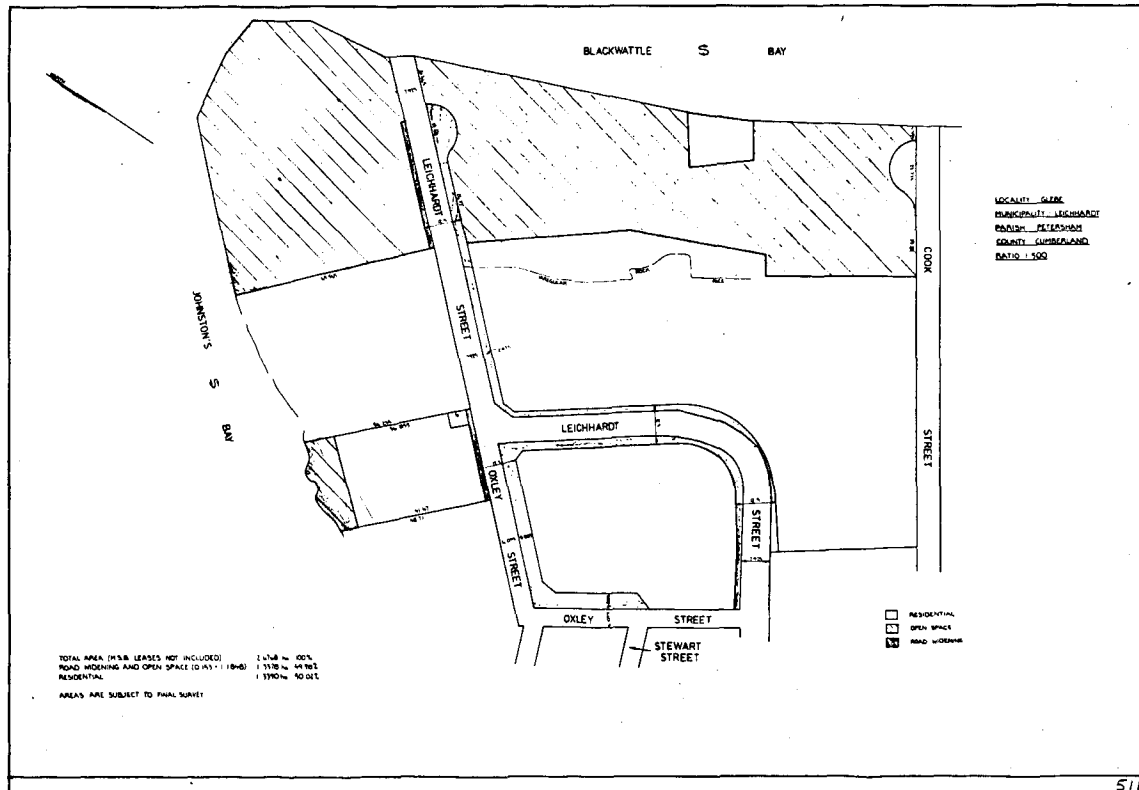


The Glebe
Society

BULLETIN

P.O. Box 100, Glebe 2037

no 2
1979



BLACKWATTLE BAY PARK

The above plan represents the final agreement on the park as described in Bulletin no 1 of 1979.

The settlement on the park led to the public advertisement in the pages of the "Glebe" and the Sydney Morning Herald of the proposed unit development, so that any owner of land who contends that his/her enjoyment of their land will be detrimentally affected now has an opportunity to object.

One way of reducing the density of this development and therefore the traffic flow generated would be to persuade the PEC to consider purchasing the block between Oxley street and Rozelle Bay and deleting the 14 units thereon. After all, they've just spent \$200,000 on acquiring waterfront land in Balmain, but not a penny on the Glebe foreshores.

Meanwhile the Waterfront Action Group is trying to get some landscaping proposals together for the park, and in about a month's time we'll set a date for a public meeting on the park. Anyone keen to input ideas, proposals, landscaping etc, please either ring

Eric Gidney 660 5093
or
Hilary Hewitt 692 0716



TOWN PLANNING

THE TIME FOR ACTION IS - NOW

The 1979 Leichhardt Town Plan will be placed on exhibition any time now. Once the Plan goes on exhibition, we will have only three months to assess the problems and opportunities it presents and to lodge appropriate objections. Planning and action must therefore start now. Such an opportunity to influence the quality of our immediate environment is not likely to occur again. Some of the areas requiring action include:

WENTWORTH PARK

The Minister for Sport and Recreation recently announced a \$4 million redevelopment of the NCA dog track. Is this alienation of reserved public parkland in the best interests of the local or wider community? What alternatives should be explored?

