



NSW HERITAGE PROTECTION IS FLAWED

by Brian Fuller, Heritage Subcommittee Convenor

When the NSW Heritage Act was introduced in 1977 it was a turning point in the protection of our built heritage. It followed years of developer-favoured policies that had scant regard for significant buildings, and other assets and events since colonisation, that have contributed to the societal fabric that makes NSW the place that we now enjoy.

Heritage Listing became the mechanism that was to afford the protection.

However, all is not as it should be. Protection is selective and subject to other priorities because Government is not able to protect our heritage whilst simultaneously acting with fiscal responsibility. It displaces heritage protection for short term economic survival.

If you watched the National Trust of NSW Heritage Awards 2020 presentation via Zoom you would have heard the NSW Minister Responsible for heritage, The Hon Don Harwin MLC, state that as Minister his agenda for next year is to modernise our heritage legislation to address the following:

- *'A new Aboriginal Heritage Cultural Regime*
- *Reforms to our Heritage Act that makes owning or renting a Heritage property in NSW the ambition and joy of people everywhere*
- *In the future we need legislation that not only protects but also provides*
- *We need a listing system that opens doors for adaptive reuse, celebration and economic growth making sure Heritage lives on in all its glory'*

That these issues are on his (or the Government's) agenda is effectively an admission of the shortcomings of the current Heritage Act and Regulations. He has implied that the current listing system is not sufficient for 'Heritage to live on in all its glory'.

White Bay power station

The most recent statements in relation to the White Bay power station by senior NSW Government Ministers was a very public display of Government disarray in relation to heritage policy and management.

The subsequent statement by State Treasurer Dominic Perrottet that the power station was a shocking building and 'should be knocked down like the Sirius Building' shows a complete lack of regard for the integrity of heritage listing, and no sense of the meaning of heritage and historical value.

The White Bay power station was added to the NSW State Heritage Register on 2 April 1999, after ceasing operations on Christmas Day 1983. The site is owned by the NSW State Government.



White Bay Power Station and White Bay from Glebe Island grain silos (source: NSW State Archives)

Planning Minister Stokes threw water on the ensuing fire by declaring Perrottet an 'excellent Treasurer, appalling architect'.

We understand this reaction by Minister Stokes came after a site visit to the power station by both politicians. Where was Minister Harwin, the Minister responsible for Heritage, during this site visit?

Despite the intervention by Minister Stokes, there is still no announcement as to the commitment by the Government to its maintenance and eventual adaptive reuse. In this regard all governments since decommissioning and subsequent listing have been 'missing in action'.

It is possible that unless there is a commitment to the future of the power station it will succumb to 'demolition by neglect' by its owner, the NSW State Government of NSW, notwithstanding the State Heritage Listing which that government authorised, supposedly accountable pursuant to the Heritage Act 1977 and Regulations which is administered by its agencies, the Heritage Council and Heritage Office of NSW.

After the controversy around the relocation of the Powerhouse Museum at Ultimo, the State Government quickly included the Ultimo Power House on the State Heritage Register, supposedly to demonstrate its acknowledgement of, and to, the listing process as a means of preserving and protecting our sites of heritage significance.

So, in a matter of months the Government Heritage-listed a building to demonstrate its heritage credentials whilst senior ministers of the same Government indicate disarray in recognising the significance of another heritage-listed building for which it has no vision.

The protection is flawed in that it is selective and/or ignored.

The Glebe Island Bridge

Similarly, the Glebe Island Bridge, a State Heritage-listed asset in Government ownership, has been left to deteriorate for 25 years simply because successive governments, and their agencies, have no vision for the adaptive reuse of this heritage asset nor a commitment to the principles of preservation once listed.

Unfortunately, the only time Government engages in heritage protection is at the time of a Development Application. If there is no DA, an irresponsible owner will allow deterioration to a point where 'demolition by neglect' becomes the only option. The Government heads in this direction in relation to its own assets, and notably the White Bay power station and the Glebe Island Bridge.

The Glebe Island Bridge is discussed in more detail elsewhere in this edition of the *Bulletin*.

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 and Regulations contain provision for minimum standards of repair and maintenance, which if enforced would prevent State Heritage-listed buildings reaching the point of 'Demolition by Neglect'.

Bidura

Back in Glebe we have the uncertain situation with *Bidura* (the heritage-listed house – not including the remand centre). Here the Government, via its agencies, the Heritage Council and Heritage Office of NSW, is subjecting itself and the future of this State Heritage-listed house to the development timings of the owner, Visionland.

Visionland's prime focus, as is to be expected, is with the redevelopment of the old Metropolitan Remand Centre at the rear. They do not need the main house, but they do need the land upon which it sits, to satisfy the open space requirements of the development proposal.

The Act and the Regulations empower the Government/Heritage Council/Heritage Office to enforce minimum standards of maintenance and repair, but instead of exercising those powers the government has chosen to defer its authority until a new development application is lodged, whenever that may be.

In the meantime, *Bidura* continues to deteriorate at least to the visible exterior.

The Glebe Society has had verbal and email communication with the Heritage Council/Office and more recently formally called upon the Heritage Council to exercise the powers contained in the Act and Regulations as a matter of urgency, whilst pointing out that the protection of *Bidura* must not be compromised by the will of the developer or the lack of tenacity in the exercising of those powers.

If Minister Harwin has the political strength to persuade Cabinet to 'modernise' (his terminology) the Heritage legislation so that our 'heritage lives on in all its glory' (again his words), then the Government and its Agency's MUST abide by their own legislation as an owner, and provide sufficient resources to ensure its effectiveness on behalf of future generations.

There is the possibility that the development will be delayed due to market forces, with the house continuing to deteriorate to the point of ‘Demolition by Neglect’.

The reality is that there are sufficient powers within the Act and the Regulations to protect our valuable heritage, but only to the extent that the Government adopts and supports it in its entirety.

If Minister Harwin has the political strength to persuade Cabinet to ‘modernise’ (his terminology) the heritage legislation so that our ‘heritage lives on in all its glory’ – again his words – then the Government and its Agencies MUST abide by their own legislation as an owner and provide sufficient resources to ensure its effectiveness on behalf of future generations.

In short, the Government needs to do its job, and stop supporting our disappearing heritage via ‘demolition by neglect’.



The remand centre in the curtilage of Bidura (photo: Phil Vergison)



Bidura – demolition by neglect (photo: V. Simpson-Young)

Application for spot rezoning 17-31 Cowper St and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Rd, Glebe

By Ian Stephenson, Planning Subcommittee Convenor

The Society has lodged an objection to the planning application by the NSW Government to amend the Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 to remove the above sites from the St Phillips Heritage Conservation Area (HCA), increase the maximum building height from 9 metres to RL 36 (the equivalent of eight storeys) and increase the floor space ration.

