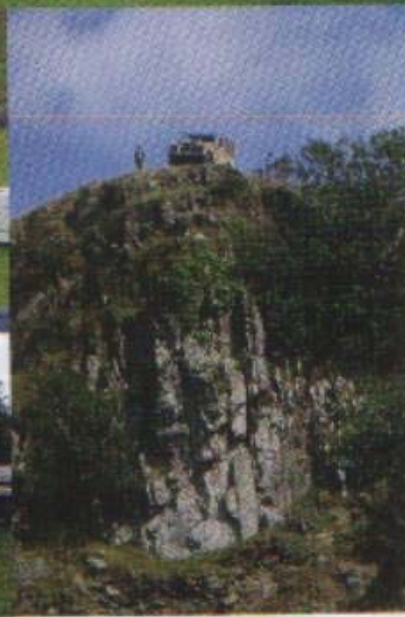


Northern Ireland Land Rover Club TEN MUDDY GOOD YEARS



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In 1996 a handful of Northern Irish Land Rover enthusiasts, including Ian Gregg, Ian Clarke, Jack Bolan, Robin Jelly and Martin Magill, came together to form the Northern Ireland Land Rover Club. The initial aim of the organisation was to give Land Rover owners the opportunity to use their vehicles in an off-road environment, while also providing a forum for discussion, information, advice and assistance on all matters connected with their vehicles and the sport.

As green lanes do not exist in Northern Ireland an arrangement was made with the Forestry Service and private owners to use their land, with the club carrying out regular 'clean up' days and land repairs in return. A large portion of this work included recovering abandoned and burnt out vehicles from the Province's forest.

From these humble beginnings, the club has gone from strength to strength, and ten years later it now has over 100 members. As well as fulfilling the aims of the founding fathers, the club now takes part in various static shows to provide an opportunity for members to display their vehicles, while also arranging regular social and family orientated events.

The Northern Ireland Rover Club has also ensured its activities are not restricted to the local region as it has developed strong links with Land Rover enthusiasts in Ireland and has jointly hosted a number of events with Club Land Rover Ireland. In recent years too, the club has also developed relations with off-roaders in the UK through various internet forums and now takes part in an annual pilgrimage to Drumlog in Scotland.

Recently the club combined its tenth anniversary celebrations with a Charity Family Fun Day, held at an extremely popular site at Whitemans Farm. The event was organised by former Membership Secretary Michael Lynn and past Chairman, Ian Cubbert, and was designed to be a laid back day with plenty of entertainment and the emphasis very much on raising money. Along with some extremely wet and tricky off-roading on the Friday night, the event also included Tyro trials, a charity pigeon shoot, a barbeque, a charity raffle and a children's bouncy castle.

At the start of the event current Club Chairman, Mark Wilson, took the opportunity to thank the organisers, along with all the members, who eventually succeeded in raising a combined figure of £600 for charity.