

CATHIE NEWS

JULY 2011

LAKE CATHIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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THE LAKE CATHIE FIRE 22ND JANUARY 2002 *Incident #387*

The fire started just south of Port Macquarie Golf Club in tinder dry conditions with a strong northerly blowing and put the entire Cathie village under threat. After many hours of hard work the fire was stopped at the sports field just before it got to the houses

The fire fighting is best described in the verse below penned by *Graham Miller* one of the volunteer fire fighters.

It was 10.27 when the pagers went off,
"Lake Cathie, Bush alight, Ocean Drive."
Well it started at Port, just south of Bells track,
And we stopped it near Cathie around five.

We put a back-burn in at the Perch Hole,
But the fire, it just came too fast,
So we pulled back to Cathie and lit her again,
And this one, well it had to last.

From the top of our trucks, we could see them,
The flames must be 50 foot high,
As the chopper did swoop with its bucket,
The koalas looked on with a sigh.

I don't remember my thoughts when the front hit,
But we stood there coz this was our ground,
With the hoses a gushin, adrenalin too,
And Lake Cathie remains safe and sound.
Since that day we've had all the locals,
Call us heroes and shakin our hand,
Was a six year old boy said, "Hey you saved our lives",
As I smiled and looked at the sand.

Down the street a girl said, "Mum that's our fireman",
I kept walkin; she waved for a while.
It feels good when you know that you're appreciated,
And it helps when you're showed with a smile.

But a new shed is our dream
Before the old one falls down or just bursts coz there's
too much inside.
So help us with that and we'll just call it square,
And those against it can go away and hide.

Well they got their new shed in October 2004 and this year a brand new state of the art fire truck.

If you can help our local RFS in any way – please do so!

Lake Cathie Coastline Management Study

The following is an update supplied to LCPA by Council on the current status of the Study.

Council adopted Stage 1 of the Management Study in December 2009 and endorsed the need for further examination of four viable options. These are:

- 400 metre Revetment protection for Illaroo Road
- Groin
- Beach Nourishment
- Planned retreat including acquisition/voluntary purchase

The analyses of each option include issues such as Economic, Ecological, Social Impacts, Amenity Impacts e.g. the beach and Draft Planning Controls.

The Stage 2 Management Study will also reflect NSW Government Sea Level Rise Policy and Coastal Risk Management Guideline.

Current Status

Council expects a draft report on the Study to be available for public exhibition in October 2011.

During the exhibition period Council plans to hold a Community Information Day (probably at LC Community Hall) to present/discuss recommendations of Stage 2 of the Study.

Dredging See page 3

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
Lavery Pathology
Dietician
Psychologist
Hearing Care



Bus stop safety issues resolved

The safety of school children crossing Ocean Drive at Abel Tasman Dr. is to be resolved with the southbound bus stop being re-located opposite the Medical Centre.

This issue has been an LCPA priority for many years. In 2010 the speed was reduced from 80 to 70KMH and the current relocation with a safety refuge in the centre of the road is a welcome addition.

We understand relocation of the northbound bus stop could follow with a footpath from the Medical Centre to Abel Tasman also a possibility.

LCPA meets with local MP

Executive members of the Association met with local Member Leslie Williams MP in late June outlining some of the high priority recommendations of the Village Master Plan. Among the issues raised were:

- Estuary dredging east & west of Ocean Dr Bridge
- Future use of Education land in Lake Cathie
- Maintenance/walking track through Chepana Reserve
- Additional sports field
- Future NSW Govt. Grant opportunities

Leslie will investigate and respond to the Association in the near future.

Meeting called to form Tidy Towns Group

A meeting to set up Lake Cathie Tidy Towns Group will be held at the LC Community Hall on Sunday August 21 at 10.30AM.

The purpose of the meeting is to reach agreement that the formation of the group has sufficient community support to be successful and if so to agree that a Working Group be formed to establish local a Tidy Towns operation.

If the group is formed it will operate as a sub-committee of Lake Cathie Landcare Group Inc. for insurance purposes and to fit within Fair Trading rules for incorporated bodies.

All members of the community are welcome to attend.



Adopt Oxley Kaylee

Contact

Koala Hospital - 6584 1522

www.koalahospital.org.au/adopt/

Mobile phone reception on the way

Optus have advised they are about to lodge a Development Application with Council for installation of the transmission tower to provide Lake Cathie with Mobile and Wireless signal.

We understand Council has ten (10) weeks to respond.

A Lake Cathie resident called Optus asking for details of progress and was told it was expected the service would in place in early December. Optus have confirmed this timing provided all necessary approvals are in place and good weather allows work to proceed as planned.



