



The Fairlead

Volume 8, Number 2

Summer 2003

From the Director's Chair

By Tom Bache

Hi Everyone,

Some of us recently went to a LRNASponsored intro for the new Range Rover. We chose an early morning appointment, and by luck of the draw, Mira and I had Tom Collins for our guide. A very nice person, and fellow diesel enthusiast. We drove the L322 through the course cut out in the property behind this summer house on Montauk, L.I. and then over to the beach, through the inlet and to the lighthouse. Apparently the day before the water was quite a rush, but a piece of cake by Saturday.

The new vehicle is quite impressive to drive, the front seats are better than before but still quite stiff for my taste. Lots of electricery and gizmos to turn on and off. Too many in my view. Best driving 4X4 ever though. We received a parting gift bag, including a \$2000 discount on a new Range Rover, have to use it before 8/30/03. Anyone interested, I will gladly pass it on.

I chatted with Tom Collins about this vehicle. Who is going to fix this car after the warranty is gone? Is the dealer still going to have the special test book and the personnel to know how to use it after 10 years? Who would buy one, take it apart and fix it up when it is 20 years old? He felt there will be some computer wiz people out there to keep them going, but it is going to be a small crowd, I am certain.

New Discovery is to come as an '05 model, sometime in 2004. So the '03/04 Discovery is the last of the breed. Next model comes somewhere




▲ *How many members does it take to fix a Rover?*

between the New RR and a Freelander, the the "baby" RR come after that. Still no news or even whimpers about the replacement for the Defender. There may not even be one. Have you ever written to LRNA? If enough people ask for something, the manufacturer will take a look.

Please check the Calendar of events. We have several coming up, and thanks to the members that have toiled to put them together.

I am already thinking about the picnic and this year's food theme is going to be from the grille. Lots to do on the course, but with the weather we have had lately, just have to wait for drier days. This last shop day, we repaired the ramp on the teeter totter, so that is ready. Also we will have a contest for the best Rover toy, entered by those 11 and under. Ellen Monk is

going to coordinate the food, 1-302-737-0473, but not until Aug 10th., as they are still in the U.K. working. I am not trying to hurry the summer along, just thinking ahead, as we always have a good time. 

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Spring UK 2003

by Tom Bache, US Rep for LRSOC

We arrived at Heathrow and immediately split up. Mira went with Peter in a rental car to Gatwick to collect our friend from Italy.

Ornella had never been to the UK before and she spent three days in London with another friend who had just departed. Now she would continue her vacation with us. Jeff and I rented a car and headed to Birmingham to retrieve UDF. A friend picked us up and took out to the farm and we piled our stuff in. The Land Rover isn't running at all, and we work out it isn't getting any fuel. A split in the line from pump to carb will have something to do with that. A replacement is scavenged from another old engine and off we go. Odd that it ran just fine last week when it went for MoT.

Next destination was Oldham. We made a couple of stops along the way, but arrived at the B&B 10 minutes before Peter and the girls.

Next morning I was off to see Graham Aldous near Middleborough, who is a fellow Series One Club member and on the S-1 list. The rest of the group went off to Blanchard's. I was using a new to me GPS mapping program with the laptop. Between the AA map book, the computer and a little guess work, I made it up to the village where Graham lives. Still had to call for directions as I didn't work out that the cow-path was his driveway! Was nice to put a face with a name from the Series One list. Each time I go, I attempt to met up with someone new and help connect the dots. Very nice chat with Graham and the cookies Mrs Aldous set up were a welcome snack. I can certainly see it is a perfect place for a Series Land Rover. Grahams 86" has given good service over the many years, but the salt air of the nearby North Sea is taking atoll. Graham is surprised I turned up in UDF, instead of a sensible road car. Not me, it is all part of the adventure, leg cramps and all. It



▲ *Ornella, Tom, Mira and Jeff at the Pub in the UK.*

was a 4.5 hour jaunt just from Oldham!

I get some photos, and had to take my leave and press on. York was calling.

Ornella and Mira ride with me in UDF, and to my surprise, the wife doesn't mind it. Not as bad as she imagined (not a Range Rover mind you) and she can get along with it.

