



### PHOENIX RISING ... from the ashes

Sunday 24 September - will you ever forget **that** Sunday?

With the temperature over 30°C, the icing melted on the cakes provided by Craig and Rhiannon, the coffee and muffin stallholders from Glebe Markets. They said they covered costs and we thank them for their gamble. At least people 80 came, some said 100, and the visit to the Incinerator was **free**, as one person was heard to say!

We waited near the Incinerator in the glaring mid-day sun to hear the speakers, until a decision was made to move everybody into the Incinerator building.

Trevor Waters, Heritage Architect and co-author of the 1997 Conservation Study on this Incinerator, spoke with much enthusiasm and knowledge of its building. It was to be sited on the elevated west side of Glebe but the then locals had ears in the right places, ensuring it went elsewhere. So on this flat east side the garbage entry part had to be elevated to gain the height for gravity feed, which explains why it is a good 3 to 4 metres above adjacent roads. Trevor spoke of Griffin's extraordinary ability, much aided by his architect wife, to make such a small building grand and exquisite, even when using cheap, everyday materials. The accompanying sheds, used for other Council activities and now defined by the pergolas, gave this small structure a forecourt and a setting, especially when viewed from across the bay.

Jannene Smith, Built Heritage Specialist, was very much involved in the restoration and told the restoration story through many photographs. As they dug deeper and deeper, the team found to the immediate east, large bins, hoppers, hearths



Heritage Architect Trevor Waters. Photo: Bruce Davis

and the foundations of the chimney flue where temperatures would rise to 1600°C.

Australand, we were informed, are to be commended for their total commitment, especially regarding all the extra work involved, and for bearing all the extra costs.

The President of the Walter Burley Griffin Society, Professor James Weirick gave us a thorough run-down of the very extended planning and approval processes with Leichhardt Council, and concluded with a tribute to all parties and people involved.

It was then left to Councillor John McInerney to chair a session on suggestions from us all on possible uses for the Incinerator and its sheds, and to Councillor Robyn Kemmis to thank the speakers. Both Councillors would value input from the Glebe Society on future uses. Any member wishing to be involved, please contact me.

It was a very successful event, informative and enjoyable. Many thanks to all members of the Heritage Sub-committee for their enthusiastic efforts.

- David Mander Jones

#### **Rozelle Bay** ... have your say about the proposed boat storage facility

The Glebe Society has organised a public meeting to discuss the development application (DA) lodged for a 670 boat storage and launch facility in Rozelle Bay.

**Time:** 7:30pm on 12 October.

**Place:** Glebe Town Hall.

See page 5 for more details.

**Please come!**

#### **Glebe Gardens** 1820 – 2010

#### **Forum + Drinks and Nibbles**

Wednesday 15 November 7pm Glebe Rowing Club (bottom of Ferry Road).

An interesting panel discussion on the heritage of small inner city gardens and ways to manage our gardens today.

See page 9 and the enclosed booking form. RSVP by Thursday 9 November.

# The Glebe Society's 2006 AGM

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of The Glebe Society Incorporated was held at Benledi, 186 Glebe Point Road, at 11am on Sunday 27 August, 2006.

Our president, Bob Armstrong, welcomed the 38 members who attended. A further eight people had sent apologies.

After the Minutes of last year's meeting had been accepted, Bob gave his President's Report, which covered the Society's activities over the past year. See the AGM Report insert in this *Bulletin* for the full text of Bob's report.

The Society's accounts for 2005-06 and the Auditor's report were presented by



Professor Brewer listens to a question. Photo: Bruce Davis

Bruce and accepted by the meeting. Sub-committee convenors did not read their reports, as they are also available to members in *Bulletins* 7/2006 and 8/2006. Instead, they asked members for questions and comments. John Gray asked the Bays and Foreshores committee to pay particular attention to the potential escalation in transport associated with proposed developments in the Bay areas.

Bob vacated the Chair during the election of the President, but as no nominations had been received for President, it was agreed that Bob continue as President until the end of 2006, thus completing his two-year term. In the meantime the Committee will look for a candidate to take on the Presidency in 2007. Bob then resumed the chair.

The Treasurer, Bruce Davis, and the Secretary, Liz Simpson-Booker, were both re-elected unopposed. Bruce Davis also agreed to continue in the role of Vice President, there being no other nomination.

Three new members were elected to the Management Committee; Dorothy Davis, Simon Fraser and Jan Macindoe. Anne Fraser and Jan Wilson remained on the Management Committee.

All Sub-committee convenors are also *ex officio* members of the Management Committee.

In "other business", Ian Cole advised us of the problem he is having with the Stirling Estate and the Council previously allowing building on land that is flood prone.

Bill McCarthy reminded everyone of the forthcoming film night, *An Inconvenient Truth*, and stressed the need for everyone to invite as many people as possible. (His calls were answered, as 150 people attended - see next page.)

The meeting closed at 12.05pm and the gathering was then addressed by Professor Ann Brewer from Sydney University. Professor Brewer is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Infrastructure) at the University of Sydney and is responsible for Capability (staffing), Information & Communications Technology as well as Campus Property and Services - in other words, "People, Processes and Place". Professor Brewer spoke about issues associated with the planning of the University.

We then enjoyed the excellent refreshments, which were prepared by Kevin Treloar.

Coffee beside the Incinerator shed, now defined as a pergola. Photo: Bruce Davis



## Pedestrians Friendless in GPR

The City Council has rejected a submission by the Coalition of Glebe Groups (CoGG) for shared pedestrian/traffic zones to be included in the upgrade of Glebe Point Road.

