

# MULLET EXPRESS

NOV/DEC 2006

NEXT MEETING  
SATURDAY 2 - 4PM  
2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER '06

## DANGAR ISLAND LEAGUE INC Presidents Report

This is my first piece in the *Mullet Mail* as president of the League. Along with the new Executive, I was elected at the last AGM in September. The new Executive is Michael Dean (Secretary), Jonathan Sykes (Treasurer) Phil Judd (Vice President), Garry and Anne Mahony (Exec Committee Members) and Terry Dorrrough (Exec Committee Member). This Executive will build on the good work done by previous Executives and strike out in new ways. I would like to thank the previous Executive, Ron, Cheryl, Michael, Jonathan and Wally, for their hard work and generosity.

The League has begun a program of constructive engagement with other community groups on the Island and in the broader River community. We have invited off-Island community groups to send an observer to our meetings and an offer to report on their doings if they wish. All Island community groups are also invited to provide a short report to League meetings. We want the League to be a place where we can share information and ideas and seek collaboration with other groups. Whether we like the other groups or people is not the point. What is the point is that we are all living in this small piece of heaven together and are, thus, inter-dependent. I believe that we can get more done by collaboration than by division.

We are seeking a meeting with the Hornsby Council to introduce ourselves and discuss how we may best achieve our aims in a collaborative manner. Councillor McMurdo has been of great assistance in this regard.

**At the next meeting we will be asking members for their ideas about the top 5 or 10 issues they wish us to work on.** This had been done in the past but we believe it is time to update them. This list will be the primary focus for this Executive over the next year, not forgetting, of course, the issues that 'just appear'. **Please think about what you'd like the Island and our broader community to look like in a few years and come to the Meeting and share your ideas with us.**

We are also looking at starting an electronic 'site' for the League so members can access information and correspondence and put their ideas forward to us.

At the end of the December meeting we will be offering members a small glass of champagne and cheese to bring in the Xmas period. If you are not a member you can join at the meeting, (Jonathan will have his receipt book at the ready). If you are a member, come along and help us work towards a future that benefits and includes us all, and the environment in which we live.

Sincerely  
Dr Peter Short  
President.

## DEERUBBIN ISLAND FILM

SOCIETY PRESENTS...

### **Chinatown** (M)

Dangar Island Hall  
8PM SAT 20<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2007

Jack Nicholson and Faye Dunaway star in Roman Polanski's brilliant film noir, a film eerily topical as Nicholson's detective Jake Gittes stumbles on a corruption scandal around the Los Angeles water supply.

Roman Polanski has made a slate of superb films including *Rosemary's Baby*, *Repulsion*, and *Tess*. *Chinatown* was nominated for 11 Oscars and is widely regarded as one of the all time great detective movies.

The supporting short is a rare chance to see one of the director's early Polish films "*Two Men & A Wardrobe*". Our guest programmer is Marian Macken, one of our Brooklyn members.

If you would like to find out more about *Chinatown* and DIFS, or even suggest a program yourself, visit [www.difs.net](http://www.difs.net)

**Screening to members, memberships available on the night: Adult \$10.**

In association with the National Film and Sound Archive.

## DANGAR ISLAND RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Contrary to letters and unfounded and misleading rumours circulating on the Island, the Fire Brigade continues its important



work for, and with, this community.

Over the past months the Brigade has been involved in several successful ambulance evacuations of sick and injured residents. These inevitably cause some distress to members given their links to, and within, the community. But as with all aspects of the brigade and its work, members arrive, work hard, do what is asked of them (and frequently more) and then return to their homes, ready to do it again.

This strong volunteer ethic and the sheer hard work members do makes the unfounded rumours and hurtful allegations particularly offensive. However, we are buoyed by the support we get from the community generally and the new members who wish to join. We have had a number of community members step forward and ask to join in the past few months. Membership of the brigade does not mean donning yellows and fighting fires. It can mean helping with the administrative side of things. Please come along to the monthly meetings (first Sunday of the month 0900hours at the Fire Station) and talk to us about joining.

The fire season is upon us. The weather predictions are for a hot dry summer, perfect conditions for bushfires. The Fire Danger Meter near the shop indicates the current danger rating, and most media broadcast current conditions. Please note that if there is a TOTAL FIRE BAN, no fires are allowed outside (with one or two specific exemptions). If you light a non-exempt fire on a TOTAL FIRE BAN DAY, you are liable for a fine of \$5500 or a gaol sentence. As well, if your fire causes a bush fire, you will be responsible for any damage that

fire causes, which could be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

**Now** is the time for all residents to clean around their houses and properties to reduce fuel, get their fire plan ready and be prepared. RFS brochures about preparing houses prior to bushfires are available at The Island Shop and from the Brigade. Good information can also be found on the Rural Fire Service Website ([www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)). Brigade members can assist residents with identifying risks on their properties or with general advice about bushfire readiness. Come to the Fire Station when we meet and we can help.

The Brigade will be doing a hazard reduction on the reserve in autumn/winter next year. Details will be made available closer to the time.

The Brigade wishes community members a Happy Christmas and 2007. Please do not hesitate to contact the Brigade if you need assistance.

Dr Peter Short  
Captain, DIRFB.

### DICCA (THE HALL)

Dangar Islanders recently to put on their dancing shoes and boogied to the African beats of Jive Kayana at the Hall 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. What a terrific celebration. "We play a lot of places in Sydney where hardly anybody will dance" said Chris Gudu lead singer from the band "You are such an enthusiastic audience. It is a pleasure to play here". Our hall is a special place for community gatherings, thanks to the hard working committee lead by Sue Baxter.

This year the committee purchased party equipment to make special events even more spectacular. We now have; coloured light ball,

strobe light, smoke machine, as well as new powerful PA system.

Welcome to new members on the hall committee: Georgia Lynn-Robinson, Helen Knott, Judy Lattas and Tess McCallum. The next meeting will be early in December.

Chabela Torres,  
Treasurer

### BUSHCARE

The 9<sup>th</sup> December is the last scheduled bushcare session for the year and we are gathering at the track around 9am. Some off-island visitors are joining us to help with the overwhelming *Erharta* (grass) and *Tradescantia* (Wandering Jew). At 11:30 we'll take a stroll to see Kippara Reserve. If you would like to join in for this walk and see what we have achieved over the last 20 years please come along.

Cybele Shorter

*Kennedia rubicunda*,  
Dusky Coral Pea.  
Native to Dangar Is., it grows in Kippara Reserve. Robust climber with large deep red pea flowers in spring and summer.



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