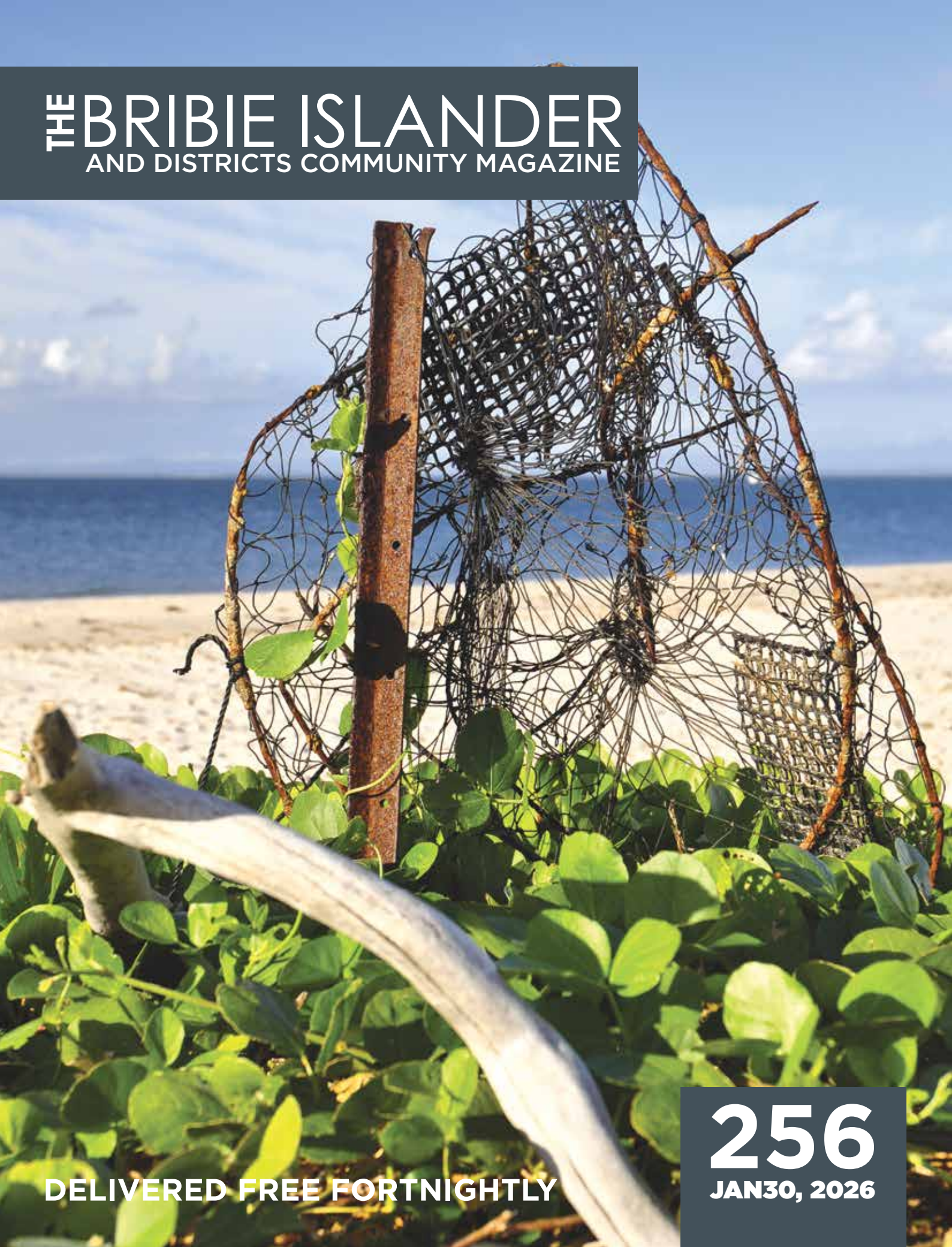
THE BRIBIE ISLANDER

AND DISTRICTS COMMUNITY MAGAZINE



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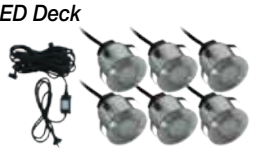

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JANUARY 30, 2026

18/19

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

31

THE TIME DETECTIVE

35

A KISS IN TIME

SCAN ME

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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Welcome

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our 256th edition! We hope you all had a fantastic Australia Day—whether you spent it relaxing in the pool, enjoying a barbecue with family and friends, or simply making the most of the beautiful weather. We certainly did and reflected on why living in Australia truly is something special. The sun, the sense of community, and the easy-going spirit make it a privilege to call this place home.

Talking of celebrating, this edition is brimming with great content: we celebrate local businesses marking birthdays, share helpful health articles to keep you feeling your best, and a reminder about National Servicemen's Day on February 14th.

There's also plenty of entertainment lined up, from exciting events at the Art Centre to new exhibits at the Abbey Museum, plus local sporting clubs hosting their own celebration days. There's something for everyone, whether you love art, history, or just cheering from the sidelines.

So, grab your favourite drink, settle in, and enjoy everything this edition has to offer. Here's to community, good times, and the little things that make Australia feel like home.

Take care, Stay safe,

Cherrie

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We encourage respectful and constructive dialogue, and contributions that violate community guidelines or promote hate speech, discrimination, or illegal activities will not be accepted. Thank you for your understanding and support in maintaining a positive and inclusive community publication.

SECRETS TO COVERING SCARS

Most people don't have perfect skin, and that's okay. Everyday makeup products like concealer, foundation, and sometimes a colour-correcting palette can help smooth out your complexion, brighten your appearance, and hide small blemishes.

While these products work well for minor imperfections, covering more noticeable scars or birthmarks may require some extra skill and the right techniques.

Professional makeup artists can hide almost any scar, but for most people, trying to cover a scar at home can sometimes make it stand out even more.

Don't worry—you don't need to be a trained makeup artist to hide a scar.

With a few simple techniques and the right products, you can feel more confident in your appearance.

Here are some tips to help you look and feel your best. The first step to covering a scar is the same as with any makeup routine: always start with a clean face.

Everyone's skin, whether scarred or not, has a layer of dead skin cells on top. While our skin naturally renews itself, regularly removing those dead cells helps keep it healthy and bright.

To cover a scar naturally, begin with a clean face and gently exfoliate to remove dead skin cells.

This smooths rough or dry areas, making makeup easier to apply and helping it last. Use a mild exfoliating cleanser or cream—products with lactic acid are a gentle option.

After exfoliating, always apply moisturizer. Hydrated skin, especially over scars, creates a smooth base and prevents dryness from making scars more visible.

Moisturizer softens scars and hydrates your skin, creating a smooth surface for makeup.

This step is always important, but it's even more crucial when covering scars. Dryness makes blending harder and can cause scars to show through.

WITH MAKEUP

There isn't much scientific evidence that vitamin E or over-the-counter lotions will fade scars. However, they do moisturize and soothe your skin, so it's perfectly fine to use them.

A "Tan" Might Help

Some scars won't respond to gentle methods, but if you have smaller or older scars, you can try using a moisturizer with self-tanner to help even out their colour.

It's important to use a self-tanner, not real sun or tanning beds. Sun exposure can damage your skin and may make scars look worse.

Don't use tanning lotions on fresh scars, as they may absorb the product differently than the rest of your skin. Some scars also simply won't tan, so consider consulting a dermatologist before trying this method.

If your scars are older and respond well to exfoliation and moisturizer, a subtle, sunless tan might help them blend in. If your scar is in a spot that's easy to hide, test the tanning lotion there first to see how it looks.

If gentle methods aren't giving you the results you want, don't worry—there are more options than just regular makeup.

Some Makeups Specialise

You can find strong-coverage products at most stores, and these may work well for scars.

But there is also special makeup lines designed specifically for covering scars. Some brands make products called camouflage makeup, formulated to hide scars and even tattoos.

If regular foundation hasn't worked for you, these are a great next step—they contain more pigment and provide better coverage than typical makeup.

It's especially important to match your skin tone when using these products. Many kits allow you to mix colours to achieve the perfect shade.

Good news—your scar coverage doesn't have to wear off by midday

People with oily skin often have this problem, and heavy makeup for scars can make it worse.

The solution: set your makeup in place. Camouflage makeup kits often include a setting spray to keep your makeup in place.

But you don't need anything fancy—any translucent finishing powder works. Use a soft, fluffy brush to apply it lightly and evenly, especially over thicker areas.

The goal is to achieve smooth, flawless coverage, and with practice, you can get there. If your scar still shows and it bothers you, try drawing attention elsewhere.

For example, if your scar is on your chin, use eye makeup to bring focus upward. If it's on your forehead, wear a bold lip colour.

Highlighting your best features is a great way to shift attention.

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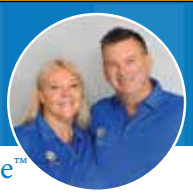

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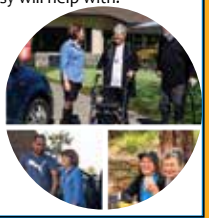

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BRIBIE ANIMAL WELFARE CHARITY

CELEBRATES 35TH BIRTHDAY

The tiniest op shop on the island kicks a mighty punch when it comes to helping cats and dogs in our region. And amazingly, this charity has been in operation for 35 years – which we think is worth celebrating!

CADAWI (Caboolture & District Animal Welfare Inc) was established in 1991 to care for/rehome relinquished animals and provide desexing initiatives.

Through the operation of op shops and from donations, our charity has been able to help thousands of cats and dogs over the last 35 years. If you haven't heard of us before, come and visit us at Shop 1, 60 Hornsby Road, Bongaree – opposite the BP near the Woolworths complex.

Our model is simple – funds raised through our op shop subsidize our core business, which is focused on animal desexing, vet bills for cats and dogs that come into our care, and foster carer expenses such as food and bedding etc. All our pets are desexed and vet checked before being advertised on line via petrescue.com.au/CADAWI.

Our model is also based on the good will of our volunteers – who either work in the shop, provide foster care homes and services for relinquished pets, look after our warehouse, sort our linen, or fix/sell our more valuable items such as watches or cameras etc.

Volunteers also run the operation of the CADAWI charity through representation on our Management Committee. No one in our organisation gets paid.

If you are interested in volunteering in some way then please go to our website CADAWI.org.au and you will find Foster Carer application forms and Volunteer application forms there.

Otherwise, you can ring our Animal Coordinator for more information on providing foster care on **0455 778 166**, or for other voluntary roles with our shop you can ring **0491 455 211**.

The other core ingredient that helps us deliver our work, is the amazing support we get from our community – that's YOU! Every day donations pour into the shop for us to assess, sort and price. And every day hundreds of people flock into our shop, which is a treasure trove of goodies waiting to be snapped up.

We are committed to keeping our prices at a minimum – which ensures the community can afford it and makes sure we have healthy turnover of stock whilst still enabling us to raise sufficient funds to provide the care needed for cats and dogs.

To thank our supporters and to celebrate our big birthday we will be undertaking a range of initiatives throughout the year – from sales in the shop, to thank you events, to desexing specials.

We look forward to hearing from you or welcoming you into our shop!

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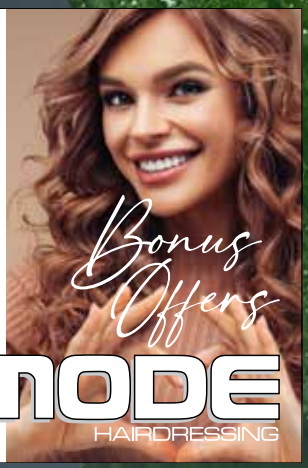

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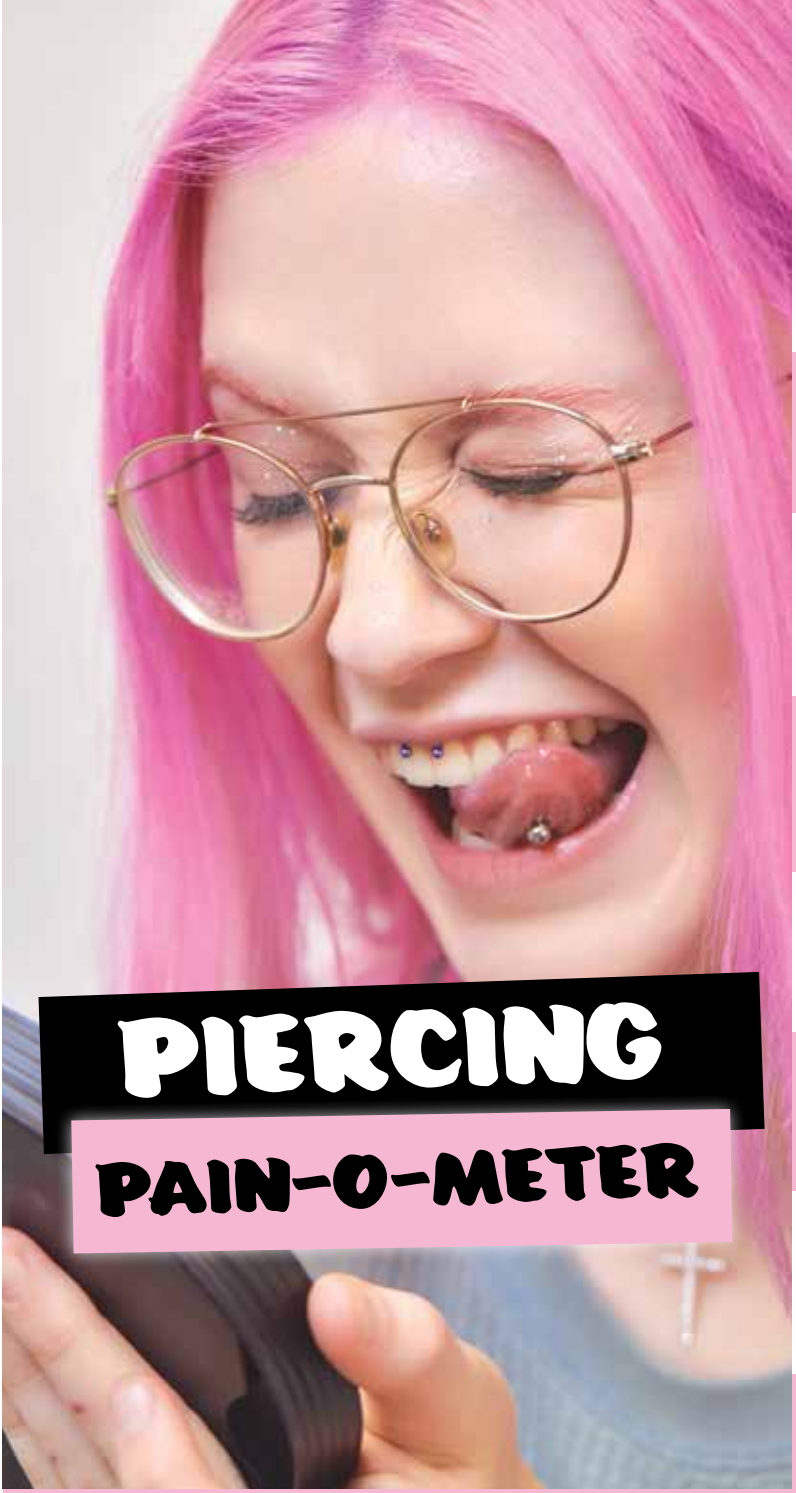

PIERCING PAIN-O-METER

Thinking about getting a piercing, but worried it might hurt like stepping on a Lego in bare feet? Pain's all part of the adventure, but let's be honest, not all piercings are equal in the ouch department.

The least painful ones usually go through the fleshier bits and steer clear of those nerve-packed hotspots.

Piercing pain is as subjective as whether pineapple belongs on pizza—everyone's got an opinion.

Some folks reckon it's just a quick sting, while others reckon it's more like copping a whack and feeling sore for days. But if you listen to enough stories, a few patterns do show up.

HERE'S HOW THE MOST COMMON PIERCINGS STACK UP WHEN IT COMES TO PAIN.

1. STANDARD LOBE PIERCING

This is the first piercing for most people, and honestly, it's barely more painful than getting up for work on a Monday. The standard lobe piercing passes through soft tissue with few nerve endings, so it just feels like a quick pinch. Healing time's quick as a flash—typically 6 to 8 weeks. Just steer clear of those piercing guns.

2. HELIX PIERCING

The helix piercing goes through the upper ear cartilage. Yeah, it's more painful than the lobe, but nothing that'll have you calling your mum. Since cartilage is a bit more stubborn, you'll feel a bit of pressure during the actual piercing. Healing can take 3 to 6 months, and, like all cartilage jobs, you'll want to keep it clean, so you don't end up with an angry ear.

3. NOSTRIL PIERCING

Nostril piercings are a classic and, pain-wise, they're on the cruisy side. The needle zips through some skin and a smidge of cartilage—might make your eyes water, but you won't be sobbing into your pillow. Pain level is low to moderate, and healing usually takes four to six months.

4. DAITH PIERCING

These piercings go through a solid bit of cartilage just inside your ear canal. Despite the spot, heaps of people say it doesn't hurt as much as you'd think. You might cop a sharp pinch and some pressure, but nothing that'll make you swear off piercings forever. Healing can take up to nine months, so settle in for the long haul.

5. NAVEL PIERCING

Navel piercings (belly button piercings) go through a nice, squishy bit, so they're one of the least painful piercings going around. Most people say it's a quick sting, then a bit of a dull ache—nothing you can't handle. Healing takes about 6 months, and a curved barbell (instead of a hoop) will save you a heap of hassle during that time.

6. FORWARD HELIX PIERCING

This one's at the front of your ear, right above the tragus. Like the rest of the cartilage crew, it stings more than a lobe piercing, but it's still less dramatic than an industrial or rook. Expect more pressure than pain, and healing can take up to six months—so be patient.

7. TRAGUS PIERCING

The tragus is that chunky bit over your ear canal—looks tough, but it's got fewer nerves than other bits, so pain's nothing too wild. A skilled piercer will have it done fast. Healing usually takes three to six months, so don't go fiddling with it too soon.

8. LIP PIERCINGS

Lip piercings vary depending on the spot, but in general, they're less ouchy than cartilage ones since they just go through soft skin. You might feel a bit tender after, but nothing too dramatic. Healing takes six to eight weeks. Just remember to clean it, or you'll have more than your lip to worry about!

9. INNER AND OUTER CONCH PIERCINGS

These ones go through the chunky cartilage in the middle of your ear. They hurt more than a lobe job, but not as much as an industrial. The inner conch can feel a bit weird—some folks say there's a 'crunch'—but hey, you'll have a cracking story to tell. Healing takes six to twelve months, so settle in for the long game.

10. ROOK PIERCING

The rook is a cartilage piercing just above the daith, and it's got a bit of a reputation for being a tough nut. It goes through a chunky bit, so expect a sharp pinch and some lingering soreness. If your pain tolerance is as soft as a pavlova, maybe give this one a miss.

11. INDUSTRIAL PIERCING

This one's for the brave: two holes joined by a single bar through the upper ear cartilage. It's right up there on the pain scale—multiple piercings, thick cartilage, the works. Healing takes ages (six months to a year), so keep the tea tree oil handy and don't slack off on the aftercare.

12. GENITAL PIERCINGS

Genital piercings are a whole different kettle of fish. They're in sensitive territory with a truckload of nerve endings, so yeah, they're up there with the most painful. Definitely not a DIY job—make sure you see an expert and be prepared for some serious TLC while you heal.

What is Sleep Apnea and Its Effects?

Sleep apnea is a common sleep disorder that often goes unnoticed, affecting people of all ages and backgrounds. It causes repeated stops in breathing while you sleep, disrupting the normal sleep cycle and preventing restful, restorative sleep.

These pauses, called apneas, can last a few seconds to over a minute and may happen many times each night—sometimes hundreds of times.

The two main types are obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), which occurs when throat muscles relax and block the airway, and central sleep apnea, which is less common and happens when the brain does not send the right signals to the breathing muscles.

Some people may also experience complex or mixed sleep apnea, a combination of both types.

Sleep apnea causes more than just snoring or poor sleep. People with this condition often feel very tired during the day, have trouble focusing, and may be more irritable. The impact on daily life can be profound, making it hard to perform at work or school and straining relationships with family and friends.

