

The Friends of Stradbroke Island Association Inc.

Newsletter No. 41 January 2003

FOSI was formed in 1988 to oppose the construction of inappropriate development at Cylinder Beach. FOSI continues to monitor proposals for this site, and others on North Stradbroke Island, with the aim of preserving the island's unique features: coastal villages, remarkable landscape and beaches, and areas of significant vegetation and wildlife. Membership is open to those who support FOSI's aims.

MEMBERSHIP RATES, 2002: Individual \$15.00 Family \$20.00 Concession \$5.00

The postal address of FOSI is PO Box 167, Point Lookout Qld 4183

President: Sue Ellen Carew (07) 3870 9694

Pub case update

by Sue Ellen Carew

The saga continues... Contrary to FOSI's arguments (see the last newsletter), and the unanimous decision of the Queensland Court of Appeal, Redland Shire Council has decided to support the pub developers in their bid to appeal to the High Court of Australia.

To obtain a hearing of an appeal before the High Court, leave to appeal must first be granted. Since the High Court will not sit in Brisbane until mid-year, this first hurdle may not be resolved until later in 2003. Assuming that the applicants are successful at this stage (and only a small percentage of potential cases proceed), it would

be unlikely that the case could be heard until late 2003 or even into 2004. This must seem an unreasonable delay for all involved in the development.

Plans are afoot, apparently, for an alternative resolution. According to the marketing agents, a redesign is due to be submitted to Council, and if this involves fewer units available for sale they could be purchased by the interested parties on a first-come-first-served basis.

We in FOSI hope that the matter is resolved by submission of a DCP-compliant plan rather than further court action.

Call to action on new CRL mine

by Jani Haenke

Anyone who cares for North Stradbroke Island should be deeply concerned at how it has been altered, and how its sandhills are yet to be further reduced, following the mining for heavy minerals by CRL, and for silica by ACI and its successor, Unimin.

It is a great pity that the island should be mined at all; not only has it lost thousands of hectares of remarkable bushland, worthy of inclusion in a National Park and listing by the Australian Heritage Commission, but worse

devastation has happened in "accidents": oil spills, washouts, dune slumps, and wanton destruction of the lakes. Indeed, some lakes appear to be beyond repair by any presently-known method. Each area mined has suffered from the process, and the revegetation is lagging many hectares behind the mining.

At the time when CRL is preparing to mine a new area, the Enterprise lease in the sandhills west of the Eighteen Mile Swamp (formerly the Herring Enterprise lease), the mining company

has applied to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for an amendment to its existing approvals, to conform with the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. "...The EPA undertook a rigorous assessment of CRL's existing authority against the future operations proposed by the company." [Communication from R. Anderson, Director, Environment (Southern Region), EPA] It considered submissions of all stakeholders (including FOSI). When the EPA has received further information from CRL it will advertise CRL's application in the press, probably late in January. After a 28-day period for lodging objections by stakeholders, the EPA will consider all submissions to decide upon the amendment application.

Approvals given thirty years ago without any environmental awareness or safeguards are still being honoured by an Environmental Protection Agency and State Government which will not acknowledge responsibility for our island's destruction, any more than for land clearing in other parts of the State. The past performance of CRL has been cynical in the extreme, and the present management distances itself from such gung-ho activities. It is hard for those of us who

have been monitoring the escalating destruction of the island to believe that the change in attitude is more than fine words written up in the Environmental Management Overview Statement and Annual Plans of Operations.

Please look out for the forthcoming EPA advertisement of CRL's application. The FOSI committee will be pleased to have input from the membership in forming its response to the EPA.



What you don't see from the East Coast Road — the Unimin (formerly ACI) silica mine site as seen from the top of Bippo Penbean

Movement ahead on Flinders Beach

The ruinous impact of 4WDs on the island was never more apparent than this Christmas, when impatient drivers, blocked by the high tides that were eroding the beach and foreshore trees, pushed their vehicles through bushland on the fragile dunes near Adder Rock to create new access tracks. So news of a workshop on the management of Flinders Beach, jointly convened by the Community Association and RSC, could not be more timely.

