



Valuing our Local Suppliers

Fruit and Vegetable Shops v the Supermarkets

by Jan Macindoe

Food security is a major environmental issue on a global scale. Food waste is a big part of that problem with waste occurring at all stages of production, distribution and consumption. In Australia, a unique factor arises from the dominant position of the two supermarkets, Coles and Woolworths. While the supermarkets are not currently as dominant in fruit and vegetable sales as in general groceries, with about 45.5% of the market in 2012, their effects are still substantial.

The *Bulletin* interviewed well-known local fruit and vegetable supplier, Joe Galluzzo, on his experience of the effects of the supermarket chains on the trade. Joe can draw on his nine years of experience as a growers' agent, for banana suppliers, as well as his retail experience. So he has seen both sides of the trade – the growers and the retailers.

Joe has particularly noticed the effect of the supermarket on the central market, which has shrunk in scale and effectiveness in recent years. This is largely because the supermarkets have bypassed the market by buying direct from large growers. As the central market has declined in scale the support services it offers have also declined. For example, the Department of Agriculture no longer provides a service of grading the fruit and vegetables available, with competing independent valuers taking their place. The result is a profusion of terms and lack of clarity about standards of quality. This places the onus onto the independent retailers to have the experience to make these judgements themselves.

Supermarkets also have the capacity to distort the market price, especially in seasonal produce such as avocados. They can afford to pay a top

price and sell at a loss in order to essentially capture the market, leaving the independents with either lower quality fruit or the need to charge a higher price.

Joe feels that the long-term trend is very clear as more and more of the independent fruit and vegetable retailers close and are not replaced. He comments that Sydney has traditionally had a large independent sector compared to Melbourne, but that it is now shrinking, with increasing areas of Sydney having no access to independent fruit and vegetable outlets.

This has a corresponding effect on small producers, who don't have the option of selling to the large supermarkets and depend on independent buyers. Over time the trend is towards fewer small growers as well as fewer small retailers. And it is the small growers that provide us with the variety and range of produce.



Joe arranging his fruit outside Galluzzo's (Image: Jan Macindoe)

Malcolm Knox, in his recent book *Supermarket Monsters*, documents the effects of the dominance of large growers locked into contracts with the major supermarkets. To meet contract requirements they must have the maximum possible quantity available in case it is required, although usually it is not and the excess is wasted. At the same time, the diversity of fruit and vegetables has been lost. For example, he notes that French beans are the only variety supplied. Indeed, we might say that many people are unaware of any other type of bean. So the twofold effect is production on a factory like scale with large-scale wastage accepted as normal,

while small-scale growers and the diversity of produce they bring gradually disappear.

In the face of this trend, it is clear that we are in a privileged position in Glebe, with a number of local independent fruit and vegetable outlets to choose from. While the lure of 'one stop shopping' for the time-poor consumer is understandable, in the long term handing it to the big supermarkets to supply all our food will make us poorer in much more significant ways.

Jan Macindoe
Convenor, Environment

Subcommittee Reports for the AGM

In this Bulletin, we bring you the Annual Reports of three of our subcommittees: Communications, Community Development and Transport & Traffic. The Bays & Precincts Subcommittee's annual report will be included in the next Bulletin.

Communications Subcommittee Annual Report 2014-2015

The Communications Subcommittee coordinates and oversees the various communication activities of the Glebe Society including the *Bulletin*, websites and social media (such as Facebook and Twitter). The Communications subcommittee supports the Glebe Society to:

- Expand engagement with Glebe and the wider community (eg by supporting other subcommittees in their communication and by building Facebook and Twitter presence);
- Strengthen our base (including by engaging with new residents and by improving the ease of joining and renewing membership);
- Support effective campaigns (eg by ensuring urgent and important campaigns are quickly and broadly communicated through the website and the various social media channels);
- Support Glebe Society (and others events) (eg by promoting events; where relevant, outside the membership and outside Glebe); and
- Improve the efficiency of the Society's internal communication.

Below are some of the activities the communications subcommittee has undertaken in the past year.

Our Websites

As well as the Society's main website, the subcommittee also maintains websites for Glebe Walks (<http://glebewalks.com.au/>) and for the Glebe Island Bridge (<http://www.glebeislandbridge.com/>).

The Society's main website received nearly half a million hits in 2014-2015; that's an average of around 1,300 hits per day and double the number of hits from the previous year. Remembrance Day (11 November) was our biggest day, with around 2,300 hits. We speculate that the increased traffic on the site may have been due to interest in the Harold Park development, with a lot of potential buyers searching for information about Glebe. We only know the location of about 35% of visitors to the website, but not surprisingly, most visitors to the website were located in Australia (71%) while China came in second at 19%. The peak in usage now seems to have passed. The **Glebe Walks** website received an average of 100 hits per day in 2014-2015 – around 37,000 for the year. This is an overall increase of 600 hits over last year. There have been exciting developments for Glebe Walks: some of the Glebe Walks have been adapted into audio format for use in the mobile app, [izi.travel](http://izi.travel/en) (<http://izi.travel/en>), promoting walks to travellers all over the world. These are: *Early Architects of Glebe*, *Glebe Waterfront Walk* and *People and Places in Early Glebe*.

The Society strongly supports the retention and restoration of the Glebe Island Bridge, so the subcommittee created a dedicated Glebe Island Bridge website, on behalf of the Heritage subcommittee. The website provides a great deal of information about the Bridge and acts as a forum for information and discussion. The

website is already proving popular; it comes up as the second hit in a Google search for 'Glebe Island Bridge' (after the Wikipedia entry) and has received 3,000 visits in a six-month period.

Our Facebook Pages

The Society maintains Facebook pages for the Society as a whole

(www.facebook.com/TheGlebeSociety) and for the Glebe Island Bridge (<http://www.facebook.com/GlebeIslandBridge>).

This year, by far the most popular post on the Society's Facebook page was a 1980s music video made in the (then) dilapidated *Bellevue; Beautiful People* by Australian Crawl). This post was clicked 128 times, liked by 42 people and reached an audience of 1,300. As well as being a place for the Society to share information with the wider community, the Facebook page is also acting as a portal for people to contact the society, including requests for historical information.



A still from the music video for Australian Crawl's *Beautiful People* set in a dilapidated Bellevue. The post has been the biggest hit on the Glebe Society Facebook page so far. (Image: vimeo.com). Click on the image above to watch the video.

