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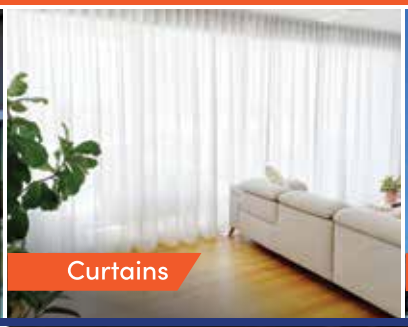

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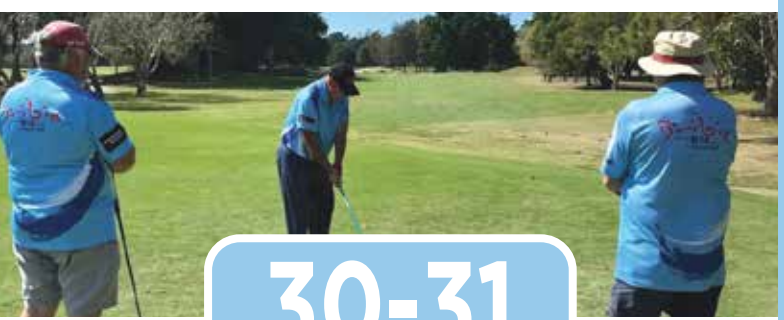
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Dear Readers,

Welcome to Edition 275! Bribie has been busy again showing off its natural beauty, creative talent and community spirit, while giving us plenty to fill these pages.

The 2026 Bribie Island Nature Festival was a roaring success. Locals and visitors gathered across Yarun to celebrate our extraordinary biodiversity, culture and natural heritage. It was a joyful reminder that we live somewhere pretty special, and that looking after it is everyone's job.

The clever members at Bribie and District Woodcrafters are also preparing for their 2026 Annual Exhibition and Competition. This year's theme is "Timber Time," so expect imagination, craftsmanship and beautiful woodwork.

We are also welcoming two new columns: News Flush by Ben from Bribie Island Plumbing & Drainage and Surviving Bribie by the Bribie Mudcrab. One promises practical advice with a plumbing twist; the other brings life on Bribie from a rather more sideways perspective. Expect local knowledge, plenty of character and a few laughs along the way.

There is good news at Woorim Beach too, with a $3.8 million upgrade at Bluey and Jean Piva Park delivering accessible amenities and a Changing Places facility. It is a serious investment with a simple goal: helping more people enjoy one of Bribie's favourite coastal spots.
It has been a pleasure bringing Edition 275 together, and I hope you enjoy every page. As always, shop local, be kind and look out for one another.
Until next time,

Take Care, Stay Safe,

Cherrie

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When Failing Sight Affects the Mind

Poor eyesight is often treated as a practical inconvenience: stronger glasses, larger print, brighter lighting. Yet vision loss can also cast a long shadow over mental health, and ignoring that connection leaves many people struggling in silence.

When reading, driving, recognising faces or moving confidently becomes difficult, independence can shrink.

Everyday activities may require more effort, while the fear of falling or making mistakes can encourage people to stay home. Isolation, frustration and embarrassment can follow.

For older adults especially, worsening sight may compound grief, illness or loneliness; for younger people, uncorrected vision problems can undermine learning, work and self-confidence. The relationship also works in reverse. Anxiety and depression can make it harder to arrange appointments, follow treatment plans or describe symptoms. Financial pressure may delay eye examinations or replacement lenses.

As a result, a manageable condition can become a cycle of poorer vision, reduced participation and declining wellbeing. This is why eye care should not end with a prescription. Optometrists, doctors, schools and aged-care providers should routinely ask how vision problems are affecting daily life and mood.

Mental-health services should also consider whether sight loss is contributing to distress.

Affordable examinations, accessible transport, low-vision aids and practical rehabilitation can restore both function and confidence.

Families and workplaces have a role too: simple adjustments such as better lighting, readable documents and patient communication can preserve dignity.

Australia has a strong public-health case for acting. The Australian Government reports that around 90 per cent of blindness and vision impairment is preventable or treatable when detected early, yet Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience vision impairment and blindness at three times the rate of other Australians.

Regular eye checks, culturally safe services and stronger outreach in regional and remote communities should therefore be treated as mental-health measures as well as eye-health policy.

Public health campaigns must stop presenting eyesight as separate from the rest of a person. Sight influences connection, safety, purpose and autonomy—the foundations of emotional wellbeing.

Treating vision early may prevent avoidable distress, while supporting mental health can help people adapt to permanent sight loss.

The message is clear: protecting eyesight is also an investment in mental health. We need care that sees the whole person, not only the eye chart.

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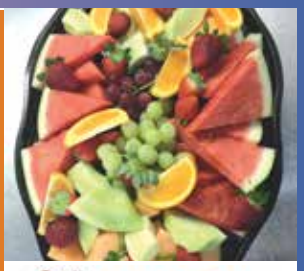
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World Polio Day, 24 October

Part Two: Why Australia Still Has a Stake in Polio Eradication



©Anne Matthews D9560 Passport Rotary Club

Although polio may seem like a disease of the past for most Australians, it remains a global concern. In an interconnected world, Australia's health security depends not only on maintaining high vaccination rates at home, but also on ensuring the virus is eliminated everywhere.

For Australia, the lesson is clear: polio is not defeated until it is defeated everywhere. Australia has been polio-free for decades, thanks to strong immunisation programs, surveillance and public health systems.

But freedom from local transmission is not the same as immunity from risk. International travel, migration, trade and tourism connect Australia with every part of the world.

A person infected with poliovirus may not show symptoms, yet they can still contribute to spread through the faecal-oral route, particularly where sanitation or vaccination coverage is incomplete.

Even countries with advanced health systems can detect poliovirus in wastewater or face importation risks if community immunity drops.

This is why complacency is dangerous. Polio can spread silently before a case of paralysis appears, and by then transmission may already have occurred.

Australia's best protection is a combination of high vaccination coverage, strong surveillance and global eradication. If immunisation rates decline, pockets of vulnerability can emerge. If eradication programs overseas are underfunded or interrupted, the chance of international spread increases. The continued presence of polio in Pakistan and Afghanistan is therefore not only a concern for those countries; it is a warning to every nation that benefits from a polio-free status.

That broader national risk becomes more immediate when viewed through local experience. For Bribie Island residents, polio is not simply a historical disease: the late William (Bill) Peacock OAM, one of Bribie Island's polio survivors and a strong advocate for people living with disability and Post-Polio Syndrome, provided a living reminder of the lasting impact of the disease on Australian families.

Having lived with the long-term consequences of polio, Bill understood the challenges that can continue decades after the initial infection.

His experience highlighted the reality of Post-Polio Syndrome, a condition that may affect survivors many years later, causing fatigue, muscle weakness and pain.

Bill's story reminds us that although Australia may be polio-free, the effects of the disease are still felt within our own community.

Bribie Island has several polio survivors whose experiences continue to give this issue local relevance, including Wayne and Ravy Slattery.

Their stories reinforce why awareness, vaccination confidence and continued global eradication efforts still matter close to home. Another inspiring polio survivor is Susanne Rea OAM, founder of the World's Greatest Meal to Help End Polio. The initiative has brought people

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together across the world to raise funds and awareness for the final push to eradicate polio.

As a proud team member, I am encouraged by the impact of World's Greatest Meal, which has raised US$15 million with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation match, helping Rotary and its partners move closer to a polio-free world.

That local memory points naturally to practical action. Rotary clubs in Australia have a meaningful part to play through fundraising for End Polio Now, which helps pay for vaccines, transport, laboratory surveillance, training and community engagement.

The funds also support the specialised refrigerated transport systems needed to keep vaccines effective until they reach children in remote communities.

Advocacy matters too. Rotary's voice helps remind governments and the public that eradication is cheaper, safer and more humane than allowing polio to return.

Local events, school talks, community articles and World Polio Day activities all help keep the promise alive: that no child, anywhere, should suffer from a vaccine-preventable disease.

The campaign against polio shows what sustained international cooperation can achieve. Rotary helped turn a bold vision into one of the greatest public health successes in history, but the final step requires persistence.

As long as poliovirus continues to circulate in Pakistan and Afghanistan, it remains a threat beyond their borders, including to Australia. This World Polio Day, the call is clear: keep vaccinating, keep funding, keep advocating and keep working until the job is finished. A polio-free world is within reach, and every Rotary club, supporter and community voice can help make it permanent.



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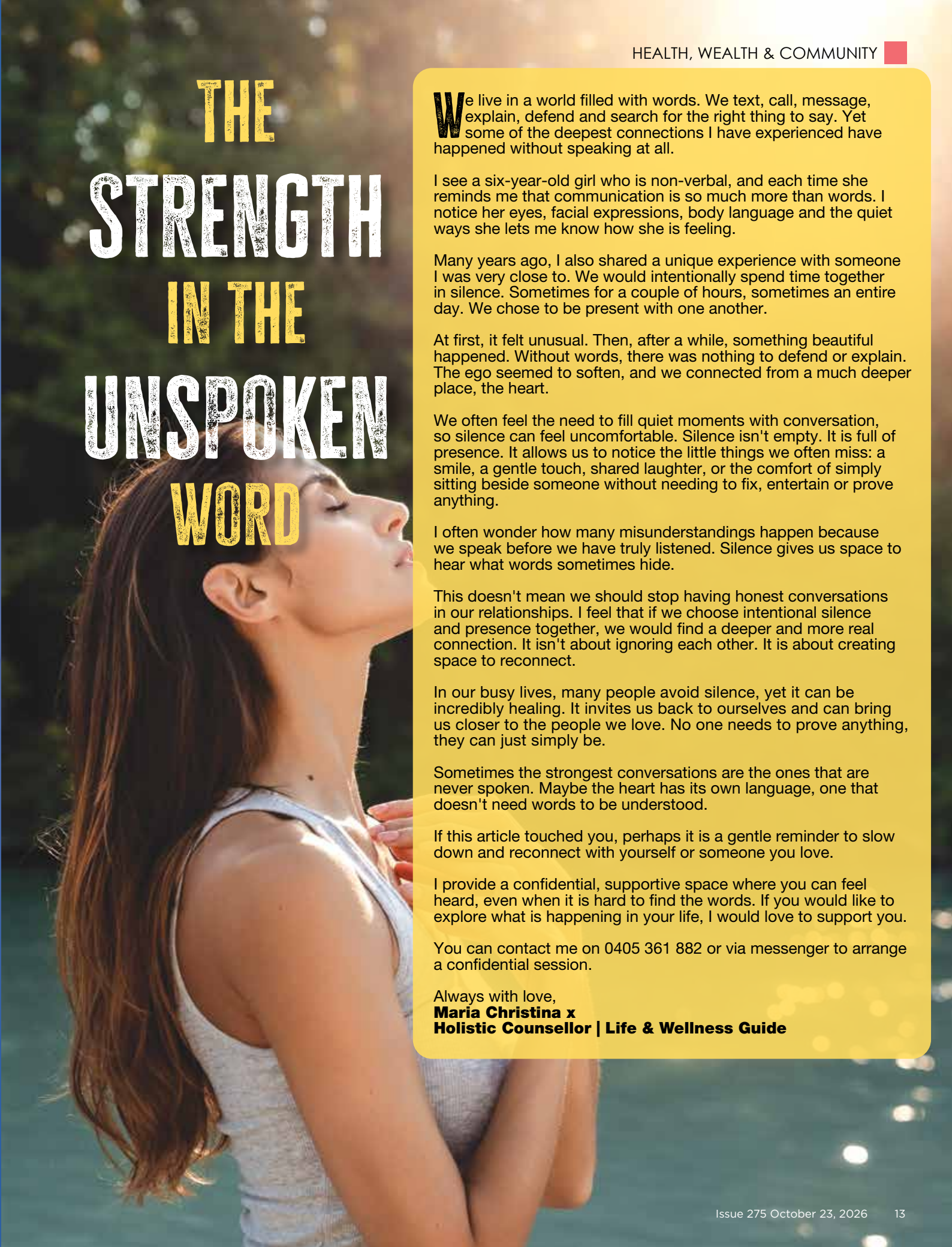
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THE STRENGTH IN THE UNSPOKEN WORD



We live in a world filled with words. We text, call, message, explain, defend and search for the right thing to say. Yet some of the deepest connections I have experienced have happened without speaking at all.

I see a six-year-old girl who is non-verbal, and each time she reminds me that communication is so much more than words. I notice her eyes, facial expressions, body language and the quiet ways she lets me know how she is feeling.

Many years ago, I also shared a unique experience with someone I was very close to. We would intentionally spend time together in silence. Sometimes for a couple of hours, sometimes an entire day. We chose to be present with one another.

At first, it felt unusual. Then, after a while, something beautiful happened. Without words, there was nothing to defend or explain. The ego seemed to soften, and we connected from a much deeper place, the heart.

We often feel the need to fill quiet moments with conversation, so silence can feel uncomfortable. Silence isn't empty. It is full of presence. It allows us to notice the little things we often miss: a smile, a gentle touch, shared laughter, or the comfort of simply sitting beside someone without needing to fix, entertain or prove anything.

I often wonder how many misunderstandings happen because we speak before we have truly listened. Silence gives us space to hear what words sometimes hide.

This doesn't mean we should stop having honest conversations in our relationships. I feel that if we choose intentional silence and presence together, we would find a deeper and more real connection. It isn't about ignoring each other. It is about creating space to reconnect.

In our busy lives, many people avoid silence, yet it can be incredibly healing. It invites us back to ourselves and can bring us closer to the people we love. No one needs to prove anything, they can just simply be.

Sometimes the strongest conversations are the ones that are never spoken. Maybe the heart has its own language, one that doesn't need words to be understood.

If this article touched you, perhaps it is a gentle reminder to slow down and reconnect with yourself or someone you love.

I provide a confidential, supportive space where you can feel heard, even when it is hard to find the words. If you would like to explore what is happening in your life, I would love to support you.

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bribie acupuncture



Receptionist Katherine (left) and Acupuncturists Jessica (centre) and Wendy (right).

ACUPUNCTURE FOR SCIATICA

Though acupuncture is well known for its effectiveness in treating pain conditions, what often prompts people to come to see us for treatment is not the pain itself but the impact the pain has on their quality of life. Pain can stop you from enjoying your morning walks, keep you off the golf course, or prevent you from running your best time in the next race.

One of the main nerves in our legs is called the sciatic nerve which traverses from the lower back, through the buttock and down the leg.

When the nerve is inflamed, pain, numbness, and/or weakness is often felt in the buttock and upper leg - in some cases the pain can travel down to the feet, down the back or side of the leg. Sciatica can literally be a big pain in the butt!

It is estimated that up to 40% of people experience sciatica at some point during their lives, most commonly in people in their 40's or 50's, and more commonly in men than women.

Sciatic pain may be constant or it may be felt as a sudden pinching sensation. Oftentimes sciatica cannot be blamed on a specific trauma - sometimes simply bending, lifting, or straining may aggravate it.

Even sitting for extended periods, such as during long car rides, may be the culprit. Pain is triggered when pressure is put on the sciatic nerve such as from the spinal discs or tight muscles, or more seriously spinal disc herniation, when a portion of the spinal disc bulges out of the spinal column and pushes on the sciatic nerve, or spinal stenosis, a narrowing of the spinal canal.

Fortunately tight muscles or spasms are the most common cause of sciatica, which can be treated more easily.

Often the root cause is a tight piriformis muscle in the buttocks, but other muscles in the lower back and pelvic region often contribute to sciatic pain.

TIGHT MUSCLES & MUSCLE SPASMS



Though the source of pain can sometimes be obvious, often more subtle dysfunctions in the nervous system result in neuropathic pain (nerve pain) which cannot be seen on x-rays or ultrasound scans. Oftentimes this pain involves the nerve to muscle connection where affected muscles that have become shortened/ tightened or overstretched/ loosened, physically compounds the pain due to reduced blood flow. A classic example is someone who suffers back pain after long periods of sitting: though their back muscles may of course be affected, often the muscles in their buttocks become overstretched and the muscles at the top of their thigh become overly tight (simply due to the body position while seated), and the muscles become inhibited or "switch off", causing pain to refer to the back. Or, in the case of sciatica, the tight muscles could be pushing on the sciatic nerve.

When muscles are inhibited, matters can become more complex as these muscles can feel weak and we often compensate by altering our posture, creating more dysfunction in other areas of the body, creating a domino effect. We likely all know someone who has injured their knee, then started walking with a tilted posture, and wound up also having back pain.

The first step to treatment with acupuncture is an assessment of which muscles may be contributing to the condition. Once this is determined, we are able to find the points in which nerves meet those muscles, known as motor points. When an acupuncture needle is used on a motor point with an electric impulse, it creates a contraction and relaxation phase releasing tight contracted bands of muscle or tightens overstretched bands of muscle. This is like hitting a reset button. The results are immediate pain relief and improved muscle contractibility and mobility.

Acupuncture has been shown to be an effective treatment for sciatica, eliminating or significantly decreasing pain and increasing quality of life. Research has shown acupuncture to be successful in treating back pain and sciatica through the following mechanisms:

- Stimulating nerves located in muscles and other tissues, leading to the release of endorphins which relieves stress and pain
- Reducing inflammation and muscle stiffness and increasing joint mobility by increasing blood circulation in the affected area
- Promoting regeneration of the sciatic nerve.

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

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Life HOMEOPATHY

What is homeopathy?

Developed more than 200 years ago by German physician Samuel Hahnemann, homeopathy is a system of complementary medicine. Practitioners select homeopathic remedies made from nature according to a person's symptoms, health history and overall presentation, rather than relying on a diagnosis alone. Consultations explore the whole person including current concerns, sleep, energy, emotional wellbeing and past experiences.

Homeopathy was once prominent internationally. During the 19th century, it spread across Europe and North America, where homeopathic hospitals, medical schools and professional organisations were established. Melbourne's first homeopathic hospital opened in 1876, followed by hospitals in Hobart around 1899, Launceston around 1900 and Sydney in 1902. Homeopathy became less prominent during the 20th century as pharmaceutical treatments began to dominate healthcare.

At Life Homeopathy, Jess takes time to understand each client's health story. Initial consultations last around 90 minutes, with follow-ups generally scheduled six to eight weeks later. People seek homeopathy for a variety of concerns including sleep difficulties, hormonal health, fertility and emotional wellbeing.

If you'd like to make a booking, or simply discuss whether homeopathy might be right for you, contact Jess via www.lifehomeopathy.com.au or call **0434 894 228**. You can also find Life Homeopathy on Facebook and Instagram at @life.homeopathy.



Grieving the Loss of Australia's Assumptive World

When the Expected Future Disappears

By Terry Skidmore

Psychologist Ronnie Janoff-Bulman coined the term Assumptive World to describe the beliefs people hold about themselves, others, and society. These beliefs help people interpret events and feel secure. People commonly assume that the world operates fairly, that effort brings rewards, that familiar institutions provide protection, and that tomorrow will remain reasonably predictable. When events overturn these expectations, people can experience a form of grief. They mourn not only what they have materially lost but also the future they believed they could build.

Many Australians now face this less visible loss. Housing costs, inflation, higher interest rates, insecure work and pressure on public services have weakened the assumptions that once underpinned the national story.

Australians have often believed that hard work would lead to home ownership, that each generation would enjoy better opportunities than the last, and that responsible planning would produce stability. Those expectations no longer feel reliable.

