



2010 International Rally of Whangarei Service quotes

Service A

Whangarei town basin

Date: 3 July 2010

Weather: Fine, mild temperature, warm sun.

Car 1 Katsuhiko Taguchi /Chris Murphy

Those fast stages were not very good. I was pushing a bit hard and twice nearly went off on a corner – so we lost more time. We have new tyres here (to try), so we will use them this afternoon and see.

Car 2 Chris Atkinson/Stephane Prevot

Mechanical failure on SS3.

Car 3 Hayden Paddon/John Kennard

It's going okay. We went with a soft compound this morning so it was a little bit risky but I think it worked out alright. They went off in the first half of the first stage – it was quite dry in there but the second two were a lot wetter bit muddier so they worked well in there. This afternoon it's going to be pretty dry and fast I think. Parts of that second stage will be a bit chewed up but other than that I think it's going to be like a normal Whangarei rally – swept, hard, fast roads.

Car 4 Alister McRae/Bill Hayes

We're not flowing 100%. Not confident in the notes; went on a narrower tyre which is moving about a bit and I don't really like that. I like a more positive feel so with the way it was going I just wanted to get through to here and we'll make some changes and hopefully push a bit harder in the afternoon.

Car 5 Gaurav Gill/Glen Macneall

It wasn't bad I'd say. Pretty okay tyre choice compared to my team-mate – I think he went with a softer compound – like too soft. It was pretty scary because we'd lose grip in some patches then we'd gain some. Otherwise I think its pretty okay – we started to get rhythm in the third stage and it was a good stage time – so we're getting there and having fun. I will just stick to what we're doing and try get more speed and more rhythm and enjoy my day.

Car 6 Brendan Reeves/Rhianon Smyth

We had an eventful start – the car fell off the jack after the first stage – but we tried to get our heads right and continue on. We're still a little bit off the pace but it's only the start of the rally. We'll go to a medium tyre this afternoon and maybe not cut them. The second and third stages were quite wet and I think we'd benefit more in the high-speed stuff if we didn't cut the tyre.

Car 7 Dean Sumner/Paul Fallon

I made a mistake – hit a bank, knocked the wheel alignment out and my confidence. Managed to fix it in-between stages but wasn't a good start. We'll have the car all fixed now so should be right. We could not easily be here.

Car 8 Rifat Sungkar/Scott Beckwith

It was interesting because we had a few issues, first with the brake. Then we spun when we couldn't take a corner – so we lost about a minute. And the last stage we were trying to make a good time but in the last corner suddenly we lost first and second gear so now we are going with third, fourth and fifth. We have to fix that and hopefully try to get back to it. But good roads and notes, especially the first stage – my favourite.

Car 9 Sloan Cox/Tarryn Cox

It feels good. I haven't had any moments but I've been a little bit off the pace where I wanted to be. But apart from that I'm happy – I just want to pick my pace up a little for the next time through the stages.

Car 10 Ben Jagger/Ben Hawkins

We came a bit too fast in to a left-hander and slid off the road, did a few jumps over some pampas bushes and then got stuck. There is only light damage to the back door and all the wheels seem to be straight so just a matter of throwing some new bumpers on and get going for tomorrow.

Car 11 Jean-Louis Leyraud/Benjamin Searcy

I don't know the results but yes I am happy – the car is perfect.

Car 12 Brian Green/Fleur Pedersen

It's been a good morning – going along alright. Pretty slippery out there, but the roads are coming right though – there is no-doubt about that. It will be generally a bit easier this afternoon.

Car 14 Emma Gilmour/Ben Atkinson

The car is working well. Ben and I are just getting up to speed together but all in all, probably didn't have the tyres quite right in the first stage but happy. There are just a few things I want the boys to check that I am concerned about with the car but all in all it's pretty good.

Car 15 Chris West/Chris Cobham

The car feels good, apart from an issue with the brake pedal disappearing. You turn the steering wheel and it brings the brake pedal back up, so not quite sure what's going on there. But I'll be honest – it's more a confidence thing than anything – just the inconsistency of it. Apart from that it's okay.

Car 16 Richard Mason/Sara Mason

A bit of an average morning for us. We've made a few changes to the car and I haven't had a lot of confidence in it. My confidence after Rally New Zealand isn't at the top of the list so we'll have to chip away at it over the weekend and see where we end up. We'll try some stuff but I can't see we'll make a massive gain that quickly – we're just too far away with the car and myself. That is the way it is this time.

Car 17 Glenn Inkster/Glenn Goldring

We're pretty happy – very happy. Those long stages, when you're learning things, we've got a different differential computer in the car, it's hard to do such a long stage and then work out you've done it wrong and you lose a lot of time. But we're pretty happy to be not that far off things really. Maybe we'll try a few different changes to the suspension for this afternoon. It's bottoming out in a few places. That camber you know? You bounce across the camber, carrying a lot of fuel and two spare tyres, it is bottoming out a few times. We'll go back to a normal wider tyre because it's a lot drier that it was in reconnaissance – it's almost like two different places. But pretty good though – all happy.

Car 18 Patrick Malley/Malcolm Read

On average the conditions aren't great and the car didn't feel good. We tidied up our driving in the third stage, it made a huge difference and were thinking to ourselves do we change this change that? I think we're just going to go out with the same thing this afternoon and just try to drive the car better that will be the first step.

Car 19 Kieran Hall/James Kibble

Something just happened there in that super special; the back-end just washed out and it just spun us in to the bank and fence and we were very nearly over. It's taken out the brake lines so we've got very little braking – it's going to be a busy service. We've had a good steady pace all morning, I haven't been doing anything stupid so it looks good for this afternoon.

Car 20 Kingsley Thompson/Malcolm Peden

Yes not too bad. The roads weren't as bad as we thought they were going to be this morning, they were a little bit cut up. Some have pulled a little bit of loose clay and stuff around the road but we found it pretty good. I think it will be more swept this afternoon. Stage three this morning had lovely gravel on it but still don't think that going I'm going to improve much this afternoon. But we're enjoying it.