the glebe society inc. Bulletin
COMMUNITY • ENVIRONMENT • HERITAGE

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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.

Christmas gathering invitation

By Judy Vergison, Events Coordinator

Butcher and the Farmer: Saturday 6 December, 4–6 pm

The Glebe Society's 2026 Christmas party is being held at the Butcher and the Farmer restaurant. The venue is in the Tramsheds, a historic building previously known as the Rozelle Depot which was built to accommodate the trams that served Sydney's western tram lines.

Our gathering will be in and around the beautifully restored Tram No. 1995. Please feel free to invite your family, friends and neighbours to come as well.

Your ticket includes a welcome drink (wine, beer or soft), a selection of tasty finger food and sweet treats to finish.

Bookings are essential and close a few days prior. To book please click on this link.

Need assistance to book? Please contact Judy on 0417 446 425.

A little bit about the Rozelle Depot and Tram No.1995

Now called the Tramsheds at Harold Park, the building underwent transformative adaptive reuse 10 years ago. It is described by the National Trust as being 'an authentic, highly considered heritage restoration project, salvaging and reinterpreting the iconic Tramway Depot to create a unique food destination'.

The historic R1 class tram No.1995 is on display at the entrance to the Tramsheds and was the very last tram to operate on the Sydney system when it finally closed on 25 February 1961. It was beautifully restored by Bendigo Heritage Rail Workshop in 2015.

More about Glebe trams on page 6.

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Increased housing density need not mean high rise hell

By Brian Fuller, Ryan Shelswell and Fiona Hollier

Better Planning Network rally on October 17 (Photos: Brian Fuller)

The NSW Government is making a series of significant planning reforms and zoning changes intended to increase housing density and thus the supply of housing. Communities around Sydney are supportive of increased housing density provided it is of appropriate urban scale and amenity and is accompanied by the necessary infrastructure. Proposals to rezone to allow increased density must follow 'better planning' principles.

As an example of the changes underway, the Paddington/ Woollahra/Edgecliff area is currently facing planning proposals that would allow for approximately 10,000 new homes to be built in 30 to 34 storey towers. Many other communities such as Concord, Drummoyne and Leichhardt are facing similar scenarios.

To our knowledge, there are no state government planned zoning changes on the horizon for Glebe as yet.

Nonetheless, our voice will be stronger if communities work collaboratively.

The Better Planning Network (BPN) is a statewide network working to achieve a robust planning system for NSW – one that protects our environment and heritage, community and public interest.

Doing Density Better is an alliance of community groups, an offshoot of BPN, focussing on the proposed zoning changes that would result in high rise developments being built in established communities without regard for urban scale, local character, public amenity or the infrastructure required by an increased population.

Members of the Glebe Society planning team attended and were pleased to support the Better Planning Network and Doing Density Better at a rally in Concord on October 17.

News from the Blue Wren Subcommittee

10th Annual Biodiversity Lecture

By Helen Randerson

Dr Holly Parsons, urban bird expert and Manager of Priority Sites at Birdlife Australia, brightened up a wet Sunday afternoon at Glebe Town Hall on 27 September by delivering the Glebe Society's annual Biodiversity Lecture to a record crowd of 67 people. This was a return visit to Glebe for Holly who gave the first Biodiversity Lecture in 2015. Holly's topic, The Birds Next Door: Making Cities Work for Wildlife, was wide-ranging and focused on different varieties of urban birds and other wildlife, their characteristics, habitat needs, conservation action and steps we can all take to make our cities more wildlife friendly.

The value of urban wildlife is much better recognised now than it was 30 years ago, and urban areas provide important refuges for wildlife from fires, floods and droughts. There is also high bird diversity in our cities, with 375 different bird species in Sydney. Our cities are also now where most people get their interactions with nature, an important contributor to human health.

Holly outlined the traits that are present in our most commonly seen urban birds, and which make them successful in cities. These include size (the larger the better), a flexible diet, level of confidence/aggression, their nesting options and the open space available. (Appearance can also be a bonus in how we humans value certain birds. Holly remarked that rainbow lorikeets are really lucky they look good!)

