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# PROBE

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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 10am 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.

## Today's Guest Speaker is Steven Lindsay who is a Urologist.

Last meeting we had as Guest Speaker Cynthia Gardner, she was introduced by President Bryan. Her subject was Niagara Therapy.

This system was started in Canada then Europe. A 50 year research programme resulted in the system which can benefit sufferers from many conditions, high blood pressure, arthritis and many others.

The essential idea of the therapy is based on improving the body's two circulation systems, namely blood circulation lymphatic circulation. Good circulation supplies nutrients and oxygen to the tissues, healing, regenerating and destroying and removing toxic substances. Besides advising sufferers on achieving a healthy regime, the firm manufactures and markets health equipment. Selected exercise programs are offered to improve the circulation. Improved circulation means improved health. Jim Aitken thanked the speaker for an interesting talk and made the presentation.

### PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

The June guest speaker, Cynthia Gardener, was an outstanding speaker. The title of her address "The River of Life". Cynthia was an excellent example of a person who knew her subject and certainly knew how to present herself. Thank you Barry O'Brien for your organising excellence for an outstanding speaker. Do you have a choice of speaker's or a recommendation for suitable speaker/s, if so, please talk to Barry OBrien.

Our Probe editor, Alec Crothers will be absent in September next, which means we are looking for a member to stand in for Alec. Is there a volunteer out there to take his place for the September Probe? Please contact Alec.

**CLEANING DUTIES:** We have spoken about the cleaning roster for the last 2 months. It is important we establish the need to inform all members that a roster of 6 members is required at each meeting to organise morning tea and to clean the rooms. Janitor in Chief, Ralph Michell will inform you of your role, which is only a 10 minute job after each meeting. For those members unable to help because of illness or age, please inform secretary Bob so that you may be excused.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The club's vacancies total 17 at present. It is disappointing at the lack of response to our drive for new members - not one response. Your committee is aware of the main problem, there are now 10 Probus Clubs in Bendigo. Do you have any suggestions or recommendations to increase our membership. If you do, please inform Secretary Bob.

**INTERESTING FIGURES:** Secretary Bob's figures of Probus Club membership in the South Pacific region's level have a message to tell.

The average membership of Victorian Clubs in the following years:

|         |      |         |      |         |      |
|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
| 2001/02 | 92.9 | 2002/03 | 91.9 | 2004/05 | 90.6 |
|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|

A reduction of membership of 2.3 membership over the 4 years period. We are not alone, other clubs are experiencing membership loss. What is the answer?

Other interesting figures are, Victorian membership 51025 members, and Victorian Clubs 563. At the 1st April last there were some 2250 clubs in the South Pacific region. The South Pacific region takes in Australia, Cook Islands, Tonga, Western Samoa, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Vanuatu, Norfolk Island, Fiji, and Papua New Guinea.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROBUS:** Would you like to contribute to our monthly Probe news? We would love to hear from you. If so, please contact Alec Crothers.

Until the 20th July meeting, please keep well, take care.

Bryan Armstrong.

#### BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

##### AUGUST 2005

|    |                      |           |
|----|----------------------|-----------|
| 05 | Gordon Rayson        | 79        |
| 05 | Frank O'Connell      | 81        |
| 14 | Jack Kelly           | 81        |
| 17 | Jim Forsyth          | 82        |
| 23 | <b>Don Donaldson</b> | <b>90</b> |
| 24 | Colin McClean        | 82        |

##### SEPTEMBER 2005

|    |                    |           |
|----|--------------------|-----------|
| 01 | <b>Dick Opie</b>   | <b>90</b> |
| 03 | John Stephens      | 75        |
| 07 | Bryan Armstrong    | 77        |
| 13 | Len Hodren         | 71        |
| 15 | <b>Jack Davies</b> | <b>90</b> |
| 16 | Rupert Reynolds    | 78        |
| 27 | Doug Laity         | 73        |

Congratulations to all of above, especially Don Donaldson (our most "Senior Member"), Dick Opie and Jack Davies.

