



THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

PO BOX 100, GLEBE NSW 2037 AUSTRALIA.

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No 5 of 1994

JUNE

What happened to May?

The observant Bulletin reader will have noticed that this is Bulletin No 5 for June, although the last Bulletin was No 4 for April.

The reason is that copy for the Bulletin arises mainly from the Management Committee, and now that the Committee meeting has moved from the second to the third Wednesday of the month it has become very difficult to get the Bulletin out before the end of the month.

So, making a virtue of necessity, I have decided that its better to be early for June than late for May.

Editor

Aircraft and Glebe.

Members will have noted the Federal Government's shift in direction regarding Badgerys Creek airport development: The intention now is to construct the airport to handle international jet passenger aircraft much sooner than the Federal Airports Corporation plans. It is vital that there are at least some Western Sydney people appointed to the board of Badgerys Creek Airport Pty. Ltd. so that the region can begin to steer the course of the airport from its inception.

Selling airports has moved onto the agenda rapidly: according to an ABC radio interview with a SA politician, long-term investors such as superannuation funds have expressed interest in owning Adelaide airport.

Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport is likely to be sold. What will the issues be for us residents, arising from these changes? Some important ones are the curfew, no cargo jet movements in curfew hours, compensation, noise protection of schools and other public buildings, safety standards of airport operations, train access to Badgerys Creek Airport. If you have ideas and points you

would like to raise, would you please ring me, 660 3917 (ah). Your input is valued.

By now, you are getting used to the third runway's new name - the parallel runway.

The third runway at Kingsford Smith Airport, described by one proponent as "the best thing since sliced white bread", will constrain development of Sydney's sea port at Botany. The Glebe Society said it would, in one of many points the Society made in response to the runway's draft EIS. The Maritime Services Board draft Port Land Use Strategy 2010 (Dec. 1993) lists the constraints thus:

- "Molineux Point and the new parallel runway provide significant constraints. Future port development will be confined to the area around a new basin which has been dredged between the parallel runway and Brotherson Dock." (That dredging related to the community's unsuccessful court action in 1992).
- "the extent to which port development can be implemented around the new basin in a way which will meet CAA constraints in terms of (aircraft) height, noise and lighting requires investigation;"
- the proximity of Sydney airport and, in particular, the parallel runway: Brotherson dock is already within the 51 metre glide path restriction. Development to the west up to a distance of 450 metres from the centre line of the third runway will also be within the 51 metre zone;"
- "development westward of Brotherson Dock becomes increasingly exposed to swell entering Botany Bay from the south-east."

Botany Bay sea port had been intended to service Sydney for a very long time. Molineux Point was built for shipping requirements, to protect the part of the bay into which the NSW and federal governments have now dumped the third runway.

By the time you read this article, the Community Advisory Committee's dissenting report on the draft Noise Management Plan for Kingsford Smith Airport and the third runway will have been made public. You may recall in a recent article the federal ombudsman had agreed to assist the community in gaining access to data relating to aircraft noise forecasts.

School Parent and Citizens Associations grouped into the metropolitan east are gearing up to respond to the aircraft noise issue. Their recent newsletter comments "... under certain weather conditions, many of our children will suffer up to 90% disruption each lesson of each day for up to 2 or 3 months of the year. Areas to the north of the airport will be subject to an increase of around 300%, or more, with the introduction of revised flight paths for the 3rd runway." Whether noise forecasts stay at 300% or are revised upwards remains to be seen.

Members and residents are urged to keep logging aircraft noise complaints by ringing the noise complaint number. If there are no complaints, authorities will assume people are accepting aircraft noise.

Is it true that the first aircraft to land on the third runway was hauled onto it, dripping wet, from the waters of Botany Bay? If so, it is a suitably damning blessing to this appalling runway.

Alison McKeown.

**AIRPORT CURFEW
AIRCRAFT NOISE
COMPLAINTS
ALL HOURS
TEL. 667 9050**

Pymont Heliport

The Inner City and Foreshores Community Action Group Inc. arose from the Residents Against Heliport group's earlier work, which was to oppose the proposed heliport on Wharf 14 at Pymont.

