



## The Rainbow Lodge Program a quiet achiever for over 50 years

by Diane Hutchinson

### The Program

The Rainbow Lodge Program was established in 1964 to provide supported accommodation for men on their release from NSW correctional facilities. It was located initially at Bass Hill but re-located to Dulwich Hill before moving to Glebe in 1971. The Rainbow Lodge Program and its inspiration, Judge Rainbow, were at the forefront of a radical change in our approach to breaking the re-offending cycle. For the first half of the 20th century, the dominant view was that the prison sentence should serve as a deterrent to anti-social behaviour (and for those who didn't get the message, perhaps next time...). The Prisoners' Aid Association and other not-for-profit groups attempted to ease ex-offenders' transition into the community, but the Rainbow Lodge Program was the first intensive, residential-based program in Australia designed to actively help parolees re-integrate into the community.

The Rainbow Lodge Program provides parolees with a home for three months, subject to their full participation in its Program. The Program has evolved over almost 50 years as it gained more experience and accumulated more evidence on the most effective ways to foster social re-engagement. Today the Program includes a range of activities designed to build pro-social behaviour and give its participants the skills and confidence to live in the community, as well as individual case management and specialised services to meet each participant's needs. The Rainbow Lodge Program also provides outreach support for participants when they move into the community. To help equip participants for that move, the Program also operates, as far as possible, with a code of acceptable and expected behaviour, which includes, as for any large household, the expectation that everyone will help with household chores such as cooking.

The Rainbow Lodge Program video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LExNrCpFcuQ>) explains more clearly than I can, the challenges faced by Program participants, and the commitment of its case managers and staff. The remainder of this article focuses on the innovative history of the Program, and its current situation.<sup>1</sup>



*Glebe's Rainbow Lodge (image: Phil Young)*

### A Social innovator

Judge Alfred Rainbow, after whom the Program is named, was admitted to the NSW Bar in 1923 and worked initially in private practice. In 1946 he was appointed Judge in the NSW Workers' Compensation Commission, a position he held until his death in December 1963, aged 63. Rainbow's professional obituary described him as a 'colourful, forthright and fearless' man with a keen interest in the criminal justice system, and especially in prison reform and the 'rehabilitation of prisoners'.<sup>2</sup> Rainbow was a long-standing President of the Prisoners' Aid Association, was instrumental in the formation of the Australian Prison After-Care Council and became the inaugural President of its successor, the Australian Crime Prevention Council, in the early 1960s. In life, Rainbow did much to raise public awareness of the benefits of

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rehabilitation for both ex-prisoners and the community – one posthumous account described Rainbow as a ‘crusader’ for the cause of rehabilitation. Drawing on overseas evidence, Rainbow also increasingly advocated residential programs where the scope for intensive guidance and support gave the greatest chance of success.<sup>3</sup> Rainbow did not live to see his views put into practice in Australia, but his death provided the inspiration and the impetus to establish the Rainbow Lodge Program.



*Rainbow Lodge (image: Phil Young)*

The Judge Rainbow Memorial Appeal, chaired by Justice McClemens, was launched in 1964. It attracted widespread support from organisations (including the Kirby Foundation, the Rotary Club and Fairfield Council) and individuals. Members of the legal profession have been prominent supporters and filled positions on the Board of Management of the Appeal’s administering body, The Judge Rainbow Memorial Fund. Construction of the first Rainbow Lodge Program men’s facility began immediately, with its 18 places expected to be ready by the end of 1964; construction of a women’s facility started soon after.<sup>4</sup> The mid-1960s must have been heady days for those who shared Rainbow’s views. But this type of social innovation is expensive to establish and operate. It took time to build evidence of the value of an intensive residential program and make an effective case for government support. In the interim, the Program’s women’s facility was closed, and the scale of its men’s facility was reduced with the move to Glebe in 1971. Soon after though, the Rainbow Lodge Program began to attract government support, with funding for an administrator and a consultant psychologist by the mid-1970s.<sup>5</sup>

## **The Rainbow Lodge Program today**

The success of the Rainbow Lodge Program’s approach is now widely acknowledged.<sup>6</sup> The Program has places for eight men, with three of those places reserved for men who identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. The Program is almost always fully occupied, particularly now it

establishes contact with successful applicants prior to their release from prison to ensure, among other things, that they understand the Program’s terms and conditions. The Program’s operation is now mostly funded by the government – primarily through Corrective Services NSW, with the NSW Family and Community Service (FACS) providing a smaller proportion. As a condition of this funding, The Rainbow Lodge Program takes men evaluated as having a high risk of re-offending, complex needs and who would otherwise be homeless. This profile raises additional challenges because, for some, the three-month residential limit is too short. To address this, the Rainbow Lodge Program has drawn on donations to ramp-up its outreach service. It now provides more intensive support to its participants re-settling in the community for a period of up to two years.<sup>7</sup>

The Rainbow Lodge Program’s greatest current challenge is to organise secure homes for its graduates to re-settle in the community. Private rentals are now out of reach and social housing for singles is in short supply. This leaves traditional boarding houses or couch-surfing, both of which are classed as forms of homeless accommodation by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, because they provide inadequate security of tenure, privacy and scope for a normal social life. The causal relationship between homelessness and re-offending is difficult to identify statistically but there is almost universal agreement that access to a secure affordable home is an important pre-requisite to ex-offenders’ full re-integration in the community.<sup>8</sup>

But, to end on good news: The Rainbow Lodge Program has begun to build strong relationships with new Community Housing Providers (CHP).<sup>9</sup> It currently supports 17 of its residential Program graduates in CHP homes for a period of up to two years, after which this housing will become available for other residents. The Rainbow Lodge Program still cannot ensure a home for all its graduates, but it has strong hopes that its number of CHP places will increase in the future.

The Glebe Society’s kitchen starter packs will help equip Program participants who move into their CHP and social housing homes. At least as important, our packs demonstrate community support for these men as they work to re-build their lives.

*Diane Hutchinson*

### **Notes:**

1. See the Rainbow Lodge Program web-site for more information. This site was closed for re-building when this article was being written but it should be available soon.;
2. Judge Rainbow, Obituaries’, *The Australian Bar Gazette*, 1964 (12), p. 2 (<http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/journals/AUBarGaz/1964/12.pdf>)

**Notes continued on bottom of p.8**

## Letter to the Editor



On 9 July we shared this lighthearted post on the Glebe Society's Facebook Page:

*Seriously ... a fox has been sighted in Glebe at least twice in the last few weeks. The first sighting was at St Scholastica's School, another was at the end of Bridge Rd, and another was of the wily fox crossing the Booth St end of Wigram Rd. If anyone else has seen our furry friend, could you let us know?*

The Facebook post received many comments confirming the sighting, but the following letter from John and Jenny Sergeant drew our attention to the serious consequences of feral animals in Glebe:

*Dear Glebe Society,*

*Rather than being a quaint curiosity, the fox, which we now learn has been seen numerous times in Oxley, Leichhardt and Mary Streets, is more of a menace. Many Glebe Society members, who use the foreshore walk, would be aware of our chickens. Children and adults on the walk would delight in seeing them ... and they were beloved family pets (and good layers).*

*A couple of months ago, they were torn to shreds by a fox, and bits of their bodies left all over the neighbourhood. It was very distressing for our young family and for all those who had grown accustomed to saying hello to the birds in the course of their walks.*

*Heaven only knows how many native animals the fox has eaten when chicken is not on the menu.*

*We believe that the City should engage a professional to trap, collar and trace the fox, so that it and its family can be euthanased. Foxes do not belong in this country and certainly not in Glebe. Our chickens were pets. If a cat or a dog had been dismembered in this brutal fashion, we have no doubt that Council would act.*

*Kind regards,  
John and Jenny Sergeant*

### Other fox sightings in Glebe reported on the Society's social media

Three years ago, a visitor to our Facebook page asked: 'Anyone seen a fox in Glebe? A local chook has been taken. The crime has a fox's MO.' In mid-June this year, we tweeted: 'There are rumours of a fox in #Glebe! Has anyone else seen it?' A number of Twitter users tweeted back: 'Yes, I saw

it on crossing on Wigram Rd. The Booth St end, near the canal' and 'If your cat food keeps disappearing, good chance it's the glebe fox. Spotted at #schols #glebe'.

