

# THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

No. 6 of 1971

Box 100, P.O.  
Glebe 2037.

## COUNCIL ELECTIONS

### PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT:

The constitution of the Glebe Society states (Clause 2) that it shall not be associated with any political party. That does not mean that it is bound to support the present Glebe ward aldermen at the September 18 election. On their record we find we cannot. Although some important concessions have been won from the Leichhardt Council, these were only achieved by continuous and intense activity. We can point to nothing which they have done on their own initiative during the past three years that has made Glebe a better place to live in. The handling of our plan for Glebe is typical. Returned to Council over three months ago by the State Planning Authority, it has not yet been brought to the attention of Council nor has the Glebe Society been permitted to see the S.P.A.'s recommendations. Yet our aldermen in the first instance encouraged us to prepare the plan. We are tired of this kind of behaviour. We need better aldermen.

The Society therefore welcomes the formation of the Campaign for a Better Council - a newly formed body which will nominate candidates throughout the Leichhardt electorate for the September 18 election. It notes with pleasure that one of its members, Eric Sandblom will stand with David Young, the President of Glebe Community Aid, as the C.B.C. candidates for the Glebe ward. A survey of the voting pattern at the last election and the changes since then, indicate that they have a very good chance of winning both seats.

In any case the Glebe Society will continue after September 18, whoever our aldermen may be, to insist upon greater community participation in Council decisions.

Bernard Smith

## 'THE GLEBE'

Some members may have been confused by reports recently in "The Glebe". On July 7 it referred to the GLEBE MANIFESTO - a document written by Mr. Terry Metherell, one of the vice-presidents of the Society, which has been in circulation in recent weeks in manuscript among friends both in and outside the Glebe Society. A personal document, well worth publishing, it captures admirably the sense of anger and frustration which many have felt in recent years as they have witnessed the deterioration of Glebe at the hands of an apathetic Council. But the Manifesto has never been read to the Glebe Society nor submitted to it for its approval.

The idea of area committees ("The Glebe," July 14) which Terry Metherell develops at length in his Manifesto has been discussed by several members of the Society who wish to be active in support of the Campaign for a Better Council in the coming election campaign. But it has not been discussed by the Management Committee as a way of re-organising the Society. Such a change would probably require an alteration to the Constitution. Whilst there is certainly a case for decentralising on specific issues - and some of the Society's most successful campaigns, have been planned this way - I doubt whether a Society permanently structured on an area committee representative basis would continue to act efficiently over long periods. It assumes a degree of involvement which is present normally only in the presence of sharp, specific issues - such as an impending election.

One final point. Glebe Society policy is developed at its meetings and published in its own Bulletin - not in any other publications.

Bernard Smith



### A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Magnificent music in beautiful St. John's Church Glebe. This church was designed by Edmund Blacket and opened in 1870. It's handsome interior makes a perfect setting for our concert:

## MUSIC AT ST JOHN'S

The players, who will be led by Dr. Vincent Sheppard at the organ are:

Harpsichord	Robert Goode	Recorder	John Macrae
Flute	Peter Richardson	Violoncello	David Oldroyd

Works for solo organ and solo harpsichord. Sonatas for recorder and continuo, flute and continuo. Concerto for harpsichord and organ. Composers: Bach, Couperin, Daquin, Leclair and Quantz.

Saturday August 7th, 8.15 p.m.

Admission by donation.

## crisis at clevo!

Press reports that some secondary students will be taught only 4 days a week next year, instead of 5, are a clear indication of the education crisis in New South Wales.

At local schools, signs of the crisis are becoming more evident. For instance, at Cleveland St. Boys High School every class misses one period a week because of the teacher shortage, and some classes miss more.

Apparently desperate measures are being taken to meet the situation. According to one report, one of the school cleaners has been made a member of the staff so that he can mind classes when teachers are absent. Such desperate measures are a poor substitute for the teachers who should have been trained years ago when the present secondary pupils were still in primary school. The fact that sufficient secondary teachers were not trained for children already enrolled by the Department of Education shows only too plainly the Government's disregard for the needs of education.

