



# Wessex Hillrunners Off – Road Enthusiasts Newsletter February 2011



*Safe Fun off-road and on for all the family, the South's  
Premier all make family fun All wheel drive club!*

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Welcome to the Wessex Hillrunners off-road enthusiasts club newsletter. We are here to keep you up to date with the latest club events and show what members have been doing and give you something worth reading. If you have something to share please contact the editor or any of the committee who will try to squeeze your input in as soon as possible.

## Contact List

Chairman	Richard Fletcher	07880 884329
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Membership Secretary	Steve Cowling	01329 221179
Club Shop	Jen & Joe Joesbury	02392 647500
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Club Secretary	Max Grogan	07972 555664
First Aid Co-Ordinator	Simon Blench	07717 376052
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## Page Three Topless Model



## From The Chair



Greetings all.

Well this is my first comment since becoming Club Chairman so let me tell you a little about myself and my intentions for the year ahead.

My name is Richard Fletcher and for those of you who don't know me I served the previous 3 years as the Club's Child Protection Officer. At present I drive a 1968 short wheel base Series IIA that is virtually standard – at the moment.

I am a very keen photographer and you are most likely to see me at events taking pictures. If you fancy appearing in next year's calendar, then ask me to make sure I get some pictures of your car when you see me with my camera or send me some of your own pictures. If you have not heard about the calendar, we may still have some for sale so contact the club shop for details.

Also, it has been suggested that we run a juniors event. At the moment we do not have enough interest to do it, but if your kids would like to give it a try, then contact a committee member and if we get a decent level of interest, then we will see what we can do.

To me this club will only ever move forward with the members input. As a committee we try to represent your views so it is essential that you let us know. For those of you that don't use it, there is a forum on the club website and I have just started a thread in the Members Section called Members Moans. If you do not have access then simply register. Make sure you use your correct name to help us recognise you and get you started. The Members Area looks blank until you log in when you can access the posts. This is the perfect opportunity for you to say what you want, shiny events or punch challenges, green lanes or sites, camping trips or foreign events, MOD sites or 4x4 shows?

If I can achieve one thing during my term, then I want to make sure that what we do is what you, the members, are after.

Richard

## Your Committee



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2.



3.



4.

(1) Hello my name is Colin Holmes. My wife's name is Penny and we are often referred to as just Colin & penny. We do most things together. I am **Club Treasurer** and a marshal. We have been in the Club for just under 11 years. We own a 1998 Discovery ES auto and a 1970 Range Rover Hybrid.

(2) Hi. My name is Steve Cowling and I am **Membership Secretary**. This is my fourth year in this post. I also marshal for the club. I have been a member of the club for approximately 11 years. I also help out with some of the website. I currently own 2 Discovery's, a 200 TDI, a 300 TDI, a P38 Range Rover and a Toylander electric car. If any of you have attended the Halloween green laning or New Year green laning, you will know that I take part in organising those events.

(3) Hi my name is Jen Joesbury, and if you do or don't know I am married to Joe (for my sins). I run the **Club Shop**; You may have seen me at events driving in my White Disco named Bam Bam although that hasn't been for awhile now as Bam Bam is in desperate need of an engine transplant, (I have been told though that we now have an engine we are just waiting for the time to do the surgery on her). I have also acquired a series 3 which is also waiting to have some renovations done to her, but then what land rover doesn't. As my job title says I run the club shop so if there is anything specifically that you are after or that you would like to see more of then please drop me a line and I will see what I can do for you.

(4) Hi I'm Patrick Manuel the **Rights of Way Officer**. I drive a Discovery 3 & Defender 90  
How members can help my position to succeed:-

- Follow the club's guidance for using green lanes. I know everybody does which really does make it all worthwhile.
- Support green lane maintenance days if you can. I like extreme gardening but I appreciate that this is not everyone's cup of tea.
- Write to Council's when lanes are under threat. I hate doing this as well but it really can make a difference.
- Get out and use the lanes! If we don't use them then we lose them.
- And remember that if you drive a 4x4 never miss an opportunity to be polite to another road user. Our biggest enemy is not the anti 4x4 brigade but the irresponsible element within our own 'community'.

