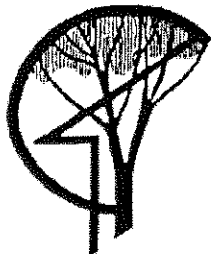


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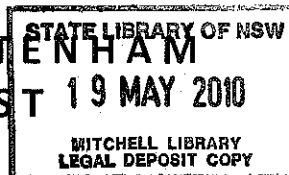


# BEECROFT CHELTENHAM

## CIVIC TRUST 19 MAY 2010

INCORPORATED

PO BOX 31, BEECROFT N.S.W. 2119



BULLETIN 3

MAY 2010

[www.2119.org.au](http://www.2119.org.au)

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- 50 Years of Tree Preservation in Bushland Shire

### Your Trust Committee

President: Michael Stove      Vice Presidents: Roderick Best, Ilona Kernick  
 Secretary: Colin Johnston      Treasurer: Daryl Watson  
 Committee: David Clark, Felicity Findlay, Bill McDonald, Frank Murray, Stuart Pittendrigh, Ross Walker, Carolyn Watt

## Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust Autumn Walk

### Sunday 16 May, 2– 4pm

Meet at the end of Welham Street Beecroft at 2pm. We will walk into Beecroft Reserve, under the M2 and inspect the damage to the creek and bridge in recent heavy rain. From there we will walk up to Orchard Road then along the creek, past the Plympton Rd Scout Hall and through Ray Reserve to Midson Road. From here we will return to Murray Farm Road and along the link track to the Beecroft Scout Hall below Welham Street where afternoon tea will be served. Please wear sturdy shoes, a hat, sunscreen and bring a water bottle.

Every walk is different and provides you with the opportunity to increase your knowledge of our unique suburbs. Simply turn up, no need to book, all are welcome, as long as you are capable of walking for 2 hours along well formed bush tracks. Information and enquiries in case of wet weather contact walk leader Ross Walker 9875 4446

### Join the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust

Annual Subscription Rates 1/1/10 to 31/12/10 - \$20 per household or \$10 for pensioners and single person households. A household membership includes two adults.

Name(s) of people covered by this membership \_\_\_\_\_

Amount paid \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Receipts will be sent on request by email. If you require a receipt, please tick here \_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment Options:

1. Post this form with cheque to: The Membership Secretary, BCCT, PO Box 31, Beecroft, 2119 or
2. Direct debit to Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust Inc, CBA BSB: 062 113 Acc: 10068238 and include your name as the reference. Please then email [treasurer@2119.org.au](mailto:treasurer@2119.org.au) with your name, address, phone no, email address and amount paid or post this form to PO Box 31 Beecroft 2119.

**Note: We are currently experiencing difficulties accessing PayPal and ask that you please do not use this method of payment. If you have paid by PayPal this year, please contact the Treasurer with your details. Thank You.**

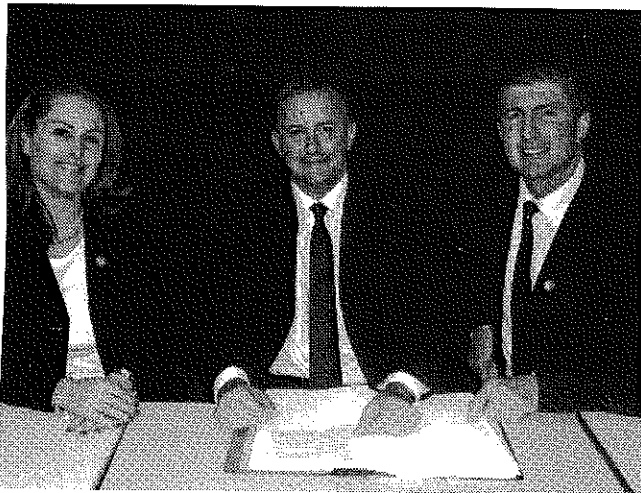
## BEECROFT WILLIS BOER WAR MEMORIAL CEREMONY

**SUNDAY 30 MAY, 2PM**

Hornsby Shire Council, in association with Epping RSL Sub-Branch, invite all members of the community to a special ceremony to honour Beecroft resident David Willis and over 500 Australians who died during the South African War, 1899-1902.

Beecroft Village Green, near Beecroft Community Centre, opposite the Fire Station  
Floral tributes may be laid.

