

SAVE THE DATE

Meet Your Major Party Candidate
WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY 6PM
BATEMANS BAY SOLDIERS CLUB

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Batemans Bay is located in a marginal electoral area, and with the recent Council election and State by-election swings, we have further opportunity to push our agenda to improve business and community outcomes in Batemans Bay with the Federal Election. After the recent successful Meet Your Mayoral Candidate event at the Soldiers Club, the BBBTC has decided to run a similar event at the same venue for Federal Gilmore Candidates from the major parties on the **4th May**. We ask members if they could email questions to be considered for the Meet Your Major Party Candidate event to contact@baychamber.com.au.



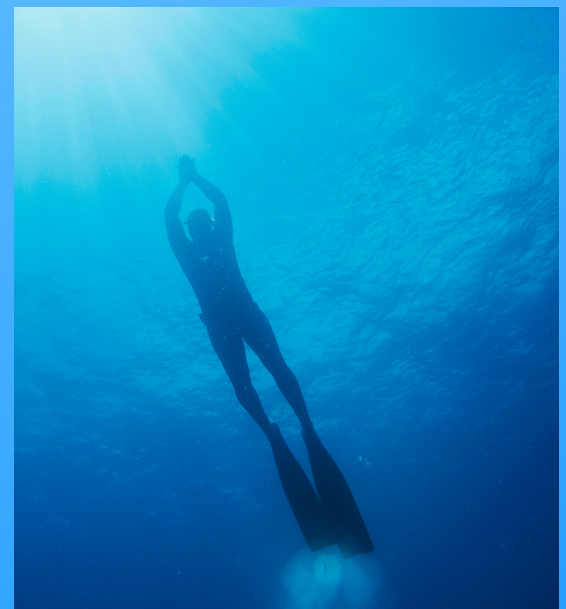
NEW BRIDGE LIGHTING

NSW Gov. does not want to complete the installation of lights, specifically the LED globes to existing wired fittings due to ongoing maintenance cost of globe replacement. Advice from Mayor Hatcher is that Council is pursuing this matter with Transport for NSW.

UNDERWATER DIVE SITE

The Chamber has progressed this as far as possible without council assistance. In principal support is held from Batemans Marine Park and NSW Maritime.

Twelve months ago a meeting was held between Council's planning director and staff and Charles Stuart, representing our chamber. The director gave his assurance that Council staff would assist with the project's legislative aspects. Despite numerous follow-ups, nothing has been forthcoming from council. Cllr Amber Schultz is to take this matter up with Council staff.





PROJECTS UPDATE

Inclusive Tourism Precinct **Corrigans Reserve**

Too often, precincts don't achieve critical mass in diversity and appeal which maximise visitation. The Chamber is concerned about achieving critical mass at the Corrigans Reserve, Batehaven. In this instance two complementary infrastructure items have been proposed. Firstly an inclusive splash pad has been called for with a 800-signature petition delivered to council over two years ago.

Council have said they are reluctant to condone a splash pad at Corrigans Reserve due to the need to adhere to the NSW Health Department legislation – 'Control of Swimming Pools and Spa Pools' as it relates to hygiene standards and maintenance costs which the Council finds too expensive.

Secondly, The chamber believes we need to expand on the accessible playground at Corrigans by adding additional attractions for both locals and tourists with the aim of making this infrastructure self-funding to remove the cost burden from Council.

Prior to clearing the site at Mackay Park, the number one TripAdvisor attraction listed for Batemans Bay was the Putt Putt Golf course. We would like to see a Mini Golf course privately funded here with inclusion of responsibility for maintenance for the proposed splash pad.

A Plan of Management was endorsed by council and sent to the NSW Government for approval in November 2021.

Nothing can proceed until the plan is approved. We hope that Councillors understand community will and the importance of viable precincts. We await advice from Council on the fate of the plan





GET INVOLVED

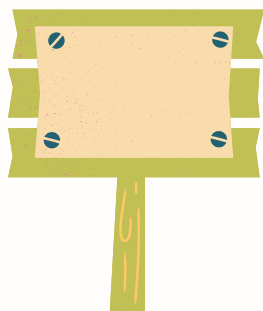
Visit Batemans Bay is the Chamber-run grassroots destination marketing campaign for Batemans Bay, but it is also committed to shining a light on and growing the audience for tourism businesses across Eurobodalla. Founded by us in 2021, the campaign reach was over 2 million people in 2021/22. A part of the campaign achieved direct bookings with a campaign targeting Canberra. Entirely run by volunteers, we are calling out to members interested in social media and marketing to support with content creation.

How can you help?

- Follow **Visit Batemans Bay** on Facebook and Instagram
- When you post on your business account, tag @visitbatemansbay every time and we'll share it to our audience as well
- Send a direct message (DM) to Visit Batemans Bay if you want to help with posting and content ideas

WHAT OUR CBD NEEDS

We need directions to the Batemans Bay Town Centre and other way findingsignage from the highway.



