

LAKE CATHIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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Review of NSW Coastal Legislation

The NSW Government has announced the first stage of reforms to the State's Coastal Protection Legislation. Inclusions are:

- Make it easier for coastal landholders to install temporary works to reduce the impacts of erosion on their properties.
- Remove the compulsory application of sea level rise benchmarks.
- Deliver clarity to councils on the preparation of section 149 notices by focusing on current known hazards; and
- Support local councils by providing information and expert advice on sea level rise relevant to their area.

As to the effects on Lake Cathie residents Chepana Street owners are hopeful the amendments to Section 149 Legislation will remove the current impost placed on their properties under this section of the law.

Protection of Public Assets not included in amendments

In April this year the Progress Association wrote to the Minister for the Environment asking that protection of Public Assets be added to the Legislation.

In Lake Cathie this would include Illaroo and Bundella Roads, Jonathon Dickson Reserve and the littoral rainforest behind Chepana Street.

Inclusion of these assets would not only provide protection for all properties along the coastline but ensure ongoing provision of roads for community use and ensure economic survival of local businesses.

Public assets are not included in the first stage of the reforms and the Progress Association will press for inclusion of the changes in stage two.

Council support essential

LCPA wrote to Council in April asking them to write to the Minister supporting the proposal. Council said it would wait for the first review before taking this action.

We have again asked Council to add its support for the issue to be included in stage two of the review.

Local Member, Leslie Williams, MP fully supports the Association's goal and will ask Council to follow suit.



Raiders Rugby League team wins first Premiership

Lake Cathie-Bonny Hills Raiders this year celebrate their 20th anniversary of competing in the Hastings Saturday League and have added their first Premiership win to the celebrations.

Raiders defeated Lower Macleay by 40 to 10.

The team's for and against scores for 2012 were astounding:

FOR: 918
AGAINST: 166

Congratulations to all players, committee and supporters.

Additional Cathie fields needed urgently

See story Page 3

Construction of new Sub-Station

Essential Energy has advised construction of its new sub-station to replace the current facility next to the medical complex has commenced.

Location of the new sub-station is Lot 4 Houston Mitchell Drive (southern side of HMD & opposite Forest Parkway)

Once complete customers, can anticipate a safer, more reliable and robust essential service. It will also cater for future development in the area.

Weather permitting, completion is expected at the end October 2012.

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Traffic Committee Report on meeting with Council

The Progress Association's Traffic Committee met with senior Council staff in August to review works on roads and footpaths in the village. Following issues were raised:

- **Lake Cathie Traffic Management and Action Plan.** Council to review the adopted Plan commencing with Traffic Committee suggestions for inclusion /exclusion and review current priorities.
- **Resealing Ocean Dr. through village.** Council to provide new plan/timing.
- **Pedestrian refuge in centre of road opposite the Foreshore Reserve.** Council to consider the need for safety of pedestrians crossing to shops opposite.
- **Parking problems at Foreshore Reserve and Ocean Dr.** Council traffic staff to investigate with a Traffic Committee representative.
- **Traffic island at corner of Kenwood & Tallong Drives** for safety issues. Council to consider with possible line markings in short term.
- **Pedestrian crossing on Ocean Dr. near Raine & Horne.** Council to review this issue.
- **Upgrading of Houston Mitchell Dr.** Council has given rebuilding of HMD its highest priority
- **Sealing of dirt road to Middle Rock.**
- **Misleading sign "50 KMH ENDS" in Abel Tasman at corner of Ocean Drive – the 50 speed limit applies north & south along Ocean Dr. when exiting Abel Tasman Dr.** Council asked to remove sign.



Mayor's website upgrade a welcome move

A move by our new Mayor, Peter Besseling, to simplify the Council's website will make life a lot simpler for business and residents to find data included on the site.

The Association's executive is a regular user of the website for detail on Council plans and decisions. It is often so complicated that we give up and phone a Council employee for assistance in finding the information we are seeking.

Good idea, Mr Mayor.

Historic images supplied by Cathie residents

The Progress Association has in recent editions of Cathie News asked residents to send us photos for our historical records. The image below was set to us by Brian Hickey. Many thanks Brian

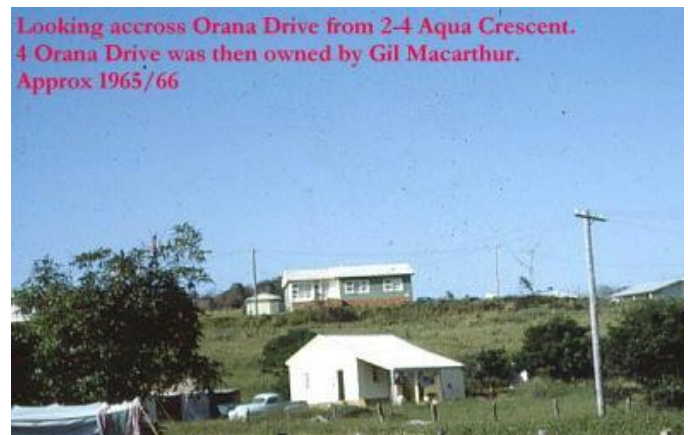


Image looking across Orana Drive from 2-4 Aqua Crescent
Approximately 1965/66

Suggest you have a look now.

We will include other images received in later editions.

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Council drops plans for additional sporting fields in 2015

Our August 2012 Cathie News reported that the Sports Council and Progress Association had been told at a June 21 meeting with senior Council staff that the new fields at Area 14 would be ready for use in 2015.

