

CATHO CHRONICLE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CATHERINE HILL BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1901



COUNCIL PLANS FOR CATHO

LMCC has finalised its plans for investment in community facilities for Catherine Hill Bay for the period 2018-2030, as outlined in the Belmont Development Contributions Plan. A summary of the proposed investments is given in the table on the following page.

This Plan recognises the need for significant investment on Catherine Hill Bay to meet the needs of the growing population, projected to increase by 1382% by 2030. Funding for these projects is sourced from financial contributions by property developments in the Lake Macquarie area.

The PA strongly supports these investments and will be seeking to engage closely with LMCC in the planning and delivery of the facilities to ensure they meet the needs and expectations of the community.

Given that all the proposed developments are located within the Heritage Precinct of Catherine Hill Bay, it will be important that they are designed to be complimentary to the character of the town in scale and form. The construction of any buildings will require approval by the Heritage Office.

IN THE SEPT ISSUE...

SOLO WATER UPDATE

LANDCARE

PREPARE FOR BUSHFIRE SEASON

NEXT MEETING:

**5pm Sat 20th Oct 2018
at Catho SLSC Club**

| Ref No | Facility Description | Cost | Timing |
|--------|---|---------|-----------|
| OS-006 | New coastal park near surf club / existing car parks | \$3.93m | 2018-2023 |
| CF-002 | Provision of community space near surf club / existing car parks | \$1.94m | 2020-2030 |
| OS-002 | Upgrade field, dual use amenities, car park near existing Bowlo / sports field area | \$7.98m | 2023-2028 |
| OS-028 | Relocate surf club building back from coastal hazard zone, new car park & access park | \$5.44m | 2023-2028 |
| OS-010 | Neighbourhood play area near existing Bowlo / sports field area | \$1.43m | 2023-2028 |
| OS-018 | Community Garden near existing Bowlo / sports field area | \$0.02m | 2028-2030 |

With the recent closure and impending demolition of the Bowling & Community Club, the Progress Association is urging Council to deliver a new community use building at this location as soon as possible, and earlier than the 2023-2028 timeframe outline in the Plan.



The fight to save our beautiful beach continues

IPART is still waiting on further information requested from Solo Water before any determination is made on their application to release treated effluent into the creek flowing onto the beach at Catherine Hill Bay.

A multitude of global studies all conclude that the discharge of treated effluent into waterways can potentially lead to any and/or all of the following: nutrient increase, depleted oxygen levels, introduce pathogenic micro-organisms, produce antibiotic resistant bacteria, introduce estrogen mimicking-

carcinogenic-hormone disrupting chemicals and neurotoxins. The presence of these substances and chemicals has the potential to harm or kill invertebrates, plants, fish, birdlife and any species that ingests or has contact with the water or food source derived from that water.

The CHB Progress Association will continue to oppose this unacceptable proposal.

Landcare

To celebrate Landcare Week (3-9 September) and Threatened Species Day, Lake Macquarie Landcare hosted a bus tour on 7th September to showcase three Landcare sites in southern Lake Macquarie. The day featured tours from Landcare volunteers, and guest speaker Mick Roderick from the Environmental Trust Saving Our Species Swift Parrot project.



At Catherine Hill Bay, the Graveyard Beach site was first, then the Pat Slaven Reserve south beach site, with talks by Landcarers David and Lindsey Goff, Clarita Norman and Jann Kinsela about our work. Morning tea with an ocean view, and a village history talk from Sue Whyte. Thanks to all!

The Green Team will be here again on Monday Oct 22 from 9 am till noon, at the Graveyard Beach site. Hopefully, they'll bring plants. All welcome to join in, for whatever time you can spare!

Membership renewals now due on 1st July

A reminder that membership fees are now due from the 1st July each year. The membership renewal form is attached to this newsletter email. Please email membership forms to:

accounts@catherinehillbay.org.au.

Thank you to all our members and friends that have already renewed their payments.

Prepare for bushfire season

We are very lucky in Catherine Hill Bay to be surrounded by beautiful bushland and National Parks, but this also means we need to prepare our homes for the risks posed by the approaching bushfire season. The Rural Fire Service has some great information on their website here:

<https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/resources/bush-fire-survival-plan>

The recommended bushfire season checklist includes:

1. Discuss among household occupants what to do if bushfire threatens your home and make a plan
2. Trim trees and shrubs overhanging your home
3. Mow grass to keep it low and remove the clippings
4. Remove items from around the home that can burn (wood piles, mulch etc)
5. Remove leaves from gutters and install metal gutter guards
6. Install a sturdy hose that will reach around your house and ensure water tanks are full.

Beach volleyball

Anyone interested in meeting for a regular social game of volleyball on the beach at Catho is invited to contact Paul Myers at paul.myors@gmail.com.



Did you know ...

That the origin of the name of our neighbouring suburb at Murrays Beach dates back to two Scottish immigrant brothers? Noelene Boyd on behalf of HELM (Heritage of East Lake Macquarie) informs us that the name of Murrays Beach was chosen by Stockland Development Group.

"The name was given in honour of Scottish immigrant brothers David and Patrick Murray, who once owned the land adjoining the beach for 40 years.

People who resided on the property near the mine, simply gave their address as "Murrays Pit"- even in the census. In 1862 after the advent of the Robertson Land Act - introduced by the Premier of NSW to break squatters' domination of land tenure - the brothers, along with others, bought two portions of land totalling 320 acres. The newly formed company drove a tunnel into the cliff face at the water's edge and built a jetty for the loading of their coal. Although producing good tonnages while operating, the mine only worked spasmodically for the next 40 years, due mainly to the silting of Swansea Channel.

During the 1890s the mine went into production on a much larger scale, Patrick partnering with his sons Robert and James. In 1902, due to increasing difficulties shipping their coal through Swansea Channel, the mine was closed. In 1905 the Murray Pit was taken over by Thomas Evans, Colliery manager of Wickham (probably in partnership with his son Tudor, a mining engineer).

Almost immediately the area became known as "Evan-zes". It was eventually sold in 1915."

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For more details and PA meeting minutes, check out our website:

<http://catherinehillbay.org.au/>

and the various Facebook pages for the latest news and great photos:

www.facebook.com/CatherineHillBayTennisCourt

www.facebook.com/CathHillBay

www.facebook.com/CathHillBayLandcare

www.facebook.com/cathoboardriders

www.facebook.com/cathobowlo