The Great Australian Dream Under Pressure

Home ownership has long symbolised security, independence and belonging. For decades, people expected steady employment, disciplined saving and careful financial management to eventually make home ownership attainable. Recent trends challenge that belief. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and Census data show that home ownership fell from 70 per cent in 2006 to 67 per cent in 2021. The Parliamentary Library has also reported that ownership among Australians aged 25 to 34 declined from 61 per cent to 43 per cent over recent decades (AIHW, 2025; Parliament of Australia, 2025).

These figures reflect more than a difficult market. Many younger adults delay marriage, parenthood or other plans because rent and housing deposits consume so much of their income. Some doubt they will ever own a home. They therefore mourn a future that seemed achievable to earlier generations. Their experience disrupts the assumption that effort automatically produces economic security.

Everyday Costs and Financial Control

Rising prices deepen the same loss. Australian Bureau of Statistics data show ongoing pressure from food, housing and transport costs (ABS, 2026). Households feel these changes every time they shop for groceries, pay an electricity bill or fill a car with petrol. Each increase may seem small, but the cumulative effect can make ordinary life feel steadily less affordable.

Many people once assumed wages would broadly keep pace with expenses and that careful budgeting would preserve stability. They now find that the same work and restraint buy less. That experience can produce shame or self-blame, even when broader economic conditions caused the problem. Understanding the Assumptive World puts the experience in context: people are not simply reacting to a bill; they are reacting to the collapse of their belief that responsible behaviour lets them control their future.

Interest-rate increases have intensified this pressure. Between May 2022 and November 2023, the Reserve Bank of Australia raised the cash rate from 0.1 per cent to 4.35 per cent, sharply increasing many mortgage repayments (AIHW, 2025). Borrowers cut spending, renters feel flow-on effects, and families postpone holidays, renovations or other goals. People who thought they had secured their position can suddenly feel vulnerable again.

Work, Generations and Infrastructure

Technological change, automation, casual employment and the gig economy have also weakened expectations of a stable career. Workers may need to retrain repeatedly, manage irregular hours or plan for periods without reliable income. At the same time, rapid population growth in major cities puts pressure on housing, transport, healthcare and other services. When infrastructure does not keep pace, daily congestion and long waits can symbolise a broader failure of planning.

These conditions sharpen generational comparisons. Younger Australians often view previous generations as having enjoyed cheaper housing, more secure employment and a clearer path to adulthood. Older Australians may fear that the social gains they worked for will not endure. Both groups can grieve, though they may name the loss differently.

Recognising Collective Grief

This grief does not always look like sadness. It may appear as anger, resentment, anxiety, cynicism, exhaustion or political disengagement. People may direct their frustration at themselves, other generations or institutions because they cannot easily identify the underlying loss. Naming the lost assumptions can reduce confusion. Australians can ask: What did we expect hard work, government or community to provide? Which expectation has changed? What remains within our control?

Australia's challenge therefore extends beyond solving separate policy problems. Better housing supply, fair access to work, effective infrastructure and cost-of-living relief matter because they address practical hardship. They also help rebuild a credible shared future. When people can again connect effort with opportunity and planning with security, they can begin to reconstruct the assumptions that support wellbeing, social cohesion and hope.

The Art of Gratitude



In today's world, we are constantly exposed to bad news stories. We hear about conflict, tragedy, disasters and the challenges happening around us. But amongst all the negativity, how often do we stop and notice the amazing things happening in our own lives?

Practising gratitude is a meaningful way of shifting our attention towards the good things in life. It encourages us to pause, appreciate what we have and recognise the moments, people and experiences that bring us joy.

Gratitude can also be a positive practice for our minds and overall wellbeing. One simple way to introduce gratitude into your daily routine is through journaling. At the end of each day, write down three things you are grateful for.

They don't have to be big things. It could be a beautiful sunset, a kind conversation, your morning coffee, time with family, your health, your pets, or simply having a peaceful moment to yourself.

We all seem to have endless **to-do lists** — but do you have a **gratitude list?**

If you have a family, why not make gratitude an activity you can do together? Give everyone a piece of paper and ask them to write down something they are grateful for. Place the notes in a jar and continue adding to it over the coming weeks.

Then, in two months, sit down together and open the jar. Read all those wonderful moments and memories you have collected. You may be surprised by just how many positive moments were happening in your lives that you might otherwise have forgotten.

The art of gratitude can help shift our mindset. It doesn't mean ignoring the challenges we face or pretending that everything is perfect.

Life will always have difficult moments, but deliberately noticing what is good can help create a healthier balance in the way we see our lives.

Practising gratitude encourages the brain to focus on positive experiences and can engage pathways linked to wellbeing. Dopamine supports reward and motivation, serotonin helps regulate mood, oxytocin supports connection and trust, and endorphins are linked to pleasure and natural pain relief.

Gratitude may also help regulate the stress hormone cortisol. Taking a few moments each day to appreciate what we have can help support a more positive mindset and emotional wellbeing.

Sometimes, we spend so much time thinking about what we need to do next that we forget to appreciate where we are right now.

So, take a moment today.
Pause. Breathe. Look around you.
What are you grateful for today?

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Natalie has been a Beachmere resident for 20 years and been practising Law in Queensland for 19 years.

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Cyn's Corner

Breathing in Shalom: Finding Peace in the Beauty Around Us

Have you ever been so captivated by something beautiful that, for a moment, you forgot whatever was troubling you?

Perhaps it was a rainbow appearing unexpectedly after a storm, or sunlight catching the spray of a waterfall, creating colours that seemed to dance in the air. Maybe it was the first light of morning filtering through the trees, or the sun slowly disappearing beyond the horizon as the water reflected the last colours of the day.

There are moments when nature seems to invite us to stop whatever we're doing and simply take it all in. Living on Bribie Island, we are fortunate to be surrounded by such moments. Yet I wonder how often we actually notice them.

We can become so accustomed to our beautiful surroundings that we forget what an extraordinary privilege it is to live here.

Our lives are busy, even when we're no longer working. There are appointments to keep, responsibilities to fulfil, people to care for and worries that seem to follow us wherever we go. Sometimes, even when we sit down to rest, our minds refuse to cooperate.

And then something catches our attention.

A pelican gliding across still water. A rainbow appearing between the clouds. The sound of waves gently reaching the shore. A sunset that makes us stop mid-conversation because, quite simply, it deserves our attention.

For a few moments, we are no longer thinking about yesterday's disappointments or tomorrow's responsibilities. We are simply present.

In the Hebrew Scriptures, there is a beautiful word: shalom. It is commonly translated as peace, but its meaning reaches much further than the absence of noise, conflict or trouble. Shalom speaks of wholeness, wellbeing, harmony and the restoration of relationships — with ourselves, with others and with creation.

I find that understanding particularly meaningful because peace is not always something we can manufacture. We cannot simply tell ourselves to stop grieving, worrying or feeling overwhelmed. Nor should we imagine that a beautiful sunset will somehow solve the difficulties we face.

But perhaps these moments of wonder can remind us that our difficulties are not the whole of our existence.

We can be grieving and still notice beauty. We can be worried and still experience gratitude. We can feel lonely and, for a moment, discover a sense of connection with the world around us. Sometimes, the most meaningful thing we can do is allow ourselves to be still long enough to notice what is already there. I think of the people we have loved and lost. How often does something beautiful bring them unexpectedly to mind?

A particular song, a familiar fragrance, a place we once visited together or a sunset we wish they were still here to see.

Such moments can bring tears, but they can also bring a smile. They remind us that love leaves an imprint, and that remembrance is not simply about looking backwards. It is also about recognising how those relationships continue to shape the people we are today.

November is a month that invites us to remember. At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, we pause for Remembrance Day, recalling the armistice of 1918 that brought the fighting on the Western Front of the First World War to an end.

Earlier in the month, on 1 November, Christians observe All Saints Day, a time to remember and give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith.

Although these two occasions have different histories and purposes, they share something deeply human: our desire to remember those whose lives have shaped our own, and to acknowledge that love, sacrifice and the influence of others do not simply disappear with death.

This year, Faith Community – Bribie is marking All Saints Day in a simple way, by inviting our neighbours to gather beside the Pumicestone Passage at Banksia Beach to watch the sunset and remember those we love who are no longer with us. We call it Sunset & Memories.

There will be bubbles (the kind you blow, not the kind you drink!) to represent precious memories, opportunities for quiet reflection and refreshments afterwards. Nobody will be expected to speak or participate in anything.

Sometimes simply being present in the company of others is enough.

Perhaps that is one small expression of shalom: making room for grief and gratitude, silence and conversation, faith and questions, while recognising the dignity of every person who comes among us.

And perhaps, the next time a rainbow appears, or the evening sky begins to glow, we might give ourselves permission to stop, breathe and receive that moment as a gift.

The world will continue turning. Our responsibilities will still be there. But for a little while, we may discover something of the peace we have been longing for.

Sunset & Memories — Sunday 1 November 2026, 5 pm, Col Fisher Park, Banksia Beach.

All are welcome.
Details at www.faithcommunity.org.au.

Grace and peace,
Cyn

Cynthia (Cyn) Nolan draws on extensive experience across counselling, trauma, education, wellbeing and community development.

She is also Pastor of Faith Community – Bribie, a new expression of Christian community that takes a fresh, back-to-basics approach to faith.

Her focus is on creating a welcoming and inclusive space where people can explore spirituality, ask honest questions and reflect on what it means to be human in today's world. And yes, there's room to vent the occasional frustration about the state of the world too. After all, sometimes it's better out than in!

Disclaimer
The views expressed in this column are the personal views of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the publisher, the Uniting Church, or any other organisation.

This column is intended for general interest, reflection, and community discussion only and is not a substitute for professional medical, psychological, legal, or other professional advice. Readers should seek appropriate professional support for their individual circumstances.

The author and publisher accept no liability for actions taken based on the content of this column.

If you are experiencing emotional distress, thoughts of self-harm, or believe life is not worth living, contact your GP, call 000 in an emergency, or contact a crisis support service such as Lifeline Australia on 13 11 14.

Memories at Sunset

Sunday 1 November at 5.00 pm
Banksia Beach Park

This gathering is an opportunity to come together to remember and celebrate the lives of those we have loved and lost. Whether our loss is recent or occurred many years ago, the memories of those who touched our lives remain precious.

Caring for Bribie Island's beautiful environment is important to us, so we have chosen a thoughtful way to mark the occasion. Rather than releasing lanterns or other objects that could harm wildlife or waterways, we will blow biodegradable bubbles away from the water.

Each bubble can symbolise a treasured memory, a kiss, a prayer or a wish, carried gently heavenward as we remember someone special.

We will conclude the gathering with complimentary beverages and light refreshments. Together, we can enjoy one another's company while watching the spectacular sunset over Pumicestone Passage.

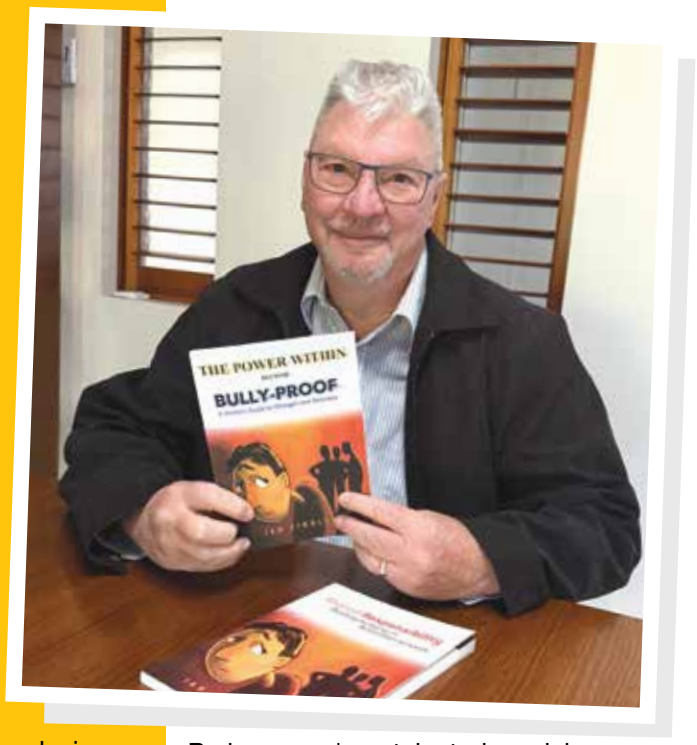
Everyone is welcome, and attendance is free. You do not need to belong to a church or follow any particular faith. This is simply an opportunity to remember, reflect and share a beautiful moment together.

Please feel free to share this invitation with anyone who may appreciate being part of this special gathering.



How Changing your mindset can keep you safe from Bullies

Don't Let a Bully Invade and Control Your Mind



Learn to interrupt destructive thinking.

A bully's most damaging weapon is not their fists. It is their ability to get inside your head.

That may sound surprising, but think about it. A cruel comment lasts only seconds. A shove in the playground is over in a moment. Yet the memory can replay in your mind for days, weeks, months or even years. Long after the bully has forgotten what they said or did, the victim may still be carrying the pain. Given enough time, that pain can grow far beyond the original impact.

The greatest damage often happens in our heads.

When someone hurts us, we naturally replay the event. We analyse every word, every look and every detail. We think of what we should have said. We wonder why we were targeted. We question ourselves.

The more we replay the event, the bigger it becomes.

A single hurtful remark can grow into anxiety, fear, anger and self-doubt. It affects sleep, concentration, relationships and confidence. Instead of enjoying life, we become trapped in a cycle of negative thinking. We withdraw from others, lose interest in activities we once loved and become increasingly isolated. That isolation can make us even more vulnerable.

Research consistently shows that bullying often causes greater psychological harm than physical injury. Bruises heal. Emotional wounds can last much longer. Persistent bullying has been linked to anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, social withdrawal and, for some, lifelong emotional struggles and suicidal ideation.

The bully may plant the seed, but our thinking can unintentionally keep watering it. Every time we replay the incident, we give the bully another opportunity to hurt us, even when they are no longer there.

This is not about blaming victims. No one chooses to be bullied. But we do have more control over our thinking than many people realise. One of the most important skills we can develop is learning to interrupt destructive thoughts.

When you catch yourself replaying the bullying for the hundredth time, recognise what is happening and say to yourself, **"Don't go there."**

Then deliberately redirect your mind. Recall a happy memory. Focus on your next goal. Think about someone you love. Immerse yourself in music, sport, art, reading or another activity that captures your attention. Stay connected with positive people and keep participating in life, even when you don't feel like it.

It's not about doing what you feel like doing. It's about doing what you need to do to regain control. Bullying and negative thinking can pull you into a black hole. Don't go there. The longer you stay there, the harder it becomes to climb out.

The goal is not to pretend the bullying never happened. It is to stop allowing it to dominate your thinking. Our emotions usually follow our thoughts. If we continually feed helplessness, fear and humiliation, those emotions grow stronger. But if we nurture confidence, hope and purpose, they begin to replace them. Changing your thinking takes persistence and self-discipline, but it can be done.

It also means changing the story you tell yourself. Instead of saying, Nobody likes me, tell yourself, That isn't true.

Instead of saying, I'm weak, tell yourself, I am strong.

Instead of entertaining thoughts of worthlessness, remind yourself of your strengths, achievements and the people who value you.

Perhaps you're a talented musician, a capable athlete, a loyal friend or someone who never gives up. Your worth is never determined by the opinion of someone who chooses to hurt others. Bullies seek control. Every time you discipline your thinking, you take back some of that control.

This does not mean ignoring serious bullying. Bullying should always be reported to trusted adults, schools or workplaces. Learning to think differently is not a substitute for taking action; it is part of becoming mentally stronger while the bullying is being addressed.

Becoming bully-proof begins inside your head. You cannot control what others say or do. You can control how long you allow their words to live in your mind.

Never allow someone who isn't worthy of your respect to become the author of your story. The day you stop giving a bully free accommodation in your head is the day you begin taking your life back.

Don't go there. You can break my body, but you can never break my spirit.

About the Author
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Author of Shared Responsibility: Beating Bullying in Australian Schools and The Power Within: Become Bully Proof.

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Dear Pumicestone...

It has been another busy period across Pumicestone, with a focus on supporting local organisations, celebrating community achievements and delivering opportunities for our growing region.

It was wonderful to visit the Bribie and District Woodcrafters Association and Moreton Bay Beekeepers Inc., meeting dedicated volunteers and learning about their incredible work. I also enjoyed Dragon Fest and Terry Young MP's Seniors Expo, celebrating the people and organisations that make our community so special.

I was proud to represent Minister Andrew Powell at the Abbey Museum's inaugural History Festival, celebrating 40 years of bringing history to life.

We are also helping protect local organisations through the Crisafulli Government's Secure Communities Partnership Program.

Local business My Berries has upgraded its security cameras, alarm system and access control, while the Abbey Museum is protecting its valuable collections through improved security measures.

Keeping our community safe extends to our waterways and beaches. I joined Marine Rescue Queensland Bribie Island to commission Bribie 1 and open its renovated radio room and congratulated new surf lifesavers who have completed their Surf Rescue Certificate.

Grassroots sport continues to thrive, with Waraba Cricket Club celebrating its first-ever junior team at Sandstone Point Sporting Complex. Congratulations to everyone involved in this fantastic milestone.

It has also been wonderful to support local talent through my Bright Future Grants. Congratulations to Kalara, who represented Queensland in gymnastics and Carter Betham, who is pursuing his goals in rugby union and shot put.

Beyond Pumicestone, work is underway on the $60 million TAFE Centre of Excellence at Petrie, creating more training and career opportunities. The Crisafulli Government has also passed landmark reforms establishing the Queensland Protection Commission to strengthen safeguards for children and vulnerable people.

We will continue standing up for Queensland communities to secure our fair share of disaster recovery funding and support local councils.

From our volunteers and sporting clubs to local businesses and community organisations, Pumicestone is a wonderful place because of the people who make a difference every day.

The Crisafulli Government is delivering a fresh start for Queensland, with safety where you live, health services when you need them, a stronger economy and a plan for Queensland's future.

As always, I am here to represent and assist you. Contact my office on **(07) 3474 2100** or email **pumicestone@parliament.qld.gov.au** if I can be of assistance.

Ariana Doolan

Ariana
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10th Anniversary Ride for Red Raises Over $18,000 for Cancer Council Lodges

A decade of riding, remembering and making a difference!

The roar of 102 motorcycles filled the air on Saturday, 3 October 2026, as the **10th Anniversary Ride for Red – Do It For Cancer Fundraiser** hit the road for what would become one of the event's most memorable and successful rides yet. Organised by the **Gronks Social Riders Club**, the annual charity ride brought together riders, passengers, families and supporters, all united by a common purpose – to raise much-needed funds to support cancer patients and their families.

With perfect weather setting the scene, 102 motorcycles departed the BP Tuckies Stop northbound at Burpengary at 9am, followed by approximately a dozen cars. It was an impressive sight as the convoy headed off for a day filled with friendship, laughter, generosity and community spirit. For event organiser **Helen Weir**, the milestone anniversary was particularly meaningful.

“Ride for Red is very close to my heart. It started in memory of Ron ‘Red’ Norman, who we lost to brain cancer, and ten years later it has become so much more. It’s about remembering those we’ve lost, supporting those still fighting and bringing people together for a really important cause.”

A Day of Riding, Friendship and Giving

The first stop was the **Have-A-Chat Café in Toogoolawah**, where participants enjoyed a well-earned coffee, raffles and a chance to catch up with fellow riders. There was also a special treat on offer – delicious vanilla slices, a favourite of the late Ron "Red" Norman, whose memory inspired the Ride for Red fundraiser.

