



# Glebe Society Bulletin

6/2002 July/August

## 33rd Annual General Meeting

### **Notice of meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of The Glebe Society Incorporated will be held at 11am on Sunday 25th August 2002 at Benledi, (next to Glebe Library) at 186 Glebe Point Road. The Agenda is published on page 2 of this Bulletin. This edition of the *Bulletin* also includes annual reports from the Society's Subcommittees and Project Teams.

### **Nominations for Committee**

Office bearers of the Society and other members of the Management Committee will be elected at the AGM, and a nomination form can be obtained by phoning the Secretary on 9518 6186. Nominations close on Friday 16th August 2002.

### **Invitation**

All members of the Society are invited to the AGM, and **all financial members** are entitled to vote. Society membership runs from July to June each year (unless membership commenced in the current calendar year). You can check the address label on this *Bulletin* for the expiry date of your membership. If you have not yet renewed, we would be glad to receive your prompt payment (a renewal form was enclosed with the last issue of the *Bulletin*).

### **Guest speaker**

Following the AGM, local resident, Lyle Radford will speak on "Excavating the lost civilization of the Chorasians, the birthplace of the prophet Zoroaster".

Lyle's early working life as an executive with the ICI group of companies, took him to many countries and facilitated his interest in Near Eastern Archeology. After retirement he graduated from the University of Sydney as a Near-Eastern Archaeologist and excavated in Egypt, the Middle-East and Central Asia. Since 1997 he has worked as a member of the University of Sydney's Central Asian Archaeological Team in the Kara Kum desert of Karakalpakstan, an area banned to foreigners under the old Soviet Union regime. In 2001 he was, until disturbed by Bin Laden, excavating one of the oldest Zoroastrian fire temples yet discovered.

**Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of Lyle's talk.**

The Glebe Society Incorporated

## 33rd Annual General Meeting

to be held at Benledi (next door to Glebe Library)  
at 186 Glebe Point Road, Glebe  
on Sunday 25th August 2001 at 11am

### AGENDA

- 1 **Present**
- 2 **Apologies**
- 3 **Confirmation of the minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting held on 19th August 2001**
- 4 **President's report**
- 5 **Subcommittee reports**  
Reports published in the Society's 6/2002 Bulletin. However Chairman and Convenors will be present to provide updates and/or answer questions.

MOTION :

- (1) The Glebe Society condemn the proposed abolition of the Australian Heritage Commission and the politicization of heritage implied by the Minister becoming final arbiter of what is included on the Register, and
- (2) Glebe remain on any future Register of the National Estate.
- (3) The Glebe Society is concerned at the recent deterioration of the suburb and requests Leichhardt Council to reinstate the Glebe Main Street Committee as it was prior to March, 1999, and provide it with an equivalent budget.

- 6 **Treasurer's Report**  
MOTION : That the Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2002, the TGSI Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 30 June 2002 and the FRROGS Receipts and Payments Statement for the year ended 30 June 2002 be received.
- 7 **Election of Office Bearers**
- 8 **Close of Meeting**

# CONSERVING GLEBE'S HERITAGE ANNUAL REPORT

Christine Whittemore carried this torch for over three years, until she returned to the U.K. early this year.

Much was achieved by her in putting forward the Society's "voice" on numerous matters affecting the conservation of Glebe's heritage. For instance, calling on Council to: consider over-development about "Hereford House" and "Kerribee" (ex Sydney Nursing College in Hereford St) ..... to upgrade Foley Park, St James Park and others ..... to draw Council's attention to the explosion of graffiti, particularly on heritage buildings ..... and much more.

The present Convenor has established a committee who have set about:

- (1) Establishing a Register of Heritage Items in Glebe as listed in Council, State and National registers plus the National Trust .... some 170 listings covering 17 pages. This is now being increased to cover another 110 items, separately listed in the Society's "Historic Glebe" and Bernard and Kate Smith's "The Architectural Character of Glebe". We thank Liz Booker-Simpson for a great start in this endeavour.
- (2) Investigating the legislative controls (or lack of them) embodied in the various Council, State and National registers. An easily understood summary of these will put us in a better position when reviewing proposed developments or spotting unauthorised additions / alterations.

