

PROBUS CLUB OF BALNARRING INC.

Established September 1985

September 2023 Newsletter

Next meeting : Friday, September, 29th

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



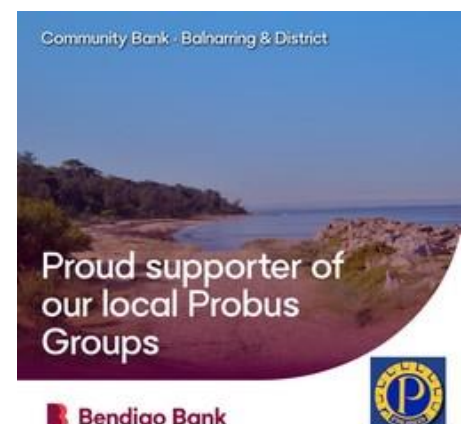
Newsletter editor: Rob Walker rob50walk@gmail.com ph: 5983 5159

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Inside this issue: September theme: Trees



President's Report
Welfare Report
Our usual activities reports
Vale Col Randell
Notices of:
Christmas lunch
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Floobydust



Life Member Col Randall died peacefully on the 4th September having celebrated his 98 birthday with his family. Regretfully I was not able to meet with Col as he had not been able to make many meetings over the last five years.

As a Port Phillip Pilot I would have relished the opportunity to reminisce on this aspect of his Sea Going career, and a career that many of my counterparts would ultimately aim for.

I have wonderful memories of arriving at Port Phillip Heads and taking on a pilot stationed on the Wyunna, and being transferred by the small pilot cutters used in this transfer. This method was replaced in 1979. Now they use far more impressive vessels, and even helicopters.

Last year the Reserve Bank reported that cash had accounted for just 13% of all payments. This along with the decrease in banking, and cash machines outlets is making it impossible to avoid cashless transactions. At our seminar on the 10th October, we will be discussing 'What Happens When'. Our move to a cashless society is happening now.

Although there are many advantages to this change, the exposure to "scams" is increasing through our phone, and computer interaction with our banks and finance institutions. This requires set up of 'secure' computer, and telephone connections, which in turn provides the challenge of remembering passwords, tele-codes, and even the inevitable six-digit code.

It is hoped that at our next meeting John Copeland will provide us with some guidelines on recognizing some of these sometimes very sophisticated scams. I would also recommend that you take advantage of the One-to One Computer Education Service provided through the Hasting Library Service.

Dennis,

2024 Long Trip to Ballarat Area

We are planning on a trip to the RACV, Goldfields Resort at Creswick from Monday 15th April to Friday 19th April 2024.

It will be self-drive from Balnarring to Creswick which is 202km, taking approx 2 ½ hours.

The resort has a range of accommodation with rates depending on your RACV membership i.e. Club member, Service member or guest.

Further details will be provided at the September Meeting and by email to members

For more information contact Harold Weber (0417 347 552) or Daryl Cowen (0439 100 546)



SOMERS LADIES PROBUS HAPPY HOUR

Happy Hour celebrates AFL Finals at the Somers Tennis Club at 5:00pm on Friday 29th September. With party food provided.

To cover venue hire please bring \$3.00 and also come along with something to drink and jovial team-loyal banter.

Source: <https://funnytimes.com/april-2022-featured-cartoon/>

Vale Col Randall

Col was born on 26th August 1925. He died peacefully on 29th August 2023 just 3 days after his 98th birthday.

After retiring from a very successful sea-going career, Col joined the Port Phillip Pilots Association, a group that provides pilotage services to both Port Philip and Western port. He served as Secretary to the association from 1974 to 1977.

Col joined our Club in May 1989. He was Club Secretary for 5 years from 1994 to 1999. As Secretary he got to know everyone in the club and the myriad of relationships within the membership which was at that time over 120 strong. He was the consummate organiser and always took responsibility for table seating arrangement at our Christmas and other

social functions.

In 1999 he stepped up as Vice President and then President the following year.

Col and wife Dawn were wonderful entertainers, and the highlight of the year was the Red Hill walk from their beautiful property in Merricks with its extensive manicured lawns and picture postcard garden. They had a large sunroom where everyone assembled for a BBQ lunch complete with a range of sweets to follow.

