

PLANNING IN LEICHHARDT MUNICIPALITY

This is the first of a series of Bulletin articles designed to inform members more fully of what Leichhardt Council is doing about planning matters and of how The Glebe Society is contributing to the whole process.

COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE

This is an advisory body chaired by the Mayor. Members include Aldermen (the two Glebe Ward Aldermen are almost always present), Leichhardt Town Planner, the Planning Co-ordinator, representatives of various local societies (The Glebe Society is represented by the president and the planning forum convener), representatives of outside organisations such as The University of Sydney, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, and other citizens.

Very frequently guest speakers are heard and films and slides are shown. As an instance of the breath of the work one of the current issues under discussion concerns the appointment of a Community Social Worker.

Otherwise the main function of the Committee is to advise Council in planning matters generally and to oversee the present revision of the Leichhardt town plan. All decisions are made by Council and the Planning Committee only offers advice and makes recommendations.

People living in Leichhardt Municipality are currently in a very favourable position to state their opinions, for they may attend any Council meetings or any Committee meetings (including planning meetings) at any time and be heard. As well as this a series of public meetings is now being arranged in various precincts of the

Municipality and members are very strongly urged to attend these AND SAY WHAT THEY THINK about what they want in their own local area.

By these means Leichhardt Council has embarked on a modern planning experiment which is without precedent in this State. It is an experiment which is now attracting notice in professional circles such as the State Planning Authority and in other Councils as well as in the media generally (c/f the S.M.H. article on 10/2/73). It is strongly to be hoped that the process will be a continuing one - for planning is a continuing process. It is thus very firmly up to the people of Leichhardt Municipality to participate as fully as they can so that Aldermen of any political persuasion will be forced, in the future, to continue this admirable exercise.

Further articles will consider the design and impact of the present interim code, the scope offered by the present drawing up of the "Problems and Opportunities" maps and the overall draft objectives adopted for guiding the development of Leichhardt Municipality.

A.C.S.

Tennis Anyone?

Everyone interested in playing tennis informally is invited to join a group who play at Camperdown Park courts - it is hoped to have enough people to be able to play most Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in having a game ring Max Solling: 660 1160 for further details.

THE GLEBE SOCIETY, P.O. Box 100, Glebe, 2037.

Phone 660 3529 or 660 6149

Annual Subscriptions: Ordinary \$2; Family \$3; Student 50¢; Pensioner 50¢

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: A RED CIRCLE HERE MEANS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS NOW DUE.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I wish to (commence membership of the Glebe Society.
(renew

