

# BENDIGO

Australia



## Y Service Club of Bendigo Inc

*"To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right"*

### Golden City Bulletin November 2019

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**Dinner + Programs:**

Thursday 6:30 pm  
Strathdale YMCA  
Crook Street, Bendigo

First meeting of the month  
is the business meeting

**President:**

Colin Lambie 0417561903

**Editor:** Peter Searle

Editor Next Month:

Doug Turnbull

**Contents:**

Editorial..... 1  
 We Are Eighty!!..... 1  
 Just for fun! ..... 1  
 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
 Dinner .....2  
 A busy end to the month 2  
 Spring Book Fair .....3  
 Birthdays in November ..3  
 Service Anniversaries ....3  
 Region Convention News3  
 President Colin at APAY  
 General Assembly .....3  
 A new Brother Club for our Club  
 .....3  
 November 2019 Programs  
 .....4  
 Film Night for November.4  
 Future Programs.....4  
 A thought! .....4

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### Editorial

#### We Are Eighty!!

Our club celebrated 80 years of service to the YMCA and the wider community on September 29. On hearing this, some friends made the remark that the club must be one of the oldest service clubs in Bendigo – and it is. As far as I can tell, the honour of the oldest continuing service club goes to the Bendigo Rotary Club, that met for the first time with 25 members in 1925 at Favaloro's Café in Pall Mall. Next was Bendigo Legacy in 1926 – also meeting at Favaloro's Café. Apex Australia began in 1931 with the Bendigo club forming in 1935 but ceased operating in the 1990's. The Y's Men's Club of Bendigo (as it was known then) was next with the club chartered in September, 1939, so we are the third oldest operating service club in Bendigo – a great achievement.



Forming a service club at the outbreak of World War II was a brave move and even though the club went into recess in 1942 and did not operate again until October 1945 there was still sufficient interest for a viable club and by 1946 membership was around 40. It is interesting to read the excellent summarized history of the club produced by Peter Unmack and recognize the changes that have taken place over the last 80 years. To a large extent the changes reflect the changes in Australian society over this period. Early on, club activities and projects were centred around the YMCA, such as assisting staff with Boys Clubs, maintenance and improvement of YMCA facilities, hosting YMCA dances etc. All of these activities are now contracted out or organized by YMCA staff. Projects such as collecting waste paper, rabbit drives and distributing firewood to needy or elderly people are all things of the past. Fundraising today is centred on our two major projects –

Christmas Trees and the Book Fairs. Now our service is concentrated on distributing the funds to the YMCA and worthy community organizations both locally and overseas. The change in emphasis is the result of a combination of the increasing living standards of the community, insurance issues and the increased corporatization of the YMCA.

We have changed over the years and will continue to do so to meet the challenges ahead. However one thing that hasn't changed is the importance of volunteers in the way our society operates. At our Celebration Dinner Mayor Margaret O'Rourke emphasized how critical volunteers are to the city, and that our Book Fairs and Christmas Tree sales are not just fund raisers but an important part of the social fabric of Bendigo that are sometimes taken for granted.

What now for the future? Clearly, we are an old club with a declining membership comprising old members getting older. Over the years we have made changes in the way we operate our projects to cope with a membership that is less physically able. Perhaps now is the time to develop a "model for survival" so that our projects can continue when we can't?

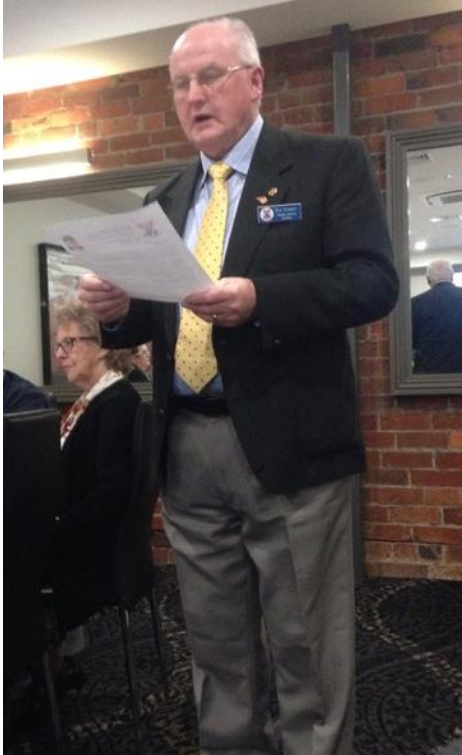
Enough of the pessimism – we are eighty – sit back, relax and contemplate all the great times, great friends past and present, and the support we have given to the people of Bendigo that has helped to make this city such a wonderful place to live.

