

DRIVING HOME

A Project in aid of The Colin Javens Spinal Injury Trust (charity number 1107143)

5 days until
departure



Driving Home is a pioneering overland expedition from London to Cape Town, led by Colin Javens who is tetraplegic. Driving Home will raise funds towards spinal research and welfare of the spinally injured, and will promote disability awareness in the UK & Africa.

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After a year of preparation and hard work the team makes their final preparations before the start to their adventure next week.

Updates of their progress will be posted on the Driving Home website—please have a regular look.

Expedition Departure Celebration

**Monday 7th November
2pm**

**Stoke Mandeville National
Spinal Injuries Centre**

If you would like to come and wave Colin and his team off we would love your support.

Please let me know on:
01483 898 840 or
caroline@drivinghome.co.uk
I will then send further details.

Press support strengthens

The Independent, Guardian and Telegraph Motoring section have confirmed coverage. ITV Central and British Satellite News will film the departure. Magazines also running features include Land Rover Enthusiast and PA News.

Next month

- He's on his way—European leg
- Jersey half marathon report
- More fundraising
- Other sponsors listed

Colin's kit and the final test— 1 piece fails

The team recently spent an exciting time together in the middle of the Brecon Beacons to put all their training and planning to the test.

It was the first time for Colin camping outside, using all his specific equipment. The hand controls for the vehicle worked well, including off road and the team found using the winch and hoist a simple and effective way for Colin to get into the Disco.



Disco hoist—works well

Colin slept on his camp bed and used his portable shower



Colin's camp bed, with an air and gel base to prevent pressure sores

chair. Both suited Colin well and he is confident they are ideal for the trip.



Portable showerchair folds into small suitcase

It was only when Colin returned to Stoke Mandeville for a 'pressure mapping' of the vehicle seat cushion that he realised it was not sufficient to prevent pressure sores from building up and ending the expedition. As Colin cannot 'feel' we have to rely on technology and were very relieved to have done so.

A new cushion is now ordered and will be ready for the 7th.



This J2 cushion fails — it needs more support

First Projects in Africa are funded

We are very happy to support our first projects.

Funds have been sent to KASI (Kilimanjaro Association of the Spinally Injured) in Tanzania to fund three initiatives: to supply medical equipment; to fund sewing machines to enable spinally injured women to start a business and finally to support a wheelchair technologist to build local wheelchairs.

We have also supported Disacare in Zambia where we will fund 12 wheelchairs for 12 schoolchildren in the area.

Both these projects have been approved by Motivation, a UK charity, whose aim is to improve the mobility and the opportunities of the disabled.

Colin looks forward to visiting these projects in the New Year to see in person how the funds have been received and

spent to the benefit of the local community. After Colin has visited the projects we then hope to fund them with further funds to continue their work.

The third project, based in Kenya with the Kenyan Paraplegic Organisation, is still being considered and discussions are in place how the funds would be spent to the best advantage. We will update you on this soon.

Vehicles so nearly ready for next Monday

The vehicles have done many miles the past month—photoshoots with the Land Rover Enthusiast magazine and the Surrey Advertiser, training in the Brecon Beacons and to garages for further bits of equipment to be fitted.

They are nearly complete—just a couple of final parts to fit and the final sponsor stickers to attach.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has been so generous in their time and equipment, namely;

Land Rover Experience, AvanaDe, Trek Overland, Discoparts, Allisport, Devon 4x4, JVLlike, Optima, Keith Gotts, Footloose 4x4, Mobile Storage Systems, Safari Equip, General Ecology, Conrico, Fleetguard, Pentagon Glass,

Mr. Wood, Kelly Kettle, Alexander Forbes, RAC, Steering Developments, Cowal Mobility, and Atlas Fire Protection. Thankyou.



Vehicles side by side