

PROBUS CLUB OF BALNARRING INC.

Established September 1985

February 2024 Newsletter

Next meeting : Friday, February 23rd

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

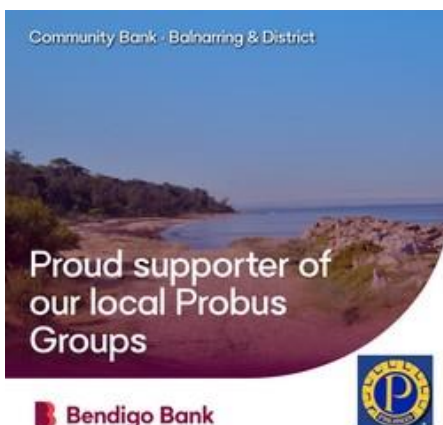
Eric Kings +	Jay Nagl +
Col Randall +	Bruce Margetts +
Stan Byrne +	Col Saunders +
Ron Deane	Ray McCutcheon
Daryl Cowen	



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

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Inside this issue: February theme: *Islands*



President's Report

Notice of AGM

Welfare Report

Activities reports

Floobydust



My last message was written for the Newsletter that was circulated prior to Christmas, we are now fast approaching Easter, and I am really wondering where all that time has gone, and my tenure as President almost over!

It is perhaps a testament to our age, and retirement living, that our days become routine, activities governed by the weather, and maintaining our health, a priority. Even the events we can look forward to provide us with concern as to abilities remaining strong, and financially viable.

How many of us were imbued with excitement, with now the explosive 'Swift' Concerts? No! It was who would win the muster dog title, with a side bet on the British Post Office Saga.

It's clear we have a tendency to live in a bubble and some forms of reality do not touch or affect us. Recently, a Somers Combined Probus Meeting was made aware of real-life Family Issues resulting in hardship that were occurring on our doorstep. Our TVs are providing us with some horrendous issues occurring overseas. It is important that we remain informed, and active. Hopefully we can raise some of our own local issues with the Mayor of Mornington, who is our Guest Speaker at the meeting this week.

On a more urgent and immediate note, how prepared are you for the current Fire season, do you have a Fire Plan. It is vital that you are committed and prepared for what ever you have planned should an evacuation be advised. Please note, the Beach is NOT an option.

