



THE ANGLIAN ROVER OWNERS' CLUB ROVEROUND Magazine

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In This EDITION:
Photos from Roundhill.
Whaddon Preview

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Chairman's Chat

I think we will all agree that this year, 2020, is one we will not wish to remember and it will go down in history for all the wrong reasons.

The COVID-19 pandemic has wreaked havoc across the entire world, not just here in good old Blighty. The effect of the lockdowns have reached far and wide affecting the vast majority of us in one way or another. Some have lost loved ones, others their jobs or a proportion of their income through no fault of theirs. I applaud the NHS for all of their hard work and diligence but they are not the only people who have gone the extra mile, teachers, shop workers and many more have done their bit, they all need supporting and shown gratitude.

Motor sport, as you know, has basically stood still, especially at grass roots level. We have only managed to run four events this year, the rest being cancelled because of lockdown. BUT with all things being equal and a fair following wind our event on the 27th December at Whaddon should go ahead. All of the systems that were put in place earlier in the year, enter and pay on line etc. will still be used, we don't have any choice in this, they work so let's use them.

One of the knock on effects of not running many events is that none of the cups and trophies have been awarded. At the moment we have every intention of running the Awards Evening at the Bell Hotel, Winslow in February but it will be just a social occasion as there aren't any awards to give out. We may still be in some sort of restriction in which case it will not happen. As soon as we know what's going on we will pass it onto you.

On a more personal note I had an operation on my left eye earlier in the year which, I am glad to say has gone well. But it has made me realise that I am not infallible and I do need to start doing things that I want to do. The first of these things is to retire as Chairman of the AROC in March. I have enjoyed my second stint as Chair but a younger person needs to take over and move the club forward. The second thing is to also retire from shoeing horses, it's too much hard work. The third is to put a new chassis under my 90, that's going to take me a year, what else am I going to do with all this new spare time?

I think that's it for now so hopefully see you all at Whaddon.

Martin Lewis
AROC Chairman

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Photos from Roundhill Wood

Courtesy Phil Ismay



The good thing about Roundhill Wood mud is that it doesn't Stick!

You may (will) get filthy when you are there but give it a day of standing in the dry and the mud flakes off as it

consists of dried leaves from the trees, hence the name Wood!

At least that means that you can splash and trapse through all the gloop you like and not have to bear the sufferance of spending a couple of hours power washing the vehicle down afterwards, and still not get it clean. I am sure I have got twenty year old chalk from Sundon Pits on my series II chassis from days gone by.

We held all three levels of events at Roundhill so had a good turnout with a range of cars from a shiny P38 and D2 in the TYRO to 90s and Suzukis in the RTV and V8 trialers in the CCV. Thanks go to the Flanders extended family for running the majority of the events from permits and paperwork by Sue, then Maurice, James and Lewis for laying out both RTV and CCV and to Andrew for running the TYRO.

The sections were wet but driveable and with the nature of the site once you get into the mud there is often a stone base to it, sometimes even flint to slice a sidewall if you are unlucky. As the woods are now used by another club or two there are more openings being created through the trees which does mean we can find new routes through to keep the sections interesting so there were new challenges even at a site we have used often in the past.

Talking of sites we have lost the ever popular Brickhill one unfortunately as the land has been sold so is gone for good which is a shame. If anyone knows of any potential new sites please do let any of the committee know and we will see what can be done.

As a bit of a consolation our next event will be just after Christmas on the 27th of December at Barnhill Farm, Whaddon, near Milton Keynes where the Nationals were last held. The site is very varied, we used to hold Safaris there up until a few years ago as it could cope with a lap of about three miles round the perimeter of the farm, whereas now we look for individual pockets spread around to set each section up in. This does lead to a bit of travelling between the sections which as it happens suits us with not having spectators at the moment. This again will be TYRO, CCV and RTV trials, there are various restrictions still in force so please read the entry criteria when we publish the forms which of course need to be returned before the event as we cannot accept any on the day. No long hills to climb but lots of smaller hillocks to test traction and many humps and bumps, if it has been wet in the weeks preceding then the farm can turn to a marshland so be prepared as you may need wellies.

Sign up early if you want to chill-out after the Christmas rush with a rare day of trialing at it's best it is better for us to be able to count numbers before everything is set. An email will be out shortly with entry forms and it will be on the website as well.

We look forward to a great day.

In the meantime Happy Christmas,
Spencer Williamson

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