

The

# GLEBE SOCIETY

Bulletin

November/December 1998

A publication of THE GLEBE SOCIETY Inc Box 100 Post Office Glebe NSW 2037 Australia  
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## ON OUR WATERFRONT

“Another public meeting!” I hear you say ... but without knowing what the majority of our community wants we can't act, and what would the State and Federal Governments do to our community if we didn't tell them what we *do* and *do not* want.

**THE ISSUE: THE BAYS PRECINCT  
PUBLIC MEETING AT GLEBE TOWN HALL  
THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER  
AT 7.00 PM**

The Glebe Society has printed a wonderful policy paper and stated our position on the waterfront, but as the NSW State election is around the corner, we feel we have to inform all the candidates and make this an election issue so we get what *we* want, not what some polly has promised some developer friend.

I know this is close to Xmas, but the last meeting called by the State Government consultants was a few months ago now [see Bulletin 5/98, pp 1, 4-5] and everything has gone quiet, probably because of the election. Sandra Nori is keeping a good close eye on the issue. Thanks again.

But what if a Liberal government is in Macquarie Street?

What do *they* want for our foreshores?

The following concerned residents have got together and called this meeting to force the parties to act - or at least give us promises before the election:

The Glebe Society  
Councillor Sheehan  
Glebe Precincts 12, 13,  
and 14  
Annandale Precincts 9  
and 10, and  
Save the Rozelle Bay  
Group

I ask that you come - the meeting wont be too long - we will have reps from Council *and* the Government *and* the industries already on the bays.

If we can work together we can take an untidy unapproachable foreshore and turn it into a safe, interesting, recreational workspace. This has got to start now before the historic Coal Loader disintegrates. We can all work together with community support and interaction.

Chris Newton  
Glebe Precinct 13

### also in this issue - the last for '98 ...

- initial responses to the Master Plan for the Children's Hospital site, p3
- a community project in Sheehy Street, p5
- a management plan for Blackwattle Bay Park and Bellevue, p6

# HIGHLIGHTS

from the **GLEBE SOCIETY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**



## Minogue Reserve

A Management Plan [see liftout, Bulletin 9/98] has been prepared by landscape architects to improve the mess that is now Minogue Reserve. We have expressed concern about the large ramp and the rather inappropriate sculptures, about the removal of large jacarandas, and have requested that the reserve be used for public passive recreation. We will also register our concern at the waste of money entailed in landscaping this area twice, as a residents' committee - set up specially to advise on this space - was not heeded in the first place

## Children's Hospital Site [see page 3]

[Note: Master Plans are preliminary development proposals and are a new step in the development control process in South Sydney. They indicate a range of possible development options on such sites, in most cases prior to the preparation of the DA. Masterplans are not Development Applications. Their endorsement or rejection by Council is not equivalent to an approval or refusal of a DA. They provide the local community and Council with an additional opportunity to be informed by and comment on future DAs.]

## Bellevue

Leichhardt Council has made a commitment to restore Bellevue, the dilapidated old building in Blackwattle Bay park at the end of Leichhardt Street, by 30 June 2000. A company has been selected that has a good record of community consultation to prepare the Management Plan for the park and Bellevue [see report, p6] - we understand that there have been expressions of interest.

## Christmas Party

See notice on this page. We suggest that people might like to donate a gift for the children of Glebe.

## Light Rail

We were pleased to read in the newspapers that the Light Rail is to go through to Lilyfield. Obviously we would like it to go through to Circular Quay, but this is unlikely to happen until after the year 2000 as there is so much construction going on in the city already. Apparently a French company is taking over the project.

## Donation to St. Scholastica's

The Society will donate \$70 to provide two prizes to the school.

## Overbridge to Wentworth Park

We are very concerned about the proposal by City West to erect a large and intrusive overbridge across Wattle Street to Wentworth Park. As there are lights there already, we question how much use it would have and whether the \$800,000 cost could not be better spent. We will make enquiries as to the reasons which could justify this. We are also concerned that this be done in conjunction with the overall Landscape Plan for Wentworth Park, as it is just such ad hoc developments as these that make a mockery of attempts to achieve good and harmonious design.

## Mapping our History Project

A committee has now been formed to assess applications for grants such as our 'Mapping our History' Project.

## Funds Raised at the Boat Day

We are discussing the best use of the \$540 raised on this day, mostly through the raffle; various suggestions are being considered.

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



## THE GLEBE SOCIETY'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Date:** Sunday 6 December 1998

**Time:** 5 - 7 pm

**Place:** on the grass in front of Glebe Library,  
corner of Wigram and Glebe Point Rds  
If the weather is wet - in 'Benledi'  
(same address)

Members and friends are welcome to enjoy the Society's Christmas party. Please bring your own food and drink; an alternative is that simple food will be available at a small cost - but bring your own drink.

Chairs and the Society's drinking glasses will be available. To celebrate Christmas, panforte and Christmas cake will be passed around, provided by members' donations and the Society.

Hope to see you there!

# THE MASTER PLAN FOR THE FORMER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL SITE

## RESPONSE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Two thousand people is a lot. Their future homes don't yet exist - except for outlines on paper.

