



# District C1 Bulletin

## Rob's Dream



DG Rob Royal

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### DG Report - December

What a way to spend December. On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> of November I travelled to Adelaide from Clare to attend the AGM of the LMRF. What a drive. Driving from Balaklava to Mallala it was hot and the westerly was strong and gusty. It was a recipe for disaster. And that is how it turned out.

It is now nearly 2 weeks since the Pinery Bushfires and darkness caused so much heartache in the lower north region of Balaklava, Mallala, Gawler, Freeling etc.



I took these photos on my return from the meeting early in the afternoon. After going through a small fire on the NEXY, observing a huge amount of activity at the Gawler Aerodrome (water bombers) I ended up, like many others, stopped at Roseworthy as the fire front passed just before the cool change and wind direction change. Things then got even worse.

This fire has been devastating. Two people lost their lives, others badly injured, in excess of 85,000 hectares of prime farm land burnt to the charred top soil, approximately 85 homes lost. Plus farm equipment, out buildings, stock losses etc. Some of the people who got caught up in this tragedy and lost a lot are fellow Lions members. Within a couple of hours of its start, the government had declared an emergency and 3 Recovery Centres were established at Gawler, Balaklava and at Clare.

That was and still is the sad part. Through the fantastic efforts of Lions generally and specifically the Lions Clubs of Gawler, Mallala and Balaklava, a lot of good has been done and these members have been responsible for returning a few smiles to so many who have suffered a lot. They fed the homeless and community support groups with many hundreds of breakfasts, lunches and dinners. While not their allocated role, these Lions also became just good listeners to those in need. These chats were as important as the distribution of emergency packs. These packs were made up of food and necessities of life including basic stuff like tooth brushes, combs, soap and shampoo. This support started within hours



International President, Jitsuhiro Yamada

of the fire being declared an emergency by the government and the request to deploy support services.

What was so fantastic about this support is that much if not most of the food used and emergency supplies given out were donated by members of the local community. Many businesses donated food for the Lions BBQs. Members of the public brought in the food and also emergency supplies. While not a Government designated Recovery Centre, the Mallala Lions, while still feeding the CFS, and many who just dropped in, they also became a community drop off and distribution point for many goods that flooded in from members of the community. These supplies came from not just the local communities, they have come from around Australia. I took a call from WA, 7 quilts were sent free of charge by Toll from a woman at Esperance in WA who wanted to help the victims. There have been cash collection drives in the hinterland of the Gold Coast and elsewhere in this country. The support has been amazing. I think I have received both calls and emails from most District Governors around the country. So much clothing and general supplies arrived at all locations, especially Mallala. Their club rooms and their veranda was packed with donated goods.

And Lions is not an official collection/distribution organisation in the government Disaster Management Plan. (I think the community knows something the government may have missed!!) The pictures tell a story of incredible community support through both individuals and businesses in the local community.

Over the last week, the Gawler, Mallala and Balaklava Lions clubs with the support of the District Emergency support team, have taken and processed many registrations for Emergency assistance and continued monitoring the need for food support at each of the sites. These services are have now been closed. This situation however is still being monitored by the Lions Disaster Relief Sub Committee. Local Club Presidents were informed that over \$200,000 of ALF Emergency grants were approved by the ALF and those funds have now been distributed through those clubs. This sum is expected to get close to \$250,000 early this week as a few more applications are processed. When you also add an already approved \$50,000 in ALF Community Disaster Recovery grants this a fantastic effort by all Lions Clubs, not just in Sth Aust. but Australia wide. Only a day before writing this article, the District Disaster Coordinator, Sandy Royal, took a call from Ian Rodgers, the Secretary of the Cummins Lions Club. They are organising a group to come over to help with Blaze Aid and help with tree felling, fence replacement etc. How fantastic. The list goes on.

By the time this is tragedy is over, Lions will have reinvested into this community approximately \$350,000. Add to that the catering effort, the emergency food distribution, the many, many days of volunteer efforts providing these services etc. Now that is a story we as Lions can be very proud of.

