

PROBUS CLUB OF BALNARRING INC.

Established September 1985

August 2023 Newsletter

Next meeting : Friday, August, 25th

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 0490 85 5610

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 +

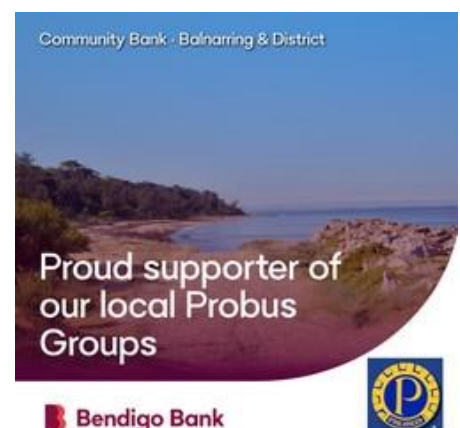
Daryl Cowen



Newsletter editor: Rob Walker rob50walk@gmail.com ph: 5983 5159

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Inside this issue: Taking a 'Train'



We are again indebted to the Bendigo Bank, who have agreed to fund our Seminar on "What Happens When". It is now our turn to provide our membership with the information that we need to navigate this portion of our lives.

At this meeting we will be asking all members who wish to attend this seminar, along with your partner or friend, to sign the sheets available. It is also important that those who are absent from this meeting, or potentially future meetings, to advise Peter Cole if you wish to attend. It is essential that we get an early idea of the numbers that could be attending.

Regretfully some club members were hit by a "Scam", email. It is with our increasing dependence on "online" communication, that this will continue. As a result, we must be very alert to the content, wording, and relevance, of any email received. There is, though, no easy answer to this problem.

Banks are really tightening up on "password recognition" but we in the course of just managing our own finances provide any amount of information online that can be used against us illegally.

At a recent Finance meeting, one of our members provided a very relevant presentation on this issue, and will give all club members this opportunity to view this presentation in the near future.

Dennis,



Dean Alston-The West Australian

Source: <https://thewest.com.au/opinion/dean-alston/dean-alstons-cartoons-december-16-21-c-614138>

WELFARE REPORT

If you or your partner has a serious illness or accident please let me or president Dennis 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. If you need transport to our monthly meetings this can also be arranged.

Keep safe and warm.

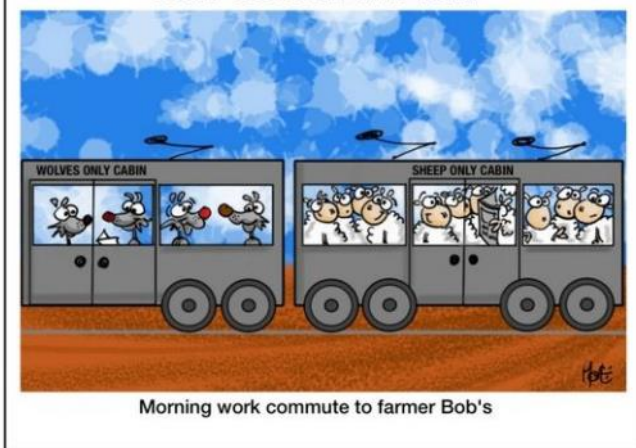
Daryl Cowen



Royston Robertson

Source: <http://www.roystoncartoons.com/2008/04/train->

JUST OUTSIDE THE BOX



Copyright www.justoutsidetheboxcartoon.com

Source: <https://justoutsidetheboxcartoon.wordpress.com/tag/funny/page/38/>

FINANCE

A message from the Treasurer:

At present we have received annual subscriptions from nearly all of our members. There are still a few who have not yet paid. If you are one of the few, please consider stumping up the \$40 as soon as possible. Your payment will be greatly appreciated. If you are not sure if you have paid or not, let me know.

Bob Anselmi.

SOMERS LADIES PROBUS HAPPY HOUR

Happy Hour resumes at the Somers Tennis Club at 5:00pm. on Friday 25th July.

To cover venue hire please bring \$3.00 and also come along with nibbles and chat to share.



Bikies Group, August 2023

It is very cold out there, and we can only hope for kinder weather, in the next months and hopefully a return of some of our regular riders.

