

ReGrowth – The Best!



Next Meeting

A well patronised and very successful Progress Association meeting was held on Friday 14th March at the Bowlo. Minutes to all members to follow. **Next Progress Association meeting** will be **Friday 23rd May, 7:30 at the Bowling Club/Community Hall.**

2014 Association Membership

To be a 2014 member of the Association, please complete the Association Membership Form attached at end of this Newsletter. All welcome!

Documentary of the Fire at Catherine Hill Bay

The October 2013 Fire documentary (“**Catho: Rising from the Flames**”) is progressing and will be shown to the community and all interested at our next Film Event, 2014.

PLEASE NOTE: we request that anyone who has footage relating to the October 2013 fire to send it to Sue Whyte by email (suewhyte80@bigpond.com) so that it can form part of this wonderful documentary.

Former RSL Hall

New owners (Lindsey and David Goff) have moved into their new home and we welcome you into our community!

Landcare

We recommenced Landcare with the wonderful LMCC's Landcare Green Team Volunteers coming to the Bay in February. The Team consisted of Rob and Tony from Cameron Park, Kevin from Teralba, Garth from Cardiff and Ken from Mayfield plus locals Damien and Carmel joined in, and Ben came to cook the BBQ, YUM!. The Pat Slaven Reserve was weeded, and more of the wattle and tea tree tube stock were planted with more weeding and clearing undertaken. A huge thanks and the next Green Team day is planned for Tuesday 29th April.



At any time, do pull out the lantana or bright green bitou bush seedlings flourishing everywhere along the coast and sadly overtaking our native flora!

The March 2014 Landcare day involved one volunteer, i.e. Carmel who weeded near the beach steps next to the Surf Club. Next Landcare is planned for the 1st Thursday of each month at 1pm (please note in diary 3rd April) starting at Surf Club. Thanks Carmel and volunteers are welcome.

Congratulations to Carmel as she has been elected onto the Lake Macquarie Landcare Network Committee which supports the Landcare Coordinators and runs training sessions for anyone (1st Sat of most months). For any information, call Carmel on 0438499636.

National Parks & Wildlife Service have planned for Bay guided walks in the next few months. The Catho and Ghosties rock platforms and caves walk is planned for Saturday 29th March. Also, ecologist Barry Collier is carrying out a great bush walk of the Bay's wetland area, 10th April. If you would like to attend these walks, please call the NPWS office, Ph: 43204205.

Clean-Up Australia Day

Seventy four wonderful volunteers came along to clean up thousands of bottles scattered along the headland from south of jetty to north of Moonee Beach. Approximately 15 tonne of glass and bottles were collected and it is a credit to the volunteers for their remarkable work. On completion, the majority of glass has now been removed and recycled!

Volunteers included the Bay Progress Association, Murrays Beach Community, Lake Macquarie City Council, National Parks and Wildlife, RoseGroup, Daracon, Hunter Valley Resource, "Take 3", Odyssey, Surf Club, Boardriders Club and Friends of the Bay.

I would like to say a special thanks to all, including the after Clean Up party BBQ team, for helping the people of the Bay, a fantastic result. THANK YOU!

Report on Coal & Allied - Middle Camp Development

C&A are lodging their Development Application in the next couple of weeks with documents to be displayed in the Bowling Club / Community Hall. The Association members and community at large will need to view these documents, formulate questions so the community can meet with C&A as part of the consultative process.

Report on Rose Group Development

Sue Whyte and Damien Hawcroft and been invited by Nick Jackman (Senior Development Manager – RoseGroup for this project) to participate in the Bay Community Liaison Committee, 1st meeting held at the Surf Club, 17th March. The purpose of this Committee is to help inform the community and other stakeholders of activities taking place with the development. Feedback will be provided to the community via Progress Association meetings.

