



Lyndhurst - Good News!



Lyndhurst.
Photo courtesy of the Historic Houses Trust

We received the welcome news on the morning of 17 March that Lyndhurst had been sold by the Historic Houses Trust prior to auction. Welcome, because as stated by the Trust's Director, Dr Peter Watts, 'the property has been bought by a Glebe resident and a member of the Glebe Society ... The property will be used as a family residence. The purchaser has indicated he would be willing to open the house from time to time and also to engage an architect acceptable to the Heritage Council of NSW. The price paid for the property was \$3.3m, which was substantially above the Trust's valuation'.

Dr Watts was giving the Glebe Society notice of the nature of the sale in light of earlier correspondence in which concerns were raised on behalf of local residents and The Glebe Society Inc. about the future of

Lyndhurst, and the appropriateness of its sale by auction. These concerns had been expressed at the Lyndhurst Open Day and at a subsequent meeting of residents in which arguments were put in favour of sale by tender. Our letter to the Trust expressed the belief 'that the objectives of the sale process should include finding an owner who is committed to maintaining the heritage values of the house and who recognises the legitimacy of the local community interest in the property in addition to obtaining the best dollar outcome for the Trust'.

The Historic Houses Trust is to be congratulated for having managed to find a buyer who subscribes to these ideals. We look forward to seeing Lyndhurst returned to being a family home in all its glory.

- Bob Armstrong

The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported on 18 March: 'Lyndhurst ... has been sold 25 days before auction for \$3.3 million to financial planner Tim Eustace, who will open it to the public occasionally. While the price exceeded its reputed \$2.2 million Historic Houses Trust valuation, several would-be buyers are upset they were not allowed to bid.'

See the report of the Open Day on Sunday 6 March, on page 2.

Meeting with the Deputy Lord Mayor, John McInerney

About 30 Society members and members of precinct groups came to the meeting at *Benledi* on Thursday, 17 March, to meet the Deputy Lord Mayor and Chair of Council's Planning Committee, Cr John McInerney. Councillors Robyn Kemmis and Chris Harris also attended.

The meeting provided an excellent opportunity for the Deputy Lord Mayor to explain the Council's structure and to have a friendly discussion of the many issues affecting Glebe and nearby areas.

One piece of news was that Glebe will be the first area to undergo a review of planning controls. We can expect to see a new set of controls, at least in draft form, for Glebe by the end of the year. These controls will build on previous documents, but update heritage and traffic aspects.



President Bob Armstrong discusses the Society's concern about the proposed Tramsheds development with Deputy Lord Mayor Cr John McInerney. Photo: Bruce Davis

We look forward to other discussions, as relaxed as this one, with Council's Planning Committee.

- Edwina Doe

Hundreds attend *Lyndhurst* Open Day

The Glebe Society, in conjunction with the Historic Houses Trust, arranged an open day at *Lyndhurst* on Sunday March 6 which was a resounding success. Over 300 people came and saw the house empty of all its office furniture, revealing grand rooms of huge proportions - the dining room alone was a good 10m x 6m, with 14ft (4.27m) high ceilings! As we came in through the small rear door on Darghan Street, we saw the large curved stairway sweeping up to the first floor. Ahead was the view through to what must be one of the largest entrance halls imaginable, and on out through huge front doors to the city skyline beyond. Large living rooms led off either side of the entrance hall, these having generous French doors leading on to verandahs. Upstairs are many large bedrooms and even more extensive views. In the 1830s the occupants could see down to the Harbour where Wentworth Park now exists.

All of us were amazed at the size, proportions and grandeur of its internal spaces, doorways and



Max Solling relates the history of *Lyndhurst*.

Photo: Ian Pickles

windows. The surprise was so great perhaps, because this is not suggested by the external views that most of us have had to be content with.

Max Solling spoke of *Lyndhurst's* early occupants and subsequent history in a way that brought it alive to us present day visitors. Architect Clive Lucas, who advised on its restoration, told us of this process and of events that led to what we now see. And then Peter Watts,

Director of Historic Houses Trust, formally advised that the Trust, after much deliberation, had decided to sell and that it was on the market to the highest bidder as from the following Saturday!

Then followed the voicing of much concern by a number of those present, but as the report on page one reveals, our fears were unfounded.

- David Mander Jones
Chair of Heritage Sub Committee

The story of *Lyndhurst* - Max Solling at the Open Day

Lyndhurst was built between 1833 and 1837, a time when Glebe was a semi-rural retreat for the well-to-do. By 1841 at least 13 substantial villas dotted the Glebe landscape. Of these, only *Toxteth House* (now *St Scholastica's*) and *Lyndhurst* remain.

James Bowman bought a 36 acre tract of Glebe in 1833 from Charles Cowper. Born in England in 1786, Bowman entered the Navy in 1806 and sailed for Sydney as a surgeon on the convict ship *Mary Anne*, arriving on 19 January 1816. He met John Macarthur, then returning to the colony after a long exile, the following year. His marriage to Mary, second daughter of John and Elizabeth Macarthur in 1823 brought a dowry that included 2,000 merino sheep and more than 200 head of cattle. Surgeon Bowman, bolstered by his wife's money, commissioned John Verge to design

Lyndhurst, a handsome regency villa with Tuscan columns, on his estate. Verge, a London builder-architect, emigrated in 1828, and by 1837 he had more than 80 commissions in Sydney, with at least four of these in Glebe.

A feature of the Glebe landscape was the picturesque architectural styles designed for a middle class dreaming of landed possessions, and the feeling of status those possessions brought with them. Thomas Shepherd, trained as a landscape gardener in Scotland, established the Darling nursery at Chippendale. Shepherd added to the picturesque settings in 1830s Glebe, promoting horticulture as a fashionable pursuit and advocating retention, for aesthetic reasons, of indigenous trees. The sloping grounds of *Lyndhurst*, wrote Shepherd, had:

'... been laid out with great attention to the principles of landscape gardening. The approach to the mansion enters at the south-east corner; it is seen for several hundred yards, and then takes a bold turn towards the coach sweep in front of the house without any reverse turn, which adds to its beauty'.

