

33.INTERIM NEWSLETTER – July 15

good morning all,

Lots have happened in the last 2 weeks and it is necessary that I bring you an update.

MEMBERSHIP

Quite a few membership subscriptions have been received and receipts will be issued shortly – It has been pointed out that last year’s subscription form went with the newsletter and this has been corrected with the current renewal form attached. We look forward to receiving membership subscriptions as they pay for the day to day running expenses such as insurance (about \$300.00), paper for printing and ink.

FINAL “NO” TO FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR OFF-SHORE REEF

I constantly contacted the Minister’s office for a meeting which took place on December 4, at which he said he had not seen Dr.Mead’s response to the WRL Review and he was pleased to receive it and consider both documents – following on this meeting he visited Old Bar Beach on January 12 when he advised that all documents had been forwarded to the NSW Coastal Panel for consideration. On June 26 the Minister wrote to us and advised that the NSW Coastal Panel had supported the views expressed in the WRL review and that the NSW state government was not prepared to consider off-shore reef protection for Old Bar Beach. However, we have the satisfaction that through our work **the Feasibility Study for off-shore reef protection for Old Bar has been prepared and exists** and maybe sometime in the future common sense will prevail and the attitude of the NSW government will catch up to the future and off-shore reef protection for beaches.

MORE RESEARCH BY YOUR COMMITTEE

For some 3 years I have been speaking with Angus Jackson of International Coastal Management from the Gold Coast, who is also doing extensive work in Dubai – his company there is EcoCoast Marine Contracting. The many projects undertaken by these two companies can be viewed on line and confirm their success in beach protection.

ANGUS JACKSON’S “PRACTICAL LONG TERM SOLUTIONS FOR PRESERVING THE OLD BAR BEACHES AND BEACHFRONT COMMUNITY”

On contacting Angus Jackson with a request that he address our community, we received his OK and more, he has stated that he will prepare a plan for protection of our beach. Here again we are getting a plan from a world leader in beach protection who has “hands on” experience and whose work is in demand around the world. He has interrupted his very busy schedule to do this for our community for as he has stated

President	Elaine Pearce	0407 229 145 president@obbsrg.com
Vice President	Rosemary Probst	02 6553 7574 vicepresident@obbsrg.com
Secretary	Gail Willan	02 6553 3326 secretary@obbsrg.com

- “I am sympathetic to your plight as I believe that coastal protection in the future, particularly in areas such as NSW and Nth Qld, will need to be driven by a well-informed and committed beachfront community using staged, affordable and site specific solutions developed outside the retreat mentality of the establishment”.

In email to me in July last year Angus stated

- NSW have never been greatly proactive with beach management works and has done almost no nourishment. Just reports and planning approaches.
- Reefs etc almost always need to be combined with nourishment [like Narrowneck]. The NN monitoring reports and Client [and the world in general other than NSW] are very positive about Narrowneck. Trying to convince NSW that anything works other than “do [pay] nothing” or at most design a seawall is very difficult and not a battle that I need to fight when our services around the world are in demand .
- It seems to me that the harsh reality is that NSW will continue to spend huge amounts of money drawing red hazard lines along the coast until sometime in the future when Qld has beaches [and the tourists from nsw] and NSW has erosion, no beaches and more court cases nothing will happen in NSW.

He was an integral part of the team in the construction of the Narrowneck Reef, which is successfully holding the sand on the northern Gold Coast Beaches.

PRESENTATION OF THE NEW PLAN FOR OLD BAR BEACH
TAREE-OLD BAR SURF LIFESAVING CLUB – SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 at
2.30pm

Please come along and bring any interested persons you know. There must be a lot of locals who would be pleased to hear a positive plan for the protection of our beach and the replenishment of the sand.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Because of the importance of a presentation by such a well respected and experienced oceanographer as Angus Jackson our Annual General Meeting will be held at a later date to be advised. Remember to register a vote at the AGM members must be financial.

ELAINE PEARCE - PRESIDENT

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