In its response to community comments on its proposals, Council states: "(A) shared zone requires that there be low traffic generation and traffic volume should be around 300 vehicle movements per day. For safety reasons it is a general practice not to have large vehicles in shared zone (eg buses, trucks etc).

"Currently the vehicle movements are around 4000 vehicles per day and the commercial nature of the road requires large delivery trucks. For STA this is a major bus route. For the above reasons a shared zone is not feasible and RTA requirements for a shared zone cannot be met."

While this response is not unexpected, it is disappointing that once again we find that "cars are kings". The only concession to making Glebe Point Road more pedestrian friendly is a proposed 40km/h speed limit.

Overall the project, which includes extensive upgrades to footpaths and the undergrounding of overhead cables in the southern section of the street, is very welcome. But, as the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Ken Shearman, said in the Herald on 26 September, "This plan does not go quite far enough." CoGG and the Glebe Society will examine the details of the plan over the next couple of weeks and make a detailed response to Council.

- Bruce Davis

# Glebe against Global Warming

## A Very Successful Evening

The Glebe against Global Warming committee held its inaugural public event at the Palace Theatre on Tuesday 5 September; a pre-release screening of the Al Gore documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*. 150 Society members and friends attended, including members of the Balmain Rozelle climate group, who are very active in the fight against global warming.

People commented very favourably on the film and the subsequent discussion, which was led by Robert Parker and Julie-Anne Richards.

This film is perhaps the most important documentary yet to be shown in Australian, highlighting as it does dramatic effects of climate change with loss of glaciers, droughts, floods, cyclones and the potential displacement of millions of environmental refugees as water levels rise. In addition, the prospect of the extinction of many plant and animal species and the rise in the incidence of infectious diseases are all starkly portrayed.

Australia faces some daunting prospects with water supplies in Sydney falling dramatically, and rainfall falling, particularly in southern New South Wales, with consequent effects on domestic food supply and agricultural exports. Wetlands such as Kakadu face permanent change. The recent report of the Australian Business Round Table on Climate Change adds strength to the stark messages of the film.

We have very few years left to correct, or at least contain, the global warming problem. Robert Parker proposed a 20/20 and a 50/50 strategy to prevent or minimise some of the developing problems. The strategy involves methods to lower greenhouse emissions by 20% before the year 2020 and 50% by the year 2050. Julie-Anne Richards, who is the coordinator of Climate Action Network Australia (CANA), detailed many of the losses we will suffer, both economically and environ-

mentally, if political and individual action does not take place within the next 10 years. Coal-fired electricity generation and motor vehicles are the two major areas which must be addressed soon.

GaGW will be initiating a series of further public activities to continue the momentum generated by this film. It is hoped that all readers of the *Bulletin* who have not yet seen the film will take advantage of the general release which started at the Palace Theatre on 14 September.

- Bill McCarthy

## "It's not too late" - a personal reaction to the film

The importance of the attempt to rename Blackwattle Bay as Blackwattle Cove or even Glebe Harbour (see page 4) is insignificant compared to the threat to life on Earth posed by global warming. This is made very clear by the film of a lecture by Al Gore entitled *An Inconvenient Truth*.

You may recall Gore as Clinton's Vice-President who lost the 2000 presidential election to George W. Bush by a majority of five votes to four in the Supreme Court, thereby ensuring the survival of economic rationalism in the coalition of the unwilling, of which Australia is a part. I refer of course to the refusal to look at the evidence. Gore was for many years a senator and, during this time, published a very good book called *Earth in the Balance*.

Contrary to the impression you might get from articles in the press or statements by politicians the consensus on global warming among qualified scientists is not only overwhelming, it is unanimous. The Earth is getting hotter and this is not just a cyclical variation - it is a new phenomenon for which human activity is largely responsible.

The most obvious example of the greenhouse effect is what happens when you park a car in the sun and put the windows up. When you return you are likely to find that the seats are too hot to sit on. The sun's radiation gets trapped inside.

Various gases, most notably carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), have a greenhouse effect and following the greatly increased rate of burning of fossil fuels (coal and oil) since the Industrial Revolution of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is very much higher than it has ever been. This has consequences that you won't be able to see by just taking a day off to watch them happening, which is one reason why some people still refuse to believe that they are happening. But if you look at photographs taken years apart of glaciers and snow-capped mountaintops it becomes obvious that the glaciers are shrinking and there is less snow on the mountaintops.

So, what happens to the water that is no longer being contained as snow? It will eventually find its way to the sea which, together with the expansionary effect of higher water temperatures, will result in rising sea levels. This probably wouldn't bother you if you happen to live in the mountains but you wouldn't be so pleased if you'd spent a lot of money on a house by the beach. And, of course, if you happened to live in Bangladesh or on a low-lying Pacific island you'd have to look for somewhere else to live and that would cost money which few people in these places could afford. One factor in this situation which is easily overlooked is the population explosion which has led to increased migration, legal and illegal, and, since people are responsible for pollution, increased pollution.

There are still people who will admit that there are, or are likely to be, problems arising from global warming but who are naively optimistic that, as Science has found a solution to so many other problems, it will find a solution to this problem. This is the fallacy known to logicians as a *non sequitur*. There is, however, some reason for optimism. If we are largely responsible for the problem we can also do something to solve it, or at least to mitigate its effects.

The Australian scientist Tim Flannery recently published a book entitled *The Weather Makers: The History and Future Impact of Climate Change*, which I strongly recommend to anyone interested in the subject. At the end of the book, as Al Gore does at the end of his lecture, he

Continued on next page ...

