



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 9.30am 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

ADVANCE NOTICE

The meeting of May 21, 2003 will commence at 11am and will be followed immediately by a special luncheon to mark the 200th Club Meeting.

VENUE: Masonic Center,

McIvor Rd Bendigo

COST: \$25 per person (3 courses)

DRESS: lounge suit with tie.

Pre luncheon drinks 11.45 am - 12 noon start serving first course.

Open to partners of members and widows of past members.

The guest speaker today is Bryan Baker and his subject is 'The Interesting Life of Bryan Baker'

Australia's Marvelous Music Tradition.

Herb Hesse introduced Peter Ellis, and his associate, Des Skinner. Peter has been interested in music, particularly performance, since the age of 10. He is versatile, playing eight different instruments including the mouth organ, piano, concertina, accordion, piano accordion and Swanee Whistle. All of these were played by Peter in his talk, accompanied by Des Skinner on guitar.

Besides playing the instruments, Peter talked about the invention and action of most of the instruments. The mouth organ for instance was invented in Germany in the 1820's as an aid in piano tuning. It has two rows of reeds, which enable to give a tremolo effect. From the mouth organ the accordion was developed.

The concertina comes in two forms. The first was the English concertina, which was invented by Charles Wheatstone (the physicist who invented the Wheatstone Bridge). The other form of Concertina came from Germany.

Each of these instruments was demonstrated by Peter, accompanied by Des, playing Waltzes, Jigs, Country-Dance Tunes and Ballads.

Peter has a deep interest in Bush Dances, and has played with the Wedderburn Old Timers and the Emu Creek Band, and has written and published books on the topic. The whole performance was stimulating, informative, entertaining and skillful.

Afterwards Alan Dingle moved a vote of thanks and made the appropriate presentations.

Vale

*With regret we mourn the passing of Ken Crowle on
Wednesday, January 29, 2003*

BOWLS NOTES

Our January game against East Bendigo was played in very hot conditions with East in very good form winning overall by 20 shots, 98 - 78.

The best rink for Probus was Alce Wilson and Ray Fitzgerald with skipper Peter Bath. Our February game will be in the Probus district championships at Castlemaine on Thursday 27th. This is an all day event with assembly at 9:30am for a 10:15am start after morning tea. The day consists of two games of 12 ends then lunch, then two games of 10 ends with afternoon tea and presentations at the conclusion. Winners will be the club which scores the highest aggregate points over the three games. Section winners will receive trophies. Regulation dress will be required and the total cost is \$11.00 per player.

This is always a wonderful day and Bendigo Probus has entered four rinks of fours.

Teams are as follows:

E. Driscoll	A. Eaton	R. Fitzgerald	M. Boyd (skipper)
W. Winzer	C. Turner	E. Waterworth	H. Hesse (skipper)
W. Redmond	J. Tate	A. Court	K. Gloster (skipper)
E. Trewartha	J. Laidler	F. O'Connell	P. Bath (skipper)

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO: TRIP TO MELBOURNE WEDNESDAY 4TH
DECEMEBR 2002

On Wednesday 4th of December, 43 Probus Club of Bendigo Members & Partners, together with some members from other Probus Clubs and friends of Probus travelled to Melbourne to visit the Ford Motor Company Factory at Campbellfield and the Caterpillar Facilities at Tullamarine. Our coach captain was Neville.

On arrival at the Ford Factory, we enjoyed a short morning tea break in the Ford Dining Room before the first half of our group departed on a 'People Transporter' for their tour of the factory. Upon their return, the second half of our group was then taken on their tour. The transporter with a Driver and Guide, Les, gave each group in turn, a most comprehensive tour of the factory, explaining each process, during which we witnessed the production of a Ford Motor Car from the beginning to the finished vehicle ready to drive out of the factory door.

Computerised control was very evident throughout the whole Factory. They controlled the 'army of robots' who in turn performed the manufacturing process of handling, welding, assembly and painting of car components, (paint is acrylic water based). Likewise, computers controlled the movement of the car through each spot on the production line, whether it be underfloor, overhead or on conveyers and finally the car was tested 'under power' on rollers, which take approximately 2 minutes for each car. Ford employs 3300 employees, works 2 x 8 hour shifts, 4 to 4.5 hours stock must always be on hand in the factory.

Plant 1 in Broadmeadows, per day: Builds 440 Cars & uses \$1500 electricity, Water \$1800 and gas \$8500.

