



# Issue 1 *OBA's Quarterly Craic* 2022

First things first, for those not familiar with the term 'craic', it is a term for news, entertainment & enjoyable conversation, particularly prominent in Ireland - it is often used as an expression meaning "How are you?" or "What's happening?".

## What's the craic?



In 2022 we will release 4 iterations of *OBA's Quarterly Craic* - with an emphasis on 'what's happening' relevant to our previous releases - this being the 1<sup>st</sup>, thus without further ado..

Further to reference to our [letter from Treasury](#) pertaining to OBA's proposal to Treasury for the AGRP: Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool Treasury also noted OBA on its website [here](#) with respect to the Terrorism Insurance Act Review 2021:

[Home](#) > [Reviews](#) > [Terrorism Insurance Act Review 2021](#) > Terrorism Insurance Act Review 2021

### Terrorism Insurance Act Review 2021

This consultation process has now been completed. Submissions available

**Date:** 02 July 2021 - 30 July 2021

**Key Documents**  
[Consultation paper](#) - DOCX 123 MB  
[Consultation paper](#) - PDF 367.04 KB

On 2 July 2021, the Government announced the commencement of the 2021 review of the *Terrorism Insurance Act 2003*.

This consultation paper seeks stakeholder views on issues outlined in the Terms of Reference, which are:

- whether there continues to be market failure in the private sector supply of terrorism insurance, and consequently whether there is a need for the Act to continue;
- whether the governance, administration and resourcing of the scheme remain appropriate, including interactions between the Cyclone Reinsurance Pool and the Terrorism Reinsurance Pool; and
- whether the risk of cyber terrorism causing physical property damage should be included in the scheme.

**Submissions**  
7 submissions were received for this consultation, including 3 confidential submissions.

[INSURANCE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA](#) - PDF 181.4 KB  
[NATIONAL INSURANCE BROKERS ASSOCIATION](#) - PDF 262.21 KB  
[OBA CONSULTING](#) - PDF 10.84 MB  
[PROPERTY COUNCIL](#) - PDF 223.21 KB

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Additionally from the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 the government announced, via the following [media release](#), the reinsurance pool for cyclone & related flood damage, with excerpts below:



The Morrison government has finalised the design of the reinsurance pool for cyclone and related flood damage, following consultation on the draft legislation - the reinsurance pool will be backed by a \$10billion annually reinstated Commonwealth guarantee and be administered by the ARPC from 1 July 2022.

**Prime Minister Scott Morrison** said the establishment of a reinsurance pool would deliver on the government's commitment to maximising northern Australia's potential and to ensure Australians in cyclone-prone areas have access to affordable insurance.

"This is about making northern Australia even more resilient and liveable."

**Treasurer Josh Frydenberg** said that the government was committed to the benefits flowing through to policyholders as soon as possible, and had directed the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to undertake price monitoring.

Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia **David Littleproud** said by reducing the insurance premiums in northern Australia, the government is removing an obstacle to development so the great potential of the region is achieved.

Minister for Emergency Management and National Recovery and Resilience **Bridget McKenzie** said this is yet another significant investment by the government to ensure we are better prepared for disasters - before they strike.

**Assistant Treasurer Michael Sukkar** said that the government had listened to the feedback it had received throughout the consultation and design process and has made key changes to ensure the reinsurance pool delivers on its objectives.

"The government has committed to expanding the pool to provide coverage for small business marine property insurance from 1 July 2023. We have also made adjustments to ensure that more strata properties will benefit from the pool," Minister Sukkar said.

The government intends to introduce legislation for the reinsurance pool in the first week of Parliament in February 2022, with the pool on track for the scheduled 1 July start date.




The prominent names within the government's February 7<sup>th</sup> 2022 media release feature heavily across [OBA's work](#) including whilst not limited to [February 2019](#) OBA writing to Prime Minister Morrison referencing [Nth Qld home insurance](#) (particularly topical again in February/March 2022) additionally the above pools journey is referenced within its embryonic phase in this OBA [video](#) from March 2021 & within its review phase more granularly via [The Office of Best Practice Regulation](#) from 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022:

	<b>Australian Government</b> Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	<b>OBPR</b>	The Office of Best Practice Regulation
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	 <b>JOSH FRYDENBERG MP</b> Federal Member for Kooyong Treasurer of Australia Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party	  <b>Australian Government</b> <b>The Treasury</b>
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<p><i>Brett O'Brien writes to Prime Minister Scott Morrison in relation to Livestock Drought Insurance</i></p>			