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

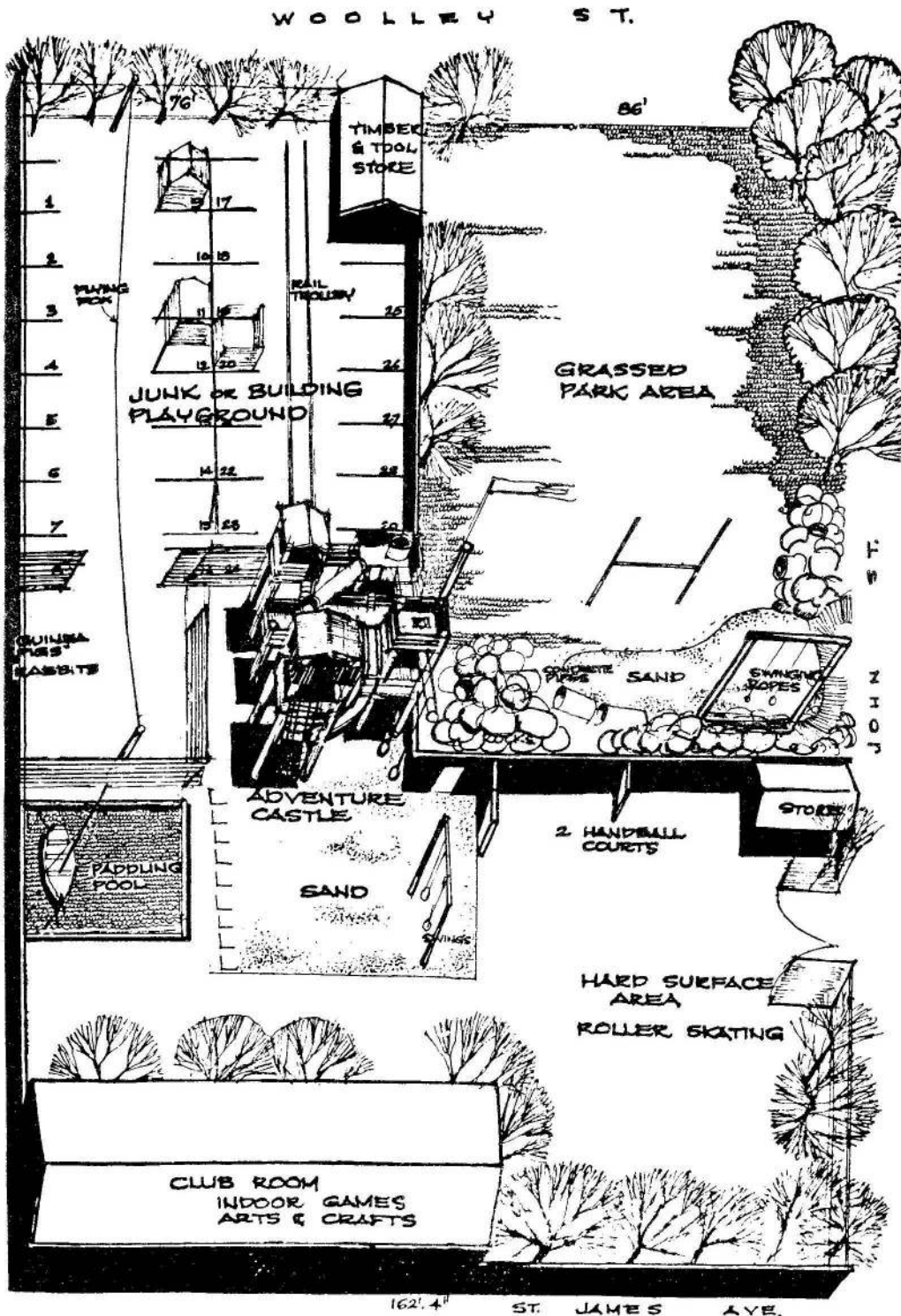
I enclose cheque/postal note/cash for.....for my annual subscription as an ordinary/family/student/pensioner member.

ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

A new Adventure Playground has been designed, and is on the way to being established, for the children of Glebe. It is to be found in Woolley Street, opposite St. James Church, on land loaned by the Salesian Fathers of the Roman Catholic Church. Enthusiastic encouragement for the venture has also been given by the Mother Superior and Sisters of St. James' School who have also offered help in supervision. The designer's

impression of how the finished playground will look is reproduced below.

The concept consists, in the main, of two areas: the Junk Playground and Building Area, and the Park Area. The former will be an adult-supervised area, only open at specified times; the latter will be open at all times.



A meeting of the Glebe Residents' Programme Social Welfare Committee held on 1st March got activities under way. Various members present were assigned responsibility for forming sub-groups of people in the community who wish to take an active part in this project. Work takes place on the site every Saturday - for more specific information about the plans and activities of the Working Party and about the huge range of kinds of help needed) please contact Shirley Page, 5 Jarocin Ave., (660 7041) or Ald. David Young, 9 Avona Ave., (660 5606). The next meeting is on the 14th March.

From time to time the Working Party will approach the members of the Glebe Community in the shopping centres on Saturday mornings, through 'doorknocks' and by other means. They will be seeking both donations and volunteer helpers from the community to enable them to make this Playground a reality.

One of the responsibilities of a community is to provide a secure social environment for its children, and, in the long term, "the memory of a good home". When your co-operation is sought, ask yourself "What shall I give the children?"

