

# NEWSLETTER

Club No. 1005089

GLENMORE PARK PROBUS CLUB Inc.

INC.9884403



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## July Birthdays:

Dianne Sankey-Morris (5th)  
Anne Harrison (16th)  
Gail Kelly (18th)  
Shantha Kailasapathy (23rd)  
Mandy Stevens (23rd)  
Vega Hogan (24th)  
Joan Cotterill (26th)  
Gaye Leemon (29th)

## Editor's comment:

*"Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching"*  
C.S.Lewis. 1898-1963

I have good news and bad news, let's get the bad news over with. We still cannot hold our general meetings yet at The RSL, we managed to hold a Committee meeting there on Friday and Anna Scotti, the Events Manager, says she is hopeful that the situation will change in the near future. But the rest is all good news, we had a very constructive Committee meeting and all three of our "Expressions of Interest" have now become realities due to a fantastic response from you all. "Ernies Lunches" are also resuming. All the details will be in this issue under "Calendar of Events". Because of the ongoing restrictions and regulations under the **Covid-19** conditions, we must urge you to PLEASE help us keep all our events safe. We will have designated Organisers at all events that you must report to, they will already have lists with your name and contact details on and they will make you aware of any "Action Plan" that we may have in place in the event of any **Covid-19** incident. As you will also know, we are on borrowed time for Rosina as our acting Treasurer and no sign of a replacement!!! So, with that in mind and added to the problems of working under the **Covid-19** restrictions, we must ask you to play your part and help us by firstly, when paying for events please try to use EFT (electronic funds transfer) with the correct event code and your surname, or cheque posted to us. Cash can only be accepted as a last resort. Secondly, if you add your name to an event, we take that as a commitment to pay. As numbers are often restricted under the current regulations, if you don't turn up, you may have stopped someone else from attending. Like wise, please don't just 'turn up' on the hope of getting in, if your name isn't on the list, we don't have your details. Sorry to sound like we are lecturing you but we, the Committee, bear the responsibility.

**Glen Davis (Editor)**



## the western weekender

Not sure how many Members saw the western weekender last week, but there was a lovely article by **Alena Higgins**, a reporter from the newspaper, who came to our home to interview Barbara on what the Council could do to improve amenities for the growing numbers of Seniors in Penrith. Alena's article was fantastic, she included every issue that we raised with her. A big thank you to all our Members who responded to Barbara's email for suggestions on what to put to Alena.

Apologies for my inclusion in the photo, by **Megan Dunn**, I am quite shy and retiring normally, I was outvoted 3-1 by the ladies. 😊  
Glen

### **SITUATION VACANT.**

The Club needs a new Treasurer. Rosina Ward continues as acting Treasurer, but when the restrictions are lifted, she is off to pastures anew (Cairns). So, have we a member that will step up please?

Contact me on 0412 629 945

Glen Davis (Club President)

### PETS CORNER:



This is Chevy, a beautiful Rottweiler. He is from a litter that Sheila Innins bred 4 years ago. He now resides with a couple from the Central Coast. Lucky dog, what a lovely area.



Left: This is Arthur, Rayella Haines latest addition to her menagerie. Right: This is Amy, adjusting to Arthur's sudden appearance. She doesn't like men, except me! She even sat on my lap. My secret, a pocketful of doggie treats.



Come and join us on FaceBook and get daily news on the latest events,

birthdays etc. We are completely private, all new Members have to be approved as do any new posts. Just search Glenmore Park Probus Club.

### CLUB BANK DETAILS.

Westpac.

BSB: 032278

ACCOUNT NO: 131219

If you are unable, or do not like to do online banking, then you can post a cheque to us. Please contact Barbara or Glen Davis on 0412 629 945 or email: [glenandbarb@icloud.com](mailto:glenandbarb@icloud.com) for address & details.

**Barbara Davis**  
**Membership Officer**

#### Disclaimer

This Newsletter is prepared in editorial format for the information of members. It is written with care and in good faith but does not necessarily reflect Probus policy nor does the Editor accept responsibility for any action taken by any reader because of information contained within.

**TV Review: Karin Figg**ABC - Sunday, 21 June - 8:30pm **Operation Buffalo** – on-going series

This series is getting stranger by the episode. Testing Atomic bombs in the South Australian Desert. It has been described as an Australian television comedy-drama, part drama and part-farce, you won't be bored but you may be confused... I am glad I am not the only one thinking along those lines!

