

TUROSS HEAD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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SECRETARYS ANNUAL REPORT – PERIOD 2021/2022

All THPA Members

30th August 2022

Since the last Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 4 November 2021, and in my capacity as your Honorary Secretary of the THPA, I have been proactively involved in the following list of issues, noting during the reporting period many of the desired THPA activities and initiatives have been impacted upon due to the COVID-19 restrictions in 2021. This Secretary's Annual Report is to be read in conjunction with the Annual THPA President's Report prepared by Cathy Milliken and the Treasurer's audited Annual Financial Statement dated 30 June 2022.

My ability to continue to perform the functions as Secretary as I have done over the past years has continued to have been impacted upon during FY 2021/2022 due to my reduced physical and failing mental capacity arising out of my progressive lung disease diagnosed in 2020. To that end my election as Secretary THPA at this AGM, is likely to be my last term in that role. In summing up I feel that the listed activities serve to stand our Association in good stead within the Tuross Head community well into the future.

JOHN TILBROOK, CSM, RFD, JP

Honorary THPA Secretary

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1. Follow on action post 2019/2020 Bushfires in the Eurobodalla

The THPA has continued its dialogue with the Council's Fire Mitigation Officer and the NSW Rural Fire Service to orchestrate further up to date seasonal on-site bushfire risk assessments. The objective of the dialogue and on-site meetings is to focus on specific areas of concern in Tuross Head residential precinct where the THPA believes that intervention action is required to conduct selected bushfire risk mitigation works to create vital asset protection zones between Council owned reserves and residential boundaries.

2. Completion and opening of the expanded long stay Commuter Carpark and the new Bus Shelter at the Princes Highway T Intersection.

After the \$1.4m in funding from Federal Governments Regional Roads "Black Spot" Program for the road safety upgrade of the Princes Highway and Hector McWilliam Drive "T" intersection in late October 2018. During 2021 our Council completed Stage #2 of the road safety upgrade at the intersection precinct by finalising the expansion of the long stay commuter carpark, and moreover the relocation of the Bus Shelter from the western side of the Princes Highway into the carpark in July/August 2021 with overhead streetlamp illumination by utilising \$362k in grants funding from both the Federal and THPA – Secretary's Annual Report 2021/2022 (Final)

NSW Government under the joint 80% - 20% funding arrangements. These facilities were officially opened on 12 November 2021 (see photograph above).



Official opening of Bus Shelter & Carpark on 12 Nov 21. L left to Right are Deputy Mayor Cllr Rob Pollock, John Tilbrook, the Federal Member for GILMORE, Fiona Phillips MP and the works Project Officer, Warren Sharpe, Director of Infrastructure Services.

3. THPA Membership Renewals for FY 2022/23. As at the 23 August 2022 the number of THPA Financial Members was 150 members. It is planned to launch another THPA membership drive to include more Turossians, or holiday homeowners, into our membership so that we can represent their concerns on specific issues to Council and other government agencies. The eligibility criteria for membership are that a person/applicant must reside or own a holiday residence within 10 km radius of the Tuross Head LPO, which takes in residents located at Bingi, Bergalia, Coila and Turlinjah.

4. Continued Protection & Preservation of Kyla Park Heritage Grazing Lands

The topic of ongoing protection of the community Kyla Park grazing lands took up a lot of time and effort in 2018 and in 2019. Following the 2021 election of the new Council, the THPA has successfully negotiated a renewed written assurance signed by Mayor Matt Hatcher on 4 April 2022 giving Council's assurance in writing that the extant protections for the Kyla Park HGL will continue for the life of the Council (sic until 2024) and supports the categorisation for these HGL as community lands as enunciated in the Eurobodalla Rural LEP that was approved in 2019.

