



The Mosman Parks & Bushland Association was formed fifty one years ago to protest against the destruction of bushland at Bradleys Head. Among its founding members were Eileen and Joan Bradley who developed a system of bush regeneration known as the Bradley Method which is still practiced.

The objectives of the Association remain the same today - the protection and preservation of parks, bushland and open space in the municipality of Mosman. The benefit is for current and future generations of residents and for visitors to Mosman.

We write, therefore, in support of Mosman Council's "Fit for the Future" proposal. We refer to Attachment 2 "Addressing social and community context".

Mosman has an exceptional natural landscape and Mosman Council has the full support of this Association in its efforts to conserve the municipality's natural features.

Over its 51 years, the Mosman Parks & Bushland Association has striven to win over the hearts and minds of other residents, of local representatives and local administrators. Perhaps it is partly due to the success of these efforts that so much of Mosman's individual character and landscape, its bushland and open space have survived. Other suburbs could have been like this, but bushland is vulnerable, and in far too many places it has disappeared.

Concern for the native bush continues to lead many association members and other local residents into active bush regeneration. Their work has the support and encouragement of our local representatives and council administrators. Volunteers and their council supervisors have built up excellent working relationships and a mutual belief in the value of the work they do.

These values and relationships are essentially *local*.

Other municipalities may have similar concerns and objectives, but it is the view of this association that a *local* council supported by its *local* community will be significantly more effective than a distant council with little connection with the locality or the community.

Can it honestly be expected that representatives or administrators in Ryde would take the same care and responsibility

- a. for the parks and bushland of Mosman
- b. for the volunteers who put in the effort and hours of their time?

2.

We believe that an independent Mosman will continue to preserve the natural character and landscape that residents and visitors from other suburbs and beyond can continue to enjoy into the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Eccles". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kate Eccles

President

31st July, 2015