



TELL THE NSW GOVERNMENT TO STOP CANNIBALISING GLEBE

Attend the Defend Public Housing Rally and March at midday Wednesday 12 May

Macquarie St end of Martin Place

by Ian Stephenson, Planning Convenor

In the April *Bulletin* I reported on Sydney City Council's removal of two properties in Cowper St from the St Phillips Heritage Conservation Area in order to facilitate a future development application by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) to demolish 1980s infill housing and replace it with two eight-storey apartment buildings.

LAHC are well advanced with plans for another rezoning to allow high rise, this time in Franklyn St, Glebe. This is to demolish low rise infill designed by Phillip Cox in the 1980s and replace it with towers as high as 14 storeys (see the March *Bulletin* for more information). Nearly 40% of the site is currently gardens, but these are to be replaced by 'living' roads – so much for greening Sydney!

Understandably the residents of Franklyn St are extremely upset as they will lose their homes and if they are eventually permitted to return it will be to the alienating environment of small apartments without easy access to gardens.

Jan Gehl, the Danish urban designer advises that:

High-rises separate people from the street. Meaningful contact with ground level events is possible only from the first few floors in a multi-storey building. Between the third and fourth floors, a marked decrease in the ability to have contact with the ground level can be observed. Another threshold exists between the fifth and sixth floors. Anything and anyone above the fifth floor is definitely out of touch with ground level events.

The neighbours of adjoining properties in Glebe St and Greek St are also very concerned, particularly about the loss of sunlight in their homes. However, it is a whole of Glebe issue which every Glebe resident needs to think about.

In Glebe in the 1980s the NSW Housing Commission architects were ahead of their time, they got it right in designing low rise infill with private and public open space and inserting it skilfully into historic neighbourhoods. This reversed the planning

philosophy of the 1950s which in 1959 saw the 11-storey John Byrne Court erected in St Johns Rd.



John Byrne Court, 1961 (source: City of Sydney Archives)



John Byrne Court in 2018 (photo: V. Simpson-Young)

In Macquarie St in 2021 our State government is getting it seriously wrong by doing high rise developments in heritage conservation areas. No private developer can get away with this.

For Glebe this 'back-to-the-50s' approach may well be only the beginning. There appear to be 10 other LAHC sites in Glebe (its hard-to-get information on what they own and what they have sold) which, although located in or near heritage conservation areas are classed as either Neutral or Detracting and are large enough for high rise. LAHC might be intending to follow the same path at Cowper St which is to apply for a spot rezoning to remove the sites from the HCAs and have new controls to permit greater height and density.

This would be the end of two things which make Glebe a great place to live and are embedded in its culture. That is the survival of its late 19th century scale and its broad demographic – rich, poor and everything in between, sharing a low-rise suburb. This diversity goes back to the 1840s when the Bishopsgate estate off Bay St was for the battlers and Glebe Point for the toffs. It could mark the beginning of a suburb of two citizens – the private owners in houses and the social housing tenants in high rise. Let's not see that happen.

Join our compatriot organisations Hands Off Glebe, Friends of Erskineville and Shelter NSW and attend the rally at midday 12 May at the Macquarie St end of Martin Place. Do it for Glebe.

