



Glebe Society Bulletin

I/2008 February/March

The year of the exploding chicken?



Above: Broadway Shopping Centre.

On the right, top to bottom: the site of the chicken shop, the damaged substation and the roof of the Chinese Temple. Photos: Rod Holtham

Following the disappearance of St Barnabas in a puff of smoke, 2008 has begun with explosions in a chicken shop in Mountain Street and at an electricity substation in Broadway Centre, with a fire in the Sze Yup Temple for good measure. The Temple has erected a temporary structure so they can get on with celebrating the Year of the Rat. Only the extremely superstitious will think these disasters are related.

- Neil Macindoe



Workshop on Sunday 16 March

Your chance to help develop our vision and strategies for the future of Glebe

The City of Sydney intends to have a City of Sydney Town Plan on public exhibition by the end of 2008. It will be based on new studies of all the areas now part of the City. The Glebe and Forest Lodge Urban Design Study was the first of these, and the Society has been keen to ensure public consultation continues to ensure a good result. This is best achieved through the Coalition of Glebe Groups (COGG) because it represents all the stakeholders.

A meeting was held with the City's new Manager of Strategic Planning, Francesca O'Brien, on Thursday, 14 February. The result was positive, with most of the community's concerns taken on board and with the promise of further consultation.

As our next step, the Glebe Society's Management Committee is holding a two hour workshop at *Benledi* (Glebe Library) on **Sunday 16 March, 10am – 12 noon**, to review

and update the 'vision and strategies for the future' for our Strategic Plan. All interested members are welcome to join us.

Our original Strategic Plan, 'Partnerships to a Vibrant Community', was developed at the time of the amalgamation of Glebe into the City of Sydney, in order to have a clear document to share with Council about our vision and priorities for our suburb. It is now two years old, and it is gratifying to see how many of our objectives for Glebe have been met.

We need to update the Plan, aiming to make it a much shorter document that we can use to promote the Society. At our workshop on 16 March we will identify our vision and objectives for our suburb, to guide the activity of the Society for the next five years. Please join us, so that our updated Strategic Plan reflects the real objectives of our members.

- Jan and Neil Macindoe

Our 2007 Christmas Party

Our social calendar for 2007 ended with a garden cocktail party for about 140 members and friends held on Friday 14 December at *Lyndhurst*, one of Glebe's finest heritage homes.

Due to the generosity of Tim Eustace, Salvatore and the little princess Leila, we were given the opportunity to admire first hand this beautiful heritage house that has truly become a home.

Those present included Tom Uren, a Minister in the Whitlam government, Verity Firth, our local State Member and Minister and some special longtime residents from the Glebe Estate. Guests were able to stroll in the beautiful grounds and admire the manicured lawns, gravel drive, sandstone garden beds, trees and shrubs. It was in this setting that we enjoyed drinks, food and conversation.

Most of us were unaware that only days before, the grounds had been a muddy quagmire and none of the above existed. With a talented designer's team of landscapers working through to the very afternoon of the event, miracles can happen.

Lyndhurst was designed by leading architect John Verge and was built between 1834 and 1837 for Dr James Bowman, the Principal Colonial Surgeon. He was, through his marriage to Mary Macarthur, a member of the prominent Macarthur family.

It was not difficult to imagine life in the 1830s whilst wandering through the many rooms of this outstanding home, from the vestibule with its large decorated Christmas tree with the



The party scene in the garden at *Lyndhurst*. Party photos: Bruce Davis

central staircase as backdrop, to the library, drawing room, and the stunning candlelit dining room.

Whilst Lyndhurst began as a private residence, its purpose has been varied. It was used among other things as a Theological College, a number of schools, a hospital and various factories. The building suffered neglect during these times and became derelict following its resumption for the north-western distributor. It was partly because of the proposed freeway and the threat of demolition of Lyndhurst that the Glebe Society was formed in 1969, so this was a nostalgic time for some members and guests as they thought back to that time.

So we were most fortunate to have as a party guest Tom Uren, whose tireless efforts during the 1970s helped save the Glebe Estate and who always reminds us of the importance of community.

Tony Larkum brought along a number of photos as a reminder of the campaigns of the Save Lyndhurst Committee, with support from the National Trust and members of the public. Finally, a change of government led to the abandonment of the freeway proposal and the subsequent restoration of the house in the late 1970s early 80s.

The Glebe Society had wonderful

community support from local businesses that had again been most generous with donations. Verity Firth drew the raffle tickets and Mari-Luise Agius, our resident auctioneer, conducted the annual auction. We thank the business people who continue to support Glebe and The Glebe Society and who in turn deserve our support and congratulate those who bid successfully or won prizes. (See the box on page 6.)

We also thank Dorothy Davis for organizing the evening, Andrew Wood, Margaret Sheppard and Kathryn Vernon who helped to serve the food and drinks and John Gray, who acted as MC.

- Dianne Gray



Bob Armstrong talks to Tom Uren



Local Member Verity Firth MP (on left) draws a winning ticket, helped by Jan Macindoe

Planning Matters

Durham Court, 417 Glebe Point Road

This application was lodged just before Christmas, a time favoured by those wishing to avoid public scrutiny. Located between Cook and Leichhardt Streets Durham Court, originally a large private house, was extended ca 1920 into a large block of flats, but there is still a lot of open space on the site and we have been expecting a proposal to develop some of this space for some time.

However this proposal far exceeds the density control and has severe impacts on many neighbours in Glebe Point Road, Cook Street, Leichhardt Street and Leichhardt Avenue, so the Society has joined residents with what we hope is an impressive array of objections.

