



---

# PROBE

---

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo



---

Published Monthly

Issue No. 54.

21st March, 1990.

---

Editor: KEN COLES (Phone 43 8590)

Annual Subscription: \$8. Registered by Australia Post No. VBH 7101.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO INC.

President: REG BROCK

Phone: 43 4888

Secretary: RAY DOWNEY

Phone: 43 4550

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, 29 Woodbury St. Bendigo 3550

GUEST SPEAKER at this month's meeting will be Dr Denham Grierson, who will be under the eagle eye of father Alf. Denham will address the meeting on his recent trip to Zimbabwe and Zambia. My guess is that we will not have another travelogue - but time will tell!

At the February meeting members were advised of the resignation of Rupert Guidice. As a consequence MAX PHILLIPS was introduced as a new member by Alf Grierson and welcomed by President Reg.

When did you last see a menu that contained such delicacies as vine udders and testicles. If you ask this question of IAN MANSBRIDGE - our February speaker - the answer would be - on my recent trip to South America! (Good luck to Ian!).

Ian's trip commenced in the Galapagos Islands. The wildlife of these islands was such in 1835 that Charles Darwin was led to theorize on the Evolution of Species.

The Galapagos Islands form part of the Santa Cruz group and are renowned for the variety of tortoises and iguanas to be found. Despite the tropical location a variety of penguins can also be seen.

Of all the Galapagos Islands only 5 are inhabited, and the main cultural influences have come from Ecuador, England and Germany. Biological research is carried out throughout the Santa Cruz group.

The principal influences on the South American continent have come from the various Indian tribes of which the Incas are the most famous and the Spanish.

The Incas were basically a class of people who had successfully subjugated a number of tribes and thus had authority over a large part of the continent - particularly in and around Peru.

During the period of subjugation attention was given to the construction of numerous fine stone buildings and to a network of roads. Remaining stonework is recognised as being of the highest quality. Unfortunately most of this work was destroyed by the Spanish conquistadors.

The period of Spanish supremacy in South America saw the usual colonial pilfering, destruction, and domination of people. The indigenous people were treated poorly but still retain much of the Spanish tradition. This is particularly true with respect to their conversion to catholicism.

Evidence of the Spanish influence can also be found in most aspects of life - food, drink, sport and clothing.

Of all the countries visited by Ian and his wife - the one reported as being most like Australia was Argentina. Argentina has grazing country similar to ours, a high rate of literacy, and is far more politically stable than many of its neighbours.

Members are reminded that the March meeting is the Annual Meeting. Some bright bird (hawk or peacock) has suggested a jolly keat(ing) should be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.

**U3A** Approximately 80 people attended the meeting held in the Campbell Theatre on 7th March. Following addresses by the three speakers 32 people paid their subscription to U3A Bendigo and it is hoped that appropriate groups will be established in the near future and the process commence.

It should be recorded that the equivalent meeting in Castlemaine some time ago netted two members - they now have an enrolment of 80. If Bendigo grows at the same rate we will have approximately 1300 members in the not too distant future.

The meeting was chaired by our JOCK CROOK who will be happy to talk to any member who thinks that they would like to participate.

### **TRIPS AND ENTERTAINMENT**

#### **TUESDAY APRIL 24TH: BARMAH FORREST/LAKES, DISCOVERY BOAT CRUISE.**

Depart from Strathdale Community Centre, Crook Street at 8.00 AM. Proceed to Echuca, over river to Barmah area, Picnic Lunch, meet our discovery boat at Barmah. Boat trip back to Echuca where we arrive 6.30 p.m., pick up Coach and return home arriving approx 8.00 p.m. **COST:** \$20.00 per person: includes Coach, Boat Cruise & Devonshire Tea. (TAKE OWN PICNIC LUNCH) Coach (45) (PAYMENTS TODAY PLEASE)

#### **SATURDAY MAY 19TH: "AUSTRIAN NIGHT" & DINNER AT DAYLESFORD INN**

Austrian Band in attendance "Oom, Pa, Paa Music". Depart Strathdale Community centre at 5.45 p.m. **COST:** \$28.00 per person. Includes Coach fare & Dinner. (Coach 45).

**LIST TABLED TODAY - PAYMENTS AT APRIL MEETING.** (Final acceptance date April 18th Meeting.)

**SUNDAY JUNE 17TH: "GOOD OLD DAYS-CAPITOL THEATRETTE-MATINEE (PM)**

(A combined Probus Clubs function).

At the time of going to press replies have not been received from the other Probus Clubs, however, the initial response to first contact was very good. (50 seats will be available for our members).

