

The Island News

'The Central Coast's Island in the Sun'

ST HUBERTS ISLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC
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Newsletter: islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

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SEPTEMBER 2017

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

Saturday September 23	Beachfront Park	Sunset Sips 2017#4	4 pm [See Below]
Saturday October 28	Daleys Kitchen	Island Dine-Out 2017#3	HALLOWEEN 6.30 pm [See Inside]
Sunday November 5	Long Arm Reserve	St Huberts Day Family BBQ + EXTRAVAGANZA	11 am [Inside + More Info Coming]
Friday & Saturday November 24&25	107 Helmsman Bvd	Ab.Fab. Ceramics Exhibition & Art Sale	7 pm [Info at abfabceramics.com.au]
Saturday December 2	Daleys Kitchen	Island Dine-Out 2017#4	XMAS DINNER AUSSIE STYLE 6.30 pm [More Info Coming]
Sunday December 10	Long Arm Reserve	Annual Christmas Paddle Regatta	9 am [Inside + More Info Coming]
December		General Meeting	PERMANENTLY CANCELLED See "A Word from the President" inside
2018 February		Opera In The Park	[Advance Notice - More Info Coming]
Thursday 8 March	The Cove Hall	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	7.30 pm [Advance Notice]

[If you have an activity or event for Island Residents, email the Editor.]

From the Secretary

We encourage all our residents to join or renew your membership to our Residents Association.

The purpose of this household membership is two-fold -

1. So we can represent you on your behalf when it comes to the betterment of the Island. We are constantly raising local issues and having discussions with Council and other organisations, and with a high success rate.
2. To enable the Committee to put on events and activities for us all to enjoy and get to know one another.

Out of the 280 addresses on my list over the years, only 98 have renewed or joined this year!!

There are 550 residences on the Island - only 98 (18%) are members!!

Thank you to those who have taken up the \$20 for 4 years membership. We have had quite a number of our residents who have opted for this membership option.

We need more members in your association so we can continue to be a strong Island Community. Remember it's only \$5 per year, or you can join for four years for \$20.

Advertising

Would you like to advertise your business or service in our Newsletter?

If so, please contact our Secretary, Annabel McMillan at secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

Direct Debit details

- for Membership Fees payment

BSB: 633-000

Account: 125-589-655

Account Name: St Huberts Island Residents Assn Inc
Reference: "name & address" e.g. Sam Smith 29 Marina View Pde

Cheers, Annabel

PS: For those lucky people who have given their email address to the Secretary - see Page 3 for a BIG DANGLY CARROT!!

SUNSET SIPS START AGAIN!!

The first Sunset Sips of the "New Season"

Saturday 23 September at Beachfront Reserve

Come along to Beachfront Reserve from 4pm for Sunset Sips 2017#4



- ~ Meet your new neighbours
- ~ Renew old friendships
- ~ Ladies bring a champagne glass to enjoy FREE bubbles!
- ~ Free sausage sizzle and steak sangers - with BBQed onions!

Bring your -

- ☒ Chair
- ☒ Hat
- ☒ Sunnies
- ☒ Beverages
- ☒ Nibbles



And beware... it could be a fresh evening. Springtime is very random!

AND we will have some flares there to keep any flying critters away... maybe you could bring your own too, or coils or repellent.

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A Word from the President!

Spring has arrived with beautiful blue sky days, cold winds and very dry conditions. We may be in for a very hot summer which means lots of outdoor activities, boating and fishing and enjoying our Island life!

We have lots of social activities planned to see us through the summer months so come along and join in and meet some of the new arrivals onto the Island. More information can be found either in this newsletter or on our Association webpage or Facebook page.

We are also very close to finalising a couple of major issues that we have been involved with over the past year or so.

