

**The Glebe  
Society**

# **BULLETIN**

**No. 5 of 1975. (JUNE)**

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P.O. Box 100, Glebe, 2037. Phone 660-0026.

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## **TOWN PLANNING IN GLEBE**

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About 100 people attended a public meeting in Glebe Town Hall on Monday 9 June to discuss the town planning issues affecting Glebe.

The meeting was organised jointly by the Society and the Leichhardt Planning Forum, a group of residents of the municipality concerned with town planning and environmental issues. Bernard Smith chaired the meeting and introduced Allan Sorrenson, who pointed out that, although there had been no work on expressways in Glebe since the Fig Street Fiasco, the State Government was intent on pushing ahead with the implementation of its two major expressways through Glebe, the Western and North-Western. He said that the Australian Government, the community and responsible opinion all over the world now agreed that urban expressways do not solve urban transport problems. The solution, he said, lies in proper provision of public transport: and that it is imperative that everyone who cares about Sydney should press this point as often and as hard as possible. He said letters should be written, opposing expressways and supporting public transport to Mr. Fife (Minister for Transport and Highways), Mr. Lewis (Premier) and to other state, federal and local politicians.

David Chesterman, a member of Leichhardt Planning Forum, then gave an illustrated talk on the environmental and town planning issues facing Glebe. He pointed out that many of the area's problems stemmed from the philosophy that prevailed after the wars - that all the inner suburbs were slums and that redevelopment was a good thing. Redevelopment had now been tried, he said, and most people are not happy with the results. It does not increase the population of the inner suburbs, and increases costs to the Council without increasing rate revenues. The Council from 1971-74 had prevented large scale redevelopment and, with maximum public participation, had prepared a new plan to control development in the Municipality. This plan is now with the Planning and Environment Commission.

Apart from the problems of flat development, David Chesterman said, Glebe's environmental problems are the proposed freeways, the existing levels of through traffic, future use of the waterfront, parking problems. He urged that people should be interested in planning and should watch local and daily papers for proposals in their areas.

The meeting gave overwhelming assent to a motion moved by Jim Coombs in support of the actions of the ward aldermen, in their attempts to dissuade the City Council from selling its flats in Glebe, and if that fails, then to find a buyer for the flats who will protect the existing residents of the buildings.

There was a lengthy period of lively discussion on all the issues raised by the speakers.

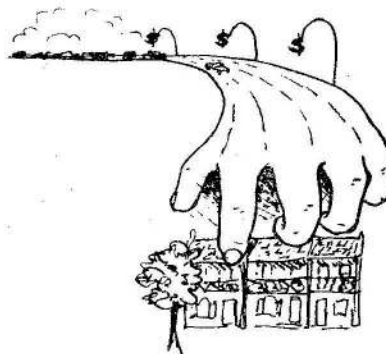
A summary of the matters discussed following the address is as follows:

1. Sydney City Council owns the high-rise flats on the corner of St. Johns Road and Wentworth Park Road. The Council wishes to sell them (pruning its costs). The following motion was carried:

"That this meeting supports the action of the Glebe Aldermen in opposing the City Council plan to sell the Council's flats in Glebe (and elsewhere), and supports their attempts to have the flats purchased by the Leichhardt (and other) Councils, the Housing Commission or the Australian Government, so as to protect the tenants from removal from the area."

2. The 1974 Leichhardt draft plan is lodged with the State Planning and Environment Commission, which has invited Leichhardt Council to submit the changes it has indicated will be sought.
3. Glebe Point east - Parkes Development is demolishing fine old buildings on its site. Parkes may take it that nobody cares, so we should all write to our Council Aldermen and The State Planning and Environment Commission to object.
4. The George Hudson site on Blackwattle Bay is a prime site for a secondary school. The State departments concerned (the Education Department and the Maritime Services Board) are apparently discussing this from time to time. Encourage the Education Department with your letters.
5. Expressways (sometimes called "freeways"). The Glebe Society is against the use of these greedy roads on a radial pattern in our city, although they obviously have a place in inter-city communication. Our opposition takes the form of a daily, boring, time-consuming vigil, patrolling Fig Street, writing letters as individuals and also collectively as a Society to hammer in the point. It was suggested we put pressure on Leichhardt Council to act decisively against expressways (an election promise).
6. Leichhardt Planning Forum will be involved in these and other issues in our municipality. The Forum helped arrange the meeting on Monday, June 9th.

