



Mullet Mail

NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESIDENTS

#87 Spring 2025

www.dangarislandleague.com

Mullet Mail acknowledges traditional custodians of country. Together we care for our island and river, for the future!
Always was, always will be, indigenous land.



A WINTER'S TALE

TERRY STEWART, DIL PRESIDENT | president@dangarislandleague.com.au



Winter is ebbing like the trickle in the Riverview gutters — and spring will be springing like Banjo and Lucy, our cavoodle social influencers. Winter arrived with the subtlety of a diva storm front: showers as forecast, rogue gales blowing the agenda towards Hornsby, and a cloud of disgruntlement taking a long-term lease over McKell Park. Here's where things stand.

The Never Ending Story: The McKell Park Cliffhanger (Season 12, Episode 26) (Action - Terry Stewart & Stephen Boyle)

The parking drama continues — and like any good cliffhanger, just when you think you know the ending, a new twist creates another season. With resident legal talent and outside help (legal and political), we're challenging Crown Lands' stance on McKell Park. A brief is being prepared for Senior Counsel and the Minister for Crown Lands has been advised. Meanwhile, Hornsby Mayor Warren Waddell has paused changes until the legal dust settles. We're grateful for the pro bono assistance and we'll name names when the curtain finally falls. Stay tuned — this one's got more episodes but we're hoping it will be the final season. Maybe somebody can work up a script and a score for a season next year at the Bowlo: "Parking: the Musical".

Road Warriors: Bronek's Mission Impossible (Action - Bronek Karcz)

Bronek has been relentless in pushing for better roads. Council has been responsive and we've thanked them formally. You may have spotted fresh guttering where blockages once reigned, grading and surfacing. There's more to do, but Bronek has determination in spades.

Hall Hire Heist: The Case of the Changing Code (Action - Peter Godbolt)

In a move worthy of a spy thriller, Council recently changed the community hall's access code without warning. This has strengthened our resolve to sort it out but it's never straight-forward. Our proposal is to take out public liability insurance and arrange a sole-hirer agreement so locals can book the hall without jumping through bureaucratic hoops. There are reasons given to us why this cannot be done (none

convincing), but Councillor Olivia Simons is working alongside us to keep this moving forward.

Drive My Car: Car-Sharing on the Horizon (Action - Ken Smith)

We're waiting to see if Council's Shire-wide car-sharing scheme gets rolling, while also exploring a homegrown version. No keys have been exchanged, but the conversation is moving.

A League of Their Own: Membership Matters (Action - Ollie Brown & David Rupin)

Our membership register is being updated, with friendly reminders to those with lapsed memberships. Membership keeps the League running and ensures this newsletter reaches you.

Ferry Tales: Opal has arrived

Years of effort have paid off: Opal is now available for the ferry— big thanks to Rick Stockley of Brooklyn Ferry Service. This will make it easier for residents (especially families) and draw more visitors who help keep the Bowlo, Depot and other services alive. Congratulations also to Rick on being awarded a new eight-year contract to operate the route.

A tender has also closed to redevelop the Brooklyn ferry wharf and improve accessibility. At the time of writing, the contract award is still pending.

Community Organisations – Get Involved

Thanks to Genevieve's web wizardry, our website is getting an update. Soon it will feature a hub for many of our 20+ community groups and regular events. Whether you're a longtime resident or new arrival, it'll be the go-to place to connect in our community. A simple way to see what's happening, get involved, and lend a hand where extra support is needed.

If your island organisation would like to be included, please email our president with your details.

The Day After Tomorrow: The Next Chapter

There's more bubbling behind the scenes. The theme is constant: community effort, persistence and tapping into the talent that makes this island tick — without you, there's no show to run.

League Membership. \$15

The funds help pay for the printing of this, the Mullet Mail as well as the website running costs and email addresses that assist greatly with continuity of communications with council and other organisations. www.dangarislandleague.com



Fundraiser Tea Towels \$20

Keep the Mullet Mail coming into your mail box!

orders: mulletmail2020@gmail.com

also available through the Depot and Riverboat Postman ticket office.



Reactivating our Community Hall

PETER GODBOLT, DIL COMMITTEE



We have made steady progress recently, and there's quite a lot of information to digest! Firstly, the council some weeks ago reduced the booking fees for the Dangar Hall to a flat rate of \$11 per hour, with a minimum 2 hour booking, with each individual booking attracting an \$18 fee whether it's for a long series, or a one off. This is quite a significant reduction, which may help support commercial and private use of the hall - do consider it if you're feeling inspired!

Insurance may be required for commercial and private bookings, and in addition, if you want to use the space after 5pm on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday, there is a \$500 bond payable, the administration of which lies with the council - get in touch with council for all further details!

From a League perspective, we have recently acquired public liability insurance through the folks at Local Community Insurance - this is something we've been strongly advised we need for any of our meetings and activities, as well as it being a requirement from the council if we wish to book the hall. Acquiring the insurance has therefore opened up the possibility of the League being able to book

the hall for community based initiatives, 3 such activities being Warbling, Bridge, and kids music. We have gone ahead and booked 5 sessions for these activities, as a pilot, which I view as a great step forward in officially 'reactivating' the hall for community use!

This means that the hall doors will, for the first time in many years, be opened regularly, and officially, to community led activities, on each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please feel welcome to wander by, take a look, and join in the activities if you'd like! In the first instance this is through a \$370 grant from the league, with the prospect of 'fee relief' from council, and/or contributions from the three groups and donations being pursued to offset costs.

My longer term aim is to create a kitty which will allow the League to help facilitate both the fundraising for, and the actual activity of all sorts of community initiatives. The public league meetings are the best place to come and share any and all ideas you might have - now's the time to pop along, join up, and speak up!