Another result of the teacher shortage at Cleveland St. is the increase in class sizes, which also means lower educational standards because obviously the larger the class, the less attention the teacher is able to give to individual pupils. Every parent with a child at secondary school knows how much individual help children need in order to understand the many new and unfamiliar aspects of mathematics, foreign languages, science and all the rest of the secondary curriculum.

A special cause of complaint at Cleveland Street is the 90c fee which every boy has to pay for sport buses which for most boys, never materialise. Apparently, buses are available for boys playing grade sport, but the rest have to make their own way at their own expense to the various sporting fields used by the school.

These are only a few of the unsatisfactory features of education at a city high school. Parents who are concerned that their children's education is suffering, should write or interview their local member of Parliament, and ask him to raise these matters in Parliament, and demand that the Government make funds available to provide the teachers, buildings and equipment needed to educate children adequately for the age in which we live.

## COUNCIL ROUNDS

I must withdraw my comments of last month concerning the good job Council had been doing in rejecting Development Applications. At their last Council Meeting in June they let their heads go and approved some large developments for Glebe. Council have re-considered a proposed flat building for 211 Wigram Rd., officially called Lot H. This is to be a 5 storey building of 40 units and will take in part of Wigram Lane West (which they will purchase from the Council). However, in return they will provide a right-of-way and landscape the area. In an answer to Council's previous complaint concerning lack of recreation space they stated this was not necessary as they were not building for families (although 10 units will be 2 bedrooms) and that Glebe was well served with parks instancing Harold Park and Wentworth Park.

The second development to be approved was the Hostel proposed for the site of the Presbyterian Church and the Manse. This is to be of 4 storeys with 215 bedrooms. The building will cover 54% of the site with the car parking under cover.

## MISCELLANY

The Action Committee of the Society is planning a public meeting to discuss the whole question of expressways through Glebe. At the moment it is negotiating with the Department of Main Roads for a spokesman to put its case. It is hoped to hold the meeting towards the end of August or early in September.

Congratulations to our Melbourne twin Carlton which is now partly protected by a preservation zoning.

Few seemed to notice the removal of all the trees from the south western side of Avona Avenue. We hope that more care.

Since 1965 the New South Wales Government has bought 19 blocks of land on Sydney's waterfront for public reserves. Sixteen blocks are on the north side of the Harbour, one at Vaucluse and one at Darling Point. More riches to the suburbs which benefit most from the new Warringah Expressway and Eastern Suburbs Railway.

If you are quietly breathing a sigh of relief and think yourself lucky you don't live in the far flung suburbs with the huge fare increases, remember that more private cars are demanding easier access to the city and realise who will have to clear a path for them. The real savings from public transport systems are many times the revenue from fares. Public Transport does pay.

The Constitution published in this issue explains how to nominate for a position on the Society's management. If you can spare a few evenings a month and have definite ideas about Glebe's future, this maybe your chance.

It's membership renewal time again for the majority of members. Please make every effort to renew your subscription early.

Dr. John Power, in a recent article in the magazine "Quadrant", stated: "If my prognosis is correct, and the civic groups do continue to spread, it is possible that their combined membership will soon exceed those of the major political parties in the metropolitan regions. (It is likely that the dozen such groups in Sydney already have a membership in excess of that of the A.L.P. in the same area.)"

The only good thing to come out of the recent astronomical fare rises was the revelation that railways pay enormous interest on funds used for maintaining and extending there services. Expressways are built with interest free money. Transport Minister Morris bewails this situation, but does NOTHING!

At the same Council Meeting an application by the Glebe Picture Theatre for Sunday showings and a coffee bar in the Foyer was (believe it or not) rejected.

At the Council Meeting of 6th July, Council considered a proposal by Parkes Development for a bulk store and distribution terminal for light and road borne cargo at 461-465 Glebe Point Rd. This will probably be approved, so it looks like Glebe Point is in for a bad time.

When I went to Leichhardt Council Chambers to read over the minutes of the last meeting, I was told by a Council employee to make an appointment with the Town Clerk to view them. I pointed out that it was the minutes of a public meeting and should be freely available to the residents, the employee replied that they were private papers. It seems that even the employees of the Council look on the residents as intruders.