The Management Committee received an excellent presentation from a team representing the developers of the former Children's Hospital site. It is fair to say we were impressed! There were plans, sketches, photographs. Many different kinds of accommodation - terrace house style, high rise, conversion of existing older style buildings into apartments. Large courtyards, an impressive amount of open space, lots of scope for trees and other greenery. Even so, the project raises a few difficult questions.

Fifteen storeys is big! True, it is in a corner surrounded by factories, on the south west, so shouldn't block sun from any residential areas. True, to accommodate a given number of people, the further up you go, the more open space you can have on the ground. The top units at least, will have spectacular views. However, you do have to be confident that 15 storeys won't end up spoiling the character of the area. High rise has a different feel, somehow. Then there is parking. South Sydney Council want to severely restrict the amount of parking - well below the minimum the developers consider necessary. Here is the dilemma - more cars mean more traffic congestion in the area. Less parking may not mean less cars - it may mean more parking congestion round about. It's an exercise in trying to predict the behaviour of the unknown two thousand. Is anyone thinking about their needs for public transport?

Then there is the question of who will pay for and maintain the large areas of open space and adjoining parkland. The Council doesn't want to. This will be another job for the unknown two thousand or their elected representatives. Will they be enthusiastic enough to ensure their environment is looked after? Or will they want to conserve their cash? You can predict there may be some of each. The rules will have to be clear at the outset.

It seems strange that the best way to preserve Orphan School Creek Gully is to bulldoze the whole area, take out all the polluted soil (down to a metre) and start from the beginning again. The wildlife will presumably have to move out while all this is happening.

We try to resist being swept away by an excellent presentation - to see where there is room for improvement. It brings out the fact that some of us care most about the open space, some the traffic problems, others the possible dangers of high rise as a precedent in the area - a healthy divergence from The Glebe Society but apparently many others as well. It is part of a consultative process which, hopefully, will ultimately benefit the new 2,000, as well as the rest of us who live nearby.



Russell Stewart

## RESPONSE FROM OUR PLANNING CONVENOR

The Master Plan for this site is still on display at Glebe Library, and I would recommend that members have a look at it, with the view to making submissions. I have attended a few meetings about the development, and see no desperately objectionable issues. Glebe residents will know that we have very little sway over the planning regulations of South Sydney City Council. The fact that a 15-storey block has been proposed is out of our area of influence; however, we may be able to put pressure to increase the car space ratio.

One of my concerns would centre around on-site parking, as SSCC has a requirement for fewer spaces overall than does Leichhardt. With the lack of any significant off-site parking in that area, I feel that SSCC may have to make an exception for this major development. This view is not to encourage more private car usage, but simply to face up to the fact that potential buyers of the apartments in this development are likely to have about one car per adult.

The other major concern is that public transport be upgraded to cope with an increased demand from the 2000 or so new residents. The development will take up to five years to reach completion, so there is time for infrastructure planning measures to be put in place now. Better public transport could reduce the dependence on car usage, of course.

The provision of public open space by the developer, Sterling Estates, is welcome, and my impression is that they have been very sympathetic to community views and suggestions.

John Hoddinott

## RESPONSE FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

We are pleased that the developers of this site have been so willing to confer with and listen to the concerns of residents. It is a very encouraging sign. They are also keen to preserve as many of the more historic buildings as possible and to contribute as much green space as they can. The trade-off for this is one high rise building of 15 storeys. Fortunately, this will be along a busy road, corner of Bridge Road and Booth Street and is in South Sydney Council so will not set a precedent for Glebe. As it is on the south side, the development will not be overshadowed. Although we are concerned about this and will be pressing for 12 storeys rather than 15, we realise that this will mean more space for children to play and less concrete.

We will also press for more public transport for all these additional people and as much on-site parking as possible. The Orphan School Creek Gully has to be bulldozed as there is a requirement to remove all contaminated soil. However, it will be replanted under the guidance of some responsible body such as the National Trust.

The drawings make the development look very attractive and there will be a walkway that might eventually link up with our hoped-for Millennium Walk along the foreshore. The developers assert, and our Traffic Convenor agrees, that there will be far less traffic movement with this development than there was with the Hospital.

## THE CHANGING FACE OF GLEBE

**Fascination House, et al:** 115-119 Glebe Point Road. Council has refused the DA for this property; this does not surprise me, as there were 35 objections - a large number, by any count.

*...water, water everywhere ...*

I discovered from a friend who had once considered leasing or renting some of the building, that there is a creek or watercourse directly under it; he had seen it when some floor boards were lifted, I think I remember him saying. This would have made the construction of underground parking rather difficult.

Almost 20 years ago I was telephoned by a builder who had uncovered an old sandstone well, near Derwent Lane and St. John's Road, as he was working on the Darling Mills Restaurant site. I had a look and later found out that it was known to local historians. Just by chance, a few days ago, a Glebe resident told me of an underground watercourse near Derwent Street - it is probably connected with this same well.

During excavations for the Toxteth Hotel's wine cellar another well was found, lined with hand-made bricks. It was very likely in the backyard of one of the two former terrace houses on the corner, and must date back well over a century.

