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# PROBE

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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, 49 Emmett Street, Golden Square, 3555.

GUEST SPEAKER at the November meeting will be Mr. Terry Nihill. Mr. Nihill is currently Clerk-of-Courts at the Bendigo Court.

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It is with regret that I report the recent death of ARTHUR EVANS. Arthur was a foundation member of the club, and will be sadly missed.

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INFLATION has reared its ugly head yet again! The cost of our morning "cuppa" has been \$1 for some years, but at our October meeting we were advised that the future cost of the precious brew would be \$1.50. Please remember to bring the correct change for this and any other payments to be made at meetings. Remember our volunteers.

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**TRAFALGAR DAY** - October 21st. - what does it mean, and what is its significance for Australia. This was the essence of the address given by C.P.O. Donald Walker (Ret) at our October Meeting.

Most people are aware of the ultimate defeat of Napoleon by the Duke of Wellington at Waterloo. What is not generally recognised is that the French Army of the day was superior to the British and that the British victory would not have been achieved if the Royal Navy had not been better than the French Navy.

This superiority gave Nelson his victory at Trafalgar and ensured the ultimate defeat of Napoleon.

Nelson was revered not only for his prowess as a sailor but also for his respect for his sailors of all ranks, and his forward-

looking approach to recruitment - a man who had the foresight to see that "press-gang" methods were not the ideal recruitment method.

The relationship between Trafalgar Day and the development of Australia can only be appreciated if we recall that the early days of development of Australia coincided with the period of the Napoleonic Wars. The French, like the British were keen to colonize, and would almost certainly have invaded the Port Jackson area if they had not been defeated at Trafalgar.

Similarly - advice that the French were interested in the west coast endured that troops were despatched to Albany and the Swan River District of Western Australia and claimed all that part of New Holland that had not formally been claimed as New South Wales. The rest is History.

In concluding his remarks, C.P.O. Walker reminded us of the significance of the sea, and subsequently of sea-power.

We were reminded that almost all Australian trade is by sea, and that even today many international confrontations are resolved by sea-power. Examples quoted were the confrontation between U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. known as the "Cuban Crisis", the "Falklands War", and today, the "Gulf Crisis" where the U.N. embargo has to be enforced by sea-power.

As a final thought we were asked to be thankful that British seapower had ensured that Australia had no foreign frontier and thus Australians did not have to worry so much about overnight incursions as some others.

C.P.O. Walker was introduced by BILL THEODORE D.S.M. (Ex R.A.N.) and thanked by HARRY HIGGINBOTHAM who made the usual presentation.

#### TRIPS AND ENTERTAINMENT

TRIP TO GEELONG - PORT CAMPBELL - QUEENSCLIFF AREAS : (3 days/2 nights). TUESDAY NOVEMBER 27TH. TO THURSDAY NOVEMBER 29TH. inclusive. Depart at 8.00 a.m. : from Strath Community Centre Crook Street. (Tues. Nov. 27th.) Staying at BUENA VISTA MOTOR INN - GEELONG (052 - 43 6766 Tel No.) Arrival Home : Bendigo, approx. 6.00 p.m. Thursday 29/11/90. Itineraries available at Meeting 21/11/90.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 14TH. "XMAS TRIP TO RICH RIVER WITH HOULDEN'S  
"XMAS DINNER" consisting 3 course meal. Depart Strathdale Community Centre, Crook Street at 5.30 pm. Estimated arrival home 12.30 a.m. Coach Capacity (49) Current bookings (60). COST : \$6.00/person Includes Coach fare plus dinner. PAYMENTS : at meeting today 21/11/90, please.

"GOOD OLD DAYS" The next performance for Probians is to be held in the Capital Theatre on SUNDAY 16TH. DECEMBER at 2.00 p.m. Tickets @ \$9.00 each will be available at the meeting on receipt of the appropriate amount.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 18TH. : "ANNUAL PROBUS DINNER AT BENDIGO CLUB"

Pre Dinner Drinks at 6.30 p.m., Dinner at 7.00 p.m.

COST : \$19.00/person. PAYMENTS : at meeting today 21/11/90 please.

