



Project Jay's G226EAC

G-WAC Notes

From the
Project Jay Preservation Group

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



Project Jay's G513DHP

August 2014

With only six weeks to the 25th Birthday party at Plymouth, I am pleased that the pre-pro 5-door is now at Ripon 4x4 for a pre MoT check. We intend to tax it from 1st September, so that it can have a good shakedown before the trip to Plymouth in October. (It will also give me a good idea of the MPG and the likely fuel cost for the weekend!!)

She has not been driven on the road for five years now, and whilst driving to the garage, the only fault of note was a knocking at the rear. It could be the adjustment for the rear door, after the replacement hinge had been fitted, or the ball joint on the rear suspension A frame. If the joint is worn I will ask Ripon 4x4 to replace it.

James has made a few enquiries for transporter costs to take a few G-WACs to Plymouth, the best quote was £580.00 per car, so that is a non starter.

Project L550. Discovery Sport

Sat between the Land Rover and the Range Rover for the past 25 years, the Discovery is to get its own family name. The 25 year Special Edition, D4 XXV, is already badged as Discovery on the bonnet.

Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) is rationalising the Land Rover side of the company into three sub-families, Luxury (Range Rover), Leisure (Discovery) and Utility (Defender)



Replacing the Freelander 2, the L550 will be the first member of the new Discovery family, and will be built at the Halewood factory, Merseyside. This is where the Freelander 2 is currently built, suggesting that it will share Freelander 2 / Range Rover Evoque chassis underpinnings. L550 will have 5-seat and 7-seat options.

The engine choice is expected to be JLR's new 2.0 litre petrol and diesel Ingenium engines. The AJ200D, is a four cylinder, with a chain driven twin cam head.

JLR have released pictures of the car with side graphics, which illustrate the 7-seat interior layout. It will be on sale next year.

513 ready for the MoT.

Oh the joys of reassembling a car that you did not dismantle. I made three attempts to refit the centre console before I had got the heater tubes for the rear seating in the correct position, only to discover that the cables for the window switches were in the wrong place.

When I came to connect the hand brake dash warning light cable, I discovered that the terminal on the switch was missing. The console would have to come out again to fit the new switch.

A new switch was ordered from the local dealer, Ripon Land Rover, but when it arrived it was the wrong switch. I took the broken switch to the parts department to see if it could be identified and the partsman recognised it as the switch for a Defender.

After fitting the front wings, and ready to fit the headlamp surrounds and the grille, I located the indicator cables, only to find that there was no hole in the new inner wing to pass the cable through. Off with the wings again.



It is now with the indie, Ripon 4x4, to give it the once-over for the MoT, and then it will be taxed. This may be the last tax disc that I buy, because there will be no discs issued soon.



I am looking forward to having a good run with the V8; I have only driven a V8 for a short run, that was James' 534.

A day out with The Godfather

It had been planned for about a week or so. Roy had called me up to ask for some assistance picking up a donor Disco for parts for the Pre Pro 5-door and 478.

It was only up the road and I had offered him the use of my TD5 D2 for the purpose of being the workhorse, to bring it to his house.

I had borrowed a trailer and was confident that the day would go without a hitch as the D2 had done roughly 5000miles since I bought her in May. So on a very hot day, with the sun blazing, Roy arrived at my house. We got into the D2 to go to collect the trailer before heading up to Bishop Auckland.

Roy's famous words "I am looking forward to this, as I haven't been in a Discovery 2 for some time ". We made it off the driveway when the tensioner pulley fell off... After a quick bit of head scratching we decided to use Roy's 526 as the tow car, and a quick mess about heading back to his house and then on to collect the trailer and then on to get the donor Disco.

We should have realised that things were not going to be as easy as we had hoped. After about an hour and a half we arrived to see a very sad looking late Disco 200 Tdi with no real running gear apart from the axles. No bother, we thought it would be easy to tow it up on to the trailer, strap down and off home again, until the kind chap informed us it had no steering box. AHHH.

This wasn't going to be easy at all. I had even thought that perhaps it wasn't worth the agro and we should cut our losses and take what we needed and head for home. If you know Roy, you will know he can talk you round, and after inflating the completely knocked tyres that were going down as we removed the air line, we attempted to get it loaded up.



Two hours passed before we finally got away. Lots of pushing and shunting and the vehicle was strapped to the trailer. I am not sure how much was given for the donor, but whatever it was, it was too much. I think the 'kind chap' should really have paid us to take it away.

Getting it down Roy's drive and into position was indeed another story all together, but lets say it was an experience I don't want to repeat.

James.

Spotted, G466WAC

After borrowing a DVD, from a family member, of the TV series of The Green Man starring Albert Finney, what car would he be gallivanting around in? Only a rather lovely G-WAC Disco.



It is still showing on the DVLA website, so it's alive somewhere, we just need to find it.

The production itself, aired in 1990 and can be found on You Tube (it's worth watching, we enjoyed it).

James.

Forthcoming events.

September

20th – 21st

Land Rover Owner International Show.

East of England Showground, Peterborough.
www.lroshow.com

22nd – 26th

For the Adventure Overland Show, on 27th – 28th, pre-event camping is now possible at the Stratford-upon-Avon Racecourse, Warwickshire CV37 9SE. Monday–Thursday nights (pay upon arrival), hence owners on 22nd can now drive direct from LRO Show Peterborough, to Adventure Overland at Stratford Racecourse.