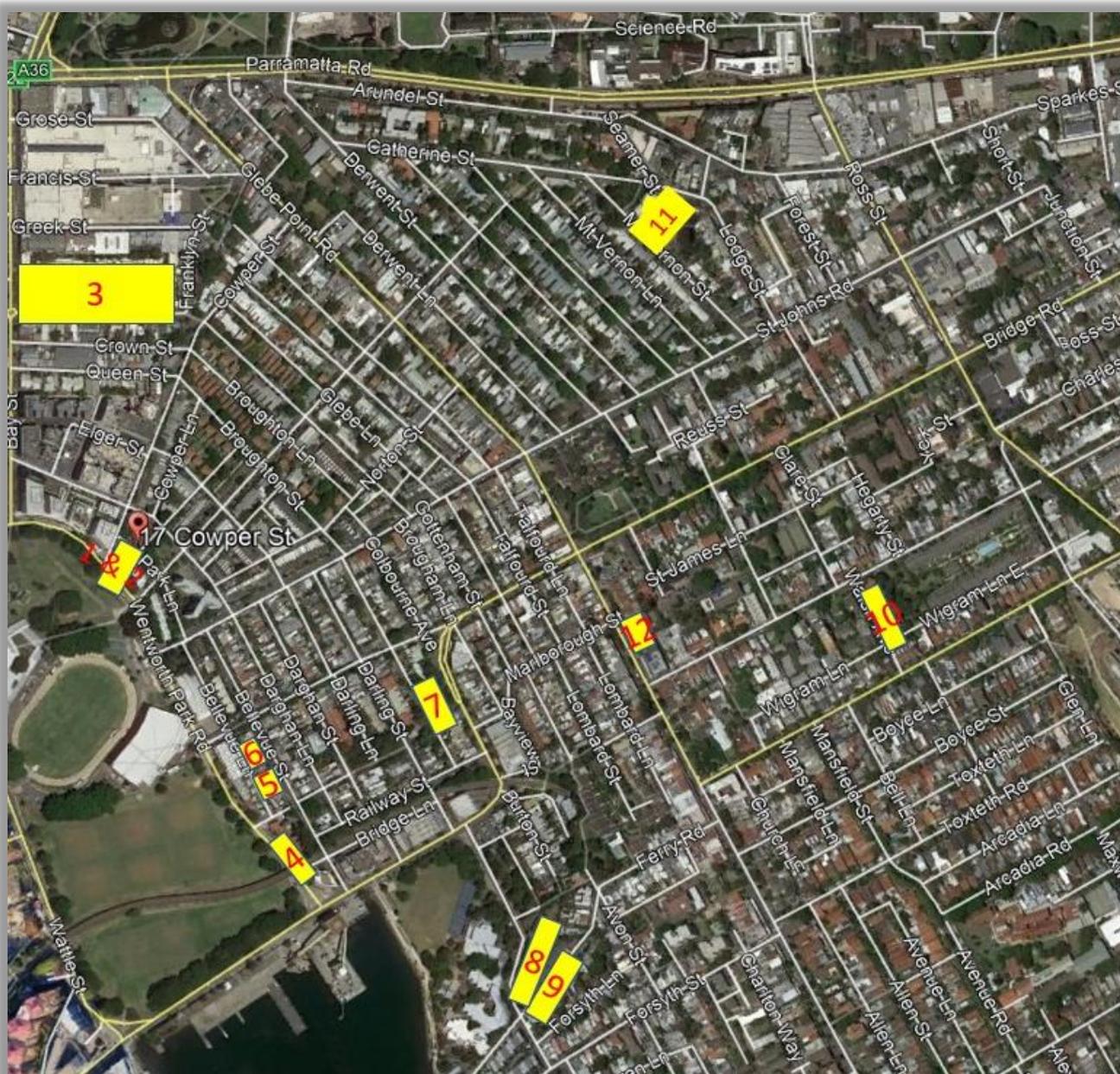


Figure 1 Sites 1 and 2 (17-31 Cowper St and 2A-D Wentworth Park Rd) have already been rezoned for high rise. There are well developed plans for high rise at site 3, Franklyn St. There may be as many as nine other LAHC owned sites in Glebe which have large blocks, are deemed Neutral or Detracting in the 2012 DCP and could be targeted for rezoning.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Bulletin in print

Dear Virginia,

I thought I'd pass on that it's great to get the *Bulletin* in print again!

It's packed with info and I'm certainly not up to reading it all at once. I can now sit and read different stories in a civilised manner over sandwiches or coffee at the kitchen table and leave it open to pick up again and read other stories another day. When a visitor from out of town saw it on the table, she also began reading it.

Thanks for all the work on it.

Fiona Campbell, 17 April 2021



Glebe public transport

Dear Editor,

In the last number of the *Bulletin* I read with great interest the section on the problems with the current bus stops of Glebe buses at Haymarket (or rather the lack thereof). I share the concerns expressed completely.

On the subject of transport problems, I would like to add the reduction in services to and from Glebe in the last year or so. All Glebe buses currently terminate at either Railway Square or Martin Place. The service to Circular Quay has been cut, affecting anyone needing to catch a ferry, visit the Rocks, the Museum, the Opera House, and other attractions at the Quay. In order to access essential ferry transport links and visit major landmarks at the Quay, commuters now face a bus change at Martin Place, a long walk or a considerable taxi fare.

I'd like to register complaint against the cuts to the Glebe transport services and request that buses to Circular Quay be reinstated.

Kind regards,

Elena Fitzpatrick, 10 April 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Meeting about Public Housing with Lord Mayor Clover Moore

by Janet Wahlquist, President

On 26 April 2021 Ian Stephenson and I meet (by Zoom) with Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore, Deputy Lord Mayor Jess Scully, Councillor Phillip Thalys and local key community groups. This was to discuss the City of Sydney's current position in relation to proposals by the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) for development of public housing sites.

The site most relevant to Glebe is the Franklyn St proposal to demolish the three-storey public housing units and replace them with three x 14 story blocks of units (predominately 1 and 2 bedroom), 30% of which will be for public housing and 70% will be sold off to fund the development and provide some profit for the development of further public housing projects. There are groups from other parts of City of Sydney who have similar issues with the proposals that are being presented in Waterloo and Redfern.

The Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) which has taken over from the Housing Commission is required to self-fund all expenditure on public housing. This is the rationale behind what is known as the 'Communities Plus' program. (City Hub has a great article explaining the 'Communities Plus' program: <https://tinyurl.com/dy7af5ux>). The result of the failure of the Government to provide any funds for Public Housing (and its maintenance) is the sale of much public housing. In recent times the LAHC has been selling off approximately two public housing homes a

week. The Communities Plus program will result in the selling off of current public housing, demolishing the homes that are there, and redeveloping and providing a smaller percentage of what is built for public housing use.

The meeting heard from Emily Bullock from Hands off Glebe who expressed concern about the lack of amenity of the new proposed models which allow for open space in the form of roadways and footpaths with no green space as currently exists in the Franklyn St complex. She also pointed out that the management and selection of tenants for the new complexes was being given over to companies who select the tenants and she was concerned that some traditional public housing tenants will miss out.

Keiran from Glebe Youth Services described how families in Franklyn St have been traumatised after being given notice that they are to be evicted. He said that the new design of the units being primarily 1 and 2 bedrooms are not suitable for many of the Aboriginal families who currently live in Glebe in extended families and need larger-sized dwellings.

One of the concerns expressed by a number of the representatives was the lack of consultation with the community before the announcement and the complete disregard for the disruption to the lives of the current tenants and the effect on the emotional and

mental wellbeing of an already vulnerable group of people.

Ian Stephenson, the Glebe Society's Planning Convenor, said Glebe is one of Australia's most intact inner-city suburbs. It is a remarkable survivor, hard fought for by people like Jack Munday and Tom Uren. The Glebe Society is opposed to LAHC's unprincipled vision to create a tale of two suburbs: one which is low-rise and historic and the other which is high-rise and heartless. We support the provision of additional social housing in Glebe but it should be well designed low-rise infill which is integrated into Glebe's urban fabric.



