



## The Glebe Ragged School

By Carole Herriman

We are all familiar with the range of schools available today, but from the 1860s there were schools set up in Sydney for destitute children in order to provide basic education and religious or moral instruction. These were the Ragged Schools, based on similar schools of the same name in the United Kingdom. The Ragged and Industrial School movement sought to reform and improve the poorest section in society, and its schools provided a mixture of elementary education and industrial training. No charge was levied for attendance at a Ragged School.

The Glebe Ragged School opened on July 21 1862, and was originally located on the corner of Glebe and Bay Sts. Another similar school, the Glebe National School, had opened earlier on April 8, 1862. Some philanthropic Glebe citizens had seen a need for the poor children of the area to have some schooling. Among those citizens was Ann Goodlet, and her husband the timber merchant John Hay Goodlet.



Paul Goodlet and Ann Goodlet (image: <https://colonialgivers.com>)

The Goodlets were philanthropic Glebe residents and deeply involved in their local community and Ann Goodlet was very involved with the Glebe Ragged School. John Goodlet was a financial supporter of the Ragged Schools and was convinced of their efficacy:

*He knew that there were numbers of respectable men and women in this colony who owed their present positions to the action of the ragged schools ... He was sure that if the Bible was not*

*made use of, the schools would cease to be the power of good which they were. SMH, September 28, 1886.*



*The Ragged School can just be made out where the arrow is pointing.*

The Glebe 'Ragged School' was initially independent of other Sydney ragged schools which were organised by Edward Joy, but after 18 months the Glebe school's organisers decided to amalgamate with Joy's organisation.

Over 100 students attended the Ragged School, although attendance was reported to be erratic as parents kept children home to perform chores or to care for younger siblings. Especially in winter, illness was a significant cause of absenteeism as measles and whooping cough were rife.

The Ragged School in Glebe moved from its original premises to a new building in Water St (now Wentworth St) in 1896, where it remained until it closed in 1927.

In the section on 'History of government schools' in the NSW government Department of Education web site, it states that from 1848 until all school fees were abolished in 1925, parents and guardians in financial difficulty were exempt from paying school fees. The [Public Instruction Act 1880](#) reduced primary school fees to 3 pence per child per week, to a maximum of 1 shilling per family per week, and the Board of National Education recommended that school fees should range from 1 penny to 1 shilling per child per week, and that local school boards were to set the

rate. However, there is commentary of that time to the effect that some poor parents could not afford to send their children to the public Primary School.

In 1900 there were 130 students at the Glebe Ragged School and the annual report of the Sydney Ragged Schools spoke of children running wild in the streets. The report commented on the necessity of this kind of school and referred to strata of society where the parents were so poor for a variety of reasons that the children had no clothes that would permit them to attend the regular primary school.

A feature of the Ragged Schools became their provision of cooked meals which were at times extended to the parents of the students. An

underlying facet of the Ragged Schools movement was the provision of Protestant religious education to all who came within the schools' walls. Teachers were also extensively involved in outreach and wrote movingly about the poverty they encountered. They recorded the widespread effects of alcoholism, even to the extent that the children's clothes, what little they had, would be pawned. As seriously sub-standard accommodation was demolished, families were moved and this was one factor in the declining enrolments in ragged schools.

Carole Herriman

Note: Information was drawn from notes and other items by Lyn Collingwood, Eureka Henrich and Max Solling, and from Trove.

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## Letter to the Editor

### In praise of Janice Challinor

Janice coordinates the annual 'Sunset Soiree'; she initiated and saw to completion the marvellous wall mural on the corner of Hereford St and Glebe Point Rd; each year she asks for, collects and delivers presents for children spending Christmas at Elsie Women's Refuge; recently her



Community Development Group set up the 'Kitchen Pack Project' as well as considering an 'Ageing in Place' project, looking at the needs of older members of our community. What have I forgotten? All details can be found in the Society's *Bulletin*.

Her most recent undertaking is 'Sewing for Good' (*Bulletin* No. 8) which is making grocery shopping bags for clients of the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre.

Not only do Janice and her group initiate these ideas, they implement them. I went to the sewing group at the Glebe Town Hall last Friday (*I made a bag!*) and found three sewing machines set up, an ironing space, scissors, cottons, patterns and material on hand, as well as coffee and cake. And before we left the premises, the carpet was vacuumed!



Has Glebe ever had such a Community Development Convenor? Congratulations to her team – partner Jane Fissenden, Diane Hutchinson and Jan Macindoe – and thanks, Janice!

Bobbie Burke

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## Planning, Transport & Infrastructure

### November Planning Report, by Neil Macindoe

#### **Durham Court, 417 Glebe Point Rd**

A new proposal for the original building to be extended and divided into two, and for six new townhouses at the rear, is being advertised for this controversial site. It is very large, and consequently has many neighbours, including a number of Glebe Society members.

At this stage it is likely the Society will comment, and other individuals will put in objections based on how they are affected.

The closing date is 13 November.

#### **Planning Proposal for 225-279 Broadway**

This proposal was previously mentioned in the *Bulletin*, but is now on public exhibition until 6 November. There is a hard copy available at the One Stop Shop at Glebe Library.

It would appear that some of the building owners (all the buildings are commercial) would like to see this strip redeveloped at a higher density, with new buildings up to four storeys high. The large Edwardian building at 255 is already that large, and is proposed to be a Heritage Item. If you have concerns, especially about losing any of the current

buildings, you may wish to let me know, or lodge your own objection by 6 November.

### **Bellevue, 55a Leichhardt St**

At the time of writing, this popular café is due to shortly under its existing limited approval.

