

## LAKE CATHIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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### Optus phone tower lifts Cathie from the dark ages



Since early 2010 LC Progress Association has had the issue of poor to zero mobile phone reception in the village as one of its priority projects.

A Community Survey conducted in 2010 revealed 71% of respondents had poor to zero reception in their homes and only 19% had a fair signal. Those with a usable signal found their batteries discharged in just a few hours through constant searching for the strongest signal.

In 2011 Optus undertook to build a tower to solve the problem.

The time delay was bought about by the formalities of indentifying the best location for the tower, gaining Development Approval and negotiating a lease with owners of the Woolworths' property. In addition Optus needed to have funding for the project approved and the necessary materials produced.

The new tower pictured above was installed on July 6 and further work is needed to bring it into operation.

In addition to mobile phone signal, wireless internet will become a reality. Some residents still operate with dial up internet connections and will welcome wireless connection.

### Optus information meeting

**Sunday 28th July at 10.30AM**

**At Lake Cathie Community Hall**

#### Items for public information

- Area of signal coverage
- Wireless Internet connections
- Questions from the community

**All welcome**

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### 13 Member Lions Club does brilliant work

What a great team the LC/BH Lions Club is, it produces excellent results despite having only 13 members

One example was the professionally presented Trivia with a Twist night at the LC Bowling Club held on the 8<sup>th</sup> June.

More than 100 residents enjoyed a night of Trivia with many moments of fun and laughter.

The Lions Club made cash presentations on the night to 13 local organisations including the LC Progress Association and LC Rural Fire Brigade. The funds had been raised at the Trivia night and other functions during the year.

### Funding assistance sought for Fireworks at 2013 Carols by the Lake

Carols by the Lake is one of our major annual events and the organisers, LC/BH Lions Club, want to include Fireworks at this year's event. However it needs assistance with funding for the expensive Fireworks Display.

If your business can contribute towards the cost it would be most welcome and publically acknowledged. Contact Lions committee members below if you can assist.

#### New Members welcome

LC/BH Lions Club has been operating for a relatively short period of time and new members are most welcome.

If you would like to join please contact Nikki Hansell  
0427 249 194 or Scott Baker 0457 364 653

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### Lake Cathie Health Complex

1459 Ocean Drive Lake Cathie NSW  
65 84 88 99

Lake Cathie Medical Centre  
Lake Cathie Dentistry  
Lake Cathie Sports & Spinal Physiotherapy  
Laverty Pathology  
Dietician  
Psychologist  
Hearing Care

## Ocean Drive Cycle Lanes still missing

LCPA wrote to Council in April 2011 stating the missing 1300 metres of cycle lanes on Ocean Drive north of Lake Cathie continued to be a hazard to cyclists and motorists

Council responded that it was necessary to have Essential Energy move some power poles to allow cycle lanes to be completed.

The power poles were relocated prior to July 2012 and Council said it was finalising design of the cycle lanes.

LCPA followed up with a further letter to Council on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2013 as no action had been taken to install the missing lanes.

Council replied on 21<sup>st</sup> May advising construction of the lanes needed to be included in an annual Operation Plan for budget allowances to be made. Unfortunately it was not included in the Draft 2013/14 Operational Plan.

Council has undertaken to have the work included as a submission to the 2013/14 Draft Plan.

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## Sub-Station will relocate when demand rises

Essential Energy have advised the current power sub-station next to the Lake Cathie Medical Complex will be moved to the new site on Houston Mitchell Drive when the demand for power rises through planned population increases.

The Company advises its existing network is meeting the current power needs in the area and past reliability problems have been resolved.

Essential Energy recently advised it has completed preliminary works which included the clearing of the Houston Mitchell site, earthworks, a bitumen road to the entrance of the site and the construction of the standard security fence.

Meanwhile Essential Energy will be utilising the now secure site to store electrical equipment.

