

Anzac Day in Glebe, 2006



Wreath-laying in the rain. Photo: Edwina Doe

Each Anzac Day since 1994, there has been a ceremony at the Diggers' Memorial in Foley Park. This year was no exception. About 60 people, much the same number as last year, attended this year's service which was led by Rev Ken Cornwell, Minister and Past Moderator of the Uniting Church in Australia and a former Army chaplain. The address was given, as usual, by Glebe historian Max Solling, who stood beside a red and yellow banner, the Regimental Colours of the 55th/53rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment in World War II. The banner is usually kept at the back of St John's church, together with the very fragile World War I Colours.

Much-needed rain arrived a little too soon - about 10 minutes before the end of the service. But luckily we were able to dry out inside St John's Church, where we gathered for morning tea, which was served by Louise Graber and with scones made by Robyn Solling.

-Edwina Doe

Max Solling's speech at Glebe ANZAC Day Service

War memorials are as old as conflicts between peoples. The Parthenon commemorates the defence of Athens against invasion by the Persians. Westminster Abbey was built to celebrate the invasion of England by the Normans. They both celebrate military triumph, and they express thanksgiving to deities.

The war of 1914-1918 generated more commemoration than all previous wars in European history because more men fought in it, more were killed. They were citizens and voters, volunteers and conscripts. Most of them were men who left other jobs to fight for their country. Moreover, the majority had been killed a long way from home, and local war memorials became substitute gravestones for men whose bodies were not returned for burial, which included all the British Empire dead, the imperial government having decided that there would be no repatriation of bodies. After more than thirty years, Ken Inglis

completed his long journey to each and every war memorial constructed in Australia in the aftermath of the Great War. In *Sacred Places - War Memorials in the Australian Landscape* (1998) Inglis and Jan Brazier have given voice to the men and women whose lives are inscribed on them and in the act of constructing them. They recaptured their language, their gestures and the cadences of their commemorative work. Inglis has extended fruitfully Benedict Anderson's notion that monuments are "a type of speech", a focus of a living conversation, which when the conversants move away or die off, come to fade away themselves. I have drawn on the probing writings of Inglis for this address.

In Australia before 1915 there was no day of mourning to compare with America's Memo-

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rial (or Decoration) Day, when cemeteries, filled by fratricide between 1861 and 1865, were visited by the bereaved, for Australia had been spared the horrors of civil war. Until Anzac Day appeared, our only spontaneous and distinctive national festival was devoted to a race between horses, the Melbourne Cup.

On 25 April 1915 the landing at Gallipoli, reflected the *Sydney Morning Herald*, "began a campaign which was more a searching test of character than any single engagement". It showed, the newspaper said,

that liberty, equality and a semi-tropical climate "have not caused

the Anglo-Saxon race to degenerate but have added to it a new strength". It showed, said orators and preachers, that Australia had come of age.

The first anniversary of the landing was celebrated spontaneously and diversely by troops in Egypt, England and France, and by soldiers and civilians at home.

By 1918 it was customary to hold services on Anzac Day but Australians disagreed about how the anniversary should be celebrated. From the 1920s, one by one, the states did make 25 April a statutory holiday, but what was prohibited and permitted on the day varied. The RSL sought a uniform observance of the national day, but its own national congress could never agree on the terms of uniformity.

After the 1939-1945 war, in which 27,000 people died out of 558,000 who enlisted, there was a declining taste for public mourning. Its returned men preferred to build "utilitarian" memorials such as hospitals, which served the living rather than adding substantially to the ceremonial monuments which their elders had raised to the dead.

Some 1,445 memorials were built throughout Australia to those who enlisted in the 1914-18 war; 516 of those memorials were in NSW, nearly all of which were completed after the war. Many were unveiled in inner Sydney in the early 1920s - Marrickville (1920), Newtown (1921), Annandale (1921), Petersham (1921), Camperdown (1921), Paddington (1922), Leichhardt (1922), Pymont (1922) and Glebe on Anzac Day

1922. The Cenotaph in Martin Place was dedicated in 1927 and sculptor Bert Mackennal's bronze soldier and sailor were unveiled on 21 February 1929.

Building memorials was a social process by which Australia worked on its problems, its grief, its place in the world, its unity, its disillusionment. The memorials asserted that something great had been done, that comfort and reconciliation were needed, that there were new problems to face in a somewhat fictionalised version of wartime unity.

ANZAC showed "Australia had come of age"

The landscape became a vehicle for social meanings and a centre for public commemoration. A

range of ceremonies arose, from the Dawn Service on Anzac Day to the march and the main ceremonies when the community displayed its dignity, hierarchy and structure in formal ceremonies. There are few such occasions in the country when a sense of community can be ceremonially asserted, and the memorials filled an empty social niche.

The other role was personal, difficult to penetrate, but critical to many who lost close relatives in the war. In 1932, C H Percival noticed "Walking the other day across Martin Place I happened to pause and look at the Cenotaph. A woman was standing on the step immediately in front of the Digger ... I gathered she had just deposited a wreath at the foot of the impressive figure. Her hand stole up to its knee - she could reach no higher - and there for a little while she patted the metal. I could not see her face. I did not want to. I felt just then that there were some things better left to the imagination".

The Glebe memorial has a number of unusual aspects. Firstly it is rare for a soldier to be accompanied by a sailor in these monuments because the RAN had only 5,000 men in a few notable actions. It is also a very Australian monument; neither the Empire nor Britain are represented or mentioned. The granite and marble mausoleum echoes the shape of an Egyptian temple with classic Greek

touches, following the tradition of mixing Christian and classical imagery. The Carrara marble Angel guards those symbolically resting in the mausoleum. Under this is a simple and understated dedication: "Erected by Glebe Residents in Memory of the Glorious Dead". Its location next to St John's Church was an important spiritual consideration, a local sacred place.

But Glebe's memorial also shares much in common with other town and suburban memorials. Anglo-Celtic names predominate on the marble name plates, indicating the ethnic origins of Australian society then, and the construction of all memorials required much local and voluntary effort to raise money (£2,500 at Glebe), and all the people involved in the project acted in an honorary capacity. All this initiative was testimony of the emotive power of Anzac sacrifice. The unique nature of the Glebe monument (the only one of its kind in Australia) tells us something about the independent minded designer, architect William Martin, Glebe councillor and active anti-conscriptionist, who questioned Australia's involvement in the war.

- Max Solling



Max is concerned that his speech was all about men. So here is a photo of his aunt, Wilhelmina "Minnie" Solling (1878-1960), who was a nurse in the 1914-1918 war.

Update on “Triangle Park”, the Crown Land in Forest Lodge

On 1 April 2006 about 50 people gathered on the Crown Land at the rear of 77 Hereford Street to learn about the history of this tree-covered triangle of land and about the threats to its preservation as open space resulting from the Department of Lands notification of its intention to sell the land. The residents of the units at 77 Hereford Street have been campaigning both for the Department not to sell the land for development and also for the City of Sydney to acquire it for public open space (see Glebe Society Bulletin 2/2006). Neighbours and community members contributed ideas and signed a petition urging that the land not be sold for development and that the City of Sydney acquire it.

The petition with 308 signatures, gathered from the neighbourhood in the short space of 10 days, was tabled at a momentous meeting of the Council of the City of Sydney on 10 April (when five opposition councillors walked out during discussion of CEO Peter Seamer’s departure). Deputy Mayor Verity Firth had also put a question on notice about the land issue at the meeting which was answered favourably by the Lord Mayor. Councillor Firth was also able to ask two supplementary questions. (Minutes of the Council meeting can be accessed through the Council website.)