Well, actually the group was calling beckoning me into the city and see the Minster. I did make it to town, but parking was a pain. As many of you know, it is an old town and parking was never considered in the city planning. Did scoot into a garage and with the mobile phone, we triangulated and met up. York Minster is a large cathedral, supposedly the largest main hall in Europe, at least that is what the guide told us. Couldn't argue as it is big inside. Ornella wanted the roof top tour, where you can get a great view of the city, so we made the climb. Most of us did anyway, Mira couldn't deal with the constant spiral and narrow stairwell, it made her dizzy.

There is much more to this town than I can relate here, but encourage everyone to put it on their list.

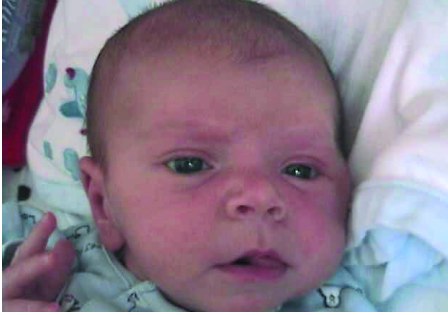
Another night in Oldham at the B&B after dinner out and an early start in the AM. UDF doesn't have any trouble keeping up with traffic now with the replacement engine. We did sort out that is ExMOD 3 brg 2.25. Only thing it doesn't do well yet is idle. New carb and fuel pump last year and twice I have checked for vacuum leaks. Just going to have to yank the manifolds off and replace the gasket JIC.

Ornella and Mira ride with me in UDF, and to my surprise, the wife doesn't mind it. Not as bad as she imagined (not a Range Rover mind you) and she can get along with it. OK, the groundwork is now in for future explorations! Mira borrows Peter's camera and takes a photo of UDF on the inside passing traffic just like the Kentucky Derby. The photo doesn't do justice to the feat!

Just as we roll off the M5, the left rear tire goes limp. Well flat actually. We had switched passengers previously and Jeff and I jump out and have a pit-stop. Two years in a row and two flat tires. I don't think the

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Our Newest Members



Joseph Robert Boehme was born to Doug and Leslie Boehme on 3/26/2003 at 3:51pm at a healthy 8 lb-8.8 oz and 21.5" long. He and his mum are doing well.



Brett Alexander Stevens was born to Mike and Rose Stevens June 10th, 2003, 9:44 am and weighed 8 lbs-15 ozs at 23 inches long. Mother and baby are doing very well.

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A Day In The Life...

by Sean Roche

Back in November, deciding driving an 11 year old Chevy pick-up was not exactly what I wanted to be in, my wife and I went new truck shopping. Ford, Chevy, Dodge. I didn't like one of them. \$30,000 for something I didn't really like just doesn't make sense. I really just wanted a cup holder anyway. I started looking at vintage vehicles again. I've owned a 46 Plymouth, 64 Thunderbird, a 60 Buick mixed in with other more modern vehicles, and currently am working on a 37 Chevy Pick up. Of course the 37 isn't the fastest thing on the block, but its just so much damn fun driving it to pick pumpkins and get ice cream.

I wanted something I could work on. I'm no mechanic but its nice to know what looks like is wrong. I still need a truck as my wife and I are trying to support Home Depot single handedly.

Enter the Land Rover. 52 land rover website bookmarks, message boards, emails and phone calls. To my amazement, every single time I called asking about the rover for sale, the response was always "Which One?" I talked to quite a few owners, most of which had true brand loyalty and spoke highly of the fun, adventure, the tool-clothes-oil-parts collection required among other things.

Ok. Now I know what I want, where can I find one locally, from someone I can trust? I find ROVERS and post a classified message.

Feb 10 - Steve Hoare sends the first tantalizing email with 3 pictures.

Feb 18 - Steve sends email stating rover is buried in snow at "Tom's". Who is this "Tom" guy and why does he have my rover? Damn snow holding things up.

Feb 19 - Steve teases me with photos from the Spruce Cabin. I think its an evil plot to drive me crazy. I wonder who the nut is who drives the open rover. I have to meet him.

