



PROBE

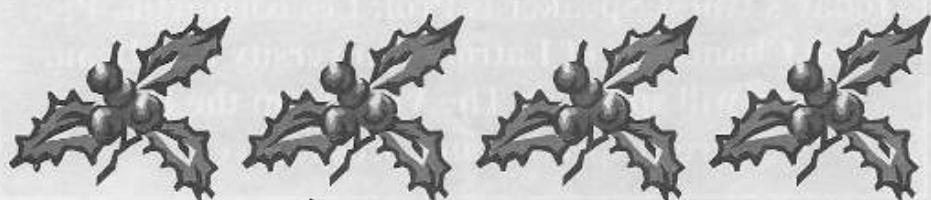
Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



Published Monthly

Issue No. 202

20 Aug, 2003



Christmas Luncheon

THE PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO

December 17, at 12 noon

2 Courses \$20.00



at the

Foundry Arms

A Special General meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10.00am 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

Today's Guest Speaker is Prof. Les Kilmartin, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Latrobe University and Dean, who will speak on The View from the Hill, retrospective and prospective

The Speaker at the July meeting was introduced by Barry O'Brien and was Chris De Araugo. He talked about Lead On – Youth of Australia. This organisation was founded by Rob Hunt, the dynamic CEO of Bendigo Bank. The aim is to attempt to halt the drain of Youth from the country districts to the capital cities.

Young people need to be involved in the local activities, social, cultural, commercial, whatever. This can involve training in Public Speaking and Public Relations, perhaps with training in Information Technology.

Projects are planned and arranged with an array of organisations, banks, shops, cinemas, and offices. Among such schemes was one with Mal McGovern who had a group of youngsters working in the furniture store. Another was when 3 young people had participation with the Loddon Valley Housing Project, they all did well, being involved with computers under the eyes of Ken Marchingo.

Many of the youngsters are eventually taken on permanently to work with the organisation. Financial support has been provided by businesses, notably Bendigo Bank. The State Government supplied some funds at the start of the scheme, when the liberals under Kennett were in power, but this was cut off by the ALP later.

The Bendigo Bombers and Essendon are becoming involved. The Bendigo Advertiser has made available space in Tuesdays Advertiser for a youth section called "Loop", which has been successful for both sides.

New branches have been formed in Queensland, at Ipswich and Beaudesert among others, and Tasmania may well be involved in the future.

The appreciation of the meeting was expressed by Maurice Pease, who also made the presentation.

Money Matters II

1. The July appeal for unfinancial members to pay their annual subscriptions reduced the list from 13 to 7. Many thanks to 6! I apologise for being hard to live with, but I fail to see why fees due in April are still unpaid. Please reduce my work load by finalising the matter – NOW! The LATE LIST will be available at the meeting on 20th August.

2. Members should be aware that the committee recently approved the transfer of \$3,000 from our club cheque account to an interest bearing account – still with "The Bendigo". The interest we receive will offset both bank transaction fees and the government debits tax.

The Treasurer.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Best Wishes are extended to the following members who will be celebrating their birthday in the coming months

AUGUST

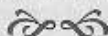
2nd	Alister McLean	91
5th	Frank O'Connell	79
5th	Gordon Rayson	77
14th	Jack Kelly	79
17th	Jim Forsyth	80
23rd	Don Donaldson	88
24th	Colin McLean	80

SEPTEMBER

1st	Dick Opie	88
3rd	John Stephens	73
7th	Bryan Armstrong	75
13th	Len Hodren	69
15th	Jack Davies	88
16th	Rupert Reynolds	76
22nd	Jock Crook	80
27th	Doug Laity	71
29th	Dal Martin	83

Congratulations to all of the above especially to **Jim Forsyth, Colin McLean, Bryan Armstrong and Jock Crook** for their very special anniversaries.

Note: If you do not wish your birthday published in the "Probe" please advise the secretary.



From The Secretary's Desk

Wal Spicer has just spent a few days in hospital. He says "That a man that wants a pretty nurse, must be a patient". We all look forward to his healthy return soon.

Gordon Glover had a painful accident, slipping on the wet floor of the bathroom, breaking a rib and suffering bruising.

Edna, the wife of one of our late members Wal Forbes (who was a keen supporter of Probust) is in hospital. We hope that conditions improve.

The wife of secretary Bob Chenery (Carol) has been discharged after a long stay in hospital and is now in permanent residence at "Bethlehem".

A note of resignation from the Club has been received from Clyde Mahar owing to illness. We wish him well. This means that the Club now has eight vacancies; so what about a drive for some new blood. Refer Secretary for application forms or bring someone along as a welcome trial to a meeting or two to see how we perform.

Puzzle.....What does it mean?

MCE
MCE
MCE

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO - TRIPS INFORMATION

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2003: TRIP TO MELBOURNE: (NEW DOCKLANDS TOUR.)

** A completely "new tour available" T.V.Program: "Postcards June 2003."

** Docklands is the face of the "New Melbourne," (Maximum: (47) Current: (57), Minimum (36) Road Coach: Depart 7.30am From: Strathdale Community Ctre Crook St. Home 5.45pm approx. Cost: \$35.00/ person covers: Road Coach, Docklands Presentation, Morning Tea & Boat Cruise.

** At 10.00am: Docklands Presentation, morning tea included. 11.00am: Docklands Cruise.

** At 12 noon : LUNCH: (At own cost) At a Telstra Dome Food Outlet (overlooking the playing area.) where able to purchase snacks/light lunch at a reasonable cost.

** At 1.00pm: An Optional 1 Hour Guided Tour of Telstra Dome: (Additional cost: \$7.00/person.)

Remainder of Group: A walk around the "Docklands New Quay Centre"

and/or other as may be arranged.

** PAYMENTS: At meeting on Wed 20th August.

MONDAY 27TH TO THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER, 2003 - 4 DAY/3 NIGHT SWAN HILL AREA Accommodation Twin Share at the Sun Centre Motel. RACV 3 Star Rated.

Maximum: (20 Persons) Current Bookings: (26)

Monday 27th Oct: Depart Bendigo per V/Line Road Coach 10.55am. Arrive Swan Hill: 1.12pm. Cost: \$175.00 per Person Includes: Accommodation Twin share, 3 Cooked Breakfasts, 2



Evening Meals, Murray River Luncheon Cruise, Entries to attractions we visit, transport is provided by Courtesy coach.

Add \$27/person for V/Line Road Coach Bendigo-Swan Hill return, **if you are not using a Travel Voucher or Pass for this journey.**

Evening Meals: are at Murray Downs Golf/Country Club: **(No compulsory time limit)**

Attractions: Murray River Luncheon Cruise, Tyntynder Homestead, Pioneer Settlement, Evening Sound & Light Show, with free time available to explore Swan Hill.

Thursday 30th Oct: Depart Swan Hill (V/Line Road Coach): 12.45pm. Arrive Bendigo: 3.20pm.

Deposits: \$50/person at Meeting 20th August. **Balance: Wed 17th Sep't. Meeting**

**** Persons having Rail Passes or Travel Vouchers may use these for V/Line Road Coach component.**

**** Please advise me if you have & intend to use same on this trip.**

This trip is specially organised where large numbers are not required. It is reasonably costed, will be interesting and be conducted at a leisurely pace.

**** Please assist the collectors by having actual amounts due when making your payments.**

REPORT ON TRIP TO QUEENSLAND- SUNDAY 20TH JULY TO SUNDAY 3RD AUGUST 2003 STAYING AT SUNGOLD HARBOURSIDE RESORT, SOUTHPORT ON GOLD COAST.

On Sunday 20th July a Group of (34) Probians and friends of Probus departed on time at 7.45am on a Bendigo Coachlines Coach for the Melbourne Airport. Our President Jack Hardy was on hand to wish them well for their forthcoming holiday, thank you Jack..

Our Group consisted of Probians from Bendigo, Bendigo Ladies, Rochester, Strathdale, Strathfieldsaye, Probus Clubs and friends of Probus. An additional lady (making 35), joined our Group at Sungold Resort.

On arrival at the Melbourne Airport, Qantas "Group Staff" in short time efficiently completed our check in procedures, we departed for our Flight to the Gold Coast at 11.50am.

We arrived at Coolangatta Airport on time at 2.00pm, where we were met Sungold's Manager Lyn Olson and our Coach Driver for the duration of our holiday, Norm. We also met up with another member of our holiday group, Helen from Inverloch.

From the time of our arrival on the Gold Coast "Lyn, Norm and all the staff at Sungold did everything possible during our fortnight stay to ensure that we had a most enjoyable and memorable holiday, we were treated with good accommodation, meals and outings of great variety, including an Internationally acclaimed Live Show "Storm" at Jupiters Casino. On Free Days, many visited various Theme Parks.

During our stay we were taken on extended Coach Tours of the Gold Coast Area, along the coastline as far as Byron Bay (NSW) in a southerly direction and to Redlands Bay and Redcliff North of Brisbane.

Also we were taken on a number of tours into the surrounding Scenic Mountains and tropical areas of the Hinterland. Of course a visit would not be complete without our three Boat Cruises on the waterways.

Each evening we were transported by Coach by our Driver Norm (as part of our Sungold Package) for our Dinner, experiencing a variety of meals at a number of selected Restaurants. All good things seem to come to a speedy end and on Sunday 3rd of August we departed Sungold on our return journey. Again our Group was speedily and efficiently processed through Qantas Group Staff at Coolangatta Airport. After a smooth flight we landed at Tullamarine at 2.10pm where we were met by our Coach Driver Trevor from Bendigo Coachlines, transported to Bendigo, arriving on time at 5.00pm.

Unfortunately, during the second week Gordon Glover had a bad fall, we sincerely hope that by receipt of our copies of Probe that you Gordon, have fully recovered **A most enjoyable, memorable and cost-effective holiday, with much variety.**

**** Please note:** This is a only a short report prepared for August Probe. **Herb & Jean Hesse have prepared a more comprehensive report**, copies of which will be available for perusal at our Probus Meeting on Wednesday 20th August. Our sincere thanks to both, much appreciated.

Arthur Eaton. Tours Organiser.

**Our thanks to Jean & Herb Hesse who compiled this report.
Arthur

THE WONDERS OF QUEENSLAND. 20/7/03 to 3/8/03

SUNDAY, JULY 20. 2003

Our party of ³⁵ consisting of Bendigo Probus members, sister clubs Strathfieldsaye, Sandhurst, Rochester, Bendigo Ladies, and friends of Probus left a cold Bendigo bound for Queensland.

Our coach arrived at Tullarmarine in plenty of time for our flight to Coolangatta. Conditions were perfect for flying with little turbulence and we touched down on the scheduled time. The coach from our hosts at the Sungold Harbourside Resort was there waiting for us with our friendly and capable driver Norm in charge. The trip from Coolangatta to our home for the next fortnight was full of interest made possible by the commentary provided by Mr. Unbelievable, Norm. In the short 20 miles from the Airport to Sungold it was most noticeable particularly to those who had been there 4 years ago of the immense changes made by the additions of new buildings, houses, roads and the landscape developments generally - this we were to observe wherever we travelled in the fortnight ahead. After settling into our new "home" we were taken to our first dinner outing on the Gold Coast - Frenchy's Restaurant.

MONDAY, JULY 21.

We began our journey into the wonders of Queensland with an orientation address from our hostess & Sungold Manager, Lyn. We were all presented with a printed daily programme outlying our proposed visiting places for the first week. Today was "settling in" day but we were able to enjoy an afternoon sunset canal cruise in and around Sanctuary Cove. As we sailed along we were able to view the many waterside mansions of the "rich and famous" who lived in the area and to see the huge collection of boats & yachts anchored there. At 5.50 we departed for dinner at Sisters Restaurant - this was just one of the many highly rated eating places which we visited at the end of each day. It was interesting to observe that the coach bumped increasingly more each time it crossed over the gutter after dinner each day - was it our newly acquired over-eating habit causing this?

TUESDAY, JULY 22.

Today's visit included a ~~visit~~ ^{DRIVE} to the "Forest of Dreams", embracing the famous Springbrook mountain range with an abundance of interest inc. the purlingbrook Falls, several lookouts with beautiful views of the forests, banana plantations, 4 waterfalls, the Natural Arch where raging waterfalls tumble, indeed a contrast to the urbanised lowlands. Our dinner venue after we returned to base was the Captain's Table.

WEDNESDAY, July 23.

A change from mountain scenery to city environment resulted in a visit to Jupiters Casino where we were to enjoy the live stage spectacular "Storm". This is regarded as one of the most spectacular live shows ever brought to the stage, visually stunning with vibrant costuming and amazing special effects never before seen in Australia. The show kept us all enthralled for 2 hours. The Monorail, Pokies and eating places occupied an hour or two of our time before we returned to our resort for a short rest, then to go for our dinner at Gilhoolies Restaurant.

THURSDAY, July 24.

We headed for Brisbane today on the new 4-lane highway which we had seen being constructed during our previous visit 4 years ago. The transformation has been appreciated by all who travel on it whether it be for business or private reasons and also for the immense saving of time. Our morning tea break at the Roma St. Parkland was an eye-opener. The parkland was built on the site of a disused section of the railway system and almost in the heart of Brisbane. The spectacular garden is a horticultural and botanic showpiece and open for daily inspection from dawn to dusk. A small train was a feature of the project and was well patronised by our party who preferred the ride moreso than the walk - the journey around the park was 1.3 km. Congratulations to the Brisbane Govt. for this great attraction - total cost 74 million dollars, 2 years to build and currently employing 8 gardeners plus guides and office staff. The jelly beans presented to our party at the conclusion of the train ride were much appreciated! We continued our journey passing many points of interest in & around Brisbane before arriving at Redcliffe where we had lunch whilst enjoying a mannequin parade of a group of girls and 1 male attired in colourful fashions of the 50's. The walls & ceilings of the building were clad with everyday items depicting the era - Elvis Presley display, baby dolls of all shapes and sizes, and outside the building 2 huge cupie dolls were mounted above the entrance. Back to the resort and again listening to an interesting commentary from Norm as we motored along - an interesting day ended at the Rabina Tavern where we had another enjoyable dinner.

FREDAY, July 25.

Our tour today was classified as a "salt, sand and schooners" day. After leaving the resort around 9.30 a.m. we passed through many seaside resorts including Burleigh Heads, well renowned for its surfing beaches, natural parks, a wildlife park, beachfront markets, great food and luxury accommodation with spectacular ocean and hinterland views. We continued our travels leaving the beaches behind and once again ascending the mountains to Currumbin where we had our morning tea break at a large rock pool alongside the main road, the site being equipped with tables, seating and all facilities necessary for our "picnic". A walk amongst the many interesting shops was enjoyed by all before we boarded the coach again and travelled back towards Burleigh where we had our regular lunch break. The casual drive back to our resort passed through many places of interest before we arrived "home" again a little before 4 p.m. The day concluded with another excellent dinner, the venue being at the Saigon Palace restaurant.

SATURDAY, July 26.

Our trip today was to the Tweed Valley with its many associated famous beaches then to ascend to the fascinating mountain ranges and home of five amazing world heritage National Parks. In the centre of the Tweed lies Mt. Warning with a height of 1156 mtrs. and noted for being the largest extinct volcano in the Southern Hemisphere. On special vantage points there are 360 deg. views over the Tweed Valley and many of the high points are accessible to the bush walker. The Tweed includes the best of all worlds with its cultural activities, exciting nightlife, excellent beaches, national parks, rainforests and mountain ranges, etc. Our break for lunch was at the Ilman winery nestled high in the mountains and in dense forest country. We were blessed with a beautiful sunny day and little wind which made conditions perfect for yet another picnic lunch. An interesting talk on wine production was given by the owner manager of the winery and we were given a sample of the various wines on display with some of the party making purchases for later consumption. The day concluded with another excellent dinner this time at Sisters restaurant - can we ever forget those delicious shanks!

SUNDAY, July 27.

A free day, what a great idea Lyn! Our party broke up and went their several ways, some visiting friends & relatives, others to a variety of entertainment resorts, some shopping at Pacific or Australia Fairs, others just relaxing and appreciating that the Sabbath is a day of rest, however we were almost a complete party for our dinner at Mano's Restaurant. Unfortunately Gordon Glover had the misfortune to fall in the bathroom at the resort and as we found out later he had sustained a broken rib, damaged back and severe bruising. At various times as we travelled around Gordon was able to rejoin the party. He expressed his appreciation for the wonderful help which he had received from Lyn and the staff at the resort, also to the Doctor & Hospital and for the deep concern expressed by all members of our party.

MONDAY, July 28.

Driver Norm told us as we left the resort that we were in for a big day concluding with those 2 familiar words "trust me". Our mission was to go South to Byron Bay, Brunswick Heads and Bohemia and that we could have a "let loose" walk through the shops of Byron Bay with its many interesting shops and local residents with diverse habits. We were then driven to the top of the hill to the famous Byron Bay lighthouse where we spent some time wandering around its many vantage points searching for some of the most "Easterly" whales in Australia - questionably 1 or 2 were sighted but it was quite evident that they were not going to put themselves out for we Southern visitors. Our next stopping place was at the Crystal Castle at Mullumbimby situated high in the hills and a place of amazing power and beauty. Surrounded by beautiful gardens it is home to a spectacular natural crystal display of exquisite locally designed jewellery, and a selection of unique gifts. This was indeed a highlight of the tour. Our next stop which is about 20 km. north of Byron was the coastal fishing village of Brunswick Heads where we had out lunch on the beach. Along the Brunswick River there were villages and farming districts established which created an atmosphere of perfect escape for families who seek peace from the modern world outside. Another enjoyable day which came to a close as we dined for dinner at the Banora Club.

TUESDAY, July 29.

Today we left the resort for a "Boating the Islands" day tour. We first travelled along the Gold Coast Highway to Redlands Bay where we boarded a ferry for a pleasant voyage across the huge expanse of water taking in the Russell, Lamb & Macleay islands. From the ferry we were able to see the many housing developments and shopping areas which had been developed very recently - this was evident wherever we travelled and with an ever increasing population the demand for housing is a major concern with the prices of land and houses spiralling very rapidly. After leaving the ferry we passed through Victoria Point then had our morning tea break at Cleveland in a beautiful area for picnickers - we could have done without the freezing wind though! However we welcomed the warm comfort of the coach as we journeyed onwards to the Mt. Cotton Rainforest Garden for an enjoyable cuppa and large homemade biscuits provided by our hostess, Mrs. Betty Goleby who gave us an interesting talk on the history of the precinct after which we had a guided tour of the many varied plants & trees growing on the property. We then travelled back to our base for a rest and freshen up before going to our dinner venue at the Captains Table. Again a lovely meal and the occasion highlighted by a birthday celebration for Joan Gloster - her 21st.?? Congratulations Joan.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30.

Another supposedly free day but our tireless party decided on several venues, some to Sea World, others to Dream World, Movie World, etc. but together again for dinner, this time to the Robina Tavern and the usual high standard meal.

THURSDAY, July 31.

A big day ahead starting with our visit to O'Reillys (The Green Mountain) and Tamborine Hinterland. Full marks to Norm for his driving expertise in driving the coach to the top of Queensland's highest mountain and without the slightest of fear from any of the party. Highlights at the top of the mount were the feeding of the flocks of wild rainbow coloured parrots, our walk over the rocking suspension bridge, and our visit to the store for the purchase of "something" to take home & souvenirs. Our return to the resort was full of interest as we travelled through Canungra, the Coomera valley and vineyards, Mt. Tamborine, and Canungra creek. A visit to the Nut Shed featuring Macadamias grown in the district was most interesting and many purchases were made by our nut lovers.

FRIDAY, August 1.

~~OUR DINNER VENUE WAS AT SISTER'S RESTAURANT~~

A free morning was welcomed by our now "overfed" and "overtravelled" party and recommenced at 3 o'clock when we visited the Marina Mirage, a haven for lots of boats of all shapes & sizes with prices ranging from around \$1,000 into the millions. The mooring fee for boats was around \$300 a week and very strict conditions were applied to all the boat owners. We had the pleasure of a cruise around the water front on the MV Jindalee cruiser and were made familiar with the various types of craft. We were even shown a boat where many wedding ceremonies are celebrated on the water with the minister, bride & groom and guests all in attendance. A short drive ^{from} the Mirana Mirage ^{and} around the shopping areas was again very interesting and prepared us for dinner venue for the day at Saigun Palace.

SATURDAY, August 2.

Our day tour commenced at 9.30 a.m. with a visit to the Carrera Market. This market is renowned for its wide range of items for sale and displayed in hundreds of shops in arcade fashion. Some of the party made purchases of small items to take home but to include anything bulky with our luggage on the flight home presented a problem. After a 2 hour browse around the shops we boarded the coach for a drive along the beach front to Point Danger for our lunch break. Driver Norm pointed out the dividing line on the roadway between the border of N.S.Wales & Queensland. We then made for "home" arriving at approx. 4 p.m. After a short rest we proceeded to Frenchy's Restaurant for our evening meal. At the conclusion of the meal Arthur made a presentation to our Coach Driver Norm in appreciation of the wonderful commentaries, co-operation and driving ability shown during his fortnight with our party. Our venue for our final dinner for the trip was at Frenchy's Restaurant.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3.

Our return to "good old Bendigo". Driver Trevor was at Tullarmarine to collect our cases, etc. (with the owners) for the trip home which took us 2 hours. The trip was a great success and a tribute to our tour leader Arthur for his amazing attention to detail throughout. The owner/manager of Sungold, Lyn Olson was also ^{commended} ~~thanked~~ for her attention and help in every way and this was appreciated by every member of the party. We particularly remember the attention given to Gordon and other members of the party who had health problems during the stay. Reference was made to the staff members at Sungold who were most helpful in all ways. A final thought - Weren't we a compatible group? The friendships created made the holiday really worth while - May we all meet again!