

The Flying Doctor

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
SPRING 2019

A **game-changer**
for patient outcomes



Rio Tinto to **double every donation**

> See page 4 for more details

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE

CEO's Message



I am humbled by the creativity, dedication and passion of the many donors, volunteers and organisations who commit to innovative fundraising activities to keep us flying. 🗨️

 **Rio Tinto to match all donations up to \$100,000.**

> See page 04 for more details.

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Recently, I was privileged to attend the Friends of the Royal Flying Doctor Service Ladies' Luncheon where these remarkable volunteers raised nearly \$50,000: enough to buy a new and much needed ventilator.

In a novel fundraiser, the Australasian Mining Services have donated nearly \$100,000 over the last three years by collecting and sorting old drill bits that are then recycled.

Our major partner Rio Tinto launched an innovative fundraising campaign centred on the \$20 note which brings our founder Reverend John Flynn to life through a mobile experience.

To all of our supporters who run a marathon or swim an ocean for us, who volunteer and shake tins, host events and sausage sizzles and constantly create new ways of giving and supporting us – you absolutely encapsulate the spirit of community which is alive and well and the essence of who the Royal Flying Doctor Service is in Western Australia. Thank you for your enduring support.

You never know when you may need us, but we know we will always need you. Thank you and happy reading!

Rebecca Tomkinson
Chief Executive Officer
Royal Flying Doctor Service,
Western Australia



Royal Flying Doctor Service
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Emergency medivac in the Kimberley



Jeremy Cussen knew he was in for an adventure when he set out to explore the rugged terrain of the King Leopold Ranges in the Kimberley region. He had no idea that an adventure back in June would end 30,000 feet in the air with the Royal Flying Doctor Service.



Jeremy, a Melbourne-based volunteer with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC), was trekking with colleagues through a majestic gorge when he slipped on a rock. As he fell, he was speared through the leg by a protruding stick.

It was a gruesome injury. The stick went in near Jeremy's left ankle and out again about eight centimetres up. He was in excruciating pain and his companions immediately administered first-aid, helping carry him down the cliff face.

"One-and-a-half hours hiking down a cliff face on a crook leg – what a journey!" Jeremy recalls.

As he was clearly in need of urgent medical attention, his AWC colleagues contacted the RFDS state-wide coordination centre which tasked a crew from Broome to attend, assess and evacuate Jeremy.

While waiting for RFDS, Jeremy's colleague received instructions over the phone from an RFDS medical officer on how to administer a morphine shot to relieve his pain, from an RFDS Medical Chest.

Jeremy was then transported to the Mornington Wilderness Camp airstrip to wait for the arrival of the RFDS crew.

In true blue fashion, his colleagues had to shoo dingoes off the airstrip to enable the aircraft to land safely.

When the RFDS crews arrived, they assessed Jeremy's injury and declared it critical that he be evacuated to Broome Hospital. He required urgent surgery to extract all foreign material from the impacted area to prevent infection and seal the puncture wound.

Thinking back to the chaos of that day, Jeremy cannot speak highly enough of the RFDS team.

"They kept me calm and occupied by sharing stories with me and when my blood pressure dropped during the flight, they were straight onto it.

"I am very grateful to the RFDS for the quality of care they provided me while on the way to Broome Hospital for surgery."

Jeremy has yet to make a full recovery, but he is healing well. He says the incident has made him more aware of the geographical barriers faced by people living in remote WA when accessing healthcare.

"We are very lucky to have access to a range of health care and emergency service providers who work as a team to ensure you have the best outcome," he said.

"The role that the RFDS plays within this network is incredible and absolutely vital. They are a magnificent charity!"



I am very grateful to the RFDS for the quality of care they provided me while on the way to Broome Hospital for surgery. **Jeremy**

When every minute counts...



**KING LEOPOLD RANGES
TO BROOME**

> By car: 12 hours 58 minutes

> By RFDS PC-12: 1 hour 15 minutes

Ted's heart-stopping emergency



Esperance man Ted Sanderson was enjoying a cup of coffee with his wife Margaret one morning recently when he experienced what felt like a scalding sensation on the left side of his chest.



