

newsletter + agm notice spring 2000

The Channon Trust

A COMMUNITY VENTURE

If these are your objectives:

- to maintain a community Trust that can contribute to thinking about future development in The Channon
- to maintain a community owned resource
- to have a local organisation that auspices creative activities and creates awards
- to have a social focus that contributes to the character of The Channon village
- to provide modest local employment opportunities and outlets

*come to the agm
and annual get together*

THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER
*6pm at the Teahouse
refreshments provided*

END OF YEAR THANKS to Annie Heitmann & Margaret Peters (Solstice celebrations), Bob Packer (plumbing) Simon Clough (work), Pedro McDade (traffic campaign, goodwill and advice), Katrina Shields (traffic campaign), Gai Longmuir, Maggie Ritchie (gardening) and others who gave valuable support to the Trust during the year.

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2000

The management of the Teahouse, including maintaining a relationship with the lessees.

Maintenance: painting of toilets, drainage, tree lopping to expose front of building, removal of weed species trees, signs and barriers to keep people off slopey entrances in wet weather, white ant inspection.

The Trust gave donations to the pre-school and the primary school this year. The pre-school was able to purchase a water filter and the primary school put the money to soft fall material under its new adventure play equipment.

We backed a felting workshop in March and two wonderful Men's Singing Workshops

We continued the tradition of a light-filled Solstice Celebration in June.

We donated \$200 towards the Centenary Celebrations.

We ran a campaign to improve the traffic situation in The Channon. The Lismore City Council, Police and RTA conducted a site visit in which the community was consulted on issues relating to speeding and pedestrian safety in September. Some of our objectives have been achieved, including Stop signs at the Mill Street/Standing Street intersection at the Channon Shop and at the pub corner.

At Richmond River High School, The Channon Trust Award for Design and Technology went to Tristan Gilbert in 1999 and Melanie Sommerton-Faulkner, 2000

The Channon Trust Award for Contribution in Senior Years went to Ben Rodgers in 1999 and Aurora Daniels in 2000

The Trust is now registered as an approved organisation for the work-for-the dole by Centrelink.

This year we developed a policy to enable us to deal with requests for share refunds as fairly as possible. The standard letter is included on the back page for your information.

Landlords, leases and use of the Teahouse

In simple terms The Channon Trust are landlords of the Teahouse. The building is rented out to a commercial business with its own particular interests.

In February we began negotiations for an arrangement with Sara for use of the Teahouse to run some evening events. Recently Sara approached us for a reduction in rental. We were able to assist. At this stage we came to an agreement, i.e. that we have access to the building, including the kitchen six times a year, for which we will pay a fee of \$50.

**SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY CAFES! ANYONE INTERESTED
IN HELPING ORGANISE A VARIETY NIGHT, A MAD WEEDS
NIGHT OR ANY KIND OF THEME NIGHT, GET IN TOUCH**

No place like the Channon

We live in a unique village and having the Teahouse has contributed over the years to our sense of place. If you have friends or people around you who have come to the area in the last few years we encourage you to interest them in becoming members of the Trust. There are members who have left the area and bringing new members in enables us to buy their shares back. Contact Annie Bolitho or Rozzie Westworth, PO Box 507 The Channon 2480.

Anyone interested in becoming involved in the Channon Trust's eclectic work can ring Annie on 66886479 or Rozzi on 66886373

*best wishes for Christmas and the New Year
your manager Annie Bolitho, & Anja Hunoldt,
Bernie Jeffries & Rozzi Westworth*

ps 2001 will be Annie's last year as manager. Rozzi has also done a long innings. Please consider bringing your energy into the Trust committee!

Share redemption policy

The Channon Trust
PO Box 507 The Channon NSW 2480

Dear

Thanks for renewing contact. Our records reflect that you have ___ shares in The Channon Trust. We receive requests for redemptions from shareholders each year. We are sending you the following information in the hope that it satisfies your questions.

THE CHANNON TRUST SHARE REDEMPTION POLICY

The Trust will set aside money for a limited number of redemptions each year, financial circumstances permitting.

The Trust's first priority will be to give redemptions people with larger shareholdings. To cite examples, there are individuals who have between 25 and 43 shares in the Trust. The Trust has deemed it fair that they are given first consideration.

The following priority is to give redemptions to people who have left the area and elderly shareholders.

In redeeming shares, unless the circumstances are exceptional, the Trust will not refund more than half the unitholder's holdings in any one 'refund round'.

The Trust will not redeem single shares and in the case of larger refunds the policy will be to retain one share. This aspect of our policy emphasises the voluntary community nature of the enterprise. We invite unitholders to consider the many hundreds of hours of administrative and maintenance work that have been put in by many community members between 1986 and 2000 and consider this one share as a donation to an enterprise founded in the ethical aspirations of people striving for an alternative to mainstream individualism.

We also wish to refer back to a 1996 newsletter when the committee took steps to find out whether we had a legal obligation to redeem shares. This turned out not to be the case. We hope that this clarifies the Trust's position and regret any disappointment on your behalf.

For those people who are in a position to do so we strongly recommend making contact with newer people in The Channon who do not yet own shares and making arrangements to sell (transfer) your shares.

Best wishes
Annie Bolitho and Rozzi Westworth
for the committee