BENDIGO
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PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.

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PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO INC.

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A Special General Meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday each month at 10.00 a.m. at the Bendigo Club.
All correspondence to the Secretary, 29 Woodbury St., Bendigo, 3550.

THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER will be KEVIN CARNEY - well known Antique Dealer of the Borough Galleries in Eaglehawk. His topic as you might appreciate - Antiques.

THE THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the PROBUS CLUB of BENDIGO INC. was held on March 15th. In summary the highlights of that meeting were:-

NEW COMMITTEE: President - Reg Brock, Vice Pres. - George Jennings, Secretary - Ray Downie, Treasurer - Bob Holmes, Immediate Past President - Jack Watts.

MEMBERS: Cyril McDonald, Gordon Glover, Arthur Eaton, Alan Dingle, Albert Cooper, Jock Crook, Ken Coles.

REPORTS: The PRESIDENT reported a successful year and thanked his committee and a number of active members for their contribution to the well-being of the Club and its members.

THE TREASURER'S report showed that the balance of General Club Funds had increased from $218.09 to $339.72 on income of $2172.41 and expenditure of $2050.42.

The balance of The Trips and Entertainment account had also increased. The balance at 28/2/89 was $576.42 compared to $462.55 at the same time in 1988.

Following this latter report it was agreed that Joining and

Membership Fees for 1989 should reamin at $6 and $15 respectively. THE TREASURER HAS REQUESTED ME TO ADVISE MEMBERS THAT THEIR 1989 FEE IS NOW DUE AND CAN BE PAID AT THIS MEETING.

THE SPEAKERS at the March meeting were Cynthia and Eric Lockeyear. Members could have been forgiven for thinking it was Family Day as Cynthia and Eric were introduced by Cynthia's proud father - Don Kerr - and thanked by the prouder (if possible) uncle - Alf Grierson. Cynthia and Eric, who live in Hong Kong, spoke on different aspects of their life in the colony.

Cynthia, a most successful journalist both in Melbourne and Hong Kong, is currently the Principal Information Officer for the Government Information Service.

She began her talk with video introduction to Hong Kong and then spoke of the strength of the economy and its diversification with specific reference to the turnover of the Stock Exchange, ($340 million per day), and the importance of the natural harbour which has assisted Hong Kong to become the world's 2nd largest container port. The gambling instincts of the 5.5 million inhabitants have been strong enough to allow the Hong Kong Jockey Club to assist in the funding of the University, the Performing Arts, and an attraction similar to Sea World, Hong Kong has a high standard of living and few economic problems.

Current problems were cited as; pollution, shortage of labour, illegal immigration and proposed political changes in 1997.

Eric, a Chief Superintendant in the Royal Hong Kong Police Force spoke of the efficiency of the criminal elements of the population. He also referred to the oddity of having a church on the top floor of a building in which all other levels were brothels.

Eric claimed the recent introduction of an ID card system had helped the police to make more arrests without any major infringement of the general population's rights. He also claimed that political corruption had been greatly reduced.

TRIPS AND ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY APRIL 27TH. "TRIP TO RICH RIVER & POKIES". Cost $3.00 / person. Includes; Coach, 3 Course Meal. Currently sufficient booked which will enable a 45 Seater Coach & 18 Seat Air Conditioned Mini Bus to run. (Providing bookings remain stable). Depart from Strath Community Complex, Crook Street at 9.30 a.m. We will arrive home at approx. 4.30 p.m. (Please finalise payments).

TUESDAY MAY 23RD TO WEDNESDAY MAY 31ST, 1989. 9 Days - 8 Nights.

TRIP TO: SALE, MERIMBULA, CANBERRA - WAGGA.

FINAL PAYMENTS: required by April 23rd, payable to Houldens Bendigo. Itineraries available. Total cost $465.00. Coach fully booked and holding emergencies.

IN THE PIPELINE, FUTURE TRIPS PROPOSED:

THURSDAY JUNE 22ND. TRIP TO GEELONG:
Visit the National Wool Museum and local attractions. Cafeteria, Snacks and Bar service on hand, should be a relaxed and interesting day. Departure time 8.00 a.m. Cost Approx. $13.00 includes Coach and Admissions. Buy your own lunch. Coach capacity 45 (list tabled today). Payment at May meeting.