The new DA for a restaurant and extended hours came before the Local Planning Panel last month, and has been deferred until the November meeting, pending further discussion between the lessee and Council.

Neil Macindoe  
Planning Convenor

### **Sixty years since the last tram in Glebe ...**

It is nearly 60 years since the last tram ran on Glebe Point Rd, with the service ending on 22 November 1958. The tram ran from the Rocks (near Abraham Mott Hall) to the terminus on Glebe Point Rd (near Leichhardt St).

## **History & Heritage**

### **Re-dedication of Tramsheds War Memorial**

As reported in our October *Bulletin* (8/2018, p.8), the Tramsheds War Memorial is returning to its original location at the Tramsheds. It will be re-dedicated on Thursday 8 November 2018 at 11am.

This is something the Glebe Society has been advocating for a number of years, and we are delighted that the City Council has seen fit to bring the project to completion.

The memorial is located in the North-East corner of Harold Park, immediately to the south of the Tramsheds building.

Lord Mayor Clover Moore will be speaking for the Council, and the Society will be represented by our local history expert Max Solling, and by Ted McKeown as MC. All welcome.

Ted McKeown

### **Remembrance Day 2018**

Members and friends are warmly invited to attend the Remembrance Day Service to be held at the Glebe War Memorial, Foley Park, on Sunday 11 November 2018 at 10.45 am.

Red (paper) poppies (from the Australian War Memorial) will be available (gold coin donation appreciated).

This year is especially significant as it is the *Centenary of the signing of the Armistice* that effectively brought World War I to an end. We will also be remembering the sacrifice of those who fought and fell in all conflicts in which Australia has

A section of the rail was intentionally left exposed in Glebe Point Rd near Bridge Rd (outside the AB Hotel). Another remnant of rail has recently 'made an appearance' on Glebe Point Rd, near Toxteth Rd.

Phil Vergison



Tram tracks peeking through the damaged road surface (image: Phil Vergison)

been involved. In addition, we will be reflecting on those deaths and the lives of repatriated injured veterans and the ripple effects on immediate families and succeeding generations.

Liz Simpson-Booker  
Heritage Subcommittee



The war memorial returned to its rightful place at the Tramsheds (image: V. Simpson-Young)



## Who lived in your street? William Henry Douglas Mitchell (1846–1924)

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### By Lyn Collingwood

In September 1880 the *Guildford Lodge* estate on the corner of Leichhardt St and Glebe Point Rd was put up for auction. William Mitchell bought the villa *Guildford Lodge* for £890 and paid another £866.17.6 for four lots giving him uninterrupted frontage to the main road. The stone house (comprising seven rooms, kitchen, pantry and front verandah with a coach-house and stables at its rear) has been demolished and the site is today covered by the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research at 431 Glebe Point Rd.

William Henry Douglas Mitchell was born in England, the eldest son of Edinburgh solicitor George Douglas Mitchell and Elizabeth Ann Mitchell (who died at Ballarat on 28 August 1891). His youngest brother, Alfred Douglas Mitchell, became an Anglican clergyman in Victoria and Queenstown NZ where he married in 1896.

William in 1872 was a director of a copper mine, and he and his mother were shareholders in the NSW Distillery Company, declared insolvent in 1873. After serving an apprenticeship to a firm of druggists, William was registered as a chemist in October 1876. In 1889 he urged the formation in Glebe of a branch of the National Protection Association, claiming that the rich voted for free trade so they would not have to pay duty on their imports. At a meeting in 1900 to form the Glebe Sanitation Committee, he drew attention to the state of the government wharf on Blackwattle Bay and the 'scandal' of the suburb's 100 cesspits which were emptied only once every three years. Mitchell also served as a magistrate, and from 1905 to 1910 he was a Glebe alderman.

On 12 November 1874 Mitchell married Alicia Theresa Gannon (1842-1904) at St Michael's Anglican Church Surry Hills. Alicia was the eldest daughter of Michael Gannon, an Irish convict turned builder and Cook's River innkeeper who prospered as a real estate speculator. At least two of Alicia's brothers became solicitors.

Mary Mitchell was born and died in 1875. Theresa Mary Mitchell was born on 21 October 1879 at Tempe (where Gannon family members lived. 'Tess' married Roderick Maclean in 1926 and died at Burwood in 1948.) Born at *Guildford Lodge* were Eveline Edith ('Eve' born 28 March 1881, died unmarried 1959), Ernest Albert (born 2 December 1882, died at Chatswood 1956), Lucy (born 24 April 1884, died at Burwood 1963) and William (born 30 October 1886). In 1897 William Henry Douglas transferred ownership of the three houses 425-9 Glebe Point Rd to his daughters. Lucy owned 429 Glebe Point Rd until her death when it was transferred to Alan Leonard Mitchell Jobberns.

Lucy's sisters Theresa and Eveline owned adjacent houses numbers 425 and 427 until 1960 when they were bought by Margaret Mosler, a widow of Elizabeth Bay.

Alicia Mitchell died on 3 February 1904 and was buried in the C of E section at Rookwood. Her widower remained at *Guildford Lodge* with his adult children until ca 1910 before moving to 12-acre *The Grove* in Cabramatta. In 1911 he married Matilda Meares who had been a near neighbour at Glebe's *Cliff Lodge* but who was now principal of Riviere College, a girls' boarding school at *Hughenden* Queen St Woollahra. An early female student at Sydney University, Matilda graduated BA 1889 and MA 1892, and after her marriage adopted the surname Meares-Mitchell. At a 1917 meeting of the Women's Thrift Campaign she stressed that children were brought into the world not to play but to work, and that the modern girl seemed to think that she was 'born for something higher than mere housework' but there was a war on and all needed to do their duty. After her husband's death she moved to *Doonbah* on the waterfront at Hunters Hill where she held garden parties and moonlight fetes for the Riviere Old Girls Union. Often featured on the social pages, she was also a founding member of the Shakespeare Society. Matilda Meares-Mitchell died at Hunters Hill on 20 March 1946. Executors of her will were her niece Rosalie Lydia Considine and her solicitor William Heath Moffitt.

