



Rally 20 January, 10am

Save our Post Office!

Everyone will doubtless be aware of the threat by Australia Post to close Glebe Post Office on 4 February – and of the community outrage sparked by this proposal.

The *Inner West Courier* this week carried the news that the Telecommunications Minister, Senator Stephen Conroy, has asked Australia Post to reconsider its decision to close Glebe Post Office. So far so good!

However, it is vital that residents maintain the pressure on Australia Post by:

- writing direct to Australia Post and to political representatives. The Glebe Society website contains a list of addresses of Australia Post executives and political leaders who you may wish to write to, and examples of letters already sent by members (go to <http://glebesociety.org.au/?p=4401>).
- signing the on-line petition at www.surveymonkey.com/s/saveglebepostoffice, and
- attending the rally which will be held outside **Glebe Post Office on Thursday 20 January at 10 am.**

The rally will be quite an event with banners, balloons and posters. Both our members of parliament - Tanya Plibersek and Verity Firth - will attend. A leaflet giving details of the rally is enclosed with this *Bulletin*. Please come and bring your friends and neighbours. This is important!

- Liz Simpson-Booker

What they said

The following are extracts from some letters about the proposed Post Office closure:

“If the Post Office is running at a loss then Australia Post should review the operations and target services to the needs of Glebe Village residents and businesses.”

“Glebe is a true village. Our Post Office is essential for our vibrant community.”

“We understand Australia Post's obligations as a corporation, and the organisation's brief to maintain the overall viability of its function. At the same time, in Australia Post's role as a service provider to the community, an uncompromising economic stand is not entirely appropriate...”

“Australia Post... suggests four alternative POs ‘within approximately 2km of Glebe Post Office’ - none of which, in fact, is easily accessible and would be quite problematic for elderly and disabled residents, mothers with young children and anyone who does not drive. The same applies to the many residents



The Glebe Post Office (1888, architect James Barnet). Photo: Phil Young.

of aged care facilities, social housing tenants and overseas visitors in hostels and motels.”

“The Post Office... is needed to provide services for the proposed significant expansion of the Glebe population with the Harold Park development and the Affordable Housing development.”

“Despite our best efforts to improve the trading position ... customer numbers and revenue have continued to decline. Specifically, over the past three years the outlet has achieved losses of \$750,000. As an organisation that receives no tax payer funding, we have a responsibility to remain financially self-sustainable...” Ahmed Fahour, Managing Director and CEO, Australia Post.

Our thanks to Lesley Lynch

The Glebe Society's Immediate Past President, Lesley Lynch, deserves a huge vote of thanks for her leadership of the Society over the last two years. She has brought great wisdom, clarity and energy to the task.

Harold Park and the Bays loomed large on her agenda for the duration of her tenure and she has indicated that she will continue to be involved in those issues in the future.

2011 will be a transitional year before Mairead Browne takes up the President's role in 2012. The Society's Acting President for the next four months will be Liz Simpson-Booker. The acting role will then rotate to Bruce Davis and Jan Macindoe (they are yet to decide the order!).

January 2011 has started with a rush, hence this interim communication. We will return to our normal *Bulletin* in February.

Diary date

Underneath the Arches

Glebe Society members and their friends are invited to a Community Picnic in Wentworth Park, in the middle of the Blackwattle Bay side of the viaduct, on **Sunday 27 February** from 5 to 8 pm.

The purpose is to celebrate completion of a major stage in reclaiming Wentworth Park for residents of Glebe, Pyrmont and Ultimo. Rebuilding of both the western and eastern walls of the greyhound track has now been completed, and the infill of the arches of the heritage-listed viaduct which crosses the park has been removed, creating improved visual links towards Blackwattle Bay.

The picnic is BYO everything (food, wine, water, rugs, chairs, glasses, etc). The organisers of the event, the Blackwattle Cove Coalition, of which the Glebe Society is a member, will be arranging some extra surprises.

It would assist the organisers to have an estimate of the number of people who plan to attend. Please email president@glebesociety.org.au, or phone Liz Simpson-Booker on 9518 6186.

Have your say on street trees

The City of Sydney is reviewing its Street Tree Master Plan and inviting residents to have their say on trees in their street and suburb. The Master Plan and feedback form can be found on the Council's website, under Environment/Tree Management/Street Trees. Closing date for submissions is **18 February**.

If you would like to share your ideas and contribute to the discussion of suitable and unsuitable trees for our streets, contact me at macindoe@bigpond.net.au or 9660 0208. The Blue Wren group and other interested people will be meeting to put together a submission.

- Jan Macindoe



Street trees in Glebe.

Photo: Bruce Davis

Harold Park

Channels of communication have been opened up with Mirvac, the buyers and future developers of the Harold Park site. Mirvac and the Glebe Society are both keen to establish a productive and positive ongoing dialogue regarding the redevelopment of this sensitive site. Lesley Lynch and Neil Macindoe will form the core discussion team on behalf of the Glebe Society.

- Liz Simpson-Booker

Vale Frank Galluzzo

Members will have been saddened to learn of the death of Frank Galluzzo. The Society has extended its condolences to the family. The next issue of our *Bulletin* will carry tributes to this man who built an iconic business in Glebe.

Players in the Pub

The next Players in the Pub moved reading is *The School for Scandal*, R B Sheridan's classic restoration comedy.

Tuesday 18 January at 7 pm, Toxteth Hotel, 345 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. Free admission.

- Lyn Collingwood

Thirsty Thursdays

Thursday 3 February at 7pm - *La Cucina Calibrese* at the Children's Hospital site.

Thursday 3 March at 7pm - venue to be announced.

Bulletin deadline

The next edition of the *Bulletin* will be published in mid-February. The deadline for contributions is Wednesday 9 February, a week earlier than previously announced.

Disclaimer

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

The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

Management Committee:

Acting President	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Vice-president	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Immediate Past President	Lesley Lynch	9660 5084
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

Sub-committee Convenors:

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

Arts, Culture and Media	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
Bays and Foreshores	Tony Larkum	9660 7030
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:

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
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
Website	Phil Young	9692 9583