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LROC NEWS

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Est. 1960

It all began when Frank Dandridge and Reg Whitley bought their first Land Rovers and met through the agents at the time, Fischer & Simmonds.

For more on the history of The Land Rover Owners' Club of Southern Africa, visit:

www.lroc.org.za/about/

Driven and United...



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Jennifer Howard
Sub-Comm Chairperson

Clint Mason
Chairperson

In every great adventure, there are certain milestones that stand out — markers along the journey that reflect not only the distance travelled, but also the passion, perseverance, and spirit that carried us there. While we often gather to celebrate the achievements of

individuals within our community, the opportunity to come together collectively and honour the remarkable journey of an organisation — especially one as storied as ours — is a rare and special occasion.

This year, we are preparing to do just that, as the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa proudly marks an extraordinary milestone: its 65th birthday. Sixty-five years is no small achievement. It is a testament to the strength of

an idea first imagined so many decades ago — the formation of a Club built on shared ideals, camaraderie, and an enduring love for the spirit of adventure. Today, those early aspirations have blossomed into a vibrant, engaged, and enthusiastic community of Land Rover lovers, united by their passion for a truly remarkable vehicle and the lifestyle it represents.

As we prepare to celebrate this milestone, it is worth

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remembering that the past 65 years have been a time of extraordinary change not only for our Club, but for the world itself. The era that has seen our Club grow and thrive has also witnessed some of humanity's greatest achievements — powerful reminders of what can be accomplished with vision, perseverance, and a spirit of adventure.

The advent of the cellphone revolutionized the way humans communicate. No longer tethered to fixed locations, people could reach one another instantly from almost anywhere on the planet, shrinking vast distances and bringing communities, families, and businesses closer together than ever before.

The birth of the internet fundamentally changed the fabric of modern life. What began as a tool for research has blossomed into a global information network, transforming how we connect, learn, trade, and share knowledge, enabling a world where information moves at the speed of thought.

The development of the personal computer placed immense computational power into the hands of individuals. What was once the domain of vast corporations and governments became accessible to everyday people, sparking new industries, new possibilities, and an unprecedented age of creativity and innovation.

The first commercial jet travel in 1958 marked the beginning of a new era in mobility. Journeys that once took weeks could now be completed in hours, opening up the world to business, tourism, and cultural exchange on a scale previously unimagined.

The release and mass adoption of television transformed homes into windows to the world. News, entertainment, and culture became available at the push of a button, forging a shared global consciousness and bringing distant events into immediate focus.

The monumental achievement of landing a human on the moon in 1969 captured humanity's imagination and ambition. Neil Armstrong's historic first steps on the lunar surface expanded the bounds of human possibility and reminded us that with

courage and determination, no frontier is beyond reach.

The Human Genome Project, completed in 2003, unlocked the blueprint of human life. By mapping the human genome, scientists opened the doors to revolutionary advances in medicine, genetics, and the understanding of who we are at the most fundamental level. The birth and rise of social media changed the way people communicate, connect, and organize, ushering in a new era of global conversation and radically altering the landscapes of business, culture, and activism.

The widespread adoption of GPS technology redefined navigation forever. What was once a process of paper maps and stars became an instantaneous, precise ability to find one's way — transforming travel, logistics, exploration, and daily life around the globe.

The rise of environmental awareness ushered in a new era of stewardship and conservation. Movements for protecting nature, conserving resources, and addressing global climate change have reshaped policies, businesses, and personal behaviors across the world.

The smartphone revolution, ignited by the launch of the iPhone in 2007, placed the power of communication, photography, navigation, and computing into the palm of every hand — creating a mobile generation more connected than any in history.

The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence and robotics is now pushing the boundaries of possibility yet again. Machines that can learn, reason, and assist are transforming industries, healthcare, transport, and the very way we interact with technology — heralding a future limited only by our imagination.

Alongside these, we have witnessed the expansion of space exploration, the democratization of education through open online platforms, the rise of renewable energy technologies, and countless breakthroughs that continue to shape the human journey in profound and extraordinary ways.

As we reflect on all that has been achieved over the past six and a half decades — both within our Club and across the world — it becomes clear that

reaching this milestone is not merely a passage of time, but a testament to the enduring spirit of community, adventure, and passion that continues to drive us forward. It is with this deep appreciation for the past, and great excitement for the future, that we now turn our attention to the celebrations ahead. Plans are already well underway for what promises to be a truly memorable occasion — a gathering that will honour our legacy, celebrate our present, and inspire the next generation of Land Rover enthusiasts.

Careful consideration was made by Jenny, the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee and her dedicated team to various aspects of such an event, including time of year, location and activities whilst catering for our Members' diverse preferences. Understanding that our community is as varied and dynamic as the vehicles we drive, the Sub-Committee has approached the planning process with a deep sense of responsibility and enthusiasm, determined to craft an event that truly honours the spirit of the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa.

