

Bux and Oxon Response Group Induction

Bucks and Oxon 4x4 Response Group.

We're a rare combination of a local response group and a regular 4x4 club. This means, as well as our social activities, when weather or other situations demand, the local authorities may call for our help.

We are on hand with vehicles, and drivers with training and experience so can provide help where it's needed within the community.

When not involved in that, we get together for 4x4 related events of all varieties.

BORG Mission Statement

BORG is determined to bring together an enthusiastic group of 4x4 drivers who can enjoy social events together and share experience and skills with each other.

In doing this we strive to provide support into the community applying these skills with our 4x4 vehicle and assisting with logistics across a number of areas, usually when there are bad weather conditions.

The History

BORG started off as a group of Land rover enthusiasts who, in 1992, met every month in the Seven Stars in Twyford Near Buckingham.

The conception of BORG **as we know it today** came about from an article Ron Welch (BU002) read in an American 4X4 magazine that reported detailed accounts of volunteers helping out in emergency situations within local communities.

After an initial meeting with our then Chairman Jim Starkey, and Emergency Planning Liaison Office Peter Wildridge, together with Dia Brogden (both of Bucks County Council) BORG was formed.



Q: When was BORG born?

A: **BORG was born in 1997.**

Two of the founders are still members Ron (BU002) and Linda (BU016)

At that time the full name was:

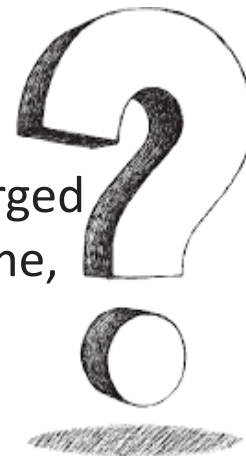
“Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire 4x4 Rescue group”

Q: When did BORG change its name?

A: In 2005, Bux 4x4 and Bucks & Oxon 4x4 Rescue Group merged

To be able to represent both clubs & keep the BORG name,
the club was REBORN as

“Bucks & Oxon 4x4 Response Group”



My name is Chris Watt and I'm currently Chair of BORG 4x4

Elsewhere in this pack is a history of how the club started.



I've owned a 4x4 for approximately 30 years and started, as most do, experimenting with of "off road" driving. I had no idea what a byway, bridleway, white road or what all the myriad of titles meant. So I did the sensible thing and joined a club. Through the club I gained a far better understanding of how to behave when accessing the miles of unpaved roads available to use.

That is just one of the purposes of BORG. We like to ensure all our members when driving off road or on unpaved roads, have a good understanding of what is expected behaviour.

The club encourages the social aspect of having a 4x4 with monthly meetings, weekend site hire and green laning trips.

There is also a response side to the club where we get to help the local community to better deal with all sorts of extraordinary emergencies. We try to take time out to ensure all those involved in any form of response activity have had access to some form of training.

But the most important thing for me to say is **WELCOME!**

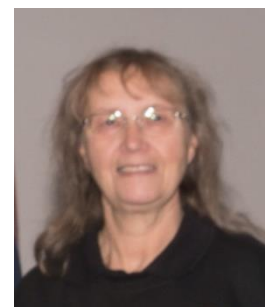
Committee Who's who



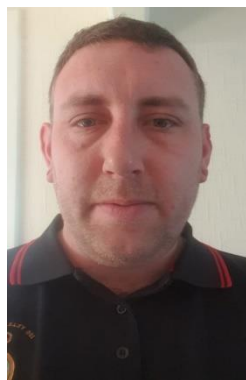
Chairman
Chris Watt



Secretary
Keith Richards



Treasurer
Susan Sansom



EPLO
Simon Avery-Sutton



EPLO
Simon Prebble



Events
James Dixey



Comms
Chris Comley

Membership
Carol Watt

Area We Cover





Recognised
Club



4x4 Response operates at two distinct levels: Nationally and Regionally.

Nationally it is called 4x4 Response. This acts as an umbrella organisation supporting the teams. The national organisation is a point of contact for any national issues/questions/proposals, i.e. anything which affects all teams.

It is constituted as a charity with a group of trustees elected by its members (the member teams and any individuals who have individual membership at a national level).

Regionally each team is run day-to-day autonomously and will be named regionally (e.g. Wessex 4x4 Response etc.)