ABC - Sunday, 21 June – 9:25pm **Mao's Last Dancer**

Have seen this movie before but enjoyed it even more the second time around. 11-year-old Li Cunxin, from rural China is selected for Madame Mao's classical ballet school in Beijing. This film is based on Li Cunxin's autobiography (fascinating reading by the way). This story depicts Li's life journey and eventual quest for freedom from communist China by defecting to America. If you like ballet, you are in for a treat!

Li married his dance partner (an Australian ballerina – Mary McKendry) and they had three children. Their daughter Sophie was born profoundly deaf and at 4 years old is one the early recipients of a cochlear implant, which changed her life forever.

Li has worked as a stockbroker (what a career change) but is now the artistic director of the Queensland Ballet in Brisbane.

ABC – Monday, 22 June – 8:00pm - **Backroads** – Rokewood-Corindhap, Victoria

This time it was Lisa Millar presenting the show. She is normally on the Morning Show and is a pleasure to watch. I enjoy this series.

ABC – Wednesday, 24 June – 8:00pm - **Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery**

Again, a series I enjoy watching. This time we followed Gillian Armstrong's life story. She became one of Australia's first female feature film and documentary directors. Just think of 'My Brilliant Career' with Judy Davies and Sam Neil.

ABC – Friday, 26 June – 8:30pm – **Baptiste** - on-going series

Julien Baptiste is retired detective, called in to assist with the search for a missing girl. Well, I am hooked! This thriller is just that – thrilling. Lots of unexpected turns and twists and I can't wait until next Friday!

ABC – Saturday, 27 June – Miniseries – Agatha Christie's '**The Pale Horse**'

This thriller follows Mark Easterbrook, who is mourning the loss of his wife, has remarried but is stuck in a loveless marriage. His name is discovered on a list found on a dead woman and, as he discovers, almost all names on this list belong to people who have already died. Everyone is in some way connected to three creepy women, who live in a town by the name of Much Deeping. No wonder he is starting to suffer from paranoia! Not sure about this series but I think it will become clearer once I make sense of this story.

**TV Review: Glen Davis**ABC - IVIEW available until 31st. July **MotherFatherSon** 8 Episodes

This series is a BBC Studios TV series starring Richard Gere - his first major TV role. At the age of 70, Richard Gere is still looking good and he wears some very smart clothes in this series. I had to resist the urge to 'pig out' and watch it all in one go, it was really gripping. A great supporting cast as well, Helen McCrory from "Peaky Blinders", as his ex-wife, Sarah Lancashire from "Happy Valley", as the future PM, just to name a few. Billy Howle, who I don't know at all, who played the son, was amazing, his acting was top draw. **Synopsis:** A fractured family at the heart of politics and power is pulled together under catastrophic circumstances. A bit reminiscent of the Murdoch family!

SBS - ONDEMAND – Season 11 **Who do you Think You Are**

Always enjoyed this programme when we still lived in the UK. A bit more difficult to watch here as I am unfamiliar with a lot of the guests. But no. 7 was a real treat, I know exactly who Julie Bishop is and she lived up to all my expectations of her! I know I shouldn't make a political point but,..... she would have made a great PM! Both sides of her family could be traced back to the UK and some from parts of Kent I am familiar with. At one point she was at Greenwich Maritime Museum, a 10minute walk down the hill, from where I lived at Blackheath, as a kid, very nostalgic.

No. 8, the last in this series is Troy Cassar-Daley, all I know is, he is an Australian Country musician! The good news is, being ONDEMAND, you can watch it at your leisure.

STAN - **Yellowstone** – Season 3.

Love this programme, as I said previously, Dallas or Dynasty for educated grown ups.

Stars Kevin Costner (John Dutton), Kelly Reilly (Beth Dutton), Luke Grimes (Kayce Dutton) & Wes Bentley (Jamie Dutton).

**Synopsis:** Kevin Costner starring as the patriarch of a powerful, complicated family of ranchers. A sixth-generation homesteader, John Dutton controls the largest contiguous ranch in the United States. He operates in a corrupt world where politicians are compromised by influential oil and lumber corporations and land grabs make developers billions. Amid shifting alliances, unsolved murders, open wounds, and hard-earned respect, Dutton's property is in constant conflict with those it borders -- an expanding town, an Indian reservation, and America's first national park.



More crocheting from Irene Grundig, this time, modelled by her pretty granddaughters.