Ted and Margaret Sanderson

Ted, whose family has operated large grain and livestock farms in the Esperance shire for generations, said he thought he had spilt his coffee on his shirt and thought nothing of it.

"I was holding my shirt away from my chest because I thought that would minimise the scald, but Marge said I didn't spill anything," the 86-year-old farmer recalls.

"I dismissed the incident and went back to work in the shed. Later that morning, I was sitting on a camp chair in the shed enjoying my morning break and the company of Marge when I was thrown back against the scrub bar.

"It felt something like a mild convulsion or electric shock, nothing very severe but enough to make me realise I had better seek medical attention."

At the Esperance Hospital, doctors conducted tests and diagnosed Ted with Bradycardia, a condition where the heart beats slower than the normal heart rate and doesn't pump enough oxygen-rich blood to the body with each contraction.

RFDS crews were tasked to attend, assess and stabilise Ted's condition before transporting him to Fiona Stanley Hospital in Perth to have a pacemaker installed. In flight, our nurses used the on-board medical equipment to administer the

necessary medication to keep his heart beating at a normal rate and to monitor his vital signs.

"I remember almost all of the treatment I received and the flight with the RFDS and in my opinion, it was the very best treatment anyone could possibly receive," Ted says.

"The RFDS medical staff kept my heart going to keep me alive on the flight to Jandakot where I was conveyed to Fiona Stanley Hospital to get a pacemaker fitted."

Ted reports that his recovery was swift and that his blood circulation and pressure are now under control. The hardy farmer wasted no time getting back to work.

"I am now able to work with the cattle, mustering droving, attending to the mills and troughs, feeding and general farm management with help when some jobs get a bit hard," he said.

These days, Ted uses a bush buggy instead of a horse.

"It's easier to catch and mount and also offers a place for Blue, my cattle dog, to ride with me when she gets tired or the grass seeds get too bad.

Ted says he is eternally grateful for the RFDS coming to his aid. "It's simple: the Flying Doctor is a service that is absolutely essential for us people living in the bush." ○



I remember almost all of the treatment I received and the flight ... it was the very best treatment anyone could possibly receive.  Ted

When every minute counts...



ESPERANCE TO PERTH

> By car: 7 hours 37 minutes

> By RFDS PC-12: 1 hours 40 minutes



RFDS Heroes

Off duty Nurse saves life

RFDS Flight Nurse Ben had just settled into his seat on a commercial flight from Perth to Port Hedland, when he noticed something odd about the final passenger boarding the plane.

"It's funny how as a healthcare worker, you tend to notice things that don't look right with people," Ben explains. "And this passenger, he looked a little odd: perhaps just a little stressed."

The plane had not left the gate when, minutes later, Ben's attention was drawn to that same passenger who was seated a few rows in front. He observed that his head was shaking and the passengers next to him were moving out of their seats. Without hesitation, Ben leapt from his seat to offer medical assistance. The passenger was having a seizure.

After getting assistance to lay him on his side and supporting his airway the patient settled. Then things took a turn for the worse. The patient stopped breathing and was unresponsive.

Ben immediately re-positioned him on his back and commenced CPR. While performing CPR, other passengers offered to help and Ben guided and assisted them to perform effective CPR.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services rushed onboard with a defibrillator and airway equipment. Defibrillator pads were applied and Ben inserted an oropharyngeal airway and provided airway support with a Bag Valve Mask. After the first shock was delivered, the passenger remained unresponsive and without a pulse, CPR continued.

After a number of rounds of CPR and four shocks later, St John Ambulance arrived and the passenger had a pulse, was conscious and talking. Ben assisted the Ambulance officers to transfer the passenger off the aircraft where he was rushed to Royal Perth Hospital.

Ben, who joined RFDS late last year, returned to work in Port Hedland and started his shift that night. Reflecting on the experience Ben said: "I'm so grateful for the skills I have developed over the many years I have been nursing. To remain cool, calm and have direction is something that comes with time in the workplace, but to have that happen in the community, without hospital resources at your fingertips, certainly can make things challenging." ○

> Our Flight Nurses are a **vital** part of the RFDS crews who provide medical care to the furthest corners of Western Australia.

