

# Fire Recovery Newsletter

## Rotary Club of Irymple

Newsletter No. 1  
31 March 2009



Thank you for offering to assist in the Fire Recovery Program by donating pine posts or other material. Your contribution is appreciated not only by the Rotary Club of Irymple but with gratitude by those benefitting in the fire devastated areas.

Things are happening at last and you are part of a project that is not short term but will run for many months. We are depending on your long term support.

Our target area is the western edge of the Kilmore East-Murrindindi fires where 600 farms and small holdings in the Mitchell Shire have been identified as needing help with boundary fencing. The organisers are all volunteers and call themselves "Mitchell Blaze-Aid."



Rotarian Max Tolson with the sample load he took down to Kilmore East last week.

Last weekend at several properties we saw them working with Freemasons from the Otways, Rotary groups from all over, a couple of Swiss tourists who volunteered through our ADFA and a pair of grey nomads from W.A. plus locals helping locals. There can be up to 140 volunteers on the weekends, and there are many other such wonderful people working elsewhere.



Peter Crisp straps another bundle.

So far, we have

- ❑ taken a trailer load of 100 posts down as a sample,
- ❑ bundled 1400 posts from Timber Corp which were delivered to Kilmore East by Lindsay Fox Transport, and,
- ❑ delivered \$1500 of Vice Bite Stays, donated by Triggs Trellisses, a small and innovative business in Cabarita.



Kevin Butler, principal organiser for Mitchell Blaze-Aid inspects a ViceBite bracket. Kevin is excited by the clever device that will speed up the re-fencing.

Peter Crisp has organised with the state government for rail transport when we have enough posts bundled. There are at least another 15 000 posts identified in the Sunraysia area through your phone calls to the ADFA and we are anxious to get them all down to Kevin Butler and his volunteers.

A metal frame or cradle is used to stack the posts ready for strapping in lots of 75-80 posts. We are looking for enough frames to be able to deliver one to each donor property where they can be filled with posts for Rotary volunteers to strap them into bundles for collection and deployment.

Rotary will be working through the ADFA list trying to get the posts moving as quickly as possible but realistically it is a job that could take many months and we hope that you will bear with us.

Thank you for your generosity. Know that you are making a difference.

Denis Kennedy  
Rotary Club of Irymple.



Kim and Rodney Trigg with their ViceBite bracket in the shed at Triggs Trellis Supplies, 27 Dyar Avenue, Cabarita.  
Ph 5022 2219



Rodney Trigg designed the ViceBite bracket when they were going through the redevelopment of their dried fruit property in Cabarita. Through a lot of experimentation they came up with a design that was unique in that it has teeth on both sides of the bracket itself and with wires being tensioned (acting as a vice-like force) was able to be forced into the timbers of both the end post and stay.

ViceBite has since become available through numerous retail outlets and is being used in various industries such as farm fencing, local council and government fencing projects, vineyards small and large as well as backyard boundary fencing.

ViceBite has even found its way to New Zealand, Ireland, United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland and the USA.

Further information about the ViceBite fencing product can be found at [www.ViceBite.com.au](http://www.ViceBite.com.au).



This home burnt down while the owners were in Eden, the husband recuperating from prostate cancer. On his return, he was made redundant and his wife is nursing her very ill mother. He is on his own, facing a long recovery process, but now made a little easier with the help of Mitchell Blaze-Aid and volunteers from all over.



Small holder Wayne with two Masonic volunteers inspect the small pile of ashes of what had been a very large post.



Some pine posts in place and waiting for re-wiring.



A cradle being filled at Timber Corp's vineyard,

*Thank you for your  
generosity.*

*Know that you are  
making a difference.*