Attendees at the meeting hosted by City of Sydney to discuss social housing issues in Glebe (photo: Janet Wahlquist)

At the meeting, Geoff Turnbull from Redwatch said there needed to be a human services approach and

that just rebuilding doesn't address issues. He said that a social impact assessment should be done before redevelopment. There is currently a right of return to tenants being displaced but this is not useful if like-sized properties are not built.

Graham Jahn, who is the Senior Planner for the City of Sydney told the meeting that the Communities Plus program was an economic model which is subscribed to by both political parties. His view was that the Community Housing Sector responsible for managing and housing the properties had some good projects and good people. He said that LAHC were responsible for bricks and mortar and that people are dealt with by the companies given the contract for managing a particular development. (Members of the Glebe Society have already had a meeting with Bridge Housing which has the contract for managing the housing to be built in Cowper St and Wentworth Park Rd).

We were told that generally the government doesn't believe low income people should live in the city.

The Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor told the group that their goal was to remain involved in the planning process and get the best results for the community. This involves working with LAHC as, if they are completely oppositional, planning will be taken out of the City's control. Presently the Minister for Planning has given the Council authority to determine LAHC's developments in the City. The Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor were receptive to the concerns of the participants.

PLANNING MATTERS

NSW Planning's proposed 'Design and Place SEPP' is not going to work

The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is reviewing their State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs), and creating a new one called the Design and Place SEPP (<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/State-Environmental-Planning-Policies/Design-and-Place-SEPP>).

Submissions were called for on the SEPP's Explanation of Intended Effect (EIE) and closed on 28 April.

The Glebe Society's Planning Convenor, Ian Stephenson, made a submission on 24 April on the Society's behalf.

The submission is beautiful and my attempt to summarise it won't do it justice. Check it out on our website: <https://www.glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Glebe-Society-comments-Design-and-Place-2021-04-28.pdf>.

Virginia Simpson-Young

The battle to protect public housing continues ... rally on 12 May

HISTORY & HERITAGE

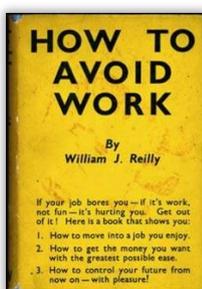
The Duke in Sydney (and Glebe!)

As you know, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, died last month.

On 29-30 November 1956, as part of his tour to open the Melbourne Olympics, the Duke of Edinburgh spent two days in Sydney. On the first day university students presented him with an ersatz Olympic torch in the form of a flaming chromium smokers' stand.

On the second day he travelled by helicopter with the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Pat Hills, to see a parking station, watch boys boxing at the Sydney Police Boy's Club, visit the Victoria Park Swimming Pool and inspect the old Glebe Public Library (then located at 191-195 Bridge Rd).

According to the Australian Women's Weekly:

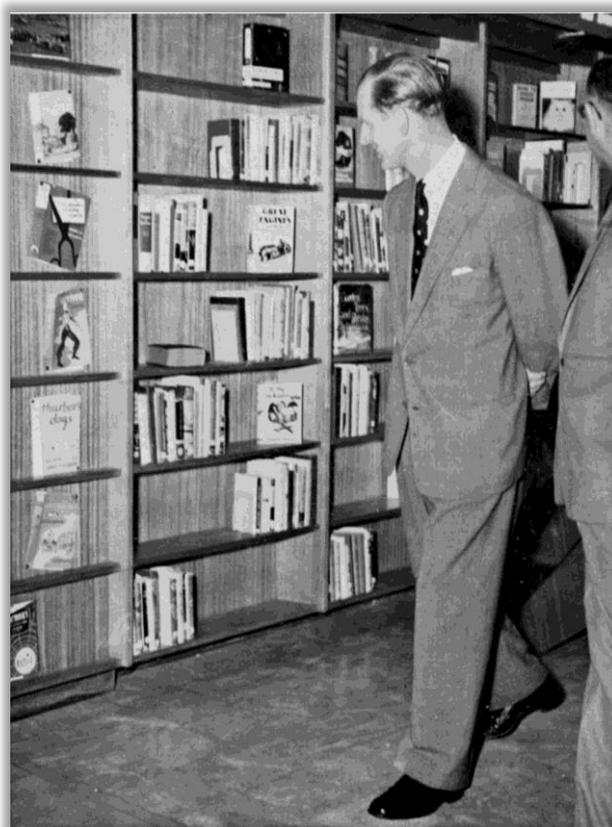


Walking around, he stopped beside a book with a bright yellow cover. Its title: 'How to Avoid Work.'

His Royal Highness held the book up, and turned to the watching librarians and Press. 'Any of you people here interested in this?' he asked.

As the cover shows, the tome was by William John Reilly. The City of Sydney no longer seems to have a copy in its library, but it can still be found in the State Library of Queensland.

The full Australian Women's Weekly article can be viewed on Trove: <https://tinyurl.com/dfzensbx>.



This is one of the photos that accompanied the Women's Weekly article about Prince Phillip's visit to Sydney in 1956. The caption read:

Browsing around the bookshelves at the Branch Public Library, Glebe, was only part of the Duke's inspection. Later he saw the library's well-equipped room for old people.

(Photo: City of Sydney Archives)

Who Lived in your Street? Charles Lanham (1859-1933)

by Lyn Collingwood

Charles Lanham's steam laundry stretched between Forest St and Lodge St, Forest Lodge. Established by 1903, it remained under family control until 1972 at which time it was an 'institutional member' of the Glebe Society. In 1988 the firm went into voluntary liquidation, a process completed three years later. Council approval was given for a total of 12 three-bedroom terraces to be built on the site.