From Toogoolawah, the convoy continued to the **Linville Hotel**, where everyone enjoyed lunch, more raffles and fantastic live entertainment by the Redsell Brothers. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, music and the camaraderie that has become a hallmark of Ride for Red over the past ten years. The enjoyment of the day was reflected in the comments from participants. Lance Arthur described it as "A great day out. Thoroughly enjoyed myself," while Heather Saxty shared, "Wonderful event, I feel privileged to be part of such a special event."

The final destination was the **Bribie Island Hotel,** where the celebrations continued into the afternoon and evening.

With live music, food, auctions, multi-draw raffles and the highly anticipated Major Raffle draw, the venue was buzzing with excitement. Tracey Drew summed up the spirit of the occasion perfectly, commenting, "Great day, great company, great cause. Well done to the organisers."

Major Raffle Winners

The Major Raffle was one of the highlights of the celebrations, with some fantastic prizes generously donated by supporters. **Cathy and Kyle Gibbins** were the lucky first-prize winners, taking home an E-Bike and a $500 Discovery Parks Gift Voucher.

Kyle Tipping claimed second prize, a $500 accommodation voucher for The Gums Anchorage or Sylvan Beach Resort, generously donated by **Peter Gardiner**. Third prize went to **Mark Hill-Webber**, who won a health and wellness package donated by **Bribie Island Physiotherapy and Lifestyle Gym**.

The raffles and auctions were made possible through the incredible generosity of local businesses, individuals and community supporters who donated prizes, vouchers, goods and services.

An Incredible Fundraising Achievement

What began with an ambitious fundraising target of $10,000 turned into an extraordinary achievement, with the 10th Anniversary Ride for Red raising over **$18,000!**

The original goal was to sponsor a room for 12 months at the **Charles Wanstall Apex Lodge in Brisbane**, a Cancer Council Queensland accommodation facility providing a place for regional and rural cancer patients and their families to stay while undergoing treatment away from home.





Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of supporters, that goal has now been achieved!

But the good news doesn't stop there. The remaining funds will be divided equally between the **Charles Wanstall Apex Lodge in Brisbane and the Olive McMahon Lodge in Toowoomba.**



These additional funds will help purchase much-needed new mattresses, pillows and linen, providing greater comfort to cancer patients and their families during what can be one of the most challenging times of their lives. For Helen, knowing the difference these funds will make is what motivates her to continue organising the event.

“I do it because cancer affects so many families. I wanted to take something heartbreaking and turn it into something positive. Knowing that what we raise can help people going through cancer treatment makes all the hard work worthwhile.”

A Special Ride for Blakey

While the day was filled with celebration, there was one familiar face missing from this year's event. One of the event organisers, **Gary "Blakey" Blake**, was unable to attend following a recent accident. However, Blakey was still represented on the ride in a very special way. His son, Will, proudly rode his father's motorcycle, sharing the touching words:

"He couldn't make it but his ride will still ride it."

It was a meaningful gesture, ensuring that although Blakey couldn't physically be part of this milestone anniversary, his presence was still felt on the road.

Ten Years of Making a Difference

Ride for Red began in 2017 in memory of **Ron "Red" Norman**, who passed away from brain cancer in 2016. The very first ride attracted 27 motorcycles and five cars, raising just over $1,600.

Ten years on, the event has grown into something truly special, with 102 motorcycles, approximately a dozen cars and over $18,000 raised in this anniversary year alone. Reflecting on the journey from that first ride to the tenth anniversary, Helen shared: “To reach ten years is pretty emotional. What started as a ride in memory of Red has grown into something supported by so many riders, businesses, friends and members of the community. I think Red would be pretty proud of what everyone has achieved.” What started as a tribute to one much-loved man has become a lasting legacy of kindness, generosity and community spirit.

A Heartfelt Thank You

Event organisers **Helen Weir and Gary Blake**, together with the Gronks Social Riders Club, would like to extend their sincere thanks to every person and business who helped make the 10th Anniversary Ride for Red such an outstanding success.

To the businesses who generously donated prizes, vouchers and auction items, the venues who welcomed everyone, the musicians who provided entertainment, the volunteers who gave their time, and the riders, passengers and supporters who joined the day – **thank you!**

Whether you donated, purchased a raffle ticket, bid at an auction, volunteered, rode a motorcycle, travelled in a car or simply came along to show your support, you played a part in achieving something remarkable. The generosity shown throughout the day has not only achieved the goal of sponsoring a room for 12 months but will also provide additional comfort to cancer patients and their families at two Cancer Council lodges.

Ten years on, Red's memory continues to bring people together and make a difference.

And if this year's event has shown us anything, it's that when a community comes together for a cause close to its heart, incredible things can happen.

Every Ride. Every Ticket. Every Dollar. Together, we are making a difference.

From Helen Weir and Gary Blake (Blakey), Event Organisers, and the Gronks Social Riders Club.

THE TIME DETECTIVE

Discovering the Queen of Heaven

Michael Strong (Senior Curator, Abbey Museum)

One of the most exquisite panels in the stained-glass collection at the Abbey Museum is this little work depicting the coronation of the Virgin Mary as Queen of Heaven, a sumptuous example of the Northern Renaissance in Germany.



It comes from the Rhineland, probably around Cologne, and has similarities with other stained glass in the Victoria and Albert Museum from Mariawald and Steinfold Abbeys, which were secularised in the Napoleonic upheavals.

Much of the ancient stained glass from these venerable great abbeys ended up in England, bought by the emerging new class of wealthy merchants as Britain's international empire expanded.

The subject of Mary's coronation as Queen of Heaven was a favourite with Renaissance artists. They tended to show (as in our work) God the Father holding an orb, suitably bearded and ancient, and Christ, as God the Son, seated on golden thrones. Above them hovers a dove representing the Holy Spirit.

Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528), was particularly fond of including the dove in his representation of this subject, and his major work, very similar to our version, was made in 1510, sixteen years before the panel on display in the Abbey Church, which is dated 1526, and only 34 years after Christopher Columbus's expedition to the New World.

It is a beautiful painting in glass with rich ruby red, deep sapphire blues and golden yellow robes. The detail is extraordinary fine considering it is baked into the glass panel.

The Coronation is a thing of beauty that has survived the many religious wars in Europe and more pertinently, the looting and destruction of sacred art and images that occurred during the anti-clerical invasions of French Republican troops after the violence of the French Revolution.

Tours of the Abbey Church and its magnificent stained glass – arguably the most significant Renaissance glass in Australia – are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 am.

A Triumph for Nature, Culture, and Community on Yarun

The 2026 Bribie Island Nature Festival wrapped up as a resounding success, bringing locals and visitors together across Yarun to celebrate the island's extraordinary biodiversity, culture, and rich natural heritage. From guided early morning bird walks to laugh out loud comedy, the three-day program transformed the island into a vibrant hub of arts, science, and community connection.

The weekend was packed with engaging talks, creative art workshops, and hands-on environmental activities spread right across Bribie. A major highlight of the program was the Island Sanctuary – Fact or Fiction? session, alongside insightful talks like Guardians of the Sanctuary, which spotlighted community conservation and protecting local habitats.

Wings Over the World at Kakadu Beach invited participants to view the migratory shorebirds and learn about the remarkable journey of these incredible global travellers. Organised by the Bribie Island Environment Protection Association (BIEPA), alongside the hugely popular Wild Bribie: Free Family Fun Day showed the high level of interest in our wildlife species.

First Nations culture and youth creativity took center stage with Yarunyung: The Next Wave, showcasing the streetwear by young designers from the Pumicestone Indigenous Education and Employment Council.

Meanwhile, entertainment reached a high point with comedian Geraldine Hickey's Birding Adventures show, delivering a hilarious yet heartwarming tribute to bird photography and wildlife passion that left the audience in stitches.

An event of this scale is only possible through dedicated community effort. Sincere thanks and gratitude go out to the hardworking volunteers who gave their time to keep everything running smoothly. Huge appreciation also goes to the many festival collaborators, event partners, scientists, artists, and local organizations whose support made the diverse program possible.

However, organizers noted one point of disappointment during the weekend: several fully booked free activities experienced a significant number of "no-shows."

Because these sessions were capped to protect sensitive environmental sites or maintain small group sizes, empty spots meant that other eager community members missed out on participating. Organizers gently remind festivalgoers for future events to cancel unneeded bookings early so tickets can be reallocated.

Despite this minor hitch, the festival was a shining showcase of what makes Bribie Island so special. The weekend left attendees inspired, informed, and deeply connected to our island home. Let's keep honouring and celebrating the natural beauty of Bribie Island!









Timber Time

Bribie & District Woodcrafters

Bribie & District Woodcrafters Exhibition 2026

There are often demonstrations throughout the day In the Woodies sheds at the back of the Arts Centre.

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www.bribiewoodies.org.au

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Bribie and District Woodcrafters Annual Exhibition & Competition 2026

Saturday 31 October to Sunday 8 November 2026

Matthew Flinders Gallery, Bribie Island Community Arts Centre. 191 Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach



Bribie and District Woodcrafters warmly invites the community to its 2026 Annual Exhibition and Competition—a friendly celebration of creativity, craftsmanship and the wonderful possibilities of wood.

This year's theme, "Timber Time," honours the natural beauty and enduring character of timber, as well as the patience, knowledge and care lovingly invested in every finished piece. Whether visitors are keen woodworkers, lovers of handmade art, searching for a meaningful gift or simply looking for an enjoyable day out, a warm welcome awaits.

About Bribie and District Woodcrafters

Bribie and District Woodcrafters is a friendly and active community of more than 150 members, brought together by a shared love of woodcraft, creativity and traditional skills. People with all levels of experience are welcomed, and the club is a place where members can exchange ideas, learn from one another and enjoy the companionship that comes from creating together.

Across many different disciplines, members transform timber into useful pieces, beautiful decorative works and distinctive wood art, allowing the grain, colour and character of each piece of wood to shine. The annual exhibition is a special opportunity for the club to share this work with the wider community, introduce visitors to local makers and celebrate the friendship, learning and satisfaction at the heart of woodcraft.

Each exhibit has its own story. Behind every piece are hours of choosing just the right timber, planning, shaping, joining, carving, turning, sanding and finishing. Visitors are encouraged to pause, look closely and enjoy the skill and imagination on display.

From fine details and carefully crafted construction to practical designs and artistic creations, there is sure to be something that catches the eye.

Discover, Shop and Be Inspired

- Explore an impressive collection of woodcraft and wood art created by talented club members.
- Purchase unique handcrafted pieces—perfect for a special occasion or an early Christmas gift.
- Vote for the exhibit most deserving of the People's Choice award.
- See woodworking demonstrations at the clubhouse behind the Arts Centre, with exhibition staff available to advise on each day's program and times.

Visitors can wander through the gallery at their own pace, enjoy the workmanship and chat with members along the way. Many handcrafted items will be available to purchase, offering the chance to take home something locally made and truly one of a kind. With Christmas just around the corner, the exhibition may also hold the perfect thoughtful gift for family, friends or someone special.

Raffle and Lucky Door Prize

There is even more fun to enjoy during a visit. Three handcrafted prizes, generously donated by club members, will be raffled, with tickets available throughout the exhibition. The raffle will be drawn at 11.30 am on Sunday 8 November 2026, followed immediately by the lucky door prize draw. Everyone who visits the exhibition has a chance to win the lucky door prize.

Visitors can also help choose this year's People's Choice award. On arrival, each visitor will receive a voting form and can select the exhibit that speaks to them most—perhaps because of its craftsmanship, originality, beauty or clever design. The choice is entirely theirs.

For an extra glimpse behind the scenes, visitors can head to the club's clubhouse, conveniently located behind the Arts Centre, where woodworking demonstrations will be held during the exhibition.

These relaxed sessions are a great way to see some of the tools, techniques and processes used by members. Activities and times may vary each day, so exhibition staff will be happy to share what is happening during each visit.

Opening Hours

Saturday 31 October to Saturday 7 November:
9.00 am–3.30 pm daily
Sunday 8 November:
9.00 am–11.30 am

Mark the dates, gather family and friends, and make time for "Timber Time." Visitors are encouraged to come for a browse, stay for a chat, discover unique handcrafted treasures and celebrate the talent of the local woodcrafting community. Bribie and District Woodcrafters looks forward to welcoming everyone through the gallery doors.

Enquiries

Phone the President: **0484 340 984**
Email: **president@bribiewoodies.org.au**

Good Mates, Great Golf

and Plenty of Laughs



Fancy a relaxed round of golf, plenty of laughs and the chance to make some great new mates? Bribie Island RSL Social Golf Club could be just the ticket. It is a welcoming group where golfers can enjoy regular games without taking things too seriously—and where a friendly chat and a good story are every bit as important as the scorecard.

When a local couple moved to Bribie Island in early 2023, they were eager to meet people and feel at home in their new community. During a visit to the RSL, the husband simply asked whether there was a social golf club nearby.

Staff passed on a name and phone number, and before long, that one question had opened the door to regular outings, warm welcomes and a whole new circle of friends. These days, he looks forward to teeing off fortnightly with



about 30 men and women at courses around the region. The group plays at the lovely Bribie Island Golf Club, as well as Caboolture, Woodford and Beerwah. Each course brings a fresh challenge, a change of scenery and another enjoyable day out with familiar faces.

Different formats keep everyone on their toes, and club championships are held across several grades. There is always room for a little friendly competition and the occasional good-natured boast, but the real prize is sharing a terrific day. A great drive or a long putt earns plenty of cheers, while a ball disappearing into the rough usually becomes a story for the 19th hole.

The club has just returned from its annual getaway, held at Royal Pines this year, and the trip is always one of the highlights of the calendar. Everyone piles onto the bus, ready for a round of golf and a weekend of fun.

Afterwards, the group gathers at the 19th hole to relive the brilliant shots—and have a laugh about the ones best forgotten—before enjoying dinner, more conversation and a well-earned sleep.

Sunday brings a relaxed Ambrose team event, a format that gets everyone working together and makes the game enjoyable for golfers of all abilities.

Prize presentations follow at the 19th hole, with generous applause, cheerful banter and plenty of smiles, before everyone settles in for the bus ride home. It is a simple recipe, but a winning one: golf, good company and plenty of laughs. Of course, the club is about much more than golf. It is an easygoing way to stay active, enjoy

the outdoors, catch up with friends and feel connected to the local community—all those things the doctors keep reminding everyone are good for them. Just as importantly, newcomers do not need to be expert golfers to belong. A willingness to join in and enjoy the day is more than enough.

Now the group would love to see a few new faces join the fun. It is good value too: bulk bookings help bring down the cost of games, members chip in for raffles, and generous sponsors help keep outings affordable.

The year finishes on a festive note with a Christmas party at the RSL after the final game—a chance to celebrate another year of golf, laughter and friendships made along the way.

Ready to tee off, meet new mates and share a laugh? Dust off the clubs and give it a go. All skill levels are warmly welcome, whether you are an experienced player, returning to the game or simply looking for a friendly social outing.

Visit www.bribieislandrslsocialgolfclub.com and come along for the next great day out—you may arrive for the golf and stay for the friendships.

For more information, contact Secretary Ernie Hall on 0437 680 383.





BRIBIE ISLAND NATIONAL SERVICE ASSOCIATION INC

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2026

Bluey and Jean Piva Park, Woorim commencing at 10.30am

EVERYONE WELCOME

Our commemorative events are kindly supported by City of Moreton Bay and Busy Fingers Fundraisers

Contact

Email: **veteransbribie@gmail.com** for further information.



HALLOWEEN MAGIC, THE AUSTRALIAN WAY

Every October, Australians perform a small seasonal miracle: we borrow an autumn festival just as the jacarandas bloom, the days grow warmer.

Halloween may arrive without crunchy leaves or chilly twilight, but that has never stopped us. We add sunscreen, swap heavy cloaks for breathable capes and get on with the serious business of turning the front yard into a bargain-bin haunted mansion.

That cheerful improvisation is exactly why Halloween deserves a place on the Australian calendar. Its magic

PLAY THE JUKEBOX

The Bribie Gleemen, in conjunction with the U3A Sundown Singers, present a Gala Concert

Do you yearn for the days of frilly petticoats, Brylcreem, bobby socks, denim jeans turned up at the cuffs, cigarette packets tucked into shirt sleeves, beehive hairdos and Indian motorcycles?



If that sounds like you—and, let's be honest, it probably describes a large percentage of Bribie Island and the surrounding area's senior population—look no further than the Bribie Gleemen and U3A Sundown Singers' combined gala concert!

Saturday 7 November

From 1.30 pm
Recreation Hall, First Avenue, Bongaree
Tickets: $25, including light refreshments

"Play the Jukebox" will feature favourite tunes we all know and love, performed by two wonderful choirs. Tickets are sure to be in demand, so book early. See the poster for full details. This excellent pencil portrait of the late and much-loved Dolly Parton will be among the great raffle prizes at the concert.



does not depend on reproducing every tradition perfectly; it lives in our collective decision to pretend. A cardboard tube becomes a wizard's wand, a white sheet becomes a ghost and the neighbour's weatherboard house becomes a castle guarded by a pumpkin with suspiciously excellent teeth.

For one evening, imagination outranks practicality—and in a country devoted to sensible footwear, that is no small achievement.

Halloween still has its local critics. Some dismiss it as too American, too sugary or simply another excuse for retailers to stock plastic spiders. Fair enough. Yet Australians have never been shy about adopting an idea, giving it a sun hat and making it our own.

Our trick-or-treaters brave magpies, mozzies and the occasional overenthusiastic sprinkler. Our fake cobwebs compete with the genuine article. On an Australian veranda, a plastic spider can look less like a decoration than an optimistic understudy.

The night also offers something increasingly rare: easy, cheerful contact with the people next door. Porch lights flick on, families wander the footpath and neighbours who usually communicate with a polite nod suddenly debate vampire fangs and lolly-distribution strategy.

Children assess costumes with the gravity of film critics. Adults insist the mixed bag is "for the kids" while conducting repeated quality-control checks on the chocolates. Even the household dog may appear in a tiny witch's hat, looking dignified enough to remind everyone who truly runs the place.

Most importantly, Halloween gives us permission to be silly—and that matters. The news is often grim, the cost of living is no joke and the daily commute contains enough horror without anyone adding a soundtrack.

A night devoted to homemade costumes, terrible puns and bowls of lollies is not an imported menace; it is a modest community service. No advanced spell-casting skills are required. All we need is a willingness to play along, a generous handful of treats and the ability to exclaim, "What a terrifying monster!" to a delighted six-year-old wearing a tea towel.

Besides, Australia has ample home-grown magic. We have moonlit bush tracks, cockatoos that sound as though they are plotting something and possums thumping across the roof at midnight. An Australian Halloween need not imitate a misty village on the other side of the world. We can tell spooky stories beneath the Southern Cross, decorate with gum leaves and devise costumes inspired by everything from bunyips to a particularly frightening electricity bill.

Magic, after all, travels well. It simply needs a local accent. So, this Halloween, let us stop worrying about whether the season looks exactly as it does in the movies. Let the fake cobwebs droop in the warm breeze, the witches wear thongs and the pumpkins grin beside the native garden.

Wave to the neighbours, admire the costumes and keep a few good chocolates aside for emergencies. Australia has always had room for tall tales, strange creatures and a little mischief after dark. Halloween fits in rather nicely. The world will be serious again tomorrow; tonight, a little magic deserves to knock at the door.



