



## TOMAREE HEADLAND HERITAGE GROUP INC

### **POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES for the FUTURE of the TOMAREE LODGE SITE** as identified by our group following *extensive community engagement over the past 4 years*

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- It is important to note that the Tomaree Lodge site is on the **State Heritage Register**.
- The State Government has recently committed to **transitioning** the site to **Port Stephens** for community and recreational use.
- The site will also need to be **financially sustainable** as there are significant existing costs related to the site. Therefore revenue streams will need to be developed.
- Also from our viewpoint the Tomaree Lodge site will need to have **ongoing full accessibility to the public**. The other significant consideration is **accessibility** as the **current parking is saturated** with **no public transport**.
- The State Government has recently been undertaking **Community Consultation** to assist in the development of the future use(s) for the site. Also there will be a subsequent **Master Planning process** required.
- There will also need to be a future **Management Model** and we believe a **Community Trust** is appropriate which could include Port Stephens Council, the State Government and community members as well as other expertise. This model has been used in other jurisdictions for similar sites.

# POTENTIAL USES

- Visitor Kiosk and Information
- Student excursions and accommodation (including school and tertiary levels)
- Dining and food outlets
- Marine science Research and Education
- Recreational and sightseeing activities including BBQ and picnic facilities - There are some locations within the Lodge site which could also be suitable for outdoor events such as music, dance, drama and celebrations e.g. weddings
- An Interpretative/Museum Centre
- Showcasing of the WWII History including a Memorial Walk connecting all of the various Military remnants, Gun Emplacements, the Radar and dedicated to those who have served from Port Stephens. Also there is potential for WWII re-enactments. Many of the historic military elements are located in the adjacent National Park and it is therefore important that any planning, management, restoration and interpretation should be approached in a holistic manner
- Guided walking tours and trails embracing elements such as Military, Indigenous and marine history as well as flora and fauna
- Marine and Eco tourism facilities
- Arts and Crafts displays/exhibitions
- Reinstatement of the Jetty with a Pontoon to allow access by ferry and cruise operators particularly to reduce the reliance on parking
- Reinstatement of the offshore swimming baths

**Our belief is that a number of these elements can complement each other for the future adaptive reuse(s) of the Tomaree Lodge site which should always remain open to the public.**

**January 2023**  
***Tomaree Headland Heritage Group Inc.***

