



The

# GLEBE SOCIETY

Bulletin

July/August 1998

A publication of THE GLEBE SOCIETY Inc Box 100 Post Office Glebe NSW 2037 Australia  
Print Post Approved - No. 234093/000 10 No. 6 of 1998

## FROM HERE → → TO 2001

### STRATEGIC PLANNING

A second planning session was held by the Management Committee on Saturday 18 July to develop a draft strategic plan. The aim was to ascertain on which key issues the Society should focus in the next three years (1998 - 2001).

A framework was completed and copies of the full draft strategic plan will be available at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 30 August (see notice this page). A summary of the plan appears on pp2-3 of this Bulletin, covering the following:

- a draft Mission Statement: 1998 - 2001,
- a list and brief description of the key issues,
- the critical success factors.

Your suggestions, comments, and involvement are needed, and welcomed.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The draft statement reinforces the current approach to the operation of the Society, but encourages an increase in membership and representation from more Glebe communities.

### KEY ISSUES

Eleven key issues were identified and some were divided into categories. The scope of each issue is outlined in the draft plan, together with the proposed levels of involvement by the Society. Action plans will be prepared for each key issue.

### THE NEXT STEP

The draft strategic plan will be presented to the AGM for comment, amendment and endorsement. We will then hope to form project teams which will work on priority issues.

**Come to the AGM.**

Judy Vergison

## ANNUAL

### GENERAL

### MEETING

#### NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the  
Annual General  
Meeting of

**The Glebe Society  
Incorporated**

**will be held at  
11 am on  
Sunday 30 August  
at 36 Toxteth Road**

For agenda, details  
and reports  
see the blue  
AGM lift out  
in this Bulletin

---

**If your membership is  
due for renewal, a form is  
enclosed with this issue.**

## DESCRIPTION OF KEY ISSUES

### 1. **Ensure Glebe is conserved and recognised as a heritage area.**

There were three main categories within this issue:

- 1.1 removal of eyesores;
- 1.2 restore/ conserve heritage buildings and structures of interest;
- 1.3 improve the visual integrity of the streetscape.

A number of specific items were listed for attention in points 1.1 and 1.2

### 2. **Streets, parks, waterways and commercial area to be free of rubbish, litter and graffiti.**

Raise the awareness of residents/shopkeepers on alternative approaches to managing waste which ensure it is properly containerised and handled. Also included are initiatives to reduce the visual impact of graffiti (not approved by owners) on public and private property, and the reduction of junk mail discarded on to footpaths and litter in our parks, streets and waterways.

### 3. **Provide a foreshore walkway and cycleway from Bicentennial Park to the city.**

This includes the identification and removal of obstructions and the options for a staged introduction of increased access to waterfront beyond government-managed lands.

### 4. **Retain Glebe Point Road as a vibrant and diverse shopping street.**

Ensure Glebe Point Road continues to be a viable shopping street which has a mix of commercial and residential premises ranging from flats to grand mansions. The aim is for all shops to be actively trading along the length of the street and to improve the streetscape to complement the village atmosphere.

### 5. **Provide a faster and alternative public transport option to reduce usage of cars and the adverse impact on traffic flow and the environment.**

There were three main categories included in this issue:

- 5.1 light rail extension and access within Glebe;
- 5.2 reduction of traffic and improvement of traffic management issues;
- 5.3 ensure effective public transport services, and reduce commuter travel times.

### 6. **Work with authorities to reduce incidence of crime so that people feel safe in their homes and the street.**

Support local initiatives to improve the safety of residents, shopkeepers and visitors to Glebe. Provide a sense of community care which ensures that Glebe is kept well maintained and looked after by all groups in the community.

### 7. **Support the youth of Glebe.**

Contribute to the education and enrichment of the lives of the young people living in Glebe by supporting the development and operation of recreation facilities and sponsoring selected projects which are valued by local youth.

### 8. **Protect Glebe from overdevelopment, high rise and high density.**

Protect the area from developments which will adversely affect the amenity and overload facilities. Highlight to government authorities the required impact on existing infrastructures, and think laterally about the effect on the community of these proposals.

### 9. **Protect residents from aircraft noise and the associated risk to safety.**

Support the decision for a second airport for Sydney, and lobby to minimise the impact of aircraft noise on residents and visitors from the operation of the existing Sydney airport.

### 10. **Support and encourage artistic groups in Glebe.**

Provide donations and support for selected organisers to encourage the growth of a broad range of cultural and artistic events in Glebe.

### 11. **Improve and protect the quality of parks and open spaces (including waterways).**

Ensure that our parks and open spaces are properly maintained and developed according to master plans which are endorsed by the community to enhance the quality of facilities. Provide for a range of recreational interests and enjoyment of the surrounding waterways.

## A SUMMARY OF THE

### DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN 1998 - 2001

#### DRAFT MISSION STATEMENT: 1998 - 2001

The Glebe Society Incorporated will reflect the views of the various communities in Glebe by supporting and driving initiatives which enrich the lives of people living, visiting and working in Glebe; and which conserve the heritage value of buildings and structures.

The Society will be actively involved in:

- retaining the essential character of the village atmosphere with its rich diversity of people;
- increasing the sense of community spirit;
- providing the opportunity for social activities;
- being more representative of the different communities in Glebe;
- taking a lead role on issues which are achievable, where we have influence, and which build on our respected level of credibility.

