



Walsh's Hotel
Maghera



RALLY REPORT NO.3 - METEOR ELECTRICAL SERVICE – 12.45pm

UNOFFICIAL LEADERBOARD AFTER SS2:

- (1) Mark Massey/Andrew McVeigh (Evo) 13m55.9s
- (2) Raymond Johnston/Rodney Hicks (Evo) 13m58.8s
- (3) Brian Muldoon/Charlie Beattie (Impreza) 14m02.1s
- (4) Donagh Kelly/Kevin Flanagan (Evo) 14m03.8s
- (5) Derek McGarrity/James McKee (Impreza WRC) 14m04.6s
- (6) Trevor Moore/Ray Fitzpatrick (Escort Mk2) 14m10.3s
- (7) Neil McCance/Jonny Hart (Evo) 14m11.1s
- (8) Colin Britton/Enda Sherry (Evo) 14m15.8s
- (9) Kenny McKinstry/Noel Orr (Impreza WRC) 14m19.9s
- (10) Denis Biggerstaff/Damian McCann (Impreza WRC) 14m25.0s

Early rally leader Camillus Bradley has crashed his Mark 2 Escort out of the rally. Reports are coming in that the Draperstown driver rolled his Escort, finishing his rally in a Davagh dyke.

Bradley's retirement has allowed Mark Massey into the rally lead with his Mitsubishi Lancer. He caught Emma McKinstry during the test, and lost around five seconds before Emma had an opportunity to pull over. Emma isn't too happy, describing the conditions as scary!

Derek McGarrity fitted a demister to his car during first service but two miles from the end of the stage, his windscreen misted up once again. And aside from that problem, the Glengormley man reckons his Impreza WRC is too wide for the Davagh's roads!

Kenny McKinstry is still in trouble with his Subaru. He thought he had his earlier problems sorted, but about a mile and a half from the end of stage two, he lost his sequential gearchange once again. By the time he had the car switched to manual shift, more vital seconds were lost.

As for Denis Biggerstaff, he reached service with a smile on his face despite part of his front bumper missing. He had a good run but overshot a hairpin. He put the car into reverse and then had to drive up a bank to get around the corner, losing a corner of his bumper in the process!

Neil McCance enjoyed a better drive on stage two. He lost time with a slow puncture at the end of stage one and is fighting back up the order. But there will be no celebrations for birthday boy John McGlaughlin, who turned 26 today, as he retired his Lancer with mechanical trouble.

Kieron Graffin was a lot happier with the better tyres on his Evo but Raymond Johnston wasn't too happy after catching another competitor a couple of miles into the stage. Nevertheless, he is still in second, just a few seconds behind the leader.

Trevor Ferguson was another who caught a car in front on the stage, and complained of rain in Davagh, yet there's sun here in service! Hopefully, the sun will reach Davagh in time for the third stage, although that could make the roads even slipperier for the crews.

Grainne O'Kane and Jonathan MacDonald.