Twitter

The Society continues to tweet and retweet items relating to Glebe – 850 tweets in all. The Society's twitter following has rapidly grown to over 220 followers. Our twitter feed is an excellent source of up-to-the minute information on matters that affect Glebe; including calls to action such as the Bays Precinct consultations. Interestingly, one of the most popular tweet subjects has been the change from 'The Glebe' to 'Glebe', as the name for our suburb. WestConnex, the Bays Precinct and other developer topics are also popular.

Other activities

Members will have noticed that the various Glebe Society media now have a fresh look with

the adoption of the new Glebe Society logo, fonts and so on.

The online booking site, Eventbrite, is now being used to promote Glebe Society events and as one means of booking for those events. The Communications subcommittee is monitoring the effectiveness and acceptability of this new method of booking events. We will continue using Eventbrite until the end of the year, track the usage statistics of different options and costs, and then create a summary report. Based on that, the Society can decide whether or not to continue using Eventbrite the following year.

The subcommittee is planning a Social Media Education Session focused on the Glebe Society and community matters. Content will include following and contributing to the Society's Facebook pages, and following the Society's Twitter account (and creating your own Twitter account), finding out about community events, heritage and history, taking action, etc). The session will be of interest to members who currently don't use social media but who are interested in finding out what it's all about.

The current members of the subcommittee are: Virginia Simpson-Young (*Bulletin* editor), Peter Thorogood (technical coordinator), Phil Young (web content coordinator), Scott Calvert (chief tweeter and assistant web content coordinator), Jan Macindoe (Glebe Walks), Carole Herriman, Bruce Davis and Bill Simpson-Young. At our last meeting Bill Simpson-Young stood down as convenor and Scott Calvert volunteered to take on the role. We meet approximately bi-monthly and welcome other members to join.

Bill Simpson-Young
Communications



A screenshot of the Glebe Society's twitter feed. (Click on the image to go to the the Society's twitter page)

Transport and Traffic Subcommittee Annual Report 2014 -2015

Transport and traffic matters this year were dominated by the WestConnex project, the \$15 billion road and tunnel tollway announced by the State Government back in 2012 which is now being constructed. Community opposition has been fierce, especially in Ashfield, Haberfield, St Peters and Newtown where the State Government has been requisitioning properties and where the project and associated traffic volumes are seen as likely to degrade the local communities.

Opposition has focused on the fact that the State Government has still not released a business case for the project and there has been no environmental impact study or traffic modelling undertaken. The project is seen as an outdated solution to the problems of urban transport, with many cities in the world now investing in public transport infrastructure as opposed to motorways to meet their transport needs. Opposition has come from local groups as well as from the City of Sydney. Several rallies and community meetings were held during the year to express opposition, and were attended by members of the management committee.

The latest plans include a road tunnel running north east under Annandale that will dump traffic

onto the approaches to Victoria Rd and the Anzac Bridge. This will result in increased traffic volumes in and around Glebe and Forest Lodge. It is possible that pollution ventilation stacks will be built in Glebe and Forest Lodge depending on the exact location of the tunnel. At the time the project was announced the Glebe Society expressed its opposition to WestConnex and urged the State Government to invest the funds in public transport infrastructure instead.

Murray Jewell
Convenor, Transport & Traffic



Community Development Subcommittee Annual Report 2014-15

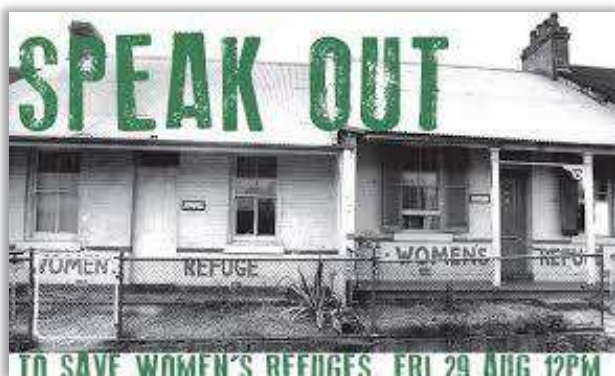
A number of community issues in which the Glebe Society has been engaged have occurred over the past year in Glebe. The 40th Anniversary of the passage of national legislation, initiated by Tom Uren, to purchase the Glebe Estate from the Church of England was celebrated by a *Pop Up Park Day* at the park on the corner of Catherine St and Mt Vernon St in Friday 10 October, 2014. The Glebe Community Development Project (GCDP) together with community members organised the celebration and associated Photography competition on Glebe Community Life. The Glebe Society members participated in this event. The winners of the Photography competition were announced at the event where Jamie Parker MP, Verity Firth and Deputy Lord Mayor Robyn Kemmis all spoke, emphasising the importance of the maintenance of community housing upon the community's wellbeing. It was a positive indication of Glebe's diversity to witness the collaborative celebration by Glebe residents who attended this event.

A Glebe Society representative attended the

Public Accounts Select Committee Inquiry into Tenancy Management in Social Housing held on Monday 8 and 15 September 2014 at State Parliament, where evidence from Community Housing providers, tenants' advocates and disability advocacy groups was considered. This provided much valuable information which contributed to the Glebe Society Submission, made in March 2015 to the State Government in support of social housing, which stated in its preamble *Social housing is integral to Glebe and of vital interest to Glebe residents and hence to the Glebe Society Glebe as a community is committed to public housing, including the Glebe Estate which is fundamental to Glebe's built and social character.* Virginia Simpson-Young is to be thanked for her collation of the submission.

A public event, *Speak out to save Women's Refuges* took place on Friday 29 August 2014 at Minogue Reserve, Glebe. This was the day of the transfer of the women's refuge *Elsie* to successful tenderer, the St Vincent de Paul Society, under the State Government's *Going Home, Staying Home* policy. Many other inner

suburban services were scheduled for closure. Along with other concerned community groups the Glebe Society protested to the Hon Gabriel Upton, then Family and Community Services (FaCS) Minister. On 30 October 2014 following this campaign, Jamie Parker MP announced that *full funding and buildings have been restored to Detour House (in Glebe), Young People's Refuge, Stepping Out and Community Restorative Centre women's program in the Balmain electorate*. The additional funding was made available for only one year however, during which time many services to vulnerable people will be wound down.



