

PROBUS CLUB OF BALNARRING INC.

Established September 1985

June 2024 Newsletter

Next meeting: Friday, July 26th

at 10:00am Balnarring Bowls and Social Club



2024-2025 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

Peter Evans 0407 350 620

KEY ROLES (Non Committee)

Membership Ray McCutcheon 0412 128 195

Webmaster Roger Price 0403 592 195

Morning Tea Carlo Orlando 5983 2099

LIFE MEMBERS

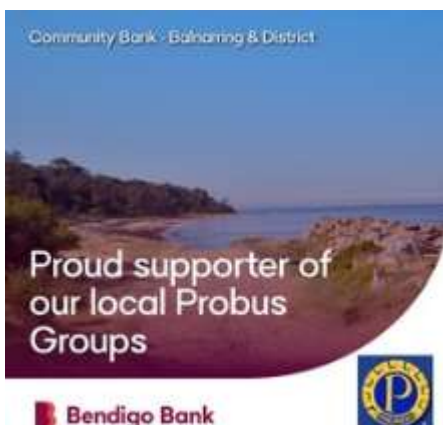
Eric Kings +	Jay Nagl +
Col Randall +	Bruce Margetts +
Stan Byrne +	Col Saunders +
Ron Deane	Ray McCutcheon
Daryl Cowen	



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

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Inside this issue: June theme: Mountains



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Floobydust



PRESIDENT'S REPORT**June 2024**

This was our first meeting, under what could be called "Winter Conditions"; that is, the exodus has commenced for the relocation of the Balnarring - Somers Community to what is their hope of warmer climes.. Perhaps there's a slight hint of envy, but then some have to remain to keep the home fires burning.

My thanks to all those members who contributed to what I would term a successful meeting. Commencing with an excellent presentation by Max, with photo contributions from members of the "Happy Snappers Group". To a very well researched and presented history of what was essentially the history of our present homeland. A big thank you to Russell Kenery.

At the meeting we also welcomed as Guests, Malcolm Brown, and Malcolm Gordon, with both having indicated a future with the Club as Members. Malcolm Gordon also showed a copy his book on the History of the Mornington Peninsula and could also be a potential future speaker.

At the last committee meeting, it was decided that we would not pursue a club Facebook Page, or What's App Page to improve membership communications. Believing that the present use of emails, providing; this Newsletter, early information of meetings including the upcoming speaker and menu selection and, subsequent minutes of the General Meetings, are sufficient to get the information to members.

There are often times when we are proved very wrong, but then all communications have to be read.

Dennis

WELFARE REPORT

Ted Gale is currently residing in the Waverley Valley Community Care Centre to be close to his family. Ted can be contacted on his mobile and would appreciate a call from his friends.

Ted Keam is finally home, recovering from a fall that required time in hospital and rehab. Rob Brewer is receiving rehab at Arcare following a couple of weeks in hospital following a fall at home. We wish them both well for a speedy recovery and hope to see them at our next meeting.

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

CHRISTMAS IN JULY**@ Westernport Hotel**

Apologies for the date change, but we are now settled on Wednesday, 17th July, The Hotel is offering a two course lunch of Christmas Fare, and Christmas Pudding with cream & strawberries for \$28.00 per person.

They require bookings 48 hours in advance (by Monday, 15th July) with a minimum of 10 people. Let me know your intentions and when you book.

Note: Prepayment would be required should we book for 15 or more.

Dennis verdenp40@gmail.com





By Dave Coverly

Source: <https://www.ba-bamail.com/humor/enjoy-these-funny-one-panel-comics-for-instant-humor/>

SOMERS LADIES PROBUS HAPPY HOUR

Happy Hour will be at a private home during Winter with the next one at 5:00pm. on Friday, 26th July. The venue will be advised at the general meeting by the President. Join us for warm, friendly company with something to drink, a glass, nibbles and chat to share.



BIRTHDAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

JULY

Bryan Hill	93	Bernie Gittins	85
Ray McCutcheon	80		

June Speaker - Russell Kenery

Our June speaker, Red Hill resident and author Russell Kenery, took us on a nautical history journey covering the early days of exploration of Port Phillip and Westernport.

Starting with the Bunurong people when they first took to the water and this totally changing their lifestyle.

Russell explained that the Bunurong people used green wood for their canoes and lined them with clay or mud allowing them to safely cook the fish they caught in their canoes which I feel came as a surprise to most of our members.

In a wide-ranging talk, Russell spoke about George Bass's exploration of our bay in 1798 which he named Westernport as it was west of Port Jackson from where he started out. Bass reported that the area was alive with fur seals. Sadly, his report sparked the Great Sealing Gold Rush which resulted in virtually wiping out the seals in about 12 months.

Another of Russell's many interesting anecdotes was the French connection with Westernport. Two French boats, Le Geographe and Le Naturaliste, spent some time charting

Westernport in a short period of peace between Britain and France.

The French presence alarmed Britain and an expedition was sent to Sullivan's Cove in what is today Sorrento, to plant the flag and establish a settlement to keep the dastardly French at bay. This settlement lasted less than a year before it was moved to the Derwent River in Tasmania and retained its name of Sullivan's Cove now part of Hobart.

Russell also covered the foundation of Hastings which started out as a place for fishermen who wanted to get easier and quicker access to the open sea for their fishing so they built shacks along the beach laying the foundations of the town we now know as Hastings.

Russell's talk was an enchanting journey through the early foundation of this area and some of the characters who made it all possible.

Tony Duboudin



LUNCHES



July 26th - Chicken and chips. \$10 cash including a drink from the bar.



Bikies Group, May - June 2024

ALL WELCOME

ALL WELCOME

Again, for this month we have had some very cold morning starts, but with no wind, along with ultimately warmth on our backs during our coffee breaks. It has encouraged a number of riders and attendees on our Rides to coffee destinations.

Another successful fish & chips evening at the Tulum Store, to farewell more northern breakaways. But with Tulum applying some infrastructure to the building, they could activate their Drink Licence, which could possibly be a more regular occurrence

Already the weather is turning, with wet weather on the future radar, but some saying "all good", but never in the right places.

Regardless, of of your transport option, the coffee mornings offers the ability to air your views, and highlight many local problems.

I will continue to circulate with our usual meeting times along with a destination, weather permitting.

Keep Riding



Dennis

BOOK CLUB

In the warmth of the "snug" at Bernie Gittins home, nine members gathered on Tuesday night 11th June to review Patrick Suskind's classic novel "Perfume: The Story of a Murderer". The author was born in Ambach, near Munich in 1949. He studied medieval and modern history at that city's University. His first play, "The Double Bass" written in 1980 became an international success with performances in London, Switzerland, London, Edinburgh, and USA. Suskind is the co-author of the enormously successful German television series, "Ker Royal". Perfume, his first novel became an international bestseller.

Perfume takes the reader on an evocative and haunting olfactory journey through 18th-century France. The novel delves into the world of scents, exploring the power of smell and its impact on human emotions and desires. The protagonist, Jean-Baptiste Grenouille, is a complex and enigmatic character whose obsession with capturing and preserving scents leads him down a dark and twisted path. The author explores the psychological depths of Grenouille's character delving into the effects of isolation and obsession on the human psyche. It's a

chilling and thought-provoking trip into themes of identity, desire, and the pursuit of perfection. Born an unloved orphan with an exceptional sense of smell, capable of distinguishing a vast range of scents in the world around him, Grenouille becomes apprenticed to an aged Parisian perfumer, Baldini. When he's wandering the city absorbing the smells, he is attracted by a particularly unique scent, that of a young virgin. Determined to possess it, he strangles her and stays with the body until the scent has left it. From then on, he embarks on a crusade as he obsessively tries to find and develop the ultimate perfume through a series of perfectly contrived murders of over twenty-five young virgins.

