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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 10am at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Rd, Bendigo.

All correspondence to be addressed to The Secretary, Bob Chenery, 49 Emmett Street Golden Square 3555.

Tour organiser and Activities Co-ordinator Arthur Eaton, 4 Maxwell Crescent, Bendigo Phone: 5443 9162.

**The Guest Speaker at the November Meeting will be  
Phil McCann, Secretary Bendigo Gliding Club.**

President Len introduced Mr Keith McDonald from McDonalds Nursery.

Keith gave a informative talk on securing our gardens during the most severe water restrictions in our history.

The mains points being:

1. Use liquid detergents in washing machines, not powder versions, if you intend using the water on gardens. Also check that they are low in phosphorus and chlorine.
2. Mulch, mulch, mulch, this protects from sun and winds.
3. Do not store grey water more than 24 hours.
4. Do not use grey water on vegetables.
5. Water plants or shrubs only when they are showing signs of stress.
6. Control aphids, black spots etc, this will help plants survive.

After answering many questions, Bryan Armstrong thanked Keith for his informative talk and made the usual presentation.

**PLEASE NOTE: In future every meeting will commence at 10am.  
There won't be any changes because of daylight savings from now on.  
ALSO THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN DECEMBER.**

Once again the question of membership of the club has arisen. We have lost more members than we have had candidates for membership.

Of the ideas submitted to the committee and the time of the year a suggestion that friends of members be invited to our Christmas Meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2006.

The time and place as on the October issue PROBE. As the committee could see it there would be 3 methods of payment.

1. Visitors to pay their own way.
2. The member inviting someone along could show their generous nature and shout their invites out to a great luncheon with our club. Perhaps and hopefully they would like to join us.
3. The club will pay for 6 visitors, presumably 3 couples.

**LET ME KNOW THE NAMES OF YOUR FRIENDS ATTENDING.**

First in - First served.

Len Hodren

## BIRTHDAY WISHES

Best wishes are extended to the following members who will be celebrating their birthday in the coming months...

### DECEMBER 2006

04	Ted Driscoll	89
04	Ken Gloster	78
06	<b>Rupert Holland</b>	<b>90</b>
11	Allan Dingle	91
12	Hugh Ward	91
17	Bill Clemens	74
26	<b>Alan Court</b>	<b>80</b>
28	Ian Nixon	87
28	<b>Bill O'Donoghue</b>	<b>80</b>

### JANUARY 2007

27	Zane Hughes	71
29	Cliff Binks	85

Congratulations to all of above.

Note: If you do not wish your birthday published in the "Probe" please advise the Secretary.

## WELFARE NEWS

All members deeply regret the passing of the former member Clarkson Jeffrey, after several years of ill health.

Members who visited him at the St John of God Hospital will always remember the final firm handshake from Clark, his only way of saying thanks and appreciation to his friends at his bedside.

He is now at peace with the following deceased members who passed away this year. Gordon Rayson, Don Donaldson, Bill Jaeka, Jim Forsyth, Gordon Glover and Denise Armstrong, wife of Past President Bryan.

The kind thoughts of all members are conveyed to the relatives of the deceased members as listed above. May they rest in peace.

Herb Hesse - O.A.M.

# FOUNDATION MEMBERS LUNCHEON

The October luncheon was at the RSL. We had a private room, the excellent meal was served promptly, and enjoyed by all 17 of us.

On November 15, following the club meeting, we will take lunch at the Lake View Hotel, 204 McCrae Street. There is parking space behind the hotel.

At the October function the decision was made to admit Past Presidents to the group. In any case there is an open invitation for all Probians to come along.

The Christmas Luncheon will take place at the Malayan Orchid in View Street, date December 22. If you intend to be present, give Cliff a call on 5443 5281. The cost is \$18 per head, three courses presented and coffee or tea included. All Probians invited.

**LITTLE DESERT NATURE LODGE TOUR** - With Neville as the Coach Captain and Arthur in charge, a party of 37 made the journey to the Little Desert.

We arrived at the Lodge to find that there were other groups there, one of them a group of children from a school in Miabein.

After lunch in the dining room, we had the afternoon to ourselves and we explored the grounds. Conditions were much drier then they had been two years ago, few wild flower to be seen.

Dinner was taken and then we set out for the night spotlight walk, In an enclosure to keep out predators were some nocturnal creatures. Our guides showed us and identified for us the beautiful sugar gliders, the betongs, stone curfews and bandicoot. Each species has its own niche. And so to bed humans, birds and marsupials.

On Wednesday morning we headed for the South Australian border. Along the route we had a commentary from Whimpey, explaining the changes in soil types and the consequent changes in vegetation.

We arrived at Coonawarra to taste wines at Patrick T, a newish vineyard where we had lunch and a talk on wine, why rose bushes stand at the ends of rows. Then on to Narracoorte to see the extensive and very realistic display of models. life size, of extinct marsupials, such as the giant tree eating kangaroo which unlike the present day kangaroos, could raise its forelimbs above its head so that it could reach foliage in the trees. Following this, some of the braver members of the group explored the Victoria Fossil Cave.

After dinner we had a showing of the video which Whimpey had made of the Mallee Fowl and their mounds.

