



## Sydney City Council comes to Glebe - Community Forum, Monday 5 July



Lord Mayor Clover Moore with Glebe Councillor Robyn Kemmis. Photos provided courtesy of City of Sydney Council.

Our new Council is doing its best to meet and hear the residents. This, the fifth of six Community Forums to be held since the March elections, was attended by Lord Mayor Clover Moore, eight of the nine Councillors (Tony Pooley's baby was four days old, so he couldn't be there) and 12 members of the Council management team. Mark Magrath, the Acting Commander of the Leichhardt Local Area Police Command, and two of his colleagues, were also present.

The upstairs hall in Glebe Town Hall is well known for its poor acoustics. However by arranging the chairs differently ('landscape' instead of 'portrait'), the organizers created a much improved venue. Over 230 residents of Glebe, Forest Lodge, Camperdown and Chippendale came to the meeting.

Our President, Andrew Craig, was the first member of the public to speak. He asked a very well researched question about the future of the disused tram sheds beside Harold Park. The Lord Mayor responded by confirming the difficulties relating to the ownership of the site. Andrew also asked about progress with the proposed revisions to the Development Control Plan (the Council is currently working to the old DCP inherited from Leichhardt Council). The Sydney City Council confirmed that an update was under consideration but any changes were being considered in the context of other updates and changes needed in all the areas recently absorbed by the City. Some areas had higher priorities than others due to emerging

critical planning issues. Glebe will be considered according to the priorities encountered but this is unlikely to be before late in 2004.

Several other residents, including Glebe Society members, also asked questions. Bob Armstrong asked about the proposed marine repair slipway facility to be located on land under the north-west pylons of the Anzac Bridge, facing the foreshores of Glebe Point. See page 2 for Bob's report.

The meeting ran well over time, finishing at about 9.15pm instead of the scheduled 8pm.

-Edwina Doe



Councillor Robyn Kemmis talks to Fiona Campbell.

### Important Public Meeting

The Glebe Society, in conjunction with the Glebe Point Residents Group and Save Rozelle Bay Association, is holding a Public Meeting to discuss three very important matters that will affect you and the community at large. Councillors and Council staff have been invited.

The matters for discussion are:

- \* **Sydney Slipways proposal** for a boat repair and maintenance facility in Rozelle Bay.
- \* **Commercial Marinas** in Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays.
- \* **Dry Boat Storage**, a very large facility in Rozelle Bay

**Date and Time:** Thursday 5 August, 6.00pm - 8.00pm

**Venue:** Glebe Town Hall, 160 St Johns Road, Glebe

**For more details, please see the enclosed notice.**

## Proposed Repair Slipways

Among the matters raised at the Community Forum, I asked about the proposal for a major marine repair facility to be located on land under the north-west pylons of the Anzac Bridge, facing the foreshores of Glebe Point. Waterways, the owners of the land, have given a 32 year lease to Sydney Slipways, subject to a DA and EIS process scheduled for late July / early August. The assessment authorities are SHFA for the land-based component and Waterways for the water-based component. The proposal is for a repair service for boats up to 40 metres in length and 250 tonnes. Mooring pens and marshalling yards have been designed accordingly.

Of great concern is the bulk of the proposed workshop which will occupy most of the airspace under the north-west pylons and so obliterate the views (Harbour Bridge, North Sydney etc.) currently enjoyed from vantage points along the Glebe Foreshore Walk. This is not to speak of the detriment to the aesthetics of the Anzac Bridge (an icon if there is one). The proposed building will drag the 'flying bridge' heavily to earth. At its highest point the building will be 19 metres, more than twice the height of the Waterways building which is 9 metres. The noise pollution (24 hour / 7 day use is being sought) will impact on Glebe Point dwellers who have only recently been rejoicing in the long fought for improvements.

In her response, the Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, commented that she and other councillors were sensitive to the problem, having had their attention drawn to the proposed site on their recent tour of the foreshores and Bicentennial Park. I pointed to the need to make the meeting aware of this major development that has had little publicity, and sought the support of the City Council in organising a public meeting to debate the proposed development.

**- Bob Armstrong**

## Council's Responses to Community Inquiries

An eight-page document, handed out at the Community Forum on 5 July, provided information in response to issues and questions that had been raised by local residents. The topics are listed below. The document showing the responses is available at the Glebe Town Hall.

