



Harry's G405WAC

G-WAC Notes

From the
Project Jay Preservation Group

**A News sheet for those who are interested
in the early Land Rover Discoverys**



Keith's G406WAC

October 2012

No shows this month but plenty of miles on the clock due to attending the road runs and the Birthday weekend. There are no classic shows now for a few months, except for the big show at the NEC, 16th–18th November, a few local autojumbles but nothing specific to 4x4s.

I would have liked to have had a “work in process” at the National Restoration Show at Stoneleigh on 21st, perhaps next year. I am hoping that there will be a few G-WACs available for Classic Shows in 2013-14.

410 has now been sold, but as yet I do not know the new owner. Perhaps Robin can give the owner a call to see if he is interested in joining our group of early Discovery enthusiasts?

The Classic Motor Show NEC Birmingham. November 16th 17th 18th

The annual Footman James Classic Motor Show brings together the UK Classic Motoring Industry with tens of thousands of UK based and International classic owner/enthusiasts, all under one roof at the UK's premier exhibition centre.



Current known owners of launch cars

G457WAC	Mark Wheatley
G459WAC. (Amphibian)	Land Rover
G461WAC	John Boucher
G463WAC	Ian Rawlings.
G465WAC & G526WAC	Roy Preston.
G469WAC & G524WAC	Lee Barnett
G470WAC	Frank Elson.
G478WAC	Gary Timmins
G480WAC, G482WAC & G486WAC	David Ashburner
G488WAC	Clive Richfield
G490WAC & G496WAC	Rob Ivins
G510WAC	Nick Prior
G511WAC	Colin Crossley
G534WAC	James Brackenbury

G-WAC meets M-CVC

For the launch of the second generation Range Rover, the 38a, 100 cars were registered in 1994 with the M-CVC registration numbers, between M200 CVC and M299 CVC . 20 of these cars were at Cliveden House in Berkshire for the international press launch.

One of our G-WAC followers, Julian Lamb, owns three of the launch cars and is actively seeking out any others that may have survived.

On the Saturday before the Heritage Run from Solihull, I met Julian, and was impressed by his enthusiasm for the preservation of “launch” Land Rovers, not just Range Rovers and Discoverys but all Land Rovers.

He started his CVC Register last year and hopes to find more M-CVC Range Rovers and other launch Land Rovers.

If you come across an M-CVC Range Rover, do contact Julian on mobile 07972 172 854, or e-mail:

k58ykv@aol.com

Have a look at his CVC Register on

www.cvcregister.co.uk.



G406 WAC now owned by Keith Britton

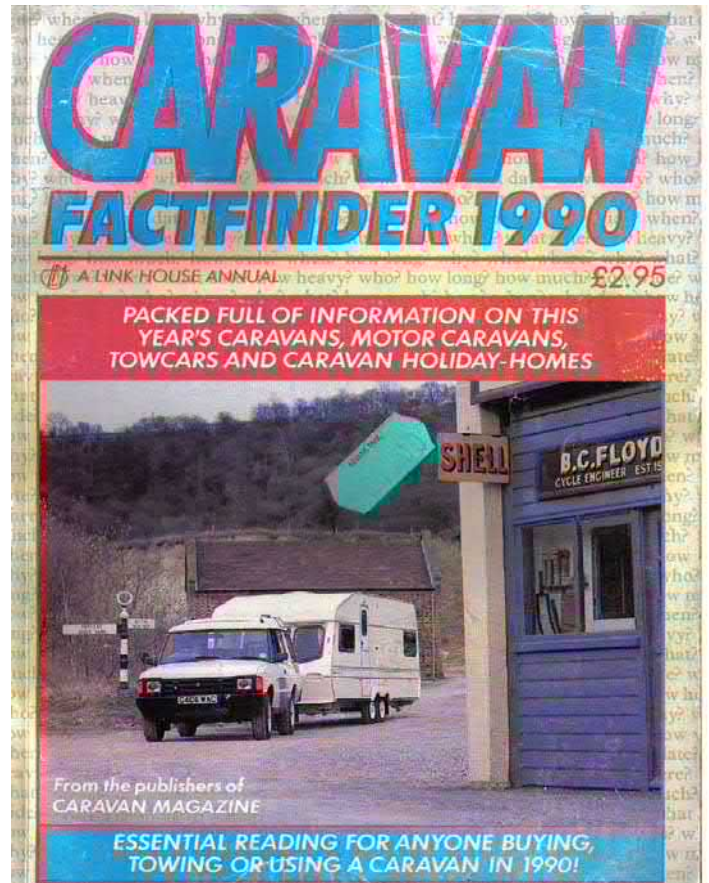
A chance phone call from Janet Smart – vice chairman of the Discovery Owners Club – alerted me to the opportunity to own a piece of Land Rover history. This turns out to be G406 WAC which was eventually purchased from Andy Baker who had owned it since January 1992. It has had three former keepers and I think it has survived quite well seeing as Andy has well used it and kept up the regular servicing.