5. "Meet the Candidates Public Forums"

As with the Federal, State Bi election & LGA elections that have been held in the last 12 months the THPA again successfully hosted and defrayed the expenses for the "Meet the Candidates" Q&A forums that were convened at Kyla Hall

6. Preservation of our Tuross Head heritage listed Norfolk Pine Trees in Hector McWilliam Park.

The THPA has again canvassed Council (the responsible Director Deb Lenson & the Rangers Office) as well as the local community, in seeking proactive support for the ongoing preservation of the Norfolk Island Pine Trees originally planted by Hector McWilliam as a windbreak along Tuross Boulevard, as well as the self-sown NI Pine seedlings that spring up within the ocean foreshore section of Hector McWilliam Park (sic. from the Stoney Beach carpark along the sea front to the Coila Beach stairway). It is commonplace for these mature NI pine trees to be vandalised by unauthorised poisoning, the removal of branches and the destruction of self-sewn seedlings by some vested interest landowners bent of maintaining or improving their ocean view from their residences.

In this regard the Council has recently erected a “Un-authorised Tree Removal Penalty” warning sign directly opposite a Tuross Boulevard residence which will hopefully serve as a deterrent to such offenders. That said, acts of unlawful lopping are still occurring. Members are requested to inform the Council of such suspicious lopping, poisoning or similar unlawful activity.

7. Formal opening of the replacement the Tuross Lake Fishing & Boating Jetty.

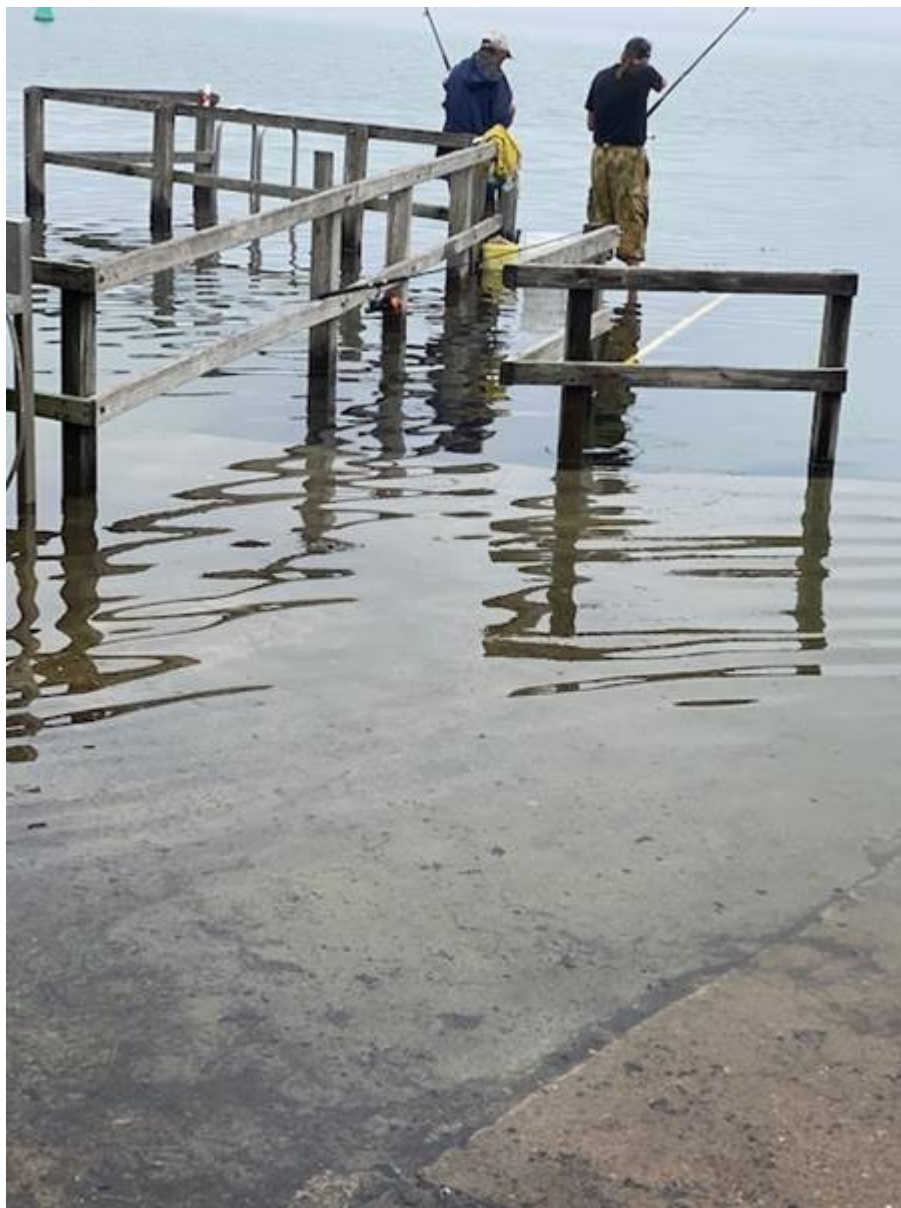
Background. In 2019 the THPA (led by Max Castle) were successful in obtaining a Liberal Party commitment through Warren Mundine (then a candidate for the Federal seat of GILMORE in 2019) for the regional infrastructure \$200k to construct a new fishing and boating jetty at Nelson Parade boat ramp.