Our travelers had their lunch in the Dining Room prior to departure for the Caterpillar Factory at 12:45pm. We acknowledge and greatly appreciate assistance of Jamal Kakour (Ford Alive) with arrangements for our tour.

Following our arrival at Caterpillar we were directed to their Melbourne Distribution Center. A huge building, just a portion of the whole factory area. Our group was divided into three sections for conducted tours of the facility. The M.D.C. is an 8-year-old building, with floor space 40,000 square metres & yard space of 15,000 square metres, and employs 65 storeman. Stock items are bar coded, radio frequency. All operations are computer controlled for both incoming and outgoing stock and for movement, allocation and placement of stock within the facility. Stock is stored in selected sections of the storage racks which extend to 25ft high, and all are readily accessible to fork lifts. Stock items vary from 1 oz to 1 tonne. The facility operates 7 days, 24 hours per day. Orders are delivered 98% of the time within 24 hours. 100 tonnes of parts are moved in and out on a daily basis. They scrap many of the slow moving parts each month. Dispatch Cartons are all numbered and coded for size identification. The M.D.C. is proud of its distinction in being the most productive caterpillar distributor in the world, it can locate any stock item within a minute. 'Backing each and every caterpillar machine is a vast product network and part of M.D.C.'s Mission statement is "to keep 'em running" anywhere, anytime and operating at the lowest possible cost'.

After M.D.C. we were taken to the plant, which manufactures Road Graders of 125, 140 and 165 H.P. for which the Power Packs and control systems are imported from Caterpillar in America. The remainder of the components for the Graders are manufactured at the plant and the Graders assembled on sight. For painting, the Grader is

placed in a large spray booth, as the paint has magnetic particles, which adhere to metal only. No masking of non-metallic parts is required. The Factory produces one Motor Road Grader per Day. It also manufactures large excavator buckets and mining truck bodies. We were also given a brief tour of the Caterpillar learning Center at which first class training is provided for their apprentices and other employees within the facility.

We wish to acknowledge the assistance of Kathy Szadovszky with arrangements for the tour of the facility and also to our guides, David, Adrian Gauci, Tony Arena, Wal Scales and the young lady who so excellently detailed the various sections of the facility and its many and varied operations. Our thanks to all.

At the conclusion of a most enlightening and enjoyable day, we departed Caterpillar at 4:15pm, right on time. However, at Gisborne our coach developed a 'fuel' fault which caused problems for Neville who capably nursed the vehicle home to Bendigo, arriving at 6:40pm.

Author: Trips organiser, Arthur.



PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO TRIPS INFORMATION

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 20th, 2003 TRIP TO TOOLANGI & KING LAKE AREA

Depart 7.30am Strath Com. Center Crook Street. Home 5.45pm Approx.

(Joint Bendigo Probus (32) & Sandhurst (17) Max: (49) Coach Full)

VISITS TO: Forest Discovery Center at Toolangi and guided tours of rainforest and of a working Sawmill. Finally, a visit to Sunny's Nursery Garden and Museum at King Lake, (over 1000 pieces Carnival Glass and 2000 Teddy Bears/Dolls - much of interest for all here)

COST: \$26.00/person.

INCLUDES: Coach Fare, Morning tea, Entrance Fees.

LUNCH: B.Y.O. Picnic Lunch.

THURSDAY 3rd APRIL, 2003 TRIP TO MELBOURNE

INTERNATIONAL FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

"The Show of the Year"

Sharing with Sandhurst Probus Club (Maximum 48). Each Club (24)

DEPART: 7:30 am Strath Community Centre, Crook St. Home: Approx 5.45pm

COST: \$30.00/person. Includes: Coach Fare and Entry to Show.

The International Flower and Garden Show is undoubtedly one of Australia's most beautiful events. It is held at the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens.

Foodstalls, Snacks & Lunches available or, if you wish, take your own Picnic Lunch.

LIST/BOOKINGS: February 19th meeting. PAYMENTS: March 19th Meeting

Note: We are on this occasion sharing equally with Sandhurst Probus, the first 24 on each club's list to travel, remainder of each club be their emergencies.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO - 200TH MEETING - WEDNESDAY 21ST MAY 2003

(FOLLOWED BY: 3 COURSE LUNCH)

Members and partners are encouraged to participate in Celebrating the occasion of the

200th meeting of our club, which incidentally was the very first Probus club formed in Bendigo.