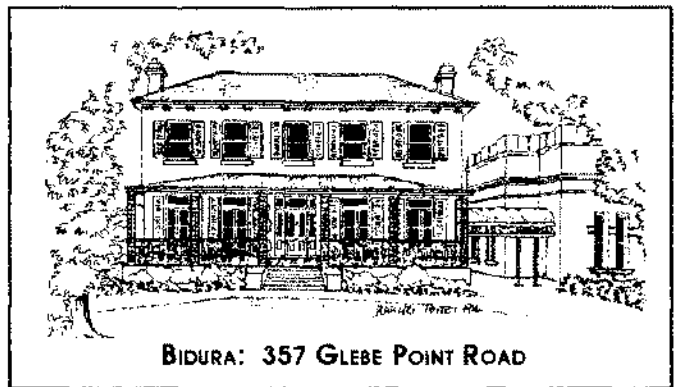
Both of these wells are on the higher points of Glebe, and it makes sense that access to potable water (and don't we Sydney-siders know all about that matter!) was an essential in a young colony, and in one of its first suburbs. Then, too, the area we now know as Wentworth Park was Blackwattle Bay, and would probably have had many creeks running into it, given the hilliness of the Glebe, Pyrmont and Ultimo sandstone ridges.

Another creek that members will be familiar with is Orphan School Creek Gully (the 'OG' in FRROGs) behind the former Children's Hospital. The publican of the Toxteth, Shaughn Murphy, has suggested that we have another walk around the historic photographs in the hotel, provided we can persuade Max Solling (Glebe's walking-talking CD-ROM) to give us his time again. This could perhaps be in autumn 1999, and could also include a look at the well in the wine cellar.

Another site comes to mind, I think near the corner of Darghan Street and St. John's Road. Does anyone know about this? The story of water in this part of Sydney would be very interesting, if someone out there has time to do some research on the issue.

### **Fletcher's Site: Forsyth Street**

I will try to clarify details of the hold-up of Fletcher's move to Botany. As far as I can tell, it has very little to do with Leichhardt Council, but rather with Fletcher's inability to have its Port Botany property approved for container storage by Botany Council.



Still no news about the likely uses of Bidura (which will not be vacated until the end of 1999), nor the Royal College of Nursing. I have looked at some residential DAs and none seemed really awful, although I have passed on some minor concerns verbally to Councillor Neil Macindoe.

**Former Children's Hospital site** [see p3]

John Hoddinott

## **A PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR BLACKWATTLE BAY PARK AND BELLEVUE**

Leichhardt Council has engaged EDAW Landscape Architects and Environmental Planners to prepare a Plan of Management and Masterplan for Blackwattle Bay Park. The Park is located on the headland which divides Rozelle Bay and Blackwattle Bay on the southern side of Anzac Bridge (formerly named Glebe Island Bridge).

The Plan of Management aims to establish policies for planning, maintenance and public use of Blackwattle Bay Park. It includes suggested options for re-use of the heritage Bellevue property.

A major component of the preparation of the Plan of Management is to gain community interest. EDAW recently completed a Community Research programme comprising qualitative focus groups with randomly selected members of the local community. Focus groups were undertaken with children, teenagers and adults. Findings from the focus groups suggest that the Park is a precious local park situated within a dense inner city suburb. It is valued for a range of reasons including its natural vegetation and setting, its secluded corners and spectacular views.

The heritage house 'Bellevue' is valued for its heritage and aesthetic qualities. The future re-use of this house is a sensitive issue, which will be considered carefully after further discussions with Council, interest groups and the community.

A public meeting will soon be held to encourage ideas from other members of the local community, particularly nearby neighbours to the Park.

John van Pelt and Natalie Fisher  
EDAW (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.

# Letter to the Editor

Dear Madam

In her letter concerning cricket nets in the area (published in your October/November Bulletin) Cenny Kang asserts that Glebe High School charges community groups for the use of its cricket nets. This is not correct. Glebe High School hasn't charged and doesn't charge Glebe Cricket Club or other groups to use its grounds. On the contrary, it welcomes community use of the area (outside school hours).

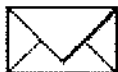
The school turns 20 early in 1999, and the grounds, which were completely desolate when the school opened, are now a well grown park, with hundreds of native species, including a rainforest arbor planted and tended by Max Solling of the P&C. We hope the century old Glebe Rowing Club, whose activities have been in enforced suspension after their shed was sold from under them, will be operating again soon from a brand new shed inside the school grounds.

Community commitment and pressure was instrumental in getting Glebe High under way in 1979. So the school hopes that many of your readers, and the whole Glebe community, will take part in the March celebrations we are planning around next year's anniversary (details to be announced soon).

But, if you haven't seen our school and its surrounds lately, come soon to walk around and enjoy our harbourside park, a unique setting for a splendidly designed school.

Yours sincerely,

Roger Mackell  
President  
Glebe High School Parents' and  
Citizens' Association  
c/- Glebe High School,  
Taylor Street, Glebe.



## SHEEHY STREET COMMUNITY PROJECT

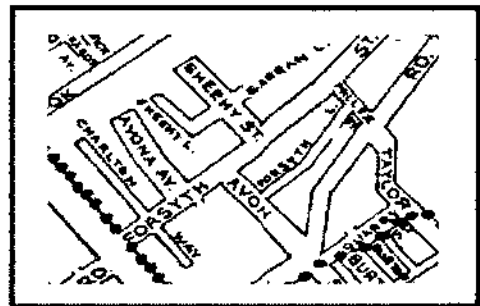
Due to the hard work of local residents and Leichhardt Council Traffic Planner, David Trebilcock, Council recently approved Sheehy Street in Glebe as a pilot neighbourhood for the first Sydney trial of David Engwicht's Traffic Reduction Kit (see Bulletin 9/98, p4).