### Saving trees

If you would like to receive your *Bulletin* by email instead of snail mail, please tell [editor@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:editor@glebesociety.org.au).

... continued from previous page

suggests what we can all do to help. In NSW, as most of our electricity comes from coal-fired generators, we need to minimise our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by changing to a Green Power option ie electricity generated from a renewable resource such as wind, hydro or solar (uranium is not a renewable resource) or generate our own electricity by installing photovoltaic solar cells. It also helps to buy the most energy efficient appliances, eg refrigerators and washing machines, and use energy-efficient light globes. If you are thinking of buying a car buy a hybrid, or at least one that will use less petrol and minimise pollution from exhaust emissions. Better still, walk or cycle, or use public transport whenever possible and lobby governments to improve it.

Lastly, try to influence politicians to enact laws that will help to solve the problem rather than protect the interests of the fossil fuel industry. We are fortunate in Sydney to have a local federal member who is aware of the issues although there are too many members of her party who aren't much better than the conservative coalition in this respect.

If, for any reason, you failed to see the preview of *An Inconvenient Truth* organised by the Glebe Society at the Palace cinema in Norton Street you have the opportunity to see it now that it is re-released commercially. I strongly advise you not to miss it again.

- Ian Edwards



## Letter to the SMH Editor

### Cab on the right track

With warnings of a very hot summer ahead it was uplifting to read a sign on the back of a cab, "Hybrid fuel taxi trial". This positive step towards reducing global warming made me think that the "Oh, what a feeling" manufacturer deserves a pat on the back.

**Vicky Marquis, Glebe**

*This letter from Society member Vicky Marquis was published in the Sydney Morning Herald on Thursday 7 September.*

## BCC - Blackwattle Cove Controversy

Ian Edwards has questioned the use of "Cove" instead of "Bay" in the name of the BCC.

Here is Anne's explanation.

Dear Ian,

Thank you for your interest in the Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC) and for taking the trouble to express your concerns.

The name "Cove" was decided upon because the area of our concern stretches from the foreshore of Blackwattle Bay and the Coal Bunker to Bank Street, the foreshore walk and Wentworth Park.

What do these places have in common? They are all part of what once was a swampy cove that was later in-filled. The term was a geographical one, the landform being a cove. What we are hoping to achieve is some holistic sensitive planning that marries in the Blackwattle Bay foreshore and Wentworth park area.

- Anne Fraser

## Update on Crown Land in Forest Lodge

On 18 September Sydney City Council considered a Notice of Motion about the crown land at 9 Alfred Road, Forest Lodge (behind 77 Hereford Street). We understand this was prompted by Council having received a letter from the Director General of Lands about the site. The Council unanimously confirmed its opposition to the sale of public land until a comprehensive, transparent and open assessment process has explored all available options, with priority given to preserving crown land in public ownership. In relation to 9 Alfred Road the Council will refine its estimates of costs, including a current valuation determined by potential outcomes of the use of the site. The Department of Lands is still considering options for the site and the existing permissive occupancy by the owners corporation at No 77 will continue as an interim arrangement. Two days earlier the owners' corporation had agreed that, together with the forestlodgetrees group, they will continue to vigorously pursue the campaign to have Council

acquire the land as soon as possible for public open space.

Please visit our blogspot for further information (including the text of the Motion mentioned above): <http://forestlodgetrees.blogspot.com>. This is regularly updated. We can also be contacted at [forestlodgetrees@yahoo.com.au](mailto:forestlodgetrees@yahoo.com.au).

- Mary Pollard

## Going to The Dogs

Elicia Murray, in her Trends column in the *Sydney Morning Herald's Spectrum*, September 23-24 (p23), tells us about the scene on the other side of the high walls of "The Dogs".

"There's a growing band of racing enthusiasts who don't think it's a bad thing to admit they've gone to the dogs.

"And you probably won't find them agonising over whether to team their race-day outfit with a fascinator or a fedora. That's because, dress-wise, pretty much anything goes.

"They're unlikely to be bothered if they can't get their hands on passes to a chic corporate marquee. There isn't one.

"And when the race is about to start, they won't need the strength of a front-row forward to barge through the crowds between the bar and the finishing line. It's more like a leisurely stroll.

"The doggies, or the dish-lickers, as they're affectionately known, at Wentworth Park, Glebe, are the new hot attraction for groups in search of a racing experience with a difference. Greyhound races are held each Saturday and Monday night and entry is \$5.50.

"Peter Mann, the chief executive of the Wentworth Park Trust, says he has noticed more young people turning up to the Saturday night races. 'It's convenient because it's close to the city, the timing is right because they can start their Saturday nights there, and it's a bit different and quirky,' Mann says. As Springfield Dog Track's motto in *The Simpsons* says: 'Think of them as little horses'."

*Thankyou Elicia. We thought interest in the dogs was declining, but it appears we were wrong. Still, fads come and go. Pity the poor dish-licker who depends on the smart set for his meaty bites!*

# Dry Boat Storage proposed for 670 boats on Rozelle Bay



An artist's view of the Dry Boat Storage Facility from Bicentennial Park.

The DA for a Dry Boat Storage Facility on Rozelle Bay was listed by the Sydney Harbour and Foreshores Authority on 20 September and objections can be made until the 20 October. The DA is on exhibition at Glebe and Leichhardt Town Halls. See also [http://www.shfa.nsw.gov.au/sydney-For\\_Business-Development\\_applications-Part\\_3A\\_Major\\_Projects\\_Applications.htm](http://www.shfa.nsw.gov.au/sydney-For_Business-Development_applications-Part_3A_Major_Projects_Applications.htm)

The Glebe Society has been opposed to this development ever since it was mooted in the Master Plan for Rozelle Bay.

