



**BEECROFT - CHELTENHAM
CIVIC TRUST**
I N C O R P O R A T E D
P.O. BOX 31, BEECROFT. N.S.W. 2119

BULLETIN 2

September 2003

President

David White Tel: 9484 1126

Email: davidwhitearchitect@bigpond.com

Secretary

Anthony Whipps Tel: 9869 3453

Email: Anthony@whipps-wood.com.au

Are you a Member ?

Most of us take every day life for granted and only get annoyed when our daily routine is upset by events over which we, as individuals, have little or no control. Bureaucracy, by definition, has little regard for the individual as in this context the bureaucrats divide and conquer.

Organisations such as the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust, provided they have the numbers, can however make a difference. By sheer weight of public opinion, matters affecting the quality of life of a community can be addressed and prosecuted, hopefully to a satisfactory conclusion.

Notwithstanding that the Trust delivers this Bulletin to over 3, 000 households in the Beecroft Cheltenham area, i.e., postcode 2119, many residents who were previously members have not renewed their 2003 subscription

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

If you are unsure whether your membership is still current, our Treasurer will gladly put your mind at rest or alternatively, ask you to pay up. Wayne Yeo can be contacted on 9484 4309.

If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2003, please do so—use the form on page 4 of this Bulletin.

If you are not a member of the Trust and have lived in Beecroft Cheltenham for any length of time, you would have seen many changes, both good and bad depending on your point of view. Join the Trust and let your voice be heard! Use the form on page 4 of this Bulletin.

You may be a new resident, attracted to Beecroft Cheltenham by its tree lined streets, its village atmosphere, its charm and schools with enviable reputations. Help us to keep it that way. Join the Trust and let your voice be heard! Use the form

on page 4 of this Bulletin.

Family Membership (i.e., “household”) is \$15 per annum with Single Membership \$10 per annum.

Traffic Lights

Cheltenham Road/Beecroft Road—Following many years of effort and countless hours spent in negotiating with both Hornsby Council and the RTA, the Trust is delighted to see Traffic Lights installed and in operation at this intersection.

Cheltenham is once more a united community.

Kirkham Street/Beecroft Road—Unfortunately the Trust has not been as successful to date in convincing the appropriate authorities that the Kirkham Street/Beecroft Road intersection is deserving of a much higher priority than it has been given.

Our efforts will continue, however in the meantime, scores of motorists and pedestrians, including school children going to and from Beecroft Primary School, risk life and limb negotiating this intersection during peak hours.

Did you know that the Trust has several sub-committees?

The **Housing Sub-Committee** keeps a watchful eye over Development Applications submitted to Hornsby Council in the 2119 postcode area. This committee, consisting of professionals experienced in many aspects of property related matters, are prepared to assist residents with their concerns. It is also available to offer advice on other property related issues that residents may not be sure how to deal with. Matters will be kept strictly confidential if requested. Initial contact can be made through David White on 9484 1126 .

The **Parks Sub-Committee** has been in operation for many years, concentrating mainly on bush regeneration. Members of this Committee work very closely with Hornsby Council's bushland team and are only too happy to assist residents who may be interested in tackling small bush regeneration projects near their own property - no project is too small. If you are seeking advice on bushland matters, you are more than welcome to contact Ross Walker on 9875 4446 or Sheila Woods on 9484 6764

The Objects of the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust are -

- (a) The preservation of the existing village character and the natural beauty of Beecroft and Cheltenham.
- (b) To express in the appropriate quarter the point of view of the Beecroft and Cheltenham residents with regard to any proposed development in the Beecroft-Cheltenham area,
- (c) To work with and assist the local government in any efforts to improve and beautify the locality and where appropriate to instigate such improvements,
- (d) To endeavour to achieve the above objects by all means, including:
 - (i) Dissemination of information to residents, councillors and others.
 - (ii) Public meetings.
 - (iii) Exhibitions.
 - (iv) Lectures.
 - (v) Publications.
 - (vi) Public relations activities, including media releases.
 - (vii) To co-operate with, and to seek the co-operation of the National Trust of N.S.W. and fauna and flora protection societies.

F3 to Sydney Orbital Link (National Highway Link Study)

This study is being funded by the Federal Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) and coordinated by the RTA. Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM) has been commissioned to investigate options for a new National Highway between the M2—which will join the Western Sydney Orbital (WSO)—and the F3 (Sydney /

Newcastle Freeway). Preliminary results have been exhibited over the past month with comments closing on 12 September 2003.

The Trust approached SKM seeking a public meeting, however SKM refused but offered to brief your Trust Committee. This briefing took place on Tuesday 26 August.

In summary, three routes were considered -

- **Option A** : Short and more direct route from the M2 to the F3.;
- **Option B** : Longer route linking the M2 with the F3 running north of Hornsby; and
- **Option C** : Longest route linking the M2 and the WSO with the F3 north of the Hawkesbury River.

