

Motorsport eNews' feature on Targa Tasmania including Brendan's impressive victory in the Showroom class and 4th outright.

**L**AST year, it was an exotic Italian that won Targa Tasmania. This year, it was Japanese performance as far as the eye could see ...

We're talking, of course, about the machinery. In 2010, it was Jason and John White's Lamborghini that took outright honours. But this year, it went Nissan-Subaru-Nissan-Mazda at the top of the leaderboard at the finish.

Leading the charge of Japanese sportscars was Tory Quinn, who replicated his '09 victory with an easy win. Quinn and co-driver Naomi Tillett took control of the rally on just the fourth stage of the opening day, and armed with a very quick Nissan GT-R, they never looked back, winning by 3:35s.

"This is beautiful to win this," Quinn said.

"It's something that I wanted to do since I knew it was the 20th year of the event.

"We had a bit of a noise in the front end [Sunday] morning, and we were panicking over Mount Arrowsmith and starting to take it easy, but we had a buffer so we cruised through a bit.

"This year our win has been well deserved, and Naomi and I as a team have come on in leaps and bounds. We're learning so much about the car, but there are still things we need to do to it to make it a better package. We haven't had much wet stuff to practice on, so I think we'll get better as a package."

Behind them was West Aussie Dean Herridge, in his relatively under-powered Subaru WRX. He and Ben Searcy held off South Australian pair Matthew and Dennis Sims, who were also in a Nissan GT-R.

One of the most remarkable results from the event was that of Brendan Reeves. The young Victorian only had a two-wheel-drive Mazda3 MPS at his disposal - and it was running in the Showroom class, with minimal modifications. Still, he and co-driver Rhianon Smyth took the little Mazda to fourth outright, as well as winning his class by nearly 15 minutes.

"We've had a great run and to finish second outright on the first stage [on Sunday] was awesome," Reeves said.

"Our aim was to finish in the Top 10 outright, so to finish fourth outright is amazing considering the car we're in.

"Once again, the Mazda3 MPS has been a dream to drive and I'm ragged to finish with such a great result. It's a great way to say thank you to our team for all their hard work over the last week."

In the Classic Outright class, Rex Broadbent and Chris Randell took a remarkable fifth straight win in their '74 Porsche 911 Carrera RS. But he had some stiff competition; first it was Andrew Miedecke, who spun out of the lead on the second last day. Former World Rally Champion Walter Röhrl also had a lash at the Classic trophy, but mechanical problems on Day 2 took him out of contention.

"Not in a million years did I think I'd win it five times," Broadbent said.

"I come into this event thinking about it as 38 races, and even if you win 37 of them, but fail to finish the last, you don't win. You have to finish every stage, so that's how I drive. I'm rarely the fastest, but consistency means I'm always there.

"As far as wins are concerned, the most recent is always the best, but this one has been memorable to be up against Walter Röhrl. That added an incredible amount of prestige to the event.

"In the rain he was clearly quicker, but we didn't have to push that hard because we already had a buffer. You feel very satisfied after this sort of an event to be where we are."



Willy R: Walter Röhrl, top, had some bad luck early on the piece, which allowed Rex Broadbent to win a fifth-straight Classic title, right. But neither Tory Quinn, inset, or Brendan Reeves, middle, needed any help on their way to wins.





## Final Results :: Targa Tasmania 2011

### **PURE TASMANIA MODERN COMPETITION**

1. Tony Quinn (QLD) / Naomi Tillet (SA), 2009 Nissan GT-R
2. Dean Herridge (WA) / Ben Searcy (WA), 2008 Subaru Impreza WRX STI
3. Matthew Sims (SA) / Dennis Sims (SA), 2009 Nissan GT-R

### **PURE TASMANIA SHOWROOM COMPETITION**

1. Brendan Reeves (VIC) / Rhianon Smyth (VIC), 2009 Mazda3 MPS
2. Michael Sinclair (VIC) / Bill Hayes (WA), 2009 Skoda Octavia RS
3. Andrew McKay (VIC) / Alex Hailstone (NSW), 2006 Mazda MX5

### **SHANNONS CLASSIC OUTRIGHT**

1. Rex Broadbent (VIC) / Chris Randell (VIC), 1974 Porsche 911 Carrera RS
2. David Cooper (TAS) / Jason Dann (TAS), 1977 Holden Torana A9X
3. Nicholas Ellis (VIC) / Travis Lacey (VIC), 1977 Porsche 911 Carrera 3

### **SHANNONS LATE CLASSIC HANDICAP**

1. Duane Rodgers (VIC) / Paul Rodgers (NZ), 1985 Porsche 911 Carrera 3.2
2. Nicholas Ellis (VIC) / Travis Lacey (VIC), 1977 Porsche 911 Carrera 3
3. Jon Siddins (QLD) / Darren Ferguson (QLD), 1970 Datsun 240Z

### **SHANNONS VINTAGE RALLYE**

1. John Lawson / Andrew Lawson, 1938 Alfa Romeo 6C 2300B Mille Miglia Spyder
2. Wayne Clark / Roger Richardson, 1938 Dodge Speedster Specia

### **PURE TASMANIA EARLY MODERN**

1. Blaise Paris (WA) / Raechel Krause (WA), 1999 Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution VI
2. Andrew Richmond (VIC) / Matt James-Wallace (WA), 2002 Nissan Skyline GT-R V Spec II
3. Ric Shaw (NSW) / James Parish (NSW), 2000 Mazda RX7

### **TMR PERFORMANCE 4WD SHOWROOM**

1. Scott Millar (Qld) / Christopher Dean (Qld), 2008 Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution X
2. Tony Warren (Tas) / Greg Boyle (NSW), 2006 Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution IX
3. Ralph Norton (Tas) / Malcolm Norton (Tas), 2010 Subaru WRX STI

### **SHANNONS EARLY CLASSIC HANDICAP**

1. Jack Waldron (VIC) / Vin Gregory (VIC), 1955 FIAT Abarth 750
2. Paul Freestone (VIC) / Christine Freestone (VIC), 1948 Holden 215
3. Andrew White (NT) / Ashley Yelds (USA), 1961 Volvo 122S