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# PROBE

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Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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Published Monthly

Issue No. 152

17th. Feb. 1999

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Incorporation No. A0011248L

Annual Subscription \$20. Print Post Publication No PP 3491 06/00007

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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. Ian Green who will speak on "The Big Stupa".

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At our January meeting, our member, Cliff Binks gave us an insight into his early years and included his experiences over several trips to the United States of America. He was introduced by Bill Jacka who delivered a postage stamp summary of Cliff's life to date.

Cliff was born in Rochester and attended a number of Primary schools before completing his education at the Bendigo School of Mines where he obtained a Diploma of Civil Engineering. During the war he served in New Guinea as a lieutenant with an engineering unit. After the war he was employed by the State Rivers and Water Supply in Shepparton and Bendigo until his retirement in 1982. Cliff married Norma in 1946 and they have 4 children. Cliff is an historian, a member of the Genealogical Society, Friends of the Cemetery, Bendigo R.S.L., an active member of the Forest St. Uniting Church and a Foundation Member of the Bendigo Probus Club.

Cliff's first sea voyage was a trip to Cowes while on his honeymoon.

After his family had grown up, one of Cliff's daughters travelled to America and stayed there. This was the trigger for Cliff and Norma's frequent travels to that country. As Pauline lives mostly in Dallas, Cliff's comments are largely on that area and firstly centred on the churches that he had attended. The impressions gained were a mix of ostentation, modesty and security.

Transport in America is probably one of the key things as it is a big country with a lot of people to move around. To get a feel of the country Cliff and Norma travelled for 4 weeks on a Greyhound bus which landed them in some rather dubious areas. In driving Cliff was impressed by the courtesy of the drivers, particularly in Dallas.

The weather in Dallas ranges from 110 to -2 degrees F over the year with high humidity in the summer. Not the best for gardening.

The young people (under 21) of Dallas are subject to a curfew and no consumption of alcohol, while golf, football, baseball, ice skating, horse racing, tennis and snow sports are the major sports. Cliff saw no sign of bowls.

Cliff's further comments related to the Indians, crime and policing, security, firearms, and capital punishment.

Dell Martin thanked Cliff for his talk and made the usual presentation.

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### INDUCTION

John L'Huillier was inducted into the club by the President. We wish him all the best in his association with the Club.

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### ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Jean and Peter Goodrich who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on the 26th February. We wish them all the very best for the future.

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### APPRECIATION

Our thanks must go to Pat Slade for the embellishments she has made to our banner. I am certain that it will stand out in the parade of banners at the Annual Picnic.

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### ACTIVITIES

#### BOWLS NOTES

Well, the extra practice combined with a touch of luck has paid dividends. Our bowls team played East Bendigo in January and came away with an 8 shot victory; 57 to 49. Our best rink, once again skippered by Herb Hesse, with Bob Holmes, Alex Wilson and Warren Winzar. Well done to all players, just keep it up.

Our match for February is against North Bendigo on Wednesday, 24th at 9.30 am for 10 am start.

Team selected:

R. Downey	R. Chenery	E. Waterworth	A. Stephens (s)
A. Wilson	A. Court	W. Clemens	F. O'Connell (s)
J. Rose	O. Watson	L. Roy	M. Boyd (s)
A. Dingle	A. Eaton	E. Hogan	W. Winzar (s)

Bowlers, keep Mon. 22nd March free for the Championship game to be held at Castlemaine.

Good Bowling!!

Bill Clemens

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### ANNUAL PICNIC

The annual picnic this year is to be hosted by White Hills Probus Club and will be held at the White Hills Botanical Gardens on Friday, 12th of March. Registration will be at 11.00 am, welcome and lunch at 12 noon and banner parade at 1.00 pm. B.Y.O. everything, barbeques are near at hand.

## SENIOR CITIZEN'S WEEK

This week occurs from Sat. 13th March to Fri. 19th March, 1999 and competitions have been arranged in Oil and Acrylic Art, Photography and Poetry. Application forms to enter any of these competitions are available from Secretary, Arthur Cowling.

## PROFILE OF WILLIAM STANLEY CLEMENS

Born in Kensington, Melbourne on 17th December, 1932, the only son, with three sisters, Bill and his family moved to Bendigo in 1941. He was educated at Quarry Hill Primary School and Bendigo Technical College before taking up a plumbing apprenticeship in 1946. Bill was then employed in the building trade until 1960 with some time spent as a plumbing instructor at Bendigo Prison.

In 1956 he married Janet Lawry and they have four children. Lorraine is a school teacher, Trevor, a fireman with the Melbourne Metropolitan Brigade, Ian is an optometrist with practices in Bendigo, Maryborough, Kyneton and Castlemaine and Colin who is a builder in Brisbane.

