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### MEMBERSHIP:

*Progress Association Membership renewals for 2007 are now due. Please see page 3 for membership renewal form.*

### OUR NEXT MEETING:

## CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION AGM

**Guest Speaker Keelah Lam 'The Sustainable House'**

Castlecrag Progress Association Annual General meeting, 11.00am, Sunday 6 May 2007

At the Community Centre, The Rampart (down laneway near intersection with The Postern). Our Guest Speaker is Keelah Lam, who has built a 'Sustainable House' at Queenscliff.

Members and friends are asked to bring a plate and drinks to enjoy a relaxed Sunday lunch in the delightful garden setting of the Community Centre.

## Griffin Society wins prestigious award for its website

*Homepage of the Griffin Society website:  
[www.griffinsociety.org](http://www.griffinsociety.org)*



- HOME PAGE
- INTRODUCING THE GRIFFINS
- GALLERY
- LIVES & WORKS
- EDUCATION
- CONSERVATION
- NEWS & EVENTS
- ABOUT US

### Welcome

to the website of the Walter Burley Griffin Society Incorporated

Established in 1988 in Sydney, Australia, the Society commemorates the lives and works of Walter Burley Griffin (1876-1937) and Marion Mahony Griffin (1871-1961) and promotes the environmental ideals and community life they fostered in Australia.

PHOTOS left to right: Marion Mahony Griffin and Walter Burley Griffin, Castlecrag, late 1920s. Photographer: Leonard Roberts. Right from: Centre for the Study of Australian Cultural Capitalism, City and Environment, 1911. National Archives of Australia. At: 30.03.06. Top: London, Castlecrag, Sydney, Australia 1996. National House window, Castlecrag, Sydney, Australia 1990s.



The website was made possible through funding support from the Australian Government under the Shared Australia's Digital National Heritage grant programme.

© 2006 Walter Burley Griffin Society Inc. [website Terms of Use](http://www.griffinsociety.org)

The Walter Burley Griffin Society website has won the 2007 *EnergyAustralia* National Trust Heritage Award for Interpretation and Presentation, Community Groups. The National Trust awards have been described as the 'Oscars' of the heritage world.

Meredith Burgmann, President of the Legislative Council, and ABC broadcaster David Marr presented the awards at the Westin Hotel in Sydney on 12 March 2007.

The website, which went live in mid 2006, promotes a greater understanding and appreciation of the work of Marion Mahony Griffin and Walter Burley Griffin and encourages the conservation of their extensive work. It contains thirty-five sections covering the lives and works of Walter and Marion Griffin, the influences that shaped their work and an impressive photo gallery. These were written and designed by members of the society with expertise in various fields. The site also contains downloadable student activity sheets for primary and secondary school teachers.

In selecting the Griffin website for the award, the judges said: 'It is an impressive achievement from a community-based organisation, about important 20th century architects. It deals with their work both in Australia and overseas.'

The informative heritage site also received praise from members of the community. Scott Robertson, an architect and member of the National Trust's Urban Conservation Committee said: 'it is still one of the best,

most useful websites I have seen and used. A model of what information websites should be'.

The use of the internet and the electronic media is becoming an important tool in conservation. Tina Jackson, Executive Director of the National Trust of Australia said: 'Just as heritage may be intangible -- much more than just bricks and mortar -- we must use electronic communication to get the heritage conservation message across to new and wider audiences.'

Adrienne Kabos, the committee member of the WB Griffin Society who oversaw the development of the website, said: 'the website is the work of a team of 30 people and this award is a very nice acknowledgment of their expertise and commitment'.

Congratulations go out to all those in the community involved in the project. You can visit the website at [www.griffinsociety.org](http://www.griffinsociety.org).

**Jacqueline Levett**

## CASTLECRAG Community Fair

**3 June 2007**

**A Fun Day for young and old!**

See page 3 for details and please put this date in your diary.

## THE CRAG

is the community newsletter of the  
Castlecrag Progress Association

PO Box 4259  
Castlecrag NSW 2068

web page:  
www.castlecrag.org.au

emails to the CPA:  
info@castlecrag.org.au

Please send all correspondence and  
membership renewals to the above address.

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Simone Selby  
Gay Spies OAM  
Kate Westoby

## THE CRAG

is edited by

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Letters to the Editor are welcome.