Charles Lanham was born in London on 28 July 1859, the third son of Sarah and David Lanham. The family landed in Moreton Bay in January 1863 aboard the immigrant ship the *Flying Cloud* and David Lanham set up business in Brisbane as a tent maker. After moving to Adelaide, Charles married 19-year-old Fanny Emmeline Hall on Boxing Day 1881. Born at Goodwood Park were Walter Herbert ('Bert' 1883-1936), Edward James (1885-9), Henry John (1889-1935), Myrtle Beatrice (1891-1963, married name Glass) and Esther May (1893-1969, married name Munro). Some time in the 1890s they moved to

Sydney. The birth of Ernest Charles (died 1980) was registered at Camperdown in 1900. The family practised as Christadelphians, a religious sect believing in selective immortality and forbidding the taking of oaths.

By 1902 Charles had set up as a laundryman, with two addresses in Forest Lodge. Number 3 Forest St was adjacent to James Donohoe of *Alexander House*. The Lanhams lived in 20 Lodge St, next door to the Hurley family (including the adventurous Frank) at number 22.

In June 1903 Charles Lanham & Son was registered. The 'Son' was his eldest child Bert who, after leaving Forest Lodge Public School, became the company's canvasser visiting hotels, clubs and ships in port to get their washing business. A local competitor for these major users of bed linen, towels and napery was W J Hamilton's West End Steam Laundry which operated in Blackfriars St from 1895 before moving to Bay St. Residents living near such laundries had to endure the

ever-present discomfort of smoke billowing out of their boilers.

First deliveries were by horse and cart, their drivers authorised to collect accounts. Pocketing some of the money was a temptation for Lanham's carters, despite their being the firm's top wage earners. In 1907 Sydney Herbert Cohen received a six months' suspended sentence for embezzlement.

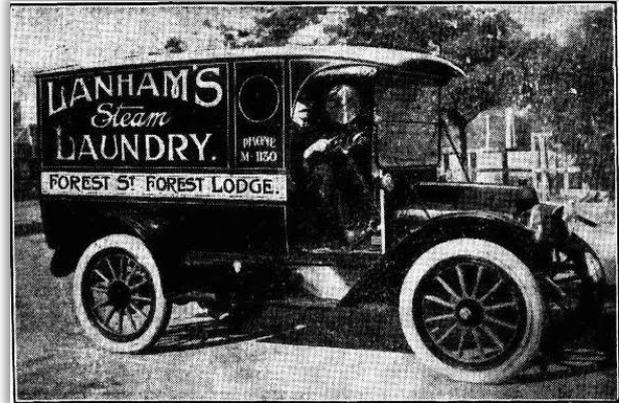
In 1908 Charles Lanham was discharged as a bankrupt after which Bert assumed more responsibility, with his mother acting as forewoman of what became a 'high class laundry'. In 1917 the partnership W H Lanham & Co. was dissolved, Bert assuming sole ownership. His father moved to *Lighthouse Farm* near Birriwa where he took up wheat growing and sheep raising. Charles died on 8 March 1933 at the Wentworth Falls home of his younger daughter; his widow, Fanny, suffered a fatal heart attack on 14 May 1934 while having a tooth extracted under local anaesthetic by a Camperdown dentist. Fanny Lanham was buried with her husband in the Independent section of Rookwood Cemetery.

Under Bert Lanham's management, up-to-date machinery was imported from Europe, the Forest Lodge laundry upgraded, and a long-term relationship established with Australia's largest laundry contractor, the NSW Railways Dept. Trustee and Secretary of the NSW Laundry Association, Bert was a prominent speaker at conferences involving the industry. His particular gripes were import duties, State tariffs and the 'evil' basic wage. Walter Herbert Lanham died at Hornsby on 8 March 1936; his widow Alice Louise née Lee died on 24 April 1949. Their son Herbert Milton (1908-72), a sanitary science engineer, became managing director.

As representative of the Federal Institute of Launderers (with a membership of 250 firms employing 5000 hands) Herbert continued his father's opposition to increased import duties on machines used in the laundry industry. He made further alterations and additions to the Forest Lodge premises, set up another plant at 131 Mount St North Sydney, signed up more government contracts, and publicised Lanham's Laundry through its 15-acre model farm near the unions area at St Mary's, a pony club prize at the Nepean Gymkhana and *Lanham's Laundry Presents* on radio station 2UE. In the 1960s he switched attention to the home delivery dry cleaning and laundry market, operating from outlets at Kings Cross, Double Bay and Artarmon in addition to Forest Lodge.

A paternalistic firm, Lanham's came under pressure from strengthening trade unionism. In 1926 it was fined for working female employees too much unpaid overtime. In 1944 its 100 members of the Australian Workers' Union joined other Sydney laundries striking for better wages and conditions. More than 25 000 pieces of unwashed linen piled up at Forest Lodge from the army, hospital ships, railway sleeping cars and RPA Hospital. Attorney General Evatt ordered a return to work but there was another crisis later in the year

when washhouse men supported a worker suspended by the foreman. To attract new female press operators, Lanham's assured them that they would work in clean pleasant conditions listening to music.



