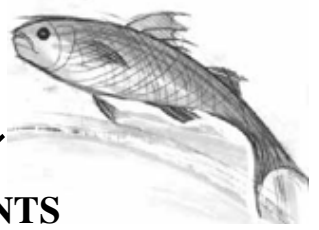


Mullet Mail



NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESIDENTS

Vol. # 58

www.dangarisland.net

Autumn 2018

Content found in this publication does not represent the views of the Dangar Island League

Talking With Ted

*We have some pretty special people here on Dangar. Many of our readers will already know Ted, but perhaps not so much about his life, and what led him to embrace the island as his home. Here's some of what the softly spoken, humble man told his neighbour **Judy Lattas**.*



Ted recently celebrated his 95th birthday. He was born in Berlin in 1922, in transit to Austria where the family settled. His German father had been sent to Australia before WWI to learn more about the wool buying business. It was here he had met and married Ted's mother. Returning to Europe, the couple hiked over the Alps so that the Australian bride could experience the Continent. Ted worked out she must have been pregnant with him at the time.

As WWII approached, teenager Ted was unable to resist the pressure to join Hitler Youth. At first he focussed on positives – fulfilling a dream to fly, to go gliding – but as he climbed its ranks, he was repelled by its philosophy and practices. He and his brother were sent to war and became POWs, but Ted was

brought home when he was deemed too sick to live through a Russian winter. Back in Austria he was treated for dysentery. He actually had typhoid, and only just survived. Ted, now clearly anti-Nazi, was left with a severe psychological condition after witnessing atrocities against Jews. He no longer spoke German, and was convinced that the swastika on his uniform was a devil's mark. The family was granted alien rights to move to Australia in 1949.

Ted was given the opportunity to study electrical engineering for a year but found he wanted to live out on the land and pursue his father's interest in wool production. He married and had 3 children. The farm wasn't big enough to provide a good living, and one flood too many put an end to it. He worked with telecommunications – until he heard about this new thing called computer programming. Ted was one of the earliest to go into that field, at a time when there were just 5 computers in Sydney, each the size of a room. He worked for IBM for years.

One day he heard about Dr Elisabeth Kübler-Ross and her book *On Death and Dying*. She was at Armidale for a day-night workshop; Ted decided to attend. He resigned from IBM immediately afterwards. This was a start of a new passion: finding the best ways to comfort and support those whose death was catching up with them. Ted continues to add his own singular wisdom, experience and compassion to the Kübler-Ross ethos, in palliative care. He also works for Lifeline as a telephone crisis supporter.

It was at his time in Armidale that Ted met Maryke. A Dutch physiotherapist, she had embraced the alternative lifestyle and feminist politics of the early 1970s. Ted was drawn into her whirlwind, leaving his wife Jean. They roamed around and he lived in various communes, sometimes with his daughters, soaking up the new ideas and possibilities that animated the era, including anti-logging activism. Eventually they parted ways, and Ted found himself back in Sydney, in his parents' home in Berowra.

Ted met Helen in the early 1990s when he was offered transport to a Bondi workshop - appropriately called "A Course in Miracles". Helen moved to Dangar Island, which she recalled from her bushwalking days, after a vivid dream telling her to go "where there are birds and water." For Ted it was "like a dream coming true;" finding a community he could feel at home in, similar to being in communes or at forest blockades. The challenges are all just part and parcel of life here, he says.

Dangar Island League Presidents Report

Dear Residents,

The League have been busy since Christmas.

Hornsby Council

In early February, we met with the Mayor, Phillip Ruddock and our three Ward A Councillors (Nathan Tilbury, Warren Waddell and Mick Marr). During this meeting, we asked Council to action outstanding waste-related issues, and we talked at length about the ute and Brooklyn Masterplan.

Outcomes include commitment from Council to:

- Respond to our suggestions for improved waste management, particularly for residents on Riverview
- Support the ongoing availability of the ute, as an essential service to residents
- Work with state authorities to negotiate increased storage space for the CFR
- Facilitate a meeting of the League with the Brooklyn Masterplan consultants
- Consider improvement of the Scramble as part of the new HSC Walking Path Strategy. The League has agreed to promote resident input into this strategy.

State Government

Next steps for the League include a meeting with our local member Matt Kean, to discuss state government related island priorities, including:

- An Opal Card reader for the ferry
- Hawkesbury River station lift
- Remediation work in the reserve after removal of the tank
- Sydney Water sharing their shed space with the CFR
- Peat Island development

February Public Meeting

At our February Public Meeting, we discussed all the issues being addressed at a local and state government level. There were robust discussions regarding the wharf, ute, our roads, waste, Brooklyn Masterplan, walking paths, Sydney Water remediation work and the Mullet Mail.

Everyone is encouraged to attend our meetings as an opportunity to hear the concerns of other residents; to get an

update on League activity; and to raise any issues you would like the League to champion.

