

PROBUS CLUB OF BALNARRING INC.

Established September 1985

September 2024 Newsletter

Next meeting: Friday, October 25th

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

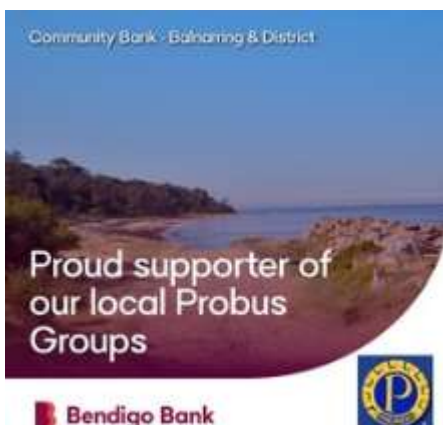
Eric Kings +	Jay Nagl +
Col Randall +	Bruce Margetts +
Stan Byrne +	Col Saunders +
Ron Deane	Ray McCutcheon
Daryl Cowen	



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

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Inside this issue: September theme: Serenade



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Floobydust



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

September 2024

A Probus meeting on a Public Holiday for the AFL Grand Final was always going to be a challenge to provide a relevant speaker. As it proved to be.

However, Daryl rose to this challenge, and produced a very enjoyable, and competitive quiz over five subjects, including of course, to keep us on message, AFL Football. It was enjoyed by all, and could be repeated in the future, when an option presents.

The cut off date for registration for our end of year lunch scheduled for Friday 29th November 2024 post our general meeting on that day is rapidly approaching. Whilst I appreciate the format for this lunch is different from the lunches in the past, the Committee felt that the lunch is of good value, can be enjoyed by all and, is not left to a few to organize. To determine final attendance, would all members who have yet to register do so by the next meeting? The success or otherwise of the day will obviously determine any future direction of this function.

1-31st October is scheduled as Probus Month; regretfully we have not been proactive in this. However one recommendation that could be relevant is to invite a friend or colleague to a meeting, which is always an option.

The Chairmen's message in the Monthly Probus Magazine recently circulated, highlighted the very big difference in how Men, and Women converse; namely, the fact that women talk to each other more easily, and are better communicating their feelings than men. Conversely, saying something, asking for something is not always comfortable for men.

In recognition of the above I would determine that it is important that we retain our Club's status if for nothing else than to break down these perceived barriers.

Dennis

WELFARE REPORT

A busy month for medical procedures with a couple of stents inserted, a disc replaced, cataract surgery and some gall stones requiring surgery. We wish them well in their recovery.

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

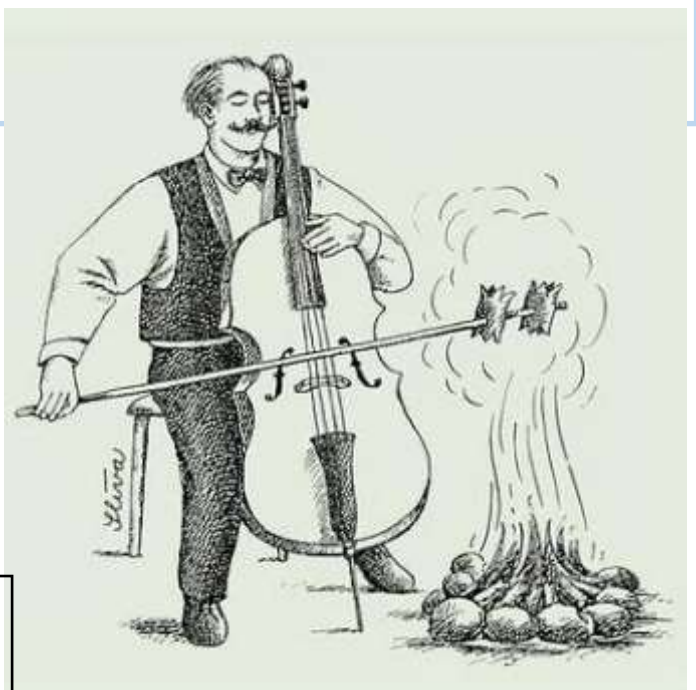
The October Happy Hour will be at 5:00pm. on Friday, 25th. The venue will be advised at the general meeting by the President.

