



# THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, Glebe 2037

/1980

## ANOTHER WORKING BEE AT "LYNDHURST", DARGHAN STREET.

SUNDAY, 22ND JUNE, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

This time the Committee hopes that a couple of dozen members will help, instead of the three only, last time. Wear strong shoes, bring Garden-type gloves, as many buckets as you can lay your hands on, some rope, shovels, brooms.

Any work that the Society can undertake on "Lyndhurst" will be welcomed by the Heritage Council, will help us lay a small claim, perhaps, to some storage space or casual use of the house for meetings, etc. and will speed up the opening date which is, provisionally, late this year for the ground-floor area.

In spite of its apparent decrepit condition, "Lyndhurst" is restorable. Our suburb needs and deserves a fine house, and you can help this aim.

Enquiries to John Hoddinott, 692-0071, or Peter Stanbury, 660-1848.

PLEASE HELP THE GLEBE SOCIETY ON THIS PROJECT

RAILWAYS: The Glebe Society's consultant traffic engineer and long-time member, John Gerofi, has drafted his second monograph on an inner-city rail system. The draft is currently circulating amongst the Management Committee members for comment, and we hope to have it published in June or July. John has proposed the construction of two major networks south of the harbour, one running to the north-eastern tip of Botany Bay, using, to a large extent, existing reserved tram-track areas, and an inner west line through Glebe (of course), utilising the existing goods line. The suggested transport vehicle is called an L.R.T. (Light Rail Transport), and uses a system of single 50-seat carriages in the style of modern European "trams", not to be confused with Sydney's old "toast-racks". The monograph is recommended to members, and will be on sale soon.

DISAPPOINTMENTS: The appeal in the previous Bulletin for help on a 3-hour working bee at Lyndhurst on 3rd May produced three people, all Committee members. A very disappointing turnout. Another disappointing turnout was at the excellent violin concert by Jack Glatzer on Saturday, 16th May - only 25 people.

GARDENING: The small but very active Leichhardt Association has published a commendable booklet, in association with the Planning and Environment Commission, entitled "The Plants of the Inner Western Suburbs". It contains advice of tree and shrub planting in our area, and is a very detailed account of the botany of the inner-west. Its price is \$2.50. See "Books for Sale", in this Bulletin.

RENOVATIONS: Some members have asked what should be done if neighbourhood renovations are suspected. Examples could be a brick-veneer front on a terrace, removal of cast-iron, etc. The first step is to discover the facts from the neighbour. If the answer is not forthcoming or the change is considered to be "out of character", the next step is to enquire of the Leichhardt Council if a Building Application has been made. Members of the Glebe Society should now be aware that the National Trust has put a classified Urban Conservation Area listing on the whole of Glebe. While this listing, the highest issued by the Trust, has no binding legislative power, Leichhardt Council has agreed to treat the issue of external modifications carefully, and requests for such should be made with a Building Application to Council.

Hence, discussion with the neighbour having perhaps come to nothing, the matter can be taken to Council. It is not unusual for modifications made without Council permission to be undone at the owner's cost. It is recommended that members keep a careful eye on the local press, where all Development and some Building Applications are publicised. Objections should be lodged with Council within the time limit, which is always noted in the advertisement. Residents should be fully aware of their rights in this matter; they are considerable and Local Government

## WHAT THE COMMITTEE DID.

There are many topics of interest which deserve some comment. They follow, in no particular order.

TRAFFIC: The Society has requested, as a matter of urgency, two separate studies to be made. We have asked the D.M.R. to report on the "before" and "after" traffic counts resulting from the opening of the first section of the North-West Distributor in late May. There is concern that, the traffic, finding itself in Harris Street, Ultimo, will use Glebe as a throughway.

We have also requested from the Leichhardt Council that Council undertake a full survey of flows in the Municipality, so that it can be used as a basis for future planning.

HAROLD PARK: Naturally, the Society and residents are concerned that the State Government has granted an extra 20 meetings a year at Harold Park. The nearby residents perhaps don't believe that there were previously twenty free nights, as so much of the week is already disrupted by the influx and efflux of cars and race-goers. Glebe is one of the smallest suburbs in Sydney, both in area and population; yet we bear two of the three major inner-suburban race courses, with completely inadequate resources. It should be borne in mind, too, that the third course, Randwick, usually has day time meetings, and is not disturbed at night, unlike our suburb.