On Thursday morning we were escorted by Whimpey to see the Mallee Fowl in their habitat. Because Whimpey has been able to develop a relationship with the birds we were enabled to see them at close hand, observing very quietly and patiently as Whimpey showed of the instrumentation he has assembled for his scientific observations. The instruments are powered by current from solar panels, which also power the electric fence which keeps out predators. With more commentary on the local ecology form Whimpey we journeyed back to the Lodge for lunch, then left for Bendigo.

Afternoon team was taken in St Arnaud where we were greeted by members of the Kara Kara combined Probus Club of St Arnaud, including the President and Secretary. We reached home in possession of much information which was new to us. The tour was another triumph for Athur's organisation.

Alec Crothers

## DID YOU KNOW?

1. That for a nosebleed; put the nose much lower than the body until the heart stops.
2. That the pistil of a flower is for protection against insects.
3. That there are three kinds of blood vessels; arteries; veins and capillaries.

## BOWLS NEWS

On Friday, October 27th, 2006, we played at Eaglehawk. Losing 77 to 60. Our only winning rink was, J. Laidler, M. McDonald, H. Hesse S, winning 18 to 11.

The next game will be at South Bendigo on Tuesday, November 21, assembling at 9.30am for a 10am start. The following are the selected teams.

Two Bowl Triples.

D. Laity	M. McDonald	H. Hesse S
J. Laidler	Z. Hughes	F. O'Connell S
W. Redmond	B. Clemens	B. Hargrave S
L. Roy	C. Smith	R. Fitzgerald S

## USELESS INFORMATION

A can of diet coke will float in water while a can of regular coke sinks.

Coke is used to clean up blood spills on highways in England.

A Donkey will sink in quicksand but a mule won't.

A camel's backbone is just as straight as a horse's.

A crocodile's tongue is attached to the roof of its mouth.

A group of frogs is called an army.

Grapes explode if you put them in the microwave.

The oldest known vegetable is the pea.

Hot water is heavier than cold.

The hundred years war lasted 116 years.

From Editor.



### ***XMAS LUNCHEON. WED. 6th DECEMBER '06***

*Location: Foundry Hotel, in Platinum Room, High Street Golden Square.*

*Time: 11.30am for 12 Noon Lunch. Cost: \$25.00/person.*

*Current bookings: (68) Maximum: (120) \*\* Additional bookings required.*

*Strong support from the membership would be greatly appreciated by the committee.*

*\*\* Friends of Probus members are welcome.*

*LISTING: Posted at Wed 18th Oct Meeting. Payments: Wed. 15th Nov .meeting*

## PROPOSED GIPPSLAND TOUR:

**Either:** from Monday 30th April to Wednesday 2nd May, 2007.

**or** from Monday 7th May to Wednesday 9th May, 2007

**(3 Days/2Nights) Staying in Morwell. Maximum: (52)**

**Cost based on Twin Share, Minimum of (30): \$290.00. Single Supplement \$ 60)**

**Includes:** AllCoach Travel, Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch, some drinks, Morning and Afternoon Teas and Entrance Fees, and a proven Local Tour Guide Val Murphy, with whom we have traveled before.

**Day 1: Monday:** Depart at 7.30am from Strathdale Community Centre, Crook Street. We travel via the Princes Highway, stop at Bunyip for M/T then on to Foxes Musical Village, Australia's only one. View their collection of antique pianos, organs & other musical instruments Enjoy light entertainment and a basket lunch provided by the village. Afterwards we continue on to Morwell to our comfy hotel where we stay for the next two nights. Dinner is a two course meal.

**Day 2: Tuesday.** After breakfast, we depart at 9.00am to travel to some of Gippsland's most beautiful National Parks. We meet a Ranger at Tarra Valley/Bulga National Park who explains the features of this unique park. We also enjoy a video of the flora and fauna found here. Morning tea, a stroll through the beautiful tree fern gullies with water falls to the suspension bridge before heading to Port Albert for lunch at the hotel. We visit the excellent Maritime Museum and enjoy a walk along the beach. Then on to Yarram Old Court House and Information Centre (crafts available,), before traveling home through the Loy Yang Power House and open cut mine (seen which can be seen from the coach.

Dinner: a two course meal, followed by a surprise and fun night.

**Day 3: Wednesday.** After breakfast we travel to Boolara Fern Nursery where many interesting ferns are grown and sold, a guided tour is included with complimentary tea or coffee. Next stop is the Boolara Fish Farm, the owners breed many different kinds of fish which they export to many countries. Then on to Thorpdale potato growing area which has beautiful scenic views, before a stop at our Hostess Val's large country garden, here we enjoy Val's speciality "Potato Ice Cream", before lunch at the Trafalgar Hotel. Our Gippsland Tour concludes with a visit to "The Rosary" .situated on 10 acres of gardens ( with lake).

Antiques crafts and nursery products available for purchase, complimentary tea or coffee before departure, arriving home late afternoon.

After such an excellent Little Desert Trip the travelers requested I consider a 3 Day/2 Night Trip "suited to the needs of our mature age group" with our Coach Captain to be the popular and caring Neville.

**List:** To be tabled Wed 15th November. A positive response is required to secure the booking with the Val Murphy, the Tour Guide. Initially, I seek expressions of interest to gauge possible support. (If you wish to make a firm booking please advise Arthur)

**Note:** To ensure adequate numbers, I have offered Sandhurst Probus half of bookings.

**Payments:** Due by or at Probus Club of Bendigo meeting Wed. 14th March, 2007  
**Tours Organiser Arthur Eaton. For inquiries telephone: 5443 9162**