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## Lake Cathie Community Hall activities

**MONDAY NIGHT:** La Vive Classique Dance  
Class

**TUESDAY AM:** Craft

**WEDNESDAY AM:** Kathie Kids

**WEDNESDAY PM:** La Vive Classique Dance  
Class

**FRIDAY AM:** Heart Moves

**FRIDAY PM:** Friday Friendship Club

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## Chepana St. S.149 certificates

The following report was provided by Paul & Priscilla Flemming of the Lake Cathie Coastal Residents Group.

"Lake Cathie Coastal Residents Group has been advised by Council that Chepana Street ocean-side property owners will shortly receive advice that the notation on their S.149 certificates will change from "the land may be affected by coastal erosion risk" to "the land may be at risk of Coastal Hazard Risk by the year 2100. The [Hazard] Study identifies there is no present day risk and no risk by the year 2050".

It has taken five years to get Council to make correct reference to what the SMEC Hazard Study actually said in 2008. For these five years, the notation has implied an 'immediate risk', instead of 'no risk by 2050, maybe a risk by 2100'. Correctly referring to the Study would have considerably lessened the 43% devaluation of Chepana Street properties, established by comparing Valuer General valuations in 2008 with valuations in 2009, for Lake Cathie properties in and away from Chepana Street, that is, 12 months after commencement of Council's misleading S.149 notations.

As well as this change in the notation on S.149 certificates after 5 years, there is now the prospect that reference to an erosion risk along Chepana Street will be removed entirely. What was critically missing in the SMEC Hazard Study was any analysis of the resistance to erosion which the continuous coffee rock provides. As Professor Bruce Thom, Chair of the NSW Coastal Expert Panel recently commented, "I find it hard to see how it [the coffee rock] was not factored into the risk assessment by SMEC", and consultants Worley Parsons and Royal Haskoning have both pointed to the same obvious deficiency. **A review of the risk to Chepana Street properties south of Kywong Street is now finally to happen, and the active involvement of Councillors Roberts and Intemann is appreciated.**

## Plan for revetment to solve erosion issues

It was resolved at the July 17 Council Meeting that the Final Draft Coastal Zone Management Plan be placed on publication for a six week period. The Plan includes construction of a 400 metre revetment along Illaroo Rd. Residents are encouraged to read the Plan and make submissions to Council on issues of concern.

### Pavy's Glass Pty Ltd

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Email: [pavysglassptyltd@bigpond.com](mailto:pavysglassptyltd@bigpond.com)

## Successful year for Lake Cathie Lady Bowlers

Bowlers from the Lake Cathie Women's Bowling Club have won the 2013 No. 5 Pennant Flag.

Congratulations ladies on winning the Club's first No. 5 Pennant Flag since 2006.



F Brassey, R Jones, P Hibburt, B Roberson, D Spinkes, A Innes, & M Simmonds. (Missing from photo - G Potts & K Deas - non playing Manager)

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## Triples team through to State playoffs



The Lake Cathie team of J Roberts, A Wilson, Y Howard won the Regional play-off at Black Head on 16<sup>th</sup> May and will play in the State Triples Finals at Tuncurry in October.

Congratulations ladies and good luck at the State finals.

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## At 93 Peg bowls with the best



Peg Rapp cuts her 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday Cake to share with fellow bowlers on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

In 2011 Peg won the Club Pairs Championship with Elaine Jones as her partner.

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## Lake Innes study recommends "Leave it open to the sea"

Jennifer Hale, Aquatic Ecology Consultants', final draft report on the possibility of returning Lake Innes to a fresh water body includes the following recommendation:

### "4. Conclusion

*This environmental assessment has considered the environmental, social and economic affects of the isolation of Lake Innes from Cathie Creek and a proposed reversion to freshwater conditions. Although there are some benefits to implementing such an action on a subset of waterbird species, overall, the benefits are marginal compared to the negative impacts and risks posed by such an action. It is almost certain that the isolation of Lake Innes would lead to the loss of a significant area of coastal saltmarsh endangered ecological community and result in the loss of the commercial fishery from the Lake. Although post isolation establishment phases for species and communities are uncertain, scientific evidence and similar experiences throughout NSW and Australia have demonstrated that pre-alteration conditions (pre-1933 in this case) are highly unlikely and the Lake is likely to be dominated by invasive species. There are significant risks to water quality in both the short and long term and little in the way of social or economic benefits. **Therefore, it is our conclusion that the isolation of Lake Innes and reversion to freshwater represents too high a risk to environmental, social and economic values and we recommend that the action not proceed.***

