

1971-72

President	Don McKenzie
Vice President	Pat Northeast
Secretary	Tom Bartholomew
Treasurer	Tom Bown
Directors	Max Nelson - Club Bill Errey - Community Bill McGregor - Vocational Ian McArthur - International
District Governor Bob Pola, Nhill	

R.I. Theme - "Goodwill Begins With You"

At the change over dinner incoming President Don McKenzie said "... the fellowship of Rotary is one of its great features," and "He would give consideration to raising money and increasing Rotary's membership during the coming year."

Don began his year with a rag drive in aid of the Leper Mission and Rotary asked that residents leave bags at the front gate and for country residents to deliver them to Nelson's Transport or Beaurepaires Tyre Service. A further drive was conducted in December with great success.

The annual Picnic Cabaret was held in the Civic Hall on Saturday, July 23, 1971 when the main feature was the continuous dancing to two orchestras – modern to the Rhythm Knights and old time dancing to the Metrotones.

Don and Dulcie attended Quota's first birthday in July at the Civic Hall and later a September dinner to hear Mr. H. Raysmith of the Victorian Council of Social Welfare.

District Governor Bob and Marj Pola visited the Club on September 29, 1971 addressing Rotarians whilst his wife entertained the Rotarian's wives by showing slides of her recent world trip. At the conclusion the ladies met with the club for supper.

On Wednesday, October 21 Heytesbury Shire Councillors inspected Cobden Lake and surrounds during the luncheon break of their monthly meeting. They approved the plans and specifications prepared by landscape architect Peter Glass and presented by Rotary to their meeting.

On Friday evening, November 5, 1971 Rotary combined with the Apex Club of Cobden to host a Sportsman's Dinner at the Civic Hall. One hundred and seventy attended to listen to Olympic runner Ron Clarke, former V.F.L. footballer Thorold Merrett, V.F.L. Umpire Don Jolly, Test cricketer Jack Potter and other sporting identities. A four course dinner was catered for by the Cobden Scouts' Women's Auxiliary at

\$7.50! The previous evening Cobden Rotarians were addressed by Past District Governor Royce Abbey speaking on Rotaract. Royce went on to become R.I. President in 1988/89.

The Rotary Club Bulletin November 4, 1971 under the heading - "NEWS AND VIEWS" stated - "Congratulations to Sam Ralph for his article (pages 25 & 26) in Rotary Down Under, October issue 1971, 'Our Papuan Student.' It's good to see Cobden Rotary mentioned in this magazine and it was particularly well written by Sam." This was Cobden's first article in Rotary Down Under showing what a new and small club could do on an international level and members for that year still have fond memories and deserve to be proud of their achievement in opening the Rotary world to Michael and the Cobden community.

It was a busy time for the Club as they had learnt in late October that they would be sponsoring Patrick Joseph from Capetown, South Africa. Patrick was due to arrive in January 1972. Patrick attended Camperdown High School during 1972 and was able to pursue his hobbies of playing chess and stamp and coin collecting.

In December the Rotary Club held its First golf day with 75 golfers participating in Good weather. Winner was Dave Ibbs.

Exchange student Mary Robertson returned home on January 14th having spent a wonderful year in Japan.

In early February 1972 the Club hosted businessmen from Rotary District 353 for four days being shown over local businesses and then taken to Terang, Camperdown, Simpson, Tower Hill and Warrnambool. The Japanese visitors were tendered a Shire reception on the Friday with Mary present and being presented with a bouquet from the Council.

Eight Rotarians and their wives attended the District Conference at Swan Hill in March, 1972. Marilyn Bell and Nicholas Weel attended RYLA held at Ballarat College in May.

The Rotary Club organised a Hobby Display in the Civic Hall on April 14th, the entry fee being Adults 50 cents and children 5cents (!) and about a 1,000 people visited according to The Cobden Times, April 19, 1972.

The "Cobden Rotary club's annual cabaret ball on May 6, 1972 was another swinging affair" reported The Times.

Members inducted were Geoff Denney, Arthur Pearce and Tom Freeman.