

About the online Glebe Society Bulletin ...

How to view the online Bulletin

The pages of the online *Bulletin* are almost identical to the printed version except for the use of colour.

You can use the index (*In this issue*) on this page to jump to individual stories, or you can scroll through the edition using the scroll wheel on your mouse, or the page-up/page-down keys on your keyboard. To return to the index, click on the blue triangle at the bottom of any page. The online *Bulletin* also has links that take you to websites or email addresses when you click on them. The layout is optimised for wide screen monitors so you can read two pages together.

Do you have some pictures of Glebe that others should see?

Do you have some digital images that you believe others would be interested in? If so, email editor@glebesociety.org.au, and we'll assess them for a centre page spread in the Society's online *Bulletin*.

Membership of the Glebe Society

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

Download a membership form from our website (www.glebesociety.org.au, click on Membership > New membership), 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-Friday.

Phone: 9298 3191.

Email: nhespe@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Sydney City Council Customer Service

Telephone (24 hours): 9265 9333

Email: council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Dumped Shopping trolleys: Trolley Tracker 1800 641 497

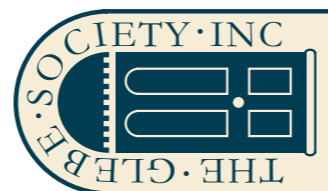
Harold Park: Mirvac hotline for residents 9080 8588

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Glebe Society Bulletin



10/2012 November/December

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Society supports residents on super yacht marina expansion

The Glebe Society has strongly supported local residents who have demanded major changes to Sydney Superyacht Marina's proposal in Rozelle Bay. (See the Glebe Society's submission on website <http://glebesociety.org.au/wordpress/?p=6063>.) The proposal, while amended somewhat from the original version, still has aspects which are in conflict with key planning principles consistently supported by the community and inconsistent with the existing maritime activity zoning of the Bay. It seems to be a clear example of private benefit overriding public good.

In its submission, the Society states:

We agree with the main objections put forward by these Glebe residents that:

1. *The proposal and the Environmental Assessment Report fail to take account of the very significant impact of the proposed development on the local residents and the multitude of people who use the parkland and bay walk opposite the proposed development.*



Artist's impression of the redeveloped super yacht marina.

2. *The impact of noise from the proposed development is untenable but has not been adequately considered.*

3. *The consultation process has been inadequate, particularly during the development of the EA document.*

4. *The proposal and the design are not 'fit for purpose' and are not consistent with the Master Plan and the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan's (SREP No. 26) main criteria for commercial maritime usage.*

Meanwhile, in Blackwattle Bay the DA for the B1 and B2 foreshore sites adjoining the Fish Market in is in active development. The future location of the Hanson's concrete batching activity, currently in Blackwattle Bay, is under discussion with considerable implications for future possibilities – and major implications - for residents living on White Bay as well as the Blackwattle Bay.

- Lesley Lynch

The disappearing Task Force report

Sadly this is yet another non-report on the outcomes of the bays Precinct Task Force. It was submitted to the Minister at the end of July to meet the very tight timeframe set by Government. The Minister reconvened the Task Force for one meeting in August to discuss the report and reveal that a decision had been taken to use Glebe Island as a temporary site for ongoing activities while Darling Harbour Convention and Entertainment Centre is redeveloped. The Minister assured the Task Force of his interest in the report and indicated it would go to Cabinet for government consideration. In the meantime Task Force members were asked to maintain confidentiality in relation to the recommendations of the Task Force Report.

Both Jane Marceau and I have observed that confidentiality and have not distributed the Report or discussed its recommendations in any detail. As far as I know, both the City of Sydney and Leichhardt Councils have also not distributed the report.

However this situation is increasingly frustrating. There has been no feedback of any kind from Government; we are not able to brief our community groups adequately on possible outcomes – good or bad – from the Report, and meanwhile one-off development decisions continue without any weight being given to community supported planning principles and priorities for the Bays Precinct that were presented to the Task Force and to the earlier Bays Precinct Community Reference Group.

We are forced to react to these decisions as they emerge without the benefit of any strategic overview for the bays future uses – despite years of discussion.

- Lesley Lynch

What's coming soon

Friday 7 December, 7-9pm – Christmas Party and Raffle at St Barnabas (upper storey). See p11.

Saturday 8 December, 1.30-3pm – Parks workshop, St Scholastica's College, Avenue Road, Glebe. See p5.

'Ed the ed' retires after 10 years at the helm

At the Glebe Society's 2002 Christmas Party, Bruce Davis took me aside and offered me the position of *Bulletin* Editor. Bruce was the Glebe Society Treasurer, as well as *Bulletin* Editor. I had been Editor in the 1980s, in the 'cut and stick' era. Now I would have to learn desktop publishing, but I had been retired for a few months and had enough spare time.

Bruce taught me to use PageMaker and Photoshop, and has continued to act as Layout and Pictorial Editor, even when he and Dorothy were living in Paris. Of the 100 *Bulletins* from 1/2003 to 10/2012, Bruce has edited about three or four, when I was on holiday. He prints all the address labels, too.

There have been many contributors to these 100 *Bulletins*. Neil Macindoe's *Planning Matters* have appeared in almost every issue. Liz Simpson-Booker's *From the Terraces* appeared for many years and have reappeared recently. Lyn Collingwood has researched and written dozens of *Who Lived in Your Street* articles, several of which jogged readers' memories. The idea for *Who Lived in Your Street* stories was suggested by John Gray, who offered a prize for the best one published in 2004. Lyn won the prize that year. Presidents and Sub-

committee Convenors have provided detailed monthly and annual reports, which form a valuable archive of the Glebe Society's history and activities.

