

Damage to Mangroves in the Mangrove Area of Bicentennial Park by Tony Larkum

In 2011, I reported: *Over the New Year (2010/2011) celebrations, I discovered several sizeable branches torn off and left on the ground around one of the bushes. Fortunately, that bush had enough branches to survive, but if this happened to some of the younger saplings that would be the death knell – as can be seen for several leafless stumps. ... So please, no dogs in the area and if you see dogs there please warn their owners!*

Since that time about 30 mangrove saplings and young trees have continued to grow, supplemented by myself with several transplanted mangrove saplings. Over the last two years (2015-2016) there has been a massive germination of seedlings, some of which are now fine saplings and are spread over the whole area.



Broken fence surrounding mangrove area (Source: Tony Larkum)

Unfortunately, damage to some of the saplings has occurred recently (see photograph), and once again I suspect dogs. I have seen a number of large dogs roaming in the area. So dog owners please keep your dogs out of the area and if you see dogs in the area, please alert their owners to the potential for damage.

Unfortunately since the area was planted in 2004, Council supervision of the area has declined. Previously there were two notices along the surrounding fence, noting that this was a plant protection area. Both notices have decayed and disappeared over the last two years. There was also a metal sign with photographs of the area and details of the initial planting and this too has disappeared. In addition the surrounding fence has been allowed to degenerate, to the extent that dogs can easily gain access to the area.

Council has been alerted to this unsatisfactory situation and we hope that it will be rectified, so that we can all enjoy the dogs on the outside and the mangroves on the inside of the area.

Tony Larkum

'Glebe, the Musical'

(working title)

by

Lyn Collingwood

I'm looking for helpers to put together a variety show to mark The Glebe Society's 50th birthday in 2019. Satirists, librettists, composers, musicians, sketch writers needed plus people with contacts in the wider Glebe community.

Please contact

heritage@glebesociety.org.au with
"Att: Lyn Collingwood" in the subject
line.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Lyn

From the Glebe Society's 48th AGM

Forty-three members attended the 48th Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 20 August in the Glebe Town Hall.

The President's report is included below.

The Treasurer presented the audited balance sheet and income and expenditure statement for the 2016-2017 financial year and the Secretary reported that the Society had 315 financial members with 44 of these joining since the previous AGM. It is not too late for non-financial members to renew for 2017-2018.

The election of Office Bearers:

The following members were elected unopposed:

- President, Allan Hogan
- Vice-President, Diane Hutchinson
- Secretary, Jude Paul
- Treasurer, Jane Gatwood

Three nominations were received for the five positions of Ordinary Members of the Management Committee, the following members were declared elected unopposed:

- Murray Jewell
- Janet Wahlquist
- Nick Hespe

Any member wishing to nominate as an Ordinary Member of the Management Committee should contact the Secretary. Any nomination would be gratefully received!

The President then spoke about valuable contributions made by John Gray to the work of the Society and the residents of Glebe over a long period of time and announced that the Management Committee had resolved that he be made an Honorary Life Member. This was greeted with warm and enthusiastic support from members. The President also announced a Commendation award to David McIntosh, Artistic Director of the Glebe Music Festival, who is overseas, for his generous contribution to the cultural life of Glebe.

After the formalities, the guest speaker, Senior Constable Renee Fortuna, spoke to the members about her work with the youth of Glebe. Renee is based at the Glebe Police Station and is Youth Liaison Officer. She is also a passionate boxer and has her eyes set on the up-coming state championships and possibly the 2018 Commonwealth Games which will be held

on the Gold Coast in April. Renee is equally passionate about mentoring and encouraging Glebe youth and has taken a leadership role in developing programs to build self-confidence and self-worth in local adolescents. The new Vice-President, Diane Hutchinson gave the vote of thanks and this was supported by acclamation by the members. Members then enjoyed refreshments and conversations with old and new friends.

An edited video of Renee's talk can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/230401403>.

Jude Paul
Secretary



Special guest speaker at the AGM, Senior Constable Renee Fortuna (Source: Allan Hogan)

President's Report, by Allan Hogan

It's been a busy year for the Society, with many notable achievements, but we're not resting on our laurels, there are ongoing issues that require continuing attention. I thank all the members of the Management Committee for their hard work on a range of issues of concern to our community, and also the members of the various subcommittees for their valuable contributions to our work.

One of my tasks this year has been to help with digitising and uploading past copies of our *Bulletin* to the Glebe Society web page, and for someone who is a relative newcomer to the Glebe Society that has been entertaining and informative. As I looked back on over 400 issues of the *Bulletin* I learned a great deal about the history of our community and the members of the

Society who have played a significant role as wardens of its wellbeing. Sadly, some of those members are no longer with us, and I want to acknowledge the passing this year of Albert Mispel, Peter Travis, Roelof Smilde and Noel Prosser.

The very first edition of the *Bulletin* in July 1969 proclaimed 'the Society will concern itself with the problems threatening Glebe as a pleasant place to live. Our approach will be two-pronged; to ensure that adequate thought and planning goes into new projects in the area; and to preserve and conserve what is good in the already existing buildings and places of historic interest'. It's interesting that a survey of our members this year (48 years later) put the preservation and conservation of Glebe's historic buildings as their top priority.

But that survey showed that our members have more on their minds than the built environment. Another clear priority was 'the welfare and social cohesion of all residents in the local community' and I think the Society can be proud of its activities this year in that area. Our Vice President John Gray has been engaged with the GlebeCAN project, a joint venture that includes local groups and Sydney University with the objective of identifying how social services in our community might be made more effective by closer liaison.

On another front, the convenor of our Community Subcommittee, Janice Challinor was the driving force behind last October's Centipede soiree that raised over \$6000 for the before and after school care service for children operating at Glebe Public School. Janice also organised for families at the Elsie refuge to receive Christmas gifts donated by members and the Christmas appeal is now firmly on our community calendar. More recently Janice has raised the possibility of a Glebe Exchange Platform aimed at recycling domestic items to needy families with the help of local social service organisations. That's a work in progress, and the Community subcommittee has now added Diane Hutchinson and Nick Hespe to its membership making it a high powered trio.

It would be impossible to move on from the work of the Community subcommittee without mentioning the fantastically successful Tram Mural on the corner of Glebe Point Rd and Hereford St. It was unveiled by the Lord Mayor in March to wide acclaim, and again it was the driving force of Janice Challinor that saw this project come to fruition. She was helped by some community elders who recorded their

memories of this unique aspect of our heritage, turning the project into a multi media event. Special mention also has to be made of Kelly Wallwork, the talented artist who made the mural look so real I was worried it might cause a traffic accident.

The Tram Mural was an achievement of the Community Subcommittee and might more strictly have been in the portfolio of the Heritage Subcommittee. But it's a measure of the peace and harmony that prevails within our ranks that it was not the cause of subcommittee rivalry. In any event, the Heritage subcommittee has also had a productive year, in the face of what its convener Ted McKeown describes as 'the abject willingness of the government to abandon their own heritage principles and conservation areas and displace long standing communities in order to 'cut through'.

In his President's Report last year Ted foreshadowed the need for a subcommittee to deal with what he described as 'that extraordinary example of bungled planning – WestConnex'. WestConnex has certainly grabbed the attention of not just the Heritage subcommittee, but also the Planning and the Transport and Traffic subcommittees. The Society strongly objected to the proposal for a portal near Parramatta Rd that would have had major impact on the heritage listed sandstone retaining wall, and considerable flow on effects for traffic congestion. That proposal was abandoned, but the Society remains vigilant about future plans for WestConnex.

We worked with No WestConnex Glebe and Forest Lodge Group to organise public meetings in opposition to the project and the Convenor of the Transport and Traffic Subcommittee, Murray Jewell, met with the WestConnex Project Manager to voice our concerns. Murray has also expressed the Society's concern about the placement of ventilation smokestacks in any development of roadworks around Rozelle Bay. Murray has also been busy on two other fronts – letting the Council know our views about the need for better cycle amenities in our suburb, and questioning the government's decision to privatise our bus services.

Another issue that has involved both the Planning and Heritage subcommittees has been the development application for *Bidura*, the former home of the colonial architect Edmund Blacket, on Glebe Point Rd. The Society made a submission to the Land and Environment Court that focussed on the need to protect the curtilage and integrity of this wonderful building and to

protect it from overshadowing by any proposed new development. We won that battle, but the war isn't over. A revised DA is now before the court and we have again expressed our strong opposition to any inappropriate development.

