



NEWSLETTER OF THE
CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

CASTLECRAG COMMUNITY LIBRARY MARCH, 1979

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

1978 was a trying year for our Progress Association, with some successes and some failures. The most notable success is this newsletter, edited by Bob Ronai. A partial success was our fight to alter the Bowen development.

The Association appeared before the Local Government Appeals Tribunal - a major achievement in itself - and argued successfully for the building to be altered from a cheap and tawdry half-case outlet with hamburger joint and limited parking facilities to a quality building with many (but not all) of the problems solved.

The fight wasn't cheap. Our legal bill was about \$6000 of which about \$3500 has been paid. We still need \$2500 which our solicitors are pressing for. I am sure your donations will continue to flow... we need 250 homes to donate \$10 each, with your Progress Association 1979 subscription, now due. Our need to finalise this chapter is made even more immediate by events which will probably exercise the Association in 1979. These include:

+ The DMR has suggested that there be no right turn east from Eastern Valley Way into Castlecrag. Other suggestions include completely closing off Edinburgh Road at Eastern Valley Way and using Sunnyside as the entrance/exit for Castlecrag. Our Association will need a clear direction from the people of Castlecrag as to what it should do. Please come to our next meeting and make your views known.

+ I am told that the Education Dept. is considering closing Castlecrag Infants School. Again, there is a need for your views to be expressed at our next meeting.

+ Other subjects include the need to establish a set of covenants to ensure that further building in Castlecrag remains of high quality, the need to ensure the Warringah Expressway does not decimate our suburb, and the need to improve social intercourse between residents of our suburb, are continuing and unresolved matters of concern.

Rody Thomas

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 8pm, Tuesday, MARCH 27, COMMUNITY CENTRE

CONCERT AT THE AMPHITHEATRE

There will be a musical concert, with top artists appearing, on Sunday afternoon, 8th April, 1979, commencing at 2pm. Items include:

- Anton Dvorak - Op. 96, The America String Quartet;
- Joseph Haydn - Op. 53, String Trio No. 1;
- Duo - Guitar and Violin.

Please come and bring your friends. We would like as many people as possible to enjoy the entertainment, and help raise money for the amphitheatre.

A working bee to weed and prepare the seats will be held on the two Sunday mornings preceding the concert - 25th March and 1st April. We would be most grateful for help from our suburb's residents. If you can help, please meet us at the amphitheatre at 9.30am.

Please remember that cars should not be parked near the amphitheatre, due to congestion and inconvenience to its immediate neighbours. Please park up the top and stroll down. Some cars will be available to bring people down from the vicinity of Castlecrag Hospital, at 1.40pm.

In the event of rain, the concert will be delayed a fortnight to 22nd April, at 2pm.

Note it in your diary, that's 8th April, 2pm.

The Secretary,
Castlecrag Progress Association,
c/- 103 Edinburgh Road,
Castlecrag, 2068

Fees:
\$2.00 p.a. per person, or
\$4.00 p.a. per family

I wish to join my family up to the Castlecrag Progress Association for 1979
I enclose my cheque for: \$4 fees plus \$ 6 donation, total \$10
\$4 fees plus \$16 donation, total \$20
\$4 fees plus \$ donation, total \$

Name:
(signature) Address:

.....tear off here & post with cheque.....

HISTORY OF CASTLECRAG - Torquay Estate

This time I'll tell you what little I know of the tip of our peninsula.
I'd like to hear from anyone who can tell me more.

The land was granted in 1856 to Robert Phenna, 15 acres, and Jas. Yates, 10 acres. (See page 6 of the Castlecrag Book.) Both these portions were bought some years later by R. Harnett.

Gradually Edinburgh Road crept past Yachtville, slid down the Pinnacle and rambled on to Sugarloaf Point. The track which wandered off parallel to the shores of Middle Harbour was named the Tor Walk.

Harnett sold off some of the choicest parts of his estate in 1 and 2 acre lots. The remainder was subdivided into building allotments in 1913, and became the Torquay Estate.