A petition is being circulated about the extra H.F. meetings and we encourage all members to sign it. But also see the item below under "Letters".

has sufficient power to prevent or minimise unacceptable building or renovation. Its will to prevent these depends very much on resident action.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

VIOLIN CONCERT: A small but enthusiastic audience welcomed the solo violinist, Jack Glatzer, to a concert held at Mark Higgins' house at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 16th May. The recital opened with a Bach fugue, and included caprices by Locatelli and Paganini. It is rare to hear a solo violin nowadays yet the pieces played showed the variety of virtuoso compositions available. The caprices, many of them programme music, included the sound of a horn, a bagpipe, a flute, and were all devilishly difficult. Mr. Glatzer played with great style, and wonderful technique and feeling. The pity is that so few members attended.

The Society wishes to thank Mark for the use of his house for the concert; the house was also open in the House Inspection last year.

LETTERS: Do you feel downcast, out of control? The answer is not to be found in a high-vitamin breakfast cereal but rather in the writing of a letter to a member of the State Government. No, this is not facetious. Perhaps the best way to get your message to the seat of power is to hand-write a letter. Parks, pollution, traffic, Harold Park, Wentworth Park, public transport.

A friend who worked in Canberra for a Federal Department told me that on the scale of importance a telegram was worth ten letters, was worth a thousand and petition signatures, more or less.

A short letter to the appropriate Minister is a worthwhile exercise. If you have any questions about whom to write to on a particular issue, ring a Committee Member. We recommend that a courtesy copy be sent to the local State member, Mr. P. Hills, another to the Glebe Society (for our files) and, if appropriate, to the Town Clerk, Leichhardt Council.

The Society tries, where possible and appropriate to write to the State Government and/or Council on matters affecting Glebe and the municipality. Any extra supportive letters from the public would be well worth your writing time.

John Hoddinott

#### ELECTIONS

The Management Committee of the Society is due for election at the Annual General Meeting in August. A nomination form will be published in the next Bulletin. In the meantime we ask members to consider standing for the committee.

Everyone is welcome to nominate.

#### BOOKS FOR SALE

Smith - "The Architectural Character of Glebe"	\$8.00
Evans - "Restoring Old Houses"	\$16.95
Leichhardt Association/PEC - "Plants of the Inner West"	\$2.50

Orders to John Hoddinott, 692-0071.

Subscriptions have increased from \$2.00 (individual) and \$3.00 (household) to \$3.00 and \$4.50. These increases are required so as to cover the Society's normal running expenses while preserving funds raised from The Glebe Open Day, to be used for resident campaigns against bureaucratic encroachments - both Government and commercial - on the Glebe urban environment.

This increase is the first since the society was formed 11 years ago, and it is of credit to previous committees that outgoings were kept within funds received.

However, trouble is brewing on the planning/environment front and your committee has therefore felt it prudent to adopt this more realistic approach to the Society's funding.

Subscriptions for all members are due. Those who were December subscribers have had six month's grace - they now become June subscribers. New members who have joined since May 1st, have had their subscription automatically renewed to 30.6.81.

Mike Reynolds

#### EXPLOSIONS, FIRES, FUMES AND PARKS

The explosions, fire and suffocating fumes that you experienced about noon on Wednesday, 14th May (or perhaps learned about on T.V. that night) came from chemicals being used on the Steetley Industries site in Federal Road.

Naturally we protested immediately to Mr. Ferguson about such an inappropriate use being made of the site, and confirmed our position that the only suitable use of the site would be to make it a park.

#### AND A PARK IT MAY BE!

No sooner had our protests been aired than we learned that serious moves are being made in that direction. The Planning and Environment Commission has proposed that the Maritime Services Board land between Federal Road and Rozelle Bay, from Johnstons Creek to Pope Paul VI Park be added to Jubilee Park, and in return that Leichhardt Council transfer to the Metropolitan Sewerage Board that part of Federal Park bounded by Federal Road, Johnston's Creek and the elevated railway line.

