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Trek Tripe

The Newsletter of the Outback Car Trek

Issue 28 February 2018



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2018 TREK ENTRIES

We have quite a lot of entries into the Trek so far, and I keep getting people telling me “we are just about to enter”. Please – don’t be shy; get your form in ASAP. We are starting to talk numbers with the catering people and fuel companies, and to maintain some credibility we need to provide accurate estimates. Send your entry form in as soon as you can.

CHANGE TO THE TREK ROUTE

For logistical reasons, we have had to change one of the overnight towns on this year’s Trek route.

On the Tuesday the 5th June we will be overnighing at **TAROOM**, not Cracow as previously advised. To confirm – take out Cracow, replace it with **Taroom**.

It wasn’t a decision that was made lightly, and I apologise for any inconvenience caused. I had a couple of seasoned trekkers look at the issues with me, and a change of town was the only sensible option. We will still be travelling past Cracow if you want to drop in and have a look at the memorabilia adorning the walls of the famous pub.

Fred Brophy won’t be there, however. He and his wife Sandy have recently advised me they will be taking an overseas holiday on the dates we will be passing through.

2018 TREK DONATIONS

It is already the end of February and the Trek is getting closer each day!

Can I ask all participants to make sure that their payments are up to date, specifically the first donation installment. The money gets to the pointy end of the services the RFDS provide the minute it goes into their account, so please send your donations in ASAP.

Also, please make a diary note. Your final installment is due on 1st April, only 32 days away.

WEB BASED DONATIONS

PLEASE – do not open up a page with any other fundraising websites – only use the EverydayHero Trek web page as per below. You can set up and personalise your own page by following the simple prompts at this URL:

<https://www.everydayhero.com.au/event/outbackcartrek2018>

The current generation is very much in tune with donating via a secure web site, and we have seen an exponential growth in web donations over the past few years. Setting up your page should be reasonably simple, and help is only ever a phone call away.

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TRYING TO KEEP YOUR COSTS DOWN?

Register your car with a Classic Car Club. One of the ways you can lower the cost of ownership of older vehicles is by registering them under your State's classic or vintage vehicle scheme. All states offer significant concessional registrations for cars older than 30 years, and these concessions generally exist in return for the car having limited road use.

It really is quite easy to do. You can find out more about the conditional registration schemes, plus locate a club, at the following web sites:

Queensland

www.qld.gov.au/transport/registration/fees/concession/special-interest

New South Wales

www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/registration/get-nsw-registration/historic-vehicles/index.html

- For vehicles registered in NSW Trekker John Butler from Car #287 operates the "Vintage Rally Club of Australia" and John welcomes new members. John can be contacted by email at jbatfrithwood@bigpond.com
- Also in NSW the "Dural Classic Car Club" has just opened up it's doors to new members, and if you are interested in joining the DCCC you can contact me by email at billp@outbackcartrek.com.au

Victoria

www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/registration/limited-use-permits/club-permit-scheme

CAR INSURANCE MADE EASIER (AND CHEAPER)

We have commenced conversations with Famous Insurance, a company underwritten by RACQ. They specialise in providing insurance to vehicles involved in events like ours, especially where the use of non-public roads is an issue. They position themselves as easy people to do business with, and they appear very competitive on price with the other insurance companies.

They are keen, and I am told we will be in a position to advise more details, and contact information, in the next few weeks. Contact me if your insurance is due now and I can do the intro's. www.furtherinsurance.com.au

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JUST CUTS AT LUNA PARK

There will be a media event held at Luna Park on Wednesday May 30th to promote the Trek & the RFDS. The idea is that we have 8 Trek cars and crew gather around and under the park's world famous smile, and the Just Cuts team be available to cut the hair of passers by, commuters, local residents and Trekkers on the back of the Just Cuts Ute.

The RFDS & Just Cuts marketing departments are pulling out all stops with Local and National media outlets, to get them to come along and cover the event. It will be timed to coincide with the breakfast TV shows and drive time chat & music radio stations, plus the event will be saturated across the social media channels. Just Cuts ambassador and Trekker Grant Denyer is one of the morning stars on 2DAY FM and Grant has promised to give us a few plugs.