Attendance at the last meeting was quite low, so we have committed to more proactive promotion of the next session in June.

Mullet Mail goes electronic!

The next edition of the Mullet Mail is when we will transition to email distribution.

We have made this decision for many reasons, most notably to demonstrate the League's commitment to the environment and to move to a more cost-effective model.

All residents for whom we have email addresses will receive their edition electronically. As is the case now, it will also be available on the League's website. We will continue to provide the café and club with hard copies, and a limited number will be available to take away from the café for a gold coin donation. It is therefore very important that we have your correct email address.

If you wish to receive the Mullet Mail by email or become a League member (\$5 p.a.), please email: secretary@dangarislandleague.net.au

The Secretary's email is also how you can reach us at any time with feedback or suggestions.

Have a wonderful Autumn,

Sophia Walsh,
Dangar Island League President



Dangar Island League Membership

If your membership details have changed and you would like to update them and continue to receive occasional email updates from the Dangar Island League please send your current details to:

secretary@dangarislandleague.net



**Dangar Island
Community First Responders**
For medical emergencies on the Island

...Call Triple Zero...

•We run a 24/7 roster that provides emergency medical response for islanders and visitors

•We provide emergency care, and we liaise with the paramedics so they can get to you quickly.

•In an emergency, please don't call individual CFRs on our mobile numbers – this is unreliable and slows us down

•At the same time an ambulance is being dispatched for you, the CFRs on duty are called up by the NSW Ambulance control centre.

•Pensioners and those with health insurance are covered

•If you're not covered, consider taking out "ambulance only" health insurance



DIBC Update

It's tough to write this report on the Monday after the biggest weekend of the year, our 3rd DANGARDIGRAS! So....it will be short and I know I have your understanding...

Wow! What a turn out on the 2nd for DANGARDIGRAS - many estimate there were over three hundred people on the island for the event. This year the event committee was headed by Aaron Zorzo our appointed Dangardigras President and supported by many in our neighbourhood. Dale Killick pushed to ensure that we had a show this time round - and what a show it WAS. I can't wait to see how it develops for 2019!! Thanks to all those who attended, participated, volunteered and for all the love.

2018 has been action packed! The club has hosted 5 major events since our 100th Open Mic Night in December and we have another 4 before the end of April. Our team of volunteers and staff are working harder than ever for you. Our staffing has increased with the addition of professionals in the kitchen to assist our talented Chef Marcus on event days and more casual bar staff to help with your drinks.

The Bowlo has invested in some umbrellas for weekend shade and we hope that you like them (I know you do!).

A special mention to our team at the Bowlo who volunteered to host the commemoration for the passing of Jimmy No Shoes, it was a truly beautiful service and a wonderful turn out. Our thoughts go out to his friends and family.

Each event over the past year has been a massive boost to the club and further strengthens our commitment to providing our community with a social hub. There are some major improvements the club needs to undertake such as fixing our refrigeration systems, our air conditioners and a new grill for the kitchen. General building maintenance is also needed to keep her shining. So please continue to support us and the events that our volunteers and staff put on for our wonderful community. Further to this, I must personally thank everyone for their donation to the GoFundMe campaign that has so far raised in excess of half of the \$8000 we require for our refrigeration, it is always so heartening to see such generosity from our community.

Hope to see you all at Island Live on the 18th for Bek Jensen! And please feel free to provide me with any feedback or suggestions you have for our Bowlo to leigh@catapultdesign.net.au

Leigh Johnson
President

Coming Events:

Sunday 18th of March
Island Live presents Bek Jensen



Sydney based Bek Jensen is a quiet storm that rages to a pop banshee. She's a cheeky, soulful pop songstress who aims to make the heart sing. Well established as a sought after backing vocalist, Bek has recorded and toured nationally with some of Australia's finest artists including Jimmy Barnes, Tina Harrod, Sleepy Jackson and Paul McDermott and has released

numerous original recordings under different guises. Bek is one of the finest vocalists you'll hear this year, and her combination of her own compositions and soulful covers will make this a memorable day at the best little club in the country.

April 1st, Easter Sunday Island Live presents - Ricky Nifo

Ricky Nifo is a truly gifted vocalist. Performing songs from the long and illustrious history of Soul music and beyond, Ricky is fast becoming one of Sydney's most popular soloists with his spine tingling soulful voice and funky guitar playing. This is one not to miss!!



Easter Trading Hours:

We will be open on Good Friday, Saturday and Sunday and closed on Easter Monday. A public holiday surcharge will apply to the menu on the Good Friday, please understand this is a way for the club to make being open on a public holiday an economically viable solution and we need your support! So, book a table for this auspicious occasion.