Members were sharply divided in their appraisal of this very unusual novel. All agreed it was a blend of fantasy and fiction buttressed and underpinned by the author's significant research. Initially, they were amazed at Suskind's ability to verbally convey the obnoxious smells that so pervaded both the unsewered, cramped Parisian city and its unwashed inhabitants that the reader had to almost hold his breath. And all were amazed at his extremely detailed description of how real perfumers go about collecting the materials to develop and perfect the scents for personal, business and general use. But, half the group were not won over by the fiction underlying much of the plot. And they were certainly not taken with the extended middle part when Grenouille lived alone in the bush for seven years. In contrast, those in favour, accepted the fantasy and fiction, being most impressed by the calibre of Suskind's exquisite writing and in particular his ability to take the reader into the mind of each of the vast number of characters



Source: <https://www.tallahatchienews.ms/comics/rubescr-dec-25-2022-1>

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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

HAPPY SNAPPERS

Our next meeting is almost upon us. It will be Tuesday the 9th of July at 2PM at my place, 96 Beach Hill Avenue Somers Vic. The subject is to be Maritime. That is, anything at all to do with the Ocean; so you have a very wide choice.

I must say I was very happy to receive many very favorable comments from the members at last Friday's general meeting regarding our presentation and also some considerable input by them during the presentation. Heaven forbid, I even heard someone say it made attending meetings worthwhile.

So let's get out there and continue to entertain our captive audience with some visual delights.

Contact Max Hem 5983 5274 or
Peter Gerdson 0407 321 048

BOOK CLUB Con'd

he deployed to be manipulated by the obsessed Grenouille. Overall, the and those who, as one of their number said, it was "on the nose", led to a great extended discussion which continued over a most enjoyable supper.

Those in favour said it was up with the best books we've had and gave it their very strong recommendation.

Finally, to the surprise of the naysayers, in 2006 perfume was made into a thriller/fantasy film with Ben Whishaw, Rachael Hurd-Wood and Dustin Hoffman.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 9th. July at Bart Bartholomew's home when the discussion will be on " The Mountains Sing" by Nguyen Phan Que Mai.

Contact: Dan Hourigan 0407 754 774

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

Barry Gordon has arranged a wine tastings and luncheon on Wednesday 24th July, at 11.00 am. Meet at the Hastings Wine Cellars (next to the Shell garage going North).

This will be followed by lunch of your choice at the Kings Creek Hotel.

**GARDENING GROUP**

Photo by Rob Walker

It was bright, sunny mid-June day. Hardly a breeze jostled the leaves. And the gardeners came out! They left their garden beds, compost, shed and tools and gathered at Merricks General Store for sustenance, shared chatter and a little gardening talk.

Good company = time slipping by and so we arrived at Merricks Nursery a little late. Richard still greeted us with good cheer and took us on a quick tour through his propagation igloos and shed before detouring through the garden and then releasing us on the nursery stock. Must have been something in the coffee, or was it the air? Many of us snatched a few tube-stock plants before heading home.

There will be a winter break in meetings, although not in garden activities. We will meet again at the home of Carlo and Maree on Wednesday, 18th September at 10:30am.

Rob Walker 5983 5159



Balnarring Men's Event Calendar July 2024

Date	Event	Contact
Monday July 8 th @ 11:00am	Film Club Review 'The Ipress File'	Dennis Paskins
Tuesday July 9 th @ 7:30pm	Book Club Review 'The Mountain Sings'	Dan Hourigan
Tuesday July 14 th @ 10:00am	Westernport Museum The Esplanade Crib Point	Bernie Poll
Wednesday 17 th @ 12:30pm	'Christmas in July' @ Westernport Hotel	Dennis Paskins
Wednesday 24 th @ 11:00am	Wine Appreciation @ Hastings Cellars & Lunch	Barry Gordon
Friday 19 th @ 2:00pm	Committee Meeting	
Friday 26 th @ 10:00am	General Meeting - Guest Speaker, Liz Hicklin	

DOCTOR FUN



Why the bear climbed Mount Everest.

