

HORIZONS

Central Blue Mountains Rotary

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

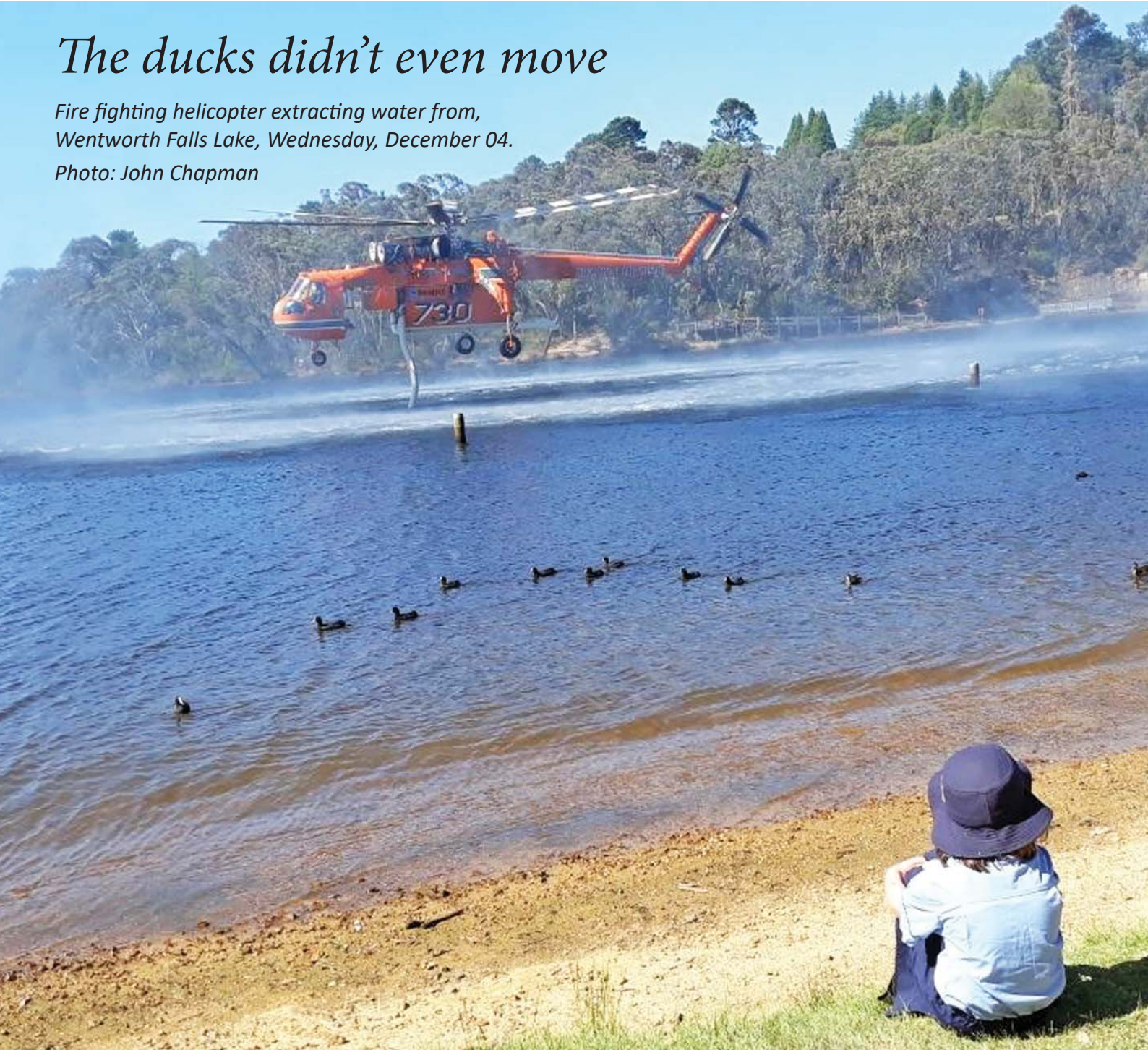
Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, December 11 2019

The ducks didn't even move

*Fire fighting helicopter extracting water from,
Wentworth Falls Lake, Wednesday, December 04.*

Photo: John Chapman



up front



Photo: Blue Mountains Gazette

Making a difference: Helen Robertson outside her op shop at 58 Megalong St, Katoomba.

