



Celebrating 20 years

1975 – 1995

**INNER SYDNEY
REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Papuan Elders Say:

To plant for one year - plant rice

To plant for ten years - plant trees

To plant for one hundred years - plant people.

(Thanks Lizzie Harris!)

Foreword

Twenty years. It's a long time for any organisation to survive in the capacity that the Regional Council has. We started off with a bang in 1974 to 1977 - we had funding! Then, according to the Federal Government which funded us, the job was complete so, hey presto, it pulled the plug and left us high and dry with no funding.

In that time we were involved in any number of things: establishing community organisations; helping write submissions for neighbourhood centres, on the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement; housing issues, traffic and transport, blockades, demonstrations, communication, radio and TV, ethnic issues, employment issues, lobbying, etc, etc, etc!!!!

We were then left wondering if our 1974 to 1976 report was our first and final word, and whether it was the end of the beginning....or the beginning of the end.

Having put off our staff, but with some accumulated funds, we asked ourselves "Well, where to from here?"

With the support and recognition we had built up we knew we were a valuable organisation that was needed, and we also knew the job at hand was far from over, so.....back to the good old days, call in the volunteers and we welcomed back Marg Barry, Val Martin, Brenda Humble and Simon Clough. How we had to rely on them to keep the Council afloat. Our heartfelt thanks today must go out to that team and to the management committee of the day, as I am quite sure we would not be here celebrating twenty years on otherwise.

Regional Council carried on with volunteers until early 1978 when our submission to the NSW Government was successful and we received a grant for one worker.

It was certainly necessary to reorganise....but what would be the most effective way to have the most impact on a region needing to know what was going on? And so we decided to publish a magazine to get the information out and keep it flowing. That was a great idea, but what would it be called? After three months it had a name, thanks to Greg Thompson. And the name.....INNER VOICE which you all know today - a magazine we await eagerly with all that invaluable ongoing info.

As we cast our minds back, and forward, we might wonder whether the issues have changed. Some of the battles have been won, some lost.

But we did make a difference!

The four basic aims of Regional Council then, as today, although we might have a slightly different interpretation, but only slight I hasten to add, are:

- to eliminate needs
- to increase participation
- to increase co-ordination
- to provide resources to the community.

When I read these again recently I thought they sounded pretty hopeful. Well they are! And we need to continue to remind ourselves who we are working for. We have to set aside any fear of offending the funder. We have to respond to our membership, get it right, take risks, provide information people can understand so they can act on it.

Things do shift around in time, governments change and people change, but the issues remain. We have been there, we have come through the shifts, we are still here and we will continue to make a difference.

The organisation has gone from strength to strength lately employing two full-time workers and five part-time workers, providing information, support and resources to a very broad range of people.

While we sometimes feel the future looks pretty grim, I believe that as a whole we have become pretty passive operators. We need to get back into some good old action, back to the streets. We need to be seen. Governments need to get some very clear messages and listen to what we are saying. We are not going away. If they want to throw the baby out with the bath water, well it's not going to be this baby!

Finally, in this great achievement of twenty years, on behalf of the Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development, I would like to thank everyone - so many to name who have participated and supported Regional Council achieve its goals - I look forward to your continued support.....and welcome you into the next twenty years of our life!

✶ Philippa O'Keeffe
Chairperson

**THIS HOME IS
NOT FOR
SALE
TO THE
HOUSING
COMMISSION**

PRODUCED BY CONCERNED RESIDENTS OF SYDNEY, NUMBER



MR. PUNCH, ACTING MINISTER FOR HIGHWAYS, CLAIMED (THIS DAY TONIGHT 1/10/74) THAT IF DEMOLITION OF THE HOUSES DID NOT PROCEED THEN THE \$9 m. ALREADY SPENT WOULD BE WASTED AND THE FREEWAY WOULD BE SUSPENDED 40' ABOVE GROUND. THIS IS NONSENSE. THE EXPRESSWAY COULD BE TERMINATED AT HARRIS ST AND TRAFFIC CONTINUED TO VICTORIA RD. THIS WOULD ENTAIL THE REPLACEMENT OF GLASS ISLAND AND

GO BACK YOU ARE GOING THE WRONG WAY

A black and white photograph of a man in a tank top and shorts standing in front of a wall covered in graffiti. The graffiti includes the words "SHAME ON LIES" and "LIES". The man is standing with his hands on his hips, looking towards the camera. The wall is covered in various graffiti tags and words, with "SHAME ON LIES" being the most prominent. The image is tilted slightly to the right.

Living in the inner city — a question of

SURVIVAL

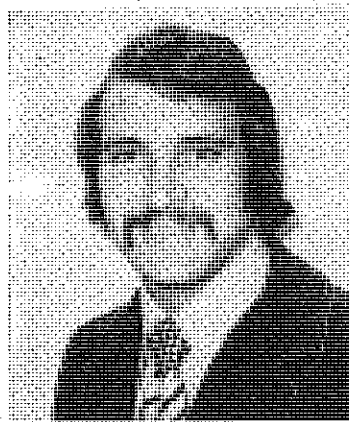
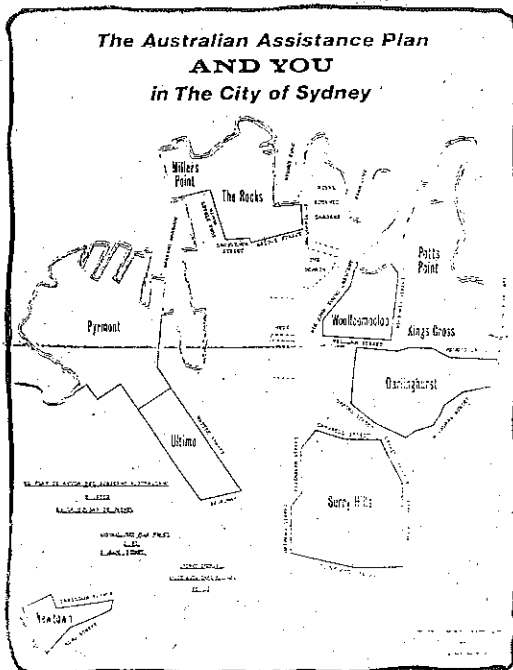
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100

SLUM LANDLORD IN BOOT!



In late January 1974, Andrew Jakubowicz, UNSW sociology academic and Chairperson of Surry Hills RAG (Surry Hills Planning for People), brought some 40 people together at the Surry Hills Anti-TB Clinic to explore the establishment of a regional social development council in Inner Sydney (Sydney, South Sydney and Leichhardt LGAs).

VOL. 1 NO. 1

INNER SYDNEY

ACTION!

Produced By:
INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL
FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
contact us at -
P.O. Box 358, Broadway,
or 21a Ross Street, Glebe.
Phone - 660-6620 / 660-6381

This broadsheet was produced as a supplement to 'Hunt Soil'



August 1975

Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development

WHAT IS IT ???

The Regional Council is a group set up by residents to take advantage of an Australian Government program called the Australian Assistance Plan (the AAP).

The Government has produced a lot of documents on the AAP, and these give three basic aims for an RCSO such as ours, these being:-

- (i) community development (people improving their neighbourhoods themselves).
- (ii) regional social planning (trying to meet people's needs before meeting the demands of money interests).
- (iii) a say in national policy (i.e. your say in Canberra).

In practical terms however, this means two things. 1) that residents have a right to participate in decisions that affect their lives. 2) that the people can participate in decisions that are important.

The Regional Council is thus a way for residents to relate to official government bodies. Never before has anything like this been offered, and it is up to us to make as much of this opportunity as is possible.

To do this, the AAP provides us with \$40,000 each year to run an office, and \$35,000 to employ three people called Community Development Officers (CDOs—there are so many long names that we use initials a lot). These people are Margaret Barry (South Sydney), Scott Aden (Leichhardt) and Brenda Humble (City).

WHAT ARE WE DOING ?

The Regional Council is trying to do something about some of inner Sydney's problems. But there are hundreds, and they are all complicated. Anything that happens anywhere in Sydney seems to result in more problems for us.

What really matters is that, at last, people with power seem to be starting to notice our problems. But we are not yet looking for total solutions—all we are getting is a patchwork of instant remedies that never seem to touch the real issues.

Still, we are trying—and that's what counts. The problems can be boiled down to two types:

- (i) People are being forced out of their homes by a variety of pressures—expressways, the University, developers, the Housing Commission, or, more importantly, increasing rents and costs.
- (ii) Even those who can stay can't get the minimal services they deserve—education, health and welfare services, transport, community facilities, shops, etc.

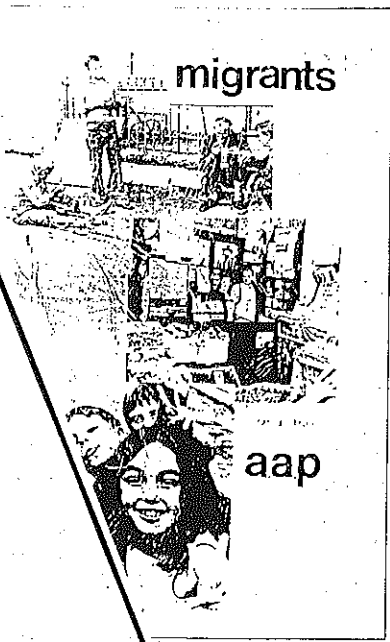
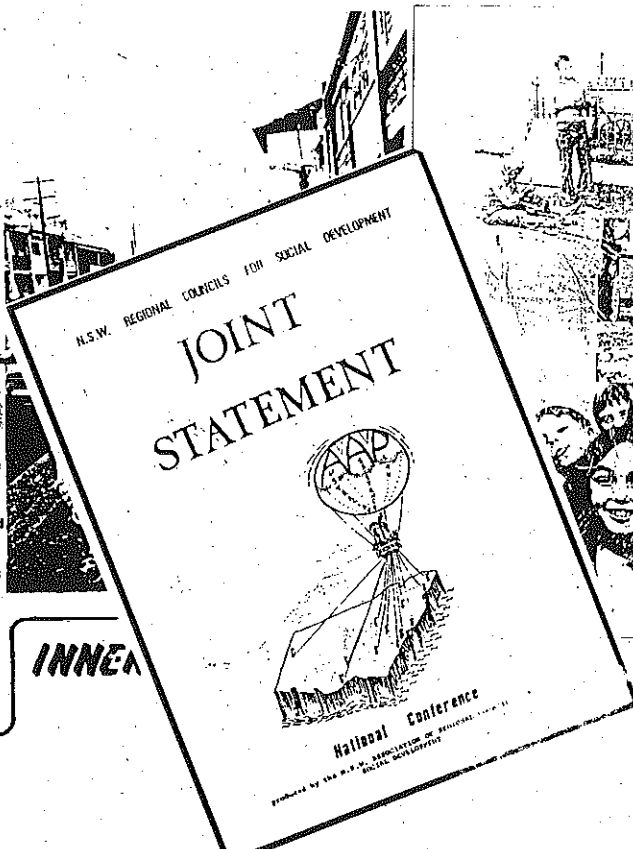
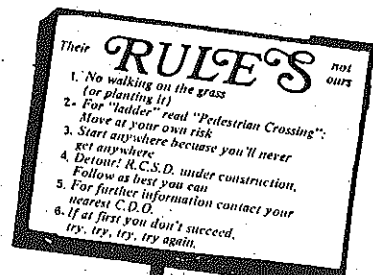
OUR ROLE

In Inner Sydney in particular, with a population literally under threat, the Regional Council cannot be restricted to merely "well-face" matters for three reasons. Firstly, it does not help the residents to have full facilities if they have to move out. Secondly, it is wasteful to propose a certain facility (such as a child-care centre) if, within five years, a totally different type of people live in the area and the facility is simply not needed. Finally, it does not tackle the real causes of our problems—housing, unemployment, and the powerlessness of ordinary people.

The Regional Council is working for ordinary people, their needs and problems. It's about action.

HOW TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE

Although the problems are immense and not even fully understood, they can be overcome for our basic reason. This is that people will fight for their homes, their rights and their way of life. As long as the Regional Council stays relevant to these matters, it can succeed. However, due to our very limited resources (money and people), it is important that this be done as efficiently as possible. This means that the Regional Council attempts to ensure that people can participate in the important issues that affect them and not get caught up in the web of bureaucracy. "Efficiency" thus means firstly, tackling the priority issues, secondly, not wasting people's time in projects that don't achieve anything, and thirdly, attempting to gain the support and cooperation of organizations that are aiming at similar ends.



INNER

\$3,000 seeding funds were used to alert and bring together in July 1974 a wide range of people to form an interim regional council. Funding was then sought for a social planner, secretariat staff, and three CDOs (Community Development Officers), one in each LGA to assist people formulate their plans of action. Executive Officer Colin Menzies, started work at our new Glebe office above 'The Tribune' in February 1975. In November we moved to Meagher Street, Chippendale.



1974 - 1976 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson

Andrew Jakubowicz (Feb - Sept 74), **Stephen Wall** (Sept 74 - Dec 74), **Robert Wood** (Dec 74 - Jun 76), **Peter Bradley** (Jun 76 - present)

Vice Chairman

Robert Wood (Sept - Dec 74), **Keith Bottomley** (Dec 74 - Mar 1975), **Cec Armour** (Mar - Dec 75), **Robert Wood** (June 76 to present)

Secretary

Sue Faire (Feb - Sept 74), **Jill Everohed** (Sept 74 - Feb 75), **Elizabeth Duke** (Feb - April 75), **Carol Pederson** (Apr - Aug 75), **Jo Wynter** (Aug 75 - Jun 76), **Donna Glass** (Jun - Aug 76)

Treasurer

Dimitri Gotsis (Sept - Dec 74), **Margaret Barry** (Dec 74 - Feb 75), **Mev Ramidge** (Feb - Sept 75), **Ron Stuart-Robertson** (Sept 75 - Jun 76), **Alan Winchester** (Jun 1976 - present)

Staff: Executive Officer **Colin Menzies** Migrant Project Officer **Mauro di Nicola** Administrative Secretary **Val Martin** Administrative Assistant **Lois Burton** replaced by **Elizabeth Pace** Community Development Officers **Brenda Humble** (Sydney) **Margaret Barry** (South Sydney) **Scott Aden** (Leichhardt) replaced by **Simon Clough** (Local Projects)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to present this report of our Council's work over the last thirty months highlighting our aims and achievements.

If there is one thing we have learned over the last few months, as we see ourselves being gently swept under the carpet by both Federal and State Governments, it is that we have not blown our trumpets loudly enough.

I would draw your attention to the activities outlined in this report and would ask politicians reading it if they would pass on to their colleagues the contents of these reports. For if ever there was a short sighted policy, it is not realising the immense work that the AAP has been able to do, particularly in the Inner City, at such minimal costs.

It has acted as a liaison between Government Departments, agencies, parliament itself and particularly, helped the residents express their wishes and desires. I draw your attention to some of the areas in which the Regional Council has been most effective.

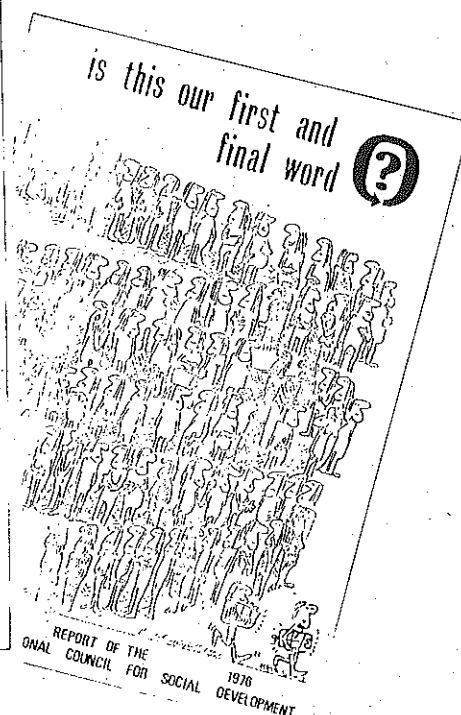
The Rehabilitation Seminar (within our Housing Activities) drew participants from as far afield as South Australia with a representative of the South Australian Housing Trust here to show us how their admirable program is working. This was a most effective Seminar in which a great number of people were drawn together to discuss the potentials of rehabilitation. The papers have now been published and are available at the Regional Council Office.

Within the housing ambit, we have been able to liaise with the Housing Commission and the Residents of Waterloo in setting up the Residents' Committee. These are remarkable achievements indeed.

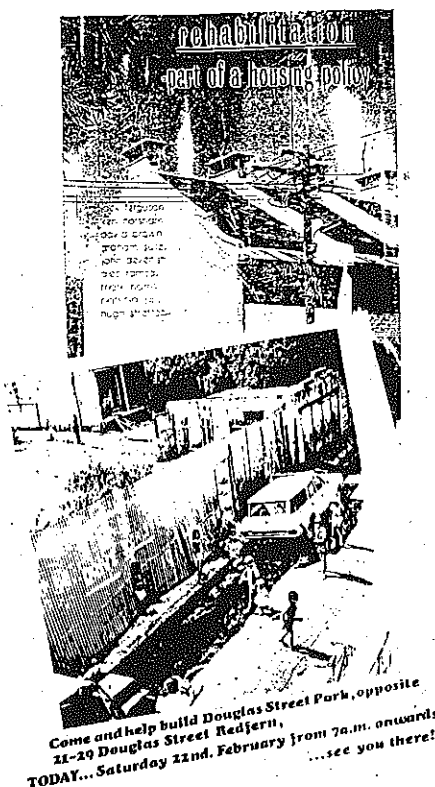
The work that is going on in Woolloomooloo is well known to everyone and our CDO in that area is preparing a book on the 'Loo. She has also been an active facilitator in other areas such as housing for the rehabilitation of alcoholic women.

In family care we have highlighted many aspects of problems in the Inner City. It might be argued that we were among the initiators of the Child Care Programme within South Sydney, and we have co-operated with many groups as well as the Council in seeing that the people of South Sydney were able to express their views. Our Project Officer has indeed worked hard and tenaciously for well over eighteen months in this field. She has opened avenues whereby child bashing problems can be examined.

We have also worked in Balmain, helping the Health Commission to set up a residents health advisory committee which has brought many diverse people together to look at their own health needs.



Peter Bradley
Chairman



- Strategies Paper
- Identifying Home Help Service gaps
- Increasing Local Child Care Services with South Sydney Council and local groups
- Housing Rehabilitation Seminar
- Regional Housing Conference
- Waterloo Community Consultation
- Woolloomooloo Planning with Sydney City Council
- Stanley Palmer Tenancy Centre
- Tenants' Rights Book and Training with Tenants' Union of NSW
- Submission to Human Relations Commission with ISRAG
- Problems of ex-alcoholic women: Seminar and setting up Marty House
- Assisting Housing Commission residents to examine landlord policies
- Support to Botany Bay Planning and Protection Co-ordinating Committee
- Conference on Council Boundaries
- IWYear: Funds to establish Mobile Info Van, South Sydney Women's Centre
- Development of Douglas Street Park with SSAAP
- Development of Aged Activities Groups in South Sydney
- Seminar on relevance of spation programmes (eg AAP) to migrant problems
- Submission for Rocks Cottage Nursing Home with Rocks residents
- Submission on Psychiatric Reform
- Community Development Workshop
- Support for Newtown Community Council

*On 8 June 1977 we were incorporated.
Three weeks later Canberra pulled the plug.
Much of our time was spent on the National
AAP Survival Campaign - the Campaign
failed, but the ideas and commitment sur-
vived.*

1976/77

HELP! SAVE A-A-P in the city

The Australian Labour Government in 1973 established this plan (AAP) to give every person a chance to live in his own community. To enable this to happen, social development projects were established on a trial basis throughout Australia.

Originally there was no plan to establish Inner Sydney - an area which badly needed residents fight their own battles and make their own decisions. In 1975 the Inner Sydney Regional Council administration grant plus grants to officers.



- * consultations over redevelopment of '100'
- * Work with ex-prisoners.
- * expansion of St. Vincent's hospital
- * workshops have been held on Tenants Rights.
- * a book has been compiled on Woolloomooloo.
- * negotiations on vacant one houses have taken place.

RENTAL BOOKS (100 in City) premises a small newsletter - 'What On' - which is circulated throughout the City. 2,000 copies a month. Will stop if the AAP closes.

INFORMATION

Surveys have been done in the area on issues affecting residents. A survey done on Home Help in 1976 has been important in bringing to light the extent and depth of this problem. There will be a Project Staff to work on these matters if the AAP closes.

ASSISTANCE

Every day many telephone calls are received from all over the City asking for information - problems with landlords to consultation with the City Council. This will also go on if the AAP closes.

Groups are assisted in the preparation of submissions to Government Departments where people are over-represented. The COO does not work with local groups throughout the area. She will work if the AAP closes.

RESOURCES

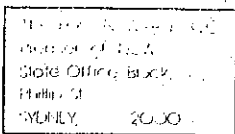
Duplicators, collators, offset printer and space are available for community groups. This will go on too.

the AAP is to survive, if Brenda Humble is to continue - the City, ordinary people are to have access to the resources they need follow out a program (telephones, paper, equipment).

WE NEED YOUR HELP
WE NEED YOUR VOICE

you are interested in helping:

- (1) write to the PREMIER asking for State support.
- (2) write to your LOCAL MEMBER supporting the work of the AAP.
- (3) tell your FRIENDS of our plight.



INFORMATION CONTACT:
NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,
40 RILEY STREET, CHIPPENDALE,
NSW 2152

ACT NOW

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Chairperson Peter Bradley
Vice Chairperson Jo Wynter
Treasurer Alan Winchester
Secretary Phil
Sub Regional:
South Sydney Leish McDonnell
Leichhardt Shane Waterton
City of Sydney Greg Thompson
Staff: Elizabeth Duke and Colin Menzies resigned early in the New Year; Lynda Tin and Hall Greenland were employed part-time on Family Support and Unemployment projects.

