



8/2007 October/November

Lord Mayor launches *Grandeur & Grit*

Well over 200 specially invited people gathered at the Glebe Branch Library on Tuesday 16 October for the launch of Max Solling's long-awaited history of Glebe. The wait was well worth while as Lord Mayor Clover Moore indicated in her speech. It is a handsome volume – replicated as one of the most amazing cakes we have ever seen! Superbly enlarged photographs from the book adorned the Library and entrance hall of *Benledi*. Finding just the right illustrations was one of the reasons why publication was somewhat delayed, as well as Max's determination to check every detail of his research.

Clover commented again in the course of her talk on the strong community spirit in Glebe and how much the City appreciated the kind of feedback and responses that it receives from this particular one of its villages. The evening's proceedings were led by the City of Sydney Historian, Dr Shirley Fitzgerald. Max's response to the launch of his book is printed on p2 of this *Bulletin*. Other speakers were Matthew Richardson, from the publishers, Halstead Press, and a long-standing (and also busking) friend of Max's, John Dengate (see p3), who provided a musical backdrop for the evening once all the formal talking was over. Much other conversation was generated over the refreshments bought by Council; from local businesses: the drinks from Tim Smith of Glebe Liquor and the savouries from Stella & Sophie's Gourmet Café and Deli.

Both Max and John emphasised the special character of Glebe, its constantly changing nature, and some of the fights of earlier years, such as the Green Bans, the perception of the suburb as a "slum", and the struggle against expressways which would have literally cut Glebe apart. All in all, it was a great "Glebe" evening, and we were glad that Max's family were able to be there, including his elderly mother who travelled down from the country. It had been hoped to welcome Bernard Smith, the founding President of the Glebe Society, as a guest of honour on the occasion, but alas frail health precluded his travelling from Melbourne. We wish him well for the launch of his own latest work which is also happening in October.

Now, all that remains is for us to enjoy reading the book.

- Jeanette Knox

And who would like to write a review for the next *Bulletin*? - Editor



The Lord Mayor, Cr Clover Moore, MP and Max Solling after the book launch.
Photo: Jom Photography, courtesy SCC

Meet the Candidates

The Glebe Society has organised a "meet the candidates" evening for the Federal seat of Sydney on Thursday 15 November, 7pm – 9pm at Forest Lodge Public School, corner Bridge Road and Ross Street

This meeting is being organised by the Glebe Society to give local residents an opportunity to hear and ask questions of our local candidates. The Society will provide the candidates with a short list of questions, which we ask them to address. These will focus on issues where the Federal government can impact on local matters, especially support for cities, their infrastructure and sustainability. In the second half of the meeting candidates will address questions from the audience.

The meeting will be held in the Forest Lodge Primary School Assembly Hall, on the corner of Bridge Road and Ross Street. The entrance is in Bridge Road. Unfortunately there is no wheelchair access, as there are four small steps to negotiate. Please arrive early and be seated by 7pm.

We look forward to seeing you there. Everyone is welcome.

- Jan Macindoe, President

There are a few places left for the Glebe Society Champagne High Tea at *The Retreat* on 4 November. See page 9.

Max Solling's speech at the book launch

Few thought Glebe had a history worth writing about when I came from the Bush to go to Uni in 1960 and found cheap accommodation here. An old local told me confidentially then that outsiders thought if you lived in Glebe you could probably fight or play football, but do blessed little else. Some were haunted by this image but I was quite comfortable with it since I engaged in those kind of activities. I thought it was my sort of place. And it was.

The streets of Glebe have always been full of characters, and the way Glebe accepts all sorts of personalities and their eccentricities is part of what makes it a very human place. If you're feeling low, go for a stroll along Glebe Road; it's good for the soul. You never know what you'll see. I found the locals laid back, possessing an earthy friendliness and lack of pretence. But I soon found out that it was not without its own peculiar complexities. The landlady at the first place where I found lodgings heard me tell someone on the phone I lived in Glebe. She quickly showed me the error of my ways. "Max", she said, "you live at Glebe Point, not Glebe". Her perspective of the suburb was that people lived in the same place but inhabited different worlds. She was right. Glebe has always been a social mosaic, and that's part of its fascination.

Glebe people don't need a reason to celebrate life. Glebe has some very august institutions, none more so than its rowing club. Physical exertion creates the need to quench one's thirst, so the rowers were known to have the occasional drink. They celebrated their AGM in 1927 in the main hall upstairs in Glebe Town Hall. It was a terrific night and much alcoholic liquor was consumed. Some liquor spilt on the floor seeped through onto the mayor's chair below. Never again, Glebe Council decreed, would Glebe Rowing Club be allowed to party in their town hall. I should add that they're much more respectable now.

The City Council is to be commended for being especially active promoting an awareness of our history. It has,

through its History Project, demonstrated a commitment to publish histories of who have lived, worked and played here that has contributed much to its character. I owe much to a number of local people, born between 1896 and 1911, with an intimate knowledge of Glebe gained from a life-long association, whose oral testimony filled in gaps, particularly on working class life, which the manuscript material failed to yield. I gained so much from David Kernohan, Ada Stokes, Jack Flitcroft, Alice Currie, Tom Brown, Josephine Law, Billy Gough and George Borwick. All have since died and I much regret their passing. They gave an identity and character to people who would otherwise remain mere names on a street directory or electoral roll, and restored to some who left no written record of their living, their original importance.

