



Glebe Society Bulletin

8/2003 September/October

Lord Mayor outlines priorities for Glebe

In an intense telephone discussion recently, the Lord Mayor Cr Lucy Turbull, told me the Sydney City Council agreed with the general tenor and intent of The Glebe Society's strategic plan, which she described as a clear and well-considered strategy document. Cr Turnbull said the council was already acting on many of the "needs of the people of Glebe" outlined in it.

The Lord Mayor clearly stated that the City's two top priority issues for Glebe were the establishment of the foreshore walk from Bicentennial Park to the Fish Market and the commercial and cultural revival of Glebe Point Road. She also commented on the immediate actions outlined in Section 10 of our plan as follows:

1. On the purchase of the Anchorage site on Blackwattle Bay, the City has consulted with the owners of the site and is continuing its negotiations for the purchase of the site needed. Timing will largely be determined by the progress of negotiations and the willingness of the owners to be realistic about the terms of acquisition.
2. The City is highly sympathetic to the adaptive reuse of the Walter Burley Griffin incinerator building on the "Glebe Harbour" site and the City planning department is considering this issue now.
3. A committee has been established for the management of safety and crime in Glebe.
4. The City agrees with the intention to create better open space in the Orphan School Creek area, but the issue is impeded by a complex trail of confusing documentation and agreements left by the Leichhardt Council. The City is addressing this issue but it will take time to sort out.
5. Cr Turnbull felt that significant improvements to Foley Park had

already been achieved and further improvements and high standards of maintenance would continue. Wentworth Park was a longer-term issue that the City has been focusing on since Frank Sartor's time.

6. The parking issues in Glebe had already been matters of close consideration by the City and some of the dilemmas in this regard were understood. She suggested that the City implement a focused study on this subject as a result of the planned Glebe Point Road Concept workshops in November 2003.

7. The City saw *Bellevue* as an important component of the foreshore walk, and the city was studying alternative uses for the building. The City had a strong view that *Bellevue's* future use should be compatible with the foreshore walk.

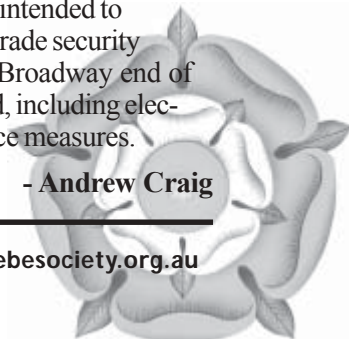
8. The City intended, for the time being, to administer development applications (DAs) using existing LEPs, but would focus more and more on ensuring that building owners were encouraged to conserve, restore and properly maintain heritage properties. This focus would similarly continue on the recognition of Glebe as a Heritage Conservation Area.

9. The City was committed to continuing the fight against graffiti and litter and felt that considerable gains had been made.

10. Improvements to public lighting had already been implemented and this would continue.

In addition, Councillor Turnbull indicated that, in consultation with the local police and other stakeholders, the City intended to substantially upgrade security measures in the Broadway end of Glebe point Road, including electronic surveillance measures.

- Andrew Craig



Workshops to discuss revitalising GPR

A group of Glebe Society members attended the last meeting of the Glebe Chamber of Commerce on 17 September by invitation of the Chamber. It had previously been agreed that Glebe Society members were welcome to attend the Chamber's meetings as observers and vice versa.

At the meeting I presented a synopsis of the Society's new Strategic Plan. This generated discussion about the high priority of reinvigorating commerce in Glebe Point Road and adjacent streets.

It was also agreed that the Chamber and the Society would jointly sponsor and convene two workshops to agree on a medium-term social and commercial concept for our main commercial areas. The Society and the Chamber will invite a group of about 25 key stakeholders to thrash this out on the mornings of 8 and 22 of November. Stakeholders invited will include members of the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Sydney, the Department of Housing and the Glebe Society. The Lord Mayor, Councillor Lucy Turnbull will be attending in person.

The purpose in running these workshops is to attempt to define and achieve general agreement on the kind of atmosphere, amenity and attraction that we want in the commercial parts of our much-loved suburb. This particularly included defining how we are going to be different from competing places of commerce and social interaction.

The benefit to everyone in agreeing this will be that it will be much easier to coordinate subsequent actions designed to realise our dreams. It was later agreed that one of the best ways to approach the rather abstract concept was to consider examples of other commercial streets, which are already well defined with clear conceptual differences. Some examples that come to mind include:

- Norton Street, Leichhardt – Italian culture with special emphasis on

Glebe Point Road - an arts led recovery?

