

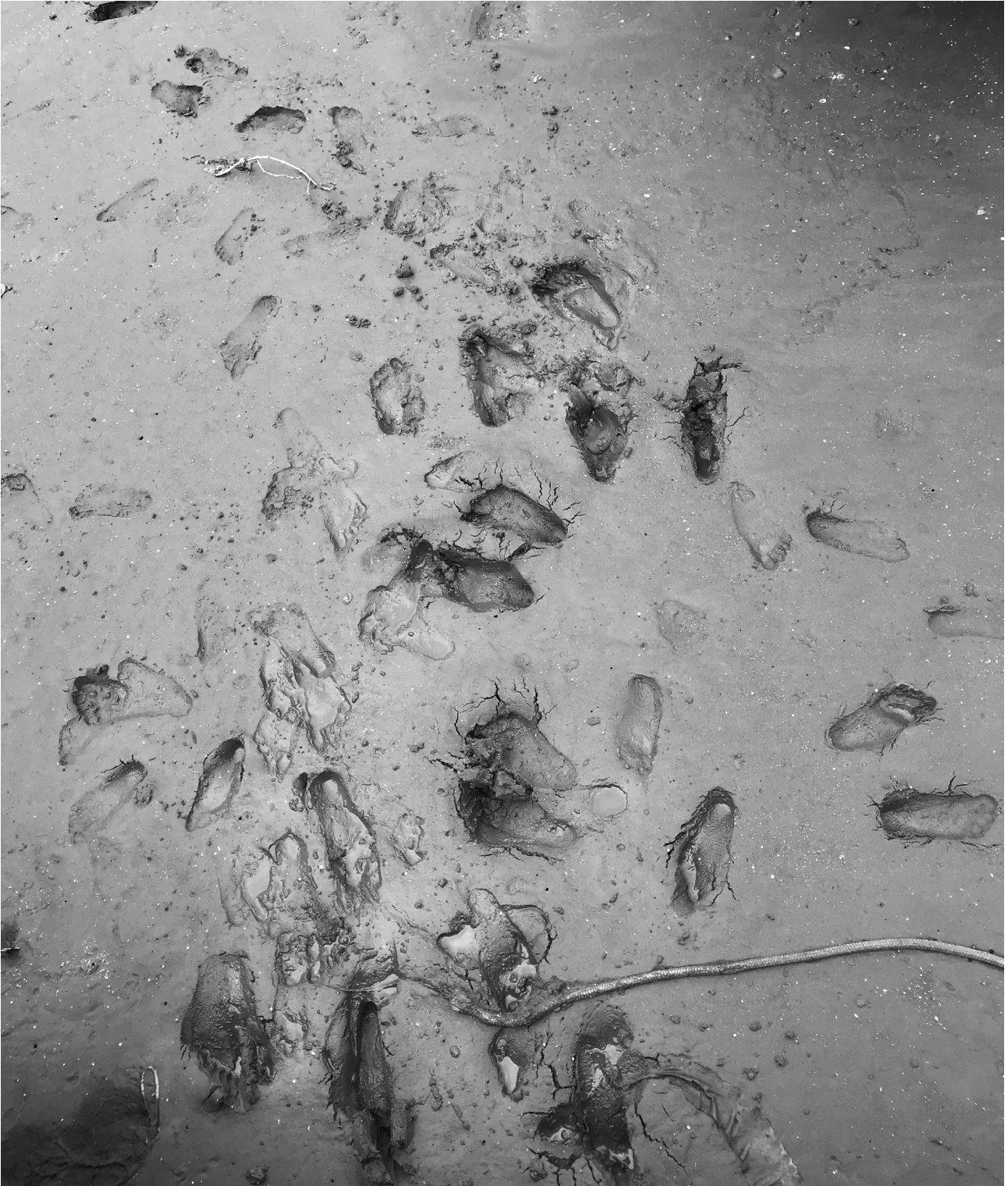


Mullet Mail

NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESIDENTS

#84 Summer 2024

www.dangarislandleague.com



Low low tide. Children waded through the warm, soft, sticky mud on the way home from school. December 2023.
Photograph: Pauline Foote

*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!*



Recognition and thanks

On behalf of the DIL committee, I want to express heartfelt thanks to Stephen Boyle, who has decided to step down as president. Stephen has provided tireless leadership and advocacy for our community over the past few years, and helped navigate through some extremely gnarly issues. Having experienced some of the antics and ineptitude surrounding the parking debacle, Stephen's patience and calmness has been exceptional. I am grateful that Stephen has agreed to remain on the committee as Vice President, particularly to provide continuity and seasoned advice over the year ahead.

Thanks to fantastic contributions of departing committee members Ana Pollak, Sunny South, Amy Putt and Katie Sallam. They will be missed, but I know their oversized contributions to the island continue in other areas – these are the sorts of people that make this place thrive and such a special place to live.

New Committee

Providing some continuity, we are grateful to be retaining; Wendy McMurdo (Secretary), Ollie Brown (Treasurer), and David Noakes. We welcome new committee members David Ruppin, Jacky Korner, Pete Godbolt, and returning member Broniek Karcz.

We still have some vacant committee member positions, most notably the role of Environmental Officer. All interest is warmly received. We would also benefit from having a better gender balance and more representation of families on the island.

The vibe

I consulted Chat GPT, and it informed me that “Dangar Island has a unique spirit – one that comes from our love for the land, the river, and each other.” This seems to be a remarkably apt description, so I'll build on that. Rest assured the rest of this article has not been written by AI, although it may well have done a better job.

Having been a resident of the island for three years, one month and one day, I am happy to say that Tim and I have surpassed the legendary two-year hurdle that allegedly determines whether people either flee back to Australia or depart in an urn.

