



SPECTATOR GUIDE

THE MIDDLE OF EVERYWHERE GIPPSLAND RALLY
27-28 AUGUST 2022

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GIPPSLANDRALLY.COM.AU



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*This spectator guide was made possible by the
Regional Sport Events Fund.*

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Scan the QR Code with your smartphone
camera.



Produced by RallySport Magazine in partnership with the Gippsland Rally.

Images: www.nishimachi.com.au & www.rallysportmag.com

WHAT IS THE GIPPSLAND RALLY?

In rallying terms, think of **The Middle Of Everywhere Gippsland Rally** as Victoria's Boxing Day Test Match or AFL Grand Final. It's the jewel in Victorian rallying's crown and a round of both the RSEA Safety Motorsport Australia Rally Championship and the Till Hino Victorian Rally Championship.

Hampered by the pandemic last year, this will be the first time the Gippsland Rally has run as a round of the national series, and most of the sport's biggest names will be here to do battle.

While the traditional fight at the front of the Australian Rally Championship will capture the media's interest, there'll be hard-fought battles all the way through the field as competitors chase class wins and vital championship points as the 2022 rally season nears its conclusion.

Ahead of us are two days of the hottest rally action around, so rug up, grab a mate, head for the forest and experience rallying's best of the best.

COMPETING CARS

70+

COMPETITIVE DRIVING

170KM



POWER STAGE
BROADCAST LIVE

2PM SUNDAY
AFTERNOON



Action at the 2021 Gippsland Rally.



CR. IAN BYE, MAYOR WELLINGTON SHIRE COUNCIL

Wellington Shire Council welcomes all competitors and their crews to our beautiful region which we refer to as The Middle of Everywhere. Council is thrilled to support the Gippsland Rally again this year through our The Middle of Everywhere campaign, which is also the naming rights sponsor of this event.

The Middle of Everywhere Gippsland Rally provides the perfect opportunity to showcase everything we have to offer here.

While the town of Heyfield in particular will benefit economically from the rally, there are also plenty more thriving little towns in the surrounding area waiting to be explored with amazing local produce, wine, good food and coffee.

This region is right on the doorstep of mountain ranges, pristine beaches, rainforests and beautiful wetlands. And we can't forget the

friendly locals you will encounter around every bend.

I'm sure all competitors will see all this for themselves as they travel through our picturesque countryside.

For those visitors who have the extra time to stay and explore The Middle of Everywhere, or who plan to come back and experience it another time, I encourage you to visit The Middle of Everywhere website (www.themiddleofeverywhere.com.au) and download the App to have it all at your fingertips.

Council also acknowledges the Australian Government and Sports Australia for providing funding to allow Council to support the event.

We wish all competitors the best of luck for the event, and hope to see you again in The Middle of Everywhere.



Eli Evans at the start of the 2021 Gippsland Rally.



MR MICHAEL SMITH **MOTORSPORT AUSTRALIA**

DIRECTOR OF MOTORSPORT & COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS

The return of the RSEA Safety Motorsport Australia Rally Championship (ARC) to Victoria has certainly been a long time coming.

This event will see the best-of-the-best from around Australia converge on the 'Middle of Everywhere' for the fifth round of the Australian Championship and we couldn't be happier to be here.

The ARC has gone from strength-to-strength in recent times and it is pleasing to see such a wide and diverse entry list taking to the gravel stages across all our various classes this weekend.

In the White Wolf Constructions Production ARC Cup, you'll see the best production spec vehicles enjoying some amazing battles across the event, as well as pushing the outright crews to make sure there's no easy ride for those battling for outright honours in world class rally cars.

Entrants competing for Shamrock Haulage 2WD ARC Cup honours will also be facing an intense battle of their own, with many of them also doing the double in the Glendun Junior ARC Cup - I know our rising stars will also put on a show.

In the ARC Classic Cup, some brilliant machinery from the past will also be at this event and from first car to last, we can expect plenty of exciting action across the stages in this beautiful region.

