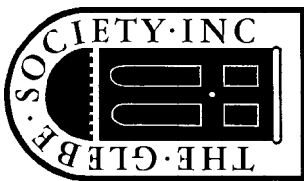


# Glebe Society Bulletin



2/2002 March/April

## Boundaries Commission opts for City Glebe – the prize!

As you know, the Boundary Commission has reported to the Government that Glebe/Forest Lodge should become a part of Sydney City. By the time you read this, the Government may have made its final decision on the matter. Given how hard we were fought over, regardless of which council we are with, surely we can expect to be pampered. Frank Sartor has promised as much and Leichhardt has shown it would adopt any measure to keep us.

Leichhardt Council's campaign to retain us was breathtaking in its audacity. It skilfully, but illogically, linked the proposed boundary changes with Sterling Estates' ambit application to South Sydney Council for a 25-storey building on the corner of Pymont Bridge Road and Booth Street, Camperdown. There was no link, but that did not stop Leichhardt from pouring resources into the campaign. The centre-piece was the shopfront rented in Glebe Point Road from which thousands of petition-signatures were gathered opposing the boundary changes, but argued for on the basis of the Sterling Estates' application to South Sydney Council. A cynical political exercise! We well understand the difficulties created for Leichhardt Council if it loses Glebe, but we thought the case should have been argued logically rather than the water muddied.

The Glebe Society has maintained a rational, if pragmatic, position on the proposed boundary changes. Our submissions have sought the best for Glebe and have focused on Glebe's needs and appropriate responses to those needs. The strengths and weaknesses of both councils

have been referred to regarding their potential to meet our particular needs. However, now I've seen how desirable we are; just how hard councils will fight over us, regardless of which council we are with at the end of this exercise, I expect Glebe/Forest Lodge to be lavished with attention.

- John Buckingham

### Report "smells of foregone conclusions"

The Boundaries Commission is sending Glebe and Forest Lodge off to their rich cousins in the city s it seems poor suburban Leichhardt is no longer up to the task of looking after us.

The Commission assures us that the change of scenery will be good for us, but unfortunately does not produce much in the way of evidence to back up its judgment.

Take, for instance, the question of representation which was one of the main points in The Glebe Society's submission to the Commission. The Commission concludes:

"Indeed, given the stated intentions of the City of Sydney Council to extend their well-resourced precinct committee practices to the proposed transfer areas, the Commission considers that the boundary alteration proposal is more likely to enhance the overall quality of the governance and representational arrangements currently applying to residents and ratepayers in those areas."

Continued on page 2

## From the Editor's dungeon

Recently the *Bulletin* seems to have been dominated by contentious contemporary issues - boundary changes, 25-storey buildings, development proposals, litter and traffic to name a few.

However a feature of previous *Bulletins* that always delighted me was tales of "Olde Glebe". Take for example number 2/2000 that contained Alan Hunt's recollections of *Saturday Arvo—Glebe Style*, a story about the local punters who gathered around the radio in his granny's Bellevue Street dining room, and how gran punctuated her tea-making duties with trips to the illegal book-maker across the lane carrying the betting slips. Or accounts of contemporary, but not contentious life – Joe Lynch's article *City Living with Country Spirit* in the same number is a good example.

With the help of new associate editor, Hilary Wise, we hope to bring you more such articles in future while continuing to report on current events. If you have ideas for new features for the *Bulletin*, please let us know. It's your newsletter!

### Continued from page 1

Hmmmm. Perhaps it would be best to wait and see on that one.

And take **heritage**, another of our major concerns. The Commission says: .....

That's right - zilch, zero, nothing! It does recite Glebe's history and repeat the point made by Leichhardt Council that heritage conservation controls are embodied in Council's Local Environmental Plan 2000, reinforced by "registration of such areas on the National Estate, listing by the State Government's Heritage Council and the National Trust and recognition by the Royal Australian Institute of Architects".

The Commission offers no thoughts on how these controls might be affected by the proposed move to the City Council. Maybe it believes there will be no impact; if this is its conclusion it would be reassuring if it said so.

On the matter of **services**, the Commission reports:

"...the profile of services will remain about the same... In the view of the Commission, the

City of Sydney Council has the capacity to provide adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities to the proposed transfer areas in a manner that will mean that the change is as seamless as possible for the recipients of those services and users of those facilities."

If the Commission considers the *status quo* as "adequate", it looks like we're in for more of the same. It certainly offers no endorsement of the Lord Mayor's promises of cleaner streets, better parks and so on.