TUESDAY JULY 11TH. Film Morning at R. L. Campbell Theatrette, plus Lunch to follow. Details to be finalised.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH. Proposed to make a trip to Melbourne;
(a) Port of Melbourne Authority "Port Cruise".
(b) An inspection of Government House.
(Arrangements yet to be finalised). Probable cost $11.00 / person. Buy own lunch.

OCTOBER: WEDNESDAY 11TH & THURSDAY 12TH. Two Days / One Night.
TRIP TO PHILLIP ISLAND - Cowes - view the "Penguin Parade". Sightseeing Mornington Peninsula, hope to arrange a visit to Flinders Naval Base. Coach Capacity: 44. Estimated cost per person: Approx. $99.00.
LIST TO BE TABLED TODAY.

ON SAFARI IN GIPPSLAND WITH CLARK JEFFREY & CO.

Ten lucky people set off with Barretts on the 10 day Probus tour of Gippsland and the High Plains. We enjoyed the latest de luxe camping equipment and stayed overnight in peaceful National Parks. These parks were well developed and signposted to maximise the comfort of visitors.

The main highlights of the outward part of the journey were the visit to Wilson's Promontory and angling for silver bream and other fish at Point Hicks and Mallacoota. (All fish went into the pan and were delicious).

The exciting return journey started when we left the Pinces Highway near Cann River and travelled north into the rain forests. We found ferns of all types and sizes, mountain ash forests that got taller and denser as we climbed the alps, and waterfalls. It was in this type of country that we were thrilled to see lyrebird in full display - a colourful sight.

Shopping bargains were obtained at Bonang, a small mountain village close to the N.S.W. border. Prices were so cheap that we thought the clock had been turned back 5 to 10 years. We were privileged to see large herds of hereford cattle grazing on the High Plains as this may be the last year that such grazing is permitted.

From Bonang we travelled to the long, high, and picturesque McKillops Bridge - the only bridge to span the Snowy River for 160 kms.

For the next 16 km we climbed out of the gorge created by the Snowy and then looked back over a scene similar to the famous Grand Canyon.

One of the joys of this part of the trip was the lack of traffic. When we purchased petrol at a store called "Seldom Seen" we could say that we hadn't seen a car for three days!

Other pleasures included the company of our travelling companions and the superb meals prepared by the Barretts. C. JEFFREY.
(Ed Note - Clark advises that a limited number of vacancies exist on each of Barretts trips to the Gulf Country. Departure dates - May 5th and June 12th).

THE NEW BOY SAYS!

To use Reg's terminology from the March issue of PROBE I failed to duck, hesitated before saying NO, and so had the King's Shilling pressed into my hand. Time will tell whether the shilling was well spent!

Having accepted the position I now have a problem, (perhaps one of many). How do I proceed in a manner that will be of benefit to as many members as possible? One method would be to follow the excellent example set by Reg.

In some matters I will. I expect to continue to advise the content of the coming meeting, to report on the previous speaker's presentation, to advise on forthcoming trips, etc., and to include reports as appropriate.

The items listed seem to normally take about 3/4 of the space available. Before considering the remaining space I have sought direction from our Constitution. The statement of Aims and Objects includes:- "..who appreciate and value ... increased social contacts and opportunities to meet others ... of similar interests and backgrounds; ..."

As a relative newcomer to the Club I would observe that the only apparent interest group is that comprising the bowlers. While I full appreciate this development I would like to think that other groups could be formed. I am sure that members have many interests in common that are unknown. On the assumption that the Executive Committee won't jump on the proposal I offer space in PROBE to any member who would like to share their interests with other members.

My own interests, other than wine, women and song (in any order), include Billiards and I would like to know of members other than Clark Jeffrey, Gordon Glover and Bob Chenery who I can invite for a game. Snooker would be tolerated. Doubtful about Pool! Additionally I hope to continue with members' profiles but I doubt the practicality of attempting to include a statement about each member. Some suggestions as to possible candidates would be welcome. Finally I wish to congratulate Reg on the standard of PROBE since its inception and also on his elevation to higher rank.