



THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

PO BOX 100, GLEBE NSW 2037 AUSTRALIA

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March

Social Activities

Sunday Lunch

Many of you may know of the Southern Indian restaurant at 65 Glebe Point Road, Dakhni. The owner has introduced a fixed price meal on one Sunday a month, and the fourth of these will be on Sunday 21st April, starting at 1 p.m. The cost is \$17.90 and the restaurant is a BYO. Dorothy and I and some friends went to the first of these meals in January, and it was very good, and very popular.

The food was not hot; pungent or strong-tasting would be a better description, although the accompaniments are pretty hot. This Sunday lunch is a buffet-style event, with reserved table places. There will be plenty to eat, I assure you, with about a dozen separate menu items.

If you are interested, please ring me at home at 692 0071 by Monday 15th April. My impression is that the restaurant may be fairly heavily booked, so the earlier I can book the better.

Sunday Barbeque

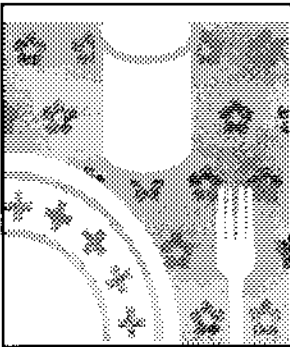
Jeanette Knox and I made a bi-lateral decision to hold the planned Autumn barbeque on Sunday 19th May in Blackwattle Bay Park, at around 12.30 p.m. There is a free electric barbeque there and the more suitable entrance is from Cook Street. The grill is closer to that part of the Park than to the entrance near Bellevue.

Bring along your own provisions; there may be some members who may like to also bring along a portable barbeque, such as a Webber. Let Jeanette or me know if you could do this. More info in the next Bulletin.

Wine Bottling

Tony Larkum has informed me that he has found some bulk wine from a well-known winery in the Hunter, I think red wine. The trouble is the price which would work out to about \$6 per bottle, allowing a small profit for the Society. This is more than I think either of us wants to charge, so we are investigating other possibilities. Be assured you will be kept in touch. We will probably decide to buy a minimum amount of the above wine, about 3 dozen, to see how it sells, but I must discuss this with the Committee first. More next Bulletin.

John Hoddinott



Join other Glebe Society members for lunch on Sunday 21 at Dakhni's...

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Planning Report

461-465 Glebe Point Road

I attended a Precinct meeting where Mr Leon Fink had a model of the latest proposal for 461-465 Glebe Point Road. The main change was to 461, which is still a plan for 6 townhouses, but with a central across-the-pavement entry to an underground car park, instead of an earlier plan for a garage in front of every dwelling.

There was no significant change to his plan for the two remaining sites, and the waterfront walk is still an over-the-water construction in wood. This is not an acceptable idea in the Society's view; there was no indication that the "Long Shed" was to be scaled down, or at least this was my impression.

Option "C" in Leichhardt Council's Development Control Plan for the three sites includes a significant area of open space at 465, and so the new plan is still out of line with the LDP on that issue. The townhouses looked better in the new model, and they are set back from the street. The plan has not gone to a D.A. stage yet, and when it does, I will make a submission on behalf of the Glebe Society. On balance the townhouses seem more acceptable than previously.

Mr Fink spoke strongly about his right to develop the three sites separately. I think this is OK for 461, but 463 and 465 seem much more closely coupled, especially in the sense of car parking and open space. Both the latter are almost certainly destined to be non-residential, whatever happens finally.

Toxteth Road Pre-School Centre

You will all have heard the rather tired phrase about "sitting down together around a table to sort out our problems", etc. There are times when I think some meetings should be held with everyone standing. I attended a mediation meeting to discuss the DA to increase the number of children attending the pre-school centre at the former Uniting Church at 19 Toxteth Road.

The application was to go from 25 to 65 children. I had made a submission on behalf of the Society, not opposing the idea in principal, but questioning most figures con-

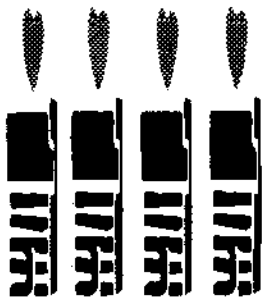
cerned with available car-parking spaces in the immediate area, and other traffic matters. I mentioned in our submission that the Society had a "Children & Glebe" sub-committee.