Another historic building facing redevelopment is the Record Reign Hall in Saint Johns Rd – last month Neil Macindoe organised a public meeting for residents to have their say on the childcare centre that's planned to be built there. Neil has been a diligent watchdog of all development applications for Glebe and Forest Lodge, ensuring that the Society's views on preserving heritage and preventing inappropriate development are acted on by Council.

The Convenor of our Bays and Foreshores subcommittee, Dr Lesley Lynch, has had an extremely busy year. None of us could have missed the headlines about plans for the redevelopment of the Fishmarket, but as so often is the case the devil is in the detail and at the moment there isn't much detail, like for example any plans for the management of the vast increase in traffic. As our delegate to the Community Reference Group, Lesley has attended a number of meetings with UrbanGrowth to discuss issues dealing with development around Blackwattle and Rozelle Bays. She reports that UrbanGrowth has demonstrated an inability to provide meaningful participation or access to information. Our most recent concern has been the so called 'modification' of the Sydney Heritage Fleet facility at Bank St Pyrmont which is in fact a drastic change to the existing approval and which could mean the site would be locked up from public access. Oh, and there'll be a sewage pump out facility. Both Lesley, and the Convenor of our Environment subcommittee, Asa Wahlquist, have written letters of protest about this to the State Government.

Asa has also been working on a project to encourage the use of re-usable coffee cups in our community. The ABC's 'War on Waste' has reminded us that the takeaway cups provided by cafés are not easily recycled, and Asa has proposed that the Society buy a quantity of so-called 'Keep Cups' and make them available to members. That's a contribution we could make to cutting back on the 60 tonnes a year of plastic waste that goes into landfills from used coffee cups.

Perhaps the most visible presence of the Glebe Society is our monthly *Bulletin* and I feel special thanks are warranted for its editor, Virginia Simpson-Young who is also the Convenor of the

Communications subcommittee. The *Bulletin* is always a good read, thanks to Virginia and also to Lyn Collingwood, Liz Simpson-Booker, and many others for their contributions during the year. The Communications subcommittee organised the highly successful meeting called 'Get more out of your Smartphone 101' in October last year, and they're planning another get together this November – this time the topic is 'Researching your house online'.

Another well-attended meeting was organised in May by the Blue Wrens subcommittee, when Professor Chris Dickman from Sydney University gave a talk about the impacts of cats, dogs and foxes in our urban environment. I was surprised to hear about the prevalence of foxes in the suburbs, and I learned about a vest you can put on your pet moggy that will give the birds a chance to get away from a sneak attack. The Blue Wrens also saved a dying Morton Bay Fig in Jubilee Park from removal, by suggesting to the Council that a heavy pruning would allow it to still have a function as a bird habitat. Mention should also be made of a generous bequest to the Blue Wrens from the estate of Jan Craney, a former convenor.

That survey of members I mentioned earlier showed a strong desire by members for the Society to organise tours of historic buildings in our community. Our Events coordinator, Judy Vergison, took that on board and together with the Secretary organised a new regular event on our calendar – called 'Our House'. Last month Louis and Patty Patsalos hosted members for afternoon tea at their house in Mary St with a fantastic view of the Bays – we're going to have another 'Our House' in November at Rothwell Lodge in Ferry Rd. Other events on our calendar have included our regular Thirsty Thursdays where members get the opportunity to experience what our wonderful local restaurants have to offer, and the always interesting Glebe Voices meetings, which over the last year have seen talks given by the *Herald* journalist Ross Gittins, filmmaker Pat Fiske and activist Meredith Burgmann. Our new Webmaster Andrew Botros spoke last month about the fascinating world of Artificial Intelligence.

And speaking of our new Webmaster, it's time to talk about some departures from our management committee and subcommittees. Andrew Botros replaces Phil Young who has served nobly as our Webmaster for seven years, and Liz Simpson-Booker has retired as convenor of the Heritage subcommittee. Sadly, Carole Herriman is standing down as organiser of Glebe

Voices and also from the management committee. John Gray is stepping down as Vice-President, and Rozzie Hecker is retiring as our minutes secretary. I think it might be appropriate to thank all of them for their contribution by acclamation.

They will all be hard to replace, and this might be the time to say that the management committee is always pleased to hear from members who have the inclination to take an active role in the Society's affairs. I'm pleased to say that Nick Hespe, who retired this year from his role with the Council and will be well known to members, has agreed to join the management committee. Diane Hutchinson has nominated for the position of Vice-President, and Janet Wahlquist has nominated to join the management committee.

In 2019 the Society will celebrate its 50th anniversary – and the management committee is discussing a number of projects to mark the occasion. The Communications subcommittee has suggested a special bumper edition of the *Bulletin* between hard covers that includes articles and photos from past issues and interviews with contributors and previous office bearers. The Heritage subcommittee is proposing a publication recording Glebe's vanished buildings with stories of the people who lived in them. And although it's only in a very early stage Lyn Collingwood is thinking about an ambitious theatrical project with the working title 'Glebe-The Musical'. There has been talk of Neil Macindoe and Larry Hand reprising their roles in 'Rats in the Ranks'.

So much for the past year – now to the year ahead of us.

Allan Hogan, President

John Gray and David McIntosh receive commendations at the AGM

Commendation given to John Gray

Since becoming a member of the Society John has fulfilled many roles within the organisation. These include Glebe Point Rd Project Team 2002-4, Paddy Gray Reserve Contact 2005-08, Management Committee Member 2005 – 2006, Convenor – Heritage, 2012-13, Vice President 2011-12; 2015-17, President 2012-14 and Immediate Past President 2014-5. Diane Gray joined at the same time as John and together they make a formidable team. Her contribution to the Society while John was President is particularly commendable due to the volume of

policy renewal, correspondence and Minutes updates she undertook at that time.

During and since his presidential term John has concentrated his focus upon community engagement and placing the Society as an active community partner in this process. He guided the development of the Society's 2013-2019 Strategy which identifies the strengthening of the Society's core capability through community engagement, improving its technical capability and through activism.

Together with the late Deputy Lord Mayor of the City of Sydney, Robyn Kemmis, he initiated the Glebe Project in 2014. Known as GlebeCAN this sought to engage residents through information sharing, and to commence discussion and planning for future contributions to the Glebe story. A major finding of this initiative was its identification of the need for better coordinated and integrated service provision in Glebe.

Resulting from this and together with the University of Sydney and the Glebe Community Development Project coordination team John, on behalf of the Society, supported the forum, '*What can Glebe become?*' held at Sydney University on 30 August, 2016. From this forum the founding of a Collective Impact program for Glebe emerged. John became a member of its working group which is proceeding, with the cooperation of Sydney University personnel, funding and data sharing from the City of Sydney, and assistance from the Social Justice Directorate of the University of Technology Sydney, to develop a Collective Impact program. Without his driving force and guidance this important and ongoing community building enterprise may not have eventuated.

Commendation given to David McIntosh

For over 30 years the Glebe Society has admired the contributions that Society member, Dr David McIntosh, has made to music in Glebe. He is an organ recitalist (holding the qualification of Associate Music Australia [AMusA]), choir trainer, harpsichordist, and a performer on early pianos and of chamber music.

David is the founder and Artistic Director of the annual Glebe Music Festival, now in its twenty-eighth year; over 150 concerts featuring Australian and overseas musicians have been held. Dr McIntosh organises a program of six to eight concerts every spring in a range of venues in the suburb including his Sydney home, *Margaretta Cottage* (c1836), St John's Church Bishopthorpe, St Scholastica's School chapel, the Great Hall of the University of Sydney, the

Old Court House, Glebe Town Hall and Gleebooks. The concerts at the University of Sydney provide an important venue for public performances by students from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

Dr McIntosh also has a significant interest in the history of music and music performance. Over the years, the Glebe Music Festival has included a series of historical concerts, recreations of concerts from the past, or a focus on a particular historical aspect of music. David has personally funded each of the Festivals.

Dr McIntosh has also provided *Margaretta Cottage* as a concert venue for numerous fundraising concerts. These concerts have resulted in funds to support the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children at Westmead, NSW, an

international tour of the Choir of Christ Church St Laurence, Sydney, The Australian Ballet Club, and The Glebe Society Inc. He has also made his house available for performances organised by the Organ Society of Sydney, numerous Musical Soirées (to which were invited the people of Glebe), and the launch of new classical compact disks by Australian performers.

In his medical career, David contributes to Australian and international society as a paediatrician, specialist in infectious diseases and an academic. In 2011, in recognition of his exceptional work for the community and humanity at large, David was made a Member of the Order of Australia.

