

The Island News

"The Central Coast's Island in the Sun"

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

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March 2022

2022 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- March 10 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at 7.30pm at 25 Mercator Pde
- April 2 Saturday SUNSET SIPS 2022#2 Attunga Park 5pm @ ATTUNGA Enjoy End of Daylight Saving

Annual General Meeting Thursday 10 March at 7.30pm, at 25 Mercator Pde



(please bring a chair) refreshments provided after meeting.

We need Island residents to be interested in their Island, 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
- Public Officer
- Committee members (3 to 6) who work in the back room of SHIRA.

At the meeting, all positions will be declared vacant. Some office holders are now in their 80's and are looking for younger Island residents to step up.

SHIRA needs you to get interested in your Island and your houses and future. WHAT ABOUT IT!! **IT'S YOUR FUTURE**

For the benefit of OUR ISLAND and YOU and your FAMILY, our new Committee voted in at this Thursday's AGM, need to continue with asking/ pestering Council. **WE NEED A STRONG COMMITTEE**.

If interested please ring the Secretary (Geoff 0428 097 222) to attend the next Committee Meeting on 2 March to see what is involved.

Annual General Meeting 2022	Nomination of Committee Members to the New Committee
Nominations for the election of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee members	
Person Proposed:	For Position:
Nominated by (two Members of the Association):	
(nominator name)	(nominator signature)
(nominator name)	(nominator signature)
Consent of the Candidate:	
(candidate signature))
	email to the Secretary before the day of the AGM at: pertsisland.nsw.au OR Geoff at 25 Mercator Pde
Note: Nominators and	Nominees MUST be paid-up Members of the Association

A Word from the President

president@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

YOUR ISLAND NEEDS YOU

In late 1976, a group of concerned and motivated Island residents was formed to assist, guide, and protect the Island as it was being developed, housing lots sold, houses built, and the interaction with the Developer and the Council. Some names considered was "Protection Society", "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.

<u>The need for SHIRA is just as much now as then</u>. Island residents are now spending between \$1million to \$4million 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 houses.

We need Island residents to be interested in their houses, their biggest asset, and their futures. SHIRA NEEDS YOU, and you need SHIRA. Our AGM will be held on Thursday 10 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.

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: <u>secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au</u>, or phone Geoff Flynn on 0428 097 222. We need to know that you want SHIRA, otherwise we may relluctantly have to consider disbanding it. IT'S UP TO YOU.

Ken Stewart

Secretary's Report

- Well, the decision on the final design for the St Huberts Island Bridge Safety Barrier has been made. SHIRA received the Central Coast Council letter on 16 December 2021. The Council letter was self-explanatory. **Option C has been selected**, this being stainless steel tension mesh, 40x40mm grid of 2mm wire with steel posts at about 4.2m cts in a triangular (sail) shape. SHIRA has forwarded the Council letter to all Islanders who have registered their email address with us.
- SHIRA did **not** nominate a choice of the 3 design Options initially offered by Council. That was up to Islanders to choose and so reply directly to Council.
- This project remains funded by the Australian Government through the Central Coast Roads Package. Construction on this project is forecast to commence in April 2022, weather and any unforeseen circumstances permitting
- SHIRA will keep Islanders informed of progress and any future correspondence with Council.

Geoff Flynn secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au





SunsetSips 2022#2 @ ATTUNGA Park 5pm Saturday 2 April 2022

With the sun setting at 6.49pm, get to Attunga at 5pm so you have time to:



Bring your

- \star Chair
- ★ Hat
- ★ Sunnies
- ★ Beverages
- ★ Nibbles
- ★ Insect Repellent



- ★ Meet your new neighbours
- ★ Renew pre-COVID friendships
- ★ Enjoy FREE bubbles, Ladies bring your champagne glasses
- ★ Feast on a free sausage sizzle with BBQed onions!

PROTECT OUR PARKS

Sorry to advise, but Council are at it again. This time our PARKS. We are very lucky on the Island to have 6 parks for the 525 households. Sure, some parks are very small, but we can all go to these open spaces to sit and enjoy our waterways. In most cases the seats have been provided by SHIRA, as the plaque on the concrete slab states.