Top: Our Community Centre, aka the hall; Above left: Our community locked out! Irene checks the door to the hall; Above right: Music in our Hall. Coco, Irene and Roland enjoy practice. | Photos: Peter Godbolt



Random mentions of our island in newspapers

ROSEMARY CURTIS, DIHS

Mullet Island was the name given to the island in 1788 by Captain Arthur Phillip. The island is referred to as Mullet Island or Dangar's Island or Dangar Island from the 1860s to 1890s in art works, newspaper articles, advertisements and official documents.

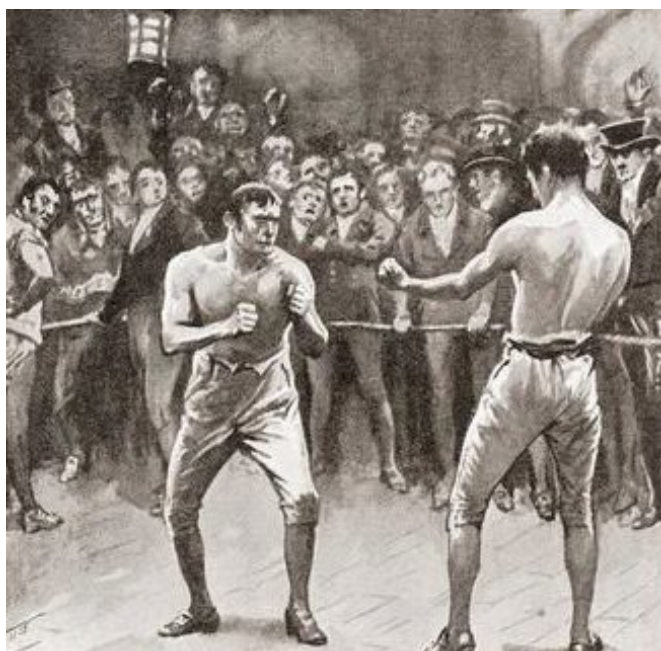
Two years after the island was purchased by Henry Cary Dangar in 1864, the following notice appeared in *The Empire* on 4 May 1866, a newspaper founded by Henry Parkes and published in Sydney from 1850 to 1875.

WATER POLICE COURT — THURSDAY

(Before the Water Police Magistrate and Mr. S. H. Pearce.)

...

Job Williams and David Ingram, alias 'The Stranger', charged with being engaged in a prize fight on Mullet Island, were committed to take their trial at the next Quarter Sessions.



Prize Fighting, Melbourne, 1866. *The Tragedy of Capel Sound*, Lance Hodgins, Peninsula Essence 2017

Prize-fighting was illegal in Australia for much of the nineteenth century. The same two fighters were arrested and fined (amounts between £5–£10) around this period in other locations including Quakers Hill, near Blacktown.

Eight years later, 31 March 1874, the following notice appeared in *The Sydney Morning Herald*. Joseph Burns, the writer of the notice, was Henry Cary Dangar's second caretaker.

LOST AND FOUND

STRAYED on to Mullet Island, Hawkesbury River, a Bay HORSE, branded IW off shoulder, white face, short tail; if not claimed within 21 days will be sold to pay expenses.

JOSEPH BURNS.

Mullet Island March 26, 1874.

Then on 21 October 1950 an article from *The Dubbo Liberal* and *Macquarie Advocate* only briefly mentions the island, but it is indicative of what newspapers covered in those days. Now it would possibly be posted on Facebook.

It introduces the impressive Mrs Laughton, who did not allow oyster cuts to stop her getting home in time for the monthly Buninyong meeting.

FAREWELL GIFT PUT TO VERY GOOD USE

A first aid kit presented to a former Dubbo man before he left the district several months ago was used for the first time last week on a Dubbo woman visitor to Sydney.

The kit was presented to Mr. V. C. Lark, for many years an active member of the Dubbo Ambulance Committee before he went to live in retirement at Dangar Island, on the Hawkesbury River, earlier this year.

Holidaying with the Lark family last week, Mrs. J. E. Laughton, Secretary of the Buninyong Agricultural Bureau, slipped on some rocks at Dangar Island and gashed her right arm on some oyster shells.

As a bush woman of considerable experience, Mrs. Laughton was able to apply pressure to the artery and stop the flow of blood until she reached the house where Mr. and Mrs. Lark used the presentation first aid kit to bandage the wound.

As the wound required medical attention Mrs. Laughton cut short her holiday and went to Sydney, where eight pieces of oyster shell were extracted from her arm.

Mrs. Laughton then set out for home. 'I wanted to get back for the monthly Buninyong meeting,' she explained. 'I had the books, and they knew that I wouldn't let them down.'

Arriving at Orange, where she had left her car, Mrs.

Laughton attended an Agricultural Conference on Wednesday and then set out alone for Dubbo. Arriving in Dubbo on Wednesday night, she went straight to the Ambulance Station for further treatment to her arm. Since then she has been attended by a doctor and given anti-tetanus injections.



Photos of 1950s first aid tin from ebay

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR FATHERS

Jenny Pakes

Late night scanning again! I was prompted to write this up to add to my family history site with some photos of my Dad, an Army veteran of 21 years service, who died in 2016. We were not all there in theatres of war. We cannot fully appreciate what Service men and women go through to ensure we have the freedoms and the wonderful country we have today.

Yes, I know, John Denver, but his lyrics (link QR) were with a copy of the 2012 Bribie Island RSL Dawn Service, attended by my Dad, Lloyd Nicholls, a WO2 Engineer veteran of the Malayan Emergency, and Borneo campaigns. He was awarded a British Empire Medal for his service in Malaya. Denver's sentimental lyrics prompted me to remember my Dad, who loved his job and, as a Queensland country boy, especially loved his country.

Later, when we lived in Perth, I remember occasionally welcoming Aboriginal servicemen to our home; to us kids they were simply his friends who were missing their families.

Dad's grandfather was a teamster who hauled timber in the Yandina area, and his grandmother, a German immigrant, came with her family for a better life in Australia. He told me they raised him, and it was working with bullock teams as a youngster that led him to "run away" and join the Army.



