

Rally News

**Audi Sport Rally
22 October 1988**RALLY NEWS NO. 2

Dinas Mawddwy...Saturday...10.00 am

UNOFFICIAL LEADERBOARD AFTER SPECIAL STAGE 1 Dyfnant

1st	Russell Brookes/Neil Wilson	Sierra Cosworth	14.56 mins.secs.
2nd	Hannu Mikkola/Christian Geistdorfer	Mazda	14.59
3rd	Timo Salonen/Voitto Silander	Mazda	15.00
4th	Jimmy McRae/Rob Arthur	Toyota	15.13
=5th	Stig Blomqvist/Benny Melander	Cosworth	15.15
	Malcolm Wilson/Ian Grimdrod	Astra	15.15

With a top ten more akin to a World Championship Rally, the opening stage of today's Audi Sport Rally was a fast and furious affair.....as can be seen above...RUSSELL BROOKES was the fastest and that was despite a small excursion into a picnic type area....JIM MCRAE made it successfully through the first stage in the Toyota Celica GT-Four...the car's British debut... Jimmy telling us.."I was surprised just how good it was - handled brilliantly, no turbo lag or anything like that, but I did have a few problems with trying to balance the brakes front and rear - only to be expected of course in a brand new car".....

No. 1 seed in today's event STIG BLOMQVIST told us here at service.."It is strange without the pace notes - Benny reads the map OK but it is strange! Running first on the road is no problem with the surface of the stage but it is nice to see some marks from other cars! The car is good, no problem".....

Other stories include....MALCOLM WILSON passed PER EKLUND in that first stage - Per in the little Nissan March Turbo slowed slightly with a clutch slave cylinder problem - but no problem for Per - the Clarion driver just crashes the gears....MALCOLM WILSON reasonably happy with his new 16 valve Astra - Malcolm slowed very very slightly, again with a small problem in the clutch hydraulics...RUSSELL BROOKES "very pleased with these new Dunlops you know"....TREVOR SMITH felt he was getting no traction from the rear of his Sierra.."The tyres are wearing on the inside again"... from the Cellnet/Autosport Championship contender - Trevor on 16 mins... IAN ROBERTON in the Nissan 15.49 despite a 2 mile rear left hand puncture... MURRAY GRIERSON on 15.44 as was JAMES RENWICK - Championship contenders all - other times include...STEVE DAVIES in the Opel Manta on 15.22...good for a top 10 place...LOUISE AITKEN WALKER with the Daily Mail's JERRY WILLIAMS on the maps, approached a hairpin all wrong - lost time - the Peugeot lady on 16.04....in group N GEORGE DONALDSON set a time of 15.41 - young MCRAE on 15.47...IAN HUGHES in the Mazda 16.27....GRAHAM MIDDLETON in the Toyota Celica GT-Four on 16.10...and that was despite the fire extinguisher going off at the start of the stage and losing some turbo boost halfway through - nothing series...GWYNDAF EVANS had a 5 mile puncture haven't got his time.. JEREMY BASSON in the Gp N Cosworth had 16.00, while outgoing champion David Gillanders had 16.16 in the Montego...more news to follow..

BRIAN & LIZ PATTERSON