

Targa Tasmania 2015

Team 222: Andrew White / Ashley Yelds
1961 Volvo 122s

Leg Two: Deloraine and over Mt Roland.

Leg Two took us out from Launceston with eight competitive stages in a loop to the north and west, finishing for the day over Mt Roland. From yesterday's largely "warmup" format, the competition intensifies as the day progresses and teams tune in to the task at hand. There was some ongoing drama from the first day's speed restricted warmup stages where approximately 70 crews incurred a five minute penalty. For a moment it looked like we'd have some chance of beating the Freestone Holden, a car built for the Outright Competition but still eligible for the Performance Index ranking (Handicap) as well. However, by day's end, the penalties were removed for all those who's fell foul and with the all-dry weather forecast, their 340HP supercar will likely trounce us well and truly all the way to Hobart.

The roads though are the reason we're here, and blasting along these as fast as we're brave enough to do so is the real thrill. We kicked off with Westwood, still another "warm-up" stage where we had to run hard but doing so "cleaned" the stage: no penalty time. Seven of us achieved that, including the usual suspects of the Jensen and the Freestone Holden, and also the Priddle's mighty Zephyr and the Steuarts Harry Potter Anglia. On High Plains we dropped four seconds to the Freestones and seven to the Jensen, and on Sheffield held on to our 3rd place by 16 seconds ahead of the Woodward Monaro. Nook as another great battle, just three seconds off of the Holden, but now with the Kent/Snell Ford Falcon 351 GT just three seconds behind us alongside the Monaro. The Moriarty stage is V8 country, and saw us pushed back to 4th by the Falcon and we pipped the Monaro by just one second.



Paloona was great fun, starting the stage in front of Jim Richards and Barry Oliver in their Porsche Cayenne. Despite knowing that their catching us was inevitable, we had to put on a good show especially as Jim has seen how our 'spec' of Volvo had run so hard at Goodwood. We figured about the 6km mark, we managed to get going enough it took them about 8kms.

Short note today as a few off-course matters to attend to this evening with the event organisers. We closed out the day holding 3rd in Early Classic behind the Freestone's and the Ulrich's (the Freestone's now having had their five minute penalty waived) and 1:09 ahead of the Kent/Snell Falcon GT. In outright, we're in 17th place, fine for an all-dry first day effort. Leg Three tomorrow down the East Coast!



Jim Richards gave us a 30 second head start on the 16km stage



Not enough though.....got us at 8.2kms

Early Classic - Overall at end of Leg Two					
Pos	No	Crew	Vehicle	Total	Gap to Prev/First
1	383	Ullrich Ullrich	Jensen CV8	02:31	
2	215	Freestone Freestone	Holden 215	03:11	00:40 00:40
3	222	White Yelds	Volvo 122S	04:26	01:15 01:55
4	405	Kent Snell	Ford Falcon GT	05:35	01:09 03:04
5	449	Woodward Gibson	Holden Monaro GTS	06:08	00:33 03:37
6	421	Lowe Lowe	Datsun 240Z	07:04	00:56 04:33
7	361	Steuart Steuart	Ford Anglia 105e	07:24	00:20 04:53
8	439	Banks Douglas	Porsche 916	07:48	00:24 05:17
9	255	Priddle Priddle	Ford Zephyr	08:15	00:27 05:44
10	407	Goodwin Smith	Datsun 240Z	08:25	00:10 05:54