It's also important for all of us to say a big thank you to our Officials who are making this event possible. So many of you volunteer your time and we know that without your support, this event would not go ahead - so thank you for your commitment, sacrifice and dedication. We hope you enjoy seeing the cars and drivers up close wherever you may be stationed this weekend.

Don't forget that you can catch all the highlights from this wonderful event on 7plus and 7mate, as well as the EROAD Power Stage to be screened on 7plus to finish off this rally.

To all the competitors, have a fantastic event and we can't wait to see you all out on stage and in the service park.



THE MIDDLE OF EVERYWHERE



With mountains to one side, the sea on the other and rolling green hills and lakes in between, the Wellington region of Gippsland is smack-bang in The Middle of Everywhere.

- Discover what's on in our region
- Find new places to explore with friends and relatives
- Plan your wedding or special event



themiddleofeverywhere.com.au



MOTORSPORT IS DANGEROUS

Motorsport activities are inherently dangerous recreational activities and there is significant risk of injury, disability or death. If you choose to participate in these activities and you are killed or injured because the activities were not supplied with due care and skill or were not reasonably fit for their purpose, your rights to sue Vroom Events, Confederation of Australian Motor Sport Ltd (trading as Motorsport Australia) and/or the Entities* are excluded, restricted or modified. For full details of the exclusion, restriction or modification of your rights please refer to <https://motorsport.org.au/events/disclaimers>

*A full list of Motorsport Australia associated entities can be viewed at <https://motorsport.org.au/get-involved/events/disclaimers>

The information in this book is correct as at
August 1st, 2022.

As a condition of entry, you must view the
safety location diagrams on our website prior
to entry.

WWW.GIPPSLANDRALLY.COM.AU

Daniel Gonzalez at Rally Launceston.



CARS & CLASSES

No matter what you're driving, there's a class for you in the RSEA Safety Motorsport Australia Rally Championship.

While each car and team competes for outright honours, there is some rallying jargon that can be explained to further your knowledge of where each car sits within the landscape.

Most of the cars that are battling for the **outright** podium places will be categorised as either R5, AP4 or G4 cars. All of these vehicles are four-wheel drive, turbocharged machines built specifically for rallying, and are fantastic to watch in the forest. These are proper rally cars that are very technically advanced.

An R5 (or Rally2) car is the second fastest class of rally car in the world. These cars battle it out worldwide and compete for the World Rally Championship's second category. Built in Europe, specifically for rallying, these cars similar in specification to the AP4 class.

AP4 cars are built with a 1.6 litre turbocharged engine and are fitted with a turbo restrictor, just like the R5 cars. Building and running this class of car is a cheaper alternative to an R5 car as most of the parts can be locally made in Australia.

The G4 cars in the ARC are what's known as 'Proto Cars'. These cars have all the mechanical components of a Subaru or Mitsubishi, but are inside a smaller, more nible bodyshell. For example, Troy Dowel's Hyundai i20 G4 is equipped with the running gear from a Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution.

Each of these three car classes are relatively similar in overall performance, providing anyone in these cars the opportunity to challenge at the front of the field.



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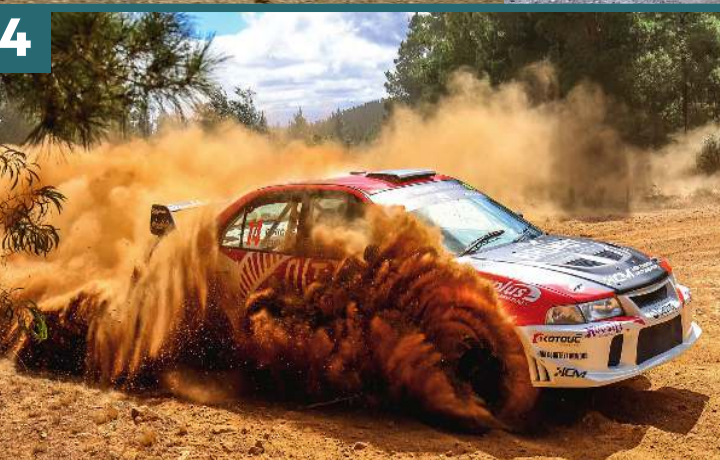
“These are proper rally cars that are very technically advanced.”

