

Glebe wins GUP Cup again!



Glebe's winning pétanque team (from left): Wendy Voo, Di Gray, Peter Kolbe, Peter Robinson, Jan Wilson, Erica Robinson, Susie Cleary and Lydia Bushell.
Photo: Bruce Davis

The third Wentworth Park Community Games were held on Sunday, 12 September, and for the third time Glebe and Forest Lodge carried off the GUP* Cup. It was a close run thing – 999 points to 926, The organisers report that some speedy mutts from Glebe got us over the line.

Sunday was clear and sunny and about 1000 people turned up, a somewhat smaller crowd than in previous years.

The organisers placed more emphasis on games for children this year, and the littlies had lots of fun doing everything from throwing gumboots to tossing coloured balls into buckets. However, as usual, the family dogs were the great attraction. Both winning dogs came from Glebe - Inga (winner of the small dog trophy) and Emmylou, who was rescued within hours of being put down (large dog trophy).

Glebe also won the tug-o'-war, two tugs to one. One participant reported: 'As someone on the Glebian pack, I can tell you it was a near thing. There was one woman hauler chanting "Glebe, Glebe" amongst us keeping up morale. Not quite "For Harry, England and St George", but it worked.'

Other notable outcomes of the day included the placement of one retired greyhound in a new home by Greyhounds as Pets, and a \$500 profit to the Glebe Public School cake stall.

- Bruce Davis

* GUP = Glebe Ultimo Pymont (apologies to Forest Lodge). The cup is actually a red and a blue gumboot mounted a board, and can be seen in the Glebe Library.

Coming events

Sunday, 31 October, 3pm – Waratah cruise.
Please note this event is booked out.

Friday, 10 December, Glebe Society Christmas party.

Awards presented to members at AGM

Over 50 people attended our AGM at *Benledi* on 29 August, an ideal springlike day. The formal business of the meeting included the President's Report which Bruce Davis, who chaired the meeting, presented on Lesley Lynch's behalf since she was overseas. A summary of her report is included in this *Bulletin*, and the full text is available on the Society's website.

Convenors' reports were printed in an earlier *Bulletin*, or appear in this issue. Bruce Davis presented the Treasurer's Report, Neil

Award citations pages 6-8

President's report for 2009/10 pages 2-4

Macindoe his Planning Report and Dorothy Davis surveyed the social events of the year, past and forthcoming.

The meeting endorsed recommendations for the admission of Tony Strachan and Bruce Davis as Honorary Life Members and for the award of the Commendation of the Society to Lyn Collingwood. Tony was unable to attend the AGM and his award will be presented at our Christmas party. Lyn had to make a dash from the rehearsal of her latest Players in the Pub production to receive her commendation.

No nomination was received for President and Lesley will continue in the role until the end of December when her term must end. Bruce Davis continues as Vice-president and Treasurer, though he would be very happy for an aspiring future President to take over

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the Vice-presidential position! The following members were elected to the committee: Dorothy Davis, Carole Herriman, David Mander-Jones, Liz Simpson-Booker, and Margaret Sheppard. Convenors of Sub-committees, who are *ex officio* members of the Management Committee are unchanged and are listed on page 11 of this *Bulletin*.

The position of Secretary has been split, and Bruce reported that Margaret Sheppard had taken on the role of Minute Secretary. Since the AGM Vicky Marquis has agreed to take charge of other aspects of the Secretary's role as Correspondence Secretary.

Guest speaker

Our guest speaker was Dr Stewart Condon, from Médecins sans Frontières (MSF), who spoke about the nature and work of this organisation which was founded by a group of French doctors and journalists in 1971 in response to the crisis in Biafra and the tsunami in East Pakistan (Bangladesh).

This international humanitarian organisation delivers emergency assistance to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, natural disasters and healthcare exclusion.

MSF has projects in Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe. It has operational centres in Paris, Brussels, Geneva, Amsterdam and Barcelona. Australia is a partner section of MSF France and offers support by fund raising, raising awareness, providing medical technical support to projects and recruiting fieldworkers in Australia and New Zealand. These two countries send over 1000 workers annually to the field. MSF's Australian office is located in Broadway

People in Australia interested in supporting MSF can contribute by undertaking field work, volunteer work in the office, or publicising the organisation's work. Further information can be found on the website: www.msf.org.au, or go to facebook.com/msf.aus, twitter.com/MSFAustralia, youtube.com/user/MSFAustralia.

After the meeting and talk, members socialised over excellent refreshments organised by Dorothy Davis and her team.

- Jeanette Knox

President's report for 2009/10

A year dominated by two major issues

The following is an edited version of our President Lesley Lynch's report for the past year as read to the AGM by the Vice-president, Bruce Davis. The full version of Lesley's report is available on the Society's website.

As most members would be aware, Lesley had an unanticipated family commitment which meant she had to leave for her overseas holiday earlier than expected. Before she dashed to the airport she wrote:

'I have been hoping to get back (to my report) to add unfinished issues – Foley Park and Wireless House; restored trams and bike routes... but alas ... I know the Harold Park stuff is long – but the issue is large...'

The last year has been a particularly challenging one for the Glebe Society. We have been grappling with a number of major issues in a generally depressing political context. It is a good thing that last year we were able to build our energy reserves through our 'year of celebration' as we have had much need of energy, skill and optimism this year.

As I flagged at last year's AGM, this year has been dominated by major planning issues around which the Glebe Society took on very active community leadership roles.

Planning

Lesley refers to the review of the Central Sydney Planning Committee, the result of which was not public at the time of writing. Neil updated the meeting on this.

While the short lived but expensive Metro is off the agenda, we have had one big win in public transport with the extension of the light rail to Circular Quay and to Dulwich Hill. This has been a longstanding Glebe Society campaign.

