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# PROBE

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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 10.00 am. at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Road, Bendigo.

All correspondence to be addressed to The Secretary, P.O. Box 1217, Bendigo, 3552.

The guest speaker for today's meeting is Mr. Leon Scott who is part owner of the Mayfair Park Industrial Estate.

Our guest speaker last month was Mr. Ted Spicer, President of the Bendigo Health Care Group. He was introduced by Ray Downey and spoke on the developments in health care in the Bendigo region.

Ted has been in Bendigo since 1948, is married with 4 children, 6 grandchildren and is an accountant by profession. His work experience was with Jack Henderson, builder, Secretary of the Bendigo Show Society for 7 years, President of the Bendigo Chamber of Commerce and President of the Anne Caudle Centre. His experience in the building industry enabled the Centre to save many thousands of dollars on its building contracts. When the Base Hospital, the Anne Caudle Centre and the Psychiatric Centre were brought together to form the Bendigo Health Care Group, Ted became the initial President of the Committee of Management and continues in that position to the present time.

The merger came about on the 1st of July, 1995 and comprises 696 beds, a staff of 2166 and an operating budget in excess of \$100 million, and, in the current year provided service for approximately 1,600 in-patients and emergency out-patients of over 464,130. The area covered goes from Kyneton in the South to Swan Hill in the North with some other services in Mildura and Maryborough.

The new facilities for the Group include a 40 bed Psycho-Geriatric nursing home which has been completed at Holdsworth Rd. and is now occupied.

A fifth theatre has been built to increase throughput, the Hyett Block has been re-furbished and an accident and emergency entrance in Stewart St. has been commenced. As this street is much higher

than Lucan and Arnold Sts. the access will be on the same level as the operating theatres, saving critical minutes for emergency cases.

A Streams and Care building is almost completed on the Anne Caudle Campus. This is a Hospice for Psycho-Geriatric Nursing and Respite Care. The idea being to try and bring a lot of the delivery of health under the one roof where you can have Central Administration and cut down as much of the overhead and the running costs as possible. There is a further \$7 million project to connect the East Wing with the North Wing up to level 3 and on the top floor will be a 60 bed rehabilitation unit.

Buildings have been purchased in Kyncton and Echuca, which have been refurbished, and will improve the services in other hospitals in the community.

One interesting point to come out of Ted's talk is that staff figures have only decreased by 70 or 80 from that at the commencement of the merger which is contrary to the concept that they have lost huge numbers of staff.

An unexpected outcome of the merger and new buildings and facilities has been the increase in professional staff applying to join the Group.

Ted was thanked by Hugh Ward and presented with a Probus mug in appreciation of his very interesting and informative talk.

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### SICK LIST

It was noted that a number of our members are not well. It is to be hoped that they are on the improve and will soon be able to return to our meetings.

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### BOWLS NOTES

Last month we played the opening game of the season against Eaglehawk and at the end of play we were 26 shots adrift being beaten 75 - 49 with only one rink up. All enjoyed a great morning of bowls in perfect weather and all enjoyed a wonderful morning tea supplied by Eaglehawk members and served by the ladies.

Winning rink for Bendigo was Jack Rose, Warren Winzar, Ray Fitzgerald, Bill Clemens.



Our next game is at South Bendigo on Tuesday 24 th. November. Teams are as follows -

J. Rose	O. Watson	E. Hogan	W. Clemens	(s)
W. Foster	R. Chenery	L. Roy	H. Hesse	(s)
R. Downey	W. Spicer	N. Kilby	R. Marslen	(s)
J. Laidler	A. Court	W. Winzar	A. Morris	(s)
Reserves -	R. Holmes			
	W. Bell			
	C. Weeks			

Bill Clemens.

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PETER THORNTON has been made an honorary member for his services to Bendigo Probus.

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## ACTIVITIES

### Elmore - Tongala

Tour Director Arthur and Coach Captain Neville ensured a pleasant outing for the 29th October. Our first stop was at "Campaspe Run" - the H. V. McKay Rural Discovery Centre next door to the Elmore Railway Station.

Elmore's volunteers are to be congratulated on their presentation of the history of their area and the inventiveness of H. V. McKay. Many of the exhibits are common to rural museums but none I know can boast a "5 foot stripper" and a "5 foot harvester" (both complete) together with the early home of the harvester's inventor.

Presentation of a video, an informative address and ample wander time guaranteed that many of our group relived earlier years.

A guided tour of Elmore followed during which we were privileged to see many parts of Elmore rarely seen by those of us who have driven through!! Elmore boasts some very fine buildings, major sporting facilities, river frontage and a host of volunteers who help to maintain many aspects of its community life.

A three course "al fresco" lunch was provided by Jacko.

Lunch completed, we travelled via Rochester to the "Golden Cow" dairy centre at Tongala. Again a video followed by a demonstration of machine milking of 4 cows in a herring bone arrangement, (one cow was very rude!!) and the subsequent of machinery.

On to a working model of "flood irrigation", as used locally, and displays of various milk products. Also displayed were charts indicating the spread of salt in recent years.

Finally we were able to sample some of the product. Many milkshakes and other local produce was consumed.

A quick tour of Tongala completed our visit and an uneventful return trip saw us back at Strathdale just after 5.00 pm.