Sadly, Dad never knew of his great-grandfather, a veteran of the Second Anglo-Afghan War, or his great-grandmother who followed across India with babes in arms, from Kolkata (formerly Calcutta, Bengal) to Agra. They came to Australia too, settling in Queensland for a life of farming. Later, three sons volunteered to fight for Australia in WWI. The youngest is buried in France; another survived the trenches but never really recovered; and their third, an older son in his late forties, fronted for training but did not meet health standards. He may have had TB. Or indeed perhaps, suffered from the shame of being rejected.

One way or another, we all have connections; roots firmly implanted in this country. Even a balladeer like John Denver had a strong sense of it, though he was a "septic tank"! (For the younger set, that's

rhyming slang for Yank.) "And if we stand divided, divided we shall fall. But if we stand together, we shall conquer all."

Enjoy Sing Australia: and remember the contributions all our fathers have made.



Above: Lloyd Nicholls (L) and Unknown 1957-1959. Malaya. During the Malayan Emergency 1948-1960. | Photo: Unknown Unit Member

I had a dream...

IMAGINE 2034 Unveiling the repainted Hawkesbury River Railway Bridge

PAINTER SPECIFICATION



GATEWAY TO SYDNEY

If they haven't bought the paint yet !.. Jock



DANGAR ISLAND DEPOT

Matt Taylor
11 September - 22 October

Ana Pollak
23 October - 4 December

David Collins
5 December - 24 December

Paul Taylor
27 December - 7 February

Dangar Life Photo Comp
8 February - 15 February
(see page 10 for details)



GET READY WEEKEND

JOSH GINTY, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, DIRFB



Thanks to all who turned out for our Get Ready Weekend event at the fire shed on the 21st of September. If you missed out on the day, or would like any advice on the upcoming fire season, please message us on the brigade's Facebook page or follow the QR code to online resources.

BUSHFIRE PREPAREDNESS STARTS AT HOME.

The 2025-26 fire season officially starts on October 1st. We encourage all islanders to prepare their homes.

Have at least one to two metres cleared area around your home. Trim trees and shrubs that are next to or overhanging your home. Clear all leaf litter & debris from under and around your home, including roof and gutters. Remove flammable materials from around the home (gas bottles, chemicals, petrol, etc)

We all leave the green bin empty some weeks, but over the course of the year, green bins allow for the removal of approximately six cubic metres of green waste per household. This is in addition to the annual three cubic metres allowed for bulky green waste kerbside allocation. Next pick-up scheduled for **19/11/2025** so put it in your diaries and on the kerb.

Removing debris from close to your house and storing in a compressed pile reduces its ability to burn quickly due to lowered oxygen and higher moisture content. It can be used as garden mulch, or as a quick way to fill the green bin and make sure you are making the full use of your nine cubic metres annually!

Dangar Island Your Bulk Green Waste Kerbside Collection



If you have garden waste you would like to turn into valuable compost, Council provides a bulk green waste kerbside collection once a year.

Your scheduled Green Waste collection date for 2025

19/11/25

Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed

Orange: Time to present bulky waste to kerbside.
Blue: Bulky Waste collection days.

Place items on the kerbside – on the days prior to your scheduled collection day.

Do not present your waste outside of these approved days.

Important information about your bulk green waste collection

- ✓ Your annual bulk green waste collection is for prunings that do not fit in your green bin.
- ✓ All green waste must be tightly bundled and tied with natural string.
- ✓ Make sure the bundles are easily lifted by one person.
- ✓ No items longer than 1.5m in length and branches less than 75mm in diameter.
- ✓ Place green waste on the nature strip at the front of your property the weekend before your collection.
- ✓ Unacceptable items will not be collected and must be returned to your property.
- ✓ There is a strict 3 cubic metre size limit (3m x 1m x 1m). Over size piles will not be collected.

It is an offence to present green waste earlier than the weekend immediately before your collection.



For more information please visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/waste or contact Council's Waste Hotline 13 70 30

Are We Sleepwalking Off a Cliff?

RON BARRELLE | 2N - islanddesign@froggy.com.au

The Island is a wonderful place; the trees, birds, simplicity, no cars or pedestrian crossings, and with enough social backup services to suit our needs, such as the Fire Brigade, Community First Responders, the Buggy, Bowling Club etc

But we too face the impacts of international issues—population growth, tourism, climate change etc.

In dealing with these, I don't think we expect to be a NIMBY community, but equally we don't want erosion of the very reasons that brought us here, and draw others in.

I think we would be advantaged by addressing this challenge.

The topics I would like to see calmly discussed are housing and

population needs, both permanent residential and recreational, building codes, environmental issues, tree coverage, bushfires, flora & fauna, and I am sure there are others.

These are generally covered by the Council zoning and the relevant building code for the Island.

Most of Sydney is zoned Residential.

Dangar Island is zoned Environmental Conservation.

This zoning is very different—it permits quite different development for the Island.

Consequently, short-term rentals, unless hosted, granny flats and dual occupancies are currently prohibited on the Island.

We are also covered by Council's

separate current planning code for the Island, covering site coverage, boundary setbacks, heights and boatsheds, which are stipulated for storage for boats not people.

Yet non-compliance on the island is what is happening. Regardless of compliance, it does signal to policy makers what our community will tolerate, so we should, as a community, be resolving this.

Council's enforcement of these rules is, admittedly, lax. But understandably, they're not alone; most councils are underfunded and constrained by rate caps.

Part of such a discussion ideally would include proposals to take us forward. There is provision for modifying the planning codes, through Council, to make this happen.

Firstly though, they would want community support, thus this epistle.

Support Brooklyn Public School through recycling!



THE BPS P&CV

You can now donate earnings from eligible containers directly to Brooklyn Public School Parents and Citizens association from any Return and Earn machine using the Return and Earn app.

