

Our Point.

June/July 2024 Edition
Community round up

Community News for Stuarts Point and Districts

You may have noticed the new SPaDCO community sign near the tennis courts. This is a manual sign! It will contain important dates and notifications and during fire and flood events will contain vital and important information for the community.

IPART have made a decision regarding the Kempsey Council special variation rate rise. The information is set out overleaf.

Lots of good things have been happening in the Point. During the last while, the tennis courts renovation was completed. Many people have booked and played on the newly refurbished courts and that is great to see. Bookings are made at the IGA supermarket and keys can be collected there.

The cenotaph was renovated in time for the Anzac Day service on the 25th April. The march and the service was very well attended - great to see so many people pay their respect to our past and present ANZAC men and women. Bunnings Kempsey (Luke) have been very generous in supporting our community by donating plants for the cenotaph.

The grounds opposite, beside the hall, have been levelled and will be seeded so the area can again be grassed. Please be careful when parking.

Kempsey Shire Council came to Stuarts Point to present the operational plan for the LGA for 24-25 financial year. The sad reality is that KSC has not got much in the pipeline for Stuarts Point and district for next financial year. The sewerage work will continue in preparation for installation. The EIS is being done and will be on display for comment later in the year.

The Five Headlands Coastal Experience is a joint venture between National Parks Council of NSW and the KSC. There is still much work to be done and the first stage of the walk will be complete in June 2026.

The Grassy Head caravan park playground is on hold with the council undertaking community consultation and working toward an environmentally suitable facility.

All the area caravan parks (leased to the NRMA) are receiving the council's attention. The caravan parks are being updated with finance generated by the park users. These works are not funded by the community, but are monies collected through fees associated within the parks. With a renewed focus on tourism in this LGA, caravan parks are seen as generating an important financial contribution.

The Fishermans Reach boat ramp bus turning circle is a shoulder project within the council's '24-25 year plans.

Ocean Blend cafe is now open (Formerly Matts cafe). Drop in and say hi, while tasting a delicious treat. Let's support our local businesses. Wednesday - Sunday.

The Gardening Club special guest is Karen Bailey from Bayleaf Herbals on 5th June at 11.30 at the community hall (Contact Denise 043472707) so what not join the club and meet like minded people to share knowledge and gardening tips. You don't have to be an expert ... all are welcome.

Breana Earle has suggested SPaDCO have the opportunity to engage with the young people in the area and devise a plan where together, we can provide support for activities that are relevant to the young people and encourage and motivate them to create some cool stuff they want to be doing. Stay posted and get in touch with SPaDCO if you would like to be part of the team.

Library News

Have you visited the library recently? It's a great hive of activity and has a plethora of fascinating resources. There are some great recommended reading suggestions for adults and children.

Currently the SP library has a seed program ... pop in and have a chat

Likewise, Kempsey library has wonderful events for adults and children so check out the library events on their website.

What's On

Markets

Fridays 2.30 Eungai Creek
Farmers Market
Last Sunday bi-monthly
Funkya@Unkya Markets

Yarrahapinni Walkers
Thursday and Sunday 8am

Stuarts Point Community Hall

Wednesday 9.30 GASP

1st Wed 11.30am Garden Club

Friday 9.30 East Coast Yoga

SPWRBC

Tues 11.30 Bingo

Wed Ladies

Thurs 12.30 Mah-jong

Thurs 12.30 Casual Bowls

Sat 9am casual mixed bowl

Meat raffles Fri 6 and Sun 12

Music Live

Tavern Music Live: check out the
notice board outside the tavern
for updates

Stuarts point preschool is
running a playgroup for non
school aged kids every
Monday at 10 am at the
preschool

Bowls news.

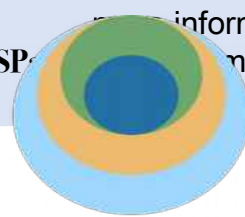
The mens and women's club
are now combined.

