

# The Outback Car Trek

A business unit of the Royal Flying Doctor Service  
South Eastern Section ACN 000 032 422.



10<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**NOT LONG TO GO** until we all meet in Bathurst. The Family Hotel in Bentinck Street is the place to be for registrations from 4:30pm, closing at 6:30pm **sharp**. Don't be late for registrations.

The world-famous Cut-A-Rama will commence at 6:30pm, and the kitchen will be open from 6:00pm.

**WITH ALL OF THE FLOODING** we have been unable to get out and perform a second survey of the Trek route. The second survey is generally used to ensure the driving instructions are accurate, and that we are on the same page with the various caterers, venues, etc. With the use of the phone, plus Facetime, Zoom & Teams video conference platforms, we have been able to eyeball our caterers to confirm the arrangements are all in place as planned.

On the subject of driving instructions, we generally find half a dozen or so typos or inaccurate speedo readings on the second survey. As we have been unable to perform the second survey, I expect similar typos may be present this year. But as we often said in the good old days – “that's Trekkin'”.... Maybe learn the words to that classic Doris Day song 🎵 Que Sera Sera 🎵

**THE NEW BILL** has been appointed, contracts signed, etc and we have started working on the 2026 events together. An experienced Trekker, this person will be coming along on this year's Trek in T1. You may wonder why the secret squirrel stuff.... There are a few sensitivities with their current employer about making a public announcement until the week commencing Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May. After that all will be revealed. I predict you will be very happy with the RFDS's choice.

**AUCTION ITEMS AUCTION ITEMS AUCTION ITEMS** are a significant source of funds for the RFDS, sometimes raising upwards of \$100,000 during the week. We are in dire need of items to auction (our cupboard is almost bare) so please put your mind to work to see what you can beg, steal or borrow to donate to this year's auctions. Our main auction night will be at Julia Creek, and we will also have a small number of irresistible pieces to auction off at the final night dinner in Cairns. **ALAN COKER** will be donating several stunning portraits of Trek cars, and a few Trek landscapes, for you all to fight over – thanks **Alan Coker**.

On the subject of auctions PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE give me advance notice of items as soon as you are able.

And also, on the subject of auctions – **A BIG SHOUT OUT TO ROB BLAIN**, who will be joining us along the way to weave his magic with the gavel at the auctions. Thanks, Rob – your 27<sup>th</sup> Trek!

The Outback Car Trek, PO Box 5158, Dora Creek NSW, 2264

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**THE BABY COCKROACHES** are going to incredible lengths (again) to provide you with the now traditional Roachtail & Antipasto Happy Hour in Quilpie on the Monday. As you leave Dubbo you will be asked at outwards control to make your donation to this wonderful event. Please have your plastic ready as you roll out the control gate.

As Luke Graham says:

 ***It's not just about cocktails. It's about the cause*** 

*Every sip supports the Royal Flying Doctor Service, keeping Aussies safe across the most remote corners of this country. So, when you join us, you're not just having a once in a lifetime outback experience —you're making a real difference for the Doctor.*

**QUILPIE 2025 – One town. One team. One experience not to be missed!**

**AND TALKING ABOUT FOOD** brings me to the final night dinner at the Pullman Cairns International. We now have 43 guests registered for the dinner – are we missing anyone?

Vehicle	Name	Vehicle	Name	Vehicle	Name
13	Christine Scurr	1869	Janice Barbour	T1	Greg Sam
84	Christina Pembroke	F2	Christine Smith	T1	Steve Yerbury
84	Daphne Pembroke	F3	Gemma Bartolo	T1	RFDS Guest 3
84	Yvonne Hack	F3	Irene Galea	T1	RFDS Guest 4
85	Jacinthe Pool	X450	Jeni Danks	T1	RFDS Guest 5
85	Mrs Fazzolari	X450	Linda Tallarico	T1	RFDS Guest 6
92	Leanne Pitt	X888	Annie Sogal	T1	RFDS Guest 7
92	Wal Kurta	X89	Colleen Wright	T1	RFDS Guest 8
151	Jane Meyer	X89	Gwenda Shaw	T12	Glenda Gallant
153	Helen McCourt	X89	Irene Ajani	T12	Maxine Hollis
153	Julie Clarke	X89	Jamie Rodger	T15	Helen Coker
154	Maree Doyle	X96	Irene McKeering	T16	Ellen Smith
154	Sally Cummins	X96	Marg Kennedy	T16	Lisa New
155	Renee Shearer	XF3	Sharon Bonnici		
156	Fiona Dinhan	XF3	Sue Mifsud		

**DID I MENTION AUCTION ITEMS ARE NEEDED?**

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**TALKING ABOUT CAIRNS** I have emailed previously, and sent a text to you all, about a SNAFU with the Pullman Cairns International booking link: it defaults to the wrong date. **PLEASE** check your booking confirmation to make sure you have the correct dates for your stay.

**AND STILL TALKING ABOUT CAIRNS** the height of the carpark at the Pullman Cairns International is 2.0 metres. Your trusty Road Book will contain information about parking options nearby.

**NORTH BOURKE** – is anybody staying at North Bourke? **I need to know now** so I can arrange a bus for you to get to & from the dinner at the Bourke Bowling Club. Let me know this week please, or you run the very real risk of a (very) long walk.

**CAR CARRIER** – the form is on the website.

**AND TALKING ABOUT FORMS** many of you will have received a text this week about outstanding safety check forms – WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED BY A PERSON WHO **IS NOT** THE PERSON WHO BUILT OR MAINTAINS YOUR CAR. For good reasons. These forms are required to be lodged with our insurers pre-Trek so be aware – no form on file by the end of next week – no Trek for you.

**AND STILL TALKING ABOUT FORMS** there are a great many Indemnity & Medical forms outstanding. Why they aren't completed when you submit your entry is beyond me, it would make both our lives much easier, and reduce the costs to the RFDS. Currently we are missing 66 Indemnity Forms and 64 Medical Forms ☹. You will all get an email/text next week.

**AND – DON'T FORGET – WE NEED AUCTION ITEMS ☺**



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