In its Bays and Foreshores Policy the Glebe Society specifically:

- Rejects the development of marinas, boatels and floating hotels, and opposes the development of new boat repair facilities and slipways as they detract from the amenity of the area and break the continuity of the proposed foreshore walkway (section 3.4).
- Supports the activities conducted under the auspices of the Glebe Rowing Club, the University of

Sydney Woman's Sports Association Rowing Club, the University of Sydney Canoe Club and the Dragon Boat Association.

- Believes the rowing/paddling of craft should have priority over other activities in the bays (Section 3.2).
- Seeks the restoration of the bays (Section 3.1).

The proposed facility is for storage of 670 boats in two multi-storey buildings, which will command the view from all directions around Rozelle Bay (their height being 23m - ie much greater than allowed under local zoning regulations). In addition there will be a multi-storey car park, as well as two ground level car parks. From this one can gauge the scale of activity envisaged. Boat space will be hired by private boat users who will be able to demand launching/storage of their boats at any time of day or night. It is estimated that there will be an average movement of 23 (maximum 57) boats on week days. On weekends the movements are estimated to be 51 (average) and 103 (maximum); with an estimated upper maximum on special

occasions of 171. These are undoubtedly conservative figures for increased usage in the Bay, as many boats will be anchored or moored prior to storage or after entry into the water. Thus the prediction in the DA that boat activity on the bay will double seems very conservative. Other effects are the closing of the present James Craig Drive and its diversion around the back of the development, further alienating the public from the foreshore along this critical northern shoreline of Rozelle Bay.

The Glebe Society will oppose this development rigorously. In particular, the Society has serious concerns about

- the increased boat traffic,
- interference with recreational water and fishing activities,
- noise generation,
- visual degradation,
- increased traffic,
- chemical pollution of this land-locked bay, and
- interference with the proposed foreshore walkway.

- Tony Larkum

## Have your say at the public meeting on 12 October

Members are encouraged to study the dry boat storage and launch facility proposal and express their views to the authorities. Send your objections to the Sydney Harbour Foreshores Authority, PO Box N408, Grosvenor Place, NSW 1220, before 20 October.

To find out more:

Visit [www.shfa.nsw.gov.au/sydney-For\\_Business-Development\\_applications-Part\\_3A\\_Major\\_Projects\\_Applications.htm](http://www.shfa.nsw.gov.au/sydney-For_Business-Development_applications-Part_3A_Major_Projects_Applications.htm), or the Glebe Society website [www.glebesociety.org.au/defendrozellebay/index.html](http://www.glebesociety.org.au/defendrozellebay/index.html)

Attend the public meeting on this development at 7.30pm on 12 October at the Glebe Town Hall .

# A History of the Valhalla Cinema - Part Two

Where the story ended last month ...

During 1969 exhibitors started showing foreign language films, but the theatre closed once more, in October that year. 1970 proved eventful – the theatre was reopened on 12 March and at some time during the year was rechristened the “Filmor”, while in August the architectural office of J W Roberts & Associates documented alterations that included removal of four banks of seats at the rear of the stalls, an inner foyer to be used for serving coffee and drinks and installation of a kitchen in place of lavatories and office space. Council records indicate that the application to carry out the works was refused, along with subsequent applications. However, physical inspection of the Theatre shows that the inner foyer was in fact constructed. The final event of 1970 was yet another closure – the management of the premises seems to have been lax to the point that the license was suspended on 4 December 1970 due to non-compliance issues.

The story continues ...

At the beginning of the 1970s it was noted that movie buffs in general were missing out on films they wanted to see, in part because of a lack of venues to screen them and a proliferation of long screening runs at established cinemas:

This situation has prompted the well-known film distributor Eric Dare to take over the Astor Theatre at Glebe, rechristen it the new Art Theatre, renovate it and turn it into an independent first-release house (it reopened at the beginning of April [1971]) ...

Dare had the Astor for a time last year, before it was taken on by a trio of filmmakers - Peter Clifton, Peter Ryan and Paul Quiney – who called it the Filmor and tried to establish it as a sort of youth-cult centre, with first release films, pop concerts and the multi-media effort *Genesis*. But when he first ran it Dare wasn't free to give the Astor all the attention he felt it needed. In preparation for his second try, he is spending some time abroad arranging a number of imports. The Royal Shakespeare Company film of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be showing at the New Art Cinema from April 29, with weekend showing preceded by a concert by the Sydney Renaissance Players (a

practice which will continue on weeknight showings if houses warrant it) ...

Backing the unconventional can be disastrous for an exhibitor, especially when he's out of the inner city circle, since the links between distributors and the large cinema chains are strongly forged. But Dare has his own overseas contacts, and the New Art Cinema's management has faith in the enthusiasm of its target public - ‘the discriminating audience.’ It is also looking forward to the passing of the R-certificate legislation later this year, and is ready to declare itself to the N.S.W. authorities as a potential R-cinema.<sup>1</sup>

The New Art Cinema proclaimed itself as “Sydney's only independent art cinema” but was not confined to showing movies. Live shows were staged from 1974, most notoriously the controversial *Oh! Calcutta*<sup>2</sup>. The popular *Rocky Horror Show* was staged under the control of Harry M Miller, who rented the theatre from Eric Dare. Miller commented that “we had trouble attracting audiences to a converted suburban cinema which was identified with freaky films by Andy Warhol”<sup>3</sup>, perhaps indicating the reputation the New Art Cinema enjoyed with the general public at that time.

