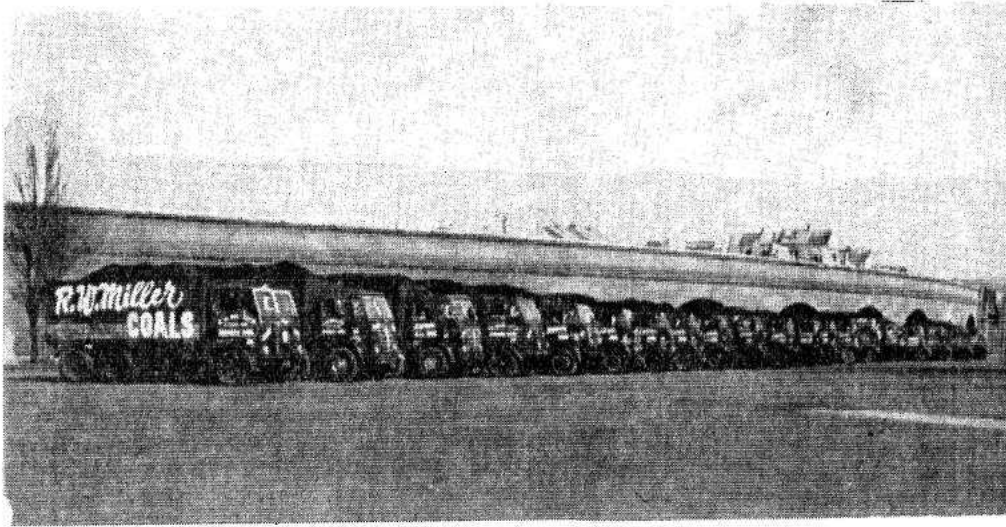


THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

No. 5
of 1973



THEN AND NOW

Black Wattle Cove
(Wentworth Park)
Today.

From B.C. Peck's "Recollections of Sydney," 1850.

"Instead of proceeding through the somewhat deep cutting along the well-made road leading to Parramatta, let us ramble down the Glebe-road, which branches off to the right from Parramatta-street.

On each side of the road are pretty white villas, of freestone, many of them having neatly laid out gardens in front, the surrounding gum trees and brushwood being partially cleared away to make room for these mementoes of English ease and comfort.

Some distance up the Glebe-road, we have on the right, the white entrance gate and carriage drive leading to St. James' College, Lyndhurst. Allow us the pleasure of escorting you, in imagination, kind reader, through the grove of eucalypti (on the branches of which, scarcely to be distinguished from the surrounding foliage, are seated flocks of the common green-plumed parrots), to the lawn in front of the College.

The neat stone mansion which now attracts our attention was formerly the residence of a private family, but was converted in December, 1846, to a college for students in theology, and the other higher branches of learning. A raised stone plat-

form, covered by a verandah, runs round the north, east and south sides of the College. The interior consists of spacious and simply furnished rooms; the chapel and dining-room are especially worthy of notice, for their extent and loftiness. At the back of the College is an extensive flower and fruit garden; the centre walk is overarched with trellis work, on which vines are trained, offering their luscious pendant clusters in due season.

On the north side of the College, also, is a goodly sized flower garden. Here a steep path leads down to a bathing house on the shore of Black Wattle Cove. Another path leads, in a winding course, between the bay and the immense precipitous masses of sandstone, 40 or 50 feet in height, above which the College grounds are situate.

Black Wattle Cove lies between the neck of land, on which Pymont is erected, and the grounds and gum-tree grove of Lyndhurst, and terminates to the southward in an extensive marsh.

Sydney, separated from Pymont by Darling Harbour, presents Fort Phillip, St. Mary's Cathedral, St. James' Church, the Legislative Council Chamber, St. Andrew's Cathedral, appearing like a magnificent ruin, and her long ranges of other edifices, to the notice of those who look eastward from the front windows of St. James's College.

THE GLEBE SOCIETY, P.O. Box 100, Glebe, 2037.

Phone 660 3529 or 660 6149

Annual Subscriptions: Ordinary \$2; Family \$3; Student 50¢; Pensioner 50¢

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: A RED CIRCLE HERE MEANS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS NOW DUE.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I wish to (commence / renew) membership of the Glebe Society.

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

I enclose cheque/postal note/cash for.....for my annual subscription as an ordinary/family/student/pensioner member.

