

# Glebe

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# Society Bulletin

1/2009 February/March

## Residents up in arms over White Bay Terminal



A cruise ship terminal for White Bay perhaps, but what's this? The unusual visitor to the old White Bay car terminal is the former HMAS *Adelaide* which was decommissioned by the Royal Australian Navy in January last year. Photo: Bruce Davis

At a meeting called by the Mayor of Leichhardt, Jamie Parker, at Leichhardt Town Hall on Tuesday 17 February, strong opposition was voiced against the imposition of a 'temporary' passenger terminal at the old White Bay ports facility (Wharves 5 & 6).

The short-term history of this is that the State Government appears to have been caught short by the development of Barangaroo or 'The Hungry Mile' in East Darling Harbour. This is where NSW Maritime have been arranging for the docking of many cruise ships as an alternative to the over-used Overseas Passenger Terminal, at Circular Quay. Now that Barangaroo will be developed as a business and financial centre, the cruise ship facility has to be suspended or more accurately terminated, since this facility, somewhat oddly, does not fit with the master plan for the rejuvenated area.

So in the meantime, a new temporary cruise ship facility has to be found. And it may come as no surprise that this has not been thought out and the now-vacant deep-water port facility at White Bay has been put forward as a temporary solution.

The problem with this solution is that it seems to be an example of making policy on the run,

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### What's on in March

#### Getting to know the Glebe Society

Friday 13 March, 7 - 9.30pm

Glebe Rowing Club, end of Ferry Road.

See page nine.

#### An Evening with Peter Corris

Sunday 29 March, 6 - 8.30pm

The Nag's Head, 162 St Johns Road.

See page nine and flyer.

## A new look for



First we had a refurbished Glebe Point Road and now the Glebe Chamber of Commerce, with funding from the City of Sydney, has launched a campaign to re-energise our suburb and to bring customers back to the local shops.

At the launch held in the AB Hotel on Tuesday 24 February, Paul Angell, President of the Glebe Chamber of Commerce, revealed the campaign to an audience of 70 local business people, politicians, police and other Glebe notables.

As Paul says: *'This is an exciting time for Glebe. Our recent Glebe Point Road street-scape upgrade is finally finished, and to go with our new look, we've just developed a quirky new Glebe brand and identity ...*

*For those interested, here's a design concept rationale: Our new identity uses stylised and playful Victorian imagery to represent Glebe's nostalgic, historic and literary nature. But it also combines this with placement in a modern design setting to reflect our contemporary culture. You see, it's been a well considered process.'*

The first thing you can do is to spend \$20 or more in as many Glebe shops as possible to enter a competition to win a Vespa scooter. The winning ticket will be drawn on 4 April. From the beginning of March, you can also collect Glebe shopping bags filled with quirky Glebe badges and postcards from shops and other places in Glebe.

And look out for other exciting events around Glebe. Check [www.glebe.com.au](http://www.glebe.com.au) for details.

## White Bay plan angers residents

... continued from previous page

without prior consultation or planning. So now the Department of Planning, who have taken over the planning responsibility, have rushed through a DA to Leichhardt Council for a cruise ship terminal (with additional exhibition and corporate venue spaces) at the site for a start date of 2010.

The problems voiced by Leichhardt Council and at the meeting are the following:

1. lack of consultation and lack of time to properly consider the proposal (and lack of any alternative if Council rejects the application);
2. lack of planning;
3. impact on local residents; and
4. traffic management in the already congested streets of Balmain, and further afield.

People are rightly asking what has happened to the planning process. As long ago as 2001, we had a Rozelle Bay Master Plan. This has been augmented with the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2004, with a special section on the Sydney Harbour Catchment, and the Sydney Harbour Foreshore and Waterways Development Control Plan. However, at no point has there been a co-ordinated plan for the critical (and dwindling) port facilities at Glebe Island, and Rozelle, Blackwattle and White Bays.

In 2004, NSW Maritime released a NSW Ports Growth Plan, which in relation to Sydney Harbour port lands said 'the Minister for Infrastructure Planning and Natural Resources will develop a master plan to:

- Retain White Bay for working maritime uses;
- Create an unbroken run of public access to the foreshore of the harbour between Woolloomooloo and the Anzac Bridge; and
- Preserve Millers Point for a future iconic development'.

At about same time there was a successful community campaign to defeat the ad hoc proposal for a cement terminal at White Bay and the Government established an inter-agency 'Bays Precinct Task Force' to exam-

ine the future uses of the Bays area including Glebe Island, Blackwattle Bay, Rozelle Bay and White Bay. However, despite ample time since then there has been no public plan or community consultation.

At the meeting on the 17th a representative for NSW Maritime tried to explain the basis of the DA and its general impact. However, there are many anomalies. Strange as it may seem the current plans for the terminal are to release the traffic into the back streets of Balmain and not into James Craig Drive. There has also been no thought put into how the residents of Balmain can make some gains out of the proposals. As suggested by several members of the audience there are opportunities for pocket parks and foreshore walkways to be developed, and other ways of mitigation.

It was the general opinion of the meeting that any future planning for White Bay be undertaken strategically and in partnership with the community. This would offer us all an opportunity to have our say in the planning process of this vital area, which has clearly suffered from years of planning neglect.

