

Cross Country Co-ordinator's report

The Scottish Land Rover Owners Club is running a Timed Trial Championship – a Cross Country Vehicle trial against the clock. This is proving to be a very popular concept, with the first event this year attracting some 25 entries. The Club is running six events in the next 30 days: 2 timed trials, a driving day, 2 RTVs and a comp safari; these are likely to be popular and well attended.

This year's Scottish Cross Country Championship consists of six two-day events, the first of which is at Dumbarton on 13th – 14th April. The Northern Off-road Club (based around Bradford) is including the Drumclog comp as one of its seven Championship rounds. This comp, on 18th – 19th May, is likely to be very popular with Competitors. This year the only comp with night stages will be Bathgate (14th – 15th September). Some competitors and marshals from the Scottish Cross Country Championship attended a comp in Northern Ireland at the weekend, courtesy of the NI 4x4 Club. This was a great success, with two of the Scots taking 2nd and 4th place.

The Scottish Off Road Club is celebrating its 21st Anniversary with a Dinner and Ceilidh on 6th April. This year's committee includes several members under the age of 25, and the latest edition of the Club magazine consists primarily of articles by young members. This is a very welcome trend which can only be good for the club and for the sport in general.

Reivers 4x4 Club, based in Berwick, had a stand at the Tayside Police Driving event at Crieff on Sunday 17th March. The club is based in Berwick and has some two hundred members. It is a family-oriented, non competitive club, the focus being on fun days out, pay and play days, greenlaning, and fundraising for Maggie's Cancer Centres. Police, Ambulance and Fire Brigade demonstrated a response to an accident scenario, and several organisations had static displays. Around 100 members of the public attended: creditable, in view of the constant rain and low temperature.

And finally, a few interesting observations (courtesy of Ian Stuart):

- (1) The Scottish Land Rover Owners Club may only be 55 years old (it formed in 1957), however it is one of the oldest - and largest, with almost 500 members - in the Association of Land Rover Clubs.
- (2) Rallies have been run in Scotland since 1996, and the "Borders" Hill Rally (run by the Scottish Hill Rally Club) is the only Hill Rally still running (the last event outside Scotland was in May 2006, and the Perthshire event stopped in 2010).
- (3) The main Cross Country clubs run some 50 events between them, across ten different disciplines within the sport.
- (4) The Scottish Hill Rally Club intends to get the 2013 November "Borders" Hill Rally televised.