



# The Island News

'The Central Coast's Island in the Sun'

Newsletter: [islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto:islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au)

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ST HUBERTS ISLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC  
PO BOX 247, ET TALONG BEACH 2257

**September 2021**

## IN THIS ISSUE...

<b>Page 2</b>	<b>Page 3</b>	<b>Page 4</b>	<b>Page 5</b>	<b>Page 6</b>	<b>Page 7</b>	<b>Page 8</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Word from the President</li> <li>Neighbourhood Watch Report - Sort Of...</li> <li>From the Secretary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SHIRA, Central Coast Council and Canal Maintenance AGAIN!!!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Huberts Island History book reprint</li> <li>Island News Editor resigns</li> <li>SHIRA needs new Editor and more...</li> </ul>	ADVERTISERS	ADVERTISERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TWO FILMS:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Woy Woy The Venice of Australia</li> <li>Peninsular Paradise</li> </ul> </li> <li>Welcome to New Neighbours</li> <li>Fishos Report + BRAGs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TIDBITS</li> <li>Articles, Advertising &amp; Disclaimer</li> <li>From the Editor</li> </ul>

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

2021 Sunday November 7	<b>St Huberts Day FAMILY BBQ</b>	Advance Notice
Long Arm Park	11am	(Scheduled but uncertain)
2022 Thursday March 10	<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>A combined 2021 &amp; 2022 AGM</b>



## YOUR ISLAND NEEDS YOU...

### OR... YOUR Residents Association MAY BE DISBANDED

In late 1976, a group of concerned and motivated residents was formed to assist, guide, and protect the Island as it was being developed, housing lots sold, homes built, and interact with the Developer and the Council on behalf of Islanders. Some names considered were "Protection Society" and "Preservation Society" until finally agreed to be the "St Huberts Island Residents Association" (SHIRA). SHIRA has existed continuously since then to inform Island residents, assemble the views of Island residents, and speak on behalf of Island residents – particularly with Council. SHIRA's Constitution can be found on our website, and we are registered with Fair Trading as an Incorporated Association.

### The need for SHIRA is just as much now as then

Island residents are now spending between \$1million to \$3million on their dream properties, and soon it will be even more. But the value of all these assets could be potentially threatened by Council and Government decisions (sometimes random and erratic) on house design floor levels, planning consents, flood maps, global warming, canal non-maintenance, and any other issues topical at the time. The Island is potentially vulnerable to all these issues, and so are your homes.

We need Island residents to be interested in their houses, their biggest asset, and their futures.

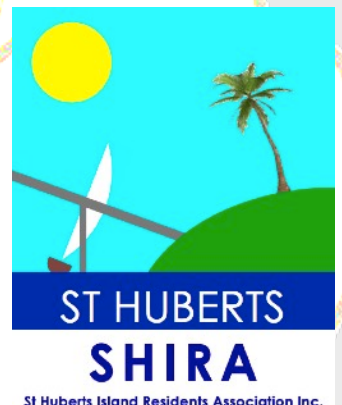
SHIRA NEEDS YOU, and you need SHIRA. The SHIRA Committee consists of:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Committee Members (3 to 6...or more)

Committee members tend to do the "back-room" work for the Association and Island residents.

Their responsibilities include:

- \* Public Officer
- \* Newsletter Editor
- \* Newsletter Advertisers management
- \* Webmaster
- \* Membership
- \* Social Activities, etc



Our next AGM will be held in March 2022, having being delayed by Covid. At this meeting, all positions will be declared vacant. Some office holders are now in their 80s, and are looking for younger Island residents to step up. Our current Public Officer/Webmaster/newsletter Editor will also not be standing again as he will soon be leaving the Island, so we desperately and urgently need someone with good computer skills, otherwise the Newsletter will stop and the Website cease. **This could be the LAST issue.**

Indeed, if Island residents are not interested in joining SHIRA then we could stop also, and be disbanded. The choice is **YOURS**.

If you are interested in joining the Committee, then please contact the Secretary asap on email: [secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au), or phone Geoff Flynn on 0428 097 222. We need to know that you want SHIRA, otherwise we may reluctantly have to consider disbanding it.