Bellevue, 55 Leichhardt Street

The Society has been waiting a year for Council to find a tenant for this highly symbolic renovated waterfront villa. The proposal arrived in January, a little out of left field. It was from Tea Rooms, who run rather glamorous and expensive venues at QVB, the Gunners' Barracks at Georges Heights and the Sergeants' Mess at Chowder Bay.

Moreover, the original application was for seven days from 7.30am until midnight and 11pm on Sundays. However, Glebe Point residents called a meeting on 8 February to which the CEO of Tea Rooms, Manuel Spinola, was invited, and a somewhat different picture emerged. It seems the application was an ambit claim, and Tea Rooms was willing to reduce its hours of operation and to take on board the concerns residents expressed at the meeting. These alternative proposals have been circulated from 20 February as an amendment to the original application. What follows is a brief summary. The full amendment can be viewed on Council's website.

From Wednesday to Sunday (five days) there will be morning and afternoon tea in *Bellevue* itself, with an a la carte lunch.

The lower courtyard will operate for the same period as a cafe, serving breakfast and lunch at lower prices.

It is proposed to have private functions on Saturdays and most Fridays (maximum of two nights) until 10pm in *Bellevue* with a maximum of sixty people. Tea Rooms will advise guests of parking restrictions and recommend alternatives. They will also supervise and escort departures.

There will be community access to the venue once a month on Monday or Tuesday, including tastings, book launches and art displays. R.J. Williams Lodge, Glebe Music Festival, Gleebooks, Glebe Youth Service and the Glebe Society have all been contacted and have shown interest, and their activities will be supported by the operator.

NSW Planning White Paper

This discussion paper, misleadingly entitled 'Improving the Planning System', was on exhibition until 8 February.

There are three main proposals:

1. An attempt to greatly extend the range of development that can be approved automatically without public scrutiny up to the value of \$1 million. The Society has argued this is not possible in complex inner city areas with high densities and heritage buildings.
2. Other development to be determined by unelected officials appointed by the Minister or his Department. The effect is to deny citizens their democratic right to lobby on behalf of their preferred type of development.

Assessment and reports of development proposals to be in the hands of private certifiers employed by developers, rather than trained staff employed by local government. An extra layer of bureaucracy will be required to supervise the private certifiers.

It is difficult to see these proposals as other than rewards to developers in return for the enormous political donations they made to the major

parties before the last election, and the Society has proposed all such donations be banned as an essential prerequisite for a fair and equitable planning system.

The most effective way State Governments can change the system in favour of developers is to remove the democratic rights of citizens, either directly, by reducing their power to object and lobby, or indirectly, by limiting or removing the powers of local governments elected by the citizens. This paper proposes both methods.

Other moves have been made, besides the proposals in this White Paper, to reduce the powers of local government, which the NSW Government clearly regards as liable to pesky outbreaks of democracy. One is section 3A, whereby a development can be declared 'state significant' and determined by the Minister without regard to compliance with other Acts of Parliament. And more recently a proposal was made to restrict the collection of developers' contributions to facilities that benefit only a particular development, and for these contributions to be held and disbursed by the State Government. For a cash-strapped State this must be a very attractive method of increasing revenue.

The current Planning Minister, Frank Sartor, is also 'reviewing' the Heritage Act, a particularly important document for Glebe, and the other major strand of protection apart from ordinary planning controls. I am very concerned about our lack of progress in having additional heritage items listed and heritage controls strengthened, and I call on all members to give maximum support to the new Heritage Convenor, Diane Gray, and her program. The future of Glebe could well depend on it.

- Neil Macindoe

Come to the Workshop on
Sunday 16 March,
10am - 12 noon.
See *Bulletin* front page

Wentworth Park: a changing Scene

You will all be aware of the changes that are occurring at the western entrance of the Sporting Complex of Wentworth Park. The Wentworth Park Trust is to be congratulated on the removal of the horrible wall and barriers that have existed there for so long. Instead of a secret, alienating world of who knows what behind a huge, ugly, conglomerate of various wall materials it is now an attractive, open and much more community friendly vista. The work is nearing completion and such a difference it has made.

But there's more!

The long awaited feasibility study that arose out of Council's offer to pay up to \$500,000 as a contribution to replacing all the walls around the Sporting Complex has finally been completed and is available for viewing on the Council website. Here is a summary of what is proposed as stated in Clover Moore's eNEWS of 18 January this year:

Wentworth Park feasibility study

Opening up the viaduct arches in Wentworth Park, and improving public access along the park's Wattle Street frontage are two key proposals in a draft study prepared for Council and the Wentworth Park Sporting Complex Trust.

In June 2006, Council agreed to offer the Trust half the cost of replacing the boundary wall, up to a maximum of \$500,000, on condition that the Trust agree to increase public open space, end on-grass car parking, and improve views by removing redundant buildings and solid fencing. A subsequent feasibility study identified four options ranging between \$3.9 million and \$5.5 million, and found that all of Council's requirements could not be

met. Following a briefing to the Trust and the City in June 2007, the consultants reviewed the options and identified works that would deliver the best outcome for the \$1million funding available from the Trust and Council. The revised Feasibility study recommends:

- * Moving the boundary wall on Wattle Street to widen public access by about eight metres, with a new two metre high fence matching the recent fencing along Wentworth Park Road;
- * Retaining and securing the Chapel building;
- * Opening the Wentworth Park viaduct arches;
- * And installing demountable toilets and change rooms with disability access in the Sporting Complex accessible to and facing into Wentworth Park.

The Feasibility Study has been considered by the Trust, which has agreed in principle to contribute \$500,000 to the works proposed. The study will soon be available on the City's website and will be considered by Council early this year.

