# 6/2011 July/August 201



# Glebe

**SSN 1836-599X** 

# Meeting room reopens

Sydney City Council agreed on Monday 25 July to reopen the meeting room in the heritage Walter Burley Griffin incinerator building for public use.

Public use of the room was suspended more than a year ago following complaints from nearby residents about bad behaviour by people who had hired the room. The residents pointed out that no development application (DA) had ever been lodged, and consequently Council prepared a DA setting out conditions for the use of the room.

Council's decision permits use of the room by a maximum of 20 people, and hours of operation from 9am to 10pm Monday to Saturday, and until 6pm on Sundays. Councillors accepted the limitation to 20 people in order that the room can be reopened immediately, and have directed the Council's CEO to investigate how its capacity can be increased to 40.

The limit on numbers has left many of us scratching our heads. It arises from an interpretation of Australian building codes which provide guidance on the number of toilets needed in public places. The room has only one 'loo.

The room had been used by meetings of about 40 people without apparent problems prior to its closure, and initially Council staff proposed a capacity of 40. Then came the independent assessor's report which proposed a limit of 16. This was amended to 20 by Council staff on the day of the Council meeting. David-Mander Jones, an architect by profession, did his own calculations and arrived at a figure of 35. One can't help but feel that this is a case where rules and regulations and bureaucracy overcame commonsense. The compromise solution may be to convert part of the small kitchen into a second toilet.

Councillors also decided not to proceed with a recommendation that alcohol be banned, and that the disabled access ramp be modified to conform with recent changes in Australian standards (the standards only apply to new buildings or buildings that are being redeveloped).

At the council's Planning Development and Transport committee meeting which preceded this week's council meeting Jan Wilson spoke on behalf of the Coalition of Glebe Groups (CoGG), and Bruce Davis spoke on behalf of the Glebe Society. They pointed out that public use of the room was one of the best methods of ensuring that it would be protected, and that undue restrictions would inhibit public use. They also drew attention to the public consultations



The Walter Burley Griffin meeting room doors will open again. Photo Bruce Davis.

that had been carried on during the development of *Glebe Harbour*, and the acceptance at these meetings that the room would be a public space, and even possibly used for limited commercial purposes.

- Bruce Davis

#### Sudden death of David Mander-Jones

With regret, we report that our Committee member David Mander-Jones passed away on 5 July 2011, aged 75.

David joined the Glebe Society Management Committee as Heritage Convenor in March 2002 and ran the sub-committee for four years.

In 2006, David transferred his interests to the Blue Wrens group, hosted many meetings and was involved in the very successful Blue Wren tree planting day.

David rejoined the Management Committee in 2010 and, at the time of his death, was preparing to organise the Summer Evening Leadlight/Stained Glass Stroll.

See page 7 to read more about David's life and contribution to the Society.

#### What's coming soon

**Sunday 28 August, 11am at** *Benledi* – Glebe Society Annual General Meeting.

**Tuesday 16 August at 10 am** and **Sunday 21 August at 3 pm** - Pocket Park Walks. Meet beside the Glebe Library car park. See page 9.

**Sunday 4 September, 9 - 11am**. - Tree Planting at Minogue Crescent and Lew Hoad Reserve. See page 9.

#### Heritage Fleet may not move to Pyrmont



Glebe Rowing Club's new pontoon and deck. Photo: Bruce Davis

The relocation of the Sydney Heritage Fleet to a site underneath the Anzac Bridge is unlikely to go ahead in the near future, if ever.

It had been planned to build a park, a community watersports centre and a new base for the Heritage Fleet on land underneath the south-eastern approach to the bridge. However the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) has taken over the section of the site earmarked for the Heritage Fleet as a temporary works depot which will be required for about two years while repairs are made to the bridge.

Community groups in Pyrmont, which have long been unhappy about NSW Maritime's decision to shoehorn the Heritage Fleet into this site, have suggested the new State government should now look for an alternative site. They favour Goat Island, which was seriously considered some years ago but was opposed by former Prime Minister Paul Keating.

Negotiations are well advanced for the City of Sydney to take responsibility for the area of government-owned land proposed for a park. There is contamination on the site and this issue needs to be resolved before the deal can be finalised.

The way ahead for the community watersports centre also has been smoothed by the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority offering to lease the site to the dragon boat group which has developed conceptual plans for a centre to be built at a cost of about \$5 million.

In other news from the Bays:

· Landscaping of the walkway and

boat launching pontoon in front of the Glebe Rowing Club has been completed and we look forward to the removal of the contractors' safety fence. However we will have to wait a few years before this small section of the foreshore walk is extended to Bridge Road.

• The Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC) will write to the government seeking a commitment to fund the

reconstruction of the sea wall at the Sydney Fish Market, and improvements to the site's drainage. This is necessary following the collapse of the \$40 million deal under which the company that operates the market and the government were to share the cost of a modest upgrade (see *Bulletin* 5/2011, page 1).

 Work on replacing the ugly concrete wall on the northern side of the Wentworth Park sports complex is expected to start in October. This leaves only the southern section which may not be completed for some time as it is more costly and complex. Members may have noticed that the tiny heritage building on Wattle Street, which for unexplained reasons is known as 'the Chapel', is now a feature as a result of the landscaping of the eastern boundary of the park.