- Tony Larkum

### Help to save trees

If you have a fixed phone, you can opt out of receiving Yellow or White Pages phone books. Phone Sensis on 1899 819 211 then press '0' to speak to an operator. Apparently if you don't have a phone, they can't take you off the list!

## Contract awarded for Foley Park upgrade

A circular letter from the City Council has advised that Landscape 2000 has been awarded the contract for the landscape construction of the playground, and the park improvements, consistent with the adopted Master Plan. A small number of unhealthy or insignificant trees are to be removed and replaced. The Wireless House is to remain, and is the subject of a separate artwork installation by Dr Nigel Helyer.

In order to reduce the impact of the work on residents the Park will not be available for public use while the work is being carried out, though the footpaths on Glebe Point Road and Bridge Road will remain open. Work is to commence in mid-February, and is expected to be completed by June this year. Council apologises for the inconvenience this will cause, and advises that the end result will produce a vastly enhanced open space, new playground and improved pathways.

A second stage of works, including the installation of new lighting and a new public toilet facility, will occur in future years.

The contractor's representative Luke Freeman (0404 853 693) and Council's Project Manager Nicole Haines (9246 7795) can be contacted for further information.

- Bobbie Burke and David Mander Jones

## Painting is now in the Glebe Library

In *Bulletin* 9/2008, we wrote about a painting of Glebe. The artist was Bob Philips and his picture was donated to the Glebe Society by Shorus McKenzie, who bought it in about 1980.

The Glebe Society has now donated a frame and on Monday 22 December the painting of Glebe was presented to the Glebe Library.



From left: Liz Simpson-Booker, relieving librarian Susan Knowles, Sue Ingram and Jan Macindoe. Photo: Phil Young

## Ready for the Wrens

Annie Walker, Council's Community Gardens and Volunteering Co-ordinator, together with Glebe Society members Jan Macindoe, Karin Viles and Fiona Campbell, recently revisited the Superb Fairy-wren habitat garden planted by over 200 enthusiastic volunteers in Paddy Gray reserve on National Tree Day, 27 July 2008.

The Superb Fairy-wren group met late in 2008 to consider some priorities for 2009 - forwarding the recommendations of the consultant's report *Superb Fairy-Wren Habitat in Glebe & Forest Lodge* to the City of Sydney Council and possibly another planting day in a suitable location on National Tree day 2009.

The group is a little dispersed at the moment. Additional wren enthusiasts are very welcome to join. Contact [jancraney@bigpond.com](mailto:jancraney@bigpond.com).



From left - Annie Walker, Fiona Campbell, Jan Macindoe and Karin Viles, thigh high in the Superb Fairy-wren habitat garden. Photo: [Jan Craney](#)

## Multicultural Glebe

I had given up on the tennis on TV and went to bed around 1 am. I was reading when I became aware of a very unusual amount of noise for that time of night on a Sunday - lots of people and lots of cars. Curiosity triumphed, so I got up and went out onto the balcony - streams of happy people were making their way along Glebe Point Road, chattering and laughing, some of them holding a sort of ornamental tree shape with shiny baubles. Cars, bumper to bumper moved fitfully, the drivers patient, no screeching of tyres, no honking of horns, and again the tree-shaped ornament - some held outside the passenger window, some in the cars. It was as though they had all been down on the Point, watching a fireworks display, but I hadn't heard any noise, and anyway, I was certain that fireworks would be on the coming evening to celebrate Australia Day.

Slowly the road cleared and the busy footpaths emptied. Then traffic picked up from the other direction, taxis stopping and letting out their customers, cars slowing at Cotter Lane, and then mostly driving on. I realised that people were attending Chinese New Year celebrations at the Sze Yup Temple, possibly different groups at different times.

Later the smoky smell of incense came through my open windows, and I breathed it in with pleasure. On this most wonderfully multicultural Australia Day, Kung Hei Fat Choy!

- Carole Herriman



## Time Capsule

Glebe is celebrating its Sesquicentenary as a municipality this year. The community, in collaboration with the City of Sydney, is involved in organising a series of activities throughout the year to recognise its significance. The day of recognition will be Sunday 2 August, when the Lord Mayor will officiate at a series of events.

There are many challenges ahead for the Committee. These include:

- the ability of items to survive underground for 100 years
- the size of articles to be included
- appropriate capturing of time and place - Glebe
- consideration of type of objects and articles to be included, given we are now in an era of digitisation and there is better recording of data and more awareness of history and heritage
- changes in technology that might limit retrieval.

If you are interested in joining the Time Capsule Committee or wish to contribute ideas, please contact Jan Wilson: [janwil@bigpond.com](mailto:janwil@bigpond.com)



## Bushfires in Victoria

Members of the Glebe Society, like everyone in Australia, are shocked by the loss of lives and possessions in the Victorian bushfires.

Our Secretary, Liz Simpson-Booker, has contacted the President of the Australian Federation of Historical Societies to offer possible assistance, within our constitution, to the Marysville Historical Society, whose records were destroyed in the almost total loss of Marysville.



