

The Flying Doctor

WESTERN AUSTRALIA – SPRING 2017

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE



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READY TO CELEBRATE?

Next year marks the 90th anniversary of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, with our maiden flight taking place on 17th May 1928. Throughout the year there will be a number of ways to celebrate and reflect on how our service has evolved over its 90 year history.

Stay tuned for details.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Since our April issue, there has been a hive of activity at RFDS highlighted by significant milestones and celebrations.

The RFDS ALTITUDE Ball in August is one of the most anticipated signature events on the Perth social calendar. Thanks to our event partner Pilatus, ALTITUDE 2017 soared beyond all our expectations creating a unique and memorable experience for everyone involved. A sell-out event, the evening evoked elegance and excitement highlighted by an outstanding performance from globally acclaimed artist, Tina Arena.

For RFDS and our valued partner Rio Tinto, this year's ALTITUDE was particularly poignant. We celebrated the 10 year partnership of our LifeFlight Jet service that has achieved an exceptional 2,000 aero medical evacuations from as far as Indonesia and east coast Australia. It is a significant milestone and testament to the impact innovative corporate and community service alliances can have on people's lives.

As we embark on a new era at RFDS, our partnerships with business, industry, government and community will be crucial to our role in the future growth of WA. From city to country more people are choosing to live, work and travel throughout the state. Rapid growth and change in population will demand innovative solutions to sustain the essential service we provide to keep people safe, wherever and whenever they need us.



Together with Rio Tinto, we have already forged ahead with the acquisition of our next generation aircraft – Pilatus PC-24 jet aircraft. In anticipation of the arrival of two PC-24s to RFDS WA in 2018, we have launched a state-of-the-art aviation and engineering facility at Jandakot. The design and functionality is world-class. The purpose built 1300 sqm hangar features customised digital systems enabling our engineers to optimise efficiencies across our fleet.

It is an exciting time as we prepare for the future. I am most encouraged to see how more Western Australians, regardless of their postcode, are recognising the relevance of RFDS in their daily lives. Importantly, the understanding that RFDS is an essential service - delivered by the best aero medical experts, supported by world-class operations.

Thanks to your support we continue to make a significant difference in the lives and well-being of all Western Australians.

Grahame Marshall

Royal Flying Doctor Service – CEO

**90
YEARS**



Royal Flying Doctor Service

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE RFDS

RFDSWA CAREER RECOGNITION ALUMNI

In July this year, we announced our RFDSWA Career Recognition Alumni, to formally acknowledge a very special group of people. Our Alumni allows us to recognise the significant contribution of departing employees who have been with the organisation for more than 20 years, and helps us to stay in touch with these people over time. Our Alumni members receive regular communication from us and are invited to significant RFDSWA events and special Alumni gatherings.

To launch our new Career Recognition Alumni, we invited our Chief Pilot, Captain Michael Bleus, to become the inaugural member upon his retirement on 14th July 2017 after 43 years of service. He accepted and it is with great pleasure that we recognise the time, energy and commitment he has dedicated to our organisation over all those years.

Michael began his career with us as a Line Pilot, and assumed several aviation roles during his service, including Senior Pilot, Head of Training and Checking, and was Chief Pilot for many years at Jandakot until his retirement. He completed over 18,900 flying hours during his career, 17,500 of these were providing aero medical services in his various roles with us. Michael was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in 2014 for his services to the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, and we are proud to have him as our Inaugural Member of the RFDSWA Career Recognition Alumni.



PREPARED FOR LANDING

With our two new Pilatus PC-24 jets set to arrive in mid 2018, we've been hard at work upgrading to a state-of-the-art hangar, workshop, stores and offices at our Jandakot headquarters.

The completion of the new and improved facilities sees the end of Phase 1 of our master plan and increases our capacity to provide the best outcomes for our patients, and the people of Western Australia.

These new facilities will not only give us the physical space, infrastructure and tools needed for our expanding operations, they will help to keep our operations sustainable well into the future.

A GOLDEN MILESTONE FOR KALGOORLIE BASE

This year, our Kalgoorlie facility celebrates 80 years of service to the Goldfields and south eastern regions.

RFDS shares a rich history with our mining communities and has played an active role in the growth of the region today. In the last year alone, we've flown more than a million kilometres across the region, and helped 1,200 patients access emergency medical care.