This is where the work happens, members are trained within their teams, and it is the team which builds relationships within its area with user bodies such as the police and ambulance services. The team is called out by the user body.





For a number of years the Buckinghamshire County has maintained and supported several [Bucks county council volunteer groups](#) whose services could be called upon to supplement county resources wherever appropriate.

Historically the key volunteer organisations supported by Bucks CC were:

- Bucks Volunteer Rescue Services, who specialise in search and rescue
- Raynet, who specialise in mobile radio communications networks
- W.R.V.S. who provide catering care and comfort to displaced civilians, searchers and emergency teams alike.

Since 1999 members of BORG 4x4 have been added to this list. Our role being essentially to provide a safe, off-road / bad weather transport capability to the rescue response for whatever purpose may be required.



Advanced Responder Management (ARM)

In February 2020

BORG teamed up with Big Yellow to start using ARM.

We use ARM for the full management of our group.

ARM helps manage every task we are requested to do.

It also helps manage club records.



During winter months one of our consistent roles is to keep things moving. This is not just people but also food. We have worked closely with both the NHS and Apetito to ensure nurses and doctors get to the right place, as well as hot meals getting to the most vulnerable.





Glass affiliation

BORG is affiliated to GLASS (The Green Lane Association) which gives us access to an extensive database of lanes and routes. We are also active in promoting and protecting our rights of way.

The Members Starter Pack

Website:

www.borg4x4.org

Membership information:

membership@borg4x4.org

Emergency Response information

response@borg4x4.org

Events co-Ordinator

events@borg4x4.org

ARM

www.bigyellowdesign.com/borg

ARM: Advanced Response Management

This is the club's way of storing each members details as well as how we deal with response.



A couple of key things for a new member to know:

- You will need to keep your details up to date on ARM
- Once set up don't share your password with anyone, any request for a new password reset will need to be an email to response@borg4x4.org
- If there is any information that you feel is wrong and you need changing then contact membership@borg4x4.org and this will be changed by the admin team.

Access Your Membership
File

Access Your Home Page

Current User Login

[View your own membership record](#)
You are currently logged in as BU151

[Change password](#)

[Logout](#)

Quick links to update your own status

Responder Availability Status

Set your availability for the next six hours to :-

[Reluctant](#) [Submit](#)

[Click here for a longer term or more detailed view](#)

Responder Welfare status

Currently set to **Home Safe**

if you are either currently deployed, or wish to report the end of deployment, update your welfare status to :-

[Need Welfare](#) [Submit](#)

Controller Status

Currently set to **3 - Off Duty**

Set your status as a controller to :-

[3 - Off Duty](#) [Submit](#)

Update Your Availability

Response Expenses / Banking:

Where possible, BORG will payout mileage expenses for active response work at the going rate, currently @ 45p per mile. This is to cover the cost of your vehicle. We claim this back from our response users. Attending training is not included in this, but we will try to ensure there is coffee and tea available at most training events.

To allow us to get payments out to you we aim to repay you this within 2 weeks. To do this, you will be required to call the Club Treasurer and give your bank details. Please DON'T send your bank details via email or text; it must be done via phone call.

Members Discounts:

ThunderPole for CB equipment, 10%

<https://www.thunderpole.co.uk/>

FirstFour, 5%.

<https://www.firstfour.co.uk/>

The Blue light card (various)

Being member of GLASS (various)

Adrian Flux Insurance 15%

0800 916 1288 (until 7pm evenings)

Uniform

We are currently working to sort stock of basic uniform. We have now sourced a supplier that you will be able to order your own kit and just let them know you want the BORG logo on it and they will sort for you.



[01908 373388](tel:01908373388)



