

TRASH

NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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* SIXTY FIVE YEARS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT *

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sue Randle (958 6344)

Dear Residents,

The Castlecrag Progress Association has been involved in a number of issues concerning our Community's quality of life over the last few months: the Northern Escarpment Heritage Study, a film on Castlecrag, the future of the school and its site, environmental concerns over a marina at Northbridge, and a tribute to a community-spirited former resident.

The Northern Escarpment Heritage Study is now being finalised. Our Association has made a submission to the consultants responsible for the study, DC Research, pointing out that the study needs to encompass the whole of the Northern Escarpment including the waterfalls and of course, the vexed question of the retention of the historic foreshores cottages. Another submission (for funding) that the Association supported is the proposed film on Castlecrag by Barbara Chobocky (more details on this next issue).

With respect to the future of Castlecrag Infants School, SOS*CRAG and representatives of other groups in Castlecrag, and the Ward Aldermen, recently met with The Hon. Peter Collins, MP, to discuss the issue. An excellent submission has been prepared by the SOS*CRAG Committee (congratulations to Lindy Batterham and her committee) and has been forwarded to the Minister for School Education, Mrs Virginia Chadwick. A meeting is expected to take place with Mrs Chadwick, Mr Collins, the Mayor of Willoughby, SOS*CRAG and community representatives within the next two weeks (keep your fingers crossed!).

Our meetings are open to all residents so come along to our next one on Tuesday 25 September at the Infants School, Edinburgh Road, 8pm, and meet some other members of Castlecrag Community.

The next meeting of the Castlecrag Conservation Society will be held on Friday 21 September 1990 at the Castlecrag Infants School at 8.00 pm. For details, ring Harold Spies 958 8569.

On Sunday 19th August a group of family and friends of the late Judy Bowen, an active and caring Castlecrag resident, met to pay tribute to Judy by planting an *Angophora* at the Haven Theatre. Eric Kaye gave a resumé of Judy's diligence and hard work in our community on many committees. Her major work was for the Haven Theatre Committee. Eric stated 'The tree planted by her husband Ted Bowen will be a silent reminder of a fine person and a wonderful friend.'

Northbridge Progress Association has been active and has asked our Association and residents to be aware of a major development, a proposed marina off Clive Park, Northbridge. An environmental impact study is in progress and concerned residents are asked to write their letters of objection to Council, Mr Collins, and the Maritime Services Board.

The **Willoughby Fun Fair** will be held on September 15th at Willoughby Park, and the Association's 'Trash and Treasure Stall' will again be held. We need your donations of old or unused goods, which will be gratefully received, and someone else may make good use of them! Please clean out your attics, garages, and cupboards and ring Kathy Burgess 958 5103, Sue Randle 958 6344, Kerry McKillop 958 4516, to come to collect, or leave goods on the verandah near the staffroom at the school. Volunteer helpers for the stall please ring Kathy Burgess.

The State Pollution Control Commission has prepared a brochure which outlines methods by which domestic noise problems within a community might be overcome. The brochure is available from the SPCC, 157 Liverpool Street, Sydney (phone 265 8888). We outline some of its guidelines and recommendations here:

If you are annoyed by noise created by thoughtless or inconsiderate neighbours, there are a number of approaches you can take. The first thing to do is to try to solve the problem amicably by talking it over with the person causing the noise. Often they will not have realised they are causing you a problem, and in many cases they will be only too happy to do what they can to help. Free information booklets on how to reduce the noise from common problem sources such as air conditioners may be obtained from the SPCC.

If this approach is not successful, you should consider contacting the Community Justice Centre nearest to you. These centres are government-funded but independent centres that specialise in settling differences between neighbours in a non-legalistic manner if possible (the nearest centre to Castlecrag is at Surry Hills, phone 211 1600).

More formal action may also be taken. If the noise is a recurrent problem you may, depending on the circumstances:

*** lodge a complaint with your Council.** Councils have the power to ease many of the offensive noise problems in your community. Under section 40 of the Noise Control Act, they can serve a notice on the occupier of premises

requiring measures to be taken to control noise from a wide range of domestic sources, including air conditioners, swimming pool pumps, radios, sound reproduction equipment, musical instruments, power tools, lawnmowers, burglar alarms and animals.