Other areas of the report are also disappointing. For example, when discussing the attitude of residents and ratepayers to the proposal, the Commission trots out the figures produced by councils and makes no attempt at an independent assessment. As it endorses Professor Sproats' observation that "there is no clear majority view across communities or between councils about proposals for change" it is rather surprising that it goes on to conclude:

"... there is support for the boundary alteration proposal in the affected communities, having regard to the Councils'

polling results, submissions to the Sproats Inquiry and unsolicited submissions received by the Commission from individuals and community groups."

The Commission gives six reasons for supporting the change of boundaries (see [www.glebesociety.org.au](http://www.glebesociety.org.au) for details). However most relate to the enhancing the position of the City, and only one directly relates to Glebe:

"The proposal will mean that residents and ratepayers in the proposed transfer areas will benefit from rates which will be generally lower than at present while ensuring they have access to high quality services."

And to be fair, the Commission does produce some facts and figures to back up this statement. Let's hope they're right.

In many cases the Commission regurgitates the arguments put by councils, and usually it comes down on the side of the City Council's case without significant justification. Once again, let's hope they're right, but the report does have the smell of endorsing a foregone conclusion.

The Glebe Society was hoping the Commission would produce an analysis of the consequences of the proposed boundary changes that would help us judge which course of action would be "best for Glebe". It may be that the Commission's conclusion is "best for Glebe", but unfortunately it is not supported by rigorous analysis.

- Bruce Davis

As far as we know the Commission's report is not available on the Web. For this reason we plan to upload relevant sections to our website to allow members to make their own judgments.

See also "Council decides against funding plebiscite" page 9

# 25-storey tower “unacceptable in Glebe”

The Glebe Society has proposed that the State Government should clean up contaminated land near the former Children’s Hospital as a alternative to the 25-storey tower building proposed on the corner of Pymont Bridge Road and Booth Street.

In a statement to the media, the Society said South Sydney Council must reject outright Sterling Estate’s application to alter the Master Plan for the site. The statement went on:

“The Glebe Society further demands that as a result of mass confusion surrounding proposed land swaps, the contamination, costs of remediation—all complicated by the clever (but incorrect) linking of this development with proposed council boundary changes—negotiations on trade-offs must cease, and an absolute limit of (an already excessive) 13-storeys be placed on this site.”

The Society said the State Government should concede that a government-owned entity (Camperdown Hospital) created the contamination, and therefore should accept responsibility for cleaning up the site for use as open space. “It is reasonable to argue that the government owes the people of Glebe, Forest Lodge and Annandale nothing less. After all, these citizens have been deprived of the services of both Glebe Homeopathic Hospital and Camperdown Children’s Hospital as a result of government decisions.”

The proposed tower development is being pushed by the developer (Sterling Estates) as a means of achieving some 6000 square metres of additional floor space to compensate the company for the cost of remediating land adjacent to the site owned by the Children’s Hospital. The

hospital had hoped to sell the land for housing, but found that the cost of remediation would exceed the likely sale price.

Jeanette Knox writes: “Glebe has already lost the services of the Homeopathic and the Children’s hospitals, together with the proceeds of the sale of the

Homeopathic site, which had to be bought back from the State Government for the Glebe Branch Library. Now Glebe is being asked to put up with a monstrous overdevelopment, from which the developer and the hospital might benefit, but certainly not its citizens. Enough is enough!”

## Callan Park: where’s the “missing” masterplan?

The future of Callan Park still remains in doubt. The draft masterplan for the Rozelle hospital/Callan Park site was completed by the Urban Design Advisory Service (UDAS) in January but no decision about when it will go on public exhibition has been made.

Fears are now being expressed that changes in the planning laws are now being drafted to ensure the government gets the outcome it wants regardless of promises it has made about genuine public participation.

UDAS says the matter is now out of its hands. The Health Department had announced that the plan would go on exhibition in January, then in February, but nothing happened and there has been no announcement from Health explaining the continuing delay.

Inquiries to UDAS are referred on to Planning NSW (which is the new title for the old Dept of Urban Affairs and Planning). Leichhardt Council staff have made informal approaches to Planning NSW without eliciting a definite answer about the fate of the masterplan for the site.

What has emerged from those approaches is that State Environmental Planning Policy 56 - which governs masterplans for Sydney Harbour foreshore sites -

is being amended, possibly to give the Minister for Planning and the State government the powers to rezone and sell public land to private developers for residential development.

This extra power may be necessary as only 15 months ago the Minister zoned the Callan Park site “Public Purposes” which of course precludes private residential development. If this is in fact happening - and Planning NSW does confirm that SEPP 56 is with the parliamentary draftsman for amendment - it is being done in secret without any public announcement or debate.

It also undermines the assurances from ministers and local MP Sandra Nori that the future planning of this site would be done openly under SEPP 56 and with real chance for the public to affect the outcome. On the contrary, the real fear now is that the government is changing SEPP 56 without public consultation to effect the outcome the government has already decided upon.