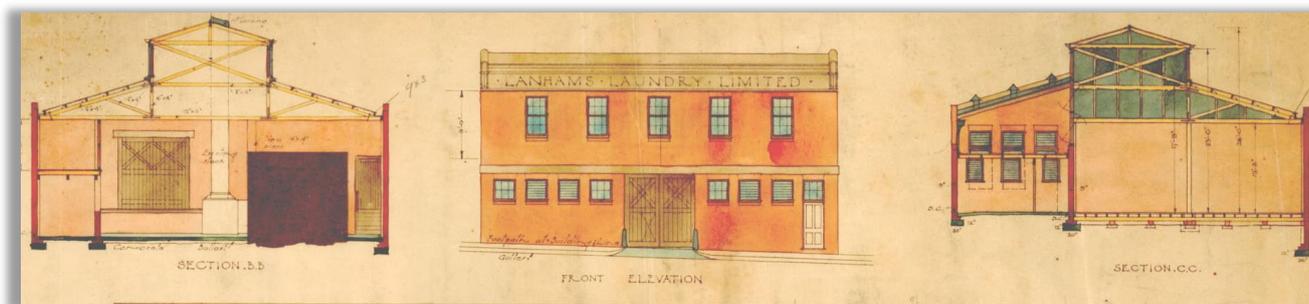
By 1915 motorised transport had largely replaced the horse and cart. This 'electrically lighted and started' Studebaker van made light deliveries (Sydney Sun 31 July 1915)

Women were traditionally at the bottom of the pay scale. At the top of the hierarchy was the male carter followed by the wash house man, shirt machinist, collar machinist, starcher, sorter and packer, folder, feeder. Lowest paid and most in danger of serious injury was the female beginner.

In 1907 calendar girl Mabel May was feeding an unfenced steam mangle, operated by Charles Lanham and his wife, when the machine started suddenly and her hand was caught between the rollers. After it was surgically amputated, Lanham assured her he would get her a prosthesis and keep her in employment but May sued for £700 damages. The Lanhams argued contributory negligence, a jury inspected the scene and awarded half the amount. In 1933 Nellie Ivy Verley, a 16-year-old living in Talford St Glebe, was awarded £487 compensation for the loss of four fingers caught in a mangle. Twenty years later Dorothy Irwin's arm was dragged into a machine and fractured. The same year service manager Roberta Stevenson survived an attack when she disturbed burglars on the laundry premises and was beaten unconscious and strangled with her own scarf.

Two bizarre incidents involved company vans. In 1936 a driver set off for Rose Bay with a load of laundry to deliver but suffered a loss of memory and ended up in Broken Hill. Ten years later a thief, unnoticed by nearby employees at Forest Lodge, got into a truck, released the brake and ran it downhill to start the engine. The abandoned vehicle was discovered, but minus its £300 worth of laundry.

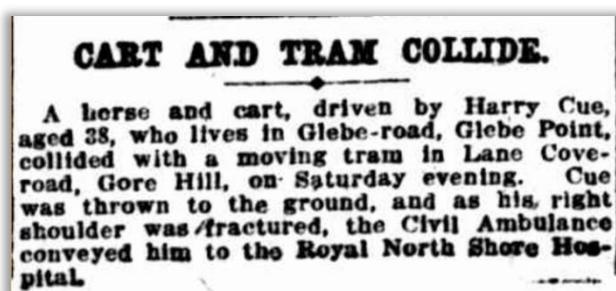
Sources: NSW electoral rolls; NSW Registry of Births, Deaths, Marriages; NSW State Records; Parliament of Australia Tariff Board report 1951-2; Queensland registry of Births, Deaths, Marriages; Sands *Directories*; Trove website.



Proposed additions in 1925 at Forest Lodge included a workers' living quarters. By then 'Steam' had been dropped from the company name (City of Sydney Archives)

100 years ago in Glebe & Forest Lodge – this month: May 1921

by Rodney Hammett



Sydney Morning Herald; Mon 30 May 1921, p. 10

Henry or Harry Cue of 157 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe had already been injured during World War 1 before sustaining a broken shoulder from this accident in May 1921.

A Glebe boy born in 1890, Harry was the third of five children to William (1864-1896) and Elizabeth Ann Nolan (1863-1929) and unfortunate to lose his father when only five in 1896. [Astute readers will have calculated that Harry born in 1890 would have been 31 on 1921, not 38 as reported in the newspaper. My research has confirmed this is the correct Harry and that he was born in 1890.]

His widowed mother was in 1896 left with son William (1886-1957), Joseph (1888-1938) Harry (1890-1969) and baby (Martha 1896-1897). Another son John had died in 1895 aged only two. Also in 1895, Joseph aged seven was severely injured when knocked down by a horse-drawn cab and trampled at the corner of Raglan St and George St, Waterloo.¹

This was Glebe and the inner city during the 1880s and 1890s – very tough for those at the margins of prosperity. Elizabeth married again, to widower Clifford Barton in 1898 having a further two boys with him, adding to the three surviving children from his earlier marriage. Clifford died in 1907 aged 49 having spent a month in 1899 at Her Majesty's pleasure for fraud and uttering.²

Harry, a sheet metal worker, and his older brother William, a stove fitter, were both already married when

enlisting for World War 1 in 1916. They both served in France, each was wounded in action.³ Joseph was possibly not able to enlist due to his childhood injury. Harry lost his left leg as a result of a gunshot wound to his knee in April 1917, and was repatriated to Sydney in early 1918 as medically unfit. William returned in 1919.

Harry became a fruiter or greengrocer after the war with a shop at 157 Glebe Point Rd.⁴ At the time he was injured in 1921 the family was in the process of relocating to Chatswood where he had a shop first in Thomas St then in Victoria Ave. Harry and Annie Brown had married in Glebe in 1910 from which came Isabell (1911-1983), Ronald (1913-1997) and Spencer (1915-1982). Both boys enlisted for World War 2 in about 1940 and returned safely.

Harry died at the Concord Repatriation Hospital in May 1969 at the age of 79, not a bad innings for someone who had had so many injuries. Irish born Annie died in 1961 aged 69.

¹ SMH; Wed 27 Nov 1895, p. 6; ² Ancestry.com; NSW Goal Records & The Australian Star; Wed 15 Mr 1899, p. 6;³ National Archives of Australia; WW1 Service Records; ⁴ Sands Directory



Harry Cue lived at 157 Glebe Point Rd, at the lower end of Glebe's most famous row (photo: Adam.J.W.C)

Mystery photo



This month's mystery picture

It's 1884. Where are we? Please send your suggestions to history@glebesociety.org.au

Last month's mystery photo

Last month's mystery photo remains a mystery. No one recognised it – and we don't know the answer either!



