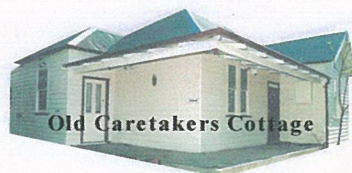


Computer Pals for Seniors –The Hills Inc.

ABN 12 984 569 751

Castle Hill Showground
Castle Hill NSW 2154
MP
PO Box 831
CASTLE HILL 1765
9899 9131

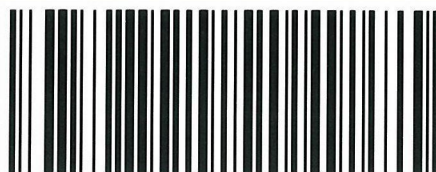


Patron:
Hon. Alan Cadman

Clubrooms: phone

Email: cphills@tpg.com.au

23rd Feb 2016



PCU064238

Department of Planning
Received

24 FEB 2016

Scanning Room

Re Showground Station Precinct Proposal

Dear Sir-M/s

I am writing on behalf of Computer Pals for Seniors-the Hills in regard to the State Government release of the proposal for the Showground Precinct, this being in relation to the North West Rail Link, now, I believe Sydney Metro North-west.

Our club is one of the several organisations making regular and significant use of the facilities which the Showground offers in that we operate 5 days a week in the Old Caretakers Cottage and hold monthly meetings in the Harvey Lowe Pavilion. However what we see in the published proposal gives us very little comfort regarding the medium to long-term availability of our present facilities.

We note that in the aerial view of the Showground as shown on page 4/38 of the Showground Precinct proposal there seems to be no evidence of the building which we presently occupy nor for that matter most of the other buildings which are the basis for the activities which are at the heart of the existence of the Showground. Just as disturbing is the artist's impression on the following page 5/38, of the planned view down Doran Drive as a wide, paved Avenue with multi-story buildings lining each side. In fact the aerial view on page 4/38 also suggests a clear intention to move towards an environment of close spaced multi-story buildings.

One of our fellow users of the Showground facilities, the Castle Hill Players has made an excellent submission regarding the need for the preservation of the "*low key, uncrowded zone where residents are able to visit at will and take advantage of the quiet open space*" and I will not take up your time further along these lines other than to say that we fully support their point of view.

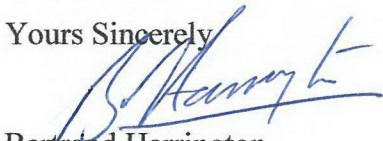
Computer Pals for Seniors-the Hills, is a not-for-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers providing a service in the Hills area teaching seniors how to use computers. Since our foundation in 1998 we have provided low-cost tuition in a friendly comfortable atmosphere to enable seniors to become proficient in the many facets of computing by way of both one-on-one and group tuition. In more recent years we have introduced training in technology such as tablets, Skype, cloud computing and so on.

We are a member of the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA) and work closely with The Hills Shire Council. We have a membership of approximately 500 Seniors at the end of each financial year and hence would be one of the largest ASCCA clubs in Australia.

Considering our investment in both equipment and people, we are concerned that the facilities which we enjoy will be available to us for the foreseeable future and that they are not destined to be buried under an advancing tide of concrete which seems to be the destiny of much of the Showground precinct.

We are therefore writing to seek your assurance that this will indeed be your intention.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Harrington', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bertrand Harrington

President: Computer Pals for Seniors the Hills.inc