Since the meeting the Lord Mayor has written to the Minister for Lands on behalf of residents of Forest Lodge and Glebe asking that the land be retained in public ownership as a local park and seeking deferment of the sale of the land (an auction is due in the second

week of May). The Lord Mayor is also seeking a meeting of senior officers to discuss how this could be achieved.

The Glebe Society, the Glebe Chamber of Commerce and FRROGS (Friends Residents/Ratepayers of Orphan School Creek Gully) have all indicated full support for the public open space idea.

If you would also like to show your support please write to Tony Kelly, Minister for Lands, Level 34, Governor Macquarie Tower, 1 Farrer Place, Sydney 2000, tel: 9228 3999, fax: 9228

3988, email: tony.kelly@lands.nsw.gov.au and ask him not to sell the land for development. Also contact Clover Moore, Lord Mayor of Sydney, Sydney Town Hall, 483 George Street, Sydney 2000, tel: 9265 9229, fax: 9265 9328, email: cmoore@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au and ask her to continue her efforts on behalf of the local residents to see that the land becomes public open space.

Thank you to all those who have already contributed to the

campaign. We would appreciate receiving copies of any correspondence in whatever form to be sent to email address forestlodgetrees@yahoo.com.au.

For regular campaign updates and developments please see: <http://forestlodgetrees.blogspot.com/>. This blog also outlines the reasons why this particular piece of land should be retained as public open space.

- Mary Pollard, on behalf of Owners Corporation, 77 Hereford Street, Glebe



Mary Pollard addresses the meeting on 1 April.
Photo: Edwina Doe

Valhalla sold – what of its future?

As reported recently, the Glebe *Valhalla* has been sold by its long-term owner and Glebe personality Chris Kiely to W Property Pty Ltd for about \$2.95m. The 68 year old cinema will be converted by its new owners, Prue and Mike Williams, to “work studios” or “creative office space” aiming to attract film and creative industry professionals. Whilst the shops will be restored, it is intended that the original foyer area, staircases, ticket box and carpet design will be conserved in order to “keep the art-house feel” of the building.

In expressing its disappointment at the loss of yet another historic cinema from Sydney, the National Trust of Australia (NSW), which has placed the Glebe *Valhalla* on its Register, “will argue strongly that any adaptive re-use of the building should be carefully designed to allow the changes to be reversed”. Contact with Tanner Architects who will be doing the work gives some assurance that the office installation will be a “loose fit” that can be reversed at a later stage if and when viable cinema use might be re-established.

The Glebe Society supports this approach, but will be pressing also for the retention of the upstairs cinema in its current form, because of its great potential for creative uses by the community generally. The challenge is there for all and especially for those who have been inspired by the past life and activities of Glebe *Valhalla*.

- Bob Armstrong



Valhalla photos: Sherrill Glasser





Heritage Development Control Plan Workshop

On Tuesday, 21 March, I attended a workshop run for the City by Architectus, the consultants employed to draw up provisions for protection of Heritage Items, conservation areas and streetscapes as part of the new town plan to be finalized by the end of this year. As well as Glebe, there were representatives from Chippendale, Pyrmont, South Sydney and Paddington and The National Trust, State Rail Authority, the Redfern/Waterloo Authority and Department of Housing.

As you might guess from the attendees, the discussion was wide ranging. The core of the consultants' work is to adapt the approach used in The Glebe Point Road Main Street Study (another first for Glebe!) classifying buildings as either contributory, neutral or detracting in relation to the streetscape and conservation areas.

It was obvious Glebe and Paddington, with their long established resident action groups and existing controls, are in a relatively strong position. However, they should still benefit from the closer analysis, as well as leading the way for less well-studied and protected areas. Although many of the concerns of residents are being successfully addressed, there are a number of issues still unresolved.

1. Diversity. It is more difficult to devise controls for very diverse streetscapes (e.g. parts of Forest Lodge). For example, it should not be possible to enlarge a building simply because some other buildings in the street are larger. However, the consultants have made some progress and are confident they can achieve this goal.

2. Contributory versus Heritage Item. Heritage Items have individual statements of significance. This makes protection relatively easy. However, contributory buildings in conservation areas do not have such statements. Workshop participants raised two problems: how are contributory buildings to be distinguished from Heritage Items? and how effective is their protection?

Watch this space!

The March Bulletin included a questionnaire from this Workshop, and the consultants are keen to receive feedback. I have spare copies (9660 0208).

Draft Glebe Conservation Area Study

This Study will form the basis of conservation in Glebe, and will probably go on exhibition at Glebe Town Hall and Council's website before the next Bulletin is published. The key recommendations are:

1. Glebe is divided into eight Conservation Areas to reflect original subdivision patterns.
2. Glebe Point Road is designated a Heritage Streetscape in addition to its inclusion in a number of these Conservation Areas.
3. The listing of Heritage Items on Glebe Point Road has been rationalised. This is because the original listing was based on the Glebe Point Road Main Street Study, which needed updating (this was requested by the Society, as the Study is fifteen years old. I can claim credit for most of the listings; previously very few commercial or industrial properties were protected).
4. As a result, twenty four Glebe Point Road properties have been removed. Nevertheless, the number of listings has increased from 69 to 95 because buildings are now listed separately or in smaller groups.
5. Twelve additional properties throughout Glebe have been made Heritage Items.

Members with an interest in conservation are asked to inspect and, if they feel inclined, to comment on the Draft. It is likely the Society will object to the removal of at least some of the Items, and while there is no problem with any of the twelve additional Items, it may be possible to make out a case for the inclusion of others as well.

The Draft is very bulky because Attachment C includes all the Statements of Significance for Glebe Point Road plus the additional twelve Items. However, leaving the Attachments aside, the draft itself is quite short and easy to read.

Planning Powers should remain with Local Government

At its meeting on 30 March the Planning subcommittee deplored the legislation passed the previous day permitting the Minister for Planning (currently Frank Sartor) to appoint panels to take over a Council's planning powers without a public enquiry.

An enquiry ensures the community knows why a council has had its powers curtailed. In most cases, council staff and residents have a degree of local knowledge that cannot be achieved by a panel or a State department, and there should be a very strong justification, including proof of improper conduct, before intervention. Leaving the decision in the hands of the Minister always raises the suspicion the Minister will use his power to favour some group politically, and development companies are large contributors of funds to all major parties.

Existing Use Rights

The same legislation that extended the Minister's powers from 29 March did however have one benefit. Previously it was possible not only to continue a use normally prohibited, provided the use already existed, but also to switch to another prohibited use. This was the ploy attempted in the Tramsheds application in 2004, and refused by the Central Sydney Planning Committee. Now, however, a developer can apply to continue a current use, but not to change it to another one that is also prohibited. The Tramsheds application would now fail on that ground as well.

BASIX

This is a program designed to increase energy efficiency. Initially introduced for new housing, it is now applicable to renovations as well, so it could affect anyone. Hear all about it in the Community Room at *Benledi* at 6 pm on Monday, 15 May, from Andrew Thomas, Manager, Strategic Planning at the City of Sydney.

- Neil Macindoe

As the Glebe Society's contribution to the 2006 National Trust Heritage festival, "Industrial Heritage - Our Working Lives", Max Solling spoke to about 100 people on Wednesday 5 April. This is what he told us:

Glebe's Industrial History

This evening I'd like to talk about industrial activities that have long disappeared from the Glebe landscape.