1. Is disabled access provided in Glebe Town Hall?
2. What is the status of the proposed open space and parkland to be provided by the developer of the 'City Quarter' site on Pyrmont Bridge Road? (This is the former Children's Hospital site - Ed.)
3. What is the status of the Foley Park Plan of Management?
4. What is the status of the Glebe Foreshore Walk?
5. When will *Bellevue* be restored and what will it be used for?
6. When will the historic Walter Burley Griffin Incinerator be restored and what will it be used for?
7. What is the status of greyhound racing at Wentworth Park?
8. Will the City of Sydney be purchasing the land near the viaduct in Federal Park from State Rail Authority?
9. What is the status of off-leash and on-leash areas for dogs?
10. What is the status of the proposed Ultimo Aquatic Centre?
11. Will Victoria Park Pool be upgraded?
12. Why is the Tent Embassy allowed in Victoria Park?
13. What is the status of the Broadway upgrade?
14. What is the City doing to support retailers in Glebe?
15. What can be done to improve the availability of parking for local residents?
16. Can parking be set aside exclusively for residents only?
17. What is the City's view on footpath parking?
18. What is the status of the parking meters in Glebe Point Road?
19. What is the status of the proposed redevelopment of *The Abbey*?
20. What is the future of the tram sheds at Harold Park Paceway?
21. Have new trees been planted in Glebe?
22. What can be done about discarded syringes?
23. What community safety initiatives are currently being developed?
24. Will the City's Alcohol Free Zones be reviewed?
25. Who can enter the City's Garden Competition?
26. What is the Art & About event?
27. Who can enter the 'Sydney Life' Photography exhibition?



Glebe Town Hall.

Photo from the City Of Sydney Image Library Website

# Planning Matters



## Status of Developments

A big thankyou to those members who contacted me with their suggestions for planning matters which need to be brought up to date. Here is the list sent to Council: Glebe Gateway and Rumours, 1-9 Glebe Point Road, Crown Land in Franklyn Street, Minogue Reserve, Rosebank, Bidura, the Abbey, Harold Park Hotel, the Brelco Building in Wentworth Park Road, the Max Factor Building, the Walter Burley Griffin Incinerator, the Rozelle Tramsheds, Arundel Street iron palisade fence and the railway arches in Wentworth and Bicentennial Parks.

The answers will be published at the first opportunity.

## Margaret Telfer Phone Antennae, corner Arundel and Seamer Streets

The Society has been asked to comment on an amended proposal (pre-DA) for antennae on top of this building. This proposal has a three metre painted barrier surrounding the antennae.

Please let me know your views on 9660 0208 or [macindoe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:macindoe@bigpond.net.au).

## New Stables and Float Carpark, Harold Park Paceway

The Committee knows a development is planned for the Tram Sheds, but has been unable to ascertain its nature or which company is proposed to do it, and for whom.

However, the Paceway is proposing to build new stables on the site of the old ones, which are sandwiched between the Tram Sheds and the Grandstand, and below Maxwell Road. The money for the stables is, as usual, from the Racecourse Development Fund, composed of TAB profits

One result of building a float carpark will be to free up the area currently used for floats in front of the Tram Sheds. This is the connection between this proposal and the one for the Tram Sheds. In order to build the new structure there need to be some minor boundary changes. The Planning Subcommittee is exploring the need for a masterplan for the entire site, as the new building is clearly only a part of what is proposed.

Another aspect of the current DA is a proposed pedestrian link between the Grandstand and the Jubilee Park

Light Rail Station. The Society will oppose this, because a pedestrian link already exists, though it needs to be upgraded. The Society opposes further parking in Victoria Street and Maxwell Road.

## BASIX: making housing more sustainable

Since 1 July new houses have to meet higher environmental standards contained in BASIX, a program devised for the NSW Government. The ultimate aim is to ensure all new and renovated dwellings throughout NSW are more sustainable. Peter Murphy of the University of NSW School of the Built Environment has been asked to write about BASIX for the Bulletin, and hopefully he will do so soon.

- Neil Macindoe

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## Membership Matters

### Welcome to New Members

David and Malle Eden were accepted as members at the June Management Committee Meeting. We look forward to seeing them at future Glebe Society functions.

### Donor members

Many thanks to those members who generously included a donation along with their annual subscriptions. Funding is always an issue for community groups despite the huge amount of work contributed by our tireless volunteers.

### 2004 Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will be held at Benledi at 11am on Sunday 19 September.

Our guest speaker will be Dr John Hood, who was formerly an anaesthetist at the Homoeopathic Hospital and who has researched and written about Madame Kirsova.

All members who are 'financial' for 2004/5 are eligible to vote at the AGM.



The Rozelle Tram Sheds. Photo courtesy of Lawrence Cook of Oatley NSW, whose grandfather, Albert Edward Coleman, retired as Depot Master at Rozelle in 1935.

## Who Lived in your Street? Camille Scaysbrook, a member of The Glebe Society, tells us about her great grandmother. Margaret Higgins was born in Lyndhurst on 27 November 1891 and died on 26 September 1971.

'1915. A year of plenty work, much experience gained in many directions. Health fairly well, but a little run down at time of writing. A horrible war is raging in which my dear brothers, Arthur and Jack, have taken up their guns, also Frank McKay left Australia 23 December 1915.'

So begins the 1916 diary of 25 year old Margaret Higgins of Bridge Street, Glebe. Margaret lives in a terrace named 'Oban' with her parents, younger sisters, and brother Frank. Much like any girl of today, she has a circle of friends with whom she visits Coogee Beach, goes to the movies, and occasionally fights - though girls no longer have such picturesque names as May, Ivy, Rose and Millie. Throughout the year, Margaret recounts many experiences, both familiar and unfamiliar, from preparing for her girlfriends' weddings to witnessing a disturbing crash between a tram and a horse and cart.