The application can be read in full on the Society’s website: <https://www.glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/TGSI-Cowper-St-objection-7-Dec-2020.pdf>. The grounds for objection include that the application is not justified because:

- I. It will have a serious impact on the heritage values of the St Phillips HCA
- II. If implemented, it will further undermine the controls protecting the heritage values of the St Phillips HCA and adjoining conservation zones leading to further loss of heritage values
- III. It will lead to the demolition of two buildings included as being of heritage significance to the St Phillip’s HCA and included on LAHC’s sec 170 register

- IV. It is based on a flawed Heritage Impact Assessment, the serious shortcomings of which make the justification for the planning proposal invalid
- V. Contrary to the claims in the proposal the removal of the two buildings from the HCA and their replacement by two eight-storey buildings is not an acceptable heritage outcome
- VI. It reduces the liveability and amenity of social housing in Glebe
- VII. It does not explore other options for introducing additional accommodation into an HCA as recommended in *Housing for All, City of Sydney local housing strategy, June 2020*
- VIII. Is incorrect to assert that *there are no alternatives to achieve the intent of this planning proposal*
- IX. It compromises the cultural and landscape values of Glebe
- X. It does not provide, as claimed, *the sensitive introduction of mid-rise development into an established inner city environment*
- XI. It undermines the viability of the Glebe Point Rd high street.
- XII. 2A-D Wentworth Park Rd and 17-31 Cowper St are well built masonry structures, shaded by verandas and have a relatively small ratio of glass to wall mass. Their demolition and replacement wastes embedded energy and does not contribute to *reducing carbon emissions*
- XIII. It is contrary to the NSW Government's *Future Directions for Social Housing*
- XIV. It is contrary to *Housing for All, City of Sydney local housing strategy, June 2020*
- XV. It is contrary to *A Metropolis of Three Cities, the Greater Sydney Region Plan, Eastern City District Plan*

The importance of retaining the low rise of the scale of the area as well as the heritage significance of 17-31 Cowper St in particular are addressed. Two experts assisted the Society.

Dr Clive Lucas, OBE, a distinguished conservation architect who was commissioned in the 1970s by the Federal Government to conserve the houses in the church estates advised that: *17 to 31 Cowper St ticks all the boxes, scale, character and materials. It is what all infill development in historic areas should exactly do. It is an exemplar. While Dr James Broadbent, AM, who has written and lectured widely on 19th-century houses and gardens and conservation philosophy and practice advised that:*



Just as the Glebe planning scheme as a whole is an important example of mid to late 20th century heritage conservation in urban areas, so the individual houses are fine and considered responses to the design and heritage significances of the 19th century houses. The respect and appreciation shown in the design of the infill houses to the scale, materials, colours, textures and forms of the old houses is masterful: sophisticated, romantic yet practical.

The 1980s houses have achieved heritage value themselves, and the whole – old houses and new – is an homogenous collection of items of heritage significance. In this area of the Glebe Estate the proposed development will destroy this homogeneity.

The planning proposal and the associated development are an undesirable erosion of the Glebe planning scheme. They show minimal respect, aesthetically, for its context of scale, materials, finishes, textures and colours, and minimal respect for the heritage significances of the original 19th century housing or the 20th century infill housing.

It should not be approved.

Follow-up from last month's *Bulletin* – response from City of Sydney

By Virginia Simpson-Young

The Society wrote to the Lord Mayor with our objections on 26 October (see last *Bulletin*) and we received a reply on 17 November from Andrew Thomas, Acting Director City Planning, Development & Transport. The letter can be seen on our website here: <https://www.glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/TfNSW-Cowper-St-response-17-Nov-2020.pdf>.

Mr Thomas writes: 'I note your objection to this proposal, and your concern it will erode the historical character of Glebe for a small increase in social housing residences.' The letter goes on to state that the NSW government commissioned a heritage assessment which found that 'demolishing the existing buildings will have a negligible impact on the significance of the heritage conservation area, and that the proposal to remove the subject site from the conservation area would be an acceptable heritage outcome.'

The Society does not agree with this assessment of the heritage impact of the development. The letter goes on to say: 'the site is at the outer edges of the conservation area where its qualities and architectural values are not as obvious as at the centre' – a clear red flag that this is a 'thin end of the wedge' situation.

Letter: Wentworth Park Rd and Cowper St development 'Phillistinian'

Dear Janet,

Living and working in Cairns as currently I do, I have been reading with some disquiet about the ring of proposed developments around Glebe where I intend to reside in 2021.

Blackwattle Bay and the destruction and re-location of the Fish Markets, and high-rise developments planned for that area ... and now the demolition of the Wentworth Park Rd and Cowper St buildings which were so thoughtfully and so sympathetically designed to blend in with the character of Glebe.

How Phillistinian to replace them with eight-storey towers which, the article reminds us, adds little to the existing public housing stock.

I will be re-locating to my house in Munro Terrace in mid-2021 when I cease full-time work.

We need to find another Jack Munday, who like myself is – or was – a North Queenslander.

I would add my voice to any submissions to City of Sydney Council, who, I am beginning to suspect, are reverting to the form which led (fortunately) to the green bans of the 70s.

The newsletter is a must read for me.

Yours sincerely,

Les Griffiths
Palm Cove



The Franklyn St Redevelopment Proposal

by Ian Stephenson, Planning Convenor

In November the NSW Government released the Franklyn St, Glebe, redevelopment proposal. This is described as a *preliminary concept* which is being *circulated for community feedback*. The scheme is to demolish the existing 108 social housing units and replace them with 425 units of which 130 will be for social housing.

Context

The Franklyn St estate is located between Franklyn, Glebe and Bay Sts. It is over 1.3 hectares in area, with one-third of a kilometre of street frontage on Franklyn, Glebe and Bay Sts. All the current street frontages address heritage conservation areas in which there are a number of individually listed heritage buildings. It is situated within the Mountain Street Heritage Conservation Area [HCA] and adjoins the St Phillips HCA. Its size and location make it a key site linking the low rise Victorian residential character of Glebe with the historic warehouses which define Ultimo. This gives it great strategic importance in contributing to and defining the character of the area and its streets.

Franklyn St

The estate was designed by Philip Cox and John Richardson of Cox Richardson architects in the late 1980s. It comprises a series of stepped forms interspersed amidst gardens. Approximately 40% of the site is soft landscape.



Figure 1 City of Sydney Structure Plan- detail (City of Sydney)



Figure 2 Aerial view of the site (source Six Maps)

City Fringe
Heritage Conservation Areas

A = the subject site



Figure 3 Heritage Conservation Areas (City of Sydney 2012 DCP)

The site adjoins the St Phillips heritage conservation area (2012 DCP Locality Statement 2.6.9) and is within the Mountain Street (2.6.11) heritage conservation area.