**Design, Typesetting & Printing**

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## Community Bytes

### Burley's Restaurant

Many residents will be aware that a new café and restaurant, *Burley's* opened at Shop 5, The Quadrangle, in early March, which was formerly Lunch Café & Restaurant. The owners, Malcolm and Janet McLune, have named their venture after Castlecrag's famous founder and designer, Walter Burley Griffin. Featuring refurbished premises and Modern Australian cuisine, *Burley's* is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as coffee anytime in between. The chef, Stefan Blee, aims to have regular changes of menu and also offers daily specials.

### Sydney Butcher Boys

The butcher's shop in The Quadrangle is under new ownership. Ian Goldfinch, trading as *Sydney Butcher Boys*, renovated the premises and gave the shop a new image for its re-opening on 1 March. Ian previously worked for butchers in the eastern suburbs. *Sydney Butcher Boys* at Castlecrag is his first venture as an owner and his father and mother, John and Sandra, are currently assisting with the business. Ian offers a large range of gourmet meat products, with special lines such as Moroccan basil pesto lamb rumps and Batong Boerewees from South Africa..

### Books of local interest

*Sally's Bookshop* now has in stock a book about the early days of our community here in Castlecrag and another will be launched there on 31 May. *Communism a Love Story*

by Jeff Sparrow is a biography of Guido Baracchi, a colourful resident of Castlecrag between 1937 and 1945 (and again in 1950). Baracchi's time in Castlecrag stemmed from his friendship with Walter Burley Griffin in Melbourne. It was characterised by a number of romantic liaisons.

*The Crag* by Wanda Spathopoulos will be launched at *Sally's Bookshop* at 6.30pm on Thursday 31 May. It is a memoir of Wanda's life in Castlecrag during its early years. A daughter of Edgar Herbert, the physical educational pioneer who lived in Castlecrag from 1927, Wanda is one of the few remaining people to have personally known Walter and Marion Griffin. All are welcome to the book launch, but bookings are essential for what promises to be a very interesting evening – Phone: 9958 5007.

**Sally Crawford**

### 2007 Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal

A reminder that the annual Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal will soon be upon us – it is usually held on the last weekend in May. The Castlecrag Appeal coordinator Diana Jones is seeking volunteers to help to raise funds for this worthy appeal this year. Please contact Diana on 9958 4885.

### WEPA May Speaker

The Willoughby Environment Protection Association will have Dr Brian Spies as its guest speaker on Tuesday 22 May at the Artarmon Library (8pm). Dr Spies will address the issue: 'Does Sydney Really Have a Water Crisis' – all welcome. Phone Gay Spies on 9958 8569 for details.

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# Introducing the 2007 Castlecrag Community Fair



Crowds enjoy their day out at the 2005 Castlecrag Community Fair. Photo: Bob McKillop

Castlecrag Fruiterers; Mia Boutique; Castlecrag Cellars; Castlecrag Florists.

All Castlecrag residents are encouraged to support our local business houses.

### Trash & Treasure Stall

The Castlecrag Progress Association will be holding its regular Trash & Treasure stall at the Fair. Funds raised through this stall help to cover the operating expenses of the Association, including the production and distribution of *The Crag*. If you have suitable items for the Trash & Treasure stall at the Fair, please contact Kate Westoby on 9958 0215 or 0402 465 522, or Mark Crew on 0412 971 861. We will arrange for pickup and storage prior to 3 June if required.

**The Editors**

The Progress Association proudly announces that the 2007 Castlecrag Community Fair will be held on Sunday 3 June between 10am and 3pm. The Fair brings together local residents and our business community to showcase our suburb and its special character to the wider public.

It is a 'fun day' for young and old alike, with over stalls for community organisations and individuals, together with entertainment including an Australian Wildlife Show, a live band and, for the children, a jumping castle, bungee trampoline and face painting. There will be guided walks of the suburb while sponsors have donated over \$2000 worth of prizes to be won.

Fair organiser Simone Selby says: "The stalls will have good quality goods for sale, including the products of local artists, toy-makers, etc, as well as community stalls selling cakes, indigenous plants, homewares and similar products, while Willoughby City Council and community groups will promote the natural and built heritage of Castlecrag. We are limiting the number of food stalls this year, as we are encouraging visitors to enjoy our cafés and restaurants, many of which will provide a special Fair Menu, as well as wine tasting at Castlecrag Cellars."