The importance of data collection, long-term monitoring, follow-up remedial action and testing are all vital for ensuring our cities continue to be bird-friendly into the future. For example, Holly mentioned how the Society's annual spring bird survey, which now has 10 years of data, has been invaluable in showing not just the different species seen locally, but the changes that are occurring such as increases in king parrots, brush turkeys, galahs and little corellas, along with declines in starlings, spotted doves, raptors and pelicans. We also now know that the constructed mangroves in our bays have been productive for water birds and also small birds such as blue wrens!

Holly stressed the importance of observations recorded by urban citizen scientists. Birdlife Australia's Powerful Owl Project has been training citizen scientists to conduct surveys to find Australia's biggest owls and to help secure a future for them. Holly discussed the project's key findings and stressed that one of the threats to the owls' survival comes from humans' use of rat poison. Also, in Melbourne, local citizens are playing an important role in the Superb City Wrens Project by monitoring their presence in critical urban green spaces. In the designated locations they record sightings and behaviour as well as absolute absences of the birds.

Dr Holly Parsons delivering her biodiversity lecture in Glebe Town Hall (Photo: Janice Sangster).

Holly's final tips were on improving bird habitat in our gardens, the need to conserve insects as much as birds, and to beware of the use of rat poison.

Further information on Birdlife Australia's projects can be found on their website.

We thank Chris Newton and the late Norma Hawkins for their financial support of the event.

Brush turkeys are doing well in Glebe and Forest Lodge.

Meeting with the City of Sydney Council about the future of Glebe's Hill

By Helen Randerson

On Tuesday 20 October, Duncan Leys (the President of the Society) and members of the Blue Wren Subcommittee (Judy Christie, Helen Randerson, Nick Sangster and Andrew Wood) met at Town Hall House with Maren Parry (Development Manager, Project Development and Delivery) and Karinne Taylor (Manager, Environmental Projects). Professor Dieter Hochuli, from the University of Sydney and leading author of *Glebe's Hill, unravelling its biodiversity secrets and potential*, sent his apologies but said that Glebe's Hill is 'an enormous opportunity for the City to work towards its environmental and biodiversity goals in an innovative way'.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the future of Glebe's Hill, a 0.6 ha site of contaminated Crown land, and advocate for its conservation and development as an urban biodiversity refuge rather than undertaking costly major remediation. Members will recall that from 1890 the Hill became Glebe's major rubbish tip and it is now significantly contaminated to a depth of up to 10 metres. In 2000, Coffey Geosciences reported that complete removal of The Hill would be prohibitively expensive; full remediation has been estimated by the City at approximately $20 million.

The City said that it does not plan to remediate the Hill. It will, however, now seek expert, up-to-date advice from further consultants, who will review the multiple previous contamination reports, provide results of further pollution-testing of the site, and make recommendations about the safety of future access, including during its management as a wildlife refuge. The City will be seeking quotations for preparation of the new report (at a cost of less than $0.25M), which should be provided by the end of this financial year.

In concluding, the Society said it seeks to work collaboratively with the City to secure a long-term future for Glebe's Hill as a protected urban wildlife refuge. Our proposed approach is to build on the site's existing vegetation and biodiversity potential, enhance habitat with appropriate native species, and manage contamination risks without undertaking prohibitively expensive major remediation.

Glebe's Hill in 1958 looking north from the Tramsheds, prior to any tree plantings (Source: Archives of the City of Sydney).

Players in the Pub

Box and Cox, and *Betsy Baker! or Too Attentive by Half*

1870 cartoon by John Tenniel from Punch magazine depicting British statesmen Disraeli (left) and Gladstone (right) as the characters Mr. Box and Mr. Cox

Two one-act comedies by John Maddison Morton, the master of English farce.

Directed by Elaine Hudson

7pm Tuesday 17 November

The Harold, 70A Ross Street, Forest Lodge

Entry by donation. Open for pub meals from 5.30 pm

Could you help with the cost of school holiday excursions?

By Chloe Groom, Centipede Management Committee Secretary

(Photos: supplied)

Earlier this year Centipede placed an appeal in the *Bulletin* asking Glebe Society members and friends to help sponsor vacation care excursions during the Autumn school holidays. We were thrilled that several generous donors came forward and over the Easter break, the children were able to visit Canoelands Orchard, Taronga Zoo and see the Gruffalo stage play at the Seymour Centre. Some of the funds were saved for the winter break when we were able to visit the Blue Mountains and go ice skating. These were amazing opportunities for our children to have stimulating experiences beyond Glebe in the school holidays. We wouldn't have been able to offer them without the support of some very generous community members.