> RFDS Western Australia employs more than **50 Flight Nurses** across our facilities in Broome, Port Hedland, Meekatharra, Kalgoorlie and Jandakot.



Ben took the time to visit the patient in hospital to check he was ok.

Double your Dollar and Keep Flynn Flying!

 **Rio Tinto to match all donations up to \$100,000.**

Go to rfdswa.com.au to donate to the campaign and double your dollar.



On all donations up until



We have recently launched an exciting and innovative digital fundraising campaign 'Keep Flynn Flying' with our partner Rio Tinto.

The campaign features pioneering augmented reality software. Users will be able to bring Reverend John Flynn, founder of the RFDS, to life by scanning his image on the Australian \$20 note with their smartphones.

The animated version of John Flynn shares with users the story of the Flying Doctor and how the addition of two Rio Tinto LifeFlight PC-24 jet aircraft to the RFDS fleet is a game changer for aero medical service in Western Australia.

As a long-term supporter of the RFDS in Western Australia, Rio Tinto has committed \$22.5 million since 2004 in support of the service.

This includes \$10 million towards the acquisition and aero medical fit-out of the two PC-24 jet aircraft which serve as 'emergency wards in the sky'.

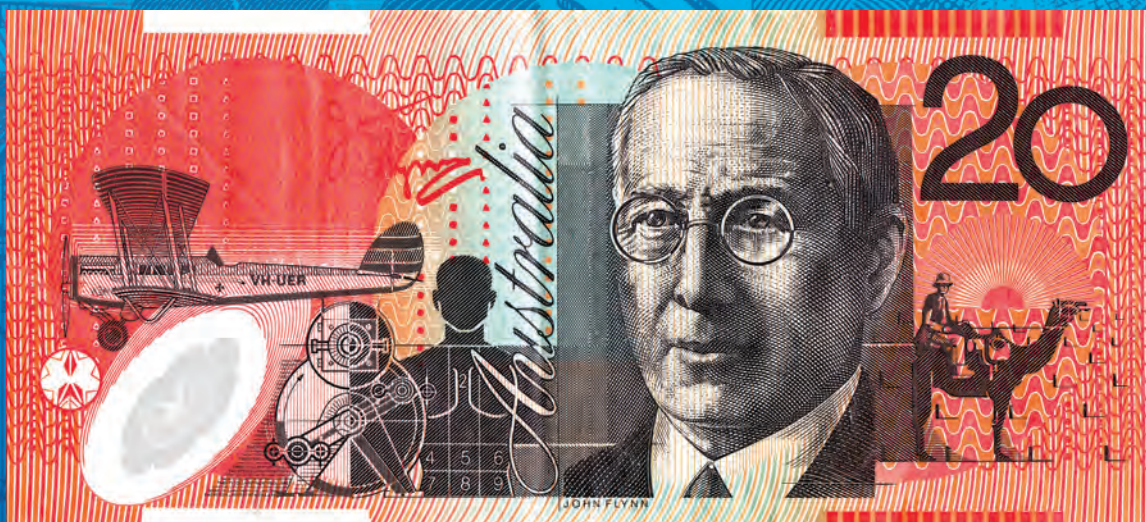
Rio Tinto is now partnering with the Australian public to help the RFDS with ongoing aircraft maintenance costs and for the purchase of life saving aero medical equipment.

Rio Tinto Iron Ore chief executive Chris Salisbury said: "While these jets are a great asset to WA, it costs a lot of money to keep them in the sky. That's why we're now raising funds to ensure the RFDS can continue their vital services across the state.

"We're calling on Australians to help 'Keep Flynn Flying', with Rio Tinto matching all donations up to \$100,000." 

Go to KeepFlynnFlying.com to bring this \$20 note to life.

Our future is in your hands.



Scan this note


Royal Flying
Doctor Service

RioTinto

Congrats to our 2019 Regional Service Award winner

A 27-year-old Martu woman and rural nurse from Wiluna, a remote town in the Mid-West, has been honoured with the 2019 Royal Flying Doctor Service Regional Service Award.

