

Edition No. 98 – November 2022

DENMARK RIVER PROBUS NEWSLETTER

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GREETINGS PROBIANS

Apologies for the late newsletter. I was out of town and absent from the internet last weekend in the beautiful forest around Dwellingup. We went there for a small folk festival held at Banksia Springs. It was a lot of fun and especially nice as we saw a lot of friends from Perth, and elsewhere, that we rarely see these days.

The festival is put on to raise money for children's cancer. This year we were visited by the charity to which the funds are given. They came to thank us for passing the \$250,000.00 milestone. It may have taken them 17 years to get there, but it was still a very special moment.

JOYCE

NEXT MEETING

7 December 2022

11:00 am at the Denmark Country Club

Guest Speaker: Nil

Lunch: Special Christmas Lunch in-house.

WANTED - new committee members for 2023

Don't forget to think about volunteering for the committee in 2023.

Committee

President: Kevin Nayda president@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

Vice President: vacant

Secretary: Julie Nayda secretary@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

Treasurer: Brian Rushton
treasurer@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

Activities: Vicki Lumia & Tracey Barton
events@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

Hospitality: Val Ball, Kerry Clark, Rosemary Thorn, Glenice Smith
hospitality@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

Membership: Linda Falls members@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

Guest Speakers: Julie Nayda speakers@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

Media: Joyce Edmonds contact@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

BIRTHDAYS

Helen Young	Wednesday 30 November
Kaye White	Thursday 15 December
Dexter Warne	Saturday 17 December
Grant Ball	Monday 19 December
Carol Harry	Saturday 24 December



MEMBERSHIP

There are 10 people on the waiting list, many of whom have completed three visits.

Guest Speaker

BRIAN LEVET. **MY LIFE IN KENYA.**

Brian opened with a bit of Swahili language, which got us all intrigued. He then proceeded to enthral us with his vast knowledge of the history, geography, geology and culture of Kenya.

The country is the third largest economy of sub-Saharan Africa and with its climate ranging from desert to high rainfall and lush volcanic soils, it produces such crops as tea, coffee, fresh vegetables and cut flowers for export and employs 40 percent of its population in primary industry.



Kenya's Lake Turkana is the world's largest permanent desert lake and although it is very alkaline, it supports a large population of fish such as Nile perch, which Brian informs us is similar to barramundi. This lake is hugely significant to us all, as it is the cradle of modern humanity. Many human fossils have been found around the area, representing the primate developments on the way to homo sapiens.

Modern day Kenya has a variety of ethnic groups among its 52 million people, with the majority being Bantu. The Maasai are another significant ethnic group and have provided Kenya with great success in marathon running. With their high centre of gravity and long, lean legs, they are built for speed.

We learned how foreigners raided the country in earlier centuries for the slave trade and how Europeans colonized this country along with many other parts of Africa, but after the Mau Mau uprising in the early 1950's Kenya gained independence.

The wildlife of Kenya includes not just the big five: lion, elephant, rhinoceros, buffalo and leopard, but a huge range of other mammals and a spectacular range of birds.

I have barely scratched the surface of Brian's fascinating talk, which demonstrated his enormous knowledge of Kenya but also his love of the country of his and Robyn's birth. Thank you, Brian.

HAPPENINGS:

SURF GALLERY

The Surf Gallery on South Coast Highway just before you reach the lower Denmark Road is a place that I have passed many times thinking that I had no interest in at all. I am not a surfer nor ever was, even in the days when The Beach Boys' music was popular. I liked their music, and I liked the beach, but not surfing. I think I grew up too far from the sea for that.

That was reinforced when I saw the array of surfboards neatly lined up in the gallery. They were very pretty and well set out and the gallery is very well laid out, but the finesse of the different styles was really lost on me. I was interested to see some of the very early boards though as I am interested in history. I was also interested to see the difference between the long >9ft boards of the past and the more modern short boards. There was one I had difficulty photographing it was so long.



So, it was not the gallery itself that interested me to much as what preceded the tour of the gallery.

We began by partaking of morning tea in the re-furbished but still rustic former dairy now making a very nice al fresco area. It was very enjoyable enjoying a hot cup of coffee or tea and eating delicious cakes and socialising.





We had an unexpected guest. One that Julie was doing her best to avoid. Note where her feet are.

