

# 1929-1930 John Jeffrey

In 1929, the most popular film for the year was Daddy-Long-Legs. The silent film is based around Judy (a young orphan) found in a rubbish bin by a police officer and her struggles living in an orphanage. Later in her life, a mysterious benefactor provides funding for her education. The most popular song in Australia was: After You Have Gone, by Marion Harris.

In 1929, the new President of the Rotary Club of Bendigo is John Jeffrey.



Today, the Club provides scholarships to students in local schools and university graduates for several reasons. For example, the funds could be because a student has excelled in a particular field of study or trade; as a community recognition award; or to provide vital funding which will assist a

student to continue with their education, or field of study as an adult.

Nearly 100 years ago, President Jeffrey felt the Club could make a positive contribution in the community in the years ahead by introducing two school awards for the purpose of furthering a student's education.

Today, fine sessions are opportunities to raise funds for several Rotary programs. For example, the Club uses fine money to contribute funds to the Rotary Foundation.

Today, if you attend Rotary in the week of your birthday, you are fined. In 1929, President Jeffrey introduced birthday levies which would be collected and allocated to form the nucleus of the school scholarship fund.



President Jeffrey realised that Boy's Week excluded half of the student population and he brought an end to Boy's Week. In the future, the week would be for both boys and girls.

There is no documentation I could find of how he convinced the Club to include girls also, but hopefully there was little, if any, opposition to involve girls in the popular program.

The fact that girls were now involved in the program, also meant girls could attend industry visits.

It is a real credit to President Jeffrey in 1929 that he could clearly see then, there were clear benefits for both boys and girls to be able to fully participate in Girls and Boy's Week. Importantly, activities geared towards their future in education and the workforce.



Today, there are some members that regularly participate in Rotary golf events that raise funds for Rotary programs.

In 1929, 5 members represented the Club at a Rotary Golf Tournament held by District at Peninsular Links, Frankston.

Robert Parker must have been a fair golfer with a handicap of 2, while H.F Longstaff (20) and Frank Levy (24) may have not been so good!



The Extension Committee, under the leadership of PP Oscar Flight, had been active for some time with respect to forming a Rotary Club of Castlemaine. They were confident with Castlemaine being a reasonable size city, they would have no problems with finding potential, suitable members of the local community to form a new Club.

Likewise in Echuca, the members of the Extension Committee were confident a new Rotary Club could be established.

In Kerang, the Committee viewed George Hawthorn (a member of the local community) to be especially important with forming a Rotary Club there. With George being away visiting England and the U.S.A, the Club decided to wait for his return before moving forward in Kerang.