At the end of 1976 or early 1977 the title to the theatre was transferred from Violet Bardsley to June Bardsley-Smith and Norma Sadler. From then on the theatre was leased to a small succession of companies and individuals. Between November 1976 and July 1981 it was leased to Garland Productions Pty Ltd. It closed in the middle of 1978, reopening as the Curzon on 4 August 1978, then closing again some weeks later. From July 1981 the Theatre was leased to Brian Kiely and Barry Peak; by then it was known as the Valhalla<sup>4</sup>.

In 1987 the property was subdivided into two separate allotments, one containing the Valhalla Theatre, the other the block of flats at 164 Glebe Point Road<sup>5</sup>. The title to the Theatre was transferred to Valhalla Cinemas Pty Limited in April 1988<sup>6</sup>.

In 1992 an application was lodged with Leichhardt Council to subdivide the auditorium into two separate theatre spaces, which was subsequently approved at the beginning of March 1993.

Documentation prepared by the architectural office of Hill Thalys for Mr C Kiely included separation of the stalls and dress circle into two cinemas. A new projection box was located at the rear of the stalls area, while seating in this part of the Theatre was reduced to 382 persons. The dress circle was extended above the projection box in the stalls and isolated into a second auditorium that could accommodate 214. New ceilings were installed above each auditorium. It was also intended to construct a candy bar at the eastern end of the long secondary vestibule. There were no alterations to the exterior of the building. The works were largely carried out as documented.

The Valhalla was offered for sale after closing in February 1999, as a result of stiff competition from large new cinema complexes opening on Broadway and Leichhardt. However, it was reopened under the same management a few months later. It continued to screen unique films, served as a venue for the “popcorn Taxi” events where filmmakers and film enthusiasts could meet to view and discuss film and film making, and operated as a teaching facility for film projection. The Theatre closed once more, at the beginning of August 2005<sup>7</sup>.

The building was offered for sale by auction on 31 August 2005<sup>8</sup>. It remained unsold until the first quarter of 2006.”

*Once again, we thank Prue and Mike Williams for their permission to publish this extract from the Conservation Management Strategy as prepared by Roy Lumby of Rod Howard & Associates on behalf of W Property Pty Ltd, April - June 2006.*

1 Sandra Hall, “The continuing rise of an independent cinema”, *The Bulletin*, 1 May 1971, p.42

2 Thorne et al, p.211

3 Harry M Miller, *My Story*, p.226.

4 Certificate of Title Volume 6558 Folio 190

5 Deposited Plan 772169

6 Transfer DL X537765

7 Graham Quint, National Trust of Australia (NSW) Classification Report for the Valhalla Theatre

8 Richardson & Wrench auction notice

# Confessions of a Census Collector

“Census Collectors Needed for Glebe”, trumpeted the headline.

“Hm,” I thought, “why not? I enjoy walking and meeting people: and while there are some areas I know very well because so many friends live there, there are others I only walk through. Maybe I’ll sign up”.

The Library at Glebe Public School was buzzing with enthusiasm. The team was very mixed in age and sex, but they had clearly been selected for their ability to communicate, and for their determination to find and ferret out every last soul in Glebe, no matter where they might be hiding.

This friendliness and determination was quickly rewarded. A little too quickly in some cases: this was the first census you could complete on line, and a disconcerting number of computer buffs jumped the gun.

“Remember to fill it in on Census Night, when you know who is there,” we warned; but some people were quite sure a week beforehand.

We needed all that bouncy enthusiasm. The problems we had been warned about were all too real: the physical perils of negotiating almost vertical cliffs in total darkness, or being trapped in stairwells when the lights go out; dogs who didn’t appear to have been fed for some time; houses without apparent entrances or letterboxes; tiny flats behind or under shops and staircases. There were problems with people who spoke no English, or who could barely read or write, who were totally deaf, or had showers at peculiar times of day; and who, if they opened the door at all, took more time, and rattled more locks, than the guardians of Fort Knox.

These were all challenges we could take in our stride, and a week after Census Night we gathered in the pub, tired but flushed with achievement. “Thirty-six pickups in one evening! At that rate I’ll finish the lot in a few more days!”

Then, with an abrupt bump, the returns petered out. We had hit the tough ones, the terrible ten percent. Suddenly a handful of people began to consume a disproportionate amount of time.

There were clear warning signs more experienced collectors would have recognised. People who had apparently been as open and jovial as their neighbours suddenly disappeared.

“Oh, I’m sure he’s still living there, but I haven’t seen him for a week or so,” said the neighbour.

Sometimes the TV or radio could be clearly heard. The aroma of their dinner might float through the door. No amount of ringing or knocking could elicit a response.

We became more cunning. However, when they were caught the problems were still not over. The excuses began to flow.

“I’m just looking after the flat for my aunty.”

“The children have been sick.”

“I just haven’t had time.”

“We’re renovating, as you can see.”

“I can’t fill it out without him/her. He/she just went out and I’m not sure when he/she will be back.”

It seemed the Census had precipitated a quite extraordinary number of domestic and personal crises. A number of alienated boyfriends wreaked their revenge by tearing up the totally innocent census form.

It was rampant form-phobia. In a few cases gentle firmness was the answer.

