



The

GLEBE SOCIETY

Bulletin

February/March 1999

A publication of THE GLEBE SOCIETY Inc Box 100 Post Office Glebe NSW 2037 Australia
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A DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FOR THE SITE AT 461-5 GLEBE POINT ROAD (FORMERLY HARDY'S TIMBER YARD)

The development application for these three sites proposes total demolition of all existing buildings (with the possible exception of the water-tower) and the erection of 44 apartments - 33 of them being four-bedroom units

While, as Planning Convenor, I have never hidden my view that the sites would sooner or later become a residential development, this does not mean that I approve.

My view was based on the likely fact that a residential development would be to the advantage of the owner, and as owner he has that right.

The issue here is the type of development, its scale, its effect on traffic generation at that end of Glebe Point Road and, to an extent, the aesthetics of the buildings - this latter issue being a very difficult area for we, i.e. the community, to make informed comments.

A public meeting convened by Leichhardt Council will be held at Glebe Town Hall on Thursday 4 March at 7 pm.

Representatives of the architects and the owner have been invited to attend the Public Meeting, and I am sure that details of the development application will be on display. The period for submissions has been lengthened, and I assume that submissions received very soon after this meeting would be considered by Council.

On the positive side, there is public access to the waterfront over the whole site, there is off-street parking, and all three sites are being developed.

On the negative side, three major issues should be considered:

Firstly -

the huge unbroken wall which is proposed for the Glebe Point Road side of the construction (with often only a modest set-back, from zero to two metres) and the nine-storey landmark tower at the north-western end.

Secondly -

the proposed marina, and

Thirdly -

the lower end of Council's on-site parking requirements - the DA proposes 64 residential spaces, with only four visitor parking spaces. It is difficult to imagine that a 4-bedroom apartment will have fewer than two vehicles each. More space is needed for on-site parking.

Do please consider making a submission on what is, in my opinion, a fairly unsympathetic proposal as it stands now.

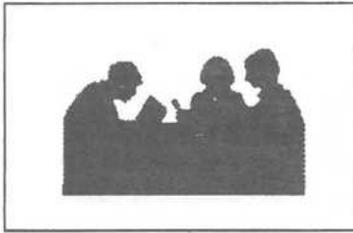
The DA documentation can be viewed at the Glebe Library or at the Council offices in Leichhardt. I can be phoned for help if members so wish - you can contact me on 9692.0071.

Submissions should be addressed to the General Manager at Council, Box 45 PO, Leichhardt 2040.

John Hoddinott

**A PUBLIC MEETING
TO DISCUSS THE DA
FOR 461-5 GLEBE POINT
ROAD
WILL BE HELD AT GLEBE
TOWN HALL
THURSDAY 4 MARCH
AT 7 PM.**

HIGHLIGHTS from the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING



10 February 1999

Project Teams

Five new Project Teams emerged from the Strategic Planning Sessions held last year - Foreshore Walk and Cycleway, Parks and Open Spaces, Conserving Glebe Heritage, Public Transport and Traffic, and Litter and Rubbish [see last year's *Bulletins* 6/7/8.] It was agreed that we should devote part of a Management Committee meeting to discuss in some detail the Society's approach to each of the key issues involved - beginning at the March meeting with CONSERVING GLEBE HERITAGE. If you wish to contribute your opinions or ideas, we invite you to write, or to come to the meeting on Wednesday 10 March at the Toxteth Hotel Meeting Room (entry from Ferry Road).

Historic Glebe

We are pleased to be able to tell you that the revised booklet is now available at a cost of \$5 from the Society, or from Gleebooks.

Plan of Management for Blackwattle Bay Park

see report p8.

D/A for 461-465 Glebe Point Road

see reports pp1, 7.

The Glebe Environment

Chris Whittemore, convenor of our Environment sub-Committee, spent several Sundays sitting in a cafe in Glebe discussing the community's views on the environment, and has now prepared a report on what action could be taken.

FRROGs

FRROGs have requested that the Natural Heritage Trust defer payment of the \$10,000 grant recently awarded (see p8, last *Bulletin*) until some of the outstanding issues of the Gully are resolved.

Public Artwork on Glebe Point Road

see Councillor Macindoe's report p6.

Community Health Centre, 184 Glebe Point Rd

see Councillor Macindoe's report p6.

Telephone Booths

Telstra had undertaken to provide Glebe with heritage telephone booths in dark red, which would have been particularly appropriate outside the Glebe Library, with its dark red door. However, the very next week two modern and inappropriate orange booths were placed in this position. The Society will write to ask that these be replaced with the dark red booths.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year Australians will be voting in a referendum for (or against) constitutional change. Constitutional change is also in the wind for The Glebe Society.

Some things just need to be tidied up. For instance, simplifying the procedure for new members to join, to do away with nominating and seconding. In effect, already, people simply apply and the Management Committee deals with the formalities. Ted McKeown's comprehensive review has brought up other, mostly minor, changes that are needed.

After last year's successful Strategic Planning Days, it was also felt we should take a fresh look at the Society's objectives. The idea is to have objectives which say clearly what we are about. I have wrestled with the job of producing a first draft. It is an interesting task to weave together the various ideas which are important to us.

One theme we want to represent is the diversity of Glebe - so should our objectives reflect this as an aim? Another idea is for The Glebe Society to be a voice for the interests of the community - the people who live here - as well as those who work here and our visitors, local and overseas.

Traditionally, The Glebe Society has existed to preserve our marvellous heritage of buildings - a legacy from before Australia had a constitution at all. Open spaces and the surrounding harbour need to be looked after as well, for

vegetation and wildlife, not only people. The other side of that coin is to guard against the ever present threat of bad development. Not opposing change for its own sake - only where it will be detrimental.

