



BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST INC

the voice of our community

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the first Civic Trust Bulletin for 2017 .

You will notice the committee has reverted to the black and white format, mainly for financial reasons, but also based on community feedback. We intend to release another two editions later this year. However we are keen to move with the times and to eventually transfer over to electronic bulletins or enewsletters. We are anticipating a 5 year time to phase out paper bulletins completely. Enewsletters are more current, quicker to produce and naturally cheaper to send out under mail chimp. We are currently generating an enews every fortnight. So I encourage everyone who is interested in staying in touch with the local community to provide the Trust with your email address by

emailing bshirley@ozemail.com.au

The enews has been an absolute success. Initially created by our former Trust Secretary Colin Johnston we now have over 1000 email addresses. We deliver about 4000 paper bulletins in 2119 so you can see the Trust has a sizeable proportion of residents on our emailing list.

Over the past two months since our AGM I have been busy carrying on the excellent groundwork put in place by our past president Kent Ross. Kent introduced numerous innovations that the committee has adopted, allowing the Trust to stay current and relevant to our local community, and finally credit should be given where credit is due. I wish

to personally thank Damien Tudehope our local State Member of Parliament for achieving what Beecroft residents have been desperately seeking many years. For Beecroft to grow into a vibrant and diverse shopping centre for everyone a lift at the train station is essential - and the announcement is timely with the new Marketplace opening later this year. Damien, on behalf of the local community and the local shopkeepers, thank you for your hard work.

If you wish to contact me directly president@2119.org.au

Regards,
Ross Walker
President

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on Tuesday night 4 April 2017 at the Beecroft Bowling Club. The meeting was well attended with over 100 residents on the night. Although our Federal Member Mr Jullian Leeser and our State member Mr Damien Tudehope were unable to attend due to parliamentary commitments we did have five Hornsby Councillors, namely Bernadette Azizi, Michael Hutchence, Jerome Cox from our C Ward and Nick Berman and Robert Browne from B Ward.

The guest speaker was Crime Prevention Officer Shane Carne from the Gladesville Local Area Command who gave an enlightening talk on

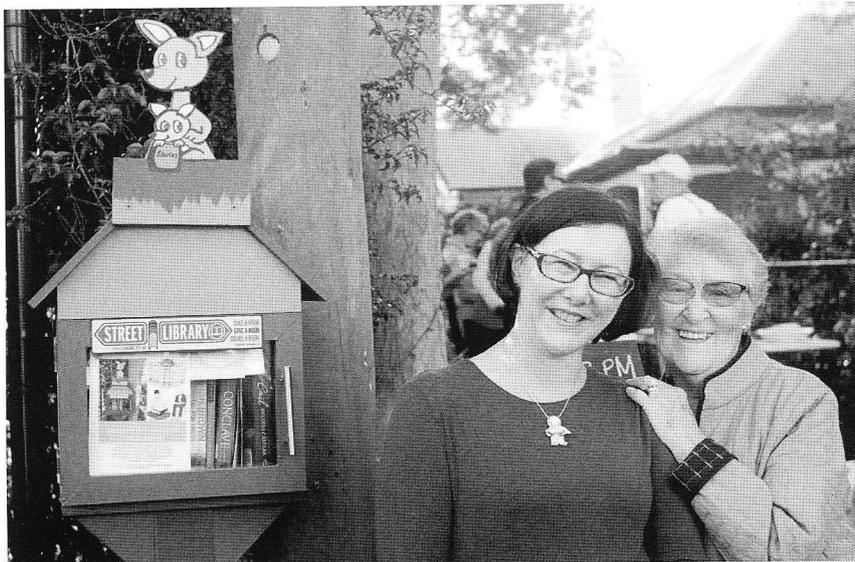
local crime levels and how best to minimise break ins. He did promote the new community portal web site where you can create an app on your mobile phone, http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/community_portal where residents can register non-emergency police reports such as graffiti, lost property and intentional damage. Constable Carne also explained the emergency app <http://www.triplezero.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx>

The Trust encourages residents to consider using these apps for their own safety but also for our local community.