Following considerable recent media exposure of the plight of homeless people in Sydney, enquiries were made of Jamie Parker's office and with the Deputy Lord Mayor, Leichhardt Women's Community Health Centre and Marrickville/Leichhardt Domestic Violence monitoring group. While further information is needed to establish details of current position, it appears through anecdotal reports (eg to Jamie's office) that shelters may only be staffed during business hours, and that *Elsie* personnel no longer attend the regional Domestic Violence monitoring group, so there is considerable opacity around the issue. The City of Sydney had recently rehoused 12 people who were living rough in Wentworth Park. The city's emergency homeless services are being overextended and although a recent media report on the problem of homelessness (eg *SMH* Saturday 8 August 2015, p11) indicates that City of Sydney and Government of NSW have recently agreed to a three year program to address the issue, the City of Sydney seems to be taking the leading role in inner suburbs of Sydney. This situation is one which the Glebe Society will continue to monitor.

The Glebe Society expressed concern over the discontinuance of Housing NSW funding for Glebe Community Development Project (GCDP) from December 2014. The Glebe Society raised its concern with Hon Gabriel Upton, then

Minister, about the imminent defunding of the GCDP by the FaCs Housing authority. However the funding was not extended but the service remains operating through funding from University of Sydney.

The annual Glebe Society sponsored *Sunset Soirée* for Centipede at Glebe Public School was held on Friday 7 November 2014 at the Glebe Rowing Club. While attendance was limited it was gratifying to see our community representatives Hon Tanya Plibersek, Deputy Leader of the Federal Opposition, Robyn Kemmis, Deputy Lord Mayor of Sydney and Verity Firth, the then endorsed Labor candidate for the State seat of Balmain all finding the time to attend and support this very worthy venture. The *Sunset Soirée* for 2015 is due to be held on 9 October. Friends of Centipede look forward to continued support from the Glebe Society members.

The Glebe Society supported the Glebe Youth Service in its call for continuation of funding by City of Sydney of their successful *After Dark* program this year. The funding was subsequently extended.

Plans for the refurbishment of the 'Old Butcher's Shop' on the corner of Franklyn and Glebe Sts by City of Sydney were proposed in 2014. The Glebe Society supported and welcomed this addition to Glebe's community facilities. The refurbishment was recently completed and the premises were opened on Saturday 8 August 2015 by Lord Mayor Clover Moore. The creation of a small public use space, opening out onto 'Elephant Park', could prove very beneficial for small community gatherings and meetings and as a much needed venue for 'tweenies' (8-12 year olds) and their parents for some after school activities if so desired.

The painting of the *Elsie Walk Mural*, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the founding of *Elsie* Women's refuge in Glebe began in early 2015. However the very sad passing of one of the artists, Liz Rooney, has delayed its completion. The Glebe Society extended the condolences of its members to Liz's family and community.

The Glebe Justice Centre was officially opened on 15 February and is undertaking a number of community based initiatives, including mediation training for some community members. The Glebe Society has cooperated with CEO Stuart Davey on several initiatives to date and will continue to do so.

NAIDOC Week, which occurred from 5 to 12 July 2015, saw an event run every day. The Glebe Society recognises the importance of this event for Glebe's Aboriginal community and would like to commend the management of Glebe events by Fiona Smith, the Glebe NAIDOC convenor. The Glebe Society is considering sponsoring this

event next year through advertising NAIDOC week events on our website and in the *Bulletin*, and contributing to the printing of the program.

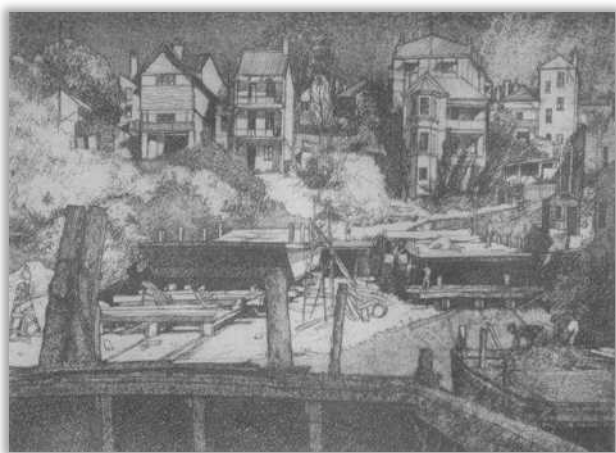
Janice Challinor
Convenor, Community Development

History & Heritage

'From the Terraces', by Liz Simpson-Booker

At Glebe Point

This artistic representation gives us an opportunity to reflect on some of the changes wrought over the decades to our suburb. Sydney's changing demographics and industrial consolidation mean that Glebe's gritty maritime and industrial past has largely disappeared.



'At Glebe Point' by Brian Dunlop, etching, undated.
(Permission for reproduction given by owner)

A former Glebite, now living in Adelaide, has kindly provided a copy of this etching titled *At Glebe Point* (4/20, 2nd state) by Brian Dunlop. The atmospheric scene depicts Glebe waterfront industry, roughly below Mary St. The artist's viewpoint is from the water. It is interesting to note that some of the foreground detail is quite sketchy whereas the architectural features of the houses are rendered finely and highlighted by the angle of the sun and the shadows cast.

Brian Dunlop (1938-2009) was an accomplished and well-known artist, printmaker and teacher. He

won the Sulman Prize (1980, for *The Old Physics Building*) and was also a finalist for the Archibald Prize in 2004. While the etching is undated, the artist's daughter Sophie recalls he did most of his etchings of this area (Pyrmont, Redfern and Glebe) in the 1970s.

Neil Macindoe, in his *Glebe Waterfront Walk*, notes that 'at the top of the cliff are ... original houses from the 1880s. Once these cliffs were lined with such houses, but many were demolished in the 1960s by developers who were keen to replace them with multi-storey flats. It was this destruction, often aided and abetted by local and state government, together with the threat of mass demolitions to create expressways for cars, that led to the formation of the Glebe Society.'

Documenting NSW Homes

The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection has been photographically recording homes and gardens since 1989. These photographs were often taken at a *point of change in the life of a house* – for example, when it was about to be renovated or sold, sometimes after a long period of single family ownership. Some houses were designed by well-known architects, others are simple suburban homes that represent a particular period or style.

