

TRAM

NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

No. 34

May/June 1984

THE PRESIDENT & COMMITTEE
OF
THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

INVITE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
TO A FILM & SUPPER EVENING

AT

ST. JAMES HALL EDINBURGH RD. CASTLECRAG.
SATURDAY 7th. JULY 1984 7.30 pm.

AWARD WINNING HUMOROUS FILM OF THE LIFE OF SUBURBAN DOGS

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WILL BE OF LOCAL INTEREST

Those people wishing to sell ART, POTTERY or SIVERWARE and would like their work displayed in the hall on that night please contact Addie Saltis (95 6409) or telephone 95 9683 for further enquires.

DONATION:- \$3.00 per person \$5.00 per family

WILLOUGHBY 1984 FAMILY FUN FAIR - THE NICEST WAY TO MEET YOU NEIGHBOURS

Once again we are organising a "Bits & Pieces" stall. To make this a real success, we ask you to go through your cupboards for anything you can spare, such a China, toys, books etc. The Fair is not until September, but we would like to make an early start in collecting stock for our stall. Contact Phone No. A. Korner 95 6059 R. Kaye 95 6146.

NEWSWORTHY!

We had word from Judy Bowen to say that she has completed her study tour in the U.S. and is now in England. You will remember that Judy, one of our members was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to forward her work in cancer support. Judy is part of the Royal North Shore Hospital's "Cansupport" team (people who have been cancer patients themselves and are now involved with patient and family support). The purpose of this tour is to discuss similar work being done by overseas groups, and to inform them of developments being carried out here. Judy is very pleased with the reception and cooperation she has received.

NEXT MEETING OF CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION - TUESDAY 26th JUNE 8.00 pm.

NEXT MEETING OF CASTLECRAG CONSERVATION SOCIETY - FRIDAY 6th JULY 8.00 pm.

VENUE FOR BOTH MEETINGS:- COMMUNITY CENTRE, OFF THE POSTERN. ALL WELCOME!

ALDERMAN'S REPORT

Eric Kaye.

Recent moves by Warringah Council for an investigation into the possibility of an ultra light travel system from Wynyard to Newport using the former freeway corridor should be watched closely. The plan envisages a FLYDA system designed in England but as yet not in operation.

Each vehicle will hold 12 passengers (6 seated, 6 standing), a train will comprise up to four vehicles. These run on a concrete track either on the ground or suspended above it. The maximum speed is 56 k.p.h., the trains are electrically driven and no driver is carried. In peak hours a one minute service is envisaged with a waiting time at stations of 30 seconds.

The run will start at Wynyard through the existing tramway tunnel, across the Harbour Bridge elevated above the footway, run in the medium strip through the existing freeway to Naremburn. From Willoughby Road to Sugarloaf Point, it will run at ground level through the former corridor crossing at Middle Harbour on a new bridge, thence at ground level to Condamine Street and finally elevated to Newport. The length of the track would be 22 km. elevated and 9km. at ground level. Three hundred and seventy FLYDA P 12 vehicles will be required, the estimated cost is \$160 million (excluding the cost of the water crossings). The proposal has been referred to the Transport Strategy Advisory Committee (TRANSAC), who are presently considering the Kirby Report on the Warringah Corridor Inquiry.

I consider the construction of surface rail link or a freeway would be disastrous to Castlecrag, Naremburn and parts of Northbridge. The D.M.R. estimated the cost of a 6 lane freeway to be \$150 million plus the cost of the bridge. The FLYDA estimate is \$160 million plus the cost of a bridge and the elevated track across Sydney Harbour Bridge. The estimated cost of an underground railway is \$200 million for heavy rail (less for light rail). Such a system would be less costly, cause less damage to the environment and be more efficient. Given the desperate transport needs of the Western areas of Sydney, the probability of either a freeway or a railway must be considered low; however our Anti Expressway Committee will watch developments with a sharp eye.

CASTLECRAG HOSPITAL

Many residents have expressed fears that their hospital is being demolished and that its original charm will be lost. This, despite the fact that our Association was assured that apart from extensive internal improvements, only minimal external changes would be made. This is still true. The problem is the low strength of the concrete bricks, made by Dr. Rivett when he extended the original Griffin building. As the work proceeds, more and more of the original work has to be demolished. However, I am assured by the Council that the new building will be in accordance with the plans.

