

**BEECROFT — CHELTENHAM  
CIVIC TRUST**

P.O. BOX 31, BEECROFT. N.S.W. 2119.

**Bulletin 1/74  
January 1974**

## Beecroft — Cheltenham Civic Trust 10th Anniversary

On 18th February 1964 the Foundation Meeting of the Civic Trust was held in the Masonic Hall, Beecroft.

On 18th February 1974 the Trust will be 10 years old and we propose to mark the occasion with another meeting in the Masonic Hall.

89 people attended that meeting in 1964 but we can hope for a much larger attendance in 1974 from our membership of over 550. That the Trust still exists after 10 years and that it enjoys such strong support in its area of concern are noteworthy achievements but I consider this to be an appropriate opportunity to re-examine our role and activities to ensure that we continue to represent our members in the right places at the right time for the right motives and to the best effect. To do this we need your continued support, your opinions and contributions.

**MAKE A NOTE TO KEEP 18TH FEBRUARY 1974 FREE TO JOIN OUR CELEBRATION OF THE  
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRUST.**

### **E. J. RICHARDS TROPHY.**

The poster and collage competition for the E. J. Richards Trophy, was held in August and September.

5 schools took part - Arden (last year's winners), Beecroft, Epping Heights, Roselea and St. Gerard Majella.

With 240 entries out of a total of 307, St. Gerard's won the Sheild for the ensuing 12 months.

The competition was open to Juniors (3rd & 4th class) and Seniors (5th & 6th class) who were asked to submit a collage or poster respectively with a "Protect the Bush" theme. As with last years entries the standard was generally high and the winners can be proud of their efforts - the prizes were earned in stiff competition.

The Prizewinners were:-

#### **Senior Section**

1st. Michelle McCarthy, 33 Robin St.,  
Carlingford St. Gerard Majella

2nd. Susan Turnidge, 33 Day Road,  
Cheltenham Beecroft Primary

3rd. Cathy Choat, 65 Malton Road, Beecroft  
Beecroft Primary

#### **Highly Commended**

Kathy Baker, 13 Georgian Avenue, Carlingford  
St. Gerard Majella

Elizabeth Unmack, 51 Lamorna Avenue,  
Beecroft Roselea

Catie Dyce, 15 York Street, Beecroft  
Beecroft Primary

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 (what is that now?) or the proposal for a new fire station.

Delma Page, 456 North Rocks Road, Carlingford  
St. Gerard Majella

**Junior Section**

1st. Sarah Johnston, 9 Kerry Avenue. Epping  
Epping Heights

2nd. Diane Reed & Lynette Klepetko,  
56 Bambara Crescent, Beecroft.  
Beecroft Primary.

3rd. Catherine Walsh, 10 Ridge Street, Epping  
St. Gerard Majella

Highly Commended

Katrina Donnelly, 6 Wyburn Avenue, Carlingford  
St. Gerard Majella

Louise Maher, 26 Lyndon Avenue, Carlingford  
St. Gerard Majella

Patricia Leonard, 9 Ridge Street, Epping  
St. Gerard Majella

Susan Coster, 20a Thorn Street, Pennant Hills  
Arden

Valerie Cox, 14 Park Avenue, Beecroft  
Beecroft Primary.

All the prize winning and highly commended entries were displayed in Hannah Street during November.

Mrs. Joan Redshaw and Mrs. Janet George of the Trust Committee are to be commended for their time and effort in the organisation of the competition and, with Mrs. Ann Breckwoldt, in the judging.

The space to display the posters and collages was made available by the Linnett Girls Choir and the owner of the premises. We thank them both and wish the Choir continuing success in the future.

**PENNANT HILLS PARK**

The Trust has been discussing with Hornsby Shire Council the possibility of preparing, from our own resources, a Resources Management Plan for Pennant Hills Park.

We do not seek to control the Park in any way administratively, as this function rightly belongs to the Council on behalf of the residents of the Shire as a whole.

The Plan would be a study similar to those carried out by such bodies as the National Parks and Wildlife Service and its aim would be to appraise the Park's resources; current visitor use

and environmental impact, and to make recommendations on an overall long term development plan to ensure that all facets of the area are used to their best advantage and in a complementary way.