I asked some of our Glebe Society donors what prompted them to donate.

One replied, 'Like many older Australians I have vivid memories of school activities outside class times. I especially remember school excursions so when I read in the Glebe Bulletin that our local primary school group, Centipede, was raising funds to fund youngsters to participate in these sorts of events, I was keen as mustard to support. I hope you will consider doing so too!'

Another, who sponsored the Taronga Zoo excursion, wrote, 'We are very happy to support Centipede and Glebe Public School in its vital role in supporting and inspiring the next generation. When our boys were little, we were fortunate enough to live near Taronga Zoo and visited at least once a week. We want all children in Glebe to be able to experience the same magic of getting up close with nature!'

Thank you, again, to all Glebe Society members who have supported Centipede over the years. Your generosity is much appreciated!

For those who are not familiar with our organisation, Centipede is an out-of-school hours service operating at Glebe Public School, providing essential before school, after school and vacation care to children in Glebe. We are a registered charity, managed by a committee of volunteers. Our services include breakfast, a hot meal in the afternoons, a food pantry and referrals to other services when required.

We are now fundraising for the long summer holiday period, when we would again like to be able to offer the children opportunities to leave their neighbourhood and have new experiences. It would be wonderful if any Glebe Society members would be willing to sponsor an individual child, or an entire group, to go on an excursion in the summer holidays. Total costs for excursions range from $1480 for the Harbour Bridge and Pancakes on the Rocks up to $3230 for Scenic World in Katoomba (budgeted for 40 children and 5 educators). A list of potential excursions and their estimated costs is on the Centipede website.

We are able to accept donations via bank transfer or PayPal. Please see the 'Make a donation' section of our website or email centipede.glebe@yahoo.com.au for more information. Donations to Centipede are tax-deductible.

From all at Centipede, thank you for your generosity and we wish everyone a happy, healthy rest of the year.

A Snapshot of Trams in Glebe

By Philip Vergison

In the October 2026 *Bulletin*, I wrote Rozelle Depot...a potted history about this significant building in the history of inner west public transport. Now called the Tramsheds, it is the venue for the Society's 2026 Christmas Gathering – a chance to enjoy history up close.

Trams ran for 76 years

The residents of Glebe enjoyed access to a street tramway service for almost 76 years. Starting in 1882, steam-hauled trams made their way along a single track along the length of Glebe Point Road from Broadway to a terminus at the intersection with Cook Street (avoiding the steep descent towards what is now known as Bicentennial Park).

Regular services started on 15 August 1882, at a frequency of 30 minutes, comprising a steam motor and two passenger cars, which was the load limit for the steam motor on account of the grade on Glebe Point Road.

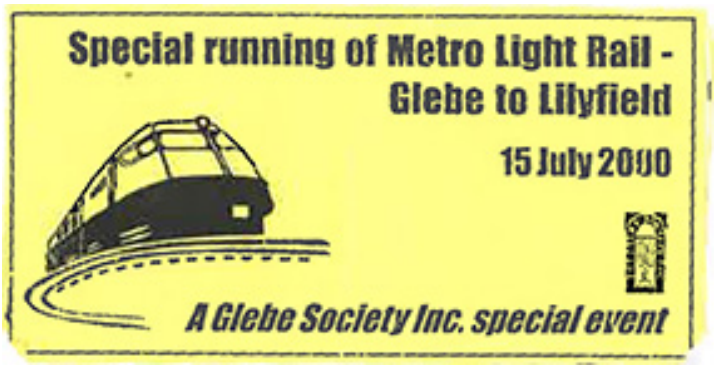
A second line branched off Parramatta Road onto Derwent Street, Catherine Street and Mount Vernon Street and St Johns Road, passing Glebe Town Hall, to a terminus in Ross Street just north of Bridge Road. The terminus in Ross Street was short lived, as the line was extended towards Leichhardt, Rozelle and eventually to Balmain and a terminus at Birchgrove.

