

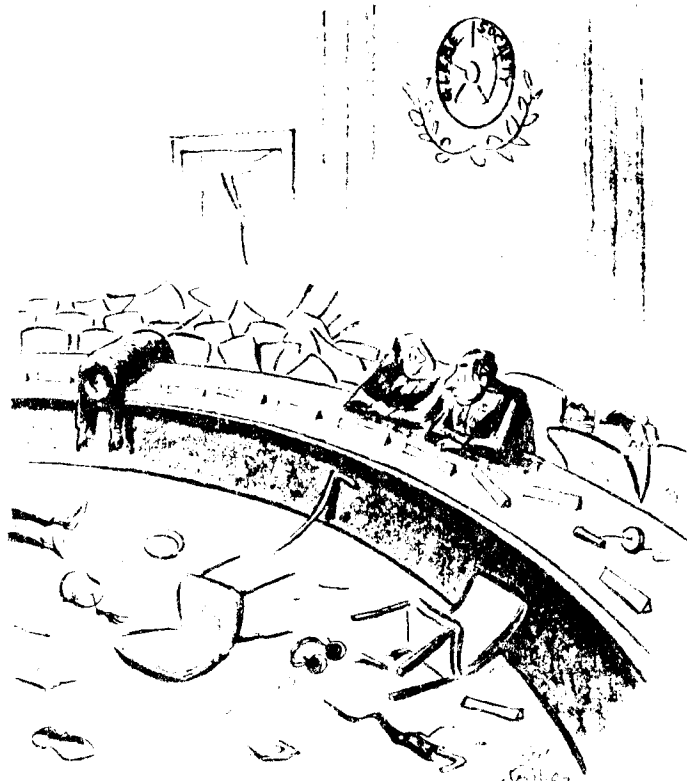
The Glebe
Society

BULLETIN

No. 7 of 1976. (Aug)

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



"I didn't know that competition to become a Committee Member was so fierce!"

The Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Glebe Society was held at Glebe Town Hall on Wednesday, 4th August. The following officers were elected to serve on the Management Committee for the forthcoming year.

President

Jeanette Knox, 26 Victoria Road
660.7781

Senior Vice-President

Ian Evans

Junior Vice-President

Ralph Kaye

Secretary

Jim Coombs, 16 Eglinton Street
660.0026

Treasurer

Ted McKeown, 10 Albert Street
660.3917

Committee

John Geroff
Dorothy Perkins
David Reeve
Diana Schlicht

Auditor

Alan Robertson

Points arising from convenors' reports were as follows:-

PLANNING - Eric Sandblom was adamant that the council should revert to use of the '74 town plan. He stated that land set aside for waterfront industrial purposes would probably lay idle for years. Jim Coombs called on members to fight the expressway and waterfront industrial zoning which have re-appeared on the new plan.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES - Jim called for more volunteers to help organise the Society's social and literary calendar.

HISTORY - Max Solling gave his usual witty report, and the first whisperings of a pub crawl via some of our lesser know landmarks were heard.

The question of local tree planting was raised. The council has not been very helpful in this regard over the last year, and the Phantom Tree Planter in Lodge Street has demonstrated the success of taking the law into one's own hands.

Mr. Derrick of Sheehy Street raised the problem of the Fletcher Container Terminal. The depot, which should only be used for storage, has been used for repair work recently. The noise caused by hammering out dents in the containers has been a great disturbance to housewives and retired people during the day. Mr. Derrick has reported to the Noise Pollution Authorities who are taking the matter up with Fletcher's.

The evening concluded with a wine and cheese supper.

BULLETIN

Albert Renshaw has been successful in selling his unit and has been organising the collection, enveloping and delivering of the Bulletin from his temporary home at Lindfield for the past few months. He is now relinquishing these particular services and I'm sure all members would like to thank Albert for all his work in past years. We hope we'll still see plenty of Albert at Society functions.

