



PROBE

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A Special General meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10.00am at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Rd, Bendigo.

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Tour organiser and Activities Co-ordinator

Arthur Eaton, 4 Maxwell Crescent, Bendigo Phone: 5443 9162

This month's guest speaker is Philip Hogan who will talk about Air Ambulance in Victoria.

Last month we had two guest speakers, Sue and Ian Robinson. Their subject was Balloon Flights. Sue and Ian are the operators of "Balloon Flights of Bendigo". Ian is the pilot, with 20 years experience, he is one of the most highly trained balloonists in the country. Sue drives the retrieval vehicle and assists in rigging the balloon and packing at the end.

Sue spoke first and gave us some of the history of ballooning. The Montgolfier brothers of France were paper manufacturers who made a balloon of linen lined with paper. With a fire of straw and rags filling the balloon with smoke and hot air the balloon reached a height of 6000 feet, but it carried no passengers or other load.

Later they put up a balloon carrying a sheep, a duck and a rooster, which all survived the trip. Eventually human passengers flew, two French noblemen, who reached a height of 3000 feet and alighted 5 miles away after a 25 minute flight, landing safely.

The Montgolfiers thought that smoke was the lifting agent but it was later realised that hot air gave the lift.

A balloon has three components, basket, burner frame and envelope. Wicker baskets are still used for standard flights because they are more able to stand up to the shocks of landing.

Ian then took up the speaking, talking about the technicalities of ballooning. Usually take off is early in the morning because the air is more stable then because of inversion.

Before take-off weather information is received from the Aeronautical section of the weather bureau. Balloons are defined as aircraft and must meet all the statutory requirements imposed by the Civil Aviation Safety authority. For this reason they must carry VHF and UHF radios.



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as well as global positioning system units and mobile phones. They also have altimeters and variometers.

A very interesting presentation by the Robinsons. Bob Chenery presented our thanks and the presentation mugs.

ADVANCED NOTICES

Ladies are invited to the October meeting where we will have, as guest speaker, Judith Doughty, the CEO at Strath-Haven.

The Christmas luncheon will be on Wednesday, December 15th (third Wednesday) at the Foundry Arms. Cost \$23 p.p.

VERY ADVANCED NOTICES

The combined Probus Clubs Bowls Championships will be contested on February 17, 2005. Our club will be the hosts. More details later.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Best wishes are extended to the following members who will be celebrating their birthday in the coming months . . .

OCTOBER 2004

09	Max Shipp	76
10	Max Hallett	74
10	Maurie McDonald	72
11	Barry O'Brien	71
18	Wal Spicer	84
22	Ken Coles	72
26	Athol Wall	86
27	Peter Bath	68

NOVEMBER 2004

03	Arthur Eaton	81
08	Bruce Perrin	76
10	Bob Arundel	89
10	Alf Ryall	87
12	Herb Hesse	87
12	John Tate	61
25	Bill Jacka	83
25	Rob Watkins	75
26	Bill Cowling	83
28	Bryan Clemson	76

Congratulations to all of the above.

Note: If you do not wish to have your birthday published in "Probe" please advise the secretary.

The latest membership book should be available at the September meeting.

"It's a fact" (said the Secretary).

The theatre critic said, "This play is like one big piece of Swiss cheese, minus the cheese".

(And as a bonus)

That man is so snobbish, he won't even ride in the same car as his chauffeur.



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A word to husbands, to keep your marriage brimming with love in the marriage cup, whenever you're wrong admit it* whenever you're right, shut up.

WIFE: Mr Watt next door blows his wife a kiss as he leaves the house,
I wish you'd do that.

HUSBAND: But I hardly know the woman.

A man's friends like him, but leave him as he is. His wife loves him and is always trying to turn him into somebody else.



PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO

- **LITTLE DESERT TOUR:** Tues 21st to Thurs 23rd September.
(3 Days/2Nights) Staying at Little Desert Lodge (Near Nhill in Victoria.) Depart:
At 8.00am on Tues 21st Sep't from Strathdale Community Centre, Crook Street.
*** Bookings: Currently (Full). Emergencies held: (2)

COST: \$264.00/Person. Includes: Road Coach, Accommodation (En Suite), All Meals, Entrance Fees. Single Supplement: (If room on own, add \$40.00/person.)