We know Glebe is full of artists creating quality works, but who are they and where exactly are they?

The Glebe Society, Chamber of Commerce and Sydney City Council are collaborating to bring energy, arts and commerce back into Glebe Point Road by developing projects involving local artists. A database of artists is being established, so they can be consulted and involved.

Please pass the message on to local painters, sculptors, musicians, fire eaters, designers, writers etc etc.

We need them!

Please phone Sue Ingram on 9692 8534 and let her know about any contacts you may have.

food, entertainment and promenading.

- Oxford Street, Paddington – trendy fashion mixed with modern Australian food, entertainment and “lifestyle”.
- Willoughby Road, Crows Nest – good food integrating with high quality local services.
- Brunswick Street, Fitzroy in Melbourne – bohemian vibe with

artists, art and locals mixing in a melting pot

Our objective will be to define a similar concept for the commercial parts of Glebe. It will be important to try to express it in a “one liner”; similar to those above but have a deep understanding of what it means. Whatever we end up with, we are going to make it fun getting there!

- Andrew Craig

Barton, come back

Barton, come back to the silver
sunrise of Rozelle Bay,
Where the light still shines on the
now tall trees
And the pelicans glide for ever, way
on high.
Come back and wander and find
your way
Around the water's edge, feel the
same breeze.
Can you still smell the salt of distant
seas?
Come, stand on the same soil, under
the same sky.
Much has changed yet some is still
the same.
Houses you remember, when as a
child
Glebe was all your world, was all
you knew.

Now all Australians know your
name.
Stay a while, become beguiled
By buildings, parks and pubs. Life
is not so wild
Now as when the last century was
new.
Why don't you stay and settle once
again
Into the patchwork pattern of this
town?
This place which once was home
could hold
You still. Would there be too much
pain
On your return? Too much to make
you frown?
Come back, rejoice, and watch the
sun go down
And wonder at the new bridge
tinged with gold

An interest in history? Never!

I hated history at school. The history master telling me, just before I was to sit the final exams, that all I was fit for was selling liquorice allsorts didn't help! Welsh history, (compulsory), seemed an endless saga of the glory of battles lost and nothing gained, whilst the really interesting stuff, iron age forts and standing stones were part of every day village life but never seemed to rate a mention in more formal learning. It was a surprise later in life for me to discover a real interest in the small things of past lives, the houses people built, the clothes they wore, the music they played and the songs they sang - stories of ordinary families and everyday dramas, domestic, small scale, but endlessly fascinating.

Our Glebe house has seen lots of living. Built in 1877 it has survived many changes and has an air of having seen it all before - not easily shocked! It is much smaller now than it was originally. The outhouses and stables have long gone, the garden is much reduced and many of the original features have been destroyed. Somehow though it has maintained its dignity in the face of all these assaults and it continues to delight. It has a quality that is hard to define but is immediately recognised, a friendly face, always welcoming and really lovely to live in.

Are these qualities that The National Trust recognises when they evaluate a building for listing? Probably not; nevertheless, *Kinrara* was classified in 1986. It was with real pleasure that we applied for and received a National Trust Plaque and I like to think that the house was really pleased to receive it as well.

- Fay Mander Jones

NATIONAL TRUST CLASSIFICATION

The National Trust maintains a register of landscapes, townscapes, buildings, industrial sites, cemeteries and other items or places which the Trust determines have heritage significance and are worthy of conservation. Currently, there are some 11,000 items listed on the Trust's Register. They are said to be "Classified".

The process of classification involves the identification and assessment of an item using criteria to indicate its cultural significance – its historic, aesthetic, social and scientific value to past, present and future generations.

The Trust's register is intended to perform an advisory and education role. The listing of an item in the Trust Register has no legal force but it is widely recognised as an authoritative statement of the heritage significance of a place.

There are currently approximately 50 items (or groups of items) located in Glebe which are classified by the National Trust.

