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CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION END OF YEAR MEETING

with
**The Mayor of Willoughby
Councillor Pat Reilly**

8pm, Tuesday, 29 November 2011

The Marion Mahony Griffin Hall at Glenaeon School
121 Edinburgh Road Castlecrag

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Castlecrag welcomes The Concourse



Photo: WCC

On 17 September, the Governor of NSW Professor Marie Bashir AC, CVO officially opened The Concourse, which is the new name for Chatswood's Civic Place. It is indeed a state-of-the-art performing arts centre with a 1000 seat Concert Hall, 500 seat Theatre, the Civic Pavilion—a flat floor function room—plus Studio and rehearsal rooms. This new cultural home is complemented by a 5000 sq m underground public library with a huge light well which allows reading in natural light.

Under a glorious blue sky some 1000 guests, Councillors and MPs sat on the east-facing steps shaded by the 'Urban Screen' to share the Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, followed by official addresses.

Mayor Pat Reilly emphasized the 'investment in the cultural, social and financial future of Willoughby,' and predicted that the 'Concourse will bring a mix of local, national and international performers to Chatswood, encouraging the development of local talent and

providing the young members of our community with a world class stage on which to perform'. It is also the only public infrastructure proposal ever put to resident referendum, and despite some early nay-saying, it achieved 65% support.

Her Excellency observed that 'it will contribute positively to the education and development of children... by providing a highly resourced public library...and

world class performing arts facilities where children can develop a passion for the performing arts'.

As to the 'Castlecrag connections' to the Concourse, the architectural statement likens the sandstone ridges of Willoughby to the 'series of landscaped terraces' that create a great open space. Former resident Linda Cardew was the inspirational project manager whose music and law qualifications and experience enabled knowledgeable and passionate involvement over ten years of project management including crucial community consultation. The special warmth and length of applause at the mention of her name underlined how highly the audience regarded her contribution. Other Castlecrag contributors included Peter Moffitt, a member of the Public Advisory Committee for the Concourse, and our Castlecrag Progress Association which donated a seat to Council's 'Please be Seated' program.

From the first triumphal bars of 'Finlandia'

at the Opening Concert, it was clear that the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra and Choir aspire to world-class performance directed by Chief Conductor Dr Nicholas Milton, a former Chatswood High School student now engaged by leading European orchestras and theatres.

As we shared the grandeur and happiness of the Ceremony and Concert, I reflected on being at the 1972 opening of the former Civic Centre and all its subsequent grand and happy events. Nearly 40 years later it is great to see theatre and library facilities that will last more than four generations, but equally importantly, the vast amount of open space that has been achieved. As Her Excellency observed, 'open space is...vitaly important to community building, ...for all members of the community to use that is open and accessible to all regardless of age, ethnicity or socio-economic level', 'a modern town square'. This will become even more valuable as high-rise residential increases.

As to the acoustics of the theatres, international soprano Yvonne Kenny said: 'It has the most beautiful sound ...it is surrounded by this gentle, pale-coloured wood, which is by far the best medium. There is a roundness and richness to it, resulting in a great warmth and gentleness'. I believe that acoustically it will even outrank the beautiful City Recital Hall and the Opera House halls. Even from the back of the Balcony (Dress Circle) sight-lines are unimpeded. And long-legged patrons do not need to stand up to allow others to pass their seat.

Bruce Wilson

(PS. It took 9 minutes to get home.)

THE CRAG

is the community newsletter of the
Castlecrag Progress Association Inc.

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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Write to us

The Crag is a community newsletter
and we welcome letters and contributions
from residents about local issues.

We do not publish anonymous letters.

Items should be sent to the editors
by email to: editors@castlecrag.org.au

They should be concise

(preferably less than 250 words for letters).

Please include your email address or
phone number as we may need to edit
items to fit the space available.

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Last meeting report

Our general meeting held in the Marion Mahony Griffin Hall at Glenaeon School was again well-attended and successful.