 <p><b>Australian Government</b> North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency</p> <p>29 April 2019</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien bretto_brien@hotmail.com</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email dated 26 February 2019 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the impact of the monsoonal flood event that occurred in North Queensland earlier this year. I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister as the Government is now in a caretaker role pending the outcome of the federal election on 18 May 2019.</p> <p>The Agency is taking a multi-phased approach to assist with recovery and reconstruction efforts in north and western Queensland. Its responsibilities include coordinating the Commonwealth's recovery and reconstruction activities in flood-affected areas, and working with industry, communities and the Queensland Government to develop a long-term plan for the recovery and reconstruction of those areas. Your ideas regarding stock insurance will be considered as part of the development of this plan. Recruitment for NQLIRA will be undertaken following the normal public service guidelines, as such you may wish to watch</p>	 <p><b>The Hon. David Littleproud MP</b></p> <p>Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources Federal Member for Maranoa</p> <p>Ref: MC19-002790</p> <p>04 APR 2019</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting</p> <p>Via email: admin@obaconsulting.com.au</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your email of 21 March 2019 about insuring stock against losses attributable to drought or floods.</p>	 <p><b>Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie</b> Deputy Leader of The Nationals Minister for Agriculture Senator for Victoria</p> <p>Ref: MC19-00463</p> <p>Mr Brett O'Brien Managing Director OBA Consulting</p> <p>Via email: admin@obaconsulting.com.au</p> <p>Dear Mr O'Brien</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence of 31 May 2019, offering congratulations on my appointment as Minister for Agriculture. As a proud representative of regional Australia, it is an honour to serve in the Agriculture portfolio.</p> <p>Agriculture is key to Australia's prosperity and economic development. Strong leadership is needed to continue to benefit generations to come. The agriculture industry is diverse and our work continues to make Australia's farming, fishing and forest industries more resilient and</p>
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I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister

Notwithstanding the castigation the re-insurance pool for cyclone & related flood damage has received from some circles OBA Consulting unreservedly welcomes the pool & hopes the considerable sum apportioned to the ACCC to undertake price monitoring will provide genuine ROI.





Following initial assistance of Assistant Treasurer Hon. Michael Sukkar's office to OBA, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 The Broadcasting Administration office of Parliamentary Broadcasting kindly accommodated OBA's request to furnish our office with this [video](#) from 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022, which at the time of release of this newsletter is not posted to social media, yet which we share with OBA Readers under the [terms of common creative licence 3.0](#) featuring Assistant Treasurer Hon. Michael Sukkar introducing the cyclone & flood related damage reinsurance pool [bill](#), excerpt below left & below right a letter from Treasury to OBA from 2021:



**Australian Government**  
**The Treasury**

Ref: MC21-027739

Mr Brett O'Brien  
OBA Consulting  
[admin@obaconsulting.com.au](mailto:admin@obaconsulting.com.au)

Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your correspondence of 17 June 2021 suggesting the establishment of an Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool. The Treasurer has asked me to respond to you.

The Government notes your suggestion for an Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool and your response to the 2021 Triennial Review. The Government understands the importance of the agricultural sector and appreciates you taking the time to provide your suggestion to assist the sector.

The Triennial Review is a statutory requirement under the *Terrorism Insurance Act 2003* and investigates whether there is a need for the scheme to continue. The Triennial Review is limited in scope to examining whether the scheme should continue, the scheme be extended to include cyber terrorism causing physical property damage and how governance, administration and resourcing respond to potential interactions with the proposed cyclone reinsurance pool. The Triennial Review is to be completed by 12 December and be released before the end of this year.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

James Kelly  
First Assistant Secretary  
Financial System Division  
8/10/2021

FIND TREASURY ON

Langdon Crescent, PARKES ACT 2600, AUSTRALIA  
P: 61 2 6263 2111  
[www.treasury.gov.au](http://www.treasury.gov.au)

Above left Hon. Josh Frydenberg & Hon. Michael Sukkar & a [video](#) of Treasurer Frydenberg post the 2019 Bushfires summarising how he summoned & *'instructs the insurance industry'*, noting Assistant Treasurer Hon. M Sukkar's [video](#) contains several references to the ARPC, further referenced [below](#) from June 2021:

Australian Government  
Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation

4 June 2021

Dear Brett,

...

