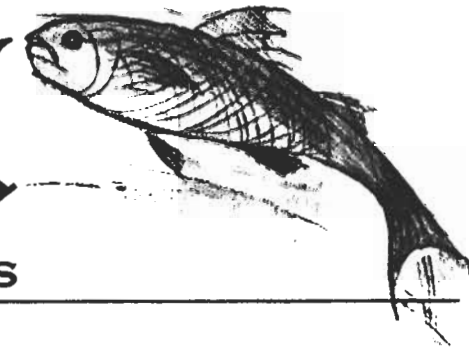


Mullet Mail



NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESIDENTS

#7

August extra 2001

New League President

Cath Phillips was voted in as president for the Dangar Island League at the last meeting. Here is a summary of her address:

“ Recently, a perception has developed that the League is all about conflict. It has been seen as the bailiwick of a few hardy souls and irrelevant to everyone else except for the gossip it generates.

This is unfortunate. Everyone comes to groups like this with a good heart and the best of intentions. People give their time and energy, not because they want to create bad feeling, but because they wish to either protect something they care about, or generally improve life for everyone. Some very good work has been done by the League and its committees over the years. It would be a terrible shame for all of us if we lost sight of that.

For most of its life the League has followed a semi parliamentary model. If you feel strongly about something you go along and try to sway others with the force and logic of your argument. Somebody else argues against you and then a vote is taken. Immediately, there are those with power and those without, winners and losers.

The League is here to represent the interests of ALL islanders not just those who might win an argument. Maybe we could do it this way. Everyone who wants to comes along has their say. No acrimony, no arguments. All viewpoints are noted. When the League is dealing with an off-island third party like the Council or the Water Board then the office bearers say, "We've got 56 people who want this done that way and we've 72 people who want that done this way. We're here to

THE DANGAR ISLAND BOWLING CLUB

... has entered the new membership year with a great renewal rate. For those who aren't aware, the 5 km rule applies to us as to every other club. That is, if you live within 5 km of the Club, (all residents), and you aren't a member you must be signed in by a member. You may only do this three times in any one year. It pays to belong and the social Members fees are only \$19.80 per year. A \$10 joining fee applies if you are joining for the first time or if you become unfinancial three months after the renewal date.

The proposed date for the Annual General Meeting is 23 September 2001. This is dependent upon the external auditor returning the books in time. We'll keep you up to date with progress.

A number of Directors of the Board are not continuing next year. They are Sheila Walker, Ross Coyle and Doug Fenwick. The Club is in a very healthy financial state with much of the credit going to all Directors and these three in particular. We will miss their expertise and input. Please consider nominating for the Board this year. We need you.

Russell Taylor,

DI Historical society HELP WANTED

The Dangar Island Historical Society is seeking a keen volunteer/s, to help tidy our filing system, just one or two hours per week would be great. For further information, please phone Joanne Cameron on 7141.

The Society has had a busy year, conducting guided tours of the Island, which have been well received by visiting groups. A big thanks, to our head guides Michael O'Flynn and Manfred Merl.

The new 'Historic guide to Dangar island' has been a great success and make fantastic gifts when friends come to visit, further copies are available from the General Store.

Annual membership to the society is open to everyone at \$5.00 per family or \$3.00 per individual. Payment of same can be left with your details at the General Store - addressed to the Historical Society.

This newsletter is produced under the auspices of the Dangar Island League in order to inform the community of the issues in which the League are involved on behalf of the community. The Dangar Island League represents the community to

comes along has their say. No acrimony, no arguments. All viewpoints are noted. When the League is dealing with an off-island third party like the Council or the Water Board then the office bearers say, "We've got 56 people who want this done that way and we've 72 people who want that done this way. We're here to make sure that they all get what they want." The Council/Water Board/Whoever toddle off and make their decision which is probably just what they were going to do anyway. But now they know how ALL the islanders feel and what they expect. Nobody loses out.

Things like development applications and the colour somebody wants to paint their house really aren't the League's concerns. If a bottle of wine and a chat can't solve problems between neighbours then the Council has plenty of procedures to try. If the League is there for everyone then it's there equally for the painter and the objector without favour.