Harold Park rezoning

Of immediate importance to our community has been the progress around the rezoning of the Harold Park and Tramsheds site in preparation for its sale and redevelopment. This has run all through the year and will continue as a major issue for us throughout the next

year at least.

The process began well with the State Government's decision mid-2009 to refuse the Harness Racing Club's request for it to take over the process under Part Three of the Planning Act... The fact that the process has been managed over the last year by the City of Sydney Council has allowed us and the community a great many opportunities for input and, I believe, a genuine opportunity to influence the outcomes...

... As soon as the Club announced its intention of seeking a rezoning of the site, we set up a Harold Park Working Party convened by Neil Macindoe with representatives from the Glebe, Forest Lodge and Annandale areas to identify the planning parameters we wanted to guide the rezoning and future development ...

... In February 2010, the Council held its second public consultation at which we gained our first indications as to the thinking of the Council's consultants and, most importantly, the ideas of the Government Architects Office (GAO) who had been commissioned to draw up a preliminary urban design for the site. This meeting sent a major alarm throughout the community ...

... Following this meeting, the Glebe Society determined it essential to take a more public and inclusive leadership role with both our members and the wider community to develop a strong community consensus on the future of the site.

Throughout March and April we worked to develop our preliminary advice to Council into a more comprehensive set of planning principles. These were discussed and amended in discussions with over 400 residents at public meetings in April. On 23 April I forwarded to the Council the resulting community resolution that: *This public meeting of Annandale, Forest Lodge and Glebe residents rejects the proposal put forward by the Government Architect's Office on 17 and 20 February, 2010, and requests a complete review of the controls for Harold Park implied in*

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that proposal so that it includes the following objectives and related planning principles.

The resolution set out four core objectives for the site supported by 15 planning principles – these can be read in full on the Glebe Society website. Our core determination was: to limit the height of buildings to cliff level at any point and, at the perimeter of the site, to the height of adjacent buildings; to allocate at least 35% of the site to public open space and to ensure that its location was more appropriate; to ensure commercial/retail uses in the restored tramsheds are small scale and in harmony with uses in Annandale and Glebe shopping strips; to incorporate affordable housing; and to ensure traffic implications are properly studied and impacts minimised.

Of central importance to our argument throughout has been our view – very widely supported in the community – that the Club, while entitled to a reasonable market based profit on the parts of the site it originally purchased, should not be entitled to a development windfall on the Tramsheds part of the site. This is a pivotal factor because obviously the expected profit margin is a major driver of arguments for increased density, and less public open space ...

... The draft planning controls [agreed by the Central Sydney Planning Committee (CSPC) in July] were a mixed bag and brought us to one of the critical stages in the overall rezoning process. For the process to continue draft planning controls had to be agreed by both Council and the CSPC **and** by the Club. Only then will they proceed to go to the Minister for approval to be exhibited for public comment.

The major community wins in the draft planning controls were: 35% of the site dedicated as continuous open space to include a full sized sporting field; continued heritage status and adaptive restoration of the Tramsheds with 500 square metres to be under Council control for community uses and land for 50 units of public housing.

The major shortfalls in the proposals were: the height of the buildings at the perimeters of the site; the location of much of the public space along the cliff; the potential for the inclusion of large scale commercial/retail activity on the site and the failure to adequately

respond to the traffic implications for the surrounding areas ...

At this point Lesley discusses recent events. As Neil brings us further up-to-date in his planning report (see pages 4-5) this portion has been omitted. Lesley concludes:

... Hopefully, if no voluntary agreement is reached, the current Minister will respect the Council/CSPC processes and the very strong community opposition to Ministerial intervention – as Kristina Keneally did when she was asked to take control of the process last year.

The best outcome for the community is that the Harness Racing Club accepts the draft controls so the process can proceed under the aegis of the Council and the CSPC. In that case we could expect the planning controls to go on public exhibition in September.

What we can be certain of is that there is a long way to go yet. If the next stage proceeds as we hope, we will have to gear up for a further defence of the positives in the proposals and a further attempt to address the building height and traffic issues. And then, one day in the future, after the sale of the site, there will be a whole new round of debate around a development application. We will have done well if that DA has to comply with strong controls protecting the public interest in the site.

The Bays Precinct Community Reference Group

The other major planning issue throughout the year has been our participation in the ongoing Bays Precinct community consultation process.

Despite its very shaky start ... the Community Reference Group (CRG) moved into a productive mode and eventually produced a Bays Precinct report including a strong set of planning principles and related recommendations for Government. These were made widely available through a printed Executive Summary and through both the SHFA and Glebe Society websites ...

... There has been a lengthy silence from the Government since we submitted our report in March. The community



President Lesley Lynch addressing the public meeting about Bays Precinct planning on 7 July.
Photo: Bruce Davis

members of the CRG have, however, continued to campaign to lift awareness of the significance of the Bays Precinct site and to publicise the CRG Planning Principles. The Glebe Society has played a leading role in this ongoing campaign. Meetings have been held with Sydney City Councillors, senior state public servants and government and opposition politicians.

A public meeting was held on the evening of 7 July to gain wider community support for the ongoing campaign to protect the Bays and foreshores from further *ad hoc* development and to defend the public interest in this harbour precinct.

This meeting was notable for the alliance of key local community groups as joint sponsors: the Glebe Society, Pyrmont Action, Pyrmont Progress, Blackwattle Cove Coalition, The Balmain Association, The Annandale Association, Sydney University Women's Rowing and the White Bay Joint Steering Committee.

Around 140 locals turned out and unanimously endorsed a resolution calling for Government adoption of the CRG principles and their related recommendations. The meeting also called on Premier Kristina Keneally and relevant Ministers and the Leader of the Opposition and relevant shadow Ministers to meet with the CRG members to discuss the CRG advice and the way forward.