DELIVERING MEDICAL CARE ACROSS OUR VAST STATE

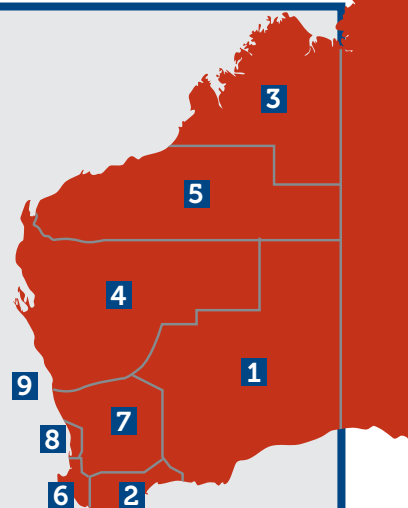
So far this year we've evacuated over 8,000 patients, many receiving specialised medical treatment from the moment of retrieval, during the flight and until safely touching down.

With thousands of families living, working and travelling across WA, delivering emergency medical care to patients no matter where they may be is the key to keeping our great state healthy and safe.

As soon as you leave the metro area, you're in Flying Doctor country. You'll never know when you'll need us, but if you do, we'll be there.

STATISTICS - 2016/17 PATIENTS TRANSFERRED BY REGION

1 Goldfields	1,305
2 Great Southern	725
3 Kimberley	1,613
4 Mid West	1,587
5 Pilbara	1,479
6 South West	675
7 Wheatbelt	780
8 Perth Metro	131
9 Indian Ocean	20
Other	15
WA TOTAL	8,330



CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

RIO TINTO LIFEFLIGHT 10TH ANNIVERSARY

RFDS WA has a significant flight footprint of 2.5 million square kilometres across the entire state of Western Australia. It is both challenging and inspiring to our role as an essential service provider.

To achieve the best outcomes for all Western Australians, RFDS creates partnerships with businesses that will help to progress our service in line with the needs of the state. Our partnerships must deliver more than direct corporate investment. They must share a commitment to the state's growth and participate with us in the pursuit of innovative solutions for future demand.

Our long term partnership with Rio Tinto exemplifies our partnership goals and values. This year we celebrated the 10 year anniversary of the Rio Tinto LifeFlight Jet service.

Ten years ago, Rio Tinto and RFDS recognised the critical need to invest in jet aircraft that could deliver exceptional aero medical capability with extensive reach to patients in need. LifeFlight has soared beyond expectations with an exceptional

2,000 aero medical evacuations from as far as Indonesia and east coast Australia.

At a recent presentation to Rio Tinto staff, RFDS CEO Grahame Marshall emphasised how crucial corporate and service partnerships are to ensure the growth and prosperity of the state. "We are in a new era in which essential services must be agile to change and drive profit for purpose. Our partnership with Rio Tinto has led the way in evolving the impact of corporate social investment."

To celebrate the anniversary of the Rio Tinto LifeFlight Jet, CBD workers and visitors were treated to an RFDS aircraft installation in the foyer of Central Park offices. Supported by a promotion from radio station Nova 93.7, visitors to the installation were able to get an up-close experience as well as connecting its relationship to Rio Tinto.

As we move closer to 2018, RFDS' partnership with Rio Tinto will accelerate to a new level with the arrival of the Pilatus PC-24 jet aircraft. The new aircraft will be a world first for aero medical service putting RFDS Western Australia at the forefront of its industry across the globe.

It's been an incredible first 10 years partnering with Rio Tinto, and we look forward to the future with the arrival of the Pilatus PC-24 jet aircraft in 2018.



AERO MEDICAL CAPITAL FUND

By 2020, it is expected that the Royal Flying Doctor Service will deliver up to 11,000 patient evacuations each year, have contact with 89,055 patients through clinics and telehealth services, and operate an aircraft fleet of 20 including up to three Pilatus PC-24 jets.

Recognising that the need for aero medical and remote health services will continue to change and increase, the RFDS established the Aero Medical Capital Fund in 2015 with the aim of addressing the capital requirements essential to our future growth and success through four critical pillars - Building WA, Health Services, Innovation and Leadership. This capital fund will provide ongoing financial support for the RFDS into the future.



Since its launch in 2015, the Aero Medical Capital Fund has achieved two critical milestones towards RFDS' future capability. Moving into 2018 and beyond, RFDS is looking for continued and new support for the AMCF to achieve future capital requirements. See how your company can be involved on page 11.

SANDFIRE RESOURCES

Having recognised the critical role the RFDS plays in building Western Australia and enabling regional communities to grow and prosper, Sandfire Resources have been a Community Partner of the Flying Doctor since 2015.

Their DeGrussa Operation—one of the Asia-Pacific region's premier, high grade copper mines—is located 900km north east of Perth. The mine includes a 400 room village, as well as office buildings, assay laboratory and a sealed airstrip capable of accommodating the new RFDS Pilatus PC-24 jet.

