

## **OLD BAR BEACH SAND REPLENISHMENT GROUP INC**

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### **NEWSLETTER NO 56, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 2017**

This is a joint November-December newsletter and an opportunity to start on a happy note –

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL**

So sorry, but now I have to continue with the facts

**SANDSCRAPING** – no real progress – just *NSW government procrastination*

**RACECOURSE CREEK STUDY** – no real progress – just *NSW government procrastination*

**FARQUHAR INLET** - still blocked, but mangroves are growing well

**PACIFIC PARADE** – foredune and ***endangered*** Ancient littoral rainforest – being eaten away with each rainfall.

### **MEETING WITH MIDCOAST COUNCIL – November 14**

Andrew Staniland advised

**Re: Sand Scraping** - that Council submitted a full Review of Environmental Factors (REF) and request for licence to undertake the sand scraping on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Following feedback from Crown Lands, Council submitted additional information on 15 November 2017. We are awaiting a licence. Once the licence application is received, Council will have to make a determination on undertaking the sand scraping works prior to the end of the calendar year. There are a run of high tides predicted for the start of December. This may not allow Council the physical space on the beach to undertake the sand scraping works. Further, we are reliant on a contracted coastal engineer to assist Council with the work. I need to consult with this contractor to determine availability in December. Once a date is set for sand scraping, I will ensure that is known to the OBBSRG and the general community.

**Re: Hay Bales** - On the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017, Council was invited to a meeting with Crown Lands and the Manning Point Landcare Group. During this meeting I took the opportunity to raise the hay bales. I highlighted that the ban on use of plastics on the beach limits the adaptive management options available when managing the coast. I requested that licence / permit wording is altered to dictate that no plastics are to enter the ocean. With this wording, alternative management methods can be employed on the sand with maintenance and monitoring programs established to ensure no plastic material enters the ocean. I am awaiting the response to this suggestion.

**Re: Ed Couriel Report** - As per previous correspondence on this topic, this is an ongoing action that I continue to work on. Council is liaising with OEH on this topic.

Though this is a slow process, the completion of this report is not top priority for Council, however, we will continue to work towards completing the report.

When our group raised with Andrew the sand scraping carried out at Brighton Beach he explained that it resulted from that council achieving a licence some years ago, through the same efforts that MidCoast Council are now working through for Old Bar. Also that the Coastal Engineer, James Carley, who will be working with MidCoast Council for our beach, worked on the Brighton Beach project.

### **RACECOURSE CREEK STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STUDY**

It is very disappointing to see our endangered ancient littoral rainforest being eaten away each time we have heavy downpours.

**OLD BAR MANNING POINT COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (CMP)** – preparation of this study is dependent in part on the completion of the Racecourse Creek Stormwater Management study.

**FARQUHAR INLET**- From where we view the problem of restoring sand to our beach, our preferred option is to adapt the Worley Parsons “inland lake with notch” plan (2010 – 7 years ago) and utilise the sand (30,000 cu.metres = 2 kmx1.5mx10m) on Old Bar Beach.

Our group is doing its utmost to achieve protection of our beach – we need your support and encouragement – if anyone wishes to join our working committee please contact me – all input helps.

### **FUND RAISING**

Back to work – our first Bunnings Barbecue of 2018 is set for January 27 which might prove to be a successful one, being in the Australia Day week-end. We don't raise a lot of funds from these Bunnings Barbecues, but like to do them to keep our name and work to the forefront of the locals.

**HAVE A GOOD CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY WITH YOUR FAMILY  
AND WE WISH YOU A PROSPEROUS 2018**

**REMEMBER**  
**“TO DO NOTHING IS DISASTER – WE MUST DO  
SOMETHING”**

**MY MOTTO**  
**SAND ON THE BEACH “ANY WHICH WAY”**  
**ELAINE PEARCE – PRESIDENT – mob. 0407 229 145**