

Driving the Truline Commercial V8 Commodore at Sunday's Western Victoria Crane Trucks Valley Stages rally, Brendan Reeves and Ben Searcy won the 2WD class and finished sixth overall.

The one-day rally, which was a round of both the Victorian Rally Championship and the Victorian Clubman Rally Series, consisted of 12 stages covering 140 kilometres of competitive driving and threw up some challenging road conditions with both dust and snow. Overnight rain on Saturday also made some of the roads quite slippery in the morning.



Reeves was quickly at ease behind the wheel of the Commodore but on SS2, the longest stage of the event, brake issues caused him to lose some time. Repairs at the midday service fixed the problem and during the afternoon stages "a repeat of the morning's six stages" they worked perfectly.

With the goal of taking the 2WD honours for the rally, Reeves was determined to step things up in the afternoon. He was one second slower than Grant Walker on the Mount Slide stage, then beat him on SS8 before Walker suffered some mechanical problems and lost time. Reeves finished top of the 2WD class with Tony Moore in second, and Carl Stewart third.

Throughout the event Reeves used Pirelli k8 tyres and was happy with their performance in the varying road conditions. He finished the event with an overall win on SS12, a tarmac stage that concluded the rally.

Reeves loved the one-day format of the rally and enjoyed his time behind the wheel of the Commodore.

“We had a lot of fun in the Commodore,” he said. “Thanks to Truline Commercial and Craig Jarvie for letting Ben and I use the car.”

“Thanks also to Bendigo Tyre Centre and the Reeves Rally Team mechanics for their support during the day.”

Photo: Browne Bear Photography