



# PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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Our General Meeting is held on the third Wednesday of each month, except December, at 10 am at the Masonic Centre Mc Ivor Rd , Bendigo

Information given in this bulletin is to be kept private and confidential and may only be used within the confines of Probus and shall not be used for any other purpose.

Editor: Mike Watt Phone 5449 3925 Email [mjwatt@dodo.com.au](mailto:mjwatt@dodo.com.au)

**The Speaker for the 15th June is The Rev Tracy Wolsley,  
“Our Place” & “Flood Recovery Ministry Co-ordinator to the Diocese of Bendigo and Northern Victoria.”**

**Stewards: Zane Hughes, Graham Osborne, Ken Proud, Lynwood Stork,  
Peter Thornton, Hugh Ward.**

## PRESIDENT'S PIECE

It was an excellent meeting in May, it was well attended, and the meeting went without a hitch. The changes we have made to the format of the meeting seem to be kicking in, and perhaps make the meetings more interesting, especially the inclusion of having members giving a 2/3 minute talk on their lives, it will most likely reveal some very interesting facts, as we have members from many and varied walks of life. Thank you Ken Gloster and Collin Adams for being first cab off the rank. Our guest speaker for the day was, “Paul Chapman” manager of “**The Bendigo Turntable Company**” With clients global wide, and a great asset to Bendigo's economy . His talk was most interesting and informative, and question time was very lively, with many questions, showing that members were most interested in what is going on in Bendigo. Keep good health, and drive safely, and I will see you all at the next meeting or even earlier at the Morning Coffee and Chat.

*Regards and Thanks  
President Ray Fitzgerald*

**NEXT MORNING COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP  
Thursday 9th June at the Beechworth Bakery 10.30am  
All members, partners and friends welcome!**

**MORNING COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP**

Thursday 9th June at the Beechworth Bakery 10.30am All members, partners and friends welcome! Any comments/suggestions phone Denise on 54493925

**Luncheon For Members, Partners and Friends.**

The June Luncheon is to be held at Lake View Hotel, 204 McRae Street, Bendigo following the Probus Meeting on Wednesday June 15th. If you are not a regular, please inform us of your intention to participate no later than Monday 13th. June. Any regulars who are not available please ring also. Phone Dorothy: 5443 2642. This helps to book for the correct number.

**LONERS GROUP**

Those members (and that includes ladies and widows of members) on their own are invited to join the regulars for dinner at the Bendigo Club every Thursday at 6pm. They have a great record on winning Seafood Vouchers and Meat Trays !! Table is booked in either Arthur Eaton or Ian Bennett name.

**COMPUTING WORKSHOP** The next meeting is at The Bendigo Neighbourhood House, 21 Neale Street, Bendigo at 3.30pm till 5.30pm on Monday 16th June. Please note that this is AFTER the next Probus meeting. Phone Mike on 54493925 or email [mjwatt@dodo.com.au](mailto:mjwatt@dodo.com.au)

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**From Probus Club of Golden Square Bulletin:**

1. "If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed; if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed" Mark Twain.
2. "Foreign Aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries." Douglas Casey.
3. "Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else." Frederick Bastiat, French Economist 1801-1850
4. "I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle." Sir Winston Churchill
5. "A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul." George Bernard Shaw

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**BIRTHDAYS : Have a great day !!**

**JUNE**

- 1st Denise Watt
- 5th John White
- 6th Allyn Fisher
- 7th Barry Hargrave
- 7th Ron Twitt
- 11th Dorothy Crothers }
- 11th Alec Crothers } 
- 22nd June Fitzgerald
- 22nd Norm Gillies
- 23rd Ralph Michell
- 30th Bev Bruhn

**JULY**

- 9th Jack Wallace
- 13th Gwen Bloomfield
- 17th Kath Holland
- 19th Ken Crouch
- 20th Arthur Cowling
- 21st Peter Thornton

