



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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A Special General meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9.30am at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Rd, Bendigo.

All correspondence to be addressed to The Secretary, Bob Chenery, 49 Emmett Street Golden Square 3555.

Tour organiser and Activities Co-ordinator

Arthur Eaton, 4 Maxwell Crescent, Bendigo Phone: 5443 9162

**As today is the Annual General Meeting there
will be no Guest Speaker.**

ADVANCE NOTICE

The meeting of May 21, 2003 will commence at 11am and will be followed immediately by a special luncheon to mark the 200th Club Meeting.

VENUE: Masonic Center,

McIvor Rd Bendigo

COST: \$25 per person (3 courses)

DRESS: lounge suit with tie.

Pre luncheon drinks 11.45 am - 12 noon start serving first course.

Open to partners of members and widows of past members.

The Interesting Life of Bryan Baker...

Len Hodren introduced the Guest Speaker, Bryan Baker, who we have met before in May 1999 when he spoke on Missionary Aviation.

This time he had a very different topic, the Bendigo Radiotherapy Cancer Centre and the Support Group associated with it.

Bendigo has one of the most modern Radiotherapy units in Australia. It is valued at more than \$15 million and is operated by the Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute. Unfortunately there is a shortage throughout Australia, and indeed world wide, of technicians (Radiation therapists), highly skilled in the operation of cancer treatment equipment. Because of this, the Bendigo Centre is understaffed, resulting in delays of treatment.

The support group has three specific aims:

- (a) In the short term to attract more operatives to Bendigo,
- (b) In the medium term to provide support to radiation therapists, particularly those from our region, with the condition that they work in Bendigo on qualification
- (c) In the long term, in co-operation with the authorities concerned, to help purchase a second radiotherapy treatment machine so that patients from Northern Victoria can be treated in Bendigo.

A special point of the Bendigo centre is that patients are not charged for this treatment which is often life saving. There is also available accommodation in Bendigo for out of town patients and their relatives – again set up by the support group. Colin McLean thanked the speaker and made the presentation.

Vale

*With regret we report the passing of
Majorie Michell and of Nina Burch.*

BOWLS NOTES

The Probus District Championship was held at Castlemaine on Thursday 27th of February. Bendigo Probus entered four rinks and were very happy with the result. On the day we finished second, 7 shots behind the winners, Eaglehawk, who now have the honour of organising next years event. Congratulations to them.

The day was a huge success, very well organised and run by Castlemaine Probus. All Bendigo rinks performed admirably and all enjoyed the good bowling, great

weather and friendship with other clubs.

Our March game is against Woodbury on Thursday 27th, teams selected are as follows:

W. Redmon	E. Hogan	H. Hesse (s)
R. Chenery	W. Clemens	P. Bath (s)
W. Winzar	E. Waterworth	M. Boyd (s)
J. Kelly	C. Turner	A. Court (s)
D. Laity	F. O'Connell	J. Tate (s)

Reserves:

J. Laidler	E. Trewartha	R. Fitzgerald	Z. Hughes
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2 Bowl Triples, casual dress, 9.30am assembly for 10.00am Start.

Bill Clemens



PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO TRIPS INFORMATION

THURSDAY 3rd APRIL - TRIP TO MELBOURNE

*INTERNATIONAL FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW "The Show of the Year"

Sharing with Sandhurst Probus Club (maximum 48). Each Club (24)

Current Bendigo Probus Bookings: (21) ** Vacancies, Please Fill!!

Depart: 7.30am Strath Community Centre, Crook Street.

Home: approx 5.45pm

Cost: \$30.00/person Includes: Coach Fare & entry to show

Foodstalls, Snacks & Lunches available, or take your own lunch.

Payments: at meeting Wednesday 19th March.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO - 200th MEETING - Wednesday 21st May, 2003

(Followed by 3 course Lunch)

Meeting: to Start at 11.00am, finish 11.45 am. Sherries: 11.45am

Lunch: to start 12 noon. At 12.30pm: welcome guest speaker

Pre Lunch Sherries provided, otherwise drinks on a BYO basis

Proceedings conclude 2.30pm.