Merle Larcombe, who returned to Glebe at the beginning of the year, has offered her services and we welcome her enthusiastic support.

If any member could spare a couple of hours a month to help envelope the Bulletin, please contact Dorothy Perkins on 660.7623.

Joey Rowden

If you would like to make a verbal contribution to your Bulletin, please contact the editor, Joey Rowden at 4 Leichhardt Avenue, phone 660.5704.

Welcome to New Members

Ann & Ian Walter
Mark Higgins
Jonathan Baker
Patricia Court
Rob Renew
Sue Johnson
Leonie Edmonds
Margaret Shears
Michael Creswell
Barbara Downes
John Ashton
W.J. Hunt
The Flummoxed Household
Christine Hare
Nerida Newbegin & John Gerofi
Peter Murphy
Barbara Burch

BIDURA & ROYLESTON

Can you include a boy or girl in your social outings? The Dept. of Youth & Community Services is eager to recruit reliable people, especially married couples who can spend some time with children on a regular basis. If you could take a child out at the weekend, ring and make arrangements with the homes.

BIDURA

IS BIDURA EDMUND BLACKET'S RESIDENCE ?

When writing a book one must select and research a certain number of houses for the obvious reasons of cost of production and the amount of time available for research. The houses were not just picked at random but unfortunately "Bidura" was not included when I wrote *The Glebe - Portraits and Places*, but through the kindness of Mr. Surveyor Vernon Clements a hitherto unpublished sketch of Edmund Blacket's home, by Edith Blacket, features in the book. The first to notice the extraordinary similarity of "Bidura" to Edith Blacket's sketch was Mrs. Coleman and I therefore set about researching the property. The result revealed that "Bidura" was built on the land which Edmund Blacket bought from Stewart Donaldson, upon which he built his own home. The Old System title is quite explicit. Blacket bought 1 acre 25½ perches from Donaldson, for which he paid \$1,200. The deed was dated September 10, 1857. The long description, necessary in Old System titles, makes it amply clear that the same description was given when Blacket sold his house in 1870 to Robert Fitz Stubbs. "Old Chum", who has given us many gossip accounts of life in old Sydney, relates that Thomas Stubbs went to Melbourne where he made a great deal of money as an auctioneer. His son, wishing to increase his status, added the name Fitz. Blacket may well have lived out his life at Glebe Point if his beloved wife had not predeceased him. His sale to Stubbs bears the date on the deed as 1870, the year of Mrs. Blacket's death. Stubbs was then living at Ashfield, but in the 1871 Sands Directory he is listed as living at Glebe Point. By 1879 Stubbs was living at Lynwood, Ferry Street, and he had sold "Bidura" to Frederick Perks, Solicitor. The land was still described as 1 acre 25½ perches. Perks paid £4,200 for the property, but Stubbs was obliged to repay £3,000 to the A.M.P. Society. The Executors of the Estate of Frederick Perks sold the property to Walter Fitzmaurice Burfitt of Glebe Point, Medical Practitioner, on June 13, 1908. The popular Burfitt family lived there for many years until the property was sold to "His Majesty King George V for purposes of the Public Instruction Act of 1880 on March 22, 1920.

A letter dated 5th August has been received from the Registrar General in which he states inter alia "In that part of the statutory declaration underlined in red in the copy, William Clarke states that Edmund Thomas Blacket and his successors,

Robert Fitz Stubbs and Frederick Perks, occupied the remainder, now Lot 1 in deposited plan 64049 continuously from 1865 to 1905. This indicates that the building known as Bidura was occupied during this period".

Mr. Surveyor P.J. French has surveyed the land on which Bidura is built and he states it is identical with the land referred to in the description hereunder.

