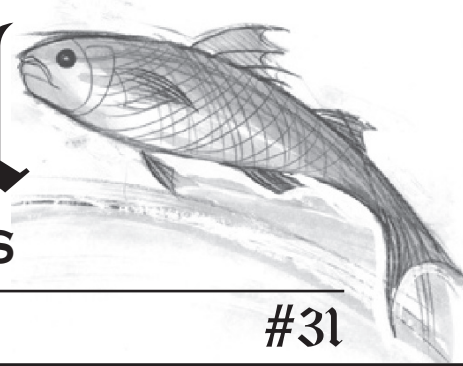




Mullet Mail

NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESIDENTS



www.dangarislandleague.net

Spring 2010

#31

DANGAR ISLAND LEAGUE INC PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to Spring !

We've all made it through another beautiful winter, with the requisite amount of spectacular bio-luminescence in the river – one of the many joys of living here.

The League has been active on a number of issues. These include placement of some benches around the island, the closing of the Police Station in Brooklyn, use of the water tank on the top of the island, the proposed pathway from Kangaroo Point to Parsley Bay, as well as supporting others in their endeavours (the Hall Committee in its stand with the Council, etc). Come to the AGM to hear details!

The primary issue taking much of our effort is still that of water access. As you know, we established a group to look into the 3 main areas of water access, and how we could resolve them with a single solution. These are the need for a handicap accessible wharf on the island, some public wharf space for the boating public to allow them to visit the island for short periods, and a mechanism to provide a wharf based mooring structure for residents of the island to park their tinnies.

In February we polled the island residents and found strong interest and support from residents on this topic. Since then we have pursued the development of a design acceptable to the residents and relevant agencies. These agencies include Hornsby Shire Council, Maritime and the Department of Lands – the number of Government groups involved makes this a challenge. In addition, we have initiated some discussion on what sort of structure is appropriate for us to “manage” the residents’ parking spots. I’ll use the term ‘co-op’ in general for this and we are currently looking at a modified version of the model used for Brooklyn, but with substantial changes to match our obviously different requirements.

We are still in discussion with these groups but we ARE making progress. At October’s AGM we will present the current status of the discussions as well as seek further input from residents and owners.

As we move towards establishing the structure to manage the residents’ tinny parking spots, it is VERY important for all interested owners and residents to be involved, express their views and know the options and impacts. Please try to attend the October AGM of the League, or submit your comments to me in advance at president@dangarislandleague.net.

In addition, we are keen to make sure we can contact all house owners during the establishment of this organization – there are a number we can’t easily contact. If you are one (or you know the owner of the house you rent or know of a neighbour whose mailing address we may not have) it would be great if you could let us know how to make contact.

Cheers, *Antony Schinck*

ANNOUNCEMENT

Andy and Vanessa are pleased to announce the very early arrival of Baby James Payne, born on Monday 9th August 2010 at 12:39pm, weighing a tiny 705g (1.5 lb in old speak) and 15 weeks early. At the time of writing he has ballooned to a massive 1300g.

He continues to grow and develop in Royal North Shore Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. We hope to have him home in time for Christmas.

A big thank you to you all for the love and support we have been shown by islanders during this very difficult time. And a special and heartfelt thank you to all who made donations to the RNS NICU on behalf of baby James.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

All of the stone jetties on the island were at one stage the sides to saltwater netted pools. During the height of their popularity in the 1950’s there were 13 such pools, including the well-known Dangar House ladies’ baths.

David Reynolds



Dangar House enclosed ladies’ swimming baths, 1911

HALL COMMITTEE REPORT

As many of you are aware, Hornsby Shire Council have been considering the centralisation of the management of all community halls and centres in the shire. The members of the Dangar Island Hall management committee (the committee) and many other members of the Dangar Island community disagree with this proposal as it would remove management responsibilities from the community and with it the flexibility and spontaneity of hall use that are so characteristic of our community.

In addition to expressing our views about the management of the hall at the various meetings to which committees were invited, we commissioned the preparation of a proposal for the management of our hall and collected signatures in support of this proposal.

Thank you to the 160+ members of the community and 30 visitors to the island who signed this petition. The signatures added weight to the proposal, which was very well received by councillors and council staff. If you would like to read the proposal you can request an electronic copy from Joanne Karcz (email bronekjok@bigpond.com).

If you would like to make a contribution towards the payment of the proposal (that we had prepared and submitted to council), please leave this in an envelope in the hall’s box at

15 Neotsfield Avenue. We will write a receipt for you, however, please note that these donations would not be tax deductible.

While the final decision about how all halls and centres will be managed is still pending, we anticipate that the outcome for our hall will be the one we have been arguing for as it is the best model for our community, ie the Dangar Island Hall will continue to be managed by a committee formed by members of the community.