I know that 406 is not a press release vehicle but was registered at the end of October 1989 making it one of the early G-WACs.

On trying to find it's history we contacted Janet Smart (a member of our Wessex section of Discovery Owners Club) who came up with a part-article from an AutoExpress magazine dated 1990 showing a picture of the vehicle in Romania. I then contacted AutoExpress to see if they had any more pictures or could let me have the full article as printed but they were unable to supply anything as it is all archived. But they wish to do an article on 406 in the future. My next step was to surf the internet where I came across a copy of the relevant AutoExpress for sale.

It turns out that AutoExpress magazine decided to do a mercy mission to Romania, where they took supplies to the childrens hospitals. 406 was offered by Land Rover, as new, it was fitted with an electric winch and roof rack and also a hot-start system. The pictures show 406 in the streets of Bucharest and also in front of Ceausescu's palace where the winch can clearly be seen.

Also from Janet, a Caravan Fact Finder magazine dated 1990 shows 406 on the front cover, still with a winch fitted, and towing a new 4-wheel caravan. It looks like the picture was taken at the Amberley Chalk Pits museum.



406 does not have the winch fitted now and the front grill had been changed to hide the holes for the remote.

Restoration has started with most of the inside removed to carry out welding to the passenger foot well, the rear floor and some of the work on the sills. The inner wings are also to be replaced and I hope to finish with a complete re-spray.

I aim to finish the restoration in time to attend the 25th Anniversary weekend in Plymouth run by the Devon and Cornwall section of the Discovery Owners Club.

Keith.

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Series 3 & 90-110 Owners Club, Northern Road Run. 7th October

The annual run this year started from Harrogate and covered 50 miles in West Yorkshire finishing at the National Coal Mining Museum for England at Horbury, near Wakefield.

Open to all models of Land Rover, there was the usual mix of Series, Defenders, Freelanders, Range Rovers and Discoverys.

Leon and Sue had come up from the Devon & Cornwall Section of the Discovery Owners Club to take part in the run in their 1972 Series 3 LWB Land Rover. Leon organizes the Western Run for the Series 3 & 90-110 Club.

Margaret and I started out in our G-WAC only six vehicles back from the leader, which proved to be a good move because without an O/S map the simple route card would have been a little too difficult for us to follow.

There was quite an amount of urban roads to navigate, with traffic lights and various roundabouts to negotiate, and it was not long before we could see only two more Land Rovers behind us. When we arrived at the museum there were many of the 60 Land Rovers already there. Some of the drivers had presumably got lost and taken a direct route to the finish.

The organizers usually find us a ford to negotiate. The ford was at Dobwood Park and had quite a rocky base to it, which needed a little concentration to navigate. A marshal was on hand to offer advice as to which route to take to avoid the deep parts. The ford was on an unmade road and was the only rough stretch of the route.

We passed through the town of Otley, over the Otley Chevin and on to Menston, then back to the



towns of Halifax and Brighouse via Bingley, Harden and Oakworth.

The last leg of the run then skirted Huddersfield towards Wakefield to the mining museum where some families had booked a trip down the mine. After returning to the surface it was time for a cup of tea and a snack.

Another enjoyable run with the club, and a chance to meet old friends and have a chat.

The Heritage Run. 30th September. Lode Lane factory to the HMC Gaydon.

The Heritage Motor Centre, which is at Gaydon, Warwickshire, usually stage a Land Rover Show over a weekend in spring, but this year the show was not scheduled and so the traditional road run was held as a single event.

100 Land Rovers used the Damson Lane gate at the factory from 08.00, to assemble on numbered places in the transporter loading area, the drivers signed on in the Land Rover Experience building, where tea and coffee were freely available. Old acquaintances were met and tales of Land Roving during the past 12 months exchanged.

A driver's briefing was held at 09.40 and the column of all models of Land Rover, from the 1948 80" WB model to the latest Evoque, set out at 10.00 with a police motorcycle escort, to make its way to Gaydon, following rally style Tulip Arrow instructions.