The aim of the Kit is to encourage residents to reduce their car use (by walking, cycling, combining trips, car-pooling and shopping locally) and to recycle the redundant road surface as community space. An important part of the scheme involves neighbours working together, designing and building as a team, and creating a stronger sense of community.

Sheehy Street is a cul-de-sac which runs off Forsyth Street. It is an ideal site for the trial. The carriageway is five lanes wide. There is a high proportion of units in the street, creating demand for more open space. Many locals do not drive, and most pedestrians walk in the centre of the road. Council engineers identified Sheehy Street in the mid-eighties as a street where a significant proportion of the road should be reclaimed from cars for community use. A plan was drawn up by the Engineering Department for the creation of a 'shared zone', but lapsed.

Local residents then drew up their own scheme in 1994, which involved public seating, community gardening areas, and curving automobile access. It was because of this history of local support for improvement to the street that David Trebilcock approached David Engwicht to trial his Traffic Reduction Kit in Glebe.

In the words of Environmental Planning Manager, Sophie Handley, "I look forward with much enthusiasm to the commencement of this groundbreaking project. I believe it to be the starting point in turning around one of the biggest problems facing us in Sydney ...".



An integral part of the Kit is a 20 minute video "Less Traffic, Slower Speeds", part of which was filmed in Sheehy Street, during an impromptu street party, complete with coffee bar and lounge chairs in the middle of the road! Among other locals, Asa Wahlquist, Marianne von Knobelsdorff and Sally Bongers are featured in the cast!

One of the first steps of the process is to hold a Street Party in Sheehy Street! Keep your eyes open for posters advertising this historic event, planned for a Saturday before Christmas. If you are interested, please ring me on 9660. 4135.

Paul Elliott

**GREEN WASTE:** Hessian bags for disposal of 'Green Waste' can be bought for 50 cents from the Glebe Library. Green waste is collected fortnightly by Council's Waste Collection Services in these bags (or cardboard boxes) - check your collection day with Council. Green Waste is grass clippings; leaves; flowers and weeds. Small tree branches and untreated timber pieces, will also be collected - but check with Council for size. This material is mulched and used in parks.

The hessian bags are often returned to the householder, and the money goes some way to cover the cost of collection thus saving re-usable matter going into landfill, which is rapidly running out in Sydney. The cost of garbage collection will inevitably rise as landfill space decreases. For more information, contact Leichhardt Council on 9367. 9060.

John Hoddinott

# COUNCILLOR MACINDOE'S YEAR-END REPORT FROM COUNCIL

## The Broadway Shopping Centre

For Glebe 1998 was dominated by a major event in March - the opening of The Broadway Shopping Centre, which has brought great benefit to local families and people on low incomes. It is important to understand that this is not just a new development for Glebe, but for the whole of the inner city, and it serves a huge area, just as Grace Bros. did. For six months last year I chaired a special traffic committee to deal with potential problems from this, the largest development in the history of the municipality, and it is owing to the efforts of the residents and council officers on that committee that there have been so few difficulties. Although there have been some repercussions for some businesses in Glebe Point Road, there are already signs of readjustment and recovery. To assist residents and businesses in this readjustment, Council is proceeding rapidly with the **Glebe Point Road Project**. New street trees, many more than previously, now extend from Broadway to Rozelle Bay, and there will be further replacements and additions next year. New street furniture, improved footpaths, pedestrian safety and street lighting are on the way, as are compatible art works [see p9], some with extensive resident participation. A new plan for Minogue Reserve has been exhibited, and comment invited. Council is giving special attention to the youth of the area to help reduce crime, and the indoor basketball court is already extensively booked.

## Local Area Traffic Management

The recommendations of the Local Area Traffic Management consultants will be presented to Council's Traffic Committee on 27 November, and to Council itself early next year. Many residents have contacted me with their concerns, and I assure them Council will take these into account [see article p8].

## Waste Collection

1998 also saw the introduction of a new system of waste collection and street cleansing. Most people now have bins, and this has led to a reduction in the quantity of waste, and in dumping - which is most important to improve the cleanliness of the area. Residents have warmly welcomed the fortnightly collection of green waste [see p5]. If you are still experiencing difficulties, please ring 9367. 9060.

## The Army Drill Hall

Recently Council won a major victory in the courts when Senior Assessor Jensen confirmed the conditions imposed on the army site in Hereford Street. Council will now be able to levy developers the full amount for both open space and community facilities.

## New Plans

On 5 November Council adopted a new **Town Plan**. Special thanks are due to Jeanette Knox, who represented Glebe residents throughout the extremely protracted and complex deliberations of the committee. The number of Items of Environmental Heritage in Glebe increases substantially (and includes the Valhalla cinema). The new Town Plan is a trim and coherent document based on four principles: ecologically sustainable development; natural and built environment and amenity; heritage, and transport and access. It establishes strict reduced densities for all dwellings, not just development sites (Floor Space Ratios of 0.5:1 for Leichhardt/Lilyfield; 0.6:1 for Annandale; 0.7:1 for Glebe and Balmain, which recognises variations in existing densities) and many additional environmental safeguards. It now goes to the NSW Department of Planning, and Council is keyed up to defend its tighter controls. A Development Control Plan to complement this document will come before Council in the new year.