The Glebe Point Road that Margaret knows is a wide brown expanse, dotted with sulkies, trams, and the occasional motor vehicle. 'Women are now a recognised force in many classes of business, and they have come to stay' said Grace Bros' *The Model Trader* magazine in 1908, when Margaret herself was a teenage shopgirl there. This may be the case, but by 1916 when she is working in a brush factory on Parramatta Road, Margaret faces all the usual sexism, including an office pest who insists on being fresh and unpinning her hair. However, she takes pride in her job: 'Mr Walker down worrying over the new system. My versatility was commented upon'. It was at the factory that she met Fred Wilkins, the man who had recently become her fiancé.

Margaret's favourite thing of all is to visit the movies, and she is an

enthusiastic scholar of the new medium. Theda Bara's vampish *Carmen* is 'unique'. Charlie Chaplin's *The Pawn Broker* is 'v. good' and D.W. Griffith's masterpiece *Birth of a Nation* is 'something wonderful'. Mary Pickford is her favourite actress, but there are also plenty of handsome males to swoon over - 'To Crystal Palace [Theatre] with Fred & Mum. Good programme ... D[oug] Fairbanks and Bill Hart. Nuff said!'. There's also Lottie Lyell, Australia's beloved 'gladsome centaur', in *A Maori Maid's Love*, and of course, Louise Lovely, one of Australia's first Hollywood stars. As Margaret notes when she visits a pantomime, 'Dissatisfied with Pommy artists, when we have our own as good'. Fred's brother Sydney takes her to her 'first taste of Grand Opera - *La Boheme*, v. good'. If truth be told, Margaret herself would love to be an actress. Fred is equally taken with the new medium, and scores a small role in the Australian film *The Murder of Captain Fryatt*. Unfortunately, fame and fortune do not follow.



Margaret often speaks of feeling run down, suffering bronchitis, flu and blinding headaches, spending a whole pound on a throat spray to restore her lost voice and ultimately taking a rest holiday in the country. Here, she learns to row her own boat, as well as fending off the

advances of a 'Pommy' sergeant. 'Men are funny animals', she says. Some things never change! The tension of a world war hangs over Margaret's year like a dull mist, but the horror does not reach home until she receives terrible news from the front lines. She records it in a single sentence, pushed into the page with stark red ink: 'Poor Frank McKay never answered his roll call today'. No doubt Margaret has the loss of this dear friend in the back of her mind when she attends a special meeting at the brush factory to discuss the upcoming referendum: Conscription, Yes or No? 'A very hard battle between Love and Duty - which will win?' Her mind is still not made up on the eve of the vote: 'Referendum Day. A great struggle - Yes or No'. In the end, she does not record whether she was one of the 1,087,557 who voted YES or the 1,160,003 who voted NO.

Soon after, Margaret is swept up in the whirl of the season. '7am Mass, Comm[union]. Ray and Joey over. Busy on jam making. Clean up then bath. Feeling fresh. Rose to Lincoln's this weekend'. As Christmas approaches, she records 'Too busy to enter up'. Thus ends her diary of 1916.

The following year, Fred and Margaret were married, and the sort of life she recorded in her diary ended. In 1919 her first son Fred Jr was born, and Theresa, Sydney and Tony soon followed. In later life she worked as a nurse, which included a stint at the building we now know as Lyndhurst. She saw all three sons go to war, and was one of the very lucky mothers to see all three return. She died in 1971 at the age of 79 and was, as her son Fred still maintains, a remarkable woman.

Today, I step out into a very different Glebe Point Road to the one that was known by Margaret Higgins. Yet in

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many other ways, our lives are very similar. Margaret's love of films and the theatre lives on in myself, her great-granddaughter. As I attend my weekly tango classes at Glebe Town Hall I cannot help but think of the benefit concert she held there on the 26th of August, 1907, as a charity fundraiser for the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children. In my mind's eye, I will always see Margaret Higgins, who looked so much like myself, soaring above the audience on a flower-bedecked swing, singing the centrepiece song - 'You're The Girl I'm Looking For'.

- Camille Scaysbrook

*Other 'Who Lived in Your Street' articles are welcome.*

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## Lyndhurst

61 Darghan Street, Glebe

Architects :1833-36 John Verge. 1979-84 Clive Lucas & Partners

*'Conceived as an impressive Regency villa for Dr James Bowman, son-in-law of John Macarthur and Inspector of Colonial Hospitals, its use as a residence was short-lived. The fashionable architect Verge, assisted by John Bibb (1818-62) was allowed free rein to position and design the building on 36 acres of land. He used a total of 29,000 bricks, rendered to look like stone, ironbark shingles on the roof and cedar joinery and furnishings imported from around the world. The villa was surrounded by ornamental gardens, an orchard and flowering shrubberies'. - Graham Jahn, Sydney Architecture*

From 1847, the house was used by various ecclesiastical institutions, until the Lyndhurst estate was subdivided in 1878. The house itself was subdivided into three apartments. The house has also served as a hospital, a rooming house, an ice cream factory, a printing works and timber workshop.

