

PROBUS CLUB OF BALNARRING INC.

Established September 1985

August 2024 Newsletter

Next meeting: Friday, September 27th

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

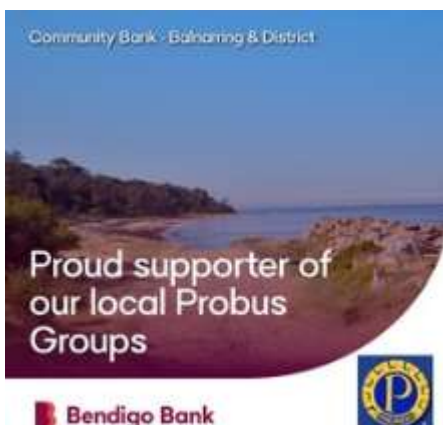
Eric Kings +	Jay Nagl +
Col Randall +	Bruce Margetts +
Stan Byrne +	Col Saunders +
Ron Deane	Ray McCutcheon
Daryl Cowen	



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

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Inside this issue: August theme: Fruit



President's Report
Welfare Report
Activities reports
Speaker notes
Club calendar
Notices of 2025 Long Trip
Floobydust



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

August 2024

Numbers, not surprisingly were at their lowest level, for many years. So, it was a welcome distraction that we were able to induct Malcom Gordon as a new member to the Club which, along with Malcom Brown inducted at the last meeting, replaces some recent departures.

Once the meeting business was completed, we enjoyed the usual high quality 'Happy Snappers' exhibition, with Max's team putting on a very good Black & White performance.

Our speaker for the meeting was Mark Hopkinson, now a local resident, and business man, but whose earlier career in the finance industry, was able to give us a very informative and lively presentation, on how and why Gina Reinhart, became at one point one of the richest people in the world.

With Mark's direct involvement in that journey, he was able to give us great insight into the mining development in the Pilbara and then provide us with the history of what has become the Hancock Rhinehart legacy.

Then thanks to our competent catering staff, Bernie along with some new volunteer staff, a majority of our members enjoyed a fish and chips lunch post our meeting.

Our next meeting will be on the 27th September, which coincides with the Grand Final Public Holiday. We have tried with no success to obtain a relevant speaker for the meeting. So, the committee has decided to sponsor a 'Football Quiz' complete with bottles of wine as prizes. It will obviously be followed by a pie and hot dog Lunch. Members are also encouraged to show their team allegiance.

My thanks to all those members who contributed to a successful meeting.

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.

We hope to see Ted Keam at a meeting soon and Rob Brewer has settled in well at Balnarring Arcare.

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

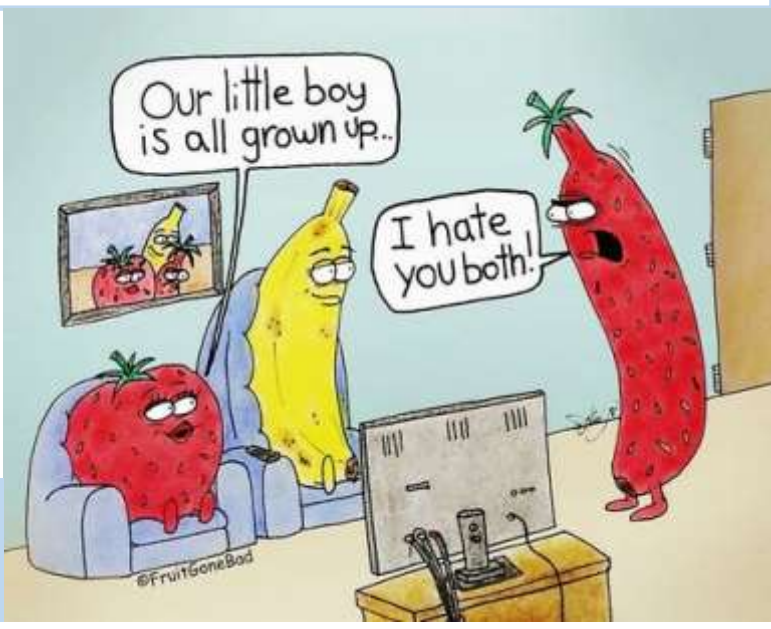


The September Happy Hour will be at 5:00pm. on Friday, 27th September. The venue will be advised at the general meeting by the President.