The meeting was attended by 7 objectors, from the 25 who submitted objections within the time allotted. There was only one other Glebe Society member present. About 6 persons representing the applicant, the Uniting Church who own the buildings were present. Henceforth I will call them "the Church". Two Council Officers attended as Mediator/secretary and Town Planner.

The meeting lasted for 4 hours and 10 minutes, far too long in my books and made me late for the Glebe Society's Management Committee's monthly meeting. (I was sick of meetings at the end of that Wednesday - almost 7 hours without food!) There was a good deal of acrimony voiced, and the residents were very strongly opposed to the increase in the number of children, because of the increase in traffic movements associated with their delivery and collection. There were also comments about garbage being left in Arcadia Lane, at the back of the present facility, truck deliveries, difficulties to back-lane access by emergency vehicles and increased noise from both the children and car movements.

The residents asked that the Church give consideration to a decrease in numbers, and asked Council to undertake a proper traffic management study of the area, especially Toxteth Road. There were some major concerns about the in-fill building between the hall, now the child-care centre, and the sandstone church itself, to become part of the centre, and the proposed brick wall in front of the new building.

Because the church is not a listed heritage building, the Church would not agree to a conservation study on the in-fill, etc. It was adamant that if the numbers dropped from 65 to 64 children, the Church would close the whole facility, which I suppose would make the objectors look like they were all anti-children. The Church's reason for this disinclination to decrease numbers was that they would lose money unless their request was granted, although, naturally, we were not privy to their financial arguments.



I hope I have represented both sides fairly in this article. It was, as I have said, a long and difficult meeting, and will be very difficult to resolve. I have received the minutes of the meeting, and I consider them a fair and accurate account of the proceedings. All I can say is that I will keep you in touch. Please feel free to contact me on this issue, but as only three of the 24 objectors, (excluding the Society from the above 25) were members of the Glebe Society, I am not sure that I should take a very aggressive standpoint on the DA. Members are welcome to see my objection, but I am not sure it is worth printing in full, as its views depend on details in the original DA.

Harold Park Paceway's Application for a Licensed Club

Many of you will have received a flier from the Glebe Society about the D.A. (No. 46/96) received by Council from the New South Wales Harness Racing Association to open a 7-day-a-week Licensed Club in the grandstand. The hours requested all start at 9 a.m. every day of the week, and would run to midnight on Sunday to Wednesday, 1 a.m. on Thursday, and 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Naturally this has not been welcomed by most of the people, including publicans and restauranters to whom I have spoken. I have prepared a letter objecting to the proposal, I think the longest submission I have made to any D.A. I believe the application to be a very flimsy one, especially as there has never been a mention of anything like a licensed club on the premises. There is a request for 100 poker machines, a Club Keno and a Club TAB.

Many residents knew about the idea of a hockey field within the new redevelopment underway there now. It seems that the field will have to be paid for by external sponsorship, as the Paceway is not able to spend its TAB income on anything other than Paceway infrastructure - or at least this is my reading of the position. It is very hard to get any real details about such matters from anyone.

I do not think our suburb needs a large gambling facility when we have the new Sydney Casino just about within walking distance for most of us, if we have the inclination

(and are able to walk up considerable inclinations). Glebe is well provided for with hotels and restaurants. Some of the hotels have plenty of gaming machines already. The proposed Club would be able to "provide very low priced meals and cheaper beverages than hotels", and this would make life very difficult for at least one hotel, and perhaps more than one, and possibly for some restaurants.

I have at the last moment received a copy of a letter from Council, noting that pacing would recommence on Friday 22nd March, and that certain other issues raised in the DA would be remedied. I am still trying to see what this means in reality, so I will leave further comments until the next Bulletin, except to say that perhaps, and I stress that word, the Paceway may have accepted some of the residents' objections.

John Hoddinott

Recent Harold Park Developments

Leichhardt Municipal Council requested further details in regard to the application for a gambling club on the site of the Harold Park paceway from the NSW Harness Racing Club. The reply is printed below. It appears to be a response to a series of questions asked by Council. This piece has been produced by a Glebe resident of 22 years. Having lived in four locations in Glebe and Forest Lodge he may be qualified for the title "silvertail of the year".

