
THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

PO BOX 100, GLEBE NSW 2037 AUSTRALIA

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No 9 of 1995

October

For Your Diary

Sunday, 5 November: Show of Support for Light Rail, Blenheim Park, North Ryde, 12 noon. Speakers. BYO picnic.

Wednesday, 8 November, 7.30 pm. Management Committee meeting, Lyndhurst.

Sunday, 12 November, 3.30 pm. St John's Church, Glebe. Organ recital. Donation to church.

Sunday, 12 November, 5.30 pm. Concert at Darling Mills by the Cafe at the Gate of Salvation. \$20 (concession \$15), including champagne/orange juice, nibbles. **Booking for this concert is strongly recommended.**

Saturday, 18 November, 8 pm. Margareta Cottage. A music

soiree by Innominata Choir and harpist Marshall McGuire. \$40 (concession \$20), includes food and drinks. Sunday, 19 November, 3 pm. Glebe Society free concert at St Scholastica's Chapel, with the Choir of Christchurch St Lawrence and the Early Brass Consort of Sydney.

Sunday, 19 November, 5 pm. 1 Avon Street, Glebe. Glebe Society Christmas Party. Harpsichord recital, refreshments. \$10, (concession \$5).

Sunday, 26 November, 12.30 pm. Lunch at the Macchiato Cafe.

Sunday, 3 December, a walk for charity across the new Glebe Island Bridge.

Firstly, an apology for this cut-and-paste version of the Bulletin, in the absence of Jan Macindoe, the usual editor, who is overseas. I don't have access to the facilities that Jan has available in terms of motifs, type-faces, etc. Because there are so many diary entries this issue I have decided to put that item on the front page.

John Hoddinott

Bays and Foreshores

John Buckingham's annual report in the previous Bulletin was his last as convenor of the Bays and Foreshores sub-committee. John has devoted very many years of effort to Foreshores matters, and developed an excellent policy statement which the Society was most happy to endorse. His greatest achievement, however, is one that is enjoyed by so many people from Glebe and surrounding areas: the Bicentennial Park. (Some of us think it should have been called the John Buckingham Park, in fact!)

Thank you John for all those years of effort (we don't have a marina in Rozelle Bay either - another instance of the contribution John's efforts have made to

the amenity of Glebe). We have greatly appreciated all the work you have done. Thank you.

No-one at the Annual General Meeting was rushing to fill John's shoes. However our new Senior Vice-President, John Barnes, has agreed to take over this convenorship. Best wishes, John II !

Glebe Library Committee

The Library Committee is a fully constituted committee of Leichhardt Council and has been extremely busy setting out a plan of action for the development of the new Library to be set up on the former Homeopathic Hospital site on the corner of Glebe Point Road and Wigram Road; the grand building there is known as *Benledi*. This has entailed looking at time-tabling the whole exercise as well as issues such as transport, and a brief for the potential architect. John Hoddinott and I have been attending the committee's meetings, and I was also drafted onto the Subcommittee to choose the architect. This group was convened after a series of presentations by the three shortlisted architects had made presentations to the main Committee about their views on how the project should proceed. The Subcommittee was



then given the specific tasks of visiting examples of their firms' works, fully reviewing the individual submissions and making a recommendations as to the chosen architect. As the Committee has been anxious to keep its timetable, this process had to be undertaken over only a few days.

After much concentrated individual and group activity and protracted discussion a vote was taken. The decision was that the Subcommittee recommend to Council that the firm of Schwager Brooks & Partners be offered the position. They are experienced in library design and have been involved in several projects requiring adaptive re-use. The brief is that the design should include the re-use of *Benedi* with the construction of the new extension at the back and the creative use of the open space. At this stage negotiations are proceeding with the architect and the Council with the Committee's continuing involvement.

This is an exciting development involving the whole Glebe community, and the Glebe Society is delighted to assist the Committee wherever possible.

The Glebe Society wishes to acknowledge the enormous efforts made by Tanny Iverach, Chris Newton and Marie Mackie, amongst others, in their work and ideas for the new library. We are very happy to give them any assistance that they request.