*** seek a noise abatement order.** Under section 52 of the Noise Control Act, if you are affected by offensive noise you may seek an order directing the person alleged to be making the noise to appear before your nearest Local Court. If the court is satisfied that the noise is offensive, it may order the defendant to reduce the noise and prevent it recurring at an offensive level. If you decide on this course of action, speak to your legal adviser or make an appointment to see the chamber magistrate at the nearest local court.

If the noise is a 'one off' problem, you should consider contacting the police.

*** Noise abatement directions.** If you are excessively disturbed by a particular noise incident (for example a noisy party) you may be wise to contact the police. The police have power under section 59 to direct a person making offensive noise to cease making that noise. A noise abatement direction of this kind may be issued at any time of the day or night and remains in force for six hours from the time it is issued. Any person who fails to comply can be fined up to \$500.

*** The police also have power to enter premises, by force if necessary, to turn off any burglar alarm that is making an offensive noise and has been sounding for more than 30 minutes.**

Noise source	Times during which special restrictions apply *	Contact
Amplified sound equipment (radio, TV, hi-fi, etc.)	12 midnight to 8am any day	Local council or police
Chain or circular saws	8pm to 7am on weekdays 8pm to 8am on weekends and public holidays	Local council or police
Domestic air conditioners	10pm to 7am on weekdays 10pm to 8am on weekends and public holidays	Local council
Lawnmowers (electric or motor)	8pm to 7am on weekdays and Saturdays 8pm to 8am on Sundays and public holidays	Local council or police
Motor vehicles (except when entering or leaving the premises)	8pm to 7am on weekdays 8pm to 8am on weekends and public holidays	Local council or police
Musical instruments	12 midnight to 8am any day	Local council or police
Power tools (electric or pneumatic)	8pm to 7am on weekdays 8pm to 8am on weekends and public holidays	Local council or police
Swimming pool pumps	8pm to 7am on weekdays 8pm to 8am on weekends and public holidays	Local council
Burglar or intruder alarms: Private homes, shops and small factories		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ringing for 30 minutes: Police ● Intermittent ringing (faulty alarm): local council

* Even outside these restricted hours, additional restrictions can be placed on the use of these articles if they cause an offensive noise.

RE-OPENING CASTLECRAG INFANTS SCHOOL

SOS*CRAG has prepared a proposal on the re-opening of the school which has been submitted to the Minister for School Education jointly by the Hon. Peter Collins, Member for Middle Harbour, Willoughby City Council, and Castlecrag community groups.

The submission puts the case for the re-opening of the school for the beginning of the 1991 school year. All the community groups in Castlecrag - the Castlecrag Progress Association, The Haven Theatre 530A Committee, Castlecrag Infants School P&C, Castlecrag Conservation Society and the Walter Burley Griffin Society - were adamant that the school should reopen and they gave support for the use of the site for other community activities. The SOS*CRAG submission presents a number of options for increased use of the school and its grounds for such community activities. These other options are at the request of Mr Collins, with the aim of enhancing our valuable education facility and benefitting the wider community. The suggested options are:

- A. Integration into the school of an Environmental Education Centre. This is based on the concept put forward in 1989, with the Centre catering for teachers and groups from other schools, together with local children, to study the unique urban bushland and urban planning of Walter Burley Griffin, with subsequent expansion to address community environmental issues.
- B. Accommodation within the school of a Community Arts/Theatre program. The concept involves the development of quality theatre for pre-school and infant age children using the school facilities and the Haven Theatre (Amphitheatre). The program also proposes a series of performances and concerts for family audiences. The high patronage for the *Spring Festival '88* and other performances at the Haven Theatre demonstrates its potential.

C. Option A combined with Option B.

Option C is preferred on the grounds that it is an integrated approach in keeping with the ideals and aspirations of Walter Burley Griffin who designed Castlecrag in the 1920-30s.

The submission emphasises both the excellent standards of education our children have enjoyed at the school since it began over forty years ago, and the continuing involvement of members of our community in the school and in the maintenance of its grounds.

It proposes that a Joint Working Party involving representatives from the community, Willoughby City Council and the Department of School Education, be set up to develop details of the preferred option. The document is backed by detailed appendices including a report by independent consultant Dr David Cohen, a demographic study by Dr Karen Wilson, and detailed plans for the suggested options. Further details are available from SOS*CRAG.

Meanwhile, the community's physical presence at the school site is being maintained in the form of picket duty, classes and meetings. Volunteers are still needed to take a shift in the caravan. Please phone 958 5534 to give a little time.

Playgroup continues Monday-Friday (9am-12.30) for the under 5's and their carers.