Transport is increasingly important - it was 'transport' in the form of freeways, threatening to destroy Glebe, which gave birth to The Glebe Society. There is interest now in ferries, light rail, a foreshore pedestrian and cycle way, a local commuter bus, and always - dealing with parking problems. A cleaner and healthier Glebe. Rubbish is high on everyone's list of things needing attention.

The constitution is important for a community association such as The Glebe Society, because it tells us broadly what we are committed to and how we organise ourselves to achieve it. In the end, we want a constitution which says what we are about. The objectives can be quoted in our membership brochures.

I hope everyone will take an interest in the review process which will culminate in a meeting to consider the proposed changes, probably some time in April. One thing you can be sure of - the President (like all the other office bearers except Immediate Past President) will be elected directly by the members!



Russell Stewart

GLEBE HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES TWENTY YEARS

Glebe High, a comprehensive local high school, has a series of events planned this year to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of its first intake of students in 1979 on a magnificent waterfront site at Blackwattle Bay (future *Bulletins* will have more details). The Principal is Heather Martin, and the Deputy Principal is Hal Lewis-Jones.

Glebe High's students come from many nations and from an unusually wide area of the inner city. Fifty-five percent of its students in 1999 come from non-English-speaking backgrounds, representing about thirty different language groups altogether. No one single ethnic group predominates. One of the highlights of this year's celebrations will be the 20th Anniversary Multicultural Night, to be held on Monday 30 March in the School Hall. It commences at 6 pm with student performances, and food from many cultures. The Multicultural Night is an annual event, and provides an opportunity for the community and the students to relax together, as well as allowing the students to contribute to the community [... the food is wonderful!].

As the School is a short walk from the main TAFE at Ultimo, Glebe High provides very easy access for senior students to avail themselves of a very wide range of TAFE courses that can be studied in conjunction with the normal school curriculum. The School is proud of its close links with the University of Sydney, whose undergraduates provide free tuition for senior students on the University campus.

Glebe High includes a Special Unit for moderately intellectually disabled students who join mainstream students for a variety of 'whole school' activities.

SOME HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL AND THE SITE

Initially there was a proposal for the Blackwattle Bay site to incorporate a high school with the School of Marine Navigation, based at Ultimo.

Glebe High School began as a cluster of demountable buildings. A public meeting at Glebe on 16 July 1980 agreed to a motion by Tony Larkum (then President of The Glebe Society) and seconded by Beau Olsen, a member of the P and C, urging "the Minister for Education to honour the promise" to immediately build permanent buildings at Glebe High. The School's first Principal (Ian Porteous) and the Public Works Department architect (Barry Sneyd) invited the local community to contribute their ideas on design and on school facilities that could be used by the community.

The School grew from 111 students in its first year to 534 in 1987 when an attractive complex of brick school

buildings were completed; in 1988 the then Minister for Education, Terry Metherell (who, in the early 1970s was an active member of The Glebe Society), opened the new buildings. Enrolments at Glebe High between 1987 to 1993 ranged between 500-600 students but, in recent years, like most inner city comprehensive high schools, enrolments have not maintained earlier levels.

The site itself has an interesting history. Kauri Timber Company (NZ), timber merchants, were the occupiers from the early 1880s, and in 1907 it became the headquarters of George Hudson Ltd., who continued to operate as timber merchants until they went into liquidation in the mid-1970s, and the site was acquired by the New South Wales Department of Education.

More than 45 years earlier the site was remembered for bitter industrial strife. In February 1929 timber

workers refused to work under an award which provided for "longer hours, less pay, piecework and substitution of youth for adults". The timber strike lasted about nine months, and formal and informal networks of local women were able to maintain strikers and their families. In July of that year, when strike breakers were shuttled into Glebe under police protection, Hudson's mills became the scene for violent clashes between police and strikers. The pressure of unemployment finally led to capitulation by the Timber Workers' Union in October 1929. Few of the strikers were re-employed, and many faced long periods of unemployment.

Max Solling

LMC STRATEGIC PLAN

HAVE YOUR SAY!

in Leichhardt Council's Strategic Plan
which will identify community issues and
set Council's priorities.

Ring for a questionnaire on ph. 9367. 9006,
or pick one up at Glebe Library.

Questionnaires and any additional
comments to be returned to Council
by 12 March.

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM LMC
CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER 9367. 9260

'THE BUILDING OUT THE BACK'

The additions to Tranby Aboriginal College in Mansfield Street Glebe - referred to by students and staff at Tranby as 'The Building out the Back' - were completed last year. They were funded by a grant of \$2.1 million to the College from the Commonwealth Government; an additional \$300,000 came from the NSW State Government, and the Friends of Tranby (FoT) contributed some \$250,000. Many local residents took the opportunity to see the new building, which houses classrooms, a computer room, a common room and a library, during the Open Day held during the 1998 Glebe Week.

At the official opening of 'The Building out the Back' held on 28 September last, Jack Beetson, Tranby's Executive Director, recollected the early days of cramped conditions and lack of facilities. He recalled the years of lobbying which eventually persuaded the relevant politicians to inspect what he called "the third world facilities in the middle of Sydney" and which resulted in the first ever capital grants funding to Tranby, through the Australian National Training Authority. He hoped that the standard of facilities now at Tranby "should be the bottom line for every Aboriginal education institution in this country", and he stressed the significance and value of the building design which reflected Aboriginal culture and philosophy.

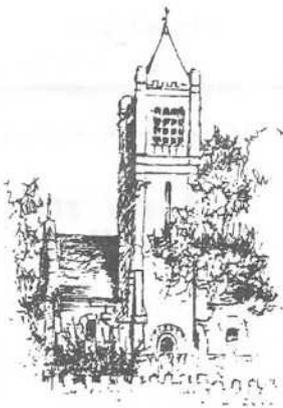
A FAREWELL SERVICE AT ST. JOHNS CHURCH

The Rev. Hugh Scott has announced his decision to retire, and will be leaving the parish of St. Johns Bishopthorpe, Glebe, early in March. Hugh has been a supporter of The Glebe Society Inc., has attended many functions and has made the church available for activities such as the House Inspections and the Music Festival.

