

Society Bulletin

7/99 August/September



Glebe

Report of the 30th Annual General Meeting

Twenty-five people gathered for another convivial AGM last Sunday at the Stewart's house. Russell gave his President's Report [see p2] which focused on the activities of the Society during the last year in particular and, in general, reflected on the rewards of his two-year presidency.

Neil Macindoe gave his final report as LMC Councillor and the four broad areas covered were governance and finance, infrastructure and services, access and transport, and development and open space. An immediate problem for Council is its inability to agree either to decrease current expenditure or increase income. Another is that the coming LMC election may well bring us eight new inexperienced councillors who do not have the benefit of 'corporate memory' as has organisations like the Society. Community consultation would seem wise though, sadly, unlikely.

After the Treasurer's Report and a procedural resolution, the election

of office-bearers took place, with the following results:

President Bruce Davis
Senior Vice-President
 Jennifer Reed Burns
Junior Vice-President
 Cynthia Jones
Secretary Liz Simpson-Booker
Treasurer Allan Hunt
Committee:
 Andrew Craig
 Neil Macindoe.
 Ted McKeown
 Marianne von Knobelsdorff

Andrew Wood was elected an honorary Life Member of the Society and Marianne provided a heartfelt history of his achievements since joining in 1986. The Society then commemorated the passing of John Hoddinott by creating the 'John Hoddinott Prize for Poetry' at Glebe High School.

Incoming President, Bruce Davis, was welcomed and promised to conclude Management Committee meetings by 10.00pm!

Cynthia Jones

If you have an email address we'd like to have it!

It is at meetings of the Management Committee that the Society forms its attitude to matters relevant to Glebe and, as you know, these meetings are open to all members. We have always encouraged members through the *Bulletin* to comment on issues, so that the decisions we make reflect your views; at the last meeting it was resolved that as each new issue arises, we could also canvas your opinion by email.

If you have an email address and would like the Society to contact you in this way please let us know by sending a message to: <bobbieb@cia.com.au> and we will include you on a mailing list we are preparing for this purpose. At some time in the future you may choose to receive the *Bulletin* this way – if we can find out how to do it! – thus saving on print and postage costs.

Hear the latest on light rail

The managing director of Metro Light Rail, Mr Kevin Worrall, and Mr Trevor Townson of Department of Transport, will brief the Society on the latest developments on Wednesday, 8 September, at 8 pm in the upstairs meeting room in the Toxteth Hotel (cnr. Glebe Point Road and Ferry Road). Please phone Bruce Davis on 9660. 7873, or leave a message on 9518. 9775, if you plan to come so that we can arrange enough chairs.

Annual Report by the President of The Glebe Society Inc

given at the Annual General Meeting 29 August 1999

I thought it might be interesting to reflect on the past year in terms of our structures, activities, social events, finances, tasks and communications.

STRUCTURE

We were prompted to review our constitution mainly, as I recall, because our procedures for admitting new members were proving awkward – what we needed to do in practice didn't strictly fit the constitution. So a new constitution was adopted – not radically different, but far simpler in terms of new members. I believe this has already made a significant difference in increased membership.

ACTIVITIES

Two planning days were held to discover where we wanted to put our time and energies. What is it realistic to expect to achieve? What are our priorities? We recognised that some tasks involve continuing monitoring (development applications); others involved particular projects (foreshore walkway and litter) where we felt we could take the initiative.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The Glebe Society membership makes up a community within a community. There has been an excellent response to the year's social functions – the ferry trip last September, the recent 30th Anniversary Progressive Dinner and the Christmas party in the Library grounds. These occasions make an important contribution to the vitality of the Society, I have no doubt. I should include the meetings of the Management Committee – true, there is business to be done, however they are generally interesting and enjoyable occasions – thanks in large part to the generous hospitality of Shaughn Murphy's Toxteth Hotel.

TASKS

The tasks undertaken during the year are covered, largely, in the sub-committee and project group reports [see last month's *Bulletin*]. A

highlight is the progress with the foreshore walk proposal – some of the obstacles are daunting – however, we will go round them for the time being, and keep working on the pieces we need to complete the route.

Considerable attention has been given to the Master Plan for Blackwattle and Rozelle Bays. I hope that this will eventually open the way for a ferry service on a basis which fairly reconciles the needs of recreational users – not only the present rowers, but other members of the Glebe and surrounding communities, who are currently denied access.