Your donations support playground and garden infrastructure, music programs, classroom resources, excursions and more!

Meanwhile, the Return and Earn scheme supports efficient recycling. What's not to like?

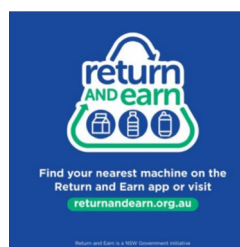
Follow QR link below to download the app.

In the Charities menu, set Brooklyn Public School P&C as your 'payout'.

Then before putting your containers in the return and earn machine scan the app.

Remember to press "TRANSFER" on the RVM screen when finished.

Thanks for your help!



NEW BOARDWALK AT KANGAROO POINT

James Wallace MP for Hornsby

A new boardwalk at Brooklyn, between Kangaroo Point and Seymours Creek, has recently opened to the public.

The path was funded by State Government grants and is in a mangrove and bushland setting. It is suitable for walking, bikes and prams. You can access the boardwalk from Tom Richmond Oval or The Estuary.

Cindy and Caelia (pictured below) from the Brooklyn Community Association were at the opening and told me a bit about what the boardwalk would do for the community in the video (link QR).



Winter Cabaret

MARINA GARVEY AND KIM WILSON

PHOTOS: LOU CANKETT

This place,
This little particle of light,
this tiny planet
in this large swirling vortex of a
river. This place we call home.
There has always been so much
more to it and there always will be.
The rich ebb and flow of this land
carry the stories of the Guringai and
Gadigal people, the Dharug and the
Darkinjung.

We pay our deepest respects to the
elders of the past whose odyssey
reaches far back into ancient time and
yet their voices still hum in the rustle
of leaves and ripples in the river.

We honour the guardians of the
present, whose footsteps tread
lightly upon the earth, and the
custodians of tomorrow, whose
spirits are listening and ready.



Captain's Log Star Date 20.6.25

After numerous exhausting battles
with the Klingon Council over the
parking space-time continuum,
a fragile peace has now been
achieved. The weary crew of the
Starship Ulysses, under the wise
leadership of Admiral Wally Bower
can at last, embark on the journey
home to our beloved Planet Dangar.
The Star Fleet chief engineer
Godbolt has been typically inventive.
The engines of Ulysses have been
symphonically reconfigured into
full rubber-burn orchestra capacity
and with most of our battle-damage
repaired, we can now risk engaging
sonic warp drive while within this
alien, dangerous, solar system. We
are still a long way from home, but
we hear it calling us...



Captain's Log Star Date 30.6.25

The Starship Ulysses having passed
safely through the Bowie Zone,
albeit with a shimmer of residual
glitter still on the external boosters,
is now trading blows with SpaceX
raiders from the DOGE asteroid
belt, emitting an unpleasant Musky
odour. They currently have us
surrounded and are threatening to
jettison all of the crew as part of
their economy drive. They are on the
hunt for illegal aliens....

.... but isn't everyone an alien in space?





Katy Perry should catch the ferry
And save her songs
For righting wrongs
Not making us hurl at What a
Wonderful World
During an eleven minute flight.
Jeff Bezos should just leave us
To get on with things
Instead of wings
To outer space, just pay your tax for
goodness's sake
And stop with all this shite.

Captain's Log Star Date 33.6.25

After many months of travelling
where no man, woman or human
refusing to be categorised by
a hopelessly binary gender
classification system has gone
before, we chanced upon a planet
that loomed before us like a single
giant eyeball in the darkness of
space. The white of that vast
unblinking orb held us trapped in the
grip of its magnetic Cyclops gaze...if
the Ulysses is to survive this, all our
cunning would be required...and a
knife...a very sharp knife!



Captain's Log Star date A hair past a freckle.

The following signal was heard as we passed the
Wobby Wormhole:

This is your black hole transmitting. It's not the
invisibility I object to, after all when one reaches a
certain age there's a strange liberation in not being
seen. And it's not the silence I mind either. It's the noise
- when people talk about you like they know you. Like
they've got your whole being summed up in one neat
telescopic sound bite. Like they've cracked your code,
your exact location, nailed your event horizon, figured
out your singularity, your core! They say I'm too this
or too that. You get tired of reaching out only to be told
you suck the light out of them, that your heat turns
them into spaghetti. It's like... I'm speaking a language
no one else is willing to learn. I try to communicate but
then I'm blamed for being hard to understand. I'm not
trying to be mysterious. I'm not trying to be difficult.
I just feel things differently. After a while you start to
wonder if you really matter and if you don't matter have
you become a kind of anti-matter....

This is our final Captain's log. Star date - Home.

As the Ulysses turns slowly away from the moon
somewhere on the other side of this
vast velvet night we see you come into view -



there you are our small particle of light,
there you are our island home,
there wrapped in a river of gossamer threads, the Dyarubbin River
Yes, there you are -
Starry Starry night
Two stroke mosquitoes in the distance
The lapping of water
And a sheening fluorescence slicks the mind
and as the space between us grows smaller,
I am always thinking of you...



(pst: here's a video)

Cabaret performers: (clockwise from top p.8): Cabaret Narrators and writers. Kim
Wilson and Marina Garvey; (L-R) Brae, Angela, Jo, Judith, and Aileen; James; (L-R)
Steven, James, Aileen, Peter and Judith; Wally; Abi; Sadie; Penny.



HELP!

Where is the nearest Defibrillator (AED)?