PS.

#### Just for fun!

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, "I've lost my electron." The other says, "Are you sure?" Yes, I'm positive!"

## 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner



RD Bill Schmidt congratulated the club on 80 years of service.



Eighteen members attended the Celebration Dinner



Mayor Margaret O'Rourke, 50yr members Ian Randall AM, Peter Unmack and Kevin Lockett with President Colin Lambie (centre).



The celebratory cake

## A busy end to the month

The end of September was a busy time for club members. With the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner, the Spring Book Fair and the annual presentation for the AFL tipping competition awards so it was all hands on deck.



Peter Unmack maintained his hold on the wooden spoon.

The 2019 tipping champion was Secretary Dennis Dole and Peter Unmack managed to keep the wooden spoon for another year. Dennis – resplendent in Dogs colours – again provided an entertaining trivia quiz and was awarded a certificate in recognition of his efforts in the quiz department over many years. Congratulations, Dennis!



President Elect Rob Green presenting our “Quizmaster Extraordinaire” with his certificate.



Jon Lebek making the presentation to our Footy Tipping Winner Dennis Dole..

## Spring Book Fair

The 2019 Spring Book Fair was a great success ably led by Bryan Baker. Requesting fewer CFA volunteers enabled us to better control the setting up of the tables and returning unsold books to storage. As the stadium was available, spreading the set up over 3 days eased pressure on our volunteers. Funds raised were slightly up on the 2018 effort, and opening on Friday and Saturday appears the model to follow in future years. Treasurer Bob Spencer was missed – absent for the first time in many years – but Michelle Janssen did a sterling job in his stead. A full review of the operation will be held in November. Congratulations to all on a job well done.

## Birthdays in November

Ron Aldridge

Ross Aldridge



## Service Anniversaries

John Holland 26 years

David Coles 16 years

Robin Green 45 years

## Region Convention News

A number of issues were discussed at the Region Convention recently held at Kangaroo Flat and the following is a summary.

1. The importance for all members who have any contact whatsoever with children to have a “Working with Children Certificate” brought to our attention. Given an increasingly litigious society this is an issue we need to take seriously, even though we may have only intermittent contact with children at Book Fairs and Christmas Trees. Obtaining a certificate is now a simple on-line process. More details at the November Business Meeting.
2. There was discussion about the “100 Day Membership Campaign”. The following is from the recent YMI World: Recently, your club

should have received information about the 100 Day Membership Campaign beginning on 1 September. In order to achieve our goals, much effort is needed and ISG Jose Varghese has formulated a plan to help us to move forward. In our clubs we have already been challenged to bring along new members and to sponsor another club through the Challenge 22 initiative. To assist in the campaign, a 50% discount will be offered to spouses who join as new members over the next three years.

3. The motion on notice from Regional Director Elect Wayne Cameron and Ron Buchan regarding a possible major project for the Australian Region was lost. However, it was decided to ask a committee of Club Presidents and the Region Executive to research this matter further during the coming twelve months. It was generally accepted there was a good case to support some aspect of the work of the Kidney Foundation.
4. International President Jennifer Jones made a request for each Club to make a nomination for a Golden Book Award each year.
5. Wayne Cameron as Regional Webmaster asked that clubs in the region check the records for their members in Portal Buzz as it is clear that some of these are out-of-date or incorrect.

