



PROBE

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A Special General Meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday each month at 10.00 a.m. at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Road.

All correspondence to the Secretary, 2 Cook Street, Bendigo, 3550.

The Guest Speaker at todays meeting is the Rev. Doug Turnball, Minister at Kennington Uniting Church.

At the May meeting our Guest Speaker Ron Smith, Director of the Regional Institute of TAFE, was introduced by Allan Dingle.

He gave a comprehensive overview of the TAFE operation. Prior to coming to Bendigo, he was employed in the Ministry for Fuel and Power, transferrred to TAFE at Wangaratta, then a working holiday teaching in Canada and Scotland.

In 1974 it was recognised the gap between Technical Colleges and Secondary and University training needed to be addressed. TAFE Institutions were formed to fill this need. There are now 26 TAFE Colleges in Victoria costing 2.7 billion annually, 15 in Melbourne and 11 Regional. A TAFE component now exists with RMIT, Swinburne and University Colleges.

TAFE has expanded into the International sphere by providing staff in Laos, Beijing, Thailand and India earning export dollars totalling 135 million.

Recognised programmes include Nurse Training, Building Studies, Civil Engineering, Mining, Hospitality Tourism, Metal Work, Rural Horticulture, Social and Community Service, Hairdressing and Ceramics as a joint venture with Bendigo Pottery.

Expansion is now taking place with plans to occupy the existing Sale Yards site for all trades. A parkland atmosphere will be established and a section of the area to be given to Bendigo East Bowling Club.

Bendigo TAFE has links with all universities, other TAFE Colleges in Australia and more recently, negotiations are taking place with Indonesia (Made possible by Internet via the Australian Academic Research Network (AARNET) and is available to all students).

Len Hall thanked Ron Smith and made the customary presentation.

BALLARAT TRIP - THE GREAT SOUTHERN WOOLSHED

At 8.10 a.m. our Bus Captian/Driver departed with a complement of 49 for our excursion to "The Great Southern Woolshed" at Ballarat billed a "A Fair Dinkum" Australian Attraction.

The early morning was a little "brisk" but a typical sunny day ensured (specially ordered by Arthur some weeks ago). We travelled via Maldon, Newstead, Smeaton and Creswick to our destination. The glorious sunny day highlighted the lushness of the ever changing countryside.

Fellowship flowed as Gordon shared some anecdotes of his recent tour of America.

We arrived at approximately 10.10 a.m. and were greeted by Alan West (the general manager). He outlined the history along with the many facilities and demonstrations. The first of these being "The Ram Parade" scheduled to start at 10.45 a.m. which allowed time for a cuppa etc. "The Ram Parade" proved to be quite interesting with nine different breeds being presented. There were Camden Merino - Merino - Lincoln - Corridale - Romsey - Border Leicester - Southdown - Suffolk and Tukidale each paraded singly, unaided or directed to its appointed position on the display platform during which a comprehensive history of that animal and "its" uses was given. The reward to each animal was a small container of oats and lupins.

The expertise of a shearer was demonstrated as further history of the industry unfolded, in particular the handpieces, machines etc., the part played by unions piecing together the "how's and why's" of the wool industry generally.

The animal nursery had penned exhibits together with a sheep dog demonstration.

A number of "state of the art" electronic displays were available to any seeking further information in depth. Working displays of wool rug making, weaving, spinning, leather painting on hides, memorabilia was strategically placed throughout the building. A replica of a shearers hut with furnishings of the day was well displayed. The laser presentation of "Waltzing Matilda" proved to be rather popular.

Along Merino Walk some eight speciality Australian and Wool Shops had interesting, well presented "Australian Made" and local made wares for sale.

The food and allied facilities were of a high standard. Our lunch was enjoyed by all. The "Cook House" restaurant can cater for up to 400 serving typical Australian Fare.

The complex is situated on 12 acres of prime pastoral land adjacent to the Western Highway on the Melbourne side of Ballarat.

We departed from the complex around 2.15 p.m. making our way to a "roadside" Fruit and Vegie Market before proceeding across the city to the Botanical Gardens (the specially ordered weather still "hounding us" even in Ballarat). We travelled home via Daylesford and Castlemaine. Along the way "Os" demonstrated his recently acquired skill of "mental telepathy" which was "spot on" with many (could be a worry). One must not overlook the entertaining tale or two from Kath.

A good day was enjoyed by all.

