

PROBUS CLUB OF BALNARRING INC.

Established September 1985

APRIL 2023 Newsletter

Next meeting : Friday, April, 28th

at 10:00am Balnarring Bowls and Social Club



2023-2024 COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Dennis Paskins 5983 2952

VICE-PRESIDENT

Vacant

TREASURER

Bob Anselmi 5989 2523

SECRETARY / PUBLIC OFFICER

Peter Cole 5931 3610

SPEAKERS

Alan Rae 0412 387 441

PAST PRESIDENT & WELFARE

Daryl Cowen 5983 5321

NEWSLETTER

Rob Walker 5983 5159

GENERAL MEMBERS

Barry Gordon 0476 033 078

Bernie Poll 5931 3120

KEY ROLES (Non Committee)

Membership Ray McCutcheon 0412 128 195

Webmaster Roger Price 0403 592 195

Morning Tea Carlo Orlando 5983 2099

LIFE MEMBERS

Eric Kings Jay Nagl+

Ron Deane Col Randall

Ray McCutcheon Stan Byrne +

Col Saunders + Bruce Margetts +



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

April, 2023

Any anticipation one had for the pending General Meeting and AGM was tempered by the announcement that of the death of Jay Nagle on the previous evening. He was both a long serving stalwart of the club, and a life Member. The Club gave recognition to Jay's service to the club. A more detailed eulogy will be made at the meeting on Friday.

Whilst it is an honor to be given this Presidency, it does not come without responsibilities. Daryl has given remarkable and dedicated service both over the last three years, and many before that in executive roles. The New Executive is very new to in their individual roles, and we all will be relying on his experience to guide us throughout the year.

One important role with the club, has been the Welfare Officer, a role that has been excellently covered by Brian Bailey, he has requested a replacement, and I am pleased to announce that Daryl has stepped into this role.

I am grateful all other important positions that are carried out by club members have agreed to remain in those roles, so there will be many familiar faces both behind and in front of the club.

It is clear that member numbers are an issue, and a constant item on our "bucket List" This committee does not have an obvious solution, but at least we can continue to provide activities, and speakers that provide information, fun, and fellowship.

The committee looks forward to your support over the coming Probus Year.

Dennis

WELFARE REPORT

Dear Members

I am pleased to inform you all that Derek Maude is out of Hospital and doing well.

If you or your partner has a serious illness or accident please let me know. The information is kept confidential unless you authorize its publication either in the newsletter or at a

general meeting.

One support the club does offer is transport to medical or other urgent appointments and I have a list of members willing to assist and can be contacted as per the phone number on the first page.

Daryl Cowen

SOMERS LADIES PROBUS HAPPY HOUR

Happy Hour resumes at the Somers Tennis Club at 5:00pm on Friday 28th April

To cover venue hire please bring \$2.00 and also come along with nibbles and chat to share.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yes, it is that time again, subscriptions are now due.

Your payment of \$40 can be made in cash or cheque at the next meeting OR through the Bank directly, details on page 1. PLEASE ENSURE YOU GIVE YOUR NAME. Cheques can be posted to our PO Box.212, Balnarring 3926

Our preference is for direct transfer to the bank account.

Bob Anselmi 5989 2523



Leo Cullum— Autumn: A time for reflection

Source: <https://silverbirchpress.wordpress.com/2013/09/02/autumn-a-time-for-reflection-new-yorker-cartoon-by-leo-cullum/>

VALE JAY NAGL

On Thursday 30 March, the day before our last club meeting, we lost one of our most loved members in Jay Nagl at the age of 90.

Jay was the loving husband of Rita for 69 years, the father to five children, grandfather to six. His family is a lasting tribute to Jay.

Jay, a life member, joined our club in February 1999 and for the next 24 years contributed in many roles and in many ways.

He held the position of Secretary from 1999 to 2008 and, as with all things, he was meticulous in his record keeping, the preparation of minutes and organising both General and Annual General Meetings.

He was Newsletter Editor from 2005 to 2008 (jointly with me in 2005).



For most of our older members Jay will be remembered for his role as Secret Mens' Business (SMB) organiser from 2010 to 2015. He organised many visits to places of special interest, show and tell meetings and even an outing to take a flight in a glider.

