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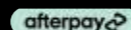
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234 -235

MARCH 21, 2025

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Welcome

Dear Readers,

Welcome to this special edition 234/235! We truly appreciate your understanding as we decided not to publish last fortnight. The weather was quite challenging, and our drivers' safety was our top priority. Plus, we wouldn't want to deliver a soggy magazine that you couldn't enjoy! This was a first for us since I joined the magazine, and I'm believe our team made a tough, but the right decision. We hope this didn't cause you any inconvenience and apologise if it did.

I hope you all stayed safe during our recent wet weather. We were lucky to escape with only minor damage—it could have been much worse! I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who stepped up to help those in need during this time. Your selfless acts truly reflect the wonderful spirit of our community, and I feel so lucky to be part of it.

Now, we're back in action, and I couldn't be more excited to share our gorgeous front cover, beautifully captured by **Bluey's Photography**. If you haven't already, please check out their Facebook page! They have an incredible collection of stunning photos of Bribie and beyond, showcasing the beauty that surrounds us. Thank you, **Bluey's Photography**, for allowing us to share your beautiful work.

Until next time,

Take care, Stay safe,

Cherrie

Cherrie



We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Country across our region. We also acknowledge and pay our respects to the Kabi Kabi, Jinibara and Turrbal Traditional Custodians, and their elders past, present and emerging of the lands, winds and waters where we live, learn and work. We pay our respects and acknowledge the important role of Elders past and present, for they hold the memories of the traditions, cultures and aspirations of Australia's First Nations peoples, and have taken on the responsibility to protect and promote their culture and leave a legacy for future Elders and leaders.



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AUSSIE STARS EXPOSE THE PAINFUL REALITY OF SHINGLES THIS SHINGLES AWARENESS WEEK

Journalist Shelly Horton, AFL legend Robert 'Dipper' DiPierdomenico and news presenter Deborah Knight share their personal experience of shingles during Shingles Awareness Week (24 February – 2 March 2025).

It is estimated that, by the age of 40, more than 97% of Australians carry the inactive virus (varicella zoster virus) that causes shingles from a previous chickenpox infection. Research commissioned by GSK Australia* reveals over a quarter (26%) of Australians aged 50-79 do not recall previously having chickenpox and are at risk of developing shingles without being aware of this risk. It also showed that almost a quarter (24%) of Australians don't believe or understand that they

can develop shingles if they've had chickenpox.

Shingles can present in a number of ways; however, it can be a painful and potentially debilitating condition. It is a viral infection that is caused by the reactivation of the varicella zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox earlier in life.

The risk of developing shingles increases with age. As the immune system naturally weakens, and this can allow the usually inactive virus that causes shingles to reactivate. If Australians have a weakened immune system due to illness, treatments or medications, you may also be at increased risk. Shingles Awareness Week aims to increase understanding of the impact of shingles and address common misconceptions surrounding shingles. Journalist Shelly Horton and AFL-legend Robert 'Dipper' DiPierdomenico join news presenter Deborah Knight as Shingles Awareness Week ambassadors, having experienced first-hand the pain and impact of shingles.

"I experienced shingles during

a very stressful time of my life. A huge spread of tiny blisters appeared on my right inner thigh, which left me in excruciating pain, and I felt completely debilitated," shared Shelly Horton, who is an advocate for talking about taboo health topics.

"Since my experience, many people close to me have been affected by this condition. My mum had shingles, which caused a rash across her torso. It was so painful she couldn't even drive or sit on the couch to watch TV.

She almost went to hospital because she thought it was kidney stones.

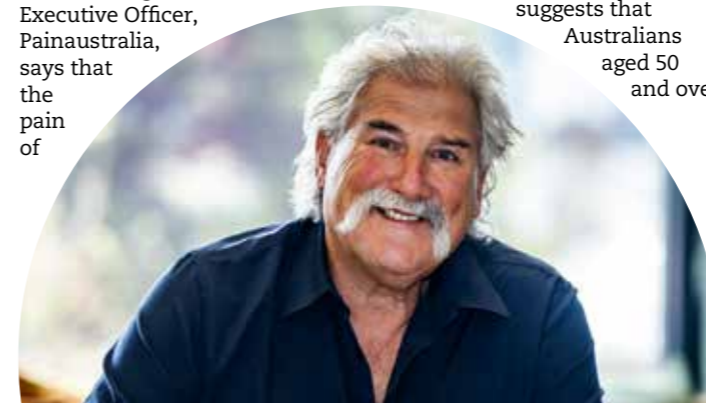
"I now know that shingles is common in people 50 and over. One of mum's friends got shingles in her eye, which could have affected her sight. My father-in-law also had shingles at my wedding in Mexico, with a rash across his back," recalled Ms Horton. "He was in a lot of pain and afraid of the rash being aggravated, especially during our dance. While everyone else continued celebrating, he became bed bound in the hotel room."

Recognised as one of Hawthorn Football Club's most prominent players, Robert 'Dipper' DiPierdomenico, has also experienced the painful and debilitating impact of shingles, and has cared for his



partner during her shingles diagnosis.

"Compared to the pain of many of my sporting injuries, shingles was relentless. It put me out of action for nine days," said Dipper. "I had a large, itchy, red rash suddenly appear on the left side of my body. It was so uncomfortable; I slept on a mattress in the lounge room with the air conditioning running to try and find some relief. It was horrible to experience personally, and I know some of my loved ones, like my partner and my mum, have also experienced the pain and discomfort of shingles." Monika Boogs, Chief Executive Officer, PainAustralia, says that the pain of



shingles is often described by people as some the worst they have ever experienced. "Shingles is often more than just a rash. The pain from shingles can disrupt sleep, mood, work and daily activities and impact quality of life. For some people, it can cause long-term issues with eyesight or chronic nerve pain leading to long-term discomfort," said Ms Boogs.

Leading expert, Professor Tony Cunningham, Director of the Centre for Virus Research (WIMR) and Vaccine Theme Leader at Sydney Infectious Diseases Institute (SydneyID), The University of Sydney, suggests that Australians aged 50 and over

should not underestimate their shingles risk even if they don't recall having had chickenpox. "If you've had chickenpox, the virus can remain dormant in your body. Almost all Australians have had chickenpox, even if they don't remember having it or were asymptomatic and so are at risk of shingles as they carry the inactive virus. As you get older, there is a decline in your immune system that can leave you susceptible to the reactivation of this virus, which causes shingles," said Professor Cunningham. "Shingles Awareness Week is an important reminder to



understand the symptoms and your risk, especially if you are aged 50 and over. Speak to your doctor to understand your risk of shingles and encourage loved ones who are older to do the same."

To help reduce the impact on people's lives and the disruption to everyday activities that shingles can cause, Australians aged 50 years and over should learn more about the signs, symptoms and risk factors for shingles. For more information about shingles, speak to a healthcare professional and visit knowshingles.com.au.

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Hello, my name is Lisa and I am the Founder of LJ Aesthetics. As a Registered Nurse, Cosmetic InjectoTr, and Dermal Skin Therapist, I have over 20 years of experience in the Beauty Industry. I operate two clinics, one in Redcliffe and the other is at Bribie on First Ave in Bongaree. I welcome you to schedule a free consultation with me.

My qualifications include an Advanced Diploma of Health Science, a Diploma in Beauty Therapy, a Bachelor of Nursing, and certification in Fundamentals of Cosmetic Injectables. I have trained alongside industry leaders and am committed to continuing my education by obtaining internationally recognized industry certificates. I am now a certified Trainer and train Doctors, Dentists and Nurses in the fundamentals of cosmetics both nationally and internationally. My passion is to provide the most current and best practices to my clients, building my reputation as a highly respected professional.

I bring a holistic approach to my injectable practice, aligning with my Australian Catholic University education. My goal is to empower my clients to achieve natural and subtle-looking beauty through cosmetic enhancement. I prioritize long-term patient care and affordability, focusing on treating volume loss and correcting asymmetry in the brows, lips, and cheeks. My commitment to my clients is to deliver a natural and subtle enhancement rather than an overdone appearance, providing impeccable care.

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I am very passionate about cosmetics; it's something that I constantly think about and enjoy learning new things about. It's a big part of my life and I always strive to improve my knowledge and skills in this area.

Best regardsNurse Lisa



Nurse Alanna has been a registered nurse for 8 years. She has a passion for the aesthetics industry and assisting her clients reach their skin goals. We can't wait for you to meet nurse Alanna.



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EMERGENCY PLANNING FOR VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS IN SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS AND EMERGENCIES



Planning is an essential part of life, especially for families navigating medical challenges. For many, having a Plan B, C, D, and even E isn't just a luxury—it's a necessity. Whether it's a late-night emergency room visit or the sudden need for new adaptive equipment, life with medical needs is dynamic and unpredictable. This journey builds resilience, but it also requires flexibility and preparation.

When it comes to severe weather events, planning becomes even more critical, especially for those who are vulnerable. Human beings inherently need safety and comfort, and during extreme weather conditions, these needs are amplified. Vulnerable individuals—whether due to medical conditions, age, or disability—can be disproportionately affected by storms, floods, heatwaves, or any other natural disaster. Therefore, it is essential to have a robust emergency plan in place to keep them safe and comfortable.

Our community has shown incredible strength in recent weather events. We've witnessed neighbours helping one another, offering support in times of need, and coming together in the face of unpredictable conditions. It's a reminder that we are stronger when we work together, especially in times of crisis.

As a caregiver, I understand the importance of emergency preparedness. There are

many resources and templates available to help organize safety plans for vulnerable individuals, and it's vital to use them. I recommend creating a dedicated emergency folder with all necessary information. This should include medical records, emergency contacts, medications, and specific care needs. It's equally important to ensure that support people—whether family, friends, or professional caregivers—are familiar with these documents and understand the procedures for various scenarios.

Weather events often serve as a significant learning curve, reminding us how unpredictable Mother Nature can be. While no plan is ever perfect or foolproof, having a clear emergency plan is the best way to navigate the challenges that arise. It offers a sense of security and a structured approach when everything else may feel chaotic.

In closing, I hope everyone is staying safe and well during these times. Take the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine and remember to check in with your loved ones, especially those who may need extra support.

Stay safe, plan ahead, and take care.

Kind regards,
Tracey Blinco
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Acupuncturists Wendy Ryan BHSc. Acup. (left) and Jessica Yung BHSc. Acup. (centre) and Receptionist Katherine Williamson (right).

NECK PAIN

Neck pain and tight neck muscles are common and can significantly impact daily life. The discomfort may be localised to the neck or radiate to other areas such as the shoulders, upper back, head, or even the arms. The most common causes of neck pain and tightness include poor posture, emotional stress, overuse, and injuries, such as whiplash. Structural issues such as cervical spondylosis, herniated discs, and degeneration can also contribute to chronically tight muscles, as muscles often contract to guard and stabilise the affected area. Muscles that are contracted for a prolonged period of time contribute to chronic pain.

The impact of tight neck muscles

often goes beyond physical discomfort, affecting overall well-being. Persistent pain can contribute to stress, anxiety, and depression, and can interfere with daily activities, driving, and hobbies - leading to a decreased quality of life. Neck pain can also disrupt sleep, either by causing discomfort while lying down or leading to headaches that prevent restful sleep. Poor sleep, in turn, can exacerbate muscle tension, creating a vicious cycle.

THE NECK & HEADACHES

Though headaches can stem from various causes, an often overlooked factor is tight neck muscles. The muscles in the neck play a crucial role in supporting the head and facilitating movement; when these muscles become tense or strained however, they can provoke or worsen headaches.

- **Muscle tension and referred pain:** when muscles become tight, they can develop "trigger points", which are small knots in the muscle tissue. These trigger points can refer pain to other areas, for example the temples, forehead, or around the eyes, leading to tension-type headaches or even mimicking migraine symptoms.

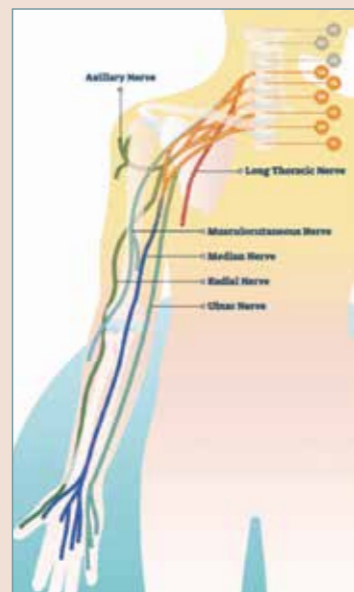
- **Nerve irritation:** the neck houses several nerves, including a nerve which

runs from the upper cervical spine to the scalp. Tight muscles in the neck can irritate or compress these nerves, leading to headaches that originate at the base of the skull and radiate to the forehead or behind the eyes.



THE NECK & TINGLING FINGERS

People are often surprised to learn that the root cause of tingling in their fingers sometimes may actually be found in the neck. Tight neck muscles can lead to tingling in the fingers through:



- **Nerve compression:** when neck muscles become tight, they can put pressure on the nerves that pass through or near them. This compression can disrupt the normal flow of nerve signals to the arms and hands, leading to tingling, numbness, or even pain in the fingers.

- **Cervical radiculopathy:** cervical radiculopathy occurs when a nerve root in the cervical spine becomes compressed or irritated, often due to a herniated disc, bone spur, or other degenerative changes in the spine. Tight neck muscles can however exacerbate this condition by pulling on the vertebrae or creating additional pressure around the nerve roots. When the nerves that extend into the arms and fingers are affected, it can result in tingling or a "pins and needles" sensation in the fingers.

- **Reduced blood flow:** tight muscles can also restrict blood flow to the nerves. Insufficient blood flow can deprive nerves of the oxygen and nutrients they need to function properly, resulting in tingling or numbness in the extremities, including the fingers.

HOW ACUPUNCTURE MAY HELP

Acupuncture can be particularly effective in relieving tight neck muscles, and therefore also relieve related symptoms, such as headaches and nerve compression by:

- **Releasing muscle tension:** acupuncture helps release muscle tension, improve blood circulation, and reduce inflammation, leading to relief of muscle tightness and pain.
- **Promoting blood flow:** improved blood circulation is one of the key benefits of acupuncture. By increasing blood flow to the neck muscles, acupuncture helps to deliver more oxygen and nutrients to the affected tissues which aids in the healing process and reduces muscle stiffness.
- **Reducing inflammation:** acupuncture has been shown to have anti-inflammatory effects. By reducing inflammation, acupuncture helps to alleviate pain and promote faster recovery.
- **Stimulating endorphin release:** acupuncture stimulates the release of endorphins, which are natural pain-relieving chemicals produced by the body. This can help reduce the sensation of pain and discomfort associated with tight neck muscles, providing both immediate and long-term relief.

The UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), which provides evidence-based guidance and advice for health and care in England, in fact recognises acupuncture as a treatment option for chronic pain, including neck pain.

If you'd like to make a booking or if you'd like to discuss whether acupuncture and Chinese medicine is right for you, please contact us - Jessica, Wendy, and Katherine - via our website www.bribieacupuncture.com.au or call 0423 160 228. You can also find us on Facebook and Instagram @bribieacupuncture. HICAPS is available onsite. Pensioner discounts available

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UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING FOOT PAIN

Foot pain is a common yet often overlooked issue that affects millions of people worldwide. Whether you are an athlete logging mile on the track, a professional on your feet all day, or someone simply navigating life, foot pain can significantly impact your quality of life. Recognizing its causes and seeking appropriate remedies is crucial for maintaining overall health and mobility. One of the leading contributors to foot pain is improper footwear. Many people prioritise style over comfort, choosing shoes that may look great but provide inadequate support. High heels and tightly fitted shoes can lead to conditions such as bunions, corns, and plantar fasciitis. It's essential to select footwear that not only complements our wardrobes but also prioritizes support and stability. Brands that emphasize ergonomic design can provide a solution for those seeking both fashion and functionality.

In addition to footwear, lifestyle choices play a significant role in foot health. Sedentary behaviour can lead to weakened muscles and poor circulation, while excessive physical activity without proper conditioning can result in overuse injuries. Stretching and strength training exercises for the feet and legs can prevent injuries



and strengthen the muscles that support our feet. Maintaining a healthy weight alleviates unnecessary pressure on the feet, reducing the risk of pain. Foot pain can also be symptomatic of underlying health issues such as diabetes, arthritis, or nerve damage. Individuals with persistent or severe foot pain should consult healthcare professionals who specialise in podiatry. Early diagnosis and intervention can prevent further complications and improve overall quality of life. In our increasingly busy lives, it's easy to dismiss foot pain as a minor inconvenience. However, the consequences can be far-reaching. Chronic pain can affect not only physical well-being but also mental health, impacting daily activities and social interactions. Addressing foot pain proactively can lead to improved productivity and a higher quality of life. As a society, we must promote awareness of foot health and encourage individuals to pay attention to their bodies. Regular check-ups with podiatrists, investment in quality footwear, and incorporating foot-strengthening exercises into daily routines can all contribute to healthier feet. In doing so, we not only alleviate pain but also foster a more active, engaged, and healthy community. In conclusion, foot pain is a common affliction with significant implications for overall health. By understanding its causes, taking preventive measures, and seeking appropriate care, we can pave the way for a future where pain does not hinder our ability to walk through life. Let's take a step forward together in valuing and caring for our feet.

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Our club is a welcoming community, open to all, regardless of age or gender. We aim to support each other in achieving a healthy lifestyle and a goal weight set by a doctor. Our focus is on social contact,

help, guidance, and support from fellow members, making everyone feel included and valued.

Our Graduation is held each July as a way of recognising the efforts of all who have lost weight and for those who have reached their goal weight to become a Graduate.

Most weeks, our President shares insights on various aspects of leading a healthy lifestyle. We also host engaging Guest Speakers and weekly raffles. Our bi-monthly 'Bring and Buy' stall, followed by a delightful Morning Tea, is a great way to socialize. These activities not only make our meetings enjoyable but also provide valuable information and support for your weight loss journey.

