

The Island News

"The Central Coast's Island in the Sun"

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

Website: sthubertsisland.nsw.au
Facebook Page: [St Huberts Island Residents Association Chit Chat](#)
Email: secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au
Get a Full Colour Island News: sthubertsisland.nsw.au/island-news/

June 2023

2023 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 22nd July

Christmas in July Dinner at Daleys Kitchen 6 pm for 6.30 pm

A WORD FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

After the AGM in March, the Committee saw eight new faces. Since that time there has been a steep learning curve, however I am pleased to say that all members of the Committee have fallen into a good routine with each member responsible for a particular function.

Helene Cornwell and her band of assistants are doing a wonderful job with the trees and parks on the Island, Brian Ireland heads up events, Lindsey Edgar attends to social media and Michael Goss is improving the functionality of the website. Please check out the website as it will be the point of information from your Committee. Also, if you have not already, please Like and Follow the Facebook page – St Huberts Island Chit Chat – as it will also be an outlet for notifications.

At this point a special mention must be made of the work of the outgoing Secretary, Geoff Flynn. His assistance and patience in the handover to the new Secretary, Margaret Doughman, is very much appreciated, and demonstrated the amount of work he undertook in keeping the Committee operating through Covid.

With the merger of the Canal Committee headed by Ron Stapleton, the SHIRA Committee has been strengthened in its representations to Council and some encouraging results are emerging. It is interesting to note that the inaugural Island Committee meeting was held in 1976 with a Constitution being drafted, and that requests to Council for canal maintenance have been ongoing for three decades. Your Committees over the years have been dogged in efforts to maintain the beauty of the Island.

Kevin Hill OAM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2023/24

Kevin Hill – President
Ron Stapleton – Vice President and Council Liaison Officer
Margaret Doughman – Secretary
Wendy Mason – Treasurer
Brian Ireland – Events
Helene Cornwell – Trees/Parks and Events
Rodney Blake – Events
Susan Russell – Special Projects
Michael Goss – Website
Lindsey Edgar – Social Media
David Creais – Public Officer and Legal Adviser

Committee member David Creais is a practising solicitor who is able to witness official documents, such as statutory declarations, and to certify copies of original documents.

David offers this as a free service to Island residents. Text David on 0419 169 889 to make an appointment.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Following a request from Committee Member – Helene Cornwell, the obelisk in Long Arm Parade has been cleaned by Council, so I thought it timely for some newer residents to enjoy some history.

FROM A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE IN THE GOSFORD AND PENINSULAR TIMES – TUESDAY 11TH MARCH 1986

While patriotism may be lagging in some parts of Australia, the 400 residents of St Huberts Island don't intend to let the 1988 Bicentenary pass without due respect. Members of the St Huberts Island Residents' Association plan to erect a cairn on the island to honour the fact that it is believed to have been the first port of call by whites in the days of colonisation.

In fact, according to Mrs Trish Schoer, an official of the association, the visitors were none less that Captain Arthur Phillip, Lieutenant Hunter, captain of the "Sirius", officers in a long boat, sailors and a party of marines who spent a night on St Huberts. It was an exploration trip to find good farm land and the party set off from Sydney with a week's food supplies. As evening closed, they sailed around the South Head and at 9pm they moored the boats in a cove on "the north west side of the bay". They spent the first night on board the boats.

The following morning, Mrs Schoer said, they sailed north and entered a narrow channel and crossed The Rip. They veered right in an open channel and stopped on the bank of a sandy island. It had rained hard during the day and in the afternoon they dried their clothes and tents, caught a crab and ate it. The party spent the night on the island, suspected to be St Huberts but it will never be known whether it was St Huberts or Rileys Island.

"Hunter who made a map, published in London in 1792, does not show any channel separating the two islands." Mrs Schoer said. The title deeds of the first land grants suggest a mud flat to be the boundary between them.

"The next morning, they continued their exploration southward and left Brisbane Water."



To celebrate the bicentenary of this visit it has been decided to erect a cairn with a bronze plaque on St Huberts Island.

"A spoon has been produced to raise funds for this project. The design of the spoon depicts a Latin cross between the antlers of a stag. This represents the vision said to have been experienced by St Hubert on Good Friday 653AD as he hunted in a part of France which is now Belgium."



Extensive research has been completed on the history of St Huberts Island from 1788 till today and a book was published for the Bicentenary. The latest revised edition can be ordered through the website as listed on page 3.