Feb 28 - 9 days of painful "I want a land rover" anxiety and Steve emails again, asking if a 7:30 Sunday morning trip to visit "Tom," who I

see mentioned frequently on this website, is good with me. I'm a late night guy, up to 2 or 3am each night so 7:30 is a bit early for me. Should I try to sleep? Can I sleep? How much coffee is in the house? I set 2 alarms just to make sure. No way I'm going to miss the long awaited Show and Tell. I make a mental list of all the questions I should ask, gathering all the internet resources.

My wife gives the "I think you are really crazy" look. I'm smiling. We finally take it for a drive. The windshield fogs up. One wiper stalls. Water leaks in through the vents and the top of the windshield and on to me. Yep, it's a Rover.

Feb 30 - 6am - I think I got about 2 hours sleep. I convince my wife to come along, promising coffee and breakfast. She comments that I am a bit wound up and very surprised that I am even awake.

7:29am - We find Steve right where he said he'd be, and jump into the Disco. I like him immediately. It takes about what seems like 27 hours to get there. We pull into Tom's driveway but I can't see it. I'm informed its in the garage. This seems to be cruel trick # 3. The yard is full of rovers, semi rovers and ex-rovers and I think that these guys are serious rover guys. I finally get to see it. 1966 109 Station Wagon. It looked white in the email photos but is light blue.

First impression, it looks like crap. I still want it. I look around the car, the mental list of questions disappears. The interior is best described as something worthy of a "before" photo. I'm told the frame is solid, motor good etc. I trust them

mostly because I'm only half listening. I'm already in it driving it around in my mind. They start it up, back it up into the pouring rain and take care of the other rover duties. Loading one, finding parts for another. Everyone introduces themselves, and when they find out this is my first Rover, smile.

My wife gives the "I think you are really crazy" look. I'm smiling. We finally take it for a drive. The windshield fogs up. One wiper stalls. Water leaks in through the vents and the top of the windshield and on to me. Yep, it's a Rover. I get to drive it back to Tom's. I already have it repainted, new interior etc. I ask about overdrives and 3 seconds later Tom pulls one out from somewhere. I ask about a gas engine swap and the answer is sure. This is going way too well.

We get ready to leave and Steve asks if I want any of the Rover magazines he is dropping off. I grab 5 and we head home.

The rest of the day is spent reading, rereading, checking new websites, rereading and adding up future spending. This is cruel trick #4

I tell Steve the next day I'll take it. I'll dive into the deep end of this pool and see if I can swim. I'm impressed with the information and friendliness of everyone I've met. I'm looking forward to meeting the rest of the crew. I can't wait to actually get the rover but then again I've been driving it for a few weeks in my mind.

The Adventure begins.

3 Posts March 10th - 5PM - Two envelopes clog up the mailbox. I can't figure who would send me not one, but 2 large items. It seems that the gentlemen (or ladies I don't know) over at British Atlantic and Rovers North mailing departments don't have much to do, or have read the previous post and are anxious to lengthen my list of things to do. Both are great looking catalogs, chock full of information, diagrams, tables, charts and pictures.

I mean, I know I need a headliner, some seats and some new weather

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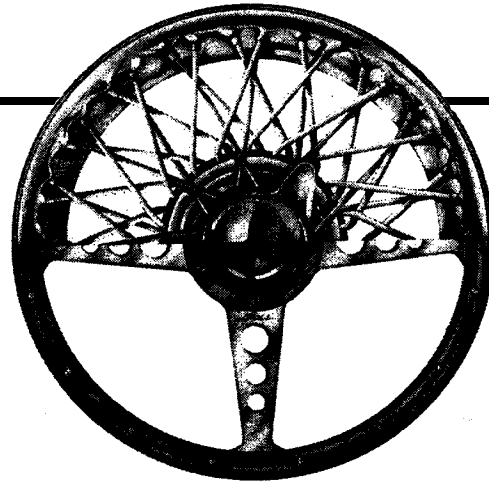
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In the Garage