#### KEY ISSUES

Eleven key issues have been identified; the larger issues have been further divided into specific categories.

The scope of each issue is outlined in the table on page 2, and the Management Committee is recommending a level of involvement and commitment according to a four scale guide.

This will ensure that consideration is given to the focus and level of voluntary resources being allocated to the issues over the next three years.

Some issues may cover a range of roles depending on the particular project.

#### CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

To achieve our mission we must:

- Broaden our membership to be more representative of the range of communities in Glebe.
- Maintain a network with key influencers and decision-makers.
- Identify the bodies and individuals who are the decision-makers for each project.
- Ensure effective access to publicity through the local press.
- Provide support for the regular production and distribution of the Society's Bulletin.
- Provide a personal welcome and support for each new member.
- Provide a balanced focus between community issues and social functions for members and their friends.
- Provide opportunities for community meetings to discuss issues, and encourage access to information on the local communities and agencies.
- Develop excellent communication networks to receive and send information to those involved in our areas of focus.

#### HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

- 1) Come to the AGM and let us know what you think about the plan and the issues.
- 2) Contact Judy Vergison (phone: 9692. 9200) if you have suggestions amendments or additions; or if you would like to be involved in one of the project teams.

You CAN be a part of making our vision for Glebe a reality!

# HIGHLIGHTS from the GLEBE SOCIETY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING



14 July 1998

## Progressive Dinner

Thirty people attended the Progressive Yuletide Dinner in July, which was a great success. As many people donated the ingredients, approximately \$1,100 was raised. We thank Chris from Toni's Deli in Glebe Point Road for allowing us to buy the turkey breasts and ham at cost price. We will decide how best to use the money on a worthwhile cause in Glebe, and would be glad of your suggestions.

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on Sunday 30 August (see notice page 1). We hope you will come along, both to hear Judy Vergison report in detail on the second Strategic Planning Day, and to give your ideas for initiatives in Glebe.

## Bays and Foreshores Stakeholders' Meeting

Our representative will take copies of our Foreshores Policy to this meeting and will press the uniqueness of the bays as tranquil areas - waterways that do not flush out to the main harbour and so are more like lakes, and should be treated as such. We are encouraging other groups to attend the meeting.

## Garden Committee

We are still looking for someone to run a Garden Competition in Glebe. We suggest an Open Garden Day rather than an Open House Day for Glebe Week (in September). If you have a little spare time and an interest in gardens, we would love to hear from you.

## Strategic Planning

After the first Planning Day, those who participated were given surveys to complete and indicate which Glebe-based issues were of priority to them. At the second Planning Day, results of the surveys showed that the three issues which received the highest number of votes were (in order):

1. Heritage issues (covering many topics).
2. Rubbish in Glebe streets, parks and waterways.
3. A Foreshore Walkway from Glebe to the City.

The top issues regarding the improvement of the operation of The Glebe Society itself were (in order):

1. Broadening the membership to be more representative of Glebe.
2. Social functions.
3. A personal acknowledgement of each new member.

The second Planning Day examined the issues and considered how best to implement them.

## Election to the Management Committee

Enclosed with this Bulletin is a form for nomination of a member to the Society's Management Committee. Nominations must be received by the Society not later than 23 August 1998.

## Renewal of Membership of the Society

As membership of the Society runs from July to June each year, all memberships are due for renewal (except those who joined in April/May/June 1998). We would be glad to receive your membership subscription and a form is enclosed for this purpose.

## Letters to the Editor

are welcome on any issue related to Glebe.

All correspondence for Society contact people should be sent to The Glebe Society Inc PO Box 100 Glebe 2037

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### HERE'S TO THE MILLENNIUM WALK!

Here it is - a sunny spring morning in Glebe - the year 2001. We've had our cereal, toast and vegetable juice! How about a walk into town along the new footpath which goes all along the foreshores from the Bicentennial Park right into the City? They made a good job of it - a separate cycleway, lots of trees planted, places to sit and look at the sparkling, clear waters of the Harbour - no rubbish in there these days!

It took plenty of doing. It started with the Boat Day in September 1998, when we learned who owned or leased the shoreline. Then the marches - from Glebe into town - going beside the water where we could, going inland

around obstructions. Then the ribbons tied along the route, to show where it had to go.

Fortunately the Olympic Games gave it impetus - the visitors loved getting close to the water. Then the City of Sydney Council got behind it and arranged to buy out some of the key properties. Other property owners agreed that the walkway go through. Then we got the State Government right behind it!

So, yes, why don't we go for a stroll along the 'Millennium Walk' right into town!



Russell Stewart

## COUNCILLOR MACINDOE REPORTS ON MINOGUE

I read the President's comments on GPR, published in the June/July Bulletin, with great interest. What he wrote accords well with the results of public consultation and the proposals currently before the Glebe Point Road Project Committee.

There is, however, another factor which should be mentioned.

For a long time we have basked in the comforting feeling of Glebe Point Road's picturesque uniqueness: its combination of somewhat run-down, but largely intact, architectural beauty and variety, its stately trees and parks, and entertaining and relaxed street life.