The Glebe Point Road service became double track in 1896 allowing more frequent services in both directions. From December 1900, the Glebe Point Road line was the first western line to be converted from steam haulage to 600 volts DC overhead electrification; power was generated at the Ultimo Power House. By then, services were frequent, every 4 minutes during weekday peak hours.

Successive state governments of both persuasions, supported by local governments and motoring lobbies, resolved to close Sydney's once extensive street tramcar system over a period. This closure was encouraged by the unstoppable rise in the private car and growing opinion that trams were obstructive to traffic movement as well as noisy, slow and old-fashioned. The western lines that served Glebe and Forest Lodge and the Rozelle Depot were closed on 22 November 1958.

A remnant of Glebe's trams

The cessation of tramway operations involved the removal of the overhead infrastructure although the rail and supporting bed in Glebe were simply left in situ and tarred over. However, as part of later drainage improvements works near the intersection of Glebe Point Road and Bridge Road, the concrete roadbed was demolished and the south-bound rails (towards Broadway) were lifted. This work proved to be difficult and instead a section of the adjacent northbound rails was left in its original position, where today you can see a length of track remaining as an obvious clue to the history of trams in Glebe.



July 2000 special event ticket

Light Rail

A double track railway passing over Johnstons Creek was opened in 1922 as part of the Metropolitan Goods Line. This provided access for goods trains from elsewhere in New South Wales destined for the wharves at Darling Harbour that was easier than the original steep and single track (which still exists) below Sydney's Railway Square.

This goods line straddled the northern end of Bellevue Street, Glebe, supported by the first use of a reinforced concrete slab on the railways of New South Wales.

Anticipating the cessation of goods trains along this route and the planned opening of the Darling Harbour development as part of the 1988 Bicentenary, the reuse of this rail corridor became the subject of a proposal prepared by Dr John Gerofi on behalf of the Glebe Society in the *Better Public Transport in Sydney's Inner Western and South-Eastern Suburbs: Occasional Monogram No.3* in 1980. See *Bulletin* 10/1980.

This detailed proposal recommended that the abandoned right-of-way be converted to a 'modern tramway' using Light Rail Transport LRT vehicles powered by an overhead electric supply. The Light Rail service from Central to Wentworth Park commenced on 11 August 1997, was extended to Lilyfield on 13 August 2000 and finally to Dulwich Hill on 27 March 2014. This service is now known as the T1.

For more information see *Tramways and Railways of Glebe*, prepared for a special Glebe Society trip organised to celebrate opening of the light rail though Glebe. A total of 265 members and friends enjoyed the ride on 15 July 2000 to take the very first journey on the Inner Western Light Rail Extension, prior to its opening on 13 August 2000.

Jeanette Knox (1933–2026)

By Max Solling, Lyn Milton and others

Jeanette was the fourth President of the Glebe Society and its first woman President, from 1975 to 1977. This was, however, just one of many positions she held. Indeed, it was said that she was involved in ‘absolutely everything’ that the Glebe Society did.

Jeanette arrived in Sydney in 1969. In 1971, when she first joined the Glebe Society, she lived in 9/2 Charlton Way, Glebe. The following year she bought 26 Victoria Road.

Jeanette was born on 24 May 1933 in Bebington, near Liverpool in the UK, the only child of George and Gwendolyn Knox who migrated to Australia on the Stratheden in 1948. They settled in Melbourne where Jeanette completed her secondary education at MacRobertson Girls’ High School. The family subsequently moved to Queensland where her father had a pineapple farm. She was a student at the University of Queensland from 1952–55, graduating BA with honours in English and French. In 1967 she obtained a Master of Arts degree for her thesis on feminist author, Simone de Beauvoir. Jeanette became an Australian citizen in 1966 before returning to England for four years to work at the University of Leeds.

She returned to Sydney in about 1970 to work in the University of Sydney Library for six years, endeavouring, as she wrote, ‘to keep the fourteen branches of that institution in good running order’. Always self-effacing, Jeanette worked quietly and efficiently with a modest approach to leadership, and to community development. She was a voracious reader and an inveterate book buyer and was constantly running out of space in her house to shelve them.

