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Greetings Proboscians

Whoa! The year seems to be galloping away from me. October already. Does it feel like that for you?

Still life has been good to us here in the west, and although the weather seems to be unable to make up its mind whether to be wet, windy, and cold or lovely with a balmy sunny climate, I am enjoying life despite the busy-ness on occasion.

It is lovely to see the bushes flowering and see wildflowers flourishing amongst the trees along the roadsides. Little by little I am also getting the better of the weeds. So - life is good and I hope it is good for you too.

All the best

Joyce.

next meeting

3 November 2021

10:00 am Denmark Country Club

Guest Speaker: Dr Alex Sleeman –Navy diver & peacekeeper in Sudan

Lunch: Tavern

Committee

President: Julie Nayda president@denmarkriverproboscis.org.au

Vice President: vacant

Secretary: Louise Hoskins secretary@denmarkriverproboscis.org.au

Treasurer: Rose Robson treasurer@denmarkriverproboscis.org.au

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

Hospitality: Ros Gates and Joy Hawes
hospitality@denmarkriverproboscis.org.au

Membership: Linda Falls members@denmarkriverproboscis.org.au

Guest Speakers: Bev Farrall speakers@denmarkriverproboscis.org.au

Media: Joyce Edmonds contact@denmarkriverproboscis.org.au

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello everyone

This will be a short addition to the newsletter from me this month. I am sitting on the front deck at our friend's home, on a beautiful calm and sunny morning, right on the ocean front at Safety Bay. The ocean is that gorgeous turquoise colour with just the lightest swell.

On the front lawn there is 'mum and dad' willy wagtail attending to their newly flying youngster. The dog next door is getting the rounds from these adult birds, who are swooping and making a huge racket when it comes near them while they are endeavouring to feed the young one. Directly across from us are the three islands, Seal, Gull and Penguin. Ten pelicans have taken off from Gull Island and seem to just be having fun on the thermals hovering around and around. They are such huge creatures yet so graceful.

And now our friend George has just arrived on the deck with breakfast of home-made waffles, fresh fruit salad and yoghurt along with freshly brewed coffee – what more can one ask for! I certainly will lap up this treatment, even if it is only for a short while.

I'm off now, hope all well in Denmark.

Cheers,

Julie

FORTHCOMING BIRTHDAYS

John Wildman	Saturday 30 October
Louise Hoskins	Sunday 31 October
Robin Levet	Thursday 4 November
Steve Hawks	Friday 5 November
Lorraine Cotton	Sunday 7 November
Lex Harry	Tuesday 9 November
Kaye Husking	Wednesday 10 November
Don Hart	Tuesday 16 November
Helen Young	Tuesday 30 November



MEMBERSHIP

There are 14 people on the waiting list. However, there has been one resignation, so one lucky person who has been patiently waiting to join us can now do so. That leaves 13 still on the waiting list.

Guest Speaker

Dale Frewing – Group Settlement in Denmark.

Group Settlement 1922-1931: A Denmark Perspective, by Dale Fewings

This scheme was initiated by the WA Premier at the time, James Mitchell. A third of the cost was covered by the British government.

Fifteen groups of about twenty young British families per group took up the offer of coming to Denmark and taking up land for farming. The idea was to open up land for agriculture, increase the population of southwest WA and relieve the unemployment situation in Britain after World War 1.

While the idea was good in theory, by 1924, 42 percent of settlers had walked off their land, with still more people arriving.

Recruitment drives promised settlers 160 acres of land, which sounded a lot to people used to the productive British soils. They came to WA with high hopes, but the reality was very different. There were few roads, no houses, no running water, no toilets, no schools, no hospitals. On the other hand, snakes, spiders, and mosquitoes were in plentiful supply.

The first homes were tin huts with earth floors and no windows, a huge challenge, no doubt, in the heat of summer and the depths of winter.

The men were tasked with clearing 25 acres of land per family, which, once cleared, was allocated by ballot. The clearing was done with the most basic equipment, the cost of which had to be paid back once the farm was producing. Even when the land was cleared, they battled with problems such as cobalt deficiency, which caused cattle to lose condition with "wasting disease". The men were paid 3 pounds a week, but this came off their debt, which took around 30 years to repay. Those who walked away had nothing to show for years of work.

Those farmers who managed to make a success of their farms did so because their land was better quality than others, they had some knowledge of farming, they had neighbours who worked cooperatively with them, they had an experienced group foreman or they had the skills to live off the land.

Dale's talk brought to life just how challenging the group settler's lot must have been. Anyone who wants to find out more can buy a copy of her book from the Denmark Historical Society.

Thanks, to Kerry Clark



HAPPENINGS:

20th October – Denmark Heritage Cider Co.

