



## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

In the period since the last newsletter your Committee has been active in dealing with a number of local issues, anti-amalgamation and Charter issues.

The Partnering Charter with Noosa Council will hopefully move with us to the new council. Certainly, that is our understanding of the proposed action and recommendation from Noosa Council's interim management group. This cannot be guaranteed (the new council has to adopt recommendations itself and cannot be bound in advance) but the model is a living example of good government and active community and council partnership. As a resident the Charter offers us all a terrific set of working guidelines that maintain the beautification and liveability of this estate in partnership with Council. This is a unique feature of Noosa Waters and one to be highly valued. If you want a copy just email [overlord@bigpond.net.au](mailto:overlord@bigpond.net.au)

The Web Site sub-committee has been considering the structure, content and functionality of our first web presence. Included with this newsletter is a request for your financial support – a Special Levy per property – to get the site operational early in 2008 (March). A web site will facilitate fast and more detailed communication with your residents association. Membership services on-line are now commonplace and we should move to also have this facility for payment of dues, emails to Management Committee members, access to special reports for waterways, landscaping and security among others. Already a number of interested residents have contributed to the web fund with generous donations. Join them in creating this window into estate management and residents involvement in underpinning and growing property values. A printed Newsletter will still be provided as some do not have computers or internet access / experience.

As from 1 January 2008 any new applications for membership will be at the new rate of \$20 pa. Your committee have also decided to move the Association to a Level 2 category association thereby allowing us greater capacity to improve services to all residents. The benefits over the coming years outweigh the reporting requirements. Under a new super council we believe that the Noosa Waters Residents Association has to strengthen its role and involvement so that we maintain our impact with local government. To fund new initiatives, the committee believes that the current subscription fee is too low. Additionally, many residents see the small amount as a nuisance. Moving to a sensible fee and internet payment is warranted. We recognise that some on the estate do have to budget but the benefits in a higher fee are substantial and worthwhile. \$20 pa is unlikely to break the majority. We reserve the right to request consideration of a Special Levy for special projects – like the web site. This is a partial move to user-pays and a more realistic operational base. Along with these service and operational improvements, the

Committee is seeking new minds to add to the value the current committee brings. We are all volunteers who share roles and get involved in activities that interest us or create challenges to be addressed. We seek involvement by up to three (3) new members who see their backgrounds, experience and personal preferences covering any of the activities of the Noosa Waters Residents Association – social, facilities and services, government and resident issues. Call 07 5474 2925 to discuss your interest. Many elements of what you see, experience and what attracts you to live in Noosa Waters has arisen from the efforts of successive Noosa Waters Residents Associations and their committees. The current committee is asking for your support.

Membership and subscription levels are under what your committee believes is truly representative of a majority of residents. In the 1st quarter 2008 we will promote a series of Meet Your Committee gatherings across Noosa Waters to provide a forum for residents to hear directly from the committee and President on matters concerning the effective and efficient management and administration of the estate. Look out for the reminder and venue flyer carrying the association logo. If any resident member is aware that a neighbour isn't a subscriber, please encourage them to attend with you and get more facts and information about the benefits of membership.

New initiatives are underway being the web site, discussions about security and anti-hooping initiatives. We are also considering expanding social interaction. Our work with the new council will be critical to maintaining services. We are working

## 2007/2008 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	Michael Donovan	5474 2925
Vice President	Ian Purnell	5455 5633
Secretary	Hilary Andrew	5447 1885
Treasurer	Carol Donovan	5474 2925
Landscaping	TBA	
Waterwatch	Warren Burrows	5473 0545
Newsletter	Alison Tucker	5474 4997
Social	Greg Foster	5474 2709
Committee	Werner Dyrmaier vacant	5455 5727
N'hood Watch	Gisa & Henry Weatherill	5474 4125

### Non-committee posts include:

Council Liaison	Ian Purnell	5455 5633
Fine Dining	Louise Taylor	
Insurance	Allan Day	5409 4600

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### President's Page continued...

to commission expert reports into facilities management on the waterways. The new web site will feature a very good report into flood mitigation following the recent heavy downpours. All of these provide you with comfort and security.

By placing a greater value on membership we will see a change in access to detailed content. With special reports, council advices and other subscription funded activity, only paid-up members will be able to access full details using the new web site because we will commence to value membership by targeting the benefits to members, not non-subscribing residents. Fair is Fair. After all, it is the subscriptions that funds our initiatives and activity. A headliner about an issue, news or an initiative will be provided for everyone to see but full details and recommended actions will be for subscribers only. Investigations are currently underway in regards to the added benefit of the Noosa Waters "Buying Power" which could financially save residents \$\$\$ in every day shopping plus major purchases. I am very happy to talk this through with anyone who isn't happy with this move. It is time those who support the Association get the privileges and benefits of membership.

Noosa Waters Residents Association has sought clarification from Noosa Council about conflicting inspections regarding swimming pool security across the estate. The council inspection team now has a clearer understanding of the issue and will work with us to overcome confusion.

Cheers for now.