Getting carried away in the heat of the moment or overwhelmed by feelings of outrage and fear is very easy. The trouble is, it's not very productive. Often what an individual is reacting to is a fear of change. For some of us, change comes easily and is welcome, for others it can be terrifying and stressful. The League can be a safe place to address those fears, to find out real and accurate information rather than being swayed by "what ifs" and exciting gossip. After all, "the sky is falling" makes a much better story than "what a cloudy day".

What ever has happened in the past, what ever anybody has said about anybody else, we all want to live here together and trusting the best in each other is the only way to do it. Next time you see a poster announcing a League meeting, come along. You never know, there might be some good gossip."

Sewerage

The rumour mill is grinding away nineteen to the dozen on the sewerage issue, mainly because Sydney Water are caught between State Government agendas and community aspirations and are somewhat at a loss. The Kangaroo Point development, and objections from the oyster farmers who see their already poor international standing under threat

from a sewage outfall, are two of the latest ingredients in a confusing mish-mash. The latest news for the Island is that SW are reportedly looking at other options, perhaps the options we told them we wanted in the first place. I'll have actual news when it comes to hand.

Jonathan

Please consider nominating for the Board this year. We need you.

Russell Taylor,

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

'Shit happens' CONTROVERSIAL DEBATE IDEA!

**Centralised versus on-site
sewerage treatment disposal [for
Dangar Island]**

or in for and against terms:

**Should Dangar Island residents
support a centralised sewerage
system?**

Anyone interested in forming a team to debate on the above topic? The idea is to hold a cabaret style evening in the bowling club in October as a League fundraiser, and present an informative and fun evening [no hot-headed brawling, please!] on this critical issue.

for: contact Hendrikus 8202

against: contact Jenny 7060

and again . . .

SEPTIC PUMP OUTS

Twelve people responded to the note on the phone box and a truck will be organised. If you missed out, the idea is to arrange more pump-outs, doubling up with Council when they use the barge for clean-up day. Contact Hendrikus 8202.

In order to inform the community of the issues in which the League are involved on behalf of the community. The Dangar Island League represents the community to Council and other Government bodies, whose decision-making processes affect the quality of life of our community. Resident groups such as the League give structure for these bodies to respond to; ARE listened to, and often give more weight to an issue, than individual contribution. Residents with a community issue that they wish to take action on, can approach the committee with view to form a sub-committee for that reason. Meetings are held in the community hall on a regular basis.

Current positions are held by the following residents:

PRESIDENT:	Cath Phillips
Vice President:	Hendrikus van Hasselt
Secretary:	Liz Trevena
Treasurer:	Manfred Merle
Committee:	a Dorrough Mario Castiglioni Suzie Goff Leyla Moncelet Jenny Rowe
Pedestrian precinct sub-committee:	Ana Pollak Jenny Shanley
Newsletter:	Jenny & Heather D

Contributions to the Mullet Mail are very welcome and can be left at the shop post office facility. If possible, please include digital word or text document on floppy disk. Alternatively, email to jshanley@ozemail.com.au. All contributions will be considered and published depending on available space.



FILM SOCIETY

A disappointingly small crowd were blown away by Les Diaboliques on a chilly night in July. The plot twist and then twist again had never been done before Clouzot's seminal thriller, and we all went home talking about it.

The rest of you don't know what you were missing, so don't miss Gone With The Wind on August 25th. This will be a different kind of film night courtesy of Steven Curtis and Rosie Boylan, with the emphasis on good southern fried food and drink. We won't force you to sit quietly through six reels; it'll be more of a social night with gumbo, candied yams, Barbara's Mum's three times county champion cornbread and Leigh, Howard and Gable pot-boiling it on the side.

Thanks to everyone who bought a raffle ticket for our new screen, which should be up and, er, screening soon. Don't forget to have a look at our website for all the info on upcoming screenings, reviews and news.

<http://www.geocities.com/difsoc>

Hall News

During all the wet and dreary weather over May/June, we managed to have the floors sanded and coated with a non-slip,

Seeking childrens comments

If you're young and have an opinion about the playground equipment, we want to hear about it. Contact Cybele 7142, or leave a note at the shop. Older input also welcome, along with ideas and interest in the whole common area.

Robberies

It is with regret that I report a new suburban disease has spread to Dangar Island. Serious pilfering has taken place more than once in the last month - I also heard a rumour that its been publicised more than once that we don't lock our houses - anyone else see a connection? [the times they are a changin] . . .ed.

FROM THE PAST . . .