Join us for warm, friendly company with something to drink, a glass, nibbles and chat to share.

By: FruitGoneBad

Found at: <https://www.boredpanda.com/fruit-veggies-foods-comics-dark-humor-fruit-gone-bad-ny-cartoonist/>



BOOK CLUB

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

John Carter hosted the group's August meeting when Tim Murphy led the discussion on one of the most unusual books the group has read, "The Last Migration" by Charlotte McConaghy. The novel was judged TIME Magazine's Best Book of the Year and Best Fiction Book in 2020. The author has both a Graduate Degree in Screenwriting and a Master's Degree in Screen Arts and has worked in script development for film and television. She has written a number of speculative fiction books. This is her debut novel. She lives in Sydney.

The Last Migration is something of a hybrid novel, both an adventure story and a piece of speculative climate fiction. In essence, a Cli-fi story set in an unspecified time but foreshadowing settings in the distant future where the planet has undergone drastic transformation due to climate change with disappearing wildlife and other life forms. As animal populations plummet and commercial fishing faces prohibition McConaghy's chief protagonist, Franny talks her way onto one of the few remaining seine fishing boats heading south. She is on a mission to follow the last of the Arctic terns from their nesting grounds in Greenland on what is expected to be their final migration to the Antarctic. The journey is the longest migration undertaken by any animal, a complete crossing of the globe and a feat the terns complete twice yearly. She convinces the Captain Ennis of the Saghani seine boat and his eccentric crew to take her on her quest promising them the terns will show him where the disappearing fish are. She has tagged the terns with trackers to show when the terns stop to feed on fish. This is a somewhat curious contradiction as while vehemently committed to the terns she is prepared to sacrifice the equally declining fish using the terns as the lure to enable Ennis to get the last big haul the "Golden Catch" he and the crew desperately need.

The author has added a range of other characters to embellish this underlying story by weaving the past and present with flashbacks to Franny's childhood being born in Ireland but growing up in Australia. She infers dark secrets of Franny's past, a spell in prison, a yearning search for her mother together with her impulsive marriage to committed ornithologist Niall as she describes the voyage south. Franny's traumatic past sets a broody, unworldly quality to the story as Franny shows herself to be 'a creature' who identifies with the birds and the sea.

Most members enjoyed this book. They agreed with the underlying premise about climate change and the likely possible future posited by the author. The reminiscences of Franny's past added interest to the main line of the novel and all agreed the prose and unusual writing style was much to be admired. However, some of the events were implausible with much of the life threatening issues arising on the voyage stretching credibility. And it was agreed it certainly suited the author to characterise her protagonist as 'no shrinking violet'. In fact, she gives Franny almost messianic zeal in how she manipulates others to achieve her ends. Franny comes across as one of those excessively driven, cult like advocates, prepared to sacrifice others if it helps her in her quest.

Nonetheless, the novel generated a vigorous discussion which continued over the excellent supper provided by host Carter.

The annual arrival of red necked stints at Flinders beach gave some local connection to the main theme of the book. With scores of 3s and 4s the book is recommended.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 10th. September at Tony Duboudin's home when Dennis Paskins will lead discussion on 'Willow Man' by Inga Simpson.

Contact: Dan Hourigan 0407 754 774



Bikies Group, August—September 2024

ALL WELCOME

The month of August has been very disappointing, along with a continued drain on participants, the weather has been, very wintry, with both high winds, and heavy rain, we can only hope that the future conditions will follow the seasons, and improve. I will though, if only for my own enjoyment, encourage a ride when the weather permits.

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

Weather permitting and regardless of your transport options, the coffee mornings has the ability to air your views, and highlight many local problems.

Keep Riding



Dennis

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP



Apologies for the for the lack of events over the past nine months but as most of you would know, my "day job" has been keeping me north of the border and overseas for extended periods of time. However, there is light at the end of the tunnel, and no, it's not a train coming, so I am planning our next meeting for the second half of October.