The waterfront

Prior to 1870 the most conspicuous industries were the slaughter houses, boiling down works and piggeries at Blackwattle Swamp, the Glebe Island abattoirs and other animal-based concerns like Dunn's tannery and Walton's hide and skin firm that fed off the abattoir. Other enterprises included brickmaker and potter Enoch Fowler (of Fowlerware fame) and George Blackall, flour miller James Pemell, Joseph Davenport's Forest Lodge Boot Factory, Cowan & Israel's Soap and Candle Works at Rozelle Bay, and the operations of Thomas Tipple Smith at Blackwattle Swamp, where he built a jetty to receive timber and shells for lime from coastal vessels, manufactured bricks at his Glebe yard and quarried stone there for his building work and for sale.

From 1824, when the Brisbane distillery was established on Parramatta Road in adjoining Chippendale, the creek's fresh water was dammed for use in the production of spirits "very similar to London Gin". By 1830 wholesale carcase butchers Thomas May, John Neale and Thomas Holmes built weatherboard slaughter houses beside Blackwattle Creek into which blood and offal fell. Soon the Arcadian stream had become an industrial

sewer. Butchers disposed of offal as best they could by carting it away or keeping pigs. Creek water was required to wash carcasses and hopefully the action of the tide or the creek flow would carry the offal deep into the harbour. But in summer, water in the creek dwindled as the distillery's demand for alcohol increased, and offal lying on the mud flats exposed to the sun soon became putrid. Poor people who relied for their sustenance on "receiving donations of heads, tails, skirts and other parts" from the slaughter houses petitioned against their removal.

Legislation in 1830 required slaughter houses to be moved within 20 yards (18.3 metres) of a creek, river or high water mark. Blackwattle Swamp met these requirements and in the early 1830s its proximity to the city attracted proprietors of slaughter houses, piggeries and boiling-down works to the locality.

A select committee in 1848 found slaughter houses near Sussex Street and Blackwattle Swamp extremely offensive to people residing near them and injurious to their health. Dr Francis Campbell told the committee that people living nearby were generally poor, and he attributed attacks of typhoid fever to the impurity of the air, to the want of ventilation and the filthiness and smallness of the houses. Neglected cow houses and piggeries, Dr Campbell said, were even more pernicious to health than the slaughter houses.



Glebe Island Abattoir began operating in the early 1850s and became a massive polluter of both the air and the harbour. It was a place neither government nor city authorities were anxious to manage. The abattoir remained a constant source of agitation until it finally closed in about 1916. (*Sydney Mail*, 22 February 1896)



Max Solling at the podium.
Photo: Bruce Davis

Francis Campbell's evidence reflected the prevailing miasmatic theory that disease was communicated by the noxious vapours or gases which collected in damp sheltered localities where faecal wastes were deposited. Topography was a critical element in suburban development. Elevated sites favoured with natural drainage (and a view) were coveted by the well-to-do from an early date, exposed to breezes and fresh air, remote from blighting winds and noxious vapours emanating from nearby swamps and estuaries. Belief that the urban development was poisoning the air had developed from earlier hypotheses that the atmosphere itself produced diseases. The young Listerians were advancing their ideas of bacterial contagion in the 1890s, though the general populace continued to cling to old beliefs for a time.

Commercial activities were attracted to the cheap sites on either side of Parramatta Street but a pungent aroma hung over the locality. As the neighbourhood was being built up by 1848, a select committee recommended that the slaughter houses and other noxious trades be moved to a more remote place. The government resumed land for a public abattoir at Glebe Island, just across the sluggish waters of Blackwattle Swamp, and within a decade tanners, tripe makers and soap and candle manufacturers were operating in close proximity to the abattoir.

In 1883 a Royal Commission into Noxious and Offensive Trades heard evidence from 312 witnesses and tabled details concerning 108 suburban premises. Glebe Island Abattoir, a massive polluter of the air and harbour, loomed large before the Commission which agreed that offensive industry should be segregated from the centres of population. Blood was converted to fertilizer in a desiccating plant at Glebe Island, and other waste materials were boiled down in a tallow factory there.

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Blood and offal were dumped in the harbour and cattle, sheep and pigs, driven along suburban streets, represented a serious threat to pedestrians. Basic cleaning procedures were ignored at the abattoir, there was clear evidence of mismanagement and despite agitation for removal of the abattoir in 1879, a parliamentary committee recommended improvements rather than removal. The stench of Glebe Island permeated Balmain and Glebe and the Balmain Observer remained an implacable opponent. However in the 1890s Labor members James Johnson and S J Law defended the abattoir, with Johnson accusing council inspectors of persecuting butchers and other meat tradesmen. In 1903 secret overflows from the abattoir were still finding their way into Blackwattle Bay which was described at times as being "blood red".

The abattoirs at Glebe Island, with two long sandstone buildings, one to slaughter sheep and the other for cattle, stood out on the landscape and acted as a magnet for other animal-based noxious trades to set up nearby. Agitation for removal of the abattoir became more strident with residential expansion, culminating in lengthy parliamentary inquiries in 1878 and 1903. Construction of a new abattoir at Homebush Bay was authorized in 1906 to replace Glebe Island, "a noxious nuisance ... a source of serious loss to the government ... and hopelessly out of repair". It had gone by 1916.

Glebe's Industrial Landscape, 1880 - 1914

Comparatively cheap land and low suburban rents for industrial premises was a powerful reason for small workshops to move beyond the city limits. Industrial penetration in Glebe from the 1880s tended to be located in pockets on the perimeter of the suburb. The number of local factories grew from 30 in 1880 to 41 by 1888, employing 351 people. The Sydney Tramway & Omnibus Company in Francis Street had a real presence, attracting seven coach and wagon works to locate nearby. The Omnibus Company remained an important local industry until about 1901, when it left Glebe. Most of the other works in the 1880s were closely associated with the building industry - joineries, sawmills, furniture workshops, brass and iron foundries and Conlon's Broughton Street pottery from 1880.

Industry continued to invade Glebe in the 1890s, still largely located on the suburb's perimeter. Hackshall's Centennial Steam Biscuit factory, Lackersteen's jam and the Upton Soap Works, Sydney Lead Works and Abrams broom factory in Wentworth Road, and just around the corner in Bridge Road, Brady's revolving shutter factory, Kauri timber mills and coachbuilders.

Down the Broadway end, Dunn's tannery, established in Grose Street about 1844, was still there; Thomas Wearne's Glebe foundry, with 130 workers in 1889, produced railway carriages, safes, ovens and bridge components at their Cowper Street foundry.

Accurately quantifying the precise number of factories and local factory workers is impossible between 1890 and 1944, as factory employment statistics were not published. However entries in Sands suburban directories and various Commonwealth and State statistics do provide some evidence of the extent of increasing industrialisation.

The advance of industry into old residential precincts meant some deterioration in living conditions, though noxious trades by 1900 had come under better control, and sanitary provision and health had improved. Glebe by 1914 was described as "mostly a large industrial and manufacturing centre", though it had a fashionable part, Glebe Point. The process of industrialization gathered momentum in the interwar years.

The Timber Industry in Glebe

The timber industry, attracted by the locational advantage offered by Blackwattle and Rozelle Bays, close to building activity, saw the appearance in 1882 of Langdon, Hopkins & Langdon's timber mills at Rozelle Bay, expanding rapidly to employ 120 men. From 1891 the Kauri Timber Co's Blackwattle Bay mill was flourishing. A parliamentary committee in 1910 recommended the Darling Harbour Goods Line be linked by a railway goods line to the head of Rozelle Bay in a scheme to redevelop the port functions of Blackwattle and Rozelle Bays which, by 1914, had become a centre for the coal and timber coastal trade. The new sawmills received consignments of sawn timber, logs, piles and girders from coastal ports as well as increasing quantities of imported softwoods.

The Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners in 1914 noted the "pressing needs of increasing trade and the larger modern

vessels", and proposed building extensive broadside wharfage in Johnston's, Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays, but lack of capital and manpower meant that this work did not take place until 1926. During World War 1 a railway line proceeded by viaduct across Wentworth Park and by a tunnel under Glebe Point to Rozelle Bay. Members of the Glebe Ratepayers and Property Owners Association (1904 - 1927) had told the parliamentary committee that they wanted the railway line built around the Glebe foreshores and opposed the proposed tunnel under Glebe Point

This is all recorded in the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works on Authorised Goods Line Darling Harbour to Rozelle Bay NSWPP 1914/5. Rozelle railway yards became a feeder for a Darling Harbour line and by 1916 a railway line along the western boundary of Leichhardt to Wardell Road, Dulwich Hill, was completed.

Construction of wharfage around Glebe Island began in 1912, and six years later foundations for grain elevators were laid there. Large grain silos, together with wharves to handle bagged wheat, dominated Glebe Island by 1922.

From the early years of Federation the timber mills fronting Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays - Langdon & Langdon, George Hudson, Vanderfield and Reid, Hardy Brothers, Timber Distributors and Allen Taylor - became the largest employers of local labour. The timber strike in Glebe, which lasted from January 1929 to October 1929, sustained by formal and informal networks created by local women, was remarkable for its tenacity and duration. The timber union finally had to back down in October 1929 and accept the Lukin award that reduced wages, increased working time to 48 hours and encouraged replacement of adult workers by lower paid youths. Few of the old timber workers were re-employed in their mills, and they faced long periods of unemployment. A number of them lived at Glebe Rowing Club.

Langdon & Langdon's timber mill was burnt down in 1930, but the timber industry remained a feature of the Glebe landscape until the 1970s. George Hudson went into liquidation about 1974 and its Blackwattle Bay site was acquired by the Department of Education for a comprehensive high school. Glebe High began taking enrolments in 1979. Hardy Brothers abandoned its Glebe Point timber drying sheds from the late 1970s, and the Black-

wattle Studios emerged there as a vibrant place for more than twenty years. The timber mills of Vanderfield & Reid were acquired in 1975 by Parkes Developments for home unit development. Along Rozelle Bay the Maritime Services Board encouraged its tenants, National Plywood, Beith Chemicals, Sydney Sawmilling and Smith Brothers, to move to Port Botany.

This of course was a part of a much broader change. Sydney's long history as a working port created a diverse and distinctive waterfront, but from the 1970s manufacturing and waterfront infrastructure, no longer economically viable, began to close.

Port-related facilities began to move to Port Botany, and the export of coal and wheat shifted to Port Kembla. Sydney ceased being a port city and began to change to accommodate its new role as the headquarters of a range of transnational businesses whose primary role is as an information economy, with as many links overseas as within the country.

After Parkes Development acquired the Vanderfield & Reid site, the Glebe Society, the 4-Shores Committee and the Glebe Action Group agitated for the developer to dedicate part of the land for waterfront parkland. Their action led to the creation of Blackwattle Bay Park in 1983. As industry was encouraged to leave waterfront industrial land at Rozelle Bay, resident action groups, especially the Glebe Society, were actively lobbying Leichhardt Council and the MSB for creation of new parkland to be added to Jubilee Park. Bicentennial Park was opened in 1988.

The gentrification of the 1970s left Glebe's urban fabric largely intact as new residents fought fiercely to protect its urban heritage. But the new invasion of the late 1980s and the 1990s brought extensive changes. The flight of industry from the inner city saw the conversion of non-residential use to residential use as old timber mills and disused factories were bulldozed for elite waterfront townhouses and apartments. Pavilions on the Bay, Glebe Harbour and so forth sold for from one to three million dollars and other old industrial buildings metamorphosed into apartments.

Something of changing Glebe can be followed through the experiences of author Peter Corris's private investigator, Cliff Hardy. Cliff noticed change on the Glebe landscape: "the boarding houses got changed back to family residences

and trees sprouted everywhere". In *Matrimonial Causes* (1993) Hardy explores Ferry Road. It "follows the lie of the land, running down to Blackwattle Bay. The area is undergoing a lot of change - rusty, ramshackle factories coming down, small boatyards and workshops closing, apartment blocks rising on the sites. There were still some of the old houses, narrow, single, and double storey, terraces jammed close together with built-in verandahs and porches dating back to the depression when rentable spaces were at a premium". Cliff Hardy still haunts the streets of Glebe in 2003; "the apartment development at the end of Glebe Point Road was just about ready for the well-heeled owners to move in on water views ... and back up around Harold Park, the pub has gone and I wondered how much longer the pacing would continue".

Manufacturing 1920-1970

Public policy and private pressures led to the establishment from the 1920s of a high and rising tariff wall to preserve and encourage manufacturing. Sydney became the hub of industry, the largest manufacturing centre in the country, and the inner suburbs became increasingly industrialised. After the war an influx of foreign capital brought new technology which established conditions for substantial increases in productivity. The country adapted to foreign technology and world tastes, particularly in the mass consumption of consumer durables. These, with related base industries, provided a platform for a postwar boom in manufacturing.

In interwar Glebe the need to accommodate the expanding wool industry saw the demolition of old working class housing and the building of multi-storey wool stores and warehouses, and premises being used for hide and skin merchants. The number of small mechanical and general engineering workshops grew to 14 by 1936, invading residential precincts in central parts of Glebe, and printing firms found Forest Lodge a convenient location. Alec Burdon led resident opposition to the increasing industrialisation of Glebe in 1923, and Glebe Council's decision to allow for the demolition of Guildford Lodge, and the building of a commercial activity, Stearns Chemical Co (later the Max Factor building). In 1947 there was a miscellaneous collection of industries - most numerous were 14 mechanical engineers, seven timber mills, six printers, four flour millers, four wool merchants, four hide and skin merchants, three coal

merchants and two blacksmiths.

Inner Sydney in 1945 had long been heavily industrialised and overtly working class in their demographic profile. In 1945/6 the City of Sydney, which included Pyrmont and Camperdown, recorded 2,795 factories operating there, employing 73,178 factory workers. Some 2,148 factories were located in Sydney's inner industrialised suburbs in 1945/6 employing 97,048 workers. Alexandria, with 358 factories, was the most heavily industrialised suburb, while there was an even spread of factories elsewhere - 241 factories in Redfern, 220 in Waterloo, 199 in Balmain, 196 in Annandale and 190 in Newtown. Some 164 Glebe factories employed 4,496 people.

Glebe's population at the 1947 census was overwhelmingly Australian-born - 88.46% of its males and 91.79% of its females, and if those born in the British Isles and New Zealand are added, the overall figure is 98%. Only 148 Glebe residents, less than 1% of the population, were overseas born. But with postwar European immigration the number of overseas-born Glebe residents grew to 3,420 at the 1971 census, almost 24% of its population. Many newly-arrived Italians and Greeks found cheap accommodation on the Church of England's Glebe Estate where they established themselves in their new country before seeking better accommodation. In 1947 the number of Catholic residents living in the inner suburbs was above the state average of 25.82%. Glebe, Waterloo and Redfern were 9% above the Catholic state average, Paddington over 7%, Annandale and Newtown about 5%, Balmain 2% and Leichhardt 1%. Catholicism identified with working class people and all inner city electorates were solid Labor Party seats. St James Church in Forest Lodge was the favourite meeting place for Glebe Catholics. They built strong local networks around the church where they worshipped, educated their children and sought fellowship, but one of their parishioners wrote: "Life was hard, but we knew no better way. We accepted things as they were; we were loyal to our school, our parish, our country, the Balmain football team and the Labor Party".

