



David's G486 WAC

# G-WAC Notes

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



David's G482 WAC

### April 2011

526 will get a few miles under its belt this month and next, Convoy for Heroes last weekend, the Heritage Run 1st May, Driffild Land Rover Show the following weekend and then the Seven Valley Leafers weekend at Bridgnorth.

I hope to see some other G-WACs out this year.

### New owner for 486.

David Ashburner is well known for his collection of Wolseleys, perhaps he is starting a collection of Discoverys now.

486 joins 480, 482 and G767 NRH.

### 525 for sale

Advertised by pw4x4.com

1989(G) Land Rover Discovery 200 Tdi 3 Door Manual, Left Hand Drive, Pre-Production Used on Press Launch and as Camel Trophy Training / Press Vehicle, One Private Owner 1991 - 2007, Exterior Body Panels Replaced, Resprayed White & Later Head Lamps Fitted 2000, Well Maintained, Tow Bar, Deep Dish Alloy Wheels, Tax & M.O.T...£1750.00

### Camel Trophy training hacks.

With 525 for sale at pw4x4.com in Hampshire, I thought that it would be useful to remind enthusiasts that it was one of the Camel Trophy training hacks. I hope that someone buys it to look after it for the future.

In the July 2008 issue of Land Rover Enthusiast magazine, the full list of seven cars was published and includes my own 463. A further car, C60 JKG, was also used for training. This is a prototype and is currently at the Dunsfold Collection.

The LRE article stated that none of the cars were in Sandglow colour, the Trophy colour, but 463 definitely was. I have a photograph that shows it repainted from the original white. It was not a complete repaint because the picture clearly shows the inside of the rear door as white.

At least three were in Sandglow, 475, 525 & 562. My 463 is well documented, and the other three are shown on the 1991 Burundi/Tanzania video whilst training at Eastnor. I cannot confirm it, but I would suppose, that the other three would have been repainted too, those being 494, 532 and 563.

The LRE article also states that these would all have been fitted with the internal rollcage. From the video footage, which I have, none were fitted with a rollcage and 463 certainly wasn't.

There were a few differences between individual cars, i.e. quick release bonnet catches, under-body protection, light guards etc, some were fitted some were not. So it is quite feasible that some at least did have the cages

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### Heritage Land Rover Show. Gaydon 29th April - 1st May.

Is anyone going to the show? I have secured some stand space for six vehicles and 12 passes for the two days.

Obviously we are not a club but have been accepted as the G-WAC Owners.

Let me know if you want to put your car on the "stand", first come first served basis, although I will give preference to someone with a gazebo because I haven't got one.



I will have 526 there on Saturday and will be able to man the stand, but will be on the Heritage Run on Sunday so will need someone to be on hand most of the day.

Roy.



## Current known owners of launch cars. @ April 2011.

G457WAC	Mark Wheatley.
G463WAC	Ian Rawlings.
G465WAC & G526WAC	Roy Preston.
G469WAC & G524WAC	Lee Barnett.
G470WAC	Frank Elson.
G477WAC	Ian James.
G478WAC	Meghan Timmins.
G480WAC, G482WAC & G486WAC	David Ashburner.
G488WAC	Clive Richfield
G490WAC	Rob Ivins.
G510WAC	Nick Prior.
G511WAC	Colin Crossley.
G534WAC	Nicholas Webb.

There were 86 cars registered on 01.10.89 from G451WAC to G537WAC, with the exception of G500WAC.

### Other known Launch cars.

G454WAC, G462WAC, G466WAC, G471WAC, G472WAC, G475WAC, G476WAC, G495WAC, G520WAC, G525WAC, G531WAC and G537WAC.

### Other G-WACs, pre-production and early cars

B62 COH & C60 JKG	Phill Bashall (The Dunsfold Collection)
C742HUH	Charles Whitaker.
G2 KRT	Owner not known.
G41 VHA	Simon Tinkler
G67 RYJ	Peter King
G226EAC	Discovery Owners Club
G279WAC	Neal
G302WAC	Sandy Andrews
G310WAC	Mark Simpson
G311WAC	Ivor Ramsden
G316WAC	David Cox
G401WAC	Owner not known.
G406WAC	Andy Baker
G410WAC	Robin Jeffery
G563WAC	David Spirett
G601WAC	Richard Haynes
G602WAC	Owner not known.
G603WAC	Ian Redfern
G610WAC	John Stuart-Gray
G635WAC	Alec Gatherer
G640WAC	Owner not known.
G711YRY	Peter Hares
G757SGX	Paul Bishop
G767NRH	David Ashburner
G834FPR	Sue Virgin
G892 VPM	M E Hall
G987LKU	Andy Greer
H776POJ	Duncan Campbell
H871EWK	Mark Hardwick
3656 TW 24	Keith S L Daffern. (France)
AZ-829-TJ	Raymond Bechetoille (France)
Reg not yet known	Roberto Blanchard (USA)

## Factory open day November 1989

I have been having a sort through some of my archive photographs and came across some information about an open day that I attended on 18th November 1989.

A competition had been held for employees who could win the use of a Discovery for two weeks. Additional prizes included two days at the launch at Plymouth on 30th and 31st October.