Council has reported to the Planning and Environment Commission that it supports that part of the proposal affecting the Glebe side of Johnston's Creek, but has suggested wisely that it retain all of Federal Park.

A deputation on the matter has been arranged to Mr. Ferguson. Glebe will be represented on the deputation by members of the Glebe Society as well as our local Aldermen.

John Buckingham.

GROUND COVER  
(Part 2)

It is a good idea to profit by the experience of others. So look around your neighbourhood, at the gardens of your friends and neighbours and note the plants which are doing well. Take every opportunity to visit gardens "open to the public" where you may see established ground-cover in situations which could apply to your own home. Study the effects produced by contrasting foliage; by varying heights from carpeting to mounds or clumps; and note the aspect, i.e. full or half-day sun; light or dark shade; sheltered or exposed.

A fine garden, always open, and not far from Glebe, is the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. At the entrance, near the Art Gallery, massed juniper makes a pleasing contrast to the stonework and pillars of the gateway. Inside, you will find many interesting and successful ground-cover plantings - usually labelled - if not, you can ask for information.

In the city, ivy is used extensively. It is very tough and hardy and will grow in deep shade. Once established, it spreads quickly, to make a thick carpet. There are many varieties of ivy, and for the small garden, it is best to choose a small-leaved compact one. The common English ivy is too rampant.

In municipal parks, native ground-covers have become popular, especially the grevillea family in which there are several prostrate forms, and also dwarf shrubby ones which make good mounds. Grevilleas like sun and have a long flowering period which attracts the birds and bees.

Other examples which you may observe as you move around the city and suburbs include -

Impatiens, which hardly stop flowering and are best in semi-shade.

Various ferns, native and exotic, in damp shady spots.

Mesembryanthemum or Pig-face, in many varieties and colours, especially good for running slopes.

Gazania and Dimorphotheca (blue and white daisy) - two sun-lovers from South Africa, bordering drives and pathways.

Clivea and Agapanthus which form large thick masses of coarse strap leaves, (ideal homes for snails) have showy flowers in season, but perhaps are not suitable for small gardens.

Some plants which may be familiar to you as indoor or basket plants, make good cover when set out in the ground.

Plectranthus (Swedish Ivy) likes a warm sheltered situation; also plectranthus ciliatus which is taller with attractive undersurface of the leaves. Both produce spikes of pale mauve flowers in late summer and are easily propagated by cuttings.

Chlorophytium (Spider plant) will give good contrast with its green and white stripes.

Lamium (dead nettle) with silver and gray streaked leaves and yellow spikes in Spring is very decorative, but also very exuberant, spreading by runners.

The Watermelon-Filea, a common pot plant with silver markings, roots readily in water, so that a good patch can be quickly established in a sheltered corner.

In our garden at Glebe Point, Convolvulus Mauritanius makes a lovely blue carpet in October, flowers intermittently throughout the summer and is always green.

Juniper conferta, with its bright green needle foliage, flows out in Tongues of growth.

Grevillea gaudi-chaudi is a vigorous, prostrate spreader with attractive reddish tips, and maroon flowers.

I will conclude next time with some notes on culture and maintenance.

Sally Nelson

Letter from N.S.W. Planning and Environment Commission to our President, Tony Larkum.

Outdoor Advertising

I refer to your representations concerning the report and recommendations of the Government's Outdoor Advertising Policy Committee which was established to review all aspects of outdoor advertising within the State.

2. Following examination of all the representations received, the Committee made known to the Minister for Planning and Environment its views and recommendations on the future control of outdoor advertising

3. The Minister adopted the Committee's recommendations that, with certain minor exceptions, all forms of outdoor advertising, by public and private bodies on public or private property and visible from a public place, should be controlled and that such control should generally lie with local government Councils, which should also be given adequate powers to enforce the removal of unsafe, derelict or illegal advertisements.

4. The controls are to extend to advertising attached to vehicles parked on a public road (or parked on land adjacent to a public road) primarily for the purpose of displaying such material.

5. So far as existing signs are concerned, it is generally proposed that any alterations will require Council's approval.