If this is in fact occurring, it will only increase community anger and cynicism about the operation of planning in NSW generally and for this landmark site in particular.

- Councillor Hall Greenland  
(for Friends of Callan Park)

# Bridge Road problem acknowledged

## Pymont Bridge Road

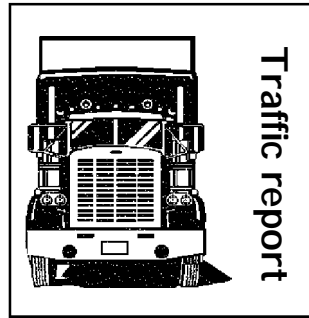
Andrew Kaye's proposal to close Pymont Bridge Road was considered at both the December and January meetings of Leichhardt Council's Traffic Committee. At these meetings the Society's view was also put: i.e. while we have some concerns regarding some unresolved details of Andrew's scheme and do not explicitly support the detail of his proposal at this stage, we support the objective of reducing the adverse impact of the intrusion of through traffic on Pymont Bridge Road into the residential areas. The Traffic Committee shared the Society's views and agreed that there are considerable problems associated with traffic on Pymont Bridge Road that merit a proper investigation and analysis.

Consequently, at its February meeting, Council resolved to support the undertaking of a comprehensive study on the reduction of through traffic along Bridge Road and surrounding streets in Glebe including all available traffic management options.

My feeling from the meeting is that the RTA and other Authorities will require considerable additional weight of evidence that a such closure will benefit the greater community before they agree to surrender what is perceived to be an important arterial route.

Nonetheless, it is a significant step forward to get the problem formally acknowledged and to secure support for a study. We believe that Andrew's ideas will form a valuable launching platform for the development and consideration of further measures.

We are yet to receive advice as to what the nature and timing of



such a study might be as this is still being considered by Council's officers. We will continue to monitor this closely. While I am somewhat sceptical that we will ever see a full closure of Pymont Bridge Road, I remain optimistic that we will eventually see some measures introduced especially in regard to heavy vehicles.

## Cross-city tunnel

A preferred consortium has been selected to undertake this project and is in negotiation with the RTA about the implementation details and contractual aspects. We remain disappointed that there are no explicit measures to treat the downstream traffic impacts of this project – the most relevant to us being the possibility of a further 1800 vehicles per day on Pymont Bridge Road.

The issue of the ventilation stack has received considerable press. At this stage only one stack is proposed at the Darling Harbour end. The stack will be built with provision for fitting scrubbers. However they will not be fitted at this stage, as the technology is not considered to be effective. I am advised that the only working traffic tunnel ventilation scrubbers are fitted to a tunnel in Norway where they are turned on for a few hours each day to reduce particulate matter. This is to deal with a visibility problem and apparently does little to reduce noxious gaseous pollutants.

Freer flowing traffic in the tunnel should produce fewer emissions than the current stop start traffic on the surface system. However we have some concerns about concentrating these emissions at the end of the tunnel although modelling indicates Glebe should not suffer significant adverse effects. The EPA will be undertaking monitoring after the tunnel is opened.

## Bay Street

Pedestrian safety is a concern in the area around the Broadway shops. Leichhardt Council is currently cooperating with South Sydney Council to introduce further traffic calming on Bay Street. Details are yet to be finalised but measures will generally take the form of kerb blisters to slow traffic and provide pedestrian refuge.

## Bicycles

There has been some progress on cycling facilities in the area. Residents will probably have already noticed markings on Glebe Point Road. In addition, the East West Cycle route signage has been completed in the Glebe area and when work is completed in adjacent Council areas there will be a defined route through Glebe from the City to Haberfield.

Some further work is to be carried out on the foreshores and bays cycle route around the Annandale end of Bicentennial Park. This work is being carried out in consultation with the cycling organisations and will complete Council's actions for Glebe in accordance with the Bicycle Plan that was adopted by Council in 1996.

- Steve Stewart



# Slow progress on foreshore access

## Harbour Lighterage, 18 Oxley Street

Construction of 19 units on this former waterfront industrial site is now complete, and the developer has applied to transfer the waterfront section to Leichhardt Council for open space. The reconstruction of the seawall is complete, and the area to be dedicated is turfed, paved and planted. A masonry wall separates private from public land. What is not yet clear is how the open space is to be connected to other waterfront parkland.

The connection to Blackwattle Bay Park is currently via a few steps and a narrow path at high tide. This may be sufficient for the fit, but it is certainly not adequate for those with disabilities.

To the northwest there is supposed to be a connection to the Anchorage site. The body corporate on the cliff top has agreed to sell the waterfront section to Council, but the entire site is currently on one title and must be subdivided before it is handed over. On the original plan for the Harbour Lighterage development, the connection was to be made easier by means of a broad wooden walkway across the water, which is a section of old slipway with a couple of mangroves growing quite happily. The Society is seeking clarification of this link, as the walkway has not been constructed, and the land connection is narrow and awkward.

