



PROBE

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 10.00 am. at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Road, Bendigo.

All correspondence to be addressed to The Secretary, P.O. Box 1217, Bendigo, 3552.

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The guest speaker for today's meeting is Mr. Ted Spicer, President of the Bendigo Health Care Group. He will speak on developments in Health Care in Bendigo.

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Last month Mr. Ron Lake, Principal of the Bendigo Senior Secondary College, spoke on Secondary Education with particular emphasis on the Bendigo College. He was introduced by Brian Clemson who spoke on Ron's academic and professional record. To start his talk, Ron revealed that records and reports of students go back to 1907 and would include any of the Probus members here present who had attended the school.

Bendigo has a good education system, both public and private, while Bendigo Senior Secondary College is unique in its years 11/12 concepts. Many people have come from interstate and overseas to see how the system operates. Conditions 20 years ago in Bendigo enabled the establishment of the system and was a result of the dream of one man, Colin Moyle.

Education has changed considerably over the years since Ron started teaching along with the number of un-skilled and semi-skilled jobs available which were taken up by the early school leavers. For example; G.M.H. has reduced its work force from 26,000 to 6,000 and produces more cars. The modern student has greater pressures placed on him/her to succeed with stress, uncertainty, confusion and doubt all playing a part. Almost half of the families, these days, are not the traditional family that we knew when we were growing up. This also plays a big part in the student's life.

On the availability of drugs; studies show that, with young people in Victoria in the last 6 months, 50% have used alcohol, 30% have used tobacco and 30% have used marijuana. Young people know that other drugs, like heroin and LSD, are available but, generally, they are not interested. Marijuana is considered socially acceptable and less harmful than alcohol and tobacco and it is also easier to obtain.

Quoting figures again Ron stated that, 30 years ago, 15% of students went through to year 12 and 7% would go to University. Now, 72% get to year 12 and 36% go on to University.

Victorian schools are ahead of the other states of Australia with the introduction of the concept of self-management. This new system allows the College the flexibility of picking their own staff and deciding their own student/staff ratios. It also makes the teachers more accountable. Bendigo Senior Secondary has an annual budget of \$7,000,000, about \$4,500 per student. M.L.C., by way of comparison, operates on a budget of \$11,000 per student.

Modern teaching techniques revolve around "listen, read and do" which results in greater than 70% retention. They also work in small groups. Technology now plays a much greater part in the teaching process than it did 10 years ago with emphasis on networked computers, Internet connections, large screen TV and video conferencing.

Ron concluded with the following Twenty Five Thoughts:-

TO GET YOU THROUGH ALMOST ANY CRISIS

- 1 Indecision is the key to flexibility.
- 2 You cannot tell which way the train went by looking at the rails.
- 3 There is no substitute for a genuine lack of preparation.
- 4 Happiness is merely the remission of pain.
- 5 Nostalgia is not what it used to be.
- 6 Sometimes, too much drink isn't enough.
- 7 The facts, although interesting, are irrelevant.
- 8 The careful application of terror is an effective form of communication.
- 9 Someone who thinks logically is a nice contrast to the real world.
- 10 Things are more like they are today than they have ever been before.
- 11 Anything worth fighting for is worth fighting dirty for.
- 12 Everything should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler.

- 13 Friends may come and go, but enemies accumulate.
- 14 He who has the gold, makes the rules.
- 15 Suicide is the most sincere form of self-criticism.
- 16 All things being equal, fat people use more soap.
- 17 If you can smile when things go wrong, you have thought of someone to take the blame.
- 18 One seventh of your life is spent on Monday.
- 19 By the time you can make ends meet, the ends have been moved.
- 20 There is not one shred of evidence to support the notion that life is serious.
- 21 The more you run over a dead cat, the flatter it gets.
- 22 There is always one more imbecile than you counted on.
- 23 This is as bad as it can get, but don't bet on it.
- 24 Never wrestle with a pig; You both get all dirty and the pig enjoys it.
- 25 The trouble with life is, you are halfway through it, before you realise it's a "do it yourself" thing.

Ron was thanked by Ern Waterworth and presented with a Probus mug in appreciation of his very interesting talk.

SICK LIST

It was noted at the meeting that there were a number of our members that were not well. It is to be hoped that they are on the improve and will soon be able to return to our meetings.

BOWLS NOTES

Bendigo Probus bowls teams selected to play Eaglehawk on Thursday, 22nd October, 1998.

J. Kelly	N. Barningham	G. Rayson	F. O'Connell	(s)
J. Rose	O. Watson	R. Fitzgerald	W. Clemens	(s)
L. Nankivell	A. Dingle	E. Driscoll	A. Stevens	(s)
R. Downey	A. Wilson	A. Eaton	V. Canobie	(s)

Reserves: A. Morris, E. Waterworth, J. Laidler.

As usual, 9.30 am assembly at Eaglehawk for 10.00 am start. Regulation dress please.

Bowlers chosen and not available to play please notify me on 5447 0562.

