



Glebe Society Bulletin

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Glebe marks Anzac Day 2014

Approximately 50 to 60 people assembled under leaden skies at the Glebe War Memorial for the Service of Commemoration of Anzac Day on Friday 25 April this year. It would take more than a little bad weather to deter the Glebe community from commemorating its heritage ...



People gather for the 2014 Anzac Day service at the Glebe war memorial (photo: Janice Challinor)

The recently restored memorial, containing the names of 174 dead men was originally opened on Anzac Day 1922 by Governor General Foster. It provided a handsome and poignant backdrop for the event. Following the acknowledgement of the original inhabitants of the land, voices were raised in prayer to the strains of Isaac Watts' *Our God, our Help in Ages Past*. Led by Father Anthony Walsh, OP, the service continued with an address by Glebe Historian, Max Solling; an extract from Max's speech appears on the next page.

Max recounted the history of the public projects of WWI and the immediate post-war period which raised memorials in the Inner West to the Fallen of Gallipoli, the Middle East and the Western Front.

Special mention was made of the Glebe memorial in front of which we stood, and its disparagement at the time of its construction. This is described by the *Sydney Morning Herald*¹:

The war memorial in Glebe's Foley Park, designed by a prominent anti-conscriptionist, was decried by the architectural magazine Building as "appalling" before its unveiling in 1922. The magazine was even more scathing in 1929, saying the memorial "appears as if it has been composed of discarded pieces found on the premises of a monumental mason. Truly there are worse things than war when such horrible things as this can be perpetrated in times of peace," it sniffed.'

Following the *Ode* intoned by Father Walsh, during which the heavens began to weep, wreaths were laid. John Gray, President of the Glebe Society and others placed floral tributes. This was succeeded by the Lament, played by Piper Rob McLean. By its end the drizzle had turned to a deluge, so heavy that those sheltering under umbrellas could barely hear the Benediction.

It was with some haste and much relief that many repaired to St John's Church for morning tea after the service while others hurried off to find dry garments. Lyn Collingwood remarked that she was reminded of *The One Day of the Year*, an Australian play about Anzac Day by [Alan Seymour](#) originally written in 1958, in which the characters bemoaned the seeming certitude of rain on that day. 2014 proved no exception.



Janice Challinor
Convenor, Community Development

¹ <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/unique-glebe-wwi-memorial-gets-timely-facelift-20140206-324d4.html#ixzz2zqb8JcX4>

Max Solling's Anzac Day speech 2014 (extract)

This morning I would like to share some thoughts with you about the memorial movement, the form of the war memorial, and the different kinds of memorial located within three to four kilometres of Sydney's CBD. Some 58,460 Australians were killed or died or wounds at Gallipoli, France and the Middle East between 1914 and 1918, and back home, mothers, fathers, wives, brothers and sisters had no tangible effects to bury, and had to find their own private way to mourn.

Local war memorials became substitute gravestones for men whose bodies were not returned for burial which included all the British Empire dead, the imperial government having decided there would be no repatriation of bodies. It meant memorials to those who enlisted in the First World War became a familiar part of city and country landscapes, a vehicle for social meanings and a centre for public display of mourning and commemoration.

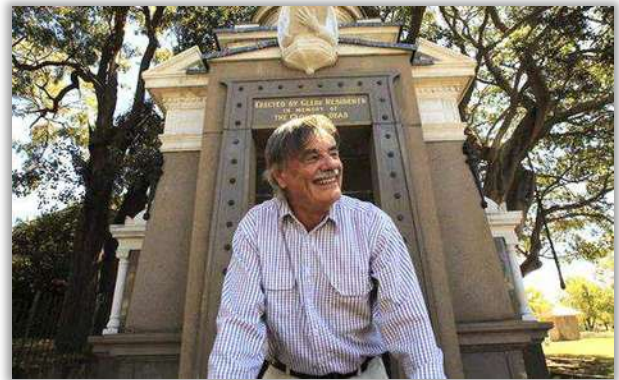
The War Memorial movement emerged during the war and pursued the idea of the district memorial for those killed or who served overseas. The honour roll placed in hall, church or school was the most frequent early form of commemoration, and sufficed in many small localities. More substantial built structures were favoured in more populous areas. This was encouraged by the authorities who distributed captured German weapons to every locality. In 1920 the War Council sent record forms to every district asking what had been done to establish a memorial. The form the memorial was to take exercised the minds of many people, and memorials of all kinds and shapes and sizes were proposed. Often the donated German gun was mounted at the honour roll. The avenue of trees, each bearing a dead soldier's name was a common response, and the trees were sometimes planted in parks, or in school grounds.

In the absence of contemporary style, a classical form was most frequently chosen — arches, obelisks, columns or urns taken from late Victorian and Edwardian funerary practices. There was a variety of other forms — Art Deco column, cenotaph, cross, gates; and another sculptural category is a monument surmounted by a soldier, angel or sphinx, carillon, fountain, drum, clock tower to which can be added town hall, memorial hall, hospital or grandstand.

