

TRAM

NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

No.33

MARCH - APRIL 1984.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

DIANNE STREET.

On behalf of this association I would like to welcome new residents to Castlecrag and say hello to those friends and neighbours we have not seen for some time, especially those who are ill.

It is only because of the local support we enjoy, from both residents and from shopkeepers, that this association can continue working for Castlecrag. This support is very much appreciated.

At the last annual general meeting a different committee was elected, men and women who are active in the community in a variety of organisations and are talented, concerned and interested in the welfare of Castlecrag and the Municipality generally. This is important, as too often in the past we have been seen as parochial. We have not always gained the respect or assistance from state or local authorities in matters relating to Castlecrag. All this is changing due to the hard work and professional assistance we have received from many residents who appreciate the fact that this association is responsible for upholding and maintaining the quality of lifestyle we enjoy in Castlecrag. Without it the peninsula would so easily become one more overcrowded, uncared for suburb.

Apparently the traffic and parking complaints are continuing. With police assistance, action has been taken to deter delivery trucks and selfish drivers from double parking outside shops, turning across double yellow lines and parking in front of private driveways. So, please ensure drivers in your family do not get booked in Castlecrag.

I was surprised to hear from John Francis that he and Venessa have sold their newsagency. On behalf of the Association we would like to thank them for long and excellent service given to the residents of Castlecrag and Willoughby. We wish them happiness and success in the future and will be sad to see them leave. The Chandler family (Venessa is a granddaughter) have been part of our suburb since they bought their business here in 1937.

Hopefully 1984 will be a year of achievement and goodwill and together with our alderman resolve a few of the issues with Willoughby Council.

NEXT MEETING OF CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION - TUESDAY 1st MAY, - 8 P.M.

NEXT MEETING OF CASTLECRAG CONSERVATION SOCIETY - FRIDAY 11th MAY, - 8 P.M.

VENUE FOR BOTH MEETINGS:- COMMUNITY CENTRE, OFF THE POSTERN. ALL WELCOME!

!!! PLEASE NOTE !! CHANGE OF DATE FOR PROGRESS ASSOCIATION MEETING IS DUE TO EASTER HOLS!!

THE GEOLOGY OF SUGARLOAF BAY

The following note is taken from a paper prepared by Ted Bowen for the Castlecrag Environment Study.

For those interested in Geology, the rock formations around Middle Harbour and Sugarloaf Bay are Hawkesbury Sandstone laid down in Triassic times some 200 million years ago. The land was shaped during the Tertiary Period (20 million years ago) when the present Middle Harbour River cut a gorge through the sandstone layers. During the ice ages much of the earth's waters was frozen as glaciers and polar ice caps and the level of the sea fell to approximately 200m. below its present level. Thus the gorge you now see would have been that much deeper. At the end of the last ice age, probably as recently as 6000 years ago, with the melting of the ice, the sea level rose and we now see what is known as a drowned river system. Much of the ancient river gorge has since filled with sediment from the sea and silt from the river. These deposits are up to 200m deep; the water depth is 20m. in places.

NEW BOOKS IN CASTLECRAG LIBRARY

MASTERS, John	MAN OF WAR
THEROUX, Paul	KINGDOM BY THE SEA
DURRELL, L.	CONSTANCE - OR SOLITARY PRACTICES
TERRY Carolyn	KING OF DIAMONDS.
BERSTEIN, M.	SADIE
DEIGHTON, Len	BERLIN GAME
THOMAS, Craig.	FIREFOX DOWN
USTINOV, Peter	MY RUSSIA
BOSSC, Malcolm	THE WAR LORDS
HALL, Adam	STRIKER PORTFOLIO
FORBES,	HEIGHTS OF ZEROS
WENTWORTH, P.	LATTER END.
FRANCIS, DICK.	FOR KICKS
MACBEATH, George	A KIND OF TREASON
FOLLETT, Ken	ON WINGS OF EAGLES
HOLT, Victoria	TIME OF THE HUNTERS MOON.
IRISH, Lola	AND THE WILD BIRDS SING.

PAPERBACKS, MYSTERIES AND A LARGE
NUMBER OF DONATIONS -
BOOKS THAT ARE NEW TO OUR LIBRARY.

HOURS Tuesday 3.30pm - 4.30 pm.
Thursday 12.30 pm - 3 pm
Saturday 10.00 am - 12 noon.