APRIL 18TH. TO 21ST., 1991 : "PROBUS SOUTH PACIFIC RENDEZVOUS - BAROSSA VALLEY" (4 days/3 nights)

COST : \$255/person. Includes : Coach Fare, Accommodation, D.B.B., Entry Fees. Bendigo Ladies Probus Club organising trip (Phone Gwen Bloomfield - 39 5399).

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 28TH, 1991 : "FILM MORNING AT R.L. CAMPBELL THEATRETTE" - FOLLOWED BY COMBINED B.B.Q.

Commencing time 9.45 a.m. Castlemaine Probus Members & Wives have expressed a wish to come to Bendigo and combine with us in this function. B.B.Q. will be conducted in Strathdale Community Centre Park, Crook Street.

Anticipated Cost : for Film & B.B.Q. Approx. \$5-\$6.00/person. Final Details : re Film & other details will be in JANUARY "PROBE".

LIST WILL BE POSTED : at today's meeting 21/11/90 in order to assess likely numbers participating.

APOLOGY I would like to iterate my apology to JACK DAVIES for non-acknowledgement of his major contribution to the last issue of Probe.

BARRETT'S SAFARI TOURS seem to have claimed yet another group of Probians on a 37 day trip to Cape York.

The overland trip to Cairns - previously described - was followed by a boat trip in the "Noel Buxton". The trip to the tip of Australia included stops at a number of islands where snorkelling and swimming were popular.

Fishing was also popular and sufficient were caught to feed all aboard.

The final island stop was Thursday Island in Torres Strait. Thursday Island has a population of approximately 2,700 - mostly aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders. Health care is basically in the hands of different church groups that are represented.

Fresh water is extremely scarce on the Island, but the bowlers are not to be beaten. The 'green' is black. It consists of a fine mesh surface impregnated with bitumen, a great surface to reflect the tropical heat.

On the return journey passengers were transferred from the boat to the tip of Cape York - an almost unique experience.

(My correspondent for this item makes only one reference to the crew of the "Noel Buxton" - "The second mate was a most experienced female.")  
(Thanks Mr. President)

One of the problems associated with being the offspring of the 'terrible three' (Clergy, Teachers and Police) is that one never knows where you will be living this time next year, and one can only guess whether this has any effect on job selection.

One member who knows the art of moving is COLIN ROY McLEAN. Colin was born in Ballarat - the son of an Anglican Minister. Before he had finished his academic education he lived in Inglewood, Clunes, Lang Lang, Lakes Entrance, Yarram and Sale.

After completing a Diploma of Electrical Engineering at Sale and Yallourn Senior Technical Schools Colin joined the State Electricity Commission at Yallourn where his work took him into the Electrical Laboratory, Drawing Office, Power Station and the Open Cut.

In 1955 he transferred to the then Midland Branch where he employed as a construction engineer. Although based in Castlemaine work took him from Sunbury to Navarre and from Ballan to Mia Mia.

1967 saw another shift - to Colac where work requirements took him from Winchelsea to the South Australian border and from Cape Otway to Glen Thompson. Positions held while at Colac include Operations Engineer and Design Engineer.

Having retired to Strathfieldsaye I doubt very much that Colin will elect for another transfer!

Almost as broad as his geographical experiences are his interests. Colin has been a lay preacher in Anglican Churches at Yallourn, Castlemaine and Colac. He is still actively involved at Holy Trinity and sings in the Crusade Choir. Sporting activities include tennis, badminton and - in the longer term - sailing on Cairn Curran and Lake Colac.

Another long term commitment has been to Scouting. Positions held in this organisation range from Scout Leader to District Commissioner both in the Campaspe District and the Otway Plains District. He was awarded the Medal of Merit in 1976.

Lesser interests include gardening, travel, and maybe not surprisingly, The Caledonian Society and the Scottish Country Dance Group.

Colin married in 1947 and he and May have a daughter at Mandurang, a son at Sorrento and 6 grand-children.

#### EXTRACT FROM ISSUE NO. 5 OF 1985

Of course, many of the changes we see in life today are not changes at all. We are appalled by the incidence of youthful crime, much publicised in the media, and we forget the times when the 'larrikans' and 'pushes', the vicious 'razor gangs' and the Squizzy Taylors fought the police in the slums of the cities. Corruption? Remember when a high-ranking police officer was able to own five 'houses of ill-repute' without losing his epaulettes?