

LAKE CATHIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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Lake Cathie's changing coastline

Sand returns to Lake Cathie Beach



Lake Cathie beach looking southwards

Since September 2010 residents have watched as sand accumulated along the beach to levels not seen for many, many years.

Today you would not associate Lake Cathie as having serious erosion problems although these threats could return in the future.

Reform the dunes with beach sand?

Depth of sand right along the beach has increased remarkably and there may be sufficient sand available to reform the dunal system and plant the necessary vegetation to stabilize the system and protect the coastline.

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Storm Water Outlets still causing serious erosion



One of the outlets along Lake Cathie Beach carving a deep trench through the sand.



Storm water outlets pose an ongoing threat to the Lake Cathie coastline and are causing erosion in the areas where they are located. The impact of the outlets spreads as the damage widens allowing wind to erode the dunes further.

Port Macquarie Hastings Council has undertaken to repair the outlets as part of the Coastal Study and Plan but have failed to carry out the necessary work.

Our information in February this year was that Council had applied for a grant to fix one outlet but was unsuccessful.

Unfortunately Council's four year delivery program for Core Services does not cover the repair of the outlets and LCPA has flagged this as a high priority in its submission to Council stating it needs to be included in the 2011-2012 works program.

Outflow velocity must be reduced

The high velocity of water coming from the pipes is causing serious erosion. Plans to significantly reduce the force of water coming from the outlets were included in the 2003 Lake Cathie Coastal Foreshore Management Plan but have not been implemented.



Ocean Drive roadway re-sealed

Good news with Council having the road from the Tacking Point roundabout to the 50 kmh sign at the sports field re-sealed.

As bitumen ages the surface cracks and allows water to penetrate the sub-surface and pot holes develop. Resealing rejuvenates the surface and stops water penetration.

This maintenance is essential every eight to ten years on roads that are considered to be in good condition.

Council stated, in part, in press information related to the re-sealing work:

"Ocean Drive is one of the two most used roads in the area and is at the top of Council's repair list"

It follows then that the entire length of Ocean Drive through Lake Cathie village is part of one of the two most used roads.



Far from the top of the repair list

Ocean Drive through Lake Cathie is in such bad condition that it is beyond resealing and requires total reconstruction.

Council plans reconstruction of one section of Ocean Drive at the southern end of the village in 2018 and the final section at the sports field in 2035.

This is totally ridiculous and Council must revise its planning for the road through Lake Cathie.



The section of Ocean Drive in the above image is near the Bowling Club and is typical of the road through the village requiring total reconstruction. Council plans to upgrade this section in 2028 (that's just 17 years away!)

LCPA Submissions on Area 14 Residential Developments

As we have documented in recent newsletters the planned residential development south of the village will add about 2000 new dwellings to the area and this will obviously have serious impacts on the way we live.

LCPA has lodged Submissions to the NSW Dept of Planning recommending inclusions to minimize those impacts. Submissions included:

- Council's timing for upgrading Ocean Drive through the village is totally unacceptable with first section in 2017 and the last in 2035. Timing needs to be bought in line with Area 14 works.
- Houston Mitchell Drive will be heavily used moving materials and machinery to the development sites and its current poor condition will become a safety issue under hundreds of heavy vehicle movements. This road requires complete upgrading prior to the start of this work.
- Sports fields included in the AREA 14 developments are too far into the future and alternative planning is urgently needed.
- The current Parks & Reserves are inadequate to cater for an extra 5000 residents.

Outcomes of Area 14 plans are yet to be announced.

Ecohealth check for Waterways

Northern Rivers Catchment Authority is coordinating an assessment of the health of all our rivers and estuaries allowing results for each waterway to be compared to others. All results will be made public.

LCPA has recommended that pollutant traps be installed on storm water outlets into the estuary at the northern end of Tallong Drive and that traps are in place for outlets in the Evans Street area.

Hastings Macleay Community Transport Pick up from your door to:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
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for more information

Formation of Tidy Towns Group

Following our AGM in February we were approached by residents about possible formation of a Tidy Towns group in Lake Cathie.

Like any non profit community group the success of the organisation relies totally on volunteers coming forward to organise, manage and man the group.

If you are interested in becoming involved in hands on work or in an administrative role please contact our Secretary – contacts on page one of this publication.