# THE GLEBE SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

1. The name of the organisation shall be THE GLEBE SOCIETY (hereinafter called "the Society").
2. The Society shall not be associated with any political party.
3. AREA. "Glebe" shall be taken to embrace the area bounded by Wattle Street, the Harbour, Johnston's Creek and Parramatta Road.
4. The broad objects of the Society are: to promote the general well-being of the citizens of the Glebe area; to preserve the natural assets of the area; to stimulate interest in the history and character of the area; to encourage town planning and good architecture; and to protect the residents from anything detrimental to the enjoyment of their dwellings. To achieve these objectives the Society shall, among other things, make representations to or consult with persons and other bodies.
5. MEMBERSHIP. Any person who endorses the objectives of the Society shall be eligible for membership on the payment of an annual membership fee which shall be determined from time to time provided that the management committee (see below) has the right to establish a lesser fee and provided that the management committee reserves the right to refuse or cancel membership subject to confirmation by a majority of members present at a general meeting convened to consider such expulsion, such meeting to be held within one month of the date of the expulsion. (Fees shall fall due on June 30 each year and a person shall cease to be a member if his fee remains unpaid for more than eight weeks from June 30, unless the management committee decides otherwise. The subscription for students to be 50 cents).
6. The administration of the Society shall be vested in a management committee. All members shall work in honorary capacities and will be reimbursed only for out-of-pocket expenses as approved by the management committee.
7. The management committee shall consist of the President, a senior Vice-president, a junior Vice-president, a Secretary, a Treasurer and four other members provided that all convenors of sub-committees are members ex-officio of the management committee.
8. The management committee shall have the power to appoint convenors of sub-committees of the Society.
9. An annual general meeting shall be held every calendar year within eight weeks of the end of the financial year on June 30 with the exception of the first annual general meeting. At the annual general meeting the annual report and balance sheet shall be presented and officers, committee and auditor shall be elected. Each annual general meeting shall elect the management committee for the following year. Vacancies on the management committee shall be filled by the management committee as it may decide between annual general meetings. A vacancy on the management committee shall be deemed to have occurred if a member; resigns from the committee by notice in writing to the president; or fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the management committee of which due notice has been given him unless he has been excused by the management committee; or if he is removed from office at a special general meeting.
10. Any two members of the Society may nominate another member for election to the management committee. Such nominations shall be signed by the two proposers and shall bear the written consent of the nominated member and shall be posted or delivered to reach the Secretary at least fourteen days before the annual general meeting except in the case of the first annual general meeting for which nominations will be accepted up till the time of election. The nomination shall include the address and occupation of the member. Notice shall be sent to each member before the annual general meeting of the names of the members correctly nominated. If insufficient nominations are received those nominations shall be declared elected and nominations for the vacant positions shall be called for at the annual general meeting.
11. METHOD OF ELECTION. Each member at an annual general meeting shall be entitled to record his votes by marking crosses in squares opposite the names on the ballot papers of the members he desires to be elected. There shall be one ballot paper for the election of President and one for the Senior Vice President, Junior Vice President Secretary and Treasurer and one for the other four members of the Committee if there shall be more than one nomination for each of the office bearers and more than four nominations for the members of the Committee.
12. The President shall not be eligible for re-election for more than two terms.
13. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. The management committee shall have the power to appoint such sub-committees as it deems desirable.
14. QUORUM. At a general meeting (including annual general meetings) a quorum shall be twenty (20) members or twenty percent of the current membership, whichever is the lower figure. At a management committee a quorum shall be five.
15. Notice of the annual general meeting and a special general meeting shall be given by letter at least twenty-eight (28) days before such meetings except the first annual general meeting. A general meeting shall be called at the instigation of the President and Secretary. A special general meeting shall be called by the Secretary on the receipt of a written request signed by twelve (12) or more members within a period of one month from the date of receipt of such request which shall set out clearly the purpose for which the special general meeting shall be called.  
  
The Secretary shall inform all members of the purpose of the special general meeting. The special general meeting shall be confined to the business it was called for and its decisions must be carried by a seventy-five per cent majority of those present.
16. Notice of motion shall be given to the Secretary fourteen (14) days before a general meeting provided that the chairman may accept at his discretion motions from the floor.