I thank all involved for your generosity in both substance and time. It's a credit to all Lions and the Community in general. It truly does make you proud to be a Lion. And if you need proof to support the saying "We Serve", you need to go no further than our response to the Pinery Bushfires.

If anyone still wants to help out, cash donations can go to the Australian Lions Foundation (ALF) through your local Lions Club or direct to the Lions District 201C1, Cabinet Treasurer, PO Box55, Lyndoch, SA 5351, marked for ALF Pinery Bushfire Appeal.

Again my thanks to all who have contributed in some way or another, whether a little or a lot. Specific thanks to Kossie Chegwyn and Kevin Bubner (Balaklava), David Schwartz, Bob Green (Gawler) and Kym Taylor and Brendon Bell (Mallala). The two Zone Chairman Phil Bowman and Pat Williams must also be thanked. To the District ALF Coordinator Yvonne Bradford, a great effort along with our ALF Trustees who were kept busy processing these applications. Thanks to Glenn and Ian from the ALF. Also my sincere thanks to Sandy as the District Disaster Coordinator. I realize it smacks of nepotism, however I think Sandy has done a great job working with the Lions at the coal face during this incredible two week period.

Once we all have a chance to recover somewhat and to take a few breaths, I will be calling a meeting of the Pinery Bushfire Disaster Committee and key Lions from the core Lions Clubs involved to review the whole event and how we performed including what worked well and maybe what did not work so well. The results of that review will be distributed within Lions to ensure we can improve our responses to such events and it will also be used to make comment/recommendations to government on how better the process can be managed.

One of the things I learnt from this exercise was how well equipped the Mallala Lions were regarding their BBQ Trailer. This is not a simple 6x4 trailer carrying a BBQ plate. It is a totally self-contained catering trailer. This large tandem trailer had the BBQ plates, slide out sinks, microwaves, kettle and urns, its own water and power supply (big gen etc. They could feed an army (which they did) and do it with no reliance on any external power or water sources. They developed this in conjunction with the local CFS, and that shows. It even had a radio to communicate with the CFS!

I would like to float the idea of having a number of these units spread through the district such that most areas of the state could be covered by such a trailer within a few hours of it being called in. Why? Because we all know one thing about this great country of ours. The Pinery Bushfires will not be the last, we can count on this occurring again.

Sorry about the novel, but I think the Pinery Bushfire event and the part that Lions have played in helping in the fight against it, and now recovery from it, demanded such a response.

On behalf of Sandy and me, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. And to those so sadly effected by this bushfire, be assured we will try and do our best to assist you in any way we can.

And especially during this so called festive time, please remember to ask our mates and friends, including fellow Lions, "How are you going mate? OK?" And have a chat.

DG Rob



## Tea Tree Gully Lions

Lighthouse Disability who in previous years were known as Leveda assist and look after the needs of Physically Handicapped people, the Parents, and Carers.

We ,the Tea Tree Gully Lions, donate, and cook, Bacon, Eggs, and Pancakes a BBQ breakfast for them, at their annual morning Christmas party held at the Greenwith Community club.

A great time was had by all, and even Father Christmas paid a visit, passing out presents to all the 150 guests.



The "cooks" in the photos are PP John Haddad, PP Lance Hoare, Treasurer, Maurice Stone, and Lion Roger Yates.



## Lions Club of Paralowie Inc

*Cordially invite you to their*

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*It's a celebration of our achievement.*

**27<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**6pm for 6-30pm**

**Slug and Lettuce Hotel, 130 Martins Rd, Parafield Gardens.**

**\$40pp - Semi Formal**

**R.S.V.P. 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

**Lions Club of Paralowie, P.O. Box 157, Salisbury. 5108**

**Drinks on the table [Red & White wine & Soft Drink]**

**Three Course Meal**

Name .....Able to attend ☐ unable to attend ☐

Number Attending ☐ Names.....