Joella Ashwin, who is an enrolled nurse and acting practice manager at the Ngangganawili Aboriginal Health Service (NAHS), was recognised for her role in building positive and trusting relationships within the Martu community to boost health outcomes. Joella

works closely with her colleagues and the community to ensure young Martu children and their mothers receive ongoing critical health care.

Joella is the first young Martu to attend university and graduate with a nursing degree, and she has been hailed an inspirational and positive role model for young Martu girls living in Wiluna. RFDS General Manager of Strategy and Performance Craig Spencer presented Joella with the coveted award at the 2019 Seven News Young Achiever Awards in May.

"We are so proud to present this award to Joella in recognition of the positive impact she has made in

creating change and outcomes in her community," Craig said.

"Here at the RFDS, our crews work hand-in-hand with rural nurses on a daily basis to ensure people living in rural and remote communities across Western Australia have access to essential healthcare.

"We know first-hand the importance of having a dedicated and exceptional nurse like Joella on the ground who goes above and beyond in her duties to spread awareness and promote good health.

"This award recognises the pivotal role Indigenous health professionals, like Joella, play in achieving health equity across Western Australia."

Well done, Joella! 



Craig Spencer with Joella who won the Seven News Young Achiever Award.

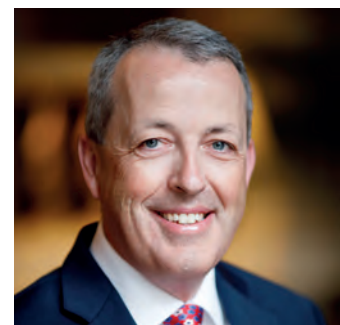
Welcome to our new board member

We are proud to announce that RAC WA Chief Executive Officer, Robert Slocombe, has joined our board.

Mr Slocombe served as Chief Operating Officer with RACWA since September 2014 before commencing his role as Chief Executive Officer in October last year. Holding both a Master of Business and Master of Science and Technology (Aviation) degrees, his portfolio includes extensive experience in financial services including roles at Westpac, St George, Challenger Financial Service and AMP Bank.

He has successfully overseen a range of major projects in the areas of business growth, technology, employee engagement and innovation in the motoring business. Also serving as Chair of the RFDS' Audit and Risk Committee, Mr Slocombe's appointment comes as prominent WA property developer Colin Heath retires from the board.

RFDS Chair Mr Sam Walsh AO said that Rob is a welcome addition to the Board and brings a strong skill set in financial and commercial acumen, making him an ideal Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee. 



Robert Slocombe

Second PC-24 jet in service

A game-changer for patient outcomes. The Rio Tinto LifeFlight PC-24s are revolutionising the way RFDS transports and treats patients across WA.



Impressive capability and next-generation technology.



The fitout was designed by Western Australians for Western Australians.

The second aero medical PC-24 jet to join the Royal Flying Doctor Service fleet entered service in March, heralding the completion of our transition to a new fleet structure and capability. The bespoke Pilatus aircraft, also known as 'Kimberley', is based in Broome while its sister jet 'Victory' is based in Perth out of Jandakot Airport.

Fitted out in Switzerland, the Rio Tinto LifeFlight PC-24s are two of only three aeromedical jets operated by the RFDS in Australia. In their short time in service, they have revolutionised the way the RFDS transports and treats patients across WA.

Their next-generation technology and capability is a game-changer for patient outcomes.

The aircraft almost halves the time for long-haul critical patient transfers compared with our current PC-12 fleet and has the capability for short landings and take-offs on airstrips.

These ground-breaking PC-24s are fully equipped emergency wards in the sky and are faster in long-distance emergencies.

When every minute in the air can mean the difference between life and death, these new jets have the potential to save countless lives.

The PC-24s will perform long haul retrievals between Perth and destinations such as Broome or Darwin and can be tasked for shorter trips depending on the priority of the retrieval. They will free up the fleet's 16 PC-12s to focus on shorter flights, which will enhance response times across the state.

It cost \$26 million to acquire and fit-out the two Rio Tinto LifeFlight PC-24 jets: a significant investment which was partly funded by Rio Tinto, the Commonwealth Government and Lotterywest.