I have been a member of the Wessex Hillrunners since 1999 or thereabouts and the RoW Officer since 2001. These days I seem to spend far less time playing in the mud (I do like mud!) than suited and booted at meetings with the local Council. My recommended cure for insomnia is Rights of Way – A Guide to Law and Practice by John Riddall and John Trevelyan, currently in its fourth edition.



(5) Hi I am Jim Tyler-Mount, I presently look after the **website** and the **forum** previously I have been chairman for couple of years as well as Events Organiser, in all serving on the committee for over Ten years.

I have been a club member for around eleven years along with my wife Gill, joining the club with a Series Land Rover known as Tigger who is still in the club with a new owner, and after a couple of Pajero's now have a offroad only Vitara and a Disco 200TDI. Along with a couple of others responsible for the heroic last place and then a triumphant first in the Hayling Raft race in 2007 and 2008, although the idea to paddle a Suzuki was not mine!

(6) Hi, my name is Reuben, I am the new **Events organiser** for wessex, you will find me at events with the blue jimny, I hope to bring more trial and punchcard events to the calendar throughout the year, I am in the process of rebuilding my landrover when not playing offroad, members could help me by offering feedback on the events they have been to, and suggestions for future events I will try and incorporate as many suggestions as I can, hope to see you all at future events! Cheers Reuben

(7) Hi, my name is Nick Grogan; I am in the process of taking over the **Child Protection Officer** role from Richard the Club Chairman. I have been a family member of the club for at least 10 years, I first joined the committee as Assistant Events Organisers, and then with my wife Helen looked after the club shop for about 3 years. I currently own a Freelander TD4, which is capable enough for me. We have previously owned a G4 Discovery, V8 90, Jeep Wrangler, various Range Rovers, Discoveries and Land Rovers. Non 4x4's include Smart Car, Jaguars, Mazda MX-5 and various Motorcycles. My son Max is now club Secretary.. Please look after your children; they are your responsibility and your future.

(8) Heyo, my name is Max I'm 18 and I am the new **Club Secretary**. I have been a member of the club for many years with my parents Nick and Helen. I've grown up with Land Rovers all my life and as a result my first car is a 1995 green Defender 90 which I think is the best car in the world ever! You can help me in my role as secretary by letting me know what you think the good and bad points of the club are and by giving me any suggestions you may have for improving the club. But most importantly you can help all of us by having a good time at events and giving us a smile at the end of the day =D



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10,



11,

**(9)** I am Tim, the **Chief Marshal**, To give but a potted history, I was born and grew up in Kenya, East Africa, where the Land Rover was King, and all young boys had two ambitions, one was to own a Landy, the other was to drive in the East African Safari. Well, I have owned several Land Rover vehicles, but alas, never drove in the Safari, although I did serve as a service crew one year, long ago. The circumstances of my early life are where I learned much about off road travel, as we did not have `roads`, but muddy or dusty guide tracks.

I joined Wessex Hillrunners about Ten years ago, having purchased a Series III, and looking for something to do with it! I first encountered the club through the web site, and photos off Christmas greenlaning indicated that they were a suitably unstable group of guys, and thus I joined the club.

I have since had several Land Rover vehicles, Series III, Range Rovers, a Disco, and now a Defender 90, pretty standard now but watch this space.

**(10)** Hi All I'm Simon Blench, the clubs **First Aid coordinator and trainer**, along with being a new marshal. I have a discovery 300tdi with small mods and more to do over time.

I have been offroading for a few years now, and getting stuck most times I am out!!!! I think still hold the record of 4 ½ hours when I had my 90. I am married and have a step daughter Erin who is out with me most of the time. I have been training and assessing first aid for 21 yrs. My experience of first aid has led me to be a responder for the ambulance service, responding to life threatening incidents, along with my wife Sue. I will be trying to get to all the club events, so if you have any questions please ask, or if you want training then let me know. I'm on the clubs forum

**(11)** Hi I'm Bryan and this is my second year as **Newsletter editor**, I have been a member for 3 years and love getting my Suzuki vitara dirty and have been known to stray into deep water. I can only publish what is given to me by you the members so if you want a more interesting newsletter write something for it. The newsletter goes out 3 times a year.