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



By Jiri Sliva

Source: https://www.toonpool.com/cartoons/Serenade_4097



BOOK CLUB

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

For our last meeting, the Book Group travelled over the border to Bittern to assemble at the Duboudin's home on the 10th. September. The book for review was 'Willowman' by Australian novelist Inga Simpson. The author holds PhDs in creative writing and English literature. She has had novels listed for the Miles Franklin Award.

In 'Willowman' Simpson's underlying story is a fictionalised account of a handcrafted cricket bat maker Allan Reader and a gifted young Queensland cricketer Todd Harrow. As an obsessive cricket tragic, at a local cricket game, Allan thinks he sees the potential of a great batsman in the young Harrow and decides to make a "Reader" bat for him. The author takes the reader on a twin tale about these two chief protagonists alternating with chapters on each. By adopting a 'Tools of Trade' analogy that just as a workman does best with high-quality equipment Simpson cleverly develops that relationship; human skill matched with high-performance equipment as the theme of her novel. Interestingly to set the scene, she has Allan relate how the game of cricket developed by experimenting with various types of material for cricket bats until finally recognizing the best wood came from willow trees. There are descriptions of Allan visiting England to see how willow trees are planted, grown, and harvested there so that he can develop his own plantation back here in Australia. In repetitive detail Simpson describes how Reader

goes about assessing which willow tree to select, the one with just the right grain. She then details the excessive time involved in the shaping and moulding process to produce a handcrafted finished result. When Reader's obsessive commitment to perfecting the highest quality bat is finally finished to his satisfaction, he presents it to the young Harrow as a gift. He hopes Harrow will become the champion Reader thinks he could be, aided of course by the perfect bat. Similarly in interweaving chapters, the author describes Harrow's early life as an ambitious youngster, equally obsessed with cricket as Reader. The youngster is determined to train and practice hoping to win selection initially in the state team and ultimately in Australia's test team. As usual with many authors these days, Simpson adds subordinate plots with other characters to add interest to the main thrust of her novel. She even introduces Harrow's young sister as an emerging female cricketer who plays in women's test teams. And of course, there has to be an accompanying love interest to round off Harrow's ultimate emergence as a champion.

The novel drew mixed responses within the group. Only half actually finished reading it. While Simpson's writing was well done and captured the essence driving both Reader and Harrow, the subordinate plots and characters were clearly just additions. The descriptions of bat making were informative highlighting a lost art. But most of those who did read to the end found it repetitive with descriptions of matches lacking the excitement of the real thing. With a score of 2, 'Willowman' is not recommended.

Having thus dispensed with the book, members as usual discussed a range of current affairs and sports topics as they lingered long over a delightful Duboudin supper. Another great night out for the group.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 8th. October at Tim Murphy's home when the discussion will be on 'The Collected Regrets of Clover' by Mikki Brammer.

Contact: Dan Hourigan 0407 754 774

BY Kevin Spear

Source: <https://kevinspear.com/family/cartoon-kitchen-serenade>

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Film Group

Nominated Film "'Vertigo". Cast: James Stewart, Kim Novak.
"China Town" Cast: Jack Nicholson, Faye Dunaway, John Huston

Vertigo is a 1958 Hollywood acclaimed classic, filmed in the San Francisco Bay Area of California, a psychological thriller directed and produced by renowned filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock. Essentially based on the 1954 novel, "D'entre les morts".the story is about obsession.

The plot is mysterious, suspenseful, hypnotic, and romantic in the most twisted way. Detective John ("Scottie") Fergusson played by Stewart has retired from the police force because he developed a paralysing fear of heights after a rooftop chase resulting in a colleague's death, He comes out of retirement at the behest of Gavin Elster a colleague who wants Scottie to investigate his wife, Madeleine, played by Novak, and follow her peculiar behaviour as he thinks she is possessed. Scottie unexpectedly falls in love with her only to witness her suicide. Devastated by Madeleine's death, Scottie then encounters Judy Barton, also played by Novak, and obsessively remakes her in the image of the dead Madeleine. However, Scottie does not realize that Judy already knows him because she had pretended to be Madeleine as a ruse in an elaborate scheme concocted by Elster to cover up his wife's murder.

