

Heritage values

If heritage listing is such a negative, can Rockdale councillor Gary Green explain why hundreds of heritage-listed-property owners and their estate agents list their properties for sale on the National Trust's Historic Properties for Sale or Lease website and are often delighted with the results?

Doesn't the inner metropolitan area, with its greater number of heritage-listed properties, also have higher property values?

The National Trust is unaware of any "severe usage restrictions" on heritage-listed properties, but if these exist in Rockdale, then, as a councillor, it is Cr Green's responsibility. National Trust Register listings have no such restrictions.



Jacqui Goddard
Conservation director
National Trust of Australia (NSW)

The price of nostalgia

We should be saying farewell to Saywell's ugly terraces, and good riddance, too.

If Mick Freedman is right (Your View, August 23), 10 per cent of the privately owned homes on Rockdale's heritage list are there without the blessing of their owners.

This is an outright abuse of private owners' property rights.

As for Gary Somerville's negative comments concerning progressive councillor Gary Green and the futuristic Destinations concept (Your View, August 23), doesn't he realise that one can't progress while looking backwards?

It is selfish to demand that our community pay for the nostalgic indulgences of a vocal minority. If you like those firetrap terraces so much, put your own money into their restoration. Don't expect my rates to pay for your nostalgic gratification.

The bottom line is that the terraces are dangerous, ugly and unkempt, and unless the owners are given decent incentives for their retention, Brighton will be stuck with this rubble until it crumbles into Le-Sands.



Stephen Ktorides
Brighton-Le-Sands

It's Rockdale, not Wreckdale

I can't believe that anyone would expect those dog-ugly Saywell terraces to remain on the face of beautiful Brighton-Le-Sands. Do the heritage types that support their retention need glasses?

Would these same people pay for their retention? I bet not. So why expect Rockdale's ratepayers to fork out for wrecked relics?

We don't want Rockdale to be known as Wreckdale, so good on you Cr Green for supporting the silent majority who like to see modern, safe and compliant development.



Marie Christoforou
Rockdale

We're (happy) US vegemites

It's a bit late for Hans Kasper of Oatley to worry about which country makes Nabisco (Kraft) products. Vegemite, for instance, has been owned by the US company Kraft since 1956.

Gary Frances
Bexley