



Sydney Fish Market – where does the Glebe Society stand?

On Friday 20 September Premier Berejiklian reannounced her Government's decision to redevelop Sydney's Fish Market, this time at an estimated cost of \$750 million.

It has been almost 12 months since the last announcement, at which time we were told that a DA was imminent. Same message this time, although there will apparently be two DAs, one for the demolition of the existing wharves and site preparation, and the other for the main works, including the construction of the new Fish Market facility.

This announcement does not contain any significant information that explains the cost increase of \$500 million and given the Government's track record of budget blowouts, only the most naïve would accept that as the full and final cost.

So, without all the necessary information it is not possible to make detailed and objective comments.



Traffic management is already a big problem on Bridge Rd near the Fish Markets. Imagine the congestion when there are five million visitors per annum?? (photo: V. Simpson-Young)

At this year's June and July Glebe Society Management Committee meetings, the Society reconfirmed its position in relation to the Sydney Fish Market. It acknowledged that the current Sydney Fish Market badly needs redevelopment – in fact, it is long overdue – but the Society is adamant that redevelopment should occur on the Fish Market's current site.

The Committee noted that the Glebe Society's constitutional objective is to pursue and achieve public access, both pedestrian and cycle, to the entire waterfront of Glebe. The proposed re-development site – at the head of Blackwattle Bay – falls within that area described as Glebe waterfront. The Society therefore calls for the restoration of free and

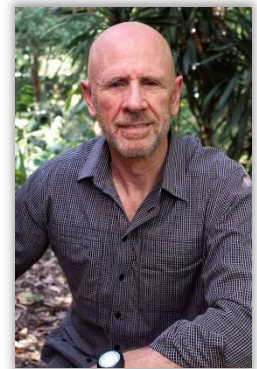
unrestricted non-commercial public access to the foreshore, including connection of parkland to the waterfront. Once this is achieved, 100 percent of Glebe and Forest Lodge's foreshores will be publicly accessible and available for all to enjoy.

The Management Committee also rejected the Government's plan to build over water because no satisfactory explanation has been given for the merits of such a proposal versus the redevelopment of the current site. In that context, the Society calls on the Government to explain and justify the business case for a relocation, balanced against the environmental cost to the Bay and loss of amenity to all Sydneysiders.

Predictions of five million visitors per annum are being made for the redeveloped Fish Market but no detail has been provided on how those visitors are expected to arrive and depart. Despite some suggestion of ferry services, the impact on roads and public transport services will be immense, creating huge delays in travelling in and around Glebe, if not effectively addressed.

There are too many unanswered questions and without more information, the planning and design brief behind the announced proposal remains short-sighted and suspect.

From the President



Brian Fuller
President, Glebe Society

Letter to the Editor



Elizabeth Heathcote is the daughter of Bernard and Kate Smith. She and her husband John were able to join us for the Launch Party and a number of events during the Glebe Society Community Festival in late June. She wrote to the Society:

Dear President Verity Firth, Judy and the Glebe Society,

I'd like to congratulate the Glebe Society for a really amazing celebration of their 50th Anniversary. Don and I were so delighted to have been there. Thank you so much for the invitation and program.

The exhibition was meticulously prepared and extremely interesting with the history of Glebe going back to the first indigenous people and following through to now. We were very impressed.

I know my mother and father Kate and Bernard Smith would have been thrilled with the love you have of your community. I think they dreamed of a future for Glebe like the one you have created.

I remember the huge effort it took in Dad's day to preserve the buildings from bulldozers and an expressway.

Now with a heritage overlay and the beautiful Harold Park area and Tramsheds and so many other historic areas you have worked so hard to preserve, you have every reason to be extremely proud. Also, your great care and respect for all the people of Glebe.

I know that to keep Glebe as it is now and continue with your exciting ideas for the community requires constant vigilance: eg. even a seemingly small detail

like the ugly way installation of NBN cabling has been done, you quite rightly don't overlook.

We enjoyed our two days immensely. It was such a pleasure to meet up again with people I knew from the past. Everyone was so generous and welcoming and gave us lots of time, answered our questions and explained about Glebe. We appreciated that very much.

It was also a great pleasure to participate again in a Max Solling walk. I only wished we had been able to stay longer. The program was so interesting.

I would have loved to have heard about the women of Glebe at the session devoted to them but your website has given me an insight into this session which I enjoyed, with a photo of my mother I hadn't seen before.

Best Wishes to the amazing people of Glebe,

Elizabeth Heathcote



Special guests, Elizabeth Heathcote and Max Solling at the Glebe Society Community Festival opening night (photo: VixPix)

Bays and Foreshores

Pre-Settlement Glebe, by Asa Wahlquist

This is the first of three articles by Glebe Society Environment Subcommittee Convenor, Asa Wahlquist, focusing on the natural environment of Glebe and Forest Lodge

The Glebe and Forest Lodge region was long occupied by the Gadigal and Wangal people. Back then Blackwattle Bay and Rozelle Bay had meandering shorelines. There were extensive mudflats, with mangrove forests, saltmarshes and brackish swamps fed by freshwater streams where Wentworth Park and Harold Park are today. The Bays provided a plentiful supply of fish and shellfish. The women fished from bark canoes called *nowies* using shellfish hooks and lines from the inner bark of trees, while the men speared fish from the shore. The Bays provided bream, flathead, mud and rock oysters, mussels, cockles, crabs, octopus and turtles.

Glebe lies on a ridge of Hawkesbury sandstone shale. The great Turpentine-Ironbark forest of pre-settlement Sydney grew along that ridge. The grey ironbark (*Eucalyptus paniculata*) on the grounds of St Johns Anglican Church, on the corner of Glebe Point Rd and St Johns Rd, is arguably the only remnant of the old forest in Glebe.

Botanists Doug Benson and Jocelyn Howell wrote: 'On the more rugged Hawkesbury sandstone landforms – the harbourside suburbs of Glebe and Balmain – would have been typical Sydney sandstone open forest, with trees of smooth-barked apple (*Angophora costata*) and Sydney peppermint (*E. piperita*). The species present would have been similar to bushland found today on the nearby northern side of the harbour, such as at Balls Head and Berry Island'. They state that the 1859 pencil sketch by Conrad Martens 'captures the nature of the

steep wooded slopes and overhanging sandstone rock ledges that were to disappear during the next 40 years under the terrace houses of Glebe'. (1)



Conrad Martens, Glebe May 17, 1859, *Album of Pencil Sketches*, State Library of NSW.

Swamp oaks or casuarinas grew near the water, grey mangroves grew in the intertidal zones and Blackwattles grew along Blackwattle Creek. (The Blackwattle, *Callicoma serratifolia*, is not a true wattle or acacia. It was called a wattle because it was the first tree used in early Sydney to build wattle and daub huts.)

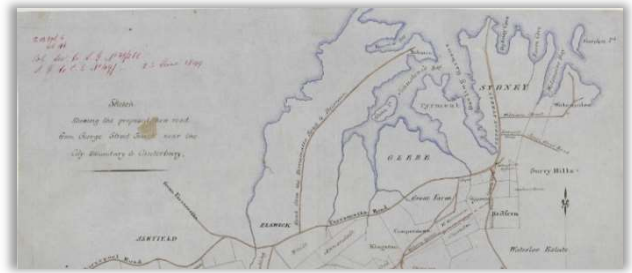
Blackwattle Creek, which flowed from swampy lands that are now in the grounds of the University of Sydney, was a source of fresh water for Sydney's Aboriginal people, and a place for fishing and other activities.

Paul Irish and Tamike Goward write: 'During the early decades of European settlement the creek was located at the edge of town, but by the middle of the 19th century, the course of the creek was highly modified and densely inhabited by some of Sydney's poorest residents.'

Despite these impacts, some archaeological traces of Aboriginal people living along the creek have survived. The most substantial evidence has been found at an Aboriginal campsite located on the original banks of the swamp at the head of Blackwattle Bay.

While these sites only give us a glimpse of how Aboriginal people used Blackwattle Creek, we can at least see that they were there, and that they continued to use the area after Europeans arrived in Sydney. The sites are also a reminder that physical evidence of this kind still survives in the city, despite two centuries of intense European activity. (2)

There is also some evidence of Aboriginal middens – the remains of shellfish – in the narrow strip of remnant salt marsh fringing the lower parts of Johnstons Creek. The ark cockle, scallop and Sydney rock oyster and mud whelk found there indicate that it was a fertile swamp and a rich source of food for the first inhabitants.



Series: NRS 13886 Surveyor General's Sketch books. Cumberland County Petersham 23/06/1849

Blackwattle Bay

Blackwattle Bay was one of the earliest boundaries of settlement, and was soon populated with small industry, including flour milling, animal processing such as tanneries, brick manufacturing and breweries, along with housing.

A bridge crossed the Bay where Bridge Rd is now, and travellers were charged 2d (two pence) to walk across it, 3d for horse and rider and 9d for a two-horse chaise. In those pre-sewage days Blackwattle Bay soon became heavily polluted and unsanitary. Stormwater, industrial waste and untreated sewage ended up in the Bay.

The mangrove forest area, also known as Blackwattle Swamp, was filled in between 1876 and 1880. Reclaimed land was considered unsuitable for building on, and became sporting facilities and open ground, and as a result Glebe had three sporting facilities on formerly swampy ground: Wentworth Park (1882); Harold Park (1890); and Jubilee Oval (1910). Harold Park was recently built on.

