



THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, Glebe 2037

NO. 7 OF 1987

AUGUST

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY 12th
AUGUST - 7.30 pm - ST JOHN'S PARISH HALL

It seems much less than a year ago that our last A.G.M. had to be postponed because of torrential rain. Let's hope the fates are kinder this year.

The Committee is still in need of new people, in spite of several recent welcome additions. The Management Committee consists of the President, a senior Vice President, a Junior Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and four other members. All these positions need to be filled at this A.G.M. In addition, the immediate past President and all convenors of sub-committees are members ex-officio of the Management Committee.

The Society has had an influx of new members lately, partly because of the publicity for the recent Traffic Meeting. We sincerely hope that some of these new members will put themselves forward to serve on the new Committee. Don't worry if you feel you haven't had previous experience. Everyone learns on the job. Any skills you can offer will be put to good use; typing, filing, answering letters, folding the Bulletin etc. etc.

Remember that you are not eligible to vote at the A.G.M. if your membership is not current.

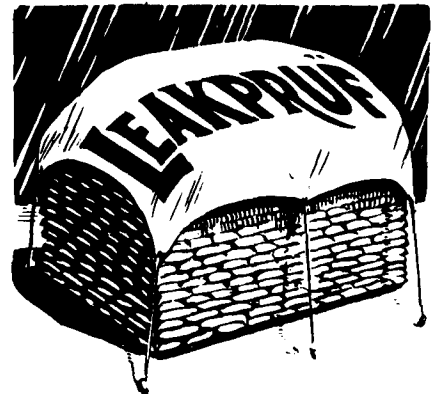
After the formal part of the A.G.M. there will be an opportunity to sit around and talk, as light refreshments will be served. A word of warning - dress warmly if it is a cold evening - the Hall takes a while to warm up.

THE BICENTENNIAL PARK MOVES A STEP CLOSER

Council has approved the rezoning that is required to:

1. Create the Bicentennial Park
2. Create the Marina in Rozelle Bay.

The Society intends to communicate with the relevant people in both the Public Works Department and Leichhardt Council before the Development Application is completed and will look at it very closely when it is presented to Council.



Leakpruf.
Arthur G. Wilson Ltd,
Sydney.
Cotton piece goods; 1929.

FREE SPEECH AND ASSOCIATION

Members may be unaware of a series of attacks made on the Society and its representatives by Leichhardt Town Clerk, R.J.Eggins.

Some of these attacks have been in the form of letters intended to intimidate the Convenors of sub-committees and the President. For example, in a reply dated 19th May to a letter from the Traffic Convenor, Jeanette Knox, supporting the inclusion of Glebe in an academic study of commuter parking, the Town Clerk enquires, a propos of nothing:

"What article of the Glebe Society Constitution enables/empowers its delegates to represent the concerns of its community in any matters which are rightly the concern of the elected members of the Council?"

Others have been in the form of newspaper articles, such as the one in The Glebe 22nd July which accuses the President and the Planning Convenor of destructive criticism of Council for their views supporting the retention of the shops and dwellings at 198-206 St Johns Road. Even before this article was published, the Minister for the Environment had signed an Interim Conservation Order covering the site and buildings.

P.T.O.

Yet others have appeared in 'reports' in Council Business papers. That of 14th July deserves an entry in the Guinness Book of Records. It was over forty pages long! Amid a great deal of bluster accusing the Society of misrepresenting Council's efforts at traffic control, the Town Clerk slips in a recommendation for a traffic study in the financial year 1987-1988.

Presumably these hefty diatribes are the Town Clerk's attempt to counter the boldness and accuracy of the Society's comments on a wide variety of Council's actions (or inactions).

One would never guess that Council has depended heavily on the Society's support, especially in planning and the provision of open space, including allocation of developers' contributions, and Rozelle Bay.

Recently however, the Society has expressed increasing concern about such matters as attempts to demolish protected buildings and other housing; failure to control through traffic protracted delays in landscaping gifts of open space; failure to enforce development standards and conditions; removal of established trees; extravagant replacement (with concrete) of sandstone kerbs; and general lack of consultation. It seems the effectiveness of Council moves in inverse proportion to its expenditure on administration!

