



PROBE

**Bulletin of the
Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.**



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June 2012

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PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Hi Fellow Probians,

Our first outing with the new Tours and Activities group was to the Great Stupa. It was quite spectacular and thanks to Ailsa and Jill all went very well and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Friday's walk, Kennington Reservoir – the weather was not nice but 8 brave souls attended. Afterwards Arthur, Bob and I went across the road to Strathaven and visited our fellow member Bill Clemens who now resides there. We can report that Bill looks well and had a good conversation with us. All the best Bill, (we have been mates for over 60 years!!) Last Monday we had a meeting with Ailsa regarding the Darwin/Ghan trip and things are progressing well. It would be great if we could get just a few more travellers so please give it thought and contact Ailsa for any details or to register. Look forward to seeing you at the Coffee and Chat also of course our next general meeting on the 20th June.

*Regards and Thanks
President Noel Bruhn*

SECRETARIAL SCRIBBLES

There are still a small number of members who have not as yet paid their annual subscription, please do so as soon as possible!!

Could members please remember to pay their \$5 meeting fee (don't forget your partner ☺) and get their name(s) ticked off at the desk when entering the general monthly meeting.

I am indebted to Brian McGrath who has been acting as Assistant Secretary and I am fairly sure you will learn more about this at the June general meeting.

Any member who has an email address and it is NOT shown in the Membership Booklet PLEASE send an email to secretary@probusclubofbendigo.com.au or ring Mike 54493925 so our records are accurate.

The Membership Booklets need a few amendments:

Please remove: Mary CAULFIELD (Resigned); Graham OSBORNE (Resigned); Max HALLETT (Deceased)

Please ADD NEW MEMBERS:

Jean ANDREWS
20 Landale Drive
Strathdale 3550 TEL:5441 1919 MOB:0409435894
jeana@impulse.net.au
Customs Officer

Reading, Yoga, Pets

Grae DACK (Norm)
6 Ryan Street
Bendigo 3550 TEL:5443 5406 MOB:0428510945
dacknrandg@bigpond.com
Legal Secretary Travel, Genealogy, Philately

Please add email address to Norm DACK ; dacknrandg@bigpond.com

Please REMOVE email address from Jack KELLY

Please change Carmel THOMSON telephone Number to 5443 2176

Walking for Pleasure and Fitness Group

PLEASE NOTE CHANGED TIMES AND MEETING PLACE.

The walking group is proving a success however to accommodate more members and to avoid the winter chills of an early start future winter walks will meet promptly at 10a.m. All members, partners and friends are most welcome to join us. Please make sure your name is recorded by Arthur or Ron or Bob Santon depending who is the organiser for the day. ENJOY ☺

FRIDAY JUNE 8th and 15th: KENNINGTON RESERVOIR MEET AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE ALDI CAR PARK STRATH HILL 10a.m. PROMPT

FRIDAY JUNE 22nd and 29th then FRIDAY JULY 6th and 13th ROTARY PARK, KANGAROO FLAT. MEET AT THE CAR PARK ON BROWNING STREET OPPOSITE THE LEISURE CENTRE 10a.m. PROMPT. If you are unsure of this location please ring Bob Santon for directions 5447 1914

MORNING COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP

Next will be **Thursday 14th June at the Beechworth Bakery 10.15am** All members, partners and friends welcome! Come and join the laughter and chatter!!

LUNCHEON FOR MEMBERS, PARTNERS AND FRIENDS.

Luncheon after the June meeting (approx. 12.15pm) will be held at **The RSL**. All members and their partners are encouraged to attend. If you are not a regular and intend attending then please ring Dorothy 54432642 likewise regular attendees who will not be attending, so that reasonably correct numbers can be booked for.

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. Table is booked in either Arthur Eaton or Ian Bennett's name. Give Arthur or Ian a ring if you intend joining any week to give it a try!

SUNDAY BREAKFAST: Put Sunday 3th AUGUST 9 a.m. in your diary for a \$12 a head Full Buffet Breakfast at The All Seasons, McIvor Road. No excuses as this gives you PLENTY notice ☺

COMPUTING SUPPORT: Mike is still available for online computer help if needed. Please just phone him with your problem. See special computer offer elsewhere in this Probe.

