



BENDIGO
PREMIER TOWN
VICTORIA 1982-1985

PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



Published Monthly Issue No. 50 18th October, 1989.

Editor: KEN COLES (Phone 43 8590)

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

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO INC.

President: REG BROCK

Phone: 43 4888

Secretary: RAY DOWNEY

Phone: 43 4550

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.

GUEST SPEAKER at the October meeting will be Dr. John Webster who is currently Director of Bendigo College of Advanced Education. Members will recall that B.C.A.E. is in the process of entering an arrangement with LaTrobe University.

It is with regret that we record the recent death of our Vice President and a foundation member of our club **GEORGE JENNINGS**.

George was one of the founders of the Bendigo Probus Club and will be long remembered for his service to the Club and for his positive attitude and ever-cheerful countenance.

Our sincere sympathy has been expressed to Heather and family.

THE REV LINDSAY FAULKNER who addressed the September meeting gave us a number of sketches, or impressions, of Korea. These sketches were based on views he gained on a trip to Korea as a guest of the church in that country. Many of the sketches were presented to help his audience understand the current tensions and developments.

Korea, as with most Asian countries, has a very long history which has included a rivalry with Japan that has developed over many centuries.

This rivalry has occasionally developed to the level where war has resulted. One potential Japanese invasion of Korea was thwarted by Admiral Kim who is now a national hero and is the subject of many statues throughout the country.

Because of this rivalry Koreans find it difficult to reconcile the treatment meted out to Japan at the end of W.W. II - Japan undivided and affluent - compared to that forced on themselves and Vietnam - divided and less affluent. Injustice is perceived.

Despite these problems and perceived injustices South Korea is attempting to build a strong economy based on inventiveness and industry. Inventiveness is regarded as a national characteristic as Koreans were the only Asian race to develop an alphabet with functions similar to ours, and to invent the printing press. Industry has always been necessary for survival.

The most readily recognisable Industrial Company in Korea would be Hyundai. This company's main factory would cover the city of Bendigo. This complex includes the world's largest steel building yard.

While a range of religions can be found in Korea approximately 10 million (25% of the population) follow some Christian doctrine. In each of the churches within this group there are two groups. The first, consisting of the majority, is prepared to accept the status quo in Korea while the minority is actively seeking a number of political and social changes. This latter group is involved in an Industrial Mission aimed at improving conditions for fellow workers.

Workers in Korea are housed while in employment, and generally get sufficient to eat. However, no form of social security as we understand the term, exists.

Hospital facilities have improved following the work of dedicated staff from Australia. As a result what started as a small maternity hospital in Pusan has grown until it now has more than 7000 births per annum recorded.

Other problems facing Koreans include:-

1. A lack of space. More than 40 million people live in an area smaller than Victoria.
2. Pollution in bigger cities. Almost 1.5 million cars drive through the streets of Seoul. (Taxi drivers were reported to be amongst the most dangerous known!)
3. Continuing tension between North and South Korea. Any form of discussion between the two appears to be limited to the most petty arguments. Suspicion and hatred rule supreme!

With this background we should be not surprised to hear of student riots and other unrest which is basically aimed at gaining some form of social justice for Koreans.

Our speaker was introduced by Bruce Perrin and thanked by Ken Proud.

A DATE TO REMEMBER: If my information is correct the Club's Christmas Dinner will be held on 13th December. Watch this space for full details!

TRIPS AND ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 23RD: "TRIP TO DANDENONGS & RIDE PUFFING BILLY"

Departure from Strath. Community Centre, Crook Street at 7.15 a.m. The trip will include a ride on Puffing Billy and sightseeing in the Dandenongs.

COST: \$15.00 per person, which includes: Coach Fare and ride on Puffing Billy. Current bookings (45) plus 26 emergencies.

PAYMENTS AT OCTOBER MEETING.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10TH AT 2.00 P.M. "THE GOOD OLD DAY'S" MUSICAL.

Location: Capital Theatre. COST: \$7.00 per person, (includes light afternoon tea).