TELEGRAM
SYDNEY 4.45 P.M. Thursday 30th June, 1977

Despite extended negotiations with the State Government up to this date no answer or commitment of support has been forthcoming. Unable to give you any prospect of continued funding and can only suggest independent action will convene informal AAP Conference as soon as practicable.

Heating
Chairman NSW Association

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

- Urban Renewal Taskforce Consultation with Federal Department of EHCD
- Housing Allowance Voucher Experiment Consultation with Federal Department of EHCD
- Development of Bond Fund with Tenants' Union
- Conference on the Vinson-Home Report: 'Indicators of Community Well-Being' with Sydney Community Centre and YACS
- Reports identifying service gaps and duplication in Family Support Services
- Report on Unemployment in the Region with Unemployment Committee
- CYSS Developments Projects: Alexandria Job Squad and Chippo Fixits
- Development of successful proposals for funding of Kings Cross Community Aid, and Westside, Newtown and Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centres with local committees
- Submission to Inquiry into NSW Government Administration
- Brenda Humble produced "Woolloomooloo" book

THE AUSTRALIAN ASSISTANCE PLAN MUST CONTINUE

The threat of extinction hangs over the Australian Assistance Plan. In common with ACOSS and other State COSSs, this Council is extremely concerned about its future.

The Council of Social Service of N.S.W. has supported the Australian Assistance Plan since its inception. The Council urges the National Government to continue to fund the AAP as a national plan and endorses the Statement of Principles and other recommendations which resulted from the Conference of Regional Councils for Social Development in Sydney April 3-4.

It is of the highest priority that member councils of the NSW Association of Regional Councils for Social Development should be allocated sufficient administrative and development funds to enable them to carry out their programmes.

The Government has stated among the encouragement of development in which people have maximum independence to achieve their life, in ways which they desire. The Australian Assistance Plan is not able to do this which are designed around...

In this way, both the government and sectors are able to design their response to community needs. The experimentation in welfare projects established voluntary innovative projects not available.

fundamental to the enhancement of the mental health of the community.

New South Wales Government
Minister for Local Government
C.A.G.A. Building
8-18 Bent Street, Sydney, 2000
Telephone: 240 4755
2.77/13

Mr. P. Wearne,
Chairman,
N.S.W. Association of
Regional Councils for
Social Development,
P.O. Box 359,
BROADWAY, N.S.W. 2007.

Dear Mr. Wearne,
Thank you for your recent letter concerning the future of the Australian Assistance Plan. As you are not able to do this on this...

question of the Australian Assistance Plan. The Association of Regional Councils for Social Development is a matter of the Government's deliberations. The Association of Regional Councils for Social Development is a matter of the Government's deliberations. The Association of Regional Councils for Social Development is a matter of the Government's deliberations.

WOOLL

chairman's report

Well, this year I'm respectable when I address you, because the Regional Council is at last a legally incorporated co-operative, even if now impoverished. As you know, we have now become a voluntary organisation due to the short-sighted, mindless acts of politicians in both the Federal and State Governments. They refused to recognise the great army of volunteers that the A.A.P. organised to relieve them of the financial burden of community activities.

You find out who your friends are when you have been turned into an outcast and had your financial support withdrawn. However, our former staff, along with the members of the Regional Council continue to give loyal support to a range of community activities. We've built here in the inner city a core of responsibility and belonging that was dreamt of when the A.A.P. was first envisaged. We shall be moving soon to humbler premises and we shall have to give very serious thought to clarifying where we feel our major thrust should be in the future. Without financial support from any source, it will be increasingly difficult for the Regional Council to continue to act as the resource base for the hundred-odd community groups we have helped in the past.

I believe that, as the crisis deepens in our economy, government at both levels will live to rue the day that they stultified the growth of community self-help. Mr. Fraser threw a virile baby into the millpond, and Neville Wran stood and let it happen. They never realised that the inherent ability of that child to float will bring it to the top again.

So, to save paper and economise, I'll just ask you to realise we shall just have to work and sacrifice a little harder to ensure that political short-sightedness never prevents people from being able to develop their own community projects. And I have drawn heart from the comments of one of our members, a local housewife and mother of three, who said "The A.A.P. is something special for us, for it didn't give us handouts, rather, it taught how to go about getting those things we wanted - it gave us the skills, pointed us in the right direction and supported us along the way - and we grew immeasurably in the process of controlling our own affairs."

Peter Bradley
Chairman.

Federal funding of projects to end



Federal funding would be provided for projects for which the Government has agreed to provide funding. The Government has agreed to provide funding for projects for which the Government has agreed to provide funding. The Government has agreed to provide funding for projects for which the Government has agreed to provide funding.

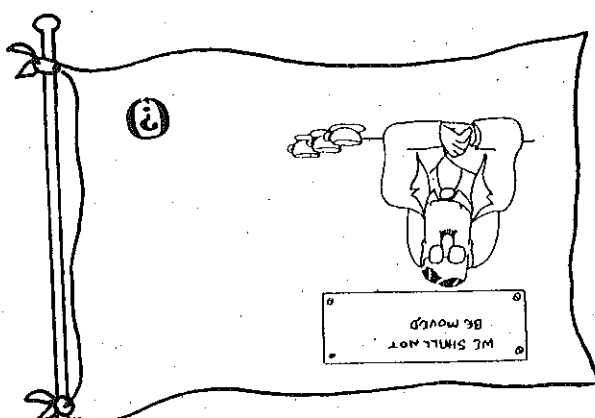
THE LONGEST CLIFFHANGER



In one year we went from the brink of extinction, through a transmogrification into a Regional Information and Resource Centre. We found a new home, a new identity and spent a long easter break preparing our first INNER VOICE.

1977

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 Chairperson Peter Bradley
 son Margaret Barry Secret
 Treasurer Shane Waterton
 Delegate Simon Clough
 Working Group Delegates B
 Phingst City of Sydney Gre
 Leichhardt Ron Stuart-Rob
 Sydney Trish McDonnel
 The alterations to the Board
 Vice Chairperson Trisha L
 Organisational Delegate Le
 Leichhardt Delegate Mike C
 South Sydney Delegate Fred



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Things looked pretty grim as we moved all of our gear out of our Chippendale office - and as we packed up and moved out, we closed one chapter in the history of the Regional Council.

However, the Board looked at how we could continue to develop and saw that this was by changing to an Information resource function.

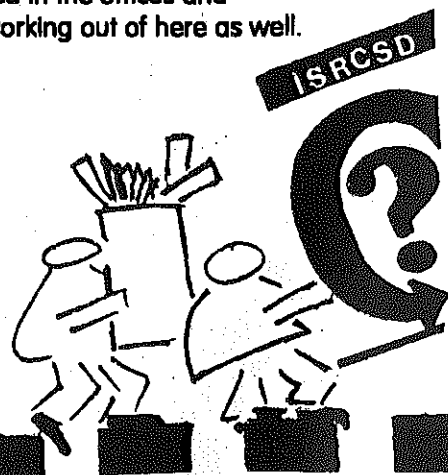
A submission to the Department of Youth and Community Services for funding as a Regional Information and Resource Centre was approved. Our Christmas came a bit early in the form of a \$25,000 cheque from the Minister, Mr Rex Jackson.

We've seen a big change in the Regional Council, with a lot of energy going into the Information and Resource function. But its continued to work well for two reasons - one is the hard work and dedication of the staff, Marg Barry and Marion Fennell, and two, the remarkable input of time, energy and ideas by the members of Regional Council.

This ranged from finding and moving to a new office (with removalists Jahn, Julie, Dick, Greg, Ann, Min, Wal, Frank, Don and others); cleaning it out and setting it up (Marsha, Marg, Val, Phil, Trish); then preparing, setting out and printing 'Inner Voice' (Mike, Peter, Anne, Greg - what a way to spend an Easter!) and now setting up the information system (Sue, Carol, Eugenia, Marcia) and one it goes .

Other members and people and groups throughout the Region have continued to ensure the Regional Council's future by their many and varied contributions. You've only got to look at 'Inner Voice' to get some idea of who is involved in keeping us going.

The Regional Office is also used by other groups - with the Australian Social Welfare Union firmly established in the offices and Shelter working out of here as well.



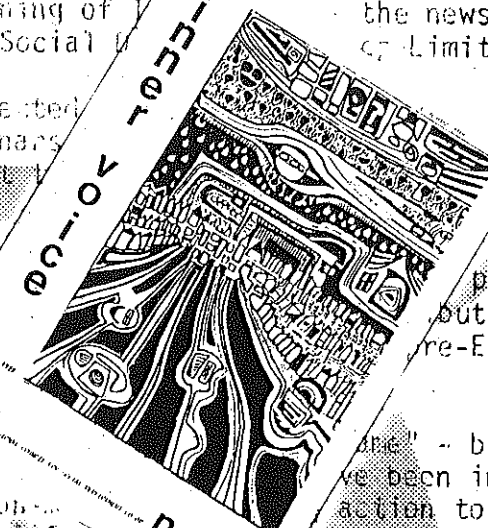
al months have gone into the planning of Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development

the newsletter of Limited.

the last weeks have very much reflected things, workshops and seminars

has over looking art

Directors 1977/78
 • Bradley Vice Chairperson
 • Secretary Phil Smith
 • Waterton Organisational
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 • sha Lynch
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 • Fred Turvey



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are" - but... ve been in the... action to make... information being

the Regional Council set the framework for its... Its 4 principal areas of activity were in housing, family

And in everything it engaged... determined by a belief in the

Major Activities

- * 'Inner Voice' - which is widely distributed throughout the region to all kinds of people - locals, health and welfare workers, community groups, neighbourhood centres, government departments and local politicians.
- * The Resources - including printing, typing, copying meeting rooms and people!
- * Regional Information System - developing a storage and distribution system (based on the UWASIS system and not centralization of information).
- * Local Newsheets - the Board supported the principle of developing local newsheets that served as a venue for snippets of information about local happenings, reports published, coming events, etc.

WATCH OUT.....THE ICAS ABOUT

There is a danger of... the ICAS about... the ICAS about... the ICAS about...

CHANCE OR CHOICE

HOME HELP ACTION CAMPAIGN

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...appear to be... development... more h... vice which... or organisation... act on that env...

...which the... more of the same... government department

...the newsletter of the Inner Sydney RCSD. In fact, Inner Sydney - if that be our choice.



In our new role as an information and resource service, we settled in to 'Hexham House' but weren't allowed to settle back. Life at Regional Council was frantic. Our work on unemployment led us into looking at traffic and transport which led us into health which led us into the Clean Air for Children campaign.

Inner Sydney Regional Council Information Exchange

Towards a Statement of Objectives

In the past year the Information and Resource Centre project of Regional Council has maintained its commitment of providing information, support and back-up resources to local networks and groups in the Inner city. Its activities are based on two major beliefs of this organisation:-

1. that most people get what they want to know through family, friends, local shopkeepers and neighbours rather than through formal centres. Information exchange is a normal part of community life;
2. people absorb that information which is relevant to them at any point in time. They do this either individually or as part of a group. This means that information needs to be seen in the context of peoples' networks and communities of interest. The art of informing and becoming informed is a community development process as it becomes an exchange of skills and knowledge leading to action. This developmental perspective is quite different from that of SERVICE delivery. It places far more importance on resourcing the informal networks of people and, in particular, groups forming around specific issues. Activities have been in areas of:

A. Skills and knowledge development of local groups by providing consultancy, support and back-up. e.g. Community Work "Short Courses".

B. Assisting the establishment and maintenance of local networks on specific issues (e.g. TNT Action Group). Assisting in the maintenance of local forums for discussion (South Sydney AAP, Leichhardt Interagency). Providing physical resource back up through Resource Centre (Multilith Press and printing service, typewriters, collater, stapler)

C. Newsletters - Inner Voice, Environmental Health Bulletin, Transport Group Newsletter - and Publications - Transport Report, Traffic Disasters, Lead in Petrol, Health & Air Pollution

D. Regional Information System - developing and documenting the process of how regional systems might operate and discussion paper published.

These activities demonstrate a commitment to strengthening local resources, teaching people to understand information through the provision of information around specific issues.



1978/79

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 78/79

Chairperson Greg Thompson Vice Chairperson

Trisha Lynch Secretary Michael Clohesy

Treasurer Trish McDonnell Working Group

Delegates Botany Jenni Payne Chris Manning

City of Sydney Peter Bradley Bev Barnett

Leichhardt Ian Dall John McMahan South

Sydney Phil Smith Fred Turvey

Staff: Edna Vincent took over the admin reins

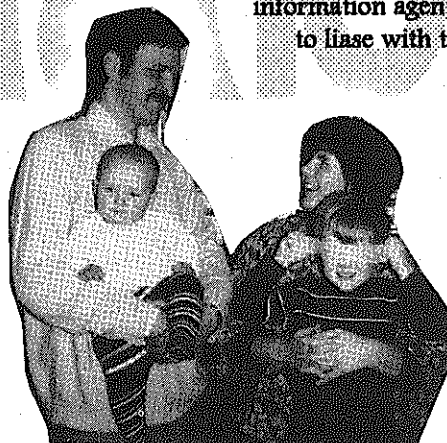
relinquished by Marion Fennell and Sharon

McCallum joined us with our new Multilith

printing press. With the amendments to our

Rules, Working Group Alternate Delegates became Delegates, one with the responsibility to

liaise with the formal information agents, the other to liaise with the informal networks.



LEAD POLLUTION SCARE PUTS PARENTS IN A PANIC

The call by the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, to increase the lead content in petrol has angered many parents in Sydney.

One parents' group is so concerned at the level of lead pollution that it wants its children tested for lead poisoning.

A report from the University of NSW has linked lead emissions from cars with high lead levels in children's blood — and started a movement to warn parents of the dangers of lead poisoning.

The report has alarmed and confused parents and made them more concerned about issues such as the lead content in petrol and car emission controls.

And it has made others think about quitting the "big smoke" for a cleaner environment.

Dr Mark Harris is one. He works at an inner-city children's hospital and has kept an eye on lead pollution for some time.

He has considered packing up and moving his wife Elizabeth and young son Benjamin out of the city.

"The lead report made me more determined," Dr Harris said this week.

"We have been worried about the effect of lead pollution on our son, so we are moving."

Country

They are moving to a better lead content in



Mrs Elizabeth Harris and son Ben, worried about lead in the air.

ils are:

y' the corner of Raglan any Streets

h will ENSURE

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

- ★ Set up HIRS (housing information & referral service) with Shelter NSW
 - ★ Formation of the Neighbourhood (Information & Resource) Centres' Forum
 - ★ Formation of the Regional Transport Group and Regional Environmental Health Group
 - ★ Lead In Petrol/Clean Air for Children Campaign
 - ★ Seminar on Regional Information Systems with CISS, NCOSS, LCSA
 - ★ Community Work Short Course ran with Neighbourhood Centres' Forum
- including: Clarifying Aims & Objectives; Meeting and Meeting Dynamics; Using the Print Media; Creating Your Own Print Media

Environmental Health BULLETIN

INNER CITY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
3rd Floor, The Grafton Street, Sydney.

Phone: 235 7524
Mail to: P.O. Box 120, BRICKFIELD Hill, NSW

Dr Robert Anderson, an international expert on the effects of lead on the mental development of children, will visit Sydney and Melbourne in mid and late October.

In the meantime, a public course on the issue of lead and air pollution is being run in mid and late October. A number of local groups and Councils are holding evening courses over the next few months.

The Environmental Health Forum aims to hold a meeting on the health effects of lead in early 1980. If you are interested, let us know.

PLANES OR PEOPLE WHICH COUNT MOST? PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS

YOU MUST ATTEND THE PUBLIC MEETING

10 A.M. SUNDAY, 21st JANUARY, 1979
CORONATION HALL, BOTANY ROAD, MASCOT
TO OPPOSE EXPANSION OF KINGSFORD-SMITH (MASCOT) AIRPORT
DON'T LEAVE IT TO OTHERS
FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS
OUR HOMES

PUBLIC MEETING on

PHILLIP STREET WIDENING

One of longest serving volunteers, Marsha Barry

St

Y

1979/80

TNT PREPARES to EVICT 1000 tenants

ULTIMO PYRMONT NEWS

URGENT

IT APPEARS THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
DEFENSE POLICE IN CINCINNATI
WAS NOT IN THE DEPARTMENT TO HANDLE
MATTERS.

THESE NAMES ARE SUBMITTING MEMBERS
RESIDENTS OF GIBBS STREET ARE W.
(FORWARD 21TH JAN., 1980, AT 7
HALL TO GIBBS STREET LOCAL PARTY
DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAMME AND CLERK.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL LOC
THIS MIGHT BE THE LAST CHANCE
RE WHAT THE DEPARTMENT IS DO
THE PRICE IS EXPECTED TO A

NY 100 100-100

INNER SYDNEY
WOMEN'S HOUSING
GROUP
NEWSLETTER

HEAVENS!
JOHN—WE
CAN'T JUST
STAND HERE
AND WATCH
THE JOBLESS
FIGURES REACH
A HALF
MILLION!!

YOU'RE RIGHT
MALCOLM

SO, YOU'RE IN
THE INFORMATION GAME!

NO
INFORMATION
IS
SAFE

A GUIDE

reclassified by
SP-6 JAMES E. GILBERT JR.
June 1982

- tightening up the preparation schedule for 'Inner Voice' and making a drive for paid subscriptions
- appointing Sue Bishop as full-time Office Manager to keep the office systems in order
- new printing machine
- assisting groups develop information systems

(Redfern House)

- Environmental Health Bulletin
- Transport Group Newsletter
- Botany Bay Community Advisory Committee
- Planning and Environment Commission
- Neighbourhood Centres Forum

EMPLOYMENT

Yes, you have to prove you're in 'B' company - that you'll B here when they come, and B here when they go!

Chairperson Greg Thompson Vice Chairperson Tom Zubrycki Secretary Michael Clohesy Treasurer Di Furniss
Working Group Delegates Botany Di Lazarus Jenni Payne City of Sydney Ron Trainer Peter Collingwood
Leichhardt Robyn Gribble John McMahon South Sydney Annabel Wundham Fred Turvey

SUR

GO TO JAIL
IF YOU GOT
THIS FAR
MUST BE A
CROOK

PETROL
PRICE
RISE

80

60

PENS
CUT

40

40

20

SAVING
BAN
INTER

st. 1. 1. 1. e

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH GROUP

THE CASE AGAINST LEAD IN PETROL !

Lead in petrol is a major health hazard. It is a known carcinogen and causes damage to the brain, heart, and other organs. The Environmental Health Group is campaigning for lead-free petrol to be available from July 1, 1984. Lead-free petrol is essential for the health of our children and the environment.



The past 12 months have been very active and successful in terms of the main campaign - air pollution.

After a large number of local meetings, seminars, a media campaign, and a campaign directed at eliciting support from community groups, especially P&Cs and Local Government, the NSW Government has announced it will require 92-octane, lead-free petrol to be available from July 1, 1984. Further, all new cars will be required to be able to run on this and to be fitted with catalyst afterburners by 1984.

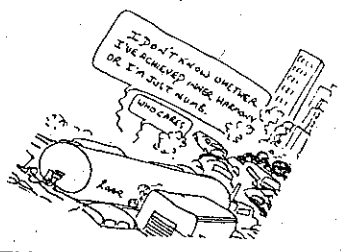
This major victory tends to eclipse some of the other activities of the Group. Notably it has attempted to organise and hold workshops around wide range of environmental and public health issues, reports of which are included in the Bulletin:

- * traffic noise and accidents
- * aircraft noise
- * occupational health and safety
- * health effects of petrochemicals, especially LPG storage
- * pesticides
- * radiation

There is certainly no shortage of continuing issues and new material for discussion and debate, but I think they will become increasingly focussed on things like traffic, housing, employment. In this way environmental and public health issues will be more effectively tackled at the present time.

Mark Harris

TRANSPORT GROUP



This past year has seen the emergence of the Transport Group from obscurity to a very active coalition of residents' groups and community organisations lobbying for major improvements in both private and public transport.

The Group (with assistance from our students Karen, Lynelle, Andy, Esther and Margaret) produced 'Traffic Disasters' and our bi-monthly Transport Group Newsletter.

Late in 1979, the Group submitted for funds under YACS Social Impact Analysis Programme to document the social, health and environmental effects of the changing transport patterns in the inner city. This Citizens Impact Statement (CIS) involves local community groups identifying the key issues and problems in their areas, distributing over 2,000 questionnaires and working through proposals for alleviating the transport crisis.

Neville Boyle of Ultimo has been employed part-time on the CIS Project to produce the draft final report by Christmas.

Other issues in which the Group was involved were:

- * necessity for a far greater proportion of freight moving through Port Botany to be transported by rail rather than trucks
- * continual opposition to the development of container breakup and freight depots in residential areas
- * transportation of dangerous goods by truck through residential areas

work with Action for Public Transport and the Hillsdale Bus Action Group in fighting for more, and more appropriate, local bus services. Margaret Christian.

LEICHHARDT

must residents be Soldiers, Sailors, Dogs or Footie Players to get...

Leichhardt Council has agreed to a new scheme for the park. The scheme involves the removal of the Grandstand and the development of a new park area. The Council has also agreed to a new scheme for the park. The scheme involves the removal of the Grandstand and the development of a new park area.

ACCESS TO OUR PARKS & FORESHORES

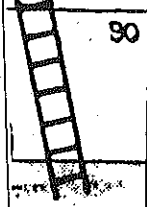
Re our open space problems, parks are still a big issue. Some have 'lost' to the residents, in the case of Leichhardt Oval and part of Leichhardt Park. One, O'Connell Reserve in Rozelle, is being redesigned by Architecture and Tech College students and the work is being carried out by unemployed kids in the area under a State Government grant. If the project is successful, it is hoped more parks will be upgraded in the same way.