A long list of island organisations and individuals will be invited to attend, with the intention of giving a voice to everyone who has an interest in the use or preservation of the beach and its hinterland. The idea is to draw on the *Flinders Beach Management Plan*, which was released by Mary Maher and Associates in 1998. The Management Plan was initiated by SIMO and supported by FOSI and RSC.

The workshop will look at all aspects of the management of Flinders Beach, including toilets, 4WD access, camping, pollution of the swamp, fishing and surfing. The Community Association is expecting the outcomes to fall into three categories: legislative (State or Council), changes

that can be made within the existing policies framework, and a list of measures to implement before the Easter rush.

The cavalier use of Flinders Beach to date has put immense pressure on the natural environment and has been in flagrant disregard of its status as a Ramsar site (for the protection of wading birds). This remedial action is long overdue.

Get your hands dirty

Point Lookout Bushcare needs helpers for its market stall, its monthly working bees in the reserve and its propagation and maintenance sessions at the nursery each Thursday from 10 am to 12 noon.

For more information, contact
Jan Johnman on 3409 8687 or e-mail
jbjohnman@bigpond.com

Survey results show that FOSI members are key stakeholders in NSI

Thanks to everyone who responded to the questionnaire in the October 2002 newsletter; 46% of the households on the FOSI mailing list responded, a sample that is large enough to allow observations to be made with some degree of confidence.

Overall, **72% of FOSI member households own property on North Stradbroke Island** and 28% do not.

Of those who own property on NSI:

- 77% live off the island
- 23% live on NSI, and *half of them operate businesses there* (such as tourism, guesthouse operation, commercial fishing, newsagencies, physiotherapy practices, travel writing, book editing and publishing services).

70% own 1 property on NSI
23% own 2
5% own 3
2% own 4

Extrapolating from this for the whole FOSI membership, it is likely that FOSI members own **up to 130 properties** on the island. Assuming that most of the properties are at Point Lookout, they may constitute **up to 16%** of the approx. 800 blocks there.

On average, the property owners have been living on NSI or visiting the island for 27 years (with a range from 4 to 70 years).

Those in this group who don't live on NSI visit the island an average 10 times per year (with a range from 2 visits per year to 50 per year).

Of the property owners, 2% are individuals, 51% are couples and 47% are adult(s) with children.

Of those who do not own property on NSI:

None live on the island and rent.

All live off-island and visit. When they visit:

- 17% rent
- 78% stay with friends or family
- 3% camp
- 2% day-visit.

On average, they have been visiting the island for 27 years (with a range from 15 years to 44 years).

They visit an average 7 times per year (with a range from 1 visit per 8 years to 50 times per year).

Of the non-property owners, 35% are individuals, 24% are couples and 41% are adult(s) with children.

General observations:

- Almost three-quarters of FOSI member households own 1 or more properties on NSI.
- This may constitute up to 16% of all properties at Point Lookout.
- Of total member households, 17% live on NSI and 8% also operate businesses there.

The "typical" FOSI member household seems to comprise reasonably mature individuals with a real-estate stake in the island, reflected in the high degree of property ownership there (with significance for the holiday rental component of the tourism industry), and also reflected in the extent of business involvement by those who live permanently on NSI. FOSI members also have a strong interest in less-tangible Straddie values, reflected in high frequencies of visitation, long associations with the island, and the following

selection of “main reasons for coming back” given in the survey responses:

- low-key, easy-going atmosphere
- natural beauty
- beach and bush the antithesis of Noosa and the Gold Coast
- unspoilt (generally!)
- unique flora and fauna
- safe, clean place for kids and a great place to show them the marine environment
- uncrowded
- unique character
- surf
- clean beaches and water
- native foreshores
- relative underdevelopment.