If left untreated, sleep apnea can lead to serious health problems like high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, and a higher risk of accidents from being less alert.

There is mounting evidence linking sleep apnea to an increased risk of motor vehicle and workplace accidents.

Not getting enough good sleep can also affect mental health, sometimes leading to depression, anxiety, and memory problems. Children with sleep apnea may experience behavioral issues or difficulties with learning and growth.

Even though sleep apnea is common, many people do not know they have it.

This is often because symptoms like loud snoring, choking, or gasping are usually noticed by someone else, not the person with the condition.

Other signs include waking up with a dry mouth, morning headaches, or frequently waking up to urinate at night. Risk factors for sleep apnea include being overweight, having a large neck circumference, being male, or having a family history of the condition, though anyone can develop it.

To diagnose sleep apnea, doctors usually recommend overnight monitoring in a sleep lab, known as a polysomnography, or at home using special equipment that records breathing patterns, blood oxygen levels, and heart rate.

Treatment for sleep apnea depends on how severe it is and the underlying causes.

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Options can include changing daily habits—such as losing weight, avoiding alcohol before bedtime, quitting smoking, and sleeping on your side—as well as using devices like CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) machines, which keep the airway open during sleep.

In some cases, dental appliances or surgery may be recommended. Support groups and education can also help people manage the condition. It is important to spot and treat sleep apnea early.

This helps people sleep better and lowers the risk of serious health problems that can happen if the condition is ignored.

In summary, sleep apnea is not just a nighttime problem or a source of loud snoring—it is a serious medical condition that affects both physical and mental health, as well as quality of life for individuals and their families.

Raising awareness, getting diagnosed early, and finding the right treatment are key steps to help people manage this condition and improve their quality of life.

With proper support and care, those affected by sleep apnea can regain their energy, enjoy better health, and prevent many of the long-term complications associated with the disorder.

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DREAM MEANINGS:

Interpret Your Dreams & Unlock Their Secrets

Dreams have intrigued people for centuries, and many different interpretations have been suggested over time. By looking at our dreams, we can learn more about our subconscious mind, which can help us reflect on ourselves and grow as individuals.

Symbols in dreams, such as falling, teeth, being chased, flying, or seeing snakes, can give us hints about our fears, wishes, and unresolved issues.

For centuries, dreams have captured our imagination and left us wondering about their meaning. People have come up with many ideas to explain why we dream and what our dreams mean. Whether you dream of flying or being chased, these experiences often stay with us long after we wake up.

So, what do our dreams actually mean? Are they just random thoughts, or do they have a deeper purpose? In this guide, we'll explore dream interpretation and look at what some common dream symbols might mean.

Before we start exploring dream meanings, it helps to know a bit about the science of dreams. Dreams happen during the REM stage of sleep, when our brains are very active and we see vivid images. While we sleep, our brains sort through the day's events, mixing together thoughts, feelings, and memories.

In REM sleep, the part of the brain that handles logic and decision-making slows down, while the area that manages emotions and memories becomes more active. This change helps create dreams that often show our deepest wishes, fears, and unresolved problems.

The Importance of Dream Analysis

Even though dreams can feel brief or unimportant, many experts think they can teach us a lot about our subconscious. By looking at the symbols and themes in our dreams, we can better understand our thoughts, feelings, and desires.

Studying our dreams can help us reflect on ourselves and grow. By finding out what our dreams might mean, we can see things in new ways, work through inner struggles, and sometimes even solve real-life problems.

Common Dream Symbols often contain many different symbols and images, each with its own meaning. While dream meanings can be personal and different for everyone, some symbols show up often in many cultures and times. Let's look at some common dream symbols and what they might mean.

Falling Dreams

Many people dream about falling, whether it's from a high place or just tripping down stairs. These dreams can make us feel scared or vulnerable. But what do they mean?

Dream experts say that falling dreams often show a lack of control or feeling insecure in real life. They might mean you're struggling with something or feeling overwhelmed. It helps to think about what's happening in your life when you have these dreams.

Teeth Dreams

Teeth are another common dream symbol. People often dream about losing teeth, teeth breaking, or even growing new ones. But what do these dreams mean?

In dream analysis, teeth often stand for power and confidence. Losing teeth in a dream might mean you feel vulnerable or afraid of losing control. These dreams can also show worries about how you look or what others think of you. Thinking about how you felt in the dream can help you understand your self-image.

Chase Dreams

Many people have dreams where they are being chased, which can make you feel scared or anxious. The person or thing chasing you might be unknown or frightening. But what do these dreams mean?

Experts think that chase dreams often mean you're avoiding something or afraid to face an issue in real life. They might point to problems you haven't dealt with yet. Paying attention to who or what is chasing you can help you find connections to your own life.

Flying Dreams

Flying in a dream is often exciting and makes you feel free. Soaring through the sky can bring feelings of joy and power. But what do flying dreams mean?

Flying dreams are usually linked to freedom and breaking away from limits. They might show a wish for independence or wanting to overcome challenges in your life. Thinking about how you felt while flying in the dream can help you understand your goals and wishes.

Snake Dreams

Snakes are powerful symbols in many cultures and stories. In dreams, they can make you feel scared, anxious, or even curious. But what do dreams about snakes mean?

Dreams about snakes often show hidden fears, worries, or feelings you've pushed aside. They can also mean you need to change or let go of old habits. How the snake acts in your dream can give you more clues. Think about what snakes mean to you and what's happening in your life.

Next time.....The Role of Emotions in Dream Interpretation

NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S DAY 14 FEBRUARY 2026

75th Anniversary of the National Service Scheme

On 14 February 2026, National Servicemen's Day, the Bribie Island National Service Association Inc. will hold a local Commemorative Service to mark 75 years since the inception of the 1951 National Service scheme.

The service will be held at the Bribie Island National Servicemen's Memorial Park, 99 Toorbul St Bongaree starting at 5pm. The Bribie Island National Servicemen's Memorial Park was dedicated on 20 October 2023.

The Park was planned and prepared by members of the Bribie Island Nashos as a perpetual memorial to the commitment and courage of our local Nashos. It can be found on the Place of Pride National Register of War Memorials.

More than 280,000 Australians were conscripted into Australia's armed services through National Service schemes between 1951 and 1972. The schemes were a product of significant global and regional conflicts facing Australia following the Second World War.

Sadly, some 250 Australians lost their lives during this time of national service. National service was compulsory for most of the young men who served, and this National Commemorative Day is an important opportunity for all Australians to come together to recognise the service and sacrifice of all Australia's 'Nashos'. We owe them a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid.

Celebrating the clinics 13th Birthday

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I encourage anyone interested in attending the Bribie Island Commemorative Service to come along and join us, everyone is welcome.

All National Servicemen are ex-servicemen. They march on Anzac Day, Remembrance Day, National Service Day and Borneo and Vietnam Veterans' Days in their own right. No women were called up for National Service.

National Servicemen marched as a contingent in the Army's Centenary Parade in Canberra in 2001. They wear a wide variety of Service and Corps badges on their hats, caps and berets.

National Service Day, 14 February, marks the day the last Nasho completed his Army obligation. Australia has had compulsory training in the Citizens Military Forces at various times between 1910 and 1945.

The 1951 and 1964 National Service Acts revived this with National Servicemen, after their full-time service, completing their obligation in their respective Reserves.

In 1974 the CMF was reorganised as the Army Reserve. The Citizens Air Force was absorbed into the Air Force Reserve. The Naval Reserve remained virtually unchanged.

In 2001 the Defence Act was amended so that Reservists could be called up for overseas service. Despite the compulsion, National Servicemen of both schemes did their training, active and reserve duties well and honourably and most regarded it as a rewarding part of their lives.

In 2001, the Australian Government recognised the contribution of National Servicemen to Australia's defence preparedness with the award of the Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal.

The bronze medal is of double-sided design with the recipient's service number and name engraved on the rim.

The front depicts the tri-service badge surmounted by the Federation star and the words 'Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972' and the other side the Southern Cross on a field of radiating lines inside a cog wheel representing the integral role of the armed services in the Australian community.

Both sides are surmounted by the Crown. The ribbon uses the colours of the three Services during the National Service era - Navy white, Army jungle green and RAAF light blue - and Australia's then national colours of blue and gold.

The ochre strip represents the land. In 2006, National Servicemen, along with all other servicemen and women, were awarded the Australian Defence Medal.

Because National Service was drawn from the entire community, many National Servicemen from both schemes later rose to high positions in politics, business, the professions and the community.

They include Governors-General **Bill Hayden** and **Dr. Peter Hollingworth**; three Tasmanian Governors - **Sir Guy Green**, **William Cox** and **Peter Underwood**; deputy Prime Minister **Tim Fischer** and Federal Minister **Wilson Tuckey**; Victorian Premier **Jeff Kennett**; Queensland deputy Premier, **Sir Llew Edwards**; Major-General **Rod Fay**, businessmen **Lindsay Fox** and **Sir James Hardy**; television personalities **Clive James** and **Graham Kennedy**; entertainer **Normie Rowe**, tennis player **Lew Hoad**, cricketer **Doug Walters** and car racing legends **Peter Brock** and **Dick Johnson**. There were Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Pacific Islander National Servicemen.

However, the domestic divisions over the Vietnam War saw National Servicemen, particularly those who had active service, in the invidious position of not only being conscripted by a selective ballot but also subjected to public derision by some of the Australian public.

This has made both sides of politics reluctant to consider National Service to supplement chronic shortfalls in voluntary recruiting.

The late **Barry Vicary** founded the National Servicemen's Association of Australia in Toowoomba, Queensland, on 28 November 1987 to seek a better deal for Vietnam-era National Servicemen and a medal recognising National Service.

When Barry learnt of the earlier and larger National Service scheme, he immediately widened the organisation to include them.

The Association has branches Australia-wide and at its peak was the second-largest ex-service organisation after the RSL. National Servicemen added a new word to the Australian language "Nasho".

The 75th Anniversary of the National Service Commemorative Service will be hosted by the Bribie Island National Service Association Inc. which was formed in 2025 to meet the needs of local veterans young and old alike.

All veterans, their partners and families are welcome to join the organisation.

For more information, please contact the President John Price on 0439 282940 or Vice President Gareth Cotter on 0427 341197.

Bribie Simply HEALTHY

By Heenam Kim

Bribie Simply Healthy

Two shops before 'Back in Motion Physio.' There is a public phone box outside the shop.

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Shop 2, 41 Benabrow Av, Bellara.

Digestive Issue, Anxiety and Medication: Natural Remedies & Holistic Approach to Gut Health.

Digestive issues such as bloating, reflux, diarrhea, urgency, and abdominal discomfort are very common. Two major contributors are often overlooked: medication side effects and chronic anxiety. In most cases, digestive problems arise from a combination of medication burden and ongoing nervous system stress, and addressing both is essential for long-term improvement. As digestive function becomes more sensitive with age, enzyme production declines and the gut lining are more easily irritated. When multiple medications are taken together, bowel function can become weak, leading to chronic or intermittent diarrhoea, constipation, urgency, and an increasing fear of leaving the house.

One product I regularly recommend to clients, and which consistently produces excellent results, is **Motion Potion.** ***It supports bowel stability naturally and is particularly helpful for people experiencing diarrhoea or constipation, especially in the elderly. Motion Potion works as a gentle bowel stabiliser rather than a stimulant or laxative.*** It contains a balanced combination of soluble and insoluble fibres, soothing demulcent herbs, alkalising greens, and prebiotic and probiotic organisms. When mixed with water, it forms a soft, gel-like substance in the gut that helps bind excess fluid to support firmer stools, calm irritated intestinal tissue, support healthy gut bacteria, and reduce urgency and frequency of bowel movements. For those experiencing constipation, it provides fibre support without irritating the gut, allowing the bowel to relearn a natural rhythm, which is crucial for long-term digestive health.

In my experience, ***people who experience bloating, reflux, heaviness after meals, or excessive gas often benefit greatly from Digestive Enzymes.*** Reflux is not always caused by too much stomach acid; very often it is the result of poor digestion. When food is not broken down properly, it ferments, produces gas, and increases pressure in the stomach, pushing contents upward. Poor digestion can also contribute to issues such as **non alcoholic fatty liver disease.** A comprehensive digestive enzyme formula typically contains four key enzyme groups: ***protease for protein digestion, amylase for carbohydrates, lipase for fats, and disaccharidases breakdown sugar.***

In many cases, ***chronic digestive symptoms are closely linked to conditioned nervous system responses. So when you are stressed the symptoms get worse. Anxiety is not who you are; it is a learned nervous system pattern. And like any learned pattern, it can be unlearned.*** Psychotherapy helps identify the emotional triggers, beliefs, and experiences that created the anxiety pattern. EFT (Emotional Freedom Technique) interrupts stress responses stored in the body, while clinical hypnosis retrains the sub-conscious mind and the gut–brain connection, allowing the body to return to a state of safety and regulation. This process is a form of neurological retraining. When the nervous system is no longer running an anxiety program, digestion often normalises naturally.

Alongside targeted psycho-therapy and supportive supplements, Gumbi Gumbi fermented extract offers gentle yet powerful additional support. Fermentation increases bioavailability and allows the extract to work in harmony with the gut environment. Traditionally, **Gumbi Gumbi** has been used to support gut and immune health, reduce inflammation, assist microbial balance, and support detoxification pathways. Its fermented form makes it suitable even for those with sensitive digestive systems.

If you want to discuss further, please inquire within Bribie Simply Healthy.

Shop 2, 41 Benabrow Av, Bellara. Two shops before 'Back in Motion Physio' next a public telephone box. ***Ph. 0414 934 972.***

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There are many more interesting articles to read.

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Seven Nights with Salt:

FIND OUT WHAT DRAINS YOUR ENERGY

Salt has long been important in old traditions, even back in 1897, people wrote about using salt in ceremonies to keep things safe, protect, and get rid of bad energy. Salt has always been about helping us see what we need to notice.

Irina I. Rusinova a Russian scholar and researcher known for her work in the fields of folklore, anthropology, and cultural studies, says salt is used in rituals for protection, healing, and understanding—not out of fear.

Putting salt near your bed is an old way to keep out bad vibes and notice things you might miss otherwise. Doing this helps you notice what's going on and set some boundaries, both with others and in your own mind.

Much of her research focuses on traditional rituals, beliefs, and the symbolic roles of objects (like salt) in Slavic and Eastern European cultures. Her academic writings often explore how everyday materials, such as salt, bread, or water, are used in rituals for protection, healing, and divination rather than simply as elements of superstition or fear.

How to Practice the Seven Nights
To follow this tradition, put a small bowl, glass, or cloth bag of coarse salt near your bed for seven nights. It's a simple thing you can do that has been done for centuries, meant to help clean and protect you while you sleep.

Each morning, take a moment to look at the salt. Try not to overthink it. There's nothing to worry about—just notice what you see. That's enough.

What to Look For, notice, for instance, if the salt:

- **Clumps together**
- **Darkens**
- **Cracks**
- **Feels heavy or damp**

Anthropologist Sophie Chao says dreams aren't just about stress—they're strange experiences full of pictures, feelings, and bits of meaning.

Night One:
External Pressure—The Weight of the World
This night is about the things outside yourself that weigh on you. It could be people wanting your attention, feeling like you have to keep up with what others expect, or even picking up on other people's moods.

Sometimes, you might feel tired or stressed and not know why—it could be "the weight of the world" pressing in from outside.

Think about whether you're carrying pressure from work, family, or social media, and notice how it affects you.

Night Two:
Internal Drains—Habits, Fears, and Emotional Patterns
Tonight is about what's going on inside. This covers habits that wear you out (like worrying a lot, negative self-talk, or overthinking), old fears that pop up, or patterns you find yourself stuck in.

For example, maybe you always say yes to things, even when you're exhausted, or maybe you replay awkward moments in your mind. Notice if any of these patterns are draining your energy.

Night Three:
Close Relationships—Energy Shared and Spent
This night focuses on the people close to you—family, friends, partners. Are there relationships where you give a lot without much in return?

Maybe someone always comes to you with their problems, or you feel responsible for making others happy. Think about how much energy you spend supporting others, and whether it leaves you feeling tired or uplifted.

Night Four:
Unfinished Bonds—The Echoes of the Past
Tonight, think about connections or relationships from the past that still affect you now. It could be an old friend you lost touch with, a family argument that was never resolved, or a breakup that still hurts.

These "unfinished bonds" can quietly drain your energy even if you don't think about them every day. Notice if any old feelings or memories come up.

Night Five:
The Home—The Spirit of Place
Your home can hold onto feelings, stress, or leftover energy from arguments or busy days. This night is about noticing the "vibe" in your space. Does your home feel calm and safe, or is it cluttered and stressful?

Maybe certain rooms feel heavier than others. Pay attention to how your environment might be affecting your mood and energy.

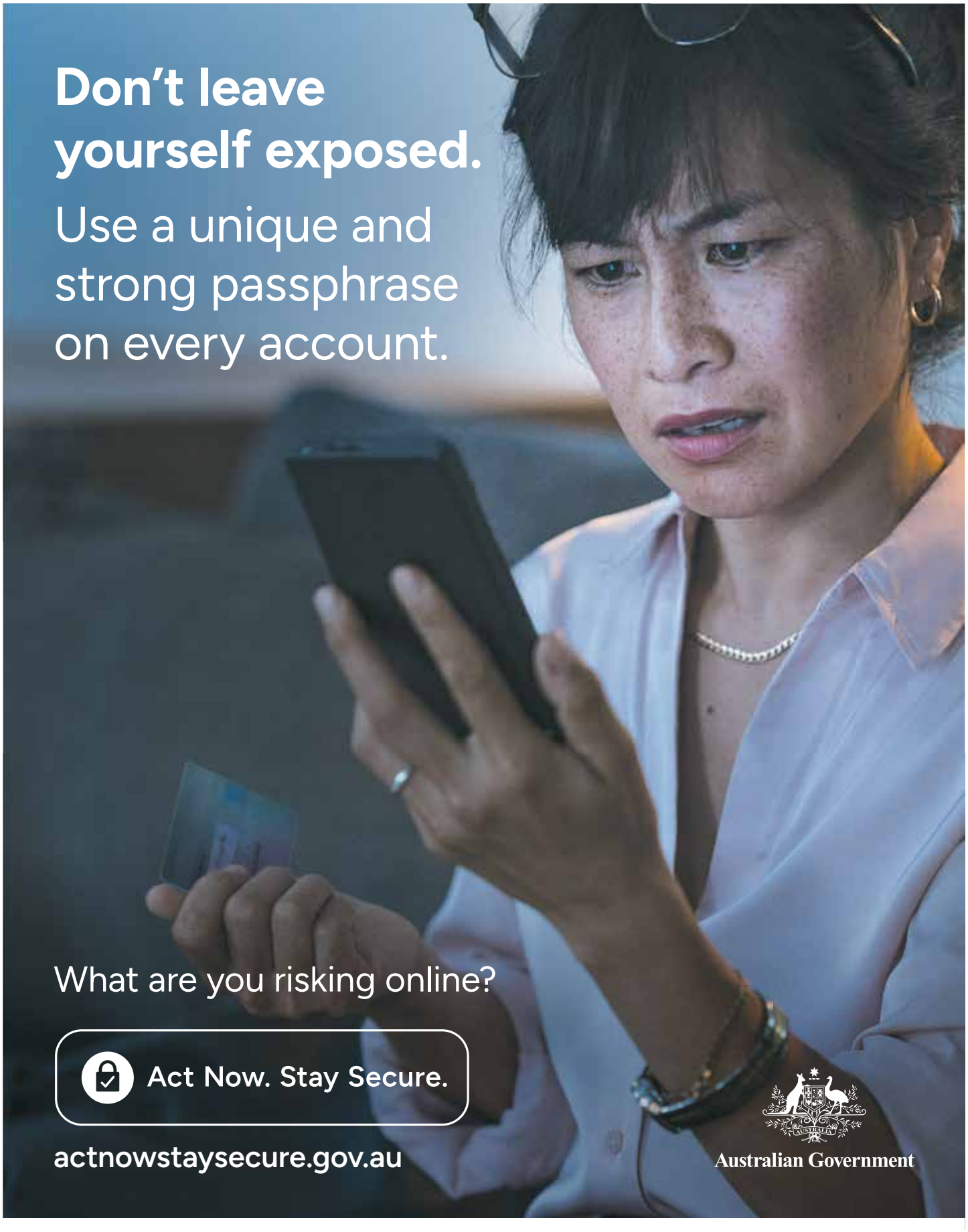
Night Six:
Dream Messages—What Surfaces in Sleep
Tonight, your dreams might be more vivid. Notice any people, places, or symbols that show up.