Margaret Doughman – Secretary

	<p>Christmas in July @ Daleys Kitchen, Empire Bay Saturday 22nd July, 6 pm for 6.30 pm</p>	
<p>MENU</p> <p>Complimentary Glass of Champagne upon arrival</p> <p>Tasting Plate</p> <p>Bruschetta – Sourdough with trio of dips – Arancini Balls</p> <p>Main Course (alternate drop)</p> <p>Roast Beef and Ham Roast Chicken and Ham</p>		<p>\$70 per person</p> <p>In-house Cocktail/Wine bar. Extensive list of good wines and cocktails at reasonable prices</p> <p>RSVP by Deposit of \$20 per person to be paid latest by 30th June into SHIRA ACCOUNT at Bendigo Bank BSB 633000 Account 125589655</p> <p>Final Payment to be paid by 20th July</p>

Served with Roast Vegetables and Greens

Dessert (alternate drop)

Homemade Christmas Pudding and Brandy Sauce
Homemade Pavlova topped with cream and berries

Please state your **NAME** and **CHRISTMAS IN JULY** in the bank reference.

Visitors Welcome

AROUND THE CANALS

Further canal tours were organised with Council staff and on 15th May a representative from Australian Environmental Services also inspected the canals. All the different situations that require scraping or dredging back to the seawalls, as well as some dredging at a couple of inlets, were identified. This will provide information to plan some trial work which will then be used to prepare a scope of work for a contract to undergo the much-needed maintenance of our canals. You will be kept informed of the progress.

Also, a further email has been sent to Council regarding the amended clause relating to pontoon inspections which needs to be redrafted and re-issued. Until such time as this has been provided, your Committee suggests you should wait to sign your Deed of Licence.

Ron Stapleton,
SHIRA Vice President & Council Liaison Officer

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES & ADVERTISING

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.

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.

FROM THE EDITOR...

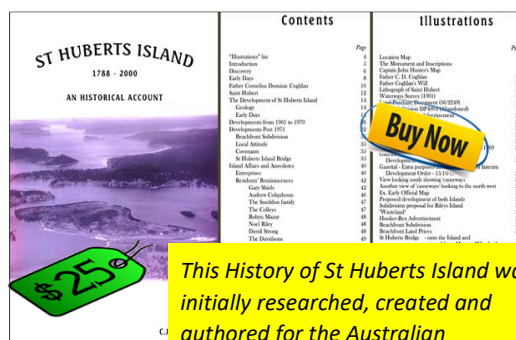
Happy to receive articles any ideas or suggestions.

secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au

To get a colour copy of the Island News visit sthubertsisland.nsw.au/island-news/

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 over several years.

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

ISLAND TREES SUNSET PARK

The Residents' Association has been negotiating with the Council regarding the unnamed small park near the top of Helmsman Boulevard opposite Marina View Parade. It is jokingly referred to as 'Poo Park' by locals because of the vapours very infrequently emanating from the Council's Sewerage Pumping Station in the corner of the park.

However, it is situated by the water facing west and has the most beautiful sunsets and deserves a more appropriate name. Sunset Park seems to suit it and we're arranging to put a small carved sign at the park.

A rare event at the park twice a year at the solstice in June and December when the tide is particularly low, the skies are clear and we have a full moon, is the magical opportunity to see the 'Stairway to the Moon' as the receding wavelets make little 'steps' in the sand catching the moonlight right up to the moon as it hovers on the westerly horizon. You don't have to travel to Darwin to see a similar sight.



Helene Cornwell

REPLACEMENT TREES FOR ST HUBERTS ISLAND

The Council has provided a number of trees to St Huberts Island to replace the large trees that were cut down before Christmas. The large trees had very invasive roots under the road, kerb and gutters and the Council had to remove them to redo our roads. The replacement trees have now been planted on our verges and in our parks. The Council is very keen to encourage residents to 'green' our Island with more trees so if you wish to have a list of very nice trees suitable for your verge please email me on helene.cornwell@optusnet.com.au and I will email the list to you.



FISHOS CORNER

Outside, the water is getting cooler however flathead and snapper are being taken in the usual spots with most fishos bagging out with flathead. Hairtale are showing up in the Broken Bay area as well as the usual inlets off the Hawkesbury River.

Inside, flathead and bream are still around with good sized mullaway being taken in the Rip Bridge area and the wharves around Davistown and Paddys Channel. Luderick are also back in the usual places.

Today's photo is from one of the fishos at Ettalong Hotel who caught a nice hairtale in Broken Bay.

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