Contact: Betty Mason 660.3468  
Maureen Townsing, 232  
Johnston Street,  
Annandale



#### Inner Urban Radial Expressway Construction

Alan Sorrensen briefly discussed this fearful issue in relation to Glebe Planning -

"The Premier, Mr. Tom Lewis said in January and June this year the state government is committed to miles of expressways. State cabinet is somewhat divided on expressways - Sir John Fuller generally agrees more stringent car emission levels will be needed, and restriction of traffic in central city areas will occur.

Three official reports appeared in 1974 - the Sydney Area Transportation Study, the Atkins Meinhardt Modernisation Workshop and the Shirley Report. They complemented each other in their pro-inner-urban expressways and anti-public transport attitudes.

Motoring organizations are glossing over the effects of expressways, having ignored the report entitled "The Assessment of Freeway Plans of State Capital Cities" (1974). The report called for individual examination of the proposed North-Western, Western and other expressways and recommended reduced priority of their construction

Inner urban expressways are odious socially, environmentally and economically. (THE 180 MILES OF PROPOSED EXPRESSWAYS IN THE SYDNEY REGION ARE CURRENTLY ESTIMATED TO COST \$6,000,000,000!!! THE HERALD REPORTS ON AIR POLLUTION EXCLUDE LEAD AND MONOXIDE READINGS).

**NOW** in Fig Street Ultimo, expressway construction goes on at the city end. The A.W.U. appears likely to demolish vacant houses in the path. We demonstrated at Fig Street, and had a direct influence on government decisions in October 1974.

**WE CAN** as individuals write to Mr. Tom Lewis and to Mr. Wal Fife (State Minister for Transport and Highways), stating our opposition to inner-urban expressways and the present decline in public transport. Write to Sir John Fuller (Minister for Planning and Environment) praising his stand on the need for emission control.

**AFFECTED** are we all by the proposed expressways in Glebe, whether we are next

to or a street away from them.

**RESULTS** will occur from a solid anti-inner-urban expressway movement. As a resident of Rozelle said: "If one person went across the road he'd get killed; if fifty or a hundred crossed they'd stop the traffic."

You must write to the abovementioned state leaders to make your feelings known about inner-urban-radial expressways."

## FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday, 5th July, Coffee morning at Ross and Suzanne Tzannes, 14 Avenue Road, 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Refreshments 20¢.

Wednesday, 9th July, 8.00 p.m. The Environment Sub-committee meets at Tony and Hilary Larkum's, 17 Alexandra Road (660.7030).

Sunday, 13th July, 2.30 p.m. A rose pruning demonstration at St. John's Village by Mr. P. G. Conley, followed by his talk (postponed from 8th June) at the Ahlstroms, 58 Toxteth Road.

Tuesday, 15th July, 2.30 p.m. A meeting to discuss and arrange the Glebe Society's stall at the "Market Day". PLEASE FORWARD YOUR ARTS AND CRAFTS for the stall! The meeting is at Kate Smith's, 23 Avenue Road (660.1824).

Saturday, 26th July. "Market Day", 9.30 a.m. Glebe Public School, Derby Place, in aid of the Glebe Community Care Centre. The Glebe Society's stall is arts and crafts (see above).

Saturday, 2nd August. Coffee morning at 20/411 Glebe Point Road, with Dorothy Perkins. 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. (and refreshments 20¢).

Friday, 8th August, 8.00 p.m. A film show of gardening and nature films by courtesy of the Bank of New South Wales, at Jean and Theo Ahlstrom's, 58 Toxteth Road. Please phone the Ahlstroms beforehand (660.1083) if you would like to come.