1. How it is intended to operate the premises?

The operation-would be a seven day a week licensed club, which will offer all facilities offered by other clubs of the size envisaged for this operation. It is expected that 100 poker machines will be in operation, a Club TAB Club Keno and bar and restaurant facilities will also be included. The Club premises are completely internal and are located in the rear of the existing grandstand. The plans lodged with the above Development Application indicate the area to be used.

The proposed location of the club operation is situated a significant distance from any residential property. In fact one of the ma-

major benefits of the operation is that it will enable the Club to borrow necessary funds to move the Water Cooling Tower presently located on the roof, so as no noise will be experienced by the adjoining neighbours, not only during club operations but also on race nights and when functions are held. The Club will also provide acoustic and odour treatment plant within the complex removing it from the present roof location, thus once again eliminating noise and odour which are currently experienced on race nights and functions. These proposed measures for noise reduction and odour control far exceed what is legally required. It must be stressed however that in excess of 51 million dollars will be required in order to complete the above works and the Club's Bankers will only fund such works if the licensed club operation proceeds.

This is due to the fact that the entire financial viability of the \$20 million redevelopment of Harold Park depends on the success of the seven day a week club operation. It must also be noted that all areas of the Club facility were approved by Leichhardt Council in D.A. 239/94 R Smyth and B.A. 95148 - Stage 4, B.A. 95148 Stage 1. Therefore, the Club operations was always included in the financial analysis to determine the viability of the project.

In order to ensure its success the Club will market the operation by encouraging community involvement, with particular emphasis on sporting clubs through sponsorship, and an area for entertainment for the youth and elderly and other members of the community. The Club will also provide very low priced meals and cheaper beverages than hotels. At present there is no club in the Glebe or Annandale areas which can offer such services, and the number of clubs in the area is certainly out of proportion to the number of hotels available, especially since the closure of the Glebe Rowing Club.

Traffic noise and congestion will be minimal as all vehicles will enter and leave the premises via the new roundabout into Chapman Road, which has only commercial property and no residences. Motor vehicles will then proceed into the centre car park and enter the club premises from an area which is a significant distance from any residences. It should also be noted that unlike race meetings, arrival and departure times

will vary, avoiding any traffic congestion whatsoever.

As all parking will be in the centre of the track which will accommodate 750 cars, there will be no parking on the streets which will affect residences. It is doubtful that any hotel or club in any area can boast a more ideal arrangement for parking, and infrastructure to support reduced traffic congestion.

The hours of operation which are listed below for the Club's facilities are significantly less than those of clubs in other areas, where in fact residential properties are in a much closer vicinity than in this situation. These hours would be strictly adhered to even though a Registered Club Licence allows 24 hours of operation.

SUNDAY	9.00AM -12.00PM
MONDAY	9.00AM -1 2.00PM
TUESDAY	9.00AM-12.00PM
WEDNESDAY	9.00AM -12.00PM
THURSDAY	9.00AM - 1.00AM
FRIDAY	9.00AM - 2.00AM
SATURDAY	9-00AM - 2-00AM

2. Will admittance be under normal Club membership?

Admittance to the Club will be in accordance with the Registered Clubs Act. The regulations are as follows:-

(a) Persons living within 5 kilometres of the Club must be a member of the Club or be signed in as the guest of a member.

(b) Persons living outside the 5 kilometre radius of the Club will be signed in as temporary members.

In order to encourage local membership, a new form of membership will be introduced in the form of a "Social Member". For a subscription fee of \$5 any person can join as a social member.

3. Is it proposed to install Gaming Machines and whereabouts on the premises?

The new Club area will have a Poker Machine Lounge which will house 100 poker machines. The Poker Machine Lounge is indicated in the plans lodged with the application.

In summary, the Registered Club's opera-

tion will not only have minimal inconvenience to residents, it will in fact enable the Club to obtain financial resources to improve problems presently experienced with the current operations. The community will also benefit in that it will have a Club which will foster local sport and community events and provide a facility which will offer affordable meals and beverages.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if any further information is required.