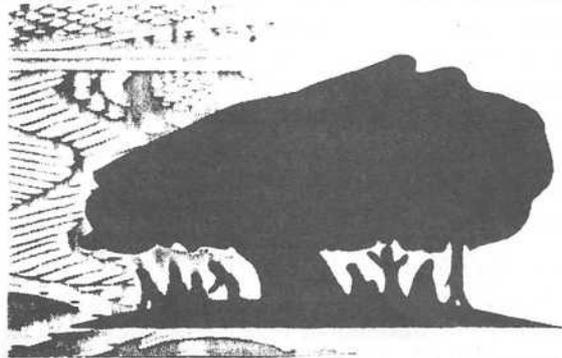
A farewell service will be held for him at St. Johns on Sunday, 7 March at 10 am. Following the service refreshments will be served, and there will be an opportunity for members of the community to express their gratitude to him. All are welcome.

The Glebe Society wishes Hugh, his wife Heather, and their sons every happiness in their lives after Glebe.

Lyn Milton



at Tranby Aboriginal College, Glebe



**"It's not the building any more that's important
- it's what happens inside"**

As well as students, staff, Tranby Board members and Friends of Tranby, guests at the official opening included John Aquilina, NSW Minister for Education and Training, NSW Senator Helen Coonan, the Director of Multiplex Construction (the builders), representatives from the Human Rights Commission, the Yidaki Didg and Dance Group, and Julie Cracknell and Peter Lonergan, the architects who designed the new building (both of whom are Friends of Tranby). In addressing the gathering, Julie paid tribute to Alf Clint, the first Director of Tranby, his successor Kevin Cook, and Jack Beetson. This is part of what she said:

"It's not often that an architect goes into a place to provide architectural services and comes out with a much bigger family so that your heart won't let you leave because the job's never finished. It's not often that you can work for a place where there's always confidence in your ability, and trust and generosity. Where you become a part of the place and the place becomes part of you. Where rather than avoiding your clients, you crave to see them, where the idea of providing a service changes its meaning because the more involved with working for a place, the more you owe that place. Or where you're honoured to be asked to talk at an opening and you have to do it because Tranby is about determination and even if your body says you can't do it your heart says you must.

From lobbying with passion for conditions comparable to other educational institutions and achieving that, to achieving approvals and gathering the involvement and support of others and commitment to integrity and cultural appropriateness that make the building special. All are testimony to Tranby's strength. These are Tranby initiatives, not the architects.

Now that the building works are complete I think there are two things to remember: It's not the building any more that's important it's what happens inside, how the place is inhabited is what gives the building its meaning.

... The other is that the spirit of Tranby was here long before the new building and will outlive the bricks and mortar. The construction of the building has contributed to that spirit. Tranby will remember the contributions of Multiplex and the Friends of Tranby without whom the building couldn't be complete. And the builders on site will never forget the generosity of Tranby. ...

For me, today is not just a celebration of the building. Today is a celebration of the day that Alf Clint opened the doors 40 years ago to Aboriginal people in the spirit of self-determination ten years before the referendum. It's a celebration of the day that Alf Clint threw the keys to Kevin Cook who was then a student and who has devoted his life to Tranby and to commitment to Aboriginal rights. He encouraged the involvement, through his generosity, of many other organisations.

And it's a celebration of the day that Kevin chased Jack Beetson down the street to come back, and how Jack has committed his life to appropriate education and integrity. ...

Both Kevin and Jack have affected changes because they speak from the heart and they've taught me more than I've learnt from many years at university. It's a celebration of the people who have worked together behind Kevin and Jack and who have helped grow Tranby into what it is today. It's a celebration of the commitment of the staff and teachers and the achievements of every student who has come through this place.

It's a celebration of the continuing tradition of sitting in a circle to make decisions where people face each other and no one is more important than anyone else. It's a celebration of 40 years of duty to Aboriginal self-determination.

And I am very proud to be here amongst people I most admire in the world."

Julie's speech, and much of the information above was taken, with permission, from the FoT Newsletter 27/98. More details on the Friends, and on a new course on Aboriginal culture for non-Aboriginal people will appear in a future issue of the *Bulletin*, or can be obtained from the College, ph: 9660. 3444.

Bobbie Burke

IN THE SPIRIT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Scholastica's College, Glebe organised a Reconciliation Day which was held at Tranby College in November last year, with the help and support of indigenous people, including Phil Ahwang, a Tranby student. Annie Barnett, student co-organiser of the Day, wrote the following piece entitled "Decency, Truth-telling, Reconciliation ..." for the *College News*, and we have permission to reproduce it here.

"Openness, decency, acceptance and a journey together were the essential themes of the first Reconciliation Day to be held at St. Scholastica's College. All the ingredients for a successful day were there - beautiful weather, lots of activity, good food and most importantly, many young and open minds.

Most of us experienced many 'firsts' ... the smoking ceremony, listening to the next generation of Aboriginal leaders, Aden Ridgeway and Linda Burnie, whose focus is on recognition of past wrongs, their impact on the present, the consequences of racism and the notion of moving forward in a spirit of decency and acceptance.

Phil Ahwang, a Torres Strait Islander who is studying at Tranby College, and who put so much into the Day, produced for many what was the highlight: a delicious 'Cup Murray'. His belief in the Day was evident by the many hours on both Sunday and Monday he put into preparing this wonderful meal and teaching the girls their special dance.

For others, the memorable moment was listening to Aboriginal Elders, Ali Golding and Isabel Flick, tell their moving stories, while others were entertained by Leah Purcell and Evette Clague. For those of us with special interests, Bronwyn Bancroft shared her depth of knowledge on Aboriginal art.

