

# Mullet Mail

NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESIDENTS

Vol. #73 | Autumn 2022

[www.dangarislandleague.com](http://www.dangarislandleague.com)

## Rainy Season!



The League Committee notes flood conditions postponed and

cancelled normal life (road works, garbage collection, ferry service, train service) as well as Dangardis Gras at the time of publication in March.

There was nothing else to report.

Please make sure your memberships are up to date and that you are signed up to receive regular email updates from [info@dangarislandleague.com](mailto:info@dangarislandleague.com).

We tend to send out at least one email per month to keep members and residents updated.

If you have not been receiving emails or are having trouble with your memberships etc, please contact Genevieve at the email address above.

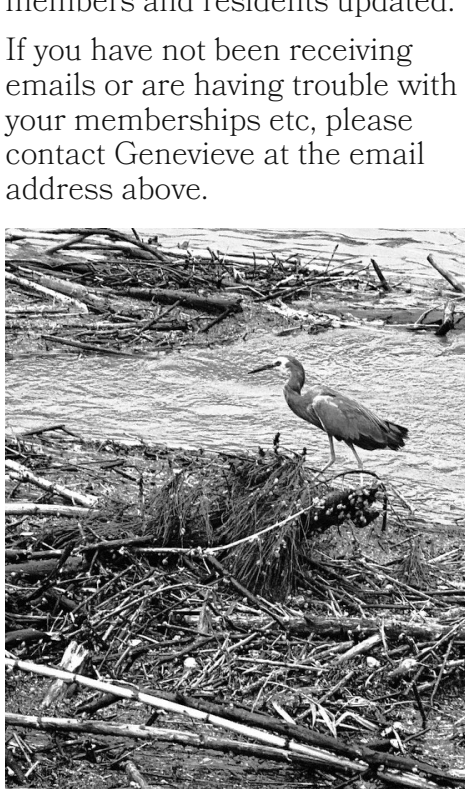


### Haiku:

There's a hole  
Leak leaking out  
Sticky tape  
Oberon (1 y.o.)



March flood photographs. Clockwise from above: Dangar River on Riverview Ave, Rochman Reese; Concrete and Floating! Near Spectacle Island, Jude Prichard; The DIG Blackboard; Jo Karcz' scrabble board; Debris covers the sand on Bradley's Beach, Cybele Shorter; Floodwater flotsam on Bradley's Beach, Stephen Boyle; Picking through the debris at the public wharf, Genevieve Ginty



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!



# Oh RATs! Are You Positive?

Jonathan Sykes

You got a positive Rapid Antigen Test but no symptoms. Do you have Covid-19? It's an interesting exercise in probability that throws up some surprising results.

It's well known that the reliability of a medical test is dependent on its sensitivity and specificity. Less obvious is the role of disease prevalence. Prevalence is the percentage of the population that has the active disease. Because specificity is never perfect, if just a few percent of the community is actually positive, the positive test results will include actual positives, but also some false positives. This in turn means that any one positive RAT is only so likely to be correct.

How likely? The table below shows the chance of a positive or negative RAT being correct at different levels of prevalence, using typical RAT sensitivity (80%) and specificity (98%).

Prevalence	Positive Test Correct	Negative Test Correct
2.5%	50.6%	99.5%
10%	81.6%	97.8%
33%	95.3%	90.9%

You might think it surprising that in a typical Covid prevalence of 2.5%, every second positive RAT is wrong! It's not because of bad sensitivity; even if sensitivity were 98% that figure wouldn't change much. It's because of imperfect specificity in the context of low prevalence.

## the DANGAR ISLAND WARBLERS

(often considered one of the island's premier song-singing groups)

**meet MONDAYS at the club**

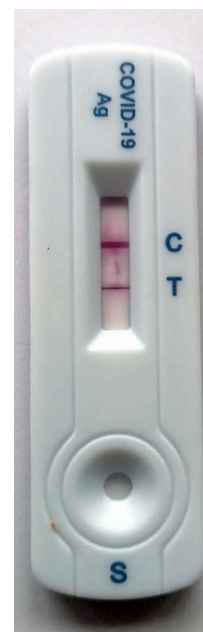
**arrive 7:15pm, sing 7:30-8:30pm**

questions? contact **Liz Nolf** 0402 290 200

*If you like singing songs, you belong with us*

Conversely at high levels of prevalence, like we saw at the Omicron peak, or in people who have symptoms or risky exposures, one in every ten negatives is wrong. When prevalence is high, the low RAT sensitivity gives a lot of false negatives, despite the excellent specificity.

So, back to your positive RAT. You must get a PCR test immediately and isolate until you get the result. A PCR test is more sensitive and specific than a RAT, but equally importantly the prevalence among people who've had a positive RAT is something like 50%, making this follow-up PCR result 95+% likely to be true whatever the outcome.



*Positive RAT*



Steve (left) and Geoff (right) Gauslaa accept their Sandra Burns (centre) portraits. Sunday 27 February 2022. Photograph Bill Lyn-Robinson

## Gauslaa Farewell

This event finally took place at the bowling club, Sunday 27th February 2022. Three generations in the Gauslaa family had operated our garbage contract since 1976.

