

TUROSS HEAD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION NEWS

APRIL 2025

NEXT MEMBER MEETING - the next member meeting will be held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 6 May 2025 at KYLA HALL.

Committee News from Chris Smith

Dear Members of the Tuross Head Progress Association,

We wish to advise you of changes in the Management Committee of the THPA Inc. After the 4th of March meeting at Kyla Park Hall, correspondence was received from a current member of the THPA which caused concern amongst the then Committee. President Tom Webster has advised you of the resignations which followed. Since that notification the rest of the Committee resigned except for President Tom Webster, leaving no quorum under the constitution by which THPA could function.

We now announce that under Sections 18 (1)(d) of the Constitution the following members and past office bearers of the THPA have accepted Casual Vacancy positions as follows:

Cathy Milliken: Vice-President (former President of the THPA)

Chris Smith: Secretary (former Treasurer of the THPA)

June Brown – Minutes Secretary (former Minute Secretary of the THPA)

It is anticipated that they will hold these positions up to the 2025 Annual General Meeting, when all committee positions will

be open for nominations from the membership. Tom Webster remains as President and John Tilbrook as Public Officer. We therefore retain a quorum to ensure the THPA can operate under the constitution. **If you wish to be considered for any of the other vacant positions please feel free to speak to President Tom.** We look forward to your continued support as we work to maintain the THPA Inc as a working entity for the support and betterment of Tuross Head and our community.

Our committee reminds the membership that as Volunteers in our positions we ask for respect for our commitment to the THPA and extend the same to each and every member.

Kind Regards Chris Smith (Hon Secretary)

Health Sub-Committee Report

Given that we do not have a Chair of the Health Sub-Committee this most important campaign for better health options for our area has been suspended at this critical time.

The Health Subcommittee and the Bushfire Subcommittee have agreed to restrict their 'updating' reports at member meetings to changes which have occurred since the previous meeting. They will no longer give a brief background to the topic as it is anticipated members will read minutes and newsletters to be informed about the background to issues.

Notes regarding suggested meeting procedures

1. Please listen carefully - it is easy to misinterpret people's remarks if we just latch on to one part of their comment. For instance, at the last member meeting Arn Sprogis, the Chairman of the Health Subcommittee, was advising the audience of the response he had received from both sides of politics in regard to health issues. As you know THPA committee have invested a lot of time and effort in broadcasting the disparity between regional and city funding. This was an agreed major focus of the THPA beginning in 2022. The timing of this 2025 push to achieve more funding is critical and attached to the electoral cycle. A member misinterpreted an updating report as a party political broadcast. It was actually an explanation of the process and no direction on voting was either intended or given.

2. Please raise your hand if you wish to speak

3. State your name as this is helpful for minute taking.

4. Loud shouting out when a committee or other member is talking is inappropriate, can be perceived as bullying and alarming.

5. Please do not be concerned if you feel what you have said is not as well said as you might have wanted. Public speaking can be scary but here at the THPA you are with a group of people who want the best for our community and who want to listen to your views. Every comment is valuable.

INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT - THPA DOES IT AGAIN - WELL DONE MAX CASTLE

A letter has been received from ESC about upgrading car parking, long fought for by Max Castle over many years. Congratulations and well done Max and the Infrastructure team of the ESC. Please see below:

We're upgrading the parking area at the Tuross River boat ramp to improve safety and make it easier to use. Located 2km north of Bodalla, next to the Princes Highway, this popular marine facility currently has an informal parking area. We're giving it a much-needed upgrade by levelling the surface and sealing it to create a smoother, more durable parking area. This new surface will help reduce erosion, improve river water quality, and reduce sediment runoff. We're also making better use of the space to maximise parking. Clearly marked spaces will help traffic flow and make parking easier and safer.

We plan to complete the earthworks by the Easter holidays, then return to finish the project in May.

While work is underway, heavy machinery will be on site so please be careful if you are nearby. Access to the boat ramp will be restricted at times and is likely to be closed for a few weeks in May.

We recommend checking our [boating and fishing webpage](#) for updates before planning your visit, and spreading the

word to fellow boaters.

This project is funded through the NSW Government's Recreational Fishing and Camping Facilities Program.

If you would like more information, please phone our Construction Coordinator, Greg Knight on 4474 1391. Infrastructure Support ESC

Content of Committee Minutes of 11/3/2025

As a result of questions from the floor at the last members meeting on 4 March your THPA Committee met on 11 March and agreed that the following might be helpful in providing more information and involvement for members.

A) Although motions to accept Minutes and Treasurers' reports are not required legally, the Secretary and Treasurer will move that they are accepted as a true record.

B) To overcome the problem of some members not having access to a computer to read reports:

1. 2 copies of same will be tabled for perusal
2. Dot points of topics in Minutes will be read out by the Secretary
3. The Treasurer's report will itemise expenses in each general category. Eg Entertainment could show Kristy McBain visit \$xx and Christmas lunch for members \$xx.

C) Concerns about Committee authority to spend money. Although the Act gives the Committee the authority to use available funds to support various programs as set out in the Committee's

objectives for the year, the Committee will seek the approval of the members at a monthly meeting if spending on a particular project exceeds \$500.

ON GOING ACTION TO ADDRESS FIRE RISKS IN TUROSS HEAD

Bushfire Sub Committee Update. Gary Smith, Chairman Bushfire Sub Committee

1. A copy of the Independent Bushfire Assessment Report has been sent to Kristy McBain MP as Federal Minister for Local Government and perhaps our member for Eden -Monaro after the election. nb: the report confirms parts of Tuross Head to be High Bushfire Risk.
2. Since the recent resignation of council GM, our lawyer has copied previous communication and Bushfire Report to the acting/new GM. We believe a fresh approach to fire mitigation work is now more likely.
3. An official looking party was seen inspecting the high fire risk area along Hector McWilliam Drive last week.
4. We await further response from Council, Kristy McBain MP and State Minister for Emergency Services via Dr Michael Holland MP.
5. In March I sent a copy of the Assessor's Report to the Mayor requesting it be presented to all councillors. The Mayor has just informed me that "lots been happening" at Council recently and the Report will be forwarded to all councillors". For the 1st time in 6 years, there may now be positive action on mitigating the high bushfire risk confirmed in Tuross Head.

Meeting at Kyla Hall on 6 May

It was agreed as a result of a survey of members regarding meeting practices held last year and conducted by the immediate past Committee that the meeting place of the THPA could be varied between Country Club and Kyla Hall. Bruce Hatchman's Notice to members dated 30 October 2024 refers. He indicated under item 4 that venues may change due to issues outside our control, such as other users at either site having a preference over the THPA, for example (1) Club Tuross sub-clubs having booking preferences (2) Council having control over the Hall bookings and (3) larger meetings, whilst scheduled for the Club, may best be transferred to the Hall.

Accordingly we called the May meeting to be held at Kyla Hall as we anticipated this may be particularly well attended.

Just this week we have received a letter from the Country Club about the continuation of THPA using the Club for monthly meetings which we wanted to share with you.

The Tuross Head Country Club management advise that a conflict of bookings on the first Tuesday of each month means they are unable to accommodate the THPA at the date and times preferred by the membership.

As the Country Club venue is no longer available for THPA on those days required the Secretary has made bookings with the Eurobodalla Shire Council for the Kyla Hall for the remainder of this year and next .

In passing John Tilbrook has been instrumental in raising matters pertaining to Tuross Head:

THPA has raised a number of Tuross village infrastructure issues by CSRs which have all been actioned.

Well done John!!