



# THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, GLEBE 2037

7/1983

Don't carve  
up Glebe!

S.M.H.  
20/8/83



The State Government has put forward two proposals for council amalgamations, one of which would eliminate Marrickville, and the other which would eliminate both Marrickville and Botany Councils.

The first proposal, recommended by the NSW Boundaries Commission, splits Marrickville between Leichhardt and Ashfield Councils, gives Ashbury, part of Canterbury, to Ashfield Council, and gives Glebe to the City.

The second proposal splits Marrickville between Leichhardt, Ashfield and a City Council which would include Botany.

The Government has called for comments on the two proposals. These will close on September 26, after which the minister, Mr Gordon, will decide whether to proceed to a public inquiry with none, one or both of the proposals.

The Boundaries Commission would then be forced to hold the inquiry and report to Mr Gordon before the rolls close, on October 31, for the December 10 election.

In anticipation of this news, Society members placed over 1000 leaflets in Glebe mail boxes on the weekend of 13/14th August. This leaflet said in part, in relation to the first proposal :

- \* With 30 aldermen in the City Council, Glebe will have very little say - we may even be reduced to one alderman. There is nothing very local about a Council which stretches from Kings X to Glebe.
- \* Since 1980 Leichhardt residents have participated in "open council" - will free discussion of developments in your area be possible within the City Council?
- \* Town Planning : the long awaited Leichhardt Town Plan for which residents have fought is now on exhibition - will we have to start from scratch with the City Council?
- \* Residents have fought hard to make the present Leichhardt Council the most progressive and efficient in NSW - why lose it now?

Also, the following telegram has been sent to the Premier, Mr Neville Wran; the Minister for Local Government, Mr Lin Gordon and our State MP, Mr Pat Hills:

"The members of The Glebe Society present at its Annual General Meeting on 10th August unanimously agreed that in the present context of the NSW Local Government Boundaries Commission's most recent recommendations they strongly reject the amalgamations proposed and would reaffirm that the best interests of Glebe Ward lie in it remaining within its existing boundaries with the Leichhardt Municipal Council."

D. Sharpe, Chairman of AGM.

## What you can do -

- Make sure that there WILL be a public inquiry, by telling those in power that we CARE about Glebe.
- \* Write ring or telegram the Minister for Local Govt. Tell him you want to stay with Leichhardt Council. Mr Lin Gordon, Minister for Local Govt., 23 Bridge St., Sydney 200. Tel. 20579.
- \* You may also wish to contact the Premier, Mr Neville Wran, State Office Block, Phillip St., Sydney. Tel. 20576.
- \* You could also tell your local MP, Mr Pat Hills, MP, T & G. Tower, Park St., Sydney 2000. Tel. 267 6996.

THE BIRDS OF JUBILEE PARK - PART II  
- Bara Marsh.



(Bara lives in Victoria Road and takes a keen interest in the local birdlife. See the July Bulletin).

During the past few months a pair of cheerful Willie Wagtails (*Ripidura leucophrys*) have been offering entertainment both in the garden at the back and perching on my mail box in the front. This little bird-sometimes known as the Australian Nightingale - has a twittering but tuneful song which is said to sound like "sweet pretty creature" repeated over and over again. It can be heard by day and also by night sometimes too. This cocky little fellow is restless, swaying his body from side to side and flirting his fan shaped tail. Mainly black, but with white eye-brows and under-parts, he takes insects and spiders from under verandahs and the eaves of buildings.

Jubilee Park also has an enormous population of House Sparrows (*Passer domestica*) to which I find it difficult to harden my heart in the matter of crumbs as they are so engagingly cheeky. Last year they took the buds of every flower on a large Wisteria bonsai as well as several other flowering trees which had been fertilised for months to give good displays at Bonsai shows. I forgave them as they looked so cute hopping amongst the branches of the little trees and one of our most famous Japanese Bonsai Masters tells us always to "leave room for the birds". However, very recently a pair of Collared Sparrowhawks (*Accipiter cirrhocephalus*) have been flashing about the Park - much scolded by the Currawongs, Ravens and smaller birds - and both sparrows and starlings seem to have been making themselves scarce. Long may these beautiful birds of prey stay around. They are grey with chestnut barring on chest and tail and fly directly and swiftly in long fast glides, taking prey from the air like a flacon. They eat small birds and rodents and the voice is an aggressive "swee-swee-swee".

There are, of course, quite a few Pied Currawongs (*Strepera graculina*) in the area. These beautiful black birds with white wing and tail coverts, yellow eyes and dagger bills have a musical call, especially before rain and country people often call them "rain birds" or "bell magpies". They are reputed to be fierce, but only become aggressive when their nesting site is in their opinion endangered. They eat carrion, insects, berries and sometimes young birds. They are said to be migratory, but at our country cottage we have a tame one who, for the past seven years, has come to meet us whenever our car has drawn up at the door, winter or summer. She disappeared for a few weeks after a severe bush fire two years ago, but returned after a month or so - alas, without her devoted one-eyed husband.

Another bird popular for its glorious morning carolling is the Australian Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*). It is lighter than the Currawong in build and has more white feathers. Its song is to advertise and defend its territory. One family which inhabits this end of the Park fed from my hand for some months while the two young ones were hungry mouths to feed, but one of the babies vanished (snack for the local horde of ginger cats maybe?) and the other became mature enough to manage without vegetarian handouts. Possibly it now visits somebody who hands out red meat (as they eat insects, young birds, etc.) but they still come and sing on my telephone pole early in the mornings.

