ESSEX EXPLOITS

The Spring is Coming Edition

What's going on here?

Read more in Steve's 4x4 Response report.

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From the Editor's Desk

Happy New Year! (It's still January as I write this so I feel it's OK to still say it.)

A thin edition this month, but there has only been one lot of trialling and one laning trip so far this year.

I missed out on triallig at Twinney due to the dreaded flu. All fit and welll now, thanks to everyone who sent get well messages.

Now we are heading towards Spring and warmer weather (yes, I know some of you are still hoping for snow) there is lots to look forward to. Trialling at Little Baddow is always good fun, I am hoping for a good turnout both days, not just for the competition, but also to help us cover costs for the land fees.

Booking is open for the ALRC National. This year it is Wales, near Oswestry which is a bit of a trek from here but we're looking forward to it. Do note that prices go up at the end of March.

I bought some new battery fairy lights for the Tea on the tailgate event. It wasn't until I tried hanging them in Bosun that I realised just how long they were. It was more like a heap of lights rather than a string, but still effective.

See you at an event soon.

Sue Coulson

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Forthcoming Events

Date	Event	Location & Details
14 - 15 Feb	Trials	Little Baddow - Tyro, RTV, CCV Book in and pay online
22 Feb	Laning	Book in online
8 Mar	Event Support	Colchester Marathon
	Contact Steve/George with availability.	
18 Mar	Exploits copy	email exploits@elrc.info
21 - 22 Mar	Trials	Sudbury - Tyro, RTV, CCV Book in and pay online
29 Mar	Laning	Book in online
11 - 12 Apr	Trials	Little Baddow - Tyro, RTV, CCV Book in and pay online
26 Apr	Laning	Book in online
25 - 26 Apr	National Show	GB Land Rover Show Bath and West Showground
23 - 25 May	ALRC National	Booking online open Prices increase at the end of March
	Green Hall Farm, near Llanfyllin, Wales (Oswestry)	

Check the Website or Facebook
to confirm dates and for final details

Please note: All trials bookings are now online and MUST be pre booked. Entries close at 6pm on the Friday before the event.

4X4 Response Update

So firstly my apologies for the lack of update in the last copy of Exploits - it slipped my mind ahead of Christmas; which is a shame as I was going to include the Christmas card we received from the Cancer Research UK Race for Life team thanking us for our assistance in 2025. I was going to include it in this edition but thought better of it….only about 10 months to go!

Over the last few months the team have been fairly steady; at the start of November we had a busy weekend supporting both Southend and Basildon Roundtable with their respective firework events. We had a good turn out for both events allowing us to support with overseeing risk areas, moving lighting towers and taking down fencing. The team then had the opportunity to enjoy the displays.

Set up at Basildon Fireworks - Gloucester Park, Basildon

A couple of weeks later, the team were out again at Braxted Park Estate supporting a Christmas fayre (sorry to mention that word again!); we had a good number of responders on site over 4 days to support with traction assist in the car parks ensuring the public and exhibitors got in and out without getting stuck. We were very surprised with how little work we had to do over the weekend despite the rain, so once again we resorted to moving lighting towers!

We did however have to assist two unfortunate souls on two separate

occasions who managed to significantly damage their cars whilst exiting the venue, ensuring they were safely deposited at the roadside to await their recovery. And if that wasn't enough - whilst travelling to site on the Sunday morning, we had a request from the organising team to assist a member of the public who had come off the road just outside the venue. Fortunately we had 4 vehicles on scene fairly quickly to assist the unfortunate driver who had managed to crash her car; working alongside Essex Police we soon relocated the vehicle to a safe place and got the road re-open allowing exhibitors into site.

On standby at the exit gate of Braxted Park Estate

Doing what we do best...

Some just like to be that little bit unique

There were a few members of the public who unfortunately required their breakdown services at Braxted Park - who then in turn required our assistance, but we don't discriminate despite them not being a fully paid member.