Maximum: 120 participants (10/table)

Open to: Partners and Widows of former members. Current (64)

Costs: Normal \$2 Entry (rent etc) & \$25/Person for meals and function

Listing: again at meeting Wed 19.03.03. Payments Wed 16th April

TRIP TO SOUTH PORT

(GOLD COAST QUEENSLAND - SUNGOLD HARBOUR SIDE RESORT)
SUNDAY 20TH JULY TO SUNDAY 3RD AUGUST 2003 - 15 DAYS/14 NIGHTS.

** Sungold Harbourside Resort is a four star Rated R.A.C.Q. Resort

Sungold Package: All inclusive: Air fares, accommodation twin share, private

facilities, all meals, (some lunches), coach tours (4 days/week), entry fees, coach transfers in Queensland and a Special Jupiters Casino "high quality live show"

** 15 day/14 night package: \$649 X 2 weeks = \$1298 + \$70 = \$1368/person

** Air Fares: Melbourne Coolgatta & return

(Quantas Senior Flyer/Flexible \$428 + \$91 Taxes) = \$ 519/person

** Special Casino Live Show during Stay: = \$ 30/person

** Total cost: Sungold 15 day/14 night package = \$1917/person

** Add transport Bendigo - Melbourne & return (based on 40) = \$ 32/person
= \$1949/person

Air fares due for payment: by Wed 19th March 2003 Meeting

Air fare: \$519.00 per person: by cheque made payable to:

"Sungold Holidays" (Arthur will then Collate and forward on)

Bookings received Bendigo Probus (21): C. Binks (2), A. Crothers (2), A. Dingle (2), A. Eaton (2), K. Gloster (2), G. Glover (2), P. Goodrich (2), H. Hesse (2), Z. Hughes (2), P. McCracken (1), L. Nankivell (2)

Other Probus Clubs/Friends (14): B. Bruhn (1), P. Commerford (1), M. Cowling (1), N. Cook (1), J. Curnow (1), C. Ellis (2), C. Gorman (2), G. Houlden (1), B. Jilbert (1), E. Ryan (1), Y. Wallace (1), R Webster (1).

Maximum: (48) Current (35)

** Additional bookings invited.

Enquires to Arthur (03) 5443 9162

** To assist collectors, please tender correct money. If payment by cheque, please ensure details written on back of cheque.



Report: Friday 24th January, 5.00pm to 8.00pm

FILM EVENING BY ROB AND CYNTHIA WATKINS.

Approximately 90 people mainly comprised of members & partners of the Probus Club of Bendigo, Bendigo Ladies & Strathdale Probus Club together with friends of Probus, were privileged to witness the excellent Slide Film Presentation, organised, presented and narrated by Rob and Cynthia Watkins, which covered their recent overseas travel through sections of Europe and Scandinavia, even up to the Arctic Circle, their transport being by motor vehicle, which they purchased and used throughout their travels from Italy to the Arctic Circle. Films were shown in air-conditioned comfort in the Circular Lecture Theatre of the Latrobe University and a BYO Tea break (6.00pm - 7.00pm) in the Air-conditioned Student Union Dining Area.

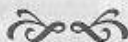
Rob and Cynthia seldom travelled on the usual tourist routes, instead using inland and coastal roads. We first witnessed their travels in Italy, beautiful scenes of Tuscany, their adventurous travels on narrow coastal roads with the mountain sides right up to the waters edge. We viewed many picturesque shots of a number of towns located at

the water's edge along their chosen route. Likewise we were treated to a most interesting and, excellent variety of film footage taken in Rome, the Vatican, Florence and Venice with its colourful buildings, waterways and water transportation. Finally, departure from Italy via the Dolomite mountains region, beautiful scenery in both its lower areas and of course in its rugged snow capped mountains.

Following the European part of the presentation, we were treated to a kalcedoscope of Scandinavian Scenery and items of interest in Denmark, Sweden and in Norway where we ventured inside the Arctic Circle where we were surprised by the size of the towns and extent of their facilities. We learnt of the region's engineering masterpieces with the lengthy tunnels, experienced travel on the Passenger/vehicle Ferries and were awed at the beauty of the Fiords. We were worried at one time to see Rob sitting with legs dangling over "Pulpit Rock" a sheer 1500 ft drop to a Fiord below. Nature was not forgotten, we witnessed the great variety and magnificence of the native plant life, flowers, animals and birds of Scandinavia.

