



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



Published Monthly

Issue No. 28. 21st. October, 1987.

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Annual Subscription: \$8. Registered by Australia Post No. VBH 7101

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, 29 Woodbury St. Bendigo 3550

HOPEFULLY the Greek God of Wine, Bacchus, will be with us today - in Spirit, if not in the flesh. One of the new breed of Grape-pressors, PHILLIP LEAMON, will be our Guest Speaker. A local product, his CHATEAU LE AMON has been well received by wine Buffs who appreciate the taste of good wines, and adds prestige to the fast-developing industry in our area.

LAST MONTH'S MEETING was a disaster - metaphorically, but not literally. Speaker NORM GROVES told us of the work and interests of the Late Emergency Service, a force which, in modern form, arose out of the ashes of the Darwin disaster. The SES started in Bendigo in 1976 and funding has become a problem, (if not a complicated issue) taking the form of a political football bounced between local Councils and Government instrumentalities. Close co-operation is required between Fire Brigade, Police and Ambulance Services and much equipment is needed to rescue road accident victims, of which there seems to be an unlimited supply.

Norm presented a series of disasters on VTR including the most graphic of them all - the Granville (Sydney) Rail disaster. He made the point that on these tragic occasions the one thing needed least are spectators who clutter up the area and interfere with the work of the rescuers.

Norm Phillips introduced the speaker and Alistair McBean thanked Norm for yet another excellent address.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22nd. In the Whipstick at Notley's Reserve. A combined outing with Probian friends from the Doncaster Club. Forty are coming from the Big Smoke and they will bring their own luncheon.

Bendigo Probians (and wives) will enjoy a BBQ luncheon with Meats, Bread, Butter, Tea, Milk, Sugar and BBQ Sauce provided (at a cost of \$3 per person). Ladies are asked to bring a Salad and cool drinks, etc, together with drinking vessels and further food as desired is on a BYO basis.

Please bring picnic tables and chairs (Gold Detectors, if you have one). "Pathfinders" will be provided.

ASSEMBLY: 9.45 am at STRATHDALE COMPLEX - Crook Street/McIvor Highway in own cars. ***Payment TODAY, please!***

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27th. Trip to Point Cook Base and Museum/Werribee Park and Mansion.

Departure 7.30 am and from STRATHDALE COMPLEX - Crook Street/McIvor Road (please park cars in South end of Car Park area).

COUNTER LUNCH at Werribee Hotel (tables booked). Choose your own dish (and Pay As You Choose).

COST, including Coach and entrances is \$12 (plus lunch). If you have not already paid PLEASE pay today.

ETA on return: approx. 6.45 pm.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16th. Annual Christmas Dinner at the Bendigo Club. Pre-dinner drinks at 7.00 pm, Dinner at 7.30 pm. Accommodation restricted to 120 persons, so please nominate EARLY. List on table today and payments at November meeting. COST: \$15 per person. Enquiries from Arthur (43 9162).

THE INTREPID TASSIE TRIPPERS: From CYRIL MICHELSEN we have this report:

The Tasmania trippers were unanimous that their eight-day stint in the pretty isle was a real winner and complimented President Arthur for the completeness of his tour organisation.

Quite a few of the happy holiday makers got an attack of 'the Bends' as the coach tour circled the curves of Tasmania's never-ending mountains. There was also a bit of muscular tension brought on by involuntary brake action by the passengers as the coach Captain negotiated 99 hairpin corners in less than two Kilometres on the trip to Queenstown.

A virus of the Tasmanian Peril made 'coughing casualties' of at least half of the party, but in the end we all agreed it was a happy and memorable holiday.

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A MAN OF MANY PARTS with an unusual experience is the subject of our microscope today.

In nine years on the Eaglehawk Borough Council (he was Mayor in 1968/69) he served with no less than four different Town Clerks - an experience much like going around in a revolving door, and failing to get off. For the historically-minded the TC's concerned were Messrs. Parker, Giovanetti, Skilbeck and Ark. Even for a Model Borough this must be somewhat of a record.

But for

KENNETH ALFRED BURCH

this would have been just another experience in a very busy life.

Born in Camberwell in 1918 Ken spent most of his early life in East Kew, where he gained his education from the local Central School, Box Hill High, Zercho's Business College and Swinburn.

With parental ambitions directed towards Accountancy, the Great Depression dictated that he commence his commercial career in a Flinders Lane warehouse where he rose, at the age of 21, to the position of the Firm's Rep. in Melbourne and outer suburbs. Volunteering for the Army he was at first rejected, but later accepted. On discharge he was directed by Essential Services to the Department of Supply, spending four years in the Knitted Goods Section.

Embroidered in the Textile Industry Ken covered much territory as a local, country and interstate representative and prior to settling in Bendigo was the Senior man for Crestknit and Yakka Overalls.

In 1951, in a monumental switch of career ambitions he, with wife, Ma, purchased the Calside Poultry Farm and for 22 years operated a Chicken Hatchery, exchanging the strident voice of competitive commercialism for the more dulcet tones of cackling chickens.

Running a Poultry Farm is a time-consuming business but this did not prevent Ken from building up an impressive record of community service. Apart from his nine years as a Borough Councillor, he served with the JC's and his connection with the California Hill Uniting Church covers the duties of Secretary and Assistant Organist.

In 1966 he became a Charter member of the newly-formed Rotary Club of Eaglehawk and he has now completed 21 years of 100% attendance. He was President in 1971/72.

Currently Ken is Secretary of the Bendigo Branch of the Diabetes Foundation (Vic) and Organist of the Eaglehawk Masonic Lodge.



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Married for 45 years both he and wife, Nina, have enjoyed these involvements with community work in that lengthy period. They have two adult children, Peter and Anne and three grandchildren.

Talking to Ken Burch gives the impression of a man with boundless energy with a mind like a busy street. His many activities confirm this concept and it is good that he has found time to be a member of the Probus Club of Bendigo!



A DATE TO REMEMBER!

Monday, 5th. October, 1987 was an important date in the story of Probus in Bendigo. After only 2½ years a new club has been formed.

As a culmination of the excellent ground-work carried on by our Past-President Ray Downey and his Extension/Planning Committee the Probus Club of Sandhurst was born.

It was a painless birth with more than 60 Foundation members declaring their interest in the new Club.

The new Executive and Committee is impressive. President is LEN HARRISON a man with prior Probus experience in the Rye Club where he served both as Secretary and Treasurer. On the waiting list for membership in the Bendigo Club Len has attended all of our meetings for the past twelve months - a measure of his enthusiasm for Probus. He leads a splendid team comprising RON MEURER (Vice-Pres), BOB HOLLIS (Secretary), HAL MOORS (Treasurer), with Committee members JOE MORLEY, FRANK THOMAS, PHIL EICHLER, JOE BROWN, ROB GREEN and Dr. KEITH COLE.

The new club will meet at the Bendigo Club on the first Wednesday in every month.

We welcome with the warmest of Fellowship greetings, the
PROBUS CLUB OF SANDHURST.

PROBUS NUMBERS many men of distinction in its ranks. At the Annual Meeting of the Strath-haven Uniting Church Home for the Aged the retirement of JOHN WILSON from the Governing Council was announced. JOHN was chairman of the Admissions Committee and has given very devoted service over many years. He has voluntarily visited applicants in their homes and has shown many relatives of prospective residents through the Home - some of the many ways that he has demonstrated his love for his Church and Strath-haven. He has been ably supported by wife WIN who has on many occasions acted as his secretary.

As a reminder of their many years of service to the Home both JOHN and RAY DOWNEY were presented with silver trays.