

By the community. For the community.

STOCKTON

COMMUNITY GROUP INC.

#LessTalkMoreSand

#SaveStockton2295

#StandWithUs2295

#TellUsTheTimeline

November 2025

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

PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Lindy Nisbett, President

Our Summer Newsletter is coming to you online. Please also check out our improved website where you can find all our documents, past newsletters and information about our current initiatives.

Seasons Greetings, have a safe and happy festive season.

SCG Inc Executive 2026

In 2026 there is a change in the SCG Inc leadership team, after 4 years Alison Rigby is stepping down from the Co-president of SCG Inc. We thank Alison for her hard work. Lindy Nisbett will

continue as the President Thanks also to Jo Bastian & Mike Hocking-Gill who are stepping down from the executive.

The SCG Executive for 2026:

President - Lindy Nisbett
Secretary - Vacant
Treasurer - Amanda Plumsted
Public Officer - Ian Taggart
Carolyn Bailey
Keith Craig
Garry Cullinane
Alison Rigby

Looking forward to working with you all over the next twelve months.

SUCCESSFUL GRANTS

Alison Rigby

In 2025 SCG Inc applied for a number of grants to support communication with residents of Stockton. The following grants were successful & allow SCG Inc to continue to provide information and advocacy for the Stockton community:

Club Grants NSW (Club Stockton) - \$3,400.00

The Club's Board of Directors have granted \$3,400.00. The Grant will be used to produce and deliver the SCG Inc newsletter in a variety of formats and

assist in creating campaign material to raise awareness about areas of need.

Volunteers Grant 2024-25 (Australian Government) - \$2,564.00

SCG Inc secured a Volunteers Grant with the assistance of the Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Claydon. The Grant will be used to update and maintain the SCG Inc website.

SCG Inc would like to thank Club Stockton and Sharon Claydon (MP) for supporting these grant applications.

key dates 2026

MEETING DATES 2026

Meetings held at Stockton Surf Club 7:30pm

February 18th
April 15th
September 16th
November 18th

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. President:
Lindy Nisbett

SCG Inc. Secretariat: Vacant

SCG Inc. Treasurer:
Amanda Plumsted

Suburb Improvement & Crown Land: Carolyn Bailey

Air & Water Quality:
Keith Craig

Beach Group: Alison Rigby

Recycling Group: Ian Taggart

Please see SCG Inc. website for membership details:

www.stocktoncommunitygroup.com.au



(Photo courtesy of Sharon Claydon, (I Taggart, L Nisbett, A Rigby, S Claydon)

RECYCLING GROUP NEWS

Ian Taggart

A recycling subgroup has been formed within SCG Inc.. Alberto Nougues, a local Stockton identity, gave a short talk at one of our meetings in 2024. Though our Facebook page, and that of Sustainable Stockton, we set up a public meeting at the Gladly Hotel in October and attracted 20+ locals keen to see a more effective use of recycling in Stockton. The outcome of this meeting emphasised use

of SCG Inc. as the umbrella organisation (to use for public reach and grant applications). Currently we are looking to create a structured recycling working/management leadership team that meets each month. Initial efforts to centre around greater awareness of CN and Curby offerings via Green and Yellow bins, sharing best practices, and making use of local composting opportunities.

AIR QUALITY

Keith Craig

The latest CRG meeting with Orica provided feedback on the performance of the new Prill Tower Scrubber that was installed at the cost of \$37 million to remove PM 2.5 fine particles. These are particles that can enter the lungs and affect people's health. Four monitoring rounds of prill tower scrubber testing have been completed at maximum plant rates and the results are consistent with expectations

of <1-2mg/m3 total particulates providing very high removal of PM 2.5 particles. A traffic-light style system has been added to the Orica KI website to communicate monitoring results with the community. SCG is following up with the EPA for PM 2.5 results at the Stockton monitoring station over winter 2025 when westerly winds were dominant which should also see a corresponding drop in PM 2.5 levels.

SAND PLACEMENT

Alison Rigby

Sadly, since the approval of the Stockton Coastal Management Plan (CMP) 2025, it has come to light that sand will not be placed on Stockton Beach until 2028. We acknowledge that tendering, acceptance and delivery of a dredge will likely take 18 months or more. However, sand dumping in the interim is critical to minimising erosion on Stockton. Sand placement stopped in 2022.

SCG Inc has requested the NSW Govt to reconsider dredging and sand dumping permissions to allow suitable sand, currently dredged from Newcastle Harbour to be dumped off Stockton Beach.



Photo courtesy A Rigby

Regular sand scraping is helping maintain the beach but cannot prevent beach erosion in the next 24 months. Unfortunately, it cannot be assumed that Stockton beach is saved – the fight continues.

STOCKTON LANDCARE

Paul Johnston

Stockton Landcare Group has operated for 25 years. The team comprises volunteers of all ages and is fully inclusive. City of Newcastle administers and provides resources for the Group. The team's current focus is the Little Beach Park bushland area. This area has been transformed from mostly exotic weeds to a showpiece natural area of native trees, shrubs and grasses. The Group meets to work

one morning (normally the second Monday) a month. New members are eagerly sought. So, if you're interested in giving a couple of hours a month for the betterment of the Stockton environment – and our community – you'll be welcomed.

For further information – please contact the Coordinator, Paul Johnson: Phone: 0438 632 821 or email: prjohnson47@bigpond.com

FERRY MAINTENANCE & CANCELLATION

Alison Rigby & Carolyn Bailey

The cancellation of ferry services due to mechanical failure on the 20th November is the latest barb in the appalling treatment of residents by Keolis Downer & Transport NSW. While the Stockton Ferry trip maybe a delightful 3-minute journey for visitors, it is a vital mode of transport for the Stockton community and commuters from the region to access work, school and health care. The general disregard for users is shameful. While buses may provide an alternative how do people with mobility aides and bikes get home?

Maintenance of the Newcastle Ferries is an ongoing issue. The service provider (Keolis Downer), Transport NSW and the State Government are unwilling to take responsibility for the scheduling of regular maintenance of the fleet. It is noted the 2nd ferry has been out of service for 9 months. Cost of maintenance and the age of the ferries are cited as the problem. A problem that Stockton residents have no control over, yet are most impacted by when service is disrupted.

Consequences of service cancellation without notice:

- Missed medical and other scheduled appointments
- People unable to get to work and educational facilities
- Missed connections to buses, trains and airports

If you have been impacted by the ferry service disruptions, voice your concern and share your experience by contacting:

Tim Crakanthorp MP Ph: (02)4926 1126 or Email: newcastle@parliament.nsw.gov.au
<https://www.timcrakanthorp.com/contact-us>

Newcastle Transport (Keolis Downer)
Ph: (02) 4974 1600 or 131 500

Email: contact@newcastletransport.info

Transport for NSW Ph: 131 500 or
<https://feedback.transportnsw.info/s/>

HOW TO CONTACT CITY OF NEWCASTLE

If you have a concern, request for service or ideas for improving Stockton these can be lodged with City of Newcastle by completing a Customer Request Form online at:

<https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/about-us/forms-and-publications/forms-and-permits/customer-request-form>

Or you can call them on : **02 4974 2000**

When you lodge a Customer Request you should receive a Reference Number (CRN). This number is important for any ongoing correspondence or if you want to raise your issue with elected councillors.

OUR WARD 1 COUNCILLORS ARE:

Declan Clausen

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declan@declanclausen.com.au Ph: (02) 4974 1366

Peter Gittins

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