- Press reports indicate that one of the small ships used to bring aggregate from the south coast to Blackwattle Bay for use in the concrete batch plant has been retired. In the meantime supplies are apparently being brought in by truck. It seems this is a temporary situation, and BCC is seeking further information from the plant's operator.
- Lesley Lynch expressed concern in the last *Bulletin* (see page 2) about a proposal by Sydney Ports to lease 12 ha of Glebe Island. BCC has since been assured that the lease will only extend to 2020 and considers this reasonable.

- Bruce Davis

#### Concrete barriers in Bridge Road

The Glebe Society has raised with the City of Sydney the matter of the ugly concrete barriers in Bridge Road at the intersection with Lyndhurst Street and Colbourne Avenue. These are the sort of barriers which one normally associates with temporary road works. These have (dis)graced Bridge Road for as long as I can remember.

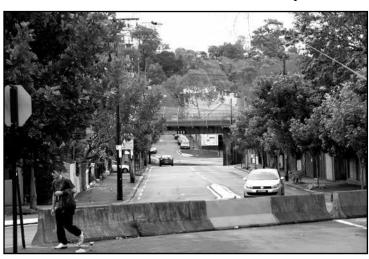
Col Warne from Council has advised that the RTA have indicated they have

no objection to removal of the jersey kerb barriers provided whatever replaces them provides similar protection. The City will need to consider concept designs with landscaping and to try and ensure design does not remove

parking. Sydney Buses has indicated it would support changes provided there is no impact on bus services.

No time frame has been indicated in relation to when the works might be finished. When completed, however, this will go some way to beautifying one small section of the north-eastern entrance to Glebe which overall looks pretty unloved and neglected.

- Liz Simpson-Booker



The barriers viewed from Colbourne Street. Photo: Bruce Davis

# 42nd Annual General Meeting



#### Notice of meeting

The Annual General Meeting of The Glebe Society Inc will be held at 11am on Sunday 28 August 2011 at *Benledi* <sup>1</sup>, 186 Glebe Point Road (next to Glebe Library). The agenda for the meeting is published below.

#### **Nominations for Committee**

Office bearers of the Society and other members of the Management Committee will be elected at the AGM. A nomination form is enclosed with this *Bulletin*. Nominations close on Friday 19 August 2011.

Members are warmly encouraged to consider the benefits of active involvement in your Society.

#### Invitation

All financial members of the Society, and especially new members, are invited to attend the AGM and to hear Lisa Murray speak.

#### **Agenda**

- 1 Present
- 2 Apologies
- **3 Minutes. Motion:** That the minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting held on 29 August 2010 be confirmed.
- 4 Presidents' reports (Lesley Lynch and Liz Simpson-Booker)

#### **5 Sub-committee reports**

Some sub-committee reports are being published in *Bulletins* 5,6 and 7/2011. Others will be provided to meeting attendees. Those Chairpersons and Convenors who are present at the meeting can provide updates and/or answer questions.

#### 6 Treasurer's report

**Motion:** That the Auditor's report for the Glebe Society Incorporated for the 2010/2011 financial year, Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2011, and the Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 30 June 2011, be received.

#### 7 Election of Office Bearers

#### 8 Awards

- **8.1 Motion**<sup>2</sup>: That <u>Jan Macindoe</u> be elected as an Honorary Life Member of the Society in recognition of her work as President of the Glebe Society and her pivotal role in bringing to fruition a range of projects including our 40th year publication *Conservation and Change* and the development of our walks on the web.
- **8.2** Presentation of Honorary Life Membership to <u>Tony Strachan</u> (awarded 2010) in recognition of his work for the Glebe Society on major projects in the 1970s, and of his continuing influence in the wider sphere of the development and acceptance of the value of our built heritage.
- **8.3 Other awards:** The Awards Subcommittee also recommended, and the Management Committee unanimously agreed, that the Glebe Society Commendation be awarded to the following:

<u>Anne Fraser</u> - in recognition of her role as the first Convenor of the Blackwattle Cove Coalition (of which the Glebe Society is a member) and lobbying for many of the positive changes which have taken place subsequently in the Blackwattle Bay precinct.

<u>Dr John Gerofi</u> - in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the establishment of the light rail service to Glebe.

<u>Jan Wilson</u> - in recognition of her management of the Save Glebe Post Office campaign and her long-standing representation of the issues affecting the Glebe Estate.

#### 9. Close of meeting.

To be followed by Guest speaker Dr Lisa Murray.

# Local history - making connections in the digital age

We are delighted that **Dr Lisa Murray** has accepted our invitation to speak to members, following the conclusion of the formal agenda.

Dr Lisa Murray is the City Historian and Chair of the Dictionary of Sydney Board. She is an accredited Professional Historian and a committed public historian, having worked for the City of Sydney for the last 10 years. Lisa is actively involved in the Professional Historians' Association (NSW) and is a Councillor on the History Council of NSW. Current projects aside from the Dictionary of Sydney include a history of Redfern, Waterloo and Alexandria, and cultural mapping of Aboriginal history.

Lisa says that 'as a public historian, I have always been interested in local history and its connections with the wider historical narrative. With the flourishing of the internet, there are whole new ways we can share our history, find out new information, and make connections. But how is the digital humanities revolution affecting history at a local and national level? What does it mean for local and community history – particularly how we research it and produce it? And what impact can it have on broader historical understandings? Using the Dictionary of Sydney as a case study, and drawing on examples from the Glebe area, I'll share with you some of the ways I think local history is taking on a much greater significance in historiography in the digital age'.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of Lisa's talk and there will be plenty of time to chat.