## Bovington – September 2010

It was a colder day than previous years but the sun was shining at Bovington for the Marie Curie Ladies Driving Challenge. Unfortunately there were a few last minute cancellations from the Wessex Hillrunners members donating their vehicles but there were also less ladies taking part than previous years.

Once again there was a large variety of vehicles donated for the ladies to drive such as police cars, fire engine, various lorries and our 4x4s, etc. The 4x4 section was again favoured by many of the ladies who came back for a second drive.

Jon who runs the Marie Curie Ladies Driving Challenge is aiming to use a photo of the Wessex Hillrunners members and their vehicles for his promotional flyer this year, which of course is good news for the promotion of the club.

The total raised for Marie Curie from the day was over £15,000 which amounts to the provision of approximately 1000 hours of nursing care – well done!

We would like to say an enormous thank you to Joe Joesbury, Patrick Manuel, Simon Blench, Karen and Jim Anderson, Andy Taylor, Phil Holder, Ian Rubie and Drew McCartney for donating their vehicles to such a worthy course.

We hope to see many members offering their services for this year's Ladies Day on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

Steve and Helen Cowling



## NIGEL'S FUNERAL



The club was approached by Geoff Wood the pastor of The Family Church in Gosport to provide an escort for the funeral of Nigel Boad a local man originally from South Africa. It turned out that Nigel was an ex work colleague of mine and had expressed a desire to get a Land Rover and join Wessex Hillrunners at some of our events, but unfortunately this never came about. Nigel built, drove and “wrecked” Land Rovers whilst working on safari in South Africa and had a great love of the vehicles. It was his family’s wish to have an escort of Land Rovers attend Nigel’s funeral and thanks to the assistance of some Wessex Hillrunners’ members, this was made possible. Tracy, Nigel’s wife, has asked me to pass on her gratitude for making the day as Nigel wanted it which was a great comfort to her.

Steve Cowling

## NEW YEARS EVE LANING

This was my first time on the New Years Eve laning and it was a great way to spend the end of 2010, the club made everyone feel welcomed and there was a good selection of lanes to drive.

With the help of all the recent rain and snow it certainly made some of the lanes more interesting and challenging and of course FUN!! A very muddy time was had by all.

It was good to see a variety of different 4x4’s and it would seem that nearly everyone completed the eve without any major worries.

The lanes themselves were a nice mix to suit everyone’s needs. Definitely some good planning by Colin and Steve although I do know a few of us had a little problem finding some of them. I blame our navigator (no names) as at one point we were heading towards Basingstoke. Not bad when the route was around Alton. Luckily a local pointed us in the right direction and we made it to Portsdown hill on time even though we skipped the last couple out.

Upon arriving at the top of the hill the club had hot drinks and cakes waiting for us. Thanks to Penny and Helen we all stayed there watching the fireworks and Chinese lanterns and chatting about all things 4x4. For me the best part of the night was to both finish 2010 and start 2011 out in the Landover. Thanks to all who made it a great eve.

Nathan Richardson



## Patrick's Country File

By Patrick Manuel

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These days I seem to spend most of my time talking, writing and emailing about green laning rather than actually getting out and doing it; site surveys with the Council seems to be the closest that I get. So it was great fun to spend a morning driving some of our local lanes doing the recce for the forthcoming regular Hillrunners event of the Halloween Green Lane drive. I had the added bonus of having the Senior Domestic Manager as navigator; map reading and leading a convoy single handed is challenging and I can only guess at the groans in the following vehicles when I have wrong slotted on previous outings and have to turn the whole caravan round in a narrow lane.

**Green Lane Maintenance Days** At 09:30 sharp on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October a convoy of vehicles headed off from the customary meeting place at Waterlooville Morrison's to do battle the encroaching flora on Selborne 66, a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) just west of the pretty village of Gilbert White fame near Petersfield. The clocks had gone back on the Saturday night but no one (unlike on some previous years!) had forgotten and turned up an hour early.