Bill joined the Police Force in 1960 and had service in Melbourne in various squads and at Collingwood, Richmond, Camberwell and the Mobile Traffic Section and Highway Patrol at Warrnambool. He retired in 1985 with the rank of Sergeant.

Since retirement, he has travelled extensively throughout Asia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands and states of Australia.

He has been involved with service clubs in Bendigo and various sports - cricket with Bendigo United, baseball with Scots, representative basketball for Bendigo, pennant golf for Bendigo and Eaglehawk Golf Clubs and started bowls in 1985 with Golden Square after back surgery prevented him from continuing with golf.

Bill is an active member of Essendon Football Club which occupies his weekends during the Footy season and has been a member of Bendigo Probus for 6 years and a Committee member for 3 years.

What spare time Bill has left is devoted to his passion for collecting antique bottles from the Bendigo area from the 1880 to 1930 period.



## TRIPS INFORMATION

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25TH, 1999 TRIP TO MELBOURNE - VISITS TO:  
HISTORIC A.N.Z. GOTHIC BANK & BANKING MUSEUM (Cnr Queen/Collins St)  
THE AUSTRALIAN TOY MUSEUM (Collingwood) & other attraction.

\*\*Depart Community Ctre Crook St 7.30am. Arrive Home: Approx 6.00pm

Tour the unique A.N.Z. Gothic Bank & Banking Museum. Then visit 333 Collins St, a building which is built over dome of an original Melbourne Bank. Lunch own arrangement at Melbourne Central-Dai Maru. Afterwards visit the Toy Museum which has an amazing variety of toys some dating back to the 1882. This trip will please all.

COST: \$20.00/person. Includes: Coach, Entry Fees & Afternoon Tea.

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS: At Meeting Feb. 17th Maximum (49) Current (38)

\*\*\*\* VACANCIES: ( 10 ) \*\* Would appreciate more bookings.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 24TH, 1999. TRIP TO MELBOURNE. Max.(49) Current(47)  
LIVE MUSICAL STAGE SHOW - "SHOWBOAT" MATINEE PERFORMANCE - 1.00pm

COST: \$70/person (A Reserve) Includes: Coach & Admission to Show.

A highly acclaimed "Stage Show" at the Regent Theatre Melbourne.

Depart: 9.00am. Arrive Home 6.00pm.

PAYMENTS: Important: At Feb 17th meeting. (By Cheque preferred)

(If unable to go, onus is on person booked to obtain replacement)

THURSDAY APRIL 22nd, 1999. TRIP TO KYNETON. \*\*\* Maximum: (48)

Depart: 8.30am. Arrive home: 5.00pm.

Experienced Local Guide for full day. Town tour-items of interest. Also, during the day visits and conducted tours of John Brown, Kyneton Fine China, Kyneton Woollen Mill and the Kyneton Museum which is considered to be excellent. This trip will have great variety, be of interest to all, leisurely, enjoyable & low cost.

COST: \$20/Person Includes: Coach, Entry Fees, A/T. LUNCH: B.Y.O.

\*\*LIST: At meeting Wed Feb 17th. PAYMENTS: At Meeting 17th March.

TRIP OF THE YEAR: SUNDAY JULY 25TH TO SUNDAY AUGUST 8TH, 1999

\*\* TO SOUTHPORT (GOLD COAST QUEENSLAND) - HARBOUR SIDE RESORT

15 DAYS/14 NIGHTS. Depart: Sun July 25th. Return: Sun Aug 8th'99

\*\* SUNGOLD HOLIDAYS \*\* 4 Star Resort \*\* All Modern facilities.

\*\* SUNGOLD PACKAGE: Which includes: Accommodation (Twin Share),

Private Facilities, Dinner, Bed, Breakfasts, M/Tea most days,

Lunches: first week (2), 2nd Week (2), Tours on 5 days each week.

\*\* COST: Of 15 Day/14 Night Package:

SunGold Package (2 Weeks @ \$489/week) /person = \$998.00

(Seniors Return Air Fare: Melb - Coolangatta Ret. = \$382.00

(Sungold arranges)

\*\* TOTAL COST: per person = \$1,410.00

Transport Bendigo-Tullarmarine & return (40 travel) \$25.00/person

(For every 20 people SunGold give \$489 rebate) 40 = \$978.00

\*\* This amount would be used to defray cost of transport from Bendigo-Tullarmarine & return.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS: Meeting 16th June. Highly recommend this trip

MAXIMUM: (48) Current: (39) \*\*\* Additional bookings available.\*\*\*

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

Arthur Eaton

WANTED: A kind and generous person to take over editing of Probe for the April, May and possibly June meetings while I am overseas.

Alex Wilson