Here are some more responses to our 9 July Facebook post – the one that prompted John and Jenny Sergeant's letter to the editor:

- Yep! A few weeks ago we saw one crossing the road under the bridge near Glebe auto/light rail. Could not believe it!
- I was walking the dog a couple of months ago and we found a fox hiding in bushes behind the Hilda Booler Kindergarten. It ran off up Alexandra Rd.
- A friend saw one near the old incinerator at Blackwattle Bay Park.
- Saw one about 2 months ago near the light rail at Rozelle Bay.
- My wife has seen a fox about 4 years ago.
- Yep, they're definitely around. There's even bandicoots sighted in north Annandale
- We saw a lot of them before the Harold Park racetrack was demolished. Have seen them pretty regularly since about 2003.
- They've been around for years. I saw one back in about 2005-06 early one winter's morning sitting prettily, surveying the view over the city, in the park on Avon St.
- Saw the fox last night around 10.45pm. The fox was crossing the road opposite Harold Park where the canal runs under the road, on The Crescent.

Not long after this, the Facebook Group, 'Annandale 2038', shared our post and they received the following responses:

- I saw one about 2 years in Jubilee Park just before 6am.
- I saw one in the railyards when RMS gave me a tour last year. Probably on the run.
- They are frequently seen along Johnston Creek. One killed all my chickens in 10 minutes flat.
- I have seen a fox about 5 weeks ago at the end of Annandale St close to the Light Rail.

So, it seems certain that there is at least one fox in Glebe. Our Environment Subcommittee is looking in to this matter to see what action the Society can take.

*Virginia Simpson-Young*  
Convenor, Communications



## History & Heritage

### Who lived in your street? by Lyn Collingwood

#### The Birtles: Dora Eileen (1903-92) and Herbert Victor Minns (1900-1994)



Bert Birtles self-published *Black Poppies* in 1924. It included a sketch of the young poet by his relative B. E. Minns.

After their marriage on 23 August 1923 newlyweds Bert and Dora Birtles were in digs at *Ellangowan*, 1 Stewart St, for about a year, living on her teaching salary and playing their gramophone day and night. While there Bert, in a limited edition on art paper, self-published his verse collection *Black Poppies*. Included were 'Beauty' (its subject matter physical love) and 'Satisfied Desire'. Dedicated to 'D', it had

first appeared in the Sydney University student magazine *Hermes* and brought about the expulsion of its author, charged with 'committing misconduct in writing a poem'.

Studying philosophy at night, a Socialist and a proponent of the Free Love Society, Bert met Dora Toll, at university on an Exhibition and a Teacher's College scholarship, early one evening in a Fisher Library queue in the quadrangle. Dora shared Bert's love of writing and got into trouble with her own explicit poem 'Moon-Shadows' published in *Hermes*. It was at the insistence of her father (founder of the transportation and logistics company Toll Holdings) that the couple married, a union that lasted until Bert's death.

The pair became part of a network of Leftist literati including Nettie Palmer, Jean Devanny, Kylie Tennant, Christina Stead, Katharine Susannah Prichard, Frank Dalby Davidson, Flora Eldershaw, Marjorie Barnard and Miles Franklin. Dora was also a member of the International Women's League Against War and Fascism. She worked as a reporter and wrote in a variety of genres, including children's fiction, the book of the film *The Overlanders*, and *North-West by North*, an account of her 1932 sea voyage from Newcastle to Singapore. Also known as Kim, Bert continued to write poetry while working internationally as a political journalist. A significant work was *Exiles in the Aegean: a personal narrative of Greek politics and travel*.

Dating from ca 1889, *Ellangowan* was built of brick on stone foundations with an entry porch and a slate roof. Downstairs were two halls, a pantry, storeroom, kitchen and drawing, dining and sitting

rooms; while upstairs comprised five bedrooms, a workroom and a bathroom. Outside were stables, a coach-house and a laundry, with a tennis court set in terraced lawns. Close to the bus and tram, its original neighbours were *Katoomba* on Stewart St, and *Glenlea* and *Edsberg* on Mary St.

Mary St commemorates Mary Chisholm née Bowman who purchased land from George Miller. Following the subdivision of her large estate, several lots were bought in 1876 by goldsmith and jeweller Timothy Tillotson Jones, then living at *Dellwood* (now 10 Leichhardt St). In 1886 lots 18 and 19 (1 Stewart St) were bought from Jones in the name of Sarah Louisa Campbell, wife of merchant turned estate agent Charles Jackson Campbell (born at St Mary's in 1860), and *Ellangowan* was erected. However, Campbell was soon in financial trouble. John Newton and John Broomfield became mortgagees in possession and exercised their power of sale. In August 1890, on account of the Proprietor's 'departure from the district', *Ellangowan's* contents were advertised for auction – walnut furniture, piano, Brussels carpets, curtains, kitchenware, glassware, mantels and overmantels. Charles Jackson Campbell, a declared insolvent, *did* leave the district. After spending a good deal of time in court over property disputes in Surry Hills and Willoughby, he found himself in gaol in 1894 at the start of a 14-year sentence for forging a title deed.

Hundreds of professionals went broke in the early 1890s. It was a bad time to sell property and the house was tenanted. Robert William Pooles, an employee in the Lands Office, lived there. However, he was declared bankrupt in October 1891 and the next month the property was put up for mortgagee auction but failed to find a buyer. As it turned out, Pooles was exposed as a swindler, living off cash advances from Lloyd's on the assurance he was a doctor and a remittance man destined to inherit £23,000 on the death of his father in England. When Mr Lloyd received a brief cable from England ('Pooles bad') Pooles moved to Melbourne. In 1896, after paying a week's board, he shot himself dead in a Carlton lodging house. His body was identified by Cuthbert Casswell who had been at school with him in England and who saved him from a pauper's funeral. Pooles, aged 27, was reputedly engaged to a fashionable young woman in Melbourne.

Other *Ellangowan* tenants were wholesale chemist Josiah Hemmons and his wife Kate, daughter of teetotal John Craven, long-serving Prahran Town

Clerk. The couple had moved from Melbourne after Josiah was declared insolvent in 1883. Kate's brother, Macquarie St writing clerk Charles Ogden Craven, also survived two declarations of bankruptcy in 1887 and 1895. After Kate Hemmons' death aged 52 in 1898, the funeral left *Roslyn* Toxteth Rd for Waverley Cemetery where her widower was buried in 1922.



*Charles Jackson Campbell built Ellangowan but did not live there for long. He is photographed here in Darlinghurst Gaol in 1894 facing a long sentence for forgery. (Image: State Records)*

In April 1893 *Ellangowan*, a 'gentleman's residence' set in 'pleasure grounds', was finally sold. It was bought for £2400 by engineer James Blackwood (1831-1916) who moved there from Pymont and was soon advertising for house painters. The Blackwood family owned the property for the next 51 years.

James Blackwood was born in Johnstone, a coalmining and cotton-milling town in Renfrewshire county Scotland. In 1863, representing shipbuilders Blackwood and Gordon of Port Glasgow, he travelled with his young family to Sydney on the steamer *Alexandra*. Blackwood sold the vessel to Australasian Steam Navigation and joined the company as its engineer. During his 21-year-employment Blackwood made two return visits to The Clyde superintending the building of 16 coastal steamers contracted for Australian waters. In 1885 he set up business on his own account, establishing James Blackwood and Son marine engineers and ironmongers. He died aged 85 at *Ellangowan* on 6 November 1916, predeceased by Elizabeth Gatherer Blackwood (born in 1829 in Benstone a coalmining town near Quarrelton, Renfrewshire) who died at *Ellangowan* on 4 July 1895. Both were buried in the family grave in the Presbyterian section at Rookwood.

Born in Renfrewshire to James and Elizabeth were: Agnes Storie (1858-1946), Susan Faulds (1860-1936) and Ludovic (1862-1939). James jnr (1871-1959) was born in Sydney. Agnes was still living at home when her father died and remained at *Ellangowan* for a year or so afterwards. She did not marry.

A shipping engineer, James jnr married Florence May McCoy at Chippendale in 1899. They had three sons and three daughters. Agnes Storie's birth was registered in Glebe in 1904 and Donald McCoy was born at *Tara*, Leichhardt St, in 1908. By the time Ulla McCoy was born in 1914 this branch of the family had settled at Wahroonga.

In 1880 Susan Faulds Blackwood married George McCredie who began his working life as an apprentice carpenter with the Australasian Steam Navigation Company, her father's employer. In partnership with his brother, George founded A L & G McCredie architects and consulting engineers. One of their projects was excavating for Sydney's first telephone tunnels where rats gnawed on the wires. When bubonic plague broke out near the wharves in 1900, McCredie, experienced in managing rodents, was put in charge of hands-on quarantine and cleansing operations. The early death of the 'Victor of the Plague' at age 43 in 1903 was attributed to his house-to-house inspections in the affected areas. Commemorated by an obelisk among the Blackwood graves in the Presbyterian section at Rookwood, he was survived by his widow and eight living children. Susan McCredie died 33 years later.

