

## LAKE CATHIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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### Rare Pygmy Sperm Whale beached at Middle Rock



A Veterinarian and an ORRCA member check the Mammal's condition. (*Image courtesy of Janette Grunsell*)

This rare young Pygmy Sperm whale beached itself at Middle Rock and was moved into the Estuary to enable ORRCA staff and a veterinarian to check its condition.

*ORRCA (Organisation for the Rescue and Research of Cetaceans in Australia) is the most experienced and successful whale rescue organisation in Australia.*

The whale was unable to propel itself and could only move with the flow of the water. It had a broken tail suspected as a result of it breaching itself and following a thorough examination by the Vet it had to be euthanized.

The Pygmy Sperm whale grows from 2.8 to 3.5 metres in length and can weigh 270 to 450KGS.

It is a toothed whale and belongs to the cetacean species which also includes dolphins and porpoises. Pygmy Sperm whales are very rarely sighted.

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### Raiders' Under 10s set new records Minor Premiers for 2013



#### Lake Cathie Raiders under 10 team for 2013

Lachlan Rooney, Hudson Keogh, David Wilson,  
Dayne King, Kade Franklin, Tyler Nugent, Ewan Ball,  
Max Maruszac, Aston Pollard, Joe Black, Sam Edmonds, Joe  
Lewis, Daniel Cheeseman, Noah Spillane, and Mitchell Morris  
COACHES: Tom Morris & Brad Pilon

The team made history in Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills as the first team to make the Under 10s Grand Final

All team members played with distinction and pride through the entire year and are a credit to their club.

It was the first year for these players in a highly competitive competition and they came out as leaders.

The Grand Final was against Camden Haven and all our team played their hearts out and walked away with pride in themselves and their club. The scores were Camden Haven 22 Lake Cathie 12.

The game is all about the kids and will be seen as the first part of our Club's future history.

(This report & image courtesy Richard Pierce,  
Vice President, Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills RLFC Inc.)

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### Vandals active in Lake Cathie

Senseless vandalism has seen a number of letter boxes damaged or destroyed as well as damage to other outside property. In one case a replacement letter box was destroyed two days after installation.

The magnificent gardens and an archway at the Catholic Church were badly damaged.

The Progress Association strongly recommends residents report each and every incident to Port Macquarie Police on 6853 0199. A higher number of reports received will prompt police action.

## Council to answer Community Questions at Lake Cathie meeting

Council will conduct a meeting at the Lake Cathie Community Hall on Monday 30 September to which all residents are welcome. Times for the function are:

- 5.30pm Afternoon tea and “Meet and greet the Councillors.”
- 6.00pm Meeting to commence

Members of the Community can put questions to the meeting by completing the “Question For Engaging and Communicating with our Community” form and lodging this with Council by 5.00pm Monday September 23rd.

The form is available from Council on 6581 8111.

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## Koala mapping

**Vegetation Mapping and Koala Habitat Datasets are on public exhibition for a six week period ending October 20.**

You can view the documents on Council’s website or the office in Port Macquarie.

Written submissions are invited and should be mailed by October 18 to:

Mr Thor Aaso  
Natural Resources Officer  
Port Macquarie-Hastings Council  
PO Box 84 PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444

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## Lake Cathie Community Hall 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

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## Road Safety projects referred to Council’s Roads Portfolio Chair

The Progress Association has asked Councillor Lisa Intemann, Chair of the Roads Portfolio, for answers to why years of delay apply to the following Road Safety issues.

- Missing 1300 metres of cycle lanes on Ocean Drive north of the village
- Pedestrian Refuge at Foreshore Reserve crossing.
- The need for NO PARKING signs at northern-eastern end of Ocean Drive Bridge where vehicles are parking by straddling the footpath and road, making it almost impossible for pedestrians to use the footpath..

The first two of these projects have been LCPA high priority issues since early 2010 and action is necessary to overcome the associated road safety risks.

Councillor Intemann said she would refer the matters to Council for answers and respond to LCPA as soon as possible.

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## Independent review of Council road services

An independent review of Council’s road maintenance and reconstruction is planned. Mayor Peter Besseling said the review would be best delivered by an independent consultant.

We understand the review was brought forward following a dispute with Midcoast Road Services which raised concerns about the quality of asphalt used on roads in the local government area and other issues.

Council is yet to appoint the independent consultant.

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## Raiders win Bun Hayward Trophy

Lake Cathie-Bonny Hills Raiders Rugby League team has won the Bun Hayward Trophy for the second time at Wauchope on September 2nd.

The Trophy is contested between the three bottom teams in the year’s regular competition. The Raiders defeated Beechwood 38-18 in the game played as the curtain raiser to the year’s Grand Final.