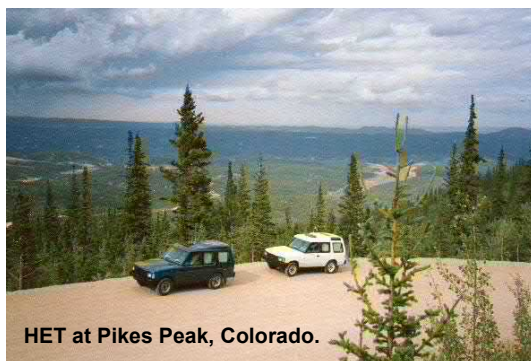
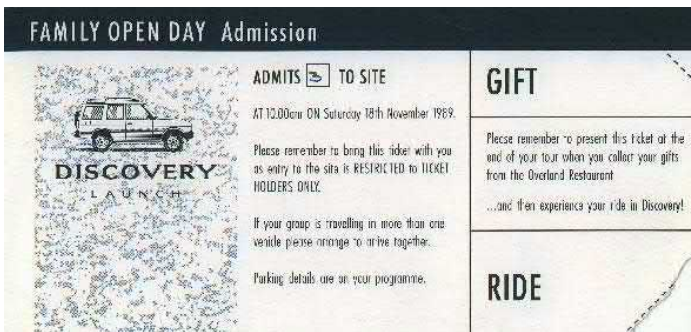
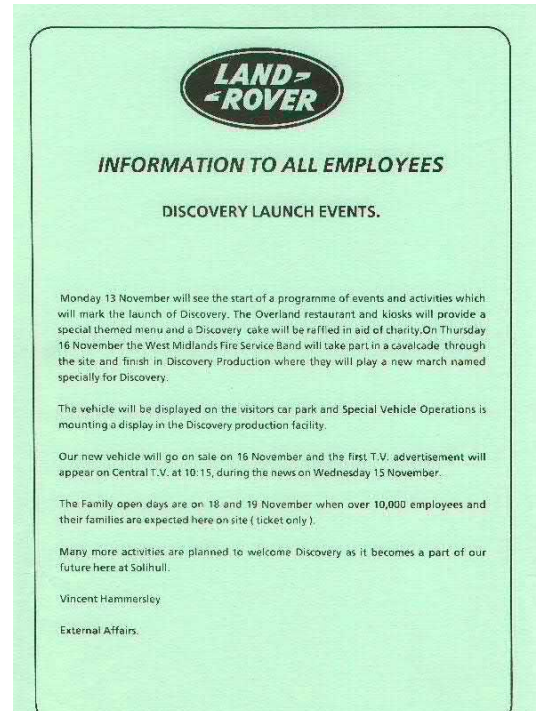
A flyer signed by Vincent Hammersley, External Affairs, was distributed to explain the family open days to be held in November, and tickets were issued.

Visitors were allowed to see the assembly facilities and my father and I went to see a car on the line that was just ready to be dropped onto its wheels.

A car in Camel Trophy colours was on show advertising the 1990 USSR event.

Included in my selection of photographs are pictures taken in August 1989 of two cars involved with the HET, (Hot Environmental Test), which were fitted with the 3.5 litre V8 fuel injected engine. The launch engine was the carburettor version and the Discovery did not receive the injection engine until 1990 when the Range Rover was fitted with the 3.9 litre version.

Charles Whitaker.





## Events 2011

### May

1st Heritage Land Rover Show. Gaydon.  
7th-8th LROI Spring Adventure. Driffield Showground, East Yorkshire.  
15th Land Rovers on the Line. Severn Valley Railway.  
26th-31st ALRC National Rally. Bircham Newton, Norfolk. PE31 6RH. together with the DOC National Event

### June

18th-19th Dunsfold Collection Open weekend. Springbock Estate. GU6 8EX.

### July

15th-17th LROI Billing Show. Great Billing, Northamptonshire.

### August

13th-14th LRM Show. Stoneleigh.

### September

10th-11th LROI Show. East of England Showground, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.  
24th-25th Abingdon 4x4 Festival. Abingdon.

### October

2nd London to Brighton  
15th-16th Plymouth social and road run.

## More work on 603

With this lovely weather we have been having, work continues on 603. I now have the side panels and new boot floor but they will have to wait until I save up some more money.



I was having a poke around at the rear body mounts and decided that one needs to be replaced. But that got me tapping around some more and to be honest even with the extended lip mounts you can buy, I am going to struggle to find good metal to weld to, so off came the rear bumper to take stock!

The crossmember is fixable of sorts and I could 'make good' and get it through an MOT but after a couple of days thinking about it I have decided a new crossmember is the only way forward. I really do not fancy in a year or two's time to be mucking around with it again. So the money I allocated for footwell welding has just been spent on a new crossmember and mounting bushes.

The plan from now on will be save like mad and get all the welding done, and lashings of waxoyl for good measure will ensure 603 will be pretty much rust free for a good few years to come. I will keep you informed of developments.

Ian

## G-WAC Notes on website

Brian Radford, of Northmead 4x4, is keeping up-to-date with a copy of the Notes on his website. All the back issues from the start in May 2007 are there.

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

Have a look at the sites.

[www.northmead4x4.co.uk/gwac\\_discoverys.htm](http://www.northmead4x4.co.uk/gwac_discoverys.htm)

[www.classicrallies.co.uk/index.htm](http://www.classicrallies.co.uk/index.htm)

# **NORTHMEAD 4x4**

Compiled by Roy Preston. If anyone would like to contribute an article for these notes, or receive a copy, please email me at [roy@scawdel.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:roy@scawdel.orangehome.co.uk) 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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