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MARCH 2021

A Word from the President

president@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

The last few months have seen ongoing discussions with Council on three main items, these being:

St Huberts Island Bridge Safety Upgrade

 On 3 March 2021, CCC advised the design is still ongoing with their Design Consultants. CCC provided feedback and the designers are incorporating the feedback and options proposed. The design finalisation is taking longer than expected. Once the design is finalised it will be provided to all interested parties. The design will still be mesh type screens.

Flood Studies and Maps

- On February 2021 CCC issued the draft of the Davistown and Empire Bay Floodplain Risk Management Plan. CCC is now studying north Woy Woy, Booker Bay, part of Blackwall and north Ettalong, as there are some low ground levels in these areas. Future developments in these low lying areas will be addressed by requiring owners to fill the land and increase floor levels as part of new development approvals.
- On 1 March 2021, CCC advised there is no current proposal to study St Huberts Island, as earlier flood maps prepared 10 years ago show

that the ground levels on the Island are higher than these other study areas by about 0.5m. The ground level near the building line is above 1.5m AHD in most cases. The top of the sea walls are about 0.9m AHD. As well, most of the floor slab levels are at 2.2m AHD or above. These earlier maps show most of the roads not subject to flooding.

• CCC also provided a copy of the Brisbane Water Floodplain Risk Management Plan 2015, which shows the Island mainly clear of flooding at present, but starting to be affected as sea level rise becomes a possibility. In future years this is likely to affect development requirements on the island, eg land filling and higher floor levels for new developments.

Pontoon Levy and Canals

• See the Secretary's Report below for more information, as he has been working on this issue.

The Association will continue to closely monitor these three items, and any others that arise.

Ken Stewart

President



Neighbourhood Watch: YES OR NO?

NO INCREASE IN CRIME? (... a car theft in January) - but PLEASE report to 13 14 44

After some research by this Editor, he has concluded that Neighbourhood Watch seems to becoming useless and a waste of time! The frustration factor has increased as Islanders receive NO FEEDBACK or specifics to act on, regarding criminal activity on OUR ISLAND - just a message to say crime has decreased/increased/remained unchanged!

Indications are Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators are just as much in the dark - they have no meetings now, cannot share experiences, no-longer receive summaries, and are unable to foster their desired good Public Relations between their Community and the Police.

Police policy and staffing seem to be the cause of this lack of communication between Police and their Communities. Police now have a policy of NOT HANDING OUT any statistics, that before was at the area command Commander's discretion. This policy change came about after a Neighbourhood Watch group shared and used their statistics in a politically motivated forum!!! Later, Neighbourhood Watch meetings were dumped and the decision made to hand out the limited information via email and phone.

So... to find out anything about criminal activity on St Huberts you need to go to the Brisbane Water Police Facebook page at <u>facebook.com/</u> <u>BrisbaneWaterPD</u>. Buried in there, and after a lot of scrolling and searching through the page, you will find anything that happened on St Huberts. Four days a week the Facebook page reports on property crime within the Brisbane Water police district.

The Facebook page of Central Coast Incident Alerts is also a VERY GOOD way to keep track of what is happening around the Coast - including Police Incidents. Check it out at <u>facebook.com/ccincidentalerts</u>.

Report all crimes to the Police Assistance Line **13 14 44**, or Crime Stoppers **1800 333 000** if you wish to remain anonymous. If you prefer **internet** to phone, you can access <u>www.police.nsw.gov.au</u>, click on to the **NSW Police Force Community Portal** and complete a nonemergency **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 few months has seen correspondence on the canals, this being:

- Council advised that as at 25 January 2021, \$491,481.25 is in the St Huberts Island Jetty Levy Fund, which has been internally restricted by Council resolution, and is protected. So we are told.
- Council say there were 47 single jetties and 30 shared jetties (ie pontoons) that should be providing fees into this fund. With the annual fee per pontoon being around \$800, then the fund should be increasing at about \$60,000 per year. And then interest is supposed to be added to these funds as well.
- The Fund was set aside and is only to be used for maintenance and improvements within the canals. The canals are Council land, submerged Council land, they have a Deposited Plan number and even a street address. Council own them.
- To date there has been no Council maintenance of the Canals, and this is urgently required, particularly regarding depletion of Council sand in front of resident's sea walls, with the result that many walls have moved or fallen over.
- Council have said that scraping of dry sand on canal waterfront properties can be carried out by residents by hand to
 depths of no more than 300mm. But that is of no use, when there is no sand left on the beach, and it is at the bottom of the
 canal. That's where the sand is, and Council need to return that sand and restore the beaches, and so protect the sea walls.
- In February, another resident wrote to the Association about their sea wall being in jeopardy due to removal/erosion of sands. This is on ongoing issue and major concern for island residents.

Geoff Flynn <u>secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au</u>

MARCH 2021

Brisbane Water Boating Maps

Many Islander boaties probably already know about these, or they might even have them at home or on-board.