Our hopes for the future:

- to make our heritage more easily available to and enjoyable by all;
- update our register, perhaps by enlisting members to walk the streets to review and comment on the list, perhaps even to add a few;
- to look into the Aboriginal heritage that may exist ..... to source a map of the area before 1788;
- to consider cost effective ways whereby heritage items could be visually identified, eg ceramic tile disks set into the footpath;
- publishing the register .... and put it on our website.

**David Mander-Jones**  
**Conserving Glebe Heritage Convenor**  
**July 2002**

**REMINDER REMINDER**

**Members are reminded that subs are due and payable by 31 July 2002.**  
**Don't miss out on your next *Bulletin*!**  
**Mail your renewal today!**

# PLANNING - ANNUAL REPORT

At the time of writing this report (12 July) there is a great deal that is still uncertain.

If the NSW Government appeal on the boundaries issue is successful and Glebe goes to the City there are likely to be some changes, but at this stage it is not clear what those would be. In any case it would certainly be a busy time and involve consultation with the new Council.

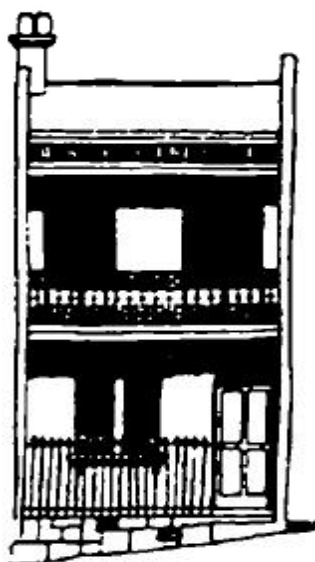
The outcome of a number of developments is still undecided. An update appears elsewhere in this *Bulletin*. The result of the development of the last waterfront sites will certainly mean a big increase in waterfront open space and continuous access to the Glebe foreshore. This will mean, in a year or two, the realisation of one of The Society's major goals and most successful strategies. However, we should remember it is one thing to obtain the land, and another to ensure it is fully accessible, interconnected and landscaped.

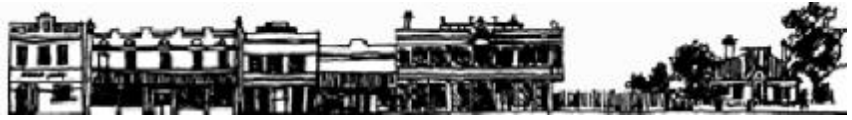
Standing on some of this attractive new parkland, I am reminded how much more important to us become the Bays and their shores. The outlook from Glebe has changed quite markedly with the building of the new bridge and units in Pyrmont.

Various State authorities have an interest in the Bays and surrounds, and I have no doubt we will become increasingly involved in debate about what should happen. To take one example: on 22 June I took part in the Open Day at White Bay Power Station, a very prominent site across Rozelle Bay from Glebe. The future of the site is uncertain. I will report on the Open Day in the next *Bulletin*.

Leichhardt Council's review of the Town Plan will certainly lead to changes in residential controls, but Council has not yet advertised them. I should point out that the floor space ratio controls on individual dwellings attracted criticism even before the Plan was gazetted and a lot more afterwards. The reason is that many existing houses are already close to or above the 0.7:1 limit. Therefore, in areas where people have a lot of money and want to extend their houses this restriction is unpopular.

**Neil Macindoe**  
**Planning Convenor**  
**July 2002**





# JULY PLANNING REPORT

## **Glebe Hockey Club**

The campaigns of The Glebe Society, even when crowned with victory, are sometimes long and arduous. Glebe Hockey Club is showing a similar toughness and persistence in its struggle with Harold Park Paceway, now in its eighth year. The Club has won all three court decisions so far, which is encouraging; but the battle is far from over and the outcome uncertain.