Life Drawing sessions are held on Thursday evenings and are proving very popular. For more details, phone Mary Ferguson on 958 3948.

Yoga and Yogarobics classes (which encompass remedial work for recitifying problems, eg, headaches) are held on Saturdays 10am-12 noon and again Mondays 7pm-8pm. Daytime classes can be arranged during the week if people are interested. Phone Tana Edye 958 4805 for details.

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GREENING SYDNEY'S SUBURBS

The constant battle between the planting/preservation of trees and their destruction which ranges through Sydney's suburbs recently received attention in the pages of the *Sydney Morning Herald* (30 July 1990). All but three of Sydney's councils (Auburn, Botany and Camden), administer active by-laws to protect trees on both public and private land from being felled, lopped, topped, ringbarked, pruned or poisoned. Anyone who harms a tree without council permission can be fined up to \$2000 in a local court, \$20,000 in the Land and Environment Court, and made to replace the plant.

However, large numbers of trees are destroyed each year and implementation of effective action under these by-laws is often lacking, with most councils prosecuting only one or two offenders each year. The need for community support for council action was quoted as a reason for the low level of prosecutions.

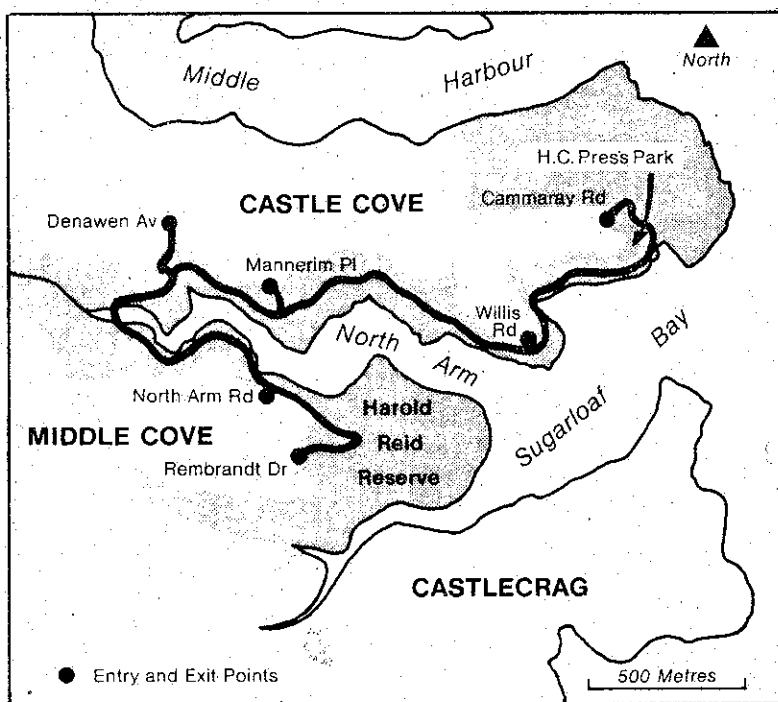
The *Herald* provided a table 'rating' local government councils on their support for tree preservation and planting. Warringah and Ku-Ring-Gai Councils received strong ratings with 54 and 15-16 prosecutions respectively over the past year and impressive tree planting programs (90,000 trees planted/year in Warringah, 30,000 in Ku-Ring-Gai), while Strathfield Council was singled out for its tough policies on the lopping or felling of trees. For example, leaves falling in gutters are not considered to be excuses for killing trees.