Hopefully, it will be a winery visit with a difference, and more details will be available at our September general meeting and in the next newsletter.

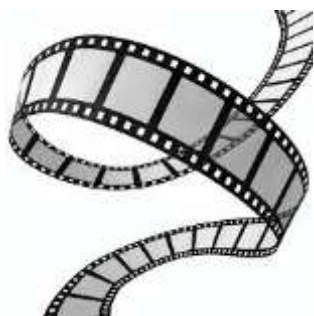
In the meantime, I would like to thank Barry Gordon for stepping in and arranging a couple of events in my absence.

Our group is always seeking more members to join us. So, if you enjoy the odd glass of wine from time to time and would like to share your experiences with a few other like-minded people, please contact me on the number below.

Rod Beet 0426 989 255 rodine@aapt.net.au

Film Group

Nominated Film



CERTIFIED COPY

Probus' Film Club recently watched 'Certified Copy', a film by Iranian director Abbas Kiarostami.

It is very much a two-hander, with Juliette Binoche and William Shimell playing two people who may or may not be a married. We are never quite sure.

The woman, who is never named, is French and runs an antiques shop in Tuscany. Shimell plays an English author who is touring Italy to promote his new book called 'Certified Copy', in which he argues that even copies of paintings can be regarded as original artworks.

They decide to spend a free day together, driving to a small village, treating us to some lovely Tuscan countryside. At first, they appear to be strangers to each other. In the village, a cafe owner assumes they are husband and wife. From that point the woman speaks and acts as though they really are married and have been for exactly fifteen years, today being their anniversary. The man appears reluctant to accept the fact. The film ends with him leaving her in order to catch a train to the next stop on his book tour.

There are many 'copies' in the film, including reflected images in mirrors. At one point the author relates a scene he observed from his hotel room. The story concerns a mother and her son and Michelangelo's statue of David in Florence (itself a replica). The two people in the story are clearly the woman and her son. We met the son early in the film, when he teased his mother about having the author sign his book, so she would have a signature showing his (the son's) surname. This was certainly a hint.

Dialogue is in English, Italian and French, sub-titled as required. The title of the film is intriguing: Is this a real marriage or simply a copy?

Juliette Binoche makes this film worth watching simply by being in it. She plays the part of a slightly scatty and emotional woman. William Shimell, an opera singer in his first film, is restrained throughout, providing a balance to Binoche.

Amongst club members, the average score was 3.6 out of 5.

Bob Anselmi.



By: FruitGoneBad

Found at: <https://www.boredpanda.com/fruit-veggies-foods-comics-dark-humor-fruit-gone-bad-ny-cartoonist/>



Balnarring Men's Calendar August 2024

Date	Event	Contact
Friday, 6th September @ 10:30 am	Film group	Dennis Paskins
Tuesday, 10th September @ 2:00 pm	Happy Snappers 'Using effects functions'	Max Hem
Tuesday, 10th September @ 7:30pm	Book Club	Dan Hourigan
Wednesday, 17th September @ 10:30 am	Gardening	Rob Walker
Friday, 20th September @ 2:00 pm	Committee Meeting at BBSC	Dennis Paskings
Friday, 27th September @ 10:00 am	General Meeting & Footy Quiz at BBSC	Dennis Paskins

