

NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

No. 81

ISSN 0814 - 2054

May/June 1992

67 YEARS OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Alderman's Report

Sue Randle 958 6344

With the election of nine new faces to Willoughby City Council, a number of significant changes are beginning to emerge which affect the interaction between Council and its public. It is hoped that these changes will bring a better service by Council to the local community, including Castlecrag.

Council has commenced the process of developing a Corporate Plan which sets out the mission and future directions of the Council. Contributions are being sought from the public for this most important task. The Castlecrag Progress Association has prepared a proposal which will be considered by the Corporate Planning Committee in the coming week. The proposal is presented in this issue of *The Crag*.

The new planning codes introduced by the State Government, particularly the provisions for dual occupancy, will have a significant impact on the nature of our suburb. A committee which includes our three Ward Aldermen, a representative of the Town Planning Department, and representatives of the community including engineers and architects, has been formed to review Castlecrag's Development Control Plan No.3 in light of these changes.

Residents will be aware that changes are afoot in our shopping centre. The shop previously occupied by the *All Foods* delicatessen has been sold. Its owner, Maxim Krinck, and his wife Edelweiss and Paula and Buch, have been members of our community for 30 years. We appreciate the service

Maxim and his family have provided the community over the years. Why not pop in and say goodbye?

Increasing traffic congestion in Castlecrag has been the main topic of concern expressed to me in recent months. The Progress Association has formed a steering committee to examine traffic problems. A report on their activities is presented on the following pages. A Council committee has also recommended that tenders be called to install a recycling service in Willoughby City. A \$10 fee on ratepayers is proposed to establish the service.

Please note that the Willoughby Fun Fair will be held on 19 September. The Progress Association will again be operating a stall to raise funds for their activities, including production of *The Crag*. Please start saving clothes and *trash and treasure* (books, magazines, bric-a-brac), or potting plants, for this occasion.

It is always pleasing to report on the achievements of Castlecrag residents. Nancy Fleming, who is well known for her interests in community and environmental issues, received a Premier's Award during Senior Citizens' Week in recognition of her outstanding service to the community, particularly for her work with the Alzheimer's Association of NSW. Her home in Castlecrag is frequently the venue for fundraising activities, and she is at present busily engaged in organising the Tenth Anniversary Concert of the Association at the Sydney Town Hall on Sunday August 30, 1992.

The next meeting of the Castlecrag Progress Association will be held at the Community Centre, corner The Postern and The Rampart, Tuesday 23 June at 8pm. All welcome!

The Castlecrag Conservation Society will hold its next meeting on Wednesday 15 July at the Infants School, Edinburgh Road, at 8pm. For details ring Harold Spies, President, 958 8569.

Willoughby City Council Corporate Plan

Introduction

Willoughby City Council has established a Corporate Planning Committee. This Committee has put forward a Mission Statement and five Corporate Goals. Council resolved that Ward Aldermen should discuss the proposed Mission Statement and Corporate Goals with their respective Progress Associations and request them to identify means by which Council can achieve these goals.

The Castlecrag Progress Association regards this planning process as a significant opportunity to influence the future directions of Council and to provide a vision of the city we should be aiming for in the 21st Century. The Association's Committee has prepared a submission for Council with suggestions for inclusion in the Corporate Plan. It is reproduced on the opposite page. You are cordially invited to comment on this submission either in writing or at the next Progress Association meeting on 23 June.

Mission Statement

The mission statement provides a brief and very broad overall statement of what the organisation is about. Council's proposed statement is:

We aim to grow with the community by understanding and meeting its diverse needs and aspirations.

Other Council committees suggested that this be changed to:

We aim to work in harmony with the community and environment.

The Association's submission suggested further modifications to the Mission Statement as follows:

We aim to build a community in harmony with its built and natural environments.

Corporate Goals

Goals provide the broad objectives (in impact terms) to which the purposes of the corporation should be directed. The Association's view is that the Mission Statement can be achieved through three Corporate Goals covering the built environment, the community and the natural environment.