Sometimes your mind uses dreams to work through worries or to bring up things you haven't noticed when you're awake. If you wake up with a strong feeling or a clear image in mind, see if it connects to something in your life that's using your energy.

Night Seven:
Clarity—Gathering the Threads
This is the time to look back over the week and notice any patterns. Where did your energy go? Are there things, people, or habits you want to change or let go of?

Maybe you realised you're still carrying stress from work, or that your home needs a bit of a tidy-up. Use this night to decide what changes could help you feel stronger and more balanced.

A Closing Note
To follow the tradition, throw the salt outside your house each morning. Let it take away whatever it's picked up so you can start fresh.



Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.

Guarding the Digital Frontier

Why **Safe Passwords Matter** More Than Ever in **Australia's Age of Internet Hacking**

Australia's digital society faces a pressing challenge: internet hacking. With frequent news of breaches and data leaks, robust password protection is more vital than ever. In the digital age, password strength is often our last defence against cybercrime.

The Rising Tide of Cyber Threats

Australia is not immune to the global surge in cyberattacks. In recent years, high-profile breaches have rocked major companies like Optus and Medibank, exposing the personal details of millions of Australians.

The Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) reported over 76,000 cybercrime incidents in the past year alone, a figure that is steadily rising. Individuals, small businesses, and government agencies alike are in the crosshairs as hackers become more sophisticated and relentless.

These cyber intrusions are not mere inconveniences. For individuals, they can mean drained bank accounts, stolen identities, and a lengthy battle to reclaim one's digital life.

For businesses, a single breach can result in crippling financial losses, reputational damage, and regulatory scrutiny. In the most severe cases, national security can be compromised.

The Weakest Link: Poor Password Habits

Despite these risks, many Australians still choose weak, easily guessed passwords. "123456," "password," and "qwerty" remain common choices, according to surveys. Many people prioritise convenience, often unaware of the potential consequences.

Hackers exploit this complacency—automated programs crack simple passwords in seconds. Credential stuffing attacks, in which stolen credentials from one breach are reused across multiple sites, are now common. While managing numerous accounts can tempt password reuse, it is highly risky.

Building a Stronger Digital Defence

What should we do? Each of us must start by adopting safe password practices. This is more than a personal responsibility; it is necessary to protect everyone online. Every Australian should take these steps:

1. Use Unique, Complex Passwords:
A strong password is at least 12 characters long and combines upper- and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols. Avoid dictionary words or easily guessable information, such as birthdays.

2. Never Reuse Passwords:
Every online account should have its own unique password. This limits the damage if one account is compromised.

3. Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA):
MFA adds an extra layer of security. It may require a code sent to your phone or a fingerprint scan. Many Australian banks and government services offer this feature.

4. Consider a Password Manager:
Remembering dozens of complex passwords is impractical. Password managers generate and securely store strong passwords, making safe practices manageable.

5. Stay Informed:
Cyber threats change constantly. The ACSC and other agencies regularly publish advice and warnings. Staying updated helps keep you safe.

A National Effort

Cybersecurity is everyone's responsibility. Businesses and government must enforce strong authentication policies, educate their people and the public, and invest in secure systems.

Recent government efforts, like the Australian Cyber Security Strategy, aim to strengthen our defences, but success depends on public awareness and action.

Conclusion: Protecting Our Shared Future

In the face of rising cyber threats, Australians must take deliberate steps to strengthen their password habits and prioritise online safety.

Start by creating strong, unique passwords for each account, use multi-factor authentication wherever possible, and rely on password managers to keep your credentials secure. Stay informed about the latest threats by following trusted sources, such as the ACSC.

By committing to these actions and encouraging others to do the same, every Australian plays a vital role in safeguarding our shared digital future—one password at a time.

BUSY FINGERS

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY AND HEALATHY NEW YEAR.

Well, after a much-needed break for our staff, volunteers and committee, we are back for hopefully another successful year of supporting our wonderful island and the many residents who call it home.

VOLUNTEERS

I would like to start the year by advising that we would love more volunteers. If you have recently retired or find yourself with a little extra time to enjoy, Busy Fingers Op Shop warmly invites you to join our volunteer family and help us support our local community in a meaningful and enjoyable way.

Volunteering with Busy Fingers is a wonderful opportunity to just stay active, meet new people and share your skills and life experience in a friendly relaxed environment.

Whether you enjoy chatting with customers, sorting donations or working as part of a supportive team, there's a role to suit you.

We offer flexible volunteering options, including half day, or full day shifts to suit your lifestyle.

No previous retail experience is needed, just a willingness to help and be part of a welcoming community.

Many of our volunteers say they value the friendships they've made and the sense of purpose that comes from giving back.

We are also registered with Centrelink for their Volunteer Work for Job Search programme, so if you need to work for them, please consider us when volunteering.

If you'd like to get involved or simply find out more, please contact Jackie our manager on 34081014. We would love to hear from you. Warm regards, The Busy Fingers Op Shop Team.

DONATIONS GIVEN

We continue to support Global Care with their Foodbank account. Due to the generosity of our donators and customers we were able to also support the following associations. The House of Happiness requires renovations to their male bathroom.

New shirts for the BIDCA, who are replacing their old shirts which are now over 10 years old. BI Police will be getting a new ATV in the coming months, as the old one needs replacing due to maintenance costs, these vehicles have assisted the police in finding people in the National park and issues arising up the beach.

THANK YOU – DUMPING

Over our closure period I am pleased to advise that we did not have any dumping of items on the footpath as I have advised that the footpath belongs to the council and they have to clear any obstructions and fines can occur.

Sadly, we did have a few bags of household rubbish thrown over the fence which we had to dispose of, please remember that we have to pay for Cleanaway to empty our large bins and this is quite expensive.

We used to have one bin that was emptied weekly, we now have 2 rubbish bins that have to be emptied twice weekly, and a cardboard bin emptied weekly.

The cost of this service has increased greatly averaging $3500+ a month, money that could be used for the benefit of the island.

SALES

Due to the fact that we had a store wide sale in the last week before we closed, we have been able to make room for re-stocking the shelves with new items.

Currently, furniture is being sold as soon as it enters the store, and the clothing racks are being replenished daily.

This year we will be continuing the $1 clothing sales when we have excess clothing available and 50% off other items when needed.

So please continue to check Facebook and the blackboard as you enter the store.

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 contact us for our 2026 Grant Guidelines Sheet on how to apply, 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.

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

Bribie Respite and Support Services Incorporated, located at Woorim, is a wonderful not-for-profit organisation that offers Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) and National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) support services. We aim to provide entry-level support services to aging individuals, including those with Dementia Specific needs in Bribie Island and the surrounding community.

If you'd like to access our services through CHSP funding or your Home Care Package, all you need to do is register with My Aged Care, a government program created to help you navigate the aged care system and access the support you need. At Bribie Respite and Support Services Incorporated, we understand the desire to maintain independence and live in one's own home for as long as possible.

Our centre-based Social Support Group in Woorim is designed to support this goal, providing a safe and supportive environment for all participants. More than just a place for activities, it's an opportunity for both men and women to make new social connections within their local community, enhancing their quality of life. Our dedicated Support Workers curate a diverse range of daily activities for our guests, ensuring there's something for everyone.

From gentle exercise and music therapy to arts and crafts, a men's group (complete with a monthly Birthday BBQ), and many other engaging activities, there's always something fun and stimulating happening at our centre. Plus, our transportation services ensure everyone starts and finishes the day with a smile.

When you attend our Social Support Group, you can enjoy morning and afternoon tea as part of CHSP. We can also provide a freshly prepared and cooked lunch, which may include soup, a sandwich, dessert, or a hot meal.

We also offer other support services such as:

- **flexible respite**
- **in-home social support**
- **personal care**

We've been providing day respite services since 1987, and in 2017, we changed our name to Bribie Respite and Support Services Incorporated. You may have met us at the recent Longman Seniors Expo and have further enquiries; we'd love to help you; feel free to get in touch.

Supporting Community

Bribie Respite and Support Services Incorporated has been servicing Bribie Island and surround since 1987. As a not for profit organization all monies generated are reinvested into our Bribie based business. Our well trained support workers offer high quality care and support to ensure our clients are able to live their lives in the best possible way with support an dignity.

We are a registered NDIS provider, offering a wide range of support services to assist individuals within our community

Disability Support

- **Community Based Day Program (5 days a week)**
- **Community Access**
- **In Home Social Support**
- **Personal Care**
- **Overnight/short term accomodation**
- **Supported Independent Living**
- **Transport to and from our services**
- **School Holiday Program**

Bribie Respite & Support Services

For more information contact:
07 3408 2112
www.bribierespite.com.au
96-108 Arcadia Ave, Woorim Bribie Island Qld

I ndis

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Why Engaging Professional Financial Advisors and Bookers is a Wise Move

With finances and planning becoming more complicated, more Australians are turning to experts for help with money matters and organising travel or events.

Working with a financial advisor or a booker can help protect your wealth and make your experiences more enjoyable. So, what do these professionals actually do, and why is it smart to trust their expertise?

A professional financial advisor brings specialised knowledge, experience, and an objective perspective.

Financial markets, superannuation regulations, and investment opportunities are constantly evolving, making it challenging for individuals to keep abreast of compliance requirements and optimal strategies.

An advisor helps you navigate these complexities, ensuring your financial objectives align with your circumstances, risk tolerance, and long-term goals.

They provide bespoke advice on budgeting, investing, retirement planning, and tax minimisation, resulting in significant savings and peace of mind.

Moreover, working with a credentialed advisor can help you avoid costly mistakes and emotional decision-making, fostering financial security for you and your family. A financial advisor is a partner who checks in with you regularly and keeps you updated as your life changes.

Whether you are saving for your children's education, handling an inheritance, or getting ready for retirement, an advisor helps you adjust your plans and stay focused.

They also explain complicated products and terms, so you can make confident choices. In Australia, where superannuation and tax rules can be tricky, this support is especially helpful.

A professional booker, whether for travel, events, or entertainment, brings valuable industry know-how, connections, and the ability to find great deals.

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We care about your financial goals

Provide ongoing support and advice

Take the stress out of financial decisions

For a meeting at our Bribie Island office call us on 1800 065 151
or visit www.riseqld.com.au

Mike Smith and Rise Wealth Qld Pty Ltd are Authorised Representative(s) of RI Advice Group Pty Ltd, AFSL 238429 The information, including taxation, contained within this advertisement does not consider your personal circumstance and this is general advice only. Before acting on this information you should consider its appropriateness, having regard to your own objectives, financial situation and needs

Bribie Island | Caboolture | Caloundra | Chermside | Mt Gravatt

We Have a new office at
83 Welsby Pde Bongaree

Bookers have access to resources and insider information that most people do not. They can get you the best airfares and accommodation, organise detailed travel plans, or arrange VIP access at events, making sure everything runs smoothly.

Bookers can customise plans to fit what you want, using their knowledge to get you special deals, upgrades, or experiences you would not find on your own.

With so much information and so many booking sites out there, a good booker saves you time, helps you avoid problems, and makes sure everything goes smoothly. Their focus on details and client satisfaction can turn a regular trip or event into something special. If something goes wrong, like a cancelled flight, last-minute changes, or other surprises, a professional booker will step in to fix the problem and make things easier for you.

This kind of support is especially important with how unpredictable travel can be today. When it comes to finances or booking, doing it yourself might seem tempting, especially with so many online tools available.

But making decisions without enough information or missing important details can end up costing you more in the long run.

Professionals spend years learning their field and keeping up with changes and best practices. Their help is more than just convenient—it is an investment in your future comfort and happiness.

When you work with a financial advisor and a booker, you can feel more confident, secure, and enjoy both your finances and personal plans more. They save you time, lower your stress, and make sure experts are looking out for your best interests.

In the end, getting professional help is more than just handing off tasks. It is about making smart choices, feeling at ease, and making the most of what you have.

With time being so valuable and decisions so important, trusting experts makes more sense than ever.

Whether you are planning your finances or your next adventure, working with professionals helps you reach your goals with confidence and a clear plan.

BOOKKEEPING

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Our Mission is to eliminate the technical divide impacting older Australians through affordable technology support.

Volunteers Needed ! ! Due to the high demand for our service, we need more volunteers to service Ningi, Sandstone Pt. & surrounds. Please call us on 0491 775 853 if you can help.

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♦ Email / PC Issues ♦ Virus Removal ♦ And Much More

0491 775 853

* Limited Area for House Calls. See our Website

www.greytechgurus.com.au

Powered by Volunteers

BRIBIE ISLAND GOLF CLUB MEMBER RECOGNITION EVENING

Bribie Island Golf Club's proud history came to life on Saturday, 15 November 2026, when members packed the clubhouse for a special Recognition Evening honouring the club's longest-serving players and Life Members.

Established in 1969, the club marked more than five decades of memories with stories from those who were there at the very beginning.

Guests were treated to stories from the club's earliest days, including a lively recollection from Founding and Life Member Don Mullen, who remembered how he and local Police Sergeant Jim Jeppesen, tired of travelling to Caboolture to play, simply chose to build a course of their own.

Don and Jim approached the Shire Chairman Frank Unwin, Counsellors Otto Fluck and Edwin Shrag, together with the Speaker of the Queensland Parliament and Lands Minister Vic Sullivan, who all provided their support for the initiative.

Don approached renowned greenskeeper and Professional Golfer, Arch McArthur, who, after inspecting the proposed site, stated that the site at Skirmish Point reminded him of his native St Andrews and was one of the finest sites for a golf links he had seen in Australia.

As they say, "the rest is history". Bribie Island now boasts one of the best courses in Queensland, which was recently ranked 70th among the top Public Courses in Australia by Inside Golf Magazine.

The night celebrated two FIFTY-YEAR members in Don Mullen and Ron Brennan (a founding family on the Island). They were presented with their gold 50-year golf bag tags and embroidered blazers by local Councillor and Club Patron, Brooke Savige and Club President Jim McKay.

Past President Jeff Lauchlan then presented the 40-year members with their awards, with Life Member and also Past President Bob Reilly presenting the members who had attained 30-year membership.

President Jim McKay spoke about the dedication and commitment shown by members who have reached 30, 40 and even 50 years of continuous playing membership. "It is a testament to the social fabric that clubs like the Bribie Island Golf Club create," he said.

"These milestones reflect not only remarkable personal dedication, but the strength of our community. We must continue to engage and cherish the members we have.

Without appreciated and happy members, all we have is grass, trees and buildings. It's the members who make the club."

The club is also preparing for a significant year ahead in 2026. A new green is under construction to mitigate flooding on the 10th hole and the pathway leading to the 11th.

Bribie Island will host both the Queensland Senior Amateur and the Australian Senior Amateur Championships, as well as the Seniors Pro-Am.

The club has also launched its own "Hall of Fame," recognising members who have excelled on the course or made exceptional contributions to the club's administration. A competition, initiated by long-term member and Life Member Greg Paul, is now underway to design a Club Flag, and a new symbol of pride for members.

Entertainment continues to be a key part of club life, with a wide program planned for members and guests, including Robbie Burns Night, the Members Awards Evening, a Valentine's Dinner, Sunday Drinks and Tapas on the Deck, regular monthly member events, and Melbourne Cup celebrations.

With so much activity and optimism, Bribie Island Golf Club members are looking confidently toward the next 50 years.

Rob Donaldson, Life Member Don Mullen and Bruce Brennan

CHRISTMAS PARTY

BRIBIE ISLAND HEALTHY SLIMMERS FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT GROUP INC.

On Tuesday 9th December 2025 over 60 members of our group enjoyed a lovely fun day of Christmas Bingo, dozens of raffles and a scrumptious lunch which again was catered by Shane and his team.

A special quilt was made and donated by member, Lisa Phillips, which was won by Sandra Casey (pictured).

A $50.00 meat voucher was donated by Ariana Doolan MP and was the Lucky Door Prize won by Di Firth (pictured with President Chris Blackmore).

Our group meets each Tuesday from 8am at TOC H, 36 Banya Street, Bongaree with weigh-in and fellowship prior to the meeting starting at 9am and finishing by 10am.

Our Group has now been on Bribie for over 44 years and is run by Members for Members – we have a Volunteer Committee and numerous members also volunteer in other areas.

Each meeting comprises of discussions about healthy lifestyle and weight management. We are treated to a variety of guest speakers throughout the year on a wide range of topics relating to our group.

We also have a morning tea outing once a month at local cafés to celebrate member's birthdays, which is always enjoyable.

Once a month during the summer a number of members attend an aquarobics session at our local swimming centre after the meeting and this is great fun.

We also have one or two coach trips a year to interesting destinations in our area. These day trips are well supported and include morning tea and lunch.

To encourage recycling we hold **"Bring & Buys"** four times a year where members bring in pre-loved clothes that no longer fit and this enables many to expand their wardrobes without breaking the bank.

We are beginning this year on Tuesday 13th January and meet every Tuesday except for Public Holidays and over the Christmas break.

New members, female and male, are welcome to join our friendly group.

For more information please phone President Chris Blackmore 0419 423 653

Local Dining Guide

STEAKOUT PIZZERIA

Steakout Pizzeria

For delicious pizza, pasta, contorni salads and more, all crafted with love, come and enjoy our waterfront pizzeria. With live music every Sunday and the beautiful Pumicestone Passage right beside you, we offer you a taste you'll love. For deliveries or bookings, please visit us at **www.steakoutpizzeria.au**

9/11 Spinnaker Drive, Sandstone Point - 07 5360 1094
LUNCH Thu to Sun 11:30 - 2:30
DINNER Tue to Sun 4:30 - 8:30

SCOOPYS

Scoopy's FAMILY CAFE

Located by the jetty on beautiful Bribie Island, Scoopy's Family Cafe is all about the family vibes, great food and coffee, fantastic service and all the ice cream you can eat!

Enjoy our friendly hospitality with barista-made coffee, amazing burgers, and a tempting array of ice cream choices to impress the pickiest connoisseurs.

Our massive range of cakes and famous fish and chips make it well worth the hour's drive north of Brisbane.

Shop 2/2 Toorbul Street, Bongaree 07 3410 1791

THE DECK RESTAURANT

the deck

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

Experience our **new menu**, with classics you'll love and the new favourites you'll crave.

We've also added mouth-watering **Gourmet Pizzas**, which are a must-try.

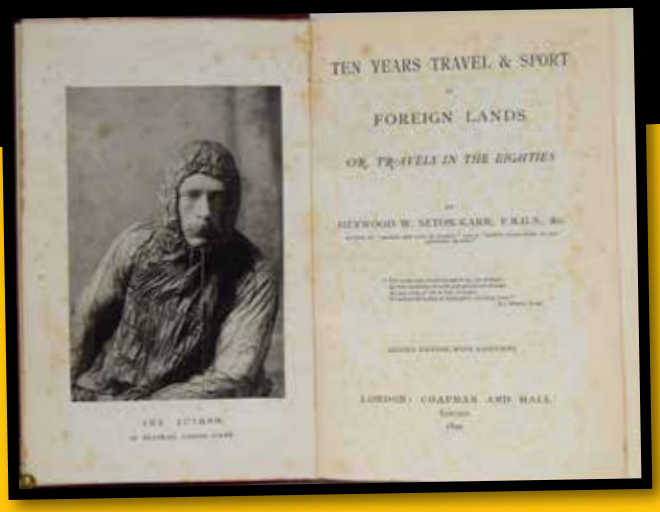
OPEN 7 DAYS
LUNCH: 12PM - 2PM - DINNER: 5PM - 8PM

Call our restaurant on **07 3408 1018** to book

Bribie Island Bowls Club 11-23 Welsby Parade, Bongaree

THE TIME DETECTIVE

STONE ARTEFACT ONE MILLION YEARS OLD GOES ON DISPLAY AT **THE ABBEY MUSEUM**



We have just put one of our oldest artefacts on display at the Abbey Museum. It is an Oldowan chopper, made of chert (a type of flint) and found in Somaliland in the late 19th century, a time when most people were still struggling with Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution.