Manufacturing provided the largest area of employment for Glebe's workforce, 41% of its female workforce and 26.5% of its male employees. Many shared common employment. Heavy industry, machine making and repairs were men's work, as apprenticeships and trade courses were

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closed to women. Transport and storage (12%) and commerce (11%) were other significant areas of employment for local men. About 28% of Glebe's female workforce were in paid employment. In manufacturing, local women were heavily concentrated in clothing trades, a traditional women's field, and about 19% worked in hotels and cafes. 18% found employment as clerks in government departments and companies. Many women preferred factory work, despite its low wages, to the alternative, domestic service with its long hours and close supervision. The domestic skills and informal networks of the 72% of Glebe women not in paid work were crucial components of working class strength.

Kevin Gale was a genuine voice of postwar Glebe from 1947 where, as secretary of the Toxteth Progress Association and editor of the *Glebe Observer*, he defended Glebe's reputation but lamented that "slowly but surely, The Glebe itself is being swallowed up by industrial undertakings".

Manufacturing, especially in labour-intensive textiles, footwear and clothing sectors, began to decline in importance in Sydney's workforce from the 1970s, as increasingly mobile foreign capital was withdrawn from Australian manufacturing under the new international division of labour, and relocated in low-cost countries. Deindustrialisation of the metropolitan labour force was reflected in the absolute decline in Sydney's manufacturing sector, with 178,000 jobs lost between 1970 and 1985. By 1996 manufacturing comprised only 12.8% of the city's total workforce. Something of the rapidity of deindustrialisation within the Leichhardt municipality is reflected in factory closures. The number of factories declined from 668 in 1945 to 462 in 1971 and to 210 in 1983.

- Max Solling

Wentworth Park on TV

The football field beside the arches in Wentworth Park is featured in the Reality TV series *Nerds FC* on SBS (7.30pm Fridays). The program aims to turn a group of self-confessed nerds into a football team.

Unfortunately the field looked a bit neglected in close-up, but we hope the current top dressing program improves matters in the near future.

Let me introduce you to

The Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC)

Not another community group, I hear you sigh! Another acronym to get your head around. What is *this* lot on about? And fair enough too. There are so many! I come from the sleepy northern suburbs of Sydney. Yes, yet another empty nester come to a new roost in the dynamic inner city. The number of community groups just stuns me. In Turrumurra, I don't

What is BCC doing?

We are currently working to get dialogue going with all the above authorities and are pushing strongly for coordinated and careful planning to start in this area. To that end we have met with Steve O'Brien, Verity Firth and Robyn Kemmis from Sydney City Council, Susie Cleary from the Sporting Trust, Brett Moore and Stephen Montgomery from the NSW Maritime Authority, our local state parliament member, Sandra Nori and we have meetings planned with Monica Barone, SCC, and the strategic planning section of NSW Maritime. A meeting with representatives of all authorities, hosted by Sandra Nori, is in the pipeline as we speak.

believe I was ever aware of any at all, so it is a shock. I have great difficulty getting the word association for the letters of their group names to register in my declining mind. And now I find myself convener of yet another. You know what it is? It is sign of a very dynamic place where there is a lot happening, where there are so many competing interests and so many challenges. And to my amazement and delight, there are so many committed activists who genuinely care about the good of their community.

So here is one more group, one more acronym. Let me introduce you to the BCC. This group is looking into Blackwattle Bay and its hinterland, which takes in Wentworth Park and its feeder area, Bank Street, the Foreshore and harbour and the Fish Markets. It's a complex area, and to

date largely unplanned, with a seedy air of neglect, a forgotten area almost. Yet today the importance of this area grows daily. It is working harbour, it is open space and recreation for an ever-growing population of people from Pyrmont, Ultimo and Glebe, a heavy traffic corridor to and from the city, a cross route for pedestrians getting to and from the shopping areas of Broadway, a sporting ground, a dog walking area, increasingly a picnic area for the surrounding suburbs, and a dog racing arena.

There is no overall future plan for this area. Any improvements that go on here go on piecemeal, if they go on at all. Wentworth Park itself is a vast area, a huge potential open space resource for surrounding residents. It doesn't exist in isolation - at its eastern boundary is the foreshore where we hope to get greater connectivity with viewing corridors. To the south is a high ridge leading into Ultimo and Pyrmont and the whole park exists as an island cut off by a never-ending river of cars and trucks. It needs greater accessibility for the users of this space. The area is linked, north and south, to the Foreshore walk and this needs careful and creative planning to marry public accessibility with working harbour. The challenges are enormous and the whole area desperately needs coordinated, far-sighted planning.

There is a problem - there are at least six major authorities responsible in one way or another for this area; the NSW Maritime Authority, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, Sydney City Council, State Government, the RTA, Wentworth Park Sporting Complex Trust. And it covers three different suburban areas: Pyrmont, Ultimo and Glebe.

On the positive side, the representatives of community groups in all three suburbs have got together and are united in purpose. That is really wonderful and as convener I can't praise their integrity, hard work, concern and enthusiasm highly enough. It is a privilege to be working with them and to my relief they have experience which I painfully lack.

Hopefully, out of all of this a more positive future for this sadly neglected area will emerge. We can but hope and work doggedly towards it.

- Anne Fraser

Fred Spofforth, The Demon Bowler (1853–1926)

Fred Spofforth lived for much of his youth in Derwent Street, on the southern side. Born in Balmain, he spent part of his childhood in New Zealand before, by 1863, settling in Glebe, a suburb with plenty of open space, including a vacant block next to the Spofforth home. Fred was educated privately at the Reverend John Pendrill's Eglinton House on Glebe Road (Pendrill and Eglinton streets near the Point indicate the location) and, for a short time, at Sydney Grammar (the Alma Mater of another local boy Edmund Barton, Australia's first Prime Minister).

Fred's father was Yorkshire-born Edward Spofforth who landed in Fremantle aboard the *Addingham* in June 1836. An uncle was Markham Spofforth, a solicitor and election manager for the Tory Party. Although he went into the staid profession of banking, Edward first came to public notice in 1839 as the leader of two search parties tracking survivors of one of George Grey's expeditions into the interior of Western Australia. (Spofforth brought four men back to Perth.) In New Zealand he married Anna McDonnell, who came from a pioneering family. The couple had four children: Anna Elizabeth, Edward Arthur (died 1883), Frederick Robert and Adelaide. Edward died in 1875 and was buried in Balmain Cemetery. His mother died in 1891 at Molong.

Like his father, Fred became a clerk with the Bank of New South Wales, a career he combined with ever-increasing involvement with cricket. Fred's first recollection of the game was being taken by his father to watch Stephenson's All England Eleven

playing a New South Wales team of 22 at Sydney's Domain in 1862. England won this match but lost a later one on the same ground and against the same numbers. The result was popular with the crowd but not really fair to the visitors who had to catch a steamer that afternoon and hit at everything. Fred noted that the English favoured a round-arm delivery while almost all locals bowled underhand. The next season a stronger English team returned to the Domain. While scoring was slow – again there were 22 in the field – Fred was impressed with George Tarrant's over-arm style. Modifying his own "throwing" action, he started to bowl as fast as he could. Schoolboy opponents became afraid of his deliveries; in the summer of 1873 he took nine for ten against Sydney University, including seven clean bowled, the only batsman remaining being Edmund Barton. He played for the Newtown Cricket Club and on the Albert Ground, on Elizabeth Street opposite what is now Redfern Oval.