ALL WELCOME

Keep Riding

Dennis



GARDENING GROUP



On Wednesday 16th August we poked our heads up out of the winter doldrums and gathered at the home of Rob and Shirley Oram. With an overview of what we were doing in our gardens with Spring and Summer approaching as our focus, it was a largely social reconnection interweaving the discussion.

Rob then conducted us on a tour of their wonderful garden: not large, but packed with variety on the back of a substantially native garden. It including an intensive and productive vegi-patch. When we finally straggled back inside, we were treated to a delicious, very late morning tea.

Our next meeting will be hosted by Bob and Anne Chynoweth on Wednesday, 18th October at 10S:30 am.

Rob Walker 5983 5159



Chris Madden

Source: <https://www.chrismadden.co.uk/cartoon-gallery/5421/>

BOOK CLUB

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

Hosted by Dan, six members met on Tuesday 8th August to review "Phosphorescence" by Australian author Julia Baird.

Most members were already aware of Julia due to her hosting of The Drum on ABC TV but may not have appreciated she is a highly qualified and globally renowned author and award-winning journalist. Her first book "Media Tarts" was based on her PhD about the portrayal of female politicians. She took up a fellowship at the Harvard Kennedy School and became a columnist and senior editor at Newsweek in New York. Her recent book on Queen Victoria was one of The New York Times' top ten books of 2016. She has two children and lives near the sea in NSW. Phosphorescence was a winner of the Australian Book of the Year in 2021.

This book is about "awe, wonder & things that sustain you when the world goes dark". Its part autobiography/part self-help where Baird has used her own life experiences of major traumatic disappointments, in particular, her extensive major surgeries to remove abdominal cancer, to craft a recipe for coping. Undertaking extensive commendable research and at times writing in exquisite prose, Baird argues most persuasively that it is possible to find and nurture within ourselves the essential quality of internal happiness, "the light within" that she calls "phosphorescence" to sustain us in our darkest

times. In passing on her philosophy as a way of coping, members agreed at times that she seems to be targeting her newly found philosophy gleaned during her surgeries with advice for the next generation. At the group's age we've survived. Significantly, she devotes two chapters to offering advice to her own two children. During discussion it was acknowledged that for many men their early conditioning of "little boys don't cry" meant that any misfortune was to be endured so that any giving in not be seen as a sign of weakness. Fortunately, that's now changed. Whatever her target audience, for those readers of this book group's age bracket the book would engender much personal reflection. This was certainly the case in our group. We focused on how each of us has coped and come to terms with the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" that we've experienced and ultimately overcome. This produced one of the best discussions the group has had demonstrating once again it's often the subsequent discussion which makes these book group meetings so enjoyable.

With an average rating of 3.5 based on scores of 2.5 through to 4.5 the book is recommended.

The next meeting will be at John Carter's home where the book for review will be "The Paris Library" by Janet Skeslien Charles.

Contact: Dan Hourigan 0407 754 774



Source: <https://workplace.stackexchange.com/questions/20533/how-can-i-convince-management-to-offer-training-to-employees>

BIG BOYS' BUSINESS

BBB is in recess for a few months while the organiser is enjoying Far North Queensland.

Ray McCutcheon 0412 128 195



WINE APPRECIATION GROUP



Following a short break for the winter months, our next meeting will be a wine testing at a local winery at 2:00pm on September 13th. I will have details of the venue at the General Meeting on Friday 25th and a notice will go out to all membership shortly thereafter.

New members are always welcome so please contact me if you would like to join our group.

Rod Beet 0426 989 255

BIRTHDAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

August 2023

Co; Randall 98

Source: <https://www.beano.com/posts/train-jokes>





July Speaker - Janice Haynes

Our August guest speaker greeted our members with flags ... semaphore flags to be accurate.

Janice runs Lady of History, which runs tours of Cape Schanck and Cape Otway lighthouses. She is also the Victorian representative of Lighthouses of Australia Inc which is dedicated to preserving the nation's lighthouses.

As well as semaphore flags Janice also had other bits of memorabilia including a Morse code key which she used to illustrate how communications used to work before the digital age. She tapped out an SOS and explained that it stood for Save Our Souls.