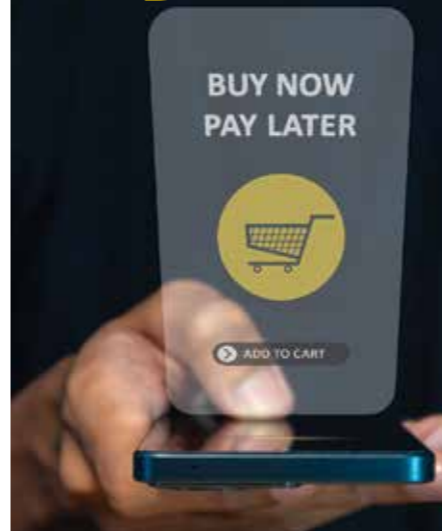
An exercise Physiologist visits twice a month from 10-10:30am with up to 20 members staying to participate in simple exercise and balance routines.

On the 4th Tuesday of each month, about 16 members attend the local Aquatic Centre for an hour of aquarobics from 10:30 - 11:30am. It's not just a workout; it's a fun and enjoyable experience that our members always look forward to. Once a month, after the meeting, we have a special morning tea at the RSL or one of our local cafés. It's a time to celebrate and appreciate our members, especially those who are celebrating their birthdays that month.

New members are always welcome and can contact our President, Chris Blackmore on 0419 423 653



Buy Now Pay Later CONVENIENCE BUT A DEBT TRAP



The concept of "Buy Now Pay Later" (BNPL) has surged in popularity, offering consumers the flexibility to make purchases and pay for them over time. However, while BNPL schemes provide convenience, they are a debt and often come with various charges that consumers should be aware of.

Interest Fees One of the primary charges that can be incurred in a BNPL contract is interest fees. While many BNPL providers offer interest-free periods, these can vary in length, and any balance not paid off within this timeframe may accrue interest. The interest rates can be high, often comparable to credit card rates.

contracts may include punitive penalties for missed payments. These penalties may be harsher than standard late fees and can significantly increase the overall cost of the purchase if the consumer fails to meet their payment obligations.

CREDIT REPORTING FEES Some BNPL providers report payment history to credit bureaus. If a consumer's account becomes delinquent, the provider may charge fees related to reporting the delinquency to credit agencies. This can have a lasting impact on the consumer's credit score.

So, while Buy Now Pay Later contracts offer convenience and flexibility, they are a debt that must be repaid and come with potential charges that may add significantly to the cost of the purchase. It is probably prudent to put off the purchase until you can afford to pay for it.

Peter Dallimore is a qualified and registered Financial Counsellor at the at the Sandstone Point Community Association. Face to face appointments are available Mon, Wed and Fri 830am to 12pm at St Vincent de Paul Society meeting rooms 47a First Avenue Bribie Island. Phone 5459 5265 to book. Or email spcafc23@gmail.com and detail what assistance you need. The service is free.

LATE PAYMENT FEES

Late payment fees are another common charge associated with BNPL contracts. If a consumer misses a payment or fails to pay the instalment on time, the provider may impose a late fee. These fees can accumulate with each missed payment, leading to a significant extra cost over time. Monthly Account Fees Some BNPL services charge a monthly account fee for maintaining the payment plan. This fee is usually a fixed amount and is charged regardless of whether the consumer makes any purchases during that month.

ESTABLISHMENT FEES

Certain BNPL providers may

charge an establishment fee, which is a one-time fee for setting up the account or payment plan. This fee covers the administrative costs associated with opening the account and is typically charged at the beginning of the contract.

EARLY REPAYMENT FEES

In some cases, consumers may wish to pay off their BNPL balance ahead of schedule. While this might seem like a prudent financial move, some providers impose early repayment fees. These charges are designed to compensate the provider for the interest they would have earned had the consumer paid off the

balance over the agreed-upon period.

CONVERSION FEES

For international purchases, conversion fees may apply. These fees cover the cost of converting the currency of the purchase into the consumer's local currency. The rate can vary based on the provider and the current exchange rate. Payment Processing Fees Depending on the BNPL provider, there may be additional fees for processing payments. This can include charges for using certain payment methods, such as credit cards, to make instalment payments.

Missed Payment Penalties

Beyond late fees, some BNPL



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BUSY FINGERS

NEW EXTENSION

Our new extension has proven to be a much-needed improvement to the shop, we now have more appropriate storage space and a larger medical room. Best of all, we have a Men's Cave which not only houses all the men's clothing and shoes but also their tools, gardening, and camping and sporting gear for them to sort through. I have spoken to a few men while in the area and all approved of their new area, as they can find what they are looking for. With left over timber we were able to build new shelves along the far wall which now houses linen, bedding, pillows, crafts suitcases, toys etc. We have also relocated the kitchenware, and bric a brac which has resulted in more space for furniture.

We have new shelves for CD's and DVD's along the back wall near the book room, which will also have new shelving shortly. The shop will be finished and more spaced out, with appropriate signage pointing customers to the correct areas. We wish to thank all our customers, staff and volunteers for their patience during the demolition, re-building and relocating shelves, accepting that it was a bit cramped at times. We hope that with all these renovations your future shopping experience will be a good one.

DONATIONS DROP OFF PLEASE BE AWARE

That our donations drop off point is at the end of the building with easy turn around for your car. Please do not walk into the shop and throw them on the counter and walk away. The counter staff do not have time to run through the shop taking bags and boxes where they belong. Recently, when the cashier ask someone to please take it to the appropriate spot they were verbally abused - this will not be tolerated. So please take donations to the drop off point only. A decision was made to not accept baby prams, cots, bassinets, highchairs or car seats unless they were only around 1 year old. This was due to new parents not wanting to place their new bub in something that is not up to the current safety regulations.

DONATIONS GIVEN

With our continued monthly donation to the VMR, Hospice and Global Care we were also able to give the following grants: AFL Juniors uniforms for coaches, a replacement fridge was required by the Croquet Club, the Woodcrafters required a Reach Stacker to assist the members with lifting the heavy logs and the Men's shed was in urgent need of a dust extractor to improve the air quality while the men worked indoors, they also need a new Mitre Saw. We thank all our supporters for donating their pre-loved items and our customers for their continued support of the shop.

REQUEST FOR PRESENTATIONS AND DONATIONS

If you are a member of an island club or association and require assistance, please let us know. We try to assist all non-for-profit associations and sporting clubs, we also assist the Police, SES, VMR and the BI Hospice. Our President Pauline is quite happy to come along to your club and present our aims and goals and how your club can apply for assistance. Please call 3410 1920 or email busyfingers1@bigpond.com if you wish to have a presentation or if you wish to apply for a grant of assistance. When applying for assistance please include a contact name and phone number and also a current equipment quote (from an island business if possible), tell us a bit about your association/club and membership and why you need the equipment you are

requesting, and email it to busyfingers1@bigpond.com Please be aware we only support Bribie Island associations and groups, not individuals.

FACEBOOK

Please be aware that our Manager will be posting any specials and sales on our Facebook site the night before it occurs. Things like \$1 per item clothes, 50% sales on other items, and any free item days, so please check our Facebook page, we will continue to write the specials on the Blackboard as you enter the shop.

I would like to thank all our supporters and customers, and a very special thank you to the Bribie Islander and staff for their continuing support. I hope to see you in the shop soon.

Sandra



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What Do You Know About The "F" WORD?

Well, Pumicestone Passage Probus knows all about the "f" word!

- FUN • FRIENDSHIP • FELLOWSHIP
- FRIVOLITY

That's not what you were expecting from the "f" word was it? So, what does that mean? Well, let's look at each F word.

Fun - Well, that's important. If we can't have fun after we retire, when can we? We have fun at our monthly meetings, with an amusing talk by a member and then an interesting, often amusing, speaker.

Friendship - Well, we can catch up with friends over coffee at our meetings and often stay at the RSL for lunch. It's time for a chatty catch-up. We meet up for coffee once a month and for dinner once a month.

Fellowship - There are other opportunities to join other get-togethers, too. There is a Book Club that is well-attended by some members. There is a Mahjong group which is very popular. A group of members are off to Norfolk Island for a holiday. I am sure that will include fun too!

Frivolity - Well, yes, sometimes, especially if we have a themed event. We have had Italian evenings, we have had French evenings—some very interesting outfits for that event, even a French maid! Next month, our President's Night is a Western evening, and soon, we will be planning the club's 35th birthday celebrations.

So, you see, the 'f' word has many uses, but fun is the best. Come and see for yourself by attending the RSL on the second Tuesday of the month 9 at 9.30 in the Garden Room. See you there! BY: Kathy Vincent



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On Becoming A Grandmother

By Sue Wighton - Accidental Writer
Website and blog:
suewightonaccidentalwriter.com

On Christmas Eve, 2024, my only child, my daughter, gave birth – quickly, gloriously, astonishingly – to my first grandchild, a beautiful boy we know as Reuben. Reuben Jack to be precise (his second name belonged to my beloved dad).

Welcome, Reubs!

Now that you're here, I can't imagine a world without you. What a darling boy you are! When I look into those eyes, I feel like I've known you forever. Somehow you were Reuben from the very start – from those first blurry black and white photos from within your mother's womb. You were just an indistinct smudge back then (Is that an arm? Oooh, look – that's his spine!) and even though you were sometimes called 'Beansprout' or occasionally 'Temu', we came to know you as Reuben. (To explain, your conception coincided with me buying an ancient campervan which I proceeded to 'fit out' obsessively with bibs and bobs from Temu, so for a while there, it seemed like a great nickname.)

The months went by, and with your mum, Katie and dad, Jarred, pretty much living with me while you were busy doing your thing – diligently dividing cells, conscientiously growing arms and legs, a brain and all those other bits and pieces – we three often sat around talking to you via your mum's belly, waiting for your kicks, hiccups and writhing's which all seemed rather miraculous to us. The longer this went on, the more you became part of our family and our relationship, yours and mine, developed apace. Reuben Jack ... I know you. And when I look into your mother's eyes, I see you. And I remember.

You were there in Katie's toothless baby smiles, her excited toddler babblings, her trusting hand in mine at the shops. You were there in her baby tears, rare and fleeting, her delighted laugh, her childhood triumphs, and her fierce intelligence as she grew into a strong, kind, talented and thoughtful adult.

Reuben, when we hang out, and our eyes lock, I know you see me.

Being a grandmother is very different from being a mum. I don't like it when you cry, but, unlike your mother, it doesn't cause me physical pain. You don't need me to keep you safe, like your mum needed me at your age.

I get to enjoy the sheer 'babyness' of you without the worry and stress. Not for me, the concern about the next feed, sore breasts and stupid growth percentiles! I can simply revel in getting to know and love you.

I love the smell of you. I love to kiss your soft head and your growing belly. And that smile!

Reuben – you have my blood. We are family.

I still wonder how it is that I feel I know you so very well, and you're only seven weeks old. Now, your mum and dad and I (instead of talking to your mum's belly) sit and stare at you for hours, in awe of your absolute perfection.

Welcome to the world, Rueben Jack!

Seeing Endings as New Beginnings

Life is a constant flow of change—seasons shift, relationships evolve, and chapters close. Yet, endings often can bring discomfort, grief, or uncertainty, leaving us clinging to what once was. Though, what if we could learn to see endings not as failures or losses, but as doorways to new beginnings?

Every ending carry within it the seed of transformation. While it is natural to feel sadness or fear when something familiar comes to a close, these moments also hold incredible potential for growth and renewal. Just as nature teaches us—autumn leaves must fall for new buds to bloom—our own lives require space for fresh opportunities to emerge.

The Gift Hidden in Endings

Endings invite us to pause, reflect, and reconnect with ourselves. They encourage us to ask important questions: What have I learned? What have I gained? What do I need to release? What is ready to be welcomed in?

Often, it is through loss or change that we gain the deepest clarity. The conclusion of a relationship might lead us back to self-love. The loss of a job can open the door to discovering a new passion or purpose. Even grief, though painful, can deepen our appreciation for the beauty of life's fleeting moments.

Rather than resisting change, embracing endings as part of life's natural rhythm allows us to move forward with grace and intention.

Turning Endings into Opportunities for Growth

Here are some gentle ways to navigate endings and invite new beginnings:

Reflect on the Lessons – Every ending has something to teach. Take time to journal or meditate on the wisdom you have gained from the experience. Look for the positives.

Allow Yourself to Feel – Honour your emotions without judgement. It is okay to grieve while also holding space for hope.

Visualise New Possibilities – Begin to imagine what life could look like moving forward. Allow yourself to dream without limitations.

Take Small, Inspired Steps – Even the smallest action, like starting a new hobby or reconnecting with a loved one, can signal a fresh start.

Embracing a New Chapter

Endings are not just about loss—they are invitations to step into a new version of yourself. Each closing chapter creates space for growth, transformation, and new opportunities to arise.

If you are standing at a crossroads and feeling unsure of how to move forward, know that you are not alone. Reach out to me on 0405 361 882 for support on your journey of renewal. Together, we can explore how to embrace change with grace and courage.

Always with love, Maria Christina x


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Celebrating International Women's Day:

A Day of Inspiration and Empowerment



International Women's Day

Every year, International Women's Day gives us a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate the strides we've made toward gender equality, while also reigniting our passion for the work that still lies ahead. This year, under the theme "Accelerate Action," we're reminded of the immediate need to tackle the challenges and biases that women face in all aspects of life.

In Australia, we have so much to be proud of as we reflect on the extraordinary achievements of women throughout history. The courageous individuals who fought for suffrage and equal rights paved the way for us all, yet we recognise that the fight for equal pay, representation, and an end to discrimination isn't over.

"Accelerate Action" calls on each of us to go beyond just celebrating past victories. It's about rolling up our sleeves and actively dismantling the barriers to gender equity. Let's harness our determination and resilience to ensure that every woman has a chance to thrive and succeed on her own terms.

This year, as we unite for International Women's Day, we can look forward to a variety of events, rallies, and discussions happening across Australia! These gatherings will bring together passionate voices advocating for women's rights and equality. Whether you're at work, school, or in the community, let's engage in heartfelt conversations that challenge stereotypes and promote inclusivity—because every voice matters and deserves to be heard.

And let's not forget involving the wonderful men and boys in our communities as allies is key in our journey toward gender equality. By encouraging respectful relationships and challenging traditional norms, we can create a culture that lifts women—not just for one day each year but as a shared mission for a brighter future for everyone.

As we celebrate International Women's Day, let's channel our collective commitment into empowering one another. When we advocate for policies prioritising gender equity and champion female leadership, we pave the way for a world where every woman and girl can dream big and achieve their aspirations. On this special day and beyond, let's stand firm in our resolve to take swift action. Together, we have the power to cultivate a culture of equity that honours the amazing achievements of women now and inspires future generations. Let's uplift each other, amplify our voices, and embrace the incredible potential that lives within us all!

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

8 March





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International Women's Day provides us with the perfect opportunity to celebrate the strong, resilient women in our lives that we love and admire, and to reflect on what we can do to improve the social, economic and cultural challenges that women all over the world continue to face.


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"Rights, Equality, Empowerment, For ALL women and girls"

International Women's Day 2025

The Of Bribie

Aunty Flo is a beacon of wisdom and strength, to many, as Elder, traditional owner, and proud descendant of the Ghunghanghi People of Yarrabah, North Queensland. She also holds a traditional affiliation with both the Kuku-yelangi people of Laura/Maytown, Palmer River area, which is west of Cooktown, and the Gurambilbarra Wulgurukaba people of Magnetic Island and Townsville. Her journey began in the Yarrabah Aboriginal Community, where, despite being separated from her family under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Protection Act 1897 and sent to foster homes and then to boarding school in Charters Towers she grew resilient. She went on to attend a teacher's college in Brisbane in the early '70s, determined to create change.

In 1975, Aunty Flo began her career in the Australian Public Service, taking on various roles across the country before establishing her own consultancy business. Throughout her journey, she became an original and founding

member of Reconciliation Qld Inc., was appointed to multiple boards, and remains active in numerous community organizations. Flo has been a vital force in various community efforts and as a founding member of the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts (ACPA), she was honoured to be appointed by the Qld Premier as ACPA's first Patron.

In celebration of International Women's Day, it is essential to recognize Aunty Flo as a powerful force for change and empowerment within her community. Her invaluable contributions extend to the Teralba Park Stolen

Generations Support Group Inc. in Brisbane, where she engages with the community through storytelling in schools, conducting acknowledgments and welcomes to country for various events, including reconciliation and NAIDOC celebrations for the Australian Defence Force, and facilitating the integration of refugees from the Romero Centre with Indigenous Elders and community members. Aunty Flo's commitment to fostering cultural understanding and support is evident as she has established Elders groups across Queensland that serve as viable businesses, notably the Yarrabah Elders Group Inc. Her expertise also shines through her review and evaluation of The Commonwealth Games Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), and she has contributed to many RAPs nationwide, providing insights, evaluations, reviews, and cultural training. In recognition of her dedication to Indigenous communities, Aunty Flo was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2015 for her services to the Indigenous communities of Queensland, honouring her service to Indigenous communities in Queensland. Her tireless work continues to uplift the lives of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, reminding us of the strength of community and connection.

Aunty Flo, a pioneering founding member of the Pumicestone Indigenous Education and Employment Council, has been a beacon of hope and inspiration for the youth of Moreton Bay. Her remarkable journey is showcased in the acclaimed

book 'Brisbane Blacks' published by the Brisbane City Council, as well as in numerous other notable publications. Recognised for her profound impact, she was nominated as a finalist for the prestigious National NAIDOC Female Elder of the Year Award 2024, a testament to her dedication and leadership.

Aunty Flo's compelling life story is also featured in the Local History's 'Our First Nations Elder Stories' series, which is part of the 2024 "Yarning With Our Elders Project" that celebrates the rich narratives of Indigenous elders. Fletcher Griffin earned 1st place for his captivating interview with Aunty Flo and was awarded the Junior School QATSIF award, highlighting Aunty Flo's importance and the significance of intergenerational dialogue and understanding within the community.

This remarkable woman, with her soft-spoken demeanour, genuine warmth, and a fabulous sense of humour, is a true asset to our district. Her unpretentious and sincere nature, combined with the grace she radiates, makes her a cherished and beloved figure. As we celebrate International Women's Day, it is vital to acknowledge and honour Aunty Flo's accomplishments and unwavering commitment to her community.

We're so lucky to have Aunty Flo in our community! She truly deserves recognition not only here on Bribie Island but also in the wider community. Her legacy of empowerment and equality inspires us all as we work together to uplift every woman.





