Port River

Illustrations and words capturing the essence of place.

PORTRAITS

Acknowledgements

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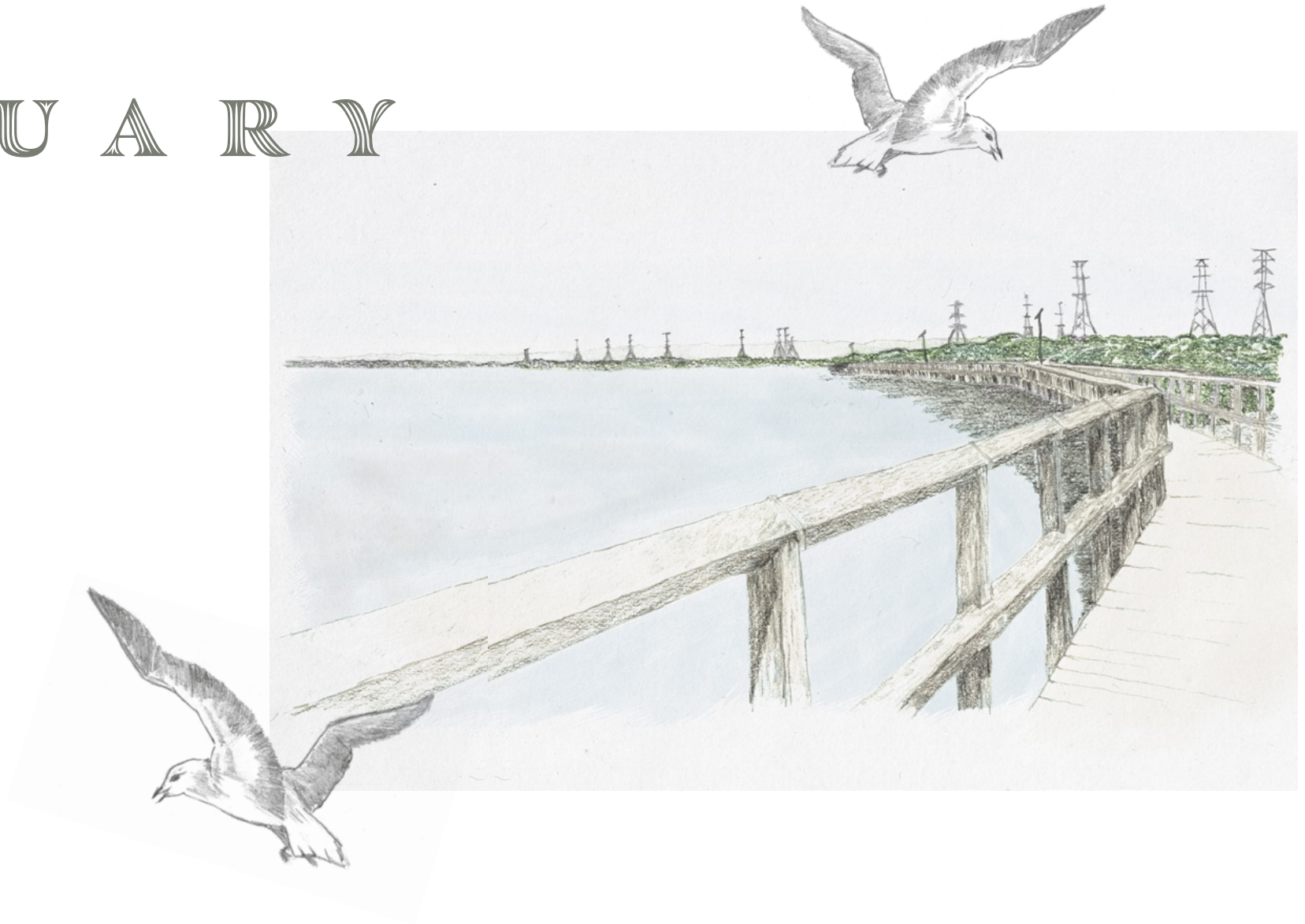
ESTUARY