*Michael Donovan, President*

## WATERWATCH REPORT

### 1. Introduction

Since the last newsletter Noosa experienced a flood where the Noosa River burst its banks. This caused severe flooding along parts of Gympie and Hilton Terraces. It was found that Noosa Waters stood up very well to the flooding. Water did not enter any houses but rose above the revetment wall by approximately 455 mm. There were homes in Shorehaven Drive close to the wetlands where water flowed over the road. Waterwatch has made a submission to council requesting council undertake a study/investigation for the Noosa Waters catchment area particularly regarding present and proposed developments.

### 2. Short Brief of August 2007 Floods, and the Effect on the Noosa Waters Lake System

#### 2.1 Rainfall on Noosa and the Cooloola Coast

The total rainfall for the week ending Sunday 26th August according to the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) was:-

- Rainbow Beach - 941mm
- Noosa Heads - 803mm
- Tewantin - 616mm

#### 2.2 The Rain Recorded on Noosa Waters

Noosa Waters received unusually heavy rain for August in the early part of the week. Rainfall commencing 20th August 2007, was as follows -

- For the 24-hour period ending 9.00 am on Monday 20th - 42 mm
- For the 24-hour period ending 9.00 am on Tuesday 21st - nil
- For the 24-hour period ending 9.00 am on Wednesday 22nd - 70 mm
- For the 24-hour period ending 9.00 am on Thursday 23rd - 50 mm

The BOM stated that a low-pressure trough, off the coast of Fraser Island, had become stationary due to a high pressure area over Bass Strait in Victoria. This caused rainfall over the Sunshine Coast at levels that had not been recorded in August since 1880.

- For the 24-hour period ending 9.00 am on Friday 24th - 400 mm. This raised canal levels to 0.1m above the revetment walls, or 0.5m above its normal water level. At the same time the Noosa River at Noosaville was not flooded and was still about 0.33m below its banks. However the Noosa River broke its banks that afternoon.
- For the 24-hour period ending 9.00 am on Saturday 25th - 215 mm.

The lock gates were opened, Saturday, until the following Wednesday 26th. The weir/lock level was indicating 3.5 m on the lock wall at 2000 hrs, Saturday. 25/8/07.

This was the 4th time in 14 years that the canal water had come above the revetment walls. It was the highest level reached in the history of Noosa Waters.

We were verbally advised that there could be some sewage 'feedback' in toilets.

#### 2.3 Preliminary Discussions with Council

Conversations with Council representatives on the worst case scenario of a cyclone, with an off-shore storm surge occurring, were reassuring because of historical data.

DR  
**JEREMY NORRIS**  
B.D.S.(Syd Uni)

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### 3. Proposal for a Consultant's Flood report for the Noosa Waters Estate

It is proposed that NWRA WaterWatch enter into discussions with Noosa Council to appoint a suitably qualified consultant to prepare a flood report for the Noosa Waters Canal Estate. The facts and observations of the August 2007 floods are to be taken into consideration together with forecast scenarios of future flood situations. Brief details of NWRA requirements to Council are as follows:

- a. Calculations of all flash flooding are required from all catchment areas feeding into the Noosa Waters Lake system. The current situation is likely to deteriorate particularly as the hard surface building developments on the boundary of the NW catchment areas have not yet been completed.
- b. Consideration of having lock gates opened at times deemed appropriate to relieve flash floods. Safety and supervision to be considered.
- c. Report required on the effects of the various types of floods on Noosa Waters i.e. flash, river volume, tidal and storm surge. Typically these occurrences would be caused by cyclonic and other adverse heavy rain/storm events. NWRA to make available to any selected consultant all collected data.
- d. Council to arrange a one-off consultant's report to be prepared, taking into consideration the information available from the designer of the estate.
- e. Council to maintain clear passage for water entering the Shorehaven Drive road wetlands underpass by regular clearance of obstructions.
- f. NWRA to advise residents best method to secure vessels and associated equipment.
- g. Where possible all absent owners to have an arrangement with a neighbour or friend to care for their property.
- h. Council to commence monitoring of the 4.5 m setback from revetment walls of 'structures or obstructions' to ensure the design integrity of the lake system is maintained.

### 4. Action Plan

Detailed documentation has been prepared and issued to the Council executive and Councillors requesting a flood investigation/study be undertaken by a suitable consultancy for our requirements. A meeting has been arranged for NWRA to meet with Council to discuss these requirements.

Keep the smile alive

*Warren Burrows (Wazza)*

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Thank you to the residents who responded to our reminder notice for the 2007-2008 Subscription Year. Thank you to the many who also give a donation to the Association and Neighbourhood Watch – it is much appreciated. However, there are still a great many residences that have not contributed and this is disappointing.

As you will see in the President's Report, membership will be increased to \$20 from January 2008.

*Carol Donovan*

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Hello neighbours, we hope you are all well and enjoying life and are of course keeping a watchful eye out for your friends and neighbours. Everyone seems to be doing a great job as there is not a lot to report. Some vandalism occurred a little while ago around Saltwater and Shorehaven and the police were informed by the distressed residents.

