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THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, Glebe 2037

NO. 5 OF 1987

JUNE

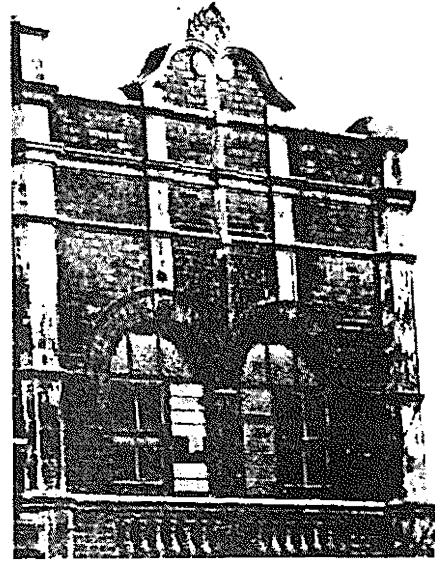
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BIRTHDAY PARTY - SUNDAY 21st JUNE

We have reserved the front area of the Glebe Rowing Club (the room with a view) for the Society's Birthday Party on Sunday 21st June, 12.30 for 1pm.

The price is a very reasonable \$10 for a three course meal - Seafood Entree, Chicken Riviera (stuffed with apricots), Cheesecake and coffee. Drinks are extra.

Pay at the door, but please phone Betty Wright (660 1875) or Edwina Doe (922 3877 or 660 7066) by Saturday 13th June with your booking.



206
St Johns
Road

PUBLIC MEETING

SATURDAY 20 JUNE 1987

2pm ST JOHNS HALL, ST JOHNS ROAD

Subject: THE TRAFFIC SITUATION IN GLEBE:
WHAT CAN BE DONE.

At which the traffic sub-committee will report on talks with the DMR and invite the meeting to decide what further steps should be taken to secure a satisfactory Traffic Plan for Glebe that will keep through traffic out of local roads and improve the environment and safety for the residents. Light refreshments will be served.

ALL WELCOME

MEMBERSHIP FEES 1987/88

Membership fees are due again, for the year commencing 1st July. An invoice is enclosed with this Bulletin for those to whom it applies. Anyone who joined after 1st April does not have to pay again.

The AGM is in August, and only financial members are eligible to vote.

There has been a slight rise in fees - to \$13 for households and to \$11 for individual members. The pensioner rate remains at \$4. The additional \$1 will be swallowed up by increased printing and postage costs for our Bulletin.

198 - 206 ST. JOHNS ROAD

At the Building and Development Committee meeting on 20th May, Leichhardt Council deferred its decision pending a further report. The Society is very concerned, since Council's Planning Department strongly recommended refusal of the application on both planning and heritage grounds. Graham Fenwick and Terry Ginn have made great efforts to save these remarkable Edwardian shops and the Society has helped them to obtain about 200 requests from residents to retain the shops. Don Ellsmore and Max Solling have also made major contributions.

Please ensure that the efforts of all these people are not wasted by making your support for preservation known to Leichhardt Council and the media.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

Peter O'Gorman has been co-opted onto the Committee. Peter is helping Mike Curtis with the book-keeping for the next few weeks and we are hoping that we have found our new Treasurer.



I interviewed Ross Barker, Deputy Head of Administration at the Children's Hospital on 27 May. The piledriving which has been shattering the peace of Forest Lodge is the Water Board repairing the conduit pipe of Orphan School Creek, which flows underground until its junction with Johnston's Creek. An over-enthusiastic bulldozer driver pushed a large volume of fill onto the conduit in the process of constructing an ambulance bay and the Water Board claims the conduit was damaged. After repairs are made, the ambulance bay will have to be constructed on fill, as before.

The land swap between Leichhardt Council and the Hospital to make Orphan School Creek Park a possibility has been delayed by the legal impediments to Council surrendering gazetted parkland for any purpose, according to Mr. Barker.

The Hospital's master plan is still at a rudimentary stage. The aim is to consolidate the main site by building a service block and relocating stores and workshops. The old Myers warehouse on Booth Street is to become a multi-storey car park. The Hospital is considering a town house development for vacant land it owns in Forest Lodge and is aware that this must be compatible with existing housing. It has consulted developers, but no firm plans, for this or anything else, have been drawn. Don't hold your breath.



WIGRAM ROAD - MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN

At their meeting of 12th May, Leichhardt Council decided to proceed, in the words of the Municipal Engineer's report, to 'provide for the replacement of 980 metres of old stone kerb with new concrete kerb and gutter both sides of Wigram Road from Ross Street to Glebe Point Road, and including ancillary drainage improvements, footpath reconstruction in concrete and road pavement resheeting'.