Others have now learnt from our main street's example. Once it seemed our cafés were incomparable: now there are good ones everywhere in the inner city. As the President wrote, our restaurants seemed to cater to every taste: now Newtown, Leichhardt and Balmain have caught up, and in some cases overtaken. Our premier bookshop twice won the Australian bookseller of the year award: now New York-style bookshops are opening in several places nearby. Our repertory cinema flourished while cinemas in every suburb closed down: now there are twenty more opening within a few kilometres.

In my view, Glebe Point Road has charms beyond all these others, but its commercial success depends on continuing to attract people from outside the suburb. Glebe with just its neighbourhood shops, no matter how attractive they may be, is a lesser place. We do not need huge numbers, but we do need to keep our place in a changing world.

### MINOGUE RESERVE

According to the most recent survey of park use, Minogue Reserve is the most heavily used in the Municipality for two reasons: it is a pedestrian access route from St Phillips to Glebe Point Road, and it is conveniently placed for people to eat their lunches *au plein air*. It is also one of the very few areas of open space in the part of Glebe with the largest proportion of children.

Consequently, it has been of great interest to committees charged with improving the area. The Glebe Point Road Project drew up a plan ten years ago to close Francis St and extend the Reserve. When plans for the re-development of Grace Bros. began to

firm up in 1994, Council saw the opportunity to expand the Reserve by the closure of Franklyn and Francis St, and asked the developers to hand over the apron of the GBs carpark also.

" The design of this area shall be developed by a working party comprising Council's staff and the applicant's representatives, and will be placed on exhibition for public comment "

So runs the relevant condition (D62 of DA 217/95, issued 5.9.95) concerning the area to be handed over (note that this condition does not refer to Minogue Reserve itself, which is Council property). The intention of the Councillors could hardly be clearer: all aspects of the design were to be placed before the public before a decision was made.

What followed, according to the General Manager's report, was a sorry saga of developers' interests prevailing over those of the Council and the community. When Condition 62 was amended to better define the land and its uses on 11 June 1996, the requirement for a working party and public exhibition dropped out. The Building Application (BA 96/566 issued 3.12.96) says the landscape plan is inadequate, and is to be amended to the satisfaction of the Manager, Building and Development, within six months.

There were at least nine meetings between the developer's representatives and Council officers during 1997, but these encompassed a range of issues related to this huge development, not just the open space. Many of these were minuted (some very briefly) by the developer, not Council, and there may have been others not minuted at all. All the Council planners most familiar with the development had left by the end of 1997. Many Council officers thought further consultation and exhibition was necessary.

Nevertheless, a plan submitted in January 1998 was approved under delegated authority on 5 March 1998, without the knowledge of Councillors and without public exhibition and consultation, either for the land to be dedicated, or for the existing community open space as required by the Local Government Act. Approval under delegation is not unusual. The majority of applications to Council are approved in this way. What was unusual is that the Manager gave approval despite the misgivings of Council staff, the clear directions given by the Councillors, and the requirements of the Act.

The General Manager's report does not consider what went on in the mind of the Manager, but it is not unreasonable to speculate that the Manager concluded that an application lodged in January (a holiday period) could not be exhibited and brought before Council before March, when the Broadway shops were due to open. The needs of the developer gained precedence over all other considerations.

... continued p6

The Noticeboard in Minogue Reserve has not yet advised the date of the next community consultation.

Interested residents could contact:

Vince Caccavo or Vince Cusamano at Leichhardt Council  
phone - 9367. 9007.

... continued from p5

Having noticed the destruction of half the park by the developer, I brought an urgency motion to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 24 March this year, calling for all work to cease, and it was carried without dissent. Councillors were unaware when they voted for the motion that a plan had been approved, and the next day we received legal advice that we couldn't stop the work. My motion also called for public consultation and exhibition, and two on-site meetings with local people followed quickly.

I then seized the opportunity at the Operations and Service Committee meeting on April 10 to amend a report on the indoor basketball court to include the appointment of the landscape architect of the Glebe Point Road Project, Matthew Taylor, to prepare a Management Plan, including landscaping, for the entire site, and the first community workshop under his brief was reported by Alison McKeown in the June/July Bulletin (p7). As well as the Glebe Point Road Project, Matthew's firm is responsible for the WWI Le Hamel memorial recently dedicated in France.

My understanding is that all aspects of the work, including the artwork and painting, should have been the subject of consultation and exhibition. In fairness to the developer, however, it should be noted (1) that he was not under the same legal obligation as Council, and it was the business of Council officers to explain the legal requirements to him; and (2) that whatever your opinion of the art, it was provided at considerable expense by the developer in addition to the legally enforceable conditions.

At the date of writing (10 July) the complete works have yet to be assessed by Council's technical staff before they can be handed over. There are also other works to be carried out (a children's playground and Aboriginal art) for which funding has been provided.

It is not only residents and Councillors who are unhappy with the work so far. The General Manager of Broadway has also indicated to me he would support a better plan. I agree with Peter Wright (June/July Bulletin p6) about the importance of the site, and am firmly of the view that we can and will achieve a far better result.

