



Mullet Mail

NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESIDENTS

Vol. #79 Spring 2023

www.dangarislandleague.com



Gunyah Point, 2021, Angus Fisher. Charcoal on paper

*We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this country.
Always was, always will be, indigenous land.
Together we care for our island and river, for the future!*

Contents:

Powerful Owls, & Zombies, Voices on the Voice,
Islands & Cabaret, Puzzle, quiz & community news.



Our membership fee increased to \$15 p.a. on 1st July. Memberships paid using the old \$10 recurring payment plan will be cancelled at their expiry date. Members will, at expiry, receive an email from me, asking them to take out an

automatically renewable membership using the new \$15 plan. Credit card details will be securely stored in Square, and will not be accessible to anyone in the League.

The League spends funds raised from membership fees on: Web hosting (www.dangarislandleague.com), email hosting (regular information sent to over 180 subscribers), printing the Mullet Mail, hiring the community hall for public meetings, and Fair Trading registration.

If you live on Dangar Island and are on our email subscription list, without being a financial member, please support the work of the League by going onto our website and taking out a membership - click on the 'Memberships' button on the home page. It's easy.

Easier still, you can scan the QR code printed here. >>

Brenda Hall, Treasurer DIL
treasurer@dangarislandleague.com



Mullet Mail Fundraiser

Only \$20

Tea towel, "Other Side Up" features snippets from our archive.

Great gift for visitors to remember their good times here. OR grab some in time for 2023 Christmas gifting.

Funds raised help to keep the Mullet Mail in print.

send orders to:
mulletmail2020@gmail.com

Join the League membership online. Follow the QR Code.

QR code address:
www.dangarislandleague.com/league-membership



Caring for wildlife

Spring is a time for fledglings and baby possums. If you are a cat owner, spring is a time to keep your cats indoors and make sure you feed any birds out of reach of your cat. Remember that your cats are safer inside away from possible fights with other cats. Have a cat curfew from sunset to sunrise and after bad weather, both high risk times for birds and possums.

Summer this year is likely to have longer and hotter heatwaves, so if you plan to get a bird bath for birds to drink and cool themselves, or have one already, here are a few tips:

Place the bird bath in dappled shade as birds need cool water.

Replace the water every day or so and clean it regularly as birds use this to drink and bathe in.

Position your bird bath so birds can observe it from surrounding areas before bathing and make sure there are dense shrubs or trees close by that birds can escape to if necessary.

Ensure the bath is beyond the reach of cats - hang it from a tree or on a pedestal if cats are around.

If your bird bath is deep or has a smooth interior (such as a glazed pot), place pebbles, a stick or a brick in it so that if a bird falls in it is able to grip on and climb out.

If you are going away ask a neighbour to add water, so your birds don't lose their water supply.

The tick season on Dangar Island has started with a few human hosts already. To help avoid getting ticks when bushwalking rub 100% tea tree or eucalyptus oil on your wrists, ankles, waistline and neck. In the interests of wildlife and your pets it's best to keep your pet out of bushland.

Ana Pollak, Environmental Representative, Dangar Island League

Secret Life Of Powerful Owls

Georgia Cameron

It was a full house at the Brooklyn Meeting Room on Sunday 23 July for the 'Secret Life of Powerful Owls' presentation.

Ingrid Segovia, Vice President of the Brooklyn Community Association, opened the event with an Acknowledgement of Country, introducing the first speakers Georgia Cameron and Michael Bianchino, author and photographer of the 'Mikey the Powerful Owlet' books.

Georgia revealed interesting information on Australia's largest owl, with a wingspan of 140cm, that resides across the Bushland Shire and visits the river communities. She also outlined how locals could help this threatened species by protecting mature trees with hollows, planting native trees and shrubs and saying NO to second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs).

Michael entertained the audience with original owl-inspired music including a sing-along to 'When the owls come flying in'. He also relived the remarkable rescue, rehabilitation and release story of prematurely fledged Powerful Owlet 'Bethany' from Byles Creek Valley.

They were accompanied by 'Budawa' the preserved *Ninox strenua* specimen who was a victim of roadkill in their local area last October. She is now utilised for educational and fundraising purposes, so people can get 'up close and personal'.

BirdLife Australia's Project Officer Jenny Zvolanek spoke about the Powerful Owl Project and the important role citizen scientists play in monitoring the population across the Sydney basin. She highlighted the fragmentation of their habitat and encouraged participants to report Powerful Owl sightings (including white-wash, pellets and 'woo-hoo' calls in the night) to the Project.

Ana Rubio, Sydney Wildlife Rescue volunteer, outlined their rescue and rehabilitation service

and urged attendees to contact their 24/7 rescue line (02) 9413 4300 if they come across sick, injured or orphaned native wildlife.

Following the Q&A session Ana Pollak, Dangar Island League Environmental Representative, wrapped up by asking locals to protect the living world.

Everyone had a hoot and the event raised \$120 for Sydney Wildlife Rescue's Northern District branch and BirdLife Australia's Powerful Owl Project.

Follow QR codes for more information on the following:

Birdlife >>

Australia's powerful owl project



<< Sydney Wildlife Rescue

and the book >>

'Mikey the powerful owlet'



Runaway Powerful Owlets in Byles Creek Valley | Photo: Michael Bianchino. Insets from top: Georgia Cameron presenting in Brooklyn, with Michael Bianchino and Budawa the preserved *Ninox strenua*

Dangar Apocalypse

Gus Walsh

For seven years, Dangar Apocalypse has been a passion project of mine, a novel that started from a rudimentary writing prompt in school when I was 10 years old, back in 2017. It snowballed into a complex and exponentially evolving universe.

