



The

GLEBE SOCIETY

Bulletin

February 1998

A publication of THE GLEBE SOCIETY Inc Box 100 Post Office Glebe NSW 2037 Australia
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THE GLEBE POINT ROAD LIGHT RAIL STOP

We're not derailed yet ... BUT the Society's compromise solution to the problem of how to provide better access to the light rail from Glebe Point Road (GPR) went down like the proverbial lead balloon when I put it to a meeting called by our local MP, Sandra Nori, before Christmas.

However, we will not give up!

The compromise solution, devised by Chris Newton, is that escalators ('moving footways' might be a better description) be installed in Palmerston Avenue to give access between GPR and the proposed eastern portal stop in Lower Avon Street. Details of the idea were included on page 9 of the October/November Bulletin.

The compromise proposal was the central point of the Society's response to the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the extension of the present light rail system to Circular Quay and Lilyfield.

I gave Ms Nori a copy of this document in draft form prior to the meeting at the old Annandale Town Hall on 29 November. At the meeting her reaction was cautious: she obviously had not had time to study our draft, and also was concerned about the reaction

of Palmerston Avenue residents (one of whom was present). No one else at the meeting spoke in favour of our proposal. Ms Nori undertook to mention the moving footway in her 'community submission', but it is clear that she will not give it her personal backing.

The Society recognises that it is important to protect the interests of residents who might be affected, and in our response to the draft EIS we stressed the need to consult them. There are six houses opposite the untrafficked section of Palmerston Avenue where we have proposed siting the moving footway.

I also delivered to the Chamber of Commerce a copy of the Society's draft response to the draft EIS, but received no reaction. We expect Council's response to our idea will depend on the reaction of Palmerston Avenue residents.

In summary, it seems that everyone supports the idea of better access to the light rail from GPR, but we cannot agree on how it should be achieved.

The February meeting of the Glebe Society Management Committee decided that the Society should meet with Sandra Nori and the Chamber of Commerce to see if we can establish some common ground. I will also make contact with a group at the University of Technology Sydney which apparently is willing to help find solutions to tricky engineering problems.

If we cannot get community support for our present proposal, we might be able to come up with another, more acceptable, idea.

Bruce Davis

Your feedback, and suggestions, are welcome

HIGHLIGHTS from the GLEBE SOCIETY MEETING - 10 February 1998

LIGHT RAIL

We would like people to think about our suggestion for moving footways in Palmerston Avenue to provide access to GPR (see article p1). In rainy weather, at night, or when carrying heavy parcels, it would be very inconvenient to walk up the hill. The residents (on grounds of disturbance), and the Light Rail people (on grounds of cost) are opposed to this; however in the light of their need to increase use of the system perhaps they should reconsider - if people are not happy with the system they will not use it.

LOCAL MEETINGS:

The Bulletin Editor, Bobbie Burke, will publish details of Council, Chamber of Commerce and other local meetings in the Bulletin to encourage community participation. Although we are not an advertising medium, we would like details of any events or meetings of interest to the community. Contact Bobbie Burke.

LEICHHARDT DRAFT TOWN PLAN:

This is on display at the Council Chambers, and the Glebe Library until 6 March. Council is conducting a series of workshops and encourage the community to attend. For details phone Council on 9367.9222.

MEMBERSHIP:

New members who did not receive a Bulletin last year (apologies!), will have their membership extended for a further twelve months; those who inadvertently paid twice will be refunded. The Treasurer, John Sleeman, asked members to ensure that they make out a cheque for the correct amount when renewing their subscriptions.

SHOPPING BUS:

We are looking at ideas for a shopping bus - route, stops, type of bus, etc. Any ideas to Jeanette Knox.

A PAINTING OF GLEBE POINT ROAD FOR THE LIBRARY?

Cheng Jih Li (who has already donated a painting to Balmain) has given a painting of Glebe Point Road to the Library; we will ask the librarian to advise us as to cost and method of mounting, and then decide if this would be an appropriate gift to the Library from the Glebe Society.

AIRCRAFT:

We noted that aircraft are often now turning right over Glebe, which is not in the flight paths. The community is asked to ring the Aircraft Noise Complaints number - 9582.1850 - when this happens.

GLEBE BOAT DAY AND PICNIC:

The President suggested that we hold a picnic and boat day to explore Blackwattle Bay. Keep 19 April free, and we will do the rest! More details in the March Bulletin. Imaginative suggestions for vessels were 18ft sailing boats, zodiaks, ferries, rowing boats, fishing boats ... any other ideas? Contact Russell Stewart.