All we need is a use for *Bellevue* that would allow visitors to come by boat and use our lovely new pontoon. Photo: Bruce Davis

## Christmas party a drought breaker

On the wettest night of the year, around 75 Glebe Society members and friends braved the weather to attend the Society's Christmas Party at Yuga Café and Floral Design in St Johns Road. And the effort was worth it! We enjoyed a beautiful atmosphere inside the Café, with flowers and Christmas lights as decoration. The food was delicious and generous and conversation was buzzing! We were delighted to welcome the Lord Mayor, Clover Moore MP, City of Sydney Councillors Meredith Burgmann and John McInerney, and our local Member of Parliament, the Hon Verity Firth, and enjoyed meeting them in an informal setting.

A highlight of the Christmas Party as always was the Auction and Raffle. We greatly appreciate the generosity of Glebe businesses in these difficult financial times. The range of prizes, from a lunch with Verity Firth at Parliament House to a dinner at Glebe Point Diner, was amazing! Thank you to all the Glebe businesses who once again supported the Glebe Soci-



Robert Baker receives the New Year's Eve tickets from Mari-Luise Agius, our Auctioneer.

Photo: Phil Young

ety Christmas Party Auction and Raffle by donating items (see box below). A special thankyou to Ben and Setsuko, our hosts for the evening at Yuga Café, who provided such a lovely venue for the Christmas Party. It was a great evening, remembered not just for the torrential rain but for the good cheer and company in the festive season.

- Dorothy Davis

## First term courses at City U3A

As noted in previous *Bulletins*, Glebe Society members have played a major role in the establishment of the new City U3A, which begins courses on 23 February. The very popular Darwin course, led by the Society's Tony Larkum, is now fully subscribed, but there are still some vacancies in other courses:

- Understanding Viking runes
- Poets' shed
- Chinese calligraphy
- Knitting for 'Wrap with Love'
- Literature discussion group
- Inner-city walks

Full details about membership, courses and venues are available on the website:

[www.cityu3a-sydney.u3anet.org.au](http://www.cityu3a-sydney.u3anet.org.au).

If you do not have internet access ring Jan Macindoe on 9660 0208 for further information.

## Peter Travis AM in Colour exhibition

Glebe resident Peter Travis will be participating in an important exhibition by artists whose work focuses on the issue of Colour. Peter is a Glebe institution. He has contributed hugely to our Art & About and the kites which were hung in St Johns Church were created by him.

Peter is one of six major artists participating in an exhibition titled *Modern Colourists* at the Peter Pinson Gallery in Woollahra. His works will be studies for some of his architectural installations.

*Modern Colourists* runs from 3 - 28 March 2009. The Peter Pinson Gallery is at 143 Edgecliff Road Woollahra, and is open from 11am to

## Glebe Point Road 'opening' on 4 April

Plans for the official opening of Glebe Point Road have not yet been determined, but the event will take place on Saturday 4 April and the Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, will officiate. For updated information refer to the Glebe Society website.

### Many thanks to our generous Christmas party donors ...

**Claudio's Seafood**, Sydney Fish Market – who provided the oysters at wholesale price.

**Florelegium Bookshop**, St Johns Road - Australian Botanical Artists Desk Diary.

**Glebe Liquor**, Glebe Point Road - Christmas wine pack (6 bottles).

**Glebe Point Diner**, Glebe Point Road - dinner for two.

**Glenmore Meat Company**, Wentworth Park Road - a leg of ham.

**Hon Verity Firth**, NSW Minister for Education and our local member – Lunch with the Minister at the Strangers' Dining Room, NSW Parliament House.

**Honey Ant Gallery**, St Johns Road - \$200 voucher for Aboriginal Artwork.

**Inner City Clayworks**, St Johns Road - ceramic dish.

**Kidz Photography**, St Johns Road - Photographic session and framed photograph.

**Michael's Supermarket and Flowers**, Glebe Point Road - Christmas plant.

**Nag's Head**, St Johns Road - voucher for \$50 for meal.

**Sydney Fish Market** - two Gift Certificates (each to \$80) for the Sydney Fish Market Seafood School.

**The Lord Mayor, Clover Moore** – two tickets to the Lord Mayor's New Year's Eve Party at the Opera House.

**Thu Thuy Restaurant, Ross Street** - voucher for \$50.

**Yuga Café**, St Johns Road - Christmas wreath.

# Planning Matters

## NSW Housing Code

I attended a seminar on the proposed code on Friday, 12 December, 2008.

Opinion about the Code among the professionals is deeply divided, and the government received a lot of flack for releasing it without consultation.

At this stage the adoption of the Housing Code on 27 February, 2009 will have little impact on Glebe because

a) Conservation Areas are excluded and most of Glebe is one, and

b) the current code applies only to single dwellings on lots greater than 450 sq m.

Such lots would be extremely rare in Glebe.

The government has decided to gazette the Code, even though there is no general agreement, to enable new home buyers to take advantage of Federal and State grants and so stimulate the industry, which is reported to be at its lowest level for many years.

What now happens to the Code depends largely on the public reaction in 2009. In theory the government

would like to extend it to smaller lots, but it doesn't sound at all confident about doing so, with good reason. It would also like to extend codes to other types of development, but quite frankly, unless this one is successful it is difficult to imagine that happening. Reports about the operation of the Code should begin to appear by the middle of 2009. Unfavourable results of trials have already appeared in the press.