They were praised in speeches and presented with gifts of flowers and paintings including portraits by Sandra Burns.

Geoff admitted he missed coming here every week since he retired June 2021. He thanked the community for the timely Bunnings vouchers that were spent immediately on fixing up the Anglers Rest Hotel.



After two years of back-to-back La Niña events our bush fire risk has thankfully been low-moderate for most of the Summer. On the downside the

east coast has been inundated, tragically with the loss of multiple lives and thousands of homes.

Whilst Dangar brigade members have given their time on RFS deployments to assist with recovery activities in affected areas, the island itself has been spared from significant incidents. However one heightened risk does exist due to such sodden conditions, and that is falling trees.

Let's be clear. The risk of injury due to a falling tree is statistically extremely low, with detailed contemporary analysis and great insights available via the Arboriculture Australia website (see QR).

Nevertheless the Dangar brigade is called out multiple times a year in response to fallen trees on the island that have impacted roadways, property, and powerlines.

As is the case with all emergency situations it's good to think ahead so that you can make informed judgements.

#### **Key considerations in relation to fallen trees:**

**Look out for fallen powerlines.** Never approach fallen powerlines. Always stay at least 8 metres away and call 000 as soon as safe to do so.

**If the incident is potentially life-threatening** call 000 as soon as safe to do so.

**If the tree has impacted on a property,** evacuate everyone from the house as soon as it's safe to do so.

In the event of a property or public space being impacted by a fallen tree with no immediate risk to residents or the public call SES on 132 500.

000 and SES calls will be routed through the RFS to the Dangar Brigade for assessment, and co-ordination of further emergency response. Additional useful numbers are below.

Hornsby Shire Council's Customer Service team on 9847 6666 who can lodge assessment requests for trees on council land.

Ausgrid's hazard line 13 13 88 can be used for non-urgent matters relating to trees and power supply risk.

**Josh Ginty, Community Engagement, DIRFB**

Scan the QR link to see Arboriculture Australia's analysis of how minimal tree fall risks compare with other life activities.



## **Easter Film Night**

The Dangar Rural Fire Brigade with support of the Deerubbin Island Film Society, present:

### **'Encanto'**

**Easter Saturday 16th of April**

**Community Hall 7pm**

Bring along your donation for our fresh popcorn and cake stall.



*Large branch fallen in front of Dangar Island Fire Station, bringing down power lines February 2020.*

*Photograph Cybele Shorter*



# Being a Community First Responder

Liz Nolf

I think it's the best community service job on the island. I'm so glad I took the plunge 2 years ago. I love being able to help people when they are up against it. I feel well trained and equipped and I feel like the expectations of me as a volunteer are completely reasonable, which makes it easy to continue showing up for duty. I like the professionalism, including strict confidentiality and record keeping. I also find the work really interesting, learning about the human body and how to respond when people are hurt or sick: it's such useful knowledge.

The training, spread over four consecutive weekends, was really fun; intense but not too difficult. I remember being very impressed with NSW Ambulance. They could not have been more welcoming and supportive. The trainers let us practise on them, cooked us lunches, and patiently showed us procedures again and again. We were put up in Gosford each Saturday night to reduce travel time. On completion we were issued with full Ambulance uniforms and gear, and onto the roster we went.

Here's how it works. We get called when someone on the island calls 000. We get to them within 10 or 20 minutes, depending, and then we look after them until the ambos arrive by police boat, which could be a few minutes later, or much longer.

We are trained to perform advanced first aid and take observations (blood pressure, heart rate etc) but really our two main jobs are communicating with the ambos so they know what to expect, and bringing them to the patient quickly and efficiently.

Being on call feels onerous at first, but we only get 2-3 jobs a month. We self-nominate our shifts and everyone on the team gets a text alert when there's a job. It's a laid-back roster, but with enough people on the team we make it work.



Please consider joining the next induction training and becoming part of our team!

## Thank you, First Responders!

Jim Thiessen

I'm always amazed at our great river community and Dangar Island in particular. Praise is sometimes given too late to those that deserve it. I recently experienced trouble breathing and, in panic, had my daughter ring 000 for the island's First Responders.

I couldn't wait for a "response" as I sat there struggling to get air into my lungs. Within a very short time there was a tap at my door and the first responder assuredly took me in hand and calmed my state of panic. Shortly thereafter a second responder with half an ambulance of medical supplies arrived. Then yet another arrived coordinating the police/ambulance out to the island and onto my jetty. The professional, compassionate and speedy response was a testament to their designated name. Our community is very lucky to have those volunteers in our midst.

## Community First Responders - Join the next induction training

The induction course runs every 2 years. This year the course is at Point Clare Ambulance station over four weekends.



NSW Ambulance provides all training, uniforms and equipment and covers the cost of accommodation during the course.

To maintain our skills, we meet with NSW Ambulance Education officers on the second Sunday morning of each month, in the community hall from 9 - 12 noon.

We complete monthly online training modules, and annually we complete recertification training in advanced resuscitation skills.

