

# THE GLEBE SOCIETY BULLETIN

Box 100, Glebe 2037

NO. 2 OF 1988

MARCH/APRIL

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## STATE ELECTION

A Meet the Candidates meeting was not seen as appropriate for the coming elections but we invited candidates for the McKell electorate to write their responses to two questions; first how they could convince us that they would represent the interests of the residents of Glebe regardless of which Party gained a majority in the new Parliament and second, what specific actions they would take to ensure the prompt implementation of their stated policies (which have already been set out in their printed literature).

We delayed the preparation of this Bulletin with the intention of publishing their replies. Unfortunately we did not receive sufficient responses to justify publication of those we did receive. We thank those candidates who made the effort to respond.

The full list of candidates for our electorate is:

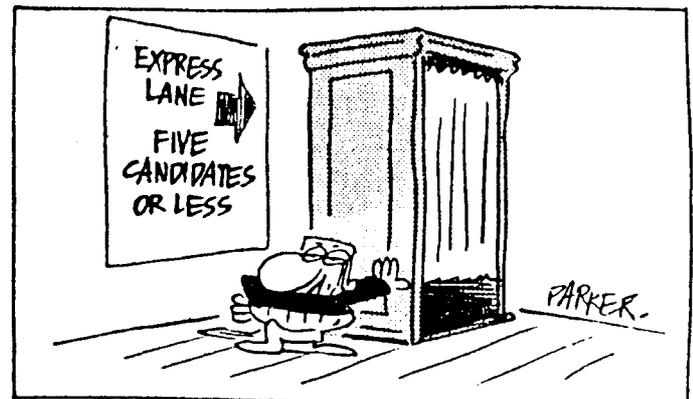
### McKELL

Faulks, Ian (AD); Sartor, Frank (Ind); Barry, Chris (Ind); Ridding, Ernest (Ind); Sloman, John (Ind); Bach, Michael (Lib); Ponting, Meg (Ind); Nori, Sandra (ALP).

## COUNCIL WATCHERS

The Committee is forming a roster of members able to attend meetings of the Leichhardt Council on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month and to report on agenda items which affect Glebe.

Meetings start at 7.30pm and are now supposed to end by 11.30pm. They are much more exciting than the telly. Ring Jeff Ibbotson on 660 7713 if you can spare the occasional Tuesday evening.



## ST JOHNS ROAD DEVELOPMENT

Readers of the Western Suburbs Courier may have seen that the Society made the front page of the 2nd March issue in an article with the provocative headline 'VIOLENCE THREATS TERRORISE DEVELOPER'. The article was about the proposed development of the St Johns Road / Ross Street corner (198 - 206 St Johns Road). Any implication in the article that we, as a Society, engage in violent or threatening behaviour is unfounded.

Our approach has always been to argue on the basis of the technical merits of developments we oppose, with particular emphasis on such things as the conservation and restoration of existing buildings, quality of new buildings, impact on local residents etc..

In the case of this particular development, the previous Leichhardt Council approved the complete demolition of all five buildings on the site, even though the Council's director of planning recommended against it. This did not proceed because an interim conservation order was placed on 204 - 206 St Johns Road by the Heritage Council.

The original proposal raised a lot of local concern, and not just among Society members. Whilst we cannot take responsibility for the actions of individuals, we are unaware of any concrete evidence of harassment claimed by the developer. No such action has ever been endorsed or approved by the Society or its committees - nor will it be in the future.

The proposal to demolish everything on the

## ST JOHNS ROAD DEVELOPMENT (Continued)

site clearly compromised the conservation principles the Glebe Society understood applied to our suburb. For this reason we argued strongly for maximum practical retention of the existing building. The conservation order forced the developer to prepare new plans in consultation with the Heritage Council. We took the opportunity to comment on these plans when they went on public display. Any delays attributed to the Society in this case related only to our use of opportunities for public comment offered by the Heritage Council (which took some pressure from the National Trust to achieve), and Leichhardt Council. An updated (and marginally improved) proposal went before Leichhardt Council on 23rd February, when the controversial nature of the proposal was recognised and a site inspection called. A number of Society members attended the relevant Council meetings and the site inspection.

The end result, approved by Council on 8th March, is that most of No 206 is to be retained as well as the facade of No 204, with other buildings on the site to be demolished and replaced with infill that is sympathetic to the extent that the roof line and exterior colours will co-ordinate with the retained facades. The developer has agreed to conform to the standards of the Heritage Council. We remain concerned about some aspects of the style of the new facades. particularly upper floor windows which extend across the width of the new facade, which is 3 terraces in width.

### LEP 20

The St Johns Road case highlights two issues important to the Society:

1. Does the Conservation Area classification of much of Glebe provide sufficient protection of our architectural heritage?
2. By what standards should the architectural quality of new, infill, development be judged?

