



Media Release

Wednesday 17 October, 2018

### **Royal couple reveal name of the Flying Doctor's new plane**

The Royal Flying Doctor Service was proud to host the Duke and Duchess of Sussex for the dedication of a new aircraft at its Dubbo Base today.

Prince Harry and his wife Meghan were officially welcomed to the base by RFDS South Eastern Section President Ruth Sandow soon after they arrived in Dubbo this morning.

"It was an honour to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Sussex to our Dubbo Base today," Mrs Sandow said. "As part of their visit, Their Royal Highnesses dedicated the new RFDS aircraft, a Beechcraft King Air 350 which arrived in Australia in September."

"It was a very exciting morning. After meeting RFDS staff, families, and former patients, the Royal couple pulled the curtain to reveal the name of the new aircraft, which will be known as the 'Dubbo and Region Volunteers dedicated by TRH The Duke and Duchess of Sussex.'"

Their Royal Highnesses also cut a cake to celebrate the RFDS' 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and were shown around the base by Chief Medical Officer Dr Randall Greenberg.

"The Flying Doctor has a long and rich heritage with the Royal family - the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh visited our Broken Hill base in 1954, and a year later Royal patronage was bestowed on the Service renaming it the Royal Flying Doctor Service," Dr Greenberg said.

"Their Royal Highnesses Harry and Meghan represent the next generation of the Royal family so it was immensely important for us to have them visit the Dubbo Base and see the modern face of the RFDS today."

**Media contact:** Kell McGregor 0407 583 854, or Kate Minogue 0436 622 802

**Photos are available here:** <https://bit.ly/2Ezv9aW>

Photo credit: Penny Bradfield/Auspic/DPS.

#### **ABOUT THE ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE:**

The not-for-profit Royal Flying Doctor Service has been taking the finest healthcare to the furthest corners of Australia since 1928. It provides primary healthcare and 24-hour emergency cover to 90 per cent of the Australian continent, via a modern fleet of specially equipped aircraft.