

1984 GEORGE DERRICK MEMORIAL TRIAL

14 - 16 SEPTEMBER

EAST GIPPSLAND

The 1984 Derrick will be directed by Ross Runnalls (remember 1981?) and he will continue the traditions of long distance and exploring new areas - this time, the far east of Victoria and south-eastern NSW.

Roadwork is already complete, and a total distance of 1000 km is planned with about 700 km being competitive. Over half of this is on sand based roads and tracks which are generally more forgiving on tyres, cars and drivers, so that 700 km wont be all that expensive!

It is intended to start in Traralgon at 11.00 pm on the Friday night and arrive in Orbost at dawn for a six hour break having travelled along the coastal plains using a mixture of forest and open running along shire roads.

An afternoon division of seven stages totalling 160 km ending at Cann River would be the envy of any VRC ^{event}. Crews will witness some of the unique East Gippsland scenery including interesting jungle gullies, and travel along excellent but rarely used roads.

After a meal break the route heads north into NSW where the 30,000 ha Bombala pine plantation complex awaits. The navigators have had it easy up to here. There wont be any tricks, just honest plotting and scaling.

Back into Victoria will give the navigators some respite, but not the drivers as they tackle some long mountain sections over the Errinundra Plateau (a chance to see what the fuss is all about) to the Orbost finish at about 1.00 am Sunday.

It will be possible to utilize motel, hotel or camping accommodation for the six hour breakfast break and after the finish. Orbost is about four and a half hours drive to Melbourne (same as Bright) so its not the end of the world.

So if you go rallying for adventure and to see new country you cannot miss the 1984 Derrick. Circle 14 - 16 September on your Calendars NOW!