James Bowman implemented significant improvements to the colonial medical service. *Lyndhurst*, set amid its landscaped grounds, dominated the Blackwattle Swamp shoreline and stood separate and apart from the other villas of Glebe. One group of early mansions tended to be aligned along and close to Glebe Point Road, and the other small cluster was sited on either side of what is now Bridge Road, between Glebe Road and Ross Street.

James Bowman spared no expense on his marine villa, rivalling the retreats of his public service peers at Woolloomooloo, and the land lawyer at *Toxteth Park*. But fine houses do not necessarily secure domestic harmony. Mary Bowman complained her husband was 'selfish to me, harsh and cruel', abusing her when they were alone together. But Mary could not escape and take the five children, because under colonial law the children belonged to James. Mary was very attached to the home she had planned and furnished, and could only look forward to the surgeon's death, which came in 1846. (A little girl who is a great-great-great-great granddaughter of James Bowman, and her mother and father were among the visitors.)

In 1836, when Sydney Hospital's administration was placed under military control, Bowman's services were no longer required. By 1842, without the income to sustain his opulent lifestyle, Bowman was almost bankrupt and to rescue their sister, brothers James and William Macarthur stepped in and bought *Lyndhurst*.

In 1846 the Macarthur brothers sold the *Lyndhurst* estate to the Church of England who set up St James College and Seminary with Reverend Robert Allwood as principal. Primarily designed to train candidates for the ministry, St James College also provided a moderate amount of tertiary education as an alternative to sending sons of colonists back to England. Charges of Tractarian influence, however, made the college unpopular with some of the clergy and laity, and it closed in 1849.

Lyndhurst was bought by the Catholic Church and St Mary's College opened there in February 1852, under Bishop Charles Henry Davis, with an enrolment of nine boys. The Benedictine Academy provided a classical and literary education for wealthier Catholics, and enabled students to matriculate for entry to the University of Sydney. When *Lyndhurst* closed shortly after Archbishop Polding's death in 1877, it had prepared for matriculation 35

of the 45 Catholics who graduated at the University by that time. Most colonial Catholics then were Irish, and they could not understand the value of education of the *Lyndhurst* kind, maintaining it bred snobbery and pretension. Although the college's curriculum was radically altered to give it a more practical orientation, this could not forestall its closure.

The original 36 acre *Lyndhurst* estate was reduced to 20 acres in 1853 when the Bank of Australasia sold a 16 acre portion to the Scottish Australian Investment Company, based in Aberdeen, Scotland. Company director Robert Morehead knew the value of this property would increase when the Pymont Bridge Company (of which Morehead was a director) pushed their road through it. The Company waited patiently to maximize the profit on their Glebe purchase. Initially it offered 99 year leases with an option to purchase within seven years, and the lessee was required to pay the company £145, the equivalent of 20 years' rental. Between 1869 and 1880, the 21 - 26 foot frontages in Brougham Street (now Colbourne Avenue) and Gottenham and Talfourd Streets, and portions of Bridge Road were filled with rows of terraces.

The remainder of the original estate (20 acres) was subdivided and carved into 16 - 30 foot frontage lots and offered for sale by Richardson and Wrench on 2 September 1878 and 19 October 1885. It was a place with 'many natural advantages', auction advertisements claimed, 'elevated, healthy, easily drained, overlooking Wentworth Park, second only to the Botanical Gardens as a recreation ground'. Builders with local addresses - George and Robert Allum, Michael Phelan, William Lloyd and William and John Toohey - set about filling Darghan, Darling, Bellevue, Cardigan and *Lyndhurst* Streets with rows of terraces which encircled the old Benedictine school. Some were given names - Elizabeth, Bismark, Darghan and Lyre Terraces, together with Edith and Clifton Cottages. A spectrum of

material lifestyles could be discerned within the old *Lyndhurst* estate which was largely built up by 1889.

From the 1890s the social geography of Sydney's inner suburbs was entering a new phase. A growing middle class perception of inner Sydney as a breeding ground for disease, poverty and vice was reinforced with the outbreak of bubonic plague, while the extension of tram and train lines facilitated an exodus to semi-detached houses and bungalows on the outer limits of development. The working class culture taking shape in inner Sydney was recognisable by a style of life and leisure, by a certain class consciousness increasingly expressed in a secular tendency to join unions, and to identify with the class party of Labor.

Double fronted terraces in Bellevue and Darghan Streets tended to be occupied by families of men of independent means and proprietors of small businesses including two mayors, carrier Stanley Cole and estate agent Ralph Stone. Smaller terraces housed labourers, carters, grocers and blacksmiths. Less numerous occupations found on the estate were saw sharpeners, teachers of violin, watchmakers, tea makers and a herbal beer manufacturer in Darling Street. Neighbourhood networks developed, strengthened by four pubs - the Grand (later Kauri), the Club, Burton Family and Excelsior, Martin's bakery in Denman Street (later St John's Road), and a collection of neighbourhood stores.

Lyndhurst became a private home for invalids for about four years from 1883. and from 1893 the Salvation Army took over *Lyndhurst* to accommodate homeless people during the 1890s depression. It was subsequently used by a variety of bodies - Edward Watts' school for girls in 1900, as a boarding house for many years, the factory of a broom manufacturer, and in 1965 as a Free Presbyterian centre run by Kevin Garner.

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Sydney's expressways were planned when the inner suburbs were designated as slums and, because of the low status accorded to these suburbs, their residents were to bear the brunt for the 'greater good'. Two expressways, the north-western and western, were planned to slice through Glebe, carving it into three sections and displacing about 2,500 people. At this time many low-income inner city people were pushed out of their habitat. Folk singer Declan Aflee captured the feeling:

*Under concrete and glass,
Sydney's disappearing fast,
It's all gone for profit and
plunder;
Though we'd really like to
stay
They are driving us away,
And across the western
suburbs we must wander.*

Lyndhurst was in the pathway of the north-western expressway and it became a powerful symbol for the anti-expressway movement. The 'Save Lyndhurst' Committee was formed in 1971. In 1972, as the Department of Main Roads continued to resume Lyndhurst properties in the path of the expressway, Mayor Nick Origlass of the new Leichhardt Council (which had adopted a conservation, anti-expressway and open council platform), bedecked in full regalia, participated in a 'paint-in' in which anti-expressway slogans were painted on Bridge Road, Glebe. Opposition also took the form of confrontation at demolition sites and squatting in DMR-affected properties. Three young men, members of the Alternative Community Telephone, squatted in a vacant Darling Street house. They were thrown out by the DMR and legal proceedings taken against them. These first squatters were supported in court by Bernard and Kate Smith and others. There was also a pointed, but short-lived, occupation of Lyndhurst. There were many squatters after 1971, among them John Fisher, who is here today (his grandfather, Labor Prime Minister Andrew Fisher, would have been proud of him),

Alan Rees and the inimitable Karl Kruszelnicki. Also handing out anti-expressway leaflets with us was Terry Metherell, who went on to bigger things. In those days he was left wing.

