

## Elsmore dominates Wyer' an Stages Seventy on Pines finale

ONCE again Graham Elsmore and Stuart Harrold proved that they are the uncrowned kings of the Forest of Dean by winning Sunday's Esso Uniflo Wyedean Stages Rally. In their AVJ Developments/Team Avon Tyres RS1800 they completely dominated the Forest of Dean MC organised event, taking fastest time on all but two of the 18 stages, to run out easy winners by more than two minutes from Roger Clark/Mike Greasley in the works Ford Cossack RS1800 which featured many development parts in preparation for the Lombard RAC Rally. Third was newly crowned Castrol/Autosport Champion David Stokes with Bill Andrews in the Team Avon RS1600, whilst Jon Lloyd's 14th overall earned him the Pirelli/Triple C Championship in his Imp.

However, for the second week running any celebrations were damped by a fatal accident. On Sunday, Alan Turner and Graham Castle died when their Imp left the road on the tenth stage, Saintlow. The Imp hit an electricity pole at high speed and burst into flames, and although a doctor was on the scene in ten minutes there was nothing that could be done to save the Canterbury men. It seems that the impact was of such severity that it brought down the electric power lines which shorted-out when they touched the car. *Motoring News* would like to extend its sincere sympathy to the relatives and friends of both Turner and Castle.

With the BTRDA Gold Star Championship already settled in the favour of Geoff Simpson, the main interest on the Wyedean centered around the battle for the Pirelli/Triple C Championship. Pre-event leader was Alan Thurlow in the Lightspeed Magenta with Jon Lloyd and Tony Worswick tying for second, a point behind. Thurlow and co-driver Steve Rowe had the oil filter bowl break-up on the Magenta, the subsequent



ELSMORE: untouchable

Mike Greasley. The Cossack Escort had a new four-speed gearbox, the engine which Clark will use on the RAC and various suspension modifications. The "mobile test bed" also tried some development Dunlop A2 tyres. The Cossack Escort ran perfectly throughout the 65 stage mile rally, but it was Elsmore's day. It was only his second outing in the new RS1800 which also had a trouble-free run except for electrical problems which meant push starts.

As far as Stokes was concerned he has now cured the brake troubles on his RS1600, his only drama being a slight off on a deceptive left hand bend which also claimed fourth placed Frank Pierson for a short while. Also off at the same place was Terry Brown who damaged the radiator on his Escort, but still came sixth. Fifth place went to Norman Harvey in the RS1800 which he shares with Nigel Rockey, the

MORE than 70 crews set off on Saturday on the final round of the Belfast Telegraph Northern Ireland Stage Championship, Ulster AC's Rally of the Pines.

Leading the entry is points leader David Lindsay in his Lindsay Car Escort RS1800 followed by Dessie McCartney in his Carrera and Robert McBurney with his fearsome Porsche engined Volkswagens. At four is Adrian Boyd in a Carrera with David Agnew next. Hugh O'Brien starts next with Gp1 Championship leader Sean Campbell in his RS2000. Rounding off the top ten are Fred Crawford and James Logan.

Starting from Ballymena at 10.00 the route includes ten stages covering about 40 miles

of Ulster forests. First stage is at Slieveanorra forest, West of Cushendall, followed by two visits to Ballypatrick which is between Ballycastle and Cushendun. The route then heads north for Claewood forest which is four miles west of Ballycastle on the Bushmills road. Next on the agenda is Springwell which is between Coleraine and Limavady. Cam forest is next, east of Limavady, and then on to Gortnanoyagh forest. The penultimate stage is Glenshane forest off the Glenshane pass, and finally competitors tackle Moydamlight which is south west of Glenshane.

The finish is in the Leighlinmohr Hotel in Ballymena at 16.00.

## Top Finns in Gp1 RS2000s

FINNISH Gp1 champion Kyosti Hamalainen is to drive a Gp1 RS2000 supplied by Peter Clarke Autos on the Lombard RAC Rally.

The Escort—which has a reputation of backing from dorcham—will also be sponsored by Keighley based paint wholesalers, A & C Factors Ltd.

Also liable to ruffle a few Gp1 feathers on the RAC is Markku Saaristo who will drive a works RS2000. Saaristo will

have Colin Francis in the co-drivers seat on the RAC, the Finnish-Welsh partnership having previously rallied together on the 1975 Welsh when Saaristo was still driving for Skoda.

