

56th Daylight street,
Chatswood, NSW 2934
14th April 2025

73rd Lance Avenue,
Bankstown, NSW 2436

Re: The heart-wrenching demolition of our local library

Dear Councillor Mary Goodsman,

I write to you to express my excruciating dejection upon sight of the library demolition contracts, to see these divine scriptures be replaced by immoral, unethical wastelands that sacrifice wisdom for wealth. As a student who has attained all of his knowledge through blessings from these very corridors, I implore you to reconsider your plans. "These sacred shelves that hold humanity's greatest conquests cannot be diminished into ashes, to be replaced by yet another mirage of a commercial abomination.", a concerned parent argues, prioritising her child's education over anything else." "By destroying the library, we are essentially destroying education, shown by the severe plummet of an average of 24% literary rates, between 3 neighbouring districts that removed libraries from their neighbourhoods.", news reporter Joseph Feninger proclaims. The destruction of the library would be an eternal laceration through the communities collective consciousness, torrents of nostalgic anguish eroding our world. How can we abolish our finest teacher in trade for a shadowed, profit seeking corporation?

Envision the agonizing scene of cranes tearing apart the library, its monstrous claws chewing away at the begging foundations. The cacophonies of destruction would be played alongside this chaos; the screech of metal creating a discoordinated elegy of somber, the shattering of glass as the library's assassins tear through the walls, the ripping of pages as the worshipped books are stabbed by a militant knife. Children will weep tears of melancholy, and adults will watch in grave despondence as the bulldozers come out for their paycheck.

Our library is a bastion guarding the knowledge it holds, whilst sharing the wisdom with countless minds, letting us take apart its very body to receive gems of insight. Research has even highlighted a direct correlation with children visiting libraries and test scores, showing that children that go to libraries regularly score 21% higher than those who do not. But who is there to guard the library? Who is there to thank the being for the receipt of intelligence? Who is there to save the creature from extinction? The library has whispered immeasurable secrets, and yet we repay it like this. This is beyond inhumane. The wooden shelves, time-worn and caressed with all of our fingerprints, humbly stores manifestations of intellect, its very grains breathing phrases that are unfathomable to the human mind. The stone exterior, scarred and scratched, is a war stained sentinel that protects the delicate acumen that lies inside. The frayed pages of the books, producing a perfume of vanilla essence, sacrifices its life for the gift of knowledge. It is absolutely immoral to execute this ally.

Proponents for the idea that the library should be demolished may argue that the library is outdated with the current era, and that all information is digitally accessible, making libraries now unrealistic. I completely acknowledge and respect this point of view, as it questions the fundamental importance of the library, and the overall reason why the library even exists. However, I disagree due to the fact that misinformation is extremely common online, though

not seen in books, and that rural areas will in fact have more accessibility to this quintessence of knowledge. A recent survey has shown that 84% of Australians find that public libraries provide trustworthy and reliable information, opposed to searching on the internet. By demolishing this library, you will be removing the only viable source of information that the neighbourhood is entitled to.

I entreat you, with the heart of the community beating along my side, to deny approval of the demolition proposal, that would leave an indelible blood stain in the centre of the neighbourhood. Have we truly become immoral enough to value economic growth over pure intellectual havens? The community will either see you with bitter resentment, or honourable reverence, with the decision that you have at your hand. You will either be seen as a gravedigger who commanded execution of a sanctuary of knowledge, or a hero that saved the library from the scythes of death. You will either be known as a cruel tyrant, greedy for finance, or an altruistic guardian that rescued the epitome of knowledge. The choice is yours.

Yours sincerely,
Nandu Praveen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Praveen', written in a cursive style.