

BLACK POINT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

20th May 2019

Dear Black Pointer's

I write to ask for your support in our ongoing efforts to raise the necessary funds to replenish our beautiful beach and to rebuild the Boat Ramp as announced over Easter at our AGM.

Background

Since the Black Point boat ramp was replaced in 2014, we have experienced the slow and steady erosion of our beach. The new ramp has created a 'groyne effect' and restricted the free flow of sand along the beach. The result is a severely depleted beach on the eastern side of the ramp and the continual creep of this degradation towards the Point. The beach became unusable to the adjacent shacks and it was very slippery and hazardous to walk on.

We began consultation in 2017 with YP Council, Coastal Protection Board, the ramp designers and an independent marine engineer to acknowledge the problem and identify its cause(s). All parties agreed that the new ramp is the cause of the erosion. After 4 years of observation it has become clear that the current sand flow will not replenish the beach naturally.

Action to date

The BBPA has determined that the ramp must be lowered in line with the original ramp and the sand must urgently be replenished.

In January 2019 we undertook the dumping of 3,000 tonnes of sand to stabilise the clay base and return the beach to a usable condition. This was done by purchasing and carting the sand from Port Clinton and then using excavators and loaders (all donated by BP shack owners) to spread the sand.

The BPPA has costed the redesign of the ramp and completed several surveys of the beach to help us monitor sand movement going forward.

Costs

The amount spent to date on sand carting is in the order of approximately \$80,000: however, thanks to the generous in-kind donation by a number of shack owners of approx. \$50,000 in equipment, time and labour, the BPPA was required to fund only the remaining \$30,000.

In addition, we have incurred over \$25,000 for consultants to independently review the erosion and redesign the boat ramp.

The next step is to rebuild the Boat Ramp. The current cost estimate is in the order of \$650,000, which we hope can be funded largely through SABFAC and YP Council. However, the BBPA has agreed to raise an additional \$150,000 to:

- Have funds available for additional beach refurbishment if needed
- Contribute to the boat ramp rebuild if required
- Pay for future studies and reviews from time to time.
- Recharge our reserves

Your donation is needed

We are conducting a number of fundraising initiatives. The first of these is a wine sale of Chateau Le Groyne: a 2016 Clare Valley Shiraz, offering outstanding value at \$180 per case. We are also planning an event for later this year: further details to come.

To really make this happen, we will be asking you for a one-off cash donation.

We understand that while not everyone is in a position to put their hand in their pocket, those who can will make a real and timely difference to the future of our beautiful beach.

The beach needs your help.

Further details will follow in the next few weeks.

Kind regards



Bill Gill,
Chairman BPPA