

MEDIA RELEASE

RFDS to benefit from the 2017 Gibb Challenge

20 May, 2016

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) have been announced as the primary beneficiary for the annual Gibb Challenge, a 700 kilometre team relay event in WA's north, for 2017.

The Challenge takes teams of 2-6 riders on a life defining adventure from the deep port Kimberley town of Derby to the world acclaimed million acres El Questro Wilderness Park, with the RFDS having a dedicated team in the event for the past four years.

RFDS Executive General Manager Corporate Affairs, Nick Harvey said "As the primary beneficiary in 2013 and 2014, the RFDS in WA has received over \$800,000 from the efforts and generosity of the Gibb Challenge competitors.

"We are once again honoured to be the primary beneficiary in 2017.

"These vital funds enable us to be there when we're needed, no matter where that may be across our vast state, and to continue to provide life saving outcomes for our patients."

The RFDS continues to lead, innovate and build the capability of its services, ensuring that we can meet the continuously changing demand.

"The Flying Doctor provides 24/7 emergency retrieval services right across Western Australia, last year we retrieved over 1,500 patients from the Kimberley region alone," Mr Harvey said.

"Support from the community and from events such as the Gibb Challenge are crucial in ensuring we can continue to deliver these services whenever and wherever required."

The RFDS provides emergency care, lifesaving outcomes, and health treatment and advice to almost 70,000 people in Western Australia every year and has done now in WA for over 80 years. To donate to the RFDS call 1300 669 569 or visit <u>www.flyingdoctor.org.au</u>.

ENDS

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