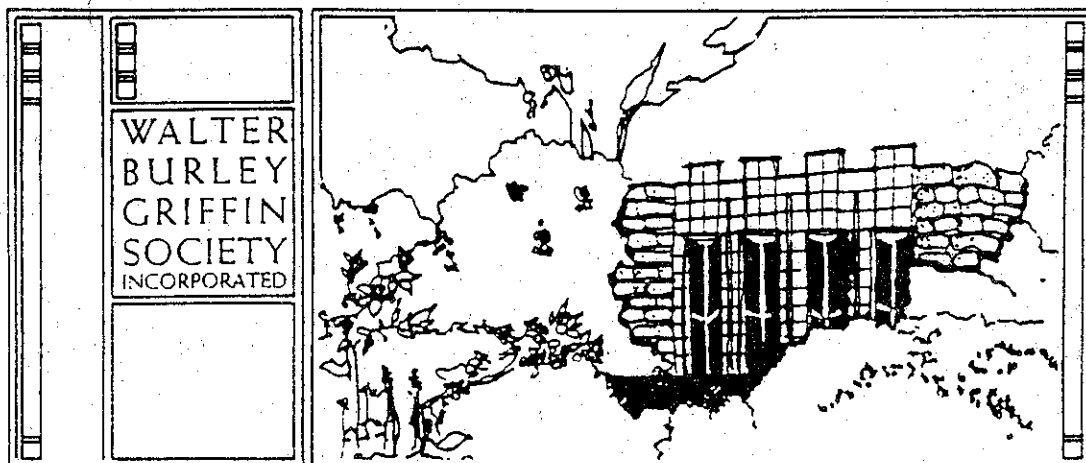
Willoughby Council also rates highly on the *SMH* scale. Trees over 4m high or with a trunk over 600mm in girth one metre above the ground, are subject to the preservation order. Council has prosecuted seven people this year on tree preservation matters, with two pending. About 20,000 trees are planted annually in the Council area and these are natives where possible. Each resident is eligible to receive two trees a year from Council on request. For further information, residents should contact G Clark (412 9238). Council is also active in developing bushland walks such as the 4.5km North Arm Walking Track between Harold Reid Reserve in Middle Cove and HC Press Park, Castle Cove.



NORTH ARM WALKING TRACK

NORTH ARM WALKING TRACK





The Walter Burley Griffin Society Incorporated will hold its Annual General Meeting at the Haven Ampitheatre on Sunday 28th October at 2.30pm, followed at 3pm by guest speaker Professor Jill Roe of Macquarie University who will speak on "Marion Mahony Griffin and Castlecrag in the inter war years". Refreshments will be provided but please bring your own insect repellent and rug to sit on. Everyone is welcome and the giant puppets of Marion and Walter Burley Griffin will be in attendance. If the weather is wet the venue will be the Castlecrag Community Hall on the corner of The Postern and The Rampart.

Congratulations to Mr Alex Popov and the owners of the house in Castlecrag which has been awarded architecture's prestigious Wilkinson Award for 1990 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 28th August 1990). The house is described as being ... 'in a modern spirit of Burley Griffin that it should look weathered and part of the landscape'; an 'evocation of Griffin's early exercises, perched along the ramparts and barbicans of this quintessentially romantic suburb.....'

CASTLECRAG LIBRARY

The Community Centre, The Rampart

TUESDAYS 3.30 - 4.30PM

THURSDAYS 12.30 - 4PM

SATURDAYS 10AM - NOON

NEW BOOKS LIST

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| AMIS, K | <i>The Folks that Live on the Hill</i> |
| HIGGINS, J | <i>Cold Harbour</i> |
| KELLERMAN, J | <i>Silent Partner</i> |
| CONRAY, J K | <i>The Road from Coorain</i> |
| PINCHER, C | <i>Contamination</i> |
| DAVIS, J G | <i>The Land God Made in Anger</i> |
| ARMSTRONG, C | <i>Mambo</i> |
| SMITH, W | <i>Golden Fox</i> |
| HOFFMAN, N | <i>Citizen Cohn</i> |
| MASTERTON, G | <i>Empress</i> |
| OXFORD BOOK OF HUMOROUS PROSE | |
| <i>(compiled by Frank Muir)</i> | |
| DEIGHTON, L | <i>Spy Sinker</i> |
| BRADFORD, B | <i>The Women in his Life</i> |
| WINTERS, S | <i>Best of Times, Worst of Times</i> |
| BARRY, P | <i>Rise and Fall of Alan Bond</i> |
| TRENHAILE, J | <i>Acts of Betrayal</i> |
| PILCHER, R | <i>September</i> |
| COOKSON, C | <i>The Wingless Bird</i> |
| RANSMAYR, C | <i>The Last World</i> |
| TUROW, S | <i>The Burden of Proof</i> |

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REMINDER: The Willoughby Fun Fair will be held in Willoughby Park on Saturday 15 September between 10 am and 4pm. The Castlecrag Progress Association is seeking donations for our annual *Trash and Treasure* stall: 'treasure' such as old books, china, clothes, toys and other household items are most welcome. Please ring Sue Randle (958 6344), Kathy Burgess (958 5103) or Kerry McKillop (959 4516) or leave goods on the verandah outside the staffroom at the Castlecrag School.

The Crag is edited on behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association by Mary Baker (958 5518) and Kerry McKillop (958 4516). Deliveries: Donna Sife (958 1841).