On 12 July I made an affidavit in support of the Club's efforts to secure a lease with Harold Park to build an all-weather field. Please give what support you can to this cause, which will benefit the entire community.

## **University Lodge, Arundel St**

For years members have been expecting this aging motel to be redeveloped and finally a proposal has arrived. As expected, it is for conversion to residences. However, instead of keeping the site at its current density, just under the Glebe limit of 0.7:1, the applicant wants to increase it to 1.33:1, retaining the block fronting Arundel St but adding another storey, and replacing the block that backs onto Catherine St with a row of seven townhouses. The justification for this is that the motel is a nonconforming use in a residential zone, but has existing use rights.

Members would be right in regarding such a claim with deep suspicion. I have no doubt that, like Council's officers, you believe the site should be subject to the new Town Plan. The Society will lodge an objection, and it would be of great assistance if members can individually do likewise.

## **Harold Park Hotel, 115 Wigram Rd**

A slightly amended application has gone in for this now derelict site. Members will recall the original proposal was unworkable, and the owners went into liquidation. The present owners, Multiplex, are trying to claim a combination of residential and commercial use for this site, and as is the case with University Lodge the density is far too great. The latest amendment increases the commercial area. It is no better than previous proposals, and The Society will object.

## **Glebe High, Taylor St**

Members may recall the decision to transform the school into Sydney Senior College. Six million dollars will be spent on the upgrade, which includes a new lecture theatre and outdoor workshop at the Ferry Rd end and a student dining area in the middle. None of these create any problems for residents, although they do make an overcrowded site more so.

Now is the opportunity to press for public access to the waterfront strip, and our President will do so. The Society understands the Department will complete the Glebe Rowing Club building, using it as a site office during the refurbishment and later handing it over to the Club.

**Neil Macindoe**  
**Planning Convenor**

# ARCHIVIST - ANNUAL REPORT

During the year the archives were consolidated in their location at Briarbank (Forest Lodge School). Much sorting was required to be done after the removal from the Town Hall. Record series which had been described using word-processing software were transferred to Tabulariuman, Australian developed archives description application, which will eventually produce web reports suitable for display on our website. New material added during the year includes:

- Additions to the minutes of the Management Committee
- Additions to the General Correspondence
- Issues of the Bulletin (progressive as each issue is published)
- *Bulletin* artwork
- Snapshots of the website

Further work has been done on the addition of the Society's publications to the database. These include:

- Glebe Society Monographs (Glebe Society Archives Series No. 10)
- Leichhardt Historical Journal (Glebe Society Archives Series 11)
- Historical Glebe (Glebe Society Archives Series 12)
- Glebe Society Sundry Publications (Glebe Society Archives Series 13)

Jeanette Knox has kindly offered to assist with the indexing of the Glebe Society *Bulletin*.

The archivist also supplies extracts for inclusion in the Glebe Society *Bulletin* to remind our members that we have a proud past.

The archivist is pleased to receive records from past and present Committee Members, and also from any members who have accumulated memorabilia or other material from Glebe Society activities. In the next 2-3 years the archivist will concentrate on the accumulation of records rather than listing as work commitments impinge on the progress of descriptive work.

We are grateful to Forest Lodge Public School for making available a storage room at no cost.

**Lyn Milton**  
**Archivist**  
**July 2002**



# TRANSPORT - ANNUAL REPORT

A busy and interesting year in the transport portfolio.

Firstly came the debacle of Council's resident parking scheme. Many residents feel they were being subjected to a wide area restrictive scheme that was requested by a few residents to address a specific problem in a specific area. Council insisted that they had consulted the community on the matter but clearly the consultation process was flawed. However, following action by several local resident groups, Council relented and did not fully implement the scheme on some streets.

Your Society also got involved with Andrew Kay's proposal to block off Pymont Bridge Road. Following Andrew's representation, both Sydney City and Leichhardt Councils declined support for Andrew's scheme. However, Leichhardt Council was at least forced to recognise the problems in Bridge Road and have undertaken support for a traffic study addressing the issue.