BRENDA HALL, CFR33 DANGAR IS. | dangarcfr33@gmail.com



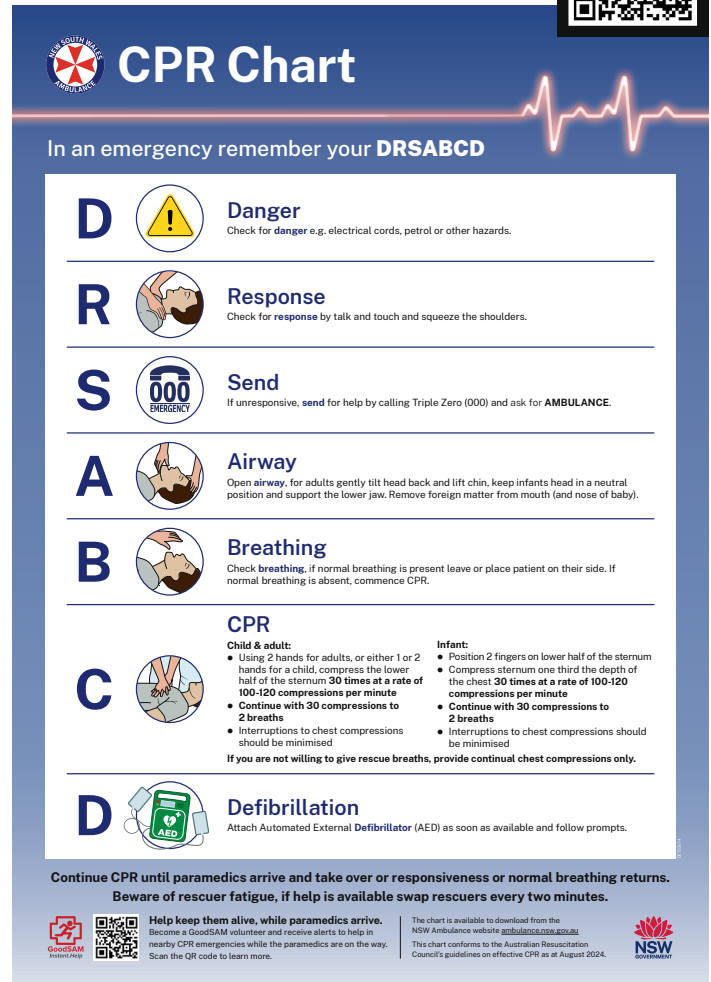
On Dangar we have 3 accessible Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs): in the ferry shed, on the Bowlo veranda, and near the south-western tip of the island at 122 Riverview. There is a green AED sign on the lamppost outside 122 Riverview ... look for it on your next walk. The AED itself is undercover by the front door of the house.

In Brooklyn there are several public AEDs at: Fenwicks Marina, Brooklyn Central, Anglers Rest, Brooklyn Corner, Fitzies Fish and Chips, Lifeboat Seafood and King Tide Café.

Defibrillation must only be used on a patient who is in cardiac arrest. That is, the person is unconscious and is not breathing.

If you witness a cardiac arrest follow the instructions in the NSW Ambulance CPR chart (refer image). Call 000 for help, commence chest compressions as soon as possible, direct another person to get the nearest AED, attach the AED to the patient, turn it on and follow the prompts until a CFR or paramedic arrives. Modern practice is that you do not have to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

If you are confident about your CPR skills, please consider becoming a GoodSam volunteer. GoodSam Volunteers receive alerts via an app when help is needed in nearby CPR emergencies. Check the program out at www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/goodsam



DANGAR LIFE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

WHAT MAKES THE ISLAND SPECIAL FOR YOU?

∞ CLOSING DATE: 31 DECEMBER 2025 ∞

Categories: Under [9] | Under [16] | Over 16 [A]

Judges: Genevieve and Hilary.

Exhibition: The top 5 photos in each category will be professionally printed and displayed in the Dangar Island Depot in February 2026.

Prizes: Awarded to the best in each category.

Enquiries: Michael 0406 511 008

Enter: To enter, email photos to dangarlifephotocomp@gmail.com

File: Your name_Title of image_Age category (eg: Ansel Adams_Headland_A)

Conditions: If your photo includes people, please first obtain their permission to submit.

Maximum file size - 5MB per photo

Maximum 5 entries per person



AT THE BOWLO

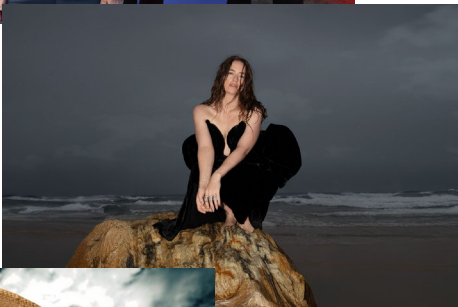
TERRY STEWART, DIBC TREASURER

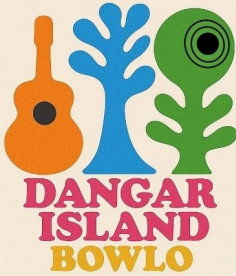
At the time of writing, the Bowlo is shut for winter maintenance while Sharon and Steve take a well-earned break. The June 2025 financial year is wrapped – and what a year it's been.

After the October AGM, the new Board had to tackle mounting losses, a challenge many in hospitality face. We held kitchen prices despite soaring food costs but increased bar prices where margins had shrunk over recent years. We cut admin costs, boosted volunteer help, tightened stock control, and found other efficiencies.

Events have evolved – from film afternoons to a wider mix of music including Jazz on the Verandah (a local favourite) and twilight bowls – for locals and visitors alike. The result? A small profit, only the second time in ten years (excluding one-off grants and donations). That's allowed us to buy new outdoor furniture, replace aging gear, and step up maintenance – all helped by Brett and the team's volunteer hours.

This turnaround comes down to hard work, volunteers, and your support. Margins remain tight, so every visit matters. Being a paid-up member helps too – with members' nights, discounts, and more to come when we're on a firmer financial footing.





