation. We have to marshal the Estates next Defender Day on 2nd April 2017. Please make a note of this date and volunteer to help. Your organisation needs your help to honour this commitment.

Pentillie
CASTLE & ESTATE

Land Rover 'Defender Day'
Sunday 2nd April 2017
11am – 4pm



'A celebratory day in honour of this iconic 4 x 4'

Enjoy a day of all that is the Land Rover, from early Series 1 to the latest Defender and all the models and specials in between!

Our Defender Day will return with the 'Ultimate Land Rover Display', a 4x4 off road course, a variety of fun activities for all of the family (including Segways!), a selection of foodie stands and a bar to enjoy a pint with all of the fellow 4x4 enthusiasts.

Pop Sunday 2nd April 2017 in your diary, follow our designated Facebook Page - @DefenderDay and keep an eye on our website for more information.

To register your interest, please call 01579 350044 or visit www.pentillie.co.uk/events

What follow below are a series of pictures of the day from **Graham Harris** and **Roland Westlake**

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The 'after lunch' talk on Recovery Kit and Wa-



ter.

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Tour de Moor 9/10/2016 By Kevin Phillips

9 of us met up near Yelverton rock at about 07:00 with Josh joining us later in the morning.

Following a quick update from the organisers members were allocated off to cover parts of the course.

I took the first road junction after the start, having given the starter a PMR so they could warn when each group was being set off.

Scott DC185 was allocated a spot to try and slow the cyclists down as they approached the entrance into the first of the off road sections as it was on a steep hill and not overly obvious. Although I believe a few shot past as they didn't manage to see him!!

Jason DC166 & George DC189 were allocated the road crossing by Yelverton roundabout along with Michael DC198 who was on his first event with us. This had the chance of becoming quite challenging as contestants would be crossing this junction both on the way out and on their return leg at similar times.

Martin DC83 was allocated to the scout hut area, where he would be their last point of contact before Princetown. This area is at the start of a rough off road section that goes uphill fairly steeply. Last year this was a downhill section that claimed one contestant so well that the air ambulance was called!

Peter DC191 was allocated the junction at Princetown, along with another new member to events with us Simon DC199.

Kev DC134 was allocated Lowery Cross, which is the first marshal point after the contestants have followed the cycle track down from Princetown.

Later in the morning Josh DC201 joined us in an observational role as at the time he hadn't done his driving assessment.

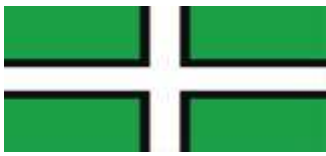
As the day went on members moved to different points if and when required by the organisers, which is a great show of flexibility and team work.

Some of the vehicles involved with the Sawmill in the background.

The tracks can be quite exposed and steep in places. All of which adds to the fun and the challenge.



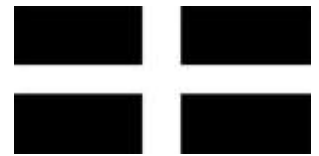
reendc16@gmail.com



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The event went very well, with only a few bikes to recover, some due to breakdown and some due to riders being transported off the course by St John, leaving the bikes to be recovered by us. There were just over 1000 entrants in all so I think we got off very lightly, a lot of which was down to luck with the weather, and the fact that more of the entrants are experienced cyclist now, rather than in the past when people turned up completely unprepared for the route.



We had the usual issue with comms, despite a wide range of radios. Mobile phones seemed to be the best, but even then there are areas with no signal. Not sure what the answer is, apart from possibly having one or two vehicles parked at strategic high points to act as message relay ops.

Team was stood down at 15:25



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Lost Person Search Management Exercise, Dartmoor, 25th November 2016

As dawn broke, fine and nearly cloudless, a small (2 vehicle) convoy set off from East Devon to a rendezvous point a mile or two to the west of Haytor at Hemsworth Gate. We, Roland Westlake and Michael Green, had been asked to attend by Devon and Cornwall Police to provide transport for search teams as they were sent out to various search locations. Roland in his Freelander with Archie, his dog and Michael in a Dacia Duster.



The day was a training exercise for Police SAR trainees, following classroom work. At least 70 personnel were involved including Cornwall Cave Rescue, Ashburton Section of Dartmoor Search and Rescue, Police search dogs and their handlers and a surplus of black clothed individuals, both male and female that we took to be Police personnel. 2 helicopters also turned up. One Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the other the Police Authority's own. [The event organiser said, "We asked for one and two turned up!"] The helicopters were there to familiarise participants in their use and to show users their usefulness in locating casualties.



Well, they might but, on the day they were instructed not to radio in the location of 'found' casualties to prolong the exercise for the ground based teams.

Our first task was to take out "casualties" to various locations and then take the Police and DRG SAR teams of eight plus dogs to find them. The day was split into morning and afternoon sessions with different Police groups operating and the exercise ended at 4:00pm.

In addition to moving the search teams we had less glamorous duties including the 'pee run' there being no loos at the RV base. The Duster also had to do the 'pasty run' down into Bovey Tracey during which a surreal conversation was taking place over the radio where the organiser of the event was talking direct to 'casualties' asking if they had been found yet and reassuring them the first part of the exercise would be brought to an end soon for lunch. After a long morning on cold Dartmoor 70 hot pasties in the back of a vehicle is smell heaven.