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**“Obviously you don’t ask for a receipt when you are paying for a murder.”**

A pugnacious prisoner in the witness box at the Central Local Court in Sydney



## Call for road issues report to September Council Meeting

At the August Council Meeting Councillor Intemann asked if a brief report could be brought forward to the September 2013 Meeting.

The Councillor, who is Chair of the Council's Roads Portfolio, said this would start the process of responding to the issues on roadworks which are being raised by the community,

This question was included in the Minutes of the August Council meeting.

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## St Josephs Regional College Year 10 Geography class visits Cathie

Over 100 Year 10 Geography students from St Josephs visited Lake Cathie late last month. The purpose of the visit was to inspect and understand the potential for and causes of coastal erosion, the state of the estuary and future of Lake Innes.

The Progress Association's executives address the pupils on issues such as the role of a Progress Association, its make up of unpaid community members, status of the Coastal Plan to control the impact of erosion and other issues..

The College's Geography classes this year number over two hundred and are forecast to be as high as 250 in 2014. Their next visit is planned for March/April next year.

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## Aqua Reserve pathway being extended to the east

Council is currently working on extending the concrete path in this Reserve eastward to link up with the steps down to the beach.

In addition to the enjoyable walk the new path will provide it will remove pedestrians from walking along Aqua and Bundella Crescents where the road is narrow and safety of walkers has always been a concern.

The 2010 Lake /Cathie Village Master Plan set the need for this work as a HIGH priority summing up the risk as "Aqua Crescent is a traffic hazard in the tourist season".

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## Optus Tower provides Mobile connections



Over 30 residents attended the Optus information day in late July

The installation of the Optus Mobile Phone/Wireless Internet tower in July has brought wide commendations from business, residents and visitors.

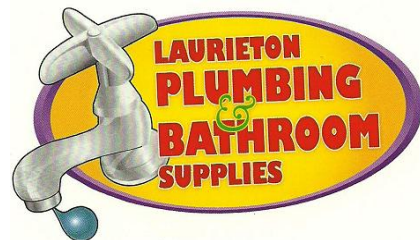
On July 28 Optus conducted an information day at the Community Hall explaining use of the new facility.

One of the important matters raised was that users needed to have a 3G phone & Sim Card to send/receive in the village, If you are having issues with reception it is suggested you take the phone to Optus in Port Macquarie to check it is actually operating on 3G signal.

This had been one of the Progress Association's highest priorities and the fact it is now in service is of huge benefit to the tourist potential of the village.

The Progress Association commends Optus staff for their professional and active management of the project. Residents in one small area are still getting weak signal in their homes – Optus is investigating the problem.

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## Enjoy a bush walk to beach & Lake Cathie Lookout



### Entrance to walking track – opposite Bowling Club

The walking track through bushland to the Lookout and northern beach was upgraded by Lake Cathie Landcare in 2010.

Landcare's Sunday working group recently trimmed overhanging branches to make the experience even more enjoyable.

The walk through the beautiful bushland leads to the lookout with views to the ocean and upstream to the estuary. Further along are steps allowing access to the beach and the path continues further providing an enjoyable bushland stroll.

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## Drilling for Coffee Rock test samples

We have, as yet unconfirmed, information that Geotechnical Drilling to obtain samples of below ground Coffee Rock will commence on September 16.

The samples will be tested to determine the extent to which the Coffee Rock exists in the areas of Lake Cathie said to be at the risk of erosion likely to damage to properties in Illaroo Road and Chepana Street. The samples will also provide hardness of the rock and other data.

In regard to Chepana properties the test results may enable removing notations on S149 Certificates stating properties are at risk of erosion.

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## Development Application for Lake Cathie Primary School

Planning for a Primary School at Lake Cathie has taken a positive turn with a Development Application lodged with Council.

Ten classrooms are included and will cater for around 170 Lake Cathie/Bonny Hills students in the first year. We understand the school will be built on the eastern side of Ocean Drive just south of Houston Mitchell Dr.

Member for Port Macquarie, Leslie Williams, who has been driving the need for a local school for many years, said "It has been a whole of community project and dream".

The school, to open in 2015, will also include a library, administration building, a covered outdoor learning area, games court and play area.

This is great news for families of both villages and will avoid children having to travel to and from Port Macquarie or Camden Haven every day.

**Well done to our Local Member, Leslie Williams.**

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## Location for new sports fields

In the past two editions of Cathie News we reported on difficulties the Sports Council was having obtaining detail from Council on its undertaking to provide two new fields.

These issues included road access, availability of amenities facilities and timing for the new facilities.

Information included with news of the school was that the new fields would be adjacent to the school site. This would appear to answer issues such as road access and amenity facilities but the timing is still unknown.

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