Classification Plaques

The Society would like to encourage the owners of those buildings which have been classified by the National



Above: *Kinrara*; below: its plaque

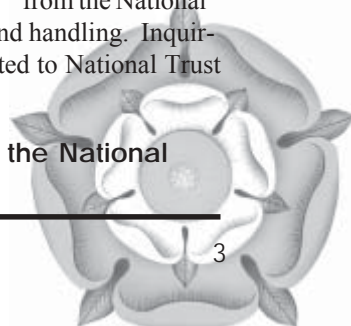


Trust to display a classification plaque. These bronze plaques are a special mark of recognition of the architectural, historical or cultural significance of the building. The plaques are only available for buildings classified by the Trust.

The plaque features the National Trust logo and is 150 x 100 mm in size. It can be ordered from the National

Trust. Cost is \$160 plus \$6 postage and handling. Inquiries about the plaques should be directed to National Trust Merchandising, phone (02) 258 0123.

A list of buildings classified by the National Trust appears on page 6



A new Glebe rowing club

Max Solling gave this speech at the opening of Glebe Rowing Club on Sunday 27 July 2003.

This morning I would like to share a few thoughts with you about the history of Glebe Rowing Club, a club which over time has had its ups and downs, and is presently on the way up. The boatshed of the Glebe Rowing Club opened on 5 July 1879 at the foot of Ferry Road, the first suburban rowing club to be established beyond the city limits, at a time when the aggregate population of the suburbs, 125,000, had just overtaken the city proper. The two earlier clubs were Sydney Rowing Club, which began at Sydney Cove in 1870, and the Mercantile Club at Dawes Point, opened in 1875. Within days of its opening the Glebe shed was blown off its supports and, according to the *Sydney Mail*, "it nearly went for a cruise across the bay". The first generation of Glebe clubmen were a pretty respectable lot - professional men, self-employed businessmen, and clerks in government service, banks and insurance companies. It had to be that way because the definition of amateur adopted by the NSWRA in 1878 precluded active participation in the sport by manual workers. It was justified on the basis that manual workers had an unfair physical advantage over more delicately nurtured competitors. Among the early oarsmen, there was a strong contingent committed to the temperance cause. Later club members would redress this imbalance, and this little verse could well have been written with a Glebe oarsman in mind. It goes like this:

One evening in October,
When I was far from sober,
And dragging home a load with
manly pride,
My feet began to stutter
So I lay down in the gutter
And a pig came up and parked
right by my side.
Then I warbled "It's fair weather
"When good fellows get to-
gether."
Till a lady passing by was heard
to say:



"You can tell a man who boozes
"By the company he chooses!"
Then the pig got up and slowly
walked away.

Not just anyone could join the club. Glebe adopted a "vetting" system for nominations, and a black ball test in balloting. An application to join went before a committee of 12 men who voted by secret ballot. Each committeeman received a black and a white ball and a box was passed around. Two or more black balls in the box meant rejection.

But from 1889 Glebe had lobbied to admit manual workers to the ranks of

Workers admitted to ranks of oarsmen

amateur oarsmen, and in 1903, with the support of Balmain, they had the definition amended. During the early years of Federation, occupations previously conspicuous by their absence - labourers, stonemasons, coopers, policemen, publicans and bakers - were now rowing in maroon colours. Sixty-five Glebe oarsmen enlisted in the 1914-18 war. Eleven members were killed in action or died of wounds. One member, Percy Storkey, won the Victoria Cross in France in 1918. But attempts by the Federal Government to introduce conscription in 1916 and 1917 divided the club into two opposing camps.

On the outbreak of war in 1914, any sporting club taking the name of the suburb attracted tribal loyalty. A staple part of local culture, clubs were also an integral part of suburban identity. You were a Glebe person and proud of it. Its Rugby Union Club dominated the Sydney competition between 1900 and 1914, and the Glebe Rugby League club, the first one formed in 1908, helped further a kind of local consciousness. The supporters of the League Club are remembered as being especially passionate and parochial. Glebe people grieved the loss of their League and Union Clubs in 1929 and 1930 and the local Council in 1948, after almost 90 years of local government. The district cricket club disappeared in 1965. All that remained were its rowing club and the Glebe Hockey Club, the most dominant hockey club in Sydney since the second World War.