Under Hitchcock's direction, Scottie's obsession was accentuated and the accompanying music by Bernard Herman was built around spiralling and circling surges in the score. The graphics in the opening titles and the dizzying effects achieved throughout the film by the new dolly system kept the focus on Scottie's acrophobia.

China Town is a 1974 American neo-noir mystery film directed by Roman Polanski. Filmed in San Francisco it was inspired by the corruption in the Californian water wars, a series of disputes over water rights in the Owens Valley. It is a multi-layered 1940s private-eye story, part mystery, and part psychological drama with an incestuous subplot. It exposes the role greed played in the evolution of modern-day Los Angeles, Hollywood.



The plot. A woman named Evelyn Mulwray hires private investigator Jake Gittes, a successful operator handling adulterous cases, to trail her husband, Hollis Mulwray, who she suspects of infidelity. Gittes believes it's just another routine infidelity case. But he soon realizes he's stumbled onto a much more complicated case. When he meets the real Mrs Mulwray played by Faye Dunnaway, he realizes he'd been hired by an imposter. Mulwray's sudden death sets Gittes off on a tangled trail of corruption, deceit, and sinister family secrets as Evelyn's father, played by John Huston, becomes a suspect in the case.



Polanski's reputation was already firmly established when he made "China Town" for Paramount in 1974. It was nominated for 11 Academy Awards. It was the last film he directed in the USA. The screenplay by Robert Towne gave Nicholson pungent, hard-bitten dialogue while Gerry Goldsmith's accompanying music accurately reflected the era.

Summary.

Interestingly, there is a certain symmetry between these two films. Both films were produced by Paramount. Both films had an investigator investigate a marriage partner. Both directors were European: Polanski, French/Polish, and Hitchcock, English. Both were filmed in San Francisco. Both were seen as neo-noir although done in colour. Both featured characters playing duplicate identities. Both had murder as a key plot. Both had leading actresses playing "femme fatale" lead characters. Both had male investigators. Both directors appeared fleetingly in their films. Both films were nominated for many various awards.

The group thought Vertigo showed its age and scored lowly at under 2. China Town was seen much more favourably with a score of 3.5.

Why not check them out and form your own opinion?

Next month's films: 'TheDuke'
'A Most Wanted Man'

Dan Hourigan

MIDWEEK SENIORS LUNCH (with Spouses)

WEDNESDAY 9th OCTOBER AT 12.30PM

"DEORO BY THE BAY" - HASTINGS MARINA

2 Course \$26 3 Course \$33

Bookings still available.

Contact Daryl on 0439 100 546

Balnarring Men's Calendar October 2024

Date	Event	Contact
Friday, 4th October @ 10:30 am	Film group	Dennis Paskins
Wednesday 9th October @ 12:30 pm	Lunch at 'Deoro' by the Bay	Daryl Cowen
Tuesday, 8th October @ 2:00 pm	Happy Snappers 'Spring'	Max Hem
Tuesday, 8th October @ 7:30 pm	Book Club	Dan Hourigan
Wednesday, 16th October @ 10:30 am	Gardening Garden visit - 'Illyarrie'	Rob Walker
Friday, 18th October @ 2:00 pm	Committee Meeting at BBSC	Dennis Paskins
Friday, 25th October @ 10:00 am	General Meeting at BBSC Lunch—BBQ	Dennis Paskins
Friday 29th November @ 12:30 pm	End of year lunch at The Heritage	Dennis Paskins
31st March to 4th April 2025	Cobram RACV resort long trip	Harold Weber

Cobram Trip 31st March to 4th April 2025

Please note

The telephone number as advised in the last newsletter for bookings was incorrect. The RACV Cobram Resort can be contacted on 5871 9700 (not 5872 2488 which is a local motel). Bookings can be made by phone or online at the RACV COBRAM website (not booking.com or wotif etc). The rates as advertised are still current)

Harold Weber



No aspersions on our fearless riders here—just an AI generated 'meme'.