**SICK LIST:** Our thoughts and prayers are with those members not feeling well and we wish them a speedy recovery

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**ATTENDANCE FIGURES:**

2009 Jan 38; Feb 43; Mar 41; Apr 41; May 41; Jun 46; Jul 42; Aug 42; Sep 39; Oct 43; Nov 40.

2010 Jan 35; Feb 43; Mar 38; Apr 34; May 45; Jun 44; Jul 47; Aug 43; Sep 46; Oct 52; Nov 51.

2011 Jan 43; Feb 52; Mar 50; Apr 46; May 50 **LETS MAKE JUNE SIXTY + !!!!!!!!**

Items for the next PROBE must be submitted to the Editor no later than:  
 Friday 1st July  
 Mike Watt Ph 5449 3925 or email [mjwatt@dodo.com.au](mailto:mjwatt@dodo.com.au)

## Bendigo District Probus Meetings

Club	Date	Venue	Time
Sandhurst	1st Wed	Bendigo Club, Reception Ave	9.30am
Eaglehawk	2nd Mon	California Gully Mechanics Institute	10am
Bendigo Ladies	2nd Wed	Bendigo & District RSL Havilah Road	10am
Kangaroo Flat	2nd Wed	K Flat senior Citizens	10am
Strathfieldsaye	2nd Thu	Uniting Church Hall Strathfieldsaye	10am
Golden Square	3rd Thu	Abundant Life CC McKenzie Street	9.30am
White Hills	4th Tue	Bendigo & District RSL Havilah Road	10am
Strathdale	4th Wed	Bendigo Club, Reception Ave	10am
Spring Gully	4th Thu	Bendigo Club, Reception Ave	10am

## SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES

### Committee Meetings:

In future the Committee will meet at 2pm on the Wednesday 7 days before the General Meeting. The meeting will be held at The Bendigo Neighbourhood House, 21 Neale Street. Dates for the rest of the year are 8th June, 13th July, 10th Aug., 14th Sept., 12th Oct., and 9th Nov..

Members are welcome to attend and will have the opportunity to raise matters if they so wish however they will not be entitled to vote.

Members may also request the committee to consider any matter without actually attending a committee meeting. Preferably their request should be in writing or by email to the secretary at least 24 hrs before any meeting, however they could alternatively verbally request any Committee Member to raise the matter at the next committee meeting on their behalf.

### General Meetings:

Members are asked that in future, if they have occasion to speak at any General Meeting, that they stand and first give their name. This is to help new members get to put names to faces also the Secretary to get the minutes correct and the President to be fully aware who is addressing him and the floor, you see the three of us who sit at the front table are good looking but profoundly DEAF and our hearing aid microphones point behind our heads! Such is technology!

### Membership Booklet Amendments:

Brian McGrath's wife is EILEEN not Irene, apologies to both.

Ralph Michell has an email address, [ralphgm@impulse.net.au](mailto:ralphgm@impulse.net.au)

### Challenges Accepted:

Recently the secretary publicly stated he has three personal challenges in the near future



1. Within one year to have Bob Chenery on the Internet!
2. Within one year to have Kath Holland use a computer!
3. Within three months to have Don Ridge using internet banking on his computer!

*"Me thinks" I have my work cut out but I WILL SUCCEED !*

### Rumour:

Dorothy Crothers is considering suing Mike Watt for managing to unknowingly disconnect her computer when he failed to find how to start it whilst she was out!

### Membership Subscriptions:

Subs. are now overdue so those members who have not as yet paid please do so at or before the next general meeting.

### Attendance:

C'mon members let us try and get 60 attending the next general meeting. The Guest Speaker is tremendous and very much worth attending to hear!

**MINUTES OF THE 284th GENERAL MEETING OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO Inc. HELD AT THE BENDIGO MASONIC CENTRE**  
**WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MAY 2011**

The General Meeting was opened at 10am by President RAY FITZGERALD in the chair.

**ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES:** A total of 50 members and 2 Guests attended & were welcomed by Pres. Ray. Apologies were recorded from 10 members: J Aitken, B & T Chenery, K Crouch, A. Fisher, E & K Holland, K Proud, L Stork, R Watkins.

**GUESTS:** Barry & Ailsa Coghlan

**CONFIRMATION:** The minutes of the preceding meeting were confirmed as distributed. Moved by the Secretary, seconded by Collin Adams, Carried.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

General Business from April resolved amicably and declared closed by the President.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**IN:**

1. Ten monthly Bulletins from local clubs. Extracts In Probe where appropriate.
2. PCSP re possible changes to Vic clubs constitution and change of Public Officer
3. PCSP re membership database at PCSP
4. PCSP re Tours, trips, activities insurance requirement of membership authorization
5. Bendigo Masonic Auxiliary re meeting timings

**OUT:**

1. PCSP membership database.
2. PCSP re possible standing order for Tours, trips and activities.

The correspondence was received & approved. Moved by the Secretary seconded by Brian McGrath. Carried.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

Nil.

**REPORTS:**

*Treasurer's Report:* DON RIDGE reported on the financial statement as at 16th May 2011 as follows:

General Account: (Total Receipts \$1235.00) (Total Expenditure \$836.44) Account Balance \$1189.91

Tours / Activities: (Total Receipts \$595.00) (Total Expenditure \$630.00) Account Balance \$2701.12

Cash at Bank – Cheque a/c \$1141.03 Deposit a/c 2750.00

The financial report was received and approved. Moved by the Treasurer, seconded Noel Bruhn, carried.

*Welfare Officer* Rob Watkins making good recovery, Bob and Thelma Chenery have flu.

*Members Luncheon* Dorothy Crothers reported that the luncheons following the Club Monthly Meetings were proving popular with members. 20 attended last month and 22 are booked in for this meeting.

*Loners Group* ARTHUR EATON invited any single member to join their group for dinner at The Bendigo Club every Thursday at 6.00pm.

*Bowls* RAY FITZGERALD reported that he has now arranged a game at Eaglehawk on 25th October. More details later.

*Computing Workshop/Probe/Website* MIKE WATT advised that the Computing Workshop was going well, and moved that it be a Club authorized Activity, seconded Arthur Eaton, carried.

*Coffee/Chat Group* DENISE WATT reported that 18 members attended the Beechworth Bakery on the Thursday 12th May and an enjoyable time was had by all. Next date is THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am Denise moved that the Coffee Chat group be an authorized Club activity, seconded Arthur Eaton.

*Tours/Trips Report* ARTHUR EATON reported on Trips & Entertainment for the coming months. Arthur moved "that all Trips & Entertainment details as listed in the Club's monthly "Probe" publication be accepted as authorized by the membership". Seconded by Bill Redmond. (Carried)

President Ray thanked all those giving reports.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

The secretary advised members that the Committee had agreed to move its day, date and time of meeting to a time to be advised in the week immediately preceding the General Meeting. Members will be informed via the Probe.

Denise Watt advised the new name badges had arrived and most had been distributed. Members can still order badges with the Secretary.

**STEWARDS** Jack Kelly, Muriel Miller, Barry O'Brien, Ron Pollock, Peter Randall, Bill Redmond.

**CLOSE** There being no further business, President RAY declared the meeting closed at 10-45 am.

**MEMBERS PLEASE BRING A FRIEND TO OUR  
NEXT GENERAL MEETING,  
PAY FOR THEIR CUPPA, INTRODUCE THEM  
TO THE BENEFITS OF PROBUS !**

A historical document for our Probus Club:

**ROTARY CLUBS OF BENDIGO DISTRICT PROBUS PLANNING COMMITTEE. DATED 31MAY 1985**

*It is my pleasure as Convenor of the Probus Planning Committee to briefly report on the successful establishment of the first Probus Club in the Bendigo District on the 20th. March 1985.*

*As stated by one Club President, the tremendous response from retired and semi-retired professional and business men was indicative of the genuine need in the community for such a club.*