**ADVANCE NOTICE**

**2022 AGM Thursday 10 March @ The Cove Hall 7:30pm - 2021 AGM now cancelled**

## A Word from the President

[president@sthubertisland.nsw.au](mailto:president@sthubertisland.nsw.au)

The Annual General Meeting was listed for the 11th March 2021 and the Cove Hall was booked but COVID-19 intervened, with restrictions on gatherings and it was adjourned several times until the present situation whereby we will not have an Annual General Meeting until March 2022.

Given the uncertainty of when the COVID-19 restrictions will cease there seems little purpose in calling a meeting to elect office bearers when such meeting is required to be held in March 2022 if there are then no restrictions on gathering. All current Committee Members will remain in their present position until then. (*Ed: see elsewhere in this newsletter.*)

However to meet the requirements of the Fair Trading Department, a financial statement has been lodged by the ever efficient Public Officer and I thank Steve Steele for his efforts in that regard.

The imposed COVID restrictions by the State Government also saw this year's remaining "SunsetSips" get together go the same with these also currently on hold.

Resident rate payers are familiar with the debacle following dismissal of the elected Council members and that Elections are to be held. Given that there is a very substantial deficit in Council's income, please pay close attention to the policies of those standing for election, particularly those Alderpersons who are seeking re-election (if permitted). Irrespective of what happens it would appear the ratepayers of the Central Coast are faced with substantial increases in their rates.

Please be assured that despite the current difficulties, our Association has been diligent in relation to significant issues such as the dredging of Canals, protection of retaining sea walls etc.

Formally, now a piece of good news – there has been an update of the publication of the history of the Island, and it is available for purchase at a cost of \$25.00 and I recommend it to you – a great gift. Again Steve Steele much appreciated.

Ken Stewart  
President



### Neighbourhood Watch:

As there is virtually no more Neighbourhood Watch in Brisbane Water, using the information below is the best way to discover what is happening (crime-wise) on and about the Island.

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](http://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.

**Use these online resources to find out about crime in our area:**

- **The Brisbane Water Police Facebook page at [facebook.com/BrisbaneWaterPD](https://facebook.com/BrisbaneWaterPD). Buried in there, and after a lot of scrolling and searching through the page, you will find anything that happened on St Huberts, elsewhere in the Brisbane Water Local Area Command. 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 at [facebook.com/ccincidentalerts](https://facebook.com/ccincidentalerts). is also a VERY GOOD way to keep track of what is happening around the Coast - including Police Incidents.**

### From the Secretary

#### SAND, SAND COME AGAIN

Most Island residents with canal frontages are continually worried about the erosion/washing away/movement/disappearance of the sand from the beaches of their canal frontage. The loss of this sand not only looks bad, reduces the useable beach, but most importantly allows for undermining of the concrete sea walls.

These sea walls are on resident's properties. They are the responsibility of the home owner, so any damage to these walls is at the home owner's expense. A canal inspection, at any time, will show around 10 properties where the sea walls have moved, leaning over, or just fallen over due to the loss of the sand from the beach.

The Association has written to the Council many times on this issue, and several times in the last few months. But Council is refusing to do any maintenance – they are just burying their heads in the sand (excuse the pun). The full context of Council's latest reply (10 Aug 21) is provided elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The Association has replied:

*"The canals need urgent attention, for the reasons as outlined in our email of 19 May 21. Council cannot avoid maintenance of their land, and still collect the annual fee of \$800 per pontoon owner. Residents ask "... why should we keep paying this money..." (which is restricted by Council for supposed canal maintenance).*

*Once the Covid lockdown and restrictions are lifted, we request to meet with Council on site and show them the current condition of the canals and discuss this matter further. We will provide the boat for our inspection."*

The Association has also written to Council requesting Council review their Development Provisions that limit the size of moored boats in the canals to 10 metres, as this limit restricts canal property owners.

Geoff Flynn

[secretary@sthubertisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertisland.nsw.au)

## SHIRA Continues to Push for Canal Maintenance!

To date there is more than **half a million dollars** (\$500,000) in the Central Coast Council's restricted "St Huberts Island Jetty Fund" that is earmarked solely for the maintenance of the Canals of St Huberts Island. By our estimates the Fund increases by more than \$60,000 each year as all Canal Pontoon owners pay their annual (currently) \$843 fee to use Council land.

As indicated so many times in the past, the canals are owned by the Council. They are described as drainage reserves and like any block of land, have a Lot Number. SHIRA views these blocks of Council land like any other block - if a block is not maintained and causes damage to any adjoining blocks of land, then that block owner is responsible for the damage caused by their property, in this case the Council.

