Woolbridge Motor Club





April 4X4 Trial

Loscombe Down Sunday April 21st 2024

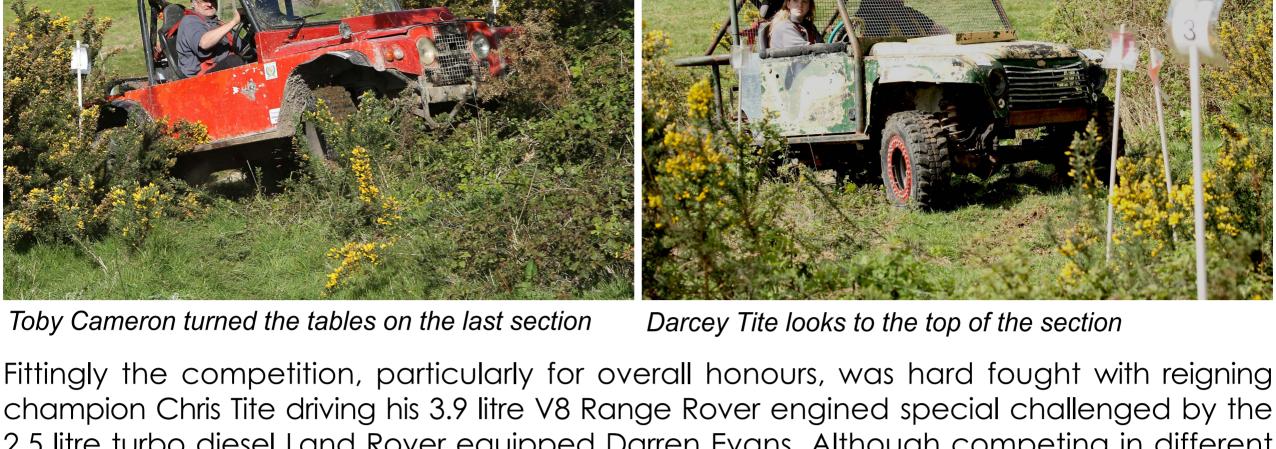
Words and photos: GEOFF PICKETT

At last the rain has ceased. After the cancellation of both car and four wheel drive trials the improvement in the weather was universally appreciated by competitors at Loscombe

Down near Winterbourne Abbas east of Dorchester on a sunny day when the bleating cry of lambs in an adjacent field and swallows swooping overhead provided a bucolic scene which gladdened the heart. One month ago the ground was so wet that the organisers deemed it prudent not run the event and wait for improved conditions in order not to risk the possibility of damage

to the field which would weaken the relationship with the landowner. So from torrents of water running down the sections to, one month later, dust in the air as the twelve drivers fought their way through outcrops of gorse during two runs of six tests which provided a close battle for overall honours as if the celebrate the return of competitive motor sport.



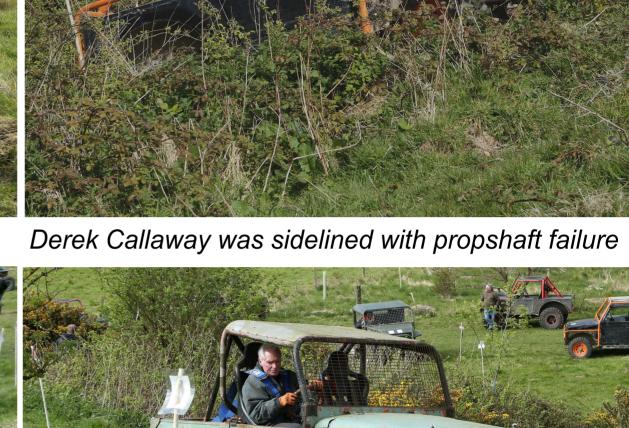


classes (more on that later) the combatants completed the first run of six tests all square

with four penalty points each and just two ahead of John Kirby which saw the leading trio break clear of fourth place man Dave Butterfield, at the wheel of his V8 powered special, to the extent of nine points. The afternoon session required the driver's attention following numerous amendments to the tests during the lunch recess and inspecting the sections on foot prior to driving was certainly a prudent approach and one that helped Tite steal a three-point advantage over Evans on the first hill following the resumption of play prior to extending the margin to

six points following the next climb.