- * New licences are underway for pontoon owners in the canals. A group of concerned residents who felt they were being disadvantaged with a change to our licences, engaged a lawyer to contest the initial offer of a 5 year licence and SHIRA agreed to represent the issue with CCC. We have been informed that we will be offered a 15 year term which is obviously a major improvement and new licences will be issued shortly. While the initial group that held out from signing the licences will benefit immediately with the longer term, those residents that have the 5 year licences will be offered the longer terms upon renewal. The result highlights what can be achieved when we contest issues with Council which are not favourable to the residents.

- * We are due to hold meetings with CCC early this month regarding the Plan of Management (POM) for the canals of the Island that has been prepared by the consultants that Council employed. A 94 page document sets out the issues that have been identified and we are hopeful that CCC will agree to implement some of the key concerns. More information will be advised as we proceed.

Due to the major changes in our lives regarding social media and the ability to get messages out to residents quickly through our various means of communications, it has been decided by your committee that we will only hold an Annual AGM and no Quarterly Meetings. The Articles of Association that SHIRA operates under, states that the only meeting that is mandatory is an AGM, although if an important issue is apparent then of course we can call a Special Meeting. Also, with all the social activities that we are undertaking, your committee members are always available to discuss any issues or concerns that residents may have.

Our next AGM will be held in February/March when all positions on the committee become vacant and elections are held.

Don't be shy, if you would like to nominate come along on the AGM night.

Enjoy the summer days,

Cheers

Rod

president@sthubertisland.nsw.au

Report

Neighbourhood Watch

The following crimes for May to July were reported to Police:-

May 2017	Nautilus Cres	1 Break & Enter
June 2017	Boyd Close	1 Malicious damage to boat/trailer wiring
July 2017	NO REPORTS	

NOTE: There are an increasing number of boats on trailers. To prevent damage keep boats and trailer off the street AND keep an eye out for possible offenders. On two occasions graffiti has been sprayed on the 50 kph signs at the foot of our entry bridge. The Council removed the damage on notification. Report any offenders to police.

Ring 000 for crimes in progress

Or... report all crimes to the Police Assistance Line **131 444**, or Crime Stoppers **1800 333 000** if you wish to remain anonymous.

If you prefer **internet** to phone, you can access www.police.nsw.gov.au, click on to the **NSW Police Force Community Portal** and complete a non-emergency **Online Police Reports** form. The report will be passed on to police in the same way as phone reports to the Police Assistance Line.



ADVERTORIAL

Daleys Kitchen

After commuting to Sydney for 18 months Sue Parsons knew she needed a sea change. Being commercially trained in Catering back in the UK she always had a passion for food and a desire to do her own thing.

So when the re-development of the old Cove Centre, at 30 Empire Bay Drive Daleys Point was taking shape Sue knew this was her chance to start something unique and local for both St Huberts Island where she lives, and for the wider local area.

So in early 2016 Daleys Kitchen was born.

Sue and her friendly team are open daily from 6am Monday to Friday, and from 7am at weekends.

"We pride ourselves on serving our own freshly baked cakes and lunches, helping Daleys Kitchen stand out from the crowd. Our customers tell us our coffee is amongst the best on the Coast. We try to cater for all taste and offer Almond, Macadamia, Coconut, Bon Soy, lactose free or even "normal" milk.

Weekends are what Island life is all about - perfect for a stroll up to Daleys Kitchen, either for breakfast or even lunch. We are open until 2pm Saturdays and Sundays. BYO any time!"

Daley's Kitchen hosts the St Hubert's Dine-Out evenings along with other regular theme nights - just ask what is on in the coming weeks. We can also cater for Private Functions, either in the café or at your location.

Being an Islander and supporting the local community is important to Sue and her team. We have ample free parking... or even better take a short walk or ride up to see us, less than 200m from the top of the Island bridge.



IMPORTANT CARROT INFORMATION

WE NEED Email addresses: This is a VERY BIG dangling carrot

Would you like to have a chance to win a \$100.00 meat voucher from the famous Edwards Butchers??