Once the team had had a chance to wash their vehicles and start their Christmas (sorry) shopping, they were out again supporting the car park team at Meadowcroft Garden Centre. Over their three busiest weekends before Christmas we were providing traction assistance to shoppers. Again, we didn't have a huge amount of work to do, mainly a bit of manual pushing with a few tows. The team at Meadowcroft kindly provided us with hot drinks and Bratwurst to keep our responders going. Here's a couple of photos and also a reminder to watch where you position yourself when pushing a vehicle.

We then entered 2026 with some weather warnings for snow & ice meaning the team moved to Standby for a 10 day period; although we did have a layer of snow in various places it wasn't anything significant and therefore had no deployments during that period. Despite this, it was beneficial for the team as it helped exercise our standby/call-out procedure and our communication channels with Essex County Council's Emergency Planning team whom we work closely with. Myself and George had a productive meeting with one of the Emergency Planning Consultants last year around the county's 4x4 capability document - following our input this is now currently under review by partner agencies and Category 1 responders. Going forward this document should allow better access to us by agencies during times of severe weather; this should hopefully see more engagement with us and possibly more requests for assistance.

This year's training plan is being organised too following some suggestions by members around topics they wish to cover, full details of these have been emailed out with further communications to follow. If you haven't seen the email, please ensure you check your junk/spam folder. Our first training session is planned for Friday 27th February and will be based around Water Awareness and Fire Safety. We then have further dates being planned for later in the year including one to provide some awareness around working with Electric Vehicles, so please keep an eye out for details.

In terms of events for the coming year, we have a fair few in the diary with more to be expected. I've included them below so please let us know via email if you can attend - Essex4x4Response@elrc.info

Steve

Date	Event	Location
08/03/2026	Colchester Half Marathon	Colchester Stadium
04/05/2026	Race for Life	Harlow
10/05/2026	Ride for Helen Cycle Ride	Hatfield Peverel
10/05/2026	Walk for Life	Chelmsford
16/05/2026	Race for Life	Brentwood
06/06/2026	Braintree Lions Train	Shalford Village Hall
13/06/2026	Race for Life/Pretty Muddy	Basildon
19/07/2026	Race for Life/Pretty Muddy	Chelmsford
25/07/2026	Braintree Lions Train	Essex Police HQ
26/07/2026	Braintree Lions Train	Essex Police HQ
30/08/2026	Action Medical Ride 100	Essex
11/10/2026	Chelmsford Marathon	Chelmsford

The team on standby at Braxted Park Estate

Shows Report

2025 was an amazing year for shows and I am very thankful for all the help and support as I took on the role of shows officer. Shows are a fantastic way to advertise the club to public and a chance to show off our pride and joys and chat to like minded enthusiasts.

The club attended three large shows last year including: Motorfest, Countess of Warwick and Stonham Barns. They were all very well attended by the club and we put on a great display for the public to see.

As a recap, Motorfest was a great father's weekend show with 100's of different vehicles on display, the Sunday was one of the biggest car displays I have seen in a long time. Countess of Warwick was a fantastic country show in August where the club had a great presentation and particularly the arena display was a brilliant showcase for the club. Finally, Stonham Barns was a great show with so many different Land Rovers on display. By going to specific shows like Stonham Barns, you get the chance to talk about your passion and share different experiences, particularly in my case finding out a lot more history of Big Blue.

In 2026 I was planning to display the club at all 3 of these shows again. However I have just found out that MotorFest won't be on in Chelmsford this year, I will look out for another show to replace it. I would also like to attend a few other car focused events including, tea on the tailgate Essex, Amberley Museum Land Rover Day in September, and other events local to Essex.

Please lookout for dates of shows and events on our website and contact the club if you know of any shows the club could attend. If you have any ideas of how the club could display and advertise differently in shows, then please do get in touch as well. As always, my thanks to all who attend and helped with the shows, and I am sure 2026 is gonna be an even better year for the club.

