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BEECROFT - CHELTENHAM
CIVIC TRUST
INCORPORATED
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BULLETIN 1
February 2004

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PUBLIC MEETING
HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL
"C" WARD RESIDENTS

8:00 pm
Friday 5 March 2004

at the
CHELTENHAM
RECREATIONAL CLUB
The Crescent, Cheltenham

On Saturday 27 March 2004 Local Government Elections will be held throughout New South Wales. Hornsby Shire Council residents will be electing nine (9) Councillors plus a popularly elected Mayor.

As the suburbs of Beecroft and Cheltenham lie wholly within the "C" Ward of the Hornsby Shire Council area, the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust has made arrangements to hold a Public Meeting at the Cheltenham Recreational Club on Friday 5 March 2004. Candidates for the three (3) positions of Councillor for the "C" Ward of the Hornsby Shire Council, together with candidates vying for the position of Mayor of the Hornsby Shire Council will be invited to attend this meeting and to address "C" Ward constituents. Candidates will be asked to respond to questions that may be of concern or of interest to local residents.

This is your chance to listen to and assess the qualities of the various contenders who hope to represent our community over the next four years.

NOTICE OF
ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING

8:00 pm
Thursday 1 April 2004
at the

CHELTENHAM
RECREATIONAL CLUB
The Crescent, Cheltenham

The Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust will hold its Annual General Meeting at the Cheltenham Recreational Club, The Crescent, Cheltenham, on Thursday 1 April 2004, commencing at 8:00 pm.

All local residents are invited.

President David White will report on activities of the Trust during 2003. The election of Committee Members for 2004 will also take place however please note that only financial members are eligible to vote at the meeting.

Committee Members will also separately report on matters affecting their individual responsibilities. Other matters of concern that members may wish to raise will also be considered.

Recently elected local "C" Ward Councillors will also be invited to attend the meeting and will be available to answer questions concerning Hornsby Shire Council matters.

Correction

In our last Bulletin (No 3 December 2003) we – that’s the royal pronoun for the “Editor” – made a typographical error. It was stated that there were 14 Units proposed in the Uniting Church Retirement Village Development in Hannah Street. This should have read 30 Units. Apologies are tendered for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Not everyone is perfect. The Northern District Times (14 January 2004) in a “News” feature on page 6, amongst other inaccuracies, confused the Uniting Church with the Anglican Church. *The defence rests!*

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Proposed Extension of the Uniting Church Retirement Village in Hannah Street, Beecroft

While on the subject of the Uniting Church development in Hannah Street, several comments querying the Trust’s position were received following the report in our previous Bulletin.

The Civic Trust has taken a very cautious approach in its review of the proposed development and as a result the Uniting Church has made a number of significant amendments to ensure the issues of amenity and environment are better addressed.

The Trust is aware that it represents all its members with the intention of protecting the amenity of the district. We are also aware that part of that amenity is housing choice for all residents, both young and aged. We are therefore not opposed in principle to an organisation such as the Uniting Church seeking to provide this housing choice provided there is a balanced approach to environmental issues.

We have carefully reviewed the amended scheme with particular attention to the contentious issue of the existing trees on the site. The established facts are as follows –

There are a total of 62 trees on the site. The initial proposal by the Uniting Church required the removal of 38 of these trees.

Due to the Trust advocating further changes to retain as many trees as possible, the Church is now proposing an amended development which requires the removal of 25 trees.

The Trust has reviewed the independent Arborist’s analysis of these 25 trees. This analysis has been reviewed by a second Arborist. Both reviews have indicated that there is satisfactory justification for the removal of these 25 trees.

The Trust has pursued further amendments to the proposal and has been given undertakings by the Church that the proposed landscaping will include new tree planting (which will well exceed the 25 trees to be removed) to supplement the 37 existing significant trees which are retained. The Trust has also recommended, and the Church has agreed, that the landscape plan allow for a section of the site to be dedicated for natural bush regeneration of the existing Blue Gums and other native trees on the site.

Many hours have been spent by the Trust lobbying the Church to encourage a better development for the benefit of the environment and the needs of the residents of Beecroft. The Trust is neither pro-development nor anti-development, but will work for the benefit of all members when it comes to the big issues. We have found the Church willing to negotiate and make significant amendments at our suggestion.

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Bush Walk

On Sunday 2 may 2004, between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm, there will be a bush walk commencing at Ray Park off Plymton Street, Beecroft. Come and see the results of massive changes to the bushland along the creek line. Afternoon tea will be provided. Chat to the Beecroft's experts in bush regeneration.