In a world that sometimes tries to pigeonhole us based on our relationships or roles, the image of a strong, independent mother stands out as a beautiful reminder of resilience and empowerment. These amazing women gracefully manage the many responsibilities of parenting while also pursuing their own dreams and aspirations. Being a mother is an incredible journey, filled with challenges that can test even the toughest individuals. Yet, strong independent mothers tackle these challenges head-on! They rise early, stay up late, and make sure their children have everything they need while chasing their own goals. Their lives are like a delicate balancing act, skillfully juggling work, home, and the emotional ups and downs of motherhood—all while being fiercely dedicated to their family's happiness. These mothers show us the true meaning of self-reliance. They not only seek support when needed but also encourage their children to discover their own strengths. They demonstrate that being independent doesn't mean being alone; it's about standing tall, making choices that reflect one's values, and carving a unique path that may not always fit the mold. They inspire their kids to dream big and believe in themselves, creating a legacy of empowerment. Let's not forget that these strong independent mothers are often the unsung heroes in their communities. They dedicate their time to volunteering, mentoring, and uplifting those around them. They show us that being strong for themselves allows them to be even stronger for others. They teach us about kindness, compassion, and teamwork, creating a positive ripple effect that inspires future generations.

We also see the sacrifices these mothers make along their journeys. Whether it's working multiple jobs to support their families or going back to school to learn new things, their sacrifices are often deep and personal. Yet, they rarely look for recognition for all their hard work. Their innate sense of duty to their children and commitment to personal growth highlight their independence. They wear their struggles like badges of honor, proving that vulnerability and strength can beautifully coexist. The story of motherhood is changing for the better, and it's so important to celebrate these independent mothers who push against stereotypes and redefine what being a mom means. They are not just caregivers; they are leaders, innovators, and change-makers who continuously break barriers and inspire others to do the same. When we honour strong, independent mothers, we are also honouring the future. Their legacies will shine through the children they raise—children who will carry forward the lessons of independence, resilience, and compassion. Let's embrace and uplift these phenomenal women, recognizing that their strength shapes their families and enriches our society. As we celebrate these incredible mothers, let's also challenge societal norms that often try to limit women to traditional roles. Instead, let's appreciate the multi-faceted lives they lead and the invaluable contributions they make to the world. By doing this, we allow the narrative of motherhood to reflect the diverse and complex lives of the women who embody it. In every area of life, strong independent mothers remind us of the amazing power of love, perseverance, and resilience.

They are the unsung heroes of our time, and their strength deserves to be recognized, celebrated, and cherished. It's time to shine a light on their stories and inspire a world where every woman feels empowered to create her own path. Rachael Watt, the manager of Great Northern, is not just a professional but also a mother and a grandmother. She understands the profound difficulty of dealing with people's grief and stress on a daily basis. Alongside her team, she offers a compassionate smile to comfort everyone who visits the facility. While for some, Mother's Day is a joyous occasion, for others, it is a day of remembrance.

Whether you're remembering your child or honouring your mother, we warmly invite you to join us. This is a space where you can gather with others, hear heartfelt stories, and reflect, knowing that you are not alone in your feelings. This year The Great Northern Garden of Remembrance at Deception Bay is holding a special Mother's Day Memorial Service to celebrate the wonderful women in our lives. This free service is open to everyone on Friday 9th May at 6pm. To book your seats, including a light supper, simply call Great Northern on 3888 6622. www.gngor.com.au

YOU'RE INVITED

Mother's Day MEMORIAL SERVICE

9TH MAY 2025 — FROM 6:00PM

Each year Great Northern Garden of Remembrance holds a special Mother's Day Memorial Service in our beautiful Deception Bay chapel to remember and celebrate the wonderful women in our lives. This is your chance to gather with others, hear heartfelt stories and reflect.

Simply RSVP to 3888 6622 by Wednesday, 7th May.

Entry is FREE a light supper will be served afterwards.

31-35 TALLOWOOD DR, DECEPTION BAY

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At Banksia Fruit & Juice Barn we have the finest quality produce, including fresh fruit and vegetables, gourmet treats, pure 100% fruit juices groceries and other items to meet customer's changing tastes. Katrina and Tammy also encourage all women and girls to realise their full potential with a passion for our business.

banksiafruit@gmail.com **P: 3410 7142**

Nominations Now OPEN

Vote from a wide range of categories to help support your favourite local business in Pumicestone

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Ariana DOOLAN MP
Member for Pumicestone

Pumicestone Business Excellence Awards 2025

THE BRIBIE ISLANDER AND DISTRICTS COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2025

As we celebrate everything that it is to be a woman in this world, let us all remember all those women, past and present who have contributed to who we are today - our mothers, grandmothers and beyond; our teachers/coaches/mentors who have helped us learn and grow so we too, can helpmake a difference to the lives of others. Most of us will never know how our actions have affected others - let our effect be a positive one that makes lasting changes for the better this International Women's Day and beyond.

The Bribie Islander Team

'If you're self or plan managed through NDIS please reach out if you're seeking some supports. Or if you're a member of the community just needing a helping hand around the home please reach out also, I'm more than happy to help'

AJS SUPPORT CARE & HELPING HAND

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HANS ELECTRICAL

The Power of Women
At Hans Electrical we pride ourselves on being an equal opportunity employer. Cassandra is a prime example. Cassandra started with us in a school-based work experience role which led to beginning her apprenticeship in 2013. Now she is a full time employee.

P: 07 5497 7226
hello@hanselectrical.com.au
www.hansselectrical.com.au

BROOKE SAVIGE

Everyday I am inspired by the strong, determined and caring women of Division One. They take on many roles in our community and they demonstrate that no barriers can stop you when you are passionate about what you do and care about those around you.

Thank you to all the women of Division One for your tireless efforts to make our area all that it is.

Happy International Women's Day.

Driving Miss Daisy
We're There For You

ndis

We're family when family can't be there™

We really care about making every journey a pleasure, and all our drivers are safety checked, licenced and first aid accredited for peace of mind. Driving Miss Daisy will help with:

- Trips to the doctor, physio, podiatrist, hairdresser etc.
- Organising and accompanying on outings - perhaps to a cafe, the movies or museum.
- Shopping assistance as needed, for groceries, clothes, gifts etc.
- Clients with special needs
- Airport, bus, rail departures and pick ups

We offer you independence and assurance, so please call **Pauline's Daisy Mobile - 0498 760 438**

BONGAREE | BELLARA | BANKSIA BEACH | NINGI | BEACHMERE | WOORIM | SANDSTONE POINT

Local Dining Guide



THE SURF CLUB

Open for lunch and dinner seven days a week, our casual bistro boasts a bar and gaming area as well as mesmerizing ocean views. Explore our diverse menu, offering a little something for everyone. It's the perfect place to unwind, indulge in good food, and enjoy the laidback friendly atmosphere. Whether you're a local or just passing through, you'll enjoy a memorable visit at The Surf Club Bribie Island. Come for the food, stay for the view!

First Avenue, Woorim PH: (07) 3408 2141
www.thesurfclubbribieisland.com.au



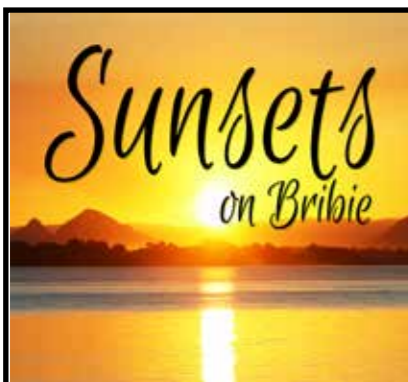
THE DECK RESTAURANT

With its spacious, relaxed ambiance, The Deck Restaurant offers casual dining indoors or alfresco on the deck overlooking the golf course, lake and lush gardens. Enjoy modern cuisine with locally sourced ingredients, open 7 days a week for breakfast and lunch, and dinner on Friday and Saturdays. Perfect for any occasion!

Pacific Harbour Golf & Country Club, 141-159 Avon Avenue, Banksia Beach

07 3410 4024

Scan the QR code to book now



Sunsets on Bribie at Bribie Island Bowls Club

11-23 Welsby Parade, Bongaree.
www.bribiebowls.com

Experience our delicious dining options while overlooking some of the best waterfront views on Bribie. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner with seniors' meal specials and kids menu. With something to suit all appetites make sure you don't miss this amazing dining experience. Book your table now by calling 3408 1018.

Lunch: 12pm -- 2pm, Dinner: 5pm -- 8pm



S. A. Miller

moved to Bribie Island with her husband 24 years ago. On arriving, she decided to write children's stories for her grandchildren. She attended a course at U3A Bribie Island, where she was successful in having her stories viewed by an editor. She has gone from strength to strength and now has four books published by her publisher, Austin Macauley, in London.

Utilising her 20-plus years as an adult educator in Sydney, she decided to try and help others who desire to write, be it for their grandchildren or others. So, Sally-Ann started teaching Writing at U3A, which she did over two years with promising results for some of her students. Her first published book is about a young boy coping with Bullying at his school. The book is called Ickle Pickle. Her second followed quite quickly, and it was called The Adventures of Itty Bitty Me and Her Friends. These stories are about a young girl eager to help look after the environment in an entertaining and encouraging way. It looks at how young children can complete activities that affect and care for the environment.

Her third book is an entertaining story called The Man from The Moon takes a Holiday and the engaging antics he gets up to while here on Earth.

As the invitation describes, she is having a book launch on the 5th of April and hopes the Bribie community will attend and bring their children, grandchildren, or even great-grandchildren. There will be lucky door prizes for all children; sorry, adults don't get to win a prize, but the children will also get a free gift with their book.

You Are Invited To A
BOOK LAUNCH PARTY



AUTHOR: S. A. Miller



U3A Recreational Hall

156 First Avenue, Bongaree

SAT 5TH APRIL - 10AM - 12PM

THERE WILL BE Readings - Book Signings - Snacks

FREE TO ATTEND Books available to purchase

FREE GIFT with purchase

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

BRISBANE CRUISES

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Enjoy a relaxing lunch time cruise while we prepare a delicious BBQ lunch onboard the Lady Brisbane. The cruise towards Skirmish Point, Gilligan's Island and Deception Bay is always a magical experience. Cruise route is weather dependent.

Buy a **GIFT CARD** or **BOOK Online now at**
www.brisbanecruises.com.au

Price Includes BBQ lunch and cruise

Prices: Adults \$55, Children \$26 (4 - 14yrs).

2025 DATES:

Tue 29 Apr, Wed 28 May, Thu 26 Jun,
Fri 25 Jul, Tue 26 Aug, Tue 23 Sep

Departs Bongaree Jetty, Bribie Island 12.15pm
Returns 2.15pm (approx)

T: 07 3630 2666

E: info@brisbanecruises.com.au W: www.brisbanecruises.com.au





WEEKDAY EATS
Specials

Monday
It's a Steak Out \$20 SPECIAL OFFER
200G STEAK SERVED WITH YOUR CHOICE OF CHIPS & HOUSE SALAD OR CREAMY MASH & SEASONAL VEGETABLES, PLUS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SAUCES: PEPPER, MUSHROOM, DIANE, CREAMY GARLIC & WHITE WINE, BEARNAISE, GRAVY*.
NB: All sauces are Gluten Free.

Tuesday
Two For Tuesday \$35 SPECIAL OFFER
PURCHASE TWO MAIN MEALS FROM THE 'TWO FOR TUESDAY' MENU AND PAY JUST \$35. CHECK OUT THE DAILY SPECIALS BOARD FOR TODAY'S SELECTION*.

Wednesday
Burger Bonanza \$18 SPECIAL OFFER
CHECK OUT THE DAILY SPECIALS BOARD FOR TODAY'S SELECTION OF DELICIOUS BURGERS*.
NB: Gluten Free surcharge applies. Vegetarian and Vegan options also available see staff.

Thursday
Ribdiculous SPECIAL OFFER FROM \$20
HOUSEMADE SMOKEY BBQ PORK RIBS SERVED WITH CHIPS & CREAMY SLAW*. AVAILABLE IN REGULAR OR LARGE.

Friday
Schnitz-O-Rama SPECIAL OFFER FROM \$15
A 200G CHICKEN SCHNITZEL SERVED WITH CHIPS & HOUSE SALAD OR CREAMY MASH & SEASONAL VEGETABLES, PLUS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SAUCES: PEPPER, MUSHROOM, DIANE, CREAMY GARLIC & WHITE WINE, BEARNAISE, GRAVY. UPGRADE WITH ONE OF OUR DELICIOUS TOPPERS FROM THE SPECIALS BOARD FOR \$5*

thesurfclubbribie.com.au
Ph. 07 3408 2141
2 First Ave, Woorim QLD 4507

*Terms & Conditions apply. Subject to availability, not available in conjunction with any other offer, not redeemable for cash, not transferable. Offer may be changed at any time at manager's discretion. Images are for illustrative purposes only. Not available on Public Holidays.



A small group of ladies (7) attended the February Meeting. Still, it seems there was plenty to talk about, as they stayed well into the afternoon discussing everything related to travel.

We are eagerly anticipating the next meeting on 23/3/25 at RSL (ask at the social desk, and they will guide you to our location). It seems many of us were away travelling the last couple of months, so we're excited to catch up then. We're especially looking forward to seeing any new faces, anyone looking for a Travel Buddy, and anyone who loves to talk travel and enjoys

good company. Remember, this is a community of travel enthusiasts, and your presence is what makes it special.

PLEASE NOTE: We are not Travel Consultants, Agents, or Insurance advisors. We are simply a group of like-minded Travel enthusiasts who enjoy sharing tips and hints about Travel and might be looking for a travel Buddy as well. Our meetings are informal and friendly, and we welcome everyone who shares our love for travel.

See you there
Roslyn 0401078187



MARKETS

Beachmere District Community
The B.D.M.S. Community Markets are held at the Men's Shed 53 Rogers Street Beachmere, every 1st Saturday of the month 7.30am - 12pm

Bribie Island BIDCA Markets
The Bribie Island BICA Markets are held at Brennan Park, Bongaree, the 3rd Sunday of each month from 6am -12pm

Bribie Rotary Markets
The Rotary Markets are held at Brennan Park, Bongaree on the second Sunday of each month from 6.30am – 12 noon

Queensland Cancer Council
The Cancer Council Markets are held at Brennan Park, Bongaree on the first Sunday of each month from 7am to 12 noon.

The Sylvan Beach Munch Markets (Farmers Market)
The Munch Markets are held in the park opposite the Bribie Island Hotel on the 1st Saturday of each month from 9am to 2pm

Banksia Beach Market
Bribie Harbour Shopping Village is held on the last Saturday of each month 8am to 12pm

The Bribie Island Comm Plant Nursery
The Bribie Island Community Plant Nursery is open Tues to Sat 8 am to 12 pm

The Bribie Island Lions Market
2nd Sat of the month at Tintookie Park Woorim 7am - 1pm.

Bribie Woodcrafters & Bribie Island Gem Club
Open day, Demonstrations & Sales - last Sunday of each month
8am to 12noon Held at Bribie Art Centre
191 Sunderland Dr, Banksia Beach

The Bribie Bowls Euchre Club
Meets at the club each Monday at 12 Noon.
Fun afternoon. Contact Annette.
Phone 0414622490



Immersed in Nature: *A Mother-Daughter Watercolour Exhibition*

'NEW BEGINNINGS' ARTISTS OF THE MONTH AT BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

Libby and Bee Mellor are award-winning mother-daughter artists who create expressive contemporary landscape and floral artworks using watercolour and textiles, inspired by nature and their family's artistic legacy. A mother-daughter duo carries on a rich legacy of watercolour painting that

spans generations in their family. Embracing their new environment, they skilfully blend textiles and free-flowing watercolours to honour the vibrant colours and shapes found in nature.

An award-winning artist, Libby's work emphasises the expression of her sensory experiences and the immersive quality of plein air painting. By translating birdsong into lines, she encapsulates both tranquil and lively interactions with nature. Utilising watercolour and ink, she produces free-flowing and expressive contemporary landscape and floral artworks.

Libby explains "it's wonderful to have an opportunity to work alongside Mum [Bee], sharing our passion. My Grandpa would have been thrilled to see this exhibition!".

"New Beginnings is about big changes in our lives and exploring our new surroundings. My garden in

Palmwoods has been a plethora of inspiration" say Libby.

Bee Mellor's artwork combines hand-painted watercolours and textiles, using techniques like tearing and stitching to explore the environment. An award-winning artist with a background in Creative Embroidery, she blends hand-stitched and machine techniques with watercolour. Influenced by four generations of watercolourists', including her daughter, Bee focuses on capturing the local landscape's micro details and nature's patterns and textures.

"This exhibition is about us, joining together with mutual inspirations, celebrating our love of colour and the medium of watercolour" says Bee Mellor.

'New Beginnings' art exhibition is on 2nd March to 30th March at Bribie Island Community Arts Centre, check their website for days and times. www.bribieartscentre.com.au



Enter BIEPA's **Bribie Island PHOTO COMPETITION**

Winning entries will feature in
BIEPA's 2026 Calendar

A cash and prize pool totalling \$1400

Landscape-orientation photos capturing the native flora and fauna and the natural environment of Bribie Island and surrounds



biepa

Bribie Island Environmental Protection Association Inc.

Full details at www.biepa.online



Entries by 30th May 2025

Photo: Ben Lee

Scratch an artist and you never **KNOW WHAT YOU'LL get**

**"Scratch the Surface" Exhibition Bribie Community Arts Centre
March 18 - 30**

Bribie artists always discover something new and different when they scratch the surface (literally and metaphorically) of their works, as this exhibition shows.

Below the surface there's something to be explored; above the surface, there's something to be played with. Come see these fresh and ground-breaking pieces by nine different artists, in many different surfaces, including paper, fabric, canvas, timber and plastic.

And meet many of them there during the exhibition.



Matthew Flinders Gallery, BICAC
191 Sunderland Drive Banksia Beach

Tuesday to Saturday 9am - 4pm
Sundays 9am to 1pm.



