



PROBE

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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.

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ANDREW HUNT

The Guest Speakers for the July meeting are Rosalind Salmon and Kerry Carr, who are associated with Coliban Water and will be speaking on Water Future.

Our June meeting Guest Speaker was the long-awaited Stephen Young, Clock Repairer, who was introduced by President Len.

Stephen had a great deal to relate about the public clocks in Bendigo city and the surrounding area, and also about mantle clocks and other household clocks.

The best known clock in the city must be the "Post Office" clock, the building and the clock are still there although the GPO has moved. This clock dates back to 1886. It is still a mechanical clock, with huge gears and mechanism. A readjustment of this clock, with its four dials is an engineering feat.

The Town Hall clock is now computer controlled but still for readjustment needs a major operation. It was recently unofficially adjusted by some unknown jokers and to reset it the streets had to be sealed off while Stephen, in a cherry picker, reset the four faces.

One of the most recent of these tower clocks is at St. Paul's. It is electrically driven and controlled by computer, so it is disabled by any power failure, but the computer automatically rectifies it when power is resumed.

Another clock in the area is the tower clock in Woodend, which is also Stephen's responsibility. When it was extensively damaged by a drunkard, Stephen had a major operation of engineering to restore it.

Mr Young was thanked by Colin McLean on behalf of the members present.

VALE

We regret to record the death of Jack Rose who was a member from September 1990.

ANNIVERSARIES

Last month, two members and their wives celebrating anniversaries.

Herb and Jean Hesse - Diamond Wedding

Gordon and Jess Glover - 64th anniversary.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

August 2006

05	Frank O'Connell	82
14	Jack Kelly	82
17	Jim Forsyth	83
23	Don Donaldson	91
24	Colin McLean	83

September 2006

01	Dick Opie	91
03	John Stephens	76
07	Bryan Armstrong	78
13	Len Hodren	72
15	Jack Davies	91
16	Rupert Reynolds	79
27	Doug Laity	74

Congratulations to all of above.

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

DID YOU HEAR?

Did you hear about the lady who was so accident prone, she even had trouble not to trip over her cordless phone.

AND THEN:

Did you hear about the lady who asked to undergo a study at the school so she could later have a blood test.

Foundation Members Luncheon

Following the June Club Meeting we had a good luncheon at the Queen's Arms Hotel. We had 19 participants, including the welcome presence of Alf Ryall with his daughter, Heather. Cliff gave us an account of what he had seen in Shanghai, and brought a little model of the Pearl Tower to show us. This month we meet at the Rifle Brigade in View Street. Again members and partners, who are not Foundation Members, are cordially invited to participate.

Cleaning Up

It was explained at last month's meeting, but for the benefit of those who were absent, we now have a cleaner who will do the clearing up, but he still needs to have the day's stewards shift the bigger tables.

Editor's Funny Story

After learning that one of the patients in a mental hospital had saved another from a suicide attempt by pulling him out of a bath tub, the director reviewed the rescuer's file and called him into the office.

"Mr James, your records and your heroic behaviour indicate that you are ready to go home. I'm only sorry that the man you saved later killed himself with a rope around his neck".

"Oh, he didn't kill himself", replied Mr James. "I hung him out to dry".



PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO

LITTLE DESERT NATURE LODGE TOUR.

TUESDAY 24th TO THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER, 2006.

3 Day/2 Nights) Max (48)

The Little Desert Lodge is set in 117 hectares of natural bush surroundings and is located on the edge of the pristine Little Desert Nature Park and is situated close to Nhill on the Nhill-Harrow Road. The Lodge has 24 rooms with en-suite bathroom facilities and the Dining Room caters for group bookings

****An interesting and relaxed tour to suit our age group. Minimum (30) Current: (24) Depart: At 8.00am from Strathdale Community Ctre, Crook Street.**

Cost: \$350 per person twin share. Single supplement: \$45. (Based on Minimum of 30)

Cost includes: All Coach travel, dinner, bed & breakfast, lunch from day 1 to Day 3 and various activities whilst there.

Day 1: Tuesday 24th October: (L/D)

12.30pm: Arrive Little Desert Lodge for lunch and settle in to our accommodation

1.30pm: Free time to explore the tranquil beauty of the Little Desert Nature Lodge surroundings, - take in the wildflowers along one of the nature trails and enjoy bird watching at Whimpey's waterhole.

6.30pm: Three course Dinner in the fully licensed dining room.

8.00pm: Night spotlight walk – see nocturnal creatures of the bush including delightful Sugar Gliders, Betongs, and Sone Curlews. Listen in amazement as the guides interpret the sounds of the night, such as Owls Nightjars, Bats and Frogs

Day 2: Wednesday 25th October: (B/L/D)

8.00am: Breakfast.

9.00am: Travel from Little Desert Lodge via Edenhope and across the South Aust. Border to Naracoorte.

10.30am: Morning tea at Naracoorte Caves Conservation Park followed by a tour of the magnificent Victoria Fossil Cave.

1.00pm: Lunch, followed by afternoon tour of world famous Coonawarra wine growing region.

6.30pm: Return to Little Lodge for Dinner and an evening of relaxation.

**** The day (2) part of Itinerary may be changed for an alternative tour if it be so desired,**

Day 3: Wednesday 26th October: (B/I)

8.00am: Breakfast.

9.00am: Depart for our tour of the Malleefowl Sanctuary. This is a protected habitat which provides a rare opportunity to see these mound building birds in the wild. Over the years Whimpey has developed a unique relationship with established breeding birds, which enables viewing at close hand. Remember, these are totally wild birds so you have to be very quiet and patient.

12.00pm: Light Lunch at the Lodge before departure journey to Bendigo, arriving home approx 5.30pm

LIST: 19/7/06 In order to retain the booking which I have secured, a more positive response is desired at the July meeting. "FRIENDS OF PROBUS WELCOME."

Final Payments: At or prior to Sep't 20h Meeting. Copies of the Itinerary available.**

Thursday 2nd November, 2006. At 11.00am. Max: (36) ** List tabled 19/7/06 Capital Theatre Bendigo – Morning Show: Hanging on to Vaudeville. (Reg Gorman.)

Rifle Brigade Hotel - Two Course Lunch. Note: Hotel situated opposite Theatre. Cost: - \$22.00 per person for Theatre + Lunch

Theatre: In a series of hilarious sketches, multi talented physical performer Reg Gorman transforms into an amazing array of vastly different characters, plus more. A trip down memory lane. At conclusion of theatre, Lunch at 12.30pm.

**** I have secured (36 seats) in most popular location. (A popular show-filling fast.)**

Tours Organiser Arthur Eaton. Enquiries, phone Arthur: 5443 9162