It began as a fun zombie adventure from my perspective, with Theo and Zephyr as side characters. I knew I enjoyed writing, but it wasn't until I finished the five-page draft in class that I realised it was my life's calling.

I published it on WordPress, kept writing, and made three sequels, and a prequel. This book, Dangar Apocalypse, is the adapted and finalised cut of that prequel.

Through the years, I have redone this book at least a million times, refining and maturing my writing until it has produced this satisfactory standard. It has been long and painful.

Regardless, it's done, it's out. You may know its origin, yet you have no clue what Dangar Apocalypse is. I could copy and paste the blurb if you want. Nah.

This book is a zombie apocalypse set on Dangar Island. It's about friendship and lost connections. It's about impurity and insecurity. Every detail of my childhood has been jammed into these characters, their struggles, their triumphs, and their irrational decisions. It encompasses me, though it also encompasses my connection with the island. With the traditions: Dangardigras, chess club, jumping off the wharf, Easter egg hunts, kayaking, walking along the island's edge, exploring the Reserve, and everything in between.

Recently, I discovered that it also acts as a homeostasis chamber for my childhood; it contains my friends I love and talk to, those I am estranged from, and those who moved away years ago. And yet they're all vivid and present in my book series. I was naive to think my friends wouldn't grow, and as such the characters no longer reflect them, instead forming a manifestation of my optimised perception of them in our friendship.

I lost all these friends because I didn't realise they would change.

Similarly, Aidan Jones was once called Gus Walsh. The story's protagonist has all my memories, all my experiences, my thoughts and fears, my friends, and my outlooks. However, he too is different from me in a dangerous context, which you would discover.

People change, and that's okay. That's what makes this book so special. That's why I love romanticising my story in the context of the song *Apocalypse* by Cigarettes After Sex. Chaos and anarchy are the greatest fears of our generation. Yet, both develop a sense of prosperity and freedom, which is why I often fantasise about living in my book, in the 'perfect apocalypse' (listen to the song and you'll understand).

But let me circle back to the point.

Dangar Apocalypse is the saved universe of my perfect friendships, a memoir of my childhood, an exploration of Dangar's soul, aaaaand a zombie apocalypse with an alien invasion, clones, prophetic visions, government secrets, powerful deities, mixed with a ton of gore, cursing, death, a touch of romance, and violence.

How the hell does that all mix together? You'll just have to find out...

Search Dangar Apocalypse online, and a variety of retailers will have purchase options.



A launch date on Dangar Island will occur at some point in late September to early October, so stay tuned for details.

WARNING: This is not a children's book; its intended audience is 14+. Do not let anyone younger read this book.

If you have any queries about the book, you can contact me through these means:

Number: 0490708712

Email: guswalsh67@gmail.com

Dangar Apocalypse map Illustration by Gus Walsh

Other Islands

Lila San Roque

The Solomon Islands is a country of more than 900 islands, including the remote Duff Islands group lying to the east. In my work at the Australian National University, I have recently been able to listen to a new collection of oral history and daily life recordings from Solomon Islanders. In one of them, Nester Karen, speaking with Miriam Zeke, talks about the customs of her home island, in the Duff Island group, Taumako. Nester and Miriam have given their permission to share excerpts of this hour-long talk with the Dangar Island community. The recording covers many topics, including customs, daily life, education, cultural tensions, and the Polynesian history of the Duff islanders. The original was made in Solomon Islands Pijin, transcribed and translated into English by Miriam, in collaboration with Dr Bethwyn Evans (ANU) and the Kulu Language Centre in Honiara.

Okay today I am going to tell you about how my island, its development how it looks and how its people live there. I come from one remote island from Temotu province, my island's name is Duff Island. We call it Taumako. Our island is not really big, there are two larger islands and one small island, and we live on two larger islands one is called Ngauta and the other is called Tahua. We have a history with those in Hawaii.

Our island is on the Eastern side, near to Vanuatu, and it is very remote, we don't see any islands close by. We travel by boat and by ship. Every time we travel it takes us a week or two, so we experience some challenges, especially in preserving food when travelling. Sometimes when we travel we have preserved food like nambo that is made from breadfruit, which we grow on our islands, where we usually have gardens, and marine foods like fish, which is one of our main foods. Now we travel to our home using only outboard motor, before we used to travel in our traditional canoe which some of you might know, this canoe which is called Te Puke, which sailed in 2000 to Vanuatu (see links below).

