



snowyhydro
SouthCare

SKIDS UP

AUTUMN 2009

The Snowy Hydro SouthCare Helicopter Fund Newsletter

"I tried to get up, but I couldn't stand, the pain was excruciating"

- Mr. Leon Booth, Patient.



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HELP US TO CONTINUE SAVING LIVES

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BASE OPEN DAY 2009

Thousands support our essential community service

Our Snowy Hydro SouthCare Rescue Helicopter has completed almost 3,500 missions over the past 10 years, a remarkable milestone for a lifesaving service that has touched so many lives for over a decade.

The past three months has seen many missions to assist those in distress, sometimes the helicopter is called out 2-3 times a day. To the crew who man these flights, and the support teams of doctors, nurses, police, ambulance, fire brigade, SES personnel and volunteers we all say thank you for the work you undertake as you face scenes of loss and suffering all too often.

On Saturday evening 4 July our major Gala Ball is being held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra. We would be very grateful to have you attend to salute those who make our helicopter service possible, and to support our fund raising efforts.

Thank you to all those individuals and organisations who continually contribute financially to our service. Your donations and sponsorships are gratefully received and allow the Snowy Hydro SouthCare Rescue Helicopter to continue its invaluable life saving work in our community.

A NOTE FROM
OUR CHAIRMAN -
DAVID MARSHALL



Sponsored by Robbo's Harley Davidsons, Snowy Hydro SouthCare Base Open Day 2009 featured a behind the scenes look at our community's vital aero-medical and rescue helicopter service as the back-up helicopter was tasked to several emergencies throughout the day.

In addition to our own Bell 412 helicopter on the day was a Bell 212 helicopter and two Squirrel helicopters.

Kids enjoyed Harley Davidson rides, a jumping castle, face painting, tattoos and getting up close and personal with the farm animals in the petting zoo. Bigger kids booked out the helicopter joy rides and wandered through the impressive display of classic and street machine vehicles on show.

The ACT Emergency Services were represented with a display of fire tankers, Big Bronto in action, an ACT ambulance and the SES ropes course.

Seemingly endless lines at the Rotary BBQ were treated to wonderful performances by the Canberra City Band, Sing Australia, Canberra City Pipes and Drums and a crowd favourite performance by Elvis!

Snowy Hydro SouthCare Base Open Day 2009 was a fantastic, family fun-filled day that raised approximately \$10,000 towards keeping the helicopter in the air and saving lives. Additional donations gratefully received on the day were from the National Services and Combined Forces Association Canberra Branch and the IGA City West Community Chest Fund.

MIRACULOUS RESCUE

“I tried to get up, but I couldn’t stand, the pain was excruciating”



Photo courtesy of The Canberra Times, Sunday Edition

Holidays are supposed to be relaxing, fun and peaceful - unless you are Mr. Leon Booth whose bush escape involved ambulance and fire crews, SES officers, water bombing aircrafts and a winch rescue from our Snowy Hydro SouthCare rescue helicopter.

It all started with the need for a few days break from the rat-race in the city. Leon headed to his friend’s property in Reids Flat (150kms north of Canberra) to enjoy the bush.

He was spraying weeds on a steep hill at 1pm on Monday March 11, when the quad bike he was using rolled over him, crushing his ribs and pelvis and leaving him in intense pain.

“I tried to get up but I couldn’t stand, the pain was absolutely excruciating” and little wonder - Leon had broken his pelvis in

eight places and also five of his ribs.

Leon was 6km’s away from the farmhouse where he was staying alone. His only option was to try to crawl his way home, which he attempted for the remainder of the day and into that night.

Leon tried calling out for help, but was only able to get the local dogs barking.

He continued crawling the long journey home, lighting small fires to keep himself warm.

During this time, Leon’s thoughts were with his family; wife Peggy, 21-year-old daughter Jessica, and 23-year-old son, Steven.

“The last thing I wanted was to be found dead on a road from an injury and I just kept on talking to myself, and talking to them.”

The following day, unable to rouse any attention, his last hope was to light a small bushfire to raise the alarm, and it worked.

After 22 hours, three ambulances, SES workers, seven bushfire brigades tankers, and three water bombing aircrafts, Leon had been found.

