



# Mullet Mail



NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESIDENTS

#16

August 2004

Time to renew your League membership!

## Community?

On the night of Monday 19th July, one of the Island's dearest ladies, Helen Gundlach, died at her home, surrounded by her family, and her funeral was arranged for later in the week, with a wake held at the Club.

It was this sad occasion that was chosen by the Club, to tell one of the long-term Island residents that his application for membership had been rejected.

Temporary membership was also rejected, as was being the guest of another member, on the (incorrect) basis that he had been in the Club 'three times this year'. The club's application forms available at the front door clearly say 'three times in a financial year', but this was the resident's only visit this financial year, to attend the wake.

We could almost be sure that this has nothing to do with the fact that this resident, representing the Island's resident's group, addressed Hornsby Council for three minutes recently, asking Council to defer rather than reject the Club's DA.

Arriving late, (and missing the official proceedings), the Club rep was given an unprecedented fifteen minutes for a similar address; but the Council comprehensively rejected the proposal anyway on a vote of 8 to 2, on the grounds that:

1. 'The proposal is beyond the environmental capacity of the site'
2. 'The proposal is not in the public interest due to its proximity to the local childrens' play area'
3. 'Lack of consultation'

It should prove interesting to see which other local residents qualify not to be accepted in the 'community club'.

A pity about the timing - Vale Helen, you deserved better.

### Postscript

We live on a small island, and this sort of nonsense needs to be not just calmed, but reversed. Alternatively, it would seem that a community discussion is appropriate regarding whether the club should be a private or community club, in the context that the Club occupies significant public buildings and parklands.

On a cheerier note, The League has got a few runs on the board lately.

The reason for this is our extraordinary fortune in having a local resident, Wendy McMurdo, to represent us on Hornsby Council.

Of course, she represents the whole Ward (Ward A), but being local gives us unprecedented access to the Local Government process that we haven't had for a very long time.

First of all, following our representations to council, and with the invaluable help of Wendy to give it oxygen, we have got the community berthing and disabled access jetty project back on the agenda.

As we write, Council has already re-surveyed the jetty, sent to us a copy of the latest proposal, and drafted the grant documents for our response and contribution. At last it looks like a goer.

Furthermore, the Community Vehicle project is moving forward with clearly identifiable progress, (Council has formally approved the procedures for the Community Vehicle management) and we are looking forward to some great news in the near future, maybe in time for the AGM in late September.

On that subject, we encourage all residents to come along - there will be signs up everywhere - to catch up with the progress on the above Island projects and other ones in the pipeline - sewerage, for example. The election of Officebearers is also held at that meeting.

The last bit of news is that Hornsby Council is looking into a Ratepayer Parking Sticker scheme for Hornsby Shire, including specifically Brooklyn. Given the current parking arrangements at Brooklyn, any investigation is welcome. We will keep you informed and involved.

Absolutely finally, you will all have by now your membership renewal forms for the League, and everyone should join as a strong resident membership gives us a strong voice to get things done.

In the meantime, enjoy Winter.

**Ron Barelle**  
President  
DI League



## Vale HELEN GUNDLACH

It is with great sadness that the Mullet Mail reports the passing of the beautiful Helen Gundlach, resident of Dangar Island, wife of Lars, mother of three, and grandmother of three, on 19th July, 2004.

Born in Rockhampton Queensland, she went to a convent school and as a consequence, says Lars, 'never got over her dislike for nuns.'

She and Lars met in Brisbane at a New Years Eve party, where Helen was working as an air hostess, after a brief stint as a nurse. Lars who had a production company and was working as a cinematographer at the time, once drove to Sydney quicker than Helen flew - in the propeller planes of the day - to present her with a bunch of flowers. They married in 1961, and Lars says they never had a single argument in 43 years of marriage.

Helen went on to study art at Hornsby Technical College in the early 80's. She moved into book publishing and eventually became a shareholder at Allen and Unwin. She also produced beautiful silver jewellery, and practised her fine art; after the onset of her illness, she painted a sumptuous 'icon' series.