Overall the day was a great success because we were prepared to start a journey together in the spirit of reconciliation. Thank you to Kristy Kennedy, who provided the idea, the motivation and the guiding spirit that made this experience a reality. It was great working with you."

Auntie Isabel Flick

On 26 February a two-year oral history project titled "Isabel Flick: A Life of Struggle and Achievement" was launched at Tranby College. The research is to be co-ordinated by Heather Goodall, Associate Professor in Public History at the University of Technology.

At the completion of the project, interview transcripts and photographs will be reproduced in book form and published in association with BLACKBOOKS. It will also be available on the UTS Website.

REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR MACINDOE

VALHALLA SAVED

In an agreement signed on Friday, 18 December, the downstairs cinema reverts to a theatre while the upstairs will continue to screen art films. Chris Keily will continue to own the building, which will be leased to Theatresports, who in addition to their own performances, will probably also conduct classes from which residents will benefit. The Valhalla will close for a time to allow some alterations and renovations before reopening on 1 April, 1999.

Residents will recall that the Valhalla was the site of the first Sydney production of *The Rocky Horror Show*, which ran for three years, and Lindsay Kemp's New Arts Theatre, responsible for a number of ground-breaking productions. I am not aware of any permanent live theatre operating in Glebe since the closure of the Bay Street Theatre about ten years ago, so we should welcome greater diversity in entertainment.

ST HELENS, 184 GLEBE POINT ROAD

Late in 1998 Council negotiated a swap with the Central Area Health Board, whereby this attractive site, which includes all the land adjacent to Glebe Library, including the nurses' quarters at the rear, was transferred to Council, and the Victoria Alice Lamkin Centre, 2 Hereford Street, became the new Community Health Centre. The aim of the swap was to consolidate Council's holdings in the area on one site, and to provide better facilities for seniors. Council's move was immediately successful, as it was awarded a \$500,000 grant from Health and Community Services to improve St Helens.

Apart from all the usual facilities for seniors, St Helens will include meals on wheels, a dining room for meals on legs, and upstairs, radio for the print handicapped. Provision has been made in the plans for the eventual installation of a lift, which will give disabled access to upstairs at St Helens and also Benledi. The area between the two buildings will be attractively landscaped.

The nurses' quarters at the rear are to become artists' studios. They will be let to artists by a committee including a representative from the NSW Ministry of the Arts, and administered by Glebe Chamber of Commerce, which will have its office there, and which will also organise the refurbishment of the studios and collect the rent on behalf of Council. One studio is residential for the benefit of visiting and overseas artists. A condition for the use of the studios is that each artist conduct a mentoring program for local residents, and that each studio is open to the public for one day each year.

GRANT FROM MINISTRY FOR THE ARTS

The second grant Council received was for the construction of a public artwork at Derby Place. This ceramic sculpture, by Kathryn Sherer, was widely discussed in Glebe in 1998, and attracted the largest Ministry grant. It becomes the third public artwork to be installed in Glebe Point Road: the first, bronze boxing gloves, is to be installed under the footpath outside Gleebooks (formerly Tom Laming's Golden Gloves Gym) and the second, ceramic tiles designed by Bronwyn Kemp, impressed with patterns by local residents, is to be installed in the footpath at the intersection of St Johns and Glebe Point Road. The launching of these first two should occur early in 1999.

Although this is my first report for 1999, the first part is concerned with matters that occurred too late to be included in the November/December *Bulletin*.

STREET FURNITURE, CLEANLINESS AND SAFETY

Guido Gouverneur, blacksmith and metal artist at the Australian Technology Park at Eveleigh Workshops in Redfern, has designed a bench in bronze and hardwood for Glebe Point Road, and the first ten will become available early in 1999. The upgrading of the luminescence of lighting in Glebe Point Road is reportedly imminent.

The initial distribution of wheelie bins has led to cleaner streets and lanes, but there are still some problem spots, as some people ignored the order forms. There were also delays in deliveries because of the Gippsland natural gas explosion. We are now in the middle of a further major distribution of bins, so please be patient. Further improvements should follow.

MINOGUE RESERVE

Work on the grass section of the new plan had been virtually completed by Christmas. At its final meeting on 14 December 1998, Council resolved to keep the present left turn only into Francis St, and the closure of Glebe St. Council's resolution was open for public comment until 19 February, 1999. If you want to find out more, ring Council's Traffic Engineer, Peter Hammond, on 9367.9294. There was a lot of pressure from The Broadway Shopping Centre and the Walker Corporation to open Francis St, but Council agreed with residents and the RTA that the consultant's report showed very little benefit from a reopening, and that the major problems were in Bay and Mountain Streets, and could be dealt with by other measures.

ABORIGINAL MENTORING PROGRAM

Leichhardt Council has become the first metropolitan council in NSW to introduce this program, which enables indigenous people to learn the role of elected members. The Leichhardt Program was launched by the Minister for Local Government, Ernie Page, on 24 November. The first participant in the program is Joyce Clague of Annandale, and the second will be Kath Farrawell of Glebe. At the meeting of 15 December I successfully moved the creation of a Reconciliation Fund, whereby residents can contribute to the cause of Reconciliation through education, activities and events.

ORPHAN SCHOOL CREEK AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Cr Arthur Drew, the Deputy Mayor, chaired a meeting with myself, Council staff, and representatives of the new Children's Hospital, including the Chairman of the Board, John Dunlop, on 17 December. At that meeting we reaffirmed Council's desire to proceed with the original 1985 landswap that greatly enhances the Creek corridor. We made it clear we thought the hospital board had not been well advised, and they agreed to let us know their attitude by Christmas. At last report, the Hospital was still considering its position. [A report on the public meeting regarding the site is on p10.]