GLEBE, NATURALLY

Biodiversity lecture is almost fully booked

by Andrew Wood, *Blue Wrens Convenor*

The Society's annual biodiversity lecture, "*Biodiversity on our blue doorstep – fascinating creatures in Sydney harbour and coastline*" will be given by John Turnbull from the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales at 6 pm on Tuesday 1 June, at *Benledi*, Glebe Library.

A couple of tickets remain and there is a wait list, but under Covid-19 Safety Rules a maximum of 40 people can attend.

Bookings are required via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2021-biodiversity-lecture-blue-wren-subcommittee-tickets-148285035533>

Draft Greening Sydney Strategy

by Virginia Simpson-Young

City of Sydney is consulting on their draft Greening Sydney Strategy. The consultation period ends on 24 May.

Making Sydney greener has many benefits including managing urban heat (which is getting worse because of climate change and urbanisation), more opportunities to connect with nature (which is important for mental and physical health) and greater biodiversity by, for example, creating more habitat for non-human animals.

There are six 'Directions' in the strategy. The first includes a target to increase overall green cover to 40% by 2050 (from 32% in 2019). This includes a minimum of 27% tree canopy (up from 18% in 2019).

Note that 'green cover' is all of the trees, plants, ground covers and turf throughout the city; canopy cover relates solely to trees over three metres tall. Shrubs and lawns under canopy are not counted.

One way overall green cover can be increased, the Strategy says, is to green laneways: "It is no longer considered appropriate that laneways, as underused public spaces, are not better designed to become a valued green network for the entire community."

An interesting idea falls under Direction 3; specific 'calm green spaces' will be identified or created. These calm spaces will be mapped and promoted and considered in future design. City of Sydney will also look into the possibility of temporary and 'pop-up' parks and green spaces 'that provide new calming or respite in areas where permanent greening is not available'.

In terms of using planning instruments for greening Sydney, the City intends to develop a 'green factor score' which will be embedded in planning controls, including development control plans. This will help to increase greenery on private land.

There's a lot more to the Strategy than I've described here. It can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/52rhr9hc>. Don't forget to provide your feedback by 24 May.



An example of how Sydney could look when 27% overall canopy cover is achieved (source: City of Sydney's draft Greening Sydney Strategy)

COMMUNITY MATTERS

Just how far will LAHC go? Now they're selling off a kindy!

by Virginia Simpson-Young

The childcare centre, Laurel Tree House, which has been operating in Glebe for almost 40 years, will be forced to close at the end of the year because the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) has decided to sell-off their building.

Many of you will know Laurel Tree House, located at 61 Arundel St, directly opposite the end of the Sydney Uni footbridge. Perhaps your children attended kindy there, or your grandchildren. Or perhaps you noticed it as you crossed into Glebe from the Sydney University footbridge across Parramatta Rd. Laurel Tree House is run by the not-for-profit, KU Children's Services, who pays LAHC rent for the use of the building.

Parents were dumbfounded when they heard on 19 April that LAHC has told KU to vacate as they plan to sell off the building. In a letter to families of 23 April, KU Children's Services CEO Christine Legg, confirmed the sell-off. KU Services investigated buying the kindy back from LAHC, but this was not a financial possibility. They've also looked for an alternative location, but that too has come to nothing.

The parents have mounted a vigorous campaign to stop the closure of their kindy, but they are up against Glebe's biggest landlord, with a disturbing track record of closing down community facilities. If the parents' campaign fails, then we say goodbye to another Glebe icon.

Please consider signing the parents' petition to protect Laurel Tree House: <http://chng.it/TZK5KjMWpg>. Also consider writing to the Premier.



KU Laurel Tree House Children's Centre has been operating in Glebe for 38 years and is being forced to close because LAHC, which owns the building, plans to sell it off (image: Google maps)

Anzac Day in Glebe 2021

About 50 people attended the service at the Glebe Diggers Memorial in Foley Park on Anzac Day. The service was led by Rev Mark Wormell, rector of St John's, and the piper was Rob McLean. After the service, attendees enjoyed a delectable morning tea in the grounds of St Johns Church – thankyou to Lyn Milton and Jude Paul for organising it. Thanks also to Phil Young for lugging the PA to and from the service. A special thanks to Max Solling who, as every year, arranged the event and provided the address which is reproduced below:

Anzac Day address, by Max Solling

This morning I'd like to share some thoughts about the impact of the Second World War on Glebe residents. As the country emerged from the economic hardship of the Depression, Australians watched for war approaching in 1939 and the dominant passion was

not bellicose excitement but rather regret tinged with disappointment that war must come again. War disrupted and constricted living patterns; for half a decade normal life was suspended.

The Second World War was a truly global war in human life of at least 60 million. Russia suffered the greatest number of casualties, 27 million. of whom 18 million were civilians. War devastated Europe, triggered massive movements in populations, unleashed irresistible forces of nationalism in Asia, leaving the international order irrevocably changed.

Despite its scale it resulted in fewer casualties for Australia than in the First World War. The total death toll on active service was 39,000 (out of a population of 7 million), in contrast with about 60,000 from a population of 5 million. Australia's economy and society was mobilised to an unprecedented degree, with 550,000 men and women serving overseas in the armed services.

Australia raised four volunteer infantry divisions, three of which (6th, 7th and 9th) were committed in the first two years to the Middle East and Mediterranean theatres. The RAN served with its British counterparts in most oceans, and Australia sent 26,000 airmen to serve with the RAF through the Empire Air Training Scheme.