The City Historian, Dr Shirley Fitzgerald and Dr Dennis Jeans read and commented on the manuscript at its various stages. I greatly benefitted from their insights and advice. Shirley has written extensively on Sydney's history, and Dennis is well known as a pioneer in Australian historical geography during his time as Associate Professor at Sydney University. I am deeply indebted to them. Matthew Richardson and Alana Ayliffe from Halstead Press really have produced a very handsome book. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Matthew and Alana, and their skilful editing has made this a much better book. Their index to the book is superb. Glebe has its own great little urban research group, and I am indebted to Michael Foster, Helen Randerson and John Fischer for providing wonderful research support and assistance. Nothing to do with Glebe escapes their scrutiny. The names of many other people who contributed to the making of the book are set out in the acknowledgements.

Glebe has had its ups and downs over the last two centuries, and

at the moment it is very much on the way up. It began as a semi-rural retreat for families of professional and mercantile men but by the end of the nineteenth century Glebe's open spaces were rapidly filled with new people, new houses and industry. As the better off, with their rising fortunes, withdrew to semi-detached houses and bungalows on the outer limits of development, their places were increasingly being taken by a poorer, more transient, population that rented rooms, and lived in lodgings and boarding houses. From the early years of a new nation inner Sydney became more industrialised and overtly working class in its demographic profile. Social boundaries within Glebe became hazier, but it still remained a mosaic divided along class lines and this social pattern was not drastically revised for a long time. After World War II, Glebe and Sydney's other inner suburbs entered a period of prolonged population decline. Young couples wishing to raise a family were attracted by the pros-

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Max Solling and the Lord Mayor cut the cake
Photo: Jom Photography, courtesy Sydney City Council

Mad to live in Glebe?

“Shame on those who would deny the knotted hands that set us high” - I quote from Dame Mary Gilmore’s poem *Old Botany Bay*.

Max came to Glebe in 1960. My wife and I came in 1964. Hardly anyone wanted to buy property in Glebe then. People said we were mad to buy a house in Avenue Road in 1967 for \$13,000 and to send our boys to Forest Lodge School. Well I’ve never regretted making Glebe my home and neither has Max.

When Max speaks or writes about the history of Glebe, its battlers, footballers, hockey players, rowers, its colourful character, he doesn’t approach the task in an objective, detached manner. His writing and his famous Toxteth pub talks are the product of thorough, disciplined research, but not **just** that. Max loves Glebe and the people who made this suburb special. He has interviewed old men and women who grew up here in the turbulent days of the 1920s and the desperate, hungry ‘30s. He empathises with them and, vicariously, shares their adventures, struggles and prejudices - the essence of their lives.

I haven’t read this book yet - this is the first time I’ve seen it. But I can anticipate Max’s prose bringing to life the struggles, the humour, the sense of community that was part of the old Glebe and which hasn’t been completely wiped out.

In the 1970s, there was a series of articles in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on Sydney pubs. The article on the Toxteth pub began with the words “In the Toxteth Hotel in Glebe Point Road, a left hook is considered reparable”. Gentrification has come and Glebe is now a far more genteel place. But, when Max and I meet in the street we don’t discuss the fact that a house in Arcadia Road went for 1.2 million dollars or that the renovation and extensions on a house in Allen Street are costing the equivalent of the gross national product of a small eastern European country. If it’s test cricket time, we talk about the need for Ricky Ponting’s men to grind the Pommies into the dust.

Glebe was a tough place where you needed to know how to use your fists. Well Max is no stranger to the Marquis of Queensberry rules. Dave Sands trained in a gym in Glebe Point Road - there is a memorial to him on the Parramatta Road corner. Ray Coleman, featherweight champion of Australia in the 1950s, was a Glebe boy. His nickname was “Mustard”, Glebe’s own “Mustard” Coleman who ended his career belting up the cops and belting down the beer, if I may wax alliterative. Maybe Mustard merits a mention. I declare *Grandeur & Grit, a history of Glebe*, launched.

- John Dengate

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pects of owner occupancy in outlying areas, leaving inner Sydney with a disproportionate number of older and poorer people.

Inner Sydney entered a new phase of its development from the late 1960s. Community participation created a new awareness of the history and character of inner city life, and these communities began forming opinions of their own about the quality of their environment. Glebe was coloured in on maps as a zone of blight with two expressway corridors to carve through its heart. The Glebe Society and other anti-expressway groups marshalled

their forces, and found a powerful ally in the Builders Labourers Federation which placed a green ban on construction of the expressways. The BLF’s green bans and intervention by the Federal Labor Government prevented the carving up of Glebe. Much has changed in Glebe since 1945, and that is dealt with in some detail in the concluding chapter.

This is an important occasion to celebrate. I’m sure of that because my Mum has travelled a long way to be here. Glebe is a great place, and I really enjoyed writing about it. Thank you very much.

- Max Solling

Get hooked on heritage

You probably listed heritage as a major interest when you joined the Glebe Society. Most of us did. The Heritage Sub-committee needs your assistance as there are a number of projects that present opportunities for you to take on; tasks that suit your circumstances. We are seeking members who wish to become involved in the Heritage Sub-committee by providing knowledge and expertise.

Even if you are unable to commit on a regular basis you may be able to participate in special interest projects. Given that most if not all of us have access to the Internet we don’t always have to meet face to face to communicate effectively.

Our major heritage project for 2007-2008 is conserving our heritage by undertaking an audit of current records, identifying gaps and compiling reliable data for inclusion in either the State or Local Heritage Database.

In some instances, the hard work may have already been done by individuals when researching their own house or family connections. We need to capture this information in a meaningful way to ensure its preservation.