Cafe 191

on site

SERVING
REFRESHMENTS
DAILY

Sun & Mon 9am - 1pm,
Tue to Sat 9am - 2pm

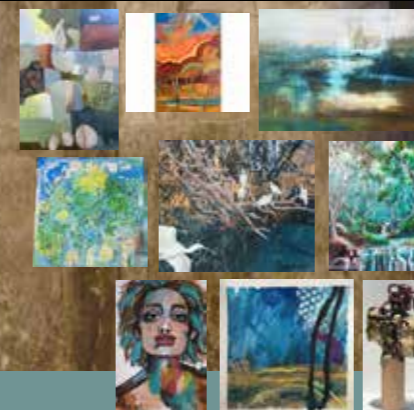
Scratch the Surface

There is a surface to be scratched and then there is under the surface to be explored and above the surface to be played with. The work in this exhibition scratches the surface in both a literal and metaphorical sense.

All artists like to break the rules and manipulate their chosen media to push the boundaries. So the work on display at the Matthew Flinders Art Gallery will be new and exciting. Many different surfaces have been used including paper, fabric, canvas, clay, timber, and plastic.

18th - 30th March 2025

- SUE GARDNER
- CORINNE PURCELL
- GLENDA CHARLES
- MATT MORTIMER
- LYNE MARSHALL
- JEAN BENNETT
- TINA BOWER
- CHERYL MORTIMER
- JOHN STEGEMAN



BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE
Matthew Flinders Art Gallery 191 Sunderland Drive Banksia Beach

ARTIST OF THE MONTH - MARCH 2025

NEW BEGINNINGS

Immersed in Nature: A Dryad of Artists

featuring Mother and Daughter team
Bee Mellor & Libby Derham

Bee Mellor

A close look at Bee Mellor's work reveals intricate detailed layers of hand painted watercolours and textiles matched by tearing, fraying burning and stitching to record and interpret her surroundings.



Libby Derham

Libby's artistic practice is deeply rooted in her appreciation for the natural world & its transformative effect on mental health. Her work aims to express her sensory experiences & the immersive nature of plein air painting.



Meet the Artists over free Morning Tea - 10.30am, Friday 14 March, 10.30am RSVP spaces limited 3408 9288





By A Finegan

The Hungry Mile

They tramp there in their legions on the morning dark and cold.
 To beg the right to slave for bread from Sydney's lords of gold.
 They toil and sweat in slavery, 'twould make the devil smile,
 To see the Sydney wharfies, tramping down the Hungry Mile.

This is just one stanza of a poem written in 1930, by a wharfie poet Ernest Antony, a poem that became an inspiration for the Waterside Workers' Federation. The 13th of April 1943 signified the burial of the hideous, brutal "bull system" on the Sydney waterfront. In the early days of the twentieth century, a worker needed a "starting docket" to enter the wharves for a day's labour to earn 23 shillings (\$2.30). It was a degradingly cruel system.

The name, "The Hungry Mile," designates a section of Sussex Street, on the Sydney waterfront, along which, from the 1920s to 1943, unemployed wharf-labourers trudged, waiting to be handpicked for the few jobs that were available. For many years, the men who had suffered the "bull gang" days, who had tramped the Hungry Mile of Sussex Street to search for work but failed, could only speak of it in a tremulous quaver, as though of extreme terror. The Hungry

Mile is now dead, buried, but not forgotten.

The process started each morning early, at the gates of the wharves. Men seeking employment gathered and waited, desperately hoping to be allocated work. The employers had the whip hand in this situation and gave or withheld work on a whim. Because of the entrenched hostility between the employers and the Water Side Workers Federation, dating back to the great maritime strikes of the 1890s, it was expected that this "pickup" procedure at the dock gates would often be used to even up a few old scores, and to deny work to well-known union activists. Employers' blacklists did exist and men on that list were often denied work, except when there was some urgency to clear up a backlog on the wharves. The State Government passed legislation giving preference to returned servicemen after WW1. It played into the hands of the

employers, permitting them to play off the veterans against the unionists, effectively dividing the workforce and weakening the Union. Occasionally the pickup ended in a violent riot resulting in some serious injuries as too many men fought for too few jobs. At other times, gangs of Union thugs would charge into the hopeful workers, bashing randomly to drive the non-union workers away. Those who had suffered the attack stayed away for a few days, but then hunger would drive them back to the gate, looking for work. It was a highly combustible situation. All this fighting was simply to pick up a piece of paper, to entitle them to a day's hard work on the wharves.

The hundreds of men who had missed out on a ticket in the shipowners' slave market style pickup, walked disappointedly and dispiritedly back up Sussex Street. Lines of fear, pain and anguish were etched in their tired faces, their fingers

clutching and toying with the few pence in their pockets. Mumbles echoed about, "They only pick up the big blokes, but I've got a wife and kids. Gee what's a man gunner do?"

As Federal President of the Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia from 1922, Tom Walsh used the tactic of delaying a ship's sailing until the seamen's demands were met. As a result, his union gained improved conditions in Australian vessels. Its success led to moves by shipowners to have the union deregistered. The Commonwealth Government Line of Steamers chartered British ships and sailed under British articles to avoid paying Australian union rates and thus provoked strike action by waterside and seamen unions. In an attempt to break the unions, in 1925 the Commonwealth government had it deregistered, charged Walsh with inciting the Waterside Workers' Federation of Australia and passed special legislation aimed at deporting

Walsh. After the Deportation Board found against him, he was arrested and held at Garden Island, pending an appeal. The appeal was upheld. Meanwhile, the Bull system continued on without interruption, as the veterans and unionists battled on.

The Hungry Mile

In the years after WW1 bitter confrontations on the Fremantle Wharves gradually escalated, resulting in the State Government organising an armed force of police to break the power of the union. All around Australia, the employers orchestrated a concerted campaign to retain control of the waterfront and to keep the workforce subservient and dependent on the bull system. In the 1930s, in Melbourne, a wharf labourer was shot by police in a riot on the waterfront, and several other members of the union were gaoled for 11 years.

As the 1930s began, and Australia descended into the Great Depression, the workers' desperation intensified. The numbers searching for work at the pickup gate each morning skyrocketed. Water-side worker bulls were still given first preference, and those who were outsiders fought harder for the remaining few, if there were any. The stevedoring companies, as the employers, kept blacklists of those wharfies and unionists to be shut out as agitators. These lists were also used to warn other employers about union activities. More and more men decided to join the union. Employers resisted any union proposal, fighting them tooth and nail which resulted in widespread riots and gang fighting,

The industrial unrest on Australia's waterfront had given rise to anger in the wider community. But there have been a number of occasions when Australia has had good cause to be grateful for the radicalism and preparedness of the wharfies to challenge the hegemony of conservative governments. Perhaps the best known of these incidents occurred in 1937 and 1938, when the wharf labourers refused to load ships carrying

scrap iron to Japan. The wharfies argued that this pig iron would be used to augment the Japanese munitions and armaments industries, and that Australian soldiers would soon find themselves facing bullets and shells made from Australia's own scrap iron. The Conservative government in Canberra, spurred on by its ambitious Attorney General, Robert Gordon Menzies, attempted to bring the union to heel with the Crimes Act, and to force the men to continue loading the pig iron destined for Japan. Menzies failed in this endeavour, and history has shown that the union was right and the government was wrong on this issue. One byproduct of the confrontation was the hated nickname of "Pig Iron Bob" that was conferred on Menzies by the wharfies, and which he carried for the rest of his political career.

In April 1942, the Stevedoring Industry Commission was established, charged with making the selection process fairer. It commenced registration of all waterside workers by its local body, the Sydney Ports Committee. Their staff manned the turnstiles at the pick-up centres. They had clerks with shirt sleeves rolled up waiting to register all attendees and noted those who soon left without gaining a ticket, and thus, not to be paid. But the bull system continued.

In April 1943, it all came to a head. The wharfies went on a general strike. They demanded meetings at the Leichhardt Stadium with all workers to come to an agreement on how to eradicate the bull system. Neither the employers nor the union executive saw it coming. It was to be a historic waterfront struggle. Many reported vivid memories of wild scenes as members fought to throw the bull system into the gutter where it belonged. At one of the Leichhardt Stadium hot meetings, the speaker quoted Karl Marx's wise viewpoint: "Capital is concentrated social power while the worker has only his individual labour power at his disposal. The only social force possessed by the workers is their numerical strength. This force, however, is impaired by the absence of unity."

At this time, my father was on war service in PNG. He along with his unit were informed that the ships bringing the rations and ammunition were held up in Sydney. He and his mates were suddenly on limited rations. The powers that be decided to fly in rations. On medical advice the most available, and that with best nutrition, was baked beans. Accordingly, plane loads of cartons of tinned baked beans began to arrive. He ate baked beans for a few weeks ... for breakfast, lunch and dinner. When a visiting general arrived and spoke to the troops, he said he was glad they were all cheerful and full of beans. A loud cry went up, "Yeah, baked bloody beans!" He never ate baked beans again.

Following the first four meetings the union officials negotiated a solution to the hated bull system. It was to be replaced by a rotating gang system. The rank-and-file wharfies at first resisted. Members who did not on that day in April 1943 agree with the Union bosses, voted for the strike to continue. The wharfies were flooded with leaflets. Gradually the support for the rotation system increased, and after the fifth meeting the voting was close. There were near riots at the sixth Leichhardt Stadium strike meeting when the chairman called a vote for a motion for return to work under the rotation system. The chairman said it had been carried by a show of hands. It caused an uproar of dissent with dire threats being flung at the chairman. The Committee, wisely, decided to test the outcome by a secret ballot. This was taken and counted that night. Crowds had assembled outside the stadium to hear the result. When the result turned out to be a majority of 110 in favour of work under the Rotation Scheme, it started a massive riot. So, the 16-day strike by the Waterside Workers' Federation protesting the new system continued. The Curtin Government ordered troops to keep ships moving.

Following heated arguments, the workers finally agreed to the new system, eventually realizing that their strike was

having no effect, and the new system improved conditions by imposing minimum wages, smoke-oh breaks, and overtime pay for weekend work. And most importantly, the new system scrapped the bull system. Men formed teams, or gangs, to work together. A gang was employed for blocks of four hours. Work was duly resumed, but the heat of the feelings cooled only slowly. The new system brought organisation to the supply and control of labour during the critical stages of the war. It therefore served a cause primary to all.

By 1944 labour shortages on the waterfront were critical. Responding to these shortages the Government 'released' 700 men from the Army to undertake waterfront work. However, numbers still proved insufficient, and the need to use military personnel on military cargo continued.

The memory of the unfairness and the wrongs experienced in these early years has become part of the mythology of today's Wharf Labourers and helps to explain their reputation for intransience and radicalism. The battle to end the bull system is unsurpassed in the history of Australian unionism. It created a conflict of such heat that only those who participated in it will remember, and there was enough drama and activity for a dozen sensational films. Wild and dangerous rumours dominated commonsense discussions. It is little wonder that members got into such a state of apprehension at the suggestion of this great reform.

And when the world grows wiser and all men at last are free,
 When none shall feel the hunger nor tramp in misery

To beg the right to slave for bread, the children then may smile,

At those strange tales they tell of what was once the Hungry Mile.

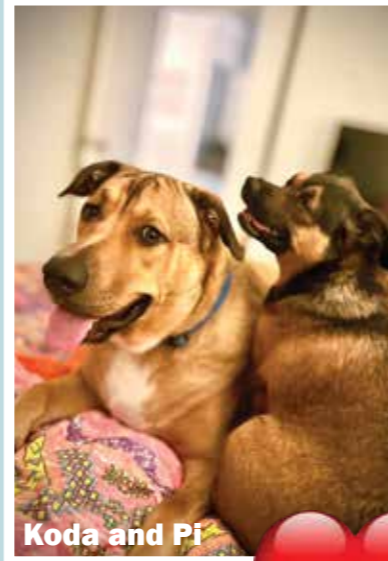
Pawgome Pet Pages



Coffee



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Koda and Pi



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Rorie



Ruby



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BRING ON THE BULLDOGS!!



THE BRIBIE ISLAND BULLDOGS AFL CLUB HAS ANNOUNCED THEIR NEW COMMITTEE FOLLOWING THEIR AGM ON 13TH NOVEMBER 2024. IT IS A NEW AND EXCITING TIME FOR THE BULLDOGS AS IT IS THE FIRST TIME IN THE CLUB'S HISTORY THAT THEY HAVE A FULL FEMALE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Dannielle McGrath - President, Kassie Pallentine - Vice President, Tiffany Anderson - Treasurer, Jessica Turnbull - Secretary, Elizabeth Wall - Sponsorship and Shelley Anderson - Registrar. Each executive committee member brings something unique from their personal and professional lives, enhancing the club's running. The executive committee works with the extended committee, coaches, team managers, and volunteers to make the Bulldogs a supportive, fun, and inclusive club.

Dannielle McGrath will be the club's first female president, with an all-female executive committee. Danielle has been a parent and volunteer at the club for a few years and has supported the club's youth girls' teams. She is excited to work with a strong committee committed to nurturing the club's children and providing all their members with a safe, fun and supportive environment and wants to

build a culture of confidence and resilience and encompass sportsmanship in a respectful and inclusive environment. Creating personal and team excellence on and off the field.

Matty Hartup has returned as the club's U15 Girls coach. Matty brings a wealth of knowledge and is committed to developing and supporting the girls to build their confidence, grit, football skills and teamwork. Matty is excited to return; he finds coaching incredibly rewarding, and he enjoys developing his team, enhancing their ability to reach their potential and creating lifelong friendships on and off the field. Clint Coogan has also returned and feels excited and privileged to work with the U13 Girls teams. Clint has been part of the club on and off for 20 years.

Tiffany Anderson has returned for her 3rd year. Tiffany will embrace her skills as an accountant to manage the club's finances and is excited to plan the budget to align with the strategic plan, ensuring future growth and development and look forward to working with their sponsors. Liz Wall led the creation of several sponsorship packages. There is a package for anyone wanting to contribute to the club's growth. If you are interested in supporting the Doggies, please email the club.

The executive team has been developing the club's strategic plan. One of the plan's goals is to grow junior and senior footy. The committee will work with AFL QLD, the community, local schools, and families to make this happen. Jess Turnbull is thrilled with the development of the strategic plan and cannot wait to be a key member to help implement it. Seeing the club reach its potential is one of the key reasons why she volunteers.

The clubhouse is being extended to ensure catering to the needs of girls in AFL. This has been a project for the club for many years. The club's mission is to be positive and supportive to create a sense of community. This was evident at their 2-day working bee, with up to 40 volunteers attending. The new committee would like to thank and recognise the work of previous committees who have made this possible.

Having record numbers at their recent Auskick with 80 registrations, kept the club's registrar, Shelley Anderson busy. Shelley has been an integral part of the club's growth. The club was lucky enough to have the premiership cup, giving our Doggie's family many photo opportunities. The free sausage sizzle for our Auskickers was an absolute hit.

Brendan Coulston is

excited to share his passion for cooking with the Doggie's families and friends, committing to being the Doggie's Canteen Coordinator. Tantalising taste buds with theme nights and the old favourites (hot chips and dim sims.)

The club's junior and youth 2025 season will start on 26th April. If you are a senior (female and male) who is interested in playing in 2026, the club is working towards having a team, so please keep an eye out on The Bribie Island Bulldogs Facebook page for further information. 2025 is the club's 40-year celebration. The club will hold a celebration later in the year to recognise new and old members.

Juanita Coulston (Junior Club life member) started volunteering when her boys joined the club; she now enjoys watching her grandchildren put on the mighty maroon and white for the Doggies. Without our past, the club would not have the amazing opportunities and members it has now. If you are a past member of the Bulldogs and would like to be involved in planning the 40-year celebrations, please email bribiebulldogs@outlook.com

For further information and training times check out the Bribie Island Bulldogs Facebook page!

HELP SUPPORT KAIDEN PATERSON'S DREAM

By Johnno from Bribie 4x4 Centre

We are thrilled to announce that our son, Kaiden Paterson, has received an amazing opportunity to join the prestigious West Ham Soccer Development Academy in the UK! After competing in two regional and national ID camps—Redcliffe and Gold Coast—he stood out among participants and has now been selected for this once-in-a-lifetime chance to travel abroad and train with some of the best coaches in the world.

Kaiden's journey has been nothing short of inspiring! From his early days with Bribie Tigers to his senior years with the Narangba Eagles, his relentless dedication and love for the game have propelled him forward. This academy experience could be the pivotal moment he needs to realize his dream of becoming a professional soccer player, inspiring many with his passion and determination.

However, we need your help to turn this dream into reality! The costs associated with the camp, including accommodation, transport, and uniforms, are quite significant. We are reaching out for donations to help cover these expenses. Every contribution, no matter how small, will make a tremendous impact and bring Kaiden closer to his goal.

Your support is not just a financial donation; it's a powerful affirmation of Kaiden's potential. Join us in making this incredible journey possible! Together, we can equip him with the experience and skills he needs to excel in his soccer career. Thank you for believing in Kaiden!

A word from Kaiden...

Hi, my name is Kaiden Paterson, and I have the life changing opportunity to travel to the UK & attend the West Ham United Development Tour in April 2025.

Those who know me know I'm very passionate about Soccer. I have been playing my whole life but have especially improved my skills whilst playing the past 4 years with my home club at Narangba.

Recently I attended 2x separate ID camps which included travelling to the Gold Coast for a 4 day "try out" & was lucky enough to be hand picked out of over 200+ people for this invitation.

With your help in fundraising, I will be able to;

- Play games & have several coaching sessions with West Ham United & other academies
- Spend 11x nights in the UK visiting London, Manchester & Edinburgh - 3x amazing cities!
- Attend 4x professional football matches including an EPL football match at London Stadium
- Attend Guided tours of London + the Stadium! (Built for the 2012 Olympic games)

This once in a lifetime experience does come at a cost & it isn't cheap! \$10,000 will allow me to go & my mum to supervise me. Pricing mostly includes Flights, UK transfers (luxury coach), 11x nights' accommodation in excellent hotels, cooked breakfast & dinner, all playing accessories tracksuit, training top, playing shirt, shorts & socks, polo shirts & travel kit bag.

Whether it's \$5 or \$50 - Your donation means the absolute world to me & please know YOU are helping turn my dream into my reality.

Thank-you so much!
Kaido.



