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# PROBE

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Bulletin of the Probos 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.

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**GUEST SPEAKER** at our October Meeting will be Graeme Davies, the Regional Manager of Telecom, the subject is "Telecom facing the challenge".

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**HOBBIES : DISPLAY DAY** : What a versatile, skillfull, learned group we are; at least many of us are, as the Hobbies Display Day demonstrated. It made some of us, who were only observers, feel inadequate and incompetent.

Instead of a Guest Speaker at the September meeting we had the Display, which had been organised by Walter Ashburn and Ray Downey. There were 16 hobbyists represented, some with two different hobbies; and how can the range of activities be characterised? From Palaeontology to Telecommunications to put a historical span on it, from Oil Painting and Photography to Ham Radio Cards to indicate another span; there is no need to list them all, each member has a copy of the Programme. Astonishingly there was not a single Stamp Collection as an exhibit.

**BOWLS**

For the match with South Bendigo on Thursday November 12, at 9.30 a.m. the teams are:

J. Laidler, E.Driscoll, A.Court, V.Canobie (s)

A.Cooper, D. Martin, G.Rayson, K.Gloster (s)

M.Phillips, C.Michelsen, J.Griffin, C.McDonald (s)

G.Glover, A.Grierson, R.Fitzgerald, A.Morris (s)

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Maybe there will be a repeat exhibition next year, which will give some of us, who did not participate this year, a chance to display our own expertise. It would be interesting to compile a more complete list of members' hobbies; some, no doubt, have material too unwieldy to be displayed, or perhaps some people have hobbies which do not lend themselves to display. We have a list compiled by the Executive of the Probus Club of Caloundra which shows 50 different activities carried out by their members.

Walter and Ray, the organisers, wish to thank all the exhibitors for taking part, also Cyril Michelsen for arranging the Press Coverage by the Bendigo Advertiser.

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John Niel has been awarded a degree of M.Sc. as a result of submitting a thesis on his study of ostracods, which members will recollect him displaying. Hearty congratulations to John.

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**TRIP OF THE YEAR :** It has been suggested that Arthur Eaton should be renamed McBain. Yes, he's done it again. A successful tour of three states, covering about 3,500 kms in nearly perfect weather, is his latest achievement.

So much was seen, so much happened, that it would take the rest of the year to describe it all, so I shall have to confine my account to a few of the most striking events.

The Flinders Ranges are part of a mountain chain extending almost 800 kms. Their scale is similar to many of Australia's mountains, but their colours and atmosphere make them totally different. There is a striking contrast between the dry, stony land and richly lined and hued rock faces on one hand, and the rich vegetation of gums, casuarinas, native pines and wattles. We were exceptionally fortunate to arrive after the heavy rainfalls of the previous week so that the wildflowers made an astounding display. Scene after scene could have been a Hans Heysen painting.

Our stay at Roxby Downs was enjoyable in a different way. We started with a bush breakfast with damper and billy tea, followed by a botanical excursion through the bush. Then we went on to the Olympic Dam mine, where the scale of the operation is enormous. Adjacent to the mine is the refinery which produces the refined copper gold and silver as well as some uranium. The evidence of planning and organisation was in sheer contrast to the next stop, Andamooka, where there is no planning or organisation at all. The place might have been constructed by a consortium including Rafferty and the Marx Brothers.

To the delight of the Railway Buffs we encountered the old Ghan railway line on many occasions, crossing what remains of it several times. On one of these encounters the rail enthusiasts went searching for "dog spikes" and found quite a few. Another treat for them was at Quorn where they got a view of the steam locomotive which takes tourists over the Pichi Richi Pass.

When we were at Hawker, our base for the Flinders Ranges, there was an upset. Jake Vingerhoets was taken ill in the middle of the night and rushed off to the local hospital, where we had to leave him, with Erica. They are both home in Bendigo now after their tribulations. We all wish Jake a speedy recovery.