Cricket in those amateur days was very different from the present. Flannels were unknown, people played in their ordinary clothes and hardly anyone had his own bat. There were no shelter sheds or places to change, and no rollers for the pitch. Grounds hard and uncared for meant wickets suited to fast bowlers. But it was Spofforth's increasing subtlety with variations in style that earned him his nickname, "The Demon Bowler". He worked tirelessly on different deliveries while maintaining an unfathomable demeanour: "the balls thunder like cannon-shots, yet he has the guile, when seemingly about to bowl his fastest, to drop in a slow, which is generally fatal to the batsman". Six feet three inches tall, weighing under twelve stone, with a Mephistophelian expression, he was "all legs, arms and nose" as he struck terror into his opponents. One batsman remembered passing him on the way to the crease: "His look went through me like a red hot poker". "Always attack the batsman," was Spofforth's advice. "Bear in mind that batsmen are sometimes nervous creatures ... Go at him for all you are worth. If a batsman confides in you that he does not expect to make runs, encourage this idea; if you can make him believe he is in for a duck, he will probably get it." He had a special delivery for those



squinting into the sun, and a formidable leap. His ability as an all-round athlete was demonstrated in 1881 by his record sprint of 100 yards in 10.2 seconds.

Stimulus to Australian cricket came with W G Grace's visit in 1873-4. Spofforth, who was in Tasmania, went to Melbourne for the opening match. He noted that Grace (who evoked memories of his old schoolmaster who joined in the game and taught by example) treated the Australian bowlers with respect. In January 1874 Spofforth played against Grace's team for New South Wales, taking three wickets for 14 runs. In December that year he took four for 22 and five for 50 against Victoria, giving his State its first victory in seven years. In the days before Federation intercolonial hostilities ran high in politics, society and sport. Caught in a storm en route to England, New South Wales batsman and expert swimmer Charles Bannerman said he would save his brother and Spofforth, but wouldn't risk his life for the Victorians. A riot occurred during the 1878-9 English visit to Sydney when Victorian umpire George Coulthard gave an unpopular run-out decision, the crowd declaring they wanted an English replacement. "We won't have a Victorian!" Spofforth withdrew from the 1876-7 test against England because the Victorian keeper was preferred to that of his own colony.



Spofforth hits the crease

Continued on next page ...

Walter Burley Griffin Incinerator, Glebe

The conservation architect, Trevor Waters, presented a most engaging tour of the Walter Burley Griffin incinerator at Glebe, on Saturday, 8 April. The tour was organized by the Walter Burley Griffin Society, Inc.

Trevor outlined the history of Walter Burley Griffin's work, the innovative nature of his buildings, and his ability to combine functionality with design excellence. In partnership with Eric Milton Nicholls, Burley Griffin designed 13 municipal incinerators in Australia for the Reverberatory Incinerator and Engineering Co Pty Ltd. Seven of these were in Sydney, and the only ones to survive destruction are those located at

Willoughby and Glebe. Of the other six incinerators built elsewhere in Australia, five have survived.

In the 1930s incinerators were commissioned by local councils to manage the problem of garbage disposal. Shipping garbage out to sea had become too expensive and ineffective, as the tides returned all manner of undesirable material, and landfill had also become too expensive. Incinerators were seen as a cheap and efficient method of disposing of garbage.

Burley Griffin's incinerators were designed to blend in with the landscape and were normally built on a hill, so that gravity would feed the garbage into the burners



Sandstone "pillboxes" anchor the two lines of sheds.

and the residue out for disposal. The Glebe incinerator is an exception. Originally the incinerator was to be located on the higher ground overlooking the Harold Park Trotting venue. However, objections from local homeowners forced the relocation of the incinerator to an area looking out over Blackwattle Bay.

The Glebe incinerator was opened in 1933, and ceased operation in the 1940s. The building then became part of the council depot and was adapted for use as storage space and staff amenities.

With council changes back and forth from the City of Sydney to Leichhardt, the original plans for the incinerator were lost, and indeed, it was assumed that the building itself had been demolished.

However, due to the diligent research of Trevor Waters, the remains of the building were recognised as the incinerator designed by Burley Griffin and Eric Nicholls, and a conservation study was carried out with a grant from the NSW Heritage Assistance Program. The preservation of the building is largely due to the efforts of Trevor Waters, the Walter Burley Griffin Society Inc. and The Glebe Society Inc.

The colonnaded wooden sheds which were an integral part of Burley Griffin's design were demolished recently. They were apparently regarded as an eyesore, rather than as part of our industrial heritage. The two colonnades in the park, between the incinerator and the water, represent the original sheds and in one colonnade some of the original concrete columns which supported the timber sheds can be still be seen. See photo page 11.

The material used in the construction of the incinerators was concrete. Concrete is a cheap and easily moulded material,

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It was the 1878 tour of England which established Spofforth's reputation. The players left Australia with little send-off and the Victorian and New South Welsh players avoided each other on the trip over. Freezing in their light silk shirts and constantly chasing their felt hats which blew off in cold, blustery weather, the Australians lost their first match at Trent Bridge ("much smaller and greener" than the grounds Spofforth was used to in Australia). But the Marylebone side was demolished at Lord's where Spofforth took 10 for 20 and bowled Grace for a duck. In contrast to their departure the returning team was met by a flotilla of boats in Sydney Harbour and driven in a four-horse coach, through streets decorated with flags and flowers, to the Town Hall. In Melbourne and Adelaide too they were feted as heroes of the hour. In 1879 Spofforth took the first hat-trick in a Test match. In the original "Ashes" game he took 14 for 90, enabling Australia to win by seven runs. He shrugged off setbacks and never gave up on a match: "Recollect it only takes one ball to get a man out".

Overall, Spofforth played 18 Test matches. He toured England five times and in 1886 married Phillis Cadman, the daughter of a rich tea merchant. The couple lived for a time in Melbourne where Fred managed the Moonee Ponds branch of the National Bank of Australasia but settled permanently in England in 1888. While managing the Star Tea Company, he continued to play for Derbyshire and Hampstead, but after 1903 devoted most time to business and horticultural interests. On his last trip

to Australia in 1924-5 he saw the visiting side defeated 4-1.

A wealthy man, he died in Surrey, survived by his widow, two sons and two daughters. Edward Spofforth had risen from "clerk" to "gentleman" by the time of his death. As early as 1878 *Vanity Fair* had said of his son: "like all the better kind of Australians, he is not distinguishable from an English gentleman." Fred's ties to the gentry were reinforced by the marriage of his sister Anna into the Lyttleton family. Lord Lyttleton, a cricketing enthusiast, had 14 children and at one stage fielded a full Eleven of little Lyttletons.

- Lyn Collingwood

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Editor's note:

Before I moved to Glebe, I lived in Spofforth Street, Cremorne twice - at No 50 and No 47a, so I am interested in Fred Spofforth. Bannerman Street was nearby.

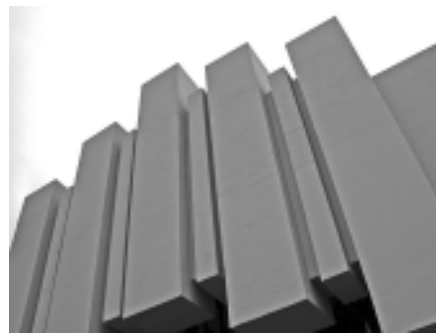
An Important Feature of Glebe's Industrial Heritage



Photo: Adrienne Kabos



Photos clockwise from top left: Restored incinerator building with "chimney", original concrete columns that remained after the demolition of the workmen's sheds; view to Pymont, site of a larger Griffin incinerator; two details of art deco features on the main building.