Thursday 19th of April 6pm to 9:30pm Island Live presents The Garifuna Collective (Belize) LIVE

The Dangar Island Bowlo is extremely proud to present a once in a lifetime chance to see this extraordinary, world-renowned group from Belize in such a unique, intimate setting. The Garifuna culture has been shaped over centuries by their mixed



ethnicity and location, their music an intoxicating mixture of African rhythm and Latin American grooves. The Garifuna Collective are carrying the torch of their unique culture into the

future, expanding on the story of this fascinating community, which is struggling to retain its unique language, music, and traditions in the face of globalization. The band bring together the deep cultural roots of Garifuna music, mixed with modern grooves, arrangements, and instruments. Unique hand drums, turtle shells and jawbones, guitars and bass are all used. The musicians create a powerful energy on stage, building hypnotizing rhythms that form the backbone for the haunting melodies and powerful vocals that characterize the project.

Cont. on Pg. 4

This is a free event but booking for dinner is essential. The show is being subsidized by our wonderful volunteer run club, but we will be requesting a suggested \$10 donation to go directly towards the group's expenses.

PAV Smash

The inaugural Pav Smash was held on our Australia Day long weekend and hosted by the Bowlo. The competition was fierce. 11 entries in varying degrees of taste and appearance were submitted to massive applause.



In the end, the best was won by the best! Bill Lyn-Robinson's entry was the stand out winner! His form, flavour and presentation were unsurpassed and undoubtedly the result of weeks of meticulous preparation and appropriate egging on by fellow competitors in the lead-up to this exciting day. Our thoughts are with Trevor, who was runner up and lives next to the winner. I'm sure the days following were quite painful..... A special mention to the loser of the day, strangely, made by Pav.

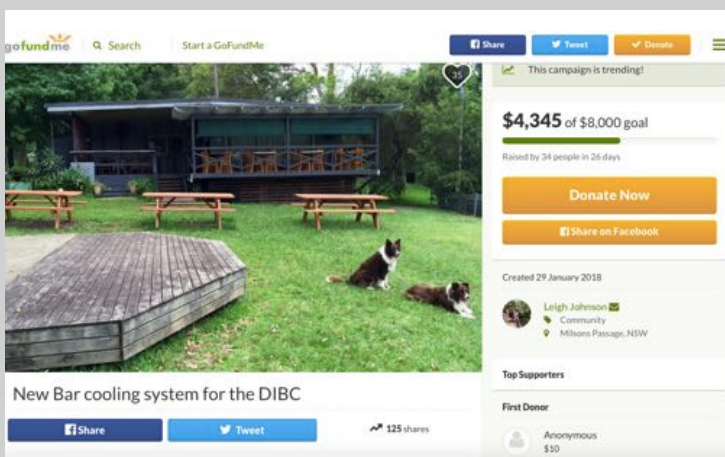
The spoils were eagerly devoured by onlookers as the competition progressed and I mean, who doesn't love a good PAV, there were no left overs.....The question is now, do we do it again? Please let the Bowlo know if you would like to see this competition continue.



Thanks to Bill Lynn Robinson for the delicious photography

DIBC FUND RAISER

New Bar Cooling System For The DIBC



The Dangar Island Bowling Club has been the cornerstone of the island social life since it was established in the 50s.

Run by a dedicated and small staff of island locals, with the oversight, marketing, management and guidance of a volunteer board of 7 directors, our little club is an amazing place and an island institution.

Recently, it has become evident that our aged, fan belt driven cooling system is no longer keeping up demand and our refrigerated drinks are not as cold as would be desired. The system was initially set up wrong and the original cooling system is cooling both our bar fridges and

the cool room. Something that would not be the case anymore.

We need to purchase an additional cooling system to chill our Bar Fridges that will run independently from the original cool room system. Ensuring cold beverages and goods for years to come.

The current quote is an estimate of approx \$8,000 of which the non-profit club simply cannot afford. I therefore am seeking donations from our community and the public to go towards this massive expense.

This new cooling system working with our current one will ensure great customer satisfaction.

DIBC President Leigh Johnson

Community Garden

There has been a lot of feedback from neighbours that we should have a community garden. Some of us have yards with little direct sun (the joys of many trees) and it would be another great way for our community to get together and prosper through literal growth!

The Bowlo would like to host the community garden in the area directly to the East of the Bowling Green

adjacent to the South side of the Bowling Club Kitchen. It would be our intention to encourage the community garden group to build composting facilities and worm farms and cultivate the ground or build above ground garden beds in that area. We would like to call for volunteers to run this program (yes another island committee) and we ask for expressions of interest to:
leigh@catapultdesign.net.au

It would be great to have this group formed, ready and up and running by

Spring to plant our first crop. Anyone with grant application skills would also be greatly appreciated, <http://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/community/community-services/community-grants>



Dangar Island Rural Fire Brigade Autumn Fire Safety Message

With summer now behind us, it is time to think about winter fire safety.