The issues surrounding the development proposals for the Blackwattle Studios site have also demanded attention. The replacement of a valuable centre housing artists, architects and craftspeople, with a massive home unit development for the affluent, seems a pity. It is unreasonable to expect the owner not to want to extract maximum value from the site – yet it is a concern that a better solution could not have been found, more in keeping with the heritage character of the surroundings and which would contribute to preservation in Glebe of a home for the kind of talent currently using the site.

Great work has been done in the fight against litter in Glebe – on many different fronts. This issue ranked highly in our strategic planning sessions. It not only affects all of us, but we all have it in our hands to make a contribution, in relation to the rubbish we generate and the scope to be vigilant outside our own front (and back) doors.

Valuable work has continued on other important areas – traffic, aircraft, the environment, the light rail and last but not least, archives. In the future, people will be grateful for the work done to ensure our

records are properly preserved.

FINANCE

There was a period during the year when we felt we needed to build up our financial position. In part, that resulted from the cost in reprinting the revised *Historic Glebe* walking guide; of course, the copies not yet sold are an asset. With increasing membership and the financial success of the recent progressive dinner, it looks as if we will go into the new year in excellent shape. The policy of maintaining a capital base of not less than \$10,000 is a sound one. We need this as backing to undertake activities without risk of being unable to meet the costs. Many members have been generous in adding donations to their subscription cheques. Even so, it looks as if we should ask the members at this meeting to authorise an increase in annual membership so that the Society will continue on a sound footing.

COMMUNICATION

I frequently hear favourable comments about the Glebe Society *Bulletin*. It takes a great deal of effort to organise sufficient interesting material – but then, to fit it all in, which our editor has done magnificently. With increasing use of the Internet, it may not be too long before we have a large number of members with email addresses with whom we can readily communicate on current issues. Some may choose to receive their *Bulletin* on the internet – a saving in cost and time to the Society and a saving in paper.

This year, we have also received several visitors at Management Committee meetings. Most recently, Heather Martin, Headmistress of the Glebe High School, impressed us deeply with her commitment to the school as a place which combines the personal as well as the academic development of students. Equally,

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her wish for the school and the students to relate to the community particularly on the fronts of employment and tertiary education. It was most impressive to hear that 50% of her students go on to University and almost all of the others find employment, surely a magnificent achievement [see report p9].

Nicky Teffer spoke about the possibility of an historic photographic exhibition for the Leichhardt Municipality to celebrate the Centenary of Federation – to which we could apply for funding.

Ann Martin, Cultural Officer for Leichhardt Municipal Council told of various ideas for making a difference to Glebe in the area of cultural activities. [see report, p8]. It was exciting to hear of the many possibilities for enlivening this area.

DEPARTURES

We will all miss John Hoddinott who died on 5 August. Perhaps we should be grateful he was able to carry on for so long as he had been ill for many years. His Memorial Service at St. John's was filled to overflowing with friends and wellwishers and we heard of his erudition, his love of poetry and of Italy, in particular, where he lived for many years. I remember the notes on Italy he kindly lent us before a trip last year. He made a great contribution through his balanced, thoughtful and knowledgeable approach to all issues – particularly the planning and development matters on which he reported to the Management Committee.

We cannot begrudge Andrew Wood taking the opportunity to become Professor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. We know and appreciate the great contribution Andrew has made to the Glebe Society over the years. We wish him every success in the new position.

I would like to finish by thanking all the members of the Glebe Society, particularly the members of the Management Committee, for allowing me to be President over the past two years, and to acknowledge everyone for their talent, energy and commitment, and for being such good company! It has been an enjoyable and rewarding year for me.

Russell Stewart



John Richard Hoddinott

4 AUGUST 1940 – 5 AUGUST 1999

When we first moved to Glebe we discovered a remarkable group of people. We had previously lived in Leichhardt and Balmain, and had met plenty of characters: but Glebe was something else again! At the very centre of this group was John Hoddinott (known to his intimates as Hod or Hoddi), and so extraordinarily open and direct was the greeting we received when we moved into Wigram Road it began a relationship that lasted with hardly a hiccup for more than twenty years.

Hoddi loved Glebe, and this extended quite naturally to its community. He knew a great number of people, and would chat happily to them about any of the many subjects that interested him, whether international, national or local. His friendliness drew people into the community, and made them feel part of it. He was ready to assist in any worthy cause, to which he brought a broad and solid background of knowledge, a keen intelligence, acerbic wit and good humour, and great application. I cannot recall anything he did not do thoroughly while he was physically capable of it.

