

D&A TIMBERS O.D. INGG'S MEMORIAL RUN
24/25 March 2012

by Ron Gush

The Friday evening braai at the club house was well supported in spite of the rain. I counted 25 heads at one stage but some left early, perhaps to do last minute checks. I went home and treated my windscreen with C-thru, inside and outside. The weather forecast for Saturday was 80% heavy rain, which was supported by thunder and lightning all night (in Kenton).

Documentation and scrutineering etc. went smoothly and the weather held off until we got out of Port Alfred towards Bathurst. Then the weather forecast proved right and we got the 80% heavy. I'm sure there were many apprehensive approaches to some deep pools across the road. I was particularly worried, as the Austin distributor is low down near the front wheel, but the old girl never missed a beat. The rain had cleared by the time we turned right at Grahamstown onto the N2 towards King William's Town.

Beyond the Fish River the course schedule demanded a right turn, which we did, onto a rather narrow and potholed road. But why did the 2 or 3 cars ahead of us carry straight on? Checked the schedule again and continued at 24km/h. Soon the 2 or 3 cars appeared, now in my rear view mirror! That is how it goes. The slow speed caused several drivers to cast worried glances at rising temperature gauges.



Bill, scrutineering



Dave & Christian. George, relaxed!



Mike & Peter



Bruce & Paul: tummies in, chests out!!



Norman and Brian



Lunch, day one

The bushes at the Monument U turn will grow well for several years to come, judging by the number of men who succumbed to the call of nature at that point. Why is it the "call" of nature when it is really a command? To my embarrassment, I was finally forced to obey that command several kilometres before Fish River, and not even near a decent bush. So there I was, semi-exposed and waving single handed to several competitors as they sailed past.

Lunch at Frasers Camp was a very welcome stop. Drinks and pies for supper at the Highlander and time to catch up with other teams' experiences.



Bill, Sue and Shirley



Early birds, day two



Tea stop, day two

Sunday was a lovely day and the drive out to Bira was very enjoyable. The relatively flat road hinted that accurate speed estimation and times might be expected from competitors and thus much effort went into counting white lines and so on. The detour into Bira village was interesting – glad I had fitted new brake cables for that steep downhill to a T junction. Yes, cables – no hydraulics in the old car. The route was not at all confusing, so much so that one driver thought he must have got it wrong! Clearly George will develop his own style of challenges.

There were fortunately no breakdowns on the rally. One cannot really count an oil leak on the BMW motorcycle or a Lucas fuel pump that needed a judicious tap with the blunt end of a screw driver.

Sunday lunch at the Highlander was excellent.



Neville & Sue at Highlander



Cars at the pool



Technical discussion

In his speech, Bruce thanked:

Our sponsor D&A for their generous support. D&A manager Vanessa Gerber, who presented the prizes, is related to OD Inggs. Bruce called on us to remember OD by relating an amusing anecdote, partly imitating OD's high pitched voice which so many of us can recall.

“Devious” Des for his many years of organising this rally. His route schedules will long be remembered as the benchmark.

George Armstrong and his willing team of marshals, stewards and scorers whose hard work and dedication made this event a great success and so much fun. Well done and a big THANK YOU to all of you.

Summary of Results:

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| First Prize | Neville and Sue Kock of AVCMC in a 1960 Rover Mk1 |
| Second Prize | John Pringle and Enrico Contardo of BVCC in a 1959 Citroen ID 19 |
| Third Prize | Norman Hickel and Brian Haviland of BVCC in a 1970 Fiat 850 Coupe |
| Top Navigator | Sue Koch |
| First Lady Team | Margie Whittal and Marlene Reed of AVCMC in a 1960 Mercedes Benz 190SL |
| Oldest Car | Ron Gush – 1934 Austin Ten |
| Club Trophy | BVCC |