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**TRIPS INFORMATION : PUFFING BILLY STEAM TRAIN RIDE & DANDENONG RANGES : Thurs. Nov. 26th :** Experience the beautiful scenery of the Dandenongs and travel on the famous "Puffing Billy" at the best time of year - don't miss out on this excellent trip (I have reserved train bookings) . **Cost : \$19.00/person** - includes Coach and Train. **Lunch :** take own Picnic Lunch. **Payments :** October Meeting. **Current bookings :** Coach Full. Emergencies (9).

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 22ND : CONDUCTED TOURS BENDIGO ADVERTISER & SANDHURST DAIRIES : (Max : 40) Bendigo Advertiser : Assemble 9.15 am - Tour 9.30am. Sandhurst Dairies : Travel from Advertiser - Tour : 11.00am. Transport : use own cars. Current Bookings (Full) Emergencies (9). Will be a very interesting morning - Emergencies invited. \*\*\*Please check booking sheet at Oct. Meeting, essential to advise Arthur if unable to attend\*\*\***

**PHANTOM OF THE OPERA : WEDNESDAY MARCH 24TH, 1993. (Max 35). Cost : \$80.00/person. Pensioner Card : \$50.00 (Incl Coach & Entry) "A Great Show" - A block of 35 seats held at Houldens Tours for Bendigo Probus. Basis : "First in first served" - book direct at Houldens Tours, payment on booking. Mention - "BENDIGO PROBUS". \*\*\*Ticket block can only be held to October 31, if interested please book now or you may miss out!!**

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 18TH 1992 : HOULDENS TOURS ANNUAL XMAS TRIP TO RICH RIVER - Depart 5.45pm. The much sought after Popular, low cost, final trip for 1992. Cost : \$6.00/person. Incl Coach travel & Xmas Dinner. Maximum to Travel (49). Departure from Strath Community Centre. \*\*\*Listing to be tabled at October Meeting: \*\*\*This is a beauty and will quickly fill\*\*\*\***

**NORFOLK ISLAND - (A possible future Probus Trip).** Member Cliff Binks & wife Norma recently visited the Island and were impressed with its charm, scenery and early history. Literature obtained. **Expressions of interest** are invited from those who may be interested in such a trip in order to gauge likely support. **(A listing will be tabled today's meeting).** **Costs :** Perusal of current information suggests an **approximate cost / person for a 7 day/6 night trip including :** Air Fares, transfers (Bgo) & (N.I.): Airport Taxes, Insurances, Accommodation (Bed Only), Day Tours which mostly include evening meal, to be in vicinity of \$1550. With a Group booking and resultant concessions, anticipate lower costs. (\*\*The above costs do not include Breakfasts and mid-day lunch). \*\*\* A Passport Required.

\*\*\*Brochures available at Travel Agents\*\*\*

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The Annual Christmas Dinner of The Probus Club will be on Thursday, December 17, 6.30 for pre-dinner drinks, 7pm the dinner. The cost is \$22 per head. A booking list will be tabled today.

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The demise of our member Don Kerr was reported by the President at our last meeting. Sympathy is expressed for Don's family.

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**RESPONSIBILITIES OF OLDER PEOPLE** "WCOTA NEWS" reports that the International Federation on Ageing had released its "Declaration on the Rights and Responsibilities of Older Persons".

The "rights" section consists of 20 clauses under five main headings: **Independence, Participation, Care, Self-fulfillment, Dignity.** This is followed by ten clauses under "Responsibilities of Older People". These are: "Consistent with individual values and as long as health and personal circumstances permit older persons should try:

1. To remain active, capable, self-reliant and useful.
2. to learn and apply sound principles of physical and mental health to their own lives.
3. to take advantage of literacy training.
4. to plan and prepare for old age and retirement.
5. to update their knowledge and skills, as needed, to enhance their employability if labour force participation is desired.
6. to be flexible, together with other family members, in adjusting to the demands of changing relationships.
7. to share knowledge, skills, experience and values with younger generations.
8. to participate in the civic life of their society.
9. to seek and develop potential avenues of service to the community.
10. to make informed decisions about their health care and to make decisions about terminal care known to their physician and family."