

Wolli Creek Update

FROM THE WOLLI CREEK PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC.

February 1997

Wolli activities

■ Clean-up Australia Day

When: Sunday 2 March

Where: Henderson St footbridge

This year the Society will be cleaning up around the weir at the Henderson Street footbridge in Turrella Reserve. Both the creek and the adjoining land need some attention and we will welcome all the help we can get. Set aside a few precious hours of your busy week to clean up the valley. Bring your gloves, hats, block-out and anything else you feel will be useful. Looking forward to seeing you. We'll be meeting at the weir at about 8.30am and we'll keep working till about 11am.

■ Heritage Week

Sunday 27 April

Culture Down Under

Cultural walks & bush picnic

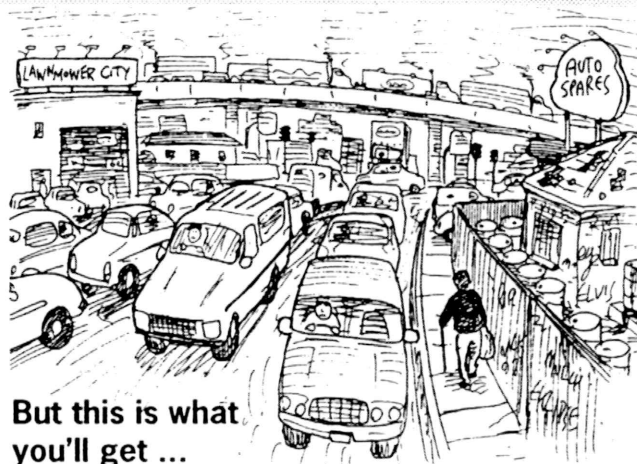
Keep Sunday 27 free and enjoy a cultural walk through the valley culminating in a picnic and bush games at Girrahween Park. The walks will commence at Tempe carpark at 10am and Turrella station at 10.30am. The Turrella walk will include some of the historic houses of the area. The last day of heritage week coincides with Greek Easter, and we will try to include some Greek cultural activities in the day. Come along and bring the family. The picnic will commence at Girrahween Park at 12 noon.

■ Bush regeneration

The Society will be seeking a grant to work on a section of the valley, clearing the area of the invasive weeds that are a problem in any area of urban bushland. Unfortunately exotics or weeds thrive on the nutrient enrichment (fertilisers, dog poo, etc) that leaks into the valley from the surrounding community. A few hours each month would make a difference, so if you're interested, give Lee a ring on 9567 8502, leave your telephone number and we'll contact you when the matter is resolved.

AND REMEMBER ...

This is what they tell you ...



But this is what you'll get ...

Say No to the M5 East!

Our valley appears to be safe! The battle fought by many people over many years seems to have been won and a precious piece of urban bushland and open space has been saved.

However the latest plan by the RTA is to construct the M5E link in a tunnel through the ridgeline at Bardwell Park, and under

Don't forget our committee meetings. First Wednesday in the month, at the Community Development Centre (the old Resource Centre) in Hartill-Law Avenue, just across the road from Bardwell Park station, starting at 7.30pm.

Turrella to Marsh Street, Arncliffe. At a cost of \$520m this tunnel represents a huge investment of taxpayers' funds – despite world experience showing that building roads does not resolve traffic problems. Not only do roads not decrease traffic volumes they actually increase them, a phenomenon known as 'induced traffic'. The Society's position, based on this data and on an analysis of traffic figures on existing freeways and motorways is that investment on massive road infrastructure

should stop and the money should be invested in public transport.

Building the M5E will necessitate three twenty metre high exhaust stacks to rid the tunnel of pollution. These exhaust stacks would be located as high on the ridgeline as possible so that the pollutants could disperse more effectively. The community rejection of these stacks has been immediate with public meetings held at various locations. If the smokestacks were located lower down in the valley, as one recently organised community group is recommending, the polluted air would be much more difficult to disperse (the inversion effect) and the valley and all residents would suffer the consequences. It's clear that the only logical stand to take is a 'no road' stand, and the 'no road' arguments are clearly stated in your latest copy of *Hell on Wheels*. The exhaust stacks are an eyesore but they would be a fundamental adjunct to a road tunnel, and putting them in the valley is not the answer..

We strongly recommend that members submit a response to the supplementary EIS for the M5 East motorway. This latest edition of *Hell On Wheels* should be a useful reference for your submission which can be as long or as short as you want to make it. If you can't make time for anything else please send in the form submission on page 7 of *Hell on Wheels*. But do it **IMMEDIATELY**. Your submission must be in to the RTA by **Tuesday 18 February**.