CPA President James Fitzpatrick introduced the guest speaker, Cr Giles-Gidney, as a Councillor who is always willing to meet with, and help, the CPA. He noted that she is an active supporter and member of Bushcare.

Presenting her vision for Castlecrag and Willoughby, Gail emphasised how lucky we are to be living in an area surrounded by bush and water, able to attend plays in our own bush amphitheatre, have our own shops and cafes, doctor and dentist and yet be only ten minutes from the centre of Sydney!

She acknowledged that a difficulty for Castlecrag is access to public transport. Ever increasing reliance on the car means increasing pressure on roads and despite much lobbying, Castlecrag still does not have (and because of the RTA's resistance is unlikely to obtain in the near future) a right-hand turning arrow into Eastern Valley Way from Edinburgh Road.

Discussing the assessment of development applications (DAs), Gail reminded us that any appeal to the Land and Environment Court following refusal of a DA by Council is at great expense to the Council and therefore to ratepayers. She urged residents to get involved and make known their issues concerning DAs as this greatly assists Council and Ward Councillors in their deliberations.

To gain community and Council support for Castlecrag projects Gail stressed the importance of letting people know that Castlecrag is a special place. She mentioned the open days at the Embrasure and Cortile Reserves as examples of showcasing parts of Castlecrag as well as the work of Bushcare and Council. Two projects

currently under consideration are:

- Interpretative Strategy for assisting residents to access trails by using smartphones as a means of showcasing our beautiful suburb to visitors, and
- Castlecrag Gateway, a concept which would assist in showcasing Castlecrag, and help our businesses thrive.

Gail later joined in a lively panel discussion, chaired by CPA committee member and former president Dr John Steel, with CPA president James Fitzpatrick, Walter Burley Griffin Society committee member Adrienne Kabos and Castlerag Conservation Society president Mark Crew. The panel responded to questions from the floor on topics ranging from the flats proposed in Eastern Valley Way backing on to The Postern, tree preservation, bus routes and timetables, solar energy and the future role of the community centre and library.

We thank Cr Giles-Gidney and the panel members for their contribution to the informative and interesting meeting, and Glenaeon School for the provision of its hall for CPA meetings.

The Concourse

After more than ten years of planning and hard work The Concourse has opened. Several of our members attended the opening ceremony and concert in September and others have attended concerts, plays, the library and other venues. The consensus is that it is an outstanding venue and the most beautiful and functional entertainment complex between the Harbour Bridge and Newcastle. We congratulate those past and present Councillors and Council staff with the vision and drive to initiate and implement this inspiring project.

Jill Newton, Secretary

Editor required

The Crag needs a new [honorary] editor for 2012 (4 issues).

Enquiries/expressions of interest re this interesting position should be directed to
The Secretary, Castlecrag Progress Association, editors@castlecrag.org.au

Castlecrag Progress Association Inc. Membership Form

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How many tennis players are there in Castlecrag?



A typical scene of social tennis with mixed doubles on a Saturday afternoon.

Photo: Sue Burk

The Castlecrag Sports Club, set within the Cortile Reserve, was proposed by Walter Burley Griffin in 1928 to provide various sporting activities for the community but in the 1950s it evolved purely as a tennis club.

How lucky we all are to share this site; it is an attractive peaceful reserve which is being restored by the Cortile Reserve Bushcare Group.

It was Griffin's vision to prove that 'architecture and landscape should be designed together and inhabitants grouped by communal interests'. He went on to say:

People spend half a lifetime trying to get a large piece of land, put a house on it and plant it like a park. Few can afford to reach their goal. What I want to do is to give everyone a chance to attain such a dream. I want Castlecrag to be built so that each

individual can feel that the whole of the landscape is his. No fences, no boundaries, no red roofs to spoil the Australian landscape; these are some of the features that will distinguish Castlecrag.

There are 137 members in the Castlecrag Sports Club and of this number 111 live in Castlecrag. The Parapet, which surrounds the courts, encapsulates Griffin's vision and has 15 families who use the courts.