The latest Newsletter released by SKM (No.2—July 2003) indicates that Option A is the preferred option. Exploring this option further, SKM has identified four possible tunnel routes linking the M2 with the F3 at Wahroonga. These, coloured Purple, Blue, Yellow and Red on the SKM Newsletter, are -

- **Purple Route** generally follows Pennant Hills Road from its junction with the M2 adjacent to Pennant Hills Golf Course to the F3 at Pearce's Corner;
- **Blue Route** initially follows Pennant Hills Road and then deviates into Wahroonga passing under Coups Creek and the Fox Valley Road;
- **Yellow Route** picks up the M2 at North Epping and thence to Wahroonga passing under Devlins Creek, Lane Cove River and Coups Creek; and
- **Red Route** starts from Marsfield (M2 Toll Plaza) and thence to Wahroonga passing under the Lane Cove River and Coups Creek.

The Trust will be making a submission stating its preference for the "**Purple**" route as this, in the Trust's opinion, is in the best interests of the Beecroft/Cheltenham community. Our submission, however, will identify several aspects that are of concern to the Trust.

These include -

- Notwithstanding the study assumes that proposed upgrades to the main northern railway line from Hornsby to the Hawkesbury River bridge will facilitate increased rail freight and thereby lessen the reliance on road freight, no mention is made

of the need to upgrade the existing rail infrastructure between Epping and Hornsby.

- We are looking at a minimum of 8 to 12 years before construction is completed. Pennant Hills road is now running at capacity—the Study is silent in identifying options that may ameliorate traffic flow, especially during peak hours during this period. The Trust will be making several suggestions in this regard, for example, the use of designated truck lanes.

If you need more information or a copy of the SKM Newsletter -

- Call the Study Information line on 1800 550 050; or
- Visit <http://commcons.skm.com.au/f3to/sydneyorbital>

Back to the Future for Hornsby Shire Council.

The results of the 1999 Hornsby Shire Council referendum which decided to increase the number of Hornsby Shire Councillors from 9 to 10, thus forcing last years change of wards from the current 3 to 2 “super” wards, has been overturned by the State Parliament, after requests from Hornsby Council.

Thus Hornsby retains its 3 ward system.

The other referendum result of a popularly elected Mayor for a period of 4 years is not affected by the Hornsby specific State legislation. At next March’s Local Government elections, electors in Hornsby Shire will be handed two ballot papers, one for election of Councillors and one for election of the Mayor.

Hornsby Council is currently (as of publication) going through a consultative process on needed ward boundary changes from the last election. Due to population growth in “B” ward (specifically around Hornsby Central), “B” ward is unconstitutionally 12% larger than either “C” or “A” wards, thus forcing a redistribution.

Under the plan suggested by Hornsby Council (out for public comment as of date of publication), the boundaries of “C” ward are moved further north into Thornleigh/Normanhurst with the “B” boundary being altered in Cherrybrook. Beecroft and Cheltenham are still safely inside “C” ward.

Hornsby Council is requesting comment on the proposed “new” ward boundaries within a few weeks of this Bulletin’s publication. Any resident of Beecroft/Cheltenham who wishes to comment is encouraged to write to the General Manager of Hornsby Shire Council, Mr Robert Ball, PO box 37, Hornsby 1630.

The Trust Says Farewell

At a function held at the Epping RSL on Thursday 26 June 2003, three long standing members of the Trust were farewelled –



Betty Grant : A long serving Committee Member and former President of the Trust, Betty was actively involved in a wide range of community affairs. She was particularly concerned with traffic problems on Beecroft Road and restoration of the Beecroft

War Memorial.

Peter Salier : With extensive experience in the field of Public Relations, Peter for some years compiled and arranged publication of our Bulletins. This was a most valuable contribution and his services will be sorely missed.



Pam Conrow : Also a long serving member of the Trust Committee, Pam had a deep and abiding interest in local affairs and problems. She developed a great partnership with Betty Grant to both protect and further community

interests. She organised refreshments at our public meetings, and for many years looked after the distribution of our Bulletins. She was also a very active supporter of the Beecroft Orchestra.

Centenary Medals



On Friday 30 May, thirteen residents of Beecroft Cheltenham were invested with the Australian Medal to Commemorate the Centenary of Federation.

We congratulate the following recipients, several of whom are members of the Civic Trust.

- ⇒ **William Blevin AM**—for service to Australian society and science in applied physics.
- ⇒ **Sydney Butterworth (posthumous)** —for service to Australian society and Australian film production.
- ⇒ **Benjamin Chow**—for service to the Australian Chinese community and Australian multiculturalism.
- ⇒ **Maxwell Crossley**—for service to Australian society and science in organic chemistry.

- ⇒ **Dorothy Doolan**—for service to bush conservation.
- ⇒ **Dawn Ferguson OAM**—for service to the community through the emergency services.
- ⇒ **Michael Gallagher**—for service to the community.
- ⇒ **Betty Grant OAM**—for service to the Centenary of Federation celebrations and through the Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust.
- ⇒ **John Noble**—for long and voluntary service to conservation.
- ⇒ **Peg Schulze**—for service as a Community Health and Information Centre Volunteer.
- ⇒ **Malcolm Wilson ESM**—for service to the community through the Coastguard
- ⇒ **Sheila Woods**—for service to the environment through bush regeneration
- ⇒ **Andrew Tink**—for service to the parliament as state member for Epping.

BEECROFT CHELTENHAM CIVIC TRUST

Annual Membership

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

Mailing Details: (please print)

Title InitialsSurname.....

Address.....

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Telephone Email

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