## Proposed CityPlan

I met with Francesca O'Brien, the City's Strategic Planning Manager, on 16 December last year and discussed progress on the new CityPlan. She agreed quality control of Council's studies was a problem, and other areas as well as Glebe had complained. I reiterated we wanted corrections to be made before the Plan is exhibited, which will be in the first half of this year.

Through the good offices of Robyn Kemmis a team from the Society is meeting with the Paddington Society on 26 February to discuss a joint approach to the City on the proposed

Plan. We are suggesting the operation of the Plan be tested in a variety of ways, including sample applications, and also that the exhibition period should include extensive community consultation.

## Hellenic Herald: Success at Last!

The Society has been arguing for many years that the Hellenic Herald Building, 1-9 Glebe Point Road, is an eyesore. I gave evidence to the Land and Environment Court to that effect in 2008. Council's solicitors tell me we have been successful, and the owner has agreed to remove the pergola on top of the building and reduce the height of the liftshaft. The Court also confirmed a number of other changes, and I will report on these as more information becomes available.

The appeal at 61-3 Hereford Street has also been heard, but there is no decision as yet.

The proposal to increase the size of 19 Lombard Street has been approved, but the impact on residents should be very small.

- Neil Macindoe

## New community garden for Glebe?

The focus for the Glebe Society's Environment sub-committee this year will be on setting up a new community garden for Glebe. As you know, Glebe already has one very successful community garden in St Johns Road, next to Record Reign Hall. However, it is quite small and has a long waiting list for people who would like to have a garden plot. There is clearly a need for more opportunities for Glebe people to get involved in community food gardens.

The City of Sydney Council is looking to increase community gardens across the City, and has appointed a Coordinator of Community Gardens and Volunteering. And to help things along the Council's current Matching Grants program – applications close on 23 March – focuses on support for community gardens. So, all the stars are aligned and it should be possible to get a new garden established this year.

A small group of Glebe Society members has had an initial meeting with Annie Walker, the Council's Community Gardens Coordinator. We visited possible sites and identified a couple of very promising options – one in particular would be a major coup with very exciting potential. However, a good deal of negotiation lies ahead. Watch this space!

At this stage we are a small ad hoc group, but would love to hear from members who are interested in getting involved in gardening on community land. While Council is very supportive, only the community itself can decide what kind of garden to establish (eg, communal garden beds, individual plots, or a combination of both) and how it will operate. Take part in the discussion now, and harvest the results in the future!

For more information, contact me at [macindoe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:macindoe@bigpond.net.au) or on 9660 0208.

- Jan Macindoe



## Scam alert

There has been a spate of reports about a fundraising scam, where people have been asking for money from the public on Glebe Point Road, on behalf of a fictitious Tranby Aboriginal College dance troupe.

We are very concerned that generous members of the public may be fooled by this ploy, and are giving their money away in the belief that they are supporting us, and also that the scam may have a negative impact on our reputation.

This scam has been occurring spasmodically over the last 10 years, despite many fruitless attempts by Tranby to extinguish it.

Annaliese Monaro

Tranby Aboriginal College





## Letters to the Editor

### Dear Editor

It's always interesting for a newcomer to Glebe to browse through the *Bulletin*, but especially interesting for me was the recent article on the waterfront public open space. I was fascinated - in fact I wanted to say when the author said that the reader probably deserved a rest 'No! please keep going.'

I don't think that I have ever encountered such clarity of purpose, with the task handed on over such a long period from one member to another.

I love walking along the foreshore, and think it is one of the highlights of my new area. Now my appreciation is all the greater for knowing how much work went into achieving this great outcome.

Thank you John Buckingham.

**Carole Herriman**

### Dear Editor

John Buckingham's article in the last *Bulletin* brought back a few memories and current members might perhaps like to share one of Guy Fawkes Day in 1978. For two months previously volunteers had been working at weekends to clear the proposed Blackwattle Bay Park site of rubbish and rubble and plant it up with shrubs and flowers as part of the campaign for parkland on the waterfront. The culmination was a Guy Fawkes' Night party. The Fellowship of English Ancient Rites organised a bonfire, dances, Punch and Judy, mulled wine and even a witch. About 700 people turned up according to the report in the subsequent *Bulletin*.

The only non-cooperation came from the Clerk of the Weather who delivered an extremely wet evening. Even so, it was agreed that the celebration was a great success despite the downpour. To quote: 'some stayed right up till 9pm as the rain got harder and harder. It was quite an extraordinary sight towards the end as the last 50 to 60 people ran around under umbrellas, cheering the rockets, watching the bonfire, buttering rolls and frying sausages. "At least this will keep the sausages fresh" said one optimistic cook, pulling sausages from three

inches of water in a rain-filled box. If anything more was needed to demonstrate the local enthusiasm for the foreshore park, this event was surely enough'.

As I recall, there were quite a lot of sausages left over, but they found an appreciative home with *Elsie*, the Women's Refuge.

**Jeanette Knox**

## Moving forward with the upgrade ...

I write regarding the article in the last Glebe Society *Bulletin* (10/2008, p3-4). I consider it is inappropriate to make insensitive value judgements with broad, sweeping statements re 'perceptions' and 'urban myths' when an unbiased and objective overview depicting all points of view/opinions is of more value.

