



COOKS HILL

LIFE SAVING & SURF CLUB

Media Release

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Construction Starts on New Cooks Hill Surf Club

Cooks Hill Life Saving & Surf Club has begun construction on new clubhouse to bring facilities built eight decades ago into the 21st century.

Work on the clubhouse, expected to cost between four and five million dollars over two stages, was officially started today at a ceremony overlooking Bar Beach. The club paid tribute to late member Ozzie Higham, whose bequest made construction of Stage One possible.

Club spokesman Marc Glanville said the first stage will be built to the north of the existing clubhouse, originally developed over 80 years ago for an all-male membership of around 150.

“We now have over 1,400 members and the existing facilities do not meet their needs, and certainly are a barrier to those who participate in our disability access programs.”

Newcastle Lord Mayor Nuatali Nelmes said “with our surf clubs championing improvements at their facilities we are seeing the transformation of whole precincts”.

“This project will be a fantastic addition to work by the City Council as part of the coastal revitalisation.”

Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter, Scot MacDonald MLC, was shown plans for the Stage One works – to the north of the existing building – which will have female change rooms, storage and training rooms on the beach level, more storage and training facilities on the mid level, and a multi-purpose club room on the upper level.

The club has contracted Mars Building to carry out the construction and the club is organising a major appeal for funds to complete Stage Two of the project, which includes demolition of the old clubhouse and a new building with change rooms, patrol and first aid rooms and craft storage on the beach level, a gym and storage on the mid level and a function room on the upper level.



After construction of Stages 1 and 2

For more information contact Marc Glanville on 0407 701690.