Each month for the next 3 months - October, November, and December - we will be doing a draw of all the residents who have provided us with their email addresses. If you have not yet supplied your email, best you do so before the dates below to give yourself a chance to win this fabulous prize!!

Why do we want your email address?

This allows us to keep you up to date, quickly, with all that happens on the Island such as upcoming events, any issues that arise etc.

Send your details - **Name**, **Street Address** and **Email address** to the secretary@sthubertisland.nsw.au



MEAT VOUCHER DRAW DATES ARE -

Friday 27 October

Wednesday 29 November

Wednesday 20 December

But wait... there's more...

Not steak knives (but you might need them), however if you renew your (lapsed) membership or become a new member you get a **SECOND TICKET in each draw** for the fabulous, extravagant Edwards Family Butchers \$100 meat voucher draw.

For new residents there is a Membership Application Form available on the website at sthubertisland.nsw.au/association/membership-application-form. You can print it out, or send it on-line.



EVENT

Around the Canals Cruises Return

As the weather warms-up and the days lengthen, then so does Rod Wenzel and his catamaran-hulled Doctors Orders emerge from the Island's winter snows (!?).

Yes, Doctors Orders is cruising the Island and environs again.

With a minimum number of 10 passengers, \$15 a head will see you on a relaxed cruise of the canals of St Huberts Island and various parts of Brisbane Water. After costs, the Residents Association will be the recipients of Rod's donations to aid in the many current and planned events the Association intends to hold each year, as well as representing Islanders in other ways as they arise.

Cruises will be on weekdays, although weekends are available by arrangement.

Contact President Rod Blake at president@sthubertisland.nsw.au or Big Rod Wenzel on 0418 294 956 for more information and bookings.



IslandChef Recipe

Our very own Island [Master] Chefs

A different recipe from an Island contributor each edition.

In the last few years The Island News has had quite a few reports, photos and near misses with Razor Clams. Another discovery appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

So what better way to kick-off this new column in The Island News than with a recipe provided to us by our illustrious President, Rod Blake.



IslandChef
ST HUBERTS ISLAND

*What do you do with razor clams?
Try this recipe!!*

❖ Heat oil, garlic, and chillies in a skillet over medium heat.

❖ Cook, swirling pan occasionally, until garlic is pale golden brown, about 6 minutes.

❖ Increase heat to high, add razor clams and wine, and cook, covered, until clams are just cooked through, about 3 minutes.

Email your special IslandChef recipe to islandnews@sthubertisland.nsw.au for possible inclusion in the next issue.

Only one recipe will be printed here per issue (as selected by the big-eating Island News Editor), but if enough excellent recipes pour in we might even knock-up our very own St Huberts Island Recipe Book!



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INFORMATION

SUMMER IS COMING!!!

Committee members of the Island Association want you all to have an enjoyable and safe summer.

The September edition of The Island News always heralds (and welcomes) the coming of the summer months and all that they bring. Over the last few years of The Island News, significant and meaty articles have been written on the various components that go to make up the safe and enjoyable summer.

All these articles can be found on the Island's website at sthubertisland.nsw.au/island-news/island-news-archive.

So instead of rewriting these article (NO THANKS!), I will simply list, summarise and direct you to the detailed articles.

Marine Rescue NSW - The Island News, September 2015 - pages 6&7

Marine Rescue NSW is a voluntary organisation and the Central Coast has two units based at Point Clare and Terrigal Haven with over 100 members. Marine radio coverage is provided seven days a week from 0600 to 1800 hours, and rescue vessels are on call every hour of the week.

As a boatie, it is VERY WISE to have a marine radio in your vessel whether you stay within enclosed waters or venture outside. Use it... whether for radio checks, weather reports, emergencies or logon/off. And while we're at it, consider volunteering!



Old4New Life jacket sales - The Island News, December 2015 - page 3

The NSW government are serious about boating safety. So much so that each year they will trade in your old, daggy, ripped, etc, lifejackets for brand-new, state-of-the-art you-beaut, modern lifejackets.



