



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO INC.

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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.

STOP PRESS! It's that man again; Treasurer BOB is waiting, hand outstretched, for your annual Sub to drop into it - that is, if you have not already coughed up. \$15.00 is the sum total damage. Thanks!

THE DRUG SCENE is arguably the most menacing problem in life today. It stretches beyond the wretched and pathetic drug-takers to embrace the whole gamut of vice and corruption.

Sergeant DENIS TOCOCK of the Victoria Police is in a front-line position to tackle the subject. His talk today will be most enlightening.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL is a humanitarian movement of which we have all heard. Yet we know little about it. Guest Speaker EION FLOYD last month was most informative in his knowledge of the subject and served to emphasise how lucky we are to live in a tolerant and free society. London lawyer Peter Benson founded the movement in 1961 after defending six prisoners imprisoned without trial. This opened a whole Pandora's box of gross injustices inflicted on people purely because of their political views. The movement rapidly spread throughout the world until today there are 500,000 members of Amnesty International in 150 countries.

It relies on stirring public opinions and exerting pressure on governments where repressions exist. The work it does is recognised throughout the world as it seeks to help people in need using non-violent approaches. Its base is the Declaration of Human Rights.

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Amnesty International is funded solely by memberships and donations. Lack of government funding means that it remains independent and uncompromised.

Amnesty International is a very worth-while organisation and deserves the support of all who value freedom of thought and expression.

Alf Ryall introduced the speaker and Harry Higginbotham tendered the thanks.

TRIPS/ENTERTAINMENT:

WEDNESDAY MAY 25TH, 1988. "CASTLEMAINE"

Visits to: "Old England Hotel", Market Museum, Art Gallery, Budha, Childrens Cemetery etc. -- B.B.Q. Lunch provided. Depart: Senior Citizens Complex, Crook Street at 9.00 a.m. Cost: \$10.00 / person: Includes: Coach, BBQ Lunch, Admissions. Arrival home approx 5.00 p.m. (PAYMENTS TODAY PLEASE) 2 Rd

THURSDAY JUNE 16TH, 1988. LOCAL INDUSTRY VISIT.

To Cooper & Cooke Ceramics and Stafford Ellinson Clothing Manufacturers. Coach provided, meet at and Depart from: Strath Senior Citizens Complex, Crook Street, at a time to be arranged. B.Y.O. Morning Tea. Cost for Coach: \$1.00 / per person travelling. (PAYMENTS TODAY PLEASE) 2 Rd

WEDNESDAY JULY 6TH, 1988. VISIT TO FORD FACTORY at Broadmeadows & MINT at Craigeburn.

Arrangements completed with Ford Factory and Mint. Estimated Departure time (7.30 a.m.) from Senior Citizens Complex, Crook Street. Still endeavouring to arrange suitable lunch location. Costing: Coach: Estimated \$7.25 / person based on 40 travelling & lunch, (when finalised). (Watch for final arrangement June edition of Probe). (PAYMENT WILL BE REQUIRED AT JUNE MEETING).

SATURDAY JULY 30TH, 1988. "AUSTRIAN NIGHT AT DAYLESFORD HOTEL" -- DINNER/FLOOR SHOW.

A visiting Austrian Band will be in attendance. COST: \$23.00 / person. (Includes Coach, Dinner, Floor Show). Departure from: Senior Citizens Complex, Crook Street. Departure Time: 6.00 p.m. Payments: At June or July Meetings please.

TRIP TO EXPO/BRISBANE. Departs August 21st 12 days \$794 per person. (At present fully booked). If interested as emergency contact Arthur (43 9262). (PAYMENT IN FULL will be required at "Houlden's Bus Lines Bendigo" by July 21st, 1988).

MEMBERS OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF GRIFFITH, NSW on their journey through paused in Bendigo at the Club to re-charge their batteries. A gratifyingly large number of Bendigo Probians and wives attended a bright supper function at the Club to mingle with our visitors and cement new friendships.