I understand the problem that is faced in agriculture insurance and recognise that agriculture is a very important part of our economy and society.

...

Kind regards,

Chris Wallace  
Chief Executive

Dear Brett

Thank you for your email inquiry of 21 May 2021. I did not receive the original email you sent to my direct email address which was deleted due to ARPC's spam filter as your email had too many links. Thank you for forwarding your original email again to me. I have now received and read your email. Thank you. We apologise for not responding to your email to our inquiries in time.

I understand the problem that is faced in agriculture insurance and recognise that agriculture is a very important part of our economy and society.

ARPC is an administrative agency, and unfortunately, we do not have policy responsibility for insurance. This responsibility rests with the Australian Government's Treasury Department which is leading the pool design and consultation for the Cyclone and Related Flood Reinsurance Pool.

You can contact the Treasury on Government policy related to insurance. You can also contribute to the Treasury consultation paper on the cyclone reinsurance pool. Submissions are due 20 June 2021. Here is a link to the Treasury's feedback webpage where you can make submissions and register the updates: <https://treasury.gov.au/consultation/2021-17-2021>. This includes an email address at Treasury that you could send enquiries through.

I hope this information provides some assistance.

Kind regards,  
  
Chris Wallace  
Chief Executive

CEO Dr Christopher Wallace

Australian Government  
Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation

**Australian Government**

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**Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation**

Supplementing OBA's support of the government's proposed cyclone & flood related damage reinsurance pool OBA concurrently remains optimistic in regards to a similar mechanism for Australian Agriculture:

Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool:

# AGRP

Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool:

# AGRP



The following December 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 related [article](#) & 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 related [article](#), both with excerpts below, preceded the federal government's aforementioned media release of 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022:

<p>UK US CA <b>AU</b> NZ Asia</p> <h1>Insurance</h1> <p>BUSINESS AUSTRALIA</p>	<p>The industry responds: the government's draft cyclone reinsurance pool legislation</p> <p>insurancebusinessmag.com</p> 	<p>Danny Wood · 1st News Editor at Key Media</p> <p>Thanks Brett O'Brien 🙌🇺🇸🇦🇺: OBA Consulting Australia for explaining your idea for a government funded reinsurance pool to help Aussie farmers survive droughts.</p>  <p>Could a \$10 billion reinsurance pool help farmers fight drought?</p> <p>insurancebusinessmag.com · 3 min read</p>	<p><b>Insurance</b> BUSINESS AUSTRALIA</p> <p>25 October 2021</p> <p>TOP NEWS</p> <p>Could a \$10 billion reinsurance pool help farmers fight drought? Industry veteran lifts lid on the lack of livestock drought insurance products</p> <p>APRA reveals performance of insurance industry in 2020-2021 How have general, life and private health insurance grappled with the pandemic?</p>
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## The industry responds: the government's draft cyclone reinsurance pool legislation



**Brett O'Brien** (pictured immediately above), managing director of risk management firm OBA Consulting, also expressed support.

"At OBA we believe a risk pool such as this and the ARPC, in concert with the government, are required to address large scale weather impacts," he said.

O'Brien offered special praise for the ARPC, the public financial corporation that will administer the \$10 billion reinsurance pool.

"We consider the ARPC to be up there with the single most important developments within the Australian risk transfer landscape in the last 25 years, if not the last 50 years," he said.

## Could a \$10 billion reinsurance pool help farmers fight drought?

An insurance industry veteran wants a government backed \$10 billion reinsurance pool to help farmers fight drought. The call comes as drought remains one of the biggest issues facing farmers in Australia. In recent years, fuelled by climate change, experts say Australia's droughts have become less predictable, more severe and cost the economy many billions of dollars.

"At OBA we have proposed to Treasury that the Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation, the ARPC, be replicated for want of a better word, to address drought for which we propose it be called the AGRP – Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool," said Brett O'Brien (pictured), managing director of risk management firm, OBA Consulting.

**Read next:** [Insurance veteran makes government plea](#)



The Department of the Treasury is currently reviewing whether ARPC should continue. O'Brien, a fourth-generation pastoralist & fellow of ANZIIF took that opportunity to write to the Department and suggest that a similar pool be established to fight drought. He received a written reply from Treasury earlier this month thanking him for his input & noting his suggestion - O'Brien's push for insurance cover for drought-stricken farmers began in early 2019 when he started his consulting firm.



