



The Island News

ST HUBERTS ISLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

'The Central Coast's Island in the Sun'

PO BOX 247, ETTALONG BEACH 2257

SEPTEMBER 2001

ST HUBERTS DAY FAMILY BARBECUE

In France, hunt followers begin St Hubert's Day celebrations with a church service where the priest blesses the hunters and dogs before they set out on "La Chasse". Here on our Island we may have once had retired racehorses roaming free but not deer, so we limit our celebrations to a family barbie. The traditional St Hubert's Day gathering was first started on the Island by Trish Schoer in 1976 when she organised a picnic day for residents. This has evolved into the popular free sausage sizzle we now have at the landing place of Captain Arthur Phillip's exploratory party in 1788. This year be sure to join your fellow Islanders on **Sunday, 4th November** from **11.30am** at **Long Arm Reserve**. There will be a raffle for a large Christmas hamper, (tickets available at the September general meeting and also at the barbecue) and the traditional Island Quiz. To increase your chances of having your name on the back of the coveted St Huberts Island plaque, answers to some of this year's quiz questions may be found in this newsletter. Professionals Real Estate have once again kindly offered to supply the awning and sausages.

Quarterly General Meeting

We hope you will come along to our next general meeting which will be held at Peridon Hall, Empire Bay Drive on **Thursday, 13th September** at **7.30pm**. We shall have an open forum for discussion of ways of improving life here on the Island including ideas for beautification works at the bridge. There will be a small supper around 9pm. If you would like a lift to the meeting please contact Bob on 4342 1061.

Residents' Association Membership

Welcome to all those new members of the Association and many thanks to existing members who paid their 2001/2002 fees so promptly. Anyone who may have mislaid their renewal notice will soon be sent a membership fee reminder. At just \$5, the fee remains the same as 25 years ago when the Association was first formed in 1976.

Island Memorabilia



Looking for gifts for Xmas? Avoid disappointment and shop early for our wine glasses emblazoned with the Island crest and selling at \$5 each or six for \$27. Also see details with this newsletter of the beautifully illustrated and extremely informative Island History Book selling at just \$16.

Mooring Facilities in the Canals - report by our President, Ron Spratt

There has been considerable confusion and contrary comment in respect to the provision of mooring facilities in the canals of St Huberts Island. The major amount of confusion came out of a letter dated 28 February 2001 to all canal front residents in respect to the existing facilities and the necessity to lodge a development application.

On behalf of the association I have written to Gosford City Council requesting the Development Control Plan (DCP) be reconsidered, in particular, with reference to the requirements to share a pontoon between two properties, the necessity to enter into a caveat on the title where an approval is granted for a pontoon and the need for the lodgment of a development application for existing boat ramps which are seen to be in a good and serviceable condition.

Whilst being hopeful of an early and successful resolution to the request I am mindful of council's past dealings in this matter, however, whilst the authorization of existing pontoons or boat ramps will be necessary there is no urgent need for action to be taken at this time.

Neighbourhood Watch

Our Island NW coordinator Norm Walsh reports that there has been just one break and enter on the Island this quarter. Norm reminds you to ring the Police Action Line (PAL) on 131444 for non-urgent crime, Woy Woy police on 4341 9122 for crime in progress and 000 for life threatening incidents. If you would like to attend any Neighbourhood Watch meetings, ring Norm on 4342 3761 for details.

- IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN CRIME REPORTS FOR OUR CITY TUNE IN TO RADIO STATION 2CCC (96.3) AT 1 PM EACH THURSDAY.

Vandalism

Although vandalism today appears to be a world-wide problem, other than some reported anti-social behaviour by hoodlums on the bridge and one or two recent incidents that the police are aware of, the Island remains relatively trouble free. Naturally residents do not want to see any of our young people in trouble with the police, so we would ask parents to be vigilant and explain to their children that bad company can lead to bad deeds. The likelihood of offenders being caught in the act is very real what with council rangers and off duty police officers watching trouble spots and Gosford Council's "Dob in a Vandal" reward scheme. The police advise that anyone witnessing any anti-social behaviour should neither approach the offenders nor the parents of offending youths, but should ring Woy Woy police on 4341 9122 or council rangers on 4325 8439 (office hours) or 4365 1393 (after hours).