Other people are unsung heroes. Bobbie Burke has designed dozens of flyers. Over the years, the late



Edwina Doe. Photo: Bruce Davis

Cynthia Jones, Ian Edwards and currently Martin Lawrence have been diligent proofreaders. The mail out team changes, but there is always a venue and enough people to label and tape the *Bulletins*. My thanks to you all.

I left the *Bulletin* layout basically unchanged, but have made a few subtle changes over the years. There is now an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN 1836-599X) on the front page. 'Established 1969' appears on the inside back page. Members were offered the choice of receiving *Bulletins* by email or snail mail, although very few chose the email version. At the beginning of this year, pictures in colour were introduced in the Website and email versions of the *Bulletin*.

Last year, I decided that a decade is long enough for the editor and for the Glebe Society. At the end of this year, I am pleased to hand over to our new Editor, Virginia Simpson-Young, who will be supported by the other members of the newly formed Communications Working Group.

The change gives a great opportunity to take advantage of new technology to reduce the manual effort and time needed by simplifying the layout. So expect a *Bulletin* with a very different appearance next for the next issue, 1/2013 in February. I look forward to receiving it.

- Edwina Doe

Better Planning Network

A new group, the Inner City Better Planning Network (BPN), held a very well-attended open community meeting on 23 October at Redfern Town Hall.

The Better Planning Network was established in response to the changes proposed in the long-anticipated state government Green paper *A New Planning System for New South Wales*. The BPN is supported by over 50* groups across the state. In addition to the Glebe Society, the groups supporting the forum include 2011 Residents' Association Inc, Alexandria Residents Action Group, Chippendale Residents Interest Group, Darlinghurst Residents Action Group, Friends of Erskineville, REDWATCH and Pyrmont Action Inc.

The BPN has outlined a multi-pronged campaign (which the Glebe Society has been promoting) as well as preparing detailed submissions on the Green paper and anticipating the need to take action following the publication of a White Paper early in the new year.

You can find out more on the BPN website <http://betterplanningnetwork.good.do/>

- Jan Wilson and Mairéad Browne

* The number is growing. On 26 November the BPN website said 'We currently have over 100 community groups formally affiliated with us, and more are joining us every day'.

President's Page

Bernard Smith symposium

The University of Sydney organised a symposium in honour of Professor Bernard Smith's work and invited members of the Glebe Society to the Friday evening speech by Max Solling and conversation over drinks and supper. When I looked around the room and saw past Presidents remembering significant campaigns I felt like a boy cricketer at nets practice with the First Grade. It struck me how much the Society has achieved and how vital it is that we capture stories of these campaigns. I met the Smith family and was able to convey the respect of all of us to this man's achievements and to tell them that the City of Sydney has agreed to name a Glebe lane after him.

Unfortunately the Symposium was arranged by the University on the same night as the opening of the Glebe Music Festival. This clash meant that several people missed one or the other function.

Retiring Editor

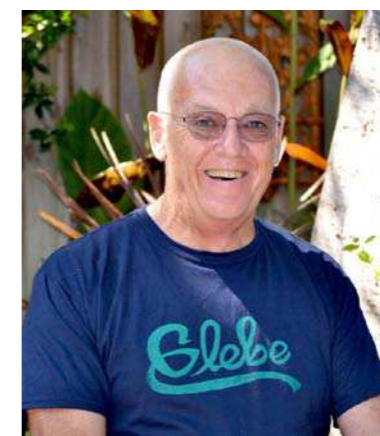
This is the final *Bulletin* for the year and it is particularly significant as it is the last for our Editor, Edwina Doe, Ed the Ed. Maybe in the last edition of a decade of her *Bulletins* our Editor will let me slip in some doggerel.

*No more writers for me to preen
No poor grammar for me to screen
No layout blues, no deadline
schmooze
Oh wouldn't it be lovely.*

Thanks Edwina.

Gift List

James has been selling the *Big Issue* in Glebe for almost twelve years.



John Gray. Photo: Di Gray

He tells me that prior to this he slept rough in places like Belmore Park and during winter on the Lithgow train. He now rents in Glebe. Buy several copies of the *Big Issue* from James and give them as gifts.

Centipede looks after kids before and after School, gives them a feed, helps with homework, provides activities. You can give someone membership of Friends of Centipede or convince a corporation to become a Friend. See <http://www.centipede.org.au/friends-of-centipede.html>

Give membership of the Glebe Society.

Resolution list

- Volunteer for one small task with the Glebe Society.
- Be alert but not alarmed. When Sydney dozes during summer, all manner of announcements and calls for public comment are made. Email president@glebesociety.org.au
- Propose one idea to make Glebe and the Glebe Society better.

Glebe Matters

On behalf of the Society I wrote to every Member of Parliament in the NSW Legislative Council, asking them to reject or significantly review the Environment Planning Act Amendment Act. If passed as

sent from the Legislative Assembly it would have nullified Development Controls of Councils, which are prepared after community engagement. As *Planning Matters* explains, the EPA Amendment Act was ameliorated due to very rapid community response.

The Society made submissions on the NSW Draft Long Term Transport Plan and the report from Infrastructure NSW. In the main we support the Transport Plan but note that aspects of Infrastructure will preclude implementing it and the City of Sydney's *Connecting our City* plan which the Society has endorsed.

The Society wrote to the Planning Assessment Commission and objected to the proposed super yacht marina and entertainment premises in Rozelle Bay. We deplored the piecemeal development of our bays in the absence of sensitive strategic planning.

I wrote to the Premier and reminded him that the Bays Precinct Task Force had been formed to achieve strategic planning for our bays; that the community had participated in consultations and was dismayed that the report which was submitted in August has not yet been released.

John Gray

Help us communicate

As our retiring *Bulletin* Editor points out on p.2, a Communications Working Group has been formed to review and, where appropriate, revamp the way the Society communicates.