Jeanette left a substantial and enduring legacy which resulted in the Glebe Society getting off to a flying start

After her father George died, her mother Gwen moved to Glebe to live with her daughter in 1972 and remained at the Victoria Road home until she died in 2001 aged 97 years. Gwen shared her daughter's energy, hosting the Glebe Society's Monday Group and, with Jeanette, hosting Coffee Mornings and Happy Hours as well as helping out with Dining Out in Glebe (a forerunner to Glebe Eats).

Jeanette herself noted that she seemed unable to say no when asked to be a committee member or office bearer in various organisations. This was borne out in the Glebe Society, and we benefited from this tendency.

Before becoming President, she was active as the secretary and then convenor of Social Activities from 1972–74; Treasurer of the Anti-Urban Radial Expressway Committee; and a regular performer at the Society's play-reading evenings.

She was a member of the Management Committee almost continually from 1975 to 2013, serving as President, Vice President, Secretary or Committee member, as well as Convenor of the Transport and Traffic Subcommittee 1984 to 2000.

Jeanette at a Glebe Society fundraising event for Centipede in 2019 (Photo: Phil Young)

She was organiser of Sunday lunches 1995–97, again convenor of Social Activities in 1980-81, and Social Events Contact 2004–06.

She was the prime mover of the History of the Glebe Society project from 2003 to 2014, and a lead author of *Celebrating Conservation and Change: 40 years of the Glebe Society* published in 2009.

Her love of birds was reflected in the protection of blue wrens and their habitat in Glebe, and she was a founding member of the Blue Wren Subcommittee.

In 1987 she was made a life member of the Society in recognition of her enormous contribution.

During the 50 years celebrations in 2019, she was part of a panel of founding women of the Glebe Society. As the panellists’ stories attested, Jeanette and founder Kate Smith both played highly significant roles and left enduring legacies which resulted in the Society getting off to a flying start. Jeanette was also a great friend of Edwina Doe, fondly remembered as editor of the Glebe Society *Bulletin* for many years.

From 1977 to the 1990s when she retired, Jeanette worked as Head Reader of Services at Macquarie University Library. In a distinguished career in academic librarianship, she was responsible for serving a large, diverse and demanding population of readers at Macquarie University. Through her work in the field of Freedom of Information legislation, Jeanette also made a significant contribution to advocacy for improved access to all types of information. And, true to form, she was President of the Macquarie University Club and Secretary of the Macquarie University Staff Association.

As Leonardo da Vinci reflected 'As a well spent day brings happy sleep, so a life well used brings a happy death'. Jeanette left us on 1 October 2026, aged 93 years. ●

The lasting influence of Nick O'Neill

By John Buckingham

Members of the Glebe Society who knew Nick would be aware that he died on 26 July 2026. Those members who didn't know Nick may remember the publicity for the launch of his book, *Foreshores for the People*, on 21 April by Bob Carr. So popular was the book that the first run sold out almost immediately, but I am assured it is again available at Gleebooks. Nick should now be basking in the attention his book received but, regretfully, he was given only three months to do so.

I digress now to alert readers that Nick was not a member of our Society, but he was a great friend of Glebe and the Glebe Society – as you'll appreciate when I provide some context. But first I'd like to commend the book to you. It began with Nick's idea to show what local community groups can and did achieve. He had a good background for this as, back in the late 1970s, he had begun the Foreshores Committee based in Balmain, but which included local groups like the Glebe Society and the Annandale Association. The common thread was that all members had industrial waterfront land in their areas that was vacant or occupied by inappropriate non-waterfront industries. In Glebe at the time there was just one sliver of public open space on the waterfront, a tiny triangle of land at the end of Glebe Point Road, the Pope Paul VI Park!

Nick had great knowledge of the Balmain issues but was less confident of the surrounding suburbs. And so began his painstaking research for the book, which led him to our archives (ah! our wonderful archives and archivist) where he made a remarkable discovery; records from the early 1980s often included his name. Sure, he was Deputy Mayor of Leichhardt Council[1] then, but his name was still being referenced in reports decades later. This was a reflection of how vital his role was to the creation, later in the 80s, of the wonderful Bicentennial and Blackwattle Bay Parks.

Now where do I place Nick O'Neill within the Glebe Society, of which he was *not* a member? It's difficult as so many members have contributed so much – including our founders (some still very much involved in the Society) and our more recent members who have joined, appreciated what the Society is about and have adopted roles on our committees, some serving for decades.

