

Callum Rules in The Kingdom

Callum Devine has completed one of his most dominant showings to date, with a top two wheel drive finish at last weekend's Cartell.ie Killarney International Rally of the Lakes. It was a significant result to repay the faith shown in Callum by the Billy Coleman award panel for the nomination for the start of the year. The finish was important to get Callum and Keith Moriarty's Clonakilty Blackpudding Irish Tarmac challenge back on track after a troubled run on the Circuit of Ireland Rally.

Driving their Opel Adam R2, Callum and Keith got off to a strong start on the opening Gortnagane stage taking 24 seconds out of their nearest class rival and by first service they had extended their lead to 44 seconds. Callum commented "The first two stages were tricky with changing weather conditions, tyre choice was a gamble for everyone and it seems we got it just right".

Indeed, the changeable weather continued throughout the day with scattered showers rolling over Co. Kerry. Despite this, Callum went on to take fastest times on the rest of the days tests to lead the R2 category by well over two and half minutes at the end of day one. For the Derry/ Limerick pairing it was a perfect day.

Day two of the Killarney based event opened with the world renowned Molls Gap, a steady run for Callum saw him take another fastest R2 time to stretch his lead to just over three minutes.

The team took the decision to reduce their pace slightly to preserve the car and safeguard a strong points haul in the Irish Tarmac Championship, the FIA Celtic Cup and the PlasticBags.ie Southern 4 Championship. Despite slowing his pace slightly in the closing stages, Callum finished the event with 14 fastest times from a possible 16 taking the R2 win by almost six minutes. Speaking at the finish ramp back at the Gleneagle Hotel Callum was naturally delighted; "It's a dream result after the disappointment at the Circuit! It was a fantastic Rally of the Lakes for us, Keith has done another brilliant job on the notes, the guys in service have ran the car faultlessly for me all weekend. This result has helped us with a good points haul in the Tarmac Championship and leaves us in a great place going to Donegal in June."

The next round of the Clonakilty Blackpudding Irish Tarmac Championship and FIA Celtic Cup is the Joule Donegal International Rally on June 17th – 19th, based in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

Keep up to date on Callum's build up to Donegal on Twitter (@CallumDevine27) and Facebook (callum devine rallying) or at www.callumdevine.com. Callum is competing this season with the support of Fyth.co.uk, Premier Car Parts, Springhill Springs and A. Daly Groundworks.