These efforts have been further enriched through active collaboration with key partners and affiliated organisations. The Sub-Committee initiated engagements with Jaguar Land Rover South Africa, strengthening the bond between the Club and the broader Land Rover family. In addition, outreach to fellow Land Rover communities — including the KZN Land Rover Owners Club, the Cape Land Rover Owners Club, and our various chapter structures — has helped to ensure that the 65th birthday celebrations are as inclusive and representative as possible. By embracing the collective adventurous spirit that defines the Land Rover brand worldwide, the team has set the stage for an event that not only celebrates our Club's extraordinary journey, but also the wider community of Land Rover enthusiasts across southern Africa.

The feedback gathered through these outreach efforts and formal engagements was consolidated alongside input received directly from our Members to ensure that the ideal location for the celebration could be identified.

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Join us for a memorable event filled with joy, reflection, and festivities as we commemorate this significant milestone.

Your presence will make this occasion even more special.

Date: 24 to 28 September 2025 (4 Nights)

Venue: Rotsinbos Bush Camp & Lodge
Accommodation: Bookings essential: By 30th April 2025 to secure your accommodation: Camping, Bush Chalets or Safari Tents.

Contact Dawn from Rotsinbos either call or WhatsApp on 083 793 6361

Quote booking code: LROC 65th

For other information contact Jenny on 083 459 7738


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After a thorough evaluation, three initial venues emerged as potential hosts: one in the north of Gauteng, one in the North West province, and one in the Free State, the latter considered with the understanding that substantive support from organisations such as the Cape and KZN Land Rover Clubs would be essential to its viability.

Following several rounds of discussions and careful consideration of all factors — including accessibility, participant interest, logistical support, and strategic alignment with our partners — it was agreed that the event would be coordinated around the Gauteng region. Not only did the majority of expressions of interest originate from Members based in Gauteng, but this location also aligned closely with Jaguar Land Rover South Africa's willingness to provide support and engagement. This alignment between Member enthusiasm, logistical practicality, and brand partnership laid a strong foundation for the exciting celebration that now lies ahead.

Following the identification of the potential venues, the Sub-Committee undertook site visits to two of the shortlisted locations to assess their suitability in person. After careful evaluation, Rotsinbos — the winner of the 2024 Glamping Category in the North West Province — was proudly selected as the host venue for our 65th birthday celebrations. Nestled within an environment of remarkable natural beauty, Rotsinbos offers the perfect blend of adventure, comfort, and camaraderie, setting the stage for a truly unforgettable gathering.


The venue's unique charm lies not only in its award-winning accommodation and picturesque surroundings, but also in its ability to create an atmosphere where Members can enjoy both the serenity of nature and the vibrant spirit of fellowship that defines the Land Rover community. With a myriad of activities available and ample opportunities for connection and exploration, Rotsinbos promises to be the ideal backdrop for the memories we are about to create together.

With the venue confirmed, attention turned to securing the ideal dates 

for this momentous occasion. Fortunately, the desired dates in September were available, perfectly aligning venue availability with the spirit of the celebration. South Africa proudly commemorates Heritage Day on Wednesday, 24 September 2025, and we could think of no better way to honour both our country and our Club's remarkable heritage than by curating an event that would stretch across this special period.

The LROC 65th Birthday Celebration will span from Heritage Day through to Sunday, 28 September 2025, offering Members and their families the opportunity to immerse themselves in a celebration of shared history, adventure, and fellowship. With a tremendous array of activities and experiences planned, this gathering promises to be much more than an anniversary — it will be a vibrant festival of everything that makes our Club, our vehicles, and our community truly extraordinary.

Accommodation options at Rotsinbos have been thoughtfully considered to cater for a wide variety of Member preferences, ensuring that everyone can find the perfect fit for their ideal celebration experience. From traditional camping tents and bush campsites to comfortable chalets, bush chalets, and even the option to rent a fully equipped caravan, Members will be able to tailor their stay to suit their unique needs and sense of adventure. Whether seeking a rustic weekend under the stars or the added comforts of a more luxurious retreat, Rotsinbos offers the flexibility and charm to make every Member feel right at home.


The venue itself offers an incredible array of activities, ensuring that every moment of the celebration will be filled with adventure, discovery, and fun. From mountain biking along scenic trails to zipping around on exhilarating three-wheeler scooters, from peaceful walks and hikes through pristine bushveld to unforgettable game drives — and thanks to special arrangements by the Sub-Committee, you can even complete your own game drive in your very own Land Rover — there is truly something for everyone. Wildlife enthusiasts will be spoiled with exceptional birdwatching and wildlife photography opportunities, while families can enjoy the 

kids' play area, relax around the swimming pool, or take in the breathtaking views from the sunset viewpoint.

But that's just the beginning. The Sub-Committee has gone even further, orchestrating a packed program of special events and activities that will elevate the celebration to something truly extraordinary. Enjoy the camaraderie of a relaxed Canal Drive, join in a classic South African Bring and Braai, savour the flavours at a curated Cheese and Wine Tasting, gather around roaring boma fires under the stars, and dive into the fun of a Treasure Hunt designed for the whole family. The festivities will culminate in the not-to-be-missed Chairman's Dinner — celebrating the Club's legacy and future. And for those itching to put their Land Rovers to the test, a series of exciting 4x4 activities will ensure that the spirit of adventure is alive and well throughout the weekend. With so much to experience, this promises to be a birthday celebration like no other!

