

Good Morning Nypol,

As ever it's always good to read the various monthly inputs on this website, this month September 2024, I particularly enjoyed reading Vanessa's childhood memories from Colin Baker's books - she is a very good writer and it brought back many memories for me spent with our House Boy Kambani and his lovely family. He was not only our Cook, Housekeeper and Child Minder but also a very good friend to our family. His children were also great playmates to my brother and I. Good too, to hear how well Mary Brill is doing, she's one very strong lady.

Little to report at this end, as usual the months seem to fly by so very quickly these days. Here in Australia are now just into Spring without having much of a Winter (sadly) and the last week of Winter was a scorcher up in the high 30's so that displeased me very much! It's a bit cooler today (Sept 3rd) though, so lets hope it stays that way through Spring.

Winter is always busy for us with all the grand-children's sporting activities which we try to attend as much as possible. There are four Grandsons who play AFL footy for the same Club and they all play on a Saturday but because of the difference in ages it is at different times and different grounds so it gets difficult to get to watch them all. Then we have two Granddaughters, one plays Netball and the other does dancing so we try to get to them as well! Thankfully last weekend was the finals for the season so a nice break now - not just for us but for their parents too.

We did manage a few days midweek out on our boat, that was lovely as it's always so good to get away. We tend not to go out on weekends as the waterways get so very busy with Hoons (*lunatics!*) on Jet Skis and enormous boats driven by people with far too much money and who don't give a thought to speeding past us slower boats, leaving us rolling in their wake! But weekdays are a lot calmer with just a few "seniors" out enjoying the serenity. A pod of dolphins came right past our boat one morning as I was having my morning cuppa, such a delight to see and they are not silly for they, too, only come around when it's quiet and safe on the waterways - so all those rich people miss out on seeing them.

We went ashore for our usual walk and saw the most extraordinary sight. It's the breeding season at the moment for magpies and as always they swoop to protect their nests and eggs. However we saw a tree with an enormous goanna half way up the trunk obviously trying to get to the nest and the Magpie started swooping and attacking this goanna until it eventually fell off the trunk and ran away, much to my delight. It was such a sight to see for we still have our little family of Magpies coming to the house so I was thrilled to see the outcome of this on the Island.

In two weeks time it will be School Holidays once again and the last holidays till Christmas - there's a thought Christmas is looming! Our eldest Granddaughter finishes school this year and will head to University - how time flies.

Very best wishes

Alison
3rd September 2024