

# Trust Action

## Catherine Hill Bay

A legal action against the actions of the former NSW Minister for Planning in the Land & Environment Court by the Gwandalan Progress Association, with the support of the Environmental Defenders' Office has been successful. The Court made orders quashing the concept plan approval for residential development by the Rose Property Group at Catherine Hill Bay and project approval for development at Gwandalan.

The National Trust is now urging that a full review of the heritage significance of the Catherine Hill Bay area, also nominated by the Trust for listing on the National Heritage List, be urgently completed. This would facilitate the listing of Catherine Hill Bay on the State Heritage Register before consideration of another Development Application by the Rose Property Group.

Please see the accompanying issue of Trust News Australia, to read an article on Catherine Hill Bay from the National Trust's Advocacy Manager, Graham Quint.

## Ku-ring-gai Town Centres

The Trust has released its detailed response to the Ku-ring-gai Planning Panel Draft Local Environmental Plan Recommendations and Deferred Matters entitled 'Strip Mining Sydney's Heritage'. The Trust estimated that potentially 692 residences of some heritage significance will be demolished within the LEP Town Centres (Gordon, Lindfield, Pymble, Roseville and Turramurra) to accommodate unit construction. Entire streetscapes including areas of protected critically endangered Blue Gum High Forest and Turpentine-Ironbark Forest will be cleared causing an unprecedented impact on the natural and cultural heritage of these model garden suburbs.

The National Trust's Director of Core Programmes, Scott Woodcock has examined the Draft Plan in greater detail; please see his article on page 7.



Save Our Bay Rally at Catherine Hill Bay, February 2008

## Broken Hill National Listing Nomination

The Trust has supported a nomination for the National Listing of the Broken Hill City Area by the local Council and the Trust's Broken Hill & District Branch. National Heritage Listing and the responsibilities associated with that listing should encourage the continuation of mining at Broken Hill for as long as commercially viable and should not adversely impact on those mining operations. Steps should be taken as soon as possible to aggregate and catalogue the mining cultural heritage and archival material. The Trust has suggested that the disused Central Power Station could be an appropriate on-site location for such storage, cataloguing and perhaps for a future museum.

Please see Fran McKinnon's update on Broken Hill below for further information on the heritage significance of Broken Hill.

## Sydney CBD Metro

The Sydney Metro Authority has assured the National Trust that the Emil Sodersten designed apartment building at 7 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, listed on the National Trust Register is no longer threatened by demolition for the construction of a Sydney CBD Metro Station. The Trust has liaised with Sydney Metro urging the adoption by the Authority of Heritage principles to guide Metro station design. The Trust has also been investigating the significance of buildings in Union Street, Pyrmont that will be affected by the construction and operation of a Metro station at Pyrmont.

# Regional News

## From the Broken Hill & District Branch

Do you know a town or city in Australia that can lay claim to all of the following? Had the first greenie in Australia and possibly the world; had the only act of violence for World War I on Australian soil; saw the beginning of Australia's largest company which began the industrialisation of Australia; has the first union owned daily newspapers in Australia; held two State Funerals in one year.

Yes, it is Broken Hill and it is unique in many respects, which is why we are working to have the whole city listed on the National Heritage List. Much research has been done and we have made submissions in support of the listing.

- Our Albert Morris developed a system of regeneration which now completely surrounds the city. He began in 1937 to try to combat the terrible dust storms and sand dunes that regularly invaded the town.
- Two men flying a Turkish flag from an ice cream cart, fired on a picnic train killing four people and wounding seven others on New Year's Day in 1915. They were tracked down and killed at a place called 'White Rocks' on the edge of town. Possibly Australia's first terrorists.
- BHP the big Australian company was born in Broken Hill in the 1880s and remained until 1936, when they left believing the ore body would not last. They were wrong – the mining has continued and now has over 125 years of continuous mining on the world's largest deposits of silver, lead and zinc.



Replica ice cream cart used to attack a picnic train in 1915 - White Rocks in the background

- Our own daily newspaper is still owned by the Barrier Industrial Council. In the recent past we lost two very famous citizens, June Bronhill and Pro Hart, both of whom were given State Funerals in Broken Hill.

These are just a taste of the stories that make our city so interesting to visitors. Along with the history, we have been very conscious of our built and natural environment, with many Heritage Listed buildings and sites, including the Line of Lode and the Regeneration Area. We have a very supportive Council who run several heritage programs and usually join with our Branch in Heritage Week to award Heritage Prizes for Residential, Commercial and Public buildings.

We were recently pleased to have John Neish visit Broken Hill and to show him our city, our first from Head Office for many years, the last when Barry O'Keefe visited us. John has organised for the National Trust to support our application for Heritage Listing of the City.

**Fran McKinnon**  
Chair, Broken Hill & District Branch of The National Trust