

# 1966-67 Clark Jeffrey

The Bible was the most popular film of 1966. The most popular songs in Australia were Yellow Submarine/Eleanor Rigby by the Beatles. It also was the year that St. Kilda won the premiership by one point over Collingwood.

James 'Clark' Jeffery became the President of the Club. Three years later he was to become the Mayor of Bendigo.

It was an exciting year for the Club with the Rotary Club of Eaglehawk being chartered. Ken Hesse had played a significant role and was viewed as the Father of the Rotary Club of Eaglehawk.



When you look at President Clark Jeffrey's year as President, it is not difficult to see why he would be eventually selected to be the Mayor of Bendigo. President Jeffrey's focus for the year was on the overall needs of the Bendigo community.

Warren Cambridge, Community Chair, was provided with a 22 member Projects Committee to survey what was the number 1 community project the Club should support during the year.

It was found that a 5-rink bowling green for the hospital for the Aged was something which would have a huge impact on the residents of the facility. Within the year, the Club provided \$3,000 to ensure it would become a reality. Importantly, for President Jeffery, it was completed on time before the end of his year as President.

The chair of Rotary Information and Member Integration, Charles Bell, arranged for sixty-nine members to visit twelve other Rotary Clubs at least once. President Jeffery felt members would benefit from the experience with learning how other club's function.



Furthermore, they might develop new connections that would benefit our own Club in the long-term with undertaking joint projects.

For the very first time, the Club hosted a GSE team from the U.S.A for four days, along with Eaglehawk and Bendigo South Rotary Clubs.



The Club was also looking at becoming more involved in Student Exchange. The Club sent two local students on exchange to the U.S.A. and undertook to host one student in return.

During the year, Rotarian Bern Matheson organised a Career's Night for young people at the YMCA Hall. Bern Matheson and counsellors met with approximately 600 students.



Also, members organised a day when students from White Hills Technical School visited local industries and businesses to assist them understand what job opportunities there were once they completed school.

The Club held a Mannequin Parade fundraising event at the Town Hall. The focus was on fashion in fibres.

Also, for the first time, the Club developed a Safety Committee to improve community safety.



#### **SAFETY:**

This year the Club introduced a Committee to consider presentation of activities designed to improve community safety. It was felt that the three main avenues of safety, namely —

- (a) Safety in the home,
- (b) Safety on the roads, and
- (c) Safety in industry, should be covered by the Committee's activities.

During the year Inspector Ottrey (speaking on road safety) and Dr. Straede (speaking on home safety) were brought to the microphone as Club luncheon guests.

For the major community effort on safety, the three Rotary Clubs combined to stage a "Community Safety Week", culminating in a magnificent display in the new Y.M.C.A. stadium over the Easter period. Headed by Past President Allan Sandow, this virile Committee did a splendid job of this project, which was officially opened by the Mayors of Eaglehawk and Bendigo. Summing up — *A year of positive action aimed towards Community Safety.*

Other highlights for the year were:

- Two Progressive Dinners held with 69 and 75 Rotarians and their partners attending.
- A donation of goal and point posts from the VFL (AFL) for the Youth Camp.
- Fireside chats for new members at Charles Alexander's home.
- Women were more often encouraged to attend meetings.

Bowling Green for the Home and Hospital

for the Aged

The Rotary Club of Bendigo, in the Rotary year 1966-67, chose as its major community service activity, the installation of a Bowling Green for the residents and day patients of the Bendigo Home and Hospital for the Aged. It was a challenging project of such magnitude as to require the co-operation of all the members in some form or another. On June 6th, 1967, the completed Bowling Green was handed over to the Management of the Institution. The big project of over \$3000 value was completed right on the time promised. A non Rotarian contractor gave his time and the use of his earth moving equipment for several days. Prominent bowlers among the Rotarians organized the seeding of the green and surrounds and, in conjunction with good working bees, put the finishing touches to the project. A number of patrons of the Home and Hospital gave donations amounting to \$600. Especially appreciated was the donation of \$200 from a deceased Estate through the National Finance Company. (Mr. Patrick Brennan)