

THE CRAG

NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

NO. 54

* SIXTY TWO YEARS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT *
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JULY/AUGUST 1987

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

SUE RANDLE

I am happy to report that our Association has for the third successive term endorsed Eric Kaye as our Alderman, representing Middle Harbour Ward. Eric will again team with the Mayor, Noel Reidy, and John Squire.

In his Alderman's Report in this issue of The Crag, Eric addresses some of the policies and the principles which guide his decisions in Council. He modestly asks for our support for a further term.

His support is deserved as Eric and his wife Rita love this area and work hard in our community.

Four years ago Eric Kaye with Noel Reidy and John Squire were elected unopposed. This year four candidates have nominated and because of the complexity of the system of proportional representation, we should not assume that Eric will necessarily be elected.

If you want Eric Kaye to represent you, it is imperative that you vote for him on Saturday 26th September, giving him your PRIMARY vote.

Voting booths will be set up at the following:

Castlecrag School, Edinburgh Road
Willoughby Public School, Oakville Road
Willoughby Park Pavilion, McClelland Street
Chatswood Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue.

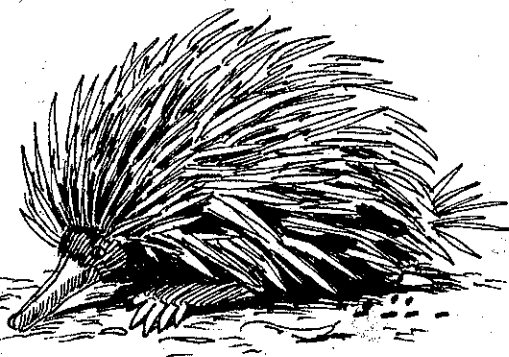
We need volunteers to man these booths on the day of the election, if you can spare an hour or two please contact me, 958 6344.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL, THE POSTERN, ON TUESDAY 25TH AUGUST AT 8PM.

THE CONSERVATION SOCIETY WILL HOLD ITS NEXT MEETING AT 64 THE BULWARK, 18TH SEPTEMBER 8PM.

RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME AT BOTH MEETINGS.

THE CRAG IS EDITED ON BEHALF OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION BY RITA KAYE AND KERRY MCKILLOP 958 4516. COMMENTS REGARDING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS ARE AUTHORISED BY SUE RANDLE 63 SUNNYSIDE CRES, CASTLECRAG



ALDERMAN'S REPORT Local Government Elections, 26th September 1987. Eric Kave

At its last meeting the Castlecrag Progress Association unanimously endorsed me as their candidate for the forthcoming Council elections. I thank members for this expression of confidence, and consider it appropriate to briefly outline the policies which I have pursued over the past seven years and the principles, which, if elected, will guide my future decisions. In each issue of The Crag, I contribute a written report and make a verbal report at each Association meeting. I believe that local communities are becoming increasingly aware of the impact of Council decisions on their quality of life, and quite reasonably demand greater public accountability from their representatives. I have always held myself available to all residents either by phone or visit. In requests from residents which for some reason I cannot conscientiously support, I see a clear duty to fairly represent their points of view to Council, and in such cases I tend to seek compromise solutions to the problems.

I hold the view that to effectively represent electors, aldermen should involve themselves in municipal as well as local activities. During my period as an alderman I have been Deputy Mayor for two years, chairman of the building committee for three years, and chairman of the joint Northside Libraries committee (Shorelink) for three years; I am a member of each of the 530A committees responsible to Council for the management of the Castlecrag Community Centre, our Haven Ampitheatre, the Willoughby Youth and Community Centre, and a member of the management committee of Willoughby's newest theatre, the Zenith Centre, Chatswood. I am also a director of the Willoughby Retirement Community Association, concerned with the welfare of the aged in our communities.

I fully support the restoration and protection of our bushland from both adverse development and environmental degradation. Willoughby shares with Kuring-gai, Warringah and Lane Cove, some of the most ecologically unique and beautiful bushland in Sydney. This is particularly so of the upper Middle Harbour region. One fine vantage point to appreciate the beauty of this area is from the lookout at Harold Reid Reserve. I would recommend to those residents who have not already done so, to view Sugarloaf Bay and the surrounding area from this excellent reserve. Council is becoming increasingly aware of the value of our bushland. Five years ago I was appointed chairman of a committee set up to consider our policy on Bushland Management, which recommended that Allan Fox and Associates be engaged as Council's consultants; the recommendation was adopted and I am pleased with the improvements which have followed. Very pleasing, too, is the excellent program of restoration and regeneration which WEPA is carrying out in the Sugarloaf Bush Regeneration Project, between Sugarloaf and Sunnyside Crescents.