Increasingly after the first World War, Sydney's inner suburbs were seen as old and unfashionable. Those who could afford it moved elsewhere, and Glebe became more distinctly working class in identity and public life. The shackles imposed by the public transport system ensured that rowers continued to live in close proximity to the club. The boatshed was home for unemployed men during the 1930s, and hardship bonded oarsmen together, creating lifelong friendships. They valued the club's camaraderie, indulged in the pleasures of drinking and smoke nights and sang heartily

“We are the boys of the GRC, we swim every day down at Blackwattle Bay and we don’t give a cuss for the sharks”. From 1879 to 1963 the club survived on subscriptions, donations and the voluntary labour of its members. The old concept of service was a feature of club life, that is, contributing in some way without any expectation of reward. It gave the club a soul, something worth fighting for, something worth writing about. Throughout the second World War old members returned to maintain the shed and fleet. Like other voluntary institutions, Glebe members knew all about the subordination of self for teamwork.

By the early 1960’s the collective view was that for Glebe to compete with other clubs, and attract members, it had to acquire a liquor licence. It took a new direction on Sunday 23 December 1963 when the club began trading as a licensed club. For the next 30 years the clubhouse became a popular place for people to get together and enjoy themselves. It is a time that evokes rich memories for many people. Membership numbers rose dramatically to 890 in 1976, reaching 1,227 by 1987. But operating a licensed club carries a heavy financial burden, and by 1994 the burden had become too great. It went into liquidation.

So at sunset in April 1994 the Glebe boatshed stood darkened and lifeless, shuttered and barred at its most accessible time for ordinary people. Many in Glebe grieved this loss; it was a social tragedy. The club had come back to life after its boatshed was burnt down in 1897 and again in 1953, but in 1994 after 115 years members were without a place in Glebe any more. Prospects for starting up again looked pretty bleak.

What you see here today is the result of the unconcerted labour of many people. Like all non-profit, voluntary organisations in our society, this boatshed is a fine example in praise of philanthropy. The word philanthropy comes from the Greek meaning a love of mankind. Rumour has it that the ghosts that haunt the old boatshed next door are right now packing their bags to move in here.

The Wireless House in Foley Rest Park

“I heard it on the wireless ...”

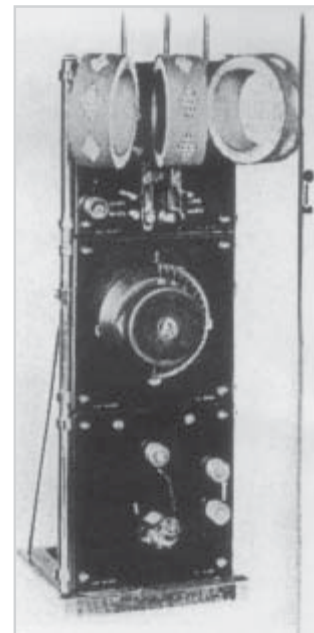
The small square unadorned brick building in Foley Rest Park is a Wireless House. The plaque attached says that it was officially put in place on 22 November 1934.

In his history of the beginnings of radio in Australia, R.R. Walker¹ recounts that by the thirties “radio was homogenising Australian society... breaking down the great loneliness, distributing its benefits with almost equal favour in city, town, and hamlet”. AWA had for some years been selling impressive cabinet models for £56/10/-, while just £6/-/- would get you a crystal set. If this was beyond your means, you could obtain instructions on “How to make a receiving set (crystal) for 7/6d.” To entice customers, city cafes were offering “Wireless Music Supplied Gratis”, and an international (!) Theatre Royal performer noted that “wireless is no longer a luxury. It is a necessity ...”

It appears that in 1933 a suggestion was made to the Glebe Municipal Council to erect a Wireless House in the Rest Park for the purpose of amplifying radio programs for public entertainment. Council minutes confirm that Grace Bros donated a wireless set for the House which was installed in 1935. The Wireless House was officially launched on 15 February, and according to a press report in February that year it was “unique in Australian municipal history”.

The *Telegraph*, of Friday 22 February 1935, (p 5) went on: “Seats were placed around the building, and amplifiers installed, to give reception over a wide area. A council gardener has charge. Specially selected programs are given from 10 am until about 10:15 pm daily. The scheme is proving popular especially amongst unemployed people, and the council is having more seats installed.”

The Sydney Morning Herald of the same date reported that “Since the official opening last Saturday, large crowds, including many unemployed, have congregated to enjoy the



An early AWA crystal set, which sold for £3 (The Magic Spark p 2)

program.”

Not everyone, however, was entirely happy with the situation. A Special Meeting of the Council on 13 March 1935 heard a request that the Wireless should not be played on Sunday nights until after Church hours, that is after 8:15 pm. Councillors maintained that the wireless could not be heard inside the Church, and the motion was defeated.