<sup>1</sup> The Glebe Society is grateful that the City of Sydney has provided the venue free of charge for this meeting. <sup>2</sup> **Special resolution**: Glebe Society Rule 35(a) requires a majority vote which comprises at least three-quarters of members voting in person or by proxy. Rule 35(b) requires 21 days' written notice of the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution and this has been satisfied.



# Reports to the AGM

Annual reports from Sub-committee convenors are appearing in Bulletins 5, 6 and 7/2011. Please bring these Bulletins with you when you come to the AGM on 28 August.

#### **Planning Report**

#### **Background to Planning Law**

This report will be longer than usual because there are major issues at the State and local level. Some of this will be familiar to those who have been following these issues, so I apologise in advance to those people, and suggest they skip the bits they already know.

Most development in NSW is controlled by the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act of 1979. Conservation Areas like Glebe also benefit from the Heritage Act of 1977.

The EP&A Act requires every Council to have a town plan (which lays down rules for local development) to publicise and notify development proposals, and to take a lot of issues into account, including objections. Proposals that include more than one Council area are dealt with by the State Government, as are those that lie outside areas of Council control or are owned by the State.

Thus the Bays, like the rest of Sydney Harbour, are dealt with by the State Government, and hence the Society has a Bays and Foreshores Sub-committee, separate from its Planning Sub-committee, to oversee the Bays. The Planning Sub-committee provides planning advice as required, and deals with areas controlled by the City of Sydney.

Although it is now quite old the EP&A Act has guided development in NSW quite successfully. Its main critics are major developers, who find its provisions too restrictive. They also dislike having to deal with different town plans in different Council areas. There are also a handful of property owners and architects who consider they are too important to be treated like ordinary people, and believe that if there are any rules they should not apply to them.

Councils do vary in efficiency. There may also be unnecessary variation in their planning controls, which the State Government could have prevented if it wished. However, some Councils, such as those in the inner city, have more complex environments, and a one-size-

fits-all approach is not appropriate.

The previous State Government followed a policy of amending the EP&A Act to favour major developers. The notorious Part 3A, for example, took large proposals out of the hands of Councils altogether and gave them to the Minister to determine. Although this has now been repealed many proposals are still determined by unelected officials appointed by the Minister.

#### **Proposed Review**

The new government has promised a review of the EP&A Act over the next eighteen months. It should be clear from what I've said that I think the Society should push for the rights of councils to be reasserted and the development industry resisted. Fairness and community involvement should not be sacrificed to speed and the convenience of developers.

On Wednesday July 13 the Minister, Brad Hazzard, announced a review of planning laws to be overseen by the Land and Environment Court Commissioner, Tim Moore, and the former Labor Minister, Ron Dyer, beginning with a four-month listening stage. The Society is keen to participate.

#### City Plan

A number of councils, including the City, are preparing new town plans. In the case of the City, amalgamations in 2003 mean there are many different plans covering different suburbs, and the aim is to consolidate these into one plan, which will obviously be quite large and complex.

Before the new plan went on exhibition earlier this year the City planners had to present their plan to officials from the NSW Department of Planning, and these officials insisted the City adopt a series of templates designed to make local plans throughout the State uniform. A large part of the criticism of the plan that is now emerging is a result of resident resistance to the imposition of inappropriate templates.

However, in devising its plan the City relied on a series of Design Studies of

each suburb carried out by consultants over several years. There was a lot of discussion with residents about these studies, and in some cases this resulted in changes, but in a number of other key matters the City refused to change. Thus while there is a great deal of value in the research that underlies the new plan, there are also some serious disagreements.

#### **Combined Resident Action**

In response to these two issues, nine resident groups within the City have combined for two purposes:

- 1. To meet with the City Councillors to explain the impact of the new Plan on their suburb or suburbs and get their support for changes and
- 2. To meet with the new Minister for planning to remove or modify the templates imposed on the Plan.

When these meetings take place I will report in the *Bulletin*.

#### **Harold Park Development**

As members will be aware, Mirvac bought the old pacing track for residential development and restoration of the tramsheds on 10 December 2010. The actual transfer will take place in July 2011, and a Masterplan will be advertised not long after.

At the time of the 2010 AGM the rezoning of the track awaited the approval of the Minister before going on exhibition. The Society held a further Public Meeting on 7 December which reaffirmed the resolutions of 23 April while seeking further changes prior to the determination of the new Local Environment Plan

The end result is mixed. There will be a large area of parkland, 3.8 ha, but its location is not completely satisfactory. Forest Lodge needs better access. Some buildings are proposed to go to eight storeys, although set back for the last three. The Society believes this will have an adverse impact on views and privacy.

There will be 500 m<sup>2</sup> of affordable housing near the Ross Street entrance.



# Reports to the AGM

The amount of commercial space in the Tramsheds has been reduced to 2,700 m<sup>2</sup>. Also, there has been an offer of \$10 million to create facilities for accident victims in the Tramsheds. However, even with a new intersection at Minogue Crescent and limited access to the Tramsheds the density on the site will result in the generation of too much traffic, and hence it should be reduced.

The results of these meetings, and reports commissioned by the Society on urban design and traffic, are all available on our website. The Society has had four meetings with Mirvac so far this year, mainly to reduce adverse impacts from the demolition of the track and grandstand.

The Society will continue to push for a better result, especially once the Masterplan is exhibited. With such a large proposal there can often be significant changes in the course of its preparation, but Mirvac has indicated it wants to stick closely to the concept plan devised by the Government Architect's Office, presented at the public meetings organised by Council in 2009 and 2010.