Planning & Infrastructure

Planning Report, by Neil Macindoe

Public meeting on Record Reign Hall

The evening of 27 July was mild, and about thirty residents turned out to hear about the proposal for a 68-place Childcare Centre to be located in this remarkable Late Victorian Church Hall, a Heritage Item and landmark that has served the Glebe community in many capacities over its long life. In case some members are unaware, the Hall commemorates Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897, and she was at that stage the longest serving British monarch: hence the name. She has now been supplanted by the present Queen, but the Hall contains two unusual relief plaques, the inside, coloured one hoping and proclaiming, in a style unmistakably Victorian, *May children of our children say she wrought her people lasting good*. I have not seen anything quite like it anywhere else.

The President, Allan Hogan, chaired the meeting, which lasted about an hour. St John's Churchwarden, Conrad Kerins, began by explaining the reasons for the church's decision. The parish can consolidate all its activities in the church itself, thus allowing the lease of the Hall and adjacent land to provide income for the church's community activities.

Paul Mitchell, Development Manager for Goodstart Early Learning, then explained the nature of his organisation. When ABC Childcare collapsed, a group of four major charities bought many of the ABC centres to form a non-profit collection of centres that now operates successfully on a large scale throughout Australia. He also showed several examples

where Goodstart had converted heritage buildings to Early Learning Centres in several States.

Paul Mitchell also described the Application for Record Reign Hall and the adjacent land, which is now in advertising. The 1970s addition to the Hall will be demolished and replaced by a two-storey building on the adjacent land, at right angles and at the rear of the site, designed to match the existing Hall in height, mass and roof form. This new building will be divided into two areas for different age groups, and so will the Hall itself, making two more age-group areas. There will be extensive landscaped play-space.

The current community garden and the memorials will be moved across the road to the land surrounding the church. There will be an archaeological survey of the present community garden site. In case more recent members are unaware of the history. The original church was built on this site by Edmund Blacket in 1857. It was demolished after some fire damage in 1970, and replaced by the current lean-to. The masonry of the old church was sold to a local dentist, Alfred Adey, who used it to construct the underground section of what is now Darbar Indian Restaurant. If you want to see what happened to Blacket's church I strongly recommend you come to the Society's Thirsty Thursday at *Darbar* on 7 September.

Allan Hogan then invited questions from the audience, and a number of points mentioned in the report above were covered. There were more searching questions about changes to Record Reign Hall itself. The most significant is that,

while the proscenium arch and columns will be retained, the floor of the stage will be lowered to the same level as the rest of the hall, using the same timber flooring, and there will be new connections to the new building to be built next door. There will be a lift so the upper floor of the new building is fully accessible. Record Reign Hall will no longer be available for the many community uses that have made it so familiar to members in the past. However, the recently renovated Town Hall, further along St Johns Rd has since accommodated several of those uses, and others will be transferred to the Church.

Generally speaking, the response was favourable. I was also assured after the meeting by the Goodstart Area Manager that places for disadvantaged children would be available and a special effort made to integrate the Centre into the Glebe Estate Community.

Draft planning changes for 2-32 Junction St

Proposed changes for this key development site are being exhibited for comment on the Sydney Your Say website until 4 September (sydneyyoursay.com.au). The site contains all the necessary documents, plus the opportunity for you to express your views.

The section of St Johns Rd west of Ross St traffic lights is not well known. Despite the maps, there is no connection to Bridge Rd because of a half-closure at Junction St. However, at the bottom of St Johns Rd you can see the site in question. It is now, and has been for half a century, a large asphalted carpark (about 5,000 sq m), with a couple of warehouses in the middle.

Until Glebe was transferred to the City in 2003 it was zoned Industrial, and was known to Glebe Society members as the Campbell's site, after the grocery manufacturers who owned it from 1979. The City rezoned it Mixed Use in the new TownPlan of 2012. Since then the current owners, Fitzpatrick's, have proposed a series of residential developments, all of them far beyond the City's residential controls. In reply the City drew up the current exhibited changes, which allow some increase in height and density in return for an open space dedication twice the size of what could be required under developer contributions.

The City did this because the western edge of the site runs along the Orphan School Creek, the boundary between Glebe and Camperdown, where there is already a small park adjacent to the access road, Larkin St. Moreover, Camperdown was formerly under the control of South Sydney Council, which had rezoned the

western side of the Creek Residential, and permitted a lot of development from five to seven storeys.

Basically, the City's changes will allow about 85 units to be built, provided there is a 50% increase in open space. Fitzpatrick's did not like this, and earlier this year appealed to the Planning Assessment Commission. The PAC rejected the appeal, and it is unlikely the owner will be able to get a better deal.

This is not a DA, but a change of rules. We will all have another chance to comment when a DA is forthcoming, but this is a good opportunity to indicate what should be in that DA.

Why Orphan School Creek is important

One of the first acts of the Glebe Society was to identify suitable areas for new public open space. It is thanks to this survey, and the Society's vigorous pursuit of its goals, that we now enjoy, among other things, Bicentennial Park and the immensely popular Waterfront Walk. Fifty years ago the bays' foreshores, and all the watercourses that drained into them, were lined with industrial uses, most of them in terminal decline, and many already defunct and derelict.

The biggest drain was the concreted Johnstons Creek. At the Children's Hospital, Camperdown, it was joined by a tributary, Orphan School Creek.

Where was the Creek? It was in a pipe at the bottom of a gully. The Children's Hospital sat on a triangular promontory where the two creeks met. This site had been considered larger and more salubrious when, in 1904, the decision was made to move the Hospital from its old site at the corner of Glebe Point Rd and Wigram Rd.

Where were the Orphans? The early governors handed out grants for worthy and charitable purposes. Glebe's was for a church and school. Where the University of Sydney's St Andrews College now stands was for orphans. However, the trustees had their eyes on better land at Cabramatta, so that is where the orphans went. The name, however, remained, and water still flows from that south-western corner through St Johns College, under Parramatta Rd, and underneath Larkin St. Most of the time you can't see it, but after heavy rain it runs on the surface.

By now you have probably worked out that the Creek forms a link between the University and the Glebe Waterfront. The Society set out to form this link into an attractive pedestrian route. This was easier said than done. Gradually over the next twenty years all the land along Johnstons Creek

became accessible to the public as industrial sites were redeveloped.

The section between Bridge Rd and Johnstons Creek, Orphan School Creek was particularly interesting.

Running between the Hospital and Forest Lodge it formed a deep, steep sided, gully. As the businesses on the Forest Lodge side faded and died, the Hospital bought them or inherited them for parking, which had not been necessary when the Hospital first moved. Some worthy souls planted trees on the Hospital bank to stabilise it. Less worthy souls dumped industrial waste on the Forest Lodge side. With a cavalier disregard for human merit, weed species sprang up everywhere. Thus a bushy area, much wider than the original watercourse, formed with a path running down the centre.



Required public open space, through site link, landscape screening and setbacks. (Source: DA)

It was on this gully I fixed my eye when I first became President in 1984. With the aid of the Architect Planner at Leichhardt Council we drew up plans to secure as much of the surplus Hospital land as possible to create significant parkland for Forest Lodge. Eventually, despite having to deal with two municipalities and an institution determined to maximise its assets for its impending move to Westmead, we succeeded in swapping land surrounded by houses for land adjacent to the gully, and in having the entire area remediated and replanted with natives. Fortuitously, at that point a Hereford St resident, Roberta Johnson, joined forces and formed Friends of the Gully, and the rest of the story can be read in the July 2017 *Bulletin* (Issue 5, p.11).

The next stage is to expand the parkland on the other side of Bridge Rd, and there the Draft

Planning Changes will make an important contribution. The Society will also lobby for a Masterplan so the remaining industrial sites will contribute further open space as and when they are redeveloped. The original Society vision is becoming a reality.

Neil Macindoe
Planning Convenor

The Shared Cycle and Pedestrian Foreshore Path

We have some concerns about the shared cycle and pedestrian path that runs along the foreshore of Blackwattle Bay from the end of Glebe Point Rd to Bridge Rd. We have raised concerns with the City of Sydney about the safety of pedestrians and cyclists along this path, particularly in narrow sections of the path and at the times when cyclists are riding too quickly for the conditions. We have asked the City to take measures to ensure that cyclists ride at a safe speed.

We have been told of a recent incident involving walkers, dogs and cyclists and a near collision with a cyclist coming off a bike.

If readers share our concerns could we ask that you contact the City of Sydney on their 'Report an Issue' page and express your opinion on the safety of the path. If you have seen or been involved in an incident or a near miss situation along the path could you report that to the City on that page.

