



The Three  
Bishops  
Hares

The newspapers were screaming the story; birds disappearing, water becoming tainted, an increase in snakes. Fear was all through Sackville.

What was happening?

What will become of this?

Will we all be safe?

Tom smiled. This was exactly what he had planned, and Mr Walker was the main suspect. Plus Tom and his 'Minions' would get a huge payroll.

Jake came into the room, "Hey Tom, the first order has come through."

Tom smiled. Those blue wrens sold on illegal sites for over \$2,000!

"My uncle will be coming next week with his truck to drive them over to our orderers. Make sure that the birds keep quiet."

"Yes Tom."

Tom leaned back in his chair and went back to his newspaper. He wished it hadn't described him as 'baffled'. He wanted popularity, not to be made look stupid.

# THE GAZETTE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST 1878

## MYSTERY DISAPPEARANCE HAS TEENAGE SLUETHS BAFFLED

An eerie silence has fallen upon the beautiful forests and woodlands that surround the grounds of Sackville Reach PS. No longer do the shrubs and grasses rustle to the hurried flight of small birds. No longer is the morning air filled with the song and merriment that marks the start of each new day. Since the rapid decline in small bird numbers, the forest has lost one of its most precious and valuable resources. Local residents are demanding action and desperately seeking answers to the mystery disappearance of the small birds.

A determined band of teenager sleuths, who call themselves the "Mud Island Investigators", or "MII",

are hot on the trail of the missing birds.

Chief spokesperson for the MII, thirteen year old Tom Morley said, "Our greatest concern is for the welfare of a colony of superb blue wrens who have called this forest home for years. If it wasn't for these small birds we would be over run with insects and grubs".

Early suspicions have been raised as to the possible involvement of the school gardener, Mr Walker.

"He is a reclusive man who often experiments with spells and potions. Several items belonging to Mr Walker have recently been found scattered throughout the forest". Said Tom Morley.



Above: Superb Blue Wren

Below: Proposed new well



### COLUMN 8

- Snakes become a problem on journey to school for kids without shoes.
- School to receive new slate roof after shingles cause water damage
- Local boy chases six foot goanna up a tree, goanna chases boy all the way home
- Floods a real fear for citrus farmers in the valley
- Platypus regularly seen swimming in river
- Kids go crazy for the latest games. Marbles, Jacks and Fly are a real hit!
- Fox sightings in the valley on the rise since their release in 1855
- If you are looking for a great new garden plant—then try Lamana. Even the brownest thumbs will find success with this wonder plant!

## PRINCIPAL FURIOUS OVER TAINTED WATER SUPPLY

The principal of Sackville Reach PS, Mr Leonard Mills was today quite outspoken when interviewed about the state of the water at his school.

Mr Mills exclaimed, "How am I expected to look after these children, let alone teach them, if the water

we provide for them makes them so ill?"

Reports suggest that a dozen or more students have had to be sent home from school after complaining of nausea and headaches. All the students reported drinking the water prior to falling ill. Suspicions have

been aroused as to the possibility of the school water supply having been tampered with.

Local authorities are investigating the possible causes and are considering installing a well within the school to hold the school water supply.

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Oh well. You couldn't win everything.

Tom the was interrupted by Jake barging in again. "Yo Tom, three other orders have come through."

Tom shrugged. "Don't tell me when every single order comes through. Give me an overall summary tomorrow."

"Yes boss, I'll notify James."

Tom finished the newspaper and then walked through the whitewashed hall towards his bedroom. After an exhausting day of trekking through the forest 'planting clues' and then going through again with a reporter and 'discovering' them. As a 'small for his age' and thin 17 year old he wasn't made for long bush treks. As he collapsed into his bed he fell asleep.

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The following morning Tom woke up to the sound of Jake yelling "\$30,000 bucks for us! Woohoo!"

Tom got out of bed angrily, "WHAT'S ALL THE NOISE ABOUT!?"

"Sorry."

Grumbling, Tom got dressed and went to see what was happening.

Jake and James were huddled around their laptop watching the bids rise on illegal auction websites. Seeing Tom come in James filled him in, "Currently we have 21 orders for the blue wrens. And there's this auction going on now for a particularly cute wren that's reached \$34,000. We're gonna ba rich!" Tom rolled his eyes. He simply couldn't understand why people would watch the computer intensely as an auction was going on. Or counting as the number of orders from countries all over the world came in. He preferred to get an end of day report. He shook his head and walked towards to kitchen, towards the newspaper and breakfast.

Then he turned back and told the others, "My uncles coming today, make sure that this house is clean."

Whether the others heard or not, Tom didn't care, he just wanted to say that so he could tell the others off later.

# THE GAZETTE

Issue 2 Volume 1

Monday 19th  
August 1879

## Tween Detectives Take on Teens in Mystery

While the MII are only throwing around wild guesses, the Sackville Sleuths have some promising leads.

"We think we have answers, however, we cannot release them for... reasons." Says young Jonny Smith. Whether they do or not, many Sackville citizens are supportive for the SS case.

- Column 8
- Will Teenage Detectives be out of business?
- Is Mr Walker really guilty?

## Super Sleuths Deny Mr Walker Involved

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