Garden Group: The first get together of all those interested in a Garden Group are invited to join with Mike for a coffee and chat about what you would all like to achieve from such a group please meet with Mike at THE BOARDWALK CAFÉ, Lake Weeroona on **FRIDAY 22nd JUNE 2.30pm**. Anyone unable to attend at that time is invited to phone Mike with any suggestions/requests etc. .

ATTENDANCE FIGURES:

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; Jun 54; Jul 48; Aug 45; Sep 59; Oct 53; Nov 53.

2012 Jan 52; Feb 52; Mar 65; Apr 53; May 56 ;

LETS MAKE JUNE ANOTHER SIXTY + !!!!!!!!

BIRTHDAYS: Have a great day!

JUNE			JULY		
1 st	Denise Watt	22 nd	June Fitzgerald	8 th	Ailsa Coghlan 21 st Peter Thornton
1 st	Angela Lawson	22 nd	Norm Gillies	9 th	Jack Wallace 29 th Joan Gloster
5 th	John White	23 rd	Ralph Michell	13 th	Robert McCaskill
6 th	Allyn Fisher	30 th	Bev Bruhn	13 th	Gwen Bloomfield
7 th	Barry Hargrave			17 th	Kath Holland
7 th	Ron Twitt			19 th	Ken Crouch
11 th	Dorothy Crothers			20 th	Arthur Cowling
11 th	Alec Crothers			21 st	Denise Santon

SICK LIST: Our thoughts and prayers are with those members not enjoying the best of health, and we wish them a speedy recovery

* * * * *

Travel Report May 2012

From Other Clubs

There are still births available on the River Murray Cruise on the PROUD MARY, but you will have to be quick .Please contact me Ailsa 54437046

Remember the Cruise to New Zealand in December 2012 – New Year's Eve Onboard ☺

On the 23rd May 30 of our members visited the Great Stupa of Universal Compassion where we were treated to a video show and talk .Then all looking gorgeous in our Hard Hats (yes even the boys) we went to the building site for an inspection .Back for morning tea and chat . Good to see what is happening in our own backyard!

Ten people have shown interest on the Trip to Darwin and then Back to Adelaide on the Ghan at the end of August. If you think you would like to go you need to contact me as soon as you read this -Ailsa 54437046

HOW MUCH ARE YOU PAYING EACH MONTH FOR YOUR HOME PHONE + MOBILE +INTERNET

If the answer is more than \$104 for ALL of them or EVEN TWO of them then you need to read on!!!!

In LAST MONTHS PROBE I ADVISED MEMBERS OF THE DEAL AVAILABLE TO THE OVER 55's HERE IT IS AGAIN IN SIMPLE ENGLISH. **FOR JUST \$26 PER WEEK (\$104 PER MONTH) YOU CAN GET THIS:**

HOME PHONE; UNLIMITED CALLS TO ANYWHERE IN AUSTRALIA INCLUDING MOBILES !!!!!

MOBILE PHONE; UNLIMITED CALLS, TEXTS AND PHOTOS TO ANYWHERE IN AUSTRALIA INCLUDING OTHER MOBILES !!!!! YOU CAN EVEN HAVE A SECOND MOBILE WITH SAME FEATURES FOR JUST \$24 PER MONTH EXTRA.

INTERNET; UNLIMITED FAST BROADBAND WITH FREE MODEM. (THERE IS A ONE OFF SET UP FEE OF \$90) YOU CAN ALSO, IF YOU WISH, PURCHASE A WIRELESS MODEM/ROUTER FOR ONLY \$65.60 INCLUDING POSTAGE!! IF YOU WANT TO USE YOUR LAPTOP SAY, ANYWHERE IN THE HOUSE)

**YOU CHOOSE 24MONTH CONTRACT OR NO CONTRACT WITH A \$90 EXIT FEE
YOU KEEP YOUR EXISTING HOME PHONE NUMBER AND MOBILE NUMBER(S)**

IF YOU ARE ALREADY ON THE INTERNET YOU WILL HAVE A DIFFERENT EMAIL ADDRESS.