Like his father, Ernest Albert Mitchell became a scientist, in 1903 gaining first class honours in practical chemistry at Sydney University's Faculty of Medicine. In 1908 he married Florence Amy Williams at St Matthias' Paddington; the bridesmaid was his sister Lucy. Ernest Mitchell went on to managerial positions with Stearns & Co., Pharmaceutical Preparations, and the Eastman's Pharmaceutical Company. He and his stepmother were executors of his father's will and it was through his contacts that the Glebe property was changed from residential to industrial use. A long-term resident of Chatswood, Ernest died on 2 April 1956.

Lucy Mitchell's marriage on 8 November 1912 was followed by a reception at Riviere College's *Hughenden*. However, her husband, lawyer Leonard Jobberns, was declared bankrupt in 1925 and the couple divorced in 1938.

After moving to Cabramatta the family patriarch William Henry Douglas Mitchell was an active Anglican Church worker and sat on Cabra-Vale Council until his death at *The Grove* on 31 August 1924. He was buried at Rookwood with his first wife.

## Guildford Lodge 1842-1925

*Guildford Lodge* was built by soap manufacturer Richard Wilkinson Robinson who bought the land from George Miller in 1842. Robinson's ex business partner George Wilkinson died in the villa on 25 April 1848 shortly after Robinson had sailed on a trip to England. Robinson was back in the colony by January 1852 but absent from the house when a robber climbed through a window and stole three silver watches but missed gold which he had sent his wife from the diggings.



*Guildford Lodge* sketched in 1853 by English visitor J.W. Hardwick (Image: Mitchell Library/State Library of NSW)

In winter 1853 *Guildford Lodge* was visited by Englishman John William Hardwick who was astonished at the number of stone buildings being erected in Sydney despite the high cost of labour and materials brought about by the gold rush. After travelling via Brickfield Hill and along the 'lane' which led from Parramatta Rd through a luxuriant district to the beach at Blackwattle Cove, Hardwick arrived at Robinson's house set amongst abundant trees and dense foliage. The cottage was in 'verandah style'; the dining room was hung with prints of coloured heads against black backgrounds in the French style. Robinson was quiet and polite with 'a bald pate'; his 'stout, merry, chatty' wife Margaret – a most agreeable woman – painted. Robinson's business advice to Hardwick was to start modest with a store in an up-and-coming country town.

By 1855 *Guildford Lodge* was owned by chemist and druggist Charles Marcian Penny who had land and houses on both sides of the main road. In 1844 Penny defended his action in selling arsenic to a woman who used it to suicide. He also opposed the 1852 Poisonous Drugs Bill prohibiting the selling of opium, in great demand by the 'Chinese lower classes' (another opponent of the Bill was Glebe's Ambrose Foss). C M Penny's medical dispensary on George St West sold all manner of products: lemon syrup, bird seed, inks, dental putty to wedge

between decayed teeth and scales marketed to gold diggers. Charles Marcian Penny died aged 51 at *Guildford Lodge* on 9 August 1857 and was buried at St Stephen's Newtown after which his son Charles William Penny moved to Sydney from Geelong, made repairs and leased the house.

There were a number of tenants at *Guildford* in the period 1858–71 including Mrs T Stewart, Mr Harrison, Dutch-born professional photographer John T Gorus, civil engineer John Musson and Mr W Martin. The site was handy to a regular bus service and, later, the tram terminus.

Charles William Penny, born 15 December 1831, married Maria Martin in 1857 in Victoria; their daughter Cecilia Harriet Ann was born the same year; their son Charles William was born on 12 June 1858 in NSW and died in 1917. Charles William snr also acknowledged paternity of a daughter born on 24 July 1859 to Mary Ann Buckter and paid her maintenance. A 'knight of the pestle and mortar' like his father, Charles William Penny took over the business of chemist William Townley Pinhey in Parramatta St (Pinhey also owned a lot of land at Glebe Point.) Penny died aged 29, his address Derwent St Glebe, on 29 October 1860, was buried with his father at St Stephen's, and his furniture and goods auctioned together with Newfoundland and kangaroo dogs. Executor of his will was Thomas Soutter Harwood who took court action over the ownership of two of Penny's horses. Penny's widow Maria in 1863 married publican William Slough.

By 1880 Charles William jnr was 21 and the Leichhardt St properties *Llangollen* (a 24-room mansion on the waterfront) and *Guildford Lodge* were put up for auction – *Llangollen* was passed in. His sister Cecilia, who married Charles Robert Small in 1876, died aged 24 on 12 March 1881 at Surry Hills, leaving a widower and three young children.

## Frederick Stearns & Co. and Sterling Pharmaceuticals

After the departure of the Mitchell family *Guildford Lodge* was rented out. From ca 1915-20 it was the home of Abraham Myers ('late of NZ'). His wife Dora died there aged 58 on 21 June 1919. In 1921 labourer Undrall Wallace Pearsall and his wife Marian moved in, followed by plumber Sydney Alexander Graham and his wife Betsy Bertha.