Katoomba Op Shop owner Helen Robertson has generously donated \$3,000 to Narrabri Rotary's "Neighbours in Need" drought relief project.

Helen's Steven Walter Children's Cancer op shops are at 58 Megalong Street and 150 Bathurst Road, Katoomba.

On Saturday, November 23, the profit from items sold through her shops went to Narrabri Rotary's account.

Helen has liaised with Narrabri Rotary, whose members will distribute the funds to those struggling on the land.

"There will be no administration costs at either end - none here and none there, either," Ms Robertson said.

The generous donation followed publicity in the Blue Mountains Gazette and Narrabri Rotary's support when Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows in NSW held their three-day annual conference and AGM at Narrabri in October.

It was estimated that taking the conference to Narrabri boosted the local economy in excess of \$100,000, with one delegate buying a truck from a local dealer.

Manchester Unity IOOF in NSW earlier this year donated \$10,000 to a Rotary organised drought appeal, with a provision that the money be spent in western NSW towns.

Narrabri Rotary president Julie Herbert said she was truly humbled by the generosity of others and how "Rotary Connects the World".

"As a result we have just completed a Christmas card EFTPOS distribution to the families registered for assistance.

"We trust that it will brighten what will be a very difficult Christmas for many in our district.

"This leaves but a few thousand dollars with which to run our Neighbours in Need community barbecues next year.

"We hope to secure more donations and our club is busy looking at innovative ways to fundraise outside our area (money is tight locally) and to reconnect with those that have supported Neighbours in Need before."

To date, Narrabri Rotary has conducted 30 barbecues and numerous farm visits above its regular activities.

Also partnerships with Rotary clubs in Boggabri and Wee Waa has meant that Neighbours in Need has reached a much wider proportion of the community.

Currently, Neighbours in Need has 502 families registered across the district and it grows steadily.

"The Rotary Club of Narrabri has been privileged to distribute more than \$1-million of drought appeal funds to the local community by providing EFTPOS cards to be used locally," Julie Herbert said.

December

Wednesday 11 - Guest speaker: Maria Hopwood

Saturday 14 - CBM Christmas Party - Scenic World

Sunday 15 - Christmas in the Park

Monday 16 - CBM board meeting

Tuesday 17 - Christmas Raffle sales - Katoomba and Leura

Wednesday 18 - Food Bank collection and distribution

The Rotary Clubs of Australia Drought Appeal

Fighting for our farmers

Donate at any Bendigo Bank
branch or online at
bendigobank.com.au/rotarydrought



Rotary brings a boost to drought ravaged Narromine shire

by Zaarkacha Marlan

Narromine News

December 5, 2019

Rotarians from Liverpool West will visit Narromine and Trangie between December 12 and 15 to spend locally and make some generous donations to the district.

During their visit the group want to meet with as many people as they can, to help gain a better understanding of how the drought is affecting farmers and small communities.

To bring the community together they will be hosting a free sausage sizzle on Friday, December 13.

During their visit Rotary members will also be donating books and lolly bags to the schools in Narromine and Trangie, as well as make a donation to the school for drought emergency funds.

In addition, the Rotarians will bring a group from their local Vietnamese community in Sydney who have independently raised a significant amount of money they will donate to the community.

The club will also assist with the community barbecue in Trangie following the #bustthedust rain dance organised at St John's School at 1pm on Friday, December 13.

They will continue their tour of the area on Saturday meeting up with a number of farmers on properties around Narromine.

In conjunction with the Narromine Shire Council and with the assistance of the Narromine CWA branch, Narromine Rotary club has also been able to reach out and provide support for local families affected by the drought.

