



The Island News

'The Central Coast's Island in the Sun'

ST HUBERTS ISLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC
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Get a Full Colour Island News: sthubertsisland.nsw.au/island-news/

DECEMBER 2020

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***** SUNSETSIPS ARE BACK *****

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

2020	Thursday December 17 - Tue January 26	Christmas State SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	
2020	Wednesday December 23	SANTA ON THE WATER	Information in TIDBITS
2021	Saturday January 30 Solstice Park	SunsetSips 2021#1 5pm (8:01pm sunset)	@SOLSTICE - "Out Of The Closet" Information Inside - Page 4
2021	Thursday March 11 The Cove Hall	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7.30pm	See Advance Notice below
2021	Friday April 2 - Mon April 5	EASTER	
2021	Friday April 2 - Sun April 18	State SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	
2021	Saturday April 3 Attunga Park	SunsetSips2021#2 5pm (6:47pm sunset)	@ATTUNGA -Celebrate end of Daylight Saving Advance Notice - Page 7
2021	Sunday April 4	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS 3am	At 3am clocks "fall back" to 2am

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

The BIG ISSUES are coming...

First the Bridge - ALL groups involved with the upcoming Safety Upgrade to the St Huberts Island Bridge have now accepted that the projected bridge screens will go ahead, with only the final design to be decided upon.

More on that in this Edition, and as it arises...

BUT there are some more pressing and significant issues coming that will have an everlasting impact on the residents and properties of the Island.

While the recent sacking of the Council and the appointment of an Administrator for a three month+ period has introduced many unknowns with these issues... they will still need to be confronted.

We will need significant Islander comment, and it is essential that SHIRA as your Island representatives have this input as well as your support.

St Huberts must have a large united front during these issues, so...

Join the Association, and...

Consider joining the SHIRA Committee to have an active role in dealing with these issues:

Creation and Implementation of (new) Flood Maps - these need redoing and they will contribute to...

Council Climate Change Policy - that needs to be significantly developed further with more impact on properties around Brisbane Water

Canal Maintenance - they have more than \$500,000 of our money in an account destined to maintain our Canals. It should still be there but nothing has been done to our Canals ... yet!

Greening of St Huberts - CCC says we are one of 20 suburbs that are too hot and we need more trees to stop this.

ADVANCE NOTICE

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 11 March 2021
The Cove Hall, Empire Bay
(at the traffic lights)

As this is an Annual General Meeting, **ALL POSITIONS on the Committee are declared vacant, and a NEW Committee is voted in by the attendees.**

ALL RESIDENTS are invited to this meeting that is also an open forum of ALL MATTERS of interest to Island residents.

A Word from the President

president@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

LOOKING AHEAD

The last 6 months has seen most Island residents focused on surviving the COVID crises, and the dialogue with Council on the proposed safety upgrade to the handrail/safety screens to the St Huberts Island bridge. The current status of the dialogue with the Council is covered separately in the Secretary's Report. The new safety screens will happen, as so they should.

But what ALL Island residents should be aware of is that the struggle over the bridge safety upgrade, albeit passionate to some people, is really a "storm in a teacup" considering the major issues that may happen and affect the Island and all of us in the next one, three, five, 10 years or longer... these being:

- Council Flood Maps. Council has previously advised that they are updating their flood maps. The basis of these is still unclear, but if they combine the worst+worst+worst case (ie 1:100 storm event+maximum

king tide+potential sea level rise due to climate change), then they may show the Island, plus Davistown, Empire Bay, Woy Woy, etc, etc all under water. Imagine the impact on household insurances and especially property values.

- Council Environmental Plan and potential Planned Retreat due to projected sea level rise due to climate change. At present Council say Planned Retreat is not part of their planning. *At present that is*. In the fullness of time, Planned Retreat could affect whether you even have a house on the Island.

These concerns are real. All Island residents should be aware and monitor these issues. The Association is, but it needs your support. Our AGM is in 4 months time (11th March 2021). All Committee positions will become vacant. That is your chance to make a difference, it could affect your future.

Ken Stewart
President

Neighbourhood Watch: **NO INCREASE IN CRIME**

Police cannot act when they are not informed of criminal activity. If not an emergency, and to ensure meaningful reporting, use the Police Assistance Line or Crime Stoppers phone numbers below, not local police stations who do not record phone conversations.

For another 3-month period since the last newsletter, there have been no change in the crime trends for St Huberts Island. There has been no rise in crime as a whole.