The Little Desert Nature Lodge is a peaceful retreat located on the edge of the Little Desert National Park.

The Lodge offers comfortable facilities, warm hospitality and a memorable environmental experience. Set in natural bushland of 117 hectares and managed since 1976 by local "living treasure" Whimpey Reichelt, share in his knowledge and passion for the Little Desert. Our stay includes much variety.

On Day 1: Depart at 8.00am from Strath Community Centre, Crook St, arrive at the Lodge in time for lunch. Some free time to settle in, at 8.00pm a guided "Nocturnal Walk," see the nocturnal creatures of the bush including Sugar Gliders, Bettongs and Sone-Curlews, listen to the many sounds of the night.

Day 2: A comfortable 4 WD Tour; we see many varieties of Spring Wildflowers, as well as birds & animals which inhabit the unique Little Desert Environment. We have lunch in the bush with "billytea". After dinner Whimpey will show a Video Presentation "Whimpey's World - Little Desert Flora & Fauna" with particular focus on the Malley Fowl bird. (An excellent video.)

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Day 3: At 9.00am, after breakfast we depart for a tour of the Mallee Fowl Sanctuary, a protected habitat which provides a rare opportunity to see these mound building birds in the wild. A Light Lunch will be provided prior to our departure from the Lodge at 12 Noon.
This will be an excellent trip, with much of interest for all, and taken at a relaxed, leisurely pace.
Outstanding payments: Please finalise by Cheque payable to Probus Club of Bendigo.

TRIP TO CANBERRA - 5 DAY/4 NIGHTS

MONDAY 22nd TO FRIDAY 26th NOVEMBER, 2004

Cost Based on Minimum of (35) to travel. Current: (38) Max: (49) * Vacancies (11)

** *Deposits of \$50.00/person required with future bookings please.*

** *COST: \$457.00 per person (Twin Share)*

** *A Single Supplement of \$140 would apply if request for a room on own.*

** *Cost includes: All Coach travel, dinner, bed & breakfast, entrance fees and Lunches on days 2,3,4.*

** *The Itinerary includes visits/tours to: Royal Australian Mint, National Capital Exhibition, Southern Cross Cruise, Cockington Green, Parliament House, Australian War Memorial, Screen Sound Australia, High Court, National Gallery, Deep Space Complex. We will visit Mt. Ainslee for superb views of the City and one evening be taken to Telstra Tower to see the night lights of Canberra. During travel en route we will see the Dog on the Tucker Box and visit Rusconi's Marble Masterpiece near Gundugia. ** A trip with much variety, should be of interest to all.*

** *BALANCE/FINAL PAYMENTS: At, or by meeting on 15th September please.*

** *Further bookings are required for this Tour in order to cater for any cancellations.*

** *I seek the support of members, Friends of Probus Members are invited to join this trip.*

** *Members of other Probus Clubs are also welcome to participate.*

A SPECIAL FUNCTION: (Friday 4th February, 2005, 4.30pm)

A FILM SHOWING AT THE LATROBE UNIVERSITY LECTURE THEATRE - BENDIGO
Rob & Cynthia Watkins have again offered their services to provide for us another of their "spectacular film showings," a number of which we have greatly enjoyed and been privileged to see over a period of many years in Air Conditioned comfort at the Latrobe University venue.

COST: \$3.00 per person. Maximum - our Club allocation: (80)

A relaxed and very interesting evening is assured. "Book early - don't miss out"

Program:

** 4.30pm Films: National Parks of U.S.A. and Canada

** 5.30pm B.Y.O.Picnic Tea & Socialise. (Tea,Coffee, Milk, Sugar & Paper Cups provided)

** 7.00pm Films From Nice (French Riviera) to the Top of Norway & return.

** 8.00pm Depart for home in daylight.

LIST: At Meeting Wednesday 15th September.

PAYMENTS: At meeting Wed. 17th November, 2004.

Tours Organiser Arthur Eaton. For inquiries telephone: 5443 9162



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