Applications close 8th April, so please contact me right away! [brenda.hall458@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.hall458@gmail.com)

Brenda Hall, CFR33 Dangar Island

### Induction Course Dates:

June: Sat 18 – Sun 19  
Sat 25 – Sun 26

July: Sat 1 – Sun 2  
Sat 8 – Sun 9



It's taken 42 years but we've finally found a logo for the historical society. Recent requests from the Mullet Mail for an "identifier" spurred us on but it was the skills and experience of Dean and Lisa that achieved this unique logo for us.

The design is based on the postmark used by the island's post office, specifically in November 1965 on a 1/2d orange kangaroo stamp. This was just before Australia changed to decimal currency in February 1966. A halfpenny stamp is worth around 6 cents in today's money.

The photo of the shop shows what it looked like around this time. This image was kindly donated by Caelia Collins from Hawkesbury River Real Estate in 2021.

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Image: Dangar Island Shop circa 1969-1970 from DIHS collection. (Photo donated by Caelia Collins, Hawkesbury River Real Estate)

From the 1920s, mail for the small number of Dangar Island's permanent residents was collected from the Brooklyn post office. From December 1946 mail was delivered to the island by Mannie Kassimatis, who ran a mail service exchange to Brooklyn 11 times a week.

A Post office was established at the island's General Store in September 1951 with Iris Kassimatis appointed the first postmistress. Banking facilities were also available from the store until 1997.

The Hawkesbury Riverboat Postman has been delivering mail and other essentials to the boat-access-only settlements of the lower Hawkesbury River since 1916. It is thought the Riverboat Postman started delivering mail to Dangar Island from the mid 60s, after Mannie stopped running the ferry service.

Nowadays mail is brought to the island five days a week, to be sorted and placed in wooden letterboxes outside the shop. These boxes were introduced in 2008, when the shop was closed temporarily. Made of aircraft grade plywood with pop rivets for toughness, they were designed and built by Ron Barrelle and Lars Dahl, who ran the shop 2000–2008 with their wives Jan and Kim. The boxes are very popular and provide 24-hour mail access at no cost to the islanders.

The 1/2d orange kangaroo stamp was the longest surviving Australian stamp in the pre-decimal era. Issued for "make-up" use, it was in use from 1938 to 1966 when Australia switched to decimal currency.

Rose Curtis, Research,



Dangar Island postmark November 16, 1965 on 1/2d stamp, DIHS collection.

Monstrous zucchinis' vibrant summer growth devoured the garden, their fruit plucked, cooked and eaten. All that remains are the scarred stems that trail over beds they had smothered with their abundance. They will be pulled out to be composted, devoured by microbe and mycelium blooms that consume and regenerate them.

Our tomato tendrils grew over reo stacked too close, though squeezing between the stalks to pick the varieties of yummy red toms was pure pleasure. Just

ask the birds. Growing fresh salad greens for everyone this season has had its travails, with over a hundred lettuce plants on rotation. The latest seedlings are still growing despite being beaten and battered by the recent rains. Our first dwarf lady finger banana tree has fruited, now bagged and waiting to ripen.

"Manfred's Embankment", as it is now called, is being weeded yet again (a much easier task after the previous gigantic effort). Thanks to everyone putting in the hard slog. Three new beds have

been constructed and planted out in greens. Basil, rocket, mustard and dill, just to name a few, already filling salad bowls.

None of this is possible without the funds from the wonderful markets. A huge thank you to all the stall holders and makers who create such a delightful atmosphere.

Martin Cole, Enthusiast, DIG





The Dangar Island Bushcare group meets on the second Saturday of every month for a couple of hours to care for and learn more about Kiparra Reserve. Kids and adults are welcome to come and see how

the group works. Please join us at 9am at 149R - the bottom of the bush track leading to the reserve. Email Kylie for more information:

[redbullet@optusnet.com.au](mailto:redbullet@optusnet.com.au)

Since the last hazard reduction burn in September 2021, Bushcare and the Dangar Fire Brigade have been meeting to discuss and share knowledge about hazard reduction burns and their impact on the Reserve's flora and fauna. A project has

been set up to monitor regrowth of plant species in three designated areas; you will see these marked up in the Reserve.

Below, our native plant profile is one of the reserve's smaller plants. Next time you walk through, you may well notice its beautiful but unassuming habit. Many thanks to Jo Bridge for the exquisite work.

**Kylie Burke, Communications,  
Dangar Island Bushcare**

## Native Profile:

### *Hybanthus monopetalus*

This dainty little plant generally flowers from late spring to summer. Look out for its blue-mauve blooms bobbing against the green-brown undergrowth.

The genus name *Hybanthus* is derived from the Greek meaning 'humpbacked flower,' referring to the shape of the prominent petal which droops downwards on a curved stem. It's a nice

parallel that most of these 'humpback flowers' are emerging each year around the same time as mother humpback whales are passing the nearby coastline on their migration south with their young calves.