Its scope includes not only the *Bulletin*, but also the website and other forms of mass communication. If you would like to help email editor@glebesociety.org.au for more information.

Bulletin Editors

Bobbie Burke (1998-2001)
Bruce Davis (2002)
Edwina Doe (1983-5, 1988, 2003-2012)
Gwen Geschmay (1986-7)
Merle Larcombe (1980-1)
Jeremy Long (1989-93)
Jan Macindoe (1981-2, 1993-7)
Ted McKeown (1973-4)
David Reeve (1977-8)
Joey Rowden (1975-6)
Eric Sandblom (1979)
Virginia Simpson-Young (2013-)
Belinda Weaver (1983)
Vernon Winley (1971-3)

From the Terraces

Celebrating Sandstone

One of my great-grandfathers was a stonemason who reputedly worked on the Farm Cove seawall and St Andrews Cathedral. In perhaps what could be described as ecumenical even-handedness, family legend has it that his brother, also a stonemason, worked on St Marys Cathedral. For immigrant masons, there was certainly plenty of work during the building booms of the 1830s, 1850s and 1880s.

The artisanal hierarchy of stonemasons begins with rubble masons, then rises to bench masons (from Fr. *banque* meaning table, upon which they worked), fixer masons and, at the peak of their craft, carvers and sculptors.

The embellishments created by these master masons grace many of the honey-hued sandstone buildings that define Sydney's city centre. The GPO, the QVB and the Lands Department buildings, for example, spring immediately to mind but the city is replete with examples.

Glebe has its own more modest but notable sandstone buildings. These include, inter alia, St John's Bishopthorpe, the former Presbyterian Church (aka *The Abbey*), *Toxteth Lodge*, *Margaretta Cottage* and *Leichhardt Lodge*. When next you find yourself on foot in Cook Street, pause a moment to admire the beautiful walls of the original stables behind the latter two buildings.

However, walking anywhere in Glebe one is conscious of the enormous contribution sandstone makes as an *adjunct* building material in the form of foundations or footings, pillars, plinths, fences, fountains, gateposts, steps, decorative friezes and footpath curbs. Sandstone, both *in situ* and as a built form (eg, walls and retaining walls) also can be found in many of Glebe's parks. Foley Park can now boast both old and newly-quarried sandstone as a result of the recent upgrade.

Glebe's undulating topography has also necessitated, in some places, the building of retaining walls, the largest and most striking of which forms a major portion of Glebe's southern boundary. This heritage-listed retaining wall, topped by a palisade fence between the Chapman Steps near Ross Street and the Footbridge, was built in the latter part of the 19th century, after Parramatta Road was realigned. Despite the thousands of vehicles which whiz past it every day, these tiers of rusticated sandstone contribute to one of the more

Photos taken at St John's Church by Phil Young

visually tranquil sections of Parramatta Road.

Ross Street traffic also whizzes past the sandstone retaining walls at its intersection with Bridge Road. It is only when stopped at a red light, that an opportunity affords to admire the sheer enormity of the physical enterprise involved in the building of such structures: the extraction of the blocks, the transportation, the



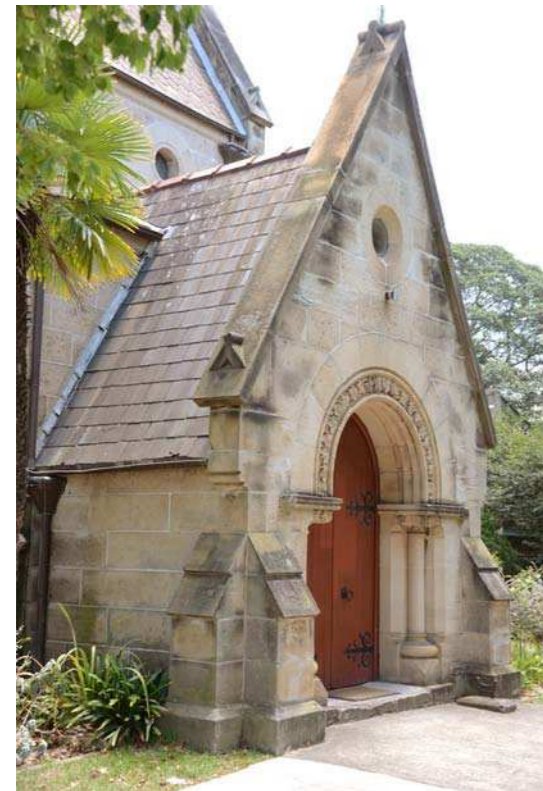
handiwork of the masons in rusticating the stone, the positioning, the colour and texture of the sandstone and the way light falls on the surfaces at different times of

the day. Today, similar retaining walls would, doubtless, be built of concrete blocks: mechanically replicated, grey and soul-less.

It has been suggested that, for Sydneysiders, sandstone gives us a sense of place in a way in which glass, concrete and steel never can, (Gary Deirmendjian, *Sydney Sandstone*, Craftsman House, 2002).

May I suggest, Gentle Reader, that as you walk Glebe to counter the effects of the festive season, you might indulge in your own bit of sandstone spotting.

- Liz Simpson-Booker



Planning Matters

Toxteth Hotel

The hotel asked for a review of the City's decision to refuse outdoor seating. The City reaffirmed its refusal.

Defend the Defender

The NSW Cabinet is currently considering reducing the funding for the Environmental Defender's Office, which provides legal support for citizens concerned about the impact of development on the environment. The Society has written to the relevant ministers asking for at least the current level of funding to be maintained.

Back from the Brink

Planning issues are often difficult for members to understand. The story below is an attempt to explain how a recent near disaster has been averted.

The new NSW Government has to compete with the resource-rich states of Western Australia and Queensland for investment. Development in NSW, especially in the largest sector, the construction industry, is in the doldrums. Developers are lobbying the new government to make development approvals easier.