The Glebe Society's interest in Lyndhurst stems not only from its obvious historic and architectural



Photo from the NSW Heritage Office Website - Listing Heritage Items, [www.heritage.nsw.gov.au](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au)

interest but also because the Society was one of a number of groups which actively opposed the proposed demolition of Lyndhurst by the DMR as part of the North Western Freeway, envisaged in the early 1970s.

Happily, the State Government in 1976 gave an undertaking that the building would be retained and restored. In 1979, Mr Clive Lucas was appointed as restoration architect for the project.

A number of members of the Glebe Society Management Committee and Heritage Subcommittee inspected Lyndhurst on a recent Saturday afternoon. The Historic Houses Trust, the owner of Lyndhurst, is moving to larger premises in the City in late 2004.

Despite the crush of offices and overflowing desks, the noble proportions of the house, its restraint and simplicity as well as its elegant tranquillity were apparent.

Our guide was HHT Director, Peter Watts. Peter sees two possible options for Lyndhurst following the relocation of the HHT to the city (now scheduled for late spring). These options are sale or lease. The HHT proposes to use the equity from either option to further its Endangered Houses Trust (ie the restoration and eventual sale of other historic houses).

Given the difficulties of the site, the preferred owner/lessee would be:

- someone who wished to use it as a residence, or
- an organisation which had a small staff and generated low traffic.

Peter's preference is the so-called Bronte option, where the ongoing care of the building's fabric is

assured and some community access is negotiated. However, for the HHT, the former obviously has greater priority than the latter.

- Elizabeth Simpson-Booker

### Status:

1. Listed on the State Heritage Register
2. Classified by the National Trust

### For more information:

1. Smith, Kate and Bernard, *The Architectural Character of Glebe* The Glebe Society, *Historic Glebe*
2. Foster, Michael and Solling, Max, a Semi-Rural Retreat: places, people and society in Glebe 1828-1861, Part 1, *Leichhardt Historical Journal*, 23, 2002, pp 23-24

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## What's to become of Lyndhurst?

Our initial discussion with Peter Watts has been followed up by the Society's Heritage Sub-committee, which is seeking to identify criteria for Lyndhurst's future use.

The Historic Houses Trust of NSW is looking for suitable buyers or tenants. Their preference is to sell because the funds so generated will help fill the coffers of their Endangered Houses Trust - a nifty process whereby heritage houses are bought,

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restored and sold on, so maintaining funds for the continuation of this worthwhile mission.

From The Glebe Society's point of view, the potential dangers are not that *Lyndhurst* will be pulled down or inappropriately altered (being listed on the State Heritage Register will give immunity to that) but by selling, the Trust will forgo any continuing control on levels of maintenance and public access. With leasing these aspects can be controlled.

From some discussion the following points seem important:

\* Recognition that *Lyndhurst* is enormously significant, far beyond its physical fabric.

\* Acceptance of the view that for the people of Glebe, *Lyndhurst* is an iconic treasure, something that we can crow about and call our own, and accordingly we have legitimate expectations for its continued well-being and accessibility.

\* Agreement that any process of seeking 'Expressions of Interest' should be expertly done. The Sydney Harbour Federation Trust's recent example of Chowder Bay so promoted and marketed the site that it seemed an honour for any applicant to be considered!

Possible ideas for uses include a boutique B & B, a Vice-Chancellor's residence or a specialized cultural headquarters.

So can any readers come up with potential buyers or leaseholders with dispositions that ensure ongoing tender loving care and continuous or occasional public access? Do you have any ideas about avenues of pursuit that we could pass on to the Trust? Please contact me on 9552-4172.

- David Mander Jones

For some interesting history of *Lyndhurst's* past glories, see

## GLEBE & THE ARTS



### Glebe Art Show 2004 - an Overview

Opening night was amazing, with not one more body able to squeeze in. It really has become the occasion for an annual Glebe party, meeting new residents and renewing old acquaintances, with a good mix of business and residents, where you can talk to the dentist about the local park!

We only sold two paintings on the night but most people came back during the week for the better look. By the end of the show we sold 14 works out of 230. Four of our artists hadn't sold before. The looks on their faces make all the hard work worthwhile. It proves that what Robin Lawrence and I wanted in a show is working. That is, every entry was accepted and hung with no criticism, only encouragement. It's nice to think a young amateur could be hung next to a noted artist. This is Glebe.

The show included an incredible mix of styles and that was its strength. The public, an average of 80 a day and over 100 on the weekends (one weekend was wet) enjoyed the variety and colour. The photography section is growing and many photos of Glebe were sold to locals.

The **Open Prize** winner was Annabel Butler with her work 'Time Grid'. She has since taken out a prize at the Bondi Pavilion. She lives in Darlinghurst and is a new entry.

**Works on Paper** was won by Mark Ward, an artist from Leichhardt who has supported our show for years.

**Photography** was won by a Glebe boy, Peter Damo, for his photo 'Dog at Bubbler'.

The **People's Choice** this year was not obvious. So many paintings had a vote, which has not happened in the past. People were walking around for ages trying to decide. The winner in the end was 'Model Reading' by Ross Skinner, a painting of a figure reclining in a chair reading a book, everyone's fantasy. Ross lives in Glebe.