Alan Thomas² recounts that sporting organisations were also concerned that citizens would choose to listen in to radio reports rather than go to the event; NSW racing clubs wanted all racing broadcasts prohibited until after the day’s meeting, while cricket officials “were convinced that radio was to blame for lower attendances in the period 1929-32”.

A positive response came from an Anglican church minister who thought that “One of the bodily difficulties that surrounded the return of our Lord has been removed with the discovery of wireless ...” [as reported in the *Daily Telegraph* 28 January 1933].

Continued on page 6

National Trust classifications in Glebe

The following buildings in Glebe are classified by the National Trust.

Allen Street, 32-34, semi detached houses

Arcadia Road, cnr Avenue Road, St Scholastica's Convent (Toxteth Park)

Arundel Street, 15 rear, Kelly's House and stables

Bay Street, 63, Australian Youth Hotel (group)

Bay Street, 63-65, Bay Street group

Bay Street, 65, House incl stables (group)

Boyce Street, 36, cnr Bell, *Montana*

Bridge Road, 154, *The Hermitage* (group)

Bridge Road, 154-160, former Presbyterian Church (group)

Bridge Road, 156, *Hamilton* (group)

Bridge Road, 158, Abbey Restaurant + former Presbyterian Church (group)

Bridge Road, 160, *Reussdale* (group)

Bridge Road, 223A-225B, formerly *Killara* and formerly *Morocco* (group)

Bridge Road, 223A-229, Victorian houses (group)

Bridge Road, 227, formerly *Ardnaho* + *Hillston* (group)

Bridge Road, 229, formerly Ronald McDonald house + formerly *Strathmore*

Bridge Road, 233, *Briarbank*

Bridge Road, 272-280, Magnolia Flats + Magnolia Terrace

Bridge Road, 282-4, cnr Junction Street, house formerly shop

Cardigan Street, pavement and retaining wall

Darghan Lane, 61, *Lyndhurst*

Federal Road, Jubilee Park

Ferry Road, 24, *Rothwell*

Glebe Point Road, 207-209, now Thai Intra

Glebe Point Road, 226-8, Edith Villas

Glebe Point Road, 234, *Oswestry*

Glebe Point Road, 242, *Lasswade*

Glebe Point Road, 244, *Hartford House*

Glebe Point Road, 266, *Monteith*

Glebe Point Road, 288, *Lymington*

Glebe Point Road, 357, *Bidura*

Glebe Point Road, 433-4 terrace and house

Glebe Point Road, cnr Bridge Road, Diggers Memorial

Hereford Street, 2A & 2B, *Rosebank*

Hereford Street, 45, *Kinrara*

Hereford Street, 53, *Hereford House*

Hereford Street, 55, *Kerribree*

Hereford Street, 115, house

Hereford Street, 148, *Penharwood*

Leichhardt Street, 6, *Margaretta Cottage*

Leichhardt Street, 17 & 19, house

Leichhardt Street, 55, *Bellevue*

Minogue Cres, former tramshed

Oxley Street, slipway and wharf

St Johns Road, Post Office, etc (group)

Continued from page 5

"I heard it on the wireless ..."

Other citizens expressed dismay at its possible effects on the community:

"Was radio an 'enemy of thought'? Would it produce a new superficiality of analysis and a tendency to conform? Could children be expected to complete their homework with the temptation of radio in the next room?"

Nevertheless radio became and remains a part of everyday life.

The Wireless House is now, of course, unutilised. This year members of the Foley Park Working Group were given access to it, when Leichhardt Council was responsible for the upkeep of the Park – we found it contained only water hoses and fertiliser.

As part of our plan to work for a major upgrade of the Park, we have adopted an idea first proposed by Anne Martin, a former Community Arts Officer with Leichhardt Council. Anne suggested that a sensor-activated 'sound sculpture' be installed in the Wireless House (similar to that installed in the Parramatta Foreshore Park near the Lennox Bridge, and *Edge Of The Trees*: the whispering poles in front of the Museum of Sydney). Recordings could contain some oral history of Glebe, both of the 1930s and contemporary; archival radio material, songs of the 1930s, etc. To this end we have contacted Screensound Australia, which holds both film and radio archival material, and they have responded positively. We are also

putting together a proposal that such a sound sculpture be part of the improvements included in the Plan of Management the City Council is preparing for the Park.