Another published article entitled 'You can take a street upmarket' (*SMH Heckler*, Tuesday 26 November 2008) gives a more balanced view.

Glebe Point Road has lost its original, eclectic charm, soul and vibe; and it will take a long time to get this back.

It is not enough to say 'support our local businesses that have experienced difficulty' when it is too late for those who have already gone under and with so few still clinging on. Let's keep in tune, respectful of reality and aware of what has happened without being insensitive to the livelihoods and businesses that have been lost. This is not about blame but responsibility, accountability and understanding.

I speak as a rate payer, resident and retail trader on Glebe Point Road for over the past 20 years who has always been a Glebe visionary and now remains the only business on my side of the street in my block. If we are to move forward to achieve the initial vision for what was intended in Glebe, as responsible Glebe citizens we at least need to be honest with each other without trying to justify or gloss over what has happened in the name of progress. People are intrinsic to progress and the unique mixtures of residents in our community of Glebe are what make us so special and one of the main reasons why so many want to gravitate towards this area.

I am not doubting any individual's

integrity, yet it is important to be respectful and mindful of what has and has not been achieved regarding lessons learnt for the future and for other small communities. We now need to reflect as we work together to bring Glebe Point Road back to what was originally intended.

**Maureen Cahill,  
Glass Artists' Gallery**

## Slow road to the Fish Market

*The path to the fish market is making slow progress, but Glebe Society member Evan Whitton and Council's Russell Kosko seem to have become good friends ...*

**To:** Evan Whitton

**Sent:** February 16, 2007

**Subject:** Glebe Foreshore

Dear Mr. Whitton,

The path to the fish market is due for completion in early 2008.

Your concern regarding off leashed dogs in the park has been referred to the Rangers.

Kind regards,

Russell Kosko,

**Project Manager - City Projects,  
City Of Sydney**

**To:** Russell Kosko

**Sent:** 1 January 2009

**Subject:** Glebe Foreshore

Dear Mr Kosko,

*Is there another date for completion of the path past the school?*

Best regards,

Evan Whitton

**To:** Evan Whitton

**Sent:** 5 January, 2009

**Subject:** Glebe Foreshore

Dear Evan,

Based on the forecast budget proposed by Council, the current proposed date for completion is now at early 2011. I apologise for the delay in starting these works, but the shift in the Councils budget makes it impossible to start anything significant until mid 2010 with completion in early 2011.

Regards,

Russ

# Celebrating 40 years in 2009

*Liz Simpson-Booker writes the fifth in a series of articles by people who have played a part in the success of the Glebe Society, or who have observed it from the outside.*

## Reflections from the Secretary

(or how I found friendship and love through the Glebe Society)

The Glebe Society marks its 40 years in 2009. For the past 10 of those years, I have acted as its Secretary. Those years have been full of interest, of growing understanding and the odd challenge.

After being widowed in 1998, I moved to Glebe and was introduced to the Glebe Society by Alison McKewen. Cynthia Jones, the then New Member Contact, very kindly took me under her wing. Not many months later, possibly weakened by wine at a Progressive Dinner, I volunteered to take on the Secretary's role, with the caveat that I knew nothing of how community groups, let alone the Glebe Society, worked. 'You'll pick it up', everyone said.

Early in the piece, I was regaled with stories of massive freeway proposals, plans for demolition of heritage buildings and of residents being prepared to protect our suburb and our heritage by lying down in front of bulldozers. Less scarily, the emphasis in recent times has been on effective consultation and communication in order to bring about change. This has been made possible by the boundary changes which brought Glebe under the professional care of the City of Sydney. My early minutes reflected a preoccupation with graffiti, garbage and litter, and recorded concerns about degraded parks and walkways. These bread-and-butter issues have been resolved, at least in large part.

Our overarching concerns remain, however. Our 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings and streetscapes appear to be as much at risk as ever; the perceived value of heritage generally (in the wider world) seems to have declined in inverse proportion to the general obsession with anything which is bright, shiny and new. However, heritage and history remain the No.1 preoccupation of Society members.

Our bays remain at the whim of the multitude of government departments, agencies and authorities which have control over Sydney Harbour. But, yes, our bright, shiny and new Foreshore Walk is the jewel in Glebe's crown, beloved by a multitude of users and the result of many, many years of local agitation and some fortuitous timing. As with many projects envisaged by the community, patience and stamina were (and continue to be) vitally important.

Given my involvement in the Society, and separate from my role as secretary/facilitator, I had two early goals. One concerned the restoration of Glebe's southern boundary; the other, a small acknowledgement of part of our history. At my urging, the Glebe Society's Heritage Sub-committee pressed for the restoration of the palisade fence and sandstone retaining wall which stretches along Parramatta Road between Ross and Derwent Streets. Council took up the challenge and this handsome wall has been restored to its former glory.