Perhaps the most impressive event organised by Jay was a visit to Victoria's Parliament Building where he had organised for our local MP, Martin Dixon, to take our 50 members and wives for a tour of the building followed by lunch in the Members' Dining Room. Jay had gone to the trouble to organise a corsage for all of the ladies, a touch that typified the extraordinary lengths he went to for this particular visit. He then addressed the members with a heartfelt tribute to Australia and its democracy. This was particularly important to

Jay who had escaped war-torn Europe as a boy with his mother to settle in Australia.

While Jay arrived in Australia with no English, he certainly mastered it and produced at least 10 revisions to that speech which he asked Bob Chynoweth and me to review. It ended up a very polished address which was greatly appreciated by all present.

In 2015 Jay invited members to his home for a very special BBQ where he announced that he wished to step down from the SMB role and asked for others to fill the vacancy. John Hatton and I agreed to fill that void but shortly after we lost John. I agreed to run the group but out of respect to Jay we rebadged the group as 'Big Boys Business'. The format remained similar, and I adopted the same promotional sheets for each event that he had pioneered so well. I am indebted to Jay for his lesson in communications that actually worked!

Some years ago, Jay gave a talk to the club describing his arrival in Australia and how he had made a great success of his life. He recalled how his father had made him a wooden suitcase to house all his worldly goods for the trip to Australia. It was particularly poignant that on the stage with him was his cherished wooden suitcase, his only tangible link to his much-loved father. There was not a dry eye in the hall.

Another notable achievement was Jay's preparation of our 25th Anniversary Booklet. He researched all of the Club's files and summarised everything from the founding members, the complete membership over that period, the officers that served on the Committee, the details of annual trips and tributes to members who contributed so much in those first 25 years. It was a herculean effort again showing Jay's attention to detail in everything he undertook.

Jay was awarded Life Membership to our club in 2009. I have prepared a pictorial Tribute to Jay that will be screened at our meeting on 28 April. That 3-minute tribute will include many images of Jay's contribution to our Club and his words of gratitude upon being granted Life Membership.

The Probus Club of Balnarring has lost an incredible man who has experienced every possible trial in his life yet emerged with a generosity of spirit, openly expressed on so many occasions and genuine pride in his membership of this Club. He will certainly be sorely missed by us all.

Ray McCutcheon

After family and friends there were two things Jay Nagl loved ... playing bridge with the Monday group and wide-ranging talks about politics, Australia and the world in the afternoon tea break mid-way through our playing sessions.

Jay was one of the founders of the bridge group along with Kim Partos, Rod Nuske, John Smith and Warren Reedman.

Jay was an avid reader of the *Economist* magazine and always had a view on local and world affairs. Despite his hearing impairment he always took a very active part in discussions.

He relished these exchanges as much as he relished getting a good hand at bridge and winning. Jay was a canny player who loved the challenge of the game which he used to say kept the mind active.

Until a few months ago, he kept the weekly scores and produced a spread sheet giving a running total of points for the year for each player, the winner of each session, the loser or what he called Stone Motherless Last, the group total points and the group average. In other words a thorough and meticulous job so typical of the person.

Jay was a warm people person interested in what his friends and fellow club members were doing. He retained a European custom of always shaking hands when we met up on Mondays ... it was part of the ritual along with afternoon tea and good-natured banter.

Above all Jay was a gentleman and a gentle man ... I will miss him enormously.

Tony Duboudin



**2013 CONTRACT BRIDGE SESSION IN
PROGRESS at Rod's home;**

I to r: Rod Nuske, Renato Ballat, Jay Nagl,
Warren Reedman & Kim Partos

BOOK CLUB

Book Group B meets regularly at 7.30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month.

With saturating reporting by all elements of the media on the daily developments by both proponents and objectors to the forthcoming referendum on "The Voice" it was with considerable interest the equally controversial book, *Dark Emu* by Bruce Pascoe was the subject of Book Group's April meeting. Tony Duboudin kindly provided the venue and Peter Gerdson gamely led the night's very spirited discussions.

A Bunurong man, born in Richmond Melbourne, with Tasmanian and Yuin heritage now living in Gipsy Point Gippsland, Pascoe has had a varied career as a teacher, farmer, fisherman, Aboriginal language researcher, archaeological site worker, as well as a director of the Australian Studies project for the Commonwealth Schools Commission. His novel, *Fox a Dox* won the 2013 Prime Minister's award for Fiction.

