

AUSTIN ROVER RALLY NEWS

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Audi Sport Rally 24th October 1987

RALLY NEWS NO. 5

TELFORD TOWN PARK...4.15 pm Saturday

UNOFFICIAL LEADERBOARD AFTER SPECIAL STAGE 10

1st	Pat Doran/Steve Harvey	MG Metro	1.20.17 hrs.mins.secs.
2nd	David Gillanders/Ken Rees	MG Metro	1.20.22
3rd	Ken Wood/Peter Brown	MG Metro	1.20.28
4th	Timo Salonen/Sopko Harjanne	Mazda	1.21.01 Group A
5th	Bill Barton/Don George	MG Metro	1.21.09
6th	Roger Clark/John Robinson	MG Metro	1.23.47
7th	Richard Holmes/Phillip George	MG Metro	1.24.19
8th	Trevor Smith/Roger Jones	Sierra	1.24.30 group A
9th	Russell Brookes/Neil Wilson	Astra	1.24.32 group A
10th	Mark Lovell/Jerry Williams	Sierra	1.24.53 group A

With just about 3 miles of the leaf covered asphalt roads of the town park stage to go, the entire National Championship hinges on the 5 sec. gap by which Gillanders trails Doran in the 2 MG Metros....and the 2 sec. gap between Trevor Smith and Russell Brookes in the 2 group A cars.

After making a slow start this morning Gillanders has been driving his brains out all afternoon...started the last stage 5 secs. behind Doran, but set equal fastest time... as co driver for Gillanders KEN REES remarked here at the service before the stage... "A whole b...y season all down to 5 secs.".....tight stuff indeed!... (although KEN is in fact the Champion co driver anyway!)

In the group A battle between Smith and Brookes.Russell has been doing one of his famous last minute charges taking a full 12 secs. off Smith's Sierra Cosworth on that stage 10, the Ford driver remarking.. "I thought we went really well, but it was slippery we weren't getting very good traction, so I think it must have been favouring the front wheel drive car. I know I've only 2 secs. lead now, but believe you me ..I'll be doing my damndest to hold on to it".....Russell was spending his time working out the mathematical equations of him finishing ahead of Smith...with Gillanders still 2nd... they will tie on points, but the decision will go to the Vauxhall Astra CTE driver on a tie decider.

Elsewhere on the rally....the outgoing Champion ALISTAIR SUTHERLAND was parked up ... his Mazda out of the rally, at a pleasant little pub at Dinas!....while just down the road at another pub, DAVID WILLIAMS, who started the rally at No. 13, was also having a pleasant lunch...having retired when his MG Metro burst its rear differential.

In the group N category...ALLAN EDWARDS still held a comfortable lead, heading for the £500 prize money for the category...his nearest challenger SIMON STUBBINGS having been delayed earlier when a front drive shaft broke...taking some of the brake pipes off, meaning a fairly big time loss...JAN CHURCHILL in the Porsche is still suffering from engine oil fumes getting in to the car along with quite a few other maladies... FRANK MEAGHER, the young Irish driver is lying just outside the top 10, his enthusiasm seems to know no bounds...as he's heading for a 2 am ferry to Dublin to do an all tarmac event in the West of Ireland tomorrow!.....

BRIAN & LIZ PATTERSON

(THANK YOU DERRON (PIRELLI MOTOR HOME)
for supplying the tea and goodies!)