The Glebe monument, is a complex form, and possibly unique. A granite and marble mausoleum with busts echoes the shape of an Egyptian temple with classic Greek touches following the tradition of mixing Christian and classical imagery. The design failed to win the approval of the architectural magazine,

Building, which in its 1921 survey of memorials described the design as 'appalling'. Building returned to the subject in 1929 when an article on the memorial had praise only for the setting, with every aspect of the design heavily criticised:

'Truly there are worse things than war when such horrible things as this can be perpetrated in times of peace ... The whole appears as if it had been composed of discarded pieces found on the premises of a monumental mason.'



Max Solling in front of the Glebe War Memorial.
(photo: Tamara Dean)

The Glebe memorial has a number of unusual aspects. Firstly it is rare for a soldier to be accompanied by a sailor because the RAN had only 5,000 men in a few notable actions. It is also a very Australian monument; neither the Empire nor Britain are represented. The Carrara marble angel guards those symbolically resting in the mausoleum. Under this is a simple and understated dedication: 'Erected by Glebe Residents in Memory of the Glorious Dead'.

The Roll of Honour with 792 names in the foyer of Glebe Town Hall was produced by Wunderlich which stamped out boards standard in form and individual inscriptions.

Nearly all the memorials in the inner city were completed after the war: Marrickville, Redfern (1920) Alexandria, Annandale, Ashfield, Camperdown, Newtown, Petersham (1921) Glebe, Leichhardt, Paddington, Pyrmont, Woolloomooloo (1922) Darlington (1924) Waterloo (1926) University of Sydney (1928), Cenotaph Martin Place (1929) But there are some exceptions: the Drinking Fountain / Light on a pedestal at Unity Hall Square, Balmain (1916), a commemoration of the Gallipoli campaign and the statue of a soldier at Rozelle Tramway depot, Glebe (1916).

Letters to the Editor

Remembering Neville Wran

Neville Wran, former premier of NSW, died on 20 April 2014, aged 87 years.

Dear Madam,

The Glebe Society is not aligned to any political party, but I would like to express my appreciation of the career of the late Neville Wran. In 1967 I bought a house in Glebe which was then DMR affected as the Askin government had plans to build expressways through Glebe which would have involved the destruction of my house.

I naively allowed myself to be persuaded by the estate agent that I would be liable for compensation at market price if this occurred. Fortunately the ALP led by Wran defeated the Coalition at the next election and the Wran government decided, thanks to strong opposition by the Glebe Society and others, not to proceed with the expressways.

His time as premier was not without controversy and there will be members of The Glebe Society who may not have liked him but our beloved suburb owes him a debt of gratitude.

Yours sincerely,
Ian Edwards



Neville Wran, then Premier of NSW at a ceremony at Tranby College, Glebe, 1 February 1979
(photo: Robert Pearce)

Reaction to President's Column in April edition of the *Bulletin*

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the latest newsletter, which is, as usual, full of things of interest. However, I must disagree with the President [President's Column, *Bulletin*, April 2014] about the 'public' land in what was The Glebe, between St Johns Rd and the university when we started the society. This was church land, and very

run-down — derelict, in fact, but it contained some of the best heritage houses in Glebe in almost their original condition. We had hoped that The Glebe would go the way of the rest of the suburb (Glebe Point, etc.) and be 'gentrified' and 'saved' i.e., bought up and restored and properly maintained so that we would have a revitalised suburb right through to Parramatta Rd when the land was acquired by the government. I thought this was a step in the right direction and indeed it has been preserved.

"Do-gooding is all very well, but it should take second place to the interests of, in this case, the maintenance and advancement of The Architectural Character of Glebe" - Robert Darroch

The Glebe is largely intact, and we should be eternally grateful for that (we have not lost its historic character, as we did with other valuable and historic properties in Glebe, before we managed to stop inappropriate redevelopment). But today The Glebe is almost back to what it was when the church owned it; it is run down and ill-maintained, and looks very shabby but you can't expect people who do not own their property to look after it — especially if they come from disadvantaged backgrounds and, indeed, cannot afford to do so.

The story of public housing around the world is a miserable one (look at England and its modern-day council housing slums). It is certainly not a way to maintain a heritage precinct like the former Glebe. To be frank, it should be opened up for gentrification, like the rest of the suburb (with strict heritage orders on every premises) then Glebe will fully realise its potential as an intact representation of Victorian-Edwardian inner Sydney (as Paddington has done, and I hope Millers Point will too).

Public housing does not need to be in situated in these precious areas. Do-gooding is all very well, but it should take second place to the interests of, in this case, the maintenance and advancement of *The Architectural Character of Glebe* (as my partner in crime, Bernard Smith, put it). If the people living in The Glebe were part of the original Glebe community, of course we should not put pressure on them to vacate; but most, if not all, are not, and are just people lodged there from the public housing waiting list. I believe that, given the chance to move somewhere more spacious and modern, the public tenants in The Glebe would jump at the opportunity,

as did the traditional Glebe populace when we started the Glebe Society in 1969. Believe me, I was there and saw it happen.