After several confrontations between residents, police and demolishers in 1972, and the imposition of a 'Green Ban' by the Builders Labourers Federation (BLF), led by Jack Munday, the DMR withdrew from Glebe. The Green Bans took on the classic features of an urban social movement. They were sudden, unexpected and spontaneous, and relatively short-lived (from 1972 to 1974) but their impact was dramatic. The Green Bans successfully opposed approved redevelopment projects - expressways and a variety of high-rise commercial and residential buildings, as well as slum clearance projects. They shut down a whole series of building projects, a process continued by the market downturn of the late 1970s.

At Leichhardt Council elections in 1971 expressways were a major issue. Certainly the most active local residents were Albert and Kathy Mispel of 3 Cardigan Street. Albert conducted an extraordinarily focused campaign, writing and printing a newsheet 'Moving and Living' disseminating information and lobbying authorities. In 1972 the Glebe Society published a monograph 'An Alternative to Inner Urban Expressways' written by David Potter.

Shortly after the Commonwealth Road Grants Act, legislation that gave the Whitlam Federal Government power over urban arterial roads, became law, in September 1974, the DMR were given orders by the Askin government to move into Fig Street, Ultimo with bulldozers, chains and the police, and begin demolition work. They were confronted by the BLF and a variety of people across the spectrum, united in their opposition to urban radial expressways; the Glebe Anti-Expressway group, Leichhardt Council Anti-Urban Radial Expressways (an umbrella group) a Who's Who of the Left in Sydney, members

of the Glebe Society and Joye Wallace, who formed a branch of the Liberal Party in Glebe in 1974.

The confrontation in Fig Street, Ultimo halted further demolition work, receiving national coverage and also strong support from the Federal Government, which withdrew finance for the project. In November 1974 the Glebe area was listed by the National Trust as a Conservation Area, receiving the highest category of listing. This added further weight to the case against expressway construction. The expressways were finally abandoned in 1977.

- Max Solling

Tunnel Anti-pollution Update.

A petition circulated amongst the gathering at 'Lyndhurst' on Sunday 27th February was signed by 53 people. The petition calls on the NSW Government to provide, install and maintain within-tunnel filtering in Sydney's cross city tunnel. Many people expressed their concern about the issue as they signed the petition.

Gerard Dupal of Pyrmont is involved in developing the group 'Sydneyiders Against Polluting Stacks' or SAPS. He said: 'half a million people live, work and play around the tunnel portals and unfiltered emission stack located beside 'Imax' in Darling Harbour. The stack will commence operation in October this year, emitting daily 'stored' pollution during the night. When Sydney has its winter heat inversions, we will be smothered in the stuff'. He went on to say that scientific and medical information questions the soundness and robustness of the scientific data and methodology about filtering that advisors to the Roads and Traffic Authority have adopted thus far. The argument is that if pollution is 'captured' in tunnels and stacks, the opportunity to treat it has been presented.

Night-time pollution practice has happened before this. In the late

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The Neighbour from Hell Strikes Again

The NSW Harness Racing Club has done it again. This time, it is proposing a spectacularly inappropriate development in the old Rozelle Tramsheds, a heritage-listed building acquired on the Club's behalf by Harness Racing NSW for 'world class stabling'.

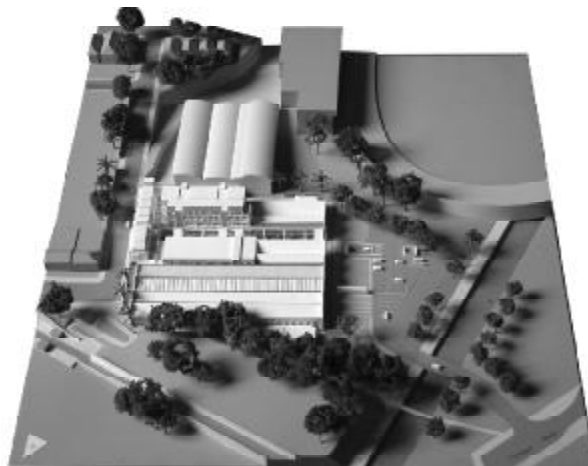
Now, it seems that 'world class stabling' is far from the Club's mind. Instead, it has lodged a DA for 122 dwelling units on a site zoned for open space, in the process destroying the integrity of a magnificent 19th century industrial building, previously in Government ownership, which is ideally suited (and sorely needed) for community purposes – in particular, community art purposes.

At a public meeting convened by the Glebe Society on 9 March at Benledi, a packed house of well over 100 local residents passed a unanimous resolution condemning the latest proposed development (see next page).

Readers with long memories will remember that the Club was successful about ten years ago in obtaining broad community support for its proposal to extend the racetrack over public parkland. This support was subject to a number of conditions offered by the Club and accepted by the community.

Those conditions included:

- the permanent closure of access to the track from Maxwell Road
- the demolition of the hideous concrete block wall along the



The model of the proposed Tramsheds development viewed from above Bicentennial Park. The height of the proposed tower block is very evident.

Crescent, and the landscaping of the grounds surrounding the track

- the relocation of the main traffic entrance from Wigram Road to Chapman Road, on the basis that there would never be more than 92 race meetings per year
- the construction in the centre of the track of a hockey field for Glebe Hockey Club

And what happened?