While time is running out for the current State Government to deliver on its promised Stage 2, we continue to work with other community groups, including

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the BCC, to protect the Bays Precinct from further poor planning decisions. Immediate priorities for our community are the planned refurbishment of the Sydney Fish Market, the development of the nearby B1 and B2 wharves, the extension of the foreshore walk and the relocation of the Australian Heritage Fleet to the Bank Street part of Blackwattle Bay.

While our major point of coordination will continue to be through the BCC, one of the major outcomes of the Bays Precinct CRG process has been the stronger collaboration between the community groups around the Bays area. It is clear that such collaboration is essential if we are to have the capacity to ensure the public interest is properly represented in the future planning of the Bays Precinct.

Not surprisingly, there is a common purpose emerging between the CRG campaign and the Barangaroo campaign – after all if the CRG’s proposed planning principles for the Bays Precinct had been in play for the Barangaroo site much of the current contentious proposal—including the excision of part of the harbour for a private hotel—would not have got off the ground.

As with Harold Park, we can be certain that issues in relation to the future of this extraordinary and strategic site will continue to be a major priority for the Glebe Society over the next year and beyond.

Other Issues

The level of interest in biodiversity issues in general and the activities of the Blue Wrens Working Group has grown considerably throughout the year. There have been delays in Council responding to the group’s report and one unfortunate incident in which native plants were inadvertently removed from Paddy Gray park in January. However, one of the positives has been the renewal of the very productive relationship with Council around this important and emerging area. The high level of participation – from afar as well as local – in the recent community planting day at Paddy Gray park is a clear indicator of strong interest in and support for our ongoing focus on a widening range of biodiversity issues.

We have maintained our active relationships with FLAG, COGG and local activities such as the Mitchell Street

More reports to the AGM

Planning

Harold Park

As of Friday 27 August, Harold Park Paceway had not reached an agreement with the City and hence the draft rezoning has not been formally presented to the Minister, Tony Kelly, with a request for public exhibition, although he has been sent a copy so he knows what it contains. I have no doubt the Paceway is lobbying the Minister furiously to determine the application himself, but this has already been refused previously and hence would appear unlikely. The previous Minister, now the Premier, gave an undertaking it would be determined by the City and the Central Sydney Planning Committee, where the State Government has a majority, and this is what has happened.

If the Minister decides not to intervene the Paceway can either sign an agree-

fete (sadly cancelled because of rain this year) and will continue to strengthen our community development activities.

The Glebe Society has reiterated its support for public art activities including continued support for the Earth Sky art work around the fig trees at the end of Glebe Point Road.

We also took a very active role in supporting the Council’s successful application for a DA to allow a low impact café seating 30 inside and 30 outside in *Bellevue House* on Blackwattle Bay. The controls have addressed reasonable concerns of immediate neighbours as to noise and parking and the hours, for at least the first year, will be a little shorter than had originally been proposed. This is a long awaited and widely supported decision to make use of the restored cottage. Council has recently advertised seeking expressions of interest to set up the café.

As is clear from the Treasurer’s Report the Society continues in good financial health. Our administrative processes continue to be in good shape, but this has not been without effort. We have spent most of the year without a Secretary and Public Officer. Members of the Management Committee have, with their usual good will and professionalism, shared the tasks. This was greatly facilitated by the detailed and highly

ment with the City, or it can withdraw the application. If there is an agreement the draft will be exhibited for public comment for twenty-eight days. If that happens we should campaign strongly for reduced density and height, and improved configuration and traffic management. If the application lapses or is withdrawn nothing will happen and the site will retain its current Private Open Space zoning. The Paceway may believe it will receive a more favourable response after the State election in March 2011.

New City of Sydney Town Plan

The new CityPlan was delayed for about 12 months owing to continuing discussion between the City and the State Government about the special circumstances that should apply. In the week after our AGM the Plan appeared,

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professional manual of procedures and records bequeathed to us by our last Secretary, Liz Simpson-Booker. As will be discussed at this AGM, we are proposing that the role, at least temporarily, be split to provide for a Minutes secretary and a Secretary/Public officer.

The Management Committee has dedicated considerable time and effort considering options for improved communication with members and the community. The public meetings around Harold Park and the Bays Precinct were in part an outcome of these discussions. The *Bulletin* continues to be our central publication and Edwina has maintained its quality and the diversity for another year. The development of the website has continued and has drawn positive comments from outsiders – including journalists – for its accessibility and relevance.

Relationships with Sydney City Council and our local Member of Parliament Verity Firth have continued to be strong and productive.

As seems to have been the general experience of my predecessors in the role, I have greatly enjoyed my two years as President of the Glebe Society and look forward to supporting my successor.

Lesley Lynch
President
29 August 2010

More reports to the AGM

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and came before the City Planning Committee on 6 September. I have to say I'm not very happy with the Plan as it stands, partly because the State Government has applied a very rigid template, so some of the City's most innovative ideas have been excluded, and partly because some of the anomalies in the Plan noted by the Society have not been amended. These matters were raised at the meeting, but I still haven't heard back.

The Plan will now go to the NSW Planning Department for vetting before being approved for sixty days of public exhibition and comment. I suspect this will happen before Christmas. There are copies at the library should you wish to examine it, but save your comments until the official exhibition period.

General planning situation

There is a lot of pressure on the State Government, and through them on councils, including the City, to increase the amount of new housing. There is widespread concern about the failure of new building to keep pace with population increase, and also about the increasing cost of both new and existing housing.

The Government has sought to make approvals quicker through deregulation, and to approve large scale developments itself. None of these measures has worked very well, and some, such as the use of Section 3A and the cap on developers' contributions, have proved highly controversial.

I have not reported on them in detail as most of these measures don't apply to Glebe, which is a Conservation Area and therefore exempt. The Society has always taken the view that development should remain as far as possible within the control of local government, and reforms should take place at this level, as it is more accountable.