The battle to maintain the standard of development (and prevent unwanted development) in and near Glebe is a continuous one. We owe a great debt to John Hoddinott,

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### **The new Town Plan is a trim and coherent document based on four principles:**

- ecologically sustainable development
- natural and built environment and amenity
- heritage
- transport and access

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### **It establishes strict reduced densities for all dwellings, not just development sites ... and many additional environmental safeguards.**

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whose admirable reports in the Bulletin are but a pale reflection of the tremendous job he does behind the scenes. Mention should also be made of Marianne von Knobelsdorf and Ian Edwards for their efforts regarding the foreshore, and of the work of Judy Vergison in a number of areas.

A Development Application for the former Children's Hospital [see p3, and

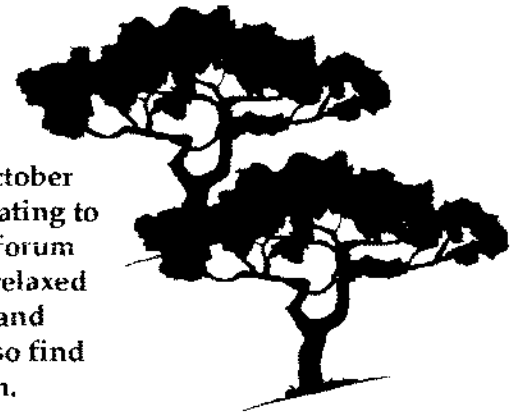
Bulletin 9/98] will shortly come before South Sydney Council. Although the development will be significantly larger than would have been acceptable in Leichhardt, it appears that the impact on our suburb will be moderate, and accompanied by some important benefits in the long run, owing to the efforts of many people including FRROGS, led by Roberta Johnston.

The children's playground in Bicentennial Park Stage II was officially opened on 8 November, and has been heavily used since its completion in May. This is another project to which Society members made a major contribution. Preparation of a Management Plan for Blackwattle Bay Park and Bellevue is now under way [see p4] and interested members are invited to contact John van Pelt on 9906. 6899.

1998 has been a very busy, but productive, year. My best wishes to all Society members for the festive season, and I look forward to working with you again in 1999.

Neil Macindoe

# REPORT ON THE SOCIETY'S SUNDAY FORUMS ON THE GLEBE ENVIRONMENT



The purpose of the forums at the Noora Café in September/October was to gather ideas and comments from residents on matters relating to the environment in Glebe which are of concern to them. The forum provided a good meeting point in which to discuss issues in a relaxed atmosphere over a cup of coffee, meet new Glebe residents and provide a presence in Glebe Point Road. Here people could also find out about the role of the Society and be encouraged to join.

Attendance at the forum by passers-by, Society members and people who had read the advertisements in the library or shops was encouraging. It was thought that if this were to be a regular meeting point it could become quite popular. The proprietors at the Noora Café were friendly and very helpful and, we think, happy to encourage our custom. Neil Macindoe, one of our Glebe Ward Councillors, dropped in a couple of times and joined in the discussion.

The items of greatest concern were litter and rubbish on the streets, graffiti, weeds in the pavements and front gardens and 'landscaping'. People were quite animated and had some great ideas and positive suggestions for improvement. Here they are:

- Recommendation for a by-law to get rid of noxious weeds such as asthma weed.  
Council could circulate pictures of noxious weeds.
- Owners should be responsible for weed removal and tidy gardens including concrete gardens which are weed infested - owners should pay!
- Recommendation for daily garbage collection in commercial areas.
- Shops should be responsible for cleanliness outside their premises.
- Recommendation for a public compost bin.
- Garbage and recycling bin designs should be researched to find better functional solution and more aesthetically sensitive design.
- Action required from Leichhardt Municipal Council to send notices to residents to remove household recycling and garbage bins from the streets and follow up with prosecutions.
- Graffiti considered to be offensive and does not develop aesthetic sensibility. Graffiti has fallen out of fashion on trains in New York.
- Recommendation for action campaign to return junk mail to distributor.

**A follow up** on one of the matters raised by Genny Kang in last month's Bulletin (p7): we understand that arrangements have been made with the Parks and Streetscapes Manager at Leichhardt Council for the shared use of Jubilee Oval by the Glebe Cricket Club and the Petersham Marrickville District Cricket Club. Ed.

- Encourage Glebe youth to get involved in 'tidy Glebe' campaigns; provide awards, prizes and other incentives for performance.
- Library garden disappointing in outcome. No sense of colour in the building. Garden should also be part of restoration. Proposal for a sculpture garden. More colourful trees and shrubs including Illawarra Flame Tree, Queensland Firewheel Tree. Garden not receiving adequate maintenance, no watering, plants dying.
- Existing brick fence around Library has been exposed to water penetration, weathering and failure due to removal of brick capping course which should be replaced. People now climb over brick fence and track across grass. Cyclone wire fence should be replaced (smaller size) and planted with climbing plants.
- Put pressure on authorities to perform.