3 Feb 98

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<http://sunsite.uic.edu/Dave/drfun.html>
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 Opinions expressed herein are solely those of the author.

Balnarring Men's Consumer Tech Group

The concept is to run such an interest group with Bi-monthly meetings centered on



Technical Items of every day use, that is Televisions, Sound Systems, Mobile Phones, Security Systems etc.

With some members going North for the coming months, this may take some time to establish, in the meantime I will provide an interest sheet at meeting for those interested,.

Dennis

Film Group



Nominated Film

PAGE EIGHT

A witty and elegant espionage thriller from English playwright, and Director David Hare, 'Page Eight' has fun with the Spy Genre casting some of the best actors then alive: Michael Gambon as head of MI5, Jonny Worricker; Bill Nighy, his protégé and; Rachel Weisz, his Syrian neighbor - who maybe his salvation or nemesis. Also providing important back-up are Judy Davies and Ralf Finnes as the Prime Minister.

It is exquisitely acted and radiantly photographed. 'Page Eight' was so successful that two sequels featuring Johnny Worricker followed; 'Turks & Caicos', and 'Salting the Battlefield' (Amazon \$4.99 each).

Score: 4.5, a must see.

Film Club Meet monthly and review a Film that has been nominated by a member, and at that meeting the next film on rotation through the membership is selected. Once all members have seen the film at home, a meeting is held at local lunch location for the review. Films selected must be available on SBS, iView, Netflix or the Mornington Film Library "Beama Film". Contact Dennis Paskins if interested.

Dennis verdenp40@gmail.com

FLOOBYDUST

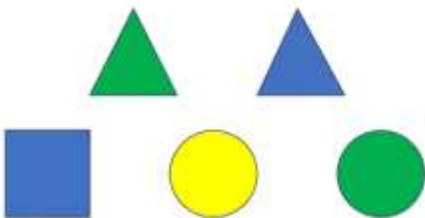
MUSIC

Country/folk material is a little prevalent this month—a lot of material to choose from.

	Blue Mountain Night Rain	<i>guqin jazz</i>	4:21	
	River deep, mountain high	<i>Cold Chisel</i>	3:36	
	Foggy mountain breakdown	<i>Earl Scruggs and friends</i>	4:43	
	Upward over the mountain	<i>Iron & Wine</i>	3:36	
	Symphony No. 6 'Mountains of Brazil'	<i>Villa Loboa</i>	28:31	
	Ain't no mountain high enough	<i>Marvin Gaye & Tammi Terell</i>	2:43	
	Wild mountain time	<i>The Petersens</i>	5:09	
	Mountain	<i>Chocolate Starfish</i>	4:38	
	Mountains	<i>Svend Undseth</i>	4:16	
	Rocky mountain high	<i>John Denver</i>	4:12	
	Climb every mountain	<i>from Sound of Music</i>	2:25	
	Life in the mountains	<i>Phillip Glass</i>	4:30	
	Sugar Mountain	<i>Neil Young</i>	7:11	

PUZZLE

And something just a little different: You can ponder at your leisure



Two participants, Sam & Cam, are told there is a prize behind one of the five shapes shown here.

The puzzle Organiser privately tells **Sam** the **SHAPE** of the object behind which the prize lies.

The Organiser privately tells **Cam** the **COLOUR** of the object behind which the prize lies.

This is the conversation that follows:

ORGANISER: Do either of you know where the prize is?

SAM & CAM: *(Both silent)*

ORGANISER: Do you know now?

SAM & CAM: *(Both silent)*

ORGANISER: Do you know now?

SAM & CAM: *(Both) Yes!*

Your challenge, based on the logic that Sam and Cam used, is to determine which shape the prize is behind.

THE ANSWER IS NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

TALK

Well there has to be something about mountaineering doesn't there?

'Mountaineering: Decision-making in the death zone'

Fredrik Strang

15:43