In 1880 there were 30 manufacturing works in Glebe, including coach and wagon works, joineries, sawmills, furniture workshops, brass and iron foundries and a pottery. The timber industry, which relied on moving timber by boat and barge, became a strong presence along the waterfront in the first half of the twentieth century. By 1944 there were 156 factories in the area. (3)



Blackwattle Bay and Glebe Foreshore 1970 (source: Max Solling Collection)

In 1883 the Auckland Timber Company opened a timber yard on what is now Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Campus. It was later sold to George Hudson & Son, who advertised the site as the largest timber mill in Australasia.

Vanderfield and Reid set up on a large site further down the Bay, south and east of Leichhardt St, in 1913. Hardy Brothers had timber drying sheds at the end of Glebe Point Rd. Sylvester Stride's ship breaking yards, and the little tugs of Harbour Lighterage (a lighter is a small boat that transfers loads, a big business in the bays) were off Oxley St.

There were more timber businesses along Federal Rd and around the Bay to Annandale: Langdon and Langdon; National Plywood; and Sydney Sawmilling.

When the Glebe Society was founded in 1969, Blackwattle and Rozelle Bays were still working waterfronts. The only public access to the Bays was the Marine Reserve (later renamed after Pope Paul VI) at the end of Glebe Point Rd.

The area began to deindustrialise, and the Glebe Society was at the forefront, arguing that formerly industrial waterfrontage should be made into parkland and opened up to the public. Residents lobbied and planted and cared for trees in areas they hoped would become parkland.



Blackwattle Bay, SRC 24125 (source: Bernard Smith collection, City of Sydney archives)

The Foreshore Walk

The official waterfront walk, from Bridge Rd to Chapman Rd, was finally completed in 2014. It extends 2.2km through four parks: Blackwattle Bay; Bicentennial; Jubilee; and Federal Parks. Over 400 trees and 8,500 shrubs, herbs and grasses have been planted along it.

Federal Park is the oldest. Dedicated on reclaimed land in 1899, it was named Federal Park in 1902 to commemorate Federation the previous year. It spanned both sides of Johnstons Creek Canal. In 1909 Glebe's side was renamed Jubilee Park to mark the 50th anniversary of Glebe. Jubilee Park was extended to Victoria Rd in 1911.

Bicentennial Park Stage 1, east of the canal, opened in 1988, hence the name. Stage 2, west of the canal, opened in 1995. Blackwattle Bay Park, along the

Blackwattle Bay foreshore, was completed in 1983. The final stage of the walk, along the foreshore of Blackwattle Secondary College, was completed in 2014.

The interlinked parks are considered to have high biodiversity value due to the relatively large size of the area covered, several bush restoration sites, the endangered coastal saltmarsh communities, the only mangrove forest in the City of Sydney, the high diversity of flora with over 100 locally indigenous species, and the diverse habitat for fauna which included sandstone outcrops and retaining walls, a small freshwater pond and freshwater seepages.

The section from Bridge Rd is the most recently completed part of the walk. For over a century the timber yard, George Hudson & Sons covered the entire site with stores and mills. Its chimney was visible for some distance, and its barges were moored in Blackwattle Bay.

The company went into liquidation in 1974 and the land was acquired by the Department of Education. Glebe High School, now Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Campus, opened on this site in 1979. The walk in front of the campus was opened in 2014. The seawall has been designed to include suitable habitats for marine species.

The foreshore walk continues walk past the Glebe Rowing Club, established in July 1879 (now *The Boathouse on Blackwattle Bay restaurant*). It is the third oldest rowing club on Sydney Harbour.

The path crosses Ferry Rd. Before the bridge across Blackwattle Bay was built and the Bay was filled in, boatmen used to pick up passengers here who wanted to cross the Bay. The path then enters Blackwattle Park. This was one of the later additions to the walk, opening in 2007. It was a container terminal, owned by John Fletcher. The site was purchased by Australand, and the area in front dedicated to parkland.

The incinerator, on the corner of Forsyth St and Griffin Place is one of just two inter-war art deco-style Walter Burley Griffin incinerators to survive in Sydney. It operated between 1933 and 1949. The Glebe Society and the Walter Burley Griffin Society lobbied for it to be preserved. It was restored as meeting rooms in 2006. (4)

The Park at the end of Forsyth St combined land from Australand's development of the John Fletchers' site with the old council depot site.

Former Glebe Society John Buckingham recalls: 'Thankfully, at the old Fletcher Container Storage site and Council's storage site, we gained a waterfront area commensurate with our desserts. The High School site too is a story on its own. While we don't have complete free and open access, the alternative would have excluded us from the site

whereas, as public land, Council has been able to negotiate access along the waterfront.'



Foreshore walk, Blackwattle Bay Park (photo: Asa Wahlquist)

A small corridor of lemon scented gums (*Corymbia citriodora*) has been planted between the incinerator and the apartment block facing the water along Griffin Place. Clean-barked and stately, lemon-scented gums were frequently used to line long country drives. The leaves, when crushed, smell like lemons.

The walk continues to Cook St. John said: 'The [waterfront walk] site on the southern side of Cook St was settled in the Land and Environment Court. We were well prepared, expecting to gain a substantial strip along the waterfront but only gained a miserly strip. It is the one near-blot on the foreshore walk.'

The area from Cook St was occupied by timber millers Vanderfield and Reid from 1913 until its sale to Parkes Development for home units in 1975.

The Glebe Society and the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Committee campaigned for the developer to dedicate part of the land for waterfront park. In 1979, Parkes Development handed Blackwattle Bay Park to Leichhardt Council, which Glebe then was under. The park was completed in 1983.

The main tree species planted were Casuarinas, Swamp Mahogany (*Eucalyptus robusta*) and other Eucalypt species, and several peppercorn trees (*Shinus molle*). Peppercorns are not natives, but were commonly planted around houses in the 19th century, and their berries are not actually pepper. The understory was planted with Acacias, Banksias, Callicoma, Melaleucas, Grevilleas and Westringia. (5)

Alongside the waterfront path are swales planted with rushes that retain stormwater.

Hundreds of shrubs, grasses and groundcovers have been planted in the foreshore park, to improve the diversity of locally indigenous plants and create dense understory habitat to encourage small birds.

Some rock features have been installed to encourage lizards and invertebrates.

Bellevue, the house on the point, was built by William Jarrett in 1896. In 1920 it was turned over to industrial use. In the 1970s it became derelict, but after local lobbying it was purchased by Leichhardt Council. It was restored in 2006 by the City of Sydney, which took over Glebe in 2003.

The Campaign for Blackwattle Park

This campaign, which began in August 1978, combined lobbying of politicians, festivals and what was essentially guerrilla action.

Former Glebe Society President, John Buckingham wrote: 'The campaign for Blackwattle Bay Park officially opened in August 1983. The campaign for Bicentennial Park was long, drawn out and full of intrigue and political conspiracy. Blackwattle Bay Park (and the rescue of *Bellevue*), by contrast, suddenly happened. It too had been part of our founding fathers' plans, but the potential park site here did not involve politicians.

'When the massive site, bordered by Blackwattle Bay, Cook St, Leichhardt St and Oxley Str and the older multi-storey developments on Cook St and Leichhardt St, was bulldozed to make way for a new development, locals like Eric Gidney, Chris Hosking and Bob Armstrong kept a close eye on any activities on the site. They worked closely with Tony Larkum's Glebe Society Management Committee', John said.

The Guerilla Action

'A report of great significance advised when the site was cyclone-wired into two areas: the area away from the water, Parkes Developments' Stage 1 of the development; and the waterfront area, their final stage. The locals and the Glebe Society saw their opportunity – turn the waterfront area into a quasi-park,' he said.

'Simple landscape plans were drawn (the eventual professional ones by Stuart Pittendrigh for Parkes Developments and Leichhardt Council were infinitely better); Chris Hosking drew up plans for a viable use of *Bellevue*; and Tony Larkum and some cohorts somehow penetrated the fencing, planted trees on the site and watered them. We actually thought the site was ours!'

The Festivals

In October 1978 Eric Gidney wrote in The Glebe Society Bulletin: 'Blackwattle Bay Park at the end of Leichhardt St is one of our best bits of foreshore land. Back in August I formed the Waterfront Action Group to get things moving. The first activity was the Spring Festival, well attended (500 people) which triggered off a fair bit of media interest and resident participation.

We've now built a barbeque, planted trees, cut the grass, cleaned up some of the rubbish... and we are ready for stage 2 this Saturday, October 7, the Election Dig.

We've come up with a plan, we've been given a 2 ton tip truck by Kennards just for the day, now all we need is your support – bring your muscles, pickaxes, spades, seedlings, trees, kids, ideas, wheelbarrows, lunch etc. Help us prepare the site for the next great event, The Guy Fawkes Celebration on Sunday 5 November at 7 pm.

The following month Eric reported: 'The Guy Fawkes celebration at Blackwattle Bay Park was a great success despite the downpour. Up to 700 people came along for the performance and barbeque'. The entertainment was provided by the English Ancient Rites. 'They organised the Punch and Judy, the dances, the mulled wine, the bonfire and the witch.'

The article concluded by warning that Guy Fawkes night might be the last community celebration there. 'There are signs the bulldozers may move in at the end of this month...REMEMBER – Glebe is a foreshore suburb without a waterfront park. If you don't act now the Blackwattle Bay Park may be gone for good.'

