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CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

Guest Speaker:

the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian

Member for Willoughby, Minister for Transport.

Wednesday, 9 October 2013, 8pm

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

All welcome. Refreshments will be provided.

Coconuts, Carnival, Community – Castlecrag Fair 2013



A postponement of two weeks, due to rain and winds, did little to dampen the enthusiasm and fun at the biennial Castlecrag Community Fair on June 16. The beautiful sunny day was enjoyed by many families and friends.

As in the past the organisation of our Fair is a huge undertaking and it just wouldn't be possible without the help and support of the local businesses and many individuals.

The Castlecrag Progress Association would particularly like to thank:

- Our Fair Coordinator **SIMONE SELBY** who once again with the able assistance of her husband Mike Selby took on this task for the third time! Without Simone and Mike there would not have been a Fair in 2013!

- The **QUADRANGLE SHOPPING VILLAGE** for its very generous support as the major sponsor of the 2013 Castlecrag Community Fair.
- The following **BUSINESSES** who sponsored our live entertainers on the day: Castlecrag Pharmacy, Castlecrag Post Office, LJ Hooker Castlecrag, Le Ganache Patisserie and MLC Tennis Hot Shots.
- The following **BUSINESSES** who supported the Fair through donations to the raffle: Castlecrag Fruiterers, Simon Johnson Foods, Butterfly Café, Flavours Of Peking Restaurant, Martha's Restaurant, Palm Beach Home, Aldo Shoes, Park Avenue Boutique, Rodney Clark Boutique, Castlecrag Meats, Bai Yok Restaurant, Cyrus The

Great Restaurant, Clipso, Mattana, Serin Cini, Castlecrag Cellars and Artusi Restaurant. Those of you who won raffle prizes will testify to the bigheartedness of these donors.

- The following **INDIVIDUALS**: Kate Westoby and Mark Crew for their many hours of work and effort in establishing and running our financially successful CPA bookstore; James Fitzpatrick and Joe Christie for organising the ever popular coconut shy; Diana Jones and Jill Newton for their behind the scenes paperwork and organisation ensuring compliance requirements and financials; The Haven Amphitheatre and Richard Newton for supply of audio equipment and operations and all of those who worked as traffic wardens, served at our book stall, worked as ticket collectors and helpers on the rides, and
- Last but not least **WILLOUGHBY CITY COUNCIL** for its support as always of our Fair. The CPA particularly wishes to thank Mayor Pat Reilly; General Manager Nick Tobin; Group Leader, Traffic and Transport, James Brocklegbank; Festival and Events Manager; Ellis O'Beirne and Works Engineer; Sunil Gamage.

Without this level of support the Community Fair would not have been financially viable and, as always, the Castlecrag Progress Association is most gratified to have our local businesses directly participating in this very successful community event through sponsorships, donations and special trading on the day itself.

Photo: J. Crew

STOP PRESS:

Lyrebird: Council Wildlife and Habitat Officer Liz Powell has been trying to track the movements of the lyrebird which was seen by several Castlecrag residents in the past year. If you have seen a lyrebird in recent times, please give Liz a call at Council on 9777 1000.

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.

COMMITTEE 2013-2014

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Vice Presidents David Harrop
John Steel

Secretary Jill Newton

Treasurer Diana Jones

Committee Ruth Kendon
Warwick Lynch
Gay Spies OAM
Richard Wylie

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John Steel

email: editors@castlecrag.org.au

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.

Advertising Enquiries

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Monday, 20 January, 2014

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Castlecrag Progress Association news and update

Annual General Meeting

Never let it be said that CPA committee members don't love their sport! Our AGM held on 11 June 2013 inadvertently coincided with a 2014 World Cup Qualifier, Socceroos v Jordan! However for the more than 30 members who attended the meeting, it was well worth the sacrifice. They were in for a treat!

Our guest speaker Paul Storm, President, Willoughby District and Historical Society, shared his wonderful collection of architectural and ephemeral items of a bygone era with Australian decoration applied to them. This was a time when Australian fauna and flora, such as kookaburras, waratahs and banksias were used as motifs in art, craft and industry.