Susan and George McCredie bought land at Guildford where they built *Linnwood* (now listed on the NSW State Heritage Register). Although this was their principal residence after 1891, because of the distance from the city they kept occupancy of *Rewa* on Glebe Point Rd near present-day Eglinton Rd. This was the scene of a twist of fate in April 1895 when their 13-year-old son James Thomas died there. George McCredie was foreman of the jury at the notorious trial of George Dean, accused of poisoning his wife and baby. Directed by Justice Windeyer to speed up the deliberation process, George argued that the jurors were taking their time because they were taking the case seriously. This resulted in the jury being locked up and the news of the death of his son being withheld until after the trial.

Ludovic Blackwood inherited *Ellangowan* and he and his brother James became Joint Managing Directors of the family firm. (As an executor of the will, Ludovic argued in court about the amount of stamp duty levied on its shares.) In 1908 Ludovic moved from *The Mains* Boyce St to his newly built mansion *Marabar* on ten acres at Beecroft. Servants wanted there as cooks, laundresses and maids were asked to call at *Ellangowan*, probably

for initial scrutiny by his sister Agnes. *Marabar* remained the home of this branch of the family until 1966 when Ludovic's surviving son George McCredie Blackwood died. A conservationist who gave up his passion for the stage to enter the family business, George bequeathed to the public the Ludovic Blackwood Memorial Sanctuary, a remnant blue gum forest adjacent to *Marabar*.

Born at Glebe to Ludovic and Mary Wilson Blackwood were James (1896-1916), Peter Gatherer (1900-01), George McCredie (1903-66), Mary Gatherer (1905-58) and Elizabeth Gatherer (1907-68). Ludovic was greatly affected by the wartime death of 20-year-old James, buried in the cemetery attached to the Heilly-Sur-Ancre hospital. Educated at Miss McCredie's school at Glebe Point and SCEGS ('Shore' where he was a senior prefect, Latin prize winner, rower and runner) James enrolled in Arts at Sydney University but enlisted six months later. His newsy letters, published posthumously by his father, became progressively less effusive as the war progressed. Pro-conscription, he observed wryly that he was not old enough to vote in the divisive referendum. Following James' death, Ludovic was posted his son's effects: scarf, two books, notebook, letters, identity disc, photo, wrist watch, soap box, compass, two coins, belt, wallet, boomerang pendant and Testament. Ludovic also received the customary Memorial Scroll and King's Message, the pamphlet *Where the Australians Rest* and a Victory Medal. Whether these gave comfort or prolonged his grief is unknown. James' gold watch was passed to his aunt Agnes who soon lost it, offering a reward in October 1917 for the 'soldier's keepsake' mislaid between the Globe Theatre and the Glebe tram terminus.

After the death of patriarch James Blackwood, rooms in *Ellangowan* were sublet by Mary Flynn who lived there with her youngest child Harold James and her husband, ex-railway employee Thomas, one of the workers who built the Katoomba turntable. In the 1890s Thomas was often away from home and Mary was left with their nine children in Bathurst, dealing with pregnancies and creditors. The doctor and the truant officer were regular visitors. In 1895 Thomas Flynn was fined for not paying school fees for four of his children. Repeat truant Roger Squire Flynn was threatened with the *Vernon* Industrial School and appeared in court for stealing a fowl from a convent and throwing stones at a Chinese market gardener. In adult life Roger worked underground as a cable joiner. He twice escaped being burnt to death when high-tension cables exploded. On the second occasion he was pulled out of a Clarence St manhole overcome with fumes and his clothes ablaze.

Thomas Flynn died at *Ellangowan* on 4 April 1925 and was buried at South Head Cemetery, as was his widow Mary who died at Glebe in early 1934. Others who rented rooms at 1 Stewart St in the 1920s-1940s included grocer Roger Ernest Davis and his wife Edith, clerk Robert Turville Curtis, building contractor Hans Delmar-Dahle who subsequently moved to Granville where he became a tennis court proprietor, and Mona Pearl Read née Travanion. In the late 1930s members of the Kosmon Church held services at *Ellangowan*.

In 1939 Ludovic Blackwood died and his son George McCredie Blackwood inherited *Ellangowan*. He continued to rent out the 'waterfront flats' before their purchase in December 1944 by Ellen Beatrice Adams née Cruwys (1890-1958). In 1962 the property was sold by the Public Trustee to trotting jockey turned general carrier Thomas Alwyn Dewell and his second wife Betty Doris née Wratten. (He and first wife Valerie Joan née Buyers had been long-term tenants.) In April 1970 the Dewells sold *Ellangowan* to Riviona Investments (it went into liquidation in 1996) and the mansion was subsequently demolished. The Dewells bought 288 Glebe Point Rd where 'Toddy' died in 1993 and his widow ten years later.

*Lyn Collingwood, Local Historian*

**Sources:** *Australian Dictionary of Biography*; Birtles, Herbert Victor *Black Poppies*; Land Property Information NSW: Certificates of Title; *Letters of Private James Blackwood, died of wounds in France, December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1916, aged 20*; Moore, Deidre *Survivors of Beauty*; NSW cemetery records; NSW electoral rolls; NSW registry of births, deaths and marriages; Rodney Hammett; *Sands Directories*; *SL Magazine* Autumn 2017; Trove website.

**Note:** The Friends of *Linnwood* ('phone 9632 9203) organise regular Open Days at Susan and George McCredie's historic house at 25 Byron Rd Guildford. The next scheduled is Sunday 9 September, 11am-4 pm. The \$3 entry fee supports restoration and conservation.



*A hand-made sign outside Ellangowan asks drivers not to bump the fence, ca 1965. Today a unit complex Ellanbay sits on the site and the street is one-way in the opposite direction. (Image supplied by Lyn Collingwood)*



## Blasts from the Past

### **Bidura site development**

*The Seventies: Bulletin no 9 of 1978*

## Bidura :

### GLEBE ACTION GROUP - BIDURA :

The Glebe Society is supporting the activities of the Glebe Action Group which has been formed to protest about the size of the proposed development of a Remand Centre at the Bidura site and about the secrecy with which the proposals have been surrounded.

The proposed complex is of the scale and character of a prison - is this the way a modern government sees a so-called 'home' for children between 13 and 16 years of age ?

The neo-brutalist *Bidura* Children's Court was built, albeit not as large as first proposed, and it opened in 1983. Less than 40 years later, proposals for another very large development on this site, including demolition of the Children's Court building, are under consideration by the Land and Environment Court. See the Heritage Subcommittee Annual Report 2017-2018 in last month's *Bulletin* for more details.



*The Children's Court (image: Altmedia)*

### **Anzac Bridge plans unveiled**

*The Eighties: Bulletin no 8 of 1988*

### GLEBE ISLAND BRIDGE

Several members of the Society visited the DMR's offices in Castlereagh Street on 22 September at the invitation of the Department, to inspect and discuss plans for a new Glebe Island Bridge.

The Society is not enthusiastic about the prospect of a high level bridge so close to residential areas of Glebe. However, if there is to be a bridge, the new one being planned has attractions as a design.

The bridge opened in 1995 and was re-named the Anzac Bridge on 11 November 1998, the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Armistice Day marking the end of the First World War.

### **The boxing gloves outside Gleebooks**

*The Nineties: Bulletin no 10 of 1998*

## PUT UP YOUR DUKES !

Sculptor Ian Lisser-Sproule is finalising the details of his *Boxing Gloves* artwork for the Glebe Point Road streetscape programme. Celebrating the history of Glebe, the sculpture consists of a pair of life-size boxing gloves cast in bronze and mounted inside a metal cavity in the footpath in front of Gleebooks at 49 Glebe Point Road. A transparent industrial glass cover will be placed over the cavity, flush with the footpath, allowing people to walk over the top of the artwork. At night the boxing gloves will be lit.

The artwork evokes boxing history and culture, a major pre-war recreation for the working classes within the inner-suburbs of Sydney. The installation in front of this Gleebooks store is significant, as it was the actual site of Laming's Golden Gloves Boxing Gymnasium. It is also an accolade for local boxing heroes, including indigenous boxer Dave Sands (who is commemorated on the stone set into the wall at the Jubilee Fountain). Installation is expected during December, with a launch planned in January.