If you can assist us on the day or wish to book a stall, please contact Simone Selby on 9405 6040. The closing date for stalls is 30 April 2007.

### Program

The draft Program of Events is:

- 9.55am Official opening by Pat Reilly, Mayor of Willoughby
- 10-11am Australian Wildlife Show
- 10am-3pm Jumping Castle
- 10am-3pm Bungee Trampoline
- 11am-3pm *Saving Grace* local live band – contemporary easy listening music

2pm-2.30pm Children's Storytelling

Walking tours will depart from the Willoughby Council information stall at regular intervals.

### Sponsors

On behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association we wish to specially thank our major sponsors: **Roger Page & Partners**, real estate agents; **Yours Beautifully Hair Salon**; and **Romano's Restaurant**.

The following businesses have assisted with sponsorship and donations to our raffle:

- LJ Hooker, real estate agents; John Ruddy & Associates Accountants; Castlecrag Meats; Copy World Printers, North Sydney; Coles Supermarket; Sally's Bookshop; Travel Plan; Ganache Patisserie; Castlecrag Newsagency; Sydney Butcher Boys; Momo/Oven Fairy; Martha's Restaurant; Burley's Restaurant; Rodney Clark; Castlecrag Pharmacy; Gourmet Source;

## What is happening at the Castlecrag Community Centre?

Some of you may have noticed work occurring at the Community Centre if you happened to vote there on Polling Day.

A new roof was installed over the Christmas period. Water from the new roof is to be collected in an 8000 litre water tank, plumbed into the toilets and for use on the garden. Additional work is also underway. Over the Easter break a pair of windows on the Southern wall will be converted into doors. These new doors will lead onto what should be a delightful new timber deck. There will be new storage sheds for the Centre's tables and chairs.

The narrow western side will be landscaped and a path put in which will provide access to the bushland and rock ledges below the centre. This bushland has been quite inaccessible for many years and has some weed issues. The new access will facilitate Council and Community Bush Carers getting to work on the area. In time it may well form another bush track link down to Warners Park.

It is envisaged these works will be completed before the end of May.

**Cr. Adrian Cox**

Ward Councillor, Sailors Bay

## Castlecrag Progress Association Inc. Membership Form

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2007

I wish to renew / apply for membership for the CPA Inc., and enclose payment of: \$ .....

(\$10 per person, \$5 per student)

If you wish to make a donation, this will be most welcome. I enclose my donation of: \$ .....

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone: .....

Please post to the Treasurer:

**PO Box 4259**  
Castlecrag 2068

## Community Fire Units for Castlecrag

A key focus for the NSW Fire Brigades is assisting communities to prepare for fires and minimise the risk.

Terry Munsey, Deputy Manager, Bushfire Natural Hazards Protection Unit of the NSW Fire Brigades (NSWFB) was the Guest Speaker at the Castlecrag Progress Association's General Meeting in February. He spoke on the formation and operation of Community Fire Units (CFUs).

Terry stated that the interface between residential areas and bush is a wonderful living environment, but also generates risk of fire. Landowners on the interface with bush have the responsibility for managing the fire risk. These risks relate to three stages of a fire – before it gets there, during the fire and after the fire (e.g., cleaning the roof is important, but not once the fire is on its way.) In the Blue Mountains bushfires of 1994 more people were injured falling off their roofs than by the fires. Property owners need to minimise the risk to their homes and to their neighbours. The local council has a huge task to manage the risk with a bushfire preparedness plan.

The NSW Fire Brigades' priorities are firstly, your personal safety, secondly, your house, and other assets after that. They work with local councils to develop sound bushfire management plans. Willoughby Council invests a lot of resources to manage the bushland-property interface. The principle is to make the houses at this interface more prepared to counter the fire risk without causing drastic changes to the landscape and associated negative environmental impacts that may occur with widespread hazard reduction measures. Local areas need different approaches, depending on the vegetation species, etc. If the preparation measures are in place and sound hazard reduction strategies are carried out, you will minimise the risk of property damage from bushfires.