Paul had fortuitously managed to rescue many of the beautiful objects from demolition sites and Willoughby tip over the years. They included a door knob cast in the shape of a waratah, a kookaburra shaped bottle opener, an intricately cast, magnificent Waratah ceiling rose, fireplace surround tiles with embossed designs of flannel flower, Sturt desert pea and flowering gum, budgerigar hand-painted floor tiles (circa 1850) and acid-etched glass.

Paul's accompanying presentation describing the Australiana decorative arts movement that was unevenly distributed throughout Australia, was fascinating.

2013-2014 Committee

The new CPA committee was duly elected. Executive Committee members are: Kate Westoby (President), David Harrop and John Steel (Vice Presidents), Jill Newton (Secretary) and Diana Jones (Treasurer). One new committee member, long time Castlecrag resident, Ruth Kendon (see profile), was elected; three former committee members, Joe Christie, Matthew Keighery and Phil Walsh were farewelled and thanked for their work, as well as our former president, James Fitzpatrick. Other serving committee members were re-elected: Warwick Lynch, Gay Spies OAM and Richard Wylie. President Kate Westoby welcomed Ruth to the committee.

Castlecrag Village Centre proposal Update

As reported on page 2 of the June 2013 *Crag*, WCC's Director of Infrastructure, Steven Head, spoke at our March 2013 general meeting on Council's proposal for revitalising the public domain of the Castlecrag Village Centre.

The concept plans were exhibited near the shops and also on Council's website. Comments were sought. The CPA responded to Council on 23 June 2013 and our submission can be viewed on our website: <http://castlecrag.nsw.au/Submissions/index.html>

Acknowledging that Council has only limited funds to spend on this upgrade, the CPA would prefer an approach which maximises the potential return to the community, whilst leaving opportunities open for further enhancements from future funds or grants. The CPA recommended that the available funds be initially directed to four key projects:

- Creating Castlecrag entry statements to each of the suburb entry points with a major statement at the Village entry point in Edinburgh Rd. While the CPA believes it is most appropriate that the village centre which is the 'heart' of Castlecrag is identifiable, the other three entry points to Castlecrag (Morotai, Sunnyside and Sugarloaf Crescents) should also be identified as being part of Castlecrag;
- Replacing the pavement material to the Village Centre Precinct;
- Upgrading, by cladding in sandstone rather than removing, the existing brick planters, including replacing the plants with local species suggested in the Castlecrag Plant Guide;
- Replacing the street furniture items subject to available funds, including appropriate themed seating, bicycle racks, community notice board, safety bollards, signage, etc.

For the entry statement to the Village the CPA strongly supports the use of the 'vertical sculptural' or totem approach of an entry marker, potentially based on Bim Hilder's WCC Bi-Centenary Sculpture entry as displayed in the Castlecrag Library.

Castlecrag Progress Association Inc. Membership Form

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013

(\$20 per person, \$10 per student)

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

(For further options to pay memberships please visit www.castlecrag.org.au and select 'Membership option')

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

Name:

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Phone: Email:

Please post to the Treasurer:

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Queries to:

info@castlecrag.org.au

CPA news continued...

New Committee Member – Ruth Kendon

Ruth Kendon is a practicing naturopath and herbalist based in Sydney, Australia. She has spent the last 29 years in private practice and has taught clinical nutrition for 20 years, at Sydney's premier naturopathic colleges. She has been involved in the formulation and design of hundreds of natural health products including foods, herbal medicines, nutritional supplements, and essential oils. Ruth has also served as a Director on the Board of the National Herbalists' Association of Australia, the oldest and most highly respected professional body for practitioners of herbal medicine in Australia.

Ruth is currently working for a peak industry body, representing producers of natural medicines and dealing with several federal government agencies. She still maintains a small clinic, and researches plant-based treatments for infectious diseases.

Ruth has lived in Castlecrag for 30 years and loves our birds, native animals and trees. She is passionate about conserving the bushland, which feeds and shelters them.

NSW Planning Bill update as at 10 September 2013

As *The Crag* goes to Press, the NSW Government is due to introduce its new planning legislation to Parliament (unless withdrawn for redrafting and further exhibition).

The CPA emphasises it is a politically non-aligned organisation. However the committee strongly opposes the proposed legislation, because it believes that the proposals will adversely affect Castlecrag and its community. We believe this legislation, if passed in its current form, is the most serious threat (at least since the proposed extension to the Warringah free way through the Castlecrag northern escarpment) to the natural and human heritage of Castlecrag ever faced by our bush suburb, as it is for the rest of New South Wales.



