

BAMBINA 2022

Hi All

Our Bambina is all go.

Having had an almost full team having to pull out it was looking difficult to say the least.

Also I had arranged for David (Chief) to fly up from Christchurch a

few days before arriving mid afternoon which was going to suit us all

fine, his flight was then changed to early evening, also not TOO bad

just a late arrival home here.

BUT then it was changed to 6 AM !!!

Chasing around the website was pretty useless but a phone call to Jetstar managed to get his flight changed to the day before (late morning arrival).

We collected the gear from Targa before coming home.

It was that morning that I learned that we had lost an almost entire start crew

There were LOTS of ph calls required that night and (thanks largely to Euan Burke) Jo Kapua said she would not let us down. This has let my blood pressure to remain under control !!

Anyway, David and I went and collected the rest of our finish crew,

Ethan and Jazz and we all came back here to DuckCreek.

Today we fitted our Fleetlink radio, got ourselves sorted out in various ways and are all set for our 'out the gate' time of 7.45 a.m. tomorrow morning.

We have our main regroup at Mercer tomorrow morning,

proceed to the
SS3 start, leaving our Start crew there then driving through the
stage to our finish.

When cleared we proceed to the SS6 finish.
Once cleared from there we proceed to Hamilton where we all stay the
night.

Sunday morning we go to SS9 pretty much close
to Arapunui, when
cleared we go to SS12 which is just south of Matamata.

As I have said so many times before we then head home tired but
happy!!!!

Another writeup tomorrow night!!

Hi again.

Here we are at backpackers central Hamilton after a
fairly eventful day.

Dave, Jaz, Ethan and myself well made our 'out the gate time'
of 7.15. am and headed to our timing team regroup.

We had already learned that our second stage SS6
had been canceled
because of the number of marshals that have had to pull out..

Nevertheless we reconnoitered with Poko's start crew and
we all headed off to t SS3.

Sure there was a nice FF on the road but no
FC or disk - but we
coped.

Dave set up FF using Jaz'z car and after making

contact with
our block marshals (and providing them with a handheld)
we could not
get our Tablet (read laptop) to work !!

At least it was a full size device not a silly little three line
display !!

So back to writing NRT (no rallysafe time) on all the
cards. It transpired that we did not have the aerial dongle despite
Buck being quite sure it had been in the carry case last night.

With SS6 canceled we looked forward to a cruizy afternoon,
no doubt arriving nice and early.

YEAH RIGHT - how many times have I said
that!

With us 4 now being surplus to requirements we were
now needed to blockmarshal for the finish of SS5.

We relieved the Targa official
and Dave and I parked both our cars quite effectively
blocking the
road but (obviously) having to leave sufficient lane for Rally cars
to exit.

Yep we had another rogue vehicle who charged (and that is
the word) past the oldies Dave and Myself,
and charged straight toward

Jaz, our 18 yr old girl - who had the presence of mind to
JUMP out of his way to avoid being run over
(or worse).

Several people at FC
jumped into his path also without success!

There was, as you can
imagine a lot of yelling and shouting much from
this idiot with words

like
'FUCK OFF, I LIVE HERE ITS MY ROAD NOT YOURS'.

I reported to
base forthwith, so they could stop the stage and advise

by Rallysafe
cars already in the stage.
Yes Jaz is fine - even though I was
somewhat worried about delayed shock.
Two police cars arrived and
good news is that someone has managed
to photograph his vehicle and
rego, and an actual competitor has video footage of
him driving WD
through the stage. The police have been given all this evidence and
taken statements from all involved.
I suspect he may well have been
drunk or stoned,
But we have his rego number, a police event no and
the whole nine yards.
The policeman did make a very sensible comment
that he probably didn't aim at we 80 somethings, thinking the an
agile 18 year old would easily scarper.

One this drama was over we headed for Hamilton
have had Fish and Chips for tea,
now Dave and I are going to watch our beloved
Crusaders.

Hi again.

Well we did it (again).

Fulfilled our obligations, entirely.
Day2 (Sunday) we well met out out the gate time of 9 a.m. to SS3 out
the back of Putaruru.
Dave and Jaz set up flying finish then Jaz had to walk back
the 660m
so she could fulfill her log writing duties.

Needless to say the Rallysafe tablet (actually a laptop) didn't work
- mind you eventually it decided to give results every 4th or 5th
car. !!
Not very good really.

Pies for for 4 please at Tirau then on to our final stage SS12.

Oh rapture, oh joy, Rallysafe decided to come to the
party after all.

Some of the teams had a problem taping, (this is something I can
well relate to!!!!)

Overall quite a successful day.

We returned Jaz and Ethan home to their parents and then Dave and I
were back here at Duck Creek by 8 p.m.
Sure I have managed a couple of beers!!

Epilogue in a couple of days

Hi again all.

I'll keep this short and sweet (like me) - yep I can hear the sighs
of relief from here.

Yes once more we fulfilled all our commitments

Tues 8th March

I collected Dave (Chief) from Auck Airport then the gear
for both our Start and Finish crews

Thurs 10th March

Collected Jaz (with car) and Ethan - the teens- and
came back to Duck Creek

Fri 11th

The teens fitted the Fleetlink Radio, charged the 6 handheld radios
and generally got organised.

Sat 12th March

Out of the gate at 7.15, a timing crew regroup at Mercer,
on to the

start of SS3 then both of us
drove through the stage to our Finish.

Needless to say Rallysafe didn't work and despite our best efforts
neither did Fleetlink (although it had been fine up until then.)

Jaz helped Chief to set up the beam, put out signs the walked
back to
Finish Control to do her log writing duties.

This then became our people deployment for the whole event
Chief at Flying Finish
Ethan doing cards at Finish Control
Jaz doing Log writing at Finish control
I did Road each time.

Our SS6 had, had to be canceled because of
marshal groups having to
pull out so we were allocated block Marshalling
duties on SS5.

A foul mouthed driver of a rogue vehicle. rather spoiled that
one for us.

On to Hamilton for the night, Fish and Chips tor tea in the
kitchen/lounge of Central Backpackers.
All devices being recharged .
Thanks Ethan.

Sunday 13th March
Out the gate by 9 a.m., SS9 (Arapuni), this time
Rallysafe gave us
about 1 in every 5 cars,
although the results did get to Rally Base
every time a coconut.
Fleetlink worked perfectly of course. We then
proceeded post haste via Tirau (pies for 4 please) to SS12
our final stage of the event.
By this time not only was all the equipment
(including Rallysafe, Fleetlink, and personnel) working perfectly,
but the weather continued to play ball too.

I think I might have even
got a bit sunburnt or windburnt!!
We dropped the teens back home then David and I
were back here before
dark too.
Looks like we did just under 600 kms, Jaz drove her car
the entire way and I drove mine.

Wed 16 March
We returned both sets of gear (including the fully charged
handheld radios) to Peter at Targa,
then dropped Chief at Auckland Airport for
his trip back to Christchurch then I came back here
later in the day.