

1967-1968 Harold Ross

In 1967, the most popular film was: The Graduate, with Ann Bancroft and Dustin Hoffman. The most popular song was: To Sir with Love, by Lulu.



Bendigo 1960's

The new President in 1967 was Harold Ross. President Ross's Rotary classification was Electrical Appliances, Retailing. The Rotary International theme for the year was: Get Personally involved with Rotary.

President Ross made it his goal to ensure every member did make a sincere and successful effort to fulfil this wish of the R.I President, Luther Hodge.



Members, throughout the year, fully participated in large numbers with the many fun activities that were organised. For example, the Club held a Dinner Dance, Progressive Dinner, Wine-Tasting Dinner, and a night at the Drive In.

The Walkabout 26, which raised \$4,737.95, was also an enjoyable event where members could enjoy fellowship.

Drive-In Picture Night — Chairman Wilton McKean	\$442.50
White Elephant Sale — Chairmen Ron Wilkinson, Alan Cox	\$750.00
"Walkabout 26" — Chairman Russ Bowman	\$4737.95
Art Exhibition — Chairman Ralph Birrell	\$571.00
Wine-Tasting Dinner — Chairman Murray Adams	\$103.00
Progressive Dinners — Chairman Jack Henderson	\$500.00
Dinner Dance — Chairman Alan Cox	\$77.38

When I first joined Rotary, long-term members would often comment to me that the aim of Community Service is to not only do good in the world, but is also to encourage good fellowship in the process.

When we look back at the fellowship events held in 1967-68, we see clearly the activities were always very well attended. Furthermore, the events contributed significant funds to the community.



At the time, the expansion of the Axedale Camp was a priority of the Club. The Victorian Government was willing to match up to \$4,300, on a dollar-to-dollar basis, to fund the cost of a Hall at the Axedale Camp. The event, Walkabout 26, alone contributed the necessary funds to match the government grant.

Members were extremely excited when the Hon. J F. Rossiter M.L.A officially opened the Hall. Importantly, the government grant ensured the Club was debt free with the overall cost of the Hall. *(Rotarian Jack Henderson contributed significantly by drawing up comprehensive plans for the Hall. Also, P.P Bob Trethewey M.L.A was integral to receiving the grant.)*

The events held also contributed to the funds for Mirridong Guiding Light Appeal (\$1,000), the Bendigo Sheltered Workshop (\$1,000) and Mount Alvernia Hospital (\$600).

The Past President's Committee continued to find projects that benefited the Club and the community. For example, the committee arranged for Xmas parcels to be sent to South Vietnam to acknowledge the contribution of an Australian Army Unit serving there.

They also decided to compile a history of the Club over the years. Past documents from different years were filed away.

Note: Past President, Charles Alexander, commenced formal writing with documenting the history of the Club from 1925.



Nine hundred students from Bendigo, Kerang, and Melbourne, undertook a visit to Industries and Workplaces on “The Train of Knowledge” which had fourteen carriages to transport them to Melbourne and back again.

The Rotary Clubs of Bendigo, Kerang, and Melbourne, in association with the C.E.S (Commonwealth Employment Service) and Victorian Railways, organised the event.

The students were able to see first-hand the working conditions involved with different vocations. Also, they were able to talk to many young people employed in different vocations. It was an exceptionally long day for the students. They were away from 6 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.

Locally, the Club organised for three hundred and fifty students, from White Hills Technical School, to visit forty-four local industries.

Also, a counselling panel, organized by Bernie Masterson, conducted a vocation night for the Marist Brothers School and St Mary’s College. Over two hundred students and parents attended the night.

Other highlights during the year:

During the year, McDonald House for the Deaf, received equipment to the value of \$760 for amplifiers and playback equipment for a new classroom built at the school.

The Club continued the sponsorship of Eaglehawk Rotary Club with experienced members aiding and providing guidance.

A relationship was initiated with the Rotary Club in Fukushima, Japan. It was strengthened when a project about Bendigo, developed by students at North Bendigo Primary School, was sent to Fukushima.

A sample of some of the songs members would sing to reinforce the importance of fellowship and participation.

It's a Good Time to Get Acquainted

(Tune : Tipperary)

It's a good time to get acquainted,
It's a good time to know
All the hustlers and the live ones
That are here to make things go:
Good-bye chilly shoulders,
Good-bye glassy stares,
When we all join hands and pull together
We're sure to get there.

Rotary Town

(Tune : Home on the Range)

O give me a town where there's never a frown,
But a Rotary Spirit supreme,
Where the fellows are known by their first name alone
And where friendship's no idle dream.

Chorus

Oh! Rotary Town,
Where men are all happy and gay!
They meet every week,
Plans of good-will to seek—
May their influence spread far away.
When the Rotary Club meets, every ill it defeats,
Every malice and hate to beguile!
When man understands man, and we live by God's plan,
Life then becomes real and worth while.
So all 'round the world, Rotary's banners unfurled
Will prove the true purpose of life,
And for every man's good we are one brotherhood
In a world ne'er created for strife.

Rotary Parting Song

We are nearing the end of a Rotary day
Which will long remain in our thoughts,
It should send each member or guests away
With the joy that the day has brought,
For Rotary means Service at work and play
And friendships that never fade,
So we grasp at the end of a Rotary Day
The hands of the friends we made.