Wednesday, 20th August, Glebe Town Hall, 8.00 p.m. The Glebe Society's Annual General Meeting.

### What we really

need at the moment is about half-a-dozen members who will volunteer to help with distribution of the bulletin. It is an extremely difficult task - requiring nerves of steel and either sound legs or a wheelchair in footpathworthy condition. Each volunteer will be required to spend approximately half-an-hour, (ten times a year), putting up to thirty enveloped bulletins in letterboxes, (in streets adjacent to his or her own address wherever possible).

We do need some help in this way - to relieve others who do quite a lot already; to replace people who move away; to give a rest to some of those people who have been delivering the bulletin for four or five years or more.

If we do not get some help in this way then we may soon have to consider mailing the bulletin to members - and that is an expense we do not wish to incur if at all possible.

If you can help, then please contact me at home (660.0682), or at work (259.0544)

Thank you.

Albert Renshaw

## The Schools of Glebe

The education of the young of Victorian Glebe was fundamentally a matter of social class. There was, throughout the period of its development, much public debate on the scope and meaning of popular education, and on the role of the State in an educational system which would preserve political and religious liberties. The gradual advance of the State into the field of elementary and then of secondary education, its ultimate overshadowing of the voluntary schools, and the determined defence of the denominational schools, was evidence of this flux of opinion and of its slow hardening into specific legislation.

The first school to appear in Glebe was Mrs. Slater's school at Hereford House in 1835. By the mid 1840's, children could attend Mrs. Hipgrave's Preparatory school or the Grantham Academy, both fronting Glebe Road, but sons of the well-to-do, such as Geoffrey Eagar, George Mansfield, G. W. Allen & J. H. Want, obtained a "Classical and Commercial Education" at the hands of W. T. Cape, who told his scholars that they would be the future leaders in the community but if they were to lead they must also serve, as gentlemen, leading by example.

In 1846 the Church of England acquired James Bowman's residence, Lyndhurst, and St. James College, as it was called, was set up primarily to train candidates for the Ministry; but it also provided a moderate amount of tertiary education as an alternative to sending the sons of colonists back to England. However, charges of Tractarian influence made the college unpopular with some of the clergy and laity, and it closed in 1849. Lyndhurst was bought by the Catholic Church and St. Marys College was opened there in February 1852 under Bishop Charles Davis, with an enrolment of nine boys. The Benedictine Academy provided a classical and literary education for wealthier Catholics, and enabled students to matriculate for entry to Sydney University. When Lyndhurst was closed shortly after Archbishop Polding's death in 1877, it had prepared for matriculation thirty five of the forty five Catholics who had graduated at the University by that time. Most colonial Catholics at that time were Irish, and they could not understand the value of education of the Lyndhurst

kind, maintaining that it bred snobbery and pretension. Although by 1870 the curriculum was radically altered to give it a more practical orientation, this could not forestall its closure in 1877.

In 1858 the Glebe Point Collegiate School under Anglican patronage, and with John Pendrill in charge, opened. It soon acquired a reputation as being "a favourite school for gentlemen's sons", and advertised that it prepared students for "University and the learned professions, but attention is also especially paid to the requirements of those who are destined to enter on mercantile pursuits".

In November 1858 the first public school in Glebe was commenced by the National Board in a small hall and in 1862 the Glebe National School moved to the newly completed school house, designed by George Mansfield, on the corner of Derby Place and Derwent Street. Apart from the National School, working class children depended for the most part on schools organised by the churches - Anglican, Non-conformist and Roman Catholic, and by other benevolent bodies, such as the Ragged School Union, begun in 1846 by Mary Carpenter in England.