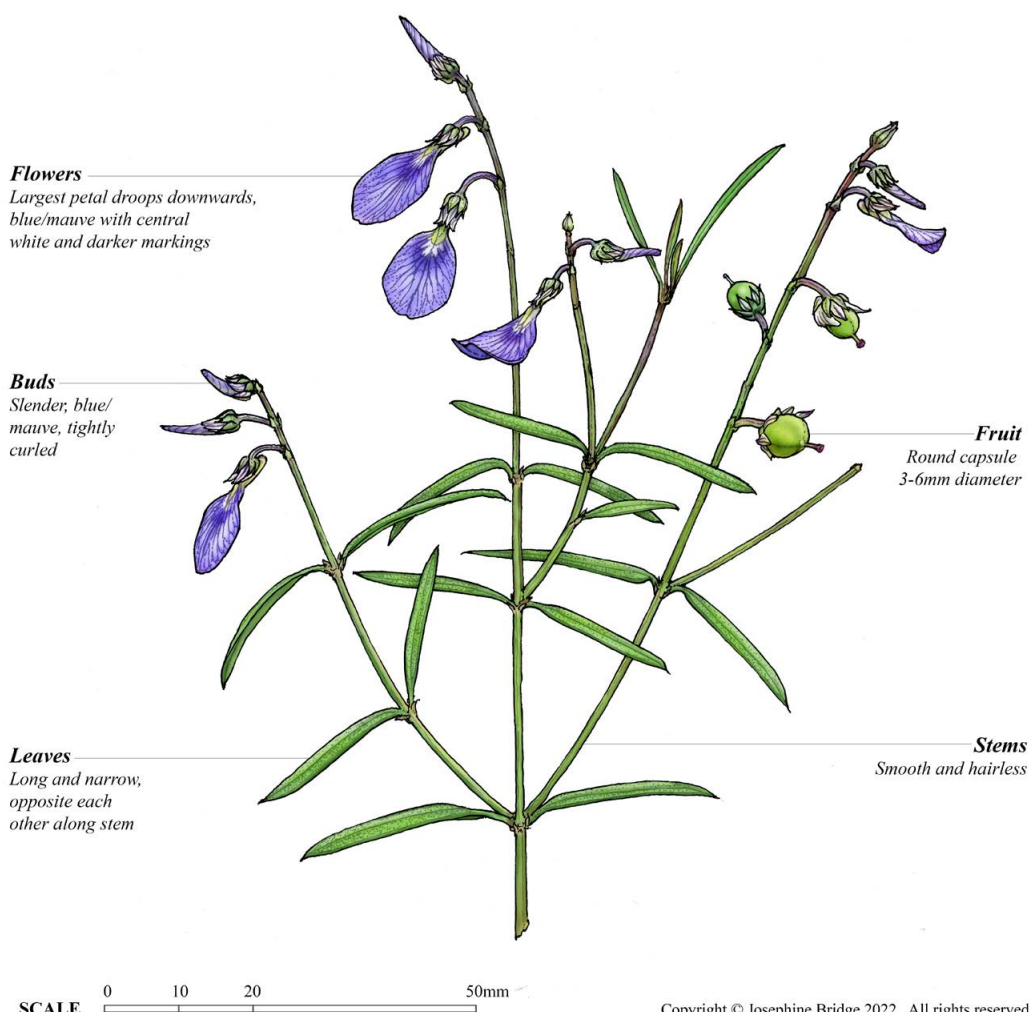
It's a common misconception that each flower has only one petal (*monopetalus* literally means 'single petal') but in fact they have five; the top four are just so tiny (2-3mm) as to be almost imperceptible. These minuscule upper petals (if you feel like getting up close and squinting) are usually white/pale yellow with indigo linear markings on them.

The flowers' petal arrangement and symmetry are actually similar to that of violets, as they belong to the same family *Violaceae*.

Also known as the 'Slender Violet-Bush,' *Hybanthus monopetalus* is quite common and widespread throughout eastern Australia. It prefers sandy soils or rocky granite sites and can grow up to 60cm high, though is typically much smaller than that on Dangar.

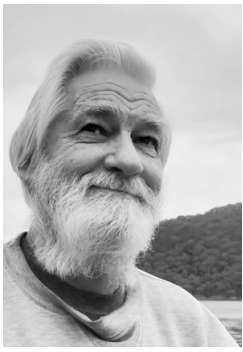
Technically it's classified as a 'perennial herb' (though you won't find any down at D.I.G and don't try sprinkling it on your salads) which just means that most of its succulent stems and leaves will die back each year after flowering, to regrow the following season.

**Josephine Bridge,  
Botanical Artist, DIB**



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## A Cruel Irony

Bruce Lambert

A wisp of hair from a hijab strays  
until it is held a little tighter.  
This is what life is today  
under the baleful glare of a Taliban fighter.

For Taliban fighters are everywhere  
monitoring the movement at every door.  
This is the reality of life  
under the dead hand of Sharia law.

Where once was freedom of thought and deed  
to simply exist is barely enough.  
One group of survivors apart from the rest  
is now doing it particularly tough.

They are the Afghans who worked with us  
who put their lives on the line.  
Not the lucky few who made it out  
but the vast number who daily decline.

The families of those men  
remain under the gun.  
Fleeing from safe house to safe house  
they are also on the run.

If they make it out  
that is just the start.  
Before them may lie years  
for each family torn apart.

