

Audi Sport Rally

BULLETIN TWO

Saturday October 24th

TIME: 12.30

As competitors on the AUDI SPORT NATIONAL RALLY pulled into the halfway Service Halt at Machynlleth, Scots crew Ken Wood and Peter Brown held a tenuous 2 second lead. Their Golder Wonder Metro 6R4 just holding off the similar car of Pat Doran/Steve Harvey. The Rally is being dominated by the ubiquitous Metros with six in the top 7 places. Championship leader David Gillanders was in a challenging third place, but needs to win the event outright to ensure winning the series. Timo Salonen/Seppo Harjanne break the Metro monopoly, holding fourth place after a cautious start. He is followed by a trio of Metros, Bill Barton/Dan George being closely followed by Grant Shand/Frank Richer and Roger Clark/John Robinson. In a tight Group A battle, Trevor Smith/Roger Jones lead arch rivals Russel Brookes/Neil Wilson by 9 seconds, so a fierce battle is on the cards over the closing Stages.

David Williams/Wayne Goble (Metro 6R4) collected a puncture on the first stage but still managed to set 7th fastest time.

Championship contenders Jan and Paulie Churchill were slowed on the first stage when the cockpit of their Porche filled with fumes. They re-sealed the breather pipe which seemed to cure the problem. They also reported an "inconsistent" brake pedal.

Mark Levell's problems continued when the intercom failed on the first stage. The crew were preparing to change the complete front suspension at the first service halt.

Early Rally leaders, Steve Whiteford/Dave Adams crashed their Metro 6R4 on a bad bend on Stage 3. They regained the road but subsequently spun on Stage 4, and are reporting missing in Stage 5.

Competitors 26 and 27 Paul Dyas/Judith Flavell and Richard/Peter York are reported to have gone off on Stage 2 with the York's Escort ending up on top of the Cosworth of Dyas/Flavell.

Pat Doran/Steve Harvey are experiencing gearbox problems in their Metro 6R4 but were holding 2nd place after Stage 5.

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t Shand/Frank Richer have an engine misfire on their Metro 634. They are lying 6th after Stage 5, a minute behind the rally leaders.

The Opel Kadett GSI of Malcolm Wilson/Mike Broad is suffering from gear selection problems and the car stopped briefly on Stage 3. They were 16th after Stage 5, just over a minute behind the smaller car of Russell Brookes.

The Golden Wonder Metro 634 of Ken Wood/Peter Brown has had the speedometer and Halda pack in but it isn't bothering the Scots crew at all as they lead the rally after 5 stages.

Group A Championship hopeful Trevor Smith's eventful event continued on Stage 3 when the brake bias switched from front to rear. He then had a spin on Stage 4, dropping 2 wheels into a Welsh bog. His navigator Jerry Williams of the Daily Mail suffered car sickness of the first stage but is now starting to enjoy himself.

Harry Hockley/Nicky Grist must feel it isn't going to be their day, they picked up a puncture on both Stage 4 and Stage 5.

Russell Brookes is going flat out, trying for a good result on his last drive for G.M. His only problem so far has been a bent front strut, while an overshoot at a hairpin on Stage 1 only lost him a few seconds.

Ford Rally Search winner George Donaldson worked out on Stage 5 with a holed sump.