What has struck me from the first day here is the openness, warmth and generosity of spirit that is evident right across the community. So many people have helped us through the challenges of

island life and at times it has been quite moving. I'm sure everyone has had similar experiences. I grew up in rural New Zealand, so know what it is like to live in a small community. However, my sense of Dangar Island has been of a broad-minded, kind, creative, kind, non-beige, kind, maximalist, kind community that is like no other I've experienced.

The year ahead

The new committee I'm sure will bring new ideas and energy to the League. We know it is important to address both immediate needs and long-term projects that will benefit the whole community. Despite the progress made, the issue of parking will likely rear its head (or 4P signs) again at some point. We need to continue to push our interests on this issue, particularly solutions as part of the longer-term plan for Brooklyn and the River Communities. We also look forward to working with our new Mayor, Warren Waddell, and the new Council. Warren has always been respectful and open to listening throughout the parking saga and that augurs well for a good relationship with our community in the future.

There are many other issues that have been raised across the community, and we will endeavour to focus on what is of highest priority rather than trying to do everything and achieving nothing. At its first meeting in November, the new committee will work through ideas and priorities. We are keen to continue the tradition of open communication and inclusivity, ensuring that every voice on the island is heard. Constructive feedback and support are always welcome.

On behalf of the committee, thank you for your support and we look forward to an enjoyable and productive year ahead.

Warm regards,
DIL President, Terry Stewart

Tea Towels
\$20 each - ORDER NOW
Keep our Mullet Mail in print
mulletmail2020@gmail.com

NEWS & VIEWS OF DANGAR ISLAND RESERVOIR

parislandleague.com

IS YOU MAY NOT KNOW THAT D NOT KNOW!
MM#41: 2013
I were originally bred
maids for dogs
people pray to
in than less
ling from tall
in
Unicorns was
illy named Unihors but
singed because of werries
immedios
% of all statistics are made up on the
andphobia is the phobia of The Cur's
bert Smith for which, ironically, there is
cute
Onions, when frozen, taste like avocado
Two members of 80's pop group Duran
Noy and are highly regarded in the bean
9. Bitumen is legal tender on Wobby Beach
10. The small settlement of Scotland Island
is home to the most webbed feet per capita

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL
Jonathan Sykes MM#25: 2008
Recent events have once again highlighted
the pressing need for a helipad on Dangar
Island. The Hornby Advocate has even
taken up the call as lives are lost daily for
lack of this vital facility.

DOG WALK
Mel Anderson MM#18: 2013
Rory College, whose mother is to
buy him a dog, is now available to
dogs at \$5 for half an hour.
When needed. He loves dogs.
wants one. In the meantime he
for years. Regular walks.

ARE YOU HAPPY?
The overall result of the
no real surprises. Mi
considered themselves to
their happiness to
relationships, strong far
satisfaction and hobbies
the researchers was the
did volunteers work, v
happier than those w
Now if you want t
level of happiness

DID YOU KNOW?
MM#24: 2011
back on the island was
When I present here an actor's impression of
most helped proposal. In
Dangar



Baby Ringtail Possums peeping out of their human-made possum nest/drey. | Photograph Shaun Warden

2024 Possum Survey

Ana Pollak

Big thanks to everyone who filled in the August possum survey. Of the 200 surveys posted to letterboxes, 37 households responded, which is about 18% of the island.

Most possums observed were on the island flat around Yallaroi, Grantham, Barooka and Neotsfield. Although only 10 surveys were returned from the hillside along Riverview Ave, we understand the survey only gave us part of the picture of possum activity in our bushland. If you haven't filled in your survey, it's not too late, pop it in the League letterbox or 172R.

Nearly all reports were of Ringtail Possums (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*), with the exception of 3 sightings of Brushtail Possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*). Possums have been seen and heard climbing trees, jumping on roofs, along power lines, fences, and one even inside a roller door.

Being surrounded by the river, the island's possum population cannot be boosted by other possums wandering from adjoining river habitats, so they rely on a safe and well stocked environment to survive. We intend to show these findings to a possum specialist for advice on future ways to help care for possums on Dangar Island. What we already know is; keep domestic animals indoors at night, use ultrasonic pest deterrents instead of rat poison (see [Spring 2024 Mullet Mail](#)), maintain tree branches for safe pathways above our streets and gardens, grow plant species that they like to eat, and provide possum dreys/nests high in trees.

This survey was a collaboration between Hornsby Council Bushcare Program and Dangar Island League.

Birds of the Air

Ben Miller

Welcome Swallows (*Hirundo neoxena*), have always been common around Dangar Island during my time here, and most residents will be familiar with them. They are most obvious in the open settings around the shoreline, flying at high speed in small groups in search of insects, or perching in small groups on jetty structures or moored boats. In Spring their minuscule feet alight onto the mud flats of low tide to gather mud pellets, which will be combined with plant stalks to form a nest, sometimes inside one of the seldom-used moored boats.

A year or so ago I noticed that not all of the swallows were in fact swallows. Other similar birds called Tree Martins (*Petrochelidon nigricans*), were mixed in with them, and without careful scrutiny it was not easy to tell them apart. The two species have formed a mixed flock which hunts aerially at high speed, and individuals are more often than not silhouetted against a bright backdrop.

The best way to distinguish the Tree Martins is to follow them with your eyes until they get below eye level and reveal a dirty white rump, which is absent in swallows. Also their tail is much less deeply forked and they don't have a brick red throat, but this is hard to see when they are airborne. Until recently a group of 10 or so Tree Martins was spending a lot of time entering and leaving the tunnel of a dilapidated sail cover on a large run-down yacht. I imagine they were breeding inside. Unfortunately for them the yacht has now moved on to parts unknown.