*The concept of forming a Probus Club resulted from the challenge issued at the 980 District Assembly held in May, 1984. Several Rotarians returned from the conference completely sold on the idea and considered the time was now right to launch such a project in Bendigo. Because of the significance, importance and magnitude of the venture, it was considered appropriate that the project should be undertaken as a joint effort by the five Rotary Clubs in the Bendigo region. With hindsight this was clearly the correct action. I am sure success was assured from the outset because of the enthusiastic manner which all Club Presidents and their Rotary Clubs accepted the idea and gave their whole hearted support.*

*Following the sanction of the five Rotary Club Presidents for the proposal to proceed, preliminary discussions were held with the Melbourne Probus Club Committee Chairman, Mr John Morgan in October, 1984. A Probus Club Planning Committee was formed in November comprising:-*

*Rotarians: Allan Johnson - Bendigo Strathdale; Ray Downey - Bendigo; Joe Niles - Eaglehawk, Bill Roberts - Kangaroo Flat; Ken Briggs - Bendigo South*

*Rotarian Reg Brock also played an active part when deputising for Ray Downey. Club Presidents also contributed to Committee Meetings on various occasions.*

*The success in launching this project was largely attributable to the enthusiasm, time and effort given to the detailed planning by this very dedicated Committee. While each member pulled his weight magnificently and we were able to use their various talents accordingly, I believe it is appropriate and would be the wish of the other Committee members to make special mention of the sterling effort made by Secretary/Treasurer, Allan Johnson. His attention to detail, willingness to carry out the difficult tasks and produce work of the highest standard, was admirable.*

*The Planning Committee were involved in a considerable number of meetings to investigate suitable venues, design letter heads, draft letters of introduction, prepare invitation cards and organise lists of prospective members etc.. One hundred and seventy invitations were sent out and 130 replies received back. Of that number 95 indicated that they would either attend the Foundation Meeting or were interested to join at a future time.*

*The Planning Committee was delighted with the overwhelming response when 74 men attended the meeting held on the 20th. March, 1984. A brief address was given by the Convenor of the Planning Committee on the history of the Probus Movement, its aims, objectives and activities. Guest speaker; Mr Frank Lowery, Past President of the Probus Club of Maryborough spoke on the subject of 'Probus in Action', and outlined his experience in the formation of a number of other Probus Clubs in the State of Victoria. Following question time, resolutions to form the Probus Club of Bendigo and accept applications for Foundation Membership were made, the constitution was adopted and four members of the Management Committee were elected.*

*The Presidents' Collar was presented by Mr Lowery on behalf of Rotary. The annual subscriptions of \$15 + \$5.00 initial membership were fixed. The proposed venue for future meetings is the Bendigo Club and meetings are to be held on the 3rd. Wednesday of each month. The five Rotary Clubs accepted the responsibility of sharing the expenses involved in establishing the Probus Club on an agreed pro-rata basis. The original budget estimate of \$300 was exceeded, the final amount being \$570.12. Financial statements are attached. All clubs honoured their commitment recognising that financial involvement rose proportionately with the increased numbers; which exceeded all expectations. The first Probus Club of Bendigo commenced with eighty Foundation Members which I understand is close to being a record in Australia. I can only conclude by expressing the appreciation of the Planning Committee to yourself and the other Club Presidents in offering your total support and encouragement in this venture which was considered initially a rather awe inspiring task. As Convenor, my personal thanks also go to the Planning Committee with whom it has been my pleasure to be associated. Would you please convey my appreciation to your Club Representative Alan Johnson for his enthusiastic and valuable contribution.*

*The Probus Club has already conducted several meetings which I understand have been an outstanding success. I am quite sure that under the competent leadership of Ray Downey this will continue and we wish them all success in the future.*

*Yours in Rotary Service, Ken Briggs Convenor*



**XMAS IN JULY - COMBINED WITH SPRING GULLY PROBUS CLUB.  
MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2011 AT "TANGLES" RESTAURANT IN CRESWICK**