By Tom Bache



It has been really busy around here lately. Just two weeks ago, Jeff Wilson and I took a trip to Canada to collect a Series One 109 PU. Ron Brown also made the trip to get a 107 SW, from the same seller. It was quite an experience. I already had an 86 SW from Canada here and it is giving up several useful items towards Jeff's project. I hope to acquire two more 86" Series Ones and perhaps by next year they too will be roadworthy. Another 88 S111 is the donor for a future swap from

RHD to left that is planned for late this winter. Some of us plan to switch over an S11a first, then if it goes well, we will attempt a S111. The difference is in the dash layout, making it a bit more complicated.

Projects are lining the driveway here, some aren't Land Rover though. I have two small and one large tractor to paint, and soon will have a Fiat 500 to add to the fleet. Small reminder of Italy.


Next up was shop day. I now have a tire machine here so swapping tires, or demounting old ones off good rims is going to be a big help. I have looked long and hard for one and through a member of another club, I was able to get one.

Now, if I can just get a balancer we will be good to go.

Next shop day is at Peter Goundry's on July 12th. Northern members could make good use of this chance to spend a day finishing up jobs that need a second or third hand.

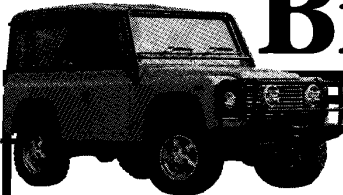
Frank Battersby was here on the last shop day, got his D11 stuck on a log covered in slick mud. Without diff lock, and against a tree, we got the Ferguson out to haul him up. Paul Sipe also had a go with his 101 FC. Apparently he nicked a tree and didn't know it until forward progressed ceased. Water conservation is going well, I have half of the projected amount to fill the pond on the course. This will be our water feature.

Projects are lining the driveway here, some aren't Land Rover though. I have two small and one large tractor to paint, and soon will have a Fiat 500 to add to the fleet. Small reminder of Italy.

I hope your summer is going as planned for all your shop jobs. 



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Spring UK 2003

Continued from page 2



▲ Why are these two Land Rover nuts smiling and in a cage with this woman?

XCL's like all this highway driving, but I had bought a new tire at the Sortout last year, so we were prepared. We nearly lose the Rover off the jack as the ground sinks. I promise myself to get a jacking platform into the vehicle for the next time. Job finished, and on to lunch with Peter's Mum and sister who live in Quinton. After lunch, we are destined for a source for tools near Solihull. Nice old chap and we discover he has 2.0 diesel resting in the shed for 22 years and I make a plan to buy it. Now how to get it back to the US is the question. Ever the optimist, I will think of something. UDF is acting up again and I realize the fuel filter has been omitted in the engine swap as we seem to be getting dirt in the carb. As it happens we stop at a tire shop across from main dealer, Evans Halshaw in Solihull. I ask the tire shop to swap the new tire and tube onto my spare as I nearly ran it off the rim and fear the tire is bad. Not worth the chance anyway. Then I cross the street and ask the parts counter staff for a fuel filter. They want to know what it is for so I tell them a 1985 90 with 2.5 petrol. You would have thought I was asking for a heater core for a Anglia. Not listed

in his computer, but the lad does reappear with a rather new, still in the wrapper, parts catalog and does indeed figure out what I want. Not in stock was the end result. If it doesn't fall off regularly under warranty, then they don't have it.

We carry on south to Gaydon, where another B&B waits. Mira and I stayed here 5 years ago when we came for the 50th at Billing. Long night of conversation and catching up with old friends.

Saturday is the assault on the Sortout. Everyone except Peter is booked in here, he heads home to a free night at his Mum's.


Jeff and I are up early and away, Peter collects the girls at a more sensible hour. We are to meet some others from the club, Peter Monk, who is working in the UK until August and Steve Hoare, who has romped with us at the Sortout before on some occasions. We collect them at the Motorway services near Newbury and then head up. As before, we have arranged a special parking spot and early entry. Peter and the girls show up in the morning later on, and after a stroll through the show grounds, the ladies now know what the Sortout looks like! Peter shuffles

them off to lunch at a nice pub with hot tea and real rest rooms!

