

# TRAMP

## NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

No. 57 \* SIXTY THREE YEARS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT \* JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1988

### President's Report

On behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association 1987 Committee, I would like to wish you all a very happy 1988.

At our Annual General Meeting on 23 February all positions on the Committee will be declared vacant and the Association invites nominations for these positions. Any resident old or new who is community minded and would like to become more involved, is encouraged to attend the meeting.

I have enjoyed my two years as president and have been delighted to work with a most friendly, helpful and caring committee. It has been a rewarding and challenging period as president and I hope that the new president and committee will have a very successful year.

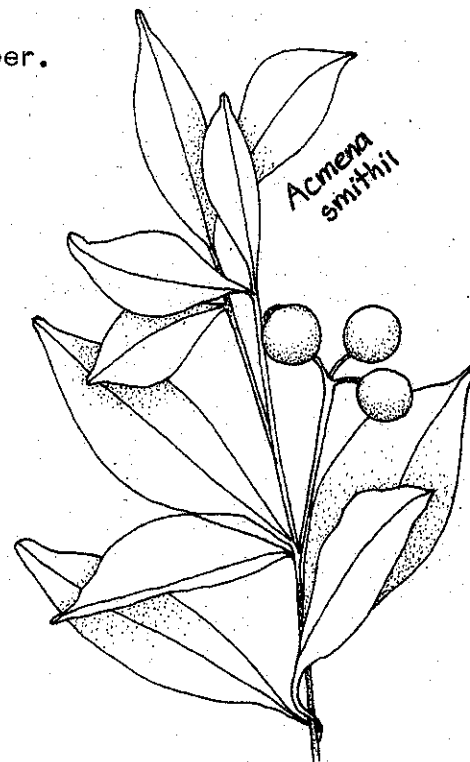
See you at the Community Centre for the meeting and supper.

Sue Randle, President

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL, THE POSTERN, TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY, 1988, 8PM. MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION ARE URGED TO COME ALONG.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CASTLECRAG CONSERVATION SOCIETY WILL BE HELD AT 70 THE BULWARK ON FRIDAY 4 MARCH, 8PM. ALL WELCOME.

THE CRAG is edited on behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association by Mary Baker 958 5518 and Kerry McKillop 958 4516. Queries, ideas and contributions are most welcome.



PLEASE TEAR OFF THIS FORM AND SEND WITH YOUR \$4 MEMBERSHIP FEE TO:  
CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION c/o The Treasurer, Diana Jones  
72 Linden Way.

I wish to renew/apply for membership of the Progress Association:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

REPORT OF A SUCCESSFUL CHRISTMAS PARTY - A SURPRISE - AND NOTICE OF A TENT-  
WARMING PARTY

Eric Kaye

The weeks preceding Christmas are by tradition, party time. On the initiative of our president, Sue Randle, our Association decided to hold an impromptu 'Christmas get-together', and Harold Spies and the Conservation Society had similar thoughts. Since many of our residents belong to both associations, it was decided to hold a combined function, and attempts were made to contact as many as possible. On Saturday 12 December following Carols by Candlelight at the Haven Theatre, our Community Hall was packed for a party, the purpose of which was to farewell Beverly Blacklock and Dee Street, both of whom had recently moved from the district.

I was invited, as I thought, to thank Dee for the fine work she had done for this community and to make a presentation to her. When I rose to do so, Rita and I were presented with a magnificent and expensive tent, to be our home for the 4-5 months we travel through outback Australia this winter. We were so surprised and overwhelmed that I could do little more than say thank you. It was heartening to feel the appreciation and warmth of those present for Dee, Beverly and ourselves. The tent is the very one which Rita and I had planned to buy in the new year. To those generous friends who contributed we are very much indebted and will think of you when we take shelter in it during our trip.

My seven years in Council have convinced me that the special environmental and developmental problems associated with this peninsula and particularly the continuing threat presented by the retention of the Warringah Freeway Corridor, can only be understood and addressed by an alderman resident in this suburb. We must start soon to ensure this is achieved in the local government elections in four years time.

Finally, back to the tent. Rita and I are so pleased with it, that we want you all to see it erected, and plan to hold a 'tent warming party' on the lawn outside our home (325 Edinburgh Road) from 5pm until dark on Sunday 6 March, and invite you all. We will turn on beer, wine, biscuits and cheese.