The Laughing Kookaburra (*Dacelo gigas*) - known to country folk as the "Bushman's Clock" - laughs at me from my neighbour's clothes line. He lives on rodents, lizards, small birds and large insects - snakes too, but I doubt if he finds many around here. I have no bits of red raw meat for him so he scorns my wholemeal bread and fruit scraps. He could live up to twenty years, so may outlast me yet!

## HISTORY GROUP

A History Group, to be supervised by Max Solling, is to meet on a regular basis. The first meeting will be at the home of Alan Hunt, 13 Mitchell Street, Glebe, at 7.30 pm on Monday, 5th September.

## COFFEE MORNING

On Sunday, 18th September at 11 a.m.  
at :

Edwina Doe's home,  
224 Bridge Road,  
Glebe.

(Please come down the laneway by Ross Street to the back garden, so the cats don't escape!)

Phone 660 7066

Donations : Coffee drinkers: .50¢  
Wine drinkers : \$1.00

## THE MONDAY GROUP

The Monday Group meets on the third Monday of each month. Members are asked to bring 'a plate' and their knitting or handiwork. The organiser is Sally Nelson (660 0038) who will be pleased to give you further information.

## MONDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

Outing to the Royal Botanic Gardens to see the Spring blossoms. Catch the 10.22 No. 431 bus from Glebe Point Road. Bring your own lunch. Drinks, etc. can be bought from the Kiosk in the gardens.

The next meeting will be on 17th October - an afternoon tea party at the home of Gwen Knox, 26 Victoria Road at 2.30 p.m.

Preliminary notice - 21st November - celebration of the Monday Group's 10th anniversary. Details later.



## GET WELL SOON

Gladys Reid, a Committee member, is ill in the RPA hospital. We wish her a full and speedy recovery.



## BLACKWATTLE BAY PARK OPENING CEREMONY - Betty Wright

On Sunday, 7th August, 1983, after several years of negotiations between Parkes Development, the Leichhardt Council, The Glebe Society and the 4-Shores Committee, the park was officially declared open by Alderman Evan Jones, Mayor of Leichhardt. Mr Jones then unveiled a plaque which reads:

"Municipality of Leichhardt, Blackwattle Bay Park was officially opened on Sunday, 7 August, 1983 by Alderman Evan Jones, Mayor. This park was gained for the people of Sydney through the efforts of the local residents, the 4-Shores Committee, the Glebe Action Group, and the Glebe Society. They were assisted by the Building Industry Group of the Labor Council and the then Minister for Planning and Environment, The Hon. Paul Landa, MLC. The park was built by Parkes Development Pty. Ltd. to a design by Stuart Pittendrigh & Associates."

He was cheered and applauded by the large appreciative crowd, many of whom stayed on for a barbecue or picnic lunch. The weather was perfect and the park looked very beautiful planted as it is with many native trees and shrubs.

The park and the children's playground are complete with the exception of a toilet block and gas barbecues.

The Glebe Society wishes to congratulate all concerned, especially Leichhardt Council who have done a truly magnificent job. We are grateful to be able to enjoy such a beautiful park on the foreshores of Glebe.

## INFORMATION EXCHANGE

### IRON LACE FOR SALE

Does anyone need a complete set of iron lace for balcony, complete with two verandah posts? Builder renovating 63 Wigram Road (cnr. Walsh Ave.) has it. In sad state, rusted, and some broken. But this is the real thing, and will respond most beautifully to a Good Home with Nice People ... IN GLEBE! Builder will not quote price - but has indicated that he will sell for their worth as scrap iron. Ring 660 1884 if you have difficulty in contacting him.

### HELP FOR HOUSEHOLDERS ON HOLIDAY

Elisabeth Eldershaw (660 1884) knows elderly gentleman who can be relied on to feed pets and water garden etc while you are away.

### RUBBISH REMOVAL

Ask Geoffrey Nottage (660 5285) for the name of a man whose work was efficient and cheap.

### CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL BOTTLE DUMP

If the Council collection is inconvenient, take your bottles to the tip in Booth Street and also help the Children's Hospital.

### CORRESPONDENCE CARDS

Our new "GLEBE TERRACE" correspondence cards are available for notes, Christmas, birthday (or anything else) in packs of 10 for \$5.00. Please contact Eileen Lacey (692 0173) or Betty Wright (660 1875).

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Due to the influenza epidemic, the report on the AGM, which was held on Wednesday, 10th August, will appear in next month's Bulletin.

## FOCUS ON GLEBE

We're in the news again!! In the Herald GOOD LIVING section on Tuesday, 9th August last, there is praise for La Tavolaccia, 355 Glebe Point Road. This homely Italian restaurant has a friendly atmosphere, and good food, and won't wreck the budget!

Very good reports too, have been received about The Fifth Estate, at the bottom end of Darling Street, near Bridge Road.

A mention should also be made of The New Butchers, 369 Glebe Point Road, where Keith and Shirley Helmer greet you with a smile, and a display of Poinsettias and Cyclamens - it makes a refreshing change in a butcher's shop.

### FOR YOUR DIARY

(Full details elsewhere in this Bulletin).

#### TUESDAY 30TH AUGUST

Restaurant Club - Pasquale's.  
Ring Rita Ramsden on 660-7860 by 28th.

#### MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER - 7.30 PM

History Society Meeting.

#### MONDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER - 7.30 PM

Committee Meeting.

#### SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER - 11 AM

Coffee morning.

#### SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

Closing date for October Bulletin material (929-9848 (W); 660-7066 (H)), 224 Bridge Road, near Ross Street.

#### MONDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

Monday Group outing.

#### MONDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

Only one week left to protest about the Council boundary changes.

#### MONDAY 17TH OCTOBER - 2.30 PM

Monday Group Meeting.