Wentworth Park is threatened with a Grandstand and parking facilities being built within the Park. Leichhardt Council paid half the cost of the \$800,000 Grandstand in Leichhardt Oval, an area of Crown Land leased exclusively to the Balmain Leagues Club with no resident use allowed. Although the residents failed to stop the development in Leichhardt Park, a new park in Balmain given by the State Government is to be developed by the Council. This management of the park is tied up in such a way as to prevent any part of it being leased exclusively to any sporting group, and no part of it can be sold, as was the case when part of Leichhardt Park was sold to the Apia Club.

The Leichhardt Association has been granted \$461 to develop a landscape design for Leichhardt Park and, hopefully, Council will implement the final scheme....

Robyn Gribble

ents



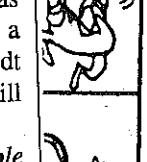
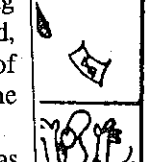
GET A TAX REFUND CHEQUE OUT MAKES A PROMISE AND YOU BELIEVE IT



LOSE THE DOLE

WAGE RISE

30



finish (back at Square 1)

1980/81

Botany **Nancy Hillier Terry Finlay**
City of Sydney **Ron Trainer Anna Noble**
Leichhardt **John McMahon Helen Hanify**
South Sydney **Fred Turvey Deborah**
Whitmont

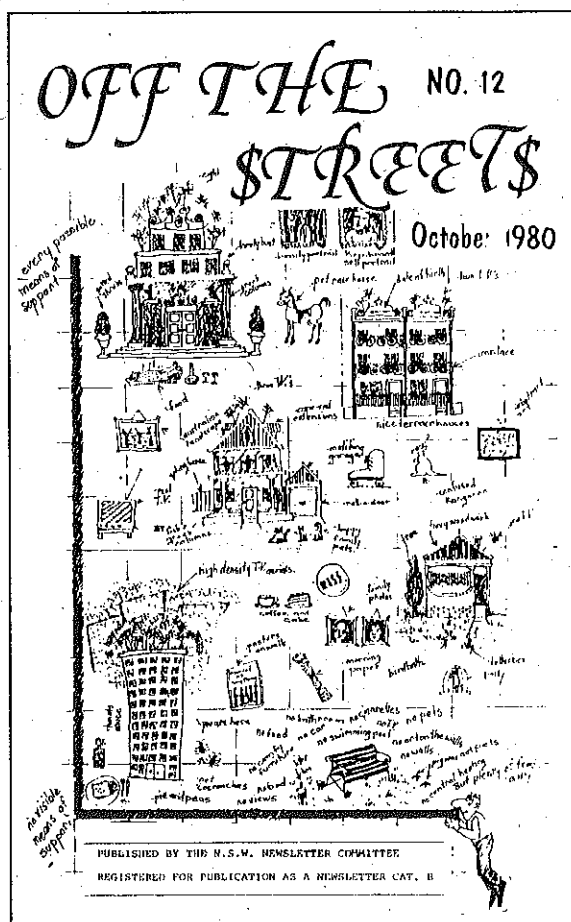
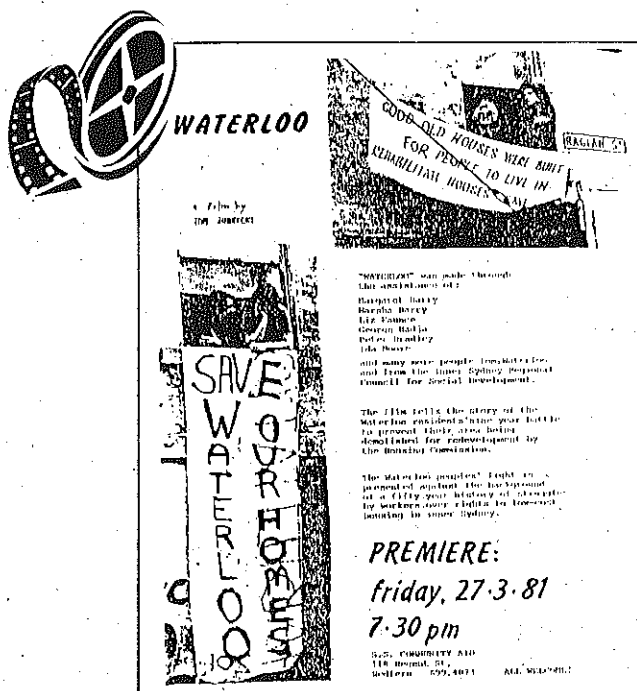
Students: Margaret Christian, John

Volunteers: Barbara Doheson, Phyl Pearcy,
Alanna Clohesy



- Traffic and Transport in South Sydney (part of the our CIS)
- 'Waterloo': Tom Zubrycki's Award-Winning Documentary Film (first print purchased by the Housing Commission for training purposes!)
- participation in Radio Eastern Sydney's test broadcasts
- CYSS Newsletter (13 editions!)
 - support for the Ningana Housing Co-op squatters
 - developing common perspectives with other regional info services in NSW

Ricki Ecker



traffic and transport

BOTANY

...Industrial development, port facilities, disappearing jobs, traffic and transport impact, noise, air and water pollution, and a shortage of rental housing at affordable prices are growing concerns in Botany. The closure of General Motors-Holden, Pagewood, at the beginning of the year created incredible stress on the surrounding communities, but local agency workers, particularly from Hillsdale Neighbourhood Centre, pitched in to provide relevant information to departing workers who knew nothing about benefits or how to obtain them - they'd had no need previously!

The Hillsdale Bus Action is gearing up for further action on inadequate public transport services in that area.

There is still no action from the Housing Commission on the old Soldiers' Settlement site at Matraville, and the redevelopment of Daceyville will continue to create controversy if the Commission does not mend its ways and seek the involvement of the last-remaining residents in its on-going plans. Cheap rental housing is almost non-existent.

The Draft Plan for the Botany Bay Sub-Region offers absolutely no relief to residents of South Sydney, Botany and Randwick. It recommended nothing be permitted to restrict the consolidation of the petro-chemical industry, and that industry ancillary to Port Botany (eg warehousing) be encouraged despite:

the Simblist Inquiry recommending that 50% of all cargo through Seaport Botany be transported by rail

the area's severe traffic problems result from the changed use of industrial land for container breakup depots and warehousing
a Hazard/Disaster Plan has not eventuated.

It is only because of the pressure from local groups and the Botany Bay Community Advisory Committee (CAC) that we now have our first report from the Inter-Departmental Committee charged with the Plan's preparation. The CAC has sought:

specific dangerous goods routes away from shopping centres and residential areas

24-hour air pollution monitoring systems in Botany and South Sydney
24-hour services to investigate residents' complaints into air and noise pollution breaches from local industry

a Botany Bay contingency plan from the MSB

updating of state and national pollution legislation for compensation.

There is still much to be done like:

commensurate fines for oil spills

detailed registers of dangerous chemicals, fuels and goods transported through Port Botany

a fire boat for Botany Bay

sufficient and appropriate preventative and cleanup equipment maintained on refinery and storage farm premises

no expansion of KSA nor lifting of the curfew.

We have obtained a 28ha foreshore reserve, but we believe Botany residents should not have to bear the costs alone, via their rates and rents. And we believe the beach available to the reserve should be gazetted and stamped 'never to be developed for Port work'.....



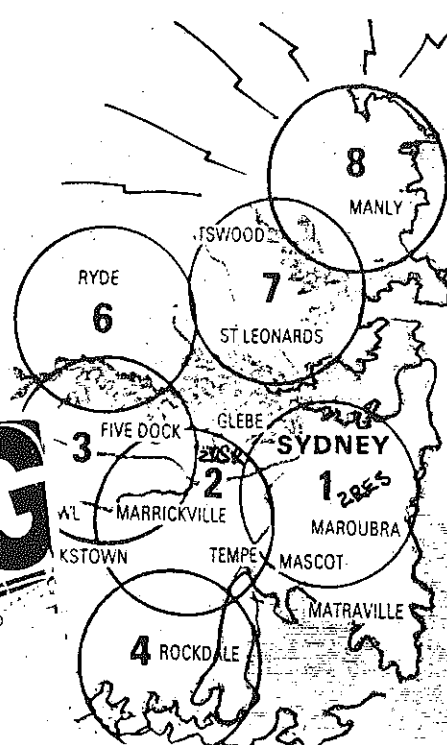
Jack Carnegie kept the presses running in 80/81



of the Australian assist

sydney mail exch

*While recession attacked the region,
and community organisations
tightened their belts, things were on
the up and up for us.*



1
2
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2

Reading between the lines

YACS Funding Supplement
South Sydney Traffic Study

In examining a recent press-release from Mr Brenton's office (May 5 1982), the ill-thought-out leading name...

Brenton

On one hand, talks hospital beds, yet, it states that all of listing these waiting, one does not have the time to realise these beds have number of years, live at all.

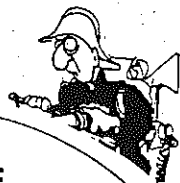
They shouldn't be an equalisation of resources. But rather, this distribution should be on the basis of health needs. At no state in Brenton's Press Release is such an understanding apparent.

Thus, massive misallocation of health resources is occurring without the Health Commission presenting a clear set of social and health indicators in defence of such changes. This is particularly disturbing when we remember Vinton and Hammett's work on social indicators in 1975, and confirmed by the Bio Medical Atlas as well as indicator work recently completed by the Department of

questionable area city is 'over' it which is not age by quantification is supported beds per head not statistician or to say that

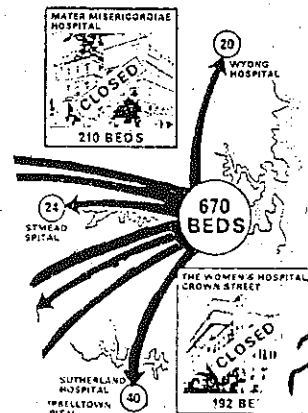
In the Wake of BAYER'S FIRE

The fire at the Bayer's chemical plant in Winton Street, Sydney last October and the subsequent public meeting have unleashed a spate of official reports and correspondence.



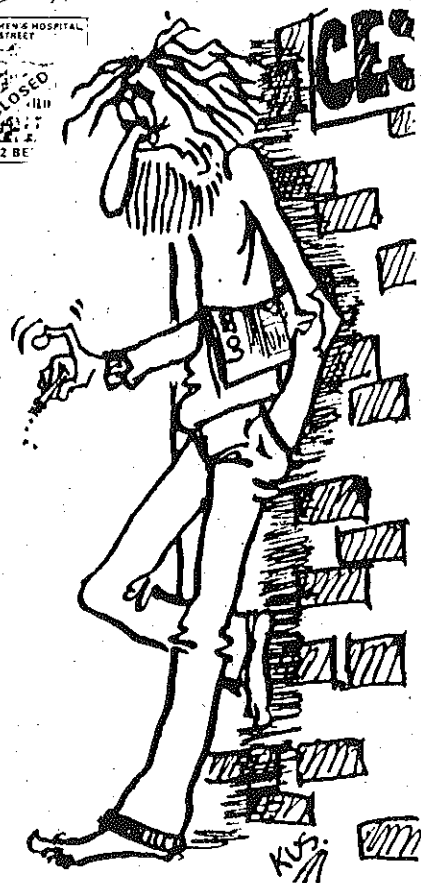
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1981/82

Chairperson Paul Murphy Vice Chair Harvey Volke Secretary Colin Menzies
Treasurer Patricia McDonnell Working Group Delegates Botany Nancy Hillier Nel Pickette
City of Sydney Gael Goodall Nita McCrae
Leichhardt Mary-Anne Henry Helen Hanify
South Sydney Dave Burns Fran Hayes
Staff: Nick Keranos replaced Jack Carnegie Students: Debbie Burnett, Jenny Mulvey



Major Activities

- ♦ Inner Voice Readership Survey
- ♦ New Look Inner Voice (we bought a typesetter) ♦ Regional Information Services Seminar: 'To Know and Be Known' with Community Resource Centre, Bardwell Park
- ♦ Work with newly-licensed 2RES-FM
- ♦ Compilation of municipal findings for CIS on Traffic and Transport ♦ strengthened links with other regional community information services
- ♦ YACS Funding Campaign with NCOSS and Neighbourhood Centres Forum
- ♦ Reorganisation of our library



Tell us WHAT YOU THINK about INNER VOICE

"Inner Voice" has been produced by the Regional Council for about 4 years now. Twenty-two editions have given about 1700 pages of information on events and issues relevant to Inner Sydney residents and workers.

The Regional Council wants to know what you think about "Inner Voice" so that it can be improved to suit your needs.

"INNER VOICE" IS PRODUCED AT THE BEST POSSIBLE QUALITY. Please give your own opinion on the questionnaire for spare questionnaires for

Please give your own opinion on the questionnaire for spare questionnaires for

1. How did you get this copy?
It was posted to my home ☐
It was in my Workplace Centre ☐
It was at the Library ☐
Other ☐

2. How often do you look at Inner Voice?
Every issue ☐
Often ☐
Sometimes ☐
Rarely ☐
Never ☐

Why Inner Voice?

Inner Voice is not seen by the Regional Council as a 'general interest' magazine for light reading before bed. Rather it is aimed at being an important part of a community-controlled information service that helps people to know, understand, and influence what is happening to their communities.

We have found that good information meant that:

- people were alerted to Government action and could respond
- people and groups could learn from others' experiences
- groups could keep in touch, and work together
- people could find out what resources existed to help them
- groups could get data to back-up their arguments.

9. Do you use past copies of Inner Voice?
Never ☐
10. Would you use an index of Inner Voice?
Never ☐
11. Do you often use information from Inner Voice?
Frequently ☐ Sometimes ☐
12. Do you often pass information from Inner Voice to others?
Frequently ☐ Sometimes ☐
13. How much do you know about the issues in Inner Voice?
Most of it ☐ Some ☐ Little ☐
14. Do you find the information in Inner Voice up-to-date?
Yes ☐ No ☐

How much is Inner Voice Read?

In our survey we sought to find out how many people read Inner Voice, how thoroughly it is read, and how regular our readers are.

It seems that the average readership shown by the survey (5.7) indicates that the 1,000 copies printed have about 5,700 readers.

In order to find out how thoroughly Inner Voice was read, we asked people how much they read. The results from our random phone survey are first, with the answers from the questionnaire survey in brackets.

Nearly all of it	44% (52%)
Only bits relevant to me	22% (32%)
I just skim through	26% (16%)
I rarely open it	8% (0)

you read?

Only articles relevant to me ☐
I rarely open it. ☐

Size of Inner Voice (80 pages) ☐

It's about right ☐

pages) ☐ Most of it ☐

frequency of Inner Voice (every 2 weeks) ☐

should stay bi-weekly. ☐ She

work will look at the same copy ☐

the other. ☐ About ☐

and Inner Voice articles ☐

and easy to follow. ☐ They

understand them, but there is ☐

to be: ☐

Which bits are read?

Our 97% of readers who have looked at Inner Voice before have probably noticed that it is divided into 8 sections. You probably noticed that mainly because each section starts with an Is It A Fact?, more popular even than the cartoons.

We use these 8 sections because they are based on a way of classifying services called U.W.A.S.I.S. (pronounced for those of you fond of jargon "you-way-siss"). This is the same used in community service directories such as that produced by the NSW Council of Social Service (En-coss)!

We adopted U.W.A.S.I.S because it seems to be the best system around for the type of information that community groups need. We sort our files and our library by this method too. But the first time people come across it, they often find it a bit confusing.

INTERESTS TO GET THE QUESTIONNAIRE. There's a spare questionnaire for you to use.

who might have opinions, well, JUST TICK IT

work. ☐ Centre. ☐

Who reads Inner Voice?

In order to provide information to a region of some 200,000 people, Inner Voice is aimed at people we call 'gate-keepers'. These are persons that people often turn to when they want to know something. They are usually of two types - local residents who are trusted by their neighbours, and workers in local organisations.

In general terms, 59% of readers are women, 41% men. They are aged from 22 to 75 years, with 42% younger than 30, 26% aged between 31 and 40, 5% between 40 and 55 and 10% older than 55 years. Some 90% of readers regard themselves as involved in community activities.

Inner Voice is distributed mainly by post but several hundred copies are put in various centres or delivered by hand. 22% of respondents read Inner Voice in libraries or local centres.

'Inner Voice' fleshed and fed out the statistical bones of our region's rising unemployment. But we had to do more, hence the regular briefings of local polties and resourcing of our region's YACS Advisory Committee.

1982/83

What IS the Botany Bay Draft Plan?

The Botany Bay Sub-Regional Plan (BBSRP), what is it for goodness sake? Well, contrary to the picture of little coloured maps conjured up by the word 'Plan', there aren't any!! Maps I mean. Well, I'll be more specific and say there isn't much 'Plan' either. Even though you happen to live in the Sub-Region you may have a little difficult relating to it as 'yours'.

Botany Bay, Port Botany, is certainly the focus which all activities are revolving around, and will continue to revolve around, within the Sub-Region.

Residents of Randwick Municipality, where the Port is, can't identify as residents of the Sub-Region. But if Randwick residents can't identify as residents of the Sub-Region, how can residents of Bankstown and Sutherland and all areas in between? Well, by golly that's your Sub-Region, and it's your Plan, isn't it? Clearer???

So....we have a Plan we can't see, for people living in an area that they refuse to identify or interact with.

What's in the Plan is difficult to explain because, in the words of many defensive employees of the Department of Environment and Planning (DEP), 'It will change all the time; it's to meet the needs of the times; it's flexible'. Actually, it's bullshit like that which ensures nobody understands anything.

Here's an example from the Plan: Pollution is awful. Gosh, it would be good not to have any. Golly, we might stop it. The Plan as you can see recommends nothing specific - no limits on industry, no retribution if premises aren't upgraded by a certain time, no time limit at all! Anyway, it's a State Pollution Control Commission matter and not a DEP one!!

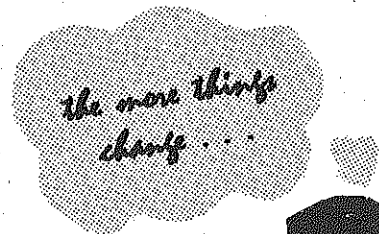
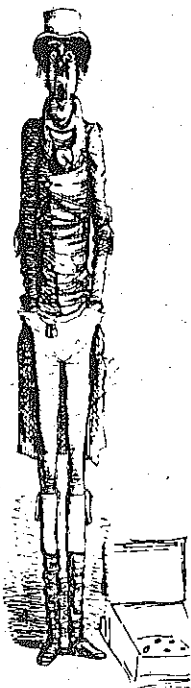
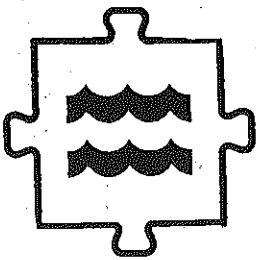
Another example: It would be great if we, the diverse community of little ethnics, newly-weds, oldies, youngies and anyone else worth patronising, could live in the Sub-Region. WELL, IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE FOR YOU AND WE'RE SORRY!!! It's not for the DEP to recommend increasing the affordable housing stock, it's obviously the worry of the Housing Commission.....or someone!

The only people, in fact, that the Plan can bind, or direct, are residents and Local Government. I guess because the Plan is so vague most of it will really be written by the Land and Environment Court - but that's my personal opinion.

I will continue to be personal and say that much time and effort, by people strong on conscience and not much else, has gone into studying and advising what would be worth while additions to any Plan that had residents' interests as well as businesses at heart. They've gone through much soul-searching, and an unbelievable self-education process that astounds one to think of it. They haven't been paid money but, by God, they know their Town Planning! When handed the BBSRP they felt like elephants at the end of a phantom pregnancy.....all that time and.....nothing!!

A Government that really meant to bring down a worthwhile Regional Plan would make a Cabinet decision to set up an Authority to co-operate in drawing up and implementing such a Plan. All relevant Government Departments would be on the Authority, and all would have equal responsibility in seeing the Plan work!!

Freda Backes



INCINERATOR SHIP 'Vulcanus' burns P.V.C. Wastes

The Dutch incinerator ship, 'Vulcanus', is to Australia this month, at the request of ICI Australia and ICI by-products.

The by-product material was produced during the interim stage of PVC manufacture at ICI's, Bona Vista, in Victoria. About 1,200 tonnes of ICI material is stored in bulk tanks, and ICI is about to commission a new plant in Victoria to produce PVC.

A discussion on the 'Vulcanus' waste has been held with senior ICI and Victorian Government officials.

It was planned that the 'Vulcanus' would load the ICI by-products in late November and December. The material would be incinerated about 200 miles offshore in an area nominated by the Department of the Environment. The ship would then proceed to load the material in the same area under similar conditions.

Over the last decade, the area has been used for the disposal of waste.

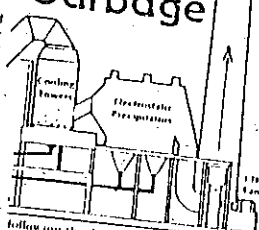
Waterloo Incinerator Burns Local Garbage

The Waterloo Incinerator, as it's locally known, has been a controversial issue in South Sydney since it was first mooted in the mid 60s.

In 'Bubbleshed' of South Sydney (June 1982, No. 4, July, 78), we had a survey of the local community's views on the plant and its impact on the area.

The Waterloo Incinerator, as it's locally known, has been a controversial issue in South Sydney since it was first mooted in the mid 60s.

- assured people that chemical wastes which would produce toxic combustion products are not accepted at the incinerator.
- reported the recent updating of generation information by the Metropolitan Waste Disposal Authority.
- compared 'typical results' of emission monitoring at the incinerator by the AAP with maximum concentrations permitted.
- invited the SSAAP to inspect the plant and have its operations explained in further detail.



Following the description of the pre-updating process and the statement that they were 99.5% efficient, the question raised concerned the 0.5% of the plant. This remaining 0.5% contained very small particles of concentrated chemicals and metals which were not removed by the electrostatic precipitators. These are 'in fact, the most dangerous emissions from the plant and they are also the ones we breathe in.'