Unless you want The Glebe preserved as an example of what a slum Glebe was when we moved in (and I have no doubt that some people would) then I submit that everyone's interests would be best served if The Glebe went the same way as Millers Point is now almost certainly destined to go.

Rob Darroch

Founding vice-president of The Glebe Society

President's response:

'Wholegrain bread is better than white bread'

I respect this contribution by Robert Darroch, founding Vice-President of the Glebe Society, based on his recollections of the time. However, Mr Darroch left Glebe for Europe in 1971, and the issue of the future of the Glebe Estate did not come to a head until October 1972, when the Church announced its intention to sell Bishopthorpe and St Phillip's.

Bernard and Kate Smith present their considered position on The Glebe Estate in the introduction to their book, *The Architectural Heritage of Glebe*, 1973 (see the insert below).

"There are some sections of the Glebe community which possess a special social and even moral stake in the area. There are many pensioners who have already lived most of their lives in Glebe and wish to remain there. There is a large student population because of the proximity of the University of Sydney. And there are others on low incomes who prefer to live close to their work in the city or because they prefer urban to suburban living. This social mix is to be preferred because it provides a more diversified style of life than suburbs styled to only one or two income-strata of the community. Yet in order to preserve a desirable social mix of this kind, in the face of rising values which can price out important sections of the community whose incomes are not geared automatically to inflationary trends, some measure of subsidized housing will probably be necessary."

From Bernard and Kate Smith,
The Architectural Heritage of Glebe, 1973

Demonstrably, the Glebe Society has been involved in its community from 1969 to 2014, facing up to changed circumstances, challenges and opportunities in various ways. As I said in my previous article this duty is recognised in our Constitution and it is the Glebe Society's [strategy](#) to protect the social character of Glebe and recognise the benefits of social diversity. The clear and well-researched writings of the Society figure prominently in *The Glebe Project* (1980, pages 27-28 and 153-170). Indeed a paper based on research by Kate and Bernard Smith and Max Solling is a masterpiece of prescient professionalism, which sets out the case for preservation, commentary on the built heritage values and the desirability of 'socially and economically diverse but integrated neighbourhoods.' (p.155).

I turn now briefly to Mr Darroch's contemporary opinions on social housing. Yes, the Glebe Estate is run down. Its landlord has not properly maintained housing since it reverted to NSW Government ownership in the mid-1980s. It is a landlord's duty to maintain and there is good evidence that tenants respond to their context (Putnam 2000; Rawsthorne and others 2013, Farrelly 10 April 2014). Mr Darroch suggests gentrification of Glebe but he does not live here. People choose Glebe for its diversity. Homogeneous suburbs are no way to build a city or a society (Moore 2014; Albanese 2014).

For my last point I shall use his exact words — for they disturb me: do-gooding is all very well, but it should take second place to the interests of, in this case, the maintenance and advancement of The Architectural Character of Glebe'. It is not do-gooding to recognise that low income housing has a right to remain in an area where it has existed in one form or another since the century before last. This is about the social character of Glebe. The built environment means nothing without people. As Bernard and Kate Smith (1973, page 12) said, 'Glebe has been built up over almost a century and a half in order to provide accommodation for different classes of people with differing residential needs. As a result it contains a great variety of houses: large houses, large and small terraces, many large and small cottages. This variety of dwellings has encouraged the growth of a community that is more mixed socially, economically and ethnically than most suburban communities.'

John Gray,
President

Welcome to new member

David Gribble

President's Column



John Gray
President

Public Housing

In my [article](#) in the March *Bulletin* I reminded members that the Glebe Society supports public housing in Glebe, as set out in *Engaging Glebe* and elsewhere. Since our last *Bulletin* I co-signed with the Millers Point Community

Defence Group, a submission to the City of Sydney Council seeking financial aid so residents of Millers Point can be informed, supported and their cause advocated. I have spoken with the City of Sydney and the National Trust about possible ramifications to Glebe and other inner city suburbs and I am convinced that support is not only our social duty, it is also strategically significant to our own Village.

On 9 April the Management Committee unanimously agreed that: 'The Glebe Society confirms its support of public housing in the Glebe area and that it supports the City of Sydney, Leichhardt Municipal Council, National Trust and most significantly the residents of Millers Point in their opposition to the sell-off of inner city public housing'.

Development of the Glebe Society logo

We have re-affirmed in our latest strategy, [Engaging Glebe](#), that the Glebe Society must explicitly engage with Glebe. This has been officially recognised in previous [strategies](#) and was the way we did business well before then.

Strategy focuses attention but needs to be supported by structure and symbols. The Glebe Society has a

very robust structure with its sub-committees and management committee, recently strengthened by our more direct communication processes. But our major symbol, the logo, emphasises one aspect of the Society: the built environment aspect of Heritage. So for quite a time now we have been searching for a logo that demonstrates our contemporary commitment to heritage, environment and community.

