



PROBE

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PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO

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Meets 3rd Wednesday each month - 10am at Bendigo Club.

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STOP PRESS!!!

CHRISTMAS DINNER

SEE DETAILS INSIDE.

THE SPEAKER TODAY is Miss FELICITY KINGERLEE, Manager of Collins Book Store in Bendigo. A member of the Historical Society she will speak on 'Moments in Bendigo's History.'

IT WOULD BE REASONABLE COMMENT to say that we enjoyed three talks at our October meeting; for surely DICK TURNER must have packed the experiences of three normal lifetimes into one life-span - and he is far from finished yet!

Dick spoke for 45 minutes without a note and hardly pausing for breath as he recounted events in his life since he was born in Shamrock Street, christened Roy Francis in Golden Square Methodist Church, and automatically joined a family steeped in the traditions of the voluntary fire service; a course laid down by grandfather Turner.

But if fire-fighting can be dangerous, how about that most temporary of all jobs, the Bomb Disposal Squad? This was Dick's wartime activity with the 38th. Battalion, followed by 2 years with the Survey Regiment. Later he became Attendance Officer with the Education Department.

In 1950 he pioneered football broadcasting with 3BO and his voice became familiar to the whole of the area as he 'called the board' on Saturdays in the 'footie' season. (Continued page 4).

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 20th NOVEMBER at 10:00 a.m.

JUPITER PLUVIUS is not a member of the Probus Club of Bendigo, nor was he an honoured guest; but he spent the entire day with us at Maryborough where he took a delight in bucketing us with water from Cloud 7. If he hoped to discourage us, his efforts were in vain for, despite the deluge we spent an excellent and rewarding day of fellowship.

Perhaps it was appropriate that one of the venues visited was the Water Works Trust where it was demonstrated that water is not only used for showers and spa baths, but that some people actually drink it! One hopes, of course, that it is drunk in the right spirit; but because of this, extraordinary efforts are made to ensure the purity of the product.

Bees are not a subject that we often ponder over but the sight of (seemingly) hundreds of drums and tanks full of the end product of their frantic efforts reminded us that these tiny creatures are indeed 'busy' and the mind boggles at the thought of all that tremendous effort.

The Honey Corporation of Australia not only supplies 7000 tonnes of bee-produced nectar annually for the domestic market but sends 11,000 tonnes to 32 countries overseas - making it one of the biggest marketers of honey in the world! Food for the mind as well as the palate.

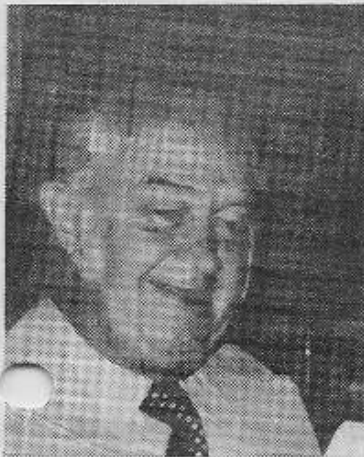
Speaking of food, members of the Maryborough club must have worked almost as hard as the bees to provide our barbeque lunch and afternoon tea, happily partaken in the warmth and comfort of the football clubrooms.

Printers Hedges and Bell was the eye-opener. Few of us realised the extent of this thriving industry and the great deal of work that goes into the production of the written word - in tens of thousands of copies. In the true spirit of the matter many of us demonstrated our literary interest by arming ourselves with 'samples' from the reject box - fitting tribute to a great de-centralised industry.

We thank our Maryborough friends for their hospitality and look forward to meeting them again - in Bendigo.

CHRISTMAS DINNER IS EARLY THIS YEAR: Wednesday Dec. 4th. to be exact! Fellowship WITH THE LADIES at 7:00 pm. Bibs on at 7:30 pm. for an excellent dinner. VENUE: Bendigo Club. COST: \$13 per head (includes basic liquids). Acceptances and MONEY at the meeting today. Please! IMPORTANT! THIS IS THE ONLY MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

WE REGRET TO REPORT that our friend FRANK LOWERY, pp of the Maryborough club is hospitalised with a severe stroke but we understand he is making some progress. Frank was a great help in establishing our club and we wish him a speedy recovery.