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

#### FOUNDATION MEMBERS LUNCHEON

A successful meeting on June 15, at the Belmont Hotel, attended by 17 people. A point of discussion was the question of inviting Foundation members from other Probus Clubs in Bendigo, but it was felt that this would be unwieldy. An alternative suggestion was that one Foundation Member from each club, with partner, should be invited, paying for the meal as we do. We expressed our concern that because of failing health there are some of our members may not be able to attend.

It was agreed that the July Luncheon should be held at the Captain Cook Hotel at 12.30 pm following the Bendigo Club meeting. A \$8.50 price had been arranged by Cliff, with a Chinese component if required. It was agreed that older members not now driving, be transported by other members, arrangements to be made at the Probus meeting before the luncheon. The club secretary is ordering a dozen Foundation Member pins, which perhaps will be presented at a club meeting.



## **PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO**

**TUESDAY 26th JULY. DINNER**

### **- XMAS IN JULY AT THE LEADLIGHT CAFE**

6.30pm for 7.00pm Meal. Maximum (90),\*\*Cost based on minimum of (35) persons.  
Current: ( 47 ) COST: \$25.00 per Person. Includes: A high quality (3) Course Xmas Dinner, Tea/Coffee. Entertainment - some Prize Draws. Drinks: Purchase your own at the bar. The Leadlight Cafe is situated in the C.B.D. at 25 Queen Street (a couple of doors from Mitchell St.) *Cliff Binks who has previously provided some excellent Dinner Evenings is organising the program.* Bookings to date: (47) B.Armstrong (2), C.Binks (1), G.Bloomfield (1), A.Cowling (2), A.Crothers (2), G.Glover (2), A.Eaton (2), P.Goodrich (2), J.Hardy (2), F.Himsworth (2), L.Hodren (2), R.Michell (1), L.Nankivell (2), I. Nixon (2), B.O'Brien (6), P.Randall (2) A.Ryall (2), W.Spicer (2), P.Thornton (2), C.Thompson (2), I.Truscott (1), W.Truscott (1), J.White (2), M.Mayo (1), W.Winzar (1)

### **STAGE LIVE SHOW - THE LION KING - IN MELBOURNE - AT REGENT THEATRE.**

Travel by Bendigo Coachlines. Depart 9.00am WED. 24th AUGUST- 1.00pm Matinee.  
COST: Includes: Coach Fare & Entry to Theatre ( Min. 35), Max: (46) Current: (46). \$85.00 per person: \*\*\* For holders of (Pensioner Concession Cards only.) \$95.00 per person: For those who do not hold Pensioner Concession Cards.

Payments have been received from and Tickets have been secured for: (46)

J.Aitken (2), B.Armstrong (2), Pat Bath (1), C.Binks (1), B. Bruhn (1) W. Clemens (2), J.Cole (1), A.Cowling (2), A Court (2), J.Davies (2), A.Dingle (2), A.Eaton (2), M.Hallett (2), F.Himsworth (2), J.Hardy (2), W.Jacka (2), E. Jenkins (1), C.McLean (1), L.Nankivell (2), I Nixon (2), K.Proud (2), P.Randall (2), W.Spicer (2), J. Summers (1), P.Thornton (2), J.White (2) W.Winzar (1)

\*\* Lost tickets non-refundable, to avoid problems tickets will be issued on the Coach on day of travel.

\*\* Emergencies are required, if interested please advise Arthur

### **TRIP TO MELBOURNE: Monday 19th September, 2005**

17th Century Dutch Masters Exhibition National Gallery Vic.- St Kilda Rd.

\*\* Visits to Federation Square can also be included if desired.