Barbara Davis completed this jigsaw, lent to her by Max Brenton. She said it was one of the hardest she has ever done.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

<p><b>NEW</b> July 15th. 12 Noon</p>	<p><b>Picnic @ Tench Reserve</b></p>	<p>If you haven't added your name to the list, please do <b>not</b> attend. On arrival, give your name to either Christine Brenton or Barbara Davis, we have to keep a register for Covid-19 restrictions. Own chair &amp; food, <b>no</b> sharing.  <b>***There is a threat of rain for next week. The alternative will be lunch at Maldini's restaurant, we will contact those on the list.***</b></p>
<p><b>NEW</b> July 22nd. 12 Noon</p>	<p><b>Ernie's Lunch</b></p>	<p>Peachtree Hotel, 54 Peachtree Road, Penrith 2750. If you haven't added your name to the list, please do <b>not</b> attend. On arrival, give your name to Ernie Campbell, we have to keep a register for Covid-19 restrictions.</p>
<p><b>NEW</b> September 22nd. 9:30am</p>	<p><b>Nepean Belle Cruise</b></p>	<p>Morning in the Gorge. Boarding 9:30am. Cruise 10:00-11:30am. Includes Devonshire Tea with tea &amp; coffee. \$27pp. Payment due by 19th. August. EFT use code NB26+surname. Cheques, see P2 for details. We already have 36 for this event, capacity is 50 max. You might be able to still book. Contact Barbara Davis or Chris Brenton. Report any food allergies to us.</p>
<p><b>NEW</b> December 8th. 12 Noon</p>	<p><b>Club Xmas Lunch</b></p>	<p><b>PROBUS CHRISTMAS LUNCH @ WINBOURNE Winbourne Function Centre, Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa.</b> Two course meal + juice/tea/coffee. BYO, entertainment, Bon Bons, raffles etc. Members \$25 Guests \$32, pay Nov. DD code XP27 + Surname. <b>At present we have 64 Members booked with a limit of 70. The limit may alter depending on Covid-19 restrictions. Strictly first come, best dressed!</b>  <b>*** Watson Coaches have offered to take Members to and from the venue. Pick up point TBA. Cost \$10pp.***</b></p>
<p><b>November 5-10</b></p>	<p><b>Balance due September</b></p>	<p><b>JACARANDA FESTIVAL - Coach trip.</b> Approximate costs \$1189 pp twin share, single supplement \$340, based on minimum 30 people. <u>Only 23 rooms available.</u> 5 nights Hotel with <b>breakfast &amp; dinner + 2 Lunches.</b></p>
<p><b>November 1-9</b></p>	<p><b>Pick up point TBA</b></p>	<p><b>9 DAY RIVER MURRAY TRIP - plus Kangaroo Island, aboard The Proud Mary.</b> Limited cabins, \$400 deposit required. Prices from \$4495 pp twin share, \$5795 per single. <b>All payments direct to Lisa of Proud Mary. Balance September</b></p>

## ACTIVITY GROUPS

<p><b>CANASTA @ KAYS</b></p>	<p>11:00am 2nd, Wednesday every month. Contact Kay Cane for details.</p>
<p><b>MID WEEK WALKING GROUP</b></p>	<p>8:00am: Days and locations vary, coffee and chat after. Contact Robert Hillsmith or Glen Davis or check our FaceBook page.  <b>Thursday 16th. July meet Jamison Park, car park, no later than 8:00am.</b></p>

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## INTERESTING ANCESTORS

### HISTORY OF THE RAG & FAMISH HOTEL [3 x Great Grandfather of Joan Cotterill]

In January 1816, Charles Bullivant, a dashing young ensign of the 46th Regiment, sailed into Sydney with 218 male convicts under his command. When he retired from the 46th he became a publican, and in 1830 with his wife Maria Ikin, and their three children, settled into 'The Three Crowns', on the corner of Charlotte Place (now Grosvenor & Cumberland streets).

In 1860 he opened 'The Rag & Famish Hotel', on the corner of Miller & Berry streets, North Sydney. Some say he chose the name to demonstrate his feelings about the armed services, but it was in fact, a nick-name for the army and navy club (the rag being the flag). The artist John Leech's amusing characters *Ensign Rag* and *Captain Famish* also were well known enough at that time. Whatever its origin, it has outlived most other colonial pub names. Even though The Rag & Famish was rebuilt and renamed 'The North Shore Hotel' in 1892, it was reverted once more to The Rag & Famish.

The pub has been under the current ownership for over 20 years and their love and passion for this gem is obvious in the pride they have taken to ensure its rich heritage is maintained and continued, for many drinks to come!