Max Solling delivering his address. Behind him is Rob McQueen (photo: Phil Young)

The attack on Pearl Harbour on 7 December 1941 signalled Japan's entry into the war, and a campaign which saw Malaya, Singapore, Burma and the Dutch East Indies captured by the Japanese by March 1942. The fall of Singapore was a catastrophe and the fate of thousands imprisoned by the Japanese was difficult to interpret, and showed the sun was setting on the British Empire.

The 6th and 7th Divisions were recalled from the Middle East in response to the crisis when the 8th Division went into captivity and the Allied troops were taken prisoner.

American General Douglas MacArthur arrived in Australia in March 1942 as commander of the South West Pacific forces. The strategy of Australian forces was to hold the Japanese attacks on Papua and New Guinea with gruelling campaigns on the north coast.

Having failed a seaborne attempt to take Port Moresby, Japanese troops landed on the north coast, with the aim of crossing the Owen Stanley ranges by land. The terrain was dense rainforest, and a track winding up and down precipitous ridges, with malarial swamplands. Australian troops advanced north from Port Moresby along this track to the airstrip at Kokoda. The Australians launched a counter attack with the extraordinary support of indigenous stretcher bearers, and retook Kokoda on 2 November 1942. The heroism of Australian and Papuan soldiers became one of the key images of the Pacific war. Australians and Americans then drove the Japanese from their fortified beachheads at Buna, Gona and Sanananda. By the end of 1942 the Japanese advance had ended, and after the Battle of Stalingrad the tide in Europe had turned against Germany.

Names of Glebe residents who enlisted in the First World War are recorded in the foyer of its town hall. But nowhere in the local landscape is there a record of those who enlisted between 1939 and 1945, with one exception: 142 parishioners on St Johns Bishopthorpe honour roll. 2,347 Glebe men and 79 Glebe women, 2,426 altogether, enlisted, of which 80% were in the AIF, and 16% in the RAAF.



WWII honour roll on the back wall of St John's Anglican Church, the only WWII honour roll in 2037 (photo: V. Simpson-Young)

A strong collective memory of troop trains, that travelled along the goods line that passed by tunnel under Glebe, remains. Families and friends gathered near the tunnel mouth to farewell the soldiers, displaying placards with the names and number of enlisted locals. And at Foley Park slit trenches were dug and American troops occupied Wentworth Park from 1943.

On the southern side of the harbour ties of work, residence, recreation and kinship in municipalities

encircling the Sydney CBD made for a close working class culture whose values and attitudes embodied a way of life which embraced reciprocity, neighbourliness, and mutual aid of a monetary and non-monetary kind, with Glebe controlled by a Labor Council from 1925 to 1939 and 1941 to 1948.

Glebe was a constituent part of industrialised inner Sydney with 156 factories employing 4,496 people. A predominantly tenanted community, its population of 20,510 at the 1947 census was overwhelmingly Australian-born – 89% men and 92% women and the largest source of employment for Glebe's workforce was manufacturing.



Sydney, NSW. 1941-05-16. A section of the Ordnance Store at Arundel St, Glebe (photo: Australian War Memorial)

In a society where the adult male of the household was regarded as the breadwinner, only 28% of Glebe's women were in paid employment; the balance, 72% of local women not in paid work, managed the family budget, displaying frugality and ingenuity in making ends meet, and during the war they were actively recruited into jobs that had always been the preserve of men. Local women raised large families in a rented terrace on a single wage.

Glebe continued to be a largely pedestrian society, shaped and fed upon clusters of shops along its main streets – 13 butchers, 39 mixed businesses, 29 grocers, 20 fruiterers, 16 bootmakers, 19 hairdressers, 3 bakeries and 5 milk bars, and Glebe's beer trade at its 16 pubs was frenetic in the hour or so before six o'clock closing.

Working a 40-hour week, a Saturday evening at the Astor Picture Theatre was sort of nirvana while there was ample opportunity for a little flutter, only a short walk or tram ride away at the trots on Friday night and the dogs on Saturday night.

Prime Minister John Curtin decided, as in the last war, no remains of Australia's war dead were to be brought home. And a 1944 Gallup poll asked a sample population, 'What kind of war memorial do you favour?' Utility demonstrably triumphed: 90% voted for functional memorials – hospitals, schools, halls, parks, swimming pools, they said, or 'anything useful'. In some cities and towns names of those who enlisted and died were added to old memorials. The youngest

from Glebe to enlist were 17-year-old Neville Frost (Merchant Navy) and three 18-year-olds, Gloria Newlyn (RAAF), Desmond McLean (AIF) and Nurtheen Darke (RAN).

Over 30,000 Australians were taken prisoner during the war. Eight thousand in Italy and Germany of whom 265 died, and 22,000 in Japan and its occupied territories, of whom 8,200 died. Of the 22,000 prisoners held by the Japanese, one third died in captivity, representing one quarter of all Australians combat deaths in the war.

Australians witnessed the return of 14,000 survivors of Japanese imprisonment in late 1945 and this image has remained vivid. The prisoners of war had suffered considerable privations, not the terrifying annihilation of combat but the insidious bodily decay wrought by torture, starvation and disease.

Edward 'Weary' Dunlop, born in 1907, an Australian surgeon renowned for his compassionate medical care and leadership while prisoner of the Japanese, believed his 1942-1945 diaries should remain unpublished for 40 years, for fear that they might add further to the suffering of the bereaved. But in 1986, in the evening of his life, he was able to put things in perspective. Dunlop was both chief physician and commanding officer of 1,000 men forced to work on construction of the Burma-Thailand railway – 415 kilometres from Ban Pong to Burma. He displayed both compassion and courage in caring for and protecting his men. On a number of occasions he put his own life on the line by standing up to the captors to defend his fellow POWs against cruelty and brutality. Overall 12,000 POWs died on the railway including 2,700 Australians.

