

1960-1961 Bill Sones

The number one film in 1960 was Ben-Hur. Now or Never, by Elvis Presley, was the number one song in Australia.



President Bill Sones 1960-61

Bill Sones undertook to be the President in 1960. President Bill introduced several changes within the Club. Importantly, one change acknowledged the importance of a member's wider family's support. Other changes benefited the growth of Rotary and the lives of young people.

For example, President Bill urged the partners of members to come to luncheons. Furthermore, he introduced special luncheons which encouraged sons, daughters, or friends of members to also attend a meeting. President Bill understood that without the full support from family or close friends of members, it was difficult for a member to remain engaged in Rotary.





To assist the newly formed Rotary Club of Bendigo South, President Bill made sure at least one member would represent the Club at every Bendigo South Meeting. Also, the Club invited new members of Bendigo South to Fireside Chats, films, and a slide show the Club held for all new members.

During the year, members from both our Club and Bendigo South assisted occupational counsellors with sixty-five students seeking a career path from fifty-eight occupations that were listed. The Club held the event at the Town Hall. Students showed an interest in forty-nine of the listed occupations.

Most popular career interest was in Teaching, Industrial Science, Banking, Pharmacy, Chemistry, Accountancy, Electrical Engineering, Electrical Mechanics, Wool Classing and Architecture.

Career counsellors arranged for follow-up interviews and career counselling in both the second and third terms. Feedback from the program was positive. Every student that attended followed up with the interviews held later in the year.

One student from each secondary school in Bendigo received bursaries of 15 Pounds and 15 Shillings to further their education. The successful students received their awards at a Club luncheon.

For the very first time, a local apprentice received not only the Outstanding Apprentice Award, but also funds. The winning recipient received 5 Pounds and 5 Shillings.

The Club presented Framed Four Way Tests to the senior prefects from four local schools. Representatives of both the Student Teachers' College and the Nurse's School also received copies.



During the year, President Bill provided funds for the purpose of erecting an Assembly Hall at the Axedale Camp. According to President Sones, the final cost of erecting the Assembly Hall came to approximately 2,750 Pounds. The Hall, according to President Bill, was erected in record time to ensure it would be available for fifty-six financially disadvantaged boys and girls arriving at a Xmas Camp. Collingwood and Brunswick Rotary Clubs sponsored the students.

Other highlights during the year were:

- Arthur Calwell (Federal Opposition Labor Leader) spoke at the Club (Pictured).
- The Home's Exhibition at the City Hall raised over 740 Pounds.
- A picture night held at the Golden Drive-In with Bendigo South contributed 142 Pounds.
- Nine new members joined the Club. And,
- Three members attended the World Rotary Convention held in Tokyo.

