



# 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 of each month at 10.00 a.m. at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Road.

All correspondence to the Secretary, 2 Cook Street, Bendigo, 3550

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There will be no Guest Speaker today, instead, to mark the 50th Anniversary of VP Day "Australia Remembers".....

..Four of our Members, Arthur Cowling, Maurice Pease, Rupert Reynolds and Jack Watts will give their memories of the first VP Day, each of them in a totally different set of circumstances.

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Our Guest Speaker at the July Meeting was Max Turner, MLA for Bendigo West. He was introduced by Bruce Perrin, and he told us of his recent travels in China.

The tour was partly as a tourist and partly on business, promoting exports of poultry to China from Australia, and in particular from Bendigo.

The tour lasted 17 days and involved visits to 10 cities including Tianshin for the North West Trade Fair; Max flew to Hong Kong and then on to Shanghai which was the introduction to China proper. At Shanghai he was met by officials from Foreign Affairs who provided official guides throughout.

The highlights for Max in Shanghai were, the Jade Buddha Temple and the Children's Palace. The children are taught music, ballet and calligraphy.

Education is rapidly changing in China, as is China itself. From Shanghai the next step was by rail to Suzhon and then on the Grand Canal to Wuxi. The Canal links 5 cities and provinces and is 2400 years old. It is still a most important artery for travel and commerce.

Nanjing was the next city, it is a former capital of China, under the Ming emperors. It is a centre for silk growing and weaving, and also the site of the mausoleum of Sun Yat Sen.

Travelling next by air to Beijing, Max there met representatives of the poultry industry. The Chinese poultry are free-range, processed in a way different from what happens here, but the process is very effective. There is an excellent opening for Australian chicken.

Besides the business of trade discussions there were sites to be seen in Beijing. Tienanmin Square is there and Max also saw the Forbidden City, where the Emperor and his court resided, and not far away from Beijing is the Great Wall.

On then to Xian, which is another ancient capital, from the Han dynasty. Here were found the famous terracota warriors, which are on display.

By rail next the Tientsin. This is a sister city to Bendigo, and here was the North West Trade Fair. Max was there for the opening ceremony, which was modeled on the similar ceremony at the last Olympic Games. The fireworks display was viewed by Max from the top storey of a government building.

For general impressions, Max mentioned the rapid development with buildings going up everywhere; streets are being widened by wholesale demolitions of existing buildings on each side; the young people are eager to learn English; and Australians are very popular.

The thanks of the meeting were conveyed by Clive Miller, who also made the usual presentation.

#### NOTES ON MEMBERS

John Wilson had a stroke during the week before the meeting. After a stay in Mt. Alvernia he is now home and coming good.

Arch Scott was to go into hospital for a surgical procedure, he is back home by now, and improving.

May McLean also had been in hospital for a bypass operation.

Alf Whatmore has been in hospital also and is not well at the time of writing.

#### INTRODUCTIONS

One new member, Len McCracken, was introduced, by Arthur Eaton; and one former member rejoined. Clive Miller was a foundation member, but resigned thereafter because of pressure of work, now he has rejoined us.

The new issue of the membership booklet is now available. Copies will be found on the table where the registrars sit.

Committee members are reminded that there will be a Committee Meeting on August 16, and that their presence at 8.45 a.m. is requested.

#### TRIPS INFORMATION

THURSDAY AUGUST 17TH - TRIP TO MELBOURNE : VISIT HENSELITE AND AND MEAT MARKET VICTORIAN CRAFT CENTRE. Maximum 49 - Current 42. \*\*\*Vacancies exist\*\*\* Depart 7.30 a.m. Strath Community Centre, Crook Street. Home approx. 5.45. p.m.

A most interesting day is assured. First we visit Henselite to see how Lawn Bowls are made. Next to the "Meat Market Craft Centre" originally old Metro Meat Market, a National Trust Building, beautifully restored, where we will see an amazing variety of Craft Work - ranging from hot glass, cold glass, ceramics, leatherwork, jewellery, wood and metal - see Craftspeople at work. Centre sells a wide range of quality, handmade, unique gifts.

COST : \$20/Person, includes coach, entrance fees and light lunch.