The Action

John said the message went around by telephone, 'The cyclone fence has been removed and there are bulldozers on the site!' As was inevitable, the work was to begin on a weekday. Receiving the message in many circumstances were the wives at home looking after the babies. I'm proud to say [his wife] Deanne heeded the call, gathered the kids into the car and drove onto the site where the bulldozers were poised to join the others.

'The bulldozer drivers shut down their machines and contacted their union chiefs. No further work took place.'

The Success

The first *Bulletin* of 1979 was headlined: Stop Press! BLACKWATTLE BAY PARK, VICTORY AT LAST!

'Well, after several meetings and much negotiation with developers, council, State Government and

unions, a compromise has been reached on the Blackwattle Bay Park. Paul Landa, Minister for Planning & Environment, told us that he didn't have money for everybody who wanted a foreshore park.

He would, however, help us to negotiate with the developers. So, armed with this and a Green Ban imposed by the Building Trades Group, we proceeded to get together with Leichhardt Council and the developers and look at a way to provide the maximum size park with the minimum environmental impact from the proposed development.'

The result, while not all the Glebe Society had hoped for, was a reduction in the number of units, which were capped at three storeys plus parking, and a waterfront park. (5, 6)

Asa Wahlquist
Environment Subcommittee Convenor



Coastal Banksia (Banksia integrifolia) Foreshore Walk (photo: Asa Wahlquist)

References: 1. Doug Benson and Jocelyn Howell, Taken for Granted, The Bushland of Sydney and its Suburbs. Kangaroo Press, 1995; 2. Paul Irish and Tamike Goward, Blackwattle Creek, Barani, Sydney's Aboriginal History: <https://www.sydneybarani.com.au/sites/blackwattle-creek/>; 3. Max Solling, Grandeur and Grit, Halstead Press, 2007; 4. City of Sydney, <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/vision/better-infrastructure/parks-and-playgrounds/completed-projects/glebe-foreshore/>; 5. East Glebe Foreshore Plan of Management https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/138756/GlebeForeshoreEastPoM_adopted.pdf; 6. Glebe's waterfront History, the last 40 years, John Buckingham, 2008.; <https://www.glebesociety.org.au/socialhistory/glebes-waterfront-history-the-last-40-years/>

History & Heritage

Max Solling awarded the 2019 Annual History Citation

Founding Glebe Society member and our first History Convenor, Max Solling, was awarded the Annual History Citation for 2019 in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the study and practice of urban social history. The award was conferred by Dr Stephen Gapps, President, and Associate Professor Nancy Cushing, Vice-President, of the History

Council of New South Wales at a special ceremony on 3 September.

The citation read:

The Annual History Citation, awarded by the History Council of NSW, recognises and honours an individual who has made a significant and lifelong

contribution to the profession and practice of history. For 2019 the History Council of NSW is pleased to award the Annual History Citation to Mr Max Solling in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the study and practice of urban social history.

Max Solling (1942-) is an urban historian and has been a member of the Professional Historians Association (NSW & ACT) since 1991. Born in Sydney, Max has lived in the inner-city suburb of Glebe since 1960. In 1972 he completed his Master of Arts on the development of 19th century Glebe, a study of patterns and processes of growth. Max is also a qualified legal practitioner and was a practising solicitor until 2019, while also maintaining an active interest in urban historical research.

Max Solling has written outstanding urban and regional histories, including a commissioned history of Leichhardt municipality (1997) with Peter Reynolds, a commissioned history of Glebe (2007), as well as a regional history of the Manning Valley, NSW (2014).

He has also written a number of smaller, local histories of sporting organisations in Glebe.

As an urban historian, Max has an interest in local government and political history. Commissioned biographies of aldermen serving on Glebe, Camperdown, Darlington, Waterloo and Redfern Councils are published on the Sydney's Aldermen website.

Max's passion for sport and history is manifested in him becoming a significant contributor to the Oxford Companion to Australian Sport (1992), the Oxford Companion to Australian Cricket (1996), the Dictionary of Sydney and the Australian Dictionary of Biography.

Max has been involved in supporting community history and heritage at a local level, enabling and encouraging research and the sharing of knowledge. Max was a foundation member of the Glebe Society in 1969 and in 2005 Max was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the community, particularly through researching, recording and publishing the history of Glebe.

Max Solling is one of the leading urban historians practising in Sydney today.

The History Council of NSW is honoured to celebrate Mr Solling's achievements.

Max's response to citation

History is a house of many mansions, and its narratives change over time. For example, inner Sydney politics before federation could be pretty feisty. There was a fundamental change in class relations in Sydney in 1891 visible at the political organisational level with Labor Leagues composed of disparate groups with competing ideologies. Divisions quickly surfaced. Glebe branch featured

branch stacking, fisticuffs at meetings and a deep split. And that was just in its first year. The structure of these branches had changed little 80 years later. Gentrification represented a serious threat in Glebe to the fiefdom of Doc Foley as left-leaning professionals and students sought to take over his branch. To defend their dung-hill the old guard disseminated misleading information about membership requirements and resorted to physical intimidation. One earnest citizen inquired of local member Pat Hills about becoming a branch member. Hills told him he'd love to have him, unfortunately he couldn't join because the branch was full. If a branch became too troublesome it was simply shut down. This happened to John Faulkner who then sought to join the new Blackwattle branch. And on his arrival, there the branch president greeted him with 'Oh shit not you'.



Max Solling responding to receiving the Annual History Citation for 2019 from the History Council of NSW in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the study and practice of urban social history. (photo: TWH Photography; <https://historycouncilnsw.org.au/awards-and-prizes/>)

The decision of the General Committee of the History Council of NSW to select me as the recipient of the Annual History Citation for 2019 is a humbling experience, and I am deeply touched by the Council's recognition of my work, and the honour it has conferred on me. Thank you very much. I am mindful of colleagues out there doing great work, engaged in new and exciting terrains for profitable exploration. We're very fortunate to have the History Council so committed to promoting the importance and practice of history.

Researching and writing is my passion, and as an independent scholar outside tenured academia I am surrounded at home by my research files and books. They say a liberal arts education prepares one for lifelong learning. Less often acknowledged is how earlier teachers prime you for both. Foremost among them for me was Dr Dennis Jeans, my thesis supervisor and friend, a superb teacher who fired my imagination, a liberating experience that has stayed with me.

Historians are conscious of the weight of past work, and here the footnote is acknowledgement and recognition of debts we owe in the writing process as well as making other people's work available. Thinking and writing welded in the crucible of a mind are also very much part of a collaborative, shared culture. Thought is always borrowed, on permanent loan, as it were.

The past can inspire, console or condemn. An important function of historians is not just to write histories of their own, or conduct debates in learned journals but to maintain a brief on the varieties of history. Questions spring to mind. Whatever happened to Social Democracy? Why have departments of economic history almost ceased to exist in Australian universities? Canadian John Ralston Saul observes most modern executives are largely forgetful of history. 'The only part of this domain (economics) which has some reliable utility',

he claims 'is economic history, and it is being downgraded in most universities, even eliminated, because tied to events, it is an unfortunate reminder of reality'. In George Orwell's masterpiece *Nineteen Eighty-Four* the first thing Big Brother eliminates is memory.

Needless to say, the role of historians has never been more important.

Again, thank you very much.

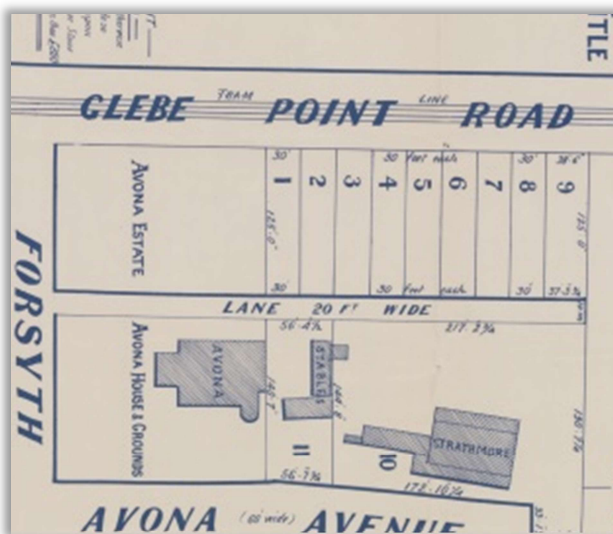
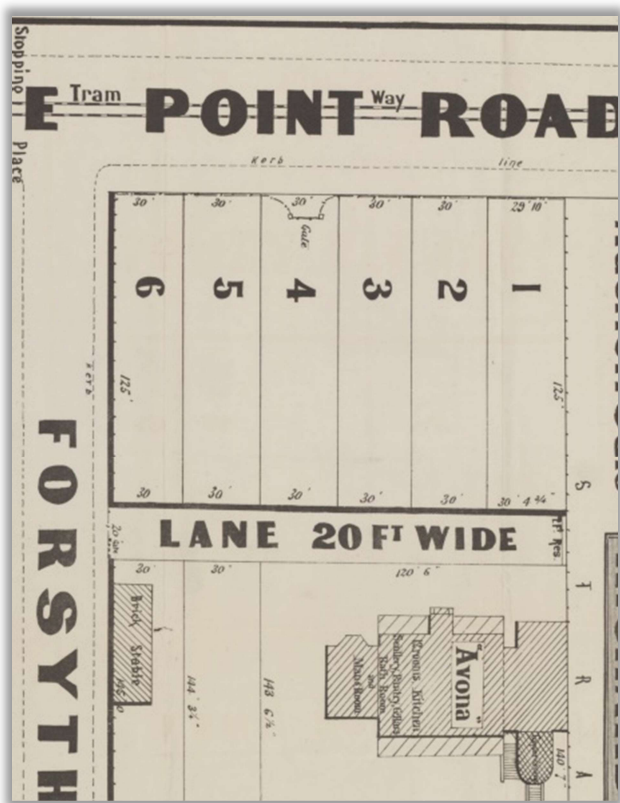
Last chance to book for Glebe Walk with Max Solling, 12 October

Max Solling has agreed to lead a walk on Saturday 12 October at 2pm, meeting at the corner of Wentworth Park Rd and Mitchell St. Bookings via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/max-solling-history-walk-of-glebe-tickets-70484841057>.

