



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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Editor: ALEX WILSON (Phone 5443 9994)

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President: Kevin Houlahan
Phone : 5443 3666

Secretary: Arthur Cowling
Phone 5443 3788

A Special General Meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10.00 am. at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Road, Bendigo.

All correspondence to be addressed to The Secretary, P.O. Box 1217, Bendigo, 3552.

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The guest speaker for today's meeting is Mr. Colin Burns, Production Manager for the Bendigo Mining Co. His talk is titled "Mining Under Bendigo".

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At our July meeting the guest speaker was Associate Professor Xuezhui Bai who spoke on China today and also gave a demonstration of the gentle moves of Taiji Qigong (known as Tai Chi). He was introduced by Cliff Binks.

At 32 years of age, Bai, as he likes to be known, is an Associate Professor teaching English at a Chinese Industrial Teachers College with about 10,000 students.

The recorded history of China goes back some 5,000 years with the first characters being carved on tortoise shell.

The Chinese suffered greatly during wars, both internal and external, until 1949 when the Communists took over and created the Peoples Republic of China, the New China. They

then succeeded in driving the dissenters out of mainland China and onto the island of Taiwan. Tremendous changes took place under this new regime, not all of them known to the Western World.

From then to the 1960's China prospered under Mao Tse Tung until, with his approaching old age, power struggles developed and resulted in the Cultural Revolution which was a disaster for China. Industry and agriculture collapsed with this revolution resulting in the people becoming so poor that they could not even buy oil for cooking. This lasted for about 10 years.

Under Mao's successor the New China has again gone ahead rapidly and is now the strongest economy in Asia.

Some new policies are not popular, particularly only one child per couple. Bai would like a son, but, as he already has a daughter, increasing his family would result in loss of his job and a heavy fine. China's population is now 1.3 billion and the economy is growing at about 8% per year.

Two interesting notes; Some American, German and Japanese cars are now made in China due to the low cost of labour, and there are no longer any cemeteries in the country. All deceased, with the exception of heroes, are cremated.

Bill Sadler thanked Bai for his interesting talk and made the usual presentation on behalf of the Club.

NEW NOMINEES

We wish to welcome 3 new nominees to the club. They are Ralph Hislop, Fred Marchingo and Barry O'Brien who were introduced at the July meeting.

RENDEZVOUS 1998

If you have not registered for Rendezvous 1998, to be held at Goulburn from 10th to 14th November, time is slipping by. Registration forms are required in Goulburn as soon as possible.

There will be 4 days of wining, dining, musical events, aircraft and barbecue day, golf, bowls, markets of local products, tours and the opening and closing ceremonies. An extra event is an organ recital by Dr. Paul Paviour in St. Saviour's Cathedral.



ACTIVITIES



TRIPS INFORMATION

SUN. AUG. 23RD, 1998. 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm. Maximum (156). Current (46)
(C.Binks)

"FILM AFTERNOON AT CAMPBELL THEATRETTE".

Feature film "Road to Nhill" - An Australian Comedy, supported by -

"Marvellous Melbourne" - a prosperous period (1910) - 5 mins.

"The Back Of Beyond" (1954) - 66 mins. - an Australian Classic and most notable award winning production. Nibbles, finger food, etc will be provided at interval, also Elfi Willman will entertain. COST: \$7.00/person.

A special smorgasbord will be available at the Kong Dynasty restaurant after the film, consisting of soup, entree, main course (8 items), dessert, tea or coffee at \$9.50/person. Those interested in the meal please place names on list at August meeting.

MON. SEPT. 28TH TO FRI. OCT. 2ND. Inc. ****TRIP OF THE YEAR****.

5 day/4 night staying at PINNACLE VALLEY RESORT. (Mansfield area).

Max 48 Current 48. *****EMERGENCIES invited*****

"A first class trip" - highly recommended. (AE)

COST: \$420/person. Include: Coach (5 star), Accommodation (4 star) twin share, all meals, morning and afternoon teas, tours, entry fees.

NOTE: M/tea, lunch commence from day 1 and cease after lunch on day 5.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS: (\$420 - \$50 Deposit. Payment = \$370/person due for payment at ***** September 16th meeting *****. Cheque payable to "Probus Club Of Bendigo"

***** If going north, please ensure arrangements made for payment.**

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9th TO MELBOURNE (By V/Line train)

"THE TIMBER AND WOODWORKING SHOW" at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.

Depart Bendigo: per either 7.50am or 9.20am train. Depart Melb: 3.50pm. Arrive Bendigo 6.00pm.

Excellent for woodwork hobbyists. An annual show which covers all aspects of the industry, packed full with the latest products, accessories and ideas. Includes demonstrations and the ability to purchase tools and equipment.

COST: V/Line \$20.20 (concession fare) + entry to show: \$7.00 = \$27.20.

LIST: August 19th meeting. PAYMENT: September 16th meeting.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 29th, 1998 Day trip. "THE CAMPASPE/TONGALA EXPERIENCE"

COST: \$26.50/person. Max. 49. Includes: Coach fare, Morning tea, Lunch, Afternoon tea and entry fees. "A beauty, don't miss out".

Depart Bendigo at 8.15am for Elmore and visit the new, highly acclaimed tourist attraction: "Campaspe Run" the H. V. McKay Rural Discovery Centre. Next, an interesting escorted coach tour of the Elmore area, after which we have lunch. Then on to the "Golden Cow" Tourist and Dairy Education Centre at Tongala - a wealth of interest for all here. "A leisurely, interest packed, value trip".

LIST: At August 19th meeting. PAYMENTS: At September 16th meeting.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH 1998 TRIP TO MELBOURNE. (Tentative)
LIVE STAGE SHOW - "FIDDLER ON THE ROOF"

Matinee performance at 1.00 pm. Maximum: 48 Current: 36.

COST: Approx. \$67/person. Includes: Coach and admission to show.

*** An award winning live musical comedy show at the Regent Theatre, Melbourne - a cast of 40 singers, actors and dancers.

Depart: 9.00 am - Arrive home 6.00 pm (approx)

*** Listing at Wed. August 19th meeting. PAYMENT: Sept. 16th meeting.

*** For trip to run: MINIMUM REQUIREMENT 30 persons***

For those away at present - please write to Arthur Eaton at 4 Maxwell Cres. Bendigo.
The more the merrier.

*** To assist collectors, please tender correct money. If payment by cheque, please ensure details written on back of cheque.

*** All enquiries to Arthur (5443 9162)