Due to the rough terrain and extent of his injuries, the Snowy Hydro SouthCare rescue helicopter was called in and the next thing he knew he was being winched out of bushland by Snowy Hydro SouthCare paramedic Phil McHugh and was en-route to The Canberra Hospital for treatment.

Phil was amazed at his courage and strength, “I marvelled at his resolve after hearing his efforts over the past 24 hours, he was in great spirits laughing and joking with us during the rescue. We train for situations like these and it was great to be able to put these skills into a successful rescue.”

After being transported to The Canberra Hospital Leon praised the efforts of our local nurses “I can tell you, those nurses in there, they are so dedicated to their profession.”

Leon has since been transferred to a Sydney hospital where he begins the road to recovery.

Leon’s experience reminds the Snowy Hydro SouthCare team of several quad bike rescues in our history.

We remind people that wherever they are, whatever they are doing, they need to take care.

10 MISSIONS IN 7 DAYS

CEO'S REPORT

I have recently completed 10 years service with the Snowy Hydro SouthCare Helicopter Fund I thought it would be appropriate to reflect on some of the highlights. The major highlight for me as a fundraiser was securing our major naming rights sponsorship with Snowy Hydro Ltd. This partnership ensures that the Fund will be able to support the helicopter service well into the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues who have worked alongside me to achieve more than \$7.5 million raised to keep the helicopter in the air and saving lives. It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge our wonderful volunteers who support us in our efforts. People like Russ Whitty and Gordon McAlpine are always there when we need them and it will be a fitting tribute to their dedication, and an event I am very much looking forward to, when they are presented with their awards by the Governor-General at Government House on the 5th of May.

We have conducted many events over the past 10 years with the highlight being the 5 themed gala dinners. From "The Man From Snowy River Outback Muster" to "Escape to the Circus" Who will ever forget the "Night in the South Pacific" with the sand filled invitations that closed down half of Canberra or the "Winter Wonderland". The most successful event was "Viva Las Vegas" with 790 guests enjoying the talents of renowned Elvis tribute performer David Cazalet and his showgirls.

The past 10 years has seen many responsibilities and much work, but the experience of meeting those patients whose lives we have saved, or the families who still have their loved ones with them because of the Service, makes it all worthwhile.
Wayne Evans, CEO.



Snowy Hydro SouthCare and its medical team have had a busy week with over 10 missions in 7 days.

On March 15 a 49-year-old male with back injuries from a quad-bike accident was transported from Beloko and a 69-year-old female from Moruya was airlifted to The Canberra Hospital (TCH). On March 18 a 78-year-old female was also taken to TCH with a medical condition. On March 19, a 12-year-old girl was airlifted with spinal injuries from a fall from a swing in Bega.

On March 20 the Snowy Hydro SouthCare medical team transported a 25-year-old female with a serious medical condition from Jindabyne. Also transported was one of three men who were crushed by a bull in a rodeo accident in Gundagai.

On Saturday March 21 there were two rescues. One in Talbingo for a 50-year-old male involved in a motorcycle accident, and an 8-year-old child from Moruya with head injuries. Sunday March 22 saw the helicopter enroute to Cooma to assist a 69-year-old male with chest and lung injuries from a horse riding accident.

Late on Sunday night the medical team flew to Lake Eucumbene to transport a three-year-old girl who had fallen into a campfire. The young female was airlifted with superficial burns and did not require further medical treatment.

The helicopter's mission log is up to 3402 as at time of printing, that is an average of just over one mission per day.

ALACRITY SOLUTIONS

Alacrity Technologies supports the Service with invaluable technology products



Nik West accepting the award on behalf of Alacrity Technologies



Thanks to Alacrity Technologies, Snowy Hydro SouthCare has solved a range of communication challenges including providing prompt mission information to the media and increasing overall awareness of the Service. Alacrity is a privately owned company, founded in Canberra, that specialises in providing organisations with solutions based on innovative and patented Closed Loop Environment for Wireless (CLEW®) technology. Alacrity also provides SMS services.

CLEW technology is easy to use and provides organisations with the ability to distribute time-critical information to multiple people simultaneously and securely, from the Internet to mobile phones. CLEW technology also provides

recipients with a way to respond securely to the communications in real-time through the Internet on their mobile phone. Using this technology, Alacrity created and sponsored a dual-communications solution for Snowy Hydro SouthCare.