UPCOMING EVENTS

SPRING / SUMMER 25/26

Sunday 5th October: Oktoberfest
October Date TBC: Club AGM. All members welcome.
Saturday 1st / Sunday 2nd November: Jazz on the Island James Morrison + guests
Sunday 16th November: Dave Graney and the Coral Snakes
Sunday 30th November: Meg Washington
Sunday 7th December: Fred Smith

TICKETS FROM  DANGAR ISLAND BOWLING CLUB

PLUS JAZZ ON THE VERANDAH / OPEN MIC NIGHTS AND MORE

We are also a committed community hub and have stepped up to assist groups while the Hall is unavailable. We are hosting regular meetups including Bridge, Warblers and the Burlesque group for members. School holiday workshops and other community-based activities are very welcome – please contact a board member to discuss your ideas.

So come for pizza night, summer twilight bowls, live music or just for a weekend drink and a bar snack. Every time you show up, you keep the Bowlo alive – and with it, one of the things that make Dangar Island the special community it is.

Terry writes on behalf of the DIBC Board: Deb Dubois, Jock Brown, Stephen Boyle, Steve Griffiths, Sunny South, Terry Stewart and Wendy McMurdo.



Twilight Bowls

New season kicks off
Thursday 9th October
5:30pm

Order your Pizzas early, grab a drink from the bar and join us on the green for some fun.

Use the QR code to book ticketed events at the Bowlo
www.dangarislandbowlingclub.com



From the top: Dave Graney and the Coral Snakes; Meg Washington and; Fred Smith.



Weed of concern – Spanish moss

CYBELE SHORTER, DI BUSHCARE | dangarislandbushcare@gmail.com

We are increasingly alarmed at the impacts of Spanish Moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*) on the island. Known as old man's beard, it is often seen as a harmless ornamental plant and is spread by humans. This air plant is listed as a weed by NSW WeedWise as it is spread by birds, possums and wind, then smothers trees. Once established, is extremely difficult and costly to remove.

Community based environmental organisations Greater Sydney Landcare and STEP, have commenced a campaign to raise awareness of this weed and the risks it poses, and to urge residents to act. They say "Never buy, or actively spread this plant. If you have it on your land, try to eradicate it if possible (by composting or putting in your green bin), and encourage your neighbours to do the same." More information about Spanish moss from Greater Sydney Landcare (QR).



Read more at
Greater Sydney
Landcare



Hornsby Shire Council suggests, should you see Spanish moss growing on public land, log your observation on the iNaturalist app. Observations will be automatically included in the *Tillandsia usneoides* iNaturalist Australia project.

Dangar Island Bushcare are planning some community days to work together on removing the plant from our bushland streets. Keep an eye out for posters and updates on the socials!

If you have questions about bushland management, we have a new email address (above) for you to contact the team.

Grow, thrive & provide

MISH MOORE, DIG

It's been a quiet few months since the excitement of our Autumn Market Day! This winter's bumper crop of lemons and Kent pumpkins have come & gone and the spinach, cavolo nero, bok choy, leafy greens & mint are loving the cool wet of the season.

Thank you EVERYONE who contributed prizes, bought raffle tickets and supported our popups throughout the first half of the year. And to all our incredible stall holders, thank you one and all for turning up once again! We know it's not always easy, you all have busy lives and lugging trestles & items to sell is a real effort. We really appreciate you all as well as the brilliant musicians for making the market hum on the day - you guys are simply the best! It was an amazing event and all that scoffing of pastries has given a boost not only to waistlines but DiG's bank balance, allowing for the recent purchase of materials for our next big garden project: fencing the central island garden. Along with posts, fence-wire, concrete and gates we have acquired four raised Birdie garden-beds (heavily discounted on sale - thank you Bunnings!) which will run along the bowling green fence-line to get those current beds up off the ground and out of harms-way and foot traffic - the two & four-legged variety. Raised metre high beds will also allow easier access to veg and leafy greens and make gardening easier and safer – bamboo stakes can sometimes make accessing greens tricky and were only ever a temporary fix.



The new enclosure will allow us to feel confident that the fruit & veg we produce in the community garden is organic, fresh, clean & green as well as easier to pick and produce. The raised beds will also mean we can eventually wick them, saving valuable water and time in the summer months as well as protecting veg with netting and shade.

You may have noticed the construction of the new fence is currently underway. We will post updates on the Dangar Island Community page soon. We will also be popping up over the coming months with yummy goodies and a brand-new raffle in the lead up to our Summer Market Day late Nov/early Dec (date tbc) PLUS there's an exciting collab event with Bushcare in the works (opp) happening early next year. In the meantime please enjoy the garden bounty.



As always, please be mindful when picking to only take the outer leaves - just a couple from each plant makes a bunch – allowing the plant to continue to Grow, Thrive and Provide for everyone.

Community | Bushcare | Arts

BASKET WEAVING

with foraged fibres - 10:00am to 3:30pm on Saturday 15 November

For Hornsby Shire Council residents only.

Fun-filled workshop, great for beginners and intermediate weavers. Learn to make a fantastic small basket, bowl or tray using traditional techniques. An inspiring range of design possibilities with a simple stitch, and you'll leave with a fantastic finished small piece to take home or give away as a gorgeous handmade gift.

\$50. Book through Hornsby Council.



INTRODUCTION TO iNATURALIST WORKSHOP

Saturday 18 October

Learn how to use the citizen science app iNaturalist to identify and record plants, animals and other organisms in nature around you. Practise in an accessible bushland setting.

Come ready with the iNaturalist app on your phone, a bottle of drinking water, a hat and sturdy footwear. Morning tea will be provided.

Get ready for the Great Southern Bioblitz and help record as many observations of wildlife as possible from Friday 24 to Monday 27 October 2025. Help Sydney compete with places from around the southern hemisphere. All that's needed is you and your mobile phone!

Free. Register with Hornsby Council.



CLOTH WORKSHOP

We have a unique opportunity to bring Cloth founder Julie Paterson to Dangar Island to run one of her amazing printmaking workshops.