*As I did not go to the Cider Co. I am unable to comment on its merits. I did, however, join those who did attend at lunch at the new restaurant out along the South Coast Highway, just past the Chocolate Lounge, **The Dam**. The venue is certainly impressive. It is a large very well-built building, with massive timber supporting poles of Marri, rock cladding and polished concrete floors with interesting bits of stone embedded in it. The landscaping too is impressive with large granite boulders arranged to create a pleasant open area in front of the building. The weather, however, did not permit one to take advantage of the garden. It was lashing down whilst we were inside enjoying our lunch.*

Some titles on the Menu puzzled many of us not really describing what each course was labelling them as "To Share" for what I have concluded, means "Entrée"; and "Just for

You”, which judging by the prices, was “Main Course”. Those titles seemed to me to be the wrong way around. To Share, suggests to me a larger plate to share, and Just for You suggests a smaller plate.

The result being that they really did not have a lunch menu, so most of us chose from the “To Share” list; but as they were entrée sized meals rather than a slightly larger lunch size, they left many of us feeling somewhat unsated. Some did then follow up with dessert, which looked yummy, but as I refrained from indulging, I cannot comment on. I did enjoy the Carrot, pickled beetroot & goats’ cheese salad though. It was indeed very tasty. There just could have been a bit more of it. Others commented that their meal was really quite ordinary and did not match-up to the hype that surrounded the opening of the restaurant which raved about the establishment of it and the landscaping.

As for the Cider Co. itself, here is what Vicki Lumia had to say about it.

It was a wet, wild, and windy day when a small group of us descended on the Denmark Heritage cider company for some tastings...once inside where it was a lot drier and warmer, we met Stuart and his wife Jan.

We then sampled traditional and European style ciders.

There were approximately 8 different ciders for us to sample.

Most of those were dry, there were a couple of sparkling or fuzzy you could say, which were delicious, not like the cider of old which I remember as always been sweet or dry.

We started off with a scrumpy, which is a fully fermented Apple wine and has a reputation for being dangerously drinkable, it is cloudy and lightly Spritzed and a little bit dry.

We went through the list and then got to try some of the fizzy sweeter style wine, which would be delicious over ice in summertime.

They also do an apple cider vinegar which some people use as a tonic. Jan (Stuart's wife) makes a delicious Thai chilli sauce which many of us purchased on the day.

They have 15 varieties of European cider apples so it's 100% juice.

FULLY FERMENTED DRY CIDER

No Sweetening using Apple Juice

EXCLUSIVELY OUR OWN FRUIT

No Apple Packing Shed Rejects

We control the fruit quality

PRESERVATIVE AND ADDITIVE FREE

Not chemically sterilised before and after fermentation.

No starch or added tannins

Thank you, Vicki.



SOCIAL GROUPS



Singing for Your Own Pleasure

On hold for the foreseeable future. If interested, contact Val Ball.



Wine Appreciation Group

Held every **4th Thursday** of the month at the Community resource Centre
The next Wine Appreciation Group get together will be on **Thursday 28 October 2021**.

For more information contact Peter Lumia



Fran's Coffee Mornings

Meets at **10:00** every **3rd Tuesday** of the month at various venues.
Next – **16 November – Reminisce Café**

Then – **21 December – Bibbulmun Café.**



Kayaking

Kayaking – is held 2nd & 4th Fridays (weather permitting) 9:00am in the water. Launching from the boat ramp at the Denmark River Mouth Caravan Park. Afterwards coffee at the Caravan Park's Reminisce Café. **Next – 3 November- weather permitting.**

All types of paddle craft are fine – sit in, sit on, canoe type – it is paddling for pleasure on our beautiful river. Paddle time is up to you, but normally, usual paddle time is about 1-1 ½ hours it is entirely up to the individual paddler. It is for the pleasure of being out on the water, soaking up the peace and quiet, admiring the wildlife, generally just soaking up nature at its best.

For more information contact: Warrick Gates or Stuart Hoskins

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

18 November (Thursday) – Croquet.

9:30 am Croquet at Gomm Park, 646 Lower King Road, Albany.

\$10/person – includes game and morning tea. Non-players \$5 for morning tea only. Payment on the day.

Lunch – 12 Noon at Six Degrees, 70 Stirling Terrace, Albany.

1st December — In-House Christmas Lunch.

To assist with catering we request that you put your names down on the sheet at the 3 November meeting (if you have not already done so) indicating your intention to attend. The cost is the usual \$10 payable on the day. As this is our normal meeting and there will be no guest speaker, note that we will start at **11:00 am**, not 10:00 am. There will be no morning tea as nibbles will be supplied. Other entertainment will replace the guest speaker.

26 January – Australia Day. Vicki and Peter Lumia will host a gathering in the afternoon/evening. More details in December.

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

LENNIE AND GINGER MICK

It's 1932 and Australia is in the grip of the Great Depression. One in three workers are unemployed. Decrepit shanty towns hug the outskirts of the big cities. A scrawny rabbit caught in a trap will feed a family for a week. Country roads are filled with broken men walking from one farmhouse to another seeking menial jobs and food.

On the outskirts of the South Gippsland town of Leongatha, an injured farmer lies in bed unable to walk – or work. World War I hero Captain Leo Tennyson Gwyther is in hospital with a broken leg and the family farm is in danger of falling into ruins.

Up steps his son, nine-year-old Lennie. With the help of his pony Ginger Mick, Lennie ploughs the farm's 24 paddocks and keeps the place running until his father can get back on his feet.

How to reward him?

