

LAKE CATHIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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Coffee Rock exposed by high seas and tides



*Lake Cathie beach south of Kyuwong Street
with coffee rock exposed*

The recent big seas and high tides removed about a quarter of the 20,000 cubic metres of sand recently pumped from the estuary and spread in front of Illaroo Road. Sections of coffee rock along Chepana Street, which have been fully covered with sand in recent years, were also exposed.

How lucky we are having the coffee rock along our beach front to reduce the rate of erosion and damage from big seas and king tides. Images we see of Old Bar beach, where coffee rock is not present, really illustrate our good fortune.

This confirmation of the erosion resistance of the coffee rock should finally satisfy Council staff, from whom Chepana Street property owners have sought removal of the erosion risk notations on S.149 certificates, appearing since 2008.

How long it will be until the sand returns is a matter for nature to answer, but it will happen, as it always does.

LC/BH Raiders Under 11s League Premiership Winners

After making the final last year only to run second the Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills Raiders' Under 11s improved this year winning the title by beating favourites Port Sharks by 24 to 6. The win was the first Premiership success in history of the Club.

Club President and assistant coach of the Under 11s, Brad Pullen, said after the game:

"We're only a small club and while we have been around for about 8 years this is the first Grand Final win in any age group for the club. We are very proud of the Under 11 boys. They won the game against the favourites and the win followed every one of our players having an excellent game."

The best player on the field was Mitch Morris.

2014 Under 11 Premiers



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Lake Cathie Tavern

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- Saturdays** Punters Club
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**\$15 Meals x 15 Choices
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COMMUNITY TRANSPORT Volunteer Drivers & Carers Required

Volunteer drivers and carers are wanted by Hastings Macleay Community Transport, a not for profit organisation based in Port Macquarie and Kempsey, that provides quality transport services in the Hastings and Macleay Valley LGA's.

HMCT operates 6 buses and 16 project cars, allowing for individual or group trips.

Volunteers are essential for HMCT to allow transport for the frail aged, disabled and transport isolated clients and their carers. Transport is provided to allow access for medical appointments, chemists, hairdressers, shopping, visiting friends and social outings. This includes visits to events such as the Glass House, Cinema and our popular Out & About trips.

Community Transport is funded by the NSW State & Federal Governments as part of the Community Care Program, designed to help clients meet their basic needs allowing them to live at home.

Volunteers are an integral and valuable part of HMCT's services.

Volunteers require a current drivers licence (and if using their own suitable vehicle have the relevant insurances) and obtain a medical assessment. Ongoing training and support will be provided.

HMCT have a fleet of project vehicles driven by volunteers or they can use their own vehicle with a per kilometre reimbursement to cover costs.

A daily healthy tax free reimbursement does not affect government benefits.

Should you require more information about this rewarding position please contact:

Rob Henry Phone 6583 8644 or email
rob@hmct.org.au

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Comedy Corner

During a physical examination a doctor asked a notably fit and robust retired woman about her physical activity level.

"I spend three days a week in the outdoors," she replies. "Yesterday afternoon was typical. I took a five hour walk about seven miles through some pretty rough terrain. I waded along the edge of a lake. I pushed my way through two kilometres of brambles. I got sand in my shoes and my eyes. I barely avoided stepping on a snake. I climbed several rocky hills, I went to the bathroom behind some big trees. I ran away from one angry bull. The mental stress of it all left me shattered. At the end of it all I drank a scotch and three glasses of wine."

Amazed by the story, the doctor said "You must be one hell of an outdoor woman." "No" the woman replied, "I'm just a really, really poor golfer."

An ABC rugby league commentator after a brawl erupted on the field between the Eels and Roosters "Oh there's tension out there. It's like Mother's Day at the Rineharts."

With the ICAC inquiry in progress it was interesting that a horse named "Are There Any" raced last month at Caulfield. It was out of a mare named "Honest Politician".

Acknowledgements to: Peter FitzSimonds and SMH Column 8

Landcare needs a box trailer

Lake Cathie Landcare Group is looking for a 6' x 4' box trailer for transporting mulch, soil, tools etc.

If unregistered the trailer needs to be in condition suitable for Registration.

If you have a trailer you no longer use and would like to donate or wish to sell please contact:

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Lake Cathie Early Days

By Neil Tarrant - written in 2014

The aboriginal name Cathie means swampy land.
Birpai tribe made it their place in the sand.
Pipi middens can still be found up in the dunes;
Their diet of fish, pipis and duck; some found in the lagoon.

For thousands of years the natives took care;
Their dreamtime place was not in despair.

They first sighted whitefella in 1818.
His name was Oxley; he came from the Queen.
If they only knew how things would be
The whitefella would have been sent back by sea.
Oxley came with his laws and his rules
Blackfella thought... what a bunch of fools.