Today, Glebe has 11 items on the State Heritage Register and 204 listings in the Local Heritage Database; most with little or no detail.

If you are interested in contributing, please email me now on mSCO@bigpond.net.au or phone me on 9518 7253.

- Dianne Gray

Get your copy of *Grandeur and Grit: a History of GLEBE*

from The Glebe Society at a
members only price of \$42.95

Copies will be available at Glebe Society events. So pick up a few copies for Christmas presents when you attend the Champagne “High Tea” at *The Retreat* on 4 November, or Christmas Party Drinks at Lyndhurst on 14 December. Or ring Jan Macindoe (9660 0208) and arrange to get a copy or two.



Letter to the Editor

Your recent *Bulletin* contained a letter from John Burnheim regarding development of the Harold Park site. I wholeheartedly support the general content of John's letter, but more specifically his suggestion that we should think about a diversified development which would include substantial retirement and aged care facilities.

I agree with the tenor of his letter, that plans for the future of such a major site as Harold Park are not served by kneejerk reactions appealing to environment, heritage and nostalgia. It is much more important that we look realistically at the needs of the inner city, and among those I think there is a need for, I hate the phrase, sustainable development. More importantly, many of the residents in Glebe are of a certain age and we all will not get younger. Yet we would hate to have to leave the area we have come to know and love so well, not in the least because it is so marvellously close to the CBD. So I would say that in particular the Harold Park site lends itself to cater for, but not exclusively, the over 55s.

I recently visited a complex of apartments administered by St Lukes on part of the old Prince Henry Hospital site in Little Bay. This complex was specifically meant to appeal to over 55s, it contains several sizes of apartments, a restaurant, some small shops and other amenities, while a nursing home and small hospital/hostel is being built nearby. The idea is that we want to continue living independently in a secure and beautiful environment with the amenities needed and if necessary care at hand. What was missing there is the inner city location, in my view.

With respect to Harold Park, looking at the types of uses permitted under Open Space, a community facility such as aged care accommodation, substantial retirement apartments for sale to over 55s with in-house health

and fitness facilities, and perhaps even a small geriatric teaching hospital or nursing home nearby in conjunction with the University of Sydney would certainly be viable. These types of developments could face towards the Crescent at Rozelle Bay and connect to Bicentennial Park and perhaps the light rail stop there, having an entrance at Minogue Crescent.

Given the size of the site, and of course it is early days, such a plan would still leave room for parkland in the bowl of the original site, and leave room for higher density development facing Ross Street and perhaps some supermarket facilities and townhouses accessible via the current entrance from Wigram Road, while larger family apartments could be sited at where the tribunes now are, providing playing facilities in the oval.

I think that it is time to think about modern answers to the needs of an ageing population. This could be a chance to create such an environment, which allows elderly people to remain located in the midst of a vibrant community like Glebe, and to keep taking part in its local amenities and in the pleasures of inner city living, but in a safe and secure location, not a fenced-off estate somewhere out in the sticks, however lovely the surroundings.

I hope The Glebe Society starts early with approaching the State Government and Sydney Council with these types of plans, to prevent being surprised by any Master Plans, which may pre-empt any real community input and end up in delivering us to unscrupulous development on a grand scale such as the Boating Centre on Rozelle Bay.

Mia Campioni

Orphan School Creek

From: Helen Randerson

To: Kathleen Ng, City of Sydney

Subject: Larkin Street Park and through site link (Orphan School Creek)

Dear Kathleen

I am very pleased that Council is going to complete the park construction, but I noted with dismay that there is no mention of any continuity between this side of Orphan School Creek and that on the other side of Bridge Road.

Larkin Street Park's boundary fence is the Orphan School Creek bed and it would be great if the park fully recognised and incorporated this in its design.

Yours sincerely

Helen Randerson

St Johns Road, Forest Lodge.

Hi Helen,

Thank you for your email.

The City's staff will investigate the possibility of improving access across Pymont Bridge Road to fully recognise the Orphan School Creek corridor and Larkin Street pedestrian link and park as a whole.

In regards to the boundary of Larkin Park the City's design staff will consider your request to recognise the creek bed in the landscape design of the park.

Regards

Kathleen Ng

Orphan School Creek exhibition

There is an exhibition at Glebe Library (not at Glebe Town Hall) seeking feedback on a number of issues regarding to the Orphan School Creek corridor. These issues relate to the section between Wood Street and Wigram Road, and include the nature of playgrounds, treatment of the currently asphalted area between

Creek and Hereford Streets, and redesign of the stretch between Creek Street and Wigram Road.

Comment is due before 9 November. I strongly suggest that you look at this exhibition when you are at the Library and send me your comments.

- Neil Macindoe

Planning Matters

Cliff Terrace

This row of intact Victorian terraces is perhaps the most spectacularly located in all Glebe, perched on the cliff top above Lewis Hoad Reserve and Minoque Crescent. It attracts the eye in the same way as the witch's houses on Johnstone Street, Annandale, and goes some way to compensate for the unsightly Harold Park at its feet. The entire row is an Item of Environmental Heritage.

It has not always been so. An ugly boarding house was demolished to create the reserve in the 1970s. Where the Terrace meets Wigram Road there has been for many years a vacant lot. In the past I have made various attempts to persuade both Leichhardt and the City Council to purchase this lot and incorporate it into Lew Hoad Reserve. The most recent attempt was on 2006, when the City exhibited the sites it intended to acquire with developers' contributions, as required by law.

