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We acknowledge the Wangal and Gadigal people of the Eora nation as the traditional owners of Glebe and Forest Lodge and pay our respects to elders past and present.

## Anzac Day 2026

*summarised by Tim Hesketh, Acting Editor*

On 25 April Max Solling delivered an Anzac Day address in Glebe. The full text of the memorable address is on our web-site - [Max Solling's Anzac Day Address](#), and I've summarised it below.

The first part of Max's address dealt with the early stages of the Second World War from the Australian perspective, starting as a distant war in 1939, the outbreak of the Pacific War on 7 December 1941, Japan's invasions of Rabaul and the loss of Singapore. Four days later, Japanese aeroplanes bombed Darwin, destroying 30 aircraft and sinking eleven ships, with the loss of 246 lives. In the country's north, First Nations Australians were recruited and served with distinction in land, sea and air forces. More than 4,000 indigenous men served in the armed forces. 22,000 Australian soldiers were captured defending Singapore, Greece and Crete. Most of Australia's 26,000 airmen were committed to service with the RAF; 10,000 died, mostly in Europe. Curtin insisted Australian troops in North Africa return to defend Australia, and he appealed to the United States for help.

Four weeks after the fall of Singapore, General Douglas MacArthur arrived in Australia as Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in the south-west Pacific. More than one million US troops would pass through Australia during the Pacific War, providing community memories of troop trains travelling along the goods line that passes by tunnel under Glebe and the US Army setting up camp in Wentworth Park.

Two epic battles, the first in the Battle of the Coral Sea in May 1942 and the second at Midway Atoll a month later, meant Japan could not invade Papua by sea. A large Japanese force landed on the north coast of Papua and the Australian infantry with Papuan support engaged in intense and bloody fighting along the Kokoda Track and on 2 November 1942 retook Kokoda. 12,000 Japanese died along the track, together with 2,000 Australians and 500 Papuans. Allied victories in Papua, coupled with the Americans prevailing at Guadalcanal in February 1943, signalled a decisive shift in the Pacific war.

Australia suffered a general deterioration of living conditions, with a strong belief that the burden they now faced must be shared fairly across the community.



*Max Solling's Address (Jude Paul)*

Glebe was a predominantly tenanted, constituent part of heavily industrialised inner Sydney with 164 factories, employing 4,496 people. Alexandria, with 358 factories in 1945 with 22,238 employees, was the second biggest centre of industry after the City of Sydney. From Glebe, 2,426 men and 79 women enlisted. 81.5% were in the AIF, and 16.2% in the RAAF. A 1944 poll asked "What kind of war memorial do Australians favour?" 90% voted for useful memorials and as a result names of local people who died in the war are missing from Glebe's landscape. In 1947 Glebe's 20,510 residents were overwhelmingly Australian-born and manufacturing was the major source

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Anzac Day crowd (Image – Jude Paul)

of employment for its male workforce. Only 28% of Glebe's women were in paid employment, but informal networks of local women in unpaid work were crucial components of working class strength.

Director-general of postwar reconstruction in 1943, H.C.Coombs worked with his minister Ben Chifley to develop plans for full employment and a more satisfying life after the war. The third quarter of the twentieth century was an era of unmatched growth; the population almost doubled, the economy grew threefold and there were jobs for all that wanted them.

Late in 1945 14,000 surviving prisoners of war returned. Outstanding memoirs of 'Weary' Dunlop, Ray Parkin and Adrian Curlewis, were joined by the journal of a young Glebe rower Stan Arneil, one of the majority of POWs (22,000) held by the Japanese. 8,200 of them died in captivity. Arneil's prize-winning memoir, 'One Man's War' headed bestselling listings in 1982. In 1940 Stan had enlisted with rowing mates who earlier sang together "We are the boys of the GRC (Glebe Rowing Club). We swim every day down in Blackwattle Bay and we don't give a cuss for the sharks". With the rank of Sergeant, he had been part of the unconditional surrender of the Allied Forces to the Japanese in Singapore, surviving Changi prison camp and the Burma-Thailand railway, maintaining a daily record. Recording the facts provided Stan Arneil a lifeline which gave him a link to home. He recalled outstanding compassion among fellow prisoners. It was, he wrote 'the greatest privilege of my life to have been part of that group'. Stan married in 1947, a union that produced six children. He died at Collaroy on 19 April 1992, aged 73 years. ●



