



THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, Glebe 2037

NO 5 OF 1992

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 1992/3 AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Enclosed with this Bulletin is an invoice for membership renewal for the year ending June 1993.

Unless you joined the Society after March 1992 or have already renewed your 1992/3 membership, your fees are now due.

You must be a financial member to be eligible to vote at the Society's AGM, to be held in September. The Committee has decided not to increase fees this year. However this means we must increase the number of members.

As a first step, will you please use the enclosed Application Form to enrol a friend or neighbour who lives or works in Glebe as a member of the Society.

We will also use the House Inspection, later this year, as an opportunity to encourage more people to join the Society.



STREET TREES

Fiona Campbell

Through the Leichhardt Council's Tree Planting & Preservation Committee, consultants have been appointed to develop a tree management strategy for Glebe Point Road. The brief for this strategy was based on proposals made to Council by the Glebe Point Road Project and was detailed in the following recommendation to Council:

1. That a tree management strategy for Glebe Point Road between Parramatta Road and Federal Road be developed with the objective of:

- * locating and identifying all existing trees
- * determining their current condition, age & life expectancy
- * identification of those trees which require removal due to poor health
- * identification of those trees growing under power lines, with recommendations for appropriate treatments
- * identification of those trees causing substantial footpath uplift with recommendations for appropriate treatments
- * development of an interplanting and/or replacement program including opportunities for additional street tree planting

(Continued on P2)



(Continued from P1)

* development of tree management techniques including tree planting methods, watering, root pruning, tree surgery, etc.

* maximising benefits to the historic, cultural, aesthetic and access requirements of Glebe Point Road whilst minimising future maintenance obligations.

1.2 That the study and strategy plan be undertaken by Council's Senior Parks Overseer, Greg Byrnes, and Trees Overseer, Michael Koeford, in conjunction with Tree Committee members, John Douglas and Gary Clubley; and in this regard John Douglas and Gary Clubley be engaged as horticultural consultants on hourly rates as approved by the Municipal Engineer.

1.3 That the study and strategy development be undertaken in consultation with the Glebe Main Street Committee, the Glebe Society and the Glebe Chamber of Commerce.

2. That, where possible, the footpath pavement on the west side of Glebe Point Road be re-laid over protruding roots from the poplar trees in a manner that would create only a gradual slope in the footpath, to the satisfaction of the Municipal Engineer.

One of the consultants, John Douglas, tree surgeon (Ryde TAFE), discussed the study at

the Glebe Point Road Project meeting on 24 June. He reported that there were 107 trees on Glebe Point Road, some of which were dangerous and some had been irreparably damaged by root pruning. Root pruning was ineffectual with poplars which used their stored resources to generate new roots; chemical and physical barriers could be used to train the roots of new trees in certain directions.

Most trees were planted since World War II. Normally a poplar has a life of 40-60 years & grows up to 27m in urban environments. Glebe Point Road is in many places half an avenue because of the wires on the eastern side; bundle wiring is now an option. Damage caused by tree roots can be serious & expensive. Bitumen is the footpath material recommended by the Glebe Point Road Project Committee.

In discussion of possible replacements for dying poplars it was suggested that the community be presented with a few choices, with a their advantages & disadvantages listed.

John Douglas and Gary Clubley are to report by the end of August. The Glebe Society and the Glebe Chamber of Commerce are invited to offer comment and views and this might be done through the Glebe Point Road Project - by early August.



Glebe Point Road viewed from St John's Road. From a newspaper engraving, 1882.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL Neil Macindoe

I apologise if last month's report and this one are longer than usual. Sometimes there is simply a lot to report.

My last effort to allow residents to have their say in a referendum on the purchase of the AGL site was not successful, so my opposition shall now cease.

Members may wonder how, in a Council where virtually all the councillors are committed to the acquisition of open space, a decision to purchase could become so controversial. This article should make it clearer.

When the new Council was elected last September, councillors decided to set up policy committees, to which all residents were invited, that would cover most major issues.

What *should* have happened is that an Open Space committee, with representation from the Society and other residents, would have drawn up a priority list of sites suitable for acquisition, and also recommended the adoption of policies on matters such as the balance between acquisition and improvement.