The Society & The Minister

ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

On 21st March the Glebe Society wrote Mr. Tom Uren, federal Minister for Urban and Regional Development, about his attitude to the North-western Expressway. On 22nd May he replied to the Society. The correspondence is reproduced below:

Dear Sir,

The recent announcement by Sir Charles Cutler, Minister for Highways, that the Government will conduct a "critical appraisal" of the proposed expressways, will be welcomed by citizen groups as a long overdue decision. The minister's further statement that the North-Western Expressway will go ahead as planned because protest started too late, must be viewed with alarm. This statement is a clear admission by the State Government that the expressway system was ill-conceived and inadequately planned. It also ignores the fact that organised, informed protest started in Glebe in late 1970, was a significant factor in the local government elections in September 1971 and has since grown into an active movement encompassing all segments of the local community.

The Society believes that the construction of the North-Western Expressway - City to Glebe - will cause considerable environmental degradation, personal hardship and loss of social amenity. This includes the loss of public parkland, homes and historic buildings. As the North-Western Expressway will be a de facto Western Expressway, the streets of Leichhardt Municipality will be subject to an unbearable traffic burden.

At a public meeting on the eve of the Federal elections, you stated that no Federal funds would be committed to the construction of urban expressways until their social and environmental impact was assessed. In view of the urgency of the situation, precipitated by the N.S.W. State Government's apparent determination to press ahead with the North-Western Expressway, regardless of environmental cost, the Society requests that you publicly confirm your Government's intention to stand by this election promise.

Yours faithfully, PERU PERUMAL
President.

Dear Mr. Perumal,

Thank you for your letter of 21 March 1973 on behalf of the Glebe Society, about the North-Western Expressway.

I am very concerned about the continued development of expressways and the Minister for Transport and I have asked the Bureau of Roads to make an assessment of the need for the expressway system currently proposed or being pursued in the main capital cities of Australia. The crisis points are in Sydney and Melbourne and a report on these two cities should be available within three months.

At present allocations for road construction are covered by the Commonwealth Aid Roads Act 1969. The Act contains no provision for particular roads and it leaves determination of programmes, priorities and route selection to the State Government and their Statutory Authorities.

Submissions from groups wishing to use the facilities of the Woolley Streer Adventure Playground are being invited by the committee. These will form the basis of a case for funds from the Arts Council of Australia, which has promised substantial support.

Groups involved so far include the Glebe Youth Clubs, the Glebe Ward Social Welfare Committee, the Glebe Playgroup, S.U. 2nd year architecture students, the Social Workers Students Association, Glebe Information and Referral Centre, Glebe Girl Guides. New groups are being formed to establish a Drop-in Coffee Centre and Handyman's Centre.

Any Glebe Society members wishing to help in some way please ring Dorothy Perkins, the Secretary, after 5 p.m. - 660 7623.

For All Gardeners.

On Sunday June 17th, Mr. G. Edwards, a guest speaker from the Society for Growing Australian Plants will give a talk to interested gardeners on planning and developing a garden. He will be covering the topic from two angles - developing a garden from nothing and "renovating" an existing garden. Information will be given on basic landscaping, preparing the soil, choosing the best plants and location for various effects, placement of trees and shrubs and gardening in tubs and pots. As this is a very broad subject to cover in one session Mr. Edwards is hoping that members will ask questions on individual problems and particular interests.

This meeting will be held in the Fowler's garden, 37 Arcadia Road at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday June 17. Plants will be on sale as usual and coffee will be served.

It has been suggested that as a follow-up to Mr. Edwards' talk, the Garden Group should visit the Society for Growing Australian Plants display garden, Stony Range, in Dee Why for our next meeting in July. More details in the next Bulletin.

For information about the Garden Group contact Andrea Robertson - 660 6149.

The operation of the Act is currently under review by the Department of Transport and the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads. In particular the review will be considering whether the new legislation, which will operate from July 1974 should include provisions for more direct control over expenditure and programmes as related to particular roads and projects. The broader issues of urban development policy will be taken fully into account in this review. However, Federal Government grants represent only about one-third of the total expenditure on roads, the balance originating from funds completely under the control of State or Local Government Authorities.

It is heartening to me to see your continuing concern for the future of our cities. You can be assured of my continued support for your Society's efforts to protect the environmental and social values of your community.