Photos by Bruce Davis and Adrienne Kabos

... Continued from previous page

which Burley Griffin treated with various additives, including oyster shells, to give the appearance of sandstone, including the glistening patina of sandstone. The moulding, particularly of the Pymont incinerator, reflected the Rudolf Steiner concept of four ethers, with symbols for fire (circle), water (crescent), air (triangle), and earth (rectangle), and Trevor brought an example of one of the moulded concrete bricks to the tour. The surface did indeed look and feel like sandstone. The Pymont incinerator had once stood across Blackwattle Bay looking towards the Glebe incinerator. Sadly, the Pymont incinerator was demolished in 1992, to make way for apartments. The original huge sandstone retaining wall remains, and several of the original moulded concrete bricks were saved.

- Margaret Sheppard



The Heritage sub-committee, led by David Mander Jones, is busy planning a visit to the Walter Burley Griffin Incinerator in the near future. Watch out for further announcements.

Badde Manors damaged again

In early April, I drove past Badde Manors, on the corner of Francis Street and Glebe Point Road. It looked as though a truck had damaged the corrugated iron verandah. The police were taking notes and there was yellow tape blocking the footpath. Similar accidents have happened before.

Neil Macindoe tells the background to this incident.

- Edwina Doe:

Francis Street

Francis Street is a long standing problem made even worse recently by the construction work on the Broadway Centre.

Unfortunately my file on Francis Street is inaccessible at the moment because we are renovating, but here are the bare bones.

In 1998, with the reopening of Grace Bros as the Broadway Centre, there were various proposals concerning traffic management in the surrounding streets. Franklyn Street was closed in order to extend Minogue Reserve and join it to the Forsyth Auditorium, previously part of Grace Bros car park. During most of the time after Grace Bros closed, Francis Street was also closed, or operated one way only out of Glebe Point Road.

Leichhardt Council (ie me) argued

Francis Street should remain closed or operate one-way out of Glebe Point Road (left turn only from Glebe Point Road, no entry to Glebe Point Road). The developers argued for the section adjacent to Glebe Point Road to be two-way, left turn only into Glebe Point Road (the present situation). There was some support for this position from businesses fronting Broadway with rear entry off Grose Street, especially the brothels. Leichhardt Council voted to keep the street one-way, and barriers were erected.

Unfortunately, by 2000 it became clear the developer (Walkers) had a lot of influence. Both Sandra Nori and the RTA began to support reopening. The Glebe Society launched a campaign to maintain partial closure, and the rather melodramatic result was an attempt by police to arrest Roger Mackell and myself, who were preventing workmen from removing the barriers. However the police were young, and Roger and I have a long history of civil disobedience, so the attempt failed.

However, the will of the RTA prevailed, despite the continued protest of a large section of the community, and especially of Robert Sebes, the then owner of Badde Manors, who was experiencing a lot of problems with the Broadway development and with the reopening of Francis Street in particular. Those

problems have continued down to the present day, with the most widely reported incident being the manslaughter of a driver of a car involved in a collision with a vehicle turning out of Francis Street into Glebe Point Road.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Society's position was then, and is now, the correct one, and Bill McCarthy and I raised the matter again when we met with the City to discuss Minogue Reserve. Hence I think we could reactivate the issue through the City, which may have more clout than Leichhardt (at least it's worth a try!)

- Neil Macindoe



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

Is there any chance that the Society might take up the issue of the dangerous intersection at Wigram and Glebe Point roads? There have been two fatalities there recently, and a stream of schoolchildren meanders across both pedestrian crossings before and after school. Should traffic lights be installed?

- Lyn Collingwood

City Of Sydney Community Satisfaction Survey

In order to understand the satisfaction levels of their community base, the City of Sydney undertook a phone survey late last year. A nine minute survey was conducted with a total sample size of n=400 (100 per zone). The zones were:

CBD – Haymarket to the Rocks;

West – Chippendale to Annandale and Pyrmont;

East – Surry Hills to Potts Point and Moore Park;

South – Redfern to Erskineville and Rosebery.

Here is a summary of the results for zone which includes Glebe:

Generally, the residents of the West Zone tended to be more satisfied than the average for Sydney and were significantly so on one Key Performance Indicator and on three attributes.

They were, however, significantly less likely to feel safe in public areas than other Sydney residents, viz:

More positive than the Total:

Overall performance: 10% “needs improvement” in comparison to 17% for the Total.

Recreational facilities: 72% “excellent and good” compared with 62% for the Total .

Appearance of public areas : 73% “excellent and good” compared with 60% for the Total .

Traffic management and parking facilities : 31% “excellent and good” compared with 20% for the Total . 48% “needs improvement” in comparison to 59% for the Total.

Less positive than the Total:

Safety in public areas: 39% “excellent and good” compared with 48% for the Total . 38% “needs improvement” in comparison to 24% for the Total.

Source: City of Sydney press releases and website. The full report is available on the City's website.



Glebe Matters



Book Fair

The popular Book Fair at Glebe Library will be held this year on Saturday 3 June, from 9am. Donations of books for the Fair are welcomed - please contact the Library for further details.

There will be boxes for you to donate birthday gifts (unwrapped please) for the disadvantaged children who attend the Centipede Centre at Glebe Public School (before school, after school and holiday care). Please think of these children when you come to the Book Fair. Additionally Forest Lodge Public School plans to hold a sausage sizzle and sell cakes outside the library, so come along and enjoy the books and food.



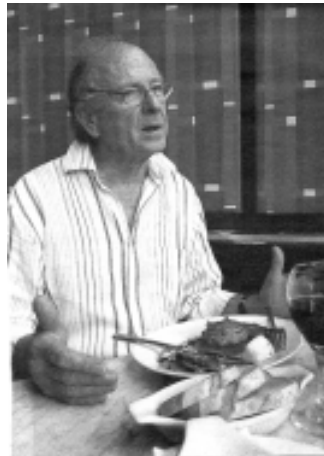
The Glebe Art Show

The Glebe Art Show is held every year at Benledi, 184 Glebe Point Road, and the adjacent Glebe Library. Local residents are encouraged to contribute their artworks - in 2005 well over 200 entries were received for this 10-day event, which now includes contributions from Pyrmont and Ultimo artists following our 2003 transfer to the City of Sydney which generously provides a \$3,000 first prize.

This year marks the 9th Art Show and the opening and awarding of prizes will be held on Friday 30 June at 6pm at Benledi. The exhibition continues every day until 9 July from 11am to 6pm at Benledi during this period and in regular library hours. This year new arrangements have been made for the library to be open from 12 midday to 4pm on Saturday 1 and Saturday 8 July, as well as Sunday 2 July from 11am to 4m.

For those intending to enter the competition, entry forms providing further information for potential exhibitors will be available in early May from Glebe Library (note the \$15 fee). Any other enquiries should be directed to me on 9660 8936.

- Robin Lawrence



Glebe Society president Bob Armstrong at Rosso Nero. Photo courtesy of *The Glebe*.

Bob Armstrong interviewed by *The Glebe*

Kate Sullivan of The Glebe interviewed Bob Armstrong over lunch at Rosso Nero recently. Here is an extract from her report, in the 20 April issue ...

Glebe wouldn't be Glebe without the societies and community groups which work to improve the inner-city village.