Corporate Purpose

The means by which an organisation achieves its Corporate Goals are expressed as purpose objectives. These spell out the purpose of each major section of department and how this relates to the overall goals and mission of the organisation. Our submission suggests five main purpose objectives: institutional development, urban planning, community services, waste management and conservation programs. It seeks to integrate land use planning (development controls), transport management and environmental planning in accordance with modern trends. However, the finest visions for the future have little meaning without the institutional capability to effectively implement Council programs. Accordingly, institutional development is accorded a higher status than other purpose level objectives.

Bob McKillop

Vice-President, Castlecrag Progress Association

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Willoughby City Council Corporate Plan

Suggestions for Council Corporate Plan from:
Castlecrag Progress Association

MISSION STATEMENT

We aim to build a community in harmony with its built and natural environments.

CORPORATE GOALS

Built Environment
 To develop Willoughby City as a habitat in which economic activity, movement and human endeavour are facilitated on an economic and ecologically sustainable base.

The Community
 To facilitate a multi-cultural, aware and innovative community, actively participating in local issues on an equal basis.

Natural Environment
 To conserve and enhance the unique natural features of Willoughby City, while providing the community with leisure and recreational facilities on a sustainable basis.

CORPORATE PURPOSE

Institutional Purpose
 1. An institutional structure and capability which encourages community participation in Council affairs and delivers Council services efficiently, effectively and equitably.
 2. The capability to collect and administer Council finances efficiently and with appropriate incentives/disincentives to achieve corporate goals and purposes.

Integrated Urban Planning
 To establish integrated land use, transport and environmental planning for sustainable development through effective public participation. The planning process seeks to identify and facilitate measures which will ensure all future residents of Willoughby City can enjoy and be proud of an attractive living environment.

Community Services
 To facilitate and provide the support services needed by a cosmopolitan community to respond to their rapidly changing world. These include modern information and library services; aged services; services for children and youth; arts and recreation activities; and counselling.

Parks and Conservation Programs
 Management of bushland reserves, harbour, foreshores and Willoughby City parklands to conserve the natural environment; to generate awareness of our natural heritage within the community, and to enhance public access to these areas.

Development Controls

A participatory planning system which ensures that physical development complies with Willoughby City strategic planning guidelines and environmental protection codes.

Transport Management

The development of a strategic plan for the efficient movement of people and goods within and through Willoughby City which facilitates an attractive community environment and is sustainable. The Council should become involved in:

- developing linkages with and participating in metropolitan and regional bodies responsible for land use and transport planning;
- incorporating incentives within landuse and traffic management policies (eg. parking facilities) which encourage more efficient and sustainable transport modes;
- introduction of traffic calming schemes to revitalise commercial and residential areas;
- support for community transport schemes which link places of residence with public transport interchange points.

Waste Management
 To formulate strategies to reduce waste generation and to manage waste disposal in a cost-efficient manner with minimum impact on the environment. Activities include projects to promote recycling, incentives/disincentives to reduce waste; water and air pollution monitoring; litter reduction in recreation areas; and provision of dog exercise areas.

Castlecrag Conservation Society

Excerpts from President's Report 1991 - Harold Spies

The last decade has seen an upsurge in environmental awareness and concern on a worldwide and national scale - the Greenhouse Effect, Chernobyl disaster, destruction/clearing of rainforests, acid rain, population growth, and waste disposal are some of the complex of problems which are concerning peoples and their governments to varying degrees. In their environmental effects such problems are interrelated and interdependent. If we - peoples and their governments at all levels - don't act to remedy their effects, the future of our planet and its ecosystem is indeed bleak.