He was involved in many community campaigns, of which perhaps the best known are the saving of the colonial mansion Lyndhurst in Darghan Street, the creation of Glebe High School, the building of a new Glebe Library and the promotion of a light rail system for Sydney, for which his engineering background was a great advantage.

Not only did he work hard for a multitude of benefits to the community, he wrote about them with engaging ease and infectious enthusiasm, and promoted them effectively with media interviews. After his retirement, his involvement actually increased, when anyone would have been justified in taking it easy, and his health problems would have completely floored a lesser man. At the time of his death he was Planning Convenor for The Glebe Society, the local Member's representative on Leichhardt Council's Traffic Committee (both extremely challenging jobs) and attended many other committees, as well as organising cork recycling for the whole of Glebe.

I always thought this last interest of his especially appropriate. As well as being a deeply civilized and decent man he was wonderfully sociable and loved a tittle with friends. One of my last memories of him is meeting him outside K Mart at Broadway clutching a portable CD player. In return for helping him take it home, he insisted on buying me a beer at the Toxteth and chatting about national issues.

His concern for his friends was outstanding. When he learnt we were taking our children to Italy in 1995 and wanted to visit Siena, he said "...in that case you must stay at a convent", and fixed us with a steady gaze to quell any incipient protest. He rang the nuns immediately and, in fluent Italian, arranged a stay "for a family visiting from Australia". Of course he was right. We had the most stunning views of anywhere we stayed in Italy.

He was a man it was a joy and a pleasure to know, and his spirit will live on in the community he loved and helped to create.

Neil Macindoe

This is one of the many eulogies delivered at the memorial service for John held in St. John's Church, Glebe on 11 August 1999.

The Glebe Society was established in 1969 and now, thirty years on, it seems timely to look back on some of its achievements. One that people today are perhaps unfamiliar with is the push from the Society for the preservation of the church lands that form the present Glebe Estate.

The Glebe Estate Project

The late 60s and early 70s were what one might truly call the 'heroic' days of The Glebe Society, which was one of many local resident action groups in the inner city. There was a move, particularly from young professional people, back into the central area of town rather than living in outer suburbs further and further away from their work. At the same time people were beginning to realise that the social consequences in the then current patterns of public housing – huge tower blocks or the translocation of people to outer suburbs such as Mount Druitt – were far from desirable.

Official planning policies for Glebe at that time were the demolition of 'slums' and the construction of expressways. This would have meant two major roadways through Glebe, one through the northern end of the suburb and one through the Estate area. In between would have been residential unit blocks of uninspiring design, judging from the examples that were constructed.

However, thanks to the foresight and research of people such as Bernard Smith, Tony Strachan, Max Solling, Alan Robertson and Peru Perumal, their work in publicising the unique character of both the architectural and community aspects of Glebe, and the lobbying and demonstrations carried out by them and other members of the Society, this did not happen.

Many hours were spent walking around Glebe recording the buildings and streetscape. Kate and Bernard Smith (the first President of the Society) published *The Architectural Character of Glebe*

in 1973. The Society prepared a submission to the National Trust which resulted in the whole of Glebe being listed as a Conservation Area. As regards the Estate in particular, the Society also put a submission to Leichhardt Council entitled "The Glebe Lands of Bishopthorpe and St Phillips: the Case for Preservation and Restoration". As I recall, Alan Robertson and Tony Strachan were involved in the preparation of this submission, making use of the research carried out by the Smiths and by Max Solling.

In the early 70s the Church of England properties on the Estate were in a sad state of repair. As a consequence of ninety-nine year leases (which were then expiring) and protected rents, the income from the Estate was insufficient for the Church to maintain the fabric of the houses in good repair, and it was proposing to sell off its holdings.

Concurrently the Society had been working to improve the new Town Plan being prepared by Leichhardt Council – another project that took an immense amount of work and time. With the election to Leichhardt Council of members of a group called "Campaign for a Better Council" and with the 'open council' policy of Mayor Nick Origlass, the Municipality was more receptive to proposals for refurbishment in the Estate area rather than demolition. Another factor was the election of the Whitlam Labor Government federally at that time. All of a sudden government representatives were coming to us and asking what

we wanted as a community. In particular the appointment of Tom Uren as Minister for Urban and Regional Development proved vital, since he put his weight behind the implementation of the Glebe Project.

In the mid-70s, the expressway plans for Glebe were abandoned so that the suburb was no longer under threat of being parceled up into small lots in between the traffic. Among the heroes of the anti-expressway campaign were Albert Mispel, Alan Sorrenson, Joy Wallace (Joy Warren), Jan Potter, and the BLF members Jack Munday and Joe Owens.