What prompted me to write this article was the appearance a week ago of a third aerial predator in the form of a small group of White-Breasted Wood Swallows (*Artamus leucorhynchus*). These are very distinct from the previous two species. They are much larger and more robust, and seem to prefer sitting around tightly packed together rather than spending most of their time on the wing. Their head, throat and back are an immaculate grey, breast and rump snowy white, and the bill blue.

They are rarely seen this far down the East coast. They occur in big numbers on the inland lakes of NSW where I used to study water birds, and are usually associated with water in some form. They are also common around my home in the Milne Bay area of PNG, and sit on power lines along with the Pacific Swallow, which has never been "reliably recorded" in Australia.

So, all in all they are a very successful and widespread bird and may, with global warming increasing every year, start colonizing the Sydney region.

Dante's Nest

Craig San Roque

1

There is a place known as Dante's nest. It is there, every evening, a small and delicate bird folds its wings. In the folding, the bird draws into itself certain things. I should tell you that Dante is a small man, very tough and now very old but his lithe strength was a legend of the region where, in younger days, he roamed. It is in fact Dante's roving imagination that, every evening, takes the shape of a bird arriving in a nest. There she settles ruffling, cooing, gathering memories of fruit, glints of fig, lemon, stone, ancient trees overhung. Her feathers, gathering every sense discovered during the day's flights. The dove gathers for Dante the subtle sights and scents of the day's subtle hunt.

2

The imagination of Dante is not bound by human constriction. It wheels through many worlds; it collects flocks of birds, currents of insect, flying thoughts, shapes, colour, fish leaping, skins, notes of call; chatter. With this gathering, lest all be lost, there is a place known as Dante's nest.

It is here every evening, that small and delicate bird folds her wings; there she sits and broods and thus, in her pulsating body, the gathered day becomes a fine collection of eggs, speckled blue, grey, black and every hue. Incubating, those fruitful fertile eggs, words gather. They shimmer through Dante's brain, they nestle in his throat, they draw breath from his deep well. It is from Dante's nest that the sung poetry of the human world has emerged since the very beginning of human time.

3

I should tell you that Dante's nest is hidden in a very obscure place. This is because that nest is a place upon which the salvation of this gracious world depends. In this nest a small glow is saved each day for the continuing purpose of creatures, great and small. The end of this gracious world will be when Dante's nest is crushed suddenly, crushed in the hands of an egg-robbing brutal boy; a boy too naïve to comprehend the grace of the world; and yes, that delicate thing in the human brain which draws things together. The dove of becoming.

The clever say that the future of the world depends upon clever moves which only they can offer. This might be true - but I say this. The destiny of the world depends upon Dante's nest and that small bird who, folding her wings every evening, begins the brooding.



Native plant profile

Ficus rubiginosa

The common name of this species, Port Jackson Fig, belies the full extent of its natural distribution. Whilst it is common around the Sydney region, its native range extends from southern NSW all the way up the east coast of Australia to Cape York. By contrast, the Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) whilst also native to Sydney, has a much smaller range. The two species can be hard to tell apart; *Ficus rubiginosa* is distinguishable by its smaller leaves, which often have a 'rusty' coloured velvety underside (the name 'rubiginosa' derives from the Latin 'rubiginosus' meaning rusty red). Around this area, it rarely exceeds 10m in height.

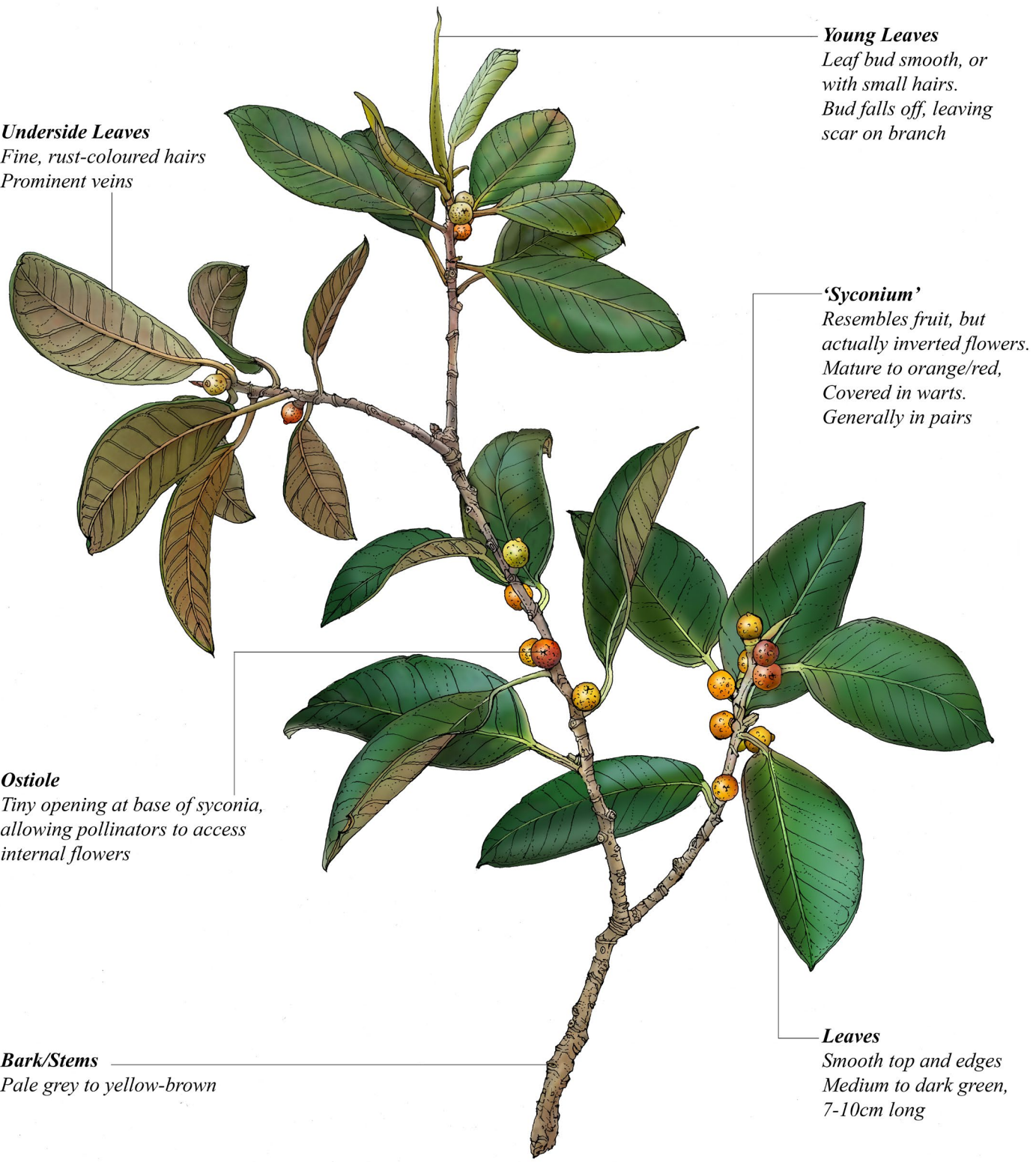
See the illustration on page 5.

