

TRANSIT NORTH

NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECrag PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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* SIXTY THREE YEARS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT *

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Eric Kaye

At a special meeting of the Association held on 12 May, Dr J B Gerofi of Enersol Consulting Engineers addressed an appreciative audience of over 80 members and residents on TRANSIT NORTH. This is a proposal made by his firm of consultants for a light rail mass transit system linking the Central Business District with North Sydney, Mosman, Manly and Warringah. Following is a brief outline of Dr Gerofi's excellent address:

In introducing his subject, Dr Gerofi supported the decision of the Wran Government in 1976 to abandon many of the inner city freeway reservations, but considered that this had not been followed up by an adequate increase in resources to public transport. He briefly reviewed and supported the recommendations made by Mr D S Kirby. Dr Gerofi was critical of the decision to build the Harbour Tunnel, as it represented a high expenditure without tackling overall transport problems. He considered that when completed the limiting roads will become Military Road and Eastern Valley Way. In what he referred to as 'the Missing Link Theory', namely 'if only we had another 8-lane freeway to link a freeway with an existing one', Dr Gerofi pointed out that pressure for the Warringah Freeway will now become more intense. The talk was supported by some excellent slides showing various mass transit systems in other parts of the world.

Dr Gerofi then described TRANSIT NORTH and the advantages of a rapid light rail system passing under Spit Junction and Military Road. He made the point that these recommendations were made only after extensive investigation into successful systems in other countries. He estimated that the total cost of such a system would be less than half that of the Harbour Tunnel. The meeting concluded with many interesting questions and answers.

I am personally very supportive of the TRANSIT NORTH proposal and consider that the Association should set up a committee to more widely publicise it. It is encouraging that it has the support of Warringah, Manly, Mosman and Willoughby Councils. In this regard we seek the support of any resident who would be prepared to join such a committee.

While Rita and I am away for the next six months, Sue Randle will be our chairman and will be assisted by Ern Pope, Adrienne Kabos, and Diana Jones.

Willoughby Council has for some years planned to construct a system of walking trails throughout the municipality. A Walking Trails Development Plan was prepared for Council in 1984 by J S Butterworth Pty Ltd. Work on this plan began last year when Council constructed a walkway on the southern side of Castle Cove.

To assist the Council in implementing the Walking Trails Plan in Castlecrag, a sub-committee of the Castlecrag Progress Association was set up. This committee, with its twenty or more members (all Castlecrag residents), met on six occasions last year to discuss walking trails in Castlecrag. At these meetings, most of which were in the field, priorities and practicalities of various walking trails were investigated and discussed. The committee's recommendations in the form of a six page report, were presented to Council in early December last year.

The recommendations proposed that high priority be given to:

1. the upgrading of Sailors Bay Park at the end of Rockley Street
2. the re-opening/construction of a walking trail from Sailor's Bay Park to the Haven Ampitheatre
3. the re-opening of the pedestrian link between The Barbette and The Redoubt.

Sailors Bay Park was once a scenic spot with beautiful bushland views over Middle Harbour. Today it is an area of haphazard parking and an unsightly dumping ground. The dumping has lead to dense weed growth which has over the last twenty years obliterated the once beautiful views.

The recommendations include a detailed sketch plan of this area drawn up by one of the committee members who is a town planner. Implementation of this plan would restore this area to a scenic spot once again. The plan includes:

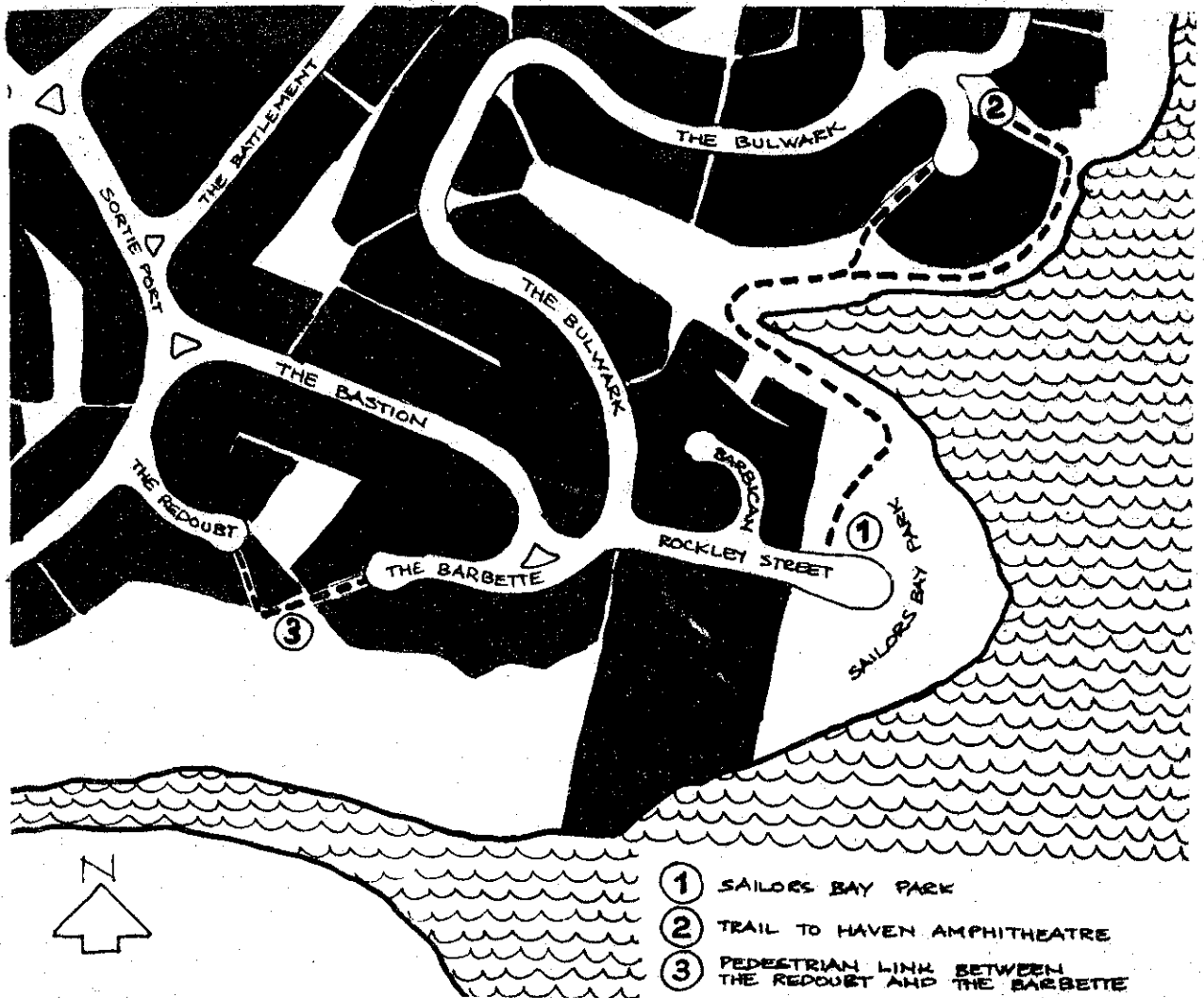
- . improving the drainage of the area which has been totally inadequate for many years
- . formalising the car parking
- . regenerating the weed-infested bush
- . a small area with some simple play equipment for children
- . the re-opening of the steps cut into stone that lead down from this area.

A walking trail from Sailors Bay Park to the Haven Ampitheatre was the second part of the recommendations. This trail would follow the contours around the bay and provide a link to the ampitheatre designed by Walter Burley Griffin.

The third part of the recommendations was to re-open the pedestrian link between The Barbette and The Redoubt. Such pedestrian links between streets were recommended in the J S Butterworth plan. The re-opening of this link in particular would be very advantageous since it would create safe pedestrian access for those going to and from the shops, bus, school etc. At present pedestrians, including many children, have to negotiate the very dangerous bend where The Bastion meets The Bulwark.