The 1 and 2 acre lots were subdivided later by their respective owners, the 2 acres on the very tip becoming the Key of Torquay.

The first house on the Torquay Estate was Mr. Coles' weatherboard cottage up near the Pinnacle, but most of the early buildings were again fishing shacks on the waterfront. At least one of them - Gwen Meredith's "Gingerbread House" - is still there, but I'd like to know more about "Chipton", a stone cottage on Edinburgh Road.

Willoughby Council built the jetty at the end of Edinburgh Road. It was opened by the Mayor, R.T. Forsyth on 25th November, 1916, at a cost of £87.10.0 of which £37.10.0 was subscribed by property owners in the vicinity.
Addie Saltis

+ + + + +

Notes from the CASTLECRAG CONSERVATION SOCIETY

We have all heard of the people who bought land in Castlecrag "because of the trees" and then cleared their block of all vegetation. Unfortunately it has been true in more than one case.

We are fortunate that our suburb is a "tree" area and it is incumbent on us to plant sufficient trees and shrubs on our allotments to maintain the green look and ensure that Castlecrag does not gradually deteriorate into a concrete jungle. Autumn is an ideal time for planting.

There are certain trees which should not be planted under any circumstances, such as the rubber tree, poplars, camphor laurels, willows and bamboo, all of which have root systems notorious for blocking drains and sewers, lifting paths and foundations, etc.

There is a wide range of native trees that compliment the rocky Crag landscape without being large enough to threaten your house. The smaller eucalypts (including scribbly gums), banksias, blueberry ash, callistemon, casuarinas, callicoma, acacias, christmas bush, floribunda & glaucescens, can all be planted with confidence. For positions against the house or under power lines, shrubs such as the smaller acacias, grevilleas, baeckea, bauera, eriostemons, hakeas and westringias are hardy and attractive.

Not only are there native plants to flower every month of the year, but they will also bring many birds to your garden.

If you require advice on what tree or shrub to plant, or on any other aspect of planting, phone 95 6994 or 95 1961.

John Lee

+ + + + +

CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
8pm, Tuesday, 27th MARCH, 1979, at the Castlecrag Community Centre.

S A T U R D A Y , A P R I L 2 9

CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

p r e s e n t s ...

A U C T I O N - paintings, jewellery, crystal, antiques, sporting goods, electrical appliances, and featuring - side of lamb donated by KING'S BUTCHERY, Castlecrag family game donated by FRANCIS NEWSAGENCY, C'crag basket of fruit donated by PELLEGRINO FRUITERER, Castlecrag

WHITE ELEPHANT STALLS - toys, books, pot-plants, bric-a-brac

TEA or COFFEE and SANDWICHES - for morning tea or lunch

W I N E T A S T I N G - courtesy of CASTLECRAG CELLARS

R A F F L E - 1st prize: \$30 purchase voucher donated by RUFFLES of Castlecrag
2nd prize: \$10 free petrol donated by ESSO SERVICENTRE, Castlecrag
3rd prize: \$ 6 value potted Bangalow Palm
tickets only 40¢ each or 3 for \$1

.

A L L T H I S I S H A P P E N I N G I N T H E
L O W E R P A R K I N G A R E A (outside the Cellars)

A U C T I O N C O M M E N C E S 11 a m --- i t e m s o n v i e w f r o m 9 a m

.

Every cent raised by this Community Affair helps to cover costs of solicitors, barrister, consultant town-planner and traffic engineer employed by Castlecrag Progress Association in its fight on behalf of our suburb's residents against the proposed shopping complex comprising twenty-shops, plus half-case supermarket, plus take-away food restaurant.

We still want items for the Auction or White Elephant Stalls. If you have anything suitable, please call either Anne Korner on 95 6059 or Addie Saltis on 95 6409, who will arrange for the items to be collected.

Reserve prices on valuable items may be nominated by the donor.