In *Dark Emu*, dedicated "To the Australians", Pascoe seeks to challenge and upend the long-held dominant assumption, much inspired by colonial and subsequent propaganda, that Aborigines were simply nomadic hunter-gathers. In contrast, he creates a compelling picture of a pre-colonised Australia as a land of cultivated farming areas, of sowing and harvesting, granaries with surplus produce, productive fishing techniques, durable buildings of clay-covered wood, weirs and an

understanding of the soil that kept it moist and fertile before the introduction of sheep and cattle. That the Aborigines regularly use and have the ability to safely manage fire is a sharp contrast to more recent experiences. Pascoe's claims of their sophisticated guardianship of the then existing natural resources is backed by his extensive research, notes and recorded observations of explorers such as Thomas Mitchell. Underlying his thesis is the idea that by recognising the sophistication and innovative skills which sustained Aborigines for so long, living in respectful human co-operation and care of the natural land might be of assistance in Australia's future development.

Members were agreed since European white settlement Aborigines have suffered grievously and while it's unlikely a return to their earlier lifestyle is now possible, nonetheless there is much that can be learned from it. Further, the nomadic hunter-gather syndrome, till challenged by Pascoe had been firmly entrenched and is still accepted by many today. Most thought the book deserved to have a wider circulation and even be included on school reading lists. There was some criticism of its uneven structure getting a score of 2 while most gave it about 4 for the subject matter. Recommended.

The next meeting, hosted by Bernie Gittins, will be on Tuesday the 9th of May when members will review "Exposure" by Helen Dunmore.

Contact: Dan Hourigan 0407 754 774

ANZAC Service 2023



Photos by Rob Walker



Crickey! This is heavy.



Peering around the flagpole



GARDENING GROUP



This month, we forewent our regular meeting form, instead visiting two very different venues. Crib Point community Garden was our first stop. Carol Barrie gave us an extensive and very interesting guided tour of the well developed and structured garden. We were particularly impressed by the culture embedded in the garden community; it truly embodied the meaning of community.

A short trip to Hastings brought us to Willum Warrain Indigenous Nursery. Much more than a nursery, it is a cultural hub for the local Indigenous people. Julie Morgan, showed us around their 'kitchen garden', propagating igloo and the nursery, explaining some of their cultural and educational activities. Karsten Poll, then gave us more in depth (albeit brief)

tour of their site describing their importance and uses with various group activities. Overall an informative and enjoyable morning.

We are planning on visiting Sages Cottage and Farm in May. As yet, arrangements have not been finalised and notice will be circulated among group members.

Rob Walker 5983 5159

Photos by Peter Gerdson



WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 10th May at Harold Weber's home located at 36 Balnarring Beach Rd at 2:00pm and the theme will be Merlot. I will not be able to attend as I will be holidaying in Europe, but Harold has graciously offered to host so please advise him if you are going to attend.



For June, I will be arranging another winery visit and tasting on Wednesday the 14th June and will provide further details at the General Meeting on 26th May.

Rod Beet 0426 989 255



Poldraw Autumn Leaf 2

Source: <https://poldraw.wordpress.com/2008/11/10/the-monday-cartoon-autumn-leaf/>



Bikies Group, April 2023

Again, with the exception of important social and other recreational sports, we have completed daily rides to local destinations. We often discuss the potential to move further afield, but have become accustomed to our local routes and destinations. Perhaps a more dynamic leader is sought !!

Personally, I made a ride around Devil Bend Reserve, but was very disappointed. Our bike paths are bad, theirs are fire trails, but more importantly no coffee stop, and I have admit, got lost !!

One very important aspect of the rides is the support you can obtain in reference to any activity; anticipated purchase, health issues, you name it we cover it. And in the end you maybe confused, but you will be informed. A recent highlight was an insider's review of Fox's recent 86th Birthday Bash.

Come along. Electric bikes are welcome; we even have cars.

If you interested, we could put you on the "Bike," group information email list for advice on meeting points and destinations. Contact John Copeland on 0414 543 742 or Dennis Paskins at verdenp@bigpond.com.