The flowering and fruiting characteristics of this species (like all figs) are unusual. At first glance it appears to have small, spherical fruits maturing through spring and summer, but these are actually the flowers! Each is called a 'syconium' and is an 'inverted inflorescence' - a hollow cavity with small flowers lining the internal surface. There is a tiny opening at the base called an 'ostiole' through which a minuscule species of wasp is able to enter and lay its eggs inside. The fig provides the wasp 'gall flowers' specifically for this purpose. After hatching, the young wasps pollinate the flowers from within, and as the syconium ripens, bore out through tiny holes to lay their own eggs elsewhere.

Interestingly, after correct preparation, the internal bark from the branches and roots makes an excellent fibre for weaving. However, be wary when handling the sap from the tree as it can cause serious irritation to the skin on exposure to UV light.

Ficus rubiginosa begins life as an epiphyte or lithophyte (growing directly on rock, or another plant) and develops a more stable base with buttress roots as it matures. This tree is ideal for the coming climate change as it is very tough through droughts, and its canopy acts like air conditioning during summer heat waves.

Josephine Bridge, Bushcare



Underside Leaves
 Fine, rust-coloured hairs
 Prominent veins

Young Leaves
 Leaf bud smooth, or
 with small hairs.
 Bud falls off, leaving
 scar on branch

'Syconium'
 Resembles fruit, but
 actually inverted flowers.
 Mature to orange/red,
 Covered in warts.
 Generally in pairs

Ostiole
 Tiny opening at base of syconia,
 allowing pollinators to access
 internal flowers

Bark/Stems
 Pale grey to yellow-brown

Leaves
 Smooth top and edges
 Medium to dark green,
 7-10cm long

SCALE 10 20 50 100mm

Copyright © Josephine Bridge 2024. All rights reserved



Our Community Masterpiece

Dangar Island's community garden is a thriving hub that brings people together, offering much more than just a place to grow fresh produce and get your hands dirty in nature. Nestled in a beautiful and tranquil setting next to our bowling green, this garden has become a focal point for fostering social connections, promoting sustainability, learning about gardening and enhancing the well-being of the island's residents.

One of the key benefits of the community garden is its role in encouraging collaboration and connections. Islanders come together to share gardening knowledge, tools and tips, building relationships that strengthen the sense of community. Many residents simply love to come and stroll in the garden and enjoy the vibe. We regularly meet on a Sunday but people are welcome to go and work in the garden any day. We have regular pop-up markets, with raffles, that help us to raise funds to keep the garden going. Come and taste the treats!

The garden also promotes environmental sustainability. By growing organic fruits, vegetables, and herbs, the community reduces its carbon footprint and reliance on store-bought produce. The garden educates locals about eco-friendly practices such as composting, the use of worms, water conservation, growing seedlings and permaculture techniques, empowering residents to live more sustainably.

Additionally, the garden provides a space for mental and physical well-being. Gardening is known to reduce stress, increase physical activity, and boost mood. For many residents, the opportunity to spend time in nature, engage in hands-on tasks, and witness the fruits of their labour is deeply rewarding.



Dangar Community Garden

In short, the Dangar Island Community Garden is an invaluable asset to the island's residents. Come and enjoy it.

"My garden is my greatest masterpiece"
Claude Monet.

Di Robertson, DIG

Dangar Island Marketplace

Di Robertson

Our marketplace is hosted on Facebook and all islanders (and immediate river communities) are welcome to join. The marketplace was established to provide islanders with a platform to buy, sell, search for or give away items, with the goal of increasing recycling of goods and items on the island and thus improving sustainability and reducing waste. Members can also ask if anyone has items for sale or giveaway that they may be searching for. We currently have 350 members who either live on Dangar or in nearby river communities Bar Point, Little Wobby and Brooklyn.

The marketplace averages about 10 posts a



Dangar Island Marketplace

Private group · 350 members



+ Invite

Share

Joined

About Buy and Sell Discussion Your Items Members Media Questions Events Files

month, reaching on average about 160 people for each post. People have posted a multitude of items from beds, furniture, electrical items, clothing, boats, excess timber and building materials to free excess fruit from trees and plants.

