

1992 – 93

President	Jim L. Walsh
Vice President	Alan Hart
Secretary	Bob Anderson
Treasurer	Ian Pollard
Directors	Club - Geoff Denney Community - Russell Glasson Vocational - Peter Narik International - Kevin Johnston Youth - Greg Tippett
District Governor	Jeff Binder, Torquay

R.I. Theme - “Real Happiness is Helping Others”

Past President Bill Barrett handed over the reins to ‘J.L.’ Jim Walsh at the Cobden Golf Club on Friday, June 26th, 1992 during a night featuring overseas entertainers. D.G. Ken and Margaret Broadbent, D.G. Elect Jeff and Beryl Binder, Heytesbury Shire President Ian and Joan Laing, Cobden, Illinois, USA Mayor Gene and Carol Dammerman, a number of Canadian ‘Cobdenites’ and Trevor Molloy from Cobden, South Island, New Zealand were present to hear of club activities during the past year. Chanda and her sister Trish Gibson provided the entertainment via fiddle and Canadian ‘stepping,’ (dancing).

At the changeover dinner in June 1993 President Jim L. Walsh presented Rotarian Jim Luker with honorary membership due to his failing health and described his past year as “a working year,” with the club participating in 15 community and fund raising events.

Mexican exchange student Antonia ‘Tony’ Garcia returned home in July after a great year and a lot wiser about plumbing thanks to the McQuinns!

Rotarian and ex Cobden Apexian Frank Hodgson was presented with a Heytesbury Shire Community Service Award at the annual Shire President’s Dinner in August for his community work. Rotarians were well represented when over 70 attended the Combined Service Clubs dinner hosted by Quota in late August.

P.P. Bill Barrett was surprised on the night of the D.G.'s visit to the club on October 8, 1992 when he was presented with a Paul Harris Award by Cobden's 'own' D.G. Jeff Binder. Bill, a Charter Member was "dumbfounded" and "would have worn a coat and tie if he'd known!"

The club hosted a night of "Magic and Music" on Friday, October 1992 in the Cobden Civic Hall featuring magician Wayne Andrews and singer Joy Pertzelt with proceeds going to the Heytesbury Aged Care appeal.

A club first, the Collectables Fair in the Civic Hall on Friday, November 6 between 1 and 8 p.m. was a huge success. A large number of district people gladly displayed a great variety of 'collectables.' Great press coverage gave Rotary a high profile and raised \$710 for the club and gave many collectors a chance to share their passion with a much wider audience.

Wooden toys were again made by Rotarians and a donation was made to the Cobden Community Christmas Hamper Appeal to assist those in need at Christmas.

Cobden Newsagency employee Marilyn Callaway was the winner of the Most Courteous Shop assistant award. The Studentship awards were again presented to Cobden Tech and Primary school students at the end of the year.

The Rotary/Southdown golf day in December saw 81 golfers take part and club coffers swell by \$1,038, a great community effort all round. The course was in tip top condition as district golfers enjoyed a day out.

The Chamber of Commerce Christmas street promotion night saw Lucky Envelopes and the Spinning Wheel to the fore and a great night enjoyed by the large crowd.

The 9th Fun Run/Walk in February attracted 53 runners and 34 walkers with Terang's Laurie Heffernan and Warrnambool's Joy Conlin the first runner and walker home respectively.

A 'Fly In and Carnival' at the Cobden Air Strip on February 28th was a great success in providing aerobatics and much excitement for patrons. There was a real buzz about the town during the weekend as planes of all types took to the skies over Cobden.

Rotary supported the Cobden Carnival held in March at the football ground with football coach Ian "Frosty" Miller winning the Thompson's Hotel Cobden Gift. The second Garden Expo in March netted almost \$950 and was well supported by the local community.

Rotary catered for a pre Ardno March sale followed by the final April 1993 Ardno Sale for Peter Lille. Catering for both days totalled over \$1,100 as the curtain came down on the club's most successful fund raiser to date.

Another club 'first' was playing of golf on Good Friday when 56 hit off. Funds raised were shared between the Royal Children's Hospital Appeal and Heytesbury Aged Care appeal. The ladies street stall in May added further funds to club coffers as the ladies continued their great support.

The highlight of the year was the attendance of Rotarians President Jim L. Walsh, Bob Anderson, Stan Coad, Harold Errey and Alan Hart at the R.I. Convention in Melbourne during May. Many old acquaintances were renewed and a great time had by all particularly President Jim who was one of 2,200 Presidents at the luncheon in the World Congress Centre.

The club received news in April that Rebecca Loving had been selected as an exchange student for the 1994 year and would be staying in Wyoming or North Colorado.

The club added a further \$1,500 to the Heytesbury Aged Care Appeal as well as making donations to the Croation relief Appeal, the Rotary Health Foundation and the Cobden Technical School.

Four members left during the year and two new members – John and Hennie Van Leerdam and Brian and Eileen Malden were inducted , leaving the club with a membership of 27.