The library always looks wonderful with the art everywhere and we thank the Library staff for their cooperation and enthusiasm. They have a wonderful sense of the Glebe community and the site on which the library now sits is to many a sacred site.

Let's hope 2005 is as successful.

- Chris Newton

### The 15th Annual Glebe Music Festival, 7 to 28 November 2004

Full details of the Festival program and a booking form are in the leaflet enclosed in this Bulletin.

Book now before all the best seats are gone.



### Concert 'Italian Masters'

Presented by the  
Sydney University  
Graduate Choir and  
Soloists

**When:** Sunday 22 August at 3pm

**Where:** The Great Hall, University of Sydney

**Program:** Rossini Mass, Monteverdi, Allegri, Cherubini, de Monte.

**Tickets:** \$30, children \$15

**Ticketing:** MCA Ticketing, phone 9645 1611

**Parking:** Metered parking is available in the University grounds.

For more information, phone Jenny Pockley on 9660 6363.

# Book Review



## **Michael Hogan, *Local Labor: A History of the Labor Party in Glebe 1891-2003***

Michael Hogan has done us all a great service. He has trawled through more than a hundred years of Labor local branch documents and conducted numerous interviews, to produce a compelling portrait, the first in Australia, of how a political party operates at grass-roots. This is also, I believe, the first book celebrating 150 years of responsible government in NSW, and if Michael's research sets the standard, we are in for a feast indeed!

Michael Hogan is not a party member, but his son Liam is secretary of Blackwattle Branch, another thankless task. However, the father's career as Professor of Government at Sydney University has armed him with a profound knowledge of the origins and struggles of Australia's oldest and largest political organisation.

This equips him to answer the important question, 'what are local branches for?' At times there seems to be no doubt. In the first major period of Glebe branch activity, up to 1925, the goal was to achieve representation on, and finally control of, Glebe Municipality. The Branch at this time was a model of youthful enthusiasm, social activity and engagement with the community.

Sadly, this lively spirit was quickly crushed as the world sank into the Great Depression. The misery of this time is hard for us to comprehend. Glebe was hit particularly severely: lockouts, a third unemployed, wages slashed, hunger, evictions and dole queues.

However, even this picture of suffering was enlivened by the antics of the long-time Labor Party

boss, Horace 'Doc' Foley. According to Hogan, Foley never lived in Glebe, but lived with his wife, who owned hotels in different parts of Sydney. He did however have a medical practice, which I remember well, at 202 Glebe Point Road from 1933. It gave him a base from which he dominated Glebe politics for a whole generation.

The stories about Foley are legion, and there are many in this book. He polarized opinion to an extraordinary degree. Those to whom he dispensed free medical treatment and handouts believed he could do no wrong. Others were less admiring.

Hogan fleshes out some well-known anecdotes to give us a better understanding of the spirit of the times. Foley is supposed to have personally torn down a ticket barrier put up by Harold Park Paceway in Ross Street. Hogan points out that this was done because Harold Park had not paid the usual fee to the aldermen before erecting it. The Club accused the aldermen, and in particular Foley, of trying to extort a bribe of twelve hundred pounds. Both sides admitted there had been a demand for a cash settlement of some kind. They disagreed about whether it was intended for Council, or for the pockets of the aldermen.

Like so many other matters in which Foley was involved, it ended up in court. The judge, as usual, was critical of Foley's evidence. Hogan shrewdly comments:

*'Even if he was not lying to the court, Foley treated magistrates the way he treated his political enemies. He preferred bluster and intimidation to candour, denying the right of anyone to question his judgment. This may often have worked for him in ALP faction politics, but it was a foolhardy way to give evidence in court' (p 123).*

Hogan concludes, plausibly enough, that while corruption was extremely widespread in the thirties, it was petty only. Indeed, in such straightened times there was simply not enough money for it to be otherwise.

This is not true, however, of the seventies, when the next great branch revival occurred. Unfortunately, if a person is corrupt enough to take a small bribe, it is not difficult to persuade them to take a large one. Moreover, as we know from the NSW Police, it is not necessary for a public official to be personally corrupt: all he has to do is look the other way and pretend nothing is happening. By the sixties corruption was having a huge impact on Glebe, but Hogan overlooks this altogether. You will look in vain for any reference to the millions squandered on the Wentworth Park Grandstand, or a reference to Parkes Development, the company owned by Paul Strasser, that devastated the Glebe waterfront with the connivance of Bob Askin. It would not be the first, or the last, example of collusion between the major parties, and wherever such collusion does occur, the outlook for the community is not good.

The reforms of the Whitlam Government in the 1970s had no impact on the Glebe Branch, still stuck in the 1930s. Meanwhile, with the revival of the inner city, corruption exploded, and building inspectors and aldermen were ideally positioned to benefit from the development boom. The bashing of Peter Baldwin and the criminal charges against Danny Casey were not joking matters. The residents mobilised to reform the local Labor machine, and after a long struggle, it looked for a moment as if they would succeed.