#### **Affordable Housing Project**

This is a redevelopment of the part of the Glebe Estate between Cowper and Bay Streets. Essentially it is a proposal to build 250 private dwellings in order to pay for an equal number of affordable and public housing dwellings, both for rental. The proposal originally included the City's Bay Street Depot, but for various reasons this has now been excluded, so it is now entirely on the State Government-owned portion of the land.

There is a lot of concern about this method of proceeding. The site was acquired by the Department of Housing in 1949 and all the current walk up flats (143) were built between 1953 and 1967, so the site is quite different from the rest of the Glebe Estate. There is a fundamental question of whether half a publicly owned site should be sold off for private housing, and a further question of whether the proportions of the types of housing represent a good mix, and whether the resulting much higher density is well designed.

There is a density bonus of about 25% for developments that are half social or

affordable. This proposal is designed to gain the maximum benefit, and hence the maximum density. This then results in some buildings up to 10 storeys. There is also a grant of \$9 million from the Housing Affordability Fund for a proposal of this size. It seems very likely this proposal will not proceed unless it attracts both these incentives.

The current buildings do not have heritage value, but they abut Cowper Street, which has high heritage value and is part of the Conservation Area. There is a need for a transition zone with lower buildings and greater and greener setbacks, and the current proposal is deficient in this regard. There are also problems with overshadowing and overlooking, insufficient Open Space and solar access, and insufficient and inequitable parking, and probably more as well.

There is a need for a better mix of housing types and for more affordable housing in the inner city, designed well so it is acceptable to the broader and surrounding community. This proposal does not seem to be a satisfactory model, and is unlikely to gain wide public acceptance.

On 20 May 2011, the new State Government amended the Planning Policy relating to Affordable Housing by including a Local Character Test. The Society believes, for the reasons outlined above, the current proposal fails this test, and hence ought not to proceed in its current form. On 13 July the Committee resolved to pursue the matter and circulate its objections to City Councillors and the State Member for Balmain, Jamie Parker. In its objection the Society makes clear its support for affordable housing, as for example at Harold Park, and that it would welcome a proposal that did not have the deficiencies of this

#### **Other Development**

Section 96 of the Act allows applicants to apply for a review of Council's determination within six months. This gives applicants a second bite at the cherry, including the chance to have conditions removed or changed.

In general, the Society's view has been that unless the applicant produces some compelling new reason why Council's determination should be modified, the review should not succeed. Where the Society has lodged an objection and the applicant has subsequently asked for a review the Society reiterates its objections. There is, of course, nothing to prevent an applicant submitting a further new application.

- Neil Macindoe Planning Convenor

# Community Development

The Community Development Subcommittee works with members of the Glebe community on a variety of projects such as public art and the development of community gardens. Members collaborate with other local groups in undertaking projects and liaise with local authorities such as Council of the City of Sydney and Housing NSW for funding support and assistance when required.

During the past year the Love Your Park project was completed. The project was initiated by the Glebe Community Action Group, auspiced by the Glebe Society and funded by a grant from Council. Ugly concrete walls surrounding the play area and at the main entrance to the M. J. Dougherty Reserve in Mitchell Street, Glebe were transformed by the installation of over 300 tiles created by residents and local kids who live in the neighbourhood. Three workshops were held in the park, the first to make the tiles, the second to design and paint them, and the third to install the tiles in the walls.

A second *Love Your Park* project has just been initiated, with a further grant from Council, to create a mural on the wall adjacent to a small reserve on the corner of Mitchell and Glebe Streets. Kids from the Glebe Youth Centre will work with a mural artist to design and paint the mural.

Opportunities are taken as they arise to secure funding support for projects which community members are keen to pursue. Work is now underway to name several lanes after well-known

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# Reports to the AGM

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Glebe identities, to ensure the contributions of those identities to the life of the community are not forgotten.

There are many people and groups in Glebe who contribute to the community in a variety of ways and volunteers are always welcome.

> - Robyn Kemmiss Community Development Sub-committee

# Glebe Society Website

The Website for the Glebe Society continues to grow in size. Usage by members of the Glebe Society, as well as by many others, is also growing. Website statistics record the number of people who access the Website, and we have had an average of 613 users per day in June 2011! Clearly they are not all members of the Glebe Society. This usage is a considerable growth from 460 users per day in April 2010, and 270 a day in July 2009. The record usage of the Website was 1,238 a day in January 2011, at the time of the protests over the Glebe Post Office closure.

Why are so many people looking at our Website? Most people access websites by using Google and similar searches if they haven't bookmarked the site, and our Website records the search criteria used by such people. The most common search criterion for people who access our Website is 'Glebe Society' - 12%. The next most common search criterion for people who access our Website is 'Blue Wrens' – 10%. This is a most unexpected result, but on doing a Google search for 'Blue Wrens' one can see that the Glebe Society is listed 4th of some 50.000 results.

Other Website statistics are that 38% of users use Microsoft Internet Explorer (down from 61% last year), 31% of users use Firefox (up from 20% last year), and 21% use Safari (mostly Mac or iPhone users, up from 7% last year). This is in line with industry trends.