REFERENCES

THE LAND:

Bounded on the South-west by The Glebe Road, commencing at Mr. George Miller's land and bearing east 47 degrees south 130'4" on the south-east by land belonging to George Allen Esquire bearing north 45 degrees 52 minutes east 383 ft on the north-east by a lane 10 ft wide bearing west 45 degrees 3 minutes north 133 ft and on the north-west by Mr. George Miller's boundary fence bearing south-west 380 ft to the point of commencement AND also ALL THAT piece or parcel of land situate lying and being in the parish county and colony aforesaid at the Glebe, commencing at a point on the south-western side of Avon Street at its intersection with the north-western side of a lane 10 ft wide and bounded on the north-east by Avon Street bearing north 45 degrees 15 minutes west 73'9" on the north-west by a fenced line dividing it from part of the said land sold to one, Wood, bearing south-westerly 100 ft to a reserved lane on the south-west by that lane bearing south 45 degrees 15 minutes east 73 ft and on the south-east by the firstmentioned lane bearing north-easterly 100 ft to the commencing point reserving nevertheless unto William Strachan Clarke, the owner of the land on the north-west, adjoining the lastly described parcel of land a right-of-way upon over and along a lane 12 ft wide and leading into Avon Street aforesaid TOGETHER with the dwelling house and outbuildings.

Certificate of Title Volume 1674 Folio 158
Perks to Burfitt

Blacket from Donaldson Book 51 No. 485

Blacket to Stubbs RG 120 No. 862

By Freda MacDonnell, author
of "The Glebe: Portraits &
Places".

TRAIN RIDE

The Honorary Secretary,
Glebe Historical Society

Dear Sir,

While watching television I saw the passenger train journeying along the Darling Harbour Goods line. This has been a much discussed route on many occasions, but this is the first time I feel it has been publicised with effect. I believe it is now being considered, and I feel your efforts are worthy of my congratulations. As I did not notice the commencement of the programme I hope this route goes over the bridge at the bottom of Johnston Street, as my home is located nearby, and has been programmed for demolition since 1964 for the North Western Expressway.

You can imagine how pleased I would be if this Expressway was abolished for all times and so many homes saved.

We also have a very poor bus service, and feel sure a railway service would benefit all.

Again thanking you for your efforts and would appreciate news of your progress.

(Mrs.) M. Wigston

TRAIN RIDE

The long awaited train ride through Glebe was a resounding success. Good news coverage on all television channels ensured that the message of our idle, would-be-commuter railway line was brought home to viewers throughout the State. The train was packed with over 500 passengers, and the sun shone for the barbecue underneath the arches in Federal Park. The Society made a profit of approximately \$400.00.

FOR YOUR DIARY

September, 4th. This month's coffee morning and gardening group meeting will be held at Anna Forknell's, 21 Ferry Road, details as above.

Friday, 17th Sept. Welcome to New Members. Sydney's first FLOATER'S PARTY will be held in the backyard (weather permitting) of Alan & Andrea Robertson's home, 148 Hereford Street. Old and new members invited to join in the fun. For further details phone Dorothy Perkins 660.7623.

Ed's Note: As all readers know, a floater is a South Australian delicacy - a meat pie floating in pea soup!

September, 19th. Garden inspection. Some gardens of members to be inspected by visitors from neighbouring garden clubs at 2.30 p.m. For further details, contact Theo Ahlston (660.1083).

Wednesday, 22nd Sept. 8.00 p.m. The play-reading group will meet at the home of Dorothy Perkins, Flat 20, 411 Glebe Point Road to read "Androcles & The Lion" by Shaw. All welcome to take part.

G.S. STALL - GLEBE FAIR - Saturday 30th October. It was decided at the last Management Committee meeting that we should abandon our attempts to sell second hand goods and concentrate on displaying information which we feel might be of interest to the Glebe Community. Convenors of groups within the Society should begin to organise whatever material they have which might be appropriate. Please ring Dorothy Perkins 660.7623 if you have such material or can help man the stall for an hour or so on Saturday, 30th October.

FERRY TRIP: A booking has been made for our Annual Ferry Trip on SATURDAY 20th November. The booking has yet to be confirmed, so check subsequent editions of the Bulletin for verification of this date.