Outside of the outright category, the **Production Cup** is designed for cars closely resembling those that came from the dealership. The most popular cars in this category are the Subaru Impreza WRX and the Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution, which both left the factory with four-wheel drive systems and a turbocharged engine. It makes them competitive with the outright cars in some sections, but they lack the nimble nature of the cars at the front.

The **2WD Cup** is for cars that have only two driving wheels. These cars are most commonly front wheel drive, like what most of us drive on the road. 2WD cars are slower due to their lack of traction, but are often more rewarding and cheaper to drive. The range of cars you'll see in this class is much broader, given the array of options available.

Competition in the **Junior Cup** is fierce and is aimed at drivers under the age of 26. The juniors battle in lower powered cars as they gain their experience and knowledge before they move up the ladder.

The final class in the ARC is the **Classic Cup**. Any model built prior to 1992 can be run in the Classic Cup, so watch out for the rear-wheel-drive Ford Escorts and Datsun 1600s and Stanzas. Keep your ears open for these cars – they're great to listen to.



1. Toyota GR Yaris AP4
2. Ford Escort RS1800, Classic Cup
3. Ford Fiesta, 2WD Cup
4. Mitsubishi Lancer, Production Cup

HARRY BATES/JOHN MCCARTHY

Toyota GR Yaris AP4 | Toyota Gazoo Racing Australia

Harry Bates has taken all before him in Australian rallying since the beginning of 2019, but has come across stiffer competition this season. The son of four-time champion, Neal Bates, Harry is on track for his second RSEA Safety Motorsport Australia Rally Championship title.



RICHIE DALTON/DALE MOSCATT

Toyota Yaris AP4 | Shamrock Motorsport

An ex-pat Irishman, Dalton has moved up the ranks and has taken podium finishes in multiple rounds of this year's championship. Guided by experienced co-driver, Dale Moscatt, they've gelled well this season.



TROY DOWEL/BERNIE WEBB

Hyundai i20 G4 | ProtoCars Australia

The son of 2011 national champion, Justin, Troy Dowel has been the quiet achiever of this year's ARC with brilliant drives in his Hyundai, highlighted by two third placings in Tasmania. The Victorian is seen as a star of the future.



LEWIS BATES/ANTHONY McLOUGHLIN

Toyota GR Yaris AP4 | Toyota Gazoo Racing Australia

The younger of the Bates brothers, Lewis is finding his feet in the factory-backed GR Yaris AP4 and continues to make big strides in his career. He took his first heat win in Western Australia, and has upped his speed throughout the season. Expect him to be near the front.



MAX McRAE/MAC KIERANS

Subaru Impreza WRX STI | Maximum Motorsport

A third generation driver, McRae comes from a long line of champions. His father (Alistair), grandfather (Jimmy) and his late uncle (Colin) are all rally champions. Still only 18, Perth-based Max is potentially a future winner in Australia and overseas.



RYAN WILLIAMS /BRAD JONES

Ford Fiesta R2T | P3 Solutions

The Queensland plumber is a front runner in both the 2WD and Junior Cups, thanks to strong performances this season. Williams has had driver training in Finland and should bank a strong result.

TAYLOR GILL/DAN BRICK

Subaru Impreza WRX STI | Curiositi.com.au

18-year old Gill moved up to a newer Subaru for this season and took an impressive fourth overall on debut in Canberra. He's in the lead of the Production Cup and will represent Australia in the FIA Rally Star competition in India.



CAHAL CAREY/JAMES FORD

Mitsubishi Lancer Evo IX | Glendun Group

Carey, another Irishman, is competing in his first full program in the ARC and currently sits third in the Production Cup. In Tasmania, Carey secured a top ten overall result, and is building on his speed and consistency in all types of conditions.

VICTORIAN HEROES

TILL HINO VICTORIAN RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

The Middle of Everywhere Gippsland Rally will be round four of the Till Hino Victorian Rally Championship, and Bendigo's Adrian Stratford is set to be leading the pack alongside co-driver, Kain Manning.