BAYS AND THE ROWING CLUB

Council has adopted the resolutions of the public meeting of 10 December regarding the uses of the Bays, and I also successfully moved that Glebe Rowing Club should be eligible for recreational funding from Council's section 94 fund.

continued on p7 ...

...continued from p6

EXHIBITION SPACE

From the beginning of 1999 Glebe Library will provide space for local artists to exhibit for one month at a time. Conditions and application forms are available from the circulation desk.

461-5 GLEBE POINT ROAD

(former Hardy's Timber Yard)

Council has received an application to build 44 dwellings on this site. In my view, the application does not meet Council's requirements or answer the concerns raised by the community over many years. At the root of the problem is the support given by some Councillors in the past to unauthorised building work and unauthorised and impermissible uses. As a result, the owner was allowed to do pretty much as he liked, and we should not be surprised if he now thinks he can continue to do so. No matter how worthy or appropriate some of that work may appear to have been, the failure to follow a transparent and orderly process now has its unfortunate consequences. It is important that the community now supports its representatives to bring these people as far as possible into line.

As the application was lodged during the holidays, I have asked for the period for public comment to be extended, and as it is of wide community concern, I have asked for it to be exhibited at the Glebe Library and for the area of notification to be extended also. I successfully put a motion to Council for a public meeting to be held to discuss the proposal on Thursday, 4 March at 7 pm in Glebe Town Hall, and the residents of Glebe Point will be letterboxed. [see also p1]

PARIS PRIZE

Some members may already be aware from media reports that I won return tickets to Paris for my wife Jan and myself in a newspaper competition announced on 22 November. Conditions of the prize require us to leave on 17 March, 1999 (*Springtime in Paris! Hooray!*). It is a welcome break for both of us, and many thanks to members, past and present, who have advised us on accommodation and other matters. I will be away for the March Council meeting, but as there is plenty of time to prepare, I do not anticipate any inconvenience to the public. If you are concerned about any matter likely to come before that meeting, please notify me as far in advance as possible.

Neil Macindoe

GLEBE ISLAND/WHITE BAY MASTER PLAN

SYDNEY PORTS CORPORATION is required, under the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (SREP) 26, to prepare a Master Plan for the port at Glebe Island/White Bay (see June/July 1998 *Bulletin*). Sydney Ports have now prepared a Discussion Paper which is available to be read at the Glebe and Balmain Municipal Libraries, at Leichhardt Council and at Sydney Ports. Copies can be purchased from Leichhardt Council or Sydney Ports at a cost of \$15. They have also commissioned the independent consultants Keys Young, who have sent us copy of a brochure (dated December 1998) briefly describing the Master Plan and the consultation processes which will be followed. The following information is taken from this document.

"The proposed arrangements for preparing the Master Plan are as follows:

1. Distribution of the Discussion Paper to a range of interested organisations and individuals, with copies also available through public libraries. Additional copies will be available at cost.
2. General distribution of this summary document to the community and the publication of relevant material in local newspapers.
3. A series of briefings and, at a later stage, three workshops (two for residents and one for port leaseholders) will provide opportunities for exchange of information between Sydney Ports and interested parties. Written submissions are also invited.
4. Consideration of the issues raised in the consultations, leading to preparation of the Draft Master Plan.
5. Draft Master Plan submitted to the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP) for public exhibition and comment.
6. DUAP to review submissions and finalise the Master Plan for consideration and adoption by the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning."

If you are interested in attending one of the workshops on the Master Plan that Sydney Ports will hold early in 1999, contact Andrea Fernandes at Keys Young: ph: 9956.7515, fax: 9956.7514. At the time of going to press, no date had yet been set for a workshop.

Bobbie Burke

REPORT ON 10 DECEMBER BAYS PRECINCT MEETING

Thanks to all who made the effort, the meeting was well attended (and only two weeks out from Christmas!). I wish more questions had been asked, but when the Draft Master Plan is released we must ask our questions then.

At the meeting we were able to formally meet the new Sydney Harbour Manager, Jeremy Dawson, when he seemed as uncertain of his position as we were. At least he is now aware of our concerns regarding usage of the waterfront including, of course, the marina, which I feel will be very difficult to successfully oppose - especially when we now have a DA before Council on the site at 461-465 Glebe Point Road [see p1] which includes a marina to service the 44 proposed apartments.

The traders operating the bays are still functioning on a week-to-week basis, and all will undoubtedly depend on the results of the State election in March. With Sandra Nori as our MLA and Máire Sheehan (running for the Legislative Council) elected, we would be well represented. But we should never allow ourselves to sit back and wait - we must keep our representatives informed of changes and the urgency of the situation.

Chris Newton, Glebe Precinct 13

BACK TO SQUARE ONE AT BLACKWATTLE BAY PARK

Some 14 years ago many residents, including Glebe Society members, fought for this waterfront park (even to the extent of standing in front of bulldozers!) and prevented not only the destruction of Bellevue, but also the development of unit blocks which were to be built in the Park close to the water's edge.

Bellevue, the villa designed by Ambrose Thornley, jun. (the architect who designed the Glebe Town Hall), and built in the early 1890s was vandalised before it became the property of Leichhardt Council. It was reroofed with a grant of \$30,000 from the NSW Heritage Council, but has now become derelict. Not so long ago Council considered an application for Bellevue to become a restaurant with part of the Park allocated to provide parking for twenty-two cars. This application was refused. And we are back to square one.

A FISH AND CHIPS NIGHT FRAMES A PAINTING

The 1997 Glebe Society Birthday Party took the form of a 'fish and chips' supper at Benledi, with proceeds going to the Glebe Library. After extended negotiations with the Library about what kind of contribution they would like us to make, it was agreed that the Society would pay for the mounting of a rather unusual painting which had been presented to the Library.