This year will also see the unveiling by Council of a plaque near the Parramatta Road footbridge to the University, which records the birth of Sir Edmund Barton in Glebe in 1849. This will in part address the fact that

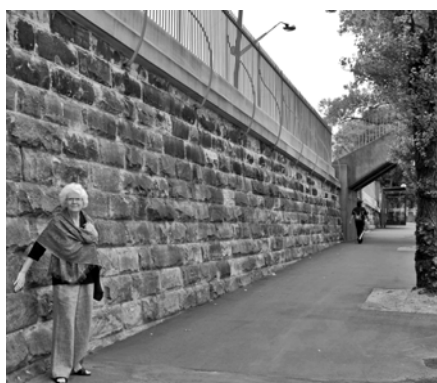
there is no street, park or public place in Glebe which acknowledges that Australia's first Prime Minister was born here.

When I came on the scene a decade ago, agenda papers were photocopied and hand-delivered to individual committee members in advance of committee meetings. Almost a decade later, I marvel at the rapid and effective communications which exist between committee members in our virtual office. Our physical mailbox continues to operate but now our great website also offers a useful portal for those interested in all things Glebe, including family historians, walkers, students and market traders to have their enquiries promptly dealt with and/or referred on, as appropriate.

Our increasing professionalism as a community group has been fostered by a succession of Presidents with whom I have had the pleasure of working. Bruce Davis, John Buckingham, Andrew Craig, Bob Armstrong, Jan Macindoe and, most recently, Lesley Lynch, have been enormously generous with their time and energy in pursuing the Glebe Society's vision. A strategic plan has provided the organisation with direction and focus, but not at the expense of fun.

It has been a delight to work with Society members, many of whom have become firm friends. The Society has done much to foster a sense of community and to value and celebrate 'our' place. And I sense that many members would be prepared to take to the barricades again if they felt Glebe's unique environment was threatened.

And as for finding love, that's another story ...



Liz Simpson-Booker beside the restored wall. Photo: Bruce Davis

- Liz Simpson-Booker

# Getting to Know the Glebe Society

Introducing two new members...

## Matt Sheumack and Lorena Aparicio

Matt and Lorena, now in their 30s, moved into Mary Street, Glebe, seven months ago. For Matt it was a return to the haunts of his student days – the new found freedom of living away from home in a state of student squalor in a house full of undergraduates that many of us might remember with equal fondness. This time though, he is accompanied by his lovely partner Lorena, who originated in Chile. They both have busy working lives and Glebe is where they have decided to put down roots.



Matt and Lorena at a silk farm in Luang Prabang, Laos, 'enjoying' a cup of silk-worm poo tea.

Once through university Matt spent time in Melbourne then three years in Chile where he and Lorena met. Lorena came to Australia in 2004 and the pair has spent time in Ashfield before returning to Glebe. Lorena is greatly surprised to find many Spanish-speaking people in Glebe - a surprise to me too but if the ear is attuned to it then there is Spanish to be had.

Why Glebe? With enthusiasm they listed their reasons. First is proximity to the city - Lorena is a quality coordinator with the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry in the city and Matt works at North Sydney as an IT systems designer, so Glebe suits them both. Then they love the non elitist feel of Glebe, the rich diversity in the population, the parks, the pubs, the bohemian nature of the place, the sense of community, the sense of soul.

They are concerned that Glebe has changed and will continue to change. Glebe Point Road is not as vibrant as it once was and they can see that commerce along Glebe Point Road is challenged. With increasing pressure on inner city areas they are also concerned that any developments resulting should be sensitive to the nature of the area.

And a long time member...

## Neil Macindoe

How to do justice to 32 years of active service in the Glebe Society? Matt and Lorena, this will be the problem you present in 2040!

A baptism of fire was Neil's beginning in the Glebe Society. Neil moved into Wigram Road in 1977. No sooner had he unpacked the last carton than there was a knock at his front door and he was greeted by someone from the Glebe Society asking for his support for the current campaign. The issue then was Leichhardt Council's proposed Town Plan for Glebe which advocated the building of higher density flats and the possible demolition of heritage housing that characterises Glebe. Neil became involved in the campaign and eventually the proposal was defeated. After much struggle it was replaced with the improved Town Plan of 1981/3. Had that first town plan been allowed to eventuate Glebe would be a very different place today. So began Neil's career in the Glebe Society.

Almost immediately he became involved in yet another campaign led by Alan Robinson of the Glebe Society: identifying foreshore areas that could eventually be linked to create the Foreshore Walk which we all enjoy so much today. It has taken nearly 30 years for this lovely feature to come to fruition.

For Neil, this beginning was auspicious in that it highlighted what he sees as the two main concerns of the Glebe Society; preservation of our heritage and the creative enhancement of our wonderful suburb.

He continued as 'apprentice' to Alan Robinson in the Planning convenorship, keeping his interest in planning even as he served as

President of the Society in 1983 to 1985.

In 1990 to 1999, Neil became a Councillor on Leichhardt Municipal Council and was involved in the acquisition of *Benledi* to become the Glebe Library, the Heritage Listing of many commercial properties in Glebe Point Road, the creation of Jubilee Place and restoration of University Hall, the acquisition of additional sites to complete the foreshore walk, the restoration of the Walter Burley Griffin Incinerator and the development of the Orphan School Creek Park. While he was a Councillor he still came to the Glebe Society meetings, liaising between the Society and the Council.