LC Progress Association questioned why the entire Estuary had not been included in the Study. One recommendation from Jennifer Hale's report reads:

### "10. Estuary Management Plan

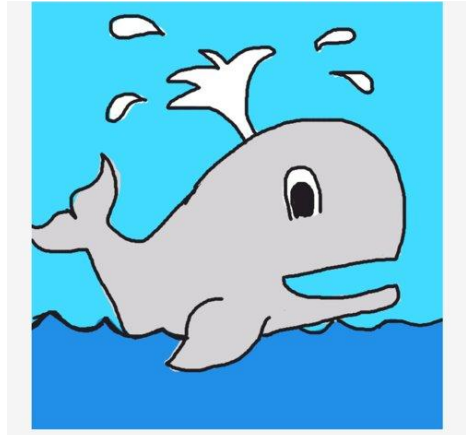
*The estuary management plan for the system is now over two decades old and a review and update of this plan is recommended as a mechanism to ensure adequate management of the system and continued health of the ecosystem. Review of the plan could incorporate actions to address many of the recommendations listed above, and could consider many of the issues raised by the local community during this assessment. **This recommendation is considered the highest priority for future action.***

It is understood some funds from the "CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY" Grant organized by Member for Lyne, Rob Oakeshott, remain unspent after finalization of the Lake Innes Assessment.

It is hoped part of this money can be used to undertake the Estuary Study and other important recommendations included in the Final Draft Report.

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## Sea level rise! Is it all his doing?



In our August 2012 edition we reported the belief of well known local fisherman (nicknamed “STICKS”) that the rise in sea levels was due to the additional number of whales seen while fishing offshore.

“STICKS” has become more concerned following the forecast of 15,000 whales moving up the coast this year increasing to 25,000 over the next few years.

Should the scientists take notice??

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## Join your Progress Association

The more members we have the stronger  
our position to negotiate benefits for  
Lake Cathie Residents

To join go to our Website:

[www.lakecathiepa.com](http://www.lakecathiepa.com)

And go to: Membership Form

Cost is only \$10.00 per family per year.

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Lic. No. 42579C  
Bay 27 Bayside Cct. Laurieton  
NSW 2443  
Phone: 6559-7446

## Water on Ocean Drive Bridge during & after heavy rainfall

In the April 2013 edition of Cathie News we reported on the traffic hazards presented when water lies across the Bridge after rain events. Drivers are urged to slow down when this occurs.

We had written to Council on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 re the matter stating that previous enquiries had revealed that as well as blockage of existing drain holes there were insufficient drain outlets on the bridge.

Council responded on April 16 advising their staff regularly cleaned existing outlets and will continue to investigate opportunities to install additional drainage.

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Rugby player, Kurtley Beale, on ABC Radio:

**“Them flick passes aren’t really  
in our abattoir.”**

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## Status: Additional Sports Fields

The Progress Association has received the following response to its submission re inclusion of these vital fields in the 2013-2017 Delivery Program and 2013-2014 Operational Plan.

“The development of a new sporting complex in Area 14 has been in Council’s forward works program for a number of years. The development of this facility has always been intended for delivery over a number of years. Proposed stage 1 works include the provision of 2 senior sized fields with temporary amenities to service users. It is currently in the forward works program for 2014-2015 and will be staged over a number of years. Council will need to consider this matter in the appropriate Operational Plan budget development cycle.”

We have passed a copy of Council’s letter on to the Lake Cathie Sports Council and await their comments.

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**iPhone iPad iPod**

**REPAIRS**

Opposite Settlement City  
Come see Ben & the team



**65 841 551**