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BEECROFT - CHELTENHAM
CIVIC TRUST
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BULLETIN 1

JUNE 1998

President
Betty Grant Phone 9876 3521

Secretary
Gordon Winch Phone 9484 6714

FEEDBACK ON TRAFFIC ISSUES

At the last public meeting of the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust guest speaker Garry Kennedy, Traffic Engineer, Hornsby Shire Council spoke on the traffic issues from a council perspective.

He presented to the meeting a list of blackspot locations in Hornsby Shire- State and Council roads. Beecroft Road featured in 7 of the top 20 blackspots. At number 1 (corner Pennant Hills Rd travelling north) number 5 (corner Pennant Hills Rd travelling south) number 8 (corner Kirkham) number 11 (corner Cheltenham) number 18 (corner Hannah) number 19 (corner Murray) and number 20 (corner Chapman).

In addition in the 3 years from 1993 to 1995 there has been over 200 traffic accidents along Beecroft Road from Pennant Hills Road to Old Beecroft Road which required the vehicles involved to be towed away. Of these, 22 were at Kirkham Street and 13 at Cheltenham Road.

This would seem to support concerns expressed by residents at recent public meetings of the Trust for the installation of traffic lights at both Kirkham Street and Cheltenham Road. The Trust's call for Hornsby Council to prepare an overall traffic plan for the Beecroft Cheltenham area to assist in future problem solving will continue to be pursued. This is an issue about safety, although it would be unrealistic to expect there will not be ongoing problems in our area because of its geographical nature and the increasing population in the north west.

GRAFFITI COMES TO BEECROFT

The Trust is becoming increasingly concerned at the incidence of graffiti in the Beecroft Cheltenham area. Recently there have been road signs defaced, areas of the shopping centre and noise barriers along the M2 have all been vandalised by these so called graffiti artists. We can do without this type of 'art' in our suburb. Residents are asked to keep an eye out for this activity and if able to identify the culprits to report them to the police on telephone 9858 5944.

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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SPRING WALK

This year the very popular Spring walk will be held on Sunday August commencing 2.00pm at the northern end of Day Road Cheltenham. It should be an ideal time to catch the wild flowers as they come into bloom. Remember stout and comfortable walking shoes are recommended. The walk should take about 2 to 2 1/2 hours.

If you would like more information on walks in the local area contact Hornsby Council telephone 9484 8992 for details.

BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST - 1998 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following members now form the Committee of the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust:-

President	Betty Grant	Beecroft
Vice Presidents	Bob Raymond	Cheltenham
	Brian Thompson	Cheltenham
Secretary	Gordon Winch	Cheltenham
Treasurer	Wayne Yeo	Beecroft
Publicity Officer	Peter Salier	Beecroft
Parks Convenor	Ross Walker	Beecroft
Housing Liaison	Vic Batten	Beecroft
Committee	Glyn Evans	Cheltenham
	Ray Kidd	Beecroft
	David Meldrum	Beecroft
	Michael Richardson	Beecroft

1998 HERITAGE AWARDS

At the recent 1998 Hornsby Shire Heritage Awards presented by Shire President John Muirhead, Beecroft residents Craig and Bronwyn L were highly commended for the restoration of the exterior of their scheme on their Beecroft Road property.

Arden Anglican School was highly commended for an outstanding contribution to the promotion of heritage in the Shire with its anniversary publication.

In presenting the awards Shire President John Muirhead along with the Beecroft residents said "Preserving our architectural and cultural heritage ranks alongside protecting the environment as one of the keys to the future."

HISTORY GROUP WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP

The Beecroft Cheltenham History Group are currently undertaking preliminary research for their next publication. Most residents would be familiar with the magnificent work published by the group in 1995.

"BEECROFT AND CHELTENHAM the shaping of a Sydney community to 1914" which was 5 years in the making.

The group consists of only a handful of dedicated people who are anxious to now follow up this work with a further publication tracing the development of Beecroft Cheltenham from 1914 to the present day. They are after any information from residents both past and present about our social history. Any old photographs, letters or anecdotal information which might help to piece together a picture of our area and its people are being sought. So now might be the time to clean out the attic or garage and see what is in Aunt Maud's old trunk!

A great deal of information is available through community groups and Mothers Clubs, church groups and the like. The History Group is particularly interested in photographs, including people, buildings, inside shots are great as they show how they lived and the furniture and fittings of the time, and just about anything else that records our past.

If you have any information that you think may be of interest no matter how minor it may seem then give Heather Thomas a call on 9481 9762, she would be pleased to hear from you. Alternatively you may wish to just jot down the details or even record them on audio tape and drop them in to Heather at 1 Park Avenue Beecroft.

If you are interested there are a few copies of the History Group's first publication still available at \$45 each or \$51 including packing and postage. Enquiries to Trevor McCaskill on 'phone 9484 7715.

FOOTPATH HAZARDS

It's that time of year again when we get out the secateurs and trim the garden in readiness for the coming spring. As you snip and prune just spare a thought for those walkers who regularly use the footpaths. When pruning please take a walk along your stretch of footpath to make sure it is clear of overhanging bushes and branches which can often spoil the enjoyment of walking in our leafy area.

When planting along the fence line, or on the nature strip it is a good idea to first check with your local nursery and with council to make sure the tree or bush you have selected is appropriate. Sometimes as well as providing a screen for our property we can also affect the line of sight for motorists, and make walking along the footpath a hazard for pedestrians, they can also interfere with drainage and sewerage pipes. So plant sensibly and seek advice before you go ahead with that planting project.

WAR MEMORIAL

Thank you to those residents who did respond to our article in the last BULLETIN seeking information about our War Memorial. Any repair to the monument will be costly however we now have the support of the

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Hornsby RSL as well as the continuing help and assistance from She VanEmden who has had experience with this type of work in other are

At our last Trust committee meeting it was decided to engage consultant to provide specialist conservation advice to the Trust on alternatives available to restore the Memorial. Former Trust President Rod Howard will oversee the work of the consultant on behalf of Trust. Following the consultants report we will make a submission to the Department of Veteran Affairs for funds to restore the memorial.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SURVEY

Over recent months the Trust has received a number of calls from residents expressing concern at what they perceive to be a decline in the standard of service on the northern rail line. Things like the lack of seating available on trains at Beecroft and Cheltenham, safety issues and frequency of services have all been raised. As a result the Trust has decided to conduct a transport survey to seek your views.

With this issue of the BULLETIN you will also receive a copy of a public transport survey prepared for the Trust by member for The Hills Michael Richardson. The Trust is seeking your response to the use and availability of public transport, service delivery, parking at local rail stations, connecting bus services and general travel patterns. This will assist us to prepare a report which will be forwarded to the appropriate areas for response.

Surveys will also be distributed at both Beecroft and Cheltenham stations to determine the views of those who are not residents and pass through our area to meet up with the train.

Completed surveys should be forwarded to Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust, PO Box 31, Beecroft NSW 2119 or faxed to 9899 3340

1998 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Thank you to all those members who have renewed their membership for 1998. If however this may have slipped your mind then please use the coupon below.

BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST INC.		
Membership Subscription	Family \$12.00	Single \$6
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