

COT RECCE

PREVIEWING AUSTRALIA'S GREATEST RALLY EXPERIENCE



18-24 JUNE 2016

NEWS FROM THE EVENT DIRECTOR, PHILIP BERNADOU



I have never got tired of stepping into Alice Springs. Each trip supports and justifies my decision to conduct the Classic Outback Trial there this June. The weather, the people and the stunning scenery - I trust that everyone who is taking part in the event feels the same way about it as I do.

It still looks like the biggest COT yet with 60 entries and traditionally these have a service crew. This means 120 crew members, 150 service crew members plus our 60 officials = 330 plus and given all the reports, many relations and friends are taking the opportunity to visit the Red Centre. Given that most will have a stay of

10-12 days/nights this is a substantial economic contribution of around \$1M to the Alice Springs community.

Yes the rains have caused some more "Cares" and "Cautions" but overall its looking good. It is very much typical Northern Territory rugged rocky terrain that will reward the team who can read the road in a well prepared vehicle. Remember this is not a pacenoted event so blind crests and the rocky sides of the tracks will hurt if taken with aggression. Tyres will suffer if too much power is used on the rocky surfaces.

We have uploaded a GoPro video on our YouTube channel taken a few

weeks back that shows the different surfaces on just one 40km stage.

We will be producing a detailed servicing run sheet over the next few weeks to assist in the scheduling of fuel requirements. - (this is Bulletin 1 due to be published on 1 May - see below).

Several meetings were conducted with Council, Motor Registration, Lasseters, Police, Tourism and Correctional Services. Each of these departments has been instrumental in assisting with the running of the event.

I'm really pleased with the way the event is shaping up. We're all going to have great fun!

JUNE 2016 EVENT CALENDAR

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24

16 Crews and officials arrive.

17 Documentation and scrutiny.

18 Documentation and scrutiny continues; prologue close to Alice Springs (to assist with determining the start order); and welcome function for all participants.

19-24 Classic Outback Trail rally.

24 Presentation dinner function.

CLASSIC OUTBACK TRIAL 2016 TELEVISION PACKAGE SECURED...



Over the past 12 months we have been negotiating to obtain a television package for this year's event.

With the great assistance of the Northern Territory Major Events, Festivals NT and Tourism NT we are delighted to announce that we will be producing a:

- 45 minute free to air package on 7 Mate
- 1 hour package for Foxtel
- 1 hour package for Sky International

The production is being produced by the Western Australia company Sports Action Media. They will have a 3 camera crew covering all the action plus the tourism aspects of the event including: Overseas competitors, Documentation, Scrutiny, Prologue, In car action, Ceremonial start and finish, the Presentation, and out of the way tourism destinations that we visit for our lunch breaks: Gemtree, Ross River Homestead, Old Ambalindum Homestead.



SCRUTINY...

Scrutiny on the Friday and Saturday will now be conducted at Lasseters keeping documentation and scrutiny all at the same location. Documentation must be carried out before scrutiny and a time to report to scrutiny will be issued when documentation is completed.



MERCHANDISE...

As in previous years we'll continue to produce polos and caps for the event. Alice Springs weather in June can provide crisp mornings and evenings so we've included a jacket to the production line. Look out for the order form on our [website](#), available in a couple of weeks.

Due to the success of the 2014 COT commemorative book we will create another for 2016. The creative planning has begun and it's going to be huge. Again we'll keep you informed on how to procure your copy.



18-24 JUNE 2016



INTERNATIONALS...

All the containers containing the 5 cars are on the water. The amount of equipment that is accompanying the cars is massive. They are taking this event very seriously. It will be fantastic to have an increased international flavour to this year's event.

TRANSPORT OF VEHICLES TO AND FROM ALICE SPRINGS...

