

# COMMERCIAL 4x4 OF THE YEAR



## OPINIONS

EVERYONE'S COMMERCIAL 4x4 NEEDS ARE DIFFERENT - OUR TEAM OF TESTERS EXPLAINS WHICH OF THE CONTENDERS THEY WOULD CHOOSE

### JOHN CARROLL - NISSAN TERRANO



**A**t the end of this test I found myself in possession of a huge bag of keys; all the staff and photographers had gone home for a bath and an early night and I'd be

seeing the vehicles on to trailers the next morning. Rather than be 'Johnny No Mates' in the hotel I opted to go visit my parents who live less than an hour from this site. But which vehicle would I drive there in? It's not often there's

such a wide choice so I stood and stared and then wandered along the line. Hmm? Cheshire A-roads and Wirral lanes? Decision made, I opened the door, threw my bag in and, home-cooked dinner in mind, drove off. In the Terrano van.

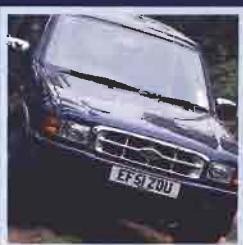
### ESTHER NEVE - LAND ROVER DEFENDER 90, 110, 130



**T**raditionally known as the farmer's friend, the Land Rover Defender also proved to be a fine companion of the 4x4 team on Commercial 4x4 Of The Year.

Chosen as the recce vehicle to guide us around the site, the LR Defender easily squelched through one tractor-made quagmire after another, ferrying its team of 4x4 occupants around safe and comfortable in the driving rain.

Naturally we got stuck, but that was only after the Defender had conquered the kind of terrain that would give the other vehicles on test nightmares and cold sweats. Always capable, ever stylish and strangely fun to drive, it's my winner.



### BOB COOKE - TOYOTA HILUX DOUBLE CAB 270 GX



**T**oyota's Hilux is my winner in the style stakes - as long as you appreciate its traditional styling, and especially if you feel the need for a bundle of chrome on almost

every available surface - both inside and out. It's also home to one of the most refined engines in its class, thanks mainly to the transference of technology from Toyota's saloon car line-up. In fact with its soft styling, comfortable

seats and steady handling the Toyota's difficult to beat... unless of course you're drawn to the brashness and boldness of the other, less conservative pickups on offer. But I'd say as an everyday choice, the Hilux is difficult to beat.