Thank you Arthur for an informative, well planned days outing.
Cyril Slade.

TRIPS INFORMATION

TRIP OF THE YEAR - MONDAY SEPTEMBER 23RD TO SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28TH 1996 (6 DAY/5 NIGHT) - TRIP TO SNOWY MOUNTAINS - STAYING AT PROVIDENCE LODGE (ADAMINABY) Maximum 48 - Current 67. Host: Col Mayhew (Owner). Cost: \$429.00/Person Twin Share: Includes Coach, Accommodation Twin Share, Full Breakfasts, 3 Course Dinners, Lunches and Evening Supper, Morning and Afternoon Teas, All Tours, Entries and Inspections.

***As both Arthur and Treasurer Geoff may be away from mid July to late August - PAYMENTS BY CHEQUE TO PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO would be appreciated at JULY 17TH MEETING but must be finalised by August 21st meeting.

FRIDAY MAY 9TH TO MONDAY MAY 12TH, 1997 (4 DAY/3 NIGHT) MURRAY RIVER CRUISE ON PASSENGER VESSEL "PROUD MARY" Maximum 35.
Cost: \$435.00/Person Twin Share. (Based on 30 paying travellers)
(One single prepared to share a State Room with Coach Captain.)

Day 1: Travel by Road Coach to Murray Bridge and board "Proud Mary". Visit to "Cottage Box Chocolates"

Day 2: Cruising the Murray River and shore excursions.

Day 3: Cruising the Murray River and shore excursions, arrive Murray Bridge 4.30 p.m.. Stay Overnight at Murray Bridge Motor Inn.

Day 4: Depart by Road Coach for Bendigo.
Proud Mary Cruise includes all meals, morning and afternoon teas, accommodation in State Rooms (Twin Share), activities and entertainment, shore excursions. "A leisurely interest packed trip".
\$435.00/Person: which includes Road Coach, Proud Mary Package and Murray Bridge Motor Inn (D.B.B.).
LIST TO BE TABLED AT JUNE 19TH MEETING.

Arthur Eaton.

NEW MEMBER

Rupert Holland was duly inducted into our Club at the May meeting having been proposed by Maurice Pease and Jack Watts. Rupert is a descendant of the well known Holland family of Foundry fame. The products produced by this company were an essential part of the manufacture of mining machinery from 1910 to 1962.

Rupert began his working life as an accountant with J.H. Curnow and Son and after army service he was located in Melbourne by this firm. He then joined the Atlantic Oil Coy (now Esso) concentrating on marketing. He became Sales Manager for Victoria, then a term in Canada and Sweden, after which he returned to Sydney Head Office, and remained there till 1978 when he retired to Terrigal. He is no stranger to Probus having been President of Terrigal and Ringwood Clubs. Finally he has returned to his birth place, where he is an active Member of Legacy, and we welcome him and his wife Lorna to our Club and look forward to his fellowship.



KNOW YOUR NEW MEMBER
JOHN MAKEPEACE STEPHENS

Born at Mt Korong Road, Eaglehawk on the 3rd September, 1930. Named John after his two grandfathers: William John Stephens (Managing Editor: Bendigo Advertiser) and John William Makepeace (Builder) of Eaglehawk. He attended the same school as his mother and father had - Eaglehawk State School No. 210.

John's Secondary education was at the Bendigo Junior Tech. followed by a year at the then Bendigo School of Mines. The next five years were spent at Hume and Iser in the joinery factory, during which time he attended night classes in Carpentry and Joinery and Building Studies. During this time he was awarded the Hume and Iser Scholarship, at the time when it was most welcome as it meant his fees were paid for.

Following this he was employed by Chisholm, Brown and Harrington - Master Builders, working on joinery.

In 1963, John applied to the Education Department for Teacher Training as a Trade Instructor and was accepted the following year.

John's teaching commenced at Altona North Tech., then to Footscray Tech. College, Echuca Tech., White Hills Tech., and the last 12 years before retiring he was Graphics Faculty Co-Ordinator at Eaglehawk Secondary College. During his teaching career he completed a Diploma of Technical Teaching. John also holds a Builders Certificate issued by the Bendigo School of Mines.

John's wife Ellen (nee Button) and himself have been married for 42 years and have a son John and daughter Christine and a grandson Julian John.

John and Ellen are members of a Caravan Club, both play bowls and enjoy good classical music and travelling.

We look forward to the fellowship of both John and Ellen.