We are thrilled to announce that on Saturday, Land Rover South Africa will be joining us in person to celebrate this remarkable milestone. Their presence is a powerful nod to the heritage we all share and the journey we continue to walk together. In addition, not one but two leading motoring magazines will be covering the event — helping us capture and share the story of this unforgettable occasion with Land Rover enthusiasts across the country.

As we build toward the big weekend, we invite anyone with Land Rover-related products or experiences to be part of the festivities. If you know of any vendors or exhibitors who would like to showcase their offerings during the event, please have them reach out to Jenny directly at 083 459 7738 to make arrangements. We also warmly welcome any contributions in the form of prizes or sponsorships — every little bit of support helps make this celebration even more memorable, and your generosity will be truly appreciated.

If you haven't yet booked your accommodation, we encourage you to do so without delay — space is limited, and sites are filling fast. To secure your booking, please contact Dawn at 083 793 6361. If you'd like to share a campsite 

with friends or family, just let Dawn know so she can allocate a suitable space for your group. Please also note that day visitors are most welcome to join us on Saturday for the main festivities — however, advance booking and payment are essential to help us manage numbers and ensure a seamless experience for everyone.

This celebration is ultimately about so much more than just marking a milestone — it's about coming together as a community, embracing the incredible environment Rotsinbos has to offer, and reconnecting with the friendships, stories, and shared love for Land Rovers that make this Club so special. It's not just for current LROC Members, either — all Land Rover owners are welcome. So please, extend the invitation to family and friends who share the same passion. The more, the merrier.

We can't wait to share this incredible experience with you. Let's make the 65th Anniversary of the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa a celebration to remember — filled with laughter, adventure, connection, and the unmistakable spirit of Landy life.



For all the latest updates, important announcements, and quick answers to your questions about the 65th Birthday Celebration, be sure to join the official LROC 65th Anniversary WhatsApp group. It's the perfect place to stay informed, connect with fellow attendees, and make sure you don't miss a thing as we count down to this unforgettable event.

scan me to join...





A New Era of Connection

As part of our ongoing journey, LROC has officially moved to WhatsApp Communities – bringing our members, groups, and conversations together.

Clint Mason
Chairperson

In April 2025, the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa reached an important digital milestone with the successful migration of our various WhatsApp Groups into a centralized WhatsApp Community. This migration marks a significant step forward in our broader strategy to nurture a stronger, more cohesive LROC community, enhancing how we connect, communicate, and collaborate as members who share not only a passion for Land Rovers but also a commitment to fellowship, adventure, and knowledge sharing.

The move to the WhatsApp Community platform was not undertaken lightly. It is directly aligned with the Club's longer-term vision of improving member engagement, streamlining information dissemination, and fostering deeper relationships across our diverse membership base. By establishing the WhatsApp Community, we aim to create a virtual gathering place that mirrors the camaraderie and enthusiasm we experience when we meet face-to-face on trails, at technical days, and during our many Club events. The WhatsApp Community provides a structured and scalable way to communicate, while still preserving the friendly and approachable atmosphere that defines our Club.

For members, the migration brings with it a host of new benefits. Firstly, the new structure makes it easier than ever to find and participate in discussions that are most relevant to individual interests, whether that be technical advice, social events, or the latest news and announcements. Information is now more organized, making it quicker to locate updates

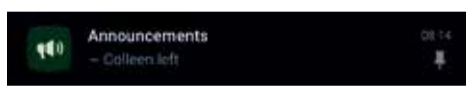
without having to scroll endlessly through a single chat. Each group within the Community serves a specific purpose, allowing conversations to stay focused and meaningful. Notifications can be customized according to individual preferences, enabling members to stay connected without feeling overwhelmed. Perhaps most importantly, the Community structure supports future growth, giving us the ability to add new groups, initiatives, and engagement opportunities without fragmenting the membership.

For those who are not yet familiar with how WhatsApp Communities work, it may be helpful to delve a little deeper into what has changed. A WhatsApp Community serves as an umbrella that houses multiple groups under one collective space. Rather than juggling many separate and often disconnected groups, the Community brings them all together, offering a central announcement area where important news from the Club Committee can be shared, ensuring no critical information is missed. Members can browse and join the groups that are of interest to them. This approach differs from the traditional model where joining a group was often by invitation and participation was sometimes limited by lack of visibility. Now, you have a clear menu of available groups to explore and select according to your interests. Furthermore, joining or leaving groups within the Community is much simpler and discreet, putting more control into the hands of members regarding their own engagement.