The artwork is no longer there, and has been replaced by a hardier memorial:



*Current tribute to Lamings Golden Gloves Gym outside Gleebooks (image: Phil Young)*

David Gaunt from Gleebooks, in response to an email from the *Bulletin* editor, sheds some light on the removal of the artwork:

*Sad story this one. Great idea to commemorate Laming's "golden glove" gym, but the memento proved an irresistible to local (well, we assumed local) youth. The challenge to break the glass (God knows how many times Council replaced and strengthened it) meant that the glass was broken or shattered*

so many times that eventually Council gave up, and took them away. For the life of me I can't remember what they did with them, but they were just gold-sprayed gloves, so no intrinsic value. Anyway, I confess to relief once they were gone, since we sometimes lost our front window to an overly enthusiastic sledge-hammerer!

We could write a fair old history of happenings in our small neck of the woods, since 1975.

[Editor: When were the gloves taken away?]

It's a few years ago now, I'd guess not long after the great 2008 street renovation (which was a magnificent renewal of essential infrastructure, but from which disruption way too many businesses never recovered).

## Public Art in Glebe

*The Noughties: Bulletin no 7 of 2008*

### Public Art

The Glebe Point Road upgrade began in the section around the Primary School, so we caught first glimpses of the gorgeous art-work fence while the surrounding area was still in chaos. As I write this, the fence is almost completed and a Council launch ceremony is planned to coincide with the sesquicentenary celebrations of the school in November. Very nice timing!

The fence has been met with delight. Typically people feel it is even better than they had expected.

Artist/Designer Nuha Saad said that her ideas were based on the wooden picket fences found throughout the Glebe area. 'It will act as a link to both Glebe's vibrant contemporary culture and its architectural and social history and will combine aspects of Glebe's Victorian architectural past with a contemporary art aesthetic'.

*(Extract from a report by Susan Ingram, Arts, Culture and Media Subcommittee of the Society)*

The fence was one of three projects selected to be part of the Glebe Point Rd Public Art Program. The Glebe Society, along with the Glebe Chamber of Commerce and other resident action and community groups, had proposed the public art

program in their submission to the City of Sydney of Priority Projects for Glebe 2006-10.

Sarah Fogg



*The fence built as part of the Glebe Point Rd Public Art Program (image: Jamie Williams for City of Sydney)*

## Notes continued from p.2

3. 'Rehabilitation Home To Be Erected At Bass Hill', *The Biz (Fairfield)* 21 October 1964, p.1 (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article189526090>) (accessed 15 Jul 2018.) See also [http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/bulletin/ACPC\\_NEWSLETTER\\_2015.pdf](http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org/fileadmin/user_upload/bulletin/ACPC_NEWSLETTER_2015.pdf), p. 3 (accessed 12/7/18);
4. Ibid.;
5. Department of Corrective Services, NSW, *General Information Booklet* (n.d.1978?) (<http://csa.intersearch.com.au/csajspui/bitstream/10627/755/1/39339049890707generalinfo.pdf>);
6. See <https://ndarc.med.unsw.edu.au/resource/supported-accommodation-services-people-released-custody-systematic-review-inform> (accessed 8/7/18);
7. See <http://inbrief.nswbar.asn.au/articles/bb24741e67431b27a08039cb3115548>;
8. Tony Gilmour, 'NSW Community Housing's Role in Delivering Better Outcomes for People Exiting Correctional Services', *Housing Action Network*, Feb., 2018 (<https://www.homelessnessnsw.org.au/sites/homelessnessnsw/files/2018-04/Pathways5D.pdf>);
9. Community Housing Providers (CHPs) are not-for-profit organisations contracted to manage the provision of both affordable housing and housing for very low-income earners. With the latter, CHPs mainly lease housing properties from NSW Land and Housing Corporation or organise to build new housing, and are funded by FACS to manage these properties. Some also have an agreement to allocate properties to those listed on the NSW Housing Register; others organise their own very low-income tenants.

## Have you got some spare storage space?

The Society needs somewhere local and easily accessible to store Glebe Society equipment. We have quite a few boxes of glasses, platters etc. Maybe some kind-hearted member could help? If so, please contact the Secretary, Jude Paul on [secretary@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:secretary@glebesociety.org.au) or ph 0438 600 882.





## Last month's mystery photo

Last month's mystery photo ... remains a mystery! The 1940 *Honi Soit* pre-Photoshop treatment of 'Offal Avenue' was captioned 'In search of student lodgings ... the academic procession marched through miles and miles of salubrious Glebe'. It's not a view of three-storey *Herberto Terrace* in Boyce St. (PS: Stella Farmer identified the Kentish Hotel in the July *Bulletin*. 'Oh aye, those were the days plenty of trams, plenty of pubs.' Unfortunately, her message arrived too late for publication in the August issue.)

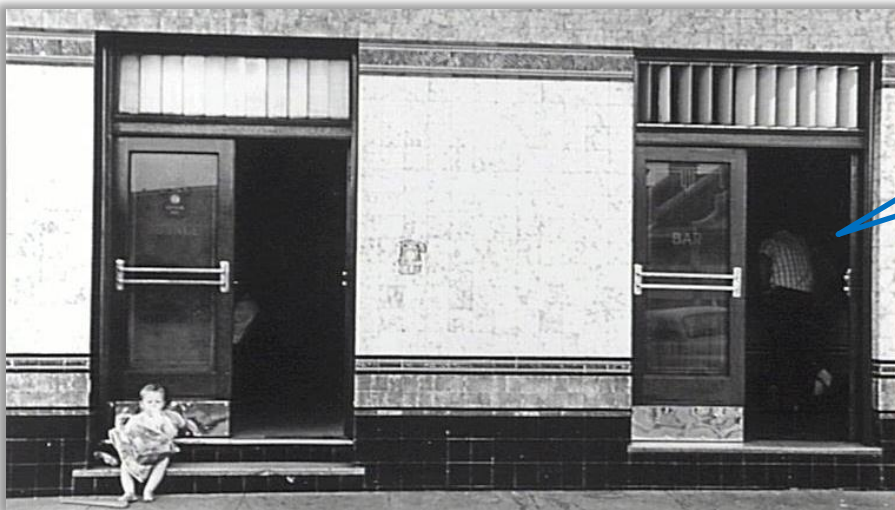


LEFT: Last month's mystery photo (image: *Honi Soit*, 1940)

RIGHT: *Herberto Terrace* ca 1970 (source: Bernard Smith Collection, City of Sydney Archives)



## This month's mystery photo



Where are we?

Please email your suggestions to [history@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:history@glebesociety.org.au)

## Community Matters

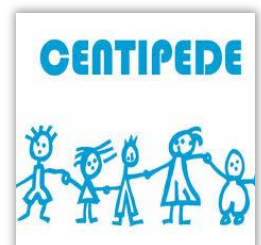
### How is Centipede changing?

Centipede at Glebe Public School Inc. is a community based, charitable organisation that has been providing 'before and after school care' and holiday programs for students at the Glebe Primary School since 1989. The care that Centipede provides includes meals, (i.e., breakfast and dinner) and social development opportunities for local Glebe Public Primary School children. It is not just a child-minding service; it is an accredited educational facility with trained early childhood educators in charge.

Since its inception Centipede has differed from most other Out of School Hours (OOSH) centres because it serves the particular needs of this special community. The children who attended

were formerly drawn mainly from the Glebe Estate, and included a significant proportion of families which struggled to pay fees for the service. But here is where Centipede's special care emerges; it has a policy of not turning any child away, even when their families are unable to afford to pay for their care.

Consequently Centipede, although in receipt of significant funding through government grants programs, was still struggling to pay staff adequately and provide some of the extras that



better-funded private organisations could. With this in mind The Glebe Society Inc began and continues to run an annual fundraising event in support of Centipede, our Sunset Soirée. We are doing so this year on 12 October, and you may find details on the flyer included in this *Bulletin*.

Since the Glebe Society became involved in its supporting role Centipede has undergone significant development as a community service provider. Just as the number of families in Glebe and surrounding suburbs continues to grow, so the number of children attending Glebe Public School and consequently Centipede has also risen significantly. From an attendance of 25 at Centipede three short years ago, today there are over 70 children utilising the service. This figure is up from 50 children in just one year. Of necessity much greater demand has been placed on the provision of staff and facilities. But it is not merely the weight of numbers that is changing; it is also the ethnic and social composition of the children. Where children originally came mainly from the Glebe Estate, the school and Centipede now draw attending families from a much wider area. This includes children from Ultimo, Redfern, Chippendale and Central Park. Consequently there has been a commensurate increase in the diversity of family backgrounds amongst the student population. Today there are children from more than 30 different national origins at Centipede, including those from China, Brazil, Chile, Congo, Sierra Leone, the Middle East & Israel. Thus the

diversity at Centipede reflects the diversity of the wider community, but the proportion of Indigenous Australian children attending is still between 20 and 30% of the service users.

