



Outback Car Trek Tripe

Issue: 9th May 2019

SAVE THE DATE – 30TH/\$30^M TREK GALA DINNER

To celebrate our 30th Outback Car Trek and the achievement of \$30 million in donations, we are holding a Gala Dinner after the Trek on August 24th, 2019 in the Big Top at Luna Park Sydney.

PLEASE – SHOW THE RFDS THE MONEY !!

Many cars are behind on their donation payments, and we need you to work hard to get those payments up to date ASAP. Currently there is nearly \$400k of donations overdue – please do what you can to get the money in during the next few days. If you have an issue with your donation total, please let me know.

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED - URGENT

The Trek auction this year will be in Mt Isa, and we need to start to collect suitable items to be put up for sale. We commonly raise \$50k each year from the auction, it is an important source of funds for the RFDS. Please let me know ASAP what you are able to bring along.

DOOR PANELS

All door panels have been mailed or picked up. I emailed everybody their tracking numbers so you can check the status of your delivery with Aussie Post.

If you have not received your door panels by now, please chase up Aussie Post with your tracking number to make sure they are on delivery.

LUNCH ON THE WAY TO RENMARK

On Friday 31st May on your way to Renmark, retired Trekker Terry Hill and friends from Car 41 are running their annual lunch at Terry's property "Netherby" which is 13kms north of Wentworth on the Pooncarie Road. The proceeds of the lunch are shared between the RFDS and the Cancer Council, and tickets to the lunch are \$150 inclusive of food and drinks. Camping & facilities are available on site. Text Terry your RSVP 0418 135 475.

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WHERE IS CUT-A-RAMA IN RENMARK

I hear you ask. On Sunday 2nd June the Renmark Hotel is the place to be (the only pub in town). The Officials Briefing will take place there at 3 pm, followed by registrations from 4:30/5:00 pm and then Cut-A-Rama. The hotel boasts a wonderful restaurant, a great beer garden and a couple of bars.

OFFICIALS BRIEFING IN RENMARK

The Officials Briefing will take place at 3 pm at the Renmark Hotel.

PARTICIPANTS BRIEFING IN RENMARK

There will be a compulsory briefing for all participants on the Monday morning at the Renmark Hotel – 2 sessions 8:15 am and 9:00 am.

THE TREK BIRDSVILLE HOODOO

Is doing its best to muck us up again this year, with the town experiencing a second flood event just last week. It seems the Cooper Creek will not concern us (is that tempting fate!) but the Diamantina overflow just south of town might still prove to be an issue. There are road gangs booked for the 3rd week of May to cut a diversion around the affected area.

I have been biting my nails for 2 months now, but the locals money is saying the Birdsville Track will be open for business before June 6th.....

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER we will be having dinner in the Birdsville Pub that night!

PLANE NAMING CEREMONY IN BIRDSVILLE

We are still working out the logistics, but the plan is for the Trek to arrive into Birdsville (from either the south or the east) by mid-afternoon, and call via the airport for a photo shoot with the plane. After everybody has arrived in Birdsville, and set up camp and tidied ourselves up for the evening, there will be a formal naming ceremony at approx. 5:45 pm before we head next door to the Birdville Hotel for dinner.

ENTERTAINMENT ON TREK

Those Trekkers who attended the 2015 event will remember the surprise drop in at Yunta of the very talented Maxine Kluske. Maxine & husband Tony were passing through town and fueling up their car, when they started talking to a couple of Trekkers at the service station. Before we knew it, Maxine & Tony were set up at the Yunta race track and kept us entertained late into the evening. We have kept in contact with the Kluske's, and we invited them along on the first week of our 30/\$30 Trek to sing up a storm on a few of the nights during week one.

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For the second week of the Trek, we have invited the equally talented Amanda Falkiner, who Trekkers will remember from the Meandarra Hotel on last year's Trek, where she sang late into the evening whilst Trekkers enjoyed the music around the fire drums in the beer garden.

Both Maxine & Amanda have volunteered their services (the Trek is paying their fuel & food) so perhaps you might consider putting a little something in their hat for their efforts.

FUEL AT LORELLA SPRINGS – NEEDED ASAP

AT THE MOMENT ONLY 5 CARS HAVE ASKED FOR FUEL???

Please have a look at the previous issues of Trek Tripe and drop me an email with your fuel requirements for Lorella Springs.