375-407 Glebe Point Rd, by Rodney Hammett

...Continuing from Sheehy St & Avona Ave in *Bulletins 2 of 2019 (April) and 4 of 2019 (June)*.

The existing shops and houses in Glebe Point Rd between 375 and 407 were subdivided from the Avona and Strathmore Estates. See extracts of maps below!



The following table shows the first owners of these 15 lots with purchases spanning September 1899 to May 1901.

Interestingly it was James Stedman who purchased a total of seven lots adding to his other Glebe purchases in October 1896 for current Nos 29, 29A, 30, 31 & 33 in Avenue Rd.

Much has been written of James Stedman. An extract from his entry in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* records:²

James Stedman (1840-1913), confectionery manufacturer, was born on 25 December 1840 at Parramatta, New South Wales, son of Henry Stedman (d.1893), servant, and his wife

Catherine, née Murphy. Henry, who came from Surrey, had reached Sydney in the Mermaid on 6 May 1830, sentenced to 14 years for robbing his master. James attended a private school at Brisbane Water, started work in a butcher's shop and at 14 joined William J. Cates, a Sydney confectioner whose business at 436 George Street was taken over by Wright & Smith in the early 1860s. At Christ Church St Laurence, Stedman married Margaret Noble on 14 February 1860. After John Smith sold out, Stedman worked as foreman for John M. Wright for 12 years and bought the business in 1875. Meanwhile Margaret ran a retail confectionery at their Crown Street premises.



James Steadman (source: Ancestry.com)

His success was largely due to his innovative outlook and quality control. In 1889 and 1896 Stedman visited England and brought back improved equipment. Another feature of the business was close family involvement: two brothers, six sons and two nephews worked for the firm.

Active in community work, Stedman was a director of Sydney Hospital, the Benevolent Society of New South Wales and the Society for Destitute Children's asylum at Randwick; he was also a trustee of the City Night Refuge and Soup Kitchen. In 1890 he had been appointed a justice of the peace. Balding and bearded, with a compact, burly figure, he was a keen patron of sport, especially cricket and athletics. Survived by six of his eight sons, Stedman died on 1 February 1913 in Highbury Hospital, Hobart, [aged 72] after an appendectomy and was buried in Waverley cemetery, Sydney. His estate was valued for probate at about £150,000.

Following his death, the Glebe Point Rd and Avenue Rd properties were distributed amongst the family in accordance with the instructions in his will. (That's another story.)

Oh – for those of you who love Minties, you can thank James Steadman's son James Nobel Steadman who created them in 1922.³

Lots in Glebe Point Rd were first purchased by:

Lot Nos	Purchaser	Date	Street Nos
Avona Estate			
5 & 6	James Stedman of Sydney, manufacturing confectioner	Jan 1900	375-379
4	William Stewart Park, junior of Sydney, pharmaceutical chemist	Sep 1899	381
3	(not known)	abt 1900	383
1 & 2	James Stedman of Sydney, manufacturing confectioner	Jan 1900	385 - 389
Strathmore Estate			
1 & 2	James Stedman of Sydney, manufacturing confectioner	Jun 1901	391-395
3	James Stedman of Sydney, manufacturing confectioner	Jan 1901	397
4	Annie Crocker wife of Francis Crocker	Feb 1900	399
5 & 6	Francis Buckle	May 1901	401
7	Mary Ann Liddy, widow	Feb 1901	403
8	William Annear, builder	Sep 1900	405
9	Elizabeth Brown wife of James Howard Brown of Glebe Point, builder	Oct 1899	407 - 409

Source: Certificates of Title 1294-221; 1304-143 & 1559-37

No 381

William Stewart Park, junior, the eldest son of William Stewart Park, senior and Mary (née Robinson) was like his father a pharmaceutical chemist.

Despite being born in Dublin on 8 September 1868 William junior had Scottish heritage, his father being born in Aberdeen, Scotland in 1843.

When the family came to Australia is currently unknown however we know William senior was working as a dispensing chemist for Washington H Soul at 158 Pitt St, Sydney in 1888.⁴

In 1895 father and son opened their own pharmacy just along the street at 152 Pitt St, in opposition to Washington H Soul, under the name of The Central City Pharmacy.

As we know Washington H Soul still exists today under the name Washington H Soul Pattinson & Co with a store still at 158 Pitt St.

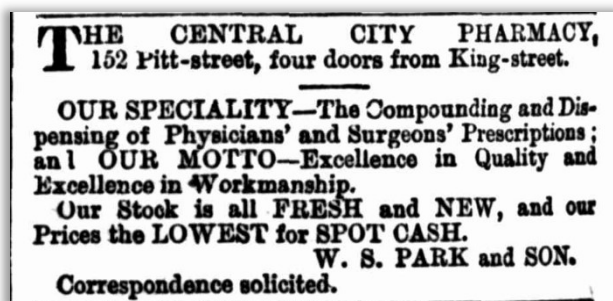
W S Park and Son left Pitt St in about 1903 setting up at Chatswood and concentrating more on being a wholesale distributor of drugs and potions.

William junior moved into No 381 (Glenburnie) in 1900 living there with his wife Barbara (née Jennings; married in 1898) until 1903 when he sold

to William Higstrim who then had tenants in the apartment.

William and Barbara relocated to Victoria Avenue, Chatswood to raise William (1900), Mary (1902) and Barbara (1906).

William senior died in 1925 aged 81. William junior died in 1936 aged 68.



Sydney Mail; Sat 21 December 1895.

No 383

William James Maling and his wife Annie lived at No 383 (*Newtonia*) from the time it was first occupied in 1901 until 1919.

Whilst details of the original ownership have not yet been established it is highly likely it was William. A devout Methodist, he was the superintendent of the Glebe Methodist Sunday School from February 1903 until they left Glebe in February 1919.⁵

The eldest son of George Maling (1838 -1915) and Anne Elizabeth Wright (1838 -1920) William was born at Parramatta on 18 December 1863. He had nine siblings six of whom survived to live with their families in the suburbs close to Sydney.

A successful accountant in a large Sydney firm, William pre-WW1 planned for his and Annie's future by land speculating in the Katoomba and Wentworth Falls areas. One lot became their home in 1919 at 12 Darley St, Katoomba.⁶

In retirement William continued serving the Methodist Church becoming the superintendent of the Katoomba Sunday School, a role he held for 25 years.⁷

This somewhat idyllic life ended when Annie died in 1927 after 40 years of marriage. There had been no children.

William married Laura Louisa Whalan on 27 February 1929 at Manly, the newlyweds travelling to England (3rd class) in April and returning in September. Back at Katoomba William took on further community duties being elected alderman to the Katoomba Municipal Council for the 1932-34 term.

William died at Katoomba aged 86 in 1950 and was buried at the Waverley Cemetery. Laura some 30 years his junior lived until 1977.

Nos 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395 & 397

These were James Stedman's lots.

No 399

Married just three months, Francis and Annie Crocker arrived in Sydney on the ship *Belgravia* from Plymouth on 3 May 1884⁸. Both from Cornwall, and he an agricultural labourer they were here to improve their lot – and indeed they did.

When their first and only child Sydney Francis was born in October 1885 they were living at Ultimo and Francis was a driver.⁹

In 1894 he is recorded as living in Glebe at 102 Darling St (now part of the light rail easement) his occupation a storeman.¹⁰ The family could see the development of new houses at Glebe Point so in February 1900 they decided to purchase lot 4 in the Strathmore Estate in Annie's name. Francis was now a produce merchant.

By 1902 the family of three was living in their new house named *Penzance*. Sydney had joined the Glebe Rowing Club where he rowed with other Glebe families. Annie and Francis celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary here in 1909 followed soon by a trip to England via India with Sydney in 1910. This trip allowed them to renew family ties, including seeing Francis' 86-year-old father Henry and Annie's 75-year-old father Thomas.

When the family returned, Sydney had acquired a new wife Mabel (née Richards). December 1911 at *Penzance* saw the arrival and then two days later the death of baby Ethel. Luckily Vida (1913) and Francis (1916) survived to lead fruitful lives.

Maybe it was the changes in Glebe after the war that made the family restless. Whatever it was in March 1920 the whole family (all six of them) boarded the White Star Dominion Line ship, *Runic*, for England settling in Penzance.

It was at this time No 399 was sold.