The weather has turned out nice, lots of stuff to look through. I find a hydraulic powered side PTO driven winch for UDF. Or at least I hope to put it on there. Only problem is, it isn't all here, some of it still resides in Dorset. Another road trip for our next voyage to the UK. We pile up the parts, despair over how we are going to get it all back to the USA. Two nights in London were included in our airfare, so back to Birmingham to drop off UDF and then south again to our waiting hotel. It makes for a long day and road construction in London throws us off course even more. Ornella was fresh with the city layout and with Mira interpreting, they finally figured it out.

Sunday took us to Hever Castle and lunch. This castle has figured in history with Henry the 8th and was reconstructed by the Astors. First castle I have been to with a drawbridge. We all have mental ideas what things should look like and even though this wasn't a defensive position like Warwick or Kenilworth, interesting all the same. I enjoy stringing the history lessons with the places we visit. Some of that stuff from 8th grade is now starting to make sense!

Monday is departure day, but we still have some time. We take the subway and land at Harrod's only to find it doesn't open for another 1/2 hour, which we don't have. Jeff added to his list of life experiences, he had never been on a subway before and riding it during rush hour was intense. He likes the Land Rover in the countryside thank you very much. He says, BTDT and no thank you to the t-shirt! Ornella departs for Italy and we heave our bulging bags into the Vauxhall estate one more time. We get on the plane, only to learn of another snowstorm on the east coast of the US. Thankfully, the roads are mostly cleared when we get back, exit from the car park is our only challenge.

Next stop is the June LRW show. I plan to make my first AGM for LRSOC and book UDF for a trip around the off-road course. Finally, mud under the tires. Stay tuned! 

Calendar of Events 2003

August 9	Summer Fun in Sunbury, PA Picnic and trialling on the Wilson Farm, 10 am. The course has been expanded, mud is likely! Bring your Rover, your picnic lunch, your chairs and your recovery gear! Call 570-286-7952 for more information.
August 23	Rhinebeck Old Car and Air Show
Sept 7	Annual Club picnic at the Bache's. Starts 11am Ever expanding driving challenges on our dedicated course. Children's activities, including a treasure hunt for the younger Rover members and the bike trial, yes, bring your bikes!. Bring your dish to share, there will be a salad competition so dig out those secret family recipies!. Prize by peoples choice secret ballot. Please RSVP to Ellen Monke at 302-737-0473 or monke@udel.edu, she will be coordinating the food. Winning ticket to be drawn for free trip to the UK in time for Fall Sortout. You must be present to win!
Oct3-5	MAR event near Fork Union, VA-www.roav.org for details. Club area on far side of island this year, Saturday evening dinner - Italian, call Ton Bache if you wish to participate in dinner.
Oct 24-27	Fall Sortout trip. Bring your list and empty suitcase! Call Tom Bache if you wish to participate in group travel, share car expenses, etc. Our lucky winner will have a round trip airfare to the UK in time to attend this event. Start saving your money and get your passport-you may be a winner their are deals to be had.
Nov 2	Fall Trials at Robesonia Longest running biannual Land Rover event in the USA. Starts 9AM
Dec 6	Shop Day at the Bache's
Addendum	There is room for more events, if you have data for events that may be going on elsewhere within other clubs, please forward the info to Will the Editor at: wilsworld2@aol.com — Share the fun.

UK Fall 2003

A reminder that the club is selling raffle tickets to obtain one R-T airefare in time for the the Sodbury Sortout. Please support this effort, even if you can't attend this Fall.

The drawing will be held at the annual picnic, the winning ticket must be present to win. The owner doesn't have to be here, have someone bring them to the picnic. We just want to know who the winner is. Your turn could be next.

Speaking of the trip, if you want to go with a group of your peers, make sure your passport is up to date, or get your documents out and go file to get one. Passport is handy to have, never know when you may need it. If you want to know what the vehicles for sale in the UK are about, here is a chance. Want to buy a car? There is space for one vehicle to share a container. Plan ahead, be ready. I have started watching the airfares, when a likely deal is available, I will post it out to those who have expressed an interest. If you didn't happen to win the lucky ticket, then you will have to buy one yourself.

