

THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, Glebe 2037

9/1981

WHAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DID

Blackwattle Bay Park

Bob Armstrong reported on his talks with a representative of Parkes Development. He has been assured that work will commence on Blackwattle Bay Park at the end of October, and will be completed by Christmas. The park will remain fenced for a period after that, for the plantings to become established and during that time it will be maintained by the developer.

Light Rail Group

The winding-up of the Light Rail Group was reported and it was agreed that property belonging to the Group would be held by the Society, at least until a new, independent Group is formed.

The Committee authorised payment of outstanding expenses for the Light Rail Seminar as had been agreed previously, and it was noted that profits from Train Rides and the sale of monographs had off-set these expenses to some extent.

Glebe Theatre Group

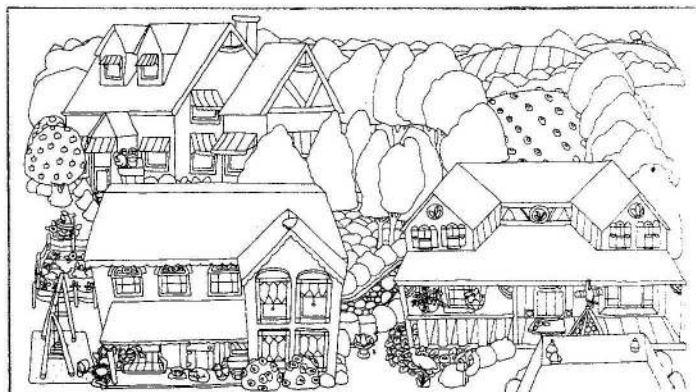
Members of the newly-founded Glebe Theatre Group spoke to the Committee of their plans and asked to be affiliated to the Glebe Society. The Committee felt that this was precluded by our constitution, but offered our support to the Group and agreed to donate some specific object (to be decided) for their first production in January.

Leichhardt Council Housing Seminar

The President, Maureen Colman, reported on a Housing Seminar, held by Leichhardt Council on 10th October. She commented on two particular issues, raised by the seminar, which must be given consideration in the Glebe Society's own policy decisions: firstly, the effects on local employment of the re-zoning of industrial sites to residential, and secondly, the dwindling supply of accommodation for single people in Glebe.

461-465 Glebe Point Road

John Buckingham reported on the most recent plans, submitted to Council by Parkes Development for the rezoning of 461-5 Glebe Point Road, from Industrial to Residential. It has now been agreed that the site will be developed as 40% open space, 60% residential. The plan is for 32 units (24 town houses and 8 flats) which represents a considerable improvement over the previous plan for 40 town houses. The objections by local residents to previous plans by Parkes, have undoubtedly had some effect.



DON'T MISS THE GLEBE SOCIETY HOUSE AND GARDEN INSPECTION!

SUNDAY 1st NOVEMBER, 1981
10 am to 1 pm - 2 pm to 5 pm

Tickets available on the day from the corner of Toxteth and Avenue Roads, from 9.30 am.

Adults: \$3

Children and Concessions: \$1.50

Family ticket: \$7.00

HOUSING SEMINAR - LEICHHARDT COUNCIL

Maureen Colman, the president, and I attended a one-day seminar on Housing at Leichhardt Town Hall on Saturday 10th October, 1981. The key-note speaker was Tom Uren, shadow Federal Minister for Urban Affairs.

Some attention was focussed on ways the Council could encourage retaining a sufficient range of rental and low-income accommodation to compensate for the growing numbers of higher-income and professional people who are attracted to inner suburbs like Glebe. For instance, many boarding-houses in Glebe are being converted to strata title flats or single dwelling houses, or demolished to make way for blocks of units. We learned that in many cases, such boarding houses could be retained and restored with proper architectural advice and flexible town planning controls.

The seminar recommended to Council's Housing Committee that several steps be taken for direct Council involvement and expenditure in housing, including:

- appointing a Housing Officer to the staff;
- seeking contributions from developers towards cost of providing public housing by Council;
- building low-rental housing with or without funding from State or Federal Governments;
- supporting emergency accommodation units such as youth refuges;
- sponsoring a non-profit housing corporation or co-operative;
- using Council's town planning powers to encourage retention of existing boarding houses and rental flatettes;
- continuing to press the State Government to provide Housing Commission homes in scale and character with surrounding area on some of the surplus government land in the Municipality, such as the DMR land in the Lyndhurst area of Glebe.

Council's Housing Committee meets on the first and third Wednesday evenings of the month at Leichhardt Town Hall under chairperson Alderman Bill Hume; any interested resident is welcome to attend and contribute.

Ian Pickles

GLEBE THEATRE PROJECT

We are pleased to inform the Glebe Society that a newly formed drama group has been formed in Glebe.