Recently Members may have noticed building activity on the site. According to Cr Robyn Kemmis, in the final days of neglect, when Leichhardt Council was about to lose Glebe, it failed to deal with a development application for the site in a timely fashion, and it was approved by the Land and Environment Court. For years no action was taken on this DA apart from a survey, but according to the City's solicitors, this is sufficient to count as implementation of the DA. Currently the proposal is for three townhouses, but it appears negotiations are continuing with some current owners on Cliff Terrace that may produce a better result.

It is not a happy story, and the moral is obvious. Let us hope the outcome does not impact too severely on this lovely spot. In the meantime the City has been busy stabilising the cliff face and cleaning up the Reserve.

208 Bridge Road

During my absence in Turkey the *Bulletin* Editor, Edwina Doe, noticed the façade of this abandoned factory, destined to become town houses like the adjoining, matching factory in Bridge Road, being demolished. She informed Derek Barton, who had generously agreed to look after planning matters while I was away, and he contacted the City. The developer is now required to reconstruct the façade in its original form, and this now appears to be under way. There was a similar requirement when a section of University Hall collapsed during excavation for underground parking. It is not as good as preserving the original façade, but it is the next best thing if it is done properly. Thanks to both Edwina and Derek for their prompt actions.

Bakery, 215 Glebe Point Road

In September a number of people reported the shopfront had been removed and a roller shutter installed, both without approval. Council is taking action to require removal of the shutter and reinstatement of the shopfront (not a heritage shopfront).

208 St Johns Road

The Old Manse, an early Victorian mansion and Heritage Item on the corner of Ross Street and St Johns Road, operated for many years as part of the Richmond Fellowship, an organisation set up by a reforming Director of Mental Health as community housing for young people with mental afflictions (the same one whose recommendations for community care have been studiously ignored by all succeeding State Governments). It was the second such community home in Glebe, the first being in Oxley Street. Two years ago, as its contribution to mental health, the Federal Government cut off funding, so the building had to be sold. The car park and dwelling at the rear is now proposed for three townhouses, and the Society will lodge an objection to

have them redesigned, as they are almost double the current permissible FSR of 0.7:1.

Friend in Hand Hotel, 58 Cowper Street

This pub is the latest to apply for an area for smokers. In this case they are asking Council for three tables and six chairs on the street. This will create additional noise and disturbance for residents, in a situation where noise is already excessive and not adequately controlled, so the Society is lodging an objection.

Urban Renewal

Whether you have visited Cappadocia in Turkey or not, you are probably familiar with the wonderful "fairy houses", where dwellings have been carved from the mushroom shaped remains of eroded solidified volcanic ash or tuffe, because they are constantly shown in travel programs and brochures.

What you may not realise is that while these picturesque dwellings are all protected and part of the UNESCO World Heritage Area, there are a number of towns nearby where the facades of the stone houses appear quite normal, but where everything behind is excavated into the soft volcanic rock. After years of neglect the Turks now recognise these houses are also unique, and we were privileged to see many being restored to original designs and in original materials.

Indeed, the value of older housing, Ottoman or even earlier, is being realised in some of the regional centers in Turkey. Soon it will be possible to stay in restored housing in old town centers that remain, just as it has become possible to stay in Istanbul's *yali*, the gracious wooden Ottoman mansions still to be seen in parts of that spectacularly located and ancient city. The value of heritage housing is being recognised in more and more countries, and there is still much to be done in Australia to ensure ours is not lost.

- Neil Macindoe

"A gem of a book"

Sustainability, Alex Colley AO, Envirobook, 2006, 89p

Alex Colley probably wouldn't appreciate being called a grand old man, but having, at the age of 97, produced such a gem of a book I can't think of a more apt description. In 2004, in conjunction with the photographer Henry Gold, he published *Blue Mountains World Heritage*, a history of the struggle for the Blue Mountains National Park and its listing as a world heritage site. His Order of Australia having been awarded for services to conservation, being a graduate of Hawkesbury Agricultural College and having earned a Bachelor of Economics degree at the University Sydney he is a rare combination of ecologist and economist.

Although Australia is still a long way behind many other countries in its awareness of the importance of sustainability there has been some improvement recently largely as a result of such factors as Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth*, the 2007 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Stern review on *The Economics of Climate Change*. Colley is well aware of all the issues raised by these works and Clive Hamilton's *Growth Fetish* but, just as Gore is primarily addressing Americans, Colley, as an Australian, sees the issue of sustainability in an Australian context.

He is critical of our government's immigration policy and advocates zero net immigration, ie immigration equal to emigration. His chapter headings are The Growth Obsession, Population, Soil, Trees, Water, Air, Fish, Wildlife, Waste and Transport and a final chapter on The Future which seems to me, in the tradition of Carlyle's description of Economics as the dismal science, to be unduly pessimistic: although we should never underestimate the strength of the fossil fuel and mining industries to which our Prime Minister has been unduly attentive. On each of these topics he not only makes clear what the problems are but suggests solutions.

OK for Bendigo, but not for Glebe

Did you see this article in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 October?

Walkers first on naked streets

by Clay Lucas

Rip down the traffic signs, throw them out and erase the road markings - it doesn't seem the logical way to improve road safety.

But Bendigo City Council, in Victoria, has decided to do just that, and follow a revolutionary: overseas trend in urban design that planners say saves lives, improves health and create better communities.

The council will today unveil \$16 million makeover of its city centre, coined "naked streets" by commentators. It will radically alter the city centre by narrowing spaces for cars and returning the town's wide streets to walkers and cyclists.