A corollary of my support for our bushland is my concern for the possibility of the extension of the Warringah Freeway through Castlecrag. In my view this is one of the most important issues facing our suburb. I was elected to Council in 1980 when Willoughby and four other north shore Councils were attempting to convince the Kirby Inquiry to recommend retention of the freeway corridor, thus permitting later completion of the freeway. It was, and still is, my sincere conviction that such a policy would not only ruin Castlecrag and its magnificent bushland, but would make worse the traffic problems of Willoughby and encourage development of Manly and the Warringah Peninsula along the lines of the Gold Coast. I have maintained this stand at every opportunity at Council.

I have not attempted in this report to list issues which I have successfully supported or those which I have lost. There are many improvements I wish to see in Castlecrag and for which I have fought. However, funds for these are in competition with projects which Council considers to be of a more general and pressing nature, such as the swimming pool/leisure centre and the construction of Victoria Mall. One pleasing decision which has been taken recently, concerns

the land on our northern escarpment. Much of this is owned by the DMR. It has been neglected over the years and because of its northerly aspect, and until recently because of effluent from septic tanks, it has been decreed a bushfire hazard. DMR have agreed to spend \$13,000 over the next four years to hand clear lantana and bamboo from this area as part of the hazard reduction program. Council will continue clearing its land in accordance with its Bushland Management Policy. In addition, Council's consultants are meeting with residents to advise them on methods of reducing the fire hazard on their own properties.

Seven years ago I joined Council feeling I owed this to Castlecrag. My wife and I have lived here most of our adult lives. Our children were brought up here, and it is here that we will spend the rest of our lives. My former work has taken me to many parts of the world, but there is nowhere else I would rather live. I am proud to have had the opportunity to represent our municipality, our ward, and in particular our suburb, for the past seven years. I consider I have the ability to continue this representation for a further four years. To this end I invite your support on polling day, 26th September.

CHILDREN'S DRAWINGS FOR 'THE CRAG'

EDITOR

To relate our newsletter more closely to our suburb, we include drawings of native birds, flowers or animals, the work of our residents.

To increase the variety, we invite children interested in drawing to add to our collection. Drawings must be in black pen on white paper; we will reduce them in size where necessary. Please send contributions to Rita Kaye, 325 Edinburgh Road, phone 958 6146.

HELPERS NEEDED FOR HISTORIC BANNERS PROJECT

Ann Hinchliffe (Willoughby Community Arts Officer).

We desperately need sewers and quilters - if you can hold a needle we will teach you how to quilt. With your help, the banners will be completed by October and can then be hung for public display in February, 1988. PLEASE GIVE AT LEAST ONE DAY TO THIS HISTORIC PROJECT. (The banners, 14 in all, are to be hung permanently in the Willoughby Town Hall, and are a Willoughby Community Project, the work of residents of our municipality).

SALVATION ARMY RED SHIELD APPEAL

Rita Kaye

The 1987 Red Shield Appeal was a great success. We had 28 residents and a number of Sallies in our team, who collected approximately \$4,700, more than 50% above our last year's total. Our thanks to our collectors, and to our residents who donated so generously.

NIGEL'S QUALITY MEATS

Griffin Centre
120 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag
Phone 958 0065

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DID YOU KNOW?

PROPERTY VALUES HAVE RISEN DRAMATICALLY THIS YEAR!!

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LANTANA - ITS IDENTIFICATION, OCCURRENCE AND REMOVAL Harold Spies, President
Castlecrag Conservation Society

Most of us recognise lantana and regard it as one of the main problem weeds invading our native bush. The plant originated in South America and many forms of it were developed horticulturally in Europe.

Identification: Lantana is a rambling shrub up to a metre high, although in rainforest gullies the canes may climb 15-20 metres up trees. The shrubs have prickly stems and the leaves are pale green with slightly rounded toothed margins. The flowers are compact heads of several individual flowers. The fruit, green berries, turn black when ripe. There are two species, the most common one Lantana camara, and Lantana montenidensis, a lower shrub with purple flowers. The green fruit has been known to be poisonous to children.

Occurrence: Lantana, like privet and other common weeds, is abundant on nitrogen-rich soils and is found along water courses, creek banks and behind houses bordering bushland where garden and household rubbish has been dumped. Again, like the other weeds mentioned in previous issues of The Crag, lantana because of its extensive shade cover and its invasive growth, prevents germination and growth of native seedlings and plants and gradually eliminates those already in the area.

Removal: Lantana is not a difficult plant to remove. Expose and cut the roots 15cm or so below the main stem and remove the surface roots. Lift the cut stem so that it is not in contact with the ground (eg, place it on a stone) and leave it to die, or cut up the whole plant and use it as mulch. Cut pieces in contact with the bare soil may sprout but these can be easily removed when checking the mulched areas. If the main stem is very thick, it can be cut and poisoned with 'Roundup'.

Benefits: By removing lantana from your land you will prevent it spreading into the nearby bush. You will also be assisting in restoring the bush to its native state. Easier access to our reserves will allow their enjoyment by people who wish to walk in and experience the bush; the whole community benefits.