The Conservation Society over the last year has supported organisations, government and political parties who have attempted to mitigate such environmental problems. We have opposed extension of uranium mining, supported the Australian Democrats' bill to ban the importation of rainforest timbers, urged the introduction of a threatened species legislation at state and federal levels, also the State Government's action to change the role of National Parks and Wildlife Service. We have supported the Court's decision banning logging in Chaclundi State Forest and supported any action to prevent the degradation of urban bushland.

We have continued our membership of the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF), the Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC), the Wilderness Society and the Sydney Harbour and Foreshores Committee (SHFC). The Society was heartened by the election to Willoughby City Council of nine new aldermen including Sue Randle and Louise Weingarh. They brought to Council a much needed rejuvenation with resultant closer community ties. Council's Bushland Management Review Committee, on which the Society is represented, is reviewing the 1984 Fox Plan of Management to bring it in line with SEPP 19 (Bushland in Urban Areas). The Committee has been working consistently and has carried out many inspections of the City's bushland reserves and is currently discussing objectives for the revised plan.

Submissions were made to Council on the North Castlecrag Heritage Study and the development of a Heritage Waterside Park which would include the Foreshores Cottages. Council was also approached about dumping in Retreat Reserve, the deplorable state of the park at the end of Rockley Street), the style of work and excessive width of Stage 1 of the lower track in Harold Reid Reserve. The illegal clearing and degradation of land at the rear of 227 and 223 Edinburgh Road is engaging our attention.

Due to the submissions of the Society, the Progress Association and the Walter Burley Griffin Society, Council will restore the Burley Griffin Fountain. In July, a *Castlecrag Walk* organised by community groups for the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens, attended by 80 people, was very successful and another walk is planned for this year. The Society continued to support the retention of the Infants School and wishes SOS*CRAG every success.

The Society, through Sylvia Taylor, applied to the State Pollution Control Commission for two Environmental Trust grants to regenerate Castlecrag's bush islands and the Retreat and Castlehaven Reserves. Unfortunately we were not successful in our applications.

It is a pleasure to record the continued financial and moral support of the Progress Association. Castlecrag is unique in having a common thread of support and help running through its various community groups and the strengthening of such bonds is to be commended.

Many thanks to the Executive and Committee members - Sylvia Taylor, Mark Crew, Margaret Chambers, Addie Saltis and Gay Spies for their teamwork and support, and to those members who attend our meetings and sustain the Society.

It might be said that the Society has attempted to uphold the slogan *Think Globally - Act Locally*. In acting **locally**, many members were engaged in removing rubbish during Clean Up Day from Castlecrag reserves and foreshores. A number of our members are involved in WEPA's Bush Regeneration Project of Sugarloaf and Camp Creek Catchments which is returning native bush to the Valley of the Water Dragons. In thinking **globally**, here in Australia despite the high levels of unemployment and the economic downturn, we are relatively well-off compared with the poverty of many developing countries and the nationalistic feuds and wars occurring overseas. However, we do need a national policy of ecologically sustainable development which takes into account employment and a population level which Australia's energy/land resources can maintain.

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The Cars That Ate Castlecrag: What can we do?

Bob McKillop and Ian Drewe

Introduction

Walter Burley Griffin's concepts for the development of Castlecrag were based on "the permanent preservation of the pristine loveliness ... of the rockbound woodland coves." Roads were laid out to preserve the natural environment and there was to be general segregation of pedestrian from vehicular traffic through the establishment of a connected system of local reserves. Over the years, however, we have become wedded to our cars in a manner not foreseen by Griffin and the reserves have become neglected. The cost of this automobile-dependence is playing havoc with the social fabric of our suburb.

As in other suburbs across the Sydney Metropolitan area, the hazards of excessive vehicular traffic are causing concern among the good citizens of Castlecrag. Residents living in The Bulwark have voiced complaints about speeding vehicles in a narrow, winding thoroughfare; traffic on Eastern Valley Way hinders exit from Morotai Crescent; speeding on Edinburgh Road continues to be a matter of concern; and residents of streets near the commercial centre find themselves "parked out". The difficulties of getting out of Castlecrag in peak traffic periods are the cause of many frayed tempers. In short, congestion from road traffic has a detrimental impact on the living environment of Castlecrag.

