

LAKE CATHIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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Council's Decision on The Glasshouse

Like it or otherwise it seems we are stuck with it. Council undertook a detailed review of the Glasshouse Business Plan in 2010. The two key questions that drove the review were: Who is best placed to own the building? & Who is best placed to run the business? The seven options considered were:

1. Glasshouse owned and operated by Council
2. Glasshouse owned by Council with revised corporate structure
3. Glasshouse owned by Council with business closed and building mothballed
4. Glasshouse owned by Council but leased for alternative business
5. Glasshouse owned by Council with business run by contracted manager
6. Complete exit from the business and sale of the building
7. Sale and lease back

Options 2 to 7 were not considered viable for several reasons including lack of a better financial outcome.

- Loss of community benefit in case of complete exit
- Substantial losses in case of sale with estimated value of \$18 million against the cost of \$50 million (of which \$39 million is still owing).

The agreed option is for Council to own and operate the Glasshouse with associated costs of (\$6.3) million. Made up of:

• Borrowing costs (Interest)	(\$2.230) million
• Repayment of loans	(\$1.366) “
• Operating costs (after receipts)	(\$2.700) “
• TOTAL	(\$6.296) “

This Business Plan was adopted at Council's December 2010 meeting. To overcome the debt issue the previous Administrator passed a resolution to use funds from the sale of Council owned land at Thrumster to payout the debt. This would eliminate the interest and loan repayments leaving an annual loss of \$2.7 million..

(The above data collated from available Council information)

Let's hope those Councillors who voted to burden Ratepayers with the Glasshouse do not stand for election in 2012.

\$1 Million Federal funding for Lake Innes reversion is great news

Federal Member for Lyne, Rob Oakeshott, has announced \$1million has been allocated in the Federal Budget towards planning and works to revert Lake Innes to fresh water.

Mr. Oakeshott said “The \$1million for Lake Innes will support work to revert the Lake to its natural and original freshwater state which would increase freshwater habitat on the Mid North Coast from 40 hectares to more than 700 hectares”.

In addition to the above studies already done reveal:

- “The isolation of Lake Innes (from the estuary) will increase the number of entrance openings from average one per year to three”.
- “When Lake Innes fills any further rainfall would flow into the lower estuary & Lake Cathie increasing water depth & flow rates”.
- “More frequent openings would result in a narrower channel and reduce the erosion to the southern headland”.
- “The need to dredge the lower estuary would be reduced”.

There is a narrow and closing window of opportunity before Lake Innes declines permanently to the status of a salt marsh.

More importantly reversion of Lake Innes creates a habitat for fresh water birds, frogs, and turtles. It also provides a future venue for fresh water fishing. The environment and tourism will be big winners and residents will get more entrance openings.

The first stage of reversion is to undertake an Environmental Impact Statement from which a plan of works can be developed.

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

LCPA meet with Council's Acting General Manager

The Association's Executive met with Mr. Jeffrey Sharp, Council's Acting GM in late March. Recommendations from the Lake Cathie Master Plan were discussed. Priorities being:

- Storm water outlets along the beach
- Footpaths & pedestrian safety
- Need for additional sports fields
- Estuary issues in particular west of the Bridge
- Timing for upgrades of Ocean Drive (through the village) and Houston Mitchell Drive

The Executive congratulated Mr. Sharp for actions by Council in fixing the unsafe sloping footpath and for commencing drainage works to overcome flooding of Fiona Crescent properties.

Beware of Mosquito borne diseases

NSW Health has warned residents & visitors in rural & coastal areas to cover up and avoid mosquito bites especially in the months of April and May. The risk of Barmah Forest infection this year is said to be three times that of normal.

Ross River and Barmah Forest Virus infections are carried by mosquitoes which have bitten birdlife, kangaroos or other wildlife contracting the diseases and then biting humans passing on the infection.

As yet there is no specific treatment for these viruses.

Recommended precautions include:

- Avoid being outside unprotected at dusk & dawn
- Avoid high risk breeding sites such as marsh areas
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET or Picaridin.
- Ensure there are no pools of water around the home e.g. old car tyres, undrained plant pots etc.
- Check water tanks are screened & filters clean

For a copy of the NSW Health fact sheet on Ross River Fever or Barmah Forest virus go to:

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/rossriver.html>
http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/barmah_forest_virus.html

Digital Books at our Libraries

Port Macquarie-Hastings Libraries have extended their digital library to include e-books & downloadable audio-books. Borrowers can now download a book to their computer or portable device free for a week.

Downloads can be made to any computer with internet access via the library online catalogue.



Year 10 students learn at Lake Cathie

The annual visit of Year 10 students from St Josephs (left above) and St Columba schools took place in March.

The visit forms part of their geography studies with issues including coastal erosion, dunal vegetation and the impact man has had on the populated section of the coastline compared to undeveloped areas being explained.

