

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Ladies and gentlemen,

It's official, we are now in summer mode.

The weather has been great (occasionally) and the roads will soon become a sea of motor homes and caravans with tourists coming to the Southwest to enjoy the area, that we all too often take for granted.

So, Ten Tors 2017 was a huge success and the weather was near perfect walking conditions. As you'll know, I was entrusted with the job of assisting our illustrious liaison officer within the Operations Room. It was a very worthwhile experience, to witness at first hand the amount of work and effort that goes into running such a large scale event! There was a great team spirit between all the different agencies to maintain a safe environment for the children to enjoy the expedition.

Some highlights from the weekend:-

2,424 Children Took Part
404 Teams Started
388 Teams Finished
0826 First Team In
1700 Last (legal) Team In

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Roland for all of the hard work that he puts into making sure we have a place in the prestigious event and long may it continue!!

The AGM continued as planned, but due to the pressures of life and the fact that it followed the Ten Tors weekend, the training weekend has been postponed for later in the summer.

There have been a number of charity events already undertaken this year and I'm aware that a number of teams have further events planned over the forthcoming months. I must say that I feel it's a great way to raise our profile, help others and keep ourselves busy during the "slow season". Well done to all of those involved in these!!

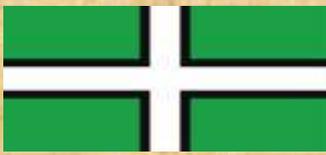
Finally back to training; I've managed to rope others into this and we can happily offer a travelling training package. In basic terms, if a team has a specific training requirement, we can come to a team meeting and cover the areas required.

Some areas we can look at (as previously discussed) are:-

- *SARCAL
- *Radio Communication
- *Convoy Driving
- *Off-Road driving
- *Self recovery
- *Map reading
- *View Ranger

Kindest regards

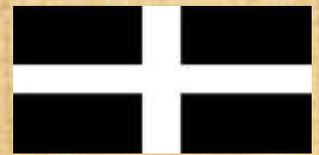
Neal



Devon and Cornwall 4x4 Response

Charity 1154370

Volunteer Emergency Logistical Support



Dear Michael, Roger and All

Thank you all so very much for organising and Marshalling the Defender Day 4x4 Course.

From our perspective all went well with no negative comments from anyone. Most drivers thought the course much better than last year but that was due to a bit of rain rather than anything else. In fact in proved too challenging for some.

We think that there were about 300 circumnavigations as some people went around a number of times.

Could you please thank all the team on our behalf as I have not got their emails. I hope that they enjoyed themselves a bit despite standing in the woods for hours.

Next year we are thinking of the Sunday after Easter the 8th of April if you are up for organising another day.

I haven't heard if you are still planning to hold your annual meeting here. Do you know?

Again many thanks from us all at Pentillie.

Best regards

Yrs

Ted

Subject: Pentille castle off road defender day

Michael

At our team meeting this week we had a conversation about the previous weekends defender day.

Although everyone enjoyed it, there were a couple of things that I thought you should be aware of for possible improvements and covering us for H&S.

Graham Harris made some good points. As he is a health & safety trainer etc and he is thinking of worse case scenario, which as a group we should be addressing, not being a kill joy.

I also had Chris Profit add something as well. He has done many off road events in the past, both taking part and marshalling.

So this is not a criticism but suggestions for the future to protect the group and everyone else. Without stopping ours and everyone else's enjoyment. Hopefully not more work for you, Roger and Roland.

Hope you don't mind!

As I suggested at the last 4X4 Response meet-

ing. I think that at each event were the use of motor vehicles driven non members or the general public, or any motor sport event that we are acting as marshals or in any other capacity we should have one of our members to act as a dedicated first aid person. This person should have no other duty and should be duly qualified in first aid and should be in a position to be able to contact the required emergency services as required.

Best Rgds. Chris DC105

Health and Safety Review;

What a great day at Pentillie on Sunday, I really enjoyed the day; although it would have been nice to have time to visit the displays, etc.