For more information, go to the website of Sydney Living Museums (formerly known as the Historic Houses Trust).

Liz Simpson-Booker
Convenor, Heritage

Planning Report, by Neil Macindoe

Glebe Affordable Housing site, Cowper St

There is a 'For Sale' sign on the fence, presumably so a private developer can be part of a so-called public/private partnership. The preparation that is taking place on the site is permitted under an initial DA. The final DA has yet to be advertised.

Harold Park Consultation

The President and I met with Jennifer Cooper, Mirvac Senior Development Manager, on site on 27 July. The discussion was wide ranging. Here are the major points:

- Tenders have been called for the new 3.8 ha park.

- All major works have been approved (see July *Bulletin* for modifications).
- More than 50% will be complete by the end of 2015.
- The Tramsheds are also proposed for completion, but may take longer.
- The exact use of the stationary restored tram is yet to be decided.
- The height of the building will be largely unimpeded.
- Mirvac will install downlighting to reduce impact on nearby residents.
- The supermarket will not be any of the major chains, but still negotiating.
- The roof framework is being installed with non-reflective glass and zinalume.
- The Society insisted marketing be directed at pedestrian and cycle access.

There was also general discussion of the character of the area. Mirvac believes it has attracted businesses with good local knowledge and sustainability credentials. The Society would support recycling efforts, appropriate indoor plantings and growing food. Mirvac was also informed of the Bays Precinct and the consultation by Urban Growth.

Durham Court, 417 Glebe Point Rd

The City has rejected this proposal for townhouses as an overdevelopment.

Neil Macindoe
Convenor, Planning



The proposed development of Durham Court, 417 Glebe Point Rd, which was recently rejected by Council as an overdevelopment (Image taken from the amended DA on the City of Sydney website)

World War One Exhibition: Get a Glimpse at Glebe Library

Our Curator, Jennifer Cornwall, has created a foretaste of the major exhibition using the display shelves in the Local History section of Glebe Library (near the computers).

There you will see some photos by the first official War Photographer, local boy Frank Hurley, and extracts from original documents. Jennifer has even contributed some bullets from Flanders Fields (see photo). The original poem, *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae, is in a book lent by Lydia Bushell.

The main exhibition, upstairs in Glebe Town Hall, will now begin on Tuesday, 6 October after the Labor Day Long Weekend, and end on Friday, 23 October. The hours will be from 10am to 5pm every day, so I will be calling on more volunteers to look after the exhibition for a couple of hours during this time.

Your help is needed! Phone 9660 0208 to put your name down for a timeslot.

Neil Macindoe



Part of the display in the Glebe Library for the Society's World War I exhibition to be held in October. This photo shows bullets from Flanders Fields (Image: V. Simpson-Young)

Who Lived in your Street? By Lyn Collingwood

Una Irene and Edna Marjory Moncrieff

In 1975 when Una Moncrieff joined the Glebe Society she was living at 139 Wigram Rd Forest Lodge, her family home since the time of WWI. She and her sister Edna claimed to be cousins of singer Gladys Moncrieff who in 1921 achieved fame throughout Australia as *The Maid of the Mountains*. Over time they assumed the surname 'Moncrieff' and, like 'Our Glad', were in show business, playing up the connection in their publicity.

Una and Edna (born ca 1909 and 1912) were the daughters of storeman Arthur William and Helen 'Nellie' Mabel Cook, their surname often spelt 'Cooke' and their mother's first name 'Helene' or 'Helena'. Their father, who enlisted in the 17th battalion in 1917, died on 28 August 1923 in the Randwick Military Hospital. Fourteen years later Helen Cook married Francis George Lear Pearsall, a long-term resident of 139 Wigram Rd.

Una Cooke studied piano at Nellie McDonnell's Oberon College of Music in Leichhardt and became a regular child performer in Leichhardt Town Hall concerts. As Una Moncrieff Cooke she gained her associate diploma from the London College of Music in 1922. She also danced, sang and played the violin. In 1931 she was in the pantomime chorus of *Babes in the Wood* in Newcastle and in 1933, with sister Edna as a featured artist, she toured Hobart, Launceston, Adelaide, Perth and the WA goldfields in Clem Dawe's *Midnight Follies*, with a return season in 1935. In the 1940s she was a member of the Tivoli Ballet before establishing the Una Moncrieff School of Dancing studios in the city and Croydon where she taught ballet, tap and character. In later life she worked as a cashier.

Edna Moncrieff, a member of Minnie Everett's Band of Juveniles from age four, first danced in public at age seven, and solo at age eleven. With the Sunbeam Pantomime Children she played the White Rabbit in *Alice in Wonderland* and was a featured artist in *Aladdin* and *The House That Jack Built* (in Adelaide with Roy Rene and Sadie Gale). For J C Williamson's Edna danced in the musical comedies *Primrose*, *The Vagabond King* and *Good Morning, Dearie*, and by the time she was 16 – a solo ballerina in the dance sequences in the operas *Aida*, *Thais* and *Faust* – had toured Hobart, Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne, doing schoolwork by correspondence. As a nine-year-old in 1921 she sang and danced in Sydney's commemoration of the Battle of Trafalgar at the Strand Theatre, and two years later featured in a fundraiser for the Glebe Soldiers' War Memorial bazaar.

By 1932 Edna was talking about trying her luck in London. Her break came that year when Clem

Dawe, manager of Moss Empire Theatres, hired her for a Queensland tour of his *Midnight Follies* variety show. Although an accident put her out of action for five weeks she rejoined the troupe, which now included sister Una, for its 1933 Australian tour. In 1936 Edna was chosen to tour Britain with the Clem Dawe Variety Company; in 1937 she played pantomime in London; by 1938 she was a principal dancer with London's Espinosa ballet company.



'In the dress circle of His Majesty's Theatre, Perth'. Women in front row identified L-R: Edna Moncrieff, Mrs Edgley, Ann Luciano, Lindy, Dorothy White, Muriel O'Malley. (Image: Collection of photographs relating to Edgley and Dawe theatre company, State Library of Western Australia.)