Meeting to start at 11.00am finish at 11.45am. Sherries: 11.45am

Lunch: to start at 12 noon. At 12.30pm: Welcome Guest Speaker.

Pre Lunch Sherries provided, otherwise drinks on a B.Y.O. basis.

Open to: Partners and Widows of former members.

Costs: Normal \$2 entry (rent etc) & \$25/person for meals and function

Listing: post at meeting Wed 15th Jan.

Payments: Wed 16th April.

TRIP TO SOUTHPORT (GOLD COAST QUEENSLAND - SUNGOLD HARBOUR SIDE RESORT) SUNDAY 20TH JULY TO SUNDAY 3RD AUGUST 2003 - 15 DAYS/14 NIGHTS.

**** Opportunities like this trip seldom come along. A "First Class" trip, one you cannot afford to miss. I highly recommend it.**

**** Sungold Holidays ** 4 star resort ** All modern facilities.**

Situated in the Gold Coast at Southport, on the Broadwater.

****Sungold Package: Accommodation Twin Share, Private Facilities.**

****All inclusive: Accommodation, all meals (except lunches), Tours (4 days/week), entry fees, (Coach transfers in Queensland)**

**** Special Jupiter's Casino high quality Live Show.**

**** 15 Day/14 Night package: \$649 x 2 Weeks = \$1298 + \$70 = \$1368/person**

**** Airfares: Melbourne - Coolgatta and return**

(Qantas Seniors Advance/Flexible \$428 + \$90 Taxes) Approx:\$ 518/person

**** Special Casino Live show during stay: \$ 30/person**

**** Total Cost: 15 Day/14 Night Package: Approx:\$ 1916/person**

**** Add transport Bendigo - Melbourne and return (based on 40) \$ 32/person**

**** TOTAL COSTS: Sungold holiday, Air Fares, Transport - \$ 1948/person**

DEPOSITS: \$ 50.00 /person Due when any future bookings are lodged.

Payments: By cash or cheque made out to Probus Club of Bendigo.

**** AIR FARES Due for Payment: By Wed. 19th March, 2003 Meeting**

Air fare: \$ 518.00/person By Cheque made payable to SUNGOLD HOLIDAYS (Arthur will then collate, and forward on).

**** Balance/Final Payments: By 18th June Meeting 2003.**

SUNGOLD ITINERARIES: are available.

Maximum: (49) Current Bookings: (36). Vacancies: Enquiries welcome

**** For further information please contact Arthur on 5443 9162

**** In order to assist our "collectors", please tender actual amounts due for each trip or Function, when making payments.**



NOTICE OF MEETING

Under rule 14 (c)..... All nominations and acceptances of nomination shall be made in writing, signed by two nominators AND the candidate/s.

Note - Preliminary advice of above was given in last months Probe, together with appropriate nomination form: further copies available from secretary. Completed forms to be in the hands of the secretary not less than 7 days before the date fixed for the holding

of the Annual General Meeting.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

The Eighteenth Annual General Meeting of the Probus Club of Bendigo Incorporated will be held on the 19th March 2003 at 9:30am at the Club's Meeting Venue.

AGENDA

- 1) Confirm minutes of preceding A.G.M.
- 2) President's report
- 3) Consideration of Financial Statement pursuant to Section 18 (d) of the Constitution 1998. (club's Balance sheet)
- 4) Election of executive officers:
 - (a) President (b) Vice-President (c) Treasurer (d) Secretary
- 5) Election of 5 Committee members
- 6) Determine fees/subscriptions for 2003/04
 - (a) Joining Fee..... (Present \$25.00 once only)
 - (b) Annual Subscription (Present \$20.00)
 - (c) Nominating Fee (Present \$25.00 once only)
 - (d) Annual Nominee Fee (Present \$10.00)
 - (e) Per Meeting Attendance (Present \$2.00)
- 7) Appointment of Auditor
- 8) Appointment of Public Officer
- 9) Other business as directed by President
- 10) Close of A.G.M.

Special General Meeting to follow closure of the A.G.M.

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

Bob Chenery: Secretary

THE PROBUS CLUB OF SPRING

GULLY

Invites You and Your Club
To Our

Hobbies Day

at the

Pheonix Centre

Osborne Street Flora Hill

on

Thursday 27 February 2003

From 11am to 1pm