Overall there was general agreement that the visit was worthwhile and that there should be continuing close liaison, especially with the Plant Manager.



- handling and sorting of waste;
- incineration and combustion;
- emissions and monitoring;
- capacity and evaluation;

Plant Manager Ferguson deftly and knowledgeably handled questions, firing rapid succession, stating that the plant had reached capacity with its 2 existing furnaces burning on a 24-hour basis. He added that there was provision for a third furnace which would cost \$1m to install, but no money would be made in this direction without the commitment to generate their own electricity (currently costing some \$100,000 per ton).

Probably the area of greatest concern emerged with a series of questions from the 'chemical' group.

POVERTY TALKBACK



Migrants and Poverty
The Aged and Poverty
Families and Poverty
The Unemployed and Poverty

- Local people will talk out on their personal experiences.
- Local workers will support the speakers and their remarks into the wider context.
- Local politicians will comment and help to frame the discussion.

When: Sunday, November 14, 1982
Time: 10pm till 11.30pm
Where: Victoria Australia Cultural Centre, Seavoy
Hut 20, Children Road Community Centre, Addison Road, Marrickville
Ensure Your Voice is Heard!
COME ALONG
Sunday, November 14, 10pm

SPONSORED BY:
INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL
FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE
BARDWELL PARK

... and in Leichhardt

A recent study of 35 companies in the Leichhardt Municipality backs up the general picture of jobs decline in the inner city region.

Overall, a total 2,000 jobs were reduced by 50 (2.5%) in just four months, and only 25 new recruitments took place in this period.

Five companies stand out in the survey - there were NO recruitments within these companies.

The survey does not cover Bank Kewell (furniture manufacturers) which retrenched 55 employees in the last week in July.

Full details about the survey and its findings will appear in the next edition of 'Inner Voice'.

Warwick McMillan

Company	Employed 1979	1981	Retrenchments	No.	%
Cyclists - Toy Mfgs	568	166	400	70.42	
Storey & Keers - Ship Lfr	185	85	100	54.10	
Perfect - Clothing Mfgs	27	17	10	37.04	
McCarney & Paul - Heat Treatment	17	11	6	35.29	
Sackville Hotel	16	12	4	25.00	
	813	293	520		

Living on the edge

If you are on a pension and have related rent, you're OK.
If you are on a pension and pay only \$32.00 per week rent you'll just pay a lodger or you'll need the welfare.

Childs	3.50
Childs	1.50
Childs	1.00
Childs	1.40
Childs	1.60
Childs	0.50
Childs	1.00
Childs	6.50
Childs	3.00
Childs	6.00

What is your poverty line?	\$ps
Food (groceries, vegetables, meat)	52.36
Rent (mortgage payments, bond money)	
Electricity/gas	
Telephone (rent, calls)	
Transport (car, bus, train)	
Health insurance	
Household insurance	
Car insurance	
Education of children school fees	
Recreation (hobby)	

- Chairperson
Paul Murphy
Vice Chairperson
Harvey Volke
Secretary
Colin Menzies
Treasurer
Trish McDonnell
Working Group
Delegates Botany
Nancy Hillier
Nel Pickette
City of Sydney
Glenn Collyer
Leichhardt
Helen Hanify
Mary-Anne
Henry
South Sydney
Michael Adams
Margaret
Kearney
Neighbourhood
Centre Delegate
Jan Duke

- Students: Sandra
Nowland-Foreman, David
Barker, Sally
Whitehead, Mat
Dougherty

Major Activition

- Poverty Talkback Seminar with Community Resource Centre, Bardwell Park
- Citizens' Impact Statement on The Impact of Traffic and Transport on Residents of Inner Sydney
- Bi-monthly Politicians' Briefings: compendium of facts and analysis of trends in the region

'SPRING POVERTY OFFENSIVE'

Now the drive (AMH 2-1000) that workers are being researched at the rate of 1000 a week through natural distribution. AIN papers for June show the lowest more jobs than any other state in the past year. 11,700 (10% of the workforce) manufacturing, near in

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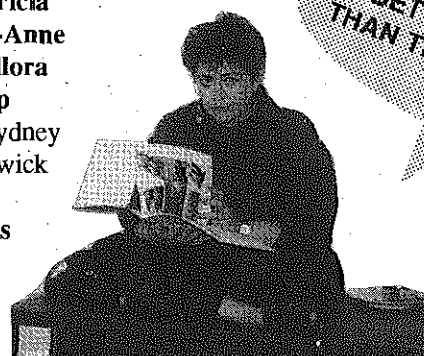
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Having worked with the Eastern Suburbs for ten years, we formally welcomed them into the region with an amendment to our Rules. Less formally, we produced a new cover for Inner Voice.

Chairperson Robyn Kennedy Vice Chairperson Patricia McDonnell Secretary Paul Murphy Treasurer Mary-Anne Henry Working Group Delegates Botany Stefanie Pillora Mick Hillman Phil Porter City of Sydney Deb Sharp Leichhardt Kate Butler Irene Kastrissios South Sydney Margaret Kearney Harvey Volke Neil Stuart Randwick Freda Backes Jill Napier Sally Whitehead Neighbourhood Centres Forum Jan Duke Mike Jones Staff: Alanna Clohesy replaced Sue Bishop. Cath Chaffe laid out Inner Voice. Students: Tony Vassallo, Tim Postma, Felicity Reynolds, Michelle Mora

1983/84



COULDN'T YOU FIND A BETTER PHOTO THAN THIS MARG?

MAJOR ACTIVITIES 83/84

- ☛ Community Computer Project with Rigi Digi Data and 2RES-FM funded by NSW Wage Pause
- ☛ sponsorship of CEP-funded Inner Sydney Transport Link project to develop and support community transport in the region
- ☛ continuation of regular briefings with our State and Federal MPs
- ☛ resourcing of YACS Inner Sydney Regional Planning Advisory Committee

COMMUNITY COMPUTING PROJECT

The Community Computing Project (CCP) is a 30-week's pilot on community computer use (funded under the NSW Wage Pause Scheme) which gets under way at the end of November.

The project resulted from the merging of interests of 2 groups, viz. Rigi Digi Data (an emerging workers' co-operative in the computing field), and the Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development.

Regional Council, in conjunction with the newly-established community access radio station, 2RES-FM, for some time had been considering providing computerised information and referral services and the storage of radio programming and research for themselves and for local community groups in the inner-Sydney region.

Thus, on the one hand, Rigi Digi was competent to provide technical support to any community computing initiative while, on the other, Regional Council brought a wide range of experience among community groups.

The projects specific aims are:

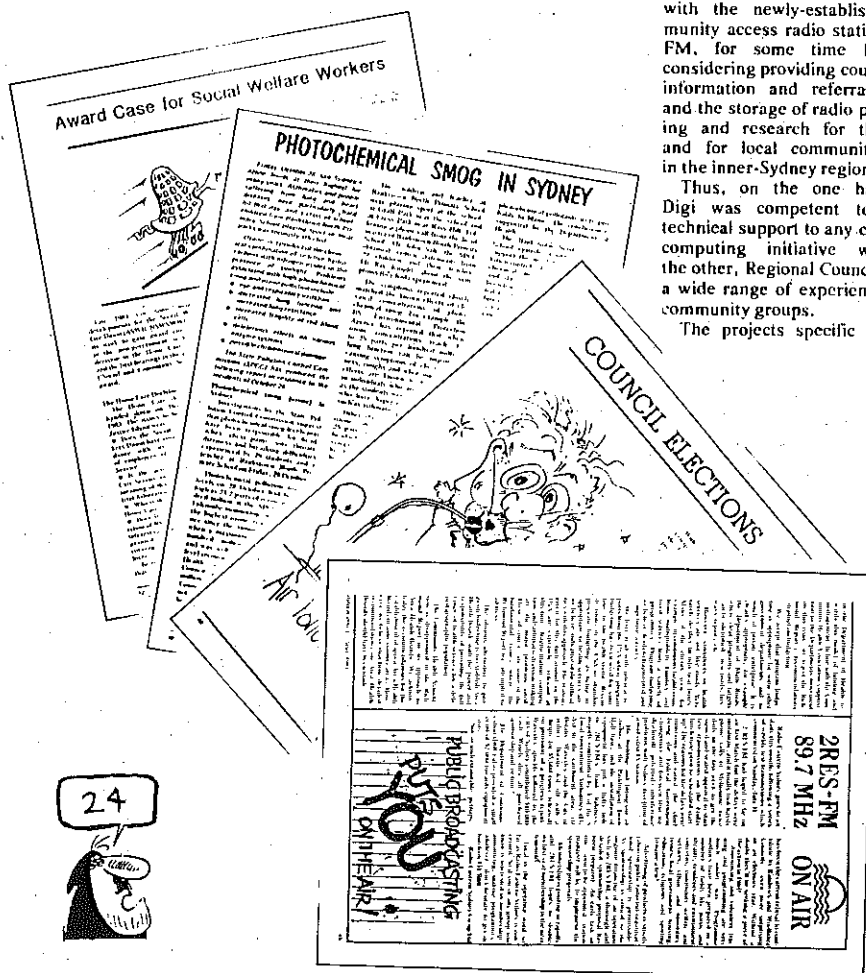
- to train workers in skills necessary for their participation in one of the few growth industries in the economy
- to design and establish a computerised information and referral service, and storage for retrieval of radio programming and research
- to facilitate the establishment of a workers' co-operative which can maintain viability in the community sector subsequent to initial project funding
- to analyse longer-term community and welfare groups' computer requirements and, consequently, to undertake a variety of smaller projects as pilot community computerisation initiatives.

The CCP has developed a series of seminars, both introductory and in depth, on micro-computers and their use (hardware and software, packages available, applications and implications, together with case studies), and successfully piloted the introductory series for the CCP trainees and a number of community organisations' representatives. The series, with some modifications, will be repeated for people interested, over 3 days in the last week of March at a fee considerably below present commercial rates.

Currently the CCP is looking at a number of other small projects like:

- the development of local data bases which can be input and accessed locally, yet be integrated at regional, state and national levels.
- a system to handle mailing and subscriptions for overworked and under-resourced small community organisations
- computerisation of the record library at 2RES-FM
- production of a guide to computer education services
- appropriate advice and consultancy for groups considering the use of computers in their operations, be that purchasing or utilising bureau services.

Rigi Digi Data 519-2383
Inner Sydney Regional Council
264-7524



THINGS
ARE
GETTING
BETTER

PUBLIC MEETING

TO ELECT INNER-CITY SUB-REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF
THE DEPT OF YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES
REGIONAL PLANNING & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

will be held: TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 1984, commencing 7.30pm
RACHEL FORSTER HOSPITAL ROUNDHOUSE,
150 PITT STREET, REDFERN

SOUTH SYDNEY

...The 'Pictures for Cities' Exhibition at Clevo, which clearly identified the three major themes of struggle of South Sydney people over the years, viz a home, a job and an identity. In South Sydney it is a truism that, whilst everything changes, nothing changes - it just gets worse.

A major industrial area, South Sydney has seen its employment base going up in smoke for fifteen years. The growth industry, storing and transporting goods has resulted in a five-years' glut of speculative warehousing with the traffic from these yet to come. Jobs they don't supply - computers will handle freight, robots are moving into some of our larger firms, and the out-workers power machines no longer interfere with the next-door's TV watching....

The past year has seen the finalisation of the South Sydney Occupational, and Health and Housing, Studies, which highlighted the close links between health, changing employment, unemployment and housing, and further underlined the under-enumeration of certain local population groupings. Mailsorters at Redfern Exchange pointed up an appalling rate of 33% of sorters, almost all women, being affected permanently by tenosynovitis....

Action continued around: emergency housing and the youth housing evaluation (Beyond Refuge); involvement with the CTS and the establishment of SWISH; establishment of the Public Tenants' Development Project; support for the City Council's initiatives to prevent the erosion of boardinghouse stock and to develop its own public housing. The Housing Commission received bouquets for its sensitive rehabilitation moves in Waterloo, and brickbats for its insensitive introduction of hostel accommodation for young people in Erskineville and a centralised, computerised rent-collection system.

Implementation of the 1981 South Sydney Traffic Study saw many roads closed throughout the municipality. The paired Wyndham Street/Botany Road proposal was rejected out of hand.

Plans local and regional for LPG storage, hazard, aqueous waste disposal, container and dangerous goods movements, KSA noise, air pollution. You name it, it got a guemsey in South Sydney....

Neil Stuart, Margaret Kearney



RANDWICK

Randwick residents, if not in a high action phase, are certainly grizzling about a growing number of things, having responded to the most pressing like:

- ☛ joining with Botany people in ensuring the southern end knew about aqueous waste and its disposal taking up the issue of container movements through Port Botany via their involvement in the Botany Bay Community Advisory Committee's press conference, and returning to raise the general community's awareness through debate and discussions at the local level surveying Randwick's 85 GPs on their attitudes to and involvement with bulk-billing.

☛ Grizzles continue about:

- ☛ the Havelock Avenue Youth Centre (established last November amid much controversy and opposition from those in the vicinity of the shopping area) which opens only one or two nights each week, costs \$180 a week for rent and has neither the local youth development officer nor the part-time ethnic youth worker working from it.

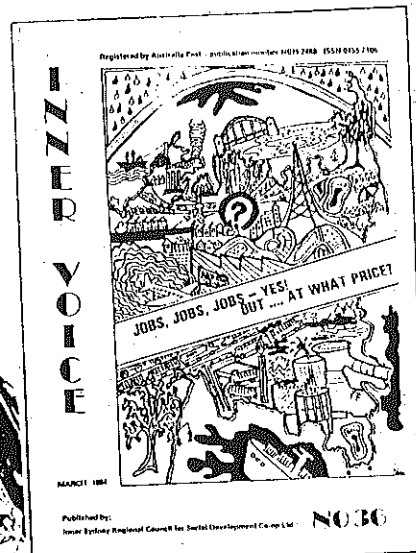
- ☛ the establishment of three substantial private schools including a bilingual, international grammar school in the last 12 months, and the way they have been established and for what purposes - it's all a bit much with people mortgaging their homes to buy the schools while those dependent on existing structures are seeing their structures withdrawn

- ☛ the amazing way the demolition of the Netherleigh homes took place, within hours of the Heritage Order expiring on Friday night, to make way for a private hospital owned by medicos

- ☛ the Housing Commission's purchase of recently-built units from the private sector up the Glebe Gully which adds insult to injury in view of past battles

the time taken to get a boarding-houses policy into place at Council.

Freda Backes



Chinese Meals on Wheels

Since September 1983, the Australian Chinese Community Association has been providing Chinese meals for pensioners at the Association's Club House at 6-12 Harbour Street, Haymarket.

The meals are prepared by a local Chinese Restaurant (on a contract basis). The cost is 50¢ per meal, with a choice of menu.

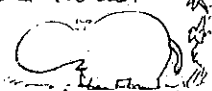
Meals are also delivered (by volunteers) to Chinese pensioners within the Sydney City Council boundaries. Funding for this new scheme has been provided by the Council, and the Department of Social Security has donated the Vitamin Allowance.

For further information contact:

Shui-Har Ng
(ACCA's Social Worker)
264 6488



IT MAKES YOUR FACE
LOOK TOO BUSY.



*Transport issues dominated in 1984/85
with a campaign on bus routes, a
community transport issues paper and a
seminar on the eastern distributor.
We were on the move ourselves . . . to
Manning House in Pitt Street.*

1984/85

MAJOR ACTIVITIES 1984/85

- Seminar on the Eastern Distributor and associated Traffic Issues with the local Anti-Freeway Action Committee
- Regeneration of the Regional Transport Group
- Seminar on the Tax Reform Debate and White Paper Implications (Consumption Tax on welfare services and housing) with NCOSS
- "Getting There" Report by Inner Sydney Transport Link (sponsored by Regional Council with CEP funds)
- WE MOVED to the Manning Building next door to the Capitol Theatre



We start 'em young at Regional Council

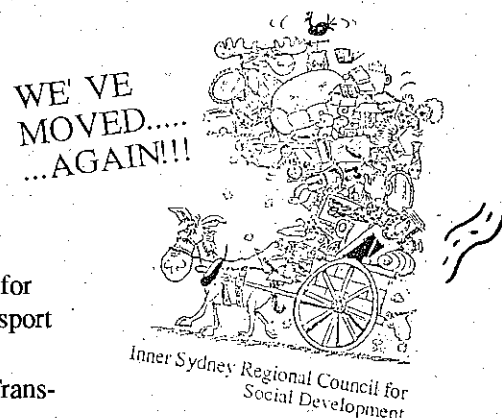
Chairperson **Ken Smith** Vice Chair **Des Crowley**
Secretary **Robyn Kennedy** Treasurer **Tony Vassallo**
Working Group Delegates **Botany Mick Hillman**
Mary Brophy City of Sydney **Deb Sharpe**
Nita McCrae Leichhardt **Miranda Evans**
Kate Butler South Sydney **Harvey Volke**
Neil Stuart Randwick **Sally Whitehead** **Freda Backes**
Neighbourhood Centres Forum
Mike Jones
New Staff: **Elaine Moustafa**, **Debbie Burnett** and **Vic Bo**
Students: **Beverley Di Pauline Shilkin**



GETTING THERE

Recommendations for Inner Sydney Transport Link:

- the Ministry of Transport be lobbied to accept funding for community transport
- funding be distributed according to a long-term programme and only be set up with major input from local community transport groups
- regional transport groups should be established to have direct input into all aspects of transport planning to resource those local transport groups they represent in their area
- new and efficient mechanisms be set up within the Ministry for Transport/UTA to consult with the public on a regional basis regarding provision and planning of transport
- such regional transport groups should be provided with at least one full-time worker and appropriate resources by the state government
- the regional groups should be based on areas of common need due to geography and demography rather than arbitrary boundaries of LGAs or government - factors such as whether the area is hilly or whether a lot of old people live there should be of utmost importance when planning transport
- a regional planning group priority would be to concentrate on cross-regional transport planning to correct the imbalance in the public transport system caused by the present radial system
- a better term for community transport might be 'functional public transport' or 'alternative public transport' or non-commuter transport' or people's transport.



GETTING THERE -
COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
IN THE INNER SYDNEY REGION
By Community Transport Link
Bronwyn Coupe
Rhonda Ianna
Tanya McLean
Sandra Murray
and Doug Foot



Tax: in plain language

"YOU SHOULD PUT AN INDIAN TAX ON SPA POOLS!"

"WELL, WE'RE STARTING OFF WITH ONE ON BREAD"

YACS POLICY SWITCH

... and the Rules change yet again

After 10 or more years of defined policy on the provision of accessible, community-based services, in which neighbourhood and information services were given a key role, the Department of Youth and Community Services (YACS) has suddenly reversed direction.

Its emphasis now is on relief, individual crisis services which understand target group current needs.

WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?

THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS AND VARIATIONS TO THEM WILL BE EXAMINED TO SEE HOW WELL THEY ACHIEVE THE STATED OBJECTIVES AND AT WHAT CAPITAL AND SOCIAL COSTS. THE CONSULTANTS WISH TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS IN DEVELOPING THESE OPTIONS TO OUTLINE SCHEMES.

Comments on each scheme are very preliminary indications of the kinds of costs and opportunities they offer.

1 ALTERNATIVE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

It will be difficult to maintain traffic capacity on alternative routes if this is not done, cars and continue to force their way into central streets.

The present traffic arrangements in the area have been in existence for many years and although environmentally undesirable, make efficient use of existing roads. Opportunities for changing routes are limited. Suggestions include the re-routing of trucks, making more use of existing arterials and rephasing of traffic lights. It would be an objective of traffic management to identify the worst accident locations and take appropriate measures.

THE GREAT EASTERN DISASTER

The traffic things have been going on since the East. (Locally known as the Eastern Disaster) was high in the last instalment. You not, your friend and mine. Laurie Brereton had stated quite firmly that the Disaster was to be built. We were completely unaware of that fact, and anyway, nobody told us.

Dario is, where Pardo is, etc. etc. route fits very nicely between each area (I kept for the 'look' benefit, but "some may be dissatisfied").

"Previous proposals" follow. They were never built - a bit like saying "we were going to drop a bomb on you, so now you'll be glad it's only a little bomb. So merry on to their evigant checked. At least we worked out our options 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Did I hear you say Kirby en-quiry? You know the one that said that freight should go by rail rather than road?

ES AT SOME OR ALL OF SIR JOHN LIAM STREET, TAYLOR SQUARE. ASSOCIATED TO...

A "REPORT" ON THE NEW EDUCATION FUNDING POLICY

On August 14th, 1984, Senator Susan Ryan, Federal Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, announced new funding guidelines for government and non-government schools. These new guidelines are expected to take effect in 1985. The Federal Government's primary obligation in relation to education is to ensure that all children have access to a quality education. The new guidelines will ensure that all children have access to a quality education.

WE REPRESENT THE PEASANTS COMMITTEE FOR THE ABOLISHMENT OF POVERTY!

AND WE WANT TO KNOW WHY YOU HAVEN'T DECLARED A WAR ON POVERTY?

I DID!

THEN, HOW COME WE'RE STILL POOR?

YOU LOST.



DEB BURNETT

*We railed against the Monorail,
We tried to float a ROC.
What we wanted was a better deal to
improve our region's lot*

1985/86

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

- "Strengthening Local Government through Regional Co-operation" Seminar
- Workshop Series on "Getting a Better Deal", "Putting the Case for a Better Deal", and "Making it All Happen"
- Production of "Watch on the 'Loo: 1920-1980 for Honora Wilkinson and the residents of the 'Loo"
- Re-establishing the Regional Transport Group
- Submissions on:
 - Roads 2000
 - Eastern Distributor EIS

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Organisations, like the people who belong to them, go through peaks and troughs. Frenetic activity gives way to reflective pauses. Directions change as someone, somewhere, surfaces to check reaction. Agencies change as people drop in and out taking their pet theories and causes with them. In the past two years Regional Council has been going through a period of change. Change is nothing new to Regional Council. After all, it's about flexibility, about adapting to changed circumstances. It requires courage and foresight. But having a sense of history, of where you've come from and where your roots are, means change will always be within the framework of well-established principles. So how do you encourage change in an organisation like Re-

gional Council without selling out your principles?