It is very exciting to think that in the foreseeable future Wentworth Park may yet be a wonderful space for people which we can all enjoy.

- Anne Fraser

Let's celebrate Wentworth Park on Sunday 18 May!

To celebrate the changes and to celebrate this wonderfully iconic park the Blackwattle Cove Coalition is organizing a Wentworth Park Celebration Day. Please make a note of the date and keep it free.

We are planning a whole day of rivalry between Pymont/Ultimo (P/U) and Glebe/Forest Lodge (G/F) in

which everyone of every age can take part and your dog can get into the action too. Just wear **Red** if you G/F and **Blue** if you are in P/U, dogs included.

The day will include:

- * games and sport of every type – teams, individual games, games for all ages.
- * A community tug of war, P/U vs G/FL where everyone joins in.

* Big soccer match between Sydney Uni (G/FL) and UTS (P/U).

* Dog races on the track for any mutt who has ideas above his or her station. Here is your pooch's chance to make like a greyhound! Let them live their fantasy just for once and enter them in the Wentworth Park Mongrel Cup and win a trophy for the mantlepiece.

* A history display of Wentworth Park and two speakers – Max Solling and Shirley Fitzgerald. Here is a chance to learn about the amazingly colourful history of the Park.

There will be food stalls so you won't go hungry. Come along, join in and reacquaint yourself with this wonderful old Park. For more information take a look at the website, www.wentworthparkcelebration.org.au

If you would like to offer your services to help out with the organisation on the day please contact me, on 9660 7560, 0409 893 047 or annefraser01@optusnet.com.au.

- Anne Fraser, Convenor,
Wentworth Park Celebration Committee

Blue Wrens in Glebe

They are 'Superb Fairy-wrens', if one is to give them their correct title.

Members of this sub-committee have often been corrected on this by our consultant Sue Stevens, because only half the population of Superb Fairy-wrens display any blue feathers at all! The nondescript brownish-grey females attract their males with attributes other than colour.

After various events and surveys as mentioned in earlier Bulletins, Sue Stevens' final report landed in our post box last month. It is first being presented to Sydney City Council who provided the Grant for the study. Then it will form the basis of programs to improve the habitat of Fairy-wrens in publicly managed lands such as Council parks, as well as in residential gardens. Providing suitable habitat seems to be the key to increasing the population, which from the surveys and from residents' recollections has markedly declined over the last decade.

The next *Bulletin* will provide more details and a summary of the report. It is anticipated that the full Report will be available on the Glebe Society web site.

- David Mander-Jones,
Convenor,
Blue Wrens Sub-committee



A new view of the grandstand. Photo: Rod Holtham

Who lived in your street? by Lyn Collingwood

Hilda and Des Booler

Hilda Booler (1900 - 84) lived for 44 years at 12 Ferry Road. Her son Des (1928 - 67) lived there all his life.

Both are commemorated locally. The Hilda Booler Kindergarten in Jubilee Park was established in 1965 when Des was Chairman of the Sydney City Council's Health and Recreation Committee and the Booler Centre in Camperdown was opened by Sydney Lord Mayor Doug Sutherland after Des's death. Hilda's grandson Bradley was one of the kindergarten's first pupils and eleven members of Hilda's family attended the opening of the community centre.

Hilda Margaret Alleyn was of Irish ancestry. Her great-great-grandfather was Sir John Hyde of Creg Castle in County Cork. Her grandfather, William Placid Alleyn (1833 - 1907), was born in Limerick and her grandmother Bridget McNamara (1833 - 1906) in Tipperary. After migrating to Australia the couple were married in Sydney's original St Mary's Cathedral in 1853.

By 1863 William had set up business as a butcher in Broughton Street and by 1871 he was established in St Johns Road near Ross Street in a fine building (now demolished) featuring his name on the facade. His neighbour for many years was James Flutter, a carpenter turned boat builder and steam joinery proprietor. Soon William owned several butcher shops in the district. He and his assistant Tom also sold meat from a horse-drawn cart which did a daily round supplying the locals with small orders of mutton and beef, chopped to order on the spot. To discourage the hordes of flies which accompanied the cart its floor and the carcasses of meat were strewn with eucalyptus branches. By 1893 William had sold his St Johns Road butchery and opened a grocery next door.

Bridget and William had seven children of whom three survived infancy. Julia, the eldest, married Tom Brady, an Irishman who owned a bus company in Marrickville. Ellen Teresa married M J Conlon and moved to 20 Broughton Street. The youngest, William John Alleyn (1869 - 1937), lived

all his life in Glebe. He was Hilda's father, marrying Margaret Clare Riach (1872 - 1943) in 1894.

Between 1895 and 1910 Margaret and William had seven children; Eileen, Mary (known as 'Mollie'), Hilda, Dorothy, Bridget, John Placid and William Hyde. The family moved house frequently within the suburb (68 St Johns Road, 28 St Johns Road, 87 Campbell Street, 145 Bridge Road, 94 Derwent Street, 10 Water Street, 44 Denman Street, 30 St Johns Road, 24 Avon Street, 67 Lombard Street, 17 Hereford Street and 26 Hereford Street). Other extended family members also made Glebe their home for many years; the Dickensons at 78 Forsyth Street, the Walkers in Mitchell Street and the Conlons at 69 Glebe Street. Hilda's sister Eileen and husband Bernard Gale were long-term residents of Avona Avenue. (Their son Kevin edited the *Glebe Observer* and became secretary of the Toxteth Progress Association.)