Many Glebe Society members were active in the Labor Party at this time. Names that occur to me immediately include Jenny McNaughton, Merle Larcombe, Hilary and Tony Larkum, John Buckingham, Alan Robertson, Jim Coombs and John Hoddinott (the last four all Glebe Society Life Members), but there were certainly many others. Some have moved on to other, often greener, pastures, but at the time they were passionate for reform. Alas, you will find only a handful mentioned here.

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It is unfortunate that so well researched a book should fail so totally to understand the cloud that hung over the old guard, or why, when Leichhardt Council failed to honour its promises to curtail overdevelopment, the reaction should be so complete and persistent.

Michael Hogan underestimates both the importance of the new challenges to the Labor Party and the consequences of the failure to meet those challenges. Perhaps after all, although not a party member, he is too preoccupied with following the machinations of ephemeral sub-factions to notice the halving of the Labor vote in the City Council elections earlier this year, or the fact that both State and Federal seats are under the greatest threat within living memory. Keeping the Party alive, relevant and honest is what branches are all about, and Michael misses it.

Another minor irritation is the editing. Issy Wyner's name is spelt incorrectly in the text, but correctly in the index. However, in the index it is not in alphabetical order.

- Neil Macindoe

### Literary Glebe

"...I loved Sydney, my home, for its breath of tolerance and possibility... There was some strong communal impulse to beauty that most other cities had lost: an impulse that perched the most beautiful building in the world on the lip of the dreamy harbour, threw an airy reckless shimmer of bridge across Blackwattle Bay..."

- Rosie Scott, *Faith Singer*

### The Glebe Society Book Club

Some of the Book Club's regular members prefer a northern hemisphere summer to a Sydney winter.

We hope to continue our book readings later in the year.

## Our Environment



### Community Workshop - Foley Park

On 22 July a small but diligent group attended the Community Workshop on Foley Park. The Workshop was directed by Adam Hunter from Environmental Partnership, which is preparing the Plan of Management for the park. A separate consultation is being held with the residents of St. John's Village.

Below is a summary of the principal findings from the questionnaire included in the letter drop to residents:

1. The majority of respondents were aged 36-64 years and visited the park several times a week, walking there from home on weekdays with family and/or friends and staying 15-30 minutes.
2. Major reasons for visiting were passing through; walking and using the playground.
3. Features needing protection were the trees, green space and playground, all of which rated 'high' in importance, along with cleanliness.
4. Many areas were nominated for improvement, with maintenance and cleanliness scoring the highest. Others areas were toilets and paths, flower/garden beds, safety/security, playground, lighting, additional seating/picnic tables with shade/shelter, upgraded entrance/improved visibility to Glebe Point Road.

Adam looked at the results of a previous survey on the Park conducted by UTS students, and the list of requests the Foley Park Action Group had put to Leichhardt Council. Other reports considered included a Tree Management Plan, a Heritage Appraisal, and a Demographic Review.

Three concepts for the Plan of Management were displayed for comment, and Adam explained in some detail the different ideas and designs being canvassed, among which were:

1. The fig trees in the park – these had been unanimously identified as important, although two in the playground area are in decline and need increased aeration and moisture. Selective pruning of the others was recommended to reduce loadings and improve filtered visual connections.
2. Emphasis on simplicity with regard to planting, and continuity in the low level planting.
3. Replacing the toilet block with a smaller more sympathetic building.
4. Removal of the Wireless House in order to open up the grassed area, to enable better use as a 'village green'; alternatively, the Wireless House could provide recreational use with the seating area around it upgraded.
5. Thinning out and consolidation of planting to provide clear views to and from Glebe Point Road, and to give a stronger identity.
6. Widening, upgrading and defining the Glebe Point Road entry. Sandstone pillars to provide an entry forecourt to the park with naming signage.
7. Acknowledging the profile or 'footprint' of Hereford House with stone markers showing its location on the site, and providing interpretative signage.
8. Linking the War Memorial to the Park with ceremonial space, including seating and interpretation.
9. Extending and upgrading the picnic table area.
10. Removing smaller garden beds in the grassed area.

The draft Plans were then handed to those present to workshop in small groups and were viewed favourably. With the exception of the fate of the Wireless House there was little disagreement. It was unanimously agreed that the entrance to the Park

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# From The Archives

Reproduced from Bulletin No. 9 of 1974

## Tom Uren and the Glebe Estate

On 18 October [1974] the Federal Government arranged a public meeting at the Glebe Town Hall to discuss the future of the Glebe Estate, formerly the "church lands". It was attended by over five hundred local residents.

Messrs. Tom Uren, Minister for Urban and Regional Development, Les Johnstone, Minister for Housing and Construction, and Henry Wardlaw, the acting project manager of the Glebe Estate, addressed the meeting. Mr. Jim Cope, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and our local member, was also present.

Mr. Uren commenced by stating that the project had been initiated by the former Mayor, Alderman Nick Origlass, who also attended the meeting.

Mr. Uren and Mr. Johnstone answered questions raised by the local residents, and also clarified certain points of policy.