Unfortunately, the pressure of day-to-day business, especially the dispute with the State Government over Balmain development, delayed the setting up of these committees. There was no up-to-date priority list and there were no policies in place when the Mayor proposed the purchase of the AGL site. A slim majority of councillors believed the site would be lost if a quick decision was not made. Others, including myself and the Mayor's leading supporter, Sue Stock, believed the site was not a high open space priority and was too costly.

Now the decision has been made, some consequences are already clear. There is no further money available for acquisition or improvement of open space. What is not yet clear is when further money will become available, and to what degree other Council activities are likely to be affected.

BICENTENNIAL PARK STAGE II

The Annandale side of the Bicentennial Park came under the care and control of Council in May this year. At its 14 July meeting, Council resolved that Bruce Mackenzie, who designed Stage I and other award-winning

parks in the Municipality would not be asked to update his proposals for Stage II. Instead, the only plan would be prepared by members of the Save Rozelle Bay Campaign.

In answer to my questions, the Municipal Engineer stated that just turfing the area of 2 hectares would cost \$ 500 000, and following the purchase of the AGL site no money would be available for an indefinite period.

When tempers have cooled, I hope the Councillors will see that to appoint a particular group of residents to expend their energy preparing a plan that cannot be implemented is not fair to anyone.

A MOTION TO PROTECT REUSSDALE AGAINST DEMOLITION BY NEGLECT

(This motion was passed unanimously by Council in July)

Council expresses its grave concern and anger that the previous Minister for Planning, David Hay, refused to accept the finding of the Commission of Enquiry that advised him not to grant development consent for 156-160 Bridge Road in January 1991. Council requests the present Minister, Robert Webster, to accept the findings of the Commission.

Council also requests the Minister to note that the treatment of Reussdale, an item of environmental heritage subject to a Permanent Conservation Order, clearly contravenes Section 117 of the Heritage Act, which prohibits demolition by neglect, and to require the Heritage Council to compel owners to preserve Reussdale from further deterioration under Section 118 of the Act.

Council undertakes that if no such action is forthcoming, an appeal will be lodged with the NSW Ombudsman

"THE GUT THAT KEEPS THEM HOPPING"



"THE CHOICE OF THE CHAMPIONS"

KSA & Glebe.

Air Freight. Second Sydney Airport Coalition's second major economic paper produced this year examines the effects on Australia's air freight efficiency if the third runway at Kingsford Smith Airport and the Government's preferred start at Badgerys Creek Airport -1.8km runway of only taxiway strength- are built. The annual cost of the proposed third runway plus the greater system efficiency foregone at Badgerys Creek (BCK) would be around \$47 million per annum. The airports in Brisbane, Melbourne, Darwin and Perth are able to handle larger airfreight planes, 24 hours a day. However, Sydney is Australia's busiest freight destination and the two Sydney airports (KSA and BCA) would place restraints on the recently-created capability of other Australian airports. KSA is very small, restricting new competitors in freight or passenger markets, and it does not have 24 hour access because of the curfew that we insist must remain. The above-mentioned development at BCK could not handle jet freight planes bigger than BAe 146 (10 tonnage). Total Australian domestic air freight retail value for 1991 was \$1.1 billion (115,000 tonnes @ \$10,000 per tonne). \$334 million of that was carried in freight-only aircraft. Air freight was apportioned thus in 1991: Ansett/East West 56% (10 tonne load BAe 146), Australian 29.5% (BAe 146 and some 35-40 tonne load A300-600); Mayne Nickless/IPEC 14% (carefully timed, 12-14 tonne load DC9s). Aircraft were used that are mainly noted for night work.

SSAC's two papers were submitted to the Industry Commission whose report on the inquiry into airport operations is due to be released shortly.

SSAC asks, and so must we all, the reasons why the Government would retain such serious inhibition to the efficient functioning of Australia's vital air transport network. The Glebe Society has written to the Prime Minister, pointing out the effects and folly of the Government's and FAC's chosen options for the Sydney basin.

The Community Advisory Committee was recently set up by the Federal Airports Corporation as part of the third runway environmental management plan. The Federal Government is resisting community representation; the community has been "locked out" of the cost-recovery working group (part of the noise management plan). This is where we would expect plans would be made for insulation against aircraft noise, the cost and where the money will come from. Homes from East Ryde to Kurnell would need to be considered.

