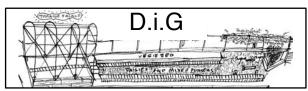
Vol. # 67

www.dangarislandleague.com

Spring 2020

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



Strange things happen when worlds crack open. Contrivances evaporate. True things reappear. We reach for the people we love. We hold tight to the things that ground us. We garden.

(Georgina Reid - The Plant Hunter)





Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it.

(Mary Oliver)

Spring begins anew and the garden is humming! It is the perfect time to reflect on how far we've come over the past two years.

To say that 2020 has been a big year is a bit of an understatement. Unsettled times in the brave new world of COVID-19 continue unabated but we persevere, and here on this tiny island we are luckier than most...very lucky, in fact. It's not just living in this beautiful landscape, immersed in the rhythms of nature and the river but getting our hands in soil and growing food together that's proving beneficial. And it's this togetherness, this bonding through gardening that reinforces the humble fact that we are a community of people who are connected to, and care deeply for, one



another and collective wellbeing. The garden is testament to power of community and what we can do together when we put our hands, minds and hearts to work.

The extra time on our hands during the past few months has been put to good use - from extending the aromatic central garden and the arrival of more boats, to the addition of the north west corner bed which will become the tomato, eggplant, capsicum and chilli patch. There are plans afoot for a fundraiser to help purchase two new water tanks in time for summer and the construction of additional garden beds to supply Sharon's kitchen with plenty of organic leafy greens and herbs - that fennel risotto and those chicken burgers with mustard greens sooooo delicious! Within the constraints of season, circumstance and capacity DIG aims to supply the Bowlo with organic produce over the coming year and well into the future. Keep an eye out for the GoFundMe fundraiser to help us realise some exciting new initiatives in and around the garden and Bowling Club.

Looking forward to brighter days ahead we're so excited to see the garden and the community grow and dream together in the spirit of collaboration and stewardship.

Garden etiquette 101:

- 1. When picking greens please make sure you USE SCISSORS and gently take only the outer leaves, leaving the rest of the plant to grow.
- Please only take small portions! Be mindful this is not only a community garden but a kitchen garden for the Bowling Club and we want to make sure Sharon has enough produce to serve the patrons.
- We also ask that you give a little back either by helping out in the garden or making a contribution in some way to help keep the garden alive and thriving. We welcome seeds, seedlings and cash contributions (there are donation boxes in both the Café and Club).
- 4. As this is an organic garden please make sure you wash all fruit & veg thoroughly before eating.

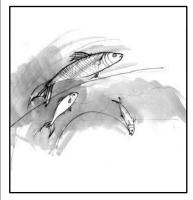
Spring tips: plant your tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplant, beetroot and basil now!



Wishing you all a safe, happy and prosperous Summer! Til neste gang Digstars

Dangar Island League President's on the day. We rely on your membership to continue our Message

work representing the community.



It's been a long winter but spring is in the air and with it the scent of flowers and a **Stephen Boyle** sense of hope and renewal.

President, Dangar Island League



The NBN is now switched on and we should start to see an improvement in internet speeds around the island. Once you are

connected if the service seems slow please monitor it.

NBN Co has an obligation as a Statutory Infrastructure Provider (SIP) to provide a minimum of 25Mbps download and 5Mbps upload. If our copper network does not support those speeds then NBN Co now has a Universal Service Obligation which is a statutory obligation to provide the minimum. If your service is not up to scratch then you need to make it clear to your internet service provider (ISP) that it's not achieving those speeds and they need to get it fixed. Once enough people are connected, if it is a wide spread issue, then the League would be willing to take that up with NBN Co, Julian Leeser and the relevant minister. The time to do it will be while they still are coming to the island to do work so please monitor your service and if it is slow let the League and your ISP know.

TELSTRA

Hornsby Shire Council and Julian Leeser have advised the League that Telstra has agreed that it will not submit a Development Application with Hornsby Shire Council before they meet with Dangar residents to discuss their plans and hear what we have to say. We are hopeful that we can find a solution for the mobile phone issues that everyone is happy with. As soon as we know more we will be in touch by e-mail and on the league website.

The Dangar Island League AGM is on 19 September at 2pm near the Bowling Club. We will need to confirm exactly what we are able to do to ensure the meeting is Covid safe and compliant with regulations closer to the date, so please keep an eye out.