The elected office bearers are :

President:- Ross Walker
Vice President:- Janet Hayes
Treasurer:- Nina Mital
Correspondence:- Kath Smith
Minutes Secretary:- Trish Brown
Membership:- Brian Shirley
eNews – Brian Shirley
MP Contact:- Peter Snelgrove
Council Contact:- Andrew Vincent
Facebook/Website:- Michael Stove
Bulletin Distribution:- Trish Brown
Bushland:- Ross Walker and Trish Brown

Beecroft's First Street Library Open for Business.



Over 30 book-loving locals gathered at 40A Hannain Street on Saturday 20 May 2017 to celebrate the opening of Beecroft's first Street Library with an afternoon tea.

Its architect and chief librarian Ms Sue Pearce has a passionate belief in lifelong literacy having spent her professional career as a primary school teacher, Reading

Recovery teacher and developing community early literacy programs and resources for Western Sydney families, librarians, early educators and community workers.

"Books are still so important in our lives, despite all the electronics and digital games. It's so important for parents and grandparents to read to children." she said. The library was

officially opened by lifelong Beecroft resident Ms Hazel Grey, who said "reading is a wonderful tool for learning when introduced at an early age."

There are only two official Street Libraries in Hornsby Shire, in North Epping and Hornsby, so Ms Pearce is keen to see more appear on our suburban streets to promote sharing and community engagement.

The Beecroft 100 Stories Street Library stocks a range of books for children and adults, which have turned over more than twice since opening at the end of April. No library card is needed, so you can take a book, give a book or share a book.

People interested in establishing a Street Library in their local community can go to www.streetlibrary.com.au or contact Sue Pearce by email earlyliteracy1@gmail.com

Picture and story contributed by Georgia Cameron and Michael Bianchino. georgiacameron@bigpond.com

Trust Autumn Walk Sunday 21 May.



The Trust lead about 30 residents on a walk through Chilworth Reserve in Beecroft and Cheltenham on a beautiful sunny autumn Sunday. Councillor Robert Browne took advantage of the weather and joined the group. We visited a number of bush regeneration sites around Kirkham St and Castle Howard Rd before inspecting the construction site for the Metro service centre next to Cheltenham Oval.

There was some debate amongst those present as to the status of the access road from Kirkham St. The Trust has since approached

our local State Government member Damien Tudehope who has confirmed that the planning approval has not changed with the road to be removed and the bushland reinstated.

Once again Rod Best from the History Group gave an interesting talk about Mr James Devlin (1807-1875) after whom Devlins Creek, the creek that flows through Beecroft and Cheltenham, is named. Thanks to the ladies who provided an excellent afternoon tea, capping off an enjoyable afternoon.

Trust Membership Subscriptions and eNews

Keep our two suburbs strong and informed by being a member in 2017.

Thank you, to those of you who have paid subscriptions. We have received 100 payments. Those who have forgotten please use the following details

To renew your membership for 2017, please send a cheque with your phone and email details to PO Box 31, Beecroft 2119, OR credit our bank account directly:

BSB 062-113

Account Number 10068238, using your name as a reference. Please also send an email to

treasurer@2119.org.au advising that you have updated your membership for 2017. Donations are also accepted.

Just a reminder that membership is due in April each year. Household Membership: only \$20 per year; Pensioner/Single Resident: \$10 per year.

Update On Illegal Clearing at 87-91 Malton Road.



Residents may remember back in February there was a public meeting held at the bottom of Malton Road demanding that Hornsby Council take legal action against the illegal clearing of bushland on the vacant lots at 87-91 Malton Rd. The good news is that Hornsby Council is taking the

unauthorised tree removal seriously and Council's legal team has engaged Barristers Dean Jordan (SC) and Georgia Lewer (JC) with the intention of filing Class 5 LEC prosecution proceedings at the end of June. We will keep the community informed

Hornsby Council elections expected to be on September 9 - 2017

Residents should be aware that the proposed amalgamation between Hornsby Council and Ku-Ring-Gai Councils has not occurred. However the Trust feels the current arrangement with Hornsby Council having lost half of C Ward to the new Parramatta Council it is not financially stable as is. Something has to happen. The Trust can't really see the area south of the M2 returning to Hornsby Council so it is highly likely we will eventually merge with Ku-Ring-Gai Council. Your guess is as good as ours.

