



The Island News

ST HUBERTS ISLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

'The Central Coast's Island In the Sun'

PO BOX 247, ETTALONG BEACH 2257

DECEMBER 2000

Christmas General Meeting

We invite all residents (association members or not) to attend our next meeting on **Thursday, 14th December at 7.30pm** in Peridon Hall, at Daleys Point retirement village. Be sure to come along and listen to our Guest Speaker, **Snr Sgt Irene Juergens**, who will be talking on Home Security. The meeting will conclude with a small supper and a glass of cheer to put us in the mood for the festive season ahead. A plate of food would be appreciated. Please contact Bob Fahey on 4342 1061 if you require a lift to the meeting.



Carols in the Park

Sponsored by Ray White Real Estate

We hope you, your relatives and your friends will join us at **7.30pm** on **Saturday, 16th December** for our annual Island Carol Concert. This year the Salvation Army Band, Choir and Line Dancers will again be entertaining us for an hour or so at Attunga Reserve. You will need to bring your own chair, insect repellent, a torch and refreshments if required. The Sallies would be most grateful for any donations on the night of non-perishable groceries or items suitable as Christmas gifts for those in need.



** Last year around 25 enthusiastic youngsters formed an Island Kids Choir and entertained us with several Christmas songs - be prepared again kids!*

Island History Book 1788-2000

We hope to have copies hot off the press at our general meeting. Costing around \$16 they would make ideal Christmas presents so be sure to bring along your purse or wallet! Orders can also be placed with any Committee member.

Pontoons and Moorings

Following the letter to all waterfront properties and the public exhibition of the Development Control Plan which attracted four submissions, Council has now adopted the DCP for pontoons on the Island. It is aimed at restricting pontoon use so as to retain visual amenity. The owner of an unauthorised pontoon should lodge a development application by January 1 to avoid its removal by Council.

Memo to Pet Owners

Some disturbing reports have been received of attacks on some of our animals and wildlife on the Island. The 1999 Companion Animals Act states that Council can seize cats and dogs which attack. Please also be aware that dogs must be on a leash and their droppings picked up when away from your property. Ignoring the rules can lead to fines and court action.

Neighbourhood Watch . . .

. . . **is precisely that.** Watching your own and your neighbours' properties. It is organized by the community to prevent crime before it happens and not to punish after the event. It is not a police scheme, although the police lend their expertise to encourage greater awareness in the community. It will not work, however, without the full support of residents. **So it is up to you.** Now read on!

The unfortunate fact is that crime has increased on our Island over the last twelve months. In the 12 months ending 30th September there were 22 break and enters, 20 offences of stealing and 12 other cases including malicious damage and assaults. In addition 5 vessels were stolen from the waterfronts. It has become obvious that the majority of these offences have been committed during periods of school holidays by apparent teenagers. Some of the break and enters and thefts were committed in broad daylight and while the occupants were still in their premises. This points to the need for **greater vigilance by occupiers.** Simply put, if you are out the back of your house make sure your front doors are locked and vice versa - **and still keep watch!**

Ed note: Several phone calls have been received regarding the loss of garden ornaments. Please let us know if you can shed any light on this problem.

Serial Rapist: Please see insert for a Police warning and request for public assistance.

Active St Huberts

Sponsored by Fitness City Ettalong

Thank you to the 24 adults and children as well as Tilly the dog who turned up for the Boulevard Promenade. It was good to talk and walk together and then enjoy the refreshments at the end. The starter draw prize was won by Ron Spratt and in the closing draw Bob Fahey won the Active Australia T-shirt which was kindly supplied by Fitness City.

St Huberts Island Family Barbecue

Sponsored by Professionals Real Estate and Holiday Inn Terrigal

Islanders along with their families and friends converged once again on the historic Long Arm Reserve to enjoy a free sausage sizzle provided by The Professionals. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day and to all those who kindly donated or purchased items for and from our stall. Along with the profit from the two raffles, \$237 was raised towards the Island History Book fund (see separate item). The winners of the raffles were Donna Mitchell, who won the Christmas Hamper, and Scott Kingsmill, winner of the Dinner for Two provided by the Holiday Inn Resort at Terrigal. The Island Plaque was won by yours truly after a breathtaking tie-breaker! A merry time was had by all.



POLICE RENEW THE WARNING SERIAL RAPIST ON THE CENTRAL COAST

Through the Neighbourhood Watch Network

Police are warning again that a serial rapist may be stalking women at beaches on the Central Coast.

The man is believed to be responsible for at least six attacks on women in the area over the past three years with victims ranging from 16 to 77 years old.

In the latest incident a man fitting the rapist's description stalked a young woman at the north end of Putty Beach for half an hour from about 6pm on Saturday, 16th September. The incident follows a previous rape in the area.

