



Ian's G603 WAC

G-WAC Notes

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



Raymond's AZ-829-TJ

March 2011

The weather is picking up now so I am letting 526 stand out in the sun during the day, any damp that has accumulated through condensation whilst it was in the garage will then soon dry out.

Gary has sold 610 to John, and Richard has decided to keep 601. I am assured that the changes are positive and we may see the cars out and about this year.

Nicholas is working away steadily with 534 and hopes to have it ready for some outings in 2012, and Ian will have the ex Graham Bethel 603 taxed for the road again soon.

I am working on a G-WAC logo, which can be embroidered on T-shirts or other clothing, which you may be interested in.



603

Since my last report I have had the windscreen rubber replaced, wheel alignment done and also the cambelt replaced. I fixed the hole in the chassis, but this got me poking further and I now have a bit of a restoration on my hands.

Up came the boot floor carpet and I decided that the floor and side panels need replacing so they are now on order.

Out came the rear seats and up came the rear carpet and this is where things turned ugly! Both corners of rear passenger foot wells are in a terrible way and in fact a bit too much for me so the cutting out, making good and patching up of these will have to be done by a friend with better welding skills than me.

Out came the front seats and carpets but not too bad here. A bit of rubbing down and plenty of Red Lead should make good.

The sound deadening material in the front foot wells was soaking and weighed a ton so these are drying out; oddly the carpets were dry. I think the old windscreen rubber was letting a lot of water in and it was running down the bulkhead and under the sound deadening. All the trim can have a good clean whilst it's stripped out and I may wash/scrub the carpets too.

I am hoping to be getting 603 back on the road by the summer. She is already booked in for a couple of local shows so I'm looking at July by the latest but will keep you informed of developments.

Ian.

G-WAC wanted.

I have the name of a prospective owner who wants a 200Tdi, so let me know if you have one for sale.

Roy

First long run with 526 this year.

I used 526 quite a bit for short runs during winter, so a good blast down the motorway to the British Indoor 4x4 show, which was at the Staffordshire County Showground, blew the cobwebs out of it.

The show is not really a Land Rover show but a sales event for all things 4x4 and off-road, and as such it was a good show for anyone contemplating spending a lot of money.

If you wanted to compare like for like before deciding on a particular purchase there were at least two manufacturers showing similar products. Items such as roof tents, tow ropes and expensive parts like winches, winch bumpers and tyres.

The Discovery Owners Club had reserved



some stand space and I was volunteered to man it.

The space was on the balcony with quite tight access, and I was told that it would be very difficult to get my car out each evening to get Margaret and myself back to our hotel in Stafford. However all was not lost when Andy Chell volunteered his 300 Tdi for the stand, and he could leave it overnight Friday and Saturday.

526 ran very well at motorway speeds and our next run will be on Friday 22nd April when we join a convoy at Woodhall Services, on its way from Scotland to Gaydon, for the Convoy for Heroes at Gaydon on Sunday 24th April.

Events 2011

April 24th	Help for Heroes run. Gaydon.
May 1st	Heritage Land Rover Show. Gaydon.
7th-8th	LROI Spring Adventure. Driffield Showground, East Yorkshire.
15th	Land Rovers on the Line. Severn Valley Railway.
26th-31st	ALRC National Rally. Bircham Newton, Norfolk. PE31 6RH. together with the DOC National Event
June 18th-19th	Dunsfold Collection Open weekend. Springbock Estate. GU6 8EX.
July 15th-17th	LROI Billing Show. Great Billing, Northamptonshire.
August 13th-14th	LRM Show. Stoneleigh.
September 10th-11th 24th-25th	LROI Show. East of England Showground, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. Abingdon 4x4 Festival. Abingdon.
October 2nd 15th-16th	London to Brighton Plymouth social and road run.

A few words from Graham Bethell

Although I no longer have a "G-WAC" I still have a keen interest. I have spent the winter months working on other Land Rover projects, including finishing a rebuild on a damaged Discovery 2, repairing a 2005 Freelander and assisting a friend re-shell a Range Rover Sport.

I still keep an eye out for things of interest, not only cars but also other Discovery related items. Over the past few years I have started to gather a reasonable collection of items relating to the Land Rover Discovery marque.

My collection includes, launch videos, original training videos, launch DVDs, launch photos, press packs, various magazines from 1989, newspaper articles, an AA road atlas bound in leather embossed with the launch date and details which was given to the press who attended in 1989.

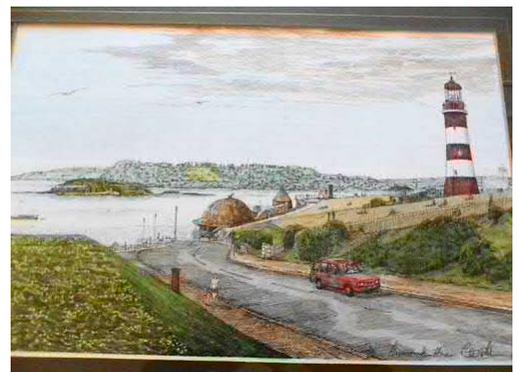
I have also expanded the collection to include items from the 300 Series, Discovery 2 & 3 launches. There have been other things I spotted - but missed out on, including a pack from the hotel dating from 1989, which even included a menu for the evening meal of the launch.

