

# 1972-1973 Ken Mill

The most popular song in 1972 was The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face by Roberta Flack. The most popular movie was The Godfather with Al Pacino and Marlon Brando.

In 1972, the new President was Ken Mill. The Rotary International theme was Let's Take A New Look. President Ken's focus for the year was to raise as much money as possible to assist the Overton Children's Home. A Government Grant the Home received meant that donated funds would be matched 1 to 1 by the government.



The plan for the Overton Children's Home was for the building of accommodation for 6 children and a staff amenities room and a fundraising project was organised in conjunction with the Y's Men's Club: 'Walkabout 26'.

There were 189 participants this year for the Walk. Unfortunately, this was a drop in numbers from the previous year. Regardless, the program raised \$2,900 with the aid of local businesses and volunteers on the day. Alan Lister was Chair of the Committee.



*Some of the participants in Walkabout 26. (The 26 denotes it was 26 miles. It was later changed to 26 kilometres.) The term Walkabout was used at the time. **Note: Today the word is no longer an acceptable term.***

As this was a joint project with the Y's Men's Club, the Rotary Club's share was \$1450 and the funds were donated to Overton Children's Home. Given funds donated were matched by the government, Overton Home received \$2,900.

Rotarians and guests certainly had fun during the year, also. There was a Progressive Dinner; a Picture Night with Apex; a Farewell Dinner Dance for 118 guests for the 7 Rotarians attending an International Conference in Switzerland; and the Xmas Party at Woodbury House where 188 attended.



The Rural Relief Assistance Scheme was integral to undertaking some works which needed to be carried out at the Youth Camp. For example: a carport was erected for the caretaker; a realignment of the fences was undertaken; a large verandah erected over the kitchen entrance; and improvements were made to the drainage.

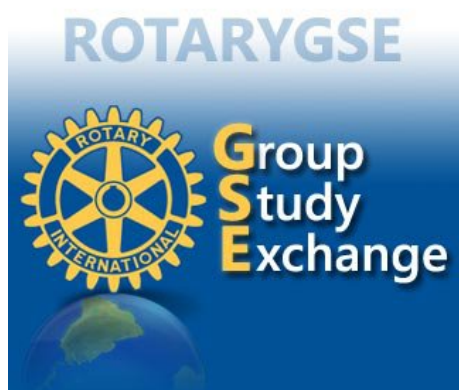
The two toilet blocks, that the Club had received significant funds for, were finally completed.

For Outbound Rotary Exchange, there were 18 applications which highlighted how much interest there was in the program.

Two young people were sent to attend a RYLA Camp (Rotary Youth Leadership Award).

Interact (a Rotary program in Bendigo High) grew in numbers to 50 young male and female members. During the year, students raised money for Freedom From Hunger and The Red Cross. The students also helped out with Meals on Wheels.

A Rotaract Club (for young people aged 18-30ish) was formed in Bendigo. The Club received their Charter on June 23, 1973.



The Club greeted a visiting GSE team from Maryland, U.S.A at Tullamarine Airport. The Club became the first co-hosts of the team in Australia. The members of the team visited a number of local industries and workplaces.

The Club looked seriously at finding suitable, local applicants for a GSE team to be sent to Ohio, U.S.A, next year. Group Study Exchange was a program of the Rotary Foundation.

### **Other highlights:**

The Art Show raised \$1,866.

The Carols made a profit of \$100 and the funds were donated to Scope.

The Club awarded an Apprentice of the Year Award.

Two students were sent Outbound and two students returned Inbound. One student, Ian Tabb was awarded the 'Top Rotary Exchange Student Award' from the 30 students that were sent overseas by District.