We usually experience natural disasters like cyclones and big winds. When there is a cyclone and we know in advance, we move on to the higher grounds

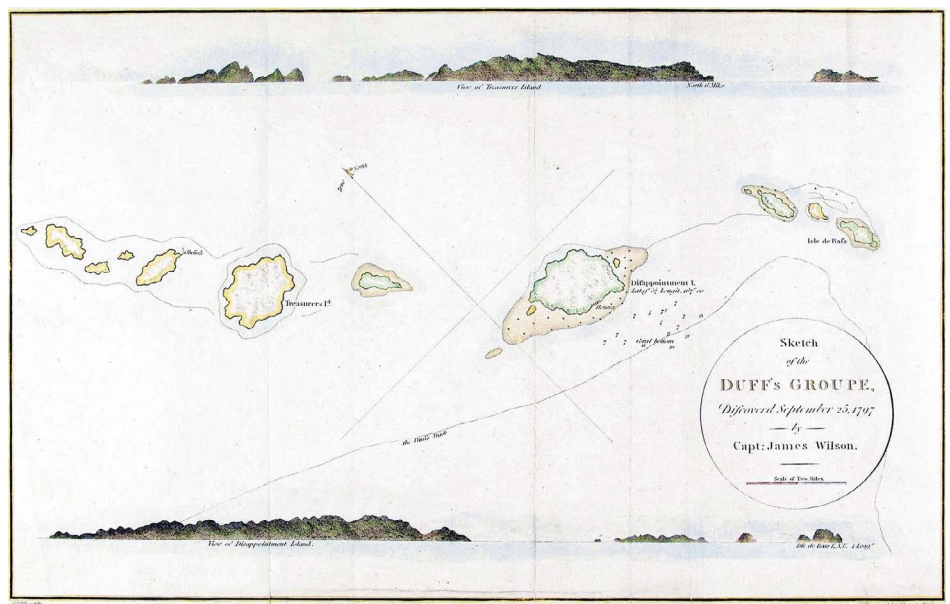
because if the sea rises high it can get to the places we live. When I was little my grandfather was a paramount chief at home, he would use local traditional methods to control the sea. If he sees the high tide and that it will destroy our place, he would go to the sea shore and he would take lime and put it on a branch. He will point it to where the big wind comes from, and we would see that the clouds start to disappear. And he would take the same tree and put it in the sea to decrease the destruction of the big tide. So that is how we live because it is hard to make strong walls to keep away the big waves.

A traditional thing that we practice at home is arranged marriage, it is planned by the parents. Then when the wife of the man is about to have a child all the people in the village will not know about it and we have a way to tell, so that all the people in the village or island will know. The boy's side will feed pigs and make gardens, then they will kill the pigs and will share this with everyone on the island. Then people will ask themselves why are they sharing this food, because everyone will not know what is happening yet. Only the boy's family will share the food because his wife is having a baby. So then everyone in the island will know that that family are having a new member in their family.

Then, after sharing the food we wait till it reaches the child's nine months. After nine months of having the child they will have to feast again and they will sing, during the night they will sing cultural songs, they call it longihauki. It means they are singing for a newborn baby.

Then they will sing and each of them have their own song to sing for the newborn baby. They will sing until morning and they will also feed the people who come to see her.

Continued on next page



Taumako (Duff Island Group), Solomons, 1797. Map from Wikipedia

After the baby is born, the woman who has delivered the child, she will stay and when the baby's cord falls off, we are going to have another feast with food. They will get the cord and they will go and feed it to the fish. The baby's relative will prepare food and will decide on which tribe we will give the cord to? This will be the selected tribe we will give it to. Then that tribe will get the baby's cord and they will go fishing. They will go fishing and any fish that they catch first, they will feed it with the cord of the baby. They will open the mouth of the fish, then they will put the cord of the baby inside and they will free the fish. They will talk to the fish saying you, you are this child. We want the little baby to grow up and they must have good behaviour, they must have a good attitude like you the fish. So you will see that when the child grows up he will follow the fish.

So it is one part of our culture, and we still keep that culture until today. Our island is a small island but we still maintain our culture because it is important and it is our identity. Before I complete my story, I thank you for having this time for me to share some stories about my island. Our cultures and our places unite us in some ways. Whatever I have shared, maybe it will be important to you or not, but I think that you can pick something that is new to you. Then you learn from what I have shared now, and I thank you very much.

oceanpeople.org.taumako >>

vaka.org >>

Find out more



Bin Art

Pippa Naivasha

When Alan and I arrived to occupy our newly acquired house at Bronnie's Beach in December 2016 we were somewhat taken aback to discover that we were arriving at the same moment as a massive number of large plastic garbage bins were being scattered around the island by Hornsby Council. They were decidedly in a state of disarray and one of my first impressions of our new home was that residents seemed to be very upset. Many were angry that the aesthetic of our beautiful little island was being savaged by plastic. Gradually the rubbish receptacles found their place and we all adjusted, grumbling as we did so. Alan and I had never known anything else, but could tell life on the island without them would previously have been a lot more attractive. Many people, including ourselves, built stands and managed to accommodate them and they gradually became a little less offensive as we had no choice but to accept their presence.

Bindigenous Art stickers brighten up Riverview: Snake, Echidna and Tree

Over time a few clever people have painted artistic designs on their bins, and during the last few months I have been impressed to see a small but growing trend for colourful Aboriginal designs to appear on some others. I was struck by how attractive they looked as I passed by, so I researched the source and purchased some online myself.

I recently attached three colourful *Bindigenous Art* stickers of a snake, an echidna and a beautiful tree to our bins and they were instantly transformed. I think they look fantastic.

I would like to encourage every resident on the island to invest in some bin art and do the same. If we were all to cover our bins with an art piece, either hand painted or with a well designed sticker, I think our island would be aesthetically uplifted.

Please accept the challenge to make Dangar Island even more beautiful and make your contribution to the creation of a community mobile art gallery.



Late Winter Siren

Island residents may have been woken in the early hours on Friday the 12th of August by the Dangar fire shed siren. Big thanks to the volunteers who rushed to the station to render assistance, but in this instance, it was a false alarm due to a faulty switch mechanism that has subsequently been repaired by Council.

