



NAROOMA FOREST RALLY A FAMILY AFFAIR

Entries are rolling in for the Narooma Forest Rally, comprising of the Damesa Industries Stages and the Horizon Apartments Narooma Forest Rally. The event, being held on the 24th August has attracted a strong field in both events.

Richie Dalton and Tim Batten headline the Damesa Industries Stages in Richie's new Toyota GR Yaris. Josh Redhead and Ray Winwood-Smith will be pushing their Hyundai i20 to the limit to extend their lead in the NSW Rally Championship. Mick Harding and James Thornburn will be out for revenge safter leading the event last year, only to be sidelined at the start of the final stage with a hole in their radiator, from a stray stick.

Mark Lacey and Tyler Schippan are making the trek from Adelaide to compete in the event. Mark won the South Australian Rally Championship (Classics) in 2021 and he and Tyler are , looking at getting a good result in the East Coast Classic Rally (4WD) Series.

The 2WD battle will be exciting to watch as Nathan Quinn and David Green in their Mazda RX2 battle it out with Tom Clarke and Ryan Preston in a Datsun Stanza. There are whispers on the rumour mill that another potent 2WD car will appear on the entry list...

The Horizon Apartments section of the event will be a family affair. The competitors include husband and wife team of Roland and Sally-Anne Schmitz with their team motto Doing it for fun (DIFF) Rallying.

Three teenagers will be telling their parents where to go! Marcus Caruana will be reading the roadbook for his mum – and longtime competitor, Kelly. Sebastian Pierce will be co-driving for his mum, Leigh. This will be Leigh's first major event, having competed in the Rallye des Femmes a few times. Joining the family fun will be Luke Stanford co-driving for dad, Dennis, as they chase the NSW Clubman 4WD title.

Not to be outdone by the other teenagers, Max Forrest has managed to obtain the car keys and driver's seat and has convinced his dad, Jon to co-drive for him!

The event also sees Chris Cooper and Craig Simpson make their rallying debut. Chris and Craig won the 2023 NSW Rallysprint series in the 0-1600cc pocket rocket class and are looking forward to the challenge of longer stages.

Supplementary Regulations are available on the Narooma Forest Rally website, or on the RallyNSW channel of the Sportity App. Entries close on Sunday 18th August at 1800 hours.

The event is still looking for Officials to help make the event a success. If you're available, please contact the organisers via the website.



Dean Ridge and Dean George – Winners of the 2023 Horizon Apartments Narooma Forest Rally. Photo courtesy of Roy Meuronen Photography