We need 6 cars to volunteer to attend. You will need to be onsite at around 6:15 am, and the excitement will die down around 9:00 am or so. As well as the cars, the more people the merrier if you are able to come along and offer moral support. We will run a sausage sizzle breakfast, and the Luna Park coffee truck will be on hand to make sure you get your morning caffeine fix.

A big vote of thanks to Warwick Doughty and the entire Luna Park team, and of course to Denis McFadden and the Just Cuts girls & guys who tirelessly support the RFDS.

Please let me know ASAP if you are able to attend, either with your car or as a supporter.

CUT-A-RAMA 2018

Cut-A-Rama will be at the Tamworth Hotel in Marius Street on Saturday 2nd June from 6 pm, registrations will start at approximately 4 pm. Directly across the road from the Tamworth railway station, and a hundred metres from the main street, the pub has recently undergone a very sympathetic refurbishment and will be the perfect spot to start Trek week.

Owner Luke Prout has very generously offered to donate \$1 to the RFDS for every beer sold on the night!

BRIGHT SMILES RIDE 2018

The third annual Bright Smiles Charity Ride will commence at Pokolbin on Thursday afternoon 26th April, and will conclude on Monday 30th April at Lithgow. Overnight towns will be Pokolbin, Coonabarrabran, Dubbo and Parkes, with the finish at Lithgow.

We have quite a few entries in, but we still need more. If you know of anybody who might be interested please let him or her know about the event – perhaps slip me their contact details so I can get in touch with them.

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DRIVE 4X4 THE DOC 2018

The dates for this year:

- The Drive 4x4 The Doc NSW will take place from Wednesday evening 5th September to Sunday lunch 9th September 2018. We will start at Pokolbin in the Hunter Valley and finish not too far from Sydney on the Sunday.
- The Victorian Drive 4x4 The Doc will take place from Wednesday evening 14th November to Sunday lunch the 18th November 2018. The event will start from the Bellarine Peninsula, out Geelong way, and will finish within a few hours drive of Melbourne on the Sunday.

The route and overnight towns are currently being worked out, but please hold the date in your diary now.

FORMS FOR CEVA AT AIRLIE BEACH

The booking form for you to complete and return to CEVA is at the end of this newsletter.

MORE VIRGINS ARE SIGNING UP

So far this year we have 5 brand new Trek cars signed up for the event, with a couple of gunners in the wings. Plus all of the virgins from last year have either entered, or have assured me they are just about to get their forms in. It is good to see new people embracing the event in support of the RFDS, so let's make sure we do whatever we need to do to make them feel welcome. A few weeks before the Trek I will let everybody know who the new Trekkers are, including contact details, so you can touch base with them and welcome them to the Trek personally.

As a point of interest, most of this years newcomers have built or acquired cars on budgets of less than \$15k, proving that Trek cars don't need to cost you a fortune.

(It is hard to find any Trek cars for sale, and I have some buyers in the wings – do you know of any cars that are available?)

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UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

There are a few upcoming fundraising activities that would enjoy your support:

- **THE DOGGIES MINI-TREK**

The ever popular family friendly mini trek will start at Berry on Friday 23rd March, and finish at Jugiong on Sunday 25th March. We will let you know details regarding costs, etc. when they become available, or talk to Rob on 0413 857 412 or give John a call on 0418 296 262

- **THE DOGGIES GOLF DAY**

Dunheved Golf Course on Tuesday 13th March is where the Sultans of Swing will be strutting their stuff, at the annual Doggies Golf Day. The day will start with breakfast, followed by a shotgun start, and will finish with lunch and a small auction. For more details, and to enter, talk to Rob on 0413 857 412 or give John a call on 0418 296 262

- **TEAM CX DINNER**

The annual Team CX Dinner is on again at North Curl Curl, the date for this years event is Saturday 28th April. Seats are in short supply, and are snapped up pretty quickly. You can get yours at:

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/team-cx-10th-anniversary-dinner-auction-tickets-43147350888?utm_term=eventurl_text

- **RFDS Coffee Cups**

Another initiative of the CX Team is the sale over eBay of the insulated coffee cup shown here. They are a just the sort of item that should be in everybody's car (or kitchen). You can but them by clicking on this link - [Keepcup RFDS logo](#)



A GOOD IDEA

Noel Paulin from Car 858 recently approached his local pub, to see if they would be interested in dedicating the proceeds of their weekly raffle to the RFDS.