Despite Council continually telling us our seawalls are on our land - originally 300mm in from our (water side) boundary line - and thus our responsibility, it is Council land that is causing the damage to our seawalls by the loss/movement of their sands exposing and undermining our seawalls.

**While we understand Council's reluctance to act, they must act! They are sitting on our half million dollars that is meant for their canal maintenance works.**

**They must meet with SHIRA - as they have many times already - but with the intention of using this canal maintenance fund to somehow - by discussion - repair, maintain and improve the canals.**

All Islanders, especially Canal owners, need to stay on Council's back over this matter. We must ("wet" and "dry") try to maintain the visual amenity that is a significant component of St Huberts desirability. Even dry blocks benefit in many ways from this amenity - as proven by the recent significant increase in ALL sale prices on the Island.

The Association recently received this email from Peter Sheath, "Section Manager, Flood Strategy and Planning", Central Coast Council.

As indicated within the email, the new Council contact person for our Canal maintenance is Ben Fullagar, "Section Manager Catchments to Coast".



**... and there are a lot worse than this one!!**

---

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 11:06 AM

**To:** [secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au)

**Cc:** Ben Fullagar <[Ben.Fullagar@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ben.Fullagar@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Response: St Huberts Island Canals - Need Urgent Maintenance by Council

Hi Geoff

I refer to your email dated 19/5/21, your follow up email dated 7/7/21, and your second follow up email today.\

In our records I note that I responded to your 19/5/21 email on 20/5/21 (CX210519-000342) and your 7/7/21 email on 8/7/21 (CX210707-000028). But I note that within Council's Customer Exchange system these responses were automatically directed to the email address [@bigpond.net.au](mailto:@bigpond.net.au) as it is the contact email that Council has registered for SHIRA. I have now updated this contact email for SHIRA to avoid these same problems in future.

But I will repeat my previous response from 19/5/21 and 8/7/21 again below:

*From recent inspections the canals do not require dredging. Council has not had navigation complaints. Indeed the navigation channels around the island appear significantly shallower than the canals.*

*Note that stability of the seawalls in front of each property is the responsibility of each landowner. Given that most of these seawalls have been in place for over 30 years then many are likely to be beyond the end of their useful life and require replacement, especially if they have not been maintained.*

*As previously mentioned, residents are allowed to scrape the foreshore in front of their properties; but not by machine, given the likely presence of acid sulphate soils at 0.5m depth and below, which exposed is likely to result in a fish kill event. Council cannot control the type of sediment on the foreshore, most of which is silty sand. In some areas it will be finer and some areas coarser.*

*If sand is imported in then it is likely to be washed into the canals, which may restrict safe navigation within the canals. So I cannot see any management action other than minor beach scraping.*

*Please note that I am no longer the Manager responsible for the canals. For future correspondence please contact Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast.*

FYI: I have copied Ben Fullagar into this e-mail, whom is the ongoing contact for this matter.

Regards



# The St Huberts Island History has arrived (reprinted)

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# ST HUBERTS ISLAND

1788 - 2000

## AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

1985

C.J. Moye Ph.D.

## Contents

"Illustrations" list	4
Introduction	5
Discovery	6
Early Days	8
Father Cornelius Dominic Coghlan	10
Saint Hubert	12
The Development of St Huberts Island	14
Geology	14
Early Days	14
Developments from 1961 to 1970	26
Developments Post 1971	32
Beachfront Subdivision	35
Local Attitude	35
Covenants	35
St Huberts Island Bridge	35
Island Affairs and Anecdotes	40
Enterprises	40
Residents' Reminiscences	42
Gary Shields	42
Andrew Colquhoun	46
The Sneddon family	47
The Colleys	47
Robyn Mazur	48
Noel Riley	48
David Strong	48
The Davidsons	49
Helen Kinnane	49
'As Time Goes By'	50
Typical of Attitudes!	52
Island Activities	53
The Island Residents Association	53
The Bicentenary Re-enactment	55
Lost Opportunity - Federation Grant	57
St Huberts Island Picnic Day	57
St Huberts Island Garden Club	59
The Island Insignia	59
Appendices	61 - 88
Addendum	89
Father Coghlan's Death Certificate	90
Geographical Names Board - "St Huberts Island"	90

