

1977 - 1978

Bob Taylor who was later to become our Club's first District Governor, was President, Roger Vince was the Secretary and Jim Thomson was the District Governor. In July of Bob's year our District changed from 269 to 969.

This could be described as a monumental year in the history of the Club, a year of significant development. Strathfield was honoured as the first Rotary club in District 969 to receive an address, on Tuesday 26th July, 1977, by R.I. President-Elect Clem Renouf. On this occasion some 26 of the 32 Club's were represented by their Presidents, in full regalia, and formed a Guard of Honour. In attendance were District Governor Jim Thomson, Past District Governors Harry Pickett, Frank McDonald, Alan Moore, Mick Shephard, DGN Bill Bradford and their wives.

The Rotary Club of Strathfield hosted the RYLA camp at Springwood and our guest speaker was Judge Sir Adrian Curlewis. Past President Maurie Moroney gave a talk to the group on communication. In an unprecedented expansion, membership was boosted by fourteen new members, two only left owing to loss of classification.

New piano for the Town Hall

A new piano has been installed in Strathfield Town Hall to the great delight of the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra .

The idea of a new piano was first raised some months ago by members of Strathfield Rotary Club.

After consultation with Strathfield Youth Orchestra, the club raised \$2000 towards the cost of a piano suitable for recitals.

Rotary donated this money to Strathfield Council

on the understanding that council provide the balance.

Council originally chose a Kawai 3 grand piano, but agreed with Strathfield Symphony Orchestra that this was too light in the lower registers to withstand the sound of a full orchestra.

A quick consultation was held and the orchestra decided to provide the extra funds necessary for a larger piano.

The Kawai 5 will be used for the first time on March 17, when Christine Edwards will play a solo at a concert for senior citizens.

There are hopes, too, that the piano will feature prominently in the orchestra's 10th anniversary concert in April.

"The Kawai 5 has a beautiful full tone which will rise above the orchestra and give complete satisfaction to any artist," says musical director, Miss Emily Finn.



ABOVE: Rotary Club of Strathfield 1977-78 president, Mr R. Taylor (right) accepts congratulations from past president, Mr M. Perry at the club's recent changeover night. Guests included State Member for Burwood, Mr G. Jackett, and Mayor of Strathfield, Ald C. Edwards. Mr Perry told members the club has raised more than \$3900 in 1976-77 for district and overseas charities.

Christmas Stocking: Origin

The Club Service Director, David Driver, stated at the item that the major club fund raising project for the year ran for six weeks up to Christmas at the Flemington Markets. This proved a successful project and with what we learned and learned and a stocking to start with the following year, David forecast that it should be better in the future. These were prophetic words. The Christmas Stocking still looms large in our Club's Fund raising efforts.

The proceeds of the Christmas Stocking this year, were directed towards the purchase of a grand piano, assisted by the Strathfield Municipal Council, for use by the Strathfield Youth Orchestra and the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra. Assistance was maintained for the Down Syndrome Pre-School at the Macquarie University.

There was an increase in the plateau to the Rotary Foundation to 400%.