Lennie has been obsessively following one of the biggest engineering feats of the era – the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. He wants to attend its opening. With great reluctance, his parents agree he can go.

So, Lennie saddles up Ginger Mick, packs a toothbrush, pyjamas, spare clothes, and a water bottle into a sack, and begins the 1000+ kilometre (600+ miles) trek to Sydney.

Alone.

That's right.

A nine-year-old boy riding a pony from the deep south of Victoria to the biggest and roughest city in the nation.

Told you it was a different era.

No social media.

No mobile phones.

But even then, it doesn't take long before word begins to spread about a boy, his horse, and their epic trek.

The entire populations of small country towns gather on their outskirts to welcome his arrival.

He survives bushfires, is attacked by a "vagabond" and endures rain and cold biting winds.

When he reaches Canberra, he is welcomed by Prime Minister Joseph Lyons, who invites him into Parliament House for tea.



When he finally arrives in Sydney, more than 10,000 people line the streets to greet him. He is besieged by autograph hunters. He becomes a key part of the official parade at the bridge's opening. He and Ginger Mick are invited to make a starring appearance at the Royal Show.

Even Donald Bradman, the biggest celebrity of the Depression era, requests a meeting and gives him a signed cricket bat.

A letter writer to The Sydney Morning Herald at the time gushes that "just such an example as provided by a child of nine summers, Lennie Gwyther was, and is, needed to raise the spirit of our people and to fire our youth and others to do things – not to talk only."

"The sturdy pioneer spirit is not dead ... let it be remembered that this little lad, when his father was in hospital, cultivated the farm – a mere child."

When Lennie left Sydney for home a month later, he had become one of the most famous figures in a country craving uplifting news.

Large crowds waved handkerchiefs. Women wept and shouted "goodbye". According to The Sun newspaper, "Lennie, being a casual Australian, swung into the saddle and called 'Toodleloo!'".

He finally arrived home to a tumultuous reaction in Leongatha.

He returns to school and soon life for Lennie – and the country – returns to normal.

These days you can find a bronze statue in Leongatha commemorating Lennie and Ginger

Mick. But Australia has largely forgotten his remarkable feat – and how he inspired a struggling nation.



Never taught about him in school? Never heard of him before?

Spread the word.

We need to remember – and celebrate – Lennie Gwyther and his courageous journey.

It's a great story.
God knows we need these stories now, more than ever.

Older Than Dirt Quiz

Count the ones that you can remember.

1. Metal ice trays with levers.
2. Pea shooters.
3. Poppuns with corks,
4. Cap-guns.
5. Home delivered milk in glass bottles.
6. Black and white TV
7. Test patterns on TV
8. Wringers on the washing machine
9. Film cameras
10. 45 RPM records
11. 78 RPM records
12. 33.3 RPM records
13. Candy cigarettes
14. £s
15. Newsreels before a movie
16. Cassettes

17. Reel to Reel tape recorders
18. Radiograms
19. Mobile phone the size of a brick.
20. Computers being something that filled a room and only techies went anywhere near them.

Score

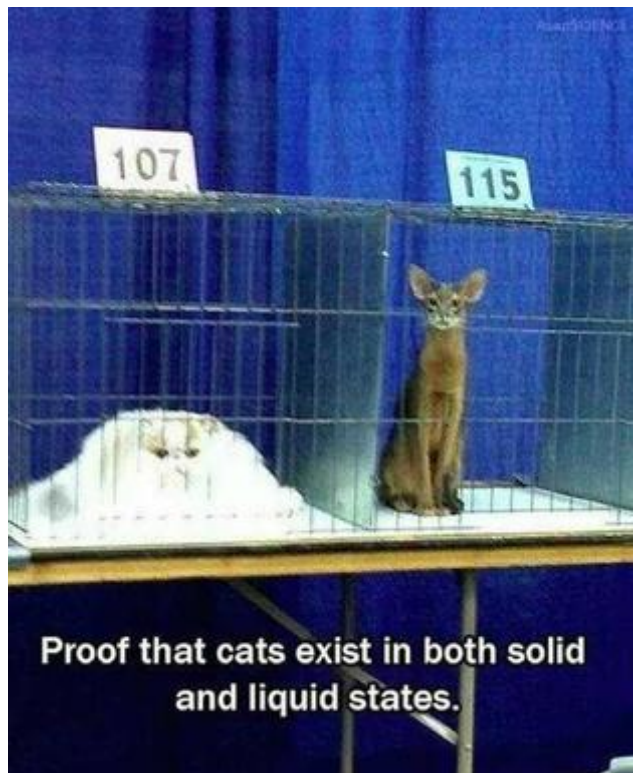
If you remembered -

0-5 = you are still young

6-10. = Getting older!

10-15 = Don't admit your age

15+. = You are older than dirt.





When girls are hugging



When guys are hugging

See More Crazy Pictures & Videos on Owmed.com



I SAID BE QUIET!

DON'T MAKE ME COME IN THERE!

The owners unleashed this dog when their house caught fire. They ran out, but the dog went back in to save the kitten...



SNAKE!!!





A grizzly bear paw, from a bear that's sedated and about to be tagged and released...



OMG!