D. Perkins

(For the Working Party
for the Adventure Playground)

FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 11th March: PICNIC CRICKET MATCH between the Glebe Society and Balmain Association at Birchgrove Oval, starting at 10.30 a.m. - see separate note elsewhere in this issue.

Sunday, 11th March: ANTI-EXPRESSWAY MEETING organised by Leichhardt Council at Leichhardt Town Hall at 7.30 p.m. It is important that this ever-vital area of concern not be allowed to lapse just because most of us have been involved for a long time. Special speakers include Dr. Stephen Hill of Glebe (on social aspects) and Professor Blunden of N.S.W. University on traffic aspects.

Monday, 12th March: Next meeting of the SOCIAL ACTIVITIES GROUP to be held at Julie McConnochie's, 48 Boyce St. at 8 p.m. - new faces and ideas welcome.

Wednesday, 14th March: Next meeting of the WORKING PARTY FOR ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND (See pages 2 and 3) at Glebe Town Hall at 8 p.m. - ideas and volunteers needed.

Sunday, 18th March: First gathering of the newly formed WEEKEND GARDENING GROUP at 10.30 a.m. in Maureen Colman's garden, 48 Boyce Street - see separate note elsewhere in this issue.

Wednesday, 21st March: the PLANNING FORUM invites everyone to DRINKS AND DISCUSSION at Peru Perumal's, 12 Lodge Street, at 8 p.m. on whether we should seek to have Glebe (or some, or all, or none of it) rezoned "2G" - see separate article elsewhere in this issue. If planning has any importance for you, you will be there.

Saturday, 31st March: HUNTER VALLEY COACH TRIP and inspection of Wyndham Estate Winery. The coach leaves from outside the Toxteth Hotel at 8 a.m. Cost is \$5.00 each - or for an extra dollar lunch is provided (this consists of rump steak and coleslaw plus 4 carafes of wine between each 10 people). The bus holds only 40 people, so the first to hand their money to Agnes Dolle (57 Arcadia Road, 660 4446) or Olga McIntyre (28 Ferry Road, 660 2164) by Sunday 11th March, will be the lucky ones.

Saturday, 7th April: COFFEE MORNING at the Brickhill's, 18 Eglinton Road, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm - 20¢ for refreshments and the chance to harangue any other member of the Society about anything you like.

Saturday, 7th April: our Fourth Annual FLOWER SHOW, from 2 to 5 p.m. at Glebe Public School - see comment elsewhere in this issue - the schedule was enclosed with last issue, but entries close only on the morning of 7th, so ring Marie Webb (660 6483) if you missed out.

Monday, 9th April: CIVIC DESIGN SOCIETY MEETING will be an illustrated talk by Lindsay Robertson, Landscape Architect to the State Planning Authority, 8 p.m. at University of N.S.W. - for more details ring Tony Strachan (519 3393, work or 660 3374, home).

Wednesday, 18th April: have DINNER WITH THE GLEBE SOCIETY at the Aurora Restaurant (corner of Junction St. and Pyrmont Bridge Road) - \$2 per head, excluding drinks but including coffee - from 7 p.m. - seating is for 50 people, i.e. the first 50 to give their names to Alan Robertson (660 6149).

Wednesday, 2nd May: ORGAN RECITAL at St. John's Church - programme kindly arranged by Dr. Vincent Sheppard - more details next issue.

It is Cricket

As you will note under 'For Your Diary', civic action takes a new turn with a cricket match between the Glebe Society and the Balmain Association next Sunday. We should like some more 12th men who know a bat from a ball (ring the Captain, Ross Tzannes on 660 6485, or Vernon Winley on 660 3529), and everyone else is expected to barrack and have a picnic lunch at Birchgrove Oval.

Flower Show

Next month is our 4th Annual Flower Show (see 'For your Diary' for details). Those who have been involved in previous years will know that the Flower Show is the event which involves more non-members than any other activity of the Society. In particular it has been a focus for the quite remarkable enthusiasm for gardening aroused among the pupils of the Glebe Public School by teachers like Mrs. Eve Buscombe. If you doubt the range of flowers that are grown in Glebe, or the lengths of ingenuity to which both the kids and the adults can go in the arrangement sections, come along during the afternoon and have a look (devonshire teas on sale inside). But have a glance at the schedule during the morning - there is a section even you can enter.