IF YOU ARE NOT ON THE INTERNET THEN YOU JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE MISSING!!!!

FULL DETAILS AVAILABLE FROM SECRETARY MIKE 54493925

PROBUS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA DELEGATES MEETING (MELBOURNE 28TH MAY 2012)

Mike and Denise Watt attended on behalf of our Club. Some 250 delegates mostly from Melbourne and surrounding areas attended representing about 175 Clubs. (These figures are guesstimates ☺) We were brought up to date with all PAV forthcoming activities, had a brief session with the major sponsor, Trade Travel, the a question and answer session. It is quite obvious that the majority of the Probus Clubs in Australia and New Zealand are most upset in all sorts of ways with Probus South Pacific Ltd.. It also appears that there are major rumblings within Rotary over the same issues in particular the extreme lack of actual Probians on the Board etc.. We came away with no doubts that there will be much more to report in the forthcoming months. The question of changing our Constitution if an Incorporated Club here in Victoria (and we are!) then we have to do nothing except WAIT to hear from THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. An interesting point was raised and that is that all our present constitutions refer directly to Probus Centre South Pacific Inc. A BODY THAT NO LONGER EXISTS LEGALLY OR IN REALITY!

Believe it or not I managed to hold my tongue and not ask where that left us with regard to our affiliation fees and insurance ☺ I did however ask about waiting list etc. ☺ and I can tell you that about thirty or so clubs present had a waiting list, about four had waiting lists for waiting lists, only three or four allowed waiting list members to attend meetings regularly and NONE charged fees for waiting list members regardless if they were classed as Friends of Probus or any other fancy title!!!!!!

The meeting rounded off with a Guest Speaker from The SES.

WWW.

WANDERING WATKINS WRITINGS !

WWW.

Hi Family & Friends, (27 May 2012)_

Thank you for a lovely lot of emails!! We really appreciate your contact. Continuing north of Charleville, the Warrego flood plain supported a tall healthy forest of many species new to us but also including Red gum, Acacia, a specie much like our Black box and surprisingly Ironbark we usually associate with drier quartz bearing country. Trees arching across the broad river provided a picture post card camp site. Next day an early morning start rewarded us with close to the road sightings of six Bustards in fifteen minutes, four of them showing their sizeable proportions by taking to the wing. Heading north for Balandine on a narrow sealed road extensive plains covered in Mitchell grass stretched to a distant horizon in all directions. The first crow out of bed that morning could have chosen between pork, beef, kangaroo or rabbit for breakfast. We were kept busy dodging the casualties strewn about and live ones still gambling their future. Flocks of budgies raced past overhead while about twenty cockatiels had a close call with the windscreen. Gradually the grass plains were dotted by small termite mounds and stunted trees. Once turned east for Charters Towers, the clear blue sky and bright dry grasslands were behind us and forests covered our scene under dark clouds. Having reached Charters Towers the foliage had changed again and tropical species dominated rising from well mowed roadside green grass. Much has been written of legendary Red back spiders on toilet seats but little on the frogs that battle the flushing water below. A unique feature of Queensland toilets is lifting the seat to be met with a frogs.....Oh not again expression. These powerful little swimmers apparently prefer this hazzardous existence to taking their chances outside with large king brown snakes. Having seen the snakes, perhaps they have chosen the lesser of the evils. Rain set as we drove towards Atherton Table Land where once we began searching the huge rainforest trees at Milanda for the elusive Tree Kangaroos that for good reasons we suspected were as rare as rocking horse manure. Eventually and with the help of a local expert, these incredible animals materialised, three in fact. A large beautifully coloured male was just visible through rain at a height of about 30 metres. Several hundred metres away, we patiently watched a pair of animals that sat with their backs toward us. Heavier rain sent us for cover. I spent ages dodging rain and waiting for the male to turn his head my way. Cynthia returned to the other pair and in time to catch them coming to ground. The clever girl was rewarded with some great images. Soon heavy rain and failing light ended further photography. Next morning we heard on the news 14' of rain had fallen below where we were. We met a guy who for years drove buses on the Cape York run. He looked at us and the vehicle and advised against wrecking all three. We booked a six nights trip with Heritage 4wd Tours leaving on the 11th June to fly north returning by bus. Having seen the region we will consider returning to a part of it with our vehicle later. We are at Mareeba now waiting for flood water to subside a little before heading to Cooktown. Til next, Warm wishes, Rob & Cynthia.

