

Rotary Club of Blacktown City's New Partnership

In June this year our Club was invited to the opening of Blackmores new Distribution Centre at Eastern Creek and a number of Directors attended.

After the official opening we met with the Corporate Affairs Manager to discuss a partnership with Blackmores, possible sponsorship and potential members and I lodged sponsorship requests for our Citizenship and Vocational and Scholarship Awards.

For 38 years Blackmores, at their Warriewood Distribution Centre, have been packing Christmas Hampers in conjunction with the RCs of Northern Beaches and Manly and wanted to do the same at Eastern Creek and partner with us to pack 200 hampers.

On Friday 23rd November, 11 members and partners, 2 members from the Probus Club of Prospect together with 4 volunteers from ADRA (Adventist Development Relief Agency) packed, in a production line, 15 items in 200 Christmas Hampers in just under an hour.

Prior to beginning our packing, we were given a brief overview of the operation of the Distribution Centre and at the conclusion of packing and the obligatory 'happy-snaps' Blackmores provided lunch in the staff canteen.

The couple of hours we spent on this new project afforded great fellowship.

Blackmores were very happy with the number of volunteers we'd organised and how well we worked in packing the hampers and are keen to further develop our partnership by way of future projects, sponsorship and hopefully potential members.

When speaking with the Corporate affairs Manager prior to our trip to Forbes she offered to provide us with some Blackmores products but as the gift boxes had already been packed, we didn't take up this offer, but the offer is still there for any future similar trips.

Our Club is proud to partner with local businesses such as Blackmores whose values align with our motto of 'Service Above Self' and giving back to the community,

My thanks to Russell, Lyn Bamford, Mel and Jan Gray, Joan, Jack, Marideth, Tess, Keith, Len, Ron and Margaret McConville (Probus) and Grace, Mike, Nancy and Tere (from ADRA) for giving of their time to assist with this new partnership venture.

David R Bamford