Mavis McCarthy, President

Street Stall

The response to the request for donations for a stall on 9 September wasn't sufficient, and the stall was not held. However, some contributions have now been received, and there are plans to run a stall early next year, probably in March. Further details nearer the time, but meanwhile please phone 660 3917 if you have any suitable stall items, or leave them at 397 Glebe Point Road. Please, no furniture or clothes.

Light Rail Picnic

The Light Rail Association is holding a **Show of Support for Light Rail** on Sunday, 5 November. You are cordially

invited to a picnic (bring friends).

This will be at 12 noon, Blenheim Park, North Ryde (near the intersection of Epping and Delhi Roads, and across from one of the excavation sites for the M2 tollway, currently under construction).

The LRA's comprehensive and imaginative plan for metropolitan Sydney will be presented. Politicians, local, state and federal will be invited.

Harold Park

There have been no volunteers to take over the vacant convenorship of this sub-committee. Consequently, at the last Management Committee meeting it was agreed to subsume it into the Planning Sub-Committee. The major redevelopments at Harold Park have been approved by Council and are well under way.

Aircraft & Glebe

There has been an enormous amount of activity at all levels of government and within the community recently. For example, Marrickville Council commenced legal action on Friday 27th October, regarding the need for an environmental impact statement on the next huge swag of planned construction work at KSA. It is my understanding that the action is on behalf of the Coalition of Councils, whose newspaper *Airport Alert* appears regularly and is an excellent source of information.

Here is a brief report of the Society's work on the issue. The Society wrote to Leichhardt Council early in August, raising our concern that the Italian Forum at Leichhardt will effectively concentrate people on a site directly beneath the KSA flight path. Australian Standards for aircraft noise applying to that site recommend commercial, light industrial, hotel and public buildings but not residential development. Council approved 154 home units. The Society's expressed concern focussed only on the intensification of human activity on that site when there is no sign of KSA's activity being pruned back to a "sustainable" degree for the community.

The Society wrote to the Minister for Transport, the Hon. Laurie Brereton. We said we oppose privatisation of KSA as there is no information about controls on the airport and the consequences if it were in the hands of a private operator; the Federal government still intends to expand KSA (until we hear to the contrary) and curfew arrangements are not yet known. We must have a definite statement about the future of KSA and the curfew arrangements before we can feel comfortable about privatisation. What we want is KSA downgraded for intra-state flights together with a cap on noise and number of flights. The Society objected to the suggestion that the Minister be given the power to increase the number of flights during KSA's curfew for one-off events such as the Olympics. Copies of the letter were sent to 17 Cabinet Members.

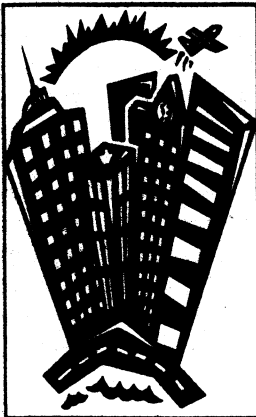
The Society's recommendations to the

Hon. Joe Riordan, Chairman of Sydney Airport (KSA) Community Consultative Committee regarding the suburb of Sydenham were that no "airport creep" must be allowed and that Sydenham people should decide what happens to the empty houses. Their community is suffering greatly. We recall the dislocation in Glebe when parts of our suburb faced demolition from the proposed expressways in the 1970's.

The Society asked Minister Brereton for a copy of the final noise management plan and map/s for KSA, the master plan for aviation in the Sydney basin and the FAC's half-yearly noise report. We also asked for all recommendations made by the Coalition of Councils on KSA's curfew to be adopted. We reminded the Minister that there is no buffer zone around KSA, so it must be downgraded as an airport. By the way, development of Badgerys Creek airport **always** gets a mention in **all** of our submissions!

The Society wrote to the Coalition of Councils congratulating them on excellent submissions made this year on aircraft noise and the curfew. In our letter the Society expressed concern that some people are calling for an abandonment of Badgerys Creek and are proposing instead a whole new airport outside the Sydney basin. Whilst this may be a nice idea we see no supporting evidence; is it possible quickly to redesign services to transport huge volumes of cargo and numbers of people to a place outside Sydney? If there is a delay, now, in providing a second airport for Sydney the residents under KSA's flight path will bear the brunt; the impact is already intolerable in suburbs worse affected than Glebe. One clear prediction is that the next airport after Badgerys Creek should be receiving some thought now.