Dear Family & Friends, (4th June 2012)

We have been spoiled with emails and we are ever so grateful. Thank you all! After where we have been of recent days this is coming from the big smoke...the one pub township of Laura' on the main drag to Cape York's tip. We are looking for the ex bus driver who told us not to attempt driving to the top end. In the past few days we have met folk returning from the top who reported two wheel drive vehicles coping ok, even a fifty two passenger coach. We simply failed to ask the right people. After our bus tour we plan to drive it ourselves in a vehicle where the door will open for a photo and a walk with binoculars is possible. Cooktown has more to offer we discovered than 'just' history, but what history. If crocs are not a concern, you can put your bottom on the sand where Captain Cook rested the bottom of Endeavour to carry out repairs. The museum has on display daily descriptions by Captain Cook and Sir Joseph Banks of the beaching, repairs and re floating efforts. Some days in Lakefield NP landscapes changed completely in comparatively short distances, from tall mature forests to vast grassy plains carrying many termite mounds. White trunked trees graced the margins of swamps and thickets of Grass Trees appeared at times where savannah forest was the dominant scene. Sightings of new for us bird species, flocks of red tailed cockatoos and creek crossings that challenged the 4wd ensured we were never bored. A handy tip.....if you must have a flat tyre, be sure you are camped next to a couple of farmers from Cressy in Tassie. They were so considerate to us, the wheel was changed so efficiently I did not need to wash hands. Later that day we came to the rescue when a traveller had two flat camera batteries. The trip continues. We are hoping we camp next to more farmers from Tassie. Love to all, Rob & Cynthia.



Cynthias Tree Kangaroos from Milanda. Robs Spotted bower bird from Bowra.

**MINUTES OF THE 292nd GENERAL MEETING OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO Inc. HELD AT THE BENDIGO
MASONIC CENTRE WEDNESDAY 16th May 2012**

The General Meeting was opened at 10am by President Noel Bruhn in the chair.

ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES: A total of 56 members attended & were welcomed by Pres. Noel. Apologies were recorded from 34 members: J.Aitken, G.Biles, E.Bruhn, M.Caulfield, N.Christie, B.Clemens, B.Clemson, A.Cowling, D.Crouch, I.Dean, A.Fisher, J&K.Gloster, B.Hall, F.Himsworth, Z.Hughes, J.Kelly, A.Lawson, C.Mclean,, J&M.McDonald, E.McGrath, I.Nixon, G.Osborne, B.Perrin, M.Powrie, K.Proud, P.Randall, L.Roy, A.Ryall, J.Sanderson, L.Stork, E.Stuart, J.Wallace, C&R Watkins.

CLUB JESTER: Bob Chenery provided some light relief to set the tone of the meeting.

CONFIRMATION: The minutes of the April meeting were confirmed as distributed. Moved by the Asst. Sec. Brian McGrath, seconded by E. Holland Carried.
MATTERS ARISING: Nil

CORRESPONDENCE:

IN

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. 7 Newsletters from other Clubs. Passed to Ailsa | 9. Peter Thornton returned Probe to sender not at address |
| 2. 2 Travel Letters/Flyers. Passed to Ailsa. | 10. PAV Renewal Form |
| 3. Apologies for Committee Mtg from Jill | 11. Eaglehawk Probus receipt for Info Day Passed to Treasurer |
| 4. Jean Andrews from Website re joining Probus | 12. Pauline Brooks Subs Cheque. Passed to Treasurer. |
| 5. Jean Andrews Membership Application | 13. Ken Crouch Subs Cheque. Passed To Treasurer |
| 6. Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre Information Session | 14. White Hills Probus Receipt for \$200 loan. Passed to Treasurer |
| On Community and Aged Care. | |
| 7. PAV Concert Flyer and letter re tickets. | 15. Bendigo bank re cheque RTD. Passed to Treasurer |
| 8. Loddon Mallee Carer News | 16. Masonic Centre Assoc our letter to go to Board on 28May |