The search has been narrowed down to four. They are all acceptable but which is best? I shall email each of you over the next month and seek your opinion on the logos that have been developed. I shall inform the Management Committee of this feedback and seek authorisation of the new logo at an upcoming management committee meeting.

Vale Hilary Larkum

I was privileged to attend Hilary Larkum's Funeral along with family, friends and many Glebe Society members. It was styled as a celebration of her remarkable life in family, biology, acting and music. Her children and grandchildren played chamber music, we heard Hilary reading a poem and heard a heartfelt eulogy and remembrances.

Hilary was a longstanding member of the Glebe Society and had been Social Secretary during some of its early years. She was a committed naturalist and contributor to Glebe, by among other things, her work at the Glebe Youth Service.

Hilary Larkum died on Friday 4 April.

John Gray
President

Did you spot the mistake in last month's *Bulletin*?

In last month's *Bulletin* we included a call out to people who remember the trams in Glebe prior to 1959 (*Did you live in Glebe prior to 1959?* p.2).

The photo (reproduced right) that accompanied the text was sourced from the website of the Leichhardt Library Service and depicts a tram on Glebe Point Rd. The year supplied for the photo is 1952.

Well! An eagle-eyed reader, Peter Robinson, has drawn to our attention that the photo could not have been taken in 1952. Can you guess why not? (Answer on page 10)



The photo in question – was it really taken in 1952? (photo: Leon Manny; [Leichhardt Library Service](#))

Planning Matters – Neil Macindoe

Harold Park

I'm well aware that not everyone has been following the progress of this major development with the attention I have. Some members may have missed the public meetings when the proposal was first put forward in 2010, some may have forgotten the original plans approved in 2011-12, and some may have moved into the area more recently. I will give a brief overview.

There are three parts to the proposal. The first is for a residential development of 1250 units spread over six precincts. Three precincts have commenced. The second part is for a 3.8 hectare park, to be handed over to the City, for which the City has prepared and exhibited a plan, now awaiting approval. The third is for the adaptive reuse of the historic Tramsheds, which are a State Heritage Item. This proposal, including a supermarket, restaurants and cafés, a retail section, a gym and community space plus parking was approved on Monday, 7 April.

Precinct 6B: The DA for this precinct, on the corner of Minogue Cres and Wigram Rd, is now being exhibited. It is for a three to five storey building containing 85 units, mainly one and two bedroom, with the three storeys facing the corner of Minogue Cres and Wigram Rd. An artist's impression is reproduced below. There are some slight variations from the Masterplan because of relocation of the lift shaft, but these are acceptable. However, there is a shortfall in the number of visitor car spaces, and the Society will ask for these to be increased.



Precinct 6B of the Harold Park development. (image supplied by Neil Macindoe)

A New School for Pymont-Ultimo?

Members may be aware of reports in the media about the need for more public schools in the inner City. One of the factors driving this need is the increase in young families. Members will probably have noticed this increase in Glebe, but it is taking place throughout the entire area. It seems that no-one expected that couples moving into inner city

apartments would decide to raise families in these apartments. Hence it is anticipated there will be a considerable shortfall in school places, because most of the schools in the area are already full.

There are discussions currently under way about suitable sites in Pymont/Ultimo. I am unable to give you details at this point, but as soon as something definite is decided I will publish the details.

Ancient Briton ('AB') Hotel, 225 Glebe Point Rd

A long-time member noticed that the windows on the first floor are now filled with back-lit advertising, in contravention of Council's Advertising controls. Council officers have assured the Society that the advertising and back lighting will be removed. This does not affect other permissible advertising on the pub.



Neil Macindoe
Convenor, Planning

Renewal of Glebe Point Rd seats

The unique Glebe Point Rd bench seats have been given replacement slats by the City of Sydney and are looking bright and clean once again.

The bench seats were designed by Guido Gouverneur of Wrought Artworks, which is based in the historical industrial precinct at Eveleigh Rail Yards, now known as Carriageworks. The eighteen bench seats were commissioned by Leichhardt City Council and delivered in two stages in 1999 and 2001. The bronze legs and arm rests, resembling branches or bones, were cast in bronze, patinated and waxed to a verdigris tone. The seats are on the City of Sydney register of city art.



One of the newly re-slatted benches on Glebe Point Rd. (photo: Jan Macindoe)

Community

Request for Financial Support for Glebe Public School

Glebe Public School has requested support from The Glebe Society for funding assistance for the Annual Year 6 Camp. This will be its third year and in the past individual members have made generous donations. The cost per student is \$400 and each student pays \$150. The school subsidises the balance together with community donations. Given the financial circumstances of some families, it is important that every Year 6 child has the opportunity to attend without discrimination.

The social and educational value of this experience has long lasting benefits for all students. Parents and teachers have a vital role in making it a success.

If you wish to assist:

- EFT Glebe Society BSB **062-172** Account No **1026 3201**. Mark entry School Camp. Email - treasurer@glebesociety.org.au
- Post cheque to Glebe Public School, Derwent St Glebe with a note providing name and contact details.
- Hand cash donation to Administration Office during school hours

The Glebe Society supports the school and its activities and it complements our Strategy - *Engaging Glebe*.

