

THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, Glebe 2037

No. 6 OF 1985

AUGUST

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17TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 7TH AUGUST.

This year's A.G.M. was well attended and we were particularly pleased that Kate and Bernard Smith, founders of the Society were able to attend.

There are still some vacancies on the Committee, as insufficient nominations were received to fill all positions. The people who were nominated were elected unopposed and are listed on the back page of the Bulletin. If you would like to offer your services please ring Edwina Doe (660 7066 or 929 9848) before the next Committee meeting on 19th August.

The reports from Action Sub-committee Convenors were most interesting. John Buckingham outlined once again the history of the proposed Bicentennial Park. He told us that the time is fast approaching when we will have to campaign actively if the Park is to become reality.

Funds will be available and everyone is in favour of the Park; the Leichhardt Council, the Bicentennial Authority, the relevant State politicians and, of course, the local Residents' Groups. The hold-up is the necessity to regain previously public land from the Maritime Services Board.

The Meeting approved the expenditure of funds on a publicity campaign and public meetings on the site of the proposed Park at the end of September, if no further progress is made.

Traffic problems were mentioned both by the out-going President, Neil Macindoe, and Jeanette Knox, our Traffic Convenor. Any work on the Western Freeway will affect our area in the future and recent changes made by the D.M.R. are already affecting us. Jeanette Knox has prepared a petition to Leichhardt Municipal Council requesting that the promised Traffic Management Study for Glebe be undertaken immediately. She needs the help of Members to get as many signatures as



Morlay Poultry
Foods.
R. B. Young, Perth, 1935.

possible. Please contact her if you can help.

Questions were asked once again about Fletchers' use of their waterfront site. Neil Macindoe reported that this matter has been discussed with the Council, but there has been no action.

A copy of the President's Report for 1985 is included with this Bulletin.

MEET THE MEMBERS EVENING

Following the success of our first Meet the Members meeting in June, we have invited several guest speakers to the August meeting.

Phil Nadin and two other senior officers from the Housing Commission, and a Project Officer from the Glebe Estate will give an audio - visual presentation of their activities in Glebe. This is an excellent opportunity to hear first hand how plans are progressing.

The evening will also provide an opportunity for members and newcomers to the society to meet Committee members and Convenors of Action Sub-Committees.

Time: 7 - 10 pm.
Thursday 15th August
At: The Kindergarten,
19 Toxteth Road.

Do come along and bring your friends. Wine, coffee and light refreshments will be provided, free of charge.

A SECOND SYDNEY AIRPORT - WILL IT AFFECT US? Maureen Colman.

In September 1983 the Commonwealth and NSW State Governments announced that they had agreed on a program leading to the selection and acquisition of a second airport site for Sydney. Ten sites were listed for consideration and these were evaluated to produce a short list of two, Badgerys Creek and Wilton.

Both the sites are a long way from the city centre so, whichever is chosen, Glebe will not be directly affected by aircraft movements. Indeed, taking a purely selfish view, it is not a new airport site but expansion at Kingsford-Smith that would threaten Glebe.

In spite of the fact that the question of a second Sydney airport site has been repeatedly put in the too-hard basket, it seems likely that a decision has become absolutely essential, not only to end uncertainty and speculation, but because several possible sites have already been lost to other development. To procrastinate further would result in there simply being no available land within reasonable distance of Sydney.

Although it has been argued that no one would want to use an airport as far out as Badgerys Creek, let alone Wilton, a considerable amount of traffic could be moved from Kingsford-Smith. Charges at the new airport would be lower, and it would thus be attractive to operators of smaller aircraft, charter flights and package tours. This would relieve congestion at Kingsford-Smith. At present Kingsford-Smith accommodates a mix of aircraft types, which limits its capacity.



Animated plane called 'Smiley' introduced in 1972.



27. 5. 85

HNR:JG

Mr. Neil P. MacIndoe,
President,
The Glebe Society,
Box 100,
GLEBE. 2037

Dear Mr. MacIndoe,

Thank you for your letter of May 9th, 1985 and by now you will have observed that we are indeed restoring the clocks to our towers on the corner of Bay Street and Broadway.

It is a great shame that the spheres deteriorated to such a degree that they became unsafe and had to be removed.

The old clocks were operated by a primitive 50V. D.C. system, which has been very unreliable for many years. When it was finally declared beyond repair I was very concerned that the people of Sydney would be deprived of an outstanding landmark. Accordingly I asked that the clocks be fully restored using new mechanisms, power supply and lighting. In fact even the hands and numerals had to be reconstructed (these latter by hand!). Cost of this work is in the order of \$25,000.