## Illustrations

Page	Page
Location Map	5
The Monument and Inscriptions	7
Captain John Hunter's Map	8
Father C. D. Coghlan	10
Father Coghlan's Will	11
Lithograph of Saint Hubert	13
Waterways Survey (1901)	15
Land Purchase Document (56/2249)	17
Bank Subdivision DP4904 (Abandoned)	19
Bank Auction Sale Advertisement	20
R. Kinnane's Advertisement	21
Swallow's Subdivision DP2095	25
Roder's Purchase DP432477	24
Roder's Reclaimed Land - Portion 448	25
Gazetted - Interim Development Order - 24/12/1969	27
Gazetted - Replacement clause 4 to Interim	27
Development Order - 10/9/1971	27
Gazetted - Extra purposes added to clause 3 of Interim	27
Development Order - 15/10/1976	27
View looking south showing 'causeways'	28
Another view of 'causeways' looking to the north west	28
Ex. Early Official Map	29
Proposed development of both Islands	30
Subdivision proposal for Rileys Island	31
'Wasteland'	33
Hooker-Rex Advertisement	34
Beachfront Subdivision	36
Beachfront Land Prices	37
St Huberts Bridge - onto the Island and	38
- viewed from Merritts Wharf side	38
Bridge underpinning, reported in The Island News	39
The Huberts eating watermelons	40
Mr Holbert going fishing	40
Heather Holbert's Birth Certificate	41
"The Farm"	43
Hand sketch of "The Schoolhouse"	44
Early photograph of Beachfront Parade	45
Obituaries of Mr and Mrs Kinnane	49
Tree Planting Regulations	50
"A toney development" - rezoning rejected	52
First Residents Committee	55
Association Model Rules	55
"St Huberts Island Throws a Party"	56
Re-enactment - Landing Party	56
Island B.B.Q. (now Sausage Sizzle)	58

## Steve Steele Farewell

SHIRA has regretfully accept the resignation of Steve from our Committee as Steve and his wife Gail are leaving the Island and relocating to the North Coast. Steve has been continuously on the Committee since 2010, and has held the role of Public Officer (as our Fair Trading contact), Newsletter Editor and Website Manager. Through his vast IT skills, the Newsletter has expanded from the plain little 4 page basic Newsletter to a vibrant, interesting and newsworthy 8 page A4 Newsletter with graphics and good local advertising which is very time consuming. Similarly, the website has been developed as a comprehensive summary of the history of the Island, all the issues and the people involved with the Island.

Steve also took it upon himself to edit and manage the reprint of the St Huberts History Book, which was initially prepared for the 2000 Bicentennial. This updated version has been no easy feat either and also needs to be acknowledged.

The Committee wishes to give Steve a big thank-you and we, and all the Islanders, extend our good wishes to Steve and Gail in their move north. Steve will be sadly missed by us all.

Geoff Flynn  
[secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au)

[EDITOR: Feels really strange inserting this piece from the Secretary!!!]

*This History of St Huberts Island was initially researched, created and authored for the Australian Bicentenary by a small group of dedicated and dogged Islanders over several years.*

- ❖ It has now been reprinted with most of the photos, images, charts and documents significantly improved in quality and clarity.
- ❖ A treasure trove of: history, maps, diagrams, anecdotes, sketches, reminiscences, missed chances, local attitudes, Arthur Phillip discovery, our naming, death and birth certificates, subdivisions, historical documents... and a lot more!
- ❖ (As long as COVID allows!) you can wow everyone with your amazing knowledge and trivia of St Huberts Island. Do it at the dinner party, the next BBQ, a family get-together, your next online/Zoom quiz-night... and so many more occasions!
- ❖ A great addition sitting beside your other treasured books on your bookshelf. Or... give it as a gift to a friend (on or off the Island), neighbour, family member, new Island resident, (very!) **late FATHERS DAY present...** and so many more possible recipients!

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## SHIRA DESPERATELY NEEDS...

Our current Public Officer, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster - Steve Steele - will NOT be standing again as he will soon be leaving the Island.

We **DESPERATELY** and **URGENTLY** need someone with *creativity, editorial talents and computer skills* as **EDITOR** for our Newsletter, otherwise this could be the **LAST ISSUE**.

The next person we will need is a **WEBMASTER**, to manage, maintain and improve the Island's website.