Under the scheme, all "visual signals" that streets are for cars first and walkers second will go. Footpaths will be dramatically expanded and filled with street furniture and public art.

Kerbs will be eliminated and replaced with paving to mark where cars can drive and park.

The idea was dreamed up by the Dutch urban designer Hans Monderman in the 1970s, and has slowly gained acceptance in Europe, Britain and the US.

Advocates of the system say street signs and road markings make streets more dangerous confusing drivers or reinforcing perceptions that only cars matter.

By removing them and creating a situation that feels "unsafe", people are more alert and there are fewer accidents, evidence from other cities shows. "If you walk into a church, you don't start tap-dancin'," Bendigo's roads engineer Jos Dulvenvoorden, said.

The council wants the street redesign to slow cars so much that even "human error" will not cause serious injury or death. Instead, minor accident might become more common.

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A shared traffic zone in Europe. Photo: Andrew Craig

If the book has a defect it is its failure to deal adequately with the looming global crisis brought about by the confluence of anthropogenic global warming and the depletion of the world's oil resources: but this defect is shared by all the major Australian political parties. It seems that the only certain winner in the next Federal election will be the coal mining industry. There is an urgent need for investment in renewable sources of energy such as solar, wind, geother-

mal and biofuel and the phasing out of nonrenewable resources such as coal, oil and uranium.

The Colong Foundation for Wilderness (foundation@colongwilderness.org.au or 9261 2400) is selling this book for \$20, including postage. Alternatively it may be obtained through Envirobook (9787 1955). It is a small book but well worth the price.

- Ian Edwards

Glebe and Forest Lodge Local Area Traffic Management Plan (LATM)

The Final Report of the Glebe and Forest Lodge Traffic Study was released by Council on 11 October, with a note that it was to be discussed at the Planning Development and Transport Committee meeting on 15 October. This did not give Society members much time to digest the report and its recommendations, and the recommendations Council staff made to the Committee. The report was briefly discussed between some Society members, and I elected to attend the Committee meeting. Our submission was well received, and as a result, Council staff were asked to meet with representatives of the Society to discuss these recommendations. Our submission to the Committee is set out below.

- Chris Hallam

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Car speeds will drop from 30kmh to less than 20kmh, the council hopes.

"We've spent 60 years on car-based development in Australia and separating walkers and cars to stop risk of injury. This turns all that on its head," said Ian Kett from the consultants Kinect which worked on the plan.

Sydney's Lord Mayor, Clove Moore, hinted that her city could be the next to adopt such pedestrian-friendly policy.

Bruce Davis writes:

I suspect the decision by Bendigo City Council to support a "naked streets" traffic plan provoked a wry smile from members of the Coalition of Glebe Groups (CoGG).

In mid-2006 CoGG made a submission to the City Council concerning the Glebe Point Road upgrade that contained features similar to those adopted by Bendigo. In particular it included three shared zones where traffic and pedestrians use the same pavement at the same time. Similar schemes have been successfully implemented in business districts in Europe.

City Council officials told us it could never work. Well, maybe we were a bit too visionary, but it will be interesting to see how things work out in Bendigo.

Submission by the Glebe Society to Sydney City Council Planning Development and Transport Committee Meeting of 15 October 2007 – Item 2

The Glebe Society wishes to thank the Council for commissioning the Glebe & Forest Lodge Local Area Traffic Management Study. The Study report by Transport & Urban Planning dated September 2007 provides very useful data for on-going review and development of improvement options. Unfortunately the short period of time from the placement of the report on the Council website and the meeting of 15 October has not allowed Glebe Society members to thoroughly analyse the study report and recommendations. Nevertheless, we do have general comments and recommendations to make.

We support the 23 works recommended, with one adjustment: Work item 14 (i) suggests either traffic signals or an additional marked foot-crossing (MFC). We recommend that the existing roundabout at Bay Street/Kelly Street be retained, and that the additional MFC be provided.

Following the circulation of a Draft LATM Plan, the Society made recommendations for further works on Glebe Point Road. The report acknowledged these recommendations but stated that the study brief did not cover those sections of Glebe Point Road that were part of the Stage 1 Upgrade works. We disagree with this exclusion, firstly because there needs to be consistency in the treatments to Glebe Point Road and secondly because the study highlighted issues that need works beyond the scope of the Upgrade works.

On the issue of consistency, the recommended raised platforms at MFCs north of Hereford Street should be the same as those to the south, at the Valhalla, Mitchell Street and Francis Street. Raised platforms act as a physical device to reduce traffic speeds and assist the enforcement of the 40 km/hr speed limit.

The intersection of Glebe Point Road (GPR) and Mitchell Street was highlighted in the traffic study as having had 12 accidents over 5 years, including three involving pedestrians. As well as raising the MFC, the construction of a Shared Zone on the eastern side, from GPR to beyond the Old Fire Station, used for community activities, is recommended, to reduce all traffic speeds on this approach to GPR and improve pedestrian amenity and safety.

Francis Street: Our previous submission recommended that Francis Street be made one-way eastbound (away from GPR), to reduce traffic conflicts at the intersection and reduce total traffic in GPR between Francis Street and Broadway, where there is a high level of pedestrian activity. Any such restrictions **have** to be considered in the context of traffic circulation in the area, in the context of this LATM study. While the study report noted that Francis Street was not a residential street, that does not mean that the implications of traffic flowing along Francis Street do not need to be considered. (We understand that making Francis Street one-way eastbound was suggested in traffic studies for the Broadway shopping centre.)