Broadly, there are two types of developers. One type, probably the majority, simply want the outcomes of their proposals to be faster and more predictable. The other type are more opportunistic, and want to challenge the rules of councils to enable them to develop more profitably.

The Government issued a Green Paper for discussion proposing controversial changes to the existing legislation. The response of the Society is on the website. The changes are fundamental and would require years to implement. The more op-

portunistic developers lobbied for an immediate change.

This came to the Legislative Assembly on Thursday 8 November, in the form of an amendment to the Act that would enable developers to ignore council Development Control Plans. These are the plans that give the detail of each area, and lay down rules to protect the environment, resident amenity and heritage. For example, how close you can build to your neighbour, and how your privacy must be protected, are all in these DCPs.

The Government forced the Amendment through the Assembly late on the Thursday evening. We were alerted at once by the Better Planning Network, an alliance of ninety resident groups the Society joined in September to ensure the Government considered residents' views.

It was clear that if the Amendment passed the Upper House (Legislative Council) it would become law, and protection for residents would be seriously undermined.

Members of the Network sprang into action. The Society wrote to all Members of the Upper House, and the President and I met with the leader of the Greens, David Shoebridge, on Monday, 12 November. The actions of the Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, and her planners seem to have been particularly effective, pointing out how the DCPs reflected and extended the objectives of the CityPlan, and the extent of community consultation and research that underpinned them.

As a result the Amendment was changed on 16 November to give weight to DCPs, and the onus is no longer on councils to justify their plans, provided their rules support their objectives. This is currently the case with all City DCPs. Where council DCPs are properly supported there should be little change.

There is already room for some flexibility to consider alternatives that meet the objectives of the DCP. This includes Heritage DCPs.

So we can all breathe a sigh of relief! However, it is a salutary reminder of how strong the developer lobby can be, and how carefully we need to monitor the actions of the Government. We now need to concentrate on the next step, which is the preparation of a White Paper on which new planning laws will be based. Fortunately there seems to be broad agreement between resident groups and some influential councils about the need to retain the rights of residents to participate in decision making and to object to inappropriate proposals.

- Neil Macindoe

Parklands workshop

A community workshop to report on Sydney City Council's plans for Glebe's parklands will be held at St Scholastica's College, 2-4 Avenue Road, Glebe on Saturday, 8 December 2012 from 1.30pm to 3pm.

The Council is creating a long-term plan for the parklands around Johnstons Creek. The plan will help link Bicentennial and Federal parks near the Glebe foreshore with future open spaces at The Crescent in Annandale, 'The Hill' near the Federal Park light-rail station and the new parklands and community space that will be part of Harold Park.

Announcing the workshop, the Lord Mayor, Cr Clover Moore, said 'We consulted with the local community on how you use these parks... We are now ready to report back on this consultation and present strategies and options which will help inform the draft master plan.'

For further information browse to <http://sydneyyoursay.com.au/johnstons-creek-parklands>.

Bernard Smith honoured

Bernard Smith remembered at 'wake'

More than twenty Glebe Society members, several of notable vintage, joined others from the University of Sydney's Symposium on the life and work of Bernard Smith at the celebratory wake held on the upper level of the Toxteth Hotel on Friday 9 November.

We reminisced over drinks and nibbles, and were taken back to the 'old days' by Max Solling's talk about Bernard and the early days of the Glebe Society. The idea of a meeting in a pub was a novelty for the academic organisers of the seminar, but it was endorsed as a rousing success.

We took the opportunity to present Kate Challis, Kate and Bernard Smith's granddaughter, with a copy of Max's book on the history of Glebe, *Grandeur and Grit*, signed by the author, which she was delighted to receive.

John Dengate concluded the evening with a rousing rendition of a good old activist song.

Vale Bernard. You won't be forgotten.

- Jeanette Knox



Some of the crowd at Bernard's 'wake'. Photo: David Browne

Max Solling's talk

Here is an extract from the talk Bernard Smith as Activist that Max Solling gave at the 'wake'. The full text is published on the Glebe Society Website, at <http://glebesociety.org.au/wordpress/?p=350>.

... On a number of occasions I walked with Bernard around Glebe's streets, often on Saturday afternoons, engaging in discussion as to how and when development took place from neighbourhood to neighbourhood, and anomalies on the landscape. After soaking up the built environment and an immediate sense of the past, Bernard's acute original thinking was on display, open to ideas and possibilities, able to make complex connections. Our conversations ranged across a broad spectrum with Bernard's intellectual vigour and insights opening up new ways of looking at things; few thought Glebe had anything worth writing about, but we did, and it was great to share my enthusiasms with kindred spirits.

Bernard later urged a broader base for local history to develop - an historical society, a local history journal, photographers to create a visual inventory, a museum for local antiquities, archaeological digs and so on. The first issue of the *Leichhardt Historical Journal* in 1971 was

greeted enthusiastically by the Smiths. An unformed collection of materials was being welded in the crucible of Bernard's fertile mind where the idea of an architectural history was taking shape and I was happy they found my Glebe thesis of some value for their planned book.

At the end of 1948,

when Glebe lost its municipal identity and came within the enlarged boundaries of the City Council, its municipal records fared badly. Most of its correspondence was destroyed and other records ended up in diverse locations. The minute books later went from Glebe to Leichhardt, its rate books, crucial for dating local houses, were located unkempt in the bowels of Sydney Town Hall, and a submission was made for their transfer to the then Archives Office of NSW. Photographs of Glebe aldermen were recovered from a disused Darlington air raid shelter. Once these sources were tracked down, other complementary research materials - Sands' directories, Sydney Subdivision boxes, tenders, land titles and a miscellaneous collection of plans - were evaluated in the quest for accuracy in house dating. Kate worked through the Glebe rate books in a systematic way, filling her notebooks with data, painstaking labour meticulously recorded in the footnotes and printed sources.