These are but a few of those  
who lived and died with us.  
Over twenty years of conflict  
their loyalty was not suss.

The West must not forget them  
and leave them to their fate.  
For decency and honour  
what society did we create?

First it was the British  
then the Russians, finally the West.  
To conquer the Afghan people  
they really did their best.

A debt of honour now is owed  
to all who did assist.  
Let not our politicians  
endeavour to resist.

## Rescue on Horror Lolly Island

Roland and Irene Haskett

Once upon a time there were two dogs. Their names were Brass and Dott. Everyone thought they were ordinary dogs, but here is the true story of their secret adventures.

Brass and Dott were playing in the garden, just like every day, when an urgent call came in on their telebone.

“.....”

“Lorand and Jasmine need our help! They’re stuck on Horror Lolly Island!” said Dott.

Brass barked, “Yikes! That place gives me the creeps! but we must go find them!”

Brass and Dott raced to the main wharf. They jumped into a tinny, bit through the mooring ropes and off they went. Brass took out the map and the GPS. He quickly located Horror Lolly Island on the map and found out where they were.

“Go due North, Dott!”

Brass barked, or tried to bark, as a large wave of spray hit him in the face.

Then suddenly, the engine stopped, and the two dogs realized that Dave Reynolds had forgotten to refill the fuel tank. Dott took out his magic bone and muttered a few barks and whimpers, and the small tinny turned into a large sailing boat.

Two hours later, they landed at the beach of sherbert. They gazed up and saw a vast mountain range. “Wow, is that what we have to get through?” barked Dott. “How do we get up the first mountain?” barked Brass. Dott pointed, “There’s a path!”

They walked up the path, and Brass barked, “Ouch! I tripped on a rock! I will now bark at it.” He turned around to find that the ‘rock’ was really a choc chip cookie. “Yum!” said Dott. He ran to eat it, but before he could take a bite, Brass shouted,

“STOOOOOPPPPPPPPP!!!!!! DON’T YOU KNOW CHOCOLATE IS DEADLY FOR CANINE ADVENTURERS?!!!” “Oh!” Dott said sadly, “haven’t they made dog chocolate yet?” he took one last sniff of it and trotted away.

After the torture of an hour walking down the path of newly baked choc chip biccies, Dott was famished. Then they saw that the path was opening out, so they started to run.

Suddenly they felt that they were falling, down, down, down, finally landing on a white cushion. Brass licked it and shouted, “Dott, Dott! It’s ice cream!” Ice cream being Brass’ number one

(continued on page 8)

*(Rescue on Horror Lolly Island  
continued from page 7...)*

favourite food, he had already started licking away madly. After half an hour of eating, Brass and Dott realised that they were full, and that they were stuck in the valley of ice cream.

“What do we do? How do we get out?” sobbed desperate Dott. “Don’t worry!” Said Brass, “I’ll call our furry friends to help.”  
“.....”

Back on Dangar Island, Lennie, Ginny, and Sinatra all heard the distress call and were ready to respond in an instant. “How do we get there?” asked Sinatra. “We’ll stow away on that seaplane!” cried Lennie, pointing towards a plane about to take off in the bay. They swam out as fast as their paws would take them and clambered tiredly into the cabin.

After thirty minutes in the air, the door to the cockpit opened and a man came out to check on the cargo, when he saw 3 enormous shadows with sharp teeth and terrifying growls. He was so scared, he rushed back to the cockpit and told the pilot that there were three monsters growling in the back of the plane. The two of them then grabbed a parachute each, strapped them to their backs, and jumped out of the plane.

“What do we do now?” said Sinatra.

“Luckily, I have a pilot licence!” said Lennie.

“Then let’s go!” said Ginny.

...

Back at the DHQ (Dog Head Quarters), Moggie was contacting Lennie on the telephone.

“This is Moggie at DHQ, Lennie, do you copy?”

“Receiving you loud and clear, over.”

“Here is the exact place to find Brass and Dott:

I don’t know any coordinates, but in two minutes you will be directly over them, so throw out your rope soon!”

“Roger that!” barked Lennie.

Back on the plane, Sinatra and Ginny threw out the rope. Down in the valley, Dott and Brass saw the plane. Brass stood on Dott’s back and grabbed the rope with his teeth. “Pull us up, Ginny!” shouted Dott. So she did, “Thank dog you came at the right time!” said Brass. “Now to rescue Lorand and Jasmine.”

“I’ll balance the plane on the top of the mountain.” said Lennie, “So hang on tight!”