When Glebe Society president Bob Armstrong moved to the area in the late 1970s, his first foray into community action groups was "fighting the good fight for Blackwattle Park". He said community groups like the Glebe Society are an integral part of life.

"I think when you are on the ground and see things you have a better idea of what the community would like to have", he said "Individuals don't necessarily get the results that groups can.

... Mr Armstrong has been Glebe Society president since January 2005 after first taking the role [of vice-president] in the '80s. "It can sometimes seem like a full-time job", he said.

... He said Glebe's vibrant restaurant scene is just as important to the area as community groups.

"The creative side of Glebe is very important" he said. "I used to resist using the word 'bohemian', but that is what it is. He said in order to keep Glebe alive, shopkeepers and restaurants need to offer something a little different for their customers.

Building community - Darling Street Glebe does it again.

The usual date for our street party, Australia Day, was missed this year, so we decided to have a party on Anzac Day. With some changes of residents in Darling Street, return visits of past neighbours and an anticipated new resident, we met in the late afternoon. A BBQ, red wine, Spanish frittata and other goodies all made for a very enjoyable event, in spite of a few rain showers. With hearty conversation and introductions to new pets on the block, there was plenty of opportunity to meet people. We now know who lives in which house and can say hello to everyone when we meet in the street. It was a very easy event to organise as everyone came with food and wine to share.

- Jan Wilson

Pétanque

An area will be set aside for pétanque, as part of the Foreshore upgrade. It is east of Pope IV Reserve, near the Pavilions and will consist of two strips of decomposed granite, 20 metres by 4.5 metres. David Mander-Jones and Bruce Davis will be pleased!



Bruce demonstrating a common error to Glebe Society members Scott and Judy Pearson during a pétanque course last year at Canterbury. Photo: David Mander-Jones

News and Notes

Thirsty Thursdays

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

The next Thirsty Thursday is at *La Tavolaccia* Garden Restaurant, 355 Glebe Point Road (near the Toxteth Hotel) on 4 May. There is no need to book, so just turn up and BYO wine. Put Thursday 1 June in your diary, too.

BASIX Explained - Monday 15 May

Hear all about BASIX in the Community Room at *Benledi* at 6 pm on Monday, 15 May, from Andrew Thomas, Manager, Strategic Planning at the City of Sydney, as Neil explains on page 4.

All members are welcome, free of charge, and we have invited other community groups in Glebe as well.

Smoke Alarms

From 1 May 2006, you must have smoke alarms installed. See www.nswfb.nsw.gov.au/community/athome/smokealarms for information

Glebe Foreshore Walk work being watched

Representatives from the Glebe Society and the Save Rozelle Bay group are having fortnightly meetings with council representatives to inspect the progress of work on the Foreshore Walk.

Mail-out team goes AWOL

No fewer than four members of our regular mail-out team were overseas when we mailed out this *Bulletin*.

This is not good enough. It is no way to spend the retirement years. Their passports will be confiscated when they return.

Bulletins by email?

So far only one person, Mari-Luise, has asked to receive the *Glebe Society Bulletin* by email, as offered in last month's issue. If you would like to join her in saving the environment, please send an email to editor@glebesociety.org.au.

Computers Wanted

The Glebe Community Centre at the Old Fire Station has a thriving computer section. Unfortunately their computers are rapidly becoming out of date.

If you have a functioning computer that you no longer need, please contact:

Jan Wilson

H: 9660 2698

M: 0408 207 784

janwil@bigpond.com

Slipway Development in Rozelle Bay

A public notice appeared on page 6 of *The Glebe*, 20 April.

Exhibition of Environmental Assessment

Major Project: Proposed Marine Maintenance Facility, James Craig Road, Rozelle, Leichhardt LGA

Location: Lot 31 & 34 James Craig Road, Rozelle Bay

Proponent: Sydney Slipways Pty Ltd

Approval Authority: Minister for Planning

Description of proposal

Sydney Slipways Pty Ltd has made an application (reference number 05_0187) for the construction and operation of a marine maintenance facility at James Craig Road, Rozelle Bay in the Leichhardt local government area. The proposal would include:

- five floating pontoons, two fixed berths, a crane and two straddle lifts;
- 8200m² hardstand area;
- water treatment plant;
- maintenance and painting sheds;
- diesel refuelling facility; and associated administrative and storage facilities.

The Environmental Assessment will be on exhibition until 23rd May at:

- Department of Planning at 23-33 Bridge Street;
- Leichhardt Council;
- Nature Conservation Council level 5 362 Kent Street;
- Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority level 6 66 Harrington Street, The Rocks.

You are invited to make a written submission to this proposal by close of business on Tuesday 23 May. See <http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/asp/register2006.asp#gma> for more information.

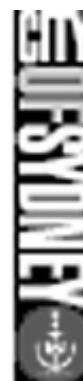
City of Sydney Councillors

Lord Mayor

Clover Moore MLA

Councillors

Phillip 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 ...

Thursday 4 May, 7pm - Thirsty Thursday - Dinner at *La Tavolaccia*, 355 Glebe Point Road.

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

Monday 15 May, 6pm - BASIX Explained - Presentation by Andrew Thomas, City of Sydney - *Benledi* Community Room. Everyone welcome, free of charge.

Thursday 1 June, 7pm - Thirsty Thursday - Dinner at *La Tavolaccia*, 355 Glebe Point Road.

Friday 2 June - take your surplus books to the Library for the Book Fair.

Saturday 3 June, 9am - Annual "Friends of *Benledi* Library" Book Fair.

Wednesday 8 June, 7.30pm - Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting - The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street. All members welcome.

Friday 30 June - Sunday 9 July - Annual Glebe Art Competition.

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 at the end of May. The deadline for contributions is **Wednesday 18 May**.

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:	Anne Fraser 9660 7560	John Gray 9518 7253
	Bill McCarthy 9660 5119	Jan Wilson 9660 2698

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	Tony Larkum	9660 7030
Wentworth Park	Anne Fraser	9660 7560
Environment and Open Spaces	Bill McCarthy	9660 5119
Heritage	David Mander Jones	9552 4172
Infrastructure Defect Reporting	Margaret Sheppard	9660 4121
Membership	Cheryl Herden	9660 7371
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Transport and Traffic	Chris Hallam	9660 3670

Adopt-a-Park Contacts:

Foley Park: Bobbie Burke (9692 0343) **Kirsova:** Fay & David Mander Jones
Paddy Gray Park: John Gray

Other Contacts:

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC)	Anne Fraser	9660 7560
Bulletin Editor	Edwina Doe	9660 7066
History of Glebe	Max Solling	9660 1160
History of the Glebe Society	Jeanette Knox	9660 7781
Liaison with CityRags	Bob Armstrong	9660 4189
Liaison with COGG	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
PO Box 100



SOCIETY Inc
Glebe 2037

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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

Manager-Neighbourhood Services Centre ; Glebe, Forest Lodge, Camperdown, Ultimo & Pyrmont: Baharak Sahebekhtiari, Phone: 9298 3191, Mob: 0417 426 201

Email: bsahebekhtiari@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Glebe Town Hall Office: 9298 3190 8.30am-5.30pm Mon- Fri

Sydney City Council Customer Service

Telephone (24 hours): 9265-9333

email: council@cityof sydney.nsw.gov.au

website: www.cityof sydney.nsw.gov.au

Dumped Shopping trolleys: Bi-Lo - 9281 4511. Most other major stores - 1800 641497. Pacific Services - 0500 847 000 or trolleys@pacificservices.com.au.

Aircraft noise: 1800 802 584