School news

The next P&C meeting will
be held on Monday June
17th at 3.15 at the school
library. The new school fence
has been approved and will
commence in the coming
months

The school is always looking
for canteen volunteers,
contact
sppspnc@gmail.com for

information.
SP Community
with July



Stuarts Point & District
Community Organisation
A stronger future together.

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Contributions welcome. Postal Address 21 Ocean Avenue Stuarts Point NSW 2441

Gardening has been a challenge of late. Passion fruit, paw paw and banana are flourishing. Citrus is starting to ripen. Winter vegetables are also doing well. Join the garden club (Denise O'Conner 0434372707) and spend time with people who love gardening. Happy Gardening
PB

How Healthdirect can help • Are your symptoms serious or nothing to worry about? • Your baby won't stop crying – what can be wrong? • You're away from home and you need to find a doctor. • You need to know more about managing diabetes, asthma or another health condition.

Winter soup

A great way to make a winter soup is using all the veg left over bits and pieces, peelings and ends. Wash well and add to a pot of boiling water. Let boil for 1/2 hr then add 6 chicken legs and let simmer for 30 minutes. (Chicken should fall off the bone) Remove chicken bones and veg base. Add some fresh veg, e.g. diced onion, potatoes, sweet potato, carrot. Season well and serve with hot toast

Fishing with kids

Get the kids off the internet and go for a walk on the foot bridge with any left over bread. Find a spot and feed the fish with the bread. While there, grab the yabbi pump and with a friend, pump some yabbies. The yabbies make good bait so get your fishing line in order and throw out your line with some fresh bait ... you are guaranteed a bite. Winter fish are bream, flathead, black fish whiting and other surprises! Happy fishing

Resilience

5 Points to Remember

- Know your risks
- Plan now for what you will do
 - Get Ready
 - Be aware
- Look after each other

FYI Darren's local Fire Truck has a defibrillator on board.

Bowling

Stuarts Point played at Kempsey RSL in play-offs Grade 5 v Comboyne and Urunga we were beaten by Comboyne but had a good win against Urunga but alas we ended up runners up. Al Low is our majority Major Singles Winner for 2023/24. He played at Cabravale Diggers in the Champion of Champions making the last 32 in the state.

IPart decision regarding the Special rate variation for the Kempsey Shire Council

Executive summary Kempsey Shire Council Special Variation Application 2024-2025
The council did broadly demonstrate a financial need for an SV to maintain its financial sustainability while continuing to provide services and maintain infrastructure required by its community (criterion 1). However, it did not demonstrate that it needs the full 42.70% increase it proposed over 3 years. This is because it has scope to continue to explore alternatives to this proposed increase over the next 2 years. This could reduce the size of the rate increase required beyond this period. • The council did not demonstrate the community is aware of the need for and extent of the proposed rate increases (criterion 2). It did engage with and consult its community on the proposed SV. However, its consultation materials did not include key information that ratepayers required to properly understand why the rate rise is necessary, and the specific expenditure priorities driving the size of the increase. For example, it did not clearly explain that without the SV, it will have to increase its borrowings to fund its infrastructure priorities, and that the cost of servicing this additional debt will approach 20% of its operating revenue by 2032-33. • The council did not show the impact of the proposed SV on ratepayers is reasonable (criterion 3). It did evaluate the relative wealth and financial capacity to pay across the Kempsey area. It concluded its community has both capacity and willingness to pay the proposed rate increases, provided that support is available for those with higher levels of disadvantage. However, this conclusion is not well supported by the council's analysis. Our assessment found that currently its average residential rates are slightly higher than the average for neighbouring and comparable councils. However, by the end of the proposed 3-year SV period, they would be significantly higher than the averages for those councils. We note its area has more disadvantage than 122 council areas in the state (out of the total of 128). *Our decision to approve a 2-year SV of 24.09% instead of the proposed 3-year SV of 42.70% reflects the council's clear need for additional income while also taking account of the shortcomings in its application and community feedback on the proposed SV.*