The plan is to leave Phila - Newark on Thurs, Oct 23rd in the evening, get there Friday and head straight for Dunsfold and one other Rover parts place, then go to the Sortout on Sat, then head north. Sunday, be a tourist, Monday visit two more Rover parts places/load the container. Fly back the 28th, a Tues.

For those of you that haven't been, this provides a taste of what there is, without dragging you all over the country. How many people wish to go, will determine how many cars will be needed to shuffle around. 4 is max per car, less if you want to be cheap and get a micro-something. Remember, you have to haul you and your luggage times the number of travel mates. And it is inevitable more stuff will be bought. I can remember several overstuffed carloads, you have seen pictures before in the newsletter. If more than one person wishes to drive, you must tell the car hire company. If in a group, elect a driver you are comfortable with, as it can be more exciting than you wish for if riding with a novice at RHD. I usually use Alamo/National. Bring your allowed disposable pocket money, pack light, be prepared to bring an extra package/luggage back. You never know what you will find that you didn't know you needed until you see it. Bring US cash, change it at the airport. Don't bring travellers checks, VISAworks in most stores. Remember, this is an adventure, but will require your active participation. At the picnic, you can query Peter Goundry, Jeff or myself if you have any questions. Let's have fun.

While we make every effort to offer correct information in the calendar, please contact the organizing club or organization to verify the information, fees and sign up procedures. Events sponsored by R.O.V.E.R.S. are listed with bold dates.

A Day In The Life...

continued from page 4

stripping but I didn't know I could order waterproof seat covers (HBD000320LYRG - \$299.95) or the Sherpak Elevator Step (33515 - \$49.95) or the California Water Blade (9109 - \$21.95). I guess if I wanted waterproof seats I wouldn't have purchased a rover, plus I can always wear a poncho. I'm not sure where the Sherpak Elevator Step comes in handy, but I'll keep a close eye on it, just in case. I guess the California Water Blade through me for the biggest loop. I'm pretty sure I've washed my 1992 Chevy PU once or twice since signing my name on the bottom of 47 documents at the Chevy Dealer, but then again... about 95% of all Rover pictures I have seen, have been action photos, with Rovers diving headlong into rivers, deep sand, dry deserts, and swampy mud. Maybe if they renamed it the Bayou Mud Slinger or the Sahara Sand Sucker I could add it to my list.

My wife has a doctors appointment at 6:30. I bring the catalogs and sit in the Jeep with the light on reading them. It's cold but I keep reading.

The scariest part is finding part RNC283 The Thrust Washer for Spider Gear (either 0.045 or 0.050) and wondering if I'll ever need one. I mean, when is the right time to ask someone if they think you need a new thrust washer, before or after handing them a cold beer?

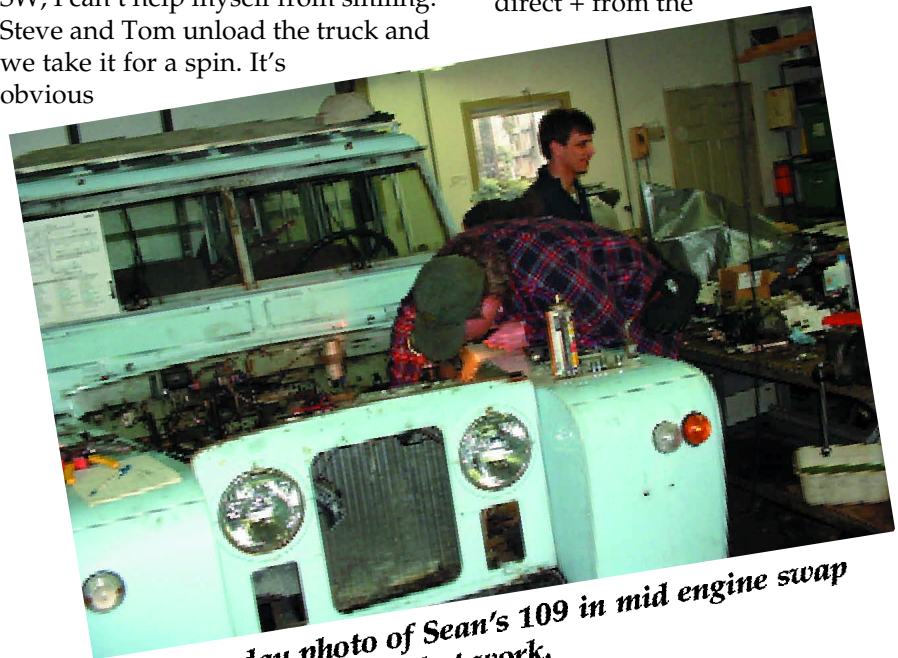
I've circled brake parts, (ok so I just folded the corner on the page) everything involving rubber seals and window channels, RNB324 (knob for vent control), RNB841 (roof vents) and RNC110 (apron panel) and a host of things that I should buy after the hard work is done.