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SPORTS PAGES

Bribie Island Bowls Club**Self Select Fours Friday 28 Feb**

Winners: S Root, J Mercer, K Burdon, C Smith

Runners up: R Avern, G Jackson, G Hazelwood, R Fowler

Lucky draw: R Black, B Ferguson, M Huddleston, D Bowers

Lucky draw: T Bishop, W Gilbert, W Kelly, G Olson

Self select pairs Fri 28 February

Winners: F Grimsey, M Thompson

Runners up: M O'Neill, G Denkel

Lucky draw: J Coleman, G Coleman

Lucky draw: M Retchford, T Smith

Self select triples Tues 25 Feb

Winners: N Gray, S Hose, B Clarke, I Teakle

Runners up: T Erfurth, M Retchford, T Bishop, D Bishop

Lucky draw: M Garfield, L Williams, L Beaven, B Garfield

Lucky draw: W McDougall, P Mann, L Kurtz

Lucky draw: J Ferguson, H Groves, V McDermott, J Hosie

Scroungers Wed 26 February

1st: G Jackson

2nd: M Ball

3rd: D Heath

4th: F Ferguson

Self select Wed 26 February

Winners: S Root, K Burdon, J Mercer, C Smith

Runners up: M Durham, R Avern, C Fowler, D Gibson

Lucky draw: P Dixon, P Maloney, T Erfurth, P Cook

Random select triples Thu 27 Feb

Lowest winning score: P Mann, C Ebert, D James, A Riseham

Out of hat winner: P Gee, J Dunn, C Hamilton

Out of hat winner: G Riley, L Hackwood, J Teakle

Bunny: P Ditchburn, S Brown, R Cross

Self select pairs Fri 28 February

Winners: F Grimsey, M Thompson

Runners up: M McIntyre, P Hughes

Lucky draw: D Hancock, R Reilly

Lucky draw: D Bishop, T Bishop

Self Select Fri 28 February

Winners: Chidgey, B Meek, M Lee, M Prewitt

Runners up: C Perkins, K Taylor, B Pritchard

Lucky draw: S Root, J Mercer, KByndon, C Smith

Lucky draw: M Durham, C Barclay, W McDougall, D Gibson

Random select Sat 1 March 2025

Highest margin: L Stone, A Riseham, W Follett

Lowest margin: P Gee, P Bennett, A Pinzger

Out of hat winner: G Frew, Y McDonald, L Hackwood

Self select Tuesday 4 March

Highest winning score: D Davis, I Gillard, F Grimsey, G Olsen

Runners up: A Sturm, S Priest, C Smith, L Godfrey

Lucky draw: J Wallis, D Puls, F Crockett, R Eaton

Lucky draw: B Turnbull, S Mitchell, M Wretchford, T Turnbull

Scroungers Wed 5 March 2025

1st: W Ryan

2nd: D Heath

3rd: M Graham

4th: L Hackwood

Self select fours Wed 5 March

Winners: J Hosie, S Cook, B Snare, A Sturm

Runners up: C Brayley, G Trevena, M Prewett, G Skoien

Lucky draw: P Maloney, T Erfurth, G Teakle, J Prowle

Self select triples Tue 11 March

Winners: T Turnbull, B Turnbull, S Mitchell, A Riseham

Runners up: E Bateman, M Garfield, L Williams, B Garfield

Lucky draw: B Russell, J Jackson, G Paekay, K Kajewski

Lucky draw: J Blundell, L McKay, J Parbes

Scroungers Wed 12 March 2025

1st: W Kelly

2nd: J Muller

3rd: L Hackwood

Self select pairs Wed 12 March

Winners: L Murphy, D Cherry

Runners up: F Grimsey, L Beaven

Lucky draw: S Mitchell, B Turnbull

Lucky draw: K Thornton, C Thornton,

Lucky draw: T Erfurth, G Denkel

Self select open pairs results

Wednesday Night 12 March

Winners: P Adams, B. J Adams

Runners up: W Hoelscher, N Gray

Random select triples Thu 13 Mar

Highest winning score:

M Gittens, D Davis, S Grasey

Lowest winning score: F Grimsey, G Hutchison, M Hogan

Out of hat winner: L Beaven, K Mulpeter, C Hamilton

Bunny: G Frew, M Gaggiano, L DeRoule

BONGAREE BOWLS CLUB**Results for Friday 2-4-2 14/2/2025**

Winners: Pam Walker, Bob Vonarx

R/Up: Carol Oates, Frank Levey

Results for Saturday Scroungers 15/2/2025

1st place: Lyn Southall, 2nd place: Gaynor Johnson, 3rd place: Peter Brown

Results for Tuesday Turkey Pairs 18/2/2025

Winners: John Miller, Victor Wright

R/Up: PeterMcQueen, Chris McMillan

Bonus Draw: Jackpot

Results for Wednesday Fours 19/2/2025

Winners: Pat Warwick, Clare O'Donohue, Peter Szepes, Di Drew

R/Up: Peter Parker, Ken Wales, Col Hodges, Peter Thatcher

Results or Thursday Jackpot Pairs 20/2/2025

Winners: Jacque Murdoch, Greg Hemphill, Bob Cooper

R/Up: Mary Doorley, Gail Parker

Results for Friday 2-4-2 21/2/2025

Winners: Dave Dixon, Ernie Connolly

R/UP: Sandra Scott, Hazel Crouch

Results for Wednesday Fours 26/2/2025

Winners: Yuki King, Jaarpung Blundell, Averyl Symonds, Tim Carlton

R/Up: Rosie Smith (Birthday Girl), Peter Szepes, Dave Dixon, Wayne Baker

Results for Thursday Jackpot Pairs 27/2/2025

Winners: Col Erhardt, Gary Pincott

R/Up: Richie Ferguson, Neil Smith

MORETON BRIBIE BRIDGE CLUB:

Sat 1 Mar N/S 1 L Carr & J Wright 2 S Watson & R Sutton 3 J Kinross & R Floquet E/W 1 G & D Lock 2 D Scown & J Borowski 3 E Hutton & T Avenia

Wed 5 Mar N/S 1 S & C Watson 2 H Standfast & J Budgeon 3 D Quinan & H Browne E/W 1 J Medhurst & H Tyler 2 R Medhurst & P Breene 3 B Moxham & B Connell

Wed 12 Mar N/S 1 S & C Watson 2 L Carr & J Wright 3 P Edis & C McAlister E/W 1 L Heap & B Connell 2 R King & M O'Reilly 3 L Groves & A Fielding

BICBC: Monday 3 Mar N/S 1 A Fielding & J Easey 2 L Wilson & J Brazier 3 B King & J Kennedy E/W 1 C & R Perrott =2 S Smith & M O'Reilly =2 G Lock & P Swan

**BRIBIE ISLAND WOMEN'S GOLF****04 Mar 2025 to 13 Mar 2025****04/03/25 MULTI TEE SINGLE STABLEFORD**

DIV 1 Winner Suzanne Valley 38 c/b 2nd Kate Wilson 38 3rd Christine Pronk 37

DIV 2 Winner Di Barker 35 c/b 2nd Bev Isaksen 35 c/b 3rd Lauren McDonald 35

06/03/25 **CYCLONE WATCH - no play**

11/03/25 **CYCLONE CLEAN UP - no play**

13/03/25 **OPEN DAY - SINGLE STABLEFORD**

DIV 1 Winner Jo Malone 37 2nd Di Binghamy 36 c/b 3rd Carol McKenzie 36

DIV 2 Winner Karen Gannon (Beerwah GC) 36, 2nd Sharyn Mott (Oxley GC) 35 c/b, 3rd Diane Gilmour (Headland GC) 35

DIV 3 Winner Wendy Washington 38, 2nd Charmaine Price 33 c/b 3rd Rosanne Sullivan 33 c/b

NTPs Hole 4 Div 3 Paula Walton, Hole 7 Open Abby Driver, Hole 14 Div 2 Debra

Dunn, Hole 15 Div 1 Jo McCowan ACCURACY DRIVE DIV 1 Suzanne Valley DIV 2 Sylvia White DIV 3 Sonia Ferrante



DIV 1 Winner Jo Malone



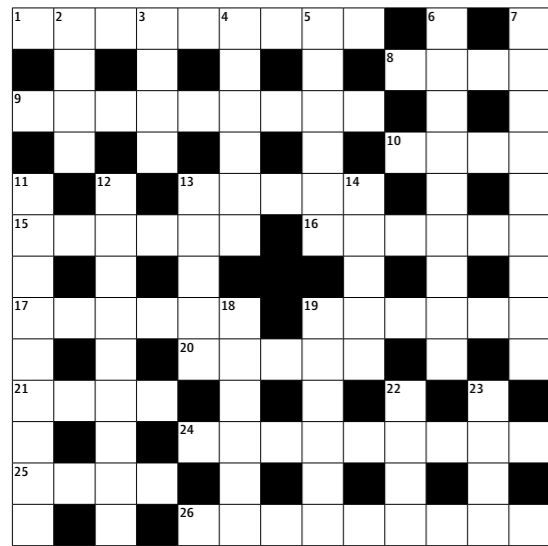
DIV 2 Winner Karen Gannon (Beerwah)



DIV 3 Winner Wendy Washington



Crosswords - QUICK & CRYPTIC



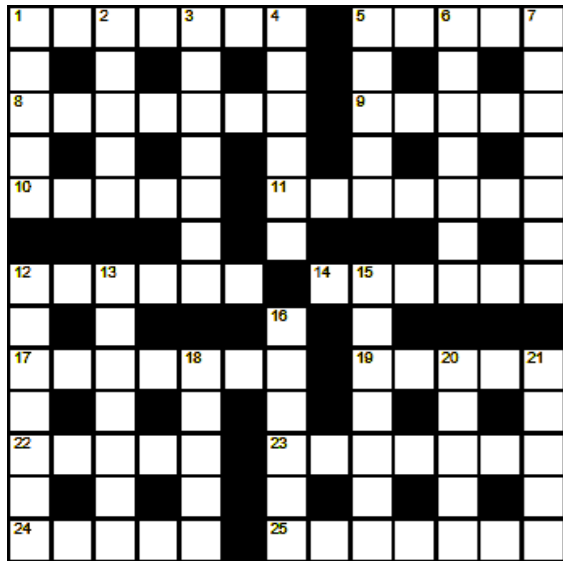
Across

- 1 Light cover (9)
- 8 Hammer-wielding god (4)
- 9 Place together, for comparison (9)
- 10 Pitch-black (4)
- 13 City in the Veneto region of Italy (5)
- 15 Malign (6)
- 16 Op used (anag) (6)
- 17 Crooked look (6)
- 19 Prehistoric large flat stone supported by vertical stones (6)
- 20 Ruined (5)
- 21 Fellow - crack (as skin) (4)
- 24 Game where some cards dealt facedown, others face-up (4,5)
- 25 Recoil - thrill (4)
- 26 Soviet educator (9)

Down

- 2 Lily (4)
- 3 Green shot (4)
- 4 Jazz fan - the cap (anag) (6)
- 5 Fight (4-2)
- 6 Whatsit (9)
- 7 American bus - racing dog (9)
- 11 Sponge soaked with sherry, say (5,4)
- 12 Guarantee (9)
- 13 Booze (5)
- 14 Horse racing meeting (5)
- 18 Skin mark (6)
- 19 Exploding bullet (6)
- 22 Chief (4)
- 23 Cheese (4)

CRYPTIC



Across

- 1 Keeps an eye on the timekeepers (7)
- 5 Loves to get the answer (5)
- 8 Took no notice of Reg and Dion dancing (7)
- 9 Acknowledges having limits (5)
- 10 Princess's company seen at the dance (5)
- 11 Hearing pain hurts (7)
- 12 Father's effort at cooking dessert (6)
- 14 He's a big fish in Milan - right? - Wrong! (6)
- 17 Free to cancel as regards rental agreement (7)
- 19 Lets up at the start of some lecture on water species (5)
- 22 With meaning - x the alternative (5)
- 23 Bookie has Alice excited - extraordinary (7)
- 24 A nosy observation (5)
- 25 A good man messy with arrangements (7)

Down

- 1 Odd river barrier at the end of the road (5)
- 2 Takes care of nurses (5)
- 3 Finds dodgy bar in time looking for port (7)
- 4 Soaked, Bishop with nose broken (6)
- 5 The lady with hesitation is transparent? (5)
- 6 In charge the French are back after the record - understandable (7)
- 7 A tenser situation in the orient (7)
- 12 Aspire to start misbehaving at sea (7)
- 13 No talk of sin at church involving the French (7)
- 15 Earns points in considering responses (7)
- 16 A lot of untidy service eating areas (6)
- 18 Hearing Labour day activity has no-body present (5)
- 20 She found love evil, somehow (5)
- 21 Materials given to jockeys in work (5)

SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC SOLUTION 235



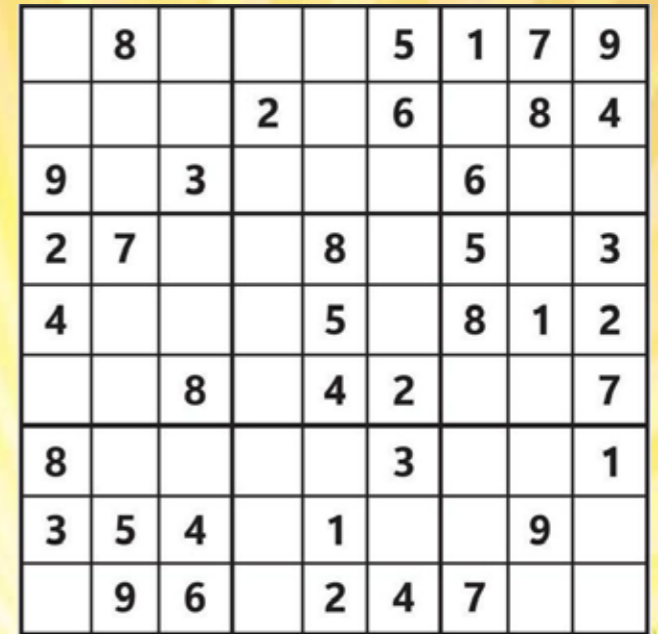
QUICK SOLUTION 235



FIND A WORD

HIGH TEA WORD FIND

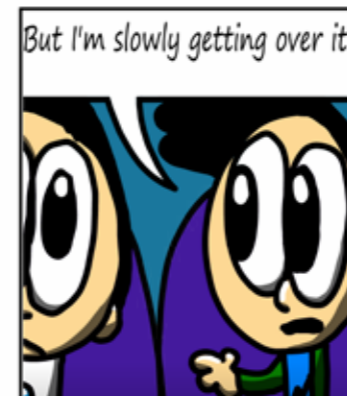
- | | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|----------|--------|
| Black | Ginger | Matcha | Sencha | Teapot |
| Breakfast | Green | Mint | Strainer | White |
| Brew | Herbal | Mug | | |
| Chamomile | Hibiscus | Oolong | | |
| China | Hot Tea | Party | | |
| Cozy | Iced Tea | Peppermint | | |
| Cup | Infusion | Red Zinger | | |
| Darjeeling | Kettle | Rooibos | | |
| Earl Grey | Lemon | Saucer | | |
| English | Loose Leaf | Scones | | |



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Sun Damage: The Silent Furniture Killer

Ah, summer—the season of sunshine, barbecues, and backyard lounging. It's a time we look forward to all year, but let's not forget about the real menace of the season: sun damage to our beloved furniture. Yes, folks, while we're busy getting our tan lines just right, our furniture is out there getting scorched like a sausage left on the BBQ for too long. Picture this: your couch, once a vibrant shade of burgundy, now resembles a sad, faded potato. That once-picturesque outdoor chair? It's faded from a cheerful cobalt blue to a colour that can only be described as "slightly confused grey." Who knew your furniture could fall victim to midlife crises, right? One minute it was a stylish statement piece, and the next,

it's contemplating retirement in the shed. It turns out, the sun is like that friend who shows up uninvited to the party and ends up ruining the vibe. You're outside enjoying a refreshing drink—your favourite lounge chair almost cradling you in comfort—and boom! The sun decided your furniture would make for a perfect lounge lizard, roasting it until its wood starts to splinter and its cushions feel like they've been used as batting practice for a team of bored teenagers. So, what can we do about this impending sunset for our furniture? It's easy! Invest in some good ol' UV protection sprays, or better yet, put your furniture in the shade—where it can enjoy a life free from sun-induced existential

crises. Consider slipcovers that scream "I can handle this summer heat!" while your favourite chair sips a frosty beverage. You could even start a new trend: "Moody Furniture" featuring pieces that proudly flaunt their sun-damaged battle scars. In the end, while we're busy enjoying the warmth of the sun on our skin, let's not forget to keep an eye on our furniture! Because if it's not careful, it might just end up going from chic to "Get me out of here" faster than you can say "What happened to my couch?" So, raise a glass to sun protection, and may our furniture survive another summer season with its dignity intact! Cheers!





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Uncovering The Hidden Dangers of Ignoring an Infestation

Many people view a pest infestation as a nuisance. However, the infestation can be hazardous. It can affect the health of those living in the home and the property. A homeowner might be tempted to ignore the problem and hope it will disappear independently, but the consequences can be severe. What are the hidden dangers of ignoring a pest infestation? Why is prompt action needed to ensure the home is safe and comfortable for all who live there and visit?

Health Risks of an Infestation

When pests invade the home, they may expose the occupants to diseases and allergens. Homeowners must understand that dealing with an infestation promptly is essential to preventing health issues for themselves and their loved ones. Rodents may carry pathogens, while cockroaches produce allergens, and these are only two examples of how a pest infestation can negatively impact the health of those in the household. Family members may develop respiratory issues, struggle with skin irritations, and other health issues might arise. Reduce the risk of illness by addressing the pest infestation immediately with the help of professionals. A person's health must always be the priority.

household's structure, furnishings, and other belongings. Termites, for example, will destroy wooden structures. Rodents have been known to chew through insulation and wires, which can increase the risk of an electrical fire. A pest infestation can lead to various issues; the longer they are left unchecked, the more damage will be done. The homeowner could be looking for significant money to repair the house.

Reproduction Concerns

When people think of rapidly reproducing animals, they often think of rabbits. However, a tiny pest infestation can quickly become a major issue thanks to the rapid rate at which many pests reproduce. The larger the pest problem, the harder it is to remove it from the home. When homeowners address this issue promptly, they can reduce the risk of exponential growth. Thanks

Property Damage

Pests can do significant damage to a home in little time. They can harm the

to their quick action, ridding the home of the past will be easier.