Royal Flying Doctor Service supporters and fundraisers also helped to fund delivery of the new jets. That's the power of your support!

Thank you all. 



There is a new lifesaver making its mark across the vastness of Western Australia.

This lifesaver is the Pilatus PC-24, the newest member of the Royal Flying Doctor Service's (RFDS) fleet.  **Chris Frame, Australian Aviation Magazine**



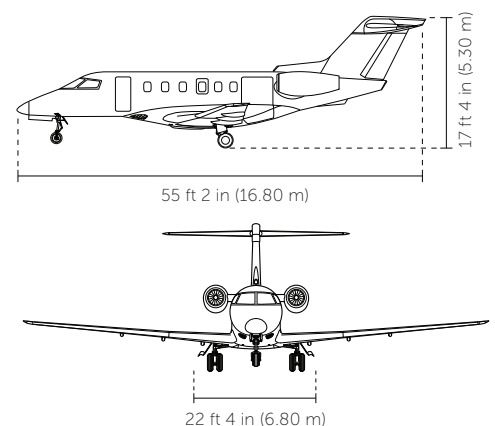
SPECIFICATIONS

Max altitude	45,000 feet
Max speed	787 km/hour
Range	3,610 km
Capacity	3 stretchered patients 2 medical team
Operations	Single or dual pilot ops
Engine	Light jet engines
Capability	Landing/take off minimum distance 800 m

Fully equipped emergency wards in the sky

> Almost 20 RFDS pilots and engineers have received specialist training on these state-of-the-art aircraft. By the end of this year, an additional four pilots and two engineers will need to undergo training. With pilot training conducted in Dallas, and engineering training in Switzerland and Detroit, this is a costly exercise.

Please support your Royal Flying Doctor Service today to help train our dedicated staff and keep the RFDS fleet in the air, 24/7 over Western Australia. [O](#)



Updates & News

Opening of Norseman Airstrip

The Shire of Dundas officially re-opened the Norseman Airstrip earlier this year, following a \$3.2 million upgrade.

On behalf of our staff and patients, RFDS thanks the Shire for strengthening the 'mantle of safety' provided by the RFDS to people living, working and travelling in and around Norseman. The upgraded all-weather airstrip is located at the doorway of the Eyre Highway and will offer greater protection and peace of mind for travellers along the remote highway.

During the past two years, while the airstrip has been closed for the upgrades, the RFDS landed at Fraser Range as a day option, some 105km away from Norseman Airport. Alternatively, patients had to be transported by road to Kalgoorlie, some 190km away, for transfer to Perth for specialist treatment.

From 2011 to 2016, the RFDS utilised the Norseman Airstrip 10 times a year on average. ○

Lotterywest family days

Lotterywest has long been a Major Supporter of RFDS. Indeed, their most recent \$6.5 million grant helped to fund our new Rio Tinto LifeFlight jets.

In recognition of this wonderful support, RFDS hosted the families of Lotterywest retailers at the Jandakot base during the July

school holidays. The families were treated to an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the base and had an opportunity to see first-hand how the Lotterywest funds are helping to keep the Flying Doctor in the air.

Lotterywest CEO Susan Hunt PSM, said Lotterywest was proud to support the Royal Flying Doctor Service with the most recent grant.

"We arranged tours of the jets and facilities for Lotterywest retailers as a way for them and their families to experience a Lotterywest grant first hand," Ms Hunt said.

"This is also a unique and meaningful way to thank our retailers for the role they play in raising funds for community groups like RFDS, and helping achieve Lotterywest's vision of 'Building a Better WA Together'." ○



Lotterywest Tour Kelmscott
Newsagency

Upcoming Events Calendar

- > **Perth Royal Show**
28 September – 5 October
Claremont Showgrounds
- > **RFDS Open Day**
Saturday 26 October
RFDS Jandakot Base,
3 Eagle Drive,
Jandakot WA 6164
- > **WorldFlight Australia**
First week of November
A virtual round the world flight
that has raised over \$300,000
- > **Great Southern Caravan
& Camping Show**
30 November – 1 December
In Albany

> We would like to thank the Royal Agricultural Society of WA for naming us the Charity Partner of this year's IGA Perth Royal Show.