The rules of the marketplace are based on mutual respect and privacy. Remember to always ensure safe cyber behaviour as you would for any online activities. As moderator, I closely monitor any new member requests to ensure (as best as possible) prospective members are local and legitimate, as it was not designed to be your typical Facebook marketplace but rather a local community forum specific to our local context.

We live in a very generous and caring community. Thank you to everyone who contributes so willingly to Marketplace. Hopefully you have managed to grab a bargain, move something you no longer want or need, or find something you have been looking for. Together we can reduce waste, look out for each other, recycle unwanted gear and have some fun whilst doing so. Keep those posts coming.

Thanks Dangarites!



Stay Safe This Fire Season

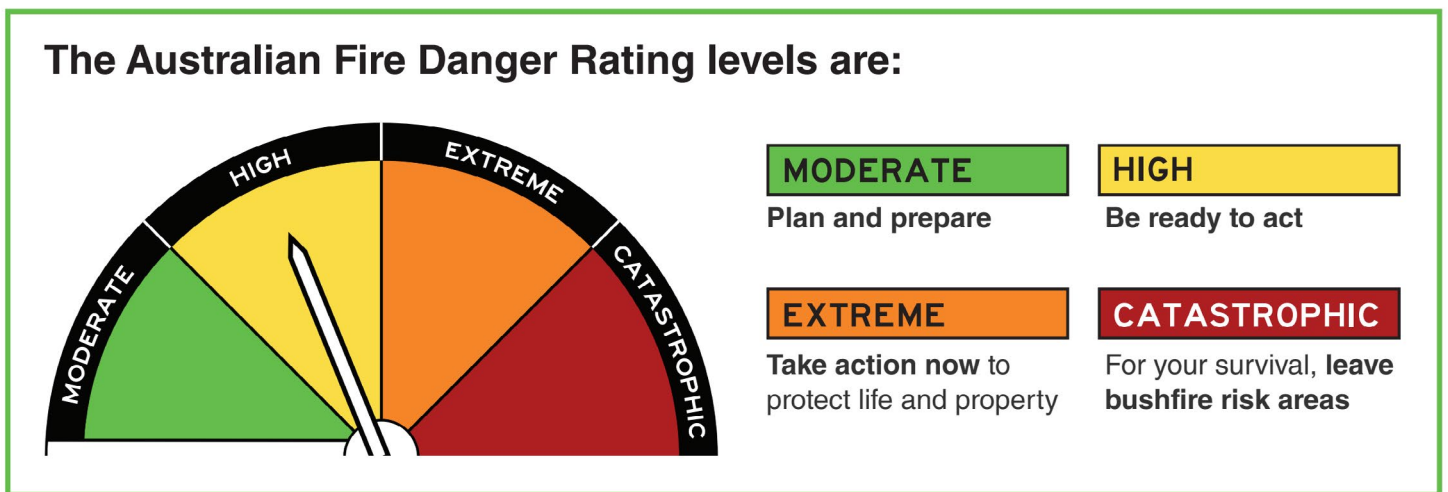
Understand the Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) and Prepare Your Fire Plan

Fire Dangar Rating

As we approach the peak of the fire season, it's crucial for our community to stay informed and prepared.

The AFDRS has been updated to provide clearer and more accurate information about fire risks. This new system uses the latest science and community research to help us understand the potential danger and take appropriate actions. See image below for details.

The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) emphasizes the importance of having a well thought-out fire plan so that, if you need to respond to a fire emergency based on AFDRS recommendations, you are prepared.



Australian Fire Danger Rating System. Image courtesy of AFAC – The National Council for Fire and Emergency Services

Prepare Your Fire Plan

Know Your Risk: Understand the fire danger level in your area and stay updated with local alerts

Prepare Your Property: Clear gutters, remove flammable materials, and create a defensible space around your home.

Have an Emergency Kit: Include essentials like water, food, medications, and important documents.

Plan Your Evacuation: Know your evacuation routes and have a plan for where you will go and how you will get there.

Stay Informed: Use reliable sources such as the NSW RFS website, local news, and the Hazards Near Me NSW app to stay updated on fire conditions.

You can use the QR code below

or visit www.myfireplan.com.au to access online resources, where it will take just 5 minutes to complete an anonymous interactive questionnaire allowing you to make the key decisions on your individual fire plan strategy.

Let's work together to protect our homes, our loved ones, and our beautiful surroundings this fire season.

Stay safe and prepared!

Josh Ginty, Community Engagement, DIRFB





Vale

Manfred and Jimmy

Since the previous edition of the Mullet Mail, we have said a final goodbye to two of Dangar's greatest characters, Manfred Merl and

Jimmy Rae. Jimmy was one of our patients, and due to the confidentiality requirement that binds our team, all I can say is that I, personally, will miss the courage, stoicism and quick, irreverent wit that he maintained, right up to the last time we saw him off to hospital.



Manfred Merl parading for the CFR float, 2017 DangardiGras. | Photo Brenda Hall

Manfred was the Island's original Community First Responder. He was responding to injuries for both people and animals, and running first aid classes, for years before the existing CFR team was formed in 2014. He helped Christine Sanderson set up the CFR team, and was a member of the first cohort to train with NSW Ambulance. He stayed with the team for as long as his own health allowed.

One of the things I did with Manfred was to help him set up Advanced Care Plans for both himself and his wife, Joan. As it was, they moved off the island before the Ambulance Service needed to refer to the plans. I encourage others to take the same approach to ensuring their family and/or personal carers know their wishes well before an emergency occurs. You can share your plan with the CFR team if it suits you. The Dying With Dignity website has useful resources for advanced care planning at www.dwdnsw.org.au/advance-care-planning

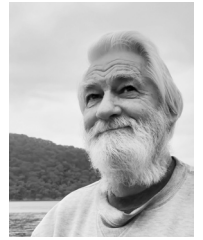
Brenda Hall, CFR33 Dangar Island, dangarcfr33@gmail.com

Dying with Dignity website



Morning Has Broken

Bruce Lambert



The shroud lies heavy on an earth
Drawn visage cold and grey.
The swirling mist alone does mourn
The death of night, arise
the breaking of the day.