March 2019 – Liberal Candidate for the Federal Seat of Gilmore, Warren Mundine and Max Castle (THPA, RFNSW & THFC) standing on the old fishing boating jetty on Tuross Lake. If elected the Liberal Party promised and has delivered a regional infrastructure grant of \$200k to replace the aged jetty.



The old Tuross Lake Fishing and Boating Jetty seen in 2019 that has now been replaced in 2022



Archive photo and comment in a THPA bid to Council. A floating pontoon jetty would eliminate king tide envelopment of our Tuross Lake platform jetty. The above high tide situations, this photo taken at 5.30 pm Mon 10 Feb 20, represents a safety issue as after dark as there is no definition of the edge of the jetty. Not uncommon to have wet feet and your toes nibbled by cheeky fish?

In his capacity as the VP THPA, Max Castle worked closely in collaboration with the Council engineering and works staff over the past two years, and it was pleasing to see the official opening of the completed replacement Jetty took place at a ceremony on 5 Aug 22 (pictured below).



Official opening of replacement Fishing & Boating Jetty with pontoon extension on 5 Aug 22. Pictured Left to Right R for the red ribbon cutting are Fiona Phillips MP – the Federal Member for GILMORE, Max Castle Vice President THPA, Warren Sharpe, OAM – the Director of Infrastructure Services and Mayor Mat Hatcher.



On 2 Feb 22 Bay Signs removed Signboard damaged by Council Mower collision on 21 Jan 22 for repair.

8. Replacement ‘WELCOME TO TUROSS HEAD’ signboard. On Fri 21 Jan 21 the Council mower accidentally collided with the iconic Tuross Head signboard and following THPA – Secretary’s Annual Report 2021/2022 (Final)

an investigative report by the Secretary THPA the Council agreed to its repair. Unfortunately, the artwork on the original 1990's sign could not be replicated. As a consequence, it was necessary to have a brand-new signboard manufactured and installed in the grassed reserve at the "T" intersection of Hector McWilliam Drive & the Princes Highway (see below).



The new "WELCOME TO TUROSS HEAD" signboard was erected on 8 May 22 erected by Council in collaboration with the THPA.



Christmas Eve – when SANTA made it to Tuross Head, not like Christmas in Darwin in 1975!

9. Promoting Christmas Spirit for our Village. As part of the THPA's promotion of the Christmas/New Year festive season, and to build up the community spirit after the THPA – Secretary's Annual Report 2021/2022 (Final)

tough years of 2019, 2020 and 2021 through the experiences of the Shire wide Bushfire, 8 flooding events and the COVID Pandemic, we decided to brighten up the entrance to Tuross Head precinct by erecting Christmas Decorations. The organised highlight was a Meet SANTA session for the children when he visited the site on Christmas Eve. This turned out to be the first and last such social event hosted by our now lost iconic Signboard that stood for the past 30 years? Once again, our thanks to Council (Warren Sharpe) for organising the last-minute fencing off the area around the SANTA function site for the safety of the Children given the adjacent high-speed section of the Princes Highway. This event cannot take place at this site in the future however THPA are considering having Santa photos in Tuross itself.