This was a five-metre long scroll depicting the Glebe Point Road streetscape, which had been painted by a Chinese visitor. Not an easy piece to deal with. However, after further consultations we approached Andrew Bassett, at the Blackwattle Bay Studios, and he did a magnificent job of mounting the painting on board.

Then, how to get it to the Library? It would not fit in a car. Consequently, one rather misty day last November, Committee members Alison McKeown, Marianne von Knobelsdorff and Jeannette Knox donned their parkas, assembled at the Studios and carried a plastic-enveloped painting up Glebe Point Road to the Library, where Librarian Margaret Whittaker happily received it and recorded its arrival on film.

Visitors to the Library can now see the painting finally in place on the recently painted long beam at the Library's far end. It looks very effective there.

The saga of the painting has been nearly as long as the painting itself, but it is pleasing to be able to report at last that the profits from our party have finally been expended in a suitable and quite striking manner.

Jeanette Knox

With the introduction of the new *Local Government Act* in 1993, a Plan of Management for the site is now required. Towards the end of 1998 Council contracted landscape architects and environmental planners, EDAW Pty.Ltd., to prepare the Plan in consultation with the residents [see November/December *Bulletin* p4].

On 14 December a site meeting took place with an EDAW representative, which was attended by some 20 local residents and Glebe Society members. The meeting unanimously agreed (as have previous meetings) that the Park should remain as it is - a small tranquil local park, surrounded by residential buildings. Any new use of the site should not impinge on residents or the park, with regard to noise, traffic or parking.

Among those attending the meeting, interest was expressed in restoring Bellevue to its former glory as a private residence - following the model of Bronte House (Mr. Leo Schofield is the current occupant), where the local Council grants a 'peppercorn rent' and a limited period of residence, in return for restoration and allowing the public to visit at specified times,

A public meeting to allow a wider range of Glebe residents the opportunity to contribute to the preparation of the Plan of Management for Blackwattle Bay Park and Bellevue was held on 25 February too late for a notice or report to be included in this *Bulletin*, and local residents were letterboxed by Council.

If you are interested in this issue, please contact me on 9692. 0916. A report on the February meeting will appear next month.

Marianne von Knobelsdorff

WE DIDN'T SAY "Kick Fletchers Out!"

Members may have received fliers demanding that we "Kick Fletchers out", and claiming that Leichhardt Council is the cause for the John Fletcher Container Terminal site at the end of Forsyth St not leaving the suburb. Unfortunately for the flier's author(s), this is not the truth.

The site has not been rezoned, and still stands as waterfront industrial land. Council has no more power to throw Fletcher out than it has to evict us from our homes. I have checked with Council and there are no outstanding DAs or BAs for the Fletcher site, so until they decide to leave, they can operate there legally. I assume that the company is keeping within its operating conditions, such as noise, truck movements, etc.

As far as I can ascertain (and as I've said before), the holdup is at the other end. Fletcher wants to move to Port Botany, and has applied for land there, but the truck route passes a residential development, and there has been opposition to this. I will try to discover more about the potential move as the situation progresses.

John Hoddinott

GREENING OUR MUNICIPALITY



GLEBE'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

A launch is being planned to open the garden to the community at the end of March. This will be a chance to celebrate and meet with others who are interested in creating a community garden in the St John's Parish Hall site, cnr. St. Johns Road and Derwent Street.

After the launch, a regular meeting time will be arranged each week for the planning and making of herb, vegetable, flower and native garden areas. At present, we are waiting for some mounds to be removed before commencing construction of the garden beds.

Volunteers are needed. If you are interested in helping with this exciting and worthwhile project, you could contact me on 9566. 2561. The tentative date for the launch is Sunday 21 March.

Elizabeth Rooney

COASTAL TRADER IN ROZELLE BAY

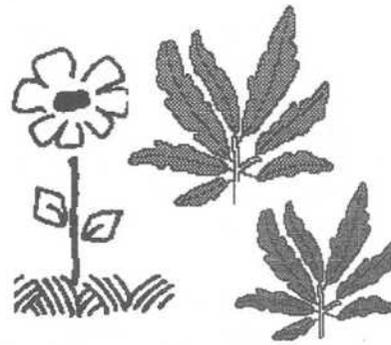
If you want to see a bit of local colour, I suggest you go to the Annandale side of Bicentennial Park, and take a squiz at the western-most vessel moored at the Rozelle Bay wharf, almost at the outlet of the canal. It is the famous coastal trader - called "Unina" and registered in the tiny country of Belise - which was caught off Port Macquarie a couple of months ago, with over 700 kilos of heroin.

It is a nondescript ship, a white superstructure and a grey hull, with rust stains, but we were told that below decks it has a very powerful engine with huge fuel tanks. It does also seem to have a considerable amount of communications equipment around the bridge. When Society members and friends were on our waterfront ride in late November, we could see the blue uniforms of the Australian Federal Police, with A F P in yellow on the back, and Customs officers on the bridge. I imagine that it will soon be joined by that yacht "Maeva" captured recently off Coffs Harbour with a huge load of cocaine.

I bet these two vessels won't be back to their owners. Reminds me of the good old days when there were some alleged funny goings-on concerned with part of the waterfront in the Leichhardt Council area (see Max Solling and Peter Reynolds *History of Leichhardt*, pp.247-248).

Ah, for the good old days.

John Hoddinott



THE ROZELLE BAY COMMUNITY NATIVE NURSERY

The Rozelle Bay Community Native Nursery is located at Chapman Road (rear of 3-7 The Crescent) Annandale. The Leichhardt Municipality has virtually no remnants of natural bushland areas; seeds of plants which would have been indigenous to the area are now sourced from various locations around Sydney.