Mountain Street

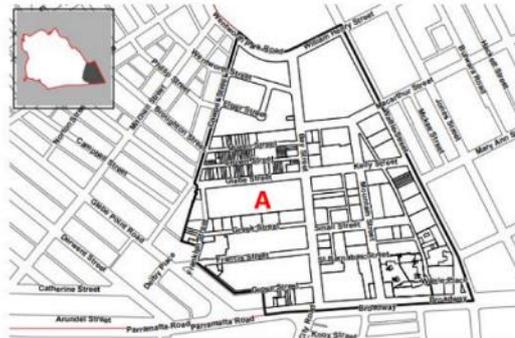


Figure 4 Mountain Street HCA (City of Sydney 2012 DCP)



Figure 1 The Franklyn St estate viewed from Bay St and Glebe St intersection (source google maps streetview)



Figure 2 The privately owned Greek St apartments are in the foreground with the estate behind (source Ian Stephenson)



Figure 3 The estate from the air (source Six Maps)

The Redevelopment Proposal

The scheme involves increasing the number of dwellings from 108 to 325, a 350% increment. In order to accommodate this the current height limits will be increased from 15 metres to 42 metres, a factor of 280%, the Floor Space Ratio [FSR] will be increased to 2.5:1 and the open space at ground level will be reduced by nearly half. The existing gardens will be used for new roads which, in an exercise in Orwellian double speak, are called 'living streets'.

Its form, scale and impact can be understood from Figures 9-13 below.

Proposed buildings

Three new buildings, separated by new streets

The proposal divides the existing estate into three blocks, with a new laneway network, returning around 25% of the site to public domain.

There would be a series of low-scale perimeter buildings that address the local street network.

Buildings transition in height to reflect the scales and characters of adjoining areas.

Taller buildings would be positioned to minimise overshadowing of neighbouring properties.

Legend

1. Potential location for mixed uses to activate Bay Street
2. New dedicated cycleway along Glebe Street
3. New 'living' streets
4. New laneway between Franklyn Street and Bay Street
5. Communal open spaces to the interior of each block
6. Enhance connection between Franklyn Street and Robyn Kemmis Reserve



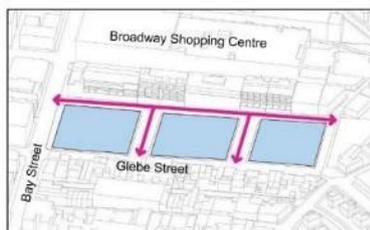
Block form view of potential buildings separated by new streets with Broadway Shopping Centre and Victoria Park in the background

Figure 4 LAHC Franklyn St redevelopment community consultation pack

The design approach

Key design strategies aim to improve community access and create a better place to live. There are three main design approaches outlined below

The design has considered the principles in the [NSW Government Architect's Better Placed](#) integrated design policy and the response to these criteria will be further developed during future stages of design.



New laneway and shared streets

- A new street and laneway network would divide the area into three blocks, creating better local access
- Approximately 25% of the area will be public domain



Buildings define and address the streets

- A series of low-scale buildings define and address the new streets and laneway, replacing the internal-focus of the estate
- Low rise buildings would provide a transition in height, scale and character between Glebe, Ultimo and Broadway



Tall buildings positioned to mitigate overshadowing

- A series of taller buildings across the area positioned to mitigate potential overshadowing of neighbouring buildings

Figure 5 LAHC Franklyn St redevelopment community consultation pack



Figure 6 LAHC Franklyn St redevelopment community consultation pack.

Proposed maximum building heights

Building heights to be compatible with the surrounding areas

The section below shows how the proposed buildings up to 14 storeys relate to the heights of nearby buildings



Section showing building heights of the redevelopment transitioning between Ultimo and Glebe

Figure 7 LAHC Franklyn St redevelopment community consultation pack.

Article continues next page ...

Read LAHC's Franklyn St proposal, and make comments at:
<https://www.communitiesplus.com.au/other-projects/franklyn-street>.

Closing date for comments has been extended to 5 pm, **Wednesday
23 December 2020**



A highly misleading view of the development

Artist impression of the proposed redevelopment, looking east from the corner of Glebe and Franklyn Streets

Figure 8 LAHC Franklyn St redevelopment community consultation pack

A new benchmark



Figure 9 Aerial view of the Glebe precinct



LAHC envisage that the architecture of the Glebe affordable housing project which occupies the area bounded by Wentworth Park Rd, Bay St, Elger St and Cowper St (Figs 13 and 14) will spread east across Cowper St (there is a planning proposal currently before Council to remove two sites from the St Phillips heritage conservation area to allow the construction of two eight-storey buildings) and south to the 1.3-hectare Franklyn St estate where two 14-storey buildings are envisaged.

Will a rezoning of the Broadway carparks follow at an even higher density?

The Society's Response

The Society has provided a detailed response to the community consultation. It can be read in full on our website here: <https://www.glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Franklyn-St-Submission-to-LAHC-11-Dec-2020.pdf>. Key points are that the concept is not acceptable because it:

- Reduces the existing open space and destroys the gardens. The existing open space should be retained.
- Demolishes a well-designed complex of social housing by the eminent architect Philip Cox working with John Richardson. It is profligate to demolish the Cox-Richardson complex. The units should be refurbished, ideally with advice from the original architects.

- In its scale and form it uses the Mezzo development as its model when it should be following the 2012 DCP and relating to the warehouse forms of Ultimo which it adjoins on Bay St and the Victorian low rise residential buildings of Glebe which it addresses on Glebe St and Franklyn St.
- Involves the relocation of long-term residents who have lived in the complex for many years.
- Only increases the provision of social housing by 22 units.
- Destroys the amenity of the residents of Greek St, particularly through the loss of winter sun and overshadowing to north facing Greek St apartments, particularly to lower-level units.

The consultation document indicates that the next steps over 2021 to 2022 will be:

1. LAHC submit a planning proposal for a rezoning to Sydney City Council.
2. The City of Sydney place the proposal on public exhibition.
3. The planning proposal is assessed by the Council and the Department of Planning and Industry.
4. Following planning proposal approval a development application is prepared.
5. Development application submitted and placed on public exhibition.

The Society has advised the LAHC that *good planning is not based on, and great cities are not created by, landowners determining what density they wish for with their developments and then obtaining rezoning to accommodate their desires.*

Disregarding the 2012 City of Sydney DCP and strategic planning objectives about good urban design and heritage and relying on a rezoning to insert an overdevelopment into a heritage conservation zone is not good practice and contrary to the public interest. LAHC are one of the city's largest landholders. On occasion they, and their predecessor agencies, have led the way in good design and urban planning. They should emulate this standard at Franklyn St by working within the existing controls and ideally refurbishing the existing buildings.

Heritage Conservation Areas – Repainting Guidelines

By Jude Paul

The City of Sydney's guidelines for repainting houses in a heritage conservation can be found at:

<https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/heritage-guidelines-studies/heritage-conservation-areas-repainting-guidelines>

For Glebe/Forest Lodge residents, no prior approval for repainting is required unless your property is a heritage-listed item.

Council's guidelines highlight the following priorities:

- Only paint surfaces intended for painting. These generally exclude face brick work, tiles and stone
- You can paint timber joinery and metalwork
- Consider carefully removing paint where paint was not the original finish, especially on face brick work
- Don't remove any original details, such as decorative plaster work, during repainting.



A Glebe house in 2020 – in need of a lick of (heritage-appropriate) paint (source: <https://www.realestate.com.au/>)

The guide also includes advice about colour schemes and consideration of painting in pairs/groups.

TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC



Glebe Island Bridge – Give It Back public meeting a great success

By Allan Hogan

The Glebe Society has for many years called for the restoration and repair of the now-disused Glebe Island Bridge for use as a pedestrian walkway and cycleway. The Society organised a meeting at the Pyrmont end of the Bridge on Thursday 3 December, the 25th anniversary of the decommissioning of the Bridge and its replacement by the Anzac Bridge.

Glebe Society President, Janet Wahlquist, said that the heritage-listed bridge was identical in design to the Pyrmont Bridge which has been restored and well used by pedestrians and cyclists. 'There have been calls for many years for the Glebe Island Bridge to be restored', she said, 'but now it's slowly falling apart'. Ms Wahlquist referred to a report by a consulting company in 2013 that estimated it would cost \$37.5m to restore the bridge, and \$40m to demolish it.

Other speakers at the meeting included Jamie Parker, the Member for Balmain, Jess Scully, Deputy Lord Mayor for the City of Sydney, and the Mayor of the Inner West Council, Darcy Byrne.

Jamie Parker paid tribute to Robyn Parker, a former heritage minister in a Liberal Government, who broke party ranks to back the heritage listing of the bridge in 2013. He said that Ms Parker's courageous decision was a key reason why the bridge had not been demolished. 'Now we have ground the wreckers of this bridge into an impasse', Mr Parker said, 'they are not strong enough to demolish it yet, (but) we haven't managed to tip the balance in favour of re-opening and enlivening this bridge'.

Councillor Scully said that the State Government had been pursuing a policy of 'demolition by neglect' for the bridge. She said the City of Sydney had put forward plans for the restoration of the bridge 'in every possible submission process to the State Government'. 'There's a whole generation of people who never saw this bridge swing into action', she said, 'they don't know anything about the perilous journey of crossing that (Anzac) bridge to get from the inner West to the city. Our challenge is to activate and energise that next generation'.

The President of WalkSydney, Barnaby Bennett, who lives in Rozelle, said 'we're willing to spend billions of dollars on enormous bridges, off-ramps, on-ramps, and road projects, and yet we'll have huge arguments about relatively small investments into walking projects which would absolutely stack up in a business case.'

With major projects planned for both the north and south ends of the bridge, including a new Metro rail station at White Bay, Jamie Parker says the proposed developments cannot be a success if a new link isn't built



Glebe Island Bridge at night, 2007 (photo: ManWithAToyCamera)

between Rozelle and the inner West, and Pyrmont and the city. 'This bridge is all about the future of our city, are we going to have a city that focuses on pedestrians and cyclists, or are we going to have a city that focuses on the car?' he asked.

Mayor Darcy Byrne told the meeting he had toured the White Bay power station with Ministers Dominic Perrottet and Rob Stokes after calls by the Treasurer to knock the building down. Mr Byrne said he told them the argument for preserving the White Bay power station is exactly the same as the argument for re-opening the Glebe Island Bridge. 'These places are of enormous heritage significance to this city'.

Planning Minister Stokes is apparently more sympathetic to preserving the power station as part of the Government's plans for the area, and Mayor Byrne hopes that the Government will also see the virtue of re-opening the Glebe Island Bridge to help unlock the economic potential of the Bays precinct.

Jamie Parker said that the Department of Planning is working on a master plan looking at how the bridge can work with the redevelopment of Blackwattle Bay, but also how the bridge can work with the Metro project. 'Next year will be critical', he said, 'I'll be working with all of the groups here and inviting us all to work together – councils, community, organisations, citizens – to bring together the weight of our collective persuasive tools to tell this government that the bridge should stay. It's a campaign that we can and must win for our community.'

Sign the petition at <https://www.change.org/p/transport-for-nsw-glebe-island-bridge-renewal-gibr-project/>.

The video of the Glebe Island Bridge meeting is now on both Facebook and YouTube. It can be found at YouTube with the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrssV-VRrU4&feature=youtu.be>, or by going to YouTube and using the following search words: Glebe Island Bridge Campaign.





(Photos: Phil Young)

A positive response on Glebe Island Bridge from Transport for NSW

On 12 November, Glebe Society President Janet Wahlquist, wrote to Rodd Staples, Secretary, Transport for NSW regarding restoration of the Glebe Island Bridge as a walkway and cycleway (<https://www.glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Letter-re-Glebe-Island-Bridge-to-TfNSW-12-Nov-2020.pdf>).

In the letter, the Society noted that since the Bridge was decommissioned 25 years ago, there has been a huge growth in the local population, an increase in cycling and walking and greater pressure on local walkways. These changes have increased the need for an alternative to the Anzac Bridge for cyclists and pedestrians wishing to transit from Balmain to Pyrmont or vice versa. The letter goes on to suggest that a timetable, like that used by the Spit Bridge, could be established to accommodate boats that are too tall to go under the closed bridge.

On 7 December, we received a response from Transport for NSW (<https://www.glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Response-to-OTS20-09172-Glebe-Island-Bridge-7-December-2020.pdf>). James Dobinson, Active Transport Lead, Greater Sydney, stated that 'Transport for NSW is investigating options for the long-term management of the Glebe Island Bridge. Options will aim to improve the condition of the Bridge, its heritage and reduce maritime safety concerns'. Mr Dobinson confirmed that 'an integrated transport network with improved walking and cycling links is part of the Bays Precinct vision that includes investigating possible future uses for the State Heritage-listed Glebe Island Bridge'.

The letter also states that Transport for NSW will investigate 'a foreshore loop in Blackwattle and Rozelle Bay and Glebe Island Bridge as a key walking and cycling link to Sydney CBD as it considers how to construct 'a new continuous shared pathway from the Parramatta River to the Sydney Opera House'.

While the response from Transport for NSW provides us with some optimism, there is still no indication of a timeframe for halting the 'demolition by neglect' which the Glebe Island Bridge is currently facing.

Bridge Rd cycleway: Council and State Government drag their feet on serious safety concerns

By Virginia Simpson-Young

This matter has not been satisfactorily resolved; the cycleway remains dangerous and neither the City nor the State Government has explained how and when the problems will be addressed.

On 30 November, we wrote to Lord Mayor Clover Moore¹ and to Andrew Constance, Minister for Transport and Roads². In her letter, Glebe Society President, Janet Wahlquist, outlined some of the Society's safety concerns including the many spots where the cycleway ends suddenly with no indication or advice as to where the cyclist is to go. There are also spots where there is extremely poor visibility for cars turning from side streets. We also pointed out that local residents need access to essential services such as health care, Meals on Wheels and disability service provision.

We asked that City of Sydney and the NSW government provide a detailed response to the safety audit commissioned by local residents. We made it clear that we would like a detailed response at the level of each specific finding in the report, not a generalised overview.

Further, we asked for more information about the post-construction safety audit – when will it be completed and will it be made available to the Glebe Society and/or local residents.

To date, we have not received responses.

1. <https://www.glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Letter-to-Clover-Moore-re-pop-up-cycleway-30-Nov-2020.pdf>

2. <https://www.glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Letter-Re-Pop-Up-Cycleway-to-Transport-Minister-30-Nov-2020.pdf>

More disappointment on Glebe-City bus routes

By Edwina Doe

A year ago, when the Light Rail was opened, I was surprised that my 470 city-bound bus didn't use the stop near the Haymarket Light Rail stop. I made enquiries – nor did the 431 and other routes, so I started to lobby for a change. COVID intervened, but on 31 August the Minister for Transport wrote to Jamie Parker – 'no plans for a change'.