As reported by Andrew Craig in the *July Bulletin*, the main reason why there has not been more housing development is the difficulty of obtaining finance, itself a consequence of the Global Financial Crisis.

The current pressure for more housing may also be influenced by the population debate and by moves toward decentralisation. However, these changes may not be very great and may take a long time to happen. I think it is reasonable to assume there will continue to be a lot of pressure on the inner city for more intensive development and higher population densities, and consequently on the need to increase and upgrade infrastructure.

- Neil Macindoe

Events in 2009/2010

In June last year, we celebrated 40 years of the Glebe Society with two exciting events. More than 150 people gathered on the top floor of the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research for a Community Celebration, with greens activists Jack Munday as special guest speaker. The second event was a concert and reception at *Margaretta Cottage* where many former Presidents and Honorary Life Members were acknowledged for their contribution to the Society.

The anniversary theme continued at a most successful Christmas Party held at Wentworth Park, with new and old members of the Glebe Society making and renewing friendships and penning limericks together.

At the same time, Glebe was celebrating its Sequicentenary and the Glebe Society was involved in many of the events including the Hockey match, the Rowing Regatta, the Valhalla Guided Tours and Party and the gallery openings.

This year, a small group of Glebe Society members have met on a number of occasions to plan activities of a cultural, heritage, environment or arts nature as well as events which have a purely social function. These are of course in addition to the major events focussing on key policy and planning issues such as the Harold Park community consultations. While most events aim to cover costs or make a small surplus, some on occasion are subsidised, and others may raise funds for particular community activities which the Glebe Society supports.

We have taken as the theme for this year: **Knowing Your Local Neighbourhood**.

History walks in Glebe continue to be popular – and last year, a National Trust walk with Max Solling was fully subscribed, so was followed by another for Glebe Society members. This led to a more focused walk this year looking at Glebe's Places of Worship: a Temple, a Chapel and two Churches. Glebe's heritage villa, *Lyndhurst*, built in 1835, attracted many visitors during an Open Day and afternoon tea organised in association with the National Trust's Heritage Week.

Another popular event was a dinner at The Glebe Point Diner in Glebe Point Road where John Newton, a local resident and foodie, talked on the history of Glebe's restaurants.

Other events in the *Knowing your Local Neighbourhood* series include a visit to the NSW (Glebe) Coroner's Court located in Parramatta Road, and walking tours of the hidden artisan businesses in Glebe and its small art galleries. Towards the end of the year, the heritage coal steamer *Waratah* will take Glebe Society members on a cruise of the Bays surrounding Glebe.

The Events group would appreciate interest from members in proposing ideas and helping in the planning or at the event itself. These activities provide an opportunity for social interaction and we especially welcome new members to these occasions.

- Dorothy Davis

Bays and Foreshores

Bays and Foreshores, along with Harold Park, was front and centre for the Society during the past year.

The major focus was on the work of the Community Reference Group on planning for the Bays Precinct, and this is covered at length in the President's report. Following the public meeting on 7 July we await an announcement by the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA) concerning Stage 2 planning for the precinct to see how much the

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community's aspirations are respected. With a State election imminent it will be interesting to see how all sides of politics treat this enormous opportunity for Sydney. As we heard on ABC news on Tuesday, 7 September, Michael Knight, the former Olympic Games Minister in NSW, is now heading up a consortium to host Expo in Sydney in 2017 and he has suggested Glebe Island as an ideal site.

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The year began on a happy note with a regatta on Blackwattle Bay organised as part of sesquicentenary celebrations.

Wentworth Park. In September, 2009, the second community games were held at Wentworth Park. While the program was not as ambitious as the initial event, the games were a great success, with the races for family dogs the star turn. The games seem likely to become an annual event, and have made a major contribution towards raising public awareness of this important community asset. They would not have been possible without the very considerable support of the Wentworth Park Sporting Complex Trust.

The appearance of the park has been greatly improved in recent times, with the Sydney City Council carrying out various minor works, and the Trust replacing the forbidding walls surrounding the greyhound track. Work commenced on the new Wattle Street walls in July, and it is expected that unblocking of the railway viaduct arches will be completed about the end of this year.

Heritage Fleet. The saga of finding a new home for the Sydney Heritage Fleet continued, but towards the end of the reporting year we heard that a deal had been done between the Fleet and NSW Maritime for a move to Pyrmont Point under the southern tower of the Anzac Bridge. There has been some opposition from local residents over likely noise from ship repair and from rowers over water access. However, it seems unlikely that this will stop the move. The area freed on James Craig Road

Heritage Fleet move

A representative of the Heritage Fleet will address the October meeting of the Management Committee about the Fleet's planned move to Pyrmont. If you wish to attend please notify secretary@glebesociety.org.au

will be leased to commercial interests within the Working Harbour policy of Government. Plans for the **dry boat storage** were apparently mothballed during the Global Financial Crisis. However the DA for the development has been extended and we await news of what will eventually happen. It is rumoured that work will start this year. The community succeeded in having strict guidelines imposed on the use of the bay by vessels using the dry boat storage and it will be important we monitor compliance should be project come to fruition.

The **super yachts** area is being further developed, and in recent times a new pontoon was erected perpendicular to the foreshore. We have been assured this is in compliance with a DA approved some time ago.

Fish Market. A welcome piece of news was the government's decision to financially support a modest redevelopment of the Sydney Fish Market. While plans are not yet on public display, it is known that the redevelopment will include a foreshore park on the Claudio's site and part of the car park, and the repair of the seawalls, in addition to more mundane facilities such as improved retail space and parking.