Bernard wrote the text of the Glebe book in close collaboration with Kate, locating buildings in a taxonomy of styles - colonial Georgian, Regency, Victorian Gothic, Italianate and the notion of a fifth style, Federation, which he promulgated, flourished in the country immediately before the federation of the Australian colonies. Their *Architectural Character of Glebe*, published in 1973, was a seminal work tracing the stylistic evolution of the Australian terrace. But the work did more than define and defend the architectural fabric of Glebe. The book's introduction was a polemical defence of a threatened inner-city neighbourhood, a form of consciousness-raising, designed to show us the rich heritage we had but taken for granted. They urged

Continued on next page ...

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legislative protection for Glebe as part of safeguarding 'a future and more civilised Australia', and their book gathered together hard evidence for the National Trust to list Glebe as a Conservation Area in 1974. The idea of a historic building, one to be restored so far as possible to its original state and shored up against the ravages of time, is a comparatively recent concept. The first piece of Australian legislation was Victoria's Historic Buildings Act 1974 and in 1977 NSW passed the Heritage Act. ...

See also *Bulletin* 8/2011, p.4-5, for Max Solling's article *Kate and Bernard Smith*.

The end of the Mixing Pot?

There was a flyer in my mail box recently announcing an on-site auction at 11am on Saturday 24 November at 178-180 St Johns Road Glebe. When I Googled the address, I realised it was for the *Mixing Pot*.

For many years this was an iconic Italian restaurant, and was the place where tiramisu was introduced to Australia. The Thirsty Thursday group had dinner there on 6 September and it was a disaster - extremely slow service and disappointing food.

Now there is a notice in the window: 'These premises have been vacated by law. Trespasses (*sic*) will be prosecuted'. The place probably closed soon after our visit.

I went to the auction. The restaurant was like the *Marie Celeste*. There were white cloths and upside down wine glasses on the table, and knives and forks in the cutlery box, waiting to be set out.

I was expecting a crowd, but apart from the Real Estate people, there were about ten adults and several children. The sale was for the two cottages on separate title but in one line. The bidding opened at \$1.2m

(+GST), and the auctioneer almost laughed. Eventually the same bidder said \$1.3m. Then there was a private discussion and a \$1.4m vendor bid and that was the end of proceedings for now. It all seemed very sad. The premises alone were surely worth more than \$1.4m. Houses in Glebe pretty much start at \$1 million each.

- Edwina Doe

Late night opening for Glebe Library in 2013

In December 2011, COGG (Coalition of Glebe Groups) wrote to Monica Barone CEO, City of Sydney about the possibility of Late Night Opening for Glebe Library. Consistent with the City of Sydney's policy of making Libraries open and accessible, there are plans to extend the program to all branches. City of Sydney is intending to open Glebe library in July 2013 for a series of night events. This concept adds value to safety and vibrancy for people on the streets and supporting local restaurants. To support this concept, hours of opening would be later to allow people to dine before going to the Library.

Given the location of Glebe Library and its limited space, it is intended to use the outdoor area and the front room of *Benledi* House and the library space where possible. The City's research indicates that the majority of users are people aged 50 plus, and mothers with small children. Hence, there is a very large number of people in between who do not access the Library. There has been early discussion with City of Sydney staff to explore the type of events and hours of opening.

There will be further consultation with Glebe community to assess interests and type of events. Your comments and feedback would be appreciated.

- Jan Wilson
janwil@bigpond.com
Chair COGG

Letter to the Editor



Dear Editor

Congratulations and thanks to the small group of members who considered ways of supporting *Centipede*, the out-of-school-hours care program at Glebe Public School, and who came up with the great idea of setting up *Friends of Centipede*.

The launch at the Glebe Rowing Club on Friday 2 November was a great success in every way - the donated artworks, the good food and wine assisting the success of the auction, and the energy and enthusiasm of the room boosting our sense of the community that is Glebe.

I know that fundraising is needed to keep *Centipede* viable, but I'm hoping the Friends will be asked to do more than that.

Bobbie Burke

Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol

18-23 December 2012 at 7pm and 22-23 December at 3pm.

\$10 preview Monday 17 December at 7pm (door sales only).

The return of *Players in the Pub's* most popular show in the historic stone chapel at Newington College Stanmore, where there's plenty of parking in the school grounds.

Bookings: 1300 347 205 or newtheatre.org.au. All tickets \$15; door sales cash only.

- Lyn Collingwood



Alan Faulkner as Scrooge and Max Collingwood as Tiny Tim. Photo: Patricia Baillie

Who lived in your street?

The article on the Glebe Estate in the last Bulletin reminded Lyn Collingwood of the history of one of its buildings, 55 Westmoreland Street.

John (ca 1830-82) and Mary (ca 1837-97) Mullavey

The exterior of the freestanding dwelling at 55 Westmoreland Street has been little altered since it ceased functioning as a hotel in 1906. John Mullavey opened the Toxteth Park Hotel in 1873, its licence and the leasehold of the building passing in 1882 to his widow who ran the pub until her own death 15 years later.

John Mullavey (sometimes spelt 'Mulavey' or 'Malavey') was publican of the University Hotel (now University Hall) at the junction of Parramatta and Glebe Point roads from 1870 to 1872. He also owned the Honest Irishman and the Gulgong in Waterloo. Despite police objections that there were already enough pubs in the neighbourhood, Mullavey was granted a publican's licence for the Westmoreland Street property in an area increasing in housing density.

