

Residents of 32 Eglinton Road Glebe

Skellett family 1911-13

Alfred John Skellett, 50, clerk and his wife Caroline Skellett, 53, home duties are listed on the electoral roll of 1913. He is also listed in Sands Directory in 1911-13.

Caroline and Alfred had both grown up in Campbelltown. They were married in 1886 and had twin sons born in 1887. Alfred held the licence of the Club Hotel in Picton in 1888-1902. They moved to Orange and then to Scone. By 1905 they lived in Bridge Road Glebe.

In 1904, one of their sons drowned. *This morning Barrington John, son of Mr A J Skellett, a resident of Scone, and Stanley, son of Mr A D Skellett, of Picton, were drowned while swimming in a place known as the Pump Hole, much frequented by bathers, at Maldon. The water there is 50ft deep in places. The boys, who were natives of Picton, were cousins, worked in Sydney, and were spending their holidays here. The scene of the catastrophe is a rocky gorge through which the Nepean River flows 200 yds below the suspension bridge recently erected. Both boys were good swimmers, but it is supposed that the younger lad was seized with sudden panic and clung to Stanley, both of them going down in the presence of their friends, who were unable to help them (SMH 15 Nov 1904).*

In 1914 the Skellets decided to move and advertised *Wanted, Furn. Cottage or Furn. Flat, in Glebe. 32 Eglinton rd, Glebe (SMH 18 April 1914)*. In 1915, they lived in Glebe Point Road. They later moved to Bondi, where Caroline had inherited a lifetime interest in a house.

Baird family 1914-18

Katherine Baird is listed in Sands Directories in 1914-18 as Mrs K R Baird. She is listed on electoral rolls in 1915-16 with her son Frederick John Baird, teacher and daughter, Jean Blanch Baird, typist.

After Katherine's husband died in 1897 in Palmers Island, she came to Sydney. In 1913 she was a costumier living in Bridge Road Glebe.

The house had been advertised *Glebe Pt terminus, House 3-5 rms, half sublet unfurn. Buy little furn Apply 32 Eglinton-rd (SMH 12 Oct 1914)*.

Glebe still had stables and horses. In 1915 a notice was placed in the Herald, *Wanted, Stabling for 3 horses and room for 2 carts, in Glebe. 32 Eglinton rd, Glebe (SMH 5 May 1915)*

Katherine's son Frederick John Baird enlisted in the army on 13 May 1916, giving his address as 32 Eglinton Rd, Glebe. He was 5' 6½" with hazel eyes and brown hair and Presbyterian. He was taken prisoner of war. *Mrs Baird, 32 Eglinton-road, Glebe Point, has received information that her younger son, Corporal F J Baird, is a prisoner in Germany, and is wounded. He was on the teaching staff of Dulwich Hill Superior Public School (SMH 14 June 1917).*



Residents of 32 Eglinton Road Glebe

Frederick John Baird died in Germany on 1 October 1918, of pneumonia and influenza, aged 25. Another prisoner of war wrote to his mother *I am sorry to have to inform you of the death of your son, F J Baird, for he was my friend. We have been comrades for 13 months. We were both taken down by fever and were sent to Elberfeld hospital, where he passed away about 5 o'clock of the evening of the 15th. Bairdy received a letter from you on Monday but was unconscious and could not read it.*

In 1920 his mother wrote *I beg to inquire if it is the intention to remove the dear remains of all our dear ones from the hated German hands. I'd much prefer my darling rest with all his other brave comrades in our own honoured cemeteries in France. Someday I hope to visit the sacred spot.*

Katherine's daughter, Jean Blanch Baird became secretary of the Australian Inland Mission. She married Dr John Flynn, founder of the Flying Doctor Service in 1932 in Sydney. The photo below shows John Flynn and Jean Baird at a camping site.



Norman Jack Niccol 1915

Norman Jack Niccol, 33, is listed on the electoral roll in 1915. He was an electrical engineer and had previously served a 4½ year apprenticeship with the Colonial Sugar Company.

He enlisted in the army in 1915, described as 5'8½" tall with fair hair and Anglican. He served in Egypt and France as a driver with 4th Mechanical Transport Co and was wounded twice in 1916. In 1918 he was wounded again. Both legs were shattered and had to be amputated. He died as a result of his injuries on 31 May 1918 and was buried at Longeau France. A photo of his grave was later sent to his mother, as well as his bible.

