

Brendo has announced he will contest the first round of the 2009 Australian Rally Championship, Rally Tasmania, in a Les Walkden Rallying Subaru Impreza.

{mosimage} The 2006 model Impreza is a similar car to that in which Brendo and Rhianon contested the 2007 ARC.

Tasmania has been a happy hunting ground for Brendo. He finished second outright to tarmac ace Jim Richards in the 2007 Rally Burnie, and then won his Showroom Class in the all-tarmac Rally Tasmania in 2008, in which he drove a factory-supported Mazda 3.

"I really love the roads in Tassie and it will be great to get back behind the wheel again," Brendo said.

"I haven't really done any competitive driving since the Fiesta Shootout in December so we will do a shakedown before the event and re-familiarise ourselves with the car. It's a great opportunity to be able to compete against the cream of Australia's rally drivers again."

Brendo will once again be co-driven by his sister, Rhianon Smyth.

Rally Tasmania will run from February 13 - 15 on Tasmania's North West Coast.