And on this note, on Saturday 11th September we had the Hall AGM, which was very well attended. At this meeting we elected the management committee for the 2010-2011 period:

CHAIR – Wendy McMurdo
VICE-CHAIR – Miranda Dines
SECRETARY – Joanne Karcz
BOOKING OFFICER

– Michele Rumsey

(for bookings please call 0417933519)

TREASURER – Chabela Torres

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Christine Sargent, Jacquie Morgan, Jane Putt, Joan Merl, Phil Doggett

Thank you to the 2009-2010 outgoing committee members and to the new committee members.

And thank you to all in the community for your support to date and please continue to use the hall!

Chabela Torres

DANGAR ISLAND RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

The winter is almost over, and we are moving quickly into the warmer weather. For the Fire Brigade our concerns now move from (primarily) house fires to bush fires.



To that end we ask all residents to ensure that their property is prepared for the summer. This means removing or reducing the fuel levels around your property, clearing gutters etc. The Brigade has previously sent out leaflets about how to prepare your property. If you require another copy please contact us.

We thank all the residents who have reduced the fuel on their properties. We appreciate the hard work you have done and encourage you to keep fuel levels low.

The Brigade has sent out a survey

for all householders to complete and return to us. This survey will provide us with information to create a risk plan for the island and assist us to protect residents and

fire crew members in the case of a fire or other emergency event.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY AND RETURN TO US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

The completed survey can be dropped in the letterbox at the Fire Shed or in a mailbox at the Cafe.

The Brigade thanks you all for your ongoing support. If you wish to join us, and new members are always welcome, please come to the monthly meeting – the first Sunday of the month – at 0900.

Wally Bower, President
Peter Short, Captain



VOLUNTEER THANK YOU

The recent shop update mentioned our wonderful team of volunteers. The team and the tasks carried out by them are vast. It may seem a simple thing to run a small store, however we would not function without the time and huge effort continuously put in.

The tasks include weekly return of newspapers to Dons Boats; washing of tea towels and aprons; weekend manning of the BBQ; payment of accounts, wages; general bookkeeping and banking; the pick up and delivery of goods from various suppliers; plants and flowers continually changed and tended; foodstuffs created and supplied, as well as garden produce; assistance with washing up when busy; overseeing the changing artworks; running repairs and improvements; replacement of gas bottles; the work of the directors to keep it all on track.

In addition to these great people there are the donations of kitchen equipment and other goods. This is a wonderful community and the existence of the shop is an outstanding example. A very appreciative thanks to all of those involved.

Dangar Island Café & Shop

THANK YOU

We would like to thank Cybele Shorter for her excellent work on the Mullet Mail in the past. We all appreciate her efforts in producing this essential voice of the island - such is the work involved it was decided that two people should share the workload in future. We only hope we can maintain the lofty standards you have set Cybele. **A big THANK YOU from everyone!**

David Reynolds and Mel Anderson

BUSHCARE

Check what's bloomin'

Now in Bushcare's display window outside the shop doorway.

Welcome new residents, join us any time, we meet at 9am on the second Saturday of the month, Riverview Ave where the access track leads up to Kippara Reserve.

We are starting a photo project soon if any nature photographers would like to get involved. More info contact Cybele -7142

WHAT WOULD YOU CALL IT?

Towards the end of June a bright artwork appeared overnight near our home on the western side of Riverview Avenue. A colourful knitted 'sock' had been sewn around the street pole. Called by some 'guerrilla knitting', I prefer the term that Ana uses - 'soft art'. Cheerful stripes with differing textures and glistening tapes blowing in the wind, the artwork provides pleasure to all who walk past. It has also caused a bit of intrigue.

As people walking around the Island turn the corner, they are surprised by the sudden appearance of colour. Visitors gather around the installation to have their photo taken, exclaiming "I love it!" and "wow". Others touch and stroke it, checking that it is real.

Many would love to know who the artist is. Some have their suspicions, but so far the artist remains unknown. Whoever you are, thanks for bringing a bit of pleasure to those of us who enjoy a walk around the 'top loop'.