The cloak of night that lies upon the earth
Whose folds of comfort now give way.
The leaden sky assumes a different hue
As pale half light precedes
the breaking of the day.

The night bird high in silent flight
No sound betrays the hunter to the prey.
The moth is taken on the wing
No struggle does ensue before
the breaking of the day.

The shaft of sunlight
bursts through the canopy.
Playing like some errant spot
upon an undiscovered panoply.

Golden shafts of sunlight dance
Between the trees.
Caress each branch.
It is the breaking of the day.

Northwest Wind

David Noakes

Waves break boats smash
Wind whistles spray catches
Wheel away
Sun drops
Wind change
Charging down
Water churns flattens settles
Into evening pink
Slowly quiet light
Swat smatter slow descent to
Darkness quiet lap lap

Bowlo AGM - President's Report

I do seem to say this every year, but the last 12 months has seen an enormous amount of change at the Club, with much of it overwhelmingly positive.

Repairs and refurbishment of this tired old building which initially started with the replacement of the bar floor mid 2023, gathered significant momentum in the last 12 months with the herculean efforts of a number of people – notably Brett and Sunny South and Dave Reynolds for their painting and decorating labours. We can now be proud of a much safer and eminently more inviting environment for our visitors.

We also received a huge financial boost from anonymous donors this year. Their incredible generosity enabled a complete upgrade of all the kitchen equipment: pizza oven, commercial oven, fridge, freezer and dish sanitiser, so our little kitchen is now fully modernized and much more efficient.

Additional donations ensured the cool room compressor was fixed, essential electrical work completed, energy saving LEDs installed through the building, and the veranda roof fixed and balustrades replaced to comply with current safety standards. Such a program of expensive upgrades has never been possible in the past because of the slim margins the club operates under.

In essence the whole place had a massive makeover that wouldn't be possible without these generous benefactors – and I'd like to thank them unreservedly on behalf of the Club and community.

It's important to remember these are extremely difficult times for hospitality businesses. Dangar Island Bowling Club perhaps feels the pinch even more than businesses on the mainland, with a small full-time population to draw from and the challenges of attracting visitors from over in Australia, along with the rising costs of operating in this location and the diminishing levels of disposable income available to many people. Now more than ever, we need our island community to visit the club every week to buy a drink, get a fantastic Thursday Pizza, or even come in for dinner or lunch at the weekend.

We are constantly working long and hard to present community and cultural events that generate critical income for the Club, but also provide the more intangible – but equally valuable - benefits of shared experience.

Oktoberfest and Dangardigras were both massive events this year, but perhaps the highlights of the community performance calendar this year were the Winter Cabaret and *Pirates of Penzance* – both held over two sold out nights. These are the moments this Club is here for, where the community pools its considerable talents and



everyone pulls together to create something truly magical!

I'm happy to say our bowling green is still a vibrant part of community life and an integral part of the Club. The Sunday games and Thursday Twilight Bowls always attract large numbers. The fact that the surface is playable is always down to the efforts of Matt Johnson. Sir, we salute you!

Our partnership with the Community Garden grows stronger every year and adds so much to all of our lives. Sharon for one is extremely proud to be able to feature produce in her dishes that our community has grown.

In other news, we have a new menu and revised wine and drinks list ready for summer, and we are completely reworking our takeaway alcohol service with some exciting new ideas.

Big changes have also taken place in the board in the last 12 months. Massive thanks must be given to directors who have served the club with so much of their time and effort and have stepped down in the last 12 months – Michael Hutak, Michelle Ramage, Karen Jaques, Fiona Mullen and Greg Keith

We're very lucky to welcome new directors Deb Dubois, Jock Brown, Wendy McMurdo, Stephen Boyle and Terry Stewart. Their range of skills and enthusiasm will be a real boost for the Club... thanks all!

Last but not least, I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to our staff. The last few months have been very challenging for Leanne and Sharon. Their dedication and loyalty through some difficult times is to be applauded and we're lucky to have them.

Special thanks also go to our other bar staff Ash, Caitlin and new recruit Karen, and also to our budding kitchen wizards Ava, Zeph, Leo and Annie.

So, in conclusion, I realise I have just mentioned a sizeable list of people who are integral to the survival of this club, and I haven't even touched on the long list of event volunteers, regular diners and members that keep the club ticking over. It really does take an entire community to nurture a club like this and I am constantly surprised at how much this little organisation enriches all of our lives.

