



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probos Club of Bendigo Inc.



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

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

Our guest speaker today will be Dr. Michael Grounds who will speak on the prevention of falls with elderly people.

The speaker for October was Dick Hazeldine, of Hazeldene's Chicken farm, who spoke on the development of his farm. He was introduced by Jim Aitken.

Dick's involvement with chooks began in 1939, at 11 years of age, when his brother bought 200 birds just before he went away to the war. Subsequently, Dick bought more birds as four week old chicks, but, due to the high mortality rate, it was decided to breed their own. At this point he bought a small kerosene incubator. He also learnt chicken sexing.

They then went on to electric incubators, raised the chicks and sold them in the Bendigo area. Bendigo, at that stage, was considered the egg basket of Victoria, but, due to the quota system that was introduced, fowls virtually disappeared from the area and Dick was left without a market.

At this stage he decided to be his own best customer and developed meat birds at the rate of five hundred chickens a day.

In the 70's he built another plant at Lockwood and processed about forty thousand birds a week, then the breeders developed fowl plague. With the new factory and one million dollars worth of new plant Dick had a three million dollar debt over his head and not a feather with which to fly. With hindsight Dick now looks on that time as a marvelous thing as he learnt how to borrow, became more aggressive, bought his first semi-trailer and was killing five thousand chickens a day. In 1985 the factory was capable of processing six thousand birds a day and was a showpiece to the poultry processing industry.

Further plant upgrades brought the production up to nine thousand birds an hour going through the factory.

Another outbreak of fowl plague occurred, this time at a farm in East Bendigo that was next to a duck farm. Wild ducks, feeding with the domestic ducks, had contaminated the drinking water for the chooks that resulted in the outbreak. As a result of this Dick had the town water piped to Lockwood and chlorinated the water used from dams.

There are now four hundred and forty staff, including a building crew of sixteen people, and one hundred and two registered vehicles. Two of the biggest expenses associated with the running of the project are fuel and LP gas. Town gas, when it is connected to Lockwood, will help considerably to the tune of about six thousand dollars a week.

Further developments resulted in the "sex parlors" where there are sixty females to a parlor and the temperature never varies above or below twenty-one degrees.

Objectors have always been a problem to expansion of both the Kangaroo Flat and Lockwood sites but in most cases these can be handled, even to the extent of buying out the surrounding blocks.

Bruce Michelson thanked Dick for his most informative talk and made the usual presentation.

SICK LIST

Harold Griffiths is not well and is undergoing treatment in Melbourne. Our thoughts are with him and we wish him well.

AMENDMENTS TO HANDBOOK

Alex Reid has resigned due to ill health and Vic Canobic is moving to Queensland to be with family.

Our membership has now dropped below the maximum so vacancies exist. Application forms for prospective members are available from the secretary.

BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to Wal Spicer who turned 80 on the day of the October meeting.

ACTIVITIES

BOWLS NOTES

The game against Eaglehawk last month resulted in a win to the locals by 13 shots - 73 to 60. Best rink for Bendigo was J. Rose, A. Wilson, R. Fitzgerald and B. Clemens. The game was played in beautiful weather and was a very enjoyable morning.

Our November encounter is against South Bendigo on Tuesday 21st November.

The teams are as follows:-

F. Scrivener	A. Dingle	F. O'Connell	M. Boyd
D. Martin	A. Court	R. Fitzgerald	H. Hesse
G. Glover	E. Driscoll	C. Turner	A. Stephens
E. Trewartha	A. Eaton	E. Waterworth	W. Clemens

Reserves are W. Clarke, R. Chenery and G. Evans.



PICNIC

Advance information on the picnic to be held by Kyneton Probus at the Kyneton Racecourse in March of next year. Further information should be available in a later issue.



THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16th, 2000. TRIP TO MELBOURNE.

VISITS TO: MELBOURNE AQUARIUM, SOUTHBANK, MELBOURNE TOWN HALL.

Depart Bendigo 7.45am. Arrive Home: Approx 5.45pm.