Bribie Island Community Arts Society Inc.

The Art Tarts Look Delicious at Bribie Arts Centre

The annual Art Tarts exhibition returns for the 16th year at the Bribie Island Community Arts Centre.

This year's display will be on show from **November 10–22.**

At its heart, this unique show brings together 10 incredibly talented artists, each contributing their distinct voice to a collective narrative of expression.

This year's artists are Sandra Moran, Molly Galpin, Wendy Lynch, Prim Rodgers-Walker, Lorraine Emerson, Beth Morrow, Dale Berridge, Corinne Purcell, Rob Bradfield and Patricia Wheatstone.

Their collective works span an impressive spectrum of mediums, from traditional painting and prints, intricate sculptures and pottery to exquisite jewellery, slumped and painted glass, textile works, and even innovative mixed media installations.

Art lovers will have the chance to meet the artists during the exhibition's opening night event on November 10 from 5pm at Bribie Island Community Arts Centre. Entry is free.

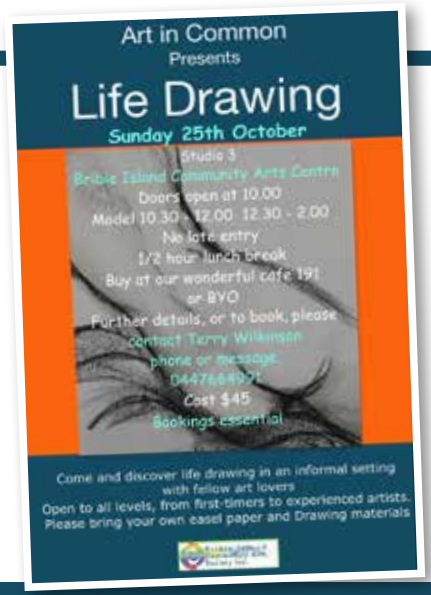
There will be refreshments, finger food and music; and a lucky door prize, valued at $150, drawn on the night.

The Art Tarts would like to thank sponsors; RSL Bribie Island, Cafe 63, Avondale Meats, Woolworths Banksia Beach, Bribie Island Hotel and State Member for Pumicestone Ariana Doolan.

The Art Tarts exhibition continues to support the Bribie Pink Dragons.



Book for this great LIFE Drawing class with Terry Wilkinson.





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Festive Fair

Bribie Island Uniting Church

Webster Street Bongaree

Saturday 14 November

8am to 12 noon

Craft Cakes Plants
Fabulous Food Morning Tea
Chutneys and Jams
Christmas Gifts and Pre-loved Treasures

Stallholders - must have own Public Liability Insurance
$20 per site for 4m x 4m site

To book a stall contact:

Yon Robken 0424 055 523
Tammy Duffy 0407 390 164

Local Dining Guide

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

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



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!

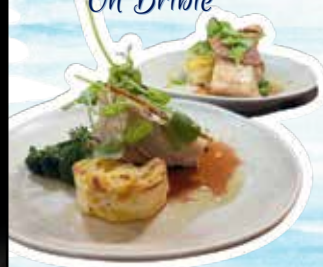
Pacific Harbour Golf & Country Club, 141-159 Avon Avenue, Banksia Beach

07 3410 4024

Scan The QR Code To Book Now!



Sunsets On Bribie



Experience classics you'll love and the new favourites you'll crave!

NOW OPEN SUNDAY 8AM - 11AM FOR BREAKFAST

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 4507





Healthy Nachos

- 1 onion, diced
- 1 carrot, diced
- 1 celery stalk, diced
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp oregano
- 1 capsicum, diced
- 400 g canned black beans, drained and rinsed
- 400 g canned kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 400 g canned chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 500 ml tomato puree
- 1 tbsp chipotle sauce
- 1 cup tasty cheese, shredded
- 2 tbsp coriander, chopped for garnish
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved for garnish
- 2 packets mini corn tortillas
- extra virgin olive oil spray
- 1 avocado
- 2 tbsp coriander, chopped
- 1 tsp pickled jalapenos, chopped
- 1 small red onion, chopped
- 1 lime, juiced

Directions

Preheat the oven to 150C fan force.
In a saucepan over medium heat, drizzle olive oil and sweat the onions, carrot and celery. When softened, add the cumin, oregano, capsicum, black beans, kidney beans and chickpeas. Cook for 7-8 minutes then add the chipotle and tomato puree.

To make the tortilla chips, cut the corn tortillas into small wedges. Spray with olive oil, and bake in the oven for 10-15 minutes or until crispy.

To make the guacamole, scoop out the avocado and mash with the back of a fork, then add the red onion, jalapenos, lime juice and coriander. Season with salt and pepper. Refrigerate until ready to use.

Preheat the oven to 200C.
On a baking tray or dish, spread the tortilla chips evenly on the base, sprinkle some cheese, followed by the bean mix and a little extra cheese on top. Bake until the cheese has melted. Remove from the oven and let it cool slightly before adding the guacamole, cherry tomatoes, and coriander. Serve immediately.

LET'S GO TRAVEL

Travel Meetup Update

What a lovely afternoon we had at the RSL on Sunday the 11th, with around 10 guests coming along to share stories, ideas and good company.

Chris had just returned from Japan and was delighted with her trip. It was wonderful to hear about her travels, and she happily answered a few questions from the group.

Our UK travellers for next year were there too, bringing along a few bits and pieces to show and discuss. Their adventure will be here before they know it—the time is sure to fly by!

Next Meeting

15 November at 3.00 pm at the RSL

New faces are always very welcome, so please feel free to come along. There's nothing to join and no commitment—simply turn up, say hello and enjoy the company!

Maryanne will be warmly welcoming everyone and hosting the meetup while I'm on my way home from Egypt.



A Friendly Reminder

Just a friendly reminder that we are not travel agents or consultants, so we're unable to make

bookings, arrange travel plans or organise travel insurance. What we can offer is a welcoming place to share experiences, ask questions and learn from one another.

We'll always do our best to help find an answer—and if your hosts don't know, someone in our well-travelled group may be able to point you in the right direction.

Until next time, safe and happy travels!

Roslyn Sanderson
0401 078 187

Bribie Island VIEW Club: Community, Connection and Upcoming Events

Bribie Island VIEW Club welcomed Samantha Bell from Courageous Girls' Club as the guest speaker at its September lunch. Sam shared the story of how she created the club to provide a supportive environment in which every girl feels valued.

The club was also represented at the Seniors' Expo at Banksia Beach State School on Thursday, 24 September, where president Julie and secretary Jennifer hosted an information table.

Members and guests are warmly invited to the next lunch meeting at Bribie Island Golf Club in Woorim on Wednesday, 28 October. Please arrive at 11.00 am for an 11.30 am start.

The guest speaker will be Dave Hagger, "My Exercise Guy". The club's next coffee morning will be held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 11 November, at Sunset Pier Café in Bellara.

Bribie Island VIEW Club sponsors seven Australian students experiencing disadvantage through The Smith Family's Learning for Life program. To learn more about the club or its sponsorship, contact secretary Jennifer on 0402 663 867 or email bribieviewclub@gmail.com.





GAME NIGHTS! ON BRIBIE

MONDAY
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 12.45pm-3.45pm.
$5 which includes raffle prize.
Please arrive 10mins before play starts at 12.45pm
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

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

OIL ON
BRIBIE TROUBLED WATERS



Barry Clark -Bribie Island Historical Society

If you look out from Woorim Beach to Moreton Island at any time you will soon see large ships navigating the narrow shipping channel from Caloundra and the top of Bribie with an 80 degree turn across to the north of Moreton Island, and then down the shipping channel to enter the Port of Brisbane.

This narrow shipping channel provides critical access to the Port of Brisbane and work will soon resume widening and deepening the channel to cope with larger vessels. Changes in Ocean currents and greater shipping movements in recent years contributed to the breakthrough of the sand spit that was the northern tip of Bribie.



Port of Brisbane shipping channel

ANRO ASIA

Some readers might remember October 1981 when the fully loaded ANRO ASIA a 16,300-tonne container ship failed to negotiate the turn and ran aground off the northern tip of Bribie Island.

To refloat the 213-metre ship 90 tonnes of Bunker fuel was released into the sea, and helicopters removed 84 Containers to enable tugboats to pull it free. It was world news and a tourist attraction at the time and souvenir tee shirts were sold.



ANRO ASIA

CONTAINERS OVERBOARD

More than 2800 ships enter the Port of Brisbane each year and many are Container vessels. The shipping industry officially reports that about 1500 containers are lost at sea somewhere in the world each year, but the number could be much higher due to under reporting and lack of universal tracking.

Multi-container losses often result from severe weather events when side-to-side motion puts extreme stress on



Containers in sea

lashings. Not all containers sink immediately. A watertight or partially sealed container can float low in the water for weeks or even months, presenting a severe navigation hazard to smaller vessels.

Containers that sink do eventually breach or rust away on the ocean floor, releasing contents ranging from consumer goods and industrial plastics to hazardous materials like chemicals or acids.

PACIFIC ADVENTURER

A major incident impacted Bribie Island just 17 years ago in March 2009 when the container ship Pacific Adventurer was caught in a huge swell in the wake of Cyclone Hamish.

It was12 miles east of Moreton Island when it lost 33 containers overboard some of which struck the side of the ship as they went overboard and punctured the heavy oil fuel tanks.

This resulted in 250 tonnes of oil being spilled from the ship into the turbulent sea and washing ashore along 25 kilometres of beaches on Moreton Island, Bribie Island and the Sunshine Coast.



Pacific-Adventurer

The Queensland Government reacted quickly, declaring a disaster emergency and mobilising all available resources to tackle the worst oil spill ever recorded on the coastline of Australia.

Over the following two months, more than 2200 people were deployed to Moreton Island, with up to 400 staff working on the beaches collecting oil waste from the spill. The logistics proved to be extremely difficult, with no sealed roads and heavy vehicles needing to traverse the Island on sand tracks.

There were many obstacles to overcome, including access by boat and barge, limited accommodation, vehicles bogging, transporting the workforce and providing effective communication. All work was manual, using shovels and rakes to collect the waste and place it into bags and waste bins. The environmental risks were enormous to ensure none of the oil was tracked inland where it could be consumed by wildlife.

Vehicles were quarantined to areas of operation, and decontamination stations were set up to ensure all persons, equipment and vehicles were washed before moving out of the oiled zones.

More than 4000 tonnes of oily waste were removed, and the beaches were declared open again after two months.

WORST & BIGGEST

The worst oil spill in history was in 1991 during the Gulf War when an estimated 10 million barrels of oil spilled into the Persian Gulf after Iraqi forces opened oil well valves and pipelines as they retreated from Kuwait.

The oil slick spread over a huge area of 160 x 68 Klms and was 14 cm thick.

The worlds largest Container ship MSC IRINA can carry an amazing 24,400 twenty foot containers stacked to the height of a 24 story building and is designed to be very stable even in rough sea. It just looks dangerous before even going to sea.



Largest Container Ship 24,000 boxes

MORE BRIBIE HISTORY

Historical Society has monthly meetings with excellent guest speakers on the second Wednesday of each month at 6;30pm at the RSL Club and visitors are welcome.

See more stories & photos of Bribie history on Web site **Bribiehistoricalsociety.org.au & Blog http://bribieislandhistory.blogspot.com** or contact us on **bribiehistoricalsociety@gmail.com**

John Oxley
The Man Behind The Explorer



by Al Finegan

John Oxley
about 1824

I was born at 27 Oxley Drive, Holland Park, Brisbane and educated at a local state school where I was taught about the famous John Oxley and his many exploits. I was therefore proud of the name of the road in which I lived. As I grew into my teens It dawned on me that not only did they give his name to my street but his name also belonged to suburbs, a creek, roads, a highway, towns, and several institutions.

The State Library of Queensland even has a special John Oxley Library. I was also taught that John Oxley "discovered" the Brisbane River. But did he? I now know that there is overwhelming evidence that Oxley did not discover the Brisbane river. He was led to it by John Finnegan.

Oxley appears to have been something of a mercurial character. Those who knew him left remarkably different impressions of the man. He could inspire affection and loyalty among travelling companions yet become involved in bitter disagreements with powerful contemporaries.

While working In Sydney as the Surveyor-General, Oxley was described as a "strong exclusive, having firm attitudes and opinions, and not easily influenced by other people. He refused to see or hear other's ideas". Governor Macquarie had criticized him as being, "loose with the facts and dissatisfied." Oxley had made good friends with John Macarthur, a prominent landowner and merchant.

Macarthur had been arrested by Governor Bligh in 1808 over port and trade disputes and subsequently incited the NSW Corps to carry out the infamous Rum Rebellion coup, He wrote warmly of Oxley's "good nature". Oxley's own expedition journals likewise reveal a man capable of considerable enthusiasm but also periods of profound pessimism when circumstances turned against him.

The more closely we look at John Oxley the man, rather than John Oxley the explorer, the more difficult he becomes to judge. He could be ambitious, vain, financially reckless and occasionally ruthless, yet the private record also reveals a man capable of affection, loyalty and a considerable sense of responsibility towards the women and children in his life.

In 1810, Governor Macquarie acknowledged Oxley's good service, citing that he had performed well on a number of missions over the previous 8 years, and granted him 600 acres near Camden. Soon after, Oxley sailed back to England aboard Porpoise. and won the position of Surveyor-General. To return to NSW, he was allocated a private cabin on board Minstrel, a convict transport ship that was also tasked to carry 127 female convicts to Sydney.

Oxley must have enjoyed the five months voyage. As a young man he would have had great delight in watching the daily parade of the female convicts being given their therapeutic turn on the ship's deck. The female convicts had all been selected to provide fertile wives for the excessive number of male occupants in Sydney.

Oxley chose an attractive 17-year-old convict named Charlotte to be his cabin servant. Charlotte Jane Thorpe was being transported for seven years having been convicted of stealing clothing from a former employer. Minstrel arrived back in Sydney in October 1812, by which time Charlotte was pregnant.

Oxley immediately assumed his position as Surveyor-General and had Charlotte assigned to him as a live-in servant.

1813 became a momentous year for Mr Oxley, not only as Surveyor-General. While spending a lot of time with his good friend John Macarthur, and despite having a pregnant Charlotte at home, he began a romantic relationship with Macarthur's daughter Elizabeth. Oxley sought Macarthur's permission to marry Elizabeth. She was only 17 when Oxley proposed, but she was pleased with the prospect, and that her father initially regarded Oxley as a suitable match. The problem was Oxley's debts.

Macarthur made his approval conditional upon Oxley getting his finances under control. Instead, the debts increased, and Macarthur ultimately ended the proposed marriage along with his friendship with Oxley. He famously described Oxley as "no more fit to make his way in the midst of the sharks... than he is qualified to be a Lord Chancellor."

He also stated that, "His unprincipled conduct made it necessary to drop his acquaintance." Probably because while Oxley was courting Elizabeth, Jeanette Jane Thorpe-Oxley was born. Young Elizabeth was heartbroken at her lost love, never married, and died in 1842, aged about fifty.

In January 1815, John and Charlotte were blessed with another child. Frances Thorpe-Oxley was born as a sister to Jeanette. Later that year Oxley's land near Camden was enlarged to 1,000 acres and became his Kirkham estate, named after his Yorkshire birthplace. In 1816 he began developing Kirkham as his substantial country residence and received a further adjoining 850-acre property, Ellerslie.

1817 and 1818 were Oxley's explorer years. His first was the Lachlan River expedition, followed by the Macquarie River expedition. While both provided a great deal of information of the geography of the Sydney and Bathurst hinterland, he failed in his primary mission which was to discover the destination of the rivers flowing to the West.

On returning from his second six months' expedition, an exhausted Oxley was informed that Charlotte Thorpe had been pardoned and was now married to John Anderson, a colonial farmer. John and Charlotte had settled in the Hunters Hill area of Greater Sydney. Oxley refused to allow Charlotte to keep their daughters and thereafter assumed responsibility for Jeanette and Frances.

Now with two young daughters to manage, Oxley realised he needed a larger household. In 1820, he rented a substantial two-storey, five-bedroom house at the corner of King and Macquarie Streets in central Sydney. It contained extensive furnishings, his large library and served both as his Sydney residence and Surveyor-General's base of operations. He also needed assistance to manage his two daughters, Jeanette and Frances.

So he hired a live-in nanny, Elizabeth Marnon, a freeborn Sydney girl aged about 16. In 1821, not long after Elizabeth turned 17, she gave birth to a baby girl. They named her Louisa Oxley. At the time of her birth, Oxley was about 36. Elizabeth Marnon disappears from historical records after Louisa's birth, her fate unknown.

And while Oxley was establishing his household, which included his two daughters and his pregnant nanny Elizabeth, he was developing a romantic relationship with Emma Norton. Emma was the younger sister of prominent solicitor James Norton. On 31 October 1821, at St Philip's Church, Sydney, Oxley married Emma Norton. Emma was aged about 23, while Oxley was about 37.

Of all Oxley's decisions, marrying Emma may well have been his wisest. She entered an unusually complicated family. Her new husband already had three daughters by two different women, and the surviving records indicate that his daughters remained part of the wider Oxley household.

Whatever Emma privately thought of the situation, she appears to have accepted responsibilities that came with considerably more than simply marrying John Oxley. Around 1823, Oxley sent his two daughters, Jeanette and Frances to England, where they were cared for by his grandmother, Lady Molesworth, and received their education.

They remained there for about five years. In late 1823, Governor Brisbane gave Oxley an important assignment. He was tasked to sail north to search for a suitable site for a new penal settlement. Arriving in Moreton Bay aboard Mermaid in November, fate intervened when Oxley encountered the shipwrecked castaways Thomas Pamphlett and John Finnegan on Bribie Island.

They told him of a large river they had crossed during their wanderings, and with Finnegan acting as his guide, Oxley entered and explored the river, naming it the Brisbane River in honour of the Governor. He returned to Sydney with an enthusiastic report and a recommendation that a settlement be established in Moreton Bay. His report made no mention of the castaways.

While Oxley's professional life was flourishing, his family life was changing as well. In mid-March 1824, Oxley wrote to his heavily pregnant wife explaining that he had unexpectedly been ordered on another exploratory voyage to Moreton Bay.

Oxley cared deeply for Emma and begged the governor to allow him to return to his wife at Kirkham putting his official duties on hold for the time being. Governor Brisbane agreed and allowed Oxley to rush back to Kirkham to look after his growing family. On 23 March 1824, John was present when Emma gave birth to their first son, John Norton Oxley.

In September 1824 Oxley sailed aboard Amity with Lieutenant Henry Miller, soldiers and convicts to establish the new penal settlement at Redcliffe. Barely two months later he was back yet again, this time accompanying Governor Brisbane on a personal inspection of Moreton Bay and the river.

By December 1824, Oxley's great exploring days were behind him, although his responsibilities as Surveyor-General continued to keep him frequently in Sydney while Emma managed their children and property at Kirkham.

Then, a devastating blow fell. One from which Oxley never really recovered. On Saturday, 4 December 1824, at just three years and nine months old, Louisa was playing near the Hyde Park Barracks. She accidentally fell into a massive water-well, located close to the barracks. Contemporary accounts highlight the horrifying nature of the accident, noting the well was at least 100 feet deep.