Feedback to the City from our members will, we think, assist in encouraging the City to take some action.

Jane Fissenden
Transport and Traffic Subcommittee

Coming up soon ...

- ✓ The Glebe Artisans Market is on at Foley Park on Saturday 9 September 10am-3pm.
- ✓ The 'Stop WestConnex Glebe-Forest Lodge' group is screening 'Citizen Jane'; Tuesday 26 September, Palace Cinema Leichhardt. Bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/citizen-jane-film-screening-and-fundraiser-tickets-37082062447>.

History & Heritage

REARVIEW reprise

Further to the REARVIEW interview by Margaret Cody with Carmel Vanny (née Pye) in last month's *Bulletin*, we can now show you 'before and after' photos of the family home at 35 Boyce St.



Carmel and her brother Noel as children in Boyce St (1949) (Source: Noel Pye)



35 Boyce St as it stands today (source: Google Maps)

Digital Maps of Glebe and Forest Lodge, late 1880s

There are three different digital maps of Forest Lodge and Glebe in the late 1880s. The most commonly used are the two on the City of Sydney's on-line Historical Atlas of Sydney.

The first of these is [glebe-camperdown-newtown-macdonaldtown-darlington-1886](#). This map covers a large area, but it is quite detailed and easy to read. It shows building footprints but not outbuildings. Some infrastructure, including the tramway reservation on the current Minogue Cres, is included.

The second of the maps on the City of Sydney site is [Glebe 1888](#). This map is difficult to read in places but it has some advantages. The major one is that it gives the names of businesses operating at some premises. It shows building footprints but, like the 1886 map, it does not include outbuildings.

The third of the digital maps from this period is actually a set of 33 separate maps each covering a small section of Glebe or Forest Lodge for 1889-90, held by The State Library of NSW. They are part of a bigger series catalogued under the title [City of Sydney Survey Section](#).¹ These maps show property boundaries, building and outbuilding footprints, sewerage and drainage infrastructure and other infrastructure. There is a separate master map series (Glebe and Forest Lodge are spread over 4 of these master maps), from which you may be able to identify the exact map you need.

These *City of Sydney Survey Section* maps seem to have been relatively little used in research on Glebe and Forest Lodge. Some researchers have used the hard copy version, but the on-line version is seldom cited. This is surprising because the provenance of these maps gives good reason to expect they would be the most complete and accurate maps available for the period. Specifically, these maps were drawn up by the Surveyor General's Office as part of a major NSW government infrastructure project. From 1842, water and sewerage had mostly been the responsibility of municipal governments, but by the 1870s Sydney's water shortages and growing public health problems attested to the gross inadequacy of this arrangement.² From 1879 the NSW government began to intervene, ultimately undertaking a massive construction programme to bring fresh Nepean water to Sydney, and to create a network of mains, deep sub-mains, pumping stations and vents to take the city's waste to ocean outfalls.³ The first stage of the Nepean scheme was completed in 1888 and the first of the ocean outfalls was completed in 1889. The next step was to build the connecting networks. It was in this context that the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage was created to manage the network and the *City of Sydney Survey Section* maps were drawn up by the Surveyor General.

Diane Hutchinson

1. Department of Lands (Survey Branch, Surveyor General's Office), *City of Sydney survey section*, State Library of New South Wales, No. Z/ M Ser 4 811.17/1. The digital version can be accessed through the new catalogue using the link above. Note that the series can also be found under the alternative titles of *Sydney Metropolitan detail series* and *Metropolitan details series*. In common parlance, these maps are often called 'water board maps' but since they cannot be located in the SLNSW catalogue under that title, nor by searching for the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage or its successors as author or series title, they have not been referred to as 'water board maps' here. Subsequent maps to 1945 are held by the State Archives and Records Office. These maps have not been digitalised but the hard copy locations can be found at <https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/metropolitan-water-sewerage-drainage-board>. Note that this link to the Metropolitan Water Sewerage and Drainage Board also includes maps from 1904 to 1925, when the responsible agency was the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage.

2. See Shirley Fitzgerald, *Rising Damp: Sydney 1879-90*, Melbourne, 1987 (especially Chapter 3), and A. J. C. Mayne, *Squalor and Vice*, St Lucia, 1982.

3. Prior to 1889, the City Council was responsible for piped water to the whole city. Supply mains seem to have been extended to the most densely settled areas by the 1880s, but continuity of water supply was a major problem. The NSW government finally took

decisive action, passing an appropriation bill to fund the Upper Nepean scheme in 1879. This was a costly and challenging project requiring the construction of the Prospect Dam and suburban reservoirs, as well as connecting canals, main pipelines and pumping stations. When water shortages became acute in the mid-1880s, a temporary scheme was put in place to bring Nepean water to Sydney in 1886, and the first stage of the scheme proper was completed in 1888 (See W.V. Aird, *The Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage of Sydney*, Sydney, 1961, pp. 15-19). The NSW government also began work on sewerage infrastructure in 1880, but in this case it was prompted by the need to provide city-wide access to a sewerage network and the need to move waste away from the densely settled harbour area. The City Council had constructed city sewers which drained into the harbour from the 1850s; Darlinghurst, Paddington and Redfern councils did likewise in the 1880s, but together the four council areas' sewerage systems served less than 25,000 premises by 1889 (*Ibid*, pp. 128-34). Glebe Municipal Council also constructed a sewer line running down to Blackwattle Bay in the late 1880s accounting for another 200 connections (see Max Solling, *Grandeur and Grit. Sydney, 2007*, pp. 92-3). These early sewer lines were shallow and accessible only to houses on the fall line to a watercourse or discharge point. The NSW government's new sewerage system included the construction of a network of deeper sub-mains and pumping stations so that all premises could be connected, as well as constructing the mains and ocean outfalls to dispose of the waste.

Who lived in your street? by Lyn Collingwood; James Alexander (1846-1920) and Jessie (1853-1932) Hogue

'Dismal Jimmy' Hogue, MP for Glebe 1894-1910, was Minister for Public Instruction 1895-9 and 1907-10 and Colonial Secretary 1904-7. Presbyterian, a liberal free trader and a supporter of Federation, he was probably nicknamed ironically because he was always cheerful.

The son of a Scottish innkeeper turned farmer, Hogue was born at Clarence Town NSW on 2 September 1846 and was educated locally and at Newcastle Grammar. He was a pupil-teacher before training as a compositor with the *Newcastle Chronicle* and working as a journalist with the *Maitland Mercury*. In 1875 he moved to Sydney as parliamentary reporter for the *Empire*, *Evening News* and *Australian Town and Country Journal*.

As *Evening News* editor in 1894 Hogue was involved in a protection of sources case when he refused to name the author of an article accusing MPs of drinking and gambling in the parliamentary refreshment rooms. After seven hours he was released from public questioning and no further action taken, perhaps because of the danger of further revelations.

Hogue was widely read, played flute, excelled in cricket, shooting and rowing and was a State bowls champion. In 1878 at Clarence Town he married Jessie Robards, born at Raymond Terrace on 18 October 1853, a skilled rider said to be the first woman to reach the summit of Mt Kosciuszko on horseback. They had ten children,

all of whom survived into adulthood, rare at that time. The youngest four were born in Glebe.

In Sydney the Hogues lived in Chippendale and Marrickville before shifting in 1887 to 19 Boyce St Glebe (on a corner with Mansfield St) where they remained until 1896 when they went to 46 Toxteth Rd. During 1909 they moved into *Surbiton* 248 Glebe Point Rd, vacated by flour miller Edmund Grant Aitken (1865 -1909) and his wife Margaret. A nostalgic reminder of London's *Surbiton* district, there were at least two other Sydney houses with the same name at Petersham and Bondi Junction. The Glebe building, first occupied in 1898 by auctioneer James R Lawson, was one in a stretch known as *The Mall*, most functioning today as backpacker accommodation. The Hogues moved ca 1915 to another *Surbiton* in Moruben Rd Mosman, James' address at the time of his death on 2 August 1920. Jessie died on 22 July 1932. Both were buried in Waverley Cemetery.

Eldest child Clarence Robert was born on 27 March 1879 and no doubt christened in memory of his parents' Hunter Valley township. He entered the Public Service in 1896 as a clerk in the Charitable Institutions Office of the Chief Secretary's Dept. From 1903 to 1910 he worked as a Clerk of Petty Sessions, first in the Attorney-General's Glebe office and then with the Dept of Mines at Picton. He was later attached to the Immigration and Tourist Bureau and to the Dept of Labour and Industry before retiring after 25 years as a public servant. During the First World

War he was accountant for the Amelioration Fund for Returned Soldiers.