HAPPY SNAPPERS

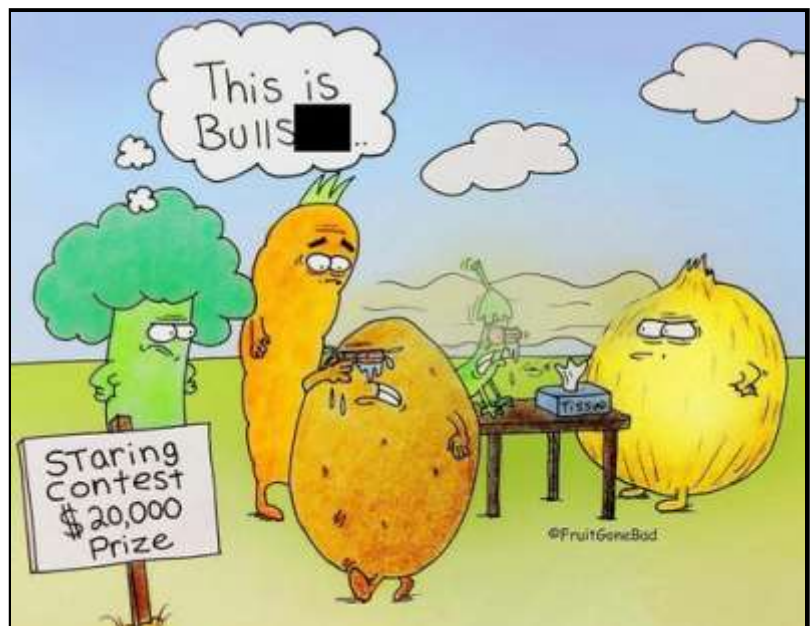
Our August Happy Snappers exhibition highlighted the increased focus on the subject offered by black and white images.



Next meeting will be at 96 Beach Hill Avenue on Tuesday, September 10th at 2:00 pm. Digital cameras include a range of filters and we will explore these.

So get into the menu and fire away. Include unfiltered copies with the filtered ones. Then we can discuss the differences.

Contact Max Hem 5983 5274 or Peter Gerdson 0407 321 048



By: FruitGoneBad

Found at: <https://www.boredpanda.com/fruit-veggies-foods-comics-dark-humor-fruit-gone-bad-ny-cartoonist/>

BIRTHDAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEPTEMBER

Kevin Sack 90



GARDENING GROUP

Spring is burgeoning upon us even as winter frustrates it with icy blasts, and our group looks to meetings/gatherings reinstated. To celebrate the turn of the seasons, we gather, hosted by Carlo and Maree at 27 Bruce Street, Balnarring on Wednesday 17th September at 10:30am. And although we do not have a walrus, we will speak of many things: what we're doing and, what we will do in our gardens; outings and gatherings we may enjoy and; whatever else crops (sic) up.

If you are a gardener of any kind and would like to join us, let me know and I will add you to the list – gardeners love to grow things.

Rob Walker

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 members returning from the North over the coming months, wheels will start to turn; meantime I will provide an interest sheet at meeting for those interested,.

Dennis

LUNCHES



September 27th -
Footy Finals Fare—
Party pies and Hot dogs



August Speaker - Mark Hopkinson

Our August speaker, Mark Hopkinson, opened up a window to a world little known by many of us ... the inner workings of BIG business.

Mark forsook the world of huge expenses accounts, big lunches and rubbing shoulders with the rich and powerful to work for himself and establish a presence in the hospitality industry.

Earlier, he worked for some of the biggest names in the accountancy, banking and business advisory sector including KPMG and Macquarie Bank to name a couple.

One of his most interesting tasks was advising Mrs Gina Rinehart, who insisted on calling Mark 'Sausage'. Some of the monetary figures Mark mentioned were eye watering. His time with Gina Rinehart as she tried to seal a deal and raise money to establish a new mining tenement involved phone calls to the Prime Minister, unions and Japanese conglomerates to help stitch up a deal. It was as Mark puts it a fascinating and high-octane period in his life.

After working overseas Mark returned to Australia and resumed his career in the business advisory area before deciding that it was time to quit and work for himself and, as he pointed out, to produce something.

His point of entry was an Italian restaurant. This led to him becoming involved in a small brewery in Bridge Road, Richmond, specialising in German style beer, and several wines bars. He is also a partner in the Balnarring Gym but maintains a hands-off role in that business.

Tony Duboudin



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

JUST IN CASE YOU MISSED IT LAST MONTH

BALNARRING MENS PROBUS CLUB LONG TRIP 2025

RACV RESORT—COBRAM

Nearly time for a Probus holiday!

For those who have not experienced the fun and most importantly the chance to get to know your fellow Probians a Probus trip is a good start

.Proposed trip to the RACV Resort at Cobram, Monday 31st March to Friday 4th April 2025 – 4 nights

Travel, meals and sightseeing experiences will follow.