On behalf of the Dangar Island League and island residents I want to thank Marina for editing the Mullet Mail over the last 3 to 4 years. Marina is stepping aside and it will be a challenge to find a new editor who can bring the same energy and enthusiasm. If you think you've got what it takes please let us know.

Lastly if you're not a member please join, if you are please go to the website and check whether you need to renew your membership. You can also do it in person at the AGM

For your Diary **Dangar Island League AGM** * Saturday 19th September at 2pm. * In the park, near the bowling club.





In the recent Dangar Island survey, a significant number and cleaning up its mess can set an example that is of residents listed pet management issues as something followed by others. This can be a particular problem with they are concerned about. Hornsby Shire Council has also tourists who assume it is a free-for-all. informed the League that residents have been raising Please help everyone (your neighbours, tourists and their concerns with council, specifically regarding off- wildlife) by being a responsible pet owner. It's as simple as leash dogs. In case anyone is unaware, it is an offence to keeping your cat inside at night and your dog on a leash have a dog unleashed in public areas on Dangar Island. and please, make sure that you or whoever walks the dog Dogs are also prohibited in children's play areas even if on cleans up after them. a lead. Recently off-leash dogs on the island have entered properties, attacked and killed chickens, agitated other pets, harassed native wildlife and intimidated young children. This raises the issue of council needing to take a more interventionist approach. The fine for having a Dangar Island League dog off-leash is \$330 dollars, and if the dog impacts another human the fine can be up to \$1300.

It is important that residents consider the impact their pet can have on other residents and wildlife. Off-leash dogs and roaming cats can harass and even kill native animals. Dangar Island is an important feeding and resting spot for a number of migratory birds, some of these species are endangered. Off-leash dogs chasing or disturbing these birds when they need to forage and rebuild their strength to return for the Arctic summer can impact their survival. Cats that are out at night are also problematic, particularly for native wildlife. Coming into spring with nesting and babies in abundance it is a most important time to keep all pets under control.

Some pets are better behaved than others, however letting your cat roam or not having a dog on a leash at all times







Just a brief report this mail...

We've had domestic essentially. Therefore, supporting that. the word is don't put down the toilet.

satisfactorily and once patronage. again our staff and directors are thanked for part in outcome. Recently a Gin

President and Licensee and a Tequila night each went really well.

If you are unsure of your membership status,

contact Michelle. We will do another letterbox drop soon.

Bowls is increasingly popular these days. Great roll ups for a roll up.

The Dangar Island Gardeners are fantastic allies whose produces

issues graces the plates of our patrons. They recently with our sewer. soon will conduct a crowd funding It is the same as a exercise to install tanks to capture one water from our roof. Look forward to

wipes or other stuff Don't forget the AGM on the October long-weekend.

The club is progressing Thanks for your continued

that Tom Garvey



Island Art Activities For Kids





During 2020
Ana Pollak

At the start of this year, drawings and paintings by island kids were exhibited in the cafe to coincide with the completion of the Dangar Island 2020 Survey. Their creative works conveyed the many island things that resident's value in living here.



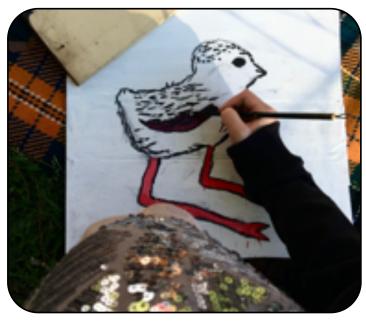
During the first COVID Lockdown a tree drawing activity was organised by parents and one of the many island artists. Kids and parents got out of the house with paper, pastels, chalks and pencils to draw or assemble in a collage their views of trees.





More recently a couple of islanders wanted to inform our community about the newly hatched Masked Lapwings or Plover chicks. This time the kids drew and painted signs about the Plovers to help inform their community on how to care for our community of birds with some assistance from parents and an island artist.