The man ran away after the young woman approached an older couple for assistance.

Strike Force Northgate, established to investigate the previous attacks is calling for assistance from the public. The strike force is being led by Crime Agencies detectives together with Brisbane Waters and Tuggerah Lakes Police.

The man is described as 183cms tall with slim but toned build. He is believed to be between 45 and 55 years old and has thick grey collar length hair that protrudes from his cap. He is tanned with a large nose and square jaw. At the time of the latest incident he was wearing a dark blue T-shirt with short or no sleeves and shiny green running shorts, split at the sides. He was wearing white socks and white flat soled sandals, as well as older style sunglasses with black rims.

Det Sgt Paul JACOB from Strike Force Northgate said the Police were hoping the latest failed description might lead to a breakthrough in their on-going investigations.

"The details of this latest incident lead us to believe that it is linked to the other attacks. The clothes that this man was wearing were almost identical to those worn by the rapist. The physical description also closely matches those given by other victims."

"We believe that the man knows these local areas very well, he may live or work in the area or spend a great deal of time in and around the locations where the attacks have occurred." These areas are:

- * A bush access track to Shelly Beach
- * The northern end of Forresters Beach
- * A bush access track at the southern end of Forresters Beach
- * An access track to Budgewoi beach
- * A bushwalking track in Bouddi National Park at the northern end of Putty Beach, Killcare
- * A residential street bordering bushland at Wamberal Park which surrounds Wamberal Lagoon
- * The south end of Putty Beach

"Det Sgt JACOB said the attacks had occurred during daylight on Fridays and Saturdays except one attack on a Wednesday."

"We are encouraging local residents or visitors to these particular areas to be on the lookout for behaviour which is inconsistent with that of the normal beach user. This may include unusual or extended activity in and around bush tracks, beach access tracks or surrounds. Attempts by this person to hide himself from normal beach users."

"These are cowardly attacks and we are determined to bring the person responsible to justice. In the meantime we would urge women to take extra care in remote beach locations and those described above, particularly if they are alone. We advise women to remain in the company of someone else if at all possible."

**Authorised for circulation through the Neighbourhood Watch network by Detective Sergeant Paul JACOB,
Homicide & Serial Violent Crime Agency, Commander Strike Force Northgate on Tuesday, 31st October 2000.**

The Winner was Syderney

What a show it was and what a triumph for Australia and its friendly people! From the torch relay and the fiery lake to the river of fire and the last firework - flowing on then into the Paralympics, confirming the accolade of being the best games ever staged. If you attended any event or were one of the Channel 7 viewers you will know that it was just one big party for us and the biggest show ever for the world and if we can do that then we can do anything! With medals in 20 of the 28 sports and 4th out of nearly 200 countries followed by an amazing 149 medals and top country in the Paralympics, we must surely now rank as a super power in the sporting world. Thanks must go to the athletes, performers, spectators, cleaners, organisers, construction workers, indeed anyone who did their bit, as well as nearly 50000 volunteers who deserve a really big pat on the back - weren't they great? Of course the weather played its part as did the transport system and its workers with a smooth running record 1000 landings and take-offs at the airport on the day following the closing ceremony! We too played our part here on the Island providing torch bearer Ken Bingham and volunteers Jackie Warren and Ian Smart. We also have the grandparents of both silver medallist breaststroke swimmer 15 year old Leisel Jones and Paralympic Category S5 50 metre butterfly and 50 metre backstroke finalist as well as Australian record breaker, Kirra O'Cass from Bensville also 15 and the youngest member of the swim team.

Did You Know?

Living here on our Island is Harry Beitzel, the co-author of the recently launched Kevin Sheedy book 'Second Chance Winners' - a fascinating read full of inspirational quotes and one for the Christmas stocking! Congratulations also go to Noel Goodwin who is this year's winner of the Central Coast's 'Best Panel Beater' Award.

* *Please do share your special events and achievements with us so we can congratulate you too in future newsletters. Ed.*

What's on?

St Huberts Island Christian Fellowship: All are welcome at 5pm on 17th December to join Jim and Elaine at 6 Sirius Street for a 'Christmas Celebration'. Tel 4342 1234.
Square Dancing on Tuesdays at 7pm: Ring Bridie on 4341 3681 for details and lift.

Penfriends

If you are interested in corresponding with anyone from St Ives near Cambridge in England, please let me know and I will try to put you in touch with somebody with similar interests. St Ives is a small country town on the River Ouse, steeped in history and famous for its picture-postcard bridge with a chapel on it. The deputy mayor there would like to forge informal contacts with a community in this area.



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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. Copy deadline for the March issue is 26th February.