During the Second World War Edna was a sergeant in the Auxiliary Territorial Service engaged in anti enemy aircraft activity in Belgium, France and Germany. At war's end she joined an entertainment unit playing to occupying forces. In 1947 she spent six months in Sydney visiting her mother and sister before returning to London to marry dance performer and teacher Edward Kelland-Espinosa (1906-91) who took over the running of the British Ballet Organisation founded by his father. Edna Marjory Kelland- Espinosa (known also as Edna Beresford Kelland-Espinosa and Edna Moncrieff Espinosa) died in London in 1985.

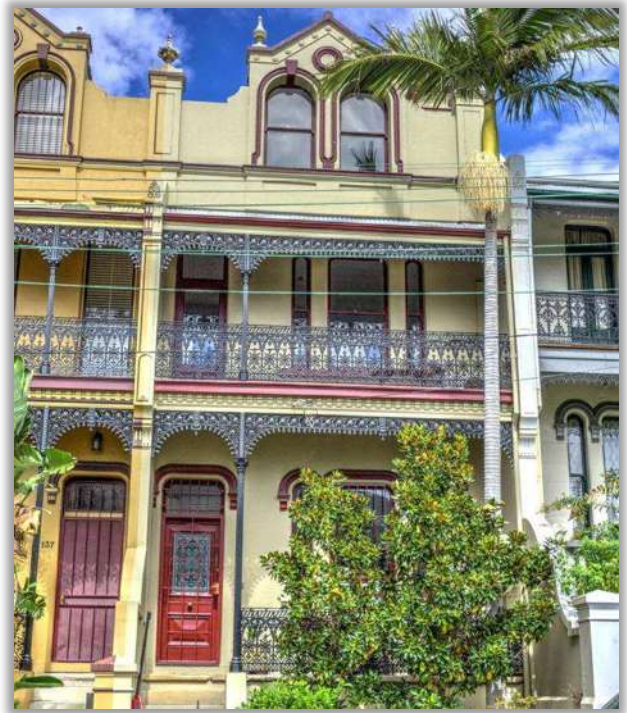
Una and Edna's mother at Glebe in 1937 married warehouseman Francis Pearsall whose home address had been 139 Wigram Rd since the time of his enlistment in the AIF in 1916. At that time his mother Matilda was living at 85 Arundel St, and he, the youngest of 12 children, was twice widowed. In Queensland he had married sisters Louisa and Ellen Hallett who died in 1912 and 1915 respectively. His daughter, four-year-old Una Lear, died in 1910 and baby son Vaughan Dyer (1914-

42) was brought up near Ipswich presumably by relatives (the Hallett sisters had eleven siblings).

Francis Pearsall died in 1946 and was buried at Rookwood. His widow died at age 66 suddenly at her Glebe home on 17 May 1954 and was cremated at Northern Suburbs.

Lyn Collingwood

Sources: Australian War Memorial service records; *Evening News* 30.6.1927; *Hobart Mercury* 9.10.1923; NSW online registry of births, deaths, marriages; NSW cemetery records; NSW electoral rolls; *Perth Daily News* 10.4.1933; Queensland online registry of births, deaths, marriages; *Sand's Directories*; *Sunday Times* (Sydney) 30.7.1922, 5.8.1928, 16.12.1928; *Sydney Morning Herald* 23.4.1949, 19.5.1954; *West Australian* 7.3.1947; *World's News* (Sydney) 19.12.1928.



139 Wigram Rd Forest Lodge, formerly the home of the Moncreiff sisters (Image: Phil Young)

Community Matters

Community Notes, by Janice Challinor

Gleebooks 40th Anniversary

Guests in an array of 1970s retro gear gathered at *Gleebooks* on 5 August to help celebrate the 40th Anniversary of *Gleebooks*, now recognised as a Glebe institution. Owners David Gaunt and his business partner Roger Mackell both recalled the challenges they faced in 1977 when taking over from their friend and founder Tony Gallagher.

Author David Malouf also rose to congratulate them on the support they had given to local authors and the Australian publishing industry generally, but it was Roger who said it best, and here I paraphrase, memory being sometimes unreliable; 'Glebe has been good for *Gleebooks*, and *Gleebooks* has been good for Glebe'.

'Justice for Asylum Seekers', at Glebe Justice Centre

A benefit concert for the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre was held at the Glebe Justice Centre in St Johns Rd on Friday 7 August.

It consisted of an evening of discussion and music, featuring the launch of the single 'The Camellia Tree' by *Goldheist* (featuring Hester Fraser) and additional music by *The Sycamores* and Glebe local, Hannah Robinson.

Special guests included Eva Cox, Robin de Crespigny (author of *The People Smuggler*) Mark Isaacs (author of *The Undesirables*) and Nicole (from SBS's *Go Back to Where You Came From*).

All reflected on their experience of, or contact with, asylum seekers. It made for some poignant listening.

An interesting comparison was that made by Eva Cox on the policies of the government of Hester Fraser's grandfather, the late Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, in the aftermath of the Vietnam war, and the inevitable contrast with today's 'turn back the boats' policies.

The Glebe Justice Centre under Stuart Davey's management is certainly 'shirt-fronting' some of our more controversial social issues.



Glebe Society member, Hannah Robinson, performing at the Asylum Seekers evening. (Image: Janice Challinor)

Friends of Centipede at Glebe Public School

Thank you to Glebe Society members who took the opportunity to purchase tickets in the raffle for a queen size hand-made quilt to be drawn at the Friends of Centipede *Sunset Soirée* on Friday 9 October, (see flyer) the annual 'thank-you to Friends of Centipede'.

If you are yet to purchase raffle tickets and would like to do so prior to the event, please contact me by email, community@glebesociety.org.au or mobile 0401 505 657.

Correction for Centipede Soirée

In the last *Bulletin* (in the Calendar section) we said the Centipede Soirée starts at 7pm. This is wrong – it starts at 6pm.

Have-a-Chat Café

As previous funding has concluded, the café is now being run by three community groups, one day each per week, while new funding is being sought. It is still operating in the Old Fire Station on the same days, now by Glebe Community Development Project (GCDP), Glebe Justice Centre and one of the church groups.

Opening of Franklyn Park Community Space

Sydney's Lord Mayor Clover Moore officiated at the opening of the refurbished 'old butcher's shop' on the corner of Franklyn St and Glebe St on Saturday 8 August.

A traditional smoking ceremony preceded the official declaration and the event continued with a community barbeque and social opportunity.

The Glebe Society supported the building's refurbishment by the City of Sydney when it was proposed last year.