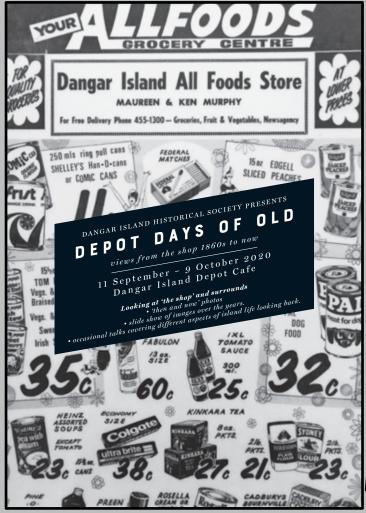


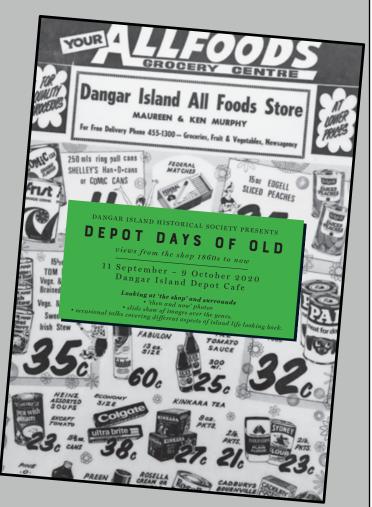


Dangar Island Historical Society Presents......









A message from your local fire brigade

Spring is in the air and as we enjoy the warmer weather, our thoughts also turn to summer and the risks of bushfire. **Now** is the time to start preparing yourself, your home, and your family for the bushfire season.

Brigades across NSW are participating in hazard reduction burning aimed at reducing fuel loads in bushland areas close to towns and suburbs. You will have seen the smoky skies over recent weeks.

However, hazard reduction burning is only part of the answer. There are steps **you** can take to make **your** home safer and ensure that **your** household is prepared for the possibility of bush fire:

- Tidy up around your house and garden trim overhanging trees and shrubs, mulch cuttings or place in green bins, clean your roof and gutters, clear flammable materials away from around your house.
- Make a plan with the other members of your household will you know what to do if there is fire in the area?

There is lots of useful information available to help you prepare and feel ready for the bushfire season. For more information including a step by step guide to preparing your bushfire survival plan go to:

http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/bush-fire-survival-plan

Better still come and meet members of your local Dangar Island Brigade at the

GET READY WEEKEND Sunday 20 September 2020 10am - 1pm @ locations across the island

There will be a series of 'stations' across the island where you can have all your bush fire preparation questions answered. Look out for more information in your mailbox, on posters and on the Dangar Island Rural Fire Brigade Facebook page. Or come down to the Shop on Sunday morning and follow the trail.

Want to burn off during the bush fire danger period?

You need to know the following:

- The bush fire danger period runs from 1 October to 31 March
- A fire permit is required for ALL burning activities during this period.
- The only exception is recreational (cooking) fires.
- A cooking fire is less than 1m in diameter, in a cleared area or purposebuilt BBQ and must be supervised at all times.
- Pile burns should be under 1m tall, and require a permit.
- Bonfires are not permitted!!!
- Burning below the high tide mark is **not** permitted!!

If you have a permit you still need to remember the following:

- Check expected weather conditions before lighting up.
- Make sure the fire is well contained and can be controlled.
- Have your hoses in place and ready to go, in case the fire gets too big.
- Do not burn toxic materials e.g. rubber, plastic, paint.
- No burning is allowed on a TOTAL FIRE BAN day.

Prepare your home - Prepare your family - Prepare yourself Are you prepared for a bushfire emergency?

Prepare your home

Even if you plan to leave, you should PREPARE YOUR HOME NOW. A well-prepared home is more easily defended if fire does threaten the island. This is YOUR responsibility.

- ➤ Have at least 1-2m cleared area around your
- Trim trees and shrubs that are next to or overhanging your home
- > Clear all leaf litter & debris from under and around your home
- Remove flammable materials from around the home (door mats, gas bottles, chemicals, paint)
- Clean out your roof and gutters

Prepare your family

You need to decide WELL BEFORE a bush fire what you'll do if one starts. You need to identify and agree on your triggers for action. Everyone in the household needs to know the plan, and be ready to act. If your plan is to leave, you must LEAVE EARLY, before Brooklyn Rd is closed.