However, I discovered by chance that on 26 October the timetable was changed. Our buses stopped at Pitt St at Barlow Rd, very close to the Light Rail. At last, no need for taxis! This didn't last long though. On 23 November the timetable changed again and I'm using taxis again. Perhaps passengers were not using the stop, but how would they know they could? There were no notices on the bus or other messages. Jamie Parker and Mark Stapleton are back on the case.



Admittedly, you won't see a double-decker running the 470 route anymore, but what's not to like about these wonderful old buses? This is an AEC Regent III 2112 on Route 470 at Forest Lodge in 1972 (Photo: Sydney Bus Museum)

GLEBE, NATURALLY

News from the Blue Wren Subcommittee

By Andrew Wood, Blue Wren Subcommittee Convenor

City's Bushcare Volunteer Guidelines

At our November meeting, we welcomed Jenny Kent, the City's Community Garden and Volunteer Coordinator and Aimee Freimanis, Ecohort Pty Ltd, the consultant developing the City's Bushcare Volunteer Guidelines. Jenny spoke of the need for the City to have a public-facing document to assist with the recruitment and management of its bushcare volunteers working in the parks and reserves. Aimee will be writing a document which will become an internal set of guidelines for the City to cover the activities of its bushcare volunteers. The aim is to produce a simple, instructive document, that finds a balance between freedom and control, which will help both the City and its volunteers, and can become a model for new volunteers into the future. The document was to be submitted to the City by Friday 4 December 2020.

There was extensive discussion of the proposed contents of the guidelines especially concerning;

- insurance cover for the volunteers; other local governments provide full cover for volunteers from 18 to 90 years of age,
- the need for regular meetings between the City and the leaders of its voluntary bushcare groups,
- why the City did not have a Bushcare Officer to supervise and attend the planting days and other activities organised by the bushcare volunteers. One reason is that other LGAs depend upon volunteers for much of their bushcare/park maintenance, but the City employs its own contractors,
- the need for site work plans in each of Glebe's parks and reserves, including the maintenance of a data base and map of works required at each site,
- the provision (and the onsite storage) of tools to be used by the bushcare volunteers, and
- the introduction by the City of an annual 'Thank You' event to recognise the work of its bushcare volunteers.

The Subcommittee offered to read and comment on drafts of the Guidelines. Jenny and Aimee were thanked for attending our meeting and providing us with the opportunity to discuss the proposed Guidelines.

Management of Crown lands in Glebe

The City is responsible for the management of 45 crown reserves and will be drawing up a Plan of Management for each of them. Twelve of the sites are in Glebe – Glebe Foreshore Walk (east), Franklyn Park Community Space, Robyn Kemmis Reserve, Dr H J Foley Rest Park, Federal Parks 1 and 2, Bicentennial Parks 1 and 2, Pope Paul VI Reserve, Jubilee Oval, the Tram Stop Reserve (including the so-called ‘Hill’ on the northern side of the Tramsheds) and Wentworth Park. The City has requested that members of the community complete a six-page questionnaire regarding the Plan of Management for each of the Crown land sites by 14 December. Also, the City is holding Zoom workshops and pop-up information sessions as part of its community consultation. With such short notice and at such a busy time of the year, it will be not be easy for the Subcommittee to complete the required documentation by the deadline and to then pass it on to the President of the Society for her signature prior to submission to the City; we will also need to send representatives to the workshops and information session.

News from our volunteers

The Friends of Orphan School Creek Bushcare Group held working bees to plant further native flora and remove weeds on National Tree Day, 2 August, as well as on 6 September and 5 October. A watering day will be held on 29 November and three new members have joined the Group. In John Street Reserve, the City’s contractors are no longer maintaining this biodiversity reserve and it requires extensive new plantings of native flora and pruning of the overgrown *Celtis australis* trees. Further, many of the users of the Reserve are not respecting its goal of providing habitat for small birds and are damaging the native flora and lawn. It was decided that the Society should organise a meeting in the New Year to discuss how best to solve the problems. The Glebe Palmerston and Surrounds Landcare Group report that work on the park upgrade continues – the upper and lower Palmerston Ave sections have both been closed to pedestrians for a lengthy time and they have had to use alternative paths to access the Glebe Light Rail stop. In Harold Park and Johnstons Creek, a planting guide has been provided by the City for the naturalisation of the southern side of Johnstons Creek between the bridges over The Crescent and Dalgal Way. Sophie Golding, the City’s Urban Ecology Coordinator, will be contacted regarding the appropriateness of the species selected for the plantings.

Society’s 8th Annual Spring Bird Survey

By Judy Christie

This year’s annual bird survey on Sunday 1 November seemed like a risky proposition with predicted wet weather, but we managed to undertake our surveys in cool, calm, overcast conditions before the rain arrived. A total of 16 people signed on at 6.45 am in Paddy Gray Reserve in Hereford St and were allocated to ten survey sites across Glebe and Forest Lodge including streets, parks and along waterways – participants spent around 20 to 45 minutes surveying the birdlife at each site.

The survey results in 2020 were very consistent with the 2019 survey, in terms of the number of species (26) and total individual birds (623). The two most common birds again were the native noisy miner and the rainbow lorikeet. Other native species becoming more common are the Australian magpie and Australasian figbird with grey butcherbird and laughing kookaburra also in the mix though not so prominent as the friendly magpies. Unfortunately, feral species such as pigeons, spotted doves and common mynas are increasing in number.

Species that we missed this year included cormorants, herons and other ducks. This could be attributed to the very high tide conditions on Sunday morning as well as the ongoing disturbance in Johnstons Creek due to the creek naturalisation works.

However, there were more breeding records this year. Tree martins were observed earlier this year using air vents in a building on the corner of Ross St and St Johns Rd, in Forest Lodge. The Forest Lodge survey team were able to identify up to ten birds flying in and out of the vents and reported chattering of baby birds as adults flew



Spotted Dove nesting in the amber traffic light at intersection of Ross St and St Johns Rd (photo Helen Randerson)

in and out of the vents. Although Tree martins typically nest in natural tree hollows, they are also known to nest in artificial crevices, such as in buildings.

The two figbird nests were in *Casuarina glauca* in branches overhanging the pedestrian bridge and road into the Tramsheds precinct. One nest contained a sitting adult bird and in the other a juvenile bird, not yet fledged. Figbirds are likely to continue to breed successfully in Glebe and Forest Lodge with street and park plantings of fleshy fruited trees such as figs and especially the now widely street-planted tuckeroo (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*) as well as the continued presence of weedy species such as the privet and *Celtis*.

While there were no surprises in this year's survey, it was good to see a willie wagtail in the vicinity of Federal Park calling loudly suggesting there might have been a mate somewhere nearby.

Once again, we celebrated our work with breakfast at *Esca* as the rain tumbled down. We were also delighted that Norma Hawkins – who at 98 years of age continues to do so much to promote and support the work of the Subcommittee – was able to join us. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make it a very successful and enjoyable spring morning.