By the time we had got to the meeting point at the north end of the lane our numbers had been swelled to the extent that parking in the woods was as crowded Tesco on Christmas Eve. Over the years we have been lucky with the weather but on this occasion it was clear that the lane deities were not smiling on us and it seemed to rain from the moment we arrived until the remaining bedraggled survivors beat a soggy retreat some five hours of cutting, hacking and habitat pile making later. My heartfelt thanks go out to the 30 hardy men, women children and dogs who braved the elements. We did not quite managed to clear the whole lane but definitely broke the back of the problem with the lane so much lighter now for much of its length. Supporting the day, in alphabetic order were: Discovery Owners Club (DOC), Green Lane Association (GLASS), Hants and Berks Land Rover Owners Club (HBLRO), Solent and District Land Rover Owners Club (SADLRC), Trail Riders Fellowship (TRF) and last, but by no means least, the Wessex Hillrunners.

The next maintenance day is Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> of February and we will be going back and finish the Selborne job. Look on the Forthcoming Events and Rights of Way pages of the Forum for details of where we are meeting.

**Old Litten Lane** The Council are considering making repairs to Old Litten Lane (SU 737270 to SU 741272) in order for it to be used to provide access to a 'Community Spaces' area of restored grassland at Ashford Hangers Nature Reserve on Weatham Hill. No problem with this as such, but the council are concerned about the use of the lane by more capable vehicles using the BOAT Hawkely 745 (SU 741272 to SU 745278) and are looking into ways of managing the traffic. Anyone who has used this lane will know that it is one of the best in the area in terms of challenge (I have struggled up it in a Series III SWB Land Rover and failed to get up it at all in a Defender 90!). I personally don't believe that vehicles capable of using the lane will cause any more damage to a new surface than normal road going cars. Discussions with the Council are on-going; a site survey was conducted with the Council in January. A Voluntary Restraint (VR) has been put on the lane (see photo next page) and I would urge you all to respect this. I will keep you informed of any further developments.



## Calendar of Events

Club meets are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at The North Boarhunt Social Club, Trampers lane, North Boarhunt, PO17 6DD. Grid ref 603 110

### 2011 Events Calendar

Date	Event	Type
10 <sup>th</sup> February 2011	Club meet	Social
27 <sup>th</sup> February	National Green Lane Clearance	Byway Maintenance
6 <sup>th</sup> March	CORE	Site
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Club meet	Social
10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Egg Hunt	Green Laning
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Club meet	Social
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Club meet	Social
28/29 May	Froxham camping W/end	Camping/Site
5 <sup>th</sup> June	QE park	Auto jumble
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Club meet	Social
2/3 July	Nellies dell camping W/end	Camping /Site
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Club meet	Social
? Aug	Green laning	TBC
11 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Club meet	Social
29 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Vehicle show Gosport	Static display
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Club meet	Social
	Ladies driving day	
24/25 Sept	Bovington	Charity special
9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Head Down	Off road driving day
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Club meet	Social
23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	Tichfield Carnival	Procession/publicity
29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Halloween	Green lane if you dare
10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	AGM	Social

The full calendar can be seen on the website and more details can be obtained from the Forum <http://www.whr4x4.moonfruit.com>



