



CATHO CHRONICLE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CATHERINE HILL BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED 1901



NEXT MEETING & CHRISTMAS PARTY

The CHB Progress Association is holding its December meeting at the Catho SLSC Clubhouse at 5pm on Saturday 1st December 2018. It will be followed by a Christmas Party and anyone from the Catherine Hill Bay community is invited, including friends and relatives.

Please bring a plate & BYO drinks. BBQ facilities will be there. We would welcome details from anyone interested in playing music or performing on the night, particularly entertainment for kids.

Community Survey

Every four years the Progress Association sends out a survey to all residents and property owners in Catherine Hill Bay.

So much has changed in the town since the last survey was circulated in 2015, and it is important that we get feedback from the community on topical issues to help shape our vision for the future of this beautiful seaside village.

We are currently preparing the new survey questionnaire and it will be distributed in January/February 2019 to all households including the new residents at the Beaches estate. We encourage all readers to participate and have your say.

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REMEMBERING OUR DIGGERS

NEXT MEETING & XMAS PARTY

5pm Sat 1st Dec 2018
at Catho SLSC Club

Lake Mac 2050 Strategy

The Progress Association has made a submission to Lake Macquarie City Council on their draft Lake Mac 2050 Strategy document. This new strategy outlines land use planning to accommodate the expected increase in the population of Lake Macquarie.

The draft Lake Mac 2050 Strategy acknowledges that Catherine Hill Bay has already undergone massive changes in new residential housing as a result of the State Government's approval of 550 housing lots in the Beaches residential estate at the southern end of the town, and 228 housing lots at the northern end of the town. It is projected that there will be an additional 2,363 persons living in Catherine Hill Bay over the next 15 years, an increase of 1,382%.

The Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association strongly supports LMCC's stated aims of:

- 1) Retaining the heritage values of this State listed township while accommodating the impacts of new developments and the rapidly increasing population
- 2) Improving pedestrian and cycleway links within the village and to the surrounding coastline and National Parks.

Farewell to Catho Bowlo

The Bowling and Community Club was given a "last hurrah" on Saturday 27th October with an event including paddock bowls, market stalls and live music.



The club – built by locals and opened in 1954 – was closed by Lake Macquarie City Council in early 2018 because of asbestos contamination. It will be demolished in 2019.

Council has indicated it plans to build a new multi-purpose community and sporting facility, with car parking and connecting shared pathways on the site in the timeframe of 2023-28.

The closure of the Bowlo has left Catherine Hill Bay without a community building, and with the population already growing rapidly the Progress Association is urging Council to provide a replacement facility as soon as possible and before the planned 2023-28 timeframe.

Pharmaceuticals in wastewater. Is this what we want to swim in?

With a decision still to be made IPART on Solo Water's proposal to discharge wastewater into the creek at Catherine Hill Bay, a study from Melbourne is a timely reminder that the impacts of this type of release are far reaching and still poorly understood. In the study published by nature.com, pharmaceuticals were found in invertebrates living in Melbourne's streams. It can be found here:

www.nature.com/articles/s41467-018-06822-w

"Pharmaceuticals from wastewater are making their way into aquatic invertebrates and spiders living in and next to Melbourne's creeks", the research leader Erin Richmond said. "We found pharmaceuticals in every bug we sampled - over 190 invertebrates - from six different streams. These included caddisfly larvae, midge larvae, snails and dragonfly larvae. We also found pharmaceuticals in spiders living in stream-side vegetation."

Amazingly, 69 different drugs were identified in the study including fluoxetine and mianserin (anti-depressants), fluconazole (an anti-fungal), and non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs), often used to treat arthritis.

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.

Did you know ...

That 126 men from Catherine Hill Bay went to the First World War?

The centenary of the armistice of the First World War on the 11th of November has turned our thoughts to the contribution that Catherine Hill Bay made at this time in history. 126 men from Catherine Hill Bay volunteered to fight in the First World War and tragically 15 of these men never returned.

The attached newsletter from HELM, a group of excellent historians, independent of the Eastlakes Historical Society, have put together a snapshot of those times.



Recent Anzac Day service at the Catherine Hill Bay Bowling & Community Club

Victor Farr (back left in photo below) was a skilled underground horse driver (a "Wheeler") in the mine pit at Catherine Hill Bay. He loved fishing and swimming at the beach, and he was not even 20 years old when war broke out in August 1914 and he decided to leave behind the sunny days in Catho to enlist in the Army. He was assigned to the D Company of the 1st Battalion, and set sail from Sydney in the troop ships in October of that year, and eventually disembarked in Alexandria, Egypt in early April 1915. As part of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, he landed on Gallipoli Cove on the 25th April.



It was left to F Mathers (back right in photo) to inform Victor's mother, Mary Anne Drummond, that Victor was missing in battle. With this information she pressed the authorities for details on the fate of her son. Eventually, after numerous delays and great difficulties, she was informed by the Armed Forces bureaucracy that he was killed in battle and buried in a unknown grave in Shrapnel Gully, Gallipoli.

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