Minutes from the September 1997 League meeting reveal that a proposal was put for a community buggy for hill-dwellers. The proposal was narrowly defeated as opposing members feared it would sanction a lot more vehicles, which was viewed as undesirable. It was also stated that the prohibitive cost of the Council ute had prompted the proposal.

Results from a survey taken in May 97 also reveal that dedicated car parking at Brooklyn was felt to be very important to Islanders [86%] as an issue which needed to be addressed. 40% of residents felt that a sea wall at McKell Park was important! Guidelines for future sewerage systems was given a 43% rating. 'Improvements' to Island amenities, particularly visitor-related were given a majority 'HELL NO' rating.

the misconception was more of an issue than the name itself.

It was suggested that in considering a new name for the League perhaps we could get the kids involved by running a competition to design a Logo. Some interesting prizes were offered: 3 tube stock (Heather D), a Peter Gurney Pavloval, 2 movie tickets. (Cybele to organize)

There was a suggestion that we should resurrect the handbook ('Welcome' booklet proposed by Cybele at a previous meeting) that used to be available for all new residents and visitors to the Island. It provided useful general information about the various groups/institutions etc. (Committee to work on)

Membership fees

Terry D raised the issue of membership fees. There had been a suggestion that there should be automatic membership for all residents/ratepayers and that membership fees be abolished.

Ron B felt we should not do away with membership fees as paid membership was a visible commitment and would carry more recognition with Council. There was always the risk that without committed membership, consultation between the League and Council could be undermined by minorities. Ron also proposes regular newsletters - membership fees would help to cover administrative costs.

Following a vote by those in attendance it was decided to retain membership fees.

Alison McKewen asked if the league was incorporated and about the legal liabilities of Associations. A sub-committee (C Phillips, T Dorrough, P Gurney) was formed to look at the Articles of Memorandum of Association. (action Peter G to investigate and bring information to the next meeting).

McKell Park Update

Terry D advises that Council will keep access to the mooring coop open during the upgrade to McKell park. Likewise the lighting will be kept. As a long term goal parking may be expanded and Terry will pursue the objective of ongoing dialogue with Council for dedicated parking for River residents.

railway stations and specifically as it would apply to Hawkesbury River station. This would involve moving the heritage listed Brooklyn Station to overcome the problem of the bends in the line approaching the station and would at the same time address the access problems to the platforms. The implication was that we had to wait for this to happen before there would be any changes at Brooklyn.

Pedestrian Precinct Survey

Survey is imminent we are told!

Mullet Mail

Jenny S and Heather D to work together on the next MM. Helen G kindly offered to print the MM for us and this was accepted gratefully.

One priority suggestion was a plea for residents not to put their clean-up rubbish out until the 2 weeks prior to the clean-up date. - If its out, TAKE IT BACK IN!!

Also need to inform the different groups when the deadline is for news items for the MM

Publish minutes (or extracts from?) of League Meeting

Meeting closed 5.30pm

CLASSIFIEDS



Classifieds for private or commercial postings which are relevant to the community such as cleaning are

During all the wet and dreary weather over May/June, we managed to have the floors sanded and coated with a non-slip, gloss surface. It has certainly brightened up the interior! New indoor and outdoor mats have been purchased which should help to keep the floor reasonably mud-free. Standard lamps have added the option of soft lighting for Tai Chi and meetings etc. and the kitchen now has new vinyl to cover the two small rooms at some time in the future.

Council has installed a new heater, fans and extra power points and renewed the fire extinguishers.

Thank you to Manfred and co who tirelessly cleared out the historical room. this will be cleaned and spruced-up to become a general meeting room for small groups.

All this has left the hall looking very swish indeed. So do make more use of your local meeting place. We are looking for interested person/s who hold an ABN and their own public liability insurance to regularly clean the hall roof and gutters. Please contact Jenny or Sue.

Coming up: we have had a great donation of an outside notice board, thank you to the League, which Council has approved for erection just near the front doors. The Committee is currently investigating the possibility of landing cover/awning over the double doors.

Please note that due to requirements of GST we had to make some changes to hiring fees - please see notice in phone box or contact the booking officer for further information on 9985 7060.

Thank you every one for your patience during these recent changes.

Sue Baxter

NO' rating.