Uncle Ray Minniecon and Kobi Shetty (Image – Jude Paul)

# From the Acting President

by *Duncan Leys*

## 'Housing for All': Opportunities and challenges in inner-city development

As part of its 'Have your Say' program the City of Sydney have been running information sessions titled 'Housing for All' to explain their response to the State Government's push to increase the housing supply in all Local Government Areas.

See the City of Sydney's Housing for All Discussion Paper (March 2026) which can be downloaded from the City's webpage, [Have your say on future homes in our area](#). Consultation on the discussion paper has started and it will be exhibited until 19 June 2026.

For Glebe and Forest Lodge the question is how to significantly increase housing supply in a highly constrained, historically sensitive and socially complex inner-city suburb – without eroding its character or displacing vulnerable communities.

Glebe is a microcosm of Sydney's broader housing challenge:

- High demand + central location
- Strong heritage + existing density
- Significant social housing + redevelopment pressures

The Sydney City Council has identified ten ideas for where more housing could be created:

1. Ultimo and Pyrmont with Wentworth Park returned
2. Connecting Green Square and Waterloo
3. Prince Alfred Park edges
4. Renewing the Supa Centa site near Moore Park
5. Renewing Broadway: UTS to Glebe Point Road
6. Renewing underused sites along Parramatta Road
7. More life (and living) on our high streets
8. Mid-rise living in Beaconsfield
9. Gentle density on laneways
10. Park-side living for more people to enjoy



Council is looking for community feedback on these ideas. Ideas numbered 5, 6, 7 and 9 specifically affect Glebe.

### The ideas are to:

- Make better use of underutilised land and redevelop areas like Parramatta Road.

This can revitalise neglected areas and avoid expanding into outer greenfield land.

- Encourage diverse housing types.

Proposals like gentle density on laneways and mid-rise living (not just high-rise towers) are potentially a better fit with the existing neighbourhood scale.

- Support vibrant mixed-use areas

Proposals like adding housing to high streets and park edges would increase foot traffic for local businesses and lead to more active and lively neighbourhoods.

It is clear that Council is seeking to maintain planning discipline so neighbourhood amenity is not lost and might even be improved over time. This comes at a time when the State Government seems focused solely on the number of homes and is prepared to accept a loss of quality and amenity, treating these as being of no consequence. ●

## Who lived in your street?

# Thomas Peter Anderson Stuart (1856 – 1920)

by Lyn Collingwood



Anderson Stuart arrived in Sydney in March 1883 aboard the *Parramatta* to take up the position of Professor of Anatomy and Physiology at Sydney University. He was accompanied by his wife Elizabeth ('Lizzie') Ainslie whom he had married in Edinburgh the previous year. The couple took up residence on the corner of Toxteth Road and Mansfield Street in a large house named *The Biggin* ('biggin' is Scottish for a building or cottage).

Stuart had studied medicine at Edinburgh University with Robert Scot Skirving who became a lifelong friend and also migrated to Sydney. In 1884 the pair were appointed honorary medical officers at Glebe's Children's Hospital. Their enmity with Frances Holden, the hospital's Lady Superintendent, is recounted in *Bulletin* 6/2025.

In 1885 the Stuarts made a trip to England. On their return Lizzie was treated by Scot Skirving who diagnosed her as suffering from hysteria. In February 1886 she died aged 24 from an overdose of morphine after Stuart had left *The Biggin* to stay with Scot Skirving with whom he discussed divorce. Sarah Margaret Shearing, one of the two domestic servants, made the discovery. The jury at the inquest, held at *The Biggin*, apportioned some blame to her husband but delivered an open verdict.