Dennis

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 22nd MARCH

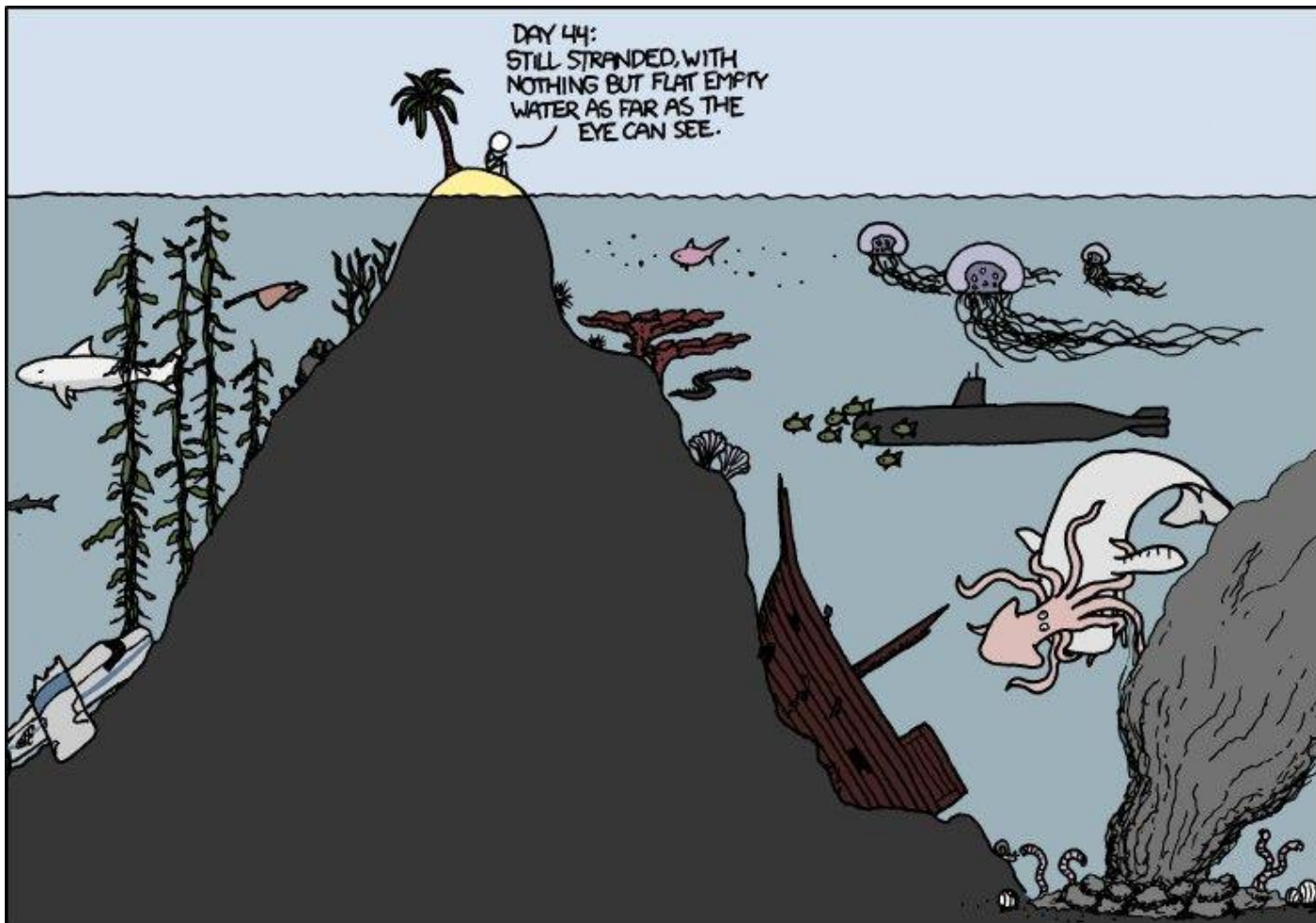
10:30AM

BALNARRING BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB

The committee for 2024-2025 will be elected.

Nomination forms will be available at our February meeting

The AGM will be followed by a free BBQ



By: Randall Munroe

Source: <https://xkcd.com/731/>

WELFARE REPORT

I'm happy to report that Tony Duboudin is responding well after his recent back operation. Norm Dewar and Peter Cole are recovering well after recent falls requiring short spells in hospital.

The club is saddened to receive the resignation of Brian Mitcham after 25 years membership due to the health problems of Mary and himself. Over the years Brian and Mary were regular attendees on long trips, morning teas, dine-outs and Christmas lunches. We will miss their company.

If you or your partner has a serious illness or accident please

let President Dennis or me 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.

Daryl Cowen

SOMERS LADIES PROBUS HAPPY HOUR

Happy Hour will be at the Somers Tennis Club at 5:00pm, on Friday, 23rd February. Join us for warm, friendly company with something to drink, a glass, nibbles and chat to share.

To cover venue hire, please bring \$3.00 pp.



BIRTHDAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

JANUARY

Rob Brewer

80

FEBRUARY

Ted Gale

97

January Speaker - Ray McCutcheon

A bright future for electric vehicles?

Electric vehicles (EVs) are the future or so they say. After a high-voltage presentation by club member Ray McCutcheon many members may be having second thoughts about going electric.

Ray gave an example of the shortcomings of EVs. Two identical BMW cars – one electric and the other with a petrol engine – were driven from Melbourne to Sydney. The bottom line was interesting: The cost of fuel for the petrol car was \$118, the cost of powering the electric car was \$131.92.

Perhaps more importantly was the time taken to refuel or recharge. The petrol vehicle spent six minutes at the bowser while the electric car spent two hours and eight minutes hooked up to a charger. Naturally, the petrol car arrived in Sydney first.

Other drawbacks of EVs are doubts over batteries in cold climates. Ford in the US is cutting back on its production of EVs

blaming cold weather for slowing EV charging which has raised doubts among potential buyers and cut demand.

Such problems do not appear to worry China which is now producing 40 per cent of the world's EVs. One Chinese car maker, BYD, makes 300,000 EVs a month.

Another issue plaguing the uptake of EVs is the cost of repairs - double the cost of repairs to a car with an internal combustion engine, according to the car rental giant Hertz.

While Japan's Toyota says that EVs will never account for more than three in ten of vehicles sold.

Despite the downside of EVs their popularity in Australia is growing rapidly. Club member Alan Rae, who owned a Mercedes EV for two and a half years, claims he never paid for a charge always using solar power and was extremely satisfied with the vehicle.