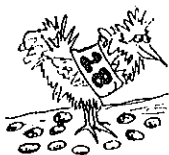
First - practise what you preach. Hence, our workshop series, organised by Deb Burnett, focussed on physical developments planned for our region and their impacts on the surrounding communities - Ultimo/Pymont, Leichhardt housing developments, Coogee foreshores and the Pagewood shopping complex (Eastgardens). Second, focussing our energies outwards as well as inwards for, in the end, we are judged by our attitudes and actions by the people who live and work in the region.

Third, we're openly, even aggressively, seeking better funding.

Fourth, maintaining a clear sense of purpose and direction in the long-term context and our community development focus

..... Annette Gallard

Chairperson **Annette Gallard** Vice Chair
Des Crowley
Secretary **Ken Smith**
Working Group
Delegates
Bötany Antonia
Gentile
Leichhardt Alison
Beale Mary-Anne
Henry
South Sydney
Harvey Volke Neil
Stuart
Randwick Freda
Backes Margaret
Kearney
Waverley/
Woollahra
Anne Maree
Whitaker
Halina
Domaradzka



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - HOW WE FARED IN 1985

January 24
Hundreds of people were evacuated as a fire, which destroyed 3 buildings there, spread to nearby houses. Vandalism is believed to have caused the blaze.

February 5
A submarine pipeline from the 7 point mooring, was discharging Bass Strait crude oil, approximately 7 tonnes of oil were spilt.

March 2
Doonside residents were told to evacuate as a burning chemical plant in Holbeche.

March 12
Residents were told to evacuate as a burning chemical plant in Holbeche.

March 13
Four people were taken to hospital after inhaling toxic fumes at a suburb in which six died.

April 16
Leakage of explosive gas from a chemical plant at east Sydney.

April 30
Seven firemen and 4 factory workers were injured after inhaling toxic fumes at a Revesby.

May 31
NSW MSD officers attempted to trace 16,000 sq meters of Sydney Harbour on a boat.

June 26
The driver of an LPG taxi cab was burnt alive by a cigarette.

Week of July 2
In the week beginning July 2 there was an explosion of an international terrorist organisation. European paramilitary group - the group warned in a new terror campaign (for a completely nuclear-free Pa).

July 15
Today's inferno in the Pricepoint furniture warehouse, a next door in Redfern was described by firemen as the worst in a decade. It will take at least two days to clear the debris. Power was cut off to scores of houses and stores there.

YES MINISTER (OR SIR HUMPHRY'S REVENGE)

Brought to you by 'Coldcut' - giving you that ring of sincerity.

Our Title This Week:
OUR (URBAN) ENVIRONMENT
Spaghetti and Meatballs Planning

Potted History:

1976:

- election of current NSW State Government
- promise to overhaul planning and environment legislation
- promises to upgrade/improve public transport
- promise to abandon inner-urban expressways

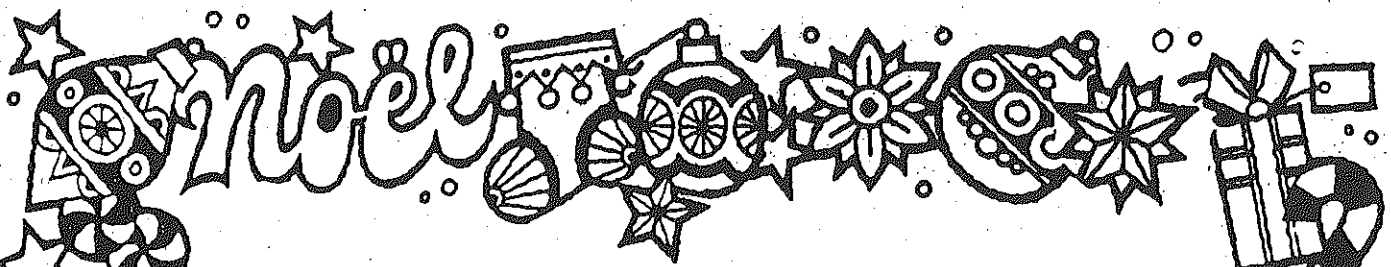
Ten Years On

1986:

- backtracking from their own planning and environment legislation
- passing special legislation to exempt 'certain' influence of planning legislation
- unprecedented spaghetti-like freeway construction
- City-West Link (Concord to Harbour Bridge)
- Glebe Arterial (Glebe Island to Northern Shore)
- Harbour Gateway (Hickson Road to St. Peters)
- Paired Roads (between Pymont and St. Peters)
- Eastern Distributor (Cahill Expressway to Southern Cross U)

ON THE 'LOO
1920-1980

"IT'S CALLED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT - RUNNING AWAY OUT OF TOWN ON A MONORAIL"



STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

Our contribution to the establishment of forums which address regional concerns, is our involvement with the newly-established Central Metropolitan Regional Organisation of Councils. It would not be exaggerating to claim that if Regional Council had not been around, there would probably not be a CMROC today. And while it is still a fledgling organisation deciding who should be members and how it should be funded, there is enough agreement around to suggest that it will take on some of the big issues which defy the efforts of organisations working in the region individually.

In a survey sent out by CMROC to 15 councils from Waverley down to Kogarah and out to Concord, there was quite remarkable concurrence that issues like traffic management, open space, and the increasing age of the population, were of concern, and would benefit from co-ordinated discussion and strategies.

CMROC has taken two years of discussion and lobbying by Regional Council. We believe it will prove to be a worthwhile investment.

In September 1985 Regional Council organised a seminar: **Strengthening Local Government Through Regional Co-operation.**

It was aimed at the seven inner Sydney LGAs of Leichhardt, Marrickville, Sydney, Waverley, Woollahra, Botany and Randwick.

At the Seminar, ISRCSD Chairman, Ken Smith, said:

◆Is there a place for a regional Local Government structure in the inner Sydney area? (YES!) ◆Will the diverse Councils see any value in regional co-operation (Yes - I hope so!) ◆What's a non-government organisation like the Regional Council for Social Development got to do with all of this anyway? (A lot in the developmental stages).

The publicity pamphlet distributed by Regional Council state that there was an attempt to establish a Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC) in 1975. After a few meetings, agreement was reached that there was no 'common ground' and that a ROC was not needed.

At about the same time, Councils in the Western area of Sydney decided that they did have a lot in common and that there would be value in forming a Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WESROC). Since its establishment, WESROC has undertaken inter and intra-regional analyses on common issues such as unemployment, transport, housing, urban development and community services. The organisation has successfully redressed some of the inequities undoubtedly experienced by residents in their access to various goods and services.

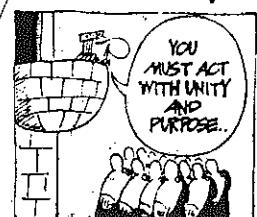
The State and National Governments have responded to lobbying from the organisation by specific additional resource allocation, and re-allocating particular services and resources from other areas - particularly the inner city, where Councils felt they had little in common!

We believe that Local Government areas in the city have more in common with each other than they sometimes believe. Social indicators have shown the inner city to be one of the most disadvantaged communities in Australia.

A variety of social, economic and physical planning issues relating to, for example, employment, industrial development, housing, transportation and the environment, should be tackled from a regional perspective. We look forward to your support and co-operation in this proposal's development.

PAPERS AND PROCEEDINGS
FROM THE SEMINAR:

STRENGTHENING LOCAL
GOVERNMENT THROUGH REGIONAL
CO-OPERATION

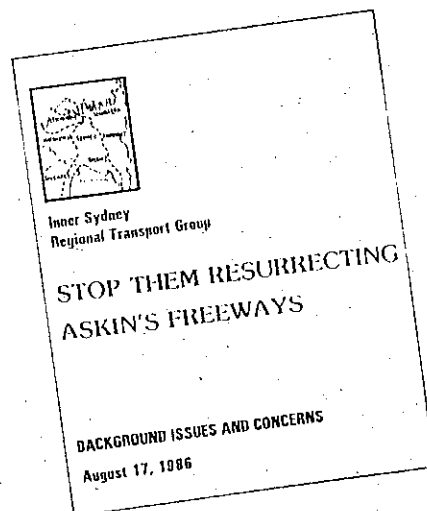


We continued to "unpack" the range of effects of proposed developments with local groups, knowing that one of the greatest pitfalls of going it alone is running out of steam.

1986/87

Major Activities

- ❶ extension of the Workshop process commenced last year
 - ❷ "Stop Them Resurrecting Askin's Freeways": Paper and Public Meeting
 - ❸ startup of HACC Development Project
 - ❹ continuing work with SSROC and the newly forming IMROC
 - ❺ major submission to the City of Sydney Inquiry and
 - ❻ lots of others on unwanted developments like roads and petro-chemical plants
-



.... from the Fiefdom of Waverley/Woollahra

... **Woollahra Municipal Council declines to join IMROC.** What have we got in common with all those poor people, dahlings?...

.... **Accommodation crisis hits the Far East.** The conversion of Eastern Suburbs boarding houses and rental flats into over-priced tourist accommodation for the millions of Cambodian and Venezuelan tourists flooding in for the Bicentennial will continue, according to Fast Bucks Property Management Pty Ltd. Locals have been advised to hire tents and pitch them in Centennial Park for the duration...

.... **Bondi Pavilion saved from being demolished** for a 97 storey tower office building with luxury 45-room apartments and 24,000 car parking spaces. Is this an omen for the future? Yes!...

... **Markhams Mangled.** In a shock result, the glorious reign of Queen Carolyn and her trusty consort King Jim was overturned by a democratic coup in the Waverley Council elections. Despite a

rush of death-bed council meetings to approve outstanding (no, that's not the right word) development applications, the Queen's legacy was buried in a deep hole by her successor, Labor alder(wo)man Barbara Armitage. Soon all we'll have to remember her by are the thousands of plaques she unveiled in her last three days in office...

... **Elementary, my dear Watson!** Services at Watsons Bay post office will continue following a concerted campaign by local residents. Campaign leader Rose Watson follows up this victory for people power by standing for Woollahra Council, winning two seats in Vaucluse Ward...

... **Stock Exchange slump horror.** Teeming thousands of Woollahra residents find that overnight they are the poor people...

... **Woollahra Action Committee shoots itself in foot.** WAC aldermen rebelled against the rule they could only serve two terms in

council. Several former WAC aldermen, denied endorsement, stand as independents and are elected. WAC stranglehold on council ends...

... **Wintergarden saga continues.** The Wintergarden may have been demolished, but the big hole it left in the Rose Bay waterfront has yet to be filled. In late news, the site has been acquired by squillionaire property developer Sid Londish (he of the giant birthday cake). He plans to build eight exquisitely tasteful and awfully reasonably priced townhouses on the site. Finance can be arranged...

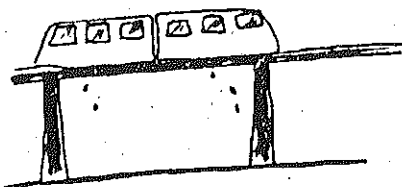
... **Eastern Beaches Plan all at sea.** Threats to build a 20 metre development on the Oceanic site in Coogee would create a dangerous precedent for, say, local Waverley residents.

That's all for now. The next news from Woollahra-Waverley will be in the upcoming issue of 'Over the Top'. Until then, it's goodnight to you from me.

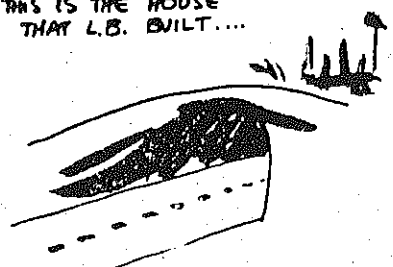
Paul Murphy
(and ghost-writer Anne-Maree Whitaker)



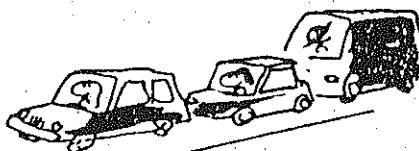
THIS IS THE HOUSE
THAT L.B. BUILT....



..THIS IS THE RAIL THAT WAS ERECTED
TO JUSTIFY THE HOUSE
THAT L.B. BUILT....



..THIS IS THE TUNNEL THAT WAS DUG
TO SUPPLY THE RAIL THAT WAS ERECTED
TO JUSTIFY THE HOUSE
THAT L.B. BUILT....



..THESE ARE THE DRIVERS, ALL FORGORN,
WHO COUGH UP THEIR DOLLARS EVERY MORN,
TO PAY FOR THE TUNNEL, THAT WAS DUG
TO SUPPLY THE.....

MSW

HOME CARE REVIEW Implications for community management

Whilst the NSW Public Administration Committee (PAC) is looking at the appropriateness of the management and level of the NSW Home Care (HCS) the Clark Report recommendations for these areas since most of these recommendations have been implemented.

A major expansion programme is under way at St. Vincent's Hospital, not only about the developments, but also the high-handed and arrogant way local communities have been treated in the process. The major problem has been the process of expansion.

the traps is that volunteers and local people will continue to be used in the planning work of the Branch - identifying needs and services in the local area, setting goals, setting the work of the Branch, setting the hours, but without any of the real control of the situation.

ST VINCENTS EXPANSION

hospitals and ancillary purposes to be built in residentially-zoned land bounded by West Avenue, and West Liverpool and the...

• a helipad on the roof of the car-parking station

AS WE GO TO PRESS



THE NOTIFICATION TO ALDERMEN

Regional Seminar

FOLLOWUP MEETING

TRAFFIC/TRANSPORT & FREEWAY POLICY

.... why Local Groups need one!

TELEGRAM

1011

Board of Directors 06/87

Chairperson

Annette Gallard

Vice Chairperson

Des Crowley

Treasurer Anne-

Maree Whitaker

Working Group

Delegates

City of Sydney

Glen Collyer

Leichhardt

Mary-Anne Henry

Alison Beale

South Sydney

Harvey Volke

Neil Stuart

Randwick

Freda Backes

Varie Barnes

Waverley/Woolollahra

Paul Murphy



Staff

Louise Hallahan

replaced Deb.

Burnett, Sonia

Bernardi joined us

as our HACC

Development

Worker, Edwina

Tohi started on the

CEP Computing

Project and moved

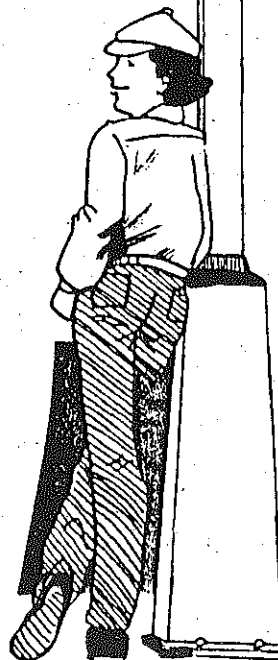
in permanently as

our Admin Officer,

and Magaer took

up the Library

Cataloguer position



The Bicentennial year was a busy time for us. We helped a number of new groups get off the ground, catalogued our resource library (no easy task) and held a series of workshops on local and regional issues

1987/88

**INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL
for SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT Co-op Ltd**
404 Floor, 404 Pitt Street, SYDNEY
PHONE: 212 6153 FACED: 281 1507



Chairperson's Report
For New South Wales, this is the year of Nick Greiner.
Whatever else the future might mean, obviously it's unpredictable. That means both threat and challenge.
We're seeing that already with the commissioning of Curran et al to do an audit of the State's finances. And they've come down with a report that clearly doesn't understand the way in which community services operate, or recognised the role they play ... or maybe it does, and simply doesn't like them.



The fact is, in any case, that the community is now required to legitimise itself more vigorously than it has ever done before. Unless community services are able to do this, we could well see government redirect funds towards the big traditional charity operations.

If community organisations are to be destroyed or defunded, let it not be on the specious basis that they do not represent the community. Above all, it represents a clear challenge to return to our base of operations. It was true even in the latter years of the Labor Government that all the pressures of private development, of deregulation of privatisation and of the conservative counter-attack that has been under way for some years now, were forcing us back into the resident activist model. ...

It is also imperative to develop appropriate strategies for the '90s and after. It's no good waiting for another Vietnam to mobilise the movement. It is only in listening to our communities that we can discover the genuine unifying issues, and shape our strategies accordingly.
Belt up and settle in, folks, we're in for the long haul.

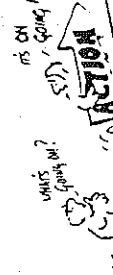
UNEMPLO

These are the CES for
BICESIMPT
EMPLOYMENT DISTRICT

- Bondi
- Braymore
- City South
- Drumoyne
- Kings Cross
- Maroubra Junction
- Marrickville
- Martin Place
- Macquarie
- Newtown
- Petersham
- Randwick
- Town Hall

LIVING IN THE CITY

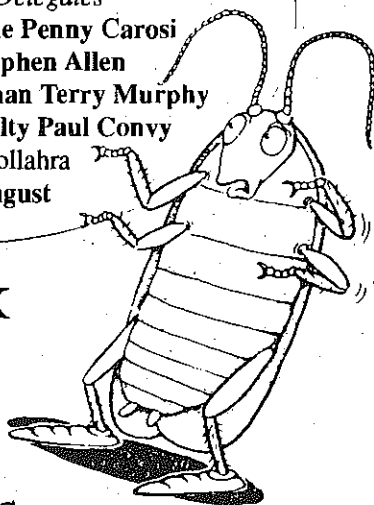
A RESIDENT GUIDE TO
INVOLVEMENT IN LOCAL ISSUES



WANTED WANTED WANTED
VOLUNTEERS EAGER TO LEARN:-
CAMERA OPERATION, EDITING, SOUND, LIGHTING, SCRIPTING,
DIRECTION and PRODUCTION.
HAND ON!!!!
WITH AUSTRALIA'S VERY FIRST CABLE TV NETWORK!
CTV TRANSMITTING NOW!!!
MEETINGS:- EVERY SUNDAY 3pm Inner North Side-

Board of Directors 1987/88

Chairperson **Harvey Volke**
Vice Chairperson **Maree Gill**
Secretary **Cheryl Kelly** Treasurer **Alanna Clohesy**
Working Group Delegates
Botany Antonia Gentile Penny Carosi
City of Sydney Stephen Allen
South Sydney Mick Hillman Terry Murphy
Randwick Joanna Quilty Paul Convy
Waverley/Woolollahra Michael August



RANDWICK COUNCIL TAKES ON THE COCKIES

The recycling of waste paper is a laudable industry which helps reduce the paper industry's voracious appetite for timber.
For Matraville residents, in the streets surrounding the Australian Paper Manufacturers' (APM) waste-paper plant, however, it has become a blight. Their homes are invaded regularly by swarms of cockroaches which breed in the waste paper stockpiled for processing.
Resident protests over the last 18 months to the company, Randwick Council and other government bodies, have resulted in a programme of insecticide-spraying. ... proved to be merely the cockies



SOUTHERN SYDNEY ROC

Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) formed earlier re: it comprised of 8 Local Government Areas (LGAs), viz Bankstown City, Canterbury, Marrickville, Randwick, Rockdale and Waverley Municipalities, and the Shire of Sutherland.
The focus of SSROC has been on the regional planning and resource needs of the Region. It has found there to be great deficiencies in the way in which individual government departments, and even the formation of a group as an important step in gaining greater awareness of the environment organisation that it will be influential in the development of the Region. It also considers that it will bring into effect a more co-ordinated and immediate task, the need to: ... the environment of the Region ... the Region and hierarchy ... the heterogeneous community's needs are being met by the ... and well-established migrants, aged persons, unemployed ... to government departments that do the homogeneous ... are not always met in the most effective ways, and ... important mechanism by which to draw attention to conditions ... expected to play an influential role in the future development of the ... Federal Government as well as from the private sector, but it will also provide ... medium through which the resources, ideas and expertise of its constituent Councils can be shared. As such it is anticipated by its constituent Councils that it will contribute a positive force in the dynamics of the metropolitan region in the coming years.

Harvey Volke

Pam Langley
SSROC Co-Ordinator

JUNE
NUMBER: 51
DATE: May

INNER VOICE CONTENT

DEADLINES: COPY - 6.4
PRINTING - 2

PUBLICATION

RNS

LOCAL ISSUES

1. EMPLOYMENT

Migrant Emp
Program - White
off

Skewing of Emp't figures
NEW PROGRAMMES

New Maintenance
Collection Agency

Womens Super

NAGALI - Local emp't
initiative

Mini Budget

2. HEALTH

Obstetrics

SS Health

Doctors Workshops
in Botany

Health & Unempl



Alana
Mick

Alana
Mick

WOOLLOOMOOLOO
OPPOSES MARINA

EDUCATION

Regional Perspective on
Bicentenary

Boys High
Girls High

Maintenance problem
Ed' complex in St.

Ridgely
Retail Teac

Eastern
Ed



Paul

Eastern Sub

Webb Hillm

Lowie

LEIGH

Sydney

ja

Major Activities

- Workshop Series on local issues culminating in "Pulling the Pieces Together" Regional issues workshop.
 - In partnership with ACF we helped establish the NSW Urban Environment Coalition for local conservation and resident action groups specifically concerned with the urban environment
 - Purchased a Computer and Pinwriter
 - Review of overall work programme
 - Culmination of FACS (YACS) Neighbourhood Centres' Development Project
 - Cataloguing of library by Magaer through a CEP grant
 - Presented information to public hearings on Waterfront Strategy Inquiry
 - Living In the City - A Resident Guide to Involvement in Local Issues
- Submissions on:
- Sydney Region Environment Plan (Botany Bay)
 - Woolloomooloo Marina EIS
 - Goran Inquiries I and II into Appropriate System of Government for City of Sydney
 - Sydney Harbour Tunnel Inquiry
 - Inquiry into Homelessness and Provision of Inner-City Affordable Accommodation
- Continued Work :
- Inner Voice
 - FACS Inner Sydney Sub-Regional Planning & Advisory Committee
 - Sydney for Residents Group
 - Welfare Report for Radio Eastern Sydney
 - HACC Advisory committee

CITIZENS RIGHTS & SAFETY

IS IT A FACT?