W. Clemens



ACTIVITIES

Pinnacle Valley Resort

The tour of the year was again an outstanding success. The accommodation was excellent, the facilities were good, the food good and well presented and, to improve things even more, we had hot showers.

We made visits to three very different farms, all three very interesting. The first was Capalaba Park near Seymour, where, besides the Alpacas, we saw many different animals, sheep, donkeys, wombats as well as monkeys, pythons and alligators. On a later day we went to a farm where spinning and weaving the wool from coloured fleeces is carried out. The third farm produces lettuces and tomatoes by hydroponic means.

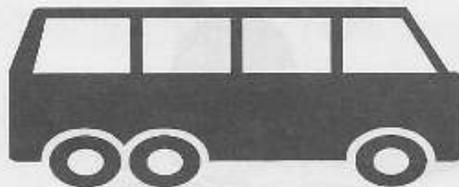
On the second day of our tour we went to the summit of Mt. Buller, driving through the magnificent scenery of the High Country. There was hardly enough snow to make a snowball, not even at the snowflake factory, but the view from the top was rewarding. In Mt. Buller Alpine Village nothing was happening but we had a conducted tour around the Latrobe University campus. This concentrates on physical activity, winter sports in particular, and courses in Tourism Management. Descending the mountain, we were met at the Mirimbah park by the delivery van from the resort bearing our picnic lunches which we ate on the bank of the Delatite River; a beautiful spot indeed.

Some of us made use of the indoor and outdoor facilities at the resort. Some swam, some enjoyed a sauna, some played mini golf and some just walked. Arthur outdid everyone, playing mini golf, riding trail bikes and attempting to circumnavigate the pool in a paddleboat which refused to go where he wanted and insisted on returning to the jetty.

On the last day of our stay we went up the higher reaches of the Goulburn River, visiting the hotel with the oldest, continuous licence in Victoria. This was the Kevington Hotel. Then, at Jamieson, we had an enjoyable hot lunch at the Duck Inn before seeing St. Peter's Anglican church and the Primary school. On the return journey we diverted to William's Lookout for a grand view of the countryside and a look at Lake Eildon in the distance.

Finally, we returned home via Yarra Glen where, after a stop at De Bortoli Winery, we had lunch at the Grand Hotel. Then back to Bendigo for cold showers and little heat for some. Full marks again to Arthur for his organization and the selection of Cobb and Co. for transport. The staff at Pinnacle Valley Resort were exemplary in their attendance to our needs and the resort is a place to be borne in mind by anyone wishing to get away for any period.

Alec Crothers



CHRISTMAS DINNER will be held from midday on 9th December at the Bendigo Bowling Club. Further details are to come later.



THURSDAY OCTOBER 29th. DAY TRIP - "THE CAMPASPE/TONGALA EXPERIENCE"

Maximum (49) Current: (43) *** VACANCIES (6)

COST: \$26.50/person. Includes: Coach, Fare, Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Tea & entry fees.

A beauty, Depart Bendigo at 8.15 am for Elmore and visit the new, highly acclaimed Tourist Attraction: "Campaspe Run," the H.V.McKay Rural Discovery Ctre. Next, an interesting escorted Coach Tour of the Elmore area, after which we have lunch. Then on to the "Golden Cow" Tourist & Dairy Education Ctre at Tongala - a wealth of interest for all here. "A leisurely, interest packed, value trip" *** Arthur seeks your support.

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS: At Wed. Oct. 21st meeting please.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4th, 1998. TRIP TO MELBOURNE.(Regent Theatre)

LIVE STAGE SHOW "FIDDLER ON THE ROOF" MATINEE PERFORMANCE 1.00 pm.

*** Gold Reserve Seats *** (Within first 10 rows from front)

COST: \$65.00/person. Includes: Coach & Admission to Show

Depart: 9.00 am From: Strath Community Ctre Crook Street.- Arrive Home 6.00 pm (Approx)

** Make own lunch arrangements. Maximum: (48), Current: (48) ** EMERGENCIES INVITED

As advised to those who confirmed definite bookings: Payments by Cheque made out to Probus Club Bendigo & sent to Treasurer, Rupert Reynolds, 180 Mandurang Rd, Strathfieldsaye. 3551. A.S.A.P.

(If unable to go, onus is on person booked to obtain replacement)

TRIP OF THE YEAR: SUNDAY JULY 25TH TO SUNDAY AUGUST 8TH, 1999

** TO SOUTHPORT (GOLD COAST QUEENSLAND) - HARBOUR SIDE RESORT
15 DAYS/14 NIGHTS. Depart: Sun July 25th. Return: Sun Aug 8th '99.

** SUNGOLD HOLIDAYS ** 4 Star Resort ** All Modern facilities.

** OWNER OPERATED RESORT (15 YEARS IN INDUSTRY) - REPUTABLE

** SUNGOLD PACKAGE: Which includes: Accommodation (Twin Share), Private Facilities, Dinner, Bed, Breakfasts, M/Tea most days, Lunches: first week (2), 2nd Week (2), Tours on 5 days each week.

