

THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, Glebe 2037

/1980



WHAT THE COMMITTEE DID

1. Leichhardt Council has imposed a month's ban on its use of 2,4,5-T. The Society's response will depend on further Council decisions.
2. The idea of a Glebe Fair along the lines of the Queen Street Fair is being considered. A general decision will be made soon. Much work is involved and the Committee would appreciate help if we go ahead.
3. Tony Larkum is to co-ordinate the actions of the Glebe Society with our "sister" Societies - Balmain, Annandale and Leichhardt) in regard to the upkeep of the municipality's minimal green areas by Leichhardt Council, who could do more for the parks in terms of trees, plants and facilities.
4. Traffic in certain Glebe streets was discussed. Streets such as St. Johns Road, Bridge Road, Wigram Road, Ferry Road, Forsyth Street. The committee is planning to approach the appropriate authorities to reduce the noise and volume of traffic in these essentially residential streets, which are becoming less safe and more intolerable day by day.
5. John Buckingham reported that 60 residents' letters of protest about the re-leasing of the old Steetely's site to a scaffolding storage firm had been sent to Messrs. Landa, Hills and Rodwell, and that 178 petition signatures to Mayor Rodwell and 237 to Mr. Landa had been also forwarded.
6. The committee reiterated its 1978 decision to support the transfer of the Glebe ward to the City of Sydney Council if this becomes a possibility.

General Notes

The Committee wishes to thank the several members who replied to our request for help wanted in the previous Bulletin. Your names will be handed on to the appropriate sub-committees or filed until your particular talents can be put to use.

Any further offers of help would be gratefully accepted.

NEW MEMBERSHIP AND OLD MEMBERSHIP

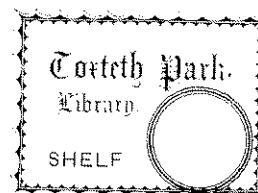
The Glebe Society suffers from not having its own building or office, and we know that there are new people in the area who have difficulty in contacting us. All members can help in this regard, in two easy ways. Firstly by approaching new neighbours with information about the Society. Any of the committee can be telephoned for information. Secondly, the car sticker, distributed late last year, should be displayed, as this tells potential members our postal address at least.

The Management Committee has resolved to change the re-subscription dates from December and June to one date per year only, that of the Annual General Meeting in early August. The membership is about 500 now, and the work involved in a twice-a-year collection of dues is the main reason for the change.

Only those members who have paid our (modest) fees by the date of the A.G.M. will be considered financial members, thus receiving the Bulletin. So we ask that when the re-subscription notice is received, about mid-year, please pay promptly.

John Hoddinott

LIBRARY LABEL



This label was pasted in a book "Observations on the Book of Revelation", published in 1874 - courtesy of Peter Stanbury.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

A substantial report on the Freedom of Information Bill 1978 was tabled in Federal Parliament at the end of 1979, by Senator Alan Missen, chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs. The recommendations in the report would, if adopted, result in a much more effective piece of legislation than that originally drafted.

This legislation is of importance to groups such as the Glebe Society since the essence of the Bill is to make government documents and the operations of government and governmental agencies accessible to members of the public. In the past the Society has, at State and Local level, had great difficulty in obtaining information from bodies such as the Maritime Services Board or the Department of Main Roads on matters affecting this community.

If legislation is enacted at the federal level, this will add weight to the efforts being at state level to achieve similar legislation. This was envisaged in the Wilenski report some time ago on the operations of State government departments.

Individual members of the Society who are interested in moves for this kind of legislation at both state and federal level might care to indicate their support of the federal legislative proposals, as amended by the Standing Committee report, to their local federal MP or to a State Senator, such as Senator Chris Puplick, a member of the Senate Committee, and of efforts in the state area by becoming members of the N.S.W. Freedom of Information Council (subscription \$10 for individuals, \$25 for associations, or \$2 for students, pensioners, or 'the broke' - to P.O. Box 753, Manly, with your name, address and telephone number).

For further information, contact Jeanette Knox, 660-7781.

