

The Rally of Melbourne has ended in disappointment for Brendan Reeves and Rhianon Smythe after they crashed out of the event on the fourth stage.

Fourth after three stages, ahead of the factory Toyota of Neal Bates, the pair were hopeful of moving into a podium place as the day wore on, but the accident ruined their chances.

A shattered Reeves said that the Impreza WRX STI was too badly damaged to restart the event in Heat 2.

The day was won by Simon and Sue Evans, who clinched their second Australian Rally Championship title with a faultless drive.