



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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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.

Our guest speaker today will be Dr. Brian Coman who will speak on Rabbits.

The Speaker last month was our own member, Len Hooken, who spoke of his career in racing and on racing in general. Len comes from the North Island of New Zealand, and it was there he served his apprenticeship as a jockey, starting at age 14. According to Len, he was really too small and light at that stage. Eventually he made his way to Australia and after some time in Ballarat, he arrived in Bendigo.

In due time he became No. 1 jockey to the well known Bendigonian, George Daniels, the father-in-law of Herb Hesse. Len won quite a few races, amongst others, he was the winner of the last ever Heathcote Cup. He took part in jump races as well as flat, but in general, jump jockeys are bigger than those on the flat, so this was a minor role. Len comments that jockeys these days are bigger than they were in his day.

Len was asked to explain the dominance of New Zealand bred racers in Australia. His explanation was that young foals put out in the paddock have better, greener, more luxuriant pasture, while their Australian counterparts have sparse dried up pasture.

FILM SHOW:

On Friday January 26th, a full house was present, very few empty seats. The film show we saw explained this popularity. Rob and Cynthia Watkins gave us a show which was first class. The scenery they showed us of their trek from India to Mt. Everest was of course superb, and the photography did justice to it.

Rob had previously been there 26 years ago with his daughter and we saw some of his work from that first time. The region is popularly called the Kingdom of the Clouds, and some of the early morning shots confirmed the notion. The shots at mid-day were good and the evening shots, snow-clad peaks lit by the last rays of the sun, were tremendous. Morning, Mid-day or evening, the technique was first class.

The mountains did not constitute the entire set, there were many shots displaying the way of life of the Nepalese. Much of the land is impoverished, but the best was made of the more promising parts by extensive terracing. Surprisingly too, the valleys on the approaches to the mountains are really tropical, sugar cane and bananas are grown in profusion.

Not surprisingly the population of Nepal is not uniform, in an area half the size of Victoria, there are 16 different tribal groups. There is also a considerable number of Tibetan refugees from their homeland.

The country is sparsely populated of course, in one stretch of 650 kms, there were only three villages. In one centre there was a bazaar where some of the vendors had spent five days on the way carrying loads of produce.

The second part of the show was devoted to Australia, with an emphasis on Western Australia, but also the Lamington National Park and Green Mountain were featured, as well as the Dandenongs and Kosiosko.

The wealth of wild flowers in the West came over very strongly, both the total number of blooms and their variety. We were shown pictures of Mountain Parrots, Satin Bower Birds, Crested Pigeons, Flame Robins, Spotted Bower Birds, Magpie Geese. Also Tiger Quolls, a Thorny Devil, Turtle tracks and a giant Python. A surprise to me was a shot of Mt. Augustus which is a monolith bigger than Ayers Rock.

BOWLS:

TEAMS FOR THE COMBINED PROBUS DAY AT CASTLEMAINE MONDAY FEB. 19TH.

A. Eaton	A. Wilson	E. Trewartha	R. Drowney
J. Laidler	A. Court	E. Driscoll	C. Turner
E. Waterworth	E. Hogan	R. Fitzgerald	A. Stephens
M. Boyd (skipper)	H. Hesse (skipper)	W. Clemens (skipper)	K. Gloster (skipper)

All players contact skippers regarding travel arrangements.
North Bendigo match, Wednesday March 7th, teams later.

TRAVEL NOTES:

BENDIGO & DISTRICT PROBUS ANNUAL PICNIC – FRIDAY MARCH 16TH, 2001

(Organised by Kyneton Probus)

VENUE: KYNETON RACE COURSE Maximum (49)

Depart from Strathdale Community Centre, Crook St. **at 9.00 am.**

COST: Coach fare: \$11.00 per person. (Based on 40 to travel).

The Combined Probus Clubs Annual Picnic is to be held at the Kyneton Race Course, which has excellent facilities in a picturesque setting with plenty of shade and shelter.

***An excellent program has been prepared to entertain you.

Musical presentations by young & old, displays of Local Arts and Crafts. Wine & tasting and sales, perhaps a free Pillion Motor Bike ride with a Ulysses Club Member.
"Much to see and do".

***Please bring your own Picnic Lunch & a fold up chair, some seating available. Tea & Coffee available.

***Registrations from 10.00 am, Program starts at 11.00am.

Finishes at about 2.30 pm to 3.00 pm. Home: Approx 4.00pm.

***A great opportunity for an interesting, low cost, day outing.

BOOKINGS & PAYMENTS: At meeting on Wednesday 21st February.

***A positive response will be required at this meeting if a Coach is to be provided for transport!!!!

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO/EVERGREEN TOURS – TRIP TO CANADA
MONDAY 7TH MAY TO SATURDAY 19TH MAY, 2001.

Maximum (48) ** Current (40)

13 DAY TOUR – CANADIAN ROCKY MOUNTAINS. ** (Hostess Escorted)

(Includes: Last two days on the Famous Rocky Mountaineer Train)

COST: \$4775.00 per person Twin Share. ** (Bendigo to Bendigo)

** Excellent Group Price secured. New 2001 Tour prices factored in.

** AN OPTIONAL: “7 Day Alaskan Cruise”, timed to immediately follow on, is available for those who may wish to take cruise.

Outside Cabin – Excellent Price of \$1350 / person – twin share.

** A vacancy exists for a Gent for the 13 Day Tour to share with Peter Randall and for (1) Lady to share with Beryl Jilbert on 13 Day Tour plus Alaskan Cruise.

** Vacancies exist for (4) others, subject to availability.

In order to avoid costly Single Supplements, desirable that bookings be received from two persons prepared to twin share.

** BALANCE PAYMENTS Due: 22nd February 2001. ** Insurance available.

** Enquiries / bookings to Arthur (5443 9162) ** Other Clubs welcome

** My thanks to the “Temporary Editor of Probe”

Submitted by Arthur Eaton, Tour Organiser. Probus Club of Bendigo

