

# Totem TSD Rally #1

WCRA's Totem Rally on Nov 19/20 was the final round of the 2005 BC TSD Rally Championship and the Pacific Coast Challenge. Organized by Paul Westwick and Tony Latham, Totem ran about 700 km from Cache Creek to Clearwater and back over two days. The 26 competitor cars and intrepid checkpoint crews experienced mud, ice, snow, and fog as well as brisk average speeds and the usual darkness. Many championship overall and class positions were decided by the results of this event.



obviously had “see through the fog vision” though and got quite low scores – others lost the rally in the mist. Gary Webb and John Kisella, contenders for the championship, lost both the rally and hopes for the championship when they got an 87 seconds late penalty at one checkpoint due to poor visibility. Thankfully, there was only one major off with no injury. Lee and Rod Sorenson from California put their Subaru over a cliff and rolled several times coming to rest so far down the car could hardly be seen from the road. There were only two other DNF's.- the Historic Saabs of Carlson/Kraushaar and Ankeny/Kingzett pulled out of the rally after day 1 due to mechanical problems.

IRC was represented by Martin Chung/Christa Monasch and Jeff Bain/Michelle Toffler in Calculator Class; and Gil Stuart/ Kevin Marcan in Historic Class. Two other Vancouver Island crews, both in Novice Class (Paul and Al Todd from Sydney; and Rogi Young/Rene Paulin from Campbell River), success-

Gil and Kevin headed for home immediately after the finish in a car which was quite literally falling apart. There were no tail lights, the rad mounts were broken, the tail pipe was wired on,



Car 9- Jeff Bain & Michelle Toffler



Car 14- Gil Stuart & Kevin Marcan



Car 3- Martin Chung & Christa Monasch



Car 14- Gil Stuart & Kevin Marcan

fully braved the elements to finish. Alex Schubel and friends were there doing checkpoints.

overdrive was not working and the driver door would not open. They made it to the ferry after being stopped by the police for no tail lights which had to be hot wired directly to the battery before being allowed to continue.

After a fierce battle with the BMW325ix of Eric Horst/Stephen Willey, RJ and Ren Carroll (Subaru) were awarded first overall and first in Unlimited Class with 47 points compared to 49 points for the BMW. With the first place finish, the Carrolls also won the BC TSD Rally Championship overall. Martin and Christa achieved a fantastic third overall and first in Calculator Class with 73 points. Jeff and Michelle were a strong 8<sup>th</sup> overall with 230 points. Steve Perret/Kathryn Hansen got first in Paper Class with 362 points. This excellent result gave Steve and Kathryn sufficient points to win the Pacific Coast Challenge outright. Gil put the Historic Volvo into a snow bank on the first day, picked up lots of penalty points, and continuously worked on various resulting mechanical problems just to finish.

Kevin had quite a learning experience on this event and is looking forward to the day he can drive his own rally. Gil, on the other hand, has promised to properly fix the car before entering another event.

*Gil Stuart  
Driver- Car 14*

*(Final results of this event are available on [www.RallyBC.com](http://www.RallyBC.com))*

One might say Totem was extremely challenging this year. The wicked combination of snow and fog in both daylight and darkness conditions combined with average speeds set for gravel created difficulties for most of the competitors. Some people