We are still experimenting with the mechanism and the lighting but expect the work to be completed in a week or so.

Yours sincerely,

HARRY N. ROCK
GROUP GENERAL MANAGER, STORES

Grace Bros Pty. Ltd. (Incorporated in N.S.W.) P.O. Box 42, Broadway, N.S.W. 2007, Australia. Telephone: 20946

40-001 (1-85)

Grace Bros have produced an excellent book to celebrate their Centenary. It has 290 pages of history and photographs and Alan Hunt, our tame historian, thoroughly recommends it. It is available from Grace Bros and costs \$19.95



Runways serving a variety of large and small aircraft can handle fewer operations per hour than runways serving either large or small aircraft.

A second airport would have considerable advantages and, with the growth of Sydney's population, is ultimately unavoidable. The selection of a site, however, does not mean that the airport will be built. That is another decision entirely. It will probably take another forty years for Governments to nerve themselves to grasp that nettle!



THE GLEBE SOCIETY

BOX 100 GLEBE 2037

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1985

In its first hectic years the Glebe Society evolved many policies that have stood the test of time. Policies such as the revitalisation of inner city communities and houses, and improved public transport rather than freeways have long ceased to be radical and controversial : they are the accepted wisdom, both locally and overseas. Public access to the harbour foreshores is likewise now government policy, although still far from being realised in our region.

These policies, and others like them, form a sound basis for any Committee. They are imaginative, but also practical : intelligent and enlightened, but also generous and humane. The challenge is to implement them successfully, without losing their freshness and vision in the process, and devise others equally appealing to meet current circumstances. This report records the vicissitudes of a Committee attempting to meet this challenge, and suggests areas the next committee could develop, or may need to watch.

MEMBERSHIP:

The list of members is now completely updated. As expected, some members have moved and a few drifted away once the fight for a new town plan had been successfully concluded. The degree of mobility, especially in some areas of Glebe, is quite high, and some form of membership drive is desirable to catch new residents and bring old ones back to the fold. The revised membership form records actual members more accurately.

THE BULLETIN:

Frequently the Bulletin is a member's principal, or even only, contact with the Society. We are fortunate that Edwina Doe has served as Editor so energetically and good humouredly for so long. I have tried to ensure she has plenty of material to publish.

Andrew Birtchnall took over from me as Distributor earlier this year. He has done an excellent job of implementing the Committee's decision to post the Bulletin, reducing the potential cost by about half. It is up to the AGM to decide whether we should persevere with this method, or attempt some other.

LEICHHARDT COUNCIL:

I pointed out in last year's report that the present Council is comparatively inexperienced. This problem has been compounded by factional divisions. The Committee has attempted to co-operate where possible, but while some support has been forthcoming from a few aldermen, it has not reached the level of the previous Council in any area. With Council's officers, however, the links are more continuous and fruitful.

There is though amongst conservation groups and in the local community a long tradition of co-operative effort that is very valuable to us in dealing with the various juggernauts that with slow but dreadful lust, crush themselves from time to time on Glebe's fair bosom.

I hope that as the members of the Committee become more experienced, they will be able to participate more fully in furthering the Society's objectives.

PUBLIC HOUSING:

The New South Wales Housing Commission purchased the Glebe Project on favourable terms, and lost no time in obtaining the Society's recommendations for local parks. Housing Commission projects in Glebe will eventually increase the population by about 2,000. Local institutions should be able to cope and commerce should benefit. Nevertheless, please spread the word: many people are still unaware of Glebe's major role in providing public housing in the inner city.

PARKS:

The addition of Stride's Yard to Blackwattle Bay Park, now hemmed in by new units, was quite unexpected, and also the only significant gain this year, although the John Street section of St James' Park and the Mitchell Street closure should also be counted, as they are now usable. The Rozelle Bay Bicentennial Park is proving a tough battle, as is Orphan School Creek Park. In both cases, recalcitrant public authorities may be able to delay handing over land for a time. The Study of Blackwattle and Rozelle Bays by the Department of Environment and Planning may also assist acquisition of more waterfront for the people.

TRAFFIC:

The traffic study of Glebe has been delayed by Council, and one result has been that the creation of parks in the Glebe Project area has also been set back. Another consequence is that ad hoc decisions continue to be made, and the Committee often hears complaints, though it attempts to direct them to Council, which is the responsible authority for all except Bridge Road and The Crescent, controlled by the DMR.