\*\* The 17th Century Dutch Masters Exhibition:

*A most comprehensive display of the amazing works of 17th Century Dutch Masterpieces by the great artists such as Vermeer, Rembrandt, Frans Hals, Pieter de Hooch and Jan Steen. The cream of one of Europe's greatest collections - first time in Australia - only in Melbourne - not to be missed.*

**\*\*Lunch:** At own cost. Bistro, a variety of snacks available at the Nat Gallery at reasonable prices.

**\*\* Escalator/Lifts, Seating within area, Wheel Chairs available,**

**\*\* Federation Square:** Is a very interesting venue, much of interest to see including *The Australian Centre of the Moving Image: (Free) First of its kind in the world. A state of the art facility for the preservation, exhibition & promotion of Victorian, Australian and international screen content. - much to see !!*

**\*\* The Australian Racing Museum & Hall of Fame:** Entry Snrs: \$5.00. Through state of the art animation, visual art and audio visuals, it showcases the trophies, souvenirs, paintings, memorabilia and fashions that reflect Australia's rich racing heritage.

**\*\* Ian Potter - National Gallery of Victoria: (Free Entry)**

*Cost: Based on (40): For either combination allow: Coach: \$18/person. Dutch Masters: \$16 Snrs & Fed Sq Own Arrgt Charge: \$35/person Coach: \$20/person. Own arrangements, Nat Gallery Sect & Fed Sq.(Free)= \$20/person*

**LIST: At meeting Wed 20th July. PAYMENTS: At or by meeting 17th August.**

### **THURSDAY 13TH OCTOBER, 2005: MORNING MUSIC - CAPITAL THEATRE - 11.00am "THE BEST OF BRITISH."**

**LUNCH: CHINESE SMORGASBOARD** At 12.40pm At House of Khong.

*Cost: \$22.00/person Maximum: (22) Dependant upon support received. Use own cars.*

**\*\* "The Best of British" By the popular "Gaslight Company." Celebrating 100 years of British Hits.** This show will contain music from such greats as Gracie Fields, Vera Lynn, the Beatles and of course Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber.

**\*\* LUNCH: A Chinese Smorgasboard** (with a variety of dishes -eat as much as you wish.)

**VENUE: The House of Khong,** situated at 200 Hargreaves St, near multi story car park. **LIST: At Meeting Wed 20th July. PAYMENTS: At or by meeting 17th August.**

### **PROPOSED TRIP TO MELBOURNE: TUESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER VICTORIAN PROBUS ASS'N MUSICAL VARIETY CONCERT**

**COST: Based on: (49) \$20/person; (40) \$25/person (Includes Coach & Concert.)**

*The standard of items at past concerts have been high, enjoy the entertainment, an opportunity meet fellow Probians.*

**\*\* If Rhododendron Gardens at Olinda - which has huge numbers of Rhododendrons, Azaleas & Camellias were to be included, an additional \$5.00/person would apply.**

**\*\* LUNCH: Would then be Bring own Picnic Lunch**

**\*\* I will seek an expression of interest by show of hands at meeting Wed 20th July, please be ready - As I need to book Concert Tickets by 19th August !!**

**Tours Organiser Arthur Eaton.**

**For inquiries telephone Arthur: 5443 9162**

## On 3Day/2 Night Gippsland Trip Tues 3rd to Fri. 5th May, 2005 with Bendigo Coach Lines.

### Day (1) Tuesday 3rd May, 2005:

Forty Six 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.

Our Coach Captain was "our friend to all" Neville Dewhurst.

**\*\* Pam & John Fitzpatrick of Port Macquarie Probus Club N.S.W. joined us at Trafalgar.**

Our morning tea stop was in a pleasant lush green bushland setting near Bunyip, refreshed we continued on to the township of Trafalgar, where at the Criterian Hotel we met our Tour Guide for the next three days Val (Spud) Murphy who welcomed us, **and what a treasure we found her to be.** Early after our arrival we were taken to dining room where we were served a Potato based delicacy for our lunch, after which Val gave a demonstration of how to make "Potato Coconut Roughs," which later, we all sampled.

Lunch over, we boarded the Coach together with Val for what was to prove a memorable three days. First we were shown over the Thorpdale area which is renowned for its Potatoes, very pleasant scenery, rolling hills and green terrain. A brief stop made at the entrance to the **Murphy's Property & Packing Sheds**, what a huge operation this was, they produce potatoes from January to June and at production peak between **150 to 200 Transport Trucks, each carrying 20 to 22 tons depart the property each week.**

Additional to potato production, the Murphys have 80 acres set out for onions and also are involved in raising fat lambs. Next stop was at Val's home and beautiful spacious gardens where we **sampled potato ice cream** and met up with their Minature Fox Dog Joey, who eats potatoes. At 4.00pm we arrived at Morwell and quickly settled in at the Del Spano Motel, our home for the next two nights. Dinner was at the Morwell RSL Club where we were treated to a quality three course meal.

