



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
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June 2025

SAVE THE DATE **26 July 2025** – Christmas in July at The Diggers, Ettalong Beach (see flyer on last page)

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in April, I was pleased to welcome the new Committee for 2025/26. I was however sad to farewell Helene Cornwell after her many years of service to the Association in particular, and the island residents in general. I was also sad to lose Lindsey Edgar. Thankfully both of these ex-committee members will still oversee Parks and Trees, and Chit Chat respectively. I wish them well as they move on to other endeavours. I am also grateful for the consideration and patience of the spouses of our hard-working committee members who dedicate many hours for the betterment of the community.

Neighbourhood Watch is no longer monitored by NSW Police and it has been very difficult to find somebody in this region to help. However, I still think it is a great idea and I would like to find someone who can take this on as a project. Unfortunately, it is not possible for the Committee to undertake. So, if you would like to take on this project please get in touch and we will move forward on this proposal.

During the winter months, we have been advised that Council will be repairing the vandalised sections of the bridge barrier. However, the installation of CCTV is still ongoing.

As advised at the AGM, Council's handling of **Jetty Fees** has been changed. We have belatedly found out that Council passed a resolution in July 2024 in regard to the restricted funds held at that time for the maintenance of the waterways in St Huberts Island.

From July 2024 Council resolved, that no further fees will be added to the “restricted fund” and was broadened to enable the funds to be used on any works on the Island. Thereafter, all jetty fees have been going to Council's general fund without any consultation with the main stake holders – SHIRA – and could result in being spent in the broader Council Area. As you would be aware, the original jetty fees were for the maintenance of the water ways and the fees were added to the restricted fund.

Therefore, it was a great shock to learn this on a Saturday afternoon before we were to meet with Council on Monday morning to discuss a four-year plan for the sand to be returned to the sea walls. We are currently in discussion about this turnabout.

On a lighter note, I commend to you the Christmas in July event as reported below and set out on the last page of this newsletter.

Kevin Hill OAM

RETURNING COMMITTEE 2025/26

President - Kevin Hill OAM
Secretary – Margaret Doughman
Webmaster – Michael Goss
Membership – Naomi Warren

Vice President – Ron Stapleton	Treasurer - Wendy Mason
Public Officer/Legal – David Creais	Events – Brian Ireland
Special Projects/Analysis and Invoicing – Susan Russell	
Editor – Vishitha Dsouza	

AROUND THE CANALS

There will be no update on the canals in this newsletter. For information see the AGM Minutes on the [website](#).

At the AGM in April, your Committee arranged for a Council representative to present the current position on seawalls and canal maintenance/dredging as outlined in the March newsletter. Unfortunately, the attendance of only nineteen people was particularly poor and a disappointment to all the members of the Committee who work hard for the benefit of the residents.

If you would like to have continued representation on matters affecting the island, it is important to assist the Committee by attending the AGMs.

Ron Stapleton – Vice President and Council Coordinator

PARKS AND TREES

I have recently been working with the Parks Section of Central Coast Council to upgrade some of the trees in our St Huberts Island parks.

1. **BRIDGE PARKS** – These two small parks at the foot of the bridge were inspected recently and the Tree Team will be pruning out the dead fronds in the row of three Kentia Palms each on either side of the road which will greatly enhance the entrance to the Island.
These hardy, slow growing Kentia Palms which are native to Lord Howe Island were planted by the Council ten years ago to replace the original Chinese Fan Palms which did not thrive and ultimately died. They have slowly thrived over the years and stood up to the heat, windy exposed position and sandy soil of the Island. Planted as ‘clumping’ palms which have several stems. They will grow to about 8-10 meters tall and will be quite spectacular when fully matured.
Other trees in the Bridge Parks are Tuckeroos, a hardy indigenous shade tree.
2. **LONGARM PARK** – This is a fine north facing spacious waterside park that has been zoned ‘dog friendly’. Under Council policy, two dead trees have been removed and replaced with two indigenous trees.
3. **ATTUNGA PARK** – This popular centrally situated family park has been upgraded with playground equipment and seats and cleared of overgrown bushes.
4. **SOLSTICE PARK** – Sadly, the Council trees in this lovely west facing park were recently poisoned and the Council and police are investigating this vandalism. The Council has declined to replace them in view of future vandalism.

COUNCIL SPONSORED TREES

As St. Huberts Island has a lack of shade trees it has been designated a ‘heat zone’, the Council has a policy of planting trees for residents’ verges. If you wish to avail yourself of this offer, please contact the Council on 4306 7900 for an explanation of the process.