The Club has various types of members: Full Members who play on Saturday afternoons, Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons; then there are Associate Members and Junior Members who make up their own sets and play in the afternoons or mornings when the courts are available.

Saturday mornings are set aside for lessons for younger players, whether members or not, who are coached professionally by Armond Djani and his team. Armond can be contacted on 0418 242 626.

There are also weekday groups, not necessarily members, who hire the courts, as they have done for many years.

When these groups are not playing and the courts are not dedicated to the Club and junior sessions, Court no 2 is made available to the public who can book the court on an hourly basis at \$15 per hour through Pam's Café.

In total there are well over 200 people who play tennis on the Castlecrag Sports



Alec Fitzsimons, a Life Member of the club and one of the longest-playing members, proves you're never too old to enjoy playing tennis.

Photo: Sue Burk

Club courts during the year. You'd think with so many members, groups and others hiring the courts and only two tennis courts you'd never get a game but the club seems to cater well for all the players.

The courts, which were last resurfaced in 1999, are being resurfaced again on 24 October. This will take about 4-5 weeks so the courts will be out-of-action for public play during this period. The cost of resurfacing is funded by the Club.

If any Castlecrag residents wish to play tennis, experienced players can join as Full Members but residents of any standard can join as Associates and Juniors. Details are set out on the notice board at the clubhouse. Please feel free to contact me as Membership Secretary either by calling 0404 470 443 or email burk@tpg.com.au

Also I can't miss an opportunity to ask anyone who is interested in helping out with the new gardens in the Reserve on the 3rd Sunday of the month between 8.30 and 11.30 am, please to let me know. We could do with some extra hands as the new native gardens grow.

Sue Burk
Membership Secretary
Castlecrag Sports Club

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Castlecrag Notes

Julius Wilfred Hilder 1934–2011

A link with the Griffins was severed with the death on 29 June, 2011 of Wilf Hilder, a nephew of the notable stonemason and sculptor, Bim Hilder. As a young child Wilf, known in Castlecrag as Julius, was a member of Marion Mahony Griffin's playgroup where he developed a love of the bush. Later he was prominent in bushwalking circles as a writer and serving terms as president of each of the Sydney Bushwalking Club and the Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW. He was also one of the pioneers of Nordic cross-country skiing in Australia, describing it as 'bushwalking on skis'.

Castlecrag Fruiterers

We extend a warm welcome to Michael Pozzolungo and his staff. This is Michael's sixth fruit shop, following previous shops in Bowral, Mittagong, Mossvale and Casula. Michael, a third generation fruiterer with a background in farming, stated that this is 'the best shop I've had in the last 30 years'. He enjoys the atmosphere in Castlecrag and rates the people 'fantastic', adding that he feels happy coming to work each day. In addition to a comprehensive range of fruit and vegetables and a small range of organic groceries, the shop stocks herbs, European groceries, gourmet cheeses and organic milk and provides fruit baskets and platters to order. We wish him every success in this venture.

Willoughby Museum 2011 Award

Congratulations to the Willoughby District Historical Museum on receiving an Exhibitions and Public Engagement IMAGinE Award [inspiring museums & galleries in excellence] for volunteer organisations, for its 2011 Heritage Festival exhibition *Tales of Flat Rock Creek: Rugged, Ruined and Reclaimed*. The judges were impressed by the exhibition which explored the impact of urban development on a pristine natural environment since the European settlement, through the eyes of Willoughby residents.



Eastern arch of The Bulwark bridge.
Photo: Jon Kirkwood

Bulwark Bridges

Residents of The Bulwark have welcomed an offer by Council to meet to discuss future works needed to repair The Bulwark roadway where an arched sandstone bridge crosses the western arm of The Retreat Creek.