Is there a Neil beyond the Glebe Society? Oh yes, but it is harder to get much detail on this front. Suffice it to say that Neil is married to Jan who is the Environment Convenor and is currently working towards establishing a new Glebe Community garden. They have two grown children, one living in Boston and one in Surry Hills. In his past life he was a TAFE teacher of English and Communication and he has a Masters Degree in Planning which has proved invaluable in all his community work.

Neil has been Planning Convenor for the Society since 1999. He does a sterling job BUT would very much like to take on an apprentice so she/he could get to know the intricacies of planning legislation and 'what not' as he did under Alan's careful tutorship. Any takers?

- Anne Fraser



Neil at a Paris café.  
Photo: Owen Macindoe



# Glebe Events

## An evening with



Come and hear Peter Corris talk about his newest detective novel, *Hardy 34*, the thirty fourth in Peter's series featuring the private investigator Cliff Hardy. Cliff lives in Glebe, drinks in local pubs and knows the inner west like the back of his hand.

**Come to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor lounge, The Nag's Head Hotel, Glebe, on Sunday, 29 March from 6 - 8.30pm.**

This is an opportunity to chat, enjoy delicious pub food and have a drink with Peter, the creator of the famous Cliff Hardy series of detective fiction as well as eight novels featuring another private eye, Ray Crawley. It is

also an opportunity to be among the first to purchase signed copies of *Hardy 34* which is being launched at this event. A selection of earlier titles will also be available.

Peter was an academic historian for ten years and has published over a dozen non-fiction works, including a social history of prize fighting in Australia, and *A Round of Golf*.

The booking form, *An Evening with Peter Corris*, is with this copy of the *Bulletin*.

Please book by 20 March at the latest. The evening will be entertaining and great fun!

**- Margaret Sheppard**

The *Bulletin* this year is also featuring *Getting to Know the Glebe Society* in which new members and members of long standing will be profiled so we can all get to know more about who makes up the Society. Make sure you meet Matt, Lorena and Neil (see p8) on Friday 13 March.

## All you need to know about ...

To mark the 40th year of the Glebe Society we are launching a mini membership drive to ensure the Society reaches and therefore represents as many Glebians as is possible. For this purpose a small outreach sub-committee, convened by Anne Fraser, has been formed. Our task is twofold - first to help new members who have joined in the last couple of years to feel a greater sense of belonging to the Society and secondly, to increase the awareness of the Society within the Glebe community.

The first event is hap-



pening soon, on Friday 13 March, 7-9.30pm, upstairs in the Glebe Rowing Club (at the end of Ferry Road, Glebe).

All members are invited, but particularly those who have joined the society in the last couple of years. A light-hearted fun evening is planned in which people can find out about the many and varied avenues in which the Society is involved.

There is no charge! Just bring along a bottle of wine, or whatever you like to drink.

We'll provide nibbles, glasses and the venue.

RSVP by Friday 6 March so we can organise the fun and the food.

**- Anne Fraser**  
(annefraser01@optusnet.com.au  
0409 893 047, 9660 7560)

**- Cheryl Herden**  
(herden@pacific.net.au  
9660 7371)

## Heritage Week

### Walter Burley Griffin Incinerator, Glebe

Each year the National Trust invites conservation groups to arrange events in their area to be part of Heritage Week, and this year the Society's Planning Sub-committee has joined with the Walter Burley Griffin Society to organise a talk by the Walter Burley Griffin Society's President, Professor James Weirick, the foremost authority on Griffin, to be held in the Griffin Incinerator, corner of Forsyth Street and Griffin Place, at 3pm on Sunday, 5 April.

Griffin and his partner, Marion Mahoney, are best known for winning the competition to design the national capital, Canberra.

Thereafter, of course, they received the Utzon treatment, otherwise you would be travelling around Canberra on the Light Rail system they proposed, instead of getting lost on a maze of roundabouts and overpasses. Nevertheless, both of them managed to leave their mark on a number of Australian cities. Griffin worked with E M Nicholls on the Glebe Incinerator, so come and share Professor Weirick's insights on 5 April, and meet members of the Walter Burley Griffin Society and the National Trust afterwards. Be sure to book early by filling in and returning the flyer enclosed in this *Bulletin*.

There are only fifty places, and some have already been taken because the event is already being advertised by the Trust.



**- Neil Macindoe**

**The National Trust  
Heritage Festival is  
4-19 April 2009**

Visit  
[www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au)  
for more information.

# 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, varying cuisines, and will concentrate on Glebe Point Road for the next few months. Put these dates in your diary now.

On **Thursday 5 March** we will visit *Naggy's*, 333b Glebe Point Road. Corkage \$2.50.

On **Thursday 2 April** we will share a Vietnamese meal at *Saigon Saigon*, 97 Glebe Point Road. Corkage \$2.50.

And on **Thursday 7 May** we will go to *Roxanne* at 39 Glebe Point Road. Corkage \$3.

The numbers coming to these dinners are growing, so please email me or ring me on 9660 7066 by the Tuesday before the dinner to let us know that you are coming.

- Edwina Doe

## Welcome to new members

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

- Lorena Aparicio and Matt Sheumack
- Karin and Bruce Viles

We look forward to seeing them at future Glebe Society functions.