Western Sydney's two major groups, Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WSROC) and the Greater Western Sydney Regional Chamber of Commerce, representing 35 Chambers, are working on a submission to the Federal Government for the development of a full-strength general aviation airport by 2000, with integrated road/rail networks, giving an economic focus for Western Sydney.

Third Runway, NSW Land & Environment Court Action brought about by Botany and Rockdale Councils commenced on 22/7/92. The court will hear the merits of the case despite the FAC's claim that it did not have jurisdiction. We understand that the FAC is trying to have a Federal regulation introduced to save them from having to justify their actions before this court. If this happens the FAC will be avoiding the first independent assessment of the \$7 million EIS. Senator Collins has said the EIS is most comprehensive. Environment

Minister Kelly refused to call an inquiry on it in 1991 despite 300 requests to do so. There are high levels of toxins in Botany Bay's sediment. Concerns including toxicity and changes in wave patterns due to dredging and the runway were inadequately addressed in the EIS.

Citizens Airport Environment Association Incorporated CAEA has had a very good response to recent requests for donations to their legal fighting fund. CAEA is in the process of getting legal advice for an injunction in the High Court. "We are pursuing a campaign on constitutional grounds particularly in respect of the proposed third runway necessarily causing a restraint to trade and the Government's actions being inconsistent with good government, executed with full faith and credit." CAEA INC, tel: John 519 1035, Geoff 817 2807.

Glebe Society Members may like to do some or all of the following:

- * Write to Senator Cook, Minister for Aviation, Parliament House, Canberra 2600. What is he doing about the Federal Government's commitments to polluter-pays legislation in regard to KSA? What is happening about Badgerys Creek Airport development? Will the Government upgrade the commencement of Badgerys Creek Airport to a full-strength runway of 2.5km length to assure a superior economic performance for Australia's benefit?

- * Attend the hearing at the Land & Environment Court on Thursday 13th & Friday 14th August, 10am onwards. Level 5 or 6 (please check the lists in the court's foyer) American Express Building, cnr George and King Sts, Sydney.

- * Donate to CAEA Inc fighting fund. Please make cheques payable to CAEA INC. Post to Box N41, Petersham North. 2049. Indicate if you would like a receipt.

**Out of Hours Flights and Aircraft Noise
Complaints
tel: 667 9841**

MUSICAL SOIREE

Dr David McIntosh is having a music soiree at Margaretta Cottage, 6 Leichhardt Street, Glebe Point, on Monday 31 August at 8pm. The English harpsichordist, Douglas Hollick, will give a performance of J.S.Bach's Goldberg Variations, followed by coffee and cake. Society members are invited to attend - admission by donation.

Another soiree is planned for Saturday 14 November at Margaretta Cottage, with a concert at St Scholastica's Chapel on Sunday 15 November. Details will be notified in a later Bulletin.

GLEBE POINT ROAD REFLECTED -

Pat Richardson *

The mirror in the OP Shop window
reflects the traffic on the road.

Where trams once rattled
and carriages clattered,
Buses and taxis snarl and crawl

The mirror reflects a century of children,
in the playground of the school.
Today they squeal and scatter
from the sudden shower as
I shelter from the Autumn rain.

I'm walking past the Church's Glebe,
'The Glebe Estate'. In the seventies,
the church was glad to give their slums
to the Government
for a song, a hymn perhaps?

The Mission Hall, (these days abandoned),
was once the suburb's hub.
The Missioner walked from door.
Reported, Christmas 1913,
'Assisted 147 families, a total of 728 souls'.

His report continued, 'in another house
the sewing machine was going hard.
A young widow working long hours
providing for her little ones'.
'I thought you'd forgotten us' she said.
Tears filled her eyes.

It bugs me that the angel's lost her head
Up on the War Memorial at Foley Park.
Before pensions, the names engraved there
were often sole supports
of widowed mothers.

Missioner Mills reported, July 1915,
That one such, 'Walter Gell' aged 26, is Killed in
Action.

Four months ago he left us, full of promise.
Today he lives forever at the Dardenelles.'
A patriotic poem to him is accompanied
by his photo in khakis.

