

Peter Hamilton

From: "Holly McKay" <holmckay@hotmail.com>
To: <peterh@nor.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 November 2002 9:41 AM
Subject: Documentary Proposal

Advised her of my address
19/11/02 (see sent file).

Dear Peter,

I was a student of Martha Ansara's at UTS in her documentary production class. During this class I developed a documentary proposal concerning an incident in Byron Bay. Martha suggested that perhaps you may be interested in hearing about my proposal for this 26 minute film.

Victorious Cavanbah is a film about the eight residents of Cavanbah Street (a.k.a Cavanbah Action Group), Byron Bay and their struggle against Mr. John Vaughan to protect a strip of rare littoral rainforest on Belongil Beach from being turned into townhouses. The film tells the very personal stories of each of these characters within the context of a very important environmental issue facing coastal communities Australia wide - the sustainable protection of frontal dunes and the rainforests that effectively bind them.

The film follows the members of CAG through political rallies, council hearings, petitions and protests right through to their landmark victory in the Land & Environment Court. While the film carries a very important and pressing political/environmental message, the thing that makes it different and indeed special is the personal angle with which it presents these issues. Indeed each member of CAG has made huge personal sacrifices to this cause. Perhaps it is for this reason they feel so strongly about having their stories told.

My father, Ian McKay and stepmother, Helen McKay both live on Cavanbah Street and are both active members of Cavanbah Action Group, so this film holds a very personal resonance for me. However I believe that the issues explored in this 26 min documentary have the potential to touch the lives of all Australians with a concern for the sustainable maintenance of our beaches and frontal dunes.

I truly believe that this film is one that needs to be made and it needs to be made now, indeed never before has the Australian people been so focused on the world around them.

I would like very much the opportunity to send you a copy of my proposal so that you can read it in your own time. If you are interested please forward me your postal details and I will send you a copy.

Yours sincerely,
Holly McKay

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