CASTLECRAG MEATS

CNR RAEBURN AVENUE & EDINBURGH ROAD

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PEPPER STEAK - Serves 4.

4 pieces rump steak lin. thick.

¼ tspn. salt

tspn. garlic salt

1 beef stock cube

5 tblspns. hot water

1 tblspn. sweet sherry

2 shallots chopped fine.

1 tbsps butter

1 tspn. plain flour.

Trim excess fat from steak, mix together salt & garlic & sprinkle over steak. Grind pepper both sides steak, saute in butter 3 mins. each side, remove from pan-keep hot.

SAUCE Add flour to residue in pan and brown lightly. Dissolve cube in water & blend with flour, add remaining ingredient: & bring to boil - simmer 1 min. Serve steaks topped with sauce, fried mushrooms and a green vegetable.

FREE HOME DELIVERIES * TUES. & SATURDAY.

CASTLECRAG KINDERGARTEN.

Angela Jeffreys.

We have a full enrolment for 1984, with 40 children attending each day. Children need to be enrolled on their second birthday. If you are interested in our centre, please come anytime and see it all happening. We shall make your very welcome.

NEW COMMITTEE FOR 1984.

We would like to thank the outgoing committee for the time and effort spent in managing the Progress Association so effectively in 1983. Our special thanks to the Executive, Con Saltis, President. Timothy Trumbull, Secretary. Dorothy Fraser, Treasurer.

We welcome the new committee, elected in February, and wish them well.

President: Dianne Street (959683)
 Vice Pres: Sylvia Taylor (999997)
 Eric Kaye (956146)
 (ex officio)
 Secretary: Ian Fraser (959851)
 Treasurer: Dorothy Fraser (955851)

Committee: Jenny Kerr (951686)
 John Lee (951961)
 John Llewelyn (955518)
 Con Saltis (956409)
 Addie Saltis (956409)

Gay Spies (952569)
 Harold Spies (952569)
 Marcel Stevens (956936)
 Ann Korner (956059)
 Rita Kaye (956146) Joint Editors

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SALVATION ARMY RED SHIELD APPEAL.

For the last two years we have organised the collection made in Castlecrag and have been asked to cooperate again this year. The date set for the appeal is July 1st., and anyone prepared to help should phone R. Kaye at 95 1646. Approximately 20 collectors will be required to keep each area to be covered reasonably small.

RENEWAL / MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION.

We were delighted with the response to our call for new members of the Progress Association. Receipts will not be posted unless requested on form.

Please tear this form off and send with your membership fee to
 CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION C/- The Treasurer, Mr. D. Fraser,
 16 The Bulwark.

I WISH TO RENEW/APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION
 AND ENCLOSE MY PAYMENT FOR : \$4 Membership or
 \$4 Membership plus donation.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ SIGNATURE. _____

(please note: whilst membership has been set at \$4 per household any extra donation you may be generous enough to offer will be very gratefully received, and would assist in our work, including production of this news letter.

REGENERATION OF OUR BUSHLAND AREAS.

A bitter controversy has arisen between the National Trust and local conservation groups on the one hand and Council on the other, relating to the allocation of funds this year for bushland regeneration. To the extent that open space is dedicated for all to enjoy, the controversy affects all. In Castlecrag however, concern for the environment is a tradition which goes back to Walter Burley Griffin and his wife Marion who in the 1920's worked hard for the preservation of our natural landscape, it has become a way of life for many residents who have devoted a great deal of time and effort to this work.

The National Trust has adopted the "Bradley Method" of regeneration, and trained dedicated people who have demonstrated an aptitude for this work, organising them into highly skilled, competent teams; remuneration is dependant upon their level of training and experience.

Willoughby Council does not employ its own staff on this work, but for the last three years has subcontracted it to the National Trust. Last year the cost of these teams was 2.2% of the total Parks budget. This year, faced with severe financial cuts, Council, on a divided decision resolved to allocate only 0.8% of the Parks budget to regeneration. I do not consider this adequate to preserve such a priceless heritage. In Council's view the deficiency will be made up by the employment of four previously unemployed people who are being trained for 12 months in bushland management under a Government sponsored employment scheme. While most would applaud the principle of training such people in this work and agree that when fully trained they will possess the necessary skills, this training will take a long time. Furthermore, unless restrictions put on Councils regarding rate increases are lifted, Council will not have funds to employ these people in 1985.