### **Club Site Rules When Off Roading**

- **10 mph** speed limit on site, **5mph** in car park
- **No alcohol or drugs** (unless prescribed by a doctor or cleared by Committee) to be consumed when on site (spectators/drivers).
- **Follow instructions from Marshals and Officials** – they are there to help keep you and everybody else safe.
- **All loose items to be fastened down** (a high-lift jack, toolbox or even your flask of tea flying around can be lethal).
- **Check that you have adequate recovery points and ropes**, plus that your vehicle battery and fuel tank are securely fastened.
- **Kinetic Recovery Ropes are not permitted at any of our events.** These must not be used under any circumstances at any event run by us.
- **Winching Blankets must be used at all times whilst winching.** This includes the use of "Kevlar" or "dynema" style winch lines, minimum weight 2KG
- **Keep a safe distance** from other vehicles at all times.
- **When ascending or descending steep hills check that your way is clear** and allow plenty of room for vehicles already on slopes, always follow any direction signs on site, i.e. one-way routes.
- **Give way** to vehicles on steep slopes – you can stop, they can't.
- **Obey all signs posted by the club**, "no entries" and "one way" for example.
- **Be aware** of spectators (especially young children – they don't realise the danger) **YOU** are responsible for your family.
- **If you see a taped-off area please do not enter with a vehicle** – it may be for spectators, or the owner of the site does not want it driven on.
- **Keep animals under control** (all dogs must be on a lead).
- **Have fun, be safe** and if you see anything that gives you cause for concern speak to a Committee Member or Marshal who will deal with it.
- **No Bikes, Motor Bikes or Trikes** etc unless permission granted prior to event by the committee.
- **All vehicles must be roadworthy**, marshals or committee member's decision is final, and this includes brakes, handbrakes and tyres! All trailered vehicles will be inspected before taking part.
- **Seatbelts Must be worn at all times by all vehicle occupants, no exceptions for age related vehicles.**
- **You are responsible for your Passengers**, make sure they are safe, sitting on proper seats etc, if in doubt ask them to get out whilst you tackle that tricky manoeuvre.
- Everyone who enters the site must sign in at the gate.
- All drivers must produce a **Membership Card** (temporary cards available at a cost of £1).
- **Any child under 4 years old must be restrained** in an EU approved car seat.
- **All passengers under 16 years old must have a consent form** signed by their parent or guardian (these are available on the gate and on the Website).
- **All drivers must hold a Full Driving Licence.** We can permit drivers without a driving licence, minimum age 17 years old, if accompanied by a Committee approved competent 4x4 driver with a Full Drivers Licence. They must also request permission at least 24hrs prior to the event from the **Chairperson or chief marshal**
- **All drivers in any one vehicle must make themselves known on entry to the site.** We may ask you for a small fee to cover insurance cost per driver.
- **REMEMBER** what we do can be dangerous and fatal, **BE SAFE.**
- **The Committee members have the final word, you will be asked to leave any event if we feel the rules of the club are being broken or you are acting in an unsafe manner, this includes green lane events as well as club site days.**

## Wessex Wordsearch

P	H	G	F	D	S	A	J	I	O	R	U	U	S	T	A	H	I	A	D
L	U	N	D	E	R	S	E	A	L	V	O	V	D	R	T	I	M	N	U
F	G	E	H	Q	S	C	R	P	L	R	Z	P	X	E	C	L	V	B	M
Z	Q	E	S	A	I	K	R	N	B	E	U	O	E	A	R	I	E	S	Z
O	S	W	I	R	P	L	Y	O	N	V	U	Y	Q	D	H	F	U	E	L
H	F	O	S	U	E	W	C	Z	G	O	B	T	W	P	B	T	Q	X	Y
A	D	L	S	T	J	N	A	X	M	R	H	R	E	L	A	F	W	D	C
W	T	L	A	N	E	Z	N	L	Y	D	J	C	H	A	I	N	S	A	W
P	K	A	H	J	I	M	B	U	W	N	G	R	F	T	E	S	I	O	Q
A	F	H	C	P	Y	Q	E	I	R	A	V	U	V	E	I	G	H	T	Z
J	S	L	R	C	T	M	W	N	O	L	P	E	X	Z	R	H	O	N	I
E	N	I	G	N	E	G	J	R	M	I	L	Z	U	V	K	Y	P	M	H
R	U	X	W	F	Z	A	S	U	Z	U	K	I	Y	I	O	B	H	K	G
O	E	E	D	G	H	U	A	K	I	D	Y	M	H	T	L	G	P	F	A
X	C	Z	R	M	I	K	D	O	P	A	N	E	A	X	K	J	U	L	Y
L	I	A	R	T	X	U	H	F	P	R	E	C	O	V	E	R	Y	E	D
W	V	N	B	A	D	M	N	E	O	B	G	K	Z	C	G	S	P	O	O
C	O	J	D	D	K	H	Z	I	F	H	J	D	C	R	I	E	S	A	N
I	N	T	E	R	C	O	O	L	E	R	A	C	T	Y	J	K	Q	E	I
D	J	K	Q	U	I	C	K	S	A	N	D	W	F	U	H	C	N	I	W