A number of serious issues are raised by the Town Clerk's attempts at intimidation. They include:

1. The right of association and free speech. The town Clerk seems to be questioning the right of residents to form an association and through it, to express their views.
2. The right of residents to have their views considered seriously by Council.
3. The role of the Town Clerk. It is the role of the Mayor and Council to make decisions on the issues addressed by the Society and the Town Clerk is usurping that role.

Members who are moved to defend fundamental rights and freedoms could address letters to:

R. J. Eggins
Town Clerk,
Leichhardt Council,
P.O. Box 45, Leichhardt 2040.

Hon. Janice Crosio,
Minister for Local Government,

and

Hon. Terry Sheahan,
Attorney General,

both at Parliament House,
Maquarie Street,
Sydney, 2000.

★ ★ ★

The Council's reactions to the Glebe Society's efforts have already been receiving attention.

★ ★ ★

GLEBE. In a forty-page document, the Town Clerk General Manager denigrated the Glebe Society. The latter had called for a traffic study for Glebe, for retention of sandstone kerbs and gutters and rescission of its consent to demolition of historic structures (198-206 St Johns Rd, Glebe). Involved here are the questions of the town clerk's expropriation of the role of mayor (Council's Chief Executive Officer), the appropriate tone of a mayoral response to residents' organisations and the inordinate cost of the Clerk's highly paid time spent on constructing this lengthy farrao.

Deviation of commuter traffic to residential streets affects the whole Municipality, and is a particularly onerous burden on Glebe residents, resulting in 157 locality complaints (1984-87.)

From the leaflet dated 25/7/87 distributed by Aldermen N. Origlass and I. Wyner.

★ ★ ★

BE INTERESTING to know what Leichhardt town clerk Ron Eggins' fit of pique against the Glebe Society cost. Several people must have been kept very busy typing up the 45-page report and listing every traffic improvement in Glebe in living memory — not to mention Eggins' own expensive time in creating the opus. Don't council staff have more productive things to do with their time than facilitate the venting of the town clerk's spleen?

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From THE GLEBE July 29 1987.

PIGEON POISONING FIASCO

There was consternation at Blackwattle Bay Park one morning recently when people living nearby discovered that poison-laced corn had been scattered on the ground in the park, endangering children and pets.

Apparently the intention was to kill pigeons nesting in Bellevue/Venetia, but the contractor engaged by L.M.C. made a potentially disastrous mistake and used the poison in the park. In any case, surely a better method could have been found to remove the pigeons. They, and some native birds, had a long, lingering death.

HERITAGE REPORT ON STRIDES' YARD

The Society has received gratis a copy of the study of Strides' Yard, by Robyn Stocks, for which we thank the Department of Environment and Planning. It is a fascinating record of a very rich site. Members are welcome to borrow it. Ring Neil Macindoe on 660 0208.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 12th AUGUST - 7.30 pm

ST JOHN'S PARISH HALL

ST JOHNS ROAD.

ONE WARD FOR LEICHHARDT

In June, the Minister for Local Government, Janice Crosio, announced that the system of voting for Leichhardt Council had been changed. Instead of six wards, there will now be just one for the entire municipality. Electors will have to vote for twelve candidates, who will then become aldermen. There will not be a separate election for a Mayor.

There is likely to be a very long list of candidates, probably over thirty, from which voters will have to choose. Any candidate winning just over 8% of the total votes will be elected, so small parties or independents with a municipality-wide appeal should be represented. Under this proportional representation system, majorities will be small or non-existent.

As in the past, the Society will attempt to present the views of all candidates on key issues, either in the Bulletin or by means of a 'Meet the Candidates' meeting, though this is obviously more difficult now that there will be so many.

The date set for the Election is Saturday 26th September.

THE MONDAY GROUP

The Monday Group meets on the third Monday of each month from February to November. New members are always welcome. Phone Sally Nelson on 660 6138 for further information.



The next meeting will be on August 17th at 12 noon at the home of Catherine Buck, 9 Alexandra Road, Glebe Point. Bring lunch for one person, as usual.

