



MEDIA RELEASE

June 8, 2014

SHANNON AND IAN RENTSCH FIRST ON DAY 1 OF THE 2014 TATTS FINKE DESERT RACE

The son and father combination of Shannon and Ian Rentsch have led the car field into Finke on Day 1 of the 2014 Tatts Finke Desert Race.

The Victorian team in their #1 JIMCO 2010 3500cc Buggy made the 226 kilometre trek to the halfway point in a time of 1 hour 49 minutes and 5 seconds.

The Rentsch team, that were second fastest in yesterday's Prologue to determine today's starting order, are dual Finke champions having won the race in 2005 and 2006.

Second into Finke for the overnight stop was the #91 JIMCO 2013 Buggy 3500cc of South Australians Jack Rhodes and David Pullino in a time of 1 hour 49 minutes and 56 seconds.

Yesterday's fastest combination in prologue, Travis Robinson and Paul Currie from WA in the #13 JIMCO OBR Nissan 3500cc PRO buggy were third fastest with a time of 1 hour 52 minutes and 37 seconds.

The other Robinson team vehicle, the Extreme 2 Wheel Drive #413 Geiser Brothers TT 6000cc machine crewed by Beau Robinson/Ken Skinner was the first Trophy Truck into Finke in a time of 1 hour 53 minutes and 16 seconds in fourth position.

Filling spots five and six respectively was the #3 JIMCO Aussie Special 3500cc of Matt Hanson (Vic) and Leigh Wells (Vic) 1 hour 57 minutes and 28 seconds and the #7 JIMCO Aussie Special 3500cc of Darwin crew Paul Gilbert and Jol Pritchard in a time of 1 hour 58 minutes and 26 seconds.

Billy Geddes from Queensland has achieved a quarter of his unique Finke ambition by finishing 7th in his #441 Geiser Brothers Trophy Truck 6000cc with navigator Jamie Ward.

Geddes was on a helicopter back to the Alice Springs start line immediately after arriving at Finke to mount his KTM bike to do the distance again in his quest to become the first man ever to compete in both cars and bikes at the same event.

His time in the car was 1 hour 58 minutes and 37 seconds.

(Cont.)



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Finishing eighth into Finke were 2011 Tatts Finke Desert Race winners Greg Gartner/Jamie Jennings (SA) in the #410 Ford F150 5800cc machine with a time of 1 hour 58 minutes and 52 seconds.

Last year's Tatts Desert Race winner Hayden Bentley from Port Pirie in SA is reported to have rolled his #2 single seat Racer Buggy some 70 kilometres from Finke, but limped across the line to finish in a time of 3 hours 11 minutes and 27 seconds.

Five time Finke champion David Fellows with navigator Mark Bergamin suffered a broken camshaft in the #92 JIMCO Aussie Special 3500cc.

Last year's (2013) fastest leading time on Day 1 of the event was 1 hour 49 minutes and 48 seconds set by Hayden Bentley.

After camping overnight the car and buggy field will leave Finke tomorrow (Monday June 9) at 7.30am (CST) for the run home to Alice Springs with the first cars expected to arrive at approx. 9.15am.

Full results on the event web site: www.finkedesertrace.com.au

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