In a district where Protestants were politically dominant, the Alleyns were staunch Catholics and pro-Labor. In 1911 and 1917 William junior stood as a Labor candidate for election to Glebe Council, finally gaining success in the 1920s when his cousin Bill Walsh was Mayor. During World War 1 he was assistant treasurer with the Glebe Local Distress Society which gave 'relief to the necessitous poor of the district', raising funds through activities such as a street carnival, euchre party, vaudeville concert, and a football match and a picture show at Wentworth Park. (Tom Keegan MLA, Catholic and Labor, was the Society's president.) A member of the St Vincent de Paul Society for more than 50 years, Bill Alleyn was reputed to be the first altar boy to serve mass at St James' Church. He was a bus driver and storeman before working at the Eveleigh railway workshops.

Please let me know if you live in one of the many houses once occupied by a member of the Booler family. Editor



Hilda (left) at the opening of the kindergarten in 1965.

Photos on p5 and p6 courtesy of the Booler family.

Educated at St James', Hilda travelled by tram with Eileen to Marrickville in the school holidays to deliver lunches to the bus drivers employed by their uncle, Tom Brady. After leaving school Hilda was employed as a seamstress by Grace Brothers, making frocks for country customers. Of her siblings, Dorothy – later a nun – worked as a dressmaker, Eileen and Mollie were saleswomen and Bridget was a clerk. John, a first-grade rugby player who represented NSW in cricket in 1929, was an electrical fitter and saw active service with the army from 1940 to 1944. William died at age 28.

In 1925 Hilda married Harold Booler, a sheet metal worker. They lived at 67 Lombard Street before moving four years later to 12 Ferry Road where they raised four daughters and two sons (one baby died when 10 days old). Hilda also took in a three-year-old whose mother asked her to mind him 'for a few days'. The toddler, Lennie, finally left when he was 15, with ambitions to become a jockey. Hilda did nearly all her shopping on Glebe Point Road near her home. On the corner of Ferry Road was Jones's grocery run by three bachelors and their sister who sold just about everything including wine bottled from casks. At 6pm (liquor law 'closing time') the bottles were covered over. Next door was a ham and beef shop run by Bill Beasley. Next door again

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was Dawson's fruit shop, then a boot maker, and a private library.

On Saturdays Hilda and her mother travelled by tram into town to go to the movies. The Boolers watched the *Astor* cinema, now the *Valhalla*, being built and saw air raid trenches being dug nearby during World War 11.

Hilda's mother Margaret attended the Children's Court regularly on Mondays and arranged for girls in trouble to be cared for by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan at St Magdalene's Retreat, Tempe. She was also a foundation member of the Catholic Women's Association and president of the Charity Branch Sewing Guild. At her funeral the St James' School guard of honour included 16 of her grandchildren.

Hilda's sister Mollie was involved with the Children of Mary Sodality and the Legion of Mary, while Dorothy became Sister Mary Phillipa with the Little Company of Mary, the 'Blue Sisters' who ran Lewisham Hospital. The Booler children were educated at St James' and Hilda made ties for the uniforms of all the students. The family doctor was Horace Foley, a Catholic and a prominent member of the ALP who practised for decades at 202 Glebe Point Road. Sometimes the Boolers saw another Catholic doctor, Eddie Armstrong, at number 222.

Frequent visitors to the Booler household included Federal MHR Jack Beasley who lived at 27 Allen Street and who became a member of John Curtin's war cabinet; Tom Keegan whose career as a State parliamentarian lasted from 1910 to 1935; and local shopkeeper Bill Beasley who in 1956 staged a dramatic walkout of ALP members from Glebe Town Hall to form the Glebe branch of the DLP (its first meetings were held in his home, *Toxteth Lodge*).

The most active politically of Hilda's children was Des who, while immobilised for two years in RPA Hospital following a childhood accident, read widely and was largely self-educated. Afterwards he remained arthritic and used a walking stick. He first stood for public office at age 22, his mentor being Dan Minogue (for whom Des named Minogue Crescent). While Secretary of the Glebe North Branch of the ALP, Des became a City Council alderman in 1962 and was re-



Hilda Booler, not long before her death

elected in 1965. Two years later, at home on Mother's Day, he suffered a fatal cerebral haemorrhage. He was a

member of the Leather & Allied Trades' Employees' Federation and senior vice-president of the Glebe Police Citizens' Boys Club. Following a requiem mass at St James' his funeral procession was given a police motor-cycle escort to the Northern Suburbs Cemetery.

Hilda Booler died in 1984 at her daughter Mary's home in Baulkham Hills where she had moved after Harold's death some ten years earlier. Mary herself began her working life at age 15 at the Vanderfield and Reid timber yards on Blackwattle Bay, a short walk from home at 12 Ferry Road.

- Lyn Collingwood

2007 Christmas Party Results of the raffle and auctions

Raffle Prizes (prizewinners' names are in brackets)

- Gift Voucher for \$500: **Broadway Shopping Centre** (Joe and Helen Marmilic)
- Voucher for \$250: **Boathouse at Blackwattle Bay** (Bryan Herden)
- Three course dinner for two: **Glebe Point Diner** (Jeanette Knox)
- Voucher for \$150: **Restaurant Atelier** (Gloria Armstrong)
- Degustation dinner for two: **a'Mews** (Joe Mannix)
- Mixed Christmas wine dozen: **Glebe Liquor** (Edwina Doe)
- Bottle of Champagne: **Harold Park Hotel** (Liz Simpson-Booker)
- Book *The Gardens of China* by Peter Valder donated by **Florilegium** (Andrew Proctor)
- Handcrafted ceramic pot: **Clayworkers Cooperative** (David Lawrence)

Lucky door prizes (prizewinners' names are in brackets)

- Dinner for two, with bottle of wine: **La Cucina Calabrese** (Ian Kollm)
- Christmas leg of ham and turkey: **Glenmore Meat Co** (Sue Ingram)