Sandfire Resources have donated a generous \$70,000 since becoming a partner of the RFDS, providing much needed support for those people living, working and travelling throughout our vast state.

PORT HEDLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The Flying Doctor is grateful for the support it receives from both individuals and organisations within our community which comes in a variety of forms. As one of our significant bases, our pilots conducted some 1,112 landings at Port Hedland in FY2017 alone.

The Port Hedland International Airport provides generous support to RFDS by waiving the landing fees associated with this activity, which equates to a value of approximately \$125,000 per annum. With a mutual focus on community and sustainability, the Flying Doctor is proud to be associated with the Port Hedland International Airport.

OUT & ABOUT

ALTITUDE BALL

This year, ALTITUDE 2017 presented by Pilatus, soared beyond our expectations thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of all our sponsors, guests and auction supporters.

ALTITUDE has become a much loved signature event on Perth's social calendar, and is vital to raising much needed funds for the RFDS.

This year's sell-out event featured a local and international line-up including Tina Arena, The Potbelleez and Julia Jenkins together with Perth Symphony Orchestra and Choir for the spectacular 'Faith and Freedom' performance.

Thank you to everyone who supported us to achieve this great outcome.



Faith + Freedom: the music of George Michael performed by the Perth Symphony Orchestra

NOVA CAMPAIGN

For people living in Perth's metropolitan area the idea that they might one day need the RFDS is not top of mind. With more people choosing to travel and work throughout the state, RFDS has been there for many Perth based people over its long history.

Nova 93.7 joined us to help raise awareness of the importance of RFDS in helping to keep all Western Australians safe whenever and wherever they may need us.

The campaign highlighted that travelling just one hour outside the metro area to places like Mandurah or Rottnest, means you're in Flying Doctor country.



DOCKERS ALLIANCE

The Fremantle Dockers have announced RFDS as one of its eight new 'Friends of the Foundation'. The Foundation supports the Dockers commitment to invest in the Western Australian community.

To celebrate, we took our aircraft medical training simulator to Domain Stadium for Fremantle's round 20 clash with Gold Coast on Saturday 5th August. The real-to-life aircraft simulator gives a first hand look at the unique and challenging environment the RFDS medical teams work in when administering emergency medical care in the air.



JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Connect with us on social media to keep track of the latest RFDS news and info.



@royalflyingdoctorservice



@royalflyingdoc



@royalflyingdoc



@RoyalFlyingDoctor

Taking on The Gibb Challenge



This year, the Gibb Challenge, a mountain bike relay from Derby to El Questro Station along the iconic Gibb River Road, raised an incredible \$460,000 for the RFDS. It was largely thanks to the generosity and commitment of event director Simon and Anna Rimmer, who guided the riders through their journey.

The five day challenge—across a range of terrains—really tests its riders, as Deputy GM Operations and participant Phil Strapp explains, *‘The peloton tackles endless corrugations, dust, soft sand, and water crossings. It can be quite tricky to stay on course and if you fall off your bike it’s a fundraising fine to RFDS. Needless to say the water crossings helped raise a considerable amount!’*

At the end of the serious riding on day four, the riders stopped at Home Valley Station where the RFDS charity auction took place. Phil recalls, *“There was some furious bidding at the live auction, which raised over \$22,000 for RFDS.”*

The Challenge, now in its eleventh year, has become a ‘must do’ for cycling enthusiasts, locals and outback tourists. This year, one couple who met on a previous challenge even chose to get married at sunset following a tough day of hiking.

The event ended on a relatively easy day, according to Phil, *“The final day was a short 48km into the stunning El Questro*



Station, a great place to finish. Everyone was happy for a drink and swim at the end of a gruelling five days.”

The Gibb Challenge is an incredible team effort, raising much needed funds for the Flying Doctor. We’d like to congratulate Simon and Anna Rimmer for organising yet another very successful and professional event.

We’d also like to thank *The Bloody Heroic Volunteers* who set up camp and drop toilets, fed, watered, marshalled and recorded times for the teams, all with a smile on their faces.

Of course no event is possible without the help of major sponsors. We’d like to acknowledge the contributions of Great Escape Charter Company, APT, Saltwater Properties, Cable Beach Resort and Spa, Broome Cycles, Matso’s Brewery, Yahava Coffee, and to all other sponsors without whom an event like this wouldn’t be possible.



The Challenge has now been running for 11 years, and has evolved into a ‘must do’ on the Kimberley region’s annual event calendar.