I really hate being the health and safety kill joy but; what are the potential consequences if, and yes it is an "IF" something went wrong?

Again; I really don't want to put a downer on the day or any future events, and I'm certainly not placing any blame on any of the organisers or those who turned out on the day. What I am trying to do is highlight the potential risk to "Devon and Cornwall 4x4 Response" and the directors, officials and volunteers of the organisation.

My comments also take into account that the general public were involved,

Critical points identified;

1. Were any checks carried out or instructions given? or could the general public just turn up, pay the fee, and allowed on the course; no matter what the drivers or their vehicles capabilities were.

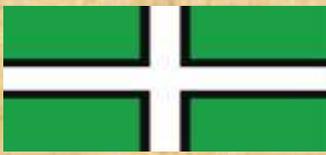
2. We sort of lost communications around lunch time - very ad-hoc after that.

3. What if there was an incident causing personal injury - should we have a dedicated first aider ready to respond at any time to any point on the course?

4. Fire risk; what would have happened if there was a vehicle fire on the track?

5. Security; did anyone wander off the specified track? Did we lock anyone in at the end of the day?

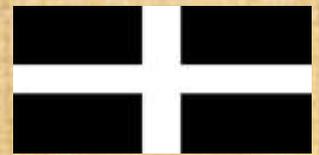
6. There was a good example of members pulling together to recover a vehicle - was it planned? Why did it take so long? What if something had gone wrong during the recovery? Rolled over, injured someone, bearing in mind



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the general public were involved. Was this high-risk area of the track adequately monitored?

7. I did agree to an extended period at my marshalling point because there was a lack of replacements – I was then left there all day, as were several others.

8. I note a radio conversation where one of the marshals was informed the nearby gate could not be opened to recover a vehicle because they couldn't find the key. Did this mean the alternative route was higher risk? Were there planned recovery routes I am a firm believer that health and safety should not be onerous, and certainly should not prevent such events from happening. I do however feel that we could, and perhaps should, do more to protect Devon and Cornwall 4x4 Response, its directors and officers. I have attached a brief leaflet produced by the Institute of Directors and the HSE that gives some good advice on leading health and safety within an organisation. I'm sure you are aware but any organisation, including the current directors and officials of 4x4 Response have the duties identified in the attached leaflet, and ideally need to be able to demonstrate their compliance.

Keeping it simple, follow the guidance; "Plan, Do, Check and Act" Lets take Pentillie as an example; remember, keep it simple!

Plan;

Risk assessment; (what could go wrong?) potential injury, fire, breakdown, recovery needed, security – what do we do?

Do we need emergency/alternative routes?

Where are the high-risk areas – are they monitored.

Security; make, model, reg number of each entrant; passed over the radio and monitored all the way around the course and exit. This would also give the marshalls something to do!!

What we going to do about the above risks? -

Control measures

Do;

Put into place

Check;

Who is responsible for ensuring everything is in place?

Act;

?

Remember; anything we do could be used in a court of law if, and again I stress IF something goes wrong, to reduce the liability.

P.S. In the eyes of the law we are no different to the likes of Alton Towers, etc. if there is an injury at an event, especially to the general public we are liable. Yes it was a Pentillie event, but I think you would find they passed all responsibility to Devon and Cornwall 4x4 Response!! – IF something went wrong!!!

Report compiled by;

Graham Harris

CMIOSH, MIIRSM, MIOB, ICIOB,

Chartered Safety and Health Practitioner

graham@ctcsouthwest.com

Driving test changes from December 2017

The driving test in England, Scotland and Wales will change from Monday 4 December 2017. The changes are designed to make sure new drivers have the skills they'll need to help them through a lifetime of safe driving.

The 4 main changes to the test are:

the independent driving part of the test will increase to 20 minutes

most candidates will be asked to follow directions from a sat nav

the reversing manoeuvres will be changed

answering a vehicle safety question while you're driving

Roland and team,

A massive "Thank You" to all, this was one of the best Ten Tors over recent years (weather wise).

