



# 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](http://sthubertsisland.nsw.au)  
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**September  
2024**



- 14 September 2024 – Central Coast Council Elections
- 3 November 2024 – St Huberts Day BBQ + Sunset Sips – A celebration of our beautiful Island in the Sun – Long Arm Park from 3p.m. – 7p.m.

## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, another three months have passed since the last Island News and your Committee has been hard at work to improve our Island for us all. Ron Stapleton has been a fantastic asset for us with his canal upgrade trials. He has given up many days to make sure they are carried out to our satisfaction, and you can read the results in his report below.

The Christmas in July was voted as the best yet by all attendees with great food, ambience, prizes, and camaraderie enjoyed by all. Our thanks to the Diggers Club of Ettalong for the great fare and hospitality. Thanks also to our Events Committee of Brian Ireland, Helene Cornwall and Rod Blake for their outstanding efforts, and to our Secretary Margaret Doughman for her constant expertise in overseeing the operation. Next year it will be bigger, and we will give you a “Save the Date” in the next newsletter.

After many requests, we have brought back St Huberts Day which will end with Sunset Sips as a celebration of our beautiful Island home. Be on the lookout for a flyer closer to the date of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. Save the date as this will be huge! A wine tasting by Empire Bay Cellars will form part of the celebration.

Please take the opportunity to support fellow Island resident and musician, Lance Rice, who will be performing at Ettalong Bowling Club on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Check the details in the Community News section of the newsletter.

The speeding along Helmsman Boulevard continues to be of great concern with many residents lodging complaints to the Committee. We in turn have taken these complaints to Council. Well, Council has listened and the discussions I had recently with the Manager of Roads and Traffic was very fruitful with the planned implementation of parking a speed sign trailer. This has been successful in slowing traffic as it will tell you your speed. It may take Council a month or two to be put into place and will be removed and replaced a month or two later. We believe that most speed hogs are not island residents so ask your visitors to obey the 50km limit on the Island.

Currently you may have seen people surveying your canal, which is the second part of the below tidal hydrographical survey undertaken around three months ago. Council is now undertaking a hydro graphic survey of the tidal flow areas of each canal.

I take this opportunity to thank Committee member, Vishitha Dsouza, for her expertise and constant support in composing information ready for printing.

Kevin Hill OAM

## FROM THE SECRETARY

As you already know, the Central Coast Council will revert from Administration to Representation on 14<sup>th</sup> September. Up to the time of printing, only three candidates had supplied contact information, and your Committee had hoped to arrange a meeting with the candidates so that a better understanding of their positions could be gleaned and reported.

Our Ward is Gosford East, and we must select only three candidates.

**Group A** has three candidates who are Independents, comprising –

- Lawrie McKinna – former Mayor of Gosford Council
- Patrick Farmer – Consultant, ex-councillor, Macarthur Council, Executive Master of Business Degree
- George Paterson – IT Service Manager

**Group B** has three candidates who are Labor, comprising –

- Sharon Lee Walsh – Retired Academic, 40 years of human and community service, 20 years lecturer at Newcastle University, Vice Chair of Central Coast Domestic Violence Committee, Currently a member of Status of Women Advisory Group to CCC, contact details: 0417 422 228 [sharonwimpact@gmail.com](mailto:sharonwimpact@gmail.com)
- Victoria Ellen Collins – Retired, Bachelor of Pharmacy, Graduate Diploma of Education, VP of NSW Fabians Society – The Australian Fabians is an Australian independent left-leaning think tank that was established in 1947. The organisation aims are to “contribute to progressive political thinking” as well as “progressive political culture.” Wikipedia, contact details: 0438 939 064 [hillbillyskeleton@gmail.com](mailto:hillbillyskeleton@gmail.com)
- Trevor Howard Drake – Lawyer, Master of Laws, Gosford Councillor 2004-08, Gosford Deputy Mayor 2007-08

**Group C** has two candidates who are Liberal, comprising -

- Jared Liam Wright – Senior Account Manager, Bachelor of Communications, contact details: 0411 690 221 [jaredwrightccc@gmail.com](mailto:jaredwrightccc@gmail.com)
- Deanna May Bocking – Support Worker, Former Central Coast councillor and a small business owner.

Margaret Doughman – Secretary

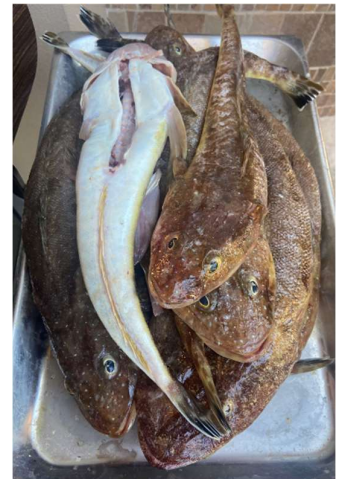
## FISHOS CORNER



The water is starting to warm and blue spot flathead, snapper, trags and morwong are plentiful outside with most fishos bagging out with flathead. Taylor and Australian salmon are being taken from the beaches. In the Brisbane Water area blue swimmer crabs are returning and there are plenty of people talking about the big mullaway that got away. As usual, the Rip bridge area continues to be a hot spot with good catches of bream, school mullaway with kingfish breaking

lines. Today's photo is from a member of Ettalong Diggers Fishing Club of some nice flathead caught 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 with our readers, simply email your pics as well as details; where, when caught etc to [secretary@sthubertisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertisland.nsw.au)



Tight Lines – Ken

## 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@sthubertisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertisland.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.

