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A Special General meeting is held every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10am at the Masonic Centre, McIvor Rd, Bendigo.

All correspondence to be addressed to The Secretary, Bob Chenery, 49 Emmett Street Golden Square 3555.

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Privacy information - Information given is kept private and confidential and may only be used within the confines of Probus and shall not be used for any other purpose.

The guest speaker for the September meeting will be Lloyd Cassidy from the Salvation Army, subject past and present history.

- Barry, O'B.

In the absence of our president and vice president, immediate past president Alec introduced Mr Peter Thompson who is the Chief Librarian at Latrobe Uni. Peter gave a very informative talk on mechanics institutes. The mechanics institutes started during the 19th Century in Northern England and Scotland. The earliest in Australia was in Hobart in 1827 and the earliest Melbourne Mechanics Institutes was in the Athenaeum in 1839 and is still operating today. During the gold rush in 1950 onwards Mechanics Institute exploded in numbers. Bendigo had 9, with Sandhurst being the largest and was started in 1854. After WWII public libraries were established which closed most of the few remaining Mechanics Institutes Libraries by 1950 there were very few left. After answering questions from members Nigel Christie made the usual presentation.

- Editor

FORWARD NOTICE

The annual Christmas luncheon will be held on the 3rd of December in the Platinum Room at the Foundry Hotel. The cost will be \$28.50 per person. Two course lunch. Gifts of wine etc would be appreciated. President John and Committee seek the support of the membership. All partners and guest will be made very welcome. More details later.

- Editor

**WE NEED NEW MEMBERS AND WE NEED
YOUR HELP TO FIND THEM.**

Birthday Wishes

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

October 2008			November 2008		
09	Max Shipp	80	03	Arthur Eaton	85
10	Max Hallett	78	03	Chas Smith	80
10	Maurie McDonald	76	08	Bruce Perrin	80
11	Barry O'Brien	75	10	Alf Ryall	91
18	Wal Spicer	88	20	Bryan Clemson	80
22	Ken Coles	76	22	Noel Bruhn	77
			25	Rob Watkins	79

Congratulation to all the above, especially Max Shipp, Chas Smith, Bruce Perrin and Bryan Clemson

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

- Barry, O'B.

Presidents Piece

Such is Life?

For some must watch, while some must sleep;
So runs the world away. – Hamlet

Oh! How full of briars is the working day world. – As you like it

Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player that struts and threatens his hour upon the stage,
and then is heard no more. – MacBeth

WELFARE NEWS

Alan Dingle has been in critical care, but is home now, awaiting results from the doctors.

Wally Spicer is home, has had a few setbacks and is making slow progress.

- Peter R.

FOUNDATION MEMBERS LUNCHEON

The August luncheon was at the Lake View Hotel, which we had not visited for some time and we had an excellent meal. Some of our regulars were not with us this time for various reasons; we look forward to seeing them this month and this month we will go to the Bendigo Club at 22 Park Street Strathdale. As always we welcome all comers. Any regulars who are not able to make it please contact Dorothy, phone 5443 2642

- Alec C.

Literary Comment

In a speech he made in 1925 James Britton said

I know not whether Bacon wrote the words of Shakespeare, but if he did not it seems to me he missed the opportunity of his life.

- Alec C.

USELESS INFORMATION

- Wine will spoil if exposed to light, hence tinted bottles.
- Assuming Rudolph was in front, there are 40,320 ways to re-arrange the other 8 reindeer
- When Saigon fell the signal for all American to evacuate was Bing Crosbys' "White Xmas" being played on the radio
- The leg bones of a bat are so thin that no bat can walk
- Rice is the main food for half of the people in the world
- Hippopotami cannot swim
- Less than three per cent of nestles' sales are for chocolate.
- Mark Twain was born in 1835 when Halley's comet appeared, he died in 1910 when Halley's comet returned

- Editor.

Did you Know?

If you are over 75 years of age, you are entitled to one free complete medical checkup per year. If you don't already know, ask your doctor about it.

- Rupert R.

Did you Know?