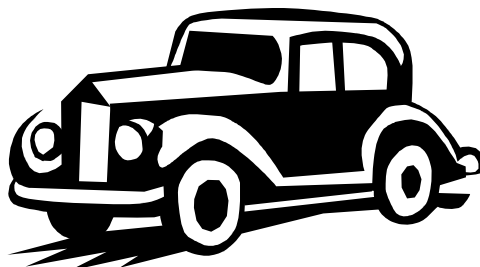
Also contentious has been the debate on the merit of campaigning for electrostatic precipitators that remove dust particles for the proposed cross city tunnel. We have gleaned research from a wide variety of sources, including overseas experts and the RTAs latest research. At this stage precipitators will not be fitted as they are widely considered to be generally ineffective and inefficient. Nonetheless there is a strong voice for a contrary view and this debate seems far from over. The Society is not calling for precipitators at this point but will continue to monitor developments.

On a brighter note, this year has seen the extension of the bicycle network through the Glebe area and the implementation of 50 kph speed restrictions on local roads (this does not include Pymont Bridge Road, Ross Street, The Crescent and Glebe Point Road between Broadway and Wigram Road).

We have also seen the extension of the 370 bus service to operate on weekends. The light rail, which has received significantly more patronage than anticipated, has now extended its operating hours.

My general surmise is that over the last few years we have been seen gradual improvements to the accessibility options for the suburb. The challenge for the next period will be to further mitigate the adverse impacts of vehicle intrusion, particularly for heavy vehicles, without unnecessarily compromising these improvements.

**Steve Stewart**  
**Transport Convenor**  
**July 2002**



# ENVIRONMENT - ANNUAL REPORT

It feels a bit strange to write an annual report just weeks after I resigned from my position, but I'll give it a go.

For "Clean up Glebe", the last term started promising. The e-mail net was well established, and every month I received mail from members (and their friends and neighbours) pointing out problems with litter in Glebe. The communication with Peter Head, then Director of Works and Services, was excellent, and most of the complaints were dealt with immediately. Peter also managed to improve the level of street cleaning considerably; finally the area south-east of St Johns Road was on a regular cleaning roster, and workers with blowers and brooms did a reasonable job. Another Council employee, Cheryl Walker, was tireless in putting pressure on Collex to stop their habit of spilling recyclables all over the streets. As far as I can see, this was very successful. I usually had to refill my crate with plastic bottles, glass splinters and cans collected in front of my house after Collex had come through and now only the occasional tuna can bounces back. Colin, the worker that cleans up Glebe Point Road every day, also had a great impact, and I acknowledged his work in a letter to Council.

Much to my disappointment, matters got significantly worse when Peter Head left Works and Services. Street cleaning efforts were reduced to the occasional sweeping machine rushing down the streets, and complaints either were not answered, or only attracted a friendly answer without action. Consequently, Glebe's streets started to look as ugly as they did about a year ago. After a letter to Peter Head, in which I pointed out that standards dropped under his successors, things seemed to improve again. I was outraged, however, to read in the *Village Voice* that the budget for street cleaning was reduced by almost \$300,000. How can Council justify this reduction, if our streets are in such a sorry state, and Society members could easily collect 32 bags of rubbish on 3km of road at this year's *Clean Up Australia Day*?

It shows the enthusiasm of our members, that just weeks after 18 of them helped with *Clean Up Australia Day*, 16 volunteered to rid a stretch of Glebe Point Road from graffiti, an event initiated by our President. We received very positive comments by residents and in the local press, but the organisation would have been less stressful had I managed to convince John to wait with the graffiti removal until after the Soccer World Cup.