Food and Water Contamination

Any pets in the home will enter human food and water sources. Rodents, flies, and cockroaches are three pests that might be found in household food and water supplies. These foods and water become unsafe for consumption, as eating or drinking them could lead to significant health issues. When homeowners spot a pest in the house, they must call for professional help to eliminate the problem before it escalates.

Reputation

Nobody wants to walk into a home that has pests. When visitors identify pests in a person's home, they may not wish to return. The pest infestation hurts the homeowner's reputation. Other people may not want to visit if the house has a pest problem.

Psychological Issues

Visitors aren't the only ones a pest infestation may impact. Household members may also struggle with psychological distress when they are in the home. They worry about encountering pests and become frustrated when they cannot eliminate them quickly. All household members may suffer from stress, anxiety, and a declining quality of life. A pest infestation must be addressed immediately to reduce the risk of danger to the home's occupants and the property. The negative consequences of this infestation can never be minimised. Contact a professional pest control specialist today for assistance in removing pests to save time and money. Doing so will give everyone living in the home peace of mind, as they will not encounter pests as they go about their days.

Get ready for our END OF SEASON SPECIAL!
During MARCH 2025, we are running a fantastic offer on stocked pool cleaners.

- Kreepy Krauly VTX 3 Suction Cleaner Come with 10m Hose. **Down from \$499 to \$399**
- Zodiac G2 Suction Cleaner Comes with 10m Hose. **Down from \$599 to \$499**
- Madimack GT Freedom Cordless Robot 6hr Run Time. **Down from \$2399 to \$1799**

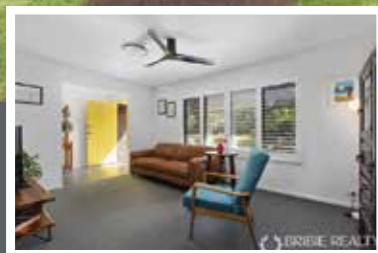
AQUANEO POOL STORE
179 First Avenue, Bongaree **1300 279 502**
and don't forget to bring a sample of your pool water for free testing

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Hints to keep your bin as fresh as possible

- Line your bin with leaves or sticks first and add lawn clippings last.
- Put your bin out for collection every fortnight. This reduces odour!
- Mow your lawn as close to bin collection day as possible.

Remember... Only dispose of garden organic material in your GO bin. Please **do not** put any non-organic items in your bin.
For more information visit moretonbay.qld.gov.au/GO



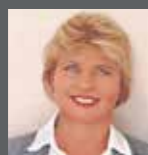
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Anybody that has driven past the large Unity water reservoir at Bellara and the entrance to Banksia Beach can obviously see how ugly and detracting it is and to put it politely, sticks out like a sore thumb! It truly needs to be painted to reflect our community's spirit and improve the overall aesthetic of the area. I have been approached to let people know there is a petition you can sign, started for people who are passionate about preserving and enhancing the natural beauty of our community.

The reservoir's current appearance, with its large, bare concrete surface, significantly detracts from the beauty of our community and the surrounding environment. This structure, which serves as a prominent feature in Bellara and at the entrance to Banksia Beach, is more than just a reservoir—it is a canvas waiting to be transformed into a work of art that celebrates the natural beauty of our island. The petition proposes that the reservoir be adorned with a mural that highlights

the unique beauty of the Pumicestone Passage and the Islands or features a design that embodies our community spirit. Additionally, pairing this transformation with the strategic planting of screening trees to soften the structure's visual impact from the main road and help it integrate better into the environment. A well-executed mural or artistic design, combined with landscaping, would not only enhance the visual appeal of Bribie Island but also symbolise our collective

pride in this beautiful corner of the world, fostering a sense of belonging and unity. This change would represent a positive step toward preserving and enhancing the natural charm that makes Bribie Island such a wonderful place to live and visit. We are committed to this initiative and believe in its potential to further enrich our community. We urge you to support this petition by jumping online via the QR Code below. Help make our part of the world even more beautiful to live in!



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BEWARE 'the substance': cyclonic sea foam similar to sewage treatment plant bacteria



As we all are aware, Tropical Cyclone Alfred whipped up sea foam along the coastline from Southeast Queensland to northern New South Wales. UniSC microbiologist warns these "bacteria smoothies" may have more harmful pathogens than a sewage treatment plant. University of the Sunshine Coast Associate Professor İpek Kurtböke was horrified to see footage of people playing in thick, sticky sea foam on the Gold Coast, especially considering the cyclone's path was likely to cause more of the substance along the east coast. Her message was clear to people – and their pet dogs: stay out of it if you don't want to risk harming your health. Research published by Dr Kurtböke with PhD student Luke Wright (2023 paper and 2021 paper) found that the majority of bacteria isolated from sea foam sampled on the Sunshine Coast contained pathogens closely related to those found in sewage treatment plants across the world. "It harbours bacteria that is far riskier to public health than previously thought," she said.

Thirty-two strains of Nocardiae, a group of bacteria known to cause human and animal infections in skin, lungs and the central nervous system, were isolated from the near-shore sea foam. "The public needs to be warned. Even now the cyclone is over, our beaches will carry the pathogen," said Dr Kurtböke, an internationally renowned environmental microbiologist invited by several countries late last year to present talks on natural marine pollution. "The public health risk relates to exposure to aerosols generated by the foam as well as direct contact through a wound. To stay safe, do not swim or play in the foam, or breathe near it." The findings also revealed the presence of antibiotic-resistant species among the isolates. She said Nocardiae were usually found in foaming events at sewage treatment plants, where they thrived in excess oil and grease. "While these natural bacteria are commonly found in soil, water and decaying vegetation, they are opportunistic pathogens and can cause serious disease such as nocardiosis in people and animals with weakened immune systems," she said.



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IGNITE
PROJECTS



More details have been revealed about the Anchorage apartments project at Sandstone Point, which is set to create a new benchmark in waterfront living for the fast-growing region.

Co-located with the renamed Sandstone Point Marina, Anchorage will provide a total of 67 apartments across two buildings, 10 townhouses, and more than 250 square metres of exclusive resort-style recreation areas.

Designed by multi-awarding winning group Plus Architecture, the development will also introduce a new standard of architectural excellence to Sandstone Point in keeping with the region's increasing popularity with discerning apartment buyers.

A Development Application for Anchorage with Moreton Bay Council is progressing with plans for the project's first residents to be moving in by around mid-2027.

Positioned at the gateway to Bribie Island and Moreton Bay, Anchorage will provide sweeping 180-degree views of Pumicestone Passage, Beerburum State Forest and the

Glass House Mountains.

Buyers can choose from 2, 3 and 4-bedroom apartments with open-plan layouts, spacious balconies, stone benchtops and quality fixtures and finishes. Prices start at only \$850,000 for a spacious Level 2 apartment with 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

Residents will have access to a resort-style swimming pool, barbecue area, gym, yoga deck, book nook, bicycle parking, watercraft storage and parking for around 130 vehicles, including visitors. Additional car spaces for marina guests will be included in Anchorage's secure basement.

The new apartments will be surrounded by open space and lush greenery, offering a seamless blend of connected living and natural beauty. Anchorage is being accompanied by a multi-million-dollar upgrade to the existing marina complex that will deliver exciting new community facilities, family-friendly spaces and improved pedestrian access to the waterfront. The current marina fuel service will be retained with a refurbishment also under consideration.

Both projects are being undertaken by the marina's new owner Ignite Projects, which has a strong track record of developing inspiring residential projects in southeast Queensland. The company's beachfront Cabana Palm Beach apartments project on the Gold Coast received a prestigious UDIA Queensland award for excellence.

"Our plans are about much more than building apartments," said Josh Foote, Director of Ignite Projects. "This is about breathing new life into a marina precinct that was established more than 40 years ago, providing a more appealing waterfront recreation area and improving the overall attractiveness of the area," he said.

Anchorage will be located within easy walking distance of cafes, restaurants and a convenience centre while providing quick access to Bribie Island shopping, health and other everyday services.

"Sandstone Point provides an ideal waterfront lifestyle downsizer, retirees, young families or commuting professionals, located only 40

minutes from Brisbane," Mr Foote said.

"We are already seeing strong interest in Anchorage, especially from local downsizers, with sales appointments typically booked out well in advance," he said.

"Together with the associated marina upgrade, our Anchorage project is a natural progression for the area, alongside other new developments and planned infrastructure improvements, such as the Bribie bridge duplication and Caboolture-Bribie Island Road widening.

"We are excited at the opportunity to enhance the marina experience for the whole community while also providing attractive and very competitively priced apartments in such a beautiful setting."

To find out more or register your interest, go to <https://anchoragesandstonepoint.com.au>. A Sales Office for Anchorage has been established at 9-11 Spinnaker Drive, Sandstone Point, located next door to the Marina Office. To make an appointment call Jo Prince-Gillies on 0448 911 016.



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Paris Dzuheric and Dylan O'Harae, Banksia Beach Buyers (Jan 2025)

Sally and her team operated with great professionalism on all levels, be it with potential buyers or us as her client. Communication, as with any business is key and Sally was all over it no matter time of day or day of the week. If the yard needed a tidy or the pool cleaning Sally would see to it that this happened in order to make the home as appealing as possible given we live interstate. Great effort and great result with Wilson And Co.
Ian and Carol Thompson, Woorim Sellers (Feb 2025)

Highly recommend Sally from Wilson And Co. She negotiated a fantastic price on the sale of our house in a short amount of time. We found her to be very knowledgeable, helpful and professional in all our dealings with her. She has a wealth of knowledge about all things related to local estate and put us at ease throughout the whole process. Even better, her commission is the most competitive on the island!
Terri and Don Mulligan, Banksia Beach Sellers (Feb 2025)



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CLEAN-UP WARNING: FLOODING CAN BRING DEADLY SOIL BACTERIUM TO SURFACE



As the clean-up begins after heavy rain and flooding, South East Queenslanders need to be aware of melioidosis and the risk it poses to human and animals, warns University of the Sunshine Coast microbiologist Associate Professor Erin Price.

Melioidosis is a potentially serious infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, which lives in the soil and groundwater and rises to the surface during heavy rain.

It can cause non-healing skin abscesses and sores, and if not treated quickly can lead to life-threatening pneumonia or septicemia in half of all infections. Over 100 melioidosis cases, including sixteen deaths, have been recorded since the start of the year in North Queensland.

"Although far less common across South East Queensland, the pathogen is endemic here, so people need to be aware of the risk it potentially poses to them, especially during post-cyclone clean-up efforts," Dr Price said.

"People can become infected following exposure to contaminated soil and water, most commonly through skin abrasions, including micro-cuts, especially in feet, calves, and hands," she said.

"People can also be infected by inhaling dust and droplets when windows and doors are left open during squally weather, or when using high-pressure hoses to clean dirt from driveways, cars, equipment, or homes."

B. pseudomallei can also cause disease in many animals, including pets such as cats and dogs. Dr Price said most people who come into contact with the bacteria will not get sick, and there was an extremely low risk of person-to-person or animal-to-person transmission.

"However, there are certain risk factors that increase the chances of infection and serious illness such as diabetes, high alcohol intake,

chronic lung diseases, kidney disease, people with weakened immune systems, including those with malignancy, and people over 65 years," she said.

"Accurate melioidosis diagnosis is important, because only a handful of antibiotics are effective against the pathogen, and it can cause death in up to 40 percent of cases if left untreated."

Symptoms include cough, lethargy, nausea or vomiting, non-healing skin sores or ulcers, loss of appetite, fever, sharp stabbing chest pain, breathing problems, rapid and shallow breathing, light sensitivity, pain or discomfort, feeling cold, high heart rate, or low blood pressure.

"Melioidosis presents in myriad ways, and mimics many other diseases, so diagnosis cannot be made based on symptoms alone. It can also take up to 21 days from infection to symptom onset, so it's important for people who develop symptoms to factor this in," Dr Price said.

"To reduce the risk of infection, people should wear close-toed and waterproof shoes, and rubber or nitrile gloves when cleaning or gardening, and wash their skin thoroughly with soap and water after any exposure to water, mud, or soil.

"Also wear a respirator when cleaning, ideally an N95, to avoid inhaling dust and water particles that might be harbouring the bacterium, especially when using high-pressure hoses." Experts also warn of the dangers of antibiotic-resistant bacteria and human pathogenic bacteria in flood waters.

UniSC Associate Professor of Environmental Microbiology İpek Kurtböke said she was concerned by footage of people in flood waters, including playing on water-drenched sporting fields and grounds.

"Those waters bring so many other pollutants in these waters, not only microbes, but fertilizers and chemicals and so on," she said.

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THE PROS AND CONS OF *Roof Tiles vs. Colourbond Roofs*

When it comes to roofing options, two popular choices often stand at the forefront of homeowner discussions: traditional roof tiles and modern Colourbond roofs. Both have their merits and drawbacks and understanding these can help you make an informed decision based on your priorities and local conditions.

PROS OF ROOF TILES

- **Aesthetic Variety:** Roof tiles come in a wide range of colours, styles, and materials, including terracotta and concrete. This versatility allows homeowners to achieve a specific aesthetic that complements their home's architecture and surroundings.
- **Durability:** Tiles are renowned for their longevity. Properly maintained roof tiles can last for decades, even centuries in some cases, offering excellent long-term value.
- **Thermal Insulation:** Roof tiles provide superior thermal mass, which can help

regulate indoor temperatures. This characteristic can be particularly beneficial in regions with extreme weather, keeping homes cooler in summer and warmer in winter.

- **Fire Resistance:** Many tile materials are naturally fire-resistant, adding an extra layer of protection for homes in bushfire-prone areas.
- **Weight:** One of the most significant drawbacks of roof tiles is their weight. This can lead to structural considerations that may require additional support, increasing the overall cost of installation.
- **Installation Complexity:** The installation of roof tiles is often more complex and time-consuming than their Colourbond counterparts, potentially leading to higher labour costs.
- **Maintenance:** While durable, roof tiles can be prone to cracking and may require regular maintenance, especially in harsher climates, where expansion and contraction can lead to issues over time.

PROS OF COLOURBOND ROOFS

- **Lightweight Construction:** Colourbond roofs are significantly lighter than tile roofs, which can simplify the installation process and reduce the need for additional structural support.
- **Low Maintenance:** Colourbond roofing is generally low maintenance, resisting pests and weather-related wear better than some traditional materials. Regular inspections and cleaning are often sufficient to keep them in good condition.
- **Quick Installation:** The simpler installation process for Colourbond roofs can lead to reduced labour costs and quicker project completion, allowing homeowners to enjoy their new roofs sooner.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Colourbond roofs are available in a variety of reflective colours that can contribute to improved energy efficiency. This feature helps keep homes cooler in warmer climates, potentially

reducing air conditioning costs. Cons of Colourbond Roofs

- **Limited Aesthetic Variety:** While Colourbond roofing also comes in various colours, the design options are often more limited than for traditional tiles, which could restrict creative expression for some homeowners.
- **Noise:** Metal roofs can be noisier during heavy rain or hail, which may be a concern for some. Sound insulation techniques can be applied but may add to costs.
- **Heat Conductivity:** Although Colourbond roofs can have reflective properties, they can also absorb heat, leading to higher internal temperatures if not adequately addressed through insulation.

Ultimately, the choice between roof tiles and Colourbond roofs hinges on individual needs and preferences. It's always advisable to consult with professionals to evaluate both options' suitability for your specific situation.

AWARD WINNING PROPERTY MANAGEMENT TEAM

A look into awards over the last 2 years

Lydia Bonastre

Property Manager of the Year Finalist - 2023
Property Manager of the Year Winner - 2024

Aisha Waver

100% Club - 2024
Rookie of the Year - 2024

David Wereszczuk

Hall of Fame - 2023
100% Club - 2024

George Hayes-Walsh

Hall of Fame - 2024
Platinum Club - 2024

Karl Osswald

100% Club - 2023
100% Club - 2024



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As Queenslanders, we understand the impacts from natural disasters can include such as transport delays, road closures, getting kids from school early, long lines at the petrol station or supermarket, and loss of power or internet connection.

And then there are really bad things like flood waters moving toward your house, a loved one unable to get home, and leaving behind pets during evacuation. You can't control the weather or when the next disaster will hit Queensland, but you can be aware and prepared. Get Ready Queensland helps you to take the steps to protect what's most important to you. Cyclones are a part of life for people living in Queensland's coastal areas. Queensland cyclone season is officially from 1 November to 30 April, however we may experience cyclones at other times.

WHAT IS A CYCLONE, A STORM SURGE AND A STORM TIDE?

The Bureau of Meteorology provides the following explanations to explain how cyclones, storm surges and storm tides work hand in hand to create at times catastrophic conditions.

CYCLONES

Cyclones are powerful weather systems that can cause significant damage to the built and natural environments. They develop from low pressure systems that develop over warm oceans in the tropics, and generally intensify over several days, generating severe winds, heavy rain and flooding. Cyclones produce very strong and potentially destructive winds that rotate clockwise

around a calm centre (the 'eye'). Storm surge

A storm surge is a rise above the normal water level along a shore resulting from strong onshore winds and / or reduced atmospheric pressure. Storm surges accompany a tropical cyclone as it comes ashore. They may also be formed by intense low-pressure systems in non-tropical areas.

Storm tide

A storm tide is the combination of storm surge, and normal (astronomical) tide is known as a storm tide. The worst impacts occur when the storm surge arrives on top of a high tide. When this happens, the storm tide can reach areas that might otherwise have been safe. What happens in a cyclone As a cyclone approaches, the wind and rain gradually increase over several hours.

A cyclone will sound like a roaring train or jet engine and skies will darken, turning the day into night. You could be inside for many hours. There may be strong winds and horizontal rain. These winds are powerful enough to break large trees, roll over sea containers, and blow away unsecured caravans, garden sheds and poorly constructed roofed patios. They can cause extensive property damage and turn loose items into wind-borne debris that cause further building damage. Slow moving cyclones can take many hours to move past a particular location, and extreme wind and rain can last up to 12 hours.

As the cyclone moves over the coastline, those in the direct path will experience the eye of the cyclone, and its lighter winds and clear skies. The eye can be from 10km - 100km wide. When the eye passes over, the returning winds are faster, more intense and can return without any warning.

Local councils are your go-to source for disaster information, including evacuation centres, road conditions, and power outages. Sign up for local weather alerts and use the search bar below to find your local council disaster dashboard and save it to your favourites.