In 1918 Clarence was defrauded of money by false pretences, but in 1930 as Secretary and Director of the Federal Building Assurance Co. was himself charged with fraudulent conspiracy over the theft of a security (a mortgage) from the Australian Traders' Insurance Co. Ltd. After a drawn-out and highly publicised court case he and his co-accused were acquitted. Clarence played cricket for Glebe and was for decades a member of the North Sydney club, including seven years as secretary. He was also a cricket selector. He died at St Leonards in 1969.

Twins Amy and Oliver, born on 29 April 1880, made money by writing. Amy's stories were published in the *Sydney Mail*, *The Australasian* and in serial form in the *Australian Town and Country Journal*. In 1902 at the Glebe Presbyterian Church (then on the corner of Glebe Point and Parramatta Rds) she married Henry Latour Lomax in a society wedding, but petitioned for divorce in 1909 on the grounds of desertion. Soon after the marriage Lomax had gone to New Zealand where he was imprisoned, and on his return he was charged at Albury with passing a valueless cheque. Like other family members Amy supported the war effort. At a patriotic concert at Glebe Town Hall in aid of the Red Cross she was showered with coins for her version of Kipling's *The Absent-Minded Beggar* with its chorus 'Pass the hat for your credit's sake, and pay – pay – pay!' Amy Hogue died in 1918 at her sister Elizabeth Holmes' house at Rouchelbrook in the Hunter Valley where she was holidaying on account of ill health.



Oliver Hogue
(Source: Australian War Memorial)

Oliver Hogue was dux of Forest Lodge School where he was captain of the cricket team and the cadet rifle team who practised on Saturdays at the Randwick Rifle Range. An expert horseman, he was also a keen swimmer, cyclist and oarsman. After working as a commercial traveller he turned to journalism. In November 1914 he enlisted and was sent with the Light Horse to Gallipoli where he

was described by war correspondent C E W Bean (whose job Hogue had wanted) as an enthusiastic and devoted officer. Hogue fought in the Sinai desert and Jordan with the Cameliers, and was in Palestine when news reached him of

his twin's death. He contributed poems to *Barrak* (the Camel Corps review) and *The Kia Ora Cooe* as 'Trooper Bluegum', his usual sign-off signature in his frequent letters home. Major Hogue survived the war but died in London in 1919, a victim of the influenza pandemic. His memorial service was held at the Glebe Presbyterian Church.

The Hogues entertained theatrical people at Glebe's *Surbiton*. John Roland, born on 3 March 1882, became a professional singer after a brief stint as a clerk. In 1911 he sailed to the USA where he had 'concert and gramophone engagements', toured as a singer and was a lead in New York in the romantic operetta *Little Boy Blue*. In 1915 he married Brooklyn-born musical comedy artist Gwendolyn Ethel Austin (died 1931) in New York. As Roland Hogue his Broadway career spanned the years 1917-43 after which he concentrated on television. He also toured Australia occasionally. Roland Hogue played a valet in the 1933 film *His Double Life* starring Lilian Gish.

Early stage work in America included *A Friend Indeed* (1926) and *The Wrecker* (1927-8). In 1942 he acted with Gregory Peck in *You Can't Take It With You* and the following year with Billie Burke in *This Rock* and gave 'another smooth performance as a valet' in *My Dear Children*. Television work included *The Philco-Goodyear Television Playhouse* (1948), *The Clock* (1949), *Armstrong Circle Theatre* (1950) and *Pulitzer Prize Playhouse* (1950). He also wrote a stage play *The Dead End*. Roland Hogue died on 7 October 1958 in New Jersey.

Elizabeth Mary, born in 1883, married Stanley Holmes (born at Clarence Town) at Glebe in 1907. They moved to Rouchelbrook in the Hunter Valley where she died in 1954.

Frank Arthur, born on 6 May 1885, married Vida Clarine Robinson in 1909. They lived at 24 Eglinton Rd Glebe where Oliver Alfred John (1910-87) was born. They then moved to Darlinghurst where Betty Jean and Ada Jessie were born in 1911 and 1915 respectively. A clerk, Frank enlisted on 13 May 1918 and embarked on HMAT *Medic* on 2 November, just before the armistice was declared. By the 1930s he was living at Newcastle. He died at Hamilton in 1949.

Sydney Cecil Alexander (1887-1969) became an engineer. In 1911 he married Mary A Scanlan at Randwick and they settled at Coogee.

Stephen James (1889- 1978), a dentist when he enlisted on 18 December 1917, embarked as a

lieutenant with the Army Medical Corps from Melbourne on HMAT *Beltana* on 19 January 1918. After he married Elsie Maude Sevil at Murrurundi in 1927, the couple lived at Scone. Stephen died on 18 June 1978, his resting place the Northern Suburbs Memorial Gardens.

Jessie Jean, an 'artiste' born in 1890, married Kenneth Cameron Mornington Gibbs (1897-1982) in 1924 at Mosman. She died on 10 July 1985, her resting place the Northern Suburbs Memorial Gardens.

Inspired by her brother Roland's success, youngest child Anne Christine joined the theatrical profession and took the stage name Tien Hogue. Born in 1892, she was by 1911 a member of Miss McCormack's Lyndhurst School and performed in and helped direct its fairy play *The Prince of Petriana*. She appeared in several silent films made in Australia 1913-20: *Pommy Arrives in Australia*, *The Life of a Jackeroo*, *A Blue Gum Romance*, *The Shepherd of the Southern Cross* and *Robbery Under Arms*. On stage she acted in *Within the Law*, *Quinneys*, *The Rosary*, *The Man Who Stayed at Home*, *The Thirteenth Chair* (with Nancye Stewart) and *The Bird of Paradise* (with Muriel Starr). In 1917 while on tour with Peg 'O My Heart in Hobart she was incensed overhearing a parliamentarian declare

that if Australia were in trouble Britain would not fire a shot to help her, and was a witness when he was charged under the War Precautions Act. Her portrait by Joseph Wolinski was a finalist in the 1926 Archibald Prize.

In 1924 in London Tien Hogue married British naval officer Arthur Guy Norris Wyatt (1893-1981) after which she gave up her theatrical career and lived abroad. In 1933 she made a trip home and four years later revisited Sydney on her way to join Captain Wyatt, a hydrographer then charting the NZ coast. A keen yachswoman, skater and skier, she was back in Australia in 1950 as Lady Wyatt, wife of Vice Admiral Sir Guy Wyatt. The couple retired to Tasmania.

Lyn Collingwood

Note: Roland Hogue's 1911 Edison cylinder recording of *You're the queen in the kingdom of my heart* can be downloaded: UCSB archival recording call no. 2097. **Sources:** *Australian Dictionary of Biography*; *Australian Town and Country Journal* various issues; *Bendigo Advertiser* 27.5.1916; *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 21.7.1915, 29.9.1931; *Daily Examiner* (Grafton) 22.3.1918; *Evening News* 7.2.1910; *Hobart Mercury* 15.2.1917; *Manning River Times* 30.7.1932; Mitchell Library: Oliver Hogue papers MLMSS 8814; *Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate* 3.5.1949; NSW Births, deaths, marriages registry; NSW cemetery records; NSW electoral rolls; NSW Public Service Board *Public Service List*; *Sands Directories*; *St George Call* 25.3.1911, 8.4.1911; *Scone Advocate* 9.7.1918; *Sydney Mail* 23.10.1929; *Sydney Morning Herald* various issues including 9.11.1930; *Wodonga and Towong Sentinel* 18.6.1909.

Mystery Photo

Last month's mystery building is 63 Westmoreland St. As you can see from the photo below, a stone wall at the front has replaced the neat wooden fence, but the house is virtually unchanged since this photo was taken ca 1874.



63 Westmoreland St,
Glebe, ca 1874



63 Westmoreland St
today

This month's puzzle (below). Where's this house? Email your suggestions to: heritage@glebesociety.org.au



Connected, Creative Glebe

Players in the Pub



The next Players in the Pub is: 'A Movie Classic', directed by Lyn Collingwood.

When? 7pm, WEDNESDAY 20 September 2017

Where? Upstairs Toxteth Hotel Ferry Rd/Glebe Point Rd Glebe (entry via Ferry Rd stairs)

Cost? Free admission. The kitchen is open from 5pm. Please order your food early. We always start on time!

Lyn Collingwood

Thirsty Thursday



Glebe Society members and friends are invited to meet in restaurants in and around Glebe, usually on the first Thursday of each month, to eat

and talk with other people who live in Glebe.