You do pay for these new lifejackets, but at a greatly reduced price.

Each year a timetable can be found on the Internet for the Old4New lifejacket trade-in program at boat ramps all about the State.

The 2017-2018 Old4New timetable is finally available. See the Transport for NSW - Centre for Maritime Safety website at maritimemanagement.transport.nsw.gov.au/lifejackets/old4new/index.html for the 2017-2018 timetable and locations.

[Past programs seem to indicate the Old4New begins at the Central Coast 4WD, Caravan and Camping Show in late September at Mingara Club at Tumby Umbi.]



Boats and Trailers impounded - The Island News, March 2016 - TidBits page 10

While not an article which contributes directly to your boating enjoyment, it could significantly contribute to your sadness and anger this summer.

From August 2015 there was a change to the State laws involving trailers. Previously only *illegally parked or abandoned trailers* (with their boats on-board) could be removed or impounded.

Now, as a result of trailers increasingly clogging streets, *un/registered trailers parked on streets can be impounded*.

[Continued next page]



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Pool Safety - The Island News, September 2016 - pages 4&5

Legislation is always changing and improving regarding pools. This article attempts to summarise the significant elements of the current legislation. It covers areas such as-

- Swimming Pool Registration
- Compliance Certificates
- Pool Barrier Inspection Program
- Pool Self-Assessment Checklists
- ... and where to get local advice



Boat Safety - The Island News, September 2016 - pages 8&9

Significant changes happened to Boat Safety requirement, regulations and laws on 1 July 2016. These changes may have slipped by you.



This article revisits drivers licence and boat registration requirements, then investigates the new required Levels of lifejacket needed for various boats, activities, and enclosed or open water use.

Safety equipment to be carried onboard is listed as well as the source of handy checklists. Also covered is use and disposal of flares and the advantages of using Maritime Alerts to aid you with expiring safety equipment and flares, and weather.

Mobile Resources for Fisherpeople - The Island News, June 2017 - page 5

Boating safety is now being boosted by technology and your smart devices.

Marine Rescue NSW have developed an app to run on your device that puts many long-winded tasks and procedures at your finger tips, including simple and easy Marine Rescue logon and logoff.

The Department of Primary Industries' app is **FishSmart** and provides recreational fishers with a multitude of essential information.



Razor Clams - The Island News, December 2015 - Tidbits, and this newsletter



Appearing first in the December 2015 newsletter, information on Razor Clams was revisited in this edition.

They are nasty, big creatures ready to slice an unwary child's or adult's foot open with ease. Hidden from view, they are ready to "leap-out-at-you" (not really), and make your summer an absolute misery - after you foot gets stitched-up that is!

Raine&Horne. 4341 7111

63 Helmsman Boulevard, St Huberts Island

DID
YOU
KNOW

Before your property can be put on the market (or even discussed with prospective purchasers), two legal documents must be prepared – a **Contract For Sale** and a **signed Agency Agreement**. Both of these documents are required by NSW Law and are in place for your protection...

So if a Real Estate Agent suggests showing buyers through without this paperwork you must wonder why they would be prepared to break the law and risk large fines.

It is doubtful it would be for your benefit.

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REPORT**Inaugural Christmas in July****@ Daleys Kitchen Saturday 22 July 2017**

The 2017 Island Association Committee continues to introduce new and successful activities for ALL Island residents. Our Sunset Sips draw larger numbers each event with the April Sunset Sips hugely successful, and with the most impressive WOW sunset.

Well... the first Island Christmas in July was also a WOW event.



On the night of Saturday 22 July, Daleys Kitchen was chock-a-block, with mine-host Sue needing to bring extra chairs from home. A sell-out crowd of over 60 (64 at one stage before some cancellations and late replacements) thoroughly enjoyed themselves with much Christmas food munched, supplied and BYO Christmas cheer consumed, and all with a continual din of conversation and raucous laughter.

