



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.

The Guest Speaker at this month's meeting is John McLean the C.E.O. of the Council of the City of Greater Bendigo. The subject of his talk has not been revealed so far.

The Guest Speaker at the November meeting was Mrs Nora Stubbs of the R.A.C.V., she was introduced by Murray McDonald.

The Royal Automobile Club of Victoria was 100 years old in 2004, and provides a good deal of assistance to the motorists of Victoria not just in the home state, but with arrangements with similar organisations in other states. Many of our members must have benefited from the assistance of the R.A.C.V. in any manner of different ways.

Nora's main theme was aimed at our age group, to this end she had available a number of different manuals and handbooks and she emphasised the nature of problems which have particular relevance to "Seniors" such as health, mobility, vision, alertness with suggestions about strategies to overcome them. One very useful technique is to plan routes in town to eliminate right hand turns.

Much of this is explained in the Older Drivers Handbook. Although when you read it you immediately think it is common sense the booklet makes you aware of it.

After the talk the speaker was thanked by President Alan who made the usual presentation.

VALE

With profound regret we record the death of Olive Downey, the widow of Ray, our first President.
Also Jean Bennett the wife of Ian Bennett.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

FEBRUARY 2005

02	Tom Roberts	84
05	Jack Watts	89
06	Cyril Slade	83
18	John Hardy	81
25	Cliff Neivandt	79
26	Ken Proud	84

MARCH 2005

02	Peter Randall	71
17	John Sanderson	81
19	Gordon Glover	88
23	Ray Fitzgerald	83
23	Jim Harrison	83
25	Jim Aitken	80

Congratulations to all of above.

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

"It's a fact" (said the Secretary).

"Do you realise that due to the television being so dull these past few months that the children are now doing the homework".

"Nowadays, when you get right down to brass tacks, they're plastic."

"Double occupancy... means that two can stay as cheaply as one, who has to pay double if he's alone".

BONANZA

CANBERRA TRIPS REFUNDS

In order to cover all costs of this trip, if late cancellations were received, Arthur, in his wisdom "built in" a financial buffer. Refunds (folding money) will be made by Arthur at the meeting of 19th January, 2005. Signatures will be required!! Don't delay!!

PRELIMINARY NOTICE: Members are reminded that the Club's Annual Meeting will be held at 9.30 am on Wednesday, 16th March, 2005. All positions in the Club will be declared vacant at the Meeting and members are invited to apply to any position. In addition, the Club may be seeking volunteer's to fill positions other than the Committee and your indication on the nomination form is invited.

Nomination forms are enclosed within this issue of "Probe". Completed nomination forms are to be in the hands of the Secretary prior to Wednesday, 9th March, 2005, (seven days prior to the A.G.M.).

Further blank copies of the nomination forms are available from the Secretary upon request.

Bob Chenery... SECRETARY.

DISCUSSION PAPER

PROBUS CLUB CONSTITUTION PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

About every 3 years the Probus Centre - South Pacific Inc. (P.C.S.P.) make a Constitutional review following changes to laws, court rulings, incident experiences etc. All Probus clubs has been asked to discuss a number of amendments and report to PCSP before the end of January 2005, using a special form held by the Secretary.

To pass any of the amended proposals will require a 75% written agreement of the total number of Clubs.

It should be noted that the Probus Club of Bendigo does not solely use the PCSP standard club constitution. On 15 October, 1998 our club confirmed an amalgamation of Rules & By-laws and the Standard Constitution to form our present Club Constitution.

Below is an abridged version of the amendment proposals and the Secretary has appended his personal comments to assist discussion only.

It is suggested that this discussion should be held during our General Meeting in January 2005.