Elizabeth Ainslie Stuart was buried at Rookwood. In March 1886, her widower auctioned his furniture and household effects (including a 148-piece dinner service decorated with Australian birds and fauna). *The Biggin* was subsequently renamed *Finkenhagen* for a brief period, and *Minnamurra* from 1890 - 1917. The house was demolished in the 1960s and replaced with flats.

Anderson Stuart was born on 20 June 1856 in Dumfries, Scotland, the only child of Alexander Stuart, a tailor, and his second wife Jane née Anderson. After working as a pharmacist's apprentice, he qualified for entry into medicine at Edinburgh University but spent some years studying (and winning gold medals) in Germany before enrolling. A brilliant student, he graduated MB, CM, MD in 1882 and was offered the academic position in Sydney.

At Sydney University, Stuart was responsible for dramatically improving medical student numbers and their school, originally a four-room 'barn'. 'Andy's folly',

a sandstone Gothic Revival building designed by Glebe's James Barnet, is today's Anderson Stuart Building. A carved raven watches over its entrance, a reference to the founder's nickname ('coracoid' from the Latin for 'crow') and his prominent nose. Stuart also set up the School of Tropical Medicine.

Stuart was chair/president of many organisations including the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Board of Health, United Dental Hospital, Australasian Massage Association, and the Immigration League of Australia; was associated with the Highland Society and the Zoological Society; attended the inaugural International Eugenics Conference in 1912; and was knighted in 1914. He collected paintings and antiques and was an active Freemason.

In Queensland in 1894 Stuart married 19-year-old Dorothy Primrose. The couple moved to a grand house in Double Bay where Stuart died of abdominal cancer on 29 February 1920. Scot Skirving was with him at the end, and members of the Sydney University Medical Society acted as pallbearers at his funeral.

Sir Thomas Anderson Stuart was survived by his widow and four sons (two of whom became medical physicians). Lady Dorothy Anderson Stuart died on 21 September 1954 and was buried with her husband in the Presbyterian section of South Head Cemetery.

Sources: *Australian Dictionary of Biography*; Heritage NSW; Sands *Directories*; Trove website; Waverley Council cemetery records. ●



*The Biggin, 1880s. Image SLNSW*

# News from the Blue Wren Subcommittee – June 2026

by Andrew Wood



Plantings by the Glebe, Palmerston and surrounds landcare group (Anna Szanto)



Immature male superb fairywren. (Ian Barker)

As far as we know, the City is yet to appoint a consultant to advise them about the Society's request that Glebe's Hill become a wildlife refuge. The President will telephone Marcia Morley (Executive Manager Project Development and Delivery), who is handling the appointment of the consultant, to invite her to an onsite meeting with the Subcommittee to show her the Hill and bring her up-to-date with the Society's recommendations.

In Federal Park, David Lawrence says that the native tube stock, which were planted on National Tree Day 2025 near where Johnstons Canal enters Rozelle Bay, are thriving. A dead tree on Chapman Road near the timber yard needs replacing and the new pathway in the foreshore park on the Annandale side of Johnstons Canal has been opened; the previous path was subject to flooding.

Anna Szanto and Ros Vaughan, the co-convenors of the Glebe Palmerston and Surrounds Landcare Group, report: 'On Sunday 3 May, eight volunteers including three newcomers and two young people supervised by their parent, planted native 150 seedlings provided by the City. A very knowledgeable staff member from Apunga Ecological Management (the City's bush regeneration specialists) led the proceedings and started out by explaining and demonstrating the techniques we should use. Also, the City has installed onsite a small shed to store our hose and trolley, some tools and information brochures as well as our booklets and books about wildlife, weeds and native plants.