GLEBE HIGH SCHOOL

Opportunity exists for considerable community use of the indoor and outdoor facilities on this magnificent site. A meeting is to be held with the Government Architect and Education Department this month to explore this concept. Residents with a particular interest in the school or the area are invited to participate.

461-465 GLEBE POINT ROAD

The proposed auction of the former D.Hardy & Sons Ltd. timber yard was cancelled at the last moment when the owner, Parkes Developments Pty. Ltd., (receiver appointed) discharged the mortgage and retained title to the property. Parkes now proposes to seek rezoning of the land from waterfront industrial to residential.

The Society and the 4-Shores Committee are prepared to support rezoning provided that a substantial part (at least 50%) of the land is transferred to Leichhardt Council for waterfront parkland as a pre-condition of rezoning, and that a visually pleasing residential development consistent with the character of Glebe occurs on the rest of the site.

Members interested in this opportunity to acquire valuable waterfront parkland are invited to participate in the planning process.

FEDERAL ROAD INDUSTRIAL SITE

The tank farm has now been removed from the Steetley Industries site and the office block will be vacated within the next eighteen months. A small group to prepare and present a convincing proposal for the extension of Jubilee Park to the waterfront in this area is urgently needed.

JOHNSTON'S CANAL PARKLANDS

A series of disjointed and poorly developed parks and parkland reservations exist on Orphan School and Johnston's Creeks from the Children's Hospital to Rozelle Bay. Potential exists for a continuous belt of parkland in this area linking up with waterfront parks extending around Glebe Point to Cook Street. Much research and lobbying is required to turn this concept into a reality.

OTHER PARKLANDS

Many parts of Glebe, particularly the Glebe Estate and the adjoining areas of Forest Lodge, are very poorly provided with parks and play areas. Work should commence immediately to identify suitable sites, including road closures, that should be shown as parks in the 1979 town plan.

FORMER EXPRESSWAY RESERVATIONS

The areas formerly reserved for the Western and North-western expressways have now been rezoned in line with the surrounding areas. This welcome change will, however, have the unfortunate and inevitable effect of reducing the stock of low-cost rental accommodation in the neighbourhood. The Government's election promise was to sell all properties held by the DMR. Is this in the best interests of the community? Should some be transferred to the Housing Commission? Should some sites be reserved for parkland? A detailed study of this situation is urgently required.

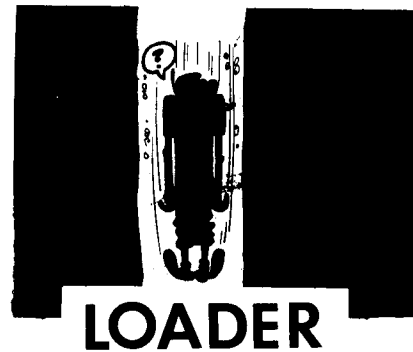
HERITAGE ACT, 1977

The Heritage Act has, at long last, given the Government real legal powers to prevent the demolition and to require the preservation of historic buildings, through the use of interim conservation orders. A study is needed to identify those buildings of historic or architectural merit which, due to their ownership, location, site size or other factors, are potentially threatened with redevelopment. Suggestions or participation in a working group would be appreciated.

These are but some of the problems requiring urgent action. Members interested in participating in small working groups on any of the above, or any other problem area, are invited to contact the new planning convenor:

Alan Robertson,
148 Hereford Street,
Forest Lodge.
660-6149.

BALMAIN COAL



The Coal Loader Opposition Group is made up of a number of resident action groups, concerned about effects of the proposed extension to the Whitebay Coal Loader. CLOG has already prepared a detailed study of the Coal Loader including a thorough critique of the Environmental Impact Study prepared by the Maritime Services Board and this has been submitted to the State Pollution Control Commission. This had limited value as work has already commenced on extending the Coal Loader; however, the S.P.C.C. has written back to CLOG, commenting on the excellence of their submission.

A number of public meetings have been held about the Coal Loader, with the latest one on Saturday, 27th January, at Gladstone Park, Balmain. A few hundred people attended the meeting and among the speakers were Jack Mundy, Merv Nickson (Secretary of the South Coast Trades and Labour Council), Max Smith (Liberal Party M.P.), Nick Origlass (alderman of the L.M.C.) and local residents. Three motions were unanimously passed at the meeting:

- that the State Government take immediate steps to stop work on expansion of the Coal Loader.
- that a public enquiry be held into the expansion of the Whitebay Coal Loader and into the coal industry generally.
- condemning the State Government for failing to comply with its own environmental policy in relation to the Coal Loader.

CLOG is now organizing a petition to be presented to Parliament when it reopens on February 20th. On the same day, a public meeting (demonstration) will be held on the steps of Parliament House. On the evening of the 20th, CLOG is seeking to have the issue discussed at a meeting of the Leichhardt Municipal Council.