Councillor Neil Macindoe

Dear Madam,

I was interested in Maryellen McColm's letter in the last Bulletin. Glebe may not indeed have been a slum in 1968. However, public bodies outside the area certainly did not regard it as a highly desirable suburb, given the moves at that time to demolish old housing and replace it with (very ugly) blocks of red brick units. That was in those parts where houses were not to be demolished to enable the construction of two expressways through Glebe. 'DMR affected' properties in particular were falling into disrepair, especially when they became vacant.

I would certainly agree with Ms McColm about the community spirit in Glebe. That, in fact, was an attraction for many newcomers to the suburb at the time, and is something which I believe is still very much alive.

Yours etc.  
Jeanette Knox

Dear Editor

As a member of the Glebe Society and resident of the suburb since the early 80s, I find the Bulletin a very useful source of information.

I would like to raise an issue that rarely appears in your publication, possibly because living in Glebe as a school-aged young person is a different experience from that of most Society members. My son is 13 and flatly refuses to move around the suburb in broad daylight as a result of gang violence. ...

I would like to know if other parents/young people have had similar problems in Glebe. If this is not an isolated case I would like to collectively explore possible action to develop more positive outcomes for all young people in Glebe. It is sad when the suburb you love is a nightmare for those closest to you. Glebe should be a place where all residents have the right to feel safe.

Yours sincerely,  
Jacqueline Roberts

# Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor,

The issue of removing rubbish from Glebe's side streets, open spaces, waterways and, in particular, Glebe Point Road itself, emerged as our No. 1 urgent issue at the Glebe Society's 2nd Strategic Planning Day.

Although our discussion on this issue was a preliminary one, it appeared that there were at least two actions that residents could take immediately if they wished to have Glebe a cleaner place. These were:

1. For each person to be responsible for the footpath in front of their house or apartment, and to remove rubbish.
2. For those people who go walking to carry two plastic bags; one to put your hand in (for hygienic reasons) when picking up rubbish, and the other to put the rubbish in.

If only a few people did this it would have an immediate impact. If we think of ourselves as responsible for our own 'village' this will help keep down our rates, improve morale, encourage visitors, and even perhaps discourage criminals. A study in New York apparently found that crime decreased when streets were clean and tidy.

Christine Stewart

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY



### Sign up for Human Rights

10 December 1998 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Across the world, Amnesty International is collecting signatures of people who support human rights. The goal is to obtain 60 million signatures, representing 1% of all the people in the world.

A book in which you can add your signature is now available in the Library.

### "Culture, Heritage and hopes for Reconciliation"

is the title of a talk to be given by Azalia Canuto-AhMat, the Co-ordinator of the NSW Department for Women's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy on Friday 7 August from 6.30 - 8 pm in the Community Room at Benledi. Admission is free.

This will coincide with a poster display on "Aboriginal Women and Reconciliation" which runs from 27 July to 14 August.

### Children's Bookweek

Glebe, Leichhardt and Balmain Libraries are conducting a competition to celebrate Children's Bookweek (22 - 28 August).

Children under 13 years of age are invited to create a piece of work that combines writing, with pictures, to tell a story about themselves. There are two Sections, 9 - 12 years, and 8 years and under (no writing is required for this section). Entry forms are available at the Library and all entries must be handed in before Monday 17 August.

### Preschool Storytime at Glebe Library

every Tuesday at 11 am

Stories, Songs, Films and Craft for people under 5.

Contact Kathleen for details - 9367. 9266

### Council's free comemorative postcards

Glebe Library has forms available for nomination of local women to be featured on Leichhardt Council's free commemorative postcard, as part of its Significant Women Project.

### THE GLEBE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

cnr Wigram and Glebe Point Rds. is open:

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 'LIVING CITY PROJECT'

### Taking Sydney beyond 2000

In 1994, the Council of the City of Sydney launched the Living City blueprint for central Sydney "to create a vibrant, living city of world standing that will be prosperous in the long term". The Council is now undertaking a comprehensive review of its guiding strategies towards 2010 and beyond, and the following areas have been identified as a focus for the review:

- physical form
- economic and financial growth
- cultural life
- social activities and programmes

The review will produce a new blueprint for central Sydney to direct the City's evolution into the new millennium and the Council is actively seeking innovative ideas and submissions from the City community.

The Glebe Society has been invited to attend a public forum to discuss these issues, and will make a written submission to the current Living City document.

### MASTER PLAN FOR

### BLACKWATTLE AND ROZELLE BAYS PRECINCT

The Society has been advised that the second stakeholders' Workshop will be held on 20 August, and the Glebe Society has been invited to send a representative. At this meeting, we are told, information on the Master Plan concept will be presented, and an opportunity provided for comment, before finalising the proposals for consideration by the Minister of Forestry and Marine Administration, and the Waterways Authority.

We expect that, as stated in the Summary Report of the June Workshop, the options will also be presented to the community *before* public exhibition. Our representative will report in the next issue of the Bulletin.

### GLEBE WEEK 1998 5 - 13 SEPTEMBER 1998

Last year we had opera, an Amnesty trivia night, school reunions, the Glebe High School band playing contemporary music, the first birthday dinner of the Glebe Salvation Army, and a Community Bonfire at Bicentennial Park - to list just some of the events.