Also, last year residents attended a meeting at the Toxteth Hotel to discuss the preferred design of the Anchorage open space. Six months have elapsed, and we have heard nothing further.

These sites are important elements in forming continuous public access to the waterfront between Johnston Street and Glebe Second-

ary College. This connection has State Government endorsement and is supposed to have high Council priority. The performance of Leichhardt Council, and the Councillors in particular, in this matter, has been and continues to be, wretchedly unsatisfactory.

## Glebe Town Hall, 184 St Johns Road

This Council-owned Heritage Item is falling further into disrepair and is in desperate need of a coat of paint. Before her departure for the UK, Heritage convenor Christine Whittemore wrote to Council about a large camphor laurel tree causing damage to the historic railing fence on the Lodge Street frontage. Council's concern for heritage issues can be gauged from its care of its own Heritage Items. Council has not even deigned to reply to Christine's urgent request, and the Town Hall continues to suffer damage.

## 12-14 Queen Street

The Society wrote objecting to this proposal some months ago, and recently an amended version turned up. Essentially it is the same as the original proposal, which is for the conversion of an existing warehouse to residential units. The amended version is still four times the normal density for Glebe, the parking is inadequate, the dwellings small and substandard and open space nonexistent.

The Society has often commented that in theory at least, warehouse and industrial conversions could be used to provide unique types of dwellings, with unusual configurations and spaces. This is why I believe provision was originally made to allow entire warehouses to be reused, even though this would lead to a higher density than normal.

However, it is extremely rare for developers to take advantage of these buildings to produce unusual designs. Instead, as in this proposal, the developer squeezes in as many units as possible and the character and potential of the original building is destroyed. The issue needs to be rethought and the Town Plan amended accordingly.

## John Fletcher Site, Forsyth Street

This is the last development site on the Glebe waterfront. There is an existing masterplan, and a design competition was held last year at the Society's request. There are a number of different lots with several different owners, including Leichhardt Council and the State Government. Consequently there have been delays, but an application has now been lodged and is being checked prior to advertisement and notification. It includes 133 units and a major waterfront park. The Society will report and comment once the plans become available. (At press time the containers had all gone, hopefully never to return. - Ed.)

- Neil Macindoe

## An apology

The Glebe Society has experienced a banking hiatus while it has been between treasurers. As a result when some members receive their cheque and credit card statements at the end of March they will find amounts made in favour of The Glebe Society some months ago, have only now been presented. We apologise for any confusion caused.

- John Buckingham

# “Dig” reveals early life in Glebe

A picture of life on the fringe of the city in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century is emerging as a result of an archaeological dig at the site of a new apartment development on the northern side of Broadway.

We now know, for instance, that the area’s poorly paid slaughterhouse workers were a healthy lot because they stole offcuts of meat from their employers. And that occupants of the area were forced to gradually raise the floors of their houses as floods washed silt and rubbish through them into Blackwattle Creek.

Archaeologist Dana Mider is using the information gained from the dig to complement documentary records of early Sydney. In addition to the usual domestic waste, such as pieces of pottery and food remains, she has uncovered many physical features of early Sydney. These include the pre-1807 alignment of Parramatta Road, early wells and “long drop” toilets, and an 18<sup>th</sup> century ford made by piling up wood in Blackwattle Creek.

Ms Mider is a consultant archaeologist employed by the site’s developer, Australand. Under the NSW Heritage Act, developers of historically important sites are required to carry out archaeological surveys before new buildings are erected.

Local councils and the Heritage Office are responsible for supervising the work. Apparently the authorities are still on a learning curve with regard to ensuring that surveys are conducted, and those in the know suggest it was “fortuitous” that the Broadway site did not slip past South Sydney Council.

Developers are required to preserve recovered artefacts on site, and Australand proposes to display some material in its development known as “The Quadrant” which is located on Broadway and bordered by Mountain Street and Blackwattle Lane (near Wattle Street).

Ms Mider, who trained as an archaeologist at Sydney University, began work late last year assisted by a team of volunteers. The main work was completed a few weeks ago, although she is still working in Blackwattle Lane. She is now cataloguing material recovered in the dig and preparing her report.

She says one of the most interesting facets of the project is discovering how residents coped with living in a swamp. “The area was almost never dry,” she said. “Consequently the ground level was always being raised. This had unfortunate consequences if you rented a house from a penny-

pinching landlord, and found yourself living in a puddle of foul water surrounded by houses that had been raised.”

Eventually the level of the whole area was raised as much as 3.5 metres when much of it was razed and rebuilt following the outbreak of bubonic plague in 1900.