The triggering of the siren did however bring to the brigade's attention that newer residents on the island may not be aware of the fire shed siren's existence or function.

Except for a brief test at 0900 on the first Sunday of each month the Dangar fire shed siren is designed to notify brigade volunteers of a fire emergency on the island. It is usually triggered by brigade members as a back-up to existing electronic communications but can be used by members of the public *only if there is no feasible*

way either directly or indirectly to contact 000 emergency operators.

In all cases where you need assistance from **emergency services, please contact 000 as your first point of call.** This triggers a centrally co-ordinated emergency escalation to island based volunteers from the Dangar Island Rural Fire Brigade and/or for first aid assistance the Community First Responders.

Get Ready Weekend

Thanks not only to brigade volunteers who gave up their time to man (or woman) our Get Ready Weekend stall at the ferry shed on the 17th of September, but also those of you who took the time to drop by to discuss your personal Bushfire Plan. If you missed out on the day or would like any advice on the upcoming fire season, please message us on our Facebook page.

National recognition for one of our own.

The brigade is proud to recognise Martin Lloyd's receipt of the Australian Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal. The award is a national award presented to those who perform humanitarian service in a foreign country, in particular those working in dangerous environments. Martin was eligible for this award through his work during the 2017 Canadian RFS deployment fighting devastating wildfires in British Columbia with 50 other Australian volunteers. Martin regularly puts his island life on hold to join RFS strike teams all over NSW and beyond. Canada was Martin's first overseas deployment but in his own words he would do it all again. Thank you, Martin for your on-going commitment to the service and our community.

Josh Ginty,
Community Engagement, Dangar Island Rural Fire Brigade



Martin Lloyd (left) accepting his AHOS Medal from Matt O'Donnell NSW RFS (right)

Bin Stickers

Genevieve Ginty

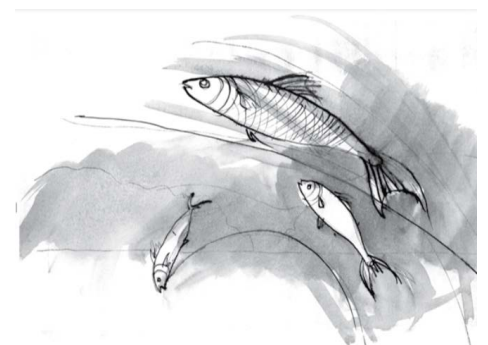
Further to Pippa's bin art challenge, I was recently asked if I would be interested in providing some photographs as stickers for the bins on Dangar Island.

It would be great if we had a

variety of stickers to celebrate the diversity of artists on the island, whilst also helping the street view.

I have obtained quotes and think that we can accommodate a number of designs without blowing out costs too much.

If anyone else is interested in taking part in this project, please contact me on 0419 016 140.





Spring

The cooler months have seen some wonderful events happen at the Club – perhaps most notably our Winter Cabaret Fundraiser show.

With Musical Director Pete Godbolt at the helm, this was a magical night of performance harnessing the utterly astonishing array of talent we have on Dangar Island.

There are too many to thank here, but this really was a massive team effort from dozens of people.

As many of you will know, owing to current financial pressures, we will be changing the way we present our ticketed weekend concerts. Please be aware that all events will have a fixed ticket price and everyone attending will need to book. Members of the Club will have access to a discounted price for all shows and if any Islander would like to volunteer for a couple of hours on show days, they can attend events for free. Email dangarsunplash@gmail.com if you'd like to register.

We have some incredible shows coming up:



The Sauerkrauts coming Sunday 1st Oktobefest

Sunday 1 Oct – OKTOBERFEST w/ The Sauerkrauts

This wonderful day includes the famous brewing competition where the Dangar Island and Lower Hawkesbury brewers engage in fierce competition, The Viking will be at the BBQ cooking the authentic wurst, delicious schnitzels will be flying out of the Club kitchen, the Community Garden will come alive with market stalls featuring arts, crafts and delicious delicacies from our island community, and we'll enjoy live entertainment from the hilarious masters of Teutonic revelry

THE SAUERKRAUTS. We'll also have a carefully curated selection of fabulous guest European beers. Make sure you book early because we traditionally reach capacity quickly for this event! Oktoberfest ist sehr gut, ja?



Dog Trumpet coming Sunday 29th October

Sunday 29 Oct – Dog Trumpet

Dog Trumpet features Reg Mombassa and Peter O'Doherty - original members of iconic ARIA award winning and Hall of Fame band Mental As Anything. Back in the day, the Mentals had a worldwide hit with *Live it Up*. Their songwriting contributions to the Mentals include *Berserk Warriors*, *Egypt*, *Brain Brain*, *Apocalypso*, *Surf and Mull* and *Sex and Fun*, *Close Again* and *Psychedelic Peace Lamp*.

Dog Trumpet also includes Bernie Hayes on bass and Jim Elliot (Cruel Sea) on drums and will be showcasing the new album *Shadowland* along with Dog Trumpet and Mentals favourites.

We may also have a spring menu and wine list introduced by the time you read this, which are two more reasons support your local club!

Steve Griffiths

President, DIBC Board

QR Codes for booking events.