Seawater surges

stormwater spurts

estuary, their mix



PORT RIVER

Torrens River once meandered here

now diverted from its course

pipes off Grange now our River's
southern source

T I D E S

So high and low in summer

middling in the winter

pontoons and boats their playthings

W A T E R

Light absorbed by darkness

the river's muddy floor

scooping up a handful

clear water droplets fall

MANGROVES

Speared roots breathing

summer flowered scent

casting propagules adrift

SHORE-BIRDS

Quick probe and pick

at calm muddy bank

feeding at low tide

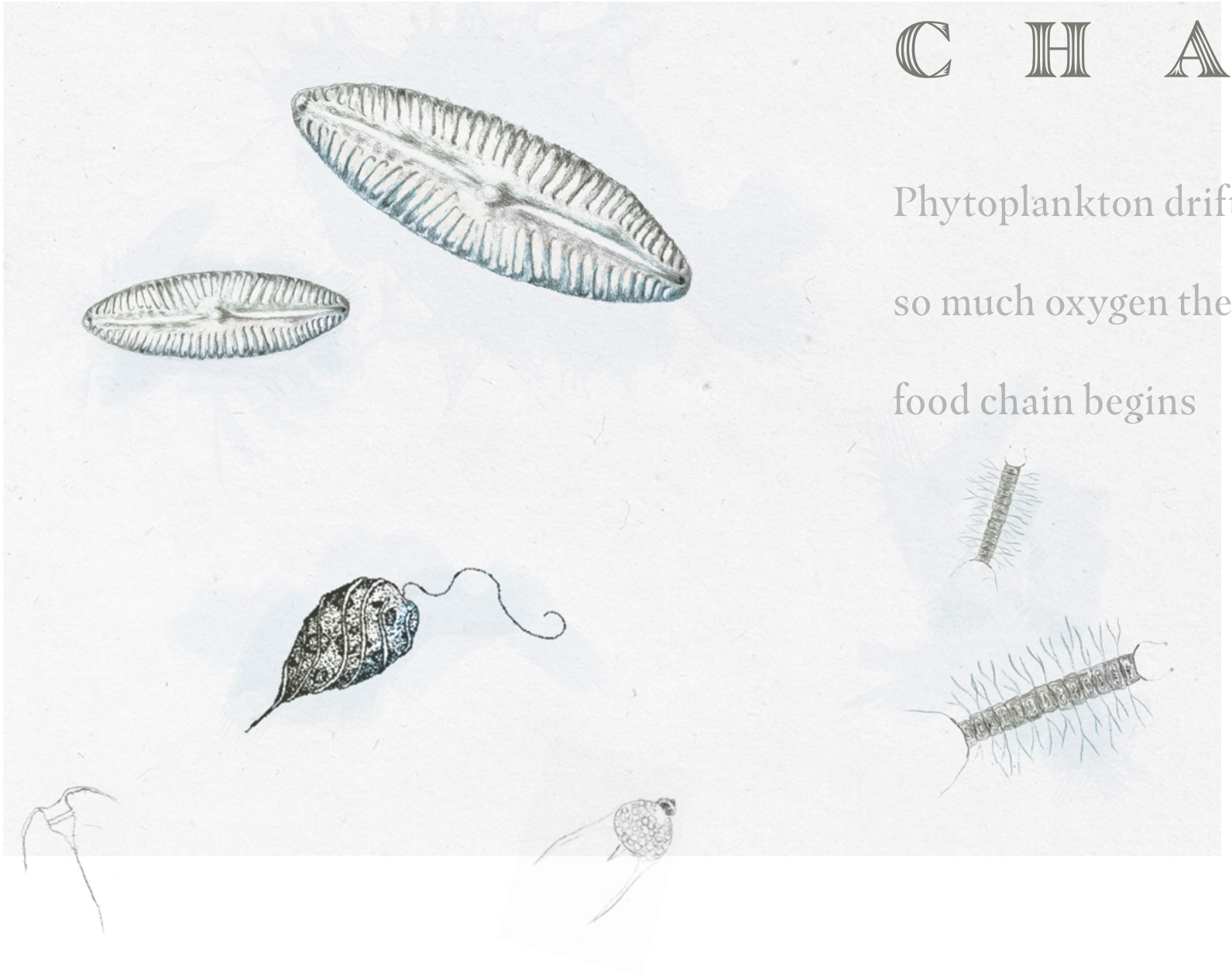
SAMPHIRES