In practical terms, members can access the Community by opening WhatsApp and navigating to the 'Communities' tab (usually located at the bottom of the app on most smartphones, but more

recently as a filter in Chats). Once inside the LROC Community, you will see the available groups and can easily join the ones that suit your interests. For new members or those less familiar with digital communications, it is worth mentioning that Communities are highly secure – phone numbers are only visible within the groups you join, and administrators maintain oversight to ensure the environment remains friendly and welcoming.

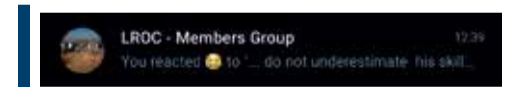
As part of ensuring that every member can find their place within the Community, each group has been thoughtfully curated to serve a specific purpose, reflecting the diverse interests and needs of the Club's membership. In order to help members navigate these groups effectively and understand where best to engage, we have outlined the intended function and spirit of each group. By doing so, we aim to create clarity, encourage participation, and uphold the Club's longstanding values of community, respect, and shared passion for the Land Rover marque.



The Announcements group forms an integral part of the new WhatsApp Community structure and, by design, serves a distinct and carefully considered role within the broader communications strategy of the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa. As part of the default setup of a Community, the Announcements group offers a mechanism to reach all members centrally; however, after careful reflection and with respect for the diverse preferences of our membership, the Committee has resolved to limit its use strictly to the distribution of constitutionally relevant communications. This approach ensures that all

Club Members remain informed on critical constitutional and legal matters, such as notices pertaining to the Annual General Meeting and other statutory obligations, which are incumbent responsibilities of the Club in terms of its governance.

It is important to highlight that the Announcements group will not be used for general club updates, event promotions, regalia notifications, or social news. This decision stems from a deep respect for the autonomy of our members, recognising their right to engage with Club activities and communications in ways that they themselves choose. By reserving the Announcements group for essential constitutional matters only, we aim to maintain clarity, respect boundaries, and avoid overwhelming members with information that, while important, may not pertain to their mandatory obligations as members. Accordingly, we encourage all members to remain part of the Announcements group to ensure they receive these important notices and to fulfill their responsibilities within the Club's constitutional framework.



The LROC - Members Group lies at the very heart of the LROC Community, embodying the spirit of connection, camaraderie, and shared enthusiasm that defines our Club. This group serves as a vibrant, participative space where Members are warmly encouraged to engage with one another, foster friendships, and celebrate the lifestyle that Land Rover ownership affords. Whether posting updates from a recent trail adventure, sharing photos of a freshly restored Series model, or offering words of encouragement to a fellow

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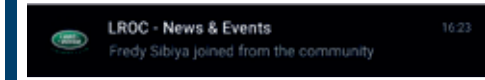
Member tackling a technical project, the group thrives on authentic, positive interactions that highlight the richness of the Land Rover journey.

Beyond member-to-member engagement, the LROC - Members Group also provides a platform for the sharing of highlighted event feedback and memorable Club moments. Recaps of past adventures, glimpses into upcoming activities, and reflections on Club gatherings all find a natural home here, helping to weave a rich tapestry of shared experiences across our membership. In this way, the Members Group serves not just as a conversation space, but as a living history of the adventures, achievements, and spirit of our Club.

To preserve the quality and relevance of discussions, Members are respectfully asked to be mindful of the specific groups already created within the LROC Community. Where dedicated groups exist for particular interests — such as technical discussions, overlanding, or merchandise — we encourage Members to post relevant content directly into those spaces. This approach ensures that all Members, regardless of their particular passions, can easily find and participate in the discussions that matter most to them, without unrelated content diluting the experience in the Members Group. It also honors the diverse interests of our Club, ensuring that each specialized group continues to flourish in its intended purpose.

As with all of our Community Groups, we remind Members that solicitation is not permitted within the LROC - Members Group. Commercial advertising, sales pitches, and promotional messaging fall outside the spirit of community that we seek to foster. Should a Member wish to propose an event, initiative, or activity, we kindly request that this be coordinated through the appropriate Club structures to ensure proper alignment with Club policies and to safeguard the broader interests of the membership. By upholding these guidelines, we preserve the trust, mutual respect, and spirit of camaraderie that define the LROC Community, ensuring that every interaction remains focused on our shared passion for Land Rovers and

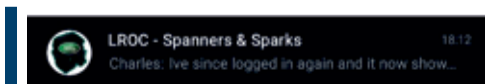
the lifestyle they represent.



The LROC - News & Events group serves as the central hub through which Club news, upcoming activities, and important updates are shared, discussed, and celebrated. This group has been created to ensure that every Member has easy access to information about the exciting events taking place across the Club calendar and can participate fully in the life of the Club. In much the same spirit as the LROC - Members Group, participation is warmly encouraged, and Members are invited to engage with announcements, share their experiences, and help build a vibrant and connected community.

In addition to receiving formal event notices and Club news, Members are encouraged to share their own stories, photographs, and reflections from LROC Club events they have attended or are currently participating in. Whether it be a weekend trail drive, a technical training day, a scenic overlanding adventure, or a Club social gathering, this is the place to recount and relive the majestic moments that make our Club so special. Contributions that highlight the joy, camaraderie, and spirit of adventure experienced through Club-organised activities are particularly welcome, helping to inspire others and build a lasting record of our shared journey.