They write: "By 1994, we had attracted a body of members from a range of locations who were very concerned about lack of commitment on the part of Government bodies and the EPA management to proper standards for environmental protection in the rapidly developing inner city and foreshores area, particularly in the face of demands for concessions from disproportionately powerful private lobby groups, such as the unregulated Helicopter Association of Australia ... Our principal activity at the moment is our on-going campaign against the proposed heliport at Darling Harbour, and the general lack of regulation and low flight height of helicopters in our region ... Membership includes people from South Sydney, City, Drummoyne, Leichhardt and Lane Cove electorates and we have the support of those Councils."

The Action Group's next meeting will be at Balmain Town Hall, 20 June, at 7pm.

The proposed heliport is very, very close to Glebe - just beyond Blackwattle Bay and Pymont Hill.

Glebe Society members and/or friends may want to become members, thus supporting the good work being carried out. A membership form is included with this bulletin. You will need to send a \$10.00 Membership fee per person. Please make cheques payable to ICFCAG. The address is on the form.

If you would like more information please ring me (ah) 660 3917.

Alison McKeown

Report from Council

As I haven't written a report for some time, there are a large number of items I will report on very briefly. Any member who wants to find out more about these or other matters is welcome to ring me on 660 0208.

Bundling of overhead wires

The first stage of this Glebe Point Road Project initiative, from Broadway to St Johns Road, will begin late in June this year. It will then become possible for trees to grow to their full height on both sides of Glebe's main street.

SYDNEY HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL



A PROPOSED RESTORATION OF 'BENLET' HOUSE FACADE

Homoeopathic Hospital

The Department of Corrective Services has been approaching local bodies sounding them out on a proposal for a Transition Prison for Women in the present Homoeopathic Hospital building. Sandra Nori, our local member, has called a public meeting for Thursday, June 9 in Glebe Town Hall at 7 pm. It is most important that every Society member attend who possibly can, as this is a key site in Glebe Point Road.

New Park for Glebe

As part of the new development on the old Meloy's site in Lombard Street, a new park has been created linking William Carlson Reserve in Palmerston Avenue to Ernest Pedersen Reserve in Ferry Road.

The Park has spectacular views of the City along its entire length. It overlooks the entrance to the railway tunnel under Glebe. From each end, steps lead down to Bridge Road and Glebe High. For the first time, it has now become possible to walk all the way to Blackwattle Bay Park without returning to Glebe Point Road.

It is one of my pet projects to produce, one day, a guide to the many beautiful walks around Glebe. By that time, I hope to be able to include strolls around the entire Glebe waterfront, as well as this splendid addition.

Hardys Timber Yard

The Board of Fire Commissioners has produced an adverse report on this cluster of ex-industrial buildings. Council has ordered fire prevention measures to be installed within 60 days, and will hold a meeting with all interested parties on site at 4 pm on Tuesday, June 14 to discuss the future of the site.

Bellevue, Blackwattle Bay Park

The DA for this proposal of restoration, kiosk, small restaurant and public toilets is now being advertised. I have requested an environmental impact statement.

Bits and Pieces

I have requested additional picnic tables for Jubilee Park. My requests on behalf of residents for red phone boxes outside the Post Office and the repainting of Glebe Court House have now been fulfilled.

Cr Neil Macindoe.

(The views expressed by Councillors are not necessarily those of The Glebe Society. Ed.)

**Address by Major M J Miller,
Sydney University Regiment at
the Dawn Service of
Remembrance Glebe War
Memorial, 25 April, 1994**