## Jazz at the Library

This is our third year and there will be an exciting three weeks of Jazz. Jazz at the Library will be held in the Library grounds - 186 Glebe Point Road. The line-up is:

**14 March** (2 - 5pm) - Bridie King with the Boogie Kings and the Harmony Queens + students

**21 March** (2 - 5pm) - Barry Canham and Co and local youth band The Gypsies of Pengaea

**28 March** (2 - 5pm) - Featuring a group of young Glebe musicians

Pack a picnic, bring a rug and come join the fun atmosphere of jazz. For more information please call Eulalie at The Glebe Chamber of Commerce on 9552 1546

## Tranby fundraising trivia night

Please join us on Wednesday, 11 March for a night of trivia upstairs at the Toxteth Hotel, 345 Glebe Point Road. \$10 covers entry, snacks and the opportunity to win some great prizes, including Tranby's very own wine range!

The fun starts at 6pm and winds up around 8pm, and dinner (with a buy one, get one free deal) is available from the Toxteth Restaurant afterwards.

RSVP for Trivia and dinner bookings to Annaliese Monaro 9660 3444 a.monaro@tranby.edu.au

## Actors Forum

Multi-talented actor, prize-winning film-writer and playwright Donald Macdonald wrote the now classic *Caravan* - one of Australian theatre's funniest plays.

*Local audiences are in for a treat when the playwright directs a cast of six in a performed reading of Caravan, a light-hearted look at friendship, age and the holiday you should never have.*

Donald Macdonald's *Caravan*, Directed by the Playwright with Valentino Arico, Romy Bartz, Lisa Bluthal, Elizabeth Connolly, Marcello Fabrizi & Heath Wilder

Sunday, March 8 at 2pm

St. Andrews' Congregational Church Hall (Mayflower Hall)  
Cnr. Darling Street. & Curtis Road. Balmain

## 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: ph 9660 7586, fax 9660 6112,  
email balmain@parliament.nsw.gov.au

## City of Sydney Councillors

**Lord Mayor:** Clover Moore MP

### Councillors:

Phillip Black  
Meredith Burgmann  
Irene Doutney  
Chris Harris  
Marcelle Hoff  
Robert Kok  
Shayne Mallard  
John McInerney  
Di Tornai

**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 ...

**Sunday 1 March** - Clean up Australia Day . Clean up around your own street.

**Thursday 5 March**, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday - *Naggy's*, 333b Glebe Point Road.

**Wednesday 11 March**, 7.30pm – Management Committee Meeting – The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street.

**Wednesday, 11 March**, 6-8.30pm – Tranby Trivia Night. See p.10.

**Friday 13 March**, 7-9.30pm – Getting to know the Glebe Society- Glebe Rowing Club, end of Ferry Road. See p9.

**Saturday 14 March, 21 March, 28 March** - Jazz at the Library. See p11 for details.

**Saturday 28 March**, 8.30 - 9.30pm - **Earth Hour**. Turn off your lights.

**Sunday 29 March**, 6-8.30pm – An Evening with Peter Corris – The Nag's Head, 162 St Johns Road. See flyer.

**Thursday 2 April**, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – *Saigon Saigon*, 97 Glebe Point Road.

**Saturday 4 April** – Official opening of Glebe Point Road. Details to be announced. See our Website.

**Saturday 4 – Sunday 19 April** - National Trust Heritage Festival.

**Sunday 5 April**, 3pm – Talk at the Walter Burley Griffin Incinerator. See flyer.

**Wednesday 8 April**, 7.30pm – Management Committee Meeting – The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street.

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

## 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](http://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](mailto: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, within the Guidelines published on our Website. Write to the address above or email [editor@glebesociety.org.au](mailto: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

**Wednesday 18 March.**

## The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

### Management Committee:

President	Lesley Lynch	9660 5084
Vice-president	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Immediate Past President	Jan Macindoe	9660 0208
Secretary	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Treasurer	Bruce Davis	9660 7873

### Committee Members:

Bob Armstrong	9660 4189	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Dorothy Davis	9660 7873	Dorothy Hoddinott	9692 0071
		Robyn Kemmis	9692 9440

### 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		
The Environment	Jan Macindoe	9660 0208
Fortieth Year Celebrations	Mavis McCarthy	9660 5119
Fortieth Year Outreach	Anne Fraser	9660 7560
Heritage	Lyn Collingwood	heritage@glebesociety.org.au
Infrastructure Defect Reporting	Margaret Sheppard	9660 4121
Membership	Cheryl & Bryan Herden	9660 7371
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Transport and Traffic	Jan Wilson	9660 2698

### Other Contacts:

Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC)	Bruce Davis	9669 7
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 CoGG	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Liaison with FLAG	Jan Wilson	9660 2698
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

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

Download a Membership Form from our website ([www.glebesociety.org.au/AboutTGSI/Membership/Membership\\_application.pdf](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

**website:** [www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

**Glebe Point Road** Community Liaison Manager GMW Urban: Menios Mitakidis, 0404 090 147, [meios\\_mitakidis@gmwurban.com.au](mailto:meios_mitakidis@gmwurban.com.au)

**Dumped Shopping trolleys:** Trolley Tracker 1800 641 497

**Waterway Garbage:** NSW Maritime response - 9563 8592