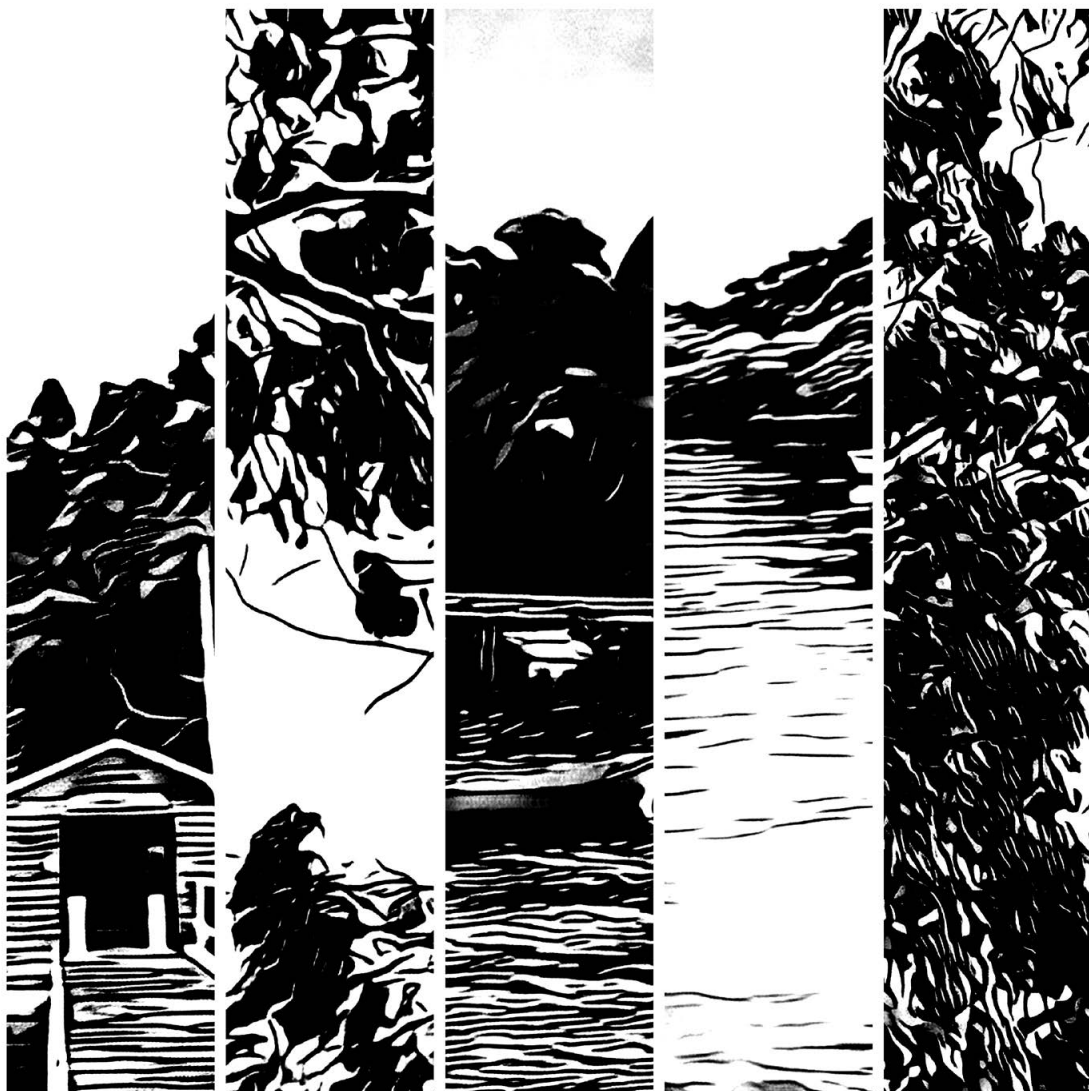


Image Martin Cole 2020



Lennie expertly landed the plane on top of the mountain. The dogs jumped out and ran down to find a river of jelly. And there in the middle of the river was a giant jelly snake, waiting to devour any who dared to come near.

"Leave it to me!" barked Sinatra. "I will eat it."

She made a running jump into the river, grabbed the jelly snake by the neck, and gobbled it up. Then all the other dogs swam across.

When they got to the next valley, they saw that it was a waterfall. Suddenly, Ginny tripped and fell in!

"Help!" she cried, "I can't get out! It must be bubble gum!"

After thinking for a minute, Brass told everyone to follow him. He went round the back of the waterfall and started blocking the waterfall off. Every dog chipped in to help. The gum

started to drain away.

"Hold on, Ginny! Grab a rock or something!" shouted Dott. When Ginny had gotten out, Lennie started to lick her clean.

"Remember not to swallow it, Lennie!" said Sinatra.

The dogs carried on the way. The next valley was...

"A giant jar of HONEY AND BACON!!??" barked Sinatra.

"This must be where Lorand and Jasmine are stuck!" said Brass.

"I see them!" cried Lennie.

They jumped into the giant jar of honey. Soon, all the honey and bacon was gone. But they still had to get out.

"Hang on, this jar is made of sugar glass!" said Dott. "We can eat our way out!"

...

Back on Dangar, everyone wanted to know how Lorand and Jasmine had gotten in to the jar of honey.

"Well," Jasmine said, "That's quite a long story"

"I was wheeling a cart of bacon along the road, when I slipped and fell into a giant jar of honey. All the bacon fell in, too. Lorand tried to pull me out, but he fell in as well. An enormous gust of wind blew us all the way across the water to the edge of Horror Lolly Island. As the beach was at a 55° angle, we were pushed into the air and landed in the valley.

Luckily, Lorand had his distress bacon with him, and could call for help. About six hours later, Brass, Dott, Sinatra, Ginny and Lennie found us.