Foreshore walk. The Society has been eager to extend the foreshore walk, (which at present finishes at the Glebe Rowing Club) to the Fish Market. Recently there have been positive moves for the section between the Rowing Club and Bridge Road. NSW Maritime will build a boardwalk around the Glebe Rowing Club and this should be in place by the New Year. The remainder of the walkway will be located on an easement in front of the school. The City Council has budgeted for design work in 2011/2012 and we expect money will be allocated for construction in the following year's budget.

The rest of the walkway to the Fish Market is more problematical. In the master plan for the Bays there is a walkway between the narrow footpath along Bridge Road and the water. However we have no idea how the Government's preferred developer for the B1 and B2 sites will achieve this. The Society will seek to ensure that the master plan is not ignored and also seek improvements to the existing footpath. The main issues in any development will be the size and scale of the buildings and pedestrian access to the waterfront.

- Tony Larkum and Bruce Davis

Awards for service to the Society

Three awards honouring service to the Society were approved at the AGM. The citations are reproduced below.

Tony Strachan

Tony Strachan joined the Glebe Society in 1971. He is still a member, and in the 1970s he was extremely active in the Society's efforts to preserve the suburb of Glebe and its historic heritage.

At that time, the concept of heritage conservation had not developed to the stage it has today. Tony Strachan was one of the people who was a significant advocate of this now accepted value. At one time even the National Trust categorised historic buildings as being those which pre-dated 1830! At an ANZAAS Congress in the early 1970s he presented a paper 'Redevelopment or Rehabilitation' which argued for policies to identify areas of older housing suitable for substantial preservation and rehabilitation, put forward arguments in favour of the retention of old houses in order to preserve townscape values, at a lower cost than demolition and rebuilding and with less social disruption, and made suggestions for a new legislative framework.

Following a meeting and discussions with the National Trust, which had requested a listing of heritage buildings in Glebe, Tony Strachan prepared a submission going beyond a simple listing and proposed the recognition of Glebe as a unique environment, seeking the classification of almost the whole of Glebe as a conservation area. Two other Sydney suburbs, Paddington and Hunter's Hill had received such a classification and in December 1974 Glebe joined them. This was the highest category of listing meaning that preservation was regarded as essential - although it did not ensure the automatic ongoing protection of heritage. Tony Strachan, as chair of the National Trust's Urban Conservation Committee, was a strenuous advocate for heritage. Locally the Glebe Society was working to obtain improvements to the Leichhardt Town Plan and Tony Strachan was a member of Council's Planning Committee.

He also had a part in the preservation of the Glebe Estate. From the work of Tony Strachan and Alan Robertson, the Society prepared a paper *The Glebe*

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Lands of Bishopthorpe and St Phillip's, the case for preservation and restoration, which was taken up by Leichhardt Council when Nick Origlass was Mayor. Council passed it on to Tom Uren, then Minister for Urban and Regional Development. As a consequence, on 16 May 1974 the Land Sale Contract between the Glebe Administration Board and the Department of Urban and Regional Development was formally exchanged and the Federal Government initiated the Glebe Estate Project. This maintained both the historic streetscape and its community, with an unprecedented degree of consultation with that community. A substantial article in the February 1977 issue of the prestigious Royal Australian Planning Institute Journal (RAPIJ) underlined the groundbreaking nature of the project. In 1975 Tony Strachan was appointed as the Society's representative on the Planning and Architectural Panel of the Australian Government's Glebe Project, a role he continued until the transfer of the Estate to the State Government.

Other relevant positions that Tony Strachan filled were those of President of the Civic Design Society of the University of New South Wales and first chairman of the Total Environment Centre.

Tony Strachan's own home in Glebe was a fine exemplar of his conservation and restoration principles.

Recommendation: In view both of his work for the Glebe Society on major projects in the 1970s, and of his continuing influence in the wider sphere of the development and acceptance of the concept of the value of our built heritage in particular, we recommend that Tony Strachan be awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Glebe Society.



Tony Strachan displayed the 1974 conservation area map of Glebe when launching the Society's 40th anniversary booklet last year. Photo: Phil Young.

Bruce Davis

Bruce Davis joined the Glebe Society in 1997 and was elected President in August 1999. He says took on the role reluctantly, feeling he was a 'newcomer' to Glebe with no background in heritage and community affairs.

Issues at that time included the proposed light rail, the Master Plan for Government-owned land on Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays, the sale of the Fletchers' site, the expected development of the Fink site, the proposed expansion of Harold Park, the rejuvenation of Wentworth Park and its linkage to Blackwattle Bay, and, of course, the Society's foreshore walk project.

But boundary changes were the major challenge of Bruce's presidency. He noted that '...it brought deep seated ideological differences and political hatreds to the surface, and it was important that the Society handled the debate on [its] merits: ... rationally and without acrimony.'

The nightmare for any president of a voluntary organisation must be to face the prospect of having to prepare a major submission to a public inquiry. Such a project is a huge strain on volunteer resources. The Society's submission to the Inquiry into municipal boundaries involved many discussions, analyses and consultations as the submission was finalised. Bruce sailed through the exercise with equanimity.

While pushing forward on issues facing Glebe, Bruce also managed, by the end of his presidential term, to sharpen aspects of the Society's administration and communications. This resulted in:

- a more resilient financial accounting process,
- a first iteration of the Glebe Society website; and
- a more secure home for the Society's records.

Following his presidential term, Bruce took up the role of *Bulletin* Editor. In addition to his regular editorial tasks, he ran editorials on issues of the day and/or philosophical pieces about heritage, consultation, decision-making processes of the organisation and priority setting.

Bruce stepped down as *Bulletin* Editor at the beginning of 2003 to take on the Treasurer's duties. Not surprisingly, he continues to be a very active and

thoughtful contributor to the *Bulletin*. He still assists Edwina with the final technical stages of the *Bulletin*, acts as *Bulletin* photographer and holds the fort for Edwina on those rare occasions when she is absent.