A sub-committee has been formed to carry out this investigation which consists of Mr. G. Armstrong, Chief Operations Officer National Parks and Wildlife Service of N.S.W., Mr. R. Breckwoldt, Education Officer National Parks and Wildlife Service of N.S.W., Dr. C. Huxtable, Snr-Lecturer School of Vet. Science University of Sydney and Mr. A. Thomas, Trust President.

Following early discussions with Cr. Evans and with Council's Recreation Sub-Committee we have now formally outlined our proposals and await Council's reply. Without their active co-operation and support the whole exercise would of course, be a waste of valuable time and effort.

**SCOUT HALLS**

Some of you will no doubt be aware of a recent proposal by 2nd Cheltenham Scouts to erect a new Scout Hall on reserve land in Cobran Road.

Whilst we were assured by the Scouts that the building would be sensitive to its surroundings in form, material and colour (and architect's drawings were made available to us to reinforce this contention) the Committee felt it must oppose the proposal on the basic principle that alienation of Reserves, for any use at all is wrong, and must be prevented.

The Scouts have a permissive occupancy lease of several acres of land to the south of Cobran Road for camping and allied purposes. In actual fact, the present building on the site, which is well hidden from view, is in contravention of the strict terms of the lease, and it was under the terms of the lease that the Minister for Lands rejected the Scouts application for this new building.

It would, incidentally, have been clearly visible from Cobran Avenue and the houses existing there as well as from the other side of the valley. It would also have injected considerably more traffic into a quiet residential street with a particularly dangerous intersection at Sutherland Road. The Trust Committee are certainly not anti-Scout or Anti-Girl Guide. We are however very pro-bush and will always oppose the use of Public Reserves by anyone. There are other areas in Cheltenham quite suitable, even more suitable, for a new Scout Hall and the Scout Group and Hornsby Shire Council are discussing some of them now.

## GALSTON AIRPORT

Mr. Whitlam's Galston airport seems old news now but the Trust continues to monitor developments and will take any action necessary when the Government's future action in relation to the proposal is made known.

At the time of the announcement we sent a telegram to the Prime Minister expressing our concern, and issued the following Press Statement -

"The Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust on Wednesday sent a telegram to the Prime Minister expressing our concern and apprehension at the Australian Governments announcement that Sydney's "second" airport is to be built in the Galston, Dural, Glenorie area.

The selection of an area never before even mentioned gives rise to the belief that there has been no previous study made to ascertain the suitability or otherwise of the area, and that the decision is a purely political one. If this is so, and the complete lack of information provided by the Government reinforces this belief, the announcement is an act of supreme arrogance and irresponsibility.

The possible destruction of a valuable and unique rural residential "escape area" so close to the metropolis and the incalculable harm that could be done to Sydney's choice northern residential areas is appalling.

We urge the Government to make known the actual area chosen and it's reasons for this choice, with any supporting evidence that is available, so that a full and frank public debate can be held in the best traditions of the "open Government" the Prime Minister and his colleagues claim to be offering us."

Any airport in the Galston area would previously affect Beecroft and Cheltenham. The level of noise pollution alone would be enough, without the attendant atmospheric pollution and the risk, however slight, of an aircraft crash onto densely populated areas. I don't presume to suggest to the Government where Sydney's second Airport should be, if one is necessary, but it is significant that none of the expert opinion previously employed to study and report on the possibility ever suggested Mr. Whitlam's choice.

## TRAFFIC LIGHTS

As mentioned in our last Bulletin, for 2-3 years now the Trust has been writing to the Minister for Transport requesting the installation of

traffic lights at the Beecroft Road/Copeland Road intersection.

We have not been alone in this, of course, as other bodies, notably the P. & C. Association, have been doing likewise. After countless "This work will be considered next time" answers we were very pleased to receive a letter on 12th September advising that the work would be done in the 1973-74 programme.

## HANNAH STREET TREES

You will recall our reference last Bulletin to the provision of trees in Hannah Street outside the Module and that we at that time believed it would not be possible for trees to be planted on the north side of the street.