In April 1925, as part of William H D Mitchell's deceased estate, *Guildford Lodge* and its adjoining lots were put up for auction as a site suitable for development. It was bought by Frederick Stearns & Co., its purchase no doubt facilitated by William's son Ernest who was then working for the international pharmaceutical manufacturer in America. (Sterling Pharmaceuticals had in 1910

established an Australian division of Stearns & Co., makers of Nyal products including toothpaste, sarsaparilla, American worm wafers, face cream and laxatives.)

After Stearns and other businesses on Broadway defeated Glebe Council's bid to declare the municipality residential, *Guildford Lodge* was demolished and replaced by a £50,000 factory. In 1927 Stearns & Co. and the Nyal Company transferred operations from Harris St Pyrmont to Glebe. Nyal publicised its business by offering free samples of its products. In 1944, the year Governor Wakefield visited the Glebe factory, the US parent of Frederick Stearns & Co. was bought out by the Sterling Drug Co. and the local operation also changed hands, 431 Glebe Point Rd becoming the head office of Sterling Pharmaceuticals. A long-term managing director was Noel F Leggatt who was also chairman of Proprietary Agencies, at the same address, which went into voluntary liquidation in 1957.



*A blurred photograph – but a rare image – of the Glebe Point Rd tram at its terminus in front of Sterling Pharmaceuticals. (Image: City of Sydney Archives)*

In 1942, during the Second World War, an air raid shelter was excavated on the site under the supervision of architect David Whyte King. Five years later King drew up plans for a major expansion of the laboratories to provide 75,000 sq-ft of floor space. Incorporated in the new four-storey building, built by Robert Wall and Sons and opened in 1951, was a tram shelter, since 1958

used by bus passengers. The original design also included two flagpoles on top of the parapet above the main entry. (David Whyte King's original drawings are held by the City of Sydney Archives.)

### **Max Factor cosmetics, Traveland and the Woolcock Institute**

In 1960 Sterling moved to new laboratories at Ermington and the Max Factor cosmetics factory relocated from Palmer St East Sydney to the Glebe building. Max Factor spent £50,000 on fresh offices and amenities under the direction of Douglas Snelling, a furniture designer and architect who worked with Harry Seidler. Snelling's features included a 60-seater staff dining room and a VIP powder room with a 20-foot make-up table. After Max Factor vacated in 1985, number 431 was used for secure storage and office space, and to house tenants including Traveland, local architect and Glebe Society founding member Peru Perumal, and the sales department of Foxtel who kept their vans at the building's rear after an unsuccessful attempt to leave them parked at the bus stop at the front. Over the years, with changes of ownership and use, the building's original windows were replaced, sun louvres installed, the main entry modified and a swimming pool and recreational terrace added to the roof area.

In 2008, after outgrowing its first home at RPA Hospital, the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research relocated to Glebe. The Institute totally remodelled the interior for purpose-built laboratories and removed the swimming pool.

*Lyn Collingwood  
Historian*

Sources: Brasch, Donald T *American Investment in Australian Industry* 1966; *Australian Dictionary of Biography*: Michael Gannon; *Bell's Life* 13.8.1859; City of Sydney website: Sydney's Aldermen; *Construction* 6 June 1951; *Freeman's Journal* 1.1.1852; Hardwick, John William *letters 1852-6* Mitchell Library ML MSS 448; NSW cemetery records; NSW electoral rolls; *NSW Government Gazette* 22.7.1840, 8.1.1848, 28.4.1848, 30.3.1951; NSW online births, deaths, marriages registry; NSW State Records; *Sands Directories*; *Sydney Morning Herald* 7.4.1855, 20.2.1858, 18.9.1880, 4 April 1925, 10.5.1960, 6.12.1960, 8.12.1960; *Sydney Sun* 31.3.1946; Trove website; Victorian online registry of births, deaths, marriages.

### **Dirty Reds Film: 88 Years**

This 16 minute short film gives a fascinating account of the life, death and rebirth of Australia's first rugby league team, Glebe Rugby League Football club. As readers will no doubt know, our local Rugby League Club, the Dirty Reds, were reborn in 2017, and in early 2018 made their return to Wentworth Park for the first time in 88 years. You will recognise some familiar faces, including Max Solling and our much-loved past President, John Gray. The film can be viewed on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vb5qj-duLvc>.





## Mystery photo, with Lyn Collingwood

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### Last month's mystery photo

Michael Morrison identified the Haven Inn on the corner of Glebe Point and Wigram Rds, now a Best Western hotel. There were more bus stops in 1973, before the spin doctor assured us that our health would be improved by extra walking if there were fewer – whatever your age or infirmity.

### This month's mystery photo

Where are we? And what is the story of this building?

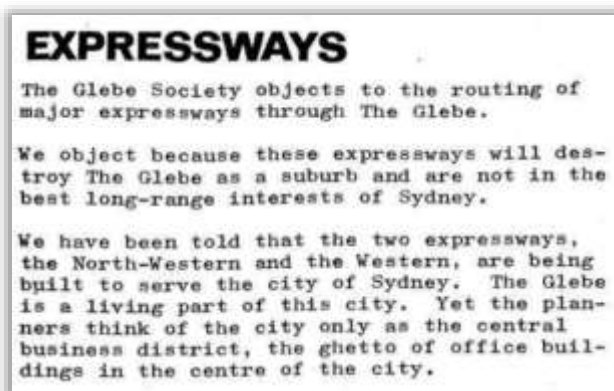


## Blasts from the Past

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### Expressways through Glebe

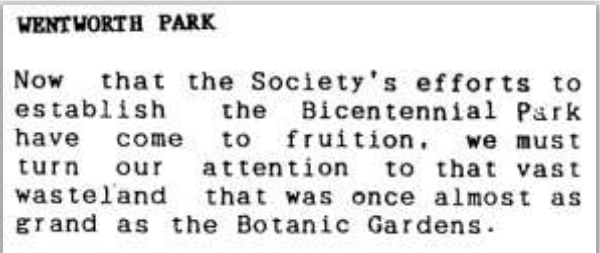
*The Seventies: Bulletin no 2 of 1971*



In the 1960s and 70s the Department of Main Roads had plans for two major freeways to go through and under Glebe, which would have meant demolition of large swathes of Glebe. Following protests from residents in Glebe and other affected areas, the plan was finally abandoned in 1976.