Ms Mider also uncovered outlines of two early slaughterhouses and the wells belonging to them. These businesses added to the area’s malodorous reputation through their practice of piling up bones – as much as 60 tonnes at a time – and burning them for use in the nearby sugar works on the southern side of Broadway.

The excavations provided evidence to support claims made at the time that employees of the slaughterhouses stole offcuts of meat. Bones recovered from workers’ houses are from cuts of meat not sold in the retail trade.

Evidence of “The Sportsman’s Arms” inn, owned by one of the area’s early businessmen, Thomas May, was also uncovered. May’s descendants, and others including descendants of the licensee of the inn and former slaughterhouse workers, still live in Sydney and made contact with Ms Mider during the dig.

Australand is planning another development in the Glebe area which will require an archaeological survey and members of the Society will be invited to participate as volunteers.

The Society is also arranging a talk by Ms Mider, probably in July. More information about the Broadway dig is available on Australand’s website at

<http://www.australand.com.au/apart/syd/broadway/thequadrant/index.cfm>

- Bruce Davis

## Glebe Music Festival

There will be four concerts at the 13th annual Glebe Music Festival 9-17 November 2002, including two at Margaretta Cottage and one at each of St Scholastica’s Chapel and the Great Hall at Sydney University. More details will be available on the Society’s web site.

For advance bookings please email [mcintosh@glebemusicfestival.com](mailto:mcintosh@glebemusicfestival.com) or write to the Glebe Music Festival Box Office, 13 Newton Road, Strathfield NSW 2135.

## History of Glebe Society

Now that the Society's archives are housed in an accessible location and Lyn Milton has been able to do some more work on sorting and indexing them, the Management Committee has been considering the desirability of preparing a history of the Society.

Preliminary thoughts are that the most effective (and effort-sharing) way of doing this might be to identify topics that should be covered and invite a number of people to put together information on a chosen area.

Aspects that come to mind initially are:

- Foundation of the Society
- Planning, heritage, Glebe Estate
- Traffic and transport: anti-expressways campaign, light rail, public transport, aircraft noise/third runway
- Environment: rubbish, parks, foreshores, street trees
- Community relations: Leichhardt Council, other community groups, social welfare issues
- Social activities
- Listings: office bearers, committees and projects

We would welcome comments and suggestions on the above. Would anyone out there be interested in contributing a chapter or part of a chapter on any of these topics? Or would you be prepared to be interviewed about a particular activity or period in which you yourself were active?

Phone: **Jeanette Knox**, 9660 7781, before 10 April (next Management Committee) if possible.

## Footpath works

Leichhardt Council had advised that the footpath in Glebe Point Road near the Ancient Briton will be renewed shortly. You might recall it was marked up for repair so long ago that the markings have almost faded away. Council has decided that it will be renewed rather than repaired.

Council has also recently painted the concrete barrier adjacent to this footpath in order to remove graffiti.

## A rare chance to inspect our archives

The Glebe Society's archives will given a rare public outing on Monday, 8 April.

The archives record of more than 30 years of activism, ranging from the heroic deeds that saved Glebe from the jackhammers of the Department of Main Roads, and the battle to preserve the Glebe Estate, to the more patient and painstaking watchdog role of recent years.

They will play a vital role in writing the history of the Society (see story this page).

A correspondence file from 1969 (the year of the Society's foundation) gives a good idea of the frenetic activity of that first year. The Society was quickly into planning issues, objecting to a warehouse planned close to Ferry Road, and a correspondent complained about greyhound racing at Harold and Wentworth Parks.

Social activities included a ferry ride to Clarke Island, a buffet lunch, a garden competition, and a Christmas party at the Spanish club in the city at \$5 per head. A Christmas card was produced featuring a scene showing mixed development in Mt Vernon Street (drawn by Alan Gamble) and Max Solling's walks were in full swing!

At the end of the year a bank balance of \$212.98 was reported with an outstanding account for \$106.50. However the Society still managed to donate \$15 to the newly formed Annandale Association, doubling that association's finances.

The Society's support of the light rail system is well documented with detailed lists of The Great Train Ride. Thanks to John Hoddinott, there are detailed records of the negotiations, passenger lists and a sample ticket.

Initially the archives were located in the Glebe Town Hall (from 1995 onwards in the Councilor's Room thanks to Neil Macindoe). In May 2001 members moved them to a room in *Briarbank* (at the Forest Lodge Public School). This is large enough for storage for some time to come and is a suitable workspace for the archivist.

Archives are not available for browsing like libraries. Most archives are not available until they are 30 years old because they may contain personal or other sensitive information. If you wish to inspect the archives, it is essential to book in advance with the Society's Archivist, **Lyn Milton** (9660 7930) or email [Lyn.Milton@bigpond.com](mailto:Lyn.Milton@bigpond.com).