The conclusion of the Glebe Lands submission is worth quoting:

"Much has been done in recent years to preserve our important public buildings and the grand homes of our more famous and wealthy early citizens. However, this approach has done little or nothing to conserve whole areas which offer more complete evidence of earlier lifestyles.

The Glebe lands of Bishopthorpe and St Phillips, with their structural and historical unity and substantially original condition, represent a unique opportunity to preserve not only the atmosphere of the 1870's to 1890's in which years most of the area was developed, but also elements of the building styles of the 1820's to 1840's. In addition, preservation would allow the retention of the existing community that would inevitably be destroyed by any scheme of complete or substantial redevelopment.

Rehabilitation with some sympathetic redevelopment would

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provide medium to high density living combined with a high quality social and physical environment.

The rehabilitation of Bishopthorpe and St Phillips represents a challenge in town planning, architecture and social policy of a type and scale never before tackled in Australia. This opportunity should not be allowed to pass."

How good that it was not, and that the consultants who carried out the feasibility study for the future of the Glebe Estate were instructed by Tom Uren's Department to include the following objectives:

- to preserve and sympathetically refurbish an area of century-old townscape;
- to avoid the sudden displacement of the existing population and the disruption of existing community links;
- to retain the opportunity for low income individuals and families to live close to the city as part of a wider community;
- to improve environmental conditions and social facilities for the residents of the Estate and the surrounding area.

The Glebe Lands (Appropriation) Act 1974 was assented to in August 1974; it is therefore twenty-five years since the formal commencement of the Glebe Project. The aim to consult widely with the community and encourage participation was met by the formation of the Residents' Advisory Committee.

The whole project was a unique one in town planning and social terms and I believe both the Glebe Society and the Glebe community can be proud of their involvement.

For those who are interested in further details of the Glebe Project, I would refer you to an article in the *Royal Australian Planning Institute Journal* of February, 1977 (Vol.15, No.1) and the book *Glebe Project* prepared by the Department of Housing and Construction and published by the Australian Government Publishing Service in 1980.

Jeanette Knox

Celebrating 25 years



A very fine ecumenical service took place at St. John's Bishopthorpe on Sunday 29 August, to mark two significant events in the history of Glebe; 1) the Official Declaration of the first Anglican Chaplain to Australia, the Reverend Richard Johnson, on 29 August 1789, granted the Glebe Estate to the Church of England in Australia; and 2) *The Glebe Lands Appropriation Act* which was assented to in August 1974 by which the Glebe Lands were purchased by the Federal Government from the Church.

The service was one of thanksgiving and was conducted by the Acting Rector of St. John's, Dr David Duchesne, with readings and prayers by ministers of St. James Catholic Church, the Glebe Uniting Church Parish Mission, and the Glebe Estate Community Church; Dr Duchesne acknowledged the inspiration of Mr. Joe Mannix and thanked him for the tremendous work he had put into organising the event. Hymns were sung by the Taverner Consort of Voices, and among the works played by organist Herbert Woodhouse on the beautiful 1884 Forster and Andrews organ was "Master Blacket's Bishopthorpe Suite for Organ", specially composed in 1994 to celebrate the organ's restoration. Symbols representing the original Aboriginal community, the people of the Glebe Estate, their neighbourliness and their ethnic diversity were placed in the Church, and the sermon was given by Rev. Barry Skellett, Rector at St. John's at the time the Glebe Project was implemented, who told us of how he came to be involved in the fight.

The guest of honour was the Hon. Tom Uren, 'Father of the Estate'. Addressing the congregation he said he was "thrilled to pieces" to be present because the purchasing of the Estate was "one of the great moments" of his life. He felt he had been privileged as a politician to be given portfolios that were "near to the people" and that he had, therefore, received "nourishment" from the people. He told us of the three reasons why the Federal Government had agreed to buy the Estate (at a cost in 1974 of \$17.5m):

- 1) to protect the people living in it;
- 2) to retain the townscape of 120 year-old houses;
- 3) once the land was owned by the Federal Government, the NSW Government would not be able to build freeways through the heart of the community.

At the conclusion of the service, and before light refreshments were served in Record Reign Hall in St. John's Road, we crossed to the grounds of the Hall for the unveiling of a commemorative plaque by Kris Cruden, the Mayor of Leichhardt and Mr. Uren; a Tree of Life is to be planted in the community garden there.

Bobbie Burke

Election to Leichhardt Council

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 1999

As you know, a total of 109 candidates nominated for election to Leichhardt Council, the highest number in any municipality or shire in the State.



