

**From:** Outback Car Trek [billp@outbackcartrek.com.au](mailto:billp@outbackcartrek.com.au)  
**Subject:** Update on the 2021 Outback Car Trek  
**Date:** 2 February 2021 at 11:58 am  
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## The Outback Car Trek 5th -13th June 2021



### COVID Willing, Trek 2021 Is Going Ahead

Obviously none of us can predict the future, but we are still planning for yet another stunning Outback Car Trek to take place in early June 2021. COVID-19 permitting.

Saturday 5th June will see us gather in the South West Slopes town of West Wyalong, and over the next 8 days we will travel through Hillston, Broken Hill, Arkaroola, Innaminka, Quilpie, Buckland Tennis Club, Monto, and then to the finish line, and dinner next to the beach at Bargara on Sunday 13th June. Buses will be put on to get everybody to and from the neighbouring beachside suburbs.

This year we will revert to the 8-day format, and that will provide us with what might be

our last opportunity to travel the Strzelecki Track before the SA Government bituminise it.

There are still quite a few variables and unknowns to be overcome, mainly in the area of catering, but these issues will all be addressed on our next survey later in February.

If you entered the 2020 cancelled Trek, all of your money, donations, etc. have been rolled over to the 2021 event, but YOU WILL STILL HAVE TO ENTER THE 2021 TREK

Be aware that if we are forced to restrict numbers for health & safety reasons, cars will be accepted on a first come basis into the 2021 Trek.

The health and safety of our participants, and the communities we travel through, are our primary concern, so we will keep a constant watch on the Coronavirus situation, and keep you informed appropriately.

## **We Are Changing Vehicle Eligibility Rules**

As advised in the last newsletter, we are changing the vehicle eligibility rules. We will now consider accepting vehicles that are more than 30 years old on the 1st January of the Trek year. BUT - this will be subject to written confirmation from the Trek office.

Simply put, there will be some vehicles that we don't want on the Trek, principally due to their design and mechanical complexity, or perhaps in our view they do not meet the values of the event. Don't go buying or building a car unless you get it in writing that it is acceptable.

## **Crew Looking For A Car To Join**

I have had a couple of enquiries from people looking to join a car for the 2021 Trek. Please let me know if you are looking for a crew member and I will put you in contact.

## **Web Based Fund Raising**

The EveryDayHero website has closed down, and the RFDS has appointed a new Community Fundraising Coordinator who will help Trekkers create their own fund raising web page. Please email Xan Hardman at [Xan.Hardman@rfdse.org.au](mailto:Xan.Hardman@rfdse.org.au) and she will get you set up with your page.

## **Donations And Costs**

As mentioned above, all money paid last year has been rolled across to the 2021 Trek. At this stage we are still unsure of the disbursements fee for the event, primarily due to the shift in costs forced upon caterers and community groups by COVID-19. We hope to get the costs nailed at the end of our next survey later this month, and we will let everybody know at that time.

The minimum donation per car has been kept at \$7,500 for 2021.

## **Cars (And Bits of Cars) For Sale**

There has been a bit of movement in this area, and most cars that I was aware of have been snapped up. If you have a car you are trying to sell let me know.

There is one car in particular that has just hit the market after an extensive rebuild - the 1934 Chrysler DeSoto Airflow. Cathay Pacific Engineering Manager Peter Dooley has

1934 Desoto Airflow. Sunday Pacific Engineering manager Peter Dooley has given me the following bullet points regarding the car:

- 1934 Desoto Airflow sitting on a WB Holden ute chassis
- Full Engineering paperwork to support full NSW registration.
- Power steering
- 253 V8
- 5 speed manual
- Set up for Trek event, radio, territrip, rotating light and rear facing white light.
- Waiting to fit harness seat belts and roll cage - to suit the requirements of the new buyer
- New radiator, engine mounts, welch plugs, clutch, clutch cable, thrust bearing
- New front wheel bearings, brake rotors and pads
- New rear wheels bearings
- New rear drums, shoes and hand brake cable.
- New gearbox mount.
- New wheels and tyres.
- A very Unique car
- Contact Peter Dooley for further info - 0438 747 032

David Meyer has various parts of HR Holdens available, including diffs, axles, and a gearbox, plus a variety of other parts.

We also know of a rolling shell of a ZB/ZC Fairlane if that is of interest to anybody.

## In Summary

Fingers crossed for a continued improvement with the Coronavirus situation, and I hope that the borders continue to remain open. There is still a little way to go with local community groups regarding catering, but I am confident these will all be worked through on the next survey and we can get disbursement fee prices out soon.

I am away in Tasmania until mid February with the 2020 Drive 4x4 The Doc group, but won't be out of phone range too often during the 2 weeks.

As always, any questions on any subject whatsoever, please call.

Bill.

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