The Subaru driver has a 22 point lead over Melbourne's Luke Sytema in his classic Ford Escort, with Mitsubishi driver, Warren Lee, sitting third in the championship.

At The Middle of Everywhere Gippsland Rally, the state championship event includes two 'heats', meaning drivers have two opportunities to take maximum points over some of Victoria's most demanding rally stages.

Teams compete over only one day of action (Saturday) and run behind the national championship field.

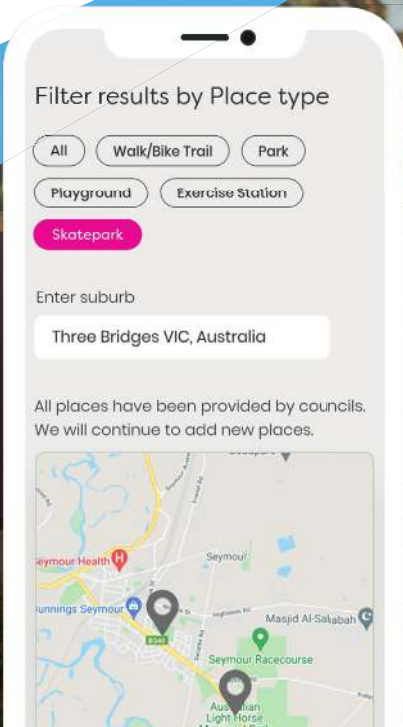
In addition to the Victorian teams in the RSEA Safety Motorsport Australia Rally Championship, there's plenty of locals to cheer on from your vantage spot in the forest, so stick around and see the state's best drivers and co-drivers in action.



Adrian Stratford, Victorian Rally Championship leader.

Move more, explore the outdoors

Discover Places



Search trails, parks, playgrounds, skateparks and exercise stations located within Victoria.

Find your next destination to be active on our interactive map.



SERVICE PARK

The Service Park at The Middle of Everywhere Gippsland Rally is the 'hub' for everything in relation to the rally. It is where the competitors start and finish each day and where they make valuable repairs during the day.

Spot some of the best mechanics in the business as they get down to work repairing these incredible machines, sometimes in just 20 minutes.

Check out the **Sonax display** and challenge yourself against our **Sonax Sim Racing Challenge** and give yourself a chance to win a Sonax prize pack, complete with Hoonigan merchandise signed by Ken Block.

Finish off your trip to the service park with **great food** from some of the vendors in the Service Park area.



**Gordon
Street
Recreation
Reserve**



Coffee | The Flying Squid | The Mystery Ice Cream Machine
The Back Paddock Bar Team



WHERE TO WATCH

FRIDAY AUGUST 26TH

4.30pm Meet and Greet Drivers Gordon St Rec. Reserve

SATURDAY AUGUST 27TH

9.30am Ceremonial Start Gordon St. Rec. Reserve

9.53am Spectator Point 1 Downings Rd, Cowwarr

12.30pm Service Gordon St. Rec. Reserve

1.58pm Spectator Point 2 Downings Rd, Cowwarr

4.30pm Rally Village Closes

SUNDAY AUGUST 28TH

9.00am Rally Village Opens Gordon St Rec. Reserve

11.06am Spectator Point 3 Stoney Rd, Moornapa

12.58pm Spectator Point 4 Stoney Rd, Moornapa

2.08pm EROAD Power Stage Forders Track, Stockdale

4.00pm Podium Presentation Gordon St. Rec. Reserve

4.30pm Rally Village Closes



SATURDAY

SPECTATOR POINT 1 & 2



Cars travel down Stoney Creek Road before manouvering around the sharp triangulation in the road, creating great action for fans at any part of the spectator area.

The fastest cars run first, so don't be late!

First Car Due (Morning): 9.53am

First Car Due (Afternoon): 1.58pm

SUNDAY

SPECTATOR POINT 3 & 4



Sunday kicks off with Spectator Point 3 at 11.06am, which also runs in the afternoon.

Again, it's the cars at the front that are often the best to watch. Like a good co-driver, our tip is to stay on time!