Two sandstone bridges (one an arch, the other a block bridge) providing road crossings of the western and eastern arms of the creek are rare examples of infrastructure works which were constructed in the time of Walter Burley Griffin (1930s), probably under his direct supervision. They are described in the inventory of the Griffin Reserves Plan of Management. Residents have contributed some excellent ideas about the way in which the repairs might be done so as not to damage these impressive structures.

It is envisaged that first there should be research by a heritage professional into their history and significance, followed by a conservation management plan to define the way in which the required work should be done with minimal impact. Anyone wishing to view these structures is warned that it's a bit of a scramble, and the approaches are inclined to be muddy after wet weather.

Another example of Griffin-era infrastructure is the stone retaining wall where The Scarp passes above The Haven Amphitheatre. All of these stone structures have been built from local stone, probably excavated during the original construction of local roads.

Around the Groups

WEPA (Willoughby Environment Protection Association)

The meeting in September provided a thought-provoking talk by Vice president Cotter Erickson titled 'Did Malthus Get it Wrong?' which examined the possibility that exponential growth in human population would outstrip the resources of the planet. The conclusion was—unless humans change the way they populate the planet and use its resources, there will be troubles ahead.

Castlecrag Conservation Society

The September meeting showed the disturbing film *Gaslands*, about the impacts of coal seam gas exploration and mining on some communities in the USA.

Castlecrag Progress Association

In August, a panel of locals facilitated by John Steel responded to Councillor Gail Giles-Gidney's vision for Castlecrag. Many good ideas for the future of our community were suggested and the Progress Association will follow these up.

Walter Burley Griffin Society

Although the WBGS is not exclusively a Castlecrag organisation, but a national society, it has a strong local membership. Recent happenings include preparations for the centenary of Canberra in 2013. Following an international contest for the city's design, a blueprint by the Chicago architects Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin was selected and construction commenced in 1913.

Bushcare

Willoughby Council has exhibited a draft Reserve Action Plan (RAP) for the Torquay Estate Reserves which comprise four small, relatively-natural spaces near the eastern end of Edinburgh Road: Sugarloaf Point reserve; an un-named pathway leading to the edge of Middle Harbour; the central Edinburgh Road reserve; and two blocks of land running from Edinburgh Road to the foreshore, currently owned by the RTA. Full details of bushcare sessions and locations are listed on page 8.

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The Houses of Castlecrag

Another article in Ben Gerstel's series featuring some interesting and historic houses in Castlecrag.

Ben, an architect and volunteer guide for the Australian Architectural Association (www.architecture.org.au), leads walking tours around Castlecrag and Middle Cove.

95 Sunnyside Crescent

Sunnyside Crescent is a wonderfully long street in Castlecrag. As you near the end, where it connects with Edinburgh Road, you gain a stunning view into the valley between Castlecrag and Middle Cove. It is like being in the Blue Mountains as you see only bush and a smattering of houses.

Near this vantage point sits an interesting, split-level house called, 'Kartanya' with a unique siting in that it has no neighbours. It is not a conventional house. It sits almost below the street with no Council prescribed setback from the front boundary.

The house is broken down into different parts and is tied together by the roof which is a series of skillion (one way sloping) roofs. The house has been constructed from a mixture of brick, timber and glass. The views from the back are spectacular.

This house, designed by the architect Gordon Mahn Jenkins, was built between 1968 and 1972. Little is known about Gordon Jenkins. He practised architecture between the years 1951 and 1989 and was also in partnership with the architect Robert Maclurcan who designed the house at 97 Sunnyside Crescent. Jenkins did extensive architectural documentation work for the NSW Department of Public Works, including numerous high schools.

He also worked on the NSW Institute of Technology building at Broadway (now UTS) for the architect Michael Dysart of the NSW Public Works Department in 1968.

The current owners told me that Jenkins had bought the land before the RTA (Roads and Traffic Authority) had purchased the corridor of land for their proposed extension of the Warringah Freeway. This freeway was to run from Seaforth via a bridge and along the northern escarpment of the Castlecrag Peninsula and connect to the Gore Hill Freeway.