In the meantime Hornsby Council is preparing for an election on 9th September. Note also that the boundaries for C Ward have been adjusted and now include

Cherrybrook. We are aware that the major parties have already started their candidate selection process. Residents are reminded that the Trust is apolitical and will not support a specific party. However the Trust will provide the opportunity for all prospective candidates to present their views at its traditional 'Meet the Candidates' public meeting before the next Council elections. We have already been approached by a local resident who is seeking those interested in standing as an independent councillor. If anyone is interested please contact Vince from the Cherrybrook Residents Association at

member@cherrybrookresidents.org.au

Land management and biodiversity conservation reforms – Regulations on public exhibition

Land management and biodiversity conservation reforms – Regulations on public exhibition

The draft Biodiversity Conservation Regulation, Local Land Services Amendment Regulation and other key products to support the Government's new Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and Local Land Services Amendment Act 2016, is on exhibition for another week. The Trust encourages residents to visit the government sites below to understand in what direction the State Government is taking us. Preliminary comments received by the Trust range 'too complicated to

understand' to 'a lack of information'. Even our own Council is struggling to fully understand the ramifications on our Shire. But we do know that our vegetation controls will change in rural but also urban areas when this legislation is gazetted.

Visit the Land Management and Biodiversity Conservation website to view the material on public exhibition. <https://www.landmanagement.nsw.gov.au/>

Viewing of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and Local Land Services Amendment Act 2016 closed on June 21st

Picnic for Trees

On Sunday 30th July 2017, we are again holding a community picnic at the Beecroft Village Green. This is to commence at 11.30am, with some wonderful guests coming along to share their expertise. These will include our wonderful and knowledgeable Graham Ross, Dr Beth Mott from Birdlife Australia's Powerful Owl Project and Deborah Fleet from Sydney Wildlife.

We have some exciting activities for young and old. There will be displays and information tables where you can learn about our wonderful Community groups, wildlife rescue specialists and our unique local threatened species. There will be an opportunity to be involved in the inaugural planting of the first section of a new hedge, with gorgeous Syzygium Cascade lillypillys, as well as free plants for your garden from Hornsby Council, live music, art and craft activities, and a birthday celebration cake for the previously planted white mahoganies.

We would love you to come along, bring your family and picnic, join in the fun and meet new and old neighbours who also love calling leafy Beecroft and Cheltenham home. Note this in your calendar – we'd all love to see you!

The Beecroft Garden Club and the Beecroft History Group are also planning to participate in this important event

Beecroft Station Is Finally Going To Get Its Much Needed Pedestrian Lift

On Saturday 6 June the Premier Gladys Berejiklian announced that the State Government will construct our pedestrian lift at Beecroft Station this forthcoming financial year. Our local State Member Damien Tudehope has managed to achieve what the our community has been told was not possible – bring forward the construction date. With our shopping centre rapidly changing a lift at the station is considered by the Trust to be an essential piece of infrastructure for the shopping centre to function effectively.

Trust Website

Some of you may be aware that the The Trust has problems with the website being hacked. We hope to have matters resolved soon. We are in the process of changing our ISP. Fingers crossed we will be up and running at www.2119.org.au soon

NBN has arrived for some households and businesses in 2119

What is the NBN?

The NBN is Australia's high speed broadband network which will allow faster internet speeds to households and businesses because it provides greater bandwidth. This will allow streaming of high definition video and greater capacity for multiple users.

It will in 18 months from individual installation date, replace any existing phone line and ADSL connection.

How do I know if it is available for my address?

If you have received some flyers in your mail recently from NBN co then you can expect it to be available for your address shortly. To check go to the nbn.com.au site and type in your address at the top of the page. You should register your email address with the NBN for updates via nbn.com.au/register. If it is not available yet, don't worry, the rollout to the area will continue.

