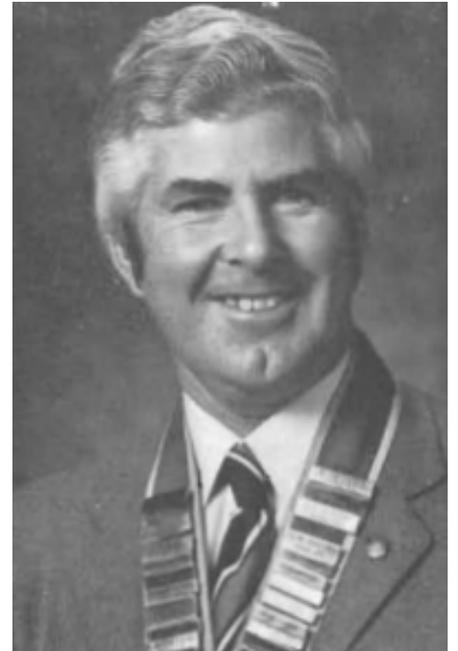


## President Leigh Williamson 1974/75

In 1974, banks introduced the first bankcards/credit cards. It is also the year when Cyclone Tracy devastates Darwin with seventy-one people losing their lives. For road users, road signs change from imperial to metric. And readers might remember it as the year, Richard Nixon resigned in disgrace as United States President.

Renew the Spirit of Rotary was the Rotary International theme for the year. President, Leigh Williamson worked hard during the year ensuring major fundraising occurred while members were still able to participate in enjoyable events.



With the assistance of fellowships directors, Bill Derham and Des Sampson, a Progressive Dinner, Dinner Dance and Christmas Celebrations were all held during the year ensuring members thoroughly enjoyed themselves in the Spirit of Rotary, while also contributing significant funds to support local communities.



Dick Hall, chair of Additional Projects, and his committee had a dilemma with the Carols held so close to Xmas on December 22. As a result, they were unable to obtain a choir. Compere John Beaumont quickly arranged an octette with guest artist, **Valerie Broad**, and pianist Dianna Cohn ensuring the night was successful.

Given it was the club's Golden Anniversary year, Charles Alexander completed writing the history of our first 50 years. With extensive research, Charles carefully documented our first 50 years for future generations to read.



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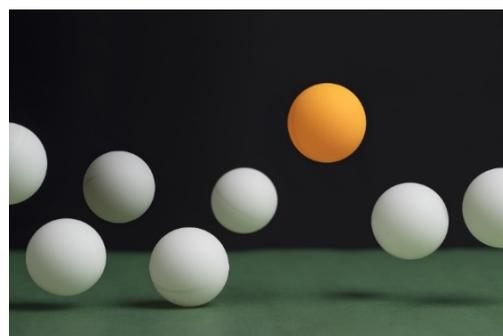
Axedale Camp Committee 1974 Johanson, Dingle Slattery Watts Marchingo  
Heard Bill Wiggins Henderson Martin Jennings

The Axedale Youth Camp during President Leigh's year was experiencing its highest numbers of bookings ever. As a result, along with its popularity, also came the need to increase maintenance and upkeep costs. Many electrical improvements were made during the year. For example, new stoves, a hot water system and exhaust fans were all fitted during the year. Also, 20 new mattresses were purchased.

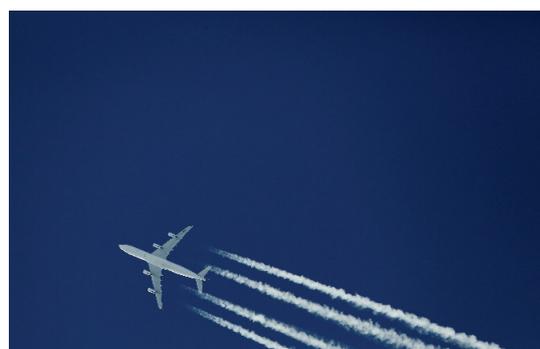
The committee during the year centred on whether such costs are manageable in the long term. Consequently, whether the Club should hand over management of the camp to the Education Department or a youth organization.

Interact (a Rotary service Club for young people 12-18) were very active during the year. Four students (Greg Allan, Stewart Arnold, Rughava Dasika and Stephen Streitberger) from Bendigo High School completed 63 hours of continuous table tennis to establish a new world record.

A total of \$300 was raised to purchase a duplicating machine for their school.



President Leigh was excited during the year to learn that one of our own members, Bruce Reid led the District Group Study Group to Ohio, USA.



Significant donations were given during the year to the Axedale Youth Camp, Bendigo Creche Committee, Darwin Disaster Appeal, Children's Ward Auxiliary, St Laurence Court, Strathaven Homes and Laughton Lodge.



● Pleased with the success of their induction night are Mr. Leigh Williamson (see from left) with his wife, and Mr. Frank McManus with Mrs. McManus (incoming outgoing president respectively, of the Rotary Club of Bendigo).

## Board of Directors 1974-75



BACK ROW (Left to Right) — MAX PONTIFEX, FRANK McMANUS, BILL DERHAM, MURRAY ADAMS, BRUCE REID,  
FRONT ROW (Left to Right), DAL MARTIN, JIM MAHONEY, LEIGH WILLIAMSON (President), WARREN CAMBRIDGE, KEITH SCARROTT, JOHN CARTWRIGHT, DES SAMSON.