

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
Monday 18 March 2019

## **RACING TOWARDS HISTORY MAKING EVENT**

80 Days out, entry lists and interest continue to grow at an exponential rate for Australia's Ultimate Desert Race, the *Tatts Finke Desert Race*.

Event organisers saw an overwhelming surge of interest for the 150 car places, with 110 entries received within the first 20 minutes of opening and the remainder selling out by the end of the day. Those who missed out have gone onto a waitlist which is a first for the event in the 31 years that cars have been competing.

There are currently 15 competitor hopefuls on the waitlist and to accommodate all that interest, event organisers have made the decision to increase car capacity entries to **165 places**. There will be no further increase.

To say this decision is huge for the Finke Desert Race Club would be an understatement, with the largest ever field of competitors across both bike and car events; all wanting to be a part of the gruelling outback challenge.

Those on the waitlist vary across all classes, including four from the Pro/Lite Class, 8 from the ever-popular Ultra Terrain Vehicle (UTV or more commonly referred to as Side by Side) Class, and of course, the formidable Toby Price, 6-time winner and reigning Finke King of the Desert and Dakar Winner. On the day of entries opening, Price faltered on the start and left it too late to be in the initial confirmed 150 competitors.

With all those on the previous car waitlist now confirmed as gaining a start, there may be a few hopefuls that will try a chance at the new waitlist; where a competitor drops out before entries close, their position will be taken by the next on the list.

The line-up of car entrants is one for any off-road motor sport fiend, with every car winner from the past 20 years, registered to race Finke '19. Seven drivers hold the 20 crowns include Mark Burrows, Dave Fellows, Shannon Rentsch, Hayden Bentley, Greg Gartner, Brad Gallard and Glen Owen. They represent the very best in off road racing.

The bike section has a maximum of 650 places with currently 733 vying to compete. The 83 on the waitlist will be sweating on riders withdrawing their entry before the close of entries in May.

The 2019 Tatts Finke Desert Race will be held in Alice Springs on the Queens Birthday weekend from 6-10 June 2019.

- ENDS -

*For more information, please contact*  
**Finke Desert Race Inc**  
E: [admin@finkedesertrace.com.au](mailto:admin@finkedesertrace.com.au)  
p. (08) 8952 8886