

BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST INC

PO Box 31, Beecroft NSW 2119

www.2119.org.au

BULLETIN 1 February 2011

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- Clean Up Australia Day – Sun 6 March register 9 – 9.30am
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- Join the Trust – membership form on p 4.

Notice of Annual General Meeting Monday 7 March 2011, Cheltenham Recreation Club, 7.30 pm

Members and residents are advised that the Annual General Meeting of the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust will be held on Monday 7 March, at Cheltenham Recreation Club, 60-70 The Crescent, Cheltenham (near Lyne Road) at 7.30pm. We have invited a representative from **Transurban to answer your questions on the M2 widening and closure of the Murray Farm Road Bridge**. Our Councillors and MPs have also been invited.

A key issue will be the revised Constitution (see below). Whilst all are welcome, only those who are financial members of BCCT may vote. **Join now by using the form on page 4** or if you need to join on the night, come between 7 and 7.30.

Nominations for Committee

Your Trust Committee welcomes new members. The committee of dedicated residents has a wide range of professional skills, who volunteer their time on your behalf. Trust members are asked to nominate professional, effective candidates for positions on the Trust Committee for 2011.

Nominations are to be submitted on a **nomination form** which **must be received by the Secretary by Monday 28 February next**. The form can be obtained from the Secretary - Colin Johnston (phone 0408 751 915, AH 9875 1915, email colinjohnston@bigpond.com or by writing to PO Box 31 Beecroft 2119). The nominee and the people nominating and seconding the nomination must all be financial members of the Trust for 2011 so pay your membership now.

Revision of Trust Constitution

The *Associations Incorporation Act 1984* and its supporting regulation have recently been repealed and replaced with a new Act and regulation which impose slightly different requirements. All organisations in NSW affected by this Act must make similar appropriate changes.

As a result, it has been necessary to revise and amend the Trust's Constitution so that it complies with NSW law. The opportunity has been taken to bring forward several other amendments so as to give more flexibility in our operations

and to ensure that, as far as is possible, a Rule covers the whole of the subject to which it is directed. In summary, the changes are:

Changes required by the new Act: Rules 5 and 6 amended to give greater detail of members' liabilities and the process for disciplining members; Rule 19 amended as to alteration of the Constitution; Rule 20 deleted as the new Act does not require the Trust to have a common seal.

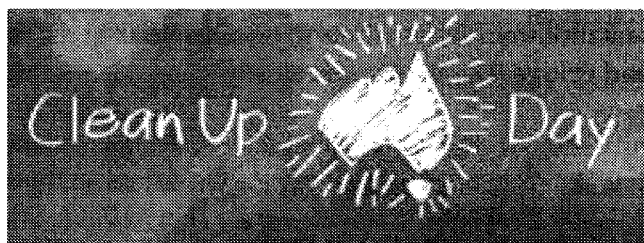
Other changes: The Objectives clause has been altered to remove references to specific organisations, so that the Trust may co-operate with any other organisation with like aims as the need arises; all definitions have been moved into Rule 1; changes have been made to Rule 2 to clarify certain classes of membership; the reference to inspection of records has been deleted from Rule 3 because it is contained in Rule 18; Rule 13 has been altered to allow for postal and electronic means to accommodate members who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend general meetings in person; Rule 14 has been amended to allow the Trust to insure against other risks besides public liability; a new Rule 20 has been included to allow for the making of By-laws setting out mechanical processes for implementing the Constitution.

Editorial changes: Various changes have been made throughout the document, such as the insertion of capital letters for position names and to remove unnecessary words. These make no change to the substance of the Constitution.

These changes will alter the way the Trust operates and you are urged to join the Trust and come to the meeting to vote on them. The revised document will be available at the AGM and will be posted on our website, www.2119.org.au shortly. If you do not have web-access, a copy may be obtained by telephoning the Secretary (040 875 1915 or A.H. 9875 1915).

Honorary Auditor Needed for Trust

Your Trust has been fortunate to have the services of one of our members, Keith Coble, as our honorary auditor. Keith is retiring after many years of invaluable service to the community. We thank him sincerely all he has done. If you would be able to be our Honorary Auditor, or know someone who might perform this essential role, please phone or email the Secretary (contact details above).



Clean Up Australia Day - Sunday 6 March **Come and Clean Up Beecroft & Cheltenham**

Please join us and other keen residents and have your family and friends participate for an hour or so in this most worthy event.

Register between 9 and 9.30am at Beecroft Village Green, Beecroft Shopping Centre, Wongala Park adjacent to Beecroft Station or Cheltenham Station (The Crescent). Dr Rai Pohl will again be directing this.

- You must register, as above, for insurance purposes.
- Children must be supervised by an adult.
- Wear suitable clothes, closed-in shoes and bring a hat, sunscreen and water to drink.
- You will be provided with gloves and collection bags. *Sharps* containers are also available.

Meet the Candidates

Cheltenham Recreation Club, Monday 14 March, 8pm

With the State Election on Saturday 26 March, your Trust has invited the candidates for Epping to a Meet the Candidates night on Monday 14 March 2011 at Cheltenham Recreation Club commencing 8pm. Candidates Emma Heyde (Greens), Amy Smith (ALP) and Greg Smith (Liberal) have kindly agreed to attend & answer questions.