As part of a guest speaking series for the [Australian Security Academy](#) (ASA) during an interview with ASA's CEO of 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021 OBA Consulting MD, Brett O'Brien, was asked & responded as follows:

**Mike Evans – ASA CEO – Question:**

'If you could have your industry (insurance) / association do something to assist your industry what would that be?'

**Brett O'Brien – OBA Consulting Managing Director – Response:**

'I think as an industry (insurance) & I can draw drought as an example & also covid, whilst we are all a bit covid fatigued it's certainly not going anywhere, *I think as an industry we need to be in more partnerships with the government, similar to the ARPC which is the Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation that responds to terrorism risks*, so I think as a country & really across the board, we are talking about overseas now as well I think we would be benefited by & if I use bushfires as an example course we've got Perth, we had Melbourne yet no corner of Australia seems to be immune from it, unfortunately, *I think we need more partnerships at a government level or more synergy between the industry (insurance) & government to be sort of working on these as collectives, & I would like to clarify that's no criticism of any entity to date, yet more collaboration between industry and government to address large scale risks.'*

The [full interview](#) along with others within the series is posted to [OBA YouTube channel](#), additionally ASA features on OBA's [Affiliations](#) tab, with the compilation OBA-ASA video referenced on page 3 above [here](#):

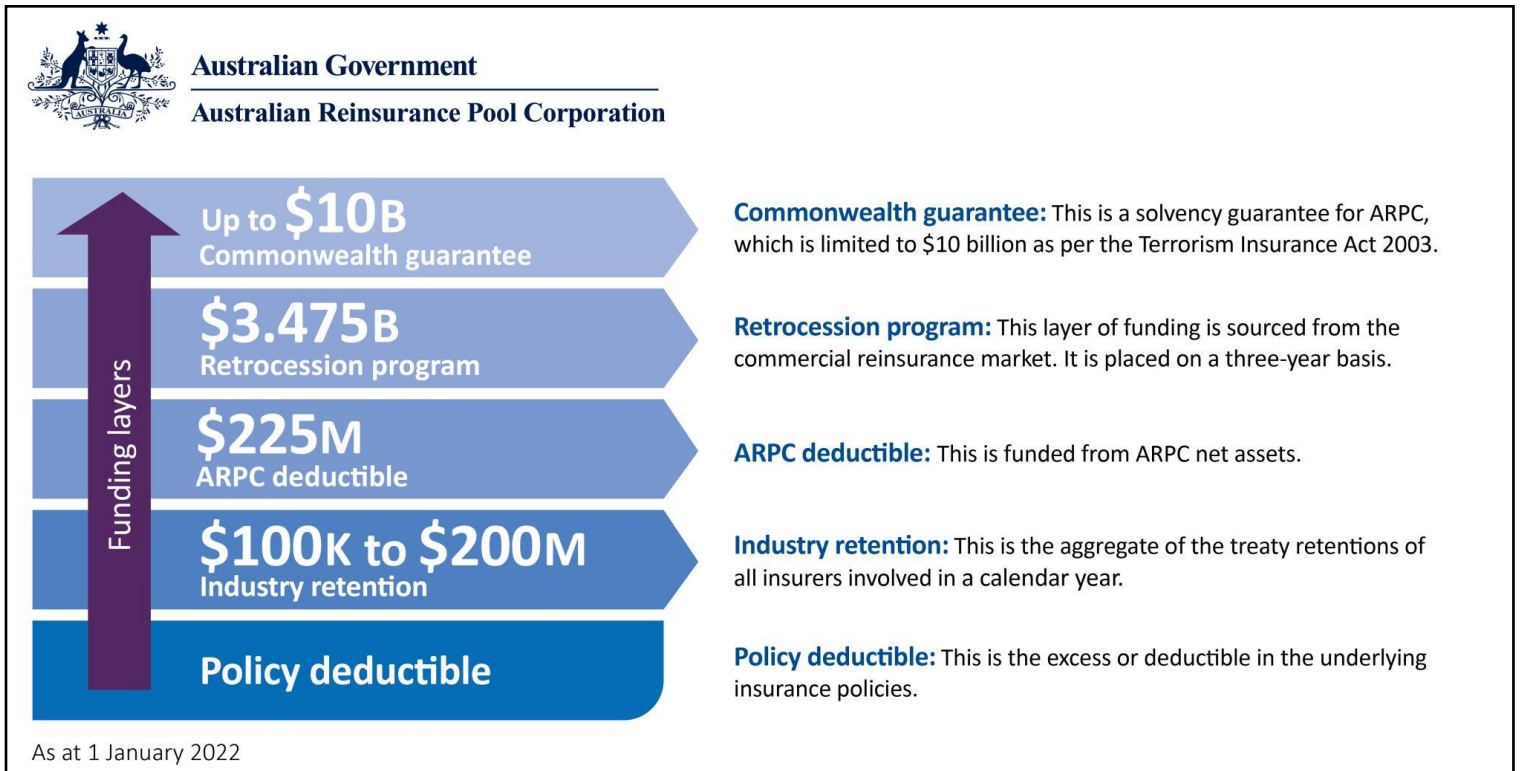
**Affiliations**

<p>Farm Table – member of:</p>	<p>Former registered breeder with:</p>	<p>Graduate of &amp; regular guest speaker for:</p>
<p>OBA's insurer is a:</p>	<p>ANZIIF – Fellow of:</p>	<p>Associate of:</p>





Further to reference to the ARPC above as [released publicly](#) by the ARPC it's program for the 2022 calendar year is pictured below, consisting of \$3.475 billion retrocession program, plus ARPC's net assets & the \$10 billion Commonwealth guarantee, providing scheme capacity in the event of a declared terrorism incident against commercial & eligible property assets, of approximately \$14billion.  