Sauerkrauts 1st October >>



<< Dog Trumpet 29th October

Find us online at: dangarislandbowlingclub.com
Follow us on Facebook: [/dangarislandbowlingclub](https://www.facebook.com/dangarislandbowlingclub)
Email us at: dibc@email.com

Winter Cabaret 2023

Photos by Joe McLean

Clockwise from top:- Graham Morey, Abby Fetzer, Angela Brinn, Gwen Brock, Sadie La Salle aka Dale Killick, and Steve Griffiths.





"Recognition is not achieved by fine sounding words and feel-good statements but by promising to listen. There is a huge and stubborn gap between the health, education and opportunities of indigenous and non-indigenous Australians. That yawning gap is unfair and diminishes us all. By saying yes to a voice and listening to it, we can tackle these problems in a more effective way. And fairness cuts both ways. Having a voice gives people a responsibility as well as agency. Being involved with decisions that impact your life brings with it accountability for the outcomes."

- Paul Kelly

The Voice to Parliament – FAQs

Kathy Merrick

What is the Voice to Parliament?

The Voice will be a new body called 'the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice' which will provide advice to the federal government on matters relating to the social, spiritual and economic wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Voice will be an advisory body. It will not have the power to overrule parliament, or impose its own decisions on government.

What vote is required to get the Constitution changed?

The referendum will only be successful if a 'double majority' votes 'yes' to the proposed change to the constitution to establish 'the Voice'. A double majority is a majority of voters across Australia, as well as a majority of voters in at least 4 out of the 6 states.

I am not indigenous. Why does my vote matter on an issue that doesn't really affect me?

Australia is home to the world's oldest living cultures. Recognising this in our Constitution is a way to celebrate our shared history. Voting 'Yes' is an act of reconciliation.

The Voice came from the Uluru Statement from the Heart, the largest consensus of First Nations peoples on a proposal for substantive recognition in

Australian history. The Uluru Statement from the Heart is an invitation to the Australian people from First Nations Australians, which asks all Australians to walk together to build a better future. Voting 'Yes' is a way to take up that invitation.

Will the Voice to parliament be enough? If I think that more should be done to recognise our First Nations people, should I vote no?

The Voice is a way of recognising our First Peoples that is both symbolic and practical. In practice, it will help the government to make better informed decisions affecting our First Nations people, and has the potential to make a real, positive difference.

The referendum is an important opportunity to make progress. History won't distinguish between a progressive 'No' or a hard 'No'. 'No' is voting for the status quo, which to date has not worked terribly well, when it comes to decisions affecting our First Nations people.

Whether or not the Voice can achieve what its proponents hope, its defeat would represent a repudiation of any commitment to recognise the deep historical injustices that underpin Indigenous inequality.

Does the Voice conflict with the democratic concept that all citizens should have equal rights and obligations?

No. All liberal democracies accept the need to make allowance for relevant difference in public policy. The important difference here is that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are Australia's first peoples. They have their own laws and customs, they have encountered displacement and disruption as a result of colonialization, and they continue to face distinct challenges. The proposed referendum would give them a Voice to improve the quality of Australian government in relation to them.

Where can I get more information?

There is a lot of information and misinformation available.

The Australian Human Rights Commission has published a series of explainers (see QR)

Note: An investigation by The Guardian has identified that the sites listed in the 'No campaign' pamphlet are all operated by the same group, Advance. Advance is behind BOTH the conservative 'Referendum News -Vote NO' campaign, AND the 'progressive' 'The Voice is not enough - Vote NO' campaign. Advance has a history of working with organisations in the USA that specialise in conservative campaigning, and has links to the failed 2017 campaign to defeat the marriage equality vote.

For more information

The Australian Human Rights Commission

<https://humanrights.gov.au>



Voice in the wind

Craig San Roque

I've heard Aboriginal voices since I was 4 yrs old - voices in the yard of our house in Condobolin, western NSW, Wiradjuri people chatting, waiting to see the doctor - my father.

The front lawn was the waiting room. White folk waited on the verandah.

Sometimes I'd go with my dad, the doctor, visiting patients outside of town - on the Reserve - on the Lachlan River flood plain. I remember stepping up onto Mrs Goolagong's veranda, by the creek. She smiling a welcome, offering a biscuit. Yvonne Goolagong's grandparent generation.

Jude and I lived 30 years in Alice Springs - we know personally some hundreds of indigenous people - our children mingle, our families intersect with canny good sense, patience, generosity and wry good humour. We like that relationship. We listen to each other.

Some Dangar folk may have no direct experience of Aboriginal reality and may wonder about the truth. The truth is not simple; troubles do erupt from the relationship between black

and white. There are different sides to every story. Indigenous Australians are a fact of life. Recognition in the constitution is a logical step and an honest move.

As for advice to government on Indigenous affairs - Jude and I have sat in many government meetings where sound advice is carried through and a joint responsibility taken turns out OK. Things can be made to work with hard bitten common sense on both sides.

Such is life.

We give Voice a chance.



Dory, 2023, kaolin, clay and acrylic on marine ply, Craig San Roque

Fire in Country

Cybele Shorter

I recently went to Cairns for a gathering of traditional custodians interested in bringing back good fire to our land. Indigenous delegates came from all over Australia to revive fire knowledge and practice.

It's incredible to think that with no tankers, planes or computers indigenous fire technique kept people safe for 65 thousand years or more.

Here in only 200 years our mismanagement of the bush has reached new catastrophic emergencies that frighten us even in the cities.