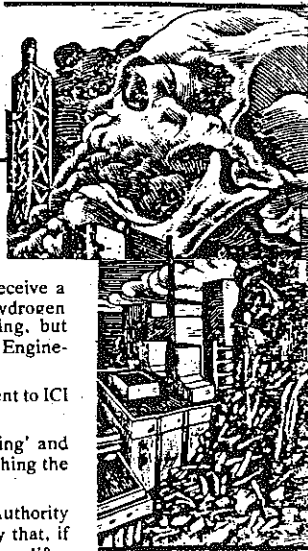
that, not only did the Botany Bay Community Advisory Committee (BBCAC) receive a report from the State Pollution Control Commission (SPCC) on the July 15 hydrogen chloride leak from Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) at its September meeting, but it listened to a representative of the Australian Federated Union of Locomotive Engineers (AFULE) on the same, and similar, incidents?

that, according to the AFULE representative, railway workers in the depot adjacent to ICI have a long-standing instruction to 'find a safe area' in the event of an emission?

that 'a safe area' is defined as 'anywhere away from where the wind is blowing' and found by 'looking up to the sky, wetting your finger and holding it aloft' or 'watching the smokestacks'?

that, despite further emissions on the 17th, 25th, 27th and 30th, the State Rail Authority (SRA) informed union representatives concerned for workers' health and safety that, if they didn't cool it, the SRA would simply 'close the yard and truck everything by road'?

that the BBCAC decided to write to the Minister for Environment and Planning seeking an independent efficiency audit of the whole ICI plant operations, the cost to be borne by ICI?



In 1988/89 the ideologies and ideologues of the newly-elected conservative state government began to bite. The inner city and its community structures came under siege. HIRS was an early casualty.

Our paper on Community Development - the Missing Link, was accepted for delivery at the National Social Policy Conference - a great result from a collaborative effort.

1988/89

Chairperson Maree Gill Vice-Chairperson Bernadette O'Connor Secretary Cheryl Kelly Treasurer Alanna Clohesy Working Group Delegates Botany Penny Carosi Chris Ware City of Sydney Stephen Allen Harriet Graham South Sydney Terry Murphy Mick Hillman Randwick Paul Convy Joanna Quilty Waverley/Woolahra Michael August Kim Anson Leichhardt Barry Butler

Community Development - the Missing Link

Regional Council emerged from inner-Sydney resident action. It chose to operate solely on a community development model and, at an early date, residents wrested control from the "welfarists" who flocked in to milk the new "funding cow".

Its characteristics included:

- * members with common values, a common purpose and common priorities - homogeneity in a heterogeneous region (Forrest, 1985); a clear identity with their tribal space, ie the extent of Sydney's terrace housing; and a long-term commitment to changing their status
- * whose relationships developed in action
- * a broader view of the region, linked to what was going on elsewhere
- * a community development modus operandi, with information its tool, within an ethos of support from the institutions and bureaucracy.

Regional Council is a unique, if lonely, organisation in the field. But funding, or no, it is a long-distance runner.

Ever a battleground, Inner Sydney has been in turmoil for the last 20 years - but never more so than now. Its complexity, diversity, heterogeneity, compounded by its lack of recognition that that's its problem, and its lack of a unified voice and resources, predetermine fragmentation and piece-meal solutions.

There were wins in the last 20 years, not many, but all actions were based on broad long-term action anchored in local communities and the wins were bedded in the defeats.

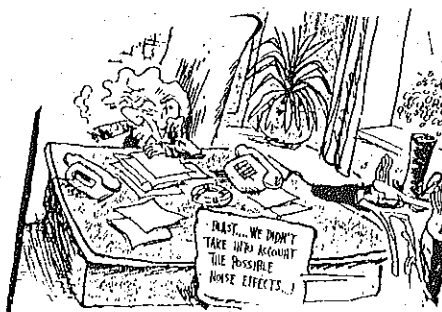
And the characteristics of that action were:

- * local control
- * targetting of the action, "trading" and hands-on skilling
- * linkage and forming of coalitions (social organisation)
- * non-transference of the problem, or responsibility for its resolution, to others - ie no advocates, thank you
- * increasing awareness and acceptance of the long-term nature of, and commitment to, the struggle
- * an over-riding spirit/ethos - feeling good about what was being done
- * mutual respect, and the development of long-term trust relationships.

It's that community development approach/methodology which is missing today in our community sector - the people (clients, consumers, patients even) are not the actors. Rather they are being acted upon. "Community development" is now seen as "community services development". They have become synonymous. And so the myths have been promulgated. Community development is anything you want it to be - and be sure "community" appears in every paragraph. (*excerpt*)

Major Activities

- 1988 Workshop Series held in East Sydney, Randwick and Botany • Departure of Louise Hallahan, and replacement by Cheryl Kelly • Community Link Paper for National Social Policy Conference • Sydney for Residents - A Regional Seminar • Submissions on: Central Sydney Plan • Waterfront Strategy Inquiry • Southern Freeway (F5) • Third Runway EIS Guidelines • Kingsford-Smith Airport Domestic Apron Expansion



By BRUCE JONES
Political Correspondent

REJECTION of the third runway for Sydney Airport was a "grubby sell-out to the kneecappers of the NSW Labor Party's right wing", Federal Opposition Leader John Howard said yesterday.

"If Cabinet has ruled out the third runway, that is just criminally expedient and they will rue the day they have done it," he said.

"The interests of Sydney and those of our second-largest foreign exchange earner, tourism, are being sacrificed on the altar of a second-rate minister's political future."

Mr Howard said he was referring to junior Aviation Minister Gary Punch whose marginal electorate of Barton is in the Sydney airport flight path.

Federal Cabinet meets again on Tuesday to complete its plans for easing Sydney airport chaos. With a Federal election in the offing, ministers have ruled out the third runway option because of fear of a voter backlash in constituencies near Mascot.

Mr Howard condemned the Government's attitude, saying: "It is just a blatant stab in the back and a betrayal of Sydney's interests."

"Sydney is our main tourist attraction and most famous international city. I can't think of anything, in terms of our national infrastructure, that is more damaging."

Right decision

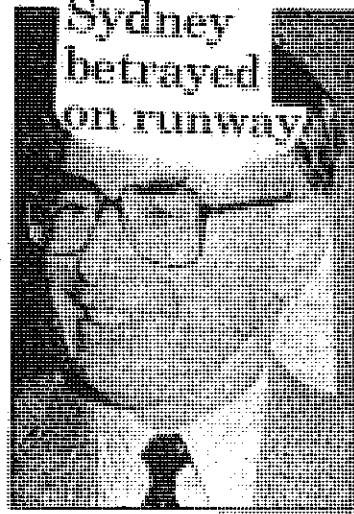
"It is an awful decision, cheap and parochial. This is NSW ALP right wing cynicism at its worst."

Mr Howard said that the Coalition had had the guts to make the right decision in 1982 when the Government stocks were "not all that high" and the Liberals held Barton and Cook.

He said the Hawke Government had totally misunderstood the politics of the issue and he pledged that a Liberal Government would start construction of the third runway immediately.

"I have spent quite a lot of time in the Barton area talking to a lot of people, and a lot of them understand that by having a third runway you could in fact reduce airport noise," he said.

Howard: Sydney betrayed on runway



MR HOWARD: pledge to build runway.

"There has been a lot of misinformation - the selective tabling of reports - the Dechtel report (showing that a third runway could be built in four years for \$185 million) was not tabled."

He said the people who would "get it in the neck" if flights in and out of Sydney were rationed were commuters from provincial areas such as Tamworth, Dubbo, Orange and Bathurst.

"If you want to come to Sydney and do business and go back to a place like Orange during the day, even going to Bankstown will radically change your situation."

Mr Howard said the issue had united the NSW Government, the Sydney Council, the Federal Opposition Sydney Chamber of Commerce entire spectrum of business in NSW and all.

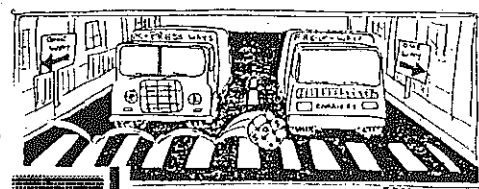
Asked port a rel airport congested have that NSW Charles expans capped early dec

Countdown to a Decision:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 6 March | Cabinet looks at airport site (FR) |
| 7 March | Cabinet defers new airport decision (A/Jan)
Fed Govt remains undecided on Sydney runway proposals (FR) |
| 8 March | Punch on sidelines in runway debate (A/Jan) |
| 9 March | PM admits rebuke on runway issue (DM)
Runway with no mascot (E Herald) |
| 10 March | Cabinet stalls on third runway (SMH) |
| 11 March | New study endorses Runway 3 (SMH)
Cabinet to reject third runway (DT)
Airport still sky-high (DT) |
| 13 March | Cabinet keeps open its airport options (FR) |
| 19 March | Cabinet favors Third Runway (Sunday Telegraph) |
| 20 March | Cabinet swings towards runway (FR) |
| 22 March | Third Runway gets Go-Ahead (DT)
Marathon Cabinet Meeting goes for a third runway (A/Jan)
New runway to save \$1.5 bn (FR)
A Third Runway, LIKE IT OR NOT (SMH Editorial) |



SOS
Save our suburbs



SOUTHERN ARTERIAL

found that the data used by the DMR was not reliable, and was concerned to learn that revised data would be used.

negative savings from the increased numbers of vehicles carried and reduced road time, at present valued over a 10-year span over and above the capital cost.

er is about to be written "eric Botany Bay."

Its name is Discovery Cove. Discovery Cove is truly an exceptional development which will set new standards in modern building technology with its efficient concept and environmental ambience. The site is well located for access to arterial roads, the heart of Sydney itself being no more than fifteen minutes away.

It was for these reasons that, in the late Seventies, the New South Wales Government established the Port Botany Container Terminal.

Despite the development of the port facilities, no provision has yet been made for suitable office or warehouse buildings in the immediate area to support related activities.

PUBLIC DEBATE ON KINGSFORD SMITH AIRPORT

THESE ISSUES CONCERN YOU:

- Curfew
- Noise Pollution
- Another Runway Into Botany Bay
- Safety
- Fuel Tanks

Chairperson's Report 1988-89

"It comes as no surprise to me in reviewing another year, that we are faced with the realisation that major economic restructuring issues are occurring in Inner Sydney at a faster rate, on a larger scale and of greater complexity than we have experienced in the life of Regional Council. It is the social consequences of such changes, that creates the backdrop to the activities of our organisation for the year."

"Under both the former Labor and present Coalition administrations, neighbourhood Centres have been reshaped via their funding contracts to service Departmentally defined target groups. The net effect of this manipulation of community services has been interference with the community development process, and in some instances, a destruction of the process. I believe that services need to return to their community bases. If this means conflict with funding bodies then so be it! WE CAN SURVIVE!

If community groups allow themselves to be moulded by external forces, they will never be able to address, or even understand, the implications for their communities of major economic restructuring issues such as we are faced with now.

Maree Gill

In other news this year, Meriton Apartments moved in on the Resches site in Redfern; the Waterloo office of the Department of Housing closed; and a new species, a two-headed worm, was found in our primeval swamp - Botany Bay.



1989/90 was spent writing submissions, attending meetings, and focussing on traffic, transport and the environment. We moved office again and rejected an offer to extend the HACC project into the Inner West.



1989/90

B O R A L B L E V E

NSW's first BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Evaporating Vapour Explosion) occurred on the evening of April 1, 1990, when most people, me included, were stretched out in front of the box watching the Sunday night movie.

It was just on 9.00 pm when friend Bill from Mitchell Road Alexandria, called asking "What on earth's going on at Port Botany?". He said the emergency services (police and fire brigade) were roaring past in a continuous stream, sirens blaring, and there was a red glow reflecting through his windows.

I had no idea. There'd been no news flash on the tv so I tried to find out.

After many phone calls, a visitor or two, and much trotting to and fro, I wearily took myself home at 2.30am from the spartan evacuation centre at Paddy's. It was our first real disaster (miraculously there was no loss of life) and, despite the best efforts of the Salvation Army, disaster it was when it came to executing the Evacuation and Counter Disaster Plan . . .

Marg

1990 has been the year of the environment for the Regional Council. This was reflected in the Board's decision at its strategic planning meeting to ensure environmental issues were to be our first priority this year, and demonstrated by the activities of our hard working staff.

Confronting environmental issues raises hard questions for those of us in the Community Sector. At what point do welfare/community/environmental issues intersect? How do we validate involvement in environmental issues in the context of funding body demands? What is the appropriate response for community groups to a pressing environmental issues such as pollution of our waterways (e.g. Cook's River, Botany Bay, Malabar/Coogee/Bondi Beach pollution) and destruction of habitat (e.g. Wolli Creek)?

How do funded services justify involvement in campaigns opposing incinerator usage (e.g. Waverley/Woolahra incinerator in South Sydney) when funding bodies are pressing for increasingly individualised and personalised solutions to social problems?



Such environmental issues as the disposal of intractable waste have far reaching effects on the well-being, health and welfare of our region's residents. While not suggesting that it's possible for all generalist services to immerse themselves as thoroughly in such issues as we have done, we do consider it imperative that community organisations ensure that in their annual strategic planning events, consideration and resources (e.g. staff time) be allocated for the organisation's involvement in broad environmental issues. It is a relatively comfortable position for services to maintain blinkers on the "identified" issues of their organisations, while neglecting the broader issues impacting on them. Perhaps in part it reflects on the training of staff within the community sector, as much as on funding body demands. We know our own patches well, we have established networks, we understand "welfare processes." However, we often do have a knowledge gap in the workings of the private and public sectors and in consequence, I believe a serious credibility gap. Knowledge and skilling of decision-making in the other sectors as it impinges on our region would be the most important first-stop empowering tools for management committees and workers in the community sector.

Maree Gill
Chairperson



Board of Directors 1989/90

Chairperson Maree Gill Vice-Chairperson Alanna Clohesy Secretary Bernadette O'Connor Working Group Delegates City of Sydney Stephen Allen, Jan Duke South Sydney Terry Murphy, Mick Hillman Leichhardt Greg Hawken Botany Chris Ware Waverley/Woollahra Kim Anson Neighbourhood Centres Mardijah Simpson

Major Activities

- Extensive review of the HACC Development Officer's position - pressure to extend coverage to the five Inner West LGAs firmly rejected
- Policy Makers Walk in Redfern and Waterloo
- Community Consultation Seminar in conjunction with the NSW Taskforce on Intractable Waste
- Mobilisation of the region around the Community Services Grants Programme review and preparation of two discussion papers
- Office moved to Alexandria Town Hall
- Submissions on Alexandria concrete batching plant; Development of an Additional Domestic Apron Facility at KSA; Review of FACS CSGP programme; Rail Into the 21st Century; Joint Taskforce on Intractable Waste; Establishment of an Environment Protection Authority; and input to the Social Impacts Study of BORAL's BLEVE.

BOTANY

I thought I would write a few random phrases/words that, for me, sum up the year that was. If you know a suitable dirge, feel free to sing the following:

Petrochemicals, fuel storage, stray sparks, explosions, ICI, La Porte, Caltex, Boral, Davis Gelatine, Kelloggs, industrial pollution, environmental pollution, water pollution, noise pollution, soil contamination, acid rain (we'll get it yet), ozone depletion, smog, deformed fish, dying birds, dead trees, dead water, third runway, freeway, railway, their way (not ours). More planes, more trucks, more cars, lead poisoning, asthma, cancer, high rent/low maintenance, sub-standard housing (both public and private), recession, depression, industrial restructuring, job losses, unemployment, poverty, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, child abuse, family breakdown, Community Services Grants Review, funding freeze, funding cutbacks, diminution of health services, public transport restructuring, the State Government, Federal Government, Michael Yabsley, bureaucrats (both State and Federal), lack of planning, misinformed planning, just plain bad planning, expansion of Port Botany, concreting the Bay (it will happen), and the list goes on.

Chris Ware,
Botany Delegate



**POLICY MAKERS WALK
IN REDFERN & WATERLOO**

Alumn Health Survey in Malabar Causes

Student on placement, David Norris, was sent to Malabar to work with residents worried about the health effects of the Malabar Sewage Incinerators. Some 9% of all households were surveyed and the findings showed the level of respiratory illnesses 50% higher than the Sydney average.

Smart City for Beautiful Down Town Redfern

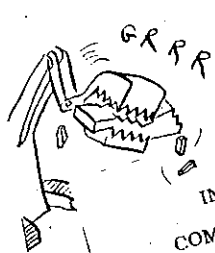
In a classic display of "planning by press conference" Premier Nick Greiner announced his proposal for a "High Technology Research Park" (later known as the ATP) to be developed on the old railway land Eveleigh, Redfern on May 25, 1990

on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH 1989

There were a number of cathartic sessions for Board members and staff at the beginning of 1991. Had we lost touch? For years we'd been sucked into attending one government review after another, being sold a jumble of acronyms and jargon that boiled down to little and meant even less.

It was time to get back to our roots.

1990/91



INTERIM CHARTER FOR A NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

This interim charter provides a framework of values and principles which are the basic reference point for a national community-oriented organization.

it outlines broad guidelines which enable people to act and evaluate ways of working and organizing w

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY
ORGANIZE SERVICES
DEVELOP INDIVIDUALS
MAKE POLICY

In ways which enable all relevant groups to the nature of:

RELATIONSHIPS
COMMUNICATION
INCLUSION
PARTICIPATION

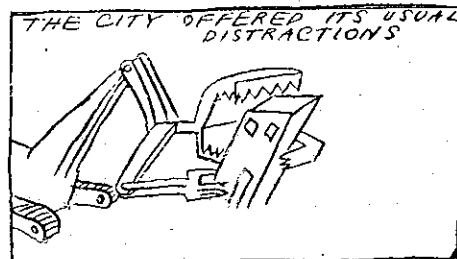
That lead to a sustainable social envr

DEMOCRATIC
JUST
EQUITABLE
LIBERATING
LIFE-ENHANC
the constr
LY BALANC

"We trained hard, but it seemed that every time we were beginning to form up into teams, we'd be reorganised. I was to learn later in life that we tend to meet any new situation by reorganising; and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress, while producing confusion, inefficiency and demoralisation."

With the chill winds of recession forcing everyone (resident, public servant, pensioner, community worker) to take cover and look after No.1, Gaius Petronius's words, written in 75AD hold as true now as they did in those years long ago.

But "man" is not an island, and the fight-back is coming even if the struggle gets more sophisticated and convoluted. Small wins by Dept of Housing tenants and Balmain residents show the way. Opponents of the Third Runway haven't given up and won't go away. Believe us, the warmer winds of change are blowing! Read on!!



CITY OF SYDNEY DELEGATE'S REPORT

Since my last report, Sydney has survived one local government election, one state government election, one federal government election, one Gulf War, one Yugoslav Civil War, one total collapse of International Communism, one 585 million mile orbit of the sun - and I got my picture in the papers!

The monorail is still standing, the Regent Theatre isn't, and I'm not sure about Sydney Hospital. George Patterson House in George Street is under threat of demolition (thanks Jeremy!), so is historic Scots Church in York Street, (thanks again Jeremy!), and the magnificent old Lands Department building in Bridge Street is about to become a casino to help the State Government out of its financial problems - thank Nick!

There've been three very suspicious fire at the Woolloomooloo Finger Warf, an oil tankers aground in Sydney Harbour, a plan to close the Dental Hospital, cut-backs to public transport, and another plan to ram a helpout down our collective throats.

The new Lord Mayor, Alderman Frank Sartor has announced his desire to demolish that ugly great eyesore the Cahill Expressway at Circular Quay. Pity its demolition won't put back some of the 150 year old buildings in the Rocks which were demolished to build it! Still, the Sydney Cove Authority will be able to erect a few more empty office blocks on the land then, won't they. The Department of Housing's policy of inflicting market rents onto tenants who don't earn market wages continues unabated as well. In the past 12 months at least a dozen long term residents of Millers Point have packed up and left the area forever - thanks Joel

Stephen Allen

Replacing Sonia Bernandi as the new HACC Development Officer, was FAYE WILLIAMS, a community worker from Hastings Council. Faye had served many years as a Board member on the Mid-North Coast Regional Council for Social Development.

"It's been a very challenging year to be involved in the HACC programme. The amount of change, threatened and actual, has placed a high level of stress on administrators, workers and people receiving services. The NSW Government has restructured the Department of Community Services from top to bottom, and the Minister has combined the portfolios of Community Services and Health. Seven regions have been contracted into four ..."



CURRENT TRENDS

in the INNER SYDNEY REGION ...Or What's Going On!

Employment

The current recession is the worst in local people's memory since the Great Depression of the 1930s in the "fringe" suburbs like Redfern and Waterloo.

The OECD estimates confirm that it is the inner-urban areas which are "first in and last out" in any economic downturn.

Redfern DSS reported big increases in registrations for unemployment benefits in early December:

- 20% between November '89 and October '90
- 30% between November '90 and the end of the first week in December '90

Figures published in SMH in February '91 confirm the 12 month rise as 49.5%.

Most people fronting the DSS were from Botany Municipality which rode out the '82-'83 recession considerably better than South Sydney.

Workplaces have been closing steadily in South Sydney's portion of the Central Industrial Area (Alexandria and Waterloo).

Chinese students have been working their way right through local areas (Redfern, Waterloo, Alexandria, Newtown) offering work for \$2 an hour.

