

# DENMARK RIVER PROBUS NEWSLETTER

June 2025 - Edition 129



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## ***Hello everyone!***

Welcome to the June edition of Denmark River Probus newsletter.

Our general meeting this month was full of community spirit. A big thank you to Carmel who kindly stepped in as Secretary during Val's absence, and to Warrick, who took on the Treasurer's role for Ros - sling and all - just after his recent surgery. Your efforts are much appreciated!

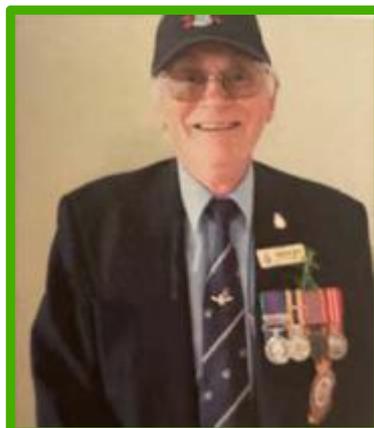
With our regular Guest Speaker organisers away, Kerry and Steve stepped up to keep us entertained with a trivia quiz that sparked plenty of conversation around the tables. Well done! Next month, we will have the inspiring Dr Alex Sleeman as our guest speaker. Not to be missed!

We also enjoyed an outing to the new Albany Wild West Bowling Alley followed by lunch at The Barrel Farm. Many thanks to Robin and Mal for continuing to organise such enjoyable excursions.

I hope you enjoy the Spotlight on our wonderful club member Rob Norcross. I feel privileged to have read Rob's Collection of Life Stories and chatted with him about his extraordinary military journey spanning nearly forty years.

Wishing you a happy month ahead.

Warmly,  
Susan



## Trivia Quiz with Steve and Kerry



Our quizmaster Steve and scorekeeper Kerry did an excellent job of keeping us entertained with 50 questions, starting with some confidence boosters to get everyone engaged, followed by some challenging questions and a few stumpers for the more competitive teams.

How did you fare with these?

1. What is the only venomous mammal in the world?
2. What does SCUBA stand for?
3. How many of the world's 25 most venomous snakes are native to Australia?
4. Finish the sentence, The hand that rocks the cradle.....
5. Who famously said, There was never a good war or a bad peace?

Answers on Page 4 for those interested.



***This month's event ~ Wild West Bowling Alley and lunch at The Barrel Farm***



There was some friendly rivalry between the teams this month. Kerry Clark had the highest individual score on the day. But when it came to the combined total over two games, Peter Lumia was the winner by just two points.



Next was a relaxed lunch at The Barrel Farm, set on an old dairy. We shared a long table in the spacious interior dining area with rural views and great company. Everyone enjoyed their meals, ranging from classic fish and chips to beef cheeks with tagliatelle, washed down with Yilgarnia Wines and craft beers on tap.

## July Birthdays

Anne Peterson	17 July
Tracey Barton	20 July
Kevin Nayda	25 July
Bev Seeney	25 July
Susan Allan	28 July



## Diary Dates

Wed 2 July	General meeting 10.00am
	Guest Speaker ~ TBC
Wed 16 July	Albany Model Train Club 10.00am followed by lunch at the Earl of Spencer.

## Extras

Membership ~ There are 70 members in the club plus 1 life member, and 15 on the waiting list.

Please remember to wear your name badge, so everyone can get to know you. Let's keep our club friendly and inclusive.



Welfare ~ If you know a member who could use a card or friendly call, please let Vicki Lumia know.

### YOUR 2025 COMMITTEE

*President: Helena Wragg – [helenajo@westnet.com.au](mailto:helenajo@westnet.com.au)*

*Secretary: Val Ball - [secretary@denmarkriverprobus.org.au](mailto:secretary@denmarkriverprobus.org.au)*

*Treasurer: Ros Gates - [treasurer@denmarkriverprobus.org.au](mailto:treasurer@denmarkriverprobus.org.au)*

*Events: Robin Levet, Malcolm Dickie - [events@denmarkriverprobus.org.au](mailto:events@denmarkriverprobus.org.au)*

*Membership: Stephanie Wierobiej - [members@denmarkriverprobus.org.au](mailto:members@denmarkriverprobus.org.au)*

*Guest Speakers: Lyell Edmonds, Jamie Falls - [speakers@denmarkriverprobus.org.au](mailto:speakers@denmarkriverprobus.org.au)*

*Media: Susan Lane - [contact@denmarkriverprobus.org.au](mailto:contact@denmarkriverprobus.org.au)*

*Hospitality: Lorraine Cotton, Kaye White - [hospitality@denmarkriverprobus.org.au](mailto:hospitality@denmarkriverprobus.org.au)*



Check our website <https://www.denmarkriverprobus.org.au> for more news, events, outings, photos, recipes and lots more.

Quiz answers: 1. platypus 2. self-contained underwater breathing apparatus 3. 21 4. ...rules the world. 5. Benjamin Franklin

## ***Kayak Club ~***



Our kayaking group meets at 7:15am every Monday and Friday, weather permitting, at the boat ramp by the Denmark Rivermouth Caravan Park. When conditions are favourable, they paddle across the inlet. On less ideal days, they stay in the calmer waters of the river. They enjoy coffee and a chat afterwards at Reminisce Café.

New paddlers are always welcome!

