



# PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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## 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, 49 Emmett Street, Golden Square, 3555.

GUEST SPEAKER at our October Meeting is Mr. Bill Miller, a well-known Eaglehawk identity. His subject is "Following the Canning Stock Route".

After 35 years membership of the Melbourne Cricket Club and its present Manager, our Guest Speaker, Mr. Bryce Thomas, was well qualified to speak about that historic club. It was formed only three years after the founding of Melbourne and in 1833 it was granted a few acres of land in the police paddock at Richmond on which to develop a suitable cricket ground. One hundred and eight years later we all know the outcome of that decision. What's more all the developments have been made without dipping into the taxpayers' purse. That would have to be a record. Speaking of records the largest crowd ever at the M.C.G. was not a V.F.L. Grand Final, but at a Billy Graham evangelistic rally when 130,000 crammed into the ground.

One of the great events conducted at the M.C.G. of course was the Olympic Games when the then full capacity crowd of 100,000 attended on 8 days of the games. Incidentally when the new stand is completed the ground capacity will be 105,000, the third largest ground in the world. By the way, the new stand is on schedule and below budget, another record, I think.

Australian Rules football was introduced by the M.C.C. to keep the cricketers fit during the winter (now the footballers need the summer to recover).

So prestigious has the M.C.C. become that the waiting list to become a member is 28 years. Even the Prime Minister waited 26 years before becoming a member in 1990.

Over the years through service to its members and the general public the M.C.C. has written itself into the history of this state.

Mr. Thomas was ably introduced by DEL MARTIN a member of the M.C.C. for 38 years, and appropriately thanked by PETER GOODRICH.

TRIPS AND ENTERTAINMENT :

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 12TH. to SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17TH. INCLUSIVE

"TOUR OF THE YEAR" - TRIP TO SNOWY MOUNTAINS/LAKE EUCUMBENE"

Cost : \$383.00/person 6 days/5 nights, Includes : Coach Fare, Accommodation, All meals, Tours, Excellent mountain scenery, an enjoyable trip assured. Maximum to travel - 47. \*\*\* PAYMENTS IN FULL : for the first 47 persons booked for travel due for payment at Houldens Tours, 15 Charing Cross, Bendigo by Saturday October 12th., Please ensure paid by date due. DEPARTURE : Tuesday November 12th. from Strathdale Community Centre, Crook Street. DEPARTURE TIME : 7.00 A.M. SHARP. \*\*\* Copies of Itinerary available \*\*  
\*\*\* Please check your positions on emergency listing \*\*\*

FRIDAY DECEMBER 13TH. 1991 : HOULDEN'S TOURS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TRIP TO RICH RIVER

"A popular, low cost 'Final' Trip for 1991." COST : \$6.00/Person : Includes Coach Travel and "Christmas Dinner". \*\* LIST TABLED AT MEETING WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 16TH. -- BE EARLY IF YOU WANT TO BE ON THIS TRIP \*\* DEPARTURE : from Strathdale Community Centre, 5.30 p.m. approximately \*\* MAXIMUM TO TRAVEL : 49

BOWLS : The new season starts on Thursday October 17. Teams for this match will be announced at today's meeting.

MEMBER PROFILE :

GEOFF BILES

Geoff Biles was born in Rockhampton, Queensland in April 1928 and began his education at Leichardt Ward Boys State School and then at the Rockhampton High/Technical School. At the age of 14 years he commenced work as an apprentice in the trade of fitting and turning. Subsequently as a tradesman he worked in Rockhampton and in the beach mining industry on the Gold Coast.

He undertook and completed a Diploma of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering through the Queensland University in 1950.

Geoff and Glad (also a Rocky-ite) were married in Rockhampton in April 1952 and lived in Southport Queensland until they migrated to Bendigo in 1954. He worked as an Engineer at the Ordnance Factory from 1954 until his retirement in late 1987. On retirement Geoff was Engineering Head responsible for all machining activities at the factory.

Geoff has a family of three and six grandchildren. Eldest son Jim and daughter Jenny live in Bendigo, while youngest son Chris lives in Melbourne.

In his youth Geoff enjoyed activities such as swimming and tennis, but now his interests are music, pottering in the garden and woodworking. He also follows the Hawthorn Football Club.

Geoff attends church at the Anglican Church of Holy Trinity at Keck Street and has been a Freemason for over 25 years. In this time Geoff has occupied the Chair and held other offices within the Lodge.

On retirement Geoff bought a campervan and he and Glad travelled extensively throughout Australia. Now they still like to travel and go north to Queensland, particularly in the winter to catch up with family and old friends and enjoy the sunshine to recharge the batteries.



Geoff pictured at the Blue Mountains

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Sunday December 15th - Good Old Days, 2.00pm. Capital Theatre.

New Program \$10 per seat? Booking Sheet available at this meeting.  
Pay at November meeting.

25th & 26th Oct. 1st, 2nd & 3rd Nov. Desert Song Capital Theatre  
\* \$13 Bulk booking of 10 or more \$10. Interest count to be taken  
at to-days meeting.  
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There have been many definitions of hell, but for the English the best definition is that it is a place where :

The Germans are the police;  
The Swedes are the Comedians;  
the Italians are the Defence Force;  
Frenchmen dig the roads;  
The Belgians are the pop singers;  
The Spanish run the railways;  
The Turks cook the food;  
The Irish are the waiters;  
The Greeks run the government;  
and the common language is Dutch.

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The great and recurring question about abroad is; is it worth getting there?

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I don't hold with abroad, and think that foreigners speak English when our backs are turned.

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Actually there is no such thing as a foreign language. The world is just filled with people who grunt and squeak instead of speaking sensibly. French may be an exception. But since it is impossible to figure out what French people are saying, we will never know for sure.

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If the French were really intelligent, they would speak English.

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Punctuality is something that, if you have it, there's often no one around to share it with you.

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