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LIBRARY HOURS:

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THURSDAYS 12.30-4PM

SATURDAYS 10AM-NOON

NEW BOOKS LIST:

French, Marilyn	Her Mother's Daughter
Deighton, Len	Winter
Weldon, Fay	The Hearts, Lives of Men
Howatch, Susan	Glittering Images
Francis, Clare	Wolf Winter
Sanders, Lawrence	The Timothy Files
Price, Anthony	A New Kind of War
Francis, Dick	Hot Money
Binchy, Maeve	Firefly Summer
Praver-Jhabvala, R	Three Continents
Stuart-Long, W	Empire Builders

And numerous other paperbacks, mysteries and adventure books. New books are added to the library every month as they are distributed by the publishers.

## THE ZENITH THEATRE, CHATSWOOD

We have reason to feel proud of our new theatre provided by the Zenith Development Corporation, their contribution to the community. One of our residents, Mr Ron Pritchard, is the managing director of this firm. The theatre will be owned and operated by Willoughby Council, and will complement the Civic Centre by providing for live theatre in the evening and by acting as a conference centre during the day.

Costing \$2.5m to complete, this luxurious theatre has a 250 seat auditorium, large hospitality areas, full-scale rehearsal hall, dressing rooms, workshop, etc, and will cater for both professional and non-professional performing arts groups. To cater for the preparation of morning and afternoon teas, lunches and suppers, a fully equipped kitchen and servery is included. It is expected that the revenue from the use for conferences and seminars during business hours will enable cultural events to take place at an affordable cost to the community.

Displayed in the foyer of the Zenith Theatre during the opening performances were essays submitted by high school students, expressing their hopes for the future. These essays have now been deposited in a 'time capsule' and sealed into the theatre foyer to await reopening in the year of Australia's Tricentenary. One of the accepted essays was written by Kirsten McKillop, a Castlecrag student, of Willoughby Girls' High School.

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## *Jim Young Real Estate*

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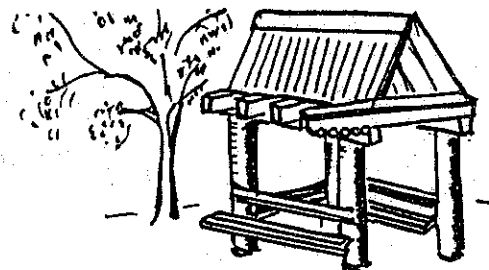
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the Pinnacle

### A Message from David and Beverly Blacklock

I was completely taken by surprise when presented with wonderful gifts and flowers for David and myself at the Christmas party for the Progress Association and the Conservation Society last December. It was a delightful evening at which I enjoyed sharing the gratitude of all concerned with Eric and Rita Kaye and Dianne Street.

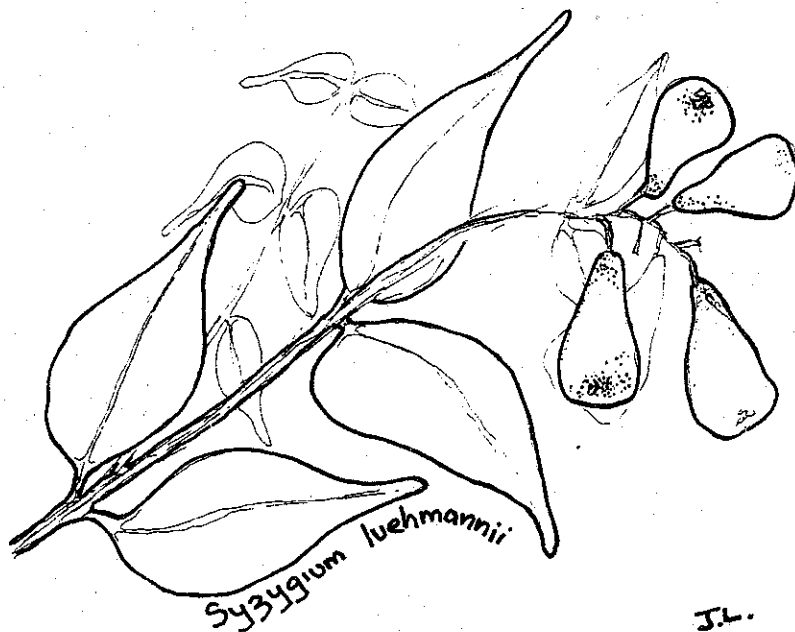
David and I would like to thank all those in the community who kindly thought of us, and to Sue Randle, the Progress Association and Conservation Society, we send our special thanks. Castlecrag is a community to which we will always feel we belong. Thank you all for your best wishes.