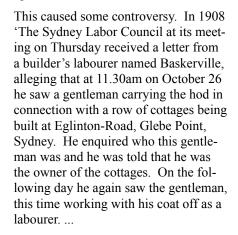
The goals of the Website Subcommittee are to continue to improve our Website, and its priorities include ensuring that:

 Current Major Issues and News are up-to-date and well covered

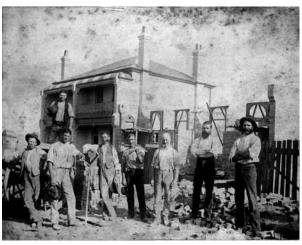
# Eglinton Road research project – an update

As part of the Glebe Society research into Eglinton Road, Carole Herriman and Genny Kang have established that 19 of the 20 houses in the street were built between 1904 and 1909 by Robert Buik Edward. He purchased the land from the estate of George Wigram Allen in 1904 for £1,525. Robert Buik Edward was Postmaster of the Post Office in William Street in the City but also worked on

the building sites of houses he developed with his workers.



'... The gentleman who carried the hod was the Postmaster in charge of a suburban office. At this juncture Mr Vernon (secretary of the United Laborers' Protective Society) strongly denounced the action of a Federal officer receiving a high salary spending his holidays in superintending the erection of a terrace of houses. He would not have believed



Robert Buik Edward (far right) with his workmen at an unknown building site in Glebe. Can anyone identify it?

that that was possible had he not had ocular demonstration. That officer was keeping work out of the hands of other men. There were plenty of architects and foremen looking for such billets, and he regarded it as "absolute sweating".' (Source: Adelaide *Advertiser* 12 November 1908.)

Robert Edward's great granddaughter, Jennifer Esteban, has supplied a copy of a photo of Robert Buik Edward (far right) with his workmen at another unknown building site in Glebe.

We are hoping that someone in the Glebe Society may be able to help identify the houses. Contact Genny Kang (gkang@tpg.com.au) or Carole Herriman (Herriman01@iprimus.com.au) if you have any suggestions on where the houses might be or for information on the project.

- Carole Herriman

- the Calendar of Events is up-to-date with events of interest to members
- the Website is a valuable storage site of current and historical information about the Glebe Society and the local area.

A current major project for our Website is to improve its presentation of History and Heritage content. Whilst the Society has considerable information itself about Glebe, and it has access to much more information about our area, our Website can do much more in presenting information about people, places, buildings, and organisations, in

a more accessible and informative way. We are currently working on a method of how we might improve this part of the Website.

One of our Website's most valuable features is that new information about current major issues is often added on a daily basis, so it is worth checking regularly at www.glebesociety.org.au

> - Phil Young Website Sub-committee

Further annual reports will be published in *Bulletin* 7/2011.

#### Vale David Mander-Jones



David pictured on a recent Sydney Harbour cruise.

David Mander-Jones, a member of the Society and the Management Committee for many years, passed away on 5 July 2011, aged 75.

David grew up in Wellington NSW, studied architecture, travelled the world and met Fay in London. They settled as young marrieds in Paddington and then retreated to the North Shore where David designed their own house.

With their four children grown up, they bought a house in Hereford Street in Glebe in the mid-1990s. David and Fay relished Glebe life and embraced it wholeheartedly. They travelled overseas regularly, renewing Fay's Welsh roots, and also enjoyed a number of house swaps.

David joined the Glebe Society Management Committee as Heritage Convenor in March 2002 and ran the Sub-committee for four years. During that time, he organised a foreshore walk for the then Lord Mayor, Lucy Turnbull. At that stage *Bellevue* was in a ruinous state and the 'walk' was seriously disjointed, ending at the mangroves below *The Anchorage* where it was necessary to beat back the vegetation and slide down the muddy track.

Not long after this event, the City of Sydney announced it would spend \$13 million to complete the first stage of the foreshore walk, as far as the Blackwattle Bay Secondary College. *Bellevue*, too, has since been restored.

In 2006, David transferred his interests to the Blue Wrens group, hosted many

meetings and was involved in the very successful Blue Wren tree planting day.

David rejoined the Management Committee in 2010 and, at the time of his death, was preparing to organise the Summer Evening Leadlight/Stained Glass Stroll.

One of David's endearing characteristics was his passion. If he believed in a cause, he had no hesitation in saying so – loudly and emphatically if needs be. Some of us will remember a meeting about the Burley Griffin Incinerator meeting room earlier this year when David could contain himself no longer and leaped to his feet shouting 'Bullshit!!' He was pretty right. Nevertheless he contritely apologised moments later for his intemperate language.

The fact that a select group of Glebe residents venture onto the gravel alongside the foreshore walk near Glebe Point to play *pétanque* is also due, at least in part, to David. It all started when he discovered an adult education course in pétanque at Canterbury Bowling Club and dragged another member of the Society off to learn about this venerable French pastime. One thing led to another and a piste (of sorts) was opened when the Lord Mayor tossed the first boule on the day the new foreshore walk was opened. David frequently joined in the fortnightly competitions that ensued.

In his practice of architecture, David declared himself a modernist but he and Fay finally chose to live amongst the

19thC streetscapes of Glebe, in a house classified by the National Trust.

David was a charming, engaging man who was passionate about family and friends, and who was always curious about people and how things worked. In committee, he could be dauntingly thorough and had a special ability to see issues from a wider perspective.

David also appealed to people to be 'generous of spirit' in community matters rather than self-interested. In fact, 'generosity of spirit' typified David, in his concerns for others, for the community and in his engagement with all those he met.

The Society extends its heartfelt condolences to Fay, to Richard, Zoe, Jessica and Nick and their families.