We are grateful to be involved in such an iconic and fantastic community event with the opportunity to showcase our service in the 'Walk through WA' Pavilion along-side some fantastic WA regional destination displays.

Come see us at the Perth Royal Show 28 September to 5 October at the Claremont Showgrounds.

If you are buying your tickets online please consider the online option of making a small donation to us! ○

Gender-specific clinics trial

The health outcomes of a remote Kimberley community are being better addressed with a one year trial, of quarterly gender-specific GP clinics.

The health outcomes of a remote Kimberley community are being better addressed with a one year trial, of quarterly gender-specific GP clinics.

Yakanarra is a small community with a population of 100 Aboriginal men, women and children, and is located approximately 60 kilometres south-west of Fitzroy Crossing in the Kimberley region.

"Our initiation of gender-specific clinics in the community is aimed at reducing inequity in health outcomes and improving access to essential healthcare by providing culturally sensitive spaces," RFDS Western Operations Clinical Lead of GP Services Dr John Fisher said.

Following the success of an all Women's GP clinic which commenced trial in April, the Flying Doctor has

announced it will also host All Men's GP clinics in Yakanarra from July.

Dr Fisher said the gender-specific GP clinics, run four times a year, will focus primarily on sexual and reproductive health while the existing weekly primary health care clinics will provide immunisations, treatment for chronic conditions and other services.

"Already we've seen an increase in appointments and we've been able to reach more women and address a range of women's health issues in a single All Women's GP clinic than in the 12 months before that." ○

RFDS Tours

> Air Force Cadets, Bunbury Bush Fire Brigade Cadets, Hatitude for Fun, and Singapore Airlines Trainee Pilots are among the growing number of Western Australian groups who have toured RFDS operations at our Jandakot and Kalgoorlie Bases.

These informative tours are available to RFDS supporters, availability is limited at Jandakot (for a minimum of 10 and maximum of 30 people), but our Kalgoorlie Visitor Centre hosts tours daily.

For more details, or to secure your group's booking, please phone Michelle on 9417 6300 for Jandakot and Cathy on 9000 2144 for Kalgoorlie. ○



Air Force Cadets



Bunbury Bush Fire Brigade Cadets



Hatitude for Fun



Singapore Airlines Trainee Pilots



Kalgoorlie Open Day

More than 600 people attended the annual RFDS Open Day and Emergency Services Expo on 18 May at our Kalgoorlie Boulder Airport base.

The annual celebration, dubbed *Flying Doctor Day* is held in collaboration with other emergency service providers in the region including Police, St John Ambulance, State Emergency Service and Department of Fire and Emergency Services. The family fun day showcase the critical role of the RFDS and other emergency service providers.

Visitors enjoyed tours of our facility and aircraft. While not primarily a fundraising event, Open Day visitors helped local RFDS fundraising efforts through raffles and Doc Shop sales. Goldfields Air Services also kindly donated a portion of profits from their scenic flights to our Service. 

Community Fun Runs

Many thanks to all of those incredibly motivated people who took part in community fun runs in 2019. We had some fantastic teams and individuals who took part in the Chevron City to Surf and the HBF Run for a Reason. Well done and thank you for the funds raised for the RFDS. If you want to take part in any community events and help raise funds for the RFDS we would love for you to **contact at** fundraise@rfdswa.com.au to find out how to get involved. 



Fundraiser Spotlight



Narrogin residents Ann McLeish and Gary Griffiths have made a world of difference to rural and remote communities across Western Australia through their magnificent support of the RFDS.

For more than a decade, Ann and Gary have been actively fundraising on our behalf, raising an astonishing \$166,000 to ensure a 'mantle of safety' for those living, working and travelling across the state.

Ann said supporting the Flying Doctor was a family effort, with her husband and daughter clocking hundreds of thousands of kilometres collectively as they pick up and drop off donation tins at Lake King, Mount Barker, Brookton, Albany and Esperance.

A 2011 Spirit of the West Award recipient, Ann is a regular fixture at rural community events across

the Great Southern, Wheatbelt and Esperance regions. Ann said she particularly enjoys meeting people from all walks of life who share their Flying Doctor stories with her.