TRIP OF THE YEAR : LAKES ENTRANCE/GIPPSLAND LAKES - (5 Day/4 Night)  
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH TO MONDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH, 1995.

Depart 8.00 a.m. Thursday September 14th from Strath Community Centre, Crook Street. "This is a beauty - value for money trip." COST : \$325/Person. Includes coach fare, accommodation, dinner, bed, breakfasts and entry fees. (At George Bass Motor Inn, Lakes Entrance). Motel has panoramic views of sea and lakes. Maximum 48 - current 59. Final Payments by August 14th. (To Southern Cross Travel, Bendigo). \*\*\*Obtain copy of Trip Itinerary from Southern Cross Travel.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" - LIVE STAGE SHOW - PRINCESS THEATRE  
MELBOURNE - WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20TH - 1.00 P.M. Maximum 26 - Current 26. Depart Bendigo 10.00 a.m. and arrive home approx. 6.00 p.m. COST : \$85/Person.

SURPRISE!! SURPRISE!! - MYSTERY TOUR - THURSDAY OCTOBER 19TH.  
Maximum 49 - Current 70. Depart 9.00 a.m. and arrive home 5.00 p.m. COST : Approx. \$22/Person - includes coach, morning tea, 3 course lunch and afternoon tea. Cliff Binks has prepared what is certain to be another interesting and enjoyable mystery tour. Payment due August 16th meeting please.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 22ND - TRIP MELB. - NOTE PRINTING WORKS AND G.M.H. CAR ENGINE WORKS PORT MELB. "A trip with a difference."  
First we visit Note Printing Works, at Craigeburn to see how our "Notes Currency" is made for both Australia and overseas. After lunch we travel on to the Port Melbourne G.M.H. Car Engine Build Factory where we will follow the production of Car Engines from the basic raw material through to the completed Engine, packaged ready for both home and export use. A most enlightening experi-

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ence. Conducted tours at each location. LUNCH: BYO Picnic lunch.  
COST : Estimate \$12/Person, includes coach and entry fee. LISTING  
Wednesday August meeting. PAYMENT at September meeting.

Arthur Eaton - Trips Liaison  
Officer (43 9162).

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REPORT - On Thursday 20th July our bus left at 7.30 a.m. with 47 folk to visit Melbourne. Arthur had arranged a fine day for us which helped to make it a very successful outing.

We arrived in the City about 10.00 a.m. and made our grand entrance to the Rialto Building via the back entrance. We were taken to a small theatre with an enormous screen and were given a 20 min. view of Melbourne and its surroundings such as Phillip Island, Ballarat's Sovereign Hill plus many others - but not Bendigo!!!

This would be a wonderful introduction to our great city for visitors and very helpful prior to going "Upstairs". After queueing up we eventually got into the lifts to be taken to the 54th floor. It was the smoothest lift I've ever been in and we were there in a matter of four seconds. We were then able to take in the views of Melbourne City and its environs from a 360° circular floor. The whole area was magnificent and everyone enjoyed the opportunity of seeing so much in a relatively short time. Eventually we returned to "terra firma" and having seen a group go up before we went to the theatre and another arriving as we left, we could see how well patronized the Rialto Tower is.

Our bus was waiting for us and we were taken to Collins Tower at the top end of Collins Street, where we all had plenty of choices for our lunch and a look around the many shops there before going across Spring Street to the Melbourne Exhibition at the Old Treasury Building. This gave us a glimpse of early Aboriginal times and the impact of European settlement. The early planning of the City, the effect of the gold rush and the early development of the Old Treasury Building were laid out before us. Then there were scenes of the churches, coffee palaces and clubs that were developed together with theatres, markets and arcades which brought our City into real life. Some of the furniture and fittings of last century were also there so we had a great display. We saw cricket and football at the M.C.G. from the first games up to Bradman's era and beyond. In fact we heard Bradman hit a 4 to give him yet another century on a radio. Other displays brought us up to the present time and we saw the new Museum going up behind the Exhibition Building. It was an excellent display which everyone enjoyed very much and we were returned home within 15 minutes of E.T.A.

Thanks Arthur for another good day.

Maurice Pease.