We thought it appropriate to ask the 33 accepted candidates for the Glebe/Annandale ward of Leichhardt Municipality to let us know how they would act on three matters of importance to the Society - heritage, litter, and the viability of Glebe Point Road (these issues were among the top four at the Society's Strategic Planning Sessions held last year). We thank all candidates who replied to our questionnaire.

Below are the questions we asked each of the 11 groupings, and the one independent candidate, and the answers we received.

The following groups seeking election to Council did not respond to our request:

**LEICHHARDT
COMMUNITY
ALLIANCE**

**LET RESIDENTS
ELECT THE MAYOR**

**MARIJUANA
SMOKERS' RIGHTS
PARTY**

**OUR COMMUNITY
- OUR COUNCIL**

**The SENIORS'
PARTY**

**The WOMEN'S
PARTY**

A reply from

**INDEPENDENTS
FOR A BETTER
COUNCIL**

was received too late for inclusion in this *Bulletin*.

Q In 1974 Glebe was listed by the National Trust as a Conservation Area. Do you have any strategies for improving public awareness of the consequences of this listing?

DENIS DOHERTY TEAM

Strategically placed signs advising designated conservation area, with perhaps a brief explanation; published matter freely available to the public through local businesses and library, outlining that a conservation area is not limited to buildings but can include streetscapes, trees, etc.

The GREENS

Further develop a well-documented register of key sites; develop carefully structured guided tours; work closely with community groups to explore a greater awareness of these sites to develop strategies that increase awareness without creating pollution and minimising traffic effects. It is imperative that the merits are seen as part of a whole.

Independent, TOM DAN

Encourage a distinct uniform sign with heritage character/colour denoting the area. I would refuse the present development application which requires the demolition of the Blackwattle Bay Studios (or a similar DA) in the heritage area. The studios are an exemplary example of the vision of the Leichhardt Town Plan, i.e. "to conserve and enhance the quality and diversity of the natural, living, working and leisure" environments of Leichhardt.

LABOR

It is important that Council raise awareness of the conservation listing by reminding residents in publications, media columns and Council newsletters. When large scale developments are proposed that may have an adverse effect on the heritage nature of Glebe, Council should ensure that not only are surrounding residents notified, but also the wider community is made aware, through media releases, written notification, and notification of community groups.

Council should continue to encourage and support activities that celebrate the unique heritage of our area, such as the heritage walk and heritage week; Council needs to foster a good relationship with the community groups that promote the conservation area.

LIBERAL

As stated in our policy document we have a commitment to "strengthen and expand the profile of the existing heritage committees and historical societies operating within the municipality, by establishing an advisory committee comprising members of the cultural and historical societies residing within the municipality". This committee will be funded by Council.

Q There were 1758 illegal dumpings picked up by Council last year. Given that fining has proved ineffectual, what would you propose to make the streets of Glebe cleaner?

DENIS DOHERTY TEAM

The Council system of picking up old furniture etc. is not well known or used; we propose to distribute twice yearly cards with advice on how to access the pick ups. We propose that community development actions be introduced to encourage a pride in the area; courses on waste minimisation be held in situ in the worst affected streets; we would look at introducing 'Tidy Streets' competitions; we favour clusters of bins on GPR for recycling purposes.

The GREENS

Introduce a 'Revolve' style recycling program; develop initiatives within the local community which develop a pride in the area; develop youth programs which include an understanding of the area, its history and its importance within the wider community.

Independent, TOM DAN

Increase the number of by-laws inspectors (for this and other duties) and through the Council column in the local weekly newspapers, encourage citizens to report the dumping of rubbish at all times.

LABOR

We believe that Council needs to dedicate more resources and staff to ensuring that the 'basic functions' are performed; more effort and resources need to be put into cleaning up the streets of Glebe; the community should be made aware of businesses that Council catches habitually dumping garbage; a public education campaign should be implemented to encourage people to have pride in the cleanliness of their streets – the campaign would focus on the wonderful place Glebe is and how, as a community, we can work together to improve it.

LIBERAL

Street cleanliness involves far more than combating illegal dumping. State Government recently announced a team to crack down on illegal dumping in the western suburbs; we suggest a similar approach by expanding the role of Council rangers with the possibility of employing more. This should be cost effective as Council currently outlays more than \$1 million each year to dispose of illegally dumped rubbish. Cameras are currently being trialed in other areas within the municipality.

General street cleaning needs to be improved with greater use of technology, i.e. blowers, mini sweepers etc. We also propose introducing a "Keep the Local Drains Clean" response team to clean all drains after storms in order to prevent localised flooding.

