



RFDS Friends in The United Kingdom  
**Platinum Outback Friends Programme**



# Our Mission

To provide excellence in aeromedical and primary health care across Australia.

## OUR VALUES

### Dedication

Our people are dedicated and passionate about bringing first class health and emergency services to people in the bush. We are very much part of the communities we serve.

### Integrity

The challenges of health access outside Australia's cities make the Flying Doctor's Service vital to those who live, work and travel in rural and remote Australia. Our job is about doing all we can to improve health outcomes and save lives.

### Innovation

Operating across vast distances, harsh landscapes, and in far from ideal conditions, necessitates resilience, resourcefulness, innovation and a continual striving for excellence.

7.7 million square kilometres



Size comparison



# The Royal Flying Doctor Service has been providing medical services to country Australia since 1928.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) is Australia's most highly regarded and trusted health service for those living, working and travelling in rural and remote Australia. In addition to providing aeromedical emergency and primary health care services, the RFDS also plays a vital role in the provision of dental services, mental health services and non-emergency patient road transportation. In recent times it has provided testing and respiratory clinics for COVID-19 and COVID-19 vaccination clinics in remote communities.

The services of the RFDS expand as needs change in the bush, with stroke assessment and rehabilitation, allied health services and more on the horizon. While our range of services is enormous, it is equalled by the vast physical area that we deliver those services to, a landmass of 7.69 million km<sup>2</sup>. The RFDS is found in every part of the country, from arid deserts to snowy plateaus, from tropical forests to remote mining communities and outback stations.

To deliver our services across such vast distances, we are organised into six Operational Sections across Australia, each with its own bases, fleet of aircraft and road vehicles. And at 1,600+ people we are a significant employer, bringing together a team of efficient, professional and compassionate individuals.



# A letter from the Chair

Dear Supporter,

The Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS) is an iconic Australian organisation that provides essential medical services including emergency evacuations to Australians living and working in the outback and rural Australia. **The services provided by the RFDS are truly life-saving and are critical in reducing the disparity of health outcomes for the most isolated Australians.**

The ability of the RFDS to provide these much-needed services is dependent on the generous support of donors willing to support fellow Australians in need.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, Friends in the UK (“RFDS Friends in the UK”) was established as a UK registered charity to enable Australians and other supporters based in the UK to support the valuable work of the RFDS. The UK charity is an entirely volunteer-led charity with minimal overheads meaning that the vast bulk of any donations made to the RFDS Friends in the UK are remitted to the RFDS. Being a UK charity allows those who are UK taxpayers to make tax-efficient donations to the RFDS.

The RFDS Friends in the UK have recently established a major donors programme, the Outback Friends Programme. We are asking Australians and other RFDS supporters in the UK to consider providing financial support through the RFDS Friends in the UK. This will ensure that the RFDS can continue to provide its services to remote Australians and transform the

medical services received and the lives of those people.

A key part of the Outback Friends Programme is the **Platinum Outback Friends** which is targeted at a select group of our biggest donors in the UK. The benchmark gift we are seeking from Platinum Outback Friends is a donation of £5,000 or more a year.

This document sets out several key elements of the Platinum Outback Friends programme and how supporters can contribute and what difference any donation can make.

The full amount of any donation in the Platinum Outback Friends programme will be remitted to the RFDS either to support the general service needs of the RFDS or to purchase specific items/services without any deduction by the RFDS Friends in the UK.

Becoming a Platinum Outback Friend and working with the RFDS Friends in the UK can provide a meaningful way for you to give back to Australia and provide

a significant legacy. It enables donors to connect with like-minded supporters of this fantastic service and ensure it continues well into the future.

We are happy to meet to discuss any questions you may have on the RFDS and the ways you can provide support. As always, we are tremendously grateful for the support we receive from our donors who make this all possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

**Peter Box**

Chair, RFDS Friends in the UK



**“Your support will help ensure that the RFDS can continue to provide its services to remote Australians and transform the medical services received and the lives of those people.”**

# An opportunity to make a difference

Australians in the UK may be a long way physically from home, something that has been brought into focus by the COVID-19 pandemic, but we are all grateful to the country that gave us so many opportunities and opened avenues to enable us to achieve great things all around the world.



