

Media Release

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Royal Flying Doctors launches new 'Flying Doctor Kids Club'

The Royal Flying Doctor Service has launched a traditional Kids Club to connect children with this iconic Australian organisation that has been providing primary health care and 24-hour emergency services across Australia since 1928. This free to join postal club will feature birthday greetings, regular newsletters and activities to provide children with an insight into the important work that the Flying Doctors does throughout Australia.

Children aged between 5 – 12 years old are invited to join, with all registrations before 24th March putting them in the draw to win an iPad and a Pilots pack. Members of the Flying Doctor Kids Club will receive annual birthday and Christmas cards from mascot Flynn the Flyer, and regular newsletters featuring history, health and geography brain teasers, fun facts and a chance to learn about Aussie kids in remote communities.

Launched on Australia Day at Victoria's Government House, the Flying Doctor Kids Club has re-established the time honoured tradition of receiving communications in the mail – a legacy which many parents and grandparents recall with affection.

"In an era of digital technology, it's refreshing to show kids that traditional communications is still valued – and children really do love receiving personal letters in the post," said Royal Flying Doctor Service Victoria section Chief Executive Scott Chapman.

"We know from our Look Up in the Sky! education program in Victoria that children are also incredibly curious and inspired by information about other kids throughout Australia, and how the Flying Doctors helps them learn about Australia's history and geography. We want to help parents continue to nurture their children's interest."

Mr Chapman added that plane travel and outback imagery is an exciting prospect for children, and the Flying Doctors is passionate about connecting rural and urban families through the free Kids Club.

The Flying Doctors has been once again been voted as Australia's most reputable charity for five years in a row and has been providing aero-medical assistance and primary health care services since 1928. RFDS Victoria delivers air and road patient transport, primary health care programs such as diabetes, mobile eye and dental care and rural women's GP services, as well as raising funds for emergency retrieval across Australia.



Today the RFDS comes into contact with over 292,000 patients annually, or more than 800 every day, performs around 37,000 aeromedical evacuations and conducts about 15,000 healthcare clinics per year.

To join the Royal Flying Doctor Service Kids Club <u>www.flyingdoctor.org.au/vic/flying-doctor-kids-club/</u> or email<u>flynntheflyer@rfdsvic.com.au</u> to request a registration form

THE FLYING DOCTOR KIDS CLUB FEATURES INCLUDE:

- A certificate of membership for all members to show their friends
- Annual birthday and Christmas cards in the mail from Flynn the Flyer
- Regular newsletters in the mail featuring fun facts, activities and updates
- A chance to win an iPad and Pilots Pack for one lucky winner who joins before 24 March 2016
- Membership is open to children 5 -12 years old living in Australia
- To join the Royal Flying Doctor Service Kids Club go to <u>www.flyingdoctor.org.au/vic</u>

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