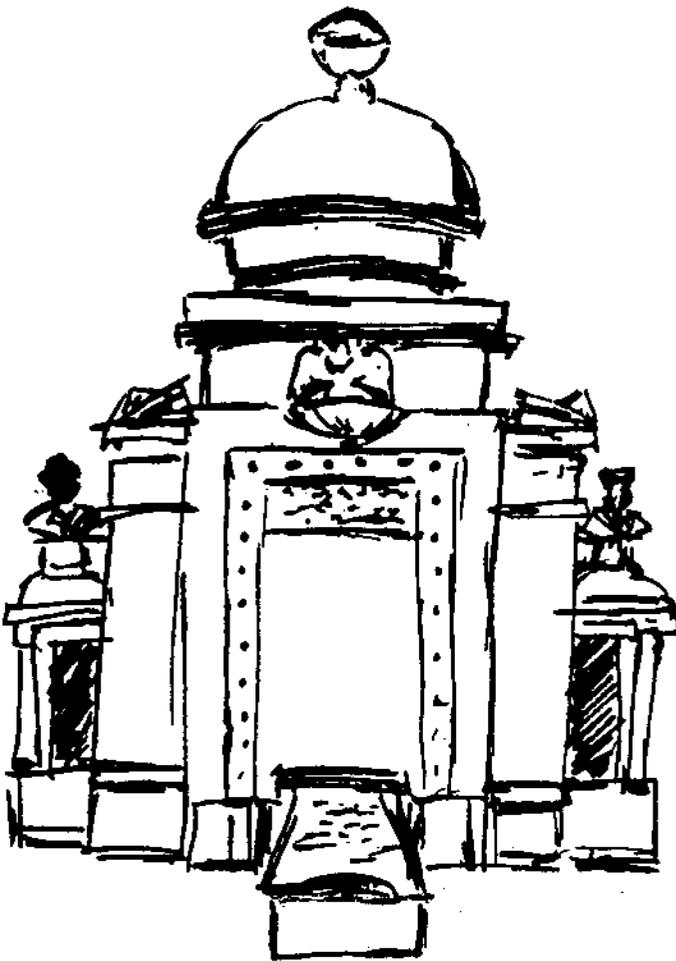
*The text of Major Miller's address has kindly
been supplied by Max Solling*

I feel truly honoured to be asked to speak on behalf of the Commanding Officer of Sydney University Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey Edwards, at this service of Remembrance. I know that my Colonel has a close personal involvement in the restoration project and he would have liked to have been here this morning but unfortunately Regimental duties have required him to be in Armidale today.

As I understand, this is the first dawn sevice at this Memorial in living memory (or in any case, since the restoration project commenced.) In my view, the Glebe War Memorial Restoration project is part of a renewed community interest in their war memorials. Not merely an inquisitive interest in architecture or social history or military history, but instead a desire to obtain some empathy with or understanding of, the experience of an earlier Australian generation and an appreciation of the human effort and suffering and sacrifice of ordinary Australians.

For nearly fifty years our nation has been relatively undisturbed by war. That is not to say that we have not asked young Australian servicemen to defend our perceived national interests in overseas theatres of operations and Korea, Malaya, Borneo and South Vietnam are examples of this fact. Even as we gather here ths morning, 140 members of the Australian Defence Force are serving with United Nations military missions in Somalia, the Sahara, Cambodia, Bosnia and elsewhere. But for the most part, we have come to take for granted the luxury of a peaceful existence which Australia and Australians paid dearly for in the 1914 - 18 war and the 1939 - 45 war.

Perhaps our dulled sensitivity as a community to these events has been sharpened by recent occurrences. In 1990, on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli the nation's memory was stirred by the moving scenes of our Prime Minister's address at the Dawn Service at Gallipoli in the presence of the handful of frail old men who had been the very men who had stormed those beaches in



1915. And again on the 11th November last year, our nation paused to pay its respects as an Unknown Australian soldier exhumed from a Western Front war cemetery, was buried in a tomb on the Australian War Memorial on the 75th Anniversary of the Armistice. These events and others caused us to recall the extent of debt we have as a community to those Australians who had been called upon to make a sacrifice for the sake of the defence of Australia.