There are a few precautions you can take around your home to reduce your risk of fire over winter:

- Do you have smoke alarms? Every home should have smoke alarms fitted. Change the batteries and test them.
- Have a small fire extinguisher and fire blanket in the home. Keep them in the kitchen in case of a cooking fire.
- Make sure your chimney is clean and place a screen in front of open fires.
- Keep bedding and curtains away from heaters.
- Don't place wet clothes too close or on the heater.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Extinguish open flames, including candles, before going to sleep.

You should also think about what you would do if there is a fire in the home. Will your family be safe?

Now is the time to prepare a home escape plan, and then practise it with the whole family.

Try it by day and by night. Time yourself.

- ★ Identify two escape routes out of each room.
- ★ Agree on a meeting point outside the home.
- ★ Keep low when escaping a smoky house.
- ★ Get out and stay out.
- ★ Call 000

And of course – the cooler months are a great time to prepare your home for next bush fire season.

Talk to your brigade members about what you can do around the home – or visit our facebook page for a link to the **MyFirePlan**.

Kathy Merrick

JAMES PAYNE – OUR OWN LITTLE SUPER HERO

At 5pm on Friday 23th February, exactly two years and two weeks after James was diagnosed with pre-B Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia, we were given the most wonderful news that **James is completely free of leukaemia!**

At diagnosis, 2018 seemed like such a long time away to Andy and I; we cannot imagine how it felt to James.

James had a lumbar puncture and bone marrow biopsy at the Oncology Clinic at Westmead Children's Hospital earlier in the week, just as he had before he was diagnosed. This time however, after the procedure, he rang the Celebration Bell – which all the children lucky enough to finish treatment get to do.

The Celebration Bell is a lovely big brass one, that makes plenty noise which reverberates throughout the clinic and out into the corridor.

Ringling the bell is a huge occasion in clinic. Our fellow cancer families clapped and cheered us on, acknowledging the enormity of the moment, despite whatever they had going on that day. Hearing that bell ring always gave us hope, something to look forward to throughout James's treatment. Sadly, the bell doesn't ring as often as it should. Needless to say it was a highly emotional moment and I didn't even pretend to have dry eyes while James beamed.

So, now we have arrived at this magic milestone, what does it all mean?

It means many things. James has stopped taking daily chemotherapy. We are already seeing his appetite return. He weighs less now than he did before he was diagnosed.

James will have regular follow up over the next 3 years, initially monthly trips to hospital, meaning yet more pokes, blood draws and procedures. James's immune system will take some time to recover before he can be re-vaccinated (the chemotherapy wipes out all of his immunities). It will be another 12 months before he will have anything like a normal immunity.

The seven-year-old who has been through two years of cancer treatment is way more on the ball with this than the five-year-old that started this journey.

I still feel like I live in a parallel universe to the one I actually inhabit. I feel more at home in hospitals than I do anywhere else. They (medical staff and cancer families) speak the same language as me, worry about platelets and white cell counts and liver function. Someone said to me very early on after James was diagnosed, 'your life will forever be changed and split into two separate lives; life BEFORE paediatric cancer and life AFTER paediatric cancer'. They were spot on!

Being a parent is a tricky thing to navigate, we second guess our choices and worry when our children are unwell. Believe me this is magnified to a painful level when your child has cancer. No hug or bandaid is going to make it better. You are completely helpless and useless and can't meet the most basic needs of your child and their illness.

What can you do? How can you help kids with cancer?

Andy has a team walking in the Bob 'Tug' Wilson 10th anniversary walk for kids with cancer, which will raise money for the Children's Cancer Clinic at Westmead Children's Hospital.

The walk is on 25th March, a scenic 26km walk around Sydney Harbour from Circular Quay to Manly. If you feel you could join Team James please contact us or go to <https://walk-for-kids-cancer.everydayhero.com/au/andy> and support our team in any way you can.

Another way to support families coping with a cancer diagnosis, adult or paediatric, is to donate blood. Blood products are one of the major advancements in cancer survivorship, and James has benefited from red cells, platelets, albumin and immunoglobulin transfusions to support him through his treatment over the years. Go on, do it!

Thanks to all in our community for the amazing support in so many ways over the last 2 years. We hope we can repay some of the kindness and generosity in the future.

Vanessa Payne



House of Music

When a group of talented river folk meet up the result is big music, good food and convivial company.

Every Sunday for at least twelve months a group of musicians has gathered at Grahame Morey's house on Dangar Island for an afternoon of music.

Under the gentle leadership of Steve Cleary, a cacophony of brass and wind instruments along with drums, keyboard, double bass and vocals work together to bring life to Steve's original compositions and arrangements. He explains that '...it's exciting to get a whole bunch of people together and play music...'.

In addition to this, he makes the point that one of the most enjoyable aspects of these Sunday afternoon gatherings is their collaborative and harmonious nature, there are 'no arguments...' and friendships have been strengthened.

