

29 April 2025

LOVELLS SUSPENSION KEEPS ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE OUTBACK ADVENTURE ON TRACK

Lovells Automotive Systems has reaffirmed its support of the Royal Flying Doctor Service's (RFDS) largest and most complex fundraising events the *Outback Car Trek* and the *Drive 4x4 The Doc*, with the supply and fitment of its locally designed and engineered Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) upgrades for the RFDS owned Toyota Land Cruiser 300 Series event support and reconnaissance vehicle.

Since its inception in 1990, the Outback Car Trek alone has raised over \$36 million for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Over the past 10 years, Lovells has supported the cause with upgrades, including enhancing two previous Land Cruisers. The latest Land Cruiser model features Lovells' Land Cruiser specific 3,805kg GVM upgrade, which includes comprehensive shock absorber and spring improvements for better durability and performance.

Outback Car Trek Chief Excitement Officer, Bill Patrick said, "The ongoing support of Lovells Group is crucial to the success of these events now and into the future. When you are responsible for pre-planning, event support and recovery operation for over 75 vehicles more than 30 years old – some with unknown offroad capabilities – the additional carrying abilities and offroad composure is key to keeping an event on track."

The Royal Flying Doctor Service provides essential healthcare and emergency services across Australia, flying over 27 million kilometres annually and handling 775 patient contacts daily. With 67 aircraft in operation, they rely on donations to deliver life-saving support to remote communities. Events like the Outback Car Trek and Drive 4x4 The Doc raise funds through charity events, where participants raise at least \$1,000 to take part in multi-day journeys, supporting the Flying Doctor's vital services.

Annabey Whitehead, Executive General Manager of Corporate Affairs and Fundraising of the Royal Flying Doctor Service said, "For the past 30-years, our outback vehicle treks have been a significant contributor to keep this vital service in the air. The continued support of Lovells means that the Outback Car Trek team can plan and execute these events with confidence that their vehicle has the capabilities to get to the finish and return all participants home."

Designed to enhance a vehicle's handling, comfort, load carrying abilities and durability under demanding conditions, Lovells' 3,805kg GVM upgrade for the Land Cruiser 300 Series includes the installation of heavy-duty springs and shock absorbers, providing greater stability and improved ride quality, particularly when carrying heavy loads or navigating rough terrain.

Lovells Group Marketing Manager, Dan Hughes said, "Lovells' support of the *Outback Car Trek* and *Drive 4x4 The Doc* are the ideal events to support a great cause and highlight the capabilities of our locally designed LandCruiser upgrades."

The 2025 Outback Car Trek and Drive 4x4 The Doc will be held during the months of May/June and November 2025. To learn more about either event, visit: [Outback Charity Rally | flying doctor rally](#) or [Home | drive4x4thedoc](#)

About the Royal Flying Doctor Service (South Eastern Section)

The Royal Flying Doctor Service South Eastern Section (RFDSSE) is a not-for-profit charity that provides 24/7 essential lifesaving, emergency and primary healthcare to regional, rural and remote NSW communities. For 96 years, the RFDS has taken the finest care to the furthest corner. We provide lifesaving outback emergency aeromedical retrievals and hospital transfers, as well as providing over 355,000 occasions of care over the last five years through on-the-ground GP and nurse appointments, dental care, mental health care, alcohol and other drug counseling, vaccinations, chronic disease management and telehealth. The RFDS has proudly been named Australia's most reputable charity 13 times by Reprak.

About the Outback Car Trek / Drive 4x4 The Doc

The Outback Car Trek and Drive 4x4 The Doc have raised over \$36 million for Royal Flying Doctors Service in the past 35 years by focusing on events that hold true to four key elements;

- Having Fun
- Seeing parts of Australia that most people only dream about visiting:
- Contributing socially and financially to the towns & communities we visit
- Raising money for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

To learn more about either event, visit: [Outback Charity Rally | flying doctor rally Home | drive4x4thedoc](#)

About Lovells:

Based in Newcastle, New South Wales, Lovells Automotive Systems is a global leader in premium suspension components, exporting to markets as diverse as the USA, Saudi Arabia, Norway, Greece, Kazakhstan, and Thailand.

Established in 1930, Lovells employs over 120 professionals and supplies high-quality, Australian-engineered suspension and vibration absorption products to industries including mining, emergency services, and agriculture. With state-of-the-art facilities and a focus on innovation, Lovells delivers durable suspension and towing solutions, ensuring reliability in the toughest conditions worldwide.

Contact Information:

Dan Hughes

M: 0431 449 267

E: media@lovells.com.au

Group Manager – Marketing