"Just in my family alone, my brother, my son and my granddaughter have had to use the RFDS," Ann told us.

"People living out in rural and remote communities rely heavily on the Royal Flying Doctor Service to access the health care we need. The community support and gratitude has been overwhelming and I'm very proud to represent such an important service."

> Volunteers like Ann and Gary are the lifeblood of organisations like the Royal Flying Doctor Service. They have a huge impact on our service, as they raise both funds and awareness of the RFDS. We are incredibly indebted to each and every one of our dedicated volunteers and all our auxiliaries and fundraising groups across the state. Backed by generations of community support, RFDS has been able to deliver life-saving services far and wide across this vast state to benefit all West Australians.

Interested in volunteering or fundraising for RFDS contact us on fundraise@rfdswa.com.au or call (03) 9417 6300. 

Iconic ride raises millions

When Simon and Anna Rimmer came up with a 'little fundraising bike ride' idea back in 2007, they originally envisaged it would attract the interest of about 25 riders or so.

Today, the Gibb Challenge attracts riders from throughout Australia and internationally, and in May 2019, riders took part in the iconic bike ride from Derby to El Questro.

The punishing but spectacular 660 kilometre course, crossing the Gibb River Road, is described as a life-defining adventure.

Over the past five years alone, the bone rattling ride has raised more than \$2.3 million for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

The Kimberley region is vast and remote. Logistically it is geographically isolated

with little infrastructure and communication channels. To succeed, the coordination of such a major fundraising challenge in these conditions requires incredible persistence, creativity, resourcefulness and a strong connection with the communities and land.

Race founder, and champion of the 'Gibbsters', as riders are known, says this event is about much more than cycling. "It's not about the riding," Simon explains. "No one wants the dust and the corrugation and the heat. It's about the fellowship and the camping and enjoying the Kimberley."

The Gibb Challenge continues to amplify the real stories of living in regional Western Australia and the true value of our Flying Doctor service.

> The funds raised by Gibb Challenge riders and their supporters have made a valuable contribution to our service, helping to purchase and medically-equip our aircraft. We rely on the support of fundraising events such as the Gibb Challenge and the generosity of the community and our government and business partners to help fund our lifesaving work. 



Team RFDS still smiling after a dusty day

Gibbsters

For the past seven years, keen cyclists Wendy and Brendan have made the trek from NSW to the Derby to ride in the iconic Gibb Challenge.

This year, Callum joined them on the cycling adventure.

The family recently visited our Jandakot facility and were blown away by the work we do here in WA.

Through the support of friends and family and an all-day Bunnings sausage sizzle back home, this year the family raised \$4,000 for the RFDS through the Gibb Challenge. Well done Gibbsters! 



Delivering Medical Care Across Our Vast State

 Distance Flown*
22,156 Daily
7,799,000 Yearly

 Patients Flown*
23 Daily
8,682 Yearly

Number of Aircraft **18**



SERVICE AREA
2,500,000
sq km

 Telehealth Consultations*
137 Daily
50,052 Yearly

 Patients Attending Clinics*
45 Daily
15,822 Yearly



Showcasing just some of the wonderful companies and individuals who support the lifesaving work of the Royal Flying Doctor Service



The Riklan team generously donated \$15,000 to support our service.



William Hansen (KCGM), Cathy Parker, Peter Mellington (Contractor, Komatsu).

Riklan Emergency Management Services

When the Goldfields community raised \$100,000 through Riklan Emergency Management Services' Christmas Act of Kindness initiative last year, 50 local families were provided with support.

The first priority for business owner Michael Nollas was to renovate a family's house to be wheelchair-friendly, to help make life easier for a young man injured in a car accident last year.

Thanks to an outpouring of donations of time, labour and goods for the home makeover, the company had quite a few funds left in the kitty.

The company knew that the Royal Flying Doctor Service had a direct connection to the family, as it was one of our crews who flew the young man to Perth after the accident. In recognition of the value of the RFDS to the Goldfields community, the Riklan team generously donated \$15,000 to support our service. 