 More information from ARPC web [here](#):



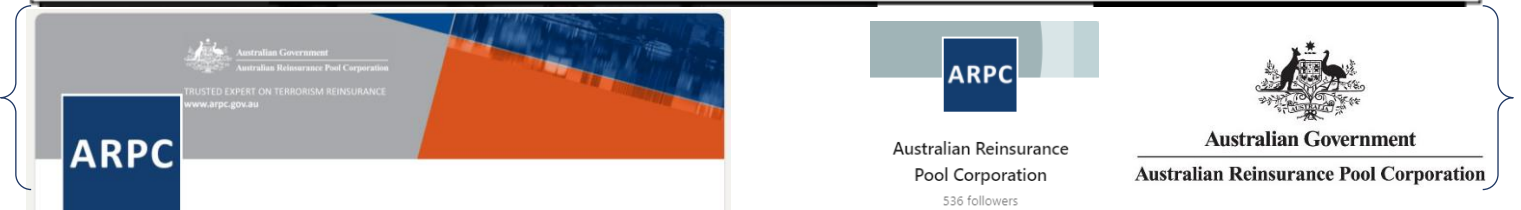
From [December 2021 Quick Bite](#):

In my view the ARPC is up there with the single most important developments within the Australian risk transfer landscape in the last 25 years if not the last 50 years - the ARPC provides an exceptionally important function within Australia, additionally it is an entity we can be proud of on the world stage.

OBA proposes a bespoke risk pool for Australian Agriculture - AGRP:

# Australian Agriculture Reinsurance Pool

Brett O'Brien - ANZIIF Fellow, OBA Consulting - Managing Director





Further to reference to such in OBA's [April](#) & [December](#) 2021 Quick Bites (excerpts below) at-home care featured heavily in the media during February 2022, not least of all this [story](#) from February 5<sup>th</sup> 2022, similarly our April 2021 Quick Bite referenced OBA's 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday in operation, accordingly February 2022 marked OBA's 3<sup>rd</sup> year in operation anniversary which we acknowledge & cheers to below:

# Growing demand for at-home care amid COVID-19 aged care chaos



## A change within OBA ranks

Continuing with the milestone's congratulations to our [Operations Manager](#) Patricia for accepting a new role as Care Manager with Better Living Homocare. OBA is glad we will retain Patricia's services part time and we know (implicitly) Pat will make an exceptionally impressive & refreshing impression all round with Better Living:

 <b>Patricia O'Brien</b> - 1st Care Manager at Better Living Homocare	<b>Experience</b> <b>Care Manager</b> Better Living Homocare - Full-time Feb 2021 - Present - 1 mo <b>Operations Manager</b> OBA Consulting (Australia) - Part-time Feb 2019 - Present - 2 yrs 1 mo	
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April 2021 [Quick Bite](#)

## Operations Manager: Patricia O'Brien

Combining an Advanced Diploma in Leadership and Management along with qualifications in Work Health & Safety and Nursing, Patricia brings a very broad skill set to OBA along with outstanding attention to detail, organizational and people skills.