## ***Wine Appreciation Group ~***



At our Wine and Chocolate Tasting, members were treated to a selection of wines paired with locally handcrafted chocolates by Dark Side chocolatier John Wade, who also happens to be a renowned winemaker.

John's career has taken him to many vineyards across Australia and overseas. He founded Howard Park here in Denmark and has contributed his expertise to Madfish, Alkoomi, Rickety Gate and Rising Star, among others.

We were treated to six wines, ranging from sparkling through to Muscat, each matched to a different flavoured chocolate. We learnt that the best way to eat chocolate is to let it melt in your mouth. This coats your tongue, creating that smooth, velvety feeling and a burst of flavour. Once you bite into it, you ruin the texture.



Flavour combinations included:

- Dark chocolate with rainforest finger lime and mango ganache, paired with sparkling wine
- White chocolate with raspberry, paired with Pinot Grigio
- And to finish, a surprisingly delicious mascarpone and blue vein cheese milk chocolate, perfectly matched to the Muscat

Long live wine and chocolate!

As a fun aside, members Helena and Kevin now live in John's former home - complete with a basement wine cellar!

Wine Club meets from 5.00 to 7.00 pm on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Denmark Men's Shed. If you are interested in joining, contact Peter Lumia to be added to the waiting list.

## Spotlight on Robin Thomas Richard Norcross ~ Rob's military journey



*Boys' Service, aged 15*

Rob's career in military service began at the tender age of 15, when he joined the British Army on 5th November 1956 - Bonfire Night. After enduring the strict, Borstal like conditions of Boys' Service, he trained as a Telegraphist with the Royal Signals, mastering high speed Morse code and radio communications.

From 1958, Rob's army life took him from the bitter cold of Northern Ireland's winter to the heat of Kenya, the political tensions of Cyprus and the dusty outpost of Aden.



*Left: Boys' Service  
summer camp, Devon,  
1957 aged 16*



*Right: Lincoln 1958,  
aged 17.*

*Easy to pick Rob!*



*Margaret on board the Castel Felice in Egypt*

Along the way, he picked up more than military skills, he also met a pretty young nurse called Margaret on a bus back to Colchester, and walked her home. Romance blossomed and marriage followed.



Tempted by a newspaper ad, Rob signed up for the Royal Australian Air Force in 1966 and set sail for Australia aboard the Castel Felice with Margaret and their young son. Over the next 22 years, his RAAF postings included Adelaide, Melbourne, Perth and two stints in Hong Kong. He worked in telecommunications and signals intelligence, highly specialised work he modestly describes as something he "can't talk about," but which surely contributed greatly to national security.

Rob's military service spanned thirty nine years across two countries, and he remains proud of the discipline, skills and mateship forged through those years. Ask him about Morse code or how to polish a boot to parade standard, and he will definitely impress you.

Thank you for your service, Rob.

When you go to Aldi for bread and end up in the middle aisle



It's amazing how much you can accomplish around the house under the threat of someone coming over



The 'why won't this fricken drawer open' starter pack



I built a panic room inside my house

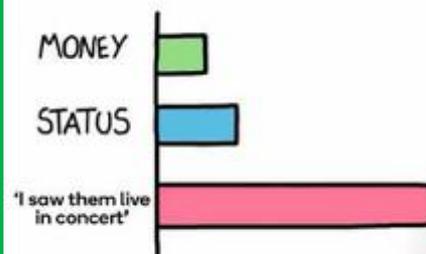


I stay here until I don't feel anxious anymore

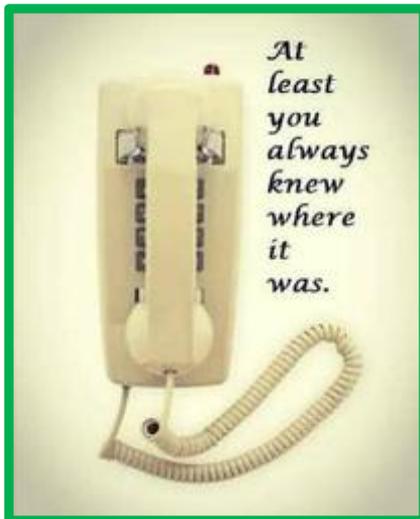


**If you're attracted to both women and men but neither of them are attracted to you that means you are Bi-Yourself**

## WHAT GIVES PEOPLE FEELINGS OF POWER



Thanks to Kevin S for these jokes!



## ***Recipe of the month***

### **SUSAN'S FRENCH APPLE TART**



1 sheet butter puff pastry, thawed slightly  
5 teaspoons caster sugar  
2 large apples, peeled and cut into .5cm slices  
1 tablespoon butter, melted

To serve:  
Icing sugar  
Vanilla ice cream

Place a baking tray in the oven and preheat to 210°C (190°C fan forced).

Place a sheet of baking paper on bench and sprinkle with 3 teaspoons caster sugar.

Place the barely thawed pastry square on the paper and fold the edges inwards 1 cm.

Arrange 3 rows of overlapping apples slices on pastry base.

Brush melted butter over apple and pastry edges and sprinkle 2 teaspoons caster sugar over.

Lift the paper with the tart on it onto the preheated baking tray and bake for 30 minutes or until the pastry edges are golden.

Serve warm with a sprinkle of icing sugar and scoop of vanilla ice cream.