A MAN WHO SPENT MANY YEARS in an intense study of Aboriginal life and culture, visited and stayed in many Aboriginal settlements was given the high honour of being admitted into the NUNGUBUYU tribe in Northern Australia with the 'Skin Name' of BULLANG, and used his wide experience to train students at the BCAE in the art of teaching the children of our first settlers. He is

LEONARD ATHOL (LEN) HALL

and to fit himself for his field studies he learned to speak PITJANTJANTJARA, the language of the Western Desert, at the University of Adelaide.

The eldest in a family of four (he has two brothers and a sister) Len made his first appearance in the world in the suburb of Preston and later lived in Balwyn.

He shared his education with two notable citizens; first at Northcoat High (John Cain's old Alma Mater) and later at Box Hill High where he was a contemporary of Frank Sedgeman.

Marking time in a quietly-established war-time department his anxiety to get into action saw him joining the RAAF two days after his 18th birthday! His zeal for action was somewhat frustrated by his appointment as a Telegraphist in Cooktown, then the nerve centre for the Coral Sea Battle, where he saw the war out in comparative safety and comfort. He was later appointed a WO in a crash launch for Air-Sea Rescue.

The war over Len faced three alternatives - become a Lawyer, a Carpenter or a Teacher. He chose the latter and went back to school.

His studies for Matriculation took him on to Melbourne University and Teachers' College and finally resulted in his being 'let loose' on the unsuspecting students at the new Lavers Hill Consolidated School. whilst here he married and set about the task of producing a Mini-Dynasty on the basis of four children, two sons and two daughters.

Returning to Melbourne for part-time studies and teaching at Collingwood Tech. he graduated to become the Principal of a one-teacher school in Gippsland! Wrestling with the sons of the soil produced dividends for Len - he was invited by the Bendigo Teachers' College to take over the training of students in rural school work. A year later he started a five year term as Head of the Department of English and Social Studies at Castlemaine Tech., where he developed a passion for amateur musical theatre production, an interest which he took with him when, five years later he moved to Benalla.



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Benalla Technical School had three important features - it was a brand-new school with a brand-new staff and a brand-new Principal in the form of one ALAN DINGLE!

Theatre production here included much Gilbert and Sullivan Opera, White Horse Inn and the world premiere of "The Long Drop" a musical based on the Ned Kelly Story.

Back at the Bendigo Teachers' College in 1965 Len developed a special interest in Aboriginal Education with the results outlined above.

Retiring in 1985 and with the Hall Dynasty secure in the hands of five grandchildren he took time to look around visiting old haunts and ex-students as well as savouring new experiences in the Equatorial Pacific.

LEN HALL has had a wide and varied career and one rich in human experience with the thread of Social conscience always present. But - most importantly - he is a member of the Probus Club of Bendigo!

FOOTNOTE: In all his wide experience what single event has given him most pleasure? Watching **VLADEMEER KUTS** win his race at the 1956 Olympic Games.

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ON A SAD NOTE we record the death of a valued member, **CALUDE MASKELL**. Claude was a most genial and sociable character and we will all miss him.

WE WELCOME ABOARD two new members - Bill Jacka and Rupert Guidice.
For the record: Josiah William (Bill) JACKA. Wife Bess.
32 Hodgkinson Street, Bendigo. Phone: 43 2365.
Rupert Emanuel (Rupert) GUIDICE. Wife Muriel.
34 Mafeking Street, Bendigo. Phone: 43 6138.

AS THE CLUB GOES ON to bigger and better things we are able to report on the success of the recent Bright and environs trip. The unanimous vote was that it was the best ever, involving three important factors - fantastic weather, excellent accommodation and bus driver **LEO HANLEY** whose talents went far beyond the mere driving of the bus. The ultimate in fellowship was evident at all times and the impromptue 20 minute talks on personal experiences filled the nights in very adequately. No wonder that our schedules fill so quickly one has to be smart off the mark to get a guernsey!

Will all the lucky ones on the trip please note that a lonely tea towel purchased at Myrtleford's Ponderosa is seeking an owner. Will said owner form a queue at the meeting today and **FRANK BUDGE** will conduct the ballot.

LEST WE FORGET! Annual Christmas Dinner on **WEDNESDAY, 20th** December: Get your diaries out! More later.