The Leichhardt town plan LEP 20 should cover these points but is clearly inadequate. The view of the Management Committee is that LEP 20 needs to be upgraded and this will be a major task over the coming months. The National Trust have already pledged their support. Please ring Peter Strickland, the Society President, if you wish to become involved in this exercise. We are planning to start off with a Meet the Members meeting in early May - more in the next Bulletin. In the meantime .....

## WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT INAPPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT

There are two kinds of inappropriate development; that which adversely affects the general public and that which is adverse for neighbours only (for example, overlooking, loss of sunlight or views or other intrusions).

All developments (extensions, alterations or new structures) must be preceded by application to Council. If you are in doubt about whether an application has been or should be lodged, contact Council's Building Inspectors at Glebe Town Hall or the Town Planners at Council offices, Leichhardt. If you believe a development will affect you personally, always discuss the matter with the developer in order to secure a modification to the development. Unless you are sure the developer has lodged an application incorporating the changes you desire, (you may inspect plans at the Council office) always lodge a written objection with Council within two weeks of the application's advertisement, specifying the adverse impact.

If you believe the development will have an adverse affect on Glebe visible from the street, or if it violates Leichhardt Town Plan LEP 20, lodge an objection with Council and also contact the Glebe Society.

COPIES OF LEP 20 ARE AVAILABLE FROM COUNCIL OFFICES OR FROM SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS. THEY COST ONLY \$2. ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO READ A COPY AND TO BE AWARE OF THE 'OFFICIAL' PLAN FOR GLEBE.

### HOUSE INSPECTION

The long-promised House Inspection was put on 'hold' when we found that we were unable to obtain the necessary insurance cover for the day. We have now overcome this problem and are planning an Inspection in October.

If you would like to offer your house for inspection, or can suggest other suitable houses or buildings, please phone Peter Strickland or Jeff Ibbotson.

## ARMY STANDS FIRM

Attention! As you were! The Army will not retreat from its commanding position on the Forest Lodge ridge. Alan Robertson contacted Army public relations and was told the present unit would withdraw but another would replace it. Members may now stand, and breathe, easy.

## HORSETROUGH IN ST JOHNS ROAD

After all our efforts to have the horse-trough re-instated in St Johns Road, it is disappointing to see it being used as an oversized litter bin. The Committee, alerted to this problem by members, is writing to Leichhardt Council requesting that the horsetrough be included on the list of bins to be emptied regularly.

## GLEBE HIGH NO LONGER THREATENED

It appears certain the TAFE Marine College once proposed for the Glebe High School site is to be located at the Gladesville Hospital site, when this becomes available. The Committee thanks all those who assisted this campaign to keep as much land as possible for the school. Interested people should now press for landscaping of the Glebe High waterfront and provision of a foreshore path to be shared by cyclists and pedestrians, and improved public access at the Bridge Road end.

## JUBILEE PARK

Members have complained recently about the general level of maintenance in Jubilee Park. Matters most often raised are the lack of regular grass cutting, the lack of edging work along paths, gardens not weeded, toilets in disrepair etc. etc.. Another complaint is that general maintenance of the oval itself is superior to that in the remainder of the Park.

In addition, some people who rent the oval choose to park their cars on the grass near the old grandstand instead of keeping them down in the parking area. Barriers erected to prevent entry of cars have either been permanently removed or are not being put back in place when Council workers leave

We have, over the years, suggested to Council that local workers with a clear sense of pride should be used for the park's maintenance. To date though, we have failed to convince Council that this policy should be adopted.

## BICENTENNIAL PARK

We have recently written to the Council expressing our concern that demolition work has not yet begun in preparation for the Bicentennial Park. Now that the land has effectively been transferred to Council, we would expect to see all occupants of premises along Federal Road vacate these premises and for demolition work to begin.

Orally we have been assured by Council that everything is proceeding normally, but it is March and that leaves only an effective 8 months to get the Park completed.

We will advise members of Council's reply.

## **Garden Re-creation**

Lyndhurst's much-abbreviated domain, now only half an acre when once it reached the shores of Black Wattle Bay (now Wentworth Park), is currently being transformed from a building site into a garden. The original garden plan survives and its layout, as it existed within the surviving half-acre, is being re-created. Levelling and fencing have begun and it is hoped that the garden will be established by Christmas.

Thomas Shepherd, nurseryman and landscape commentator, published in 1836 a lecture series on the gardens of the colony. Of Lyndhurst's gardens, he noted that *this estate will present a splendid instance of what may be effected by knowledge, taste and wealth.*



The Trust is the grateful recipient of a gothic timber summerhouse which will be re-erected within the garden. Donated by Mrs Mary Mackay, it formerly graced the original Waverton House and is dated c. 1865.