Mullavey's property was valued at £665 at the time of his death at the age of 52 on 8 July 1882. He left a widow Mary and 13-year old son James. Mary died aged 60 on 19 May 1897, her only child having predeceased her at age 20. James died at home on 12 May 1889, a day after returning from Albury where he may have been visiting his cousins. His mother, who placed a newspaper advertisement in an attempt to make contact with the 'delicate' young man's fellow train traveller, expressed her grief in memorial verses: 'My son is gone, I saw him go/I stood and heard him speak/And when I heard his dying words/I thought my heart would break'.

Like several other Glebe hotelkeepers, John and Mary Mullavey were Irish-born and Roman Catholic. She was a native of Newry. John came from Derrycasan, Templeport



55 Westmoreland Street Glebe. Photo: Phil Young

parish, County Cavan. John, James and Mary Mullavey were buried in Petersham cemetery attached to St Thomas's church, a favoured resting place for Sydney people of Irish descent.

After Mary's death the Toxteth Park Hotel was put up for auction together with land she owned at Granville. The Glebe property, with a frontage of 40 feet and a depth of 120 feet, included the slate-roofed ten-room main building with bathroom and kitchen, detached washhouse, three horse stalls and a coach house. On the Westmoreland Lane border was a four-room cottage (dating from 1874) which had been separately rented out. Mary's nephew Thomas O'Shaughnessy lived on the premises in 1898 and George Burton the next year. John Manning, a long-term resident of the hotel, was its licensee from 1900 until 1905. Benjamin Long, Mrs Clara Simpson and Robert Clisdell then briefly held licences. In 1906 plans for alterations and additions were drawn up by architect E S Garton (to whom Australia's first female architect Florence Taylor had been articulated) but in November that year, following the liquidation of the Australian Brewery and Wine and Spirit Company, the property was put up

for auction by Hardie and Gorman. Advertised as admirably suited to any business 'requiring good yard accommodation', it was sold in May 1907.

The large yard, stables and rear lane access were ideal for horse dealer George Charlton who moved from 112 Glebe Road to the now unlicensed premises with his wife Winifred and children Harriet Alice, George junior and William Henry, the sons both horse cab drivers. George senior (who sometimes used the fuller surname Charlton de Saintonge, claiming lineage through Eliza Collingwood, a cousin of the Lord Admiral, who had married the Count De Saintonge) died in 1915 and his wife in 1921, but members of the Charlton family were still in residence at 55 Westmoreland Street at the time of William's death in 1937. Twenty seven years earlier 'Bill' had survived a spectacular accident when his horse bolted from a Martin Place cab rank and charged towards Circular Quay, knocking over flower stalls and colliding with a light pole, and dragging its driver over Pitt Street's wooden road blocks.

- Lyn Collingwood

Sources:

1891 census
Dictionary of Sydney website
NSW birth, death, marriage registry
NSW cemetery records
NSW electoral rolls
Sands Directories
Sydney Morning Herald various issues including 12.2.1873, 1.3.1873, 29.3.1873, 26.7.1873, 21.10.1873, 8.4.1874, 9.7.1882, 10.8.1882, 14.3.1885, 19.9.1888, 16.5.1889, 15.11.1889, 16.10.1897, 21.5.1903, 14.5.1907, 19.5.1910, 15.5.1915, 11.12.1937

The Glebe Street Fair

In case you missed it (impossible if you were anywhere near Glebe on the day!), the 29th Glebe Street Fair was on Sunday 18 November. This is a non-profit event run by the Glebe Chamber of Commerce and this year, for the first time, organised by The Corporate Butterfly.

It was an extremely successful day with around 100,000 people walking along a crowded Glebe Point Road to peruse more than 250 stalls, watch the stage and street performers and participate in the games at various locations down Glebe Point Road. Main stages were operating at Parramatta Road and St Johns Road, games and activities for kids were held at Glebe Public School and many activities like pony rides, zumba dancing and *tai chi* were held in Foley Park. The atmosphere was colourful and electric with a real festival atmosphere permeating the main street of Glebe.

Many local businesses participated with stalls out the front of their shops and many of the local restaurants seemed to be full with visitors to the fair.

The Glebe Society hosted a 'Glebe Community Stall' with participation from Glebe Youth Services, Glebe Community Development Project, Glebe Schools as Community Care and 2RPH (the local radio reading network for people with print disability). The people at the stall distributed information about the local groups and programs. The stall had concrete actions to raise awareness in the community on two specific issues: the changes to the NSW state planning laws to reduce community say in development proposals and the proposed super yacht marina developments that will have negative effects on the amenity of the foreshore parks and the lives of nearby residents (see elsewhere in this *Bulletin* for more on each of these). The stall also promoted the Glebe Walks initiative with many visitors and new arrivals in Glebe specifically approaching the stall to find out more about these. The stall had a very steady stream of interested residents and visitors and there was not a dull moment.

The Cure For Life Foundation, which was started by neurosurgeon

Dr Charlie Teo to help fund advancements in the search for a cure for brain cancer, hosted a Tug of War between the NSW Furies and citizens (helped out by some of the Wests Tigers). This was a best-of-three competition which the citizens won 2-1, though given the sheer size and power of the Furies, this did seem to have been due to the kindness of the Furies rather than the strength of the citizens.

Volunteers from the Glebe community helped out on the day including welcoming stall holders with a smiling face at 6am (not easy) and walking the streets providing information to lost visitors. Tommy's Beer Café provided free pig rolls and straight-from-the-oven pretzels for the volunteers.

Next year will be the 30th street fair so expect a big one. We are likely to have a bigger street volunteer presence so keep your eyes out for the request for volunteers in the months before. If you want to get your name down now for it, email bsimyo@gmail.com.

- Bill Simpson-Young



Some of the estimated 100,000 people who strolled along Glebe Point Road during the Glebe Street Fair. Photo: Bill Simpson-Young

Concert in St John's Church

As a part of the Glebe Street Fair on 18 November, we had the opportunity to meet a real live composer at the concert in St John's Church.