17. The funds of the Society shall be banked in name of the Society and any two of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be authorised to operate thereon by the management committee.
18. Accounts shall be presented and passed at management committee meetings and such approvals recorded in the minute book and the management committee shall meet not less than every three months.
19. The Society shall be dissolved on the vote of a seventy-five (75) percent majority of members present at a special general meeting called for the purpose. The Society shall be dissolved if membership falls below (12) members.
20. The constitution may be changed at an annual general meeting or special general meeting. Notice of motion must be forwarded to the Secretary at least twenty-eight (28) days before the required date and circulated to all members.

## Proposed Amendments

Moved by Albert Renshaw that Clause 5 be amended to read:- (Seconded by Peter Pockley)

5. MEMBERSHIP. Any person who endorses the objectives of the Society shall be eligible for membership on the payment of an annual membership fee which shall be determined from time to time provided that the management committee (see below) has the right to establish a lesser fee and provided that the management committee reserves the right to refuse or cancel membership subject to confirmation by a majority of members present at a general meeting convened to consider such expulsion. There shall be six classes of member:
  1. Ordinary (all individuals not falling into any of the other categories)
  2. Family (covering husband and wife and all children. Husband and wife are entitled to one vote each at meetings, and to one copy of each bulletin of the society);
  3. Student (defined as a person pursuing a full-time course of study at a recognised educational institution and not yet twenty-five years of age);
  4. Pensioner;
  5. Institutional (a retail or wholesale establishment, school, college, club, or other establishment approved by the Committee. An institution may nominate up to five voting members, for each of which a fee shall be paid);
  6. Life (ordinary or family membership may be converted to ordinary life or family life membership upon a fee equal to twenty times the annual fee for the particular category of membership in the year in which life membership is applied for).

Membership fees for the period to June 30th of the following year shall be set at the Annual General Meeting each year by the outgoing Committee of Management, with the concurrence of the meeting. The annual membership fee shall become due each year on the anniversary of membership of each member. A member of the Society shall cease to be such if fees are not paid within twelve weeks of their becoming due.

Moved by Peter Pockley: "That in Clause 7 the words 'the immediate past President and' be inserted after the words 'provided that'." Seconded by Terry Metherell. The Clause would then read:

7. The management committee shall consist of the President, a senior Vice-President, a junior Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and four other members provided that the immediate past President and all convenors of sub-committees are members ex-officio of the management committee.

Moved by Eric Sandblom: "That in Clause 12 the word 'consecutive' be inserted between the words 'two' and 'terms'. Seconded by Maureen Colman. Clause 12 would then read:

12. The President shall not be eligible for re-election for more than two consecutive terms.

## NOMINATIONS

Nominations for positions on the management committee must comply with Clause 10 of the Constitution.

This means they must be signed by the nominated person (with occupation and address) and two proposers, and must reach the Secretary by August 4th.

Only positions for which no nominations have been received in advance will be open to nominations from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.

## FOR YOUR DIARY

History sub-committee: A talk will be given by Max Solling at Margaret McArthur's, 36 Ferry Rd., at 8 p.m. on Sunday 25th July on "Pre-Victorian Glebe 1790-1841 - a semi-rural retreat for the well-to-do".

Music at St. John's - Saturday, 7th August at 8.00

Annual General Meeting at the Main Hall of the Glebe Town Hall on Wednesday, 18th August at 8 p.m.

Saturday, 4th September. The first of a regular series of coffee mornings will be held at the Potters', 8 Gottenham Street, from 10.30 till 12.30. This will be a chance to meet other members informally. Charge for coffee and biscuits 20c. Other coffee mornings will be held on the first Saturday of each month.

Remember any member is welcome to come along to these meetings and functions. You may gain new insights into the area you live in.

## MEMBERSHIP

This month we welcome the following new members:

Mr. Damien Parkes  
 Mrs. S. Morton  
 Mr. & Mrs. R.B. Larcombe  
 Mr. & Mrs. E.D. Howard IV  
 Mrs. C.E. Morris  
 Mr. & Mrs. R. Greentree  
 Mr. John Martin  
 Warren Hicks  
 Thomas F. D'Arcy-Burke