The Society strongly supports the further action recommendation that investigations should be undertaken for additional improvements to pedestrian paths and routes in the Catherine Street-Lodge Street area, plus the recommendation for further investigations into additional Shared Zones within the overall Glebe and Forest Lodge area.

The Society would welcome the chance to discuss this submission with Council staff, as we had requested in our earlier submission.

Note: A meeting was held on Monday 22 November to discuss the Glebe Society's submission. Those present were Victor Franco, Graham McCabe, Richard Campbell representing the Sydney City Council, and Chris Hallam, Jan Macindoe, Neil Macindoe from the Glebe Society.

- Chris Hallam
Transport & Traffic Convenor

Launch of *Glebe on Track*



Some of the "wallpaper".

Photo by Sue Ingram

A generous grant from the Glebe Society formed an important part of the funding which made the project possible. It helped with the many expenses leading

up to the event including hanging fixtures, production and promotion. Epson supplied the inks and paper, while the UNSW College of Fine Arts facilitated the printing. This event is the result of huge enthusiasm and support from all sections of the Glebe community, and the dedication of the committee members including organiser Nick Vickers who so generously gave his time and energy.

We especially thank Councillor Robyn Kemmis for launching the event and for her proposal for Council to put in place a regular funding arrangement for Art and About in the city's villages.

We also thank committee members Jan McCulloch, Roelof Smilde, Andrew Craig, Neil Macindoe and Colin Stokes, plus Julie Brackenres and Suzy Velkou, for their vital contributions.

- Sue Ingram

Convenor Arts, Culture and Media subcommittee and the Art and About committee

The Cat Empire comes to Forest Lodge School

The sign outside Forest Lodge Primary School - "Thank you Cat Empire for donating solar panels to our school" intrigued me, so I phoned the school and spoke to the Principal, Bill O'Connor.

Bill tells me that pupils have carried out a number of activities this year as a part of the school's Environmental Education program. They have conducted an energy audit of the school,

planted trees for National Tree Day and are now planting class gardens.

The school toilets blocks, recently renovated by the Department of Education, now have half flush toilets and spring loaded taps and the P & C is applying to the Department for water tanks.

Recently the Environmental Education Centre on Observatory Hill was approached by the crossover group *The Cat Empire*, with a proposal to offset the greenhouse emissions from their concert tour of Australia and Europe, starting this October, by donating solar panels to a school. Forest Lodge School was nominated because of its long term connection with the Centre.

On Wednesday 17 October *The Cat Empire* visited the school. Felix Riebl, the group's percussionist and vocalist, gave a talk about the environment and officially presented the solar panels, which will be installed as soon as Heritage Listing considerations are met and the DA is approved.

The Glebe Society congratulates the school, Bill O'Connor, *The Cat Empire* and everyone else concerned with this excellent initiative.

- Edwina Doe

Note: *The Cat Empire* is a six-piece band, based in Melbourne. From October 16-20, Felix Riebl ran Sustainability Sessions at The Metro Theatre, Sydney for fans who wanted to learn about sustainable practice in everyday life.



The children show off a solar panel. Photo: Angela Kalliabetsou, Forest Lodge School.

A band of enthusiastic supporters attended the launch of **Glebe on Track, Art and About** on Saturday 6 October, generously hosted at Art Almanac by Jan McCulloch.

The crowd met to celebrate the photo wallpaper rolls, each measuring about one by three metres, hanging in the Gallery Window at Art Almanac and the windows of the Glebe Youth Service, the Cherry Bean café, Mylos, Adagio (a new gallery), Contempo, the Macchiato Bar and Aviweb (near the Post Office). A CD of images is also playing continuously in Glebe Library.

Photo workshops at Glebe Public School, the Glebe Youth Service and the Mitchell Street/Hope Street centre provided the photos featured in the wallpaper rolls, along with images from local photographers Alex Kwang, Sally McInerney and Gavin Roberts. They will remain in place until the end of October.

The contributing organisations will each be given a wallpaper roll. Mari-Luise Agius did a brilliant job of auctioning five other rolls at the launch and the remaining rolls are for sale now at \$100 each to help cover the costs of the project. Potential buyers should contact me on 9692 8534, or Jan McCulloch at Art Almanac on 9660 6799.

Some students from the primary school who came to the launch were obviously thrilled at their new found fame. A few were lucky enough to take home their favourite wallpaper sections specially computer printed by Jan.

Glebe News

\$1000 community prizes in 2007

The Glebe Society has again provided donations and/or prize money for local schools and organisations supporting local youth. Cheques totalling \$1000 have been dispatched to:

- Glebe Public School
- Forest Lodge Primary (including the Mawson Prize)
- St James Primary
- Blackwattle Bay Campus of Sydney Secondary College (including the John Hoddinott Prize for Creative Writing)
- St Scholastica's College
- Tranby College
- Glebe Youth Service
- Glebe PCYC
- Centipede

The Society, through the support of members, is pleased to be able to continue this tradition of support for our local children.

- Liz Simpson-Booker

A Touch of Zen

Fog, rain, wind and cold - a great framework for a Blue Mountains winter escape. Misty drives and slippery walking tracks forced us to rethink our outdoor adventures.

How lucky were we? This proved to be the perfect weather to sample the culinary delights of the area. Vulcans, Darleys, Silks and The Hydro all offered unique opportunities for good living.