Using donations from upper northern beaches Rotary clubs and the Rotary Club of Liverpool West, the group has organised a number of Christmas parties in small communities of the shire including Tomingley, Dandaloo, Gin Gin and Mungery.

Representatives of Narromine Rotary and CWA are attending these events with applications for vouchers to be selected from their local area businesses.

In the new year similar events will be held for Narromine and Trangie.

*Empowering
families and
children to effect
lasting change....
community by
community*



www.sustainablecambodia.org



Ruined Castle Fire Jamison Valley, Katoomba



Central Blue Mountains Rotarians packing meals for
fire fighters in Jamison Valley - Sunday, December 08.

images: Maria Hopwood



Mountain Ghost

Wentworth Falls was first 'discovered' by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson in 1813. The Ghost is reluctant to use the term discovered as the area around Kings Tableland had been used as a meeting place for the Gandangara, Darug and Wiradjuri people for a mere 22,000 years.

Wentworth Falls and William Charles Wentworth

The Mountain Ghost was recently in Wentworth Falls having a coffee and cake at Schwarzes coffee shop. He had been to Coronation Park and noticed the plaque mentioning "Weatherboard" and also the bust of William Charles Wentworth.

The Ghost's steam powered computer was at home so he used his new Ipad to do some research.

Wentworth Falls was first 'discovered' by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson in 1813. The Ghost is reluctant to use the term discovered as the area around Kings Tableland had been used as a meeting place for the Gandangara, Darug and Wiradjuri people for a mere 22,000 years.

Anyway, when William Cox was building the road across the Mountains in 1814 he built a weatherboard building to house the men and the tools used in the construction. The place became known as Weatherboard.

The Weatherboard Inn (separate to the Weatherboard Hut) was built in 1827. It was renamed the Bathurst Traveller in 1833. (this is on the site of Pitt Park).

It was renamed Weatherboard Inn in 1847 until closing down in 1869 when the railway arrived.

In 1815, Governor Macquarie visited Weatherboard.

He renamed the town Jamison's Valley in honour of the colony's leading citizen Sir John Jamison.

Macquarie probably renamed more places than anyone in Australia's history but from what the Ghost can research everyone still called the place, Weatherboard.

In 1836, Charles Darwin visited Wentworth Falls and supposedly stayed at the Weatherboard Inn which was then the Bathurst Traveller. The Ghost hopes he went on the Charles Darwin Walk while he was there, it would be a shame to miss it.



Drawing of the original Weatherboard Hut 1815



Wentworth Falls, 1926



Wentworth Falls, 2019

continued next page

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In 1879, the village took the name Wentworth Falls after a series of Waterfalls named in honour of William Charles Wentworth. There already was a town of Wentworth so they could not use that name.

Some of the historic buildings in the village are the Anderson Buildings (1914) which are on the corner of Great Western Highway and Station Street.

The Post Office was opened in 1912. It is now the Il Postino coffee shop. There are heritage listings on all of these buildings. The Bank of NSW is now the Old Bank Bazaar and White Room. You can still see parts of the old bank.

On the corner of Great Western Highway and Adele Street is the School of Arts and Mechanics Institute constructed in 1914. An interesting bit of history is that the foundation stone was laid by Mrs Marie Pitt.

Marie and Robert Pitt had built the property Coorah in 1889. Coorah is now Blue Mountains Grammar School.

So who was William Charles Wentworth apart from being a part of Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson? (The Ghost thinks this would be a great name for a band).

