



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, 29 Woodbury St. Bendigo 3550.

ROAD SAFETY is something we have tried to achieve for many years but still has a long way to go. Today our guest speaker, BOB MILK, senior road traffic officer of the R.A.C.V. will tell us of the latest measures being taken to lower the road toll. Bob is sure going to be embarrassed when he sees all the P plates on the lapels of his audience.

SATELLITES AND COMMUNICATIONS. That was the title of the address given by Robert Dunne, manager of Telecom's Itera service who gave interesting information of Australia's prominent role in the world of satellite technology. Robert, a native of Maryborough, is now based in Bendigo, which is the hub of the nation's satellite programming.

"Itera" an aboriginal name meaning "Be Quick", was introduced in the early eighties when Bendigo with its fine geographical position and favourable climate was selected as the site to be the control centre of the service to provide voice communication and data distribution. While it has given efficient service, particularly to our remote areas, the technology is improving all the time and rapid advances are being made each year.

Not only is the service of immense value to Telecom itself, but major companies such as B.H.P., and Western Mining and other companies who provide immense wealth for our country are now using the satellite service through earth stations and this field of service is expanding rapidly.

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Three Aussat satellites were now in orbit, situated north of the equator in the vicinity of the Solomon Islands. The life of a satellite was about eight years and it was forecast that in about 1992-93 a plan would be put into operation to replace the present satellites of a larger type, which would have a life of 12 to 14 years.

These satellites would have more flexibility and range and therefore would not only improve Telecom service but could increase interest with more major companies in establishing network communications. "There are more improvements in the pipeline and I can assure you we will be around in Bendigo for many years to come", said Robert. That was most heartening news for Bendigo Probians.

TOURS AND ENTERTAINMENT

1. THURSDAY, October 20. "DAY TRIP" MANDURANG AND DISTRICT. Visit to Orchid Nursery, Gallery, small vineyard and a "Country Garden". Barbecue Lunch provided. Departure from Strathdale Community Centre 9.15 a.m. Estimated time of return 3.15 p.m. A relaxing day. Be There. Estimated cost: \$7.50 per person. Includes BBQ Lunch, admissions and coach fare. List on table today. Payment today please.
2. TUESDAY, November 22. TRIP TO BALLARAT. Sovereign Hill, Mining Museum, Fuschia Gardens and other interesting locations. Cost not yet determined. Names on list today. Payment at October meeting.
3. WEDNESDAY, December 21. ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER. List to be tabled at October meeting.
4. JANUARY, 1989. Trip to Shepparton. Visit the International Village, a Fruit Cannery and other district attractions.
5. TUESDAY, February 21. Film morning at R.J. Campbell Theatre followed by a luncheon. Film "The Last Emperor". More details later for this great entertainment.

RESIGNATION Keith Inglis tendered his resignation from Bendigo Probus at the August meeting for health reasons. Our public officer and a committeeman since the club's inception Keith made a valuable contribution of service to promote our club.

WELCOME President Jack Watts inducted a new Probus member in Phil Harper at our August meeting. Phil, a former president of Bendigo Legacy Club, is a well known Bendigonian.

HOLIDAY Our hardworking and competent editor of Probe, Reg Brock, who has not been well is at present holidaying in Sydney. Happy rest and a quick return to health, Reg. Stand in editor for the September edition in ex newshound veteran, Cyril Michelsen. Welcome Home, Reg.

TRUE BLUE EAGLEHAWKITE, Jack Taylor was a fresh faced schoolboy when in the mid thirties he walked past those impressive Eaglehawk cannons to enter the Borough Council doors to begin work as a Junior Clerk. Little did he think then that one day he would occupy the mayoral chair of the "Model Borough" as it was then called., on no less than five occasions in an outstanding council service extending over almost 27 years.

No doubt that initial association in the nerve centre of his beloved borough instilled in him a keen desire to one day make a contribution as a serving councillor. That day came in August 1962 and now the ever smiling popular Jack is "the father of the council" and still going strong after just finishing his fifth term as the borough's leader.