- PROPOSAL 1.** Subscriptions - Delete the words "and other contributions."
COMMENT 1. Our wording (para 17) appears not to require any change. (Quote 17) "Members of the Club shall pay an annual subscription as determined by the Annual Meeting. Recommended... "OBJECT TO CHANGE".
- PROPOSAL 2.** Membership - Delete the words "sponsored by two members of the Club".
COMMENT 2. Our wording (para 5(d)) "Applicants for membership must be sponsored by two members of the Club and approved by the Management Committee." Recommended... "OBJECT TO CHANGE".
- PROPOSAL 3.** By-Laws - Replace the word "may" with the word "shall".
COMMENT 3. Our wording (para 23) "... such rules may be amended from time to time as provided therein." Acceptance of the word "shall" would mean continual periodic amendments. Recommended... "OBJECT TO CHANGE".
- PROPOSAL 4.** Membership - Replace the word "fifty" with the word "seventy five".
COMMENT 4. Our wording (para 5(b)) "Membership shall be contingent upon attendance at regular general meetings of not less than fifty percent in any Probus year, subject to leave of absence in cases of illness or any other reasonable grounds". This rule of 50% has not been reformed for some years. To raise it to 75% appears very harsh. Recommended... "OBJECT TO CHANGE".
- PROPOSAL 5.** Meetings - Remove the words "twenty five" and replace with the word "fifty".
COMMENT 5. Our wording (15(c)) "A quorum at a General Meeting shall be twenty five percent of the membership excluding honorary members". Over the past 12 months our attendance at General Meeting has been 55% to 60%. To change from 25% to 50% may well at some future time, mean a meeting cancellation. Our Club could be cutting things "too close to the bone". Recommended... "OBJECT TO CHANGE".

Bob Chenery (Secretary - Probus Club of Bendigo) 17 November, 2004.

All members to vote on adoption or otherwise at the January meeting.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO - BENDIGO & DISTRICT OF BENDIGO

Host Club	Probus Club of Bendigo
Venue	Bendigo East Bowling Club, Lansell Street, Bendigo. Phone: (03) 5443 5765
Date	Thursday, 17th February, 2005.
Start time	Assemble 9.30 am for 10.15 am start
Trophies	Clubs will compete for championship shield, to be held for one year. This will be decided by the club with the highest AGGREGATE of wins and shots up over 3 games. Consolation winners will receive Probus Trophies.
Conditions of play	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Teams will comprise of Probus members - Male, female or composite, ! non Probian OK in team2 Regulation RVBA or VLBA dress.3 Each side to consist of 4 teams of four players. <u>The competition is limited to 10 clubs (160) players, FIRST IN WILL APPLY.</u> <p><u>First game will be 12 ends before lunch, two games of 10 ends will be played after lunch, followed by afternoon tea and presentations.</u></p>
Catering	Bendigo East Bowling Club
Cost	Total cost \$12.50 per player (\$50 per team)
Entry	Entries close 5pm, Friday, 7th February, 2005. Skippers names only. Entries to Ray Fitzgerald, 2/30 Molesworth Road, Kangaroo Flat. Ph: 5447 0680. If emergencies required notify as early as possible.

BOWLS NEWS

The game for December was played Thursday against Bendigo, and resulted in a win for Bendigo, 86-81. Best rink for Probus, was T. Trewartha, J. Laidler, E. Waterworth, winning 24 to 12.

There is no game to be played in January, because Bendigo cannot get a team. The next game will be the combined day in February.

Ray Fitzgerald, Bowls Co-ordinator

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO

A SPECIAL FUNCTION: (Friday 4th February, 2005, 4.30pm)

A FILM SHOWING AT THE LATROBE UNIVERSITY LECTURE THEATRE - BENDIGO

Rob & Cynthia Watkins have again offered their services to provide for us another of their "spectacular film showings," a number of which we have greatly enjoyed and been privileged to see over a period of many years in Air Conditioned comfort at the Latrobe University venue.

COST: \$3.00 per person. **Maximum - our Club allocation: (80) - Current (66) Car Parking & Entry to Theatre:** Entry from Edwards Road. A relaxed and very interesting evening is assured. Vacancies (14) "Don't miss out"

Program:

- | | | |
|-----------|--------|--|
| ** 4.30pm | Films: | National Parks of U.S.A. and Canada |
| ** 5.30pm | B.Y.O. | Picnic Tea & Socialise. (Tea, Coffee, Milk, Sugar & Paper Cups provided) |
| ** 7.00pm | Films | From Nice (French Riviera) to the Top of Norway & return. |
| ** 8.00pm | | Depart for home in daylight. |

LIST: Further bookings required.. PAYMENTS: Due at meeting Wed. 19th January, 2005.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO - GIPPSLAND TOUR:

Tues 3rd May to Thurs 5th May, 2005. (3 Days/2Nights) Staying in Morwell.

