



## **Dandaragan Enduro Sprint 24<sup>th</sup> August 2013**

A new property to the Offroad Riding ranks.

For many of the "Southside" families, the idea of driving north was a bit of a challenge. That was all forgotten once parents turned onto the Dandaragan Road, and were surrounded by rolling green hills with bright yellow canola crops. I think everyone knew they were in for something special!

A new organising crew spent the previous weekend setting out the special tests and trail loop.

Test 1, was approx. 2km long and wound its way along the banks of a creek with nice loamy soil, and of course the required amount of mud and slush to make it fun.

In the pre ride there were plenty of riders getting stuck in the mud due to poor line selection. Very quickly they learnt to choose their lines carefully and as the day went on, the test became faster with good, less muddy lines appearing.

Test 2, was approx. 6km long - a short distance up a laneway. The terrain was quite different, being dryer sand with a rocky ridgeline through the centre.

Right from the start, riders could hold the throttle open as they weaved their way across open paddocks and up and down rocky outcrops. This was a test of speed and skill.

What at first seemed like it was going to be an easy day of riding, quickly became a test of fitness. Having to complete a Special Test at maximum intensity, every 30 minutes, challenged the riders as much as the track did.

Riders completed between 6 and 10 special tests on the day, depending on their age and class groups.

Racing was highly competitive in all classes. With some tests coming down to only a second or two separating 1st and 2nd place.

This style of racing has become very popular over East and forms part of the Australian Offroad Riding Championship.

Trail class and 50cc riders didn't miss out. With their own separate track, they were able to ride to their hearts content.

Trophies were presented for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2nd and 3rd in all classes, as well as finisher medallions for all 50cc riders and first time participants.

As usual the Spot Prize giveaway had riders praying for their name to be called.

A HUGE thank you to the Dolton family for allowing us to use their property. The kids will remember this race for a long, long time.

We all look forward to seeing you all at the next event.

*Winton & the Offroad Crew*