SITTING DOWN IN RAWNSLEY PARK

We will be having a cook-your-own BBQ dinner and breakfast at Rawnsley Park, and one of the challenges will be tables & chairs – they are very few and far between, in fact they are almost non-existent. I encourage you to try and pack a small folding chair (or a sturdy suitcase) to sit on so you can more comfortably enjoy the fruits of your gastronomic labours. And be understanding.

BUSES IN RENMARK & BERRI

We have arranged for a couple of buses in Renmark & Berri to get you to & from the Cut-A-Rama event. If you want a pick up on the Sunday early evening, please let me know where you are staying, and the number of passengers. We will then ask the bus company to pick you up.

BUSES IN THE BAROSSA

The evening meal in the Barossa is at Nuriootpa – buses are laid on to move everybody around, but please refer the comments in the entry form and on the website when you are booking accommodation.

If you want a pick up on the Monday evening, please let me know where you are staying, and the number of passengers. We will then set up a timetable and ask the bus company to pick you up.

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BUSES IN DARWIN

The evening meal at Darwin is at the Sky City Casino, and pre-dinner drinks are timed to coincide with the glorious Darwin sunset.

We have buses to sweep the main CBD accommodation precincts, so if you want to catch the bus let me know where you are staying, and I will get you on the pick up list.

BRING YOUR SWIMMERS

There will be several opportunities to grab a swim during some of the meal breaks or at the overnight stops, later in the Trek. Certainly, after we leave Mt Isa the temperatures will be warm enough to enjoy a swim. **Remember that not everywhere is suitable**, as crocodiles are about in many of the places we will visit. Bring along your swimmers and keep them handy, but keep your eyes peeled for the safety signs before you jump in.

SAFETY CHECK REQUIREMENTS

If you attended the Sydney Safety Check Day on 14th April and your car received a clean bill of health – congratulations! If you had a fail on some of the safety points – please get them fixed and confirmed back to the Trek office ASAP.

If you were unable to attend the safety check day, please get your signed forms in to the Trek office sooner rather than later.

ALL SAFETY CHECK FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED BEFORE THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY.

Please be aware – we will be conducting spot checks at Renmark, and if in our opinion you have a safety check issue, you will be required to rectify the problem before you are allowed to join the Trek.

A couple of people seem to have the attitude *“it’s been like that for years and nobody has said anything”*. Regardless of if you participated last year or the past 15 years with the same car in the same condition, if you turn up at Renmark or Mt Isa, and in our opinion the car doesn’t meet the requirements set out in the safety check form, you will be required to fix the problem before you leave Renmark/Mt Isa.

ON THAT SUBJECT – 2WD MUD FLAPS

(In reality, they should be regarded as “stone flaps”.)

Please make sure that you check your 2WD mud/stone flaps, and that they fit the Trek spec. We will inspect cars in the queue at both Renmark and Mt Isa, and cars that do not meet the spec will be asked to have them fixed prior to the start line.

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TOWING ANOTHER CAR – TOW BALLS CAN KILL!

All Trek cars are required to have a tow point both front & rear, for obvious reasons but please be aware **YOU SHOULD NEVER TOW ANOTHER CAR USING A TOW BALL**, either front or rear of either car.

Many of the cars presented at safety check day had tow balls on their front hitch.

There have been many instances of severe injury and even deaths occurring due to the tow ball becoming a bullet, and it is not just with snatch strap recoveries, it can happen under a conventional tow. Have a look at this YouTube video to give you an idea of towing best practice - <https://bit.ly/2IDomyn>

WHEEL BEARINGS & SHOCKIES

Have you checked, replaced or repacked yours this year? Have you checked/replaced your shock absorbers? And do you have spares?

PAST PET PEEVES

A reminder of some of the things we will be looking for at the start line:

- Highly visible rear facing white lights
- Your orange rotating/strobing beacon being visible from both front & rear
- Rear numbers to be 150mm high, and highly visible,

And please remember - if you are a support car, **you are expected to stop and offer to help any Trek car who needs it**. You are not there just to be your team support; you are there to offer support to one and all.

SNATCH STRAPS WILL BE NEEDED THIS YEAR

Remember to pack your snatch strap, and remember to have it handy at the outwards control in Renmark so you can show it to the officials who will be checking your car prior to the start line. Don't stick it at the bottom of the car, and have to pull everything out onto the footpath.