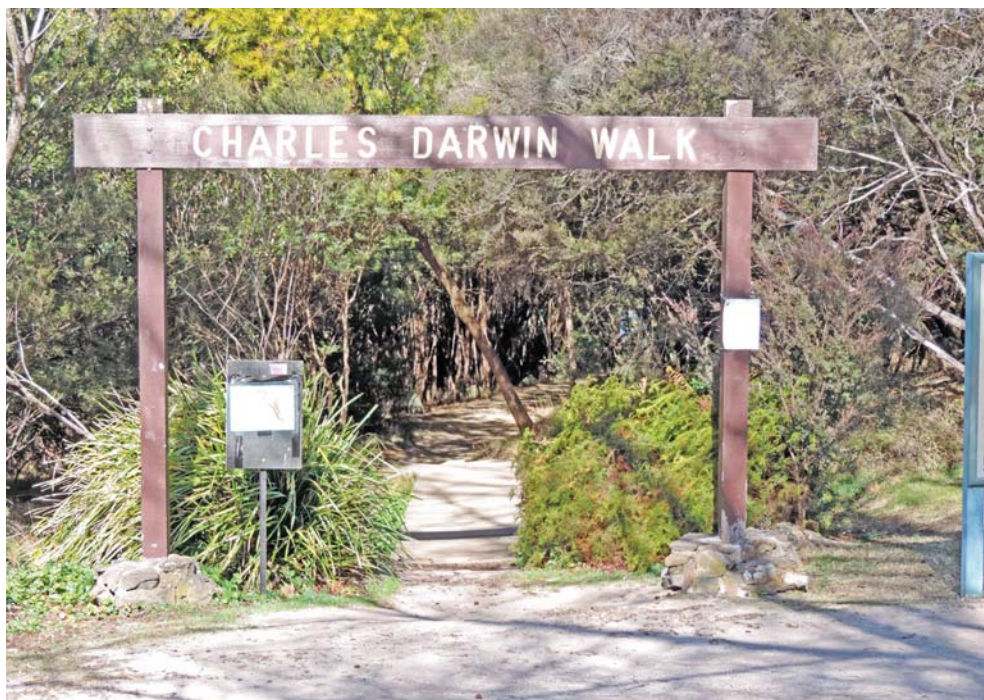
D'Arcy Wentworth came to Australia on the Second Fleet "Neptune" where he met and fell in love with Catherine Crowley, a convict for stealing clothing. He came over as an assistant surgeon and was from a very influential family.

They married and settled in Norfolk Island where William was born in 1790. D'Arcy became a prosperous landowner around Parramatta. William was sent back to London to go to school, returning to Sydney in 1810. Macquarie gave him 1,760 acres at Penrith.

After crossing the Mountains, Wentworth became a journalist and author. On the death of his father he became one of the wealthiest men in the colony.

He built a mansion on Sydney Harbour, Vaucluse House, from which the suburb of Vaucluse takes its name. He became very prominent in politics, advocating for the abolition of Transportation and Freedom of the Press. He died in 1872.

The Mountain Ghost wishes his readers a happy, peaceful and safe festive season.....



Entrance to Darwin Walk, Wilson Park



Weeping Rock at the end of the Darwin Walk



Wentworth Falls Presbyterian Church, 1905

E-club of nomads builds connections



Rotary E-Club of Australia Nomads: Chartered: 2015

Spread out across thousands of square miles in the eastern states of Australia, Rotarians fire up laptops, tablets, and smartphones and log on to weekly club meetings from their RVs using a teleconferencing app.

They map service projects, and fundraising they plan to do with their club and with the clubs they'll visit on their journeys.

Every day, about 135,000 recreational vehicles roll down Australia's highways. For Rotarians who have answered the call of the open road, the vagabond nature of an RV lifestyle can conflict with the duties of traditional clubs.

For them, the Rotary E-Club of Australia Nomads, a concept hatched in mid-2014 by members of the Rotary Club of Jindalee in Queensland, builds connections for service and fellowship.

"In 2011, I decided to buy a large touring RV, a 22-footer," says Wayne Kemmis, a past president of the Rotary Club of Blackheath, NSW.

As he pondered whether Rotary could fit into his new lifestyle, a notice in Rotary Down Under magazine about a new club caught his eye, and Kemmis signed on as a charter member of the E-Club of Australia Nomads.