COAL LOADER WAKE

A year ago on the 20th February, a silent demonstration was held outside Parliament House by supporters of CLOG (The Coal Loader Opposition Group) amongst whom were many Glebe residents. The Premier, Mr. Wran received a deputation and promised to meet with representatives of CLOG, within three weeks. After a year of waiting, while the construction of the upgraded Coal Loader has gone ahead, it was decided to hold a silent wake outside Parliament House on the anniversary date. Unfortunately the rail strike and short-notice kept many would-be protesters away. Nevertheless an important point was made. Dust from the old Coal Loader exceeded World Health Organisation recommended levels for over 1 kilometer around (which covers a considerable area of Glebe) and residents have been given no assurance that the new Coal Loader will be any better (it could be worse).

Tony Larkum

PARKS OR TRUCKS?

The three-year lease obtained by S.G.B. Building Equipment Pty. Ltd., from the Maritime Services Board, over 27-45 Federal Road, Glebe (Steetley Industries site) has annoyed many residents. The already chaotic traffic conditions of Federal Road must worsen, as the scaffolding equipment and formwork stored on the site will be sent to their destination by road transport. (Brace up for a greater 6 a.m. gear-grinding onslaught you Eglinton, Northcote and Glebe Point Roadeurs!)

Far worse for the Glebe community at large is the effect the loss of this site (fronting Rozelle Bay and Johnston's Creek stormwater channel) has on Glebe's hoped-for Marine Park. We clearly understood that the water-front sites along Federal Road, as they became available, would be an integral part of a waterfront parkland extending from Black Wattle Bay Park around to Johnston's Creek (and beyond, to Annandale). The local politicians had the same understanding and were as flabbergasted as we were to hear of the lease.

The Maritime Services Board has been totally unrelenting on the matter and offers no concessions even at the end of the three-year lease. The Board has advised the Glebe Society that "the waterfront area fronting Rozelle Bay between Johnston Creek stormwater channel and Pope Pius VI reserve should remain as at present for Port purposes".

At this juncture, it seems reasonable to remind members that Glebe has only 40% of the parkland that is regarded as "adequate" for its size and population, and only an insignificant amount of that is waterfront parkland. Further, Glebe is already over-endowed with problems caused by trucks, and the proposed usage of the site will serve only to exacerbate the situation.

Contact with residents in the area most immediately affected, revealed how bitter they were at the proposal. Fortunately it was not just impotent rage. Letters were written and petitions were signed. The Society passed on 60 letters to Paul Landa (Minister for Planning and Environment); 60 letters to Pat Hills (our local member); 60 letters to Les Rodwell (Mayor of Leichhardt), and a further 237 petition signatures to Landa. Here I stress, we canvassed only the area immediately affected by the proposed use of the site. Further, in addition to the totals given above, many people canvassed indicated they would be sending letters of protest direct to the politicians.

Will the will of the people or the will of the bureaucrats prevail? If persistence is worth anything, we'll win. We intend pursuing this one constantly. A win is essential or the marine park is lost forever.

John Buckingham

TOAD OF TOAD HALL



The following letter addressed to the Planning Convenor, The Glebe Society, from the Town Clerk, The Council of the Municipality of Leichhardt, has only just arrived.

The Society is disappointed with the decision and there may be more news next Bulletin.

"Dear Sir/Madam,

Proposed New Grandstand and Facilities at Wentworth Park, Glebe.

Reference is made to Council's letter dated 10th August, 1979, regarding your objection to the Development Application lodged by Warren Samut Architects Pty. Limited, on behalf of the Trustees of Wentworth Park and the New South Wales National Coursing Association Limited, for permission to construct a new grandstand and facilities at Wentworth Park, Glebe.

This matter was again considered by Council at its meeting held on 5th February, 1980, following receipt of advice from the New South Wales Planning and Environment Commission, when it was decided that as the appropriate alteration to I.D.O. No. 27, has been made, and the Commission has issued its concurrence to the proposal, Council is prepared to approve the application subject to the conditions listed in the Consultant Town Planner's Report and to the requirements of Council's Health and Building Department."

THE ROCKS PLAYERS, St. James Hall, 135 Bridge Road, Glebe, Tel. 660-6254 for bookings, are presenting 40 performances of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and 29 performances of Toad of Toad Hall over twelve weeks.

Preview of Dream commences on Wednesday 12th March, 1980. For further details phone above number.

We are proud to have such a good dramatic company in Glebe, and feel that we should support them.

Merlyn Larcombe.

Epigram of the Month

Abstainer - A weak person who yields to the temptation of denying himself a pleasure. A total abstainer is one who abstains from everything but abstention, and especially from inactivity in the affairs of others.