The naming of Dave Sands Lane

In the last *Bulletin*, we reported on the opening of Dave Sands Lane that took place on Sunday 26 July. The lane, which is at the rear of 17-31 Phillip St, is the third lane that the Society has had a hand in naming, with Bernard Lane and Melina Lane preceding this one. The lane was officially opened by Robyn Kemmis, Deputy Lord Mayor. Below is an extract from Robyn's speech:

This is a great day, and it's wonderful to see you all here. Welcome to everyone and to the official naming of this Lane – in recognition of Dave Sands and his significant contribution to the Glebe community. It's great to be here – to honour the achievements of a local Aboriginal sportsman.

Many of you well know Dave Sand's story, but it's good to have the opportunity to remember Dave, and to take pride in his extraordinary

Although a small space, limited to a kitchenette, small bathroom and undercover area of approximately six square metres, it has bifold doors to an adjacent paved shaded area which connects it to 'Elephant Park' and playground. It is safely fenced and suitable for limited size functions.

It is also to be hoped that it helps fulfil the need for a space for parents and children of 'tweenies' (too old for Centipede, too young for Glebe Youth Service) for after-school activities.

The space is available for hire as a community venue – ph 02 9265 9333 if you would like to do so.

Janice Challinor
Convenor, Community Development



Lord Mayor Clover Moore and guests at the opening of Franklyn Park Community Space in the 'Old Butcher's Shop' on the corner of Franklyn St and Glebe St (Image: Janice Challinor)

achievements.

Dave Sands was a Dhungutti man, born near Kempsey on the NSW North coast into a family of boxers – 'The Fighting Sands Brothers'.

When in Sydney, Dave trained just around the corner, at 'Tom Laming's Golden Gloves Gymnasium' – 49 Glebe Point Rd (which is now Gleebooks bookshop). A well-known and loved member of the Glebe community – his training sessions at the gym, and in nearby Victoria Park, attracted large crowds of admiring fans.

He was the first Australian boxer to achieve success overseas; returning from the United Kingdom with the Middleweight Championship of the British Empire. In his short career, he simultaneously held the Australian Middleweight, Light Heavyweight and Heavyweight titles.

The man the Americans called the 'boxer with the educated left hand' was inducted into the World Boxing Hall of Fame in 1998 at a ceremony held in Los Angeles. He is one of only a handful of Australians to achieve this.

The contribution of Dave Sands to this community is well recognised. A plaque celebrating Dave Sands' life and achievements was erected in 1952 by his friend and ex-opponent Tom Laming Snr on the corner of Glebe Point Rd and Parramatta Rd. The plaque was upgraded and a memorial ceremony was held in 2006. The General Manager

of Gadigal Information Services and co-presenter of the 'Sweet Science Radio Show', Brad Cooke said: 'Led by Dave Sands, Aboriginal Australia has contributed and continues to contribute to the success of Australian boxing on the world stage.' The unveiling today was an opportunity to remember one of the sport's greats. As the plaque reads: 'a great Australian and gentlemen – one of nature's greatest.' ... So it is with particular pleasure that I ask members of his family to unveil our new Dave Sands Lane.

Janice Challinor

Vale Kevin Cook, first Indigenous head of Tranby College

Saturday 25 July 2015 was a sad day. Kevin Cook, the first Indigenous head of Tranby Aboriginal College in Glebe, had died. Kevin, or Cookie, as he was known to everyone, had been confined to bed with emphysema for many years. The disease crippled his body but it did not constrain his mind. Cookie never gave up fighting for what he believed in, the rights of Aboriginal people, the working class, and the oppressed of the world. From his bed he advised and encouraged the never-ending flow of visitors. In all the years that I knew him I never heard him complain about his own predicament. Neither did I hear him badmouth a single person. He died as poor as he was born, because Cookie was concerned not with self-enrichment, but with the enrichment of the many.

Professor Heather Goodall, in introducing Cookie's story, *Making Change Happen*, to readers said, 'He was well-known as a unionist, as an advocate of innovative, Aboriginal-controlled adult education, highly respected as a nation-wide land rights organiser, a key player in transnational links with liberation movements and a man of exceptional integrity and dynamism.'

But Cookie's book is not, in the normal sense, a book about him. Heather went on to say 'Cookie was not interested in searching for the meaning of his own life. Instead, he has always focussed on what he grew up calling "sticking fats" – sticking together with fellow activists, sharing the good and the bad in everything he was involved in – sharing

not just the hopes but the hard work to reach goals and the scarce resources you had to live on to get there'.

Kevin was born in 1939 of the Wandandian people, and grew up in the steel town of Wollongong on the New South Wales south coast.

He is much missed, a friend, comrade and inspiration. Cookie has always been, and always will be, the heart and soul of Tranby Aboriginal College.

*Derek Mortimer
Friends of Tranby*



A photo of Kevin Cook displayed at his memorial celebration at Tranby College on Saturday 22 August (Image: Janice Challinor)

The Late Les McMahon – A Good Friend to the Glebe Society

Les McMahon, who died in January this year, was a Glebe boy, born and bred. A plumber by profession – and an official in the Plumbers' Union – he was married to the daughter of the then Labor Federal Member, Danny Minogue, after whom his street in Forest Lodge was named. He was a good Catholic and a loyal member of the right wing of the NSW Labor Party.

Les was deputy Mayor of Leichhardt Council when in 1968-69 we started the Glebe Society, and was the main political figure in the area (having taken over that role from 'Doc' Foley, whose political star was waning – 'DOC FOLEY WEARS LACE UNDERPANTS' was scrawled on a wall above Wentworth Park).

Glebe was traditional ALP territory. It was staunchly working-class, and until we middle-class house-renovators arrived, it was regarded as one of Sydney's inner-city slums, and solidly Labor.

Initially, we were regarded by the powers-that-be in Glebe with suspicion bordering on hostility.

Labor had already lost Paddington to middle-class gentrification, and Balmain was well-advanced down that road. The possibility that they would lose Glebe too – where Jock Garden once ruled – was something they could not lightly allow to happen.

Nevertheless, if we were to succeed, we had to get Labor and Les McMahon onside. That became my task as vice-president of the Society.