Santa turned up in the guise of President Rod Blake with two assisting elves - all not dressed the part - and distributed bottles of wine for each table, and drew many lucky door prizes (with only a few lucky people!).



The food and choices were delightful and varied, serving sizes more than adequate (for this big-eater anyway), serving elves were eager and efficient in all aspects, and host Sue was welcoming, calm and organised, despite a major kitchen melt-down in the middle of serving the main course - but most/all of us didn't notice a thing.



To help the Association coffers - and consequently bigger and better activities - the first bundle of the new "Sunset from Solstice Place" cards were sold on the night, with orders for more placed by others.



A very big thanks from the Association to Daleys Kitchen, Sue, her staff and Committee member Helene Cornwell for putting together a most successful and enjoyable first.

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INFORMATION

RAZOR CLAMS ARE BACK ... but they never left us

[In the TidBits section of the December 2015 edition of The Island News [\[sthubertisland.nsw.au/island-news/island-news-archive/\]](http://sthubertisland.nsw.au/island-news/island-news-archive/) we covered the nasty aspects of these natives of Brisbane Water and large areas of Eastern Australia.]

While present all-year-round, Razor Clams are a bigger problem during the summer months when we use the water and beaches more around the Island. They are dangerous to feet in particular. These fan shaped clams grow up to 50 centimetres or more in length, and bury themselves vertically in seagrass sediment and sand, leaving thin sharp protruding shell-lips which have efficiently deeply sliced the skin of many unsuspecting swimmers and boaties.



As a living clam they place themselves in the seagrass areas then continue to grow larger for up to 18 years. If the clam dies, the vertical dangerous shell still remains to create havoc to bare feet.

An inspection of the sea grasses in Sandy Inlet near the end of Mercator Pde in February this year revealed eight Razor Clams. Three months later (late May) another two were quickly found – as seen in the photo.

So be aware and on the lookout.

As mentioned in the December 2015 newsletter, Razor clams are edible and can be found in French and American fish markets. The French cook them in a coconut broth with ginger, chillies, lemongrass, tamarind pulp and fish sauce. Check the Internet for recipes, or check out IslandChef recipe on Page 3.

DINE-OUT 2017#4

HALLOWEEN IS COMING TO ST HUBERTS ... in a different form

Save the night - **Saturday 28 October 2017**, and get your costume ready! This new Association celebration will be held at Daleys Kitchen... and we really want you all to dress for the Festival. There will be valuable prizes for the best dressed on the night.

For your information...

Halloween (hallowed evening)/Allhalloween/All Hallows' Eve/All Saints' Eve, celebrated on 31 October, is a Western Christian feast believed to have originated from Celtic harvest festivals and possibly pagan roots. The word "halloween" dates back to about 1745.

We all know how the United States celebrates Halloween. It was not until the mass immigration of the Irish and Scots around the turn of the 18th to 19th century that Halloween became widely celebrated. During the early 20th Century it finally became celebrated by most Americans.

More information is coming - watch the website, our Facebook page and your email.

For those lucky people who have given their email address to the Secretary - see Page 3!!



Irish Halloween Turnip

Report

FISHO'S Corner

Outside, strong currents out wide are forcing fishos to try closer in around the 30m deep mark.

Snapper, morwong and flathead seem to be the main catches.

Inside, the water is cool and clear, and a few bream and flathead are being landed only after putting in some long hours.

The Rip Bridge area seems again to be a popular spot with some nice catches of bream.

At Paddys Channel and off Koolewong flathead are on the bite with some good bream



being taken at night. Send us your brag photos – Email them to the Editor Island News for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

Just a reminder the Ettalong Hotel Fishing Club and the Ettalong Beach War Memorial Fishing Club always welcome new members/families. For further information please contact Ken or email the Editor.

Tight lines everyone! Ken



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INFORMATION

Bush Stone-curlews

In the last edition of The Island News, I managed to squeeze in at the last moment a report by a bike-riding local of their discovery of a pair of Bush Stone-curlews. I promised Iain a larger article on these unique and endangered birds - here it is.