George Palmer is a former NSW Supreme Court judge turned composer. He wrote a piece called *Black, White and a little Blue*, a sonata for clarinet and piano, as a wedding present for his young friends, clarinettist David Rowden and pianist Maria Raspopova, who performed the work.

The concert also included a clarinet sonata by Johannes Brahms.

- Edwina Doe

Friends of Centipede Launch



Emma Ayres reflecting on her childhood. Photo: Bruce Davis

The Glebe Society hosted the launch of *Friends of Centipede* at the Glebe Rowing Club on Friday 2 November. The weather was on our side and the mild, sunny evening enhanced the stunning view over Blackwattle Bay. We had approximately 80 guests including all three levels of government with City of Sydney Deputy Lord Mayor Robin Kemmis (representing Lord Mayor Clover Moore), local state member Jamie Parker and local federal member Tanya Plibersek.

Friends of Centipede was formed to support *Centipede*, the out of school hours (OOSH) childcare centre on the grounds of Glebe Public School. Run by Kim Payne and his team of childcare workers, *Centipede* provides meals, games, sports, craft and care to Glebe's primary school kids from diverse backgrounds. Some of the families find it difficult to pay for their kids to come to *Centipede* because of poverty and unemployment. *Friends of Centipede* has been created to raise funds to help pay the fees for the kids of these families.

The Events group from the Glebe Society put on a lovely spread which perfectly complemented the

wine donated by local business Best Cellars and several Glebe hotels. Our guest speaker, ABC Classic FM presenter and Glebe local Emma Ayres, gave a funny and heart-warming speech reflecting on her childhood. It was wonderful to hear about her special relationship with her grandmother, and how each one of us can really make a difference in a child's life.

The evening was emceed by professional auctioneer, Jason Kazanis who was kind enough to volunteer his time to auction some

beautiful artworks donated by local artists. The auction alone raised almost \$3,000 for *Friends of Centipede*, and this was thanks to Jason's expertise and enthusiasm. Emma kicked off the night by bidding \$1,000 for the Reg Mombassa print - raising the bar for the rest of the auction items.

The world premier of the *Centipede* video, made by budding young local film-makers Jarrah Cohen and Alex Wu, brought many in the audience to tears. Clips from the video will soon be available on the *Centipede* website <http://www.centipede.org.au/> - have a look to see for yourself the great work that goes on at *Centipede*.

We are thrilled that *Friends of Centipede* now has 31 members, and raised \$10,000 from the launch event. We hope these members continue to support *Friends of Centipede* into the future and that we can encourage new mem-



Suzy Velkou speaking about *Centipede*'s work with the children at Glebe Public School. Photo: Bruce Davis

bers. If you missed out on attending the launch event but would like to become a 'Friend', you can visit the *Centipede* website and click on the *Friends of Centipede* tab <http://www.centipede.org.au/friends-of-centipede.html>. Membership is for one year and after this time you will be contacted to ask if you would like to continue your membership. We plan to have another *Friends of Centipede* event mid-year.

Special thanks go to the Glebe Society and Herbert Smith Freehills for their major contributions, and to everyone who donated items or their time for this hugely successful fundraiser.

- Penny Cosker
Centipede Management Committee

Centipede thanks:

AB Hotel, Best Cellars, The Boat-house, Broadway Cellars, Broadway Shopping Centre, Cincotta Pharmacy, Emma Ayres, Emma Kate, Glebe Picture Frames, Glebe Rowing Club, Glebe Society, Great Aunty Three, Harold Park Hotel, Harris Farm Markets, Herbert Smith Freehills, Jason Kazanis, La Banette Bakery, Nerida Cowdroy, Patricia Baillie, Reg Mombassa, Sheila Meyer, Inner City Clayworkers Gallery, Sonoma Bakery, Toni McDowell, Toxteth Hotel.

Glebe Society events

23rd Annual Glebe Music Festival



Margaretta Cottage

Drama behind the scenes has characterised this year's Glebe Music Festival, the final concert of which occurs at St Scholastica's on Sunday 2 December at 3pm. It will be performed by *Coro Innominata: From Tudor to Late Romantic: Four Centuries of English Polyphony*.

The drama included visa issues as well as injury (David Miller was injured but was ably replaced by Jeanelle Carrigan). *Margaretta Cottage*, the setting for innumerable concerts over the years, may fall silent with the departure of the incumbents. Let us look forward to the refurbished Glebe Town Hall as a new venue.

Dazzling duo guitarists Raffaele and Janet Agostino delivered a predominantly southern hemisphere program, including Latin music by Nazareth, Cardoso, Troilo, Sojo,

Villa-Lobos and Machado, and Australian music by Richard Charlton. Bulgarian pianist Evgeny Genchev partnered with Queensland cellist Sam Lucas in Brahms Cello Sonata No. 1, while Jeanelle Carrigan (piano) partnered with James Kortum (flute). James also enchanted with the Bach Partita for Solo Flute. Ukrainian pianist Alexey Yemtsov, a late addition to the program, played Volodos arrangements, transcribed from memory.

Piano accordionists from the Accordion Society of Australia, for the second year running, showed how versatile and popular this instrument is. Josie Ryan and the Emeralds, led by composer Brooke Green, gave a masterclass in Gibbons at St Scholastica's. A full review of their concert can be found at <http://www.sydneysydneyartsguide.com/View-Review.asp?ReviewID=1303>

Thank you again to everyone, especially the musicians, the custodians of the various venues, the Glebe Society, the Council of the City of Sydney and Hutchings Pianos.

- David McIntosh

Win NYE tickets in our Christmas raffle

Win two tickets to the **Lord Mayor's New Year's Eve party** and have a front row view of the spectacular Harbour Bridge fireworks, or win other great prizes from local businesses and organisations including:

- dinner at *Atelier Restaurant*,
- dinner and wine at the **Wentworth Park 'Dogs'** dining room,
- lunch or dinner at the new restaurant *Two Peas*,
- breakfast or lunch at *Naggy's Café*;
- cooking classes for two at the **Fish Market**; and
- for the fitness enthusiast, three months membership of the **Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre**.