SUNDAY 8 MAY 2022 IS
MOTHER'S DAY

PICK UP A LOVE THE BAY
CARD AND TREAT A FAMILY
MEMBER OR A FRIEND-AND
SUPPORT OUR TOWN



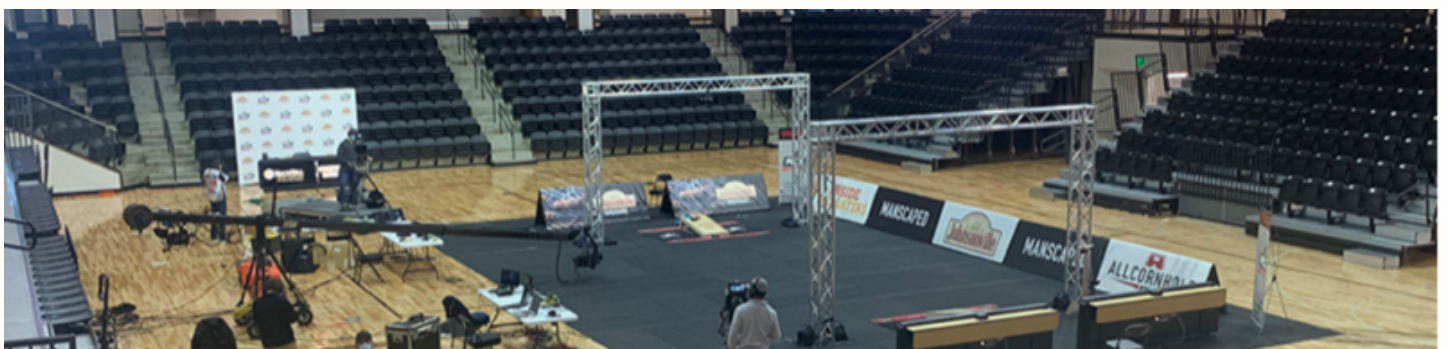
NEW L-WHARF UNSUITABLE FOR SEAPLANES

Transport for NSW approved the use of small seaplanes at the new 'L' wharf. This use is reflected in council's Draft Waterfront Master Plan. Sydney Seaplanes propose to introduce new services between Batemans Bay and Moruya Airport, Rose Bay Sydney and Lake Burleigh Griffin, ACT. However, they have advised that the current piers will not permit use by any sized seaplane. The matter has been referred to Hon. Paul Tool (NSW Deputy Premier who is the Minister for Regional NSW and Minister for Police) and he in turn is being followed up by Andrew Constance, however our enquiries were initiated in November last year and there has been no response to date. The piers will need to be converted to telescopic ones or similar to allow the wing span of the planes to overhang the wharf for mooring and passenger access. The design must be amended before work progresses further. We have been working with Sydney Seaplanes for the past 5 months and believe the unique service offered will further connect Batemans Bay with Canberra and Sydney tourist markets. Visits are being videoed and will be posted on our social media sites for the Chamber, and Visit Batemans Bay.

BATEMANS BAY MULTI USE VENUE

A much needed venue for indoor sports, covered markets, trade shows, national entertainment tours, art exhibitions and large format events - Sited at either MacKay Park, Corrigan Park or Hanging Rock. Recent interest by some Councillors to an old request is encouraging.

Our Shire including Batemans Bay has some basic statistics which help define and justify the type of infrastructure and services we need. These include the following: Age dependency ratio at 557 out of 563 Shires, Higher unemployment than the state average, Oldest electorate with accelerating medium age, Net loss of young people and young workers. Lack of employees, especially in hospitality when Tourism is a major industry. The now closed Mini Golf was the number one attraction in the area according to TripAdvisor. The area does have a significant TAFE and University of Wollongong unit. All the above points to infrastructure aimed at retention of young people, young professionals, young families and tourists. Coming straight from the school leavers themselves and similarly tourists, are comments such as "There is nothing much to do", "What is there to do when it rains", "Cafes are frequently not open", "Lack of events", "One indoor basketball court for a population of 20,000 + is insufficient". "Attractions such as mini golf and go-carts have closed". A multi-use venue would address many of these retention issues as well as enhance existing services of a precinct.



GOING OFF PLAN FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

How is Council going to deal with infill, lack of commercial and industrial sites, parking and traffic congestion? With slated unit developments outside the CBD how will Council facilitate aggregation and infill in the CBD and along Bent Street and Orient St.. Will Council continue ribbon sprawl development?



We need a Vision and Masterplan for Batemans Bay for certainty, direction and ownership.

We have seen Councils current waterfront plans and strategies though current construction is different to the plan, and the activation strategy doesn't mention what Council will do. We have requested info from Council and will hopefully forward a summary in our next newsletter.

Tourism Infrastructure Insurance in Fire Prone Areas

Since the last newsletter where Senator Jim Molan had forwarded our concerns to Assistant Minister to the Treasurer Michael Sukkar, we received a reply we felt did not adequately address the situation. We have now raised the matter with Gilmore candidates as well as Council for Small Business in Australia and the Small Business Ombudsman.

COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Many of Councils advisory committee memberships are now open, we encourage members to apply and maintain a voice for business and our area.

DON'T FORGET OUR FUTURE EVENTS



Meet Your Major Party Candidate 6pm Wednesday 4 May Soldiers Club Auditorium

Federal Candidate Guests: Andrew
Constance and Fiona Phillips

The Chamber will hold the Meet Your Candidate event in a similar format as the recent Meet Your Mayoral Candidate event in the same venue.

Only the major parties will be represented as we wish to keep focus on outcomes relevant to the Batemans Bay Chamber and vicinity which both major party candidates have been previously involved.

While the event is open to the public it is a Chamber event with a local focus. Doors will close when capacity is reached, so please arrive before 6pm.

Please email any questions you may have for consideration to the formatted questions (contact@baychamber.com.au),

Chamber is in the process of organising a dinner for members and a guest. Chamber will fully subsidise food. The event is as follows:

'REPRESENT US' DINNER
6pm Wednesday 8 June
Soldiers Club Auditorium

FREE TICKETS including 2-COURSE DINNER (Drinks to be purchased at the bar)

We wish to invite local representatives from each level of government to address issues and vision for Batemans Bay and the South Coast. This is your best opportunity to meet our local representatives in federal, state and local government over a delicious 2-course dinner.