By maintaining a dedicated space for LROC event news, stories, and detailed feedback, the LROC - News & Events group ensures that the richness of our Club's activities is captured and celebrated, while also keeping Members informed and engaged with everything the Club has to offer.

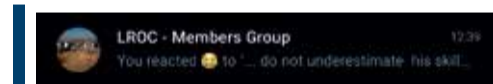


The LROC - Spanners & Sparks group has been created as a dedicated space for Members to immerse themselves in the technical side of Land Rover ownership — a place where mechanical curiosity, hands-on ingenuity, and a spirit of helpfulness come together. This group invites Members to participate in technical discussions of all kinds, sharing their knowledge, experience, and mechanical adventures

with fellow enthusiasts who appreciate the inner workings of these iconic vehicles as much as the adventures they make possible.

Whether showcasing custom modifications, detailing ingenious improvements, or simply sharing photos of a weekend spent in the workshop, Spanners & Sparks offers a platform to celebrate the practical and creative side of Land Rover ownership. Members are encouraged not only to share their successes, but also to seek advice, troubleshoot problems, and tap into the collective technical wisdom of the Club. No question is too small, and no challenge too great — the group exists to foster a supportive environment where every Member, regardless of technical expertise, can learn, contribute, and celebrate the mechanical wonders that are Land Rovers.

In keeping with the spirit of the Club, engagement within Spanners & Sparks is encouraged to be practical, generous, and collaborative. By sharing ideas, offering insights, and assisting one another, Members help to sustain the mechanical knowledge that is vital to keeping these incredible machines alive and thriving for generations to come.



The LROC - New Members Group is currently being established and forms an important part of the Club's evolving strategy to enhance the experience of those who are newly joining our community. Once operational, this group will serve as the dedicated entry point for new Members, providing a welcoming environment where they can be introduced to the many facets of the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa. Through this group, the Club will engage new Members in a curated onboarding program designed to familiarize them with the Club's rich history, its wide array of activities, the benefits of membership, communication channels, and opportunities for active participation.

The New Members Group is being carefully orchestrated as part of a broader New Member Onboarding Program, which is scheduled to become fully operational in June 2025. This initiative reflects the Club's commitment to building a

stronger, more informed, and more connected membership from the very outset of each Member's journey. By offering guidance, answering questions, and fostering early engagement, the New Members Group aims to help new Members quickly feel at home within the LROC community, equipping them to make the most of all that the Club has to offer. We look forward to formally launching this exciting new platform and to welcoming a new generation of Land Rover enthusiasts into the fold.



The LROC - Defenders, LROC - Discos, and LROC - Rangies groups have been established as dedicated spaces for Members who enjoy vehicle-specific content and conversation. Each of these groups offers a focused environment where enthusiasts of particular Land Rover models can gather, share experiences, and engage in discussions that are unique to their vehicles. Whether it be celebrating the iconic utility of the Defender, the versatility and innovation of the Discovery, or the luxury and heritage of the Range Rover, these groups provide a natural home for model-specific stories, insights, and camaraderie.

Within these spaces, Members are encouraged to share general content that is relevant to their chosen vehicle — from photographs and personal experiences to tips, advice, and discussions that reflect the unique character of each model. Whether highlighting a memorable overlanding trip in a Defender, recounting adventures in a Discovery, or showcasing the restoration of a classic Range Rover, these groups are intended to foster connections among like-minded enthusiasts who share a special affinity for a particular branch of the Land Rover family tree.

By maintaining distinct groups for each major model line, we aim to celebrate the rich diversity within the Land Rover community while offering Members a place where their particular interests and passions can take centre stage. Engagement is warmly encouraged, and these groups

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stand as a testament to the enduring bond between Land Rover owners and the vehicles that carry them on so many memorable adventures.

The LROC - Landys & Lattes and LROC - TrailBlaze groups are two of the proposed three permanent event groups within the LROC Community. Each of these groups celebrates a different yet equally important facet of Land Rover ownership, offering Members opportunities to connect with one another in ways that reflect both the heritage and the evolving lifestyles of our community. The third event group, Trials and Training, is currently undergoing a detailed evaluation process led by the Club's Vice Chair, Paul Diessel, to assess its future format and relevance to the needs of our growing membership. This careful review reflects the Club's ongoing commitment to ensuring that all event offerings remain dynamic, meaningful, and in tune with the spirit of our community.



LROC - Landys & Lattes is centered around social gatherings that acknowledge and respect the demands of modern life. Recognizing that many Members juggle busy schedules, these events are designed to offer meaningful, easy-to-attend moments of connection. Centered around a shared love of Land Rovers, these gatherings invite Members to come together for vibrant coffee catch-ups and hearty meals, creating lively spaces where stories are swapped, experiences are shared, and friendships are strengthened — all without the need for an entire day's commitment. Landys & Lattes events embody the philosophy that sometimes, the simple pleasure of gathering with fellow adventurers over good food, great coffee, and spirited conversation can be every bit as rewarding as a long expedition across rugged terrain.



