



### **DISTRICT 9640 CLUBS – How you can provide HOPE and HAY.**

A number of club's in our District have contacted me and asked if something can be done to assist families affected by the crippling drought in New South Wales and Queensland. Almost the entire area of both States is officially drought declared.

The **Burrumbuttock Hay Runners** have been delivering hay to New South Wales and Queensland since 2014. Although hay is donated by generous farmers all over Australia, most comes from Victoria and the Riverina. No one in the Burrumbuttock Hay Run is paid a wage, they are all volunteers. This includes truck drivers who also donate the use of their trucks and machinery to load and unload the hay. Donated funds are used to fuel the trucks transporting the hay.

All donations go to the **ROTARY CLUB OF SYDNEY** and 100% of donations support drought affected farmers in New South Wales and Queensland. All payments are made by the club. If BHR are notified that a farmer is desperate and cannot pay an electricity account, the **Rotary Club of Sydney** provide this service from the account.

The biggest hay run completed involved 258 trucks, 406 trailers, 6 million dollars, worth of hay, over 500 volunteers, travelling 1800 km from Burrumbuttock to Ilfracombe QLD. The result was 800 farmers feeding 300,000 animals. Each truck used approx \$2000 worth of fuel.

BHR is about mates helping mates in a time of need. Farmers impacted by drought often struggle to ask for help and many due to the financial strain of trying to keep the farm afloat also battle mental health issues.

**IF YOUR CLUB WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE DISTRICT 9640 DROUGHT FUND:**

Please send a cheque to District Treasurer Mark Twyford, P.O. Box 1216, Southport Qld 4215. Advise, Club Name DA2019, or DD BSB – 084462 Account 796395692

For more information contact: District Service Projects Chair – Richard Crandon

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District Governor Terry Brown