The problems of *automobile-dependence* in urban areas will only be overcome by measures to reduce private car use and upgrade public transport. The issue needs to be addressed by national and state governments. However, local action can tackle the sub-set of problems which arise from the way people drive their cars.

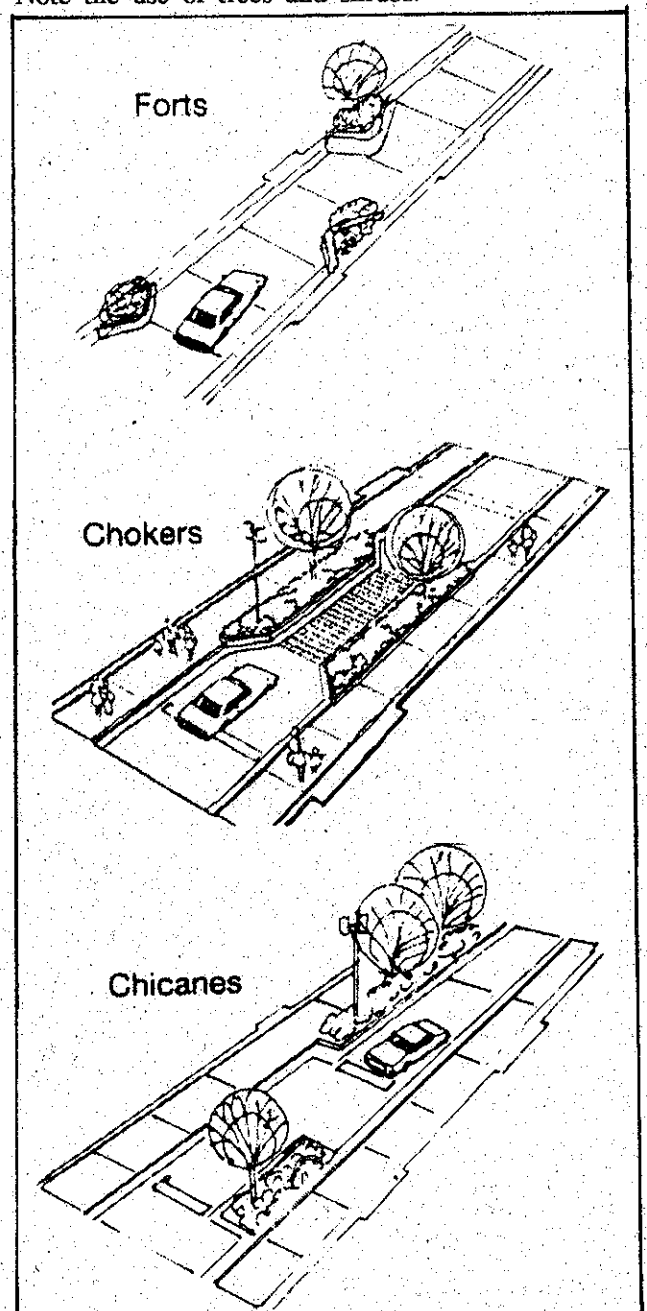
Traffic Calming

During 1973, a proposal was prepared by Colin James and architecture students from the University of NSW to enhance Edinburgh Road with landscaping to provide:

- * beautification of street landscapes in character with Burley Griffin's concepts;
- * reduction of vehicle speed and noise;
- * improved pedestrian safety;
- * off street visitor parking on lawn grids; and
- * improved road transition.