But that is the point isn't it? I've already dedicated spending money to something that's not even in my driveway yet. I'm sure the first \$2,000 (can you hear my wife saying 'first?') will go for things that few will see or understand. I remove the prices list from the catalogs. I can see a pattern here. I will start to hide receipts, and

meet the UPS guy at the corner.

I'd love to hear from other people whose Rovers own them. Maybe you can explain it. Maybe you can't. Maybe you shouldn't. Just don't ever mention the cost of Rover parts near my wife when we meet , will ya?

April 23 - Tom calls - the rover is loaded on a trailer and on its way. 7:30pm I'm standing at the bottom of my street and I see a disco pulling a SW, I can't help myself from smiling. Steve and Tom unload the truck and we take it for a spin. It's obvious



▲ A shop day photo of Sean's 109 in mid engine swap with Jeff and John hard at work.

that Tom has spent alot of extra hours inspecting/fixing/checking and it makes me feel good purchasing a rover from someone who knows rovers. They show me how everything works, including the starter button which I never even noticed before. I would have felt pretty goofy if my first "tech help" call was something so simple. We park it, try to restart it but the battery won't perform. A quick jump start works so I'll assume the battery is funky.

April 24 - 7:30am It's 2 hours earlier than I usually wake up, but I can't sleep. I put on my best well worn and torn clothes, gather up the tools and head out to the alley. I check the lights, switches, wipers.

The left side wiper won't work. I know it worked 2 weeks ago at shop day. I'm pretty sure the inspection guys like wipers to work, even if at the pace of a slug on a warm piece of marble. 30 minutes into the day and I have the hood up, charger on, and the dash panel hanging out. Oddly enough, I don't mind. I'm sure I can figure it out. Trace some wires, check grounds, run some replacement wire - wire from a lamp I retrieved from the neighbors trash - and keep poking. I keep forgetting to turn on the switch and the motor. At one point, a direct + from the

battery to the left motor makes the right motor work. I do it twice just to make sure I'm not still asleep. Half hour later, they both work and then I realize that I have not changed anything. Go figure.

I pull bits off and run off to NAPA to get Rust Reformer and sand paper. I wonder if they have bulk discounts.

About noon, its time to take it for a spin. Stop by the gas station and pull up to the wrong side of the pump. Lose 10 "cool vintage vehicle look" points. Talk to the mechanic, order new tires and try to pick his brain. Head off to find a road that will allow enough space and downgrade to test the upper limits of the gears and overdrive. 50mph was the max for today. On the way through town, 2 lunatics are yelling and

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More From The Spring Trials At Robesonia