Dunlop wrote in the preface to the published version of his diaries: 'Those in the medical services had the stimulus of the stark needs of a deluge of piteously ill men, and most doctors were fearless in approaches to our captors. However much of the salvage of sick and broken men was achieved by securing the involvement of the whole stricken force in the sharing of slender resources, money and food and contributing ingenious improvisations and gifts of labours of love out of their ebbing energy'. After he died on 2 July 1993, Dunlop's ashes were taken back to the Burma-Thailand railway at dawn on Anzac Day 1994 at a place prisoners called Hellfire Pass. Collective bonding was fundamental to the prisoner-of-war story. Tom Uren (1921-2015), left school at 13, and in his words, became a pick and shovel worker, boxer, and member of the AIF in Timor in 1942 where, as a 20-year-old he became a prisoner of war of the Japanese and was sent to work on the Burma-Thailand railway. In reminiscences he gave in 1996 Tom recalled: *'Weary' Dunlop really was a remarkable man. I always called him Colonel. Under the Geneva Convention they had paid the officers and medical orderlies an allowance of money, and the men who went out to work were paid a small wage.*

Tom continued, *'Weary would pool the great bulk of that wealth into a central fund and with the money from that we would go out and get people to trade with Thai and Chinese traders and get medical supplies and food*

to look after our sick and our needy. In the camp the strong looked after the sick, collectivising our wealth. And it was that great collective spirit, working together under Weary. I've got happy memories of Weary, and he still remains with me.' Uren found the camp experience the fire in which the legacy of his mother's instinctive hatred of social exploitation was tempered into a life-long belief in the principles of socialism.

Fellow prisoner and Glebe rower Stan Arneil also kept a diary of his entire imprisonment as a prisoner of war, and published it as 'One Man's War' in 1980. 'It was the greatest privilege of my life', he wrote 'to have been part of that group'



Councillor Linda Scott and Ted McKeown lay the Glebe Society's wreath at the war memorial on Anzac Day (photo: Phil Young)



The crowd gathered on a beautiful Sunday morning for the Anzac Day service (photo: Phil Young)

CREATIVE GLEBE

Featuring Blackwattle Bay



'Things Disappearing' – Painting by Vicky Marquis of the dismantling of the cement works at Blackwattle Bay (source: Vicky Marquis)



A stunning view of Blackwattle Bay at sunrise (photo: Judy Vergison)

Players in the Pub

Players in the Pub presents....



FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS

directed by Nicholas Papademetriou

WEDNESDAY 19 MAY - 7PM

TOXTETH HOTEL
CNR FERRY RD/GLEBE PT RD



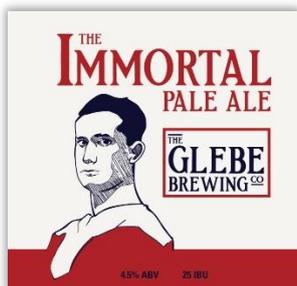
OLIVIA PIGEOT	ADELE QUEROL
MATT ABOTOMEY	ALEX BRYANT- SMITH
ALISON CHAMBERS	LYN COLLINGWOOD
KIM KNUCKEY	JODINE MUIR
MADELEINE WITHINGTON	

KITCHEN OPENS 5PM - ORDER EARLY
WE ALWAYS AIM TO START ON TIME

ADMISSION FREE

'THE BACK PAGE': SPORT

The Immortal available for home delivery!



As you know, the Glebe Dirty Reds launched their own beer label, Glebe Brewing Co, last year in a bid to open up a new revenue stream for the club. Our first offering, The Immortal Pale Ale, quite possibly the

best-tasting pale ale ever produced, has sold like the proverbial hotcakes since it arrived late last year.

Well, now you can have the Immortal Pale Ale delivered straight to your door! Thanks to a new partnership with Australia's number one online beer retailer, Craft Cartel, you can order a case of The Immortal from anywhere in Australia! And the good news is – there are no delivery fees for orders over \$75!

So don't delay, order a case of The Immortal Pale Ale today. Every drop sold of this dirty red liquid gold provides financial support for your footy club, The Glebe Dirty Reds.

You can pick up yours here:

<https://www.craftcartel.com.au/product/glebe-brewing-co-the-immortal-pale-ale/>

Wentworth Park Speedway, Glebe

If you decided to attend a speedway meeting at the quarter-mile, dirt covered Wentworth Park Oval between 1928 and 1936, this was the design and style of midget speeder you would have seen; crude, dangerous, smelly, noisy – and very exciting!

The rear car, #28, was Jack Brabham's first competitive machine that launched his long and successful career in motor racing.



The type of car raced at Wentworth Park Speedway between 1928 and 1936 (Photo: Phil Vergison)

Bear in mind that all these midgets were 'hand made', usually powered by motorcycle motors, so no two looked exactly alike and their design changed little over the 30s and 40s. It was not until the mid to late-50s that midget speeders grew a little in size to allow for motor vehicle engines to be installed.



*Phil Vergison
Similar cars at the Wentworth Park Speedway in 1935
(source: <http://www.speedwayandroadracehistory.com/sydney-wentworth-speedway.html>)*



Bellevue and the waterside crane (photo: Phil Vergison)



Dominating edifice (photo: Phil Vergison)

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday 12 May, noon. *Public Housing Rally* Martin Place

Wednesday 19 May, 7 pm. *Players in the Pub*, Toxteth Hotel

Tuesday 1 June, 6 pm. *Biodiversity Lecture* by John Turnbull at *Benledi House*, Glebe Library

Glebe Society Inc. Established 1969

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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



Dawn from Bridgewater Apartments (photo: Lydia Bushell)

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.