



Published Monthly

Issue No. 252

16th April, 2008

Incorporation No. A0011248L

Annual Subscription \$25 Print Post Publication No PP 3491 06/00007

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A Special General meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10am at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Rd, Bendigo.

All correspondence to be addressed to The Secretary, Bob Chenery, 49 Emmett Street Golden Square 3555.

Tour organiser and Activities Co-ordinator Arthur Eaton, 4 Maxwell Crescent, Bendigo Phone: 5443 9162.

The speaker for our April meeting will be from Bendigo Community Care, which relates to services available to senior residents living independently in their own home, this subject should be a major benefit to many of our members, so we invite you to bring your wife or partner, all guests will be welcome.

- Barry, O'B.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The following are the members who will assist in the running of our club for the next 12 months.

President John White
Vice President Ern Holland
Immediate Past President Alec Crothers
Secretary Bob Chenery
Treasurer Ken Coles
Tour Organiser Arthur Eaton
Guest Speakers Barry O'Brien
Public Officer Ken Coles
Auditor Geoff Biles
Bowls Manager Ray Fitzgerald
Welfare Officer Peter Randall
Probus Labels Mal Shipp

Committee. Barry O'Brien,
Ray Fitzgerald,
Bryan Clemson,
Bryan Armstrong
John Hardy
Badges Ian Bennett
Door Duty Alan Court, Doug
Laity, Bruce Michelsen,
Jack Laidler,
Bill O'Donoghue
Foundation Members Report Alec Crothers

Editor

**WE NEED NEW MEMBERS AND WE NEED
YOUR HELP TO FIND THEM.**

New Member



Arthur Eaton reintroduced Charlie Tamblin to the meeting (as per photo) and he was inducted by President John. Charlie was born in Bendigo and is well known as the Former Bass Drummer with Clan McLeod Pipe Band. He joined the band in 1953 retiring after 50 years service. He is still a member. Charlie has had numerous jobs, including 7 years with William Farmer, 10 years as a Bus Driver, also time with Armaguard.

- Editor

New President



Above: Photo showing immediate past President Alec Crothers investing our new President John White with the chain of office.

QUESTIONS OF TIME? ABOUT THOSE BIRTHDAYS?

You can't turn back the clock but you can wind it up again.

- Bonnie Prudden.

There's nothing wrong with you that an expensive operation can't prolong.

- Graham Chapman.

It's never too late to be what you might have been.

- George Eliot

You're never too old to become younger.

- Mae Mesh

Always be nice to your children, because they are the ones who will
choose your rest home.

- Phyllis Diller

I'm pleased to be here. Let's face it – at my age I'm pleased to be anywhere

- George Burns

President John

TREASURER'S REPORT

Captain Scrooge advises that the chance to buy the new BMW could not be taken as insufficient subs were paid in March. Payment of all remaining subs in April will ensure the next H.P. payment on his current Ford!!.

- Ken C

Foundation Members Luncheon

We had lunch at the Belmont Hotel last month, March. The attendance was low, some of us were sick, others had engagements else where, but those present enjoyed good food and conversation. This month we shall visit the British and American Chinese Restaurant in Eaglehawk Road. Everyone is welcome to join us, whether Foundation Members or not.

Alec C.

Useless Information

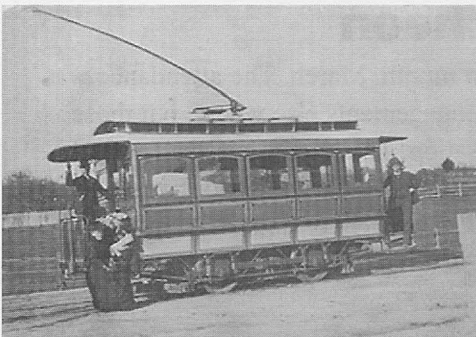
- The Liquid inside young coconuts can be used as a substitute for blood plasma in an emergency.
- A full moon always rises at sunset.
- Bulls are colour blind and will usually charge at a moving cape regardless of colour.
- Japan is the largest exporter of frogs.
- Duelling is legal in Paraguay as long as both parties are registered blood donors.
- Snakes do not have eyelids, so even when they are asleep they cannot close their eyes.
- The phrase jetlag was once called boat lag back before airplanes existed.

- Editor

April 1903.

The first electric trams in Australia carried real estate speculators from Box Hill station to Doncaster for ten years during the land boom of the 1880's and early 90's. Despite this, Bendigo selected battery powered trams because the overhead wiring was considered unsightly. They proved to be underpowered for the hilly terrain, frequently breaking down and having to be towed by horses to the recharging station on Mollison Street. After thirteen weeks, the service was discontinued. The trams were later converted to steam and remained in service for four years but the company could not make a profit, and was sold in 1899.

The official opening of Bendigo's electric tram service took place on the 21st April 1903, although they had already been running for a few days between Bendigo and Eaglehawk. Public transport had arrived! Trams ran at 10 minute intervals in the morning and early evening, and at 15 minute intervals for the rest of the 18 hour day. Timetables were arranged to coincide with church services, and "specials" were added for sporting events. Trams ran seven days a week for the next 69 years.