“OK, you’ve been too busy to fill it out, but you have ten minutes now. I’ll answer any questions, and return to pick it up in half an hour.”

Others gradually caved in under pressure of determined visits and warning letters.

However, there are still a few where nothing we tried worked, and we have been forced to abandon them to the tender mercy of the Bureau, which can take more draconian measures than we would wish or contemplate. There is indeed a hard core of form-phobics out there.

**- Neil Macindoe.**

*Jan and Neil Macindoe will be in Europe until mid-November, but will be back in time for all the Christmas festivities. Please address any planning enquiries to a Committee member.*

## The continuing story: *The Abbey* up for sale



### “THE ABBEY” SITE

Glebe’s last “iconic” development site just 2 kms from C.B.D.

3368 SQM (approx) level site with 3 street frontages

Innovative D.A. res/com/mix featuring luxury strata residences together with High Victorian church and 1870s mansion

200 m to Glebe Village & easy walk to Sydney Uni, Darling Harbour, waterfront parkland & Broadway retail centre

Choice of bus and light rail transport to downtown Sydney

# Glebe and the Arts

## Art and About 2006

### Facing Glebe

We are into the last few weeks of preparation before *Facing Glebe* bursts into view all around Glebe.

The Launch party for *Facing Glebe* will be held at the Glebe Youth Service on Saturday 7 October. Displays in the Youth Service will include photo images displayed on the GYS gallery walls, projected animation onto a window screen as a night display and several large photographic images on vinyl mounted onto the auditorium walls.

Facing Glebe will also go into the wider community. There will be large photo images on vinyl fixed to building walls around Glebe organised by Michael Goldberg, curator, and smaller images displayed in shop fronts along Glebe Point Road and St Johns Rd, the library and an exhibition in the window of Art Almanac.

Contact with Glebe businesses is being organised by Roelof Smilde, who is distributing letters along Glebe Point Road and St Johns Road and making arrangements for photographic displays to be set up in selected shopfronts.

Glenn Wallace from The City of Sydney Council is organising promotional postcards to advertise the Glebe program. They will feature a map pinpointing participating businesses, relevant information, and an image from the exhibition. We hope to have an advertising poster as well to ensure public awareness of the Glebe events.

Anne Fraser has contacted local newspapers to generate coverage of the event. This should ensure progress reports and images are kept well in the public view. Anne has submitted an article describing the difference the photo workshop has made to the life of one Glebe Youth Service client already.

Jan McCulloch of Art Almanac is giving the project full support with a photo and story about *Facing Glebe* featured in the October publication of her magazine.

We look forward to seeing the displays up around Glebe next month!

### Public Art in Glebe

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September was the first day when public art concept plans were on view for all Glebeites to see and to make comment on. There are four proposals from Glebe artists and nine from artists invited by the Council. The plans will be on display until 27 September. Please go to the Glebe Town Hall to see the proposals and make your comments. All the feedback will be compiled and considered by the selection panel. A final one, two or three public art pieces will be selected. The panel will include professional artists invited by Council and two Glebe representatives. These works will be integral to the upgrade process on Glebe point Road.

- Susan Ingram

## Hunter Baillie Spring Festival of Music 2006

Hunter Baillie Memorial Presbyterian Church, Annandale is presenting its thirteenth Spring Festival of Music season. There are three Sunday concerts, on 1 October, 29 October and 19 November, with proceeds going to the restoration, of its historic 1890 William Hill & Son organ.

For more information phone 9660 8907 or go to [www.users.bigpond.com/hunterbaillie](http://www.users.bigpond.com/hunterbaillie).

### The 17th Annual Glebe Music Festival



Margareta Cottage

This year's festival runs from 10 November to 3 December 2006. Further information is on [www.glebemusicfestival.com](http://www.glebemusicfestival.com).

## Max Solling in conversation with Shirley Fitzgerald

Our very own urban historian, Max Solling, has finished writing an in-depth history of Glebe. It hasn't got a title yet, but it is in the hands of the publisher, Halstead Press, and should be on sale early next year.

Max has written this history under the auspices of the City of Sydney Council, so on Tuesday 19 September 70 people gathered in the Glebe Library as a part of History Week 06 to hear Max Solling talking with City Historian Dr Shirley Fitzgerald about the process of writing the history of Glebe.

As an Arts student in 1960, Max moved into Glebe, which was then a place where poor people lived. Encouraged by Shirley, he talked about the history of our suburb and the many characters in Glebe's past. As usual, he displayed his amazing memory for facts and figures, speaking without notes. We just can't wait to read the book.

Glebe Librarian Margaret Whittaker gives many thanks to the History Team from the City, Shirley Fitzgerald, Lisa Murray and Liz Wilson (local History Librarian) who all live in Glebe and to Edda Boyd for organizing such a great event.

She also thanks the "Friends of Benledi and Glebe Library" who provided the drinks and nibbles.



Max Solling and Dr Shirley Fitzgerald in conversation at the Glebe Library. Photo courtesy of City of Sydney Council



# Glebe Matters

## Farewell Katharine

Another link with the long-lived (in more ways than one!) Monday Group has been broken with the death in August of Katharine Buck. She was a regular attendee at the Group's lunch time meetings, and contributed to the liveliness of the proceedings with her sharp wit.

Other Glebe dog-lovers will remember her and her Jack Russell, Alix, who walked in Bicentennial Park daily and were part of one of those informal groups in Glebe which help to make up the overall community network.

For many years too, she went to the Court at Bidura as part of the witness support program, a community contribution which she took very seriously and conscientiously. Her fellow workers there will miss her.