Auction and other sale items (buyers' names in brackets)

- Two tickets to New Year's Eve party at the Sydney Opera House: **The Lord Mayor of Sydney** (Robert Baker)
- Day's sailing in **James Craig** Windjammer series: **Sydney Heritage Fleet** (Michael Horsburgh)
- Flight over Sydney for one: **HeliTours** (David Brown)
- Two day midweek stay at Leura cottage (*A Touch of Zen*): **Anne Fraser** (John Buckingham)
- Christmas wreath: **Yuga Floral Design** (Bruce Davis)
- Oriental vase with flowers: **Orient House and Michael's Flowers** (Dianne Gray)
- Christmas decorations: **Ruby Star Traders** (Andrew Proctor)

Silent Auction (buyers' names are in brackets)

- Night at Wentworth Park greyhounds with dinner for four: **Wentworth Park Sporting Complex Trust** (John Gray)
- Introductory Japanese Floral Design course: **Yuga Floral Design and Café** (Debrah Hallam)
- Tour of Parliament House and lunch: **hosted by Hon. Verity Firth MP** (Jenny Pockley)
- Blue Wren bottle of wine and glasses: **Alison and Ted McKeown** (Sue Tronser)

We thank everyone who donated prizes and all who supported our fundraising activities.

Nobs and Yobs?

A response to the SMH article by Jordan Baker, published 2-3 February 2008.

Glebe, as described in the article, presents a very skewed picture, together with some journalistic inaccuracies. For example, I quote:

'St. Johns Road embodies the contradiction that Glebe has become. On one side there's housing worth millions for the wealthy who park their expensive cars out the front, send their children to private schools and have weekly cleaners'.

On the southern side of St. Johns Road there is public housing interspersed with private residences. On the northern side, one would be hard pressed to find properties worth a million and/or the millionaires. There is often a mistaken belief that graffiti is associated with anti social behaviour or wanton vandalism. In the case of the graffiti wall pictured in the article, it was commissioned by the Department of Housing and local youths were engaged to carry out the work. Perception of crime is interesting, as it is often coloured by anecdotal stories, bad press and lack of facts. One story can often escalate into 'Glebe is out of control in regard to crime'. We as residents must act responsibly, by not leaving valuables in cars. Truancy is not always the cause of juvenile crime. Some children who attend alternative schools for their inability to fit in with mainstream education are often on reduced attendance pattern. Crime committed in Glebe cannot always be attributed to local youth. People often come from other suburbs. This fact has been substantiated by the Local Area Commander, who has a strong community policing philosophy. Certainly, we have our share of crime, but probably no worse than any other inner city suburb. True, it spikes, often in school holiday periods.

Where is the good news? There are various community groups and individuals who work collaboratively with City of Sydney, Police, Department of Education, University of Sydney and Department of Housing, to support residents and youth in many different programs. Volunteers support programs such as Centipede, Glebe Youth Service, PCYC, Glebe Community Development Project (joint project - University of Sydney and DOH), various Faith Groups and the

Outreach Program of Sydney Institute of TAFE.

These programs, as well as local schools, require recurrent government funding to assist with early intervention in order to break the intergenerational cycle. The work of volunteers is invaluable. However, more is required to support the socially and educationally disadvantaged residents. We choose to live in Glebe because of the diversity of the people and the positive benefits of belonging to a 'community'. Since Glebe has been in the City of Sydney LGA, we have been working hard to bridge the divide between the north and the south. Let us not damn the minority who may impact on our community, but find strategies to help them overcome their disadvantage.

**- Jan Wilson
Representative from the Glebe Society to FLAG (Forest Lodge and Glebe Groups)**

Here is just one example of collaboration within our community. This is an extract from a tribute to Ally's work in Glebe which appeared in the USyd Bulletin Vol 39 No 17 Nov 2007.

Ally De Pree-Raghavan: the driving force behind the Glebe Community Development Program

... Until recently many community groups were hesitant about acknowledging the social and financial divisions that exist in Glebe, says Ally De Pree-Raghavan, a social worker with the University's Faculty of Education and Social Work. Since 2004 Ally has been the director and driving force behind the Glebe Community Development Program (GCDP), a joint initiative of the University and the Department of Housing that was set up to assist Glebe's social housing community.

... One of the program's earliest projects was to form a community forum, comprising the many disparate community groups, government agencies, and non-government organisations in the area. To this end, the Forest Lodge and Glebe Coordination Group (FLAG) was created to increase communication between stakeholders and to produce collaborative and uniform responses to community problems. Another early initiative, the Glebe Computer Project - 'it's an internet cafe without the coffee' - is now in its third year of operation. A group of

volunteers are on hand each Thursday to assist people who drop by to use the computers.

... Ally, who has been a social worker for 12 years, says the GCDP responds to a growing need in the community. 'There is always work to do. The way public housing is allocated now, we have more and more people with complex problems. Community participation can really aid their wellbeing.'

- Lauren Smelcher

Hoodie wearers beware

I was accosted recently by a policeman on a sunny afternoon while walking down the ramp from the top of the Broadway Shopping Centre. As there was a cool breeze blowing I had pulled the hood of my top garment over my head. The policeman asked me why I was wearing a hood. I told him that I felt the cold. I expected that this would be an acceptable explanation but he asked me to produce identifying evidence. Fortunately, having just been to see a film I had my Seniors Card with me but even that wasn't enough to satisfy him. I had to tell him my address, age and date of birth before he would let me go.

I later went to Glebe police station and spoke to Inspector Rod Hart who convinced me that the policeman in question was acting within the law when he stopped and questioned me. He thought that he had reasonable grounds for doing so because I was wearing a hood and was in an area where there is a lot of crime.