Our first step for good fire is to know the land, understand the plants, follow the seasons, in real life not just on a calendar, and to care, really care about keeping balance.

Good fire gives light white smoke that creatures large and small can move away from to safety. Good fire doesn't need a bulldozed track to contain it.

But how do we gain the right knowledge for good fire? By listening. We need to start truly listening to the voices of those custodians connected to the land for so long.

Let's stop ignoring our own history and start learning about this place from the elders. Let's recognise the traditional custodians, give them our respect, ensure they are healthy and able to continue to care for country right way.



THE JOURNEY

Bruce Lambert

The small figure moves
inexorably forward.
Across the wasteland of despair
bestrewn with the hope of moving onward.

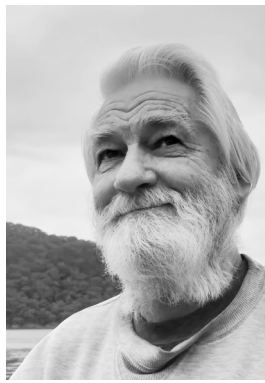
Slowly the shackles of self doubt
are shed like the carapace itself
A useful form of protection
though not when protecting from oneself.

Many and varied are the regrets
of actions not taken and words not said.
In the shifting sands of the wasteland
one might as well be dead.

But now the veil of gloom does lift
to reveal a happier time.
A chance perhaps the wasteland
is prepared to release its prime.

Our protagonist is torn
between the familiarity of despair
And the lightness of being
of a journey without care.

The small figure is suffused
in a miasma of the wasteland's spell.
Who amongst us can but say
in what dimension he now must dwell?



Jam and Warblers

Martin Lloyd

A quote from *The Sorrows of Satan* by Marie Corelli (1895) to honour our island musical adventures in Bowling Club verandah jam sessions and Warbler choir practice.

The music swelled into passionate cadence - melodies crossed and re-crossed each other like rays of light glittering among green leaves - voices of birds and streams and tossing waterfalls chimed in with songs of love and playful merriment; anon came wilder strains of grief and angry clamour; cries of despair were heard echoing through the thunderous noise of some relentless storm, farewells everlastingly shrieked amid sobs of reluctant shuddering agony; and then, as I listened, before my eyes a black mist gathered slowly, and I thought I saw great rocks bursting asunder into flame, and drifting islands in a sea of fire-faces, wonderful, hideous, beautiful, peered at me out of a darkness denser than night, and in the midst of this there came a tune, complete in sweetness and suggestion - a piercing, sword-like tune that plunged into my very heart and rankled there - my breath failed me, my senses swam, I felt that I must move, speak, cry out, and implore that this music, this horribly insidious music should cease ere I swooned with the voluptuous poison of it - when, with a full chord of splendid harmony that rolled out upon the air like a breaking wave, the intoxicating sounds ebbed away into silence. No one spoke - our hearts were yet beating too wildly with the pulsations roused by that wondrous lyric storm. Diana Chesney [aka Liz Nolf] was the first to break the spell. 'Well, that beats everything I've ever heard!' she murmured tremulously.



Want a change from change?
Get your convenient TravelTen card, with the 11th ride free, call 0499 935 103 for EFTPOS.

There are rare occasions when no volunteer driver is available to be rostered, or a driver may be running a little late. Please respect our drivers are doing their best for the community.

BE A BUGGY DRIVER!!

Want to join the easiest and biggest volunteer group on the island? Want to do something for your community?

More Drivers Always Wanted

All you need is a current NSW driver licence. Your commitment can be as little or as much as you can spare. Contact us if you are interested 0415 488 606.

Hours of operation:

Mon to Fri 8:30am - 7:30pm
Sat & Sun 9:00am - 5:30pm
Judy Nikola, Secretary, DIVMC

The Yellow Jug

and other stories



Photographs by Genevieve Ginty

5TH SEPTEMBER - 15TH OCTOBER
DANGAR ISLAND DEPOT



Welcome to our new volunteers! Tom and Marina Garvey, Chabela Torres, Lila San Roque, Graham Morey and Christian Moraleda. You may have seen them out and about with us for a familiarisation drive in MERV, or participating in a local orientation exercise.

These recruits are undergoing Ambulance NSW advanced first aid training at Point Clare. They have already attended two thirds of their training, and only have one more long-weekend in November to complete. They may join us on a real call-out and, with the patient's permission, practise their observations under supervision.

Why do we do observations? Simple checks help us build a set of symptoms to understand the patient's needs. **Temperature** may indicate a fever, or infection. **Pulse** might be racing, too slow or irregular—important to know. **Blood pressure** - what if it's too high, too low or unusual for this patient? We also measure **blood glucose** and **oxygen saturation**. Even **breathing** is an important indicator: how many breaths per minute? Effective? Is that a wheeze in the upper bronchioles or a crackle from the bottom of the left lung?

Our bible, the *NSW Ambulance Protocols & Pharmacology Manual*, tells us what's OK, and what's not, and it gives us the codes we need to complete our paperwork ... in triplicate.

Here's a quiz question:

Match the six observations we do regularly on a call-out, to the equipment shown in this photo.

Brenda Hall, CFR33 Dangar Island
brenda.hall458@gmail.com



Community First Responder Observation Equipment

Dangar Island



Professional Knife and Tool Sharpening

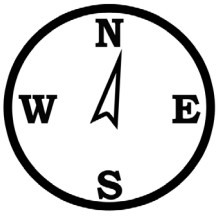
Contact Andy (builder) - 0424 265 522

I'm pleased to be able to offer up a new knife/tool sharpening service to the Island.