In finishing his fifth term he has now equalled the mayoral service record of the late councillors R. Watson and A. L. Roy. An efficient administrator and highly respected citizen the genial Jack could possibly one day be honored with a sixth term to make municipal history in Eaglehawk.

Eaglehawk people have a great reputation for true loyalty to local activity and one would have to say for sure that Jack Taylor has "true blue blood" in his veins after perusing his astonishing contribution to the community life of his home town.

Firstly he was associated with the Eaglehawk Football Club since 1938, as a player, 28 years as a committee-man, including 25 years as treasurer and now as a life member. He is also a former Vice President of Bendigo Football League and a life member.

So it goes on ... An original trustee of the Eaglehawk Health Centre and life governor, former secretary of Eaglehawk branch of the Australian Natives Association, former treasurer of St. Peter's Church of England, a member of Bendigo Rotary Club and only recently made a Paul Harris Fellow for services to the community.

In addition to his Eaglehawk efforts Jack was a former member of the committee of management of the Bendigo and Northern District Base Hospital, being a past president and treasurer in 20 years of service, which earned him a life governorship and a meritorious service medal.

His wife Ida has been a great help-mate in every sphere of service in which her husband participated and a staunch worker in her own right in many borough organisations.

In the Second World War Jack served with the A.I.F. Armoured Division. Prior to his retirement in 1980 he was employed with the State Electricity Commission as a customer services officer for 31 years. The year 1988 was a memorable year for Jack in wearing the robes of office for the fifth time, but he had one disappointment and that was Eaglehawk's footy team did not make the final round. However, the Hawk's have had many good seasons and the Taylors have always been to the forefront with a cheer or two.

Well done, Jack, your fellow Probians are proud of your magnificent contribution to your home community and understand that like the Mississippi you are still rolling on to do just a little more. For certain we know that whatever you do, you'll do it well.

THE EXPO EXPERIENCE - By Ray Downey.

How does one compress 12 days of fun, excitement and interesting experiences into a story of suitable length for Probe? It is impossible to do justice to the trip in the space available, so I'll just have to refer to the highlights.

Expo itself was a great and thrilling experience. There is something there for all ages and all tastes and I'm sure each one of the party found something which appealed particularly to them. Queensland and Canadian pavilions were highly regarded as were Switzerland and New Zealand. Also the Pacific Nations area was set up in a most appealing style. One could go on and on.

Apart from the pavilions the outside entertainment was varied and usually of high quality. The Acqucade Spectacular was all it claimed to be with the high dive a real thriller.

The overall organisation and cleanliness of the site was first class, as was the general good humour of the people in the queues. Altogether it was an unforgettable experience.

The half day visit to Dreamworld on the Gold Coast was great fun - again entertainment for all ages and tastes with the film visit to the Grand Canyon probably the highlight.

We found out how the other half lives during a two hour cruise around the waterways and canals at Surfers' Paradise and Southport. The luxury homes and the price tags that go with them was mind boggling.

Just another interesting experience of our grand holiday.

We had the great pleasure of helping Gwen and Clark Jeffrey celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. With the help and co-operation of the staff at Thunderbird Park the dining room was set for the wedding breakfast and the "true story" of their wedding and honeymoon was unfolded. A memorable occasion for Gwen and Clark and a joyous one for the rest of us.

The drive into Sydney after dark was probably not much for the coach captain but was a real bonus for his passengers as the Bicentenary decorations showed up much better at night than the following morning.

This report would not be complete without some reference to lunch stops and morning and afternoon teas. The men agreed that these should always be taken where the only shops are those serving food or drink. It was most amusing to see quite a few ladies trying to get back on the coach without their hubbies seeing those little extra purchases.

Finally a work of thanks to Gordon Glover and Bob Holmes who kept the entertainment going on the coach and to all who contributed to make it such an enjoyable trip.