A major project of the Nursery is to create an indigenous plants corridor, with plantings around the Pumphouse (opposite Harold Park), between Rose St and the Crescent, at the end of Taylor St at Johnston's Creek Canal, and around Rozelle Bay. Other areas targetted for plantings include White's Creek and the Orphan School Creek Gully.

1998 achievements include: a rockery at the end of Rose St., plantings at the end of Taylor St., replanting at the Pump Station, the pedestrian underpass at Harold Park and tree planting at Johnston's Creek. In 1999 we will continue assisting with the Federal Park Wetlands project (which is on the Annandale side of Bicentennial Park, Stage II).

The Nursery itself now has an igloo, a shade house, an automatic watering system, a library and a propagation and planting data base. Grants have been received through the Landcare Foundation and Leichhardt Council.

No skills required, no contribution too small!
Nursery Working Bees and Plantings

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Every Friday | 9.30 - 12.30 |
| First Sunday of the month | 9 - 12 noon |

If you would like to grow native plants, assist with community planting, build, repair or promote the Nursery, or if you would like a plant stall at your local community fete, contact me on 9660. 6227, or Beth Buchanan on 9660. 1304. Free classes will be given on 5 and 12 March on Nursery Management and Propagation.

Elizabeth Dark
Rozelle Bay Community Native Nursery
(and FRROGs member)

THE CHANGING FACE OF GLEBE

I have no news about 'Bidura' on Glebe Point Road, or The Royal College of Nursing in Hereford Street. But, as I suspected, the holiday period brought forth a rash of DAs and BAs, (perhaps in the hope that no-one would notice). I must confess that I haven't had time to view every piece of documentation, but two DAs stand out as being important. - 461-5 G.P.R. (see p1) and Arcadia Rd.

20 ARCADIA ROAD

At the February Management Committee meeting unsigned letters from residents asking the Society to make a submission on their behalf were tabled concerning the DA for this property. I have looked at the plans, and spoken to the Council's Town Planning Officer responsible for the matter. Because the DA has had several objections, Council has asked the architect to reconsider the type of roofing material proposed for the extension and this will be resubmitted as an amendment to the existing DA; interested parties should keep an eye out in the Council's column in *The Glebe and Inner City Western Weekly*.

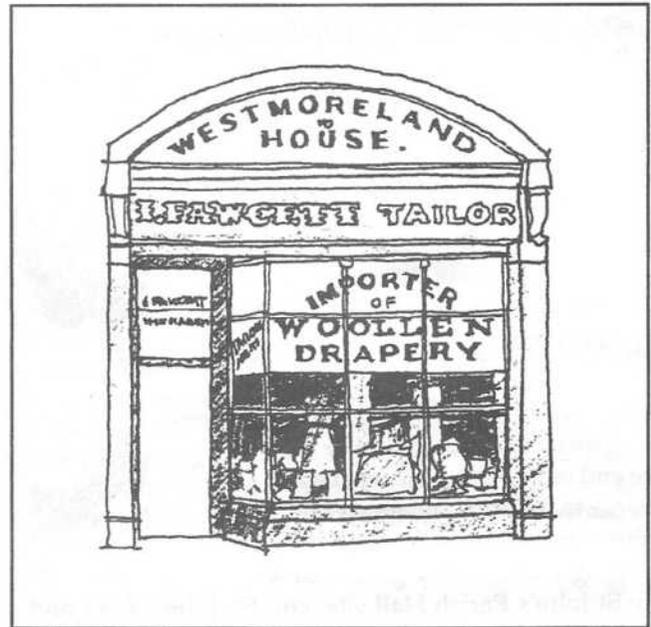
If you write to The Society about a planning matter, I would be glad if you would ring me at the same time (phone 9692. 0071), as the time allowed for objections is often only a matter of days - the Society's Management Committee meets only once a month, and it may be too late to make a submission by the time I see the letter.

I would like to say that there is no need for residents writing to the Society to remain anonymous; names will not be given to anyone. Submissions from The Glebe Society go out under my name and my imprimatur, and I am very careful that I do not make comments which could be considered either libellous or defamatory.

THE FORMER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL SITE

Sandra Nori, local MLA, convened a well-attended public meeting on 13 February at Glebe Town Hall to discuss the Master Plan for this large site. Several concerns were raised. These included potential problem of on- and off-site parking, the height of the landmark tower block on the corner of Bridge Road and Booth Street, and traffic problems which may result from a development in Foss Street, which leads on to Cross Street. The Foss/Cross Streets issue will be looked at by a working party involving the residents, Sterling Estates (the developers), and Leichhardt Council.

Under the planning regulations of South Sydney City Council (SSCC) only 0.8 vehicle spaces are required on site, while the Floor Space Ratio (FSR) can be 1.5 : 1. In the Leichhardt municipality these figures can be up to 2 and only 0.7:1 respectively. The meeting asked that SSCC request that the spaces be lifted to at least 1:1, and preferably 1.5:1. As Sandra pointed out there are likely to be more than even that ratio, and with very limited off-street parking in the area, there will be huge pressures on parking.



The traffic issue was discussed by the Patrol Commander of the Leichhardt region, who expressed great concern about the potential difficulties. It is unrealistic to expect that new inner-city residents will obey the 0.8 rule. This may have some force in part of the SSCC area, but not here. This is not to encourage more cars here, but simply to acknowledge the reality of the new demographics. As well, the Police Officer spoke of the need to ensure that the final plan takes account of security, given that much of the development will be quite private and far from public view. The Station Chief from the Glebe Fire Station spoke of the necessity to consider the accessibility for their vehicles to the site, in view of the turning circles necessary, and the difficulties encountered by the vehicle with the ladder if it is blocked by the trees which are to be preserved. The architect said that he was quite happy to discuss these matters with the Police and Fire services.