### As grand as the Botanic Gardens!

*The Eighties: Bulletin no 9 of 1988*



It's hard to imagine Wentworth Park being compared to the Botanic Gardens, although there have certainly been improvements since this was written in 1988. The Society identified nine priorities including better pathways, public toilets, and play equipment, safer road crossings, landscaping, alternative parking arrangements and creation of better links between the two halves of the park on either side of the dog track.

### More on Wentworth Park

*The Nineties: Bulletin no 1 of 1995*

### Wentworth Park

The aims of the Society are:

- 1 To remove all cars from the Park.
- 2 To have the Landscape Plan of Management implemented to the fullest extent possible, even if the removal of parking has to be deferred initially.
- 3 To support the closure of Bridge Road at the Park so that the Park can continue through to the Bay.
- 4 In the longer term, to seek the removal of the Stadium altogether, since it should never have been built on public land and does not serve many people in the area.

### A bus to the airport

*The Nineties: Bulletin no 9 of 1998*

### FROM GLEBE TO THE AIRPORT

You may have noticed that there is a new public bus route in Glebe, supplied by Sydney Buses, No 352.

It is a mini-bus, with 23 seats, and in the usual green and gold colours of buses plying to and from Mascot.

It runs from Glebe Point, via Darling Harbour hotels, to the domestic and international airport terminals.

For a brief period, Glebe had a public bus direct to the airport. Sadly, it no longer operates.

### Glebe Point Rd upgrade

*The Noughties: Bulletin no 1 of 2009*

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

It is not enough to say 'support our local businesses that have experienced difficulty' when it is too late for those who have already gone under and with so few still clinging on.

Extract from a letter from a long-term Glebe Point Rd retailer. A major Glebe Point Rd upgrade was undertaken during 2007-09 and one of its aims was to assist with the revitalisation of commerce in Glebe which suffered after the opening of the Broadway shopping centre. Some felt that the character of the road had been lost in the upgrade, along with the shops that did not survive.

*Sarah Fogg*  
Communications Subcommittee

### **Help create the 'Local's guide to Glebe'**

City of Sydney is preparing a 'local's guide to Glebe'. It is looking for recommendations for what should be included in the Guide. They want to know 'the places you love and why you love them'.

Go to <https://whatson.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/posts/glebe>. Fill in the box asking 'What and where is your local secret?' You also have the opportunity to upload an image.

### **History enquiries from the website**

Enquiries on Glebe's history and heritage continue to be received from members of the general public via the Society's website. Where they relate to specific buildings, family researchers are encouraged to look at our detailed document:

<https://www.glebesociety.org.au/how-to-research-your-house>

Here is a sample of some of the queries. Please contact [history@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:history@glebesociety.org.au) if you have any information which can be passed on.

- Ernest Leslie Amery who sold timber in the 1920s. His premises were on Bridge Rd next to the State Brickworks depot. The enquirer seeks information on the Brickworks and photographs of that area.
- Eric Sandblom who was a key Society member in the 1970s, President at least once, and made a Life Member in 2014.

- Michael Eugene-Moylan who was a hotelkeeper when he died in 1969.
- James Dole, chemist in Glebe St (1856-1880s). His business was also listed as Chemist/Post Office. A birth notice for one of his children stated his address as 'Medical Hall' Bishopthorpe.
- Bus driver Thomas Brady. He later set up a bus company in Marrickville.
- The descendants of Glebe alderman John Reilly.
- Glebe's ferries.
- Who manufactured the tiles on the paths of the houses on Northcote Rd?

In some cases, we have been able to provide detailed answers.

- Q. I'm writing to see if you know of any records of a private hospital that operated on Wigram Rd near the corner of Glebe Point Rd. I believe it was



there in the early 1920s.

- A. Now *Rainbow Lodge* at 22 Wigram Rd, the building was known earlier as 'Nurse Farrell's private hospital'. Its history is covered in issues 7 and 8 of the 2018 *Bulletin*.

Q. I wonder if you would know the names of the person(s) who owned the Ancient Briton pub in Lyndhurst St and Glebe Rd in the years 1876-1884? I think it may have been Sarah Jones and I would like to know if it was my ancestor who was born in Gloucester England and who was married to James Jones. She had a son William Henry Jones, born in Glebe in 1860.

- A. Mrs Sarah Jones was listed in the 1877 Sands Directory as the licensee of the Ancient Briton on the corner of Glebe and Pyrmont Bridge Rds. The building still trades under that name but its original fabric has disappeared. An undated subdivision plan shows Jones' Hotel.

In some cases, trawling through Trove in search of answers throws up some good stories. Researching a stretch of the Chapman Steps houses brought a news item from 1931 when some guinea pigs and a rabbit were accidentally released from the Veterinary Science School opposite.

Rumoured to be inoculated with typhoid, two of the former were quickly returned from a Chapman Steps back yard. The rabbit was found in a paddock in the university. What are the chances today of any animal not being obliterated trying to cross Parramatta Rd?

