CATHIE NEWS

APRIL 2013

LAKE CATHIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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Chepana Street residents welcome correction of coastal erosion risk on property titles

Sixty -two residents on the ocean-side of Chepana Street will welcome the great news that Council will amend their Section 149 certificates.

From July 2008 till now, their properties have been referred to in S 149 certificates as land being subject to coastal erosion risk. In fact the 2008 Coastal Hazard Study identifies there is no risk by 2050 with maybe a risk by 2100.

A letter will be sent by Council to all affected property owners advising them of the change.

The news comes five years after their property values were cut by about 43% and has prevented the sale of some homes. The mental anguish and health of owners is impossible to describe and it appears that this situation should never have occurred.

The suggested possible erosion risk by 2100 is now being reviewed. This will depend on the extent and physical properties of the coffee rock. We understand this review will be completed in 2013.

The Progress Association congratulates Paul and Priscilla Flemming on their endless work on this and other issues confronting property owners in Illaroo Road and Chepana Street.

Book early for Lions "Trivia with a Twist" night

Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills Lions will present their annual Trivia night at the Lake Cathie Bowling & Recreation Club on Saturday 8^{th} June.

Time: 7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Booking options: Table of 8 at \$80.00 per table or

Social tables at \$10.00 per head.

To book phone: Nikki 0427 249 194

or

Scott 0457 364 653

Last year's event was a fantastic night and the Club was filled to capacity SO BOOK EARLY.

The Club's courtesy bus will operate to pick up/take home Phone 6585 5701 to book.



Illaroo Road traffic count well done by residents

Residents of the 17 homes said to be at risk of erosion worked in shifts the week before Easter counting vehicle and pedestrian movements along their roadway.

Purpose of the exercise was to make Council aware of the importance of the road to all local residents and tourists to the village.

It is possible Council may impose a levy on residents who may benefit from works (including the revetment) to protect properties from impacts from possible future erosion.

The residents have well and truly made their point that Illaroo Road is a highly prized local asset. The outcome of their survey has made it abundantly clear the loss of the roadway would impact a very wide section of the community and any levy should be shared accordingly.

In the week from Monday 25th March to Sunday 31st March the counts were:

Residents' use:	146
Visitors' cars:	4045
Trucks:	85
Pushbikes:	460
Buses:	8
Runners/Walkers:	1061
Motorbikes:	41
Skateboards:	<u>11</u>
TOTAL	<u>5857</u>

Residents' use represents only 2.49% of this total.



Lic. No. 42579C Bay 27, Bayside Cct. Laurieton NSW 2443

Phone: 6559-7446

Environment Portfolio not awarded to a Councillor

In our February edition we questioned why a Councillor had not been appointed for the Environment.

One of our members wrote to Council seeking a reason for this situation. She received the following reply.

"Thank you for your email and your interest in our community and our local environment. When looking at implementing the adopted portfolio structure, Councillors were keen to not simply mirror council's internal administrative structure, but look to add value to areas which we believed require further, particular attention at this point in time. There was also the clear recognition that Councillors could not cover every single issue that faces our community, through this portfolio structure. That being said, all Councillors have an awareness of the value of our environment to our community and adopting the quadruple bottom line (economic, social and environmental wellbeing +governance), along with the very proscriptive legislation and regulations that cover environmental considerations, this keeps all Councillors engaged in dealing with environmental issues. Should this prove inadequate in the future, the portfolio system can be adjusted to reflect the situation at that time".

We won't include our member's remarks about this reply and leave to readers to form their own views.



Additional sporting fields

We received the following report the Lake Cathie Sports Council:

"The Lake Cathie Sports Council is still waiting on a reply about Area 14.

We had a meeting in December with Mr. Besseling and Trevor Sergeant the rest of the councilors did not bother to attend with the exception of apologies from Adam Roberts & Sharron Griffiths.

It is very obvious that the matter of fields in Lake Cathie area is not even on the radar of our Council or Local Member.

So much for the done deal. Richard Pierce"

****** Mobile tower update

Optus has advised installation of the tower should commence by end of April as planned.

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Highest water level ever seen in Aqua Reserve



Long term Lake Cathie residents report that the water seen in the Aqua Reserve in the third week of February this year was the highest they had ever seen.

The entrance was opened shortly afterwards.

The high water level was the result of heavy rainfall and the heavily silted tidal channels meaning any rainfall sits on top the ever increasing amount of sand.



Road upgrade welcomed by motorist & cyclists



The re-built section of road between Houston Mitchell Drive and the entrance to Bonny Hills has been highly praised by motorists and cyclists alike.

This is especially so in weeks leading up to the Ironman event when cyclists are training along the road and now have cycle lanes to utilise making life safer for drivers and riders alike. Good work by our Council.

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

Lake Cathie Education Dept. Land

Community support for retaining the Education Department's land on the corner of Ocean Drive and Fiona Crescent has strengthened with a letter from the Residents Action Network (RAN) supporting the Progress Association goal of zero development on the site.