This year the Glebe Chamber of Commerce has plans for Glebe Week which include:

- Art and Craft at St Scholastica's College
- Historical Walks, with Max Solling
- a Pub Crawl through the ten Glebe Hotels
- an Open Day at Blackwattle Studios
- Around the Radio House in Foley Park
- ... and (as they say) *many* more!

A full programme with final details, venues, dates and times will be published in our next issue, as well as in Glebe Point Road shop fronts and the Glebe Library.

# Notice Board

## GLOVER'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

Would you like to get involved in organic gardening?



Glover's Community Garden at Rozelle Hospital grounds (between Wharf Road and Glover Street) needs new members - no experience necessary. Three hours of work is repaid in vegetables, fruit, flowers and herbs.

Just bring gloves and morning tea any Saturday morning 8.30 - 12.30.  
More details from Tricia - 9719. 2929.

## GLEBE PRECINCT MEETINGS

**Precinct 12 - Forest Lodge:**  
Contact - Anthony Nicholson: 9660. 4393

**Precinct 13 - Glebe Point**  
Contact - Christine Newton: 9660. 8349

Combined Meeting Precincts 12 and 13  
1st Wednesday each month - 7 pm

**Precinct 14 - Glebe:**  
Contact: Peter Wright: 9566. 2018  
Meets 4th Sunday each month - 10 am

If any member needs car transport to and from any event organised by the Society



please ring Christine or Russell Stewart on 9660. 8324.

## Sunday Lunch

The next lunch will be at  
Cafe Dante, 33 Glebe Point Road,  
at 12.30 on Sunday 9 August



Please ring Ian Edwards on 9660. 3240.

Hope to see you there.

## RECREATION AND PEER SUPPORT (RAPS)

This group meets at Blackwattle Studios, 465 Glebe Point Road (Studios 27 and 28) and organises events on a regular basis for people aged 18 and over with physical disabilities.

Contact Sharon Smith, the co-ordinator, for information on what is planned for the coming month, phone: 9518. 8277.

## EXCURSION TO GLADESVILLE HOSPITAL

Sunday 16 August 10.30 - 3.30

The Total Environment Centre has organised a walk led by Dr Peter Reynolds through the beautiful and historic grounds of Gladesville Hospital (originally known as the Tarban Creek Lunatic Asylum).

Cost \$25/\$20 which includes a delicious lunch.

Bookings essential to Total Environment Centre, phone: 9247. 4714.

## DISCLAIMER

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



## For Your Diary ...

Friday	7 August	<b>"Culture, Heritage and hopes for Reconciliation"</b> 6.30 - 8pm Benledi, Glebe Library (see p7)
Sunday	9 August	<b>Society Lunch - all welcome</b> 12.30 - Cafe Dante, 33 Glebe Point Road
Tuesday	11 August	<b>Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting</b> 7.30 - Toxteth Hotel Meeting Room
Sunday	16 August	<b>Excursion to Gladesville Hospital</b> (see noticeboard)
Tuesday	18 August	<b>... deadline Bulletin copy ...</b>
Tuesday	25 August	<b>Leichhardt Council Meeting</b> 7.00 - Council Chambers
Sunday	30 August	<b>Annual General Meeting</b> 11 am - 36 Toxteth Road

### ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday	5 September	<b>Glebe Week begins - full details in next Bulletin</b>
Sunday	13 September	<b>Boat and Picnic Day - BOOK NOW!</b> boat departs 10.30 am from Fish Markets (see enclosed booking form)

## 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

Penny Haskins 9566. 4450

#### Committee

John Cody 9692. 9384

Ted McKeown 9660. 3917

Christine Newton 9660. 8349

Marianne von Knobelsdorff 9692. 0916

#### CONTACTS:

#### Bulletin Editor

Bobbie Burke 9692. 0343

#### Membership List

John Slecman 9692. 9507

#### New Members

Cynthia Jones 9660. 2451

#### Archivist

Lyn Milton 9660. 7930

#### Historian

Max Solling 9660. 1160

### SUB-COMMITTEE CONVENORS

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

#### Aircraft

Allison McKeown 9660. 3917

#### Bays and Foreshores

Ian Edwards (BH) 9660. 3240

#### Children and Glebe

Penny Haskins 9566. 4450

#### Diggers' Memorial

Max Solling 9660. 1160

#### Environment

Christine Whittemore 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

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

If you have a matter that you would like  
to discuss with the Management  
Committee, please ring the Secretary,  
Christine Stewart on 9660. 8324, and  
arrange to come to a meeting.

**DEADLINE**

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

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

**In this issue:**

- The Society's 3-year draft  
Strategic Plan
- Councillor Macindoe  
reports on Minogue
- A ferry trip from Blackwattle  
Bay to Circular Quay  
and back - for \$5
- AGM lift out

Print Post Approved - No. 234093/000 10

Postage  
Paid



The **GLEBE SOCIETY** Inc

Box 100 Post Office  
Glebe 2037

Ms Edwina Doe  
224 Bridge Road  
Glebe NSW 2037

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of The Glebe Society Incorporated will be held at 11 am on Sunday 30 August, at 36 Toxteth Road.

