



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO INC.

President : Maurice Pease

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A Special General Meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10.00 a.m. at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Road.

All correspondence to the Secretary, 2 Cook Street, Bendigo, 3550.

GUEST SPEAKER today is Sen. Sgt. Brian Hinton, who is in charge of the Traffic Department.

Our Speaker at last months meeting was David Eedle, who is the Manager of the Bendigo Regional Arts Centre, and he was introduced by Allan Dingle.

Born in Accra, Ghana, in 1966, David has packed a lot in his young life. His formal education was spread over England and Australia, culminating at Monash University. He has had an extensive, and intensive career in the theatre, bringing him to Bendigo in 1993. Among all his activities he has found the time to produce two books, "David's Glossary of Theatre Terms" and "Prompt Copy - A Handbook to the Stage".

At the Regional Arts Centre he has introduced innovative activities such as a Subscription Season, Drama Schools for primary schools, Literary lunches..., the list goes on. There are now about 600 usages of the Centre per year, including about 160 public performances. The theatre issued 40,000 tickets last year.

Another important and useful innovation is the "Culture Vulture" programme for secondary schools, in which work for VCE is included.

The Art Support office provides facilities for local artists.

David is obviously a live wire, with a fertile inventiveness, who should give a boost to the cultural life of Bendigo. Del Martin expressed the thanks of the members and made the usual presentation.

TRIPS INFORMATION

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17TH : PHOTOGRAPHIC SHOWING FILMS - NORTH AMERICA
Maximum 100, Current 72. Location: Department of Agriculture, Taylor Street, Epsom. Meet at Conference Room at 4.30 p.m. Program includes: Films 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.; Picnic Tea - (B.Y.O.) 5.30 p.m. - 7.00 p.m. (Use of kitchen available - tea and coffee supplied). Films: 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. - tea, coffee and biscuits supplied. Rob Watkins has prepared an excellent program which will suit all tastes. A most enjoyable and informative evening is assured, a great opportunity for members and wives to meet and socialise. **VACANCIES.** Cost \$2.00/person. Payments at November 15th meeting.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 22ND : TRIP TO MELBOURNE - NOTE PRINTING WORKS AND G.M.H. CAR ENGINE WORKS PORT MELBOURNE. Maximum 49, Current 53. Depart Strath Community Centre, Crook Street 7.30 a.m. Home approx. 5.45 p.m. First we visit Note Printing Works, at Craigeburn, to see how our "Note Currency" is made for both Australia and overseas. After lunch we travel on to the Port Melbourne G.M.H. Car Engine Build Factory where we will follow the production of Car Engines from the basic raw material through to the complete engine. At each location we have conducted tours. Lunch: (Bring your own picnic lunch). Cost: \$12/person includes coach and entry fee.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13TH, 1995 - PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO ANNUAL XMAS DINNER - AT THE BENDIGO BOWLING CLUB. Pre Dinner Drinks 6.30 p.m. - Dinner 7.00 p.m.
The Annual Probus Club of Bendigo Christmas Dinner will again be at the Bendigo Bowls Club, Barnard Street, Bendigo on Wednesday December 13th, 1995. Pre Dinner drinks 6.30 p.m. and Dinner at 7.00 p.m. Additional bookings are required. President Maurice and the Committee seek your support. Bookings may be made through Arthur (43 9162) or at November meeting. Cost: \$24/person, includes: Dinner, Pre Dinner Drinks and some drinks during dinner. Payments to be finalised at the November 15th Meeting please.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 15TH, 1995 - ANNUAL XMAS TRIP TO MOAMA R.S.L. CLUB - XMAS DINNER INCLUDED. Cost: Group Concession \$8.00 per person - includes coach fare and Xmas dinner. "Southern Cross Tours" have again offered this much sought after, popular, low cost, trip for 1995. Depart Strathdale Community at 6.00 p.m. - arrive home approx. 12.30 a.m. Maximum 60, Current 60. Final Payments at November 15th Meeting.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" - LIVE STAGE SHOW - PRINCESS THEATRE MELBOURNE - WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20TH - 1.00 P.M. Maximum 26, Current 26. Depart 9.45 a.m. from Strath Community Centre, Crook Street. Arrive home 6.00 p.m. **Tickets available at November 15th Meeting.**

Please assist the Collectors by tendering correct amount of money when paying for trips

Arthur Eaton (Trips Liaison)
Phone 43 9162.

BENDIGO PROBUS MYSTERY TOUR - 19th October, 1995

A group of Probians and partners gathered in keen and curious anticipation at 9.00 a.m. in the Crook Street car park.

Will it rain? Will Arthur's reputation for fine weather predictions be maintained?

We proceeded south along the Calder Highway and as we passed through Golden Square, Cliff Binks handed out historical photographs of a view looking through the Kangaroo Flat shopping centre towards Big Hill. What significance did they have?

Alan Court won the prize - it was the proposed site for the Toll Gate. The proposal met with so much opposition that the site was changed to Big Hill where it was installed in 1862 and closed in 1865. (Other toll gates were erected at Taradale, Malmsbury and Kyneton - whilst to the north there was one at Wellsford).