### CFUs in NSW

The development of CFUs has occurred as the result of the catastrophic bush fire event in 1994 (e.g., in the Lane Cove Valley). Under these conditions, there were not enough fire engines to attend to all calls. Therefore a new strategy was developed to

empower people to prepare prior to a fire. There are now 357 CFUs in NSW with over 6000 people in the program. While units occur across all of NSW, they are predominantly in the metropolitan area. The preparation that occurred through CFUs in the Hornsby area prior to the 2002 bushfires (which were very similar to those of 1994) meant that these fires had little impact and not a single home was lost.

About 50 CFUs a year are being formed. They are not intended to be fire-fighting units – the emphasis is on prevention and property protection. Currently there are three CFUs in the Middle Cove/Castle Cove area and the NSWFB is in the process of establishing a fourth. A problem is the high rate of dropout of members – as people are increasingly resource-rich and time-poor.

The NSW Fire Brigade Act gives NSWFB the power to undertake action to extinguish fires, and a change in the Act in 2005 gave the NSWFB responsibility for training CFU members through local fire stations.

### The CFU concept

The aim of CFUs is to have communities better prepared when there is a fire in, or approaching, their area. They are located on the urban interface within the NSWFB area and each CFU has a limited area of operation usually within 500 metres of a central point. CFU members work alongside fire fighters, but focus on property protection. The program is not intended to train fire fighters. Units can be equipped with either cabinets (boxes) or trailers and members make a commitment to undertake regular training.

CFU activities include equipment training, education and preparation prior to fire activity. CFU members are required to undertake 12 hours per year of supervised training. This allows NSWFB to assess the preparedness of each CFU.

The NSWFB keeps constant contact with CFUs, and their operation is restricted to very small neighbourhood area. Each CFU is structured under a team leader, who is the point of contact for the CFU. CFU members are covered for workers compensation and liability insurance.

CFUs are informed about fires in their area and need to contact '000' prior to commencing any activities during fires. The CFU regional coordinators respond to fire activity where CFUs are engaged in fire management. ABC Radio is widely used to get information out to communities.

### Establishing CFUs in Castlecrag

Castlecrag, with all of its bushland reserves, would benefit by having a number of CFUs established. For example:

- Residents adjacent to the Castlecrag Northern Escarpment might be interested in forming a local CFU;
- The Bulwark area will soon apply to form a CFU (Contacts for this: Richard Newton tel. 9967 4933 or Peter Moffitt tel. 9958 1213).

If your neighbourhood might have interest in forming a CFU, we suggest that you convene an informal gathering of your neighbours in the first instance; there is an application form on the NSW Fire Brigades website or for more information you can email [cfu.nswfb@nswfire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cfu.nswfb@nswfire.nsw.gov.au)

Of course, if you would like to post a notice in the next issue of The Crag to invite neighbours to get together for this purpose, just contact The Editor and we will be glad to help.

**Lorraine Cairnes and Bob McKillop**

## Bushfires in a Heating World

The 6th Nature Conservation Council Conference on Fire will be held from 9am to 5pm on Thursday 31 March and Friday 1 April at the Centenary Lecture Theatre, Royal North Shore Hospital, Reserve Road, St Leonards. A wide range of eminent speakers will explore changes in bushfire management practices in the face of the impacts of climate change.

For further information, please ring the NCC on 9279 2466 or email: [bushfire.conf2007@ncc.nsw.org.au](mailto:bushfire.conf2007@ncc.nsw.org.au)

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## Council News

### Recycle your old mobile phone

Willoughby City Council is calling for residents to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the mobile phone in Australia by recycling their pre-loved mobile phones, batteries or accessories, saving valuable resources and helping to protect our environment.

Rose Read, Manager of Australian Mobile Telecommunications Associations (AMTA) recycling program, MobileMuster, states: "Due to the profound impact mobile phones have made in our lives, the constant manufacturing of affordable new models, advanced functionalities and faster connectivity, Australians upgrade their mobile phones every 18 to 24 months. More than 90 per cent of the plastics and metals in mobile phones, batteries and accessories recovered during recycling can be turned into jewellery, stainless steel products and plastic fence posts. By recycling your old mobile phone, you are helping protect our environment and conserve valuable natural resources by recovering metals and plastics for reuse."

Mobile phones and accessories can be dropped to the Mobile Muster drop off point located in Willoughby City Council's administration building, level 4, 31 Victor St, Chatswood, from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

"To reduce Willoughby City's contribution to landfill, residents have access to this free and simple recycling solution for old mobile

phones, batteries and accessories," said Willoughby Mayor Pat Reilly. "I urge all residents to do their bit and recycle old mobile phones, enabling plastics, gold, silver, copper and nickel to be extracted and reused," he said.