Council subsequently decided at their 18th October meeting to plant 3 more trees in the northern footpath and to provide decorative flower tubs in Wongala Crescent as well.

## COPELAND ROAD

Copeland Road has recently been slightly widened to make it 2 lanes wide and re-sealed for its full length. A short section at the western end has been sealed somewhat wider and the Trust has written to Council asking why this was done.

The most alarming aspect of this work has been the increase in traffic reported by residents. Before you ask for your own street to be re-sealed you had better check its likely future use - it may be better to live with the bumps and rough shoulders.

The use of residential streets by through traffic is a major problem for planners, traffic engineers, local Councils, drivers and residents all over Sydney. We had hoped that the Council sponsored Beecroft Traffic Survey Committee might produce a set of guidelines and recommendations for the future development of Beecroft Cheltenham, but this has apparently not happened.

## CONSERVATION GROUPS

Every 3 months or so a Trust Committee member attends a meeting at which several other Hornsby Shire Conservation - oriented groups are present. These meetings were inaugurated about 12 months ago in an effort to provide a chance for groups with similar aims to meet, exchange views

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and form a base for future co-operation where necessary.

Groups attending include Normanhurst Thornleigh Bushland Protection Association, Hornsby Wildlife Conservation Society, East Pennant Hills Association, Galston Progress Association.

### H.S.C. RECREATION SUB-COMMITTEE

H.S.C. has set up a new Recreation Sub-Committee consisting of the Shire President, Cr. Don Evans, Cr. Doris Munro (B. Riding), Cr. Joel Morrell (A. Rising) and Cr. Ron Payne (C. Riding).

This Committee will assess the present and future needs of the Shire in terms of both active and passive recreation areas and services.

All interested organisations have been contacted and asked to return a questionnaire for preliminary studies. With projected shorter working hours of the future, and the advent of daylight saving, the recreation needs of the community as a whole will become more and more important and H.S.C. is to be congratulated on its recognition of the problems which may arise. If you have any comment you consider may be relevant I'm sure anyone of the Councillors mentioned above would be pleased to hear from you.

### TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

H.S.C. has in force a Tree Preservation Order which we reproduce below for your information. As most people will know it is often ignored by Builders and Land Clearing Contractors, in some cases because they are not aware of it, in others because they don't want to be aware of it.

If you see something being done in contravention of this order phone the Shire Clerk, Mr. C. Cook, personally and then inform the offender that what he is doing is illegal and that he should stop.

### COUNCIL AMALGAMATIONS

At H.S.C. meeting on 18th October, Cr. Matthews of A Riding asked Council to make a policy statement opposing the amalgamation of Local Government areas as proposed by the A.L.P. and others. He received no support at all from his fellow Councillors although one of them did mention that an amalgamation of Hornsby, Ku-ring-gai and part of Willoughby had been

suggested as one of Sydney's proposed "regional local (?) government areas.

### MACQUARIE MUNICIPALITY ASSOCIATION

The M.M.A. has prepared and submitted to the Minister for Local Government its request for the setting up of a Boundaries Commission to consider the new municipality proposal, and now awaits his answer.

### RESIGNATION

Mr. Brian Morris has tendered his resignation from the Committee (he has been Publicity Officer) as his work now keeps him out of Sydney for long periods and he would prefer to make way for someone who could be fully involved. The Committee members are sorry that he has been forced to leave as his enthusiasm and energy and dedication will be very difficult to replace.

### MR. BALDUR BYLES

Mr. Baldur Byles, a long time resident of Beecroft and a foundation member of the Trust was recently honored by the A.N.U. with the award of an Honourary Decorate of Laws. This was primarily in recognition of his work in bringing about the creation of the Kosciusko State Park and his other services.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Trust is currently over 560. The continuing and constant support of such a large body of residents is instrumental in our being considered a responsible and representative voice of the people of Beecroft and Cheltenham.

That the Trust has continued for 10 years is a fine record but must not lead us to complacency. The pressures for change on the community are greater now than ever before and we must maintain a strong and vigilant position with a view to having some say in any changes to be made.

If you "didn't bother" to rejoin in 1973, don't forget in 1974.