

The next meeting of the Castlecrag Progress Association will be at 8pm on Tuesday, 3rd June, at the Community Centre, off the Postern. We will have as our guest speaker a senior member of the Police Dept., from Chatswood (postponed from last meeting.)

SNIPPETS

- * The Sydney County Council has completed its current round of tree looping to clear power lines, and their new crew has done a good job. The leaf and branch litter has been left at various spots in the suburb for the use of residents on their gardens.
- * The expressway hearing has once again been delayed, now until August/September. Our Association has prepared a submission and will be represented at the hearing when it gets underway.
- * The Commonwealth Bank is now virtually completed. While there were some concessions and changes in the design to blend with the existing area, the Progress Association Committee feels that the Bank could have expressed greater interest in co-ordinating its architecture and landscaping with the styles and needs of a suburb such as ours.
- * The Progress Association has started moves to join with Willoughby Council on a one for one basis to finance erection of bus shelters in several key locations in our suburb. They are at the eastern end of Edinburgh Road, Eastern Valley Way and Edinburgh Road intersection (heading west and north) and outside the school.
- * Vandalism still continues in our suburb. We understand that several thousand dollars worth of musical equipment was stolen recently from the Eastern Court Chinese Restaurant and that the air-conditioning plant was damaged prior to installation in the Bank.
- * A new restaurant has opened in our suburb, in the Rurley Griffin Centre at 122 Edinburgh Road. Its unusual cuisine rates it a mention, as the Khyber Pass, run by Gul Paikan, specialises in French and very tasty Afghan cuisine.

Bob Ronai

HELPFUL INFORMATION FROM ALD. D. STREET

For those residents who appreciate a "quiet weekend" at home, I have been asked to remind their neighbours doing building alterations or extensions, the hours they can operate.

During the weekend work is only allowed on Saturday from 7am to 12 noon. No building work is permitted on Sundays or Public Holidays.

A permit should be obtained from Willoughby Council by residents wanting to lop or cut down trees on their property.

Due to the serious vandalism in our shopping centre, I have been asked to inform you that the public lavatories are now locked. A key is available from shopkeepers in the Quadrangle should shoppers want to use these facilities. It makes me sad that such information should be necessary.

(THE CRAG is edited and published on behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association by Bob Ronai, 103 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag, 2068)

Two of the remaining land grants of 1856 will interest Castlecrag residents. These were on the southern side of Edinburgh Road from about the corner of the new supermarket to opposite Fourth Avenue, and down to Sailor's Bay Creek: 12 acres to J. Illidge and 11 acres to J. Palmer.

They passed to R. Harnett in 1892 and were purchased for Warner's Dairy in 1914.

Remember, there was no Eastern Valley Way. Lyle Street from the north came to a dead end at Edinburgh Road, and Eric Street in Northbridge finished at Sailor's Bay Creek -- between them lay the dairy and the "straying cattle which are a hindrance to any street beautification scheme" (Progress Association Records!!). The original wooden milking shed was near Edinburgh Road, probably where the Quadrangle is now located. It was later rebuilt further down the valley and is now the Sea Scouts Hall in Eastern Valley Way.

Mr. Warner subdivided his land in the early 1930's and construction of the curving road to join Eric Street and Lyle Street started soon after. Eastern Valley Way was not officially opened to traffic until 1939.

I have not been able to locate the Progress Association records between 1937 and 1945. Does anyone have them lying in their garage?

Addie Saltis

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KINDERGARTEN NEWS

The Castlecrag and East Willoughby Kindergarten situated in the Rampart is a member of the Kindergarten Union of NSW. The children are divided into two groups under two teachers and two assistants. The three day group consists of 40 children aged 4 to 5 years who attend on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The other group is a 2 day group of 40 children attending Thursday and Friday, with ages ranging from 3 to 4 years.

In March of this year there were 102 children on the waiting list. Children's names can be placed on the list at the age of 2 years. Miss Sally Grieve, the Director, has prepared a questionnaire to enable parents to provide information to various child authorities on what they require for their children from a Kindergarten. The Kindergarten is available for children attending from Castlecrag, Willoughby, Northbridge, Castle Cove Middle Cove and Roseville. With such a broad area to cover and with so many children on the waiting list, there would appear to be a need for another Kindergarten of comparable standard, and to improve the standards of the existing Kindergartens in the area.

The Kindergarten is largely maintained by money raised through fees and fund-raising activities. A government grant is received but this makes up approximately one third of the amount required annually to operate the Kindergarten. Parents are actively involved in supporting the Kindergarten, guided by a parent-elected Executive Committee. The Kindergarten sees its role as a resourceful member of the Community, involving itself not only with the education of young children, but as a contributor to the needs of many families throughout the community.

You may be interested to hear about some aspects of what the children have been learning. As an example, an extract from the end-of-term newsletter reads as follows:

The 2 day group children have one main long-term objective and this is to develop positive, accepting feelings about oneself in order to feel secure, confident, eager and happy about Kindergarten. Various things have been discussed such as The Child Himself (size, colours of clothes, numbers, etc), The Child and Family (parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, friends, suburbs), The Child and the Community (Doctor, Fireman, Policeman).

The Kindergarten follows the same hours and term dates as the Department of Education schools. Please feel free to call in and discover what goes on in a pre-school of the 80's.

Sue Randle - Hon. President