GARDEN COMPETITION:

Jeanette Knox suggested a garden competition for 'Back to Glebe Week' (later in the year). There are many pretty gardens in Glebe and this would encourage even more. Jeanette would like to hear from people interested in being part of a Glebe Garden Group.

Christine Stewart

All correspondence to Society contact people should be sent c/- The Glebe Society Inc Box 100 Glebe 2037

NEWS FROM THE GLEBE LIBRARY

THE BLACKWATTLE COLLECTION

A raffle was held last September to coincide with the Blackwattle Studios Open Weekend, and the \$2000 raised has been used to purchase a collection of books on arts and creativity.

The collection was launched at the 'Friends of Benledi and the Glebe Library' meeting in early February and will be on display in the Library for the next few weeks. The Library thanks everyone involved; the staff and the Glebe community are most appreciative.

COMING ACTIVITIES

INTERNET FOR SENIORS



A free workshop will be held on 25 March, from 9.30-11.30. Morning tea will be provided.

The workshop will cover Internet searching and electronic mail (email).

Bookings to Margaret Penson or Ellen Forsythe on 9367.9266 - quote your Seniors Card No.

"AIRPORTS HAVE BECOME INTENSELY POLITICAL!"

The Society wrote to the Federal Minister for Transport, the Hon. M. Vaile, in December 1997, conveying its opposition to the continued expansion of Kingsford Smith Airport (KSA), the potential for more than 400,000 aircraft movements per annum, and the notion of a fourth runway. The Society expressed concern regarding safety for people under KSA's flight paths and stated the need to keep the curfew.

In a letter to the Minister dated 16 February 1998, the Society expressed great concern that, in a radio interview broadcast the previous week, he did not rule out a fourth KSA runway. If Badgerys Creek Airport is rejected in the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) process, indications are that the Federal Government would proceed with a fourth runway. The Federal Labor Opposition is reported to have both pro- and anti- Badgerys Creek Airport camps within its ranks. The NSW State Government position is less committed to Badgerys than it was before. Airports have become intensely political!

We hear that inner city councils are expected to support South Sydney Council's plans for a study into the impact of KSA on inner Sydney if Badgerys Creek Airport is not built.

While it may be preferable for the Badgerys Creek/second Sydney airport to be located outside the Sydney

Basin, there has been no feasibility study produced to show how land transport would be managed. In the absence of such important information the Society is of the opinion that Badgerys Creek remains the only real airport option for Sydney.

However, there must be a limit on Badgerys Creek airport growth. Furthermore, as the lead-time for airports is lengthy, the Society said it is now time for the Federal and State Governments to commence planning a third airport site for the Sydney region.



Aircraft Noise Complaints Line:
9582. 1850 - 24 hours
Complaints about noise, safety and other aviation issues of concern can be logged on to this number.

The Society will endeavour to make a general response to the Badgerys Creek Airport EIS. One of the many important issues to be checked would be proposals for flight paths operating from both airports. With regard to Sydney's water supply, Sydney Water is known to have made a submission to the guidelines preceding the actual EIS and we would expect its recommendations to be of major significance.

You can peruse a copy of the EIS at the Glebe Library, or you can access the working papers together with the EIS at the Leichhardt Library. Society members are invited to contact me on 9660. 3917 (ah) if they would like to discuss the issue. You can make your submission on the Badgerys Creek EIS before 30 March 1998; send it to:

Second Sydney Airport EIS
Environment Assessment Branch
Environment Australia
Locked Bag 42
Kingston ACT 2604
Fax: (02) 6274. 1914

Alison McKeown

From the President

Skating in the Winter Olympics

... it's wonderful to watch the athleticism, the skill and artistry of these performers. Now and again they fall, to remind us they are human. What distinguishes the truly great from the technically brilliant? There is that indefinable 'something extra'.

So is it with Glebe - wonderfully blessed with terrace houses full of character, great restaurants, almost surrounded by harbour, schools, the towers of Sydney University as a backdrop.

What gives Glebe its special spirit is its people - a glorious mixture, who care enormously about the place. You see it through the Glebe Society - people committed to preserving the important buildings, access to the foreshore, sensible transport, community library, parks, the water. Watching, arguing, complaining [yes!] and pushing to keep and improve it.

The 'something extra' of Glebe, to my mind, is the vitality which comes from having people who care and get involved.

Russell Stewart

THE GLEBE POINT ROAD STREETScape

COMMITTEE STILL LIVES ...



After the first stage, including planting the new trees you can see along the stretch to Broadway, contracts are in train for new street furniture. The next meeting of the Streetscape Committee will be in early March, and there will be a rundown on activities in the next Bulletin from Fiona Campbell.

REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR MACINDOE

Leichhardt Council meetings resumed in February (first meeting 24th). The break was quiet, but marred by irregular pickups by the recycling service, which is contracted out to a company called Moons.

Some actions were completed over the break: paving the St. Johns-Glebe Point Road intersection is finished and has attracted favourable comment; Council resurfaced the GPR footpath on the eastern side between Cowper St. and Broadway; the remainder of the eastern side (as far as St. Johns Rd.) will be resurfaced soon. Like the Jubilee Fountain and the tree plantings, these are part of the Glebe Point Road Project.

Council agreed to negotiate provision of street furniture with J.C. Decaux, winner of the Sydney City Council contract, and there will be public consultation to assist in the choice of specific designs. Decaux undertake to repair any damage to installations within 24 hours: the use of advertising makes these favourable terms possible, and the advertising does not appear to be any more intrusive than on existing bus shelters.

Blackwattle Bay Park has been extended in front of the new units in Cook St. In Hereford St. the Paddy Gray Reserve has doubled in size with the completion of the large residential development

near Ross St. Both areas are planted with native trees and shrubs, and I commend them to members for walking and picnics.

I had the good fortune to attend Peter Hall's production of Wilde's "An Ideal Husband" at the new Lyric Theatre at the Sydney Casino during the Festival of Sydney, and we made the effort to walk across Wentworth Park to catch the light rail; I suspect it is too far for most people, however. The light rail EIS will soon go to State Cabinet for approval - let us hope the service is soon extended to Glebe. Thanks to all who made suggestions to me, especially Alison McKeown - all suggestions have been incorporated in my submission to the EIS.

The first part of 1998 is likely to be very busy with the new Town Plan [draft on exhibition at Council and Glebe Library until 6 March], and the controversial proposals for the Abbey Restaurant, the Army Depot, the Harold Park Hotel and Hardy's Timber Yard. The opening of The Broadway Shopping Centre expected in late March will need to be watched for its traffic repercussions and other impacts, but the Centre should also bring considerable benefits. At the last meeting of 1997 Council made a decision to close Francis Street, but this decision is being questioned. Watch for further announcements about the Local Area Traffic Management plan.

Neil Macindoe



The position of
Senior Vice-President
of the Society remains vacant.

The **Senior Vice-President**
stands in for the President in his/
her absence - chairing the
Management Committee
meetings and attending outside
functions as the Society's
representative.

Contact Mavis (9660. 5119)
or Jeanette (9660. 7781)

**Join the Management
Committee
Keep in touch with what is
going on !**



Sunday Lunches

There are not many opportunities during the year for Glebe Society members to get to know each other - apart from the birthday and Christmas parties which not all of us find convenient. I am therefore trying to revive the practice of having regular monthly Sunday lunches at eating places in Glebe. These will normally be on the second Sunday of each month starting at 12.30 and, except in the case of hotels, you may assume that credit cards and BYO are accepted, unless otherwise notified.

We start on Sunday 8 March at the Bistro at the Toxteth Hotel, on the corner of Glebe Point Rd and Ferry Rd, partly as a gesture of appreciation to the proprietor Shaughn Murphy, who has generously allowed our Committee to hold meetings at the hotel at no cost.

Please let me know ASAP if you intend to come, by ringing 9660. 34240 at any time (my answering machine is never switched off).

Hope to see you there.

Ian Edwards

PLANNING REPORT -

Hamilton / The Abbey / Reussdale
156-160 BRIDGE ROAD

There is very little to report this issue, as not many issues of importance have occurred. The only submission I have made on behalf of the Society concerned the redevelopment of *Hamilton/The Abbey/Reussdale* site. The owners have submitted a D.A. for a residential development on the three blocks.

In essence this would entail an L-shaped residential block which would necessitate the demolition of the fairly derelict sandstone one-storey cottage, *Hamilton*, on the eastern side of the site. The proposed block is quite large, with a floor space ratio (FSR) of 1.25:1, which is much higher than the recommended FSR of 0.7:1 under the current Leichhardt Town Plan. [Note: the Draft Town Plan has an even lower proposed FSR.] The total development would contain 25 town houses or apartments, including six in *The Abbey* itself, while *Reussdale* would be a single dwelling.

