

A FREEWAY IS STILL AN EXPRESSWAY

We have an ironical situation with the North-Western Expressway. While this proposal has been the root of our activities throughout the Municipality, our whole approach to the Expressway question has been to argue against the whole radial design of all the expressways and their effect on the future of all Sydney. The effort has borne some fruit in that our arguments have spread and gained support from many quarters.

It is now likely that the whole system will be reviewed and more enlightened solutions to transportation problems will be implemented. However, The North-Western still threatens. Sir Charles Cutler has recently stated that the protesters have left their protest too late (he probably couldn't hear them from his country electorate) and off the record comments from other sources have informed us that too many of the contracts for construction have already been let.

The general feeling is that it has already gone too far to be stopped. This is tied in with the belief that the North-Western Expressway is a continuation of the almost completed Western Distributor. Except for motorists who desire travel from the Northern suburbs, over the Harbour Bridge, through Leichhardt Municipality and back to the Northern suburbs (its final destination), the connection would be little used.

The main purpose of the North-Western Expressway is to free Darling Harbour, Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays of bridges so, in the words of the Sydney Strategic Plan, "that Sydney remain Australia's greatest city, commercial centre and port". Our sacrifice would not be

for traffic but for port facilities (see also the Maritime Service Board's "Port Redevelopment Plan for Sydney -1966-").

This Municipality has made enough sacrifice to traffic, trucking and shipping (all we need now is an airport). If the State Government wants to get rid of residential uses and cement in all the waterfront of this municipality it should at least say so instead of subjecting us to the tortures which are slowly being forced upon us.

Mr Tom Uren, the Federal Minister for Urban and Regional Development, has made various public statements recently about the uselessness of radial urban expressways. The Society has sent him several letters and telegrams since his election, seeking a statement of his intended action on the North-Western Expressway. We are still awaiting his reply.

The North-Western, which plugs into the heart of the city at the side steps of the Sydney Town Hall in Drutt Street, is one of the least justifiable of all the radial expressways.

We have placed our hopes in many high temples, but the only positive action so far has come from Mr Jack Munday and his "green" bans.

Albert Mispel

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the following new members:

Bruce and Sue Wilson, Lindsay and Jeannie Foyle, Frank Hofman, Graeme Kerridge, Margaret Jeram, John Georgiadis, Jim and Margaret Coombs, Ian and Kathy Pickles, Leon Prollins.

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/renew) membership of the Glebe Society.

NAME:.....

PHONE:.....

ADDRESS:.....

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

PLANNING IN LEICHHARDT MUNICIPALITY

This is the second of a series of Bulletin articles dealing with the present planning process in the Municipality.

EFFECT OF THE INTERIM CODE.

Under the previous Council the old building code had resulted in the construction of many buildings, particularly flats and lodging houses, which was rapidly threatening to change the whole character of the Municipality.

Most of these buildings had been allowed with little or no regard to their effect on neighbouring properties in the matter of scale and design. As well, scant consideration was given to other town planning principles such as appropriate site densities having some relations to any overall plans for an area or areas.

We are still seeing the consequences of these irresponsible development approvals as several last minute approvals by the old Council have only recently begun construction. Unfortunately the practical effect of a development approval is that the developer usually has up to two years to begin actual construction. Approvals, once given, cannot be revoked.

With the election of the new Council in October 1971, a freeze was placed on all new development. However, in January 1972, Council adopted "interim codes for the siting, design and erection of residential buildings within the Municipality of Leichhardt".

Council stated that it was its intention "that the existing scale and character of the Municipality be maintained, until such time as comprehensive development control policies have been adopted, which will encourage a wide range of building types and intensities of development in appropriate areas within the Municipality by means of population density control, which are compatible with land form and with existing buildings".

The basic objects of these codes are as follows:

- (a) To preserve and, where possible, improve the existing amenity of the Municipality.
- (b) To preserve and, where possible, improve the amenity of occupants of adjoining and neighbouring properties.
- (c) To preserve, as far as possible, the scenic view for the proposed development and for adjoining and other properties.
- (d) To maintain adequate daylight and sunlight to existing and future buildings.
- (e) To improve and enhance the civic scene.