And you know the rest...until next time!



## Best of the Wurst

Once again we venture into Arn's kitchen - this time to explore his love of sausages!

**MM:** Hello Arn, and thanks for speaking with us today

**Arn:** You again!

**MM:** So, sausages, how important are they as a menu item?

**Arn:** Every culture tends to have developed some form of sausage or sausage equivalent. It makes sense! Add herbs and spices to meat off cuts and scraps, *et voila!* A tasty sausage, to eat fresh or store for later. You could say there is a sausage for every taste!

**MM:** What makes a good sausage, in your view?

**Arn:** It needs to be firm, well flavoured, not too fatty or gristly. The filling should be coarsely

ground, preferably a natural casing. Personally I prefer thick sausages, although thin sausages can be good in some dishes.

**MM:** What would you usually serve on the side when dishing up a tasty hot sausage?

**Arn:** You want to create a contrast with the rich, meaty flavours, by introducing an acidic or tart condiment, such as a pickle, mustard, or sauerkraut.

**MM:** What would you attribute your love of sausages to?

**Arn:** I think probably my family heritage. My dad's side of the family came from Prussia, and the peasant food tradition of sausage making has been passed on. I think it is in the blood.

**MM:** So your earliest exposure to sausages would have been German sausage varieties?

**Arn:** Yes, and there is a wide variety. They range from salami style e.g. mettwurst, to sandwich style such as berlina or fritz. Also boiling sausages such as frankfurters, and grilling sausages

e.g. bratwurst (which will often be par-boiled before grilling.)

**MM:** Is it essential for a sausage to contain meat?

**Arn:** According to Senator McDonald, apparently yes.

**MM:** What do you think of non-German sausages?

**Arn:** I like them! Spicy Italian, hearty English, hot Spanish, delicate Asian.

**MM:** Is there any particular international sausage that you especially like?

**Arn:** Yes I like Vietnamese silken sausage, which is served like a mortadella, cold, sliced with fresh Vietnamese mint, coriander, shredded carrot, pickled vegetables, chopped chillies, Kewpie mayonnaise, on a baguette spread with paté.

**MM:** Do you make your own Vietnamese sausage? And would you share the recipe?

**Arn:** Yes, sure. They are pretty easy to make. *Recipe on p10*

**Interview by Mullet Mail**

# Vietnamese silken sausage

Arn Storch

½ kg ground chicken and pork (or turkey)

1 tbsp chopped coriander

Two stalks lemongrass (white part only) flash fried and then ground

2 tsp fish sauce

½ tsp salt

1 tsp palm sugar

4 cloves garlic, minced

1 tsp fresh chopped chillies or chillies flakes

Stir all ingredients together then work with your hands until the mixture becomes sticky. Form into a roll approximately 12 cm long and 7 cm wide. Wrap in a banana leaf (or gladwrap) and then foil. Tie with kitchen string and refrigerate for at least an hour. Place in a saucepan of water, bring to the boil and then simmer on high heat for approximately 40 minutes. The sausage will float when cooked. Remove, and you will notice that the sausage shrinks a little as it cools. Unwrap, slice and serve cold. Delicious!



## In The Habit

with Crispin Friar

Sensational developments in last issue's *Philip Mamouth with Spunk* story. **Dee Why Breakers** was raided by the police half way through **Philip's** afternoon show. He escaped through **The Carvery**, and went on the lam for a full week before being caught on CCTV trying to rob a **Newcastle Permanent**. Although the footage was grainy, there was clear audio of **Spunk** yelling "cut the nunney in the gag!"

**June Gold's** year off for self-discovery is over after just two days. Turns out she was right where she'd left herself.

Northsider **Terry Towling** has asked us to publish a formal apology to the family of the late **Giddy Upmore**. While he does have a current CPR certificate, he now realises *How Deep Is Your Love* was the wrong **Bee Gees** song.

It's hats off (literally!) to **Steve Churt** for deciding to embrace his baldness, and *In The Habit* is behind him all the way. Let's face it, that **Mariners** cap was fooling no-one. **Steve** needed a course of testosterone for congenital microgonad when he was aged just 6, and was forcibly ejected from an **Ikea** ball pit because he had a full beard. "My voice broke in primary school," he says, "and my armpits looked like I had **Reggie Watts** in a headlock. I'm paying the price now." Indeed he is.

Catch you on the uptide!

## Dangar Stories

In January 2022 a short mobile phone film-making course was held on Dangar Island. Scan QR link for some of the stories from that course.



Our community mover, 'Red Fred', recently said good bye to it's namesake Manfred Merl.

Manfred, you set an example of community spirit on the island with your gardening, first aid (for people

and animals), fire brigade and treasury, plus your dedication to connecting with people particularly as they became isolated due to ill health. You and your chess set and scrabble board saw many a friendly session all over the island wherever it was needed. We hope the buggy driver team can achieve an echo of your generosity and energy in your absence. You will be sorely missed in the community, Manfred. Thank you for everything. Good luck to you and Joan for the next phase of your life up the coast on the mainland.

**Dear New Residents** - ... If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver with the island's own community vehicle, please call Judy Nikola on 0415 488 606. All you need is a current NSW driver's license and a bit of free time.