Using CLEW messaging along with SMS, the Service's staff can now distribute press releases, mission alerts and volunteer communications from a secure website to the mobile phones of journalists and volunteers. Unrestricted by text limits, CLEW technology allows full-length releases to be conveniently distributed and read as one mobile phone message. The Service's staff can also send mission alerts to the public using Alacrity's SMS communications

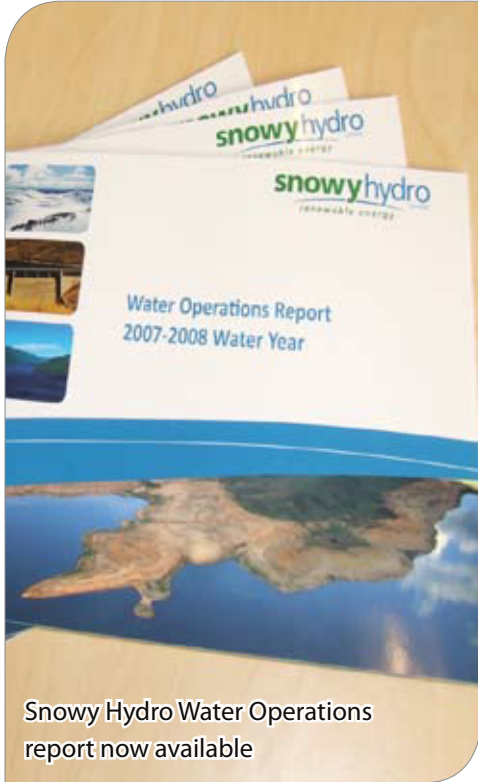
product. Using Alacrity's CLEW and SMS services, Snowy Hydro SouthCare has reduced the staff time spent distributing communications and continues to gain valuable exposure for the Service.

Adrian Tatham, the Chief Executive Officer of Alacrity, comments, "It is a privilege to work alongside such an important community organisation like Snowy Hydro SouthCare. I am extremely pleased Alacrity can help support an organisation that is so critical to the people in the ACT and NSW regions."

To find out how Alacrity's CLEW and SMS messaging systems can reduce your business costs in a user-friendly manner, phone (02) 6162-5147 or visit www.alacritytech.com.au.

SNOWY HYDRO LTD

An update from our major and naming-rights sponsor



Snowy Hydro Water Operations report now available



Snowy Hydro has gone to great lengths in recent years to improve community understanding of the water operations of the Snowy Mountains Scheme.

The company has been providing additional information on our website for some time now especially in relation to water releases in accordance with the Snowy Water Licence.

We have also done dozens of presentations to various community groups, local councils and chambers of commerce around the Snowy Mountains.

It has been clear that once the details of our water operations are explained and questions answered many, if not all of the

concerns that are raised are addressed and clarified.

In further response to requests for information on our water operations we have developed the Snowy Hydro Water Operations Report written in plain English and responding to feedback received from the community about improving the understanding of the water operations of the Scheme.

The Snowy Hydro Water Operations Report has been written for the benefit of all Stakeholders and the communities associated with the Snowy Scheme.

It describes in high level summary how the Snowy Scheme operates, the water

operations during the 2007/08 water year and how Snowy Hydro met its obligations under the Snowy Water Licence during that year.

The Water Report is now available and can be downloaded from our website.

Website: www.snowyhydro.com.au
Snowy Mountains Scheme Education Centre: 1800 623 776.



THANK YOU!

Sponsors, donors and volunteers make this rescue service possible

A MUST FOR HOME BUYERS

With low interest rates and the enhanced First Home Buyers Grant, there are many people looking to get into the property market. Below are some tips* you may find handy when negotiating the purchase price of a home you're interested in:

1. Knowledge is key – do your research and know what the property is worth. The selling price of similar properties in the area is a good guide.
2. When making an offer, don't put your best offer first. You can always raise your offer if the seller doesn't accept your first offer.
3. If your first offer is rejected, ask the seller to put a counter-offer on the table to get them involved in the negotiations.
4. Be prepared to bargain – the asking price is the seller's ideal price, but they may be prepared to sell for less.
5. Keep your emotions out of the negotiations – you'll achieve a better result if you put forward a fair and logical argument.
6. Know when to walk away. If you have clear goals and limits you won't buy beyond your means.