- the new proposal will effectively negate the closure of the site to Maxwell Road
- the concrete wall *was* demolished, but the "landscaping" resulted in an uninterrupted view of the outside of the crash barrier and hideous advertising signs
- under the new proposal, Chapman Road will become a main access road (across public parkland) serving 122 dwelling units

- we all know what happened to the promised hockey field

Surely it is time we gave up thinking that the Club will ever do anything decent or honourable as far as its local community is concerned. The State Government still has the opportunity to buy back the land (originally bought using gambling revenue in the Racecourse Development Fund). It was in public ownership, and it is clearly not needed for the purpose for which it was originally acquired. Why should the Club be permitted to make a windfall profit at the expense of Government revenue?

The need clearly exists for a community arts venue, and this is an ideal site for it. Such a use would overcome all of the objections articulated at the 9 March meeting.

Or is it also too much to ask that the State Government do the decent and honourable thing by Glebe?

- Ted McKeown

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1960s and early 70s, Glebe Society life member Albert Mispel and his wife Kathy lived in Cardigan Street, Glebe. From that high elevation they saw Pyrmont industries 'getting to work' at the end of the day. Industrial air pollution continued in to the night when it couldn't be seen. On the other hand industry can have a good record of environmental responsibility. A man present at the

'Lyndhurst' gathering was disturbed to hear of the cross-city tunnel pollution problem. He spoke of a company that included adequate pollution measures into its industrial design, operation and costs several years ago. He said Sydney road tunnels must be properly fitted with the latest filtering equipment now.

Glebe is close to the pollution stack and we would be foolish to ignore it.

The estimated cost of tunnel filtering would add about 10 cents per vehicle trip. It is affordable and equitable to collect and use the 10 cents for this job and we want the NSW Government to get on with it.

You can contact Gerard Dupal and SAPS at gmdupal@bigpond.net.au or phone: 9660 0661.

- Alison McKeown.

Resolution Passed at Tramsheds Public Meeting, Wednesday 9 March 2005

The resolution passed at the public meeting held at *Benledi* on 9 March reads:

This meeting of concerned residents calls on the City of Sydney and, if relevant, the Central Sydney Planning Committee to reject the current application D04/01624 for 122 dwellings proposed to be built at Rozelle (Glebe) Tramsheds because:

1. The Tramsheds are zoned Open Space and a residential development is not permissible under LEP 2000.
2. The Tramsheds do not have existing use rights of any kind. The original use ceased in 1958 and the only subsequent approved use also ceased many years ago.
3. The Tramsheds are an important reminder of one of the most extensive public transport systems in the world, Sydney Trams, that, unlike those that still provide outstanding service in Melbourne, were replaced by the less efficient buses. As such they are a Heritage Item under LEP 2000, and any future use should retain the original structure in its entirety.
4. The current proposal is not an adaptive reuse of a Heritage Item. It destroys most of the fabric of the Tramsheds and the significant sandstone escarpment, and detracts from the view of the Sheds when viewed from any point except directly in front.
5. The proposal contravenes both the density and height restrictions of LEP and DCP 2000.
6. The proposal violates sound town planning principles. The site is on low-lying land adjacent to a water-course, isolated from any residential street and accessible only via a private road. Such land is normally reserved for non-residential use, and in Glebe especially for recreational use. This would conform with existing land use patterns around Sydney Harbour.
7. The existing building has the advantage of large uninterrupted internal spaces with excellent natural lighting from the roof, features that render it ideal for recreational, community, display and creative uses rather than housing.
8. The proposed dwellings along Maxwell Road will seriously impact on the amenity of nearby residents.
9. The proposal has unacceptable traffic impact on the local street system and the park, with the only access for all vehicles being over a public park. This contravenes a condition of the 1994 development approval.
10. The poor design and scale of the apartment development is contrary to the design principles and design code in the State Government's Policy for Design of Residential Flat Development, and results in unsatisfactory future amenity for residents.
11. The form, extent and design of the development are incompatible with and will have an unacceptable impact on the heritage significance of the Tramsheds and the local Conservation Area.
12. The proposal should not even be considered unless and until a satisfactory overall Master Plan for the various components of the Harold Park site has been prepared with public consultation, so as to cater for and recognize potential adverse impacts between uses and on the local neighbourhood.
13. New South Wales Harness Racing Club, however it came to acquire a valuable Government site, cannot find a use for it related to racing, and this was the purpose for which the land was originally acquired using grants from the Racecourse Development Fund. It is not an appropriate owner or developer of the Tramsheds, and should relinquish ownership, preferably to the NSW Government or the City of Sydney, so the site can be restored and used in a manner appropriate to its Open Space zoning.
14. The development should be assessed in relation to the environment, heritage architecture and amenity for residents of Glebe as a whole, taking into account the massive impact of the Australand development on Blackwattle Bay on all these factors, and especially on traffic from this and other developments.

Where to send your objection

The Tramsheds DA will be dealt with by the Central Sydney Planning Committee (CSPC).

In the first instance, objections should be sent to Francesca O'Brien, the Sydney City Council planner responsible for processing the DA. Her email address is fbrien@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au, and hard copy objections can be addressed to her at the Town Hall (GPO Box 1591, Sydney 2001).

We should also copy our objections to the members of the CSPC at the same address.

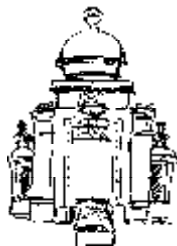
Thankyou ...

A Birchgrove resident, who is not a Glebe Society member, has sent us a \$10 donation 'to help the cause to recycle the Glebe Tramsheds for community use'.

Anzac Day, Monday 25 April 2005

Smalltown memorials

*No matter how small
every town has one;
Maybe just the obelisk,
A few names inlaid;
More often full-scale granite,
Marble digger (arms reversed),
Long descending lists of dead:
Sometimes not even a town,
A thickening of houses
Or a few unlikely trees
Glimpsed on a back road
Will have one.*



*1919, 1920:
All over the country;
Maybe a band, slow march;
Mayors, shire councils:
Relatives for whom
Print was already
Only print; mates,
Come back, moving
Into unexpected days;
A ring of Fords and sulkies;
The toned-down bit
Of Billy Hughes from an
Ex-recruiting sergeant.
Unveiled;
Then seen each day –
Noticed once a year;
And then not always,
Everywhere.*

*The next bequeathed us
Parks and pools*

*But something in that first
Demanded stone.*

- Geoff Page

Marie Tulip, a member of the Glebe Society, brought this poem to our attention. It comes from a book of poetry *Smalltown Memorials*, by Geoff Page (UQP.1975). The poet kindly gave permission for us to use it and says that some lines from the poem are featured in a display at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra.

