

NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

No. 17 MARCH/APRIL 1981

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Gavin Thomas 95 3693

This year's Committee has quite a few new faces, including my own. This shows an increasing willingness for other residents in Castlecrag to become involved in community activities. The outgoing Committee has shown itself to be active, and I can only hope we carry on the good work done by last year's group.

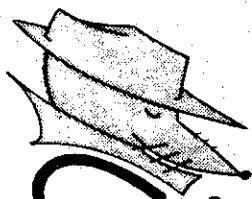
For the year ahead I see the major issues concerning our Association as the Expressway submission, which is now due mid-year, and the ongoing concern for making Castlecrag a more beautiful suburb in which to live. The Expressway has long been identified as a problem but the latter has been, in recent years, one which is being abused in many ways. The Conservation Society has been reporting with regular monotony cases where there has been little or no concern for the surrounding environment.

As a person who grew up in Castlecrag, I note that more than twenty of my peers have returned, with their new families, to live in the suburb, many doing so in the last five years. Most of these people are active in the Castlecrag Progress Association and are especially concerned with retaining Castlecrag's natural beauty and restoring it to its former state. If anyone wishes to seek advice on how to improve their environment, the Progress Association has many experts who are able to advise on the preservation and/or planting of suitable native trees or shrubs.

Attached to this issue of the Crag is a traffic survey/questionnaire. Castlecrag is almost unique in Sydney with its numerous winding and narrow roads, which can make conditions dangerous for both the driver and the pedestrian. The Traffic Committee has been very active over the past year or so, collecting information and suggestions which may help improve the safety of our roads. A lot of effort has gone into this survey, and I urge you to complete and return this form so a proper cross-section of opinion can be gained. If you feel some problem area has not been covered, please make some appropriate comments on the survey form.

Each meeting of the Castlecrag Progress Association we notice a few new faces, and I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all residents of Castlecrag to attend our meetings. This will ensure that issues which concern our community will be properly discussed, and you will be kept well informed about Castlecrag.

CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION'S NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY EVENING, 8PM, APRIL 28, 1981, IN THE CASTLECRAG COMMUNITY CENTRE, OFF THE POSTERN, CASTLECRAG. ALL RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS WELCOME.



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Dinner: Wednesday—Sunday

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TRESILLIAN

by Rita Kaye with help from Matron Newman

The year 1919 marked a turning point in the well-being of babies born in N.S.W., when the Royal Society for the Welfare of Mothers and Babies came into being. The purpose of the Society was to "save baby life, improve conditions of life of children up to school age and to ensure proper nursing and health conditions for mothers." At this time, 11% of babies died in their first year. By the middle twenties this was reduced to 3%.

Dr. Margaret Harper, a renowned Paediatrician, guided the beginnings of the Tresillian Hospitals from 1921, and was responsible more than anyone else, in achieving the marked reduction in infant mortality.

The first nursing home was set up in 1921 in a house in Petersham, called "Tresillian" after the owner's home town in Cornwall, and this name was adopted by the Society.

In 1927, a second home, Tresillian North, was established in Willoughby. Quoting from the Annual Report of 1926/7 "The Mothercraft Hospital at Willoughby was opened on 23rd March 1927. The new training school is situated in Second Avenue, is a well-built comfortable residence, standing in about an acre of ground and was acquired for £8400. Tresillian North serves the suburbs extending from Hornsby to Manly. It has also accommodation for patients from country districts. Dr. Margaret Harper is the Honorary Medical Director of the Training School."

Quoting from the 1927/8 Report: "Castlecrag Picnic, arranged by Mrs. Burley Griffin and the Management Committee - £53 was realised for the Society."

The present time Tresillian Hospitals are staffed by a Medical Director, trained Nursing staff and students. Tresillians aims are twofold:

1. To give support and guidance to mothers and families; and
2. To offer a training to nurses to equip them to be a valued addition to the health scene.

The training courses have increased from three to six months, and all students are paid during their training. Willoughby North has beds for 17 babies and 11 mothers, and is at present under the Direction of Matron Newman.

From its inception, Tresillian has been closely associated with other health workers, including Baby Health Clinics.

A third home, opened in 1940 at Carpenter House, Wollstonecraft, has since changed from residential care to Therapeutic Day Care for families with problems. This establishment is now known as The Margaret Harper Clinic.



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ALDERMAN'S REPORT

by Ald. Eric Kaye

At its meeting on 2nd March, 1981, Willoughby Council resolved: *"that the Mayor call a public meeting at a suitable time and venue, for the purpose of advising residents, property owners, and those interested in Castlecrag generally, of the intention to prepare a Castlecrag Local Environment Plan, and the establishment of a Resident Advisory Committee."*

This decision is of great importance to our residents and our suburb; authorisation for it is given by the provisions of the Environment and Planning Assessment Act of 1979. Preliminary planning for it was started by the previous Council in June last year.

The terms of the Plan will be defined by the Mayor and will include the following aims:

- a) To enhance, preserve and regenerate the environmental quality of the area;
- b) To minimise undesirable impacts on the environment;
- c) To define existing and future roles of land-use elements;
- d) To enhance the social fabric of the area;
- e) To adopt a corporate approach to plan preparation and involve other Council departments, including Engineers, Community Services, Parks & Gardens and Health & Building in the planning process.

