



## Rotary's epic mower ride around Australia.

An initiative of the Rotary Club of Armadale  
PO Box 61 Armadale WA 6992

### The Story of *Ride* 2012

#### Ride 2012 was Stage 1: Armadale to Kalgoorlie

We left Armadale at 10.15am on the 11th of March to a hardy farewell from around 200 people. Temperature on that day got up to 42 degrees (on day two as high as 48 degrees). Thanks to drinking 4+ litres of water a day, all went very well.

**DAY 1** was 65km, with our first stopover at Mundaring. This coincided with the local monthly market stalls. We enjoyed a drag down the main street with two 13 year old boys in electric wheel chairs, which they thought should win! Great thanks to the Mundaring Rotary Club for their support with donations, accommodation, a display at the markets, and an evening meal.

**DAY 2** was 100km, taking us first to York. At the York Primary School we did a show-and-tell of the *Ride* and gave away footballs and basketballs. Lunch was kindly provided by the local shire, after which we visited the childcare centre with more giveaways. We then made our way to Northam with dinner at the local Rotary Club followed by another presentation of the *Ride*. The Northam Caravan Park kindly waived all our camping fees.

**DAY 3** covered 110km, which saw us in Kellerberrin with the local Men's Shed and Lions Club. A great night was spent in a park with a BBQ and a chat with the locals. Children and young adults from the disability centre attended. We were put up for the night at the former Police Station, now the Lion's Den.

**DAY 4** – 164km. We had a very rewarding night spent with the townspeople and the CEO of the Shire at the Senior Citizens Centre in Southern Cross. Another Sausage Sizzle was enjoyed by all.

**DAY 5**, at 180km, was the longest day of the trip. Our last night on the road found us staying in Coolgardie where the Haven Caravan Park donated our stay. This night our travelling Chef from The Manse cooked up a storm. There was a touch of sadness as there was only 45km left to travel the next day. After two years of dreaming and planning we were about to complete the first leg of this amazing journey. Before the night was over plans had already started for the next leg of our around Australian trek – just a short 2,188km drive from Kalgoorlie in WA to Adelaide in SA.

**DAY 6.** Only 45km to travel but the feeling was so good! We had two regional TV crews to film that final day and the arrival at Kalgoorlie Golf Course that evening. Our triumphant arrival marked the start of the District 9465 conference attended by about 400 people.

THE ROTARY 4-WAY TEST: 1. Is it the Truth? 2. Is it Fair to all concerned? 3. Will it build Goodwill & Better Friendships? 4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?





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Credit needs to go to our hardworking machine. Over the whole trip, even with the extreme heat, our Hustler Super Z performed very, very well – without a spanner being put to it at all.

We raised around \$5,000 along the way, contributing to an overall fundraising total of around \$65,000.

Total distance 661km

Total driving time 28.15 hours

Average speed 23.4km/h

Fuel consumption 4.5km/litre

Total funds raised \$65,000 approx.

Funds per kilometre \$98

Regards

Craig Alford

District 9465 Assistant Governor

Handicamp Chair 2010-2011-2012

Rotary Club of Armadale

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