Organisationally, despite our best efforts, we have been unable in recent years to fill the Vice President's position on the basis that it is a stepping stone to the Presidency. As a consequence, Bruce took on the Vice President role in 2005 but on the understanding that he would step down if another candidate was found; without exception, those Presidents who have been subsequent beneficiaries of having Bruce in this position, have expressed their gratitude at the level of support he has given them.

Bruce also chaired the Glebe Society's second major Strategic Planning review in 2005/2006.

In mid-2007 Bruce, in his role of Treasurer, moved the Society's 'books' to new accounting software which made



Liz Simpson-Booker presented Bruce Davis with his award. Photo: Rod Holtham

our financial and membership records more robust and accountable. His prudent financial management has allowed the Society to accumulate adequate financial reserves.

Anyone who has had the pleasure of working with Bruce will be aware of his constant good humour, his accessibility and boundless enthusiasm.

His contribution to the Society has been across a huge range of issues, in an extraordinary number of capacities. It has been tireless, reasoned, rational, and effective.

Recommendation: It is recommended that Honorary Life Membership of the Glebe Society be conferred on Bruce Davis.

Continued on next page ...

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Lyn Collingwood

2004 marked Lyn's first contribution to the Glebe Society *Bulletin's* occasional series 'Who Lived in Your Street'. Her subject was the 19th century Glebe landholder, Michael Golden (*Bulletin* 7/2004). Max Solling picked her article as the winner of that year's competition, commenting that Lyn had done a lot of work, drawing on a broad array of source material including shipping records, land titles records and Parliamentary papers, to write her article.

Since then, Lyn has contributed a series of well-researched articles which have added value to the Glebe Society *Bulletin*. Her subjects to date have included 'Plorn' Dickens, The Sargent's Pies family, Tom Ley, Fred Spofforth, John and Albert Cotter, Durham Court, the Wearne Family, Migrants at 57 Hereford Street, Reuben Peninton, Glebe Public School's first headmasters, Maybanke and Francis and Anderson, Glebe Public School's first schoolmistresses, Dr Rudolph Hermann Bohrs-mann, Edward Hinder, Bidura, Philip Coleman Williams (1830-1911), Lewis Alan Hoad - 1934-94, and *Montrose*, 20 Glebe Point Road.

This has been a sustained contribution to the work of the Society in providing us with the opportunity to deepen our understanding of the characters and legends of Glebe. It has also stimulated other contributions to the *Bulletin*. Additionally, she has contributed material useful for a new publication of walks in Glebe that is under preparation as well as other historical research to augment Glebe Society projects.

Lyn briefly took on the convenorship of the Society's Heritage Committee,



Lyn Collingwood was presented with a Glebe Society commendation by Jeanette Knox. Photo: Rod Holtham.

though other demands on her time precluded her continuing with this. Under her leadership, however, she organised a survey of sandstone buildings and features in Glebe which has added further depth to our knowledge of our suburb.

Lyn compiled the Glebe Public School History, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. She also played a major role in finding material for displays and in organizing an impressive historic overview of events in the life of the school when it held its very successful back to school day and evening.

Recommendation: In recognition of her contribution to preserving the history and heritage of Glebe, we recommend that Lyn Collingwood be awarded a Commendation by the Glebe Society.

Glebe Art Show

The opening of the 13th Glebe Art Show, on Friday 17 September, was a genuine celebration for Glebe.

The five main prizes were presented by the individual donors.

The Open Art Prize of \$3000, donated by the Glebe Art Show, was awarded to Carole Griffin for her *Towards Dusk* oil on canvas.

The Printing Prize of \$1000, donated by Futurepast Heritage Consulting and Glebe Art Show was awarded to Raquel Mazzina for her *Scorch* oil on canvas.

The Works on Paper Prize of \$1000, donated by the Chamber of Commerce, was awarded to Jason Phu for his *Too Many Biscuits, Too Much Tea* spitbite, sugarlight zinc plate etching.

The Photography Prize of \$1000, donated by the Toxteth Hotel, was awarded to Andrew Pearce for his *Bone Marrow* photograph.

The Youth Prize of \$1000, donated by Dr David Nguyen, was awarded to Mai Thi Tran for her *The Empty Space* pencil drawing.

The show will be open to Sunday 26 September, 11am to 5pm Monday to Saturday, 12 noon to 4pm Sunday (*Benledi* only). The people's choice prize will be announced at the end of the show on 26 September.

The Glebe Art Show Committee extends a very special and heartfelt thanks to Tim Smith of Glebe Liquor for his amazing generosity.

- Robin Lawrence

Recording Glebe's plaques

The City of Sydney is embarking on a project to record all plaques currently in existence in the LGA. The City's Public Art Program Manager, Eva Rodriguez Riestra, estimates that there are about 6000 across the whole area.

This is one of the reasons the City will be asking local historical societies to assist with initial recording. Glebe and Pymont/Ultimo have been selected to test the process.

The Glebe Society's Management Committee had the opportunity, at its last meeting, to hear Eva outline the proposal.

Currently the word "plaque" has not been closely defined, other than a commemorative tablet which is publicly accessible. So, for example, the plaque in the recently closed Fair Trade Café should be recorded, as should the WWI Honour Boards at Glebe Town Hall.

Liz Simpson-Booker will act as Coordinator for Glebe and Peter and Erica Robinson have kindly offered to assist with photography and recording.

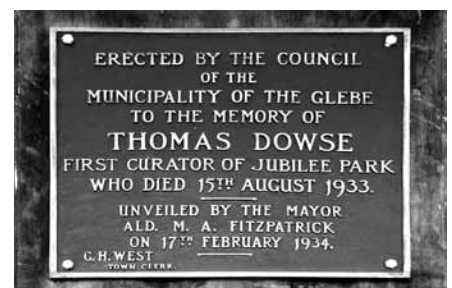
How can you help?