Because of the sheer depth, she drowned before any aid or rescue could be afforded her. A formal coroner's inquest was held immediately, and the tragedy was publicly reported in the Sydney Gazette, which lamented the loss of a "lovely infant". Oxley, who was already suffering from deteriorating health was devastated emotionally from the shock of losing his young daughter. It never left him and weighed on his final years. On 10 April 1826, John and Emma's second son, Henry Molesworth Oxley, was born. Meanwhile Oxley's health continued to decline. His contemporaries attributed this partly to the privations of his exploratory expeditions.

In February 1828, to John's great joy, Jeanette and Frances returned to Australia from their education in England. On 14 May 1828, Oxley wrote his final official letter. Gravely ill, he tendered his resignation as Surveyor-General to Governor Darling. 12 days later, John Oxley died at his beloved Kirkham surrounded by his extended family.

After Oxley's death, Emma was left a widow with their four children, John, Henry, Jeanette and Frances. Emma remained at Kirkham and devoted herself to preserving the property and securing the future for her children.

John Norton eventually inherited Kirkham, while Henry entered public life and later served for many years in the NSW Parliament. Frances married William Waugh and raised a family of her own. Jeanette never married.

Emma Oxley did not remarry. She lived as a widow for 57 years until she passed away at the age of 88 in 1885.

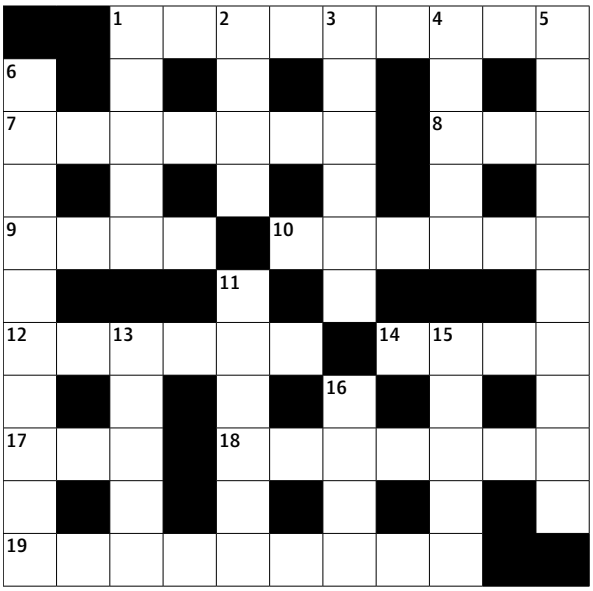
Thus, despite the decidedly complicated circumstances surrounding John Oxley's private life, four of his five children survived him and went on to make successful lives of their own. The sad exception being little Louisa, whose accidental death remained the tragedy of this extraordinary family story.

So Mr John Oxley was certainly not the man I imagined him to be when I was growing up on Oxley Drive in the 1960s. My opinion of him has softened considerably while researching this story.

He was ambitious, frequently difficult, hopeless with money and his relationships with women were, to say the least, complicated. Yet there was another side to him. He accepted responsibility for his children, ensured his older daughters received an education and appears eventually to have found genuine love and stability with Emma.

John Oxley was neither the flawless colonial hero I learned about at school, nor quite the villain I had sometimes imagined him to be. He was something much more interesting - a very complicated human being.

CROSSWORDS - QUICK & CRYPTIC



Across

1 Men lose it, rocking important event (9)

7 Another bag eventually contains cattle feed (7)

8 Party time for Dorothy? (3)

9 Record different tone (4)

10 Person carrying coffin is more exposed, it's said (6)

12 Nick allowed piece of meat (6)

14 Fight useless party hosts (4)

17 Reportedly queue for fish eggs (3)

18 Items of headwear found in vast urban sprawl (7)

19 Old friend in deadlock (9)

Down

1 Value in summer items (5)

2 According to hearsay, was first metal used in pipes by Romans (4)

3 Country we send jerks (6)

4 Instruction for dermatology nurses (5)

5 Go into winkle business (10)

6 Horny individual is hornier, 'cos drunk (10)

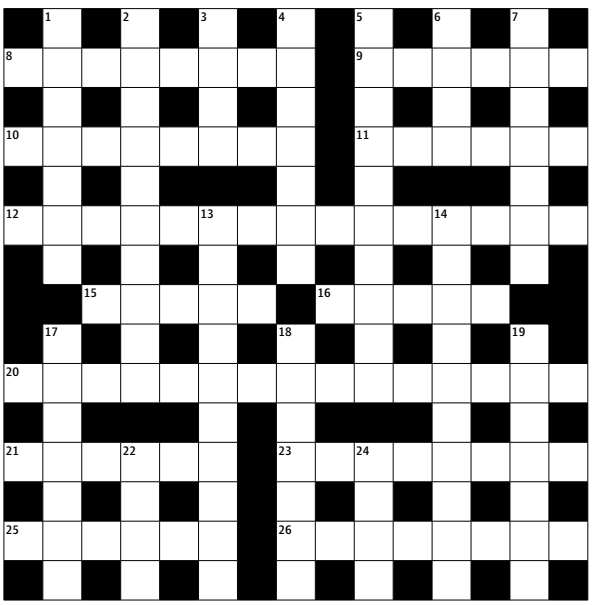
11 Recent changes for netball player (6)

13 Article thanks Greek character (5)

15 Calm section announced (5)

16 Part of Far East region (4)

CRYPTIC



Across

8 Speak highly of one at a late stage in New York? (8)

9 Bring out client I fancy with no end of distinction (6)

10 Overwhelm sister among papers at rear of office (8)

11 Refuse to allow car around British institute (6)

12 Quickly leave, like a woman fond of party footwear? (4,2,4,5)

15 Follow sound of wader (5)

16 Bit of garlic learner put in sheltered place (5)

20 Claim noisy rooms disrupted major enquiry (5,10)

21 Place to get round in sweltering island capital (6)

23 Recall current religious teacher grabbing ordinary grilled fare (8)

25 Pair almost in dominant position very quickly (6)

26 Working in Greece shortly around clubs – what scouts have to do? (8)

Down

1 Politician raising chap with problem about hospital (7)

2 Plant set in patio awkwardly (10)

3 Part of brigade in capital (4)

4 Day with November gone to hide progress (7)

5 Last character following passion left detained by priest is director (10)

6 Dishonest type in hide-out with switched contents (4)

7 One dubbed flipping guide missing opening farcical (7)

13 See Conservative in old country engaged in filming (2,8)

14 Imagined flying in nosedive (10)

17 Stay in this way with diary having deleted a line (7)

18 A person in seat with Henry and Rita, maybe, has jar (7)

19 Note words of approval after leaving place on island (7)

22 Family member frequented venue in Tower Hamlets? (4)

24 First off, observe feature of a canal (4)

SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC SOLUTION



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

QUICK SOLUTION



	M	I	L	E	S	T	O	N	E	
R		E		E		W		R		N
H	E	R	B	A	G	E		D	O	T
I		I		D		D		E		E
N	O	T	E		B	E	A	R	E	R
O				C		N				P
C	U	T	L	E	T		S	P	A	R
E		H		N		A		E		I
R	O	E		T	U	R	B	A	N	S
O		T		R		E		C		E
S	T	A	L	E	M	A	T	E		

KIDS ZONE

SPOT THE 5 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

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

CAT	DOG	SUN
HAT	BALL	TREE
BOOK	STAR	FISH



Pawsome Pet Pages


Bailey


Puddy

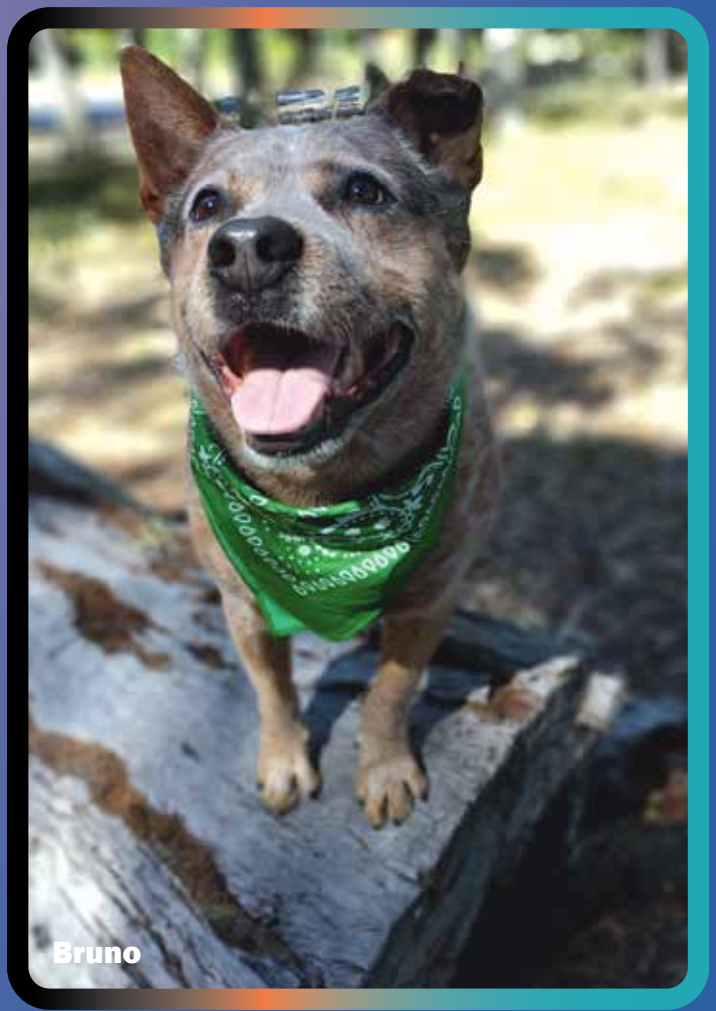

Bear & Pippa


Buddha


Coco


Fluffy


Murphy


Bruno

SPORTS PAGES

BRIBIE ISLAND BOWLS CLUB

Self-Select Pairs Results Friday AM 2 October 2026
Winners: R Glasser, T Phillips Runners up: BJ Adams, P Adams Winning draw: W Ryan, K Rush Winning draw: J Falvey, B Jackson Encouragement: J Dann, C Dann

Self-Select Pairs Results Friday PM 2 October 2026
Winners: P Wachmer, P Gray Runners up: K Taylor, C Perkins Winning draw: T Walley, W Simmonds Winning draw: C Hayles, G Olson Winning draw: A Wells, P Maloney Encouragement: S Pomroy, E Merrin

Scrounger Results Monday 5 October 2026
1st: W Gunders
2nd: W Ryan
3rd: W Wiegand

Self-Select Triples Results Tuesday 6 October 2026
Winners: T Phillips, C Brayley, C Wilkie Runners up: M Cole, J Wallis, L De-Roule Winning draw: R Eaton, B.J Adams, F Crockett Winning draw: S Hamblin, C Christianson, M O'Neill, P Mann Winning draw: M Durham, I Smith, K Smith Encouragement: N Smith, M Brown, S Brown

Self-Select Pairs Results Wednesday AM 7 October 2026
Winners: L Tweedle, G Jackson Runners up: D Dodd, M Cole Winning draw: J Dann, J Dalton Encouragement: K Muller, J Muller

Self-Select Pairs Results Wednesday PM 7 October 2026
Winners: W McDougall, J Brazier Runners up: G Riley, F Crockett Winning draw: K Burdon, K Smith Winning draw: S Cook, J Hosie Winning draw: J Oliver, P Gray Encouragement: J Mercer, N Holzberger

Random Triples Results Thursday 8 October 2026
Winners: P Gee, R Cross, J Dunn Runners up: W Manson, C Draper, S Horn Winning draw: K Mulpeter, C Bajszczak, J Seymour Winning draw: M Todd, L De-Roule, G Demsey Encouragement: P Cook, T Charlwood, E Polloni

Self-Select Pairs Results Friday AM 9 October 2026
Winners: J Coleman, G Coleman Runners up: M Brenner, L Tait Winning draw: J Teakle, L Comacchio Winning draw: D Cherry, M Aubin Encouragement: I Jackson, D Jackson

Self-Self Pairs Results Friday PM 9 October 2026
Winners: J Oliver, W McKillop Runners up: W Kelly, G Olson Winning draw: M Walter, N Kirchhener Winning draw: D Whitehorn, E Holiday Winning draw: K Thorton, B Ferguson Encouragement: G Flint, B Umlauft

Random Fours Results Saturday 11 October 2026
Winners: C Stroud, Y McDonald, R Cross, E Polloni Runners up: R Follett, L Easton, M Brown, C Draper Lucky draw: C Cross, E Thean, K Muller, G Woollett Lucky draw: J Herbert, J Wallis, J Lonsdale

Scrounger Results Monday 12 October 2026
1st: C Stroud
2nd: M Todd
3rd: K Norton

Self-Select Triples Results Tuesday 13 October 2026
Winners: L Godfrey, T Dean, L Gilmore Runners up: A Russell, R Cross, C Cross Winning draw: D Dixon, C McMillan, R Warwick Winning draw: R McDermott, G Riley, N Gray Winning draw: W Baker, J Warwick, S Horn Encouragement: M Hannon, J Wallis, M Cole

Self-Select Pairs Results Wednesday AM 14 October 2026
Winners: B Lawler, R Townsend Runners up: M Garfield, E Bateman Winning draw: G Jackson, L Tweddle

Self-Select Pairs Results Wednesday PM 14 October 2026
Winners: L Gilmore, L Godfrey Runners up: A Feichter, B Hosie Winning draw: R Eaton, D Heath Winning draw: G Teakel, T Eurfurth Winning draw: J Hosie, S Cook Encouragement: A Wells, P Mahoney

Random Triples Results Thursday 15 October 2026
Winners: R Bickerton, M Cole, R Donnelly Runners up: M Brown, T Phillips, R Hicks Winning draw: G Hull, N Graham, C Hamilton Winning draw: D Draper, R Cross, J De Ruyter Encouragement: P Gee, C Ormerod, J Dunn, N Hicks

BONGAREE BOWLS RESULTS

Results of Friday 2-4-2 25/9
Winners: Bob Vonarx, Pam Walker
R/Up: Kim and Harry Hayes

Results of Saturday Scroungers 26/9
1st: Lisa Pemberton. 2nd: Martin Jones. 3rd: Sheena Bath. 4th: John Gambling. 5th: Gideon Croukamp

Results of Tuesday Paddle Pop Draw Triples 29/9
Winners: Denise Hayes, Gail Parker, Graeme Hanlin
R/Up: Kathy Gambling, Christine Nathan, Arne Jensen
Bonus Draw: Kathy Gambling, Christine Nathan, Arne Jensen

Results of Wednesday 4's 30/9
Winners: Rosie Smith, Ray Black, Gordon Pitts, Ray Horne
R/Up: Allan Kenning, Artie Hinton, Graeme Hanlin, Peter Vlajic

Results of Thursday Jackpot Pairs 1/10
Winners: Colin Sleet, Peter Blake
R/Up: Greg Hemphill, Jacque Murdoch

Results of Friday 2-4-2. 2/10
Winners: Kim and Harry Hayes
R/Up: Bev and Darryl Birt

Results of Saturday Scroungers 3/10
1st: Tony Jericevich. 2nd: Peter Blake. 3rd: Stuart Heath. 4th: Mick McIlveen. T 5th: Rob Hebrow

Results of Tuesday Paddle Pop Draw Triples 6/10
Winners: Gail Parker, Ron Wilson, John Gambling, Richie Ferguson
R/Up: Maureen Ferguson, Alan Simonic, Brenda Hutchinson
Bonus Draw: Gail Parker, Ron Wilson, John Gambling, Richie Ferguson

Results of Wednesday 4's 7/10
Winners: Billy Moor, Val Smith, Beryl Moor, Pam Walker
R/Up: Mark Ackerman, David Vaughan, Joe Mifsud, Wayne Baker

Results of Thursday Jackpot Pairs 8/10
Winners: Lisa Pemberton, Alan Simonic
R/Up: Ken Kajewski, David Hutchinson

SOLANDER LAKE BOWLS RESULTS

Tuesday 29 September 2026 - Club Select Triples/Fours:
Winners - Marg Hopper, Bruce Crawford, Ricci Harris 2nd - Ted Fairman, Gavin Dunsop, Beryl Moor, Merv Adams 3rd - Gareth Smith, Julie Bates, Grant Riley, Stuart Ager

Wednesday 30 September 2026 - Club Select Pairs:
Winners - Andy Ives and Errol Sharp 2nd - Krys Henshaw and Brad Jackson 3rd - Dennis John and Neil Feazey

Thursday 1 October 2026 - Self Select Fours:
Winners - Wally Schmidt, Andy Ives, Ian Carr, Anthony MacGregor 2nd - Jeff Farmer, Geoff Cusbert, Ray Griffin, Vicki Mitchell 3rd - Chris Cummins, Jenni Cummins, Andy Wilkie, Ian Boast

Friday 2 October 2026 - Self Select Triples:
Winners - Jenni Cummins, Vicki Mitchelol, Errol Sharp 2nd - Jeff Dalton, Brad Lawler, Pete Nixon 3rd - Deb Hill, Ray Zahl, Maggie Zahl

Saturday 3 October 2026 - Club Select Pairs/Triples:
Winners - Marg Matheson, Brad Storey, Ricci Harris 2nd - David Draper and Bill Taylor

Tuesday 6 October 2026 - Club Select Triples/Fours:
Winners - Dave Bentley, Merv Boike, A nn Mehmet, Ron Schultz 2nd - Julie Watson, Bruce Crawford, Robert James 3rd - Cheryl Crawford, Val Paul, Graham Hubbard

Wednesday 7 October 2026 - Club Select Pairs/Triples:
Winners - Pat Samuelson and Graham Hubbard 2nd - Tony Miguel, Pete McIntyre, Pete Nixon

Thursday 8 October 2026 - Self Select Fours:
Winners - Ted Parker, Val Jones, Brad Storey, Jan Oakley 2nd - Leonie Schmidt, Marieke Moore, Sue Lupi, Jacki Player 3rd - Jim McKenzie, Margaret McKenzie, Mike Wilson, Geoff Cusbert

Friday 9 October 2026 - Self Select Triples:
Winners - Marieke Moore, Neil Feazey, Andy Ives 2nd - Geoff Dalton, Pete Neilson, Glenn McCarthy 3rd - Maurie Bonollo, Steve Ross, Terry Nash

Saturday 10 October 2026 - Club Select Triples:
Winners - Beryl Cowthperwaite, Brad Storey, Alan Thompson 2nd - Shaun Dempsey, Nerelle Andersen, Ricci Harris

Club Championship - Mixed Pairs:
Winners - Terri Curtis and Barry Curtis Runners-up - Desley Handcock and Rod Reilly

Solander Lake Bowls Club member, Audrey Coe, has had a very successful 2026 culminating in being named Qld Ladies Under 18 Team Captain, and being Skip of the Gold Medal winning Triples Team and Bronze Medal winning Fours Team. Audrey has done herself, family, State, Club and Bribie Island proud.

BRIBIE ISLAND WOMEN'S GOLF RESULTS

6 Oct to 15 Oct 2026

06/10/26 4BBB Stableford – Multi Tee – SPONSORED BY THE LORIKEETS

WINNERS Jody Bedson & Jennifer McKay 47. 2nd Ann Squires & Marg Bailey 46. 3rd Vivi Lloyd & Sandy Smith 45. NTP. Hole 4 Vivi Lloyd. Hole 7 Debra Dunn. Hole 14 Debra Dunn.



