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# PROBE

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Bulletin of the Probos Club of Bendigo

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PROBUS CLUB OF BENDIGO

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

All correspondence to the Secretary, 16 William Drive, Kangaroo Flat.

THE SPEAKER SAYS:

GUEST SPEAKER TODAY will be TOM GLAZEBROOK, Divisional Engineer for the Road Construction Authority. He has been in charge of the Bendigo Division since 1969 and, despite the time-consuming nature of his vocation he has been able to serve for 25 years in the CMF as well as a lifetime commitment to the Scouting movement. He is Regional Commissioner for the Northern Region as well as a member of the Executive, Victorian State Scout Association. To make certain that no moment of his busy life escape unused, Tom is also a Lay Preacher in the Uniting Church. His subject today is: "Horses To Horsepower".

A LIFETIME OF 62 YEARS in Journalism added to experience as a Mining Engineer and an active interest in Sports (Baseball, Football and Cycling) should qualify anyone for an entry in the Guinness Book of Records. Regrettably, no such entry exists.

At our last meeting fellow-member CYRIL MICHELSON, MBE, entertained all those fortunate enough to be present with a vigorous talk aptly entitled, "Ramblings In Bendigo".

Introduced by Hugh Ward, he recalled all too few of the multitude of experiences that have come his way in more than 'three-score years

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NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 18th SEPTEMBER AT 10.00 a.m.

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THE SPEAKER SAYS (cont. . .)  
and ten' of varied activity.

In 1923 Bendigo had two newspapers, one of which, the "Sun" gave Cyril his start in Journalism. Unfortunately, two years later this noble journal collapsed and was taken over by its stronger rival, the "Bendigo Advertiser".

It is not possible to blame Cyril for this disaster, for he was retained by the Advertiser and spent the next 60 years busily dipping his pen in the ink writing for this top-rating provincial newspaper.

In his Law Courts reporting he spent countless hours digesting evidence, true and false, from a multitude of male factors ranging from the mundane to the murder and including at least one 'mercy killing'.

In 1944 he attended Bendigo's biggest bushfire - at Big Hill - in an Advertiser car appropriately fired by a charcoal burner! Another spectacular fire was at the Drill Hall when the live ammunition went up and added to the excitement of the spectacle.

On journalism today, Cyril had some appropriate criticism. He feels that on a world-wide scale there is a tendency to 'sensationalise' the news - a view with which many of us can agree.

Two events in his mining life stand out. In 1920 he was invited to join a party for lunch with Prince Edward (then Prince of Wales) at the bottom of a gold mine! On another occasion he was trapped 1620 feet down the Central Blue mine. Fortunately for Bendigo he obviously survived.

Probian Jack Hill, a worthy contemporary of Cyrils thanked him for a most entertaining address.

COMMENT (cont. . .)

consider that if 8% of our people are without work, then 92% are employed. Any member of a Probus Club must have survived the Great Depression when more than 50% of our people lived in abject poverty. Not to mention the great economic solution - World War 2!

Remember! Man has a record of survival unsurpassed by any other animal.

Maybe you see in the 'deplorable' conduct of some young people today a blueprint for Armageddon, in which case you are in good company; the Greek Philosophers were busy condemning the youth of their day. So what's changed?

One thing is certain; the youth of today, in another generation, will be saying, "IT'S A DIFFERENT WORLD!"



### KNOW YOUR MEMBERS

A career in Banking, culminating in a successful foray into Real Estate and flavoured with a stint in wartime Intelligence and a brief period as a grazier, to finally retire, first to Ballarat and then to Bendigo. Such is the experience of

#### JACK RUSSELL

Born at Creswick in 1913, Jack spent his primary school days at the Creswick State School and in 1926 he went to Swan Hill where he attended the Higher Elementary School, later, (in 1928) to become the Swan Hill High School. A painful memory of his boyhood was six weeks in bed with the dreaded Typhoid fever - now, mercifully, a very rare disease.

His first job after school was with the Union Bank which he joined in 1928. From Swan Hill he went to Horsham and later to Stawell from where he enlisted in the 2nd AIF, serving in the 7th Division, 18th Brigade.

After 2½ years as a 'foot-slogger' (Infantry) he was seconded as a Sergeant to Echelon - the area of ultimate control in the army. Here his experience in Intelligence gave to him secrets which, even today, cannot be revealed or published.

After discharge in 1946 Jack rejoined the bank at Rochester before being posted to New Zealand where he spent 3½ years in Auditing and establishing new agencies.

The life of a bank officer can be quite nomadic. After New Zealand he served in the Advance (loans) department in South Melbourne, then, in succession, Fitzroy, Bourke Street, Victoria Market, Northcote and Flinders Lane. No doubt by this time he had enough perambulating and left the bank, in 1959, to venture into Real Estate, operating in the Moonee Ponds area.

During this period he purchased a grazing property at Kilmore to which he retired in 1974, and which he subsequently sold to spend 5 years in Ballarat before coming to Bendigo.

In his private life, Jack has a wife, Mary, and two sons and a daughter. Daughter Ann is married and living in Doncaster whilst his two sons have carved successful careers for themselves in America. One son, Don, is a first-class Tennis player and has the honour of being

JACK RUSSELL (con't. . .)

the only junior player to ever beat the great Rod Laver in a straight match.

Jack bowls with Golden Square, is a Past President of the Rotary Club of Wendouree and a Foundation Member of the Probus Club of Ballarat.

Most importantly, he is the Secretary of the Probus Club of Bendigo.

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(COMMENT)

"IT'S A DIFFERENT WORLD!" In the conversation of men and women who have stretched beyond the meridian of their lives this is probably the most frequently-used phrase. In it are connotations of bewilderment and regret. It suggests that they have difficulty in coping with what they find is a very complicated world.

Yes, there really is much that is different. We travel now in high-speed transport, we use computers instead of fingers to count up to ten and a gyrating satellite miles up in space allows us to peer into the lives of people on the other side of the globe.

Yet there is one great specific that remains unchanged - the nature of man, and the basic motive of that nature - greed. Man is still dedicated to the firm principle of the exploitation of his own species in order that we may continue to have Rich and Poor, Haves and Have-nots, and the Golden Rule remains as pious and hypocritical as it was centuries ago. The spectre of Christ is still crucified in some manner in every day in the third world where starvation lures.

Any bookmaker would give you long odds that this will continue.

Of course, many of the changes we see in life today are not changes at all. We are appalled by the incidence of youthful crime, much publicised in the media, and we forget the times when the 'larrikans' and 'pushes' the vicious 'razor gangs' and the Squizzy Taylors fought the police in the slums of the cities. Corruption? Remember when a high-ranking police officer was able to own five 'houses of ill-repute' without losing his epaulettes?

To many these were the Good Old Days!

If you are one who is thoroughly depressed by the events of the day remember that an optimist is a person who says "I am half-way there" when he has half way to go. If you worry about unemployment