In this I was aided by what was happening in nearby Balmain. There gentrification had, for the Labor Party, turned nasty. Political radicals had gained a foothold in that part of the municipality, and were regularly disrupting council meetings, led by two prominent Trotskyites called Nick Origlass and Issy Wyner.

So in reality, it was not we middle-class interlopers that Les and Labor were most worried about, but the Workers Revolutionary Party and their acolytes.

To his credit, Les realised that open hostility to gentrification could lead to far worse things for Labor, which was why he rang me one Saturday morning in 1969 and suggested we meet.

As we drove together round Glebe, I tried to reassure him that we did not pose a political threat to him or Labor. We wanted to preserve Glebe's physical heritage. We did not regard it as a slum, but a gem of Victorian and Edwardian architecture.

As we passed Jubilee Oval he pointed to the bandstand. 'Was that what I wanted preserved?' he asked. Then he directed me to the soldiers' memorial in Glebe Point Rd as a fine example of the spirit of preservation in Glebe.

Next I drove him up my street, Toxteth Rd, and pointed to the three-storey walk-up on the corner of Mansfield St. 'That's what we don't want,' I told him.

I also pointed out the ceramic tiles on many of the façades and front steps of houses further down Glebe Point as being features of architectural value, and worth preserving. He confessed to me that he had never noticed those tiles, though he had lived all his life in the area. Les was seeing a Glebe he had never seen before.

Over the coming months, Les and I developed a good working relationship. I believe he did his best to stop further demolitions and hinder applications from firms like Parkes Development to erect more of their three-storey walk-ups on the waterfront

land they had their greedy eyes on.

Perhaps the biggest favour Les did for the Glebe Society was to arrange an audience with the local Catholic priest, Father Roberts, in his presbytery in Woolley St, off Bridge Rd. As well as being Labor territory, Glebe was also a Catholic bailiwick, and Father Roberts was a person of much influence in the area.

Yet, to my surprise, he was not so much worried about our gentrification as the threat to his flock from middle-class religious infection, spearheaded by the Children of God who had taken over *Lyndhurst* and were attracting (he assured me) local youngsters to their fundamentalist gatherings.

Yet what won him over to our cause was when I told him that our primary concern then was the eight-lane cut-and-fill expressway the Main Roads Department was planning to drive through Glebe Point, which would (I pointed out to him) mean the demolition of *Lyndhurst*.

From then on we had the not inconsiderable imprimatur of the Catholic Church in our efforts to save Glebe, and for that we had Les to thank.

In the fullness of time, Les took over from his father-in-law as MHR for the Glebe constituency. But in his heart he remained, I am sure, a Glebe Boy the rest of his life.

I counted him as an ally to our cause. With his passing, the Society has lost a foundation supporter and a firm friend.

Rob Darroch



The late Les McMahon (Image: Sydney Morning Herald)

Creative Glebe, Social Glebe

Glebe Voices: Save the Date



Tuesday 15 September, 6pm at Yuga Cafe, St Johns Rd.

Tony Larkum talking on the Mangroves of Bicentennial Park

Tony Larkum, Emeritus Professor, University of Sydney and Adjunct

Professor, University of Technology, is a long-term resident of Glebe.

For *Glebe Voices* in September Tony will talk about the unique role that mangroves have played in the ecology of the bays and estuaries of Sydney, and the efforts, now successful, to re-introduce them along the Glebe foreshore.

Yuga Café offers light meals and drinks which you can enjoy while listening to our guest speaker.

Carole Herriman & Jan Macindoe

Players in the Pub



Next in our popular series of playreadings at the Roxbury Hotel, St Johns Rd / Forest St, Forest Lodge.

YERMA ('Barren')

by Federico Garcia Lorca
directed by Beate Zanner

MONDAY 21 September at 7pm (we always start on time).

The kitchen is open for orders from 5 pm.

26th Annual Glebe Music Festival

By popular demand, the Artistic Director of the Glebe Music Festival, David McIntosh, will be accompanying fellow Australian medic Rex Melville, in a Musical Cabaret at *Gleebooks*, 49 Glebe Point Rd, on Friday 6 November at 7pm. Tickets \$10 including the usual refreshments (wine, beer, soft drinks, food) at interval.

Some will remember their previous cabaret at *Gleebooks*, in 2007, entitled *He Loves and She Loves*, with German drummer Philip Schultz. This year's is an entirely new show, with a Sydney-based drummer.

Tickets at the door or book at www.glebemusicfestival.com.

Thirsty Thursdays

Glebe Society members and friends are invited to meet in restaurants in and around Glebe, usually on the first Thursday of each month, to eat and talk with other people who live in Glebe.

We try to choose restaurants where we can share dishes, and have six to eight people at each table. Put these details in your diary now:

- On Thursday 3 September at 7pm we will go to Almustafa Lebanese Restaurant, 23 Glebe Point Rd.
- On Thursday 1 October at 7pm we will go to the Himalayan Char Grill, 41 Glebe Point Rd.
- And on Thursday 5 November at 7pm we will go to Ombretta, the Italian restaurant at 355 Glebe Point Rd.

Please email thirstythursday@glebesociety.org.au 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

Blue Wren Group – Spring Events

The annual Spring Bird Survey will take place on Sunday, 27 September. We will meet at 6.45am in Paddy Gray Reserve, Hereford St to register attendance, collect survey sheets and confirm the areas to be surveyed by each group. Each survey will be done for approximately twenty minutes, between 7am and 8am, following which we will get together for breakfast at Esca Café on Glebe Point Rd. Participants should bring binoculars, camera, clipboard and pen for completing the survey sheets. If you would like to join us, please contact Andrew Wood – 9660 6104 or bluewrens@glebesociety.org.au.

The Orphan School Creek Bush Care Group's planting on 26 July went well, and the new shrubs have settled in. The results of the Group's work were demonstrated last year when the bush flowered gorgeously. Members are invited to come along for a Spring walk through the area on Sunday 13 September. Meet at the top of the steps at 10am where Judy Christie, convenor of the Group, will talk about the history of the area and lead a walk along the creek and through the Reserve. For more details, contact Judy – 0437 693 372 or judychristie@internode.on.net.

Jeanette Knox

Come to our Sunset Soirée!

