

The Outback Car Trek

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



23rd May 2025

CUT-A-RAMA is now only 6 sleeps away. I hope all of you have been growing your golden locks for the past few months, and you are all geared up for an exotic cut, or shave at the Family Hotel on Thursday.

REGISTRATIONS are between 4:30 and 6:30, after which time registrations will close, and **CUT-A-RAMA** will kick into gear.

SPECIAL GUESTS IN BATHURST:

Birtles and the Bean. We are excited to announce that a special guest will be joining us at the Bathurst start line... Warren Brown, the Daily Telegraph's cartoonist and motoring expeditioner, driving his iconic 1925 Bean 14 Sundowner.

Last year, Warren and Editor-at-Large Matthew Benns set off on a round-the-world trip from London to Melbourne, retracing the tyre-tracks of Australian adventurer Francis Birtles, who first made the trek in 1927. The extraordinary journey not only retraced history but also raised over \$120,000 for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS).

Much like the Outback Car Trek, the expeditions are a symbol of resilience, exploration, and the determination to push boundaries. And also like us trekkers, we share an unwavering commitment to support the charity bringing healthcare to the outback: the RFDS.

The fiery red Bean will be revving proudly with us at the start line. Warren is hoping to join the Bathurst dinner, breakfast and drive down to Dubbo with us. We will also see Warren at breakfast in Dubbo before we part ways. The Bean is a hardy machine – I understand Warren and Matthew travelled through Europe, Egypt, the Middle East and Asia without a breakdown. The first time the Bean team had an issue was on the home stretch in the Northern Territory. I think the Bean will keep up with us just fine. Please give our honorary trekker a warm welcome when you see him in Bathurst.

BY NOW YOU WILL BE AWARE that Matt Tosolini has been appointed to the inaugural position of Head of Motoring Events for the RFDS South Eastern Section. Matt will be in T1 during the Trek this year and will start his full-time position with the RFDS on 2nd of July. Matt will hit the ground running, and we will both head off on a survey of the Drive 4x4 The Doc on the 6th of July, and the 2026 Trek on the 15th of July.

Please introduce yourself to Matt in Bathurst, or along the Trek route, and welcome him on board.



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

Ph: 0418 626 799 E: billp@outbackcartrek.com.au W: www.outbackcartrek.com.au

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

The Outback Car Trek

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



BREAKFAST WITH GREG SAM IN CAIRNS ON THE MONDAY – all Trekkers received an email from Greg Sam inviting them to join him and members of his management team to breakfast at the Pullman International on Monday morning 9th June, from 8:00 am.

Join Greg and his team at the Breakfast Table to:

- Meet the RFDS team face to face
- Hear how the Outback Car Trek will operate under the RFDS's stewardship
- Share ideas for what's next for the Trek
- Discuss how you would like to be engaged and through what mediums in future

PLEASE RSVP by using the reply button in your email, or email steven.yerbury@rdfsse.org.au

CAIRNS ACCOMMODATION - 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.

NORTH BOURKE – is anybody staying at North Bourke? **I need to know.** I have asked three times now so I'm sure everyone has responded..... Let me know this weekend by email please, or you will have a (very) long walk to dinner.

AUCTION ITEMS AUCTION ITEMS AUCTION ITEMS – Auction items are trickling in, but we still need more. **AND PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE** give me advance notice of items as soon as you are able to do so. Thanks in advance.

NO SECOND SURVEY has created some interesting moments in the Trek office during the last few weeks, as we continue the never ending “touching base” with the venues, committees, caterers and community groups that feed, water & fuel us along the Trek route. Many of the little niggly logistics bits & pieces that are ironed out on the 2nd survey had to be conducted over the phone, and not all of them were concluded in time to make it into the Road Book. **SO** please make sure you travel through the inwards & outwards control points each day – they may have a hand-out to pass through your car window about an impending change to the instructions in the book.

And remember – “Que Sera - That's Trekkin' “

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

Ph: 0418 626 799 E: billp@outbackcartrek.com.au W: www.outbackcartrek.com.au

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

The Outback Car Trek

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



BREAKFAST & BRIEFING IN BATHURST is in the Windereyne Room, which is directly above the start/finish line in Pitt Straight. You enter the complex from Conrod Straight, turning right directly opposite the exit from Rydges car park. No earlier than 07:00 please, breakfast finishes and the briefing starts at 08:30, first car leaves at 09:15.

ALL SUPPORTS MUST leave at the end of the field from Bathurst on Friday morning; Trek cars leave first. Please save the officials the task of turning you around - all supports leave at the end of the field.