Lyn Collingwood



Undated subdivision plan showing what is now the Ancient Briton. Like many early pubs it was known by the name of the licensee. A descendant of Sarah Jones is researching her family tree.

## Event reports

### The Glebe Society helps support Centipede

On the evening of 12 October some 70 hardy souls braved the unseasonable weather to gather in support of Centipede at Glebe Public School at the Sunset Soirée. The venue, the Glebe Rowing Club premises, generously provided cost free by the club, saw those gathering party with gusto to the beguiling guitar of Sandor Troncos, enjoy tasty hors d'oeuvre created by Ridz Mopur, listen to the recollections of *The Chaser* in Glebe by Julian Morrow and bid enthusiastically for a variety of auction items in both a Silent and VERY LOUD manner. Overall the funds raised this year for this worthy Glebe service amount to \$6,900 net.

It was great to see so many parents of Centipede children contributing to help run the event this year, and to find that our better penetration by internet exposure resulted in a wider range of Glebe residents attending, including several who had no connection with either Centipede or the Glebe Society. This annual event is certainly becoming a Glebe social calendar fixture.

Support from City of Sydney's Cr Jess Scully and Balmain MP Jamie Parker again indicate the importance of this to our community, and along with our generous sponsors make this event a success in support of the children of our community. Special mention deserves to be made

of some of our main sponsors: *The Boathouse* at Blackwattle Bay; Peter and Victor at the *AB Hotel*; Michael from *Flowers on the Point*; Kate from *Saint John Espresso*; Salisbury Hotel, Stanmore; Jenny Coopes, cartoonist; Auntie Kath Farrawell, artist; Mercia Bush, artist; The Glebe Society Inc.; Marrickville Golf; Stevie English Hair Salon; Go Get; 'Giant Dwarf' Comedy Theatre; several anonymous individual donors. And special thanks go to Sandor Troncos for the music, Julian Morrow, guest speaker, and Jason Kazanis, auctioneer and MC par excellence.

Janice Challinor  
Community Development Convenor



Too many familiar faces to mention – but note local celebrity, Julian Morrow, and local dignitary, Jamie Parker (image: V. Simpson-Young)

## Habitat Garden Guided Walk

As part of National Bird Week, Sophie Golding, Urban Ecology Coordinator, City of Sydney Council, organised a guided walk in the John Street Reserve Habitat Garden on Saturday morning, 27 October, led by Judy Christie. The garden was originally established by Council in consultation with local residents and was planned as a demonstration garden for the encouragement of local wildlife, particularly small birds.

According to a recent quote in the *Sydney Morning Herald* (Kath Gadd, 13 October 2018) the habitat garden is the 'style of the moment' so the walk was well timed to look at the progress of this demonstration garden. While most of the attendees were local residents, other folk from Pyrmont, Ultimo and further afield made up the 20 or so people who enjoyed a lovely spring morning event.

Judy outlined the design features included in the garden to attract local wildlife and noted that the garden was '*looking fantastic and shows what can be created in just a few years*'. Support from the residents in the area surrounding the reserve has made a vital contribution to its success, particularly with the watering that was done during the recent prolonged dry spell. We give our thanks to them and to Sophie.

Jeanette Knox  
Blue Wrens Subcommittee



Sophie Golding, Alex Tyrrell, Anne Britt, Michael Yates and Judy Christie at the Habitat Gardening Walk (image: Fiona Campbell)

## Hidden treasures of contemporary Glebe

'Our House' on Sunday 21 Oct 2018 was a perfect opportunity to welcome four new members and to see many hidden treasures of contemporary Glebe in the Lyndhurst Estate. About 40 people visited two houses and had an interesting walk between Bellevue St and Darling St to view the exteriors of several terraces. We were able to 'have a peek' at the interiors and floor plans of several homes from real estate promotions, to see changes made in the last few years.

There are lots of stories about *The Castle* at 39 Bellevue St, a sandstone home currently having a major makeover. Some locals say it was a boathouse or gatehouse for *Lyndhurst* – which don't quite seem to fit. Others say it was a monks' retreat from when the Benedictines were at *Lyndhurst*. If you have any more details we would love to know. The property was used as a frozen foods packing house during the 1940s, providing employment for many local women.

We wandered along Bellevue St and stopped at several terrace houses – some recently renovated and others built on vacant land over the last 4-6 years. One property adjoining a terrace had been used as a factory for brooms and billiard tables – many on the walk were not aware of these previous uses. We also got to glimpse at commercial buildings providing a workplace for many in Glebe today and some great city views.

The rail overbridge on the northern end of Bellevue St (constructed in 1919) also got a mention, as it was the first reinforced concrete bridge built by NSW Government Railways. It was experimental and had a width restriction of 21 feet – this is the reason for the narrowing of the road at this point.



Interior of the contemporary home that featured at 'Our House' on 21 October.

The highlight of the afternoon was the tour of a new contemporary home in Darling St, designed by the award winning architect Jon Jacka. It makes very clever use of a double block, where the outdoor living space has a seamless link to the lounge, kitchen and family room areas. Features include an expansive roof top garden, with dining and living areas opening onto a pool area – it felt like being in private 'billabong'. The finishes were simple and classic with a great use of space, where 'the outside melds with the inside'. The group openly appreciated the generosity of the owners in inviting us into their fabulous, modern and inspiring home.

The afternoon was also a very sociable occasion. We experienced a wonderful mix of the old and new, with stories being shared about this special part of Glebe – where life and work were often intertwined.