The last that I remember having such good walking conditions was probably 2012 and that was possibly too warm.

Anyway, some highlights prior to the write up:-

2,424 Children Took Part

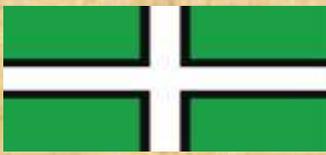
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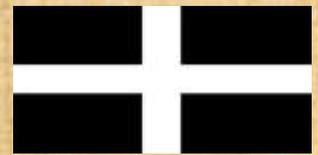
Special thanks to that stayed on with me until 1915 once the final air lifts had been completed.



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We have a great deal of respect from the Army and we were often thanked by the executive team during the weekend!

Kindest regards

Neal

Neal Devere Wilkinson
Sent by iPad

On 7 May 2017, at 7:45 pm, Roland Westlake <rolandwl@btinternet.com> wrote:

Dear Responders,

Thank you all for – responding and being a willing and cheerful contingent.

This was our 8th TT and apologies that the weather was fine and didn't engage you much. It suited the teams however.

Jason Clarke, inventively borrowed a horsebox to rescue a large powered, just, disabled wheelchair.

Especial thanks to our esteemed Chairman, NDW, who put his moorland expertise to good use on many occasions in the operations room. We got to know more of the other agencies this year too.

The accommodation and food seemed to work out fine and better this year.

If you have any comments, of a favourable nature, please rush them to me. Uncomplimentary ones will, of course, go straight into the trash bin.

IMPORTANT – please send mileages and expenses now. (thanks to those that have). If you delay, it holds everyone up. We can only send one invoice to the Army.

Yours,
Roland

Dear Responders,
Thanks to NDW for those figures.
We had 39 members participating – the highest yet.
Yours,
Roland

With great conditions, well trained teams, fantastic organisation by the military, and safety cover by all 4 Dartmoor search and Rescue Teams including Plymouth, Ten Tors 2017 was a comparatively quiet time for the team. Nearly 50 volunteer team members from Plymouth were on call all weekend, from bases in Princetown and Holming Beam, with 4x4 support given by the volunteers from Devon & Cornwall 4x4 Response.

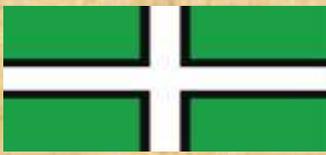


We had a good weekend with Ashburton team at Fenworthy, and Peter rescued Ian when his car wouldn't start



Sunday morning 6am... [Trevor Churchill](#) and myself with our team Dart41 at holming beam as we were the team on early call.. haven't had breakfast yet and some evil person in the Red Cross tent is frying smoked Bacon!!

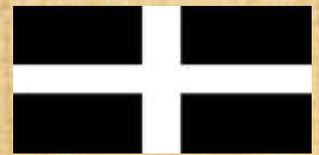




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TEN TORS REPORT

Dear M,

There isn't much I can say.

It was our 8th year and highest number of members – 39.

This was explained by our being used for VIP transport and having to provide more cover at Fernworthy.

So the breakdown was:

Jubilee Challenge / 2

Scrutineers / 5

DRG (all sites) 24

Car Park / 2

Fire Tender / 1

VIPs / 3

Operations room / 2

The participants numbers were:

404 teams, 388 finished

2424 contestants 2368 finished.

Some would have joined other teams if their own dropped out.

I don't know JC numbers but it's usually about 400 start.

If you want exact figures I'll track them down after the weekend.

They have been using horses as companions now for the second year.

The whole JC is managed by Exeter University Officer Training Corps.

Very nice weather and very little for us to do.

Yours,

R

hard pushed to transport 48 people in 6 teams!