# Shopping trolleys had a role in Clean Up

A total of 18 people assembled at the corner of Bridge Road and Hewit Avenue on this year's Clean Up Australia Day (Sunday, March 3) to collect litter in the surrounding streets. They were supported by Cynthia and Ian Jones, who provided cold drinks and a cool place to rest at their Bridge Road home.

It was not only Society members who terminated Sunday breakfast early to help make their community look better, thanks to advertisements run in the local papers. There was the young couple who came home from a



Saturday night's entertainment and, without more than a cup of coffee to strengthen their tired bodies, collected plastic bags, fast food packaging, and bottles for the next three hours. Mark Hill, a backpacker from Charmoth, England, took the concept of "soft tourism" to new heights and helped Liz, Dimiti and Yolanda clean Foley Park. An 87 year old resident of Woolley Street came to apologise for not being able to help and said that he used to always pick up rubbish in the street but just can't bend his knees any

more. And we must not forget the friendly and helpful council workers who carted it all away.

Many thanks to all these people for helping to make this Clean Up Day a success! They cleaned an estimated 3 km of road (6 km, if you consider that they picked up litter on both sides) and 6000 sqm of parkland, filling 32 large garbage bags. In addition, they secured several larger items (mattresses, scrap metal, building material, and sacks filled with garden waste).

Their score could have been even higher, but sometimes collectors met local resistance. A mattress rotting at the corner of Mt Vernon and Catherine Streets was defended by a resident who needed it as evidence. She said she had been urging Leichhardt Council to collect it since Christmas, but Council refused arguing it was lying on Housing Commission property. Housing Commission, in turn, seemed to believe that the bulk of the mattress was sitting on Council Land and should be collected by the garbos. She agreed that we should load it onto a shopping trolley (see picture at left) and cart it away when we promised to tell her story in the *Bulletin*.

In addition to rubbish, the volunteers retrieved 11 shopping trolleys. Most of them originated from the Broadway Shopping Centre, but one was pushed all the way down from Leichhardt's Norton Street Grocer! What an effort! Had the athletes who accomplished this task called in witnesses, I am sure they would have made it in the *Guinness Book of Records*. While the availability of trolleys (on average one every 272.72 m of road) came in handy to transport heavy garbage bags back to the Clean Up Site, it also shows that the trolley collection services are

not effective. The only way to stop trolleys littering Glebe is to prevent people from taking them out of the shopping centres. So far, the Broadway Centre refused to do that, but maybe we can convince them to introduce suitable measures before the next Clean Up Day.

- Horst Schwarz

## Keep up to date at your website

Members should keep in mind that our website is continually evolving and your comments, additions, deletions and either positive or negative feedback are much appreciated and welcomed by our Webmaster. We try to keep the website as up-to-date as is 'humanly' possible and we urge you to visit the site on a regular basis for the latest information about Glebe. The website can be updated almost daily, and is an important adjunct to our flagship *Bulletin* which continues to provide hard copy for members from month to month.

Our website also offers members the opportunity to weigh in on local issues through the *Forums* menu (we have three running at present — Bridge Road traffic, boundary changes and graffiti) and your input provides a healthy debate for our Society members. Additionally if you see areas that should be revised or linked to other relevant websites, then feel welcome to email the [webmaster@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:webmaster@glebesociety.org.au)

Please visit our site regularly:  
[www.glebesociety.org.au](http://www.glebesociety.org.au)

- Cynthia Jones



# Notes from the Secretary

## New Treasurer

The Society is pleased to welcome Fay Mander Jones as our new Treasurer. Fay is testing the water and we very much hope she finds it to her liking.

## New Convenors

Horst Schwarz has agreed to wrap his existing project of Clean Up Glebe into the larger portfolio of Environment. David Mander Jones has taken over the role of Heritage convener, following Christine Whittemore's departure for the UK. Both new convenors will be assessing their new portfolios and seeking to identify problems and opportunities. If you would like to provide input into this process, please make contact with Horst and/or David (see inside back cover for contact details).

## www.pictureaustralia.org

This is a web service, hosted by the National Library of Australia, which provides a single access point to over half a million images held by agencies around Australia. These agencies include libraries (including the National Library), galleries (including the National Gallery), museums, the National Archives and the Australian War Memorial.

The service is a valuable free resource for individual researchers or for groups with interests in family history, genealogy and cultural heritage. "Glebe, NSW" is well represented!

## Placenames

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies reports that the Asia Pacific Institute of Toponymy, located at Macquarie University, has set itself the aim of being the central resource for studies in Australian toponymy or the study of place names. It is

associated with the Australian National Placenames Survey (ANPS) in achieving this objective. Contact ANPS, Division of Humanities, Macquarie University, North Ryde NSW 2109.