Yours faithfully

Further questions that the Leichhardt Council might like to ask the developers are:-

Had the extended hours gambling club proposal come been considered by the NSW Harness Racing Club Board before it sought a DA for the raceway extensions?

When was the proposal in regard to the Gaming Club made known to the Club Bankers?

Has the NSW Harness Racing Club Board always complied with previous DA conditions in regard to the existing premises?

Does the NSW Harness Racing Club Board intend to charge a parking fee for the use of its parking facility in line with the current practice?

Does the NSW Harness Racing Club Board intend to provide a proportion of its projected revenue to prevent and study the adverse social consequences of Gambling?

What free public transport service does the NSW Harness Racing Club Board intend to provide for patrons to take them to and from the site to encourage them to come without private cars.

For how long and where must a resident have lived in Glebe to be described as a silvertail?

David Brown

Aircraft and Glebe

The Glebe Society is writing to Prime Minister, the Hon John Howard, asking several questions. What now are the planning documents for KSA (Kingsford Smith Airport)? The 1991 EIS is discredited and there are to be major changes in operations at KSA (with the move to re-open the east-west runway) but there is no up-to-date environmental impact statement accompanying these plans. What about take-offs to the north from the third runway - will that happen? What is the Government's opinion on KSA's future and what comments could they make on the long-term airline terminal leases at KSA! Answers, please.

The two big aircraft over Glebe, heading towards the CBD, on 27 February were avoiding severe thunderstorm activity to the north. The same jet aircraft movement on 4 March with apparently much less thunderstorm activity in the north gave rise to suspicion! The jet aircraft movement on 16 March was blatantly off-track and free to roam, it seemed. Airservices Australia is investigating that one.

Second Sydney Airport Coalition's John Bushell comments that the pressure on KSA due to aviation demand is so great that any devising of flight paths to help the community could only be short-term.

Street Stall

The Glebe Library Fund and the Glebe Society's combined street stall on 16 March was a great success. Thank you, Rev. Hugh Scott of St John's for the use of your tables; thank you, Mag's of Glebe for providing cappuccinos at the right time; thank you, Glebe Library Fund for smooth "co-working"; and thank you people who bought goods.

\$875 was raised for the Glebe Library Fund. (The Society also forwarded \$176 from the recent sale of pot plants.) On the flip side, the cost of leaflets advertising the stall was over \$100! Recycled paper was used on this occasion. Unfortunately it costs more than new paper. We would like to see the price difference moved down considerably.

Alison McKeown

Clean Up Australia Day

About 60 helpers turned up at Foley Park on Sunday 3rd March to help in the clean-up. I believe there were another couple of groups in other parts of Glebe, and several over the Council area. Our efforts were concentrated on parts of the Glebe Estate nearby, and a good deal of rubbish was collected and left in very identifiable bags for collection by Council vehicles who were very busy on the day. One collector suggested that because some residents had heard about the clean-up, they took it to mean that any old (new) rubbish could be left out, so for some it became "Trash Australia Day" rather than the title above.

In regard to re-cycling and garbage in general, could I remind Society members to remove tops or caps from all receptacles left out, even medicine jars, and especially the re-cyclable plastic PET bottles, and the non-recyclable 2 litre milk containers. No tops/caps are re-usable, and if left on bottles and jars make it difficult or impossible for the item to be crushed either in a land-fill or by the re-cyclers on their weekly pick-up.

John Hoddinott

Report from Council - Cr Neil Macindoe

After the last Council election the Glebe Society wrote to all four councillors for the Glebe ward, and invited them to provide reports from council for publication in the Bulletin. The first councillor to respond has been Cr Macindoe, whose report is reproduced below.

The views of councillors are not necessarily those of the Glebe Society Inc.

The new Council is finely balanced, with no group holding more than three seats out of twelve. This may change, as the Court of Disputed Returns has already decided that the count for the fourth and final position in Glebe/Annandale Ward was incorrect. The judge will make a final ruling shortly.

With no group dominant, it is difficult to predict what direction Council will take on any particular issue. Pressure and guidance from the community, especially organised groups with established reputations, such as The Glebe Society, can often be decisive in these circumstances, especially as there are five councillors without previous experience, including the Mayor.

However, at present the Council is showing energy and determination e.g.