Anzac Memorials in Glebe

The proliferation of memorials, 516 in NSW, for the 1914-18 war was testimony of the emotive power of Anzac sacrifice, a feeling captured in *Sacred Places - War Memorials in the Australian Landscape* (1998) by Ken Inglis and Jan Brazier. Mothers, fathers, wives, brothers and sisters in Australia had no tangible effects to bury and had to find their own private ways to mourn. It required a public display of mourning and commemoration. All those who enlisted for overseas service were volunteers, something that gave this time of trial and tragedy a special reverence.

The war impacted heavily on the Glebe community. The names of the 792 local people who 'answered the call of King and Country' are etched in bronze in the foyer of Glebe Town Hall. Memorialisation of Glebe's citizen soldiers required considerable local and voluntary initiative. In 1919 a search began in Glebe for a place to create a collective resting place for those from Glebe who died in the war, a tangible presence for local mourners separated from their dead in Gallipoli, France and the Middle East. Initially the intersection of Glebe Road and Broadway (the fountain reserve) was chosen, and then the corner of St Johns Road and Derwent Street was favoured. Finally, in March 1921 the Department of Education agreed to transfer a conspicuous site within the grounds of old Hereford House.

Throughout the war children at Glebe School contributed a penny a week towards a monument to the 306 former pupils who responded to the call to arms. The monument took the form of a marble obelisk in Derwent Street, a traditional cemetery icon, with the bust of a Digger, sculpted by Louisa Banks and unveiled by Tom Keegan on 18 October 1919.

But a larger memorial was planned for Glebe. A committee of William Brown, Tom Glasscock and William Martin initiated local fundraising



Photograph of William Martin from Max Solling's collection.

events. With donations and subscriptions, £2,500 was collected. Architect William Martin (1852-1937) who supervised and designed the Glebe memorial, was a prominent anti-conscriptionist and Glebe Alderman from 1922 to 1925. The granite and marble mausoleum Martin designed echoed the shape of an Egyptian temple with classical Greek touches, following the tradition of mixing Christian and classical imagery. The memorial was a departure from traditional designs, the only one of its kind. Within the mausoleum the individual names of 174 dead were inscribed in marble with a bronze nurse watching over them. On top of the monument, a bronze cross surmounted a great granite orb, then a small cupola and a split pediment. The bust of a Digger on the left hand side (Matthew Fardy was the model) and the Jolly Jack of HMAS Sydney on the right, were fashioned at Ansell Odling, Surry Hills, by an Italian sculptor, Casiandro.

The sarcophagus, placed outside, served as a foundation stone which the Governor-General, Lord Foster, laid on 3 June 1921. On Anzac Day 1922 hundreds of local people surrounded the memorial when it was opened by Lord Foster.

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Anzac Day services in Glebe attracted many returned soldiers, relatives and friends in the inter-war years remembering those who died, but by the 1950s, services were no longer held. In February 1991 the Glebe Weekly observed 'the memorial looks like a decaying monument. The angel at the front had its head chopped off about 18 months ago by vandals and busts of a Digger and Sailor on either side have been stolen'.

In 1991 the Glebe Society set up a sub-committee (Dr Bill Nelson, Rev Hugh Scott and Max Solling) to restore the memorial and on 17 October 1992 the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Glebe Diggers' Memorial Restoration Appeal was launched by the Mayor of Leichhardt, Larry Hand.

Photographic likenesses of the missing and damaged items were obtained from the Archives of Sydney City Council and my own collection.

Advice, encouragement and major financial support by way of two grants under the NSW Heritage Assistance Program, totaling \$19,800 were obtained, without which the project could not have been undertaken. Restoration work was undertaken in two stages. The first phase involved restoration of the memorial proper, sculpting, moulding and replacement of the Digger and Sailor (plus the pedestal of one of them). This work was completed in 1994 at a cost of \$30,180, and the Leichhardt engineer, Gerry Walsh, arranged for the memorial to be floodlit to deter vandals. The second (and final) stage of the work involved complete restoration of the Angel (made of Carrara marble) and the interior marble name plates, was finished in December 1997. The local community contributed \$22,880 towards the cost (\$42,680) of restoration.

The Traditional Stonemasonry Co Pty Ltd, commissioned to carry out the restoration work, hold the moulds of the Digger, the Soldier and the Angel. The restoration

architects were Brian McDonald (first stage) and Craig Burton (second stage). In 1999 the slouch hat of the Digger was damaged and Kris Krawcyk, who sculpted all the figures, undertook the repair work without charge. In 1994 Glebe marked Heritage Week with an Anzac Day dawn service at the partially restored memorial - the first held there in living memory - and since then a memorial service has been held every Anzac Day at 7.30am.

- Max Solling

Monday 25 April, 7.30am

This year, Rev John Holle from St John's Village will again perform the service with our regular piper since 1994, Rob McClean who comes from Sutherland. Please get up early and come along to the Memorial, in Foley Park near the corner of Glebe Point Road and Bridge Road.

Everyone is welcome.

Dumped Shopping Trolleys

Members may remember reading in the last *Bulletin* that 200 shopping trolleys are dumped in our suburb each day. The majority originate from the Coles Myer stores in the Broadway Shopping Centre. We also discovered in speaking with the manager of the Coles store at Broadway that the trolleys collected from the streets of Glebe are not cleaned prior to being reintroduced to the stores for use by customers. In raising this public health issue with Mr Gerry Masters, Managing Director of Supermarkets, he replied, 'Trolley cleanliness is not considered to be a food safety risk, as all products placed in trolleys are packaged, or are intended to be washed, peeled or cooked prior to consumption'. The Society has recommended that Coles Myer Ltd introduce coin deposit trolleys into each of its three stores at the Broadway Centre - Mr Masters has said that our proposal 'will be given serious consideration'.

