



AUSTRALIA'S GREATEST DESERT RACE  
QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 10-13 JUNE 2016

## **FINKE HERO IS "KING" OF THE TRACK**

Glen Auricht named as the 2016 Finke Hero in recognition of outstanding work undertaken by volunteer officials has completed more Finke 'events' than anyone, but in a rather novel way!

Responsible for the maintenance of the actual race track, Glen was a former bike competitor, but now does the distance driving a grader to maintain the famous run from the Alice Springs start to the overnight stop at Finke (Apatula).

"I finished 12 Finke events competing on bikes, and I have done 15 driving the grader", Auricht said in accepting his Finke Hero award last night (9/6/16) at the Finke Family Night held on the lawns at Lasseters Hotel Casino.

"Finke is all about riders and drivers. The officials and volunteers make the event happen, but it's about competing and doing the best you can. Everyone who attempts or attends the race, the committee, officials, and sponsors - they are all winners".

Glen said that since he had taken over management of the course there was about 160 kilometres of new track as compared to when he raced it.

To have an understanding of just how much work and time Glen Auricht puts into the event consider this: He has already been down to Finke along the track sixty to seventy times in the past six or seven months.

Previous recipients of the Finke Hero Award are:

2005 Eileen McRae - 2006 Alan Page - 2007 Gary and Lyn Butterfield - 2008 Jol Fleming -  
2009 Jill Brooks - 2010 Sam Cooke - 2011 Bryan Cartwright - 2012 John Mudge –  
2013 Warwick and Marilyn Barrett - 2014 Sally Preece - 2015 Ingrid and Steve Walton.

Full results and information concerning the 2016 Tatts Finke Desert Race will be on the event web site: [www.finkedesertrace.com.au](http://www.finkedesertrace.com.au)

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