Photo courtesy BPN

Main Concerns

Concerns with the White Paper and draft Planning Bill include:

- removing ecologically sustainable development (ESD) principles from the NSW Planning System and moving away from environmental protection, to an emphasis on economy and growth;
- community participation provisions not being mandatory;
- the absence of clear and objective criteria for decision making;
- plans to have 80% of development assessed without community consultation;
- no substantive provisions for protecting the environment and heritage;
- no protections for conservation areas or for the natural environment;
- collapsing the existing low and medium density residential zones into one residential zone, which would allow much denser forms of housing, such as units, in what are presently low density zones of detached houses.
- the breaking up of environmental zones into other zones;
- overriding recently-completed local plans by strategic compatibility certificates issued by the Director-General, allowing a developer to carry out development that breaches the requirements of a local plan;
- restricting legal appeal rights.

Criticism by independent bodies

ICAC (the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption), the Law Society of NSW and the NSW Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects, have all criticised aspects of the planning proposals. For example ICAC says, in part the laws will create '...complexity and confusion' and the Law Society of NSW includes 'the breadth of the Minister's discretionary powers is of concern'.

The Better Planning Network (BPN) website has full submissions: <http://betterplanningnetwork.good.do/nsw/pages/key-resources/>.

Departmental Back-down

Planning and Infrastructure Director, Sam Haddad, responding to BPN questions, conceded that department staff may have unintentionally spread 'inaccurate or misleading information' and that there was a disconnect between the drafting of the bill and the message communicated to the public! (See BPN website for press coverage.)

Councils call for re-writing the draft Planning Bill

A number of Councils, rather than just relying on their formal written submissions criticising aspects of the draft Planning Bill, are writing directly to Premier Barry O'Farrell asking for the re-writing and re-exhibition of the draft Planning Bill.

As *The Crag* goes to press Willoughby City Council has passed a similar motion.

What can we do?

The CPA is a member of the BPN which has run an outstanding campaign in an effort to raise public awareness of the shortcomings and adverse implications for the community of the draft Planning Bill. With Council support, the CPA and other local organisations have placed three BPN banners in public places throughout the LGA.

We urge you to go to the BPN website: <http://betterplanningnetwork.good.do/nsw/email-your-state-mp-3/> to SIGN THE PETITION and to send a message to our Member of Parliament.

Jill Newton

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The Old Stone Culvert Bridge in The Bulwark



Figure 1: Inside the culvert. Photo: Jon Kirkwood

On 30 August 2011, Council advised the CPA that the old stone culvert at the lowest point in The Bulwark was in danger of collapse and needed "reinforcement". The problem was mainly a consequence of the soil under the road surface being washed out by occasional breakages in the water mains in the road. This had caused some collapse of the road surface and some bulging in the stone walls on the eastern side of the bridge.

Council's initial proposal was to "spraycrete" the inner walls of the culvert. The CPA and several residents objected to this on the basis that the stone culvert, built when roads were first laid out in Castlecrag was a significant part of the history of Castlecrag and should be preserved in its original state, as shown in Figure 1. After consideration of the comments received, in January 2012 Council revised its proposal to involve only the space above the culvert by drilling piers and overlaying the bridge with a

suspended concrete slab. Other works would be done to stabilize the substrate under the road. Whilst the revised proposal was significantly more expensive than the original proposal it was welcomed by the community.

The first task was to replace the water mains with high pressure PTFE piping which would allow for movement and should put an end to the bursting of pipes. This work

was carried out by Sydney Water around November 2012.

Finally in early March this year work commenced on the repair to the bridge. This was a very complex process that had to be juggled with half road closures and possible noise disturbance to locals. The Contractor visited all the houses in the area and was very cognisant of, and sympathetic



Figure 2: Works underway. Photo: Jon Kirkwood



Figure 3: Works complete. Photo: Jon Kirkwood

to, the concerns of residents. Council engineers visited the site almost daily and the work proceeded at a good pace given the difficulties encountered – mainly very unstable fill under the road and lots of rock to drill with the coring machine. Some appreciation of the scope of the work can be seen in Figure 2, when the work was underway.