OUT

1. Heather Brooks re joining Probus.
2. PSPLtd Annual return. + letter re Directory entry.
3. Dept of Justice Annual return of Public Officer
4. Masonic Centre Assoc re rent increase.
5. Probus Country Concert cheque for \$200 loan

Matters arising:

1. Jean Andrews application Moved to be accepted Mike Watt, Seconded Brian McGrath, Carried
2. Carelink at General Mtg
3. Concert Tickets Mike will take names at May Meeting
4. Info day 4 Committee members were reminded
5. Heather Brooks not joining (Club is too busy©)
6. Bank letter left to treasurer to deal with.

The correspondence was received & approved. Moved by the Acting Secretary seconded by Colin Adams. Carried.

REPORTS:

President: Nil.

Treasurer: Barry Coghlan moved that the Financial Statement distributed in the May 2012 (No.299) of the Probe be received and approved, seconded by Denise Watt. Carried.

Barry read an email from the Bendigo Bank in which the Bank apologised for their error in handling the recording of the new signatories to the Bank Account: Barry Coghlan and Dorothy Crothers. Barry was hopeful the matter is now finalised.

Welfare Officer: Peter Randall was an apology. Mike Watt reported Eileen McGrath was on the mend after a procedure. Bill Clemens still struggling. Mike's health was greatly improved, taking longer walks and being referred to the Alfred Hospital for further review.

Members Luncheon Dorothy Crothers reported that today's luncheon will be at the RSL She is honoured to be on the Committee.

Loners Group ARTHUR EATON invited any single member to join their group for dinner at The Bendigo Club every Thursday from 5.30pm. He reported that the group has a great record on winning. Member's jackpot this week is \$1300.

Bowls: Ray Fitzgerald advised a game has been organised at VRI on 16th August.

Computing: Mike Watt stated he is still available for personal assistance - phone him. The Probe format next month changed with different ink colour.

Coffee/Chat Group and Badger: There were 17 members present last week's gathering at Beechworth Bakery. We will meet at the Boardwalk next month. Seventeen attended Sunday Breakfast held on Sunday 4th March at The All Seasons. The next gathering there will be on 5th August.

Tours/Trips Report : Ailsa Coghlan provided written details on a proposed trip to Darwin, Kakadu and a journey on the Ghan from Darwin to Adelaide, flights to Darwin and from Adelaide to home. Those interested to contact Jillian Adams or Ailsa before the next meeting. Trip to the Great Stupa on Wednesday 23rd May at 10am. Tours Committee to attend an Information Meeting on 23rd May at the Bendigo Club.

Ailsa Coghlan moved "that all Tours, Trips & Entertainment details as listed in the Club's monthly "Probe" publication be accepted as authorized by the membership". Seconded by Bill Redmond, carried.

Gardening: Mike Watt advised a date is to be set soon for the group.

Walking Group: Arthur Eaton advised the group is small at present, good social and fitness avenue, next outing will be from the Kennington Reservoir.

President Noel thanked all those giving reports.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Secretary: Mike Watt stated that the Photo Competition has been delayed for one month; additional entries accepted. Probus Concert at the Capital Theatre on 18th September, 30 tickets allotted to our club@ \$12.00. Those interested to write names on sheet on table.

STEWARDS: Six members volunteered to be stewards.

The President thanked members for their attendance at the meeting, advised members our Guest Speaker after tea and coffee break will be Louise Joy of Friends of Vellore. There being no further business, President Noel declared the meeting closed at 10-37 am.

CONFIRMED.....President 20th June 2012

Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.

