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# PROBE

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Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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A Special General Meeting is held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month at 10.00 a.m. at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Road.

All correspondence to the Secretary, 38 Mafeking Street South, Bendigo, 3550.

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Our Guest Speaker at today's meeting is Mr <sup>MARVIN GARY</sup> ~~Mark Webster~~, Manager of Goninans - Bendigo. He will speak on the transformation of the former Railways Workshops.

### ***JULY MEETING SPEAKERS***

Allan Dingle introduced Peter Thornton as a former colleague at White Hills Technical College, who was an art teacher. He was accompanied by his wife Murial, who gave an interesting commentary on the slides of their holiday in China.

They stayed in Beijing along with 11 million inhabitants of that City. Tian An Men Square covers an area of 44 acres and will hold a million people. White marble is used extensively; all hand carved, even bridges were solely made of marble.

China borders 12 different countries so the border is always in contest. Because of the Russian scare, an underground City was built 25 miles long to house 1 million with food and water storage to withstand a long siege.

The renowned Forbidden City was built in 1406.

The school children bow at the entrance to their school and remove their hats. There are 8 million bikes all registered and everyone wears spotless clothes.

Coal is used extensively for cooking and by 4pm the sun disappears behind the smog. Water is not safe to drink and food such as cold meat, raw vegies and dogs bred for meat, was not attempted by Peter and Murial.

To change the subject, there are 10,000 Gold Plated Buddhas, and a visit to the 3945 mile long wall of China was enjoyed by both.

*To conclude, a quote from Richard Thwaites book – “Real Life in China” – “In a world of shrinking distances and finite resources the spectacle of China's looming bulk – one quarter of the human race under a single purposeful government – can seem fearful. Most thinking Chinese, themselves, fear the size of their nation's population”.*

No wonder to most of us, China forever remains a complete enigma.

Clark Jeffrey thanked Peter and Murial and made the usual presentation of our Probus Mug.

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***LIFE BEGINS AT 80.....IT'S THE BEST TIME OF LIFE!***

Take heart all ye under 80's – I have good news for you.

*The first 80 years are the hardest – the second 80 years are a succession of birthday parties.*

*Once you reach 80, everyone wants to carry your baggage and help you up steps. If you forget your name or anyone else's name, or an appointment or your own telephone number, or can't remember how many grandchildren you have, you need only explain that you are 80.*

*Being 80 is a lot better than being 70. At 70, people get mad at you for anything. At 80, you have a perfect excuse, no matter what you do.*

*Being 70 is no fun at all. At that age they expect you to retire to a house on the Gold Coast and complain about your arthritis and ask everyone to stop mumbling because you can't understand them.*

*If you survive until you are 80, everyone is surprised you are still around. They treat you with respect just for having lived so long.*

*So please folks, try to make it to 80. It's the best time of life. People forgive you for anything. If you ask me, life begins at 80.*

Hence, the only thing worse than growing old is to be denied the privilege.

### ***BOWLS TOURNAMENT***

The Warracknabeal Probus Club is promoting a Bowls Day on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 1997. The contact is Ed Haeusler, 7 Warunda Grove, Warracknabeal. Ph (03) 5398 1198.

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### ***ADVICE FROM MARYBOROUGH PROBUS CLUB***

There will be no September Picnic Day, this, in lieu of, is a Friendship Day on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1997. Entertainment includes Police Concert Band and a shuttle bus to historic points of interest. Please advise our Secretary if you are interested.

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### ***MID YEAR DINNER***

On Thursday night, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 54 Probians and visitors enjoyed a dinner at the Tourism and Hospitality Centre Training Restaurant at B.R. I.T., McCrae Street Campus.

The restaurant is located in the refurbished octagon shaped Sandhurst Mechanics Institute Library, while the modern kitchen is housed in the historic Chemistry Laboratory. The Library building, with its domed skylight ceiling, original gasolier, Corinthian columns and upper gallery, is classified "A" by the National Trust.

Operating throughout the year, the teaching facility provides a realistic environment for students training in the Certificate in Hospitality Supervision. All meals were prepared and served by the students.

Our visitors included Joan and Jack Beever of Gisborne Probus Club, Faye and Doug Wood and Dawn and Ken Barker of Strathdale Probus Club where Doug is President and Ken is Trips Organiser. We were also pleased to have Dorothy and Alex Crothers, son, Andrew, with us.

Excellent entertainment throughout the evening was provided by Meryl Wilkinson, who sang and played Celtic music on a Celtic style harp. She was thanked by Rupert Reynolds.

Maurice Pease won the major raffle prize of dinner for two at the B.R.I.T. Restaurant that rounded off a very successful evening.

Thank you, Cliff.

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### ***A PROFILE ON OUR NEW SECRETARY – ARTHUR DAVID COWLING OAM.***

Born in Bendigo on July 20, 1919, Arthur David Cowling has had a life of dedication to the community, the YMCA and the Y's Men's movement. Following service in the Second World War, in which he rose to the rank of Captain in the Australian Intelligence Corps, he joined the Y's Men's Club of Bendigo in May 1946 and one year later was appointed to the position of World Outlook Chairman of the Club. The following year he became club President, and in 1951 assumed the office of International Director for the Australasian Region of Y's Men International, the region comprising Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

In 1950 he was invited to join the Bendigo YMCA Board of Management on which body he served until 1989 (39 years) and was President of three years. In his role on that board he was responsible for several years as the property committee chairman, for the building of the YMCA stadium and several other major building improvements.