Wastewater whitewash

by Jackie Cooper

As everyone knows, the sewerage system at Point Lookout has long outgrown its useful life. The present sewerage system routinely fails under pressure during tourist peak times, and its upgrading and expansion are necessary simply to accommodate current demand, let alone also cope with projected tourism growth.

During 2002, Redland Water & Waste and its consultant, Halliburton KBR, orchestrated a community consultation exercise at Point Lookout, raising expectations that the community would have a say in the decision on the new/upgraded sewerage system. Unfortunately, however, the community consultation was narrowly focused on options for disposing of wastewater, despite locals' pleas to have the scope of enquiry widened to encompass the types of sewerage treatment systems available, and how best to achieve wastewater treatment levels to guarantee no detrimental impact on the island's fragile environment. So, for the representatives of the Point Lookout community who attended the open days and “workshop”, what was billed as a “consultation” process proved shallow, frustrating and unsatisfactory.

A united community view emerged in favour of sewerage effluent — wastewater — being treated to the highest levels (short of potability), and not wasted but irrigated onto suitable land available at the Yarraman mining lease (the so-called Option 1 defined in Redland Water's Wastewater Newsletter 3 of November 2002). Irrigation enables an 85+% evaporation rate, with the remaining wastewater and residual nutrients mostly taken up by an appropriate native crop, such as *Callitris* (island cypress). CRL's Yarraman mining lease is ideal for this operation: the necessary large areas for irrigation are available (well away from the beach), and land already disturbed by mining can be reprofiled to achieve the best slopes, soil horizons and visual screening.

At a wastewater workshop in August 2002, community representatives (including FOSI, SIMO, NSICA, Bushcare, Island Streets and Transport Group, NSI Surfrider Foundation, QALSMA, and residents) unanimously endorsed the option to pump all wastewater to the Yarraman mining lease for irrigation.

But apparently Redland Water & Waste had commenced the community consultation process with an altogether different preferred option already in mind: groundwater infusion. Redland Water's decision to locate the new STP in Quarry Reserve 1671 close to George Nothling Drive favours groundwater/aquifer release over irrigation in the Yarraman mining lease. (Significantly, the community was not consulted about where the new STP should go.)

The last “Open Day” on 14 December 2002 was a display of information, with technical staff on hand to answer questions, but there was no formal session where community representatives as a group could hear what others thought of the four treatment options being presented. This was hardly a basis for effective community consultation — perhaps more a “divide-and-rule” tactic.

Redland Water & Waste is due to submit its final report to Redland Shire Council in February. It will recommend irrigation of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (paperbark or teatree) in small (token) areas of disturbed land near the new STP, with the remainder (bulk) of the treated effluent to be disposed of by groundwater infusion near the STP. We understand that the effluent will be held in ponds behind the foredunes, about a kilometre south of the headland — although Redland Water & Waste has not been explicit in its explanations to the community, so we cannot be certain exactly how they intend to proceed. We were told that detailed groundwater modelling studies are needed to predict how the infused

wastewater will enter the aquifer in the planned disposal area and move seawards.

Regarding Redland Water's preferred groundwater release option, there is considerable concern about the bioaccumulation of heavy metals in eugaries if there is too much lateral flow to the beach, as well as the detrimental consequences of plant failures from inevitable power outages during storms, and from system overloads. None of this would be a problem with the Yarraman irrigation option.

Redland Water & Waste accepts that irrigation in the Yarraman mining lease is an option for the future, but not until 2012, when the Yarraman mining has moved closer to Point Lookout, reducing the cost of piping wastewater to it. However, there must be serious doubt that such irrigation will ever go ahead after 2012 when additional areas of the mining lease closer to the STP become available.

In the meantime, CRL personnel have indicated that land at Yarraman could be made available for irrigation as early as 2004. But Redland Water & Waste has not pursued this line of enquiry; could the reason be that it already had decided on groundwater infusion before "consulting" the Point Lookout community?