In 1831 Major Innes built a mansion on Burrawan Lake
He had 2,500 acres; it was an impressive estate.
He cleared the land of shrubs and trees
And introduced lantana; It spread like a disease.
To get more land in his plan to drain the lake
Innes couldn't have known it was an environmental mistake.

The largest fresh water lake in NSW at the time
Was about to become an ecological crime.
With fish and birds dying, everything changed.
Birpai people thought it was all so strange.
Whitefella had been here for not so long,
Everything he did was just so wrong.
Major Innes was bankrupt by 1842
His lantana took over; an ecological boo boo.

It was known as a top fishing spot from early days back
The only way there, a rough sandy track.
Early farming in Cathie happened around 1910.
Charlie Suters had a market garden way back then.
Splendid crops of melons, pumpkins and corn,
The soil was fertile and the sun was warm.

Suters' hut up on Post Office Hill,
Was one of the first structures until
Other markets set up with peas, beans and more
A lot of it went off to feed Diggers at war.
Commercial oysters were farmed in 1908,
By 1920 they ceased to operate.

Continued next column

Bob and Sally Pead were the first to settle there,
Lake Cathie was named, now it was time to share.
Bob subdivided the land, 100 pounds a block.
With that the people started to flock
To the beach and lake with fish galore
As well, Sally had the General Store.
A wooden bridge was built across the lake.
Sid Hinton was the first car over in 1958.

In 1955 my mother moved there
She was a beautiful young lady with long black hair.
My dad met my mum, he was young and handsome.
They had two lovely daughters and an awesome son.

We all still live here; we love what we've got
It really is a magical spot.
I am a proud local from Lake Cathie,
And I will love this place till the day I die.

Thanks Neil

Roundabout for access to Lake Cathie school

The NSW Minister for Roads, Duncan Gay, and our local Member, Leslie Williams, have announced funding for a roundabout on the corner of Ocean Drive and Houston Mitchell Drive

Leslie Williams said the school was scheduled to open on the first day of the 2015 first term and the roundabout would provide safe access to the school site.

We understand that temporary access will provide safe entry to the site during construction of the roundabout.

The new school is the result of over ten years of activity for a Lake Cathie school by Leslie Williams and a group of committed local residents.

The new school is greatly appreciated by Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills parents and will end the necessity to bus their children to Laurieton or Port Macquarie.

Congratulations to Leslie Williams and her supporters in providing our children with a local school.

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Progress Assn. Executive meet with Council

Rob Tate and Gary Dowling from the LCPA Executive recently met with the Mayor, Peter Besseling, and General Manager, Craig Swift-McNair. This was the second of a series of meetings planned to discuss issues of concern to Lake Cathie residents. Highlights of the meeting included:

HOUSTON MITCHELL DRIVE:

The upgrade design is nearing completion and will be finalised this month. The Council has \$1.9m available for the design work for the whole road and for rebuilding for 900m from the highway towards the Long Point turn off. Funding is not available at present for the remainder of the road.

PEDESTRIAN REFUGE – CROSSING TO FORESHORE RESERVE:

The Council's Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan is currently being updated. It includes a crossing at the foreshore reserve. LCPA was invited to lodge a formal response to the draft plan and that has now been completed. The response emphasized that the highest priority pedestrian crossing in this plan is between the foreshore reserve and the shops north of the bridge.

FOOTPATH TO MEDICAL CENTRE:

LCPA advised that this path is a high priority project. Council has allocated \$500,000 to footpath construction this financial year. This does not include a path from Miala St. to the Medical Centre. However the Council has passed a motion to seek additional funding for this path. LCPA has provided a letter of support for this funding.

OTHER MATTERS:

- An update to the dog policy.
- No parking signs on the eastern side of the road north of the bridge;
- Access to sporting fields associated with the new primary school.
- Dredging west of the bridge.

Checkout our Website

www.lakecathiepa.com

Our Progress Association's Website will give you access to the following, plus others:

- Past Newsletters
- Landcare Group info.
- List of past estuary studies
- Coastal study detail
- Membership application forms
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High seas/tides erode dredged sand deposited along Illaroo Rd sea-front



Image of dredged sand along Illaroo Rd. beach-front with high seas and big tides cutting into outer section

The huge amount of sand pumped from dredging of the lagoon east of Ocean Drive Bridge is seen here with the recent high seas and tides washing outer sections of sand away.

As mentioned on page 1 about 20% of this sand was lost. The force of the seas shown in the photo above demonstrates how the damage to sand dunes south of Illaroo road occurred. Only the coffee rock prevented very serious coastal erosion occurring.

Do not climb down sand dunes

Residents and visitors are asked not to climb down the sand to access the beach. This will only damage the dunes and waste the work and funds spent on relocation the sand.

Please use formal beach access points provided to get down to the beach

(Thanks to Neil & Helen Farrant for coastal photos)

Are you seeking professional Property Management?

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