Friday 9 October

6 - 8.30pm

The annual fundraiser for

CENTIPEDE



will be held at the

Glebe Rowing Club

Ferry Road, Glebe

Entry \$20 per person, payable at door
[deductable from annual membership fee]

RSVP essential by Monday 5 October
email: community@glebesociety.org.au
or phone: 0401 505 657

DRINKS AND CANAPES

Live music

GUEST SPEAKER: Professor Heather Goodall, a long-time Glebe resident and educator, who has worked in collaborative research projects with Aboriginal communities in NSW and Central Australia.

AUCTION OF DESIRABLE ITEMS, including three days mid-week at a South Coast Air B&B.

CENTIPEDE 'KIDZ ARCHIES' competition artwork to be judged by Soirée guests.

Draw of raffle of the beautiful queen size quilt, handmade and donated by Ellie Edgar, an award-winning quilter from Port Macquarie. [Tickets \$2 – phone 0401 505 657]

GAMES

DOOR PRIZE

CENTIPEDE is the out-of-school-hours program at Glebe Public School

Friends of **CENTIPEDE** is supported by the Glebe Society

www.centipede.org.au/how-you-can-help.html

For Your Calendar

Sun 30 August, 11am. *Glebe Society AGM*, Glebe Town Hall.
 Thurs 3 September, 7pm. *Thirsty Thursday*, Almustafa Lebanese Restaurant, 23 Glebe Point Rd.
 Wed 9 September, 7pm. *Management Committee meeting*, Glebe Town Hall.
 Sun 13 September, 10am. Orphan School Creek walk.
 Tues 15 September, 6pm. *Glebe Voices*, Yuga Café.
 Mon 21 September, 7pm, *Players in the Pub*, Roxbury Hotel, Forest Lodge.
 Sun 27 September, 6.45am. *Spring Bird Survey*. Paddy Gray Reserve.
 Thurs 1 October, 7pm, *Thirsty Thursday*, Himalayan Char Grill, 41 Glebe Point Rd.
 6 - 23 October. *WW1 exhibition & talks*, Glebe Town Hall.
 Wed 7 October, 7pm. *Management Committee meeting*, Glebe Town Hall.
 Fri 9 October, 6pm, *Centipede Soirée*, Glebe Rowing Club.
 Thurs 5 November, 7pm. *Thirsty Thursday*, Ombretta, Italian restaurant at 355 Glebe Point Rd.
 Tues 17 November, 6pm. Talk by John Symonds: *The Anzac Bridge 20 years on, Benledi*.
 Wed morns, 8.30am. *Glebe Bushcare Group* nr Jubilee Park. Contact Sue Copeland: 9692 9161

Book for Glebe Society Events on the Society's Eventbrite page:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/d/australia--sydney/glebe-society/>



The Glebe Society Inc Established 1969

Management Committee

President	Ted McKeown	02 9660 3917	president@glebesociety.org.au
Vice President	Murray Jewell	0405 921 945	vicepresident@glebesociety.org.au
Past President	John Gray	02 9518 7253	pastpresident@glebesociety.org.au
Secretary	Carole Herriman	02 9571 9092	secretary@glebesociety.org.au
Minutes Secretary	Rosalind Hecker	02 9660 7056	minutes@glebesociety.org.au
Treasurer	Jeannie Foyle		treasurer@glebesociety.org.au
	Lorel Adams	02 9571 1113	lorel@glebesociety.org.au
	Chris Blair	0414 550 382	chris@glebesociety.org.au
	Jock Keene	02 9571 4078	jock@glebesociety.org.au
	Meg Wallace	0414 695 623	meg@glebesociety.org.au
Bays & Foreshores	Lesley Lynch	02 9660 5084	bays@glebesociety.org.au
Blue Wrens	Andrew Wood	02 9660 6104	bluewrens@glebesociety.org.au
Communications	Scott Calvert	0422 297 924	communications@glebesociety.org.au
Community	Janice Challinor	0401 505 657	community@glebesociety.org.au
Environment	Jan Macindoe	02 9660 0208	environment@glebesociety.org.au
Heritage	Liz Simpson-Booker	02 9518 6186	heritage@glebesociety.org.au
Planning	Neil Macindoe	02 9660 0208	planning@glebesociety.org.au
Transport & Traffic	Murray Jewell	0405 921 945	transport@glebesociety.org.au

Working Groups & Contacts

Archivist	Lyn Milton	02 9660 7930	milton.lyn@gmail.com
<i>Bulletin</i> Editor	Virginia Simpson-Young	0402 153 074	editor@glebesociety.org.au
Events	Lorel Adams	0458 365 456	events@glebesociety.org.au
History	Lyn Collingwood	02 9660 5817	lyncol1@optusnet.com.au
History of Glebe	Max Solling	02 9660 1160	
Website	Phil Young	02 9692 9583	webmaster@glebesociety.org.au
Chief Tweeter	Scott Calvert	0422 297 924	twitter@glebesociety.org.au

Highlights this issue

VALUING OUR LOCAL SUPPLIERS: FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SHOPS V THE SUPERMARKETS	1
COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015	2
TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014 -2015	4
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15.....	4
'FROM THE TERRACES'	6
PLANNING REPORT	6
WORLD WAR ONE EXHIBITION: GET A GLIMPSE AT GLEBE LIBRARY	7
WHO LIVED IN YOUR STREET? UNA IRENE AND EDNA MARJORY MONCRIEFF.....	8
COMMUNITY NOTES, BY JANICE CHALLINOR	9
THE NAMING OF DAVE SANDS LANE.....	10
VALE KEVIN COOK, FIRST INDIGENOUS HEAD OF TRANBY COLLEGE	11
THE LATE LES McMAHON – A GOOD FRIEND TO THE GLEBE SOCIETY	11
CREATIVE GLEBE, SOCIAL GLEBE.....	13



PO Box 100
Glebe NSW 2037

No.7 of 2015 (September)

Membership of the Glebe Society

- Individual member: \$45
- Joint (2 people, one address): \$55
- Household: \$60
- Concession (student or pensioner): \$20
- Institution or corporate: \$110

How to join

- Join online: complete the Membership Application on our website under 'Membership'
- Download a membership form from www.glebesociety.org.au; or
- Write to the Secretary at PO Box 100
Glebe 2037; or
- Email secretary@glebesociety.org.au

Reminder ...

THIS WEEKEND!
Annual General Meeting
Sunday 30 Aug 2015
11am–1pm
Glebe Town Hall