Vivi, Jody, Sandy, (sponsors Myra and Chris) Ann and Marg

06/10/26 Golf Australia - Gertrude McLeod Competition

Lorna Burns, Toni Grossman and Roz Crossley from Bribie played in the Gertrude McLeod Winners Event at Gailes Golf Club. This prestigious event is open to all Clubs in QLD and only the winners in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 from each club are invited to participate. An excellent effort from our girls with Lorna placing 3rd in Div 1 and the team finishing 8th overall.

Lorna Burns, 3rd place DIV 1 in the Gertrude McLeod Trophy Event held at Gailes Golf Club
08/10/26 Canadian Foursomes

WINNERS Vicki Jones and Carole Watson 72.75
2nd Maureen Driscoll and Marg Bailey 76
3rd Di Benghamy and Rhondelle Ollett (Redcliffe) 76.125
NTP. Hole 4 Judy Umlauft. Hole 7 Di Benghamy. Hole 14 Sue Graham. Hole 16 Kate Wesener.

CANADIAN FOURSOMES WINNERS Vicki and Carole with Kate

12/10/26 YAMBA 3 DAY TOURNAMENT
DIV 3 STABLEFORD
WINNER Ann Rogers
Yamba DIV 3 Stableford Winner Ann Rogers

No club competition 13 -16 October as BIGC is hosting the Australian Senior Amateur Event. 155 players from all over Australia; as well as players from New Zealand, USA, Canada & Japan.
NTP. Hole 4 Abby Driver. Hole 14 Gwen Clutterbuck

01/10/26 Single Stroke – MONTHLY MEDAL – Sponsored by Churches of Christ

DIV 1 WINNER Val Phinn 74. 2nd Sandy Smith 75 c/b. 3rd Marg Bailey 75 c/b. NTP Hole 4 Di Benghamy. Hole 7 Lorna Burns. Hole 16 2nd shot Vicki Cronan.
GROSS

WINNER Di Benghamy 83. DIV 1 RUNNER UPS Sandy Smith and Marg Bailey with Annie from Churches of Christ

DIV 2 WINNER Sandra Power 72. 2nd Maureen Bailey 73 c/b. 3rd Robyn Colbran 73.
NTP Hole 4 Charmaine Price. Hole 7 Gaby Bennett. Hole 14 Maureen Bailey. Hole 16 2nd shot Di Barker
GROSS WINNER Sandra Power 96.
DIV 2 WINNER Sandra Power with Annie from Churches of Christ

DIV 3 WINNER Cathy Cooke 69. 2nd Mary Carruthers 71. 3rd Jude Dorhauer 73. NTP. Hole 4 Leonie Buxton. Hole 14 Carol Lobegeiger. Hole 16 2nd shot Susan Brown
GROSS WINNER Leonie Buxton 100
DIV 3 RUNNER UPS Jude Dorhauer and Mary Carruthers with Annie from Churches of Christ

MORETON BRIBIE BRIDGE CLUB

The Club Championship Teams event was held on Saturday 26th September. Winning team (pictured) was Chris Watson, Shirley Watson, Gary Gibbards and Deb Gibbards.

Other results:

Sat 26 Sep, Championship Teams 1 Watson team 2 Cohen team 3 Kinross team
Wednesday 30th Sep N/S 1 L Carr &J Wright 2 R Floquet & J Kinross 3 H Tyler & J Medhurst E/W 1 M O'Reilly & B Connell 2 R Medhurst & P Breene 3 J Lawson & P Morton
Sat 2 Oct N/S 1 J Kinross & R Floquet 2 R Sutton & P Langford 3 L Carr & J Wright E/W 1 G Lock & N Denvir 2 J Reiter & B Connell 3 E Viney & L Pellow
Wed 7 Oct N/S 1 J Medhurst & H Tyler 2 R Sutton & L McLaren 3 A Fielding & M Bailey E/W 1 P Edis & J Lawson 2 K Strickland & K Cohen 3 C & R Perrott
BICBC: Mon 28 Sep N/S 1 P Edis & L Groves 2 C Page & J Kennedy 3 L Wilson & J Brazier E/W =1 J Lawson & J Easey =1 L Hutton & G Colwell 3 I Best & B Moxham
Mon 5 Oct N/S 1 C Page & J Kennedy 2 A Fielding & J Easey 3 L Wilson & J Brazier E/W 1 C & R Perrott 2 I Best B Moxham 3 L Manson & M Bailey

The Club welcomes visitors and new players. Lessons and supervised play available. Phone Helen 0427 567 670



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Step up for a cure

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A new floor can transform the way your home looks and feels. This October and November, it can also help support a cause close to the hearts of the Herborn's Floorworld team.

As part of Floorworld's **Step Up for a Cure** campaign, Herborn's Floorworld is joining stores and supplier partners across Australia to support the Pancare Foundation and its work helping people affected by upper gastrointestinal cancers.

For customers, it's an opportunity to find flooring they love while making a meaningful contribution through participating product purchases.

More choice. Exclusive savings.

Working with a wide range of flooring suppliers, Herborn's Floorworld is offering customers exclusive discounts on selected carpet, timber, laminate, hybrid, and vinyl flooring ranges, with participating underlay products also included in the Pancare campaign.

Whether you're looking for soft, comfortable carpet for the bedrooms, the natural character of timber or a practical floor for busy family spaces, the team can help you compare options and find the right fit for your home and budget.

Shane, Lou, Debbie and the Herborn's team bring a personal approach to choosing flooring, with friendly advice on everything from colours and textures to everyday care. With expert guidance and a free in-home measure and quote, you can take the next step with confidence.

Flooring with a purpose

Floorworld's partnership with Pancare began in 2020 and has raised more than $400,000. The campaign honours the memory of Floorworld Director Billy Tspatsaris and Nowra Floorworld owner Glenn Jeffcoat.

From **1 October to 30 November 2026**, purchases of participating products help generate contributions to Pancare, bringing customers, stores and suppliers together for a shared cause.

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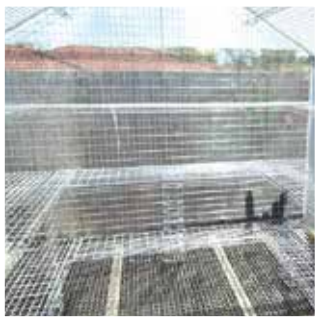
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DISASTER RESILIENCE STARTS AT HOME AND IT STARTS NOW

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is a timely reminder that preparedness begins with informed households, practical planning and strong neighbourhood connections.

For Moreton Bay residents, the message behind this year's theme, **"Resilience Starts at Home"**, could not be clearer. Disasters can occur with little warning, but the damage they cause is not inevitable.

The choices we make before an emergency—preparing our homes, understanding local risks and knowing where to find reliable information—can determine how safely and quickly our community recovers.

Preparedness does not need to be complicated.

A household emergency plan, a well-stocked emergency kit and a conversation about where family members will go or how they will communicate can make a significant difference. So can the simple act of knowing our neighbours, particularly those who may need extra help during an evacuation, power outage or severe weather event.

Resilience must be maintained year-round. When households are informed and prepared, whole communities become stronger. That strength grows through connection: checking on neighbours who may need extra help, sharing accurate information and resisting the confusion that can spread when an emergency unfolds.

There is also an economic case for acting early. Disasters do more than damage buildings; they disrupt livelihoods, businesses, education and future opportunities.

Every practical step taken before a disaster can reduce pressure on families, emergency services and the wider community, while helping residents get back on track sooner.

Five steps to get ready now

- **Know your risks.** Consider how severe storms, flooding, bushfires, heatwaves or extended power outages could affect your home, travel routes and essential services.
- **Make a household plan.** Decide where you will shelter or evacuate, how you will contact one another and who will collect children, pets or relatives if normal routines are disrupted.
- **Prepare an emergency kit.** Include drinking water, non-perishable food, medications, a first-aid kit, torch, batteries, phone charger, radio, copies of important documents and some cash.
- **Protect your property.** Clear gutters, secure loose outdoor items, check insurance details and keep important documents stored safely and readily accessible.
- **Stay connected.** Follow trusted warnings, keep devices charged and check on neighbours who may need assistance before, during or after an emergency.

A resilient community is built household by household and street by street. Preparation should not be left until heavy rain is falling, smoke is in the air or the power has failed. Plans and supplies should be reviewed regularly, especially when household circumstances change, new pets arrive or medications are updated.

This International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, every Moreton Bay resident should take at least one practical step towards readiness. Talk through the plan, replenish the emergency kit or introduce yourself to a neighbour. Small actions taken now can prevent confusion later and help families recover sooner. The best time to prepare is before the warning arrives.



News Flush

By Ben, Bribie Island Plumbing & Drainage

If you asked me to draw a map of Bribie Island, you'd probably expect roads. Mine would be a little different: pipes running to taps, toilets, hot-water systems and the odd blocked drain, with stops at the homes of busy families, welcoming retirees and the occasional furry tool thief.

After 17 years on the tools, I've learned that plumbing comes with a backstage pass to everyday life.

You see the laundry in full swing, hear that the bathroom is "usually much tidier," and sometimes get called in after last night's dinner (or mysterious object) blocks the loo.

Although, its not all blockages and emergency callouts. A good days work might mean getting the hot water running again, locating a sneaky leak or simply helping people get on with their day without the worries of plumbing.

And every now and then, there's a cuppa, a slice of cake and a good chat to go with it.

I started out as a school-based apprentice (always happy to find a reason to miss class) and learned the ropes with a local family-run new build plumbing business. Those early years taught me the basics of being a good tradie.

Since then, I've been lucky to work alongside good people and take on jobs that have helped me grow, both as a plumber and as a business owner.

Like most people, I've had my share of great and not-so-great experiences with trades. The biggest lesson? No one likes a promise that goes down the drain.

Clear communication is what keeps things flowing.

I've been running my own business for several years now, and I keep things simple: do the job properly, be polite and professional. I've worked on thousands of jobs around Bribie, so there's a good chance we've crossed paths or might do soon.

We are a small team at Bribie Island Plumbing & Drainage: me and Pete, my offsider, who has more than 20 years of experience in the job. A standard day can go from quick

15-minute fixes to bigger plumbing projects.

No two days are quite the same. From new taps, toilets and fixtures and in winter, hot water systems keep us busy. They can work away quietly for years, until they decide to give up at the worst possible moment. Usually when someone's ready for a shower!

Even in this busy year, I wanted to offer the community something extra. Welcome to News Flush, where I plan to cover all things plumbing on Bribie whenever I can.

I'll include practical tips, stories from around the island and, now and then, a funny or slightly shocking tale (no names, of course). There's plenty to talk about when you spend your days under sinks and down pipes.

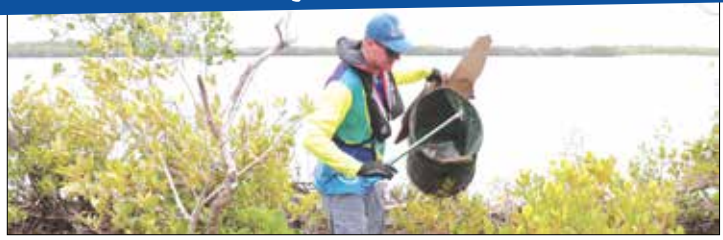
In the next edition, I'll share a few ways to get your home ready for storm season. In the meantime, here's one simple tip worth passing around: find your water meter (usually located in the front yard along the boundary) and make sure everyone at home knows where it is.

If a pipe bursts or a major leak springs up, turning the water off quickly can help limit damage and keep the water bill from making a splash. This one tip could also save you from engaging in an emergency plumber.

Stay tuned, and may your drains keep flowing, your gutters behave and your garden remain a garden!

Ben, Bribie Island Plumbing & Drainage

Clean waterways, stronger communities: a partnership worth backing



Bamboo Projects founders Chris and Kristy Paterson have built a local organisation that tackles environmental damage while creating meaningful opportunities for people who face barriers to employment. The City of Moreton Bay's decision to renew and expand its partnership with the charity recognises a model delivering practical results for waterways, participants and the wider community.

Founded by 2026 City of Moreton Bay Citizen of the Year Chris Paterson and his wife, Kristy, Bamboo Projects has spent a decade combining environmental action with social inclusion. Their approach is straightforward: give people supported, achievable work that matters, while directing that effort towards some of the region's most persistent pollution problems.

The results are substantial. Over the past two years, Bamboo Projects has removed about 14 tonnes of marine debris from the Caboolture River and the North and South Pine River systems. Its teams work in mangroves, tidal zones, stormwater discharge areas and recreational access points, removing rubbish before it can enter Moreton Bay or harm wildlife.

Under the new contract, clean-up days will increase from one a week to two, with 88 activities across the Caboolture River, North and South Pine Rivers, Ningi Creek, Elimbah Creek, Burpengary Creek and the Beachmere foreshore. The expansion reflects confidence in the organisation's record and gives it greater capacity to protect waterways across the city.

Bamboo Projects also looks beyond collecting debris. With an environmental scientist on its team, the charity examines where litter originates, how it travels through catchments and how it might be stopped at the source. Data on recovered waste is helping identify pollution trends and can support smarter prevention over time.

Yet the Patersons' achievement is not measured only in tonnes. As a registered NDIS provider, Bamboo Projects offers ongoing, supported employment to locals with disability, including people with psychosocial disabilities. Kristy Paterson says participants know they are needed and that their work genuinely matters. The work is practical, the results are visible and the team provides what she describes as the "right environment to succeed".

For participants, that can mean a reason to get up in the morning, a supportive group of colleagues and the satisfaction of contributing to something larger than themselves. For the community, it means cleaner public spaces and a program demonstrating that inclusion can be built into essential environmental work rather than treated as an afterthought.

Mayor Peter Flannery has called the contract extension an easy decision. The evidence supports him: Bamboo Projects has delivered measurable environmental improvements while creating inclusive local jobs. Its collection of data on recovered waste also gives Council a stronger basis for identifying pollution hotspots, tracking trends and demonstrating the value of the community's investment.

Chris and Kristy Paterson have built more than a clean-up service. They have created a local model in which environmental responsibility and social purpose reinforce each other. As Mrs Paterson says, "It's a win for the environment, a win for our participants and a win for the whole community." Moreton Bay should be proud to keep backing it.





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"WITHOUT THAT SMOKE ALARM, WE DON'T WAKE UP"

At 4am one morning last August, a smoke alarm woke Mike Goldman and his family, their Bulimba house was on fire. His 18-month-old son, Jagger, was asleep in bed with Mike and his wife Bianca, which is lucky as the fire burnt straight through his cot, the thing of nightmares for anyone.

It was the kind of disaster Mike had never imagined would happen to his family. Now he wants every Queenslander to understand that it absolutely could, happen to theirs.

"At four o'clock in the morning, our smoke alarm went off and within minutes our world was on fire. If that alarm hadn't worked, and the crew from Cannon Hill hadn't reached us so quickly, I might not be here telling this story," Mike said. "Station Officer Mark Dutton and the team arrived within minutes.

They got our dog Mister Big out, protected the neighbouring properties and helped us through the worst night of our lives. I stood on that street in my in Lilo & Stitch pyjamas holding my son, with my wife beside me, watching these people run towards the thing the rest of us run from. I was in awe.

Without that smoke alarm, we don't wake up. Without those firefighters, I don't know what happens next."

QFD Commissioner Steve Smith said the early warning was especially important when a fire broke out while a family was asleep. "Smoke alarms save lives and interconnected, photoelectric smoke alarms are the safest option available," Commissioner Smith said. "Interconnected smoke alarms mean when one alarm activates, every alarm throughout the house sounds. That early warning can make all the difference." Queensland firefighters responded to more than 1,700 house fires across the state last financial year. Mike never expected his home to be among them.

"Get behind Firefighters. Listen to these extraordinary people, and check your smoke alarms. It might just save your life." From 1 January 2027, all remaining Queensland houses, townhouses and residential units must have interconnected, photoelectric smoke alarms installed in bedrooms, hallways connecting bedrooms and on every storey. Homes being sold or leased are already required to comply. The changes are designed to provide the earliest warning in the event of a house fire, giving families critical time to escape safely.

Compliant alarms must meet Australian Standard AS 3786–2014. Depending on the home's existing alarm setup, they may be powered by a non-removable 10-year battery or hardwired. A licensed electrician must install hardwired alarms.

Queensland Fire Department (QFD) Commissioner Steve Smith said protecting your family starts long before an emergency happens. "Smoke alarms save lives and interconnected, photoelectric smoke alarms are the safest option available," Commissioner Smith said. "Interconnected smoke alarms mean when one alarm activates, every alarm throughout the house sounds.

That early warning can make all the difference, particularly if a fire starts while your family is asleep."

Firefighters responded to more than 1,700 house fires across the state last financial year, including the home of Mike Goldman. After learning first-hand the importance of smoke alarms, Mike has partnered with QFD on a new podcast series, Firefighters, which aims to showcase the work undertaken by crews as well as highlight the importance of interconnected smoke alarms.

Mike Goldman said his motivations are deeply personal after the rapid response from Cannon Hill Fire and Rescue Station ensured the safety of his family when their home was destroyed by an electrical fire. "I've survived a house fire. I know exactly what a working smoke alarm is worth. It's the difference between getting out and not getting out," Mr Goldman said.

"New legislation lands 1 January next year, and this show is the wake-up call to check your alarms.

But it's also a celebration of the people who run toward potential danger so the rest of us don't have to. Get behind Firefighters. It might just save your life." The 12-part interview series will run approximately 20-minute episodes in audio and video format each week from 1 October 2026 on YouTube.

"By 1 January 2027, all registered caravans and motorhomes must have a photoelectric smoke alarm installed on the ceiling," Commissioner Smith said. "A fire can spread rapidly within a caravan, engulfing it within minutes, however a smoke alarm can make all the difference, protecting your family and your home away from home."

For more information on smoke alarm requirements, visit the Queensland Fire Department website.



$3.8 million accessibility upgrade delivered at Woorim Beach

- **An accessible amenities and Changing Places facility upgrade at Woorim Beach enables access for all.**
- **City of Moreton Bay working toward being the most accessible City in Queensland.**
- **The upgrade is funded by City of Moreton Bay and the SEQ Liveability Fund.**

The $3.8 million accessible amenities and Changing Places facility upgrade at Bluey and Jean Piva Park, Woorim Beach will give people with disabilities easier access and a more inclusive day at the beach with family and friends.

Mayor Peter Flannery said Woorim Beach was the perfect location for the new Changing Places facility, with existing beach mats and upgraded amenities helping people with high support needs enjoy the coastline comfortably.

"Experiencing the beautiful beaches of Moreton Bay is an integral part of life in our City, and thanks to the SEQ City Deal, this upgrade at Woorim Beach makes one of our most popular destinations more accessible through our Changing Places Network Plan," Mayor Flannery said. "We want City of Moreton Bay to be the most accessible city in Queensland.

"We're the first local government in Australia to implement a dedicated network plan to deliver Changing Places facilities, ensuring dignified and comfortable amenities for everyone.

"This upgrade forms part of the many upgrades in Bongaree and Woorim through the SEQ City Deal partnership, highlighting the strong collaboration between local, state, and federal governments to make a meaningful difference in people's lives.

"We're thrilled to see the community enjoying these modern amenities. This block has been thoughtfully designed to reflect the natural

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beauty and cultural heritage of Bribie Island, complementing the stunning landscape we're so fortunate to have here in Moreton Bay."