10. Ongoing support for ONE Regional Hospital (Eurobodalla). Again during 2021 and in 2022, the THPA has continued to support all measures and circulating petitions organised and championed by Mylene & Fitzroy Boulting. The push is for the delivery of a fully functional and clinically staffed Level 4 Regional Hospital when it eventually opens in circa 2025/26. The last hurdle we must rail against is what appears to be planned cuts to the number of maternity beds, but moreover, overcoming the obstinance of the NSW Health Department who is not supporting the need to include radiotherapy clinical services that will continue to affect the Shire’s cancer patients who will still have to travel long distances to Nowra, Goulburn or Canberra for their ongoing life preserving treatment, and fund their own related travel & accommodation costs. Of concern is the flawed population planning figures being used by the SNSWLHD for the basis of population dependency new Regional Hospital, in that the Shire’s population it has envisaged for the year 2031 has already been surpassed in the results of the September 2021 Census figures for the Eurobodalla Shire, which means that the planning figures have already fallen short by a whole decade? We are fortunate to have our THPA Treasurer, Chris Smith, sitting as a member of the “Front of Hospital” Planning Committee in relaying the minimum expectations of our community for the delivery of the new hospital.



Local Meeting in Moruya in 2021 outside of the Specialists Practice in Queen Street. The new National AMA President Dr Danielle McMullen & Dr Michael Holland are at ONE for advocating for a Level 4 Hospital. In March 2022 Dr Michael Holland was elected as the NSW State Member for BEGA which will hopefully enable him to exercise greater influence through his seat in the Parliament in determining the final make-up of the clinical services and staffing levels in the new Hospital.

11. THPA Stall at the 2022 October Long Weekend. Regrettably the 2022 Easter Fair hosted by the NSW Marine Rescue TurossMoruya Unit had to be cancelled as the grounds in Evans Park were still flooded and sodden for vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Therefore, we were looking forward to this year's October Long Weekend Public Holiday to operate our THPA information stall to promote the activities of our Association and planned initiatives aimed at improving community facilities. Unfortunately, our local Tuross/Moruya Marine Rescue unit has resolved to ditch its involvement with running the community Fair. It is hoped that another community group can take over the running of the Fair. As always Anne Parker is the driving force and the person responsible for creating the artistic THPA signage as well as a photographic display which depicted a pictorial history of our activities in the community which the THPA will advertise at every opportunity.



Anne Parker standing amongst her promotional wares in “manning” our last THPA Information Stall .

12. Design & Manufacture of new Tuross History Plaques.

Plans are still in train for the creation of three further Tuross history plaques, as listed below, to be manufactured and installed along the length of the Cycle/walk.

- A. Explorer George Bass and crew of the small whaler *Tom Thumb* which landed at the Tuross River mouth/Black Fellows Point on 17 December 1797 in search of fresh water.
- B. Un-marked Graves site linked to past named Seaman Reserve in Bridges near Coila Lake entrance – 5 known graves (sea drownings in 1866 x 2, 1867 x 2 and 1891 x 1).
- C. History & the official opening of the shared cycle/walk and boardwalk; and

- D. History of the THPA campaign dating back to 1997 for retaining State heritage protection over Pioneer John Hawdon's Kyla Park Heritage Grazing Lands (HGL) as Tuross Head community owned lands from any future rezoning under the Eurobodalla Rural LEP 2019 or future LEP's.

The design and manufacturing costs for the above proposed heritage signs will be investigated by THPA with Bay Signs, and the agreement of site locations to be advocated with Council before committing THPA funds.



On 18 June 2022 the above two Tuross heritage signs were relocated by the Council from alongside the now defunct Business Directory Signboard, across the roadway to their new location sited alongside the new Bus Shelter. These two signs now overlook the Kyla Park Heritage Grazing Lands (HGL).

13. Customer Service Requests (CSR) lodged with Council.

The following is just a sample of the many CSR's lodged with Council for remedial action on community facilities.