Fierce denominational rivalry during the third quarter of the nineteenth century resulted in the appearance on the Glebe landscape of several church schools in competition with the National School - Church of England (1858), Wesleyan (1867), Congregational (1873) and Presbyterian (1877), but by the late 1870's denominational opposition dwindled until it was confined almost entirely to the adherents of the Roman Catholic faith, whose dignitaries insisted on full control of their schools and gradually turned their thoughts to the setting up of a system of education independent of the State. Amid heightened sectarian bitterness and distrust in education, Parkes put through the Public Instruction Bill in 1880, which inaugurated a State system of compulsory and secular education from 7 to 14 years of age and abolished financial aid to denominational schools. The last Protestant school in Glebe, the Anglican, closed in 1882; but children of Catholics could obtain a separate education at their Forest Lodge School (1880), and in 1900 a further Catholic school, St. Ita's in St. John's Road, opened.



The children of the middle classes were sent to a variety of independent schools, often run by a principal single handed or with the help of a few assistants, and in several cases providing secondary as well as elementary schooling. "Establishments" and "seminaries" for young ladies, usually occupying large private houses - like Mrs. Gray's Woodbine College for Young Ladies, Glebe Heights or Margaret Martin's Rosebank House, multiplied rapidly from the 1870's and by 1885, 1,111 pupils attended the 3 girls' and 14 mixed private schools in Glebe.

Children of the poorest residents of Glebe, who could not afford the school fees, (not abolished until 1904), attended the Ragged school in Bay Street. Opened about 1868, it was conducted by "a number of philanthropic ladies and gentlemen" and was still going strong in 1914.

A rapid increase in Glebe's population from 5,721 in 1871 to 17,075 in 1891 resulted in the building of more public schools to accommodate the growing number of children.

After a long wait, the citizens of Forest Lodge rejoiced when a public school on the corner of Ross Street and Bridge Road, was opened in July 1883, catering for 150 boys and girls and 150 infants. In 1891 it was declared a Superior School. A memorable personality, William Bardsley, served as the principal of the school from 1883 to 1922. A Girls school in Derby Place with provision for 600 girls was opened in 1884 under Mary Pinnington, and in 1897 a second storey was added to the Glebe school building on the right hand side of Derby Place. In 1891 there were 15 schools in Glebe - 2 public, a Ragged school and 12 private schools.

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan, a Benedictine Order with a penchant for acquiring Verge designed buildings, bought Toxteth House in 1901, when their Pitt Street Convent was demolished to make way for Central Railway Station. St. Scholastica's Convent, named after Geraldine Scholastica Gibbons, an early mother superior of the Sisters of Charity, provides secondary education up to Higher School Certificate level as well as being a teacher's College.

After many years of official neglect, Forest Lodge and Glebe schools have received more sympathetic treatment by the authorities in recent years. On leaving these primary schools Glebe girls generally receive their secondary schooling at Leichhardt and Petersham High schools, the boys at Cleveland Street and Ibrox Park, while Fort Street is now co-educational and enrolment is selective.

Max Solling

## GLEBE COMMUNITY CARE CENTRE

Have you a couple of spare hours each week, and a car? The Glebe Community Care Centre needs YOU. There is a small group of Glebe and Annandale residents who need transport to social gatherings at the Glebe Community Care Centre during the day.

If you are a frustrated community chauffeur, please ring 660.5455 and talk to Pauline Garde or Sue Cameron.

### ANY OLD IRON?

SANDBOX - About 3ft x 4ft, suitable for children under 4.

GARDEN SOIL - Relatively weed-free soil of usual Glebe standard. Needs some loosening up with organic material.

MARBLE FIREPLACES - Pieces of two grey marble fireplaces available. May or may not be complete.

Alan and Andrea Robertson -  
660.6149

## WELCOME

Welcome to the following new members:-

Dorothy BASSETT  
Denby BOWDLER  
Brian McMILLAN  
Anthony GALLAGHER  
Margaret WOOD  
John HILL  
Deanne and John BUCKINGHAM  
Mr. and Mrs. D. J. MOULD  
Hilary and Graeme FORDHAM

The editor is Ted McKeown. Please direct your articles to him 10 Albert Street, Forest Lodge. 660.3917

His successor is being actively groomed for stardom - watch this space!