As a Convenor for Environment, I cannot report much. When I started in April, I wanted to make air quality one of my main issues. The Government's plans to send an additional 1800 cars per day on Bridge Road via the Cross City Tunnel, and to release all the tunnel exhaust from an unfiltered stack in Darling Harbour, seemed unacceptable to me. Initially, the committee supported my views, and I wrote letters to several ministers asking for filtration. However, after Steve Stewart presented the RTA position that filtering wasn't necessary, the committee felt unable to decide and wanted to ask for expert opinion. In my view, there are enough published expert opinions available, and it wouldn't have taken too much time to review these and come to a decision in the committee. Postponing the decision meant that I could not represent the Society on the stack issue any more, and therefore I decided to resign. I hope that my successor will pick the issue up, and that the committee will make its decision soon, because the RTA plans to start construction this year.

**Horst Schwarz**  
**July 2002**



# Society's *Bulletin* and Website

Since the last AGM some changes to our publications have occurred, both in hard copy and electronically. After setting a new standard of expertise as *Bulletin* editor for 4.5 years, in October 2001 Bobbie Burke handed over her role to former President, Bruce Davis, while Hilary Wise was subsequently appointed as Associate Editor. Hilary is embarking on this, her first solo *Bulletin* issue while Bruce is vacationing; we all appreciate her diligence and enthusiasm. [For those with computer knowledge, Bruce has been successful in submitting the *Bulletin* copy as a .pdf file to our printer which saves at least one day in our distribution process.]

The Society's Website [www.glebesociety.org.au](http://www.glebesociety.org.au) was a mere "fledgling" at last year's AGM following its launch in July 2001, so this is our first "web" report. While there are a number of areas that need redesign both in structure and navigation, the Society is pleased that we have been able to add a Website to our public profile. The site requires continual updating of information as time and effort permit and if you see any errors or omissions do not hesitate to email us at: [webmaster@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:webmaster@glebesociety.org.au)

Both the Website and *Bulletin* also welcome contributions on issues relating to Glebe since the two information sources work closely together. Thus your input is highly valued to either and/ or both Letters to the Editor of the *Bulletin* and discussion on the current Website Forums. We look forward to hearing from you very soon!

**Cynthia Jones**  
**Webmaster**  
**July 2002**

## A BRIEF REPORT

### **Meeting with the Mayor**

Last *Bulletin* foreshadowed a meeting between the Mayor, Maire Sheehan and various Glebe groups including The Glebe Society. The group has become a semi-permanent committee to meet monthly initially. The focus was to be Glebe Point Road. To this the group added St John's Road and the Forest Lodge precinct – that is, the public areas of Glebe. For immediate attention are: crime/vandalism/graffiti; the built environment/development; lighting; tourism.

By the time this *Bulletin* has been delivered another meeting will have been held. It is to begin with a report from a council officer on progress with graffiti; empty buildings; cost of underground cabling. The Glebe Point Road Project will be re-introduced to the group. It is to be hoped that we don't have to start again on this valuable project into which Glebe Society members put so much effort in the past, but rather can regard the research as complete and get on with implementing the project.

**John Buckingham**  
**President**  
**July 2002**

# Notes from the Secretary

## Strategic plan

Approximately five years ago, the Society undertook a strategic planning exercise, the outcomes of which charted our course over recent years.

The Management Committee is planning to undertake a similar exercise on the morning of Saturday 7th September 2002. We would welcome the involvement of members in this process. Please ring Liz Simpson-Booker on 9518- 6186 if you wish to participate.

## Keeping up Appearances: Cleaning external masonry

This workshop, arranged jointly by the NSW Heritage Office and the National Trust, will address the issue of how to provide for the continuous protective care of masonry.

Keynote speaker	Nicola Ashurst, an international specialist and author of <i>Cleaning Historic Buildings</i> published by Donhead.
Venue	National Trust Centre, Observatory Hill, Sydney
Date	Monday 5 August 2002
Time	8.30 – 5.30 pm
Cost	\$100 per person
More info	Mara Barnes at the National Trust tel 9258 0161, fax 9251 1110, or e-mail mbarnes@nsw.nationaltrust.org.au.