For all types of dwellings one basic code has been adopted: this is a floor space ratio of 0.8. As well, there is a height limitation of two residential stories with parking underneath. This means in effect, that any new development will house about the same number of people as, for example, the average existing houses in The Glebe, which has the highest density over the whole municipality.

Generally speaking, it is now quite uneconomic to pull down existing buildings of sound structure unless they are on large parcels of land and occupy only a small part of the site.

Thus the interim code has had the expected effect of stopping both demolitions and new, unsatisfactory building. The amount of new building from approvals under this code which is now proceeding is a good deal less than before, but we are only now just beginning to see the effect on design. It has taken developers quite a while to appreciate the possibilities, and approvals are only being given after careful study.

By the end of 1973 we should be able to see important completed examples of buildings built under the interim code and we can hope that we have certainly seen the end of the destruction of our immediate urban environment as we know it.

By adopting an interim code Council is also in the favourable position of being able to study its effects over time and make appropriate changes when a permanent code is finally adopted.

A.C.S.

WEEKEND GARDENING GROUP

At the Group's first meeting on March 18th, it was decided to have alternate meetings in members' gardens with visits to nurseries, native gardens, etc., to be arranged for the remaining meetings.

Accordingly, our next meeting will be a visit to Swane's Nursery, Galston Road, Dural on Sunday April 15th. We'll be travelling up by car and plan to gather at the Nursery at 10 a.m. After seeing over the nursery, members may like to plan their own picnic lunch, visit other nurseries in the area, or rush home to their own gardens.

JUST A REMINDER that everyone interested in playing tennis informally is invited to join a group who plays at Camperdown Park Courts on most Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in having a game ring Max Solling (660 1160) for further details.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday, 15th April: WEEKEND GARDENING GROUP
visit to Swane's Nursery - see separate article.

Wednesday, 18th April: Have DINNER WITH THE GLEBE SOCIETY at the Aurora Restaurant (corner of Junction Street and Pymont 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).

Saturday, 5th May: a return COFFEE MORNING visit to the McKiernan's, 181 Pymont Bridge Road, who have invited us for coffee at the usual time (10.30 - 12.30).

Monday, 7th May: next meeting of the SOCIAL ACTIVITIES GROUP at Pat Fowler's, 37 Arcadia Road. We'll be thinking about plans for the Birthday Party in July, and wondering what sort of activities members would like to indulge in during September and October. Come along - with ideas if you have some, but we'd be happy to see you even without!

Friday, 25th May: (N.B. Change of date)
8 o'clock at Maureen and Adrian Colman's 48 Boyce Street, for selected WINE AND CHEESE. The first 50 people to get their \$2.00 and the enclosed form, duly filled in, to Anna Forknall will be the lucky ones.

Saturday, 2nd June: COFFEE MORNING at the McKeown's, 10 Albert Street, 10.30 - 12.30 20¢.

MUSIC AT ST JOHN'S

Following the eminently successful Music at St. John's in 1971 another concert has been arranged by Dr. Vincent Sheppard for 8.15 p.m. on Wednesday, 2nd May, 1973. Blackett's beautiful and historic St. John's Church (cnr. Glebe Point and St. Johns Roads) will again be the setting - this time for a mixed chamber recital featuring the organ both as a solo instrument and as an accompaniment for voice and other instruments. Admission by donation.

GLEBE SOCIETY BATTING

Loga	retired	40
Moye	b.Kendall	5
Anchor	retired	40
Solling	c.Porter b.Gynon	13
Strachan	b.Pickard	3
Renga	lbw.Gibson	9
Tzannes	c.Kendall b.Rodgers	17
Conlon	c. ? b.Gibson	5
Perumal	c.Rogers b.Gilmore	10
Kosu	lbw. Pickard	3
Davies	lbw. Gilmore	1
Hooper	not out	7
Sundries		9
		162

glebe society V balmain assocn.

It is now several centuries since cricket was played on a green sward for the first time, and since then it has been played somewhere in the world, as the clocks have ticked and the earth has turned in its diurnal course, over decades without cease. But surely nowhere did it seem more fitting than at Birchgrove Oval last month when the Glebe Society played the Balmain Association.

The weather was the way it is always supposed to be for such occasions; the ground was appropriately green; the view across the boats and the harbour was an adequately mystical backdrop. Children and other spectators lolled under spreading trees - ah, wilderness were paradise enow.