First Car Due (Morning): 11.06am

First Car Due (Afternoon): 12.58pm

SUNDAY

EROAD POWER STAGE



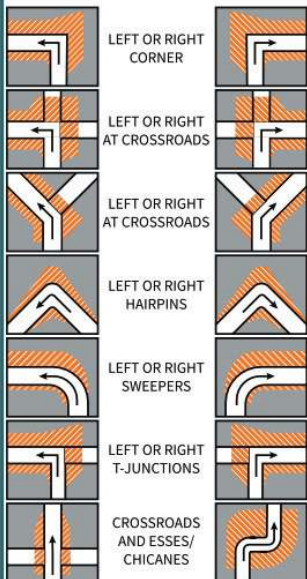
MORE INFO

Watch cars on the rally-ending EROAD Power Stage that will be broadcast live on 7+.

First Car Due: 2.08pm

THE FOLLOWING DIAGRAMS SHOW AREAS THAT ARE CONSIDERED TO BE UNSAFE

NO STANDING AREAS ARE SHOWN WITH STRIPES



Use this guide to ensure safe viewing in areas outside designated spectator points

SAFE SPECTATORS...

ALWAYS...

- ✔ Stay ALERT and expect the unexpected
- ✔ Stand in a safe location
- ✔ Consider your own safety and that of others at all times
- ✔ Stand where you can see the competing cars coming and going
- ✔ Listen for approaching cars
- ✔ Remain alert
- ✔ Leave yourself room to move away quickly
- ✔ Keep children under close supervision
- ✔ Leave pets at home, please do **NOT** bring them to a spectator area
- ✔ Obey rally officials
- ✔ Help the officials to run a safe stage
- ✔ Take your rubbish home with you, keep our forests clean
- ✔ Assist our officials to run a safe event

KNOW THAT...

- ⚠ The unexpected can happen

PROTECT...

- ✔ Yourself
- ✔ Others around you
- ✔ Other people's property
- ✔ Wildlife and flora

SAFETY IS OUR #1 PRIORITY

SAFE SPECTATORS...

NEVER...

- ✘ Stand in prohibited areas (study the spectator viewing diagrams)
- ✘ Stand or sit close to the edge of the road
- ✘ Stand or Sit below the edge of the road or in gutters & culverts
- ✘ Stand in a run-off / escape route for the competing cars
- ✘ Sit down at a location on the same level as the cars - you need to be standing so you are able to move away quickly if necessary
- ✘ Remove rally signs or arrows, or stand in front of them
- ✘ Be distracted - always face toward the competing cars
- ✘ Stand or Cross a road that is officially closed
- ✘ play games with your safety, the competitors safety, or the safety of those around you
- ✘ Stand in front of fences or objects that may prevent you from moving quickly

SAFETY IS OUR #1 PRIORITY

FIA GIRLS ON TRACK



FIA Girls on Track is an international program providing Girls aged 8 – 15 years a unique opportunity to get an insight into the motorsport world.

Girls on Track aims to inspire an interest in science, technology, engineering, maths and other industries using motorsport as a tool to achieve their dreams.

NEXT VICTORIAN EVENT
Port Melbourne Go Kart Track
Thursday 15 September

REGISTER AT
[MOTORSPORT.ORG.AU/
GIRLSONTRACK](https://www.motorsport.org.au/girlsontrack)



 RICCIARDO'S
RACERS



JUNIOR DRIVE DAYS



Ricciardo's Racers is open to 12-17 year olds of all skill levels - first-time drivers keen to get behind the wheel, or more experienced Racers wanting to hone their skills in a friendly environment.

We'll provide the cars. We'll also provide some super-experienced instructors to guide young drivers through a series of fun activities to develop life-long driving skills.

UPCOMING VICTORIAN EVENTS

SANDOWN RACEWAY:
SATURDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

METEC BAYSWATER:
SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER

AM & PM SESSIONS
AVAILABLE

4 HOURS
\$149

REGISTER AT
[MOTORSPORT.ORG.AU/RICCIARDOSRACERS](https://www.motorsport.org.au/ricciardosracers)

AUTOGRAPHS

2022 THE MIDDLE OF EVERYWHERE GIPPSLAND RALLY



RALLY