### Day 2 Wed 4th May:

Continental breakfast completed, we departed from the Motel at 8.50am for the **Morwell Rose Gardens.** Gravel paths lead through a picturesque arrangement of garden structures, enhanced with 3000 rose bushes flourishing in four acres of parkland. There are 250 varieties of roses planted in 100 beds displaying individual colours. careful selection has been made ensuring masses of colour and contrast.

The garden contains hybrid teas, miniatures, floribundas, climbers, pillars, weepers, heritage, old fashioned, David Austin, modern shrub roses, ground covers & oddities. The gardens were constructed and are maintained by Volunteers, were opened in 1992. Our thanks to Committee President Bernie and volunteer Ian who met us on arrival and gave us an extensive tour of these beautiful gardens.

At 10.00am we then set off for Walhalla travelling through beautiful mountain scenery. We visited the viewing area of the huge Thompson River Storage Dam which supplies Melbourne's water.

Lunch was at one of the early Walhalla Hotels where appetites were satisfied with Vegetable Soup and a huge Salad Sandwich. Lunch complete, we were taken in the Coach and shown



the township after which we set out on foot to explore this historic town, there was much to see. Town population of 14 persons.

At 3.30pm we boarded the Walhalla Goldfields 2'6" Railway Narrow Gauge train for our trip from Walhalla and after passing over Thompson river Bridge, alighted at Thompson Rail Station. Restoration of the buildings, trestle bridges, rail track and rolling stock was made possible by the volunteers who also operate this scenic railway journey.

Next stop was at the Erica Hotel for a happy hour where much memorabilia of early times in the bush were displayed, especially those relating to timber. Our evening meal was again at the Morwell R.S.L. where we were quickly seated and promptly served with another quality 3 Course meal.

On return to the Motel Val had arranged a Happy Last Night Function which created much amusement and laughter, **the end to a perfect day.**

### **Day 3. Thursday 5th May, 2005.**

Breakfast over, cases loaded, at 8.50am we departed from our Morwell Motel for further touring before setting out for home. Our first visit was to the Erinea Lavender Farm at Mirboo North where Beverley gave a short talk on the setting up of the farm, its operation and the extensive uses and benefits of Lavender. Many in the group visited the gift shop which had an extensive array of Lavender products. Meanwhile Derek gave a conducted tour of the farm area and the drying sheds during which he explained the growing, harvesting and also demonstrated stripping of the lavender.

After departing the Lavender Farm, we travelled by Coach to Mirboo North where Val gave us a guided tour of the township, which had an extensive area of very attractive Murals which reflected the locality.

Our lunch was at the Commercial Hotel for a meal with mine Host Fiona. During this time Elizabeth from Mirboo Tourism gave a short talk on the town which Bendigo Bank has greatly helped. Forty Volunteers produce a weekly Newspaper, Mirboo has won a Tidy Towns award, town pride - 23 power poles with lower portion were painted and decorated. Our final visit on this trip was to Val's home and garden where those who so desired purchased bags of Subago Potatoes. Alan Dingle, on behalf of the group made a presentation to Val, acknowledging her knowledge of the area, excellent commentaries, her considerate and helpful manner and the way in which she looked after us, ensuring we had a "great trip."

Then homeward bound, with short stops at Bunyip and Kyneton, arriving Bendigo at 6.40pm.

Hugh Ward made a presentation to Neville, who with qualities like those of Val ensured we had a most enjoyable tour. **"What a great team Val & Neville made."**

**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, tours of great variety with our excellent and loveable Tour Guide Val and Coach Captain Neville Dewhurst who like Val, was most considerate, co-operative and helpful at all times. *A trip with variety and of much interest to all, shared with a friendly caring group and reasonably priced.*