On a personal note, she was a good friend to my Mother for many years, and I appreciated her calls on "Mrs K", particularly at the time when Mum was less able to go out independently.

Our sympathies and condolences to Alison and Ted McKeown and their family on their loss.

- Jeanette Knox

## The Glebe Society is a Village

It doesn't matter what you need, someone in the Glebe Society will be able to help.

Recently a friend's son, a former Glebe resident, rang me. He is between houses and urgently needed a temporary home for his Burmese cat, Toots. My cats said "no", but I promised to ask around.

I mentioned the cat at that evening's Management Committee meeting. Jeanette had the perfect solution - a family of cat lovers who no longer had a cat. After a few phone calls the next day, Toots was installed in a new home in Glebe. His new people say "Toots is settling in remarkably well. We are glad to be of help and to get some enjoyment too".

-Edwina Doe



## Letters to the Editor

### Dear Glebe Society members

In case it is not reported elsewhere, another pedestrian was run down and seriously injured on the Bridge Road/Glebe Point Road crossing at 11pm on Wednesday [6 September] during a heavy downpour. Bridge Road westbound was closed for a while. Pedestrian safety should have priority in the LAP over the other trivial issues.

### Joseph Palmer

### Dear Glebe Society

My name is Dorothy Warwick and I am President of the Friends of *Linnwood*, an historic home at Guildford built in 1891 by George McCredie.

I am hoping you might be able to assist us in tracking down some information on the McCredie family, who we know resided in the Glebe area in the mid to late 1800s. George McCredie owned at least one house at Glebe - *Rewa* and we wondered if you might have some records of the family, *Rewa* or any other property the family owned in the area.

*Linnwood* was built as George's "country" residence and he presumably used *Rewa* when residing in the city.

Any information you would have would be greatly appreciated and if we can give you any information about the McCredies at Guildford, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you would like to have a look at *Linnwood* please go to our website at [www.linnwood.holroyd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.linnwood.holroyd.nsw.gov.au) and you will see what a lovely old home it is and what the Friends are up to!

Regards

**Dorothy Warwick, President, Friends of *Linnwood*.**

[linnwood@optusnet.com.au](mailto:linnwood@optusnet.com.au)

(See page 10 for an invitation to visit *Linnwood* on 8 October.)

## Glebe Gardens 1820-2010 - Forum

Our domestic gardens in Glebe give pleasure to us individually and contribute to the greening of the Glebe "village". The *Glebe Gardens Forum* on 15 November will touch on many aspects of small gardens, from heritage and colonial plants to contemporary issues including modern design and sustainability.

A panel of local experts will include:

Dr James Broadbent, heritage garden consultant; Ross Ingram, local resident and horticulturalist at Mt Tomah Botanical Gardens, Matt Cantwell, *Secret Gardens* designer, and Anne Fraser, a new inner-city gardener. A tank storage expert will also be on hand to answer questions on water shortage solutions.

Raffle tickets will be sold on the night. Great prizes include:

- A three-day (weekday) stay at a Blue Mountains cottage.
- A one-hour flower arrangement course with coffee or light refreshment.
- Flowers, native plants, herbs and a picnic hamper.

See page 2 of the enclosed booking form for a full list of raffle prizes.

Bookings are necessary. RSVP by Thursday 9 November.

- Dorothy Davis

## Christmas Party

We have a new team organising the Christmas Party this year - Membership Convenors Cheryl and Bryan Herden, together with Anne and Simon Fraser.

Please note in your diary:

- The Glebe Society Christmas Party is to be held Friday, 15th December.
- Time: 7.00 to 10.30pm ... will include dinner and much more!
- Venue and other details to be announced in the next *Bulletin*.

# 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 5 October at 7pm. There is no need to book, so just turn up and BYO wine. Put Thursday 2 November in your diary too.

## Welcome to New Members

Gabrielle Tully was accepted as a member of the Glebe Society at the September Management Committee meeting. We look forward to seeing her at future Glebe Society functions.

## House Wanted

I have relatives looking for a house to rent/look after/swap. My brother and his family fell in love with Glebe when visiting last Christmas. They are planning a return three-week visit in May next year. If you are thinking of going on holidays around that time and would rather your house was not left empty during your absence, look no further. Alternatively, if you would be interested in a house swap, he lives outside Portland, Oregon in a beautiful part of the world. He is an architect and very interested in houses, very careful and just fell in love with the architecture of Glebe. Unfortunately I have to be out of my house during the same period as I am having extensive renovations done. If you would be interested in arranging something mutually advantageous to you both, please contact Anne Fraser 0409 893 047 or 9660 3947

## Heritage Listings

The report on "Proposed New Heritage Items and Amendments to Existing Heritage Listings" has arrived at the Neighborhood Services Centre, Glebe Town Hall. It will be on exhibition from 26 September to 24 October. A copy is also available on the Council website.

- Baharak Sahebkhari

## Other City Proposals On Exhibition

The City of Sydney recognises that community input is vital in order for proposals and projects to respond effectively to local needs and succeed.

The City publicly exhibits proposals and projects and invites community feedback. Check regularly on [www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/Council/OnExhibition](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/Council/OnExhibition).

Open for comment now:

**Glebe Point Road Upgrade** - on display to 5 October. See page 2.

**Draft Heritage Streetscapes Study** - comments by 2 October 2006.

The Draft Heritage Streetscapes Study is a comprehensive review of the City's 56 heritage streetscapes recognised under the Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2005 and the South Sydney Local Environmental Plan 1998.