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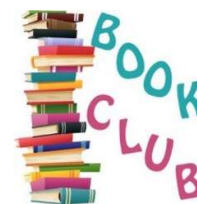
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## ST HUBERTS ISLAND BOOK CLUB

We've had the pleasure of reading several books since our last report. A favourite for me was A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles. It's a mostly heart breaking, but often heartwarming story about an aristocrat who is incarcerated inside the famous Metropol Hotel in Moscow by the ruling communist party for some 30 years from 1921. Living and working in this microenvironment gave the Count an enriched life full of meaning with experiences not available had he lived in normal circumstances.



Although fear and confinement were a major part of his life, he experienced love from Sofia, a young girl he raised and "adopted", Anna his actress lover and most of the workers and visitors to The Metropol. He risked his life for Sofia and eventually organised her defection so that she could live in freedom.

We also read The Glassblower of Murano by Marina Fiorato which received mixed reviews from our members. As the setting for the novel was Venice and since many of our members had visited Murano Island, it made for a trip down memory lane. The storyline tried to pull together the life of a famous glassblower of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, Corradino Manin, with a descendant, Leonora Manin and her attempt to uncover the truth about his secret past.

Finally, we read Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel. This is an historical fiction novel about the rise of Thomas Cromwell at the court of Henry VIII, especially dealing with the King's romance with Anne Boleyn and his relationship with Thomas Moore. It's a turbulent time in the early 1500s and the book is named after the Seymour family's seat of Wolf Hall in Wiltshire (special to Cromwell). The book was influenced by the play "A Man for all Seasons" but taking an opposing view of the protagonist.

Happy Reading,

Carolynne Mucharsky

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## Christmas in July 2024



A highly successful evening was held at The Ettalong Diggers, Pretty Beach Room, on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024 with 64 Island residents and friends attending. The room was spacious and festively decorated with fairy lights, Christmas table centres, coloured paper napkins and bon bons. Wendy Mason made the party favours for each guest as well as a gift basket for the raffle which also included an artwork from Kevin Hill's Top Ten Australian Artists.

Upon arrival each guest was given a lucky door prize ticket for a chance to win a limited edition signed book of Kevin Hill's Top Ten Australian Artists, Book 2, and a complimentary drink voucher. The meal and the atmosphere were both wonderful, and everyone enjoyed the camaraderie of their friends and neighbours.

Kevin thanked the members of the committee for their hard work in making this event such a success, and the Events Committee of Rod Blake, Brian Ireland and especially Helene Cornwell, for their tireless efforts. Rod made for a happy "Santa" to bring a festive mood to the occasion.



## UPDATE ON OUR CANALS

Over the last few months Council has given to Australian Environmental Services the trial contract to clean out the storm water outlets in the canals, starting with Shelter Cove then moving to Marina Cove. We have found that many of the outlets have no vehicular access making them difficult to access. The trial was also to evaluate the best way to move sand back to the sea walls with mixed success. We are working closely with the contractor and Council to formulate a more effective plan to replenish the sea wall sands.

The recent below tidal area has shown that very little of the sand has deposited there, as the geographical report shows very little change in depth from the previous geographical report of around twenty years ago. The depth and contours of the canal are both fine.

The Tidal Area Geographical Survey Report being undertaken now will give us and Council the information that we need to develop a five-year Master Maintenance Plan to restore the Island Canals back or near to their original design.

For the benefit of those residents new to the Island, wrack (or sea grass) that washes on to the slips can be collected and disposed of in the Council green bin. If you have an overabundance of wrack, it can be bagged and left on the kerb on the green collection day and Council will remove it. Please, do not return it to the canals.

Ron Stapleton - Vice President and Council Liaison

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**St Huberts Day** returns this November after the COVID hiatus.

Rotisserie meat with coleslaw, condiments and bread rolls. Champagne and beer supplied. Complimentary wine tasting. The famous St Huberts Island quiz, games and raffles.

St Huberts History Books available at a discounted price of \$20, and membership renewals, so don't forget to bring cash! More details closer to the date. Check your letter box in late October!

Currently, we are looking for the 2019 winner of the St Huberts Day plaque for retrieval. Please contact [secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au](mailto:secretary@sthubertsisland.nsw.au) if you have information.

**Empire Bay Wine Tasting** – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024

Many of you know Sean Montague from Empire Bay Cellars who not only advertises in our newsletter, but also contributes to our Events by providing gift vouchers for raffles.

This year we are collaborating with Empire Bay Cellars to include a wine tasting of fresh, summery tipples to add to your wine collection or just to enjoy at reasonable prices.

In this newsletter, Sean has advertised his special price of \$75 for 6 Brokenwood Cricket Pitch wines. However, a visit to his store in Empire Bay rewards with spot specials on many lines. If you haven't already checked out the store, be sure to attend the St Huberts Day, meet Sean and enjoy the complimentary wine tasting with an opportunity to pick up some great buys.

**Lance Rice – Local Musician**

At the Ettalong Bowling Club on 7<sup>th</sup> September from 7.30p.m. our fellow Island resident, Lance Rice, will be performing with Guitarist Steve Hinchey in their new duo – FADED GENES.

For the last four years, Lance has been entertaining our island residents on Australia Day from his balcony overlooking Marina Cove.

Pop in and give Lance and Faded Genes your support, and don't forget your dancing shoes.



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