The works included a replacement of the footbridge and its outer railing. The walkway was widened to encourage pedestrians (including mothers with prams) to use it rather than stray onto the road as had been necessary with the previously restricted access around a telegraph pole. The outcome – in early May – is a good example of Council and community cooperation resulting in a valuable asset being preserved and enhanced. Figure 3 shows the works completed on 19 May 13.

Jon Kirkwood

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The Houses of Castlecrag

Castlecrag is well known for its stone houses designed by Walter Burley Griffin. These are significant heritage items of Sydney domestic architecture. However, some other Castlecrag houses, also with heritage significance, were designed by Griffin's architectural practice partner, Eric Nicholls. Ben Gerstel, a local architect, writes about one of Nicholls' houses.

215 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag

Photo: Ben Gerstel



As you walk along Edinburgh Road, you notice a modest, white two-storey house with a stone front fence and decorative white gates. This house at 215 Edinburgh Road was designed by Eric Nicholls and is considered his best residential work. Willoughby City Council has listed it as a heritage item.

215 Edinburgh Road was designed in 1940 and built in 1942. The original client was Mr Stan Moriarty. To me, as an architect, the house reads as a collection of volumes tied together by its skin of white painted cement render. The curved stairwell leads the stairs to a roof top terrace giving a wide, expansive view north to the Harold Reid Reserve. There are also two terraces located at the front of the house, one over the garage and the other a small balcony to the right of the stairwell.

Nicholls liked to incorporate stone into his designs. At the rear of the house are two over-scaled, circular stone columns which hold up a timber pergola currently covered with different coloured bougainvillea. There are two semi-circular curves built into the stone rear wall of the house continuing the circular motif. The rear terrace is

covered with sandstone flagging and inside on the eastern wall is a stone fireplace and a stone chimney.

Other features of Nicholls' architecture are the use of decorative concrete screens which can be seen covering windows, and the glass bricks in the curved stairwell.

The house was extended in 2002 by the architects Gordon and Valich. They added a wing to the right-hand side of the original house forming an "L" shape around the northerly terrace. This addition is very discrete from the street as it is located behind vegetation and is painted grey. On the ground floor, the addition contains a kitchen which flows into a family room. Over this is the main bedroom with its own terrace. Around the north-west corner of the family room is a water feature.

At the time of this addition, the original house was renovated, the ground floor being made into one large room and its rear wall pushed out to include large, steel-framed glass sliding doors.

As well as other Sydney houses Nicholls designed the Albert Chownie Memorial Hall and the Bowling Club in Willoughby

Park, the Castlecrag Community Centre, Kindergarten and Library and the baby health centre on the corner of Penshurst and Forsyth Streets, Willoughby. With Griffin, he designed the famous Reverberatory Incinerators and Nicholls, with the Griffins, was instrumental in establishing a Steiner School in Australia.

Eric Milton Nicholls commenced his architectural career in Melbourne, joining in 1924 the practice of Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin. When the Griffins moved to Sydney in 1925, Nicholls took charge of the Melbourne office and in 1929 was made a partner in the firm.

After Griffin's departure from Australia in 1933, Nicholls took over Griffin's practice and assumed responsibility of the company, the Greater Sydney Development Association. Eric Nicholls died in 1965.

References:

- The owners of 215 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag
- Willoughby City Council
- Suburbs: Castlecrag – History and Heritage
- Glенаeon Rudolph Steiner School
- Willoughby Historical Society Inc. (<http://www.willoughbydhs.org.au/History/People/Nicholls.html>)

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A Night of Comedy at the Haven – Saturday 28 September

The Haven Amphitheatre, Castlecrag presents
A night of comedy at The Haven
 7:30pm Saturday 28th September
 Live Comics on stage followed by screening of *The Castle*
 Tickets \$12
 BBQ food available from 6.30pm
 Catch the free shuttle bus from Castlecrag Shops from 6.30pm onwards (no parking at the venue)
 Wet weather info www.thehaven.biz (check website on day for alternative venue)
 WILLoughBY SPRING FESTIVAL September 2013

Our next event is on September 28th at 7.30pm at The Haven. A night of comedy at the Haven should be lots of fun & hopefully have you laughing louder than the kookaburras.