*The Magic Spark*³ tells of a vote taken in Sydney in 1936 to determine the most popular radio programs. They were:

2FC - Dinner Music, George Edwards Plays, Air Adventures of Jimmy Allen

2UW - Saturday Sporting, Chandu the Magician,, Inspector Scott

2BL - Community Singing, Charlie Chan

2SM - Amateur Night, Darby and Joan

2UW - Racing

How would you like to wander through Foley Park and pass by the Wireless House close enough to hear (unamplified!) snatches of an episode of Darby and Joan?

- **Bobbie Burke**
Foley Park Working Group

1. *The Magic Spark*, R.R. Walker 1973, p 26, p 31

2. *Broadcast and Be Damned*, Alan Thomas 1980, p 10-11

3. *ibid.* p 35. Council minutes confirm that Grace Bros donated a wireless set for the House which was installed in 1935. The Wireless House was officially launched on 15 February, and according to a press report in February that year it was "unique in Australian municipal history".

Continued next page



Threat to Orphan School Creek

I have written many times of the painfully slow progress of the landswap that would make the extension and complete landscaping of this important open space corridor possible. The City of Sydney has brought new energy to the proposal and I am more hopeful than I have been for some time. The high buildings being constructed on the Children's Hospital site make the need for a larger area of parkland more obvious and urgent.

However, there is a new development, completely unrelated to the Hospital, proposed for the bottom of Foss Street (43 and 45). It is for three

townhouses, each with two bedrooms. It exceeds permissible density by only 0.1:1, but the design is bulky and incompatible with the existing terraces, and the roofs are steeply peaked, far exceeding the normal height. Its proximity to the Creek make it a major concern, and it requires the consent of the Department of Land and Water Conservation.

Please send you objections to DA No D/03/00675 to Stuart Greville at City of Sydney, GPO Box 1591, Sydney 2001 or email sgreville@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

- Neil Macindoe

SCC to publish history of Glebe

The City of Sydney is looking for an historian to write the story of Glebe.

The City's historian, Shirley Fitzgerald, says the history will complement the local area histories the City has sponsored over the years - Chippendale, Millers Point and so on. "Unlike some of these areas, however, there is a depth of local knowledge in the Glebe community that promises to make

this a very rewarding project," she said.

The proposed format is a work of social and political history that is professionally researched and written, but is pitched at a general readership. It is anticipated that the work will be of about 50,000 words, with generous illustrations.

Dr Fitzgerald has provided a copy of the job advertisement which is available in the News and Events section of our website.

Continued from previous page

St Johns Road, 75, fire station

St Johns Road, 132, Record Reign Hall (group)

St Johns Road, 144A, Irving Sculpture Gallery

St Johns Road, 160, Glebe Town Hall

St Johns Road, 198-206, cnr Ross Street, shops (group)

St Johns Road, cnr Glebe Point Road, St Johns Church (group)

St Johns Road, cnr Talfourd Street,

Courthouse incl stone cottage (group)

St Johns Road, cnr Talfourd Street, formerly Police Station and Magistrate's residence (group)

Toxteth Road, 2 & 4, *Ambleside* and *Wycombe*

Toxteth Road, 9, cnr Avenue Road, *Toxteth Lodge*

Upper Road, 1, formerly shop and residence

Victoria Road, cnr Edward Street, Sze Yup Chinese Temple

Elizabethan trivia - how will you rate?

There will be a fun quiz during the our forthcoming Elizabethan Dinner (to be held in the main hall of Forest Lodge Primary School on Saturday 18 October at 7 pm - **see enclosed booking form**).

The Quizmaster will be seeking answers to questions such as :

- How many ships did the British lose during the Armada?
- What is up and down husbandry?
- What was England's population in 1600?
- Why is the sieve regarded as an attribute of Elizabeth I?
- Which Glebe houses show neo-Tudor characteristics?

More councillors a possibility

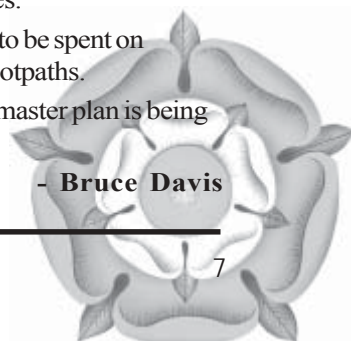
The Lord Mayor, Cr Lucy Turnbull, recently told a meeting of Glebe residents that consideration is being given to raising the number of City councillors from seven to nine. However, she stressed that the introduction of a ward system is a matter for the Minister for Local Government.