Q Businesses on Glebe Point Road [GPR] are already being adversely affected by The Broadway Shopping Centre. What can Council do to enhance the shopping strip and keep it viable?

DENIS DOHERTY TEAM

The trend of making the street more attractive should continue and be completed. We are proposing that each business which gives a donation (under an agreed formula) to a Glebe cause be given a certificate as a *Glebe Community Supporter*. The business would then be in the position to say "Support a business that supports the Glebe Community."

This scheme could include precinct committees, which would supply lists of businesses which have supported the community. Council should acknowledge the donations by businesses to 'good causes' by an honour roll or a mention in the Council advertisement in the local paper. A constant theme in Council public announcements in regard to local businesses should be "If we don't use the local businesses, we'll lose them".

The GREENS

Improve the pedestrian access, especially pathways, and improve the streetscape appropriately, keeping the original styles in place and renovating damaged and abused buildings; improve the public transport systems through shuttlebuses to attract people from within the community.

Independent, TOM DAN

Encourage all business/shop developments in GPR to have street awnings; applications for demolition of existing awnings (unless replaced) should be refused; people would then have a street to stroll along in all weather. Lobby for a return of the public bus service along Pymont Bridge Road, with stops near GPR.

LABOR

Council should continue implementing and upgrading the amenity of GPR, and ensure that the facilities on the street such as seats, shading and the quality of the footpaths, toilets and garbage bins are continually cleaned and improved; festival and other public activities that bring people to Glebe should be actively supported, encouraged and promoted by the Council; We will also lobby the State Government for improved public transport to GPR, including frequency and faster bus routes to and from the city.

LIBERAL

Convene a local Shopkeepers Forum, so constant communication can be achieved between local shopkeepers and Council; fast track the GPR Beautification programme; increase Council cleaning services along GPR; remove the hoarding fee currently charged by Council; this will be a direct saving to shopkeepers and thus help maintain their viability.



Highlights

from the Management Committee
Meeting held on 11 August 1999

CENTENARY OF FEDERATION

Nicky Teffer, a Leichhardt resident and an assistant curator at the Art Gallery of NSW talked about her ideas for a photographic exhibition for the Centenary of Federation featuring the Leichhardt municipality, e.g. the contribution to Federation by people who lived in the municipality such as Edmund Barton and Sir Henry Parkes. She also plans to locate Glebe in its wider context in Sydney. One of our members reminded us that the use of 'Federation' to describe a house style was coined by Professor Bernard Smith, the Society's founder and first President. Anyone wishing to contact Nicky with ideas could ring her on 9518. 1191, her email address is <nteffer@werple.net.au>.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The Progressive Dinner, our major fundraising event of the year, was a great success with 48 people attending. Though we do not have final costs yet, it seems that approximately \$1500 was raised, which will be used for essential Society expenses. Thanks to all who helped to cook, and who made their homes available.

BAYS AND FORESHORES

Judy Vergison and Roberta Johnson prepared a thorough and well-thought out submission on Blackwattle Bay Park to Leichhardt Council, which obviously appreciated their efforts. Proposals are exciting - upgrading of the children's play ground area, improvement to footpaths around the foreshore and most exciting of all, the restoration of Bellevue as a cafe/gallery space - if a suitable lessee can be found.

FORESHORE WALK PROJECT TEAM

This team is doing great work on finding out who owns land along the foreshores and what possibility there is of walking through or around the various areas not now open to the public. Neil Macindoe will lead a walk during Glebe Week on 18 September [see Notice Board].

CLEAN UP GLEBE PROJECT TEAM

This Team is also doing great work and obviously impacting on Council decision making; a report will be published in the next *Bulletin*.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY

Included with this *Bulletin* is a membership application form - you might like to give it to a Glebe friend or neighbour, and tell them of the work the current project teams are doing on cleaning up Glebe, the foreshore walk, and heritage. The more members the Society has, the more we are able to achieve.

A new cultural plan



Leichhardt Council will commence an extended series of consultations, commission

research, develop a survey and run a series of workshops over the next twelve months as part of the development, and hopefully implementation, of a new Cultural Plan.

The purpose of the Cultural Plan is to try to establish a series of strategies that build on the local character(s) of the area - while finding ways of extending and strengthening the idea of community. Council, through its Cultural Planner, Anne Martin, hopes the process of developing the Plan will encourage residents, businesses and others with an interest in Glebe to think about what could happen over a ten year period that builds on the 'social capital' and physical environment of our area. Having fun, meeting people and learning about the history, will also be part of the Plan development. A walking tour, ferry cruise and a possible heritage trail are existing ideas for the consultation process. Anne hopes to start the Cultural Plan this year - with a completion date twelve months down the track.