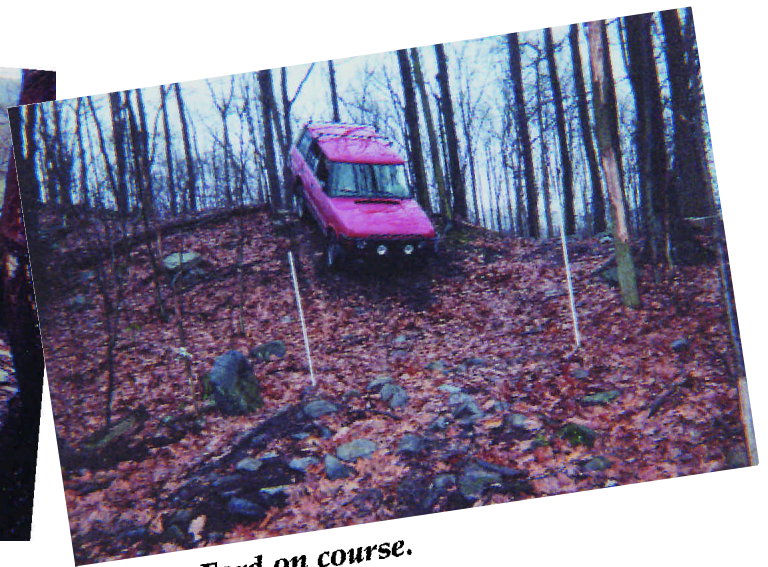
▲ John Trotter on the course.



▲ Evan Price, right behind John - Twins eh?.



a section. ...ing a swipe at



▲ Mike Ford on course.

Other Ramblings

By Tom Bache


Mira and I recently went to Denmark, with a stop in the UK on the return. We visited the Monk's, who are sabbatical until August and working West of London. While there, I was allowed to visit the LRW show for a day. Was a nice show, saw some nice exhibits, including some of the off-road camping trailers you see advertised in the L-R press. Also several "pink panther" type vehicles, including one of the earliest-an 86". The Camel Trophy vehicle owners

club had a very interesting display, a shallow pond was trenched out, the roof off a 110 was placed in the hole. Then water was put in, giving the impression of a complete vehicle being submerged, very clever.

I never made it to the off-road course, I spent most of the day with the Series One Club members. They arranged dozens of Rovers into "55" on a hill side to acknowledge the anniversary of Land Rover. Saw a clever tilt up front end on an 80", wasn't that difficult to do actually.

We did some non-Rover activities as well. Mira, Ellen and the girls went into London to see Momma

Mia. Was so impressed we went to see it in Phila last week as well. Was a good show. We also visited Bath. As the name implies it is based around Roman baths erected over hot springs. Another history lesson.

And lastly, I am saddened to report that N!xau had died. You know him as the Bushman in the movie "The Gods Must Be Crazy". He appeared in several movies after, the first one he was paid \$300 for his work. Later, he learned the value of money and demanded better compensation. He had a house built, bought a car and hired a driver, as he never learned to drive himself. 

A Day In The Life...

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waving at me from a town DPW truck. I fear that I have just lost a major part or just dropped all the fluids or some other disaster. I've only driven it about 3 miles so far so I'm a bit worried. I pull up and they both lean out the window and yell "Cool Rover Dude!" and drive away.

Stop at a friends business to say hello and 3 minutes later someone pulls up and asks about it. He's looking for a 109 also and I point him to this website.

Next stop, Ken over at Plastic Media Blasting to drop off a few parts for testing. Head on home and 3 more hours of tinkering. The trashmen, the neighbors, and the workmen all stop by. This is getting pretty funny.

I'm all greased up, tired and have to pick some rust flakes out of my ear. I like it. I like it a lot. I found a few nasty bonuses, like the LH top window inner frame has about 20% of

the metal left and is being held on by wishes, the lug nuts are all put on backwards, and the radiator has a suspicious repair. But like any vintage vehicle, I'm not really surprised. It's only parts time and money. I'll never have all 3 at the same time, but hopefully at least 2 at any given point.

It's after midnight and I have a few more hours of website work left to do. I'm tired, happy and excited to own this truck. I wonder if any Rover website have some great designs or programming, so I can surf them as "research".

A huge thanks to Tom Bache, for putting in the time and effort, way above and beyond what anyone could have ever expected. Thanks also to Steve Hoare who answered my WTB classified, started this whole adventure, provided LR magazines and his excellent subtle sense of humor. LAND ROVER

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