- ➤ Will you go or will you stay? Decide that now.
- ➤ What will your trigger be to leave?
- ➤ How and where will you go? NB the river may be very smoky with limited visibility.
- > Anyone with mobility or health issues should NOT STAY.
- You should NOT STAY if you are not properly equipped. Is your home prepared? Will you know what to do if fire reaches your home?

Prepare yourself

Get the FiresNearMe App.

Set a 20km watchzone.

Understand the alert levels.

Heed any alerts you receive.

Some fires start and spread quickly. If you get a Bush Fire Alert, take it seriously.

Waiting too long to act may put you at risk.

Know the alert levels:

- o Blue Advice. A fire has started. There is no immediate danger. Stay up to date in case the situation changes.
- o Yellow Watch & Act. A heightened level of threat. Conditions are changing. You need to start taking action now.
- **Red Emergency.** You may be in danger. You need to take action immediately. Any delay now puts your life at risk.

USEFUL LINKS AND APPS

DIRFB facebook page





Dangar Island Rural Fire Brigade

MyFirePlan app and weblink



www.MyFirePlan.com.au

FiresNearMe app



We encourage all community members to prepare NOW for the possibility that the island is threatened by bushfire.

Planning to make a plan is not a plan.

From the CFR Shed in Unprecedented Times



recruits. Matt, Liz, Helen, David, Natalie, through their induction course provide. at the NSW Ambulance centre It's a big commitment ... giving by continuing to take care: up both days of 4 consecutive weekends ... but our recruits ' will come out the other side with

a greatly enhanced knowledge of first aid and of Ambulance procedure. We are very much looking forward to having their support.

On the back-benches, apart from helping with the admin ' for our recruits, Judy has been maintaining the CFR * Facebook page. Posts include interesting items from NSW Ambulance and relevant information from the World Health Organisation ... such as their video on how to make * your own 3-layer face masks. You can follow us on @dangarislandCFR.

Heartfelt thanks go from the CFR team to Paul and Judi CFR33 Dangar Island

There has been a very pleasing Taylor who have given us a very generous donation of response to our call for new \$400 ... the proceeds of Paul's recent exhibition in the

Sofan, Dangar Depot. We will find a way to spend this, publicly Richenda and Adair are, as the celebrating the graduation of our new recruits and kitting MM goes to press, mid-way them out with some niceties NSW Ambulance don't

at Point Clare (near Gosford). Meanwhile, **everyone** can help our community stay safe

Wash your hands; use the hand sanitiser provided in shops

Observe physical distancing rules; when you are out and when you have visitors

Wear a properly fitted mask / face covering on the ferry and when shopping

Stay home if you feel unwell

If you are worried about your symptoms go to the Covid-19 checker at

https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/coronavirus

Call ooo if having severe difficulty breathing and for other life-threatening emergencies.

Brenda Hall, brenda.hall458@gmail.com

Liking Clean4shore



blocks washed up under my wharf a few weeks ago. A get away! danger to boats and to the environment.

What to do? The thing was 1500x1000x600mm. I couldn't lift it and deploying my chainsaw was likely to release millions of mini-polystyrene-monsters to the river. I tethered the beast to the shore and thought about it ... for two minutes every day as I walked past. Eventually I asked Mr Google and as ever, Mr Google did not disappoint.

The name Clean4shore surfaced. A sharp, recently

updated Facebook page, with posts about river rubbish pick-ups that were LIKED by some of my island friends! I PM'd them right away and had a response within 24 hours!

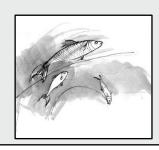
Clean4shore have cleaned up 45 similar blocks over the last 3 years. There remains a stack of 25 of them decaying at Gentleman's Point and despite Clean4shore's representations, no stakeholder takes responsibility for them.

Within a week of my message, Clean4shore had arranged for Rob Moxham to collect the block; they subsidised the disposal fee, and the brute is now interred in Woy Woy tip.

One of these monster polystyrene and reinforced concrete If you see more of these loose in our river, don't let them

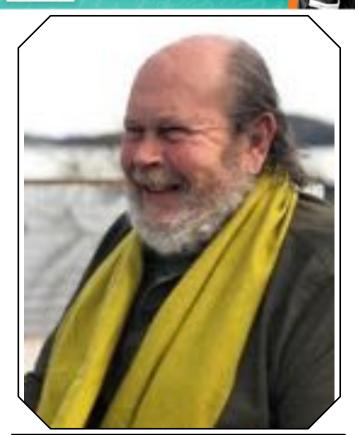
Look up & Like @Clean4shoremacs.