Order tickets using the enclosed flyer and avoid the rush on the night. Or buy them at the Christmas Party.

Christmas in Spain

Spanish food, drinks and music in a great, newly opened venue. Professional catering with assistance from our Spanish *providore* in Glebe Point Road, Broadway Cellars.

Don't miss it!

NB. The closing date for bookings has passed, but if you would like to come, please book immediately online, or drop in the booking form to 79 Ferry Road Glebe by Monday 3 December. (The booking form flyer was in last month's *Bulletin* or print out the flyer on Glebe Society website). We need to finalise numbers for catering. Email events@glebesociety.org.au for enquiries.

Friday 7 December 7-9pm, St Barnabas Church (upper foyer), Broadway.

Cockatoo Island Tour

On a beautiful Sunday morning on 4 November, 30 Glebe Society members travelled by public ferry from Darling Harbour and Circular Quay to Cockatoo Island, where we were met by two guides from the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust. For over an hour and a half we walked around the Island, hearing anecdotes of deeds and misdeeds of Cockatoo Island occupants during its colourful convict, maritime and industrial history.

Visits could also be arranged next year to Garden Island and Headland Park and North Head Sanctuary and Headland Park if there is sufficient interest.

Photo: Bruce Davis



News and Notes

Thirsty Thursdays

Members and friends are invited to meet in restaurants in and around Glebe, usually 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 3 January** we will go to the *Nag's Head*, 162 St Johns Road.

And on **Thursday 7 February** we will go to *Two Peas*, 198 St Johns Road.

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 November Management Committee meeting:

- Carol Armour
- Lucinda Loane
- Tess and Rob Nicholls

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

Ginkgo - 166 St Johns Road, Forest Lodge

Janet Venn-Brown, 30 November - 12 December

Janet's exhibition features works from more than forty years living in Rome as well as her current depictions of interiors, mostly in Glebe where she now lives.



Janet Venn-Brown Teal Blue Interior 2012

Please join Glebe Society member Janet for drinks on Friday 30 November, 6-8pm.

Group Show - 14 December to 16 January

To wrap up its first year Ginkgo is holding a Group Show featuring the works of artists who have exhibited with the gallery this year. Enjoy opening night drinks with the artists, Friday 14 December, 6-8pm.

Opening hours are Tuesday to Friday 10am to 6pm, and Saturday 10am to 2pm.

eReaders and Tablets: A Hands-on Workshop

Thinking about buying an eReader or Tablet? Recently bought one and feeling stuck? In this hands-on workshop, we'll explore some of the most popular eReaders and Tablets.

Wednesday 9 January 5-7pm at the Glebe Library. Free, but please book at the Library (9298 3060).

Invitation to Launch and Christmas Drinks

Saturday 8 December, 4pm at Watch House 179 Darling Street - Getting to the Bottom of Balmain's Dummies, a short history of the sanitation of a Sydney suburb by Fergus Fricke. To be launched by The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP.

Glebe Community News

This email newsletter, published every two months, is well worth reading. It is an initiative of the Glebe Community Development Project.

Google Glebe Community News, or email *alison.depree@sydney.edu.au* to be put on the emailing list.

City of Sydney Councillors



Lord Mayor: Clover Moore

Deputy Lord Mayor: Robyn Kemmis

Councillors:

Irene Doutney
Christine Forster
Jenny Green
Robert Kok
Edward Mandla
John Mant
Linda Scott
Angela Vithoulkas

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 2 December, 3pm – last concert in this year's Music Festival, St Scholastica's. See page 11.

Friday 7 December, 7-9pm – Glebe Society Christmas Party at Barney's. See page 11.

Saturday 8 December, 1.30-3pm – Parks workshop, St Scholastica's College, 2-4 Avenue Road, Glebe. See page 5.

Wednesday 12 December, 7pm – Management Committee meeting, The Old Fire Station, 115 Mitchell Street.

Tuesday 25 December – Happy Christmas

Tuesday 1 January – and an eventful New Year.

Thursday 3 January, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday, *Nag's Head Hotel*, St Johns Road. See page 12.

Thursday 7 February, 7pm – Thirsty Thursday, *Two Peas*, 198 St Johns Road. See page 12.

Wednesday 13 February, 7pm – Management Committee meeting. Venue to be announced.

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 February. The deadline for contributions is Monday 18 February.

The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

Management Committee:

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| President | John Gray | 9518 7253 |
| Vice President | Jan Wilson | 0408 207 784 |
| Immediate Past President | Mairéad Browne | 9552 2888 |
| Secretary | Margaret Cody | 9692 9384 |
| Treasurer | Bruce Davis | 9660 7873 |

Committee members (five elected positions):

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Andrew Craig | 9566 1746 |
| Rosalind Hecker | 9660 7056 |
| Jeanette Knox | 9660 7781 |
| Bill Simpson-Young | 0411 871 214 |
| Phil Young | 9692 9583 |

Convenors

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Bays and Foreshores | Lesley Lynch | 9660 5084 |
| Blue Wrens | Jan Craney | 9660 2174 |
| Community Development | TBA | |
| Environment | Jan Macindoe | 9660 0208 |
| Heritage | John Gray | 9518 7253 |
| Planning | Neil Macindoe | 9660 0208 |
| Transport & Traffic | Murray Jewell | 0405 921 945 |

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| History of the Glebe Society | Jeanette Knox | 9660 7781 |
| Membership | Cheryl & Bryan Herden | 9660 7371 |
| Plaques Project | Peter Robinson | 9692 9995 |