- a. Request for assessment of Norfolk Pine Tree opposite 21 Tuross Boulevard, threat to physical integrity of passing pedestrians.
- b. Report of illegal pruning of Norfolk Pine trees opposite Coila Beach toilets, 15 Jul. Note further report of repeat illegal pruning on night 27/28 Nov 21.
- c. Report on Oct 21 long weekend vandalism, broken shop windows and honing vehicles
- d. Request for road surface repair, trip hazard, Beach Street.
- e. Request for Ranger action illegal Norfolk Pine Trees opposite 29/33 Tuross Blvd on 30/31 Oct 21.
- f. Request to repair florescent light in disabled toilet at Evans Park 4 Jan 22.
- g. Request to clear section of main beach to permit Beach Wheelchair access for disabled persons from Tuross Beach Holiday Park. Actioned over 3 days by Warren Sharpe & work crews on 4, 5 & 6 Jan 22.
- h. Report of severe damage to "WELCOME TO TUROSS" signboard by Council ride-on more on Fri 21 Jan 22. The outcome was that the Council funded the new Tuross Head signboard which was erected in May 22.
- i. Request for refurbishment of timber decking and railings at One Tree Point Viewing platform. Revarnishing of timbers task completed on 28 Feb 22.
- j. Further report on vandalism & unlawful lopping of branches of Norfolk Pine tree opposite 33 Tuross Blvd that occurred yet again on night 24/25 Jan 22.

- k. 28 Feb 22 Report of fallen tree branch blocking pathway opposite 87 Tuross Blvd. Work crew completed the task the same day.
- l. 28 Feb 22 – Urgent CSR lodged with Council for lopping of large European Cyprus Pine growing on Council land in front of 14 Craddock Road. Note. This request which involved lengthy detailed submissions seeking an ‘Act of Grace’ approval to bother the General manager and the Mayor on two occasions each dragged on for 4 months, and overall was subjected to 9 correspondence exchanges (28 Feb, 28 Apr, 29 Apr, 9 May, 16 May, 30 May, 31 May, 1 Jun, 20 Jun & 23 Jun), including a submission to the NSE Ombudsman Office. The final decision was advised by Council on 23 Jun 22, which was that under its newly adopted Code of Conduct for managing Trees growing on Council controlled lands, our Council will no longer prune or remove any problem trees as it does have funds in its operational budget (unless an independent Arborist’s report finds that the respective tree is unhealthy and poses direct danger to the members of the public (but not to private property).
- m. Request to Council for removal of dilapidated Business Directory signboard on H.Mc.W. Drive opposite Commuter Carpark.
- n. Report of extremely obscene Graffiti on Kyla Hall veranda.
- o. Report to Council on urgent need to repair the two LED floodlamps on the light pole leading to One Tree Point funded by the THPA in 2017. Absence of any lighting poses a serious public safety risk at night-time.
- p. Request to Council on 16 May 22 for clearance of storm timber build-up blocking Beach Wheelchair access to Beach. Action by Council on 18 May.
- q. CSR lodged to effect previously requested repairs to stop serious sawtooth roof leaks at Kyla Hall (Main Hall and Ladies Toilet), creating slip hazards.
- r. Request for replacement Monash Ave Street directory sign now illegible.
- s. Request to widen the traffic pinch point section in Nelson Parade and extend footpath from Nelson Boat Ramp entrance up to Sandy Point.
- t. Restoration of Beach Access stairways for walkers, fishers and beach goers at One Tree Point Beach South and One Tree Point badly damaged and dangerous from pounding seas in East Coast low and King Tides.
- u. CSR on 24 Jun for replacement of missing Privacy latch on Disabled Toilet Door at Evans Park that will not stay closed. Hastened 15 Jul to Tony Swallow Manager of Works, Council effected repairs on 20 Jul.
- v. CSR on 15 Jul 22 for installation of sump drain on new pathway through Evans Park that floods and becomes blocked to pedestrians after rain.
- w. Reporting broken road surfaces/potholes on edge of Beach St posing danger to pedestrians at night.
- x. Report on erosion of foreshore of both Tuross Lake and Coila Lake at boat launching sites.
- y. Two submissions in 2021 in hastening the Council to action further correspondence with the management agency (Carrington’s Group in Sydney as well as the current landlords of the Tuross Village Shops again bringing to their attention their responsibility for rectifying the dangerous state of carpark.
- z. Tree Vandalism. THPA CSR dated 20 Apr 22 for urgent Council Ranger investigation into the shocking unlawful damage to a healthy White Snow Gum Tree that was completely ringbarked, even though it was located within a fenced backyard of a residence at 38 Bondi Street. Various correspondence, but no successful Council or NSW Police investigation