Departments have been reduced to four, and **Directors** from outside the Council have been appointed to three of them. There has been a certain amount of reallocation of responsibilities to produce greater efficiencies.

Policy Committees have also been reduced to four, all with resident input and each meeting once a month. This should reduce conflicts and streamline decision making.

Conduct of Meetings is more orderly and it is rare for extra meetings to be held to deal with leftover business. **Assets** will be reviewed in the week beginning 19 March.

Glebe/Annandale Library is being fast-tracked and it is likely to be ready for next year. All councillors are committed to it being built as fast as possible because the closure of the old Library has left residents without any service. Unfortunately, this means that many of the opportunities for community facilities this very large site offers will have to be put aside, perhaps permanently. I am particularly pleased about

the new library because it was my initiative (28 June, 1994), and the first time Leichhardt Council has funded a major project in Glebe. The other person who made this dream possible is the Member for Port Jackson, Sandra Nori. I believe the committee who are entrusted with this project should remain true to the spirit in which it was conceived, as a centre for all the people of Glebe, not just a privileged group.

The Glebe Point Road Project is also proceeding rapidly, following a successful public meeting. The next community consultation, when proposals will be put by the consultants, will be advertised widely, so look for it.

On 12 March, the Mayor and I had a meeting with Dept of Transport officials regarding Light Rail. Could those who work in the City please ask their organisations to support, in writing, extending Light Rail to the Quay, as Cabinet will be making a decision shortly?

Glebe will celebrate Heritage Week with the rededication of the foundation stone of the Friendly Society Dispensary at 33A Glebe Point Road at 10 am on Sunday, 4 May. The stone has been stored at Rockdale for many years, and the Dispensary has been restored following a fire. The Mayors of Leichhardt and Rockdale will officiate, and all Society members are welcome.

Over one hundred residents attended a meeting called by Sandra Nori to hear consultants discuss plans for the Childrens' Hospital site. The meeting made it clear they would prefer the site to be administered by Leichhardt rather than South Sydney, as Leichhardt has lower densities and higher open space provision. Unfortunately, Council has received a letter from the General Manager of South Sydney stating it is not financially possible at this time.

Those interested in the future of this site are invited to attend a clean-up and discussion at Orphan School Creek from 11 am on Sunday, 31 March.

Members may have read of a complaint to ICAC concerning the appointment of an in-house solicitor to Leichhardt Council by the General Manager and previous mayor without advertising the position. At this stage, the present Mayor is formulating her reply, and until the ICAC considers it we cannot say whether there will be a public enquiry and how wide will be its scope.

For Your Diary

Sunday 21 April, 1pm: Lunch at Dakhni's restaurant, 65 Glebe Point Road. Please let John Hoddinott know if you are interested, by Monday 15 April (Ph: 692 0071)

Sunday 14 April: Open Day at Glebe Neighbourhood Centre

Sunday 19 May: Autumn barbeque in Blackwattle Bay Park, about 12:30pm.

THE GLEBE SOCIETY inc. Management Committee	Convenors of Sub-Committees
President	All convenors are ex-officio members of the Management Committee
Mavis McCarthy 660 5119	Aircraft
Senior Vice President	Alison McKeown 660 3917
John Barnes 660 7274	Bays & Foreshores
Junior Vice President	Vacant
Cynthia Jones 660 2451	Children & Glebe
Immediate Past President	Penny Haslens 566 4450
David Browne 660 0865	Diggers' Memorial
Secretary	Max Solling 660 1160
Jeanette Knox 660 7781	Environment
Treasurer	Fiona Campbell 660 0185
John Sleeman 692 9507	Harold Park
Committee	Vacant
Marianne von Knobelsdorff 692 0916	Light Rail
Christine Whittemore 660 7969	Andrew Wood 660 2194
Helen Griffiths 660 5548	Planning
Bobbie Burke 692 0343	John Hoddinott 692 0071
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John Hoddinott 692 0071	
New Members:	
Barbara Sutton 660 0782	
Archivist	
Lyn Milton 660 7930	

Membership of The Glebe Society Inc

Costs:	Ordinary	\$25	additional household members \$5 each
	Student/Pensioner	\$10	
	Institution	\$30	

Write to P.O.Box 100, Glebe 2037, or ring Jeanette Knox on 660 7781