We have received many enquiries regarding transport of vehicles and spares to the Alice and have been investigating various transport methods. Our agent in Alice Springs, Sidelifter Haulage, who is handling all of the international containers has offered getting 40ft containers on rail from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane to Alice Springs and return. From initial enquiries the costs would be:

- Melbourne to Alice Springs and return 40' cont \$5,500.00 +
- Sydney to Alice Springs and return 40' cont \$5,720.00 +
- Brisbane to Alice Springs and return 40' cont \$6,950.00 +

Includes handling units in Asp and unit hire for 8 weeks. It could be a very inexpensive alternative to the long drive, accommodation, meals, fuel and the added wear and tear on the tow vehicle. The containers could be delivered to your door for packing. It would need to allow around 7 to 10 days from Melbourne to Alice. Please send me an email if you consider this avenue is worth pursuing.



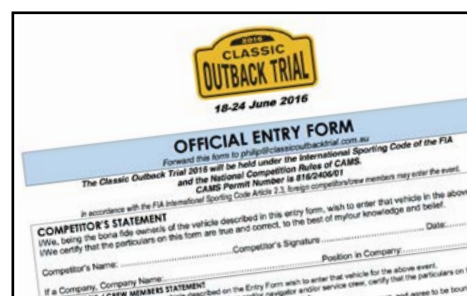
RB SELLARS
OUTBACK TO OCEAN

VEHICLE RENTALS...

Central Care Rentals have increased their fleet. There are several new 4WDs available but don't leave it too long before securing any extra vehicles. Central Car Rentals are the only company that offer unlimited kilometres and allow the vehicles to be driven off road. All their information is available on our [website](#).

RB SELLARS...

Travelling around the vast stations that the event passes through we have noticed that the work wear worn by the property owners has the [RB Sellars](#) logo. We have been purchasing their shirts and slacks for several events and they are now supporting the event keeping us looking the part.



ENTRY FORMS AND VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION AND SPECIFICATION FORMS (VISS)...

We have been receiving a steady flow of entry forms, and VISS, however with less than 2 months to go, there are still a lot outstanding. If you haven't downloaded them as yet go to:

<https://classicoutbacktrial.com.au/competitors/docs-and-forms/>

GUIDE TO THE EVENT

A comprehensive Guide to the Event is being planned for issue early May. This will cover many who, where and when issues.

INSIDER GUIDE...

Thanks to the great effort of Steve Hollowood, the Insider Guide is being continually updated with all sorts of useful information including, accommodation specials and discounted tours. Check it out at: <https://classicoutbacktrial.com.au/cot-insider-guide/>

UNREGISTERED VEHICLE PERMITS...

There are a number of vehicles entered that are unregistered and we have arranged with the great

assistance of the NT Motor Vehicle Registration Branch to supply temporary permits to allow them to legally travel on the NT roads. The permits will be issued as soon as the vehicle has passed our rigorous safety check by our chief scrutineer Graeme Palmer. The permits will last for the duration of the event, expiring on the night of Friday 24th June. Please contact me if you will require a permit and will arrange a suitable time to get the vehicle inspected.

TRIPS TO THE LUNCH BREAKS...

Each day the main service and lunch breaks are at a location that has food and other interesting local attractions available. If your family and friends are in the Alice and would like to visit these

locations, we are considering hiring buses on each of the days, however, we have not had a great response and this is your last chance to take advantage. These include:

- Ross River Resort
- Old Ambalindum Homestead
- Gemtree
- The Off Road Club
- Maryvale

I appreciate that with 2 months to go it is difficult to try and consider what you will be doing, but, if the interest is there we will organise the trips with a local company. If you're interested visit: <https://classicoutbacktrial.com.au/2016/03/28/classic-outback-trial-coach-tours-are-you-interested/>



LASSETERS...

For those staying at Lasseters, they are offering full breakfasts at \$20. To take advantage of this offer just send an email and register this against your room booking.

Secure parking, we are offering lock up undercover parking for the 8 nights (ie: Friday 17th to Friday 24th June inclusive) of the event at Lasseters for \$250 for the period. We can only accommodate 35 cars so first in...if interested send me an [email](#) confirming your interest.