

MULLMURMURSMULLMURMURSMULLMURMURS - Chapter 6

Provisional Leaderboard after 8 (of 18) Special Stages:

1	Neil MacKinnon/Mike Stayte (Subaru Impreza)	57mins 40secs
2	Callum Duffy/Del Duffy (Ford Escort)	58m 49s
3	Dougi Hall/Gareth Williams (Ford Escort)	59m 49s
4	John Cope/Tony Cope (Ford Escort Cos)	61m 46s
5	Eddie O'Donnell/Eddie O'Donnell (Ford Escort)	62m 35s
6	James MacGillivray/Brian Kennedy (V'hall Corsa)	62m 38s
7	Robert Davies/Neil Fraser (Mitsubishi Lancer)	63m 15s
8	Steven Clark/Barry Young (Peugeot 106)	63m 38s
9	John Swinscoe/Paula Swinscoe (Ford Escort)	63m 40s
10	John Cressey/Ian Grindrod (Vauxhall Astra)	63m 45s

No changes at the top of the leaderboard on this 32nd Philips Tour of Mull Rally but more delightful drivel follows. First an important announcement for all competitors - It is VITAL that all crews display their 'OK BOARDS' if they go off or park-up in a stage. Failure to do so has already caused some unnecessary delays today.

Maybe it's psychological but when daylight comes, most competitors cheer up, altho some get further depressed - now they can see where they are having their accidents! ... Mark Hudson (15) copped a big one in Calgary, the Escort well off the road and him taken to hospital with a broken wrist ... Peter Smith (45) also had a big one in the same stage but both crew members OK ... the crew of 89 both heaved a sigh of relief, Jim Brindle and John Bould in the Mini have both co-driven for Pete in the past ... the O'Donnell twins are out, head gasket gone ... Ian Dixon (48) has skelped something on the co-driver's side (of course) and the Escort's crabbing a bit ... Chris Paton (67) thinks power steering is a wonderful thing, he has done 31 Mulls and co-dvr Dave Cabena has done all 32, still anything which makes it easier for a pair of old-timers has to be good ... Allan MacKay is off at the Toilets in Calgary ... Gerry Kilmurray (74) hit a patch of mud and skelped a wall - lightly ... Chris Woodcock is OK now after his pre-rally scare. Two dowels in the cam shafts sheared late Friday afternoon and Daniel Harper helped him rebuild the engine making the start with minutes to spare ... Dave Calvert (56) has dinged the nose of the Escort ... Brian Otridge had a fuel pump fail last night (and nearly forgot he had a spare wired up) and then the turbo failed so it has been replaced and he's catching cars today ... Mark Hughes (113) smacked a banking in Calgary and the Escort went up on two wheels but got away with it ... and finally, let's not forget the service crews who have to refettle all the above - that is when they are not causing damage. Grant Fleming (77) has a bent co-driver's door courtesy of service crew chief Fergus who drove up on the pavement alongside the car as Graham Thomson opened the door! But no-one will fall out with Fergus, he is the guy behind all the Tunnocks biscuits which are being dished out to crews and marshals. Nice one Fergus - and I won't tell a soul about your embarrassing mishap. It's a secret between you, me - and the population of Mull.

That's yer lot meantime, more later

Yer auld pal, Jaggy Bunnet, Tobermory Car Park, 4:00pm Saturday.