

Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association Newsletter

Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association and Dune Care Inc

August 2009

www.catherinehillbay.org.au

For Association members, Friends of Catherine Hill Bay, residents and supporters everywhere

UPDATE ON CATHERINE HILL BAY

The appeal proceedings commenced by the Gwandalan Summerland Point Action group against the former Minister for Planning's approval of the Concept Plan/Project Application for Rose Property Group's development at Catherine Hill Bay and Gwandalan, were held in the Land and Environment Court on 9, 10, and 11 June.

The judgement for this matter has been reserved and we are still awaiting the decision of the court.

Before State Parliament closed for the Winter Recess in June there were suggestions that retrospective legislation would be introduced to overcome any adverse finding by the Land and Environment Court to the appeal.

The Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association wrote letters of concern about this to the Premier and appropriate Government Ministers. The Minister for Planning, Kristina Keneally has assured us that she has "issued no instructions to introduce retrospective legislation". (Please see attached the letters from the CHBPA and the reply from the Minister for Planning.)

This does not mean however that the Government will not change its mind should the decision go against them. Indeed it could mean that the Department of Planning has found a less controversial and public way around this 'problem'.

The Environmental Defenders' Office is hopeful of a favourable outcome for Catherine Hill Bay/Gwandalan. If so, we may be entering a third round in the fight against overdevelopment. New possibilities may be opened up and the community will need to discuss "what next".

MIDDLE CAMP

The Federal Government, under the EPBC Act, is still assessing the Coal & Allied proposed development at Middle Camp.

JETTY

The American coal company Peabody which has taken over the lease on the coal loading jetty at Catherine Hill Bay, wishes to demolish the jetty but has been required to complete an Environmental Impact Study. This is presently being compiled. When this has been completed there will be time for public comment. We will keep you informed.

CATHERINE HILL BAY SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

Registration days are the last two Sundays in September. Membership will give you a vote and a say in the future direction of the surf club.

'The Sixty Miler' a story of love and the sea by Norma Sim

I have 6 copies of this book which tells the story of the ships that carried coal from Newcastle and Catherine Hill Bay to Sydney during the last century. Please ring Sue Whyte 49762310 if you are interested in buying a copy. They are priced at \$20.