When a gold rush began at a place locally known as Bendigo's Creek in late October 1852, the site was known by the nickname of the shepherd who lived there.

By the 2nd of December, so many people had arrived that a notice appeared in the Government Gazette that "from this day, the place for holding of petty sessions at the junction of Bendigo Creek to Golden Gully, Mount Alexander (Loddon District) shall be called Castleton"

Six weeks later, on the 18th of January 1853 it was renamed Sandhurst after the English military academy. (Sandhurst means a place which is mostly wooded in sandy ground)

As a result of a poll in May 1891, the City of Sandhurst was renamed Bendigo. (the first time that Bendigo had officially borne that name).

- Repert R

Jokes

Must have a brave man who said this:

Boy asks his mother "Mum, why are wedding dresses white?"

Mother replies "Son this shows your friends and relatives that your bride is pure".

Boy goes off to double check with his father "Dad why are wedding dresses white?"

Father looks at son in surprise, shows him the fridge and asks him its colour, son says "white"

He does the same for the dishwasher, the washing machine, the stove etc etc.

Then tells his son "Son, all the household appliances are white"

- Anon

Smile Time

The lady applying for a job in a Victorian lemon factory seemed over qualified for the particular job.

"Look miss" said the manager, "Have you any actual experience in picking lemons?"

"Well as a matter of fact, yes" she replied.

"I've been divorced three times"

- Bob C.

Trip to the Seymour Area

Maximum: (48) THURSDAY 20th NOVEMBER, 2008

Cost: \$38.00 per person. Based on (35) Includes: Coach, Two Course Lunch & Entry Costs.

**** Dependant upon adequate numbers, price may be able to be reduced.**

Depart 9.00am. From Strathdale Community Centre Car Park, Crook Street.

Our first visit will be to: the RAAC Memorial and Army Tank Museum at Puckapunyal Commemorating the Royal Australian Armoured Corps and the Australian Light Horse. There is an extensive array of army vehicles, equipment and memorabilia.

Next: We travel on to Seymour where we will visit the Seymour Railway Heritage Centre: It is located adjacent to the former V.R. Seymour Locomotive Depot, there is large undercover area for storage and restoration works.

Upon our arrival we will have a two course lunch provided by the staff of the Centre, and dependent upon conditions, this may be served as we wish either under shade canopies or in the heritage Avoca Dining Car of yesteryear.

The Centre is heavily involved in the restoration and ongoing maintenance of the railway vehicles in its collection and making access to these vehicles to the visitor and tourist. In short, it is dedicated to preserving Victorian Railway Rolling Stock in operating condition.

The Centre has been entrusted with a large array of early & more recent Rolling Stock Vehicles, indeed a small group of three carriages built in 1890 (which featured in the Ned Kelly Film - siege at Glenrowan), also the Sydney Limited and Spirit of Progress Parlour Cars and the Avoca Dining car, added to this many varying classes of Diesel Electric Main Line Locomotives ranging from 600 to 3000 Horse Power

**** There will be a number guides, among whom will be a number of former railwaymen.**

**** You will be given conducted tours through many of these vehicles ** (Adequate seating available.)**

**** Time permitting, we may have the opportunity to see other items of interest in the Seymour area.**

This will prove to be a very interesting and enjoyable day, which should prove to be of interest to all, a trip down memory lane. Be in it, come along and experience the friendship of Probus.

LIST/Bookings: At meeting Wed.17th September. **PAYMENTS:** Wed 15th October meeting

Please note: There is much time and effort involved to enable Day Trips to be organised and conducted successfully, it is very important to Receive A Positive Response and Support from our membership at the September meeting for Seymour Trip.

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO - TRIP TO NORFOLK ISLAND. FRIDAY 10TH to FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER, 2008. 8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS

Travel is with: Envisage Tours: "A Part of Australia Pacific Tours Group"

Currently full (18): Emergencies invited.

Enquiries: To Arthur, phone 5443 9162

PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO: ANNUAL XMAS LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY 3rd DECEMBER, 2008

Organised by our Club Committee **Please keep this date free.**

Full details will be advised and a booking list will be tabled at Oct. 15th Meeting.