### 'Earth Hour'

Willoughby City Council supported the 'Earth Hour' initiative between 7.30pm on 8.30pm on Saturday 31 March by encouraging residents and local businesses to switch off their lights in the name of global warming. An initiative of WWF-Australia and The Sydney Morning Herald, 'Earth Hour' aims to spread the global warming message and further educate the community about how reducing energy consumption in the home can help halt global warming.

Participating residents and businesses joined in the fight against global warming by carrying out the Earth Hour Actions, namely: turning lights out during 'Earth Hour' between 7.30 and 8.30pm, turning off and unplugging appliances on standby, turning off anything that does not need to be on when they left a room or the house and switching to green power.

Willoughby Mayor Pat Reilly said that participating in Earth Hour is a great way for the local community to show it is possible to take action on global warming. "I urge all residents to turn off their lights and support Earth Hour on Saturday 31 March and to continue turning off lights and appliances when not in use," he said.

### Community Grants now open

Local community groups and individuals seeking financial assistance are invited to apply for a grant as part of Willoughby City Council's 2007 Community Grants Scheme. Applications will be accepted until 5pm, Friday 25 May 2007.

The Community Grants Scheme provides

financial support to community groups and individuals undertaking projects that benefit and assist the people of Willoughby. Past projects receiving funding have included aged care health programs, children's play equipment upgrades and public murals.

Grants are given under two categories: Community Development, aimed at assisting non-profit community groups delivering local services, and Arts & Cultural Category, which is aimed at community groups and individuals wishing to undertake an art-based project.

Application forms are available from [www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au](http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au) or by phoning 9777 1000.

Rebecca Hill



### Feeling aggro?

#### Want to rip the head off something?

At this time of year, *Lilium formosanum* or Formosan Lily, is in flower and about to start forming seed.

This aggressive bushland invader is difficult to eradicate once established, so, do the bush a favour, hunt these invaders down and go and rip a few heads off! This will at least stop them forming seed (it won't kill the plant). If the flower petals have already fallen, pull off the seed capsule, bag it up, and dispose of it in your garbage bin. Don't try to compost it as you may end up with Lilium in your own garden.

Happy hunting!

Chris Dewhurst

Blue Mountains City Council  
via Mandy Wilson

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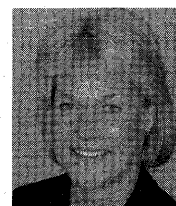
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## Nine Midsummer Nights at the Haven

For nine nights during February and March, audiences at your Haven Amphitheatre were treated to William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, his most loved comedy, the way he intended – outdoors in the amphitheatre's idyllic bush setting!

There was no better backdrop for this magical and romantic tale of warring fairies, Athenian lovers and a group of bumbling actors in a moonlit forest as they fall under the magical spell of the summer solstice. The *Raw Em* production was full of energy and fun; and Shakespeare's tale came to life with all the vitality contained in the classic words of the play.

Those who attended were delighted by the uplifting adventure about love, chaos, marriage and dreams. We were pleasantly surprised at the number of young people who attended the performances, and they certainly seemed to enjoy themselves allowing the excellent performances of the players to carry them with much laughter through the classic story. The season was a great success for the Haven, with over 750 patrons attending the performances, even though the first weekend was troubled by uncertain weather.

Nine nights of commitment to running the theatre was a 'big ask' for any community group so, on behalf of the Haven Committee, I thank all those members of the community who gave willingly of their time to assist the Haven in the presentation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

What's Next at the Haven?? Watch this space in the next issue of The Crag.

Howard Rubie

## Introducing: CragSitters

Having trouble finding a babysitter in Castlecrag? Would you like to meet other families with similar age children in the area?

A new community group has been formed in Castlecrag known as the *CragSitters*.

Driven by the difficulties families were experiencing trying to locate local babysitters, *CragSitters* has been set up to give families an opportunity to network with each other and also provide contact with available babysitters in the area.

Another of the group's goals is to provide a network to share information about local events and for children to form friendships with each other in the area.

Family gatherings (including babysitters) are planned for each quarter, with the first gathering to be held on Sunday 6 May at 3.30pm at the Stoker Playground in Edinburgh Road.