President Barry O'Brien welcomed all in attendance at commencement of proceedings and at the conclusion of the film Presentation, on behalf of all, thanked Rob and Cynthia for a most enjoyable, interesting and informative and first class Film Evening. As a token of our appreciation and memento of the occasion, Barry presented Rob and Cynthia each with a Probus mug.

Author: Arthur Eaton



Report: Thursday 20th February, 2003

TRIP TO TOOLANGI AND KINGLAKE AREA.

A group of 44, comprising of 24 members of Bendigo Probus, 17 Sandhurst Probus and 3 friends of Probus participated in this outing. Following departure at 7.30am we travelled through Heathcote, Kilmore, Wallan, Whittlesea stopped for morning tea, then on to King Lake, arriving at Toolangi Forest Education and Discovery Centre where we were welcomed by our host and guide for the day Jules Vines.

Jules was perfect for our group, of pleasant personality, enthusiastic and very knowledgeable in relation to forest management and the Toolangi State Forest of which she so capably informed our group in the environs of the Toolangi Forest Discovery and Education Centre Building. The building initially cost \$3,000,000 to build, for a period left unused, it has recently been re-opened. The building incorporated many facets of the forest in its design; it is constructed entirely of Victorian Timbers, its design being unusual but very impressive. From above it resembles a hovering bird.

Jules first gave us a talk on the work of the Centre, the D.N.R.E. and of current management, we were told of the history of Toolangi Forests, the tree species, the forests and fire, the rain forest, timber harvesting in Victoria's Native Forests, each in itself a huge subject. Following the talk we were shown a video of pre 1939 forests, tree felling and transportation methods by use of bullock and horse teams on forest tramways, living conditions in the forest, forest management of the time and the

disastrous 1939 bushfires. Strange as it may seem, the passage of the forest fire is necessary for regeneration of the famous Mountain Ash, a lack of fire can also cause the forest to die out. We saw some of the huge trees, which had regenerated and grown since the 1939 fires. Clear felling is a method now used to harvest Coupes or areas of forest which average about 20 hectares, geographically separated. Felling methods are strictly controlled, native flora and fauna habitat considered. After clearing, debris is burnt to form the necessary ash bed on which harvested Mountain Ash seed which has been subjected to man made heat is spread by hand spreaders, sometimes from the air. Mountain Ash dominates the Toolangi Forest, is the world's tallest flowering plant, reaching heights of up to 90 metres (270 ft). We also learnt much about the predominant birds of the forest, and in particular of the Lyrebird.

Our coach travelled to the Wirrawilla State Forest where Jules gave us a guided tour, walking on a high boardwalk through a section of the temperate rain forest. Victorian rain forests generally receive high rainfall; streams are a common feature within them, their water very clean, some of which we sampled. Whilst here, Jules had us perform a "Rain ritual", excellent result achieved as Bendigo had that same Thursday 20.02.03 and on Friday 21.02.03 the long awaited rains, up to 42mm in some parts!!

On return to the Centre, we enjoyed a picnic lunch in its pleasant surrounds after which Jules rejoined our Coach at the Demby Saw Mill where she explained its history, its acceptance and adoption of modern technology. A specially designed "thinner" circular mill saw dramatically reduced waste from sawdust. Remaining saw dust is burnt and provides energy for saw mill operations, saving many thousands of dollars per year. Processing of mountain ash timber after milling to size, is both air dried in stacks and kiln dried.

After expressing our thanks to Jules, we departed for Sunny's Nursery and Museum at King Lake West where we viewed their amazing collection, 1000 pieces of carnival Glass, 2000 Teddy Bears and Dolls, 250 ornamental Bells, a collection of Yowies and a display of Citron, Vaseline and Satin Glass which have fluorescent minerals mixed into the glass ware. It all started about 20 years ago, gifts from family, markets, auctions. They have gathered items from many parts of the world quite an impressive collection.

After leaving Sunny's we departed for home and after a brief stop at Wallan, arrived in Bendigo at 5.35pm ending what had been a very pleasant, interesting, informative and enjoyable outing shared with our 17 friends from the Sandhurst Probus Club and our 3 friends of Probus. Our very capable coach Captain Neville Dewhurst, was as always most pleasant, helpful and co-operative. On the way home Neville ran an appropriate video showing forests of the Great Dividing Ranges, its Flora and Fauna. Thanks Neville.

Author: Arthur Eaton