Anne and Simon Fraser welcomed us into their charming mountain cottage at Gordon Falls. With a modern Asian ambience, *A Touch of Zen* is a truly wonderful, cosy and relaxing experience. The Japanese garden set within the old world cold climate garden of Leura offered us peace, tranquility and iced lemons ready for the afternoon G&T.

Thank you so much Anne and Simon for a blissful holiday. We commend it to all.

- Cheryl and Bryan Herden

Note: Cheryl and Bryan won this two day holiday at the Glebe Society's Garden event last year.

See www.touchofzen.com.au or *A Touch of Zen* on Fairfax Digital Stayz for more information.

Glebe Society Champagne High Tea at *The Retreat*

We still have a couple of places left for the Glebe Society Champagne High Tea at *The Retreat* (next to Bellevue on the Foreshore Walk).

Date: Sunday 4 November

Time: 4.30 – 6.30pm

Occasion: Champagne and savoury and sweet finger food – in the beautiful setting of this 1850s heritage house and award-winning garden.

Theme: “The Collectors” - get a favourite treasure “valued” by *The Retreat's* owner, John Williams!

We look forward to your support for this Glebe Society fund-raising event.

Cost: \$30 (in advance) + \$10 optional (at the door) for a special item to be assessed by a fine arts auctioneer.

Phone Dorothy Davis straight away on 9660 7873

Twilight Christmas party at historic *Lyndhurst*

Our end-of-year function will be a Twilight Christmas Party at historic *Lyndhurst*, in Darghan Street, Glebe on Friday 14 December from 5.30 to 7.30pm.

Join Glebe Society friends for this festive occasion – wines and beer, oysters, salmon, mince pies and other delicious food - in the drawing room, on the verandahs and in the garden of this restored Regency villa overlooking the city skyline and lights.

You might also be a lucky winner of the raffles and auction!

See the enclosed booking form.

- Dorothy Davis

Community support for Glebe school

Glebe Public School is a school with a great heart, supported by a committed Principal and staff. The school is constantly struggling with the sustaining of enrolments and already pays (from Glebe market rentals) for an additional teacher to keep the student/teacher ratio low, in order to assist with learning. There are other initiatives such as *Centipede* which provides before and after school care and meals. This year the Year 6 students are trying to go on a camp. Kids at Glebe Public School are lucky if they go on one camp in the whole of their primary school years. Many come from very disadvantaged backgrounds and the P&C is not flush with funds. Their wonderful teacher Bryce is determined to try and get the kids sponsored. The whole five day camp to Dubbo and surrounds will cost \$350 per child.

Bryce is trying to get organisations and individuals to sponsor a child to attend. There are 17 children requiring sponsorship and he has nine sponsorships so far. The Glebe Society is sponsoring one child and we have also received another sponsorship from an individual member from the Society. Would anyone else like to contact the school and offer to help? The opportunity to attend this camp can do so much for enriching children's lives. We wish them happy camping.

- Jan Wilson

News and Notes

Thirsty Thursdays

Members and friends are invited to meet for dinner in Glebe on the first Thursday of each month, to eat and talk with other people who live in Glebe.

On Thursday 1 November we will return to *Haiphong Harbour*, the Vietnamese restaurant at 28 Glebe Point Road. It is BYO (corkage \$2 per person).

And for the last Thirsty Thursday of 2007, on 6 December, we will explore the City Quarter Village, on the site of the old Children's Hospital, and eat at *La Cucina Calabrese*.

Welcome to New Members

The following people were accepted as members of the Glebe Society at recent Management Committee meetings. We look forward to seeing them at future Glebe Society functions.

- Robert Dixon
- Simon Garnett
- John and Mary Holt

An exhilarating experience

Last week I had the opportunity to have a flight from **Heli-Tours** over Sydney Harbour, including the beaches. We flew in a very compact four seater helicopter at 1400 metres with a pilot who gave a commentary of the significant landmarks. What a way to gain a different perspective of Sydney and its magnificence and size! I can truly recommend the experience for locals and also for anyone entertaining overseas visitors. **HeliTours** operates out of Kingsford Smith Airport and parking is free.

Check out the website and treat yourself by making a booking. <http://www.sydneyhelitours.com.au>.

- Jan Wilson

Sing the *Messiah* with 500 others

Singers are invited to join the Sydney University Graduate Choir for this exciting event, part of Christmas in the City of Sydney. Taking place on Sunday 2 December in the magnificent Sydney Town Hall, the day will proceed with rehearsals in the morning, culminating in a performance of the *Messiah* by the massed choir, with professional soloists and orchestra, at 3pm. The wonderful Grand Organ at the Sydney Town Hall will also be featured, marking the 25th anniversary of its restoration.

Sydney University Graduate Choir regularly performs at the University of Sydney. Now with the support of the City of Sydney they are able to extend this unique opportunity to all singers and lovers of Handel to participate.

Enrolment forms are available at the Glebe Library and Town Hall, or at sydneyingsmessiah.com.

- Jenny Pockley

Samon rostyd in wine sause, dere of hye grece rostyd with frumentye

These are two of the dishes that await you at the Medieval Christmas Banquet, a night of feasting, mirth, merriment, music and Medieval delights, on Saturday 15 December 2007 at 6.30pm in the University of Sydney Main Quadrangle and Great Hall.

Tickets are \$200. Contact Glebe Society member Lydia Bushell by phone (9571 7131) or by fax (9571 7141) for more information.