Tony Duboudin



Bikies Group, January - February 2024

ALL WELCOME

We have had a very successful, productive, and informative period post the Christmas break, with some of our riders commenting on their improved health, fitness, and yes weight loss. We also have occasioned a Breakfast Ride, which was well attended, and more recently initiated a Fish & Chip Supper at the Tulum Store.

Recently the weather has been fine, with our rides varied, and suitable for our group. Obviously Electric Bikes provide a great option.

Regardless, the coffee mornings have the ability to air our views, highlight many problems, and our tilt at a200 million Jackpot came to nought, caused us to dream a little!!

Will continue to circulate with our usual meeting times along with a destination weather permitting.

ALL WELCOME

Keep Riding
Dennis



WWW.ANDER2TOONS.COM

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://andertoons.com/island/cartoon/8574/>
stranded-desert-island-hastags

BOOK CLUB

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

After a recess in January, to get this year underway the group met at Dan Hourigan's on the 13th. February. Traditionally at this first meeting of the year there isn't a prescribed book to review, so members discuss some of the books they've read over the holidays they most enjoyed. Not surprisingly, there are far too many described so space does not permit listing them individually. But there were many recommendations of favourite authors writing on a wide range of diverse topics from biographies, history, crime, travel, and current political issues. Great holiday reading.

As the year gets under way, there will probably be the occasional need for many club members to think of a gift to recognise family or friend birthdays, anniversaries or other misc. achievements. A well-chosen book often makes a great gift for adults and more particularly to encourage young children to enjoy books and develop their reading skills.

Book group members would be more than happy to suggest an author or recommend a book whose subject matter might appeal to the recipient, young or old. Feel free to give any of us a call.

The group's next meeting will be on Tuesday the 12th of March when members will review Pip Williams award winning "The Dictionary of Lost Words"

Contact: Dan Hourigan 0407 754 774

GARDENING GROUP



We will have our first meeting on Tuesday, 27th February after a brief summer spell (was it really Summer?). We will meet at my house, 66 Balnarring Road at 10:30am.

Plans for the year both individual and our group will form the focus of discussion. We will also have our much anticipated Tomato Taste Test.

Looking forward to catching up with you all again.

Rob Walker 5983 5159

HAPPY SNAPPERS



Happy Snappers met at Max's on Tuesday 20th to share stories of photos. It was an open topic session, so there was a wide variety of photos which prompted lively discussion.

Next meeting will be at Max's place on Tuesday 12th March at 2:00pm. And the topic will again be open because of the enormous opportunity for creativity.

Contact Max Hem 5983 5274 or
Peter Gerdson 0407 321 048



LUNCHES FOR 2024



As per last year we will again be holding a lunch after each meeting starting in March. Our resident chef BERNIE POLL will be in charge, with varying dishes, with the exception of the Christmas Lunch where we will have outside caterers.

The schedule for the year is:-

March following the AGM - Club provided free BBQ. Buy your own drinks at the bar.

April to October - Light lunch after the meeting. \$10 including a drink from the bar.

November - Christmas Lunch

FLOOBYDUST

Almost as many choices this month as the Islands of Norway! So that's how I'll start; A virtual; tour of Lofoten Islands. Select photos from the image strip then click and drag in the image to pan and tilt.



Jazz Island
Impressive acapella group

All blues

5:51

Warumpi Band

My island home

4:12



Blonde

Island of lost souls

3:46

Pink Floyd

San Tropez

3:43



Claude Debussy
Piano - Marc-André Hamelin

L'isle Joyeuse!

5:32

Harry Belafonte

Islands in the sun

4:31



The 14 Jazz Orchestra

Islands

8:23

Millie Small

My boy lollipop

1:56

Nothing Island here except that this was the first single released in the UK by the founder of Island Records.



Gorillaz

Cracker island

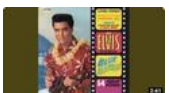
3:38

A bit weird maybe, but interesting animation.

Phillip Glass

Islands

7:40



Elvis Presley *Island of love*

2:40



The Beach Boys *Kokomo*

3:37



Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers

Islands in the stream

4:00



David Gilmore *On an island* 7:36

Featuring David Crosby & Graham Nash



Taylor Swift

Coney Island 4:37



"It says 'Help! I am marooned on an island!'"

Front page image *Sky Island*

By: [Roman Klčo](#)

Found at: <https://dribbble.com/shots/22634960-Sky-Island>

By Vahan Shirvanian

Source: <https://www.saturdayeveningpost.com/2021/11/cartoons-desert-island-desperation/>

Editor: Rob Walker