If you would like more detail on what Tidy Towns does its website is www.kabnsw.org.au



Mobile/Wireless Reception Optus acts

Five days after our AGM an Optus project team flew from Sydney to determine the best possible location for a new tower. Detail available to date is:

- A new tower is the only solution
- The new tower will be a 30 metre high monopole
- Optus plans are fully funded and are part of a \$358 million Australia wide upgrading of its Mobile Signal
- Best location for tower to provide widest possible coverage in the centre of the village
- Timing will be 6 to 8 months allowing for the property owners' approval, Council approval and community consultation.
- In answer to the question about radiation from the tower, Optus advised that TV signals were of significantly higher strength than mobile output and that full details will be made available during the community consultation

We will pass on more information as it becomes available.

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NSW Liberals & Nationals promise \$1.5 million for dredging

An announcement in February by Nationals' leader Andrew Stoner and their Port Macquarie candidate, Leslie Williams, stated that dredging of the estuary upstream of the Ocean Drive Bridge and the foreshore area would be included in funding promised for dredging projects across NSW.

Lake Cathie residents will welcome any new funding as dredging west of the Bridge is long overdue and is needed to deepen navigation channels and avoid future fish kills. The last fish kill in January 2009 resulted from shallow water being deoxygenated in hot weather leaving large quantities of fish floating dead in the water.

The Coalition's dredging policy will also cover the Camden Haven, Hastings & Manning Rivers plus waterways such as Myall Lakes.

Proposed Council Rate Increases

The existing and proposed additional Rate increases were high on the discussion list at the Association's February AGM.

In particular residents asked why the Glasshouse drain on Council's finances, which is possibly the main reason for the increases, was not included as a reason for need for extra ratepayer funds.

The meeting was also asked why Cultural Activities, which rated lowest mark in a recent Council Core Services Survey, consumed such a great amount of Council funds.

LCPA Submission to Council Four Year Plan

The Association's submission to the Plan included:

- LCPA rejected Council's Option 3 for rate increases suggesting Council find savings in expenses to fund the proposed road works.
- Storm water outlets along the beach be repaired in the 2011/12 financial year
- Interim measures to address traffic and pedestrian safety through the village be included in the four year planning
- Finalization of plans for the upgrade of the entire length of Ocean Drive through the village be included in the four year plan

The Recommendations and Priorities from the Lake Cathie 2010 Master Plan were supplied to Council for consideration in Council's future planning.

Village Master Plan complete

Copies of the 2010 Village Master Plan were supplied to those attending our AGM. Limited printed copies and CDs containing the Plan are available, free of charge, from PC Pitstop.

The Plan is on the LCPA Website www.lakecathiepa.com

Independent MP for Port Macquarie Peter Besseling heaped high praise on the Association for keeping the plan relevant to the community.

He said "The 2010 Master Plan is a valuable resource, particularly for local and state governments because it removes the guess work in assessing what is a priority for the community and what is not."

On the community input he said "Congratulations to everyone who took the time to answer the survey questions and the volunteers who worked hundreds of hours compiling the data and preparing the plan."

That sloping footpath has gone!



Before



After



Well done Port Macquarie Hastings Council

The safety issues posed by the extreme slope of the notorious footpath have been eliminated by Council and the Lake Cathie community is very appreciative of the work.

The footpath has been a priority of the Progress Association for many years and was ignored by previous elected Councillors.

Residents with disabilities, using "gophers" and wheel chairs will be able to use the footpath rather than sharing the road with the traffic.

New Wauchope Progress Association

In October last year a steering group setting up an Association in Wauchope asked the LCPA committee to attend a meeting to provide advice on establishing their new group.

The Lake Cathie Association has been in operation for more than 50 years and the Wauchope steering group readily accepted input from our Executive Committee.

In late February the Wauchope Community Progress Association was formed with George Hegarty as President.

LCPA looks forward to working closely with the new group.

LCPA Annual Meeting

The meeting began with a speaker from Optus on Mobile Phone reception – see separate article on this issue.

Other business included a report from President, Rob Tate, outlining the work of the Executive over the past year. Good advances on a number of issues had been achieved. These included:

- Work started on resolving flooding of over 40 yards in Fiona Crescent.
- Undertaking to have sloping footpath corrected.
- Speed reduction at Abel Tasman School bus top.
- Commitment to upgrade Mobile signal.
- Grant funds received for outdoor gym equipment.
- Village Master Plan upgrade completed.
- Website established www.lakecathiepa.com

Executive elected for 2011 are:

President	Rob Tate
Vice President	Gary Dowling
Secretary	Jack Jones
Treasurer	Elaine Jones
Committee	Shirley Drewett John Hunt Bob Jolly Roger Mika Martin Parish

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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Lake Cathie Medical Centre

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Dr Sam Nelapati Dr Lorraine Evans

Dr Antony Sherringham Dr Andrew Oliver

Dr Brett Newell

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