The source of funds for this work is stated to be the Federal Government's Australian Land Transport Programme (Urban Local Roads Programme). The initial grant of \$98,000 was apparently approved on the recommendation of the DMR in January this year, despite protests from the Society and the National Trust. The total cost of the proposed work is believed to be about \$400,000, of which the remaining \$300,000

odd would be sought over the next two years.

The Society contacted the National Trust to inform them of Council's decision and on the advice of the Trust requested a Conservation Order from the NSW Heritage Council. At the same time the Traffic sub-committee distributed 600 flyers informing residents and asking them for their help, and also explained the situation to the media.

On the afternoon of Thursday 21 May the project signs were removed from Wigram Road and the DMR has since requested a meeting with the Glebe Society.

OBJECTIONS - the Society's objections are of two kinds:

1. The project is unnecessary, of extremely low priority and trivial in relation to its huge expense. Wigram Road is not perfect, but its major problem, in common with most of Glebe, is an excessive volume of commuter traffic. If Federal money is to be spent in the area, it should be directed to a worthwhile goal; a traffic plan for Glebe that limits the overflow of through traffic into local roads and improves safety for pedestrians and motorists.
2. The sandstone blocks forming the kerbs date from 1887 and are an integral part of the the picturesque Victorian streetscape of this part of Wigram Road, which forms part of the Glebe Conservation area. Any upgrading of Wigram Road involves not only damage to its heritage value but also a further deterioration of the environment, which is already detrimentally affected by the traffic.

Please make your objections clear to the following people in any way you can:

R.J. Eggins, Town Clerk.

Ald. W. Brady, Mayor (810 6923)

Ald. B. Thompson (267 9288 W, 660 1226 H)

Ald. I. Cawley (660 3420)

All of Leichhardt Council,
P.O. Box 45,
Leichhardt 2040.

Hon. Pat Hills, MLA for Elizabeth (267 9288)
Hon. Laurie Brereton, Minister for Roads

Both at Parliament House,
Macquarie Street,
Sydney 2000.

Peter Baldwin, MHR for Sydney (568 3033)
Hon. Peter Morris, Minister for Transport

Both at Parliament House,
Canberra, ACT 2600.

STRIDE'S YARD, BLACKWATTLE BAY

The Heritage Branch of the Department of Environment and Planning has recommended the retention of three of the houses on Stride's Yard. They are, in descending order of importance, The Retreat (No 53, built 1853, stone post-Regency), Drayton Lodge (NO 51b, built 1872 by Ambrose Thornley Snr) and Florence Villa (No 49, built 1876 by Ambrose Thornley Jnr).

The Committee has pointed out the need for a Community Centre and for the future use of Bellevue/Venetia to be considered in conjunction with the other houses. A Community Centre would probably need the co-operation of Leichhardt Council and the Society's original proposal, drawn up in consultation with Leichhardt Planning department, was rejected by the Glebe aldermen.

The waterfront section of Stride's Yard was gazetted as open space on March 16 and the incorporation of this area as waterfront park joining the two sections of Blackwattle Bay Park also depends on Leichhardt Council, who may need prompting.

ROADS 2000

One cause for rejoicing in this document is the deletion of the County Road Reservation along the Johnston's Creek Valley. We do not want it replaced by a container access road that feeds heavy vehicles into Glebe and Annandale.

The article below appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald on Friday 22nd June. Our thanks to Max Wilson of the Pyrmont/Ultimo Society for alerting us to this matter.

Stop Wentworth Park being used as a carpark, demand residents

By TRACEY AUBIN,
Civic Reporter

Inner-city residents have called on the State Government to restore Wentworth Park as a recreational area, rather than allow it to be used as a carpark by visitors to Darling Harbour.

The park has increasingly been used for parking, particularly during public transport strikes.

Now the 500 members of the Glebe Society — a residents' action group interested in local history — fear the State Government is planning to allow Darling Harbour visitors to leave their cars in Wentworth Park until its own carparks are completed.

The 1,500 parking spaces in the casino proposal the State Government is still considering will not

be finished in 1988.

A spokesman for the Minister for Public Works, Mr Brereton, said that Wentworth Park would only be used for parking on special occasions. This would include weekends, particularly when the First Fleet re-enactment ships and the Tall Ships came to the harbour.

By 1988 there would be 5,000 parking spaces in Darling Harbour, Mr Brereton said, and these would only rarely need to be supplemented by places such as Wentworth Park.

But residents say enough is enough, and that it is time the park was returned to the people.

The president of the Glebe Society, Ms Edwina Doe, said the Government was focusing all its

attention on Darling Harbour and ignoring other potentially beautiful parks.

Over the past 50 years, the park had increasingly been used for "vested interests" which showed little concern for the local community.