Some plaques are obvious, some are not. Our first step is to build up a **location map** of where plaques are located in Glebe. In order to do this, it would be helpful if members could check out their individual streets and any nearby parklands and advise the Glebe Society of the location of any local plaque/s. At this stage, we are not seeking a comprehensive record of the plaque contents.

Drop an email to plaques@glebesociety.org.au advising the location (including nearest cross street) and a very brief description (just enough to ensure that we have the right plaque).

Responses by Friday 15 October 2010 would be appreciated.

- Liz Simpson-Booker



A plaque in the Glebe cricket pavillion.

Glebe events

Glebe walks successes

There have been successes on several fronts with Glebe walking tours. Our application for funding from the Royal Australian Historical Society was successful and the small group comprising Liz Simpson-Booker and Neil and Jan Macindoe have already had talks with Red Ant Media about developing a Glebe Walking Tours website, linked to the Glebe Society's site. The RAHS grant will cover the development of the home page and publication of two walks. The Glebe Society, as part of its matching grant requirements, will fund publication of two further walks, and we are aiming to 'launch' the website in March. We see the possibility of up to ten walks eventually on the website.

The first three walks that have been prepared are:

- Politicians, publicans and sinners – a social history of Glebe, starting at the footbridge in Arundel Street and ending at Foley Park.
- Early Glebe architects – their work and influence, starting at *Bellevue* (Leichhardt Street) and ending at the Post Office (corner of St Johns Road and Glebe Point Road).
- A waterfront walk – exploring changes in industry, sport and recreation, starting at the Jubilee Park light rail station and ending at the boatsheds at the end of Ferry Road.



Anton Crouch explains an aspect of Glebe's geology during the Rock around Glebe walk. Photo: Peter Pockley.

Know your neighbourhood – artists and artisans



Helen Orr displays an example of the Stencil Gallery's work. Photo: Bruce Davis

The first of these walks was the basis for a guided tour, led by Neil Macindoe, as part of History Week 2010. Interest in this was so strong that a second date was set a fortnight later, and most of the Glebe participants were asked if they would be able to change to the later date.

So on 7 September a group of just over 20 met in Arundel Street, near the Barton plaque, for a tour that covered the early social history of Glebe, including local personalities involved in issues as diverse as women's suffrage, reform of teacher training and employment, illegal trading in local pubs, the first medical practitioner graduates from Sydney University, and a politician who finished his life in an asylum for the criminally insane. A smaller group of 10 took the same tour a fortnight later.

A very different but equally fascinating walking tour took place on 14 September, led by Anton Crouch for City U3A. Anton invited the group of about 20 people to imagine the area before white settlement, and opened our eyes to the many changes to the landscape that have occurred since then. A major aspect of the tour was Anton drawing our attention to the rock outcrops around the foreshore, and the evidence of our geological history that they display, when pointed out by a knowledgeable guide. We are hoping that Anton's 'Rock around Glebe' walk will also be developed as a self-guided tour that can be accessed from the new website.

- Jan Macindoe

An unexpected outcome the Glebe Artists and Artisans Walk on 16 September was a prize in the Glebe Art Show for one of the artists we visited. Jason Phu, from the artists' studios run by the Chamber of Commerce, was unaware of the art show until he spoke to Sue Ingram. 'I told him about it and he must have rushed over, put in a late entry, and won the Works on Paper prize!' Sue reports. The group of 20 Glebe Society members also visited the Stencil Gallery, Newbold and Collins Bookbinders, Florilegium garden bookstore, and Yuga floral design school and cafe where we finished with coffee and cakes.

- Dorothy Davis

Waratah cruise fully booked

The cruise in the *Waratah*, the world's oldest operational coal-fired tug, that was publicised in last month's *Bulletin* is now fully booked.

Waratah will cruise the bays and harbour west of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. John Brooks, convenor of the Blackwattle Cove Coalition, will provide us with a brief update on the planning issues as we pass by various key sites.

Waratah was built at Cockatoo Island, Sydney and launched on 21 May 1902. Originally named *Burunda*, her primary role was to tow dredges and barges between the various ports along the NSW coast.

Her sea-going days nearly ended in 1948 when, due to her age and condition, she was restricted to Newcastle Harbour. In 1968 it was announced that the old tug was beyond economical repair and was to be disposed of for scrap. The Sydney Heritage Fleet, realising her historical importance, acted to save her and purchased the vessel from the Department of Public Works. After a subsequent five-year restoration program she is now, once again, fully operational.

21st Annual Glebe Music Festival

28 October to 28 November

See enclosed flyer

News and Notes

Thirsty Thursdays

Members and friends are invited to meet in restaurants in and around Glebe on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm, to eat and talk with other people who live in Glebe. We visit a different restaurant each month, varying cuisines. Put these dates in your diary now.

On Thursday 7 October we will go to *Cucina Calabrese*, 30 Pyrmont Bridge Road, Camperdown, on the old Children's Hospital site.

On Thursday 4 November we will go to *Elizabeth's Boutique Café*, 175 Glebe Point Road, near the Post Office.

And on Thursday 2 December we will eat at *Teriyaki Japanese Cuisine*, 144 Glebe Point Road, near Bridge Road.

Please email me or ring me on 9660 7066 by the Tuesday before the dinner to let me know if you are coming, or if you are likely to be late.

- Edwina Doe

Help the New Theatre

Lyn Collingwood will direct *Murder at Marion Street*, a fundraiser for New Theatre's refurbishment, on Saturday 9 October at 7 pm, in the garden of 3 Marian Street, Enmore. The play is a moved and costumed reading of a classic English murder mystery. \$50 per head includes supper

To book, please leave a message with your contact details on 9660 5817

Players in the pub

Here is the next play in the series of popular moved readings at the Toxteth Hotel. Presented by members and friends of Sydney's New Theatre, these are not static readings but theatrical presentations using minimal props and furniture.