ALL WELCOME

BIRTHDAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

April 2023

Ian Tweedie	94	Warren Freedman	91
George Juhasz	75		

BIG BOYS' BUSINESS

Ray McCutcheon continues settling into his new home.

Visits are still being investigated for the near future.

Daryl Cowen



HAPPY SNAPPERS



Happy Snappers returned to its traditional home where Max treated us to a 3D photo exhibition of an art exhibition mounted in top floor of Flinders street Station. We were surprised by the impact of the 3D images. We looked so cool with our 3D glasses.

This was followed by our usual showing of images on the month's topic 'reflections'. There were some outstanding photos with interesting and varying interpretations of the topic.

Next meeting will be Monday May 8th at Max's place.

Contact	Max Hem	5983 5274	or
	Peter Gerdson	0407 321 048	

Out There

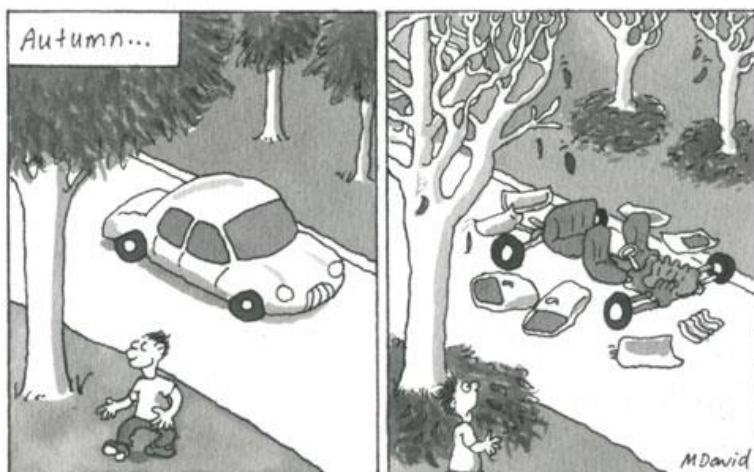


"Can you believe it's autumn already"

By George Autumn

Source: https://www.toonpool.com/cartoons/autumn_93325

www.mdavid.com.au



Mark David Autumn

Source: <https://mdavid.com.au/cartoons/cartoon97.html>

CONTRACT BRIDGE



We rotationally play at each other's homes every Monday afternoon. Sessions go for around three hours. If you are interested, please speak with one of our present regular players; Tony Duboudin, Warren Reedman, Vernon Tansley or John Wilkinson.

Group Contact is Tony Duboudin on 5983 2551

FLOOBYDUST

The *Amanita muscaria* has flushed bright red; 'Slippery Jack' and other wild mushroom gatherers scour the verges. So we'd better get into Autumn tracks. Let's start with a musical teaser. The first three tracks all have the same title, but are quite different. Are they the same composition?



Autumn Leaves Cannonball Adderly 10:57

Autumn Leaves Ahmad Jamal 11:50



Autumn Leaves Ebene Quartet 5:28
Composer Joseph Kosna Arranged by Toru Takemitsu

Harvest Moon The Brothers Comatose and Ala Jee 4:42
There were so many good versions ... Not sure how I got back from that rabbit hole.



November Rain Guns N' Roses 9:16

'Tis Autumn Chet Baker 5:18



Autumn in New York Billy Holiday 3:41

I think you can all find your way to Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' so what about...

The Seasons (Autumn Section) Joseph Hayden 6:15
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra



Autumn Serenade John Coltrane 4:20

Autumn Town Leaves Iron and Wire 3:06



Autumn Song Van Morrison 10:38

Looking for something to do during Autumn?

Bright Autumn Festival It starts this weekend and Bright is not so far away.

[Click Here!](#)

[Click Here!](#)

Autumn events and festivals, Victoria.

And for a global perspective (at least a travel company's perspective
8 Fall Celebrations from around the world.

[Click Here!](#)

[Click Here!](#)

Tangential, interesting, linked to Autumn by the name of a volunteer and instructor -

[Sarah Autumn, 'Switch Witch'](#) - at the Seattle Telecommunications History Group. For those interested, it's worth clicking through *Museums & Activities/Connections Museum Seattle/Museum Exhibits*.