Our local mini shuttle bus will collect you from outside the Butcher's shop, cnr Edinburgh Rd & Raeburn Ave Castlecrag, starting from 6.30pm. As usual, there is no parking at the theatre. The barbie will be fired up & cooking delicious gourmet snags for your dinner from 6.30pm. Feel free to bring your own beverages. Tea & coffee will be available so forget the thermos!

In case of wet weather, please check the website www.thehaven.biz/running-events/ for details of the wet weather venue.

The Incinerator Café

Though the Incinerator as an Art Gallery and Artists Workshop has been open since 2011, the café planned for the top floor has not materialised.

Council recently called for expressions of interest to operate the café at the Incinerator, the Heritage Listed, Walter Burley Griffin designed building in Small Street, Willoughby. The proposal of Jonathan Slingo, principal of Customer First Hospitality has now been selected. Mayor Pat Reilly said: "Jonathan and Customer First Hospitality put forward an exemplary submission to run the café space at the Incinerator. Not only does he have a wealth of hospitality experience, but showed a real understanding of the Incinerator building's unique attributes." Jonathan Slingo has more than 25 years experience in the hospitality industry, and has put together a team of specialists for the new project, including Acme DesignStudio, who designed the award winning café, The Grounds of Alexandria, situated within an early 1900s pie factory.

It is expected that the new café will open late this year. The café will offer dine-in and takeaway options, as well as be available for function and event hire. Jonathan's proposal calls for a seasonal and sustainable café menu. He plans to establish a kitchen garden so fresh herbs and salad greens can be readily sourced from garden beds onsite.

NB: There is no pre-booking of tickets, so please arrive a little earlier to purchase your seats. All tickets \$12.

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Fun at the Castlecrag Fair 2013...



The team from Marthas.
Photo A. Fraser



Musicians at The Quadrangle. Photo: A. Fraser



Kate & Mark at the Book Stall
Photo: J. Crew



Didier Sockeel from Ganache. Photo A. Fraser



A Tawny Frogmouth was one of the stars
at the Fair. Photo A. Fraser



The smiling face of Flavors of Peking.
Photo: A. Fraser



Enjoying the food and music. Photo: J. Crew



The crowds around the bandstand. Photo: A. Fraser



Castlecrag Cellars. Photo A. Fraser



Castlecrag Meats' Pork Rolls. Photo: A. Fraser



Enjoying lunch at Artusi. Photo A. Fraser

Get the Castlecrag App!



Photo: Matthew Keighery

You may have noticed new wayfinding poles in some of Castlecrag's reserves. You'll also notice on some of them, an extra sign. These are Quick Response Codes (QR codes) which enable people to access some information about particular parts of Castlecrag. These QR codes are also found on some rocks and seats in the area. So, how do you use the QR codes? Here is a step by step guide...

- 1) Get the QR code App by searching for 'QR code app'.
- 2) Take your device and scan the code - whether it's on a post, seat or stone.
- 3) This will open a link to the information - read away!

How did this come about?

The Griffin Reserves Advisory Committee (GRAC) felt that there was a need for better delineation of pathways and from reserves, for both residents and non-residents. Better access meant that there also had to be some upgrading of paths in

places - so this was a win-win situation. In conjunction with these apps, we are also producing a brochure with a map, draft copies of which are being circulated.

As the suburb of Castlecrag is often studied by school students, we considered an 'App' could engage a younger audience and be helpful for educators.

What is the content you can access via the QR Code?

There is a range of material available, including information about the Griffins, as well as Castlecrag's ecology, aboriginal heritage, community and Council initiatives. As the content is on the internet, it isn't fixed. This means that it can be added to or subtracted from over time. If there are filmmakers, photographers or audio producers with additional ideas, please let us know!

I had hoped that we would've had more multi-media rich content, videos and audio files, but it took a fair amount of voluntary time to get it to this stage. If you find inaccuracies, always possible with volunteer projects, please let us know!

Thanks are given to those involved: Councillor Gail Giles-Gidney for her support; and Sue Burk, David Martin and Matthew Keighery who have steered the project. Our Council and their employees, particularly Alfred Bernhard and Jan Felton, deserve great praise for these great improvements to both our physical and cultural environment.