WEEKEND GARDENING GROUP

Most of us who live in Glebe have a garden of some sort - even if it is only a few tubs of plants or a small enclosed courtyard. No doubt we've all experienced problems with weeds, finding suitable plants, pest control, etc., and are wondering if others have these problems or have found a solution. Even establishing and maintaining a garden can pose difficulties in selecting paving, fencing, etc., and coping with drainage, rubbish disposal and different types of soil.

With these things in mind it was suggested that an informal gardening group be formed to meet on weekends and discuss topics of mutual interest. By visiting each other's gardens individual problems and solutions can be highlighted and we can work together in sharing ideas and experiences. Other activities could include visits to nurseries, exchanges with other amateur garden groups and, of course, swapping plants among members.

If you would like to join in, why not come along to Maureen Colman's garden, 48 Boyce Street, Glebe on Sunday 18th March at 10.30 a.m. Bring along your ideas, problems, questions and of course pencil and paper.

For further information, contact the group's convenor, Andrea Robertson, "Eltham", Leichhardt Avenue, or phone 660 6149.

2G OR NOT 2G

2G zoning under the N.S.W. Local Government Act implies an "historic" or "conservation" zone where it is desired, as far as possible, to preserve existing buildings.

New Building is not prohibited, but it is subject to a height limit (usually of two stories) and must be in scale with the old building. Drastic and badly designed alterations to old buildings would probably not be permitted. The Glebe Society would like to begin sounding its members as to their opinions on 2G zoning for all or part of the Glebe.

You are invited to an informal social evening (wine and cheese) at our Presidents home, 12 Lodge Street on 21st March (see For Your Diary) where you may be asked to fill in a form giving some of your opinions.

We hope also that a lot of informal discussion on this important point can take place. YOUR HELP AND ADVICE IS NEEDED, FOR SHORTLY WE SHALL HAVE TO DECIDE HOW TO PUT OUR CASE TO LEICHHARDT COUNCIL. DO COME.

MISCELLANY

Rumour hath it that a new trend in street tree planting is to start soon in Arcadia Road - initiative from its residents and vital support from Council's Tree Planting and Preservation Committee - we are looking forward to seeing *hymenoporum* - full details when its all completed.

The article on page 1 mentions the meetings now being held in each precinct of Glebe (and the other wards of Leichhardt) by the Council to hear what any of the local residents think about the problems and opportunities of their area. Many Society members participated in the Planning Forum's preparation of the maps and submissions to Council's Planning Committee which helped lay the basis for these meetings. But from the attendance of members at the first of these meetings (for Toxteth precinct) it would seem most of them must be pretty complacent about this vital issue.

A Glebe builder is onto a good racket. He offers to "modernise" balconies on terrace houses in exchange for the wrought-iron "lacework". His modernisation consists of two 6 inch floorboards nailed into position. Not a bad exchange for iron which is worth about \$100.

Do trucking companies have a certain immunity against the law? A huge container truck insists on parking nearly every evening in St. Johns Rd. under a '2 Ton Limit sign'.

On Monday 5th February, four members of the Glebe Society management were invited by Ecology Action to share a group discussion session on attitudes towards expressways at W.D.Scott & Co., research consultants of North Sydney. We were not specifically invited by Scotts (it is interesting to note that not one of the groups within the Municipality, involved in expressway opposition, was informed of this study) and were identified to the study as members of Ecology Action. The research consultants' client was not named but is assumed to be an organisation conducting a Transportation Study in the Sydney Area.

The study commenced and finished with word association tests and the division of separate pieces of paper (with words such as "Expressway", "Tramway", etc. written on them) into two piles

We talked around a table holding a tape recorder expressing opinions about and attitudes towards urban expressways. Opinions ranged from expressions of delight at the joys of the Los Angeles road system to the direst warning of impending doom. However, we managed to present a good case against expressways and enjoy a convivial glass on the homeward journey.