They were more than happy to support such a worthy cause, to the tune of more than \$2,000!

Well done Noel (and Wendy), a great initiative!!



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SAFETY CHECK SYDNEY DAY

Robert Hodges and families have again agreed to host the Sydney safety check day at their Dural Tyrepower on Sunday morning April 22nd. First car at 8:00 am, and we will pull the doors down at 10:30 am. I look forward to seeing you there.

If you don't live in Sydney please contact me for the new Safety Check form to be sent out to you.

WE HEAR YOU

It's no secret that many of us are getting older and our knees and hips (and bladders) 'aint what they used to be.

Consensus seems to be that a good Trek week is one where we have motel/hotel accommodation for 3 or 4 nights, and only have to camp or swag it on a 2 or 3 nights. One of the downsides of age is that we find it just that little bit harder each year to crawl in and out of tents. I know that not everybody minds tenting and swagging, but I am aware that for some of us it has become an issue. And of course, our primary goal in life is to keep you happy!

We have been looking hard at ways we can continue to get onto those off-the-beaten-track roads we love so much, but still be close to the creature comforts each night. Structuring a route that gives us what we want in terms of driving, plus puts us in contact with the remote communities, small towns, tiny schools, etc. **and** keeps us close to the larger towns with lots of accommodation, is not as simple as you might think.

We hear you, we are onto the issue, and we have some initiatives we will use to try and solve the problem. We will be testing our ideas during the next few events.

As they say in the classics – watch this space.

PLUS – if you have any constructive ideas – please let me know.

THE 30TH TREK IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

2019 will be the 30th Trek, in keeping with tradition it will be a longer Trek than normal and it is designed to get us to places we simply can't get to in one week. There will be a fly in fly out town approximately half way.

We are currently working on a Heads of Agreement with the destination location, and all will be revealed at this years final night dinner on Saturday June 9th.

Now might be a good time to block out your diary for the 2 weeks beginning 3rd and 10th June 2019.

Just sayin.....

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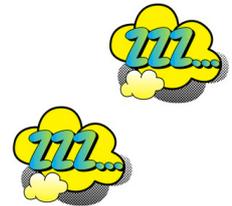
HELP – USED CARS NEEDED !!

In the most recent editions of Trek Tripe I asked people who had a car for sale to let me know, so I could update the classifieds newsletter. I have a number of people new to the Trek looking for cars.

I didn't hear from anybody – DOES THAT MEAN THERE ARE NO TREK CARS FOR SALE???

AND REMEMBER:

ONLY **94** MORE SLEEPS



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THE 2018 OUTBACK CAR TREK CEVA CAR CARRYING – BOOKING SHEET SATURDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 9TH 2018

DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO THE TREK OFFICE

EMAIL TO emma.wallace@cevalogistics.com

FAX TO 08 8347 2085 PHONE 08 8348 5860

Consignors Name _____

Consignors Contact M _____ W _____

Destination Depot _____

FROM	TO	Per Car
Airlie Beach	Sydney	\$ 1,325
	Melbourne	\$ 1,415
	Brisbane	\$ 665
	Adelaide	\$ 1,550

These prices ***include*** GST and any fuel surcharge that might apply in June, and are for vehicles within the following maximum dimensions:

L 5.2m, W 1.9m, H 2.1m.

Prices for vehicles outside of these dimensions on application to Emma Wallace, contact details above.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Flammable liquids and Dangerous Goods will not be moved with the vehicle.
- The front seats of the vehicle must be empty of personal effects and spare parts so the driver has complete access and complete vision.

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Vehicle Rego: _____ Trek Number: _____

Vehicle Make: _____ Vehicle Model: _____

Does the vehicle have any attachments to the roof: **YES** **NO**

If yes, please specify attachments and height: _____

PAYMENT DETAILS

Card Type: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Cardholder Name & Signature: _____

NB: All CEVA depots are open Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm

CEVA USE:

Booking Number:

Confirmation Sent (Date and Forum):

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