The business to be dealt with at the meeting is as follows:

1. To confirm the minutes of the last annual general meeting of the Society held on 31 August 1997.
2. To receive from the Management Committee a report upon the activities of the Society during the period from 31 August 1997.
3. To elect a new Management Committee.
4. To receive and consider the statement which is required to be submitted to members, pursuant to sub-section 26 (6) of the *Associations Incorporation Act*.
5. To resolve that two members of the Committee be authorised to sign the certificate in clause 10 of the said statement.
6. Draft Strategic Plan.
7. Any other business.

To fulfil the requirements of (2) above, we have published in this AGM issue reports from sub-Committee Convenors in the following areas: Aircraft, Bays and Foreshores, Diggers' Memorial, Environment, Light Rail, Planning, Traffic and Wentworth Park. The President's Report will be given at the meeting.

Membership of The Glebe Society runs from July to June each year; a membership renewal form is enclosed with this Bulletin, as well as a form of nomination for election to the Management Committee.

All members are invited to the AGM, and all financial members are entitled to vote. At the conclusion of business, light refreshments will be served.

Christine Stewart  
Hon. Secretary

## REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEE CONVENORS

### BAYS AND FORESHORES

The two main issues dealt with under this heading since the last Annual General Meeting have been the revival of a ferry service from Glebe to the CBD, and our response to possible developments in Blackwattle and Rozelle Bays under a Master Plan, in accordance with the requirements of Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (SREP) No. 26.

#### 1) FERRY SERVICE

The plan to revive the ferry service was initiated by the Glebe Chamber of Commerce, who had an expression of interest from Matilda Cruises at a time when Sydney Ferries regarded the project as uneconomical. There have been signs lately that Sydney Ferries may have changed their minds about that, but the proximity of the next state election may not be irrelevant.

The Society is in favour of all forms of public transport, but only on condition that they do not adversely affect the amenity of residents. With the introduction of a ferry service we must also consider the interests of recreational users of the bays, mainly the members of the Sydney University Women's Rowing Club, the old Glebe Rowing Club, and potential rowers from the Glebe High School.

#### 2) BLACKWATTLE AND ROZELLE BAYS

Possible developments under SREP 26 are a rather more urgent and serious matter. There was a meeting of stakeholders in May which was attended by John Hoddinott, whose report appeared in the May/June Bulletin. The following public meeting in the Glebe Town Hall gave residents an opportunity to express their views, which were overwhelmingly opposed to any development which would disturb their enjoyment of the bays (see June/July Bulletin). There will be a further stakeholders meeting at the headquarters of the Office of Marine Administration in August, at which The Society will have at least one representative. Our local State MLA, Sandra Nori, who has always fought for the interests of her constituents, will be at this meeting.

The Society's Boat Day in September is relevant to both these issues. It will give us an opportunity to see what we want to preserve, as well as what Matilda Cruises may have to offer in the way of a regular service to the CBD. (The numbers are restricted, so post your reservation form - enclosed with this Bulletin - ASAP).

Ian Edwards

We are now one year short of a decade since the previous Labor Government, with Liberal assistance, refused to begin serious development of Sydney's second airport at Badgerys Creek.

In December the Society wrote to the Hon. Mark Vaile, newly appointed Minister for Transport, both to give support for the Municipal Councils' visit to KSA in the garbage trucks, and to advise the Minister of our many concerns about KSA. Included in our letter was a photocopied photograph of the jet that crashed into residential buildings in Urtutsk (in the former Soviet Union). We hope to make the point that KSA is far too compromised by the lack of a buffer zone for any further airport expansion.

The Society wrote again, expressing 'concern' (to put it mildly) that a fourth runway at KSA had again been proposed by sections of the aviation industry. We should be writing again, now, expressing concern that the Liberal Member for Lindsay (Penrith), Jackie Kelly, was reported to be interested in proposing a private member's bill to increase KSA's hourly aircraft cap on movements to 120.

In March the Society made a submission on the BCK environmental impact statement (see March/April Bulletin). As the NSW Government had withdrawn its support for BCK when the impact statement was released, the Society wrote asking whether five Minister's seats within a twenty kilometre radius of BCK had anything to do with the Government's turn-around.

There was some satisfaction gained from the ABC TV 4 Corners programme 'Terminal Folly', that went to air on 3 March.

The Society asked Leichhardt Council to contribute to South Sydney Council's commissioned study on what would happen if KSA were to remain the only airport. Our Council did decide to assist in the financing of the study, and we thank them for that support. Tenders for the study were called recently.

The Society continues to receive Airport Briefing Notes that include information on numbers of aircraft movements per hour in 24 hours for two week periods at KSA. Seventy-four movements in one hour's tally is the highest movement number so far, getting close to the legislated cap for the airport of 80 per hour. Numbers of complaints from the community, reported by their suburb, are included in these Notes (see April/May Bulletin).

The Society made a valuable contribution in April to Marrickville Council's collection of third runway campaign material, including leaflets, maps, signs, badges, stickers and documents that were in the Society's possession. It was a good feeling to hand over the leaflets. They were the vehicle that distributed much

independent information on the runway and advertised all those public meetings that were held. I think the leaflets serve as evidence of the high quality community work that was done to oppose the runway. Many of us remember how impossibly hard that work was at times.

The Inner City and Foreshores Community Action Group continues its surveillance and work on helicopter facilities and noise and other issues. Articles were prepared for the Bulletin when the issue was topical in order to keep valued Society members informed.

