

## Automark Rally report..or... what am I doing with the twirly thing and pedals !!

### **Car 28: Brynmor Pierce/ David Forrester**

What started off a couple of months back as a mad idea for a bit of rally related fun ended up being one of the most stressful weeks ever, but with a happy ending!! Originally we'd intended to hire a Golf, but 10 days before the event it was sold, kind of stuck we resigned ourselves to pulling the entry (which we did) until on the Friday of the week before my wife had the great idea "why don't you build the 205 in the garage" hmmm...so the weekend was spent making some frantic phone calls which saw me secure a cage and guards from Baz Green and the fitting services of Mikey Jones and team at Minz garage Mold (shameless plug, all your car servicing needs 07971 940325).

205 dropped off at 5pm on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> along with a kit of parts, Mikey set to work on Tuesday morning, (for those who don't know Mikey he's worked for everyone in rallying and his build level is to WRC standards...he's also a real gent!!). Friday morning and I turned up to find almost a rally car, re-trimming to do, lights to fit, spots to go on etc etc, this is where I joined in the build...and then I couldn't find my MOT..doh !!

Finally at 4.45pm Saturday we drove out a fully built 205 rally car, a credit to all concerned and my sincerest thanks...onto the rally.

Scrutineering passed ok, however the passenger side electric window failed and took out the poti electrics and striplight...this could be fun, David resigning himself to navigating via a headtorch and opening the door at controls. Route down and away we go...

First couple of sections (3 sisters, Prion/Saron and then Bodfari) passed ok, getting used to the car and each other...the 3<sup>rd</sup> section was around Nannerch and Lixwm much to my delight and surprise...at the start of Penbedw I said to Dave to tighten his belts and enjoy the ride...into 3<sup>rd</sup> down Penbedw drive and a huge moment where the back stepped out pointing us towards the wall, only thing to do bury the accelerator and try and power her straight, it worked thankfully, up past where my dad grew up in the Gelli...then a nice run up Moel Arthur although bit of a big bounce as we passed Ken and Mike in the MGB haha....last section before petrol was almost a reverse of sections we've run on events I've organised around Eryrys and Nercwys so a big push again.

Petrol in Mold was a relaxed affair, although at that point we had no feel for results. Section 5 was Leeswood/Treuddyn/Graianrhyd, which again was fairly familiar ground thankfully and again we caught a few people...wonder how we're doing? Section 6 World's end, a road I'd not been on in 12 years and couldn't remember it at all, surprised it was all cleanable and then onto the sting in the tail. A roughly 10 mile section going off the shelf and into the farm above Llysfasi, I must be honest here that in the wet I think it's great, in the dry it's a nightmare (thank god I put gravel tyres on)...I thought we were fairly steady in here but caught our minute car at the end of the white, a good run over towards the slates now would see us home safe and sound. Nice and steady through the quarry and into SF7 (to be greeted by my mate Carwyn in his usual mad style!!)...that was it all over...shame as I was getting into the swing of it. Back to the Plough and a hearty breakfast, I let David worry about all the navigator related items so off he went to look at the results to come back a few minutes later saying "you know on the forum someone predicted we would be 4<sup>th</sup> ?? Well we're 4<sup>th</sup>!!" I couldn't believe it so had to check and sure enough we were indeed 4<sup>th</sup>. Absolutely made up, but more for David in the job he'd done with such limited tools and had been spot on all night, and the work the boys at MINZ had put in was all worth it.

To sum up a cracking event from CVMC, which I must say put many, many Nat B events to shame as it was seamless and slickly run all night, you could tell a lot of prep work had gone into it. So my thanks to everyone who was out on the event and anyone who had a hand in making it happen....I don't think anyone will see me navving in the lanes again soon!!