

MORE NEWS FROM THE CENTRES

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.

Dinner and Prize-giving

OUR first dinner took place at the King's Head Hotel, Newport, on 1st December and although having the appearance of a formal occasion, ceremony received only the merest nod in passing through an excellent five course dinner and the subsequent toasts: "The Queen," and then "The S.W. Group," proposed by Dixon Cade, who warmly complimented the officials and members on making such rapid progress and on the very full programme for the coming year. In reply, our worthy Chairman, Leslie Davies brought a modest blush to the Group Secretary's visage by laying most of the blame on him. Proposing "The Guests", Vic Hesketh welcomed the guest of honour, Jack Lewis, The Autocar FII champion, and Mr. Cade and their respective ladies. Wandering from the subject for a moment, Vic disclaimed total liability and stressed that the Group's success had only been possible with the help of those stalwarts who were always there when needed and the enthusiastic support of the members. B.A.R.C. H.Q. received advance warning of our early application for Centre Status, and the members, congratulations on choosing such attractive occupants for the passenger seat. Replying, Mr. Lewis modestly advanced various excuses for winning the Championship and gave an amusing mimicry of the oral exhortations and subterfuges of the methods of Continental race officials to getting drivers to the Starting Grid. After a short interval, the prizes were presented to last year's winners by Mrs. Cade.

(Report by "Scribus".)



"I wish it were a compulsory cheque . . ."

New Year Rally, 15th January 1961

All twenty starters enjoyed an excellently conceived and executed event that took place in typical winter going. The course, some 200 miles, led from Gibbs Garage, Pontllanfraith via the Forest of Dean, and Wye Valley back to the Swan Hotel, Abergavenny. Planned in three sections (1. Route Card-Road Regularity; 2. Navigation by map; 3. Tulip style pictorial route card). It was a pretty tough course over which to maintain the required overall average of 30 m.p.h. and occasional icy patches, fog and mud didn't help any.

The first section was comparatively easy by any standards, but many were caught out by secret checks. The second section was the longest and most difficult and it was here that the finishing order was decided. At early checks, Vic Hesketh appeared to be overhauling Derek Holley, closely followed by David Rowlands. All three were indeed pressing on in forceful and rapid fashion, but by the commencement of Section 3 Vic had lost time (and points) and Derek and David romped home by a comfortable margin.

Tony and Don are to be congratulated on providing such an excellent exercise at their first effort as joint Competition Secretaries.

Results

1st—Derek Holley (Sprite), 740 marks lost; 2nd—David Rowlands (New Anglia), 1080; 3rd—Vic Hesketh (M.G.T.F.), 1610.

Second Annual Dance

Held once more at The Angel, Abergavenny, this event confirmed its popularity and reputation as "a do" not to be missed. Some 200 members and friends enjoyed a really hilarious evening. An enormous number of prizes for the raffle had been given by various members (for which please accept our grateful thanks). It was particularly pleasant to welcome the boisterous contingent from the Welsh Counties Car Club who arrived more or less under the command of their ebullient Chairman John Whitehead.

Congrats Dept.

Jolly good luck to:

David Yendoll and Mary and also Don Cox and Sandra, on their respective engagements.