

ARC Round 5 - '75 LCCA Kleber Alpine Rally

An enormously popular event , the annual Kleber Alpine 1000 Rally attracted a total of 83 starters , with Victorian crews making up 58 of the total .

Directed by Frank Kilfoyle , this event totalled 1,080 kilometers over three very rugged Divisions in the typical north east of the State .

Whilst being run as an ARC event , a number of competitors ran in the Open class and thus were not eligible for points .

Breaking the tradition , the Rally started in Albury in 36 degree heat , and the first daylight Division ran down to Bright , via the dusty Stanley and Ovens plantations , and showed no clear advantage to anyone . However a couple of crews were in trouble .

Just one section was out of character , being very wet and boggy , and it ruined the chances of a few of the fancied front runners .

Bob Watson / Jeff Beaumont encountered problems with their RS Escort , firstly getting bogged , then having carburetor problems , forcing their retirement .

Ross Dunkerton and John Large had won this year's ARC by the previous round , and as a reward they were now having their first run in the factory 240Z , the LHD car that Watson drove in the recent Southern Cross Rally . However they came undone , when the car clipped a huge rock which sheared off the back wheel , causing them to roll into a ditch . And a broken fuel pump caused the retirement of Dean Rainsford's Porsche.

The huge night Division ran down through Trappers Gap to Mitta Mitta , Omeo , and back to Bright , and the battle continued , with Stewart McLeod (260Z) , Greg Carr (180B) , and Dave Morrow fighting hard . Young Victorian Crew David Bond and Ian Richards were putting up an outstanding performance near the top of the field , and finally finished in an excellent second place in the ARC class .

At the end of the final daylight Division at Bright , after runs through the surrounding plantations , the ARC winners were Stewart McLeod and Adrian Mortimer in the Datsun Z car , from Bond / Richards , and Murray Coote / Rod Browning from Queensland .

Outright and Open class winners Greg Carr / Wayne Gregson , in the Gerry Ball Datsun 180B SSS , dominated the scores with a 20 point victory .

Results : 1975 Alpine Rally

Australian Championship Division

1 st	Stewart McLeod / Adrian Mortimer	Datsun 260Z	121 points
2 nd	David Bond / Ian Richards	Lancer	143 "
3 rd	Murray Coote / Rod Browning	Datsun 1200	148 "
4 th	Rod Jackson / Fred Gocentas	Torana XU-1	159 "
5 th	David Jones / Ian Baldock	Galant	215 "

Open Class

1 st	Greg Carr / Wayne Gregson	Datsun 180B	101 points
2 nd	Dave Morrow / Graham Roser	Datsun 180B	122 "
3 rd	Ross Jackson / Alan Brady	Datsun 1600	138 "
4 th	Garry Harrowfield / Geoff Boyd	Datsun 1600	144 "

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