In 2006, the Bush Stone-curlew was listed as an endangered species in NSW (and Victoria also), with their population and geographic range declining significantly mainly due to habitat modification - urbanisation, foxes and cats. It is now considered rare east of the Great Dividing Range with very small isolated populations dotted along the NSW coast. The only known estuarine populations are at Pittwater (Careel Bay) and Brisbane Water - and there certainly aren't many in Brisbane Water!

A detailed 2006 study in Brisbane Water found three known breeding pairs, four known individuals and another possible two individuals - that means 12 possible birds in all of Brisbane Water. In 10 to 20 years it may be too late to prevent the species becoming extinct.

The area, streets and houses around Beachfront Parade (and maybe some other areas on St Huberts) are ideal for these curlews. They live amongst the mangroves and salt-marsh, and utilise adjacent open habitats such as open foreshore reserves and urban lawns - a good description of the Beachfront area of the Island.

They roost during the day, invariably in open environments allowing good visibility, but this contributes to their downfall with domestic animals - dogs and cats - targeting them! Roosting involves standing quietly in the shade with their eyes half-closed, or squatting on the ground where their cryptic plumage makes them difficult to see among the leaf litter.

All their feeding and other activities occur at night, their diet wide-ranging but preferably insects, molluscs, seeds and small vertebrates including frogs, lizards, snakes and mice.

The Bush Stone-curlew is unique and quite an unusual looking bird, and unlike any other bird found in Australia.

They have a remarkable courtship dance. Individuals stand with their wings outstretched, their tail upright and their neck stretched slightly forward. The birds will stamp their feet up and down, like a soldier marking time. This courtship ritual is repeated for an hour or more at a time and is accompanied by loud and constant calling. One to three eggs are laid in a shallow scrape in the ground between July and January and incubated for 30 days. Both adults share the incubation and care for the young who can't fly till about nine weeks. If a nesting adult Bush Stone-curlew is threatened it will pick its eggs or chicks up under its wings and run off with them to protect them from predators. Both sexes are similar, with young Bush Stone-curlews similar in appearance to the adults, but are paler and a little browner in colour.



Spot the pair

All us Island residents have heard their call, but maybe not recognised it.

Does this sound familiar: an eerie, high-pitched wailing at dusk and night.

This ghost-like call is their contact call, and may be given by several birds in a chorus. Sounding as "weer-looo", it is repeated four or five times, sometimes culminating in a trilled, screeching crescendo. It is sometimes also heard during the day.

So... let's look after our meagre numbered and rare St Huberts Island Bush Stone-curlew population!

HOW??

Keep your animals away from them, not wandering off-leash or cats free-ranging at night!!

Credit to "The Birds of the Brisbane Water Estuary", Mark V Robinson, 2006 and the birdlife.org.au website.



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INFORMATION

Solstice Park is "Reborn" At Last...

Some history first...

Many articles have been written about the parks on St Huberts Island. There are many "green areas" on the Island, but several years ago Gosford City Council decided that St Huberts only warranted ONE proper park - due to budgetary issues, and thus the old-fashion, exciting slippery-dip at Solstice Park was removed and a broad wasteland was left behind.



After years of plugging away at Council (and with considerable Council support), the Association managed to get seating and picnic tables at some of our green areas. With help from Kim Radford and others at cash-strapped Gosford Council we finally got Attunga Park as our one-and-only very much "pocket park".

Gosford Council staff at this time were very positive about creating a "nature-play" park at Solstice using no-cost/low-cost bits-and-pieces at various Council depots, and left-overs from other projects. However, not long after council amalgamation reared it's head, the "South Office" of the new Central Coast Council seemed to loose interest in doing anything with Solstice.