SCARED OF GETTING LOST?

Billy Hughes from Car X609 owns a 4WD business up at Forster/Tuncurry. He is offering Trekkers a chance to buy a HEMA HXI Navigator at 10% off RRP and for every unit sold, Billy will donate \$100 to the RFDS. Have a look at the page later in this newsletter for details.

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WE CAN'T HEAR YOU !!!

We constantly get feedback that the Trek does not get the exposure in the media that some competitive events enjoy. ***Last month we asked you to contact the RFDS so they can help you obtain media exposure, but they have not received a single response.....***

TREKKER MEDIA EXPOSURE

The RFDS media team are planning to engage as much local media as possible in your home town, to coincide with our 30 Trek/\$30 Million theme. If you would like the RFDS to arrange some media exposure, you should provide answers to the following questions and email them through to OCTmedia@rfdse.org.au ASAP

1. **CONTACT INFO**
 - a. Team Name
 - b. Participants Name
 - c. Suburb, Postcode, State
2. **CONTENT:**
 - a. How many treks have you completed
 - b. When was your first trek
 - c. What's the best thing about the trek
 - d. What are you looking forward to most this year
3. **FUNDRAISING:**
 - a. What is your fundraising target this year
 - b. Who have you received support from so far (company sponsor promotion opportunity)
 - c. Why do you fundraise for the RFDS?
 - d. What is your EDH link
4. **MEDIA CONTACT** for if the RFDS receive enquiries
 - a. Who is your team/car media representative
 - b. Phone number for media enquiries
 - c. Best time to call/contact you

The RFDS media team advises:

"To get the best out of this donut media plan, we ask all submissions are sent through to the above email address ASAP.

This means that we can provide as much media as possible with the content provided by the trekkers. This also allows the media team to flag the 'human interest' stories that could peak in national/metro media outlets and repurpose the content for a broader pitch."

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CEVA

Have you booked your car home – refer previous Trek Tripe for the booking form. DO NOT send the form back to me – send it direct to CEVA.

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

(DID I BRING THIS UP EARLIER)?

The Trek auction this year will be in Mt Isa, and we need to start to collect suitable items to be put up for sale. We commonly raise \$50k each year from the auction, it is an important source of funds for the RFDS. Please let me know ASAP what you are able to bring along.

**WE ARE IN DESPARATE NEED OF AUCTION ITEMS – PLEASE LET ME KNOW ASAP
WHAT YOU CAN DONATE.**

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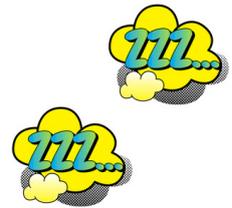
Proudly Supporting  Royal Flying Doctor Service



30 TREKS
\$30 MILLION

AND REMEMBER:

ONLY **24** MORE SLEEPS



UNTIL THE 2019
30 TREKS FOR \$30 MILLION
OUTBACK CAR TREK!

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30 TREKS
\$30 MILLION

Hema Trek Deal



Purchase a HXI navigator for 10% off RRP

+

\$100 from every sale goes to the doctor!

\$629 + \$15 P&H

For orders:

Email: billy@hec4x4.com.au

Phone: 02 6557 6557

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TREK MERCHANDISE FOR 2019

POLO SHIRTS

For the 2019 Trek we have a cotton/polyester classic fit polo shirt.

Carrying the RFDS logo on the right chest and the *Outback Car Trek* and the *30 Years \$30 Million* road diamonds on the left chest.

The shirts are a distinctive red colour with three buttons.

Only 50 shirts have been ordered, so be quick.....



T-SHIRTS

To celebrate the 30/\$30 Trek we have ordered short runs of 2 different styles of T-Shirts.

One T-Shirt displays the Outback Car Trek and the 30 Years \$30 Million road diamonds across the chest and is in a rather flattering blue colour with "Proudly supporting the Royal Flying Doctor Service" underneath.

The second T-Shirt carries a print of the 30th/\$30 number plate on the chest with "Proudly supporting the Royal Flying Doctor Service" at the top of the plate and is an incredibly fashionable charcoal in colour.

We have ordered (you guessed it) 30 of each T-Shirt, so first in first dressed.....



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SLEEVELESS VESTS

High quality black JB's Wear adventure vests, with the Royal Flying Doctor Service embroidered on right and the Outback Car Trek embroidered on the left with a discreet charcoal thread.