In contrast, LROC - TrailBlaze celebrates the extraordinary driving prowess of our vehicles through spirited off-road adventures. This group is dedicated to Members who

are eager to experience the rugged capabilities of their Land Rovers firsthand, taking on off-road trails that test skill, resilience, and teamwork. TrailBlaze events capture the adventurous heart of the Club, offering opportunities for Members to explore new terrains, conquer technical challenges, and revel in the thrill of adventure behind the wheel. Whether navigating a rocky pass, crossing a riverbed, or simply enjoying the scenery from behind the wheel, TrailBlaze is where the legendary off-road spirit of Land Rover truly comes alive.

Together, these groups reflect the broad tapestry of Land Rover ownership — from quiet conversations over coffee to adrenaline-filled days on the trail — and ensure that every Member can find events that resonate with their personal spirit of adventure.

Looking ahead, other likely permanent groups within the LROC Community will be centred around geographical locations, allowing Members to engage within smaller regional segments of the Club. This approach is intended to strengthen the Club's ongoing efforts to unify and manage events in a way that delivers value to all Members, irrespective of their geographical location. The strategy is still in its infancy and will require careful consideration, thoughtful planning, and substantial effort before it matures into a fully-fledged and integrated feature of Club life. However, the foundations of this vision are already visible through initiatives such as the LROC - Southern Cape group, which was established some time ago to provide a platform for Members in more remote areas to coordinate and participate in event activities. By building these regional communities, we hope to foster stronger connections, support more inclusive event participation, and extend the spirit of the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa to every corner of the country.

In addition to the permanent and regional groups, there are also event-specific groups that are established for the coordination and engagement of information and Members participating in particular events. While similar in purpose to groups such as Landys & Lattes and TrailBlaze, these event groups differ in that they are created for one-off or non-regular events rather

than for ongoing activities. A specific group will be created for each major event, serving as a central point for communication, updates, and participant interaction both before and after the event. Once the event has been hosted and participants have had sufficient opportunity to share their experiences, photographs, and videos, the group will be formally closed. This approach ensures that conversations remain relevant and contained, while providing participants with a vibrant space to connect, plan, and reflect. Additionally, participation in an event-specific group will naturally serve as a strong indication of a Member's intent to participate in the event itself, assisting the Club in event planning and logistics while offering Members a simple and engaging way to commit to the adventures that lie ahead.

One of the early success stories emerging from the new Community structure is the phenomenal growth of the LROC - Spanners & Sparks group. Officially launched on Friday, 25 April 2025, Spanners & Sparks has quickly established itself as a vibrant hub for technical discussion, advice sharing, and mechanical camaraderie. The group has resonated strongly with members eager to exchange knowledge, seek solutions, and celebrate the art of keeping our beloved Land Rovers running at their best. In just a few days, participation has surged, and as at 28 April 2025, the group proudly boasts an impressive 68 members. This extraordinary rate of growth not only reflects the strong technical interest within the Club but also underscores the appetite among our members for meaningful, focused engagement.

This remarkable success story trails just behind the Club's largest group, LROC - Landys and Lattes, which as of 28 April 2025 has gathered a lively community of 71 participants. While Landys and Lattes has long provided a space for casual connection, the growth of Spanners & Sparks reflects a dynamic surge of technical enthusiasm and hands-on passion among our members. To harness this incredible momentum, and to add a little extra fun to the mix, a competition has already been launched within the Spanners & Sparks group — and it's not too late to get involved.

The Spanners & Sparks



Competition invites members to help define the group's identity by submitting their best Land Rover-inspired photographs. Whether capturing the essence of bush repairs, workshop triumphs, or simply the gritty beauty of a well-worn Landy, the goal is to find an image that authentically embodies the spirit of our technical community. The winning entry will proudly become the new group icon, a daily reminder of the passion and ingenuity that unites us. As an added bonus, the winner will receive a Liqui Moly engine oil voucher, perfect for their next service. The competition is already in full swing and entries close on 5 May 2025. If you have not yet joined the Spanners & Sparks group, we encourage you to do so — not only to participate in the competition, but to become part of one of the most spirited and knowledge-rich spaces in the LROC Community.

The success of the migration to a WhatsApp Community is not just a technological upgrade; it is a reflection of the spirit of adaptability, innovation, and unity that has always characterized the LROC. Together, we are not just navigating a new communication channel — we are charting a course towards a stronger, more connected future.

A special note of thanks must also go to our Club Admin Madeleine, whose dedication and energy were instrumental in bringing the LROC WhatsApp Community strategy to life. Madeleine truly took the bull by the horns, tackling the many complexities of the migration process with determination and care, and ensuring that this important evolution of our Club's communication platform was successfully implemented. Her tireless efforts behind the scenes have laid the foundation for a stronger, more connected LROC community, and we extend our sincere appreciation for the vital role she has played in this achievement.