English newspaper reports in the period 1921-23 show Sydney was involved with the local business community but it wasn't to be forever. Advertisements in June 1924 heralded the auctioning of all household items from Francis' and Sydney's households.¹¹ The recently commissioned liner *Hobson Bay* brought them back to Sydney along with other immigrants arriving 8 September 1924.¹²

Living now in Bondi, Annie died there in 1935. Francis had In Memoriam messages for her in the Sydney Morning Herald for many years afterwards. He eventually went to live in Iluka Rd, Palm Beach with Sydney's family and died at a Newport nursing home in 1950 aged 92.

Sydney became a hotel keeper, and died in 1963. Mabel then lived with daughter Vida who had married Ronald Dudley Anderson in 1946. Francis (b 1916)

was also a hotel keeper, however his son David became a medical practitioner.

The family certainly did improve their lot by coming to Sydney in 1884.

It was John Buckle (son of Francis Buckle, see No 401) who purchased No 399 in 1920 as an investment while he lived next door at No 401. On his death in 1922 the property was left to two of his four brothers Thomas (1865-1939) and William (1872-1943).

Niece Kathleen Margaret Maze (daughter of Kathleen Buckle and Archibald Maze) became the owner in 1928, holding it until 1954. Kathleen married George Wilson Renwick in 1930.

No 401



Francis Buckle 1836-1909
(City of Sydney Archives,
NSCA CRS 54/428)

Ex-City of Sydney Alderman Francis Buckle relocated from Pymont to Glebe in 1904 after the construction of *Dunskey* at 401 Glebe Point Rd, on lots 5 & 6.

Francis from Scotland with wife Catherine Wiseman from Ireland had married in Sydney 1860 then raising five sons and four daughters in Pymont. He started work as a lighterman on

Sydney Harbour eventually having a substantial shipping and timber business, F Buckle & Sons.

Elected as an alderman in the Denison ward in December 1884, Francis continued as its representative until December 1900.¹³

He was appointed a magistrate in May 1888 when the family was living at *Dunskye House*, 40 Union St, Pymont. Located close to the bustle of Pymont Bridge and the wharves at Darling Harbour and Pymont the new house at Glebe would have been a welcome change.

Dunskey in Glebe was a fitting venue for the wedding breakfast 'where a large marquee was erected, gaily decorated with flags'¹⁴ for youngest daughter Katie who earlier on Wednesday 30 November 1904 had married Archibald Maze BA of Rockdale at St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, Sydney.

Another wedding was celebrated here in October 1908 when widowed daughter Martha Grayson married James Mitchell. He became the NSW Commissioner of Police. Their son became Group Captain James Allardyce Mitchell of the RAAF who died in May 1945 when shot down in the Philippines during WW2.

Francis died at *Dunskey* on 14 November 1909 aged 73 then interred in the family vault in the Presbyterian section of the Rookwood Cemetery. His estate was valued at £13, 721.

Catherine with son John and eldest daughter Margaret McGill continued to live at No 401 while other members of the family were living in Glebe at 51 Arcadia Rd and 32 Boyce St.¹⁵

Catherine died at *Dunskey* on 14 August 1922 aged 87, not long after unmarried eldest son John (59) had died on 25 June. Both were also interred in the family vault at Rookwood Cemetery.

At probate John's estate had a net value of £22,139.¹⁶ Catherine's estate was valued at £5,385.

¹⁷

No 403

Twice widowed and mother of 12 children Mary Ann Liddy (née McSherry) bought No 403 as a vacant lot in 1901.

Executrix to her late husband James Francis Liddy's estate she was the licensee of the Melbourne Club Hotel at 634 George St, Sydney. Without a will settlement of his business affairs became complicated meaning it was 1906 and nine years after his death before probate was granted on his estate.

Mary Ann had arrived in Port Jackson with her parents Samuel and Mary and two siblings as free settlers from Ireland on the ship *Success* on 18 December 1849.¹⁸ Samuel made a living as a farm labourer in the Parramatta area Mary Ann marrying Patrick Mannix at St Patrick's Church, Parramatta on 7 May 1861 when she was 18.¹⁹

The couple moved to Woolloomooloo where they lived at 87 Bourke St. Patrick was a tailor, part of the firm Mannix Brothers, with a successful shop in King St, Sydney. Mary and Patrick had three daughters and a son John who made a name for himself as a boot importer with a shop in Pitt St. Patrick died young in 1871 aged only 37.

Four years later on 6 July 1875 Mary Ann married James F Liddy, the eldest son of James Liddy, coachbuilder of Melbourne. Now living at 634 George St in the Melbourne Club Hotel run by James, Mary Ann had a further three daughters and four sons.

Sands Directory records show that No 403 remained a vacant lot until contractor Sydney Alexander Graham lived here in 1926. Mary Ann had sold the land in January 1911 to a group of three developers who then sold it to builders, brothers John and William Annear (living next door at No 403), in July 1920. It is most likely that they built the house we see today, before it was sold to Sydney Graham.

Mary Ann did eventually move to Glebe. She and some of her adult children are listed at *Tytheley*, 8 Toxteth Rd in 1912²⁰ where she died on 8 November 1915, aged 73. Her estate was valued at £5,337.

No 405

Builder William John Annear purchased lot 8 in September 1900 so we can reasonably assume he had some assistance from his sons John (b 1880) and William (1888) both bricklayers and James (abt 1890) a carpenter who built the house at No 405.

Sands Directory and Electoral Roll records show the house was occupied by the Annear family from 1904 until 1936.

Born at Penryn, Cornwall, in 1847 William had Cornish roots similar to his neighbour at No 399, Francis Crocker. In 1871 he was living with his parents and four siblings at Falmouth, Cornwall working as a stone mason.²¹

Details of how William came to Australia and where he married have not yet been found but William and wife Charlotte were in Glebe for the birth of their first child, John Thomas, in 1880. The family lived at 27 Brougham St (now Colbourne Ave) prior to moving into No 405.

William must have been involved in the construction of some of the houses in Glebe; he also left a legacy in public places, an example being his 1899 winning tender for a dwarf wall with iron fencing and gates at the Botanic Gardens, Sydney.²²

William senior died at home on 12 November 1916 aged 69. Catherine died two years later on 27 July 1918 aged 64. Both are buried in the Church of England section of the Rookwood Cemetery.

Nos 407-409

Lot 9 (Nos 407-409) was purchased in October 1899 by Elizabeth Brown, the wife of Glebe builder James Howard Brown. However, it was not until 1907 that the first occupant, grocer Herbert Cottam, moved in.

In the 10 years leading up to 1900 James Brown was a busy man having purchased eight lots in Avenue Rd and two lots in Allen St. Construction of the houses occurred during this period while between 1905 and 1910 James purchased a further six lots in Alexandra Rd.

From 1898 the Brown family lived initially at 31 Allen St (until 1901) then 12 Avenue Rd (1902 - 1906) then 16 Alexandra Rd until 1918. Details of James' and Elizabeth's life will be included in a future article on Alexandra St.

Elizabeth sold lot 9 to architect Henry Ernest Elliott in February 1900. He was most likely the designer of the two shops and upstairs residences as the Elliots didn't sell the property until 1910. Today we see a

different façade and the question is – did James Brown construct the original building?

Rodney Hammett
Heritage Subcommittee

¹ National Library MAP Folder 61A, LFSP 890 & LFSP 881; ² G. P. Walsh, 'Stedman, James (1840–1913)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/stedman-james-8635/text15089>, published first in hardcopy 1990, accessed online 27 February 2019; ³ West Australian; Wed 31 Aug 1927, p12; ⁴ Daily Telegraph; Fri 3 Feb 1888, p3 [Charge of illegally selling poisons]; ⁵ Methodist (Sydney); Sat 13 May 1911, p4 [Glebe Rd Methodist Sunday School]; ⁶ Certificates of Title 2350-82 & 2650-76; ⁷ Methodist (Sydney); Sat 1 Jul 1950, p1 (Obit for W J Maling); ⁸ Passenger lists; Ancestry.com; ⁹ Anglican baptism records; Ancestry.com; ¹⁰ Sands Directory; Glebe 1894; ¹¹ Cornishman, Penzance; Findmypast; ¹² Evening News (Sydney); Mon 8 Sep 1924, p6; ¹³ City of Sydney; Sydney's Aldermen <https://www.sydneyaldermen.com.au/alderman/francis-buckle/>; ¹⁴ Australian Star; Thu ¹⁵ Dec 1904, p5; ¹⁵ 1913 NSW Electoral Rolls; ¹⁶ Sydney Morning Herald; Tue 15 Aug 1922, p9; ¹⁷ Findmypast; NSW Will Books; ¹⁸ Ancestry.com; passenger lists; ¹⁹ Sydney Morning Herald; Tue 21 May 1861, p11; ²⁰ Also listed in the 1913 NSW Electoral Rolls; Ancestry.com; ²¹ 1871 England Census; Ancestry.com; ²² Evening News; Tue 9 May 1899, p3 (New Public Works);

Heritage Restoration? The Abbey



The spire of The Abbey on Bridge Rd (photo: Brian Fuller)

Readers may have noticed the recent work being undertaken on the spire of The Abbey, 158 Bridge Rd Glebe. When the scaffolding was removed, it was disappointing to see that the spire has not been reinstated back to original condition.