We are still awaiting replies to our correspondence to the Manager of Coles Supermarkets in NSW, Harris Farms and the Australian Retailers Association. If any members of the Society are shareholders of Coles Myer Ltd, could they please contact our Secretary, Liz Simpson-Booker.

- Andrew Wood



Birthday presents wanted for Centipede children

Centipede is a unique out-of-school-hours care centre which operates in the grounds of Glebe Public School.

Centipede has a commitment to being accessible to all children, especially those from socially disadvantaged families. Some 50 children attend the centre before school, over 60 go after school and around 50 attend during vacations.

This drop in centre, for 5 to 12 year olds, provides a range of recreational programs:

- food programs - breakfast, afternoon tea and late afternoon meals
- before and after school/ vacation care, activities and excursions
- behaviour management programs
- parent and family support

A birthday present means a lot to these children, so any help with a present would be very much appreciated.

Birthday presents can be delivered to Centipede in the grounds of the Glebe Public School, Glebe Point Road. As well, the Friends of *Benledi* and Glebe Library will be holding their Annual Book Fair on Saturday 4 June at Benledi and a box to receive presents will be made available at Glebe Library on the day. Presents should not be gift wrapped.

If you would like to discuss this request or the pick up of presents please contact me on 9660 4189.

- Susan Cleary

Planning Matters



This month's report will be very brief, as I have been busy organizing the Tramsheds public meeting and writing the Society's letter of objection, and also organizing the meeting between members and the Deputy Lord Mayor, John McInerney. The Tramsheds meeting is covered elsewhere in this *Bulletin*, and I will write a full account of the McInerney meeting for the April *Bulletin*.

The Abbey written judgement

I often approach Land and Environment Court decisions with trepidation. Not only are the decisions sometimes unfavourable, but even when they are not, the arguments can be puzzling. Frequently I wonder if I am on the same planet as the judges and assessors.

However, in Justice Lloyd's judgement on Carlode Nominees P/L v Sydney City Council there is neither obscurity nor quibble (2004

NSWLEC 759). He upholds the Heritage provisions of clauses 15 and 16 of LEP 2000, using them to overrule Leichhardt Council's DCP 49 and support the City Council's argument, which is the same as The Society put forward at both its public meetings and its letter of objection. Consequently the court rules:

1. *Hamilton* is structurally sound and should be retained either for a dwelling or put to some other adaptive reuse;
2. *Reussdale* is to be fully restored as a single dwelling;
3. Any change to *The Abbey* itself should be directed toward restoring the former open space 'in a manner more sympathetic to the architectural qualities of the church, including an understanding of its large interior volume, its height and its original timber-lined ceiling', and

4. Any future infill 'should be strictly limited to low scale residential development along the Reuss Street boundary at the rear of the site'.

In other words, all the Heritage buildings must be retained and restored, and the only new building that would be permitted is of such low scale it will not impact adversely on the Heritage buildings and have the smallest possible impact on surrounding residents. The site will remain much as it is.

It is hard to imagine a judgement more favourable to the Society and better for Glebe. It strengthens us immeasurably in any future negotiations concerning the site, and confirms our arguments in favour of strengthened Heritage controls. I confirm and renew all the thanks and congratulations to those who contributed.

- Neil Macindoe

Pétanque anyone?

Bellevue ... the name has a French ring to it so why not? Croissants and coffee in the café...? A cassoulet washed down with a Côte du Rhône while watching the moon rise over the Anzac Bridge...? Hiring a cycle to peddle around the foreshore...? A leisurely game of *pétanque* in the shadows of the soon-to-be-restored 19th century villa on Glebe Point...?

In its response to the *Bellevue* restoration DA, the Society has suggested (among other things) that a hard surface suitable for playing *pétanque* (or *boules*, or *bocce*) might be more suitable than the mulched area proposed in the City Council's landscaping concept. Many beautiful French parks, such as the Jardin du Luxembourg in Paris, have extensive hard surfaces. Such a



solution would be environmentally sound in water-starved Sydney as well as providing a place to 'point' and 'shoot' for an hour or two with friends.

If the City Council likes the idea, at least four Glebe residents will be ready to play.

The picture shows Glebe Society member David Mander Jones (centre), and two other Hereford Street residents, Scott and Judy, during a *pétanque*

course organised by the Sydney Community College at Canterbury. The fourth learner, Bruce Davis, took the picture. We found that *pétanque* requires much greater skill and subtlety than the average tourist realises, but it's great fun. So dust off your berets and get ready to head for *Bellevue*.

- Bruce Davis

Foley Park – Plan of Management approved!

The Plan of Management for Foley Park, prepared by Environmental Partnership after consultation with the Glebe community, was considered and approved at the Council meeting on 14 March. I'm told the Plan now requires gazetting, and will then be exhibited for community comment.

The exhibition period of 28 days is expected to commence in the first week in April – maybe earlier – in all the City's One-Stop Shops, including Glebe Town Hall.

- Bobbie Burke
for Foley Park Working Group

Stop Overdevelopment of Rozelle Bay Foreshore

A flyer explaining the Society's objections to plans for the development of Rozelle Bay is enclosed with this issue of the *Bulletin*.

Clean Up Australia Day



'Digging it out'. Photo by Bruce Davis.

Clean Up Australia Day on 6 March brought some beautiful autumn weather. There were 41 participants from Glebe and the surrounding suburbs, and they ranged in age from children to more than 70 years. As requested, some brought a dumped shopping trolley with them to the northern end of Glebe Point road - the 11 trolleys have now been collected by Trolley Trackers! The low tide very much helped the cleaning of the foreshore. The

'beach' area containing mangroves, near the *Bridgewater* home units, was a feast of industrial waste. Most of the more than 40 bags of rubbish were collected from this site, much of it pieces of rusty, encrusted metal as well as the usual plastic, broken glass and paper. We also found a massive section of oil soaked 'carpet', which after much digging was freed from the harbour bottom and

dragged to the shoreline.

