



By the community.
For the community.

April 2023

StocktonComGroup@gmail.com | stocktoncommunitygroup.com.au | Find us on

#LessTalkMoreSand

#SaveStockton2295

#RedLineRally2023

#TellUsTheTimeline



SCG INC. UPDATE

Alison Rigby & Melanie Taggart, Co-Presidents

As this newsletter goes to press we are very pleased that the new Labor Government has committed to funding mass sand nourishment. The challenge is to maintain pressure on the Government to ensure funding is delivered and not lost in bureaucratic red tape. Be prepared for #RedLineRally2023.

In further community news- SCG Inc have written a submission in response to the City of Newcastle Draft Crown Land Plan of Management 2022. We will keep you updated on the outcomes.

On another important issue over the past week there was an event at the ORICA Plant that caused community concern. At any time if you have an issue please contact the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hot line 131 555 & your concern will be registered.

Please see opinion piece by SCG Inc. member Keith Craig.

Stockton and Ammonium Nitrate Storage

The SCG Inc. welcomes the review and proposed changes to the ammonium nitrate (AN) storage distances. The location of up to 12,000 tonnes of AN stored at the Orica AN factory has been a

major concern for the Stockton community and we have noted the major difference in storage distances for individual states of Australia. The WA regulations are based on more rigorous and accepted blast radius principles, and therefore suitable and applicable to urban environments. The changes proposed by SafeWork NSW would bring the NSW regulations closer to the regulations in WA and the SCG Inc. welcomes these proposed changes. While the risk of an explosion has a very small probability of occurrence. The outcome if that happened is truly catastrophic, as seen in the Beirut explosion which had much lower AN stored volume than at Orica in Newcastle. While the risk is small it is never zero. The solution to avoid such catastrophic outcomes is to reduce and/or move volumes of AN stored in Newcastle.

A purpose made storage facility for the AN produced closer to the coal mines in the Hunter Valley with appropriate security would be a much safer result for the Stockton and Newcastle community. Newcastle is likely the world record holder for amount of AN stored close to a city centre and its time this changed for the benefit of everyone.

HIGHLIGHTS

Candidates Forum in February – The candidates forum at the February meeting was a great success, some 60 people attended. Candidates from the key political parties provided overviews of their policies and platforms.

Increased level of media coverage of Stockton Beach's plight – Stockton Beach has featured heavily in the lead up to the NSW State Election in newspaper articles, radio interviews & local news coverage.

Community Award

In January the SCG Inc. was named Newcastle Community Group of the Year. The Community Group of the Year title recognises significant contributions that community groups and other non-profit organisations make in our community. See website for details

Windfarm development briefing

Members attended the initial consultation session held 8th March in Newcastle. See over details.

NCIG Update – Nathan Juchau provided an overview of NCIG & the operations on Kooragang at the SCG Inc. March Meeting.

KEY DATES

Wednesday 12th April 7:30pm

SCG Inc. Meeting

Venue: Stockton Surf Life Saving Club, Pitt St, Stockton

Guest Speaker: Stockton Fire Station Officer on the role of On-call fire fighters & Home Fire Safety

Wednesday 10th May 7.30pm

SCG Inc. Meeting

Venue: Stockton Surf Life Saving Club, Pitt St, Stockton

Guest Speaker: To be advised

WE ARE

Stockton Community Group Inc. (SCG Inc.) are a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers that seek to act and promote Stockton Community Interests

SCG Inc. Co-Presidents: Alison Rigby, Melanie Taggart

SCG Inc. Secretariat: Vacant

SCG Inc. Treasurer: Lindy Nisbett



@stocktoncommunitygroup

Make sure you are following
Stockton Community Group Inc.

THE FIGHT GOES ON

The New Government must ensure work commences on restoring Stockton Beach immediately. We cannot endure months & years of more red tape. Stockton Beach issues cannot be lost in government departments.

DON'T LET PROMISES TO RESTORE STOCKTON BEACH BE CAUGHT UP IN BUREAUCRACY & RED TAPE **SCG INC. REQUIRES ANSWERS:**

- #1 Tell us the **TIMELINE**
- #2 Deliver us the **FUNDING**
- #3 Secure us the **SAND SOURCE**
- #4 Provide the (sand-dump) **PERMISSIONS**
- #5 Mandate the **MINING LICENCE**
- #6 Deploy the **DREDGE**
- #7 Build back the **BEACH**

Be prepared for #RedLineRally2023



WINDFARMS OFF THE COAST OF NSW

Currently there is a proposal by Federal Dept. of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment & Water to develop windfarms off the coast of NSW. A preliminary consultation was held recently in Newcastle. Questions from participants focussed on impacts on marine ecosystems, generation of power & storage and the number of windfarms likely to be developed.

The wind farm/s will be located 40-50 kms offshore from Stockton and will take up to 7 years to be active.

More information is needed about the location and size of the on-land substations.

A feasibility proposal is being prepared for community consultation, SCG Inc. will respond when report available.

Have your say! For more information visit: <https://consult.dccew.gov.au/oei-hunter>



Picture by Nicholas Doherty
Instagram: nrdoherly | Twitter: nrdoherly

STOCKTON ART COMPETITION



Adult Category Winner

"The last of Stockton seaglass"
- by Nora