### Trust Meeting with Anthony Albanese



Trust Vice President Ilona Kernick (L) and President Michael Stove (R) with Minister Anthony Albanese

The BCCT met with Anthony Albanese, **Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government** on the 15<sup>th</sup> April. The purpose of our meeting was to request that further consideration be given to a thorough investigation into the positive impact that the "Western Option" would provide to what has been labelled as the "no solution tunnel". This has been an issue that the Trust has pursued for a number of years.

The Minister was familiar with the position of the Trust from previous submissions. He agreed to further ongoing talks. It is important that the Trust keeps this issue at the forefront. The provision of road and rail infrastructure for the northern corridor has never been more vital.

### Trust Response to Draft Hornsby Housing Strategy

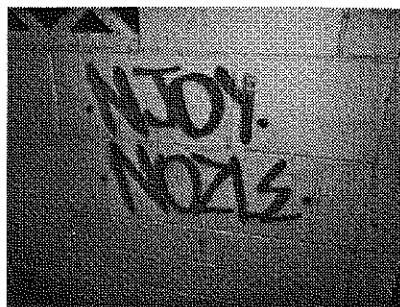
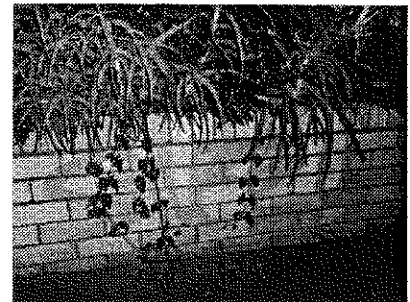
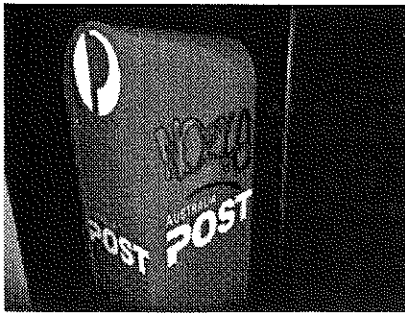
The BCCT response to HSC draft Housing Strategy can be read on the Trust's Website [www.2119.org.au](http://www.2119.org.au) or a copy can be obtained from the secretary for residents that do not have internet access. The Executive Summary of the Trust's report is as follows.

#### Executive Summary

- A clear majority wants no change to the nature of the Beecroft Village and the Village character preserved.
- A significant minority identifies that change, including refurbishment of some parts of the shopping centre, is needed, but clearly opposes development to five storeys.
- Traffic and parking issues are a major concern and will need proper management.
- Present infrastructure including parking, roads, storm water drainage and rail access is demonstrably inadequate for the demand it carries. There will need to be significant improvement if the precinct is to be further developed.
- Current planning controls are not adequate to meet the demands of the future development of Beecroft.
- Any development should be confined to the precinct as displayed and not permitted outside that boundary.
- Consistent with the nature of Hornsby Shire as a whole, no change should occur that is inconsistent with the present situation of Beecroft Cheltenham being the southern Gateway to the Bushland Shire.
- Should any rezoning occur in the Beecroft Village precinct, it is imperative that comprehensive consultation of the greater community (ie not just surrounding properties) be undertaken in all stages of the development process so as to ensure the best possible outcome for the residents of 2119.

## STOP Graffiti – Take Action

These photos were taken in Beecroft in April.



**We don't want Beecroft to become a village that stopped caring for itself.** Let's all help stamp out the mindless graffiti that is plaguing Beecroft and Cheltenham now. Graffiti is not art when it is on someone else's property.

The majority of offenders are males in their mid teens. Information can be found on the Keep Australia Beautiful website at [kabnsw.org.au](http://kabnsw.org.au). Graffiti costs the community, as a whole, some \$100 to \$200 million per year and Hornsby Council over \$100,000.

**What YOU can do** is to pick up the phone and report the vandalism and the location of the graffiti. Call Hornsby Council Graffiti hot line on 1800 199 282 and Crime Stoppers on 1800 333000 or report it on-line on [crimestoppers.com.au](http://crimestoppers.com.au). A photograph of the tag sent to police may help.

It has been recognised that a large proportion of spray painting cans are shop lifted in NSW. As of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2007 a Summary Offences amendment requires NSW retailers who sell spray paint cans to keep those cans either:

- in a locked cabinet or on a shelf 2.1 metres or more,
- in or behind a counter in such a way those customers cannot gain access to the cans without the assistance of staff or in any other manner prescribed.

Spray paint cans cannot be sold to minors, proof of age is required.