Steve Griffiths, President, DIBC

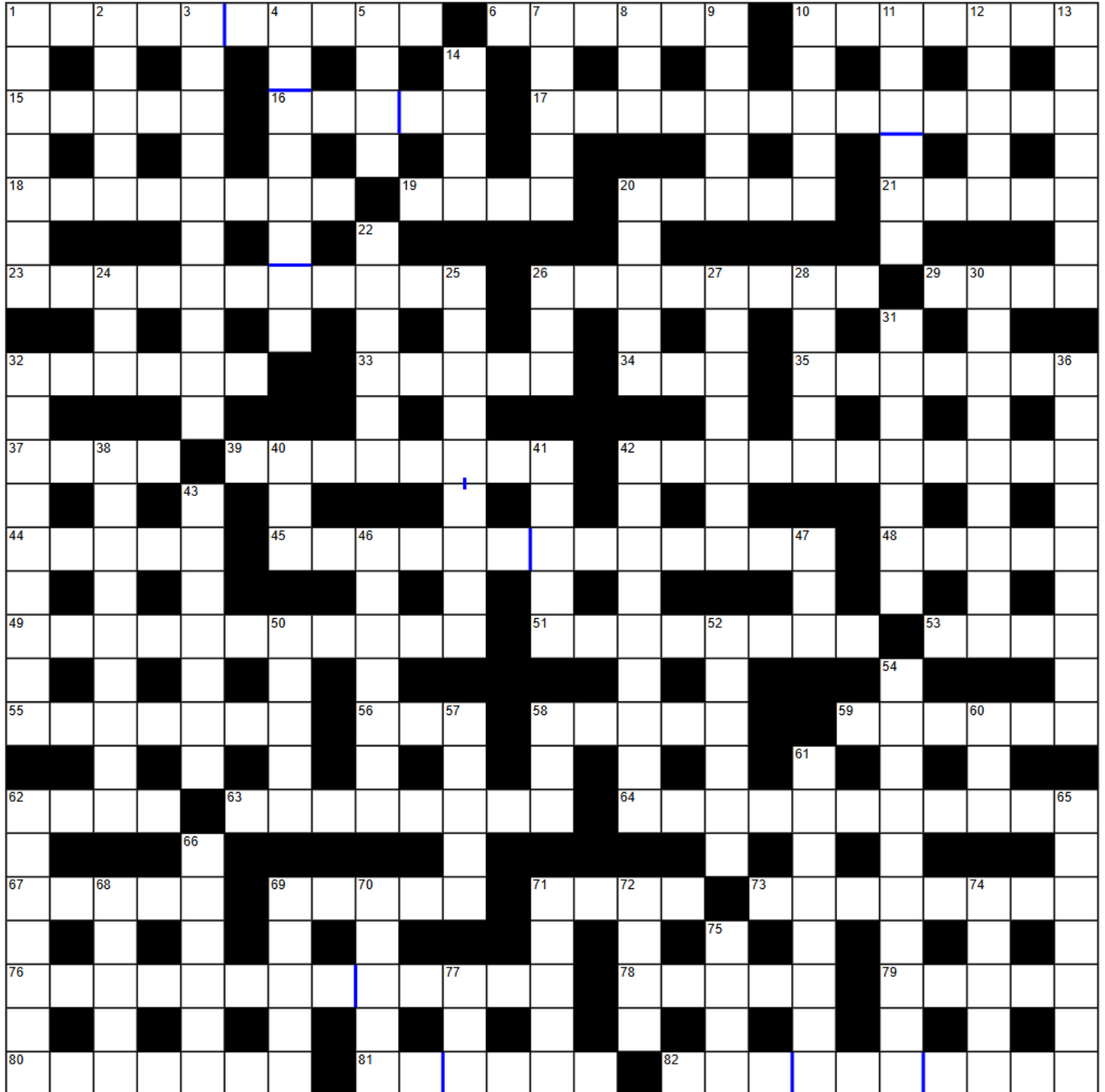


Giant Holiday Crossword #030

Chico & Rhea

Dry your festive brains out and heave a line at our jumbo, seafarin' puzzle.

Tell me what you think about the reCaptchatastic jumbled logo clue for 70D? Are you a robot? ARE YOU ???! This is just one of the projects the boffins at *Mullet Mail* are cooking, so stay tuned for 2025. You can discuss, give or get help at the Dangar Island Community Facebook page. Why not try the [puzzle online](#), with colour photos, answer reveals, and more? Just follow the QR code.

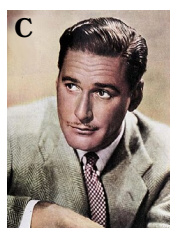
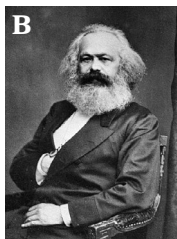


Across

- 1 Gooseberries (5,5)
- 6 Ground, fishing or spear _____ (6)
- 10 Old depth units (7)
- 15 "Farewell and _____ to you Spanish ladies" (5)
- 16 Fired (3,2)

- 17 Global (13)
- 18 Tying (8)
- 19 Cable holding up a mast fore and aft (4)
- 20 Lowest area inside a vessel (5)
- 21 African bone-crushing carnivore (5)
- 23 Getting on (11)
- 26 The theme of this puzzle (8)

- 29 See 28d
 32 Distress code (6)
 33 English actor & rapper, Pic A (5)
 34 Flightless bird (3)
 35 Destructive mob (7)
 37 Leg (4)
 39 Fleet leader (8)
 42 Wrote "There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune" (11)
 44 Fabric (5)
 45 Greenhouse effect (6,7)
 48 Sand, shit or Melbourne _____ (5)
 49 Cape Byron is mainland Australia's _____ point (11)
 51 Sailing with the wind abeam (8)
 53 Capital of Norway (4)
 55 Traveling by wind power (7)
 56 Fish catcher (3)
 58 Direct (5)
 59 Destination of Australia's most famous sail race (6)
 62 Large and square-rigged (4)
 63 Source of caviar (8)
 64 Lost at sea (11)
 67 First (and last!) letter of the IPA (5)
 69 Edge (5)
 71 Bones (4)
 73 Calendars plus (8)
 76 Distances (8,5)
 78 Calibrate 31D (5)
 79 Competitor, also birthplace of Pic B (5)
 80 Symbols (7)
 81 Vague threat (2,4)
 82 Continuously (3,3,4)