On arrival after 11.00 at Gaydon, the area looked rather quiet due to the fact that this year there were no traders, club stands and members of the public milling around. With no clubs on site there was no interclub competitions and other activities.



There were plenty of things to do as drivers and passengers were able to enter the museum where guides were available to conduct parties round the exhibits.

Rides round the offroad course were available, and a talk on the history of Land Rover took place in a syndicate room.

A buffet lunch was provided in the rooftop room, and a complementary photograph of your car being flagged off at the start was provided.

The weather stayed fine for us and we started to make our way back up north at 4.00pm, and look forward to next year, which may once again involve a show of some type.

Discovery's 23rd Birthday Weekend. Plymouth 12th – 14th October 2012

The celebration of the 1989 launch of the Discovery by the Discovery Owners Club, was, perhaps, intended to be just a one-off “comming of age” 21st Birthday Party in October 2010, but the event was such a success that it has carried on each year since.

The format has changed little as the idea was to replicate the launch by visiting the places that Land Rover Ltd. arranged for the launch in 1989, and this year was no exception. Over 50 Land Rovers helped the Devon and Cornwall Section of the Discovery Owners Club celebrate the event with vehicles attending from all over the country, including a Freelander 2 from Germany.

On Friday there was a choice of a Scenic Drive over Bodmin Moor, then heading up to the North Cornwall coast to Bude or a local Green laning trip, which finished at Looe for a Fish 'n' Chip supper. 16 vehicles took part in both of these routes.

On Saturday morning the group assembled on Plymouth Hoe with their 50 Land Rovers, the weather started off dry but unlike the last three years, some quite heavy showers descended. The weather did not dampen their spirits though. Judging took place for numerous prizes and my G526WAC took the prize for the best 1989-1994 Discovery.



At one o'clock this rolling Birthday celebration moved off the Hoe and headed towards Mt. Edgcombe via the Torpoint Ferry. This year as last, the ferry was booked for the party, the only non Land Rover on the crossing was the obligatory Pink Double Decker Bus.

Once in Cornwall the weather had brightened up and a stop took place in the only lay-by in South East Cornwall big enough for 50 Land Rovers.

Arriving at Mt. Edgcombe, the estate looked resplendent with its trees in autumn colours. There was an hour spare to have a look around the grounds then at 3:45 the party moved off for the Deer Park drive. This year the Head Ranger led the convoy through the Deer Park in his early Discovery I V8.

Saturday evening, the Social/Raffle/Auction was a very pleasant affair. The carvery roast went down really well. Another addition to the evening's fun was the “Brightest Shirt” competition. Well done to Darren Reid who was the undisputed winner. Raffle tickets, plaques, stickers and an auction were held, and a total of £1000 was raised for two charities. Prizes and items for the raffle were donated from many companies. Do visit www.discoverybirthdayparty.co.uk

for a full list of donated items and photo's from the weekend.

Sunday Morning at Tesco Lee Mill and most of the party met up again, from there they set off for the Steam Railway Station at Buckfastleigh. Once here, there was a choice of things to do, including a ride on the Steam Train down to Totnes or visiting the adjacent Butterfly and Otter Sanctuary. Both are well worth visiting.

Sunday Afternoon at 2 o'clock the party moved off again in convoy for the last time of this Birthday Weekend. The hour drive over to the Two Bridges Hotel was a treat and they were blessed with sunshine all the way. On arrival at the hotel, Devon Cream Teas were on order and for those that had not had enough of sitting down, the Lounge was put aside for them to eat and to say their “Good Bye's”.

Another great meeting by the Discovery Owners Club, will there be another next year? I am sure that there will be the 25th Birthday Party in 2014.

G-WAC Notes on websites

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[Home of the Project Jay Preservation Group](#)

More articles on Graham's website, have a look at it.

email4graham@tiscali.co.uk
www.g-wacdiscoverys.net

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Brian Radford, of Northmead 4x4, is keeping up-to-date with a copy of the Notes on his website.

NORTHMEAD 4x4

All the back issues from the start in May 2007 are there.

He also has another website to advertise Classic Rallies and shows.

www.northmead4x4.co.uk/gwac_discoverys.htm
www.classicrallies.co.uk/index.htm

Compiled by Roy Preston. If anyone would like to contribute an article for these notes, or receive a copy, please email me at roy@g-wac.com or post your address to B R Preston, “Scawdel”, Wormald Green, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 3PU. Phone 01765 677124. Mobile 07876 473714

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