For further information, contact Scott Wheelhouse 8273110.

Glebe Day

A CHIMNEY STACK 120ft HIGH AT THE
THE BOTTOM OF OUR STREETS!!

A crowd, estimated at between 8,000 and 10,000 people, came to Glebe's Jubilee Park on Sunday, 21 January for the first complete Festival day in our suburb. Many of the public followed the suggestion made on the Festival programme to picnic there and most were present for several hours, enjoying the excellent free entertainment; the Grey-stanes Parish Band, the Abbey Jazz Band, the Band of the U.S. 7th Fleet, the Sydney Morris Men, Dr. Ozo's Medicine Show, Erasmus the Clown and the Clowns - Zippy, Zappy and Mother Happy.

The vintage car competition gathered a static display of over 200 cars and the prizes went to a 1927 Essex Super Six (first), a 1936 Mercedes Benz Cabaret (2nd) and a 1928 Buick (3rd).

The Glebe Society's stall was a considerable success and over 300 pamphlets were sold; these included a history of Glebe and a guide-yourself walking tour and car tour. Society membership forms and anti-freeway brochures were distributed and we made some book sales.

The weather was perfect - a fine, hot Sydney summer day. Most of the crowd were visitors to Glebe and it was an excellent piece of publicity for us, as residents and Society members. If it happens again next Festival, and this seems likely, we hope for an expansion of activities and this will require a great deal of work and co-ordination. We'll also need much more help so keep that day free for one, two-hour stint, please, dear members.

Next year we would like to have stalls from the restaurants of Glebe, similar to the Festival's Food and Wine Frolic in Hyde Park on January 29 and it is in this area that the Society's help will be particularly requested. I've just been to the Frolic and it was a most civilized and enjoyable event. Let's try to have one in Jubilee Park next time, too.

My thanks to those faithful and reliable people who helped with the stall, the children's games, transport, the pamphlet, etc. And special thanks to Rodney Jenkins from the Festival of Sydney Committee, whose idea it was and who is to be congratulated for the day's great success.

John Hoddinott

In an effort to disperse the pollution from the Bird & Lucas foundry at the corner of Cook & Sheehy streets, it is proposed to install a 120ft high chimney needing special foundations for support.

The following is an excerpt from a letter received from the Director of the SPCC, Mr E.J. Coffey:-

"The most effective means of controlling fumes from the existing unit would be by cooling the cupola gases and then passing them through fabric filters. However, this would require extensive additions to the plant and would be expensive. An alternative means of reducing air pollution from this foundry would be to replace the cupola with electric induction furnaces. The cost of such units would be approximately \$250,000.

The company has agreed to install a tall chimney to lift the fumes above the buildings in the vicinity. The chimney would be at least 35 metres high and will need to be installed on special foundations."

THIS IS AS HIGH AS A 12 STOREY BUILDING

The proposal outlined will result in an ugly blot on an area designated Harbour Foreshore Scenic Protection Area. We have fought strenuously for the scale of development to be restrained in this and other areas of Glebe.

In order to mobilise support, we have held a meeting of interested residents and drafted a duplicated letter to Mr Coffey, but if anyone else should wish to express an opinion, could they get in touch with us.

The threat to our health and welfare posed by the fumes from the foundry is intolerable in this day and age. but there must be better solutions to this problem.

Eric & Katie Gidney 660 5093

SYDNEY MURAL PAINTERS

The mural, at the junction of Avon St and Ferry Rd, is finished. The artists began working, optimistically, with a few small cans of paint, but by the time they had finished, donations were pouring in and there is even paint left over.

Comments on the mural have been favourable. Passing motorists have stopped to look (with any luck, through traffic in Ferry Rd may slow down for a few months) and locals are delighted.

If you know of an area that could be brightened up with a mural, the Mural Artists may be able to help. For information, phone Judy, Ph. 660 0968.

THEY have proliferated in more civilised parts of the world during the past decade, and now they might hit Sydney in a big way. Murals - bright paintings on blank walls and corrugated-iron fences. A trio calling themselves Sydney Mural Painters are at work in Glebe, on the corner of Ferry Road and Avon Street, painting jungle, country and city scenes on the iron fence around a house. They were asked to do the job by a community group and were given the paint by residents. And they are doing the work for nothing. More jobs are in the offing, but once the painters get established they will charge for their work.

(SMH. 29.1.79)

It was reported to the Committee that the Glebe Action Group was fairly happy about proposed modifications to the height and appearance of the Bidura Remand Complex, making it less obtrusive. It was decided that little else could be achieved and the revised plans would be accepted.

