



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!!!

MARYBOROUGH TRIP:

SEE DETAILS INSIDE.

THE SPEAKER SAYS:

"I'LL CALL THE BOARD!" To any citizen of Bendigo and district who has lived here since 1950, this clarion call will conjure up a mental picture of a stout, round-faced warrior with a voice that can startle pigeons in a loft five kilometres away.

DICK TURNER, ex-councillor, expert football caller and devoted fan for over 33 years (he has called as many BFL Grand Finals) is our guest speaker today. Always controversial, champion of the common man, never afraid to speak his piece, and revered by the many 'battlers' he has helped over the years, Dick has won a place in Bendigo probably unrivalled by any other citizen. To many Bendigonians he IS 'Mr. Bendigo' - so fierce is his defence of his home city. We look forward to a robust, entertaining talk from Dick Turner today.

SPEAKERS NOTE! "I do not object to people looking at their watches when I am speaking - but I strongly object when they start shaking them to make certain that they are still going!"

FOR THE FISHERMAN: A trout is a fish known mainly by hearsay. It lives on anything not included in a fisherman's diet.

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 16th OCTOBER at 10:00 a.m.

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THE SPEAKER LAST WEEK was TOM GLAZEBROOK, Divisional Engineer for the Road Construction Authority.

Introduced by Probian Alf Grierson, and using photographs and graphic illustrations Tom took us through the history and unique achievements of what was formerly the Country Roads Board.

It is an historical fact that as Rail transport declined the roads expanded so that today 90% of all transport (goods and passengers) travel on rubber wheels. To provide for this traffic, roads have to be built and maintained at an ever-increasing rate, making the RCA one of the State's greatest and most exacting public utilities.

The history of road-making in Victoria goes back to 1853 when a Central Road Authority was formed but it was not until four years later that it became effective. This proved to be inefficient so that in 1911 pressure from municipal councils led to the government being asked to take over. In 1913 the Country Roads Board Act was proclaimed.

Today the RCA employs 5000 staff and maintains, with continuous improvements a total length of 1229 kilometres of state highways.

Bendigo Division responsibilities cover one-sixth of the state of Victoria.

Probian Gordon Glover thanked Tom Glazebrook for an interesting and enlightening talk.

ACTIVITIES.

THE BIG NEWS is the trip to Maryborough. Visitors from this progressive town at our last meeting assured us of a most enjoyable day with fellowship and hospitality on tap.

Here are the details:

Date: Wednesday, 23rd October, 1985.

Cost: \$8 per person, including bus fare and barbeque lunch.

Ladies: Included in Party.

Bus: Leaves Bendigo Club at 9:15 am. Returns approx. 5:30 pm.

NAMES AND MONEY AT TODAY'S MEETING - PLEASE!

NEXT BIG ATTRACTION is the Christmas Dinner. This will be discussed today and some indication of numbers will be sought.

Here are the details:

Date: Wednesday, December 4th.

Time: 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm.

Venue: Bendigo Club.

Cost: \$13 per head (includes basic liquid refreshment).

LADIES ARE ESPECIALLY

Money will be collected, with

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KNOW YOUR MEMBERS

A man of many parts in local government holding the top executive position in two important municipalities, with a vigorous military history that included surviving a 3½ years stint as a wartime guest of the Sons of Nippon, and a post-war spate of activities in many community organizations: such is the calibre of

JACK WATTS

Born in 1916, Jack completed his education at Horsham High School, after which he commenced work with a transport company. 12 months later he joined Horsham Council as a junior clerk, where his first job was the payment of the notorious 'Susso' to the unemployed. The going rate was a princely sum of \$2.80 (today's rate) to sustain a family. So that this sudden rush of wealth would not go to his head, the recipient was required to do 20 hours work in exchange for this largesse!

A foundation member of Horsham Apex Club he found time, as well, to become involved in Tennis, Cricket, Table Tennis and Debating and to 'blow his own trumpet' - in this case, a trombone - in the Horsham Brass Band.

In 1936 he joined the 1st. Armoured Car Regiment (Militia) which inevitably led to the AIF when war broke out. In 1941 he headed for Malaya on the "Queen Mary" only to be taken prisoner of war, twelve months later. The next 3½ years was spent incarcerated in various Japanese POW camps on Singapore Island, of which Changi Gaol was the most notorious.

Discharged with the rank of Captain in 1946 Jack returned to Horsham and was appointed Town Clerk and Secretary of the Sewerage Authority and Water Works Trust. He was Executive Officer of the Horsham Electricity Supply until 1954 when it was taken over by S.E.C.

A member of the RSL, he was president of the Horsham Legacy Club in 1956 and came to Bendigo in 1957 where, for the next 20 years he was Bendigo City Town Clerk.

In Bendigo he has been involved in many activities, including the initial Heart and Cancer Campaign. He spent three years with the State Advisory Committee of the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

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KNOW YOUR MEMBERS (Continued)

(one year as Chairman). A fellow member of the committee was a distinguished Australian - Sir Zelman Cowen, later to become Governor-General.

Several years were spent as a divisional councillor of the Institute of Municipal Administration as well as a member of the Bendigo Football League Independent Tribunal for 20 years.

In retirement now, Jack Watts still maintains his Legacy duties and assists with Meals on Wheels and spends one day a week at the Spastic Centre.

With a wife, Beth, and two children, like most of us he has the pleasure of coping with six grandchildren.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, Jack is a member of the Probus Club of Bendigo and makes a useful contribution by conjuring up guest speakers for our monthly meetings.

ACTIVITIES (Continued)

BOWLS. Programmes are being arranged for one game per month. Polish up your bowls for this event.

NEWS AND VIEWS.

FOR THE STATISTICAL-MINDED Probus News (September, 1985) contains food for thought. The 20,000 male members of Probus today represents less than 1.6% of men in Australia and New Zealand over 60 years of age, and thus is only a small segment of those eligible for membership. With the increase of a predictable 15 percent over six years, the pool of eligibility will reach 1,400,000 by 1991. Add to this the estimated 1,775,000 females eligible for Ladies' Probus Clubs at that time and you start to get an idea of the potential for Probus in the area. Grey Power?

THE PORT OF MELBOURNE TOUR is so popular it is booked out for twelve months ahead! Not to be outdone, we will lodge, in November (when bookings open) an advanced booking for 8th October, 1986. Buy a diary now - and put it in!

FROM A SYDNEY NEWSPAPER report of an Anzac Day march:

First edition: "The march was led by Colonel X, a battle-scarred veteran."

Second edition (corrected), "The march was led by Colonel X, a battered-scarred veteran."

Third edition, (in desperation) "The march was led by Colonel X, a bottle-scarred veteran."

Presumably, at that point, the editor committed hara-kiri.