Working bees continue on the 1st Sunday of the month from 8-10am, weather-permitting. Importantly, our group's co-convenors have started to meet regularly, onsite once each season, with Jen Beer (the City's Community Greening, Gardens and Volunteering Coordinator) and Charlotte Fletcher (the City's Urban Ecology Coordinator), where plant growth is discussed, successes are shared and issues are raised. ●

## Players in the Pub

From Lyn Collingwood

June 2026

**Invisible Circus**  
by Sumner Locke Elliott  
Directed by Elaine Hudson

A satirical look behind the microphone in a 1940s Sydney radio studio: temperamental stars, impossible deadlines, romance, and rampant philistinism

A MOVED READING BY  
Players in the Pub  
Tuesday 16 June 2026 - 7pm

THE HAROLD  
70A Ross Street Forest Lodge  
(upstairs)

Entry by donation

By arrangement with Michael Moore Agency, New York

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# Proposed parking changes

by Asa Wahlquist

The City of Sydney has proposed parking changes in the Glebe streets near the new Fish Market. The proposals are in response to requests from residents, supported by The Glebe Society, who have experienced difficulties parking since the new Fish Market opened. Council is seeking feedback on the proposals, which increase the hours of restricted parking, by June 1, 2026.

Currently the streets concerned have a mix of 1- and 2-hour permit parking (1P and 2P) and 2- and 4-hour paid parking (2P and 4P), and some unrestricted parking. Most of these rules only apply on weekdays from 8am to 6pm. The hours of restricted parking would be increased to 8am to 10pm every day of the week. The affected streets are: Bridge, St Johns and Wentworth Park Roads; Bellevue, Broughton, Cardigan, Darghan, Darling, Mitchell, Phillip, Railway and Wentworth Streets; and Bellevue, Bridge and Darghan Lanes. Residents would continue to be eligible for parking permits. If approved, the changes would come into effect within four weeks.

[More information is here, including maps, who to contact and a survey.](#)



Wentworth Park road (Tim Hesketh)

Now for some good news - The Glebe Book Sale, held on May 16 at Benledi, raised close to \$10,000 for the literacy program at Glebe Public School. ●

# Ecumenical Stations of the Cross

by Margaret Cody

On Good Friday approximately forty people met to walk the Stations of the Cross, a Christian prayer observance, beginning at St James Catholic Church. Our first station was in Foley Park where we prayed for peace for countries at war and, noting the nearby Ancient Briton Hotel, those harmed by gambling.

The next station was at St Johns Anglican Church where we stood by the scarred tree and prayed for Indigenous people and community ministries. The following station was opposite the childcare centre; we prayed for the safety of children. At the Glebe Youth Centre on Glebe Point Road,

young people were remembered. The Old Fire Station offers a welcome to local seniors and companionship to the lonely; this was gratefully acknowledged.

Then the group walked to the memorial mural at the Women's Refuge, in memory of Robyn Kemmis in memory of Robyn Kemmis. [The Glebe Society tribute](#) to her is here.

Finally we arrived at the Uniting Chapel in St Johns Road to enjoy hot cross buns. After two hours of walking it was a sweet treat. ●



Stations of the Cross walk (Margaret Cody)

# Glebe Society, Talks and Walks coming up

## Tour the Sydney Heritage Fleet (SHF) Shipyard on Rozelle Bay



The Kanangra at the Sydney Heritage Fleet shipyard (image: SHFleet)

### Sunday 21 June

10 am - 12pm

Led by Alex Byrne, Sydney Heritage Fleet volunteer  
Meeting place: SHF Shipyard, Gate 4/13 James Craig Road, Rozelle

**Bookings:** <https://tour-heritage-shipyard.eventbrite.com.au>

This tour organised for the Glebe Society takes us through the Fleet's extensive maintenance and restoration facilities, looks at the Fleet's other vessels, then goes on board the ferry *Kanangra* to hear her history and view the restoration currently underway. *Kanangra* was built in Mort Bay in 1912 and carried nearly 1000 passengers mostly on the City to Mosman and Cremorne route from 1912 to 1987. *Kanangra*'s superstructure is timber drawn from the lumber yards which used to surround Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays. This is an opportunity to view at first hand the history of this part of the working harbour, and the work of the SHF's many hundreds of volunteers in preserving and restoring our maritime heritage.