Entry to the house is by a set of stone steps leading down from the street. From here you can appreciate the wonderful bushland setting and also the privacy. The house loosely takes on an 'L' shaped configuration which makes the most of its orientation. The entry area acts like a hinge, linking one arm of the house to the other.

The single storey 'arm' running parallel with the street contains bedrooms and is terminated by a single garage. The other 'arm' is split-level containing the living / dining / kitchen on the lower level and the main bedroom area on the floor above. There is another storey without internal access below these levels.



Photo:
Ben Gerstel

The house has evolved over time. At one stage it was Jenkins' own house where he lived with his wife and seven children. It contained his architectural office, now the main bedroom, and at some stage in its history it was two flats.

The new owners are slowly carrying out maintenance work as well as doing minor renovations such as painting, inserting new joinery and re-orientating the kitchen. Their plan is to maintain the integrity of the original design whilst making the house livable for a young family. As well as doing work inside the house, they have been clearing and reworking their backyard with stone retaining walls, paving and planting. They discovered a natural rock pool which has now been filled in and landscaped.

It is lucky that this house has found new owners who want to preserve it and add new life to it. Rather than demolish old houses, owners can renovate existing houses, thereby keeping their integrity and character whilst also enriching the fabric of a suburb, especially in Castlecrag which is so rich in architectural history.

Ben Gerstel
Ben Gerstel Architecture Pty Ltd
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*Young Lyrebird spotted at the Retreat Reserve
Photo: Lorraine Cairnes*

Lyrebirds are back!

After an absence of over 20 years, a

lyrebird has been spotted in Castlecrag. Council first reported a sighting, and then resident Jack Metcalfe saw one near the Sailors Bay foreshore. Since then what looks like a young bird was seen near The Retreat Reserve; it should find plenty of food on the forest floor where Bushcare groups have been working. These magnificent birds are mound-builders, accomplished mimics, and the males display with their graceful long tails aloft. Please keep your cats and dogs out of bushland as they are the greatest threat to lyrebirds now that Council control programs have reduced fox numbers. Another ground-bird sighting was a quail seen in The Retreat Reserve by Bushcare Flying Squad member Liz.

Northern Escarpment Bushcare Group

A new bushcare group, working on the Castlecrag Northern Escarpment, has been formed. Meeting on the 1st Sunday each month 9am-12pm at 209 Edinburgh Road, the group would welcome new members who should contact Richard Blacklock on 9958 4682 or 0417 217 937.

Willoughby Natural Heritage Register—new Castlecrag sites listed

Willoughby Council's consultant has added some Castlecrag sites to Council's Natural Heritage Register, from surveys during 2010 and 2011 (see: <http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Environment---Sustainability/Bushland/Natural-Heritage-Register/>).

The website advises:

'The overall aim of this study has been to identify and list items of natural heritage that remain outside bushland reserves (which have already been extensively surveyed) and to promote their greater protection, as these items are increasingly under threat from the pressures of urban development and consolidation. Road verges, drainage easements, non-reserve public land and private land are being surveyed. There is extensive resident consultation and support has been overwhelming.

This major ongoing project will enable the Council to develop strategies to monitor and protect the health of all of Willoughby's natural heritage, not just that contained in bushland reserves.

The need for this study was identified by the Urban Bushland Plan of Management (1997). The Natural Heritage Register project commenced in 2000 and will continue for some time to come.'

At the last CPA General Meeting, residents asked if the local community could nominate natural heritage items for the register, and comment on the information in the Register. Council has been invited to respond to this request.

Green Globe Award

Congratulations to Willoughby City Council for winning the Local Government Sustainability Award at the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage 2011 Green Globe Awards on 26 July in recognition of its achievements and strong commitment to sustainability in all key planning documents and initiatives undertaken.

This follows Council's other recent awards including the United Nations Australia Award, the Local Government Cultural Award and the LGMA Management Challenge Regional Award in the New South Wales Category.