Other new arrivals have been offering to work long hours - at half pay, three for the price of two - especially in the mushrooming clothing trade.

Local shops in Redfern and Waterloo have been declining rapidly - staff, turnover, stock, quality (ie except for newly-arrived clothing trade "Name Seconds" outlets which fight with doctors' surgeries to take up slack space).

Newspapers there report a 15% downturn in turnover (they were not affected in the '82-'83

recession with their increased proceeds from Lotto, the Pool, Lotteries, etc).

"Excuse me, has the Council any work?" - asked a local over-60s man who mistook Regional Council for South Sydney Council.

Stades of the inner-urban areas are in a state of economic decline.

DSS teams are working systematically through the lists of those on unemployment and sickness benefits, trying them to retraining for return to the work force.

There has been a steady withdrawal of community health services over a number of years (imposition of a collective freeze on public sector wages).

Positive action is being taken to make up for the loss of community health services.

In the inner-urban areas, the problem is not only the loss of community health services but also the loss of the social engineering - in other words, people on low-incomes could trade off their housing costs by living in such noise-polluted areas.

Throughout the low-income stock there is increasing turbulence (lack of neighbourliness, general dissatisfaction, alienation) and turnover.

"Devilish Street will be cleared within 4 years" - local minister of religion quoting local copper at a local public meeting.

A recent DOH report states that DOH evictions are on the increase state-wide (19 evictions in the first quarter of last year rising to some 490 in the last quarter).

A regional Tenancy Advice Service suggests these "state-wide" evictions are located in a limited number of areas and that the

number of areas and that the

numbers from the inner-city are very high.

Redfern Legal Centre has dealt with 200 evictions monthly since Christmas.

Evicted tenants aren't being replaced in Miller's Point, but curtains are going up to give the appearance of occupation.

The large-scale transfer of maritime activity from Glebe Island to Darling Harbour and the commencement of the Walsh Bay development are pressuring Miller's Point residents through increased noise and air pollution.

The numbers of psychiatrically ill and alcohol and substance-abusing people being settled in DOH estates are driving neighbours up the wall and moving some to the wall and moving some to the wall.

A Redfern DOH walkup tenant was asked at a recent family function on the Central Canal "Got your notice to move yet? We heard the CBD was moving into Redfern?"

Food

Breakfast and lunch programmes are being provided for children attending most South Sydney primary schools where sleeping in class drew attention to nutrition.

Even the Anglican Church has opened its first soup-kitchen in decades on Cleveland Street.

South Sydney Council's delivered meals have slumped 35% (1,300 down to 850) in the 2 years to December 1990 - suggesting significant ageing and housing-household changes.

A Redfern DOH walkup tenant was asked at a recent family function on the Central Canal "Got your notice to move yet? We heard the CBD was moving into Redfern?"

Land price inflation accompanying altered land use and redevelopment is starting to see a repeat of what happened in New York and London with low-income people being squeezed out - planning seems unable to grapple with this.

Even the City of Sydney Regional Development Plan is being challenged for being too "topped for."

Ultimo/Pyrmont, Central/Bereleigh and Glebe 1 and 2/White Bay/Rozelle Bay, at another remote authority (like Sydney Cove and Darling Harbour) is being promoted to assume the planning and development tasks.

Inexplicably, the original South Sydney Municipality has been excluded from the Draft Botany Bay Regional Planning Guidelines suggesting South Sydney is "the high hurdle".

"Flexible planning controls" - the key to the Draft Botany Regional Planning Guidelines - Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Strategy Swirl/Smir!

Paper nominates Sydney and St Peters as air quality-related activity.

At the same time "Planning is in

Transport

Despite hefty "No" response from local communities to the original (and flawed) EIS, and antagonism to any supplementary EIS, the NSW Government's agenda now is to track the EIS between the Sydney Hills and Alexandria.

Transport Study

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Transport Study

75% of all cargo through Sydney Botany in 1988 was containers and dangerous goods - some 6,000 road vehicular movements daily (1,990 heavy vehicle movements).

Of this road traffic, 53% headed north and 39% west.

In 10 years these movements will grow to 19,000 daily (6,400 heavy vehicle movements).

The Draft Botany Bay Regional Policy Guidelines state that most of the sub- and arterial roads on which this heavy freight travels "are inappropriate/inadequate because of landuse conflicts and environmental problems"; yet go on to say heavy vehicle impacts can be minimised by confining them to such designated routes.

Exhaustion

Dezoning has seen significant movements of school populations - overcrowding in desirable areas, and undercrowding with concomitant losses of staff and resources in low-income areas.

Environment

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Industrialists at February's Botany West Transport Study "Thinktank" meeting saw the inner-city in a late stage of urban decay - waiting for redevelopment - the "there were genuinely surprised to hear that people live, and want to continue living, there."

The report on air pollution and Western Sydney blames motor vehicles and diesel-powered trucks in inner-city, neglecting any mention of emissions from industry, the port and airport.

Police and Policing

Integrating Neighbourhood Watch and Police Consultative Committees indicate increasing community polarisation.

Poother-bashing continues - nice night's entertainment - many young people.

Despite regular patrol are "never there when they're needed" (Woolloomooloo).

Molestation - increasing on Redfern and Waterloo.

Already high rates have in Sydney (Redfern, Long, St Peters, etc).

Long residents put pressure on the

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Board of Directors 1990/91

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Anne Doran
- Moya Turner
Leichhardt
- Greg Hawken
Waverley/Woolahra
- Kim Anson
Neighbourhood Centres
- Mardijah Simpson

Major Activities

- Re-examining our role and relevance in the region
- Producing two special editions of Inner Voice
- "Happy Landings" and "Traffic and Transport Off the Rails"
- Working with other community groups nationally to begin Community Australia
- Involvement in SSROC's Greenhouse Initiatives Taskforce

1991/92 was a big year for us. We were involved in organising two major seminars, a Day of Action, and put out our "new look" Inner Voice. In the middle of it all, Cheryl left to have a baby (David born December), we were burgled just before our AGM, and we moved office (again) in May to Waterloo Town Hall. Phew!



Inner Sydney Interchange

Will a "Better City" have decent places for low-income families?

Friday 25 October 1991
Waverley Council Chambers



The Inner Sydney region needs better regional planning with a greater sense of vision if low-income residents are to be able to remain with decent living standards. This, in a nutshell, was the conclusion of the Inner Sydney Interchange seminar organised by the Regional Council.

The seminar, seen as a first step in addressing the declining opportunities and living standards for lower income people, brought together residents, community workers, local council staff and state departments. The aim was to develop dialogue between these parties over what could be done.

The Regional Council, in initiating the seminar, was concerned that planning for, and developments in, the region were increasingly placing pressure on lower-income residents, particularly tenants. It was feared that unless concrete action was taken, low-income residents would become "ghetto-ised" into pockets of poor quality land blighted by pollution and noise.

The key feature of the seminar was the lack of acrimony between the parties. For the first time in many years, participants saw a glimmer of hope that it was feasible for the different sectors to work co-operatively towards achieving better opportunities for low-income residents.

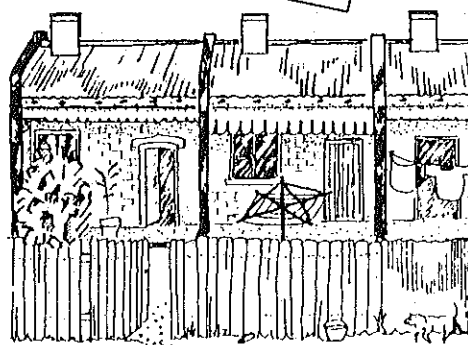
The focus of the seminar was on how this could be achieved - on the policy tools and powers relevant to providing affordable housing in decent residential areas. Papers were presented by the Regional Council and by government agencies and discussion groups held where each sector met by itself (one for government officers, one for community workers, and one for residents). The remarkable feature was that when each group reported back to the general plenary each tended to see the solution lying in the same direction.

The first common strand was the **need for vision**. The need for political will. It was seen as central that governments had explicit social objectives that recognised the importance and legitimacy of lower-income families to live in the region, and not just in degraded suburbs.

The second common strand was the need for **integrated regional planning**. It was obvious that at present, except for particular projects like City West, departments and councils do not share enough of their ideas and knowledge.

It was felt that the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) had a particularly important role to play and should seek funding for more detailed investigations.

The third general theme was the need for a **broad consultation framework**. Consultation needs to be an integral part of regional planning, not an event after the plans are completed.



Moya Turner receives a Community Service Award from Sydney City Council



The Hole in the Doughnut

South Sydney residents, church men and women, local politicians and community representatives, alarmed that their big public housing estates are being turned into the largest hospital annexe in Sydney, outside any hospital, held a press conference on April 26, 1992, to express their concerns.

They are particularly worried at the escalating social anxiety, tension and aggression which has developed in suburbs like Redfern and Waterloo where some 57% of all dwellings are owned and managed by the NSW Department of Housing (DOH).

They believe the skewed and increasing incidence of vulnerable groups (the mentally ill, disabled, drug dependent, HIV or AIDS infected) being housed alongside others struggling on fixed and low incomes (the aged, unemployed, single-parent families) is a planning disaster waiting to happen.

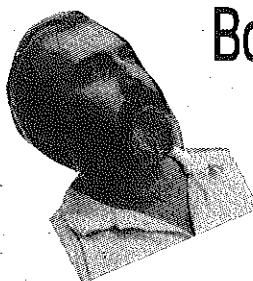
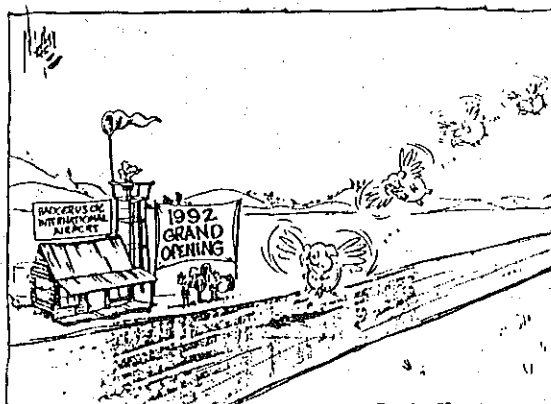
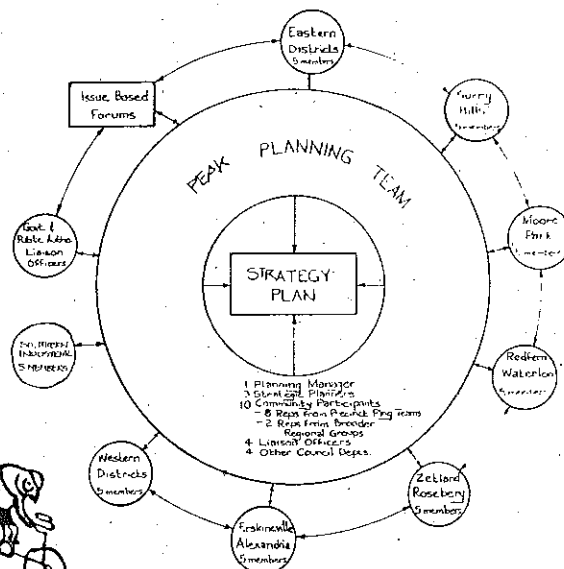
"We've witnessed the increasing assaults on the elderly and HIV-positive. And we've coped with the things that go bump in the night when few backup services are available," said Betty Makin, long-time resident and Chairperson of the Redfern DOH Tenants' Association.

Now we're seeing long-time low-income residents leaving the area to escape their newer neighbours - not individually, but in groups. And we're asking ourselves just what it's going on. Why are out estates being so destabilised?

It's nuts that our local hospitals and institutions are closing and our community health teams slashed, when so many vulnerable people needing increasingly specialised support are being concentrated in these areas.

The best face that can be put on this is that the government and its planners don't care about what's happening. At worst, it could be called deliberate!, she said. Break up the long-time communities, keep the areas destabilised and, overnight, the land can be reclaimed and on-sold to the highest bidder.

We mightn't have too much money, said Betty Makin, but we're not silly. We've watched the private rental stock disappear, now we're in the firing line.....



Board of Directors 1991/92

Chairperson **Stephen Allen** Vice-Chair **Terry Murphy** Secretary **Deborah Burnett**
Treasurer **Colin Menzies** Working Group
Delegates City of Sydney **Stephen Allen**
South Sydney **Moya Turner Barbara King**
Leichhardt **Greg Hawken Andrew Clark**
Botany **Bernadette O'Connor Waverley/**
Woollahra **Kim Anson**

Major Activities



- Inner Sydney Interchange - October '91 • Hole in the Doughnut Report - April '92 • Organised delegations to all four Federal parliamentarians in the region and one Senator on ACOSS Day of Action on Unemployment • Panel representation and participation in the "Living in Sydney" seminar • Regional Greenhouse Community Consultation • Labour Market Programmes Seminar, jointly with NCOSS
- As well, work continued on many other fronts:
- NSW Dept. of Planning's City West Section 22 Committee • NCOSS Regional Liaison Committee • NSW Urban Environment Coalition • Airport Co-ordinating Taskforce • South Sydney Strategy Peak Planning Team • Eveleigh Precinct Community Consultation • Inquiry into Intractable Waste • Botany West Transport Study • Liaison with Dept of Community Services • Programming for CTV1 and 2RES

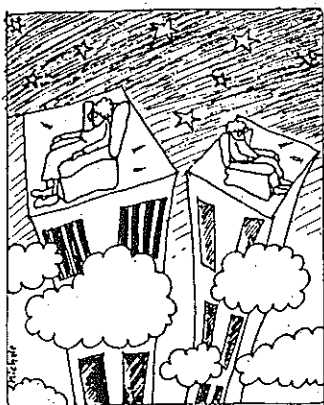
Who Cares about low-income people in the inner city?

We had to ask because no-one was saying - we couldn't tell if they knew there was anything wrong around here!

1992/93

WHO DOES CARE?

Crisis in our public housing estates



THURSDAY, 29 April 1993
St Margarets Hospital, Darlinghurst

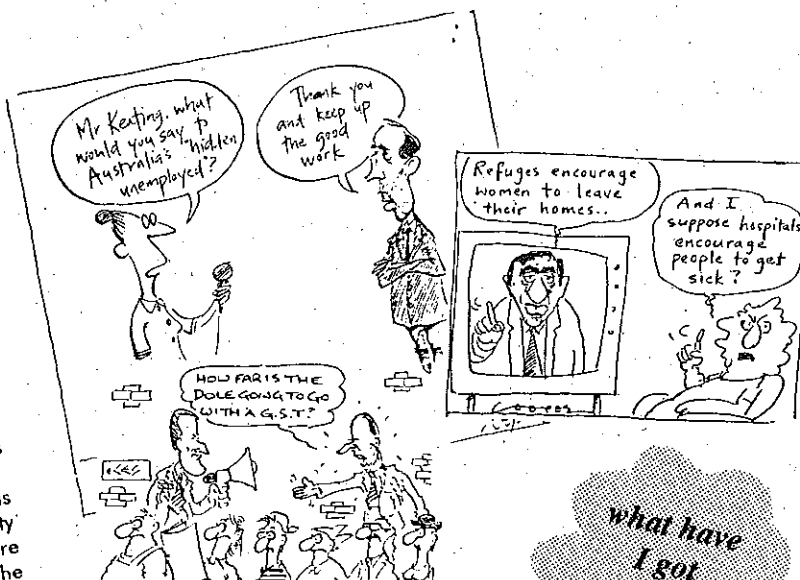


Chairperson **Greg Hawken** Vice-Chairperson **Terry Murphy**
Secretary **Jack Carnegie** Assistant Secretary
Cheryl Kelly Treasurer **Philippa O'Keeffe**
Working Group Delegates **South Sydney Moya Turner**
Barbara King **Leichhardt** **Andrew Clark** **Botany Bernadette**
O'Connor Waverley/Woollahra Kim Anson

MAIN EVENTS

Of all of our activities over the past year the one that best represents the problems of the inner-city and our ability to respond to them was the "Who Does Care?" Seminar held in April. The seminar was attended by over ninety people representing residents, community service providers, health workers, police, local government, churches and government departments. Regional Council played a leading role in bringing service-providers together to plan the Seminar following the release of "The Hole in the Doughnut" report twelve months earlier. It was obvious the quality of life of the residents of public housing estates was declining because of lack of planning and co-ordination by various government departments.

While they focused on their own areas it was Regional Council working with other community groups that alerted the policy makers that there was a crisis on the estates. As a result of the seminar South Sydney Council has established the South Sydney Public Housing Estates

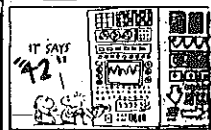


Taskforce which is due to report back in June 1994. The Taskforce set up a number of working parties to look more closely at housing and infrastructure, population mix, provision of support services, security and community conflict, decision-making.

Apart from being one of the initiators of the seminar, Margaret Barry, Elizabeth Harris, and Philippa O'Keeffe continue to represent Regional Council on the Task Force, and their local knowledge and determination will ensure the concerns of residents are heard.

After stints on work experience in 1986 and 1988, Martine Brieger finally joined the Regional Council staff in October 1992.

With a background in journalism, her position was restructured to focus primarily on the production of Inner Voice and other ISRCSD publications



... From the Courtroom

Proceedings in the Land & Environment Court brought to light many documents demonstrating that the State and Federal Governments went to great lengths to stop the strict NSW environment and planning laws applying to the Third Runway.

The governments negotiated land transfer deals and made regulations to ensure the Third Runway would fall under Federal jurisdiction. In doing so, a separate environmental impact statement (EIS) under State laws for the associated dredging of Botany Bay could be avoided.

SYDNEY AIRPORT - THIRD RUNWAY AGREED SUMMARY OF COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

TRANSFER OF SITE

should the airport be transferred to the State as a going concern, the third runway site will be transferred back to the State and NSW will purchase whatever interest remains in the improved site at the FAC's book value

YOU LOSE!

Third Runway Verdict -

THE NEW SOUTH WALES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT POSITION PAPER 2: LEGAL ISSUES

There are two important legal aspects involving State Government that have not been entirely resolved:

1. The legal means to acquire the right to mine sand in Botany Bay outside of the area needed for the runway without requiring a separate EIS under State law. If no such means exists the third runway proposal could be substantially delayed and most likely defeated.

COMMONWEALTH NEGOTIATING POSITION

Commonwealth officers on the Joint State/Commonwealth Airport Committee have revealed a non-conciliatory attitude to negotiations. It argues that: the Commonwealth decision is finely balanced and could be tipped in favour of Badger's Creek if additional costs are loaded on the third runway. Unavoidable construction costs are rising to a level equivalent to a small domestic airport at Badger's Creek. The State wants the third runway more than the Commonwealth because it stands to be the main beneficiary. It should therefore absorb all external costs.

MSB
NEW SOUTH WALES

SUBMISSION TO BOARD

It is conceivable that the constraints in future port development at Botany Bay may be permanent. Depending on the scale of a completed expansion of the Third Runway, the Third Runway itself could become a site and structure at the end of

11 May 1988

Dear Sir,
New South Wales Department of State Development (the Department)
Sydney, Kingsford Smith Airport (the Airport)
Proposed third runway at the Airport (the Runway)

1. We refer to our telephone conversation on 8 May 1988.
2. ... Particularly relevant are pages 3 and 4 of the Fatima. We understand that in addition to these activities, there will also be carried out dredging activities within Botany Bay, and that these activities will be coordinated with the port expansion proposals of the Maritime Services Board (MSB) for Botany Bay.
3. The Department is concerned to ensure that any environmental impact statement (EIS) in respect of the Runway is prepared under the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974 (EPA) (the Commonwealth Act) and not under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW) (the State Act).

the game...

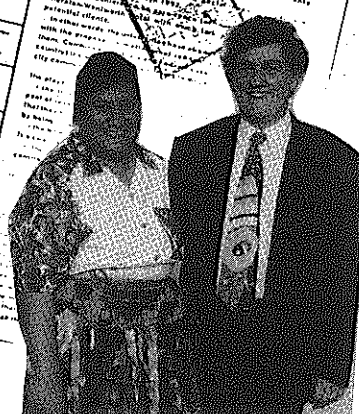
As everyone knows "Monopoly" is a game about making \$\$\$\$ about concentrating capital in a few hands. Buying up as much land as possible, by whatever means possible, and then build and develop until you can't build anymore. Inevitably the small players that don't own enough property get sent to the cleaners, and the high-riding, hard-driving winners take all!

The City West Regional Environment Plan for the Sydney Metropolitan Area...
The Sydney City Council...
The Sydney City Council...
The Sydney City Council...

1993
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
FOR THE WORLD'S
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE
A NEW PARTNERSHIP

the state of play...

Sydney University, with long history of showing up...
The Sydney University...
The Sydney University...
The Sydney University...



Chairperson's Report

Regional Council is a long-term organisation - it's been around for a long time; and it's always taken a long-term view. Many people who are still involved have been activists from the days of resident action in the early '70s. In those days Regional Council represented the resources treasure trove they'd been denied previously. Our thanks to them for staying with Regional Council in harsher times. We could not survive if the staff did not spend excessive hours on behalf of the community. There was one particular day this year when I visited the office. Faye was organising the campaign against the cutting of Round 9 of HACC, Marg was finishing off our application for funding under the new Housing Communities Assistance Programme, Edwina was organising the Tongan National Day, and Martine producing yet another 'Inner Voice'. They were so busy that all I could do was sign the funding application, make them cups of coffee and sit forlornly by wondering how they manage to keep going. Greg Hawken



Major Activities

- Who Does Care? Seminar
- Follow-up of Inner City Interchange Seminar
- NCOSS consultation on the development of a "Consultation Protocol" (at a local level this involved making 176 phone calls to urge people to attend)
- HACC Campaign to overturn decision not to provide growth funding

1993/94 Sydney got the Olympics (hooray bloody poop) and we had two big conferences, a new housing programme, and plenty of hot new issues landing in our laps from national, state and local levels.