We try to pick places where we can share dishes, and have eight or so people at each table.

Put these details in your diary now:

- On Thursday 7 September at 7pm we will share an Indian meal at *Darbar*, 134 Glebe Point Rd. See page 6 in this *Bulletin*.
- On Thursday 5 October at 7pm we will go to *Despaña*, 101 Glebe Point Rd.
- And on Thursday 2 November at 7pm we will go to the Tramsheds, to *Bekya – Middle Eastern Kitchen*, 10 Maxwell Rd, Forest Lodge.

Please email or ring Edwina on 9660 7066 by 6pm on the Wednesday before to let us know if you are coming, or if you are likely to be late.

Edwina Doe

Honorary Treasurer needed for GYS

Could you help to make a difference in your local community and help improve the lives of our young people? Glebe Youth Service is looking for a new member of the volunteer Management Committee to replace our long standing treasurer. Funded primarily by FaCS and City of Sydney, GYS provides [a range of programs](#) for young people in the Glebe area. The Honorary Treasurer oversees the Financial Administrator and works with the Management Committee to provide financial governance for GYS. For a more detailed role description or other information please contact Greg Dwyer 0421505295; gregdwyer51@gmail.com



Greg Dwyer

Glebe Music Festival

French? Brazilian? Or both?

Gleebooks (49 Glebe Point Rd) will host two concerts at this year's 28th Annual Glebe Music Festival. Ben Noir, also known as Ben Palumbo, teams up with accordionist Paolo Campanari-Brancondi to present French chanson in the

classic style but with some theatrical twists. Ben has performed recently at burlesque festivals in Paris and Montreal, and at the Bastille Festival in Sydney in July. Date: Friday 3 November; time: 7pm; tickets: \$10 (includes food/drinks), at the door or in advance at www.glebemusicfestival.com.

Salleh & Strazz

Journey to the heart of Brazil with Anna Salleh and Guy Strazz – a slow-burning brew of honey-smooth bossa nova and ballads, irrepressible samba, playful swing, cool jazz and beyond. Songs of beauty, sorrow, irreverence and joy. Anna woos audiences with her vocal artistry and natural feel for the music of Rio de Janeiro and beyond, while maestro Guy's guitar sings with dazzling virtuosity and a deeply expressive -- almost romantic -- strain:

www.sallehandstrazz.com Date: Friday 17 November; time: 7pm; tickets \$10 (includes food/drinks), at the door or in advance at www.glebemusicfestival.com

David Macintosh

Vicki Marquis wins the Society-sponsored prize at Glebe Art Show



This is the winner of the prize sponsored by the Glebe Society for the 'Character/Spirit of Glebe.' The artist is Vicky Marquis

New rector for St John's



(Source: St Barnabas' Church)

Rev Mark Wormell will be the next Rector of St John's Bishopthorpe Glebe following a service of commencement on Sunday 24 September beginning at 9.30am – refreshments to follow (of course). All welcome.

Lyn Milton

Mercia Bush's exhibition

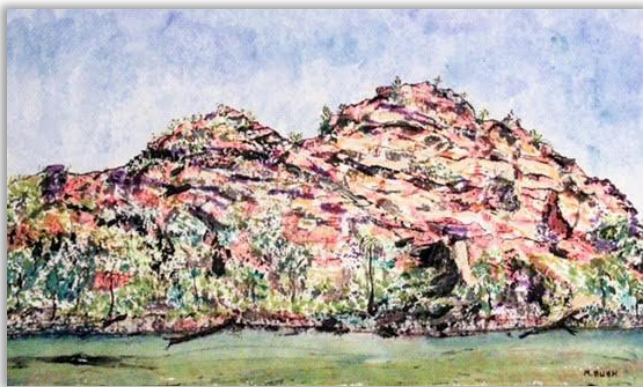
I have lived in Glebe and first joined the Glebe Society in 1975. My recent three trips to Arnhem Land, the Kimberly and Kakadu are featured in this exhibition.

When? *Opening:* Tuesday 17 October 6-8pm. *Exhibition:* 17-29 October. *Drinks with the Artist:* Saturday 21 October 4pm. *Exhibition opening hours:* 10am-6pm (Closed Monday)

Where? The Gauge Gallery, 68 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe.

Contact: mercia.bush@inet.net.au; 9660 2613.

Mercia Bush



Vicki Pogulis retires as Principal of Glebe Public – a letter

Dear Allan and Glebe Society Members,

It is with mixed emotions that I write to advise you that I will be leaving my role as Principal of Glebe PS as of the end of this year this year. It has been an absolute privilege to lead such an amazing school over the last 13 years and, prior to that, to have taught here for 14 years! Those who know me well know how difficult it is for me to leave something that is so much a part of me but now I need to move to a different phase of life. I thank all of the Glebe community for these amazing years!

I especially wanted to inform the members of the Glebe Society as I have had amazing support from you all in my time as Principal!

Sveiks! Vicki



2016-2017 Annual Reports

Last month's issue of the Bulletin contained annual reports for the following subcommittees: Heritage, Transport & Traffic, Planning and Blue Wrens. This issue contains Community, Environment, Bays & Foreshores and Communications.

Community Subcommittee Annual Report 2016-17

At the commencement of the new TGSI committee year an appeal from a carer/mother of an intellectually disabled young Glebe adult came to our attention. The appeal was to assist them by providing transport (car & driver) one day per week (all costs reimbursed) to take both people to the Southern Highlands for therapy. Several Glebe Society members volunteered their time and this activity began shortly afterwards, however due to several difficulties it changed to be occasional assistance on an ongoing basis. It is pleasing to find there are people in our midst who can and will make time to actively support other community members.

On that note it was also gratifying to receive many Christmas gifts for families at the Elsie refuge again last year. About 60 gifts, covering all the age/gender combinations of known family members then in residence were delivered to Elsie on 23 December 2016. Additionally there was a very large number of 'Trauma Teddies' provided by Edwina Doe and the Red Cross knitting group she belongs to. Thank you to all our members who have made this possible. The

Christmas appeal is now firmly included on our 'community calendar' and it will be made in October/November each year. It has also been suggested that there are other families, resident in special facilities in Glebe, to whom this community generosity may be extended this year.

Able represented by John Gray, TGSI has been engaged with the GlebeCAN project, a joint enterprise of FLAG (Forest Lodge and Glebe), Glebe Community Development Project and Sydney University. In essence it had the objective of identifying how social services might be more effective and needs better met.

The resulting 'Shaping the Future of Glebe' Forum, held at the University of Sydney on August 30, 2016 involved about 50 participants. The consensus reached moved the process towards creating a *Collective Impact* model of community development, involving the creation of vital community partnerships, with the need for more IT savvy data collection and outcomes reporting, which may lead to priority determinations and new sources of funds. UTS and

City of Sydney have agreed to work jointly on City data, including well-being indicators and Glebe village data. This long term but vital project is continuing.

The long anticipated Glebe Tram Mural was completed in January and officially unveiled by Lord Mayor Clover Moore on Wednesday 8 March. We are indebted to community elders Sadie King, Barbara Brilley, Kay White, Steve Perry, former resident Mick Kelly and resident historian Max Solling for their contributions of memories and audio recordings to the finished multifaceted project. Thanks also goes to Adele Horn, daughter of the late Ruth Russell, for allowing her mother's recollections to be included; to another Glebite, Max Solling Jr who did the hard yards in preparing the wall and to the owners of the property, the Younans, for allowing the Society to celebrate our heritage in this way. Most importantly however, a very big debt of gratitude is owed to Kelly Wallwork, the artist who brought the concept to life so authentically on the Hereford St façade of 168 Glebe Point Rd. If you haven't already

done so, go online to www.glebesociety.org.au/trams to listen to the oral history recordings.

The idea recently raised, of a Glebe Exchange Platform, aimed at recycling good usable domestic items no longer required in people's households, the collection of these and their redistribution through the social service organisations in Glebe, to Glebe community members in need has been under discussion by the committee. Several difficulties which need to be overcome before this project is commenced are receiving attention, and it is anticipated that it will be launched in the next committee year. To that end I'd like to welcome two new members to the Community subcommittee. They are Diane Hutchinson and Nick Hespe, and I look forward to working with them to continue the objectives of the Community group; to whit, increasing community building for the whole of our suburb.