Generally the items discussed reflected those discussed at the Society's Strategic Planning sessions held this year, which does seem to suggest that there are a lot of people out there with the same thoughts in mind. A plan of action could now be prepared and put into effect after endorsement by the Management Committee.

Many thanks to Marianne von Knobelsdorf for her unfailing support and unwavering energy.

Christine Whittemore  
Convenor, Environment sub-Committee

#### COMMENT:

*The Glebe and Inner Western Weekly* reported (11.11.98, p2) that Marrickville Council is co-operating with the community in a project to eradicate the asthma-causing weed. Should we ask Leichhardt Council to join in this undertaking?

Perhaps we could take advantage of the composting space being provided in the Glebe Community Garden (see Bulletin 9/98, p5).

The Strategic Plan 1998-2001 adopted by the Society at this year's AGM outlines Key Issue 2 as "Streets, parks, waterways and commercial area to be free of rubbish, litter and graffiti" (see Bulletin 6/98, p2). We expect the Project Team working on this issue to get under way early in 1999.



## REPORT FROM FRROGS

The concert which was held in September in support of FRROGS featured the work of Martin Wesley-Smith. It was the occasion of the premiere of 'Thin Green Line', a song written especially for the Gully, and to support our work in the urban environment, which was presented in a bracket of environmental songs.

'Oh Brother of Mine' was the second premiere, and was dedicated to Paul Robeson and performed by Liam Ridgeway (didgeridoo) and Clive Birch (bass baritone). It was quite poignant in the current political environment.

The acoustics of the St. John's Church Hall are very good and were much appreciated by the performers, The Song Company, who were in fine voice.

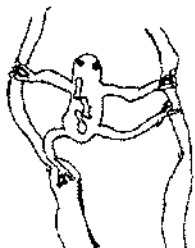
Mention must be made of Paul Lovell of Oaklands Florist Glebe, whose generous support and time given in setting up a beautiful floral display made a wonderful backdrop for the singers. The Toxteth Hotel, Broadway Liquor Distributor, many of the cafes, and Darling Mills of Glebe were also generous in providing refreshments. \$896 was raised, with thanks to Gleebooks.

Positive feedback suggests that everyone enjoyed the concert as much as we, the organisers, did.

FRROGS were successful in their application to the Natural Heritage Trust, submitted in March 1998. \$10,000 was granted - over a three year period - to revegetate three quadrats in the Leichhardt Council area of the Gully.

For those who do not know the actual location of The Orphan School Creek, it rises within The University of Sydney, and flows under Parramatta Road through Forest Lodge to drain into Johnstons Creek between the former Children's Hospital site and Wigram Road. The Creek has, since 1925, flowed from its source in The University of Sydney to its junction with Johnstons Creek entirely within a culvert.

The logo used by FRROGS is a drawing of Peron's Tree Frog, by Christopher, aged 8 yrs.



Roberta Johnston

### RUBBISH!

The amount of rubbish around Glebe has been a matter of constantly recurring complaint by members and residents. Some of us also find ourselves swamped by plastic bags that are often hard not to accept from shopkeepers.

One member of the Management Committee has had the bright idea of using one problem to solve the other. When out for a walk she has been taking two plastic bags with her, and filling one of them with litter. The second bag is used for the actual picking up.

If we all did this, even occasionally, we could make a difference to the litter problems of our suburb.

Couldn't we?

Jeanette Knox

## PROBLEMS WITH THE TRAFFIC PLAN

Because of an error in advertising, which indicated a second extension of the date for submitting comments on the Glebe Traffic Management Study and which gave me (I thought) time to discuss our submission at the October Management Committee meeting, our comments arrived too late to be incorporated into the final LATM report. I thought members might, however, be interested in the response I did receive from Sophie Handley, Manager, Environmental Planning and Regulation, for the Director, Environmental Management, Leichhardt Council, which was as follows:

"Thank you for your submission in response to the exhibition of the Local Area Traffic Management Study, on behalf of the Glebe Society.

Your comments unfortunately reached the Council too late for the consultant to incorporate them into the final LATM report. Your response to the survey was however faxed to the consultant and has been incorporated into their database. I would like to assure you that we have received an extremely large number of similar comments to your own in response to the mooted roundabout at the intersection of Wigram Road and Glebe Point Road, one-way traffic in Forsyth Street and Ferry Road, and the proposed changes to Avenue Road.

You may rest assured that the consultant is unlikely to recommend that the Council formally adopt any of the draft proposals which have received a generally negative response from the public, and which are not regarded as having great importance from a road safety point of view.

Once the Council has adopted the final LATM Study Report, the Council Operations Division will be responsible for carrying out the recommended works. Before any particular works can be implemented, detailed design of each will have to be undertaken. At that stage, further consultation with residents and businesses directly affected will be undertaken."

Jeanette Knox

The management plan for the Glebe Point Road Project included an analysis of traffic in Glebe Point Road and development of a traffic plan after consultation with the community.

Much of the Project's October meeting was devoted to a presentation and discussion of local area traffic management plans by Council's traffic consultants, who have now independently drawn up yet another traffic plan for Glebe Point Road. At the meeting, Council's traffic planner commented that he had not previously heard of the Glebe Point Road Project (a decade after it has been running!).

It appears that the lack of communication between the Environmental Management section and the Engineering section (which is responsible for the Glebe Point Road Project) that led to the problems with the work on Minogue Reserve earlier this year, is continuing.