4 Jan 22 – Main Beach Clean-up by Council work crew and contractor. This was the first day back at work of Council Outdoor Staff. This work was personally led by Warren Sharpe, Director of Infrastructure Services.

14. MAIN BEACH CLEAN-UP OF STORM OUTFLOW DEBRIS. Following THPA lobbying to Warren Sharpe in mid-2021 and again over the Christmas/New Year Council Block Leave period, on their very first morning back at work for 2022 on 4 Jan 22, the Council work crew attended Main Beach and partly cleared the storm and flood timber debris that deposited on sections of the beach from more recent flooding events and king tides, and pushed the debris into wood piles, whereby as requested by the THPA, the Council managed to clear the sandy beachfront of Main Beach for safer use by swimmers given that it is the only Life Savers patrolled beach during the peak holiday and swimming & surfing season.



8 Aug 22 - Council and RFS volunteers clearing the closed off Main Beach and burning the resultant woodpiles. Smouldering ashes were extinguished and buried for public safety of beach goers.

Following further flooding episodes and outflow of debris from Tuross estuary being deposited on Main Beach during the period February to October 2021, the Council

(Warren Sharpe) again obtained the approval from NSW Marine Parks to clear the beach up to the high tide demarcation. This work to clear the beach and to burn resultant wood piles was executed over the period 18 Aug to 20 Aug 22 by a Council work crew, a contracted machine operator and volunteers from our NSW Rural Fire Service Tuross Head brigade.



View of Main Beach at Tuross head after the combined Council & RFS volunteer's splendid efforts.

15. Summary of THPA submissions in support of Council and other community organisations in FY21/22.

- a. **THPA submission in support of the Council's Eurobodalla Southern Water Supply Storage Project.** Substantial submission was lodged with the (then) Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack giving strong support for the Council's bid for \$105m to construct the water storage dam at Bodalla to secure the Shire's future supply of reticulated water. Council submission was successful, and construction has already commenced at Bodalla, with the pumping station already completed.
- b. **THPA submission to NSW Government proposed Moruya by-pass.** Our submission made on the preferred route of proposed Moruya by-pass and new road bridge spanning across the Moruya River. The suggestion commented on the location of the route and traffic flow, with the need to easily access by on and off ramps, not only the Moruya CBD, but the proposed new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital from both northern and southern approaches to the township.
- c. **THPA Submission in support of Council's grants bid to Federal Government for funding to complete the Bay Link Road Bypass.** This bid for \$34m was successful, and work was recommenced in Aug 21. The Bay Link Road is now expected to be opened before Christmas 2023.
- d. **Substantially argued THPA Submission on behalf of our Council to both Liberal & Labor Candidates for the seat of GILMORE. Seeking \$1m for future bushfire emergency resilience.** Funding would enable Essential Energy to replace all power supply poles leading to the complex multi communications array (television, radio, mobile telephone) atop of MT Wanderer. SUCCESSFUL, our returned Labor member Fiona Phillips, MP has succeeded in obtaining approval for \$750k to complete this vital project of installing fireproof power poles.