Welcome to Our Newest Members

As the Chairperson of our Club, it gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to our newest members. We are thrilled to have you join our community of passionate Land Rover enthusiasts who share a common love for adventure, exploration, and camaraderie.

A little while ago I was reminded of the profound impact that our Club can have on our lives by Paul Foster, the Chairperson of the LROC PE Chapter, who stated, "I am never leaving the Club, you never know who is joining next and you never know... they might very well be your next best friend." These words truly resonated with me as they highlight the power of connection and friendship that lies at the heart of our Club.

Although our Club has been in existence for over 63 years and has matured as an organization, and we recognize that we are never too old to make new friends and embrace new

experiences. We are excited to have you as part of our community, and we look forward to creating new memories and sharing many adventures together.

I invite you to take advantage of the numerous events and activities that we offer and to fully immerse yourselves in the Land Rover Owners' Club of Southern Africa. It is through your participation and enthusiasm that we will continue to thrive and grow as a community.

Once again, welcome to our Club. I hope you enjoy being a part of it as much as I do, and I look forward to seeing you soon and sharing the joy of Land Rover ownership with you.

Clint Mason
Chairperson



Johan & Drienie Heydenreich from Kingshill driving a 1998 Land Rover 110 300tdi

Oscar Afonso from Bryanston driving a 2010 Discovery 4 3.0 tdv6 s and a 2015 Discovery 4 XXV

Jean Guccio from Three Rivers driving a 1959 Series 2 SWB and a 2010 Defender Puma SWA



Let's Talk ORRA

Effective communication is a vital part of any off-road adventure, and for the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa (LROC), the Off-Road Radio Association (ORRA) ensures that members can stay connected reliably and legally. Since its establishment in 1977 by the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa, the 4x4 ATV Club (then the Jeep Club of Southern Africa), and the Four Wheel Drive Club of Southern Africa, ORRA has been at the forefront of facilitating two-way radio communication for off-road enthusiasts across the country.

ORRA has grown alongside advancements in technology, beginning with 27MHz CB radios in its early years, before transitioning to 29MHz frequencies in 1979, and introducing VHF frequencies in 2006 in collaboration with the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA). This progression reflects ORRA's commitment to providing reliable and modern communication solutions to meet the needs of the off-road community.

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A cornerstone of ORRA's role is recognizing legitimate off-road clubs and granting their members access to radio licenses. This structured approach fosters responsible use of radio communication while ensuring compliance with South Africa's Telecommunications Act. By managing specific frequencies for off-road activities, ORRA promotes safe, effective communication that enhances the overall off-road experience.

ORRA also facilitates cross-border communication for adventurers exploring Botswana and Namibia. Through carefully negotiated agreements, LROC members and other enthusiasts can legally use their VHF radios in these countries, provided they obtain the required documentation in advance. This initiative is invaluable for off-roaders who want to remain connected during their journeys beyond South Africa's borders.

For LROC members who wish to join ORRA's network, the process is straightforward. By submitting an application form along with proof of club membership and the required fees, members can secure a user authorization card, granting them access to ORRA's designated radio frequencies. This ensures compliance with national regulations while unlocking a critical tool for safety and coordination during off-road adventures.

The importance of using licensed radio equipment cannot be overstated. Operating unlicensed transmitters is not only illegal but can disrupt vital communication networks. ORRA's licensing framework ensures that off-road enthusiasts can enjoy worry-free communication while respecting broader communication systems.

Whether navigating tough trails, coordinating convoy movements, or sharing stories over the airwaves, reliable communication is essential for any off-road adventure. ORRA's work makes it easier than ever for LROC members to focus on what matters most—exploring the rugged beauty of Southern Africa. For more information or to apply for a license, visit ORRA's official website at www.orra.co.za.



On the Horizon

Future Events: Because owning a Landy means there is always something to look forward to...

LROC Event

Landys and Lattes May 2025



From: Sun, 04 May 2025 09:30
To: Sun, 04 May 2025 14:00
Hosted By: Simon Meanwell
Venue: SetteBello - The Italian Club, Bedfordview

Join us for a special Sunday edition of Landys & Lattes at the renowned SetteBello restaurant, nestled within the Italian Club in Bedfordview. This family-friendly venue offers an authentic Neapolitan culinary experience, perfect for our Land Rover community to connect over great food and conversation.

SetteBello is celebrated for its traditional southern Italian cuisine, featuring wood-fired pizzas, homemade pastas, and a selection of Italian wines. The restaurant's warm atmosphere, complete with a

spacious terrace and a dedicated children's play area, ensures a delightful experience for all ages.

We'll kick off the morning at 09:30 with a sumptuous Italian breakfast buffet. It's a wonderful opportunity to mingle with fellow Landy enthusiasts, share stories, and enjoy the flavours of Napoli right here in Johannesburg.

If you'd like more information or ongoing updates about this or future Landys & Lattes events, we encourage you to join the official Landys & Lattes WhatsApp Group, where all details, reminders, and feedback are regularly shared.