I suggest that if you wear a hoodie on your early morning walk in Glebe, be sure you carry your ID.

- Ian Edwards

Talk by Max Solling - Glebe Rowing Club 1879 - 2008

Rowing has been a staple part of Glebe's local culture since 1879, and the boatshed on Blackwattle Bay has been a place that has evoked rich memories for many people. The life of the Glebe Rowing Club helps to define something of the suburb's character and how it has changed over almost 130 years.

Max Solling will talk about the club's colourful history on Thursday 27 March at 6.30 for 7 pm in the Glebe library. Bookings essential - ring 9298 3060.

- Margaret Whittaker

Australia Day Honours 2008

We congratulate three people who live in Glebe and who received Australia Day honours in 2008 and one connected with a Glebe organisation.

Peter Travis AM

Peter Travis has been appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for 'service to the arts and to innovative visual design as a designer, sculptor, colourist, ceramicist and kite maker, and to tertiary education'.

It was exciting news for Glebe to find resident Peter Travis recognised in the Australia Day Honours list and awarded Member of the Order of Australia for services to the arts and to innovative visual design.

His services to the arts have been extraordinary. He is an internationally recognized colour designer whose colour schemes were used in the new Parliament House Canberra, designer of remarkable kites, inspirational educator and campaigner for the arts. He was a ceramic artist and innovator and earlier, clothing designer for Speedo creating the iconic budgy smuggler.

I worked with Peter in the creation of Glebe's first foray into the city arts festival, Art and About 2005.

I invited Peter to create a kite exhibition in Glebe, but guided by Peter's huge creative energy and vision the momentum grew until it became an all embracing festival. We had Peter's large and glorious kites displayed at St Johns Church and the Broadway Shopping Centre, shop front displays of kites and a kite making weekend workshop for the community followed by a kite flying day. Peter titled the event The Glebe Kite Kaleidoscope. Bringing all these ideas to fruition was at times a taxing process involving amongst other things, midnight installation sessions in the shopping centre and tricky rigging in the Church. However Peter maintained his tireless spirit and good humour, never settling for less than just right. He was unfailingly optimistic and enormously generous of his time and expertise.

The journey to the Glebe Kite Kaleidoscope was a wild ride of creative energy, dedication and fun.

Heartfelt congratulations Peter!

- Susan Ingram, Convener, Arts Culture and Media



Roelof Smilde, Jenny Underwood, Jan Wilson, Sue Ingram, Geoff Broughton, Peter Travis and Robyn Kemmis, Art and About 2005.
Photo: Bruce Davis

Dr Roger Morris AM

Dr Roger Morris, Glebe Society Member and a long-time UTS academic staff member, has been appointed as a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for 'service to the adult, continuing and community education sector through practitioner development, research, and professional leadership'.

Dr Roger Morris was, until he retired in 2005, an Associate Professor of Adult Education in the Faculty of Education at the University of Technology, Sydney. Over the more than thirty years that he worked in higher education he filled a number of significant academic administrative roles including: Director of External and Continuing Education; Academic Planning Officer; Head, Academic Planning and Services; Assistant Dean; Faculty Coordinator of Research and Alternate Dean. Additionally, he was Acting Head of Department, Head of School and Dean on a number of occasions. Roger retains an ongoing relationship with the Faculty as an Honorary Associate and supervisor of Doctoral students.

- Jan Wilson

Ross Gittins AM

Ross Gittins, *Sydney Morning Herald* journalist and Glebe resident, has been appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia 'for service to journalism as a commentator on economic theory, policy and behavioural economics, and to the accountancy profession'.

Jan Marchant OAM

Jan Marchant, a volunteer at 2RPH, was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for 'service to the community, particularly people with a visual impairment, through the provision of print-handicapped radio services'. Radio 2RPH, Radio Print Handicapped, has been broadcasting since 1983 and from the St Helens Centre next to *Benledi* since 2000.

Jan Marchant managed the station from 1983 to 1993 and served on the board for 20 years. She also represented 2RPH on the Australian Council for Radio for the Print-Handicapped for almost 20 years. She currently coordinates the 200 or so volunteers for the station and is still a presence on air.

- Edwina Doe

A Tropfest winner from Glebe

We congratulate the winner of the inaugural Trop Jr competition for film makers aged 15 and under.

Guy Verge Wallace, who is now aged 16, lives in Allen Street and studies at St Andrews Cathedral School.

Guy says his short film, *Poor Joshua Verde*, is 'about a boy with a tragic childhood who goes on an enchanting and emotional adventure that helps reconnect with his family and utilise his creative talents so that he can be happy once again'.

Guy's prizes included \$500 and a camera.

Glebe Activities

Community Native Nursery

The Rozelle Community Native Nursery, which is in Chapman Road Annandale, has been operating since 1995, 2008 being its 13th year. In that time the volunteers, with the support of Leichhardt Council and since 2003, the City of Sydney, have been involved in a program of 'bringing the bush back to the city'. Major work has involved the gardens and trees in Bicentennial Park, Annandale, the bush track around the Federal Park wetlands, Railway Parade/Rozelle Light Rail Station, AV Henry Park (in The Crescent, opposite Harold Park Paceway), Pier Street South bushland in Annandale and many verges and gardens in the car parking areas and gardens around the parks.

The City of Sydney has asked the nursery volunteers to continue the work of planting, weeding and mulching the Anchorage site and other gardens along the foreshore walk as the responsibility for the work by the contractor has now ended. Since we have been working there several residents have suggested that the Glebe Society Bulletin would be a good avenue to seek more volunteers for the work.

How does the nursery operate?