**Cybele Shorter**, Dangar Island Vehicle Management Committee



Image Martin Cole 2020





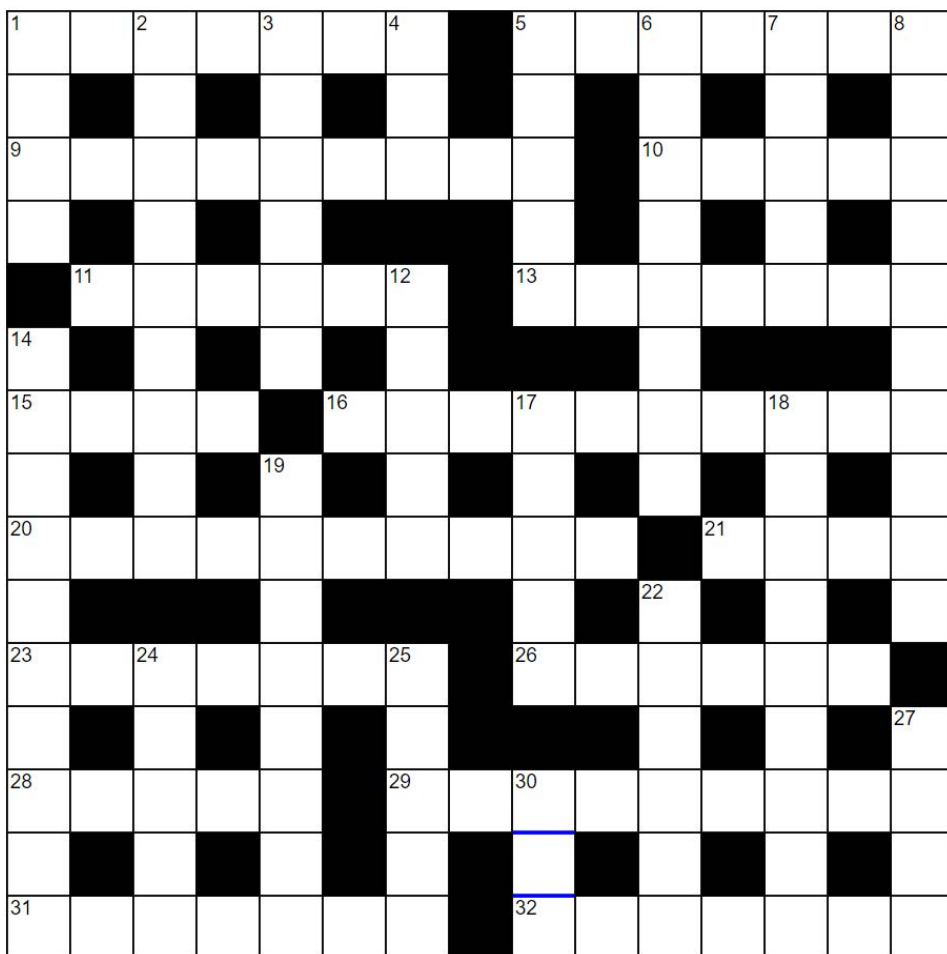
Cryptic #009 by Chico. Tricky in parts, this one should offer a few beachheads in the form of four anagrams and eight double definitions.

## Across

1. Hot load is unhealthy (7)
5. Lowlife starts to school umpire's knock on (7)
9. Readily recalling Everett in disarray (9)
10. Singers echo irrational interior (5)
11. Young seals around fashionable models (6)
13. Birds with Emma's wings on Lake Macquarie (7)
15. Shit, pissed (4)
16. Sheltered from cold and hung around, catching bus finally (10)
20. Subway, perhaps, let street atmosphere enter (10)
21. Fundamentalist army goddess (4)
22. Firm's good and plentiful (7)
26. Barracks for bottoms up (6)
28. Chambers return song, thanks (5)
29. Come in after fish and chippy (9)
31. They're billed a pair of tins by phone (7)
32. Initially advise voter against keeping record parallel (7)

## Down

1. John acts insulted (4)
2. Shopkeepers rise later for a change (9)
3. Bogeyman feeds on vegetable matter (6)
4. Sounds like what you'd do with a wreath! (3)
5. Vessel fitted with bench gets seasick (5)
6. Bold during lunch astern (8)
7. Radley gets 2 points for stimuli (5)
8. Madly adores Ming feast (10)
12. Sunny plexus, perhaps (5)
14. Martial art on display in Crawford St mayhem (10)
17. Uber famous caught out classical order (5)
18. "Strong coffee, stirred," it retorts (9)
19. View of Hindu deity after father's number (8)
22. Incomplete man on Longoria Lake (6)
24. Super duper contents obsolete (5)
25. "Eso sí que es!" said hosiery (5)



27. Devastating 1975 Cyclone Charlie removed drinks carrier (4)
30. Messenger risks not arriving initially (1,1,1)

Collaborate and get help on the Dangar Island Community Facebook Group. Post a comment to give or get help, and I'll offer hints if you're stuck.



Hawkesbury River Floods 2022  
- Lost & Found item #672



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