Join GRAC

The Griffin Reserves Advisory Committee (GRAC) consists of Willoughby City Councillors, a Willoughby City Council employee, Jan Felton, and some Castlecrag residents. GRAC is an interesting and stimulating committee creating improvements for our suburb. It is currently looking for new residents to become committee members! The committee meets four times a year at the WCC Depot, 25-27 Gibbes Street, Chatswood. Meetings are open to the public and commence at 6pm.

Matthew Keighery
Committee Member GRAC

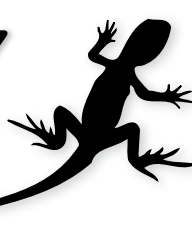
Local history talk

The Willoughby District Historical Society will hold its next interesting talk concerning our local history in the Willoughby Room at the Chatswood Library, The Concourse, on Saturday 12 October at 2pm.

The guest speaker will be Patrick Dodd of the State Library of NSW. Patrick has five decades of experience in education, training, public relations and tourism. He is currently a guide and public speaker for the library.

Patrick will speak on treasures in the library's collection and will show selected images from the Holterman Collection that were featured in The Greatest Wonder of the World exhibition at the Library earlier this year. The 3500 remarkable glass plate negatives in this collection were found in a Chatswood garden shed in 1951.

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Centenary Day – Dedication of the Marion Mahony Griffin Hall Saturday, 19 October, 2013

This year, 2013, marks the hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the Griffin's remarkable story in Australia.

This pioneering couple, Walter Burley Griffin and his wife and architect partner, Marion Mahony Griffin, captured the spirit of our nation and expressed our identity in their design for our nation's capital. Here in Castlecrag they laid the foundations for a new vision of Australian suburban living that fused family homes in a sustainable and harmonious balance of community and the natural environment. They were pioneers ahead of their time: sometimes viewed as unorthodox, even odd, many of their views and values are now benchmarks for government policy.

They were also among the first to bring the ideas of Dr Rudolf Steiner to Sydney. Marion ran a playgroup for children in Sunnyside Avenue which she hoped would one day become the basis for a school. It was not to be in her time, but she left to return to the USA in the late 1930s, she had already created a rich seedbed of people committed to a new vision of education and community. They formed a creative community of progressive individuals: regular plays, dance and musical performances were held in the Haven Amphitheatre, study groups discussed philosophy and festivals brought the community together.

One of the Castlecrag group was Sylvia Brose, a young teacher who was inspired by the Griffins: she said later that Marion's group was, for her, a university in the bush



Marion Mahony Griffin Hall. Photo: Glenaeon

of Castlecrag. She later went to Europe and studied Steiner education.

Walter Burley Griffin had taken on a young partner in his architectural practice which had established Sydney and Melbourne offices. It was Eric Nicholls who moved to Sydney to cover the work here, and who took over the practice after Walter left for India. He too was inspired by the work of Dr Steiner.

With Marion's seed community, Eric Nicholls, as Chairman and Sylvia Brose, as teacher, together founded Glenaeon Rudolf Steiner School. From three students in the first kindergarten at Pymble in 1957, numbers soon grew, and the school moved to its main campus in Middle Cove. This was part of the original Griffin estate of the three peninsulas of Castlecrag, Middle Cove (originally named by the Griffins as Cove Crag) and Castle Cove.

In this centenary year we celebrate Castlecrag, and Glenaeon's common origins in the inspiring work of the Griffins.

Glenaeon's *Building the Education Revolution* project in 2010 was the construction of a hall on our Castlecrag campus which was opened in October 2010 by the former Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth, the Hon. Peter Garrett AM.

The hall is now well used by the local community including the Castlecrag Progress Association. We are honouring Marion Mahony Griffin for her role as an inspiring influence in the foundation of Glenaeon, Castlecrag, and via Canberra, of Australia itself.

Our Centenary Day will unveil a sandstone plaque officially naming the Hall as the Marion Mahony Griffin Hall. There will be contributions from the school and community, tributes to the Griffins and their legacy, a performance of the Glenaeon Alumni Choir, and a festive afternoon tea will mark this day as a special one: join us at 3 pm.

Andrew Hill, Head of School

How well do you know your suburb?



Do you know where to find this Griffin?

Answer on page 10.