- Liz Simpson-Booker, Dorothy Davis and Bruce Davis

#### Ambient Noise Testing at Glebe Point

There has been concern expressed about the noise levels that may be produced by the proposed development of the Sydney Superyacht Marina, which is directly across Rozelle Bay from the end of Glebe Point Road. After the initial submission of a development plan, community concern led to the proponent commissioning noise measurements, first with live bands playing and secondly of background ambient noise. The noise from bands has been reported in an earlier *Bulletin*.

During May and June ambient noise monitoring has been performed, with measurements taken at two apartments at 501 Glebe Point Road, which is the nearest residence to the marina. The results of these measurements are contained in a report, dated 5 July 2011. These results may be compared to ambient noise monitoring from 2003 in nearby locations. Basically the new results showed that ambient noise levels have not changed much since 2003 for the day and evening periods. The 2011 levels at night are shown to be 5 dB noisier. Most of the noise is from the roadway over the Anzac Bridge and its western approaches.

The World Health Organisation provides guidelines for community noise.

Continued on next page ...

July/August 2011 7

#### <u>Centipede</u>

#### Helping kids on Struggle Street

The Glebe Society's Management Committee recently received a presentation about Centipede, the out of school hours service for primary school aged children. Talking to us about Centipede's work were Brian Skingsley (Treasurer) and Kim Payne (Coordinator).

Centipede's aim is to ensure that the basic rights of Glebe children are respected and valued. Staff put a strong emphasis on positive role modelling and the development of trusting relationships. Centipede offers structured activities and programs to build self-esteem and reinforce positive behaviours in a safe and caring environment.

During term time, about 30 children regularly attend the Breakfast Club. Some 50 children attend in the afternoon for their square meal of the day. Providing food is a daily essential which ensures better attendance levels at school and better concentration with schoolwork.

The food program is also provided outside the school term for those children who attend the holiday programs.

Centipede is constantly looking for funding to continue and enhance its food program. It relies on Government subsidies and a small group of supporters

When you next review your philanthropic spending, you might consider making a tax deductible financial donation to Centipede at Glebe School Inc, phone: 9692 0663, email: centipede. glebe@yahoo.com.au or Web: http://centipede.org.au.

- Liz Simpson-Booker

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The ambient levels measured here are judged by the WHO to be at the level of 'moderate annoyance'. Remember that any noise from this development will only exacerbate this situation.

The revised development proposal has not yet been finalised. The revised statement of undertakings that was previously offered by the proponents has not been forthcoming.

- Martin Lawrence

# The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Glebe Music Festival

The 22nd Annual Glebe Music Festival will comprise eight concerts from 4 to 27 November

Concert 1: Friday 4 November at 7pm, gleebooks (49 Glebe Point Road): Stars of Opera Australia David Corcoran and Margaret Plummer accompanied by pianist Kate Golla in Sonante English Art Songs (Britten Folksong, Copland songs, etc), musical theatre numbers and favourites from the 20th Century. Tickets \$20, concessions \$10, including food and drinks.

Concert 2: Saturday 5 November at 3pm, *Benledi* (186 Glebe Point Road): Victoria Jacono-Gilmovich (violin) and Giuseppe Zangari (guitar) in *Guivio Duo*. Free concert.

Concert 3: Sunday 6 November at 3pm, Great Hall, University of Sydney: Douglas Hollick (organ). A Musical Journey through Baroque Europe. Free concert.

Concert 4: Friday 11 November at 7.30pm, The Old Court House (corner of St Johns Road and Talfourd Street, Glebe): Rose McDonald, Ann Palumbo, Paul Laszlo and Tony Pyrzakowksi in *Rapt* with guest appearance by Ben Palumbo. Tickets \$15, concessions \$10).

Concert 5: Saturday 12 November at 3pm, *Margaretta Cottage*, 6 Leichhardt Street, Glebe Point: Emma Hunt (clarinet), Faeron Pileggi (flute) and Yirang Lim (piano) in ensemble *Trois*. Tickets \$40, concessions \$20 including food and drinks.

Concert 6: Saturday 12 November at 7pm, St James' Church (King Street, Sydney): Rachmaninov Vespers conducted by Anthony Pasquill. Tickets are available only from www.belacappella. org.au or at the door.

Concert 7: Sunday 13 November at 3pm, Record Reign Hall, corner St John's Road and Derwent Street, Glebe: the *Accordions Alfresco* is an ensemble drawn from members of the Accordion Society of Australia (ASA). Free concert.

Concert 8: Sunday 27 November at 3pm, St Scholastica's corner Avenue Road and Arcadia Road, Glebe: Coro Innominata in Magnificat! conducted by Wayne 'Sandy' Glass. A banquet of festive Baroque sound. Tickets at the door or from Coro Innominata.

Look for further information on www. glebemusicfestival.com.

#### Glebe Kidz Club

The Glebe Kidz Club is a new after-school program run by parents and carers in the Glebe community once a week. It welcomes parents and their primary age school children, along with younger siblings, who want to have fun, make friends, play games and engage in exciting activities such as cooking, craft, dance and drama. Afternoon tea is also provided. It is held at the St John's Centre, corner of St Johns Road and Derwent Street, Mondays from 3.15pm to 5pm, except during school holidays.

Entry is by gold coin donation.

The *Glebe Kidz Club* is supported by the Glebe Schools Community Centre (9566 1285), based at Glebe Public School.

For more information please feel free to contact Anna Makiaho on 0449 778 402.

#### Players in the Pub

Here are the next plays in the series of popular moved readings at the Toxteth Hotel.