I will now move to the group where I'm placing Nick and where I feel comfortable using names. My list is incomplete, but let's call the group the 'pantheon of non-members'. They include:

Tom Uren – a senior minister in the Whitlam government who was responsible for the purchase of the Glebe Estate from the Anglican Church, thus preventing it falling into private developers' hands.

Jack Mundey – trade unionist and environmental activist who used 'green bans' that contributed towards stopping the planned expressway through Glebe, thus preserving heritage housing like *Lyndhurst* and playing a role in securing Blackwattle Bay Park.

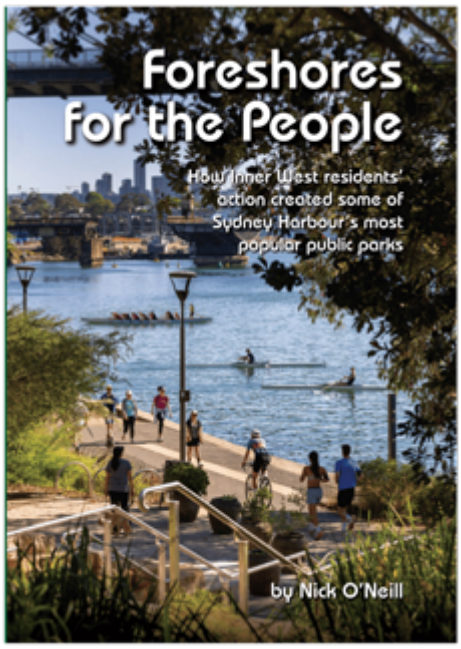
Jack Ferguson – who used his position as Deputy Premier and Minister for Ports in the Wran Government to ensure that waterfront land around Glebe/Annandale that was no longer needed for waterfront businesses did not fall into the hands of developers. He did this by allowing only short leases on land not being used for genuine waterfront industrial purposes and by handing empty waterfront land to Leichhardt Council for its 'care and control'.

Nick O'Neill (Photo: supplied by his family)

To our pantheon I believe we can reasonably add **Nick O'Neill** – who as Deputy Mayor of Leichhardt Council and as Convenor of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee 1980 to 1983, worked tirelessly with local community groups in the inner-west to help secure waterfront land that no longer had a waterfront industrial purpose.

Although Nick had no direct contact after 1983 with the creation of our two great parks, Glebe was a particular beneficiary of Nick's skills that remain manifest in our wonderful waterfront open space.

A longer version of this article is on the website.



front cover of Foreshores for the People book

[1] At the time, Glebe was within the Leichhardt Council area

Mystery Photo

By Wayne Carveth

October solution

Old Forest Lodge Hotel, c 1962

Today's Forest Lodge Hotel (Photo: Wayne Carveth)

There aren't many of us old enough to remember the old *Forest Lodge Hotel* at the corner of Arundel and Forest Streets. It was built in 1866, demolished in 1965 and replaced with the current *Forest Lodge Hotel* in 1966. Rodney Hammett recognised the building in the photo as a hotel and did a topographical search of Glebe and Forest Lodge and found it by the slope of the street. Two people also got it right on our Facebook page.

The old *Forest Lodge Hotel* was one of the meeting places (along with *May's Hotel* in Mount Vernon Street and the *Town Hall Hotel* in St Johns Road) of a group of young university intellectuals and libertarians known as the Sydney Push. The group included Clive James, Paddy McGuiness, Les Murray, Eva Cox and Germaine Greer.

There is information about the history of the Forest Lodge Hotel at the website Time Gents, and Max Solling's Glebe Pubs entry in the Dictionary of Sydney shows the floor plan of the old *Forest Lodge Hotel*.

This Month's Mystery Photo

Who are these men and what, when and where was the event?

Please send your suggestions to
history@glebesociety.org.au
with 'Mystery Photo' in the subject line.

In Focus photo competition

By Mary Regan

Glebe Arachne by Caroline Lipovsky

We had just one photo entry this month, but it is a worthy winner!

Caroline Lipovsky's 'Glebe Arachne' is a perfect capture of an almost perfect spider web. And with one of Glebe's wonderful turrets behind it, there is a slightly eerie feeling. Halloween is upon us and we are starting to see fake spider webs decorating front gardens, so it's a perfect choice for our photo of the month.