He served for several years on the National Board of Directors of the National YMCA of Australia. From 1954 until 1974 he served as Treasurer for the Australasian Region of Y's Men and subsequently the South Pacific Area of that body when New Zealand/Fiji became a separate region. During this time he held several positions on various committees at the International level, including membership of the Christian Emphasis, Constitutional Review and Long Range Planning Committees.

In 1978 he was the Chairman of the Host Convention Committee for the International Convention held at the Hilton Hotel, Melbourne with 959 delegates from 29 countries. At that convention he was awarded with the "Harry M. Ballantyne Award", Y's Men's highest honor. In the lead up to that convention he organised groups to attend International conventions at Atami, Japan (1975); Anaheim (USA) 1976 to promote the Melbourne convention and later to the following convention in Stockholm, Sweden in 1980.

In 1986 was elected Area President for the South Pacific Area of Y's Men which position saw him serving as a member of a 21 member legislative body of the Y's Men's movement for three years. In this and his subsequent role as International President, he visited many of the 58 countries in which the movement serves, not only as a member of the council but as an ambassador for Australia and the City of Bendigo. During a visit to USA, he was able to take greetings to the sister city of Los Altos.

In 1990, he was elected as International President-Elect and subsequently assumed the position of International President at July 1, 1991. During his term as President he travelled extensively including attendance at the Festival for the Very Special Arts (handicapped people) held in Taepei, Taiwan, where he represented the movement at the World Council and Assembly of YMCA's in Seoul Korea and extensive visits to USA, Canada, Europe, India and Sri Lanka. During these visits, opportunities were taken to meet with other service clubs and their leaders at both local and senior levels.

Arthur continues to serve Y's Men at the International level as Chairman of Committees such as Nominating, Long Range Planning, and Function and Structure. He remains a member of the Y's Men's Club of Bendigo and has for the last several years acted as a part-time fundraiser for the Bendigo YMCA and has been successful in obtaining significant assistance for the Bendigo YMCA in both finance and services.

In January 1993 he was honored by the Queen with the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) "for services to the YMCA and the Y's Men's International movement". He works part time for the YMCA as a fundraiser and field officer. Arthur was the foundation treasurer of the Probus Club of Bendigo and is Treasurer of the Forest Street Uniting Church.

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### TRIPS INFORMATION

#### **THURSDAY AUGUST 28<sup>TH</sup> - "FLICKS OF THE FORTIES" - CAMPBELL THEATRETTE**

7.00 p.m.: Pre Show nibbles, finger foods and drinks. Film Show: 8.00 p.m. Program includes: Newsreel, Cartoon, Documentary, Shorts, Interval - Live entertainment, Feature Film. (All of the 1940's era.) COST: \$6.00 per person. \*Maximum 156. Please finalise outstanding payments. Tickets are being issued, please collect yours.

#### **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> - TRIP TO MELBOURNE - VISITS/TOURS TO CARLTON BREWHOUSE AND VICTORIAN ARTS CENTRE**

Maximum 49, Current 54. Depart 7.30 a.m. from Strath Community Centre, Crook Street. Home approx. 5.30 p.m. The Carlton Brewhouse and Brewery Tour (personally escorted by C.U.B. Guides), presents the age old art of brewing in an innovative and interesting way. At the Victorian Arts Centre, we again have Guided Tours of this modern complex which comprises three Theatres and the famous Melbourne Concert Hall. At lunch time we will be near South Gate Complex on bank of Yarra. Great variety of low priced foods available, or bring your own. \*Emergencies required. COST: \$22.00 per person. Includes Coach Fare and Entrance Fees. PAYMENTS: Please finalise at August 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

#### **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> - SPECIAL MELBOURNE CASINO TRIP**

Depart: 8.30 a.m. from Strath Community Centre, Crook Street. Home approx. 5.30 p.m. \*Trip specially arranged for those who missed out on June Trip. \*List prepared, with names included of all who missed in June. \*Please check if your name is on list. \*Special Coach Package. COST: \$11.00 per person, includes coach, lunch voucher (on points). The New Melbourne Hotel, Entertainment, Casino and Convention Centre contains shops, restaurants, theatres - some spectacular and is well worth the visit. PAYMENTS: At August 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting please.



### TRIP OF THE YEAR

#### **FRIDAY OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> TO TUESDAY OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 1997 - 5 DAYS/4 NIGHTS - MARY LYNN - MARYSVILLE**

Maximum 46, Current 73. Depart from Strath Community Centre, Friday October 10<sup>th</sup> at 8.30 a.m. Arrive home on Tuesday October 14<sup>th</sup> at 5.30 p.m. approx. COST: \$310.00 per person. Includes coach, ensuite accommodation, all meals, supper, use of all resort facilities, coach tours (Daily) to local attractions and evening entertainment.

FINAL PAYMENT (By cheque) \$310.00 - Deposit \$50 = \$260.00 per person.

Cheque payable to Probus Club of Bendigo (At August 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting).

#### **TRIP TO POINT COOK R.A.A.F. MUSEUM AND WERRIBEE SAFARI PARK - THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>, 1997.**

Maximum 53. COST: \$23.00 per person, includes coach fare and entrance fees. LUNCH: Bring your own Picnic Morning Tea and Lunch. (Full details August Probe).

LISTING: At September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. PAYMENTS: October 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

\*When making payments, correct money please or endorsed cheques.

Arthur Eaton.  
Trips Organiser.

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