

12-8-04

MY NAME IS PATRICK LECOQUE, I AM 38 YEARS OLD, I WAS BORN ON SEPTEMBER 28 1965 AT ROYAL CANBERRA HOSPITAL.

MY PARENTS MOVED TO PIERCES CREEK IN 1964 WITH MY OLDER BROTHER MICHEL WHEN HE WAS 4 YEARS OLD.

I HAVE A YOUNGER BROTHER PHILIPPE HE WAS BORN IN 1970 ALSO IN ROYAL CANBERRA HOSPITAL. OUR PARENTS PASSED ON WITHIN 2 YEARS OF EACH OTHER ABOUT 8 YEARS AGO.

MICHEL AND I LIVED AT PIERCES CREEK TILL JANUARY 18 2003 I LIVED AT COTTAGE 204 WITH MY FIANCEE. MICHEL LIVED AT COTTAGE 203.

WHILE I LIVED THERE NOT MUCH CHANGED, WE GOT OLDER, SOME FAMILYS MOVED ON, SOME NEW ONES MOVED IN. EVERY ONE WAS CONNECTED TO ACT FOREST.

WE GREW TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY, THE COMMUNITY STAYED THE SAME WE ALL LOOKED OUT FOR EACH OTHER, HELPING WHERE WE COULD, IT WAS A QUIET AND PEACEFULL PLACE. MOST OF THE TIME THE ENVIRONMENT DID NOT CHANGE MUCH, THERE WAS ALWAYS ABUNDANT WILD LIFE AND PLENTY OF SCRUB FOR US KIDS TO EXPLORE.

I BELIEVE THE ORIGINAL HOUSES SHOULD GO BACK SO THE ORIGINAL PEOPLE CAN RETURN AND CONTINUE THEIR LIVES AS PEOPLE IN CANBERRA HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO DO.

I BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN NO DETRIMENTAL AFFECT TO THE EAREA BY HAVING SUCH A SMALL NUMBER OF HOUSES. A LARGER DEVELOPMENT MAY CAUSE IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE TO THE REVERS AND SURROUNDING EAREA.

EVERY ON THAT LIVES THERE HAS HAD ALONG ASSOCIATION WITH PIERCES CREEK AND WE WOULD LIKE TO RETURN TO OUR WAY OF LIFE AND GIVE OUR CHILDREN A CHANCE TO GROW UP IN THAT ENVIRONMENT

COTTAGE 204 WAS ONE OF THE FIRST 4 HOUSES TO BE BUILT AT PIERCES CREEK FORESTRY SETTLEMENT IN THE 1930'S IT AND ALL THE OTHER HOUSES AT PIERCES CREEK AND THE PEOPLE ARE PART OF THE HEITAGE OF THE EAREA AS WELL AS URJARRA AND STROMLO HAVE STRONG CONNECTIONS WITH CANBERRA AND WERE ESTABLISHED LONG BEFORE MOST OF CANBERRA AND ITS POLITICIANS WHO SEEK TO WIPE PIERCES CREEK OFF THE MAP.

WHEN THESE POLITICIANS SAY IT IS NOT FINANCIALLY
FEASIBLE TO REBUILD PIERCES CREEK? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
WHAT ABOUT THE MONEY PAID IN RENT? IT NEVER CAME
BACK AS MAINTENANCE. WE MORE OFTEN THAN NONE HAD
TO DO IT OURSELVES

I BELIEVE THE HOUSES SHOULD GO BACK AND THE PEOPLE WHO
LIVED THERE SHOULD HAVE A CHANCE TO BUY THEIR HOMES
AND BLOCKS THAT WAY THE GOVERNMENT CAN RECLAIM THEIR
MONEY AND WE WILL HAVE OUR WAY OF LIFE BACK.
WE KNOW IT WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AS IT WAS BUT
GIVE US A CHANCE TO RECLAIM WHAT WE HAD.

Philo Grant

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