News Flash

- There is concern over the rapid deterioration of the Tennis Court owned by C&A and a letter is being sent by the Association to C&A to undertake repairs. Destruction by neglect will see the loss of this important community facility. Association members would be keen to partner with C&A in this project.
- A new draft Development Consent Plan for the Bay is being prepared by LMCC. Lisa Wrightson from LMCC is seeking a number of meetings with stakeholders to hear their concerns followed by a draft. Stakeholders are the CHBPA, C&A, RoseGroup, and community at large. Our meeting is planned for 28th March and anyone from the Association is welcome to attend, for details please contact Sue Whyte.

- After October 2013 fires, spot / chitter heatings continue to burn and being managed by LakeCoal. This work is difficult but hopefully should be all out within the next 4 weeks. If you need to report a coal heating or fire, please call Chris Ellis (LakeCoal) or the contractor engaged to manage the heatings, i.e. Barry Toepfer – Ph: 0407783791.
- Jennifer Hill and Sue Whyte have met with the National Trust and the Heritage Office concerning a rebuild of the destroyed heritage houses. In Australia this is not required but what is built will have to stick to the same footprint and be no higher than the building that was destroyed by the fire.
- On request from the Association, Robyn Parker (Minister for the Environment and Heritage) has arranged to have Association members meet with representatives from the Environment and Heritage Department, April 2014.
- The Association wishes to thank LMCC for installation of a new fence around the Slaven Park / BBQ area. Hopefully, next will be more shade cover for the seats!
- The Association has made contact with a number of people who lived in the Mine Manager's House and the Winding House. Some wonderful old photographs have been gathered and 3 oral histories carried out. The Association intends to publish a booklet on the lost heritage houses. The archaeologist, Lorraine Nelson who has prepared a report on the Winding House on behalf of C&A, will be forwarding us a copy.



General Business

- The CHBPA is to write a letter to Peter McMurray from LMCC re; progress of implementation of the traffic calming measures.
- A letter to be sent to LMCC to determine who now owns the land around the cemetery. Garbage bins and toilets are badly needed.
- Need to establish ownership of land on the cnr of Flowers Drive and Lindsley and who is responsible for the maintenance of this land. Sue has undertaken to speak with Greg Field from LMCC after the Community Consultation Panel meets next Monday 17th March.

Bay Web Site and Facebook

There have been many interesting posts this year re; smouldering fires, lack of mobile reception, sale of The Pines on Flowers Dr, the other historic house sites, Clean Up Australia Day and LandCare, etc. Plenty of Photos – **Check it out!**

You don't need to have a Facebook account to see our page - it's public! Just click on the link we give you, and have a look at the albums (of photos and media items) and our posts.

[CHB website](#)

Website average of 100-200 views per day. 150 newsletters are sent out electronically and from those, the newsletter has a 30-35% open rate i.e. 50!

Check out our website or Facebook pages for the latest news and great photos.

www.catherinehillbay.org.au

https://www.facebook.com/CathHillBay/photos_albums

Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association and Dune Care Membership Form

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

Phone: 02 4976 2310
Mobile: 0409 344 253
e-mail: suewhyte80@bigpond.com

PO Box 72
Swansea
NSW 2281

MEMBERSHIP

YOUR \$10 MEMBERSHIP PER ADULT (\$5 FOR PENSIONERS) IS AN INVESTMENT IN RETAINING THE CHARACTER OF CATHERINE HILL BAY

Names:

Mailing Address:

Mailing Postcode:.....

Address in the Bay or contact, if any:

Work Phone:

Home Phone:

Mobile:.....

E-mail (Please write clearly):

E-mail, 2nd account:.....

Membership amount:

Date:.....

DONATION

Donation amount:.....

Mail to:

Hon Treasurer
CHB Progress Association
PO Box 72
Swansea NSW 2281

On Line:

Newcastle Permanent Swansea Branch:

BSB: 650 400

Acc No: 957795508

(Please still fill in and send us this form, and provide your name in the transfer)

Cheques should be made out to **Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association**.

Receipts will not be provided unless requested. Tick here if you require a receipt

Association use only

Community Member

Friend of CHB