FREEWAYS:

I wish I were able to tell you just what is happening, but no one seems to know. The final route for the freeway across Pymont should soon be announced, and the engineers agree that a new six-lane Glebe Island Bridge must be built first to join their two pet schemes together. When it will be built, exactly how high it will be, and whether there is money for it, is still as vague as it used to be for the Opera House. Freeways are a lottery anyway.

REGIONAL ISSUES:

Apart from freeways and the waterfront, the main regional issue has been Darling Harbour, because it will be a major traffic generator. Hence the Committee has supported a light rail system, as the one that connects best with available public transport. The Society has also represented local residents and their needs to the Authority.

HAROLD AND WENTWORTH PARKS:

Important restrictions have been placed on the improvements to Harold Park Paceway. It remains to be seen whether a dying industry can be revived by massive injections of public money. The present and future expenditure at Wentworth Park is even more extravagant and ought to be a matter for public concern.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

The idea of a major fair for Glebe, perhaps along the lines of Woollahra's Queen Street Fair, has been mooted for several years, but the expense is beyond the Society's resources. Therefore the Committee welcomed and facilitated the first Glebe Food Fair, as a multicultural event and since it can attract a large attendance from a wide region.

Glebe Open Day was successfully revived. There is general agreement that house inspections are especially satisfying. They involve a good deal of social contact, spread useful information, and are profitable.

Tony Larkum's wine bottlings and Alan Hunt's garage sales also combine conviviality and profit: there have been two of each in the past year.

The Committee had hoped Lyndhurst would be available for meetings and functions this year, but when it became apparent work would not be finished for some time, Alan Hunt proposed Toxteth Road Uniting Church Hall, now comfortably refurbished, and the first Meet the Members evening took place successfully in June.

THINGS TO WATCH:

In summary, we shall need to maintain an active interest in proposed freeways and traffic matters generally, the foreshores of both bays, Darling Harbour, and any changes in planning legislation.

ENVOI:

As immediate past president, I shall not disappear altogether, but I shall no longer be in the spotlight. Many people assisted in making its glare less frightening by their encouragement and support. The outstanding ones were Alan Robertson, John Buckingham and Lindsay Foyle, but there were many others, members of this Society, of other organisations, and other good friends. Special thanks for their continued work for the Society are also due to Sally Nelson and Betty Wright.

NEIL MACINDOE

WHAT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DID - JULY

Leichhardt Council acknowledged receipt of the Society's park proposals for the Glebe Project, but said that road closures would not be considered until the Glebe Traffic Study had been undertaken. The Committee has written to the Glebe Aldermen requesting that the traffic study be undertaken immediately.

The Committee has written to the Minister for Planning and Environment and his Departmental Head congratulating them on the purchase of Stride's Yard and expressing the Society's support for a study of Blackwattle and Rozelle Bays. The Society hopes to be consulted about the development of the Stride's site.

The Committee passed on to Leichhardt Council the recommendations of the University of N.S.W. School of Landscape Architecture re the poplars in Glebe Point Road. They also wrote to Cr. Brian Thomson, who is on the Sydney County Council and is also a Glebe Alderman, asking him to pursue the relocation of overhead wires in Glebe underground.

The Committee noted with concern the lack of measures to preserve Glebe Town Hall and Reussdale and resolved to press for appropriate action.

There was some discussion of the waterfront sites reviewed in the letter from the Leichhardt Council's Director of Planning, especially the Fletchers' site. Despite several letters, the situation regarding the access road is still not clear and a further request for clarification has been sent.

HAPPY HOUR AT LYNDBURST - 18th SEPTEMBER

Come along to Lyndhurst and inspect the new staircase. We will be holding a Happy Hour there from 6.30 to 8 pm. on Wednesday 18th September.

We hope that Kate and Bernard Smith will be able to join us, before they end their visit to Glebe.

WINE BOTTLING

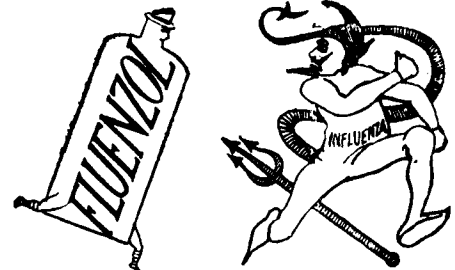
Tony Larkum is holding another wine bottling in mid - October. We will give you details of the wines and prices next month but start saving empty bottles now. Wash them, rinse them in plain water and leave them upside down to drain. They will then be ready for sterilising and refilling at the bottling.