If interested, please contact the Secretary ASAP on email: [secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au), or phone Geoff Flynn on 0428 097 222.

Steve will be happy to support the changeover for anyone willing to take on these jobs (from a distance!).



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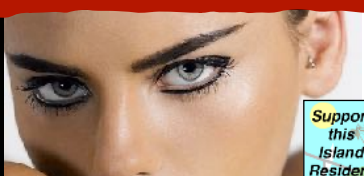
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From Secretary, Geoff : 0428 097 222  
or [secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au)

## Raine&Horne. 4341 7111

Your Island Team: Andrew, Tom, Chris, and Rob  
63 Helmsman Boulevard, St Huberts Island

DID  
YOU  
KNOW

Don't over price your property - whilst using "contact agent" or "new to market" instead of advertising a price will allow for a short time to test the market and see what the market will pay - after that, if your advertised price is over market value it may lag behind others priced correctly.

It will go stale and interest will be less and buyers cautious.

Raine&Horne.

rh.com.au



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## Woy Woy - "The Venice of Australia"



and

## Peninsular Paradise



In 1936 Claude Fleming's 7 minute film, Woy-Woy "The Venice of Australia" introduced the Peninsula to the world. It was commissioned by the then Woy Woy Council in 1935, and screened in picture theatres around Australia.

On Wednesday 26th October 2016 at Cinema Paradiso a follow-up to Claude's film had its world premier. The Gala was sold out, and played for two weeks on high rotation.

This was the 40 minute film "Peninsular Paradise" created by then Island resident Vivian Sale. It was also released on DVD at the cost of \$15 with \$2 going to Mary Mac's Place at Woy Woy. DVDs have all gone but Vivian has given permission for SHIRA to place the film on the website so it not fade into history.

The film is the story of a young girl named Sally who travels with her Uncle to the Peninsula in 1936 then again in 2016. It's been 80 years since the original Woy Woy "Venice of Australia" film was released and so much has changed.

We follow Sally, her Uncle and friends as she moves through the Peninsula again, 80 years later.

The original and new films are interleaved, covering the 1936 and 2016 venues with new and changed areas, added information, interviews and anecdotes.

From the DVD case, and as spoken by the "2016 Champion of Champions" Town Crier - Stephen Clarke - in the introduction to Peninsular Paradise...

*"Travel in time through the Peninsula, on the NSW Central Coast, as we explore the old 1936 black and white film, Woy Woy Venice of Australia, through to 2016.*

*Peninsular Paradise is the story of how our lifestyle has changed over 80 years, but also showing how our beautiful environment has not.*

*The beaches, national parks, waterways and Lion Island are still as they were, to be enjoyed by us all and our future generations.*

*Walk with us to enjoy with wonder, our Peninsular Paradise, yesterday and today."*

"Peninsular Paradise" is a quality production. Vivien contacted a well know Empire Bay film-maker with her intention and ideas and he was on-board immediately and eagerly. A script writer was found, as were five on-screen presenters, a sound man and two interns. Vivien has a lot of experience with live theatre, and this was her first experience with film. She was particularly taken with the perfection the director wanted, with much viewing of rushes (the footage shot during the day), and the need for many re-shoots of segments. While Vivien did not appear in front of the camera, she was given the role of Executive Producer (to keep her out of the way??), but she still found it a very emotional stage of her life during the development, shooting, post production and "marketing" of her baby.

She was (only a little) distressed that St Huberts couldn't be included in the documentary - we are technically not part of the Peninsula, but between two!

**Watch BOTH of these films in the History section of the Island's website at [sthubertsisland.nsw.au/history](http://sthubertsisland.nsw.au/history).**



## 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.



- ★ 21 Attunga
- ★ 128 Helmsman
- ★ 7 Marina View
- ★ 6 Nautilus
- ★ 27 Nautilus
- ★ 8 Sirius
- ★ 25 Weatherly

House sales and transfers 26 May 2021 to 4 September 2021

(contract date ignored).

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

## Report

### FISHOS Corner

Outside flathead are being taken at the usual flathead grounds with most fishos bagging out.

Water temperature is hovering around 17°C.

Inside not much is happening. The green slime is a menace and not many catches have been reported. The system needs a good flush!

The occasional flathead is being landed inside and the occasional mullet is being taken in the Rip Bridge area.