HOWEVER... this statement is based on Islanders reporting crimes to the Crime Stoppers phone number - calls directly to the Police might not get into the overall statistics.

LOCK YOUR CARS

Ring 000 for crimes in progress



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.

From the Secretary

The last 3 months have seen ongoing discussions, consultation and meetings on the proposed safety upgrade to the St Huberts Island bridge - specifically the addition of weldmesh safety screens. Recent actions have been:

27 Oct 2020 The Association representatives attended a roundtable meeting with Central Coast Council, Police, Lucy Wicks' representative, BridgeWarriors and a Daleys Point team to discuss the proposed safety upgrade to the bridge. The Minutes of that meeting have been distributed to all island residents who provided email addresses, to provide a true record of the meeting.

The Daleys Point team gave a passionate presentation strongly requesting the safety screens to stop the kids and hooligan behaviour attracted to the bridge. Read these Minutes. [Editor: On the website at sthubertsisland.nsw.au/our-island-bridge/] The majority of the attendees at the meeting were moved by their presentation, and realised the urgent need for these safety screens. A unanimous show of hands of all attendees agreed that something needed to be done.

5 Nov 2020 The Association representatives met with Lucy Wicks MP, to discuss the status of the bridge safety upgrade. A large part of this meeting was spent reviewing the Minutes of the meeting with Council of 27 Oct 2020. Lucy Wicks believes the screens are required and will liaise with Council to try and get a more suitable design. We referred Lucy to the NSW Govt publication Bridge Design Aesthetic Guidelines, which include a section on safety screens.

6 Nov 2020 The association wrote to Council requesting:

- A review of the Drop-in session, and the general feedback from the attendees.
- An update of the final safety screen design as being finalised by Council, eg shape, extent, colours, etc.

Dialogue with Council is still ongoing as the Newsletter goes to print.

Geoff Flynn
secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

Meet Your New Committee

Part 3 of 3

The last three of original 12 Committee members

Lindsey Edgar

I migrated from the UK over 30 years ago and had a successful career in Marketing with Castrol until I took early retirement. I moved here with my husband from Western Sydney just over three years ago. Unfortunately he passed away from cancer just a few months later. However I have since made many local friends and until COVID was keeping busy with traveling and volunteering with the Sydney Heritage Fleet, Sailability, Westpac Rescue Helicopter and now SHIRA.

Being a keen sailor and kayaker I love our Island lifestyle, while only being an hour away from my daughter and other friends in Sydney.

David Mason

I originally came from the North Shore living at Turramurra, Waitara, Westleigh and finally moving to St Huberts in Nov 2014, retiring a few months later. I have two boys who live in Sydney.

During my working career I worked in two main occupations - the first as an Accountant and some 20 odd years later jumped into Computing working with SAP computer software as an analyst. In my spare time I enjoy playing golf, paddling my kayak and going out with friends. Since I have been on the Island I have become very good at cleaning up seaweed and have averaged bagging around 150 bags a year along with multiple bins. If anyone needs weed please feel free to take any black bags they find on my nature strip.

Ron Stapleton

My parents, Jack and Tup (Lavina) retired from our family butchery business in the Sutherland Shire and moved onto St Huberts Island in the mid 1970s and purchased our family home in Helmsman Blvd for \$67,000.

Ros and I have lived permanently in the house for the last 12 years and intend never to leave this beautiful island.

I have been a Board Member of the Australian Meat Industry Council and numerous other Meat Task Forces and Councils including NSW Chairman of Retail. I have also been Vice President of the NSW Boating Association and served on the Port Hacking Advisory Council in the 1980s. Ros and I enjoy fishing and outback camping in our off-road camper trailer and have experienced many of our country's natural wonders.

I became "President of Vice" in 2017 to take an active part in having our Island waterway restored to its natural beauty as I remember it from the 1970s.

Speeding on Canal & Road

The continued rash of speedings about St Huberts Island has resulted in the Association writing to NSW Police, Busways and NSW Maritime.

Roads

Still, buses are seen speeding along Helmsman. Several times we have been in contact with Busways, and they inform their drivers of this issue, and speeding continues. For Busways to target the appropriate drivers, we have been told we need to note the **date, time, bus number** and **location** of a speeding bus.

So Islanders, stay vigilant(!) and send this information to the SHIRA Secretary or the Island News email address (see front page).

To date, Busways have not responded to our latest contact.