KSA - Sydney (Kingford Smith) Airport  
BCK - Badgerys Creek Airport

Alison McKeown

## TRAFFIC

In the course of the year I have pursued correspondence with Sydney Buses about bus routes, both the possibility of new cross-regional routes, and the feasibility of introducing a new shopping/feeder bus service to link the Wentworth Park Light Rail stop, The Broadway Shopping Centre and Glebe. I also wrote personally about the unreliability of the bus service on Thursday mornings (after several weeks of time-tabled buses not arriving, or arriving very late). My correspondence has always been acknowledged, though with few practical results to date.

I have also pursued with the Federal Minister for Transport the matter of transport of freight by rail rather than heavy trucks. The Federal and State Governments are looking at ways of increasing the amount of rail freight, but again, progress is quite slow. Concerns about inequities between access, pricing, and the use of revenue from fuel excise as between rail and road transport were acknowledged - in terms that the whole subsidy question was very complicated(!) The discrimination in favour of road transport still seems to continue.

Leichhardt Council's former Traffic Advisory Committee was merged into a more general Planning Committee, and I have attended these meetings during the year. Most of the emphasis has, however, been on the development of the new Town Plan.

Council has employed consultants to prepare Local Area Traffic Management Plans for the Municipality, and I was able to attend one workshop, but not the follow-up one. However, Council's Transport Planner did supply details of the proposals for Glebe, and a submission has been made. The consultants did not take up a number of suggestions made by the Society and other members of the community. We have asked that these be taken into account in responding to the consultants' recommendations.

The Society has objected to the proposal for a roundabout at the intersection of Wigram Road and Glebe Point Road on the grounds that while this is a difficult intersection, it has not proved to be a dangerous one, and we do not want to facilitate and encourage the movement of additional traffic through Glebe. Nor do we want to risk the loss of open space from the Library grounds in order to install it!

Jeanette Knox

## DIGGERS MEMORIAL

The restoration of the Glebe Diggers' (1914-1918) War Memorial adjoining St. John's Anglican Church in Glebe Point Road was completed in December 1997 at a total cost of \$42,680.

The restoration work was necessary firstly because the memorial had deteriorated due to weathering of the sandstone and marble, and secondly because of acts of vandalism which had removed the busts of the Sailor and the Soldier, smashed the top portion of the Angel, and covered in graffiti the interior marble name plates of those killed.

The total work undertaken included a painstaking search for original material to base the restoration soundly, the constant search for donors, a successful appeal launch in October 1992, appointment of restoration architects Brian McDonald (1st stage) and Craig Burton (2nd stage), obtaining the support of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) and the commissioning of a restoration contractor, The Traditional Stonemasonry Co Pty. Ltd., who held the mould of the Soldier, Sailor and the Angel.

Photographic likenesses of the missing and damaged items were obtained from the Archives of the Sydney City Council, and the NSW Department of Planning assisted with advice, encouragement and major financial support by way of two grants under the NSW Heritage Assistance Programme totalling \$19,800, without which the project could not have been undertaken. The balance of \$22,880 was contributed by the local community.

The generous support of Leichhardt Council, The Glebe Society Inc., The Glebe Chamber of Commerce, the 55/33 Battalion (the 'Mice of Moresby') and the Leichhardt-Lilyfield RSL sub-Branch is also gratefully acknowledged by the Committee Members, Max Solling, Rev. Hugh Scott and Dr. Bill Nelson.

Max Solling

## WENTWORTH PARK

There have been two main changes over the last twelve months:

- playground equipment has been upgraded on the southern side,
- attractive heritage style seating has been installed in all public sections.

There is some concern as to the health of the fig trees, and this has been raised with Sydney City Council, which has maintained its view that there will be no major works on the Park until the Plan of Management is approved and funds are available, after the year 2000.

The Lord Mayor has invited the Society to take part in a public consultation process for the 'Living City' project (see July/August Bulletin p7, and we will present our final Wentworth Park Management Plan as an essential part of the 'Living City' with a request for funding to implement the recommendations.

Judy Vergison

## ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Attention this year has focused on monitoring new residential developments, reviewing the environmental sustainability policies outlined in the new Leichhardt Town Plan and lobbying for the protection of community open space and significant trees. A new environment policy is currently in preparation.

### LEICHHARDT TOWN PLAN

The main objective which the plan proposes to adopt in relation to the environment is ecologically sustainable development. The new Town Plan does outline solutions to negative environmental impacts resulting from increased development in principle, but these are often at the expense of the ratepayer. The Environment sub-Committee and all members of the community need to be vigilant to ensure that a balance between sound environmentally sustainable practice and reasonable cost effectiveness is made.

### COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE

The Society takes any threat to community open space very seriously. We are monitoring developments at Minogue Reserve to ensure that green space lost to the development of the ramp at the The Broadway Shopping Centre is replaced.

### SIGNIFICANT TREES

We have proposed the protection of several significant trees in Glebe. One current example is the Australian Kauri in the grounds of the Abbey Restaurant, which is under threat by development. We have proposed the inclusion of the tree on Council's Significant Tree Register, and outlined practical measures for the protection of the tree and its root system during construction of the proposed development.