The implications of this involve time and investment that could go to better use. We will suggest that the Environmental Planning Management attend the next Project meeting.

Fiona Campbell  
Glebe Point Road Project

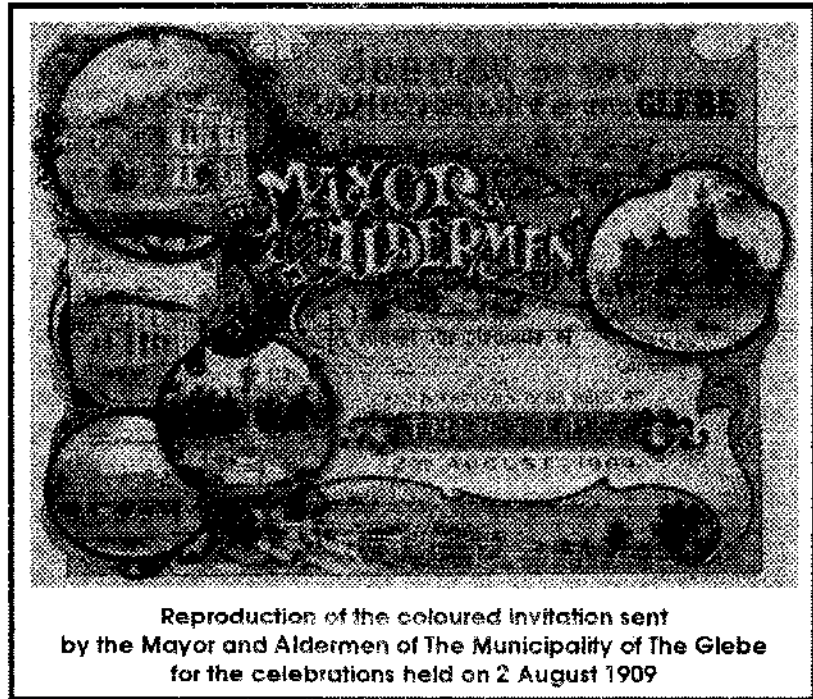


## GLEBE:

### A PLACE TO CELEBRATE

In 1909 the Glebe celebrated its first 50 years as a separate municipality. To mark the joyous occasion the Jubilee Fountain was erected at the entrance of Glebe Point Road, and Jubilee Park was created. Celebrations were organised by the Mayor and Aldermen to be held on 2 August 1909, and a lavish, colour invitation was sent out to the worthies of the area, reproduced (unfortunately in black and white only!) on this page. The places particularly illustrated are: the Town Hall, Grace Brothers store, described as 'Entrance to the Glebe', the Jubilee Fountain, the First Council Chambers and the Post Office.

A copy of the lithographed invitation has recently been given to The Glebe Society, and it has been suggested that we might think up some way of marking the 140th Anniversary of Glebe as a separate and unique locality next year, on 2 August 1999. Perhaps a historical Costume Ball at the old Glebe Town Hall might fit the occasion? It would be a great pleasure to send out a colour facsimile of the original invitation to all Society members and admirers of Glebe, and the Committee will consider this possibility at its first meetings in the new year.



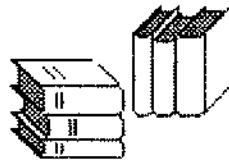
Reproduction of the coloured invitation sent by the Mayor and Aldermen of The Municipality of The Glebe for the celebrations held on 2 August 1909

Certainly we are all agreed that the Glebe is a great place to celebrate!

John Cody

#### NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE GLEBE LIBRARY

- Books on interior design and architecture (worth \$2000) have been donated by the tenants of Benledi House to celebrate the Library's first birthday.
- A collection of Classics was donated by the Friends of Benledi and the Glebe Library.
- Bankstown Skillshare has donated material on new literacy and learning English.



#### NOTE:

**Christmas/New Year 1998/99 - Hours of Opening.**  
The Glebe Library will close at 12 noon on Thursday 24 December, and reopen at 9.30 am on Monday 4 January 1999. Leichhardt Library will have limited opening hours during this period - check at the Library.

#### ERRATA

At one place on p1 of the lift out on Minogue Reserve in the last Bulletin, it states that \$5,250 was paid for the land purchased for a rest area and children's playground. The land was purchased in 1949, and the amount should of course read "£5,250". Ed.

#### PUT UP YOUR DUKES !

Sculptor Ian Lisser-Sproule is finalising the details of his *Boxing Gloves* artwork for the Glebe Point Road streetscape programme. Celebrating the history of Glebe, the sculpture consists of a pair of life-size boxing gloves cast in bronze and mounted inside a metal cavity in the footpath in front of Gleebooks at 49 Glebe Point Road. A transparent industrial glass cover will be placed over the cavity, flush with the footpath, allowing people to walk over the top of the artwork. At night the boxing gloves will be lit.

The artwork evokes boxing history and culture, a major pre-war recreation for the working classes within the inner suburbs of Sydney. The installation in front of this Gleebooks store is significant, as it was the actual site of Laming's Golden Gloves Boxing Gymnasium. It is also an accolade for local boxing heroes, including indigenous boxer Dave Sands (who is commemorated on the stone set into the wall at the Jubilee Fountain). Installation is expected during December, with a launch planned in January.