## Shopping trolleys

As reported elsewhere, Clean Up Australia volunteers collected 11 dumped trolleys on Sunday 3 March.

Members are advised that Bi-Lo is not part of the Trolley Tracker network. Anyone wishing to report a dumped Bi-Lo trolley should ring the Bi-Lo Broadway store on 9281 4511.

## Graffiti

Leichhardt Council launched its graffiti trailer on 9 March. The trailer is a covered box trailer, stored at Glebe Neighbourhood Centre. It is fully stocked with everything necessary to remove or paint over graffiti, and a handbook outlines all the necessary instructions and safety advice. The trailer can be booked by local residents, community groups, incorporated associations, local schools, etc, and used anywhere within the Leichhardt LGA. Use of the trailer is at no charge to the community. Contact Marissa Racomelara, Community Safety Officer at Leichhardt Council on 9367 9379.

A small graffiti removal kit is also available from Council, for approximately \$20.

**Council's proposed graffiti strategy – community consultation:** Leichhardt Council has drawn up a proposed graffiti strategy and action plan and is seeking comment from the community. Copies of the strategy are available from Marissa Racomelara, Community Safety Officer at Leichhardt Council on 9367 9379.

## Council decides against funding boundaries change plebiscite

Leichhardt Council has decided not to fund a poll of Glebe and Forest Lodge residents on the local government boundaries issue. The State Government has also ruled out a plebiscite. The proposal was put forward by Leichhardt independent councillor, Hall Greenland.

Cr Greenland said: "My position is that it was essential to poll Glebe and Forest Lodge residents because it was their view that was crucial. The rest of the municipality would have no moral right to insist on Glebe and Forest Lodge staying if the Glebe/Forest Lodge vote was against it.

"It appears to me it would have been an easy matter to organise such a poll ...

"Getting somebody to write the 'Yes' case would have been a difficulty but not insurmountable – Frank Sartor would be invited in the first instance and others on the list would have included some of the correspondents from the Glebe Society *Bulletin*.

"The question would have been simple; something like: 'Do you agree with the proposal to include Glebe and Forest Lodge inside the boundaries of the Sydney City Council? Yes or No' ...

"It was all a matter of elementary democracy and there was every chance it would have caught on locally and made the Government pause and consider the result."



## Letters to the Editor

### Proposed boundary change

The impact of the proposed changes to boundaries and the effect on the future governance of Glebe/Forest Lodge is difficult to assess given that the detail of actual changes will not be known until, or if, the boundary changes proceed. The Leichhardt Council's submission of 28/2/02 to the Local Government Boundaries Commission, and the Glebe Society's needs list (*Bulletin*, 1/2002, p.1) cover many similar requirements including statements such as "core community achievements and the unique social and physical character of Glebe should not be put at risk".

Given that both Council and the Society state concerns about the likely lack of representation via directly elected Councillors, it amazes me that members of the Society do not appear to have been active in the many meetings and activities designed to raise awareness of the possible effect should the changes proceed.

Society members have fought and won many battles over heritage buildings, assisted in the development of parks and other amenities, and supplied advice to Council and committees, etc.

What has happened? Do you really think this political grab will, in the long run, benefit Glebe?

A smaller Council and loss of assets must affect resource-sharing initiatives, and could make Council's financial base not viable. The reorganisation of community services is just one of the many unnecessary changes which may have to take place.

Diana Oliver  
19 March

### Traffic and people

By drawing our attention to residential streets as possible "outdoor living rooms" (*Bulletin* 1/2000) David Mander Jones has given us something to think about. There is a problem inherent in the fact that streets in residential areas must meet the needs of vehicular traffic and residents but the thought of residents, particularly children, treating the streets as an extension of their homes I find very worrying.

In a suburb like Glebe where most of the houses have small back yards, the problem of providing adequate space for children's recreational needs is acute. Something needs to be done but I don't think exposing children to the risk of being run over is the answer.



## Notice Board

### Glebe Library Fifth Anniversary celebrations

April-May 2002  
See "For your diary" for details

### The City Night Market - a special experience

Every Friday night from 6pm to 11pm, the City Night Market exudes a vibrant atmosphere with exotic aromas, colour and entertainment spanning four blocks in Dixon and Little Hay Streets, Haymarket.



### Forest Lodge Public School

Home of The Glebe  
Society Archives

Kindergarten to Year 6. Principal: Mrs Elva  
Salter Phone 9660 3530

It is taken for granted that teachers in private schools should expect to give some of their time after school hours and at weekends to coaching and supervising sporting teams but I don't think we can expect teachers in State schools to undertake similar responsibilities without some extra remuneration.

