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# BULLETIN 1 - 96

## FEBRUARY 1996



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

Registered by Australia Post  
Publication Number NBH5324

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### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY 1996 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HALL MARY STREET, BEECROFT 8:00 p.m.

The Beecroft - Cheltenham Civic Trust Incorporated will hold its Annual General Meeting at the St. Johns Hall, Corner Chapman Street & Beecroft Road, Beecroft, at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday 27th February 1996. All local residents are invited to attend.

At the Annual General Meeting President Rod Howard will report on activities of the Trust during 1995, and election of committee members for 1996 will take place.

#### Trust Walks

The Trust's Parks Working Group has arranged two walks for members in 1996. They are for Sundays 5th May and 1st September, both starting promptly at 2 p.m. The May walk starts from the southern end of Welham Street and the September walk from the northern end of Day Road. Both should take 2 to 2 1/2 hours. Stout shoes are suggested as some scrambling has to be done, particularly in May.

On 5th May we shall do a variation of the Western walk we have led for the last few years, caused by the road construction under way. We shall reach the Cheltenham Road footbridge to the East and Orchard Road to the West. BONUS. After returning to Welham Street we shall offer a short extra walk to see the bush regeneration being done in Chilworth Reserve. This is an easy short walk and should be of interest to all who love our remnant urban bushland.

For those who want more local walks telephone 847 6797 for a list of walks arranged by Hornsby Council.

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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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**General Meeting Held 7th November 1995.** The Civic Trust held a very successful General Meeting on 7th November 1995, which was attended by 190 members, and addressed by guest speakers Mr. G. Kennedy (Traffic Engineer, Hornsby Council), and Mr. Wilson Poon (Assistant Project Manger, M2 Construction Project). The Mayor Councillor Steven Pringle and Councillors Nanelli and Cardimatis were also present. Trust President Rod Howard welcomed the two guest speakers and reported that numerous members had responded to the suggestion contained in the notice of meeting, by submitting written submissions on traffic problems in the Beecroft area for discussion. These submissions had been collated into a list of issues and discussions at the meeting proceeded on the basis of that list. The principal issues and suggestions are listed below:

1. It was recommended that Route 2 signs be removed from Beecroft Road when the M2 freeway is opened. It was believed the upgrading of County Drive might relieve traffic flow through Beecroft.
2. Excessive speed and existing speed limits on Beecroft Rd. together with the installation of traffic calming methods.
3. That the traffic lights at Hannah St. and Copeland Rd. be better co-ordinated.
4. A need for traffic lights at Kirkham St. and Beecroft Rd. intersection and to relieve traffic flow on Boronia Ave. It was reported this had already been investigated and was being considered in the R.T.A. five year programme.
5. The Meeting was informed the last survey of traffic flow and accidents on Beecroft Rd. was carried out in 1989. It was recommended that a current survey be undertaken.
6. The need for installation of a pedestrian crossing and or traffic lights at the Beecroft Rd/Cheltenham Rd. intersection.
7. The installation of a traffic round-about received little support.
8. The condition of nature strips along Beecroft Rd. were considered unsuitable for the area. The R.T.A was requested to take action to improve that state and appearance of these strips.
9. The re - surfacing of Beecroft Rd. with open grade material to reduce traffic noise.
10. All M2 signs within the Beecroft area be removed on completion of the freeway, and that the authorities give a written undertaking to this effect.
11. A suggestion to designate Beecroft Rd. a through way at prescribed hours and the possible closure of adjacent roads into Beecroft Rd.
12. The closure of Sutherland Rd. was again raised. The Chairman confirmed the Trust policy to support closure on completion of the M2 freeway in accordance with the resolutions carried at Public meetings of the Trust. Councillor Pringle re-affirmed the Council position to support the closure.
13. It was believed traffic lights on Sutherland Rd. adjacent to Cheltenham Station should be retained and that pedestrian crossings be installed for the safety of school pupils proceeding to the station.
14. It was recommended that all traffic signs in Sutherland Rd. remain in place.
15. It was reported that some traffic signs within the area had been removed or damaged. The R.T.A. was requested to take action to replace signs as necessary. Messrs. G. Kennedy and W. Poon gave advice and commented on matters raised for the information of the meeting.