The Environmental Protection Agency's wastewater hierarchy policy (which Redland Shire Council is obliged to follow) states that irrigation should be undertaken, if it is a viable option, in preference to other disposal methods, such as groundwater infiltration. We are concerned that Redland Water & Waste is falsely representing

groundwater infusion as the only practical option. The principal issue for Redland Water & Waste is cost. Redland (our-job-is-to-sell) Water is a business unit. As such, it must turn a profit. But the principal issue at Point Lookout is the environment. Redland Water is allowed to extract 58,000,000 litres of water each day from the island, and intends to double that grab in 2004. How much profit is reaped from water extraction? And why is Redland Water & Waste not obliged to plough some of that profit back into a sustainable sewerage system for Point Lookout — and Dunwich too? The difference between the groundwater/aquifer release option and the irrigation option for Point Lookout is \$1 million — \$12.6 million as opposed to \$11.6 million. This represents a fraction of the overall lifetime cost of the system.

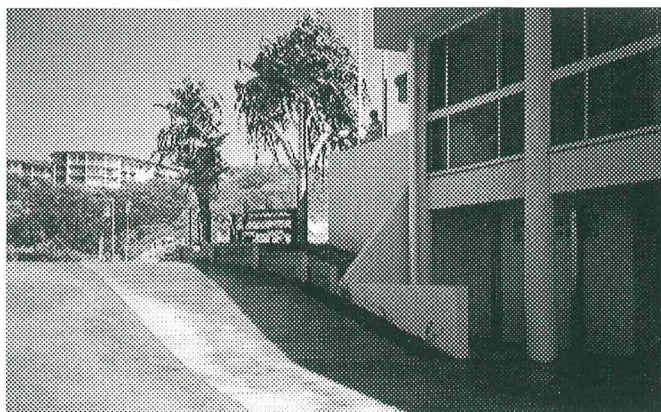
Redland Water & Waste has the task to manage water resources on the island according to sustainable principles, and to dispose of "wastewater" — which is a resource, not waste at all — in the way that best serves the environment. At a time when every other local authority in the country is pursuing state-of-the-art ways to conserve water and reuse wastewater responsibly, Redland Water & Waste is comfortably cushioned by the apparently unlimited abundance of the island's natural resource, and it seems bent on profligately discarding wastewater into the fragile sand environment in a manner that raises questions about the long-term health of the aquifer and the surrounding marine life.

Flotsam

Surf Lifesaving Club driveway Work has now been completed to rectify the "gravel-rash special" driveway that was foisted on the community without consultation. Next time you're at the headland, look out for the boardwalk-style access, garden beds, seating, new pushbutton showers and two mature pandanus, temporarily supported by guy wires. The turf past the access has been laid on Grassrings, which provide a strong but pervious base.

This infinitely superior treatment was designed by Cathy and Michael Bulloch. Construction culminated in a community turf-laying and planting, involving groups such as the Boardriders Club and Point Lookout Bushcare.

Busy time for turtles Loggerhead layings have been reported in December 2002 and January 2003 by early-rising locals such as Mike Hines, Jennie



The "new improved" Lifesaving Club access

Truman and Bruce Johnman. Sites include Frenchman's Beach (9 December and 4 January), Home Beach near Adder Rock (6 January),

Deadman's Beach (12 January, laying about 5 am at Red Rock, with her return to the sea apparently confused by the rising sun in the east), and Cylinder Beach (13 January, nesting about 8.30 pm in front of the camping ground).

Some of these may be repeat visits by the same individual, as turtles lay several clutches of eggs at about two-weekly intervals. Loggerheads nest every 2–5 years at best, and turtles may be 30–50 years old before they begin breeding, so watchers should not interfere with the nesting process of this endangered species.

In particular, when turtles are leaving the water, crossing the beach and digging their nest, don't shine lights on them, approach too closely or make excess noise and sudden movements. (While they are actually laying they are less vulnerable to disturbance.)