*Joan Cotterill*



### SGT. JACK BULLIVANT - 14th Field Regt. [Joan Cotterill's Uncle]

1942-1943 Papuan Campaign of the Australians, who with support of the Papuans (Fuzzy Wuzzies), kept Australia secure from invasion.

During September 1942, two 25-pounder field guns of the 14th Australian Field Regiment were brought forward to Owens Corner, where they were manhandled into firing positions. This was the only Allied field artillery used during the Kokoda Track Campaign to support the out-gunned and greatly out-numbered infantry. This action assisted in halting the Japanese advance just 48 km from Port Moresby. So began the Japanese retreat. The terrain was almost impassable for infantry, let alone artillery. A third 25 pounder field gun was dismantled and manhandled to Peg 66 beyond Uben. The Regiment was assisted in reaching their firing position by a platoon of 2/1 Pioneer Battalion. However, by then the Japanese had withdrawn beyond the range of the guns.

We were very lucky all our family came home safe.

*Joan Cotterill*

### JANE McPHERSON nee BALLANTYNE [Lorraine Batterham's Paternal Great Grandmother]

With a Scottish convict father, and mother the daughter of a family of assisted workers for the colony of NSW, Jane was an ordinary woman of her time (1849-1915): strong, resilient and determined. She was a wife twice, a widow once and a mother five times. She managed a 320 acre farm alone with a young family of two sons, aged five and three (her eldest son had died less than three weeks after birth) for five years after the death of her first husband, John McPherson, 1883. Jane had her third child, a daughter, six months after her husband's death. Her daughter, Cora, was to die only three years later.

Jane did have extended family and no doubt support, when her husband John died after having cancer for a year in Wyrallah, near Lismore, NSW, as members of her Ballantyne and McPherson family had moved from Shoalhaven in 1860s to the area. In 1880 Jane married again to Ken McPherson, a cousin of her late husband, and they had a son.

Jane and Ken continued to build on the early work done on the farm since it had been selected by her first husband John McPherson in 1866 under Conditional Purchase terms (that is before it was officially surveyed), introduced by the Robertson Land Act 1861. John had selected 320 acres the maximum allowable, and under conditions he had to pay a pound an acre and a quarter of the purchase price, add improvements to the value of a pound per acre, had to reside on the land and occupy it for three years. The finance came from a mortgage with the Australian National Bank.

Travel was then by boat to this area. Supplies such as flour came only occasionally by boat from the south. John McPherson had probably remained alone on the farm until he married Jane in Lismore in 1875 when he was 44 and she was 26.

Yes, Jane was ordinary, but would have lived in a bark hut in a small clearing surrounded by 'the big scrub' as it was described. Along the river was very fertile the subtropical climate meant difficulties cultivating, inclement weather, and native birds and animals threatened crops. Corn was most likely the first cash crop planted, what cobs survived were husked by hand, then put into hessian bags and bashed with a stick to remove the grains. The settlers acquired hens, then a 'utility' horse, to plough, pull tree stumps and perhaps ride, followed by a milk cow. Jane's life would have been one of hard physical work, loneliness, isolation. The Bundjalong people, forced from their country would come begging for food.

Life did improve for Jane and in the late 1890s a gracious homestead 'Sunnyside' was built, which still stands today, but somewhat altered from my childhood memories. Her three sons grew, married, one went to the Boer War and she had seven grandchildren at the time of her death in 1915. Family stories paint a very rosy picture of Jane and I find her an inspiring female ancestor.

*Lorraine Batterham*

If you have any interesting family history stories, skeletons, mysteries, amazing people. Please let Glen or Barbara know if you wish to share it.

**IMPORTANT COVID-19 INFORMATION**

We have had strict guidelines from PSPL on how to conduct ourselves when organising any events under the Probus banner. At a later date we will send all Members a copy of the email sent to all Group Leaders. The main reason they have issued these guidelines is to ensure we stay within the rules that ensure we are covered by their Insurance scheme. We **must** maintain a record of all attendees with their contact details, most of the rest of the guidelines relevant to individual Members are the same as usual, keeping your distance and using a hand sanitiser. If you are unable to comply with these conditions, you will not be able to attend any of our Probus events. We have emailed our Group Leaders with these guidelines, if you feel these are not being strictly adhered to, then the Committee's advice is, don't attend and inform the Committee of your concerns.  
On behalf of the Management Committee: Glen Davis (Club President)



**GUESS WHO?**

**Did you guess right? Bet you didn't!  
It is Evelyn Porter**

**This lady today is well known to you  
all, a few of you might now her  
husband as well, although he is not a  
Member**