Key features include:

• A Changing Places facility designed for people with high support needs
• Self-service lockers with two free hireable beach wheelchairs and one beach wheely walker
• Accessible showers, change rooms and toilets to accommodate all visitors.
Senator Corinne Mulholland said Queensland's beaches should be places everyone can enjoy comfortably, independently, and safely, no matter their physical ability.

"City of Moreton Bay should be recognised as a Council that's genuinely leading the way with a focus on improving accessibility," she said.

"Good design not only improves liveability, it also makes good business sense, and there's also a huge tourism and economic opportunity here to promote Woorim as a beach that's accessible to everyone. "From seniors to people living with disabilities, and families wrestling with prams, or anyone struggling to find changing rooms or amenities - thoughtful design really matters! "With Brisbane 2032 on the horizon, this kind of investment sets Moreton Bay apart for providing accessible, welcoming public spaces in iconic locations right on Brisbane's doorstep."

Deputy Premier of Queensland, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning, and Minister for Industrial Relations, Jarrod Bleijie, said the project reflects the State's commitment to inclusive public spaces. "We're pleased to deliver inclusive infrastructure to popular destinations across Queensland so visitors of all abilities can have a more enjoyable experience and benefit from a more liveable state."

Member for Pumicestone, Ariana Doolan MP, said the new facility at Woorim is a game changer for the City of Moreton Bay from an accessibility point of view.

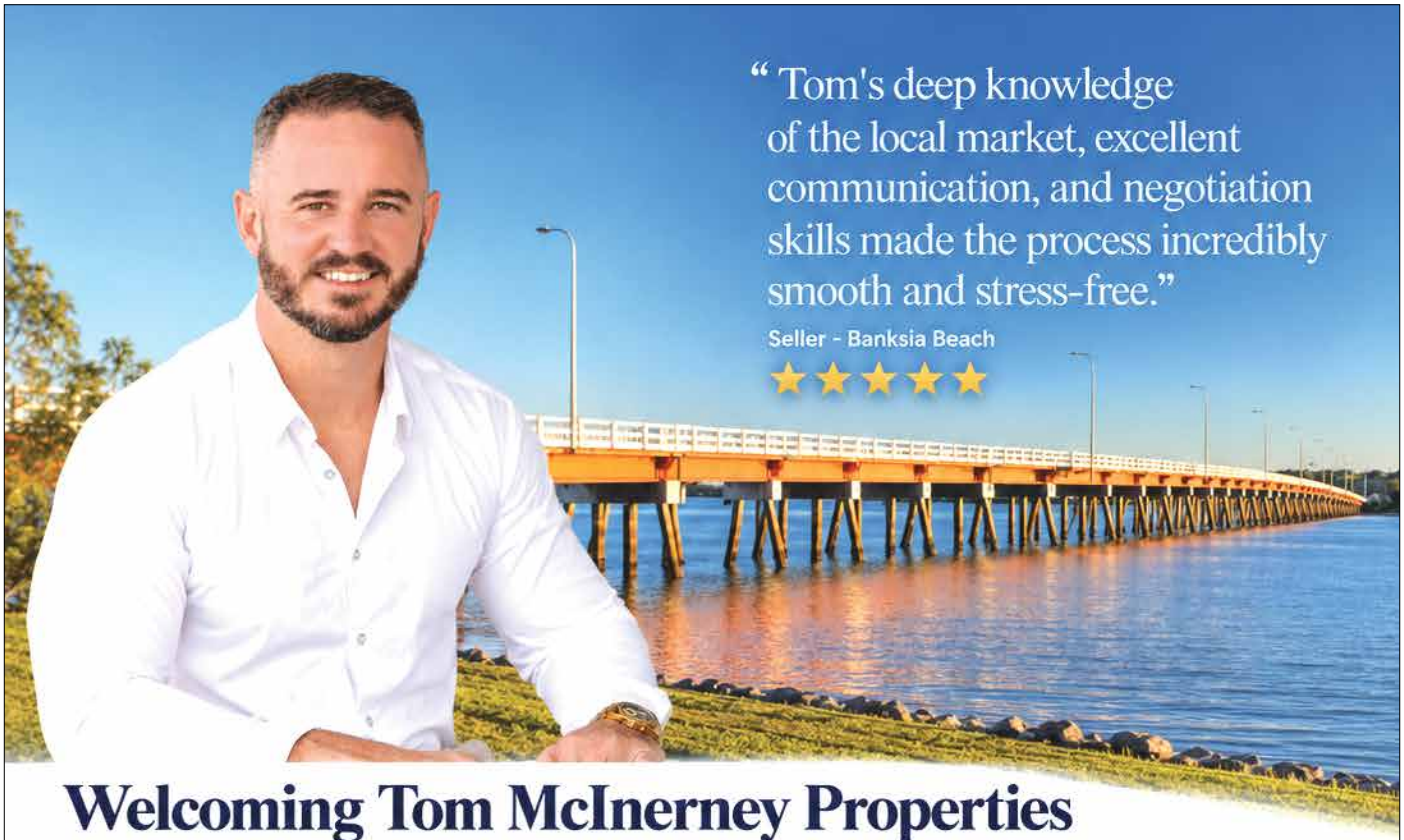
"This upgrade opens up opportunities for all families and visitors to enjoy Woorim Beach together, regardless of ability and ensures people living with disability can access beach with dignity, comfort and confidence," Ms Doolan said.
Councillor Brooke Savige (Div 1) said the new facility is just one of the many exciting upgrades happening on Bribie Island.

"Bribie Island is the place to be if you're looking for free activities to enjoy with family or friends, and making Woorim Beach more inclusive is just the start," Councillor Savige said. "The renewal of the Bongaree Jetty, the Bribie Island shared pathway upgrade, and the new amenities at the Bribie Island Memorial Gardens provides an important pit stop along this improved route and are all set to bring new life to this beloved part of our City."
Find out more about City of Moreton Bay's accessible beaches.

This project is funded by City of Moreton Bay and the SEQ Liveability Fund. The Fund is a commitment in the SEQ City Deal, a partnership between the Australian and Queensland Governments, and the Council of Mayors (South East Queensland). Council is restoring sand levels at Woorim Beach ahead of the upcoming 2026-27 summer season. The work will be carried out between Eighth Avenue and Lowry Street, Woorim and will begin in October 2026.

For more information visit Woorim Beach Nourishment Project - City of Moreton Bay.





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Before entering real estate, Tom worked as a high school teacher, a background that shaped his calm, approachable manner and ability to guide clients confidently through complex decisions. Since commencing his real estate career in 2017, he has been involved in more than **500 successful property transactions**, supporting buyers and sellers through some of life's most significant milestones.

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Household Cleaning Hacks

SIMPLE USES FOR EVERYDAY ITEMS AROUND THE HOME



Safety first: Test each method on a small hidden area. Follow appliance and surface-care instructions, ventilate the room, wear gloves when appropriate, and never mix cleaning chemicals. Use extra caution with broken glass, heat, sharp tools, and slippery surfaces.

Soak Oven Racks in the Bathtub

Place dirty oven racks in a towel-lined bathtub, cover them with hot water, and dissolve dishwasher detergent according to its label. Soak overnight, scrub if needed, rinse well, and dry.

Clean a Dishwasher with Vinegar and Baking Soda

Place one cup of white vinegar in a dishwasher-safe container on the upper rack and run a hot cycle. Afterward, sprinkle baking soda across the bottom and run a short hot cycle. Do not combine the ingredients in a sealed container.

Remove Rust from a Knife with a Potato

Cut a potato in half and gently rub the cut side over light surface rust. Wash, rinse, and dry the knife immediately. Keep fingers clear of the blade.

Remove Soap Scum with a Dryer Sheet

Wet an unused dryer sheet and gently rub shower doors or walls, then rinse and dry. Test first because coated glass, stone, and specialty finishes may react differently.

Defog and Clean Mirrors with Shaving Cream

Apply a small amount of plain shaving cream to the mirror, spread it thinly, and buff it off completely with a clean cloth. Keep it away from porous frames and edges.

Freshen a Drain with Baking Soda and Vinegar

For a slow, non-fully blocked drain, add baking soda followed by vinegar, wait about 30 minutes, and flush with hot tap water. This may deodorize or loosen light buildup but may not clear a serious clog. Never use it with commercial drain cleaner.

Cola for Toilet-Bowl Deposits

Pour cola around the bowl, allow it to sit for up to an hour, brush, and flush. This may loosen light mineral marks, but a toilet cleaner is usually more effective. Never combine it with bleach or other cleaners.

Use Dryer Sheets or a Lint Roller for Dust and Pet Hair

Use a dryer sheet on suitable baseboards, blinds, and upholstery, or roll a lint roller over lampshades and fabric furniture. Both can collect dust and pet hair; test delicate surfaces and fabrics first, and check dryer sheets for residue.

Remove Scuffs with a Tennis Ball

Rub a clean tennis ball gently over scuff marks on suitable hard floors. For easier reach, carefully cut an X and fit the ball over a broom handle. Avoid using this method on walls or delicate finishes without testing first.

Reduce White Water Rings with Mayonnaise

On sealed wood only, place a small amount of mayonnaise on a white-water ring, leave it for up to an hour, and wipe clean. Test first and do not use on unfinished, antique, or valuable furniture without professional advice.

Use Black Tea on Compatible Wood Floors

Only if the flooring manufacturer permits damp cleaning, steep black tea, cool and strain it, and use a barely damp mop. Never saturate the floor, and avoid laminate, unfinished wood, and unknown finishes.

Remove Candle Wax from Carpet

Let the wax harden and lift away as much as possible with a dull edge. If residue remains, use only low, indirect heat while blotting with an absorbent cloth, keeping the heat source moving and away from carpet fibers. Test first; high heat can melt synthetic carpet.

Pick Up Tiny Debris with Bread

For tiny glass fragments, first remove large pieces with a brush and dustpan, then press a soft slice of bread gently over the area. The same method can lift stray glitter from washable surfaces. Wear sturdy gloves for glass, keep children and pets away, discard the bread immediately, and complete glass cleanup with careful vacuuming or a damp-paper-towel pass.

Clean Windows with Cornstarch

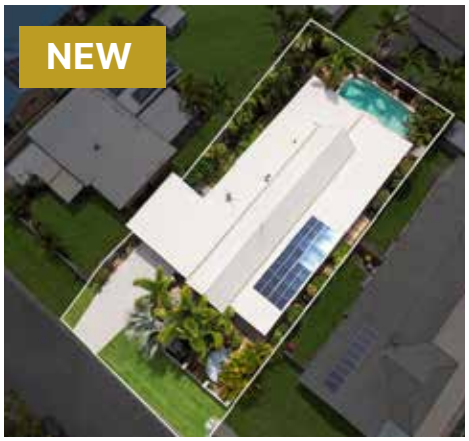
Mix one teaspoon of cornstarch into a spray bottle containing diluted white vinegar and water. Shake well, spray lightly, and wipe with a lint-free cloth. Avoid natural stone and nearby acid-sensitive materials.

NEW TO MARKET

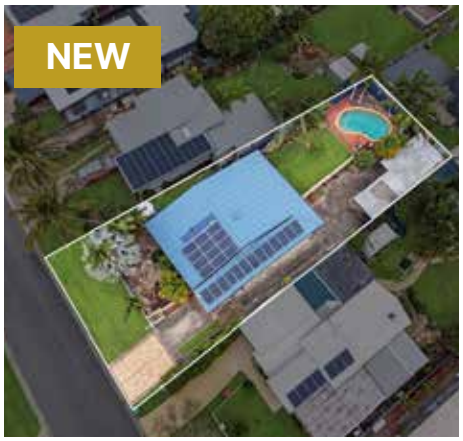
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Creative Interiors with

Ivory T - fabric & wallpaper

The Mullet Home Trend: Business at the Front, Party at the Back

Some of the best design ideas come from the most unexpected places. One of the latest to win over Queensland homeowners takes its cue from the much-loved (and much-mocked) mullet hairstyle, and the result is a home that manages to be both sensible and enjoyable.

The principle is simple: business at the front, party at the back. The street-facing side of the mullet home is calm and composed, with a tasteful façade that blends into the neighbourhood. Walk through, though, and the house gradually opens up into light-filled, generous spaces made for gathering, unwinding and enjoying the outdoors.

For Queenslanders, who spend so much of the year outside, this balance feels natural. It lets a home look its best from the kerb while still embracing the easy, outdoor focused lifestyle our climate allows.

A clever approach to building

Don't mistake the mullet home for a particular architectural style. It's really a way of thinking about design, built around the art of contrast. From the street, the home may look reassuringly traditional, with a gabled roof, evenly placed windows, a modest porch front and a soft understated palette. Step inside and move towards the back, and the home reveals its other side: open-plan living, high ceilings, walls of glass and generous spaces for outdoor entertaining.

Architects and builders bring this two-sided character to life by playing with rooflines, materials and building forms. A heritage style frontage might flow into a striking modern extension, while a much-loved Queenslander could open onto a contemporary kitchen, family room and alfresco area.

What makes it all work is a sense of intention. Well-judged proportions, thoughtful lines and a consistent use of materials let the front and back show their own personalities while still feeling like one home.

Where interiors come into their own

Step inside, and the mullet philosophy gives homeowners the chance to have a little more fun with their decorating. The front rooms can stay calm and timeless, with neutral walls, classic furniture, elegant window furnishings and gentle layers of texture. But as you move towards the heart of the home, the mood can warm up, with richer colours, bolder choices and more of your own personality on show. Wallpaper and wall murals are a wonderful way to bring in character without taking over the whole house.

A lush botanical print, a playful geometric design or a tactile feature wall can give a casual living area, dining nook or entertaining space its own identity. Layered curtains and floaty sheers soften hard architectural lines, while Roman blinds and plantation shutters take care of light and privacy.

Finishing touches like custom upholstery, scatter cushions and thoughtfully chosen fabrics help blur the line between inside and out. Natural textures, warm timber, soft greens and earthy tones create a relaxed atmosphere that feels distinctly Queensland, while a few well-placed accent colours bring back that unexpected sense of fun.

A home with two personalities

At its heart, the mullet home is all about flexibility. It lets you put your best face forward to the street while still leaving plenty of room for personality, pairing classic architecture with modern living, and everyday practicality with a genuine love of entertaining.

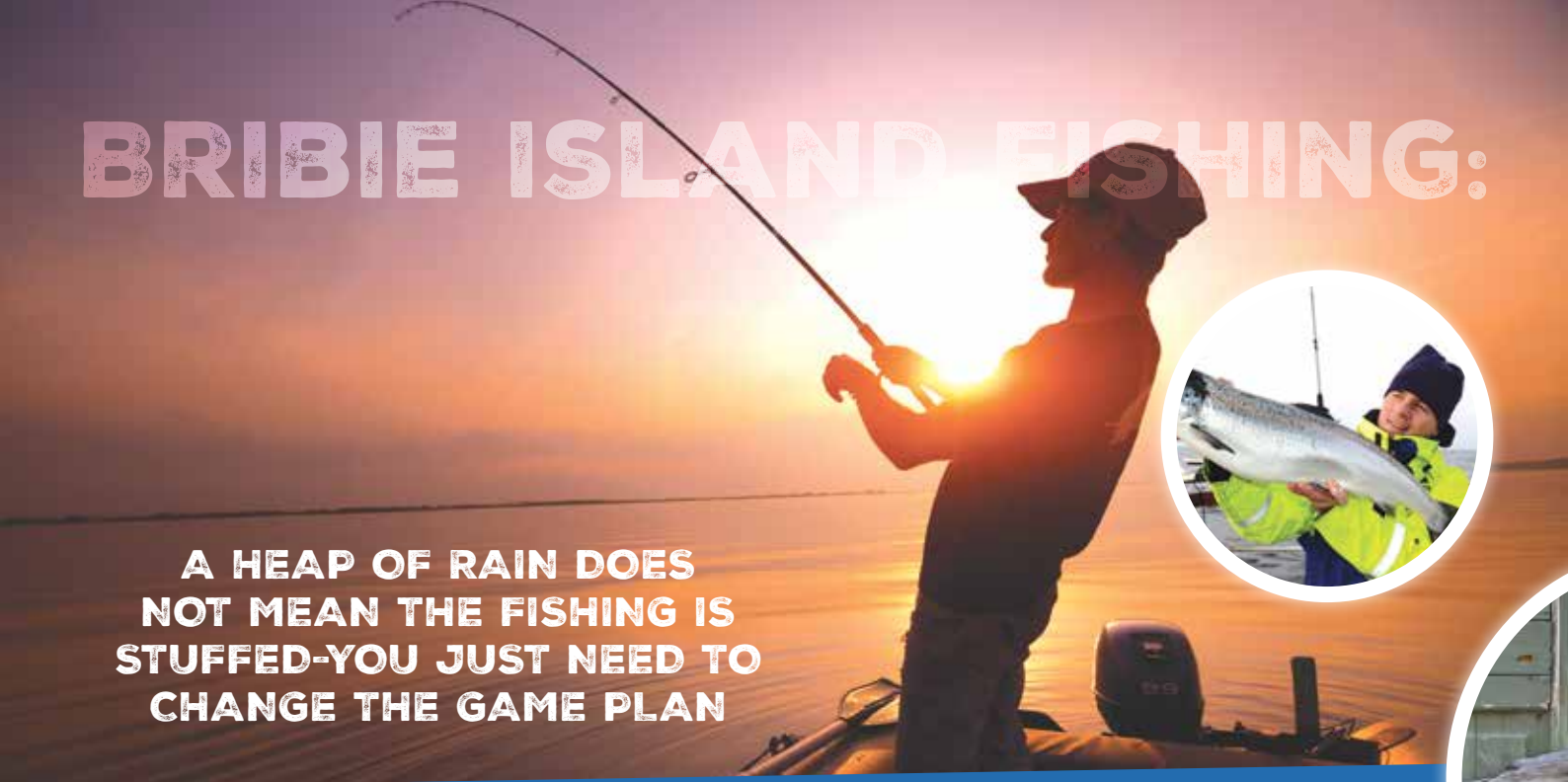
The real art lies in letting the front and back each shine in their own way while still telling one cohesive story. Done well, it creates a home that looks thoughtfully put together from the kerb and feels like a joy to come home to every single day.

Business at the front, party at the back, the mullet home proves that good design doesn't have to choose just one personality.

Images from Milk Design / Muci Architects

Ivory T - fabric & wallpaper 0422599084

BRIBIE ISLAND FISHING:



A HEAP OF RAIN DOES NOT MEAN THE FISHING IS STUFFED-YOU JUST NEED TO CHANGE THE GAME PLAN

After the Big Wet, Having a Fish in Moreton Bay

The Bay Has Changed, Mate

After a proper downpour, Moreton Bay can look pretty ordinary. The river mouths are pushing brown water, there can be timber and rubbish floating about, and the spot that fired last weekend might seem completely dead.

Do not chuck the trip in just yet, though. All that freshwater shifts prawns, baitfish and other tucker around, and the bigger fish move with it.

The trick is to stop fishing yesterday's conditions. Have a look for the edges: clean water meeting dirty water, current lines, little back eddies, creek mouths, drains, drop-offs and deeper holes. That is where the food tends to gather and where predators can sit out of the main flow and pick off an easy feed.

An incoming tide is usually a good place to start. The heavier salt water can push underneath the fresh stuff, so a deeper channel may be fishing better than the muddy surface suggests. Sheltered banks, the lower ends of rivers and creeks, and spots away from the strongest runoff can also clear up quicker.