This group is yet another example of Dangar Island's creative spirit....may it continue to grow.

Marina Garvey



MARMALADE

Old Marmalade

Stretched out on the trellis
Catching the sun among
the leaves

A whisker steals the air
The foliage in siege
Quiet

Timeless
The tiered leaves
The light green sky
Marmalade flicks his tale

Coils of the vine
intertwine the wire
Frames of the canopy
The gold in the mire
Mottled in sunshade
Slunk in the bower
Marmalade
Magnificent
Commands every hour

The skirt of the trappings
The gateway of the flyer
Borders the ominous
Within to aspire
Held perfected
Unleashed
The cats kill for life
Feigns benign indifference
To a vision in flight

Garry Mahony



OPENERS

A bottle top
Serrated edges with a cork
in-stop
Sealing down with teeth like
grip
Mechanical hold on a glassy
lip
It ceases to function with a
flick of the wrist
Sweet effervescence
Gasses escape
The essence is free
And ready to taste

Garry Mahony





It was great to see such a strong community turn out once again for the 3rd Annual DANGARDIGRAS! What an amazing and fun-filled night. Hosted by the Bowlo, this third event was even bigger and better than the last one and our sincerest thanks especially to those who gave up their time and talent to put on such a magnanimous event. Our special thanks go to:

Aaron Zorzo - Mardi Gras President and performer
Dale Killick - staging the performances and performing
Kim and Michelle - organising the Dycicles on Bicycles
Leigh Johnson - MC & lighting
Steve Griffiths - sound equipment and performing
 Our performers:
Tia Yas Queen - Cher
Stuart Allen - Donald Trump
Gus, Leo & Louis - Mexican Performers
Dean Finnigan, Steve Griffiths, Evan Walsh and Jonathan - Spice Boys Performers
Jo and Lorenzo - Performers
Our community heroes: The First Responders and the CFA for their participation in the parade.
And everyone who went to the effort to dress up and participate in our parade.
Jonathan, Cybele and their amazing band of Drummers without whom the parade would not be the same!
Bill Lynne Robinson for the photography
 Next year will be even bigger, so start preparing for that!





Co-existing with Birds and other wildlife on Dangar Island

Dangar Island is like a Garden of Eden, but our pets can intrude and cause damage without us being aware of it. We need to be conscious of how we individually impact the island.

One of the best things on Dangar Island is the birds. They start our days with their morning calls and the nocturnal birds like the Boobook Owl and the Frogmouth fill the night with their mysterious calls. Throughout the day we enjoy the beauty of Eastern Rosellas and Rainbow Lorikeets and the songs of Magpies and Pied Currawongs.

This article has been written due to native birds, recently found killed by cats and witnessing a cat dragging a dead Ring-tail Possum. You may not realise that extensive studies in Australia and overseas shows that pet cats can bring home between 5 - 30 animals, including birds, possums, lizards and frogs a year; many kill far more than that and even snakes, as well as larger birds and mammals. Cats are instinctive hunters and with their keen hearing and smell can

easily locate even sleeping and hiding wildlife.

Keeping a pet is very special, but pet ownership carries responsibilities. If you have a pet cat and want it to coexist with the birds and other wildlife on the island there are ways you can keep native wildlife safe:

* Keep your cat indoors. To help your cat be happy indoors, provide a scratching post to climb, toys, a box by the window, daily attention and clean kitty litter.

* Use a cat friendly cat bib made from thin lightweight neoprene - soft, stretchy and durable. They fold over the cats safety collar and are comfortable for cats to wear. Murdoch University has scientifically proven that the CatBib stopped over 80% of cats killing wild birds and reduced small animal predation by almost 50%.

* Board up cat doors to prevent your cat from roaming and other cats from entering. Many cat owners in Australia attach a wire tunnel from the cat door for access to fresh air and

sunshine to a cat enclosure. There are many outdoor cat enclosure designs to see online. A cat enclosure will also protect your cat from diseases and fights from other cats, prevent unwanted pregnancies and keep bad smells from the litter box outside. The collar and bell option is questionable as cats can muffle a bell when stalking and native animals don't always associate the sound of a bell with danger.

If you find a sick, injured or orphaned bird, keep all pets and people away to reduce stress. On Dangar Island you can take the bird to Sydney Wildlife 94134300 representatives Manfred Merl, 99857419 and Jan & Ron Barrelle, 99858646.



