

# NEWSLETTER






## NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.


No. 99

Seventy one years of community development  
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March 1995

The following people were elected as office-bearers to the Association at its Annual General Meeting on Sunday 19th March:

President:	Vice presidents		Secretary	Treasurer:
				
Elizabeth Lander	Howard Rubie	Tom Boyce	Kate Westoby	Diana Jones

Committee:				
Helen Levett	Kerry McKillop	Peter Meares	Gay Spies	Harold Spies
				

The objectives of the Progress Association are: To (1) do everything possible to promote and further the interests of the district of Castlecrag or such other nearby area where it is possible that benefit could accrue to the advantage of the district and could enhance and stimulate the community life of residents of Castlecrag and (2) conserve the natural and human heritage of Castlecrag for the benefit of future generations.

**Reminder:**

**Heritage Week Open Day: Historic Foreshore Cottages April 2nd 1995 10am-4pm**  
**Guest Speaker: Scott Robertson, Conservation Architect 3pm**  
*Morning and afternoon tea*  
*(entry from park in Edinburgh Road)*

Ladies and gentlemen, it is with pleasure that I present the Annual Report. Since 1924, a Progress Association has existed in this suburb. High hopes surrounded those dynamic and progressive inaugural members in their aims to promote an Association which would work for the advancement of growth and development in this unique and beautiful bush suburb. A Mr W B Griffin was a member of that first committee. Time has changed Castlecrag but we hope that we gather here today to observe the same commitments those pioneer residents valued.

The year commenced with a special AGM held at The Gulzar restaurant to celebrate 70 continuous years of our existence. We honoured **Joyce Batterham** by nominating her to Life Membership and **Leonard Teale**, another old campaigner and active supporter of Castlecrag, was our guest speaker. His remarkable talent for and love of Australian poetry gave very great pleasure.

Our community has experienced highs and lows, and much in-betweens, since that AGM. The high point of the year occurred when we held a Public Rally early last April to protest at the **proposed tollway** the government had just announced that it was to build from the end of Edinburgh Road to Pickering Point, Seaforth. Over 400 people, at very short notice, attended to hear addresses from Federal and State politicians, Mayors, and representatives from concerned organisations, **Eric Kaye** spoke on behalf of the Castlecrag community. The meeting resolved to deplore the Government's decision and continue the fight against this poorly-conceived idea. I must thank **Clr Sue Randle** and our ex-president **Howard Rubie** for their herculean efforts in the successful planning and realisation of this event.

The low point, and it is the very lowest, was the sale at the end of April of our former **Infants' School**. It is unbelievably stressful that after so long and so commendable a fight by our citizens for the public good, that the Government still fails to recognise the needs of our little children. Never

forget that at the time of its closure the school was fully enrolled and was "a centre of excellence". The loss of the school is a permanent blight on our suburb and has broken that great educational bond of **togetherness** on which we grew and prospered. One day this great wrong **WILL** be righted.

Willoughby City Council during 1994 invited submissions to its Draft LEP 65 and its Housing Strategy. Council Officers are to be commended for the vast amount of work they have put into the LEP. The Progress Association has responded to both draft papers. It is difficult, at this very late stage, to make alterations to the LEP but it is a living thing and alterations and amendments may be made down the track. The current issue of *The Crag* details the history of the Foreshore Building Line in Castlecrag. The Progress Association has arranged a meeting with Council next week to discuss the FBL and listen to residents whose land is affected by the line.

Of interest to us was the potential change which Council might make to the number of its Councillors; whether it is preferable to have an elected Mayor or remain within its present system. **Councillor Sue Randle** has represented us unstintingly in the Middle Harbour Ward for the past four years. It is never an easy job representing Castlecrag; we are known to be a suburb which makes great demands on our representatives' time and unfailingly and conscientiously, Sue has risen to every occasion. Thank you, Sue, from all of us.

Castlecrag is a unique and very special suburb. Its founders, Walter and Marion Griffin, were full of enthusiasm to establish a small, closely-knit, model community where people and nature lived in harmony. The maintenance of the community spirit and awareness of it which they generated is important for us to remember in today's busy world. They saw the need for a Progress Association to protect them as together, they grew, and as, I hope, **together we grow**, today.

**NB Palm Sunday Service at the Haven Amphitheatre April 9th at 9.30am.- a worship service with a difference. Will there be a donkey? Bring the whole family and find out. No parking at Amphitheatre.**

"Membership Fee is \$5 per person (\$3 for students or those on a fixed income).

Membership is for the calendar year and is renewable from 1st January.

Members must be at least 18 years of age.

Name .....	Membership Fee	\$ .....
Name .....	Membership Fee	\$ .....
Name .....	Membership Fee	\$ .....
Donation .....		\$ .....
Total:		\$ .....
Address: .....		

Please send to the Treasurer, Diana Jones, Box 6/77 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag  
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