Straddie is at the southern end of the nesting range, and in these cooler climes loggerhead hatchlings appear about 9–10 weeks after being laid. The lower temperatures mean that most hatchlings will be males. When they disperse to the sea, baby turtles may be disoriented by artificial lighting, so it is important that bright lights from developments behind the Point Lookout beachfronts are not visible from the nesting sites.

Nests may be destroyed by foxes (which are surprisingly common on Straddie) and pet dogs that are allowed to roam. Moving the eggs more than a couple of weeks after they have been laid will kill the embryos, so even well-intentioned interference with nests is not advisable, as well as being an offence in national parks and environmental parks.

Whalewatch track After talks with members of the community, Council has abandoned its plans to build expensive wooden steps and an elevated boardwalk down the dune from the Whalewatch resort to Main Beach and agreed to construct more environmentally sensitive tracks that begin close to the cul-de-sac at the end of Samarinda Way.

One track hugs the Whalewatch hill and runs down to the casuarina groves behind the frontal dune. A short distance from Samarinda Way, a branch track runs just below the Whalewatch units, around the front to a discreet public viewing platform, so that surfers and others can continue to check the state of the surf or admire the view. This also serves to close off the informal track that people are currently following down the dune face to Main Beach, which is causing serious erosion. Where the main track finally reaches the frontal dune, a branch leads around the stormwater outlet depression to connect with the walking track in the reserve.

Another track (also serving as a firebreak) runs slightly further south along the stormwater route to Main Beach.

These tracks all have easy gradients and are well shaded by groves of coastal banksias and casuarinas. It is proposed that they will be named the "Lily Tracks" in honour of an old route in the same area, which was

lined with crinum lilies. Rehabilitation planting is planned for any areas of degraded bushland.

This is another good example of what can be achieved by consultation and cooperation between Council and the NSI community.

Public nuisances There has been an alarming increase in the number of jetskis on Straddie this Christmas holidays. One observer counted over 20 of these noxious conveyances at campsites along Flinders Beach, and there were reports of confrontations between peace-loving holiday-makers and aggressive jetskiers at the Keyhole Lakes.

In an attempt to relieve the situation, a handbill was prepared for the information of jetskiers, pointing out that Blue Lake and Brown Lake are closed to all forms of motorised watercraft, and appealing to them to leave the Keyhole Lakes to swimmers, canoeists and birdwatchers, and to completely avoid the heavily used swimming beaches from Adder Rock to Main Beach. (The Keyhole Lakes are Crown land, under Department of Natural Resources control; in 2002, after complaints about powerboats on the Keyholes, Redland Shire Council tried to negotiate transfer of responsibility so that they could regulate public use of the lakes, but the process seems to have foundered.)

FOSI believes that formal constraints should be placed in jetski use in Straddie waters and will be urging the appropriate authorities to institute controls. In the next newsletter, we will give details on how you, too, can put your individual view.

Sustainable tourism Redland Shire Council suddenly advertised that it was holding a forum at the Lifesaving Club on 16 December 2002 to gather information on which to base a five-year strategy for sustainable tourism in Redland Shire. A survey form was also provided — but, alarmingly, the word "sustainable" only appeared twice in three pages: once in the heading, and once in the last question. The rest of the survey seemed to be concerned with attracting additional visitors and getting maximum benefits for business from tourism and recreation.

This sudden "initiative" by the Council seemed to completely ignore the fact that representatives of NSI businesses and community groups, with the backing of Redland Tourism, have spent an arduous twelve months developing a "Sustainable Tourism Vision" and identifying ways of implementing the vision in practice.

Locals who attended the December forum expressed serious disquiet about the way in which all this effort was being ignored, and secured a commitment that the Council's consultants would properly consider all the detailed work that had already been done for them, and not just pay lip-service to the notion of sustainable tourism on NSI.

