

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER, 1979

CASTLECRAG COMMUNITY LIBRARY

WARRINGAH FREEWAY ENQUIRY -- PRESENT STATUS

(Report from Eric Kaye)

As stated in the last two copies of the Crag this Association will be making a submission to the enquiry, which is to be conducted by Mr. David S. Kirby later this year, into "possible future and alternative uses of the Warringah Freeway Corridor." Your Committee is working on the preparation of a report which we consider represents the views of the majority of members of this Association, and from our survey, the majority of residents in the area. Work on the report is progressing slowly but satisfactorily however we would appreciate additional help from residents.

Our presentation is based on two major assumptions:

- (a) Sydney like all major cities must meet the challenge of the looming world energy crisis by providing improved and less costly public transport for work travel by commuters; and
- (b) modern advances in technology have made the achievement of such systems possible without causing further destruction to our natural heritage.

The report which we are preparing by our volunteer efforts will develop these assumptions as they relate to the Warringah Freeway Corridor, and as a logical consequence recommend that this land be rezoned as parkland and residential building blocks. In this regard we support the intentions of Interim Development Order 27 which related to that land adjacent to Sugarloaf Point.

Unfortunately, as reported in the August Crag, the northside Councils of Willoughby, Manly, Mosma, North Sydney and Warringah do not hold our views and have engaged professional consultants at an estimated fee of \$40,000 to prepare a case for the retention of the corridor and the subsequent construction of an eight lane freeway through Castlecrag. Such a scheme:

- (a) would divert massive road building funds from work of higher priority;
- (b) would encourage the increased use of private vehicles for work travel at the expense of the more fuel-efficient public transport;
- (c) would add even more cars to an already overloaded Sydney Harbour Bridge.

For these and many other reasons we consider the plan absurd. However, to ensure that we make an adequate case to refute the Councils' plans, we decided to seek professional Traffic Engineering assistance. To this end we sought the advice of Prof. W.R. Blunden, Head of the School of Traffic Engineering, University of NSW, who has freely given us his valuable assistance. We now consider it prudent to engage a commercial Traffic Consultant firm to assist us in those parts of the submission beyond our expertise, and estimate that the fee for such assistance would be between \$2000 and \$4000. A number of generous citizens have made donations to assist us in this work - we thank them sincerely and again ask for donations, suggestions, assistance or advice.

Please come to our next meeting and join in the discussion on this matter as our success depends on this being a true community effort.

ALDERMAN'S REPORT by Di Street

I would like to thank the residents and shopkeepers for their tolerance during the year while building construction has taken place in the Shopping Centre. The traffic chaos is gradually being resolved with noticeable improvements shortly.

The Commonwealth Bank will commence rebuilding, with parking facilities on site for customers and staff. This should also assist with parking

Shopping Centre. The traffic chaos is gradually being resolved with noticeable improvements shortly.

The Commonwealth Bank will commence rebuilding, with parking facilities on site for customers and staff. This should also assist with parking problems in the area.

Council's long-overdue drainage and roadworks are now underway in various parts of this suburb and I advise that motorists drive carefully while roads are partially closed.

NATIVE PLANT COURSE  
Beverley Blacklock and Pam Hum are running their second Native Plant Course on Wednesday nights at Bev's home. Topics include:  
+ Soils and interactions with the environment;  
+ Basic tree care and tree surgery for the home gardener;  
+ Bush regeneration and guidelines for the preservation of our local bushland; plus  
+ Studies of plants, from coastal heathlands to open forests & rainforests.  
The course, which costs \$21 and runs for six weeks, commences Wednesday October 24, from 7.30-9.30. Enquiries 95 6994 or 450 2461.

HISTORY OF CASTLECrag

(by Addie Saltis)

By the middle of the 1920's all but one of the land grants on the peninsula had been subdivided, and houses dotted the landscape. Odd man out was a grant of 17 acres made to W. Sprigg in 1856. This is the wedge of land which leads down into Sailor's Bay between the Pinnacle and Linden Way.

It passed on to Miss Agnes Martin and remained untouched until 1927 when it was purchased by Eric Nicols (Griffin's partner). Later it became part of the Castle Cape Estate (more of this Estate later - it was short-lived). In 1932 the land was resold to W. Hume.

During the Second World War it was offered to David Blacklock Senior as a site for landing-barge construction. Fortunately he decided it was too rugged and inaccessible (Edinburgh Road was still a dirt track), and built his boatyard elsewhere. But years later, seeking a new homesite, he remembered the splendend Middle Harbour views and had little trouble in convincing Mrs Blacklock to but it in 1948.

Linden Way was constructed to meet up with the Tor Walk. The High Tor and Cheyne Walk completed the subdivision. "Penhallow" the Blacklock's first home here was built in 1949.

CHRISTMAS FAIR +++ SATURDAY 1st DECEMBER, 1979 +++ CHRISTMAS FAIR

8.30am to 12.30pm in front of the new and old Shopping Centres.

The June Bazaar was such a great success that we have been asked to repeat the triumph. Of course it was only possible with the generous support and effort of the Community. Again we ask your support for helpers before and on The Day. Donations of cakes, edibles of all varieties eg: jams, pickles, ethnic foods etc; unwanted gifts, crockery, books, toys. All donations gratefully received.

- Stalls will feature:  
Home-made cakes, jams, "goodies";  
Home-made soaps;  
Native plants (indoors and outdoors), herbs;  
Secondhand treasures;  
Lucky Dip, Hoop-la plus balloons;  
Handicrafts, pottery, jewellery, leather and wooden goods;  
Stamps, fabric remnants.

We will collect your contributions - just phone:  
Cakes & food: Anne Korner 95 6059; Penny Fisher 95 5135;  
White elephant: Addie Saltis 95 6409; Audrey Luursema 958 1717; Cathy Burgess 95 5103;  
Books: Dorothy Frazer 958 5851;  
Crafts: Marcella Cerna 95 6936; Jenny Wright 95 5400;  
Hoop-la & Lucky Dip: Meg Nicholson 95 6249.

We need your support - our account is still in the red.

Classes in American Style Patchwork Quilting will be given by Elizabeth Burton at 86 The Bulwark. All the skills relating to patchwork, quilting, and applique will be covered as well as design & colour. Particular stress will be laid on the modern usage of this old craft. Classes will be given by the term. For information, ring 95 6173.

CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION - GENERAL MEETING

8pm Tuesday, October 23, 1979, at the Castlecrag Community Centre

The Crag is edited & printed on behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Assn by  
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