But... if not... NSW Waterways has a huge repository of "Boating Maps for NSW waterways", found online at

https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime/using-waterways/navigationcommunication/maps.html

PDF versions of maps can be found for all waterways under the categories of:

- North Coast maps *
- Hunter Inland maps
- Hawkesbury River/Broken Bay maps *
- Sydney maps
- South Coast maps
- Murray Inland maps *
- * Coastal maps
- Australian Capital Territory maps

If you are specifically after the Brisbane Water map, it is here https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/documents/maritime/usingwaterways/maps/ boating-maps/8b-brisbane-broken-terrigal.pdf

... although it is also on the St Huberts website at sthubertsisland.nsw.au/maps.

(And if you have a good magnifying glass it is also below!!)



Report...

Santa on the Water

On Wednesday 23 December 2020, the sun came out and Santa hit the water. The Coronavirus did

Island Chef Recipe

This recipe courtesy of ALDI/Editor of The Island News.



As the weather cools it's time for this sort of dish and it can be a quick fall-back for a time poor family.

Feeds 4-6 people or 2-3 meals as left-overs

Mayonnaise & Chutney Chicken

Ingredients:

- ♦ 6 to 8 chicken thigh fillets
- 2 onions finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic chopped
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 3/4 to 1 cup chutney (spicy/plain/choose)
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup water
- salt & pepper
- (served with white/brown rice or mixed salad)

Method:

- 1. Preheat oven to 160°C
- 2. Season chicken with salt and pepper and place in ovenproof casserole dish
- 3. Sauté onions gently on low heat for 10 to 15 mins until the onions are soft and have a golden colour
- 4. Add 1/4 cup water, chopped garlic and Worcestershire sauce to the onions
- 5. Mix in onion mix with chutney and mayonnaise, and pour sauce over chicken
- 6. Cover casserole dish and bake in oven at 160°C for $1 \frac{1}{2}$ hours

For a bit of variety, add cut or button mushrooms, or season the chicken with herbs of your choice.

On a cold night serve with rice or pasta of choice or for a balmy evening, a fresh mixed salad works well.

(FYI - This recipe is based on a South African dish called "Vra-Na-Meer-Hoender" or "Ask for more chicken".

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!

With Santa suitably isolated in the fresh air on the bow of his aquatic "sleigh" waving to all and sundry, and Captain Rod Wenzel and the Brisbane Water Brass Band all meeting the COVID group number and spacing requirements on the bridge, "Doctors Orders" set sail from Marina Cove about 5.30pm for their clockwise Christmas Cheer trip around the waters and canals of the Island.

With his flotilla of cruisers, tinnies, a jet-ski and fishing boats, Santa worked his way slowly around to Sandy Cove and Sandy Inlet via the canals in between.

not stop him, his transport or his musicians.

Islanders were spotted in many vantage points to wave back to Santa and listen to the "brass" carols, as well as groups of Main-Landers (?) along the shores of the Merritts Wharf channel, where he was preceded by three canoes from Central Coast Outriggers.



St Huberts Island History #1

The Association is in possession of a range of historical material pertaining to the development of St Huberts Island as we now know it. While it is the intention of the SHIRA Committee to place all this History on the website, this is a large task, and not quite begun yet. Meantime, a little bit of our documents etc will be dribbled out through the pages of The Island News.

A 1935 photo looking south across Broken Bay and Lion Island to Pittwater.

The opening at Half Tide Rocks looks huge (high tide?), no Rip Bridge, and a very bare Rileys Island at the bottom. (Credited to a Mr Dominey)









THE ISLAND NEWS

March 2021

CRIME ON THE ISLAND

The Island News was very near its (very late) completion when a very distressing crime was reported on St Huberts.

The Editor had already sounded off in the Neighbourhood Watch section on Page 2 about the unimpressive nature of the Police policy regarding crime reporting, and the possible issue of Islanders NOT REPORTING ISLAND CRIME to Police.

Then about 11:30 pm on Thursday 11 March a woman was assaulted in a house on Beachfront Parade. To date, details are a bit messy and confusing including: the man was unknown to the woman?; it was a home invasion?; the man was known to the woman?; it was a targeted invasion?; and more. Police indicated punching and kicking and personal items were stolen.

A helicopter landed at Ettalong in the early hours of the next morning to transfer the woman to John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle. Last reports were the woman was in a stable condition. **[STOP PRESS - the woman is OK and at home]**

This crime follows on from other crimes on St Huberts that only a few of us were aware of and only reported to Neighbourhood Watch as "no spike in crime on St Huberts Island", for example (after working backwards through Police Facebook pages) -

- ♦ on approximately 22 Dec 2020 there was a theft of a Toyota Corolla that led to the arrest of a 17 yo from Watanobbi a few days later
- ✤ 19 January, a steal from motor vehicle
- ♦ a number of steal from motor vehicles and subsequent frauds
- ♦ some time around 13-25 February the theft of a boat trailer from Beachfront

With our current state of Neighbourhood Watch reporting I fear the June newsletter report will be "No spike in Crime on SHI" again!!!

Brag...

Blue Swimmer Crabs

Serial BRAGGER, Martin Wellington is amongst the crabs AGAIN!! Seven of them, all legal and landed by net-man and off-sider Bruce Halliday - both from Boyd Close.