A new Glebe Society brochure, including a membership form, has been printed. Mr Sandblom reported that nothing further had happened concerning the Leichhardt Town Plan.

Mr Larkum reported that he had attended the Residents' Action Group meeting at Balmain against the Balmain Coal Loader. He tabled his submission, on behalf of the Glebe Society, to the Environmental Impact Statement Enquiry Board. The Committee accepted this and thanked Mr Larkum for this work.

Mr Sandblom said that the Society should begin to establish a priority system for park lands. Discussion ensued about a landscaping scheme for the Glebe Estate (a funded proposal which includes street closures) and about the area at the end of Glebe Point Road opposite Pope Paul Reserve. A meeting will be arranged with Estate residents to discuss the landscaping.

The Committee accepted, with regret, the resignation of Tony Harfield who is moving to Melbourne. Mr Alan Robertson was elected unanimously to replace Mr Boris Sherban as Planning Convenor.

It seems unlikely that the official opening of Tranby will occur on the 24th February as reported in the last Bulletin. The demands on the Committee's time in organizing the nationwide fundraising appeal - Operation Aborigine - have left little time for this more local event. It is hoped that the opening will happen later in the year, combined with a street party and we will keep you informed.

In the meantime, the Glebe Society Committee will try to help Tranby in any such festivity. Tranby has kindly offered us facilities for our next Committee meeting. In the meantime, anyone who would like to see Tranby or discuss its function or give a donation would be made welcome. Just call in at 13 Mansfield Street, Ph. 660 3429.

FOR YOUR DIARY

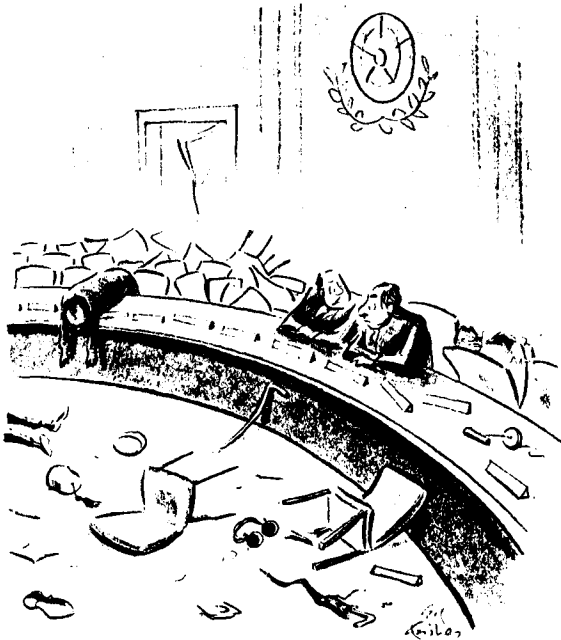
Monday 12 February - Meeting of Monday group, 2.30 pm, at Pat Moore's house to plan the year's activities. The guest will be Mrs. Anna Faulkner, a former member. The next meeting after this one is on Monday, March 12. For more information, phone Pat Moore, Ph.6604178.

Tuesday 13 February - Gardening Seminar, 7.30pm. As part of the Garden Club of Australia's Summer School, a public questions-and-answers discussion will be held at the Women's College, University of Sydney, Carillion Ave. The speakers will be Stan Peck (general gardening), Fred Prior (vegetables) and John Mortimer (azaleas and rhododendrons). The cost is \$2.00. All welcome.

Monday 19 February - Drinks at the Rowing Club. The eighth meeting for a social drink with the Committee, 6 to 7.30pm at the Rowing Club. Details as for 20 November.

Saturday 24 February - Tranby Official Opening. The official opening of the newly restored Tranby - a planned rip-roaring Glebe-style corroboree to celebrate and raise money for the Tranby Aboriginal Co-operative College. The Glebe Society wants to contribute to this excellent project.- see details on Tranby this bulletin.

Sunday 4 March - Coffee and Wine Morning at Betty Wright's, 120 Bridge Rd. Drop in for a drink of coffee or wine (50c.) and to have a chat.



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

The Festival of Sydney 'Glebe Day' was discussed. (See report this issue).

The clear takings from the Guy Fawkes night (about \$15) were included with a donation from the Glebe Society and a cheque for \$70 was handed to Tranby. Mr Eric Gidney's registration fee to the ANZAAS conference was paid; he is delivering a paper about Glebe. The Christmas Party cost \$285.34 and took \$302. Total liquidity stands at about \$1,180.



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Nada Bartulovich
William Burt
Simon Petch
John Thomas
Mr & Mrs Polman
Mr & Mrs Ambrose
Mrs M. Day
Mr D. Powell
Bryan Holliday
David Degenhardt