Janice Challinor
Convenor, Community

Environment Subcommittee Annual Report 2016-17

The environment portfolio intersects with several other groups, particularly Transport and the Bays & Foreshores Group. I attended a number of meetings of the Bays Precinct Reference Group, mostly as an alternate to Lesley Lynch. Lesley covered the activity of that Group in the last *Bulletin*.

Since that *Bulletin* we have met with representatives of the architect and designer of the new Fishmarket, where we made clear our concerns about the huge volumes of traffic the new site would generate and the complete lack of planning to manage that traffic.

Since Lesley wrote her report the issue of Blackwattle Bay Marina (BBM), trading as All Occasion Cruises, has arisen. I represented The Glebe Society at a very well attended community meeting in Pyrmont. The meeting was held to protest the State Government plan to move BBM from Bridge Rd, where the new Fishmarket will be built, to Banks St, Pyrmont, under the Anzac Bridge.

Sydney Heritage Fleet, which is currently located on Rozelle Bay, had put in plans to build a public museum with a wharf for 11 boats there. It had planned to operate under standard office hours, with occasional boat movements. It had also consulted with the local community, and accordingly made some alterations to their plan.

After lodging the plan, the Sydney Heritage Fleet was offered a position at Darling Harbour, which they accepted. Suddenly the Sydney Heritage Fleet plan was 'modified' to cover the shift of BBM to the Banks St site.

BBM was granted the lease at Bridge Rd in 2010, under a number of conditions, including erecting several buildings, which it has never fulfilled. The head of NSW Maritime at the time was Steve Dunn,

and the minister was Joe Tripodi, both of whom have been found to be corrupt in unrelated matters.

So the Banks St proposal morphed from a friendly non-profit museum to a 7am to 1am business with twice the number of boats and a collection of 22 rusting ship containers that one resident described as a third-world set up on a world-class harbour. It would also involve managing large quantities of rubbish and a sewage pump out-station.

The Glebe Society objects to the alienation of public land for BBM, the proposed reduction in open space, and the promised foreshore walkway becoming a narrow path away from the water. The argument that BBM would only have a ten-year lease is no consolation, given what happened with the Sydney Superyacht Marina on Rozelle Bay (That Marina was supposed to provide temporary accommodation for just 15 superyachts for the duration of the Sydney Olympics in the year 2000. Last year the company announced a \$30 million investment to increase the number of berths to 43, and to 'create an exclusive yacht club, several new eateries and 7,000 square metres of retail and commercial space'.)

The subcommittee decided to tackle the problem of plastic bags and non-recyclable coffee cups in Glebe. This was a challenge as in every other jurisdiction where plastic bags have been banned the decision came from the top, i.e. from state governments or councils. Local business owners felt that if they refused to supply plastic bags, their customers would just go to another business that would supply them.

Then, in July, Coles, Woolworths and Harris Farms all announced they intended to ban plastic bags next year, though the State Government has refused to support that ban.

Our next challenge is to end the use of takeaway coffee cups, which not only cannot be recycled but can actually contaminate a load of recycling. The statistics on plastic pollution are horrifying: Planet Ark estimates about 60,000 kilograms of plastic waste from coffee cups is sent to landfill in Australia each year, and those cups take about 50 years to break down. We hope an education campaign, along with a Glebe Society KeepCup, will reduce the load.

Asa Wahlquist
Convenor, Environment



Bays and Foreshores Subcommittee Annual Report 2016-17

Bays and Foreshores activity in 2016-7 has again been focused on attempts to influence the Bays Precinct (BP) Urban Renewal Project and, to a lesser extent, ongoing developments in relation Sydney Super Yachts Marina (SSYM) in Rozelle Bay.

Asa Wahlquist has been an active participant in the Bays and Foreshores activities this year.

1. Main Activity 2016-7

The range of activities has included:

- attendance at BP Community Reference Group meetings and workshops organised by UrbanGrowth NSW
- meeting with UrbanGrowth's BP manager Paul Hedge and staff
- small meeting with commissioners of Greater Sydney Commission (10/11/16) to discuss its role with City of Sydney and inner west councils and in relation to the Bays Precinct
- ongoing liaison and planning meetings with other Bays community groups through the Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC), the wider Bays Community Coalition (BaCC) including Annandale and Rozelle residents and individual meetings with Pyrmont/Ultimo colleagues
- participation in public meeting opposing the relocation of Occasional Cruises Maritime operation to Bank St
- meeting with Premier Berejiklian's transport and planning advisers in relation to the Bays Precinct and the Bank St decision and the general lack of meaningful consultation by UrbanGrowth
- TGSi Submission objecting to relocation of Occasional Cruises Maritime to Bank St site in Rozelle bay (also individual submission by Asa Wahlquist)
- attendance at SSYM Community Liaison Group meetings
- reports in TGSi *Bulletin*

2. Developments in Bays Precinct Urban Renewal Project

In October 2016 we heard the startling news that **UrbanGrowth had won two major awards for their excellence in public consultation** in the Bays Precinct Project. I reported on the widespread reaction of hilarity and rage within the community at this extraordinary news in the October TGSi *Bulletin*.

The unexplained resignation of David Pitchford, the head of UrbanGrowth, in late 2016 signalled a significant change of status and direction for the organisation and for the BP project itself. One can only speculate that the Government was not willing to support his vision for the White Bay Power station and adjoining foreshore redevelopment – and was perhaps generally dissatisfied with lack of progress.

It is safe to presume that ongoing tension with both Roads and Maritime Services and the behemoth WestConnex over transport planning – and of course the anger of developers thwarted in their bids for the White Bay Power Station/ foreshore development – were central to this outcome.

3. Sydney Fishmarket

The long running saga of the Sydney Fishmarket redevelopment has been a key issue.

David Pitchford's last public announcement re the Bays was the startling news that the Baird Government had decided to relocate the Fishmarket to a new site on Bridge Rd opposite Wentworth Park. (November 2016). There had been no public consultation on this decision. There was no explanation for this relocation to a very constrained and technically challenging site which has huge construction, traffic/parking and foreshore access problems to overcome – and unclear implications for Wentworth Park. It will be a very costly project.

It would have been most interesting to see the bottom-line analysis of relative public benefit of this decision versus a redevelopment on the existing site (as previously planned) – with a lesser but still significant proportion of the large site available for the planned sell-off to developers for intensive high rise residential and commercial development.

The appointment of a highly regarded Danish architectural firm (3XN) with Australian partners in June 2017 following a competitive tender was positive news. It is just possible that an experienced and excellent architectural team may be able to come up with optimal solutions to the huge constraints on the site and deliver Sydney a splendid new Fishmarket – at a cost.

The CRG met with the architect at a workshop in August – which was later run for the wider

community. The discussion was reassuring in terms of their vision and competence. However, they had no information as to the wider transport plans nor of the future of Wentworth Park – other than that the fig trees were untouchable and that the desired connecting of Wentworth Park and the new Fishmarket/foreshore would have to be over Bridge Rd. Public access to the foreshore would have to be at the highest level of the Fishmarket building.

We are optimistic the new Fishmarket design will be splendid. We are less hopeful about likely transport/traffic solutions and about access by the predicted 6 million people each year to the splendid building.

4. Relocation of Occasional Cruises to Bank St

We were totally surprised in July by the revelation (through a public development modification proposal) that the Government/UrbanGrowth had decided to relocate Occasional Cruises (the controversial Elias brothers operation) from its current location at B1 and B2 wharves on Bridge Rd to a site on Bank St which had previously been approved for the Heritage Fleet.

There was no mention of this proposal at meetings of the CRG though members consistently asked specific questions as to any developments re the site. It is now clear that UrbanGrowth, RMS and Planning had been progressing this proposal for a considerable time. One can only presume this was a Government approved or imposed stance.

The foreshore area is zoned public open space/public park and authorities have repeatedly committed to the provision of a public park on the site. Occasional Cruises has not been the best of tenants at its current site – as visitors to the Fishmarket can observe. There is a host of other amenity reasons why this is not an appropriate relocation.

Pymont residents are angry and managed to get 200 plus people to a public meeting within days of the information surfacing. Asa Wahlquist spoke on behalf of the Glebe Society and the meeting unanimously resolved to oppose the relocation. TGSi has submitted a formal objection to the proposal (<https://www.glebesociety.org.au/?p=13148>)

It is, however, more than likely that this is a done deal.

5. Industrial operations to Glebe Island

Most recently the Government and UrbanGrowth have announced the relocation of Hanson's cement mixing plants to Glebe Island and the continuation of Ports maritime activities on that site for at least 20 years. The relocation/consolidation of these plants to Glebe Island has long been mooted – but was in contention with other proposals for a hi-tech innovative precinct and of course the longstanding

push from developer lobbies for intensive high-rise development on Glebe Island.

