



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO INC.

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A Special General Meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday each month at 10.00 a.m. at the Bendigo Club.

All correspondence to the Secretary, 49 Emmett Street, Golden Square, 3555.

The Guest Speaker for June is David Dow, who is the Accountant at the Commercial Pig Company at Huntly. He will speak on "Pig Breeding in Modern Times."

At our May meeting the speaker named in "Probe" was incapacitated and hospitalised; so, at short notice, the Rev. Lindsay Faulkner was persuaded to be the speaker. He was introduced by Ray Downey. He gave us an outline of a formal paper he will be presenting at the re-enactment in Corowa associated with the centenary of the first Commission on Federation.

"Some aspects of the association of Bendigo with the proposal for Federation".

At the Consecration of a memorial to those killed in battle at Gettysburg in 1863, the official orator, the Hon. Edward Everett, spoke for over two hours, and nobody remembers a word of it. This was followed by a speech of less than five minutes by Abraham Lincoln, which has gone down to history, and the last phrase is immortal.

"Government of the people, by the people, for the people".

This is probably as good a definition of Democracy as any which have been devised.

Australia is one of the world's oldest democracies, and Bendigo had an important role in its establishment.

John Quick was born in St. Ives, Cornwall and was still an infant when the family came to Australia. Drawn by the discoveries of gold, the family were one of a large number of Cornishmen who came to Bendigo.

In the days before State Education the Wesleyan Church conducted a Primary School and here John Quick had the foundations of his education formed. At the age of ten he left school and began work, first at a local foundry, then with the mines as a labourer.

He became involved with the press, working in the print room of the Bendigo Evening News. He was inspired to teach himself shorthand and became a journalist with the Bendigo Independent, the Bendigo Advertiser and the Argus.

The Minister at the Forest St. Methodist Church was a Rev. Hill, who had a strong influence on John Quick; and, when the Rev. Hill was killed by a prisoner in Pentridge Gaol, his death had a stronger force yet on Quick's faith.

He studied law, and eventually was awarded a Doctorate of Laws, one of the first in Melbourne. About this time he became the M.P. for Sandhurst in the State Parliament. When the constituency was abolished due to a redistribution, John Quick took up the cause of Federation.

He preceded Deakin by six years in the movement. The early proposals, he found he could not support, and he was strongly in favour of free, wide, discussion. Being Cornish-born, he was not eligible to join the ANA, but he was made an honorary member.

Quick went as a delegate to the Corowa Conference and was elected to act as president. The Quick Resolution referred to "the verdict of the Electorate of each Colony", reflecting a democratic approach.

After Corowa Quick became an eloquent and prolific exponent of Federation. He eventually became the first member for the seat of Bendigo.

Ken Hesse expressed the thanks of the members for the talk which was obviously the outcome of extensive and painstaking research.

Sunday May 16 at the Capital Theatre an audience of Probus members heard and saw the performance of "The Brown Slouch Hat" by the Good Old Days Company. We were taken back to the days of our youth by the performance of music of Glen Miller, the Andrews Sisters and others. It was a nostalgic experience, and the performance and presentation were of the standard we have come to expect from this company.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY JULY 14/15TH - TRIP TO DENILIQUN - 2 Day/1 night. *VALUE FOR MONEY TRIP - \$30/person total. "It won't pay to stay home". Deniliquin Clubs - Pokie Bonanza - includes conducted tour of Deniliquin and Rice Mill. **Depart:** Strath Community Centre, Wednesday July 14 at 9 a.m. Arrive home Thursday July 15 at 5 p.m. approx. **Cost:** \$30 /person, includes Coach Travel, all meals, accommodation and tour. Maximum 48, Current bookings 42 - 6 vacancies. **Now open to friends of Probians. *** If you wish to be on trip - act now. Payments at meeting today June 16th please.

TRIP OF THE YEAR: Sunday August 15th to Friday August 20th, 1993. Three states intrigue tour: 6 days and 5 nights.

Mildura - Sunraysia- Broken Hill - Loxton - Renmark - Berri
Cost: \$340/per person (Twin Share) Maximum: 48, Current 48
Depart: Strath Community Centre Sunday August 15th at 8 a.m. Arrive home Friday August 20th approx 5.30 p.m.
(An interest packed leisurely trip - covers it all). Staying 4 nights at Mildura "Inlander Sun Resort Motel" and 1 night Broken Hill.

Your tour price includes: Coach fare, all twin share accommodation, all cooked breakfasts, multi-choice evening meals, all tours, including entry fees as per itinerary local guide.