CASTLECRAG CELLARS

122 EDINBURGH ROAD, CASTLECRAG PHONE 95 2682 or 958 1507

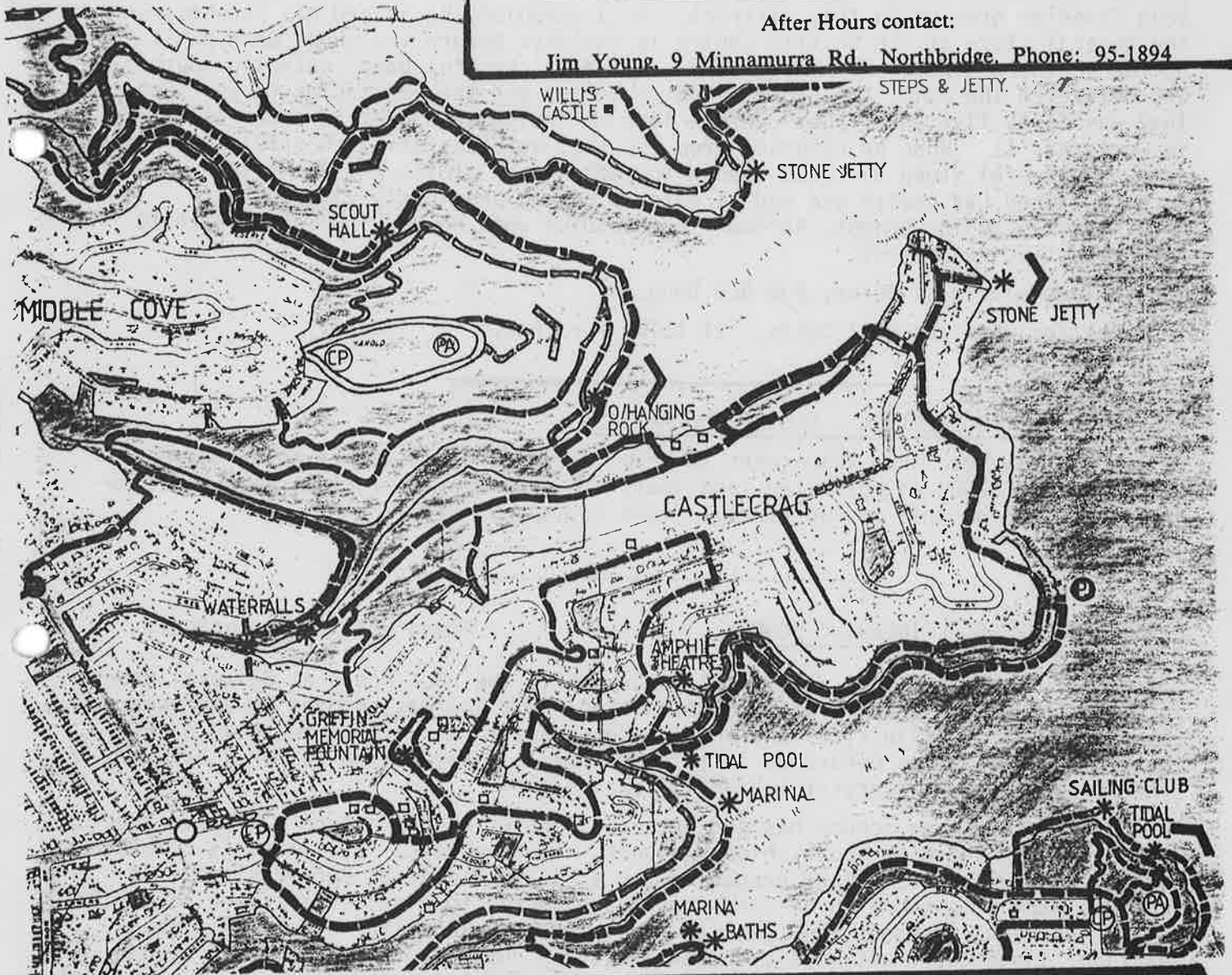
DISCOUNT WINES BEERS & SPIRITS

CASTLECRAG WALKWAY PROPOSAL

This map shows the "Walkway" system proposed for Castlecrag. This forms part of a total Willoughby system to be established for the Bicentenary year, construction will start in the near future.