The Glebe Society batted first, with a magnificently multiracial display of prowess that was quelled, in a couple of cases, only by the rule of compulsory retirement at 40. The somewhat above average number of batsmen out lbw could perhaps be attributed to extreme determination to protect the wicket when, on occasions, a ball was bowled close to it. But some more stimulated bowling after lunch brought the innings to a close for 162 runs, thanks to the batting order having been augmented by a generous loan of some extra men by Balmain.

The Balmain Association went in then and put up a very solid performance. Nevertheless, consistent bowling, particularly by Renga and Anchor and the very tight figures of 2 for 2 by Solling, eventually routed the batsmen for a total of 130. Contrary to predictions rashly made at the time, the effects of luncheon must have worn off the Glebe Society bowlers by the time they were needed.

For all the hard work, which is the chief asset of organisation, credit goes to David Porter of the Balmain Association and Ross Tzannes, Captain of the Glebe Society team. But special award must be made to Maureen Colman who mingled charm and good humour with the concentration of the scorer.

It appears pretty certain that one of the memorable experiences of early next summer will be the return match which is even now being discussed by aficionados. More details of the score of this first heroic contest are reproduced formally below:

GLEBE SOCIETY BOWLING

Anchor	3 wickets for 17 runs
Moye	1 " 27 "
Renga	4 " 23 "
Loga	1 " 13 "
Perumal	0 " 13 "
Solling	2 " 2 "
Tzannes	1 " 3 "

V J W

ARCADIA ROAD GOES ARCADIAN

If you would like to see an exciting new happening - go to Arcadia Road where you will find new trees being planted in the CENTRE of the road.

Members may be interested to learn how this came about:-

- Late last year two residents letterboxed the entire street inviting everyone to a meeting to discuss "more trees in Arcadia Road".
- Some fifteen people turned up and a recommendation was made that a scale plan be drawn up showing trees down the centre of the road (London planes) and more trees between existing trees on the footpath (*Hymenosporum flavum* - or the native *frangipanni*). Arcadia Road has 12' footpaths and 42' roadway - it has a dead end. Residents offered to pay for the trees.
- A petition to Council was drawn up and taken to all houses. 46 residents signed, representing 38 of the 45 houses in the street. Only two persons declined to sign.
- Council advised residents that the Tree Planting and Preservation Committee would inspect the street. Once more the whole street was letterboxed advising residents when and where they could meet the Committee.
- Subsequently the Committee recommended to Council that the project be approved.
- The planting of the trees is now proceeding.

GLEBE INFORMATION & REFERRAL SERVICE

This service has been established to provide information to residents about various social welfare agencies which can help them in times of crisis. There are so many different agencies, both government and private, that provide help that it is difficult to know just where to start. The people who staff the Information Referral Service will give people this information and arrange appointments, if necessary, with the welfare workers in the appropriate social welfare agency.

This service is staffed by volunteers. Some were trained last year but more are urgently needed. If you would be interested in participating in this community service, a new training scheme for 1973 has been arranged.

Commencing: Tuesday, 10th April

Time: 8 p.m.

Place: Aldermen's room, Glebe Town Hall.

Duration: 4 sessions 10th & 17th April, and 1st and 8th May.

Commitment: 1 or 2 two-hour periods per month plus a monthly meeting to discuss problems and participate in further training.

For further information ring Elizabeth Hindmarsh, tel: 660 6835.

MISCELLANY

The Trustees of Wentworth Park, on 28th Feb. 1973, replied to Leichhardt Council's request to use the outer part of the park for community purposes. The Trustees refused, saying that the area is in constant use for the Public Benefit and Trust Purposes (meaning, of course, car parking and commercial enterprises).

Due to an editorial aberration in the last issue of the Bulletin we managed to print Eve Buscombe's name instead of Eve Gourlay's in a note about the Flower Show. Our apologies to both ladies for the juxtaposition.

The enclosed form was first handed out at the recent well attended meeting at Peru Perumal's house. Members who have already expressed their opinions are politely asked to keep their second form and please to urge all others to return the bottom half to the Secretary as soon as possible.

What is to happen next will be determined by members' reactions.

FROM THE GEORGE ALLEN DIARIES:



19th January, 1833: This day I have been in New South Wales seventeen years - the improvement in the Colony since my arrival is wonderful.