

Cross Country report

The Scottish Land Rover Owners Club ended 2015 with its infamous Boxing Day Bash. Effectively an auto test, but run in extremely wet and very, very muddy conditions.

The new year has already kicked off in style with a round of each of the different competitions. The trials continue to be a success; Tyros (entry level trials) are being actively promoted via the website and Facebook pages to encourage some new blood to participate in the club. Timed Trials have also resumed, and the first 1day Club Comp Safari of the year is scheduled for 20th March. The big success so far this year has been the recent Green Road Run in the forests around Aberfoyle. 59 Land Rovers (and their drivers and passengers) met and enjoyed exploring off the beaten track in this beautiful area.

BBC Alba's motoring show Air An Rathad recently included brief coverage of some of Mudmaster's trial and orienteering sections – all too brief, but worth looking out for.

Scottish Off Road Club continue to put on a variety of off-road events aimed at participants of various levels of experience. Family-oriented events are a regular feature on the calendar – for instance the annual Snow Hunt, and Cold Turkey (the final round of the 2015 Punch championship). The most challenging event of the year to date has been the Borders Blizzard, which lived up to its name – 15 vehicles (some 40 participants) negotiated a 100-mile route, armed with tulips and instructions including a quiz. 5 cars finished – none of whom got everything right!

Tay 4x4 Club continues to hold monthly meetings at various sites in the Tayside area. Drivers can take part in orienteering tests, or spend the day driving round the various venues – some of the routes can best be described as challenging...

Buchan Off-road club runs a number of competitive events, including tyros, trials, modified vehicle trials, Orienteering and Challenge events. They are running a Tyro taster event on 20th March in Fetteresso Forest.

The Scottish Borders Hill Rally, organised by the Scottish Hill Rally Club, ran on 21st-22nd November 2015 with a full entry of 50. This again proved to be very popular with the competitors. This was filmed and broadcast on Motors TV and can now be seen via www.scottish-hillrally.co.uk.

Planning of the Scottish Cross Country Championship is now well under way, with the traditional first round being held in conjunction with the Northern Ireland 4 Wheel Drive Club across the water - a number of club members are booked on the ferry to compete and marshal. We will of course be looking for competitors & marshals this side of the water for the future rounds on the

16th & 17th of April

7th & 8th of May

11th & 12th of June

20th & 21st of August

17th & 18th of September

22nd & 23rd of October

So please put these dates in your diaries and look out for more details.

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