



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
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**December
2023**



- 15 or 20 December Empire Bay RFS Santa Run
- 23 December Santa on the Water
- 2 March 2024 Sunset Sips at Sunset Park
- 7 March 2024 AGM – Be there...We need you!

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

The last couple of months have been busy for your committee members. Our Events Committee organised a wonderful gathering with a large number of residents coming along for the Christmas In July dinner. The events committee staged a magnificent Sunset Sips at Solstice Park. A big thank you to Brian Ireland, Rod Blake and Helene Cornwall as well as Ron Stapleton. Wendy Mason organised a very successful raffle.

Many Island residents as well as some new residents to the island enjoyed talking to everyone, of course Secretary Margaret was busy as usual and most of the committee members were present. Once again Raine and Horne sponsored the event so a big thank you to Andrew and his team from all of us.

CHRISTMAS CRUISE: Once again Rod Wenzel will be captaining his vessel, 'Doctors Orders', and will lead a flotilla of Boats, Tinnies and Canoes around the island. Santa Claus will be on board in all his splendour and the Brisbane Water Brass Band will be playing Christmas Carols for the duration of the voyage.



The Boat leaves Marina Cove, adjacent to 42 Marina View, at 5pm on 23 December and travels around the island in a clockwise direction sailing into and around all inlets. All islanders are invited to join the flotilla and enjoy the fun.

UPDATE ON BRIDGE WORKS: The concrete remedial works are now completed and there will be no more disruption to our bridge traffic till late January - early February. In the meantime, the triangular supports are being manufactured ready for installation. The construction should take about eight weeks not including weather delays. Once again there could be delays leaving and entering the island so allow for these in your travels.

SEA GRASS: I have had a lot of questions about washed up sea grass (commonly referred in the past as seaweed) How do we keep our beaches clean and free from decaying matter.

I have been reliably informed that Residents are allowed to place 20 kilos per day in their green bins and an extra green bin is available from council for a small cost.

SPEEDING: I have had many complaints about the speeding on the island's roads mainly Helmsman Blvd.

This is becoming a safety issue and I ask all residents to be alert and to ask tradespeople, friends and family to observe the 50 Km speed limit on the entire island. Be aware that this could be enforced.

Cheryl and I would like to thank everyone for their help and support this year and wish you and your Family a Merry and Joyful Christmas and a healthy peaceful and Happy New Year.

Kevin Hill OAM

FROM THE SECRETARY

As you will have read the Canal Report from Ron Stapleton, it is prudent to remind all residents backing onto canals of the care of these waterways.

After mowing the lawns, please do not blow the debris into the canals and pass on this request to any tradesmen you hire. Also, please keep your kerbs and gutters clean. All the debris from the gutters finds its way into the canals through the drainage system. Over time, this has caused the drains to become blocked with solidified detritus which has proven difficult to remove.

The cleaning of the kerbs by the Council is hampered by the number of parked cars/boats on the roadways which has reduced not only the effectiveness of this service, but also the number of times it is provided. Therefore, it is up to us as residents to all play a part in keeping our island clean and tidy.

It is also timely to remind dog owners to collect their pets' droppings and dispose of them into the garbage. Anything else is a health hazard.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our Advertisers who have supported the Newsletter this year. To those who will no longer be contributing, the committee wishes you well in your new endeavours.

To our residents, I thank you for all the support you have given the Committee in its endeavours, and I wish you a safe and happy Christmas.

Margaret Doughman

FROM THE WEBMASTER

The Committee has been working to upgrade the look and accessibility of the St. Huberts Island website - <https://sthubertsisland.nsw.au/>

Please take the time to check out the changes and to learn about current events on the Island. The Island News is always uploaded in full colour and you will see residents now have the option to receive their previously printed copy via email. Please see our Editor's information regarding signing up to this service which is a far more environmentally friendly way to distribute The Island News.

Michael Goss

RFS SANTA RUN

Empire Bay RFS will do a Santa Run either on the 15 or 20 December, depending on operational requirements. Listen out for the fire truck's horn as it commences its way from 4.30pm.