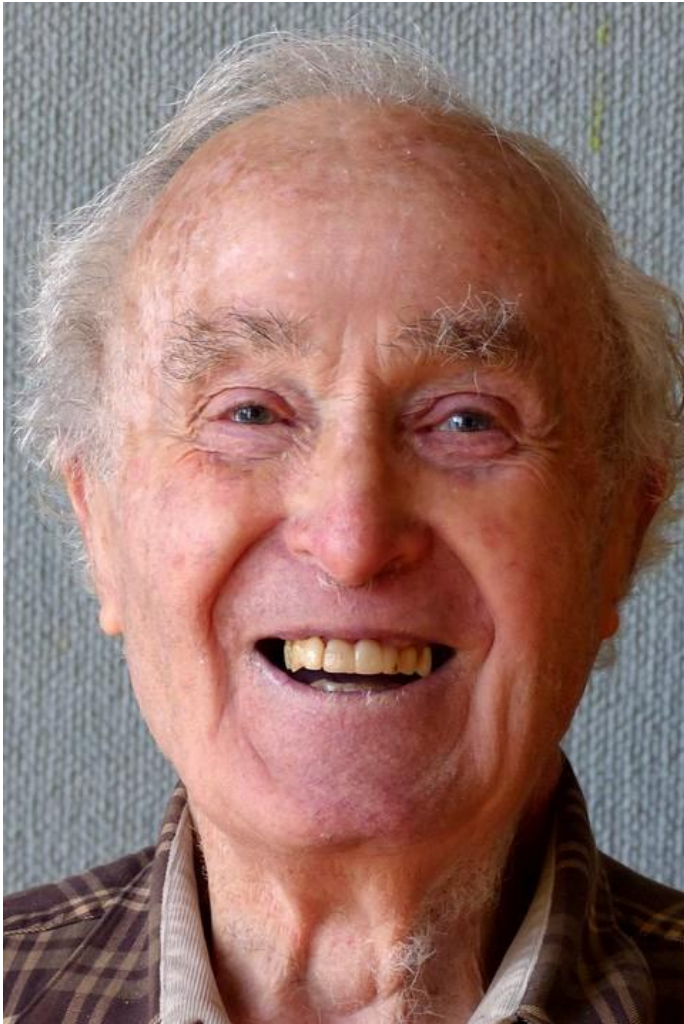
The BBQ cooking was always supervised by Tom Haselgrove and Tom Jackson who were passed walking the challenging track to Red Hill and back.

Col had a billiard table in his home and was host to a regular snooker group within the club.

In recognition of his service to the Club over many years Col was awarded Life Membership.

Eventually the large property in Merricks became too much of a burden and Col and Dawn moved into a townhouse in Balnarring. After Dawn died Col's health also deteriorated and he was seldom able to attend meetings. In recent years he has been living in Geelong with his son Scott.

Those of us that had the great pleasure of knowing Col all had the greatest respect for him and for Dawn and the impact they had on the life of our Club.



WELFARE REPORT

I'm happy to report that our Founding President and Life Member, Dr Eric Kings, is recovering in The Bays Hospital following plastic surgery to his leg. Eric, whilst playing snooker two weeks ago with John Carter and Ray McCutcheon, had a fall and severely wounded his leg. We wish Eric a speedy recovery as he approaches his 'big birthday' next month.

Rob Brewer has advised that his wife, Meredith, has moved to Arcare in Balnarring for ongoing care. Rob is moving from Somers to be nearby in Balnarring to assist with her daily care. We wish them all the best as they settle into their new environments.

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.

We have a group of members who are willing to offer transport to medical or other urgent appointments. I can be contacted as per the phone number on the first page to arrange a driver.

If you need transport to our monthly meetings this can also be arranged.

Keep safe and remember the sunscreen.

Daryl Cowen



BIG BOYS' BUSINESS

Confirmed visit to the Supreme Court of Victoria is scheduled for Wednesday 8th November (the day after the running of the Melbourne Cup).

Numbers limited to 20. Registrations

are open and list will be available on Friday 29th September.

Waiting on Cerberus response for a requested visit to their Engineering Facility hopefully on 3 October. This visit may have to be deferred to early December or into 2024.

Ray McCutcheon 0412 128 195



"What a silly place to plant a tree!"

Source: <https://joemohrtoons.com/2011/07/21/hank-d-and-the-tree/>

BOOK CLUB

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

John Carter hosted the group's September meeting when Rob Aitken led our review of "The Paris Library" by Janet Skeslien Charles.

Charles is an award-winning author of "Moonlight in Odessa". After the war, she worked as program manager at the American Library in Paris.

By happenstance, the guest speaker at the previous Friday's Probus meeting was a librarian from the Hastings library so members came with some greater appreciation of the role and function of librarians and libraries.