Please RSVP to secure your spot. We look forward to seeing you there!

LROC Event

Dinokeng Series Weekend Adventure 2025



From: Fri, 09 May 2025 10:00
To: Sun, 11 May 2025 14:00
Hosted By: Attie Smit
Venue: Willem's Rus, Dinokeng

Costs:
 Willems Rust:
 - Children age 0-6: R135.00 pppn;
 - Adults age 13-60: R220.00 pppn; and
 Adults above 60: R200.00 pppn.
 Maximum of 6 persons per site. Only one additional vehicle per campsite allowed at R95.00

Dinokeng Game Reserve:
 - Conservation fee: R120.00 per adult at the gate or R100.00 online.
 R80.00 per child at the gate or R50.00 online.

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- Vehicle entrance fee: R50.00
 - Self-drive fee: R200.00 per vehicle per day or R270.00 for 2 days.
 R125.00 per vehicle per day for pesioners

Note: This event is open to all Landys, not just Series vehicles.

Embark on an unforgettable weekend at the Dinokeng Game Reserve, home to both the big and small five, located just 50 km north of Pretoria. This exclusive event is set in the pristine wilderness of Willem’s Rus, one of the premier camping sites within the reserve. Revel in the thrill of the real bush, navigating your Series vehicle through diverse self-drive routes crafted to enhance your game viewing experience.

Unlike typical guided tours, there will be no convoy driving. This unique approach allows you the freedom to explore at your own pace, increasing your chances of encountering wildlife in its natural habitat.

Willem’s Rus offers a genuine bushveld experience, perfect for those who drive a Series Land Rover and cherish rugged adventures. The campsite provides essential amenities to ensure comfort while you immerse yourself in the tranquility of Dinokeng’s spectacular scenery.

Join us for this special weekend where the wilderness of Dinokeng awaits to be explored.

Clint Mason
Venue: Wolwekloof 4x4 Trail, Rayton (35 km east of Pretoria)
Venue: R300 per vehicle

Get ready for an adrenaline-filled TrailBlaze adventure at one of Gauteng’s most exciting off-road venues — Wolwekloof 4x4. Located just 35 kilometres east of Pretoria, this trail offers the ideal escape for those looking to push their Land Rovers to new heights while soaking in the breathtaking beauty of the bushveld. Despite its proximity to the city, Wolwekloof delivers the feeling of a true off-grid adventure, complete with sweeping grass-covered hilltops, dramatic rock faces, abundant game, and ever-changing scenery. It’s been some time since the Club last took on this iconic trail, and we’re looking forward to stretching our springs and putting rubber to rock once again.

The trail stretches across 15 kilometres of varied and challenging terrain, with an estimated driving time of between two and four hours — depending on our pace and our chosen line. Expect to tackle granite rock faces, sharp steps, tight switchbacks, and some truly unforgiving axle-twisters. The terrain evolves constantly: from forested bush paths and open mountain tracks to sandy stretches and even a short wetland area that can become boggy in the right conditions. Whether trail riding, rock crawling, mud bogging, or sand duning, Wolwekloof promises a satisfying challenge for every driver and every Landy, no matter the setup.

Event Reports

Because owning a Landy means there is always something worth writing about...

LROC Event

Landys and Lattes April 2025



steaming coffee, good food, and even better company, the event once again proved that Landy life is as much about the people as it is about the vehicles.

Despite the heavy weather, the day was a resounding success — a testament to the enduring spirit of the Land Rover community. Whether rain or shine, the bond between Members remains unshaken, fuelled by a shared passion for exploration, connection, and the unmistakable character of Land Rovers. We look forward to many more shared moments and muddy adventures ahead. that defines the Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa.

A heartfelt thank you to all who participated and contributed to making this event a resounding success. Here’s to many more trails, tales, and togetherness in the journeys ahead.

Date: 05 April 2024
Hosted By: Simon Meanwell
Venue: Club Navale

As Rick Mason aptly put it, “Landys never mind the weather” — a fitting statement that might just have been the quote of the day on 5 April 2025, as Landys and their intrepid owners gathered under grey skies for yet another unforgettable Landys & Lattes.

April’s edition saw the Club venture to the North West to the scenic shores of Hartbeespoort Dam, enjoying a warm welcome from the restaurant at Club Naval, based at the TYC Yacht Club. In the midst of a tremendous downpour, a proud convoy of 14 Land Rovers departed from Hartford Garage, snaking their way along the winding, tree-lined roads from Sunrella AH toward Broederstroom. There’s something truly captivating about a procession of Landys on the move — the sight alone evokes a deep sense of shared purpose and quiet adventure.

Upon arrival, the Club made its presence felt with typical Landy charm. Laughter and stories quickly filled the air as Members swapped tales of past trips, bush repairs, and memorable moments behind the wheel. Rain may have fallen, but it did little to dampen the spirits of those in attendance. With

LROC Event

TrailBlaze June 2025



From: Sat, 07 June 2025 09:00
To: Sat, 07 June 2025 13:00
Hosted By:

