



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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

All correspondence to the Secretary, P.O. Box 1217, Bendigo, 3552.

The guest speaker at today's meeting is the Reverend Glen Bevern, Chaplain of the Bendigo Base Hospital.

For our January meeting the guest speaker was Mr. Darren Lewis, Chief Executive Officer, North Central Goldfields Regional Library Corporation who spoke on the past, present and future of the Bendigo library. He was introduced by Geoff Biles.

Darren was born in Benalla, educated Benalla East Primary School, Benalla High School, Latrobe University and R.M.I.T. He worked at Shepparton and Wangaratta libraries before coming to Bendigo to his present position as Chief Executive Officer in 1996. Bendigo library services the area from Charlton to Gisborne with about 45% membership which constitutes a large block of ratepayers who can get upset quickly. It is Darren's job to make sure that councils are aware of this.

Libraries in Bendigo have been active since the 1860's with adequate funding, but appeared to be on the verge of collapse in the 1930's and 40's. The State Government now has an on-going commitment to fund libraries and councils are finding that these institutions are more popular than they have ever been credited. The original books were leather bound, imported from England and designed to last a lifetime. They were also expensive, costing about one third of a salary. The only other printed medium available to the public were newspapers.

The material now available comprises books, talking books, videos, magazines and the medium of the future - the CD-ROM. The Encyclopaedia Britannica will fit on one of these discs.

The library is in the process of being restructured with some emphasis on increased hours of availability to the public, particularly at weekends. In March a new library will be opened at Heathcote to replace the existing mobile service, and, in future planning, it is envisaged that a Public Records office will be set up on the top floor, at Bendigo, to enable people researching family histories to do so here rather than travelling to the Archives at Laverton. Another area which has grown rapidly is the access to the Internet. This service is available free and enables any library member to access records around the world.

Two big collections have been launched recently, these are the Frank Cusack Collection and the Marc Cohn Nature Series. There is also a collection in progress which was donated by the wife of the late Douglas Lockwood. Currently, the ground floor is being reorganised to cope with the 55,000 loans a month and the 2,000 people a day who come through the doors. Fiction and large print will be brought to the front, non-fiction will go to the back and the newspaper area will be expanded.

Darren's aim is to make the Bendigo Regional Library the State Library of the Bush, and he appears to be working well towards that goal.

After question time Darren was thanked by Jock Crook who also made the usual presentation.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Are extended to Arthur and Kath Eaton who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Friday, 14th February, 1998. They were married at Newport in 1948. All the very best to you both.

SICK LIST

Peter Randall has returned home after an operation. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Reg Brock has also improved considerably in health and was hoping to be home as this issue was going to press. We also wish him all the very best.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Under Article V, Para. (b) of our By-Laws, nominations for candidates for election as Officers of the Association or as Ordinary Members of the Committee:-

- (a) shall be made in writing, signed by two members of the Association and be accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination); and
- (b) shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Association not less than seven days before the date fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting.

Note - Preliminary notice of the above was given in last month's "PROBE". The nomination form is included and completed forms must be in the hands of the Secretary prior to Wednesday, 11th March 1998.

Notice is hereby given as follows:-

The Twelfth Annual General Meeting of the Probus Club of Bendigo Incorporated will be held on Wednesday, 18th March, 1998 at 10.00am at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Rd., Bendigo.

Agenda:-

- 1 Confirm minutes of previous A.G.M.
- 2 President's Report
- 3 Consideration of Financial Statement pursuant to Section 30 of the Association's Incorporation Act 1981
- 4 Election of Officers -
 - (a) President
 - (b) Vice-President
 - (c) Treasurer
 - (d) Secretary
- 5 Election of seven (7) Committee Members
- 6 Determine fees/subscriptions for 98/99
 - (a) Joining fee (present \$10.00)
 - (b) Annual Subscription (present \$15.00)
 - (c) Nomination Fee (present \$10.00)
 - (d) Annual Nominee Fee (present \$ 5.00)
- 7 Appointment of Auditor
- 8 Close of A.G.M.

Special General Meeting to be held after closure of the A.G.M.

Agenda

- 1 Confirmation of February Meeting Minutes
- 2 Reports
- 3 General Business
- 4 Close

Arthur Cowling (Secretary)




ACTIVITIES !!

BOWLS NOTES

The games scheduled for January were not held as the greens at Bendigo East were flooded the previous night.


Teams for games to be held on Wednesday, Feb. 25th, are as recorded in the January edition of Probe.

If you are not available as selected, please contact Bill Clemens on 5447 0562.



PROBUS RENDEZVOUS 1998

The Rendezvous is to be held from 10th to 14th November, 1998, at Goulburn, N.S.W. Early registration is recommended as the interest already shown is substantial. Accommodation, tours and social activities (including golf and bowls) are available.



AUTUMN PROBUS FRIENDSHIP DAY

Will be held at The Palms, Albert Park, on Tuesday, 24th March, 1998 at 10.30 am. Musical entertainment would be supplied by the Australian Army Band and there will be a parade of banners at 1.30 pm.

ANNUAL DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB COMBINED PICNIC

To be held on Friday 20th March, 1998 in Rosalind Park, Bendigo. Car parking is available near the Lookout Tower and B.Y.O. chairs, umbrella, food and drinks (hot water provided). Registration is at 11.00 a.m. at the Tower.

SENIOR CITIZENS WEEK 15th TO 22nd MARCH, 1998

The City of Greater Bendigo will be conducting their third Recreation and Leisure Expo at the White Hills Secondary College on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th March, 1998 from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm on both days. Mr. Noel Thomas, Promotions Officer, will speak briefly at today's Probus meeting.

Ballarat Senior Citizens Week Committee have organized a Statewide Photographic Exhibition for this period. Entry forms are available from Kerry Walsh, P.O. Box 199, Ballarat, 3353.

Bendigo Ice Skating have a **SPECIAL ONE OFF OFFER** for older adults of \$2.00 day at the Bendigo Ice Skating Rink for the period 7th February to 21st February 1998. Padding is **not** supplied.

Further details of these programs are available from the Secretary.

Did you know that 1999 has been designated The International Year of Older Persons by the United Nations?

It has been suggested that members may be interested in forming special interest groups where they can talk about their interests and hobbies with others. We have bowlers and golfers with their common interest but what about the gardeners, wood workers, model engineers, computerists, travellers and photographers to name but a few. Maybe there are still a few things that we can learn from discussion and demonstration with others. If you have any thoughts on the subject have a talk with your editor.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SLIDE SHOW PRESENTED BY ROB. AND CYNTHIA WATKINS

So you did not attend the Watkins' slide show on the 27th. January? I will guarantee that if you asked anyone who attended for a comment, you will have been surprised at the number of superlatives that were used in reply!

In excess of 100 people attended the Circular Lecture Theatre of La Trobe University (Bendigo) to partake of the "Walk Through Southern Africa" as presented by Rob. and Cynthia Watkins. Those who expected excellent photographs of large and small game, birds, and their environment, were not disappointed. The range of nature shots was superb and was accompanied by commentary that showed a sensitive understanding of the many relationships that affect the total balance of nature. As well we enjoyed various portraits of individual people depicting both their beauty and warmth.

Also included in the "Walk" were a number of slides that reflected social life and conditions, particularly in Zambia and Zimbabwe (formerly the Rhodesias). The contrasts between the two states were very dramatically portrayed.

The trials, tribulations and excitement of a walking safari were also demonstrated, including an unscheduled meeting with a lioness!

Following a tea break (b.y.o.) in the Student Union we were privileged to compare the flora and fauna of the Bendigo area with that of Southern Africa.

While lacking in "big game" the diversity of our region compares well with Africa. Flowers range from massed wattles to scarce native orchids and wax flowers, vegetation from shrubs to towering eucalypts, birds from silver-eyes to large predators, and animals from spiders to 'roos and wallabies. You only have to know where to look.

In addition to being acclaimed photographers, Rob. and Cynthia's knowledge is outstanding, and the resultant commentary ensured that all who attended had a most interesting and enjoyable evening which ended with another social gathering.

Sincerest thanks are due to Rob. and Cynthia for a very special presentation of comparisons without compare. Our thanks also to all the Organizers.

Ken Coles.

MEMBERSHIP BOOK

As there are a minimum of alterations to be made to the book the Committee has decided not to print a 1998/9 edition but to issue this list so that members can make their own alterations.

DELETIONS:

Page 16 Val Moyle
Page 18 Arthur Pulfer
Page 28 Ken Wall

ADDITIONS:

Alex REID (Myrtle)
8 Mill St.

BENDIGO, 3550. 5443 2145
Trade Teacher Travel and Boating

Doug LAITY

1 Caledonia St.

BENDIGO, 3550. 5443 3879

Bank Officer Gardening and Sport

John FORSYTH

6 Dale ST.

BENDIGO, 3550. 5443 2037

Surveyor Gardening and Bushwalking

Noel KILBY (Val)

4 McIvor Court

BENDIGO, 3550. 5443 7869

School Principal Golf, Bowls and Gardening

ALTERATIONS:

Page 8 Bill FOSTER- Change 'phone number to 5441 8553

Page 9 John GRIFFIN not GRIFFEN

Page 16 Add an asterisk in front of Clive MILLER. Clive is a foundation member.

Page 22 Alan STEPHENS 'phone number 5442 3758

TRIPS INFORMATION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH 1998: TRIP TO MELBOURNE.

Visits: to Jewish Museum and Synagogue, and Botanical Gardens, Melb.

Depart 7.30 am. Strath Community Ctre., Crook St. Home 5.45 pm. approx. Conducted tours of the Jewish Museum and Synagogue. Visit the Botanical Gardens. Max. 49. Current 75.

** A morning tea has been arranged on arrival at Jewish Museum.

** Bring along your own picnic lunch to have in gardens.

COST: \$19/person. Includes: Coach, morning tea and Entrance Fees.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH, 1998 - "CENTRAL VICTORIA TOUR" - (Cliff Binks)

COST: \$25/person. Includes: Coach, Tours, Lunch and Afternoon Tea. ---B.Y.O. Morning Tea.---

Depart Strath Centre, Crook St., 8.00 am. Home at 6.00 pm. A tour to cater for all tastes. Visit the Murchison P.O.W. Camp 13, the Italian War Cemetery. Then to Noorilim Homestead at Murchison, "a treasure", tour of homestead - Picnic lunch included. On to the "Nut House", Nagambie; talk, tasting and purchase - has 80 varieties of nuts. Finally on to Mitchelton Winery for a wine tasting, afternoon tea and talk. "A beauty - don't miss out".

PAYMENTS: At Feb. 18th meeting. Max 50 Current 60.

THURS, APRIL 2ND, 1998. TRIP TO MELB. - INTERN'L FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW

"The Show Of The Year"

Max 49 Current 73

Depart: 7.45 am, Home: 5.45 pm approx. COST: \$25/person. Includes: Coach and entry to show at Royal Exhibition Centre. Food Stalls, snacks and lunches available or take own picnic lunch.

** IMPORTANT** Payments: At Feb. 18th meeting please as I have to pay "upfront" at time of securing tickets on Feb 19th. (AE)

MONDAY, SEPT. 28TH TO FRIDAY OCT. 2ND. INCLUSIVE. **TRIP OF THE YEAR**

5 DAY/4NIGHT STAYING AT PINNACLE VALLEY RESORT. (MANSFIELD AREA)

"A first class trip - you will enjoy this one, I recommend it". (AE)

COST: \$420/person. Includes: 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.

Day 1: Travel to Seymour, visit Alpacas at Capalba Park, lunch at Seymour Old P.O., Gallery and Restaurant. Maroondah Highway to Mansfield and Pinnacle Valley Resort in time for afternoon tea.

Day 2 : Visit the Alpine Village at Mt. Buller, picnic lunch, view the magnificent Alpine scenery, afternoon tea at Mirimbah Park.

Day 3 : Visit Mansfield, Historical Walk, visit some of farming properties, choose from: vegetables, yabbies, alpacas, emus, proteas, coloured fleccc and more. (Subject to seasonal activities).

Day 4 : A trip into Gold Rush era with our day set alongside the Goulburn River. Visit Jamieson, lunch at the Duck Inn, afterwards view Lake Eildon from Williams Lookout. A special night in bush themed dining room complete with bush poet and whipcracker.

Day 5 : Depart for home along Midland H'way to Plunkett Valley Winery (near Avenel), here we meet the Plunkett family for wine tastings, tours and luncheon, after which we head for home.

Note : Pinnacle Valley Resort has everything: Sauna, spa, indoor heated pool, mini golf course, table tennis, billiard table, etc.

LISTING: To be tabled at Feb. 18th meeting. Max (48)

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

Arthur Eaton

