

# BENDIGO

Australia



Club chartered  
29th September, 1939

## Y Service Club of Bendigo Inc

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

### Golden City Bulletin July 2020

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**Dinner + Programs:**

Thursday 5:00 pm  
Strathdale YMCA  
Crook Street, Bendigo

First meeting of the month  
is the business meeting

**President:**

Rob Green

**Editor: Colin Lambie**

Editor Next Month:

**Dennis Dole**

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**Editorial:**

Who would have thought that the world would become be so dependent on a product like Zoom as it has over the last few months.



There have been advantages, which includes attending talks by leading experts in their field, in my case examples include energy, electric vehicles, and climate change. Organisations that normally organise talks, for 10 to a 12 people in a room in Hobart, find they have an audience of 150 attending from all over Australia via Zoom.

The many interesting talks I normally see advertised in Melbourne come & go without me taking advantage of the opportunity to attend, simply because of the 2 hours each way required in travel time. Now I can sit in my study, for the talk of usually only one hour and be as well informed as I would be if I had attended in person.

Actually, in some ways attending online is better. The platforms like Zoom allow for questions to be submitted during the talks and for sharing of relevant links to papers, reports, etc while the talk is underway.

I appreciate the lack of one on one opportunities that result from attending seminars, workshops, conferences and exhibitions, usually over a coffee during

breaks. Although even this is possible and I have experienced having a separate chat with Zoom and a face-to-face coffee with other participants I have met in Zoom meetings.

One interesting innovation for our Club was our recent idea of inviting a 'Zoom buddy' in to homes of Zoom proficient members to overcome the problem of some members not having a computer.

On the down side of course, a Zoom meeting will never be a substitute for the more social aspects of a group of people like our club.

The COVID19 pandemic has created havoc around the world, especially in countries which prefer to ignore it, rather than lock-down as Australia has done.

Zoom has overcome many of the problems of distance for those in the business world by enabling people in various locations to attend meetings without having to spend time travelling.

Likewise the risk of spreading COVID19 has meant much less time spent travelling, especially by air.

The benefit of the changes will no doubt result in a reduction of greenhouse gases, which is a desirable outcome, but this is not how we would choose to achieve it

C.L.

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### **What Dennis Dole has been doing while in isolation.**

Unable to host grandchildren overnight or even during the day. This meant their parents had to arrange childcare for the younger one, work from home and do home schooling.

Unable to meet at Y Service Club. Zoom was introduced by then President, now Treasurer Colin so that council and business meetings could be held in our homes for those with internet access. Unfortunately, the five or six members who do not have internet at home were unable to participate in the same way. Dialling in via telephone worked all right for a time but precluded the visual side of communication from being enjoyed. President Elect Peter Searle demonstrated creative leadership by arranging some entertaining and challenging programs via Zoom. On the whole Zoom has been a reasonable substitute for communication among us

Unable to meet at Church either for weekly services or for Church council where one is Treasurer. Services were accounted for by a devoted team produced a weekly service to be seen on YouTube. This is proving popular among our parishioners and more, judging by the number of hits the video received, usually double or more the number of folks who attend services live. The role of Treasurer however continues with its week to week challenges, with the introduction of JobKeeper allowances for casual employees a major change to our book-keeping

Jigsaw for beginners. I borrowed some 500 and 1000-piece jigsaws and spent three months trying to put together a 500-piece Alpine European scene, without total success. It did say 6 years +, but I was able to 99% complete in just 3 months! Yet to try the 1,000 piece one.

Walking the dog! To vary the scenery while we walk the dog, we have used the pathways at Eaglehawk's Lakes Neangar and Tom Thumb, Kennington Reservoir, and many paths following the Sheepwash Creek in Strathfieldsaye.

Oh, and I forgot the takeaway coffee from Macca's at White Hills followed by walking around the beautiful Botanic Gardens and the bike trail around White Hills/Epsom

Judy and I have shared the cooking. I suppose we always do, so nothing new here

Golf and bowls are back on the agenda albeit in a restricted mode but another way of getting some exercise.

Thankfully, the restrictions are being eased during June, so grandchildren minding is back on the agenda to keep us on our toes

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### **What Peter Searle has been doing while in isolation**

He began with long deferred jobs around the garden – replacing damaged/worn wooden garden edges, re-doing a section of brick paving that had subsided, building a frame for next summer's strawberry crop etc. After the weather began to get colder indoor pursuits began to dominate. He signed up to two on-line courses at University of Tasmania. Understanding Dementia followed by Preventing Dementia. Why? Because he had some time available due to the restrictions, he hadn't tried an online course before and because he didn't know much about dementia, thought it could be a useful way of learning about it. It was. Although popular with some during isolation, Peter refrained from tidying up the shed. He argued that he knows where everything is, and if he tidied up and re-arranged things he wouldn't be able to find anything easily for the next 10 years or so. Besides, there is a lot of stuff stored in his shed that hasn't found a use yet.