The author, while working as the American Library in Paris's program manager, became fascinated in hearing some of the experiences of staff during the war. So, she has based her fictionalized account of these wartime experiences on a number of the real people she met, many of whom survived the war. She starts her story in Paris in 1939 with a number of key characters: Odile Souchet a young budding librarian and her beau Paul, a handsome police officer working with her father a police superintendent; Margaret her best friend and wife of a distinguished English senior diplomat; Remy her twin brother a wartime volunteer; a host of library members and most critically, the library's legendary Director, Dorothy Leeder. When war breaks out with France having surrendered and in 1940 Paris now occupied by the Nazis, Odile stands to lose

everything she holds dear. She and her fellow librarians join the Resistance and help their readers and Jewish supporters. She defies her father and acts impulsively destroying some of the "Crows letters" sent to him suggesting many of the library staff should be investigated by the Nazis and imprisoned and deported. With the war's end and retribution being meted out to collaborators, Odile leaves Paul following his bitter betrayal involving him and close friend Margaret. Odile leaves Paris having impulsively married an American soldier to migrate with him to live in Montana, USA.

It's here in 1983 in a gossipy small town that the author posits Odile living out a solitary existence following her husband's death. She befriends a lonely teenager, Lily, becoming her mentor. Lily is fascinated by Odile's sophistication and obvious foreign elegance, a sharp contrast to the town's hick country folksy demeanour. Despite their friendship, Lily wants to uncover more details about Odile's past. Odile faces betrayal once again.

Most in the group initially thought this would be a "woman's" book but actually enjoyed it giving scores of 3 out of 5.

The meeting concluded with John C's excellent supper including a delicious "Jubilee" cake he'd baked that very morning.

The next meeting will be on the 10th. October when "Bruny" by Heather Rose will be reviewed.

Contact: Dan Hourigan 0407 754 774

P.S. - A History.

The foundations of the American Library in Paris were laid out in 1917 when the American Library Association's Library War Service shipped over two million books donated by libraries and individuals to US soldiers serving abroad. This formed the core collection when the library was incorporated as an independent non-profit institution on 20 May 1920 at 10, rue de L'Elysee. Today it's at 10, rue du General Camou. It is the largest English-language lending library on the continent and a regular host to world-famous authors. Throughout the 1920's the Library was a favourite haunt of the famous Lost Generation, counting among its habitués Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, Henry Miller, and Edith Wharton. Its core values - a celebration of the written word, of language and literature, culture and community - remain unchanged. And inside each book in the collection, an ex libris, bearing the original motto: 'After the darkness of war, the light of books'.



Photo: Barry Gordon

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP



On 13th September, seven of us gathered at the very scenic Red Hill Estate in Red Hill for a wine and chocolate pairing. The jury is probably still out on how successful the pairing of chocolate with wine was, but the dark chocolate with Shiraz got the thumbs up from most of us. The milk chocolate with Prosecco probably the least favoured. On the whole, a very enjoyable afternoon in a lovely environment.

Next month will be a tasting with a difference at my home at 26 Rockleigh Drive Mount Martha on Wednesday 11th October at 2:00pm. I will supply 4 or 5 bottles of Grenache from various regions and we will be able to experience the differences in the same wine varietal as influenced by wine making styles and terroir.

There will be a charge of between \$15 and \$20 pp depending on the number of attendees and all you need to bring along is a glass.

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

Rod Beet 0426 989 255

August Speaker - Jenny Holmes Hastings library

Libraries are no longer the places where you go to just get a book for a couple of weeks. Nowadays you are just as likely to be seeking advice about your laptop computer, research your ancestry, or taking the grandchildren to a book reading.

Libraries have adjusted to the digital age and society's changing demands.

Some of the services of Mornington Peninsula Library Service were outlined by Jenny Holmes from Hastings Library at our August meeting.

Some of the statistics are impressive:

427,560 people visited local libraries

993,952 items were loaned.

Five libraries in the shire home deliver items.

Jenny has a couple of surprising facts about libraries around the world: there are more libraries in the Unites States than MacDonalds; there is a library of smells at Versailles in France.

Libraries, including Hastings, have a wide range of activities designed to get children into the reading habit at an early age. They offer story readings for pre-schoolers and toddlers as well as children's books in languages other than English. School holiday programs and Studiosity – help with homework

for students as well as free study.

Once a week the library holds story days which are designed to encourage reluctant readers to enjoy books and reading.

As well as all the various activities Hastings Library, together with all the shire, offers a wide range of electronic products, books and magazines.

These include things like Borrow Box which allows users to read a range of books and magazines; another APP called Libby also gives access to a wide range of magazines; and Hoopla which has 900,000 titles available comprising music, books and videos.

All the library services are free and it costs nothing to join and receive a monthly newsletter which outlines all the coming activities. You can join the library in person or online and for those who remember being fined for late return of books ... they have been scrapped; now you just get a gentle reminder.

And good news for those readers who are unable to personally visit the Hasting library, the mobile library is back on the road again later in the year.