Response As We Know It

Emergency response

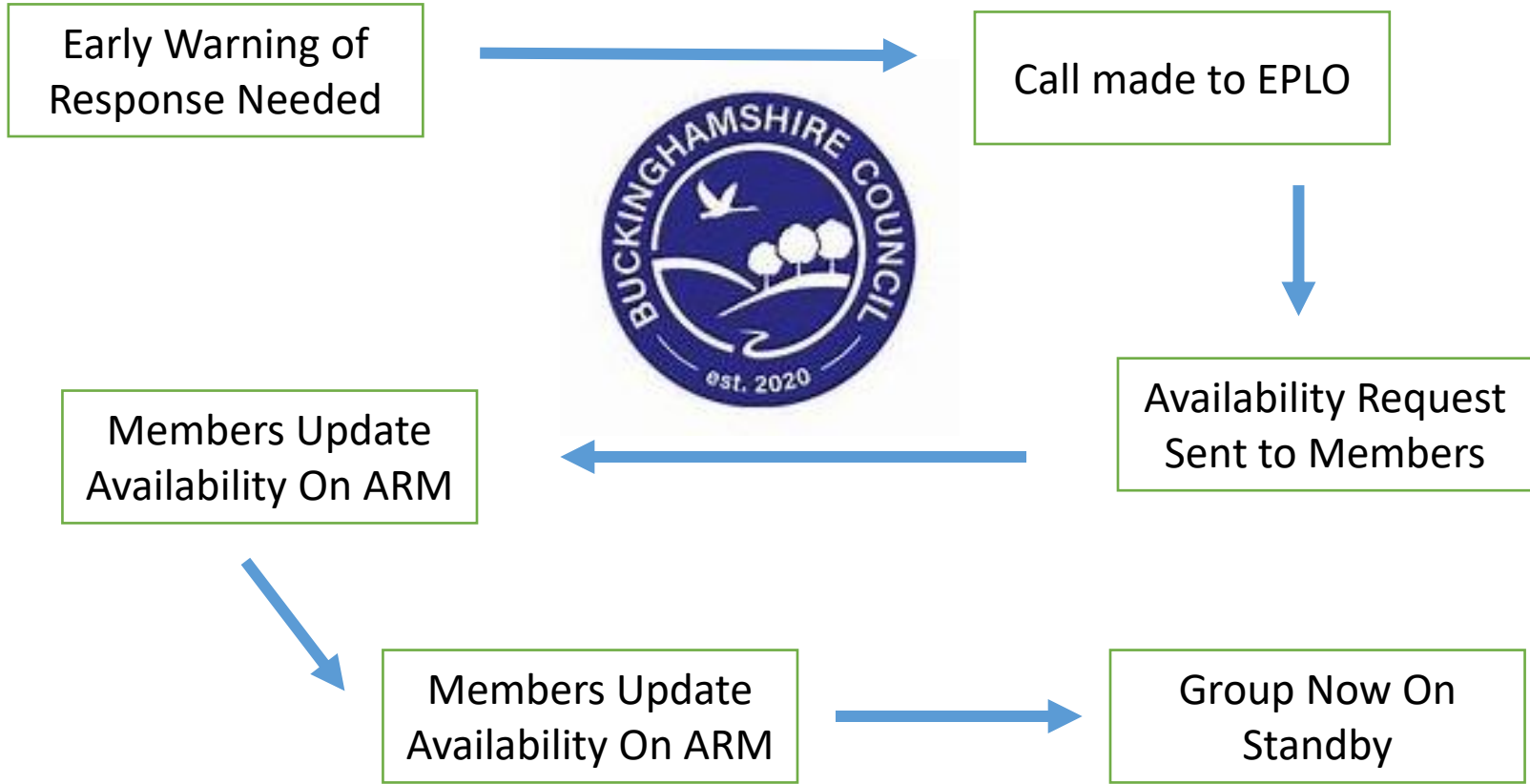
As many of you will be aware the club's name is derived from the volunteer stand-by service that we operate at the behest of Bucks County Council's Emergency Planning team.