The building is currently used by the Montessori Academy as the Glebe Child Care, pre-school and

Early Learning Centre. The scaffolding was erected to allow safe removal of loose stone, ensuring safety to the children attending the Centre.

When contacted, the building owners advised they were complying with a Make Safe Report, and the Conservation Management Plan by removing loose and potentially loose sandstone.

The building owners have acted responsibly in ensuring the safety of the children playing below.

No doubt more stone will loosen over time, to a point where the spire's detail is a skeleton of its former self. From a heritage perspective, there appears to be a flaw in the legislation delegated to Councils seeking to preserve heritage buildings.

The Abbey is a listed heritage building within the Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012. The listing provides for recommended management including the preparation of a Heritage Impact Statement or Conservation Management Plan. *There is a specific*

reference that there shall be no alterations to the exterior other than to reinstate original features.

A building surveyor of the City of Sydney advised that Council did not have the delegated power to require restoration to original condition, and that Council controls were limited to health and safety issues only. Therefore, a Conservation Management Plan is not able to be monitored or policed by Council.

Therein lies the flaw. Heritage listed buildings that are not modified to an extent that a Development Application is required, or do not become unsafe or a health hazard could none the less fall into a state where original elements of significance are lost forever, and total reinstatement by many becomes an improbability.

'Deterioration and ultimate demolition by neglect' has to be prevented, particularly as our heritage buildings age. Time to push this point with politicians and councillors at every opportunity.

The Abbey is historically significant as the Glebe Presbyterian Church which was originally constructed at the corner of Glebe Point Rd and Broadway in 1879 and then relocated to Bridge Rd in 1927. It served the same parish for over 90 years until its adaptation for use as a restaurant in the 1970s, and more recently as the Glebe Child Care Centre.

Brian Fuller

Heritage Subcommittee Convenor

Vale Peter Reynolds

We were saddened to hear from the Balmain Association about the recent death of local historian, Peter Reynolds.

Peter started out as a carpenter for the Public Works Department and qualified as an architect in 1969. He completed a PhD at UNSW in 1974 on the evolution of the Government Architect's Branch from 1788 to 1911; drawing attention to the significant role of public architects in the Australian built environment.

Of great relevance to the history of Glebe is the Leichhardt Historical Journal, which Max Solling described as Peter Reynolds's 'baby'. The Journal is a treasure trove of information on the suburbs then part of Leichhardt Council, including Glebe which was under Leichhardt Council from 1968 until 2003.

Along with Max Solling (Glebe) and Alan Roberts (Annandale), Peter Reynolds produced the Leichhardt Historical Journal was produced from 1971 until 2007. The 25 volumes include a great deal of interesting information about Glebe and are fully accessible from the Inner West Council's Community Collections

(<https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/explore/libraries/community-history/community-history-and-archives-collections/community-collections>).

In 1997, the book, *Leichhardt: On the Margins of the City*, by Max Solling and Peter Reynolds was published by Allen and Unwin. The book is a social history of Leichhardt and the former municipalities of Annandale, Balmain and Glebe.

In 2002 Peter was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his dedication to recording community history and the architectural heritage of Leichhardt.

Virginia Simpson-Young

Sources: Balmain Association, Max Solling;

<http://architecturebulletin.com.au/autumn-2016/imagine-a-city-200-years-of-public-architecture-in-nsw/>

Heritage talk at Lyndhurst

Glebe Society members and the owners of Lyndhurst, Ben, Gay and Lenore, with generosity and enthusiasm opened their home to a Penrith / Lower Blue Mountains walking group called the Possums on Monday 12 August.

About 30 people arrived for morning tea and a tour of the ground floor and gardens. Robert Hannan from the Heritage Subcommittee gave a brief talk about the European establishment of Glebe and with a focus on Lyndhurst. The ongoing challenges of preserving Glebe and the Glebe estate were discussed.

The talk was illustrated with some of the photographs and maps recently displayed at the Glebe Society Community Festival. Such was the hospitality that after copious cups of tea, coffee, sausage rolls, cakes and sandwiches we were concerned that the walking group wouldn't even make it to Foley Park!



Robert Hannan (front row, left) with members of the Possums visiting Lyndhurst (photo: Peter Crawshaw)

Last month's mystery photo

September's Mystery Photo was 451-75 Glebe Point Rd in 1938. Ian Miller and John Lagerlow guessed the location, and Rodney Hammett recalls that the main brick building was still standing in 1979 when he moved into his house opposite the timber factory and warehouse.

D. Hardy & Sons was founded in 1889 to supply timber for the manufacture of buggies, drays and sulkies. When motor cars replaced horse-drawn vehicles, the firm switched to wood for building and cabinet making. It moved from Pyrmont to Glebe in 1920.

Pictured is Bruce Hardy, sales manager of his grandfather Daniel Hardy's business.



(Image: Construction, 14 October 1953)

News from the Blue Wren Subcommittee

Annual spring bird survey

The 2019 survey will be led by Judy Christie and held from 6:45am on Sunday 20 October with an alternative date of 27 October in case of rain. To commence, we will all meet in Paddy Gray Reserve in Hereford St. All members and friends are welcome to attend and telephone Judy (0437 693 372) if you are coming. Please bring your phone (camera), binoculars, a pen and clip board (if you have one) and wear walking shoes. Afterwards we will have breakfast at 8am at Esca in Glebe Point Rd.

In preparation for the survey, Judy will hold an introduction to the identification of Glebe's birds at 4pm on Wednesday 16 October – please telephone Judy if you would like to attend, and gather at the small bridge leading to the entrance to The Tramsheds.

Ernest Pedersen Reserve, Ferry Rd

A meeting was held on Thursday 8 August 2019 at St. Helens Community Centre to discuss the City's proposed changes to Ernest Pedersen Reserve. The meeting was organised by Joel Johnson, Manager, City Greening and Leisure, City of Sydney in response to a request from the Blue Wren Subcommittee. It was attended by an additional six City staff who had been involved in community consultations and planning for the changes. Fourteen Society members (including the Vice-President, Secretary, and Convenors of the Blue Wren and Heritage Subcommittees), bushcare volunteers and local residents were also present.

In a subsequent letter (20 August 2019) to Mr Johnson, the Society said that:

- A more thorough study of the present usage of the Reserve is required.
- A transparent and detailed study of the heritage issues affecting the Reserve as they relate to the adjacent Heritage Item, Rothwell Lodge, should be released by the City.
- Greater consideration in the revised plan should be given to the environmental/biodiversity issues affecting the Reserve facilitated by the preparation and release of an Environmental/Biodiversity Impact Statement.

- The Glebe Society would like to nominate three community representatives, who it considers capable of making a constructive contribution, to a joint working party with the City (entitled the 'Ernest Pedersen Reserve Working Party') with the responsibility of meeting the needs of all stakeholders.

In response, the City has released its Heritage Report on the Reserve, which was prepared by Dominic Steele Consulting Archaeology (dated 8 July 2019), and has set up a Working Group to consider the results of the further community consultation and to draw up a revised plan for the Reserve. The Working Group is chaired by Chris Thomas, Manager Design, City of Sydney and the other members are Helen Rogers, Design Manager, City of Sydney, local Ferry Rd residents and members of the Ferry Rd Bushcare Group (Jenna Reed Burns and Iain Gibson) and Andrew Wood representing the Society. On 5 September, the President confirmed with the City that 'this group is the Glebe Society Working Group' (as requested in the Society's letter of 20 August to Joel Johnson).

The Working Group has met in Town Hall House on two occasions and the following decisions have been made to date:

- The revised plan should take note of the 1800's path layout for the Reserve which was originally the front garden of the adjacent State Heritage listed property, Rothwell Lodge.
- Recreation of a 'heritage garden' will provide a once in 20-40 years opportunity to rethink the overall design for the Reserve.
- Jenna, who has tertiary qualifications in Landscape Horticulture and Heritage Conservation, has presented her fully documented revised plan for the Reserve taking note of the heritage issues and the original pathways and gardens when the Reserve was the front garden of Rothwell Lodge. Chris Thomas said it was 'all fantastic', that the layout was doable, although some of the proposed materials were expensive.
- It was agreed that the proposed children's 'cubby house' and slippery dip should no longer be included in the design. They will be replaced with

Jenna's suggestions of a low-key nature-based play area for children with stepping stones of various sizes, a timber walkway and recycled sandstone blocks of varying sizes. The ground at these sites is to be covered in soft-fall mulch (no coloured rubber soft-fall) and a bench seat or a decorative metal swing seat is also incorporated. Removal of the proposed children's swing would require further consultation with the City's parks administration, but it could be relocated to the playground behind the Glebe Library (Kirsova Park no. 3).

- Lighting – the City's policy is not to provide lighting in its parks as it attracts antisocial night-time activities (including intravenous drug use and noise) and the light impinging/entering adjacent residences. It was agreed that the existing street lights in Ferry Rd would provide enough light for the Reserve and the current light on the southern border of the Reserve would be removed.
- New interpretative signage in the Reserve should acknowledge that the land was originally the front garden of Rothwell Lodge, and was purchased and donated to Glebe by H el ene Kirsova (its original name was Kirsova Park no.4).

In summary, the discussions with the City have been congenial, productive and have taken note of the concerns and wishes of the local residents and the Society. At a future date the revised plans for the Reserve will be displayed for community consultation and feedback.