Music Festival assistant needs radio contacts

To assist with running this year's Glebe Music Festival, a young intern from Germany by the name of Philipp Shulz is being sponsored to come to Sydney. Philipp would also like to gain experience with radio broadcasting in the months of November and December. Would any members with contacts in this area please email David McIntosh on mcintosh@glebemusicfestival.com with their suggestions.

Our Local Member of Parliament

State Member for Balmain, Verity Firth MLA

Office address: 112a Glebe Point Road, Glebe 2037.

Senior Electorate Officer: Christina Harlamb, ph 9660 7586, fax 9660 6112, email christina.harlamb@parliament.nsw.gov.au

City of Sydney Councillors

Lord Mayor: Clover Moore MLA

Councillors:

Phillip Black
Verity Firth
Chris Harris
Marcelle Hoff
Robyn Kemmis
Michael Lee
Shayne Mallard
John McInerney
Tony Pooley

For enquiries: Please contact the City of Sydney on 9265 9333.



Forest Lodge Public School

*Home of The Glebe
Society Archives*

Phone 9660 3530



For your diary ...

Thursday 1 November, 7pm - Thirsty Thursday - *Haiphong Harbour*, 28 Glebe Point Road. BYO.

Sunday 4 November, 4.30 - 6.30pm - Champagne "High Tea" - *The Retreat*, Leichhardt Street.

Wednesday 14 November, 7.30pm - Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting - The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street.

10 November to 2 December - The 18th Annual Glebe Music Festival.

Thursday 15 November, 7pm – 9pm, Meet the Candidates, Forest Lodge Primary School, corner Bridge Road and Ross Street. All welcome.

Thursday 15 November, 7pm - Glebe Society Concert in the Great Hall of Sydney University.

Sunday 18 November – Glebe Street Fair.

Saturday 24 November – ELECTION DAY – don't forget to vote.

Thursday 6 December, 7pm - Thirsty Thursday - *La Cucina Calabrese*, the City Quarter Village (old Children's Hospital site).

Wednesday 12 December, 7.30pm - Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting - The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street.

Friday 14 December, 5.30 - 7.30pm - Glebe Society Christmas Party Drinks - *Lyndhurst*, Darghan Street.

Contacting

The Glebe Society

Mail

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Glebe Society Inc
PO Box 100, Glebe NSW 2037

Website

The Society has a growing website (www.glebesociety.org.au) for the information of members and anyone with an interest in Glebe.

The website will only flourish if members use the site. Send contributions or comments to webmaster@glebesociety.org.au

The *Bulletin*

We are glad to publish letters or articles on any matters of interest to Glebe, any topic raised in the *Bulletin*, or any issues relating to the Glebe Society. Write to the address above or email editor@glebesociety.org.au

Disclaimer

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

Bulletin deadline

The next edition of the *Bulletin* will be published at the end of November. The deadline for contributions is **21 November**.

The Glebe Society Inc

Established 1969

Management Committee:

President	Jan Macindoe	9660 0208
Vice-president	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Immediate Past President	Bob Armstrong	9660 4189
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Treasurer	Bruce Davis	9660 7873

Committee Members: Dorothy Davis 9660 7873 Simon Fraser 9660 7560
Jan Wilson 9660 2698

Sub-committee Convenors:

All sub-committee convenors are *ex officio* members of the Management Committee

Arts, Culture and Media	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
Bays and Foreshores	Tony Larkum	9660 7030
Wentworth Park	Anne Fraser	9660 7560
Blue Wrens	David Mander Jones	9552 4172
Environment and Open Spaces	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Glebe against Global Warming	Bill McCarthy	9660 5119
Heritage	Dianne Gray	0417 434 814
Infrastructure Defect Reporting	Margaret Sheppard	9660 4121
Membership	Cheryl & Bryan Herden	9660 7371
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Transport and Traffic	Chris Hallam	9660 3670

Adopt-a-Park Contacts:

Foley Park: Bobbie Burke (9692 0343) **Kirsova:** Fay & David Mander Jones

Paddy Gray Park: John Gray

Other Contacts:

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC)	Anne Fraser	9660 7560
Bulletin Editor	Edwina Doe	9660 7066
Event Coordination	Dorothy Davis	9660 7873
History of Glebe	Max Solling	9660 1160
History of the Glebe Society	Jeanette Knox	9660 7781
Liaison with CityRags	Bob Armstrong	9660 4189
Liaison with CoGG	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Liaison with FLAG	Jan Wilson	9660 2698
Publicity	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
Website	Cynthia Jones	9660 2451

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The GLEBE
PO Box 100



SOCIETY Inc
Glebe 2037

POSTAGE
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Membership of the Glebe Society

Individual member	\$45
Joint (2 people, one address)	\$55
Household (more than 2 adults and/or children, one address)	\$60
Concession (student or pensioner)	\$20
Institution or corporate	\$110

Download a Membership Form from our website (www.glebesociety.org.au/AboutTGSI/Membership/Membership_application.pdf).

Or 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.

Community Contacts

Manager-Neighbourhood Services Centre: Glebe, Forest Lodge, Camperdown, Ultimo & Pyrmont: Nick Hespe.

Email: nhespe@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Glebe Town Hall Office: 9298 3190 8.30am-5.30pm Mon- Fri

Sydney City Council Customer Service

Telephone (24 hours): 9265 9333

email: council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

website: www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Glebe Point Road upgrade contact (24 hrs): Grant Donohue 0414 687 101, grant_donohue@gmwurban.com.au

Dumped Shopping trolleys: Trolley Tracker 1800 641 497

Waterway Garbage: NSW Maritime response - 9563 8592