Congratulations to Caroline, who will go into the running for our Photo of the Year.

Share your photos

We are really keen to see and share your photos, particularly of interesting subjects. Please make sure your photos are very clear, high-resolution images. Sadly, we've not been able to accept some recent entries because they are just too blurry for publication. Before clicking the shutter or the smartphone button, take a moment to compose your photo, set your focus and take care to keep a steady hand. Take multiple shots, to have a better chance of capturing a good shot with clear details.

You can send your photos in at any time. Please email them, or any questions, to photo-comp@glebesociety.org.au. The closing date to be featured in the November Bulletin is **Friday 20 November**. You can check out the rules on our website: https://glebesociety.org.au/in-focus-photo-comp-rules/

The Last Lap at Wenty

More than 6000 people attended the final farewell to greyhound racing at Wentworth Park, Glebe, on 17 October 2026 after 94 years. The Glebe Society is looking forward to the community open space that will be created in its place. (Photo: Paul McMillan)

Glebe Art Show 2026

Character of Glebe Prize winner

The winner of the Character of Glebe Prize, sponsored by the Glebe Society, at this year's Glebe Art Show organised by the Glebe Art Society, was Peter Scrivener's *Temenos – Glebe Point Road.*

Peter says in his artist's statement 'In Ancient Greece, a Temenos was a physical space carved out from everyday life and dedicated entirely to the gods. It functioned as a zone of the divine where human laws were suspended in favour of the sacred. From this viewpoint, it is also a glimpse into the diverse layers of society and architecture from the nineteenth century to the present.'

According to a sign outside, the building on the right at the corner of Marlborough St is, or was, The Temenos Centre.

For more about this year's Glebe Art Show and the nine prize winners, see Glebe Art Show 2026.

Dragon Boat at Sunset, detail (Photo: Mary Regan)

New CEO begins a fresh chapter for Glebe Youth Service

By Glen Powell, Glebe Youth Service Management Committee

Glebe Youth Service has appointed Amanda Klinar as CEO as the community organisation marks 34 years of supporting young people and families in Glebe. A proud Kamilaroi woman, Amanda brings experience in executive leadership, case work, strategic partnerships and organisational development.

The new CEO's priorities include youth empowerment, culturally safe environments and community-led support. She also wants to expand the range of youth and family services available in Glebe and surrounding suburbs.

Since taking up the role, she has begun reviewing the service's structure and developing a strategy focused on long-term sustainability.

Glebe is a colourful community where the well-off and well-educated live side by side with people living with significant disadvantages. Glebe also has a significant Aboriginal community – larger than Redfern's but with far fewer services – and many young Aboriginal people use Glebe Youth Service.

We feel Amanda's leadership and community experience will strengthen and build on current relationships with young people and families of diverse backgrounds.

A place to connect

Known locally as the 'Youthie', Glebe Youth Service provides a safe place where young people and their families can spend time, learn and build connections.

Staff work with young people to identify goals, take practical steps towards them, learn about culture and strengthen community connections.

Programs include After Dark, Boyzone and Girlzone, as well as individual case work. Hundreds of young people have participated over the years, with some later returning as staff or volunteers. There are always requests for more evening opening hours, although funding availability limits what can be offered.

The organisation's roots date to 1984, when residents, churches and community groups secured funding and equipment for local holiday programs. The NSW Department of Housing allocated a property for a youth centre in 1989 and Glebe Youth Service was formally incorporated in 1992.

Funding remains uncertain

Currently, most funding comes from two sources: the NSW Department of Communities and Justice and the City of Sydney. This funding can be uncertain and at times funding bodies seem to forget that programs delivered elsewhere do not meet the needs of young people and families in Glebe.

Newly appointed CEO Amanda Klinar

How to help

Community support helps Glebe Youth Service maintain and expand its programs – and helps funders recognise the importance of these place-based services. If you have the capacity to support your local Youth Service, donations are tax deductible and can be made through givenow.com.au/glebeyouthservice.

Photos: supplied

Walks and Talks coming up

Glebe's Lost Industrial Waterfront – an illustrated talk by Max Solling

Sunday 15 November, 3 pm – 5 pm

Forest Lodge Hotel, 117 Arundel St, Forest Lodge

Cost $5

For more than 100 years industry dominated Glebe's waterfront although little now remains of these industries. What was it like?