The afternoon was taken up with pee runs and collecting in various search teams. Roland and I hope we flew the DC4x4R flag on your behalf and we felt it was a good opportunity to remind the Police of our existence and willingness to turn out any time.

MJG

Helston Christmas Lights

Good afternoon Michael

Phil Hodgkinson has asked me to send you the attached photos of Cornwall team members providing road closures for Helston Christmas light switch on last night. We also responded, providing first aid cover for a collapsed reveller who seemed to have overdone the festivities.

Regards



Editor—Michael Green Email—mgreenc16@gmail.com

Any views expressed are the Editors and contributors and not necessarily those of DC4x4R

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And went on to say “Now that's how to provide advanced warning!!”

And finally



 Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency

3-year-old Freddie was killed by an unsafe trailer

Drivers who tow trailers are being urged to carry out basic safety checks following the tragic death of 3-year-old Freddie Hussey.

Freddie was walking with his mother in Bedminster, Bristol, when a 2-tonne trailer became unattached from a Land Rover. The trailer mounted the kerb before hitting Freddie.

The investigation into Freddie’s death found that the trailer’s handbrake lever was in the wrong place.

Freddie’s parents are urging all drivers to carry out basic safety checks each time they tow a trailer to avoid further tragedies.

[Find out how you can support the #towsafe4freddie](#)

[Graham Harris](#) reports that Cornwall team members provided support for **Padstow Santa Run**.



reenc16@gmail.com



Kev Phillips (DC50)
Membership Secretary
Devon & Cornwall 4x4 Response
Devonia
Aylesbeare
Exeter
EX5 2DE

31 October 2016

Dear Kev,

On behalf of everyone at St Luke's Hospice Plymouth we would like to thank you for your amazing support with our 7th Tour de Moor on Sunday 9 October 2016. We really could not run the event without you and your team. Thanks also for the extra help with the route prior to the event!

The weather was beautiful and we have had really positive feedback from the participants, so thank you for making that happen.

Our fundraising target for Tour de Moor this year is £94,000 and this will help 94 families, in the home, in the next year, which is brilliant. Please pass on my sincere thanks to all the team.

We believe that no-one needs to be alone in the last days, weeks and months of their life, or when they lose someone close to them. Without supporters like you we simply couldn't do this.

Thank you once again for this kind support.

With best wishes

Claire Luckhurst
Events Fundraiser



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Chairman and West Devon
Team Leader
Neal Devere Wilkinson



Baz Nevill
Vice Chairman and Team
Leader Cornwall

Roger Gowing
Vice Chairman Devon



Glynn Palfrey
Team Leader
East Devon



Roland Westlake
Liaison Officer

Alan Ferrington
Team Leader South Devon



Adrian Redfern
Team Leader
Mid Devon



Roger Chambers
Group Secretary

Kevin Seaward
Group Treasurer

Lead Controller
Ann Nelson



Kevin Phillips
Membership Secretary

Controllers:-
Ann Ash, Steve Miller,

Jason Clarke
Equipment Officer



Henry Massey
Website

Scott Lovejoy
Team Leader North Devon

Trustees are:-
Neal Devere Wilkinson—Chairman
Kevin Seaward—Treasurer
Roland Westlake—Liaison Officer
Kevin Phillips—Membership Secretary
Roger Chambers—Group Secretary.
Baz Nevill—Vice Chairman Cornwall
Roger Gowing—Vice Chairman Devon
Michael Green—Assistant Treasurer



Ron McBride
Road Safety Officer

Deputy Team Leaders:
Dave Pullin, Jason Clarke, Roger Gowing,
Phillip Hodgkinson, Ian Nelson



Michael Green
Assistant Treasurer
and Newsletter Editor

DC4x4R Bank Details—Barclays Bank
Please make cheques payable to :-‘Devon and Cornwall 4x4 Response’

Who's Who—Officers and Contacts and Bank details

Forthcoming Events—Regular Monthly Meetings

North Devon Team Team Leader—Scott Lovejoy

Deputy—Dave Pullin

Meet at the **Westleigh Inn, Westleigh** near Instow on the 1st Tuesday of each month from 7:30 pm.

East Devon Team Team Leader—Glynn Palfrey

Deputy—Roger Gowing

Meet first Thursday of every month from 7:30 pm at **The Halfway House, Willand EX15 2RF.**

Mid Devon Team Team Leader—Adrian Redfern

Meet 2nd Wednesday each month, start 7.30pm at **Tom Cobley Tavern, Spreyton, Crediton EX17 5AL.** Tel. 01647 231314

Cornwall Team Team Leader—Baz Nevill

Deputy—Phil Hodgkinson

Meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the **Victoria Inn, Victoria nr Roche** off the A30. 7:30 pm start.

Plymouth and West Devon Team

Team Leader - Neal Wilkinson

Deputy—Jason Clarke

Meet on the first Thursday of each month at the **The Lopes Arms, Roborough Village, Plymouth PL6 7BD** from 7:30pm.

South Devon Team Team Leader—Alan Ferrington

Deputy—Ian Nelson

Meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at **The Highwayman’s Haunt, Chudleigh, TQ13 0OD** Just off the B3344 at 7:30 pm.



Drive Safely