#### Requirements:

Closed-toe shoes

Sufficiently mobile to walk around the Shipyard and to climb steep stairs onto *Kanangra*.

**Cost:** \$25 (Glebe Society members, \$35 non-Glebe Society members).

*Note: Cost covers contribution to Sydney Heritage Fleet which charges for its tours to "Keep the Fleet Afloat"*

## Upcoming Talks

### The colorful history of Glebe District Rugby League Club 1908-1929 - A Talk by Max Solling

A history of the origins of Rugby League in Glebe, the players, the influencers, the supporters and the rivals. The role of class, religion and politics.

Who better to talk about the Glebe Rugby League Club than Max Solling who literally wrote the book on Glebe's Dirty Reds? (An act of bastardry : Rugby League axes its first club: Glebe District Rugby League Football Club 1908 to 1929, Walla Walla Press, 2014).

### Sunday 28 June

2pm

Forest Lodge Hotel  
117 Arundel St, Forest Lodge NSW 2037, Australia

**Cost:** \$5.00 (Glebe Society members and non-members)

#### Buy Tickets

<https://events.humanitix.com/history-of-glebe-district-rugby-league-club-1908-1929>



Frank Burge, Glebe "Dirty Reds" (National Museum of Australia)

# Mystery Photo

by Wayne Carveth

## May 2026 Solution

There was one response to the mystery photo from the May Bulletin 3/2026. I took the photo in the mid-eighties. Virginia Simpson-Young provided a correct, detailed and educative answer:

*The billboard is on the embankment of the then-defunct goodsline railway bridge at Bridge Road, as it rounds the bend near Burton Street. The billboard is an advertisement for pantyhose made by DIM (a French manufacturer of 'legwear' – I found their website online). The billboard depicts a reclining blonde bronzed woman (it was the 80s), naked apart from a pair of DIM pantyhose. The text reads 'Feel French from the waist down'.*

*The graffiti says 'WEAR FLIPPERS'. My guess is that this is a reference to the bombing of Greenpeace's ship, Rainbow Warrior, in Auckland Harbour in 1985. The saboteurs were secret service frogpersons sent by the French government to do away with the irritant that was the Rainbow Warrior, which persistently interfered with French nuclear testing in the Pacific. The explosion killed one crew member. As those of us who were around at the time will recall, this dastardly act of bastardry had significant diplomatic ramifications.*

Virginia went in-depth with AI whose answer didn't recognise the cleverness of the two-word graffiti referring to the atrocity. The most relevant AI response was, 'Cultural Commentary: By adding "Wear Flippers," the artist was likely mocking the vanity and pretension of the "Feel French" promise, turning a sexualized fashion statement into a joke about going for a swim.' ●



Railway bridge billboard, Bridge Road (Image: Wayne Carveth)

## This month's mystery photo



### Where and what is this?

Please send your suggestions to [history@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:history@glebesociety.org.au) with 'Mystery Photo' in the subject line.

# This month's In Focus photo competition

by Mary Regan

*We received three very different shots this month, with positive comments from the judges for all three.*

Beryl Hesketh's 'Blackwattle Bay from the New Sydney Fish Markets, at dusk' is the first photograph we've featured viewing the Anzac Bridge from this perspective, and Beryl has nicely captured sunset through the umbrellas, those being a little reminiscent of the old fish markets.

Taken in Arundel Street, the title of 'Dancin' in the Street' by Virginia Simpson-Young references not just the 'hula-style' skirt on the tree but the intertwined branches positioned like a vigorous dancer, moving to a beat.