Royal Flying Doctor Service Friends in the UK

The Platinum Outback Friends programme is a way that we can give back to Australia and some of those who live the most quintessential Australian life in outback and rural Australia.

Remote Australians are grateful and appreciate the generous and selfless support of all those who may never need the services of the RFDS but in any event give so generously.



## RFDS Friends in the UK is a registered UK Charity

As a UK taxpayer, you can make the donation to the RFDS through our UK registered charity which provides both you and the RFDS with certain advantages. In particular, your donation can be made with the benefit of gift aid to the RFDS and you can also use a charities aid foundation account to make a tax-effective donation.



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

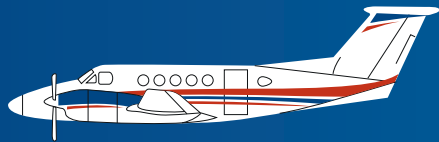
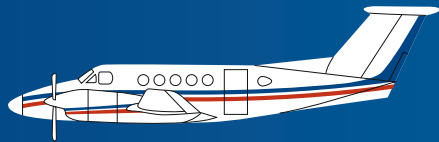
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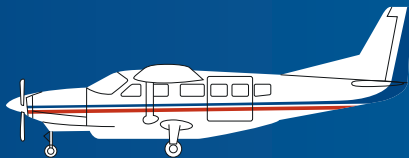
# 79 Aircraft and 180 road service vehicles

Beechcraft King Air

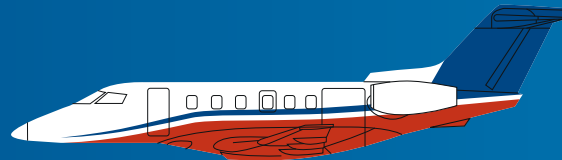
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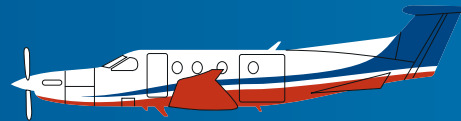
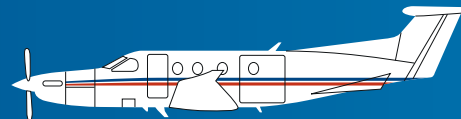
Cessna C208



Pilatus PC-24



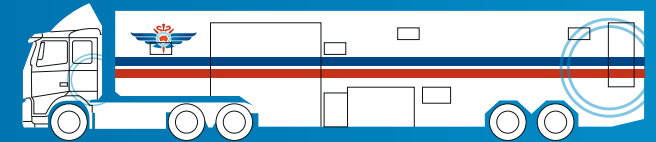
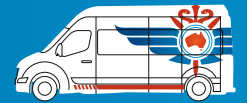
Pilatus PC-12



Road transport

Dental/oral health

Eye care



# What your gifts can support

Giving as a Platinum Outback Friend gives you a deeper connection and ensures your generosity is directly helping the RFDS to carry out its services in remote outback areas across Australia. The entire amount of any donation made through the Platinum Outback Friends programme will be remitted to the RFDS Federation Office with no deductions made by the RFDS Friends in the UK.

The amount donated will be divided equally between six operating sections (Western Operations, Central Operations, Queensland, South Eastern, Victoria and Tasmania). If your gift is over \$20,000 AUD you can nominate that the donation is given to a specific geographic operating section of the RFDS and/or to support

specific organisational programmes and activities, as agreed with the relevant operating section.

We are happy to discuss ways of giving and to connect you with the relevant RFDS personnel in Australia to answer specific questions on what your gift can support.



## Some examples of what your gift might support

### Provide life-saving medical equipment



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## \$41,000

This money could provide a Zoll monitor, used during resuscitation, defibrillation and pacing a slow heartbeat.

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## \$60,000

This is the cost of a foetal heart monitor – a portable ultrasound device, enabling our flying doctors to check the foetal heart rate during transportation, to determine the wellbeing of an unborn child.



# Some examples of what your gift might support

## Maintaining RFDS Aviation Operations



**\$21,500**

This money could help support digital airfields for our Flight Training Device so our pilots can practice safe take-offs and landings at remote locations across our service footprint.

