THUNDERBOLT'S TOUR

Tuesday 16th – Thursday 18th March 2027

Historic Rally Club of NSW / ACT

NOTICE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE EVENT

The Tour will be conducted by the Historic Rally Club of NSW/ACT (HRC) under Motorsport Australia Permit Number TBA.

It is a prerequisite of Motorsport Australia (MA) that this event will not involve any form of competition or activities of a competitive nature involving the timed movement of a car.

The HRC has adopted a Code of Conduct for participants to minimize the Tour's impact on the local road users. The Code is available on the HRC website here and you are encouraged to make yourself familiar with it and to observe it during this Tour.

1. Requirements for participation

All participants must be a member of a Motorsport Australia affiliated Car Club.

If required, HRC annual membership is $25 and application is available on the HRC website here

Participants' vehicles must be road registered and the number of people in each vehicle must not exceed the legal registered carrying capacity of the vehicle.

Rally Registration, Unregistered Vehicle Permits and Trade Plates will not be accepted.

Drivers must hold a current civil Drivers Licence from an Australian authority.

2. Organising Team

Director	Zed (Peter) Zylstra	0417 511 200	peter.zylstra01@gmail.com
Assistant Director	Graham Thompson	0412 108 185	
Entries Secretary	Lui MacLennan	0418 645 623	hrcroadtours@gmail.com
Roadbook	Ian Richards		

All correspondence to the Entries Secretary at hrcroadtours@gmail.com

3. Start and Course Details

The Tour will start at Gloucester NSW on the morning of Tuesday March 16 2027.

A compulsory briefing will be held immediately prior to the start on Day 1.

The course for each day will be given in the Road Book for the event with lunch break locations, historical landmarks and finish of day locations.

The course will be run over three days and will cover approximately 1265 km of which around 60% will be on gravel roads. There will be a full tarmac option available which will be ~10 km longer in total.

Day 1	Tuesday March 16	Gloucester – Nundle - Armidale
Day 2	Wednesday March 17	Armidale - Glen Innes - Armidale
Day 3	Thursday March 18	Armidale – Manilla - Tamworth

4. Entries

Expressions of Interest for entry open on the publication of this Notice. Depending on the geopolitical situation, crews will be asked at the end of January for final paperwork to be completed and payment made by February 28 2027.

Entries will be limited to a total of 40 participants.

Entry is open to financial members of any Motorsport Australia affiliated Car Club. The Expression of Interest Entry Form is available on the HRC website and can be downloaded, completed and forwarded to the Entries Secretary on hrcroadtours@gmail.com After a request from the organisers at the end of January, the Entry Form must be fully completed, including the details and signatures of all intending participants in the vehicle.

There will be two options available to participants. The Regular route covers 1265 km and will include approximately 748 km of gravel roads while the All-Tarmac option will cover 1276 km.

The Entry fee for two participants is $440. This includes the cost of lunch on Day 1 and the dinner function at the finish in Tamworth on Day 3. The additional cost for any extra crew members will be conveyed after your entry is received.

Entrants who withdraw will receive a refund, however for withdrawals within one month of the start of the event the organisers reserve the right to retain 15% of the entry fee to cover costs already incurred. Monies outlaid on dinner costs may be retained if withdrawal occurs within a week of the event.

If you have a preferred car number or one that is affixed to the car that you are entering, please note it on the Entry Form and we will try to allocate that number to you for the event.

5. Social Dinners and Accommodation

There will be a dinner function organised at the end of the tour on the Thursday evening in Tamworth. The cost for this dinner is included in your entry fee but drinks will be at your expense.

Casual social dinners are planned for the other evenings of the event. The organisers will set up a reservation system for these social occasions.

All accommodation and meals (other than lunch on Day 1 and the Tamworth dinner function) are at the expense of participants. The organisers will put a hold on rooms at various accommodation options at the overnight stops and will issue a list of these on the HRC website.

6. Vehicle Check and on-going Condition

By asking to participate in the Tour you are agreeing to use a vehicle that is fully roadworthy and is registered to drive on Australian roads throughout the event.

It is the responsibility of the participants and/or drivers to ensure the vehicle is in a roadworthy condition both at the start and during the event.

Each participating vehicle will be allocated a number for the event. Two sets of the number are to be affixed to front and rear windows to enable the cars to be identified by the sweep vehicle and other participants in the event.

Please ensure that the front and rear windows are clear of any other conflicting numbers so that no confusion exists.

7. Extra Equipment in the Car

a. Essential equipment is a reliable resettable distance measuring instrument (Terratrip / Monit / Carrvas or the like or Phone Apps like ‘Rally Tripmeter’ or ‘3pRally’).

b. During the event organisers will be using the App 'WhatsApp' for communications. You must have it loaded on your phone and be familiar with its use.

c. The gravel roads to be travelled do not require the fitting of a sump guard under normal driving conditions. Care may need to be exercised at times and you are urged to drive to the conditions.

d. Recommended equipment
   - First aid kit
   - Fire extinguisher

e. There is no restriction on other equipment that may be carried. A Navman, TomTom, Garmin or smart phone with Google Maps, may be beneficial.

8. Event Guide and Road Book

The Event Guide will be emailed to participants approximately one month prior to the start. It will contain important information regarding the event, including exact start times and locations, refuels and other details concerning the conduct of the event.

The Road Book for the whole event will be issued at the Start.

The course will be fully route charted to minimise navigational challenges. Alternatives will be provided to allow participants to short-cut or avoid gravel sections and for use in the case of severe weather conditions.

Diagrammatic maps will be included to allow participants to easily identify the main route and alternatives. Detailed maps will be provided where deemed necessary.

The Road Book will contain a full list of any abbreviations that are used in the route chart as well as any information relating to places or roads of special interest.

9. Code of Conduct

How you behave on the road reflects on all motorsport and could impact our future use of our roads. This is not a timed competition. Drive carefully and always be courteous to all road users.

Please read the full details of the Code of Conduct on the website here before the event.

This Code has been suggested by participants from earlier Tours both for the benefit of newcomers to motorsport and to jog the memories of long-term participants as well.

Notwithstanding the NSW Motor Traffic Act and its regulations, Motorsport Australia has adopted Policies prohibiting the use of Alcohol, Drugs and Illicit Substances at their sanctioned events.



Frederick Wordsworth Ward (c. 1835–1870), aka "Captain Thunderbolt," the famous 19th-century New South Wales bushranger. This life-size bronze sculpture can be found at the junction of the New England Highway and Thunderbolts Way in Uralla and was unveiled in 1988 as part of Australia's Bicentennial project. The sculptor was David Adams.