Make It Easy for the Fish

When the water looks like a cup of tea, the fish need a hand finding your lure. Slow things down and keep it in their face a bit longer. Paddle-tail and curl-tail plastics, vibes and anything that gives off a decent thump are worth a go.

Dark colours throw a good silhouette in dirty water, while pearl or natural prawn colours can be the ticket when the incoming tide brings a cleaner patch.

Do not forget about depth, either. A lot of fish will duck underneath that fresh surface layer, so use enough weight to get down and stay in touch with the bottom. Work the edges of channels, rock walls, bridge pylons, ledges and the deeper side of the current.

If you are soaking a bait, go as light as the flow lets you and use something fresh—a prawn, yabby, pilchard or strip bait that still moves naturally.

Most importantly, keep moving. Give a likely seam or drain a fair crack, mix up the retrieve and try a couple of depths. If there is no bait flicking, no birds working and no taps on the line, pull the pin and try the next spot. After rain, watching the water beats sitting on an empty mark all day.

What to Have a Crack At

Bream and Javelin Fish
Bream and javelin fish are handy options in the lower Pine and Caboolture rivers, around bridge structure, through the Pumicestone Passage and near the southern bay islands. A lightly weighted yabby, worm or fresh prawn fished beside a current break, rock wall or deeper bank is hard to beat.

Flathead

Flathead are a ripper mobile target wherever drains and flats empty into a channel. Cast along the edge instead of straight across it so your plastic or bait stays in the good water longer. The back end of the run-out and the first push of cleaner water are both worth a look.

Mulloway and Trevally

If you are keen to put in the yards, try the deeper river mouths, bridge pylons and stronger current seams for mulloway and trevally. Send down a live bait or work a vibe slowly through the deeper water. Trevally can get properly fired up where the runoff funnels bait into an eddy.

Snapper, Sweetlip and Estuary Cod

The shallow reefs around Redcliffe, Mud Island and the bay islands can still turn on some snapper, sweetlip and estuary cod, especially when cleaner water reaches the broken ground. Keep the weight down and



let a pilchard, squid strip or soft plastic drift naturally instead of nailing it to the bottom with a brick of a sinker.

Whiting, Dart, Prawns and Mud Crabs

If the western side of the bay is filthy, the ocean beaches of Moreton Island can be a better bet for sand whiting and dart. The rain can also push banana prawns down into the lower rivers and bays, and it often gets the mud crabs wandering around the creeks and shallow foreshores.

Do Not Be a Flog Out There

Floodwater can carry logs, branches, rubbish and half-submerged nasties a long way out into the bay. Ease off the throttle, keep your eyes open and be careful around shallow ground you cannot see properly.

Freshwater pushing against wind or tide can also make bars, river mouths and open crossings a lot rougher than they look from the ramp.

Before heading out, check the weather, marine warnings, ramp access, marine park zones and the current Queensland size and possession rules.

Make sure you know what you have caught, because similar-looking species can have different limits.

Keep what you will actually use, look after any fish you release and never put an invasive fish back in the drink.

Change the Plan, Not the Trip

A big wet does not switch Moreton Bay off—it just shuffles the deck.

Read the water colour, tide, current and bait before you pick a lure or drop the anchor. Find the cleaner edge, fish the lower and deeper water, make your offering easy to find and do not be afraid to move.

That is the difference between simply fishing a spot and actually fishing the conditions.

Have a proper look around, keep the setup simple and stay safe. There are still fish to be caught after the rain, mate—you just have to meet them where they have gone.

TIDE TIMES

Bribie Island AND Moreton Bay

Fri 23 Oct	Sat 24 Oct	Sun 25 Oct	Mon 26 Oct	Tue 27 Oct	Wed 28 Oct	Thu 29 Oct
1:40 am	2:12 am	2:44 am	3:16 am	3:49 am	4:23 am	4:58 am
0.35 m	0.25 m	0.17 m	0.13 m	0.14 m	0.18 m	0.24 m
7:50 am	8:28 am	9:06 am	9:45 am	10:25 am	11:07 am	11:51 am
1.55 m	1.7 m	1.85 m	1.96 m	2.03 m	2.05 m	2.03 m
1:34 pm	2:19 pm	3:04 pm	3:51 pm	4:39 pm	5:29 pm	6:22 pm
0.43 m	0.35 m	0.3 m	0.29 m	0.32 m	0.38 m	0.44 m
7:53 pm	8:30 pm	9:09 pm	9:49 pm	10:30 pm	11:14 pm	
1.74 m	1.76 m	1.74 m	1.66 m	1.54 m	1.41 m	

Fri 30 Oct	Sat 31 Oct	Sun 1 Nov	Mon 2 Nov	Tue 3 Nov	Wed 4 Nov	Thu 5 Nov
12:00 am	12:52 am	1:53 am	3:09 am	4:35 am	5:51 am	12:30 am
1.29 m	1.21 m	1.16 m	1.18 m	1.26 m	1.4 m	0.4 m
5:38 am	6:26 am	7:25 am	8:39 am	10:06 am	11:30 am	6:54 am
0.32 m	0.4 m	0.48 m	0.55 m	0.58 m	0.55 m	1.57 m
12:38 pm	1:30 pm	2:30 pm	3:37 pm	4:50 pm	5:59 pm	12:45 pm
1.97 m	1.9 m	1.81 m	1.73 m	1.68 m	1.65 m	0.5 m
7:19 pm	8:25 pm	9:33 pm	10:38 pm	11:37 pm		6:59 pm
0.51 m	0.55 m	0.56 m	0.53 m	0.48 m		1.64 m



EMERGENCY SERVICES EXPO

Sunday 27th September 2026 the Moreton Bay Emergency Services EXPO was held at Brennan Park Bribie Island. The local community explored real police cars, fire trucks, and ambulances, enjoyed on water safety demonstrations and were able to meet and chat with dedicated local volunteers at this free family friendly community event.

This was a unique opportunity to meet the dedicated crews who protect the community, hear their stories, and find out how to get involved. With food trucks on site, it made for a perfect school holiday day outing for the whole family.

Marine Rescue Bribie provided 3 vessels for on-water displays and action along with our information booth, thanks to those assisting with the day. Thank you, MRQ State Operations Manager Cherelle Broughton, who attended and addressed the attendees, and to Graham Gibb our MRQ Bribie Island Emergency Services Liaison Officer who has had a significant role in organising these expos over many years.

A big thanks to our crew, putting 3 rescue vessels on the water for the displays and activities and an assist at Elimbah Creek immediately afterwards.



MRQ State Operations Manager Cherelle Broughton, Graham Gibb, Phil Helgesen, Kelly Langworthy, and Kate Brown.



The MRQ Bribie fleet on display.



The Rescue Helicopter is always a popular attraction.

SINKING VESSEL BANKSIA BEACH

Monday 28th September MSQ tasked Marine Rescue Bribie to pump out the vessel off Banksia Beach. Skipper Jim Brown and crew MOP again reported that it was down at the bow on Tuesday – Skipper Liz Radajewski and crew attended, pumped out but couldn't contain the leak nor locate the source – the vessel was beached and awaiting further action from MSQ.



Bribie 2 attended Monday and pumped the vessel out at Banksia Beach.



Tuesday Bribie 2 returns to pump out again, but leak can't be contained nor source located.



Vessel now beached awaiting MSQ action.

BREAKDOWN AT SOUTH POINT

Thursday 1st October 2026 Trainee Radio Operator Peter Bell received a call for assistance from a 6.55m runabout returning from Cape Moreton. Unfortunately, the vessel broke down just North of South Point entering Pumicestone Passage. Bribie 2 with Skipper Jim Brown and Crew Allan Davey and Wayne Schultz towed the vessel back to Sandstone Point Marina, pausing briefly outside the leads to raft the vessel to Bribie 2 for manoeuvrability.



The vessel nearing the marina.



Vessel now rafted to Bribie 2 entering the marina.



The vessel beached within the marina.

FAREWELL MIKE COLES

Michael Coles has decided to call it a day from his maintenance role with Marine Rescue Bribie. Mike has been a regular at Monday Maintenance now for many years. Unfortunately, Mike has been suffering with some health issues precluding him from continuing in his role.



Mike joined Marine Rescue Bribie in July 2021 and became an Active Member of our Maintenance Team in September 2021.

Thanks Mike, we wish you all the best for the future.



Mike Coles far right in May 2026 for the Maintenance team's celebration for Ray Fox (seated) on the event of Ray's 92nd birthday.

BREAKDOWN IN PASSAGE

Friday afternoon 2nd October 2026 - Peter McNamara relaxing at home when he heard this clicking sound, he got up to have a look and out in the Pumicestone Passage saw there was a couple trying to start their outboard with no luck. Peter went down and spoke to them and asked if they needed help. Peter then called Marine Rescue Bribie Radio Room and spoke to John O'Hagan who organised the callout crew, Skipper Garry Bunker & crew Wayne Schultz who towed them back to the Bellara boat ramp.



Crew Wayne Schultz hands the tow rope to the stricken dinghy, Skipper Garry Bunker at the helm of Bribie 2.

BREAKDOWN NEAR BULWER

1520hrs on Sunday afternoon 4th October 2026 White Sunday Crew was activated by Radio Operator Eric Holliday, with Skipper Senior Coxswain Wayne Sclater, and Crew: - Wayne Robinson. Mark Young, Allan Davey, Henry Graffen and Phil Helgesen, who were tasked to retrieve a 30ft motor cruiser near Bulwer with engine problems and tow it to Mud Island and transfer the tow to Marine Rescue Manly.

Henry was put on the stricken vessel to attach the tow line and check the tow.

It was a very slow tow at only 10 knots. The vessel was dropped off just short of Mud Island and the crew returned to base arriving at around 1930hrs.



Crew Henry Graffen, aboard the stricken vessel attaches the tow line.



The vessel under tow by Bribie 1.



UNIT COMMANDER GARY'S MESSAGE:

Lets Talk about Radio Operators! The Radio Room at Marine Rescue Bribie is the 'front line' of our rescue service, and our radio operators are often the first point of contact for our boating community.

Our radio room operates through three shifts each day, between 05:00 and 18:00, 365 days a year.

One of our most important jobs is logging vessels on and off. We record where people are going and when they expect to return. If a vessel doesn't return on time, the radio operator is the one who kicks our response plan into gear.

We also take calls from boaties needing assistance, answering questions about weather and local boating conditions, and providing other useful information to help people stay safe.

In emergencies, our operators are responsible for communications with Police, Ambulance and other emergency services, including during search and rescue operations.

Some days the radio room is busy, with calls coming in one after another. Other days are quieter, giving operators time to catch up on their paperwork, read a book and enjoy the lovely view of Pumicestone Passage from our new radio room!

If this sounds like something you might enjoy, we'd love to hear from you and tell you more about getting involved.

And don't worry, **you don't need to be a lifelong boatie or have any previous experience to make a valuable contribution.** We'll provide all the training and support you need to get started.

You'll learn how to operate our digital radio systems, use our computer-based vessel logging systems, develop first aid skills and build your knowledge of local waterways and navigation.

As your experience grows, there are also opportunities to develop your skills further, including learning about search and rescue operations and how they are coordinated.

One of the great things about volunteering with us is the flexibility. You can choose shifts that fit around your lifestyle and other commitments. Whether you can spare just a couple of shifts a month or would prefer to volunteer more regularly, there's an opportunity to get involved in a way that suits you.

And it's not all about being on duty! Our volunteers regularly get together for social activities, and enjoy the camaraderie that comes with being part of a great team.

So, if you have a few hours to spare and would like to do something worthwhile for your community, why not come and talk to us about volunteering in the radio room?

You could be the voice that makes all the difference when someone needs help. Just call the base on 3408 7596 or go to our website www.mrbribie.asn.au

Stay safe on the water.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS 2026

CATEGORY	AUG	SEP
Medical	2	3
Training/Patrol	3	0
Vessel Breakdown	10	14
Community / Events	2	0
Vessels Aground	2	2
Sinking Vessel	3	0
SAR Police Tasking	3	2
Total Activations	25	21
People Assisted	30	42
YTD People Assisted	332	374

"Always remember if you are heading out on the water **LOG ON** with your local **MRQ unit.** It's a free service, so why wouldn't you! **It just may save your life!"**

"PLEASE WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKETS"



Dear Editor,

Recently I was walking my dog along white patch esplanade council path, and I saw a man with a huge beer belly Flagg down a truck and had a conversation with the driver. I kept walking and my dog was sniffing a tree when I hear the man yelling "you efing mole ", as the truck drove off. As I turned around the man was walking into his house.

I kept on walking and then I met other people who I've known walking their dogs and I told them what happened. Some were long-time residents of White Patch, and they knew that man and had problems with him over the years.

They said "He talks to his wife like that, so he might have been yelling at the truck driver, you or his wife ".?

When I returned home, I asked Al what he meant by calling someone a 'Mole', and apparently, it means an Informer for police or other officials. Unfortunately, still not sure who he was yelling at.

Might be time to get myself a device for my protection, as an older woman on her own walking a friendly dog.

Regards,
(name and email address provided)

Dear Editor,

I bought a 28-pack of 900 g eggs from Coles at The Big Fish, and when we opened the pack, all the eggs were small. They all weighed 700 to 740 g. This was a couple of days after the purchase, and the receipt was long gone.

I went to buy an 18-pack of 900 g eggs at Bribie Woolworths today but checked the package first. All the eggs weighed around 700 g. I checked five other packages with different names from supposedly different suppliers, and they were all 700 g eggs.

I called the area manager; he said he did not understand and did not know what to do. I said, "Stop selling them." Twenty minutes later, as we left the store, people were still buying the eggs. I rang the Office of Fair Trading and was told they do not handle issues like that, so I should ring the National Measurement Institute. I could not speak to anyone, but was asked to leave my name, contact details and the complaint. I was also told by the recorded message that they do not provide feedback.

I cannot understand why the above organisations do not act with vigour when the public are clearly being ripped off. I rang Channel 7, but I have no idea whether any action will happen. Maybe I am simply annoyed. I found on the internet that there is a large investigation into an egg cartel underway.

Yours sincerely,
Name and address supplied

Dear Editor,

There are calls nationwide to do a culling, but whatever is needed there, Bribie needs it too. No longer do the arguments of 'they were here first' or 'you can always move' work. Humans were introduced, houses built and this has affected kangaroo numbers.

The natural culling effects of wet and dry seasons no longer apply here, as the animals now live in a 24/7 buffet provided by the lush grasses of golf courses and residential estates on the island.

The females are almost constantly in season, and the bucks are impregnating younger does more and more, and are often dangerous at these mating times.

In parks, if kangaroo poo was dog poo there'd be an uproar. There's no difference in the diseases they carry. Fleas and flies find their way into houses, up walls, into carpets - and take heavy doses of poisons to get rid of. They get on to human bodies and result in nasty bites and infections.

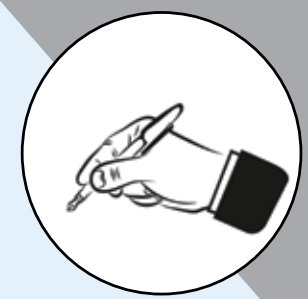
Kangaroos are a danger to themselves and drivers on the roads, making extra costs to council and insurance when an animal is killed or injured. Residents can be inconvenienced night and day as the animal's tussle on porches, driveways and against garage doors.

Walkers, joggers, cyclists can face a startled animal rearing up, grunting and preparing to attack or flee. Gardens are trampled or eaten, with fences not allowed in some estates as deterrents, and the morning coffee ritual now includes scooping the overnight droppings off the front yard.

Government and developers opened up these living arrangements, and the rates and body corporate fees charged, come with a duty of care - does someone have to be maimed or die first before action is taken to protect both man and beast?

And this evening, there was a news story of a woman attacked by a wallaby somewhere. I rest my case.

G Newley



letters
to the editor

Surviving Bribie: A Driver's Field Guide



By
The Bribie Mudcrab

Driving on Bribie Island is less a transport task than a rolling community experiment. The scenery is lovely, the pace is allegedly relaxed, and every trip can teach you something about patience, restraint and why the car in front has been indicating left since 2019.

You do not simply drive here. You interpret signs, read body language and prepare for somebody ahead to stop dead because they have spotted a pelican, a garage sale or a mate they have not seen since Tuesday.

First, you have to get onto the island. We keep hearing that a second bridge is required, and it has now reached detailed design, which is encouraging if you have a flexible understanding of the word "soon". On Bribie, "soon" can mean after lunch, next council term or once every grey nomad in Queensland has crossed in convoy.

Even if the bridge arrives, the roads between the bridge, Bongaree and Woorim will still be expected to absorb the traffic, despite showing no particular interest in the role. One minor hold-up and the island becomes a very scenic car park with glimpses of water.

Once across, Bribie's driving rules apply. Indicators become optional equipment, apparently removed at the dealership to improve fuel economy. At roundabouts, intention is communicated through speed, eye contact and a vague drift across the lane. Anyone who actually signals risks confusing the system.

Tourists hesitate, locals commit, and the driver behind both is delivering a detailed performance review through the windscreen using language a truckie would blush at. The safest approach is to assume every car could go left, right, straight ahead or briefly become a boat.

Then there is the myth of the Bribie licence: the legendary permit said to let certain older residents drive on the island, but nowhere beyond the bridge. Nobody has ever produced one, no government department admits issuing it, and the road rules remain annoyingly silent on the subject.

Still, the story survives every time a car approaches the bridge, slows slightly and appears to reconsider whether mainland driving is really worth the paperwork.

It is local folklore, of course—not a verdict on older drivers—but like all good Bribie myths, it is repeated with absolute confidence by people who heard it from someone whose neighbour definitely knew a bloke.

The trick is to expect the unexpected, especially when it is doing 20 kilometres under the limit while admiring the landscaping. Watch for sudden braking near beaches, bakeries and anywhere a driver has just remembered why they left home.

Give cyclists room, watch for pedestrians between parked cars, and never assume a vehicle half out of a driveway has finished coming out. Treat every reversing light as notice that negotiations have begun.

Then come the car parks, where white lines are regarded as helpful suggestions from an overconfident planner. One vehicle occupies two bays "just for a minute". Another is angled across three, perhaps to catch the prevailing breeze. A spotless four-wheel drive sits diagonally in a compact space like it has been air-dropped during an emergency. At the supermarket, reversing is performed by faith alone, usually while somebody abandons a trolley in the only clear path. The trolley then rolls off independently, displaying better lane discipline than half the cars.

Do not think a bad park is a private mistake. Somewhere nearby, a citizen journalist is holding up a phone, framing the number plate and preparing an upload to the local community page.

Within minutes, the photograph will attract forensic analysis of tyre position, bay geometry and the moral decline of civilisation.

Someone will identify the shopping centre from a single bollard; someone else will insist the driver had no choice. Park across the line and assume your vehicle is online before you reach the automatic doors, complete with a red circle and the caption, "Seriously?"

Survival therefore depends on a few simple habits. Leave a sensible gap. Slow down before the mystery manoeuvre. Look twice for bikes, mobility scooters, pedestrians and anyone reversing with the confidence of a person who has outsourced responsibility to the camera.

At roundabouts, be predictable even if predictability marks you as an outsider. In car parks, straighten up, stay between the lines and take the extra ten seconds; it is cheaper than becoming the day's entertainment for several thousand locals with Wi-Fi.

Bribie driving is not impossible. It just requires humour, peripheral vision and the knowledge that the bloke waving may be polite, confused or greeting someone behind you. Proceed carefully. And use your indicator. Give the island something fresh to talk about.

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