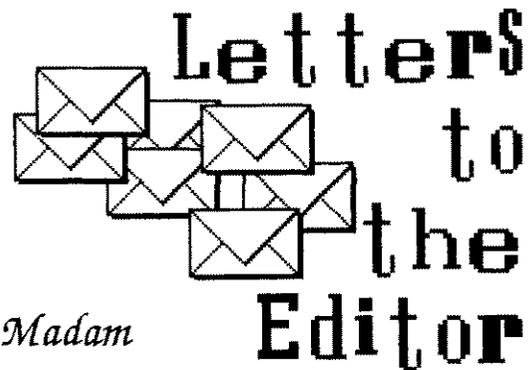
The points I made in the Society's submission involved mainly the overdevelopment of the site, based on the FSR, the demolition of *Hamilton*, the proximity of the proposed new block to the rear of *Reussdale*, (only about 2 metres from the building), and a request that whatever happens, *Reussdale* be restored, *not renovated*, to its original glory.

This is a difficult issue, as the developers/owners have every right to submit a D.A. for a potential change to the land they own, which is zoned for residential use. Our position is to point out to Leichhardt Council that on certain sites, developments are not necessarily in the interests of the suburb. We cannot, on principle, oppose development here, but we must keep a watchful eye on what we may consider suitable new building.

I have been looking recently, for the nth time, at the wonderful *The Architectural Character of Glebe* by Bernard and Kate Smith. All three buildings mentioned above are in the book, and all three are also mentioned in the National Trust's Register of Heritage Buildings.

I have heard no news at all in the last couple of months about the 461-465 Glebe Point Road site, nor John Fletcher's, nor the Drill Hall in Hereford Street.

John Hoddinott



Letters to the Editor

Dear Madam

I enjoyed Ted McKeown's report (Oct/Nov 1997 Bulletin) on Harold Park and the public meeting, and appreciated his pertinent summary of the situation and the problems. I couldn't agree more about the unfortunate approach of the Harold Park management, which has certainly alienated many people. However, I would like to take issue with his comment "that the general community view was (and still is) that the best thing for Glebe would be to get rid of the track altogether".

I believe that there are many people, like myself, who think that 'The Trots' are a part of the Glebe scene and help create that diversity which attracted so many of us to this suburb many years ago. There were inconveniences then in the way of parking up of surrounding streets - on Friday nights in particular - but we tended to accept this as part of the price of inner city living, and the problem has, in fact, diminished considerably in recent years.

Quite a number of the people who attended the protest at Harold Park on Miracle Mile night last year made the point that it wasn't the horses they were objecting to, it was the failure of the Harold Park management to live up to its statements of what it intended to do in the course of the track alterations. The monumental wall on The Crescent is a monstrosity, and not quite what we understood it was to be when the management first spoke to residents; The Crescent landscaping is disappointing; and the management has been unhelpful to the Hockey Club.

Nevertheless I think I would still prefer the racing track to the likely alternative which would, I imagine, be yet more housing development of a fairly intensive nature. Harold Park is still an area of breathing space for the inner city.

Yours etc.

Jeanette Knox

Your letters on any matters relating
to Glebe are welcome. Ed.

Precinct Meetings



Glebe Point

1st Wednesday each month
7.00 pm - Toxteth Hotel Meeting Room
Contact: Christine Newton: 9660. 8349

Forest Lodge

Last Saturday each month
5.00 pm - Glebe Neighbourhood Centre
Contact: Lucky Comanos: 9660. 6577

The Glebe

4th Sunday each month
10.00 am - Glebe Neighbourhood Centre
Contact: Peter Wright: 9566.2018

Apology



There have been many comments about the last Bulletin - dated October/November and received in January!

For this I apologise, but would like you all to know that The Glebe Society Inc is in the process of updating and computerising its membership and mailing lists, and it is *not* a straight-forward task.

We attempted to have it complete in December, but still some paid-up members are not on the mailing list, and some of you who are paid members or life members received reminders to pay up !!

I continue to struggle with this, and ask that you bear with us over the next couple of months until we sort it all out.

Thank you in anticipation ...

Penny Haskens



COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE FUND-RAISING STALL SATURDAY, 7 MARCH

If you have been - or will be - cleaning out any cupboards, Christine Newton (9660. 8349) will be glad to accept china, bric-a-brac, shoes, etc. etc. for a stall to buy equipment for the Physiotherapy Unit at the Centre.

Save any books for the Book Fair, which will be held on Saturday 9 May at the Library.

FOR SALE

Victorian red cedar dining table, elegant legs, seats six, good condition.



Ring Fiona Campbell
9660. 0185 (h) 9228. 3239 (w)

DISCLAIMER

Individual views expressed in this Bulletin are not necessarily those of The Glebe Society Inc.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY



This will be, as usual, on the first Sunday of March (1 March), usually from 9.30 a.m. onwards.