We are producing a full-length play "Children of the Wolf" by John Peacock during January in the Glebe Town Hall in conjunction with the Festival of Sydney.

The company is non-profit making and a percentage of takings will be paid to members of the Company.

AUCTION will be held privately for parts in the play, for a 21 year old male, a 21 year old female and their mother.

HEREFORD HOUSE

In Bulletin No 4 for this year we reported with pleasure on the purchase of Hereford House (No 53 Hereford St) by the College of Nursing, which occupies the building next door. This purchase saved the historic building (built 1874/5) from unsympathetic development.

The NSW College of Nursing provides continuing education for the nursing profession through courses, workshops, study days and seminars. Increased demand for its services in recent years was the reason for its purchase of Hereford House, which it hopes to equip as classrooms, office space and library.

It is intended to restore the exterior of the house as closely to the original as possible, so as to retain the historic streetscape of the area. The State Government Architect is currently drawing up plans for the building, and no firm decision about restoration and use of the building will be made until the plans are received.

The College faces enormous problems in its restoration plans, however, as the building is in a very poor state of repair. The woodwork, for example, has been destroyed by whiteants, and the upstairs floors are too dangerous to walk on.

Although the College may receive some financial support from the Heritage Council and the Health Commission, most of the money for restoration will have to be raised by the College itself. A "Hereford House Restoration Appeal" has recently been launched and generous donations from the nursing profession are already being received. Glebe residents who appreciate the College's work in restoring this important part of our heritage may also wish to make a donation. Donations of \$2.00 or more are tax deductible. Donations can be sent to:

The NSW College of Nursing,
55 Hereford St,
Glebe. 2037

The Committee wishes to express its thanks to the Leichhardt Council, The Glebe Society, the Neighbourhood Centre, and the Sydney Festival Committee for their co-operation and help.

All enquiries about acting or crewing for this production can be made to Artistic Director, Desmond Bishop, Tel. 660-4265 or Secretary, Merle Larcombe, Tel. 660-0491. Our Chairman, Hilary Larkum will be away overseas, for a month.

WINE BOTTLING will be held at the home of Hilary and Tony Larkum on Saturday, 28th November, 1981, 17 Alexandra Road, Glebe. The proceeds will go to the Glebe Theatre Project.

Come along and stock up for Christmas. Bring your empty bottles along and fill up with an excellent wine for \$1.50.

For further information ring Hilary & Tony, 660-7030 or Merle, 660-0491, or Des. 660-4265.

PARKS



Over the last year, much of the Society's concern for improving Glebe's meagre share of parkland has focused on Blackwattle Bay Park. Now that those plans are close to realisation, it is perhaps time for us to review our broader aims, and determine our priorities.

In late July, John Buckingham submitted a fairly detailed statement of the Glebe Society's Parks Policy to Leichhardt Council's Trees and Open Space Committee. In this edition of the Bulletin we shall briefly summarise that Policy statement, and in later editions look in more detail at particular sections.

1 Bi-Centennial Park

Plans drawn up by the architect Mackenzie for a proposed Bi-Centennial Park, which would include the present Jubilee Park, were shown at the 1981 AGM. This is a particularly important proposal as it answers Glebe's need for a large park area and is the only location available. That it is waterfront is a happy coincidence and adds to its attractiveness.

2 Waterfront Access to Glebe's Harbour Foreshores

A very detailed proposal for waterfront access was drawn up by Alan Robertson and submitted to Council in March, 1979. A review of those proposals will appear in a future Bulletin.

3 The Johnston Valley Parkland Proposal

This proposal, again prepared by Alan Robertson, was given publicity by Council itself in the first edition of Open Council. It would provide a tract of near-continuous parkland through the encroachment of existing parkland and reservations and through limited requisitions.

4 The Estate

This is clearly the most park-deprived area in Glebe. The Mackenzie proposal (available in the Australian Government publication The Glebe Project, which will be on sale at the House and Garden Inspection) creates open space in sympathy with the area's architecture through traffic closures and semi closures.

5 Pocket Parks: room for improvement

Some fifteen pocket parks have been identified spotted around Glebe. They vary considerably in size, attractiveness and in the quality of their equipment. Locals should be consulted before we firm up on a policy for individual spaces.

6 Street Closures and New Pocket Parks

Seven areas have been identified as possible sites for new pocket parks, with areas near the Estate given special priority as the area of greatest need. These suggestions will be discussed in some detail in future, as they would require only moderate expenditure, and some could well be implemented in the coming year.