Joanne Karcz

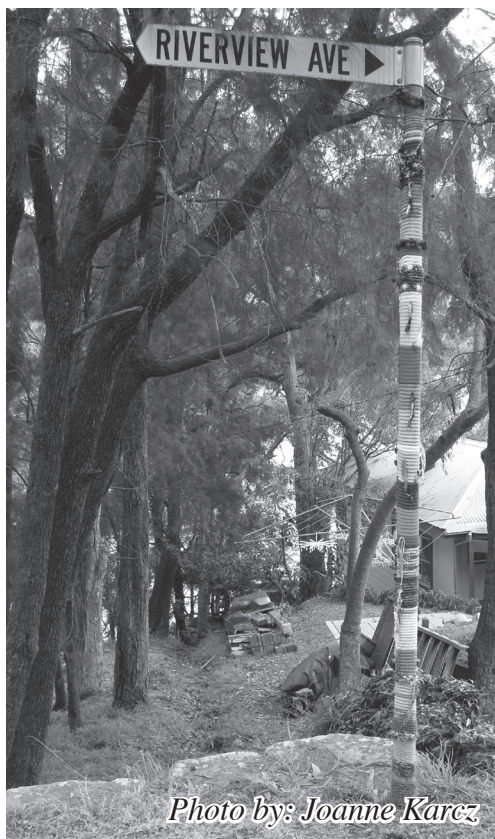


Photo by: Joanne Karcz

DANGAR ISLAND BOWLING CLUB



BOWLING: Dangar Island bowlers recently represented the club at the Shire Cup played at Pennant Hills BC. DIBC finished a very good 5th with 2 wins. Well done the ten Dangar bowlers wearing our new uniform and filled with new spirit. Thanks to Andy Payne for his generosity regarding our new shirts and excellent bowls captaincy.

OCTOBERFEST: Sunday October 3 at Dangar Island Bowling Club from 12:30pm. Sausage sizzle, music and of course German beers. The HOME BREW COMPETITION is also on so if you have a brew of your own to enter for the competition bring it with you on the day for the judges to assess.

The NRL Grand Final is also on at 5pm. Come down for a great family afternoon.

OPEN MIC NIGHT: Always on the first Friday of each month, October 1 is the next night. Come up and enjoy free local talent and socialise with friends and our wonderful community.

Information for members and their guests.

REMEDIAL MASSAGE

MOBILE MASSAGE AVAILABLE ON-ISLAND!

With more than 10 years' experience working in the eastern suburbs of Sydney, Catriona is a fully qualified remedial massage therapist and naturopath.

Sports-style deep tissue, lymphatic treatment, and relaxing therapeutic massage are all available.

**FOR ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS
PHONE 0408 259 403
Health Fund Rebates Available**



The Daq is back!

ROCKY HORROR COCKTAIL PARTY

Top off our tenth year with one of our legendary cocktail parties. Do the time warp, anticipate the velvet darkness. Grab a sweet chilled Mango Dacquiri from the Frank-n-Furter Bar. Come up to the lab and see what's on the slab: one year membership, two FREE cocktails, finger food and a good night out for just \$30.

Dress in character and perform a Rocky Horror song or scene. Prizes for best dressed and for best performance.

Saturday 6th November 2010
TICKET SALES NOW online
www.difs.net

As our 10th year concludes we reflect on some achievements. We screened our first movie direct from the internet - *The Harder They Come* via mubi.com, showed three magical animated features for the littlies, *Kirikou et la Sorciere*, *Yellow Submarine* and *Spirited Away*. We thank three first-time programmers in David and Jenny Turner, Skye Goold and Philip Doggett, and remember we welcome any and all programming suggestions from our members.

While you read this a dozen of our local kids are deep into the 6th DIFS Film Workshop. Professionally facilitated and funded by our members, Hornsby Shire Council, and local businesses, the workshop is a fantastic fun and creative project that teaches the kids valuable skills for our multimedia world. You'll see the results at our Gala Premiere later in the year.

We're negotiating a Brooklyn event to round off the year - Ron Fricke's *Baraka* with a live soundtrack at The Edge.



Photo by: Michael Egan

THE GREAT ART AUCTION

On Saturday 4th September a crowd of Dangar residents gathered at the Bowling Club for the Art Auction and Chair Sale in support of dining room refurbishments. An hour later every chair had been sold and all the generously donated artworks had found new homes on the island. **All told around \$10,000 was raised!**

On behalf of the Bowling Club, Tony and myself I wish to extend my warmest thanks to Michael (pictured) for organising such an awesome event and to all the contributing artists for their generosity and support. Thanks must also go to Tim, our effervescent auctioneer, and to everyone who bid with such gusto.

With these funds in place the facelift we have planned for the dining room is now in progress in time for our grand re-opening on Friday 15th October.

Gareth Tillson

Farewell Cassandra

You came to me as troubled thought,
My mind in torment still.
You gave me comfort from your touch
As with the words you did employ
Not now in jest but telling scorn.
A dangerous game I cried.
What profit in the raking
Of a fire that has died.
A warning still unheeded
As you did fan the flames.
Of enmity and distrust
Alone did you proclaim.
The people rose against you
They would not have your name.
The words that oft were spoken
Were as tinder to the flame.
And from this conflagration
All thoughts now dissipate
To lie both cold and lifeless
As mute ashes in a grate.

Bruce Lambert

Letters to the Editor...



Dear Sirs,
I wish to complain in the strongest possible terms.
Yours faithfully,
Dinsdale Trelawney
Dangar Island

**next MM issue
summer 2010**