Using a Swedish technology system that slow grinds your knife/tool's blade on diamond stone in a water bath, then finished on a leather honing wheel for demurring and polishing.

This process results in an ultra sharp edge on your blades (beware!) This system is ideal for Japanese ,German and all other knives.

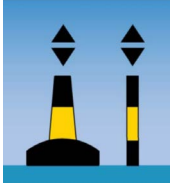
Type of Blade	Size (Blade Length)	Price
Pocket Knives	Up to 100 mm	\$10
Small Knives	100-160 mm	\$13
Medium Knives	160-250 mm	\$16
Large Knives	250 mm and over	\$20
Serrated Kitchen Knives	100 - 160 mm	\$15
	160 mm and over	\$20
Food Processor Blades	-	\$16
Cleavers	All Sizes	\$16
Chisels	All Sizes	\$13
Hand Planes	All Sizes	\$13
Scissors	Up to 80 mm	\$12
	80 mm and over	\$16
Axes	-	P.O.A
Gardening Shears	-	P.O.A
All Other Tools	-	P.O.A
Wood Turning Tools	-	P.O.A
Knife Repair	Blade Thining	P.O.A
	Tip Repair	P.O.A
	Handle Repair	P.O.A
	Chipped Blade Repair	P.O.A



Botetiket Challenge #005

Cybele Shorter

1 Looking at these cardinal navigation marks, where is the deeper water to drive your vessel?

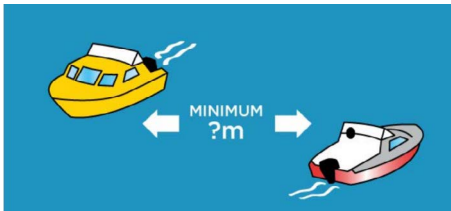


- A East
- B West
- C All around
- D North and South

2 When should you consider reducing the number of people on board your vessel from the maximum recommended on its Safety Label?

- A You don't need to think about the number of people on board
- B When boating in poor weather conditions or on open waters
- C Only when operating a commercial vessel
- D The more the merrier, specially if they have a carton of beer each.

3 When driving a powered vessel at 6 knots or more, what is the minimum safe distance you must keep from another vessel?



- A 10 metres
- B 20 metres
- C 30 metres or slow down to pass safely
- D 40 metres

4 When can NSW Police drug test you on NSW waterways?

- A Only when you are speeding and driving erratically
- B Only when you are involved in a collision
- C When you are driving a vessel
- D When you are in a vessel

Top Tips - Dave Lyons

Boating Safety Officer, RMS

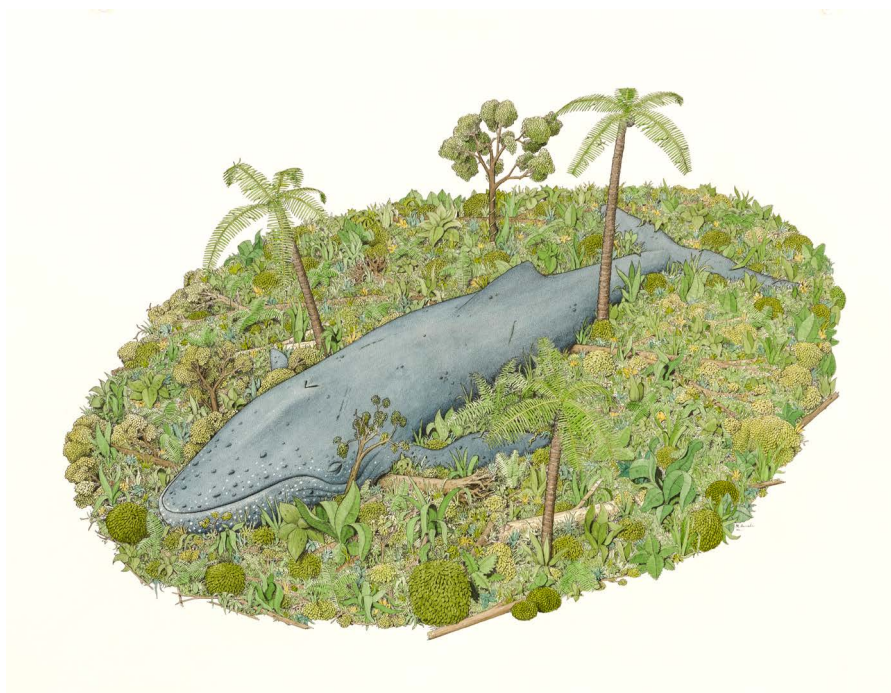
1. Vessel length less than 4.8 metres. This is an important number for commuters especially, as it determines whether a lifejacket must be worn (compulsory lifejacket wear). A lifejacket must be correctly worn by: a. Anyone under 12 years of age. b. When over 12 years of age if alone and c. all on board at night.

2. Whilst we're talking lifejackets, and with the proliferation of inflatable lifejackets, they must be serviced **yearly** (the date of service is to be recorded on the lifejackets service table) and worn correctly, simply snug and comfortable.

3. Lastly, another good number, **5.5**. If you're boat has an engine size of over 5.5 horsepower, regardless of its speed capability, it must be registered.

