

## 1937-1938 Oriel Vere Morris

The most popular Australian movie in 1937 is: The Avenger, starring Douglas Stuart and John Fernside. The film is about a reformed thief who marries a society woman, but a former accomplice tries to frame him for a murder. The most popular film overall was Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. The most popular song is Sing, Sing, Sing (With A Swing) by Benny Goodman.

Amelia Mary Earhart disappears somewhere over the Pacific Ocean without any trace on a circumnavigation flight.



**MR. O. V. MORRIS**

In Bendigo, the Bendigo Manager of the Commercial Bank, Oriel Vere Morris, becomes the next President of the Rotary Club of Bendigo. President Morris had a distinguished career with the Commercial Bank of Australia, eventually becoming a State Manager. President Morris was unable to complete his year and Incoming President, Tom McNaught, completed the year.



### **Ladies Nights**

During the year, several Ladies Nights were held. In October, the first Ladies Night on October 16 was held at Favaloros. During the night, both members and the ladies listened to the guest speaker, President Morris. The women of the Castlemaine Rotary Club were also invited. The Club asked Inner Wheel to arrange catering and decorating. At Xmas, the women were also invited to the Club's Xmas Party to enjoy a Turkey Dinner.



### **Youth Week**

During Youth Week, three thousand children were involved in activities. The State Electrical Commission undertook a series of lectures during the week. Also, the students enjoyed educational 'picture' entertainment.

Older students were taken on visits to workshops and factories. Again, the Club provided a prize for the best written essay by a student of their experiences during Youth Week. . This year the winning student received 1-1-0 (1 pound and one shilling).

### **Donations**

Harley Coles provided eighty toys at 1/- (1 shilling) each for the Xmas tree at the Club's Xmas Party. Other donations during the year were for:

- The Home for the Blind to provide seventy-eight feet of extra safeguard (railing) to be built.
- Traveller's Aid
- The Toddler's Home.
- 10 Pounds (a considerable amount at the time) was donated to the Shanghai Rotary Club Trust Fund to relieve stress among the poor in their city.
- The After Care Paralysis Appeal (Polio).
- The Mayoress Blanket Appeal.

### **Other ways members of the Club assisted the community:**

- Offering to provide a Motor Drive for not only the children living in the Toddlers Home, but also the nurses at the Bendigo Hospital to show their appreciation for the work they were doing with Polio. (Unfortunately, both events had to be postponed to a later date as 1937/38 was at the peak of the Polio outbreak).
- Held an event for the Young Farmers Delegates on October 15 at Favaloros.
- Appealed to the Council and other relevant government bodies to ensure a section of the public reserve at One Tree Hill be offered as a Sanatorium site.
- Distributed toys at the Toddler's Home.



### **Other memorable events or highlights from the year:**

- The Club asked the committee working for a Children's Library to advocate to establish a Municipal Free Library.
- A Float (made in Pasandena, California) was decorated for the Easter Parade by both members and Inner Wheel.
- Rotarian Bishop Baker received golf clubs upon leaving the Club.



### **Extension Committee**

The Board recommended that if Shepparton and Deniliquin Clubs were to be formed, members of the Club would need to spend several days in each town to assist with the formation of new Clubs.

Ongoing support was also given to the Swan Hill Rotary Club.