### Penalties

- maximum fine \$2,200 or 6 month imprisonment for damaging or defacing property using spray paint,
- maximum fine of \$1,100 or 3 months for possessing a spray can with intent to damage or deface property,
- maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment for malicious damage involving graffiti,
- retailers face fine of \$1,100 for failure to comply with the new law.

Parents are encouraged to discuss this issue with their children as fines for graffiti are a lot of money. A criminal conviction for graffiti (malicious damage) may render your child ineligible for certain professions.

## Trust Response to Hornsby Council Infrastructure Levy

As indicated in our previous Bulletin, at our AGM and with your rates notice, Hornsby Council has proposed to introduce an Infrastructure Levy of 5.8% on your rates for 20 years starting in July 2010.

Council has proposed to use the levy to raise a loan to fund the following projects:

- **Replacement of the Hornsby Aquatic Centre (\$15 – 20 Mil).** The Aquatic centre is structurally unsound and would have to be closed if it is not rebuilt. The Trust supported this proposal as the Aquatic Centre is a major facility for the Shire widely used by residents and schools.
- **Old Mans Valley in Hornsby – development of an oval plus either a smaller sporting field or passive recreation areas (\$15 mil).** The Trust has asked that Council not proceed with this project and redirect the expenditure to projects throughout the Shire, including upgrading and drainage of Cheltenham Oval.
- **Replacing the Pedestrian Overbridge in Hornsby (\$4 mil).** This bridge is becoming unstable and far too small for the pedestrian traffic that uses it. The Trust considered that Council should not be funding the replacement of the overbridge as it crosses a main road and funding should be sought from RTA or advertising. This money could be spent on much needed works throughout the Shire.
- **\$1.5 mil for projects in each ward.** The Trust considered that this amount is totally inadequate for urgently needed works and that the \$19 mil from Old Mans Valley and the Pedestrian Overbridge should be added to this allocation.

The Trust also nominated the following projects for our ward:

- **Hull Road footpath.** The Trust receives frequent complaints about safety issues in Hull Road. There is no footpath so pedestrians have to walk on the road. It is dangerous, especially for those with prams. There are difficult intersections and the traffic generally travels at excessive speeds. After rain the drains block with leaves and water covers the road, increasing the danger. The cost of a footpath has been estimated by Council at \$93,000.
- **Cheltenham Oval drainage.** This oval becomes waterlogged and is dangerous to use after rain. It is well used by the public, sporting groups and schools. Due to shallow depth of soil over the underlying rock, this would require excavation and backfilling at a cost of some \$250,000.
- **Kirkham Street Traffic Lights.** Many years ago we were promised lights at Kirkham Street and Beecroft Road. This intersection is dangerous for pedestrians, including school children, and traffic. Without lights, traffic diverts down the narrow, tree-lined Boronia Avenue to enter Beecroft Road at Cheltenham Road.
- **Murray Farm Road M2 bridge subsidence.** Subsidence and corrugations in the road on both sides of this bridge make the road surface dangerous. Repairs are urgently needed.
- **Footpath to Cheltenham Oval.** The footpath from Murray Road to Castle Howard Road is extremely dangerous and needs replacing before a serious accident occurs for which Council would be liable.
- **Local maintenance issues** were raised including the need for repairs to the car parks at Beecroft, maintenance of gardens at Beecroft, regular street sweeping, footpath restoration and the acquisition of land for open space and bushland reserves.

## 50 Years of Tree Preservation in the Bushland Shire.

On March 31, 1960, Hornsby Shire Council passed a motion to introduce statutory protection for trees within the Shire for the first time. The motion was put forward by then Councillor Max Ruddock, later Shire President, NSW Member for The Hills and father of our present Member for Berowra, the Hon Philip Ruddock. The motion was that Council invoke Clause 40 of the County of Cumberland Planning Scheme Ordinance, which prohibited the ringbarking, cutting down, topping lopping or wilful destruction of any tree, except with written consent. This led to Council's current Tree Preservation Order

This action was designed not only to preserve trees but to end the practice of bulldozing all timber from subdivisions and rearranging the topsoil to suit the boundaries of individual blocks – a practice which interfered with natural drainage patterns and led to soil erosion. Over the years, the Tree Preservation Order has helped to preserve the bushland character of Hornsby Shire and provide habitat for native wildlife and birds. Today over 70% of Hornsby Shire is covered with bushland, hence the name 'The Bushland Shire'.