AROUND THE CANALS

Help Look After Our Island Canal System

1. The Council is currently clearing out the areas from the front of the storm water outlets in the canals. The build-up of the siltation of the outlets has occurred over 55 years since the island was developed from the run off of the street gutters. We will get the Council street sweeper to come on a more regular basis, but because of the caravans, boats and cars permanently parked on the streets the sweeper can only remove 50% of the debris in the gutter. If residents can regularly remove the leaves etc from in front of their property it would alleviate a lot of the canal pollution.
2. We are always going to have seagrass washing up onto our waterfronts and which most residents rake up and put in their green bins, on their gardens or bagged for council to pick up. However, some waterfront owners simply pile the seagrass up and push it back into the water on the outgoing tide. Most of this seagrass sinks with the weight, further polluting our canal system.

If Council is prepared to help us, we should be considerate enough to assist and consider our neighbours living in our canals.

Ron Stapleton

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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.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Happy to receive articles, ideas or suggestions for Island News.

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.

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

If you would like to receive a digital version of the Island News instead of the printed copy, please write to secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au



FISHOS CORNER

As the Christmas Holiday period is fast approaching with the influx of tourists just around the corner, it's time to drop a line before we get fished out!

The water has warmed and blue spot flathead, snapper and mowong are plentiful outside with most Fishos bagging out with flathead. Taylor and Australian salmon are being taken from the beaches.

The Brisbane Waters are alive with blue swimmer crabs and flathead while the old big mullaway is being taken from the wharves around Davistown and Empire Bay.

As usual, the Rip bridge area is a hot spot with good catches of bream and school mullaway, with kingfish breaking lines.

Today's photo is from a member of Ettalong Diggers Fishing Club with a couple of nice mullaway caught in the Davistown area.

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 with our readers, simply email your pics as well as details; where, when caught etc to the Editor Island News.

Tight Lines – Ken



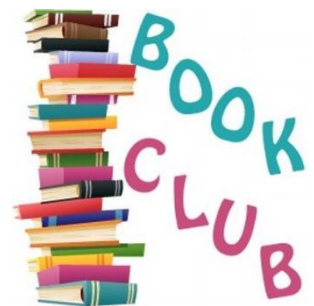
ST HUBERTS ISLAND BOOK CLUB

On Friday night we met to discuss our latest book, "Joe Cinque's Consolation" by Helen Garner. The book is based on a true Australian crime story about the 1997 murder of Joe by his girlfriend/defacto/fiance, Anu Singh. She was a student in law at the Australian National University with a history of mental illness although charismatic and academically gifted. If it wasn't for Helen Garner, Joe - a young civil engineer - would have been forgotten (as are many victims), but we learn about him and his beloved and grieving family through her story. Anu serves just four years in prison where she goes on to further her studies and we learn that the law isn't about justice and if you turn the other way, as most criminals would, there is no such thing as "duty of care".

Our next book of an entirely different genre is **A Secret Kept** by Tatiana De Rosnay.

Our Book Club meets in the evening of the first monthly Friday at members' residences. We enjoy food, wine, and a lot of general discussion. The local library supplies the books.

If you would like to join us, please contact **Carolynne Mucharsky** on 0404 238 884 to discuss the next meeting.



SUNSET SIPS

A large group of residents gathered on 7 October at Solstice Park on St. Huberts Island for our regular summer Sunset Sips.

After a windy and cloudy start to the day, by the evening the weather had settled and was perfect to watch the sunset. It was great to all get together from 5pm to 8pm with bubbles and beer, bangers and burgers at our barbecue by the water at Solstice Park.

Rain caused us to cancel our last two Sunset Sips earlier in the year, so it was a relief that we were at last able to enjoy the sunset with much laughter amongst our friendly group of residents.

Helene Cornwell – Events Committee



KILLCARE SURF CLUB

Your local Surf Club needs your support. Last season the Club made over 32 rescues and over 640 preventive actions. The Club needs more Patrollers. Patrolling on the beach is a way to give back to the community. We have patrolling members from 15 to over 70. Find out what is involved and how you could get fit and have fun while keeping our beach safe.



There are other ways you can support the Club such as joining as a Community Member and enjoy the great social benefits of being part of the Club. If you have young kids our Nippers have great fun every Sunday morning while learning water skills and safety.

See our website www.killcaresurfclub.com.au or contact Janey on 02 4360 1150 or via email: admin@killcaresurfclub.com.au for more information.

NOTICES

- Next Sunset Sips is on 2 March 2024 at Sunset Park (at the pumping station) from 5.30pm onward.
- Annual General Meeting is on 7 March 2024 at the Cove Hall from 7pm to 8.30pm after which supper will be provided. This meeting will be a non-smoking event as the Cove Hall is now a smoke-free zone.