We were told the work was included in Council's Operational Plan and was fully funded. LCPA asked for written confirmation of the arrangement. This was not received.

We were also told the only risk could come from the new councillors modifying the Plan.

New & unexpected Council Plan suggests fields now ready in 2020

At the conclusion of a unrelated meeting with Council Management on August 28 LCPA was handed a totally revised Plan which includes new timing for the Area 14 fields. Timing in that document includes:

- 2014/15 Embellishment \$950,000
- 2016/17 Amenities \$500,000
- 2018/19 Floodlighting \$300,000
- 2019/20 Car Park \$250,000

The new planning needs endorsement/adoption as part of the 4 year delivery program.

We can only hope our new Councillors will give serious consideration to setting this issue as a high priority in their planning. The 2020 timing is totally unacceptable.

Sports Council fed up with inaction

The past six years' activity trying to have the current and inadequate field expanded began with the Sports Council stating it would not be long before players would be turned away. It says that all promises to solve the problem have evaporated to nothing. History of the Lake Cathie fields is:

Past Councils failed to plan ANY fields for Cathie. (The current oval was gained through political activity in having land released from National Parks & Wildlife Service).

Lake Cathie Village Master Plans (2000 & 2010) both called for additional sporting fields.

Prior to the 2011 State election at least four Coalition politicians visited the sports ground undertaking to extend the current fields as soon as the election was over.

RESULT: NIL.

Current status with Council appearing to set 2020 as its best option is unacceptable and unworkable.

NO WONDER THE SPORTS COUNCIL IS FED UP

The Progress Association fully supports the drive for extra fields and facilities for cricket and other sports.

Is this the artistic work of a Rugby League front row forward?



You have to believe it is!

“The Raider” is the artistic work of Dave Bogg who starred as a front rower in the Raiders defeat of Lower Macleay to win the 2012 Premiership..

Dave's painting was part of the supporters' excellent work promoting the final game of the season.

Move, Eat, Live Well Program

Council has arranged the above program as part of the Heart Moves initiative. There is no cost for adults over 18 who hold a pension, health care, veterans or seniors card.

It will be held from 1.00pm to 2.00pm each Friday from October 12 to December 14 at Lake Cathie Community Hall.

For more information phone 6581 8111.



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Estuary excluded from Innes study

The Progress Association Executive recently met with the Contractor and Manager for the investigation into the possible reversion of Lake Innes to fresh water.

At the meeting the Contractor confirmed that the contract covered only Lake Innes and excluded the estuary and other areas potentially impacted by their recommendations.

The Association stated their position that they had always expected the study to include Cathie Creek, Cowarra Creek and Lake Cathie as these would all be impacted by any change made to Lake Innes.

Following the meeting the Association wrote to Rob Oakeshott, Member for Lyne, who had organized almost \$1 million Federal funding for the Innes study. The letter included:

- **Six studies done 1983 to 2004 all connected status of Lake Innes to the estuary.**
- **Council's Estuary Mgt Committee recommended dredging of Cowarra Creek and the estuary be included in the Innes E.I.S.**
- **The current Innes study will have to rely on estuary data from 1983 and this is outdated. Studies done recommended this data be updated.**

Innes and Estuary fishing

Two of the criteria on which the decision to leave Lake Innes open to the sea or revert to fresh water are the Social and Economic impacts. These include both amateur and professional fishing and we believe to make this judgment based on Lake Innes only may not take the interests of Lake Cathie wider community into consideration. Reasons are:

Any comparison between the current fishing activities in Lake Innes and the Cathie Estuary would not be realistic. The estuary is so heavily silted that past excellent prawning, crabbing & fishing opportunities west of the Ocean Drive bridge no longer existed.

Lake Innes is now the preferred fishing spot. However if the estuary west of the bridge was dredged the anglers would soon return and Lake Cathie would benefit substantially.

Council says there is no data to support the need for dredging west of the bridge – if the estuary was included in the Innes study that data would be forthcoming and used as the basis of any decision made on the Lake Innes outcome.

Mobile Phone Tower

Optus has advised the Geo Tech testing to determine the footings required has been done and the design of the tower is near completion.

We hope to have more news for residents in the next couple of weeks..

Tallong Reserve weeding program

Port Macquarie Landcare will commence weeding of the Reserve along Tallong Drive in the near future. The work will be done by volunteers on Wednesday morning each week.

The area was weeded and many native trees planted by Council contractors about five years ago. Unfortunately Council did not arrange follow up maintenance and the weeds have taken over again.

The work is welcome as Lake Cathie Landcare is fully committed to extending its work along the Chepana Reserve and maintaining the excellent work done over the past six years in Jonathon Dickson and Chepana Reserves. The work done in this area won the group second place in the NSW 2011 Tidy Towns award.

Without ongoing maintenance the area would return to its previous condition of being over-run with Bitou Bush.

Dog signs - queries

LCPA has received a number of complaints from dog owners saying they are being barred from walking their pets in some reserves and beach areas.

There are in fact no changes to areas in which dogs, on & off leads, are allowed. The explanation for the queries is that Council workers replaced old faded signs with new signs in early September.

The only new signs are related to "NO GLASS" which may make it awkward for people using BBQ's and holding parties in public areas.

The NO GLASS rule has been introduced without discussion with LCPA or the community

2012 Carols by the Lake

Lake Cathie-Bonny Hills Lions Club has organised this years' Carols for Saturday December 15th. More detail in our December newsletter.

Lake Cathie Health Complex

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65 84 88 99

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