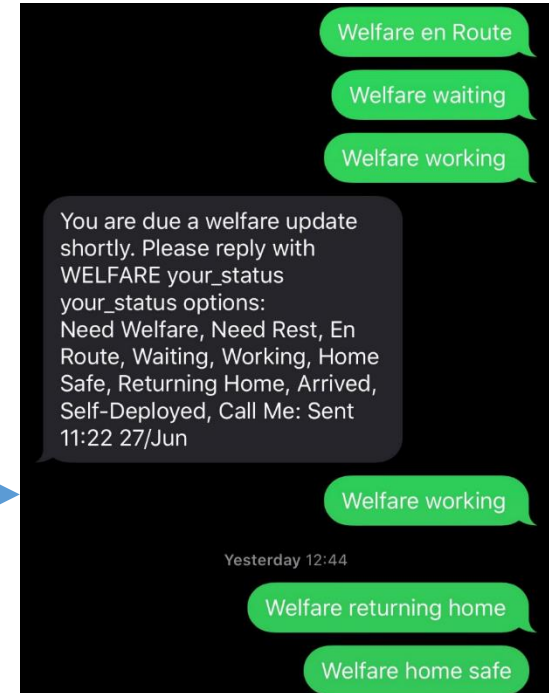
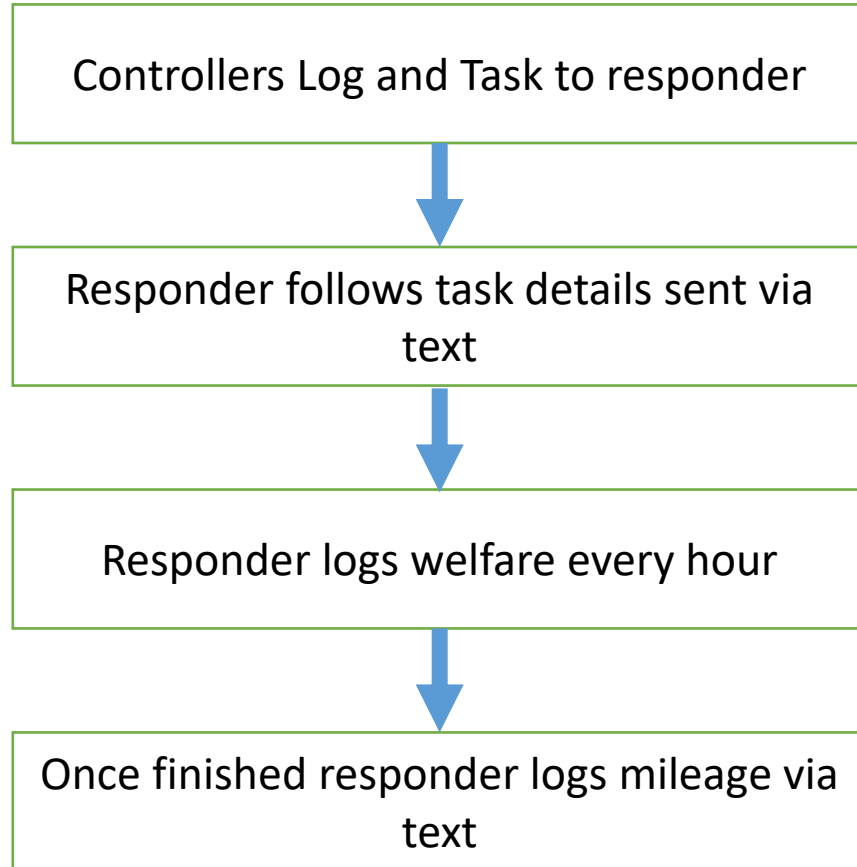
The Emergency Planning Team based at County Hall in Aylesbury are responsible for co-ordinating the County's response to civil emergencies anywhere in Bucks.

Obviously in the case of a major incident involving a serious threat to life, the response will be in tandem with the front-line emergency services.

4x4
RESPONSE
UK

BORG 4x4





Controllers

The Controller oversees the distribution of personnel to assist those in need by looking at both the availability of the volunteer and their capability to safely help those in need.

The Controller will look at:

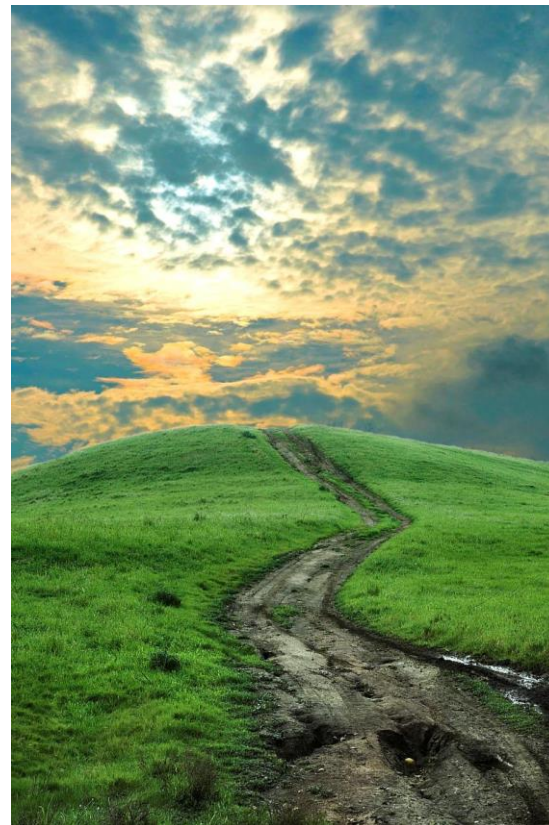
- The volunteer's current location, assessing response time.
- The length of time the volunteer will be available.