Having met its own 50 per cent greenhouse reduction target, Willoughby City Council is now focusing on assisting the community to reach a 15 per cent reduction by 2015. Last year Willoughby residents recycled 8,296 tonnes of commingled recycling (equivalent to 4,165 tonnes of CO₂-e saving) and 42.2 tonnes of e-waste (equivalent to 193 tonnes of CO₂-e savings).

Mayor Pat Reilly, commenting on council's win at the Green Globe Award, commended the Willoughby community and council staff for their tireless efforts in the campaign. He noted that 'Willoughby City Council is committed to reducing its ecological footprint through the efficient use of resources, protecting the natural environment and encouraging biodiversity so that our city is improved for current and future generations'.

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Neighbourhood Watch

Police Incident report October 2011 (Castlecrag and Middle Cove)

As most of you would know, there has been a spate of robberies in and around The Bulwark. Keep up the good work of community vigilance and co-operation! Remember the obvious: lock doors of house and car, don't leave items visible. Make it hard for them. Timely information is invaluable to our police and they need the help of the community. If you see ANY suspicious activity, phone Chatswood Police on 9414 8499 or the Police Assistance Line—131444—to report any

crime etc, however minor it may seem.

As we went to press, Chatswood Police reported that between 20th-22nd October there were three indecent assaults in Castlecrag: in The Battlement, in Edinburgh Road near Linden Way, and near the Post Office. In each case the victim described the male suspect as being 14-15 years old, slim build, with scruffy/curly hair and fair skin. In the last offence he was riding a black mountain bike with a white logo.

The next two Community Police Briefings will be 6.30pm on 13 December and 14 February at Chatswood Police Station.

Jan Duggin
Co-ordinator NHW
Castlecrag/Middle Cove

NB: North Shore Local Area Command has launched a new public Facebook page 'Project Eye Watch' to promote better communication with local residents. We will include further information in the next issue of The Crag.

Incident Category	Details	Address	Premise	Date	Time
Malicious damage	Malicious damage to property	Edinburgh Rd Castlecrag	Residential	Wed 13 July	5pm
Malicious damage	Malicious damage to property	The Rampart Castlecrag	Residential	Thur 21 July	12 noon
Malicious damage	Malicious damage to property	The Rampart Castlecrag	Residential	Sat 23 July	10.30pm
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	The Scarp Castlecrag	Residential	Wed 27 July	9am
Stealing	Steal from motor vehicle	Edith St Castlecrag	Residential	Sun 7 Aug	6.30pm
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	Edinburgh Rd Castlecrag	Residential	Tue 16 Aug	10pm
Sexual offence-other	Other sexual offence	Middle Cove	Residential	Wed 17 Aug	
Stealing	Other steal	Edinburgh Rd Castlecrag	Business/commercial	Thur 18 Aug	10am
Stealing	Steal from person	Rembrandt Dr Middle Cove	Outdoor/public place	Thur 18 Aug	2pm
Stolen vehicle/vessel	Vehicle	Lincoln Ave Middle Cove	Outdoor/public place	Wed 24 Aug	8pm
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	The Bulwark Castlecrag	Residential	Thur 25 Aug	11am
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	The Barricade Castlecrag	Residential	Thur 25 Aug	5pm
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	The Bulwark Castlecrag	Residential	Fri 26 Aug	3pm
Stealing	Steal from dwelling	The Parapet Castlecrag	Residential	Fri 26 Aug	3.15pm
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	The Bulwark Castlecrag	Residential	Fri 26 Aug	6.30pm
Stealing	Steal from dwelling	Sugarloaf Cres Castlecrag	Residential	Sat 27 Aug	11.30pm
Located vehicle/vessel	Abandoned	The Scarp/The Bulwark Castlecrag	Outdoor/public place	Tue 6 Sept	12.15pm
Stealing	Other steal	Edinburgh Rd Castlecrag	Residential	Thur 8 Sept	12 noon
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	The Barricade Castlecrag	Residential	Fri 9 Sept	7.45am
Malicious damage	Malicious damage to property	Raeburn Ave/Edinburgh Rd Castlecrag	Outdoor/public place	Mon 15 Aug	4pm
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	The Bulwark Castlecrag	Residential	Sun 25 Sept	12 noon
Stealing	Malicious damage to property	The Bulwark Castlecrag	Residential	Tue 27 Sept	9.30pm
Break and enter	Break/enter and steal	The Parapet Castlecrag	Residential	Wed 28 Sept	11.30pm
Stealing	Malicious damage to property	Morotai Cres Castlecrag	Residential	Fri 30 Sept	2.40am