This is a proposal that the Glebe Society might like to put to our representative in the NSW Parliament. The provision of public playing areas is a request we could put to whatever local government authority becomes responsible for our welfare.

Lowering speed limits, as Leichhardt Council has done, would also help but being a street in a residential area doesn't make it a residential street. Even in horse and buggy days the main function of streets was to facilitate the passage of vehicular traffic. Now that traffic travels much faster, and collisions between cars and people are much more serious, it is even more important to do whatever possible to keep them apart.

Ian Edwards  
19 March

# For your diary ...

**3-30 April** "Glebe Faces", an exhibition of photographs by Patricia Baillie featuring business people in two streets of Glebe and taken in February, 2002. Official opening Wednesday 3 April at 6.30 pm. All welcome, but RSVP is a must (for catering purposes) to the library on 9367 9262.

**5-7 April** Shostakovich weekend with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the Sydney Town Hall.

**Wednesday 10 April** 7.30 pm Glebe Society Management Committee meeting, Toxteth meeting room.

**Sunday 21 April** 2.00-3.30 pm Historic Houses Trust walking tour to "uncover the story of the Pyrmont Peninsula from the days of John Macarthur through to today's development". Led by Joan Lawrence. Bookings essential, 9518 6866, \$15/\$10 (includes refreshments, and entry to the Museum of Sydney, if applicable)

**Friday 17 May** Glebe Library 5th birthday and opening of photographic exhibition of Glebe entitled *Twentyfour Seven* by Robert Billington.

**Friday 17 May and during school holidays:** Fairytale birthday party at Glebe Library for kids of 5 and over. Children are asked to come dressed as their favourite Cinderella character. Booking essential.

**Saturday 25 May** Friends of Benledi and Glebe Library's annual booksale. Donations can be made to the Secretary, Ros Wheeler 9660 7430.

**17-26 May** Australian Library Week "Libraries Change Lives". Write a story about what the library means to you. Entry forms available at the library now.

**9-17 November** 13th annual Glebe Music Festival. Concerts at Margareta Cottage, St Scholastica's Chapel, and the Great Hall at Sydney University. See also p. 6, and TGSI website.

We are glad to publish letters or articles:

on any matters of interest to Glebe

on any topic raised in the Bulletin, or

on any issues relating to The Glebe Society.

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Glebe Society Inc  
PO Box 100  
Glebe 2037

## DISCLAIMER

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

## The Glebe Society Inc

[www.glebesociety.org.au](http://www.glebesociety.org.au)

### Management Committee

President	John Buckingham	9660 7780
Vice-President	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Immediate Past President	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Treasurer	Fay Mander Jones	9552 4172

### Committee Members:

Cynthia Jones 9660 2451	Jeanette Knox 9660 7781
David Mander Jones 9552 4172	Hilary Wise 9660 5845
Marianne von Knobelsdorff 9692 0916	

### Sub-Committee Convenors

All convenors are *ex officio* members of the Management Committee

Bays and Foreshores	Collin Hills	9660 8608
Environment including Noise Pollution	Horst Schwarz	9660 7926
FRROGs	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Planning	Roberta Johnston	9552 3248
Transport and Traffic	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
	Steve Stewart	9660 5845

### Project Teams

Clean Up Glebe	Horst Schwarz	9660 7926
Conserving Glebe Heritage	David Mander Jones	9552 4172
Foreshore Walk and Cycleway	Judy Vergison	9692 9200

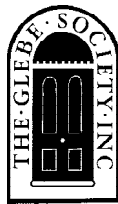
### Contacts

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Historian	Max Solling	9660 1160
New members	Hilary Wise	9660 5845
Bulletin Editor	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Web Master	Cynthia Jones	9660 2451

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The GLEBE  
PO Box 100



SOCIETY Inc  
Glebe 2037

POSTAGE  
PAID

### **MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY INC**

<b>Ordinary member</b>	<b>\$40</b>
<b>Additional household member</b>	<b>\$5</b>
<b>Concession (student or pensioner)</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>Business or institution</b>	<b>\$100</b>

Write to PO Box 100, Glebe, 2037 or phone the Secretary, Liz Simpson Booker, on 9518 6186.

If you have a matter that you would like to discuss with the Management Committee, please phone the Secretary to attend a meeting.

### **CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY**

**Report ALL street cleaning issues, dumped litter, recycling problems, and abandoned cars to:**

LEICHHARDT COUNCIL  
CUSTOMER SERVICE

Phone: 9367 9222 Fax: 9367 9008

email: leichhardt@lmc.nsw.gov.au

Dumped supermarket trolleys 1800 641 497

Aircraft noise 1800 802 584

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**Copy deadline for the next issue  
Tuesday, 16 April**