While many of the newer families are able to pay fees in full there are still those who cannot. Just as Glebe has a significant number of refuges and interim housing facilities for families escaping domestic violence and other difficulties, so children resident with these service providers are frequently enrolled at Glebe Public School and Centipede too. As a result there remains a need to raise additional funds to ensure that all children attending this iconic Glebe service have an equal opportunity to benefit from the well-known advantages that early childhood education provides for the growing individual.

All contributions to Centipede at Glebe Public School are tax deductible due to its status as a charitable entity, but if you would like to support this Glebe Society community outreach why not take advantage of the fun and frivolity on offer at the Sunset Soirée on 12 October? The modest entry price of \$20 per person can be credited towards the \$100 annual membership of the Friends of Centipede subscription, which is one of the significant ways in which funds are raised. Please see the flyer for booking information, and I look forward to welcoming you at this delightful event. Let's keep Centipede sustainable!

*Janice Challinor, Convenor Community*

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### **Kitchen Pack project afternoon tea update and brainstorming session**

The Community Development Subcommittee invites you join us for afternoon tea on Wednesday 19 September, from 3.15 to 5pm, for an update on the Kitchen Pack Project, and a brainstorming session on 'Ageing in Place'. The Subcommittee is investigating this topic and we would like to draw on the experience and ideas of our members about the needs of older members of our community who wish to continue living in their own home, and the support services and facilities that could help. If

you or your friends or neighbours are in this situation, we would love you to take part in our brainstorming session over afternoon tea at St Helen's Community Centre.

**When:** Wednesday 19 September, from 3:15 to 5pm

**Where:** St Helen's Community Centre, 184 Glebe Point Rd

*Diane Hutchinson and Jan Macindoe*

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## **Glebe, Naturally**

### **News from Blue Wren Subcommittee**

On National Tree Day (Sunday, 29 July 2018), Glebe Society member Bryan Herden and Rae Broadfoot (Community Garden and Volunteer Coordinator, City Greening and Leisure, City of Sydney), organised a very successful planting day in Paddy Gray Reserve. 70 adults and children attended and native flora were planted, in particular, near the Hereford St entrance to the Reserve. Two wonderful photographs of the day

were published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Monday 30 July 2018.

We received a single excellent application for the 2018 Craney Small Grants Program from Glebe Public School. It was entitled 'Glebe Public School gets a native bee buzz' and the school has been awarded a grant of \$1,000.

The Society's annual Spring Bird Survey will be held from 6.45am on Sunday 28 October

commencing in Paddy Gray Reserve and will be led by Judy Christie. The survey will be completed by 8am when we will gather for breakfast at a local café. All members of the Society and their friends are welcome to assist – please contact Judy (0437 693 372) if you would like to come.

Sue Copeland from the Glebe Bushcare Group reports that 'we have been working of late on weed removal in the area below 'The Anchorage' on the Glebe foreshore and removing litter more generally. Only three people are currently involved with this group, two of whom do not live in Glebe – it's a pity that few locals seem interested in joining us!'

The Glebe Palmerston and Surrounds Landcare Group planted 215 native flora on Saturday 26 May – the plants are doing well and two working bees

have been held to water them, and to collect rubbish and dog faeces. The City will provide cardboard covers to help protect the newly planted flora. It has been discovered that the requested tap for the park is on land controlled by Transdev (the operators of the light rail) and they have withheld permission for access to the site due to 'the slope of the land' (despite it being part of the native planting program, and continually and safely accessed by volunteers and the public). There has still been no decision from the City about the concerns of the Group and the Society regarding the \$500 excess payable by volunteer groups should a member be injured while working in a City park. It may be necessary to request a meeting with the City.

*Andrew Wood, Convenor Blue Wrens*

## Glebe Society Events

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### Report: The Glebe Society AGM

The AGM was held on Sunday 19 August at the Glebe Town Hall. There were 44 members present and a number of apologies.

The meeting heard reports from the President, Treasurer and Secretary and additional comments from Neil Macindoe in relation to his planning report.

The following office holders were elected:

**President:** Vacant (As per the constitution, Allan is unable to extend his current role for a third year)

**Vice President:** Diane Hutchinson

**Treasurer:** Jane Gatwood

**Secretary:** Jude Paul

**Ordinary members:** Dorothy Davis; Mark Gorta; Mark Stapleton and Janet Wahlquist

Our guest speaker was Philip Thalís, Councillor, City of Sydney. Philip is a practising architect; he has played a major role in a number of significant design projects in and around the city of Sydney. His full speech will be available in a forthcoming *Bulletin*.

The meeting acknowledged the tireless work of Lyn Milton, the Society's archivist for many years, with Life Membership and the contribution of Diane

Hutchinson to a diverse range of community projects with a letter of commendation.

Jeanette Knox raised a vote of thanks for Allan Hogan's thoughtful and professional contribution to the Society in his role as President over the last two years.

*Jude Paul, Secretary*



*Lyn Milton (Archivist), Allan Hogan (outgoing President), Diane Hutchinson (Vice-President) and Philip Thalís (guest speaker). (image V. Simpson-Young)*

## Glebe Voices

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### Event Report: A Kosciuszko night in Glebe – *Glebe Voices* in July

A strong turnout of residents demonstrated the community interest in what has recently been dubbed by the ABC as a 'controversial' new law to protect wild horses in Kosciuszko National Park and the chance to hear Anne Dickson, President of

the National Parks Association NSW, speak on this at *Glebe Voices* on 31 July.

Anne was in conversation with the Glebe Society's environment convenor, Asa Wahlquist. The number



of questions and comments from the audience well demonstrated the level of interest Sydney people have in the introduction of the law and impacts of the wild horses on the ecology of the park. Anne described some of the implications of the new protections, as well as the concerns voiced by many scientists about this.

As well as compering the event, Allan Hogan also ran a slide show; this featured alpine plants photographed by Charlotte Simpson-Young and helped audience members immerse themselves a little into the Australian Alps for the evening while keeping their feet firmly in Glebe. Judy Vergison distributed prizes featuring some of the native animals found in the park.

### Invitation to the next *Glebe Voices*

**Hear insights from the other side of the camera from filmmaker, author and Glebe resident, Bob Connolly.**

Documentaries produced by Bob Connolly and Robin Anderson (who died in 2002) include *River Journey*, *The Highlands Trilogy*, *Rats in the Ranks* and *Facing the Music*. Bob, with Sophie Raymond, produced *Mrs Carey's Concert* in 2011. Such work

has set benchmarks in documentary filmmaking and won numerous awards as well as providing thoughtful reflections on what matters in life.

Glebe residents may recall that *Rats in the Ranks* was produced when Glebe was part of the Leichhardt Council area. The Glebe Society is proud to welcome Bob as our guest speaker for *Glebe Voices*. Bob will also show some brief clips of *Rats in the Ranks* and other films.

**When:** 7-8.30pm Wednesday 5 September. The doors will open from 6.30pm for a 7pm sharp start.

**Where:** Lower Hall, Glebe Town Hall

**Cost:** Seats are \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. We will provide snacks and non-alcoholic drinks but BYOGG (bring your own grog and glass) if you would like alcohol.

**To book:** Bring your family and friends for a memorable event. Book early to get a seat – go online at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/creating-narrativesof-life-bob-connolly-at-glebe-voices-tickets-48308602330> . If you are unable to book online, email [glebevoices@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:glebevoices@glebesociety.org.au) or phone Judy Vergison on 0417 446 425.

Fiona Campbell

### Save the Date: Our House – ‘Contemporary Glebe in the Lyndhurst Estate’

‘Our House’ events are a special opportunity for Society members to be a guest in a Glebe residence, where owners generously share stories of their home and surrounds. It is a great way to meet with others who enjoy being a part of our Glebe community.

The next event will be something a bit different – ‘Contemporary Glebe in the Lyndhurst Estate’. We will start in Bellevue St and then move to Cardigan St and Darling St. Some of these dwellings are completely new, while others have been renovated or adapted from small factories or commercial operations. There is a wonderful mix of old and new with interesting stories on this part of Glebe – where life and work often were intertwined.

We will see the interior of at least one new home after meeting in a renovated 1895 terrace for welcome drinks and introductions. During a short walking tour you will be provided with highlights on several other interesting dwellings and historical features in the Lyndhurst Estate.

This part of Glebe has special significance to the Society given our role in the successful 1970s fight to save *Lyndhurst* from the freeway proposed by the Department of Main Roads. These roadworks would have cut through Wentworth Park, destroyed many homes and divided this part of Glebe. The Society’s ‘Glebe Walks’ for Cardigan St is a good introduction to this historically significant part of Glebe:

[https://glebewalks.com.au/?tb\\_walk\\_stop=cardigan-street-reserve](https://glebewalks.com.au/?tb_walk_stop=cardigan-street-reserve).