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Diary Dates • Diary Dates • Diary Dates

- **Tuesday 15 November, 8pm**

Willoughby Environmental Protection Association (WEPA)

At the Marion Mahony Griffin Hall, Glenaeon School, 121 Edinburgh Road. Dr Haydn Washington will speak on 'Climate Change Denial - Heads in the Sand'. Haydn is co-author of the recently published book, *Climate Change Denial*.

See <http://wepa.org.au/> for information.

- **Friday 18 November, 8pm**

Dinner and Cabaret at the Haven Amphitheatre Castlecrag, with George Washingmachine

Contact Phil on 0412 663 860

- **Tuesday 29 November, 8pm**

Castlecrag Progress Association (CPA) Inc. General Meeting

End of year get-together at the Marion Mahony Griffin Hall, Glenaeon School, 121 Edinburgh Road. Speaker will be the Mayor of Willoughby, Councillor Pat Reilly.

All welcome. Further information: info@castlecrag.org.au.

- **Saturday 3 December, 5pm**

Sydney Opera Society

Christmas party at Castlecrag Community Centre, The Postern. Anyone interested in learning about the society's 2012 programme is welcome to attend.

Further information: Shirley Robertson 9605 5851

- **Tuesday 13 December, 6.30pm**

Neighbourhood Watch

Briefing for North Shore Local Area Command Community Safety Precinct Committee at Chatswood Police Station. Residents welcome. Meetings last approximately 1 hour.

Further information: Snr Const Matt Jewell 9414 8499.

- **Saturday 24 December**

The Haven Amphitheatre

Everyone is welcome to attend the traditional Christmas Carols at The Haven. Time and transport details will be announced later.

OTHER NOTICES

Castlecrag Bushcare Groups' Meeting Dates

First Sunday of the month

- Cortile Reserve; 8am–11am; contact Sue Burk 9958 4295
- Northern Escarpment; 9am–12 noon; contact Richard Blacklock 0417 217 937 or 9958 4682

Second Saturday of the month

- Gargoyle Reserve; 9am–12 noon; contact Margaret Hutchinson 9958 4230

Second Sunday of the month

- Keep Reserve; 9am–12.30pm; contact Matthew Keighery 9967 2682

Third Saturday of the month

- Rockley St; 9am–12 noon; contact Tanya Coates 0411 086 105
- Torquay Estate Reserve; 1–3pm; contact Jo Nolan 9958 8237

Third Sunday of the month

- Beverley Blacklock Reserve/Cheyne Walk, 9am–12 noon, contact Frank Milner 0409 586 533
- Casement Reserve; 9am–12 noon; contact Sue Burk 9958 4295
- Oriel Reserve; 9am–12 noon; contact Mandy Wilson 9777 7875 or Rob Gibson 0409 035 614
- Retreat Reserve; 9–12 noon; contact Lorraine Cairnes 9958 1213 or Jill Newton 9967 4933

Castlecrag Conservation Society (CCS)

The Christmas party will be held at a date and place to be decided. Enquiries: Matthew Keighery 9967 2682.

Walter Burley Griffin Society

Please contact the Secretary at info@griffinsociety.org for further information.

Diary Dates is a service by the Castlecrag Progress Association.

Please contact: editors@castlecrag.org.au with details of forthcoming events and activities for inclusion.

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