Baitfish spectacular After a sustained southeasterly blow, schools of baitfish blackened the water off Frenchman's Beach on 17 January. There they were harassed by a horde of sizeable sharks and

assorted pelagic fish. By mid afternoon their numbers had been considerably reduced by a Bryde's whale, which showed that it could ride a wave almost as spectacularly as the dolphins. Straddie-based natural history filmmakers Jan Aldenhoven and Glen Carruthers were busy capturing the spectacle from a cliff-top vantage point below the James Cook memorial.

Wildflower watch The scarlet *Callistemon pachyphyllus* put on a spectacular show in the S-bends swamp last spring. With the sun behind them, the blooms fairly glowed. The exceptional blooming seemed to be a response to the fire that went through early last year (the plants re-shot from the base of the burnt main stem), but people are wondering whether the proliferation of the plant itself is an indication that the swamp is drying. And gone was the haze of pink boronia that was such a delight in the previous spring. There was no sign of *Boronia falcifolia* re-shooting, so it seems that these beautiful shrubs didn't survive the fire. The only hope is for a new generation of seedlings. We saw what we think were some tiny boronia seedlings when we looked just before Christmas, but, if another fire goes through before they have a chance to build up a store of seeds in the soil, we may lose them from this site forever.



Airborne protest banner

Sea cages in Moreton Bay The Environmental Impact Statement for the SunAqua fish-farm proposal is due to be released in the first two weeks of February, according to the State Development Department. The Queensland Conservation Council urges individuals to make a

submission — this is the only chance you get to have your say in the legal process. QCC is running a series of submission-writing workshops in Feb.–March and there will be a “Rage Against the Sea Cage” at Redcliffe on 9 February. For details, contact Natalie at QCC:

tel.: (07) 3221 0188

email: moreton@qccqld.org.au

website: www.qccqld.org.au/savethebay

Noisome rubbish It seems that RSC has extended Cleanaway's contract to collect rubbish from the island on Thursdays — and they've done it without consulting the community, despite years of complaint about the inappropriateness of the day. The blowflies will continue to breed merrily from Sunday, when weekend visitors load up the bins with prawn shells, to Thursday, when the trucks finally arrive. The Community Association is taking up the cudgels over this problem in its next meeting with the Mayor.

Privatising camping grounds RSC is looking at its options for “the most efficient and effective method for managing its camping and caravan parks on North Stradbroke Island”. Public notices have appeared seeking expressions of interest in the leasing or contract management of Council's six sites — Adam's Beach and Bradbury's Beach (at Dunwich), Adder Rock, Cylinder Beach and Thankful Rest (at Point Lookout), and Amity Point. The public notice states: “Council is seeking innovative and progressive concepts in Park Management.” Closing dates for expressions of interest is 3 February 2003.

Other options being assessed are believed to include management by a consortium of existing Council staff. News of possible changes to the status quo has produced some disquiet in the NSI community. There are fears of loss of local employment and a reduction in 24-hour service levels for those using the camping grounds. It also raises questions about what standards will be insisted upon to preserve the well-treed environment, and to what extent these will be in conflict with commercial considerations

Waving a ride at Point Lookout

The Shuttle Bus, which made its first appearance on Point Lookout streets last Easter, returned to Point Lookout over this year's Christmas–New Year break.

The Shuttle Bus idea was born out of the belief that an increase in traffic volume and its attendant miseries are not as grindingly inexorable as they may appear to be. We do not have to accept the blight of ever wider roads, ever noisier and more dangerous streets, ever more barren verges and ever vaster parking lots. But resisting the car's dominance takes effort, imagination and goodwill. And money.

All these were forthcoming last Easter, and again at Christmastime. There was generous support from

FOSI (a \$500 donation), local businesses and other community members, in partnership with Redlands Tourism, Councillors Toni Bowler and Helen Murray, and a lot of hard work by some individuals, particular Jan Johnman. Point Lookout's young artists produced some lively posters, which were displayed on notice-boards and in bus shelters all around the township.