Palmerston Avenue Park, Lombard St

Led by Anna Szanto, the Glebe Palmerston and Surrounds Landcare Group and the Society commented on the City's plans for the Park. The main concerns were related to:

- the unnecessarily grand, new entry to Upper Palmerston Park from Lombard St which should be reduced in size.
- the sandstone-block design seat will be cold to sit on as well as providing no back support and should be replaced with a traditional wooden garden seat.
- a small shed to store the landcare volunteers' equipment should be included.
- bag-dispensers for the collection by owners of their dogs' faeces should be added.
- an additional water tap should be installed in lower Palmerston Park.
- the removal of a *Celtis sinensis* tree in Lower Palmerston Park is an urgent priority. The tree is an invasive weed. It should be replaced by a new tree from the Species Planting List recommended by the City.

These requested modifications to the plans for Palmerston Avenue Park were mostly accepted by the City and last month the overall changes to the Park were approved by the City.

Andrew Wood

Blue Wren Subcommittee Convenor

Community Matters

Sunset Soir e for Centipede

Join us on Friday 11 October at 6pm at the Glebe Rowing Club premises in Ferry Rd for this year's fun night with live music, an auction of original art works, a multi-prize raffle, well-known local guest speaker Phil Lloyd, games, valued door prize, beverages and canap es. Bookings may be made through Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/sunset-soiree-for-centipede-tickets-66823513929>) or by email to community@glebesociety.org.au or phone 0401 505 657. Tickets are \$25.

Primary Ethics Teacher Volunteers Urgently Needed!!

From next term we are facing a shortage of ethics teachers at Glebe Public School, which would mean some of our current ethics classes would have to be cancelled.

The Primary Ethics curriculum aims to help children develop a life-long capacity to make well-reasoned decisions. Children are encouraged to think about the impact of their actions, on the people close to

them and also on the broader community. Lesson plans are provided by Primary Ethics and have been approved by the Department of Education. The classes are facilitated by volunteer teachers who received full training through online modules and a comprehensive two-day workshop.

If you are interested in being a Primary Ethics teacher, then please apply via the Primary Ethics website (primaryethics.com.au) or speak to Kait Gotham (Primary Ethics Coordinator for Glebe PS) for more information (0409 459 057).

Book-keeper required

The Glebe Society is looking for a new bookkeeper to reconcile our financial accounts. This involves working with the Treasurer for about an hour a month preferably using MYOB software. If you can help, or you know someone who can, please contact Jane Gatwood, Treasurer on 0488 118 355 or email treasurer@glebesociety.org.au

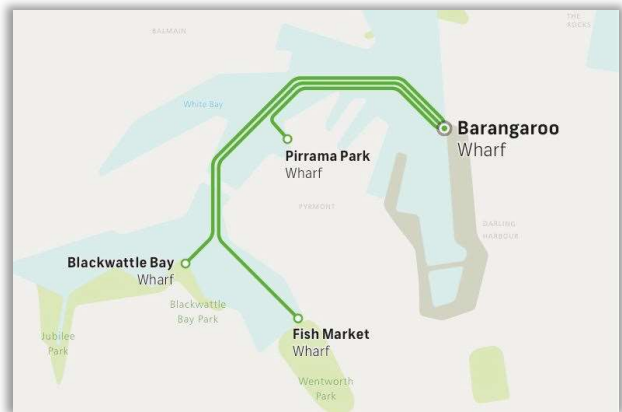
Trial of on-demand ferry between Glebe and Barangaroo

An 'on-demand' ferry is about to start running between Barangaroo Wharf and Glebe – the Blackwattle Bay wharf is below Bellevue and well sign-posted. Although the ferry runs to other harbor locations, all trips either start or end at Barangaroo Wharf. You cannot book a trip with multiple stops.

The ferry will be available to order between Monday and Friday 7am to 10pm, and from 8.30am to 7.30pm on weekends and public holidays. The standard fare is \$7.60 and \$3.80 for children, students or concessions. Booking is via the Tranzler smartphone app (which you can download) or you can book at the 'kiosk' at the wharf. It is also possible to book by phone.

For more information:

<https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/ways-to-get-around/on-demand/ferries>



The routes for the new on-demand ferry (source: <https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/ways-to-get-around/on-demand/ferries>)

Creative & Social

30th Annual Glebe Music Festival

Why not avail yourself of the opportunity to take a closer look at Margaretta Cottage and its gardens whilst at the same time enjoying the music performed by the mandolin ensemble *Plektra*? Under the directorship of the internationally renowned mandolin soloist Dr Stephen Lalor, the program will include music from Classical to Latin, Eastern European, and original Australian and World Music.

Where: Margaretta Cottage, 6 Leichhardt St, Glebe Point (disabled entrance at 18A Cook St); in the event of inclement weather, the concert will commence 30 minutes later at the Glebe Town Hall.

When: Saturday 2 November at 3pm.

Cost: Tickets \$10 (including drinks) available at <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=527831&> or at www.glebemusicfestival.com or at the gate. Feel free to bring a rug to sit on the lawn or there will be plenty of seating.

And if you like early string instruments, Josie and the Emeralds will be performing their St Cecilia's Day concert at the Glebe Town Hall, 160 St John's Rd, on Sunday 24 November at 3pm. John Dowland's *Lachrimæ* or seven teares figured in seven passionate pavans, songs from his *Pilgrim's Solace*, works by William Byrd, John Blow, Elvis Costello and a new work by Brooke Green: *Phoenix Chaconne*. Tickets \$35/\$25 available at <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=527888&> or at www.glebemusicfestival.com or at the door.

LATE BREAKER: There's an organ recital by Amy Johansen, Great Hall University of Sydney, Sunday 10 November at 3.30pm. Free entry.

David McIntosh, Artistic Director

2019 Glebe Art Show @ Tramsheds

The fabulous Glebe Art Show will be on again at the Tramsheds from Thursday 24 to Sunday 27 October from 10am until 9pm each day (6pm on Sunday).

This is a non-selective show which aims to celebrate the talent of the many artists living or working in Glebe and neighboring suburbs.

Entry forms are available from all branches of the City of Sydney library network but artists are encouraged to apply online at www.glebeartshow.org.au.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the Show please email glebeartshow.volunteers@gmail.com



In a Blackheath Garden

Exhibition by Glebe Artist, Christine Stewart

When: 10-23 October. Open every day 11am to 4pm or later by arrangement (0402 991 249)

Where: The Shop Gallery, 112 Glebe Point Rd

Do call in for a coffee!



Artwork from Christine Stewart's exhibition In a Blackheath Garden

Players in the Pub

Two one-act plays about women and control: ***Stainless: Adoption in the Age of Shame:*** A contemporary dramatic monologue by Australian writer Jane Hyde, directed by Lyn Collingwood. ***And, The Twelve Pound Look,*** by J M Barrie, directed by Sharron Skehan.

When: Wednesday 16 October at 7 pm; **Where:** Upstairs Toxeth Hotel Ferry Rd/Glebe Point Rd (entry via Ferry Rd staircase); **Cost:** Free admission. Donations box for New Theatre (which is fundraising for a new roof).

The kitchen is open from 5 pm. Please order early. We always aim to start on time! Wednesday burger and tap beer \$20 dinner special.

Thirsty Thursdays

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 3 October at 7pm we will go to *Baja Cantina*, 43-45 Glebe Point Rd.
- On Thursday 7 November at 7pm we will go to *Butcher and the Farmer* at the Tramsheds
- And on Thursday 5 December at 7pm we will go to *Pizza da Noi*, 198 St Johns Rd (near Ross St).

Please email me at thirstythursday@glebesociety.org.au or ring me on 9660 7066 by 6pm on the Tuesday before to let me know if you are coming, or if you are likely to be late.

Edwina to retire as Thirsty Thursday organiser after 18 years on the job!

The Glebe Society's first Thirsty Thursday dinner was held at the Toxteth Hotel on 3 July 2003 and I have been arranging them since then. That's a lot of dinners, so I've decided to hand over to someone else from next January.

If you would like to take over, or suggest an alternative way for Society members to get together, please contact Jude Paul, Secretary on secretary@glebesociety.org.au

Edwina Doe

Life memberships awarded at the 2019 AGM

As promised in the September Bulletin, we bring you the text of the citations made in support of Honorary Life Membership for three people at this year's AGM.

Citation for Jack Munday

It is very fitting that this meeting which celebrates 50 years of the Glebe Society has decided to grant Jack Munday its highest honour, which is Honorary Life Membership of the Society.

It was Jack Munday and the brave men and women of the New South Wales Builders Labourers' Federation who led the fight in the early seventies against the two great expressways that would have trifurcated Glebe - the Western Distributor and the North Western Distributor. They were planned to cut a huge swathe through Glebe as we knew it.

At the behest of the newly formed Glebe Society, the Builders Labourers put what was then a black ban on the project. These bans later become known as Green Bans.

In fact, this destruction of Glebe would have wiped out the house I was living in and was one of the major reasons why I first became involved with the Green Bans movement.

Another wonderful aspect to this Green Ban was that Lyndhurst the beautiful old manor in Darghan St also had a separate Green Ban imposed on it. It was almost derelict and was being rented by a number of different organizations including the Nazis.

Remember that at this time, there were no environmental planning laws at all. There were no environment or heritage laws that would save streetscapes or even important Heritage buildings. We had to wait until the Wran government was elected in 1976, for the Environment and Planning Act and the Heritage legislation to be enacted.