A sub-committee of the Progress Association has been established to clarify the design and details.

Any Suggestions?.



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Mondays and Wednesdays - - Commencing June 4th, 1984

Half Hourly Lessons - - 1 - 4 persons from 10.30 am.

At Northbridge Womens' Bowling Club, Warners Park. (off Kameruka Road,)

TELEPHONE: Club - 95 6322. After Hours - 95 3408 or 95 5505

In recent weeks three long time residents of Castlecrag have died. They are Anice Duncan, Bob Batterham and Doug Chandler.

Anice will be remembered as an active member of all local organisations, generous with her time and money, a lover of nature and an enthusiastic bushwalker until illness prevented her from this activity. She then organised music groups for local children, many of whom owe their recorder skill to Anice's teaching. Her hearty laugh and dry wit are remembered by all who knew her.

Bob Batterham lived in Castlecrag for the greater part of his life and with his wife Joyce raised his children here. He, too, took part in community activities, always willing to lend a hand. On his retirement he repaired Kindergarten equipment, much of which he had helped to build many years previously, and was known to the children as Bob. He conducted woodwork classes at the Infants' School where the staff were delighted to have such competent voluntary help. He was a loved husband and father and a good friend.

Doug Chandler grew up in this district. As a schoolboy he helped his parents run the general store at the Griffin Centre in the days before the shops were built on the northern side of Edinburgh Road. He was a cheerful happy outgoing youth who delivered the mail, the papers, the groceries and the vegetables to your door. That was forty five years ago. Before long he "raised his age" in order to enlist in World War 11. When he returned from the war, matured, still cheerful, his parents sold the general store and Doug opened the newsagency at its present site. Later he encountered bad health and had to ease up on his previously vigorous life. It is sad that this solid, honest, hardworking man died when he was looking forward to an interesting retirement.

The village will miss Anice, Bob and Doug.

"Ask not for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for thee." (Donne.)

SALVATION ARMY COLLECTION - RED SHIELD APPEAL.

We desperately need more volunteers to help on 1st July, if we are going to meet the amount of \$2300 we collected last year. We make every effort to keep the time required to do an area to two hours. Phone R. Kay, 95 6146.

NEWS FROM OUR LOCAL INFANTS" SCHOOL.

Alwen Whittle (Principal)

After Easter we had a most successful excursion to the rock pools at Balmoral Beach. This was the administration of the whole-school unit and was enjoyed by everyone concerned. Mrs. Pallin (from the Aust. Museum came to our school and gave each class a special lesson before we left for Balmoral. Many of the children have since conducted very successful "family" excursions.

This introductory sea scheme has led us onto "Pirates" which in turn will have the older children learning about ships, islands, volcanoes etc. Excitement is running high right now because we are preparing for a Pirate Picnic at Berry Island. We will use maps to explore the island and we are hoping to discover treasure chests! As well as being tremendous fun, such an event leads to wonderful story writing, painting, language, craft, music and movement and number...the educational spin-off is endless.

TENNIS PLAYERS

THE CASTLECRAG SPORTS CLUB, Cortelle Reserve, Between Edinburgh Road, & Parapet HAS VACANCES FOR PLAYERS OF "B" GRADE STANDARD OR BETTER - WEEKEND CLUB. FOR PRELIMINARY ENQUIRY: Ring Mr. S. Dunn 407 2934, 6pm - 7pm, Monday - Friday, or attend CLUBHOUSE SATURDAY AFTERNOON or SUNDAY MORNING.

Club provides for Associate Members, Junior or Senior, and conducts supervised Tennis on Sat. Morns. in three 1-hrly sessions from 7.30 am. for Children 10-16 yrs. Preference is given to LOCAL RESIDENTS and waiting lists are maintained. THE TWO COURTS WILL BE RESURFACED IN SYNTHETIC GRASS ABOUT SEPTEMBER, 1984.



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CRAG DELIVERIES.

We are looking for two residents, each of whom are prepared to deliver 100 copies of the Crag, each alternate month. Anyone prepared to help out, please phone Rita Kay, 95 6146.

