



PROBE

Bulletin of the Probus Club of Bendigo Inc.



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A special General meeting is held on the third Wednesday of each month, except December, at 10 am at the Masonic Centre Mc Ivor Rd , Bendigo

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**Members are reminded that there is NO December Meeting.
Next meeting Wednesday 19th January 2011.**

Guest Speaker Report

President Ern being absent Vice President Ray Fitzgerald was in the Chair and introduced John Krokawiak from The Smith Family here in Bendigo. John gave a short history of the formation of the organisation which is only found in Australia. Founded in 1922 by 5 business men who donated toys to an orphanage anonymously it is now helping second and third generation families however in a much changed role. Working on the theme "Education Breaks The Cycle Of Poverty" and being Non Religious, Non Political and Non Government Funded it strongly maintains its independence. Providing some 300 educational scholarships (they hope to do 600 shortly !) they help with books, excursions, uniforms and school camps for example. Scholarships range from \$250 to \$2000. They have a "Lets Read" program which concentrates on advancing literacy for the family. Other programs they run include "Straight Talk" for year 8 students, "Eye Track" for year 11 & 12 students also mentoring by and for La Trobe Uni students. Finally as they have found so many of today's families can't cook they run a successful "Cooking" program. All in all a very interesting presentation.

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Members are asked to change the details for our Secretary in their membership booklet. Bob's new address and telephone number are at the top of this page.

Members are reminded that our Annual General Meeting will be held at the March meeting. The Agenda etc will be published in the February Probe however NOW is the time to start to give consideration to putting yourself forward for a position on the Committee. Our newer members would be made most welcome !

**LET US TRY TO ENSURE WE, AS A CLUB, INDUCT AT LEAST ONE
NEW MEMBER PER MONTH DURING 2011**

PRESIDENTS PIECE

Hi

What a great day we shared at our Christmas Luncheon, I'm sure it was enjoyed by all. We have booked for the first Wednesday in December, 2011, the seventh from memory, so lets have a huge turn up for next year; why not ask some friends along to enjoy what Probus is all about, friendship, fellowship and most importantly to enjoy each others company.

I would also like to remind members that although we have reversed our dwindling membership we must not rest on our laurels but continue to attract new members, this should be a priority for the new committee in March, we would like to see as many as possible participate in a membership drive.

Our guest speaker for January will be Angelia Williams from Consumer Affairs Office in Bendigo, so make a note of anything that you may require assistance with, so you can be directed to the correct department

Kind regards
Ern

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Murphy's Law

1. Every solution breeds new problems.
2. An expert is one who knows more and more about less and less until he knows absolutely everything about nothing !

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CLUB FINANCE : As at 15th Nov General \$1306.63 Tours \$2626.92
Banking — Cheque Account \$1183.55 Cash Account \$2750.00
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SICK LIST: Our thoughts and prayers are with those members not feeling well and we wish them a speedy recovery !

BIRTHDAYS : Have a great day !!

DECEMBER	JANUARY
4th Ken Gloster	13th Bett Hall
12th Hugh Ward	15th Don Ridge
17th Bill Clemens	27th Zane Hughes
26th Alan Court	29th Cliff Binks
28th Ian Nixon	

Upcoming Activities Other Clubs:

Spring Gully: Contacts Margaret Jenkins 54438089 or Gwen Baker 54437256
EXOTIC MAURITIUS 29/6—12/7/11 14days/13nights \$4195pp

White Hills: Contact Heather Smith 54496239

SANDAKAN STORY IN BORNEO 6/6—24/6/11 9days/8nights \$3199pp

Bendigo Ladies: Contact Marjorie Byrne

PORT STEPHENS & HUNTER VALLEY 27/3— 5/4/11 10days/9nights \$1020pp

Items for the next PROBE which will be published in January Must be submitted to the Editor no later than: Wednesday 5th January Mike Watt Ph 5449 3925 or email mjwatt@dodo.com.au

Report: On South Australia Trip. 5th to 9th Nov. 2010. By Tours Organiser Arthur Eaton

Our Group of 14, comprised of members from both the *Probus Club of Bendigo and Strathdale Probus*.

Departed from Bendigo at 7.00am on Friday 5th November.

Travel to and return from Tullamarine Airport was by Road Coach, forward and return flights to Adelaide being with Virgin Blue. Airline, *each of which was most efficient and helpful to group members*.

Following Adelaide arrival at 10.30am we were met by Coach Driver Craig and were taken on Tour to Glenelg. At the jetty we witnessed a Drummer Band launch of the Float for the Adelaide Xmas Pageant.

Next a most enjoyable lunch at Glenelg Revolving Restaurant, with its many excellent photo opportunities.

On leaving Glenelg we proceeded through Adelaide City bound for the Adelaide Hills to visit the Birdwood and Hahndorf areas. Unfortunately, approaching the hills at Tea Tree our coach broke down. After repairs, we returned to Adelaide Bus Terminal for the 6.00pm departure of our Proud Australia Coach for Murray Bridge, where we arrived at 7.30pm

We boarded "The Murray River Expedition" for our two day/two night memorable river cruise..

We were welcomed by *Captain Peter Thomas and his six crew members*. Shortly after arrival a most enjoyable evening meal was served. ***Each of the Crew were multi skilled, a very friendly, efficient team, who ensured at all times and in all respects, that we were most adequately catered for.***

On Saturday morning we arrived at Mannum at 10.20am, spent time on shore exploring this historic town. On return to the boat, we continued upstream past many small river townships and river boats. A delicious lunch of most adequate "Lamb Shanks" prepared by the Chefs and served as we cruised before an afternoon arrival at Teal Flats. A highlight of today was a guided tour led by Ecologist David aboard a flat bottomed boat for a cruise along the river edge. Early evening we commenced to have an "on shore BBQ" with entertainment, rain forced our return to boat dining area, where the entertainment resumed.

