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**BEECROFT — CHELTENHAM  
CIVIC TRUST**

P.O. BOX 31 BEECROFT. N.S.W. 2119.

**Bulletin 3-77  
August**

## **COUNCIL ELECTIONS MEET THE CANDIDATES**

ST JOHNS HALL, BEECROFT.  
8:00 pm  
WEDNESDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER

On August 26th nominations for the Local Government Elections close, with the Elections to follow on Saturday 17th of September.

Decisions taken at Local Government level can have far reaching effects on your home environment, being concerned with the planning, maintenance, and servicing of the area in which we live.

At our meeting on Wednesday September 7th you will have an opportunity to hear the attitudes of all the Candidates for election as C Riding representatives, to question them on specific items, and to make them aware of what you want for Hornsby Shire.

## **A WALK IN THE PARK**

We hope this walk will be of interest to students and to those who love the Bush. The Trust's Pennant Hills Park Sub-committee, headed by Geoff Armstrong of the National Parks & Wildlife Service, will be organising the day - marking the routes and name-tagging specimens along the way. Dr Peter Myerscough from Sydney University will also be on hand to answer your questions.

There will be two routes - a pleasant stroll for the not so active and something more arduous for the fitness fans.

We look forward to a record attendance - make a note of the date -

2:00 pm SUNDAY 11th SEPTEMBER  
FROM THE END OF DAY ROAD



One may only guess as to why the installation of the Copeland Road lights has been repeatedly delayed.

Perhaps it was the widening of Copeland Road (now dropped), the Traffic Plan for Beecroft Centre (where is that now?) or the proposal for a new fire station.

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## THE TRUST'S POLICIES

### General Aims

From its foundation, the Trust's primary objective has been the preservation of the natural environment and "village" atmosphere which make the Beecroft-Cheltenham area such a pleasant place in which to live. To this end, the Trust has always taken a vital interest in the activities of the Hornsby Shire Council, as they affect the C Riding and the Beecroft-Cheltenham area in particular. On the following matters which arise in a local government context, the Trust has endeavoured to promote the adoption of a consistent policy.

### Residential Construction

The Trust aims to preserve the area as a low-density residential suburb and accordingly seeks the exclusion of manufacturing activities and the restriction of commercial enterprises to existing zones. It opposes the erection of any high density housing.

### Parks and Bushland

Most of the level areas of land in Pennant Hills Park have already been set aside for organised sport. The Trust does not believe that further areas of the Park should be cleared for such purposes but rather left in their natural state. It is the opinion of the Trust that the existing park areas could be better administered. The Trust has furnished the Hornsby Council with a management plan to this end.

The Trust further believes that the bushland outside the park boundaries should be preserved as such. The Trust will continue to explore ways and means of achieving this end. It opposes the leasing of bushland areas to service and recreation clubs which cater for a restricted clientele.

The Trust believes that a firmer stand should be taken against those who dump rubbish in parks and in bushland. The use of motor vehicles and bikes on bush tracks should be prohibited and their entry prevented by the erection of suitable barriers.

Developers of new extensive areas should be required to set aside the necessary space for recreation and other community activities, so that the Council is not subsequently required to encroach further on the remaining limited bushland areas to provide such facilities. There should be consultation between the Council and the developers to ensure that the most suitable areas are retained for public use.

### Sport & Recreation

The Trust is aware of the need to provide facilities for organised sport and for recreation within Beecroft and Cheltenham. We support the upgrading of existing areas to maximise their use, rather than the proliferation of additional areas.

### Roads

The Trust is opposed to the development of additional major traffic arteries through residential areas because the resulting heavy traffic bring noise, pollution and increased hazards to pedestrians and others. It would also be opposed to any alienation of land in Pennant Hills Park or the adjoining bushland for purposes of road construction. Development of new residential areas in Hornsby Shire and adjoining shires should not be undertaken without proper provision of roads capable of carrying the additional traffic generated by such development and so located that they do not destroy the environment of people in established residential areas.

### Representation on Council

The Trust believes no Council should include estate agents or developers and for this reason, the Trust will not support any candidate known to have any such connections.

The Trust believes local government representatives who have a commercial interest in the outcome of Council decisions should declare their interest publicly.



Commercial Development

The Trust maintains its strong stand against further extension of the commercial area in the Beecroft shopping complex and on Beecroft Rd.

Adequate Public Notice of Proposed Developments

The Trust is deeply concerned about the inadequacy of the information given by the Hornsby Shire Council about proposed developments affecting existing ratepayers and residents. The Trust believes that the Council should go further than merely meeting minimum legal requirements regarding publicity. It is not sufficient to consult merely those residents living immediately adjacent to a proposed development, when the entire suburb is likely to be adversely affected by it.