Brush turkeys are being seen increasingly around our streets, and Louisa Hammett's 'Friend or Foe' fence shot captures a stand-off moment between a turkey interloper, its feathers catching the sun, and a local cat, juxtaposed with a No Parking sign.

Beryl's Fish Market sunset shot has been chosen as this month's winner; congratulations Beryl! Thanks to all three photographers for your entries.

We are very keen to see entries from more people. The prize for the photograph judged the overall winner for the year is two free tickets for one of next year's Glebe Society Guided Walks or a Glebe Talks event. The winning photograph will be published in the first edition of the Bulletin next year.

Send your photos in at any time to [photo-comp@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:photo-comp@glebesociety.org.au). The closing date to be featured in next month's Bulletin is **Wednesday 17 June**. To make sure your entry has a chance to be featured, and especially to be chosen as a winner, make sure it is a high-resolution image, with all details as clear as possible. You can check out the rules on our website: <https://glebesociety.org.au/in-focus-photo-comp-rules/> •



*Blackwattle Bay from the New Sydney Fish Markets, at dusk - Beryl Hesketh*



*Dancin' in the Street' - Virginia Simpson-Young*



*Friend or Foe - Louisa Hammett*

## For your calendar

### May

**31** Sunday  
May **Art in the Park, Blackwattle Bay, under the fig trees, end of Glebe Point Road**  
10am - 4pm

### June

**16** Tuesday  
June **Players in the Pub, Invisible Circus, THE HAROLD 70A Ross Street Forest Lodge (upstairs)**  
7pm

**21** Sunday  
June **Guided Tour: Sydney Heritage Fleet Shipyard, Rozelle Bay**  
10am

**28** Sunday  
June **The Colorful History of Glebe District Rugby League Club 1908-1929**  
– A Talk by Max Solling 7pm

**30** Tuesday  
June **Glebe Eats, Lahore2Delhi, 131 Glebe Point Road**

### July

**24** Friday  
July **Special Glebe Music Festival Concert, Margareta Cottage, 6 Leichhardt Street**  
10am

**28** Tuesday  
July **Glebe Eats, Thai on Wok, 94 Glebe Point Road**

### August

**25** Tuesday  
August **Glebe Eats, Otto Noorba, 79 Glebe Point Road**

### November

**6 - 22** Friday Sunday **37th Annual Glebe Music Festival, various venues**

## Management Committee

See our website for details on how to contact the Management Committee, subcommittee convenors and other contacts.

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

## Membership

To join or renew, please

- ▶ complete the [Membership Form](#) on our website, or
- ▶ contact the Secretary on [secretary@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:secretary@glebesociety.org.au)
- ▶ choose Individual, Joint, Household, Concession or Corporate membership

The Glebe Society Inc, PO Box 100, Glebe NSW 2037

## GLEBE EATS

by Karen Ginn

To participatory events such as Walks and Talks the Glebe Society has added Glebe Eats to promote community and to support local restaurants.

The first 'Glebe Eats' event will be held on **Tuesday June 30** at **Lahore2Delhi**, 131 Glebe Point Road, Glebe, beginning at 6pm. There will be a set menu, designed to be shared, at a price of \$50 per head, to be paid in cash on the day. The menu will include vegetarian and non-vegetarian options and you can bring your own beer, wine and soft drinks. Soft drinks will also be available for purchase at the restaurant at additional cost.

Please RSVP to [glebeeats@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:glebeeats@glebesociety.org.au) by Sunday June 21 so the restaurant can be advised of the number of people who will be attending. As the maximum number that can be accommodated is 30 people, book early so you are not disappointed. Members and non-members are welcome.

Upcoming dinners have also been planned for the last Tuesday of each month – the next ones on **Tuesday 28 July** at **Thai on Wok**, 94 Glebe Point Road and **Tuesday 25 August** at **Otto Noorba**, 79 Glebe Point Road.



Book Glebe Society events through our [Eventbrite](#) page

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