

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2016

From Jacqui at the Newsletter

## **Northamptonshire Ironstone Railway Trust, Hunsbury Hill Road**

We had a very kind invitation from Roger Whiffin, one of our members and one of the Directors at NIRT to try out the venue on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2016.

The members who brought machines were Mark Egerton and Andre Stryger.

We have checked the possibilities of the site as a Rally Venue.

The site was a horse drawn narrow-gauge ironstone railway and 40 years ago was re-laid as a standard gauge railway, within a country park.

This led to a special problem for the operators.

To get standard gauge rolling stock around the very tight curves that they were given, they were forced to widen the gauge, by an inch in places.

The widened track is something our machines cannot cope with. They tend to climb the outer rail and derail.

This is a real disappointment to decline their very kind invitation, the facilities were fine, the welcome was lovely and friendly, the site tree lined and rural, the location in the centre of the country excellent and they have some fascinating exhibits.

But we must come down on the side of safety and decline.

Yours Jacqui.