Vale - Julie Harris

(We are indebted to Carolyn Watt and Heather Winsdale for the following tribute to the late Julie Harris)

It is with sadness that we note the passing, on 20 December 2003, of a long time former Cheltenham resident, Julie Harris. Julie was born in 1942, daughter of William (Bill) and Mollie Harris. Her father was a descendant of Dr William Harris who came on the First Fleet after whom William Henry and Harris Streets in Ultimo are named. She lived most of her life at "Edensor", 203 Beecroft Road, attending school at Epping and Loreto, Normanhurst, from 4th class when she was considered old enough to travel on the train. The Harris family is well remembered in the district for their donation of land for the Cheltenham Recreation Club and Patronage of the Men's and Women's Bowling Clubs.

Julie continued this tradition as Patron of the Croquet Club until her death. They also donated land, now 201 Beecroft Road, to the Church of England to build a small church.

During the late 1940's and early 1950's the Harris family hosted an annual fete at their home to raise funds for the Cheltenham Memorial Kindergarten. This was a highlight for children growing up in Cheltenham. The Eastwood Highland Band would come up by train, assemble at the station and proceed up The Boulevard and down Beecroft Road to the fete, marching and playing, followed by the local children. On 24th May each year, to celebrate Empire Day, a bonfire and fireworks night was held for the local residents on their land, then a horse paddock and now the tennis courts in Lyne Road.

Following an accident, while living in Ultimo, which made her a quadriplegic in 1991 and the death of her mother, Julie returned to Cheltenham to live in the family home. Realising that it would be easier to access facilities if she lived closer to the city, Julie sold the house in 1995 and moved to Leichhardt. Julie enjoyed going to Opera and Symphony concerts. She was actively involved with Women Pioneers, The Jesse Street Library and the Ultimo Residents Group. She will be sadly missed by her many friends.

BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST

Annual Membership - 2004

Annual Subscription Rates: Family \$ 15.00, Single \$ 10.00

Mailing Details: (please print)

Title InitialsSurname.....

Address.....

Telephone Email

Post Cheque or Postal Order to :- The Treasurer, PO Box 31, BEECROFT, 2119

Some Interesting Membership Statistics

We have finally moved our Membership Register into the 21st Century and although our manual card system will run in parallel for a time, the computer based system has already thrown up some interesting data. For example, the following table lists the number of members in each of the “streets” within Beecroft and Cheltenham. The grand total is 594 – when you consider that we hand-deliver our Bulletin to each residence in Beecroft and Cheltenham (approximately 4,000), we have considerable scope for improving our membership base. The Trust can only function efficiently with your support. If you are not already a member, or have not renewed your subscription for 2004, please complete the Membership Application form on page 3 and send it to our Treasurer.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>
Albert Road	11
Allerton Road	4
Argyll Place	4
Austral Avenue	3
Bambara Crescent	4
Bangalow Avenue	2
Beecroft Road	39
Bingara Road	10
Blackwood Close	6
Boronia Avenue	21
Boronia Place	3
Burns Road North	1
Burns Road South	1
Carawatha Street	2
Cardinal Avenue	17
Carlisle Crescent	3
Cassia Grove	1
Castle Hill Road	1
Castle Howard	11
Chapman Avenue	29
Cheltenham Road	14
Chillworth Close	1
Chorley Avenue	6
Cobran Road	17
Copeland Road	25
Copeland Road East	15
Day Road	21
Edwards Avenue	2
Eldon Lane	1
Finlay Avenue	5
Fiona Road	10
Glenelg Place	1
Grace Avenue	4
Gunbalanya	4
Hannah Street	20
Harwood Drive	1
Highs Road	1
Hull Road	18
Jacaranda Place	1
Jacinta Avenue	3
Jesmond Crescent	2
John Street	1
Kedron Avenue	2
Kent Street	1
Kethel Road	10
Kirkham Street	5

<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>
Lamorna Avenue	11
Lynbrae Avenue	4
Lyndon Way	7
Lyne Road	12
Malton Road	30
Marwood Drive	1
Mary Street	3
Mason Avenue	3
Mawson Avenue	2
Murray Farm Road	5
Murray Road	12
Nalaura Close	1
Nallada Place	1
Nareena Close	4
Norma Crescent	5
Oaklands Avenue	2
Old Beecroft Road	7
Orchard Road	3
Park Avenue	2
Parker Close	3
Penrhyn Avenue	7
Redgrave Avenue	1
Redmill Close	3
Rodney Avenue	3
Rorke Street	1
Rosewood Place	1
Seale Close	1
Seale Crescent	1
Spring Street	4
Sunhaven Street	1
Sutherland Road	24
Taylor's Road	1
The Boulevard	12
The Crescent	14
The Glen	1
The Parade	1
The Promenade	4
Timbertop Way	1
Tristania Way	1
Wandeen Avenue	4
Welham Street	5
Wongala Crescent	10
York Street	6