Allocation is 50 seats. Currently have 50 bookings, plus 10 reserves. (Keep bookings coming in. Reserves will be placed as vacancies occur when allocations of other Clubs finalised).

SATURDAY MARCH 31ST TO MONDAY APRIL 9TH, 1990.

HONG KONG - SINGAPORE 10 DAYS - 9 NIGHTS.

COST: \$1664.00 (twin share) Ensures good location and better quality hotel, (as recommended). Refer PRIMA HOLIDAYS 1989/90 Page 96 of book. (A.62 M). Price Includes: Accommodation twin share, round trip air travel, Taxes and service charges on hotels, Transportation to and from airports, Late Hotel check out. Does not include meals and sightseeing. Deposits required within 14 days of booking. Final payment Jan. 31st.

Note: Prices for this trip are due to rise from April 1st, 1990, (our quoted price is to be honoured).

Currently 18 persons have expressed interest, POSITIVE BOOKINGS and \$100 deposits will be required within 14 days of booking.

FOR BOOKING: Advise Arthur (43 9162). **DEPOSITS:** To National Australia Bank Travel, Mitchell Street. Reference Probus Trip - Barry Cutmore.

COMBINED MEETING OF PROBUS CLUB COMMITTEES

A meeting of 27 members from the four local Probus clubs was held at Woodbury House on 12th September. The main points on which agreement was reached include:-

1. The possibility of establishing a Probus Golf Day.
2. The Ladies and Eaglehawk Clubs would organise a combined picnic with the probable venue being the Ballarat Water Board Gardens.
3. Provision for a better exchange of information between clubs - with particular reference to trips and entertainment.
4. Combined attendance at a performance of "The Good Old Days" at the Capital Theatre. Arrangements by Allan Dingle.
5. Consideration be given to extending the "University of the 3rd Age" to Bendigo. Jock Crook is prepared to act as co-ordinator if there is sufficient interest.
6. Possible construction of "Probus" signs on the major roads leading in to Bendigo.

7. Establishment of storage space at Woodbury House for the use of clubs that use that venue for meetings.
8. Consideration be given to the establishment of another Probus Club - perhaps with a mixed membership.
9. That each club remain autonomous and that no hierarchial structure be established. Co-operation between clubs only.

(Summary of notes prepared by Ray Downey).

PORT OF MELBOURNE, GOVERNMENT HOUSE and SUBURBS

The morning of 13th September was clear as 45 hardy Probians and partners left the Strath Community Complex at the ----- hour of 6.30 a.m. sharp! Had Arthur got it right this time? Had he organised a trip for a fine day? Clear skies and sunshine on the forward trip helped us to forget that showers and a cold wind were predicted for Melbourne. Both were well and truly in evidence before we had gone very far around the Port of Melbourne!

(Arthur would be the greatest trips organiser I have known if only he was allowed to organise the weather).

The Port of Melbourne is the largest general cargo port in the Southern Hemisphere and is among the top 25 container ports in the world. It's a busy place!

Cruising around the port area in the Port Authority's launch the above facts are hard to believe. The overall impression was of a vast wharf area with large numbers of empty berths, apparently minimal storage sheds, and very few workers to be seen.

The various dock areas around the port have been developed for specific purposes and cater specific commodities at particular points. Probably the most spectacular area was Swanson Dock where large overseas container vessels were loading/unloading.

Our cruise took us under the Westgate Bridge, out into Hobsons Bay and around to Princes Pier and Station Pier. Some of us were fortunate enough to see seals lolling in the Bay.

Government House is of course a spectacular location. Our guided tour started with a long walk through the garden with its extensive plantings of trees, shrubs, etc. and its spacious lawns and outstanding view of the City.

Our Surprise came when we were invited to leave our coach in the central City area and take a walk to see the Spring Floral Display in David Jones Bourke Street Store. To say that there were thousands of blooms may well be an understatement. To my eye the greatest interest was in the many varieties of orchids and strelitzias. Others may report on different features - including the imaginative methods of display. Thanks again to ARTHUR EATON. A great day with no problems, but I hope that BOB HOLMES doesn't leave the cheque book behind again.