- e. **THPA submission dated 4 Aug 22 to SAHA in strong support for the grants funding Application lodged by our Tuross head/Moruya Unit of the NSW Marine Rescue for the installation of a Solar Panel array and a Tesla Power Storage Battery.** The installation of solar power panels will serve to defray the rising cost electricity charges that have to be borne by our local unit, as a reliable and economical power supply is vital to keep their radios systems, power usage, lighting and refrigeration operating 24/7 throughout the year.
- f. **THPA Submission on 13 Apr 22 to HQ NSW Marine Rescue outlining our Community Support for request by our local Tuross Head/Moruya NSW Marine Rescue Unit for the urgent replacement of its primary towing vehicle.** Its current vehicle is a 1990's model 4WD LANDROVER with more than 380,000 kms on its odometer. The bid is to be provided with a more reliable 4 WD towing vehicle with less than 50,000 kms on the odometer for deploying its water rescue craft to the closest launching pad in most instances of emergency callouts. UNSUCCESSFUL.



Section of the pathway being constructed along Evans Road from #10 to Tuross Service Station

16. Construction of new Pedestrian Footpath along Evans Road. After lobbying by the TPHA since 2017 through our submission of pathway priorities which was accepted and incorporated into the approved Eurobodalla Shire's 2017 Footpath Strategy. During the months of April & May 2022 the Council has at last completed a project to replace the underground water reticulation pipes and constructed a 1.5-meter-wide Footpath from outside #10 Evans Road up to the Tuross Head Service Station entrance driveway. Further footpath construction and water reticulation pipeline replacement activity is expected to be carried out along Evans Road from the Tavern entrance up to Hawkins Road later this year?

17. Road alignment and construction of new Pathway section along Nelson Parade to complete the "Missing Link" in the shared Cycle/Walkway between Coila Beach and Sandy Point (Boatshed precinct). During the period July to November 2022 project work is underway to relocate underground water reticulation and stormwater pipes to the southern side of Nelson Parade from Sandy Point down to Jellicoe Road. The completed work will also deliver the long awaited "Missing Link" section of the shared Cycle/Walk between the turn into the Boat Ramp to reach Sandy

Point Reserve (toilet block, Picnic & BBQ area and Boatshed precinct), together with layback kerbing to remove trip hazards.



Looking eastwards along Nelson Parade from #2 to #20 residential addresses towards the Boat ramp and Fishing Jetty entrance.

As part of this major works, the roadway will be widening on the southern side of Nelson Parade from Jellicoe Road up to the Boat Ramp entrance that will cater for addition parallel parking of vehicles and boat trailers, thus alleviating the former pinch point for traffic and pedestrians in this section of Nelson Parade up to the start of Trafalgar Road where similar road works and a footpath were recently completed last year.

18. Installation of Rugby Goal Post at Kyla Park Oval. In May 2022 the Council erected a set of Rugby Goal Posts on Kyla Parl Oval to compliments the Australian Rules Goalposts already in situ so that the Oval can accommodate both football codes. These goalposts were relocated from Gunday Oval in Moruya.

19. THPA Grants funding bid NSW Government's Community Building Partnership (CBP) 2021 Program. Following recommendation by NSW Police, a detailed submission with design drawings, firm costings and written Council endorsement for the project was lodged for grants funding of \$30k for the "Installation of security/public safety street-lighting around Kyla Park Community Hall". To illuminate the eastern approach along Mylott Close for the safety of pedestrians moving to and from the Hall from their vehicles, and to also illuminate the adjacent boat launching pad on the Coila Lake foreshore and to deter the on-going incidents of vandalism. Unfortunately, our bid on public safety grounds was UNSUCCESSFUL. Further grant funding options will be pursued when available.

20. Continued Public Access to Coopers Island Road (CIR) for Recreational Fishers, Kayakers and the general public. Considerable effort and numerous submissions and ongoing correspondence on this vexed issue to the Council has been undertaken in order to restore the right of unfettered public access along Coopers Island Road (Crown land) for recreational fishers and kayakers be able to reach the upper waterways of Tuross Lake after the new landowners closed off the road with an unauthorised gate in early 2019. As at August 2022, after more than 3½ years, the Landowner/grazier is still disputing with the Council what sections of the council road and lakes edge is NSW Crown land or private lands.