More details will be provided on the ‘Contemporary Glebe in the Lyndhurst Estate’ event in the next Members Update and the October *Bulletin*. Bookings open on 7 September 2018 on the website, with numbers limited to 40. Put the date in your diary now!

Judy Vergison, Events Co-ordinator



*'The Castle' (image: Judy Vergison)*

# What's On

## 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 pick places where we can share dishes, and have eight or so people at each table. Put these details in your diary now:

- On Thursday 6 September at 7pm we will go to *Spicy Sichuan Glebe*, 1-9 Glebe Point Rd.
- On Thursday 4 October at 7pm we will go to *Timbah*, 375 Glebe Point Rd.
- And on Thursday 1 November at 7pm we will go to *Green Mushroom*, 163 Glebe Point Rd,

Please email me at [thirstythursday@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:thirstythursday@glebesociety.org.au) or ring me on 9660 7066 by 6pm on the Wednesday before to let us know if you are coming, or if you are likely to be late.

## Vale Anders Ahlqvist

Regular Thirsty Thursday diners will remember Anders and Judith Ahlqvist. Judith has emailed us to say:

*I write to tell you the sad news that Anders died very suddenly here in Finland on Thursday morning. Anders appeared happy and relaxed in his favourite place on the Gulf of Finland, and there was no hint of what was to come.*

*He collapsed and died on his way to collect the morning newspaper. He was able to phone me, so I was with him for a few moments before his heart stopped.*

*Judith later wrote: Thank you for your email and kind words about Anders and his very sudden and untimely death. We were both very keen members of the Glebe Society during our six years in Forest St. It was the first time we had ever belonged to a community group and we enjoyed the spirit and ideals of the Society, and appreciated the friendships that we made during that time. We both missed that very much when we moved away. Thirsty Thursdays were always special and such fun. Judith.*

Edwina Doe

## 29th Annual Glebe Music Festival 2018

There are four Concerts at the Glebe Town Hall, 160 St Johns Rd. Tickets can be bought in advance at [www.glebemusicfestival.com](http://www.glebemusicfestival.com), or they can be purchased at the door.

- Friday 9 November 7pm: International horn player Thomas Crome with Deborah de Graaff (clarinet), Tony Wheeler (clarinet) and Tonya Lemoh (piano). Music by Jenner, Schumann and Mendelssohn. Tickets \$20 (concessions \$10)
- Saturday 10th November 3pm: 'The Convict's Daughter – Songs of Australia'. Judith Rough (soprano) and John Martin (piano). Tickets \$20 (concessions \$10)
- Saturday 17th November 7pm: 'Janitsch and the Musical Academy' with Austral Harmony directed by Jane Downer. Tickets \$20 (concessions \$10)
- Sunday 18th November 3pm: 'Music for St Cecilia's Day'. Josie and the Emeralds directed by Brooke Green. Tickets \$35 (conc. \$25)

David McIntosh

## Calling all local artists!



Entry forms will be available from 1 September for this year's Glebe Art Show. Now in its 21<sup>st</sup> year, the Glebe Art Show will be held in the community space at the Tramsheds from 18 to 21 October.

As well as being part of a great show, artists are eligible for a number of prizes including Painting,

Works on Paper and Photography.

A special 'Character of Glebe' prize is sponsored by the Glebe Society. All entries are eligible for the Open Prize worth \$3,000.

All works will be for sale.

Entry forms can be obtained from any City of Sydney library or online at our website [www.glebeartshow.org.au](http://www.glebeartshow.org.au).

Get working now to be part of what promises to be an exceptional exhibition. Due to the popularity of the show, each artist can have only one entry.

## Glebe Artisans Market

Put a spring in your step and come along to the Glebe Artisans Market in Foley Park, Glebe on Saturday 15 September for our Spring Market.

The Market, which started in 2016 and is held four times a year, continues to be the perfect location for craftspeople to sell their works.

There will be more than 50 stalls with a wide range of goods for sale including ceramics, jewellery, homewares, artwork and fashion. All products are handmade in Australia by the stall holder.

Make a day of it - bring a picnic lunch and listen to the music in between checking out the stalls.

Foley Park is on the corner of Bridge Rd and Glebe Point Rd, Glebe. The Market will be open from 10am to 3pm.

For more information go to:  
[www.glebeartisansmarket.org.au](http://www.glebeartisansmarket.org.au)

### Glass Artists and Gauge Gallery



*Elementals Collection* is on show downstairs in Gauge Gallery with their mixed media objects and paintings. The artists Kate St James and Catherine Whitting will be in attendance for the duration of their show. Exhibition runs until Sunday 9 September.

*Encore Series* takes place upstairs in Glass Artists' Gallery and showcases artists whose works have left a strong resonance with the Gallery's clientele. These include Sandra King, Fiona Knox, Jason Moss, as well as our resident glass artists.

### Book review, by Ian Edwards: '2028' by Ken Saunders (Allen & Unwin 2018)

George Orwell achieved distinction as a political satirist mainly as a result of his last two books, *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. Ken Saunders may not become as famous, but his first novel '2028' has been published and having just finished reading it I don't think the comparison is inappropriate. It will be launched at Gleebooks at 49 Glebe Point Rd on 19 September, 6 for 6.30pm, where the author will be interviewed by Richard Walsh and will read an extract from the book.

Ken Saunders and his wife, Laurie, came to Sydney 32 years ago. While she was looking for employment as a neurologist he took a walk along Glebe Point Rd and decided they should stay in Glebe, which accounts for the fact that the protagonist, who is employed by ASIO to investigate the

Low Expectations bookshop that sells only second hand copies of Dickens, begins his journey in Glebe. He leaves his Autocar at a parkie, a machine where he has to pay but which also offers the opportunity of winning money.

The book is dedicated to Flo, Laurie and Marina. Flo is Ken's mother and Marina is his daughter who recently graduated BA with first class honours in

The Galleries are located at 68 Glebe Point Rd. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am-5.30pm, Sunday 1pm-5pm.

### Players in the Pub is back! New (old) venue

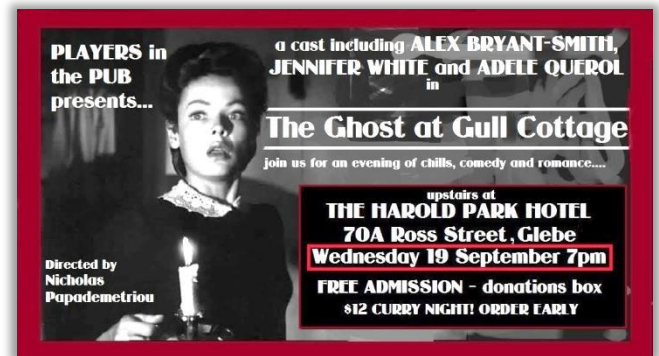
Players in the Pub is returning after a short hiatus. The new (old) venue is the Harold Park Hotel.

#### *The Ghost at Gull Cottage*

7pm, Wednesday 19  
September; Upstairs, Harold  
Park Hotel.



Lyn Collingwood



classics. It is a satire on Australian politics centred around an election called by a Liberal Prime Minister in 2028. The novel factor in the campaign, as he soon discovers, is the presence of the Luddite Party whose members consist of a large number of people who decided nine years ago to change their names by deed poll to Ned Ludd and have been dormant ever since. They manage to elude the time wasting government tactics of body searches by campaigning naked. The Communist Party of Australia has become Compink Australia a corporation which allows it to sue the Australian government if it passes any laws which could have an adverse effect on its business. Current advances in technology are all extrapolated and appear as they are likely to be 10 years from now.

The whole book is an insightful commentary on Lord Acton's dictum that all power tends to corrupt and, as Wendy Harmer has said, it is hilarious. If you want to know who won the election you will have to read the book but it will be on sale at Gleebooks from 29 August and is well worth the price of \$29.95.

Ian Edwards



# Glebe Society Subcommittee Annual Reports

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## Planning Subcommittee Annual Report 2017-2018: Neil Macindoe

This report is largely a look at the present and future in the light of the Better Planning Network seminar I attended on 11 August in the Tramsheds Community Room. The Seminar was looking at the Amended Planning Act that was passed in March this year. It was chaired by Corinne Fisher, and the speakers were from the Environmental Defenders Office. The Amended Act requires the City to review its controls in 2021. Until then the following will apply:

### Planning Controls

The current Local Environment Plan for Glebe, LEP 2012, like the two previous ones, LEP 20 (gazetted in 1981) and LEP 2000 lays down maximum height and density for new residential development. These controls mean that effectively new building will be generally similar to what already exists (this doesn't prevent people fighting like tigers over whether a proposal conforms to the rules or not, but this report is about the larger picture).