Payment : Cheque ☐ money order ☐ direct deposit ☐

Lions Club of Paralowie Inc. Admin account BSB105-056

Account number : 087385440

## Vale

**November 2015**

Elizabeth Playford Inc Mrs Marion Jenkin

Quorn Inc Mrs Caroline Walters



## Congratulations District

### 201-C1

Rated as best District for  
participation in

Lions Biggest BBQ, for 2015

With 31 clubs participating.

**LET'S DO BETTER NEXT YEAR**

PDG John McIntosh.



*Lions of South Tamworth, Tamworth and Australian Lionsonoz planting one of the 17 American Ash Trees in the new Children's playground, as a replacement for the Lions memorial Grove of Trees.*

## **Lions Memorial Grove of Trees Replanted.**

At the Multiple District Convention held in Tamworth in 1991, the 22 District Governors of the day planted a Gum Tree each in a memorial grove on the banks of the Peel River in the Memorial Service as a remembrance to the Lions and members of the Lions family who had passed away in their District over the past year.

The 20 trees that survived had reached 30 or 40 feet high and were thriving in their natural habitat.

Unfortunately the area where the trees were planted was gazetted for the construction of a huge children's play park.

The architects, not being aware of the significance of this grove of trees simply looked on them as trees to be removed.

By the time the decision to remove the trees was brought to our attention it was too late to do anything about it. However following a meeting between the 3 Tamworth Lions Clubs and a representative of Australian Lionsonoz, the Tamworth Regional Council agreed to replant a grove of trees to provide the same significance the original grove held, and reinstall the original plaque, identifying the site.

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2015, 4 Tamworth Lions, 5 South Tamworth Lions, 3 Tamworth Peel Valley Lions and 1 Lion from Australian Lionsonoz cleaned out holes previously dug by an auger and planted the first 17 American Ash, [\*Fraxinus Pennsylvanica\*](#), in the new grove. The remaining 5 trees will be added later.

The type of trees selected were chosen because they give good shade without the danger of falling branches, as Australian Gums are prone to do.

The new grove will enhance the playground area, which is reputed to be one of the best of its kind in the state.

PDG Lion Warren White



## MALLALA & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB NEWS

### The attack of the Pinery fire hand....

Wednesday morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> Nov seemed quite gusty but the temperature was not over warm at a mild 34 degrees. Who would have thought of what was ahead that day.

Around midday the call was made. The Mallala fire siren sounded urgently and the fire trucks and farmer's water units raced down Balaklava Road. Then a second wave of vehicles rushing to the head of the fire. This was not good.

While monitoring the swirling smoke make its way higher and higher into the sky, we somehow knew this was something quite different. The Water planes were circling overhead and dropping their contents then heading away to fill again. The fire seemed to be held for a short time but then kept re-igniting back at Pinery. It was time then to prepare to take precautions. The planes returned three times to offload water at the point of ignition.

Finally with Mallala main street in its path the wind changed ! Mallala was skirted by the fire but the outskirts of town were then in serious danger. The fire was spreading at a rapid rate like a huge hand with fingers outstretched taking on a speed that could not be controlled.

Power was cut and mobile phone lines were for emergency calls only. This was a BAD fire!

With no power and contact it became an urgency to set up assistance at the CFS station with the Mallala Lions Emergency Services Trailer. This was the day Geoff Donlon and his crew were set up for and they answered the call immediately.

All through the night the fire trucks returned for respite at the CFS station, their crew grabbing cold water, sausages and sweet Christmas cake to boost energy. After a quick rinse of their eyes and a medical check by the ambulance crews standing by, back they went to do what they could.

I feel that the blackened hands and faces of the crews and farmers will stay in my memory for the rest of my days. Their eyes had seen so much tragic loss and depredation that it was visible to all and no words were needed. Their bravery that night and the days to come should never be challenged. They did not falter in their attempts.

Thank you to all those that donated food, clothing and furniture for distribution by the Mallala Lion Club. Our Club has worked tirelessly to assist those in need during the days that followed providing trailer meals daily as well as long hours of organisation with distribution.