As far as the Clarke Autos RS2000 is concerned there is a strong possibility that a British driver will be signed to drive the car in the RAC and Castrol championships next season. However, the outcome very much depends on the RAC Rally result.

## Border TR7s

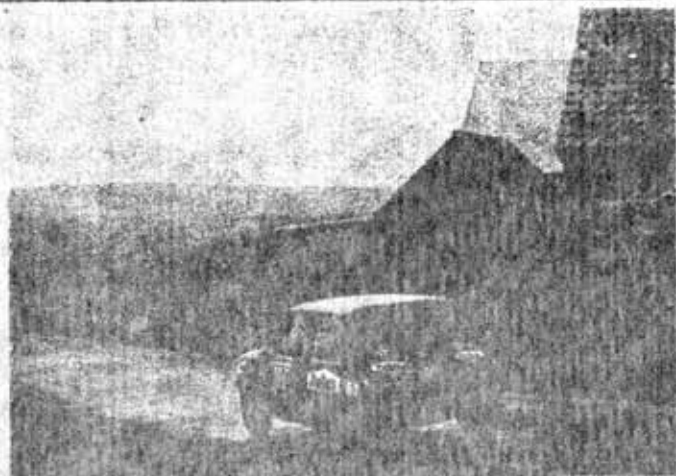
TWO Border drivers will be using TR7s in Scottish rallies next season. Having just sold his Dolomite Sprint, Ken Wood will be running one of the cars through Peacock and Kennedy, Leyland dealers in Hawick. The other, to be driven by Peter Tokeley, will be entered by Croall Bryson, whose Leyland involvement in the Border counties includes support for a road rally championship as well as for individual drivers.

Peter has been competing in the Challengers division of the Scotsman championship, while Ken's plans for next year in-

## Sunday's Vales

SUNDAY'S Swansea MC organised single venue Rally of the Vales is not open to spectators, so the only way that Welsh enthusiasts will be able to see the action is by volunteering for marshalling duties. Any offers to Stuart Phillips at Bishopstone 2444 (home) or Stuart Collins, Swansea 55562, work.

The event will be run entirely on Economic Forestry Group land, and consists of three laps of the Vales of six, five and 24 miles. There will be no road mileage, and the entry includes Norman Harvey, John Fergus-



JERZY LANDSBERG was the star of last week's Warsaw Rally, his Renault 5TS being quicker than anything else on the foggy stages. But, some 18 hours after the fact, the stage on which he'd gained the greatest advantage was mysteriously cancelled, giving victory to a Polski-Fiat, who were sponsors of the rally after all!

## Odds and...

● Welsh Border CC is holding a motorsporting film evening at the Regal Cinema, Oswestry, on Thursday, November 25. The show will commence at 20.00 and will last for three hours. Amongst the films shown will be Scotch and Dry, Winning Ain't Easy and the Vauxhall Motoring Group film of the Y Ddraig Goch Rally. Admission is 50p.

● After the summer recess the Midland MC's Quiz League recently started again with a win for 60 and Worcestershire MC over Hagley and District. Run on a similar basis to University Challenge the contests are held every fortnight when four teams meet for two separate matches. Other clubs taking part are Redditch, BRSCC (Midland), last year's winners Coletie BRMS, Shentstone and Cheltenham.

● On November 27, the Mini Se7en Club is holding an RAC Rally film show. Amongst the films will be "The Unknown Forest" and "From Hazogate it Started". Venue as usual is the Cheshire Midland Hotel at Hale,

● Blackpuffrey MC is entering Wally Langley/Alan Clark in Saturday's Bexley LCC Witsend Rally. Wally is coming over from Jersey to compete in his ex-works London to Mexico Escort Mexico.

● To help raise funds for the Peter Waldon Fund, Epynt MC is on Saturday holding a sponsored pram push. The start is at the Askomel Hotel at 13.30 and further information can be obtained from Heather Matters, Cartrefle, Irfon Terrace, Llanwrtyd, Wells, Powys.

● Saturday's Royal Oak MC Oaks Trophy Rally will see the debut of a new Vauxhall Chevette saloon in the hands of Denis Murray/Geoff Gillman. The Gp1 Chevette is entered and prepared by Syd Abrams Ltd., main Vauxhall dealers in the Manchester area. Co-sponsors are Oldham Batteries who will use the Chevette as a test bed for a new lightweight Polypropylene battery.

● Making its debut on the Lombard RAC Rally in November is the new BMW 320i. It will be driven by Swedish policeman Ruben Borjesson with Bath based Detective Constable Joe Hawkins co-driving.