Maximum: (49), Cost based on Minimum of (35). **Cost: \$250 per person, Twin Share.** If single room requested **Single Supplement \$60.** **Includes:** All coach Travel, Dinner, Bed, Continental Breakfast & Lushes, Some drinks, All Entrance Fees, Local Tour Guide & Devonshire Tea on Day (3).

Day 1: Tuesday 3rd May 2005. We travel via the Princes Highway, stop at Bunyip for MT then on to Criterion Hotel at Traralgon for a "Special Lunch" with a Cooking demonstration which you will enjoy. Wine, juice, tea, coffee included. Here we meet our Guide Val Murphy and tour the Potato farming area of Thorpdale with a visit to Val's Garden where we taste her speciality Potato Ice Cream. From here on to Morwell where we stay for the next two nights.

Day 2: Wednesday 4th May. Our first visit is to the historic gold mining town of Walhalla where we take a Scenic Ride on the Goldfields Railway Train through fern tree gullies enjoying the beauty of the bush and river scenery. We then enjoy a Picnic lunch after which we continue touring the Walhalla area, with a stopover in Erica. Dinner tonight is at Moe after which we return to our Motel for a night of fun and games (organised by our guide Val.)

Day 3: Thursday 5th May. After a nice breakfast we begin our journey home-wards. Our first port of call to the beautiful gardens in Morwell after which we travel to Mirboo North and visit the "Erinea" Lavender Farm where we have a guided tour of the gardens, drying sheds and enjoy Beverley's home made and grown Devonshire tea. We have a 2 Course Lunch at the Mirboo North Hotel.

Time permitting we will visit the Narracan Water Falls. Then homeward bound arriving Bendigo late afternoon...

After such an excellent Canberra Trip the travellers on that trip requested I organise a 3 Day/2 Night Trip 'suited to the needs of our mature age group' with our Coach Captain to be the popular and caring Neville Dewhurst. As requested, Neville organised this trip and he will be our Coach Captain.

**** This will trip will be of interest to all and conducted at a leisurely pace.**

**** A Booking List: Will be tabled at meeting Wed 19th January, I seek your support.**

**** A positive response is desirable to enable arrangements to be finalised.**

Tours Organiser Arthur Eaton. For inquiries telephone: 5443 9162

REPORT: On 5 Day/3 Night Canberra Trip Monday 21st to Friday 26th November, 2004 with Bendigo Coachlines.

Day (1) Monday 21st November 2004: Thirty Seven Passengers comprising Members of Probus Club of Bendigo & their Partners together with some from other Probus Clubs & friends of Probus, departed Bendigo on time at 7.30am Mon 21/11/04. Our Coach Captain was 'our friend to all' Neville Dewhurst.

The morning tea stop was at Stanhope and our Lunch Stop 11.45am - 12.45PM at North Albury B.P. then on to 'The Dog on the Tuckerbox' at Gundagai where Neville put on an Afternoon tea at own cost. On arrival at Canberra we drove up to MtAinslea Lookout which overlooks the City of Canberra, Neville very capably pointed out to the group the focal points of Canberra. We finally arrived at the Heritage Hotel/Motel, our home for the week, at 6.15pm. Dinner was at 7.30pm, a Bistro Meal of Roast Beef, Vegetables and Sweets of very good quality and in plentiful supply. Bedtime & end of Day (1)

Day (2) Tuesday 22nd November: Breakfast at 7.30am in the Bistro in a relaxed manner, great variety and food in plentiful supply. We set off at 8.45am in our Coach and Neville drove us through an extensive area where the many Embassies are situated, pointing out each in turn. Our first visit today at 9.30am was to the Mint where our Australian Coins and Medals together with those of other selected Countries are made, there was much of interest to see. Many of the group 'stamped for themselves' \$1.00 Proof Coins - under strict supervision. At 11.00am we were aboard the MV Southern Cross for a one hour cruise on Lake Burleigh Griffin during which the Skipper gave a comprehensive, very interesting and detailed commentary of areas we passed. A lunch pack was provided, we had lunch in Commonwealth Park beside the lake and close by the Carillon chimed. Lunch completed, we travelled to Cockington Green, a wonder to behold with its excellent garden layout and many attractions which included a miniature recreation of an English Village, and most importantly one of Central Debraah Mine in Bendigo. At 4pm we headed for the Motel, looking forward to and obtaining another most satisfying Bistro Meal.

