

REPORT ON THE TREGARON & DISTRICT MOTOR CLUB
CAMBRIAN ROAD RALLY HELD ON THE 15th and 16th
JANUARY 2011 –
by John Rees, Clerk of the Course

Tregaron and District Motor Club ran their popular annual event, the Cambrian Road Rally, on the wet and rainy night of Saturday 15th January and Sunday 16th January. A full entry of 75 cars met at the Pantyfedwen Hall, Pontrhydfendigaid, for pre rally inspection of competing vehicles before the field was led away by the 2009 winners, Steve Woods and Aled Richards in their immaculately prepared Peugeot 206.

The first competitive section was on private land at Dolbolion just a short drive from the start. It quickly became apparent that there was going to be a five way fight for the lead between the crews of Wood/Richards, Clive 'Ghosty' Williams/Dale Bowen Citroen Xsara, Matthew Maidment/Byron Jones Peugeot 205GTI, Gareth Evans/Rob Walters Ford Escort and Kevin 'Steaky' Morgan/Dai Richards also in a Ford Escort.

From Dolbolion the cars entered the Geufron 'white' which proved to be really treacherous with lots of mud and plenty of water to challenge crews. In fact the section was so full of incident that it was deemed fair to cancel it from the final results. Tragically for Clive Williams, his rally ended here with a broken drive shaft after a very promising start. On into the equally wet and slippery lanes to a short two miler at Trawscoed Farm which really sorted the men from the boys. In fact, no names – no pack drill, but one of the Course Cars left the road in the farm, and the rally for good! Quickest was 'Steaky' Morgan on 21 seconds followed closely by Steve Woods on 31 seconds and Aled Humphreys/Phil Dancer in their VW Golf on 32 seconds. The run from TC2S took cars through the lanes around Llanfihangel y Creuddyn to New Cross where Woods/Richards dropped 6 seconds to the other contenders who all cleaned it with zero penalties.

A non competitive section took the field to Llanilar where they entered the Trefenter loop south of Aberystwyth. Quickest over the first section was car 31, Wyn Lewis/Gareth Edwards in their orange Ford Ka who dropped just 20 seconds – in fact they had equalled Steve Woods time on the previous section by dropping just 6 seconds. As cars headed into Aberaeron for petrol, things were really too close to call with Matthew Maidment/Byron Jones on 3.08, Steve Woods/Aled Richards on 3.19, 'Steaky' Morgan/Dai Richards on 3.34 and Gareth Evans/Rod Walters on 4.32 total penalties. The rally restarted south of Trefenter, and at TC18S near Blaenpennal the leading crews were swapping just a few seconds with Maidment cleaning it, 'Steaky' Morgan on 6 seconds and Woods and Evans on 7 seconds. TC21S should have seen cars enter 'Daltons White' but due to recent torrential rain, it was cancelled with cars being diverted via an alternative route to TC22s.

The rally continued through Llangeitho and Olmarch to TC23S at Llanfair Clydogau. Most crews cleaned this with zero penalties. The penultimate section ran south through some very tight and twisty roads via the Sarn Helen which included the very swollen ford at Farmers. Thankfully most if not all crews got through OK. At the next Time Control, the demands were obvious because Maidment had dropped 1minute 5 seconds, Evans 1.05, Woods 1.26 and Morgan on 1.49. Also quick was Car 15, Richard James/Russell Williams in a MGZR who dropped just 1.29.

The final run in to the finish at Bont was cleaned by most people and it was a deserving Matthew Maidment and Byron Jones who arrived for breakfast as worthy winners from a determined Steve Woods and Aled Richards who had fought hard all night in the atrocious weather conditions.

FINAL RESULTS

1 st Overall	Matthew Maidment/Byron Jones	Peugeot 205GTI
2 nd Overall	Steve Woods/Aled Riachards	Peugeot
206		
3 rd Overall	Gareth Evans/Rob Walters	Ford Escort Mk2
3 rd Class 1	Kevin 'Steaky' Morgan/Dai Richards	Ford Escort Mk2
1 st Semi Expert	Cerith Jones/Richard Edwards	Ford Sierra
2 nd Semi Expert	Carwyn Pughe/Einion Williams	Vauxhall Astra
3 rd Semi Expert	James Davies/Thomas Lloyd	Peugeot
205XS		
1 st Novice	Dylan Balchin/Fiona Balchin	Renault
Clio RSI		
2 nd Novice	Elfyn Tandy/Steffan Jones	Vauxhall Corsa
3 rd Novice	Gareth Hodgson/Geraint Wright	Proton Compact
1 st Under 1400cc	Gareth Harris/Craig Davies	
VauxhallCorsa		

If nyone is interested in motor sport, they are welcome to attend the monthly meetings of Tregaron and District Motor Club which are held on the first Monday in each month at 8pm at the Rugby Club, Tregaron, or ring on 01970 890 420