7 Lyndhurst Area

The report prepared by Perumal et al for the DMR on the rehabilitation of the Lyndhurst area was reviewed in the last edition of the Bulletin (No 8). But while a final decision is being made on those plans, we suggest that available land should be used immediately as open space by removing fences and having the areas cleared and grassed. Expenditure on these areas would have to be kept to a minimum.

8 Public Access to Schools and Kindergarten

The practice of locking perimeter fences to schools in the area and to kindergartens (including those owned by Council) is costing Glebe residents valuable open space and attractive and interesting play areas. It is recognised that the fences are intended to serve two worthwhile purposes - keeping children safe during hours, and keeping the buildings secure out of hours. The first purpose has obvious merit; the second is suspect. No perimeter fence surrounding any Glebe School or kindergarten is capable of keeping out any person older than ten years old!

Jan Macindoe

LEICHHARDT HISTORICAL JOURNAL

Members may not be aware that the Glebe Society, along with the Annandale Association, the Balmain Association and the Leichhardt Association, is a sponsor of the Leichhardt Historical Journal. The Journal's first edition was in 1971, and its ninth in 1980. It publishes articles and reviews of local historical interest. Enquiries can be made from Dr Peter Reynolds, 9 The Avenue, Balmain. 827-3560. Back copies of Nos 5 to 9 are available.

For your diary

Wednesday, 28th October, 7.30pm

The Total Environment Centre invites Gle

Wednesday, 28th October, 7.30pm

The Total Environment Centre invites Glebe Society members to a public meeting at Turner Hall, in Harris Street, (part of the Institute of Technology). The topic will be "Save the Rainforests" and is sponsored by the National Trust, Australian Conservation Foundation and Rainforest Action Centre. In particular the meeting is concerned with the effects of logging on the proposed Bandabanda National Park, near Port Macquarie.

Sunday 1st November, 10am to 1pm, 2pm to 5pm

House and Garden Inspection. Buy your ticket at the corner of Toxteth and Avenue Roads.

Monday, 2nd November, 2.30pm

Afternoon tea at Gwen Knox's home, 26 Victoria Rd, for members of the Monday Group. For enquiries, ring Gwen, 660-7781 or Vi Hicks, 660-3694.

Sunday 8th November, 10am-1pm

Wine and coffee morning at the home of Merle and Dick Larcombe, 14 Toxteth Rd. Come along for a pleasant opportunity to meet other members.

Monday, 16th November, 6pm

Drinks at the Rowing Club. A chance to meet Committee members. All welcome.

Saturday, 21st November, 11am -6pm

Punch Park People are staging a one day seminar on Solar Energy in the main hall of the Balmain Town Hall.

Saturday, 28th November, 2.30pm

Wine Bottling at the home of Hilary and Tony Larkum, 17 Alexandra Rd, Glebe, to raise funds for the Glebe Theatre Group.

Wednesday, 2nd December

Keep this date free for the Glebe Society Christmas Party. Please book before 27th November. Ring:

Janette Knox: 660-7781
Doris Sharpe: 660-6636
or Betty Wright: 660-1875

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Remember that our next Bulletin will be the last edition for 1981. Now is the time to send your letter on any topic of interest to Glebe Society members to:

The Editor,
Glebe Society Bulletin,
56 Wigram Rd,
GLEBE 2037

Management Committee

President	Maureen Colman	660-2302
Senior Vice Pres.	Bob Armstrong	660-4189
Junior Vice Pres.	Doris Sharpe	660-6636
Secretary	John Buckingham	660-7780
Treasurer	Gideon Rutherford	692-0239
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	Neville Holmes	692-0247
	Betty Wright	660-1875
	Diana Sharpe	660-4392
New members' rep.	Michael Hough	660-7232
Bulletin editor	Jan Macindoe	660-0208
Bulletin distribution	Doris Sharpe	660-6636

PUNCH PARK PEOPLE

Punch Park People will stage a one day seminar on Solar Energy in the main hall of the Balmain Town Hall on Saturday, 21st November from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This seminar is designed for lay persons and its theme will be "everything you would like to know about Solar Energy".

Leading authorities will discuss and answer questions on the following topics:

Your Right to Sunlight
Passive Solar Housing
The Efficiency of Domestic Hot Water Solar Systems
How to Build Your Own Inexpensive Solar Collector
Making Existing Housing More Solar Efficient
Photovoltaics - Electricity From Sunlight
The Latest in Solar Energy Research

Admission will be free.

For further information ring: 827 3438
569 1377, 827 2757 or 82 4874.

HELP WANTED

Coffee and wine mornings are a pleasant, simple, occasion for members to get together.

We need more members who are willing to hold the coffee morning in their homes. (Cups and glasses are lent by the society and members' contributions cover any expenses). If you could help out in this way, please ring Nan Waterford, 660-6906.