Excess speed, particularly the tradies utes and vans - and there are plenty of them on the Island at the moment - is also a concern. Also observed is the speeding and poor driving at the Pumphouse Bend on Helmsman where all sizes of vehicles regularly cut the corner or cross the centreline. There may well be a side-swipe between vehicles OR wiping out pedestrians as a result - we have no footpaths, only wide walking areas we share with parked vehicles.

To date, the Police have not yet responded to our 20 September request to enforce the 50kph speed limit on the Island, where pedestrians (including the elderly and children) share the road surface.

Canals

As the warming weather and summer holiday period approaches, on 20 September SHIRA also wrote to Maritime NSW requesting their assistance in enforcing the 4 knot speed limit in the canals and around the Island. Jet-skis were specifically mentioned in this letter, as well as the dangers to swimmers, kayakers, fishers, moored vessels and other users of the canals.

Maritime were very quick with their reply - 2 days later.

In the lead-up and during the boating season they will review speed limit signage and make improvements if required, increase patrols - particularly on weekends, long weekends and holiday periods - and target safety equipment, speeding and jet-ski behaviour.

If you have a camera quickly accessible, **photograph a speeding vessel with it's clear Rego Number and send it to Maritime**. Contact them on 13 12 36, [rms.nsw.gov.au](https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au), or the local Water Police.



(Independently, the Island's deep throat into Maritime also said they really are targeting jet-skis this season.)

Island Chef Recipe



This recipe courtesy of
Dave Mason.

IslandChef
ST HUBERTS ISLAND

It's Daylight Saving time...

Time to "buff up" or "svelte down" with a
carefully crafted healthy breakfast.

Here's the solution.

Bircher Muesli

Ingredients:

- ◆ 2 cups (150g) Rolled or Quick Oats
- ◆ 1 ³/₄ cups (420 mL) Milk
- ◆ 1/4 cup (60 mL) Apple Juice
- ◆ 3 tbsp Lemon Juice
- ◆ 1 Apple cored and grated
- ◆ 1-2 tbsp Honey
- ◆ 1 1/2 cups (375g) Plain Yogurt
- ◆ Dash Cinnamon

Method:

1. Combine oats, milk, apple juice and lemon juice and leave in fridge overnight.
2. In the morning add the grated apple, honey, yoghurt, cinnamon and stir well.
3. To serve, add fruits of your choosing.
4. For a healthier mix use Almond Milk and leave out the Apple Juice.

Enjoy !

Email your special IslandChef recipe to
islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au for possible
inclusion in a future issue.

If enough excellent recipes pour in we might even
knock-up our very own St Huberts Island Recipe Book!

History Corner...

Muesli was introduced around 1900 by Dr Bircher-Benner for patients in his Swiss hospital. It was inspired by a similar "strange dish" that he and his wife had been served on a hike in the Swiss Alps.

The original Bircher Muesli is typically made with cream and lemon juice and is eaten after all the ingredients have had time to soak.

Interestingly, the entire apple was to be added to the mix - skin/core/pits.

"Regular" muesli is dry, and although can be "hand-crafted" by the consumer, is usually pre-packaged.

The word "muesli" means "mush" or "puree" in Swiss German, and was originally intended as an appetiser, not a breakfast cereal.

Thanks to Wikipedia

St Huberts Island Bridge Central Council's proposed "Safety Upgrade"

Where are we at as of 3 December 2020?

Everyone on the Island should now be aware of the Council's unexpected and sudden plans for a safety upgrade to OUR Bridge, via an email to SHIRA dated 17 April 2020.

This occurred this way as our Federal Member Lucy Wicks managed to get a \$900,000 grant from the Fed Govt "Central Coast Roads Package", allowing Central Coast Council to carry out the project they have wanted to do for many years, but had no funding for it from their own sources.

After much action by SHIRA and others, a "Round-Table" meeting was held on 27 October 2020 at the Gosford Council chambers between all the groups who deserved an input to the final decision and design.

The two SHIRA representatives took minutes of this meeting, and they can be found on the Island's website at sthubertsisland.nsw.au/our-island-bridge/.

Comments and summaries of this meeting appear elsewhere in this newsletter, but the end result was the safety screen project will occur, but the design still needs to be decided upon by Council with the input of SHIRA, Federal Member Lucy Wicks and the other groups represented at the "Round-Table".

HOWEVER...

This "Round-Table", and its decisions and intentions, occurred just before the 30 October sacking of the CCC and the appointment of a NSW government chosen Administrator (Dick Persson) to sort out the financial mess the CCC had gotten into.