Found close to salty water

clinging to rock wall

retreating from rising seas

F O O D C H A I N S



Phytoplankton drifting

so much oxygen they give

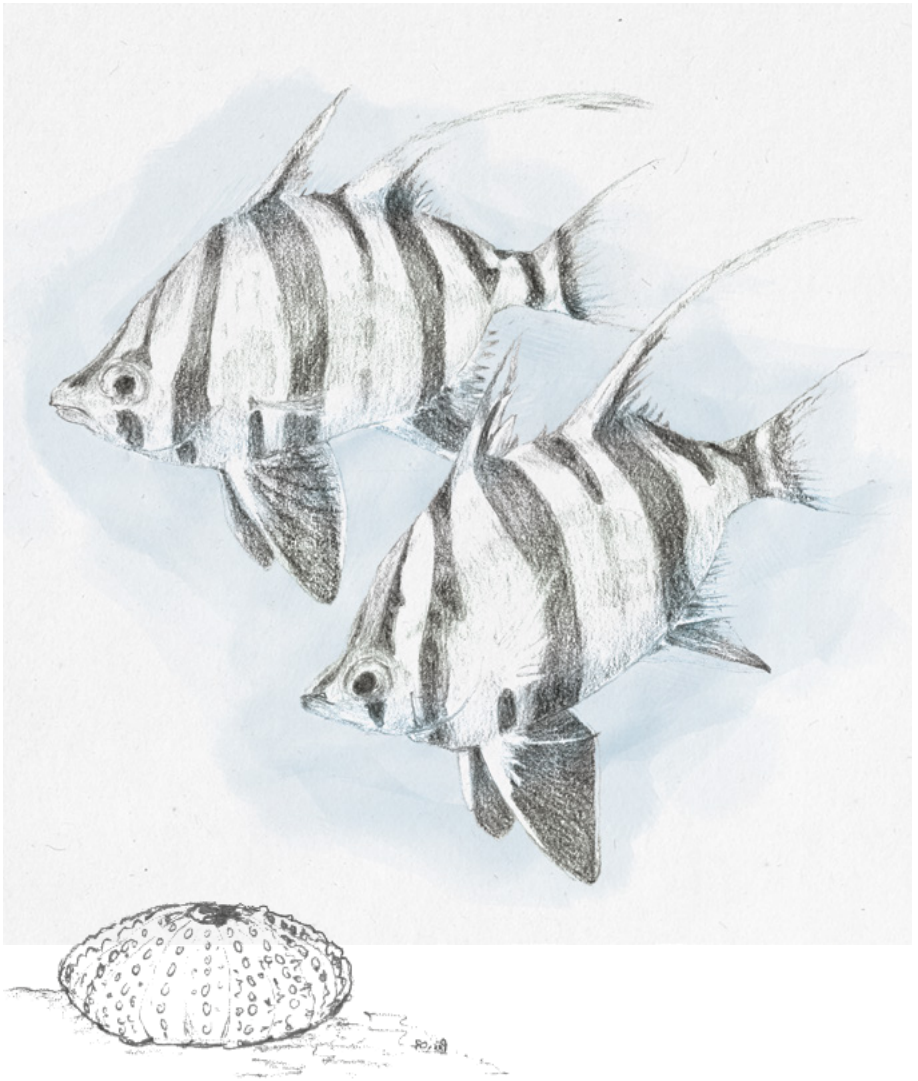
food chain begins

F E R A L S

Hitchhiking to the River

quickly spreading things

origins are dim

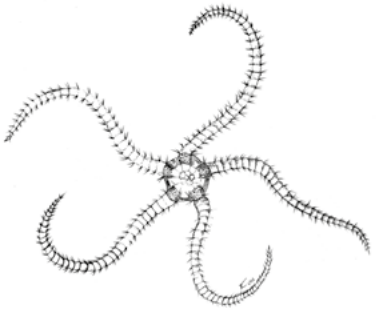


F I S H

Tiny and plentiful

hiding in the creeks

safe breeding ground

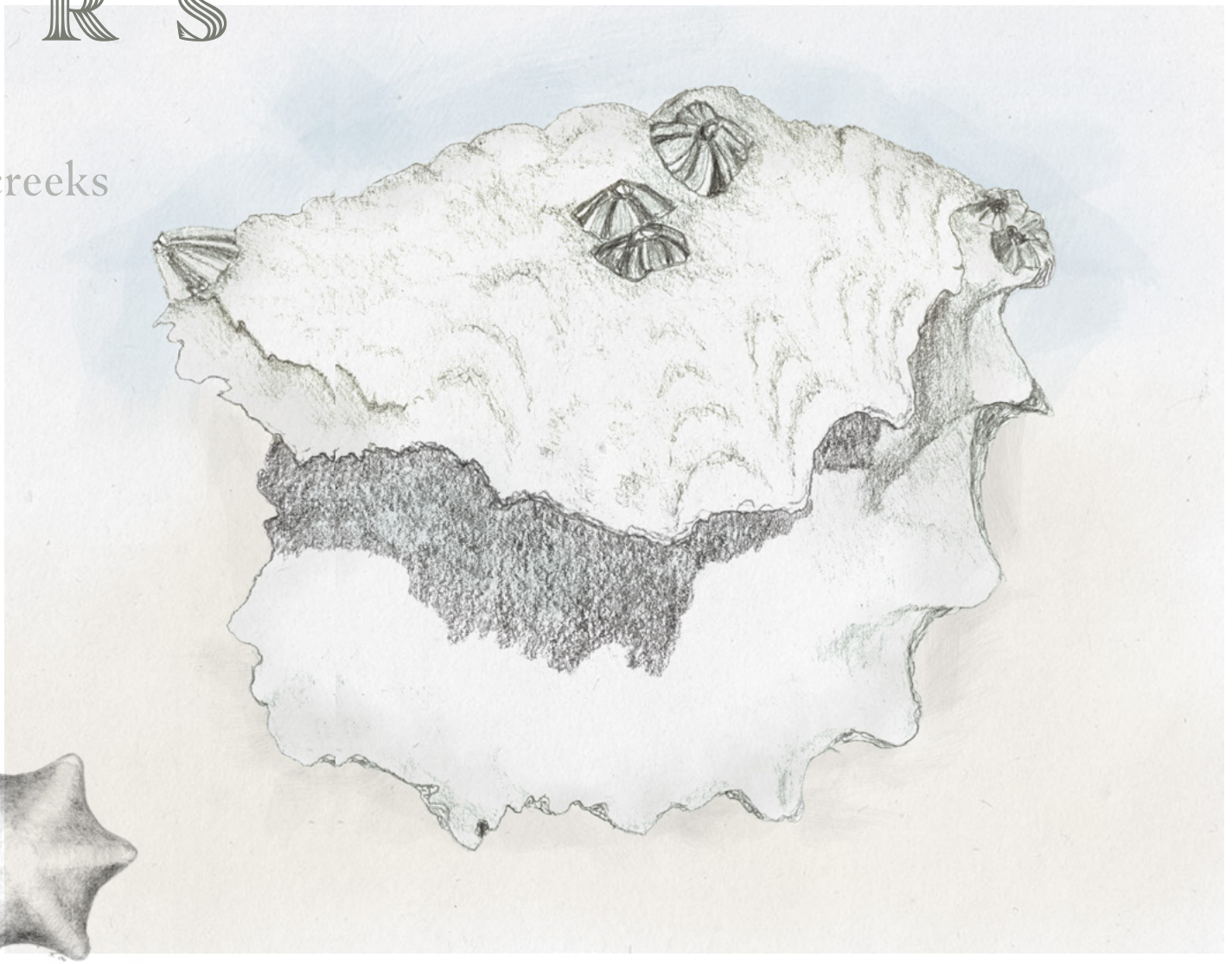


OYSTERS

Once native oyster reefs by creeks

now pacific oysters abound

frilled and closely housed



FILTER FEEDERS

Barnacles, cockles, oysters, mussels