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## USEFUL NATIVE PLANTS AROUND THE CRAG

Native plants are useful because they are so easy to maintain. They preserve that special character of Castlecrag 'bushland' and provide an important habitat for local birds and animals. Some however can also provide a special culinary surprise. One that is presently fruiting is the Lilly Pilly. There are three main species in Castlecrag; one, Acmena smithii is indigenous (born here) and the other two have most probably been planted by whitefella, Syzygium coolminianum and Syzygium luehmannii. All are nice dense glossy evergreen trees, good for shade and screening and very hardy. One story goes that the Lilly Pilly fruit was the first fruit sampled by Captain Cook's party in Botany Bay (how's that for a Bicentenary tit bit). Anyway a very good one to sample for those first tentative native plant forage forays is the small Syzygium luehmannii in the traffic island opposite the hospital (the island with the sculpture in the middle). Only a small tree, it bears masses of small red pear shaped fruit that are very tasty 'au natural' but also make an excellent jelly preserve if you can spare the embarrassment of standing on a ladder in the middle of Sortie Port picking the fruit. Next time you're up that way (and no one is looking) try them. You may be pleasantly surprised, but be quick because they won't be there in March.

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### NEW EDITORS FOR THE CRAG

Rita Kaye

For the past five years I have enjoyed editing The Crag, however, I feel that it is time for a change and that the newsletter will benefit from the new ideas that this change will bring. Mary Baker, who has just finished her course in architecture, agreed last February to take over from me this year. She will be helped by Kerry McKillop who has worked with me on the last six issues.

I would like to thank the many residents who have helped in so many ways to make The Crag an interesting local paper, by their articles, drawings, financial assistance, and by delivering it to every home in Castlecrag. My thanks too, to the shopkeepers whose patronage helped to defray the costs.

I am very appreciative of the support and encouragement you have given me personally over these years, and am confident that Mary and Kerry will get the same support and satisfaction that I have had.

Editors' note: It has been suggested that we should include a 'Letters to the Editor' section in future issues of The Crag. We would welcome your ideas. Please send your (constructive) letters to Mary Baker, 80 The Bulwark.

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## INNISFALLEN CASTLE

The Progress Association has reasserted its opposition to the development of the property around Innisfallen Castle. Eric Kaye, vice president of the Progress Association, has made a presentation to the public inquiry relating to the new proposal by the owners for the surrounding area to be developed into eight dwellings. The submission included the following objections:

- (a) We consider the Castle in its garden setting and adjacent County Open Space bushland to be a significant historical and architectural feature of great regional importance. This was strongly supported by the action of the National Trust in placing the Castle on its register in 1983.
- (b) The historic, social, architectural and aesthetic character of the property is derived from the building within its setting. The most inspiring views of the Castle and its grounds are obtained from the Northern Escarpment of the Castlecrag Peninsula and from the lookout at the Harold Reid Reserve, covering an arc of approximately 120°. In our opinion the construction of the proposed dwellings would severely degrade the standing of the Castle as a part of our national heritage.
- (c) In 1975 when Interim Development Order No.15 was gazetted, we understood that one of the conditions required the building to stand in a clear area of not less than 2 acres (0.8ha), to prevent unsympathetic development detracting from its aesthetic qualities.
- (d) We fully support the action of Willoughby Municipal Council in 1967 of purchasing three properties in Willis Drive, between the Castle grounds and the foreshores bushland reserve to Sugarloaf Bay, thus ensuring the visual integrity of the total area.
- (e) Willoughby Council has applied strict Development Control Plans to both Castle Cove and Castlecrag, with the intention of ensuring that new development is in sympathy with the existing environment. We support this policy and consider that it must be applied in this case. In our view, the proposed development is prohibited under IDO No.15.
- (f) The existing grounds of Innisfallen Castle constitute a significant area of urban bushland (this was originally required to ensure retention of its character and scale with the surrounding bushland). In this respect it is considered that the proposal in its present form does not address either the impact of the development on the bushland both within the curtilage and outside, or the objectives of the State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP 19).



Police report that in November:

- \* Stones were thrown at windows in both The Postern and Raeburn Ave.
  - \* Break, enter and steal: once in Eastern Valley Way; once in The Bulwark and three times in Edinburgh Road.
- 
- \* On Haloween night, cars were sprayed with paint. Parents: Please watch what your kids are up to!

Police reported only one incident in December - that of stealing from a parked vehicle in Edinburgh Road.

JOIN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NOW .....Ring 958 6963 for information.