It is open on Wednesdays and Fridays from 8am to around 2pm. Wednesdays are devoted to working on areas within the City of Sydney boundaries and Fridays in Leichhardt. Also on Friday there is a happy band of volunteers who work in the nursery, preparing seed stock and seed beds and transferring seedlings to tubes which are then placed in the open to further develop and 'harden on' in the nursery before being planted in the gardens in the parks and verges.

Why not volunteer?

Volunteers come and go each day according to the amount of time they have to spare – from an hour to all day – and those who are not keen on the outdoor life work in the nursery. Morning tea is the highlight of the day and of late we have moved from the BI-LO cakes to more exotic fare cooked by the volunteers.

On Fridays Leichhardt Council's biodiversity officer, Monique McKenzie-Gay, is in attendance and under her guidance the more technical aspects of seed collecting and preparation of the nursery stock take place – a learning process for most of us.

The nursery has been in full swing for the 2008 year from the first Wednesday in February. We look forward to welcoming any of the Glebe Society membership, their families and friends who have some time to spare and enjoy the type of work carried out.

For more details contact Monique, Leichhardt's Biodiversity Officer on 9367 9326.

- Beth Buchanan AOM



Glebe Society members Sue Cleary, Jan Wilson and Peter Kolbe pass a lovely late afternoon on the foreshore at Rozelle Bay playing Pétanque.

Photo: Bruce Davis

Public Art Fence for Glebe School Emerges

At the end of February, a colourful sculpture was emerging from behind the barricades, the jack hammers and the ditch diggers along the front of the Primary School.

This is The Glebe School Fence Project, part of the upgrade of Glebe Point Road by the City of Sydney and the first of three public art projects planned for Glebe.

Renowned public artist Nuha Saad designed the fence concept. Ms Saad said that her ideas were based on the wooden picket fences found throughout the Glebe area. 'It will act as a link to both Glebe's vibrant contemporary culture and its architectural and social history and will combine as-

Exercise Group in the Park

A small group meets every Saturday morning to enjoy exercising in Bicentennial Park, and we are keen to have more people join us. The goal of the group is to slowly increase our fitness, and at the same time have some fun together enjoying the wonderful foreshore area of Glebe. Our group, led by a trainer, currently consists of Glebe Society members, though that isn't a requirement. We meet each week around 8am for one hour and we pitch the exercise to the level of fitness of participants. It generally includes some weight-bearing exercise as well as gentle stretching.

If you are interested in joining us or want more information, call Katharine Vernon or Phil Young on 9692-9583, or email kv@ancest.com.au.

pects of Glebe's Victorian architectural past with a contemporary art aesthetic'.

'The colours of the fence symbolise the great diversity of Glebe's and Australia's people'.

When the barricades come down, those entering Glebe will surely feel uplifted by this colourful, fun sculpture which references Glebe's history and its rich and diverse heritage.

- The City of Sydney web site, Jan McCulloch and Sue Ingram

Black and white photos can't do justice to this imaginative fence. See the coloured photos on our Website.

News and Notes

Thirsty Thursdays

Members and friends are invited to meet for dinner in Glebe on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm, to eat and talk with other people who live in Glebe. We visit a different restaurant each month, usually alternating between Asian and European cuisines. Put these dates in your diary and come along.

On Thursday 6 March we will visit *Roxanne*, 39 Glebe Point Road.

On 3 April, we will share a meal at *David Trees*, 123-125 Glebe Point Road.

Please email edwinadoe@optrusnet.com.au by the day before if you are coming to the March or April dinner.

On 1 May we will go to the other end of Glebe to *La Tavolaccia*, at 355 Glebe Point Road.

Welcome to New Members

The following people were accepted as members of the Glebe Society at the February Management Committee meeting:

- * Noelene Bearns
- * Elena Caleoni
- * Tessa Copeland
- * Gillian Ellis
- * Tim Fitzpatrick
- * John Shaw
- * Judy and Philip Vergison
- * Susan West

National Trust Festival, 2008, *Our Place*

April and May will be busy. Here are brief details of some National Trust events in our neighbourhood. See the NT website for full details of these and other events.

- * Saturday 12 April, 10am – 4pm. Open Day at the Hunter Baillie Church. Johnston Street, **Annandale**.
- * Saturday 5 April, 2pm. Opening of photographic exhibition *Our Place Balmain*, 179 Darling Street, **Balmain**.
- * Sunday 13 April, 10.30am – 12noon. **Chippendale**: Beneath the Factory Wall. Walking tour led by City historian Shirley Fitzgerald. Bookings essential – 9625 9895.
- * Saturday 19 April, 2pm – 4pm. Walking tour of **Glebe**, \$20 per person. Booking essential – 9660 7157 or mpfry@ozemail.com.au.
- * Saturday 5 April, 2pm – 4pm approx. *Former Sandstone Quarries in Leichhardt Municipality – a Discovery Tour*, \$10 per person. Booking essential – 9367 9223.
- * Tuesday 13 May, 10am. - Walking tour of Glebe, led by Carole McFadden, \$25 per person. See the NT website for a Ticket Application Sheet.

Vale Nancy Irvine, OAM, 1911-2007

Nancy Irvine died on 26 December, 2007, at *Chesalon*, Beecroft, after 96 years filled with teaching, writing, travel, music and painting.

Some people may remember Nancy Irvine **OAM** who was a member of The Glebe Society and lived for many years in St. Johns Retirement Village. Her last public appearance at a Glebe Society function was a 'Welcome to City of Sydney Councillors' at Pope Paul V1 Reserve, Glebe Point in October, 2004. For that occasion Nancy requested assistance for transport. At the conclusion, a Glebe Police Sergeant provided her with a lift back to village. This gave Nancy quite a thrill.