Today there is just one species of human but back in those distant times, around 2.5 million years ago, African australopithecines were diversifying into very early forms of Homo species.

Scientists currently think that early humans evolved in Africa and moved into Europe about 1.7 million years ago or even earlier via Spain and western Asia.

At sites in Georgia and Spain, early hominid stone tools have been found that date back to around 1.2 million years. Hand axes in Britain have been dated to around 900,000 years ago from a period, before an ice age known as the Anglian glaciation.

These early humans probably belong to a species called Homo ergaster or Homo heidelbergensis, and while they would have known the use of fire, language was probably only in its infancy. It has been suggested that making hand axes could have assisted the development of speech.

The theory that human species evolved in Africa and then dispersed across Europe and Asia had been first suggested by Charles Darwin in 1871.

In 1896, a fascinating character who could have come from a Hollywood movie set, Captain Heywood W Seton-Karr (1859-1938), found palaeolithic tools that date between 1.7 million years and 300,000 years ago, associated with Homo ergaster, in Somaliland.

He claimed it was the first evidence that Africa was the genesis of human species, and the 'missing link' in human evolution. Seton-Karr was a larger-than-life adventurer. Educated at Eton and Oxford, he became a career big-game hunter and explorer, with daring expeditions to India, the Arctic and Africa.

His passion for archaeology took him to the Horn of Africa and while travelling in Somalia he discovered stone tools near the Issutugan River that were similar to palaeolithic tools found in France and among the first to provide evidence of an African origin of human species.

This chert chopper in the Abbey Museum was one of the tools found by Seton-Karr, who donated it to the Abbey Folk Park (the forerunner of the Abbey Museum) in the 1930s.

It dates to around one million years. These choppers were used for heavy duty work such as processing bone for marrow, wood working and butchering large animals.

Some years ago, researchers at the University of Queensland studied some hand axes from the Abbey Museum using immensely powerful electron-scanning microscopes and found traces of red deer blood that had survived four ice ages!

New evidence from stone tools and fossils has now challenged the Out of Africa theory.

It is probable that there were two dispersals out of Africa, an earlier one that spread from around 2 million years ago to different localities in Europe, Southeast Asia, and China (where it was known as Homo erectus) and a later one, around 220,000 years ago with the advent of our species, Homo sapiens.

Swing Into Croquet in 2026

All are welcome.

Want a new pastime that is fun, challenging, provides many health benefits and can be played by people of all ages?

Take the opportunity to ***swing into croquet*** with **FREE** coaching. The Bribie Island Croquet Club is having a ***Come and Try*** afternoon followed by a free sausage sizzle from 3pm to 5pm on **Saturday Feb 14.**

This will be followed by **6 weeks of free coaching** for those who wish to explore the game further.

Our Community Coaching program runs from 1.45pm to 3.15pm from **Thursday February 19 to Thursday March 26**. It is conducted in small groups and all equipment is provided.

All you need to do is bring your enthusiasm, wear enclosed shoes, a hat, sunscreen and bring water.

You will soon be entranced by the different shots, techniques and tactics. Be warned, it can be addictive! Not only will you learn new skills, but it is also played in a great social environment. So, come on and give it a go.

The croquet club is located at Cosmos Park on the corner of Sunderland Drive and Cosmos Avenue, Banksia Beach.

To register for Community Coaching or to learn more, call **Joan Gleeson on 0429165643**.

Serve, Sizzle, Socialise – Free Aussie Open Celebration on Bribie Island

Celebrate the excitement of the Australian Open with us at Bribie Island Tennis Club (BITC)!

Swing by for a free afternoon of tennis—and a sizzling sausage—in a fun, friendly atmosphere. As the 2026 Australian Open draws to a close, we're bringing the action to Cosmos Park, 70 Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach, on Saturday, 31 January 2026. No RSVP required—grab your family, gather your friends, and join the festivities!

Experience an afternoon packed with tennis, laughter, and great company. Whether you're a seasoned player or picking up a racquet for the first time, we'll provide all the equipment and encouragement you need. Enjoy tasty sausages hot off the grill from 3pm to 5pm, all while making new friends on and off the court.

Tennis is more than just a sport—it's a fantastic way to stay fit, connect, and have fun. At BITC, everyone is welcome, regardless of age, ability, or accessibility needs. We're committed to making every event inclusive, ensuring all community members—including those with disabilities or mobility challenges—feel right at home. Join our vibrant club and discover friendships that last a lifetime.

Over the next five years, we're investing around $450,000 to upgrade lighting, install stronger fences, and resurface our courts.
These improvements mean brighter, safer nights, sturdier boundaries, and smoother play for everyone. We're committed to providing the best facilities for our members, guests, and the entire community.

But BITC isn't just about tennis—we host a variety of off-court events, from private functions to special celebrations. Whether you're

marking a milestone, looking to expand your social circle, or simply unwinding in our welcoming space, there's always something happening at the club. Become a part of our community—BITC membership starts at just $40 per year for adults and $5 for juniors.

Members enjoy a range of benefits: improve your skills, compete in fixtures and tournaments, join regular social days, or book a court for private fun with family and friends. Plus, every member gets complimentary access to our ball machine.

If you join BITC in January, your first visit to a social club session is free (usually $5). For session details, visit our website at bribieislandtennisclub.com.au or our Facebook page @ bribieislandtennisclub. You can also call the club for more information.

To ask us directly, call **0447 122 328**. For more details, visit **bribieislandtennisclub.com.au.**

Ready to get started? Sign up today!

Mark your calendar—our Aussie Open Social Day kicks off on Saturday, 31 January 2026!

BITC also wishes to acknowledge the support of Moreton Bay Regional Council, which provided a $30,000 grant to support the LED lighting upgrade.

Bribie Arts Centre

BICAS SHOWCASE 2026

January 27 - February 15

CREATIVE SCOPE AT BRIBIE ARTS CENTRE ON PROUD DISPLAY

Opens Tuesday January 27 and runs til February 15.

The annual Bribie Community Arts Centre showcase is a proud brag of all who create there. This year's is bigger and bolder than ever and the range of mediums and imaginative talent within the various groups is astonishing.

COME SEE THE MANY FACETS AND SKILLS THAT ARE NOURISHED AND GROWN AT THIS WONDERFUL UNIQUE PRECINCT ON BRIBIE.

Bribie Community Arts Centre is a delight for all who know it and a marvellous discovery for those coming for the first time.

BICAS members proudly present their works in the Matthew Flinders Gallery for public perusal and purchase. Come see how the works grow and change with each year.

Come visit and enjoy a break with a cuppa and something delicious at our Cafe 191.

It's not to be missed!!

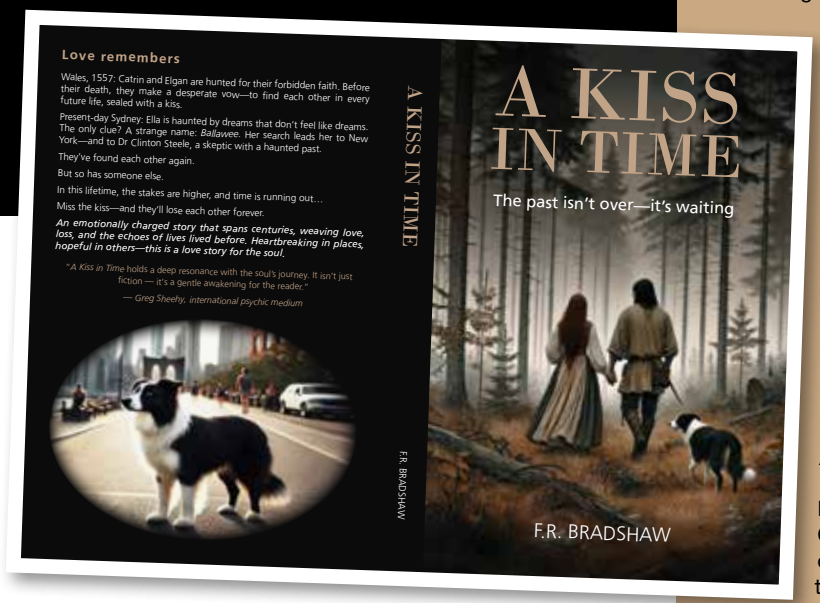
GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday to Saturday 9am to 4pm, Sunday 9am - 1pm

Bribie Island Community Arts Centre, 191 Sunderland Drive Banksia Beach, QLD 4507

A KISS IN TIME

By Fi Bradshaw



I'd like to share a story about a novel I recently published, A Kiss in Time — not so much the plot itself, but the strange way it came into being, and how it seemed to guide its own evolution.

The story arrived during a period of vivid, lucid dreams — the kind where you realise you're dreaming and take control of it. If you've ever had one, you'll know the delight of flying, of doing things you'd never dare in waking life.

They feel extraordinarily real. So real, in fact, that I began to look forward to sleeping as an escape into an alternate reality.

At one point, I became so convinced that my spirit was travelling elsewhere that I set myself a small experiment. Before falling asleep, I reminded myself to look for a word in my dream — something I could research upon waking, to ground the experience in reality.

That word was Bombamma.

In the dream, it was carved into a post where I tied my gondola in Venice. When I woke, I rushed to my computer and searched for it. The only result was an Italian motorcycle forum.

I joined the forum and asked about the word, but never received a reply — whether due to language barriers or the assumption that I was quite mad, I'll never know.

Still, that strange detour planted the seed for my novel. It became the way my main character, Ella — a social worker from Sydney — makes contact with Clinton, an oncologist from New York. In the story, a word from her dreams leads her down an internet rabbit hole to an astronomy forum, where Clinton appears under the username Ballawee.

That name — Ballawee — was one I'd invented years earlier. I needed something original, a name that didn't exist, for a spiritual guide in the book: a border collie who appears to both characters as a stray dog and quietly nudges them together in this lifetime.

In the novel's earlier timeline, set in 16th-century Wales, the dog belongs to Catrin and Elgan and bears witness to their vow to find each other in every future life.

Elgan names the pup Ballawee, which he believes means "wise and intuitive" — fitting for a dog who seems to know more than she should.

When I wrote the first draft, I searched online to make sure the name didn't exist. It didn't. Years later, while editing the final draft, I searched again — and this time, a website for baby names appeared.

There it was:

Ballawee. Meaning: wise and intuitive.

No origin. No history. Every other name on the site had both. You could have knocked me down with a feather.

I showed my husband, who was equally astonished. By the time I published the book months later, I tried to find the website—but it had vanished. The name, once again, did not exist anywhere online.

Like many first-time authors, I struggled to find a traditional publisher without an agent. At one point, my husband half-jokingly suggested that the industry often looks for stories that fit certain expectations, rather than simply the story itself.

It gave me pause. In a novel about reincarnation — where a soul might return in any body — changing a character's race wasn't illogical.

Still, if I did it for the wrong reasons, it would feel forced — like box-ticking rather than storytelling — and that didn't sit comfortably with me. So, I left the manuscript as it was.

I printed my final manuscript, read through every page, sealed it in a zip-lock bag and stored it in a cupboard. Sometime later, a friend asked to read it. As I pulled the manuscript from the bag, a small note fluttered to the floor.

Written in graphite were the words: *American Fiction.*

I had no memory of writing it. Curious, I searched the phrase online and discovered it was the title of a film about a Black author whose work is repeatedly rejected for not being "Black enough." In frustration, he writes a sharp satire — deliberately exaggerated and trope-laden — it becomes an instant success.

The irony was impossible to ignore. Within the week, Clinton became African American. And once he did, I couldn't imagine him any other way.

You might call these coincidences. Perhaps they are. Or perhaps stories sometimes find us in ways that feel a little stranger than logic allows.

For me, writing A Kiss in Time has been an unexpected and quietly magical journey — one shaped as much by dreams, chance discoveries and odd little nudges as by conscious intention.

If you're curious to explore the novel further, you'll find a QR code below.

And if you happen to see me on the beach with my unhinged, ball-thieving black poodle, I'd love to hear your own stories about how a dog — or a cat — has inspired or guided you.

Fi Bradshaw

LET'S GO TRAVEL

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year! Here's to 2026 bringing more travel opportunities for all of us. This afternoon, we had a small meetup at the RSL.

Perhaps the recent storms and rains kept people at home, or maybe the school holidays have kept everyone busy. There were just six of us at today's meeting, but we enjoyed sharing great feedback on recent trips.

I recently completed a 30-day Diamond Princess cruise visiting Japan, South Korea, Taipei, Hong Kong, Vietnam, and Singapore. With a wonderful travel partner, we had an absolutely fantastic time. I've booked a trip to Egypt in November, which should be fantastic.

One member is also heading off to South America soon. Maryanne and CJ toured and cruised Croatia. Despite a few issues, they still had a great time away overall. Everyone is always happy to share information about where they've been or where they're going next.

Join us for our next meeting on 15th February 2026 at 3pm at the RSL Social. Now that things are getting back to normal, we were thankfully able to sit in the air-conditioned auditorium.

Just ask at the social desk, and the staff will direct you to our location before each meeting. There are still plenty of ladies looking for travel buddies, so come along and see if you can meet your next adventure partner.

I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone in February!

Cheers Roslyn
0401 078 187

Seas the day!

On Saturday, 17 January, the Bribie Island Sailing Club kicked off a new year with its first race. Seven boats set out between Bellara and Toorbul Point. The morning started calmly, but soon a gentle breeze picked up, giving everyone a chance to show their skill and determination.

To keep things fair, the race was split into two groups. The slower boats left first, making for an exciting chase to the finish. Wildling, with Grant Kirby at the helm, was first across the line. Euphrosyne, led by Jim Thomson, won on handicap, showing that steady effort and good sailing can lead to victory.

Overall results on handicap were:-

1st: Euphrosyne, Jim Thomson
2nd: Wildling, Grant Kirby
3rd: Tockolosh, Alan Paynter
4th: Biscuit, Peter Quinn
5th: Tropic, Glenn Corbet
6th: Flic, Brian Knight
7th: Love It, John Belleri

The club has a busy schedule coming up, including two regattas in Deception Bay. The Bribie Island Sailing Club is looking forward to seeing new members and more boats at Sylvan Beach. Every race is a chance to learn, compete, and meet others on the waters of Moreton Bay.

Bribie Island Sailing Club has been bringing people together on the water for almost 25 years. Whether you're an experienced sailor or just interested in trying it out, you're welcome here.

You can join as crew, skipper, bring your own boat, or just come along to see what it's like. No matter the season, the invitation is always open. Come and enjoy sailing and the friendships that make this club special.

GAME NIGHTS! ON BRIBIE

MONDAY
EUCHRE
Bribie Bowls Club 12.00pm
Contact Annette on 0414622490
TRIVA
Bribie Island Hotel 6.30pm
Bribie Island R.S.L 7.00pm

TUESDAY
BINGO
Bribie Island R.S.L 10.00am
POKER
Bribie Island Hotel 6.30pm

WEDNESDAY
MUSIC BINGO
Bribie Island Hotel 6.30pm
Bribie Island R.S.L 7.00pm
RAFFLES
Solander Lakes Bowls Club - 6.30pm
(tickets on sale from 5:30pm)

THURSDAY
BINGO
Bribie Island R.S.L 7.30pm
RAFFLES
Bribie Island R.S.L Fishing Club 4.30pm
Every Thursday at the RSL prizes are Meat Vouchers from Avondale Meats and Seafood Vouchers from Saviges.

FRIDAY
MEAT TRAY RAFFLES
Bribie Island Bowls Club 4.30pm
Bribie Island Golf Club 5.30
Blue Pacific Hotel (from) 3.00pm
Solander Lakes Bowls Club - 6.30pm
(tickets on sale from 5:30pm)

Enjoy playing 500 Cards?

Join a like-minded group who meet on Monday afternoons at the RSL Anzac Room from 1-4pm.
$5 which includes raffle prize.
Please arrive 10mins before play starts at 1pm
Further information please ring
Carole **0438 713 663**.

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.

LUNCH MARKETS - Sylvan Beach
(Farmers Market)
First Saturday of each month from 8am to 1pm held in the park opposite the Bribie Island Hotel. Funds raised to E.P.C.S, Ass, 0417629957

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

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

Mystic Journey Markets change of location
Saturday November 15th ~ 9am ~ 2pm
Saturday December 6th ~ 9am ~ 2 pm
Saturday December 20th ~
9am ~ 2m
4pm ~ 8pm
There is also an outdoor market to run alongside indoor market called This ‘n’ That

Bungaree and Flinders A Remarkable Pair

By Al Finegan

Bungaree was one of the most notable Aboriginal figures of early colonial Australia. His name has been linked with our island for more than two centuries, yet many people in our community know only fragments of his story.

He was a man who traversed both Aboriginal and European worlds with unusual ease at a time when the two cultures were struggling to understand one another. His life touched many parts of our early history, including a brief but significant moment on the shores of Bribie Island.

Bungaree was born into the Kuring-gai people of the Broken Bay region, north of Sydney. Although the exact year of his birth is not known, most historians agree he was born in the 1770s. His early childhood would have followed the long-established rhythms of traditional Aboriginal life.

These were years when coastal communities lived by fishing, hunting, and gathering in the complex environment of the Hawkesbury and Broken Bay river systems.

His early years, however, also coincided with the arrival of the First Fleet and the rapid expansion of the colony of New South Wales. These events would shape his entire life. As European settlements spread beyond Sydney Cove and into the fertile lands along the Hawkesbury, conflict inevitably followed.

Food sources were disrupted, land was taken, and both settlers and Aboriginal families suffered violence. Bungaree's own group was one of those affected. It was during this period of upheaval that he moved his family into the emerging town of Sydney.

By the early 1790s, Bungaree had become a familiar sight in the small but growing settlement. People remembered him as friendly, observant, and possessed of a naturally calm manner.

He spoke with humour and often acted as a bridge between Aboriginal visitors to the town and the colonial authorities. Little is recorded of these early years, but it is clear that he was well regarded by those who knew him.

It was in Sydney that he first met the naval officer who would become his lifelong friend and collaborator: Lieutenant Matthew Flinders. Flinders was a young, determined navigator with a strong belief that Australia was a single, vast continent. He needed good men around him, and he saw in Bungaree qualities that were rare and valuable.

Flinders later remarked that Bungaree displayed "… a keen understanding of people, a gentleness of manner, and an ability to communicate across cultural boundaries." In time, he came to rely on him greatly.

In 1798, Flinders invited Bungaree to volunteer to join a voyage to Norfolk Island aboard HMS Reliance. The journey was not particularly long, but it allowed Flinders to see Bungaree's quiet courage, reliability, and capacity for good judgement at sea.

The following year Flinders was assigned a task to command an exploratory and mapping expedition along the coastline north of Port Jackson. His orders included an exploration of Moreton Bay that Cook had mentioned when passing well out to sea. (Cook had actually mis-named and mis-placed it.

He believed he saw a bay as he passed the area in 1770 and named it "Morton Bay" after James Douglas, 14th Earl of Morton, President of the Royal Society)..

In early 1799, Flinders, Bungaree, and a small crew sailed north aboard Norfolk, a sturdy but modest sloop used for coastal surveying. The vessel made its way slowly up the coast, stopping at several locations along the way.

On the morning of 16th July, Norfolk reached the southern end of Bribie Island when Flinders saw smoke rising from near the beach. Flinders was keen to make friendly contact with its inhabitants.

He ordered the sailors to drop anchor and prepare the ship's boat to go ashore. Flinders, Bungaree and a few soldiers then rowed to a spot near what is now named South Point, Bongaree. It would become the site of one of the earliest recorded interactions between Aboriginal people of this region and European explorers.

Flinders' own journal provides a calm but clear description of the events that unfolded that day. When he, Bungaree, and several crew members approached a group of local Aboriginal men, the initial meeting was peaceful. There was curiosity on both sides. Small gifts were exchanged, including cloth and beads. The local men accepted these items, and Flinders noted that the meeting began with goodwill.