The vests feature:

Polyester pongee shell and contrast polyester lining, Extra thick poly fill with horizontal design lines, Chunky front zipper, Zip-through collar, Two front pockets with water shedding pocket flaps, Back trop tail, Embroidery Zipper, Urban Fit



JACKETS (it gets a little chilly in the Outback, so we have 2 different jackets for you to choose from)

JB's WEAR AUTO JACKET

A Trek favourite, this black soft wearing black Auto Jacket with Royal Flying Doctor Service embroidered on RHC and Outback Car Trek embroidered on LHC in discreet charcoal.

The jackets feature:

- Polyester/Polyamide (Nylon) shell
- Quilted satin lining
- Zip-through collar with snap closure wind panel
- Internal pockets
- Embroidery Zipper
- Classic Fit



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JB's WEAR ADVENTURE PUFFER JACKET

- Black polyester pongee shell and contrast polyester lining
- Extra thick poly fill with horizontal design lines
- Chunky front zipper
- Zip-through collar
- Two front pockets with water shedding pocket flaps
- Back drop tail
- Embroidery Zipper
- Urban Fit



BEANIES

Polos, T's, vests, jackets, now to your ears.

We have had a few requests for beanies this year, and we have this beanie in stock for a limited period.

And – correct - we have 30 for sale.....



DRINK HOLDERS

The beanies, polos vests and jackets will keep your mind & body warm, but what will keep your fingers from freezing?

The 30th Trek for \$30 Million stubby coolers of course!

Never to be repeated, these stubby coolers drink holders carry the Trek 30th/\$30 logos, together with the RFDS logo and each of the towns along the Trek route

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TREK NUMBER PLATES

A must for every bar, garage wall, beer fridge door, we have about 35 left



CLOTH PATCHES

Over the years cloth patches have become a real collectors item, and again this year we have only produced a small number of patches to protect your investment.

The Trek 2019 Patch is 130 mm x 80 mm in size, and displays the Trek 30/\$30 road diamond logos, on a white background.



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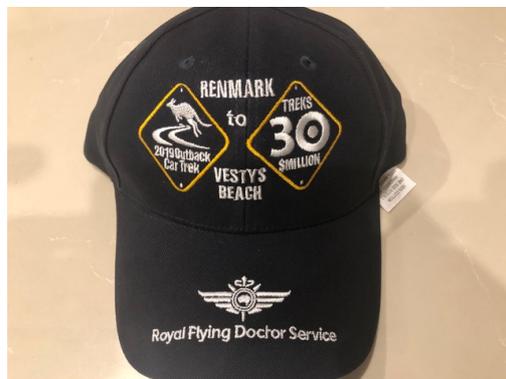
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SANDWICH PEAK CAPS

Heavy brushed cotton in blue or black. The cap has a pre-curved sandwich peak and will complement beautifully your Trek vest, polo or jacket. The centre panel at the front of the cap carries the Trek kangaroo 30th Trek for \$30 million road diamonds, and also *Remark to Vestys Beach*. The RFDS logo is embroidered on top of the peak, and "proudly supporting Royal Flying Doctor Service" is embroidered around the rear pony tail hole.

An absolute must for any wardrobe.



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2019 TREK MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

ITEM	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Polo shirts						\$ 60 inc GST		\$
T-Shirt (which one?)						\$ 40 inc GST		\$
Sleeveless vests						\$110 inc GST		\$
Jackets						\$125 inc GST		\$
Stubby Coolers						\$10 Inc GST (3 for \$25)		\$
Cloth patches						\$20 Inc GST		\$
Caps (colour?)						\$25 Inc GST		\$
Beanies						\$30 Inc GST		\$
Number Plates						\$30 Inc GST		\$
PICK UP IN RENMARK FREE!!!								\$ 0.00
Postage & handling						\$20 inc GST		\$
GRAND TOTAL								\$

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Name and address for delivery _____

_____ Postcode _____

Payment by cheque made to Outback Car Trek Pty Ltd or by MasterCard or Visa (only)



(credit card/EFTPOS purchases incur a 1.5% bank surcharge)

Name on card _____ Expiry date ____

Signature _____ Phone _____

Outback Car Trek Pty Ltd, PO Box 789, Round Corner 2158

or email to billp@outbackcartrek.com.au

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