



## MEDIA RELEASE – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2006

### Moonee Valley Rotary Riders “Tour de Bebe” 2006 supporting Victoria’s sickest babies at The Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne

On **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2006**, over 35 riders from Moonee Valley Rotary will depart from The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne (RCH) to begin an 1100km cycling tour throughout regional Victoria in an effort to raise \$70,000.00 to purchase a new JET Ventilator for the Neonatal Unit (NNU) at the RCH.

The ride will end in Geelong on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March** for the **Annual Rotary District Conference**. Rotary District Governor, John Wigley explains *“Over the past eight years the arrival of the Rotary bike-riders at our District Conference has become a highlight and their presentation to the conference is eagerly anticipated by the 750+ attendees. We admire the effort put in by the riders and are always astonished at the amount of money they raise each year for their nominated charity. The Rotary International Theme this year is **Service above Self** and I think that the riders really exemplify this message; this is also Rotary's motto”*.

The tour will see riders traveling through various regional centres including **Euroa, Echuca, Bendigo, Ballarat, Lorne and Geelong**.

Rotary Rider, **Robert Greenberg**, understands first hand the importance of such life saving equipment after spending more than three months in the NNU with his newborn daughter Georgia in 2003:

*“When I needed The Royal Children's Hospital, it was there for me and my family – its NNU saved my baby's life. Our first child Georgia, spent the first three months of her life there undergoing cranio facial surgery. It holds a special place in my heart and this is my way of giving something back and showing my appreciation. I'm hoping that people in the community will put their hands in their pockets and sponsor me”, Mr Greenberg said.*

100% of all monies raised through sponsorships and donations will be utilized to purchase a new JET Ventilator, valued at \$70,000 for the NNU at the RCH which will help to save hundreds of babies lives.

For further information re:-

Rotary	District Governor, John Wigley	0402 455 525
Tour de Bebe Sponsorship	Robert Greenberg	0400 579 851
NNU Family Representative	Robert Greenberg & Kimberley Mannix	(as above)
RCH	Julie Webber, Public Affairs	(03) 9345 5130