I have found that the developers and architect have listened with serious interest to the views and concerns of the community and interest groups, including FRROGS and The Glebe Society. There was discussion about the height of the landmark tower, and the building running down the Booth Street boundary. The architect explained in considerable detail the effect of removing several floors from this area, while redistributing the replacement floor area around the site. As Ms Nori commented, the developers do wish not to lose a heap of money. I am pretty happy about the general thrust of the development; we must remember too that we in the Leichhardt Council area have very little influence on SSCC's planning rules.

AUSTRALIA DAY - 1999

I had heard that there was to be a citizenship ceremony in the Bicentennial Park where twenty-six people were taking Australian citizenship. It was a very moving ceremony, and several had brought along their own cheer-squad. All 26 were applauded strongly by the

... continued p11

continued from p10 ...

watchers. It was a certain ex-politician's nightmare - it included a huge Fijian, Asians from north to south of their former continent, a number from North America, and quite a few from Britain.

The General Manager of Leichhardt, Mr Graham Foster, was the MC, the Mayor, Cr. Kris Cruden handed out the certificates, and the Federal member for Grayndler, Anthony Albanese, MP, spoke about the reasons for assuming Australian citizenship, while acknowledging the difficulties that those making the decision must have to face.

The Australian Electoral Commission was present and signed up all the new citizens onto the electoral roll, enabling them to vote in the State and Local Government elections this year. The Citizenship Certificate is a very attractive document, but many of us are lucky enough not to have to make what must be the very difficult decision to give up allegiance to one's birthplace.

Outside the tent where the ceremony took place there was a very scrappy game of cricket being played. There were no bails on the stumps, but instead a bottle of beer behind the middle stump. This may have been for the wicket-keeper's refreshment, or perhaps an indication that if it were knocked over the batsman had been bowled out. All very Australian.

The view from there is great - the new bridge, renamed as the ANZAC Bridge, and behind it the Harbour Bridge. If you are at a loose end next Australia Day I recommend strolling down there just before 3 pm. And let's remember that this great open space has been one of The Glebe Society's great achievements - thanks mainly to Bucko. Ronya, John! [John Buckingham, now an Honorary Life Member of the Society.]

A NEW BUS SERVICE - ROUTE 370

Starting on 1 March, there will be a new cross-regional route, No. 370, running from the Leichhardt Bus Depot to Coogee Beach. At the moment this will be a Monday to Friday service, from about 7 am to 8.30 pm. I understand that there will be four buses an hour at peak times, otherwise three per hour. The full trip will take about 50 minutes.

The route in the Glebe area is rather like the 470 from the Depot, running along Booth Street to Wigram Road west; there it does the 468 dog-leg via Minogue Crescent, and when on the Crescent it follows the 433 to Broadway; from there right into City Road, then Carillion Avenue, Missenden Road and King Street, Newtown. It passes the University of NSW, and one of its purposes is to help students from our area travel to UNSW. It will also provide an easy way for Glebe residents to visit Royal Prince Alfred Hospital taking only one bus.

You may have noticed that there are new timetable holders on most of the bus stops in Glebe on the route to Coogee served by the 370, but as I write the timetables haven't yet been installed.

What is of concern to me is that there seems to be no timetable information on the route back and I will raise this issue at the Council's Traffic Committee; I am concerned that the outward bound passengers are provided so little information about the timing of services (erratic as these may be in reality). I will lobby the Minister for Transport - whoever that is after the State election - to provide better information for bus passengers.

John Hoddinott



Members of the Sydney University Women's Rowing Club in front of the Society's new banner, at the Christmas party at Benledi last December.

From left to right: Kate Charge, Lia Darby (Hon. Sec.), Samara Baines (Vice Captain), Michael Curtin (Coach), Vicky Lin (Social Secretary), and Helen Irving (Vice President).

The Club's President, Jane Spring, has offered to write an article about the Club for a future issue of the *Bulletin*.

Notice Board

1999 OPEN DAY ACQUAINT YOURSELF WITH ST. SCHOLASTICA'S COLLEGE

Local residents are invited to visit the College during the 1999 Open Day, which will take place on -

**Sunday 21 March
from 11am - 3 pm**

A broad range of activities is planned, including the official opening of a newly developed rainforest section in the grounds.

The day provides a good opportunity for locals who have not actually visited the College, the grounds and the buildings to have a look around.

GLEBE HIGH - 20TH ANNIVERSARY MULTICULTURAL NIGHT



Monday 30 March
in the School Hall
commencing at 6 pm



- Student performances
- Wonderful food from many cultures (\$1 food vouchers on sale)
- P & C Raffle with great prizes

Come and meet with staff and students at our local High School

SUNDAY LUNCH

The first Sunday Lunch of 1999 will be held on

**Sunday 14 March
at The Toxteth Hotel
Glebe Point Road**



**Hope to see you there
Ian Edwards - ph: 9660. 3240**

THIS MONTH AT THE GLEBE LIBRARY

Events for Younger Kids



**11.00 am on Tuesday 2 March
Dolls' Story Time for pre-schoolers**

**Tuesday 30 March
Easter Egg Hunts**
for pre-schoolers - at 11 am
for school-aged kids - at 4 pm

**4.00 pm Thursday 25 March
Easter Egg Storytime
for school-aged kids
+ entertainment**

To mark

**Senior Citizens' Week
17 - 24 March**

A photographic exhibition by the Inner
West Photographic Society



**"OLDER PEOPLE AT WORK, REST
AND PLAY"**

Official Opening
Saturday 20 March at 10 am.
All welcome
RSVP to the Library

Phone Energy Australia to report
Street Lights OUT!
Energy Australia 1800. 044. 808



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- Glebe High's 20th anniversary, p3
- The 'Building out the Back' at Tranby, p4
- Greening our Municipality, p9

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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 9660. 8324 - and arrange to come to a meeting.

DEADLINE

for copy for the
next issue of
The Glebe
Society Bulletin
is
**Tuesday
16 March**

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