Found at:
https://www.reddit.com/r/BicyclingCirclejerk/comments/1ehynt6/its_actually_great_exercise/

HAPPY SNAPPERS



We are having a meeting on Tuesday, October the 8th at 2PM. at my place; 96 Beach Hill Ave, Somers. The subject will be 'Spring'. In a general sense it should be easy to find something to photograph - birds, bees, flowers trees etc.

Hope to see you then. Best regards.

Contact Max Hem 0428 518 810
 Peter Gerdson 0407 321 048



Bikies Group, September—October 2024

A very difficult month for any outside activity was September, with high winds and rain being the main deterrents for riders. That along with reduced numbers due to those enjoying more suitable weather up North meant low numbers. We can only hope that October will bring not only some better Spring weather, but also a return of some of our supporters from the North.

I will continue to circulate with our usual meeting times along with a destination weather permitting, and regardless of your transport option the coffee mornings have the ability to air your views, and highlight many local problems.

ALL WELCOME

Keep Riding



Dennis

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



October 25th -
BBQ

\$10.00 Inc a drink
from the bar



GARDENING GROUP

Spring not only spurs our gardens into flourishing growth, it draws all our latent members back from the north, under the doonas or, the fire-side. Maree and Carlo - the perfect hosts - set us outdoors with a scrumptious morning tea to celebrate our reconvening. Amongst copious social chat, we had a quick catch-up on each of our gardening activities and planned our coming few months' meetings.

Our next gathering will be at the beautiful, small garden of Louise, 'Illyarrie' at 7 Library Road, Balnarring Beach. We will meet at 10:30am on

Wednesday, 16th October and finish at the Tulum Store for whatever refreshments are wanted and available.

Non-members of our group who are interested in visiting this garden, contact me so I can add you to our mailing list with final details of the visit.

Rob Walker



Source: <https://www.deviantart.com/earthvsthederek/art/Steve-s-Serenade-450988396>

BIRTHDAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

October

Peter Evans 80

CONTRACT BRIDGE



WANTED BRIDGE PLAYERS

If you have played bridge and want to get back into the game why not join us each Monday afternoon? We rotate hosting at each other's homes and sessions last about three hours with a break for afternoon tea. We play social bridge which means we are not too serious. If you would like to join us please speak with Tony Duboudin on 0412 551 981.



Our footy
GRAND FINALS
 general meeting

Photos by Max Hem



FLOOBYDUST

OCTOBER SENIORS FESTIVAL

Check out what's on

[Click Here!](#)

And on the Peninsula

[Click Here!](#)

VIDEO

There is no real connection with 'Serenade' here although some regard McCartney a serenader. It's some fun to revisit:



Norman Gunston - Paul McCartney interview

FLOOBYDUST

VIDEO

And this cartoon is on theme. Apologies for the AI 'remastering, but I couldn't find a full version anywhere else.



Solid Serenade (Tom and Jerry)

Hanna-Barbera

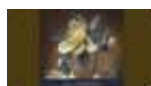
7:12

MUSIC

Soul serenade

King Curtis

3:37



Hay square serenade

Guy Anderson

3:38

Serenade

Steve Miller Band

4:32



Serenade

Schubert

3:08

Serenade

Boynextdoor (Korean pop)

3:33



Skyline serenade

Pink People Group

4:15

Serenade on Swedish folk songs

Bruckl

19:07



Longfellow serenade

Neil Diamond

3:49

Moonlight Serenade

Carly Simin

4:28



Soul Serenade

Aretha Franklin

2:39

Back in your arms

The Sweet Serenade

4:03

One of those 'finds' that happens putting this together. [You could also try 'Die Young'](#)



Skyline serenade

Justin Johnson

3:00

Serenade for strings

Dvorak

6:35



Serenade

Trendy & Riovaz

2:06



Autumn serenade

John Coltrane

4:19



An 'on-the-nose' cartoon to complete this month's collection:

Found at: <https://www.litterboxcomics.com/serenade-bonus/>

Front page image 'Hulk's serenade' source:

<https://stablediffusionweb.com/image/4726821-hulk-s-trumpet-serenade>