Many thanks for your enthusiasm, including 2 more drivers at the eleventh hour

Please pass this on to all concerned

For and on behalf Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team Plymouth

Regards

Phil Lee



Subject: TT 2017

Roland

I would like to thank the drivers who supported us during Ten Tors this year

I'm afraid 2 of our landrovers would have been

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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From Colonel JC Coote DSO OBE



Commander
Headquarters South West
Building 56, Jellalabad Barracks, TIDWORTH, SP9 7BQ
Email: swhq@-comd@mod.uk Twitter: @ArmySWcomd
Mil: 94342 4703 | Civ: 01980 656303 | Mob: 07810 771584



Mr R Westlake
Liaison Officer, Devon and Cornwall 4X4 Response



J June 2017

Dear Richard

Rather belatedly, on behalf of all of us in Headquarters South West, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your valuable support and assistance in making Ten Tors 2017 a success. Our extensive collaborative planning and liaison work with all of the enabling volunteers and organizations was well exercised and meant we were well placed to deal with any contingencies.

After a blustery and chilly Friday night, the weekend weather conditions were near perfect – at least for Dartmoor! Nevertheless, each participant was challenged both mentally and physically by their route. The statistics collected throughout the weekend speak for themselves: 97% completed the Ten Tors Challenge; for the Jubilee Challenge, we had 326 individuals start and amazingly all but one person finished; and many of you will have seen some of the 18 Fresh Tracks participants taking on their own challenge, as each team led one of the three Dartmoor ponies around their course. Our efforts to embrace social media have been rewarded with over one million hits on our Facebook page, and a similar number on our website.

Of course, statistics only illustrate one aspect of the event. The training for Ten Tors is rightly long and arduous, but generates the self-reliance and leadership qualities required to successfully tackle the challenge; it also fosters tremendous team spirit and a sense of adventure. Participants discovered a new found confidence, resilience to adversity and motivation to strive to achieve more as a result of participating. I genuinely believe it was a life changing experience for many, as exemplified by the emotionally charged atmosphere and welcome at the finish arch. For me it was truly inspirational to witness the huge sense of achievement and pride as the young people completed what is, arguably, the toughest challenge of its kind in the UK.

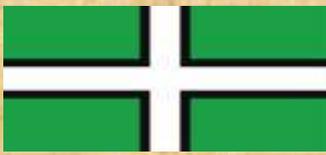
While Ten Tors allows us, the military, to practise our vital resilience role in support of civil authorities and communities it also provides a valuable opportunity to work in close partnership with organisations and individuals in the South West and strengthen our links with local communities. The result is that, together, we can deliver a truly valuable and enduring contribution to youth development in the South West Region. Your dedicated and enthusiastic support has directly furthered the development of over 2800 young people, encouraging them to play a positive role in society.

I would be grateful if you could pass my thanks to every member of the Devon and Cornwall 4x4 Response Team who supported Ten Tors 2017. The engagement and support we had throughout the planning and execution of the event was terrific and I hope we can rely on your support in 2018.

As we start the planning process for Ten Tors 2018 there is no room for complacency! Initial feedback from this year's event has been very positive, but we challenge ourselves to improve Ten Tors every year and would welcome any comments you may have. However, in the meantime it leaves me to once again thank you most sincerely for your sterling support to this unique and remarkable event.

Yours

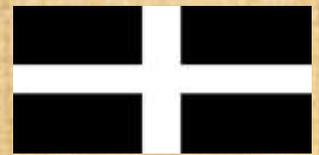
James.



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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

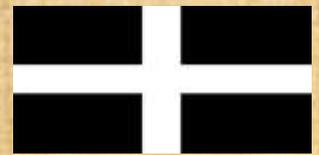
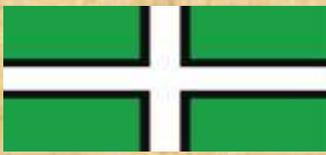
Deputy Team Leaders:
Dave Pullin, Jason Clarke, Roger Gow-
ing, Phillip Hodgkinson, Ian Nelson



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 Copley 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.