WHEN YOU LEAVE DUBBO you will have the chance to purchase your ticket to the Antipasto & Roachtail night in Quilpie. The Baby Cockroaches will be working the outwards queue with their little tap & go machine, but they will also accept cash.

A LITTLE BIRDIE TOLD ME THAT the Post Office Hotel at Chillagoe, is under brand new management, and 8 rooms available on Saturday 7th June. To me that translates to "Trekks booked the 8 rooms months ago, but the outgoing owners didn't pass the booking on to the incoming owners". If you think you have rooms booked at the Post Office Hotel Chillagoe, I suggest you check in with them ASAP.

LONGEST FUEL DAY. As you know, the longest fuel day is Karumba Point to Chillagoe, 568 kilometres. Second longest is Dubbo to Bourke, 488 kilometres.

FLYING IN TO LONGREACH? You can get your registrations pack from T10 at outwards control on the Thursday morning.

WEDNESDAY 4TH JUNE IS A LAY DAY IN LONGREACH – Longreach is a great town, with lots to see and do. There are multiple attractions, but regardless of the attraction you wish to see, you should book early. The town is full of Trekkers and Grey Nomads, and I suggest you book via the Longreach Visitor Centre on (07) 4658 4141 or have a look at <http://www.experiencelongreach.com.au/>

In my opinion the best attraction by a country mile is the QANTAS Museum. QANTAS were of course a fundamental part of the very early days of the RFDS, and their wonderful staff have put together a special (discounted) deal for the RFDS Trek. Bookings are essential for these tours on (07) 4658 3737. Tours commence at 08:00, 09:00, 10:00, 11:30 and 13:00. I'll see you there. (And a great little café there as well).

See over the page for further details.

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

Ph: 0418 626 799 E: billp@outbackcartrek.com.au W: www.outbackcartrek.com.au

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

The Outback Car Trek

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



Outback Car Trek *SPECIAL!*

\$60

Secure your spot for the
Museum & Guided tour
today!

 (07) 4658 3737

 bookings@qfom.com.au

 Tours 8am, 9am, 10am, 11:30am & 1pm

For more information visit qfom.com.au

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

Ph: 0418 626 799 E: billp@outbackcartrek.com.au W: www.outbackcartrek.com.au

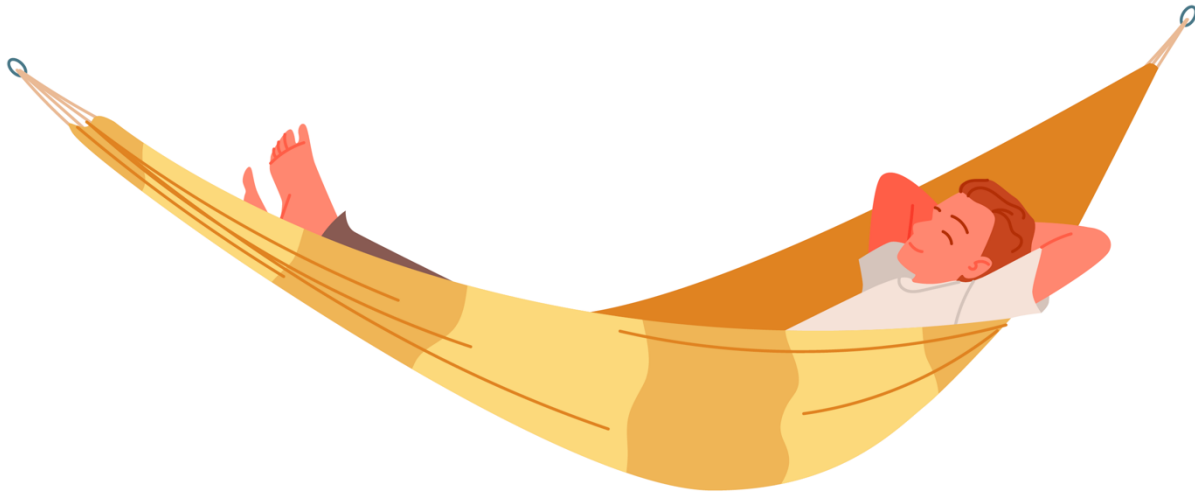
A business unit of the Royal Flying Doctor Service South Eastern Section. ACN 000 032 422

The Outback Car Trek

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



THAT'S ALL FROM ME, SEE YOU IN SIX SLEEPS.....



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

Ph: 0418 626 799 E: billp@outbackcartrek.com.au W: www.outbackcartrek.com.au

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