

**November Newsletter of the Lake Cathie Progress Association
which notes the well attended public meeting.**

The article has been circled in red for ready identification.

Lake Cathie Progress Association Inc

Cathie News

November 2008

PO Box 247 Lake Cathie NSW 2445

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Opening of Medical Centre

The much needed Medical Centre for Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills residents will open early next month. The Centre is located just south of Lake Cathie near the power sub-station.

Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills Progress Associations jointly initiated a petition in May 2007 to have a General Practitioner located in the area to avoid residents having to travel to Port Macquarie or Laurieton for medical attention.

Never in their wildest dreams did the Associations hope for a Medical Centre. The Management Team of the new Centre has advised that on opening it will have two (2) General Practitioners, four (4) nursing staff and two (2) office staff. Additionally a Physiotherapy team will be on site five days a week.

The Centre will open in the first half of December – watch local newspapers for more detail.

Urgent need for additional Sporting Fields in Lake Cathie

The Progress Association has been working closely with the Lake Cathie Sports Council to obtain more ground to accommodate the growing number of young people wanting to participate in football, rugby league, netball, cricket and other organized sports.

Sports Council President Richard Pierce says new players will have to be turned away sometime in 2009. He added “This is the last thing we want to do – turning young people away from organized and supervised sport for lack of ground space is crazy when vacant land exists next door”

The Sports Council and Progress Association met with Council Administrator, Dick Persson, in late June this year and forwarded full documentation to Council and National Parks & Wildlife Service on September 18 applying for land to be released for the additional fields. No reply to that correspondence has been received.

In order to have NPWS land released it is necessary to gain approval of all local Environment Groups. This was received. However after first approving the arrangement the National Parks Association withdrew its support throwing a spanner in the negotiations.

The initial ecological report on the adjacent land indicates no substantial reason for the rejection.

No other option for at least four (4) years

The option of using proposed new Area 14 sporting fields was ruled out as a letter from the developers advised that a realistic date for availability of these grounds was 2013 and that, at this stage, no ironclad guarantee could be given they would be built. **Richard Pierce asks “Do they want us to put the kids on the street for at least four (4) Years?”**

Given the amount of residential development already completed in the area it is now clear that the shortage of fields is totally due to poor planning by the previous Port Macquarie Hastings Council.

MORE NEWS OVER PAGE

Fiona drainage

The Association received advice from Council that interallotment drainage would be installed by Council at its expense to overcome some of the surface problems suffered by residents even after moderate rainfall.

All affected residents received information on the arrangement. However the work will depend on availability of Council funding.

In the meantime Council has upgraded roadside drainage at the corner of Ocean Dr and Fiona Cres. This should overcome some of the water issues suffered by residents at the northern end of Fiona.

Negotiations with Council ran from 2001 to 2008.

Manufactured home Estate

A Development Application has been lodged for construction of an estate similar to Dahlsford Village on the western side of Ocean Drive just north of Houston Mitchell Drive.

Details made available to the Association show inclusion of:

257 quality manufactured homes
Two/three bedrooms
Heated 25 Metre pool
Bowling green
Clubhouse
Garage for each dwelling
Walking tracks
Preservation of native habitat

Carols by the Lake

Saturday December 20 has been set for this year's event.

It will again be conducted by the Tacking Point Lions Club in conjunction with the Progress Association.

Details of the times, performers and catering will be in the local press in early December.

Progress Association AGM

The normal October date was deferred following many reports from members and residents that the October timing was unsuitable as it fell in school holidays when people were away or had family visiting.

A new date will be set at the Committee's November meeting. Association members and the community will be given notice of the new date.

Lake Cathie 2000 Master Plan Update

An excellent plan was completed in the year 2000 and is overdue for an upgrade to include the needs of the increase in population.

Many of the items included in the original plan have been completed. However some important issues remain outstanding and will be reviewed in the upgraded plan.

Funding was received from Port Macquarie Panthers for printing, distribution and other costs involved in preparing the new plan.

Surveys of the community will be conducted to make sure all residents have input.

One of the most important issues included in the 2000 Plan was for the village style of life to be preserved as much as possible.

Area 14 Public Meeting

A well publicised meeting was attended by over 150 people on September 23 to hear an overview of the Developer's plans for the new estate.

The plans are still between the Developer and the NSW

Department of Planning and a firm start date is not yet available.

In summary the estate will include:

Approx. 900 building blocks
Two school sites
Large open space areas
An eco-tourist development site
Sporting fields
Native habitat preservation

Further public meetings are planned prior to commencement.

Power outages

It is pleasing to report that since the Progress Association invited Country Energy Management to address its General Meeting on August 17 no outages have occurred in Lake Cathie.

The Association thanks Country Energy for their attention to a problem which was causing the community extreme inconvenience.

Lake Cathie LANDCARE

WHAT IS LANDCARE?

Landcare is a network of volunteers who care for our natural resources-soil, water & vegetation. Including:

- a) coastal degradation
- b) loss of native species
- c) declining estuary health
- d) weed & pest invasion
- e) restoring wildlife corridors

LAKE CATHIE WORKING BEES:

8.30AM each Wednesday – new members most welcome

Regular Sunday morning working bees followed by a BBQ and drinks are planned for 2009.

Contact Rob 6584 8395 or Jack 6584 8211 for details or information

Lake Cathie Progress

Association Committee

Rob Tate	President
Jason Warneken	Vice resident
Jack Jones	Secretary
Elaine Jones	Treasurer
Shirley Drewett	Committee
Val Evans	"
Kathy Goodfellow	"
John Hunt	"
Bob Jolly	Membership