Day (3) Wednesday 24th November: Following a hearty breakfast we were off at 8.45am for further sightseeing, Neville drove us to a vantage point which overlooked the grounds of the Governor General's residence Yarralumla, after which were driven over the Dam Wall which holds back the water in Lake Burley Griffin. We visited Parliament House from 9.30am to 11.45am and were taken on a conducted tour of both the House of Representatives and the Senate Chambers, a most impressive building comprising over 400 rooms. Next visit, a Jewel in the Crown, to The Australian War Memorial a most impressive and solemn experience. The group had self guided tours, some stayed 3-4 hrs, others who stayed for 2 hrs were taken in the Coach to Old Parliament House. At 4.00pm we visited the National Canberra Exhibition which tells the extraordinary story of Canberra featuring people, events, history and design which contributed to its development. We had a conducted tour which included a video and laser light show. After boarding the coach we travelled to Black Mountain and visited the Telstra Tower which stands 195 meters above the summit. We first viewed a video detailing its planning, building and application, after we were taken in lifts to the top for excellent 360 degree panoramic views of Canberra and surrounding countryside. Arrived back at Motel 6.30pm, for another excellent meal.

Day (4) Thursday 25th November: Our first visit to the High Court of Australia, located beside the Lake Burley Griffin, a unique structure of modern design, a 40 metre concrete & glass building, the glazed area covers 4,000 square metres. Within the complex there are three Courtrooms of different sizes, each being distinctly different from the other in its layout, decor, artwork and the purpose for which it is used. Upon arrival at 9.45am we were shown a 16 minute video about the role of the High Court and its seven Justices. After which we were divided into two groups each with a guide and conducted in turn over No's 1,2 & 3 Courtrooms, each of the guides gave excellent commentaries on the courts, their purposes & functions.

At 11.00am we walked across to the adjacent Art Gallery, where we again divided into two groups each with a guide, and were given conducted tours of this Modern Building and Gallery, there was a special exhibition of Kelly Gang paintings. A picnic lunch in Commonwealth Park, then at 2.00pm a visit to: Screen Sound Archives of Australia which collects, preserves and shares the nations moving image and recorded sound heritage. In the theatre we were shown 7 movie films of short duration, 1896 to 2000.

First, the silent B & W film of the 1896 Melbourne Cup, (the oldest surviving film footage), a 7 minute surviving section of a 1906 movie film of the Kelly gang, a 1931 film with sound advertisement for Rinsco. Of Television we viewed early Live to Air T.V. blunders, Brian Henderson's Bandstand, a T.V. launch for Paul Hogan, extracts from the first colour films, followed by a 'Pocket History' 6 minute segment of Sound & Film from 1896 to 2000 "why save our nature." Additional time spent in the audio-visual section.

Day (5) Friday 26th November. After a hearty breakfast, we departed our Motel and Canberra at 7.30am. Our first stop was at Gundagai where we had our morning tea and visited Rusconi's Masterpiece in Marble, what a treat this was. Frank Rusconi commenced this work of meticulous accuracy in 1910, it took 28 years to build and was completed in 1938. It comprises 20,948 marble pieces each hand cut and polished, there are 20 varieties of marble all collected in N.S.W. It stands 1.1 metres high. Rusconi used a lathe constructed from an old sewing machine, the tools used were ordinary mason's tools. Assembly made without the aid of drawings. *** An excellent attraction not to be missed. *** From Gundagai we travelled along the Hume Highway through to Nth. Albury B.P. where stopped for lunch. From Nth Albury we travelled along the Hume Highway to Benalla bye pass road, across through Shepparton Mooropna, Elmore and arrived safely home in Bendigo at approximately 5.00pm.

Summary: An excellent trip all round, with a pleasant and friendly group, a nice motel, a variety of meals of very good quality with most adequate servings - served at the bistros, many tours of great variety with an excellent Coach Captain Neville Dewhurst who was most informative, considerate, co-operative and helpful at all times. **Some persons on the trip said they had been to Canberra on a number of occasions, but this was the first time they had really seen it. A trip of great variety and of much interest to all.**

Report prepared by: Arthur Eaton Trips Organiser.