Residents of 32 Eglinton Road Glebe

Litton family 1919-21

The house was advertised for rent in 1918, *Part furnished Cottage, use con, etc , 16/- Glebe Point close terminus 32 Eglinton Rd (SMH 24 Jan 1918).*

Richard Litton, 50, agent is listed with his wife Alice Maude Litton, 44, home duties on the 1921 electoral roll. He is also listed in Sands Directories in 1919-21.

Richard Litton, also known as David Richard Litten, grew up in Berlin. He arrived in Victoria in 1885. He applied for citizenship in 1914, stating he had lived for 20 years in Melbourne, 4 years in Brisbane and 5 years in Sydney. In 1914, he was a commercial traveller of 147 Brougham St Sydney.

Mrs Alice McRae is listed at the same address in 1915. Her first husband, a police constable, died of typhoid in Forbes in 1905 not long after they were married, leaving Alice with a baby daughter, Beryl.

Alice married Richard Litton in 1917. Their only child, a daughter, Laura Daphne was born in 1918. *At Nurse McMahon's private hospital Glebe, the wife of Richard Litton - a daughter. Both doing well (SMH May 1918).* The family advertised for *Baby's Pram and Cot, together or separate. State lowest price and particulars to Mrs Litton, 32 Eglinton road, Glebe Point (SMH 11 July 1918).*

In 1921, Alice placed a notice *Girl, mind little girl, 3 years old, sleep home pref., 9-6. 32 Eglinton-rd, Glebe Point. (SMH 7 Jan 1921).*

They prepared to move away later in the year and advertised *Push cart, nearly new Apply after 9 o'clock, 32 Eglinton-rd, Glebe (SMH 6 April 1921)* and *Auction – At 32 Eglinton-road, Glebe Point, at 2.30, Furniture, etc. (SMH 9 July 1921).* In 1930 Richard and Alice lived in Concord.

Fazio and Deiola families 1922- 32

O Fazio is listed in Sands Directory in 1922. Onofrio Fazio, 79, had migrated to New South Wales from Lipari, Italy.

He had been fruiterer in Pyrmont and moved to Glebe after his wife died *April 17, 1919, at her residence, 194 Harris-street, Pyrmont, Guiseppa Fazio, aged 66 years (SMH 18 April 1919).*

Onofrio had five children. His son Vincent, who lived close by at 14 Alexandra Road Glebe, died in 1925. His wife applied for an injunction restraining the executors *from paying or acknowledging the claim of Onofrio Fazio, father of the testator...A claim for £500 had been made against the estate by the father of the deceased, for money alleged to have been lent by him to the testator, respecting which an action was pending in the Supreme Court (SMH 27 June 1926).*

Residents of 32 Eglinton Road Glebe

Onofrio died on *October 3, 1927, at his residence, 32 Eglinton rd, Glebe Point, Onofrio Fazio, dearly-loved father of Rosina (Mrs Millet), Maria (Mrs Deiola), Giovannina (Mrs Monty), and Joseph Fazio, aged 84 years (SMH 4 Oct 1927).*

Onofrio's daughter, Maria grew up in Lipari Italy and migrated to Australia with her parents. She was 36 when she married Guiseppe Deiola, 40, in Sydney in 1922. She is listed as Mrs Mary Deiola in in Sands Directory in 1923-32. Her only child was a daughter named Dorothy J Fazio, who died in 1924, aged 2 in Glebe.

Guiseppe Michele Deiola, a railway employee and Mary Deiola, home duties, are listed on the electoral rolls in 1928-34. Guiseppe was from Benetutti Italy. He arrived in Australia in 1911 and applied for citizenship in 1926. One of his referees for citizenship was Robert Buik Edward of Boyce Street Glebe who had known him for 4 years.

He was described as 5'2" tall, with black hair and eyes. He had worked for NSW Railways for 5 years. He could read but "write very little" and was of good character. He had previously lived for 2 years in France and 3 years in Algeria. A railway employee testified *Deiola is a returned Allied soldier and was on the same war front as my regiment.*

The Deiolas had moved to School Parade Marrickville by mid-1936.