On behalf of the Society, I extend my thanks to all those who attended, worked so hard, and achieved so much. Congratulations on helping to keep Glebe gorgeous!

- Andrew Wood

The (could be) Fatal Shore

Clean-up Australia Day unearthed some dangerous objects amongst all the rubbish that was collected. A member working on the Glebe foreshore felt a sharp stab in his foot

while walking though a muddy area below the high tide mark. He took off his shoe and was amazed to find that the nasty object pictured had punctured the thick rubber sole of his sneakers. The upside of this story is that Balmain Hospital out-patients were great when it came to getting a tetanus shot, and the Clean up Australia Day people even phoned up a couple days later to check whether their volunteer had survived. This is a lesson to us all - don't paddle in this area.



The bashful member was Bruce Davis, who also provided this photo of the offending metal object - Editor.

Update on Poisoned Trees in Blackwattle Bay Park

At the March meeting of the Management Committee, the Society's draft policy on poisoned trees (as published in the last issue of the Bulletin) was adopted without change. A copy of our policy will be sent to the City of Sydney.

The City of Sydney has now identified the herbicide used to poison the 20 trees in the Blackwattle Bay Park. It was glyphosphate, sold as *Round Up* or *Zero*, and was probably applied to the surface of the trunks and /or foliage of each of the trees (the City has found no evidence of holes bored into the trunks) from where it was absorbed into the entire tree. Fortunately, the herbicide becomes inactive when in contact with soil. A local resident has suggested that the death of the trees may have been related to the presence of industrial toxins, particularly lead, in the soil. The City has asked the Environment Protection Authority to check further soil samples for

the presence of such toxins. Both the City and the Society believe it is unlikely that significant levels of industrial toxins are present, as the trees had been thriving for over 20 years.

The City is in the process of adopting its own policy on poisoned trees. It plans as a first step to leave the dead trees in place, simply removing the 'twiggy growth'. Decisions are yet to be made regarding the attachment of notices to each dead tree stating that it has been illegally poisoned and including details of the fine applicable for such vandalism (up to \$1.1 million), and the placement of sails / flags / billboards at the sites. Because the herbicide has no residual effects on the soil, the City can immediately replace the poisoned trees and the Society recommends that, where possible, two replacement trees be planted for each poisoned tree.

- Andrew Wood

Significant tree register - City of Sydney

The City of Sydney is preparing a register of **Significant Trees** in Glebe. Residents may nominate either a single tree or a group of trees. The tree(s) should have special value or worth, and form part of the historic, cultural, aesthetic or botanical heritage of our suburb. The trees may be located on public or private land. The register will guide the management of these special trees and ensure their continued protection for the benefit of the community and future generations.

Could you please forward your nomination to the Secretary of the Society, Liz Simpson-Booker, by **Friday 8 April 2005**. Further information can be obtained from the City of Sydney's web site (www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au).

- Andrew Wood

FLAG and Safety in Glebe

In September 2004 last year, a new group was formed as a local initiative in Glebe. It was named Forest Lodge and Glebe Coordination Group (**FLAG**)

Its aims are to:

- foster links and communication between stakeholders in Glebe and Forest Lodge;
- promote Forest Lodge and Glebe as positive places in which to work and live;
- link groups and people with skills, knowledge and expertise to support community initiatives.

One representative from each of the following groups attends **FLAG** meetings:

Child and Family Interagency
City of Sydney
Department of Housing
Glebe Area Tenants Group
Glebe Chamber of Commerce
Glebe Community Action Group
Glebe Community Development Project
Glebe Point Residents Group
Glebe Police
Glebe Youth Service
Neighbourhood Tenant Representatives
The Glebe Society.

A special meeting was held on Tuesday 1 March in the Glebe Town Hall for the express purpose of being briefed by Arthur Katsogiannis, Local Area Commander, Glebe Police. This was in response to the

recent media attention on crime in Glebe (Channel 9's *A Current Affair* team upset a covert Police operation). As a result, the Police have commenced a 24-hour beat patrol in Glebe around the 7/11 shop on Glebe Point Road, particularly between 10pm and 5am. This strategy has halved the number of 'stolen from vehicles and property' crimes.

In addition there has been a meeting with the Premier's Department and managers of the Police, Department of Housing and Department of Community Services.

A Regional Police Operation is currently running in Glebe for a period of two weeks. It will target high-risk offenders who are responsible for 80% of the street crime in Glebe.

Crime

The young people who have been committing the bulk of the street crime in Glebe have been identified. These people come from a very small section of the community. A Memorandum of Understanding has been written to facilitate interagency case management for these children. Other Police strategies include:

- holding discussions with the Department of Housing regarding the design of the Glebe/Bay/Franklyn Street Housing Estate;
- making arrangements with the Redfern Street Team to come and do some after hours work in Glebe; and
- requesting that the 7/11 shop have its trading hours reduced from the current 24 hours a day to 7am-7pm. Negotiations are still taking place.

Concern was expressed about the impact on local young people by Police Officers who are not familiar with the community. The Commander assured the meeting that the operation would be under the supervision of himself and his senior staff in Glebe.

The importance of this operation is that residents are informed about the operation and make contact with officers who will be on the streets.

Doug Harrap, Department of Community Services, Newtown, reported that there is a difficulty in dealing with young adolescents who are uncooperative and where there is minimal supervision by parents. He explained that it is not as simple as just removing them. It is very difficult to find placement for any child, let alone boys between the aged of 8 and 14.


Other issues raised were:

- the lack of a large non-government agency that could auspice and sponsor community projects and be able to help to attract more funds into the community;
- the lack of sporting opportunities for primary school-aged children and young people in Glebe. Costs are prohibitive and transport is an issue;
- the importance of agencies keeping each other informed about what work they do and supporting that work;
- there is a need for a Mentoring Program in Glebe; and
- there is a need to have press releases in order to change perception about crime in Glebe. There has been a significant reduction in crime in the past year due to the efforts of our Local Area Commander and his team, who have a policy of Police visibility on the street.

Safety Audit

Two safety audits have been conducted by City of Sydney in the 'hot spot' area, the aim being to identify infrastructure problems, poor lighting or broken lights, dangerous surfaces, overhanging trees etc, *not* criminal activity. It is intended to conduct another two audits later in the year.