## Notice Board



## Forest Lodge Public School

Home of The Glebe Society Archives

Principal: Mrs Elva Salter Phone 9660 3530

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## Clayworkers Gallery

The Inner City Clayworkers Gallery Co-op Ltd



Corner St John's Rd and Darghan St  
Glebe NSW 2037

### The 2002 Sydney Teapot Show

Friday 2nd August - Sunday 1st September  
Opening : 6 - 8 pm Fri. 2nd August  
open every day from 10.30am until 6.00pm

Ph/ Fax : 02 9692 9717

[www.clayworkers.com.au](http://www.clayworkers.com.au)

The Inner City Clayworkers Gallery is currently celebrating its 20th anniversary and the annual teapot show is in its fourteenth year. This invitational exhibition will present approximately 130 colourful, quirky and practical teapots made by sixty ceramists from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada and the USA.

The awards this year include:  
The Keane Ceramics Award - "Fancy Footwork" .flat feet, fat feet, fine feet, feet, feet  
The Gleebooks Award - "Rain, Hail or Shine" .. a teapot for a rainy day read  
The de Marchi Teas Award - "Four Seasons" .. the newest blend in the de Marchi range.

# For your diary ...

**Sunday 25 August** 11.00am AGM of The Glebe Society Inc. at *Benledi*. Followed by refreshments.

**7 - 15 September** Glebe Week. Details in next *Bulletin*.

**Saturday 9 November** 8.00pm (Glebe Music Festival event) A Cabaret of songs at Margaretta Cottage. Tickets (limited) \$40/\$20 include snacks and beverages.

**Sunday 10 November** 2.30pm (Glebe Music Festival event) Students of the Conservatorium of Music will perform at the Great Hall, University of Sydney. Tickets \$10/\$5 include afternoon tea.

**Friday 15 November** 8.00pm (Glebe Music Festival event): Cantolibre — Latin American music at Margaretta Cottage. Tickets (limited) \$40/\$20 include wine, juice, tea, coffee and cake.

**Sunday 17 November** 3.00pm (Glebe Music Festival event): Motets, in conjunction with *Coro Innominata*, at St. Scholastica's Chapel. Tickets \$20/\$15

## The Glebe Society Inc

[www.glebesociety.org.au](http://www.glebesociety.org.au)

### Management Committee

President	John Buckingham	9660 7780
Vice-President	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Immediate Past President	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Treasurer	Fay Mander Jones	9552 4172

### Committee Members:

Cynthia Jones 9660 2451	Jeanette Knox 9660 7781
David Mander Jones 9552 4172	Hilary Wise 9660 5845
Marianne von Knobelsdorff 9692 0916	

### Sub-Committee Convenors

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

Bays and Foreshores	Collin Hills	9660 8608
Environment including Noise Pollution	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
FRROGs	Roberta Johnston	9552 3248
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Transport and Traffic	Steve Stewart	9660 5845

### Project Teams

Clean Up Glebe		
Conserving Glebe Heritage	David Mander Jones	9552 4172
Foreshore Walk and Cycleway	Judy Vergison	9692 9200

### Contacts

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Historian	Max Solling	9660 1160
New members	Hilary Wise	9660 5845
Bulletin Editor	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Web Master	Cynthia Jones	9660 2451

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  
PO Box 100  
Glebe 2037

### DISCLAIMER

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

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The GLEBE SOCIETY Inc  
PO Box 100 Glebe 2037



POSTAGE  
PAID

### MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY INC

Ordinary member	\$40
Additional household member	\$5
Concession (student or pensioner)	\$20
Business or institution	\$100

Write to PO Box 100, Glebe, 2037 or phone the Secretary, Liz Simpson Booker, on 9518 6186.

If you have a matter that you would like to discuss with the Management Committee, please phone the Secretary to attend a meeting.

### CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY

**Report ALL street cleaning issues, dumped litter, recycling problems, and abandoned cars to:**

LEICHHARDT COUNCIL  
CUSTOMER SERVICE

Phone: 9367 9222 Fax: 9367 9008

email: leichhardt@lmc.nsw.gov.au

Dumped supermarket trolleys 1800 641 497

Aircraft noise 1800 802 584

**Copy deadline for the next issue  
Tuesday, 20 August**