Today's photos [left] are from a Michael who caught this nice plate sized luderick off Hardys Bay Wharf and from Ken with a nice flounder and flathead caught outside.

Etalong Hotel Fishing Club and Etalong 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





## Tidbits...

### ✿ Killcare Surf Life Saving Club Needs You More Than Ever !!!!!

Killcare Surf Club needs new members to join and be trained to gain their bronze medallions, so that they can maintain their half day patrols.



The challenging pandemic times we are living in will gradually improve as our vaccinations reach higher levels. Surf Life Saving Australia and Killcare Surf Life Saving Club are committed to doing all that is possible to reduce any potential health risks to our volunteer members.

If you are 16 years of age or older, we would like to train you to become a surf life saver!

The benefits include improving your swimming fitness and skills, learning first aid and resuscitation, making new friends, and saving lives on our beach! This is a vital community volunteer service. New members will be most welcome.

This year we are encouraging all of our members and new members to register online. It is quick and easy and it just helps everybody stay safe.

Simply google: 'Join Killcare Surf Club'.

For further information contact:  
Vic Wilmot, on 4360 2836.

### ✿ No 2021 AGM... Next AGM will be 2022



As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, just before this newsletter went to press, the SHRA Committee received approval from the Department of Fair Trading to effectively CANCEL our 2021 AGM as a result of the restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The relevant excerpts from the notification are:

#### Re: ST HUBERTS ISLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC - Y0803831

*I refer to your Application for extension of time to hold the Association's annual general meeting received on 27/08/2021.*

*The Application has been granted. The Association is now required to hold its annual general meeting on or before 10/03/2022.*

*The Association is required to lodge its Annual summary of financial affairs for the financial year ending 28/02/2021 within one month of the date on which the annual general meeting is held, being no later than 30 days after 10/03/2022.*

#### COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

*Fair Trading will not take any compliance action where an association is unable to meet its statutory obligations in holding an AGM and undertaking its financial reporting due to circumstances related to COVID-19. This will not apply to circumstances where there are concerns of wrongdoing or misconduct.*

SHIRA attempted to hold the 2021 AGM on Thursday 11 March, then postponed it to 12 August, and now 10 March 2022. As a result, the Association will have effectively two AGMs in one in 2022 - the 2021 AGM to present the legislated Annual Financial Summary to members, then the same for the 2022 financials. As usual, at this AGM all Committee member positions will be declared vacant and a new Committee for 2022 will be nominated and voted in.

### ✿ More Island History Photos

SHIRA is in possession of many old photos and aerial slides of the development of the Island during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

This slide would be most likely around 1970 - there is no Rip Bridge that was finished in 1974, but more significantly no evidence of the Island Bridge opened in 1971.



### ✿ More Fisho Bragging

Who caught a big feed of flathead and one big leather jacket offshore in mid-August? Bruce Halliday from Boyd Close and his son Scott of course!

You might know Bruce's name from serial bragger Martin Wellington.

They were a fishing team until Bruce accidentally (OK... I admit, not really) knocked Martin overboard so now Bruce, and frequently Scott are replacing Martin as serial braggers.



*Come on now Islanders, there must be more fishos here that are easily able to knock our current school (!) of braggers of their wharves and boats!*

### ✿ Dog Walker - anyone?

An Island resident wants to walk dogs.

Phone Finn on 0472 750 837 to discuss who/what/when/where/why/and \$.

I am assured he has very reasonable rates.



#### NEWSLETTER ARTICLES & ADVERTISING

Information, articles or advertising copy can be sent to the Editor (Stephen Steele) at [islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto: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.

#### (Last word) From the Editor...

Once again, SHIRA tries to get some benefit from our \$500,000+ Canal Maintenance Fund. Also more Island history - two films and an old photo... a lead-in to the reprinted History book. The newsletter was ready for print, but then... Sad times for this Editor as this will be my last newsletter. A series of reasons (that occurred in Aug/Sept) meant this Editor and his Bride have reluctantly decided to leave this wonderful St Huberts Island. SHIRA will be eagerly after a new Editor ASAP for the December newsletter and into the future. PLEASE... if you can step up for this enjoyable and POWERFUL (☺) role, email The Island News or the Secretary. Bye, good times and keep SHIRA strong. It is needed!!

Steve [islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto:islandnews@sthubertsisland.nsw.au)