Day 1: To Mildura, **Day 2:** Tours in and around Mildura, **Day 3:** Riverland - Loxton, Renmark, Berri, **Day 4:** To Broken Hill - tours, (Overnight Broken Hill) **Day 5:** Tours of Broken Hill and return to Mildura. **Day 6:** Homeward Bound **(Intinerary: peruse at meeting).

Payments: Deposit \$40/person (At June 16th Meeting) - Balance of Payment - direct to Houldens Tours, Bendigo by Friday August 13th. Maximum 48. Current bookings 48. *** Emergencies equired. Friends of Probians welcome.

Arthur Eaton
(Trips Liaison)

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Hon. Treasurer reminds you that membership fees are now due. If you have already paid do not read this item.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO Inc.

DRAFT ALTERATION TO BY-LAWS.....Proposed by Bob Chenery

ADD THE FOLLOWING CLAUSE:

3. (6) The Committee may approve leave of absence of members in cases of ill-health or other reasonable grounds and declare the said member a "TEMPORARY INACTIVE MEMBER" (TIM).

Transfer of a member to the Temporary Inactive Membersh. list will NOT cause any variation of Annual Subscriptions due nor does it deprive the TIM of any constitutional rights.

Transfer of a member to the TIM list will create a vacancy for an additional active member. Thus, those listed on the TIM list will NOT be counted as members referred in clause 3.(2).

When a TIM is again able to regularly attend monthly meetings he will automatically and immediatly return to his former membership status notwithstanding that this may create membership in excess of clause 3.(2) such excess will be reduced as and when vacancies occur, and admission to full membership of nominee persons on the Waiting List will be deferred until the membership conforms to clause 3.(2).

The overall thrust of this TIM By-Law clause is a practical demonstration that the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc. maintains the continued close association of all its current members especially those who are presently experiencing the trauma of ill-health.

MEMBER PROFILE :

OS WATSON

I was born in Bendigo in 1920 - the youngest of a family of 4 boys & 1 girl. My parents worked a mixed farm of 1,050 acres at Tandara, this being only about 4 miles from where my grand-parents selected land at Kamarooka in 1873.

I am of long lived stock - my father lived to over 104 years after having been badly injured by a car when he was 85; after spending nine months in hospital he recovered quite well. My mother was in her 91st year when she died, never having been in hospital as a patient. Also my paternal Grand-mother lived to 96 years.

The farm was used for producing wheat, wool, fattening sheep, milking a dozen or so cows and eggs from 100 hens.

The farm was 5 miles from Tandara township and we had no telephone or electricity. Whilst we children were going to school, we drove in a horse & gig so as to take the cream and eggs to the station to be railed to Bendigo.

On the farm horses were then used as the main form of traction but we also had a Fordson tractor - 1927 vintage. Kerosene for fuel was then bought in 4 gallon tins - so plenty of empty tins. We also had a 1926 model Buick car - 6 cylinder tourer - which really didn't get much use in those days as we seldom travelled far. Wheat was bagged and bags had to be tightly filled and sewn - then carted 5 miles to the rail station in a horse drawn waggon.

Of course I was later to use much more modern machinery and farm methods, & even in the 20 years since I retired from farming, the development of labour and time saving machinery has advanced rapidly and farming techniques are changing as it is realized that much degradation of soil and environment has occurred.

I had only a State School education and had the same Headmaster for the whole 8 years.

I have always been keen on sport and was rather fleet footed as a youngster and won most footraces I entered - I played cricket with Tandara and football with Dingdarra and one season with Northern United in the Bendigo Association. - I also played tennis socially.

Member Profile Cont..

In 1945 I married Neta Hamley of Dingee and we have had 48 years of happy marriage and produced 1 son and 1 daughter both of whom married, and each has a son and a daughter.

We took over the farm and worked it till 1951 when we bought an irrigation farm at Lockington. Here we fattened sheep and cattle, and for many weeks of the year we brought fat stock to Bendigo markets. At Lockington we played competition tennis and later bowls.

In 1973 we sold the farm and retired here to Bendigo and I am now associated with Bendigo East Bowling Club (1 year as President), Strathdale Senior Citizens Club (2 years as President), Neale St. Uniting Church, Neighbourhood Watch, also Masonic Lodge Composit and of course the Bendigo Probus Club, so with these connections and a garden to keep in order I keep myself busy.

Finally I do feel privileged to have witnessed such changes that have taken place in country and rural living in the past 90 years.