PLAYREADING GROUP

The next playreading will be on Sunday 16th August at 8 pm. The host is John O'Connell, 3/415 Glebe Point Road. The play to be read is Alan Ayckbourn's 'Living Together'.

MEET THE MEMBERS MEETING - JULY

Our thanks are extended to Rebecca Richardson for her most interesting talk about progress on the Glebe Estate project. Rehabilitation of houses is now progressing faster than expected, which is good news. An interesting feature of the project is the provision of a few 'Group Homes', bed-sitter accommodation with a communal recreation area, for people whose needs are not met by the usual Housing Commission accommodation.



RECITAL
BY
STUDENTS & STAFF
SCIEGGS DARLINGHURST
AT
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANGLICAN CHURCH
GLEBE PT. ROAD GLEBE.
SUNDAY 9-8-87
AT 3 P.M.
SOLOISTS
MADRIGAL GROUP
CHAMBER ENSEMBLE
& RECORDER CONSORT.

ADMISSION:-
FAMILIES \$13.00
ADULTS \$6.50
CONCESSION \$3.50

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Society and look forward to meeting them at activities in the near future:

Tom & Margo Bass
The Brawleys
John Brown and Co.
Sharon Bryson
Terence Colclough
Jennifer D'Arcy
Paul Dwyer
Colin, Gill & Sophie Graham
S-L Hall
William Holliday
Ian & Cynthia Jones
Barbara Neil
Charles Plumridge
Michael Prosser
June Reynolds
Jacqueline Roberts
Patricia Saunders
Chris & Russell Stewart
Maureen Waghorn
Roger West
Roger Wyndham

PEOPLE TO CONTACT FOR AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

(All convenors of sub-committees are ex-officio members of the Management Committee)

BICENTENNIAL PARK AND MARINA

John Buckingham - 660 7780

PLANNING

Neil Macindoe - 660 0208

TRAFFIC

Jeanette Knox - 660 7781

BLACKWATTLE BAY PARK

Bob Armstrong - 660 4189

HAROLD AND WENTWORTH PARKS

Gideon Rutherford - 692 0239

JUBILEE PARK

Tony Larkum - 660 7030

HISTORY GROUP

Ian Edwards - 660 6406

MONDAY GROUP

Sally Nelson - 660 6138

PLAYREADING GROUP

Sue Johnson - 692 0101

The Committee is anxious to form groups to cover other areas of interest. If you are willing to help form a sub-committee on any matter concerning The Glebe, contact Edwina Doe, 660 7066 (H), 922 3877 (W)

FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 9th August - 3 pm - Recital - St John's Church

Wednesday 12th August - 7.30 pm - Annual General Meeting - St Johns Parish Hall.

Sunday 16th August - 8 pm - Playreading - 3/415 Glebe Point Road.

Monday 17th August - 12 noon - Monday Group - 9 Alexandra Road, Glebe Point.

Tuesday 18th August - 7.30 pm - Committee Meeting - Lyndhurst, Darghan Street.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Tuesday 1st September - 6.30 pm - Dining Out - Ragtime - 85 Darling St. NOT B.Y.O.

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WEDNESDAY 12th AUGUST - 7.30 pm

ST JOHN'S PARISH HALL

ST JOHNS ROAD.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP ?

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President:	Edwina Doe	660 7066 (H)
		922 3877 (W)
Imm. Past Pres:	Neil Macindoe	660 0208 (H)
Jun. Vice Pres:	John Stander	692 9927 (H)
Secretary:	Doug Disher	690 1933 (H)
		660 1044 (W)
Treasurer:	Mike Curtis	389 1475
Committee:	Andrew Wood	660 2194 (H)
	Ian Edwards	660 6406 (H)
Social Organiser	Betty Wright	660 1875
Bulletin Editor:		
New Members Rep:	Sue Littleton	660 5610

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY COSTS:
HOUSEHOLD \$12, INDIVIDUAL \$10, STUDENTS
AND PENSIONERS \$4. FOR INFORMATION RING
SUE LITTLETON - 660 5610