Happily, Council has recently decided to go ahead with the re-opening of this pedestrian link. It will also soon be preparing a costing for the Sailors Bay Park upgrading and walking trail to the Haven Ampitheatre for consideration by Council for inclusion in the 1989 capital works programme.

(SEE DRAWING →)



NOTES FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mr Wheeler

13 BREAK-INS IN CASTLECRAG DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS!!

These are alarming figures and we appeal to all to carry out the principles of Neighbourhood Watch. Publicise the fact that you are an active member. Observe - take an interest in any suspicious occurrences. Contact your neighbour whose home may be involved. When your near neighbours are away, volunteer to collect mail and papers. Report to police a car which remains in your street for days, as this will assist them in locating stolen cars. **BE AN ACTIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHER!**



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We in Castlecrag are fortunate in having a core of conservationists who at all times uphold to the best of their ability the objectives of the Society. They also have significant support in the community, the extent of which however we do not know. We still have residents who dump rubbish in our reserves, who chop down trees, who are caring about their own homes but non-caring about the bush or indeed community affairs. This was evident in the so-called defeat of Eric Kaye in the last local government election - many potential voters didn't vote probably because in practice our Council is divorced from the community and there is no decision making by residents. Eric's not being in Council is a great loss to local government and to Castlecrag. He has at all times attempted through the Progress Association and this Society to involve residents in formulating policy and proposals to place before Council. He and his wife Rita have been a tower of strength and given leadership and unstinting help at all times.

Instrumental in building a community awareness and for many years our community watchdog, Beverly Blacklock deserves credit for influencing many people. Though no longer a resident of the Crag, she will still I'm sure be involved in many of our activities. Credit is also due to members of WEPA's Sugarloaf Creek Bush Regeneration Project, to Adrienne Kabos and the Walking Trails Committee, to the Progress Association which has always been supportive of the Society and a major initiator of the retention of the Northern Escarpment bushland. To assist in a public education campaign it is hoped that the Society's publicity pamphlet will be ready for printing by mid-year. Also by the end of the year we should have completed our survey of our reserves, of which we have completed Mills Point, the Flat Rock area, the large cave off Sunnyside Crescent, and Edinburgh Road Park and its surrounds.

Our activities during the year have been wide-ranging. There have been five meetings with an average attendance of 15 members. We have supported the retention of the Waterfront Cottages and are awaiting the outcome of the Local Heritage Study before this issue can be resolved. We have opposed the construction of a public wharf at Castle Cove, the building of toilets at Harold Reid Reserve (which lapsed because of the high costs involved), the development application for Innisfallen Castle (the second amended proposal is now before the Heritage Commission), and the approval by the MSB for the construction of a jetty at 359 Edinburgh Road. Outside the municipality we have continued our membership of the Sydney Harbour and Foreshores Committee, the Nature Conservation Council of NSW and the Wilderness Society.

Finally, thanks should be given to the Progress Association for its financial support, to our capable and willing secretary Addie Saltis, our efficient treasurer Jewel Pels, and all members who have contributed in some way to the success of our Society and the gradual greening of Castlecrag.

Residents may be aware of a proposal to extend the facilities of the Castlecrag Private Hospital. The following is a letter to the Town Clerk, Willoughby Municipal Council, from the Secretary of the Progress Association:

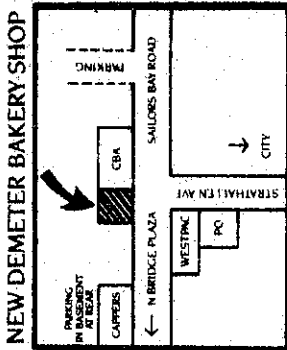
Re: PROPOSED EXTENSION TO THE OPERATING FACILITIES OF CASTLECRAG HOSPITAL

Concern has been expressed by many of our residents at the application for an additional facilities room at the Castlecrag Hospital. This concern relates to the previous history of excessive noise being generated from the equipment installed when the hospital was renovated.