Presented by members and friends of Sydney's New Theatre, these are not static readings but theatrical presentations using minimal props and furniture.

# 16 August - *I Do Not Like Thee, Dr Fell* by Bernard Farrell, directed by Maeliosa Stafford

A group therapy session viewed through the eyes of an Irish master of comedy, directed by his friend Maeliosa, an actor-director with a long list of credits in Australia and Ireland. Psychobabble, self discovery, cushions and group hugs.

#### 6 September (for History Week) - The Dead Must Not Return by Miles Franklin

A lively debate on the politics of war inspired by the tragic life of Miles' nephew Jack. Directed by Jocelyn Hedley with a cast from the NSW Central Coast.

**Tuesdays at 7pm** in the upstairs Media Room (enter via Ferry Road stairs) Toxteth Hotel, 345 Glebe Point Road. Free admission. Two main meals for one on Tuesdays - orders from 5.30pm.

- Lyn Collingwood

#### Glebe Events

### **David Gaunt wows crowd**



David Gaunt captured his audience with stories of the days when he and Roger Mackell battled to establish *gleebooks*, and also discussed the problems facing the modern day bookseller. Photo: Bruce Davis

Benledi's meeting room was filled to capacity on Friday 1 July, when David Gaunt, proprietor of gleebooks addressed new and old members of the Glebe Society. David talked at length about meeting many of Glebe's 'characters' in the late 1970s inside his bookshop at 191 Glebe Point Road. next door to Galuzzo's, or on the seat outside. Since he and his business partner Roger Mackell bought the former Dealatorium, at 49 Glebe Point Road, they have hosted hundreds of celebrities at talks and book launches. David also talked about the future of all bookshops, which are now in jeopardy.

gleebooks plays an important role in creating Glebe's unique identity, so David's talk was an ideal catalyst for the conversations that followed, with people who have recently joined getting to know more about the Society and meeting other members. At least one new member has already been recruited to help with a Society project, and we hope that others will follow her example.

We thank Dorothy Davis and her team for organising this event and arranging the delivery of hot pizzas and pide, just the right finger food for a winter evening.

- Edwina Doe

# Blue Wrens tree planting day

To celebrate Biodiversity Month, the City of Sydney, in conjunction with the Glebe Society's Blue Wren Group, is holding a planting event at Minogue Crescent and Lewis Hoad Reserves, Glebe (adjacent to the Police and Community Youth Club) on Sunday 4 September from 9am to 11am.

We will be planting a range of native shrubs and groundcover species to provide habitat for Superb Fairy-wrens and other small birds that have become scarce in Glebe and many other parts of Sydney. This will contribute to a network of habitat corridors that is being created in the Glebe and Forest Lodge areas.

Please come and join us, and bring your family and friends. Free morning tea will be provided.

#### What to bring:

- · Hat & sunscreen
- · Sturdy shoes
- Gardening gloves and trowel (if you have them; if not they will be provided).

Staff from the City of Sydney will be onsite to provide training in planting techniques, to answer any questions you have about native plants and animals, and to provide advice about habitat you can create in your own backyard.

- Andrew Wood

# Walk where no cars can follow

What do ballerinas, the Charge of the Light Brigade, and Benedictine monks have in common?

Find out when Neil Macindoe and Anton Crouch lead you on the new Pocket Parks Walk on Tuesday, 16 August at 10 am or Sunday, 21 August at 3 pm. This will be a preview of the sixth walk soon to be available on the Glebe Walks website. Go to www.glebewalks.com.au or follow the links from the Glebe Society website - check out the existing five walks if you haven't done so already!

This walk is steeper and more arduous than the five walks currently available on the Glebe Walks website, so wear sensible shoes and bring whatever you normally require for steps and slopes. The walk, with commentary, will take two hours.

The cost is by donation to cover the expense of preparing the walk for the website. There is a strict limit on numbers, so be early to avoid disappointment. Book by ringing the Events Coordinator, Dorothy Davis, on 9660 7873.

Meet your walk leaders at Kirsova No 3 Reserve, 1c Wigram Lane East, beside the Glebe Library car park.

- Jan Macindoe

#### Coming Glebe Society events

Here are some of the events which we are planning for the rest of the year. Look out for further details in coming *Bulletins*.

- September Visit to Coroner's Court
- October Wentworth Park Games
- Oct/Nov Malt Shovel Brewery (Glebe) beer tasting
- Walking tour art galleries in Glebe
- November guest speaker
- December Christmas Party

- Dorothy Davis

#### **News and Notes**

#### Thirsty Thursdays

Members and friends are invited to meet in restaurants in and around 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. Put these dates in your diary now.

**On Thursday 4 August** we will go *Lien* Vietnamese Malaysian Restaurant, 331 Glebe Point Road (opposite the Library).

**On Thursday 1 September** we will go to *Elizabeth's*, 175 Glebe Point Road.

**And on Thursday 6 October** we will go to a new resaurant with 'modern Italian cuisine' at 34 Glebe Point Road - *Sage on Glebe*.

Please email me or ring me on 9660 7066 by the Wednesday before the dinner to let me know if you are coming, or if you are likely to be late.

- Edwina Doe

#### Welcome to new members

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

- Betty Cornish
- Aref Karimi
- Andrew Sutchell
- Nicholas Langley
- · Paul and Chris Prasad

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

#### Leadlights walk

Due to the sudden death of our committee member David Mander-Jones, work on this project has been suspended for the time being. We hope to reschedule a walk next year, and ask you to watch future editions of the *Bulletin* for information.