## TRAFFIC PLAN FOR GLEBE

The President, Secretary and Traffic Subcommittee attended the Leichhardt Council meeting on 9th February 1988 to present and speak to the Society's petition (re-printed below for your information).

Three other Glebe traffic petitions, two concerning the proposal to make Ferry Road and Forsyth Street one way, also came before the meeting, and there was no doubt this added weight to the Society's request for a comprehensive traffic plan.

The Council meeting, the first ordinary meeting since December, was protracted. The Society's representatives occupied

their time fruitfully, having discussions with the Ferry Road and Forsyth Street petitioners over coffee and gelato at the excellent Bar Italia in Norton Street. Finally, the matter came before Council at 2 am, and is to be the subject of a meeting between the Chairperson of the Statutory Traffic Committee, Ald. Betty Leone, the Municipal Engineer, Mr Alagich, and Glebe Society representatives. After the Society people had left, Ald. Kate Butler successfully moved Council prepare a Traffic Management Study for Glebe (not a PLAN, as we had requested), which was eventually passed although it needed confirmation at the next Council meeting, during discussion on the EIS for Wigram Road kerbing.

## TRAFFIC PETITION

The undersigned residents of Glebe call the attention of the N.S.W. Government, the Department of Main Roads and Leichhardt Council to the fact that Glebe has long since reached its full capacity to absorb commuter traffic, making life in this beautiful and historic area of the Inner City increasingly noisy, polluted and hazardous.

WE REQUEST that instead of isolated, ad hoc measures to reduce the overflow of through traffic, the N.S.W. Traffic Authority, the Department of Main Roads and Leichhardt Council, in consultation with the residents of Glebe, draw up a plan for the entire Glebe area, as has been done in other suburbs.

WE REQUEST that any new Glebe Island Bridge be low level, and be completed before the City-West Link Road is built, so that the additional traffic will not have to travel through Glebe.

WE REQUEST that the proposal to build a container terminal access road to connect with The Crescent across Rozelle Bay be dropped, and this access road be redesigned to connect directly with the City-West Link Road (Western Gateway).

WE REQUEST that in all streets within the Glebe Conservation Area existing original sandstone kerbs and gutters be left intact, and not replaced at great expense by concrete, as Leichhardt Council proposes.

WE REQUEST that plans to attract further private vehicles into the Inner City be suspended, and that new methods of increasing the capacity and variety of public transport, including light rail, be examined.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Society and look forward to their participating in our activities:

Robin	Bowering
Elizabeth	Carter
Michael	Farrell
Anthony	Gooley
Tony	Grierson
Alexander	Guminski
Norma & Roy	Harbour
Margaret	Harding
Mr	Harvath
Lesley	Hodson
Chris Eyre	Holmes
Robert	Johnson
Jeremy	Long
Genefer	Luff
Mary	Mackay
Judith	McDonald
Bruce	McKelvey
Frank	Navin
Rory	Niland
Marguerite	Pepper
Beth	Rektor
Mrs	Renny
Cheryl	Rickard
A.M.	Turtle
Mark	Woodrow

## SUNDAY 17th APRIL - CELEBRATE 120 YEARS

On Wednesday 15th April 1868 the foundation stone for the New Church of St Johns Bishthorpe was to be laid by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh. On his trip to Clontarf earlier that year, there had been an assassination attempt and he had left the colony. He was replaced by the Governor, the Earl of Belmore, at the laying of the foundation stone.

On Sunday 17th April 1988 we have invited the present Governor of NSW, and Lady Rowland, to a special service at St Johns to celebrate 120 years of service to the community.

We would like to invite you to join with us in this service of celebration at 9.30 am and then for morning tea on the lawn.

The book 'A History of St Johns Glebe' by Keith Percival will be available and we plan to have a time capsule which will include a list of all present that day.

A number of other special events are planned for this 120th year at St John's; a dinner (14th May), recitals (June, August and September), a Winter Fete (May 28th) and a Spring Fete (29th October) and the repair of the back wall of the church for which tenders are presently being sought.

We hope that you, as members of the Glebe Society, will be able to come on 17th April.

St Johns Parish Council

## MONDAY GROUP

The next meeting of the Monday Group will be held on Monday 21st March at 12 noon. It is at the home of Irma Frommer, 2 Alexandra Road, Glebe Point. Bring your own lunch as usual.

The April meeting will be on Monday 18th. If you need to find out more about it, ring Sally Nelson on 660 6138.

## HAPPY HOUR - SUNDAY 10th APRIL

It's a long while since we had a 'Happy Hour' so we're holding one at 11 am on Sunday 10th April at the home of Edwina Doe, 224 Bridge Road (near Ross Street). Wine, soft drinks and 'nibblies' will be provided and there is a charge of \$1 to cover expenses. We will sit in the garden if it is fine.