Photo: D. Pope

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ENVIRONMENT NEWS • environment news • ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Vale

John Llewellyn

It was with sadness that the Castlecrag community received news that John Llewellyn passed away in August.

John, a horticulturist and environmental planner with a BSc in architecture, lived for many years in The Glass House (No. 80 The Bulwark) adjacent to The Retreat Reserve. He was a President of the Castlecrag Conservation Society, and active in many community organisations and campaigns.

John had been a Mentor to Castlecrag's Retreat Bushcare Group since the group first formed, and through his long association with the reserve, helped the Bushcare Group to make sense of some of the puzzling questions about some species, and historic structures and pathways in the reserve, which are now valued as part of the reserve's cultural heritage.

John visited "The Gully" of The Retreat Creek whenever he was in Sydney, and several fine young coachwoods (grown by Richard Blacklock from local seedlings) have been planted in his memory. The planting ceremony included people from the Castlecrag Conservation Society, John's family, local friends and the Retreat Bushcare Group.

We send our condolences to John's wife Cherry, and to his ex-wife Mary and their children Annie and Thomas.

Lorraine Cairnes

Cockies with Wingtags

– you can help with bird research



The Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney has begun research to help understand the movements of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos (*Cacatua galerita*). They are tagging the wings of cockatoos, and the research will also provide information about site-loyalty and breeding behaviour.

Here in Castlecrag, we see "cockies" almost daily, and many of them roost overnight down in the estuarine part of Sugarloaf Creek. But it seems that little is known about their movements – are they residents, or do they wander widely around Sydney?

The wingtags are quite large, yellow or green, each with a number.

You can report your sightings by email: cockatoo.wingtags@gmail.com, via the Wingtags App (search "wingtags" in the App store), or Facebook (www.facebook.com/CockatooWingtags) where you can also follow the project.

When reporting, include the tag number and colour (e.g. 142-green or 011-yellow), date and location, and where possible a photo of the cockatoo.

For more information, go to www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au and search for *cockatoo*.

Help our Environment

- Save money, minimise the amount of food you throw away and reduce your waste:

Come on this **Sustainable Food Adventure: Love Food Hate Waste**. Saturday, 26 October 2013, 10:00am to 1:00pm – The Coachwood Room, WCC, Level 6, 31 Victor Street, Chatswood. Contact: Tejinder Gill on 9777 7730 or email Tejinder.Gill@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

- Cleanout your household chemical clutter the right way at this free event and make your home a safer one!

The next **Chemical Cleanout** will be on Saturday, 26 October and Sunday, 27 October 2013 from 9:00am to 3:30pm. Only household quantities accepted - 20kg or 20L maximum container size. Bicentennial Reserve Carpark, Small Street, Willoughby. For more information visit www.cleanout.com.au or call the Environment Line on 131 555.

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Neighbourhood Watch

(Castlecrag and Middle Cove)

Police Incident Report April-June 2013

North Shore Local Area Command has a new Crime Prevention Officer, Senior Constable Sascha Orrick.

At the last Community Safety Committee meeting on 13 August we were reminded that the emerging crime now is fraud and identity theft. Mail can easily be stolen from letter boxes, especially mail with

credit card statements etc. Perhaps a locked letter box could be considered. Also be careful with online information, paying bills and of course don't respond to the offers of \$1,000,000 that you have won.

Stolen goods (such as bikes, TVs, computers etc) can be located and returned to their owners if you can prove ownership.

An NSW Elder Abuse Hotline has been set up which provides information, advice and referrals. For help contact 1800 628 221, or on www.elderabusehelpline.com.au. Only one case in five of elder abuse is reported.

The next two Community Safety Meetings will be on 8 October and 10 December at Chatswood Police Station at 6.30pm.