COST: \$25.00 per person. Includes: Coach Fare, Entrance Fee to Aquarium & Town Hall. First we visit the "World Class Aquarium," which is spectacular.

LUNCH: Either: bring picnic lunch, have on Yarra Bank or buy own at one of the numerous Sth Bank Food Outlets. After lunch, a conducted tour of the Melbourne Town Hall.

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS: Pay Nov. 15th meeting. Max: (49) Current: (55)

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO - ANNUAL XMAS DINNER - WED 20TH DEC. 2000

VENUE: Burnett Room, Latrobe University (Osborne St)

TIME : 12 Noon for 1.00pm (Sit Down). DRINKS: B.Y.O.

COST : \$24.00 per person. Includes Dinner (Carvery - 2 course)

LIST/BOOKINGS & PAYMENT: At Meeting Wednesday. 15th November.

FILM SHOWING AT LATROBE UNIVERSITY LECTURE THEATRE

FRIDAY JANUARY 26th, 2001. To Commence at 5.00pm

Numbers: "Can take up to 180" COST: \$2.00/person.

A "Spectacular Film Showing" - by Rob & Cynthia Watkins.

** A relaxed & interesting evening is assured. "DON'T MISS OUT."

SHOW: In Air Conditioned comfort in an excellent Lecture Theatre

** 5.00pm to 6.00pm - A walk from India to Mt.Everest.

** 6.00pm to 7.00pm - Partake of Own Picnic Tea & fraternise.

** 7.00pm to 8.00pm - Landscapes of Australia, Outback, Rainforests and Australian wildlife

** B.Y.O.PicnicTea - Have in air-conditioned comfort-

Tea, Coffee, Milk, Sugar, Paper Cups provided.

LIST: At Oct 18th Meeting: PAYMENTS: November 15th meeting

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13th to THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15th, 2001

TRIP TO PHILLIP ISLAND-3 DAY/2 NIGHTS. Maximum (48) Current: (55)

COST: \$246/PERSON Includes: Coach, Accommodation, D.B.B. Twin Share, Tours & Entry fees. ** Refer to July 19th Probe for trip details.

** Detailed Itinerary available for perusal at Nov. 15th meeting.

** PAYMENTS: In full by Cheque payable to "GroupLink," to be forwarded to Arthur Eaton by no later than Tues. December 12th.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO/EVERGREEN TOURS - TRIP TO CANADA
MONDAY 7th MAY TO SAT. 19th MAY, 2001. Maximum (48) ** Vacancies.
13 DAY TOUR - CANADIAN ROCKY MOUNTAINS. ** (Hostess Escorted)

(Includes: Last two days on the Famous Rocky Mountaineer Train)
COST: \$4775.00 per person Twin Share. ** (Bendigo to Bendigo.)

**Excellent Group Price secured. New 2001 Tour prices factored in.

** AN OPTIONAL: " 7 Day Alaskan Cruise," immediate follow on is available for those who may wish to also take the cruise. Outside Cabin - Excellent Price of \$1350/person - twin share."

**TRAVEL INSURANCE: Booklet/Applications Age Over 70 & Pre Existing Medical Condition forms, plus ITINERARIES, full & detailed information available.

**** Security Deposits due now.

** Final Balance of Payments due: 22nd February, 2001

Enquiries/bookings to Arthur (5443 9162) ** Other Clubs welcome

TRIPS ORGANISER:

Arthur has indicated that it is his intention to retire from the position of Trips Organiser after completion of the Trip to Canada in May 2001. He may require some assistance in the near future. Probians who would be prepared to take on this position, please contact Arthur (5443 9162).



THANKS

Sincere thanks to Ken Coles from Arthur Cowling for taking over the work of secretary while Arthur was recently indisposed and from myself for seeing that "Probe" got to the publisher when I was not able to do so.

PROBE

It is a pity that no one has come forward to take over the editorship of this newsletter as I am unable to continue for the immediate future. It would appear that Probe may be forced into recess in the New Year until a new editor can be found.

AW



The President and Committee of the Bendigo Probus Club wish all Probians a Merry, Safe and Holy Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