**(Maximum Probus Club of Bendigo: (20-25) Pre Meal: Champagne, Orange Juice, Savouries**

**Fixed Menu: Roast Leg Lamb. Sweet: Xmas Pudding with Brandy Custard**

**COST: \$30/person: for the Meal & Entertainment. \*\* Full details at 15 th June Meeting.**

**TRANSPORT: If Numbers adequate will be by Road Coach. \*\* If numbers short- Pool/Private Cars**

**( 13) Bookings received from: C.Bird (1), G.Bloomfield (1) A. Crothers (2), A. Eaton (1), R. Fitzgerald (2), N.Gillies (1), R. Pollock (1) M. Watt (2), J. White (1), C. Thomson (1)**

**Additional bookings invited – List at 15 th June meeting**

**PAYMENTS: At Meeting on 15th June To assist collector, please tender correct monies**

**PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO: TUTANKHMUN/GOLDEN AGE OF THE PHARAOHS**

**THURSDAY 22 nd SEPTEMBER, 2011 – 11.30am Entry**

*"The Splendour of Ancient Egypt" a dazzling array of artefacts from the Boy King's Tomb.*

***Travel by Train: 7.45am ex Bendigo. Return: 3.15pm ex Melbourne)***

**Use your "Free" or Concession Rail Tickets – suggest to book on day prior."**

***\*\* We will travel as a Group – I will Guide you.. Further details nearer date of travel.***

**(24) "Confirmed Bookings" have been received from and tickets purchased for::**

C.Adams (2), I. Bennett (1), C. Bird (1), G. Bloomfield (1), N Bruhn (2), A. Court (1), A. Crothers (2), A. Eaton (1), N.Gillies (1), J. Goodrich (1), E. Holland (2), R. Pollock (1) J.Mc.Donald (1), B.Mc.Grath (2) Y. Wallace (1), M. Watt (2), J.White (1), C. Thomson (1)

**COST: Exhibition: \$25/per person Note: I have secured and paid for tickets for the above, should you cancel you will require to arrange for your own replacements.**

**Payments Due at Wed 20<sup>th</sup> July Meeting To assist collector, please tender correct monies**

**PROPOSED COMBINED TRIP TO MELBOURNE WITH SPRING GULLY PROBUS**

**IN EITHER: OCTOBER Or NOVEMBER, 2011**

**TRAMBOAT SPECIALS: HERRING ISLAND & BEYOND - Seniors \$40per person**

**Travel by Train: (Use Free or Concessions) Depart 7.45am Train. Return: 3.15pm ex Melb.**

Cruise from the Docklands up through the city alongside Crown Casino, the Southbank Precinct, under Princess Bridge, past the Botanical Gardens and on to our stop at Herring Island, for approx 30 minutes. We then reboard and continue cruising upstream to Hawthorn. Our tour concludes with a cruise around New Quay and Waterfront City.

**PACKAGE INCLUDES :** Morning tea, Assorted slices, tea and coffee. Gourmet Sandwichs for Lunch.

**DURATION : 3.5 Hours CRUISE : Bendigo Probuss Maximum: (20)**

**As at May Meeting: (17) "Expressions of interest," have been received from:**

C.Adams (2), G. Bloomfield (1), R. Chenery (2), A. Crothers (2), A. Eaton (1), N.Gillies (1), E. Holland (2), R. Pollock (1), B.Mc.Grath (2) H. Ward(1), J.White (1), C. Thomson (1) **\*\* Further expressions of interested invited.**

**Advance Notice:**

**CAPITAL THEATRE - BENDIGO TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER, 2011. Show: 11am**

**GASLIGHT THEATRE XMAS SHOW Afterwards Lunch (Own Cost) at Venue TBA**

**I have secured (35 tickets) Theatre Group Price: \$12/person.**

**List: will be tabled at August Meeting – Payments due at Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Oct. Meeting**