21. Grants funding submission to VARIETY NSW/ACT Club for \$5kto enable the THPA to purchase of a replacement BEACH WHEELCHAIR for use by persons with a disability. On 30 Jun 22 the THPA lodged a bid for grants funding, which was successful. On 3 Aug 22 VARIETY NSW/ACT advised the Secretary THPA that the requested \$5k had been approved, to enable us to purchase a replacement Beach Wheelchair for use by person with a disability, especially persons under the age of 18 years, to access the beach for entering the water and or to engage in recreational fishing. The Treasurer has already placed an order with the manufacturer for the SANDCRUSER Beach Wheelchair at a cost of \$4,799.



SANDCRUISER – ALL TERRAIN & BEACH WHEELCHAIR being purchased by the THPA

The THPA is now engaged in using its own funds to purchase a non-ferrous Storage Shed at a cost of \$1,765 from Bunnings Warehouse to secure the Beach Wheelchair within the precincts of the Tuross beach Holiday Park who will be the custodians of the chair on behalf of the THPA. At our request the Council has kindly removed a dangerously leaning tree that was overhanging the site where the storage shed will be installed.



Refurbished Stairway to Coila Beach and new Shower Platform for use by beachgoers



The newly constructed Shower Pad at Coila beach – the room with a colossal view?

22. Refurbishment & upgrade of entrance stairway to Coila Beach. This month, August 2022, the Council has just completed a project that saw the replacement of the dilapidated timber railings along the stairway down to Coila Beach. It has also constructed a new double headed Shower Platform for use by beachgoers to wash of the salt and sand after swimming. Well done to the Council worker bees. The next phase is to demolish the old Toilet Block and construct new Toilet amenities block at Coila Beach in the FY23/24 Operational Plan.



Site of proposed left hand turn lane on the roadside verge of the Princes Highway. Sufficient room is available for creation of a merging lane once the above concrete kerbing is removed which was installed back in 2018 to create a safety buffer for the temporary Bus Passenger parking bay on the Princes Highway which is no longer used since the bus shelter was relocated into the Commuter Carpark.

23. THPA Submissions lodged with both the NSW Minister for Transport and to T4NSW – Request for Road Construction Work to complete Stage 3 of Safety Upgrade of the Tuross head “T” intersection of Hector McWilliam Drive & the Princes Highway. So far in 2022 the Secretary THPA has lodged a total of 3 x substantial written submissions to the Minister for Transport seeking regional roads funding and/or in responses in rejecting the T4NSW standard ministerial reply.

Since the beginning of 2017 the THPA has been pursuing the Minister and the then RMS (now T4NSW) for a dedicated left hand turn slip lane for vehicles leaving Hector McWilliam Drive to travel south on the Princes Highway.

A stagnating position has now been reached whereby the THPA submissions are now being completely ignored by the T4NSW bureaucrats, without even the courtesy of an acknowledgement of our THPA correspondence. The Eurobodalla Shire Council supports our push for T4NSW to deliver a left-hand turn lane, given that the site is “shovel ready” and given that such minor road works would cost approximately \$500k.

The State Member for BEGA, Dr Michael Holland has since visited the site on 15 Jun 22 and is lending his strong support for our THPA road safety campaign. Indeed Dr Holland has set up an on-line petition on his electorate office Home Page titled of “Fix the Tuross Intersection”.



15 Jun 22 – Onsite fact-finding meeting by the State Member for BEGA (Dr Michael Holland) and the Secretary THPA examining vehicle MVA debris whilst standing in the roadside verge space that would easily Accommodate the long-awaited left-hand turn slip lane for vehicles exiting Hector McWilliam Drive to travel south on the Princes Highway.

CONCLUSION.

This somewhat briefer than normal Annual Secretaries Report aims to summarise just some of the many activities and the involvement of the THPA Committee during the past 12 months as I have run out of time and space.

We would encourage all Members to elicit further members from your social circles and well beyond so that we can build up a larger representative base upon which we can use negotiate and advocate with Council and State and Federal Governments for additional services and infrastructure in our village for the overall benefit of all residents, as well as visitors so that they can enjoy what Tuross Head has on offer in terms of recreational holidays.

Yours sincerely

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