## Keeping RFDS bases and clinics active



**\$120,000**

This money supplies Medical Telehealth equipment for our remote clinics. Telehealth uses specially developed technology so that patients can consult with doctors through video.

**\$355,000**

This money maintains the regulatory transmission for our fleet of aircraft.



**\$285,000**

This money could keep an aeromedical base supplied with medical equipment for a year.



# How we recognise our Platinum Outback Friends

We wish to develop meaningful ways to recognise our Platinum Outback Friends significant contributions to the RFDS.

Our Platinum Outback Friends will be:

- > Recognised on our website and in our Gala Dinner booklet unless you wish to remain anonymous
- > Invited to exclusive events with other Platinum Friends including priority invitations to events with our Patron HRH the Prince of Wales, occasional get togethers of the Platinum Outback Friends and exclusive small events with visiting dignitaries and RFDS personnel. This will enable you to connect with our cause and celebrate the success of your gifts together
- > Updated on the work of the RFDS and we will share with you the impact of donations from our Platinum Outback Friends
- > Able to receive updates on the impact of donations from the Platinum Outback Friends from all or any of the RFDS operating sections in Australia (as selected by you)

The RFDS in Australia will also provide you with the opportunity to join the RFDS team on a private base tour at any one of their aeromedical bases when you are next in Australia. This will include a “behind the scenes” tour of their hangars, medical areas, training facilities and the opportunity to meet doctors, pilots, nurses, and engineers delivering on the mission of the RFDS.

**Your support is truly valued, and we want you to understand the impact your generous gift has on the lives of some of the most isolated Australians.**



# Leaving a Gift in your Will

Your legacy can make a lifesaving impact on the lives of men, women and children living, working, or travelling in outback Australia for generations to come. No matter the size, your gift can help RFDS purchase vital medical equipment, keep our teams flying, and provide essential health services to communities with limited access.

A gift in your Will can help prevent a momentary crisis from becoming a tragedy for an outback family in need. To assist you with your estate planning, we encourage you to seek professional legal advice to ensure that your intentions are made clear and that you choose a gift that best suits your needs in your estate planning.

As a Friends in the UK donor, it is also important to consider if you would prefer your gift to benefit one section of the RFDS or to be distributed across the services Australia-wide. The Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia is a federated charity and ensuring you have the correct legal name of the charity or section, their Australian Business Number, and contact details in the wording of your estate planning will help your gift make the impact you intend it to have.

You can leave a gift in your Will to support the RFDS. Your gift can be made to either the RFDS directly or to the RFDS Friends in the UK as is the most effective for you. You can discuss the ways of giving with the RFDS Friends in the UK and checking the information on bequests on the website: [www.flyingdoctor.org.au/support-us/leave-bequest/](http://www.flyingdoctor.org.au/support-us/leave-bequest/)

**“A gift in your Will can help prevent a momentary crisis from becoming a tragedy for an outback family in need.”**



# Flightpaths

With the responsibility of providing medical emergency and primary health care services to Australia's remote and very remote areas, the Royal Flying Doctor Service has established flight paths that reach the continent.

No matter where you are located, the Flying Doctor can get help to you within hours.



The RFDS flew **27,250,793** km in the last year – equivalent to 34 trips to the moon and back, to deliver vital health services.



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## Further enquiries>

For more information on how you can get involved,  
please contact:

> **Peter Box**

Chair  
RFDS Friends in the UK  
Tel: 07785 257186  
peter.j.box@hotmail.co.uk

> **David Nelligan**

Trustee  
RFDS Friends in the UK  
Tel: 07768 275646  
davidnelligan@btinternet.com

DISCLAIMER: The information in this publication is current at the date of printing and is subject to change.

The RFDS Friends in the UK assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information provided by third parties.

Details on how the RFDS UK Friends makes use of your personal data and protects your privacy can be found at [www.royalflyingdoctor.org.uk](http://www.royalflyingdoctor.org.uk)

The Royal Flying Doctors Service of Australia, Friends in the United Kingdom is a charity registered in England No 1101004



Royal Flying Doctor Service