1. The Glebe Project Board comprises the permanent heads of the two Ministers' Departments and the Chairman of the Cities Commission, the site management being entrusted to a project manager.
2. Mr. Uren stated that the position of project manager will be nationally advertised, and that a person most qualified to do the job will be appointed.
3. A construction manager will be appointed to assist the project

manager in carrying out the construction aspects of the project.

4. All existing tenants will be permitted to remain in their homes.
5. All rents will be fixed on a fair basis.
6. New tenancy applications will be considered in order of receipt, and assessed on the basis of needs.
7. The bulk of the housing will be retained for low income families and pensioners.
8. Rental rebates will be allowed on the basis of the Commonwealth-State housing agreement where applicable.
9. Community participation will be encouraged through direct representation on a committee to be set up, and will include local residents and special interest groups who will make a positive contribution towards the project.
10. There will be a second advisory committee consisting of representatives from government bodies such as Health and Education.
11. A priority list will be established to carry out the rehabilitation in a methodical way.
12. The first priority of the project office will be to waterproof all the buildings in the area, starting with the roofs.

The meeting was highly successful, and was interrupted by spontaneous bursts of applause as the speakers made the points.

This project is an exciting one for all residents of Glebe from a number of points of view, namely:

- (a) It maintains housing for low income workers, where they have traditionally lived within close proximity to their work places.
- (b) A good socio-economic mix is preserved in Glebe and, more important, a long term existing social fabric is not destroyed.
- (c) A 47 acre, hundred year old townscape is preserved substantially intact in a practical manner for posterity as part of our national heritage. Hopefully it will be included in the National Estate and classified by the National Trust.
- (d) For the first time, it will test a community's involvement - through direct participation in committees - in determining the community's own future environment.

The residents of Glebe, through keen interest, participation and perseverance with the previous Council, have succeeded in achieving a very worthwhile objective. The experience of this valuable effort should be kept alive, built upon and maintained.

The Federal Government and, in particular, Mr. Tom Uren and Mr. Les Johnstone, should be congratulated on their untiring efforts in making sure that this project is a success.

- Peru Perumal

.... continued from page 8

should remain on Glebe Point Road but should be extended and improved, while keeping in mind the importance of the Park as a secluded refuge.

### What happens next?

Environmental Partnership was pleased with the community consultation and is now proceeding to prepare a concept Master Plan and Draft Plan of Management. This will

then need to be approved by Council and the State Government before it goes to public exhibition, which should be some time in August this year.

- Bobbie Burke

# News and Notes

## Thirsty Thursdays - Change of Venue

All members are invited to meet on the first Thursday of each month, to have dinner with other people who live in Glebe. We pay for our own meals and there is no BYOG

However we are holding a Public Meeting at Glebe Town Hall on Thursday 5 August, about the proposed slipway, so we will go there first and have dinner at the Nags Head after the meeting.

The next regular 'Thirsty Thursday' dinner is on 2 September at The Nag's Head, in St Johns Road. No bookings are needed – just turn up at 7pm.

## We will miss you, Marcello

Marcello Massi has been the Glebe Place Manager, our link with the Sydney City Council, since Glebe merged with the City in May 2003.

Marcello told us recently that he has been offered a new job in Queensland and is leaving Sydney. Our new Place Manager, looking after Glebe, Forest Lodge and Camperdown, is Jenny Underwood. See page 12 for her contact details.

Thank you Marcello, and welcome Jenny.

## The oldest business in Glebe?

On 12 July 1934, a fruit and vegetable shop was opened in Glebe Point Road. The owner and his son, Frank, had demolished and rebuilt the shop and the flat above it. Seventy years later, Frank Galluzzo, still works in the shop, which is now run by his children and grandchildren. Congratulations, Frank.

I hope to be able to include an interview with Frank in a future *Bulletin*.

- Edwina Doe

## 61 Annandale Street, Annandale – any recollections?

New member, Ian Meggitt, is researching the history of the old corner store in which the Hopscotch Café is now situated. Ian would love to hear from anyone with personal recollections about the building. Please contact him on 9560 2698 or after hours on 0414 930 993.

## 100 years ago

8th July 1904 – Sydney streets were lit by electricity when Pyrmont power station was officially switched on.

## Oral histories

Prior to the penultimate boundary changes, several Glebe residents were interviewed as part of the Leichhardt Library Oral History project. They included:

1. Alan and Clare Anderson
2. Gwendoline Cavanagh
3. Moya Howell
4. John Sutton – ERL Engineering Co, Glebe, and
5. Catherine White

The Oral History Collection holds about 40 interviews with residents from all parts of the former Municipality of Leichhardt. For further information contact Bruce Carter, Local Studies Librarian, Leichhardt Council ([brucec@lmc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:brucec@lmc.nsw.edu.au)).

## For sale

One pair Powerobic hand weights 1kg

One pair Dumbbells 3kg

One typist's chair (covered with dark blue fabric)

All in good condition. Best offer. Ring Liz on 9518 6186.