However, curiosity can sometimes lead to

misunderstanding, and in this case it did. One of the local men was intrigued by Flinders' wide-brimmed cabbage-tree hat. Using a long, curved wooden implement, possibly a retrieving stick, he gently but deliberately hooked the hat from Flinders' head.

The broad cabbage tree hat was preferred by sailors, as spending days on the open deck, the hat was vital for protection from the sun. Flinders immediately stepped forward to retrieve it. As he did, another man raised his spear then threw it, just missing Flinders and passing close to one of the sailors.

Taken by surprise and concerned for the safety of his small landing party, Flinders fired a single shot. He aimed downward, but the shot struck the man who had taken the hat, wounding him in the upper arm. The locals had never seen or heard a firearm discharged. They were stunned at its loud noise and the evidence of its impact.

The startled Aborigines immediately bolted into the bush. Flinders retrieved his hat, and the party quickly rowed back to Norfolk. The entire encounter had only lasted moments, yet it left a deep impression on Flinders. Bungaree was devastated.

Flinders named the place Point Skirmish, a name which remains on Bribie Island to this day. Despite the incident, the relationship between the party on Norfolk and local Aboriginal groups was not permanently damaged.

In the days that followed, while Norfolk was careened further up Pumicestone Passage, Flinders met other groups who approached with caution but without hostility. He later remarked that he was pleased to find them friendly.

He also remarked that it was Bungaree's calm manner that assisted greatly in restoring goodwill during this time.

During his 1770 voyage north along the Queensland coast, Captain James Cook had become curious about the distinctive volcanic peaks rising inland from Moreton Bay.

He had observed them from the deck of Endeavour as he sailed north, and he wrote that they reminded him strongly of the glass-making furnaces of his native Yorkshire. Cook then named them the "Glass House Mountains".

After days of contact with the locals, and with Norfolk anchored in the sheltered waters of the Passage while the ship's crew undertook some repairs, Flinders decided to explore the peaks more closely.

Accompanied by Bungaree and a few soldiers, he set out across the sandy coastal flats and thick bush towards the mountain group. The terrain was challenging at times, but Flinders' journal shows that he was determined to climb at least one of the summits to gain a clearer view of the surrounding country.

The party selected Mount Beerburrum as the most approachable peak. Its slopes, though steep in places, offered a practical route to the summit.

Upon reaching the top, Flinders was rewarded with a wide view of the coastline, the mangrove-fringed channels, and the more imposing peaks to the north. He noted Beerwah and Tibrogargan with particular interest, admiring their dramatic shapes and vertical faces.

Flinders then attempted to climb Mount Beerwah, which he described as "the highest and most remarkable" of the group. However, the steep cliffs and loose surface made the ascent impossible without equipment.

After assessing the slopes carefully, he decided it would be unsafe to continue. His journal records this with characteristic understatement, noting simply that the mountain was "not accessible without ropes."

Although Flinders climbed only Mount Beerburrum, his observations added valuable detail to the earliest European understanding of the Glass House Mountains.

His descriptions, combined with Cook's earlier notes, helped establish the region's geography in the maps on which later explorers would rely. The voyage continued, and by the time Norfolk returned to Sydney, Flinders had even greater respect for Bungaree.

In 1800 Flinders returned to England to make preparations for his next voyage, which was to return to Sydney, then circumnavigate and chart the Australian continent. As Captain of HMS Investigator, he departed Portsmouth, England on 18th July 1801.

On the way, he surveyed the southern coast of Australia arriving in Sydney on 9th May 1802. It was here that he prepared his ship for the circumnavigation.

Once again, he invited Bungaree to join his expedition. Matthew Flinders' circumnavigation of Australia aboard HMS Investigator lasted just under two years.

Bungaree's abilities were recognised by all on board. He assisted in contacting Aboriginal groups along the coast, communicating with them in ways that helped ease tension and avoid conflict.

Although the languages varied widely from region to region, Bungaree used gesture, tone, and gentle humour to convey goodwill. Several crew members noted how useful he was in calming situations that could easily have turned dangerous.

He also worked alongside the sailors, helping with tasks aboard Investigator and showing considerable dedication to the success of the voyage.

It was during this historic journey that Bungaree became the first Aboriginal person to circumnavigate the Australian continent. When Investigator returned to Sydney, Bungaree was widely celebrated for his contribution.

In the years that followed, Bungaree remained a respected and well-known figure in the colony. He formed a notable friendship with Governor Lachlan Macquarie, who viewed him as a leader among his people.

Macquarie granted him land at Georges Head and provided him with military-style coats, hats, and medals, many of which Bungaree wore proudly when greeting ships entering Sydney Harbour. His colourful attire made him an instantly recognisable figure to sailors, settlers, and visitors alike.

Artists of the time painted his portrait, capturing his distinctive dress and confident manner. He often acted as a kind of ambassador for Aboriginal people, welcoming new arrivals and speaking on behalf of his community when required. His dignity and warmth left a lasting impression on all who met him.

Yet Bungaree's life was also shaped by the hardships facing Aboriginal communities during this era. Dispossession, disease, and the spread of settlement caused immense suffering.

Although Bungaree lived much of his life close to the centres of colonial power, he witnessed first-hand the challenges facing his people.

His ability to navigate both worlds, Aboriginal and European, was rare, and it brought him respect, but it also meant that he lived with the responsibilities of bridging cultures during a period of rising tension.

Despite these difficulties, he remained a figure of kindness, humour, and goodwill. Accounts from the period describe him as steady, peaceful, and often amusing in his conversations. His presence in Sydney became one of the familiar sights of the early 19th century.

Bungaree died in 1830 and was buried at Rose Bay. His death was noted with genuine sorrow by many in the colony. Several tributes were written acknowledging his importance to the story of early Australia.

Today, his legacy is perhaps most visible in the name of our own suburb, Bongaree. The spelling differs slightly from the man's name, but the meaning is the same.

It serves as a reminder of his visit to this island in 1799, his role in Australia's early maritime exploration, and the long history of Aboriginal presence along these shores.

When we walk along the foreshore at Bongaree and look across the Pumicestone Passage, it is worth remembering that Bungaree once stood on this same ground.

He travelled these waters with Matthew Flinders, shared moments of friendship and danger, and helped shape the early understanding of this coast.

He was a remarkable Australian, and his story remains an important part of our local heritage.

SPORTS PAGES

BRIBIE ISLAND BOWLS CLUB

Self Select Pairs Results
Friday AM 2 January 2026
Winners: M James, N Gray
Runners up: S Cook, J Hosie
Winning draw: BJ Adams, J Lonsdale
Winning draw: K Muller, S Muller
Encouragement award: L Wright, D McDougall

Self Select Pairs Results
Friday PM 2 January 2026
Winners: J Prowle, T Erfurth
Runners up: J Oliver, K Lafety
Winning draw: G Hazelwood, R Fowler
Winning draw: D Bowers, W Smidt
Winning draw: M Thompson, C Barklay
Encouragement: B Lamb, F Crockett

Random Select Fours Results
Saturday 3 January 2026
Winners: M Cherry, D Bishop, R Follett J Coleman
Runners up: M Thompson, K Mulpeter, J Teakle, I Teakle
Winning draw: I Gillard, P Barringhaus, J Brown, D Gilbert
Winning draw: G Low, I Smith, A Russell

Self Select Triples Results
Tuesday 6 January 2026
Winners: J Hosie, V McDermott, B Hosie
Runners up: Gary P, Bob T, David V
Winning draw: L Hurtz, B Williamson, R Ghest
Winning draw: B Stuart, T Pakehau, H Taylor
Encouragement: G Pitt, D Somerville, J Irvine

Self Select Pairs Results
Wednesday AM 7 January 2026
Winners: M Lowe, S Chandler
Runners up: M Thompson, G McEniery
Lucky draw: L Murphy, J Oliver
Lucky draw: D Hancox, S Hancox

Self Select Pairs Results
Wednesday PM 7 January 2026
Winners: K Smith, K Burdon
Runners up: A Wells, P Maloney
Winning Draw: M Cherry, L Williams
Winning draw: C Perkins, K Perkins
Winning draw: D Bowers, W Smilie
Encouragement: G Olson, W Kelly

Random Select Triples Results Thursday 8 January 2026
Lowest winning score: L Williams, K Mulpeter, C Hamilton
Winning draw: W Manson, T Charlwood, G Mellors
Winning draw: D Neumann, M Brown, K Mulpeter, D James
Winning draw: G Riley, D Davis, L Comacchio
Winning draw: B Kelly, A Russell, F Moses

Self Select Pairs Results
Friday AM 9 January 2026
Winners: S O'Neill, J Coleman
Runners up: K Bell, R Bell
Winning draw: S Chandler, M Lowe
Encouragement: M Thompson, N Holzberger

Self Select Pairs Results
Friday PM 9 January 2026
Winners: M Barclay, T Bishop
Runners up: W McDougall, P Maloney, J Cullen
Winning draw: T Whalley, A Buckmaster
Winning draw: B Hosie, M Beutell
Winning draw: K Smith, M Durham
Encouragement: W Hoelscher, R Hicks

Random Select Open Fours Results Saturday 10 January 2026
Winners: L Williams, G Hutchison, T Phillips
Runners up: J Teakle, M Cole, P Conn, C Draper
Winning draw: D Charlwood, J Herbert, R Bickerton, G Mulpeter
Winning draw: D Russell, S Russell, I Teakle, K Mulpeter
Winning draw: T Comacchio, W Manson, S Muller, E Thean

Scroungers Results Monday 12 January 2026
1st: W Gilbert
2nd: R Eaton
3rd: J Muller
4th: B Clarke

Self Select Triples Results
Tuesday 13 January 2026
Winners: S Brown, J Brown, M Brown
Runner up: P Mann, G Skoien, A Sturm
Winning draw: G Coleman, P Maloney, A Wells
Winning draw: W McDougall, L Wright, D McDougall
Winning draw: L Godfrey, L Hackwood, G Hutchinson
Encouragement: E Corrick, G Johnson, P Warwick

Self Select Pairs Results
Wednesday AM 14 January 2026
Winners: J Lonsdale, D Bishop
Runners up: D Heath, R Eaton
Lucky draw: A Mann, N Gray

Self Select Pairs Results
Wednesday PM 14 January 2026
Winners: M Andrews, R Ghest
Runners up: P Gray, J Oliver
Winning draw: E Stacey, I McLaren
Winning draw: M Prewitt, G Trevana
Encouragement: A Buckmaster, T Whalley

Random Select Triples Results Thursday 15 January 2026
Winners: D Cherry, G Hutchison, L Comacchio
Runners up: P Neumann, P Maloney
Winning draw: W Manson, L Mather, W Hoelscher
Winning draw: R Bickerton, T Phillips, B Ward
Encouragement: C Christiansen, J Herbert, Y Charter

Self Select Pairs Results
Friday AM 16 January 2026
Winners: L Williams, M Aubin
Runners up: P Nelson, T O'Loughlin
Winning draw: M James, N Gray
Winning draw: M Cherry, L Rowden
Encouragement: L Tweedle, BJ Adams

BONGAREE BOWLS RESULTS

Bongaree Bowls Club results from 20/12/2025 to 15/1/2026

Results of Saturday Scroungers 20/12/2025
1st: Paul Krueger. 2nd: Yuki King. 3rd: Richard Fell

Results of Tuesday Paddle Pop Draw Triples 23/12/2025
Winners: Pat Spice, Anita Broughton, John Morrison
R/Up: Frank Levey, Pat Warwick, Pam Spencer

Results of Tuesday Paddle Pop Draw Triples 6/1/2026
Winners: Diana Stowers, Prue Grounds, Ian Gillies
R/Up: Sue Francis, Gaynor Johnson, Richie Ferguson
Bonus Draw: Jackpot

Results of Wednesday Fours 7/1/2026
Winners: Jacque Murdoch, Rod Lethbourg, Prue Grounds
R/Up: Val Smith, Beryl Moor, Bob Vonarx, Pam Walker
Today was sponsored by Ray White Real Estate. Thanks again Bryce and your team for your ongoing support.

Results of Thursday Jackpot Pairs 8/1/2026
Winners: David Vaughan, Gary Pincott
R/Up: Mick Falvey, Chris McMillan

Results of Saturday Scroungers 10/1/2026
1st: Mick Falvey. 2nd: Andrea Pike. 3rd: Paul Krueger

Results of Tuesday Paddle Pop Draw Triples 13/1/2026
Winners: Nadia McIlveen, Sue Francis, Ray Broughton
R/Up: Laine Paterson, Dee Morrison, Ian Paterson
Bonus Draw: Kim Hagan, Anita Broughton

Results of Wednesday Fours 14/1/2026
Winners: Steve Mogan, Richard Fell, Robert Johnson, Gideon Croukamp,
R/Up: Carol Oates, Darryl Birt, Bev Birt, Joanna Horsley

SOLANDER LAKE BOWLS RESULTS

Solander Lake Social Bowls Results

Tuesday 6 January 2026 - Club Select Triples/Pairs
Winners: Chris Cumming, Mardy Brennan, Debbie Jackson
Second: Dianne Nock, Ann Larsen, Ralph Chaplin
Third: Jenny Cumming, Trish Kling

Wednesday 7 January 2026 - Self Select Pairs
Winners: Steve Ross, Peter Hodgson
Second: Vicki Mitchell, Wayne Mitchell
Third: Ian James, Errol Sharp

Thursday 8 January 2026 - Self Select Triples
Winners: Geoff Sorrensen, Wally Schmidt, Mike Jones
Second: John Sly, Keith Reithmuller, Mitch Magnussen
Third: Steve Jameson, Andy Ives, Jenny Jameson

Friday 9 January 2026 - Self Select Pairs
Winners: Steve Ross, Alan Thorpe
Second: Vicki Mitchell, Barry Curtis
1st round: Tony Miguel, Andy Denhert
2nd round: Krys Henshaw, Rob Henshaw

Saturday 10 January 2026 - Club Select Triples/Pairs
Winners: Ian Jackson, Robert James
Second: Sheila Jeffrey, Darryl Stone, Allan Matheson

Tuesday 13 January 2026 - Club Select Triples
Winners: Judy Pursehouse, Chris Cummins, Beryl Cowperthwaite
Second: Ralph Chaplin, Rosa McLeod, Debbie Jackson
Third: Ricci Harris, Bruce Crawford, Julie Watson

Wednesday 14 January 2026 - Self Select Pairs
Winners: Doug Brown, Ross Weir
Second: Steve Ross, Peter Hodgson
Third: Peter Neilson, Glenn McCarthy

Thursday 15 January 2026 - Self Select Triples
Winners: Brad Lawler, Stephen O'Grady, Brian Wrice
Second: Jeff Farmer, Ray Griffin, Vicki Mitchell
Third: Dianne Nock, Ian Jackson, Ron Boddenberg

Friday 16 January 2026 - Self Select Pairs
Pool A Winners: Brian Wrice, Chris Jenkins
Pool A Runners-up: Stephen O'Grady, Ian James
Pool B Winners: Declan Dawson, Deb Hill
Pool B Runners-up: Brad Lawler, Rob Dickson

Saturday 17 January 2026 - Club Select Triples
Winners: Cheryl Crawford, Janet Green, Brian Craitem
Second: Trish Kling, Bruce Crawford, Ray Zahl

BRIBIE ISLAND WOMEN'S GOLF RESULTS

RESULTS FOR BRIBIE ISLAND WOMEN'S GOLF 22 JAN 2026

22/01/26 4 Person Ambrose WINNERS Lorna Burns, Pauline Grooby, Abby Driver & Julie Bell 61.125

Runner Up Vivienne Learoyd, Lyn Cockerell, Myra Dickson & Charmaine Price 65.75
NTP Hole 4 Lorna Burns. H ole 7 Lyn Cockerell. Hole 14 Tricia Brown. Hole 16 Kris Tomalin

A very warm welcome back to all our ladies for the start of the 2026 season.

RUNNER UP Charmaine Lyn Vivienne Myra with Kate

WINNERS Lorna Pauline Julie Abby with Kate

MORETON BRIBIE BRIDGE CLUB

MORETON BRIBIE BRIDGE CLUB: Sat 3 Jan N/S 1 L Carr &J Wright 2 R Webb & L McLaren 3 R Sutton & J Kennedy E/W 1 J Kinross & B Connell 2 L Gadsby & J Fitzgerald 3 J Jones & K Cohen

Wed 7 Jan N/S 1R Sutton & M Bailey 2 L Carr &J Wright 3 H Standfast & J Budgeon E/W 1 G & S Barnulf 2 R Webb & L McLaren 3 J Easey & J Borowski

Sat 10 Jan N/S 1 H Standfast & J Budgeon 2 L Carr & J Wright 3 J Kinross & R Floquet E/W 1 J Hays &C Frederikson 2 L Gadsby & J Fitzgerald 3 J Borowski & D Scown

Wed 14 Jan N/S 1 L Carr & J Wright 2 C& S Wagg 3 R Webb & L McLaren E/W 1 J Hays & K Cohen 2 C & S Watson 3 J Lawson & A Bronn

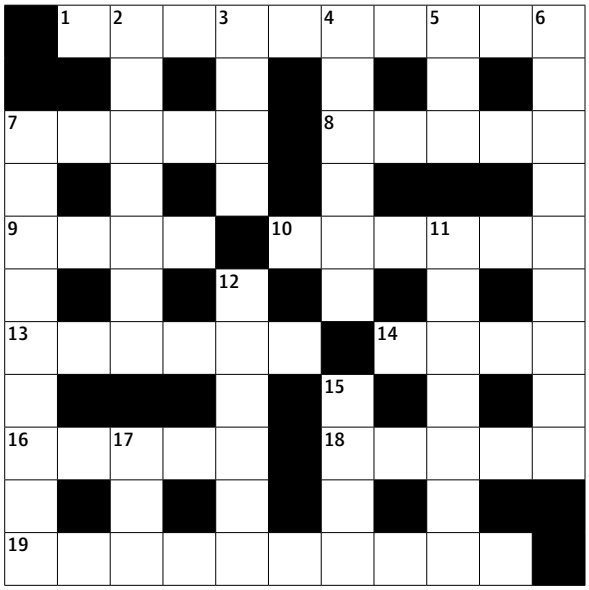
BICBC: Monday 4 Jan N/S 1 M Peterson & D Quinan 2 D Quinan & M Peart 3 M Arthur & R King E/W 1 C & R Perrott 2 G Lock & N Denvir 3 P Hexcel & C Browne

Monday12 Jan N/S 1 L Wilson & J Brazier 2 M Arthur & R King 3 P Edis & L Groves E/W 1 G Lock & N Denvir 2 L Manson & B Moxham 3 M Bailey & J Fitzgerald

The Club welcomes visitors and new players. For information phone **Ruth 0417656 693.**

Lessons and refresher classes available, phone **Helen 0427 567 670**

Crosswords - QUICK & CRYPTIC



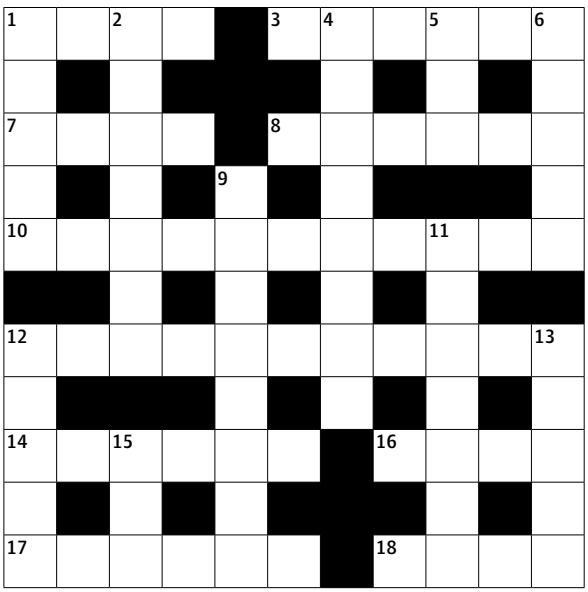
Across

1 U.S. Catalans dressed as festive character (5,5)
7 Impatient, mistakenly agree (5)
8 Essentially, man follows star imparting place to offer gifts (5)
9 Local farmer hides baby born in a stable? (4)
10 Compose a song fragment for Winter, perhaps (6)
13 Hearts of uncaring rascals effectively 'de-iced' where Father Christmas lives? (6)
14 Mongol dynasty concealing wise man's gift (4)
16 Designing caramels extremely messy in the centres – they're made for fun! (5)
18 They're looked after mostly by shepherds, to begin with (5)
19 Trimming the tree, perhaps mischievous dog in crate! (10)