Council has received \$5000 funding from Tourism NSW to commence a long term Tourism Management and Promotion Strategy, which will commence with a workshop run by Tourism NSW and will include commissioned professional photography featuring Glebe. A Glebe Workshop was scheduled for Thursday 19 August; this was an industry specific workshop and the Society needs to be represented to ensure heritage and local residents' concerns and ideas are considered.

Other issues include trying to establish alternative affordable artist studios to replace studios that have been (and will be) lost to Glebe over the last ten years. Anne also contributes to the Glebe Point Road Streetscape program, and is continuing the Public Art program. New works (hopefully scheduled for this year) include one for Bridge Road Glebe, and another for Broadway Plaza based on children's artwork around 'Sorry Day' with Glebe Primary School and Aboriginal artist Tracy Bostock; she will also advise and offer support for a major Federation Project with the Glebe Youth Centre [see p5].

[Anne Martin addressed the July meeting of the Management Committee.]

The school on the waterfront at Blackwattle Bay

Heather Martin, Principal of Glebe High for the last five years, addressed the August meeting of the Management Committee, giving us much interesting information about the school and its students [see also *Bulletin* 1/99, p3], of which she is obviously very proud.

Glebe High is a community school with almost every ethnic group represented – 60% are from a non-English-speaking background, 10% are Aboriginal Australians, and 30% Anglo-Celt – this means that *everyone* is in a minority. The school has 350 students, and everybody has a high profile and identity, which is easier to achieve in a small school. Students, together with parents and teachers, have negotiated a code of conduct and there is great respect for property, tolerance and learning, as well as a strong sense of camaraderie throughout the school. Absenteeism has been reduced and attendance is now an excellent 93%.

Approximately half of the final year students go on to University, and at least two-thirds to tertiary education of some kind. The school has a successful literacy programme where some students have improved their reading levels by up to four years in 12 months.

Communication between the community and the students is very valuable, and existing links include Sydney TAFE where students have enrolled in some 45 of the available courses as part of their high school education; the University of Sydney, whose undergraduates offer tuition to senior students; South Sydney Rotary club's work experience programme for Year 10 students; the Toxteth Hotel's support of the basketball team; and liaison with Glebe Youth Centre which exists by way of regular inter-agency meetings. As a result of all of this, self esteem is high.

Heather told us of the dedicated work that Max Solling does at the

school - working for 2-3 hours each day on the school gardens.

Vandalism of the gardens, which once was a problem, has now almost ceased. He has also been involved in a current joint venture between Glebe High and the old Glebe Rowing Club to build a boathouse on school grounds that will provide considerable rowing facilities, and enable in-school coaching for students of the school. Rowing, she feels, need not be an elitist sport, rather it can be a sport for inner city kids who go to Glebe High.

The School encourages use of the buildings and grounds outside of school hours, values its links with the community and welcomes visitors at any time. The 20th Anniversary School Fair will take place on Friday 17 September.

In thanking Heather, the President expressed great appreciation for the marvellous work going on at the school which would also impact positively on the Glebe community.

GLEBE HIGH 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Glebe High celebrated the 20th anniversary of its foundation with a formal dinner dance held in the school hall on Friday 25 June 1999. The Principal, Heather Martin, gave the welcome address on the well-attended occasion.

The School's inaugural Principal was Mr. Ian Porteous, whose speech related the enjoyment he had derived from working at the School – and in attending the dinner dance. Mr. Porteous was known for analogies regarding the school and ships – the School's waterside location and marine architectural style supported his theme – and he was often referred to as 'the ship's Captain'.

However, on this occasion Mr. Porteous was promoted to 'Admiral' with the universal approval of all present. Mrs Porteous attended the dance with her husband; she also had worked hard to help establish the School.

Former Principals Mr Pat Kidd and Mr John Ramsay were not able to attend, but sent their warm messages of congratulations.

It was a very pleasant evening, beautifully presented by staff, students and the Parents' and Citizens' Association headed by Roger Mackell. Present-day staff, former staff, present pupils, former pupils, and friends of the School all had a wonderful time dancing and enjoying the occasion. Good times and hard times were remembered as Glebe High saluted its 20th year in providing comprehensive education services to the community.