## President Colin at APAY General Assembly

President, Colin Lambie attended the Asia-Pacific Alliance of YMCAs (APAY) General Assembly in Gotemba, Japan as Chair of the APAY Green Team. Gotemba is at the foot of Mt Fuji. Colin co-presented the environment workshops. The 'mandate' (outcome) of the General Assembly included:

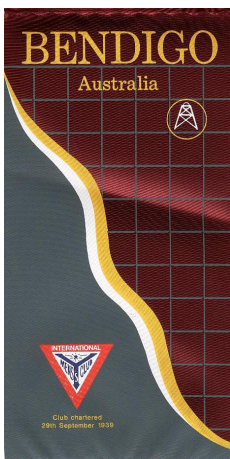
- (That All YMCAs) 'Commit to reduce carbon emissions and become carbon neutral by 2030',
- 'Be environmentally sensitive when conducting events by banning single use plastic items and being paperless in all our YMCA events'

If formally adopted, this will be a major step in the right direction for YMCAs, which of course care about the impact of climate change on humanity.

## A new Brother Club for our Club

At our Council Meeting in October we received a request to accept a new Brother Club from the USA, Helena Y Service Club, which is in Montana. The suggestion from Phil Sammer, Hawai'i Regional Director, was to form a triangle of brother clubs between our current brother club, Central Y Service Club, Hawai'i, Helena Y Service Club and our own club.

This proposal has been accepted.



## Y Service Club Programs for November 2019

*Strathdale Community Centre*

*Crook Street Bendigo*

*Fellowship from 5:45 pm for 6:30 pm dinner*

*Come along and enjoy our fellowship & activities! \$15.00*

### November 2019 Programs

**Thursday November 7th**

Business Meeting

**Table Talk:** Kevin Lockett

**Reflection:** Bryan Baker

**Squire:** Dennis Dole

**Duty Team #3:** Keith Kelly (Captain), Alan Campbell, Bruce Ramage, Peter Searle, Ian Randall

**Thursday November 14th Peter Malone and Georgie Nichol YMCA Update**

**Duty Team #1:** Doug Turnbull (Captain), Bryan Baker, Kevin Lockett, Stan Thomas

**Thursday November 21st**

**Michael Penno,**

**Royal Flying Doctor Service**

**Duty Team #2:** Ken Morrison (Captain), Bryan Curnow, Jon Lebek, Ken Ludeman

**Thursday November 28th**

**Kellie Dodds, AIF (ret.),**

**Service to Veterans**

**Duty Team #3:** Keith Kelly (Captain), Alan Campbell, Bruce Ramage, Peter Searle, Ian Randall

**Thursday December 5th**

Business Meeting

**Table Talk:** Jon Lebek

**Reflection:** Bob Spencer

**Squire:** Bryan Baker

**Duty Team #1:** Doug Turnbull (Captain), Bryan Baker, Kevin Lockett, Stan Thomas

#### Film Night for November.

The film for November 6<sup>th</sup> is “**Top End Wedding**” which is set Northern Australia, Darwin, Tiwi Islands and around the Northern Territory. The scenery is spectacular and the theme is a light-hearted romantic comedy.

It stars Mianda Tapsell and Gwilym Lee and from a start in non-descript corporate Adelaide it heads north into a great range of top end scenery which provides a stunning backdrop to a “race to the altar” plot with many indigenous cultural understandings and situations along the way.

Tapsell is the heart of the film and as she encounters the entertaining characters that make her Darwin squad the result is a romp through meaningful aesthetic choices that make it clear that this is no typical romantic comedy. Enjoyable, light-hearted and fun!

#### Future Programs

The only programs for December will be a business meeting and the Christmas Luncheon.

February’s programs are to be organized by Doug Turnbull, Bryan Curnow and Ian Randall.

With the summer break coming up they will need to start thinking about next year!

We start meeting formally again on Feb 6<sup>th</sup> which will be a business meeting, there will be one meeting at Kangaroo Flat and we will need programs for the two remaining Thursdays.

#### A thought!

“There is only one thing for us to and that is to do our best, right where we are every day of our lives.”

Quote : Orison Swett Marden