The other great hero of the struggle to save Glebe, and a great mate of Jack's was Tom Uren. Tom was the minister for Urban and Regional development under Gough Whitlam and it was on his recommendation that the Whitlam government bought the old Anglican housing estate - the 900 houses, which are now part of the housing department area. This saved the streetscape of Glebe and gave it the character we now delight in.

The timelessness and the internationalism of the Green Bans and Jack Munday's leadership at that time have recently been illustrated by the fact that 50 years after the Green Bans, interest from students and international scholars is so high that our book *Green Bans, Red Union: The Saving of a City* has recently been reissued

Jack Munday should be proud of what he has done to save Glebe and the Glebe Society is immensely proud of Jack Munday.

Congratulations Jack.

Meredith Bergmann

Citation for Dennis McManus

Our cleaning lady moved to Glebe in the 1940s, and people then said to her, 'how can you bear to live in such a slum?' More recently, when people hear she lives in Glebe, they say, 'how can you afford to live in such an expensive suburb?'

This tells you how a suburb was transformed in a single lifetime. Much the same could be written about many inner-city suburbs throughout the world that have been transformed since World War II. When Dennis arrived in Glebe in 1968 Glebe was regarded as a slum, and hence ready to be demolished and rebuilt.

The small band of academics and professionals who formed the core of the Glebe Society had the vision to see the bones of the suburb were still intact, and worth the fight to preserve them. Then, as now, there were many people who contributed to the eventual success of the Society's campaigns, but Dennis' contribution was outstanding and deserves to be recognised.

Dennis has identified five areas of significant involvement in the Society's formative years.

He was the first Convenor of the Society's Planning Subcommittee, the Society's first, at a time when there were many imminent threats, including expressways that would have divided Glebe permanently into three parts, the demolition of many Glebe buildings and their replacement by blocks of home units and similar buildings, the redevelopment of the Church of England lands, and the redevelopment of the harbour foreshore and other industrially zoned sites. With Dennis as Convenor, the Planning Subcommittee spawned a number of work groups to confront these and other problems. This was particularly courageous, as the threats must have seemed quite overwhelming.

In 1970 he co-authored, with Terry Metherell (later a reforming Minister for Education) a plan to address indiscriminate home until development in Glebe. This outline plan, the result of many hours of tramping the streets, provided the basis for much better plans for Glebe and the whole of Leichhardt, as well as the basis for discussion with Leichhardt Council and the State Planning Authority. It identified the core of what became later the Conservation Area in the north of Glebe.

Dennis campaigned in 1971 and 1974 for a Better Leichhardt Council in Lilyfield Ward, and in both cases the first candidate on the ticket was elected. As a result, the progressive majority introduced the concept of Open Council, a decisive step in participatory democracy with widespread consequences for local government.

Dennis actively participated in 1974 in the Fig St protest in Ultimo, which led within three years to the abandonment of the Western Expressway.

Dennis chaired and worked as a volunteer on the *Leichhardt Local*, a progressive newspaper founded to counteract the bad press given to the new Council.

For these and many other valuable contributions I have no hesitation in asking the Members to make Dennis McManus an Honorary Life Member of the Society.

Neil Macindoe
Planning Convenor

Citation for Virginia Simpson-Young

Of course, if the *Bulletin* was just a calendar of upcoming events, or nothing but reports of management committee or subcommittee meetings it would be pretty dull reading, but under Virginia's command, it has been not just informative, but entertaining and lively as well. If there were Walkley Awards for the best community newsletter, I'm sure the Bulletin would make the short list.

As if the Editorship of the *Bulletin* was not enough to keep her fully occupied, Virginia is also the Convenor of the Communications Subcommittee with a range of responsibilities including the Society's activity on social media – our website, our Facebook page, our YouTube channel and our Twitter account.

Virginia has also been a driving force behind the very successful gatherings offering advice on methods of online research for the history of particular houses in Glebe, and on creative use of smartphones to take advantage of the many useful apps that have become available.

Over the last year I've worked with Virginia on producing a documentary which records the history of the Glebe Society as observed by former editors of the *Bulletin*. It was a pleasure to work with her on that project, she worked tirelessly to contact the former editors and arrange interviews with them and those interviews provided the foundation of the documentary. And, of course, she was one of the magnificent triumvirate that so brilliantly managed our 50th Anniversary Festival. She also played a major role in the production of the booklet to mark the 50th Anniversary.

Our membership list includes only 16 people who have been awarded Honorary Life Membership in the Society's 50 years. Clearly it's an honour that the Society does not hand out willy-nilly, and on this occasion the committee responsible for suggesting these awards to the Management Committee was unanimous that Virginia would be an entirely appropriate candidate for Honorary Life Membership.

So, I formally move that by a decision of this Annual General Meeting Virginia Simpson-Young be awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Glebe Society.

Allan Hogan

For Your Calendar

Friday 11 October, 6-8.30pm. Sunset Soirée for *Centipede*, Glebe Rowing Club.

Saturday 12 October, 2 pm. History Walk with Max Solling.

Wednesday 16 October, 4pm. Identifying Glebe's Birds, 4:00 pm at small bridge near entrance to The Tramsheds, contact Judy Christie - 0437 693 372.

Wednesday 16 October, 7 pm Players in the Pub, Upstairs Toxeth Hotel

Sunday 20 October, 6.45am. *Spring Bird Survey*, Paddy Gray Reserve, contact Judy Christie – 0437 693 372.

24 – 27 October, *The Glebe Art Show*. Tramsheds.

1 to 24 November. *30th Annual Glebe Music Festival*, <http://www.glebemusicfestival.com/>.

Friday 1 November, 6.30pm. *Nathan Cox @ Glebe Music Festival*. Gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Rd.

Thursday 7 November 7pm Thirsty Thursday@ *Butcher and the Farmer*, Tramsheds,

Saturday 23 November, 3pm. *Evgeny Genchev @ Glebe Music Festival*. Glebe Town Hall.

Thursday 5 December, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday *Pizza da Noi*, 198 St Johns Rd (near Ross St).

Sunday 8 December, 4-7 pm. Glebe Society 2019 Christmas Gathering. Rothwell Lodge, Ferry Rd Glebe.

2nd & 4th Friday of the month, 10am-1pm. *Sewing 4 Good, Kitchen Starter Pack drop-off*, Aboriginal Space, Glebe Town Hall.

Glebe Society Inc. Established 1969

Management Committee

President	Brian Fuller	0409 035 418	president@glebesociety.org.au
Vice President	Mark Stapleton	0417 238 158	vicepresident@glebesociety.org.au
Past President	Verity Firth		pastpresident@glebesociety.org.au
Secretary	Jude Paul	0438 600 882	secretary@glebesociety.org.au
Minutes Secretary	Mark Stapleton	0417 238 158	minutes@glebesociety.org.au
Treasurer	Jane Gatwood	0488 118 355	treasurer@glebesociety.org.au
Ordinary member	Dorothy Davis	0417 240 603	dorothy@glebesociety.org.au
Ordinary member	Ted McKeown	02 9660 3917	ted@glebesociety.org.au
Ordinary member	Michael Morrison		michael@glebesociety.org.au
Ordinary member	Robert Hannan	0423 111 365	robert@glebesociety.org.au
Bays & Foreshores	Lesley Lynch	02 9660 5084	bays@glebesociety.org.au
Blue Wrens	Andrew Wood	02 9660 6104	bluewrens@glebesociety.org.au
Communications	Virginia Simpson-Young	0402 153 074	communications@glebesociety.org.au
Community	Janice Challinor	0401 505 657	community@glebesociety.org.au
Environment	Asa Wahlquist	02 9660 8261	environment@glebesociety.org.au
Heritage	Brian Fuller	0409 035 418	heritage@glebesociety.org.au
Planning	Neil Macindoe	02 9660 0208	planning@glebesociety.org.au
Transport & Traffic	Janet Wahlquist		transport@glebesociety.org.au

Working Groups & Contacts

Glebe Island Bridge	<i>Vacant</i>		transport@glebesociety.org.au
Archivist	Lyn Milton	02 9660 7930	milton.lyn@gmail.com
<i>Bulletin</i> Editor	Virginia Simpson-Young	0402 153 074	editor@glebesociety.org.au
Events	Judy Vergison	0417 446 425	events@glebesociety.org.au
Local History	Lyn Collingwood	02 9660 5817	history@glebesociety.org.au
History of Glebe	Max Solling	02 9660 1160	
Glebe Voices	Fiona Campbell	02 9660 0185	glebevoices@glebesociety.org.au
Thirsty Thursdays	Edwina Doe	02 9660 7066	thirstythursday@glebesociety.org.au
Web content	Flavia Morello		webmaster@glebesociety.org.au
Website technical	Peter Thorogood	0404 801 947	support@glebesociety.org.au
Facebook	Virginia Simpson-Young	0402 153 074	facebook@glebesociety.org.au
Twitterer			twitter@glebesociety.org.au

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PO Box 100 GLEBE NSW 2037 No 8 of 2019 (October 2019)

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



Johnstons Creek – soon to be naturalised.

Views expressed in this *Bulletin* are not necessarily those of the Glebe Society Inc. Articles and photos submitted for any of the Glebe Society's publications, including the website and *Bulletin*, may also be used in the Glebe Society's other publications.