RAN's letter includes the concept of retaining the land as a wildlife corridor linking the coast to Lake Innes Nature Reserve and its values as a Koala Habitat. In addition they suggested the site may have future potential for environmental education.

Water on Ocean Drive Bridge a hazard for drivers

The Progress Association has written to Council about the water lying on the bridge during and after recent heavy rain.

The water poses a serious danger when vehicles travelling in both directions are on the bridge at the same time and collisions are possible.

The Association had previously discussed the problem with Council and it seems there is a twofold cause – firstly the existing drains become blocked and secondly there are not sufficient drain holes to drain the water during rain events.

A letter from Council this week advised they are regularly clearing the existing drain holes and will investigate opportunities to add new drain outlets

St Josephs Year 10 Geography Class Annual visit to Cathie



LCPA Committeeman John Massey informs students

St Josephs Year 10 Geography class made its yearly visit to the village on Friday 8th March. The class has been visiting Cathie for about eight years to add coastal and local issues to their knowledge base.

The Progress Association addresses the students on activities of a Progress Association, Coastal erosion issues and matters related to the estuary.

This year the investigation into possible reversion of Lake Innes to fresh water was an added subject.

Pedestrian Island needed at Foreshore Reserve crossing



Up to 1000 people utilise Lake Cathie's Foreshore Reserve on most weekends of the year and crossing the widest section of Ocean Drive to the shops opposite presents a risk to pedestrians, the old and young being at greatest risk.

In the Lake Cathie Village Master Plan 2010 the following was included as a High Priority:

A pedestrian crossing (or safe alternative) should be installed opposite the northern shopping centre as a matter of urgency.

LCPA's Traffic Committee met Council Officers on site in August last year to discuss the matter. While the concept of a pedestrian crossing presented some difficulties the installation of a refuge island in the centre of the road seemed feasible. Council Officers undertook to further investigate the issue and report back to the Traffic Committee.

We are yet to hear back from Council.

Lake Cathie Village Master Plan 2010

You can access the 2010 Plan on our website www.lakecathiepa.com then go to OTHER LINKS then "Village Master Plan" to download the full document. It is worth a look.

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Draft Study into the Future Management of Lake Innes Released

The Draft Environmental Assessment into the current and future management of Lake Innes has recently been completed. Funding for the Environmental Assessment has been provided by the Australian Government's Caring For Our Country Initiative.

The release of the Draft Environmental Assessment is a major milestone in understanding the current ecological, social and economic conditions and values of Lake Innes, and will help inform the development of management strategies and actions for the Lake into the future, according to Ian Simpson, General Manager of the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority.

'The ecological condition and appropriate management of Lakes Innes has been an ongoing issue in the local community for many decades. The completion of the Environmental Assessment provides the community with an important decision making tool to guide future management decisions for the Lake', said Mr. Simpson.

The question of reverting Lake Innes to a freshwater ecosystem is a major aspect of the Environmental Assessment. As early as 1937 there were calls for a reversion of Lake Innes to freshwater conditions. Since that time there have been numerous investigations, but none specifically addressing the question of the management of Lake Innes and conditions that would best meet environmental, social and economic objectives for the Lake. The Environmental Assessment provides clear information regarding the risks and benefits associated with reverting the Lake to freshwater.

'Importantly, on the basis of an evaluation of the benefits and risks associated with a freshwater reversion, the Environmental Assessment has concluded that reversion of the Lake to freshwater represents too high a risk to environmental, social and economic values. The report recommends that a reversion not proceed', added Mr Simpson.

The Environmental Assessment will be placed on public exhibition between 22 April and 21 May 2013, with comments encouraged from the community. Comments from the community will form an important aspect in the finalisation of this project.

During the exhibition period the Environmental Assessment can be viewed electronically on the NRCMA's web site at; http://northern.cma.nsw.gov.au/projects/lake-innes.html.

Alternatively hard copies of the Environmental Assessment will be available at the Port Macquarie, Wauchope and Laurieton offices of Port Macquarie-Hastings Council as well as at Blockbuster Video at Lake Cathie.

Further information can also be obtained from the Project Manager, Mr David Pensini, on 0434 166 150.

Dredging and beach nourishment

Council has informed residents of Illaroo Rd. and Bundella Ave. that plans for maintenance dredging east of Ocean Dr. Bridge and beach nourishment are on public exhibition and open for submissions.

Plans can be viewed at their Port Macquarie office or accessed on the Council Website. Then go to:

On Exhibition/Development Applications/Maintenance of Recreation Area (Lake Cathie)/Plans



Lake Cathie Community Hall weekly activities

MONDAY NIGHT: La Vive Classique Dance Class

TUESDAY AM: Craft

WEDNESDAY AM: Kathie Kids

WEDNESDAY PM: La Vive Classique Dance Class

THURSDAY PM: Yoga

FRIDAY AM: Heart Moves

FRIDAY PM: Friday Friendship Club