Some of the bird watchers undertaking the Society's 8th Annual Spring Bird Survey – left to right: David Lawrence, Judy Christie, Elisabeth Dark, Diana Lauzi, Madeleine Jennings, Andrew Wood, Tony Tan, Sue Copeland, Rosalind Vaughan, David Watson (photo Anna Szanto). Missing from the photo: Anne Britt, Kim Hague-Smith, Helen Randerson and Anna Szanto

'On the verge' – it's not easy being green

By Helen Randerson

Some days I wish I had full PPE, as my days seem so long and the onslaught unrelenting. I live on the street, I have no money, few resources. I accept I am low in the pecking order.

Originally, I thought I was an Artist, a real beauty, even capable of moving some to tears of joy, but these days I seem to be just something standing in the way. Born with high hopes of making a difference, I'd suffered setbacks from previous undignified encounters and had felt that I was beginning to understand the true meaning of dieback.

Then along came COVID-19, with people working from home and seemingly constantly walking their dogs – through, over and around me, all failing – or refusing – to see or even acknowledge me. Do you know what it feels like to be ignored, the feeling of having petrol fumes, rubbish and detritus sprayed and thrown at you? I long for pre-COVID streets again and the nine-to-five routines of my fellow city dwellers.

In the evenings when there is some respite, I spend many still, cool, silent hours in company with urban possums, but I and my patch on the street get little respect from the cats that are left to roam outdoors. Some mornings I struggle to raise my head beyond countless insults towards new light.

I console myself that I'm not alone. I have some friends. Not just birds, but there are others like me with similar life experiences who live without a safety net in our parks and on the streets nearby.

I still want to make a difference. I no longer smell good, but I'm job-ready and would still like to help improve air quality and other aspects of the urban environment – yes, I'm still aspirational.

My biggest fear now is that is that I'll be trampled and expire from one last massive spray from a dog's rear end. If I didn't feel so rooted, I'd be marching with a placard, 'DOG URINE DAMAGES PLANTS'.



'On the verge' in Allen St, Glebe (photo Andrew Wood).



'Dog urine damages plants' – signage in Battery Park, New York City, USA (photo Stephen Rix).

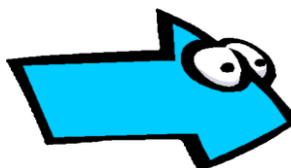
Jacaranda Quiz

The jacarandas seem to have been particularly good this year.

Rodney Hammett is celebrating the blooming Jacarandas with a quiz.

Can you name the location of these trees? Each picture has a little number in red. Answers on p.46.

The quiz is on the next page.





Brush Turkey sightings

On Facebook we asked: 'Have you seen a Brush Turkey in Glebe or Forest Lodge?' There certainly have been many sightings of the Brush Turkey in Glebe and Forest Lodge.

- Brush Turkey on Ross St earlier this week! (David Hempton)
- I saw one at the park going down to the light rail at Glebe once! (Andrea Hayward)
- Yep! Saw one roaming near Hereford St. (Shital Bhudia)
- We saw one running down Wigram Rd! (Polly McCourt)
- Yes, I've also seen one on Cook St. (Chloe Ioana)
- Forest Lodge public school has one (Melanie Cordwell)
- I have seen one at the end of Leichhardt St, near the waterfront walkway. (Drew Spring)
- Arthur (Paddy) Gray Reserve (Peter Bartzios)
- Yes, in Lyndhurst St last weekend (Judy Vergison)



Australian Brush Turkey (*Alectura lathami*)
(photo: David Cook)

The next big thing in recycling is here

By Virginia Simpson-Young

City of Sydney is partnering with RecycleSmart to make it easier for us to recycle items that can't go in the yellow lid recycling bin. The pickup service collects items such as clothes, soft plastics, e-waste, light bulbs and batteries. The list of what they'll pick up is too long to reproduce in this *Bulletin*, but you can view it here: <https://www.recyclesmart.com/pickup/#what-we-collect>. Some of the more interesting items they can take are books, polystyrene, printer cartridges, toys, X-ray films, VHS tapes, kitchen appliances, radios, shoes, towels – the list goes on.

Of course, many unwanted items can be re-used rather than recycled. For example, toys and clothes can be donated to op shops. But sometimes their condition is not good enough for re-using, so RecycleSmart is a great option.

You fill a shopping bag with non-bin items and then book a pickup. The pick-up costs \$2 per bag, but the first pickup is free with the code CITYOFSYDNEY.

You can find out more and book a pickup at <https://www.recyclesmart.com/>. You can also download the free app onto your phone.

This is being trialled in the City of Sydney Council area, so let's support it so that it sticks around.

1. Pack your bag
Scoop up all those tough-to-recycle things and put them in our bag or a bag of your own.

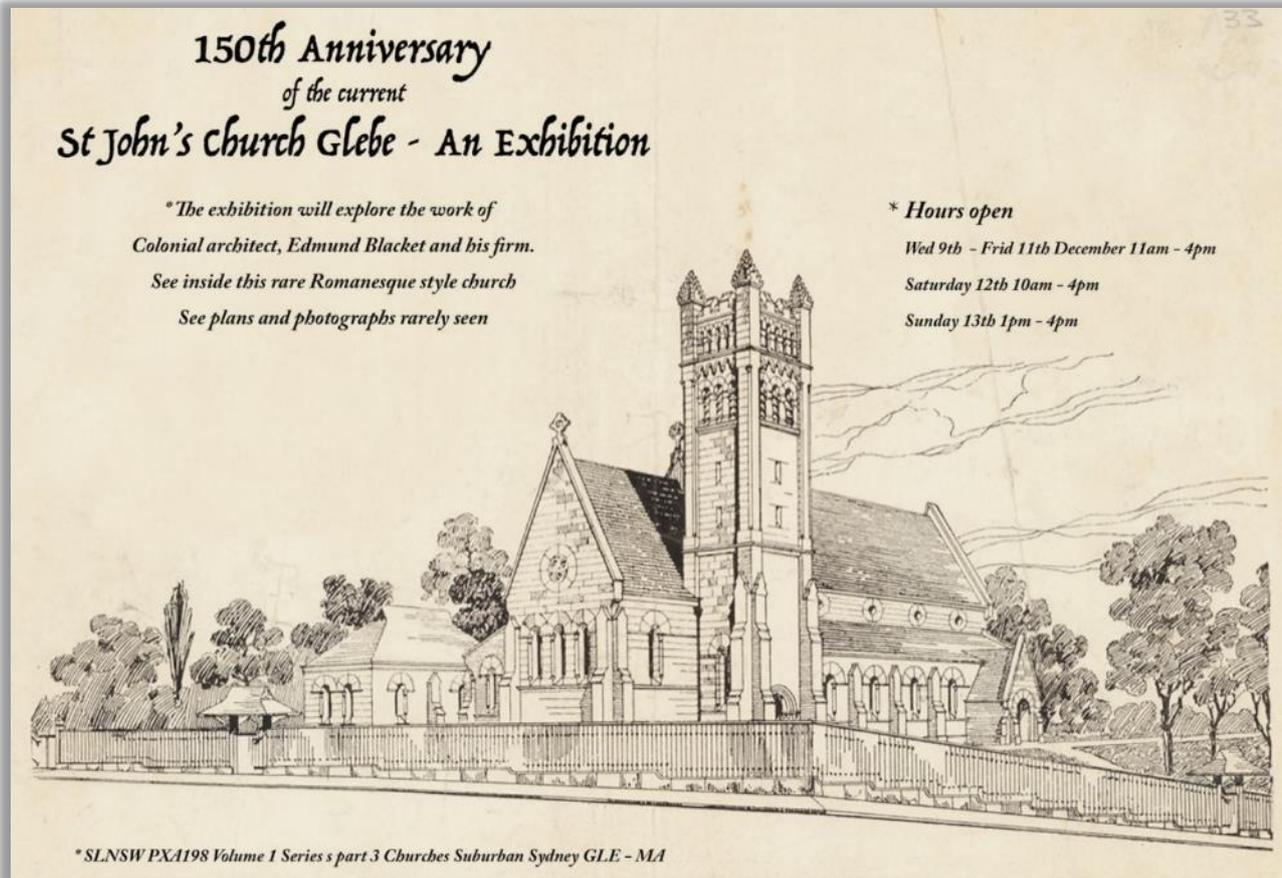
2. Book your pickup
Tell us your pickup address and a date that's convenient; you don't even need to be home! Simple.