From the Terraces – Liz Simpson-Booker

Noises Off

I recently heard a rendition of Banjo Patterson's 1889 poem *Clancy of the Overflow*. The line *the ceaseless tramp of feet*, set me wondering about the sounds of Glebe, say around the time of Federation.



Telling a story : One example of the abrading effect of "the ceaseless tramp of feet" over a front step (for 114 years in this instance). (photo: Martin Lawrence)

The tramping feet evoked by Patterson would most likely have been shod with leather-soled shoes or boots. As an economy measure to preserve the expensive shoe-leather, either Dad or the boot-maker would have applied steel tips to the heels and toes. (*Clickedy-click* - sounding a bit like a tap dancer.) Glebe remains a highly pedestrianised suburb these days, but most of us move about quietly on rubber or synthetic soles. I have no doubt former Glebe residents took to their feet more noisily, more often and for greater distances.

What other sounds might we imagine would have been heard around Federation Glebe? Here are some which spring to mind:

- Building works (Glebe not quite fully built out)
- Timber unloading and sawing (timber mills on the waterfront)
- Boat breaking (Stride's Yard)
- Steam trams '*...the fiendish rattle / Of the tramways and the 'buses making hurry down the street...'*)
- Horse-drawn lorries, drays, wagons, carts and passenger vehicles
- The blacksmith working at the anvil
- Nightsoil carts
- Garbage collections (metal garbage cans)
- Fire engines (horse-drawn, attending to fires especially in wooden houses; also attending to the perilous consequences of gas lighting)
- Children playing in the lightly trafficked streets '*...the gutter children fighting...'* Purveyors' cries (the Ice Man, the Rabbit-oh, the Fruit & Veg Man) and the Milko with his milk-cans and metal dipper
- Church bells

Doubtless readers can think of other sounds...

We fret about the high level of ambient noise in modern Glebe but perhaps progress and technology have simultaneously brought us relief from the old noises whilst imposing new sounds.

*Postscript: One of our proof-readers, going well beyond his brief, helpfully suggested I should also write a similar speculative piece on **noisome** Glebe. I declined, with a sniff.*

Glebe's Skein of Parklands

Glebe residents surely owe a huge debt of gratitude to those who campaigned with such determination, over so long a period, to have our foreshores dedicated to public use. These were visionaries who stood on acres of industrial wasteland but saw, instead, mature trees, grass swards, walkways and playgrounds. They envisioned that these would be used by recreational walkers, by cyclists, joggers, dog-walkers, the fit and the flabby – all enjoying our vistas, both green and marine.

As the parklands sweep around the bays, west to east, we can chart some of this country's history and heritage just by reviewing the names of different areas. We can progress from Bicentennial, to Federal, to Jubilee Parks (all celebrating major milestones), to Pope Paul VI Reserve and Blackwattle Bay Park.

Council is currently working on developing plans for a new park at Harold Park. Well, Harold *Park* was something of a misnomer as the trotting track was not a park in the conventional sense. So what will Council call the new Harold Park park? Certainly, they will need to call it something to differentiate the built bit from the green bit.

I understand the new streets created within the Harold Park development will be named after horses. It is to be hoped that Council might find a name for the new park which sits well with the other names in Glebe's skein of parklands and elevates it above a sporting facility which did nothing but treat the Glebe community with contempt.



Jubilee Park, Glebe.
(photo: Samantha Battersby)

The Glebe Estate

Recently I have been looking through the results of a 2004 project undertaken by the Heritage Subcommittee when the late, beloved David Mander Jones was Convenor. David's aim was to have the Subcommittee members identify all the buildings in Glebe that, in *our* estimation, should never be lost, even if these buildings did not qualify for the dizzying heights of formal heritage listing.

The Subcommittee carved up Glebe into manageable chunks, then split up and walked each sector photographing those buildings whose character and/or charm, singly or as part of a streetscape, added something to the built environment of Glebe. Ten years on, the results of this project give us, *inter alia*, the basis for comparison of how well, or badly, Glebe's houses are doing. Here is a useful comparison (aka a photographic essay on neglect):



Westmoreland St, Glebe, November 2004
(photo: Lydia Bushell)



Westmoreland St, Glebe, April 2014
(photo: Martin Lawrence)

Liz Simpson-Booker
Convenor, Heritage

Who Lived in Your Street? – Lyn Collingwood

John Riley Hood (1841 – 1926)

John Hood was a pioneer photographer and the father of commercial photographer and photojournalist Sam Hood, whose collection of prints and 44,800 negatives forms an invaluable pictorial resource at the State Library of NSW. For more than five decades before his death in 1953 Samuel John Hood chronicled the lives of ordinary Australian people: Bondi Beach bathers, lost children at the Easter Show, department store cashiers, Depression relief gang workers, revellers at Luna Park. The Australian Maritime Museum also holds over 9000 of Sam's images of ships and their passengers and crews, dating from the 1890s. For a time Sam worked in his father's studio on Glebe Rd and the birth of one of his sons, William, was registered in Glebe in 1899.