On a more personal note, at the BBQ, I discovered that she was a fellow student with my mother at Fort Street Girls High School.

- Jan Wilson

Bulletins by email

If you would like to receive your *Bulletin* by email instead of snail mail, please email editor@glebesociety.org.au

Our Local Member of Parliament

State Member for Balmain, Hon. Verity Firth MP.

Office address: 112a Glebe Point Road, Glebe 2037.

Senior Electorate Officer: Christina Harlamb, ph 9660 7586, fax 9660 6112, email christina.harlamb@parliament.nsw.gov.au

City of Sydney Councillors

Lord Mayor: Clover Moore MP

Councillors:

Phillip Black
Hon Verity Firth MP
Chris Harris
Marcelle Hoff
Robyn Kemmis
Michael Lee
Shayne Mallard
John McInerney
Tony Pooley

For enquiries: Please contact the City of Sydney on 9265 9333.



Forest Lodge Public School

Home of The Glebe Society Archives

Phone 9660 3530



For your diary ...

Tuesday 4 March, 6pm – Pétanque, on the foreshore of Blackwattle Bay.

Thursday 6 March, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – *Roxanne*, 39 Glebe Point Road.

Wednesday 12 March, 7.30pm – Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting – The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street.

Sunday 16 March, 10am – 12 noon – Workshop – *Benledi*, 184 Glebe Point Road. See front page.

Tuesday 18 March, 6pm – Pétanque, on the foreshore of Blackwattle Bay.

Tuesday 1 April, 6pm – Pétanque, on the foreshore of Blackwattle Bay.

Thursday 3 April, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – *David Trees*, 123-125 Glebe Point Road.

Saturday 5 – Sunday 20 April – National Trust Festival 2008 – *Our Place*. See p10 of this Bulletin and the NT Website for details of events.

Wednesday 9 April, 7.30pm – Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting – The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street.

Tuesday 15 April, 6pm – Pétanque, on the foreshore of Blackwattle Bay.

Saturday 19 April, 2pm – 4pm. National Trust walking tour of Glebe, led by Maureen Fry. See p10.

Thursday 1 May, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – *La Tivolaccia*, 355 Glebe Point Road.

Tuesday 13 May, 10am – National Trust walking tour of Glebe, led by Carole McFadden. See p10.

Wednesday 14 May, 7.30pm – Glebe Society Management Committee Meeting – The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street.

Sunday 18 May, all day – Wentworth Park Celebration Day. See p4.

Contacting

The Glebe Society

Mail

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Glebe Society Inc
PO Box 100, Glebe NSW 2037

Website

The Society 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 use the site. Send contributions or comments to webmaster@glebesociety.org.au

The Bulletin

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 to the Glebe Society. Write to the address above or email editor@glebesociety.org.au

Disclaimer

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

Bulletin deadline

The next edition of the *Bulletin* will be published at the end of March.

The deadline for contributions is **19 March**.

The Glebe Society Inc

Established 1969

Management Committee:

President	Jan Macindoe	9660 0208
Vice-president	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Immediate Past President	Bob Armstrong	9660 4189
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Treasurer	Bruce Davis	9660 7873

Committee Members: Dorothy Davis 9660 7873 Simon Fraser 9660 7560
Jan Wilson 9660 2698

Sub-committee Convenors:

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

Arts, Culture and Media	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
Bays and Foreshores	Tony Larkum	9660 7030
Wentworth Park	Anne Fraser	9660 7560
Blue Wrens	David Mander Jones	9552 4172
Environment and Open Spaces	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Glebe against Global Warming	Bill McCarthy	9660 5119
Heritage	Dianne Gray	0417 434 814
Infrastructure Defect Reporting	Margaret Sheppard	9660 4121
Membership	Cheryl & Bryan Herden	9660 7371
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Transport and Traffic	Chris Hallam	9660 3670

Adopt-a-Park Contacts:

Foley Park: Bobbie Burke (9692 0343) **Kirsova:** Fay & David Mander Jones
Paddy Gray Park: John Gray

Other Contacts:

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC)	Anne Fraser	9660 7560
Bulletin Editor	Edwina Doe	9660 7066
Event Coordination	Dorothy Davis	9660 7873
History of Glebe	Max Solling	9660 1160
History of the Glebe Society	Jeanette Knox	9660 7781
Liaison with CityRags	Bob Armstrong	9660 4189
Liaison with CoGG	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Liaison with FLAG	Jan Wilson	9660 2698
Publicity	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
Website	Vicky Marquis	9552 2592

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The GLEBE SOCIETY Inc
PO Box 100 Glebe 2037



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Membership of the Glebe Society

Individual member	\$45
Joint (2 people, one address)	\$55
Household (more than 2 adults and/or children, one address)	\$60
Concession (student or pensioner)	\$20
Institution or corporate	\$110

Download a Membership Form from our website (www.glebesociety.org.au/AboutTGSI/Membership/Membership_application.pdf).

Or 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.

Community Contacts

Manager-Neighbourhood Services Centre: Glebe, Forest Lodge, Camperdown, Ultimo & Pyrmont: Nick Hespe.

Email: nhespe@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Glebe Town Hall Office: 9298 3190 8.30am-5.30pm Mon- Fri

Sydney City Council Customer Service

Telephone (24 hours): 9265 9333

email: council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

website: www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Glebe Point Road upgrade contact (24 hrs): Grant Donohue 0414 687 101, grant_donohue@gmwurban.com.au

Dumped Shopping trolleys: Trolley Tracker 1800 641 497

Waterway Garbage: NSW Maritime response - 9563 8592