It was also the year that the community sector started coming to grips with economic rationalism.

1993/94

Our Autumn 1994 edition of Inner Voice - The Big Sell Out - was devoted entirely to the economic rationalism - privatisation, contracting out, BOOTs and BOOs, and lots of other nasty stuff effecting everything from schools to utilities. (There was enough info to do three Inner Voices on this topic! Scary isn't it!)

MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN!

Restoring Full Employment
Developing Australia



INNER SYDNEY
COMMUNITY
CONSULTATION

THURSDAY
25TH FEBRUARY 1994
1.00 P.M. - 4.15 P.M.
TRANSPORT SOCIAL CLUB
18 REGENT ST
CHIPPENDALE
(OFF BROADWAY)

Speakers: WAYNE SWAN, MP

Prof. FRANK STILWELL, Sydney University

The Government wants to know:

- How to get from high to low unemployment?
- What people in jobs can do to help and what employers, unions, community organisations and others should do?
- How extra assistance to the unemployed should be funded and where these funds should come from?

Other people want to know:

- How "5% unemployed by the Year 2000" = "full employment"?
- Is economic growth the only way to restore full employment?

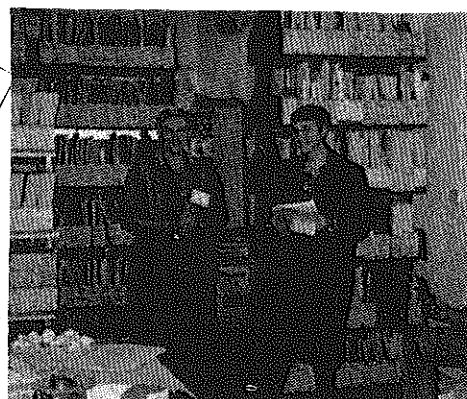
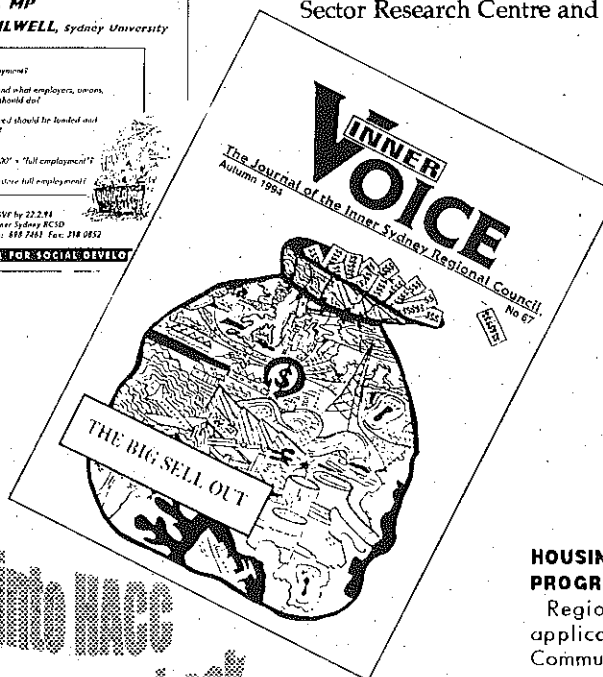
RSVP by 22.2.94
Inner Sydney RCSD
Ph: 855 2463 Fax: 318 0852

organised by:
INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Solution or Sellout conference was one of the biggest events that year. Over 300 hundred people attended to listen to a range of speakers on issues related to privatisation, funder/provider splits and the future of the community sector.

The conference was an important one as it showed many community workers and public servants that free market principles don't work in the community sector even though many politicians and bureaucrats would like to see us go that way.

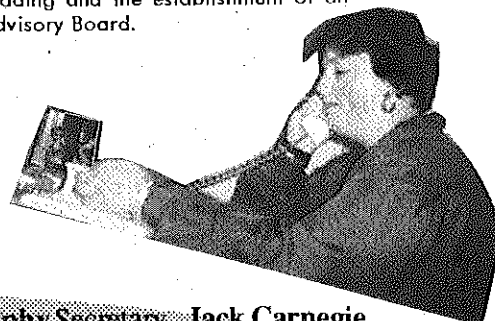
The conference was organised jointly by Regional Council, NCOSS, Public Sector Research Centre and the Social Policy Research Centre UNSW.



HOUSING COMMUNITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

Regional Council was successful in its application for funds under the Housing Communities Assistance Programme and Cara McDougall was appointed to our staff in April. Cara's job is to help break down isolation and dislocation of groups and individuals in the area and to work with them to so that they have greater control of the decision making that affects their lives on the estates. Cara has already worked on security issues, the establishment of a new tenants group, regular meetings with management on maintenance and upgrading and the establishment of an Estates Advisory Board.

Don't back into HACC
Give us our money back



Board of Directors 1993/94

Chairperson Philippa O'Keeffe Vice-Chairperson Terry Murphy Secretary Jack Carnegie
Assistant Secretary Alanna Quirk Treasurer Andrew Clark
Working Group Delegates South Sydney Anne Giles, Barbara King Botany Bernadette
O'Connor, Graciela Ramirez Leichhardt Dianna Clark Waverley/Woolahra Jane McGregor
Randwick Gillian Collinson

the economic rationalist

I went to see a movie - it was called "Jurassic Park"
A lot of folk were frightened as we sat there in the dark.
"Well did the movie scare you?" they asked when I came out.
"Hell, no!" I said, "there's much worse things than dinosaurs about"

I've seen a real live monster, he's everywhere these days,
He's ripping up society is a thousand subtle ways.
Don't be fooled if he seems friendly, full of reason and goodwill,
'Cause he makes Tyrannosaurus Rex look like Blinky Bill!

Refrain:
He wears fine suits and his shoes are shiny
His ego's large but his brain is tiny
He goes to bed early and he never gets pissed
He's an Economic Rationalist!
He's not the same as you or me
He believes in a God called GDP,
He's got a Porsche and a place to park it
And he places all his faith in the market

He takes unsuspecting people, this deadly monster does,
He turns them into numbers and it gives him quite a buzz.
He's got economic models and he feeds the numbers through,
And forgets that what he's dealing with is really me and you.

He's not the sort of monster who has mighty teeth and claws,
But he's good at crunching numbers in his electronic jaws.
His weapon's the computer and the calculator too,
And if you don't look out, he'll make a number out of you!

Refrain:
He wears fine suits....

He talks incomprehensible jargon,
He's swapped his award for an enterprise bargain
He's got the key to the world's salvation,
And the name of the key is privatisation.

You'll find him on the Charities Inquiry these days,
With his talk of "market forces" and his call for "user pays"
And his bias towards the big groups 'cause he thinks they never fail
and because they're equipped to make economies of scale.

He forgets about communities and the things that make them thrive,
He forgets about the skills they have in managing their lives
He talks of consultation, but his talking is deceit
'Cause he never hears the voices of the people in the street.

Refrain:
He wears fine suits....

"The Economic Rationalist" was written by D.
Inner Sydney Neighbourhood

*His faith is strong and his zeal is fiery
He sits on the Charities Inquiry
He believes in cure but not prevention
And he can't stand government intervention*

This monster acts in ways that are both dangerous and unhealthy,
He believes in cutting taxes to "incentivate" the wealthy.
But then he says "Equality's a thing we can't ignore",
So he slashes welfare payments to "incentivate" the poor.
He thinks welfare should be privatised and governments made small,
Community development he can't understand at all.
He's into blaming victims, he's into "laissez faire",
Like a predatory, destructive 1980s millionaire.

Refrain:
He wears fine suits....

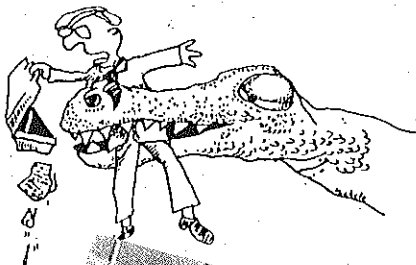
*He smiles at us all, but he doesn't trust us,
He don't know the meaning of social justice,
He believes in a thing called "trickle down" theory -
It's collective economic hara-kiri!*

You're bound to meet this monster - 'cause he isn't in the zoo
He's coming very shortly to a workplace close to you.
Please don't attempt to fight him or you'll end up very dead.
The only way to beat him is to laugh at him instead.

There is a real live monster, and he's working very fast,
He's trying to take us with him - going forward to the past.
Don't be fooled if he seems friendly, full of reason and goodwill,
'Cause he makes Tyrannosaurus Rex look like Blinky Bill!

Refrain:
He wears fine suits

*He's a dangerous prehistoric shark,
He's a monster out of Jurassic Park,
With just one very important distinction -
I'm afraid he's still a long way from extinction...*



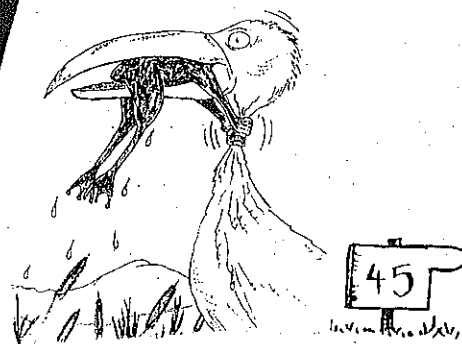
Major Activities

- Regional Consultation on Federal Employment Green Paper "Restoring Full Employment" to assist NCOSS and ACOSS in their responses. Speakers Wayne Swan, MP, and Prof. Frank Stilwell
- First Community Australia Conference, held in Melbourne in December. Marg and Faye attended.
- Solution or Sellout? Major conference on economic rationalism in health and community sectors.
- Inner Voice "Big Sell Out" edition
- Housing Communities Assistance Programme. Cara McDougall appointed in April
- HACC Across the State formed
- "Closing Doors" and "Hands off HACC" Campaigns

Still working on:

- South Sydney Public Housing Taskforce
- NCOSS Regional Forum
- DCS Consultation Protocol
- Interagencies and Neighbourhood Centres's Forum

NEVER EVER GIVE UP



During your visit to Sydney take the opportunity to visit one of the city's most prominent landmarks —

The Waste Disposal INCINERATOR at Zetland
Only 10 mins from airport, 10 mins from Harbour.

STAND in any one of the surrounding residential streets, and ...

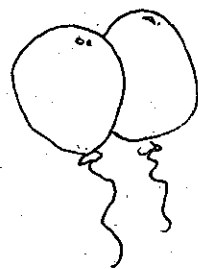
- ★ SMELL the rotting garbage as it accumulates in the streets, and ...
- ★ SEE the toxic ash being taken away in uncovered trucks into the air.
- ★ BREATHE in the dioxins and furans as they are ...
- ★ WATCH the plume of smoke and steam spread into the air.
- ★ DODGE the garbage trucks on the roads.
- ★ WONDER why the local residents want to ...
- ★ ASK why the State Government and the ...
- ★ FEEL the ground vibrate when the plant ...
- ★ MARVEL at the volume of water used by the ...
- ★ HEAR the roar of the furnace at night.

Walking maps available • Guided tours can be arranged.
ASK YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR HOTEL RECEPTION FOR FURTHER DETAILS



A crowning year for us, with new equipment, new partnerships, new staff, and a final turn of the wheel which saw words like "regionalism" and "community development" come back into fashion (it was a long time out in the cold hey!)

Marg got a big surprise for her 60th birthday (we think she's fashionable again now too!)



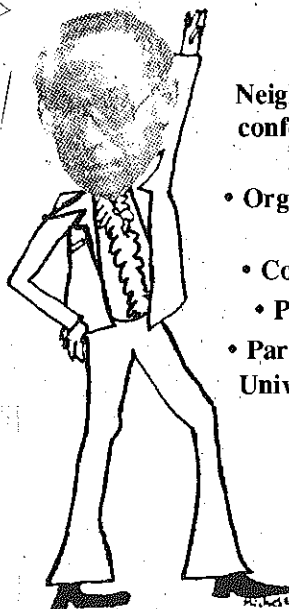
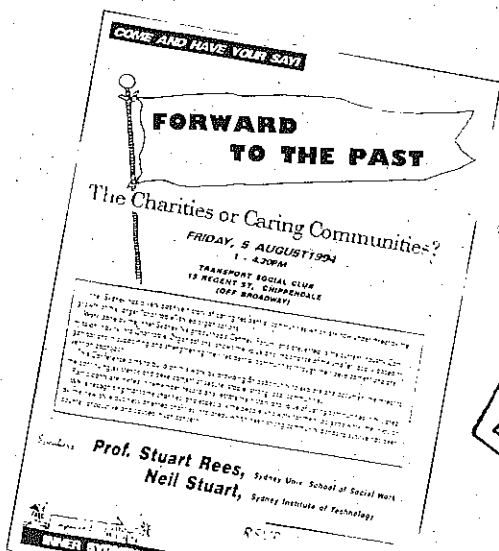
1994/95

Chairperson Philippa O'Keeffe Vice-Chairperson
Terry Murphy Secretary Jack Carnegie
Treasurer Mary Devine

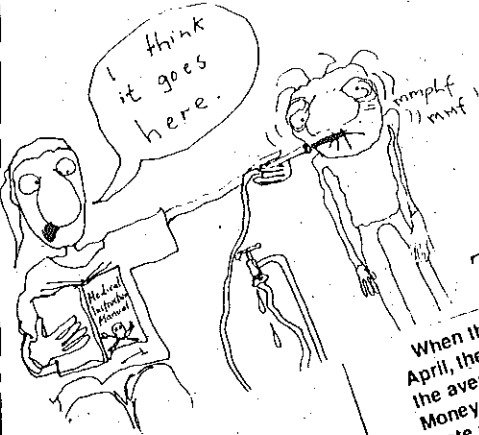
Working Party Delegates Botany Barbara Delcasse
Leichhardt Diana Clark Randwick Caroline
Mason Gillian Collinson South Sydney Anne
Giles Barbara King Sydney Vivienne Pusey
Waverley-Woollahra Jane McGregor

Activities

- Forward to the Past, helping the Neighbourhood Centres' Forum organising this conference in light of the Industry Commission Inquiry into Charitable Organisations
- Organising new projects - Consultation Project, and Video Project.
- Community Australia Conference - Adelaide
- Public Housing Taskforce finalising report
- Partner in new Waterloo Resource Centre with University of New South Wales, Department of Housing and South Sydney Council
- Dental Services Plan
- NCOSS regional liaison
- interagencies
- HACC forums
- HACC Across the State



Hi, I'm the issue,
Wrap me up in enough
jargon
And noone can get
to me.



The Brave New World of Hilmer

When the Coalition of Australian Governments (COAG) met in April, the mainstream press trumpeted the wonderful benefits for the average Australian of the new National Competition Policy. Money in its millions, they declared, was to be given over to each State and we should all rejoice. If you thought at the time you missed something - you did.

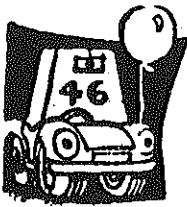
\$1500 more in the pockets of every Australian - that was the sexy slogan used to 'sell' "Hilmer" to the public. Who would argue with the offer of more money? No need to ask who on earth is Hilmer?

At last year's COAG meeting, the Federal Government attempted to get the State Governments to agree to some pretty way-out and radical reforms involving just about every public good or service the government provides (also known as the Hilmer Report on National Competition Policy). The States' response was a resounding

What is Hilmer? Hilmer is many things to many people. Hilmer is a person - Professor Fred Hilmer, the Dean of the Graduate Business Management School of NSW, and now (thanks to Bob Carr) head of Pacific Power. Hilmer is also a report, produced in 1993 by the man of the same name, which has now become the new bible of the politicians and bureaucrats around the Australia. Hilmer (man and report) is also what's chiefly responsible for all this talk about government needing to be run like a business. The pervasive notion is that everything government does, and ever has done, is inefficient and needs a bit of Adam Smith's good old market shape. Apparently,

introducing competition where government monopolies exist will give YOU cheaper prices, better services, and a free set of steak knives. Competition, in Adam Smith's pure market, is a good thing. However, as Adam Smith would tell you if he were alive today, pure markets do not exist in the real world. In our impure market place there are always winners and losers which is one of the reasons we have governments - to even up the score.

COAG, each state signed agreements to implement reform which would effectively weed-out any current anti-competitive laws, apply the Trade Practices Act to government business enterprises, and open up avenues for private firms to access "essential facilities" (monopoly networks) owned by the public sector. The main targets for reform are public utilities - water, gas, electricity - and



Happy 60th Marg

... As many of you will be aware, Marg discovered sometime in the '70s that there was one true book that provided a divine pattern for life. It defined the possibilities of existence - UWASIS. This classification of services provides that basic structure for Inner Voice. It seems only right that a fair consideration of Marg's first 60 years should consider life's eight goals as laid down in the book of UWASIS.

Goal 1 - Optimal Employment

Is it a fact that Marg Barry is the only employee whose paid hours go down as her workload goes up? Is it also a fact that Marg's idea of a good night out is when she can work through till dawn uninterrupted?

Goal 2 - Optimal Health

Is it a fact that Marg Barry doesn't age? Will we all be sending our grandchildren to Marg for a lesson in life, or is the "deep end" teaching method only applicable to social work students?

Goal 3 - Optimal Material Needs

Is it a fact that Marg has no material needs? Isn't it also a fact that Marg only lives in a house so her phone won't get wet?

Goal 4 - Optimal Education

Is it a fact that the Board of the Regional Council considered investing in a confessional booth so that those with questions about inner city life could consult Marg in peace and privacy? Is it true that the plan failed when, on a test run, Marg's answer to the first question took three hours, and the queues blocked traffic? Is it also a fact that this was Marg's version of traffic calming.

Goal 5 - Optimal Environment

Is it not a fact that Marg drives that distinctive little van so that trucks will see her coming and divert away in fear? Is this triggering a trend towards little yellow vans which has given rise to the myth that Marg Barry is everywhere, so you'd better watch out?

Goal 6 - Citizen's Rights and Safety

Is it a fact that citizen's rights are really of no interest to Marg Barry? Is it true that her only reason for urban action is so she can get control of community radio and TV, and resume her career directing musicals?

Goal 7 - Optimal Family Support

Is it a fact that the true hero for Inner Sydney is Marsha Barry, whose death wishes on family enemies proved so effective that Marg moved into urban action to reduce the carnage?

Goal 8 - Optimal Resources and Organisation

Is it not a fact that Marg has demonstrated, for once and for all, that the true resources for community action are the human spirit and a love of your neighbours. Is there more in this UWASIS book that was ever dreamed of in heaven or earth?

from Colin Menzies' Roast of Marg

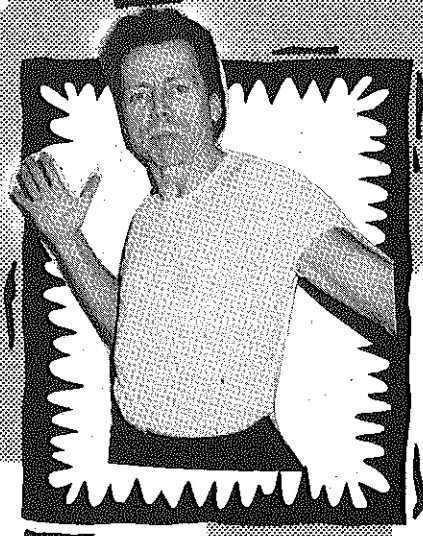
ROBYN EDWARDS



ANN HOOK



PHILLIP KIRK WILSON



In the Annual Report 92/93 Phillipa O'Keefe wished that the Awesome Four-some could materialise overnight as a Magnificent Seven.

Two years later it happened. Robyn Edwards was employed as the Community Consultation Project Officer, Ann Hook replaced Cara McDougall as the Housing Communities Assistance Programme Worker, and Phillip Kirk-Wilson on the HCAP Video Project.





Forward to the Future

As the Co-ordinator and longest serving staff member, it falls to me to wrap up this very special edition of 'Inner Voice'. And I've been asked to do a bit of crystal-ball gazing into the next twenty years, drawing on my experiences and knowledge of the past twenty.

There will always be a place for an organisation like Regional Council! Someone to oppose the excesses of the "powers that be". Someone to keep the community in community services. Someone who really understands that community development is about communities being in control and adequately resourced to solve their own problems. Someone who really puts people first!

I have often described Regional Council as heading in the one straight direction, while fashionable policies and practices come and go, at times crossing our path and bringing rewards as we are again seen as being in step, at other times being so far off the plot that we are seen as either mad or dangerous. We have kept the faith! Our biggest challenge in the next 20 years will be to continue to keep the faith, while all the crazy new schemes come and go. What form they will take, we can only imagine, but they will be identifiable by their top down control, constant restructures, unworkable assumptions and bureaucratic self interest.

Everything runs in cycles, and patterns repeat themselves. Philippa emphasised that in her Foreword, and this special Anniversary edition of Inner Voice confirms it. We've entered the post-industrial age/ information technology. If the long-range forecaster are right, it will take about 50 years to crank up to the next age. Hopefully, it will be the age of co-operation/collaboration where small is beautiful.

For this region the next five years will be even more difficult as we run up to the Year 2000 and the Sydney Olympics - a two-weeks' round of circuses and cake. For many, Marie Antoinette's "Let them eat cake" will hold true (but then look what happened to Marie Antoinette).

"Man is not an island", but the present economic rationalist ideology, with its cult of the individual pits person against person, group against group - it is the antithesis of co-operation and collaboration.

The old Papuan saying: If you plant for one year - plant rice; If you plant for ten years - plant trees; If you plant for one hundred years - plant people!

✉ Marg Barry

keep in touch

NAME

PHONE

INNER SYDNEY REGIONAL COUNCIL
FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IS
CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS OF

identifying, *analysing,* *planning,*
battling, *advocating,*
organising, *re-evaluating,*
communicating **LINKING** *moving,*
AND ...
SURVIVING