#### Tuesday 9 August is Census night

Tech savvy members will be able to complete this year's census form online. The census, which is conducted by the Bureau of Statistics every five years, will be taken on the evening of Tuesday 9 August, and it is compulsory for all Australian households to participate.

## Coro Innominata. Supreme Serenity, a Liszt Bicentennial

This is an afternoon of uplifting romantic choral music celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Franz Liszt:

3pm, Sunday 7 August, All Saints Anglican Church, 85 Ocean Street, Woollahra.

See www.innominata.org for more information.

#### **Upcoming exhibitions at Gallery Red**

29 July –16 August: *Kung Fu & Ray-Gun*, recent works by Michael Gunadi, Jason Phu & Tom Rae.

19 - 30 August: *Mileage*, recent photographs by Matthew Syres.

**Gallery Red,** Shop 11, 131-145 Glebe Point Road. Gallery Hours are Monday - Friday 10am - 5pm, Saturdays by appointment.

# Reprise at the Glass Artists' Gallery - Wayne Pearson

68 Glebe Point Road. Show dates 26 July - 14 August. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 1-5pm.

The **Reprise** exhibition is drawn from work presented as part of Wayne Pearson's recent Ph.D. work at Sydney College of the Arts. *Engaging the glass - From its Stories to the Forms of our Desire*. The exhibition is in two parts, *Voices in the Glass*, selected from over 30 reverse painted, fired glass enamel portraits of people involved in Australian studio glass and *Nebulous Landscapes*, *a* series of cast crystal sculptures.

An excellent opportunity to be able to appreciate this fine, outstanding body of work which revives a traditional glass technique rarely used in recent times.

#### Would you like a sewing machine?

A Brother sewing machine, almost never used, is going free to a good home. Phone Edwina on 9660 7066.

#### **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 ...

Thursday 4 August, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – Lien, 331 Glebe Point Road. See page 10.

Tuesday 9 August – Census night.

Wednesday 10 August, 7.30pm – Management Committee meeting, 115 Mitchell Street.

Tuesday 16 August, 10am – Pocket Park Walk. Meet beside the Glebe Library car park. See page 9.

Tuesday 16 August, 7pm – Players in the Pub, Toxteth Hotel. See page 8.

Sunday 21 August, 3pm – Pocket Park Walk. Meet beside the Glebe Library car park. See page 9

Sunday 29 August, 11am - Glebe Society Annual General Meeting, Benledi.

**Thursday 1 September, 7pm** – Thirsty Thursday – *Elizabeth's*, 175 Glebe Point Road. See page 10.

Sunday 4 September, 9 - 11am. – Tree Planting at Minogue Crescent and Lew Hoad Reserve. See page 9.

Tuesday 6 September, 7pm – Players in the Pub, Toxteth Hotel. See page 8.

Wednesday 14 September, 7.30pm – Management Committee meeting, 115 Mitchell Street.

Sunday 16 October, 11am - 2pm – Wentworth Park Community Games

Thursday 6 October, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday – Sage on Glebe, 34 Glebe Point Road. See page 10.

Friday 4 to Sunday 27 November – 22nd Annual Glebe Music Festival. See page 8.

# 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, within the Guidelines published on our website. 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 August. The deadline for contributions is **Wednesday 17 August.** 

# The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

#### **Management Committee:**

President	Liz Simpson-Booker	9518 6186
Vice-president	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
Immediate Past President	Lesley Lynch	9660 5084
Correspondence Secretary	Vicky Marquis	9552 2592
Acting Minute Secretary	Jan Macindoe	9660 0208
Treasurer	Bruce Davis	9660 7873

#### **Committee Members:**

Mairéad Browne 9552 2888, Dorothy Davis 9660 7873, Carole Herriman 9571 9092, Margaret Sheppard 9660 4121

#### **Sub-committee Convenors:**

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

Arts, Culture and Media	Sue Ingram	9692 8534
	e	
Bays and Foreshores	Tony Larkum	9660 7030
Community Development	Robyn Kemmis	9692 9440
The Environment	Jan Macindoe	9660 0208
Heritage	Carole Herriman	9571 9092
Membership	Cheryl and Bryan Herden	9660 7371
Planning	Neil Macindoe	9660 0208
Transport and Traffic	Andrew Craig	9566 1746
Other contacts:		
Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930

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Archivist	Lyn Milton	9660 7930
Blackwattle Cove Coalition (BCC)	Bruce Davis	9660 7873
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
Website	Phil Young	9692 9583

#### In this issue

- Walter Burley Griffin meeting room reopens page 1
- Heritage Fleet may not move page 2
- 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting pages 3-6
- Vale David Mander-Jones page 7
- Glebe community matters page 8
- Glebe events page 9



Postage paid

#### Membership of the Glebe Society

Individual member	\$45
Joint (2 people, one address)	\$55
<b>Household</b> (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, click on Join), write to the Secretary at PO Box 100, Glebe, 2037, or email secretary@glebesociety.org.au.

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

#### **Community Contacts**

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

Office: Glebe Library - 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

Phone: 9298 3191

Email: nhe spe@city of sydney.nsw.gov. au

**Sydney City Council Customer Service** 

Telephone (24 hours): 9265 9333

email: council@cityof sydney.nsw.gov.au website: www.cityof sydney.nsw.gov.au

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

Waterway Garbage: NSW Maritime response - 9563 8592