Yours sincerely, TOM UREN

More Trees in More Streets

Recently the letter reproduced below was received by the Society from Leichhardt Council, indicating the progress in our campaign for more street trees. If you have ideas for your street, get in touch with the Parks and Gardens Group through Marie Webb on 660 6483. Or if you are too keen to wait until Council can get round to your street organise your fellow residents into doing your own thing (as recently happened in Arcadia Road).

"At its meeting held on 15th May, 1973, Council adopted the following recommendations of its Tree Planting and Preservation Committee.

Glebe area street tree planting priorities.

RESOLVED THAT A RECOMMENDATION BE MADE TO COUNCIL that in the Glebe area street tree planting, priority be given to the planting of trees in Wood Street, Creek Street, Cross Street, and Wentworth Park Road, and secondly to Avona Avenue, Toxteth Road and Avenue Road, in accordance with the survey schedule already adopted.

RESOLVED THAT A RECOMMENDATION BE MADE

Theatre Parties

Our next theatre party, on Tuesday June 26th, at the Paris Theatre will be the much-heralded film version of the stage-play "Godspell". Tickets are \$1.70 each instead of the normal \$2.50, and there is a special price of 85¢ for children under 16.

On Wednesday, 25th July, the Party is to the Royal Shakespeare Company's magnificent production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Tickets are \$4.50 each (a saving of \$2 on the regular price).

Book quickly for both shows with Albert Renshaw, Unit 14, "Eilangowan", Mary Street - or ring him (during working hours) on 259-0454.

TO COUNCIL that the Glebe Society be requested through Mrs. M. Webb, to investigate proposals for street tree planting in Cook Street, Ferry Road, Forsyth Street and Taylor Street and report back to the Committee.

The above matters are supplied for your information.

Yours faithfully,

J. Ragen,
ACTING TOWN CLERK

Flower Show

At last! At last! Here is the list of prizewinners at our Fourth Annual Flower Show, held at Glebe Public School on 7th April, 1973 - apologies for the delay in making space to print it.

A1 : One standard fruit or vegetable
2 : Three cuts from flowering shrub

3 : Three blooms of one flower
4 : Bunch of herbs

B5 : Plant in flowers or berry

6 : Growing fern

7 : Foliage plant (no flowers).

C8 : Single flower (no embellishments).

9 : Arrangement of fresh flowers (no embellishments).

10 : Arrangement of fresh flowers

11 : Arrangement of fruit/vegetables

12: Arrangement of fresh foliage

13: Arrangement depicting nursery rhyme

14: Driftwood to Ivy

15 : Succulents and fruit

16 : Novelty arrangement

D17 : Easter basket

18: Colours of the season

E19 - 22: Children's sections

No award

1st: Mrs. Jane Smith.

2nd: Sister Gillian.

1st: Mr. Ken Rowlands.

1st: Mrs. Jane Smith.

2nd: Mrs. Virginia Winley.

1st: Cynthia Chatfield

2nd: Glebe Public School.

1st: Sister Faith.

2nd: Glebe Public School.

1st: Mr. Ken Rowlands.

2nd: Sisters of the Good Samaritan.

Highly Commended: Sister Faith (2 entries).

1st: Sister Gillian

2nd: Sister Faith.

1st: Sisters of the Good Samaritan.

2nd: Mr. Ken Rowlands.

Highly Commended: Sister Faith,

Mr. Ken Rowlands.

1st: Sisters of the Good Samaritan.

2nd: Mr. Ken Rowlands.

1st: Sister Gillian

2nd: Sister Gillian.

Highly Commended: Sister Gillian.

1st: Sister Faith

2nd: Mrs. Virginia Winley.

1st: Sister Faith

2nd: Sister Faith.

1st: Sister Faith

2nd: Mr. Ken Rowlands.

1st: Sister Gillian

1st: Sister Faith

1st: Sister Faith

2nd: Sister Faith

1st: Sister Faith

2nd: Sister Faith

All prizes won by pupils of Glebe Public School.

Our thanks to Mr. Ken Rowlands and the Principal of Glebe Public School for their help, and to Mrs. Conley who judged the exhibits.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday, 16th June: HISTORY WALK. Mainly for new members (though old ones are also welcome), under the expert guidance of Max Solling. Meet at the main gates of St. Scholastica's Convent, corner of Avenue Road and Arcadia Road at 2 p.m. Afternoon tea will be served at members' homes at the conclusion of the walk.

Monday, 18th June: HISTORY GROUP meeting. 17 Avona Ave. at 7.30 p.m. New members needed. Ring Max Solling on 660 1160 for further information.