The Association believes that any extra extension to the hospital is undesirable because of the extra traffic it brings into Castlecrag and the consequent parking problems. However, if the proposed development is approved the Association seeks Council's assurance that a condition of such approval will be strict compliance with the relevant noise pollution standards.

A NEW Demeter Bakery Shop in Northbridge

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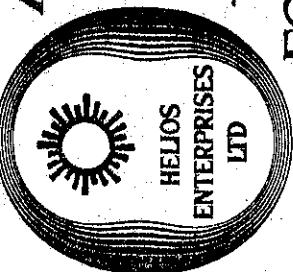
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BIO-DYNAMIC FARMING IN ROSEVILLE IN THE 1930s.

In 1935 a young man then living in Willoughby, Robert Williams, was introduced to Lute Drummond, one of the early founders of the Anthroposophical Society in Australia. He became a member and immediately began studying the Bio-Dynamic Course as outlined by Rudolf Steiner the Founder of the world movement of the Anthroposophical Society.

In 1936 Robert and Louise Williams bought land in Boundary Street, Roseville from the Griffins and immediately began farming, using the preparations for this specific type of farming he had already developed while living in Willoughby. He was advised by the Agricultural Department that he would never be able to farm this sandy and poor piece of land. Years later an advisor from the same department of agriculture stated he must have used considerable quantities of Super-phosphate to build up the soil as it was then.

Robert Williams had used only his own preparations, indicated by the Bio-Dynamic Agricultural Course of Rudolf Steiner which he had studied.

The use of the Bio-Dynamic method has now spread widely throughout Australia; Australia having the largest acreage in the world farmed this way. No chemicals or pesticides or artificial fertilisers are used in the growing or storage and therefore there is no residue problem. The soil is not depleted, rather enriched by this method.

The now late Robert Williams' son David is farming B.D. Method on the Breeza Plains in N.S.W. His wheat and rye are supplied to the Demeter Bakery in Glebe from where the popular breads are baked.

A Demeter specialty shop has now been opened in Sailors Bay Road in Northbridge as a further outlet to the many Healthfood shops also supplying the Demeter Products. Bio-Dynamic produce is marketed under the name of "Demeter" standard symbol.

A Foundation has been formed in the name of Robert Williams to further his innovating work in agriculture. His widow is still living in Roseville on what remains of the farm in the house which the late Eric Nicholls, the Junior Partner of Burley Griffin built for the Williamses. Eric Nicholls was also an early member of the Society as were the Griffins.

Both Robert Williams and Eric Nicholls were foundation members of Glenaeon School in Middle Cove.

Beryl van Leer.

CASTLECRAG LIBRARY

The Community Centre, The Rampart

LIBRARY HOURS:

TUESDAYS 3.30 - 4.30PM

THURSAYS 12.30 - 4PM

SATURDAYS 10AM - NOON

NEW BOOKS LIST:

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| FLEMING, T | Time and Tide | |
| STEELE, D | Kaleidoscope | |
| PILBY, S | Tibet | 910 |
| PERRY, R | The Exile | 920 |
| BRADLEY, M Z | The Firebrand | |
| LA PLANTE, L | The Legacy | |
| MOORE, B | The Colour of Blood | |
| SPARK, M | Far Cry from Kensington | |
| LUDLUM, R | The Icarus Agenda | |
| FORBES, C | Deadlock | |
| JOLLEY, E | The Sugar Mother | |
| BECKER, S | Rendezvous in Haite | |
| ASTLEY, T | It's Raining in Mango | |
| HUGHESDON, B | Song of Songs | |
| LUARD, N | Gondar | |
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MUNICIPALITY OF WILLOUGHBY TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

Notice is hereby given that Council pursuant to provisions of Clause 42 of the Willoughby Planning Scheme Ordinance, Clause 32 of Interim Development Order No 27, Clause 7 of Willoughby Local Environmental Plan 16, Clause 7 of Willoughby Local Environmental Plan No 25, and Clause 5 (2) of Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No 5 (Chatswood Town Centre) has made a Tree Preservation Order in the following terms:

1. The ringbarking, cutting down, lopping, removing, injuring or wilful destruction of any tree over 4 m in height or with a trunk over 600 mm in girth at 1 m above the ground now standing or which may hereafter stand on the land hereinafter described is prohibited except with the consent of the Council in writing first had obtained.