Julie is a unique creative in the world of Australian printmaking and design. Her beautiful designs draw inspiration from the Australian landscape. With her ethos of locally sourced and sustainable materials, the Blue Mountains-based artist and designer said, "continuing the tradition of hand-printed flatbed fabric production is more important than ever, in this increasingly digital world. I started Cloth almost 30 years ago. Today my designs continue to be inspired by the Australian landscape and printed in small batches by hand in a tin shed"

Expressions of Interest...

We're planning a collaborative workshop for anyone wanting to cultivate creativity, confidence, calm and connection. It involves slowing down, getting into a lovely flow state, and making something beautiful about our environment.

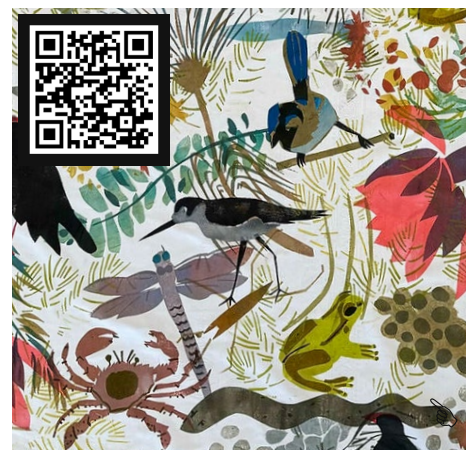
How it works:

After booking into the project, Julie will guide us to do no-stress, loose and gestural, feel-good drawings. You don't need to be 'good at drawing.' Collectively, everyone's imperfections are what make each collaboration beautiful.

Using everyone's drawings, Julie will spend a week on island making cut paper stencils and printing onto a length of fabric to create a unique large-scale artwork.

Next, Julie will cut the fabric into pieces and give each participant their very own piece - making sure it includes the motif made from their drawing - to then embellish with slow-stitching.

You don't need to know how to do fancy embroidery techniques. Your stitching can be rough and ready, and it's the rawness they lend to the fabric that is so appealing.



Community Wetland fabric | Julie Paterson | Inset QR link to website

Relax. Breathe. Stitch.

Once embellished, your piece of fabric can become anything; artwork to put on your wall, a shoulder bag, a lampshade, a cushion, a dillybag - whatever takes your fancy. We'll display everything in an exhibition at the hall to complete the project and celebrate.

Places are limited to 25

Price - \$200 each provided we have 25 people committed.

If interested in participating please contact Cybele or Mish

dangarislandbushcare@gmail.com

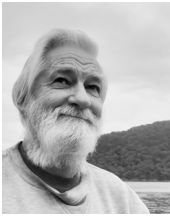
dangarislandgarden@gmail.com

Floating Bushcare!

Floating Bushcare visits bushland reserves along the Hawkesbury estuary that are accessible only by boat. Each trip is limited to 10 participants. Bookings are on a first come, first served basis. Council usually runs six to eight visits a year, between May and August. If you are interested in doing Bushcare with a twist, please register your interest directly with Council's Bushcare program:

jkecman@hornsby.nsw.gov.au





The Bully of Bombast

Bruce Lambert

Bow down before me
those tired and poor.
No freedom for you
beyond the door.

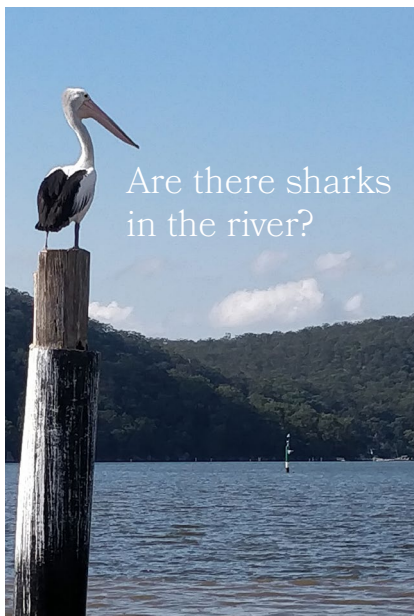
A wall to keep out
the massing horde.
Such desperate people
we do not accord.

Our agents of ICE
do scour the land.
Woe betide those
who fall into their hand.

Of countries and people
for you to succeed.
The better your flattery
ever more that I need.

Such fate of the world
that I hold in my hand.
Little of which
I do understand.

The art of the deal
has stood in good stead.
But for everyone else
remain living in dread.



Rock Pigeons

Irene Pigeon

soar like a pigeon up in the blue
soar like a pigeon inside of you
soar like a pigeon so far up high
soar like a pigeon and reach for the sky
coo



A true coo!

Billie Pigeon

Why can't anyone see,
How awesome pigeons can be?
They fly around, eating bread off the ground,
Soaring the world being free!
Now I'm a pigeon, it's true!
With my bandmates and Peter too!
We go around, playing music and sound,
Making the other birds coo!

The Williams Rock The Pigeons

Will and Liam Pigeons

There's a William on the Saxophone
There's a William on the Drums
No, this William is not a clone
In fact, they're best chums

Saxophone William goes by Wil
Drummer William goes by Liam
Put them together, what do you get?
WilLiam, now don't forget!

The Williams Rock The Pigeons
With their drum beats and saxophone sounds
On Dangar Island they can be found,
Playing with their band mates and
selling out gig dates.

Juno's Pigeon

Juno Pigeon, Germany

Soaring like a pigeon, up in the sky
Soaring like a pigeon, I can fly.
Soaring like a pigeon, up on the roof
Falling down, they think "Oof!"
I say, so many pigeons around today!

<< One Day at a Time (detail) | Martin Cole 2024



Cryptic Puzzle #033

CHICO AND CHEUGY BOOMER

Chat, let's log in to this vibe puzzle drop. It's valid sauce, no cap! See that orphan clue? Absorb the drip, totally slapping into those Gucci shaded squares! Peep

the dinkus if you're craving inspo!