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Roof Condition

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- Gutters and down pipes
- Keep gutters and downpipes clear of leaves and other blockages.
- Overhanging Branches
- Overhanging branches that are close to your buildings. Always check with your local council first. Also, let your power distributor (Energex or Ergon etc.) know if any are overhanging power lines.

House Repair

- Fix any rust, loose fittings and rotting or termite-affected timber.
- Window Seals
- Window seals
- Repair any broken seals around windows to make sure water can't get inside.
- Kiddy Pool
- Water
- Have good access to water around your house e.g. tanks, swimming pools. Don't rely on electric pumps and town water because these may stop working in extreme weather.
- Debris
- Debris and garden waste

• Keep yard clear of leaves and rubbish. Remove vegetation around fence lines.

Renting?
Alert your landlord or property manager of any maintenance that needs to take place around your home.

Insurance
Queensland is the most natural disaster impacted state in Australia, exposing our homes to repeated damage from devastating cyclones, floods and other disaster events such as bushfires. Make sure to check your insurance policy has enough cover for your home and contents

Strengthen your home against extreme weather
Home maintenance is key to improving your home's resilience. This might be as simple as tidying up around the yard, or you can think about resilient design and materials.

What to do when a cyclone, severe thunderstorm or flood is on the way

Valuables

- Empty and raise fridges and freezers and stack or move furniture, valuables, and electrical items. Store any poison and chemicals well

above ground level.

- Internal Drains - Prepare water supply and internal drains
- Fill buckets and bath with clean water in case of interruptions to main supply. Prepare to sandbag internal drains and toilets to prevent sewage backflow.

Livestock Feed
If you can, move your livestock, horses and other animals to a safe paddock that has high ground and shelter from the wind. Keep your pets (including cats) indoors, make sure they have a safe place, food and water and something to clean up mess. Have a pet emergency kit ready to go to save you time during emergencies.

Secure loose items
Secure loose items that could cause damage if blown around in high winds (such as garden furniture and toys). Move outdoor equipment, rubbish, chemicals, and poisons out of harm's way.

Disconnect Electrical Power - Know how to disconnect utilities. Locate and be ready to disconnect or shut down your gas, electricity, solar

power and water services if instructed.

Secure your home

- Collect Water
- Find the strongest and safest room - This should be away from big windows, in a bathroom, walk-in wardrobe, or hallway in case you need to shelter in your home during a severe storm or cyclone. If you do have to shelter in place, cover any windows in your safe room with a mattress or heavy blanket to protect you from broken glass if the window breaks.

- Close Windows
- Fasten all cyclone screens and board up any exposed windows, doors and seep holes if you can. Securely tape plastic sheeting to the inside of windows to keep wind and rain out of your home.

Vehicles

Park somewhere safe and have a plan to leave early. Put fuel in your vehicle so you are ready to evacuate if needed. Park it in a sheltered area away from trees, powerlines and waterways. If you know a flood is coming, leave your home early and go somewhere safer. Check for road closures before you leave.



John Traill Public Relations Officer - Volunteer Marine Rescue Bribie Island Mob: 0407 537 323 publicrelations@vmrbribie.com, FOR EMERGENCIES OR OPERATIONAL ISSUES CALL VMR BASE ON 3408 7596

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5-YEAR SERVICE BADGE
Thursday 13th February 2025 - The Radio Officer Peter McNamara presented Mark Horsburgh with his 5-Year Service Badge.



Radio Operator Mark Horsburgh shows his 5-Year Service Badge.



Saturday 15th February 2025 - 8m Cruiser with starter motor issues is towed by Bribie 2 into Pacific Harbour canals.

5-YEAR SERVICE BADGE
Sunday 16th February 2025 - White Sunday Skipper, Commercial Coxswain, and Vice Commodore Wayne Sclater presented 5-Year Service Badges to Crew Day Coxswain Dale Mullins and Competent Crew Mike Lucas.



Dale Mullins receives his 5-Year Service Badge from Skipper Wayne Sclater. Dale joined VMR Bribie on 30th January 2020, was appointed Crew in May 2020, Competent Crew in My 2022, Senior Crew in July 2023, and Crew Day Coxswain in April 2024.



Mike Lucas receives his 5-Year Service Badge from Skipper Wayne Sclater. Mike joined VMR Bribie on 30th January 2020, was appointed Crew White Sunday in August 2020 and Competent Crew in June 2023

ASSIST NEAR ROY'S FARM

Tuesday 18th February 2025 - Commercial Coxswain Jim Brown, Crew Day Coxswain Doug Lythgo and Competent Crew James Dickson were called out to retrieve a 6.7m Pontoon Boat with engine issues in Pumicestone Passage off Roy's Strawberry farm past Coochin Creek. Utilising Bribie 2 the vessel was towed to its berth in Spinnaker Sound Marina.



Bribie 2 has the Pontoon Boat rafted alongside ready for the trip into the Marina.



Pontoon Boat docked back at the Marina, Bribie 2 preparing to return to base.

JET SKI ASSIST

Wednesday 19th February 2025 - Caller originally stated he couldn't get his Jet Ski started. This was followed by "it's sinking"! Callout Crew Coxswain Garry Bunker and Senior Crew Noel Wendt attended in Bribie 2 in the Passage just off Sandstone Point Hotel, pumping the vessel out and then towing the jet ski to Spinnaker Sound Marina.



Bribie 2 with the jet ski rafted alongside approaches Spinnaker Sound Marina.



Inside the marina.

HAPPY 80TH ANNE

Congratulations and Happy 80th Birthday Anne Boxsell, our long serving Admin Officer at VMR Bribie Island. Anne celebrated her milestone 80th on Tuesday this week and not to be missed by our Membership Secretary Rosemary Blythe who brought in a chocolate mud cake and helium balloon on their Friday shift today 21st February 2025.



Anne Boxsell with her 80th mud-cake and helium balloon.

PARKING SANDSTONE POINT HOTEL

Commencing at 11:30 AM we provided parking assistance for the Lookout Festival featuring Jet, Grinspoon, The Veronicas, Spider Bait, Jebediah, Magic Dirt, and Youth Group. The Payment Team led by Mark Paterson with Gary Voss as Deputy and assisted by Michael Booth, Tom Buckley, Aamir Cao, Andrew Chessum, David Dodsworth, James Dickson, Sharyn Giles, Col Graham, Ian MacDonald, Kev Richardson, and Allan Tranter. The Payment Team led by Kelly Langworthy and assisted by Paul Gillmore, Graham & Leona Patrick, Cheryl Robinson, and John & Sheryl Traill.

A special thanks to Trainee Radio Operators Andrew

Chessum, Col Graham, and Ian MacDonald who will all take on their first radio shift training this coming week.

It was slow and steady compared with the last concert but thanks to all that gave up their day to raise these important funds for our continued operation. Finishing around 4:30PM at the venue was great, thanks to those delivering everything back to the Base and locking everything away.



Mark briefs the Parking Team.



Kelly gets the "final word" from Liam, with some of her Payment Team Graham Patrick, Sheryl Traill, Leona Patrick and Cheryl Robinson ready for the cars to start arriving.

SSSS TRAINING

Sunday 23rd February 2025 - The minimum requirement necessary for VMR Vessel Crew is CERTIFICATE I Shipboard Safety Skill Set (SSSS), which is to be completed within 6 months of joining as a vessel crew member. SSSS practical was held over the weekend during which our 4 trainees had to demonstrate all survival aspects in the water and how to let off flares as well as put out fires with the correct extinguishers. It was a fun day for all.



Trainees ready to leap from the pontoon and inflate their life jackets and make their way to shore.



COMMODORE CES' SAFETY MESSAGE:



Commodore Ces reminds everyone to "Check your safety gear, ensure your flares are in date and dry, that you have a fire extinguisher, torch, v-sheet, life jackets; and that they are easily accessible. We talk a lot about servicing inflatable Life Jackets but there are also the old faithful foam filled life Jackets that we see a lot of on vessels.

A lot of the time these are stashed away in the boat, they get wet, and sun damaged and forgotten about, these need to be checked annually too.

Check the life jacket for signs of:

- Sun Damage
- Fading
- Rips
- Check the buckle works
- Inspect straps for any deterioration
- If reflective strips are attached make sure they are clean & undamaged.
- Make sure the whistle works.

PLEASE WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKETS

"Look after the equipment that will look after you!"

"BUT importantly - Always remember if you are heading out on the water **LOG ON** with your local **VMR or Coast Guard**, it's a free service for everyone, so why wouldn't you! **It just may save your life!"**

YEAR TO DATE RADIO ROOM STATISTICS

2,979 Calls, 928 vessels logged on, 55 Vessel Assists, 295 Sitreps, 271 Requests, 5 Overdue vessels, 0 Vessel Tracking, 228 Radio Checks, 1 Weather Broadcasts, 0 Securite Broadcasts, 0 Pan Pan, 0 Mayday
VHF calls 57.9%, 27MHz calls 0.1%, Phone 28.3%, GWN 1.3%

FEBRUARY VESSEL ASSISTS:

- SAT 15/02 0954AM** - 6.6m Cuddy Cabin 3POB member with motor issues required a tow from Cowan Cowan to Pelican Point.
- SAT 15/02 1132AM** - 8m Cruiser 2POB member with starter motor issues required a tow from Spinnaker fuel dock to Pacific Harbour canals.
- SAT 15/02 1450PM** - 5.4m Centre Console 3POB non-member with motor issues 300m off Red Beach required a tow to Bongaree Boat Ramp.
- SUN 16/02 1357PM** - 5.2m Centre Console 3POB non-member with motor issues required a tow from Sylvan Beach to Toorbul Boat Ramp.
- TUE 18/02 0730AM** - 10m Cruiser 1POB member with motor issues required a tow from Pacific Harbour canals to Spinnaker Sound Marina.
- TUE 18/02 1159AM** - 6.7m Pontoon Boat 5POB member with oil issues required a tow from past Coochin Creek to Spinnaker Sound Marina.
- TUE 18/02 1210PM** - 3.5m Jet Ski 2POB non-member with motor issues required a tow from Tangalooma to Scarborough Boat Harbour.
- TUE 18/02 1245PM** - Tasked by QAS to transport 2 x Ambulance Officers to Tangalooma and medevac a patient to awaiting ambulance at VMR Bribie.
- WED 19/02 1504PM** - 3.6m Jet Ski 1POB non-member sinking near Sandstone Point Hotel, required pumping out and towing to Spinnaker Sound Marina.
- FRI 21/02 2357PM** - Tasked by Water Police to assist in search for fisherman in 3.5m Tinny well overdue in Ningi Creek. Bribie 2 spotted vessel stuck on sand bar, Water Police 5.75m RHIB was able to get close enough with rising tide to tow vessel back to Moffatt Esplanade Boat Ramp.
- TUE 25/02 1400PM** - Tasked by Water Police to investigate an 8 yacht which appears in trouble off Woorim - investigated all OK.

FISHING REPORT



Kevin Bland's granddaughter catching a great whiting in the Bribie passage

By: Claude Trabelsi- Bribie Bait, Tackle & Bikes
 cjsdemo@hotmail.com

There is no denying that many sharks make great tucker. Good ol' "flake" has been a fish-and chip shop staple for as long as I can remember. "Shark depredation" is the fancy term for having your prize catch "taxed" by the men in grey overcoats before you can get it into the boat. This is becoming a big issue in local waters, and I hear all the way along the East Coast. This growing shark problem is no doubt the result of a combination of factors. Many sharks have clearly "learnt" to follow boats and key in on fishing activities. There's clear evidence that populations of certain species (bull sharks and black tip reef sharks), in particular, have increased in numbers due to changes in bag limits, keeping sharks only under 1.5 meters and a bag limit of one per angler, with a boat limit of 2 sharks. On the one hand, this is a sign of good management of fisheries regulations and can also be due to the lack of interest of anglers enjoying a fillet of locally caught shark. For those who haven't tried shark, I encourage you to give one a try, as always, bleed and ice after capture for best results. Maybe with a bit more interest from anglers, we may be able to balance the system.



Aaron Trabelsi with a 900mm black tip, going home for a feed.



Sarkis and I enjoyed a day on the bay with a mixed bag of fish, responding well to good fishing habits, Early start, burly, light lines, fresh assortment of bait and keeping noise to a minimum. Baits used were school prawns, squid, pilchards, yabbies, and a couple of live herrings for the Mackerel. Most fish were landed with a 7-foot rod 2 - 4kg with 6lb fluorocarbon main line, Mackerel 30lb braid with a 30lb leader with gang hooks.

An afternoon session casting lures found an early school of tailor, by far one of my favorite fish to catch and eat. With explosive runs and leaps, many tailor were lost in the battle. So, if you find yourself being bitten off, you may have crossed paths with a school of tailor. Floating pilchards, trolling and casting metal lures are the three main styles used to find and catch tailor. All signs point to a good season ahead.



TIDE TIMES

Bribie Island AND Moreton Bay

Fri 21 Mar 2:07 am 1.64m 8:50 am 0.87m 2:01 pm 1.25m 7:54 pm 0.71m	Sat 22 Mar 3:10 am 1.59m 10:16 am 0.89m 3:14 pm 1.17m 9:12 pm 0.77m	Sun 23 Mar 4:33 am 1.59m 11:44 am 0.85m 4:54 pm 1.16m 10:43 pm 0.76m	Mon 24 Mar 5:56 am 1.68m 12:51 pm 0.74m 6:21 pm 1.25m 11:56 pm 0.65m	Tue 25 Mar 6:56 am 1.83m 1:37 pm 0.61m 7:17 pm 1.4m	Wed 26 Mar 12:55 am 0.5m 7:44 am 1.98m 2:15 pm 0.47m 8:04 pm 1.57m	Thu 27 Mar 1:47 am 0.36m 8:28 am 2.11m 2:53 pm 0.35m 8:48 pm 1.73m
Fri 28 Mar 2:36 am 0.25m 9:09 am 2.18m 3:30 pm 0.26m 9:31 pm 1.87m	Sat 29 Mar 3:23 am 0.2m 9:50 am 2.15m 4:05 pm 0.23m 10:15 pm 1.97m	Sun 30 Mar 4:12 am 0.23m 10:31 am 2.04m 4:41 pm 0.24m 10:59 pm 2.03m	Mon 31 Mar 5:00 am 0.31m 11:12 am 1.86m 5:14 pm 0.29m 11:43 pm 2.05m	Tue 1 Apr 5:51 am 0.43m 11:52 am 1.66m 5:46 pm 0.36m	Wed 2 Apr 12:28 am 2.04m 6:46 am 0.55m 12:33 pm 1.47m 6:20 pm 0.44m	Thu 3 Apr 1:15 am 1.99m 7:47 am 0.66m 1:21 pm 1.32m 7:00 pm 0.53m

Letters to the editor



The comments and opinions on these pages are not those of The Bribie Islander, but those of our residents.

NO ROOM FOR DISCRIMINATION AND HATE IN AUSTRALIA

©Anne Matthews

On 11 September 2001, the world watched in horror as Al Qaeda terrorists hijacked four passenger planes in the United States. On that day 3,263 people including, firefighters, police and paramedics died in New York City, Washington D.C. and Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

The horror and disbelief of the actions of the terrorists at that time was shared worldwide. The attacks were widely condemned by world governments, including those usually considered unfriendly to the United States, such as Syria, North Korea, Cuba, Iran, Libya and Afghanistan. The horrific death scenes of innocent people, who were just going about their daily lives, on that beautiful September morning, will haunt many of us for the rest of our lives.

At the time, I worked for a Law Enforcement Agency in Canberra. Our analysts worked with the FBI, CIA and the Bush Government to track Al Qaeda sympathisers. When Osama bin Laden was eventually killed in May 2011, there was no mourning and public protests in Australia.

Then on 12 October 2002, the Bali bombings killed 202 people, including 88 Australians. These bombings destroyed our feelings of safety and distance from terrorism. After the 9/11 and the Bali bombings, I hoped nothing like this would ever happen again, especially in Australia where we had a very rigid immigration policy.

My grandfather died at Gallipoli in 1915. He was 26 years old and left a wife and eight-month-old son. His son, my father, won the Military Cross in WWII fighting for the liberties my family have enjoyed all their lives. Over the last 75 years my family have made friends with hundreds of migrants from every part of the world. These

migrants have assimilated and embraced our laws. Many, including Muslims and Jews, peacefully follow their own religions.

But our peace dramatically changed when Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February 2022 – it is hard to believe that war has been ongoing for three years. Then on 7 October 2023, Hamas launched a large-scale attack on Israel killing thousands. So, we now seem to be surrounded by a world full of terrorism.

While I write this article, TV coverage of the antisemitism hatred of the two-nursing staff employed by NSW Health at Bankstown hospital is playing in the background. These nurses boast about killing Israeli patients. The footage of their threats was filmed inside one of the hospital's staff rooms and released by an influencer from Israel. The male and female nurses were on night duty and were wearing scrubs with NSW Health branding. The two staff have been sacked. But is this enough? To claim it was a joke is not acceptable. They are making a mockery of their profession.

Globally, nurses recite the Nightingale Oath at their graduation. However most Australian nursing programs have their own unique pledge or code of ethics that graduates are expected to uphold. These pledges share similar principles to the Nightingale Oath but are not identical. Regardless of the wording Australian nurses are still expected to uphold high ethical standards in their profession. Particularly the pledge that states "I will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug. I will devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care".

Like many Aussies I was sickened by the antisemitic riots in Melbourne in September. People wearing masks and balaclavas attacking the police and mounted police. The horses are wearing PVC shields and one police rider had to use her whip on a demonstrator to stop being pulled from her

horse. Another was bleeding from just under his eye after being hit by who knows what. Melbourne had to call in 1,800 police, including the riot squad, to help control the 1,600 protesters who bought the city to a standstill.

Since October, a series of antisemitic attacks have occurred in Sydney. The attacks, including setting fire to a childcare centre and the vandalism of a Maroubra Synagogue have targeted Sydney's eastern suburbs where there is a large Jewish community. These are not peaceful protestors but violent rioters who have no respect for Australia, our laws, or our values.

The attacks follow a year of escalating hate crimes, not only on the Jewish community, but on the Muslim, Arab, and Palestinian communities in Australia.

