



Michael Irving

Rotary District 9640
District Governor 2016-27



27th January 2017

Rotary “Raising the Spirits” Trip to Charleville, March 24-31

Colleagues we will be undertaking a second “Raising the Spirits” trip in conjunction with Outback Links to Charleville in March. We are intending to return to Charleville to assist those drought-affected families that we were unable to assist in September because of floods.

Although there has been rainfall in some areas around Charleville, many areas are still in severe drought. The rural community gratefully received our visit in September and Rotary 9640 received national publicity about our last trip. I found it to be a most rewarding Rotary “working bee”.

Rotarian John McKenny from Glen Innes Rotary has volunteered to return to Charleville as leader of our next “Raising the Spirits” trip. He has just returned from Charleville, scoping tasks to be undertaken on properties and is now calling for volunteers to assist him.

We are looking for volunteers with the following skills: plumbing, carpentry, electrical repairs, painting and general handypersons. There will be plenty of work for all and we propose to complete the internal painting of the Historic House museum in Charleville.

As per our last visit, Rotarians will be expected to provide their own transport to and from Charleville as well as their own accommodation. We will provide fuel and food for those travelling to properties outside Charleville. All items for repairs to properties will be purchased from suppliers in Charleville. There will be a welcome barbeque on Saturday March 25.

If you are interested in joining the next “Raising the Spirits” trip, please contact John McKenny on Phone 0427 323 133, or email jsmck@bigpond.net.au **before March 1**. It would be appreciated if you could provide John with the following information:

- Names of persons travelling to Charleville.
- Skills of persons travelling to Charleville.
- Do you have off-road vehicles and caravans for travelling to remote properties?
- Are you willing to “rough it” for a several nights in shearers quarters on some of these properties.

If you are able to join us, I am certain that you will find it a most rewarding Rotary experience as we assist our fellow Australians recover from drought.

Yours in Rotary,

Michael



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