The coach continued along the highway past the Ravenswood Homestead then east where we viewed what was the Sunday School Picnic Ground and the Ravenswood Railway Siding, over the railway line, and on to the Ravenswood Estate Shearing Shed and associated buildings. We were met by Wendy Henski, wife of the manager Ted, and her daughter Judith. We were told the road in to the property had been specially graded the day before, so we could have a smoother ride.

Wendy gave us a brief history of the property and with Wendy and Judith as guides we were taken on a tour of the area. The building bricks were made from local clay and the stonework came from two quarries on the property. We learned that sheep from the Estate were transported via Kangaroo Gully Road through what is now Bendigo to the River Murray as far back as the 1840's. Cliff Binks capably thanked the Henski family for their hospitality.

The Ravenswood Estate and the Ravenswood Homestead are now two separate properties and we found the latter was our next stop. Ravenswood Homestead has changed hands many times. Recent owners have been :- 1962-74 Hines and Chapman, 1974-94 Edmund and Erika Beilharz and 1994 onwards, Art van Dyk, formerly of the Copper Pot, who has as an assistant Troy West and his Siberian Husky. We were taken on a tour of the buildings and grounds and many of us noted the improvements. It is now operating as a Bed and Breakfast establishment. All present were the grateful recipients of a welcome morning tea in the summer house by the rose garden.

During Jim Aitken's speech of thanks to Art and Troy, Jim, as a former Geelong resident, revealed that Troy's father Roy had played fullback for Geelong when they had won the V.F.L. Premiership. (I took pleasure in telling Troy that I taught his father and a former part owner of Ravenswood, Bob Chapman, at the Stawell Technical School in the late 1940's - small world isn't it!!)

We journeyed back through Bendigo and, after many false guesses, found ourselves at the Bendigo Racecourse where we were privileged to have the mid-day meal in the Committee Dining Room with a beautiful view of the Course. The three course meal prepared by Debbie Nicholds, Function Co-Ordinator, was first class. This was followed by a detailed and informative history of the Bendigo Jockey Club by a Past President Cyril Watson. One item of interest was the use of the Racecourse as a training camp for the Army during World War 2. The new Racecourse Manager, Paul Schauble, admitted he had learned a lot from Cyril's address and suggested it should be officially recorded. (It is possible we may see a book published!)

After the Luncheon we were taken to the Memorabilia Room where we learned still more of the interesting history of one of Bendigo's leading sporting venues.

Our appreciation of the Jockey Club's hospitality was ably expressed by our President Maurice.

On leaving the Racecourse, Cliff had us all guessing about our destination for 'a delightful afternoon tea'. We eventually turned into the Chateau Dore, where we were treated to wine tasting and a tour of the winery. In addition we once again received a very interesting historical review of the development and problems of the wine industry in this district.

Our hostess Mrs. Jan Grose (wife of Ivan) and their daughter Nicole really did give us a delightful afternoon tea with cream scones, sponges etc. Ivan and Jan Grose donated a bottle of wine to be raffled and the lucky winner was our birthday girl, Ollie Downey. Alf Ryall ably thanked the Grose family for their care and hospitality.

We returned, without any rain, via Strathfieldsaye and learned the original site surveyed for the proposed settlement that was eventually to be Bendigo was in the Mandurang Valley; however the discovery of gold changed the plans of the government of the day.

Our sincere thanks must go to our organiser and guide, Cliff Binks who put in an enormous amount of thought and detailed planning to make this mystery tour such a success. Thanks also to Norma for supplying sweets to calm our excitement. Appreciation is also extended to Graeme Toll our coach driver for his careful driving and consideration.

STOP PRESS!! Cliff has already commenced planning the next Mystery Tour.

Allan Dingle.

BOWLS REPORT

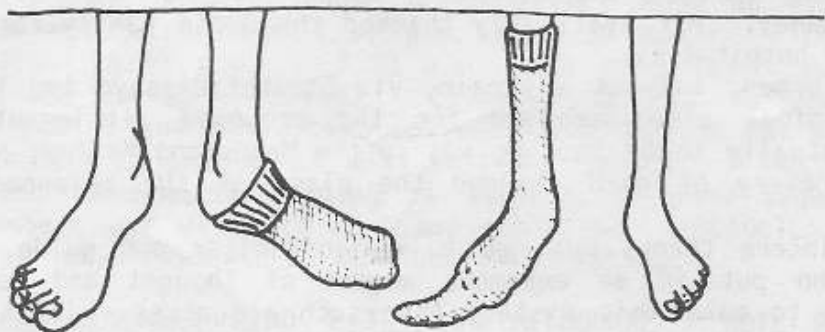
On October 26 there was the match against Eaglehawk, which was won 55-41 (by Eaglehawk). The team which performed best for Bendigo was J. Rose, O. Watson, A. Court and V. Canobie.

OBITUARY

With sadness we report the death of Graham Cheatley, one of our Foundation Members, on Thursday November 2.

SOCK SPECIAL

ONE SIZE FITS ALL!



Since man to man is so unjust
I do not know which man to trust.
I've trusted many to my sorrow
So pay today I'll trust tomorrow

(J. Addioat)