6. Appeals against decisions of Councils under the controls will be to the Land and Environment Court which, under the new planning legislation expected to be enacted later this year, will replace the Local Government Appeals Tribunal.

7. The Committee recommended that the proposed outdoor advertising controls should be embodied in one Act (and Regulations made thereunder), so as to eliminate the present confusion caused by the various types of existing legislative controls. This recommendation will be given effect to in the new planning legislation, under which appropriate environmental planning instruments relating to the control of outdoor advertising will be able to be prepared.

8. An Outdoor Advertising Review Committee, on which State, Local Government and the outdoor advertising industry are represented, has recently been established. Its tasks are to assist in the preparation of the environmental planning instruments and to review and monitor the implementation of the controls embodied in the instruments.

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President: Tony Larkum 660-7050  
Immediate Past Pres. 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: Bill Nelson 660-0038  
Rosemary Wilkinson  
660-4531  
Kemp Fowler 660-5258  
John Buckingham 660-7780  
Paul Coupe 692-0716  
Editor - Bulletin Merlyn Larcombe 660-0491

## NEW MEMBERS

Bill Collins  
Mr. & Mrs. E.W. Whitton  
Ron Best  
Mark & Debra Darling  
Felice Montrone  
Miranda Montrone

## For your diary

### ESSAY COMPETITION

We are offering a prize for The Best Written Anecdote on Glebe's Past.

The script should not exceed 150 words and should be sent to the Editor, at 14 Toxteth Road, not later than 11th July, 1980.

Prize - Choice of either book - Ian Evans' "Restoring Old Houses"; or Bernard Smith's "The Architectural character of Glebe".

Judges - Max Solling, Tony Larkum, Mike Reynolds, Merlyn Larcombe.

The winner's anecdote will be read at the Annual General Meeting in August.

### POSITIONS VACANT

#### Bulletin Distributor

Compact area, St. Johns Road and Bridge Road, bounded by Glebe Point Road and Ross Street. David Reeve is moving to Rozelle (the Drayne won't be the same).

Thank you David for the time and energy devoted to the Bulletin.

#### Co-ordinator - Bulletin Distribution

Duties - From area membership lists already compiled, drop Bulletins to 18 distributors.

From information supplied by the Treasurer, update Distributors' lists.

Qualifications - Enthusiasm and some organisational skill.

Time involved - Approximately five hours each month.

Disadvantages - None, but a car would save time.

Rewards - The pleasure of working with willing enthusiastic and co-operative Bulletin distributors. The opportunity to appreciate the uniqueness of The Glebe by knowing its geography like the back of one's hand.

Apply - Noeline Sandblom, 660-6593, or any member of the Committee.

Sunday, 8th June, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Coffee and Wine Morning at Mike and Debbie Reynolds, 39 Lodge Street, (right behind the Town Hall).

Come along and meet some new and old members.

Monday, 9th June

Monday Group, at Sally Nelson's home, Alexandra Road, Glebe. Further details ring 660-3694.

Some members of the Monday Group attended an interesting demonstration of flower arranging in the city, 12th May.

Sunday, 22nd May - "Lyndhurst" working bee, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (See boxed article on front page)

Monday, 23rd May - Drinks at the Glebe Rowing Club, 6 - 7.30 p.m. Come along for a social drink and chat about Glebe. We would like to see this event continue, but it would be helpful if more than the usual 2 or 3 members came. Give it a go this time! It's a quiet pleasant club on Mondays, with a nice waterfront view.

Saturday, 26th July - OPEN DAY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

The University of Sydney is holding an extensive Open Day on Saturday, 26th July, - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Over four hundred different displays, events, films, lectures, demonstrations and tours are being prepared for the day. Bus tours of the grounds will show highlights of the historic buildings and explain what goes on inside them.

The day is being planned as a family day of discovery; a student advisory centre will be set up to explain university entry for school leavers as well as the simple requirements for people aged 26 or more.

A special invitation is extended to all residents of Glebe to see for themselves what happens inside the oldest university in Australia, which is right on their doorstep.

Just a few of the many events are listed below  
Your own bacteria: Geophysical prospecting (for worms): Marine biology and ecology: Arab world:

And many many others.

Phone for further enquiries - 692-3671 692-2605