References:

Mackinnon, Sue "Bendigo and its vintage and talking trams"

Kings, K.S. "The Bendigo Tramways"

Left: Box Hill – Doncaster Electric Tramway 1889 – 1896

- Rupert R.

PROBUS CLUB BENDIGO - 5 DAY LAKES ENTRANCE/MERIMBULA TOUR

MONDAY 12th – FRIDAY 16TH MAY, 2008 Maximum (48) (Minimum: 35)

COST: \$545.00 Per Person (Twin Share). Single Supplement: \$115.00

INCLUDED: ALL COACH TRAVEL, DINNER, BED & COOKED
BREAKFAST, MORNING TEA ON 2 DAYS, ALL LUNCHESES &
ENTRANCE FEES AS PER ITINERARY

The following (45) Bookings have been confirmed:

B. Armstrong (1), G. Bloomfield (1), I. Bennett (1), N. Bruhn (2), W. Clemens (2), A. Cowling (2), R. Chenery (1), A. Crothers (2), A. Dingle (2), A. Eaton (1), K. Gloster (2), F. Himsworth (1), Z. Hughes (2), E. Jenkins (1), D. Laity (2), R. Michell (1), B. Michelsen (1), M. Miller (1), B. McGrath (2), T. Roberts (1), C. Smith (1), H. Ward (1), J. White (1), W. Winzar (1), Y. Wallace (1), O. Fadersen (1), Beth Campbell (1), Jean Lynch (1), Anne Sanderson (1), Margaret Wesley (1), Jean Vincent (1), Alex Hunter (1), K. Allen (2) M. Davies (1) K. Livingston (1)

**MONDAY 12th (L,D) Depart 8.30am Strath Community
Centre Car Park Crook Street.**

We leave Bendigo at 8.30am as we begin the journey South. We will stop at the Organ Pipes National Park for morning tea before continuing on to Yarragon for lunch. We then continue along the Princes Highway travelling through Morwell, Sale & Bairnsdale then on to Paynesville and Metung before arriving in Lakes Entrance for the night.

R.S.L. Glenara Motel 03 5155 1555

Refer to Itinerary for Tuesday to Friday program.

Our accommodation will be at the Black Dolphin Motel in Merimbula 02 6495 1500

From Tuesday 13th to Thursday 15th April.

Please bring on the trip and retain yourself, your own emergency details in regard to health, emergency contact numbers etc.

As a suggestion for the first night, please pack an overnight bag as we will only be staying for one night at Lakes Entrance.

Should you require another copy of Itinerary phone Arthur.
Enquiries for the trip please contact Arthur Eaton: Phone 5443 9162

Emergency contact numbers if a problem arises on departure day would be:

Bendigo Coachlines: 5446 3144 or 5446 7018
Neville Dewhurst Coach Captain: 0407 349 654



CHIMPS ON THE RUN FROM THE ZOO

Sydney: Zoo officials have admitted that the two chimps that have escaped from the Zoo, did so by hijacking a passing motorcyclist's bike.

The motorcyclist was heading down Jacob Street when he came upon what he thought was an injured chimp laying in the middle of the road.

When the motorcyclist stepped off his bike to offer assistance to the injured chimp, another chimp, which had been hiding in nearby bushes, ran out and started to ride away on the bike. As the motorcyclist turned to pursue his bike, the injured chimp leaped up from the road and was picked up by the other chimp.

The embarrassed motorcyclist, who wishes to remain unnamed said "Well at least, they appear to know the road rules, they were both wearing helmets by the time they got to the end of the road."

The cheeky chimps were last seen two days ago posing for photos at the Big Banana.

ALL GRANPAS, HEED THIS WARNING:

Do NOT lose your grand kids in the Mall.

A small boy was lost at a large shopping mall.

He approached a uniformed policeman and said, 'I've lost my grandpa!'

The cop asked, 'What's he like?'

The little boy hesitated for a moment and then replied, 'Bundaberg rum and women with big BOOBS.'

- Rupert R.

An elderly couple was having dinner one evening when the husband reached across the table, took his wife's hand, and said, 'Martha, soon we will be married 50 years, and there's something I would like to know. In all of these 50 years have you ever been unfaithful to me?'

Martha replied, "Well Henry, I have to be honest with you. Yes, I've been unfaithful to you three times during these 50 years, but always for a good reason."

Henry was obviously hurt by his wife's confession, but said, "I never suspected. Can you tell me what you mean by 'good reasons' .? "

Martha said, "The first time was shortly after we were married, and we were about to lose our little house because we couldn't pay the Mortgage, Do you remember that one evening

I went to see the bank manager, and the loan was extended?"

Henry recalled the visit to the banker and said, "I can forgive you for that. You saved our home, but what about the second time?"

Martha asked, "and do you remember when you were so sick, but we didn't have the money to pay for the heart surgery you needed? Well, I went to see your doctor one night and, if you recall, the surgery was done for no charge."

"I recall that," said Henry, "and you did it to save my life, so, I of course can forgive you for that. Now tell me about the third time."

"All right," Martha said. "Do you remember when you ran for President of your golf club, and you needed 73 more votes?"

Rupert R.