



The striking bridge structure is enhanced by specially designed lighting, making it a stunning sculpture-like attraction.

## Honeysuckle update

Hunter and Central Coast Development Corporation

Winter/Spring 2022

# Run, walk, scoot, ride... harbourside promenade now open

Honeysuckle's much anticipated harbourside promenade near Cottage Creek is now open, giving our community and visitors 11km of uninterrupted pathways alongside Newcastle's stunning coastline, stretching from Wickham to Merewether Beach.

The tree-lined promenade features a shared pedestrian and cyclist pathway, native plantings, waterfront seating, water bubblers, and observation points to take in the views.

HCCDC worked closely with Hunter Water on the project to reimagine the 100-year-old Cottage Creek stormwater channel, replacing concrete walls with attractive tiered sandstone and bringing in native plants to soften the creek's edge and create a welcoming community space.

HCCDC will complete the final treatment of the promenade and public domain to the east and west of Cottage Creek in stages, to coincide with the construction of the Horizon on the Harbour and Little National Hotel developments and the future development of Honeysuckle HQ.

The Cottage Creek works were funded by HCCDC, Hunter Water and grants from the NSW Government's Newcastle Port Community Contribution Fund.



To celebrate the opening of the new promenade, we invited community members to a pop-up celebration in July. Thank you to all the wonderful people who joined us for a coffee, lawn games and Fondalicious 80's style aerobics. We loved seeing everyone enjoy the space!



# One step closer to Honeysuckle HQ

HCCDC has now closed its Expressions of Interest (EOI) campaign to find an experienced development partner, who we will work with to transform the final Honeysuckle lands into an enviable and vibrant precinct.

Honeysuckle HQ will be a magnetic destination with quality connections that focuses on community, new economy and excellence, while enhancing the natural environment and local heritage.

Developers have submitted their initial proposals, and we're shortlisting the top concepts to proceed to a final design stage.

We've also been engaging with the local Aboriginal community to learn how Aboriginal culture and heritage can be included in Honeysuckle HQ. This information will guide shortlisted developers when preparing their detailed proposals.

We expect to announce the successful development partner in mid-2023.

HCCDC is excited to see what potential development partners envisage for what will be one of Newcastle's most vibrant precincts.

## New Honeysuckle Park amenities coming soon

Providing the community with all the amenities they need to live and play in our open spaces is important to HCCDC. Work is now underway to deliver permanent amenities at Honeysuckle Park by the end of the year.

The amenities building will contain two wheelchair accessible unisex toilets with baby change facilities, to cater for everyone who visits the foreshore precinct.

New access pathways will also be constructed to connect the existing promenade to the new building.

Construction follows the public exhibition of the project's Review of Environmental Factors, which was finalised in July.



# Private developments

Several building developments are underway on Honeysuckle Drive, all of which are expected to be completed by the end of 2023. These residential, commercial, and office spaces will overlook Newcastle's beautiful harbour and provide new and exciting places and spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Here's a quick development snapshot:

## Huntington – 35 Honeysuckle Drive

### Features

86 apartments

Commercial floor with retail, restaurants and cafes

### Update

- Scaffold is being removed to unveil the building's form and beautiful smoky San Selmo brickwork
- Next steps include external landscape and street works as well as the final touches inside the apartments
- Project completion anticipated in November
- Residents expected to move in just before Christmas.



## Horizon on the Harbour – 45 Honeysuckle Drive

### Features

Three separate buildings

110 apartments

Ground floor retail space

Two levels of basement car parking

### Update

- Bulk excavation will soon be completed, and the first street-level concrete slab poured. A crane tower will be erected onsite to lift materials into place.
- Anticipated to be completed in September 2023.



## Little National Hotel – 42 Honeysuckle Drive

### Features

5-Star hotel including 181 rooms, bar, gym, lounge and library facilities

Adjoining 5,500m<sup>2</sup> office building, targeting a 6-star Green Star rating and a 5.5-star NABERS rating

174 carpark spaces

### Update

- Construction has now commenced
- Tower crane has been erected
- Anticipated to be completed in 2023





## People profile: Aaron Hinneberg, Hatch

Aaron Hinneberg is an engineering designer with an international engineering consultancy.

He was instrumental in working with us on the Promenade and Cottage Creek project, ensuring it was engineered to suit the reclaimed land environment. We asked him about his work on the project.

**Q: Hi Aaron. Can you tell us how long you've worked in Newcastle?**

**A:** I started as an apprentice drafter with Lindsay Dynan in Newcastle 25 years ago. Late last year we integrated with Hatch, and I'm now working in the Hatch team on various Newcastle-based infrastructure projects as an engineering designer.

**Q: How were you involved with the promenade and Cottage Creek project?**

**A:** I had the pleasure of working with the HCCDC and wider project team as the engineering project manager and lead engineering designer to take the Cottage Creek precinct from design through to construction and completion.

**Q: How did you work with landscape architects in forming the design for the project?**

**A:** Terras Landscape Architects did an amazing job in conceptualising how the Cottage Creek precinct would look. It was my job to ensure their design was engineered in a way that allowed their vision to come to life. To see it now complete is pretty special.

**Q: What were some of the challenges of the job?**

**A:** Working on reclaimed harbour frontage comes with many challenges in terms of the settlement of the land. Ensuring we engineered the design to meet these needs was essential to the integrity of the structure. We also needed to ensure we maintained connectivity for the community so they could still move through the area safely during construction activities. And obviously working with all the other developments in the area also presented a challenge, but we were so fortunate to be collaborating with a series of people and companies who were all striving for the best outcomes, so everyone was willing and eager to support what we were each trying to achieve.

**Q: How does it make you feel seeing the promenade and bridge being enjoyed by the community?**

**A:** To see it in its concept stage to now being widely used by the community is exciting. It's also humbling to see a major piece of infrastructure that enables people to travel by footpath from the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club to Merewether Beach now complete.

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**Honeysuckle is experiencing its next stage of transformation.**

To keep informed of what's changing in Honeysuckle, register your email at [honeysuckle@hccdc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:honeysuckle@hccdc.nsw.gov.au)

[www.hccdc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hccdc.nsw.gov.au)

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