There has also been an item of cut crystal, again given to people who attended the launch. I am keeping a close eye to see if these, or similar items, appear again in the future.

The latest addition to my collection came very cheaply, and an item I have not seen before. It is a painting, fairly small at 40 x 27 cms, and it's of a G-WAC Discovery just passing Plymouth Hoe. The picture is dated 1989, and has a reference to Pickfords Travel (they arranged all the travel for the press attending the 1989 launch) which ties up nicely with the AA road atlas which is also embossed with Pickfords Travel on the inside cover.

I suppose really I should do something with all these items, so that enthusiasts get the benefit of them all. Maybe I could convince Gaydon to put them on display with number one from the production line to mark the 25th anniversary of the Discovery in 2014.

In the meantime I will keep on looking for any items related as it seems there is always something else out there. Happy Disco'ing.



Graham

534 and other ramblings.

I checked out item number 270710347501 on ebay, sonar blue steering wheel £10.00 start, £9.00 carriage, and this chap has more of them for sale! I don't need one 'cos muggins here already checked out the part number and found Land Rover still list it and I bought one last summer for £130.00 + VAT (Oh what a fool I am!).

We had a day of beautiful weather here recently so I chucked a battery on 534 and moved everything off it and in front of it, turned the key and it wuffed and burbled into life straight away ("Oh what a good car you are!") 534 really is in remarkably good condition and I think it has the potential to be one of the best G-WACs around

I think, after all the cars I've restored over the last few years this one will be really easy BUT I do want it done to the best of my ability and there is no particular rush, and as ever it is always time and money preventing me from getting stuck in, however though, as much as I'd like to see it on the road with everything done I've decided to spend this summer just doing everything needed for an MOT and getting it to some of the shows next year.

My 200 Tdi Disco' (my daily work car) was off the road for two weeks recently so I used my 'back-up' tow car/ work vehicle; the 1991 3.5 litre auto' J979 SHP (affectionately known as Shep due to its reg') and I think I'll bring Shep to Land Rovers on the line at the Severn Valley, I'd like you to see this car and it might be worthy of a small write-up for the G-WAC Notes.

Do you remember my 'mint' Astra? (see November 2010 Notes) Well I converted it back into pound notes and before I got around to banking my dosh I re-converted it back into automotive form, a 1965 Vauxhall

Victor 101! I transported this FC Victor last summer for my local MOT man and that's how I knew about it (and what he paid for it!)



Pictures are from last summer when I collected it, and how it looks now after 10 months. It's going to get re-commissioned for active service and kissed goodbye!

When I do get my reward for my services to historic automobiles, I shall promptly re-invest in a certain old Land Rover.

Nicholas Webb.



Email from Raymond Bechetoille, Paris

Raymond owns a D1 (see September 2010 Notes) and has three other cars, which he describes as; 'a 911 Carrera 3.2 (1984), Citroën Visa découvrable by Heuliez, and the "hammer", a Mercedes 500E design and built by Porsche'.

"Thank you for this dedicated letter. It's always a pleasure to receive so exclusive bulletin.

Everything is fine. The car is now in Ardeche (50 miles south of Lyon), where finally I start to really look at the car condition and detail. When in Paris ...it was not possible as you depend only on garage, which doesn't know the car.

This trip was quite long/...As power was apparently missing !!!??. I decided not to take the A6 highway, but to drive down through Nevers and St Etienne (former N7)... Trip was longer but road profile and (as it was) engine use in a better fit. On arrival, I discover that the clips on the rod from the wastegate has gone, so the rod. I should have stopped, but days are still rather short and it was already second half of the afternoon.

I think that I will have to bring (next year?) the car to UK for body works repair. I have some light rust (being the paint) down the mid pillar, and one (right/ battery side) front side wheel arch need to be replaced....

Another thing viewed is that this car (sonar blue) has probably been ordered straight to Solihull in continental spec, and imported on a stand alone basis. There is no tag on the country importer. All tags are in English.

Last, is a new incident. I cannot open the back door whatever from in, our outside. I will go on the Discovery club forum to have a chat on that.



*Cheers
Bon WE"*

3-door shell for sale.

My friend who generally imports and exports Range Rover body shells also has a mint 3-door Discovery body shell in the South of France and was wondering if it would be of any interest to anybody.

He can be contacted direct on 07593 091301. His name is Chris, or you can email me, at sharon.paige@sky.com.

Sharon Paige

Heritage Land Rover Show. May 1st.

My entry to the Heritage run will hopefully come through, I was told that it would be early April before the list is finalised.

Gary is planning to be there with Meghan's 478. We have been allocated some stand space in the club area so I hope that a few more of you will be able to bring along a G-WAC or G registered car.

Tickets will be available on a first come first served basis.

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

www.classicrallies.co.uk/index.htm

NORTHMEAD 4x4

Compiled by Roy Preston. If anyone would like to contribute an article for these notes, or receive a copy, please email me at roy@scawdel.orangehome.co.uk or post your address to B R Preston, "Scawdel", Dove Bank, Wormald Green, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 3PU. Phone 01765 677124.

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Current known owners of launch cars. @ March 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	David Ashburner.
G486WAC	John Capewell.
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, G531WAC and G537WAC.

Other G-WACs, pre-production and early cars

B62 COH & C60 JKG	Phill 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
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-Gay
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)