Merlyn Larcombe

GARDENING

GARDENS AND TREES

Neil and Jan MacIndoe (660-0208) have offered to reactivate the Gardening Sub-committee. Anyone interested in this area could ring them with ideas, or come to the next Coffee Morning (see For your Diary), for an informal discussion. Perhaps such mornings could become the general meeting place for such a group.

There will probably be some gardening articles in forthcoming Bulletins.

Leichhardt Council is embarking on a tree-planting programme for which they should be congratulated. It is worthwhile asking Society members to keep an eye on any such new trees in their neighbourhoods, to help them take hold, by watering them and keeping the ground around them free of weeds.

BOOKS FOR SALE

Ian Evans' "Restoring Old Houses" \$16.95 (RRP
\$19.95)
B. & K. Smith's "The Architectural Character of
Glebe - \$8.00
Orders to John Hoddinott (692-0071)

Chemical Damp Coursing

In the Dec. issue an extract from "Restoring Old Houses" by Ian Evans appeared dealing with chemical damp courses.

Experience and enquiries since, indicate that a drill bit size of 12 to 15 mm should be used. Also Drisil 48 is available from Ajax Chemicals, 390 Marion St. Bankstown.

There is an amazing difference in price between the small half litre container and the next size which contains at least eight times more. The half litre is over \$15, whereas a 4 kg. container is \$37. The best thing to do is to share the cost with at least one other householder.

By the way, there are at least two litres left over and available at cost from Eric Sandblom, 660-6593.

Drisil 48 is diluted, 10 to 1 with white spirit or mineral turps.

Eric Sandblom

A GLEBE PASSENGER RAILWAY

The "Telegraph" on Tues. 12th February, ran an article on the possibility of upgrading the goods railway through Glebe into a passenger line. The railway runs from Redfern through Railway Square, Wentworth Park, Glebe, Lilyfield and Leichhardt to Summer Hill. Much of the article was based on the Glebe Society Monograph No. 2, prepared by John Gerofi and Jim Coombs in 1976. Channel 9 followed this up with an item on the 6.30 news.

With the widespread interest in alternative transport systems to cars and buses, the Glebe Society's spadework is paying dividends. However with changing technology and ideas, the Glebe Society needs to review its railway proposal. Any one interested?

Tony Larkum

NEW MEMBERS

New Members

Peter Vester
Mr. & Mrs. E. & M. Rooney
Mrs. M.C. Williams
Kathleen Mathews
Margaret & Catherine McQuade
Mary, Helen, Anne, Peter McQuade
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Oman
Mrs. C. Evans
Mr. G.M. Moore
Ms. E. Eastland
Peter Vaughan
Jenny Rankin
Mark Reynolds

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President:	Tony Larkum	660 7030
Immediate Past President:	Eric Sandblom	660 6593
Senior Vice President:	Peter Stanbury	660 1848
Junior Vice President:	David Reeve	660 2207
Secretary:	John Hoddinott	692 0071
Treasurer:	Mike Reynolds	692 0790
Committee:	Betty Wright	660 1875
	Bill Nelson	660 0038
	Rosemary Wilkinson	660 4531
	Kemp Fowler	660 5258
	John Buckingham	660 7780
	Paul Coupe	692 0716

For your diary

Monday, 10th March

The Monday Group's Harbour Cruise. Ring Vi 660-3694 for further details.

A pleasant meeting was held at Pat Moore's. Further plans are for reading and discussion of a chosen novel, and visit to the Art Gallery, or other place of interest.

Sunday, 9th March, 11 a.m.

Coffee Morning at Sue and Ross Tzannes, 14 Avenue Road.

Sunday, 16th March, 4.30 p.m.

Richmond Fellowship is having a Wine and Cheese charity function at 14 Oxley Street, Glebe. \$3 per head. All welcome.

For further information phone Jennie Cooke at 660-7994.

Monday, 17th March, 6 p.m.

Drinks at the Rowing Club. This is especially for new members to meet the Management Committee.

Saturday, 22nd March, 3 p.m.

Wine Bottling at Hilary and Tony Larkum's house, 17 Alexandra Road. A good selection of red and white wine - Tyrrells and Mudgee Wine Co-operative, will be available for bottling at 80c. to 90c. per bottle.

Please ring your order through as soon as possible. Everything is provided on the day except for clean bottles.