Brenda Hall





STEP UP TO RESTORE SIGHT



Michael Liebenberg was recently challenged to walk 50 kilometres during the month of August to raise money for Fred Hollows Foundation 'step up and restore sight'.

He's successfully completed the challenge and in doing so has raised \$2850. This amount will enable 112 people to have their sight restored.

Michael would like to thank all his sponsors and in particular his regular early morning walking companions, Sue Merrick & Tony Partridge who helped keep up the pace and walked every step.



The Land Beyond



Dust devils dance in shimmering heat. Whilst the unsealed road burns the soles of my feet.

Wedgetail eagles soar riding thermals up on high. Now merely but a speck in a clear azure sky.

Those horizons unobstructed stretching out towards infinity. Something seldomseen at all within the confines of a city

Vast plains of wheat stretch out across the land. A golden harvest yet replete until the harvest stand.

For all the wealth this land provides its people are in strife.

Yet in closer touch with nature and a slower pace of life.

This way of life to many is seen somewhat ideal. For those squeezed in the city there is certainly appeal.

As one who lives along the coast of one thing I am certain.

There is much to see and wonder at beyond the sandstone curtain.



Bruce Lambert

An Opinion on Dangar Island's Dangerous Overhanging Tree Limbs

Background:

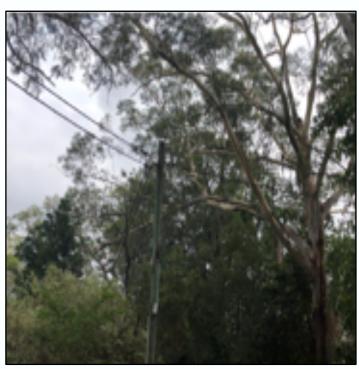
author wrote to the Hornsby Shire Council and Ausgrid adults and a 4-year old child tragically dies because of concerning two very obvious Island safety matters. These falling trees during a brief wind-storm. issues were:

plan was urgently required.

limbs" that threated serious injury (or worse) to the Ausgrid on this particular concern. Just perhaps then, residents. Of particular concern being the threat to other residents and the Dangar Island League might pedestrians on roadways.

Discussion:

Limiting this particular article to second issue only, contained in the above correspondence were several photos that illustrate clearly the safety threat.



The long and large limb (over a tonne in weight) pointing over the pole will clearly bring down power cables when (not if) it falls. This limb is also over the road and constitutes pedestrian hazard. Maybe hundreds of people going to and from the ferry and shop pass under it every day.



To reinforce the point being made, readers are further Some Islanders will be aware that earlier this year the reminded that in Melbourne in late August 2020, two

Conclusion:

That Dangar Island was (and still is as it happened) a A walk around the Island will quickly establish there are "Bushland Firebomb", and a detailed island fire safety many dangerous tree limbs overhanging roadways (incidentally some houses too), but unfortunately Further, there are "many dangerous overhanging tree nothing meaningful has occurred from Council or consider taking further action to severely limit this obvious public risk.

Comment by DIL executive committee on Ray Toman's submission.

The League regularly negotiates with Council regarding clean up after storms, drains blocked by vegetation and debris, and trees on Council land that are in a dangerous condition.

River Conversations An Exhibition by Mel Anderson Starting 10th October The Depot





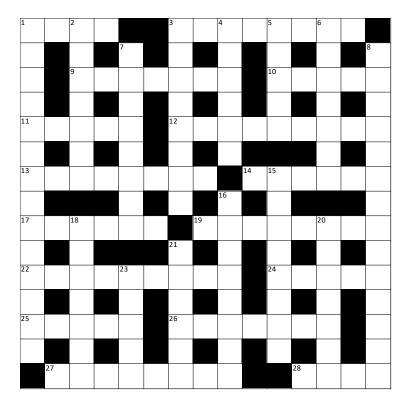


COMBO XWORD

#0015 by Chico

Spring 2020

The prize crossword in our last print edition attracted a number of entries, that number being zero. From this I conclude that either no-one needs \$100 in cash, or it was too difficult. So I've made this one a fair bit easier with some quick-style and some Wikipedable clues, and given the \$100 to charity. Cryptic clues are marked C.