As the Solstice "wasteland" began to languish, a small Association sub-committee steered by "dog-with-a-bone" Committee member, Helene Cornwell, began to have some initial then significant success with more senior staff at the "North Office". They were more than eager to install a small "nature-play" area in Solstice Park - in fact they suggested and insisted that "nature-play" was the way to go (which we had been suggesting all along anyway, but...), and they had just the design that they had installed recently in a Wyong park.



Two Council staff deserve special mention. Brett Sherar - Manager Open Space and Recreation, and Rachael McWilliam - Project Manager, Recreation Planning and Development. Brett travelled down from North Office (Wyong) and was enthusiastic from the first minute on site that Council does something for Solstice, and told us we should have a Nature Play at Solstice. Brett passed the project on to Rachael, and before we knew it, we received a design for the Solstice improvements, and advice and documentation for the six properties possibly affected by these designs, and then very quickly after that, the end result.

We now have a small nature-play park at Solstice!



Three more shrubs will be planted this summer on the north-western side of the park (away from the drainage easement and brick wall) when the ground warms, and one large shade-type tree will be planted in the middle of the park.

Council identified six properties around Solstice Park that would be affected by the size and intrusion of this (eventually) large tree.

All these residents quickly and graciously gave their approval for this large tree, and the Association and (I'm sure) ALL Island residents give their grateful thanks.

So now it's here... please use it!

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TidBits...

✿ Nature Watch on St Huberts

Now, this Editor and better half can easily sit and watch the variety of shags (cormorants) plying their trade in our canal, and play spotto with all other types of wildlife. I suspect we are not on our own with this pastime.

The biggest problem with this **new section of the newsletter** is the lack of colour when it comes to viewing photographs. So it becomes more important that all Islanders download or view The Island News in full colour from the Island's website at sthubertsisland.nsw.au/island-news/island-news-archive/.

So... if you've seen an unusual visitor or resident on the Island, and you've managed to identify and photograph it, then by all means email everything to me at the email contact on the front page banner.

[In fact, I just remembered, I photographed some baby birds last year and didn't know what they were - I might be the first Nature Watch cab off the rank next edition.]

✿ A new resident on the Island?

A Red-rumped Parrot

At the end of July, Discovery St residents Arthur and Liz Jones spotted an unusual bird perched on the telephone wire. They descended on their "Simpson's Field Guide to the Birds of Australia" and discovered it was a female Red-rumped Parrot - a bird not seen in their 20 years on the Island.

The boy must be somewhere nearby as they mate for life although they really shouldn't be on the Coast, and one website suggested aviary escapes may have increased populations in some areas, especially around the Central Coast. So there is a possibility this girl might be an escapee. Red-rumped Parrots are a medium-sized, slender parrot. The adult male is bright green, with a blue-green head, a red rump, and yellow shoulders and belly. The female is a duller, olive-green, with a green rump and faint yellow or light green scales on the belly.



✿ Opera In The Park

The Committee is steadily developing this occasion for Islanders.

It is intended to be held on a Saturday evening around February next year (2018) at Solstice Park.

Any suggestions for it's structure, performers etc. would be gratefully received by the Committee. Do know any operatic singers (family, friends, acquaintances) who would help us Islanders in the staging of this "unassuming" event?

Email us at islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au.

✿ Annual St Huberts Island Paddle Regatta

Time to paddle off the excesses of your attendance at the Xmas Dinner @ Daleys Kitchen 8 days before.

Sunday 10th December at 9 am on Long Arm Reserve.

It's Christmas... wear your Xmas hat! Kids also welcome.

Starting at 9 am at Long Arm Reserve we'll paddle clockwise by kayak, canoe, paddle board, stand-up board or raft into each of our 6 canals, finishing sometime after 11 am back at Long Arm Reserve for a hearty welcome by your family, friends and a picnic with bubbly. This is not a race, just an enjoyable morning of paddling with new and old friends, experienced or inexperienced. All ages can take part. Those with a spare craft please let me know and I'll put you in touch with someone who'd like to join us but doesn't have one - they should make contact with me as well.