The Trust believes that the Shire Council should deal more openly with development proposals. Secrecy is the developers' greatest weapon against a community. The Council, if it has the ratepayers' interest at heart, should not be a willing party to clandestine negotiations.

Alteration of Local Government Boundaries

The Trust believes that as a result of the present structure of the Hornsby Shire, the interests of residents living in the more developed area of the southern end (C Riding) of this large Shire are inadequately represented and considered. This heavily populated riding has only the same numerical representation on Council as the sparsely populated "A" Riding in the north.

Over the years, the Trust has carefully studied various proposals which have been made for the reorganisation of local government boundaries, with the overriding aim of achieving a structure which would ensure that the needs of residents of Beecroft and Cheltenham are most satisfactorily met. The Trust is not satisfied that in developed urban areas significant cost economies or indeed any economies would flow from enlarged local government areas.

The Trust is convinced that the advantages of small local government units, for example in the way of the exercise of ready liaison with council officers and ratepayers' control of their own environment, far outweigh mere cost considerations. With this in mind, the Trust is implacably opposed to current proposals for the amalgamation of local government areas in the County of Cumberland.

Beecroft Community Centre

The Trust supports the up-grading of the Beecroft Community Centre to a standard worthy of the suburb in which it is located.

Control of Pollution

The Trust believes that the Hornsby Shire Council could do a great deal more than it is currently doing to improve the standard of tidiness in and about shopping centres, roads, public thoroughfares, parks and the bushland within its boundaries. It further believes that pollution can be controlled by positive action such as provision of adequate number of rubbish receptacles and by the Council itself setting a good example by maintaining footpaths, roads and gutters free of litter. The Trust cannot understand the Council's continued refusal to provide more frequent garbage collection services, at least comparable to those provided in other local government areas in the Sydney metropolitan area. The provision of a bi-weekly service would be a positive step towards the reduction of pollution in the Shire.

Conservation.

In keeping with its overall conservation objectives, the Trust believes the Council should maintain the utmost vigilance in the preservation of the trees and native flora of the Beecroft Cheltenham area. In particular, the Council should be more strict in granting permission for the removal of trees on new development sites, and in ensuring that contractors adhere to the conditions laid down.



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The Trust believes that H.S.C. should exercise greater control over the activities of the Sydney County Council, the Water Board and other public agencies insofar as they involve the lopping and felling of trees and the destruction of bushland. The Trust believes the Council should actively promote tree planting by undertaking planting itself on streets and parkland, by subsidising such activity by private citizens and by requiring replacement in more suitable locations of trees the removal of which it has authorised. The Trust also believes that the Council could take more action to control the despoliation of natural bushland by weeds and noxious plants such as privet and lantana.

#### BEECROFT WAR MEMORIAL

Following requests from the Trust, Hornsby Council has advised us that they will carry out maintenance and repair work on the Beecroft War Memorial as necessary.

#### PENNANT HILLS PARK

A small group of volunteers meets every second Saturday between 10 and 11 a.m. at the Day Road entrance to Pennant Hills Park to work in the bushland, clearing away weeds. You'd be very welcome, on a casual or regular basis. Contact Geoff Armstrong on 86 5063 for details.

#### COPELAND ROAD

Hornsby Council has no plans for load limit restrictions on traffic using Copeland Road - bad news for Copeland Road residents, increasingly plagued by large trucks using the road as a link between Pennant Hills and Beecroft Roads.

#### HORNSBY PLANNING SCHEME

Hornsby's Town Planning Scheme was finally proclaimed on 29th April 1977.

#### PEDESTRIAN LIGHTS

Council has requested that the Department of Motor Transport install pedestrian crossing lights in Sutherland Road at Cheltenham Station.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES

The Trust made a submission to the Local Government Boundaries Commission early this year, outlining the reasons for our long-held opposition to the enlargement of local government areas.

#### NATIONAL TRUST SURVEY

The Junior Group of The National Trust of N.S.W. (the 18 to 35 years group) wants to make a photographic survey of historic and architecturally interesting buildings in Beecroft and Cheltenham.

The many fascinating turn of the century buildings in this area have never been closely surveyed before, and the Junior Group Historic Buildings Committee hopes to record some of these for the National Trust records.

They would welcome any information to help them in their task - historic records of the area, old photographs, etc. If you can point out any building, interior or exterior, that you feel would be of interest, please phone Maisy Stapleton 922 2056 or Jenny Barker 51 5058.

#### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you haven't yet paid your 1977 Subscription please forward it to The Treasurer, P.O. Box 31, Beecroft, 2119.  
Family rate \$5.00  
Individual Adult \$3.00

#### COUNCIL CONTACTS

Hornsby Shire Council	476 3333
Cr Don Evans	
Shire President	84 3318
Cr Bill Hodson	871 7317
Cr Ron Payne	869 7410