Marg Slater



*The beginning of the smoke cornering Mallala*



*Geoff Donlon (left) and Neil Slater assisting fires*



*Weary fires taking respite only to head out again*



*Ambulance at the ready*

## **Burnside Lions Club**

### **CAROLS IN THE PARK – 2015**

Between 2,000 and 2,500 brave residents joined us after a sweltering day for what started as a very pleasant evening at Hazelwood Park last Sunday to enjoy again another night of fun, carol singing and entertainment together with many friends. The lower crowd numbers did not deter those who came to enthusiastically sing, and respond to some exceptional guests.

There was very pleasing response to our call to support the Pinery Bushfire victims and together with the support received from local traders, raised over \$1,000 in the small raffle.

The Park looked well thanks to the untiring efforts of the Council staff. The entertainment opened with a medley of songs presented by the Burnside Youth Concert Band – they have come far in their development over the few short years.

Compere, Bruce Raymond, opened the Carols in his usual inimitable style and with his band, Brass FX, The Cantabile Singers and a large contingent of Choirs from Marryatville High School the programme was very professionally done. Soloists, Kirsty Harms and young Nathan Stafford together with the Fringe prize winning acapella group, “The Con Artists” provided icing on the cake.’ The Con Artists,’ were all former members of either the Cantabile Singers and the Marryatville High School Choirs and had performed at our Carols in past years.

Lions worked hard as did our C.F.S. members who ran the BBQ while they were left with some stock. they did make \$1,200 profit from the night which will be well used for their Unit Equipment & Training.

Christmas messages and thanks were given by His Worship, David Parkin, Mayor of Burnside and also President Barry Taylor, Lions Club of Burnside.

The highlight for the young Children was, of course, the arrival of Father Christmas. He had a story to tell and listened to the many requests. His helper, Trevor Jacobs again donated his time to add that special something to the success of our Carols.

My grateful thanks to all of our Lions, Partners and Volunteers for the effort put in over this project.

Special thanks to those on morning shift whose effort in setting up under most trying conditions, made

it bearable for the rest.



*Pres. Barry Taylor ready to sell Programmes and Candles.*



*C.F.S. volunteer*



## Port Augusta News

### Peace Poster- Presentation of Certificate

CARITAS College student Jorjia Foster was named Port Augusta's winner in the Lions Club International Peace Poster contest.

The competition which is held around the world each year has not made an appearance locally for a little while, but President Barry Flynn said he hopes it will become a regular event again.

Each year the contest has a different theme and this year was 'Share Peace'. Jorjia's painting depicted an olive branch being offered around the world by a dove representing her interpretation of the theme. Unfortunately, Jorjia was knocked out of the competition at the regional stage. There were 24 local entries from Caritas College and we hope to get more schools and groups involved next year.

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### For Fun

'Cash, check or charge?' I asked, after folding items the woman wished to purchase. As she fumbled for her wallet, I noticed a remote control for a television set in her purse.

'So, do you always carry your TV remote?' I asked.

'No,' she replied, 'but my husband refused to come shopping with me, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally.'

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### Port Lincoln Lions Club Peace Poster presentation



## Port Lincoln Lions

There have been many service hours put in by Lions in the last 6 months and we have had good attendance at meetings and our events and BBQs have been well supported. Thanks to a bit of effort from the mint Chairman and his distributors with some boxes moved to better sites and attending to them, turn-over seems to be improving. Christmas Cakes are selling (have you got yours yet? And remind friends) with 2 weeks to go.

What an auction! Best ever. Many people saw the work on the day but the weeks of preparation and days of setting up must be noted. A big thank you to all Lions and Lions Ladies who helped. The tea/coffee and cakes did very well as did the BBQ and soft drinks. Rumour has it that some stronger drinks were enjoyed (and well deserved) after the event. Also we can't thank enough Phil Channon and Greg Hughes for their help on the day.

It was a pleasure to meet with Lions Peter Milczarek and Michael Sanders to hand over the funds raised by the quiz night to Bill Whitbread of the RFDS. Unfortunately, Jeff Browne the quiz-master was unable to be there.