This adventure is dependent on the weather and you'll be contacted by email/Facebook if we have to call it off.

I'd also like to hear from anyone in the canals who would like to be a welcoming host. Would you please register your interest with JoAnn Edwards at 4343 1319 or email joanndeal@tpg.com.au with your contact details and whether you are paddling singly or with a friend.

✿ Removal of Seagrass from Beaches on the Island

The removal of seagrass (wrack) and debris from foreshore areas of the island has been a continuing problem for all water-front residents. This is particularly so for residents in the canal corners where the accumulation occurs after other non-corner residents persist in returning the wrack to the canal from where it came. The wind and tide do the rest.

DON'T BE A TOSSER

Residents are encouraged to collect the wrack and put it in the green waste bin for collection on the normal day. If there is an excess then use large garbage bags filled to an easy handled size and placed at the kerb-side for collection by Council staff and phone CCC on 4325 8222 to log in the collection. This wrack collection is not part of your allocated clean up service, this is the collection of wrack from Council's canal land and is handled from the Council depots.

Thanks must go to Central Coast Council staff from the local depot who have been most helpful in assisting residents burdened with the collection of this wrack over many years. (Now you know what's in the large number of garbage bags seen on the nature strip at times.)

✿ Real Housewives of St Huberts Island - next episode

Real Housewives of St Huberts glasses are now in existence, although only as samples. They are looking VERY GOOD, especially with some bubbles in them, and there are quite a few housewives on the Island clamouring for more information (and glasses).

Currently their pricing is pretty high - \$15 to \$16 each for a printed non-dishwasher safe glass with a coloured stem.

We are investigating a cheaper supplier. Stay tuned for more.

✿ St Huberts Day Family BBQ & Extravaganza

The next Island News will be delivered after the upcoming St Huberts Day BBQ in November.

This is Advance notice. Planning is at an early stage but we intend to have all the great family activities we had last year including -

- ★ a port-a-loo
- ★ musicians
- ★ magic show
- ★ facepainting
- ★ Edwards sausages
- ★ the world-renown St Huberts Island quiz
- ★ and much, much more.

Information to follow on the website, Facebook and email.

✿ Island Electrician

Our call for an Electrician advertiser on the Island has succeeded. Let us all support Phil Grace.

✿ 2018 Solstice Sunset Sips

We are hoping this event will be as or more successful than the 2017 edition.

More information to come, BUT... there is a rumour that there may be a pig-on-a-spit there.

✿ Vale an Association Stalwart GARY DIBLEY

On behalf of the family it is with much sadness that I advise residents of the passing peacefully of Gary Dibley on Friday last. Gary served as Vice-President and Committee member of your Association for more than a decade. He loved his St Huberts Island and was a constant and considerate worker for the benefit of the Island. His clear thinking and logical outlook was of tremendous benefit during his time on the Committee with the many matters to be dealt with, not the least of which was of boating in the canals of the Island.

He was also a tireless worker for the Coastal Patrol which was another of his great passions. Gary will be sadly missed by his family and his many friends.

Ron Spratt

From the Editor...

I had to move forward so much from this newsletter - not an easy thing for me to do... but...

Near-and-dear to my greenie heart is recycling, but the recent 4 Corners investigation on this meant I lost interest in getting it in to this edition. This led to much glee from most of the Committee who reckon they've had enough of "my Garbage (articles)" in The Island News - but I'll eventually have the last laugh - ha ha!

Any comments regarding the newsletter, email me at islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au.

Steve

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES & ADVERTISING

Information, articles or advertising copy can be sent to the Editor (Stephen Steele) at islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au or 107 Helmsman Bvd. The Island News is produced every 3 months and is delivered to all Island residents by letterbox about a week before each General Meeting. Article deadline will be TWO weeks and Advertising THREE weeks before each General Meeting. See page 1 "Dates For Your Diary" for the date of the next meeting.

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