Remember, registration numbers at least 150mm high on **both** the port and starboard sides of the boat.

Botetiket Answers: 1A, 2B, 3C, 4C



Marajoe, from the Natural Order collection by Angus Fisher



Cryptic #025 by Chico

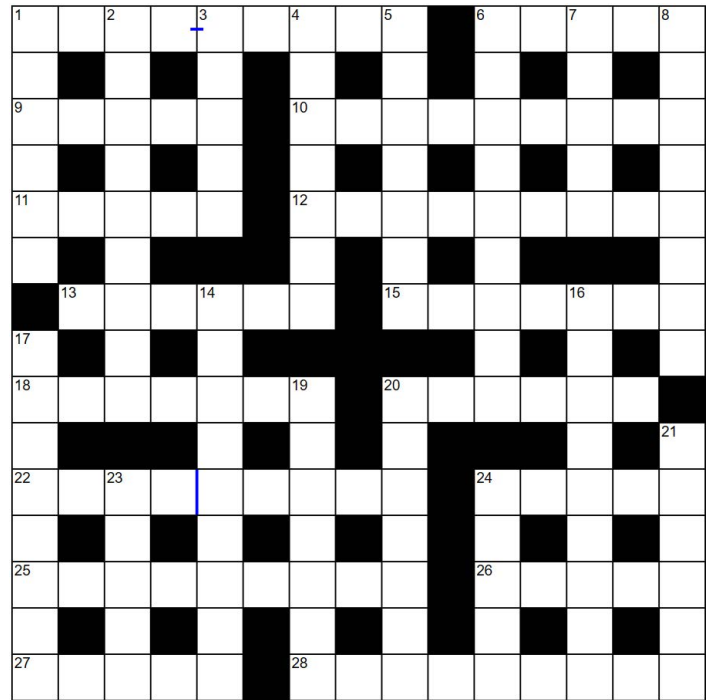
I like to throw in a Dangar-specific clue where I can, so I hope you're on board with that. As usual, follow the QR code to the online version of this puzzle, including reveals if you need, and give or get help on the Dangar Island Community Facebook page

Across

- 1 Comrades met at same helter skelter (4-5)
- 6 Aperture seen by scholar (5)
- 9 Head cook eats incredible starter (5)
- 10 Dairy product's around jug where drinks come from (9)
- 11 Is sick after five cancelled bypasses (5)
- 12 Conservative US campus backed dead judge (9)
- 13 Bejewel moon in workshop (6)
- 15 Many years as security (7)
- 18 Spares defences (7)
- 20 Maybe wearing larger undies (6)
- 22 Story about noble king that's hard to handle? (4,5)
- 24 Mature player originally employed by French FA (5)
- 25 Fruit packed with energy taken by tea blender (9)
- 26 Mrs Von Trapp's maiden song (5)
- 27 Shiny but for good compression, perhaps (5)
- 28 Recast rogue star's replacement (9)

Down

- 1 Sounds like second child returned home to University of Arizona (6)
- 2 It is manic! Crazy! Like Afro-Cuban religions (9)
- 3 Cakes to drop in fumbles (5)
- 4 Stood by as cuckoo took every second drug (7)
- 5 The last crook to display cunning (7)
- 6 Ancestor before insertion point (9)
- 7 Lead ballerina starts to pirouette right into my arms (5)
- 8 Auditor putting wrong entries under line (8)
- 14 ELO LP record finished, yes? (9)



- 16 Mount Tolstoy's heroine and pickup code (9)
- 17 Nice green calendar format's upright (8)
- 19 Stumped for metre in our house band, Misery (7)
- 20 Tear newspaper up for the sun's power (7)
- 21 Present at birth, tucked away behind tavern (6)
- 23 See commercials a lot (5)
- 24 Lover's run over Alpine highway (5)

[Link to online puzzle >>](#)

wolfchart.org/xword/2023_09/index.html



In The Habit with Crispin Friar

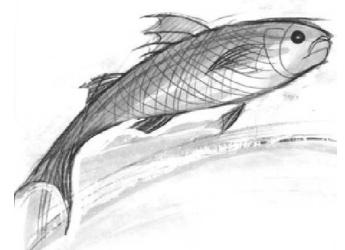
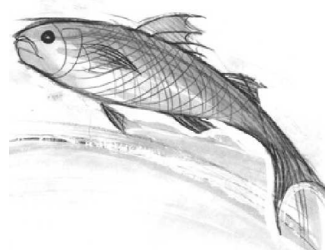
I'm reading *The Gates Of Hell – Inside Queensland's COVID Lockdown*. A plethora of truly harrowing accounts but the take home is that it was a really tough week.

The winter influx of doting British grandparents visiting our island paradise is keeping the **Ambos** busy. Weaned on powdered egg, most of them didn't taste a banana until high school, and they can be hospitalised by a single mosquito bite. Rattled by seeing a huntsman go behind a

picture, Barnsley's **Dave Spent** tripped over little **Keely** and ended up at **Hornsby A&E**. He tried to "scratch" his nose while in the MRI machine and got stuck. Doctors say he should pull through.

Riverview stalwart **Vaughan Chewtigger's** portrait of his late father has been stolen from the ferry shed, bicycle side. The thieves also made off with four Grishams and a jaffle iron.

Catch you on the uptide!



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Shorter, Genevieve Ginty, Jonathan
Sykes Kathy Merrick, and Brenda Hall.



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