P.O. BOX 1379
BENDIGO
VIC 3552

Profit & Loss [Cash]**1/03/2012 through 30/05/2012**

30/05/2012
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Income		
Subscriptions	\$2,105.00	
Attendance Fees	\$845.00	
Donations	\$80.00	
Tours & Activities		
The Great Stupa	\$160.00	
Total Income		<u>\$3,190.00</u>
Cost Of Sales		
Total Cost Of Sales		<u>\$0.00</u>
Gross Profit		<u>\$3,190.00</u>
Expenses		
Venue Hire	\$263.00	
Catering	\$336.00	
Printing & Stationery	\$95.91	
Postage	\$222.57	
Affiliation & Insurance	\$987.20	
Consumer Affairs	\$42.80	
Badges etc.	\$232.07	
Web Site	\$120.00	
Miscellaneous	\$106.35	
Tours & Activities		
The Great Stupa	\$160.00	
Total Tours & Activities	<u>\$160.00</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>\$2,565.90</u>
Operating Profit		<u>\$624.10</u>
Other Income		
Interest Income	\$32.50	
Total Other Income		<u>\$32.50</u>
Net Profit (Loss)		<u>\$656.60</u>

Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.

P.O. BOX 1379
BENDIGO
VIC 3552

GENERAL ~~FF~~ \$ 2469-14

TOURS & ACTIVITIES \$ 2464-87

Balance Sheet**As of 30/05/2012**

TOTAL FUNDS \$ 4934-01

30/05/2012
3:48:37 PM

Assets		
General Cheque Account	\$1,984.01	
Term Deposit	\$2,750.00	
Loan- White Hills Probus Club	\$200.00	
Total Assets		<u>\$4,934.01</u>
Liabilities		
Net Assets		<u>\$4,934.01</u>
Equity		
Retained Earnings	\$4,277.41	
Current Earnings	\$656.60	
Total Equity		<u>\$4,934.01</u>

CLUB COMPUTER SUPPORT Just contact Mike 54493925

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- Processor: Intel® Core™ i3-2350M Processor (3M Cache, 2.30 GHz)
- Memory: 4GB DDR3 / 6GB DDR3 / 8GB DDR3 (3 computers available see ABOVE for price)
- Storage: 500GB
- Optical: DVD+/-RW SuperMulti DL Drive
- Display: 15.6-inch diagonal LED-backlit HD2 Anti-Glare (1366 x 768)
- Graphics: Intel HD Graphics
- Webcam: Yes
- Network: 802.11 b/g/n, Bluetooth 2.1, Realtek Ethernet NIC
- Ports:
 - 3x USB 2.0 ports, ◦1x VGA, ◦1x HDMI, ◦1x microphone in, ◦1x headphone/line out, ◦1x power connector,
 - 1x RJ-45/Ethernet
- Expansion Slots: Digital Media slot supports SD (Secure Digital) and MMC (MultiMedia Card)
- Dimensions: 14.80 x 9.72 x 1.25~1.41 (in)/376 x 247 x 31.8~35.8 (mm)
- Power: 6-cell (47 WHr) Lithium-Ion battery, 65W HP AC Adapter, HP Fast Charge
- Warranty: 1 year

SOFTWARE

- Microsoft WORD 2010, EXCEL 2010, POWERPOINT 2010 and ONENOTE 2010
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- And heaps more !!!!!!!

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COMPUTING! If you go onto the internet then you will have free online support from Mike!**

The Speaker for the 20th June
Tom and Libby Luke – Topic – BENDIGO IS CORNISH
Stewards: SIX Members will be chosen at the meeting!
(No excuse now for not attending.)

Items for the next PROBE must be submitted to the Editor no later than:
Sunday 1st July 2012

Mike Watt Ph. 5449 3925 or email editor@probusclubofbendigo.com.au

NEXT MORNING COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP
Thursday 14th June at the Beechworth Bakery 10.15am
All members, partners and friends welcome!



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Victoria Australia.

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Secretary: Mike Watt Phone 5449 3925 Email secretary@probusclubofbendigo.com.au

All correspondence addressed to The Secretary Mike Watt, Probud Club of Bendigo, PO Box 1379, Bendigo 3552

WEB SITE: www.probusclubofbendigo.com.au

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

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

Editor: Mike Watt Phone 5449 3925 Email editor@probusclubofbendigo.com.au