Early photographs of Blackwattle and Rozelle Bay together with Glebe maps and aerial photographs reveal the nature of Glebe waterfront then. Transformation from industrial to residential waterfront began in the early 1970s which coincided with a sharp decline in manufacturing and, at the same time, the advent of container shipping which meant the need for a new port at Botany Bay and much industry shifting there and elsewhere.

Feel free to grab a drink at the *Forest Lodge Hotel* bar before the talk. Once we wrap up, please stay for a chat and a meal (at your own cost). The *Forest Lodge Hotel* is known for tasty, well-priced meals.

The Forest Lodge Hotel is on the corner of Arundel and Forest Streets, across the road from the Officeworks carpark entry.

Bookings through humanitix.com/glebe-waterfront

Howard Smith Limited Coal Depot 18 Jan 1924

What's on at the White Rabbit Gallery?

Wednesday 11 November 10.30 am – 12 pm

White Rabbit Gallery, 30 Balfour Street, Chippendale

Cost $20

Explore contemporary Chinese art across four floors of exciting installations followed by Chinese tea at the gallery's ground floor teahouse.

Focusing on contemporary Chinese art, the White Rabbit Gallery has become one of Sydney's most surprising cultural spaces. This exhibition explores how ancient Chinese myths continue to shape our modern lives. Among the exhibits are a paper tunnel, the *Ship of Time*, crafted from more than 5000 sheets of handmade paper and bamboo; the *Silk Camphor Tree*, branches covered in fine natural silk threads; the oil-on-canvas *Soaring Eagle*; and a cheeky *Drunk Monkey* painting. We will be met on each floor by a knowledgeable volunteer guide who will explain some of the key exhibits.

If you haven't visited the White Rabbit Gallery before, prepare for a wonderful experience of vibrant visual images at a small but world-class gallery, right on our doorstep, behind the Central Park building.

The gallery tour itself will take about an hour and a half and will conclude with delicious Chinese tea, perhaps chrysanthemum or oolong or peony, or a soft drink, in the ground floor teahouse. The tea is included in the price, but you might also choose to enjoy a dumpling lunch following this event. Note: the gallery has lift access to all levels.

Please note this tour is a **members-only event**

Bookings through White-Rabbit-Gallery.eventbrite.com.au

For your calendar

November

6 - 22 Friday Sunday — **37th Annual Glebe Music Festival,** www.glebemusicfestival.com

11 Wednesday November — **Glebe Walk: What's on at the White Rabbit Gallery** 10:30 am

15 Sunday November — **Glebe Talk: Glebe's Lost Industrial Waterfront,** *Forest Lodge Hotel* 3 pm

17 Sunday November — **Players in the Pub,** *The Harold, Wigram Road* 7 pm

20 Friday November — **Deadline for photo competition December *Bulletin***

24 Tuesday November — **Deadline for contributions to December *Bulletin***

28 Saturday November — **Glebe Christmas Fair,** *Glebe Point Road* 12 pm–8 pm

December

06 Sunday December — **Glebe Society Christmas Gathering** *The Butcher and Farmer, Tramsheds* 4 pm–6 pm

For more things happening locally, see What's On in Glebe and What's On in Forest Lodge

Book Glebe Society events through Eventbrite or Humanitix (as advised)

Membership

To join or renew, please

- complete the Membership Form on our website, or
- contact the Secretary on secretary@glebesociety.org.au
- choose Individual, Joint, Household, Concession or Corporate membership

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

Christmas Street Fair

Glebe Point Road
Saturday 28 November 2026, 12 noon to 8 pm

Soak up festive fun with outdoor dining, live music, performances, stalls, games, Santa's sleigh ride, family activities and Santa photos – all on a traffic-free Glebe Point Road between Parramatta and St Johns Roads.

For more details whatson.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/events/glebe-christmas-fair

Image: City of Sydney

How to contact the Glebe Society

Go to Contact Us on our website. See the main menu or bottom right of any page. https://glebesociety.org.au/contact-the-glebe-society/

For a list of Management Committee members and subcommittee convenors, see https://glebesociety.org.au/about/contacts/

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