Murray Farm Road / Kirkham St Bridge – Buses Re-routed School Children and Commuters Affected

Your Trust and affected residents are extremely concerned that the imminent work to lengthen the Murray Farm Road bridge over the M2 as part of the 'upgrade' will have a severe impact on school children. **One consequence of this construction work is that heavy vehicles, including buses, may not be able to use the bridge.** This includes the 553 bus between Beecroft Station and Oakes Road used by schoolchildren to access local schools, Beecroft Station and by Cheltenham Girls High students who catch it in Kirkham St. **If a bus can't use the bridge, other residents have asked ...what about fire engines, garbage trucks, deliveries and other heavy vehicles.**

The Minister for Planning has approved the bridge construction in stages allowing a single lane to be open. However it will require the bridge to be closed extensively for major works at night and on some weekends. It is anticipated that the work will commence in February 2011 and take some 22 months to complete. Sydney buses have not been advised of the bridge closure and to date have not published a new route.

Your Trust has contacted the local schools and is surprised that they were not aware of the proposed bridge closure. Many students and commuters going from Beecroft Station will also be inconvenienced. We do not know if pedestrians will be able to use the bridge during construction. What is even more surprising is that Transurban has not placed large notices advising of the dates of the closure so that residents and people from outside our suburbs who use the bridge will know what is happening.

The trust has been passing on your comments to Greg Smith MP and asking him to take these matters up with the NSW Roads Minister, Hon David Borger. If there are any other issues that have been overlooked, please let the Trust know by contacting our Secretary. **ALSO - Come to the BCCT Annual General Meeting and bring your questions for the Transurban representatives.**

Subsidence in Castle Howard Road

Have you noticed cones and silt fencing between Murray Farm Rd and Kirkham Street? The embankment on which the footpath rests appears to be subsiding. Some sections of the roadway also show signs of subsidence. A hole some 0.5m wide by 2.0m deep right beside the footpath was seen by a resident, with the high pressure gas line well-exposed about half way down. After contacting the gas line emergency number, the hole has since been filled in. The silt fence and traffic cones are the only barrier between the path *and quite a steep drop down the embankment.* The stability of the embankment and the safety of the footpath need to be assessed. The Trust is following-up with Council.

A Men's Shed in Beecroft/Cheltenham?

As you may know, men and women sometimes find it quite difficult to retire. Apparently, men in particular are renowned for losing their socialising skills on retirement; many men spend much time at home, missing out on social interaction with others. This is where the concept of a men's shed comes in (details at www.mensheds.org.au).

The objective is to provide men with a place to meet and participate in an interesting group activity. That activity can range from reading poetry, to singing in a choir to woodworking (as at the Thornleigh men's shed), and/or to welding and vintage car restoration. *Usually there needs to be an enthusiast for each subject!*

Jim Vandore is part of a small group, including a representative from Beecroft Rotary, which would like to help establish a men's shed in our area. They have made an initial examination of potentially suitable premises and have some hope that they can arrange for premises relatively near a railway station.

The next step is to establish:

- How many people would be interested
- What activities are of interest (we envisage a range of activities)

If you want to be part of this, please email jim@vandore.net or contact Trust Secretary (040 875 1915 or AH 98751915).

Advance Notice. Trust Autumn Walk – Sunday 17 April. Details in our next Bulletin.

Do you know that your Trust ...

- ✓ Evaluates all development applications for 2119 and makes detailed submissions to Hornsby Council on any which might breach regulations or might have a negative impact on our beautiful suburbs.
- ✓ Has ongoing communication with Local, State and Federal governments on issues that affect us.
- ✓ Distributes over 4000 bulletins to all households in 2119 to advise residents on matters which will affect our area, upcoming events and local history. We send email updates to those on our email list.
- ✓ Organises two Guided Walks each year to inform residents about our history and bushland.
- ✓ Lobbies for the retention of critically endangered Blue Gum High Forest and Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest, both of which are covered by the Threatened Species Conservation Act.
- ✓ Promotes the upgrading of footpaths, road safety issues and the much needed traffic lights at Kirkham Street.

Membership subscriptions are our only source of income to finance these efforts. PLEASE JOIN THE TRUST so you can help us continue our good work.

Membership is due on January 1, 2011.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/APPLICATION FORM 2011

Fees are \$20 household (two adults), \$10 individual

Surname (1).....First name (1).....

Surname(2).....First name (2).....

Address
Street address preferred

Phone Number (02) Mobile

E-mail address

Membership fees \$ as noted below. Do you require a receipt? YES NO

Where practicable, receipts will be issued by e-mail.

Method of payment please mark appropriate box:-

Post to PO Box 31 Beecroft by cheque only.

Handed in by cash or cheque.

Deposited in bank BSB 062 113 Commonwealth Bank Beecroft Account 10068238.

Electric Funds Transfer EFT from your bank account via computer BSB 062 113 Commonwealth Bank Beecroft Account 10068238. NB Use your name as reference.

PayPal go to Trust website click onto PayPal and follow the instructions.

For record purposes, please send a copy of this completed form to The Treasurer, PO Box 31 Beecroft 2119 OR e-mail to treasurer@2119.org.au OR fax to (02) 9614 1766