**OUR NEWSLETTER SPONSOR**

**Harvey Norman**

**THANK YOU to HARVEY NORMAN for their generosity in printing our Glenmore Park Probus Club Newsletter free of charge, with a special thank you to Derren. When shopping at Harvey Norman, don't forget to wear your Probus badge as they will really look after you.**

**Committee Members**

<b>President: Glen Davis</b>	0476 187 670	<b>Vice President: Mandy Stevens</b>	0439 323 103
<b>Secretary: Mandy Stevens</b>	0439 323 103	<b>Acting Treasurer: Rosina Ward:</b>	0450 039 420
<b>Tours &amp; Social: Connie Cogle</b>	0419 255 816	<b>Membership: Barbara Davis</b>	0412 629 945
<b>Hospitality: Kathleen Gilbert</b>	0431 778 308	<b>Web/ Lunches: Ernie Campbell</b>	02 4732 4859
<b>Programs: Rayella Haines</b>	0411 237 699	<b>Newsletter: Glen Davis</b>	0476 187 670
<b>Welfare: Wendy Johnston</b>	0403 338 887	<b>Public Officer: Robert Hillsmith</b>	0429 015 861

**Assistants-** Secretary: Rayella Haines 0411 237 699    Treasurer: Judith Mahon 0430 529 635  
Hospitality: Wendy Johnston 0403 338 887    Tours & Social: Christine Brenton 029670 1184

**Helpers-** Hospitality: Wendy Johnston. Tours & Social: Robert Hillsmith, Judith Mahon, Leah Curds. Registration: Betty Watkins & Violet Mulcahy. Library: Marion Turner & Jeanette Corlis. Chief Welcomer: Barbara Orth. Equipment & Returning Officer: Peter Clay.

**Group Leaders-** Canasta: Kay Cane. Chess: Brian Corlis. FaceBook & Zoom: Barbara Davis. Movies: Carole Gregory. Saturday Walking: Pat Ryan. Gardening: Helen Skepper. Mid-Week Walking: Robert Hillsmith.

Some photos from Clarence Go's recent 80th. Birthday Celebrations. Courtesy of Maria Go.



Top: What a gathering, not surprising, our Clarence is a popular guy. Far right: "Clarry's wine"  
2nd from right: L-R Son Michael, Daughter Fiona, Clarence, Maria & Daughter Marina.

SOME FUNNIES (and one not so funny!)



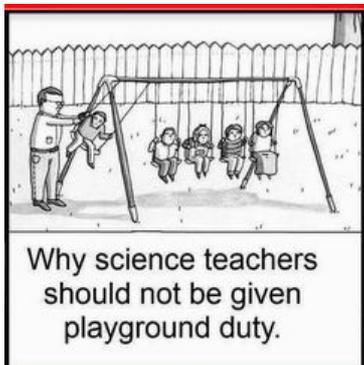
**Seniors: How the fight started**  
My wife & I were watching "Who wants to be a millionaire" while in bed. I said 'Do you want to have sex?' 'No' she said. I said 'Is that your final answer?' "Yes' So I said 'Then I'd like to phone a friend'. And that's when the....

**NOW THAT I'VE LIVED DURING A PLAGUE, I UNDERSTAND WHY MOST RENAISSANCE PAINTINGS ARE OF CHUBBY WOMEN LAYING AROUND WITHOUT A BRA.**

**I Ordered a Chicken And An Egg From Amazon. I'll Let You Know.**

**Mobile phone etiquette**  
After a tiring day, a commuter settled down in his seat and closed his eyes. As the train rolled out of the station, a woman sitting next to him pulled out her mobile phone. She started talking in a loud voice: "Hi sweetheart. It's Sue. I'm on the train". "Yes, I know it's the six thirty and not the four thirty, but I had a long meeting. No, honey, not with that Kevin from the accounting office. It was with the boss. No sweetheart, you're the only one in my life. Yes, I'm sure, cross my heart!" Fifteen minutes later, she was still talking loudly. When the man sitting next to her had had enough, he leaned over and said into the phone, "Sue, hang up the phone and come back to bed." Sue doesn't use her mobile phone in public any longer.

My wife sat next to me as I was changing channels. She asked "whats on TV?" I said "Dust". And that's when the fight.....