A man who spent 5 years of oppression living under the Nazi jackboot in occupied Holland, risked daily discovery and death as a member of a Resistance group, surviving to arrive in Bendigo in 1957 with a wife, two infant children and £20 in his pocket; there to become an honoured and valuable citizen of his adopted home.

Today we meet Freedom fighter, inventor/ Engineer and quiet achiever.

JACOB (JAKE) VINGERHOETS.

It took only 3 days in 1940 for Holland to be overrun by the German hordes and the infiltration of SS and Gestapo elements

brought daily slaughter and disappearances of innocent citizens (mostly Jews).

It was in the City of Eindhoven that Jake was employed by Phillips Industries as Engineer in their X-Ray laboratories. Born in 1915 he completed his studies in 1935, graduating from Technical College as Electrical and Mechanical Engineer.

Jake's Resistance group was concerned mainly with the rescue of Allied air crews, survivors from the Nazi bullets. These airmen, together with many Jewish citizens were smuggled over the border into Belgium on the way to freedom; the crews to fight again, and the Jews, hopefully, to find a new life in a more humanitarian part of the world.

A co-conspirator in the group was a dutch lass, Erica. As Receptionist at the Eindhoven Town Hall she was in a good position to supply valuable information to the fighters in the field. Erica was destined to become Mrs. Jake Vingerhoets.

In 1944 American Airborne troops brought liberation but fighting continued in isolated pockets. With the assistance of Dutch Resistance fighters the City was held until the arrival of the British army.

In a final gesture of inhuman savagery the German Air force returned and in one horrifying night flattened the City, killing many hundreds of citizens. Such is the insanity of war!

Post-war recovery was slow, since the Germans had virtually stripped the country of machinery and equipment, so Jake and his family sought a new life in Australia.

In Bendigo Jake found work easy to get but, unfortunately, his Dutch qualifications were not recognised here. Too intelligent to settle into mundane tasks he formed his own company, PVF Projects, and set about making and marketing his own inventions. For 7 years his business

(Continued page 4)

DICK TURNER (Continued from page 1)

Obviously Dick likes living dangerously, for he spent 24 years as a Bendigo City councillor - a severe test of nerve and skill. The voice, developed on the football field was put to good use in the council chamber and no debate escaped his forthright opinions.

For his work in the interests of the community Dick received in 1978-the-well-deserved Award of the Member of the British Empire.

We salute Roy Francis (Dick) Turner, MBE, and we thank him for an entertaining and informative talk.

JACOB (JAKE) VINGERHOETS (Continued from page 3)

prospered and culminated in the contract for transferring, setting up and automating the plant at Stramit Industries.

Fate intervened in the person of (Probus president) Ray Downey and Jake forsook private enterprise to become a service mechanic with the SEC. Promoted to a Staff position as Protection and Control Officer Jake moved all over the State constructing, testing and commissioning 66kw sub-stations. Fortunately for us, his perambulations always ended back in Bendigo.

During this period Jake was introduced to two insidious pastimes- Lawn Bowls and Fishing. He was introduced to his first Rainbow trout from a rocking boat at Lake Eucumbene in the company of several reprobates including your editor. We like to think that that was when Jake became a 'Dinkum Aussie'! Now Pennant Bowls have taken over, a sport which he shares with wife Erica, whilst Meals on Wheels keep both occupied in community service. Erica is also secretary of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and Treasurer of Mirridong Home.

Three sons have provided four grandchildren to keep them young in Jake's retirement, a large part of which he spends in his well-equipped workshop. He is still 'inventing.'

Despite all his achievements we like to think that the most important one is that he is a member of the Probus Club of Bendigo!

HAVING IN MIND our Maryborough experience, members of the Probus Club of Maroochydore (Q'land) must be a weak lot. They called off a visit to Beenleigh Rum Distillery after only 10½ INCHES OF RAIN had fallen in the one day. Must have thought there would be too much water in the rum!

FORMER BENDIGO BUTCHER and Pennant Bowls enthusiast, ERN WALLACE, now a member of the Coff's Harbour Probus Club sends his regards to Bendigo friends. Ern now lives in Woolgoolga, just north of Coffs.