John Tite drove solo





vation of Evans to the overall win it was John Kirby, from Maiden Newton, who conducted his diesel powered machine in to third overall and first in Class 2 with a total of twenty-seven penalties just six up on Butterfield who in turn edged Darcy Tite into third place by two. Electrical problems on his Land Rover hindered Dave Clayton during the morning but a temporary repair enabled the Wimborne driver to enjoy an improved afternoon. Another to suffer mechanical gremlins was Class 2b driver Derek Callaway with his Suzuki Jeep. A broken prop-shaft sidelined the Dorchester driver and thereafter he shared the drive with Chris Tite but was unclassified in the final results leaving fellow Suzuki driver Kieran Baxter the sole runner. The Bridport driver completed the morning with eighteen on his scorecard (just a single point in arrears of his father Simon competing in Class 1) but lost

The afternoon tests saw the leading duo pull away from their challengers and with the ele-

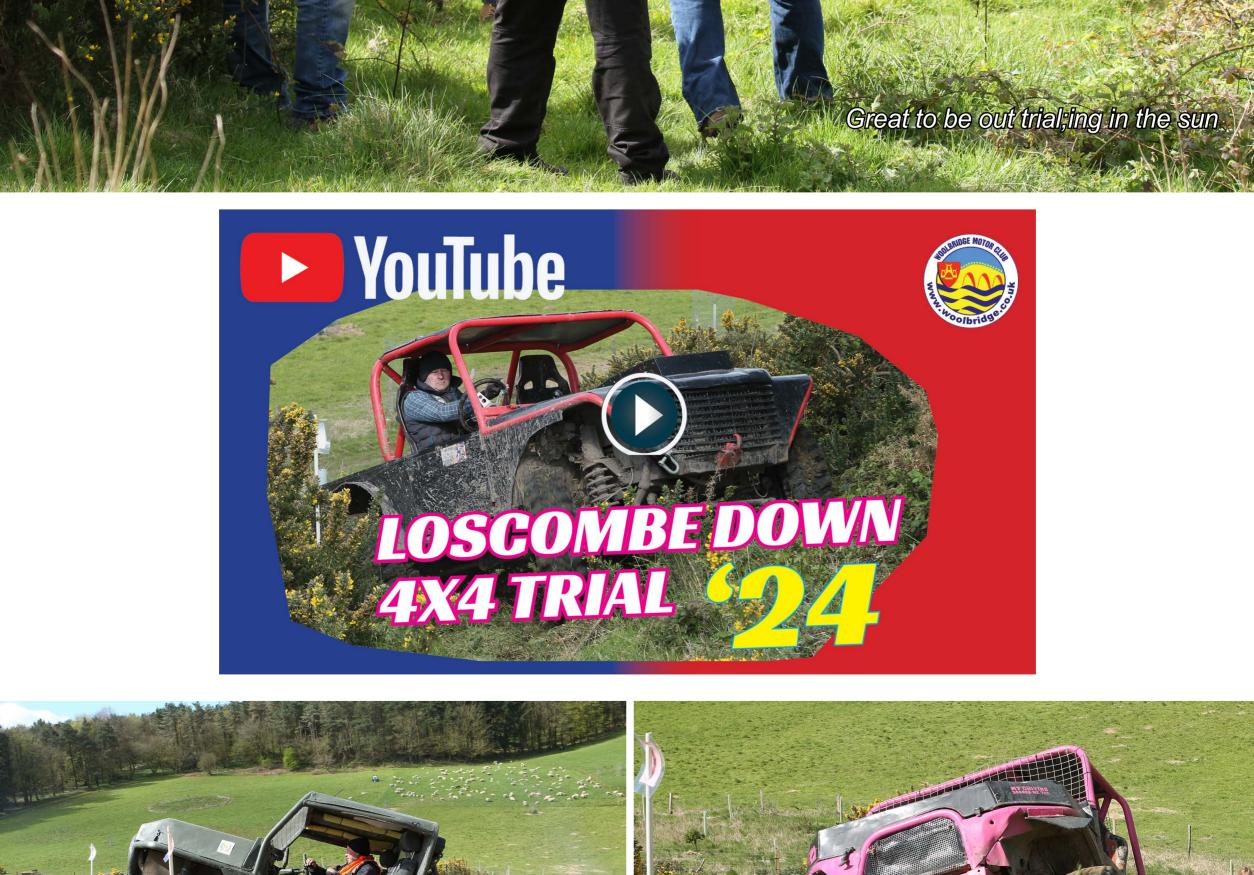
ground during the afternoon to finish with a total of sixty-eight.



Graeme Wills goes clean

Darcy Tite on her way to another clean

Simon Baxter clears the gorse



3.5 litre V8 power launches Dave Butterfield No rain but dust in West Dorset! Next Event - May 19th Mannington Quarry