27th – 28th

Adventure Overland, National 4x4, Bike & Trekking Travel Show, at the Racecourse, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 9SE. Camping from 26th.
www.adventureoverlandshow.com

October

5th

London to Brighton Land Rover Run. Starts at Hook Road Arena, Epsom. KT19 8QG. and ends at the Madera Drive Brighton. BN2 1TB.

11th – 13th

Discovery Birthday Party, Plymouth Hoe and Mount Edgecombe Estate.

www.discoverybirthdayparty.co.uk

G711YRY sold.

711 is a low mileage V8 in Arken, which Peter Hares has owned for a number of years.



Peter has now sold it to Derek, from Bedfordshire, and for the September Notes I hope to receive a few words from him about its current condition.

LRO Peterborough Show to celebrate 25 years of Discovery.

An article in the News page of the September issue of LRO says "We'll showcase some of the best Discoverys we've featured in LRO.

From Disco 1 to D4, we'll have examples of every model, including a rare press-launch G-WAC survivor (guess which) and John Pickering's rapid Disco 1 V8 rally car (July 2014 issue)"

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Raby Castle Classic Car Show.

The Mark Woodward event at the castle, in Staindrop, Co. Durham, always attracts a good crowd, and it was a clear fine day for the 50-mile run up the A1 for his 19th Raby Castle event.



The Jaguar club had an excellent gathering, which took up a large space, and was almost a show on its own with just about every model to browse.

The Discovery Owners Club did not have a stand at the show this time, but Margaret and I were kindly welcomed to join the North East 4x4 Club on their stand. The club are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year.

Roy.



G-WAC Notes on websites

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Home of the Project Jay Preservation Group

More articles on Graham's website, www.g-wacdiscoverys.net
grahambethell@virginmedia.com

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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.

www.northmead4x4.co.uk/gwac_discoverys.htm
www.classicrallies.co.uk/index.htm

Northmead Online
www.northmead.co.uk



Compiled by Roy Preston. If anyone would like to contribute an article for these notes, or receive a copy, please email me at roy@g-wac.com or post your address to B R Preston, "Scawdel", Wormald Green, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 3PU. Phone 01765 677124. Mobile 07876 473714

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Current known owners of launch cars. @ August 2014

G457WAC	Julian Lamb
G459WAC.	(Amphibian. The Dunsfold Collection)
G461WAC	John Boucher
G463WAC	Ian Rawlings
G465WAC	Jack Straw
G469WAC	Lee Barnett
G470WAC	Rob Stewart
G478WAC & G526WAC	Roy Preston
G480WAC, G482WAC, G486WAC & G524WAC.	David Ashburner
G488WAC	Robert Blanchard (USA)
G490WAC & G496WAC	Rob Ivins
G494WAC	Mark Harrow
G510WAC	Mark Dixon
G511WAC	Colin Crossley
G534WAC	James Brackenbury

There were 86 cars registered on 01.10.89 from G451WAC to G537WAC, with the exception of G500WAC.

Other known launch cars on DVLA site

G466WAC, G477WAC, and G525WAC

Other pre-production, and G-WACs

B62COH & C60JKG	Philip Bashall (The Dunsfold Collection)	G347WAC (LR110)	Ron Boston
C742HUH	Charles Whitaker	G395WAC	Sean Coleman
G87 WAC (LR90)	Chris Simms	G405WAC	Harry Harrison
G97 WAC (LR90)	Ted Billington	G406WAC	Keith Britton
G226EAC	Project Jay Preservation Group	G410WAC	Alan Young
G513DHP	Project Jay Preservation Group	G563WAC	David Spirrett
G279WAC	Neal	G601WAC	Chris Lowe
G302WAC	Sandy Andrews	G603WAC	Ian Redfern
G308WAC	Robin Gray	G610WAC	Kevin Bond
G310WAC	Mark Simpson	G611WAC	Jamie Menzies
G311WAC	Ivor Ramsden	G617WAC (LR90)	Gary Bryans
G312WAC	Simon Purcell	G618WAC	Steve Ducker
G314WAC	Owner not known	G635WAC	Alec Gatherer
G316WAC	David Cox		

Other early cars

A428JAC	Roy Preston	G757SGX	Paul Bishop
G28 RMW	Glyn Jones	G767NRH	David Ashburner
G41 VHA	Simon Tinkler	G834FPR	Sue Virgin
G43 KWO	Victor Mitchell	G843FPR	Jon Isacc
G67 RYJ	Craig Puesy	G892VPM	Mike E Hall
G101GEL	Keith Britton	G942UTT	Keith Taylor
G229TDV	Wesley Beynon	G987LKU	Andy Greer
G234CBG	Dan Hunter	H776POJ	Duncan Campbell
G374UYR	Jack Straw	H871EWK	Mark Hardwick
G442AJM	Scott Seacombe	J140OAC Ambulance	Neil Witt
G466KUH	Tom Partridge	J463HVK Ambulance	William Wallace
G553OWD	J Herod	3656 TW 24	Keith S L Daffern (France)
G577GTY	Craig Pusey	AZ-829-TJ	Raymond Bechetoille (France)
G656RYB	Graham Welch	LA DC 502	Dr. Diether Hofmann (Germany)
G711YRY	Derek Henman	G—YBE	Ashley Culling