On balance this might be a good decision which will provide needed ports facilities and construction supplies close to the city and inner west – and will protect the site from the more rapacious developers for at least a few decades.

6. The Master plan

In August the Government/UrbanGrowth selected an urban designer (FJMT) to develop the 'Masterplan for the Bays Market District' for the current Fishmarket site, the land along Bank St and at head of Blackwattle Bay on Bridge Rd and the waters of the Bay. It has now invited the CRG and the community to participate in consultation on this 'Masterplan'.

We have contributed, and will continue to contribute, ideas – but as was very vehemently pointed out at the last CRG, it is somewhat of a sham in that the Government has already taken all the key redevelopment decisions about the uses for these sites. These consultations now can only be at the margins of these decisions.

Even more outrageous is the fact that we – and maybe even the design consultant – continue in total ignorance of the Government's thinking (dare we say 'planning'?) on transport options to manage the huge problems for the whole of the Bays – and these sites in particular.

7. Google departs White Bay

In April UrbanGrowth's vision for a hi-tech hub on White Bay collapsed with the withdrawal of Google, with Government compliance, from arrangements that were well progressed. Google cited inadequate transport facilities as its reason. This would certainly have been a key factor. There were most probably other factors to which we are not privy. We await development on this very significant site.

TGSi focus for next year

We will continue to object to the selloff of public land for short term cash gains. We will try to influence the principles for the design of the Fishmarket and the Bays Market District. Key issues will be the inclusion of a significant proportion of affordable housing (closer to 30% than 5%) on any residential development, a general 30 metre foreshore setback for public access, protection of Wentworth Park as open space parkland, resistance to the currently mooted **very** intensive residential development on the current Fishmarket site, retention of the Glebe Island Bridge – and urgent release of the Government's plans for transport and social infrastructure (schools, hospital space, sporting facilities etc) to cope with the large surge in population and visitors to this already congested area.

Lesley Lynch
Convenor, Bays and Foreshores

Communications Subcommittee Annual Report 2016-17

The Communications subcommittee has met six times since the last AGM. We've gained two new members, Madeleine Jennings and Andrew Botros, while saying goodbye to Jan Macindoe and Scott Calvert. Phil Young stepped down as Webmaster (but remains on the subcommittee) and was replaced by Andrew Botros. Other members of the subcommittee are Virginia Simpson-Young (convenor), Peter Thorogood (website technical person), Carole Herriman, Bruce Davis, Allan Hogan and Bill Simpson-Young.

Our main activity over the past year has been to oversee the Society's various media – the *Bulletin*, websites, Facebook pages, Twitter, YouTube, email update to members and Eventbrite. We also made some Glebe Society postcards to encourage people to join the Society and some special wine bottle labels for the Glebe Society Red. This year we finalised the Communications Policy which can be read at <http://www.glebe.org.au/?p=12271>.

The *Bulletin* continues to be sent to members in either the hard copy or email form. More and more members are electing to receive the *Bulletin* via email, but the majority enjoy receiving the paper version so they can kick back and enjoy it with a glass of wine or a good coffee (or perhaps read it on the loo!). The ongoing project to scan back-copies for electronic access via the Society's website continues; back copies are available from **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** The Society's trusty archivist, Lyn Milton, has painstakingly indexed past *Bulletins* up to 1999 – we hope to make those indexes available when the full complement of past *Bulletins* is available electronically.

The Society has three websites – our main one (www.glebesociety.org.au), one for the Glebe Island Bridge (<https://www.glebeislandbridge.com/>) and the Glebe Walks website (<https://glebewalks.com.au/>). Each can be viewed on your computer, tablet or smart phone – particularly useful in the case of the Glebe Walks site. Late last year, we undertook a major upgrade of our websites which involved transitioning the website to a new host, improving security, obtaining an SSL certificate and improving usability. These were big jobs and we're very grateful to Peter Thorogood for doing this.

As mentioned, Andrew Botros took over from Phil as Webmaster. Phil had been doing this job for around 10 years and, of course, he will be missed. On the upside, we're very fortunate that Andrew has agreed to take it on. Andrew has already made his mark as the new Webmaster by automating the process by which website enquiries reach the appropriate person office-bearer or convenor.

Some other changes to the website include the inclusion of information and interviews associated with the tram mural (corner of GPR and Hereford St): <https://www.glebesociety.org.au/?socialhistory=glebe>

[s-trams](#). Our main website is currently averaging about 715 hits per day, and the Glebe Walks site is averaging around 100 hits per day.

The Society's Facebook pages are also maintained by the Communications subcommittee. These are the main page (www.facebook.com/TheGlebeSociety) and the Glebe Island Bridge page (<http://www.facebook.com/GlebeIslandBridge>).

Around 635 people follow our Facebook page, which is a 30% increase on about this time last year. The vast majority of these people are not Society members, so Facebook is a great way to reach beyond the membership.

As with the website, the Society is often contacted via Facebook, including by journalism students following up a story and people with family history enquiries. If you know of anything you think could be shared on our Facebook page either leave a comment on the page, or email us at facebook@glebesociety.org.au.

One of the subcommittee's roles is the compilation and distribution of the *Glebe Society* Update emails that are sent on an irregular basis to those members who have provided us with an email address. The *Glebe Society Update* emails include breaking news that can't wait for the next *Bulletin* and updated information on important issues that the Glebe Society is working on. The number of our members who can be contacted by email has risen from 90% last year to 95% this year. We imagine it won't be too many years before it's 100%!

The YouTube channel remains a useful repository for the Society's audio-visual material. In the last year, we uploaded a video of the *Robyn Kemmis Park naming ceremony* and a gem of a clip showing Glebe Point Rd in 1913.

The Society is laying low in the Twittersphere at the moment. We hope to start tweeting again when one of us feels moved to do so. Members are welcome to suggest tweet content by emailing twitter@glebesociety.org.au.

The communications subcommittee held the Smartphone 101 event in November. It was exceptionally well attended. We've had requests for a repeat event, and we're planning this for 2018. We've also been planning our next event, which is co-hosted with the Heritage subcommittee. The topic is researching your house online. We have also been thinking ahead to the Society's 50th anniversary in 2019. As well as some plans for a publication based on the 50 years of the *Bulletin*, we've met with the Heritage subcommittee to provide support for their plans.

Please get in touch if you have any suggestions, comments or complaints about our media – we're open to new ideas.

Virginia Simpson-Young
Convenor, Communications

For your calendar

Thursday 7 September, 7pm. *Thirsty Thursday: Darbar*, 134 Glebe Point Rd.

Saturday 9 September 10am-3pm. *Glebe Artisans Market*, Foley Park.

Wednesday 20 September, 7pm. *Players in the Pub*. Upstairs Toxteth.

Tuesday 26 September. 'Citizen Jane'. Palace Cinema Leichhardt.

Sunday 30 September, 10am. *Working bee*, Orphan School Creek Park, contact Judy Christie: 0437 693 372.

Thursday 5 October, 7pm. *Thirsty Thursday @ Despaña*, 101 Glebe Point Rd.

Sunday 8 October, 6.45am. *Spring Bird Survey*, Paddy Gray Reserve, Hereford St, contact Judy Christie: 0437 693 372 (please note the revised date).

Friday 13 October, 6-8.30pm. *Sunset Soirée for Centipede*. Glebe Rowing Club.

25 October to 25 November. *Annual Glebe Music Festival*, <http://www.glebemusicfestival.com/>.

Thursday 2 November, 7pm. *Thirsty Thursday @ Bekya Middle Eastern Kitchen*, Tramsheds.

Saturday 4 November, 11am-1pm. *Researching Your House Online*. Glebe Town Hall.

Sunday 12 November, 2.30-4pm. *Our House* – Rothwell House in Ferry Road.

Sunday 3 December, 5.30-8pm. *Christmas Party*, Glebe Town Hall.

Wednesday mornings from 8.30am. *Glebe Bushcare Group*, near Jubilee Park. Contact Sue– 9692 9161.



Glebe Society Inc. Established 1969

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PO Box 100 GLEBE NSW 2037

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Membership of the Glebe Society

- Individual member: \$45
- Joint (2 people, one address): \$55
- Household: \$60
- Concession (student or pensioner): \$20
- Institution or corporate: \$110

How to join

- Join online: complete the Membership Application on our website under 'Membership'
- 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



Not all of Glebe's lanes are picturesque! This un-named lane runs between the rears of houses that face Lodge St and Forest St. (Source: VSY)