If NBN is available, do I need to connect?

Depends:

- If you only use your existing phone (or landline) for voice calls and have no computer (and never plan to), then you have a choice. Either connect to NBN to use your traditional handset or alternatively, switch to using a mobile phone (in which case you do not have to connect to NBN).
- If you currently have internet, then Yes.

Whatever you decide to do - you don't have to act immediately. However, you will have to do something over the next year or so. Your phone and internet will be disconnected in 18 months from the date that NBN was made available for your address. NBN are obliged to send reminders of this cutoff date to your address.

How do I connect?

Once you have checked whether NBN is available and you have decided that you want it now, you need to choose a broadband internet Service Provider. You do not have to go with your current service provider (but you can keep them if you want).

What broadband provider and plan should I go for?

There are hundreds of plans out there and numerous broadband providers. Some offer phone (either a standard phone connection or VOIP which differs from a standard connection), some do not. They also offer different speeds, if you want more speed than your existing internet, then you will need to pay more (the base broadband plans of 12 Mbps are twice as fast your existing ADSL connection). For a full list of all the providers and their plans, go to an independent comparison site such as whistleout.com.au/broadband. Check with the provider first about their average speeds during peak times. The speed that they advertise will not necessarily be the speed you get (some providers will have a larger capacity than others). Also check with the provider about their plans' and phone call charges.

Can I keep my existing phone number and email address?

Phone numbers can be kept, just specify to your provider that you wish to retain it. If you have an Email address provided by your current Internet Service Provider (ISP), it can be kept as long as you stick with the same provider. If you use a non-ISP email such as Gmail or hotmail, this will not be affected.

Will my phone work when the power is down?

No. A phone connected to NBN is routed through your NBN modem which needs power. So no power no phone. If you

need a phone at all times, it is suggested you have a mobile phone.

What about my medical alarm?

If you have a medical alarm, you must register this with the NBN Medical Alarm Register, go to nbn.com.au/medicalregister or call 1800 227 300

Will my back to base burglar alarm work?

Maybe, you will need to check with your alarm installer. Problems have been reported when traditional alarm modems have tried to connect through the NBN. Also due to NBN phone power dependency, the only solution for power outages is to switch to an independent mobile phone dialer in your alarm's control box. There is a fixed cost of around \$400 to do this. Mobile plans exist with no monthly payment and just pay as you go calls which are comparable or cheaper than your land line. Check with your installer.

Will I get faster speeds?

Yes absolutely, however, how much faster is dependent on network load at peak times, network congestion and to some extent your ISP's gateway is to the NBN. Once you have the NBN, check your speed (the.whistleout.com.au/broadband/Speed-Test site has a speed checker). If it is continuously lower than the plan you signed up for, contact your service provider.

How do I get NBN if I am renting?

Check with your landlord.

What if I live in an apartment?

Check with your body corporate.

To answer any other questions that you have, please check the <http://www.nbn-co.com.au> and click on the Learn about the NBN network tab up the top.



The Northern District Times ran a front page article on Wednesday 6 June on the group of local residents, led by Emma Heyde, promoting a reduction in plastic bags in Beecroft Shopping Centre. The community is supportive as well as the shopkeepers. The campaign even had a mention in the Sydney Morning Herald Column 8. Its publicity has also been reinforced with the recent ABC2 television series on waste. The official launch of the campaign was Friday 9 June at Beecroft shops. The new shopping centre at the corner of Beecroft Road and Hannah Street is

nearing completion and the community will be pushing for the new shopkeepers to take up the campaign. Who knows – we may be able to ban them completely!

Beecroft Chetenham Civic Trust conducted a survey through the eNews, seeking residents' views on reducing the use of plastic. The results clearly indicated an overwhelming desire. Over 95%, supporting the project.

Get in touch with Emma Heyde if you'd like to be part of a Beecroft group sewing reusable to borrow and bring back bags. bagfreebeecroft@gmail.com