Down

2 Nice gal resolved to become heavenly (7)
3 Pastry dish's toppings of treacle and roasted toffee (4)
4 Small church teach ape liturgy, in part (6)
5 The crowns of angels completely transform play (3)
6 Needs ears to become attuned to lover's songs (9)
7 Converted Multiplex change dreary content to some extent (9)
11 Frosty, say, early signs of somewhat nippy outdoor weather making animals nervous (7)
12 One under the mistletoe surprising skiers? (6)
15 Central characters exposed in spy blog – it's a conspiracy! (4)

CRYPTIC



Across

1 A lot to change for singer (4)
3 Without guidance, I'd fart carelessly (6)
7 Generous family with diamonds (4)
8 See Pat counterfeit old Spanish coin (6)
10 You and I will correct outspoken craftsman (11)
12 Patriots tussling with cop to get snack item (6,5)
14 Himalayan's unusual phrase (6)
16 Picked up lazy hero (4)
17 Pass the Spanish recess in church (6)
18 Studies deepness regularly (4)

Down

1 Wonky, like gardens in London (5)
2 Flog chap in function for mathematician (7)
4 Try to lose weight with wealthy Marlene? (8)
5 Cold water found in kitchen from time to time (3)
6 Dictator's followed in large area of land (5)
9 Australian, one producing egg supply at dances (8)
11 Good puzzle for cook (7)
12 Reportedly strode to get adhesive (5)
13 Gets the opinion of representative group of Europeans over the phone (5)
15 Odd characters thrown out of retrial for a long time (3

SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC SOLUTION

QUICK SOLUTION

KIDS'

SPOT THE 6 DIFFERENCES

Sudoku

		8		6	2			
	3		8	4		9		2
9		6					1	4
	1	2			8	6		
3				7	9		2	
	6		1				3	7
		1	7	8		3		
6	8	5	2			7	4	
4				9	6			1

FIND A WORD

T	V	O	B	M	S	O	B	S	S
R	Z	R	Y	O	N	S	E	N	S
O	Y	S	G	J	O	C	R	A	A
B	L	S	I	E	T	C	B	E	L
B	O	B	C	C	E	D	U	J	C
I	O	X	R	Y	R	E	S	Z	L
E	H	Y	U	O	W	S	R	K	B
J	C	Z	L	O	F	K	B	D	E
O	S	M	E	C	E	Q	P	W	M
K	F	F	R	L	G	U	O	D	T

ROBBIE SCHOOL CLASS JEANS
RULER DESK DOUG NOTE
BUS BO

Pawsome Pet Pages

PETS WITHOUT PEOPLE

If you have a pet that needs rehoming, please send us a photo and information so we can help put pets with people!

MESSAGE US ON FACEBOOK
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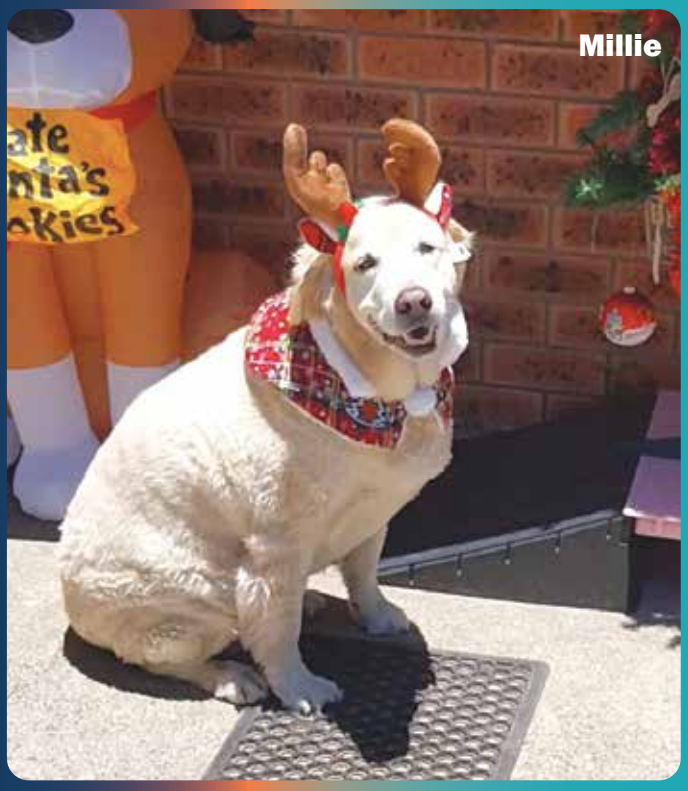
editor.thebribieislander@gmail.com

Lync

Abby

Astro

Silo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Mitzi

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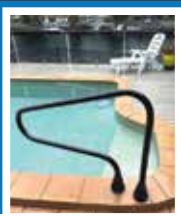

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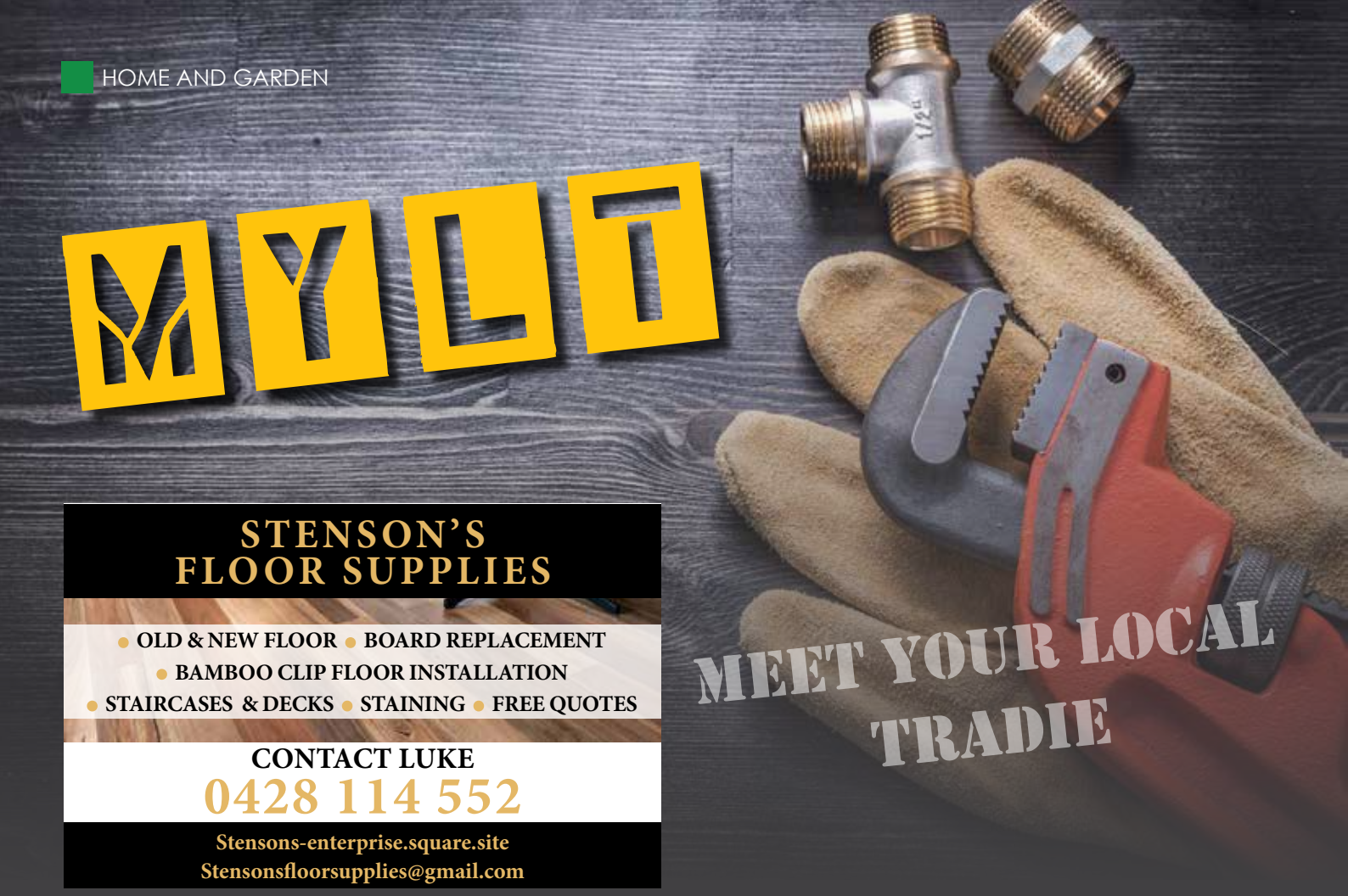

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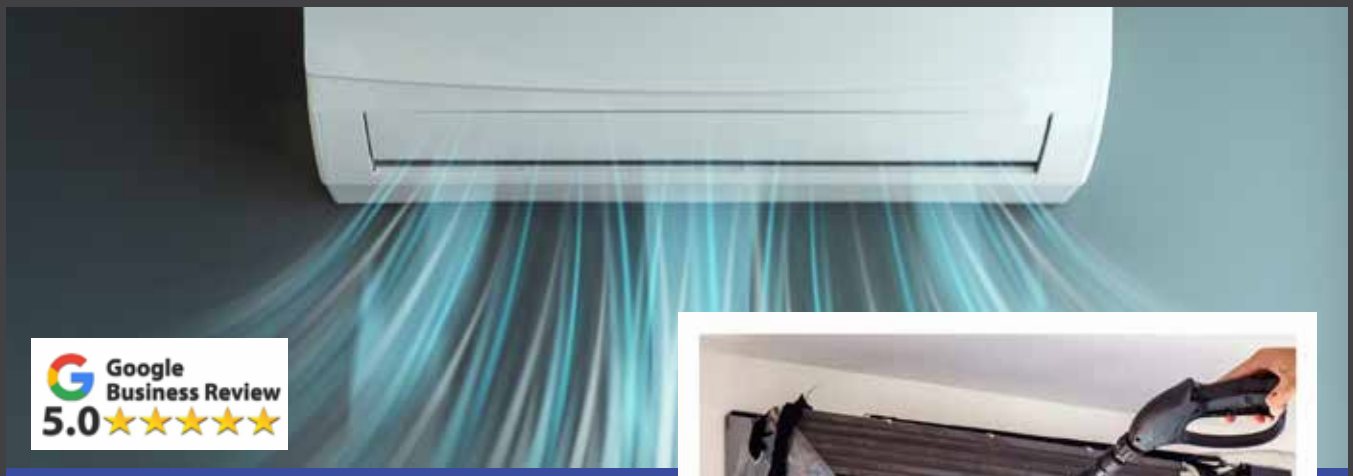

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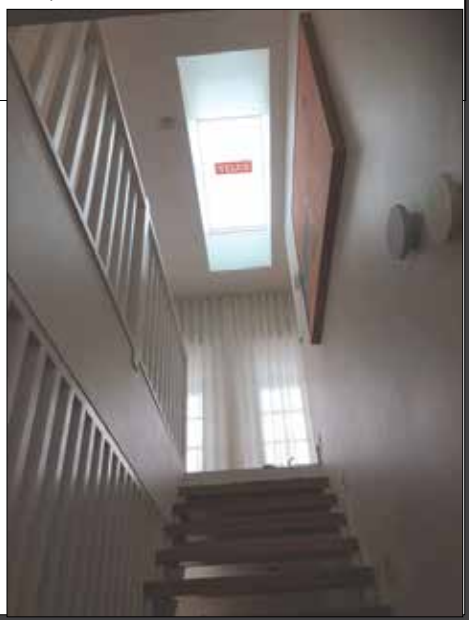

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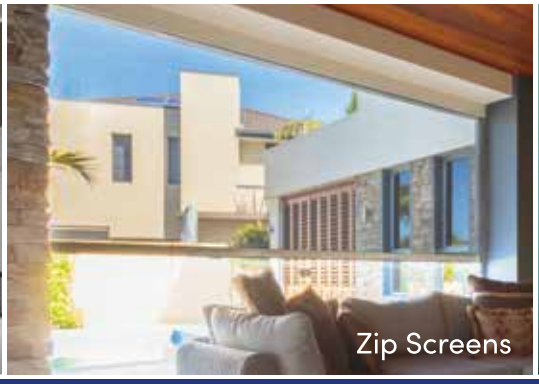
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TERMITES

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

As Clint Eastwood said in Pale Rider, 'Sometimes if you want to see a change for the better, you have to take things into your own hands.' I have termites. There. I've said it. And they're eating me out of house and home. Literally.

Honestly, take your eye off home maintenance for a minute (OK, thirty years) and you can find yourself the proud owner of a large pile of sawdust and a few metal outdoor chairs.

The problem was highlighted with the arrival of my beautiful grandson. My daughter and I were wondering in which doorway to put the jolly jumper.

As it turned out, my architraves (well, not mine, but the house) had all been consumed by these little critters to the point of no return – and certainly would not support a jolly jumper containing a small baby.

Look – I've shared my house with many creatures. A blue-tongued lizard visited me many years ago and took up residence under the filing cabinet.

Apart from the occasional heart-stopping encounter at 2 am in the hallway on the way to the loo (me, not her) we rubbed along just fine. Then there was the Long March of the Maggots in 2014.

These hideous little wrigglers escaped from the kitchen bin and were making their way north when I accosted them with a jug of boiling water and vinegar. Ugh.

What is it about maggots that elicit that shudder I wonder? And don't tell me you've never had them!

How well I remember the Coffee Machine Ant Infestation of 2021! Large black ants had colonised my coffee maker and turned it into an ant apartment, inviting all their pals to come and live, rent-free and with a perpetual lease.

As their unwitting landlord, it wasn't easy to evict them and yes, there were casualties. I've had geckos in my pantry, and moths of course and most recently, a snake in my washing machine.

Seriously. I put the machine on spin cycle and haven't seen him since. My house is Mecca for snakes apparently – that's a whole other column. (If you do encounter an extremely clean python somewhere on Brisbane's northside, that will probably be him.)

I guess if I'd ever been able to keep a husband, he may have kept on top of these skittering, sliding, slimy, insatiable creatures. Is that sexual stereotyping?

I know it's slack but honestly, I've had better things to do in my life than address these issues. Taking up the double bass (I better check the termites haven't indulged). Learning to make my own sourdough bread. Macrame. Lying on the couch bingeing on Netflix.

Back to the termites and the state of my architraves. As I look around my house (office, hallway, every bedroom ... aargh!) at the black gaffer tape covering the places termites have consumed, I know I have to remedy the situation once and for all.

My chickens have come home to roost. Well, they would if there was something left to roost on!

It's either take action or move. No more Ms Nice Guy. I am taking things into my own hands. So I've paid a company a small fortune to protect what's left of my crumbling, humble abode.

I've demolished the pine room under the house (To be honest, the termites had already done the lion's share of the demolition). And I've engaged a builder to replace my architraves.

I've learnt my lesson. No more 'head in the sand, she'll be right' attitude. From now on, I will be a termite vigilante, checking the perimeter every day. I will take no prisoners.

This is a fight to the death.

I'm taking my cue from the tough-talking Clint. I tried being reasonable. I didn't like it. So go ahead, you timber-munching, pine-scoffing, ugly little varmints. Go ahead and make my day.

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Jack has been treating and taking care of my lawn for the last 18 months/2 years and the lawn always looks fantastic. The treatment he uses and the advice he gives to keep the lawn looking top notch through all the seasons works perfectly. I highly recommend this service to keep your lawn looking spot on.
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Liana L
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Irene M
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Jack has been treating our lawn for several years now and taken it from basically weed, to a lush spongy green lawn all year round. The regular fertilising and weed treatment is fundamental to this result but equally important is his advice and ongoing support that allows us to keep it this way.

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FIRE ANT INVASION THREATENS QUEENSLAND'S KOALAS AND NATIVE WILDLIFE

The swift actions of Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) and the Fire Ant Suppression Taskforce (FAST) will ensure koalas in Brisbane's west remain protected from the devasting impact of fire ants.

A recent discovery of fire ant colonies with multiple queens in a eucalyptus plantation providing vital food for rescued koalas serves as a reminder of the threat this globally recognised super pest poses to Australia's iconic species and fragile ecosystems.

Testing confirmed the detected fire ant colonies contain hundreds of fire ant queens, making them particularly dangerous and capable of rapid expansion.

These types of colonies with multiple queens per nest are referred to as polygyne colonies.

Polygyne colonies of fire ants dominate local habitats, amplifying the threat as each queen can lay up to 5,000 eggs a day.

The impacted areas were treated, including by the use of aerial drone application. Additional treatments will continue in coming weeks to prevent the fire ants spreading.

Fire ants are equally dangerous to kangaroos, echidnas, reptiles and ground-dwelling birds. Their ability to thrive in diverse environments – including foraging in mud and rafting across waterways – risks the safety of countless native species. An independent 2021 cost-benefit analysis by Central Queensland University revealed that, if left untreated, fire ants will cause catastrophic economic and environmental damage, including $84 million in harm to Queensland's natural environment.

The Queensland Government's FAST in collaboration with the National Fire Ant Eradication Program remains committed to stopping the spread of fire ants and protecting our environment and wildlife.

FAST urges all residents in suppression treatment areas to sign up for free treatment products to keep our iconic species, pets and family members safe.

Communities are urged to stay vigilant and monitor their properties and local green spaces for fire ant and nests and report any suspected nests immediately at fireants.org.au/report or by calling 132 ANT (13 22 68).

Early detection and reporting are critical for safeguarding Queensland's biodiversity and ensuring the survival of its native species.

Quotes attributable to Mr Mick Jeffery, Director Operations, Fire Ant Suppression Taskforce:
'The discovery of fire ants foraging in eucalyptus trees in Brisbane's west is deeply concerning yet underscores the success of continued and collaborative action against fire ants,' he said.

'The Queensland Government's Fire Ant Suppression Taskforce remains dedicated to supporting Queenslanders in our fight against fire ants.

> 'if left untreated, the consequences for our environment, wildlife, and way of life would be catastrophic.'

Residents in the suppression treatment area who find fire ants on their property are encouraged to request a free, fast-acting nest treatment kit, enabling them to take swift and effective action to eliminate these invasive pests.

These kits are delivered in the mail, allowing households to treat fire ants at their convenience.

'On behalf of the taskforce and the National Fire Ant Eradication Program, I would like to thank Queensland's Parks and Wildlife Service for their vigilance and collaboration in protecting these critical areas for our koalas.

'We are fully aware of the threat this super pest poses to our unique fauna and are eagerly awaiting the outcomes of our joint research on fire ant impacts for Australia's iconic species.

'Fire ants pose a significant threat to both human and animal health, with the potential to infest up to 97 per cent of Australia if left untreated, the consequences for our environment, wildlife, and way of life would be catastrophic.'

'Eradicating fire ants is a shared responsibility; we need every Queenslander's help and ask people to stay vigilant and report any suspected sightings.'

'Together, we can stop the spread of fire ants and safeguard our state for future generations.'

For more information or to report fire ant sightings, visit fireants.org.au or call 132 ANT (13 22 68).

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For more than 20 years, AJ Smartmove has helped Bribie families through some of life's biggest transitions. Every box packed, every piece of furniture carried, and every key handed over has been more than just a job—it's been a moment of trust.

Through all these moves, AJ Smartmove has built a reputation not just for reliability, but for being there when it matters most. As a family-owned business, they understand how personal moving can be.

With family members like the owner's daughter managing the accounts, every part of the business is handled with genuine care.

Their deep roots in Bribie show in countless ways. Their children grew up here and went to local schools. Over the years, AJ Smartmove has become more than just a service provider—they are neighbours, supporters, and friends to many.

