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MEDIA RELEASE

Perth Navy Cadets ride to Kalgoorlie for the RFDS

30 September 2015

On 29th September, the TS Navy Cadets from Perth completed their annual bike ride from Northam to Kalgoorlie, raising nearly \$2,500 for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

The group of 16 Navy Cadets, aged 14-16, ride to Kalgoorlie in a relay fashion each year, with an overnight camp in Merredin. Accompanied by their Officer in Command – Lt Brad Barrett and two instructors, some of the group have just completed their 5th ride.

“I believe that this is a great event for all involved. For these young people to take the time out of their school holidays to support the RFDS in this manner is wonderful,” said Kalgoorlie RFDS Local Area Marketing Coordinator Cathy Parker.

“The cadets and their commanding officers and instructors are to be commended for their efforts which we here at RFDS appreciate immensely.”

The event is a team building experience for the cadets who, during and in the lead up to the ride, raise vital funds for the RFDS in WA.

“Kalgoorlie is the major highlight of our cadet year and serves as a great motivator of the cadets and enables them to form a closer bond with each other, as well as being a little more understanding of each other,” Lt Brad Barrett said. “It also gives them some insight into the need for these services for all West Australians.”

Upon arrival in Kalgoorlie, the cadets received a tour of the RFDS facilities and a morning tea provided by the Eastern Goldfields RFDS Auxiliary. The RFDS is providing aero medical and primary health care services to more people in need each year, and the support of groups such as the TS Perth Navy Cadets is invaluable.

In the past year the RFDS flew over 9,000 sick and injured patients by air across WA for treatment, and received over 41,000 calls for medical assistance and advice. Pilots flew over eight million kilometres and made almost 19,000 landings – at times on dirt airstrips or closed highways. This year, the RFDS in WA is celebrating 80 years of service.

ENDS

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