New members, both families and babysitters, are welcome to the group, so if you're a family who would like to find out more about the group or if you are interested in providing babysitting services, you can email us on [cragitters@yahoo.com.au](mailto:cragitters@yahoo.com.au)

Sharie Kennedy-Wren

## and introducing: Richard & Dorothy Sercombe

Please allow us to introduce ourselves to the residents of Castlecrag. Our names are Richard and Dorothy Sercombe and we have both been recently appointed to positions on the staff of the Anglican Parish of East Willoughby, incorporating of course St James' Church in Castlecrag and St John's in North Willoughby.

Dorothy is the Music Coordinator at St John's and I am the Parish Assistant. We are both absolutely thrilled to be working together in this lovely part of Sydney. It is of particular interest to Dorothy as she was born at the Castlecrag Private Hospital and spent her early years living in Edith Street.

We are keen to meet the residents of the area, so don't be surprised if we drop in just to say 'hello' as we make our way around the Parish. We want to let you know about some of the activities we are running. They include 'Children's Church' at 10.30am at St John's. We are also planning a new Sunday School at St James, so please watch out for future announcements!

We also have a youth group for school years 6 to 9, which meets fortnightly at 6.30-8.30pm on Friday nights, as well as every Sunday from 5-7pm. 'Breakout' is a senior youth/young adults group that meets weekly at 7.30pm on Tuesdays.

If you would like any further information about the activities of our church, including the above or, for example, our regular children's holiday clubs, please give us a call on 9958 4377 or 0418 291 219.

Look forward to seeing you soon!

Richard and Dorothy

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## Sustainability and Climate Change

Things seem to be 'hotting up' on the subjects of environmental sustainability and its close cousin, climate change. The loss of most winter crops in southeastern Australia due to utter failure of spring rains and severe bushfires this summer tied up resources and caused severe losses, while Al Gore's compelling film convinced many about the Inconvenient Truth of global warming has generated widespread discussion within our community. These events lifted public awareness to a new level and the Stern Report from Britain and local political developments since have at least maintained that level.

Willoughby City Council has been encouraging greater awareness of sustainability issues through many of its 'e-Restore' suite of programs over several years. We now have a larger and more loyal group of volunteer bush-carers than any other council in New South Wales. Our recycling achievements are also the envy of many local government councils. The e-Restore program was funded by a levy on rates. That levy was introduced and extended with very little objection. So I draw the conclusion that most ratepayers are in favour of our actions. However, a paucity of new faces at e-Restore events suggests that many ratepayers remain largely uncommitted. Perhaps they remain 'on the fence' with thoughts such as 'I just don't have time', 'what impact can I have?' or 'what impact can Australia have?'

Some leaders, such as Al Gore and Tim Flannery, exhort us to start the change process with small steps in our own lives – steps like recycling, saving water and reducing our energy consumption. Others,

like Clive Hamilton of the Australia Institute, say that we need to be 'told'. He points out that leaded petrol, with its health risks, was not abolished by people deciding not to buy it, but by prohibition through government legislation. But which politician or party will be brave enough to propose such legislation in the face of powerful vested interests while the public appears apathetic? Both views are correct: let us have voters demanding political (and corporate) change and backing it up with visible actions of our own. Obvious activism in Willoughby might involve joining a Sustainability Street group. We might choose to buy 'green' power, ie, electricity that is generated from renewable sources. If we believe in the power of the market, we might be prepared to advocate (or at least acknowledge to friends and colleagues) the logic of higher prices for energy and water.

A recent commentary on the level of affluence in present-day Australia mentioned that we now spend a smaller proportion of our income on water and most forms of energy than at any time in the past. The economic 'system' encourages us to use more. How many of us are prepared to concede that, in terms of protecting the environment, the system is not working and needs to be changed? Perhaps Australia can be the place that makes the necessary changes and shows that possibility to the rest of the world.

Furthermore, can we here in Willoughby be at the forefront of that change process? We are well placed to do so: affluent, educated and progressive. It seems to me that this must be where not only our priority but also much of our energy must be directed as a

community. For me, many of Willoughby's traditional concerns become inconsequential by comparison.

To paraphrase from an epoch-changing book: what profit for mankind if we gain the whole world but lose the planet?