Whether helping at local events or supporting community groups, they've become a name that people know they can trust when life is changing. Speaking of changing, they now offering self-storage for the budget conscious!

The family spirit at AJ Smartmove shapes everything they do. Many clients speak about the warmth and respect they feel, and how the team treats every move as if it were their own. In a world where businesses often come and go, AJ Smartmove's enduring presence is a testament to their commitment—not just to service, but to people.

They've weathered the ups and downs of changing times by never forgetting the human side of their work.

AJ Smartmove started with just one truck and a lot of dedication. Today, they have seven trucks and a busy storage business, but what matters most is what hasn't changed: their welcoming approach and the pride they take in looking after each customer. Growth hasn't changed their values—

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it's only made them more committed to treating every move with the same personal touch as their very first. Every new team member learns not just the skills, but the heart behind the business.

By hiring local people, AJ Smartmove invests in the community, building a team that truly understands what matters to Bribie families.

It's this local knowledge and empathy that turns a stressful move into a positive experience for so many. AJ Smartmove constantly looks for ways to make life a little easier for their customers.

Their innovative container delivery service means families spend less time worrying about logistics and more time focusing on settling into their new homes. It's these thoughtful touches that show how much they care about the people they serve.

AJ Smartmove works with government agencies, local businesses and schools making them a trusted partner for many clients and strengthening their role in the region.

These partnerships help AJ Smartmove handle complex projects and serve a wide range of clients, from families moving homes to government departments requiring specialized logistics.

Their smooth coordination with others shows their professionalism and reliability. AJ Smartmove's storage solutions are designed for real people and real lives.

Whether it's helping a family downsize, supporting someone through a big life change, or just clearing a bit of extra space, their team is ready with understanding and practical help.

They offer self-storage for the budget conscious. It's not just about storing things—it's about making room for new memories.

AJ Smartmove's story is about more than trucks and boxes. It's about people, resilience, and genuine care—a reminder of what local business can mean to a community.

Through hard work and a heartfelt commitment to their customers, they've become a trusted part of many families' journeys, both big and small.

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The Best

Plants for Poolside Paradise:

How Thoughtful Landscaping Transforms Outdoor Living

Bribie Island, with its balmy subtropical climate and coastal charm, is an idyllic location for backyard pools.

Yet, the secret to creating a true poolside oasis lies not just in the water but in the landscaping that surrounds it.

The right selection of plants can elevate both the beauty and functionality of your outdoor space, transforming a simple swimming area into a lush retreat.

Choosing the Perfect Poolside Plants for Bribie Island

When selecting plants for a pool consider factors such as salt tolerance, low maintenance requirements, and resistance to wind and sun. Here are some top choices:

1. Tropical Palms: Species like Golden Cane Palm (Dypsis lutescens) and Bangalow Palm (Archontophoenix cunninghamiana) provide shade, privacy, and a classic resort feel.

Their non-invasive roots and minimal leaf drop make them ideal for poolside planting.

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2. Bird of Paradise (Strelitzia reginae):
With its striking orange and blue flowers and bold foliage, this plant adds a dramatic, tropical flair without causing maintenance headaches.

3. Agave and Yucca:
These architectural succulents are drought-tolerant, require little care, and add a modern touch to pool areas.

4. Hibiscus:
Vibrant blooms and lush green leaves make hibiscus a popular choice for adding colour and softness. They thrive in Bribie's climate and attract butterflies for extra visual delight.

5. Lomandra and Dianella:
These native grasses are hardy, low-maintenance, and provide a contemporary look, perfect for border plantings around paving.

6. Coastal Rosemary (Westringia fruticosa):
This tough, salt-tolerant native shrub is ideal for coastal locations and requires minimal pruning.

7. Frangipani (Plumeria):
Iconic in Queensland, frangipanis offer fragrant flowers and a relaxed tropical vibe, though best planted where leaf drop won't make a mess in the pool.

The Power of Thoughtful Landscaping

Strategic landscape design does more than beautify—it enhances poolside enjoyment and value. Well-chosen plants create privacy screens, provide cooling shade, and soften hard surfaces.

They can also reduce glare, shield from coastal winds, and limit pool debris with their tidy growth habits. Smart landscaping incorporates non-slip paving, mulching, and thoughtful plant placement to ensure maintenance is a breeze.

Beyond function, a carefully curated garden sets the mood—whether you prefer a vibrant family space, a serene retreat, or an entertainer's paradise. Investing in professional landscaping or well-researched DIY design will pay dividends in relaxation, aesthetics, and even property value.

On Bribie Island, where indoor-outdoor living is a way of life, the right plants and landscaping around your pool can make every swim feel like a holiday at home.

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RED TAPE

and skill shortages stall builder hiring despite housing boom.

Australia's construction sector is facing a paradox: a surging demand for new homes, but a workforce too constrained to meet it.

While buyers and investors eagerly pursue opportunities in a booming housing market, many builders are struggling to expand their teams.

The reasons are complex, involving not only a chronic shortage of skilled workers but also a growing tangle of regulatory and administrative barriers that make it harder to bring new staff on board. The Housing Industry Association (HIA) says residential builders and trades remain cautious about hiring in 2026.

Their hesitation is not due to a lack of housing demand, which remains robust, but because of mounting cost pressures, increasingly complex regulatory hurdles, and persistent skills shortages.

These findings come from a recent survey of small to medium enterprise members, painting a picture of an industry eager to grow but held back by external constraints.
As new home building slows under these pressures, more buyers are turning to the already limited stock of existing homes.

This trend is contributing to increased competition for established properties and driving prices higher, particularly in popular suburbs.

For many would-be homeowners, buying an already built house is becoming the only viable

leading edge
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option, even as prices outpace wage growth.

According to the Housing Industry Association, the ongoing challenges in the construction sector are making it even harder for first-time buyers to afford homes and are increasing pressure on the rental market as more people are unable to buy property.

HIA Managing Director Jocelyn Martin emphasized the need for stronger action against unlawful practices in the construction industry.

"Builders are ready to bring more people into the industry, including apprentices and skilled trades, but current conditions make it difficult to do so with confidence.

This is about managing risk and capacity, not a lack of work or willingness to employ."

According to HIA, 67% of small business members report difficulties recruiting or retaining skilled staff and trades, while 56% say they have had to redirect staff time to manage regulatory and compliance requirements.

These challenges, builders say, often force them to choose between pursuing new projects and simply keeping up with paperwork. As a result, many businesses are operating below capacity, turning away work they might otherwise take on.

"These results contrast with more positive employment expectations in other sectors, highlighting the unique pressures facing residential construction," Ms Martin said.

She noted that while other industries are ramping up recruitment, home builders are caught in a cycle of risk aversion, unable to commit to hiring without greater certainty from policymakers and regulators.

"Training apprentices and developing skills takes time, stability and certainty. When businesses face delayed approvals, inconsistent regulations, and rising costs such as insurance and workers' compensation, it becomes much harder to invest in long-term workforce development.

"The administrative and compliance burden for hiring, managing and training apprentices is also disproportionately higher on small businesses, which don't have a dedicated human resource manager.

"When asked about the current pressures facing their business, the availability and the cost of skilled labour both ranked in the top 5 issues, at 62% and 61% respectively.

"HIA is calling for streamlined planning systems, reduced regulatory duplication, and stronger skills pathways to give builders the confidence to hire, train and retain more workers.

Industry stakeholders argue that with targeted government support—including investments in training, apprenticeship incentives, and efforts to simplify building approvals—the sector could unlock thousands of new jobs and help ease the national housing shortage.

"Getting these settings right is essential if we are serious about increasing housing supply.

With the right policy environment, the home building industry can strengthen its skilled workforce, grow employment and play a leading role in addressing Australia's housing needs," Ms Martin concluded.

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The Use of Stripes In 2026

There will be a saturation of patterns from animal prints, florals, heritage block prints and stripes. The design style is to steer away from minimalism and move towards layered, tactile personal spaces creating character.

Stripes will be a big design choice for 2026. Black and white stripes are re-emerging to create a sense of classic styling, complimented by deep, contrasting colours that contribute to a more sophisticated and striking look. However, saturation is key in 2026, and stripes are no exception to this design trend.

Stripe Saturation involves layering complimentary or contrasting stripes on multiple surfaces i.e. walls, upholstery, curtains, and rugs. Using different widths for depth. Stripes are set to be bold and layered, featuring personalised designs that embrace "stripe drenching" with different widths and colours across walls, furniture, and accessories.

Whether using timeless black and white or vibrant, rich palettes, these stripes create dynamic spaces that feel both traditional and strikingly modern, sometimes incorporating texture or architectural details for added flair.

Vertical stripes can give the illusion of a higher ceiling, while horizontal stripes help make small rooms look wider. This can be achieved by using Wallpaper, Fabric, Tiles, Panelling like Slat Walls and Mouldings.

You can incorporate striped cushions, throws, bedhead and bedwear, rugs, curtains or a statement striped armchair to enhance the space with character, without the need to apply stripes to entire walls. A striped rug helps establish a defined living area in an open-plan room.

Stripe Colour Combinations can vary from Earthy and Neutral to create a classic styling / Tone on Tone to minimise the stripe effect / Retro and Bold Combinations to create a distinctive visual impact.

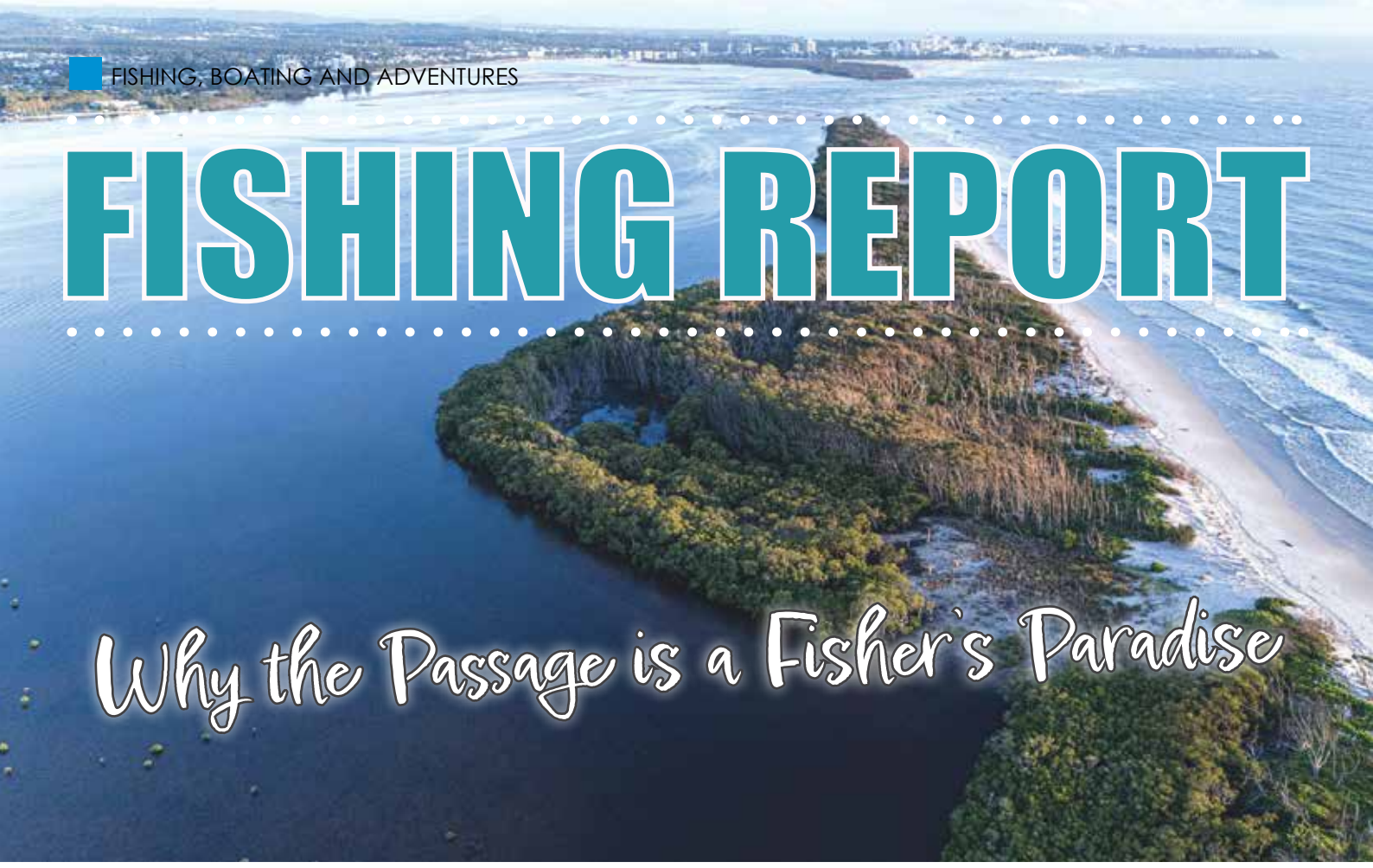
Use stripes with complimentary patterns, such as florals and animal prints to create a design style that is layered and sophisticated. Stripes have always been a popular trend and remain so today due to their versatility, it all comes down to how you use them. Depending on their colour and scale, stripes can bring structure, energy, or calm to a space.

If saturation of colour and design is not your design trend for 2026, I would encourage you to use stripes wisely. Perhaps keep it simple and classic for 2026. What you add today can be paired back tomorrow.

Images from Harlequin, Thibaut

Ivory T - fabric & wallpaper 0422599084

FISHING REPORT



Why the Passage is a Fisher's Paradise

The passage is an angler's dream. The excitement of landing a big catch mixes with the calm of mangrove-lined channels. Generations have fished here for bream, flathead, mangrove jacks, and whiting, building friendships along the banks and boats.

Every trip brings new stories—the thrill of a flathead striking a lure or coaxing a bream from its hideout. The camaraderie and the chase keep people coming back. For fishing lovers, there's nowhere better.

Mangrove flats and winding channels stretch from northern Moreton Bay to Caloundra, offering paradise for anyone who loves fishing. Every trip brings anticipation, patience, and improved skills with each cast. Whether you're a seasoned angler or a beginner, the passage has something for everyone. It's a place for lifelong memories and personal bests.

A University of Queensland report notes that research in south-east Queensland's fisheries has guided fishery management, especially since commercial netting ended in the Pumicestone Passage in 1996. Old-timers recall epic days when every cast brought a surprise. The passage isn't just a place to fish—it's where legends are made.

You'll hear tales of trophy flathead and elusive mangrove jack finally landed after long battles. The passage is home to bream, whiting, tailor, snapper, and big mulloway. Every cast could be your best, and each trip adds a new story for the ramp.

Mud crabs, prawns, and sand crabs are plentiful if you know where to look. Hauling up a full pot or net of prawns after rain is the perfect addition to any fishing feast.

Flathead are passage stars, with several species available. Chase big duskies along channel edges with a 3-inch soft plastic and 10lb leader. For whiting, flick baits across the flats on a rising tide. Gear and timing matter.

Bream and mangrove jacks are the passage's brawlers, smashing baits as the tide turns. The right tide can be the difference between a story and a lost fish. But it's not just about the fish—every trip brings surprises. Whiting fishing has been especially productive, especially with live yabbies and worms near Toobal. These moments keep anglers swapping stories long after the day is done.

For bigger fish, the deep holes and channels hold mulloway, cod, snapper, and sweetlip—the fish of legends and every angler's dream. Waters near the bridge attract big fish and serious anglers. Drop your bait deep and hang on—you never know what'll hit next.

Coral and underwater structures offer more places for fish to hide—and more challenges for anglers. Further up, the man-made shellfish reef draws baitfish and predators. It's a hotspot for action.

Keep an eye out for threadfin salmon, barramundi, and grunter—catching these is a badge of honour for passage anglers. Surf fishing on Bribie's outer beaches is underrated less crowded but rewarding for those who make the effort.

Skirmish Point is a must-visit, packed with action. School mackerel, tailor, dart, bream, and whiting are common. There's always a chance at a mixed bag and a day to remember.

Fishing spots

• At the Brisbane end of the passage, the Bribie Island bridge acts like a huge artificial reef in deep water. You can fish near the bridge by boat, but the tide moves quickly.

It's best to fish when the tide is turning. You can catch cod, mulloway, bream, mangrove jacks, trevally, flathead, tuskfish, sweetlip, snapper, and more here. Tailor is also caught in season from June to August.

• Bongaree Jetty, near deep water, offers similar catches to the bridge. You can fish here on foot, but it's best to go early or late to avoid jet ski riders and crowds. You can also try fishing the deep drop-off from the

beaches near Bongaree jetty.

• Bribie's canals are great for catching bream, mangrove jacks, and small trevally.

• Between the bridge and jetty, the canal entrance known as The Lock is a top spot for mangrove jacks. Further north, the Pacific Harbour canals offer the same types of fish. You can sometimes catch sweetlip at the entrance to Pacific Harbour.

• Red Beach, at the southern tip of the island, is known for winter whiting. These small but tasty fish are caught in large numbers during the season around Brisbane.

• North of Bribie Bridge, you can fish at Sylvan Beach and Banksia Beach on foot. Here, you'll mostly find bream, tailor, whiting, and flathead.

• There are more remote fishing spots further north. White Patch is the last place you can reach with a 2WD vehicle. You'll need a 4WD to access the tracks and campgrounds in Bribie National Park.

• Gallaghers Gutter is near Gallaghers Campground and serves as an excellent fishing spot. In the northern areas, bream, whiting, flathead, occasional mulloway, and mud crabs are the main catches.

• Further north, Poverty Creek Campground offers the same fish and is known for mud crabs. Going further north, you can only reach Mission Point Campground by boat. The closest boat ramp is at Donnybrook.

Bribie Island Marine Zones

Before you fish, check the marine park zones within the Moreton Bay Marine Park. The government's PDF zoning map is available online. Knowing these zones is important because they protect key habitats that help fish stocks recover and maintain healthy marine life. By respecting these areas, anglers help create a sustainable environment and make sure there will be plenty of fish for future generations.

Inside Pumicestone Passage, there's a large sanctuary zone around Long Island, along with other restricted areas.

Crabbing and prawning

• To catch sand crabs (blue crabs), try the southern entry to the passage and up to the Mission Point sandbanks. According to Wikifishingspots, prawns are best caught in the passage after heavy rain in mid to late summer.

• Cooks Rocks: You can catch jewfish, cod, and snapper here.

• Bongaree Ledge: Look for sweetlip, snapper, cod, and tuskfish.

• Ningi Creek is a good spot for boaters because it's accessible at all tides and offers a variety of species.

• Donnybrook jetty: Prawns are best from February to March. You can also catch bream, grunter, whiting, flathead, mulloway, and crabs.

• At Dunlops Gutter (Donnybrook), you'll find bream a few metres out from the boat ramp.

• Glasshouse Mountains Creek: Look for mud crabs, flathead, whiting, bream, grunter, and prawns.

• You can catch sweetlip, small snapper, cod, and tuskfish on the reefs and coffee rock in the deeper parts of the passage.

Surf fishing

Woorim is a handy surf beach on Bribie Island's ocean side. You'll mostly catch whiting, dart, and bream here. It's popular for surf fishing and is only a short walk from the carpark. It produces mackerel from the beach in season, as well as whiting, tailor, dart, and more.

North of Woorim, there's a 4WD beach access point. With a Beach Access Permit, you can book coastal campsites in advance. Dart, whiting, flathead, tailor, and bream are all caught in the surf here.

General tips

• Because the water is usually clear and many people fish here, bigger fish can be cautious and hard to catch. Patience is important, and sometimes the best part is enjoying the quiet moments between bites. If the big fish aren't biting, take in the peaceful surroundings. The calm of the passage is its own reward while you wait for your next catch.

• For the best results, use fresh or live bait and light tackle. Soldier crabs work well for attracting whiting, while live herring is excellent for luring in flathead.

• Fishing at night can also improve your chances.

• There's a strong current here, so try fishing deep areas when the tide is turning. For whiting and bream, fish the flats as the tide comes in.

• The early outgoing tide is good for catching flathead around mud or sand drains, where baitfish are moving out.

