

# BIRDSVILLE RACES TICKETS SELL OUT IN RECORD TIME

The entire 4500 ticket allocation to this year's iconic Birdsville Races has sold out in record time. The tickets, which for the first time in the event's 139-year history, went on sale online at 9am on Wednesday 26 May and by day's end were gone. Vice-President of the Birdsville Race Club Gary Brook said of the unprecedented record, "The horse has well and truly bolted on this one. We were expecting demand to be high, but never in our wildest dreams did we expect tickets to sell this fast. I was then watching the figures rise in thousand increments over the next few minutes. Never

in the history of the event have we had such an overwhelming response."

The boom in domestic travel as a result of the pandemic shutting interstate borders has helped drive demand for the 2021 event.

"We hope to release more tickets closer to the event in future. Those who missed out on this first early rush on tickets should register for updates via the 'Buy Tickets' link on our website and follow our Facebook page for further updates. We need to re-group and take further advice on the most up to date COVID-19 event rules over the coming month," stated Brook.

The historic races attract horses and trainers from all over Australia, including Darwin and the Sunshine Coast. This year, the event will continue to support the Royal Flying Doctor Service through its six kilometre fun run. Other highlights include cocktail parties, live music, Fashion on the Field, and Fred Brophy's travelling boxing troupe. The Birdsville Races will be held Friday 3 September and Saturday 4 September 2021.

More info: [birdsvilleraces.com](http://birdsvilleraces.com)



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP** The event is now in its 139th year; People come from far and wide to experience the event firsthand; Birdsville has stunning scenery



# DOMETIC ACQUIRES FRONT RUNNER



In a move that will strengthen Dometic's product offering and distribution network around the world, the company has entered into an agreement to acquire Front Runner Vehicle Outfitters.

Front Runner provides vehicle specific hardware for most four-wheel-drives and the company saw net sales last year of approximately \$35 million USD, which will see Dometic's earnings per share (EPS) soar.

"This is our fourth announced acquisition this year and our pipeline of potential future acquisitions remains strong," said Juan Vargues, President and CEO of Dometic.

The privately owned South African company has approximately 320 full-time employees with headquarters and manufacturing near Johannesburg and these employees will maintain their positions as the acquisition is finalised.

Closing is expected to take place during the third quarter of 2021.

## EMBRACE YOUR DARK SIDE WITH ATX ONYX

The ATX Premium All-Terrain Suspension is now available in the classic 'Doe Skin' or the all new second colour option, 'Onyx'.

With the same price, features and performance, the new look now offers buyers another option for suspension to go under a caravan or luxury camper trailer.

The new look was shown firsthand at the Queensland Caravan and Camping Supershow, held at Brisbane Showgrounds from 2-7 June 2021.

The 'Doe Skin' and 'Onyx' colour range is only available on the Cruisemaster ATX systems.



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# NEW QUANTUM PHYSICS WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM



Australian company The Thirsty Nomad has designed a water purifier that uses quantum physics to destroy 99.9 per cent of bacteria and viruses in water including E. coli – a first for the Australian caravan market.

According to the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, there should be no E. coli in healthy drinking water and despite the specification of 0 colony-forming units (cfu) of E. coli in 100ML of water, existing filters on the market currently have no scientifically proven method to ensure this.

The Thirsty Nomad Founder and Executive Director Tory Shenstone said there is a lack

of understanding in the caravan sector about microbiologically safe water.

“We could see that caravanners, such as retirees with compromised immune systems and young families, were being left vulnerable to harmful pathogens in water by filters that only did half the job.”

Unlike most filters on the market, which comprise of loose granular-activated carbon filters, the Thirsty Nomad uses Quantum Disinfection™, a patented technology that requires no chemicals or power.

The ceramic-based filter destroys bacteria using nanoparticles, which facilitate a dense

electron exchange – with the result being water with no heavy metals, viruses or bacteria.

The technology has been tested by NATA-accredited independent laboratory Symbio Laboratories and has been eight years in the making, and while at the higher end of the water filter sector, the Thirsty Nomad said the technology offers durability, strength, quality, and longevity.

Prices start at \$130 and more information about the technology can be found at [thirstynomad.com.au](http://thirstynomad.com.au).

# IMMERSIVE VIRTUAL TOUR COMING TO THE FLINDERS RANGES

Still in its initial stages with two years to go, a new virtual reality project is coming to the Flinders Ranges that will allow virtual tourists to be ‘teleported’ into the deep past.

UNISA geologist Tom Raimondo has been virtually documenting the geoscientific significance of the 600-million-year-old landscape in support of the South Australian government’s bid for world heritage status.

Once completed, the 360-degree tour will take viewers on a journey through time and illustrate why the landscape has captured the world’s attention – not only for scientific reasons, but also for its rich Indigenous and mining heritage.

Phase One of the project was funded by private donations and the Project LIVE team is actively seeking further support from stakeholders across the environmental, mining, tourism, and heritage sectors to expand to Phase Two.

According to Associate Professor Raimondo, the tour will showcase the diversity of the Flinders Ranges.

“It’s the best place in the world to witness the rise of animal life on Earth, preserved as the Ediacaran fossils that were first discovered by Reg Sprigg in 1946 and are now our state fossil emblem,” he said.

“The story of life began in the Flinders



Ranges, and its rocks are like the pages of history for us to read.”

The tour will be created using 3D fly-throughs that will give viewers a birds-eye view of the landscape, allowing them to discover how Ikara (Wilpena Pound) was formed, how a giant asteroid slammed into South Australia some 580 million years ago leaving the crater at Lake Acraman, and even showing how the Earth went into a deep freeze and how glaciers slowly took shape.

The tour will be separated into themes, such as documenting the fossil geothermal site at Arkaroola, exploring the region’s mining history, as well as the economic boom that copper brought to South Australia.

The area has been named by Sir David Attenborough as one of his favourite places on Earth and the virtual tour could see the Flinders Ranges open to a global audience. [f](#)

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