Do not draw cartoons in this space

Across

- 1. C. Urge for appeal to Swiss domain (4)
- 3. C. Consumption gets drone drink, OK (6,2)
- 9. C. Tasteless top mark more than one can chew, perhaps (1,3,3)
- 10. C. Injures tops of more animals under lights & siren (5)
- 11. Majority ethno-linguistic group of Zimbabwe (5)
- 12. Shia Islamist political party and militant group based in Lebanon (9)
- 13. Rappelled (8)
- 14. C. Sounds like boy band is together (2,4)
- 17. C. Work for us after experimental venue (6)
- 19. C. Soldier not wearing underpants (8)
- 22. Making eggs (9)
- 24. C. Cold in unresponsive cup for bedtime (5)
- 25. Express delight (5)
- 26. Lobulus auriculae (7)
- 27. C. Damn! Back to fighting for SF franchise (4,4)
- 28. Digital addresses (4)

Down

- 1. Expressive of 6 degrees of separation (3,1,5,5)
- 2. C. Prisoners eat beam and pigment sticks (7)
- 3. An anatomical structure acting as a pulley (8)
- 4. C. Where art is seen in the buff, I zip (6)
- 5. Attractive idiot (5)
- 6. C. Normally friend follows me informally to university (7)
- 7. C. Atrium is stirred up dessert (8)
- 8. As direct a route as possible (2,3,4,5)
- 15. C. Dame mixed up in sex tapes, reviewed for pretension (4-4)
- 16. Jilleroos (8)
- 18. C. Fragrance in Paris that breaks spell (7)
- 20. C. New announcement on obvious source of energy (7)
- 21. C. Blokes go back into spy agency screening room (6)
- 23. Despise (5)

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

A&G Professional Plumbing

Based in Brooklyn
In operation for over 30 years
Available for plumbing and gas-fitting work
On Dangar Island

http://agpro.com.au/

Phone: Guy Sullivan on 0418 248 348
Or email guy@agpro.com.au

Bycroft Chimney Sweeping And Home Maintenance

ABN 97 824 395 651

The Home Heating Association recommends that wood burning fireplaces are serviced annually for safe & efficient operation.

When did you last service yours?

We are a family run, fully insured company that has provided services to the Central Coast for over 20 years.

https://chimneysweep.net.au/

Phone Chris Bycroft on: 0416 214 857

Backyard Permaculture

Structural Landscaping, Horticulture and Permaculture
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Drystone Stone Walls / Paving / Decks / Sheds / Fences
Chickens / Vegetables / Fruit Trees / Wicking Beds
Gardening and Other Maintenance
Working on Dangar for the past 5 years and local to Brooklyn!

p: Luke Costelloe 0423 369 024

e: info@backyardpermaculture.co

https://www.instagram.com/backyard_permaculture/

KILLFAST Pest Control Pty Ltd

Located on the Central Coast
Servicing Dangar Island
Termites? Rats? Spiders? Cockroaches? Ants?
Let us take care of all your pest control needs

Look us up on Facebook @Killfastpc Phone: 0434 674 841

Email: killfastpcs@gmail.com

Let Dangar Island Residents Know that your business offers services to the island.

Advertise in this frame for \$80 per annum.

Your ad will be publicly available on our website
and it will be printed in the black and white hardcopy of
The Mullet Mail newsletter, distributed to all
Dangar Island post boxes in Spring and Autumn.
Inquire by email to:

info@dangarislandleague.com

Are you a resident providing a community service?

Members of the league can advertise in this frame for free.

Memberships \$10 per annum, Join via the website.

www.dangarislandleague.com

Inclusion on this page does not constitute a recommendation by the Dangar Island League.

Funds raised through the placement of advertisements go towards the production and printing of the Mullet Mail.

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 slanders and visitors

We provide emergency care, and we aise with the paramedics so they can get by you quickly.

In an emergency, please don't call ndividual CFRs on our mobile numbers his 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

A Note From The MM Editor....

After a number of years of writing, editing and formatting copy for the Mullet Mail the time has now come to pass on the baton to

someone else. If you are interested in taking on this rewarding and important community role please contact the DIL team.

Marina Garvey