As Secretary of Bendigo Orienteers he has been involved in navigating the 'return to sport' Government guidelines to ensure a safe return to competition. If there is one sport where social distancing is an integral part of the competition it is orienteering! People race off by themselves at three-minute intervals, should not follow anyone and an hour or so later – hopefully - reappear again. Our Y Service Club meetings are constrained by the 4 square metre rule with a 17 person maximum in the meeting room. Presently, a 20 person maximum applies to an orienteering competition conducted over 100 acres or so of bushland!! Go figure.

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### **What Colin Lambie has been doing while in isolation**

COVID19 has not made a great difference to the 'work' I do. I do not spend time in the Bendigo Sustainability Group office as I normally do, but the work I do can be done anywhere, as long as I have a computer and the Internet.

I have stopped the monthly public information sessions about solar & batteries at the Library. Some people have still made contact, so I am able to provide advice by phone and email.

The main project I have worked on for last 3 years has been to establish community owned solar rooftop projects. We had reached the point where we had a number of potential hosts for community owned solar projects, but COVID19 put a stop to most.

I am still hopeful that a grant to install solar & a battery at Maiden Gully Fire Brigade will happen.

More recently I have put together a grant application to install 20 to 30kW on 5 community buildings and 3kW on each of the 25 social housing homes at Sidney Myer Haven in Flora Hill. This project will require crowd funding (fund raising) of some of the cost of each solar system.

One of the sites included in the grant application is Lightning Reef Early Learning Centre, which is run by the YMCA.

The other sites are: the Bendigo Golf Club at Epsom; Barrack Reserve at Heathcote and two Access Australia buildings.

Another interest I started this year is with U3A (University of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Age). I joined a discussion group, which was meeting in a room at Kangaroo Flat. I got to one meeting and then COVID19 stopped face-to-face meetings. I had been introduced to Zoom shortly after the U3A group shut down, so I suggested they meet on Zoom. Like our club, not all have a computer or the skill to use Zoom, but those that did have appreciated the continuation of meetings.

I am also part of local ABC Friends and have proposed use of Zoom for gatherings of ABC supporters. Our first event will be a talk by local ABC rep, Sian Gard, the Station Manager. Sian and many participants will be on Zoom; some participants will be attending together in a room (the room used by our club) at the Strathdale Community Centre. This event is at 5pm on Wed 8 July 2020.

### Recent Program Highlights

In the last few weeks we have had a variety of programs, some on Zoom and two face-to-face meetings in our usual club rooms. Our program co-ordinator, Peter Searle, has organised some interesting activities; including:

A cryptic puzzle game – matching words or phrases or images with towns in Victoria

Members to talk about **'my first car'**, which was very enlightening about members and their interest in cars, or view that a car was a means to get from one point to another

A trivia quiz by our trivia master, Dennis Dole

Members to talk about a **'natural occurring feature'**

A short talk about a **'man made object'**

### Birthdays in July

Peter Searle

Kevin Lockett

Dennis Dole



### International President Installation

Because there will be no physical meeting of the ICM this year, the traditional installation of the international officers will be hosted online at 8pm (Bendigo time) on Saturday 4 July, 2020. Club members, friends and family from all around the world and especially in Australia are invited to this live event, which will be streamed on the Y's Men International Facebook page: (<https://www.facebook.com/YsMenInternational>) and on our website - <https://www.ysmen.org/live/>.

### Book Shop



Thanks to Bryan Baker and his helpers our Book Shop in the Hargreaves Mall is proving to be a successful alternative to the Book Fairs which we cannot run due to Covid 19 at present. Sales have been beyond our expectations and are growing steadily week on week.



## Y Service Club Programs for July 2020

Strathdale Community Centre

Crook Street Bendigo

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

Come along and enjoy our fellowship & activities! \$18.00

## July 2020 Programs

**Thursday July 2nd**

**Business Meeting**

**Squire:** Bruce Ramage

**Table Talk:** Ian Randall

**Reflections:** Bob Spencer

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

**Thursday July 9th**

**TBA**

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

**Thursday July 16th**

**TBA**

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

**Thursday July 23rd**

**TBA**

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

**Thursday July 30th**

**TBA**

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

**Thursday August 6th**

**Business Meeting**

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

### Program planners for August

Peter Unmack, Bryan Baker and Bruce Ramage are reminded that they are the program planners for next month.

### Humour (from our Brother Club in Hawaii)

More signs of the times:

# I'm so bored! I went outside and knocked on my own door then came back in and said:  
Who is it?

# Cop: Is that alcohol that I smell? Driver: No officer it's hand sanitizer...

# Wearing a mask inside your homes is now highly recommended. Not so much to prevent COVID-19 but to stop eating...

### Quote from an Economist

"Following the pandemic is like watching the climate crisis with your finger jammed on the fast-forward button."

### A thought on living life

"Say little; love much; give all; judge no one; aspire to all that is honest and good - and keep on keeping on!"