

IT'S MORE NOBLE....

I can remember being told as a young bloke that it was, '**more noble to give, than to receive**'. I must admit that at the time of having this valuable information passed to me that I couldn't really embrace it, after all what kid would. When offered a choice of spending one's hard earned pocket money on someone else or receiving bucket loads of presents yourself.... get real there is absolutely contest as to which option was more appealing!

But, as time passed I have managed to understand the wisdom of what I was told way back then. Actually my wife must also understand the meaning of this wisdom. There isn't a day go past where she doesn't manage to give..She gives her opinion on everything I do, she gives me criticism at a moments notice, she even gives me a tongue lashing highlighting my numerous failings, and all without being asked. She's a kind lady my wife!

We at the Best Western Mallee Classic also understand the importance of giving. Since it's inception the Classic has made an effort to support a variety of charitable causes and I'm not talking about Allen Wilmott or the rest of the Newcastle mob...I'm talking real charities with real needs! In the nine years that the race has been held we have donated in excess of \$20,000.00 to a number of charities and will continue to do so.

We have also aligned ourself to a variety of organisations such as the Shane Warne Foundation and a number of service groups who, themselves, do great work within communities. One such service group is the Apex Clubs of the Ballarat region who over recent years have held the catering and licensing responsibilities on the race days. Actually it is commendable that enthusiasts attending the race have made such a concerted effort to buy, especially the liquid refreshments, from the Apex and provide funds for their projects within the immediate Ballarat community.

In 2007, our tenth year, we will again be supporting the McCallum Disability Services Group (Ballarat). The McCallum people offer a range of services, workshops, drop in centres etc. etc., to people with varying degrees of impairment. They also provide much needed support and respite for the families of their clients. Due to the previous success of the Auction format we will again be following the same course, i.e.; commencing the auction on the Internet and then finalising bids in the physical auction on the race day.

Although the race is still six months away we want to make our **TENTH YEAR** something special and it's with this in mind we are asking for expressions of interest with regards to donations of birds for the auction.

Now that the '**Mallee Classic Market Place**' has proven so successful we will be able to place your '**special birds**' before the fanciers of Australia in order to raise much needed funds for these '**special people**'.

If you feel that you would enjoy helping others by donating birds for the sale then please contact me, Duncan MacGregor on deamac@iprimus.com.au so that we can plan early to make **year #10 super special for the people of McCallum.**

Who knows what we can do in 2007 if we put our mind to it, let alone 2008 when the Best Western Mallee Classic expands to include the **Best Western Mallee Classic (New South Wales) and the Best Western Mallee Classic (Queensland).**

Oh, I was only joking about my wife, she also likes to receive presents!