Monday, 18th June: The next meeting of the SOCIAL ACTIVITIES GROUP will be held at Agnes Dolle's, 57 Arcadia Road, at 8 p.m. To discuss final plans for the Birthday Party, and arrangements for other activities during the remainder of the year.

Tuesday, 26th June: Glebe Society members have been invited to a COMMEMORATION OF AUSTRALIAN PIONEERS RECEPTION organised by The Phillip Group of The Women's Pioneer Society of Australasia at the Wentworth Hotel from 6-8 p.m. R.S.V.P. to the W.P.S.A. at 133 Macquarie St. by 20th June; \$5 per head; dress: optional; colonial dress may be worn.

Monday, 2nd July: A JOINT MEETING of the Balmain Association and Glebe Society HISTORY SUB-COMMITTEES at the Balmain Watch House

Saturday, 7th July: 10.30 - 12.30, COFFEE with the Budds. Our first visit to Allen Street - No.5. We look forward to seeing you there for a chat. (Still only 20c!)

Friday, 13th July: Black Friday's the night, so don't forget, for our ANNUAL BIRTHDAY PARTY at Tony Strachan's this year. Let us have bookings in good time please. Details on enclosed leaflet.

Saturday, 4th August: COFFEE MORNING at the Perumals

Tuesday, 21st August: ARE URBAN FREEWAYS REALLY NECESSARY? The Transportation Engineering Branch of Sydney Division, The Institution of Engineers, Australia, in association with the Australian Section, Institute of Traffic Engineers, will hold a symposium on the need for Urban Freeways, at the University of N.S.W. from 9 a.m. The symposium is intended to critically review all aspects of freeways in urban areas, matters of grave concern to the community today. Speakers include Tom Uren, Tony Strachan and Andrew Jakubowicz. Registration \$12.00. Contact Alan Robertson (660 6149) for further details.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the following new members:
Ms. Diana M. Grant, Mr. Colin Noye, Mrs. Gwendoline J. Willis, Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel B. de Torrella, Miss Jan White, Ms. Barbara Martyn, Mr. John Lahey, Mr. & Mrs. Ross Macleod, Professor and Mrs. Peter Worsley, Mr. N.A. Walker.

MISCELLANY

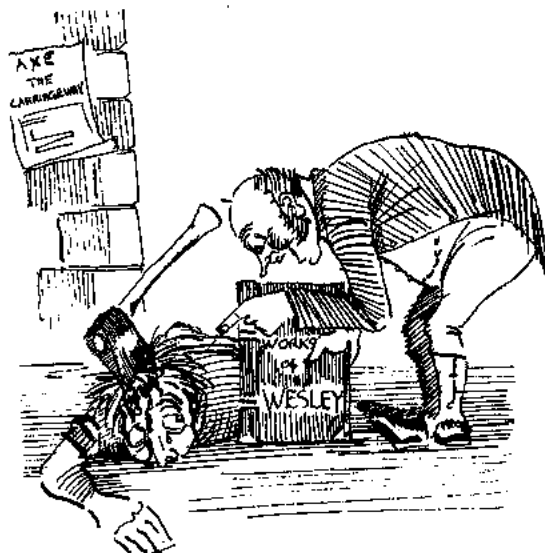
Our resident ornithologist has reported sighting currawongs, blue jays, silver eyes, gold finches, blue wrens, willy-wagtails, magpies, pee-wees, kookaburras and crows in Glebe recently. He doubts the report of emus in Foley Park.

Society members Frank and Valma Pierson recently moved to Auckland only to discover "progress" had followed them in the form of the Newton-Mt. Roskill Motorway. The Mayor of Mt. Eden is publicly urging a shifting of the route through a neighbouring suburb "where the houses are not so good and cheaper". New Zealand could learn a lot from our D.M.R.

If it wasn't such a smoggy day
I'm sure we'd see Blackwattle Bay
If it wasn't for the factories in between
For Pioneer will not relent
From piling up cement
To build a wall of 80 feet across the scene.

Though we've asked the M.S.B.
To kindly let us see
Just a glimpse of water somewhere on the Bay
They continue to ignore
As residents implore
For they have plans; but for what they will not say.

A MAN WHO WANTED THE ONE THING NEEDFUL



16 January 1833. I have heard that Murdoch Campbell has been murdered. I knew the young man well for the last 16 years. He was a fine young man but I fear wanted the one thing needful.

From the George Allen Diaries.