There was the placing of a homemade bomb in front of a Sydney home which was flying the Palestinian flag and setting fire to a truck displaying a Palestinian flag which belonged to a Melbourne man of Palestinian heritage. These forms of racism also include politicians denying the seriousness of Islamophobia and media reports using racist language.

While these attacks and racist incidents should be unacceptable to all Australians, they are particularly frightening to our country's Jewish, Islamic, Arab and Palestinian communities. As the Australian Human Rights Commission says, "All people have a right to freely practice their religion and express their political views without fear of violence, racial discrimination, hatred and/or condemnation".

I remember the young Muslim woman wearing a hijab who was afraid to catch a train home from work following the Lindt Café siege 10 years ago. A beautiful young "Anglo" Aussie girl took her hand and sat with her on the train. This is the Australian spirit I love and one we

should all practice. We saw this spirit here on Bribie on 4 February when a thousand gathered in peace and love to honour 17-year-old Charlize Zmuda who had been killed by a shark.

I also remember the protests against the Vietnam War in the 1960s and the protests outside Parliament House in Canberra when the Whitlam Government was sacked. These were peaceful protests and nothing like the violence and hatred displayed in Melbourne and Sydney and in the video of the two nurses.

To obtain an Australian citizenship certificate, you must have full-time permanent residence in Australia and pass the citizenship test. You must also have a valid visa and meet character requirements. If you need help with these requirements, you can obtain advice from a citizenship specialist.

Applicants must satisfy residency requirements and sit a citizenship test. They must also demonstrate an understanding of Australian values based on freedom and respect. Those who meet these requirements are granted Australian citizenship.

Taking up Australian citizenship is a significant step. Whether it's for work or family, or because you have found a new home here, it's a commitment to Australia and its people. Citizenship ceremonies are held to mark the occasion, and they're a great way to celebrate your new citizenship.

New Australians can pledge under two versions of the "Pledge of Commitment", one that refers to God and one that doesn't. The pledge says, "From this time forward, under God, I pledge my loyalty to Australia and its people, whose democratic beliefs I share, whose rights and liberties I respect, and whose laws I will uphold and obey".

These Melbourne and Sydney rioters did not adhere to this pledge. Nor did the two

Sydney nurses. They do not care about our country or our values. They have their own agendas. These pro-Palestine "protestors" were violent and had no respect for our laws. We cannot stand by and let this continue.

The solution. Round up every one of them, their families and associates. If they only ..cont next page have visas, then they are to be immediately returned to their homeland. If they have Australian citizenship, then they need to be arrested for disobeying their pledge to Australia.

If they wish to continue this violence, then they are to be made to renounce their Australian Citizenship. To do this they need to follow the steps set out of the Department of Home Affairs Website:

1. Complete Form 128 which can be obtained from the Department of Home Affairs website, complete and submit it.
2. Have two Australian nationals who are not related and are at least 18 years old witness and sign the document while providing their contact information.
3. Pay the renunciation fee: Include the fee with your application and pay it using one of the ways listed for that purpose.
4. Send your application to the address specified by the Department of Home Affairs. Include the completed Form 128, any necessary supporting documentation and the payment verification.
5. Await processing: To get an idea of how long it might take, consult the Department of Home Affairs website's expected processing times.
6. Acquire confirmation: Following processing, you will receive a letter confirming the renunciation of your Australian citizenship.

I am sure there are thousands of Australians who will willingly help out with Point two and even be happy to pay to rid our country of these law-breaking rioters.

And politicians take note, the quiet majority of Australians who said NO to the Voice referendum will not support you at the next election if you continue to turn a blind eye to this terrorism simply because you want votes.

This is a story supplied, however we felt it needed to be in the letters to the editor section due to it being about politics

Please keep your letters to no more than 200 words, this enables us to submit a number of letters for everyone to read.





The comments and opinions on these pages are not those of The Bribie Islander, but those of our residents.

Dear Editor,
What a disgrace!
The PM splurging \$150 billion on buying votes!
He couldn't care less about responsibility in government, only power and his own agenda!
This is flagrant misuse of hard-earned taxpayer money!
Or is it borrowed money. Even worse!
How much more honourable would it be to use this to actually help the organisations helping the multitudes of disadvantaged Australians, with accountability!
I'm disgusted with this Albanese government!
From A.F.

Dear Editor,
I invite you to do your own research, M White (BI 21/02). However, Rinehart has belatedly invested hundreds of millions of dollars in rare earth mines and shares, and in Trump's 'Drill, baby, drill' campaign. She is a billionaire in a time of rising oligarchy and the company she keeps is telling. Love of country? 'Renewables con job'? Good business? Hedging political bets? Join the dots.
What are Price's qualifications for culling government? Nuclear was first mentioned by the Libs in 1969 and not been overly popular since. It's debatable it's 'better' than renewables short or long term. The point is - a change of government in times of flux is not always advisable.
It would create yet another U-turn in policies, more wasted money and after 20 years of unrelenting petty personality politics, Australia will not be any closer to an autonomous or credible defence and manufacturing infrastructure as global alliances change. 'Stripping away' our way of life is not Labor-exclusive. Prices do increase under Liberals. Liberal media dominate in Australia. Who owns the media, controls the dialogue. Think bigger picture. The GFC exposed monumental abuse and greed. Covid accelerated exposure of global, systemic flaws in overt consumerism, democracy and our own complacency. And billionaires

will fix it? Isn't this a conflict of interests?
There is no way to know that Liberals would have done any better than Labor the last three years. We need to get on board Australia First, or those Dystopian movies our kids loved will become our reality. Not as far-fetched as it seems. But please, do your own research.
P Robinson

Dear Editor,
While we do feel some sympathy for Sabine (Letters Issue 232) regarding the changing situation regarding walking her dog on the beach, we wonder if Sabine and maybe many others who walk the beaches realise the problems that occur when dogs are close to resting shorebirds. Most of these shorebirds have flown many thousands of kilometres and are resting and fattening up for the return journey to their breeding grounds in Siberia, Mongolia and other points in the far north of the planet. Sabine, the annual migrations of shorebirds are not yet fully understood by the scientific community but during the extreme winters in parts of the world if they did not migrate, they would perish. It has been happening for thousands of years and some of the distances the birds fly is phenomenal, for instance the Bar Tailed Godwit flies some 6,000 kilometres non-stop between Siberia and New Zealand, a remarkable achievement. The migrations are not only in our part of the world but right through Europe, Africa, Asia and North & South America. It is fortunate that our council are aware of and appreciate the situation and are taking steps to alleviate the problems that occur in a fair and just way that will be beneficial to all parties.
Sincerely,
Annette & Chris Schnack (and Charlie, our dog who also loves beach walking).

Dear Editor,
I would like to recommend (especially to M. White) a book by the award-winner writer, Tim Winton, called "Juice". Most people prefer fiction, and this book tells a moving story while also conveying a message.

This horrifyingly realistic novel might make M. White think, and change his attitude, so that he can recognise that Gina Rinehart's activities could equally validly be labelled as "destroying", instead of "building up" Australia.

A compelling book, it should also be read by anyone who believes that the worldwide efforts to reduce carbon emissions are a "renewable con-job."

And I am sure there were many readers who were offended by M. White's suggestion that anyone who has invested in roof-top solar does not have a brain. What amazing feats of mental activity qualify him to make such an accusation?

As for Labor / Greens never having a real job and sponging on taxpayers, I think you will find that they are actually the ones who DO pay their taxes rather than sitting in air-conditioned offices, concocting ways to avoid them like Kerry Packer.
H.Beneke

Dear Editor,
Congratulations, Al Finegan, on your Australia Day article—231the Bribie Islander. It was a breath of fresh air and future hope for our beloved Australia that there is still some sanity left!
Every year, we have forced upon us all the "gobble de dosh" about the date change of our special day! Now, the sequel to follow Al Finegan is for those who don't know and the incompetent politicians who muddle along, wasting your hard-earned money

while so many problems remain unsolved. They prefer to keep these facts swept under the carpet.
Australians of today abhor the sufferings of Aboriginals under the British Govt back then. The "British Subjects", then called, did not fare too well either, e.g. Eureka Stockade truth, Depression Mismanagement—2 examples. We abhor what was done to the Irish and many other cultures around the world, so after the horrors of WW11 decided to fix it: On 26th January 1949, the Australian Nationality came into existence when the Nationality and Citizenship Act 1948 was enacted! On this day, we were all called "Australians" and not "British subjects" (which previously appeared on passports and documents).

Under the Act 1920, all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders gained the status of "British Subjects" and therefore automatically became "Australian Citizens" under the "Nationality and Citizenship Act of 1948." We all became a United Australian Nation on the same day—26th January with our own laws to protect us all. Because of this Act, the Government became free to help Aboriginals and much has been done—enormous funding in yearly Federal Budgets and equal rights in everything. Voting came in 1962. Hence, the Indigenous gained equal rights and recognition in our combined Australian Nation, and rightly so.

This is why we all should be proud to celebrate 26th January Australia Day, our special day and, therefore, the day new Australians should receive their Australian Citizenship. We are multicultural, and our forefathers slaved long and hard to give us the freedom and life quality we have.
GET IT RIGHT

Concerned Aussie
Dear Editor

Letter Luminaries!
Wow – the usual bunch of eclectic letters in the last Islander. We had a taste of everything – from Aboriginal "truth-telling" to Aesop's tales – perhaps the same thing in many ways. Political attitudes clothed in hidden agendas. Covid, of course.

And my favourite, dogs and signs. I must say I always love signs/notices.

Whether it is the misplaced apostrophe or the contradictory/ambiguous meaning,

they always bring a smile to my face. Perhaps the saddest letter related to the young Charlyze who died at Woorim. While it is a beach, we all love and cherish it can still be a place where danger may exist.

But – no letters on the weather. While January gave us plentiful rain February has not delivered at the time I write. I'm not sure if it is just Banksia but I find the distribution of the rain quite unique. Our Island is so small, yet Bongaree can get over 20/30 mls in some falls, while Banksia only gets 3/4 mls in the same fall.

Perhaps Barry or Al might talk about this (i.e. explain it) in their next articles? Has it always been this way? Why does the rain split as it approaches the Island? How can it be pouring in Caboolture, with the radar map showing it is coming straight at Bribie – yet we get nothing. Some nights we get a wonderful nighttime display – lights and sound – yet NO rain. It is a conundrum – perhaps rivalling drivers' behaviour on our roundabouts.

I feel Brooke and/or Adriana should also look at my idea of a Bribie fast ferry (BFF) service via Redcliffe, to either the old Shipping terminal in Brisbane, or even Tenerife.

Then being serviced by the wonderful City Glyders. It would only take 2 or 3 craft – similar to the Manly ferries – morning and afternoon with perhaps a mid-day special on weekends. Government support would be essential. This would not only help workers every morning and night but would also create a tourist bonanza – without

the cars. Not to mention work for many people – even the coffee/food stall on board. I'm sure many would utilise it rather than drive that "highway" or park and use the train. It would also take the load off our Bridge. We really need to look OUTSIDE the box!
Cheers

Michal Matthews

Dear Editor,
Just a Warning to check your bank account details DAILY like we do...
Our account was charged 2 transactions in the one day by someone in the Philippians using Taxis. The first was for \$110.92 & the second was for \$84.62, Plus international Transaction fees of \$3.33 & \$2.54.
We contacted the bank immediately and reported this and they have cancelled the card that was being used immediately, and this is now being followed up by the bank's disputes dept. Hopefully we will get our money back soon.
Regards, Bob & Philippa



Neighbourhood Watch

BRIBIE ONE NHW - NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

APRIL MEETING

To be held on Tuesday, 15th April, at 9.30am. We trialled an evening meeting in February, to see if more people would come along. However, the support was about the same as for our daytime meetings, so we will revert to our normal third Tuesday at 9.30am.

WHAT DO THIEVES LOOK FOR WHEN TARGETING YOUR HOUSE?

Most house break-ins are opportunistic – low risk and high reward. Diminishing the opportunity and keeping your home and belongings safe, is critical.

SO WHAT DO THEY WANT TO STEAL FROM YOU?

Cash, car keys, jewellery, lap-tops, tablets and mobile phones. All portable, easily stashed and easy to dispose of. And some less common items. Number plates. Who looks at the actual number on the plate of their car? It sometimes happens that thieves will swap a plate for a stolen one, so that when their stolen car is tracked, it will be yours that is intercepted! Quite a delaying tactic. If you don't want this to happen, fit one-way screws to your plates. Other targets are pets; tyres and wheels – especially if either an expensive set of mag rims; or even wheels from EVs, which sometimes have more expensive tyres than conventional vehicles. Other targets are copper wire and piping, building materials, power tools and even car exhaust systems – mufflers and catalytic converters these days often contain rare metals which fetch good prices – when you know where to sell them!

BANKSIA BEACH - BELLARA - WOORIM - BONGAREE - SANDSTONE POINT - NINGI

HOW DO THEY BREAK IN TO YOUR PLACE?

Very often it is through the garage. The side windows and side doors of garages are notoriously weak points. Once in, the door from the garage to the interior of the house is usually not a solid core door, and is often left unlocked. Don't leave your keys, phone or any valuables on your kitchen bench, a bowl on the sideboard or on an accessible key rack. Put them in an unusual spot, known only to you and those you trust. Sometimes the break-in will be using the house key. Don't hide them outside, no matter how sophisticated you believe the hiding place to be. Thieves know all the tricks! If you use an external key box, locate it out of sight – and make sure it cannot be smashed with a hammer, or prised open with a crowbar. Thieves will often target a street, trying each house, and often breaking in to multiple dwellings. When challenged they just move to another street.

DETERRENTS:

Light! Movement activated automatic lighting and security cameras are useful additions to knowing that your neighbour will also look out for you. Oh, and did you know that the fear of being robbed is called harpaxophobia!

QPS Website:- There is plenty of information about crime, statistics by LGA, by suburb, by offence type – it's well worth checking out, with lots of interesting material.

THANKS TO ALL OUR SPONSORS

- Australia Post Bongaree**
3408 1007
- Bribie Doctors**
3408 3320
- Bribie Fast Parcels**
0407 767 038
- Bribie Garden Centre**
0435 007 751
- Bribie Island RSL**
3400 1300
- Bribie Island Taxi Services**
3408 9700
- Bribie Medical Equipment Hire And Sales**
3408 0398
- Bribie Sand/Gravel And Landscaping**
3408 1037
- CM Wheeler And Associates**
5496 1156
- Cornetts IGA Bongaree**
3408 1066
- Hans Electrical**
0458 912 121
- Home Assist Secure**
3408 0111
- Ireland Flooring Solutions**
3408 3122
- Priceline Pharmacy Bribie Island**
3410 1000
- The Ink Shop**
3408 6421
- Victory Press Printing**
3408 2334
- JB Carts**
0401 687 282

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- POLICE LINK 131 444**
- EMERGENCY 000**
- CRIME STOPPERS 1800 333 000**
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LETS MAKE CRIME PREVENTION A PRIORITY

CRIME REPORT BRIBIE ISLAND WRAP MARCH 2025



www.mypolice.qld.gov.au/moretton



QPS celebrates largest graduation in 33 years with 155 new officers

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) celebrates a significant milestone today, welcoming 155 new police officers into its ranks in the largest graduation ceremony in 33 years.

The graduating cohort includes recruits who are new to policing and those with previous policing experience, all strengthening the service with a dynamic and diverse set of skills and backgrounds.

Last week, the officers commenced work early as part of QPS's response to bolstering community safety through Tropical Cyclone Alfred's preparation and recovery efforts.

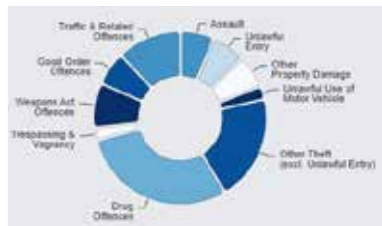
The officers put their intensive training to work to strengthen the frontline across South East Queensland, before later moving on to their designated deployments throughout the state.

"This is a milestone achievement for not only the QPS in welcoming our largest recruit intake in 33 years, but

for each and every one of our graduating officers today," Acting Commissioner Chelepy said.

"Even before graduation, these officers demonstrated their dedication to communities across South East Queensland, stepping up to assist people to prepare for Tropical Cyclone Alfred.

"Their efforts in the past week have been invaluable, showing exactly the kind of commitment and community spirit that define the Queensland Police Service.



49 Offences

17 FEB 2025 — 16 MAR 2025



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HOW TO GET YOUR VEHICLE READY FOR THE NEXT NATURAL DISASTER

Make sure your vehicle is best prepared for emergencies, natural disasters and weather events. Ensure your car insurance is current and that it adequately covers your vehicle. Vehicle emergency kit
Blanket - In case you get stranded in your car overnight, blankets will keep you warm and a tarpaulin will help keep the weather out of your car in

case of a shattered windscreen or window. You can also use these items to protect your car if you get caught in a hailstorm.

TORCH AND SPARE BATTERIES

A heavy duty, waterproof torch (and spare batteries) will provide valuable light when you most need it. Avoid using your smartphone as a light source to preserve battery during an emergency. Toolkit - Pack a tool kit in case you need to do any mechanical repairs whilst on the road - you don't need to be a mechanic but it's good to

know a few basic skills. **TOW ROPE** - Pack a towrope in case you get bogged. However always abide by 'if it's flooded, forget it' if you come across any flooded road on your travels.

SPARE TYRE - Know where the jack in the car is stored and have 1-2 spare tyres packed in case you get a puncture. Food and water - Bottled water and dry food or snacks in case you are caught away from your home.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS - Save local emergency contact details in your phone in case you need to call for help. Check

out the Get Ready emergency contacts page for a full listing. Toilet paper - It's always good to have a roll of toilet paper on hand.

When severe weather warnings are issued, park vehicles under cover, away from trees, power lines and waterways. If you cannot access undercover shelter for your vehicles, firmly secure blankets or quilts to them to minimise hail damage. If you need to drive home during a severe storm or flood warning, check road conditions before heading out.

If you are caught on the road during a severe storm turn on your headlights (low beam), maintain a safe following distance, use cold air to demist windscreens, avoid breaking suddenly, accelerating or turning quickly and use road line markings to stay in the middle of your lane. If visibility is low or if you are uncomfortable driving in the conditions, pull over in a safe place and with plenty of warning and turn on your hazard lights.

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