# MISCELLANY

## MISSING PERSON

Has anyone any information about Mrs. Florence Lee, formerly of Allen Street? If so, please ring Jim Coombs at 660.0026.

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The Inner City Radio Co-operative is likely to be subsumed under the Inner City Media Co-operative, which is in the process of establishing a community NEWSPAPER in Leichhardt.

The radio station would probably follow the newspaper in order of establishment.

Radio enquiries: Perc. Newland  
(660.4092)  
Newspaper : Keith McLeod, or  
Dennis McManus  
(660.0064)

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Issues No. 5 and 6 of the Leichhardt Historical Journal will be available early in July from Max Solling (660.1160).

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The Society's wine bottling in May was a great success, so we'll do some more in July! Please ring Tony Larkum (660.7030) - let him know that you want to join in and find out what equipment you will need.

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## HORSE MANURE?

Contrary to local wives-tales, manure from race horses is of considerable value, particularly for the heavy kind of soil usually found in Glebe. The N.S.W. Department of Agriculture in its publication "The Home Vegetable Garden" recommends that the manure be kept in a covered heap for some weeks until weeds have germinated and died. Most Glebe trotting stables are only too glad to give away the manure-rich stable litter they accumulate. Members not aware of their nearest stable can contact Alan Robertson - 660.6149.

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The Glebe Society house and garden inspection will take place on Sunday, 12th October, 1974. - a date to be kept free AT ALL COSTS!

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The previous Leichhardt Council submitted a planning scheme to the New South Wales Planning and Environment Commission for approval. One of the features of the planning scheme was the omission of the Department of Main Roads freeway reservations which would have decimated the Municipality. The omission of the freeway reservations was not as "radical" a move as is suggested in some quarters. The Council of the City of Sydney (a "respectable" council - and certainly in favour with the New South Wales Government) committed a similar move by recently omitting the Western Freeway reservations through the City from its planning scheme.

The new Leichhardt Council recently recalled the Leichhardt Planning Scheme from the New South Wales Planning and Environment Commission and restored all previous freeway reservations.

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Pymont Bridge Road and Bridge Road are two names given to the road which bisects Glebe. The N.R.M.A. has written to both Leichhardt Council and the City Council suggesting that the road be renamed Bridge Road along its whole length and given one numbering sequence.

Pymont Bridge is to be removed if the North-Western Freeway is built. It also is of interest that a part of Pymont Bridge Road was originally named Lyndhurst Street.

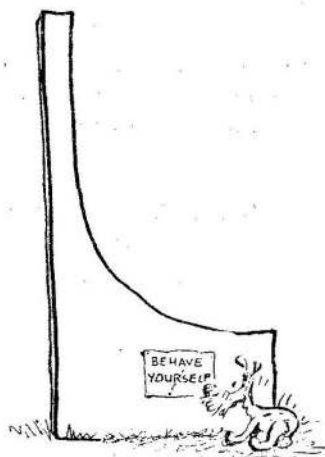
Leichhardt Council agreed to the changing of the name of the road to Bridge Road along its whole length.

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The National Trust's Parramatta River Study has been extended around the Leichhardt Municipality foreshores as far as Glebe Point. A grant of \$20,000.00 has been made to the Trust by the Australian Government. The figures so far have disclosed that the oxygen content of the River has increased significantly since the study commenced.

## Wentworth "Park"

A Glebe Society call for improvements to the barren wasteland known as Wentworth Park was given a good run in column 8 of the Herald recently.



The Society's criticism was intended to prompt the Wentworth Park Trust to take action to improve the open area of the park and to make it more attractive to residents of the area. The Society suggested that many more trees should be planted, that modern landscaping techniques be employed, and that greyhounds be prevented from fouling at least some of the grassland. There was also criticism of the fact that a majority of members of the Wentworth Park Trust are associated with the sporting bodies which use the park.