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16. Speed humps on Boronia Ave to allow safer access from Oaklands Ave.
  17. A pressing need for the Police Dept. to actively enforce traffic regulations in the area.
  18. The difficulties in entering Copeland Rd. from side streets during peak traffic periods, and the possible closure of Rorke St.
  19. The possible closure of Murray Farm Rd. during construction of the M2. The meeting was advised that the road would remain open until completion of the new bridge.
  20. The question of noise barriers along the M2 freeway was still being considered. The Trust had made recommendations.
  21. The problems of excessive speed on Murray Farm and Orchard Rd, was considered and the installation of traffic calming, also the possibility of applying a 40kph speed limit.
  22. The excessive traffic now travelling along Copeland Rd. was causing concern. Re-programming of traffic lights at the Pennant Hills Rd intersection was recommended.
  23. Questions were raised as to anticipated traffic flow along Beecroft Rd. after completion on the M2 freeway.
  24. It was believed that the extension of County Drive would relieve the traffic situation in Beecroft Rd. but Baulkham Hills Council was currently opposed to this suggestion.
- A motion that the Civic Trust write to the Premier and the Minister for Roads to have an additional link to the M2 Freeway constructed in the vicinity of Merelynn Avenue, Baulkham Hills, was carried.

**Death of Mr. E.J. Richards:-** All members will no doubt be saddened to hear of the recent death of Mr. E.J. Richards, the founding President of The Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust.

### What Price M2 Land?

An interesting situation has arisen along Lamorna Avenue, which backs onto the M2 Motorway. A strip of land about 2m wide between the backs of the houses on the north side of the street and the expressway corridor is to be grassed and landscaped. It has no commercial value.

The question is : who should own and maintain this land - the RTA / Motorway Consortium, or the property owners in Lamorna Avenue? If it's the former, a fence is likely to be built at the backs of the properties, leaving a long, narrow tunnel of land which will be hard to access and difficult to mow and water.

One suggestion is that the land remains part of the motorway corridor, but is ceded in perpetuity to the landowners, who in turn would sign a formal agreement to look after it. Similar strips may be found along the entire 20km of the corridor, many complicated by drainage issues.

The Trust understands that the RTA and Joint Venture will soon start the process of disposing of these parcels of land, and intends to monitor progress in our area.

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### Pay Television

Your Civic Trust Committee, and we believe many residents in Beecroft and Cheltenham, are concerned about the visual pollution brought about by erecting more overhead cables in your streets.

The cables that are being installed are mainly to provide access to Pay Television and later on more advanced interactive communication systems. The price we will have to pay, apart from the installation and rental fees, is more visual pollution in all of our streets.

Under current legislation, and if the existing telephone cables are above the ground, both Optus, Telstra (and other potential carriers) and can run their cables between electrical power poles, just below the existing power cables. This is the case for many streets in Beecroft and Cheltenham. If however the existing telephone cables are below ground and Telstra say they will install their Pay Television cables along the same underground route. Optus on the other hand want to use the less expensive option and run their cables from existing power poles.

To assist the Civic committee in formulating a position will you please fill in the following questionnaire.

#### Questionnaire

Your Street Name:

(Do not give your name or street number)

Place a cross in preferred box

- 1) Do you plan to have Pay Television or other cable based advanced communications systems in your home within the next year or so? Yes  No  Maybe
- 2) If Yes, will your choice of carrier be influenced by whether or not overhead or underground cables are used? Yes  No
- 3) If you don't plan to have pay television do you object to having extra overhead cables in your street? Yes  No
- 4) Given your current knowledge which carrier would you use? Telstra  Optus  Other

Thankyou for participating. Please return this questionnaire to the Civic Trust  
P.O. Box 31, BEECROFT 2119

#### BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST INC.

(1996 subscriptions are now due)

Membership subscription      Family      \$12.00      Single      \$6.00

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