However, there are some exceptions. Some previously Industrial land, usually on the fringes of Glebe such as parts of the waterfront, or with previously non-residential uses, may have higher limits or even a separate LEP. Good examples are the northern end of Glebe Point Rd (501), Harold Park, and the area adjacent to Wentworth Park between Bay and Cowper Streets. Many are up to eight storeys, and some more.

There are also existing buildings of exceptional height, and in one case, the 1980 Remand Prison at the rear of *Bidura*, where the State Government insisted on a greater height limit.

### Conservation Controls

The objectives of the Amended Act now, for the first time, include the conservation of all types of heritage.

In the past, through Glebe Society pressure, LEP 20 made most of Glebe a single Conservation Area, as classified by the National Trust, and included a schedule of Heritage Items also documented by both those organisations.

Over the years there have been changes to both. In 1991, as a result of the publication of the Glebe Main Street Study Part 2, I was able to have all the items listed as 'essential to Glebe Point Road' included in the schedule of Heritage Items. This was a very significant increase, and most of them remain. However, by 2012 the Study was already out of date and there were some changes in the new LEP, which also split the single Conservation Area into several parts, each with its own character

description. LEP 2012 also created a new category of building, and as well as a map of Glebe identifying the Heritage Items, there is another which identifies buildings that are Contributory. Both provide some protection.

The Schedule of Heritage Items was increased by buildings and landscape items identified by the former Leichhardt Architect/Planner, Bruce Lay, and also by a succession of Conservation Studies (the Burley Griffin Incinerator and the Tramsheds are examples).

All local Government Heritage Items are now automatically listed on the State Heritage Register, and the listing includes all the information on the previous schedules.

### The future

In general the various levels of government have respected these controls and listings. However, the National Trust points out that State Significant Development trumps all controls, a situation both it and organisations like the Society deplore, and would like to see changed. We can take it for granted that developers will continue to cast greedy and longing eyes on Glebe, as they have done in the past, and we should continue our research and shore up our controls. Members should also carefully consider their options at the forthcoming State elections. A pro-environmental planning instrument has been developed by the BPN and, at this point, only the major opposition parties have committed to it.

It is available at [www.communitycharter.org](http://www.communitycharter.org).

### Affordable Housing

Despite the recent downturn in property prices, housing in Sydney continues to be very expensive. The City Council is looking to increase the supply of more affordable rental housing by requiring developers of larger multiunit residential buildings to contribute up to 10% to a fund to build more such housing, rented in perpetuity, mostly by the Inner West Housing group. About 200 such rental units are already under construction in Glebe, or soon will be.

This may not seem very many, but it is worth noting that about 20% of Glebe is already public (or social) housing, mostly houses, but including some flats and townhouses, and this is the most affordable rental housing available. In addition, when the NSW Department of Housing took over the Glebe Estate in 1984 it built 115 units specifically for seniors.

In the private sphere there are more than one hundred shop top dwellings, generally regarded as the next most affordable, and also a large sector which includes boarding house type accommodation. About 26 traditional boarding houses are registered in Glebe, and there are probably about the same number of unregistered ones.

In a bid to increase the supply of boarding house accommodation the State Government developed a policy (SEPP Affordable Rental Housing 2009) that allowed a bonus for such development, provided it also reached improved standards of amenity and safety. Unfortunately it didn't take long for developers to exploit this opportunity to exceed I asked Scott MacDonald, Parliamentary Secretary for Planning, who was at the Seminar, if the State Government would review the policy, and he confirmed that it would.

Many, probably most, of the more recent so-called boarding house developments in Glebe appear to

be designed for students, and are probably no more affordable than studio apartments. They still try to achieve the bonus, of course, and frequently fail to meet adequate standards. The City is aware of this exploitation, but it is essential for the policy to be changed to strengthen its hand to refuse such applications.

### Acknowledgements

Many people have contributed to achieving better planning outcomes over the last year, and I wish to thank them all. The most extraordinary contributions have come from the Vice President, Diane Hutchinson, who has done extensive original research with a special emphasis on potential heritage items in Forest Lodge, and Chris Blair, who has made important contributions to the Orphan School Creek corridor from the waterfront to Parramatta Rd.

*Neil Macindoe*  
Convenor, Planning Subcommittee

### Blue Wrens Subcommittee Annual Report 2017-2018: Andrew Wood

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The Subcommittee met on seven occasions during the past year and has 11 members. We continued to play a special role in assisting the activities of each of the six volunteer bushcare/landcare groups working in Glebe's parks. At an autumn party on 16 March, the Subcommittee celebrated the 10th anniversary of the publication of *'Superb Fairy-wren Habitat in Glebe & Forest Lodge – a community based conservation project'*. Sue Stevens, the consultant ecologist and urban small bird specialist who wrote the report, was an honoured guest. Sue's work was funded by a \$10,000 grant to the Society from the City of Sydney's Environmental Grants Program.

In 2017, Jan Craney, a much-loved former convenor of the Subcommittee, left a bequest of \$5,000 in her will to the Subcommittee. Following extensive discussion, the Subcommittee decided to spend the funds by awarding Small Grants to our 11 local preschools and primary schools to foster the learning of biodiversity in our suburb; the results are announced in the Blue Wrens Subcommittee Report in this *Bulletin*.

The Society's fifth annual Spring Bird Survey, led by Judy Christie, was held on Sunday 8 October commencing at 6:45 am in Paddy Gray Reserve, Hereford St. Over the next hour, seven of our local parks and reserves were surveyed. The total number of birds recorded was 329 and 25 species were seen; the numbers were similar to last year's survey. The most common bird was again the Rainbow Lorikeet followed by the Noisy Miner, a result which is identical to that of the Aussie Backyard Bird Count across the whole of NSW. Good sightings in Glebe this year were Red

Wattlebirds (with a young fledgling) in St Johns Rd, Australasian Figbirds in Glebe Point Rd and near the saltmarsh in Federal Park, and a Striated Heron also in the saltmarsh. There continued to an absence of small bird sightings (including Blue Wrens) apart from a single Willy Wagtail, but on a more positive note the native flora is thriving in our parks so their habitat is being re-established.

The Subcommittee organised a fourth annual seminar about urban biodiversity. On Monday 16 April at *Benledi* (Glebe Library), Dr John Martin, Wildlife Ecologist from the Royal Botanic Garden, spoke to the Society about *'Wild Sydney: living with animals'*. Comparative aerial photographs clearly show the greening of Glebe since the 1970s as residents and the local authorities have planted amazing numbers of native species in gardens, streets and parks. These plantings provide an important new food source particularly for larger wildlife species like flying foxes, Australian White Ibis and Sulphur-Crested Cockatoos.

Tagging of various species of flying foxes with small radio transmitters has shown that they can fly long distances along the east coast, from Bundaberg in the north to Melbourne in the south in search of their favourite native foods. On their journeys they stop off at colony sites (John called them 'motels') of which there are 15 in the Sydney region. Flying foxes are particularly sensitive to the higher temperatures related to global warming. Temperatures of 43°C and above lead to heat stress and 45,000 deaths were recently recorded in a single colony during a heat wave.

Tagging of Ibis has shown that they can also fly long distances in search of food. They are

messengers of the plight of the Murray Darling Basin where the use of water by local towns and for irrigation (sometimes illegally) and drainage of the associated wetlands has removed their normal habitat and resulted in their migration to Sydney. Some of the Ibis have settled permanently in Sydney as there is plenty of their natural food in our city's parks and, of course, they love the left-over human food in our rubbish bins and garbage landfills.

The number of Cockatoos in Sydney has also increased which is again related to enhanced

native food sources in the City's parks. However, they are probably not breeding every year due to the lack of nesting 'hollows' in large eucalypts. Such hollows can take a century to develop and Cockatoos have appeared reluctant to use artificially created nesting hollows in younger trees.

Members of the Society are always welcome to attend Subcommittee meetings and other events especially the planting days in our local parks.

Andrew Wood

Convenor, Blue Wrens Subcommittee

## **Communications Subcommittee Annual Report 2017-2018: Virginia Simpson-Young**

The Communications Subcommittee oversees the Society's various media – the *Bulletin*, websites, Facebook pages, Twitter, YouTube, *Glebe Society Update* email and Eventbrite. We make sure that these are useful and engaging for our members and the public.