Judy Vergison, Events Coordinator



# Community Matters

## Ian Edwards remembered

### POSTSCRIPT

"Hold the phone. There's a protest. How could your list of 'figures we love to hate' not include Pauline Hanson?" was the response of Ron Elphick, of Buff Point, to discussion of the letter writers' rogues gallery two weeks ago. "Dutton, Joyce and even Abbott are latecomers and, with Jones, she has to be an immortal, even though he perversely has been our most loved radio announcer in more than 100 consecutive polls. A weird mob, 'orright." Them's fearless fighting words, Ron.

One of the now Senator Hanson's earliest critics in the Letters columns was Ian Edwards, of Glebe. Just three weeks after her "too many Asian immigrants" maiden speech to parliament in 1996, Ian wrote: "I would like to congratulate Leo Schofield on his excellent suggestion that we should seek the consent of the Aboriginal community to adopt their flag as our national flag. Unfortunately, I would also have to agree with him that, owing to the racism exemplified by Pauline Hanson and others, this may take some time. As in the case of ensuring that we have an Australian as our head of state, this would not be a repudiation of our British heritage but simply an assertion of our maturity and independence."

At 89, Ian was still awaiting the republic when he passed away last month. He was still writing to us as late as August, on the excessive use of street lights. "Ian always believed that the *Herald* was the best newspaper in Sydney and read it every day," writes his nephew John. "Ian also enjoyed the challenge of completing the cryptic crossword."

Thank you, Ian, and all the purveyors of fighting words.

Mark Sawyer, Letters co-editor

Sydney Morning Herald, October 27-28 2018. Letters p. 33 (image supplied by Edwina Doe)

## Christmas gifts for locals

The Glebe Society will again collect Christmas gifts for families in need in Glebe this year. Details of the ages and gender of children living in supported accommodation in Glebe with their mothers will be included in the December *Bulletin*. Gifts will be collected in the week commencing 17 December for distribution the following Friday.

Janice Challinor  
Community Development Convenor

## 'Character of Glebe Prize' Winner at the Glebe Art Show

Congratulations to Nicole Egger who won the Glebe Society's 'Character of Glebe' Prize at the Glebe Art Show this year. Her photomontage is titled, 'Juno Jump'.



'Character of Glebe' Prize winner, Glebe Art Show 2018  
(image: V. Simpson-Young)

## Community consultations for Sustainable Sydney 2050

City of Sydney has started on its Sustainable Sydney 2050 strategy. The City is holding four community consultation sessions in 2018. A session will be held in Glebe on Tuesday 20 November 2018, 6pm-7.30pm at Glebe Town Hall.

To register go to:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDC8TPQ>.

## Where to find a JP around Glebe

Need a Justice of the Peace? Here are two local options:

1. Broadway Shopping Centre Customer Service Desk, Tuesdays & Thursdays 11am-1pm
2. Glebe Neighbourhood Centre, 186-194 Glebe Point Rd, Wednesdays & Fridays, 2-4pm



## How the Glebe Society is using Twitter

by Alice Simpson-Young

As of May 2018, I have been managing the Glebe Society's Twitter account. 'Twitter' is a social media tool that allows you to share 'tweets' – a message of up to 280 characters – with the public. I thought I would share how the Glebe Society Twitter account is currently being used to illustrate how Twitter works.

Currently, I am using Twitter to promote Glebe Society events and initiatives; engage people of interest to the Glebe Society and Glebe community; help to build community; promote Glebe-related events and initiatives. You can follow this link to see the Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/glebesociety>.

### Promoting Glebe Society events

Most Glebe Society events are shared on Twitter with the aim of increasing attendance. I share a description of the event, a photo and a link to the event registration site. For example, last month the Glebe Society supported the Friends of Centipede Fundraiser. Eight 'tweets' were shared over a month to promote the event. At least six people visited the Eventbrite page because of Twitter and at least four people attended the event due to hearing about the event on Twitter, including Jamie Parker. During the event, I shared tweets to show what was happening throughout the evening and to show who was there, demonstrating the event's success and encouraging attendance at future events. While at the event, high profile attendees (Jamie Parker and Councillor Jess Scully) tweeted about the event, which, in turn, promoted the Glebe Society to their Twitter followers.



### Promoting Glebe Society initiatives

The Twitter account is used to promote Glebe Society initiatives and website content. This includes 'Glebe Firsts', the Elsie Mural, Annual Bird Survey, Glebe Society articles, Glebe Mystery photos, Glebe Walks, Kitchen Starter Pack project and many more. There are so many interesting initiatives and research on the website, sharing them on Twitter is a great way to share them with the Twitter world!



### Engaging elected officials

Through tweeting during events and promoting Glebe-related content, various elected officials have engaged with the Glebe Society Twitter, including Councillors Philip Thalys, Jess Scully, Linda Scott and Marghanita da Cruz. This is in addition to Jamie Parker, Verity Firth, Lord Mayor Clover Moore and City of Sydney. Through having a presence on Twitter, these officials are able to stay up-to-date with the great work we're doing!



## Building community

The Glebe Society Twitter account shares interesting things about Glebe, and historical photos of Glebe to build a sense of community and generate an interest in Glebe's heritage. Glebe residents have retweeted and commented on these Tweets, showing that there are members of the Glebe community who use Twitter. The historical photos of Glebe are particularly popular on Twitter. By continuing to share these photos, an online community is slowly being created, which will in turn result in more attendees at events, Glebe Society memberships and a community to mobilise. Here are some examples:



## Promoting community initiatives and events

The Glebe Society shares important non-GS initiatives and events that help build community, protect the environment and heritage. Sharing other organisations' initiatives and events helps build a community in Glebe as well as positioning the Glebe Society for future collaborations with these organisations.

