



John Williams 1968



Ralph, 85, proves his mettle

WHEN youngest son, Rodney, suggested to his 85-year-old father that it was about time he started taking things easy, Mr. Ralph Bird showed him that he was still in top gear.

Mr. Bird, of Heathcote, Cowbridge, went out and booked an advanced driving test—and passed it for the third time.

The test, under former police driving school examiner David Evans, involved two hours driving round country lanes, through busy towns, and along the motorway.

Mr. Bird said: "Rodney was a little concerned that at my age and after being in hospital twice my reflexes were not good enough to be driving on motorways.

"So I had to prove to myself and him that I can still handle a car with the best of them

"What better way than taking an advanced driving test at my age? Now I can cock a snook at him."

Mr. Bird took the test in 1959 and in 1977—and can boast 68 years accident-free motoring.

He first had a car, an Enfield

Autolette, in 1915, after riding a motorcycle as a teenager.

Mr. Bird said: "I've always enjoyed motoring, but I only do about 6,000 miles a year now, mostly to Cardiff and to the golf club in Porthcawl."

Brownies at risk

COWBRIDGE Brownies is in danger of closing unless a volunteer comes forward to take over as leader.

Mrs. Pauline Mead is having to hand over because of the pressure of her other commitments, which include being a District Commissioner for the Brownies.

The threat of closure has brought forward one lady from outside the area to hold the fort temporarily, which leaves the Brownies still 'on the brink'.

Mrs. Mead can be contacted on Cowbridge 3269.



D
THOMAS
22/12/83

THOMAS, Funeral Directors, Llangollen
(0978) 860519. Both occasions
flowers from family only. Donations to
Llangollen Parish Church, Roof
Restoration Fund.

BIRD.—On Dec. 20, peacefully in the
Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend,
South Glam, **RALPH NATHANIEL
BIRD**, in his 91st year, of Broadway,
Cowbridge. Dearly loved husband
of the late Bet. Funeral Service at
Pendoylan Church, on Thursday,
Dec. 24, at 11.30 a.m. followed by
interment in the Church yard.
Flowers may be sent to James
Summers, Roath Court, Newport
Road, Cardiff.

BLOW.—On Dec. 19, 1987, at a
Seaford Nursing Home, **IRENE** (nee

22/12/83
THOMAS

BIRD

Peacefully, on Dec 20, in
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Broadway, Cowbridge,
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by interment in the
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be sent to James
Summers, Roath Court,
Newport Rd. Cardiff.

CARMODY