

Edition 101 - February, 2023

DENMARK RIVER PROBUS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is Private and Confidential for Probus use only and is not to be used for any other purpose.

URGENT!

MEDIA PERSON

I am sorry to say that this urgency has not gone away! No-one has put up their hand to take on the **Media** role. I am sorely disappointed in you all. I cannot believe that I am the only one capable of doing this job.

There are some of you out there sitting on your hands saying "Not me" when you could do it very well.

I don't care what sex you are - we just need someone to take on this vitaly important role.

So - Come On! How about it? Step up and take your part in the efficient running of this Club as you agreed to do when you signed up. This is a club that people are waiting in line to join. Are you going to let them down?



JOYCE

I will teach you what to do. I will also do the March newsletter as I will be away. It can be done remotely. All you need is internet access.

THANK YOU

To Stephanie and Ed Wierobiej who greeted us at the desk at our last meeting.

NEXT MEETING

1 MARCH 2023 - this is our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9:30 at the Denmark Country Club.

We will also be hosting guests from the Victoria Park Probus Club. Morning tea will be extended. That is why the starting time is half an hour earlier.

Guest Speaker: Professor George Burns

Lunch: Boston Brewery

BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Glenice Smith | Monday 20 February |
| Ken Richards | Saturday 25 February. |
| Warrick Gates | Monday 13 March |
| Jamie Falls | Monday 13 March |
| Trish Edmonds | Friday 17 March |
| Stuart Hoskins | Sunday 19 March |
| Wendy Wildman | Sunday 19 March |



MEMBERSHIP

There are 12 people on the waiting list. As a result of the resignation of Jo Wittaker, two new members, Susan & Harley Lane, will be inducted during the April meeting. Because the top people on the waiting list were a couple, not a single person to replace Jo, that will take our numbers to 71. We do not split up couples.

Name Badges - Please remember to wear your name badges so that everyone can get to know you.

Guest Speaker

??? - once again we were let down by the person who was supposed to be our guest speaker. Julie was only given 2 days warning, so very nobly, she stepped up and took on the role.

JULIE NAYDA - HER TRIP TO BHUTAN

Julie entertained us with a slide show of her trip to Bhutan to attend a conference with her employer, and our next guest speaker, Professor George Burns, Psychiatrist.

Bhutan is a fascinating country in the Himalayan region. Its motto is Gross National Happiness. It is a constitutional monarchy with the king as the head of state. There is also a prime minister who is the head of the government.

It has the most dangerous and scariest airport in the world in Paro. The runway is only about one kilometre long and once you take off, it is necessary to bank away from the mountains immediately. The only airline that flies into Paro is the Bhutan national airline. Just looking at the road leading to Paro below is scary enough. I don't think I would fancy my chances on that either.



Julie showed us a series of photographs that she took whilst there, discussing each one in turn. The imagery was beautiful and the things that she told us about each place was very interesting. Whereas there are lush plains in the south of the country, the areas that Julie visited were very mountainous and very steep. Temples are perched on the top of the mountains requiring supplies to be carried up to them by hand. Buses could only go so far, then it was necessary to walk. To get to the Tiger's Nest Monastery they had to be pulled across by pulley. There was a 900m drop straight down below them. Julie was exhausted after that visit. The state religion is Buddhism. Everywhere there were strings of prayer flags spanning the most amazing places. One wonders how they managed to get them up there. Everywhere too were prayer wheels quite often with old people sitting there spinning them all day.

From Paro the party travelled to the capital Thimpu. They were held up for 2 hours on the way because of roadworks - roadworks that were virtually being done by hand.

Workers were paid to sort out the stones and size them ready for use in the roadworks. Along the way they saw many beautiful buildings. The roofs of the houses were held down by rocks and stones because the people could not afford nails. When they got to Thimpu they discovered that there was no power and no water.

There is a reasonable amount of industry in the country; but despite their motto of gross national happiness there is a lot of alcoholism and drug use. Beer is sold everywhere, including Fosters Lager. The people also chew betel nuts which have a narcotic effect. Bhutan has managed to retain most of their forests. The climate is cold. It does snow, but they still manage to get two crops a wheat in a year. Wheat is planted, harvested and threshed by hand.

Their national animal is the most amazing creature I have ever seen. It is a Takin. At one time it was thought to be a member of the cattle family, but it has since been discovered that it is more closely related to sheep and goats.



When Professor George Burns first when to Bhutan there was only one psychiatrist in the country. He has helped to train many more since then.

Thank you Julie.

HAPPENINGS

TORBAY GLASS STUDIO

On the 15th of February about 30 of our number went to visit the Torbay Glass Studio in Kronkup. Because of our numbers we were broken into two groups. One group went upstairs to the studio with Mark Hewson and the other group remained below in the shop with Paris Johansen. Both groups were told about how each of the artists went about their art practice. Both talks were very interesting.



Mark's work is more tradition than that made by Paris. He also received a lot of commissions from major architectural building and civic projects as well as for private homes. His work mainly entails the fusing of layers of glass to achieve the effect that he is after; but also include stained glass work using copper foil rather than lead, and glass etching.

Mark also makes glass splashbacks for kitchens and glass panels for balustrades etc. Paris, on the other hand, does a lot of slumping of glass to make bowls, dishes and platters. She also fuses layers of glass to make glass wall panels.

The upstairs studio. Note large kiln in the far corner for fusing large panels of glass.



A glimpse inside the shop.

Afterwards we went to the Elleker Tavern for a delicious lunch. I can highly recommend the food there.



Here is a beautiful example of layers of glass being fused together to form a lovely three-dimensional picture. Mark travelled to Italy to learn how to do that.

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 am every 3rd Tuesday of the month at various venues.

Next: 21st February - Bakery Café

21st March - Tea House Books

18th April - Kebab Café



Kayaking

Kayaking is held on the 2nd and 4th Fridays (weather permitting) at 8:00 am - **in the water** - launching from the boat ramp at the Denmark Rivermouth Caravan Park. Coffee is enjoyed afterwards at the

Reminisce Café on site. For more information contact **Warrick Gates** or **Stuart Hoskins**.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY 16 MARCH - CROQUET

Two games of croquet at the Gomm Park Croquet Club, 646 Lower King Road, Albany.

Start time: 9:30 am. **Cost:** \$10 per player. Non-players \$5. Includes morning tea. Wear soft soled shoes.

Lunch: Wilson's Brewery on the road into Albany. Lunch to be pre-ordered.

WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL - DENMARK MACHINERY RESTORATION GROUP

10:00 am at venue on Inlet Drive just after the Rivermouth Caravan Park.

Cost: gold coin donation. **Lunch:** Reminisce Café, Rivermouth Caravan Park.

For further information please contact our secretary at secretary@denmarkriverprobus.org.au

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



“What a coincidence! You forgot my birthday and I forgot how to cook.”



AT MY AGE, ROLLING OUT OF BED IN THE MORNING IS THE EASY PART.

GETTING OFF THE FLOOR IS A WHOLE OTHER STORY.

How to parallel park:
1) Park somewhere else