In 1880, this paper described the park as "the most attractive and beautiful of our recreation grounds, second only to the Botanic Gardens".

But then came the encroachments — greyhound racing began at Wentworth Park in 1939.

Ms Doe said letters had already been written to the State Government, but it had not guaranteed to leave the park alone. She said residents would begin collecting signatures for a petition.

MONDAY GROUP

The next meeting will be a visit to the Australian Museum on June 15th. Meet at the College Street entrance at 12 noon. We will buy lunch in the cafeteria at the Museum.

The Monday Group has recently welcomed some new members and would be happy to have more. For information, ring Sally Nelson on 660 6138

COL MACKENZIE HOME

We are pleased to report that Col is home again following his heart attack. He had a two week stay in hospital.

If bad luck does run in threes, Col and Jean should be over their bad patch now. We wish them both well.

PLAYREADING GROUP

The next play to be read is Alan Ayckbourn's 'Table Manners', from the Norman Conquests trilogy. Meet at Merle Larcombe's place, 14 Toxteth Road at 8pm on Sunday 14th June.

MEET THE MEMBERS MEETING - 14th JULY

Our guest speakers at the next Meet the Members evening will be from the Glebe Community Planning Team, the group which is co-ordinating social and planning decisions for the Glebe Estate. They have commissioned a Traffic Study for their area, which we would love to see, and will have other interesting things to tell us. The meeting will be at 7.30 pm in St Johns Church Hall.

REPORT TO RESIDENTS

Leichhardt Council is distributing a report this year including some comment on controversial projects that are still taking place.

Members should note among other things the huge rise in Capital Acquisition (P9). Currently Leichhardt Council is proposing to demolish two of its properties for a car park in Leichhardt.

ROZELLE BAY

The draft Local Environment Plan for Rozelle Bay is now on exhibition at Leichhardt Council's offices, 7 Wetherill Street. It will remain for your comments until 18th June. The Society should be receiving copies of the Environmental Impact Statement shortly and this will be closely examined and debated by the sub-committee. Members wishing to participate should contact John Buckingham on 660 7730.

PEOPLE TO CONTACT FOR AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

BICENTENNIAL PARK

John Buckingham - 660 7780

PLANNING

Neil Macindoe - 660 0208

TRAFFIC

Jeanette Knox - 660 7781

BLACKWATTLE BAY PARK

Bob Armstrong - 660 4189

HAROLO AND WENTWORTH PARKS

Gideon Rutherford - 692 0239

JUBILEE PARK

Tony Larkum - 660 7030

HISTORY GROUP

Ian Edwards - 660 6406

MONDAY GROUP

Sally Nelson - 660 6138

PLAYREADING GROUP

Sue Johnson - 692 0101

The Committee is anxious to form groups to cover other areas of interest. If you are willing to help form a sub-committee on any matter concerning The Glebe, contact Edwina Doe, 660 7066 (H), 922 3877 (W)

FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 14th July - 3pm - Recital - St Johns Church - see leaflet.

Sunday 14th June - 8pm - Playreading - 14 Toxteth Road.

Monday 15th June - 12 noon - Monday Group - Australian Museum, College St.

Tuesday 16th June - 7.30pm - Committee Meeting - Lyndhurst, Darghan Street.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Saturday 20th June - 2pm - Traffic Meeting - St Johns Church Hall.

Sunday 21st June - 12.30pm - Birthday Party - Glebe Rowing Club, Ferry Road.

Wednesday 1st July - 6.30pm - Eating Out at Lien, 331 Glebe Point Road, opp. Wigram Road. Vietnamese and Malaysian food. B.Y.O.

Tuesday 14th July - 7.30pm - Meet the Members Evening - St Johns Church Hall.

Wednesday 12th August - 7.30 pm - A.G.M.

KEEP

GLEBE

CLEAN

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President:	Edwina Doe	660 7066 (H)
		922 3877 (W)
Imm. Past Pres:	Neil Macindoe	660 0208 (H)
Jun. Vice Pres:	John Stander	692 9927 (H)
Secretary:	Doug Disher	690 1933 (H)
		660 1044 (W)
Treasurer:	Mike Curtis	389 1475
Committee:	Andrew Wood	660 2194 (H)
	Ian Edwards	660 6406 (H)
	Peter O'Gorman	660 0302 (H)
		925 9759 (W)
Membership Lists:	Andrew Wood	660 2194
Social Organiser	Betty Wright	660 1875
Bulletin Editor:		
New Members Rep:	John Stander	692 9927 (H)

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY COSTS:
HOUSEHOLD \$13; INDIVIDUAL \$11, STUDENTS
AND PENSIONERS \$4. For information ring
John Stander - 692 9927 (H)