Patricia combines her role as part time Operations Manager at OBA Consulting with being Care Manager at Just Home Care Packages Aged Care.

A multi linguist Patricia manages the day to day operations at OBA Consulting in addition to various other professional commitments.



December 2021 [Quick Bite](#)





Mercy Health  
Care first

## CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This is to certify that

### Patricia Omega Jorda

has successfully completed the course

## Respiratory Infectious Disease

21 March 2020



## OBA Consulting is the culmination of 40 years Agirulture & 25 years Risk Transfer experience










HAPPY BIRTHDAY










Pertaining to birthdays & that of our very own **Donatella Eva Patricia O'Brien** born 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 we share as follows in appreciation of the well wishes received from OBA Readers following her birth:



Born 4.5 weeks premature Donatella spent her 1<sup>st</sup> weeks of life in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of the Royal Women's hospital receiving treatment during which time her doctors remarked about her unusual strength.

Her birth coinciding with Melbourne's January 2022 'heat wave' which saw 10 consecutive days in the mid to high 30's rendering Mum & Dad's round the clock time at or going to & from the Royal Women's hospital slightly more challenging than it already was, accordingly the ultimate temperature drop of early February 2022 was a relief both metaphorically & literally suffice to say we feel utterly & eminently blessed to have darling Donatella, in the process extending the OBA herd by 1 following our 'MOU' as referenced in this OBA [update](#) of August 2019:



It has been observed & remarked that Donatella is the spitting image of her Mum 🐣, with whom she carries her name, notwithstanding some of Donatella's mannerisms (poses) are said to bare a striking resemblance to her Dad's 😊:



- Donatella Eva Patricia O'Brien -



Further to reference to such in [2021](#) in 2022 we continue to support [#dementiaawareness](#) as part of our [wellness](#) plan as follows:

**Yearly Highlights**

**Steps**

So far this year, you're taking fewer steps a day than you did last year.

**26,803** steps/day  
2022

**30,703** steps/day  
2021

**#dementiaawareness**  
453 followers  
Following

**dementia australia™**

Jan Feb Mar 2022 daily steps

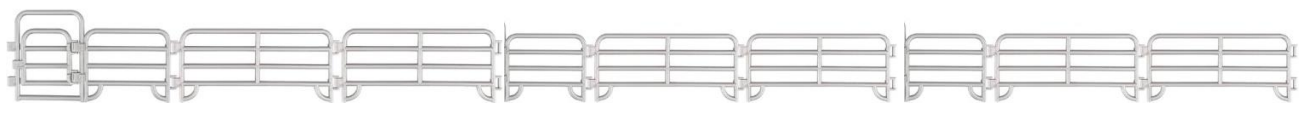
Month	Daily Steps
Jan	26,112
Feb	25,434
Mar	28,484

Above from top left January 2022, trying to keep cool during hot over night stays at the Royal Womens hospital whereby (understandably) air-con is not a high priority electrical service, at home with Donatella February 2022, alcohol free NYE 2021 pool party & Port Melbourne beach 1984 & 20 years ago in 2002.

Within the *Quarterly Craic* & without unavoidably butting heads OBA seeks to follow the content 'tips' below & whilst we seek, aspire & endeavour to, we [know](#) we don't always get everything right/correct:

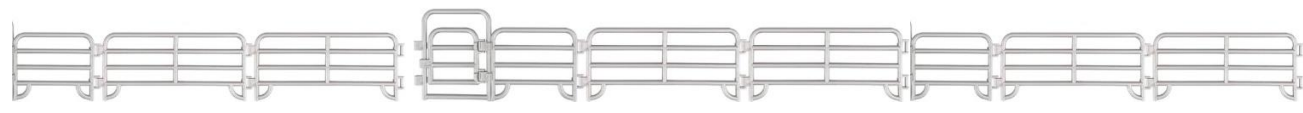
**TIPS FOR AUTHENTIC AGRIBUSINESS CONTENT**

- Share your experiences
- Understand your audience
- Be timely
- Don't be pushy
- Know your brand voice/humanize your brand



# OBA CONSULTING

— Performance By Design —



## 'OBA Consulting - Supporting Rural Australia'



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