The meeting on 13 September was attended by several councillors and senior staff and a goodly number of citizens. Many questions were asked and most were answered.

Among matters of interest to your scribe (who missed the fist part of the meeting) were:

- The City's planning department is doing several reviews, including rules for signage, limits on the proliferation of convenience stores, and rules for altering terrace houses.
- \$1 million is to be spent on upgrading footpaths.
- A street tree master plan is being prepared.

- Bruce Davis



News and Notes

Members' interests

Members were asked, on their renewal forms, to tick three areas of interest in order to assist the Management Committee to contact appropriate members on particular issues of interest and to participate in various Society activities. Not surprisingly, Heritage & History, Bays & Foreshores (including the Foreshore Walk), Environment and Parks & Gardens all scored very high.

We are grateful to members for taking the time to provide this feedback which will help us to keep focused throughout the year.

Survey of members interested in heritage and history

A further survey of members' interests is currently being undertaken by the Heritage Subcommittee. Its purpose is to help the Subcommittee to better understand its constituency and to assist in formulating its plans for the forthcoming year. Members who received the survey are urged to complete it and return it asap.

Tech heads!

Australian Society for History of Engineering and Technology (ASHET)

The first AGM of ASHET will be held on Wednesday 29 October at 5.30 for 6 pm at History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney.

The short business meeting will be followed by a joint meeting of ASHET and the Royal Australian Historical Society, at which Kimberley Webber, Senior Curator of Australian History and Society at the Powerhouse Museum, will present a talk titled *Romancing the Machine: Domestic technology in Australia*. \$6.60 charge covers refreshments on arrival. Bookings essential: 9247 8001 or History@rahs.org.au.

Thirsty Thursdays

All members are invited to meet for dinner in Glebe on the first Thursday of each month, to meet and eat with other people who live in Glebe.

We started well 3 July, when nine people met. Our next two "Thirsty Thursday" dinners will be at the restaurant in the Toxteth Hotel on 2 October and 6 November (the last one for 2003). No bookings are needed – just turn up at 6.30 for 7 pm. We will pay for our own meals and there is no BYOG.

If you can suggest another "Thirsty Thursday" venue for 2004, or have suggestions for other social events, please ring Edwina Doe on 9660 7616.

Tudor tid bits

We are indebted to Liz Simpson Booker for the following.

Forks were not table utensils in Western Europe during the Middle Ages and even in the 15th and 16th centuries, they were generally used only for sweetmeats and fruit. Meat forks for use at table first came into fashion in Italy, where the fastidiousness of the better classes found it repugnant that meat in the common dish should be grasped in the fingers by each diner in turn while he hacked off a piece for himself with his knife.

Members attending our Elizabethan Dinner are guaranteed latter-day eating utensils!

* * * * *

It was during the last 20 years of the 16thC that shoes began to have heels. First the heel was merely a thickening of the leather layers at the back. Gradually this turned into a separate heel and by the end of the century both men and women wore heels up to 5 centimetres high.

Women also favoured cork-soled overshoes, termed 'pantoffles' which assumed amazing heights. The idea was to keep the skirts from touching the mire in the streets.



Sydney City Councillors

Cr Lucy Turnbull, Lord Mayor LLB (Syd), MBA (UNSW)
Telephone: 9265 9706
Fax: 9265 9416

Cr Dixie Coulton, Deputy Lord Mayor BA, LIM
Telephone: 9265 9706
Fax: 9265 9416

Cr Fabian Marsden BPHARM, MPS
Telephone: 9265 9706
Fax: 9265 9416

Cr Robert Ho OAM, JP
Telephone: 9265 9678
Fax: 9265 9188

Cr Kathryn Greiner AO, B. Soc.Work (UNSW)
Telephone: 9265 9701
Fax: 02 9265 9204

Cr Nick Farr-Jones AO, LLB (Syd)
Telephone: 9265 9701
Fax: 9265 9204



Forest Lodge Public School

Home of The Glebe Society Archives

Principal: Mrs Elva Salter Phone 9660 3530

For your diary ...

Thursday 2 October, 6:30 for 7pm – “Thirsty Thursday” Dinner at the Toxteth Hotel Restaurant

Wednesday 8 October 7:30pm - Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting, upstairs meeting room, Toxteth Hotel

Saturday 18 October, The Glebe Society Annual Dinner - Elizabethan Banquet in the Forest Lodge School Hall – see page 7 and enclosed booking form.