Suggest you look at their Internet Site (Make sure it is RACV Cobram not Bookings .com), then ring them 5872 2488 and make a booking on selected accommodation. **THEN LET HAROLD KNOW (weberbase@hotmail.net.au OR – 0417 347 552)**

Let them know you are a member of the RACV (Service OR Club) and if an AUTO MEMBER you want the Stay & Save rate. **However, if booking this way, it is non-refundable and payable up front.**

Also, if sharing accommodation let them know what bed configuration you require (For 2nd room)

Prices for 4 nights on Stay and Save rate: All with kitchen, heating/cooling, one bathroom but with a separate toilet.

	Club member Stay&Save	Ordinary (Not Stay&Save)	Auto (Service) member
Standard Cabin, Queen & bunk room	\$ 292	\$ 348	\$ 435
Park Cabin, Queen & twin	\$ 340	\$ 408	\$ 510
Deluxe Park Cabin, 2 Queens	\$ 392	\$ 468	\$ 585
Garden Cabin, 1 Queen, 1 with whatever	\$ 396	\$ 473	\$ 591
Lakeview Cabin, Queen & 1 with whatever	\$ 420	\$ 504	\$ 630
2 Bedroom Apartment	\$ 452	\$ 540	\$ 675
Caravan site with En Suite	\$ 168	\$ 202	\$ 252

Non RACV members rates will be more and quoted when you ring them.

To obtain the discount, at least one Club or Service member must be in that accommodation.

Getting there will be by car lunching at Nagambie.

For ideas on what to see and do: Google – Sun Country on the Murray but we plan to have a day at Echuca (Paddle Steamer ride) and another at or near Rutherglen (Wine tasting) other possibilities are Silo Art; Byramine Home-stead and Cactus Country – more information later.

FLOOBYDUST

VIDEO



For the love of three oranges












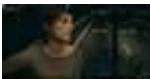









Dad's Army

30:01

Front page fruit bowl source: <https://www.cleanpng.com/png-fruit-salad-bowl-clip-art-platter-cliparts-605955/>
#google_vignette

FLOOBYDUST

I might have bitten off more than I can chew this month. And to keep the clichés coming, I couldn't avoid some low fruit, yet seem to have weighted the basket a little more towards Jazz and Classics.

	Dance of the sugar plum fairy	<i>Tchaikovsky</i>	3:31	
	Tangerine	<i>Tribute to Dexter Gordon</i>	8:15	
	Coconut grove	<i>John Sebastian</i>	3:49	
	Fruit Cocktail	<i>Dorsey Brothers</i>	2:28	
	Pineapple head	<i>Crowded House</i>	4:09	
	Boiler room concert	<i>Tangerine Dream</i>	2:13:03	
	Just dip in; you may not want to watch the whole video.			
	Three pieces of pear	<i>Satie</i>	3:00	
	Scrapple from the Apple	<i>Stan Getz etc</i>	8:17	
	Lemon	<i>Kenshi Yonezu</i>	4:34	
	Strawberry fields forever	<i>The Beatles</i>	4:23	
	Cantaloupe island	<i>Herbie Hancock</i>	14:28	
	Peachy	<i>Missy Higgins</i>	2:40	
	Sally's tomato	<i>Cal Tjader</i>	3:10	
	Coffee Cantata - final chorus	<i>J. S. Bach</i>	5:00	
	Lemon	<i>U2</i>	4:36	
	Strange fruit	<i>Billie Holiday</i>	3:02	
	Blueberry hill	<i>The Loved Ones</i>	2:43	
	It was going to use Fats Domino, but I remembered this Australian version			
	For the love of oranges (March)	<i>Prokofiev</i>	1:39	
	Tangerine	<i>Christian McBride Trio</i>	7:01	
	Banana boat song	<i>Harry Belafonte</i>	3:53	
	Lus fruit ranlus mas		5:09	
	I can't work out if this is the band or the track title. Just a little recent PNG reggae.			
	Apple core (Gerry Mulligan)	<i>Artem Sax</i>	3:26	