Ethan

Trialling Results

Tyro Twinney Wood January 2026

Name	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9	S10	S11	S12	Class	Score	O/A Place
Roger Johnson	0	1	0	0	0	0							SWB	1	1st
Ian Finch	0	0	3	0	0	1							SWB	4	2nd
John Musham	0	1	3	0	0	1							SWB	5	
Oliver Brooks	2	0	10	0	0	1							SWB	13	
Jack Whittaker	2	5	1	0	3	2							SWB	13	
Terry Taylor	0	9	1	3	0	3							SWB	16	
Mark Whittaker	2	4	3	8	0	9							SWB	26	
James Day	1	1	0	0	0	1							LWB	3	1st
Alex Day	2	0	0	0	0	2							LWB	4	
Harry Rowell	0	0	2	0	0	9							LWB	11	
Morgan Rowell	1	2	4	0	0	9							LWB	16	

Marshals Ralph Coulson, Dave Wood

Thanks to Dave for the pictures from Twinney

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Tea on the Tailgate

Tea on the Tailgate met at West Hyde Christmas Trees in late December. Instead of a lunchtime meet this one was just as the sun was going down. Everyone had made a real effort to light up their vehiclesone even had a model version on the bonnet with its own lights. **Sue**

Homestead Results

	Name	TYRO Sudbury July 25	RTV Sudbury July 25	TYRO Twinney Wood Oct 25	RTV Twinney Wood Oct 25	TYRO Little Baddow Nov 25	RTV Little Baddow Nov 25	TYRO Day into Night Dec 25	RTV Day into Night Dec 25	TYRO Twinney Wood Jan 26	Total
1	Alex Day	9		9		10		9		9	46
2	Ian Finch	9		10		10		8		9	46
3	James Day	10		10		9		7		10	46
4	John Musham	7		9	5	8			7	8	44
5	Dave Wood	10		9		9		10		5	43
6	Terry Taylor	8		7		7		5		5	32
7	Ralph Coulson	5		5		5		5		5	25
8	Martin Hirsch				5		9		9		23
9	David Brock				8		8		6		22
10	Cliff Pountney				10		10				20
11	Ian Barton		6		9				5		20
12	Sue Coulson	5		5		5		5			20
13	Joe Bushell		10				9				19
14	Ethan Musham				5	5			8		18
15	Roger Johnson				5					10	15
16	Harry Rowell					6				8	14
17	Chris Barry		5				7				12
18	Jack Wittaker					5				6	11
19	Mark Wittaker					6				5	11
20	Martyn King		5				6				11
21	Max Goldsworthy						10				10
22	Tim Wyman								10		10
23	Jim Bushell		9								9

24	Adrian Rowell					8					8
25	Ben Bushell		8								8
26	James Yorston						8				8
27	Lewis Coomber			8							8
28	Mitchell Rowden					7					7
29	Morgan Rowell									7	7
30	Oliver Brooks									7	7
31	George Petty			5							5
32	Ian Newman	5									5
33	John Cronjaeger			5							5
34	Keith Pocock							5			5
34	Mike Rosewell								5		5
36	Sue Bushell		5								5

Homestead Trophy Points Allocation

5 points for taking part plus

5 points - 1st in class or overall win,

4 points 2nd in class, 3 points for 3rd, 2 points for 4th, 1 point for 5th in class

5 points for marshal / official / setting out (not driving)

Xmas Pud Shakedown

Thanks to John for the pictures

We Want Your Content!

We'd love to share your photos and videos on the club's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter feeds.

If you have something you think represents the great things the club does, please send them to us at: *socialmedia@elrc.com* and we might share them across our official social media accounts.

If you're at an event and you want to share something right then, you can also send your content on Facebook Messenger to the Essex Land Rover Club page's inbox. We'd love to share live updates from club events as they happen!

You can also share your own content in the Essex Land Rover Club Membership group yourself, if it's something you think only members might want to see.

Find us on Social Media

www.facebook.com/EssexLandRoverClub

For members chat please join our **Facebook Group: Essex Land Rover Club Membership**

www.twitter.com/EssexLRC

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All telephone calls before 9pm

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