Incident Category	Details	Address	Premise	Date	Start Time
Steal	Steal from motor vehicle	Sunnyside Cres	Residential	Tues 2nd April	6.00pm
Steal	Steal from motor vehicle	Edith St	Residential	Tues 2nd April	7.00pm
Steal	Steal from motor vehicle	The Parapet	Residential	Tues 2nd April	8.00pm
Steal	Steal from motor vehicle	The Parapet	Residential	Tues 2nd April	10.00pm
Steal	Steal from motor vehicle	Linden Way	Residential	Tues 2nd April	11.30pm
Steal	Steal from person	Edinburgh Rd/Eastern Valley Way	Business/Commercial	Fri 5th April	1.00pm
Break and Enter	Break, enter, steal	Rutland Ave	Residential	Wed 10th April	3.35pm
Malicious Damage	Graffiti	Edinburgh Rd	Residential	Fri 12th April	6.00pm
Malicious Damage	MD to Property	Eastern Valley Way, Middle Cove	Residential	Fri 19th April	12.30pm
Break and Enter	Break,enter,steal	Edinburgh Rd	Business/Commercial	Mon 22nd April	6.00pm
Steal	Other steal	Edinburgh Rd	Car Park	Mon 22nd April	6.00pm
Malicious Damage	MD to Property	Sugarloaf Cres/Eastern Valley Way	Outdoor/public space	Sat 4th May	12.00 noon
Steal	Other Steal	Rembrandt Dr, Middle Cove	Residential	Wed 8th May	6.00pm
Break and Enter	Break,enter,steal	Edinburgh Rd	Residential	Fri 10th May	10.00pm
Steal	Steal from retail store	Eastern Valley Way	Business/Commercial	Sun 19th May	4.30pm
Steal	Steal from motor vehicle	Edinburgh Rd	Outdoor/public space	Mon 20th May	6.30pm
Malicious Damage	Graffiti	Eastern Valley Way, Middle Cove	Residential	Sat 22nd June	7.00pm

KEEP THESE PHONE NUMBERS HANDY

For URGENT police assistance including a suspected crime in progress 000	For routine enquiries or advice after an incident phone: Chatswood Police 9414 8499	To give information about any criminal activities, phone Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000	The Police Assistance Line (PAL) 131 444
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Diary Dates • Diary Dates • Diary Dates

- **Saturday 28 September, 7pm**
Sunday 29 September, 2pm

Willoughby Symphony Orchestra
"Last Night at the Proms"
Conductor: Dr Nicholas Milton
The Concourse Concert Hall, Chatswood
Tickets 1300 795 012

- **Saturday 28 September, 7.30pm**
"A Night of Comedy at the Haven"
The Haven Amphitheatre, Castlecrag
www.thehaven.biz/running-events/

- **Saturday 5 October, 2pm**
Sydney Opera Society
Willoughby Uniting Church Conference Centre,
10 Clanwilliam St, Willoughby
Enquiries: Shirley Robertson, 9605 5851

- **Wednesday 9 October, 8pm**
Castlecrag Progress Association (CPA) General Meeting
Marion Mahony Griffin Hall, Glenaeon School, 121 Edinburgh Road
Speaker: The Hon Gladys Berejiklian, Member for Willoughby,
Minister for Transport
Contact info@castlecrag.org.au for further information.

- **Saturday 12 October 2 pm**
Willoughby District Historical Society
Guest Speaker; Patrick Dodd of NSW State Library
Chatswood Library, The Concourse, Chatswood

- **Tuesday 15 October, 8pm**
Tuesday 12 November, 8pm

Willoughby Environment Protection Association (WEPA)
Marion Mahony Griffin Hall, Glenaeon School, 121 Edinburgh Road
See www.wepa.org.au for more information.

OTHER NOTICES

Castlecrag Bushcare Groups' Meeting Dates

First Sunday of the month

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

Second Saturday of the month

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

Second Sunday of the month

- Keep Reserve; 9am–12.30pm; contact Matthew Keighery 9967 2682
- Retreat Reserve; 9am–12noon; contact Lorraine Cairnes 9958 1213 or Jill Newton 9967 4933

Third Saturday of the month

- Torquay Estate Reserve; 1pm–3pm; contact Jo Nolan 9958 8237

Third Sunday of the month

- Beverley Blacklock Reserve/Cheyne Walk, 9am–12 noon, contact Frances Davis at WCC 9777 1000
- Casement Reserve; 9am–12noon; contact Sue Burk 9958 4295
- Oriel Reserve; 9am–12noon; contact Mandy Wilson 9777 7875 or Rob Gibson 0409 035 614

Castlecrag Community Library

Support your local library. Opening hours: Tuesday 3pm–4.30pm;
Thursday 2pm–5pm; Saturday 10am–12noon Phone: 9958 8395

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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