Down

- 1 Link (7)
 2 Spanish for "friend" (5)
 3 Equidistant from the poles (10)
 4 Providing (2,4,2)
 5 Carry (4)
 7 Fictional island setting for 71D (5)
 8 Equipment (3)
 9 Aussie actor, Pic C (5)
 10 Distress signal (5)
 11 Chinese martial art (1'2,3)
 12 Pre-metric unit of weight or volume (5)
 13 Rescue a disabled 14D (7)
 14 Vessel (4)
 20 Type of 14D (5)
 22 Flooding (6)
 24 Shallow inlet (3)
 25 Ordinal point (5-4)
 26 Title (3)
 27 Seismic ocean wave (7)

- 28, 29a Dits and dahs (5,4)
 30 +, =, != and % (9)
 31 Navigation instrument (7)
 32 Naval rebels (9)
 36 19th century paddle-powered vessel (9)
 38 Navigation by sun and stars (9)
 40 Ship's speedometer (3)
 41 Gives way to sail (5)
 42 Horizontal members between mast and shrouds (9)
 43 Locally common (7)
 46 Irish musician, Pic D (1'6)
 47 Spirit (3)
 50 _____fall, light or shift (5)
 52 US Politician, Pic E. (6)
 54 Forward part of upper deck (10)
 57 Post (5)
 58 _____ block, Ra or glasses (3)
 60 Biblical vessel (3)
 61 Late stage (8)
 62 Apprentice (7)
 65 Merit (7)
 66 Of the sea (6)
 68 Vertical (5)
 69 Paired navigation marks (5)
 70 Logo scrambled in Pic F (5)
 71 1st century Jewish preacher (5)
 72 Wake (4)
 74 Evidence of being elsewhere (5)
 75 German port (4)
 77 Sheltered side (3)



Online interactive puzzle

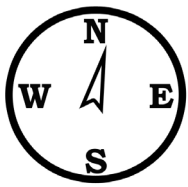
←   →

facebook.com/groups/dangarislandcommunity

Simple Egg Math

Rewritten from Marina's Penguin Book of Puzzles

Sheila opens a roadside kiosk to sell her hens' eggs. She sells the same number every day. At close of business on Monday she has some eggs left over, and by Tuesday morning her hens double that number. On Wednesday morning the hens triple what was left over on Tuesday. On Thursday morning the hens quadruple the amount left over the day before, and on Friday morning they multiply the leftover stock by 5. On Friday she sells the usual number of eggs and has none left over. What is the minimum stock she could have started with on Monday morning, and how many did she sell each day?



BoteTiket Quiz #010

1 What safety device will reduce the risk of toxic gases on boats with engines?

- A. An air purifier
- B. A carbon monoxide detector alarm
- C. A dehumidifier

2 Why is ventilation so important in enclosed areas of a vessel that contain engines and appliances?

- A. Adequate natural light is important
- B. Areas may become warmer
- C. Carbon monoxide (CO) levels may build up

3 Can you modify the engine noise control equipment on your boat?

- A. No
- B. Yes, if it is a small outboard engine
- C. Yes, if it is a small inboard engine

Cybele Shorter, Botetiket Challenger

~~~~~ <:)))))>{ ~~~~~

## Top Tips from Cheyne Burden

### 1. Preventing Sunken Boats: Keep Your Bilge Clean

A common issue we see at Coast Marine is boats sinking due to clogged or malfunctioning bilge pumps. It's crucial to keep your bilge clean and free of debris, as objects can obstruct the pump or jam the float switch, preventing the bilge from working properly.

### 2. Ensure Your Insurance Covers You

Before heading out on the water, double-check that your boat insurance policy is up-to-date and fully covers your specific situation. Pay close attention to compliance details in your policy. If your boat sinks and the insurance company find that you weren't in compliance with the policy terms, your claim could be denied.

### 3. Maintain Your Boat Like It's Your Lifeline

Unlike car breakdowns where you can call a service like NRMA, if your boat breaks down at sea, you're on your own. Maintain your boat with the same attention to detail you would a plane. A well-maintained boat is not only your means of transportation, but also your lifeline for safety, especially if you're relying on it to get to Australia and back.

## Life and Death of Chee

A short excerpt

John Murray

"Look after your kitten, my dogs are killers."

"Thank you, I'll do that."

Absorbed in boat repairs I forgot our curious little kitten Chee. Soon, a commotion alerted me to a couple of large boxer dogs chasing something down the wharf. Then Chee appeared going for his life, literally. He leapt off the wharf onto a sand beach and ran into the water till waist deep. The water soaked his fur as diminished and defiant he faced the dogs. He was



Chee at sea with Flo Murray

not going without a fight. The dogs stood a few moments bewildered by Chee's defiance. I leapt off my boat and ran down the wharf to the beach, leaned down and seized him by the waist. In an instant he bit me on the base joint of the thumb, a bite from the tiny creature that bothered me for months. His unbelievable reaction to a near death experience surprised me. In human terms it was the equivalent of a young child standing up to and invoking caution in an elephant. How different must this fellow mammal be to us humans. We had already experienced his response to the love and care we had given him and were able to observe similarities and differences that both intrigued and charmed us. I supposed Darwin's law of natural selection had filtered out most of the cats that weren't able to look out for themselves from an early age. It was a sad moment when, much later, his audacity took him away from us.



Do you have a little boat?

Eggs: 103 and 60, Quiz: B, C, A

Printed Sustainably @ Black Rainbow - using solar power & recycled paper

This publication is sponsored by the generosity of: Dangar Island League and Fire Brigade.



The Mullet Mail team:

Cybele Shorter, Genevieve Ginty, Kathy Merrick, and Jonathan Sykes



Digital colour editions & archives online at [www.dangarislandleague.com/mullet-mail](http://www.dangarislandleague.com/mullet-mail)