Ana Pollak

Wildlife Friendly Gardens

Below are 12 top tips, courtesy of the WIRES website, for a wildlife friendly garden:

- 1 Plant native trees, ground cover and shrubs. Larger plants should be complemented by ground covers, grasses and small dense shrubs, as dense undergrowth provides protection for small birds and reptiles like blue-tongue lizards.
- 2 Choose plants like eucalyptus and lemon scented gums that provide food for possums as well as providing for flying-foxes in the form of nectar and pollen.
- 3 Place possum boxes in a safe high place in your yard.
- 4 Place a pond in a sheltered spot to provide water for birds and habitat frogs.
- 5 Provide large rocks for habitat for lizards.
- 6 Allow mulch to build up as this will decrease the need for water and provide feeding opportunities and nesting material for ground birds and small mammals.
- 7 Grassed areas are attractive for some birds like magpies and noisy miners.
- 8 Talk to your neighbours about planting to increase habitat in your local area.
- 9 If you use netting and fencing please use wildlife safe netting and fencing.
- 10 Avoid chemicals and pesticides in your garden. You might only be planning to kill snails but if native animals eat the poisoned snails they can be poisoned as well. Instead use safe, natural, non-chemical alternatives for pest control and cleaning.
- 11 Providing a simple, shallow birdbath in a place that is safe from cats.
- 12 Leave leaf litter in your garden to attract insects and lizards and use dead hollowed tree limbs as nesting sites.

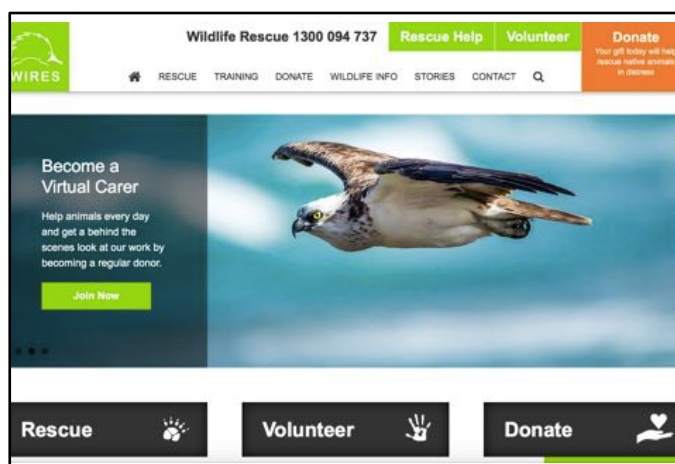
Can I feed native birds?

WIRES does not recommend that you feed any native birds for the following reasons:

- * Most birds eat a balanced diet; 90% eat insects and nectar, seed or fruit. People feeding birds the wrong food changes the balance of their diet and can negatively impact their health.
- * Feeding birds can increase aggression and stress as many try to feed together, this wouldn't happen naturally.
- * Feeding can increase the quantity of non-native birds, non-native rats and cockroaches, as the more food they get the more they breed.
- * Artificial feeding can change the balance of species in the wild as it can increase some species, which in turn, decreases others. The Rainbow lorikeet for example has taken great advantage of the artificial feeding and has all but eliminated the shy Scaly Breasted lorikeet from our urban areas.
- * Feeding can spread disease through a concentration of food and birds in large numbers in one place.
- * Bird seed left out in damp conditions rots, grows mould and introduces disease to the birds, and can attract rats and mice.
- * Feeding encourages birds to become dependent on

humans for their survival. They can lose the ability to find food for themselves, this is particularly so if they are juveniles who should be learning to find their natural food.

- * It can cause sickness and deformities in young as high quantities of salt are present in bread and processed foods.
- * Feeding can make them overweight and high quantities of fat are present in processed food and meat. Raw meat is lacking in calcium and has high levels of phosphorous which contribute to dietary imbalance and severe deficiencies.
- * Artificial feeding is not necessary. Native birds do not need extra food as they are well adapted to their environment and will be much healthier and happier.



Snakes on an island..... Manfred Merl

We're here, they're here, we're living in a rural wonderland, we need to learn to live together. If you have a snake on your property call WIRES Wildlife Rescue Line **13000WIRES/13000094737**. Alternatively call Murray Campbell **040-977-6914** in Brooklyn.

Throughout NSW snakes are a protected species and it requires a permit to remove them. It is an offence under the National Parks and Wildlife Act to kill or remove a snake from its environment, with fines of up to \$10,000 and two years imprisonment enforceable. "The only exception is if a venomous snake is posing a genuine threat to life and safety." Think "do I really want to go to court to defend my actions"

What to do if you find a snake:

If you encounter a snake outdoors on private or public land:

- leave the snake alone
- move away from it calmly
- do not run or make sudden moves
- be observant and watch where it goes
- remain calm (do not shout, scream etc).

If you encounter a snake indoors:

- watch where it goes
- get everyone out of the room
- close the door
- call a qualified/licensed snake catcher.

Never try to catch, injure or kill a snake. It's dangerous to approach a snake. Snakes are protected species and must only be handled by a trained and licensed snake catcher.