This early proposal for a *traffic calming* scheme was ahead of its time and probably unrealistic in terms of its cost. The plans have since gathered dust. However, in recent years elements of traffic

calming engineering have been widely applied to streets in Willoughby and neighbouring municipalities. Local applications have generally involved physical measures to slow traffic, such as humps, rumble strips and speed tables. Modern international practice involves a wider range of measures to slow traffic, give priority to pedestrians and cyclists, and promoting transport modes other than the car. These include generous cycleways and footpaths, narrowing traffic lanes and entrances into streets, and tree planting with strong vertical elements to alter the motorists sight lines and perception of street width. Physical structures include chicanes, forts, varied pavements, humps, chokers and rough road surfaces. Several of these are illustrated below. Note the use of trees and shrubs.



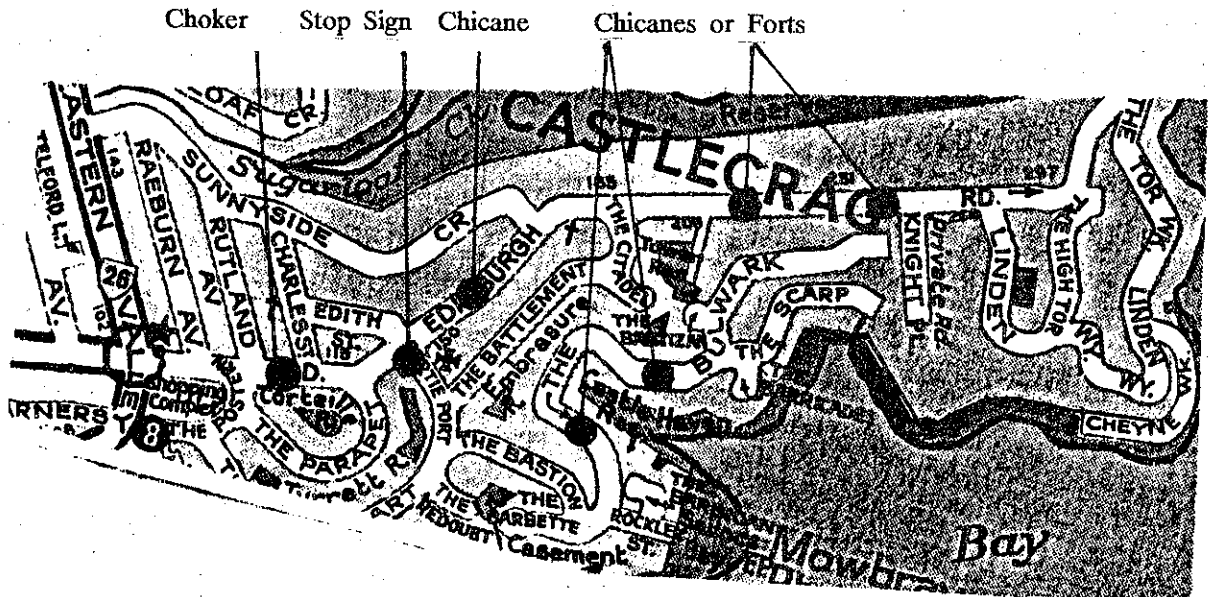
Castlecrag Local Traffic Plan

A Steering Committee has been established in Castlecrag to work towards a Local Area Traffic Plan for the suburb. It comprises our Ward Alderman, two members of the Progress Association and six local residents. A proposal has been submitted to Willoughby City Council for this committee to be upgraded to a Local Area Traffic Management Committee which would be responsible for preparation of the Plan in consultation with the local community.

The Steering Committee has initiated a consultation process with other peninsula Progress Associations to identify common traffic problems. For Castlecrag, the committee has focused on the traffic problems of Edinburgh Road, The Bulwark, The Bastion and Morotai Crescent. Initial proposals include:

- * a cycleway along the southern side of Edinburgh Road;
- * construction of four traffic retardation structures on Edinburgh Road; and
- * construction of two chicanes or forts on The Bulwark.

The location of these proposed structures is illustrated below. A submission will be made to Willoughby City Council for inclusion of agreed traffic calming measures in their 1993 works programme.