Monday 27 October, 5:30pm - City of Sydney Council Meeting – Level One, Town Hall

Thursday 6 November, 6:30 for 7pm – “Thirsty Thursday” Dinner at the Toxteth Hotel Restaurant

Saturday 8 – Sunday 23 November, Glebe Music Festival – see enclosed leaflet.

We know it's early, but ...

The Glebe Society's **Christmas party** will be held on Friday, 5 December, on the verandah of St Scholastica's. Inscribe the date in your diary and watch the next *Bulletin* for details.



We promise faithfully that “From the Archives” will return in the next edition of the *Bulletin*.

Another Tudor tid bit

After the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16thC, charitable monastic hostels became secular premises. These evolved into the inns and ale-houses which we know today. The authorities limited their number and landlords were compelled by law to display a sign (another story in itself!) Even so, when the population of England and Wales was only 5 million, some 13,000 premises were licensed.

We are glad to publish letters or articles on any matters of interest to Glebe, any topic raised in the *Bulletin*, or any issues relating The Glebe Society.

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Glebe Society Inc
PO Box 100
Glebe 2037

or editor@glebesociety.org.au

Disclaimer

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

Copy deadline for the next issue:

Tuesday, 14 October 2003

Website

The Society also has a growing website (www.glebesociety.org.au) for the information of members and anyone with an interest in Glebe. The website will only flourish if members send comments and contributions to editor@glebesociety.org.au

The Glebe Society Inc

www.glebesociety.org.au

Management Committee

President	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Vice-President	Hilary Wise	9660 5845
Immediate Past President	John Buckingham	9660 7780
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Treasurer	Bruce Davis	9660 7873

Committee Members

Robyn Kemmis 9692 9440	Bob Armstrong 9660 4189
Tony Larkum 9660 7030	Ted McKeown 9660 3917

Sub-committees

All sub-committee chairs are *ex officio* members of the Management Committee

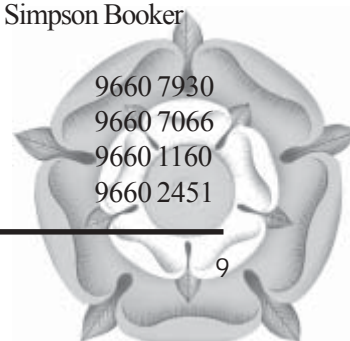
Bays and Foreshores Environment, and Clean Up Glebe	Collin Hills	9660 8608
Glebe Point Road	Andrew Wood	9660 6104
Heritage	John Gray	9518 7253
History of The Glebe Society	David Mander Jones	9552 4172
Membership	Jeanette Knox	9660 7781
Planning	Robyn Kemmis	96929440
Parks	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Reporting infrastructure defects	Ted McKeown	9660 3917
Social activities,	Margaret Sheppard	9660 4121
Transport and Traffic	Hilary Wise	9660 5845
	Steve Stewart	9660 5845

Adopt-a-Park contacts Foley Park - Bobbie Burke, Kirsova

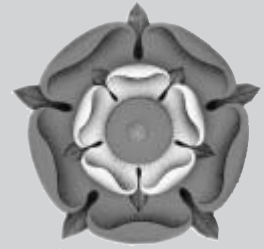
Playground - Fay Mander Jones, Paddy Gray Park - Liz Simpson Booker

Contacts

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Bulletin Editor	Edwina Doe	9660 7066
Historian	Max Solling	9660 1160
Webmaster	Cynthia Jones	9660 2451



Starch your ruffs for our Elizabethan banquet - booking form inside



In this issue

- An interest in history? Never! - page 3
- A new Glebe rowing club - page 4
- "I heard it on the wireless" - page 5



The GLEBE SOCIETY Inc
PO Box 100 Glebe 2037

POSTAGE
PAID

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLEBE SOCIETY

Ordinary member	\$45
Joint (2 people, one address)	\$55
Household (2+ adults and/or children, one address)	\$60
Concession (student or pensioner)	\$20
Business or institution	\$110

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

Sydney City Council Customer Service
Telephone (24 hours): 1300 651301

email: council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
website: www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Dumped supermarket trolleys: 1800 641 497 (BiLo trolleys 9281 4511)

Aircraft noise: 1800 802 584