Tony Duboudin



Bikies Group, September 2023

It has been very cold out there at times, and we can only hope for kinder weather, in the next months and hopefully a return of some of our regular riders. At present, enjoying some warmer weather in Queensland, including a very dramatic whale display at Hervey Bay

Looking forward to getting back on the bike, have yet to come to terms with the scooters available.

Stay safe

ALL WELCOME

Keep Riding

Dennis



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 1360



Source: <https://joemohrtoons.com/2011/07/21/hank-d-and-the-tree/>

HAPPY SNAPPERS



Happy Snappers shoots into Spring.

We look forward to getting together again at Max Hem's place; 96 Beach Hill Ave Somers, with the topic of 'An article we treasure in some way: Still life'.

The 'What Happens When' seminar means a different date will need to be arranged and notified through email..

Please send your photos to both Max and Peter.

Contact Max Hem 5983 5274 or
Peter Gerdson 0407 321 048

GARDENING GROUP



Gardening gatherings will become more frequent with the weather warming and the start of Daylight Savings on Saturday, this weekend.

Our next meeting will be hosted by Bob and Anne Chynoweth on Wednesday, 18th October, at 10:30 am. Spring will be the central focus with, no doubt, detailed discussion of seed-raising in preparation for summer.

I have been exploring a couple of tours which we will discuss as well as an end-of-year celebration.

Rob Walker 5983 5159

Do you have a use for these?



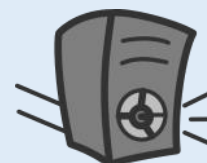
We no longer have a need for the following pieces of A/V equipment.

The LED projector works well but uses VGA connection to a computer. And most laptops 8 years old or younger do not have this port.

The powered speakers are a 2.1 format with a subwoofer and 2 satellite tweeters.

If you can use and would like either of them, let me know.

Contact Rob Walker 5983 5159



Probus Club of Balnarring



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Spit Roast at Balnarring Bowls Club
Friday 24th November at 12 noon.
Cost: \$45 per person

Provided by MAK'S Catering

MENU

Spit Roasted Beef and Pork or Vegetarian Lasagne
Hot boiled potatoes served with butter and sour cream
Five salads
Breadsticks, butter
Condiments - apple sauce, mustard and hot gravy
Served on porcelain plates with stainless steel cutlery

DESSERTS

Individual Christmas Pudding or
Mixed Berry Cheesecake.

DRINKS

Can be purchased at the Bar with cash or credit card.

BOOKING AND PAYMENT

Confirm your booking at Mens' Probus September or October meeting or to daryl.cowen@bigpond.com.

Payment to be made before **November 10th**.

Bendigo Bank BSB 633000 Account No. 150404721

Please enter payer's name and "Christmas Lunch"
















NB.

Maximum number of guests will be 80





Cancellation with refund only until **November 11th**.

FLOOBYDUST

MUSIC

	The shade of the cedar tree	<i>Christian McBride feat. by WDR BIG BAND</i>	8:35	
	Flame trees -	<i>Jimmy Barnes (Live)</i>	4:51	
	The ash grove	<i>Laura Wright</i>	4:27	
	Dumbarton oaks	<i>Igor Stravinsky</i>	16:38	
	Trees	<i>Louis Armstrong</i>	3:06	
	Don't sit under the apple tree	<i>The Andrews Sisters</i>	3:12	
	Three the same?	The original PPM and a modern song followed by an instrumental version.	2:50	
	Lemon tree	<i>Peter, Paul and Mary (Live)</i>	2:50	
	Lemon tree	<i>Fools Garden</i>	3:11	
	Lemon tree	<i>Jingxuan (Cello and traditional Chinese instrument)</i>	2:48	
	Beneath an oak tree she appeared to me	<i>Carlo Bergonzi, tenor. New Philharmonia Orchestra</i>	6:17	
	The jasmin tree	<i>The Modern Jazz Quartet</i>	5:23	
	Speaking with trees	<i>Tori Amos</i>	3:55	
	Thorn tree in the garden	<i>Derek and the Dominoes</i>	2:49	
	Weeping willow	<i>The Verve</i>	4:54	
	Der Lindenbaum	<i>Schubert</i>	4:51	
	Dietrich Fischer			

TALKS AND VIDEOS

	How to harness the ancient partnership between forests and fungi	<i>Colin Averill—TED TALKS</i>	12:08	
	The secret language of trees	<i>Real Science Video</i>	15:58	
	This video touches on an area of disputed views. Two readings below address differing positions			
	Do trees talk to each other?	<i>Smithsonian Magazine</i>		
	The idea that trees talk to each other to cooperate is misleading	<i>Scientific American</i>		

Front page tree image: Possible Certainties by Maria Popova

Found at: <https://www.themarginalian.org/2021/09/03/old-growth-orion/>