Unfortunately they were caught in mid-January, so they might have gone off by now (sigh!).



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 3 monthly - March, June, September & December, and is delivered to all Island residents by letterbox in the first or second week of these months. Article deadline will be the start of the last full week of the preceding month and Advertising one week before the Article deadline.

DISCLAIMER

While the Editor and the Association accepts advertisements in good faith in this newsletter, we cannot provide any form of guarantee for the goods or services provided. Opinions and comments expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Committee.

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.

- ★ 22 Attunga
- ★ 30 Beachfront
- ★ 10 Discovery
- ★ 58 Helmsman
- ★ 109 Helmsman
- ★ 19 Marina View
- ★ 24 Marina View
- ★ 9 Weatherly

House sales and transfers 20 November 2020 to 5 March 2021 (contract date ignored). Aggregated from NSW Valuer General, Raine&Horne and allhomes.com.au.

Report

FISHOS Corner

There are heaps of flathead, bream and blue swimmers in the Brisbane Water, Woy Woy channel and Tascott area being hot spots.

As usual Mulloway are being caught at Pittwater and of course the Rip Bridge area.

Flathead are plentiful offshore, most anglers bagging out.

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

From the Editor ...

A very late newsletter this edition for several reasons. We initially held back preparation waiting for final information from Council regarding the design of the Bridge Safety Barrier, only to be told that there is nothing new yet - see the President's report. We also sought out more information from the Neighbourhood Watch Police people, but got basically nothing again - thus my rant in the piece on page 2. And again, we were waiting for some information from Council regarding the Floodplain issues impacting on the Island (also in the President's report). And kudos to Jay Spare at Council who has been more than approachable and helpful in all our dealings to date after the new staffing shuffles at CCC.

Steve islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

Feature...

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MARCH 2021



"A Brief Primer"

The following is taken from the 2015 CARDNO "Brisbane Water Foreshore - Floodplain Risk Management Plan" prepared for the previous Gosford City Council.

It is a Study and Plan that does not really address the impact of (unknown) sea-level rise due to Climate Change, but does refer to it from time to time.

If you are a low-lying owner/resident of Brisbane Water, the CARDNO Plan (163 pages, 9.4MB PDF file) is "almost" compulsory reading while the massive Study (509 pages, 69.2MB PDF file) is heavier going.

Although both are available for download from the CCC website, they can be hard to find, so they are available for download from the Island's website at style.com the style.

<u>Glossary</u>

The whole Floodplain issue is drowned in acronyms. Here are those used above				
(See pp xii - xv in the Cardno Plan document for the lot.)				
AHD	(Australian Height Datum) A common national surface level datum approximately corresponding to mean sea level.			
FPL	Flood Planning Level			
PMF	(Probable maximum flood) The flood calculated to be the maximum that is likely to occur			
Wave Run-up	The maximum vertical extent of wave uprush on a beach or foreshore structure above the design still water level.			

Following is but a small taste of what to expect...

FIRSTLY, information from a Council email to SHIRA regarding flooding and St Huberts Island:

There is NO current proposal to study flooding on St Huberts Island, as earlier flood maps prepared 10 years ago show that the ground levels on the Island are higher than other study areas, by about 0.5m. The ground level near the building line is above 1.5m AHD in most cases. The top of the sea walls are about 0.9m AHD. As well, most of the floor slab levels are at 2.2m AHD or above. These earlier maps show most of the roads not subject to flooding.

In most cases the Council currently require new floor level at 2.2m AHD, but this may gradually increase with time, due to concern of sea level rise.

(EDITOR: the Editor's house was built very early in the St Huberts Island development and has a floor level at 2.35m AHD, and an extension in 2006 required a GCC mandated 2.45m AHD floor level.)

The concern in the recent study areas (Empire Bay, Davistown, Woy Woy and surroundings) is there are some very low level areas, even down to 1.2m AHD. For future redevelopment of those sites, the applicants may be require to add fill to raise the ground level.



Some brief History

The flood event used to determine the existing FPL for the Brisbane Water foreshore floodplain was the May 1974 severe ocean storm which resulted in a range of flood levels being recorded across the floodplain. A single recorded flood level from one of these locations of 1.92m AHD (taken as 1.95m AHD for planning purposes) was used to develop flood planning levels. The current flood planning level is set at 2.45m AHD. This planning level incorporates the 1.95m AHD observed 1974 level, with the addition of 0.5m freeboard to account for uncertainty (e.g. additional flood impacts resulting from wave and wind set-up, wave run-up and potential climate change).

In the 2015 Cardno Floodplain Plan it was indicated that tidal/ocean flooding from severe ocean storms is the main issue for foreshore areas rather than catchment waters, and that wind and swell induced waves can impact up to 40 metres from the foreshore edge (page iii). Sea level rise would see more properties flooded more regularly, deeper floods and more affected properties. Wave run-up, increased by wind and swell, is also a significant occurrence that needs to be considered.



Brisbane Water Drive Koolewong

Gosford Waterfront

Woy Woy Public Wharf