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS



FLYING 1000 HANGAR PREVIEW

In May, RFDS hosted a very special sundowner presented by corporate supporter Sodexo. The event was an exclusive preview of the new Jandakot aviation and engineering facility for our Flying 1000 members.

It was a very special occasion to present our most valued supporters with an up close experience with the outcomes of their efforts.

The Flying 1000 have contributed an incredible \$4.2M to the Flying Doctor since 2002, and are currently fundraising for the aero medical fitout of the new Pilatus PC-24 jet aircraft.

Our thanks to catering from Kudjit and fine wines from Howard Park.

KARARA MINING DENTAL PROGRAMME

Children living in the Wheatbelt and Mid West region can keep smiling thanks to a partnership between the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Karara Mining that is providing essential dental health services to local towns.

In August, RFDS dental nurse Alannah Rosten attended the Mingenew Expo to raise awareness of the importance of dental health in the Mid West. It was an opportunity to present our portable dental facility that has helped to create greater access to dental health services in remote regions.



JANDAKOT AIRPORT HOLDINGS

Jandakot Airport Holdings helped ALTITUDE 2017 to kick off in style, by making a generous donation of \$50,000 at the start of the evening.

Jandakot Airport Holdings provide airside access to essential service organisations, like RFDS, allowing us to house, service, repair, and maintain our aircraft fleet - all at our Jandakot headquarters. We thank Jandakot Airport Holdings for their valued contribution which will help ensure our service continues to be delivered to the people of WA.

NEVERFAIL SPRINGWATER

Australia is a vast land — hot and dry. With more than 50% of our bodies made up of water, staying hydrated is a key component to health.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service is very proud of its national partnership with Neverfail Springwater, which provides spring water to offices and homes across Australia.

With a campaign called 'It's Cooler to Give' Neverfail is donating \$100 to the RFDS for every new cooler order in the health sector.

To date Neverfail has donated \$150,000 nationally to RFDS that will ensure the very best aero medical service is delivered wherever and whenever people need us.

CANNING VALE MEN'S SHED

Canning Vale Men's Shed has generously donated \$10,000 to the Flying Doctor from the proceeds of their hard work and talent. The men repair and refurbish electrical appliances to safe working order and on-sell to the public at an affordable cost.





GARY ANNETT DONATES PROCEEDS FROM CALENDAR SALES

Award-winning photographer Gary Annett donated an incredible \$12,500 in proceeds from his 2016 Gibb River Road calendar, which was sold in fundraising support of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. With our logo proudly displayed on his stunning calendars this year, we are truly grateful to have his support – thank you Gary!

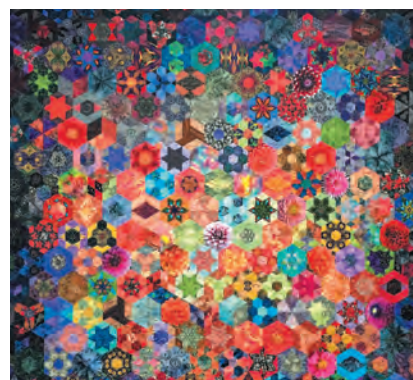


BANKWEST FOUNDATION

The Bankwest Foundation Fundraisers are passionate about the important work of the RFDS across regional and remote communities. In the last year, their fundraising program was rolled out across Australia to raise a remarkable \$7,000 for the RFDS, which was additionally matched by the Bankwest Foundation. It was a busy and fun year with the team running quiz nights, raffles and morning teas – to name a few! Thank you Bankwest for your valued support.

MERCY FLIGHT QUILT RAFFLE

After Di Mansfield's husband needed the Royal Flying Doctor Service in 2011, Di was inspired to raise funds for the RFDS. It took six months to complete her spectacular quilt, named Mercy Flight, which raised \$12,861 as the Grand Prize for the Quilt West Exhibition Raffle earlier this year.



CORY'S RUN FOR A REASON

Thanks to Cory Payne, who along with a team of 10, participated in the 2017 HBF Run For A Reason and raised an incredible \$4,257 for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

THESE FRIENDS KNOW HOW TO PUT THE FUN IN FUNDRAISING

Friends of the Flying Doctor run fantastic social events to make new friends while supporting RFDS. In the last two years, the Friends have raised \$45,000 towards sustaining our aero medical services.

Friends fundraising events had something for everyone including several bridge days of about 42 tables, a film night, a cocktail party at Scitech with 120 people, a sundowner at Cottesloe Tennis Club for 150 people, and guest speaker evenings at the Grove Library.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS



GOLDFIELDS CHARITY BALL

On Saturday 18th March, the annual Goldfields Children Charity Ball was held in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, raising an incredible \$125,000 for the RFDS.

