1971-1972 Charles Bell

The most popular film in 1971 was Billy Jack with Tom Laughlin, Delores Taylor, Clark Howat and Victor Izay. The most popular song was "Joy to the World" by Three Dog Night.



Charles Bell was the new President of the Rotary Club in 1971. President Charles's goal at the beginning of the year was for at least a 10% increase in Membership. At the end of his year, he had exceeded that goal with 13 members joining the Club, bringing the total membership to 103.



The Art Show was an outstanding success during the year. It was held inside for the very first time at the YMCA stadium. There were 485 paintings displayed. The total value of the paintings on display was \$18,000. Apart from the paintings, there were also 350 pottery items on display worth \$1600.

By the end of the Art Show, 116 paintings were sold (to the value of \$3,999) and pottery items to the value of \$680.60. Furthermore, the money collected from the catalogues sold came to the value of \$1,013.83. When you take into account all the expenses incurred, there was a **record profit** of \$1427.

OUTDOOR ART EXHIBITION

Brief History

Four years ago the Rotary Club of Bendigo made a practicability study on the presentation of an art show in Bendigo.

It was found that although some Rotary Clubs conducted successful art shows, some Clubs lost large amounts of money. However, the Rotary Club of Bendigo recognizing the need for promoting art in this City, was prepared to meet the challenge.

It was decided that an art show would be an added attraction to Bendigo at Easter and permission was requested and granted by the Bendigo City Council for the use of the Queen Victoria Gardens.

With considerable help from other Rotary Clubs and a considerable amount of planning and hard work our first show was successful.

In the 4 years our art show has grown and this year 405 paintings were exhibited, 70% coming from Bendigo and district artists. 103 paintings were sold on behalf of artists for \$2,884. Surely this proves the impact of our show in promoting art in this area. The donation of 20¢ per adult which included a printed catalogue and with children admitted free should indicate that our project was more concerned with promoting art than with profit.

As soon as one show is finished, planning for the next show begins and our art show involves all our Rotarians at some time.

Our expenses this year has been 2 extra frames, printing, stamps and stationery, advertising, display lighting, meter box, hooks and stakes, freight and cartage, night watchman and a presentation to the Garden Staff. All other work is done by Rotarians, and this year 89 out of 91 Rotarians assisted in some way.



The Xmas Carols was another highlight for the year with over 2,000 in attendance. The purpose of the Xmas Carols has always been for the enjoyment of the Bendigo community. Regardless, given there are always opportunities for the public to donate money at the Carols, the public are informed about which local charity will receive any funds collected. The donations received during President Bell's year came to \$140.00.

A decision was made after the Xmas Carols were held on Xmas Eve, that in future, the Carols will be held a week prior to Xmas Day. This decision has continued to this day.

The Club held a picnic for members and their families at the Scout area in Lake Eppalock. Members provided free rides on boats and yachts. Families loved the event and wanted this to be a regular event.

During the year there was a combined Rotary Club Dinner hosted by our Club. One hundred and fifty Rotarians and guests attended the event.

Members and guests also enjoyed a Wine and Cheese night at Favaloro's.

The Toilet Block at the Youth Camp was commenced. This was a \$15,800 project. The Cool Room, attached to the kitchen, was finally completed.

Deputy Premier Rupert Hamer came to inspect the camp when the Club officially asked for a grant to complete the works needed to be done. The Deputy Premier was very impressed with the work undertaken at the Youth Camp. Also, the dedication of the Rotary Club members to do everything within their power to improve the facilities for the youth that attended.

Other highlights:

The share the Club received from Walkabout 26 was \$2,900 which was given to help Mirridong Home for the Blind.

The Interact Club at Bendigo High School officially received its Charter. The Charter was presented by PDG Ern Oliver. The Interact Club had 30 members. In their first year, the students raised \$100 to be given for Bengali Refugees.

Four young people were sent by the Club on a RYLA camp in Ballarat.

A GSE team from Japan visited Bendigo.

The development of Rotaract in Bendigo, it was decided, should be a the responsibility of both Bendigo and Bendigo South Rotary Clubs.





ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1971-72

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