Thanks again, Arthur.

This erudite report was prepared for "Probe" by A. Nony Mouse Esq.

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### "Fiddler On The Roof"

With 52 Probians and Friends of Probus on board, Kangaroo Flat Buslines Hi-Deck coach departed from Strathdale Community Centre at 9.00 am on Wednesday, 4th November for the live stage show, "Fiddler On The Roof". Held at the magnificently restored Regent Theatre in Melbourne, the show was enjoyed by all present.

We returned safely at 6.30 pm thanks to the capable driving of our coach captain, Kevin Orton, who displayed excellent driving skills in manoeuvring this large coach in the Melbourne traffic.



## CHRISTMAS DINNER

Just a reminder for the Christmas dinner to be held at the Bendigo Bowling Club on December 9th at 12.00 noon. Cost is \$22.00 per person payable at today's meeting.



## TRIPS INFORMATION

- \*\* SUNGOLD HOLIDAYS \*\* 4 Star Resort \*\* All Modern facilities.
- \*\* OWNER OPERATED RESORT (15 YEARS IN INDUSTRY) - REPUTABLE
- \*\* SUNGOLD PACKAGE: Which includes: Accommodation (Twin Share), Private Facilities, Dinner, Bed, Breakfasts, M/Tea most days, Lunches: first week (2), 2nd Week (2), Tours on 5 days each week.
  
- \*\* COST: Of 15 Day/14 Night Package: (SunGold Holidays)
- \*\* Itinerary for Week commencing July 25th, 1999: \$489.00
- \*\* Itinerary for Week commencing August 1st, 1999: \$489.00
- \*\* Overnight Accommodation, Dinner & Breakfast on Sunday 31st July, 1999 Free of Charge
- \*\* Extra Night Accommodation including Dinner and Breakfast on Sunday August 7th, 1999 \$ 50.00
- \*\* Seniors Return Air Fare: Melb - Coolangatta Ret. \$382.00

TOTAL COST: \$1410.00

Transport Bendigo-Tullamarine & return (40 travel) \$25.00/person  
(For every 20 people SunGold give \$489 rebate) 40 = \$978.00  
\*\* This amount would be used to defray cost of transport from Bendigo-Tullamarine & return.

Bookings rec'd (36): N.Bartlett (1), C.Binks (2), A.Crothers (2)  
A.Dingle (2), R.Downey (2), A.Eaton (2), K.Gloster (2), H.Hesse(2)  
C.Jeffrey (2), L.Mc.Cracken (2), L.Nankivell (2) J.Rose (1)  
A.Ryall (1), D.Sommerville (2), J.Stephens (2), W.Spicer (1),  
H.Ward (2), W.Winzar (2), C.Thomson (1), B.Bruhn (1) K.Houlahan (2)


\*\* PAYMENT DEPOSITS: \$35.00/person required at Nov 18th meeting.  
\*\* PAYMENT AIR FARES: \$382/person by (Cheque to Probus Club Bdgo)  
at Meeting January 20th, 1999 \*\*\* Highly recommend this trip.  
MAXIMUM: (48) Current: (37) \*\*\* Additional bookings required.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21ST: INTERNATIONAL AIR SHOW AT AVALON.  
SOUTHERN CROSS TRAVEL: (Tel: 5446 7000) Are running a Coach.  
Depart Bendigo: 6.30am. Cost: Coach Fare: \$20/person. Entry Fee  
to Air Show: \$25/person. Pensioner Concession: \$20/person.  
\*\* Air Show Tickets may be purchased at RACV Mitchell St. Bendigo  
\*\*\*If you wish to go, please book "Coach" with Southern Cross Travel

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25TH, 1999 TRIP TO MELBOURNE - VISITS TO:  
HISTORIC A.N.Z. GOTHIC BANK & BANKING MUSEUM (Cnr Queen/Collins St)  
THE AUSTRALIAN TOY MUSEUM (Collingwood) & other attraction.  
Maximum (49) Depart Bendigo: 7.45am. Arrive Home: Approx 6.00pm.  
Tour the unique A.N.Z. Gothic Bank & Banking Museum. Then visit  
333 Collins St, a building which is built over dome of an original  
Melbourne Bank. Lunch own arrangement at Melbourne Central-Dai  
Maru. Afterwards visit the Toy Museum which has an amazing variety of toys some dating back to  
the 1882. This trip will please all  
COST: \$20.00/person. Includes: Coach, Entry Fees & Afternoon Tea.  
LIST: Nov. 18th Meeting. PAYMENTS: At Meeting January 20th, 1999.  
\*\*\*To assist collectors, please tender correct money. If payment by cheque, please ensure details  
written on back of cheque.

BURNEWANG FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL (Burnewang Rd, Elmore. 5432 6653)  
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22nd, 1998 from 10.00am - 5.30pm  
Picnic on Lawns. Entertainment provided. COST: \$10/person.  
\*\*\* Simply mention you belong to Probus - cost entry \$8/person.

All correspondence to be addressed to The Secretary, P.O. Box 1217, Bendigo, 3552.



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



*The President and Committee of the Bendigo Probosc Club wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 1999 to all members, their partners and Friends of Probosc.*

*The editor would also like to thank all those who contributed reports during the year.*