**CONGRATULATIONS
GLEBE HIGH SCHOOL!**

Alison McKeown

Glebe High 20th Anniversary School Fair

Friday 17 September

11 - 2.30 pm

- food
- fun
- face painting
- basketball
- music
- entertainment



All invited!

For Your Diary ...

Saturday	4 September	Glebe Estate Community Church Annual Fair 9 - 3pm Church Centre, 37-47 St. Johns Road
Wednesday	8 September	Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting 7.30 pm Toxteth Hotel Meeting Room
Wednesday	8 September	Hear the Latest on Light Rail - see p1
Wednesday	8 September	Erica Olson Art Exhibition Opening, see Notice Board
Friday	10 September	There are MANY events in Glebe Week from 10 to 19 September - see enclosed flyer
Saturday	11 September	Council elections - don't forget to vote!
Sunday	12 September	Spring in Glebe - see Notice Board
Friday	17 September	Glebe High 20th Anniversary School Fair, see p9
Saturday	18 September	The <i>almost</i> Foreshore Walk, see Notice Board
Saturday	18 September	Tranby Aboriginal College Open Day, see enclosed Glebe Week flyer
Saturday	18 September	Glebe Community Garden - see <i>Bulletin</i> 1/99, p9 12 - 2 pm Launch, spring vegetable planting, refreshments - all welcome
Wednesday	22 September	Family History Seminar at Benledi, see Notice Board
Thursday	23 September	Oral History Project at Leichhardt Town Hall, see Notice Board
ADVANCE NOTICE		
	14 - 21 November	Glebe Music Festival full details in next <i>Bulletin</i>
Sunday	16 November	Glebe Street Fair

The Glebe Society Inc

We are glad to publish letters or articles:

- ❖ on any matters of interest to Glebe
- ❖ on any topic raised in the *Bulletin*, or
- ❖ on any issues relating to The Glebe Society.

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Glebe Society Inc
Box 100 PO
Glebe 2037

DISCLAIMER

Views expressed in this *Bulletin* are not necessarily those of The Glebe Society Inc.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	Bruce Davis	9660. 7873
Senior Vice-President	Jennifer Reed Burns	9692. 9369
Junior Vice-President and New Members Contact	Cynthia Jones	9660. 2451
Immediate Past President	Russell Stewart	9660. 8324
Secretary	Liz Booker-Simpson	9518. 6186
Treasurer	Alan Hunt	9660. 2407
Committee Members:	Andrew Craig	9566. 1746
	Neil Macindoe	9660. 0208
	Ted McKeown	9660. 3917
	Marianne von Knobelsdorff	9692. 0916

SUB-COMMITTEE CONVENORS

All convenors are *ex officio* members of the Management Committee

Aircraft	vacant	-
Bays and Foreshores	vacant	-
Environment	Christine Whittemore	9660. 7969
FRROGs	Roberta Johnston	9552. 3248
Light Rail	Bruce Davis	9660. 7873
Planning	vacant	-
Traffic	Jeanette Knox	9660. 7781

PROJECT TEAMS

Clean Up Glebe	Jennifer Reed Burns	9692. 9369
Conserving Glebe Heritage	Christine Whittemore	9660. 7969
Foreshore Walk and Cycle Way	Judy Vergison	9692. 9200

CONTACTS

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Historian	Max Solling	9660. 1160
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Bulletin Editor	Bobbie Burke	9692. 0343
Assistant Editor	Cynthia Jones	9660. 2451

in this issue:

- what the candidates say, pp 6-7
- annual report of the President, p2-3
- the Glebe Estate, p 4-5
- cultural planning at LMC, p8
- the school on the waterfront, p9

The Blackwattle Bay/Rozelle Bay Master Plan is now on display at the Glebe Library - see *Bulletin* 5/99 pp6-7

The GLEBE
Box 100 PO



SOCIETY Inc
Glebe 2037

POSTAGE
PAID

Ms Edwina Doe
224 Bridge Road
Glebe NSW 2037

MEMBERSHIP of THE GLEBE SOCIETY Inc

Ordinary	\$30
Concession:	
Student/Pensioner	\$15
Institution	\$30

Write to Box 100 PO Glebe 2037, pick up an application form from the Glebe Library, or phone Jeanette Knox 9660. 7781.

If you have a matter that you would like to discuss with the Management Committee, please ring the Secretary, ??? on ??? and arrange to come to a meeting.

DEADLINE

for copy for the next issue
of The Glebe Society
Bulletin is Tuesday

15 September

Please send to
Box 100 PO, Glebe,

or
32 Lombard Street Glebe