The Shuttle Bus is one way to break the private car's stranglehold over the Point Lookout township and offer an alternative means of getting around that is safe, friendly, equitable, considerate and environmentally responsible.

As before, the service was free, but this time the

“wave-a-ride” principle was extended to the main road. A timetable was drawn up, based on a half-hour loop from Adder Rock to the Surf Lifesavers’ Clubhouse, a diversion on the return trip along Bimba and Bigoon Streets to Bob’s shop and the post office, and back along Tramican to Adder. Over 1100 people used the bus during the ten-day period, an average of 110 people a day. The main difficulties with the service were the breaks (there were half-hour breaks in the morning and afternoon, and a break at lunchtime), the waiting time and — most of all — the problem of publicity. Use of the service increased significantly after the erection of an eye-catching poster on Mooloomba Road.

However, a major obstacle remains: the seductive convenience of the private car. Breaking the car habit will take more than providing an alternative. It is not likely that patronage of the Shuttle Bus will reach the level we’d like to see until constraints on the use of the private car are imposed — either restrictions on parking or closing off general vehicular access to the Point area during peak periods.

The idea is to make the Shuttle Bus a permanent

feature of the Point Lookout holiday scene. This means showing the Department of Transport that it’s a viable proposition with strong community support — worthy of Council/Government backing into the future. To do this, we need to raise the necessary funds and enlist the support of everyone with an interest in maintaining Point Lookout’s barefoot character.

What they’ve done at Noosa

The Noosa Shire Council wholly financed a shuttle bus to run between Noosa Heads, the Sound, the Junction and Sunshine Beach at Christmas 2002. The Council also financed the conversion of the local bus service, making all local services free to avoid confusion. The cost to the Council was \$86 000. In addition, parking charges were introduced in order to encourage use of the free bus.

Measures like these may seem unrealistic for Point Lookout as it is at present, but the underlying ideas are certainly worth considering if we want to stop the Point developing into a Hastings Street-type dead end in the future.

Cylinder Beach Master Plan

Redland Shire Council has engaged Catherine Brouwer Landscape Architects to prepare a master plan to deal with the range of problems afflicting much-loved Cylinder Beach. An exhaustive (and exhausting) all-day workshop was held on 7 December, with Wendy Sarkissian as a polished facilitator and an introductory comment by Lex Smith on behalf of RSC, stressing the Council’s wish to mend fences and achieve genuine cooperation with the Island community. The workshop was very well attended.

A brain-storming session identified general issues. Traffic and parking attracted most comment; among the other issues were vegetation, stormwater and infrastructure. There seemed to be almost unanimous agreement that the area should be restored to a more natural state, with controlled vehicular access, reduced parking and vegetation rehabilitation. In the course of this session, the point was made that Cylinder Beach could not be considered in isolation — any worthwhile analysis of the situation there would require an examination of related systems in the broader area.

In the second half of the workshop, groups were formed to focus on particular issues and come up with a wish-list of solutions.

Most participants were well satisfied with the conduct of these issue-based sessions. However, the group dealing with traffic and parking struck trouble with an antagonistic Council officer who tried to railroad discussion. Official complaints were subsequently lodged and the Council has agreed to

take steps to rectify the damage done to the consultation process.

Generally, opinion was that a Cylinder Beach master plan could only be properly done as part of a broader master plan for the whole of Point Lookout, and that it was essential to “get this one right” after the Point Lookout streetscape debacle.

Future stages are:

- Complete a preliminary master plan by 21 February
- Public display and feedback 24 February to 9 March
- Preparation of final master plan March and early April
- Final submission to Council 18 April.

Annual General Meeting, 22 February 2003

FOSI’s Annual General Meeting will be held at 2 pm on 22 February 2003, at the home of Edith and Duncan McPhee, 14 Booran Street, Point Lookout.

Members are urged to attend, and to consider offering themselves for election to the Executive and Committee, which would benefit from some new blood.