**Marriage is a relationship in which one is always right and the other is the husband!**

**The Fact That There's A HIGHWAY TO HELL And Only A STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN Says A Lot About Anticipated Traffic Numbers.**

### Review by Lorraine Batterham of Garry Disher's book "Peace"

I was interested to read that "Peace" was the second in a series centred on Paul Herschhausen- the first being, "Bitter Wash Road" which I have ordered, as I really want to know about his demotion and as shown in this novel, the police corruption, that continues to follow him. Innocent police and their careers can be destroyed by the corrupt ones and Hersch has been demoted from the CID to sole Constable in a small remote, and dusty town, Triverton, South of the Flinders Ranges. His nearest Sergeant and two junior officers are in Redruth some distance away. I assume the title reflects how Hersch will search for peace with what has happened in his career, his acceptance of it and how he can forge a new personal life in a remote, hostile physical environment.

Apparently in this novel, Disher has diverted from his usual practice of presenting multiple viewpoints in his fiction. He has chosen to write from the viewpoint of the protagonist, Hersch, and also to push his own writing technique boundaries to delve into the mind of this man, as he tries to solve mainly petty local crimes, but also the murder of a woman and her son, which brings back his past. I easily moved into Hersch's mind and his adaptation to life and found to be realistic, his views of the citizenry - its individuals' strengths and weaknesses, and their interactions, his increasing familiarization with the landscape and lifestyle, as well his developing personal relationship with teacher Wendy and her daughter Katie. He often muses on this but he is so often interrupted by his job. Will the relationship ( and also Hersch himself) endure? - obviously another novel to come.

I also acutely felt his isolation, his soulless accommodation, and his search to fit into his new community, doing his usually very routine work while trying to do his job well and with care of the individuals and their needs and weaknesses, while trying to gain personal satisfaction from it. He has certainly learnt or had confirmed, that very few humans lack some flaws, some explainable, some forgivable, some criminal, dangerous and greedy.

Hersch is constantly out and about his area , endlessly driving- great descriptions- I could feel the heat, "Ten o'clock. No wind in the air now, just heat. The kind that sets up a snap and a crackle in gum trees, timber beams and iron roofs."

The unforgiving landscape; " out where the bare red dirt was swept by the wind, the roads were rutted tracks,"; " a narrow gravel road full of blind corners, corrugations and erosion channels ,that headed directly into a sun that flared on the lone windscreen of an oncoming farm ute , glass shards in the ditches , mica in the dirt and gravel."

I could smell the dust and feel the sense of failure " Eyeless stone ruins ....becalmed on a stony plain that would never nourish a grain crop, let alone a sheep"; stone everywhere";

I could hear " the pebbles that "pinged in the wheel arches as he picked up speed."

I could feel him making his own picture of life there and developing his view: "His thoughts took him back to the shepherd's son's grave,. the past was proximate and unsettling- stamped in stone, so if you lived here you would never rid yourself of it. The graves and the abandoned lives out in the back country, the blood spilt and the now unspoken about."

Hersch was a very real character to me; his dry sense of humour, his seeming acceptance of his fate in his job ,his determination to do the best job he can, his complete sense of who he is, and what he values and his quick perception of how small communities work- and their limitations. I look forward to the next stage of his life!

Disher said in this novel, he ensured that setting, which is usually an unacknowledged part of fiction writing, was vivid and not just background. He successfully endeavoured to emphasise how it can influence character and plot. I think he did an amazing job of making this remote area vivid: remote, sparse, the distances, the monotony, but also the haunting beauty and the joys , such as his early walk "with only the dawn time to cherish with only the birds busy, the air quite still and everything sharply etched." The author also said he ,"as an author, cannot start to write until he sees the character in a place and can smell the dust." I felt I was in that landscape ( so many memories of a few trips).

"Hersch, like most of his characters," Disher explained in a short video clip," was in search of a home " which I think applies to most of the other characters in "Peace." The people who live in small communities do so for many reasons; because their family has land or business there; they have been sent there, such as teachers ,police; people escaping problems elsewhere; the poor , the unstable, the mentally ill, dysfunctional families, people who can't afford to move or do not have the courage to; the characters like Martin Gwynne , a "big fish in a little pond" while things go his way; the alone and lonely- both men and women. They are all found and quickly identified by Hersch in this small community. He quickly learns who can be trusted in the town , who is not, who needs gentle support, who needs a bit of a "talking to" and who, he as police, can trust both in the town and the police force itself.

I so related the family Christmas letter his Mum sent, and the small town life ; knowing everyone's business, gossip, status, judging of newcomers but also the loyalty, compassion, sense of belonging and mostly peace.