Sam's father John Riley Hood was born in Derbyshire, one of four sons of Elizabeth and Samuel Hood (1807-1900), an iron founder specialising in ornamental steel castings and metal friezes, foliated grilles and screens for verandas and balconies. Samuel had business interests in Paris and London; as President of the Winter Bathers' Club it was his early morning duty to break the ice with a hatchet and take the first dip in Hyde Park's Serpentine Lake.

After attending school in Bath, John was sent to the College Imperial in Paris where he studied drawing and painting, lived in the Latin Quarter and became fluent in French. Back in London, he worked as an artist and retoucher with photographers Elliott & Fry before opening his own studio near London Bridge. At a time when artists relied on natural light this was on the top storey, and Hood was in trouble with the law when he dislodged from his skylight an avalanche of snow which fell onto passers-by on the footpath below. He also escaped a libel suit by a husband, irate over two contrasting showcase prints of his wife labelled 'untouched' and 'touched'.

In the 1860s John Hood migrated to South Australia to take up a six-year contract as an oil and watercolour retoucher with Townsend Duryea's Adelaide Photographic Company. Among his commissions was a coloured portrait of the visiting Duke of Edinburgh in 1867, and his *Black to Move*, an oil painting of boys shooting crows, was a Society of Arts prize winner in 1870. The following year he married Martha Mary, eldest daughter of Ulrich Hübbe (a reformist lawyer and behind-the-scenes author of the Torrens system of land registration) and set up his own studio in Glenelg as a miniaturist and specialist in 'portraits of deceased or absent relatives'. He was a part-time teacher at the Adelaide School of



A photo by John Riley Wood: section of faint albumen print mounted on card, overpainted with watercolours (Image: <http://www.artgallery.sa.gov.au/>)

Design, an exhibitor at the 1887 Adelaide Jubilee Exhibition and a contributor to the journal *The Lantern*, drawing direct onto lithographic limestone, carried to his office in solid blocks by his eldest son.

Martha Hood died in 1881 at age 32. She had given birth to four boys: Samuel John 1872, William Harrison 1874, John 'Jack' Ulrich 1876 and Thomas 'Tom' Courtney 1878. In 1882 her widower married a young widow Ruth Wright née Dollman and three more children were born in Adelaide: Martha Mary 1882, Alexander Dolman [sic] 1883 and Frederick William 1887. In 1883 John Hood was employed by the Oceanic Publishing Company as one of the many artists creating engravings (from sketches and photographs) for the monumental *The Picturesque Atlas of Australasia* commemorating the centenary of European settlement and initially sold by subscription in 42 parts. John Hood's work probably involved a good deal of travelling around the country with his camera; his Sydney base was in Duke St Woolloomooloo. By 1889 when the atlas project was finished and daughter Dorothy Ruth was born, the Hoods were in Leichhardt St Glebe. After that they moved to Glebe Rd where for the next decade or so John Hood had a studio at a couple of different addresses in the block bounded by Bridge Rd and Denham St (now an extension of St Johns Rd). Here he photographed, painted portraits and miniatures and renovated old oil paintings. He also taught French and worked as an ecclesiastical artist. By 1903 he had moved to 108 Wigram Rd.

John and Ruth and daughters Martha, a shop assistant, and Dorothy, a clerk, then settled in Mosman where Ruth died on 27 August 1919. John died at what is now Macquarie Hospital on 27 May 1926.

Lyn Collingwood

Sources: *Australian Dictionary of Biography*: Ulrich Hübbe entry; Births, deaths, marriages indexes NSW, SA; Cato, Jack *The Story of the Camera in Australia* 1955; Cemetery records; Davies, Alan *Sydney Exposures* 1991; Electoral rolls; *Sand's Directories*; *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Answer to tram photo mistake quiz – by Peter Robinson

The photography of Trams in Glebe Point Road 1952 was in fact taken, at the earliest, in 1958. How do I know? Because the FC Holden captured in the photograph was not introduced until May of 1958. Pedantic? Who me?'

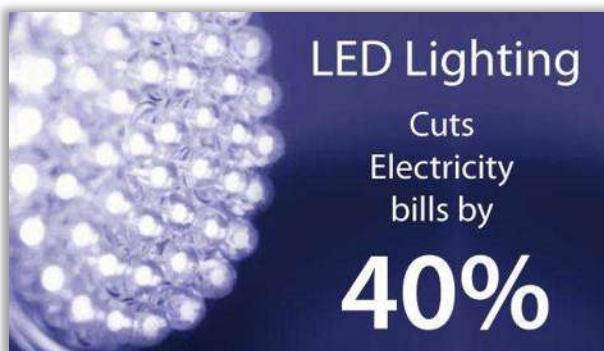
Natural Glebe

How can LED lighting make your home more energy efficient?

Learn about the benefits and options from our guest speaker, David Winterton of Alternative Technology Association. This is a free community event. Refreshments provided.