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Dredging funding

Member for Port Macquarie, Leslie Williams MP, has confirmed that part of the promised \$1.5 million funding for dredging projects across the State will be made available to our Council for dredging works at Lake Cathie.

The Association has had a number of questions from residents as to when the heavily silted lagoon will be dredged.

Council has indicated it wishes to link the dredging with the option of pumping the sand onto the beach south of the entrance. This is one of the options included in the Lake Cathie Coastal Management Plan due for public exhibition in early October – see story on page one.

This seems sensible and will avoid duplication of costs.

No dredging west of Ocean Dr Bridge

One recommendation from the Estuary Management Committee Minutes to Council's meeting on July 27 is:

d) Dredging of tidal flushing channels:

That no dredging works be undertaken between the Ocean Drive Bridge and the Kenwood Drive Bridge. That dredging works be limited to removal of sediment from the entrance downstream of the Ocean Drive bridge.

This recommendation was strongly opposed by Lake Cathie's two representatives on the Estuary Management Committee.

The need for clearing of the channels west of the Ocean Drive Bridge has been well reported with navigation becoming more restricted as the estuary continues to shallow.

Another recommendation to go the Council meeting is:

a) Kenwood Drive bridge

That Kenwood Drive Bridge be widened as part of any future asset upgrade or replacement works.

Future fish kills possible

A common cause of Fish Kills is when shallow water is heated during high summer temperatures to the level where dissolved oxygen is reduced to a point that fish cannot survive.

This last fish kill occurred in the estuary in early 2009 and the reducing water depth invites a repeat of the problem.

There is a view that fish kills are common in estuaries such as Cathie. However where they are predictable and preventable it should not be allowed to occur. Dredging of the area west of the bridge is necessary to prevent a repeat of 2009.

Ted Field Memorial Plaque Unveiled at LC Sports Field



From left: Bruce Burnham, Maureen Field, Gail Tibbet & Richard Pierce

The memory of the late Ted (Fingers) Field was set in stone recently with the unveiling of a plaque in honour of his tireless years of work at the sports fields.

Ted voluntarily undertook duties as the long-term Groundsman, Gatekeeper, fence repairer and general repair duties at the sporting complex.

Ted was made a Life Member of the Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills Rugby League Club in recognition of his tireless work.

Vale Ted Field.

Lake Cathie Community Hall Events

Monday	La Vive Classic Dancing
Tuesday	Arts & Crafts & Physical Culture
Wednesday	Kathi Kids Playgroup, Toy Library & Classic Dancing
Thursday	Heart Moves at 9.15am \$5/session
Friday	Friday Friendlies Ladies Group
Saturday	Physical Culture

For more details or bookings call Albert Johnston 6585 5134

Kiki's Studio Gym is open Monday to Friday

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The Rural Fire Service

Presents

HASTINGS LIGHTS & SIRENS BALL

DATE: Saturday August 13th 2011
TIME: 6.30PM – 11.30PM
PLACE: WESTPORT CLUB
Buller St Port Macquarie
PRICE: \$70pp (Incl. a 3 course meal)
DRESS: Semi Formal

Entertainment by “Flamin’ Bullantz”

Tickets available from Port Patios 191a Lake Rd
Port Macquarie or Ph. 6581 1556

For more detail call Sandra Small 0439 827 320

All profits will go to the Hastings Rural Fire Service for
the purchase of a cargo trailer plus safety equipment.

Join our local Lions Club

Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills Lions Club is looking for
community minded people to join their new service club.

The Club meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month
at LC Bowling Club at 6.45PM. For more information please
contact Membership Chairman Nikki on 6585 4872 or 0427
249 194. All visitors and prospective members are welcome to
attend the meetings.

LC/BH Lions also holds a BBQ outside Woolworths on the
first Saturday of each month (weather permitting). Come
along and support our local Lions in their work for the local
community.

LCPA Website

Have you checked out the Association’s website yet?

www.lakecathiepa.com

Lake Cathie Landcare Group - update Have you tried the track to Lake Cathie Lookout yet?

(It also takes you to steps to the northern beach)

If not give it a try - starts opposite the Bowling Club.

The track, extended to the road by Landcare earlier in the year, has had more work done by Lake Cathie/Bonny/Hills
Lions Club with members mulching sides of the path (to prevent weed growth) and planting native species.



Hastings Macleay Community Transport Pick up from your door to:

Medical Appointments	Hospital
Exercise classes	Shopping
Social outings	Hairdressers
Bus trips	Library
Airport	Clubs
Veterans’ medical appointments	
Phone 6583 8644	
for more information	

