

SOUTH WALES GROUP

Officials — Chairman: Leslie Davies. **Hon. Treasurer:** Dr. T. R. Bryant, Park Place, Tredegar. **Hon. Secretary:** V. H. Hesketh, Greenhill Villa, Crickhowell, Brecs. Tel. 207.

AT our Club night on 6th March we were pleased to welcome as guest speaker Mr. A. E. (Bill) Bengry, rally champion, and his navigator, David Skeffington. Unfortunately Bill had been out the previous weekend and for a change had been navigating which does not agree with him and he was still feeling unwell. However, they are used to working as a team and David supported his ailing friend efficiently. Their "talk" was conducted largely as a three-cornered discussion and was well received by all present. From the drivers' point of view Bill stressed three main points. 1. Choice of car, reliability, ground clearance. 2. Preparation of car, including all lights on separate fused circuits, properly fitted brackets for extras, carrying essential spares, bulbs, fan-belts, etc. 3. Driving within one's limitations.

Besides telling us what pills keep one awake (and what pills apparently make Bill sick), David outlined his rally equipment which consisted of an illuminated magnifier, distance wheel, compass, and a Halda, this last being used mainly as a check as was the compass. Both stressed

B.A.R.C. Gazette

April 1961

the need to keep all equipment carried as simple and as little as possible. So far as navigation is concerned there is no short answer, practice and experience being the only way to keep the minimum one control ahead on the map.

Awards

In addition to the driver and navigator of the year trophies mentioned in our Newsletter we hope shortly to have some further trophies. Our Hon. Treasurer, Dr. T. R. Bryant, J.P., has given us a cup which will be known as the "Treasurer's Cup" and others have been promised.

Annual General Meeting. 10th April at 8.30 p.m.

A report of the annual general meeting will be included in the next GAZETTE.

St. Davids Rally—18th and 19th March, 1961

For this event we joined forces with the Volkswagen Owner Drivers Club and this produced an entry of twenty-one cars. The number of Group entries had fallen to eleven and this seems largely due to a shortage of navigators. It was a great pity that so many missed what was a most enjoyable rally.

From a competitor's point of view the rally was undoubtedly popular: the balance of effort between navigator and driver being well matched and it is always comforting to find a manned check point even if only to exchange a clipped "Good morning". One marshal at his lonely outpost, namely Gareth Griffiths, astonished arriving crews by appearing garbed in a silk top hat, dress coat and smoking a cigar. Most of his visitors were greeted with "Good morning, welcome to the happy band of wrong direction drivers"! That's the spirit. There were no clean sheets.

B.A.R.C. take all placings bar one and congratulations go to J. C.

with R. Jones navigating took 4th place and Mrs. R. Radford with Derek Broom navigating her Minor Traveller. Tony and Don give pride of place for the best hard luck story to the Hon. Secretary, Vic Hesketh and navigator Brian King. In a moment of mental aberration which lasted all night they failed to add their number (8) in minutes to the given Rally time, with the result that by the continuation of good navigation and forceful driving at the third control they had made up their lost 8 minutes and collected 300 points for being early! and being none the wiser completed the second half in a similar fashion.

PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Overall Winners: 1st J. C. Northcott (Volkswagen); Nav. D. Murray. 2nd—Derek Holley (Anglia) Nav. K. Eustace. 3rd—John Jenkins, (Minx); Nav. R. Morgan.

"Scribus"