It is important that Badgerys Creek Airport conforms with best-practice environmental measures. We want the Federal Government to achieve a proper outcome and balance for the community in western Sydney. We see scrabbling, jockeying and game-playing at KSA whilst the community is discounted. If the community were provided with noise amelioration they are entitled to under KSA's flight paths then the true cost of KSA's expansion would be realised. It is not surprising that Australia's ability to provide airport infrastructure was questioned by overseas interests at the Badgerys Creek



International Airport conference in 1993!

Helicopters

The Society asked Sandra Nori MP for the de-commissioning of the heliport at the Children's Hospital in Camperdown. We asked Mr Brereton to include the community in talks on regulating the helicopter industry occurring now with the Environment Protection Authority, the Helicopter Association of Australia and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.

Alison McKeown

The Glebe Street Fair

The annual Glebe Street Fair will take place on Sunday, 19 November. The Glebe Society will have a stall at the Fair, sharing with representatives from the Glebe Library Group. John Barnes is our stall coordinator and he would be pleased to hear from members who could spare one or two hours on the day to staff the stall. His phone no. at home is 660 7274.

The Glebe Music Festival

David McIntosh has arranged a magnificent programme of concerts over the period 12 - 19 November. See insert in this Bulletin for details. 19 November will be a full day. The free concert at St Scholastica's Chapel is an event not to be missed.

The day will conclude with **The Glebe Society Christmas Party** at 5 pm, 1 Avon Street. This will take the form of a harpsichord recital by David McIntosh and seasonal refreshments. We look forward to seeing lots of people there.

Meeting with Sandra Nori, MP

The Society had sought a meeting with our local member shortly after the State election to discuss matters of local interest and concern. A meeting was eventually arranged for 13 October and Mavis McCarthy, Alison McKeown and Jeanette Knox represented the Society. The Society expressed its appreciation of Sandra Nori's efforts with regard to the Homeopathic Hospital site, the relocation of the Forest Lodge Child Health Care Centre, and signposting at bus stops in

Glebe.

Society representatives expressed concern about the lack of funding for infrastructure for Badgerys Creek Airport in the State Budget and about aircraft noise matters generally, including the problems in Sydenham. The report from a working party about Badgerys Creek could be expected in the near future.

The future of the Children's Hospital site was raised, with the Society noting the importance of taking out the heliport there. In response to questions about the development of the site and its possible return to Leichhardt Council, Sandra promised to check which was the consent authority and noted worries about possible overdevelopment of the site.

Other topics covered included the frequency of bus services to Glebe, Wentworth Park, the Bridge Road School, foreshores, Light Rail and completion of the Diggers' Memorial restoration. Sandra offered a cocktail party at Parliament House early in the new year as a possible fundraiser for this. More details in due course.

Sandra emphasised the Government's budget problems and general shortage of funds outside certain targeted areas of expenditure. All in all it was felt to be a useful meeting and we appreciated the time she gave us. The Society will be following up on a numbers of points.

Social Activities

Our Picnic in the Park on Sunday, 15 October proved a very pleasant day. The weather, while not hot, was very comfortable for an *al fresco* lunch, and the group of people who gathered in the Bicentennial Park enjoyed two or three hours of extended lunch and chatting.

Forthcoming activities include the Glebe Music Festival in November, as detailed in the enclosed programme, and another Sunday lunch. The gathering at Cafe Troppo in September went well, with good food and talk, and Sunday lunchers are invited to meet again on Sunday, 26 November at the Macchiato Cafe, in the Glebe Plaza. Time 12.30. Please phone Kiyoko Jennings, 660 4858, if you would like to come so that she can book a suitable sized table.

We are still pursuing the idea of a wine-bottling, now probably for next year.

Odds and Ends

As you may know, the new Glebe Island Bridge will open in early December. The Glebe Society has had some serious doubts about the size of the bridge, and I remember being in a Society delegation to what was then the Department of Main Roads (now the RTA), probably in 1984, when we were asked to comment on the design. The other members included Peter Strickland, Jeanette Knox and Neil Macindoe. If I remember correctly our main point of opposition was the height of the roadway above mean high tide level; we favoured 21 metres, while the designers wanted (and got) 27 metres. In the event I believe we were correct in our assessment, as the reason for the 27 m was to allow access by a couple of colliers which do not seem to need that height any more.

