



Ian's G603 WAC

# G-WAC Notes

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



Peter's G67 RYJ

### June 2011

June was a busy month for shows, covered over 1500 miles, I will have to watch my mileage as I have a restricted mileage insurance policy with Adrian Flux, and I must save some for Plymouth.

I will not be able to get to the Billing Land Rover Show, so may try the Masham Steam Festival, where I can usually display among the "real" Land Rovers. The Series enthusiasts never regard 526 as a "real" Land Rover when I am in their section.

Ripon Old Cars Club have a display at the Ripon Racecourse on 24th July so that will be a nice day out if the weather is fine.

Ian is hoping to do a few shows with 603 and will send me a report after the events.

### Progress with 603.

Work continues steadily on 603. Over the past few weekends I have made good the front wells and refitted all the clean trim. It's really nice looking down the side of the seats after years of where the Hoover can't reach is all clean

When the front seats were out I rubbed down the seat bases and then went in search of a matching grey. Looking through the sprays in Halfords I found Rover Tempest Grey, BL grey, and it is an exact match. They also had some Sandglow!

As I write Cam is having all the welding done and all the new bits that are going in are to be blasted with zinc/galv primer before being painted and sealed. The floor is out and the new crossmember has been fitted today.



The photo is as it was yesterday, so by the next notes the welding will be done and I am looking forward to refitting all the clean trim and carpets.

603 is booked into a couple of local shows, first one being early July so we are hoping to make that and the kids are looking forward to going for some picnics in her, so busy weekends ahead.

Will keep you all informed.

## Classic Car Show, Witton Castle 29th May.

The forecast was not good and with a steady drizzle outside it did not look like the ideal weather to be parked in a field for a car show. Witton Castle was a new venue for a Mark Woodward Classic Events day so we decided to travel the 50 + miles to County Durham to at least show our faces.

About 30 miles into our trip, a slight wind picked up and the clouds parted to give us a nice sunny day when we arrived at the Castle grounds, where we were directed to the Discovery Owners Club stand organised by the Durham County Section of the club.

The stand was in the shape of an inverted horseshoe with the gazebo at the top and the cars parked in age order down each leg of the horseshoe.

I had entered 526 in Class J, which included Commercial Vehicles, Military and 4x4. Class J was the first to be seen in the arena. 526 was judged to be the best in the class and so I received a nice souvenir in the form of a small wooden plaque.



There were four Club Stands at the show, the TR Register, Teesdale Motor Club, the combined Jaguar Drivers' Club and Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club and the Durham County Section DOC. The DOC stand with its well laid out display and photographs in the gazebo was deemed to be the best stand on the day and was awarded a plaque.

Witton Castle is a much altered 15th century castle; it is the centrepiece of a holiday and caravan country park at Witton-le-Wear near Bishop Auckland, and worth a visit at anytime.

Mark Woodward will be holding another Classic Car show there on Bank Holiday Monday 29th August and we hope to be there again.

### Sighting of early Discovery in the Isle of Man.

Ian from Towcester visits the Isle of Man from time to time and sent this report about an early car on the island.

*"Hi Graham.*

*I'm hoping I have some information to help with your G-WAC hunt, over on the Isle of Man. The car in question is a now rather pink 2 door Discovery with the compass down either side.*

*It was first declared on the Isle in 1989 (unknown if it was new but more than likely to be a year old). The car itself has seen better days, and has lived an Isle life style!*

*I have no interest in buying the car etc, however if you have records of how many red ones when new, and you're missing a red one, I will approach the owner and find out further details. I am over the water in a few weeks and whilst I do not know where it lives I do know its "stomping" ground.*

*As with many cars over there, they are bought new in the UK (cheaper) driven on the Isle on UK plates until the tax expires then put on Manx plates.*

*I will however try and get the Vin off the car, and get it over to you.*

*Kind Regards*

*Ian"*

Once he obtains the Vin I can check it off against our list and see if indeed it is a launch car.

Graham.

### Launch G-WAC wanted.

I have quite a lot of experience with Land Rover products, mostly former press launch Range Rovers, and wondered if you knew of any 200 Tdi G-WACs for sale. I narrowly missed one for sale about 18 months ago (G457WAC), but have recently thought about looking for another.

There is no rush at all and I am happy to wait for the right one to come along. - I have taken 15 years 'rescuing' my small collection of former press launch Range Rovers from the scrap man. I was disappointed to have missed-out on G457 WAC - it was just what I wanted in that when new, she featured in a number of publications, though quite rough in view of the photos sent by the seller. The seller sold it before I had the chance to go and look at it - I have learnt my lesson and bought M270 CVC (my press launch P38) unseen over the phone before the breakers yards moved in!

Do let me know if you come across one for sale - a launch car and one with some photos of the car at or around the time of the launch is what I would ideally like. I am not afraid of rust... and much prefer an original rusty car (virgin rust that is!) rather than something that someone else has had a go at, if you know what I mean. I may need to sell one of my press launch Range Rovers in order to provide time / drive space / money and of course the continued tolerance of my wife ;-)

Here is my hobby website for your interest:  
[www.k58ykv.co.uk](http://www.k58ykv.co.uk)

Julian.

## Classic Car & Bike Show and 4x4 Spares day. Ripley Castle, 30th May.

This Spring Bank Holiday event has been on my calendar for many years and is always well supported by local Land Rover owners. Camping is allowed on the previous night and quite a few exhibitors enjoyed the piece and quiet of the evening.

The weather on Monday was not good, so in order to make sure that the movement of cars did not damage the ground, the judging of the different classes was carried out where the cars were parked. Not all owners come to have their cars judged, so if they wanted to be included in the judging all they had to do was "pop" the bonnet and the judges would then include the car on the list.

The 4x4 autojumble was not very well represented at the show but did I purchased a rear wiper motor, which I have yet to fit, and a couple of spare steel wheels from Farewell 4x4. Graham at Farewell is always at the Ripley event and carries a lot of Discovery parts.

The event is organised by Mark Woodward Classic Shows, and the event will be repeated on Sunday 7th August.

Roy.

## Dunsfold Collection Open Weekend 18th-19th June.

Brian Bashall started to collect a few Land Rovers in 1968, and since 1993 the Collection has further progressed by one of his sons, Philip.

The Open Weekend is an informal affair and must be the largest collection of prototype and pre-production Land Rovers in the world.

The Collection does not have a permanent home, so viewing is only possible at their Open Weekends, and I would recommend the event as a must for enthusiasts.



I arranged for some space to show five G-WACs under the name of the G-WAC Register, I had hoped to fill the stand but in the end I was the only one there with 526.

The Discovery Owners Club was in attendance on the next pitch, so they took up the space allotted to us and made a good display.

Philip Bashall gave talks about the display explaining how the prototypes were developed, and Richard Beddall kept us informed of the proceedings.

Roy

## 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**

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Issue 48 June 2011

## Current known owners of launch cars @ June 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	Philip 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
G308WAC	Graham Bethell
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)