When called upon, we aim to have two members BORG rendezvous within one hour of the initial call. However, should multiple volunteers be required, then the aim is within two hours.

The Controller records all details of the task on ARM, ensuring correct payment of mileage to members and correct details to recharge our clients for the mileage.

BORG 4x4 Responder Pathway

Responder Level	Activity
Applicant	Application Form, ARM Profile
	Licence Check, DBS available
Responder Level 1	On-Road Driving Assessment
	Off-Road Driving Assessment
	Navigation
	Communication
	Code Of conduct
	Kit and Vehicle Check
	BORG Induction
Responder Level 2	Completion of Responder Level 1



BORG Grading for Response

Within the club we assess the skills of our team to ensure they have the ability both themselves and their vehicles, as well as the confidence to tackle the task in hand.

Most work that our responders carry out is easily done by level 1 and level 2 responders and predominately higher than this is more down to formal training received externally.

We also have a letter grading that is added to the level of a responders and these are solely based of the vehicle. For example a responder could be a 2A grading.

Below shows how all of our drivers are graded:

1. All drivers regardless of experience start at level 1, at this level drivers are sent out in pairs, and must attend one of the 4 response events that we hold through out the year to move up a level. At this point we as a club both check and share knowledge on basic skills i.e. map reading, radio communication, manual handling etc.

BORG Grading for Response

At our response events we cover controlling a vehicle on loose ground, we cover limitations of the different vehicles and forward planning. Again this is done with other level responders both as refreshers but also so the team can share skills to help level 1 responders move on up.

1. As before
2. This is the level of most of our responders and this is that they have attended one of our response events in the last year and have also demonstrated basic driving skill and understanding of the vehicle they drive. They have also demonstrated ability to follow a map and understand and relay communication over radios. They have also been apart of a self recovery demonstration.
3. Has completed cold water training and reached everything required in level 2
4. Has completed NVQ in off road driving

Your Vehicle Grading

All responders are required to attend one of the response events that we hold within each membership year to allow for skills to be refreshed and vehicles to be assessed. If after that year they have not been seen at an event they will be given the grade of 1 and be required to go out on live jobs with another vehicle.

We also have a grading for the vehicle and this is below:

- A. This is given to most vehicles as long as they have the ability to drive with all 4 wheels i.e. they are 4x4
- B. The vehicle is fitted with a snorkel or has a higher than normal wading depth.
- C. This is given to vehicles that have heavier than normal recovery equipment i.e. heavy duty recovery points or lifted to allow for more ground clearance.
- D. This is given when the vehicle is fitted or has the means to fit a winch.

BASIC KIT TO CARRY IN YOUR VEHICLE WHILST ON RESPONSE

Listed below are some basic items that we would expect to find in your vehicle whilst you are attending a response call out.

Please don't panic if you don't have all of them or if you are unsure feel free to ask. We as a club are here to help and can offer you advice and guidance should you need it. Don't be afraid - we don't bite, and as they say every day is a school day.



PERSONAL ITEMS

- *Spare change of clothes incl. 2 spare pairs of socks, trust me on this there is nothing worse than wet soggy socks.*
- *Small hand towel to dry your hair off etc if its raining*
- *Waterproof / warm coat*
- *Spare footwear suitable for the task you are assigned to*
- *First aid kit for your personal use incl. any medicine you are prescribed to take, my personal kit contains; plasters of various sizes, stretchy fabric tape, steri-strip, medical superglue, roll of bandage, safety pins, sanitary towels - these are obviously individually wrapped so are sterile meaning they can be used to cover large wounds with some tape to hold them on and also any female passengers would be most grateful if caught short, paracetamol, anti-allergy tablets, indigestion tablets, sharp scissors, pair of good quality tweezers for getting splinters out.*
- *Something to drink - screw on cap / sports cap is handy*