This year, we welcomed Sarah Fogg onto the Subcommittee – you may have noticed that Sarah is the brains behind 'Blasts from the Past' that now appears in most *Bulletins*. We also welcomed Alice Simpson-Young who has taken over as Chief Twit – Alice knows all about 'hashtags' and other twitter lingo and has done a really excellent job at upping the Society's Twitter presence. Other members of the Subcommittee are Virginia Simpson-Young (convenor and *Bulletin* editor), Peter Thorogood (website technical person), Andrew Botros (webmaster), Allan Hogan (Facebook admin), Phil Young (mailout team coordinator), Carole Herriman, Bruce Davis, and Bill Simpson-Young.

### **The Bulletin**

The *Bulletin* continues to be sent to members in either the hard copy or email form. Each month we send out about 250 copies of the *Bulletin* and email about 150. Complimentary copies of the *Bulletin* are sent (mostly via email) to various non-members as well; including City of Sydney Councillors and staff, various media outlets, local and community organisations and libraries, to name but a few. Each month, the most recent edition of the *Bulletin* is made publicly available on our website and promoted via the Facebook page and Twitter. Copies are also given to the Society's archivist, Lyn Milton, who squirrels them away in the Archives for a rainy day.

*Bulletin* distribution is done by our trusty 'mailout team' who meet on publication day at one of their homes to label and address each paper *Bulletin*. Many *Bulletins* are hand-delivered to members' letterboxes and the remainder are posted. The mailout team comprises Jude Paul, Carole Herriman, Jeanette Knox, Bruce Davis, Bryan Herden, Edwina Doe, Madeleine Jennings, Neil & Jan Macindoe and Alison McKeown. The team is

now led by Phil Young who took over from Edwina Doe.

Edwina Doe continues her involvement with the *Bulletin* as proof-reader, a task which she shares each month with Martin Lawrence. Edwina and Martin are sometimes all that stand between an acceptable *Bulletin* and a major disaster – by the time the editor (yours truly) thinks she's finished, she is formatting – stir crazy – with only one eye open, and errors are liable to sneak past.

And finally on the *Bulletin*, we are pleased to say that the project to scan back-copies for electronic access via the Society's website is now complete; all back-copies are available and searchable(!).

### **Glebe Society Websites**

The Society has three websites – our main one ([www.glebesociety.org.au](http://www.glebesociety.org.au)), the Glebe Walks website (<https://glebewalks.com.au/>), and one for the Glebe Island Bridge: <https://www.glebeislandbridge.com/>. Each can be viewed on your computer, tablet or smart phone – the last being particularly useful in the case of the Glebe Walks site.

Each month, material from the *Bulletin* is added to the website by Peter Thorogood. The webmaster, Andrew Botros, works with convenors as needed to share material provided by sub-committees, upload events and so on. Andrew also fields queries coming to the Society via the website.

Our main website is currently averaging about 650 hits per day. The number of visitors has been increasing throughout the year to an average of 980 a day in the last three months. A total of 434 comments have been received with 39 being received this year in response to the City of Sydney's Safety Audit.

The Glebe Walks site, thanks to Jan Macindoe, has seen an upgrade of the Foreshore Walk section to now include the path in front of Sydney Secondary College (Blackwattle Campus) and the Tramsheds. The site is averaging around 100 hits per day.



The number of visits a day to the Glebe Island Bridge website has increased from about 15 at the beginning of the year to about 22 a day at the end of the year.

### Glebe Facebook Pages

The Society's Facebook pages are also maintained by the Communications Subcommittee. These are the main page:

[www.facebook.com/TheGlebeSociety](http://www.facebook.com/TheGlebeSociety), and the Glebe Island Bridge page:

<http://www.facebook.com/GlebeIslandBridge>. Allan Hogan and I (Virginia) share material from the *Bulletin* on the Facebook page, as well as any other Glebe-related information that comes our way.

Around 820 people follow our Facebook page which is a 30% increase on about this time last year. The vast majority of these people are not Society members, so Facebook is a great way to reach beyond the membership. Our posts on Facebook often generate discussion via 'comments' and it seems that many people look at our posts to find out what is happening in Glebe. Quite often, our 'followers' on-share our posts to others whom they believe may be interested in our content.

### The Glebe Society Update Email

One of the Subcommittee's roles is the compilation and distribution of the *Glebe Society Update* emails that are sent on an irregular basis to those members who have provided us with an email address. They contain breaking news that can't wait for the next *Bulletin* and updated information on important issues that the Glebe Society is working on. 93% of our members can be contacted by email and we imagine that it won't be too many

years before we reach 100%! If you are not receiving the email update and would like to, please contact:

[communications@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:communications@glebesociety.org.au).

### YouTube Channel

The YouTube channel is a useful and growing repository for the Society's audio-visual material, as well as video about Glebe more generally. In the last year, we uploaded five videos, one of which is of last year's AGM speaker, Snr Constable Renee Fortuna, and an interview with Max Solling about Trams in Glebe.

The 12 videos on our YouTube channel have had a combined total of 1,845 views with the most popular being *Glebe Now and Then* with 925 views.

To see these and other clips on our YouTube channel, go to:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBT7r3R0Faal\\_dK6kV9sCbq](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBT7r3R0Faal_dK6kV9sCbq)

or search for 'YouTube Glebe Society'.

Please get in touch if you have any suggestions, comments or complaints about our media - we're always open to new ideas.

### Events

On 29 May, the Subcommittee held another popular 'Get more out of your Smartphone' event. The aim was to help members learn some tips and tricks to get more out of their smartphones. Phil Young presented on the iPhone and I presented on Android phones.

Virginia Simpson-Young  
Convenor, Communications Subcommittee

**Do you experience shortness of breath when walking up stairs or going to the mailbox? Have you been breathless for four weeks or longer?**

The Woolcock Breathlessness Clinic can help you. Our heart and lung specialists will work together to investigate your breathlessness and develop a treatment plan. Visit your GP for a referral to our clinic.

Visit our website or call our friendly reception staff for more information about the Woolcock Breathlessness Clinic.

P 02 9114 0000  
E [reception@woolcock.org.au](mailto:reception@woolcock.org.au)  
[www.woolcock.org.au](http://www.woolcock.org.au)

**WOOLCOCK**  
LEADERS IN BREATHING & SLEEP RESEARCH

# For Your Calendar

Wednesday 5 September, 7pm. *Glebe Voices: Bob Connolly*. Lower Hall, Glebe Town Hall.  
 Thursday 6 September, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday: *Spicy Sichuan*, 1-9 Glebe Point Rd.  
 Wednesday 19 September, 3.15-5pm. Kitchen Pack project afternoon tea. St Helen's Community Centre, 184 Glebe Pnt Rd.  
 Wednesday 19 September, 6pm for 6.30pm. *Launch of '2028'*, Gleebooks.  
 Saturday, 15 September. *Glebe Artisans Market- Spring Market*. Foley Park.  
 Wednesday 19 September. 7pm. Players in the Pub. Upstairs, Harold Park Hotel.  
 Thursday 4 October, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday: *Timbah*, 375 Glebe Point Rd.  
 Friday 12 October, 6 -8.30pm. *Sunset Soiree for Centipede*, Glebe Rowing Club.  
 14 and 15 October. *Glebe Art Show drop-off*. (place and times TBC).  
 Thursday 18 October, 6pm. *Glebe Art Show opening night*. Tramsheds.  
 18-21 October. *Glebe Art Show*. Community Hall, Tramsheds.  
 21 October, 2.30- 4pm, *Our House: 'Contemporary Glebe in the Lyndhurst Estate'*.  
 Sunday 28 October, 6:45 am. *Spring Bird Survey*, Paddy Gray Reserve. Contact Judy Christie (0437 693 372).  
 Thursday 1 November. 7pm. Thirsty Thursday, *Green Mushroom*, 163 Glebe Point Rd.  
 2 to 18 November. *Glebe Music Festival*. Various locations.  
 Sunday 16 December, 5.30-8pm. *Glebe Society Twilight Christmas Gathering*. Glebe Town Hall.



## Glebe Society Inc. Established 1969

### Management Committee

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PO Box 100 GLEBE NSW 2037 No 7 of 2018 September 2018)

### 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](http://www.glebesociety.org.au); or
- Write to the Secretary at PO Box 100 Glebe 2037; or  
Email [secretary@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:secretary@glebesociety.org.au)



*Milo Jake and Sebastian at Paddy Gray Reserve on National Tree Day (image: Photo by Damian Shaw, City of Sydney)*

Views expressed in this *Bulletin* are not necessarily those of the Glebe Society Inc. Articles and photos submitted for any of the Glebe Society's publications, including the website and *Bulletin*, may also be used in the Glebe Society's other publications.