Find all the words listed below. They are backwards, forwards, upwards and diagonal:-

Arb	Bog	Chassis	Chainsaw	Daihatsu	Engine	Fuel	Gaydon
Hi Lift	Halloween	Intercooler	Jerrycan	Kumho	Lane	Landrover	Mud
Novice	Oops	Pajero	Quicksand	Rav	Recovery	Rope	
Suzuki	Treadplate	Underseal	Vogue	Winch	Wessexhillrunners		
Xtrail	Zippo						

**Question: *It's a - ----- mate!***

The first person to post the correct answer (which can be found in the wordsearch above but is not listed) on the forum, members only area, gets a small prize!

Steve Cowling

## Discounts for Member's and Services offered

**Ed's Land rover Spares** Hermitage farm, Colemore, Nr Alton, GU34 3PU 10% Discount for all members on production of membership cards. Tel: 01428 725589 Mob: 07922 213853

**Gill of Dial-a-Dog-Wash Waterlooville**, covering Portsmouth, Denmead, Emsworth, Havant, Cosham, Paulsgrove etc and Dave of DADW Sussex, covering Hayling Island and east into Sussex, will offer a competitive price to club members on confirmation of membership of the Wessex Hillrunners, please mention when enquiring that you are a Wessex Member! **Call Gill on 02392 717803 or 07725 489384**

**Auto Tyre Centre** unit 1,11-12 Dock Rd Gosport PO12 1SL (near the asda store)  
Gives the best Deals on Tyres for both on and off Road, Servicing and MOT preparation They offer 10% Discount to all club members on production of a valid Membership card  
**Call Joe Joesbury on 02392 520343**

**Express Maintenance (Fareham)** Handyman repairs, Door hanging, Flat packs assembled, Painting (inside and out) and Gardening/fencing services. Discount for Members Contact **Bryan on 07502 081856**

**Alternative Windscreens** we offer a range of automotive glass repair and replacement services, including:-

Windscreen replacement, Total automotive glazing for all other windows

Fast call out, Emergency replacements and repairs Home or office assistance

We can work with any type of glass, with heated windows and rain sensors quickly and easily replaced.

We charge realistic prices for our services, and throw our experience in at no extra cost. **(01329) 823005**

**Essentials Hardware** Your local Hardware store situated in Bridgemary, Gosport, Hampshire. Supplying a wide range of Power and hand Tools including Draper and Silverline, Plumbing Goods, Electrical Goods, DIY Products, Adhesives, Cycling goods, Cycles, Cycle Repairs, Car Accessories, Key Cutting,. Bolts, nails fixings and fasteners. Discount offered on production of membership card.  
54 Gregson Avenue, Bridgemary, Gosport, Hampshire PO13 0UR

**Fareham Tyres** 160 Fareham Rd Gosport PO13 0AT **01329 233723** Fareham Tyres will price match anyone locally for the same specification tyres etc, will also give discount to club members on production of your membership card.



**Club Shop** - Is available at most events and at club meets. The shop Supplies Club t-shirts and stickers tow ropes, strops, first aid kits, fire extinguishers and lots of other useful bits of kit.



There are a few high quality **Club calendars** available for £5 contact Jen to reserve/get yours.

### **Stop Press Breaking News**

**First Aid** Simon blench will be running a first aid course at the Boarhunt Social club on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March starting at 10am until 3pm at a cost of £25 per head. Once qualified the certificate is valid for 3 years. You will need a packed lunch. Contact Simon for your place.

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Frontier owners branded drunks by highways agency ... While driving on the M3 I saw a matrix sign saying “Don’t Drink and drive FOG” Surely a reference to the Frontier Owners Group.

Radio Solent travel stated “Good news the armchair that was obstructing the A32 near Wickham has now been recovered.” Didn’t they like the colour?