AUSTRALIAN WILDFLOWERS SPECTACULAR

CASTLE HILL SHOWGROUND

Residents interested in growing native plants will be delighted with this exhibition, and will have the opportunity to learn how to propagate from cuttings and seeds and try their hand at grafting. There will be interesting displays to attract children, the 'Free Selectors Bush Band' will be playing each day, and refreshments will be available.

Date: 19-20 September, 9am - 5pm. Entrance: \$3, concession \$1.50.
Organised by the Society for Growing Australian Plants, NSW.

WILLOUGHBY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

SPRING WALKS

Sunday 13th September, Sunday 27th September, Sunday 11th October. Those interested phone L Batterham 958 2127, H Cooper 411 5891, G Spies 958 8569.

PHOTOS NEEDED FOR OUR ALBUM

THE COMMITTEE

We have recently purchased an album to hold photos of community functions or of general community interest. Should you have any old or recent photos that you feel should be included in our historical records, we would be pleased to have them. If necessary, they can be copied. Please contact Bob McKillop 958 4516.

WILLOUGHBY YOUTH THEATRE

Presents A NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT AND MUSIC

1. Work in Progress - the modern Folk Tales, 'Balance' and 'The Red Gum Sprite'
2. The Midnight Blues - a jazz band of six young musicians
3. some short masked and mime pieces.

At: Artarmon Uniting Church Hall, corner Artarmon and Tindale Roads.

On: Saturday, 15 August 1987, 8pm. \$3.50 (\$1.50 child, concession).

This production is the result of a group writing project with which local artist Nick Hughes has been working, to develop scripts on a conservation theme. The project has been underway since the beginning of the year and will culminate in performances at the Willoughby Fun Fair in Willoughby Park on September 19th. The project has been made possible by a grant from the Literature Board of the Australia Council.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH presence in our area will be dramatically emphasised by an additional 8 pole signs and the repositioning of another two which are considered ineffective in their present locations. Willoughby Council are supporting this move by erecting the signs for us, cost free.

DON'T LEAVE YOUR HOUSE UNLOCKED....WE THOUGHT EVERYONE KNEW THAT NOW!!! However, two residents have paid dearly for such neglect by being victims of major robberies during May. So the message is still LOCK UP.....LOCK UP..... Become an instant member of NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH by ringing 958 6963.

NORTHBRIDGE WOMEN'S BOWLING CLUB

WARNER PARK, THE OUTPOST, NORTHBRIDGE PHONE 958 6322

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Further enquiries Club: 958 6322 After hours: 958 3480



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CASTLECRAG LIBRARY

The Community Centre, The Postern
LIBRARY HOURS:

TUESDAYS 3.30-4.30pm

THURSDAYS 12.30-4pm

SATURDAYS 10am-noon

McCullough, C	Ladies of Missaloughi
Clancy, T	Red Storm Rising
Halter, M	Book of Abraham
Plaidy, J	Lady in the Tower
Gordimer, N	Sport of Nature
Denton, K	Fiddlers Bridge
Burton, B	Jude
Wesley, M	Vacillations of Poppy Carew
Forbes, C	Janus Man
Weldon, F	Heart of the Country
Masters, O	Amy's Children
Fleming, T	Spoils of War
Kirkpatrick, S	Cast of Killers
Cookson, C	Parson's Daughter
Morrow, A	Highness, the Maharajhs of India
Hemingway, E	Garden of Eden
Conroy, P	Prince of Tides
Nathan, R	White Tiger
Dupain, M	Max Dupain's Australia*

and numerous other paperbacks and
mysteries

* You will note that we now have a
copy of Max Dupain's new book, a
beautiful addition to our library,
generously donated by Max.



Willoughby Family Fun Fair

THE WILLOUGHBY FUN FAIR will be held in Willoughby Park on Saturday 19 September, 9.30-4pm. Our Association will be running a Trash and Treasure stall and would like to receive items such as china, glass ware, books, toys, records, in fact anything we could sell. Funds raised will go towards the printing of The Crag and other community projects; 25% of the proceeds will go to our Conservation Society for their work. We look forward to your support.

Goods can be left in the garages of any of the following homes: McKillop, 10a The Bulwark; Young, 345 Edinburgh Road; and Kaye, 325 Edinburgh road. For items to be collected, please phone Marcella, 958 6939.

The Fun Fair organising committee has arranged many special features to entertain you and your children throughout the day, including 'The Golden Ridge Farm' (nursery animal farm), Leggo and craft tents, performances by local schools and by our famous Willoughby Band. This is always an enjoyable day for the whole family, so come along and see what the various organisations in our municipality are doing. Don't let bad weather deter you, the committee has prepared for rain and shine.

CASTLECRAG MEATS

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TELEPHONE 958 4274

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