The National Trust maintain a very high standard for this work, and consider that the Council allocation is less than necessary to ensure maintenance level adequate to prevent regression, therefore they are not prepared to cooperate with Council. The situation this year is more critical than normal, the current wet season following three years of drought has produced excellent regeneration of native plant species but unfortunately has created a greater weed problem.

Until the matter is resolved our bush suffers, and dedicated, trained regenerators are lost to our area.



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NEWS!!!

As we go to press - excited call to THE CRAG - large snake in tree (not grass)! identified, but not wanted by zoo, "Diamond Python", harmless (unless you are a rat or possum)! protected species found within 100kms. of the city. Sightings along northern escarpment to end Torquay Point. Now seen in large casurina tree on waterfront Sugarloaf Bay. Anyone wanting pet should phone the editor or wait for next thrilling instalment in June edition of THE CRAG.

RÉPORT ON INQUIRY INTO NORTHBRIDGE YACHT SERVICES.

The recommendations of the Commission were briefly as follows:-

1. That the applicant be refused for the following reasons:-
 - (a&b) Vehicular parking is inadequate in number and unsatisfactory in terms of location. Vehicle access is unsatisfactory.
 - (c) Increased boat services etc. will occasion noise likely to detract from existing environment of the area.
 - (d) Number and extent of moorings proposed is excessive and will detract visual environment of Sailors Bay.
 - (e) The proposal is likely to cause localised pollution which will interfere with the use and enjoyment of the baths.
2. That an emended application providing a total of 84 moorings (60 trots and 24 alongside berths) is acceptable subject to conditions.

The commission recommends that the Maritime Services Board investigate sewerage holdings and pump out systems of boats using Sydney Harbour. Also, that a Regional Environmental plan for Sydney Harbour be prepared. Further information available at Castlecrag Library & Willoughby Council. Copy of full report will soon be available at Dept. Information, Ph. 221 3622.

NEWS FROM OUR LOCAL INFANTS' SCHOOL.

The 1984 school year is off to a good start and we anticipate it can only get better! As some of you will be aware, French was introduced mid 1983. Each class has 2 x ½ hr. lessons per week in school time and enthusiasm is the keynote! We all think Madame Descoeurdes est tres magnifique!

We have welcomed the following staff: Miss Helen Constable (year one) replaces Mrs. Joan Upton who is now teaching at Newtown. Mrs. Jan Staley comes one day a week as part of the staffing betterment programme being implemented by the Dept. of Education. Mrs. Sybil Keogh, our first trained part-time librarian will be busy establishing our library, a major project for the year.

Recently we had a "green" day which was lots of fun. It was combined with a Grandparents' Picnic which was really well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by all. I can see such a picnic becoming a tradition.

We now look forward to our Family Barbecue on Sunday 15th April and our Easter programme and "Eggshibition" on Thursday 19th. If you would like to join us for either of these, please contact us here for details.



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UNDER THE NEW MANAGEMENT OF

— MARY BOGNAR —

WHO LOOKS FORWARD TO MEETING
CASTLECRAG RESIDENTS

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NIGEL'S QUALITY MEATSGriffin Centre
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Rita Kaye.

Willoughby Council has resolved to support a proposal put to it by Michael Bate, a theatre director, for the production of a Community Theatre project based on the life of Walter Burley Griffin. The intention is to involve the community as widely as possible to the extent that, if the necessary talent is available, the music will be composed and performed by locals. The same principle will apply to design construction. Performers will be drawn from local theatre groups and other interested residents. Similar schemes have proved a great success in England and France, and closer to home, at Wollongong, Melbourne and Geelong.

It is envisaged that performances will be given at the Castlecrag Haven Theatre, also at parks, schools and possibly Chatswood Town Hall.

Michael has sought a grant from the Australian Council to make this project possible. We have invited him to speak at our next meeting on the 1st May, anyone wishing to discuss the scheme should phone him on 810 5028.

The performances for which Burley Griffin dedicated the site and constructed the original theatre involved the local community. This proposal would have met with his full support and will hopefully be as successful as the plays presented by him almost 50 years ago, and our own production of "Salome" in 1976.

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