

PUBLIC ACCESS 11TH JUNE 2019

Good morning Councillors this morning I wish to give you an update on information on the Cemetery at the Peak which overlooks Albert Ryan Park. I was contacted by Council Cemetery Consultant Mr Pip Giovnitti and he asked me to meet him at the Peak on 25<sup>th</sup> May.

It has now been discovered that there was a Church in the area of land known as the "Peak" that Church was called St Clius Church which stood above Beach Road.

In 1985 the Registrar of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn Mr Brian Norris stated in relation to the proposed development at the area of land known as the Peak "The developer had agreed to incorporate a suitable memorial in a landscaped area on the site of the graveyard – he also stated NO graves will be built over".

The Developer of the Peak Mr Rawson stated "The graveyard area would be landscaped to blend in with the development and a memorial sundial would be laid on the edge of the area". Despite the fact that the consultant and I spend time walking over the area a "Sundial was not found". While we were there a resident of the Peak showed us a plaque that had fallen off the wall of a BBQ which states "On this site was located the first Anglican Cemetery a site of historical significance for the original people of Batemans Bay".

In a reply email I received dated 23<sup>rd</sup> May the General Manager over this subject stated " This matter has been raised previously by you, and investigation of historical records, have to date, not supported the belief that a church and graveyard were located on the cliff top, and yet the Developer Mr Rawson had stated "An agreement with the shire Council ensured that the original area where headstones had been removed would not be built on", surely Councillors this Council should have records of that agreement pertaining to this area?

On the 9<sup>th</sup> April I also supplied Council with a photo of Mrs Sue Hapgood near the area where she said the bodies of her baby cousins were buried in unmarked graves, the graves were under timber on the apartment development site.

In the email from the General Manager she did confirmed "that the top of the existing stairs do encroach in a minor way onto private land, but this has been corrected within the upgrade design and construction works" Councillors the facts are the top of the newly constructed stairs are in exactly in the same position as the old stairs and still encroach on "private land" which I believe could be in the area of land where it was known that "babies were buried".

I have provided you with a photo of Mrs Sue Hapgood in the grounds of the Cemetery in 1982 which clearly shows the outline of grave.

Councillors why does it appear to come down to "We the Council are right and you the resident of this shire are wrong unless you provide us with the evidence".

Councillor I am now asking this Council that they consider an appropriate form of a remembrance at the entrance to this area from High Street which has to be recognised not only as cemetery but as a site for the St Clius Church the facts are Council has been collecting rates from all those apartments build at the Peak for over 30 years.

Trish Hellier  
For and on Behalf of  
Save Albert Ryan Park.

**From:** Diane Deyer  
**Date:** 17/05/2019 10:56:47 AM  
**To:** Irish Hillier  
**Subject:** The Canberra Times, 25th September, 1982,

**Attachments Preview:**

SueHapgood BB1.jpg



## Graveyard sale halt to allow inspection

Mrs Susan Hapgood, spokeswoman of the Bateman's Bay Historical Society, in the town's Anglican graveyard, which cannot now be sold, as the Anglican Church had planned, until a representative of the Heritage Council of NSW has had a chance to inspect the site. The Historical Society is fighting the church's decision to sell the land to developers to raise funds for a new church. Mrs Hapgood said some headstones had been removed in August without proper care. Marble headstones had been taken to a stonemason at Nowra for cleaning and restoration. "We have a lot of support from people whose ancestors are buried here — this is a most historical site, but our trouble is, it's also a prime piece of real estate," she said. An Anglican Church spokesman said yesterday that the removed headstones would be incorporated in the new church.