

Birthday Bash & Barbecue

The Four Wheel Drive Club recently welcomed in their third year of fun, friendship, mud and offroading with a celebratory Birthday bash that was not to be missed!

The event began with a full day of greenlaning through some of Hampshire's stunning countryside. Over thirty 4x4s of all make, age and model made the trip from far and wide to take part in either intermediate level offroading, designed to be non-damaging and enjoyable for all the family, or take on the more extreme route for experienced offroaders wanting to tackle a tougher challenge.

Splitting into groups from the start point at Chawton Park Wood, the routes went off in separate directions, utilising many of the fantastic byways that Hampshire has to offer. Two early 'casualties' were Maadmaan in his Terios and UK_Andy in his LWB Shogun who both had to undergo recovery for getting stuck in the mud, but were soon on their merry way again without damage or delay.

Unusually, it seemed that navigation proved a challenge for two of the day's Event Leaders. For some reason only known to Ninja01 he almost managed to send his group dizzy with his slightly peculiar routing skills! Arnie d'Beer suffered PDA failure and to his horror, suddenly had to remember how to read a good old-fashioned paper map. But thankfully Fidlestix duly despatched his passenger, Carl, who jumped in and expertly steered everyone safely around the route.

As always the challenging course lived up to its name with Thetidyone being its most unfortunate victim, who was only able to complete 2/3 of the route before travelling home on the back of a low-loader. However, he was more upset about missing the evening barbecue than his broken 90! Thankfully, any other damage sustained along the way was only minor and everyone made it happily to the end at Queen Elizabeth Country Park.

The evening barbecue celebrations were once again legendary with ample food and refreshments available until late into the night before everyone finally made their way home with big smiles, tales to tell, full bellies and raffle prizes for plenty of lucky winners.

And so the Four Wheel Drive Club move into its third year with events like this and more, for all abilities and type of 4x4 coming up all the time. The club is now spreading its wings and organising more unusual trips all over the UK and into Europe. But it's not just about offroading - there's also a host of members benefits, a friendly social side and a lively club forum to enjoy. For full details and to be part of the fun, visit www.fourwheeldriveclub.com and sign up to be a member - it's free to join!