On 25 January 2022, Council wrote to all Stakeholders (that's us and you) advising about their push for additional 15% rates increase (from all of us). They advised:

Securing the current rate income for a further seven years means that we can maintain current service levels, as we continue to find more service efficiencies and pay back the loans that are part of our financial recovery plan,

However, if the Council's current rate income is not maintained beyond June 2024, we will be forced to significantly reduce or cease many services to reduce expenditure by an average \$25.8million each year,

This means there is a risk to the following services that your organisation relies on and this may have impacts for your stakeholders and members.

- Up to 15 of Council's Sporting Facilities will need to be removed for operation and the land either sold or leased
- All sport activation will be ceased with no Council support to Clubs or Associations
- 78 Playgrounds will need to be removed and not replaced
- 60 Parks removed from the maintenance schedule and either sold or left to returned to a natural state
- Over 500 laneways between houses will no longer be maintained by Council other than for safety issues.

SHIRA immediately replied to Council that we were appalled at the threats of reduction of Council services, selling of parks, closing of playground areas, overall reduction of maintenance works and Council services; yet at the same time Council rates increases.

Council replied on 28 January 22 with:

The exact parks and playgrounds that would need to be removed has not yet been identified as it is hoped that none will need to be removed if Council can maintain its current rate base.

The high level asset reduction has been identified that would allow Council to reduce its expenditure on wages, materials and contracts.

If rating income was to reduce requiring reduction in the number of playgrounds, an analysis would be undertaken to identify which ones were in the poorest condition but with consideration of fair distribution across the Central Coast.

It would be the same with parks and reserves, an analysis would be undertaken to identify the low use/resource intensive areas to minimise the impact to the community.

WE ALL NEED TO MONITOR THIS - TO PROTECT OUR ISLAND PARKS

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES & ADVERTISING	From the Editor
Information, articles or advertising copy can be sent to the Editor at secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au 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.	Happy to receive articles any ideas or suggestions.
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.	Anne secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

The St Huberts Island History Book has arrived – reprinted

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!





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

Contact: Purchase: In your hand by: Wendy Mason / 48 Helmsman / 0414 987 516 / wenstock@hotmail.com Cash / Cheque / Direct Deposit 633-000 - 125 589 655 and Ref: SURNAME & PHONE No Pick-up / Delivered to front door / Mailed at your cost (all mindful of COVID rules)

THE CLAW BOOKS GIVAWAY COMPETITION RESULTS

Winner was Carolynne Mucharsky of 21 Cuttlefish Pde for CRAB CAKES WITH THAI SWEET CHILI SAUCE (serves 6) Ingredients

- 1/3 cup celery, finely diced
- 1/3 onion, finely diced
- 1/3 red bell pepper, diced
- 1 cup crab meat, chopped and well drained
- 1 egg
- ¹/₂ cup mayonnaise
- Juice from 1/2 lemon
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire Sauce
- ¹/₄ teaspoon Tabasco Sauce
- 1 tablespoon chopped chives (or shallots)
- ¹/₄ teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic, minced
- 1¹/₂ cup panko or breadcrumbs
- Salt and black pepper to taste

Preparation

• Mix all ingredients well and adjust seasoning to taste. Scoop into cakes and roll into panko or breadcrumbs. Place cakes on sheet pans sprinkled with panko crumbs. Bake at 180 for 30 mins, or fry in a little oil. Yummy

Close Runner up was Ellen Passanisi of 60 Helmsman Blvd for CRAB ENTREE Ingredients:

- An ovenproof ramekin
- Ocean Blue Premium Blue Swimmer Crab Meat
- Make a white cheese sauce
- Frozen packet of spinach.
- Shallots.

Preparation:

- Defrost spinach until it is completely defrosted.
- Mould the spinach around the ramekin
- Drain the crab meat
- Make white cheese sauce and mix in the crab meat with chopped up green part of the shallots.
- Pour into the prepared spinach ramekin, sprinkle some parmesan cheese on top, and put under a grill until lightly brown on the top. Yummy.

Photo of the winners, Ellen (seated), Helene (judge) and Carolynne (far right)



FISHOS CORNER



Outside, flathead and snapper are being taken in the usual spots with most fishos bagging out with flathead.

Inside flathead, bream and blue swimmers are still around with the odd good mullaway and kingfish being taken in the Rip Bridge area. Also nice flathead and mullaway are being landed in the Paddys channel area.

Today's photo is from a couple of fishos on the Island who caught a nice mixed bag outside.

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 IslandNews.

Tight Lines Ken