Today would Walter recognise the road?
With dozens of restaurants,
Closed against the day,
Blossoming like night cactuses
When darkness falls.

The young widow would be surprised,
I'm sure, to hear
her poor unsanitary home described as
'Quaint and trendy; short walk to town'.
The asking price beyond her comprehension.

The Residentials down the Point
have lost their human cargo, along
With their verandah fibro.
Home now to three
instead of twenty-three.

The houses advertised again as
'Gentlemen's Residences',
'Italianate mansions'.
Their owners catching
taxis into town.

The mirror reflects, the wheel turns.
A First World War,
A Great Depression.
The timeless poplars shed their leaves,
And Mission Beat works the streets again.

* Pat Richardson is a member of the Society.

DINING OUT

In August we are dining out at Rasputin
restaurant, 101 Glebe Point Road, on
Wednesday 12th. The menu is Russian/Mixed
and the restaurant is both licensed and BYO
(bottles only).

Phone John Stander on 692 9927 to book a
place, a few days beforehand.

MONDAY GROUP

On 17 August the Monday Group will meet at
the Glebe Rowing Club at 12 noon. Jean
Mackenzie is organising this for us. Pay
own expenses - the cost is very reasonable.

The September meeting, on 21 September at
12 noon, will be in the common room at 12
Mount Vernon Street on the invitation of
Betty Wright. Bring your own lunch as
usual.

All inquiries to Sally Nelson (660 6138)

FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 3 August - 6pm - Members' Get-together -
The Ancient Briton, cnr Bridge and Glebe Point Roads

Wednesday 12 August - 6.30pm - Dining Out -
Rasputin, 101 Glebe Point Road

Monday 17 August - 12 noon - Monday Group - Glebe
Rowing Club

Wednesday 19 August - 7.30pm - Committee

Meeting - Lyndhurst, Darghan Street. ALSO
DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Monday 7 September - 6pm - Members' Get-
together - The Ancient Briton

Tuesday 15 September - 6.30pm - Dining Out - Cafe
Otto - 79 Glebe Point Road

Wednesday 16 September - 7.30pm - Committee

Monday 21 September - Monday Group



THE GLEBE SOCIETY inc.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Ted McKeown 660 3917 (H)
391 3000 (W)

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT: Marianne
von Knobelsdorff 692 0916 (H)

JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT:
Cynthia Jones 660 2451 (H)

IMM. PAST PRES: Andrew Wood 660 2194 (H)

SECRETARY: Jeanette Knox 660 7781 (H)

TREASURER: Edwina Doe 660 7066 (H)
922 3877 (W)

COMMITTEE:
Mavis McCarthy 660 5119 (H)
Jenny Pockley 660 6363 (H)
Peter Strickland 660 7624 (H)
Christine Whitemore 660 7969 (H)

Bulletin Editor: Jeremy Long 692 8742
Membership List: Edwina Doe 660 7066
New Members' Contact: Jenny Pockley 660 6363
Publications: Patricia Jackson 660 8849
Monday Group: Sally Nelson 660 6138

GLEBE POINT ROAD PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES

Peter Strickland - 660 7624 (H)
Ted McKeown - 660 3917 (H)
Anton Crouch - 660 2889 (H)

CONVENORS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

All convenors are ex-officio members of
the Management Committee

BAYS & FORESHORES

John Buckingham - 660 7780

DIGGERS MEMORIAL

Bill Nelson - 660 6138 (H)

ENVIRONMENT

Fiona Campbell - 891 8284 (W)

HAROLD PARK

Gideon Rutherford - 692 0239

KINGSFORD SMITH AIRPORT & GLEBE

Alison McKeown - 660 3917

LIGHT RAIL

John Hoddinott - 692 0071

PLANNING

Peter Strickland - 660 7624

TRAFFIC

Jeanette Knox - 660 7781

VENTWORTH PARK

Christine Stewart - 660 8324

ARCHIVIST

Lyn Milton - 660 7930 (H)

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY COSTS:

Ordinary \$22, Additional household members \$5
each, Student/Pensioner \$8, Institutional \$28.

Write to P.O. Box 100, Glebe 2037 or ring
Jenny Pockley on 660 6363 for information.