As we stand near this war memorial at this Anzac Day Dawn Service, let us pause to think what it represented to the people of Glebe in the 1920s. This memorial contains the names of 792 Glebe residents who served in the 1914 - 18 War. If we were able to line them up in standard military columns of threes, they would stretch from here to the Broadway. Nearly one quarter of those, 174, did not return and are either buried in Gallipoli, France, Flanders or have no known grave. For 174 Glebe families this memorial was not merely a magnificent marble edifice but a reminder of a beloved family member, a son, a husband, a father who would never return to Glebe because they had given their lives in a cause in which they deeply believed. But I also believe that for those families and for the other six hundred Glebe men who did return, this memorial was a source of pride, a testimony to a community's effort for a cause. Those Glebe men rallied to the Nation's call with a pride in their empire, their nation and their area. Indeed, many of these men whose names are recorded here, enlisted in the 1st AIF in the Drill Hall which still stands nearby in Hereford Street. Many were allotted to the 55th Battalion, which took the regional title, The West Sydney Regiment. That Battalion alone, whose colours are laid up in St. John's Church, Glebe, earned Battle Honours that are synonymous with both the courage and the carnage of the First World War such as the Somme, Ypres, Messines, Amiens and Mont St Quentin.

The community that built this War memorial in the 1920s believed that this enormous sacrifice had been made to secure a lasting peace as the Great War was proclaimed as the War to end all wars. But sadly that war was followed by a second even more terrible war in 1939 to 1945 and, as I mentioned earlier, the last fifty years have still required Australian servicemen and servicewomen to risk their lives and sometimes die for Australia. We may be tempted to think that these 174 Glebe men died in vain. But by honouring them, and other Australians who have died in war since, by being here today we say that this is not the case.

And to make this point I would like to borrow the words of our Prime Minister:

"For out of the war (the Great War) came a lesson which transcended the horror and tragedy and the inexcusable folly. It was a lesson about ordinary people - and the lesson was that they were not ordinary. On all sides they were the heroes of that war; not the generals and the politicians but the soldiers and sailors and nurses - those who taught us to endure hardship, to show courage, to be bold as well as resilient, to believe in ourselves, to stick together."

Just as this memorial has endured the test of time, so too has this lesson.

As we gather as Australians, this morning to honour those Australians who have given their lives for our country, let us do so, not just with a sense of sadness for their loss, but with a sense of gratitude for their effort and a sense of pride in their achievements and let us dedicate ourselves to serving our nation in peace as selflessly as they did in time of war.



Total Environment Centre Tour

The Total Environment Centre organises regular one-day tours which may be of interest to members. The next tour will be to Wentworth Falls on Sunday 26 June.

A train from Central Station at 9.05am reaches Wentworth Falls at 10.50, where a local bus takes you to the Conservation Hut at the Valley of the Waters cafe at 11am. There are some short walks, talks by local experts, as well as lunch at the cafe, before catching the return train at 3.35pm. For further information ring the TEC on 247 4714 or 247 8476.

Dining Out

For a pleasant evening of good food and good company, come to the monthly Dining Out night, and meet other Glebe Society members. June's gathering will be at the Cafe Troppo, 175 Glebe Point Road - 6:30pm Tuesday 28th of June.

Please ring Ian Edwards on 817 4329.

For Your Diary

Wednesday 18 May - 7:30 pm - monthly meeting of the Glebe Society Management

Committee, held at Lyndhurst, Darghan Street, Glebe.

Tuesday 28 June - 6:30 pm - Dining Out - Cafe Troppo, 175 Glebe Point Road. For bookings, please ring Ian Edwards on 817 4329

Sunday 26 June - 9:05 am - train from Central to join Total Environment Centre tour at Wentworth Falls.

Sunday 6 November - Glebe Society House Inspection and Open Day

THE GLEBE SOCIETY inc. Management Committee

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Children & Glebe
Louise Schweikert 660 7205

Environment
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Harold Park
Gideon Rutherford 692 0239

Light Rail
Andrew Wood 660 2194

Planning
Linda Nash 818 3095
Peru Perumal 660 0711 (W)

Traffic
Jeanette Knox 660 7781

Wentworth Park
Christine Stewart 660 8324

Membership of The Glebe Society

Costs: Ordinary \$25; additional household members \$5 each;
Student/Pensioner \$10; Institution \$30

Write to P.O. Box 100, Glebe 2037, or ring Jeanette Knox on 660 7781.