EVERYONE WELCOME.

## DINING OUT IN GLEBE

Whenever we think we have tried all the restaurants in our area a new one appears. The latest is Julio's Rancho Grande, 34 Glebe Point Road, near Broadway. It serves Mexican food and is BYO. We will go there on Wednesday 6th April.

Ragtime, at 85 Darling Street, has introduced a new menu - \$12.50 for 2 courses. Come along on Wednesday 4th May and find out what it is like. Apparently it is very popular and we will need to book early.

Please ring Betty Wright on 660 1875 if you are coming to either of these dinners.

## PLAYREADING GROUP

This group has gone into temporary recess. If you have any suggestions for plays to be read in the future, or a suggestion for a time other than Sunday evenings, please ring Ian Edwards on 660 6406.

## TOTAL ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY TOURS

The Centre is organising a series of seven guided tours to places of interest which will explore the natural and urban environment in and around Sydney. The first is on Sunday 23rd April; a ferry trip down Georges River to Botany Bay, Towra Point, Kurnell and Bare Island. Cost \$20 (conc. \$12) including lunch.

Full details of all tours, and tickets, are available from the Total Environment Centre. Phone 241 2523 after 10am.

# The Charles Kerry Collection

A rare glimpse into what life was like at the turn of the century in New South Wales will be revealed in a forthcoming exhibition at the Hyde Park Barracks.

Titled "Settlers and Sydneysiders", the exhibition features 120 beautiful photographs from the Charles Kerry Studio and will be on display between 20 February and 25 April, 1988.

Charles-Kerry built a photographic business in the late 1800's which was one of the largest in Australia. Tourist picture books, greeting cards, postcards, stereoscopic views, magic lantern slides, studio portraits and general views were produced.

During Heritage Week '88 take this opportunity to see photographs of Sydney streets, bustling and jammed with horse-drawn carts carrying wheat and wool on a back drop of a very different skyline.

For further details call Jane Silversmith on 217 0377.

## CONVENORS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

(All Convenors are ex-officio members of the Management Committee)

### BICENTENNIAL PARK AND MARINA

John Buckingham - 660 7780

### PLANNING

John Tinkler - 692 9032

### TRAFFIC

Jeanette Knox - 660 7781

### BLACKWATTLE BAY PARK

Bob Armstrong - 660 4189

### HAROLD PARK

Gideon Rutherford - 692 0239

### WENTWORTH PARK

Maureen Colman - 660 2302

### JUBILEE PARK

Tony Larkum - 660 7030

### LIGHT RAIL

John Hoddinott - 692 0071

CONTACT THE PEOPLE LISTED ABOVE IF YOU WANT TO OBTAIN OR GIVE INFORMATION.

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 Peter Strickland on 660 7624 (H) or 235 7258 (W).

## FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 15th March - Committee Meeting - 7.30pm - Lyndhurst.

Saturday 19th March - ELECTION

Monday 21st March - 12 noon - Monday Group Lunch - 2 Alexandra Road.

Wednesday 6th April - 6.30pm - Dining Out - Julio's Rancho Grande - 34 Glebe Point Rd.

Sunday 10th April - 11am - Happy Hour - 224 Bridge Road.

Sunday 17th April - 9.30am - Service - Celebrate 120 years - St Johns Church.

Monday 18th April - Monday Group Meeting.

Tuesday 19th April - 7.30pm - Committee Meeting - Lyndhurst.

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Sunday 23rd April - TEC Ferry Trip.

Wednesday 4th May - 6.30pm - Dining Out - Ragtime - 85 Darling Street.

WANT TO BE A COUNCIL WATCHER?

SEE PAGE ONE.

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Peter Strickland 660 7624 (H)  
235 7258 (W)

IMM. PAST PRES: Edwina Doe 660 7066 (H)  
922 3877 (W)

VICE PRESIDENT: Andrew Wood 660 2194 (H)  
692 2451 (W)

SECRETARY: Jeff Ibbotson 660 7713 (H)  
231 1244 (W)

TREASURER: Peter O'Gorman 660 0302 (H)  
925 9759 (W)

COMMITTEE: Sue Littleton 660 5610  
John Tinkler 692 9032 (H)

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Social Secretary: Betty Wright 660 1875

Bulletin Editor: Edwina Doe 660 7066

Membership List: Andrew Wood 660 2194

New Members' Rep: Sue Littleton 660 5610

Monday Group: Sally Nelson 660 6138

Playreading Group: Ian Edwards 660 6406

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY COSTS: HOUSEHOLD \$13; INDIVIDUAL \$11; STUDENT OR PENSIONER \$4. Write to P.O. Box 100, Glebe 2037 or ring Sue Littleton on 660 5610 for information.