## Upcoming events

### Glebe Society Twilight Christmas Gathering – Save the Date

**Sunday 16 December 2018 (5.30- 8pm)**



Celebrate another wonderful year of living in this special part of Sydney.

Join us at the Glebe Town Hall in the elegant main hall for our Twilight Christmas Gathering We



Using Twitter is a great way for the Glebe Society to showcase all the great work we are doing and allows us to connect to new audiences! I find it very satisfying to share all of the wonderful things happening in our community.

Feel free to get in touch if you have anything Glebe-related you'd like me to share at [twitter@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:twitter@glebesociety.org.au).

*Alice Simpson-Young*



### Glebe Music Festival starts tomorrow!

2 to 18 November. Various locations.

<http://www.glebemusicfestival.com/calendar.html>

### 'Sewing for Good'

Make bags for the asylum-seekers. Friday 9 November, 10am – 12pm; Glebe Town Hall Aboriginal Space. Details: Janice Challinor: [community@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:community@glebesociety.org.au)

More details will be available in mid-November and we'll send out a link to Eventbrite, so you can book on line.

**Please put the date in your diary NOW! ☺**

*Judy Vergison*  
Events Coordinator

### **Call for ideas illustrating a special moment or event in the Glebe Society's history**

As part of the Glebe Society's 50th Anniversary celebrations, a photographic exhibition is being planned of special events in the organisation's history, provisionally titled '50 Memorable Moments'. The events, illustrated by poster size photographs (or videos or documents), could range from the protestors stopping the building of expressways through Glebe in the early 1970s to the return of the World War 1 memorial to the Tramsheds in 2018.



If you have a photo, video or document (or just a memory!) that recalls a special moment in the Glebe Society's past, whether it be of people, openings (or even closings), place naming ceremonies, campaigns, commemorations, celebrations or community gatherings, please let us know. We will be looking for a broad collection across heritage, environment and community themes and expect to include not just significant achievements but also lost causes, for example saving our Post Office, and examples of community participation and fun. We will be searching through our archives but would love contributions too from Glebe Society members, either from their own records or pointing us to other sources.

Further details in next *Bulletin*; but in the meantime please contact me.

*Dorothy Davis*  
for Anniversary Steering Committee  
Phone 0417 240 603; email  
[dorothydavis@fastmail.com.au](mailto:dorothydavis@fastmail.com.au)

### **And while you're there ...**

Dorothy has already asked if you have photos that illustrate a *special* moment or event in the Glebe Society's history ... But we are *also* looking for photos of Glebe Society activities that may not be so special.

We are looking for photos that show Glebe Society members participating in everyday Glebe Society activities – perhaps attending an event or meeting, preparing a morning tea – anything Glebe Society-related.

If you are able to scan your photos, please email them to me, Virginia Simpson-Young at [communications@glebesociety.org.au](mailto:communications@glebesociety.org.au).

Alternatively, someone can pop around and pick them up, copy them and return them to you as soon as possible.

*Virginia Simpson-Young*  
for Anniversary Steering Committee  
Phone 0402 153 074; email:  
[communications@glebesocietyorg.au](mailto:communications@glebesocietyorg.au).

### **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 1 November at 7pm we will go to *Green Mushroom*, 163 Glebe Point Rd;
- On Thursday 6 December at 7pm Mari-Luise will welcome us at *Despana*, 101 Glebe Point Rd.
- And on Thursday 3 January we will go to the newly renovated *Australian Youth Hotel*, 63 Bay St (near the Broadway Shopping Centre).

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.

*Edwina Doe*

### **Players in the pub: *The Elephant Man* – a tribute to the tenacity of the human spirit**

Directed by Debbie Smith; produced by Mike Dengler.

7pm Wednesday 21 November, Harold Park Hotel (upstairs), 70a Ross St (cnr Wigram Rd) Forest Lodge. Free admission (donations bucket).

All day kitchen. Please order early – we always aim to start on time!

#### **Dates for the next *Bulletin***

**Issue 10 of 2018 (Dec 2018-Feb 2019)**

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## For Your Calendar

Thursday 1 November, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday, *Green Mushroom*, 163 Glebe Point Rd.  
 2 to 18 November. *Glebe Music Festival*. Various locations.  
 Thursday 8 November 2018, 11am. *Re-dedication of Tramsheds War Memorial*. Harold Park (beside Tramsheds).  
 Friday 9 November, 10am-12noon. *Sewing for Good*. Glebe Town Hall Aboriginal Space.  
 Sunday, 11 November, 10.45am. *Remembrance Day*, Foley Park.  
 Tuesday 20 November, 6-7.30pm. *Sustainable Sydney 2050 consultations*. Glebe Town Hall.  
 Wednesday 21 November, 7pm. Players in the Pub. The Elephant Man. Harold Park Hotel (upstairs), 70a Ross St.  
 Thursday 6 December, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday. *Despana*, 101 Glebe Point Rd.  
 Sunday 16 December, 5.30-8pm. *Glebe Society Twilight Christmas Gathering*, Glebe Town Hall.  
 Thursday 3 January, 7pm. Thirsty Thursday. *Australian Youth Hotel*, 63 Bay St.  
 Wednesday mornings, from 8.30am. *Glebe Bushcare Group* meets near Jubilee Park.

### Glebe Society Inc. Established 1969

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PO Box 100 GLEBE NSW 2037

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### 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)



*The newly opened Harold Park, James Rd. (Image: Janet Wahlquist)*

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