MINUTES OF THE DANGAR ISLAND LEAGUE MEETING

4 pm Saturday 14 July 2000

Collection of membership fees

Meeting started 4.20 pm

In attendance: Terry Dorrough, Heather Dorrough, Kath Phillips, Sue Brumby, Peter Gurney, Deni Gurney, Lars & Helen Gundlach, Hendrikus van Hasselt, Elizabeth Trevena, Leyla & Maurice Moncelet, Jenny Rowe, Vicki Worthington, Michelle Paddley, Valentina Glaszco, Cybele Shorter, Jonathan Sykes, Ana Pollak, Wendy McMurdo, Linda Rabey, Alison McKeown, Ron Barrelle, Claire Coyle, Charles Hill, Allison Page, Sarah Galvin, Karen Wang (visiting student).

Apologies: Mario Castigliano, Manfred Merle, Susie Goff, Michael Bouchier, Jane Putt, Jenny Shanley

Election of new President and Committee members

President, Cath Phillips: nominated Liz Trevena, seconded Jenny Rowe.

Vice President, Hendrikus van Hasselt: nominated Leila Moncelet, seconded Lars Gundlach.

Elected to join the existing Committee: Leila Moncelet, Jenny Rowe.

Address by the new President

GENERAL BUSINESS

Name change

Terry Dorrough thought the word 'League' dubious. It suggested that people were in 'league' together and didn't represent what the association was really about. Cybele thought

Mckenzi park. Likewise the lighting will be kept. As a long term goal parking may be expanded and Terry will pursue the objective of ongoing dialogue with Council for dedicated parking for River residents.

Playground Equipment

Sarah Galvin, on behalf of Jenny Shanley, reported on the outcome of the sub-committee meeting with Council on Wednesday 4 July. It was agreed that Council would prepare a plan to be presented to the League for approval, which shows proposed amendments to playground equipment. Council also requested that the League make a proposal for the resiting of the bubbler and plinth/plaque to a new location. The fountain was originally placed in the park to commemorate town water coming to the Island. There was a suggestion there should be an item in the Mullet Mail about the fountain and the proposal to relocate it. (action Mullet Mail).

It was questioned why vehicles were driving through the park and the damage this was causing to the grounds.

There was a proposal to build a bandstand for the children and since there was also a proposal to build a verandah on the hall there was a need for the League and the Hall Committee to discuss the options.

Hall Committee Report

Sara G for the Hall Committee advised there was a proposal to build a verandah on the hall. Both the League and the Hall Committee need to discuss the options and canvas ideas for a design. (action hall/playground issues to go in next MM).

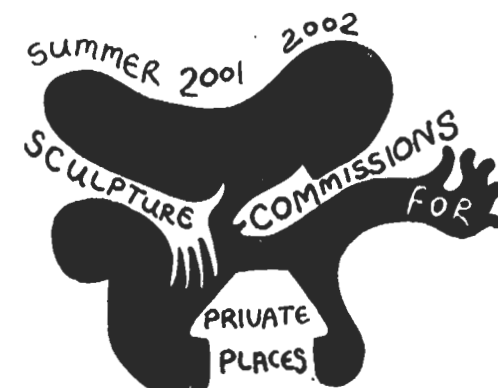
Historical Society room in the hall is to be fitted out with a PC and a printer donated by Manfred for community use. Ron suggested the room should be kept locked for safety reasons. Further discussion necessary.

And at long last!! Ray Tomen's memorial notice board is to be located outside the hall.

Hawkesbury River Station

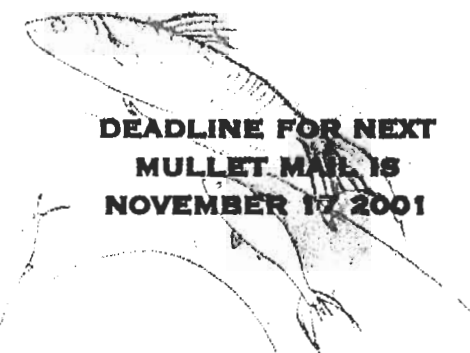
Allison McK raised the issue of the difficult access (steep steps) to Hawkesbury River Station. Wendy M (representing SHURE) gave a brief report on the proposed upgrade to

Classifieds for private or commercial postings which are relevant to the community such as cleaning are invited for the next Mullet Mail. Commercial classifieds are \$10 for a display ad, \$5 for a listing; private by donation. (will be spent on production of MM)



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