- Jan Wilson
Glebe Society Representative on
FLAG



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I wholeheartedly support the amendment to the Society's Environment Policy regarding poisoned trees (*Bulletin 1/2005*).

This seems to me a perfect example of the penalty fitting the crime.

Bobbie Burke

News and Notes

Thirsty Thursdays - at the Forest Lodge Hotel

All members are invited to meet for dinner in Glebe on the first Thursday of each month, to meet and eat with other people who live in Glebe.

The next 'Thirsty Thursday' dinner is at the Forest Lodge Hotel, 117 Arundel Street, Forest Lodge, on 7 April. No bookings are needed – just turn up at 7pm. We pay for our own meals and there is no BYOG.

Welcome to New Members

The following people were accepted at the March Management Committee meeting. We look forward to seeing them at future Glebe Society functions.

Caroline & Geoff Bowker
Stephen Christian
Marie Mayo-Clark
Asa Wahlquist

Who Lived in Your Street?

Entries for this challenging competition are welcome. Please start writing now.

Sort out your bookshelves

The Friends of *Benledi* and Glebe Library have given us plenty of notice that will be holding their Book Fair on Saturday 4 June 2005 and will need donations of books in good condition.

More details will be given in future *Bulletins*, or ring Ros Wheeler (9660 7430) for information.

Concert at St Scholastica's Chapel

The English Reformation - Music of inspiration and devotion by Coro Innominata.

Sunday 1 May 3pm, tickets: \$25/20.

Swimming for the Community

Last October, the Glebe Society sponsored John Weyman, one of the 11 swimmers who took part in a Charity Swim at the Bondi Icebergs. John tells us that a total of \$32,850 was raised for Inner Sydney community groups and services, including several in Glebe.

Rowing Club Celebration

Sydney University Women's Rowing Club is planning a '10 years @ Glebe' Celebration and Reunion of all Sydney University Women's Rowing Club rowers and supporters at 10am on Sunday 29 May at the Boathouse in Ferry Road. The Club has been going since 1968. Contact jane_spring@hotmail.com for further information.

(We hope that rowers will be able to use Rozelle Bay for many more years.)

RAHS visit to Wivenhoe – Sunday 19 June 2005

Wivenhoe is a Regency house built by the designer of *Lyndhurst*, **John Verge** (c1837-38) for Charles Cowper, a Member of Parliament, on land granted to the Rev William Cowper by Governor Macquarie in 1812. The Sisters of the Good Samaritan now occupy the site. The stables behind the house were also built by John Verge in 1834 and are thought to be the most intact surviving colonial stable complex in NSW. These stables now house a craft centre.

Following the visit, there will be a walking tour of Camden village which was created by John Macarthur. This will be led by a member of the Camden Historical Society.

If you would like to join a Glebe Society 'car pool' to this event, please ring Liz Simpson-Booker on 9518 6186.

Meeting time : 10.30am at *Wivenhoe* car park.

Refreshments : Morning tea at *Wivenhoe* is included in the cost. Other refreshments can be purchased before the Camden walk begins.

Cost : \$18 for RAHS members, \$22 for non members.

Bookings essential to the Royal Australian Historical Society on 9247 8001 or history@rahs.org.au.

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.

DA Watch: Go to the homepage of the City of Sydney, www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au. Then look at Development in the City to see a list of ALL current DAs on display.



Forest Lodge Public School

Home of The Glebe
Society Archives

Principal: Mrs Elva Salter Phone 9660 3530

For your diary ...

Thursday 7 April, 7pm - 'Thirsty Thursday' - Dinner at the Forest Lodge Hotel, Arundel Street.

Wednesday 13 April, 7.30pm - Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting, The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street. All members welcome.

Monday 25 April, 7.30am - Anzac Day Service, Diggers' Memorial, Foley Park, Glebe. All welcome.

Sunday 1 May, 3pm - Coro Innominato concert at St Scholastica's Chapel.

Thursday 5 May, 7pm - 'Thirsty Thursday' - Dinner at the Forest Lodge Hotel, Arundel Street.

Wednesday 11 May, 7.30pm - Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting, The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street. All members welcome.

Saturday 4 June - Friends of *Benledi* and Glebe Library Book Fair.

Sunday 19 June - RAHS visit to *Wivenhoe*. See p12.

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) 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

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 to the Glebe Society. Write to the address above or email 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 April. The deadline for contributions is **Saturday 23 April**.

The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

Management Committee:

President	Bob Armstrong	9660 4189
Vice-president	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Immediate Past President	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Treasurer	Bruce Davis	9660 7873

Committee Members:

John Buckingham	9660 7780	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
Tony Larkum	9660 7030	David Mander-Jones	9552 4172
Hilary Wise	9660 5848		

Sub-committee Convenors:

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

Arts, Culture and Media	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
Bays and Foreshores	Mark Dent	9566 2511
Environment (Acting)	Asa Wahlquist	9660 8261
Glebe Point Road Revitalisation	Jan Wilson	9660 2698
Heritage	David Mander Jones	9552 4172
Infrastructure Defect Reporting	Margaret Sheppard	9660 4121
Membership	Kevin Treloar	9660 6720

Parks & Open Spaces		
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Transport and Traffic	Chris Hallam	9660 3670

Adopt-a-Park Contacts: *Kirsova* Fay & David Mander Jones
Foley Park Bobbie Burke (9692 0343)

Other Contacts:

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Bulletin Editor	Edwina Doe	9660 7066
Historian	Max Solling	9660 1160
History of the Glebe Society	Jeanette Knox	9660 7781
Liaison with CityRags	Bob Armstrong	9660 4189
Liaison with FLAG	Jan Wilson	9660 2698
Publicity	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
Social events	Jeanette Knox	9660 7781
Website	Cynthia Jones	9660 2451

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The GLEBE SOCIETY Inc
PO Box 100 Glebe 2037



POSTAGE
PAID

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY

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

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

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

website: www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Dumped Shopping trolleys: Bi-Lo - 9281 4511. Most other major stores - 1800 641 497.

Aircraft noise: 1800 802 584