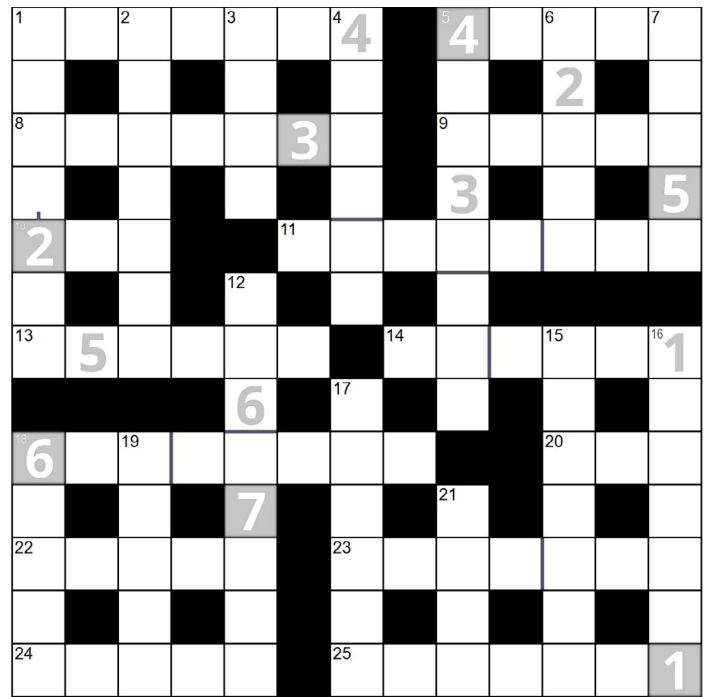
Vibe: DaFuq!? Boom! Video's Idiot Bile skit went off (7,6)

Across

- 1 Horrible drug in numerous scoring opportunities (7)
- 5 Brother Adam's son in cacophony (5)
- 8 Cartman follows Alpha, perhaps standard (7)
- 9 In accordance with how dupes go (5)
- 10 Forest dweller in IKEA topless (3)
- 11 Promising blend of Finn and Thai (5,3)
- 13 Threw by seven to end evenly (6)
- 14 Broken yacht takes over online greeting (2,4)
- 18 Extremely bad Grade Two rebuild (3,5)
- 20 Questionable in disuse (3)
- 22 Run for Top End in total love affair (5)
- 23 Concerning singly trustworthy person (4,3)
- 24 Famous part of Arduino TED Talk (5)
- 25 Babies ordered by Rome and Head of State (7)

Down

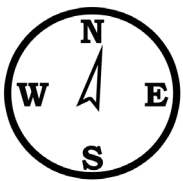
- 1 Intensely audible greeting vital (4-3)
- 2 Weight got Anne upset (7)
- 3 Do food fair, they say (4)
- 4 Securing endless focus (4,2)
- 5 Stupid shit supporter I ripped up (5,3)
- 6 Start up hotel cubicle (5)



- 7 Authentic run off (5)
- 12 Die great, possibly be ignored? (3,5)
- 15 Sites visited subject to study (7)
- 16 Bollocks! Run inside to get samples (7)
- 17 Jade green has intensity (6)
- 18 Pulled bedroom up on point (5)
- 19 After 1000, mob stop returning calls (5)
- 21 Doctor's note before someone you're fond of (4)

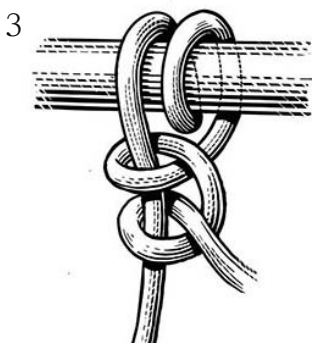
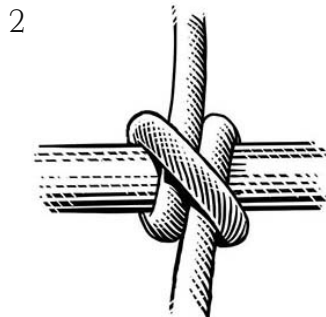
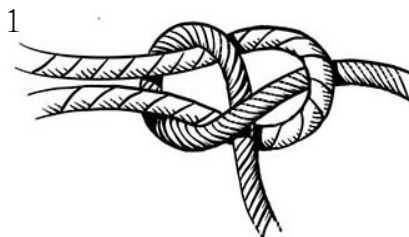


Online interactive version of this puzzle



BotEtiket - Knots

CYBELE SHORTER



Q1 Match each knot picture with the correct name.

- ☐ Round turn and two half hitches
- ☐ Bowline
- ☐ Clove Hitch
- ☐ Sheet Bend

Q2 Match each problem to the knot

- ☐ Can't be made or undone while under tension.
- ☐ Can be very difficult to untie
- ☐ Can work loose when not under load.
- ☐ Difficult to tie in the middle of a long line.

Q3 Match each knot with its use.

- ☐ Lashing a line under even tension
- ☐ Joining two ropes together
- ☐ Making a loop in the end of a line
- ☐ Lashing a line under intermittent tension.

Answers on page 16

Local Business Directory

Let our advertisers know you saw them in the Mullet Mail.

Funds raised through advertisements go towards the production and printing of the Mullet Mail.

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Advertise here for \$100 - printed in our Spring and Autumn edition plus on the League website for a year.
Enquiries: treasurer@dangarislandleague.com

Join the Mullet Mail team.

Looking for content creators (writers or collectors) who are interested in growing our community building network.

We also need help with important details like putting up posters or letting us know about local businesses that want to advertise.

Young people and new residents welcome, as well as our salty stalwarts of the community.

Quarterly editions. Communication either face to face or by online chat, meetings with beer and pizza not unlikely.

Chat with one of the team for more information.

This publication is also sponsored by the generosity of the Dangar Island League and Fire Brigade.



Digital colour editions and archives are available on the league website

Botetket Answers
01:3,4,2,1; 02:4,2,1,3; 03:2,1,4,3



The Mullet Mail team are:

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