Bugden family 1936-41

The house was advertised in 1936 for 30 shillings a week. *Glebe Point 32 Eglinton rd - Cottage, 4 rooms kitchen laundry electric choice position facing park Good order 30/- (SMH 2 July 1936).*

Joseph John Bugden, 46, foreman and his wife Mary Josephine Bugden, are listed on the electoral rolls in 1936-41. They were married in Walcha in 1918 and moved to Glebe with their children Bessie Josephine, 17, Bernard Joseph, 15, Cornelius John Bede and Joan Mary Madeline, 10.

The Bugden family had moved to Panania by October 1941 when their son Bernard Joseph Bugden enlisted. He was 5'7" tall with blue eyes and black hair and served in the 35th battalion in New Guinea.

Pogonoski family 1943-47

George Thomas Pogonoski, 34, a labourer, and Kathleen Mary Pogonoski, 34, home duties are listed on the 1943-47 electoral rolls. George grew up in Raymond Terrace. His grandfather, of Polish background, settled in Australia in 1876 and was a newspaper owner in the Hunter region.

George Thomas Pogonoski married Kathleen Mary Stanton in 1932 in Raymond Terrace. They had two sons James Stanton and Thomas Rex.

Residents of 32 Eglinton Road Glebe

George enlisted in the RAAF in 1943 and served as a leading aircraftman with the 14th Mobile Works Squadron based in Sydney.

After he was discharged on 14 September 1947, the Pogonoski family returned to Newcastle.

Hatzigeorgiou family 1949-54

Ada Josephine Hatzigeorgiou, 40, is listed on the electoral rolls in 1949-54. Ada Josephine Cummins grew up Wagga and was a nurse in Marrickville in 1943. She married Zannis Hatzigeorgiou in 1944.

Zannis applied for citizenship in 1948. *Zannis Hatzigeorgiou of Greek nationality born at Chios Greece and resident 5½ years in Australia now residing at 32 Eglinton Road Glebe Point, intend to apply for Naturalisation (SMH 10 Feb 1948).*

Zannis was a 2nd engineer on the Michalakas in 1953. Ada died in 1985 in London.

McGirr family and Ann O'Mara Webster 1954-78

Members of the McGirr family, originally from Parkes, are listed on the electoral rolls in 1954-74.

James Joseph McGirr, 80, a retired policeman and his wife Mary Eva McGirr, 75, are listed on the electoral rolls in 1955-61. James McGirr and Mary Eva O'Mara were married in 1908.

Their only child, a son John Leon McGirr, 23, also a constable is listed on the 1954 electoral roll.

James died *March 26 1958, late NSW Police Force and 32 Eglinton Road Glebe, loved husband of Mary, fond father of John (SMH 29 Mar 1958).* His wife died on 25 November 1961, aged 81.

John Patrick McGirr, 51, a nephew of James Joseph McGirr, is listed as a cleaner on electoral rolls in 1955-72. He died *September 26 1974, at hospital, late of 32 Eglinton Road Glebe, formerly of Parkes (SMH 29 Sep 1974).*

Ann O'Mara Webster, a retired nurse and a niece of Mary Eva McGirr is listed on the electoral rolls from 1960. She later moved to a nursing home where she died on 23 April 1981, aged 80.

Morris family 1979-89

Jo Shirley Gaha, a social worker and Gary William George Morris, a doctor are listed on the electoral rolls in 1980-89. They purchased the house and renovated it in 1979.

Residents of 32 Eglinton Road Glebe

Railea and Theo Baisi 1993-2004

Railea Sandra Baisi and Theodor Paul Adolf Baisi are listed on the electoral rolls in 1993-2004. Theo is an orthodontist. They extensively renovated the house while they lived there.

The house was sold in 2004.

Sources

Commonwealth and NSW Electoral rolls, [State Library of NSW](#)

Glebe Council Rate books, [City of Sydney Archives](#)

Sands Directories, [City of Sydney Archives](#)

Digitised Australian newspaper from 1803 to 1954 <http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

Family trees, shipping and census records <http://www.ancestry.com.au/>

Australian war memorial biographical data bases <http://www.awm.gov.au/research/people/>

NSW births deaths and marriages indexes <http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/>

Ryerson Index to contemporary death notices and obituaries in Australian newspapers
<http://ryersonindex.net/>

World War 1 records <http://naa12.naa.gov.au/>

Max Solling, [Grandeur and Grit: History of Glebe](#), Halstead Press, 2007