PERSONAL ITEMS

- *Food - I find cereal bars, chocolate bars are good as they have a long shelf life and can be left in the car without worry of them going mouldy*
- *Work gloves - suede palm ones are good as you can still feel what you are doing with them on.*
- *Hand sanitiser*
- *Blanket / travel rug*
- *Face covering of your choice*
- *Latex / vinyl / nitrile gloves*
- *Money / cards in case you need anything whilst out*
- *Notepad and pen / pencil - its a lot easier to scribble an address down than try and retrieve it from your e-mail whilst trying to talk to someone at the same time, technology is brilliant until it fails*

TECHNOLOGY - electrical items

- *Mobile phone with credit on it if you are pay as you go*
- *Charger for phone*
- *Some form of navigation - phone nav is fine or separate sat nav*
- *Torch with spare batteries - on phone torch is ok*
- *On vehicle technology / driver aids - please take the time to familiarise yourself with the various buttons that your vehicle may or may not have and what those buttons do, read the owners manual.*



RECOVERY KIT

- Qty 1 - good quality recovery rope - this will cost you from £20-40. For basic vehicle recovery a nylon strap with a length of 4m and a breaking strain of 8-14000kg will serve you well, or you could choose to purchase a rope instead to the same load rating. Any strap or rope purchased should have a tag attached to it by the manufacturer with the breaking strain, British standards numbers and date of manufacture. This is your starting point, I could go on for 3+ pages on all of the different recovery ropes and kit available that is used but all will become apparent the further into the world of off road driving you venture.
- Qty 2 - tested and certified bow shackles of at least 3.25t rating - tested shackles usually have either a blue, red or green pin. We use bow shackles instead of 'D' shackles as they show very visibly any sign of overloading by the pin binding, by it's design a 'D' shackle doesn't show this.
- Qty 1 - 1 tonne purple short loop - really handy for multiple uses and especially for looping through towing eyes on bumpers so that you don't scratch the paintwork with a shackle.
- Gloves - already mentioned in personal kit

VEHICLE KIT - VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

- Fire extinguisher - preferably with gauge, this is not intended to fight fires with but mainly to buy you time to escape should the worst happen.
- Spare bulb kit incl. fuses
- Jack
- Wheelbrace
- Spare wheel – I'm well aware that some vehicles don't have a spare wheel and instead come with a can of "not get you home" all we ask is that if your vehicle has the facility to carry a spare wheel then please do so.
- We would also expect you to be able to change a wheel safely on your own.



Play Time, Don't
forget you have to
drive it home!!!!

Regular local greenlaning

The group firmly believes in the motto “use them or lose them”. All green laning is thoroughly researched in advance to ensure that lanes used on the route have the appropriate vehicle rights and the GLASS code of conduct is followed.

Trips generally start from a well-known landmark in the morning and run for the day with a stop for lunch. They will normally be suitable for any 4-wheel drive vehicle and support is given for drivers of all abilities.



Pay and play days

These are events where 4x4 driving and recovery skills can be safely and legally practiced from beginner to extreme.



Trials

Since we are no longer MSA registered with Motor Sport UK, we no longer run RTV trials; which is a competition. Something similar though, we set up obstacles and routes where you can test your abilities and get assistance in building your skills. Not bound by RTV rules, you can carry passengers and repeatedly re-try sections.

Event marshalling

Over the years we have provided marshals for the off-road courses at Billing, Abingdon 4x4 festival and Baja amongst others. We also get involved with marshalling road rallies – we have run stages at the Tempest Rally and at the Sunseeker Rally!

We have a number of MSA registered marshals within our membership.

We also help out marshalling several charity events such as the Abingdon Air Show, and the Buckingham Xmas Carnival.



Events Calendar



Club Night	Every 3 rd Tuesday of the month	Held at the plough in Marsh Gibbon
Club AGM	March's club night	Held at the plough in Marsh Gibbon
Response Events	Min 1 per quarter	These may be within another event or stand alone
Group Laning trips	Aim is once a month	We are always looking for people to lead trips and we can help plan them
Site Events	Aim for every other month	Some of these include camping as we get the site for the whole weekend
Christmas Meal and Club Night	2 nights in December club night is as normal	Dates are released a few months before
Summer Family Day	A day in late August	It is a BBQ and family events not 4x4

BORG 4x4



4x4 RESPONSE

BORG 4x4



BORG 4x4