3. We do the rest
Place the bag/s outside your house on the pickup date. We'll come by and make sure your stuff goes to the right place.

HISTORY

Blackett exhibition

Congratulations to Robert Hannan and his team for the excellent exhibition marking the 150th anniversary of the current St John's Church. We hope many of you had the opportunity to view the exhibition while it was on display this month.



Postcard promoting the Blackett exhibition for the 150th celebrations at St Johns



(photo: Phil Vergison)

Glebe Society's Aleppo pine has been on the move

By Ted McKeown and Lydia Bushell

The following article (now slightly updated) was penned by Liz Simpson-Booker and appeared in *Bulletin* 2/2015:

The Gallipoli Pine

On 6 August 1915, the 1st Australian Infantry Division launched a major offensive at Plateau 400 at Gallipoli, Turkey. The ridges were once clothed with the Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*). However, they had been cut down to cover and line trenches, leaving one solitary pine. Hence it became known as Lone Pine Ridge. In the three days of fighting the ANZACs lost 2,000 men and the Turkish losses were estimated at 7,000.

Lance Corporal Benjamin Charles Smith of the 3rd Battalion sent back several pine cones to his mother at Inverell, NSW. Mrs McMullen sowed some of the seeds some 13 years later. Two seedlings were grown, and one was presented to the town of Inverell. The Duke of Gloucester planted the second tree at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. The Glebe Society has donated a Gallipoli Pine sapling (*Pinus halepensis*) to the University of Sydney to commemorate those who served in World War I. The sapling presented to the University of Sydney was propagated by the Yarralumla Nursery from seed collected from the tree at the Australian War Memorial.

The Heritage Subcommittee has been able to identify over a dozen Glebe men who were associated with the University of Sydney as academics, support staff or students and who enlisted in World War I. As part of this investigation, members of the Heritage Subcommittee recently met with the Sydney University's World War One Centenary Project Officer to review entries on their *Beyond 1914 – The University of Sydney and the Great War* database and to look for commonalities with the list compiled by Rod Holtham of those from Glebe and Forest Lodge who served in WWI.'

From Ted and Lydia ...

The sapling donated to the University of Sydney was duly planted by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Michael Spence, on the eve of Anzac Day 2015.

Unfortunately, the site where the sapling was planted was right in the middle of what was to become the Chau Chak Wing Museum, which unites the Nicholson and Macleay Museums and the University art collection under one roof. So 'our' pine was sent away on an extended vacation but has now been replanted near the main University gate and in front of the new Museum.

As mentioned above, there are a number of commonalities between those who served from Glebe and Forest Lodge and those who served from the University, right on our doorstep. We can thoroughly recommend that anyone interested in this aspect of our common history consult the University's website <https://heurstplus.sydney.edu.au/heurst/?db=ExpertNation&ll=Beyond1914>.

You can contact Elizabeth Gillroy (elizabeth.gillroy@sydney.edu.au) for further information on this project or with details of students, staff and graduates of the University who are eligible for inclusion on the database.



(Photo: Lydia Bushell)

The *Beyond 1914* database forms a major part of the University's contribution to the history of the Australian experience of the Great War. It is produced from information provided to the University between 1916 and 1938 by more than 2,000 former staff, students, graduates and their families and which is now held in the University Archives. It was used to compile the University of Sydney's *Book of Remembrance*, first published in 1939. As an interactive, searchable website, *Beyond 1914* holds digitised archives which offer a unique insight into the lives of these University men and women before, during and after the war.

This project has now been augmented by a similar database relating to the men and women from the University who served in World War II, and the significant contributions they made to Australia's postwar recovery in the 1950s and to the growth of Australia's industry, economy and community throughout the remainder of the twentieth century.



The sapling as originally planted in 2015 on what is now the site of the Chau Chak Wing Museum (photo: Ted McKeown)



Lydia Bushell and Ted McKeown with the Glebe Society-gifted Aleppo pine outside the Chau Chak Wing Museum at the University of Sydney (photo: Alison McKeown)

Chau Chak Wing Museum

By Virginia Simpson-Young

As mentioned above, the Aleppo pine is located outside the Chau Chak Wing Museum at the University of Sydney. More information is provided here about the Museum.

The Museum has brought under one roof the collections of the Nicholson and Macleay Museums. I'm sure many of us remember the magic of visiting those two beautiful museums in the Quad. Added to that is the University's Art Collection. Seventy percent of the items on display at the Chau Chak Wing Museum have not been seen publicly for over 20 years.

The Chau Chak Wing Museum was designed by Johnson Pilton Walker.

Visits to the Museum are free but need to be booked for COVID reasons. Entry is free and the museum features 18 new exhibitions across four floors of galleries, engaging public events and a hands-on learning programs for students.

Free entry, open 7 days, Weekdays 10am -5pm; Thursday evenings until 9pm. Weekends 12pm- 4pm, closed 23 December-6 January.

For more information: <https://www.sydney.edu.au/museum/>



Interior of the Chau Chak Wing Museum (source: the museum)

Some of the Glebe-related items in the Chau Chak Wing Museum

While this image from the museum's collection is not currently on display, members may enjoy [The Business of Photography](#), an exhibition turning a lens onto the first commercial photography studios in NSW.