Thursday 8 May, 6-7.30pm, *Benledi*, Glebe Library.
Book online [here](#), or email environment@glebesociety.org.au

Jan Macindoe



Ethical choice of food and the environment

Åsa Wahlquist, local resident and a Walkley award-winning journalist, recently led a Glebe Voices discussion around the dilemmas of balancing individual ethical choices of food with concern for the environment.

Åsa contrasted older cycles of food production when the chooks were fed primarily with household leftovers with present practices of feeding farm animals with grain which is very demanding on the environment. Soy, Åsa pointed out, needs almost as much water as cotton does so choosing to eat tofu rather than beef is not necessarily a better ethical choice.

Given the complexity and number of open questions on what are 'good' choices, Åsa suggested the two practical strategies for households: eat unprocessed food and keep food waste to a minimum.

It was a full house and lively discussion at the Blackwattle Café for this Glebe Voices with Tiong and Rose providing a welcoming environment for attendees many of whom were new to Glebe Voices and the Society.

Mairéad Browne



Cattle in Queensland – should we eat soy products in preference to beef? (photo: Charlie McKillop <http://www.abc.net.au>)

Blue Wrens subcommittee report

Keep a look out for uncommon wildlife in Glebe

The March meeting of the group was joined by Sophie Golding, Urban Ecology Coordinator, City of Sydney, who updated us on the City's Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan. We discussed possible activities and ways of involving the community, particularly with regard to the reporting of wildlife, which was vital to the strategy. Sophie asked to be advised directly of any opportunistic sightings of less common birds. It was suggested that the Glebe Society *Bulletin* might be one way of involving more people in wildlife observations. Sunday 26 October has been set as the date for our next Spring Bird Survey and information will be provided in future *Bulletins*.

Interested in bush regeneration?

The Orphan School Creek Bushcare Group continues to meet monthly in the Park with the next gathering

on Saturday 3 May from 9.30 to 11.30am. Please meet behind the townhouses on Wood St, Forest Lodge. We will have about 200 tubestock of shrubs to plant in amongst the trees. It is a mostly terraced area with existing plants, rocks, etc., so wear covered shoes and be prepared to scramble a bit. Please bring your own gloves and a trowel and other tools like secateurs, if you have them. Bring something to share for morning tea afterwards, if you are able to stay around. For further details, please contact Judy Christie — 9660 8309

Also, the Glebe Bushcare Group meets each Wednesday from 8am to 12 noon and is currently weeding and planting native species in Chapman Rd opposite the Rozelle Bay Nursery (for further details, please contact Sue Copeland - 9692 9161). Members of the Society are most welcome to join these Groups and assist with their important work in enhancing biodiversity in our suburb's parks and reserves.

Where will the children (and the birdies) play?

The Subcommittee has discussed the impact during school hours on St James Park and John St Reserve of large numbers of children from St James School and we wondered whether the church's own land was being utilised to its full extent.

The use of these small pocket parks should be distinct from that of large open areas such as Wentworth Park. It is hoped that we may be able to engage with the school positively as we have done already with Forest Lodge Public School, where we provided advice on enhancing small bird habitat and biodiversity within the school grounds.

In St James Park the construction of the new tennis pavilion is underway and the eastern court is being renewed. The other (western) court is currently available for hire. Work is progressing on the playground area with new seating and paving and a tree house is being constructed.

John St and Paddy Gray Reserves will be affected by the Johnstons Creek Flood Mitigation Proposal; detention basins are proposed for both Reserves. At

an onsite meeting on Monday 5 April, the Friends of John St Reserve met with Robyn Kemmis, the Deputy Mayor, and Kristin Gabriel and Water Asset Engineers, all from the City of Sydney. The Engineers advised that the purpose of the basins (a series of 'weirs') was to help manage the expected volume of floodwaters should there be a 1-in-5 to 1-in-10 year flood event. It was explained that the proposal is in its 'discovery' stage, construction is planned in about 10 years and the likely effects on the biodiversity of the Reserves are unknown.

The members of the Subcommittee who attended Council's information meeting about the Harold Park Open Space design plan expressed disappointment at the fragmented nature of the proposed plantings and our more detailed critique of the design was incorporated in the Society's formal response to the plan.

Many media mentions

The work of the Subcommittee in increasing and improving habitat areas and creating wildlife corridors in Glebe was described in articles in the *Inner West Courier* ('Wildlife returns to city'; 1-4-2014) and *Sydney Morning Herald* ([Urban haven: rich array of wildlife calling Sydney home](#); 8-4-2014). Also in a review of a recently published book (*The thing with feathers: the surprising lives of birds and what they reveal about being human* by Noah Strycker), *The Economist* of 5 April 2014 featured a photo of a male wren. The review states: 'Most striking are the gorgeous Australian fairy-wrens, whose intergenerational altruism looks uncannily like human's supportive family life'.