**Draft Hoardings Policy** - comments by 9 October 2006

The Council Policy now combines the urban design approach to hoardings with the technical/safety requirements.

## An invitation to Linnwood

The Friends of Linnwood invite you to an Open House at historic *Linnwood* on Sunday 8 October 2006 at 25 Byron Road, Guildford, from 11am to 4pm. Exhibitions by the NSW Spoon Collectors Club and the Sydney Wood Turners Guild together with a variety of Arts and Craft stalls. Annual Trash & Treasure Sale and Book Sale by The Friends. Local History display. Refreshments available. \$2 entry to house. Details 9632 9203 or 0412 606 644. We hope to see you there!

Dorothy Warwick, Friends of Linnwood  
[linnwood@optusnet.com.au](mailto:linnwood@optusnet.com.au)

## Join us on a tour of Tempe.

Tempe Walk, Saturday, 14 October, 2 pm till 4 pm - free.

Relive the past through the history of our people and places.  
St Peters Cooks River History Group

Details, enquiries and bookings - Tel: 9558 7504

## Persons of interest

The Society has received a letter seeking information about two sisters who lived in Glebe between 1928 and 1935. The women are Maria McGinty (nee Maher) born near Tenterfield in 1888 and Sarah Elizabeth Cox (nee Maher) born in Armidale in 1898. Please drop a line to Mrs Michelle Maher, 12 Begonia Street, Browns Plains 4118, Queensland if you can help.

---

## 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

### For enquiries:

Please contact the City of Sydney on 9265 9333.



---

## Forest Lodge Public School

*Home of The Glebe  
Society Archives*

Phone 9660 3530



# For your diary ...

3 October – 22 October - Art & About 2006.

**Thursday 5 October**, 7pm - Thirsty Thursday - Dinner at *La Tavolaccia*, 355 Glebe Point Road.

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

**Thursday 12 October**, 7.30pm - Public Meeting on the Dry Boat Storage DA for Rozelle Bay- Main Hall, Glebe Town Hall.

**Friday 20 October** - Final day for submission of objections to Sydney Harbour Foreshores Committee over the Dry Boat Storage DA for Rozelle Bay.

**Thursday 2 November**, 7pm - Thirsty Thursday - Dinner at *La Tavolaccia*, 355 Glebe Point Road.

**Wednesday 9 November**, 7.30pm - Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting - The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street. All members welcome.

**Friday 10 November to Sunday 3 December** - Glebe Music Festival.

**Wednesday 15 November**, 7-9pm - Glebe Gardens, 1820-2010, Glebe Rowing Club, at the end of Ferry Road.

**Sunday 19 November** - Glebe Street Fair.

**Friday 15 December**, 7 - 10.30pm - Glebe Society Christmas Party Dinner. **Put this date in your diary now.**

## Contacting The Glebe Society

### Mail

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Glebe Society Inc  
PO Box 100, Glebe NSW 2037

### Website

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

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

### The Bulletin

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

### Disclaimer

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

### Bulletin Deadline

The next edition of the *Bulletin* will be published in October. The deadline for contributions is **18 October**.

## The Glebe Society Inc

Established 1969

### Management Committee:

President	Bob Armstrong	96604189
Vice-president	Bruce Davis	96607873
Immediate Past President	Andrew Craig	95661746
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	95186186
Treasurer	Bruce Davis	96607873

**Committee Members:** Dorothy Davis 96607873 Anne Fraser 96607560  
Simon Fraser 96607560 Jan Macindoe 9660208 Jan Wilson 96602698

### Sub-committee Convenors:

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

#### Committee

Arts, Culture and Media	Sue Ingram	96928534
Bays and Foreshores	Tony Larkum	96607030
Wentworth Park	Anne Fraser	96607560
Environment and Open Spaces	Bill McCarthy	96605119
Glebe Against Global Warming	Bill McCarthy	96605119
Heritage	David Mander Jones	95524172
Infrastructure Defect Reporting	Margaret Sheppard	96604121
Membership	Cheryl Herden	96607371
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660208
Transport and Traffic	Chris Hallam	96603670

### Adopt-a-Park Contacts:

**Foley Park:** Bobbie Burke (96920343) **Kirsova:** Fay & David Mander Jones

**Paddy Gray Park:** John Gray

### Other Contacts:

Archivist	Lyn Milton	96607930
Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC)	Anne Fraser	96607560
Bulletin Editor	Edwina Doe	96607066
History of Glebe	Max Solling	96601160
History of the Glebe Society	Jeanette Knox	96607781
Liaison with CityRags	Bob Armstrong	96604189
Liaison with CoGG	Bruce Davis	96607873
Liaison with FLAG	Jan Wilson	96602698
Publicity	Sue Ingram	96928534
Social events	Jeanette Knox	96607781
Website	Cynthia Jones	96602451

# In this issue

- Incinerator Open Day - p1
- AGM Report - p2
- Glebe Point Road Upgrade - p2
- Glebe against Global Warming - p3
- Dry Boat Storage DA - p5
- A History of the *Valhalla, Part Two* - p7
- Glebe and the Arts - p8
- Glebe matters - p9

The GLEBE  
PO Box 100



SOCIETY Inc  
Glebe 2037

POSTAGE  
PAID

## Membership of the Glebe Society

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

Download a Membership Form from our website ([http://www.glebesociety.org.au/AboutTGSI/Membership/Membership\\_application.pdf](http://www.glebesociety.org.au/AboutTGSI/Membership/Membership_application.pdf)).

Or 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