The Society was involved last year but the turn-out was relatively small, and I was not sure that we achieved much. This is not to condemn the efforts of the helpers, but we were simply trying to replicate a garbage collection that would normally be undertaken by Council.

There may be areas in Glebe where there is inaccessible rubbish, but many of these sites, in my view, have already be cleaned up over previous years.

If members feel inclined to help on the day, it would be best to contact

Clean Up Australia - 9552 6177, or the two freecall numbers 1800 024 890 or 1800 676 001.

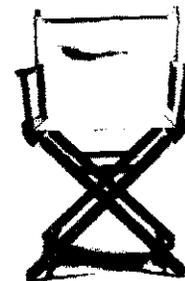
This organisation will be able to inform you of appropriate sites in Glebe or in the Leichhardt Council area.

John Hoddinott

For Your Diary ...

Tuesday	24 Feb	Leichhardt Council Meeting 7.00 - Council Chambers
Saturday	7 March	Fund-raising stall a.m. Community Health Centre
Sunday	8 March	Society Lunch (all welcome) 12.30 - Toxteth Hotel
Tuesday	10 March	Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting 7.30 - Toxteth Hotel Meeting Room
Tuesday	17 March deadline Bulletin copy
Tuesday	24 March	Leichhardt Council Meeting 7.00 - Council Chambers
Wednesday	25 March	Internet for Seniors 9.30 - Glebe Library
ADVANCE NOTICE		
Sunday	19 April	Boat and Picnic Day Blackwattle Bay Park
Friday	1 May	Cocktail Party - Friends of Benledi Glebe Library
Saturday	9 May	Book Fair Glebe Library

The Glebe Society Inc



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President

Russell Stewart phone: 9660. 8324
fax: 9660. 6582

Senior Vice-President

vacant

Junior Vice-President

Cynthia Jones 9660. 2451

Immediate Past President

Mavis McCarthy 9660. 5119

Secretary

Christine Stewart 9660. 8324

Treasurer

John Sleeman 9692. 9507

Committee Members

John Cody 9692. 9364

Ted McKeown 9660. 3917

Christine Newton 9660. 8349

Marianne von Knobelsdorff 9692. 0916

CONTACTS:

Bulletin Editor

Bobbie Burke 9692. 0343

Membership List

Penny Haskens 9566. 4450

Archivist

Lyn Milton 9660. 7930

Historian

Max Solling 9660. 1160

SUB-COMMITTEE CONVENORS

All convenors are *ex-officio* members of the Management Committee

Aircraft

Alison McKeown 9660. 3917

Bays and Foreshores

Ian Edwards (BH) 9660. 3240

Children and Glebe

Penny Haskens 9566. 4450

Diggers' Memorial

Max Solling 9660. 1160

Environment

Christine Whitemore 9660. 7969

FRROGS

Roberta Johnston 9552. 3248

Light Rail

Bruce Davis 9660. 7873

Planning, and Harold Park

John Hoddinott phone: 9692. 0071

fax: 9518. 9218

Traffic

Jeanette Knox 9660. 7781

Wentworth Park

Judy Vergison 9692. 9200

The Glebe Municipal Library, cnr Wigram and Glebe Point Rds. is open as follows:

Monday and Wednesday 9.30 am - 8.00 pm
Tuesday, Thursday
and Friday 9.30 am - 5.30 pm
Saturday 9.00 am - 12 noon

Phone: 9367.9262 Fax: 9518.9483

The Local History Collection includes books, maps, newspaper cuttings, Council publications, etc. relating to the Leichhardt Municipality.

**Membership of
THE GLEBE SOCIETY INC.**

Ordinary	\$30
Concession:	
Student/Pensioner	\$15
Institution	\$30

Write to Box 100 PO Glebe 2037
or phone Jeanette Knox 9660.7781

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Ms Edwina Doe
224 Bridge Road
Glebe NSW 2037



The **GLEBE SOCIETY** Inc
Box 100 Post Office
Glebe 2037

GLEBE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Glebe Chamber of Commerce meets on the last Wednesday of each month, at the meeting room in the Toxteth Hotel.

If there is any matter you would like to bring before the Chamber, you are invited to contact:

Gay Kalnins (Secretary)
ph: 9552.1546; fax: 9552.1714

and arrange to come to a meeting.

DEADLINE

for copy for the
next issue of The
Glebe Society
Bulletin is
Tuesday
17 March.

Please send to Box
100 PO, Glebe,
or 32 Lombard
Street Glebe