On Sunday morning we departed Teal Flats and cruised to Mannum where we disembarked for a Coach Tour to Reedy Creek Environment Park and were taken on a guided tour toward Reedy Creek Gorge.

We returned to the Boat in time for an excellent lunch provided by the Chefs. The remainder of the time until we berthed at Murray Bridge at 3.30pm was spent on deck admiring the river scenery. From Murray Bridge we were transported by Road Coach to our Adelaide Hotel "The Hilton" on Victoria Square.

On Monday a Group of eight on the Kangaroo Island Tour boarded a 6.45am Coach to Cape Jervis to catch the Ferry to Kangaroo Island where we arrived at 10.00am. We were met by our genial Coach Driver/Guide "Dave" who was passionate about the Island, its history, industry, wildlife, and inhabitants. Throughout the 350 km which we travelled he gave very interesting and relevant commentary.

We visited: The Island Eucalyptus Factory and had a guided tour. Then traveled to a most interesting Bird's of Prey exhibition. Next we visited Seal Bay where there were scores of Sea lions asleep on sand.

We then traveled to the very interesting Parndana Wild Life Park where Amanda gave us a guided tour to see the great variety of the animals and birds. Finally a visit to the Island Pure Sheep Dairy where we were shown "the machine milking of sheep," and afterwards the many products made from the milk, Cheeses & yoghurt etc. We returned to Pelican Bay, where some had "very costly fish and chips." Caught the 7.30pm Ferry to Cape Jervis and Coach to Adelaide arriving at the Hilton Hotel at 10.40pm. – "a great day."

The remaining six of the group went on a *Barossa Valley Day Tour*, their Driver/Guide Dally, was most helpful, he gave well informed commentaries and ensured they had an interesting and enjoyable outing..

Tuesday. 9th November: Morning free time. Some had a short city walk, others spent time at the Adelaide Produce Market which was adjacent to the Hotel. At 12.15pm we departed for Airport for 1.45pm Virgin Flight to Melbourne arriving 3.30pm. After experiencing a small communication problem our Mini Coach with Driver Craig arrived. We departed Airport 4.00pm, arriving safely on time in Bendigo at 6.00pm.

Throughout the Trip, the Group bonded very well, there was much laughter and frivolity, they were very helpful and considerate of each other at all times. A most relaxed, enjoyable and interesting trip.

Our thanks to Proud Australia Holidays and to those "service providers" who gave us quality service.

LAWN BOWLS: It is hoped to be able to arrange a few games in the New Year.

LONERS GROUP

Those members on their own are invited to join the regulars for dinner at the Bendigo Club every Thursday at 6pm. Table is booked in either Arthur Eaton or Ian Bennett name.

MORNING COFFEE AND CHAT GROUP (Proposed)

The inaugural gathering is to be held on Thursday 13th January at the Beechworth Bakery at 10.30am It is hoped that this will be a regular monthly event. All members, partners and friends welcome! Any comments/suggestions phone Denise on 54493925

THURSDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 2010 – BENDIGO CHINESE MUSEUM & GARDENS

Assemble at Entrance: 10.15am

A Conducted Tour of the Chinese Museum, Gardens and the recently completed new precinct. (I have requested, that if practicable Russell Jack be our Guide for the Tour.)

LUNCH: (Two Course) At the conclusion of tour we will stay at the venue for a Lunch.

COST: Tour & Lunch: \$25 /person.

(31) Bookings have been received from:

C. Adams (2), C. Bird (1), I. Bennett (1), G. Bloomfield (1), N. Bruhn (2), W. Clemens (2), A. Eaton (1), J. Goodrich (1) N. Gillies (1), R. Fitzgerald (2), B. Hall (1), D. Laity (2), M. Miller (1), C. Smith (2), R. Pollock (1), P. Thornton (2), C. Thomson, Y. Wallace (1), M. Watt (2), R. Watkins (2), H. Ward (1), J. White (1)

Additional bookings desired: I seek the support of the members, that we may show our appreciation to both the Chinese Association and to Russell Jack for his recent inspiring address to our membership.

List available & PAYMENTS required at meeting:: Wed Jan.19th, 2011

***** Please assist the Collectors by tendering correct amounts when making payments. *****

TRIPS ENQUIRIES: To Arthur Eaton. Phone: 5443 9162

Poem

Author Dorothy Crothers.

14 intrepid travelers sailed up and down the Murray,
Good food, good fun, we didn't have a worry.

Captain Peter talked about the river and its histories.
And David had the knowledge to explain environmental mysteries

Too soon we had to leave the river flowing to the sea,
And travel on a coach to Adelaide for tea.

Our hotel was the Hilton in Adelaide's fair city
Norm didn't like the doonas; oh what a pity!

The staff soon realised Bendigo Probiens were in town.
They coped with all of our requests and never wore a frown.

Some went to the Barossa and sampled lots of wine.
Others to Kangaroo Island seals and fish and chips to find..

Arthur's careful planning made our holiday a breeze.
I don't know how he does it. What's your secret, Arthur, please?

All good things come to an end; this saying's very true,
So for a first-class trip, Arthur our sincere thanks go to you.