### NEW ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

This is currently being developed and will address such issues as litter and rubbish removal, graffiti, public open space, landscaping, significant trees, heritage plantings and period gardens, visual quality, air and water pollution and any other relevant matters that Society members wish to include.

Christine Whittemore

With this Bulletin are two forms:

1. Nomination for Membership of the Management Committee - please return by 23 August 1998.
2. Renewal of Membership - your subscription is now due.

## PLANNING

It was a very indecisive year for planning matters. Three major potential developments have not been finalised, another is about to start and one has been decided.

### HAMILTON/THE ABBEY/REUSSDALE:

#### 156 - 160 BRIDGE ROAD

Council has decided to defer this matter. Their preference for the site is the residential option, and I believe that it is the better of the two, marginally. The other option is, of course, a convention centre. The owners have been asked to submit a revised plan, and perhaps the issue will be resolved soon.

### THE FINK SITE: 461-465 GLEBE POINT ROAD

There is no further news on this site, although a new DA may be in the offing. I still believe that it will be residential, but when it may commence is in the hands of the owner.

### JOHN FLETCHER'S CONTAINER TERMINAL SITE:

#### FORSYTH STREET

Similarly, the timing of the transfer of the workings of John Fletcher's to Port Botany seems undecided still, although the hold-up is at the other end rather than here. It will be residential with a 10-15 metre waterfront walkway.

### HAROLD PARK HOTEL: WIGRAM ROAD

The serviced apartments over the hotel have been approved in a modified form. I doubt that anything much will come from the 'plan' to build a 250-room hotel on the northern side of the Harold Park Pavey. It is, after all, public open space.

### THE FORMER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL:

#### BRIDGE ROAD, CAMPERDOWN

This site has been sold to a group called Sterling Estates, and I know nothing more about it than that, except I have heard that the plan may contain about 700 units/town houses, etc. This could bring 1,000 cars or more to our roads, because it is *de facto* Glebe, even though the postcode is 2050 for Camperdown. I have asked Ms Sandra Nori's office to enquire if any information is publicly available.

### SYDNEY COLLEGE OF THE ARTS: 266 GLEBE POINT ROAD

The former College has been bought; the main building will be converted to a residence, with unchanged external appearance. There will be a town house development at the rear, and the Society has no objection to this idea; we await the details.

### BIDURA: 357 GLEBE POINT ROAD

There is no news about the disposal of Bidura, although I believe that there has been an approach to use it as a licensed backpacker hostel. It is very unlikely, I believe, that Leichhardt Council would look favourably on such a project, as the site is almost next door to a hotel. I think residents may also have an objection (or fifty).

So, as I said, an undefined year. Generally developers are consulting Council planning staff before lodging a DA, and the plans on exhibition usually adhere to Council's planning rules. But the Society will continue to keep an eye on all major projects.

We hardly ever object to house matters, as long as there is no significant change to a heritage front exterior. I suppose that at some time in the future there will be no great amount of space in Glebe left for redevelopment.

John Hoddinott

## LIGHT RAIL

### The Year of Travelling Hopefully

Last year at this time I reported the success of the Society's evening trip on the yet-to-be-officially-opened light rail system. Since then we have been travelling hopefully towards a destination which seems to have receded almost at the same rate as we have journeyed. However, as I write the signs are that we may shortly arrive - but where?

The light rail system has been operating for almost a year with only the occasional minor glitch. It was said that the cars were wearing out their wheels around the corner leading to the ramp approaching Central Railway, and that they were having trouble getting up the steep grade on wet days. And the ticketing system was rationalised (although no one seriously suggested that prices should be reduced), and everyone wondered whether the operators could possibly be making a quid out of it. But the system attracts a reasonable number of patrons, even after the advent of ticket inspectors, and it is clean and quiet and comfortable and airconditioned - all those things which the 431 bus is not. What a pity it does not go to and from places which would make it useful to Glebe residents!

The past year has been dominated by bureaucratic processes designed to rectify this problem. A draft environmental impact statement (EIS) on the extension of the system to Lilyfield and Circular Quay was released and, while we generally applauded the proposal, we noted that access from Glebe Point Road to a stop in Lower Avon Street was not adequate.

Together with the Chamber of Commerce and Precinct 13 we proposed that an escalator be installed from the stop to the trafficked section of Palmerston Avenue, and at the end of the year that is where the matter rests.

However, rather than keep you in suspense until the next Bulletin, I will chance my arm by forecasting that within a couple of weeks, the Minister for Transport will make an announcement on light rail in the inner west. The bad news will be that the Circular Quay extension will be deferred until after the Olympic Games because the CBD is already in an unholy mess due to building projects; the good news will be that Lilyfield will not be the end of the line. Let us hope that the company has deep enough pockets to proceed with the Lilyfield extension independently of the city extension which is fundamental to the viability of the project.

Secondly, there is reason to be mildly optimistic about improving access to the proposed Lower Avon Street stop. Some time in August the Department will convene a meeting with community groups to discuss options prepared by an independent engineering consultant. Nothing has been ruled out (even a funicular railway has been considered); the aim is to arrive at a solution which will be incorporated in the planning approvals to be issued by the Government later in the year.

Bruce Davis