NEW RELEASES IN THE LIBRARY, MAY 1984

BRAUTIGAN, R.	SO THE WIND WONT BLOW IT ALL AWAY
CHAND, Meira	BONSAI TREE, The
CHEEVER, Susan	THE CAGE
DONLEAVY, J.P.	LELIA
FRAME, Janet	TO THE ISLAND
HARRIS, MacDonald	SCREEN PLAY
HARVEY, Andrew	JOURNEY IN LAKAKH, A
HOBHOUSE, Janet	NELLIE WITHOUT HUGO
KELLS, Susannah	CROWNING MERCY, A
KENT, Alexander	SUCCESS TO THE BRAVE
YEOMANS, John	HARRY
RENDELL, Ruth	FROM DOON WITH DEATH
FRASER, Antonia	QUIET AS A NUN
SAYERS, Dorothy	CLOUDS OF WITNESS
MARSH, Ngaio	CLUTCH OF CONSTABLES
WENTWORTH, P.	LADIES' BANE
JAMES.P.D.	SKULL BENEATH THE SKIN
LEAPMAN, Michael	BAREFACED CHEEK
HEFFERNAN, William	CORSICAN, The
HOLLAND, Cecelia	SEA BEGGARS, The
FRASER, MacDonald	PYRATES, The
YERBY, Frank	WESTERN
FOSBURCH, Lacer	OLD MONEY
KING, Stephen	PET SEMATARY
LAW-YONE, Wendy	COFFIN TREE, The
KAZAN, Elia	ANATOLIAN, The

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TUESDAYS & SATURDAYS

We would like to send our best wishes to Mrs. Hade Spiegel, one of our Librarians, who has been seriously ill, and who is at present in Greenwich Hospital. We wish you speedy recovery, Hade.

(Louise Lightfoot worked in the Griffin's drawing office for seven years, and lived in their home. This is part of an article given by her to Edgar Deans, secretary of the Greater Sydney Development Assoc. Burley Griffis' firm, and at one time Mayor of Willoughby. The article is quite long, and I shall be including part of it in the next few CRAG'S)

Imagine my dismay when in 1925, as a young woman of 23 years, I received a request from my "boss", Walter Burley Griffin to leave Melbourne and to go to Sydney as a companion and assistant to his wife Marion who was living and drafting on her own in Castlecrag, the safe-guarded foreshore suburb-to-be which was Mr. Griffin's inspired plan for Middle Harbour. What a shock to have to leave my home and parents for the first time, and to leave the office in Melbourne where I had worked happily with the other young draftsmen and with my girl friend "Cappie". (Cappie and Edgar Deans later married.)

I had served my articles with the Griffins coincident with my course in architecture at the Melbourne University and now that the difficult days of evening study were over, it was "on with the dance." I was crazy about dancing.

It was not only the grief I felt at leaving the office and dancing that upset me. It was the thought of living alone with Marion. I had never been quite at home with her. She was not the companionable type, not like my mother or my delightful aunts. She was a remarkable woman, her husband's devoted and capable executrix and the supervisor of his young draftsmen. She was my instructress; I still hear the sound of her ring scratching the paper as she rubbed out mistakes in my drawings. "Keep your mind open to the inspirations of the Creator", she would advise "and then I will come and pick it to pieces". Her appearance was as peculiar as her manner. Her rather triangular nose, eyes a little too close together, thin shanks on loose ankles, strong Chicago accent, mirthless laugh and unusual clothes! I was quite in awe of her remarkable brain and ability and her lean wiry strength. And now, to be her companion and assistant!

It was entirely my father's idea that I should study architecture; this was because I won an exhibition in drawing and high honours in mathematics in my final year at College. A dancing career was really what I wanted, but in those days it was "not done" to become a dancer.

After crying all day and having my meals brought to my room I took the night train to Sydney, the tram to Milsons Point Ferry, bus to Willoughby and walked up Edinburgh Road, till at length I saw two stone cottages appear on the rise; I knew I must enter the second one. Marion appeared at the door with "come right in". On my second day with her I was asked to cook dinner. I did not know how to cook. The water boiled out of the vegetable pot and I poured cold water in. The steam rose up and burnt my hand cruelly. That night I went to bed with my hand hanging in a jug of water. The next morning the sting had gone out, and I began my drafting.

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