Be that as it may, the DMR got its way and permitted the greater height, and the scale of the bridge reflects that. Its opening may give some relief to through traffic in Glebe, especially in Wigram Road, Bell Street, Mansfield Street and Ferry Road, particularly in the morning peak. Leichhardt Council is conducting a "before and after" traffic count in parts of our suburb, and it will be interesting to see these figures.

It will be possible for members of the public to walk across the new bridge on Sunday, 3rd December, and the entrance fee will go to a worthy cause to raise money for The Smith Family. This crossing echoes the public walk across the Harbour Bridge in 1932, although I hasten to add that I am not necessarily comparing the two structures. However it may be an interesting experience; whether or not we like the bridge, it is likely to be there for many a year.

The ticket costs for the walk are:

- \$6.00 for an adult
- \$4.00 for a child/pensioner/concession.
- \$20.00 for a family (2 adults & 3 children)

The ticket includes a Triple-M Rock Concert, free entry to the Powerhouse Museum on the day, "Carols by Candlelight" at Darling Harbour as well

as discounted entry to the Sydney Aquarium and the Maritime Museum.

I quote from The Smith Family's brochure:

- "Extensive public transport is provided on the day, so you don't have to bring your car.*
- No bikes, skateboards, skates or other forms of personal transport other than for disabled persons will be admitted.*
- No pets or animals will be admitted.*
- Toilets are available at each end of the bridge; a Mothers' room is available at the finish of the walk (the western end).*
- A shuttle bus is available from Central Railway & return.*
- Disabled facilities are available; for details please contact The Smith Family on 550 4422.*
- For more information, call the Glebe Island Bridge Walk hotline on 0055 30090 (calls charged at 35¢ per minute and all proceeds donated to The Smith Family)."*

If you are considering partaking, it is probably best to walk from Glebe, rather than trying to find a parking space near the Fish Markets.

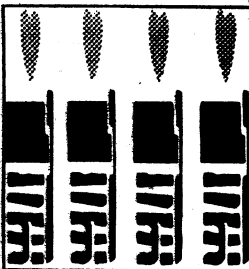
Cork Recycling

Please remember that corks can be re-used and that two charities make some money from this idea. Corks can be left at the Bottle Shop of the Toxteth Hotel, cnr Glebe Point Road and Ferry Road. The publican, Mr Shaughn Murphy, is very happy to accept them there. Do tell your neighbours about this, especially as the festive season approaches. I have about 20 kilos of corks currently awaiting collection, and that is a heap of corks, I can assure you.

Membership

A reminder that some of you receiving this Bulletin may still not have paid for your 1995-96 subscription. If you have forgotten, please send a cheque to the usual address. If you have the chance to talk to friends and neighbours about the Glebe Society, please recommend that they consider joining us. The Society's achievements over the past 20 or so years have been significant, but we do need a strong membership base.

John Hoddinott



THE GLEBE SOCIETY inc.	Convenors of Sub-Committees
Management Committee	All convenors are ex-officio members of the Management Committee
President	Aircraft
Mavis McCarthy 660 5119(H)	Alison McKeown 660 3917
Senior Vice President	Bays & Foreshores
John Barnes 660 7274 (H)	John Barnes 660 7274 (H)
Junior Vice President	Children & Glebe
Cynthia Jones 660 2451 (H)	Louise Schweikert 660 7205
Immediate Past President	Diggers' Memorial
David Browne 660 0865 (H)	Max Solling 660 1160
Secretary	Environment
Jeanette Knox 660 7781	Fiona Campbell 821 6287 (W)
Treasurer	--
John Sleeman 692 9507 (H)	Light Rail
Committee	Andrew Wood 660 2194
Marianne von Knobelsdorff 692 0916 (H)	Planning
Christine Whitemore 660 7969 (H)	John Hoddinott 692 0071
Helen Griffiths 660 5548 (H)	Traffic
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New Members:	
Barbara Sutton 660 0782	
Archivist	
Lyn Milton 660 7930	

Membership of The Glebe Society Inc

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