Helen lived a rich and artistic life, and will be sorely missed.

Editor

## Salvation Army Door Knock Appeal 2004

On 17th May 2004 at 10am a group of young people from the Island set out to help people less fortunate than ourselves with the annual collection for the Salvation Army Red Shield Door Knock Appeal. Thanks go to Aaron Fowler, Indigo Smith, Beatrice, Lilli and Riley Harrison, Cameron Cook, Zena Smith and Alex Taylor. Well done for your contribution in raising \$617.75 for such a worthy cause.

**Wally Bower**  
Co-ordinator

## HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING FOR ELECTION OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES ON DANGAR ISLAND VEHICLE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A new Section 377 Committee is being established by Council to administer the issuing of vehicle permits and operation of the community vehicle for Dangar Island. The Committee will consist of Cr Wendy McMurdo, one representative of Council's Traffic and Road Safety Branch and five elected community representatives.

Residents of Dangar Island or those with a demonstrated stake in the island are invited to attend a public meeting being held for the purpose of electing community representatives to serve on the Committee. The meeting will be held in the Dangar Island Community Centre at 7:00PM on Monday, 30th August 2004, and will be chaired by Cr Wendy McMurdo.

Persons interested in representing the community will need to prepare a written submission and give a short presentation at the public meeting indicating their reasons for wishing to represent the community and outlining how they intend to serve the Committee. The Committee will meet on a monthly basis at the Dangar Island Community Centre.

Further information including copies of the meeting agenda and draft constitution for the Dangar Island Vehicle Management Committee can be obtained by contacting Council's Traffic and Road Safety Branch on 9847 6696.

**FIREWISE MEETING  
11AM 29.8.04**

As a result of complaints, members of the Rural fire Service from Head Office inspected the Island. Concern was sufficient to result in a directive for certain properties to be made fire safe. This is the responsibility of the property owner.

Accordingly, we invite you to attend a Firewise Meeting at the bench on the south western side of the island, where concern was greatest. Listen for the siren.

**Dangar Island  
Bushcare  
Update**

By Cybele and Sarah

Bushcare activities on the Dangar Island were formalised with Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) in 1990. Quiet volunteers have come and gone giving hours of their time to save Kiparra Reserve's unique plant community.

This year the group has received a grant to begin a joint project with HSC. Our goal is to improve the quality of access and visual amenity of the pathway up to the reserve. You may notice activities on the site over the next few months.

You may be able to help by contributing fresh clean native mulch. Are you planning to cut down any limbs or trees in the next few months? phone 142.

Look what's new in the notice board. We have endorsed a colourful brochure called "Grow Me Instead" that shows some garden escapes and appropriate alternatives. Check it out next time you are getting coffee or mail. Our notice board is located on the outside wall of the shop between the telephone box and the front door. For further native options consult our plant list of commercially available Dangar Island species.

A big thank you to Toni, Georgie, Heather, Terry, Joan, Jo, Anne, Gary, Ana and David, for your continued enthusiasm and hard work. Welcome onboard Jude and her daughter Delphi.

We currently weed for 2 hours, the second Saturday of the month. Next working session is 14th August.

**League memberships** are now due.

Membership is open to all adult residents and ratepayers of Dangar Island and costs \$5.00. If you are a current member, a letter will be sent to you shortly. Anyone wishing to join, can simply attach a cheque or cash to the tear off section at the bottom and mail it, or leave it at the shop, addressed to The Treasurer.

In the last year the League:

- **Achieved its highest ever membership, ensuring that we represented the broadest cross-section of its community and initiated a healthy subscription income.**
- **Held quarterly public meetings and opened the doors of our monthly committee meetings at the Hall to ensure wide participation in League affairs. Minutes of meetings have been continuously on public display at the shop.**
- **Worked hard to get community and disabled access berthing at the public wharf back on the agenda at Council. Without our efforts, the proposal would be have been buried once again, despite the availability of sufficient funds.**
- **Invited the directors of the DI Bowling Club to League meetings and provided a forum for the Club to discuss its development plans with the community.**
- **Worked effectively with Council on the Traffic Management Plan, including the implementation of the pedestrian precinct, and lobbied successfully for the provision of a new and more appropriate community vehicle.**
- **Completed the long overdue simplification of our bank accounts in order to provide sufficient income from interest on term deposits to meet our ordinary expenses.**
- **Distributed the Mullet Mail to every house on the island each quarter. The Editor has made the MM a professionally presented and widely read forum for community discussion and expression.**
- **Lobbied the Shire for civil engineering works such as the collapsing sea wall near the public jetty, and other island infrastructure.**
- **Co-produced *Late*, a short film made by local kids under the aegis of the Deerubbin Island Film Society.**
- **Worked with the DI Community Centre Association on its plans for disabled access and other improvements to the Hall, and assisted them by lobbying for CDSE funding for the works.**

We look forward to working effectively and energetically on your behalf in the coming year.

**Jonathon, Treasurer**



Please accept my application for membership to the Dangar Island League

Name(s).....

Address (if not c/o DI Post Office)  
.....  
.....

Email and/or phone  
.....  
.....

Amount (\$5 per adult)..... (cheques payable to Deerubbin Island League)

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**HOUSE PAINTER**

Large or small jobs. Free quote. Bob 99857111

**CLEANER AVAILABLE**

With ABN number. Phone Kym 9985 7747

**YOGA**

Tuesdays 7-8pm in Hall and Saturdays 9-10am [brekky @ shop after] – bring a mat, wear loose cloths and wait till after for your dinner! Donation, 50% to Hall funds. ph. 9985 7060

**'DO YOU WORK ON DANGAR?'**

Fancy getting together for morning tea once a week?? Monday morning at 10.30 is normally quiet at the shop shall we try it?? I have already had some interest - see ya there Michele.'

Classifieds which are relevant to the community 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]

**THANKS HEAPS**

Thank you to all those Dangarians who took the time to fill out my questionnaire. Many people asked, so if you would like to read the final report, a copy will be at the shop in due course.

xAmrit

Please note that the views of contributors do not necessarily reflect that of the editor or publisher.

**B R O O K L Y N  
S P R I N G F A I R**

**ITS ON AGAIN  
24TH OCTOBER  
2005**

**BROOKLYN PUBLIC  
SCHOOL**

**PONY POO  
BRIC-A-BRAC  
FORTUNE TELLING**

**KRISPY-KREAM DONUTS  
& COFFEE**

**'MEN OF THE RIVER'  
2 0 0 5  
CALENDAR LAUNCH**

**Island Lingo**

BY ANA

Next time there's a Council clean up, heres two words you could use:

**Dango:** an object from a Dangar island throw out first seen in a flash of discovery as having great potential but discovered years later at home covered in dust.

**Dangoon:** someone who carries away your previous 'throw out' find from a subsequent clean up with the same feeling of discovery.

Heres a couple more in the vernacular [from the editor]:

**Wharf boutique:** the place in the shed where that wonderful co-operative exchange happens with unwanted articles of clothing.

**Wharf emporium:** same place, same exchange, with bric-a-brac, books etc.

**T**his newsletter is produced under the auspices of the Dangar Island League. The League's role is to create a link between the community and Council or other Government bodies, where decision-making may affect our community. The League gives the community a collective voice, and creates structure for issues to be addressed. Come to meetings to raise an issue and/or form a sub-committee. Meetings are held in the community hall on a regular basis.

Current positions are held by the following residents:

- PRESIDENT:** Ron Barrelle
- Vice President:** Michael Dean
- Secretary:** Wally Bower
- Treasurer:** Jonathon Sykes
- Committee:** Jenny Shanley  
Leyla Moncelet  
Ross Marshall
- Public officer:** Wally
- Community berthing:** Michael  
Ron
- PP & community vehicle:** Jenny  
Jonathon  
Ron
- Island utilities:** Michael  
Jonathon  
Leyla  
Ron
- Mullet Mail:** Jenny  
Heather
- Fundraising:** Neil Renfree  
Ron  
Manfred Merl

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