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**BEECROFT - CHELTENHAM
CIVIC TRUST**
P.O. BOX 31, BEECROFT. N.S.W. 2119.

BULLETIN 1-89

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FEBRUARY

1st February, 1989

INCORPORATED

PRESIDENT
JIM VANDORE

SECRETARY
KEITH DAVIDSON

**TWENTY FIFTH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, 8th FEBRUARY
8 pm
ST JOHNS CHURCH HALL
BEECROFT ROAD, BEECROFT**

All members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting. The committee for 1989 will be elected and various issues will be discussed including suggested options for rerouting the Ryde-Castlereagh Expressway.

If any member wishes to join the Committee, they are invited to contact the president or secretary prior to the meeting.

Voting at the Annual General Meeting is restricted to members of the Trust.

The Civic Trust has now been in existence for twenty five years and is the senior civic trust in Australia. We would like to make this a year of achievement and record membership.

Help us to help you by becoming a member and by attending meetings so that the Committee has a wide range of residents' opinions to assist in their deliberations.

NOTE: Membership subscriptions for 1989 are now due.

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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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PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1988

At the 24th Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 17th February, 10 members were elected to form a committee.

Office bearers elected at the first meeting of that committee were as follows:

President	Mr. Jim Vandore
Vice Presidents	Mrs. Heather Thomas, Mr. Spencer Bough
Secretary	Mr. Keith Davidson
Treasurer	Mr. Adam Markus
Members	Dr. Billl Greenhalgh
	Mr. Tony Lewis
	Mr. Mike Briggs
	Mr. Derek Barnett
	Mr. Harold Lea

Mr. Arthur McDonald and later Mr. Frank Hampshire were invited to join the committee, to make the full complement of 12. Committee members are expected to be actively involved in the affairs of the community, to attend Hornsby Council Meetings and many have additional interests and special responsibilities.

Mr. Tony Lewis is conveyor of the Parks Subcommittee. Mrs. Heather Thomas is the delegate attending meetings of the group writing a history of Beecroft and Mr. Jim Vandore is a member of the organising committee of the Beecroft Community Centre.

In addition, Mr. Fred Waddington continued to organise Bulletin distribution and to act as Honorary Auditor.

Probably road and traffic issues continued to dominate debate within the trust committee in 1988. The most pressing matter continued to be the danger, to residents and to motorists, caused by the excessive flow of traffic in Sutherland Road.

The trust committee is of the opinion that Sutherland Road should eventually be closed and that measures to restrict the flow and speed of traffic cannot await the commissioning of the expressway in 4-5 years' time.

Despite two public meetings (one on site) where Hornsby Council representatives were clearly told that the junction of Chapman, York and Bungalow caused no problems, council engineers proceeded to place a 'hump' restriction in Chapman Avenue! However, we should all look at this development and decide if indeed it offers a concept which could be more widely adopted in our residential areas.

Brief consideration was also given as to whether or not there could be any restriction on traffic movement in Hannah Street as a pedestrian safety measure.

The enormous number of heavy freight trucks on Pennant Hills Road remains a blight which can be resolved only by the development of an outer ring bypass.

The State Government's urban consolidation policy has led to a substantial increase in the number of development applications. Many of these involve the subdivision of blocks where a developer is taking advantage of provisions in the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No 12 (Gazetted by the State Government on 19 June 1987). This plan allows the conversion of a building into 2 self contained dwellings on lots over 400 square metres or the development of an additional free standing dwelling on lots over 600 square metres.

You can imagine how upsetting a new development can be for adjoining proprietors who are accustomed to reasonable privacy in their own backyards. It appears there is little that the Trust or even Hornsby Council can do other than to try to improve the quality of such developments. As a community we need to consider whether we accept a certain amount of urban consolidation or whether we wish to make a stand against the State Government and lobby for a change of policy.

The Trust committee has been active in promoting to Council that it is essential for continuous proprietors to be informed when a development application is lodged.

The Parks sub-committee of the Trust has had an active year monitoring the adoption of the new plan of management for Pennant Hills Park. We also have a delegate attending Hornsby Shire Council's new bushland Committee. A major submission was made to the commission of enquiry into proposed developments adjoining Malton Road, affecting the integrity of Byles Creek. With a team of local residents playing a leading role in presenting the community's opposition to the development, the commissioner finally reported in favour of the retention of a undeveloped Byles Creek 'corridor'.

Spring, Autumn and 'Perimeter' walks were organised in Pennant Hills Park as well as a clean-up morning on 20th November. You really should try to come on one of the Trust's walks - discover the beauty of our local bushland!

The Trust sponsored history group continued to make good progress in 1988, showing slides of historical interest at the public meeting on 14th September and organising a very successful historic houses tour on 30th October. It is hoped that a community activities group will emerge from the history group and that this group will develop ideas for increased community involvement. Suggestions so far, include the revival of an annual variety review concert previously known as the 'Beecroft Bubble', the organisation of a competitive 'Brains Trust' and the staging of a Beecroft Flower Show. Community comment would be appreciated.

The Trust committee was pleased to see (at last) the improvement of some of the facilities in the Village Green and will press Council for further improvements in 1989.

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However, little progress has been made in tidying and improving the railway stations and their precincts. It is likely that your 1989 committee will consider stepping up the lobbying of Hornsby Council and the SRA on this matter.

Like many similar bodies, the Civic Trust became incorporated in late 1988. This step goes some way to protecting Trust committee and ordinary members from the possibility of damage from legal action relating to Trust activity. The final rules, approved at the September public meeting and now approved by the Corporate Affairs Commission, are enclosed for your attention. You will be asked to formally adopt these rules at the A.G.M.

Membership - Trust membership increased during 1988, however the committee believes that more and more memberships are required as only a well-supported community organisation can make the necessary impact in negotiations with developers and local government.

Jim Vandore
January 1989

BUSH REGENERATION UPDATE

Fernleigh Park, near Chapman Avenue, was cleared early last year of prairie and other weeds by the Council, who then planted native shrubs. Local residents have been helping to maintain the Park free from weeds, meeting some Saturday mornings, fairly early, for only an hour or so. If you would like to help keep your local park in good condition, please contact Sheila Woods on 484-6764.

Bush regeneration is continuing steadily in Beecroft Reserve, between Lynbrae Avenue and Devlins Creek. Trees and shrubs, supplied by Council, have been planted over the last year; needless to say they are doing well with the wet weather - as are the weeds. The more help we get, the greater the area cleared. So if you have an hour to spare, please contact Jenny Lewis on 869-1175 for details.

The Lower Byles Creek group, led by Eva Jones, had the great disappointment of seeing their work of many years washed away in the May flood. However, undaunted, they are now working above flood level; so, if you want to help restore Byles Creek, ring Eva on 484-6773.

There must surely be others restoring bush in other parts of the Civic Trust area. Jenny Lewis would like to know about your work, so please contact her on the above phone number

Jenny Lewis

BEECROFT-CHELLENHAM CIVIC TRUST

MEMBERSHIP

Name..... Telephone.....

Address.....

Annual Subscriptions

Family membership - \$6.00 Adult membership - \$3.50

Financial year commences 1st January

Please tick box if a receipt is required

Receipts will be forwarded with next issue of the Bulletin

Post to: The Treasurer, P.O. Box 31, Beecroft, 2119