[This information comes principally from the July 1998 issue of the *Gleebooks Gleaner*.]

# Notice Board



## Holiday Activities at the Glebe Library

- ☆ Come and see the Victorian Christmas Tree in the Library from the beginning of December
- ☆ CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA for all Senior Citizens and large print readers! at the Glebe Library and Benledi Meeting Room  
10.45 am - 12 noon  
Wednesday 16 December  
Write a review of your favourite large print book and be in the running for a book prize  
RSVP to the Library for catering purposes - 9367. 99262  
by Wednesday 9 December
- ☆ FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY  
11 am Tuesday 22 December  
Stories, films, craft and carols  
Please bring a plate of Christmas fare for the party
- ☆ CLOWNING WORKSHOP  
10 am - 12 noon Friday 8 January  
Tickets available now - cost \$9  
Numbers limited
- ☆ SUMMER LUCKY DIP READING CLUB  
See the Library's Kid's Biz noticeboard for details
- ☆ PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIME  
will continue in December and January on Tuesday's at 11 am as usual

### DISCLAIMER

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



Another

**very important**

## **PUBLIC MEETING !**

to discuss the future of

## **THE BAYS PRECINCT**

at

Glebe Town Hall

7 pm

Thursday 10 December

See article, p1

## **SUNDAY LUNCH**

The last Sunday lunch of the year will be at

**Spanish Tapas**

**28 Glebe Point Road**

**on 13 December at 12.30**

BYO and licenced

Credit cards accepted

Come and join us!

Ring Ian Edwards on 9660. 3240



Legal problems?

Need to make a will?

Worried about the cost of legal advice?

## **FREE LEGAL ADVICE SERVICE**

**FOR PEOPLE ON LOW INCOMES**

The Glebe Community Church sponsors a free Legal Advice Service for people on low incomes, courtesy of local resident, solicitor, and Glebe historian, Max Solling.

**First Friday of every month  
from 9 - 11 am**

**at The Glebe Uniting Church Centre  
37-47 St. John's Rd., Glebe**

For more information ring John Connor  
9692. 8377. or 9569. 1365



## For Your Diary ...

Sunday	6 December	<b>Society Christmas Picnic</b> 5 - 7pm -at Benledi and Library grounds, see p2
Wednesday	9 December	<b>Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting</b> 7.30pm - Toxteth Hotel Meeting Room
Thursday	10 December	<b>Bays Precinct Public Meeting</b> 7.00 pm - Glebe Town Hall, see article p1
Sunday	13 December	<b>Society Lunch - all welcome</b> 12.30 pm - Spanish Tapas, see Notice Board
Sunday	13 December	<b>Glebe Music Festival - see flyer enclosed</b> 4.00 pm - St Scholastica's Chapel, 1 Avenue Road
Wednesday	16 December	<b>Senior Citizens Christmas Morning Tea</b> 10.45 am - at the Library, see Notice Board
Wednesday	16 December	<b>Glebe Music Festival - see flyer enclosed</b> 8.00 pm - Margaretta Cottage, 6 Leichhardt Street
Friday	18 December	<b>Glebe Music Festival - see flyer enclosed</b> 8.00 pm - Margaretta Cottage, 6 Leichhardt Street
Tuesday	22 December	<b>Family Christmas Party</b> 11 am - at the Library, see Notice Board
Thursday	24 December	<b>Glebe Library closed until Monday 4 January</b>

### ADVANCE NOTICE - 1999

Wednesday	10 February	<b>Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting</b> 7.30pm - Toxteth Hotel Meeting Room
Tuesday	16 February	<b>... deadline Bulletin copy ...</b>
	March	<b>Celebrations at Glebe High School</b> details next Bulletin (to be posted end February)

## The Glebe Society Inc



### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

#### President

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

#### Senior Vice-President

Jennifer Reed Burns 9692. 9369

#### Junior Vice-President

Cynthia Jones 9660. 2451

#### Immediate Past President

Mavis McCarthy 9660. 5119

#### Secretary

Christine Stewart 9660. 8324

#### Treasurer

Penny Haskins 9566. 4450

John Cody 9692. 9384

Ted McKeown 9660. 3917

Christine Newton 9660. 8349

Marianne von Knobelsdorff 9692. 0916

Andrew Wood 9660. 2194

### 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

**Environment** Christine Whittemore 9660. 7969

**FRROGS** Roberta Johnston 9552. 3248

**Light Rail** Bruce Davis 9660. 7873

**Planning** John Hoddinott phone: 9692. 0071  
fax: 9518. 9218

**Traffic** Jeanette Knox 9660. 7781

**Wentworth Park** Judy Vergison 9692. 9200

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**Historian** Max Solling 9660. 1160

**Membership List** John Sleeman 9692. 9507

**Bulletin Editor** Bobbie Burke 9692. 0343

**Assistant Editor and**

**New Members** Cynthia Jones 9660. 2451

# Seasons Greetings

Print Post Approved - No. 234093/000 10

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Paid



The **GLEBE SOCIETY** Inc

Box 100 Post Office  
Glebe 2037

Ms Edwina Doe  
224 Bridge Road  
Glebe NSW NSW

## 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  
first issue of  
The Glebe  
Society  
Bulletin in  
1999 is  
**Tuesday**  
**16 February**

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