The theme for the ball this year was "Courage" which saw over 1,000 people attend.

RFDS Chief Executive Officer, Grahame Marshall, said "The RFDS is extremely grateful for the support it receives each year from the Goldfields Children Charity Ball."

"The generosity of the Goldfields community members who attend the ball on the night enable us to continue to provide urgent aero medical attention and primary health care services to people living, working and travelling in the Goldfields Esperance region."

In the past year, the RFDS has evacuated 1,337 patients in the region, equating to an average of four patients per day.

RFDS CRUISE FOR A CAUSE

Fun loving locals and businesses took part in Kalgoorlie-Boulder's biggest scavenger hunt on Sunday 13th August, raising over \$11,000 for the RFDS. Teams scoured the designated area in search of local landmarks, earning points by solving cryptic clues and hunting for a selection of items as they went.



EL QUESTRO FAMILY FUN DAY

Held in July, the El Questro Family Fun day raised a generous \$7,470 from stalls, jumping castles, silent auction and sausage sizzle. We'd like to thank all who turned up and helped support this wonderful event.



WHAT'S COMING UP



RFDS EVENTS CALENDAR

- **GREAT SOUTHERN CARAVAN AND CAMPING SHOW, ALBANY**
14 - 15 October 2017
As Community Partners of the Great Southern Caravan and Campaign Show 2017, a component of ticket proceeds will be donated to the Flying Doctor, so come down and support the RFDS.
While you're there make sure you visit our information booth and check out our latest merchandise, available for purchase throughout the show.
- **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, REGIONAL AND METRO WA**
December 2017
Every Christmas families throughout WA adorn their homes with Christmas lights to raise funds for the RFDS. Whether you live regionally, or in the metro area we'd love for you to get involved.
You can visit our website or contact the RFDS, to find out how your Christmas lights can really make a difference.

BE PART OF OUR NEW ERA

RFDS is getting future ready to deliver it's world-class aero medical service to the furthest corners of WA.

Thanks to our current partners and generous supporters, we have achieved significant progress in 2017 with the opening of a state-of-the-art aviation and engineering facility at Jandakot, and are now counting down to the arrival of two new Pilatus PC-24's. This is just the beginning for the work ahead of us. Join us to help keep all Western Australians safe - whenever and wherever they need us.

Corporate Partnerships

Our Corporate Partnerships program presents a range of opportunities to fit with corporate social investment goals, sponsorship marketing and partnered initiatives. For more information contact RFDS Corporate Partnerships: ra.stewart@rfdswa.com.au

Join the RFDS Support Crew

RFDS Support Crew is for anyone who wants to contribute their support to the Flying Doctor. You choose a suitable amount for automatic donation each month. It's tax deductible and it helps us plan ahead for investing in development. One-off donations are still warmly welcomed. To join call **9417 6400**.

Gifting a lasting legacy

A gift to RFDS in your Will is an incredibly poignant legacy that will have the power to impact countless lives. Contact your Lawyer or Estate Management provider on how to include RFDS Western Australia in your Will. To find out more visit flyingdoctor.org.au

Fundraise for us!

Some of our amazing fundraisers have created events that have become extremely popular in their own right such as the Gibb (Cycling) Challenge, film nights, social and professional networking events - the possibilities are endless for putting the fun in fundraising! Go to rfdswa.com.au and click fundraising or call **9417 6400** for more information.

Give in memory or celebration

Ask your friends and family to make a donation to the RFDS in lieu of a gift or flowers. This can be an ideal gift for the person 'who has everything' and a touching recognition of your support to a much loved Western Australian icon. Go to flyingdoctor.org.au/wa and click donate for more information.

OUR SPONSORS

Altitude Partners

RioTinto

Major Partners



KARARA



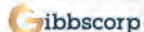
Community Partners



Altitude Ball Partners



RioTinto



Corporate Supporters



Government Supporters Australian Government



West Australian Government



RFDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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
- Busselton RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Dongara RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Flying 1000
- Friends of the Flying Doctor
- Geraldton RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Jurien RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Katanning RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Lake Grace RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Mount Barker RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Narrogin RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Pannawonica RFDS Volunteer Committee
- Paraburdoo RFDS Volunteer Committee
- RFDS Eastern Goldfields Auxiliary
- RFDS Esperance Auxiliary



SAVE LIVES

Support us online. We'll spend less on paper and postage and more on the vital services that keep the Flying Doctor in the air.

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