An unregistered motorbike was observed being ridden at high speeds around the Shipyard area, it was also observed that the rider was not wearing a helmet - a very dangerous mix. In this area many children are playing, so please take care and watch out for your fellow neighbours and their children, as we all like to enjoy our beautiful parks and gardens.

From the Neighbourhood Watchers a very Happy Christmas and our best wishes for the New Year.

*Henry and Gisa*

### SOCIAL REPORT

What a shame about our great Melbourne Cup function being rained out, but it was great to see the rain! Hopefully cup day in 2008 will be sunny for us in Noosa.

**Christmas Boat Flotilla** - Friday 21st December has been chosen as the date for this year's Noosa Waters Christmas Boat Flotilla which is always a great way to finish off our year. Form up will be at the Eastern side of the Saltwater/Shorehaven canal bridge at 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start.

**Christmas Lights Competition** - Monday 17th December will be the start of our House Christmas Lighting Competition. This competition has grown in popularity from year to year, with some great prizes up for grabs why not make this year the one you "LIGHT UP YOUR HOUSE". Winners will be announced on the night of the flotilla. A flyer will be printed out and delivered in the week leading up to the lights competition and flotilla.

Stay Social, *Greg*

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### GIBSON ROAD UNDERPASS

In relation to the Gibson Road Underpass lighting improvements, I can confirm that Council have identified the need to upgrade the lighting as part of the overall cycleway improvements and these works are expected to be undertaken this financial year. Our thanks go to the Landscaping Group, the Noosa Council and especially Peter McGregor and Bob Jarvis.

Michael Donovan

### FINE DINING

After another very successful year with a great many events, it is time to say goodbye to Lynda who is moving away from Noosa Waters. I am sure you will all join me in thanking Lynda for organising all the Fine Dining events with such style and success. We all wish her the very best in the future.

Fine Dining will now be handed over to Louise Taylor who recently moved to Noosa. Louise can be contacted at [rjtaylor@big.net.au](mailto:rjtaylor@big.net.au) if you would like to join Fine Dining.

### YOUR COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

We are short on committee members. Contributing to the management of the estate by residents directly benefits us all. If you seek involvement in the upkeep and quality of presentation across the estate then consider joining us. Can you help and spare a little of your time for the committee? It is not a heavy commitment as we share doing things we enjoy. Currently the Landscaping coordinator post and a general committee post are available. Are you an avid gardener who likes to work with other green thumbs? Could you lend us your expertise to help keep Noosa Waters beautiful and well managed? If you would like to join us in either of these roles or would like to help out in any way please contact the President, Michael Donovan on 07 5474 2925 or [michael@michael-donovan.com](mailto:michael@michael-donovan.com) Thank you.

### LOST & FOUND

LOST ... During the floods last August a few kayaks managed to float away from their homes. If anyone happened to find a kayak please phone...

Janet and John Day, Lost and Found – 54 555 835

### WEB PAGE

The recent distribution of material about a community website at [www.noosawaters.org](http://www.noosawaters.org) is NOT the proposed official Noosa Waters Residents Association web site. It is a commercial site trading off the Noosa Waters name. Completely legal but not with any endorsement by your Association.

Michael Donovan

### POTENTIAL FOR SHARK PRESENCE IN CANAL SYSTEM

Since 1993, when the Noosa Waters canals were connected to the river, there have been numerous alleged sightings of sharks in our canal system. In that time, no proven shark presence has been evidenced despite investigation and enticement to bait. That is not to make light of what are a regular number of sightings, some quite recent this season.

Residents of Noosa Waters need to acknowledge that the canals are Queensland waterways and therefore sharks could be present. Noosa Council advice is that the lock system would be a significant challenge to any shark entering the system. However, neither to our nor Noosa Council's knowledge, has there ever been a confirmed proven sighting, capture or attack within the Noosa Waters Canal System. Notwithstanding this residents should use common sense when fishing, swimming or playing in the canals. Noosa Council is prepared to take action if a substantiated presence can be evidenced. Council is happy to receive evidence of sightings.

Noosa Waters Residents Association September 2007

### HANDOVER REPORT ON LANDSCAPING – Sharon Coell

Since the annual general meeting the following has taken place:-

- The removal of allocated trees from the estate
- Arranged replacement trees
- Arranged for bollards to be installed in Footbridge Park to stop cars entering and parking on grass
- Organised plants for Saltwater/Shorehaven garden bed (Council planted)
- Replacement turf for Footbridge Park where pavers were taken up
- Ordered more plants for Saltwater/Shorehaven Park boundary fence (where picnic tables are)

Still outstanding is the relocation of two benches at the fountain to the water edge.

We still require park co-ordinators for the following areas: Anchorage East; Bay Street Entrance; Figurehead; Helm Court; Quays (beachside); Saltwater Bridge S/E; Seamount Quay Island; Sunseeker; Waterside; Windsurf and Peninsula. If someone is already looking after these parks, please let Sharon Woodford (5442 4309) or Carol Donovan (5474 2925) know. Thanks go to Margaret Stanton for looking after Broadreach.

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