Recycling News

The three-bin system continues to work well in making the Coast a 'greener' place to live, although you are reminded that polystyrene trays, clothes and plastic bags should not be placed in the yellow-top recycling bin. The need to have replaced our old bins has been questioned, but we are assured that they themselves will be recycled into new bins and I must say that our road sides do look 'smarter' now on collection days!

Island Sewerage - by resident Carolynne Mucharsky

If your house is having drainage problems evidenced by apparent blockages and you notice odd smells, etc don't call your plumber until you've checked with a neighbour and had a look at the site of the vacuum system which connects to your house. If the fault lays with the vacuum outlet it is a Council problem and it is against the law for a plumber to work on it. You should call Gosford Council on 4325 8446 during business hours or 4365 1593 on public holidays and after hours for all water emergencies and sewer problems.

Dog Walkers

Many thanks to dog walkers who clean up what their dogs do. Those that don't, please take a bag and spade with you and do the right thing by the community.

304 On West Islanders' Dine Out - report by our Secretary, Bob Fahey

A group of Islanders had a "Dine Out" evening on Wednesday 8th August at the "304" West Street Restaurant in Umina. What started as a group of 14 soon became 34. The restaurant provided an excellent varied menu at \$25 per head BYO.

It was such a great night that another evening has been suggested for Oct/Nov. If you would like to join a bunch of Islanders for a "Dine Out" let Bob know on 4342 1061.

Did you know?

Our Island, originally known as Bird, was first advertised for sale by the Government in the early 1830's. It was bought by Father Coghlan, a Brisbane Water District parish priest, who rowed a boat to his congregations. The purchase was completed in 1856. The proceeds of £154.10 shillings (being £1 per acre) were used by the Government to subsidise free and inexpensive migration. Land sales and subdivisions slowly continued over the ensuing century and in October 1961, St Huberts Island Pty. Ltd. purchased all the allotments and sections of the Island which were unsold at the time and when the only residents were said to be "...a few fishermen and their families...". A year after the opening of the Island bridge 30 years ago on 19th November, 1971 blocks doubled in price to \$9000 in just 6 months. With the opening of the Rip Bridge on 14th June, 1974 and the reliance on the ferry to get to Woy Woy station no longer necessary, land values continued to escalate up to today's incredible prices!

Christmas Carols

There will not be an Island Christmas Carols evening this year. We believe the 'Carols and Fireworks' at Woy Woy Oval will be a big attraction.

Operation Christmas Child

Please phone Jim and Elaine Doust on 4342 1234 or see details of this promotion by St Huberts Island Christian Fellowship which will soon be dropped in your letterbox.

Thought for the Quarter

"If it is to be, it is up to me". To think that such a positive philosophy for life could have been summed up in words containing only two letters!

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Phone Island Resident David Demal on 4341 5629

304 on West

B.Y.O. Cafe/Restaurant -also with take away service

PASTA SPECIAL with casa bread, salad and wine \$16:50 Wed/Thurs

Open 7 days 8.30am - 4.30pm and Wed - Sat for dinner from 6pm

4344 5433

304 West Street, Umina (next to Bremen Pâtisserie)

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Call Tom Tregent at Raine & Horne. A resident of St Huberts Island for over 25 years, he has been selling property on the Island since the 1970's.

Specialising in the sale of prestige properties, Tom and his son Andrew are only too happy to offer helpful advice or market your property.

Tom Tregent 0407 454179

Andrew Tregent 0418 868085

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Editorial note: If you have items of news or information which might be of interest to other residents, please contact Joan on 4342 1403 or Bob on 4342 1061. Adverts may be placed for just \$25. Copy deadline for the December issue is 30th November. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Committee.