The Glebe Society wrote to the Wentworth Park Trust and the Minister for Lands suggesting ways in which the park could be improved and asking that a representative of the Glebe Society be appointed to fill the next vacancy on the Trust.

Wentworth Park was formed when the Blackwattle Swamp was filled with earth and rubble in the 1870's. It was dedicated for public recreation in 1885 after being described in the Herald of August 17, 1878, as being destined to be "the most attractive and beautiful of our city recreation grounds, second only to the Botanical Gardens, as it is the only park with Harbour frontage." So much for fond hopes! The park's waterfront was given to industry and its very heart was filled with a large stadium, the high walls of which are topped with barbed wire. More parkland was given for a railway line and now another large strip has been promised to the Department of Main Roads for the North Western Expressway.

Ian Evans

## PETITION!

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Mothers and Daughters of New South Wales, in the Electoral District of the Glebe, -

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH: -

That the wide-spread and devastating effects of the traffic in intoxicating liquors are a source of the greatest grief and alarm to your Petitioners.

That your Petitioners, as a class, are peculiar sufferers from the devastating evils of the drinking customs of the community. That these customs are the destruction of home, happiness, and domestic comfort. That as a result of this pernicious system, the sacredness of domestic life is profaned, the peace of the fireside invaded, the tender charities of home and kindred violated, the nurture and education of children neglected.

That your Petitioners, with breaking hearts, are often doomed to behold the descent by regular gradations, perhaps imperceptible to others, into a state of debasement and ruin, of those to whom your Petitioners are bound by the holiest of human ties, - husbands, brothers, children.

That your Petitioners are deeply sensible of the reproach that among their own sex there are unhappy examples of enslavement to the accursed spell of the demon drink; and they lament the ruin of hundreds of fallen sisters who, but for this accursed thing, might have continued innocent, virtuous, and happy.

That your Petitioners are convinced that these evils - this ruin and demoralization - are to be attributed to the facilities for indulging in alcoholic stimulants afforded by so great a number of public houses.

That your Petitioners therefore implore your Honorable House to endeavour to stem this fearful torrent of intemperance, and to rescue their husbands, brothers, sisters, and children from its power, by passing the Permissive Bill, empowering the electors or rate-payers, within defined districts, to prohibit the future granting or renewing of licenses for the common sale of intoxicating drinks within their borders.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

Dated this twenty-eighth day of September, 1870.

(Here follow 1,367 Signatures)

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 1975 Annual General Meeting of The Glebe Society will be held at the Glebe Town Hall on Wednesday 20th August 1975 at 8.00 p.m.

At this meeting you will be voting for a new Management Committee for the next 12 months. Nomination for election to a position on the Management Committee is open to all members.

These are the positions to be filled:

President  
Senior Vice-President  
Junior Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
4 other Committee Members.

Nominations for positions on the Management Committee must comply with Clause 10(i) 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 at least 14 days before the

annual General Meeting - i.e. in this case 6th August, 1975. A suggested nomination form appears below.

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

Auditors: Clause 10(ii) of the Constitution provides as follows:-

"(ii) Any two members of the Society may nominate a suitably qualified person or group of persons as auditor(s) to the Society. Such nomination shall be signed by the two members and shall bear the written consent of the person(s) and shall be posted to reach the Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting. Notice shall be sent to each member before the Annual General Meeting of the names of persons correctly nominated. If no nominations are received prior to the A.G.M. then nominations may be called for at the A.G.M."

## GLEBE SOCIETY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 1975-76

### NOMINATION

WE, ..... and ..... being members of the Glebe Society, hereby nominate ..... as ..... of the Glebe Society for 1975-76.

DATED ..... , 1975.

Signatures:.....  
(Please also PRINT names)

I, ..... (full names) of .....  
.....(address) ..... (occupation) consent to this nomination.

Signature:.....

NB Nominations MUST reach the Secretary, Jim Coombs at 16 Eglinton Road (or P.O. Box 100), Glebe, 2037 NO LATER THAN 6th August, 1975.