Janic said that of the 409 lighthouses around Australia Cape Schanck is the sixth oldest and was one of three built to guide migrant ships into Melbourne. The others being Cape Otway and the Wilsons Promontory lighthouse, the oldest manned lighthouse in the country.

Cape Wickham on King Island was built around the same time

to help mark the way to Melbourne.

The wreck of the Neva in 1835 with the loss of more than 200 souls, mostly women convicts or wives of men already deported to Australia and their children, helped speed up the building of the lighthouses. The Neva had sailed from Cork and hit a reef just north of King Island and sank with the loss of 224 lives.

A further disaster was the wreck of the Catarauqui in 1845 again on King Island. Sadly the ship was carrying many skilled workers who were coming out to help build the lighthouses so badly needed. The wreck was and remains Australia's worst peacetime maritime disaster.

Janice's talk opened the eyes of members to the role of lighthouses and their part in building Victoria by helping guide ships safely to Melbourne.

Tony Duboudin

HAPPY SNAPPERS



The winter recess comes to an end for Happy Snappers.

We look forward to getting together again on the second Tuesday of September, 12th September at 2:00pm at Max Hem's place; 96 Beach Hill Ave Somers with the topic of 'Human Portraits'.

Please send your photos to both Max and Peter

Contact Max Hem 5983 5274 or
 Peter Gerdsen 0407 321 048

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



Chris Rule
Source: <https://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/>

FLOOBYDUST

By now, you will have realised that there was a glut of cartoons on the topic 'train'; so I took advantage of this to add to an otherwise rather thin Newsletter due to a Winter lull in club activities. There is also a plethora of other material to include requiring heavy, selective pruning. And so, without further ado; "On with the show. This is it!", although some may be tempted to think, "Stop this train"! And that is where we will start this part of the journey.

MUSIC



Stop this train

John Meyer

4:52

Chattanooga choo choo

The Andrews Sisters

2:51



Locomotive Breath

Jethro Tull

7:03

Railroad rhythm

Billy Mayerl

3:28

Played by John Peace



This train

Sister Rosetta Tharpe

Succumbing to the lure of contrasting two very different versions: -

5:20

This train

Roy Orbison, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis

2:40



Train song

Juzzi Smith

6:33

An impressive performance of a 'passable' piece of music at Eumundi Market

Take the A train

Duke Ellington

2:52

A signature piece of this great.



Take the last train to Clarksville

The Monkees

2:44

Pure 60's pop

Peace Train

Cat Stevens/Yusuf

4:06

'Meaningful' pop of the late 60's early 70's



Blue Train

John Coltrane

10:44

I may have used this in an earlier Newsletter. What the heck— worthy of a re-run.

FLOOBYDUST

A little story about these next two tracks.

My dad was a hi-fi enthusiast.– a bit of a purist really. Before stereo was a thing, he built his hi-fi record player (Yes it only played records) from high end retail components and his own cabinets including a massive corner-fitted speaker enclosure with sand-filled walls for acoustic dampening. But he was intensely interested in stereo, so when the ABC decided to broadcast a demonstration stereo-cast across two radio stations, dad diligently set up two radios on opposite sides of the room. Then the wait; the anticipation and excitement. He collected the family and settled us, then to lead into the designated broadcast time, played selected tracks of music related to railways and trains. He was not a train enthusiast, but a lover of music. I will never forget the realism created when I first experienced stereo sound reproduced this way. At least not the sound of a steam locomotive transiting our living room.



John Henry (A railroad ballad for orchestra)

Aaron Copeland

4:16

Bahn frei schnell polka

Eduard Strauss

2:39



Midnight train to Georgia

Gladys Knight and the Pips

4:39

TALKS



How did trains standardize time in the United States? - *William Heuisler*

3:34

The Journey of Train 18

Sudhanshu Mani

15:54

India's indigenous high-speed train story

Part the story of development of a train, part nationalism, part corporate inspiration and management



READING FOR FURTHER EXPLORATION

Jazz and trains: A connected history

An American perspective by a Jazz musician. There are links to more music and some other reading and podcasts

[Click Here!](#)

Train image on the front page:

Johnny_Automatic

Source: <https://www.freeimages.com/clipart/pioneer-zephyr-clip-art-5342659>