Andrew Wood
Convenor, Blue Wrens

Another small piece of the 'Blue Wren Corridor' puzzle

On 15 April, a group of parents from Forest Lodge Public School Parents and Friends Association, with professional assistance from Toolajjooa Environmental Restoration landscaped and planted out around 800 plants, all locally indigenous species, over 325 square metres on the busy Ross St and Bridge St perimeter of the school.

With a letter of support from the Glebe Society and conforming to the landmark report *Superb Fairy-Wren Habitat in Glebe & Forest Lodge: a community*

based conservation project (2008), Forest Lodge Public School parents and friends were successful in obtaining a matching grant late last year from the City of Sydney.

The planting focused not only on developing a canopy but also mid- and low-level plantings that are particularly aimed at providing habitat for small birds including wrens.

It is hoped that with time, a densely planted perimeter will encourage biodiversity, the provision of street screening and a reduction in the entry of particulate pollution from the roads into the school grounds.

The planting at Forest Lodge Public School forms another small piece of a 'Blue Wren Corridor' linking our suburb with similar habitats on the campus of the University of Sydney.

Many thanks to the Glebe Society for its assistance with obtaining the matching grant.

Michela Noonan and Chris Blair



Planting by P&F members in Forest Lodge Primary School (photo: Chris Blair)

Out and About

Tranby Conversations

Come along to Tranby Aboriginal College, 13 Mansfield St, Glebe for the next in our series of Tranby Conversations, Friday 30 May 2014, 6-7.30pm.

Lynette Riley, Senior Lecturer Indigenous Strategy and Services University of Sydney, will give a practical and interactive Aboriginal Kinship presentation. We will be given hands-on cultural education about kinship systems in Australia, and how colonisation has affected this.

Light supper provided (gold coin donation). For catering purposes, please RSVP to Jan at 9181 3055 or email: tjtamba@bigpond.com

Bobbie Burke



Lynette Riley, speaker at Tranby Conversations, Friday 30 May

Glebe Voices in June – early notice

'Caught Being Good' at Glebe Public School.

Principal Vicki Pogulis will talk at Yuga Café about the innovative strategies that have brought significant improvements in social and academic achievement levels to the diverse community of students at Glebe Public School. Wednesday 18 June, 2014 at 6pm. Yuga Café, 172 St Johns Rd.

Mairéad Browne

Thirsty Thursdays

Members and friends are invited to meet in restaurants in and around Glebe, usually 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 1 May we will return to *La Boheme*, 199 Glebe Point Rd.

On Thursday 5 June we will go to a new Greek restaurant, *Aghora*, 94 Glebe Point Rd.

And on Thursday 3 July we will share a meal at *Flavour of India*, 142a Glebe Point Rd.

Please email thirstythursday@glebesociety.org.au or ring me on 9660 7066 by the Wednesday before the dinner to let me know if you are coming, or if you are likely to be late.

Edwina Doe

Players in the Pub

Next in our popular series of moved and costumed readings at the Roxbury Hotel St Johns Rd/Forest St Forest Lodge:

As Darkness Falls: A Victorian Thriller
adapted and directed by Nicholas Papademetriou
Mon 19 May, 7 pm

Free admission. The kitchen is open from 5 pm. Please try to order food as early as possible ~ we always aim to start on time!

Players in the Pub is coordinated by Lyn Collingwood. Her adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's *Ghosts* is the next professional moved reading by the Actors' Forum at 2pm 18 May in St Andrew's Church Hall, 223 Darling St (cnr Curtis Rd) Balmain.

Lyn Collingwood

For Your Calendar

Thurs 1 May, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday, *La Boheme*, 199 Glebe Point Rd.
 Sat 3 May, 9.30am. *Orphan School Creek Bushcare Group*, behind Wood St, Forest Lodge.
 Thurs 8 May, 6pm. *LED lighting for the home*, Benledi
 Wed 14 May, 7pm. Management Committee meeting, Glebe Town Hall.
 Sun 18 May, 2pm. *Ghosts*, St Andrew's Church Hall, 223 Darling St, Balmain.
 Mon 19 May, 7 pm. *Players in the Pub*, Roxbury Hotel, St Johns Rd.
 Fri 30 May, 6pm. *Tranby Conversations*, Tranby College, 13 Mansfield St.
 Thurs 5 June, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday, *Aghora*, 94 Glebe Point Rd.
 Wed 11 June, 7pm. Management Committee meeting, Glebe Town Hall.
 Wed 18 June, 6pm. *Glebe Voice*, Yuga Café, 172 St Johns Rd.
 Thurs 3 July, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday, *Flavour of India*, 142a Glebe Point Rd.
 Wed 9 July, 7pm. Management Committee meeting, Glebe Town Hall.

The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

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The Glebe Society Inc

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How to join

- ✓ download a membership form from www.glebesociety.org.au; or
- ✓ write to the Secretary at PO Box 100, Glebe, 2037; or
- ✓ email secretary@glebesociety.org.au.



Bicentennial Park looking towards the railway viaduct. Taken in 1973 by Allan McEvoy. We've come a long way since then, haven't we?

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