Now we are told by some insiders that the CCC is presently in total disarray. Local news is reporting the loss of top level Directors and 2nd level Unit Managers, the need for a significant restructure of Council, and limitations placed on financial affairs, transactions and projects.

It is definitely the unknown as to when and in what form the Bridge Safety Project will proceed.

As we go to press, SHIRA has attempted to contact our Council Bridge project manager several times - by email on 6 and 23 November, and finally by a successful phone call on 3 December.

While SHIRA suspects CCC is struggling to determine a design better than the initial Brian McGowan bridge design, the Council's Jay Spare indicated to the Association that...

... they are investigating in detail. Advised design is still ongoing with their Design Consultants and mesh types/options, tapering, handrail options, artistic elements and architectural changes were all being considered. Have advised Lucy Wicks of the options they were considering. The design will probably not be finalised this year.

In local media, Lucy Wicks has clearly stated there MUST be a bridge screen, but also she disagrees strongly with the initial Brian McGowan bridge screen design.

Council are working closely with her and keeping her and SHIRA apprised of developments.

Some suggestions from Council involved different coloured mesh (not the silver galvanised finish) as well as possibly "spraying" mural type images onto the mesh.

So... the investigation is ongoing to ensure Council achieve the best solution.



But their focus has never moved from a mesh solution (albeit types and options) dressed up as best as possible.

The Island's website is continuing to update a timeline of the Bridge Safety Upgrade project at sthubertsisland.nsw.au/our-island-bridge/.



SunsetSips 2021#1 @ Solstice Park
5pm Saturday 30 January

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The "Quiet Marketing" program has been very successful with several sales occurring pre-marketing. Ask us today how we can assist you in making the most of the current market – we have buyers for all home types in huge numbers.

We wish all our fellow Island residents a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year – enjoy time with family and friends, and we look forward to being of assistance to you next year.
Warmest Regards

Your Island Team – Andrew, Tom, Chris & Rob.

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ADVANCE NOTICE

SunsetSips 2021#2 @Attunga Park & Monster Easter Egg Hunt 5pm Saturday 3 April

With the sun setting at 6.47 pm, get to Attunga at 5:00 pm so you have time to eat, drink, be merry, hunt for Easter Eggs and discuss the upside-down world we now live in.



- ☒ **BBQ**
- ☒ **Hunt for Easter Eggs...**
- ☒ **and more...**

More information coming closer to the day.

Keep an eye on -

- **March edition of The Island News**
- **your personal email (if you've given it to us!)**
- **our WEBSITE**
- **our FACEBOOK page**

(See addresses in the front page Masthead.)

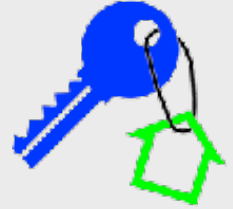


Welcome New Neighbours

... and farewell to departing friends

The Association welcomes all new residents to our relaxing and peaceful Island.

We encourage all Islanders to make our new neighbours welcome.



- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| ★ 36 Beachfront | ★ 24 Marina View |
| ★ 42 Beachfront | ★ 4 Mercator |
| ★ 10 Discovery | ★ 11 Mercator |
| ★ 64 Helmsman | ★ 41 Nautilus |
| ★ 83 Helmsman | ★ 26 Salacia |
| ★ 11 Longarm | ★ 11 Sirius |
| ★ 12 Marina View | |

House sales and transfers 8 September 2020 to 22 November 2020
(contract date ignored).

Aggregated from NSW Valuer General, Raine&Horne and allhomes.com.au.

Report

FISHOS Corner



With the water temperature warming up and not too many tourists around at the moment there should be plenty of fish around for the locals.

Brisbane water is awash with flathead, bream and blue swimmer crabs.

There are always reports of Mulloway being caught at Pittwater and at the usual hot spot, the Rip Bridge area.

Flathead are plentiful offshore, most anglers bagging out.

Today's photo is from an Ettalong Hotel fishing club member who caught this 5.2kg cleaned flathead under the St Huberts Island bridge! The fisho told me she thought she snagged a log and was lucky to land it.

Ettalong Hotel Fishing Club and Ettalong Diggers Fishing Club are always looking for active fishos to join their clubs. For further details contact Ken, Nev or Richard via the St Huberts Island website.

If you have caught a fish or two lately and want to share it with our readers, simply email your pics as well as details: where, when caught etc to the Editor Island News.

Tight lines! Ken

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From Secretary, Geoff : 0428 097 222
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