Admission is free.

19 October

The Lie-In (Léonie est en avance) by Georges Feydeau, a classic French farce about the perils of pregnancy. The cast includes Monsieur Ennepeque, the put-upon husband, and Madame Grossfinger, a German midwife. Adapted into English by Mary Haire. Directed by Peter Talmacs.

Tuesdays at 7 pm in the upstairs Media Room (enter via Ferry Road stairs) Toxteth Hotel 345 Glebe Point Road.

Two main meals for one on Tuesdays - orders from 5.30 pm.

The Neighbourhood Services Centre has moved

The City Council's Neighbourhood Services Centre has moved from the Glebe Town Hall, which is currently being renovated, to new accommodation in the Glebe Library. Counter services are available at a desk next to the librarians.

Manager Nick Hespe says the move is in line with Council policy to co-locate council services wherever practical.

Christmas party with a difference

This year's Glebe Society Christmas party will be a little different. It will be held at Fisherman's Wharf Seafood Restaurant at the Sydney Fish Market, on Friday 10 December. Enjoy a Chinese banquet - with Christmas touches - overlooking Blackwattle Bay. Lots of fun, good company and good food. Booking form in the next *Bulletin*.

Ken Buckley

Ken Buckley was an Englishman who came to Australia in 1952 to take up a post as lecturer in Economic History at the University of Sydney. In 1963, having been upset by unwarranted police harassment at a party in Sydney he complained about it to senior police. Their attempt to evade the issue led to him founding the NSW Council for Civil Liberties. He was elected as its secretary and later married the assistant secretary, Berenice Granger.

He rose to the rank of Associate Professor which was an achievement for a confessed Marxist. With great difficulty, as he was dying of cancer, having been persuaded to do so by Berenice, he wrote his autobiography, *BUCKLEY'S! Ken Buckley, Historian, Author and Civil Libertarian*, which he finished just before he died in 2006.

Several copies remain unsold and it has been decided to make these available free of cost. If you would like to have one please ring me on 9660 3240.

Berenice, who died early this year, was a member of the Glebe Society.

- Ian Edwards

City of Sydney Councillors

Lord Mayor: Clover Moore MP

Councillors:

Phillip Black
Meredith Burgmann
Irene Doutney
Chris Harris
Marcelle Hoff
Robert Kok
Shayne Mallard
John McInerney
Di Tornai

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 ...

- Thursday 7 October**, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – *Cucina Calabrese*, 30 Pyrmont Bridge Road. See page 10.
- Wednesday 13 October**, 7.30pm – Management Committee Meeting, 115 Mitchell Street.
- Tuesday 19 October**, 7pm – Players in the Pub, Toxteth Hotel. See page 10.
- 28 October to 28 November** – Glebe Music Festival. See enclosed flyer.
- Sunday 31 October**, 3pm – *Waratah* Cruise. See page 9.
- Thursday 4 November**, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – *Elizabeth's Boutique Café*, 175 Glebe Point Road. See page 10.
- Wednesday 10 November**, 7.30pm – Management Committee Meeting, 115 Mitchell Street.
- Tuesday 16 November**, 7pm – Players in the Pub, Toxteth Hotel.
- Sunday 21 November** – Glebe Street Fair.
- Thursday 2 December**, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – *Teriyaki Japanese Cuisine*, 144 Glebe Point Road. See page 10.
- Tuesday 7 December**, 7pm – Players in the Pub, Toxteth Hotel.
- Friday 10 December**, Glebe Society Christmas Party at *Fisherman's Wharf Seafood Restaurant* at the Sydney Fish Market.

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, within the Guidelines published on our website. 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 October. The deadline for contributions is Wednesday 20 October.

The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

Management Committee:

President	Lesley Lynch	9660 5084
Vice-president	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Immediate Past President	Jan Macindoe	9660 0208
Correspondence Secretary	Vicky Marquis	9552 2592
Minute Secretary	Margaret Sheppard	9660 4121
Treasurer	Bruce Davis	9660 7873

Committee Members:

Dorothy Davis 9660 7873, Carole Herriman 9571 9092, David Mander Jones 9552 4172, Margaret Sheppard 9660 4121, Liz Simpson-Booker 9518 6186

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 703
Community Development	Robyn Kemmis	9692 9440
The Environment	Jan Macindoe	9660 0208
Heritage	tba	
Membership	Cheryl and Bryan Herden	9660 7371
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Transport and Traffic	Andrew Craig	9566 1746

Other Contacts:

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Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC)	Bruce Davis	9669 7873
Bulletin Editor	Edwina Doe	9660 7066
Event Coordination	Dorothy Davis	9660 7873
History of Glebe	Max Solling	9660 1160
History of the Glebe Society	Jeanette Knox	9660 7781
Liaison with CoGG	Bruce Davis	9660 7873

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- AGM Report – pages 1 – 2
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- Glebe events – page 9

The GLEBE SOCIETY Inc
PO Box 100 Glebe 2037



Postage
paid

Membership of the Glebe Society

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

Download a membership form from our website (www.glebesociety.org.au, click on Join), write to the Secretary at PO Box 100, Glebe, 2037, or email secretary@glebesociety.org.au.

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

Community Contacts

Manager-Neighbourhood Services Centre: Glebe, Forest Lodge, Camperdown, Ultimo & Pyrmont: Nick Hespe.
Email: nhespe@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
Glebe Library office: 9298 3187, 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

Sydney City Council Customer Service
Telephone (24 hours): 9265 9333
email: council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
website: www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Dumped Shopping trolleys: Trolley Tracker 1800 641 497

Waterway Garbage: NSW Maritime response - 9563 8592