BOOKING SHEET Tabled Today: Enquiries Allan Dingle.

**MONDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH TO MONDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH: (8 DAY - 7 NIGHTS).**

**"HUNTER VALLEY - HAWKESBURY RIVER AREA TRIP". (Coach 44).**

Travel via Goulburn N.S.W. (overnight). Based at Gosford 5 Nights.

Tours include: immediate area sightseeing, Central Coast Guided Tour, Old Sydney Town, (Sydney Day Tour: City sights, Centre Point or Queen Victoria Building, Mono Rail to Darling Harbour), Hawkesbury River Postman Cruise. On Day 7 depart Gosford for Blue Mountains, overnight Blackheath, Day 8 return to Bendigo.

COST: \$470 per person. Includes: Coach, D.B.B. and all entry fees.

Deposits: Of \$50 per person April Meeting. Balance: Due 30 days before travel. LIST Tabled Today: (Copy of Itinerary available for perusal).

**POSSIBLE LATE NOVEMBER: GEELONG AREA TRIP**

A trip designed for those who prefer a shorter Coach Trip. Day 1: Bendigo to Geelong: Geelong sightseeing. Day 2: Geelong to Apollo Bay Area, return to Geelong via Colac. Day 3: Port Arlington, St. Leonards, Point Lonsdale area and return to Bendigo.

Estimated Cost: \$150 per person. Includes: Coach Trip, Accommodation D.B.B., entry fees. I am interested in your thoughts for this trip.

**A PRIVATE MATTER** A certain Probian drove to Southland Center where the car broke down. Gallantly, husband said to wife "You go ahead and do your shopping. I'll fix the car". On her return a small crowd was gathered around the car. Looking down, she saw a pair of legs sticking out from under the car and attired in shorts which proved quite inadequate as a cover. Unable to stand the embarrassment, she stooped down and tucked the offending parts under cover. Regaining her feet, she glanced over her shoulder and saw her husband standing there. The mechanic had six stitches in his forehead! True.

**THE DAYLESFORD EXPERIENCE (R. Brock).**

If proof were needed to prove the point that a relaxing, enjoyable day can be obtained with a minimum of travel and a token of expense the Daylesford trip would supply a shining example.

All went well - even Jupiter Pluvius co-operated; after a brief demonstration of his mighty powers at Castlemaine he withdrew his forces to ensure that the rest of the day was mild and pleasantly cloudy.

Big surprise was the Wombat Hill Botanical Gardens, where the trees were so majestic that they must have been planted when the Gardens were established in 1863!

The Notice Board told me that the modernization of the area was a Bi-Centenary project to which a number of German companies contributed. It was easy to dedicate the reserve as a tribute to German Botanist Von Mueller, architect of the Melbourne Botanical Gardens as well as many similar projects throughout the State.

Picnic lunch was at Jubilee Lake where the ducks and the peacocks seemed to enjoy the event as much as we did!

Hepburn Springs, as the name implies, abounded in natural spas with a bountiful supply of 'the waters' - there was even a choice of flavours!

Here we had a brief encounter with members of the Probus Club of Croydon who were busily demonstrating a most impressive barbecue banquet laced with special mineral waters (white and red) which they had brought with them. No doubt they felt that the fluid supplied by the springs would not have matured enough.

Cliff and Norma Binks were the envy of all - they had come prepared with the suitable attire for a plunge into the very inviting Spa Baths.

Some humourist spread the word that a special 'skinny dip' bath was available but a frantic search failed to find it!

A detour on a little-used road and a stop-over at historic Maldon completed the travelling with a return to Bendigo at the reasonable time of 4.15 p.m.

Thanks to Tour organiser Arthur and driver Trevor Houlden for a most enjoyable day.

**BILLIARDS/SNOOKER** It seems like a long time since the masters of the green beige met in combat. Any member wishing to participate is invited to the Eaglehawk Billiard Club room at 2.00 pm on Monday 26th March. As the incoming president is a member at the Y.M.C.A. we may get an invitation to play there one day!

#### **BOWLS NOTES**

1. The beginner's morning scheduled for 1st March was duly conducted. Seven novices may develop the habit - including a well known U3A exponent.
2. The Bendigo District Probus Club tournament will be held at Eaglehawk on the 3rd of April. Vic Canobie will announce Bendigo teams at the meeting.

In the first edition of Probe I produced I stated that I would try to broaden the activities of club members. I haven't given up. Watch this space for further attempts.



**Wear this badge with pride**