## City of Sydney Councillors

### Lord Mayor

Clover MOORE MLA

### Councillors

Philip BLACK

Verity FIRTH

Chris HARRIS

Marcelle HOFF

Robyn KEMMIS

Michael LEE

Shayne MALLARD

John MCINERNEY

Tony POOLEY

Phone the Town Hall, 1300 651 301, for contact details.



## Forest Lodge Public School

Home of The Glebe Society Archives

Principal: Mrs Elva Salter Phone 9660 3530

# For your diary ...

**Tuesday 3 August** - Glebe Night. Phone the Glebe Chamber of Commerce, 9552 1546, for details.

**Wednesday 4 August, 7pm**, Glebe Point Residents' Meeting, Benledi.

**Thursday 5 August, 6 - 8pm** - 'Slipways etc' - Public Meeting, Glebe Town Hall. See enclosed notice.

**Wednesday 11 August, 7.30pm** - Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting, upstairs meeting room, Toxteth Hotel. All members welcome.

**Sunday 22 August, 3pm** - Concert - Italian Masters - The Great Hall, University of Sydney.

**Wednesday 25 August, 7pm** - Eastern Precinct Residents' Group - Old Fire Station, 113 Mitchell Street.

**Thursday 2 September, 7pm** - 'Thirsty Thursday' - Dinner at the Nags Head Hotel, St Johns Road.

**Tuesday 7 September** - Glebe Night. Phone the Glebe Chamber of Commerce, 9552 1546, for details.

**4 - 12 September** - Glebe Week. For more details, contact the Chamber of Commerce.

**Sunday 19 September, 11am** - The Glebe Society's Annual General Meeting - Benledi.

**Wednesday 20 October, 7.30pm** - Talk by Max Solling: 'The Business of Building Glebe'. Venue to be announced.

**7 - 28 November** - 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Glebe Music Festival.

## Contacting The Glebe Society

### Mail

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Glebe Society Inc  
PO Box 100, Glebe NSW 2037

### Website

The Society has a growing website ([www.glebesociety.org.au](http://www.glebesociety.org.au)) for the information of members and anyone with an interest in Glebe.

The website will only flourish if members use the site. Send contributions or comments to [webmaster@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:webmaster@glebesociety.org.au)

### The Bulletin

We are glad to publish letters or articles on any matters of interest to Glebe, any topic raised in the *Bulletin*, or any issues relating The Glebe Society. Write to the address above or email [editor@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:editor@glebesociety.org.au)

### Disclaimer

Views expressed in this *Bulletin* are not necessarily those of The Glebe Society Inc.

### Bulletin Deadline

The next edition of the Bulletin will be published in August. The deadline for contributions is **Saturday 21 August**.

## The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

### Management Committee

President	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Vice-President	Hilary Wise	9660 5845
Immediate Past President	John Buckingham	9660 7780
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Treasurer (Acting)	Andrew Wood	

### Committee Members

Bob Armstrong	9660 4189	Tony Larkum	9660 7030
Ted McKeown	9660 3917		

### Sub-committees

All sub-committee chairs are *ex officio* members of the Management Committee

Bays and Foreshores	Mark Dent	9566 2555
Environment (Acting)	Fiona Campbell	9660 0185
Glebe Point Road (Acting)	Jan Wilson	9660 2698
Heritage	David Mander Jones	9552 4172
History of The Glebe Society	Jeanette Knox	9660 7781
Membership		
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Parks & Open Spaces	Ted McKeown	9660 3917
Reporting infrastructure defects	Margaret Sheppard	9660 4121
Social activities,	Hilary Wise	9660 5845
Transport and Traffic	Chris Hallam	9660 3670

**Adopt-a-Park contacts** Foley Park - Bobbie Burke (9692 0343), Kirsova Playground - Fay Mander Jones, Paddy Gray Park - Liz Simpson-Booker

### Contacts

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Bulletin Editor	Edwina Doe	9660 7066
Historian	Max Solling	9660 1160
Webmaster	Cynthia Jones	9660 2451

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The GLEBE SOCIETY Inc  
PO Box 100 Glebe 2037



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## MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY

<b>Individual member</b>	<b>\$45</b>
<b>Joint</b> (2 people, one address)	<b>\$55</b>
<b>Household</b> (more than 2 adults and/or children, one address)	<b>\$60</b>
<b>Concession</b> (student or pensioner)	<b>\$20</b>
<b>Business or institution</b>	<b>\$110</b>

Write to PO Box 100, Glebe, 2037 or phone the Secretary, Liz Simpson-Booker, on 9518 6186.

If you have a matter that you would like to discuss with the Management Committee, please phone the Secretary.

## COMMUNITY CONTACTS

**Place Manager, Glebe, Forest Lodge & Camperdown:**  
Jenny Underwood, 9298 3191 (direct), or 0414 617 048.

**email:** [junderwood@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:junderwood@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

**Glebe Town Hall Office:** 9298 3190, 8am-6pm Mon-Fri

**Sydney City Council Customer Service**

**Telephone (24 hours):** 1300 651 301

**email:** [council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

**website:** [www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

**Dumped supermarket trolleys:** 1800 641 497 (BiLo trolleys 9281 4511)

**Aircraft noise:** 1800 802 584