Councillors will be addressing the future of e-Restore and its stance on sustainability and climate change in a full day workshop in late April. Watch this space. I would welcome any thoughts you may have on how and when we might involve you, our constituents.

**Cr. Barry Thompson** (Naremburn Ward)

Phone: 9412 1596; Email:

Barry.Thompson@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

## Sustainability Events

If you would like to find out more about climate change and sustainability issues, the following events will be of interest:

**Clive Hamilton**, Executive Director of the Australia Institute, will present a public lecture on his new book, *Scorcher: Inside the Dirty Politics of Climate Change*, at the Seymour Centre on Tuesday 24 April at 6pm (for 6.30). Cost: \$20/\$15; bookings 9351 7940.

**Murray Hogarth** in conversation with Marion Wilkinson on his new book, *NOW Australia: The 3rd Degree*, which explores what has been done to address climate change and what needs to be done. At gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe on Thursday 26 April at 6.30pm (for 7pm). Cost: \$10/\$7; bookings 9660 2333.



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## Community Notice Board

### Community Organisations

#### Castlecrag Progress Association:

'Representing the Castlecrag Community'

*Annual General Meeting:*

Sunday 6 May Guest Speaker and lunch from 11am at the Castlecrag Community Centre (see Notice page 1).

#### Castlecrag Conservation Society:

Thursday 19 April, Annual General Meeting at 8pm – Group Discussion on Climate Change. Castlecrag Community Centre, all welcome. Contact Harold Spies on 9958 8569 for details.

#### 'CragSitters':

Inaugural gathering at Stoker Playground, Sunday 6 May at 3.30pm. *CragSitters* has been set up to give families an opportunity to network with each other and also provide contact with available babysitters in the area. New members, both families and babysitters are welcome to the group (see page 6).  
Email: [cragitters@yahoo.com.au](mailto:cragitters@yahoo.com.au)

### Community Events

#### Climate Change Despair & Empowerment Roadshow:

Tuesday 24 April, 7.30pm at Willoughby Council Chambers, Victor Street, Chatswood. A video presentation and discussion on grassroots community action to address climate change challenges. A free event but please RSVP to 9777 1000 by Friday 20 April.

#### Early Morning Birdwatch:

Sunday 29 April, 8-11am at Rotary Athletic Field car park, Mowbray Road, Chatswood. Join local bird expert Any Burton to identify our birds. Bookings essential: phone 9777 7755 or [email@milloughby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:email@milloughby.nsw.gov.au)

#### Sydney Opera Society:

Saturday, 5 May at 2pm. A special vocal recital featuring Opera Diploma students from the Sydney Conservatory of Music at the Presbyterian Church Hall, Cnr Laurel and High Streets, Willoughby. All welcome – bring your friends and come early; then stay for afternoon tea and a chat with some of Australia's brightest new stars – \$15 donation. Information: Shirley Robertson 96005 5851 or Nancy Fleming 9958 3110.

#### Northbridge-Castlecrag Uniting Church:

*Spiritual Bytes* during May 2007. A series of talks on 'Peace' from various perspectives – 6 Speakers 6 Faiths. Sunday 6 May, Bahai and Buddhist; 13 May, Muslim and Jain; 20 May, Indigenous and Christian. Uniting Church Hall, Gunyah Street, Northbridge at 5pm. Free entry / Donations welcome.

#### Guringai Festival 2007:

The Festival is a celebration of Aboriginal culture that brings the Northern Sydney region together to celebrate one of the oldest cultures in the world. It runs from late May to mid-July. For details of this year's events see the Willoughby Council website or ring Ellis O'Beirne on 9777 7974.

#### The Crag book launch:

Thursday, 31 May at 6.30pm. Sally's Bookshop will be hosting the launch of Wanda Spathopoulos' book covering life in Castlecrag during its early years (see page 2). All welcome, but please book on 9958 5007.

#### Sydney Opera Society:

Forthcoming lectures: Saturday 2 June, *Il Trittico* by Moffat Oxenbound; 7 July, *Streetcar Named Desire* by Charlie Little; 4 August, *Tales of Hoffman* by Stuart Maunder – at the Presbyterian Church Hall (as above) commencing at 2pm.

*The Community Notice Board is a service by the Castlecrag Progress Association.  
Please contact [editors@castlecrag.org.au](mailto:editors@castlecrag.org.au) with details of forthcoming events and activities for inclusion.*



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