MONDAY GROUP

The Monday Group's meetings have been disrupted recently by the 'flu epidemic. The July meeting was cancelled, but if all goes well, there will be an afternoon tea at Sally Nelson's, 1 Allen Street, on 19th August.

Details of the meeting on 16th September will be announced later. Meanwhile, best wishes to all the 'invalids'.

Fluenzol.
The Fluenzol Pty Ltd,
Wellington, New
Zealand.
Medicine; 1911.



DRIVES AWAY INFLUENZA
Malaria and All Throat Affections

BIRTHDAY PARTY

The recent Birthday Party at the Glebe Rowing Club was a great success, but was also affected by the 'flu as several members were unable to attend.

Our thanks to the staff at the Rowing Club for all their hospitality.

ALLEN MEMORIAL CHURCH

.....oooOooo.....

AN INTERESTING CEREMONY

On Saturday afternoon the ceremony of placing in position two foundation-stones in connection with the rebuilding of the Allen Memorial Church at Toxteth-road, Glebe Point, was carried out in the presence of a large assemblage. The honour of performing the ceremony was entrusted to Lady Allen and Mrs. Boyce, two ladies who had been closely associated with the church work of Toxteth for almost a lifetime. This church is being erected in the room of one built on the site by the late Hon. George Allen, M.L.C., in the year 1843. For many years it was used as a private chapel by the Allen family, but residents in the district were always invited to attend the service. Subsequently the church was conveyed to the Wesleyan (now Methodist) body. The foundation stone of the original church was laid by the late Hon. George Wigram Allen, to whom was presented on that occasion a handsome silver trowel and a mallet of myall wood. On Saturday the stone placed into position by Lady Allen was the same foundation-stone laid by Sir George Wigram Allen sixty years ago, and the trowel and mallet used were also the same.

FOR SALE

Washstand back with 12 art nouveau tiles, mainly green. \$60 or nearest offer. Phone Maureen Colman, 660 2302.

The McKeowns have approximately 1 tonne of river sand, suitable for bedding paving bricks or other garden uses. It is in bags and is free to anyone who will take it away. Phone 660 3917.

TRACING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

The Archives Office of NSW has produced a useful leaflet on tracing your family history using the State archives. Phone 237-0254 for information.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR
SUBSCRIPTION FOR 1985/6?

PEOPLE TO CONTACT FOR AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

Bi-centennial Park -
John Buckingham - 660 7780

Blackwattle Bay Park -
Bob Armstrong - 660 4189

Harold & Wentworth Parks -
Gideon Rutherford - 692 0239

Jubilee Park -
Tony Larkum - 660 7030

History Group -
Alan Hunt - 660 2407

Planning -
Alan Robertson - 660 6149

Traffic -
Jeanette Knox - 660 7781

Monday Group (Social) -
Sally Nelson - 660 6138

Meet the Members Evenings -
Alan Hunt - 660 2407

The Committee is anxious to form groups to cover other interest areas. If you are willing to help form a sub-committee on any matter concerning The Glebe, contact Neil Macindoe (660 0208).

FOR YOUR DIARY

Full details elsewhere in Bulletin

THURSDAY 15th AUGUST - 7 p.m.

Meet the Members Evening -
19 Toxteth Road

MONDAY 19th AUGUST - 2.30 p.m.

Monday Group Meeting - 1 Allen Street

MONDAY 19th AUGUST - 7.30 p.m.

Committee Meeting - 224 Bridge Road
(Edwina Doe - 660 7066)

MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER

Monday Group Meeting - details later

WEDNESDAY 18th SEPTEMBER - 6.30 p.m.

Happy Hour - Lyndhurst

MID - OCTOBER

Wine Bottling - details later.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

President

Immediate Past Pres. : Neil Macindoe
660 0208 (H)

Senior Vice Pres. : Edwina Doe
660 7066 (H)
929 9848 (W)

Junior Vice Pres. : Eileen Lacey
692 9173 (H)
692 0633 (W)

Treasurer : Mike Curtis
692 9416 (H)

Secretary

Committee :

Bob Armstrong : 660 4189 (H)

Chris Barry : 660 6115 (H)

Maureen Fry : 660 7157 (H)

Alan Hunt : 660 2407 (H)

Ted McKeown : 660 3917 (H)

Bulletin Editor : Edwina Doe

Bulletin Distributor

Andrew Birtchnall : 660 5178 (H)

Social Secretary : Gwen Geschmay
660 4825 (H)

Membership of the Glebe Society costs \$8 per year (individual membership). For information, ring Mike Curtis on 692 9416.