cleansing water

binding waste, to River floor

JELLYFISH

Prehistoric creatures

pulsating as they drift

some, many, none

SEAGRASS

Slender stems waving

in company with razorfish

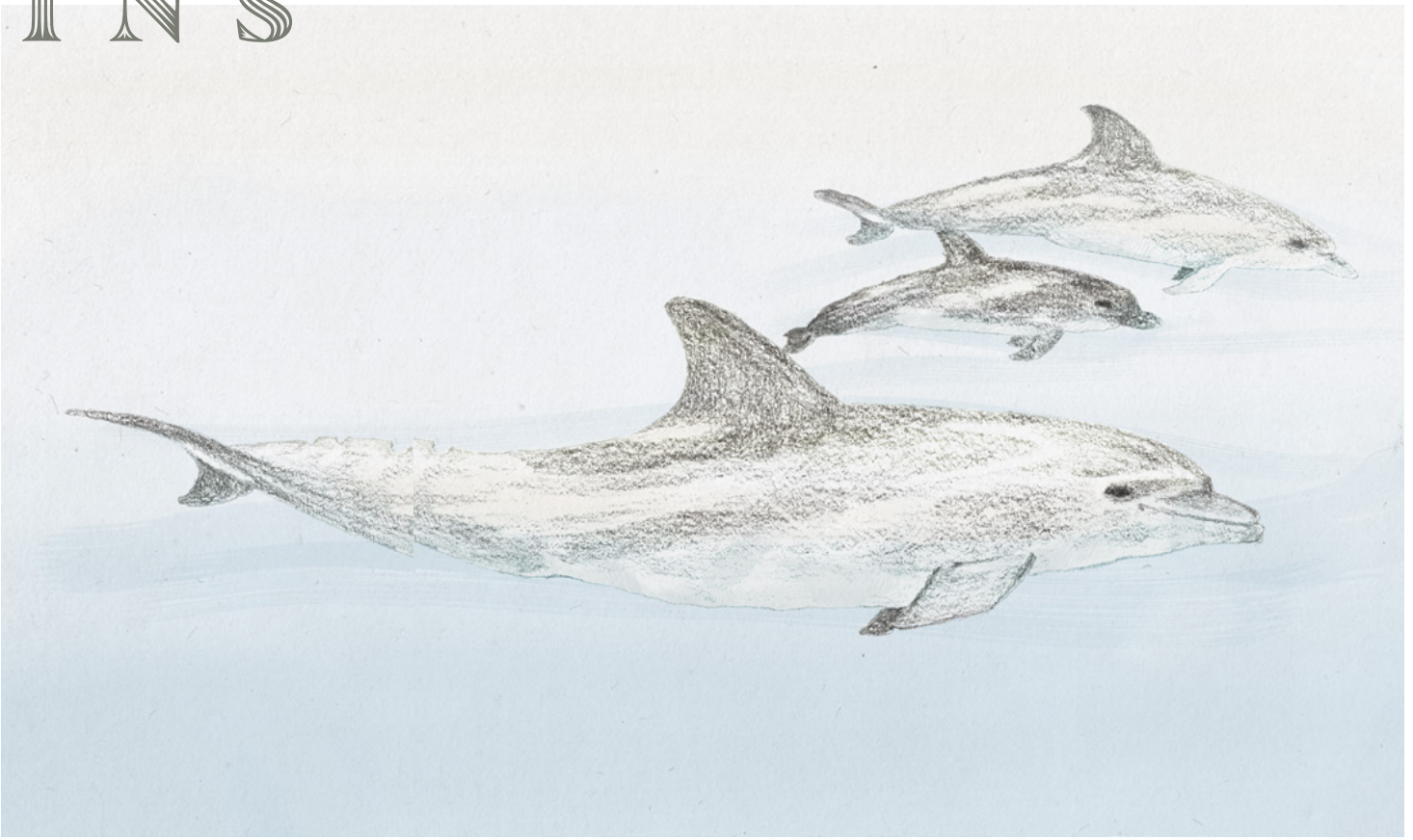
green haze spreads

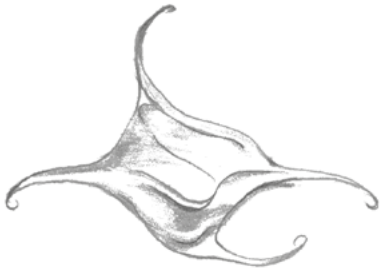
DOLPHINS

Residents and visitors

dolphin and humankind

meeting here





Thank You

KAURNA ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners of the land on which we stand, the Kaurna Miyurna People of the Adelaide Plains. For Kaurna Miyurna People the Port River and Barker Inlet Estuary is Yerta Bulti.

We pay respect to Elders Past and Present. We respect their spiritual beliefs and connection to the land which are of continuing importance to the living Kaurna Miyurna People of today. We further acknowledge the contributions and important role that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people continue to play within our shared community.

ESTUARY CARE FOUNDATION

The Estuary Care Foundation is devoted to the ecology and shorelines of the Port River and Barker Inlet Estuary.

Further information is available at estuary.org.au

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Estuary Care
Foundation