KCGM

KCGM operates the Super Pit: the largest open cut gold mine in Australia. The Kalgoorlie business is also super committed to workplace safety.

Each quarter, its Senior Leadership Team chooses a department at KCGM that has shown innovation in safety to win the Safety Innovation Award. The coveted award comes with a prize of \$12,000 to be donated to a Not for Profit organisation. Recent award winner, Peter Mellington from the Mobile Maintenance team, kindly donated his award funds to RFDS.

The award was recognition for Peter's alerting the company to the need for a railing to avoid staff falling down between a machine and the wheel of one of their giant loaders while carrying out maintenance and repairs. A fall like this would result in a severe injury – or worse. Thank you Peter! 



You never know when you may need us, but we know we will always need you. Thank you!  **Rebecca Tomkinson, CEO, RFDS**

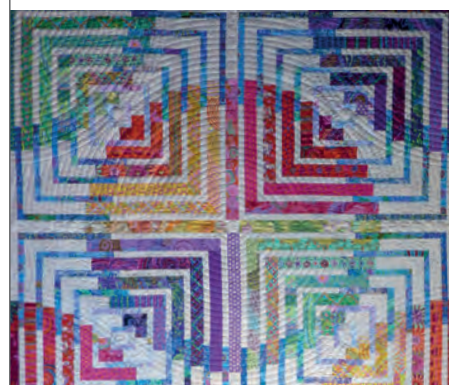
 Community Fundraising Events play a vital role in raising funds for RFDS. Choosing RFDS as their chosen charity, community groups collectively contributed to raising more than \$1million last financial year to enable us to purchase lifesaving medical equipment.

With special thanks:

- > Well done, West Australian Quilters Association, whose members made a beautiful quilt to raffle as an RFDS fundraiser.
- > Jenny Dinuzzo, a great RFDS ambassador! Jenny works at Barnhill Station in the Kimberley and also teaches Thai Chi during the wet season at Cable Beach. She asks people to put money in the RFDS donation tin for the class and has just collected her twelfth tin.
- > The Scott River Ball is a Black Tie regional fundraising event which is held in the region every three years. The concept of the ball came about in 1991 after a Scott River resident was in a serious accident in East Augusta and required the services of the Royal Flying Doctors.
- > The Elders Group BIG BBQ campaign saw multiple Elders retailers/franchises around the state flipping sausages to raise funds for the RFDS. The Group also invited RFDS to join them at the Dowerin Field Day in August, where we set up a site within the Elders Pavilion.
- > The Hale school boarding families came together on 1 September to showcase and share produce at the popular, biennial Farmers' Market. This year the RFDS were grateful to be named as the charity beneficiary of the event where we also set-up an RFDS stall.
- > For the second year running, Hai and Chris Huynh from Hai's coffee hosted *Hai's community Breakfast* where community groups and businesses from Port Hedland came together to hold a fantastic community event with all funds raised going to the RFDS. This year's mega event raised a phenomenal \$13,000.
- > Gary Annett produces stunning Kimberley calendars and donates \$5 from each one sold to RFDS. A whopping \$13,600 was donated from the sale of Gary's 2019 calendars.
- > Safety within workplaces is very important and a number of mine sites this year have had excellent initiatives to keep their workers safe. RFDS has benefited from these initiatives. Thank you to MSP Engineering, Kerman Construction, NRW and FMG. 



Kerman construction team



Quilters Association's beautiful quilt.



Hai's community Breakfast in Port Hedland raised \$13,000.



Gary Annett produces stunning Kimberley calendars.

You can host your own fundraising event to help keep the Flying Doctor in the air. For inspiration and assistance, email fundraise@rfdswa.com.au or phone (08) 9417 6300.



Community Supporters

We would like to thank all of our amazing volunteers, committees and community fundraisers who generously donate their time and effort to fundraising for the RFDS.

With special thanks to:

- > Ambassador
  - Melva Stone, OAM
  - Dr Erica Smyth, AC
- > Flying 1000
- > Friends of the Flying Doctor
- > RFDS Eastern Goldfields Auxiliary
- > RFDS Esperance Auxiliary
- > RFDS Volunteer Committees:
  - > Busselton
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  - > Katanning
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