It is proposed that Willoughby Council will advise all residents of the meeting by circular. I personally seek your wide support to ensure all community interests are represented. These aims are in close agreement with those of our Progress Association and doubtless will receive your full support.



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CASTLECRAG LIBRARY

by Anne Thomas, Library Committee

Castlecrag Community Library was commenced almost thirty years ago as a children's library but was rapidly expanded to include adult fiction and reference books. It is now a branch of the Municipal Library, Chatswood, and is situated in the Community Centre, adjacent to the Kindergarten. Originally it occupied an area at the western end of the hall, but in the middle 1950's the Castlecrag Community, with the help of Willoughby Council, raised money to erect the present library extensions.

The library is staffed by two permanent librarians, Mrs. Hume and Mrs. Spiegel, and ten voluntary helpers. These women form a reliable, capable and willing group of workers who have manned the library for many years.

The Committee consists of: Anne Thomas, President; Joyce Batterham, Secretary; Addie Saltis, Treasurer; the two librarians, and all voluntary helpers.

THE LIBRARY IS OPEN DURING THE FOLLOWING HOURS:

TUESDAY: 3.30PM TO 4.30PM;

THURSDAY: 12.30PM TO 3.00PM;

SATURDAY: 10.00AM TO 12.00 NOON.

It caters for all tastes, but is mainly a recreational library. There are large fiction and mystery sections, reference books, encyclopedias, periodicals, junior fiction and young children's books.

The number of regular borrowers is around 500, although those on the register exceed this. Book borrowings per month average 750, which is a high percentage of borrowings per number of books in the library. The kindergarten children borrow books on a regular basis when the library is manned by kindergarten mothers.

A number of people have recently joined the library because they have found Central Library too large. They enjoy the intimate and friendly atmosphere of our library and the assistance given by the staff in selecting particular books which are frequently available at Castlecrag but not at Chatswood.

It is pleasing to note that Mr. Flint, the Chief Librarian, considers Castlecrag Library to be efficiently and capably run. He wants to encourage the community atmosphere developed at Castlecrag and considers the situation unique. He has not altered the conditions under which we operate, whereas Naremburn and Artarmon branch libraries are now conducted by Central Library staff.

Extracts from recent communications with Council state, in part: "Council is aware that the Castlecrag Library serves local residents actively, and that your Committee already works in close co-operation with the Municipal Library to extend its resources when needed," and "Council wishes to congratulate your Committee members on the achievement of the Castlecrag Library and looks forward to their continuing involvement in the library."

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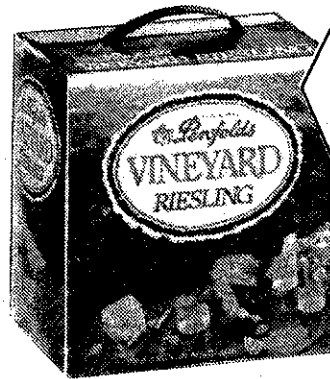
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CASTLECRAG LIBRARY, CONTINUED...

It has been suggested that the library be moved nearer the shopping centre for greater accessibility. However, most current borrowers prefer the library to remain where it is, mainly because parking is readily available. However, any move to re-locate the library must be a long-term project.

Have you visited the library lately?

Remember, it costs nothing to join, and borrowing times are generous.

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HEALTH SERVICES IN CASTLECRAG

For the benefit of Castlecrag residents, we list the doctors and dentists who operate practices in our immediate area:

Medical

DR. GAVIN CARNEY phone 958 1119
27 The Quadrangle, 100 Edinburgh Road

DR. GLENN MACKINTOSH phone 95 1081
119 Eastern Valley Way

Dental

DR. BARRY CAROLAN phone 95 4557
105 Edinburgh Road

DR. JEAN FOLEY phone 95 6458
61 Edinburgh Road

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NEW PROGRESS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

At the Annual General Meeting of the Castlecrag Progress Association, held on 24th February, 1981, a new Committee for 1981 was elected.

The new office-bearers are:

President -	Gavin Thomas
Vice-President -	Di Street
Secretary -	Sylvia Taylor
Asst. Secretary -	Rita Kaye
Treasurer -	Judy Bowen
Editor -	Bob Ronai
Ex-Officio -	Ald. Eric Kaye

Committee Members -	Bev Blacklock
	Ted Bowen
	Marcella Cerna
	Dorothy Fraser
	Chris Rosten
	Howard Ruby
	Addie Saltis
	John Steele
	Eunice Worrell

In addition to the above, the Castlecrag Progress Association has several sub-committees such as the Conservation Society, the Road Safety Committee, the Historical Society, the Freeway Committee, and any other sub-committees that may need to be formed to deal with suitable matters at various times.

The running of the Castlecrag Progress Association is not by any means left only to these committees and people.... all residents of Castlecrag, covering an area as far north as Sugarloaf Crescent, south to Morotai Crescent, and west along Edinburgh Road to Second Avenue, are most welcome to join the Association and express their views at Association meetings. All residents, whether members of this Association or not, are always free to contact our Council Alderman for this area, Eric Kaye, on telephone 95 6146.

R.W'S MENSWEAR

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THE CRAG is edited on behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association by Bob Ronai, 103 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag, 2068, phone 95 4247.

Contributions, by way of articles on matters of interest to Castlecrag residents, are always most welcome. Closing date for contributions is the Association General Meeting prior to the particular issue.