FIRE BRIGADE FUNDRAISER

SHANE
JACOBSON

SARAH
SNOOK

ALAN
TUDYK

DEBORAH
MAILMAN

Oddball

Every underdog has his day



DANGAR ISLAND HALL

6^{PM} EASTER SAT 31ST MAR

DELICIOUS CURRIES, CAKES AND DRINKS ON SALE

Pedant's Corner

Have you noticed lately the blatant flouting of the Eleventh Commandment: "Thou shalt not end a sentence with a preposition." Thus the elegant: "To whom do you wish to speak?" This has now been debased to the colloquialism: "Who do you want to speak to?"



Just as shocking is the excessive use of hyperbole: "I have told you a million times not to exaggerate." More than a few politicians have been caught out with this, in more ways than one.

Now we have the abominable travesty of the compounded verb: "get go". Once upon a time we had: "In the beginning God created Heaven and Earth." Are we now to have: "And God did His thing right from the get go?"

With a nascent quickening of expectation, I am still waiting on tenterhooks to hear the inevitable: "I was on tenderhooks." Don't people use their dictionaries anymore?

I can cope with the mangling of the language and the blatant shifting of tense and context but whatever has happened to our: "English as she is spoke"

If you too are feeling the moribund hand upon the prosaic prose of Pedant's Corner, immediate relief is available via your nearest dictionary.

Millicent Malaprop

The Mullet Mail Goes Electronic

The MM continues to be a significant vehicle for community communication. However, it has been decided that future editions of the Mullet Mail will be delivered via email. The reasons for this are as follows:

- Electronic delivery is more cost effective and environmentally efficient.
- The Mullet Mail becomes instantly available to you wherever you are.
- Visual content, especially photographic images will be better quality.

For the foreseeable future, we will continue a small print run and there will be a few copies available at the shop and the bowling club.

Each edition of the Mullet Mail will continue to be posted on the League Community Website where back copies can also be found.

Please ensure your contact details are up to date so that you continue to receive your personal copy of the Mullet Mail. This can be done through:

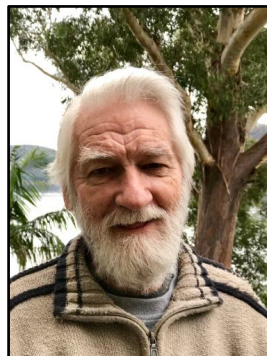
membership@dangarislandleague.net

Please be assured that our contact list is not shared or used by other groups.

DIBC Glass Amnesty

The club always has a glass amnesty, please return your club glasses that decided to go home with you on the night! Beer, wine and champagne glasses have all gone walkabouts lately and we'd like to see them return home.

The Esoteric Exposition



Why is it that some people feel the need to use long and rarely heard words instead of the everyday language of the people?

Erudite exposition is to some simply a euphonious way of expressing themselves. Vox populi or voice of the people has simply passed them by. Mellifluous musing has become an art form in itself.

This is eminently exemplified by the pontificating practitioners of the literary circuit. Provide a panel for discussion and they will oblige. Why use one word when ten will suffice?

Even better when those ten words are the metier of the practitioners pontificating. This in some ways can become a circular argument.

Are the words in question to be used to convey an idea or information or are they merely the play things of a didactic dilettante?

Perspicacious perspicuousness is not something to be found here. Ephemeral epigrams are the mark of the true wordsmith.

Perhaps one day I might aspire to join their thinning ranks.

Bruce Lambert

**SAVE THE DATE – 28th April - for
'The Real Secret River: Dyarubbin'
A talk by Professor Grace Karskens**

Dangar Island Historical Society invites members and friends to the Community Hall on 28th April to hear Grace Karskens talk on a subject close to our hearts:

'The Real Secret River, Dyarubbin'.

Professor Grace Karskens is a leading authority on early colonial Australia, cross-cultural history and ethnographic history. She began her career as a public historian and now teaches history in the School of Humanities and Languages at the University of New South Wales.

Her books include *Inside the Rocks: The Archaeology of a Neighbourhood* and the multi-award winning *The Rocks: life in early Sydney*.

In 2010 she won the Prime Minister's Literary Award for Non-Fiction for her book *The Colony: A History of Early Sydney*, which she researched using an approach she calls "deep history", drawing on many disciplines, including settler and Aboriginal history, environmental history, ecology and architecture.

After letting us in on her research into the history of our bend of the river, she has offered to answer questions about her next book *People of the River*, which is to be published by Allen & Unwin.

We are working to put this event together ... please save the date and be on the lookout for further details in April.

Brenda Hall
DIHS Secretary

BUGGY and UTE NEWS

BUGGY - A big thanks to all passengers who have taken on board our notices requesting that the appropriate fare be paid on the buggy and a reminder to others that fares are directly linked to mobility issues - if have trouble walking, you pay \$2.20 and your carer pays \$2.20. Otherwise, the fare is \$5.50. Children under 4 years of age are free. Remember that buggy drivers are volunteers and they deserve respect and patience, as do their passengers. We have one buggy for 270 people. Advanced notice is appreciated, especially for the 7:15 ferry at night.

