

Large pig Nigel bites man in Seaford street attack

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A huge pig that attacked a man in Melbourne's southeast has its own Facebook page, with dozens of devoted followers.

Nigel the pig bit Seaford man Robert Dennis on the leg yesterday, lifting him from the ground with his powerful jaws.

Mr Dennis, 50, suffered a 25cm gash in his leg and required microsurgery after the beast escaped from an industrial block.

Nigel's Facebook page ("Nigel the Seaford pig") features several posts from the public who have taken photos with him, as well as videos showing his distinctive character and eating habits.

Weighing about 250kg, he also has regular visitors who stop at his compound to say hello.

Owner Edward Weaver told *Frankston Weekly* he picked up the mixed breed porcine from a Skye farm almost two years ago, but he wasn't always so well-loved.

"He was a reject for the meat market because he was black and white. Apparently that's not appealing in pork rind," he said.

Mr Weaver said Nigel's diet includes cookies and Weetbix.

Mr Dennis had walked outside his Govan St home to check on a commotion when the pig approached.

"It's just unbelievable. You don't expect to be gored by a pig on a Sunday afternoon," he said from hospital last night.

Herald Sun photographer Jake Nowakowski was at the scene when Nigel attacked and captured it on camera.

"This pig just walked up to Robert, who was with another bloke, and it was nudging them. They were trying to get out of the way when the pig just bit his leg and lifted him into the air," he said.

"A bloke ... was chasing it down the street with a big stick and trying to guide it back home, but the pig was just ignoring him.

"Robert had just come out to see what was going on."

A handyman and labourer, Mr Dennis said: "I'm not going to be able to work now. I'm just angry and I don't need this."