



The Island News

ST HUBERTS ISLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

'The Central Coast's Island in the Sun'

PO BOX 247, ETTALONG BEACH 2257

SEPTEMBER 2000



SHARE THE SPIRIT

At last the long awaited time is at hand and what a moment of glory for all Australians as we welcome the world to this beautiful country of ours.

Here on St Huberts we are honoured to have our very own torchbearer, Ken Bingham. Ken is just one of the thousands of volunteers on the Coast who tirelessly give up their time to help others. As a representative of all those volunteers and in honour of his late wife, a Meals on Wheels volunteer for many years, Ken carried the torch from Wyong's aptly named Marathon Street.

Photo: Ken proudly holding his Olympic torch at Sandy Cove.



Quarterly General Meeting

Join in the Spirit and come along and listen to our Guest Speaker who most appropriately on the eve of the Olympics opening ceremony will be none other than our Island torchbearer and Wyong community cauldron lighter, **Ken Bingham**. Ken will talk about the history of both the torch and the Olympic flag amongst other interesting anecdotes. The meeting will be held at Peridon Hall, Empire Bay Drive on **Thursday, 14th September at 7.30pm**. The agenda will include Island traffic management. We would appreciate contributions to the small supper we have at 9.30pm when we shall raise our glasses to a safe and successful Olympic Games. If you would like a lift to the meeting please contact Bob Fahey on 4342 1061.

Association Membership

Welcome to all those new members of the Association and many thanks to existing members who paid their 2000/2001 fees so promptly. Anyone who may have mislaid their renewal notice will find a reminder with this newsletter.

Have Your Doves 'Flown'?

Please contact Bob Fahey on 4341 3681 if your garden ornaments have gone walkabout!

St Hubert's Day Family Barbecue

Be sure to join your fellow Islanders for this popular free sausage sizzle on **Sunday, 5th November** from **11.30am** at Long Arm Reserve. There will be the annual Island Quiz for the coveted St Huberts Island plaque as well as raffles for a large hamper and a meal for two at Holiday Inn Resort, Terrigal (tickets available at the September general meeting and also at the barbecue). We would also welcome donations to a stall to raise funds for the publication of our Island History Book. Craft type items, cakes, preserves, plants and as new books proved to be very popular last year. Any queries please ring Joan on 4342 1403. Professionals Real Estate have once again kindly offered to supply the awning and sausages.

Island Bridge 30th Anniversary

Join us for a celebration at the bottom of the bridge around noon on **19th November**.

Island History Book

A lot of water has passed under the bridge (and we Islanders should know about that more than most) since the idea to produce a history of the Island was first mooted at the bicentenary celebrations at Long Arm Reserve in 1988. Well it's about to happen at last, thanks to the efforts of our vice president as well as many who have gone before him. We are hoping that the book will be published late Spring. Demand is sure to be great, so to reserve your copy just leave your name and address with any committee member.

Active Australia 29th October

The physical benefits of exercise are well known, but there can be social benefits too. Either from simply teaming up with a walker round the Island or by joining an organization or club that promotes exercise. Both alternatives offer exercise from virtually dead slow to super fast levels. For further information ring 4342 1403 leaving your name and phone number and I will get back to you with some ideas. Please let me also know of any clubs and organizations you belong to that might interest other residents.

- **Active St Huberts 29th October** If not pouring on the day, join the Helmsman Boulevard walk for **all levels and ages** either en route and just do what you can, or at **10am** from the start point at Helmsman Boulevard and Marina View Reserve. Free refreshments and starter draw prize at the end of the walk on the reserve if hot or at 10 Marina View if not! Do your bit to get the Island moving!

St Huberts Island Fellowship

We warmly welcome Rev. Jim Doust to our fantastic Island. Residents of any faith are invited to his monthly meetings at 6 Sirius Place. Contact Jim on 4342 1234 if you would like to attend the first meeting which most appropriately will be held at **5pm on 3rd November** - St Hubert's Day!

Carols in the Park

Please keep **16th December** free for our annual event with the Sea & Air Force Band.

Federation Community Grant

We must inform you that last month by a majority vote, the Council withdrew the plans to erect the Federation commemorative rotunda with landscaped gardens and seating on the historic Long Arm Reserve. Residents in the vicinity of the proposed site were concerned with the possibility that the rotunda would attract vandals and drug users, citing past incidences of problems in their area to support their claim. More importantly perhaps is the issue as to whether we are always going to allow undesirable elements in our society determine how we live our lives or whether we are going to stand up against them. What do you think?

***President's Note:** "I must express my thanks and the thanks of the committee to Jim Moye and Bob Fahey for their outstanding efforts in the making and pursuing of the application for the grant and the development application for the proposed rotunda which the Gosford City Council ultimately withdrew."*

- Gosford Council decided last month to increase the number of rangers in the area and to double the 'Dob in a Vandal' reward ranging now from \$500 to \$5000, payment depending on the severity of the damage and on the conviction of the perpetrator(s).

This is your Association!

What would you like to see the Committee doing for you? We welcome your suggestions on ways there might be of improving life here on our Island. For reference, apart from organizing the popular annual Carol Concert, Christmas in July and St Hubert's Day BBQ events, here are some other items the Committee has been instrumental in achieving: (i) Combining with other groups in the Shire for the 1988 bicentenary celebrations in a re-enactment of the landing of Captain Phillip's exploration boat party at what is now Long Arm Reserve. (ii) Taking strong action with GCC and the Valuer General's Office against the excessive 1993 rate increase resulting in a visit from the Valuer and a revaluation with rate decreases of about 15% overall. (iii) Constant lobbying bringing about the marking of the cycle and walkways. (iv) After years of lobbying Council and the RTA, the roundabout at the top of the bridge is now in place. (v) Seeing that the pumping of yabbies, pippies and worms be banned from the Island shores. Current items being pursued include an application for the Mobile Library to visit the Island and the publication of the Island History Book.

Traffic Management

The top roundabout is expected to be completed by the end of this month. New signs will indicate the turn off for St Huberts and a 50km/h speed limit is being implemented on the Island as part of a safety initiative involving most of the Central Coast's suburban streets.

Green Waste and Street Cleaning

Council will provide green waste bins. The road sweeping service has been withdrawn. With the new anti-pollution laws for boat owners, your help in keeping our gutters and street drains clear of leaves will also contribute to cleaner waterways.

MARINA GEORGE

T.A.

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Proprietor an Island Resident

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 December issue is 26th November.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Committee.