Last week I represented the Lions Club in the Australia Day awards selection, and am sure that worthy winners will be announced on Australia Day

Once again we helped out with the BBQ trailer at the carols on the fore-shore with a great attendance of Lions. The SDA Church who were raising money for overseas missions were very appreciative of our help.

After a lot of worry and hours of behind the scenes work, thanks to a grant from the Bendigo Bank, the Hostel fire safety upgrades are done. The cost of this was large and it would otherwise have impacted on the Hostel operations.

PRESIDENT.....LION IAIN ADAMS



*Auction in progress*

## NEW MEMBER LIST

### November 2015

#### Adelaide Uni

Andrei Pick

#### Mallala & District Inc

Gwendoline Johnson Ken Montgomery sponsor

Brian Johnson Ken Montgomery sponsor

#### Paralowie Inc

David Edwards Shirley McRae sponsor

#### Port Pirie Inc

Dylan Smith Stax Kerr sponsor

#### Prospect - Blair Athol Inc

Carol ATTENBOROUGH Kate Barrett sponsor

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### More Jokes

A man and woman were married for many years. Whenever there was a confrontation, yelling could be heard deep into the night. The old man would shout, "When I die, I will dig my way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life!" Neighbours feared him. The old man liked the fact that he was feared. Then one evening, he died when he was 98. After the burial, her neighbours, concerned for her safety, asked, "Aren't you afraid that he may indeed be able to dig his way out of the grave and haunt you for the rest of your life?" The wife said, "Let him dig. I had him buried upside down...and I know he won't ask for directions."

*A man and his wife were having some problems at home and were giving each other the silent treatment.*

*Suddenly, the man realized that the next day, he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00 AM for an early morning business flight.*

*Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and LOSE), he wrote on a piece of paper,*

*'Please wake me at 5:00 AM .He left it where he knew she would find it.*

*The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00 AM and he had missed his flight*

*Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't wakened him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed.*

*The paper said, 'It is 5:00 AM . Wake up..'*

*Men are not equipped for these kinds of contests*

## 2016 Convention

If you want the **opportunity to win accommodation** for the 2016 C1 convention to be hosted by Golden Grove, please go to <http://goldengrove.sa.lions.org.au/convention>.

There is a link to early bird register with details concerning a deposit which will be automatically sent upon entering your details for us.

The first early bird prize of three bottles of wine was won by PDG Frank Gratton when drawn at the Port Pirie Convention. The second prize of two nights accommodation will be drawn at the DG handover dinner.

We have a tentative programme but have not been able to confirm all prices for the lunches etc. When this is done we will have a complete registration form on the website as well as publishing it in the Bulletin

We also would like Lions to consider a form of **home hosting** to reduce the cost for conventioners. It is known that some Lions have to make choices on how they spend their fixed income and some things they would like to join in have become expensive for them.

We also know that this happens on an informal basis all of the time. I have made use of the Bradford "caravan park " at Clare and have made a room available to a vice DG from interstate for ANZI. However, many Lions do not have these kinds of contacts or are reluctant to ask for fear of "imposing". To make it easier, our Convention Committee has suggested that any who are interested to contact the Convention secretary as soon as possible. The secretary is Harry Webb at [hlwebb@bigpond.com](mailto:hlwebb@bigpond.com), ph. 82647417 or Mob. 0428826474. We will endeavour to match up those who have a room to spare or space for a caravan with requests from Lions a fair distance from Adelaide. No promises but we hope this becomes a feature this year and in the future

The C1 website has been updated too. It has the same links as the Golden Grove Lions site

Gerry van Niekerk Convention Chairman

Harry Webb Convention Secretary C1, 2016

Please ensure that all articles are submitted no later than 14th. of each month to-

Bulletin editor, Harry Webb (e) [hlwebb@bigpond.com](mailto:hlwebb@bigpond.com) or post to PO Box 7, St Agnes, 509. Pictures to be in jpeg (less than 100kb) format if possible.

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