

MULLMURMURSMULLMURMURSMULLMURMURS - Chapter 7

Provisional Leaderboard after 13 (of 18) Special Stages:

1	Neil MacKinnon/Mike Stayte (Subaru Impreza)	1Hr 28m 07s
2	Dougi Hall/Gareth Williams (Ford Escort)	1.30.39
3	James MacGillivray/Brian Kennedy (V'hall Corsa)	1.34.31
4	John Cope/Tony Cope (Ford Escort Cos)	1.35.07
5	Callum Duffy/Del Duffy (Ford Escort)	1.35.16
6	Robert Davies/Neil Fraser (Mitsubishi Lancer)	1.35.33
7	John Cressey/Ian Grindrod (Vauxhall Astra)	1.35.53
8	John Swinscoe/Paula Swinscoe (Ford Escort)	1.36.57
9	Doug Weir/Duncan Brown (Vauxhall Nova)	1.37.35
10	Tony Bardy/Reg Smith (Nissan Sunny)	1.38.01

Rallying can sometimes be one of the most cruel sports in the world. Just when you think things are going well, Lady Luck gives you a right good slap on both cheeks, just ask Calum Duffy and Steven Clark.

Neil MacKinnon now appears to have settled into 'rally lead conservation' mode. The Subaru's progress is still pretty rapid but it doesn't half look composed and under control. As for Duffy, 'heartbreak hell' happened in Gribun with he and Del walking away from a mechanically dead Escort. Pity too, Steven Clark. Going from 6th to 4th gear in Mishnish, the Peugeot snapped a driveshaft. Steven's immediate response was "Thank God it's not the gearbox, a driveshaft is cheaper" and then realisation dawned, he was out of the top ten and out of the rally.

Dougi Hall says "Every stage is a drama", but he's now lying 2nd. James MacGillivray also has a problem, the gearbox has lost 1st gear whereas John Cressey has lost 5th gear but the lads are hard at work getting it ready for to-night.

Frosty Smart (40) is out. After a succession of troubles last night he broke the throttle cable this afternoon and despite replacing it with Jason's bootlace he's going no further ... also out is Grant Fleming (77) with head gasket failure ... Robert Davies (27) got a fright when he clouted a rock and the car went up on 2 wheels ... Pat Johnson (59) says "I get the usual twitches with the car over the big yumps, but my ar*e is twitching too ... Tony Bardy (20) has a problem with the engine cutting out ... Stuart McQueen's Lancer is looking distinctly 2nd hand after a flailing tyre took off the wing ... Dave Thwaites (47) spotted on the end of a rope ... Giles Brooksbank (68) has a lazy turbo, it's lagging more and more with each passing mile ... Chris Tooze (38) has got a vibration from the front end ... Chris Paton (67) had the nuts come off his strut tops ... Alan Gardiner (60) is parked up in Gribun.

Please note, above times are provisional (we do our best!)

That's yer lot meantime, more later

Yer auld pal, Jaggy Bunnet, Tobermory Car Park, 6:30pm Saturday.