2. Clause 1) does not apply to any tree of a species identified in schedule 1 to this order, except where such tree is located within a Heritage area as indicated on the Tree Preservation Order Map (T.P.O.1) held in the offices of Council.

3. The written consent of Council is required to alter the soil level around the base of a tree and for the lopping or removal of a tree to permit solar access.

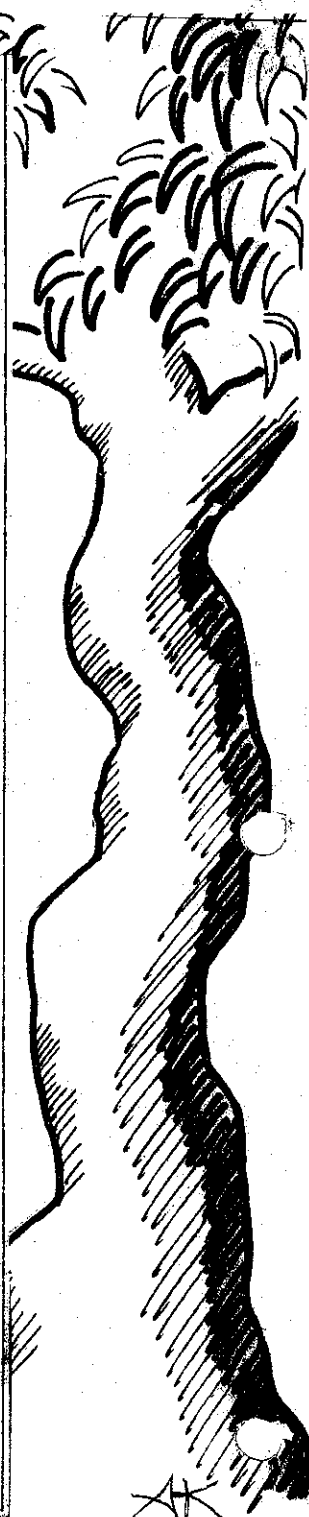
4. The land to which this order applies is all land within the Municipality of Willoughby.

5. Any person who contravenes or causes or permits to be contravened the provisions of this order shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty under Sections 126 and 127 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

SCHEDULE 1

Ligustrum (all species)	Privets
Populus (all species)	Poplars
Salix (all species)	Willows
Cinnamomum Camphorum	
Camphor Laurel	
Liquidambar Styraciflua	
Liquidambar	
Ficus Elastica	Rubber Tree
Ficus Decora	Rubber Tree
Toxicodendron	
Succedaneum	Rhus Tree
Deciduous Fruit trees	

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CASTLECRAG PRIVATE HOSPITAL

***** CASUAL RELIEF STAFF *****

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT, IS SEEKING THE SERVICES OF PERSONNEL INTERESTED IN CASUAL RELIEF WORK IN ALL OUR DEPARTMENTS (NURSING, DIETARY AND HOUSEKEEPING). PLEASE PHONE THE ADMINISTRATOR SUSIE DAVISON AFTER 9AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY 958 1211. VOLUNTEER WORKERS WITH PATIENTS ALSO SOUGHT.

***** MENDING PERSON ALSO URGENTLY REQUIRED *****

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY HALL, THE RAMPART, ON TUESDAY 28 JUNE, 8PM. ALL RESIDENTS ARE MOST WELCOME.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CONSERVATION SOCIETY WILL BE HELD AT THE HOME OF SYLVIA TAYLOR, 64 THE BULWARK, ON FRIDAY 8 JULY, 8PM. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

The Crag is edited on behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association by Mary Baker 958 5518 and Kerry McKillop 958 4516.