Morning tea itself almost made the trip worthwhile; but then owner Wayne Winchester came and talked to us about the gallery and what the aim of it was.



He has been making and restoring surfboards for a very long time and is truly a surfer. His love of the boards and of surfing shone through as he talked to us. He is a very engaging and amiable speaker. He talked about surfing and how he still enjoys surfing at Ocean Beach. He told us that we have one of the most difficult places in the world to surf right here on our coast. It is called "The Right" and produces some amazing waves.



He told us that, among other interesting things that he has done, he made, or restored, a board to be used in Tim Winton's movie "Breath". Having done that, they then asked him to make another one identical to the first, but smaller - shorter and narrower. He wondered why they would want that, but it was because the movie is supposed to cover several years of the main character's life during which time he would have grown; but as the movie only took a couple of months to shoot, they had to do something to make it look like the boy had grown - hence the smaller board relative to his size. It was a very entertaining talk and for me was the highlight of the visit.

1987
 Surfboard
 Shaped by Ben Hurst - original size
 5'8" x 22" x 10" (Shark Island "Ten board" model)
 This board was designed and made by Ben Hurst specifically to surf at The Right, one of the most feared and powerful spots in the world. Located here on the south coast of Western Australia, The Right has a reputation for being one of the most difficult of these powerful waves and is particularly feared, made famous, famous, famous and named from several boards. It is the best wave anywhere, and has been the subject of many movies, including "Breath". The board is a classic "Ten board" design, a special board for a special spot.





SOCIAL GROUPS



WINE APPRECIATION GROUP

The wine appreciation group meets from 5-7pm on the **4th Thursday** of the month at the **Denmark Men's Shed**, just past the Rivermouth Caravan Park on Inlet Drive.

For more information contact Peter Lumia



Fran's Coffee Mornings

Meets at **10:00** every **3rd Tuesday** of the month at various venues.
Next:

20 December - Bakery Cafe



Kayaking

Kayaking – is held 2nd & 4th Fridays (weather permitting)

8:00am in the water. Launching from the boat ramp at the Denmark River Mouth Caravan Park. Afterwards coffee at the Caravan Park's Reminisce Café. Contacts - Warwick Gates and Stuart Hoskins

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

No Outings are planned for December and January.

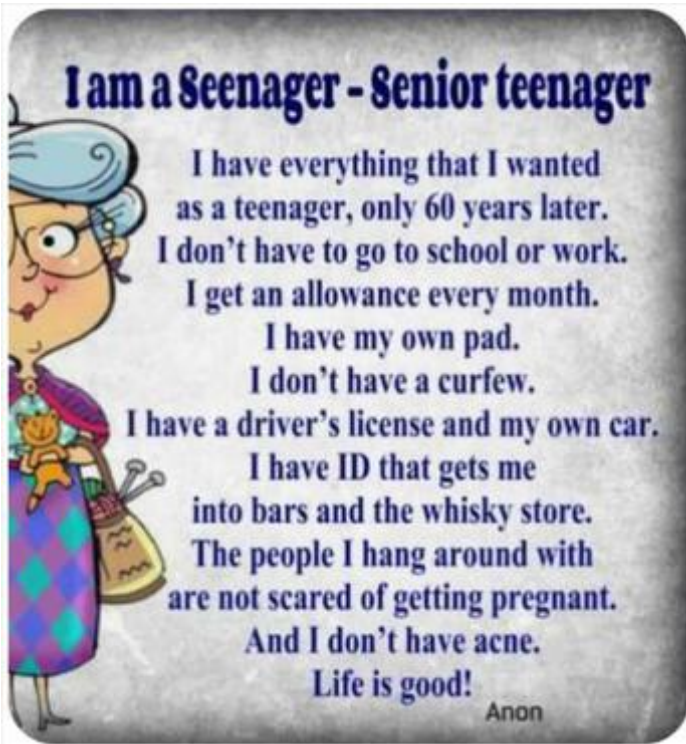
The Next outing will be in February.

For any other queries please contact: Julie at secretary@denmarkriverprobus.org.au



When a bridge appears suddenly.

FUNNIES - Thank you!





This picture was given to Class II Children and they were asked to suggest a headline. The winning entry was:

'Never swallow your chewing gum'.