Members of the Progress Association address the students on these topics and general information on the role of the Association in the local community. The number of students is increasing each year with over 100 visiting in 2011.



Council acts on one stormwater outlet

Chepana Street residents near the stormwater outlet at number 68 have received a letter from Council detailing planned work to reconstruct the outlet.

The new outlet is designed to improve public safety, offer a visual amenity and minimize future erosion.

Reconstruction of all the beachfront outlets is the number one priority of the Progress Association as they are one of the proven causes of erosion.

Port Macquarie Hastings Council has set a high priority on repairing the outlets and it is good to see action planned to fulfill the undertaking. We hope to see early attention given to reconstructing all the outlets.

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

Outdoor Gym Equipment ordered for Jonathon Dickson Reserve

We have received funding from the NSW Government Community Partnership Program for the first three pieces of exercise equipment. We have ordered the following:

- One Single Hip Twist unit (one can use)
- One Double Hip Swing Unit (two can use)
- One AB Bench/Chin Dip-lift Combo (two can use)

Lead time for delivery is about eight weeks and we expect installation to be complete in July.

Missing link in Ocean Dr cycle lanes creates road safety issues



Cyclist changes from cycle lane to traffic lane in 100 kmh zone

Cycle ways in the 100 kmh section of Ocean Drive north of the village are not continuous with about 1300 metres where cycle lanes are not provided.

This results in motorists having to slow down considerably when a cyclist moves into the traffic lane. The risks to cyclists & motorists seem unnecessary. Cyclists have supported the Association's action in seeking continuous cycle lanes.

The problem is greater over the weekend and a couple of weeks prior to the Ironman when more cyclists use the road.

Council has stated the eastern side of the road is impacted by environmental issues and it is negotiating with Essential Energy to move power poles on the western side.

Where did that name come from? Solander Place

Dr Daniel Solander was born in Sweden in 1736 where he studied and became a botanist. He moved to England where he became Assistant Librarian at the British Museum and afterwards became Keeper of Printed Books.

Doesn't sound too much of an interesting chap so far does he?

Well he then travelled with Captain James Cook and Joseph Banks on the Endeavour on its expedition to the Pacific. They arrived at Botany Bay in April 1770 where they spent eight days collecting plant species. A botanical artist who travelled with them made magnificent field drawings and watercolours of the specimens collected.

So why a 1770 plant collector is called Solander remembered today?

The need to take extraordinary care of the plant drawings led to the good Doctor designing a box which is still today called the "SOLANDER BOX". The design is used worldwide in Art Galleries, Museums and Libraries and is usually made with acid free materials for long term storage of valuable works on paper and other collections.

Live in Solander Place Lake Cathie? Now you know.

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
(A fully operational Gym)
Phone Kirsten 6585 5203 or 0422 584 078



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Estuary opened to the ocean



Water moves from estuary entrance to the ocean

Port Macquarie-Hastings Council opened the entrance on April 20 with the water level slightly under the 1.6 metres set in the Council's Opening Strategy.

Local and visiting fishers are making good catches with some bagging out since the opening. Local businesses also reported solid increases in turnover with many extra visitors.

NEW FIRE TRUCK FOR LAKE CATHIE



Lake Cathie Fire Captain Andy Tulloch and crew with their new truck

Lake Cathie Rural Fire Service has just taken delivery of a state of the art \$280,000.00 fire fighting truck.

The new vehicle features accessories not seen on older models including:

- Four sets of breathing apparatus (previously two) meaning they can enter burning homes or other buildings without waiting for back-up.
- Addition lights to illuminate surrounding areas.
- Higher capacity water pump.
- Additional storage areas.

The Lake Cathie Fire Service caters for urban fires in the village and Bonny Hills with their upgraded fleet.

They currently have 25 volunteers and more are welcome – if you are interested just call Andy Tulloch on 0447 733 246.

New Lake Cathie Tidy Towns Group

The response to our article in March Cathie News for people interested in forming a Tidy Towns Group in Lake Cathie has been very encouraging.

We contacted the Tidy Towns organisation and were a little surprised to learn that there is no registration procedure necessary. You just start a group and enter their competitions. More concerning was that there is no provision for insurance cover for participating volunteers.

We can overcome both these issues by making the new group a sub-committee of Lake Cathie Landcare Group Inc. which has an insurance policy for its volunteers.

Would you like to join our Tidy Towns Group?

If you are interested in being involved please contact the Secretary at the contact options at the top of this newsletter. A meeting will be held in the near future to form the group

LC Ladies win No.2 Pennant Flag



Left to right: M.Rapp, D. Fischer, J Roberts, M Poulter (S), Y. Howard (S), A Wilson, J.Soutar, S Malzard

When Lake Cathie won the No. 2 District Flag in 2010 it was their first such win in 21 years. To make further history they have won the same Flag again this year.

The team then travelled to South West Rocks for the Zone playoffs where they accredited themselves very well. The Zone Playoff was won by Cabarita Beach.

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