

Chris Tite followed up his Winterbourne Abbas victory in March with another win at Holywell

April 4X4 Trial Holywell

Sunday April 16th 2023

Tite Triumphs Again

Words and photos: GEOFF PICKETT

A quiet Sunday morning in mid Dorset and in all probability the Franciscan monks of Hilfield Friary were not distracted as they went about their Chapel Life by fourteen four-wheel-drive enthusiasts of the Woolbridge Motor Club in a valley south-west of the monastery as they prepared themselves and their vehicles for twelve testing sections which utilised the steepest gradients and most challenging woodland areas.

Chris Tite, victor of the club's March all-wheel-drive trial at Winterborne Abbas, was the sole participant in Class One, in which the vehicles can be equipped with non-standard differential locks to enhance traction and grip. Despite running solo in the category the Cerne Abbas driver was targeting another overall victory with his self-built and developed 3.9 litre Land Rover special. A good start with only a single point dropped was not on par with six drivers from the sub-divided Class Two who started their event in the most positive fashion climbing to the top and avoiding any penalties.

Tite remained consistent on the second section again with a single penalty, but the complexion of the event changed with the nearest challenger becoming Shannon Butterfield who carded four penalties at the wheel of the Land Rover special, the driving of which she shares with her father Dave. As the first round of six tests progressed Tite upped his performance with a brace of cleans to forge a thirteen-point lead at the lunchbreak with the Butterfields, John Kirby, and Tite's daughter Darcy, at the wheel of a short wheelbase Land Rover, the only drivers to clean a section.



Darcy Tite throws up the mud on her way to the Best Junior award

Kieran Baxter gets to grips with new Land Rover based mount

The main contest, in Class 2a for those with standard differentials, saw Dave and Shannon Butterfield at the head of the order, the leader with nineteen penalties just two less than his daughter and Simon Crook on thirty in third at the wheel of a diesel Land Rover and not his usual Whitbread Special or in fact the Land Rover Discovery in which he competed with back in February at Hogcliff Hill. Suzuki Jeep pilots Carl Horwood and Derek Calleyway battled in Class 2b, the two-litre division, with Horwood leading the way, twenty-three points to thirty-six.

Six tests throughout the afternoon saw Chris Tite in imperious form and only adding a single point to his penalty total and even with a fifteen-point handicap secured the overall win whilst Dave Butterfield remained in command of Class 2a increasing his advantage over Shannon to seven points with Simon Crook reducing the deficit between second and third by two to seven. Kieran and Simon Baxter claimed fourth and fifth place finishes with fifty-four and sixty-one points apiece in their new Land Rover based mount which has replaced the Suzuki Jeep.

Carl Horwood eked out a further two-point advantage over Derek Calleyway whilst Darcy Tite won the Best Junior Award with a total of sixty-three.



A Butterfield one-two in Class 2a. Shannon on route to second place

Emma Kirby getting used to new vehicle

Next 4 X 4 Event. Sunday May 25th 2023 @ Simons Quarry



Graeme Wills making light work of a bank

Class 2a victor Dave Butterfield disappears amongst the gorse



4 X 4 TRIAL HOLYWELL

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DRIVER	RUN 1						RUN 2						Sub Total	Grand Total		Position			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6		Total	Total				
Class 1																			
Chris Tite	1	1	0	0	2	2	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	7	15	22	1st O/A	
Class 2a																			
Simon Baxter	1	9	9	3	4	8	34	7	4	2	8	6	0	27	61	61			
John Kirby	0	8	9	3	11	8	39	7	10	9	8	0	4	30	73	73			
Darcy Tite	9	8	3	0	8	5	33	7	10	0	8	1	4	30	63	63	Best Junior		
Kieran Baxter	0	8	9	3	9	7	36	5	1	3	8	1	0	18	54	54			
Emma Kirby	1	11	9	7	9	8	45	7	7	3	8	3	2	30	75	75			
Graeme Wills	1	8	9	4	9	7	38	1	10	10	8	1	0	30	68	68			
Matthew Taylor	1	10	9	3	9	4	36	7	10	3	8	2	6	36	72	72			
Dave Butterfield	0	10	1	0	0	8	19	2	2	2	8	0	0	14	33	33	1st 2a		
Simon Crook	1	10	10	3	4	2	30	1	2	9	3	2	0	17	47	47	3rd 2a		
Shannon Butterfield	0	4	8	0	9	0	21	4	4	2	2	0	7	19	40	40	2nd 2a		
Georgia Crook	9	10	8	4	10	8	49	7	10	10	2	1	8	38	87	87			
Class 2b																			
Carl Horwood	0	8	3	3	1	8	23	7	10	3	2	2	5	29	52	52	1st 2b		
Derek Calleyway	0	8	10	3	8	7	36	7	4	11	2	0	7	31	67	67			



Simon Crook enjoying a Sunday drive to third in Class 2a



Simon Baxter cultivates the land at Holywell