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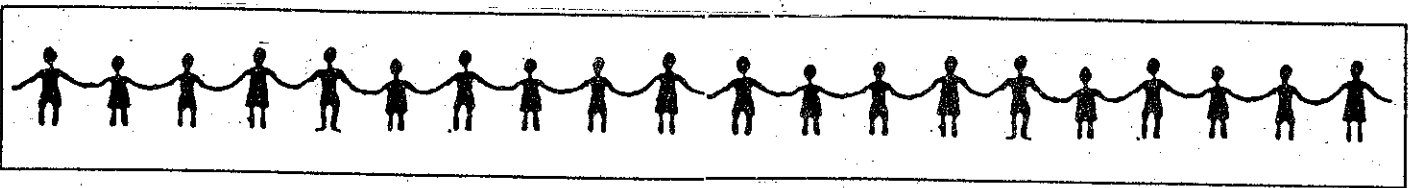
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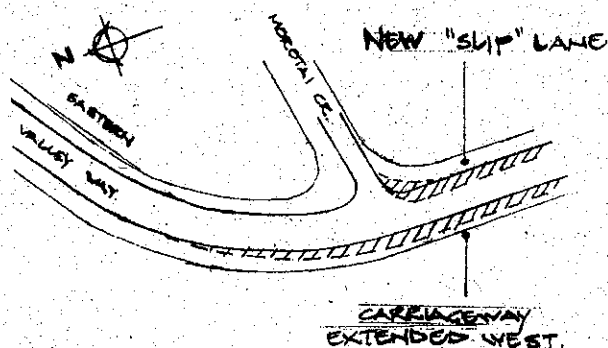


Morotai Crescent

The intersection of Morotai Crescent and Eastern Valley Way has been a problem for many years. Council has been approached a number of times in the past without any apparent response. A traffic management study was undertaken with University of Technology civil engineering students over a six month period during 1990. The findings were presented in a 150 page report. Key issues include:

- * The mean speed of traffic along Eastern Valley Way past Morotai Crescent was 79 km/hour, with a maximum of 107 km/hour.
- * The sight and safe stopping distances required for safe entry into and out of Morotai Crescent do not comply with the Australian Design Standards and RTA Guidelines.
- * Residents put forward a number of suggestions for improving the safety of the intersection. The most beneficial options were:
 - * **Traffic Lights:** This option was analysed using the RTA's computer program and were shown to have no detrimental effect on the traffic flow along Eastern Valley Way.
 - * **Traffic Islands:** These would prevent a right hand turn from Morotai Crescent; entail some realignment of the intersection; and provide a left turn *slip* lane from traffic entering Morotai Crescent.

The proposal for a traffic island is illustrated opposite. Please come to the Progress Association meeting on 23 June and put your views on traffic.



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Community Noticeboard

Dates for Your Diary



JUNE

Tues 16th — Paper recycling
Thur 18th — Bottle recycling
Tues 23rd — Progress Association

JULY

Wed 15th — Castlecrag Conservation Society
Thur 16th — Bottle recycling
Tues 21st — Paper recycling







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Why Talk About the Weather??

Over the past few years many new residents have settled in Castlecrag. At times, some of us find it difficult to "break the ice" and start up communication. Of course, there is always "the weather", but that subject is quickly exhausted. Now why not talk about Neighbourhood Watch? Neighbourhood Watch provides mutual benefits to all residents — a friendly eye on each other's property when the owner is absent; collection of mail and papers during holidays; exchange of phone numbers, so handy in the event of emergencies; and generally speaking, a common interest for both old and new residents. Remember, Neighbourhood Watch works when you make it work.

We regret to report that the home of one of our aldermen was broken into recently — the front door was brazenly broken down in broad daylight — and some files relating to Council matters were among the items taken. This is a most disturbing development in our suburb, and most distressful for the family concerned.

The Crag is edited on behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association by Judy Stone-Herbert (958 7961) and Kerry McKillop (958 4516). Deliveries Donna Sife 958 1841.