Helene Cornwell – SHIRA Parks and Trees Coordinator

FROM COUNCILLOR JARED WRIGHT

I have recently met with the St Huberts Island Residents’ Association to discuss coastal erosion on the island. I wish every meeting I had involved being taken out on a boat to see the local issues and perhaps one of the best parts of the Central Coast! My update here is that Council will continue to look at undertaking coastal protection works and I will work closely with the Resident’s Association on this.



As you are aware, there have been a number of attempts to damage the new bridge. Council has now been doing weekly patrols since the recent vandalism occurred and all reports of vandalism have virtually ceased with daylight savings ending. Council has an action plan to replace full sheets of fencing during winter, which will clean up the areas that have been patched and remove the need for the security fencing. I have also been working closely with the Residents’ Association in relation to jetty fees. Currently, there is about \$750,000 from the income associated with these fees and charges. I will work with the local community and council staff on the allocation of these funds.

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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/

FISHOS CORNER

With the cooler weather coming, there's no better time to get the hook, line and sinker out in readiness for a spot of fishing in the winter sun.

The Ettalong sand flats are producing quality Whiting, Bream and Flathead. If you google best fishing places on the Central Coast NSW, the RIP Bridge always comes out on top with best spot as underneath the arches. With that in mind, there are reports of big Mullaway and big Taylor being taken from the area.

Outside, the water is getting cooler. However, Flathead and Snapper are being taken in the usual spots with most fishos bagging out with Flathead. Hairtail are showing up in the Broken Bay area as well as the usual inlets off the Hawkesbury River.

Today's photo is from a member of Ettalong Hotel Fishing Club with a nice bag of Snapper taken near the RIP Bridge area.



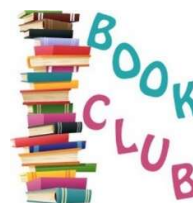
Ettalong Hotel Fishing Club and Ettalong Diggers Fishing Club are always looking for active fishos to join their clubs. For further details; and if you have caught a fish or two lately and want to share it with our readers, simply email your pics as well as details (where, when caught, etc) to the Editor Island News or contact Ken, Nev or Richard via the St Huberts Island website Contact page.

Tight Lines Ken

ST HUBERTS ISLAND BOOK CLUB

Our book clubbers read three interesting books this past quarter.

Missing (Tom Patterson) is a tragic, true story about the life of Mark May. At a young age, Mark was addicted to prescription drugs used for insomnia, had been sexually assaulted and became a drug dealer. Compared with his siblings he was an underachiever, having dropped out of university and plodding along in a dead-end job before becoming a hermit, surviving in the Australian bush for many years.



Goodnight Vivienne, Goodnight (Steven Carroll) about the whirlwind romance and miserable marriage to T.S. Eliot which led to Vivienne's breakdown when Eliot abandoned her. Vivienne plans her escape from the lunatic asylum with the help of friends trying to overturn the brutal laws of the day regarding internment in asylums. Detective Sergeant Steven Minter is responsible for catching and returning Vivienne but instead advises her to disappear rather than be at the court's mercy. He knew from personal experience that she would never be pardoned.

Still Life (Sarah Winman) – This beautifully written book is full of the most amazing characters. The story starts in Italy at the end of WWII (1944) when Ulysses Temper meets Evelyn Skinner, who teaches him about art appreciation. Ulysses returns to his old life in East End, London working in a friend's pub. Because of an unexpected inheritance, he is able to live in Florence where he finally reunites with Evelyn.

I hope these short introductions inspire you to read these titles.

Happy Reading, Carolynne Mucharsky

CHRISTMAS IN JULY (see next page)

Your Association Events Committee is working on the annual Christmas in July dinner to be held once again in the Pretty Beach Room at The Diggers, Ettalong Beach on Saturday, 26th July from 6 p.m.

In an endeavour to keep the costs down, the Association will make a co-payment so there will be no increase in last year's pricing of \$65 per person. On the last page of this newsletter, you will see the flyer outlining the menu and payment details.

As there will be raffles and a lucky door prize, please don't forget to bring some cash. Your Committee looks forward to welcoming you.



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MENU

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ENTREE Choice of

Roast Pumpkin Soup with creme fraiche and garlic croutons **OR**
Prawn, Avocado and Baby Cos Salad with Marie Rose Sauce

MAINS choice of

Roast Pork with crackling **OR**
Roast Turkey with trimmings
Roast Potatoes, Roast Pumpkin and Steamed Greens
Condiments: Apple sauce, Cranberry sauce and Gravy

DESSERTS choice of

Christmas Pudding with Whipped Cream **OR**
Pavlova, Fruit and Whipped Cream

Tea and Coffee provided

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