UTE - Now that the ute is back, we encourage people to hire it out. The cost is \$50 cash per hour or part thereof and bookings can be arranged by calling 0499935103. Again, advanced notice is appreciated, we need to use it or we'll lose it!!

Thanks, Judy Nikola



**Dangar Island Rural Fire Brigade Film Fundraiser
Easter Saturday 6pm 31 March @ The Hall**



**The heart warming Australian movie based on a true story
about a sheepdog that became the penguins best friend**

**Bring the whole family and come join us
for a delicious meal and tasty treats**

followed by a viewing of Oddball (g) a comic family tale

Just when you
thought every last
drop of cute had been
squeezed out of the
world's penguin
population, along
comes this
heartwarming

The penguins are
cute, but the big fluffy
sheepdog steals the
show in this delightful
Aussie drama.

Irish Times

Farewell Jimmy.....

In a moving memorial service held at the DIBC, the larger than life character of Dangar Island identity *Jimmy No Shoes* was remembered and celebrated with great fondness. Through numerous anecdotes and recollections family and friends recalled Jimmy's life with much affection and humour.

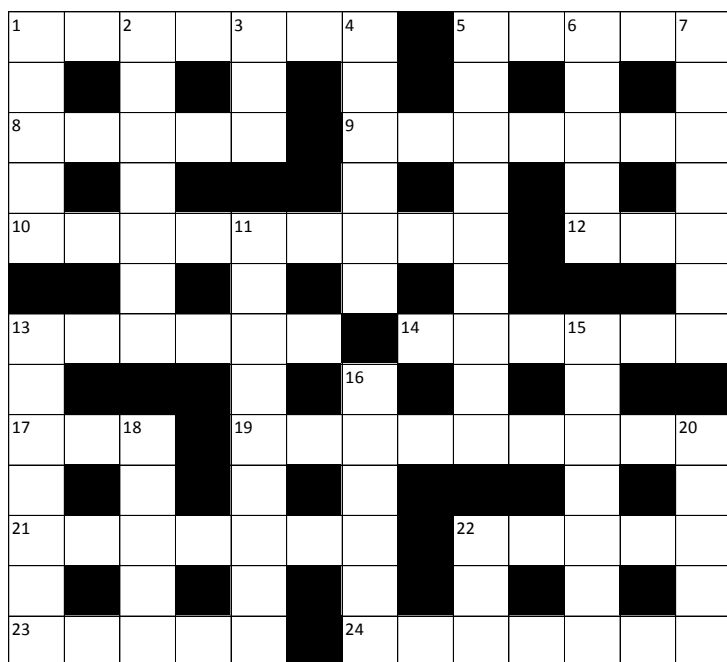


CRYPTIC XWORD

004 by Chico

Autumn 2018

In this puzzle I have tried to make it a little easier than previous, by including lots of anagrams, a few clues without wordplay, and in the Down clues I've italicised the definition part of the clue to help you with the parsing. Remember that the definition is always at the start and/or the end of the clue, and that a ! or a ? at the end of a clue means there is something tricky going on, usually to do with the definition and wordplay parts of the clue being blended together. I have excluded any reference to cricket, the Anglican church or the British aristocracy, but there is one British expression, and the obligatory optometric term.



Down

1. Rays perhaps lose time and *stand up* (5)
2. *Unusual* plaices? (7)
3. Topless *bottom!* (3)
4. *Writer's* key holds nursery bed (6)
5. Myopia lab researches *lazy eye* (9)
6. Hey! Light is *lubricated* (5)
7. Heartless go on tirades for *despots* (7)
11. *Sport* terrible fine china (9)
13. Record over sage *like a version* (7)
15. *Outfit* disguises minaret (7)
16. see 17
18. *Silent* in Tic-Tac, it seems (5)
20. *Where you were born; around Pietermaritzburg* (5)
22. *Darken* unfinished container (3)

Across

1. Idiot gets into bubbles and tuber (7)
5. Going on about 300mm? (5)
8. I hear wealth makes manners (5)
9. Drink artisan (7)
10. Carb loading for son like target (4,5)
12. He was desperate for rank (3)
13. Confuse El Dude! (6)
14. Flip cracker around by stories (6)
17. (&16) Turd fragment is lovably unconventional (3,2,1,3)
19. The more there is, the less you have! (9)
21. Mostly identical, excited and inspired (7)
22. Note of small bird (5)
23. Bashed, decapitated and consumed (5)
24. All atingle for sex (7)



Dangar Island

Mullet Mail

Unleash your inner writer....your stories, poems, opinion pieces....have your say (respectfully and kindly of course) and send to:

marina.mulletmail@gmail.com