



In 1956, Just Walking in the Rain by Johnnie Ray was the most popular song in Australia. The most popular film was: The 10 Commandments. It was also the year the Olympics came Downunder to Melbourne.

In 1956, the Rotary year began in July and Reg Brock became the President of our Club. Like most Presidents, fellowship and recruiting new members was high on his list of priorities.

President Brock encouraged sponsors of new members to be mindful of making sure new members felt welcome at meetings. To assist the sponsors, President Brock changed the seating arrangement at luncheons to assist newer members to be able to easily engage with other members. President Reg felt too many members always chose to sit in large cliques and he introduced a cabaret type seating arrangement to ensure this would break up large cliques forming.

The Axedale Youth Camp was becoming extremely popular with schools, 1800 students utilized the camp during the year. President Brock undertook major maintenance of the Axedale Camp during the year. External painting of all the buildings completed. Inside, the kitchen received a fresh coat of paint, and the lino replaced.

At the time, the camp was using a lighting plant to

Youth Camp



provide electricity. President Reg sold the lighting plant and authorised the connection of SEC power. A new much larger fridge was purchased for the kitchen and the stove repaired.

Construction began, during President Brock's year, of a full-size basketball court enclosed by a wire fence. The area also doubled as a tennis court.

Most importantly, President Reg converted the camp within his year into a mixed camp for both girls and boys.

Boy's Club

The Club hatched an ambitious plan during the year to create a Bendigo Police and Citizens boys club. To assist the Boy's Club become a reality, a meeting was organized with the mayor's help. A Public Meeting was then held from which a President, Treasurer and Secretary were duly elected.

To assist with funding, an All-Charities Ball coordinated by the Club raised 105 pounds.



To improve international relations, an Australian/Asia weekend occurred during the year. In 1956, The Colombo Plan was government policy. The Club functioned as hosts to invite 30 international students from Melbourne (mostly in their late teens or early 20's) to Bendigo for a weekend.



Members of the Club met the students at Bendigo station on a Friday afternoon. To engender goodwill and increase understanding, the students were taken to visit local industries, institutions, and sporting events. To assist Club members, Bendigo student teachers were invited to also accompany the guests.

With the Olympic Games held in Melbourne, the Club invited 150 Olympic athletes and their managers to visit Bendigo. To ensure the guests were able to experience and enjoy the highlights of Bendigo, the Club provided bus transport for their sojourn. Inner Wheel also provided refreshments for all the guests.



To assist local students choose their pathway to a career, the Club held The Bendigo Careers Exhibition.

The aim of the Exhibition is to assist the youth of the district to choose vocations suited to their interests and aptitudes.

Exhibits are being displayed by many trades and professions, and trained advisers will be in attendance to give advice to children and parents.

Films depicting 20 vocations will be shown on each of the three days.

The Exhibition will be open daily as follows:

1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

As this is the first attempt to stage this type of Exhibition in Bendigo your support would be appreciated in recommending your students' attendance, together with their parents.

The Exhibition will be of interest to all pupils from Grade VI upwards and, we hope, will help encourage them to remain on at school to obtain the necessary qualifications for worthwhile employment and so reduce the number entering "dead-end" jobs.

The Director of Education has encouraged us in this matter as shown by the notice appearing in the November Education Gazette.

Admission: Adults 2/-
Children - 6d.

The Program for the Australia/Asia Weekend

FRIDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER.

8.00 p.m. "Rotary House of Friendship"

(All Saints' Anglican Parish Hall
McKenzie St., Bendigo).

Chairman: Reg. V. Brock
(President of Rotary Club of Bendigo)

1. Welcome to Visitors —
President, Reg Brock.
Cr. Alec S. Craig, Mayor of Bendigo
2. Bendigo High School Madrigal Group
 - (a) On the plains
Thomas Weelkes
 - (b) I'll Rock You to Rest
(A Lullaby from Songs of Erin)
arranged by C. B. Stanford
Conductress: Miss Gwen Bowles
3. Response to Official Welcome —
Mr. K. Sundaranadarajah (Ceylon)
4. Girton C.E.G.G.S. —
Foil Dance
5. Address —
Mr. Ghias Ud Din (Pakistan)
6. Arrangements for Saturday morning visits.

SATURDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER.

Morning: Visits to Bendigo Base Hospital, School of Mines, Hanro Knitting Mills, Bendigo City Council.

Afternoon: Trips arranged by hosts.

Evening:
7.45 p.m. "International Forum"
(Bendigo School of Mines, McCrae St. Bendigo)

Chairman: Rae Campagnolo
(Chairman International Service Committee)

1. Address: Hon. P. J. Clavey, M.H.R.
(Member for Bendigo in House of Representatives
Commonwealth Parliament)

2. Question Time.

3. Discussion Time. (International Groups)

— Supper —

SUNDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER.

Morning: Free.

Afternoon: Trips arranged by hosts.

3.15 p.m. Visit to Axedale Rotary Youth Camp.

— Afternoon Tea —

6.30 p.m. Departure: Bendigo Railway Station.

The International Service Committee who arranged the above Programme sincerely hope that it has been enjoyed by every-

President Reg Brock, Board members and other interested Rotarians at the last Board Meeting.



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS IN A HAPPY MOOD WHEN THIS PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN AT THE FINAL MEETING OF THE YEAR. INCLUDED ARE INCOMING MEMBERS, BILL SOANES, REX WALSH AND LES HARRIS WHO WERE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1956—57

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