

1928-29 Oscar Flight

In 1928, the most popular film for the year was *The Singing Fool*, a musical drama (part talkie) with Al Jolson. The most popular song for the year was *T for Texas* (Blue Yodel No 1) by Jimmy Rodgers.

Oscar Flight (Snr), after serving as the Music Director, the Club appointed him as the new President of the Rotary Club of Bendigo. Described by his peers as the 'Music Man' of the Club, a 'good mixer' and a valued member who had spent more time than anyone in the Club with serving his fellow Rotarians.

In his personal life, President Flight was the local director of Allan's Music. He also was an accomplished violinist and was the current conductor of the Lyric Orchestra. Furthermore, he had been the Bandmaster of local brass bands.



One of the highlights of President Flight's year was coordinating a phenomenally successful Boy's Week. Apart from continuing with a

father and son luncheon, President Flight invited 18 District schools to participate in Boy's Week. The students were organised into groups, with members of the Club providing supervision with visits to local industries.

The YMCA provided entertainment during the week. There was community singing, a scout's concert and an entertaining display on parallel bars by members of the YMCA. A boy's service was held at the All Saints' Cathedral.

The Legacy Club held a hobby exhibition at the Memorial Hall. The Club held a football competition for A and B grade levels with winners of both levels provided with a set of guernseys.

Finally, President Flight invited 14 student representatives to a Rotary Luncheon.

One role I have always avoided in Rotary is Secretary or Treasurer. I truly admire members that do not hesitate to take on the role. I admit I do not have the skills to be the Club Treasurer and I would imagine being Secretary would be nearly as demanding as being President.

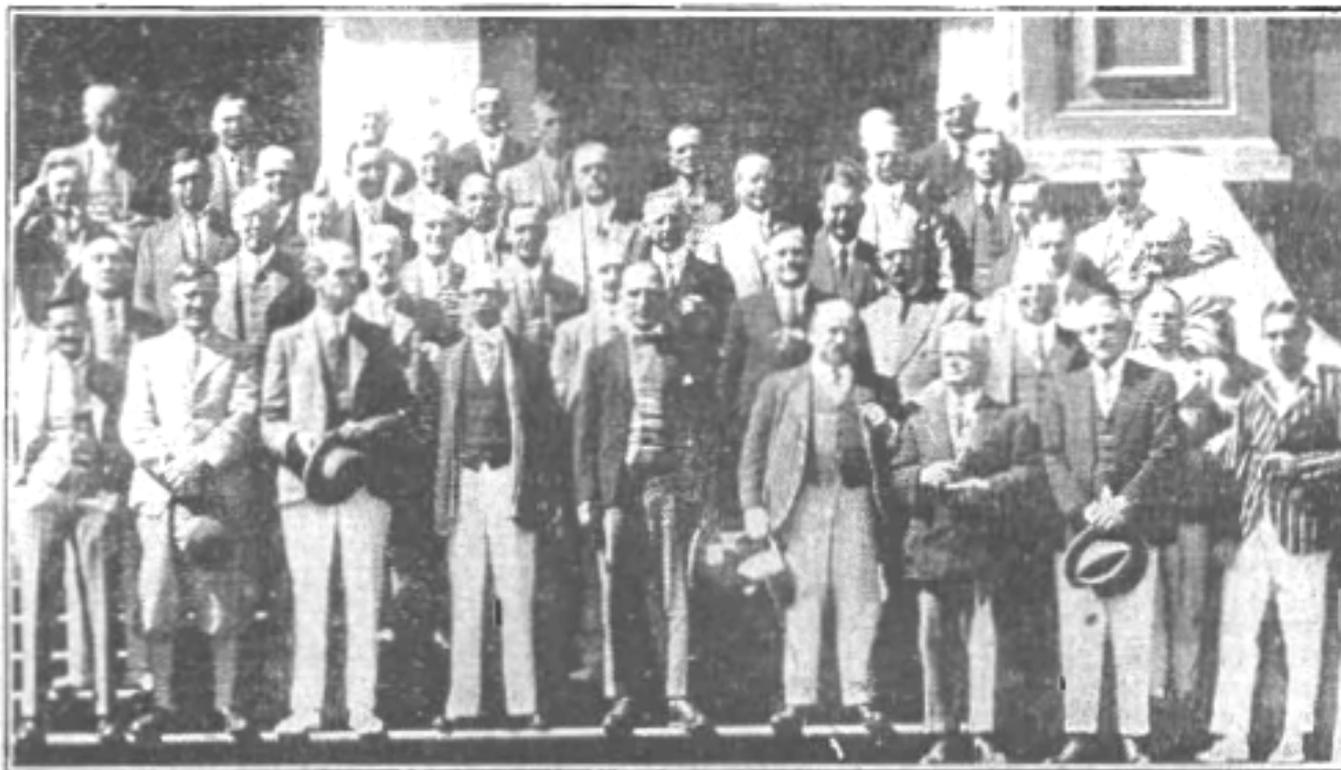
During his year, President Flight, Past President Long and others formally acknowledged the wonderful contribution Arthur H. Leggo had made to the Rotary Club of Bendigo in the early years. Secretary Leggo was the glue that was the essential ingredient to ensuring the Rotary Club of Bendigo was successful from its very inception.

As it was noted: if the Club had attained any success, it could be linked to the outstanding work of Secretary Leggo. He always performed his duties in a thorough, business-like manner. This was not only apparent to the Club as a whole, but also Rotary International.

The Club formally acknowledged that Secretary Leggo had to overcome difficulties to fulfil his role as Secretary. Regardless, he still devoted countless hours of his spare time to ensuring the Rotary Club of Bendigo was successful.



The Club presented Arthur with a Grand Father Clock which had a Rotary wheel under the dial. The Club inserted an inscription on the clock detailing how much the members of the Rotary Club of Bendigo had valued his excellent work.



Bendigo and Geelong Rotarians in Bendigo on Saturday ready for the challenge bowls tournament, which was won by Bendigo.

Lawn bowls has been a popular event for members each year in our Club. It is interesting to note that bowls was also popular in 1928. The Rotary Club of Bendigo challenged the Rotary Club of Geelong to a game of lawn bowls after they had attended our luncheon meeting.

Bendigo came away with the points. That evening, all was forgiven, and Geelong members were only too happy to join Bendigo members in fellowship at a dinner at the Shamrock Hotel.

Golf events have been popular in our Club for decades. They have proved to be excellent fundraisers for the Club. In 1928, our Rotary District invited our Club to participate in a Rotary Golf Tournament at Yarra Yarra Links.



Within our history records, there are many records detailing popular songs Bendigo Rotarians sang at the time. This song was one of the popular songs in the 1920's

Soup, soup, we all want soup,
Everyone is hearty, what a happy party;
Soup, soup, we all want soup,
Bring it to us steaming hot, Tra-la-la-la,
Soup, soup, we all want soup,
Thick or clear - don't matter, either makes you fatter;
Soup, soup, we all want soup, so
Bring it to us steaming hot.

Turkey and ham for me,
For our Jewish friends roast beef can make amends; but,
Turkey and ham for me,
Serve it up in good old style, Tra-la-la-la.
Turkey and ham for me,
They are both nutritious, aren't they just delicious?
Turkey and ham for me, now
Serve it up in good old style.

Plum pudding come this way,
Good old English fare, you're welcome everywhere, so
Plum pudding come this way,
Don't forget the brandy sauce, Tra-la-la-la;
Plum pudding come along,
Fit for King or Courtier, humble, meek, or haughtier;
Plum pudding come this way but
Don't forget the brandy sauce.

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