Geoff St Clair, past president of a club in Lockyer Valley, Queensland, had left Rotary to take up the travelling life when the new club came along.

"I was a Rotarian for seven years but left for four years until returning with the Nomads in June 2014, when it was a satellite club," he says.

He rejoined Rotary with his wife, Lorelle, because "the club would allow you to continue travelling, but still uphold the ideals of Rotary."

Wherever club members may be, a constant is the Wednesday evening session to chart progress on trips and projects. "The theme of our meetings is having fun," says Kemmis. "Members come online with their glass of wine or other beverage. They wear casual clothing. Two members usually come in their pyjamas."

St Clair notes the challenges of developing service opportunities for people who may reside hundreds or thousands of miles from one another. Other obstacles are maintaining a sense of togetherness across distance and teaching computer skills to older members.

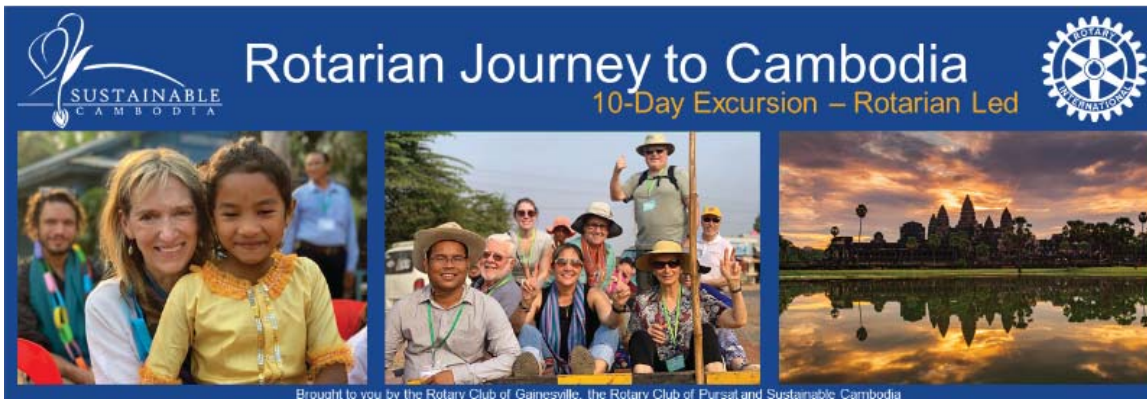
Twice-annual musters, some lasting a week, kindle conviviality and rev up good deeds: During a social gathering over four days at Bribie Island, Queensland, club members planted more than 400 trees to stabilize dunes.

The Nomads adapt their fundraising to their lifestyle. The proceeds from these efforts benefit various charities, such as the Royal Flying Doctor Service

Lending manpower to Rotary-sponsored fun runs, concerts, regattas, and festivals across eastern Australia is the club's hallmark.

"Clubs appreciate us as we often assist them in their projects," says St Clair, harking to the club motto, Helping Hands Across the Land.

—Brad Webber, The Rotarian magazine



Jan 9-19 & Jan 30-Feb 9, 2020
Participate from only USD \$995/pp

Join fellow Rotarians on a trip into ancient Cambodia...

Rotarians from various clubs around the world are joining together with Sustainable Cambodia on a journey into the heart of Cambodia.

This 10-day excursion is a truly unique experience of traveling into Cambodia. Located in Southeast Asia, this beautiful country is rich with history and culture and was awarded one of the top travel destinations for the last two years.

We will travel to the must-visit places in Cambodia including the heart of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, and we will walk amongst the ancient temples of Siem Reap. But tourism is not the sole purpose of this trip.

We will go far off the “tourist routes” to visit village families and experience the impact of Rotary projects in the remote villages of Pursat Province. For those who haven’t gone before, you will have the adventure of a lifetime while helping rural families and children in ways you may have never dreamed possible.

Your contact is Jennifer Scott 0414 367 631 - jennifer@scottadr.com

...that's all folks