• According to a recent Coastwatch report, whiting fishing in the Pumicestone Passage has been especially productive, particularly when using live yabbies and worms, and the Caloundra area is yielding good numbers of whiting, often alongside bream.

TIDE TIMES

Bribie Island AND Moreton Bay

Fri 16 Jan	Sat 17 Jan	Sun 18 Jan	Mon 19 Jan	Tue 20 Jan	Wed 21 Jan	Thu 22 Jan
1:36 am	2:20 am	2:58 am	3:33 am	4:07 am	4:44 am	5:21 am
0.45m	0.4m	0.35m	0.31m	0.28m	0.27m	0.29m
8:46 am	9:22 am	9:53 am	10:23 am	10:53 am	11:25 am	11:59 am
1.91m	1.96m	2m	2.04m	2.07m	2.08m	2.05m
3:23 pm	3:54 pm	4:23 pm	4:52 pm	5:22 pm	5:55 pm	6:28 pm
0.6m	0.56m	0.52m	0.49m	0.45m	0.41m	0.38m
8:39 pm	9:15 pm	9:48 pm	10:22 pm	10:58 pm	11:37 pm	
1.31m	1.36m	1.41m	1.46m	1.5m	1.54m	

Fri 23 Jan	Sat 24 Jan	Sun 25 Jan	Mon 26 Jan	Tue 27 Jan	Wed 28 Jan	Thu 29 Jan
12:18 am	1:03 am	1:54 am	2:51 am	4:00 am	5:17 am	6:34 am
1.58m	1.61m	1.65m	1.68m	1.73m	1.8m	1.91m
6:02 am	6:47 am	7:39 am	8:45 am	10:14 am	11:48 am	1:15 pm
0.35m	0.44m	0.55m	0.66m	0.74m	0.74m	0.66m
12:34 pm	1:12 pm	1:54 pm	2:45 pm	3:50 pm	5:14 pm	6:43 pm
1.99m	1.87m	1.72m	1.55m	1.4m	1.3m	1.3m
7:02 pm	7:37 pm	8:16 pm	9:04 pm	10:07 pm	11:20 pm	
0.36m	0.35m	0.37m	0.4m	0.42m	0.42m	

BUSY END TO 2025

The Christmas/New Year period as usual was a busy time for boaties on the water and the "Storm Season" conditions also kept MRQ Bribie Island busy!

Bribie 1 tows a grounded 12-metre pilothouse sailing yacht to deeper water off Woorim.

Competent crew Dave Logie throws a line to crew Ross Perry to secure another "drifter" in the Pumicestone Passage.

Assist a boatie retreive his vessel in high winds.

PARKING PBR SANDSTONE PT HOTEL

The last parking event for the year – Wednesday 31st December 2025 at the Sandstone Point Hotel. Professional Bull Riding, featuring top-tier riders, rising stars from the Can-Am Junior Academy, live music, and non-stop entertainment.

A big shout out to the following members giving up their holiday time to raise funds for all our volunteers. Parking Team Leader Jim Brown, assisted by Mark Paterson, Andrew Wilmot, Liz Radajewski, Allen Davey, Lindsay Crompton, Paul Gillmore, and Peter McNamara. Payment Team led by Kelly Langworthy, with Lindsay Paterson, Karen Arthurs, Kate Brown, Sheryl & John Traill.

Paul Comiskey in his bobcat checks everything is "shipshape" at the pay point.

Kate Brown directs traffic to the pay point.

Allan Davey directs traffic.

FREQUENTIS VISIT

Monday 12th January 2026 - Marine Rescue Bribie Island had a visit from the Frequentis team, where they presented Supporters Association President Kelly Langworthy with a donation of $5,000 in support of our primary role of saving lives in our local waterways.

Frequentis provides our world-leading digital marine radio systems, that are essential to keeping our community safe on the water. Managing Director Martin Rampl along with Mehmet Aksu and Con Doulgeris enjoyed a morning tea with Radio Officer Peter McNamara, President Kelly Langworthy, Vice President John O'Hagan and MRQ Unit Commander Gary Voss.

Mehmet Aksu, President Kelly Langworthy, Gary Voss, Martin Rampl, Con Doulgeris, and Vice President John O'Hagan.

"ACTIVATE MRQ" TRAINING

Saturday 17th January 2026 – Radio Operator training was held on the new platform ActivateMRQ, which is MRQ's new digital marine operations system for managing crews, activations, and reporting. ActivateMRQ has the power to share data, provide real-time information, reduce duplication, and streamline the end-to-end activation process.

With ActivateMRQ, Marine Rescue Bribie Island will have access to:

- easier crew and vessel scheduling
- real-time operational data
- consistent processes across all units
- better visibility for Unit Leaders, Skippers, and State Coordination
- integrated disaster and emergency response with other Queensland government agencies and responders.

The ActivateMRQ pilot program officially began on 8 November and includes MRQ units at Victoria Point, Bundaberg, Gladstone, and Jacobs Well – shortly to include Bribie Island!
MRQ Victoria Point's Dave McLean led the session with the technical assistance of Mohan Damacharla from MRQ.

Above and below: - Dave McLean runs through some of the examples in ActivateMRQ with MRQ Bribie Island's Senior Radio Operators Peter Morton and Dave Nicholls in the foreground.

UNIT COMMANDER GARY'S SAFETY MESSAGE:

"Having the right safety equipment on your boat and knowing how to use it is essential. The safety equipment you need to carry depends on where you are operating, and in some cases the size of your boat. Just as a reminder:

Pumicestone Passage is classed as "smooth waters". Here you **must** carry lifejackets for everyone on board, a torch at night, and a fire extinguisher if you are over 5m. You **should** also carry an anchor, drinking water, oars (<6m) and a bilge pump or bailer.

Moreton Bay is classified as "Partially Smooth Waters" and requires all the above, **plus** flares and a "V Sheet" – with a navigation device (compass, chart, GPS) also being recommended.

In "**Open Water"** (beyond a line between Skirmish Pt and Comboyuro Pt), you **must** also have a registered EPIRB. For full details visit msq.qld.gov.au:

While on the subject of lifejackets:
We are still seeing lots of boaties out there who may need a refresh on the new lifejacket rules.

You MUST WEAR a lifejacket:

- when boating alone (or alone with kids under 12) in an open boat less than 4.8m long while underway.
- when boating at night in an open boat less than 4.8m long and underway.
- when crossing a bar in an open boat (or on the open deck of any boat).
- if you are a child under 12 (and over 1yo) on an open boat (or on the open deck of any boat) while underway.

JANUARY ASSISTS

THU 01/01 1445PM –3m Jet Ski 3POB aground between Goat and Long Islands, required a tow to deeper water.
FRI 02/01 1209PM – 8m Centre Console 2POB with motor issues at Red Beach, required a tow to Toorbul boat ramp.
FRI 02/01 1710PM – 5.1 Bowrider 5POB with motor issues, required a tow from between Red Beach and Buckley's Hole to Bellara boat ramp.
SAT 03/01 2040AM – Tasked by QAS to transport 2 Paramedics to Tangalooma and medevac a patient back to MRQ Bribie.
SAT 03/01 0714AM – 4.5m Tinny 2POB taking on water at Banksia Beach Bird Park, assisted and accompanied back to Bellara boat ramp.
SAT 03/01 0731AM – 16m international yacht 1POB towed to Brisbane River Border Force HQ for quarantine and customs clearance.
SAT 03/01 1232PM – 4m Tinny 3POB motor has fallen off, requiring a tow from mouth of Ningi Creek
SUN 04/01 0232AM - Tasked by QAS to transport 2 Paramedics to Tangalooma and medevac a patient back to MRQ Bribie.
SUN 04/01 1418PM – 3m Jet Ski with flooded engine compartment at Sandstone Point Jetty, required a tow to Spinnaker Sound Marina.
SUN 04/01 1439PM – 7.3m Yacht with centre board stuck in mud, required a tow into Spinnaker Sound Marina.
MON 05/01 0938AM - Tasked by QAS to transport 2 Paramedics to Tangalooma and medevac a patient back to MRQ Bribie.
TUE 06/01 2145PM - Tasked by QAS to transport 2 Paramedics to Tangalooma and medevac a patient back to MRQ Bribie.
THU 08/01 0839AM – 12m Cruiser 2POB with all batteries flat at Tangalooma required a jump start
THU 08/01 1506PM – 5.5m Cuddy Cabin 2POB with a flat battery required a jump start North of Ningi Creek.
SAT 10/01 1458PM – 4.5m Tinny 3POB with motor issues required a tow to Toorbul boat ramp.
SUN 11/01 0058AM - Tasked by QAS to transport 2 Paramedics to Tangalooma and medevac a patient back to MRQ Bribie.
SUN 11/01 0739AM – 5m Centre Console 2POB with gearbox issues, required a tow from Sandstone Hotel area to Spinnaker Sound Marina.
SUN 11/01 1519PM – 4m Tinny 2POB out of fuel at Mission Point required a tow to Spinnaker Marina.
MON 12/01 1221PM – 10m Cruiser 1POB, motor disabled and anchor dragging required a tow into Pacific Harbour canals.
THU 15/01 2100PM - Tasked by QAS to transport 2 Paramedics to Tangalooma and medevac a patient back to MRQ Bribie.
SUN 18/01 0930AM – 6.1m Half Cabin 2POB with motor issues required a tow from South Cardinal to Spinnaker Sound Marina.
SUN 18/01 0940AM – 8.6m Bayliner 3POB with engine issues required a tow from Bongaree to Spinnaker Sound Marina.
SUN 18/01 1553PM – 14m Steel Ketch 2POB "bouncing on sandbank off South Point, required assistance to anchor off Bongaree.
MON 19/01 1246PM – 10m Yacht drifting at Bongaree, investigate and secure.
MON 19/01 1407PM – 10m Yacht drifting at Bongaree, second rescue vessel required to secure.
WED 21/01 0040AM - Tasked by QAS to transport 2 Paramedics to Tangalooma and medevac a pregnant patient back to MRQ Bribie base. Conditions were too rough, MRQ Bribie stood down and helicopter was called in to assist.

YTD RADIO ROOM STATISTICS

CALLS	
VESSELS LOG ONS	
VESSEL ASSISTS	
SITREPS	
REQUESTS	
OVERDUE VESSELS	
VESSEL TRACKING	
RADIO CHECKS	
WEATHER BROADCASTS	
SECURITE BROADCASTS	
PAN PAN CALLS	
MAYDAY CALLS	
PERSONS ASSISTED	
VHF CALLS	
27MHz CALLS	
PHONE CALLS	
GWN CALLS	

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

letters to the editor

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

Dear Editor,

Fragility

The recent weather event on Bribie Island didn't just expose the fragility of our landscape — it exposed the fragility of our council's planning.

The devastation across Bongaree and surrounding areas was not simply the result of strong winds. It was the result of years of questionable decisions about what trees are planted, where they're planted, and how (or whether) they're maintained.

Residents watched in disbelief as trees toppled like dominoes, bringing down power lines, tearing up footpaths, damaging driveways, and blocking roads. These weren't freak occurrences. They were predictable failures. Many of the trees that fell should never have been planted in those locations in the first place.

Moreton Bay Council does have a formal policy for street trees — including guidelines for species selection, planting design, and protection of infrastructure. The policy states that tree types and locations are chosen to "ensure minimal damage to infrastructure, including power lines" and that planting should consider local conditions and long term suitability.

Yet the recent plantings along Bongaree footpaths suggest that either the policy is being ignored or it is hopelessly inadequate. If the council truly followed its own guidelines, why did so many recently planted trees fail catastrophically during a single storm?

Why were species chosen that are known to be unstable in shallow coastal soils? Why were established trees left without proper maintenance, pruning, or structural assessment?

Bribie residents deserve answers — and better yet, they deserve competence. A clean up effort after the fact is not a substitute for proper planning before the damage occurs.

It's time for Moreton Bay Council to review its tree planting strategy, consult with qualified arborists, and start treating urban vegetation as infrastructure — not decoration.

Because the next storm will come, and unless something changes, so will the next round of avoidable destruction.

Sincerely,

Rodney Hansen

To the Editor,

I would like to publicly thank the incredible Marine Rescue volunteers. I recently read in your last issue 255 that in December alone they assisted an astounding 626 people — an effort that truly deserves recognition.

As Graham Parker, who kindly stayed back to help us with our jet skis, put it: "triple time on Sundays" for volunteers. That's a whole lot of extra time, skill, and dedication given purely to help others.

On behalf of everyone you assist on the water, thank you for your knowledge, expertise, and unwavering willingness to help those in need. Your commitment does not go unnoticed and is deeply appreciated.

Kind regards, J & M

LAST MINUTE NEWS!

From Barry Clark

On Australia Day I was surprised and honoured to be awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia by the Governor General for service to local history preservation, and to the community of Bribie Island.

BARRY C. CLARK OAM
Services to promote and document the **HISTORY OF BRIBIE ISLAND.**

UNIVERSITY of THIRD AGE local history Tutor and Life member. Founding President and life member of BRIBIE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Congratulations Barry from the Bribie Islander Team

The Gleemen are returning to serious rehearsals soon!!

With several grand concerts planned for 2026, the Bribie Gleemen will hit the decks running when rehearsals commence on Monday 2nd February.

There is a mooted St Patrick's Day Concert in the wind for 17th March, with all your stirring and nostalgic Irish ditties and melodies. Venue yet to be advised for this concert.

Then on Saturday 9th May, (mark that date now!) there is going to be a not-to-be-missed concert combined with the wonderful Ladies choral group, The Gallery Singers, with a tentative theme of "Battle of the Sexes"!

Expect a to-ing and fro-ing of good-natured singing jibes back and forth with combined numbers too.

This will be popular so do mark your calendar/diary for Saturday May 9th and look out for tickets when available.

Now, all you men who would aspire to singing with the Gleemen and ladies who might like to offload their men on a Monday...

The Gleemen are returning to normal rehearsals on Monday 2nd February at 3.45pm.
We rehearse in the Community Hall at the Church of Christ Bribie Island Retirement Village in Foley Street, Bongaree.

The hall is around the back of the village by the duck pond. New men will be made very welcome, and every assistance will be given.

The Gleemen are a laid-back group of guys who just enjoy the group singing experience.

Phone Shane 0493215823 for further details."

Australia Day 2026

26th January 2026

Behold the humble sausage, it's the butcher's saving grace,
For where would all the off cuts go? A wanton wicked waste.
The master who invented this, should win the Nobel Prize,
For service to upcycling with his offal in disguise!

All that fat and gristle would be destined for the bin,
Until he grabbed a mincer and then found the ideal skin,
An unused pig's intestine fitted to the grinder's spout,
Then pumped with shredded end bits for a gastronomic sprout!

It may not seem appealing in this fundamental state,
But, add some salt and sawdust and you're on the way, old mate!
Of course, you wouldn't want to taste this delicacy raw,
The pasty mess would not digest and stick within your craw.
But place it on the Barbeque and roll the thing around,
Until it's brown and juicy and wallah, it slides right down.
Prior to this masterpiece all butchers were held hostage,
Deriving no clear profit up until they built a sausage!

And hasn't this soft tube of goo evolved in every way?
A gourmet cornucopia, a wonder on display.
In modern times the sausage earns a spot in pride of place,
By using nice ingredients to shove inside your face.
There's Beef and Pork and Chicken packed with spices that are quirky,
To celebrate Thanksgiving someone even 'sausaged' Turkey!
But we live in Australia and embrace this foodie culture,
Whereby we'll take most anything and put it through the mulcher!

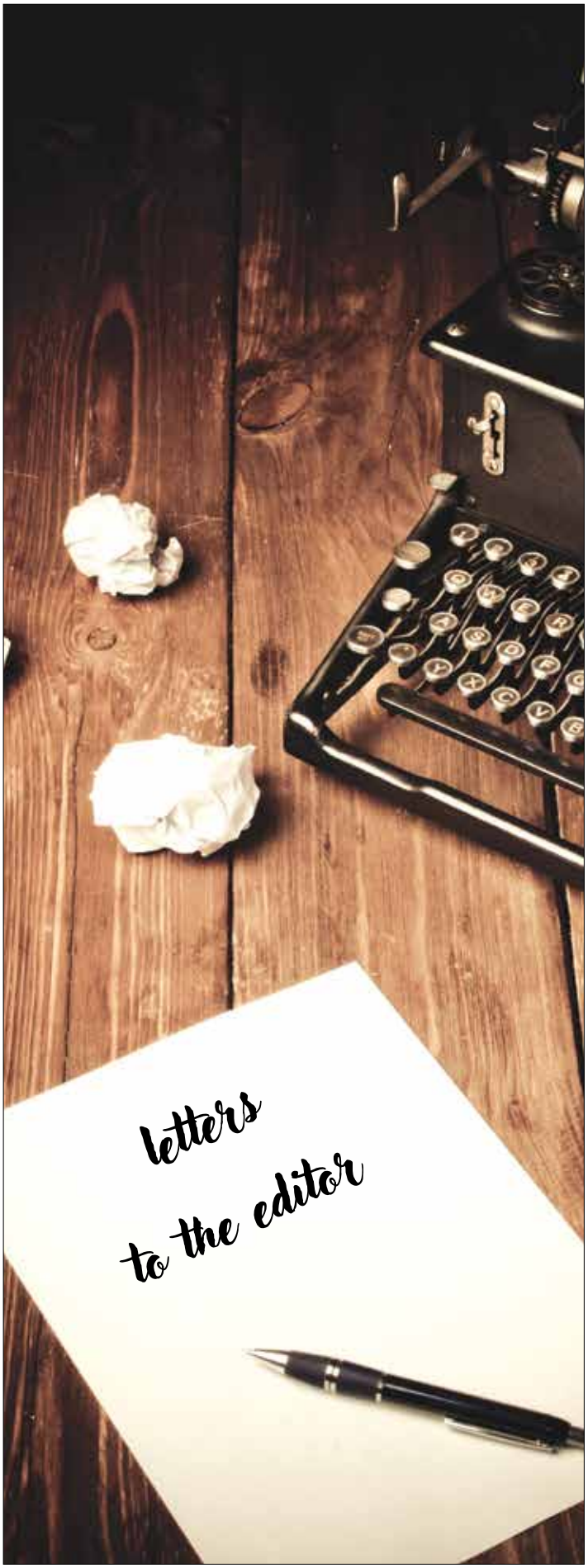
Our fauna of the native kind can sometimes overrun,
They'll eat you out of house and home through rain and summer sun,
So culling is the proper term when hunters run amok,
And clear out all our feral friends from Kangaroos to ducks!
Their carted to the sausage farms to undergo repurpose,
Where butchers get creative with this wild intrinsic surplus,
Cunning skills are needed to get Dingoes in your bag,
That's why the common sausage is colloquially, a 'Snag'!

The best use of this 'Mystery Sock' with elements unknown,
Is drench it in 'Tomato Sauce' to add that 'Train-Smash' tone.
You take a slice of 'White Death' bread and smother it with butter,
Then lay your 'Snag" diagonally and squeeze the sauce to splutter,
Now pinch the open corners so, to form a sort of cradle,
Then to your salivating mouth this 'Meat Balloon', you ladle.
Fried onions are an option to augment the taste sensation,
They help with smooth ingestion with big bonus; 'Flatulation'!

Now, you can use a knife and fork if 'Posh' is to your liking,
Beware the squirting liquid fat resultant from your spiking!
Besides, it's half the fun to have a dribble on your chin,
And messy fingers generate a saucy sausage grin.
This simple occupation will abolish class distinction,
The playing field is level through a sausage led extinction.
And thus, this basic foodstuff with ingredients obscure,
Reflect the Aussie lifestyle with its 'Down to Earth' allure.

And so, we have our Nation's Day, a patriotic spree,
We are the envy of the world "for we are young and free",
We celebrate Australia Day, eyes turned towards our flag,
A giant 'Boxing Kangaroo' with pouch all stuffed with 'Snags'.
With cold 'Potato Salad' and a mountain range of 'Slaw',
We scoff our 'Sausage Sangers' and you couldn't wish for more,
And as we wipe the sauce and fat from every smiling face,
We celebrate Australia because Sausages are Ace!

Phil A. Mignon



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