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## NEWSLETTER OF THE CASTLECRAG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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### SPECIAL MEETING: LIGHT RAIL TRANSPORT PROPOSAL - Manly-Warringah to Sydney

The next meeting of the Castlecrag Progress Association is of special importance to our residents, because of the growing and significant interest in the establishment of a Light Rail Service linking the Manly-Warringah peninsula with the Central Business District (CBD) of Sydney. Our guest speaker on this occasion will be Matthew Hurst of the Light Rail Association who is well qualified to speak on this important proposal.

The Castlecrag community came together during the 1960s and 1970s in its opposition to the proposed **Warringah Freeway** which threatened to divide and destroy our suburb. Our efforts, and those of many others across Sydney, contributed to a decision to shelve the freeway for the present, but the threat has not been eliminated. The alternative approach to solving Sydney's traffic problems requires investment in attractive and effective public transport, such as modern light rail systems.

The authority responsible for investigating and making recommendations for improvements to public transport in this area is **TRANSIT NORTH**. This group comprises the Mayors of North Sydney (chairman), Willoughby, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Manly, Mosman, Pittwater, Warringah and Ryde, and relevant State Government members. At a recent meeting on 28th September the Transit North group was unanimous in its support for a light rail system to serve the Manly-Warringah Peninsula, provided it is financially viable and requires no government funding. The meeting of the group on 20th August had resolved unanimously to ask all affiliated councils to send an indication of their preferred option for the route of a light rail system (within their area), indicating their preferences for the route being underground, on a viaduct, or in its own right-of-way, in order that these submissions could be collated and a composite route and preferences could be presented to the Minister for Transport, the Hon. Bruce Baird.

The brief prepared by the Transit North group has indicated that the primary objectives of a light rail and integrated public transport feeder service between the CBD and the Manly-Warringah Peninsula would be:

- to reduce road traffic along Spit Road, Military Road and other main and secondary roads;
- to provide a continuous link from the Manly-Warringah Peninsula to Sydney, either directly or through an efficient interchange at North Sydney railway station;
- to integrate with other means of public transport both physically and through ticketing;
- to integrate with land use planning in all council areas;
- to provide parking at the stations where park-and-ride is appropriate;
- to provide a service that is attractive enough to entice people away from using their cars;
- to involve the local community in identifying key issues and developing solutions which respond to community concerns.

To learn more about this imaginative proposal which could be so advantageous to Castlecrag and to ensure that our community is aware of the key issues involved, please come along to the meeting next Tuesday.

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The next meeting of the Castlecrag Progress Association will be held at the **Community Centre**, corner The Postern and The Rampart, **Tuesday 27 October at 8pm**. All welcome!

The Castlecrag Conservation Society will hold its next meeting on **Wednesday 18 November** at the **Kaye's residence**, 325 Edinburgh Road, at 8pm. For details ring **Harold Spies, President**, 958 8569.

## *Progress Association Meeting Agenda*

1. Memorial for Beverley Blacklock
2. Draft Development Control Plan for land adjoining the Haven Amphitheatre
3. Changes to the Quadrangle Shopping Centre

Guest Speaker – Matthew Hurst

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### *Special Service of Thanksgiving for the Environment in which we Live*

#### *St James Church, Castlecrag*

On 8 November at 8.30am a special Community Service is being held at St James Church, 184 Edinburgh Road Castlecrag. Everyone is invited to join us while we give a special thanksgiving for the environment in which we live. Also we are using this service to thank all of those people who give generously of their time and talents to provide a multitude of services to Castlecrag.

His Worship the Mayor, Alderman Greg Bartels, has been invited to be with us on this occasion.

After the service a community morning tea will be held in the church garden. We do hope that all our community organisations will be represented. Please join us.

**June Raymond 958 4739**

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We wish to thank the many residents who donated *trash and treasure* for the Progress Association stall at the recent Willoughby Fun Fair, and Kathy Burgess and her team of volunteers who organised all the treasure and worked on the stall during the day. Although the weather was unkind as it so often is in September, the stall was a great financial success.

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#### *Walter Burley Griffin Society AGM*

The fourth AGM of the Walter Burley Griffin Society Incorporated will be held on Sunday 25th October 2.30pm at the Willoughby Incinerator, Small Street, Willoughby. Guest speaker Trevor Waters will talk about the Incinerator and draw comparisons with Pymont Incinerator which was built in the same year. With the demolition of the Pymont Incinerator earlier this year, the Willoughby Incinerator assumes even greater importance as the only incinerator designed by Griffin still left intact in Sydney. Credit must be given to the owners Willoughby City Council for their care and foresight, and thanks are extended for permission to use the Incinerator for the meeting. All are welcome. Contact Adrienne Kabos 958 2060 for further information.

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Our community would like to thank the Castlecrag Shopping Village for their sponsorship of the recent SBS Youth Orchestra Concert at the Haven Amphitheatre. Please support your local shops.

The Haven Amphitheatre Committee has greeting cards for sale which show historical performances at the theatre, and Walter and Marion Griffin. Contact Lisa Purser 958 1503.

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*The Crag* is edited on behalf of the Castlecrag Progress Association Incorporated (Box 6/77 Edinburgh Road) by Judy Stone-Herbert 958 7961 and Kerry McKillop 958 4516. Deliveries: Donna Sife 958 1841. The next issue (deadline 20 November) will be the final one for the year.