



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

March 2025



- **16th March 2025 5pm** onwards – Sunset Sips at Long Arm Park
- **29th April 2025 7pm** – Annual General Meeting (AGM) at The Cove Hall

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

I cannot believe another year has gone, I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year.

The Christmas Carols cruise around the island with Santa and the Brisbane Waters Brass Band was a great success with a long flotilla of boats following on. We all agreed it was the largest attendance along the foreshores we have ever seen. People were obviously in festive mode with barbecues and parties at many homes and parks around the waterways. Thank you to Rod and Virginia Wentzel, along with son Rod piloting the hired party boat, and Richard Carlyle as Santa. We all look forward to next Christmas’s cruise, the tenth year, when once again ‘Doctors Orders’ will lead the flotilla.

Don’t forget Sunset Sips on Sunday 16th March. Check it out!

Midges are once again a biting nuisance on the island. The December newsletter covered this in detail. However, this season midges seem to be more prolific so treating the outdoor area and keeping covered in the early morning or late afternoon is the best protection.

And finally, I thank all the executive for their generous time and commitment to the betterment of our island home. This year’s AGM is on the 29th of April at 7 pm and I am thankful the existing executive members have re-nominated for their positions for the coming year at this AGM.

Vice President Ron Stapleton chairing the Canals Committee; Brian Ireland chairing the Social Committee, David Creais Public Officer and Chair of legal/corporate governance; Michael Goss Website Administrator; Wendy Mason Treasurer; Susan Russell Special Projects/Analysis and Advertising; Naomi Watts Membership Registrar; Vishitha Dsouza Editor – The Island News – and technical support; Lindsey Edgar Social Media and Margaret Doughman Secretary.

Nominations for executive roles need to be in one week prior to the meeting. Anyone wishing to nominate will need to download a form from the website.

Kevin Hill OAM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) NOTICE

Tuesday 29th April at 7pm sharp, The Cove Hall, Empire Bay Drive, Daleys Point

The Cove Hall is just 100 meters away from the top of the St Huberts Island Bridge. Parking is available opposite in the shops’ carpark. Refreshments will be provided after the meeting.

Come along to hear reports on canal maintenance. As your Committee is continuing in its efforts to effect good outcomes for all residents, it is timely to remind everyone to ensure they are up to date with their membership. At the AGM there will be an opportunity to either check your membership or make application. The cost is \$5 per year per household.

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Commencing first week in March for eight days you will notice the Council contractor clearing out the drains in Trial Inlet, as well as a test run of pumping sand back to the sea wall using an upgraded barge and equipment. Thereafter work will resume in Marina Cove.

In December a letter was sent to Council requesting formulation of plans for continued canal maintenance, pontoon approvals and the disclosure of funds held in Trust. A meeting with both Council and SHIRA was also requested. A response has been received, and a meeting is scheduled for 10th March.

I encourage all residents to attend the AGM in April where we will be arranging to have a representative of Council as the guest speaker who will be able to clearly outline future plans.

Ron Stapleton

FROM THE WEBMASTER

Gradually I have been updating the website to be more relevant and easier to navigate. Soon there will be a link to a dedicated advertisers' page so that householders will no longer need to refer to their paper newsletter to find tradesmen or services.

There is also a dedicated Community News and Updates page where the Committee can respond to questions posed through the Contact Us form, or to upload important information which comes to light between the newsletter publications. Of course, you will still be able to download a colour copy of The Island News. Also, the Home Page will always have an up-to-date quick access section on the left-hand side.

Michael Goss

FROM COUNCILLOR JARED WRIGHT

With the first St Huberts Island newsletter for 2025, comes the last opportunity to wish everyone a happy new year as we look towards the autumn months.

Across the local area, I have been working hard to increase water safety measures, particularly in light of recent tragedies at our beaches. Council has now since increased the number of flotation devices in areas including North Avoca and The Entrance.

For those with added mobility requirements, we have also installed a new hand railing down at Terrigal Haven, making it easier to access the water, and have fixed the lift at Copacabana Surf Club as well.

Regarding St Huberts Island, we are still working hard to see what can be done on the dredging front. Key Council staff are meeting with their counterparts in Lake Macquarie to discuss the shared use of their dredge, which was made possible through Federal funding. I have also worked with Council to provide residents with some further information on local DAs on the island.

Looking to the quarter ahead, we will be going into budget discussions very soon and I will be fighting hard to ensure necessary funding for the Island, and I look forward to keeping you posted on what that looks like in due course.



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/

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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.

FISHOS CORNER

Flathead and Whiting are very active around the Brisbane Waters system at the moment. A number of small Mullet are showing up in sheltered spots which is a major attractor of big Tailer, and Jewies.

The beaches are firing right now. Expect to catch Salmon, Sharks, Eagle Rays, Snapper, Flathead, and Darts at the local beaches. The Rip Bridge area remains a hot spot.

Today's pic is a nice 4.5kg Mullaway caught under the St Huberts Island bridge by Craig, a member of Ettalong Hotel Fishing Club.



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 <https://sthubertsisland.nsw.au/>

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

ST HUBERTS ISLAND BOOK CLUB

Our three books this quarter had something in common. Women did not fare well.

Eucalyptus by Murray Bail

Despite the book's many accolades, it was not a hit with all our members as the prose was laden with names and details of many eucalyptus trees. Also, the book, written in 1998, with fairy tale and classic influences make the misogynistic theme seem outdated. The father of a beautiful girl organises a contest where the prize for naming all the trees on his large property, is the daughter's hand in marriage.

Mythos by Stephen Fry

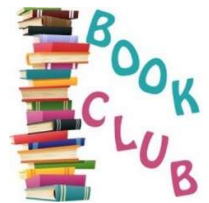
Not even female Gods were treated well in this book with the Greek mythic world full of violence. For example, a mother who is split in two has her foetus plucked from her belly; and a king, cursed with hunger, ate himself. It is mostly an entertaining read thanks to Fry's style and humour however the book received mixed reviews from our group.

The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart by Holly Ringland

Domestic violence is a strong theme in this book which follows the upbringing of Alice. A sad tale of violence, tragedy, secrets and lies woven together with the use of flowers. Vicious cycles are broken by Alice as she develops the strength to survive and live her best life.

Happy Reading,

Carolynne Mucharsky





SAVE THE DATE

SUNSET SIPS

**5PM SUNDAY 16 MARCH
LONG ARM PARK**

Get to the park at 5pm so you have time to:

- meet your new neighbours.
- renew friendships.
- enjoy **FREE** bubbles. Ladies, bring your champagne glasses!
- feast on a free sausage sizzle - with BBQed onions!
- purchase merchandise.
- renew your membership.

Bring your chair, hat, sunnies, beverages, nibbles, insect Repellent!

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Why Not?

Bread makes our tummies hurt and makes us ill. Bread does not contain the right nutrition or calories that we need to survive. It makes us think we are full and then we don't eat the food we need.

It also pollutes our water and causes nasty surface algae, which kills our fish friends and gives us diseases.

What Should We Eat?

Half cut seedless grapes, chopped lettuce, birdseed, peas, corn, and oats.