* Adapted from the ABACUS guide 'Take Control: Bricks and Mortar – a practical guide to buying property' (2008).

If you need some help to work out what you can afford or you would like to discuss Home Loan options, speak to your local banking provider, SERVICE ONE.

- Phone 1300 361 761,
- Visit a Branch,
- or log onto www.somb.com.au.

Service One Credit Union Limited, operating as SERVICE ONE Members Banking. ABN 42 095 848 598, AFSL 240 836.



Service One Credit Union Ltd, operating as SERVICE ONE Members Banking
ABN 42 095 848 598 | AFSL 240836

information courtesy of Genworth Financial

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renewable energy



WAGGA MUTUAL COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP ACCOUNT

Snowy Hydro SouthCare and Wagga Mutual Credit Union have teamed up to promote the "Community Sponsorship Account". It's easy, you register with Wagga Mutual, nominate Snowy Hydro SouthCare as your chosen community group, and the rest is done for you!

Your savings will attract Wagga Mutual's highest at-call interest rate, and Wagga Mutual will pay a bonus percentage of your average annual balance to Snowy Hydro SouthCare.

It doesn't cost you any time, money or effort but you are rewarded by helping your community and the growth of your savings. For further information please refer to the inserted brochure or contact Mrs. Joanne Main on (02) 6205 5236



www.snowyhydrosouthcare.com.au

THE 2008/2009 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK IS FULL OF HUNDREDS OF DISCOUNTS
TO ORDER YOUR COPY CALL ALISON TONKIN ON 02 6207 8429 TODAY!



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COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING

Cooma and Jindabyne support the service with special movie screenings



The long awaited film 'Australia' opened in Jindabyne on Wednesday 26th November and then Cooma on 3rd December. The Jindabyne and Cooma Theatre operators, Snowy Mountains Theatres Pty Ltd celebrated this event by raising funds for Snowy Hydro SouthCare.

At Jindabyne Cinema an 'Australian' afternoon tea including scones, Anzac biscuits, lamingtons, and sponge cakes was served and the screening was a huge success. The following week at Cooma Twin Cinema a sausage sizzle and afternoon tea was equally well attended. A total of \$867.50 was collected from the afternoon tea and sausage sizzle.

In conjunction with the screenings of Australia, the cinemas conducted a raffle

which raised a further \$763.00 for the Snowy Hydro SouthCare Helicopter Service.

Mrs. Huggett also thanked Radio Snowy Mountains and their staff for their support and free on air advertising of the event.

Mrs. Huggett said that the overall result of \$1630.50 raised on these occasions by the community was a great result for Snowy Hydro SouthCare. "Snowy Hydro SouthCare is a wonderful organization and service and one which Snowy Mountains Theatres are happy to assist" said Mrs. Huggett. "The community response shows that both locals and visitors appreciate this medical service in the Snowy Mountains and on the Monaro and are prepared to support the service financially".

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO YOUR COMMUNITY

There are many ways to get involved with Snowy Hydro SouthCare. From volunteering to making a donation or becoming a corporate sponsor, there is something for everyone. Getting involved is as easy as filling in your details on the right and returning the form to: Snowy Hydro SouthCare, P.O. Box 311, Curtin ACT 2605. Alternatively, contact our staff directly at (02) 6207 8375 for more information.

***All donations of \$2.00 or more are tax-deductible and can be made by cheque, money order, Visa, Mastercard, Amex or Diners cards.*

ABN: 68-084-155-895

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

- I would like to **DONATE** to Snowy Hydro SouthCare (enter details below).
- I want to know more about becoming a **VOLUNTEER**.
- Add my mobile phone number to your **MISSION ALERT SERVICE**.
- I am interested in finding out more about **CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP**.
- Please email me the Snowy Hydro SouthCare **E-NEWSLETTER**, Rotor Wrap.

Donation Method (see options left): _____

Amount: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp.: ____ - ____

Name on Card: _____ Security Code: ____

Signature: _____

MAKE A DONATION TODAY! CALL (02) 6207-8375