Telephone box In the object file is a handwritten note that says: 'Donation to M. Museum/ Fire Dept Telephone was one of 4 on campus at turn of century. Connected by direct line to Glebe Fire Brigade. This phone was located near the clocktower - Main Quadrangle/ Alan Williams: 2679' An 'Alan L Williams' is listed as 'acting officer of works and services' in the University Calendar of 1977 (Source: Chau Chak Wing Museum)



Lantern slide; 'Parramatta Road, at Arundel Terrace'; circa 1884; Shewan, John; Sydney. (Source: Chau Chak Wing Museum)



Hereford House by Stella Sheppard, date unknown. Architectural drawing in pencil. Depicting the house at 53 Hereford Street, Glebe built in 1874 for William Bull. (Source: Chau Chak Wing Museum)

Antoniou Filo Pastry: Celebrating 60 years – starting from humble beginnings at 85-87 Glebe Point Rd

by Christine Apostoles & Rodney Hammett

Glebe in the 1950s welcomed many of the post-war immigrants who went on to enjoy the freedom and prosperity that Australia offered, raising families and creating successful businesses here. One such couple was Christofis (Chris) and Marina Antoniou who arrived separately in Sydney from Cyprus, in 1952.

Chris initially found work in a tannery at Botany, each day riding his bicycle from lodgings at 56 Toxteth Rd, Glebe. Later, after they married in 1957 in Sydney, he and Marina bought the Toxteth Rd terrace with another young married Cypriot couple who became their *koumbari* and lifelong friends, Zino and Efrosini Constanti. Together they lived at No 56 for a few years, then moving to 10 Wigram Rd, Glebe with their growing families until the families were able to buy their own homes. At one point there were eight children and four adults living in the terrace, not to mention the additional boarders they took in to help pay the bills. The Constantis were long-time residents of Glebe, running a grocery store at 215 Glebe Point Rd, which is now an IGA supermarket.

Chris was a tailor by trade and Marina a seamstress, so putting their skills to good use in the late 1950s they opened a tailor shop at 85 Glebe Point Rd, a property they bought. This also became the family home. A few years later, with the tailor shop running smoothly and having purchased No 87, they decided to earn some extra money trying their hand at making filo pastry in a



Marina and Chris in 1957 (photo supplied by family)



85 & 87 Glebe Point Rd in 2020 (Google Street view)

small room next door at No 87. Working tirelessly for long hours they mastered the art of handmade filo pastry, soon establishing a name for themselves and began selling filo pastry to two local Greek cake shops.

A development application was submitted in 1961 to use No 87 as a 'cake shop', to allow them to produce and sell filo pastry from the premises. Despite neither Chris nor Marina having any formal English lessons, through their work and interaction within the local community, their English skills became proficient.

The businesses operated side by side for many years, while Chris and Marina raised their young family. Helen, Tony and Miriam often helped their mum and dad during school holidays in the filo pastry business. Although the children disliked working in the shop at times, they now reflect back on the experience positively, knowing how much it moulded them into the people they have become today.

Attending Glebe Public School in the 1960s, the children now have amazing childhood memories of playing with their friends, most of

whom were also children of Glebe shop owners, including the milk bar, the bootmaker, the fish and chip shop and the 'hamburger joint'. Campbell Lane became the playground for the neighbourhood children.

In 1969 it became apparent that Chris and Marina had to make a choice between the filo and tailoring businesses. The filo pastry business had grown enough to warrant their full-time attention and the decision was made to close the tailor shop. In the early 1970s they moved filo pastry production from Glebe to a small factory in St Peters. Through many years of hard work and dedication, the business continued to expand and grow.



Today, the business is operated by Chris and Marina's son, sons-in-law and three grandchildren from a purpose-built facility in Moorebank. In 2020 the Antoniou Family proudly celebrates 60 years in business as they continue Chris and Marina's legacy which began all those years ago from their small Glebe Point Rd shopfront.

100 Years ago in Glebe & Forest Lodge – this month: December 1920

By Rodney Hammett

Glebe Rowing Club's Honour Roll was unveiled on Saturday 11 December 1920

GLEBE ROWING CLUB.

The following crews have been selected to represent the club at the Association regatta:—Champion Eight: G. Graham, 10.8 (bow); C. Bluett, 11.2 (2); M. Keogh, 10.10 (3); A. Atkinson 11.0 (4); H. Buckley 11.2 (5); H. Hunt 11.3 (6); L. Van Monjou, 11.4 (7); G. Hancock, 12.0 (str); R. L. Berry (cox), E. J. Kelly (coach). Junior Four: R. Wilkinson, 11.0 (bow); A. J. McNeill, 11.6 (2); G. Miller, 13.6 (3); P. Hawke, 11.3 (str); H. Sullivan (cox), J. C. Kelly (coach). Lightweight Maiden Four: W. Finney, 9.6 (bow); T. Walters, 9.7 (2); G. Graham, 9.9 (3); R. Maloney, 9.11 (str); D. Graham (cox), J. C. Kelly (coach).

The club's honor roll, which contains 63 members who enlisted for active service, including Capt. Storkey, V.C., will be unveiled by the Premier, Hon. John Storey, on Saturday, 11th inst., at 3.30 p.m. A number of races will be held during the afternoon, including unclassified fours, open to members of the associated clubs, and club fours. Mr. Q. L. Deloitte, president N.S.W. Rowing Association, has signified his intention to be present, and a special invitation is issued to past and present members of the club. Mr. Geo. Hudson has been unanimously elected president of the club in place of the late Hon. J. A. Hogue, which office he held for close on 25 years.

Referee (Sydney); Wed 1 Dec 1920, p.16

GLEBE MEMORIAL

At the unveiling of the honor roll of the Glebe Rowing Club yesterday, Mr. Keegan, ex-member for Glebe, thanked Mr. Mutch, Minister for Education, for setting aside portion of the land at Hereford House Training College for the Glebe soldiers' memorial.

In reply, the Minister said that he would never have been asked to find the land had not an ecclesiastic body refused to give the necessary ground, the reason given being that it was consecrated.

"I cannot understand it, gentlemen," he said, "and it was only then that I was called upon to do what the authorities refused."

The Sun; Sun 12 Dec 1920, p.10

Of the 63 (or 65) members on the honour roll, 14 died during WW1, details of which can be found in Max Solling's 'The Boatshed on Blackwattle Bay – Glebe Rowing Club, 1879-1993', published 1993.

Unfortunately, the honour roll was destroyed in the fire which burnt down the club-house on 30 April 1953. The club-house was rebuilt between 1953 and 1958 and there is a unique photographic record of the club members involved in this work which also captures fascinating background details of Glebe and Blackwattle Bay at that time. (Max Solling, pers. comm, Oct 2020)



Blackwattle Bay in 1923. Part of Hudson's timberyard in foreground. Glebe Rowing club house can be seen in centre of photograph. (Source: Maritime Services Board, glass negative at NSW State Records, ID 9856-2017_20170000223)

Who Lived in 21 Westmoreland St?

By Lyn Collingwood, Local Historian

This house on the Bishopthorpe Estate was probably one of several built in Glebe by Alexander Leckie Elphinstone senior who was recorded as its occupant in 1873. The Elphinstones were prominent local builders; several lived in Derwent St and their timber yards were close by. The house sat on the corner of what was Harden St before that thoroughfare was absorbed in the 1880s into Mitchell St, which originally ran only from Glebe Point Rd down to Blackwattle Bay.

In 1874 Henry Shute (1828-1902), a commercial traveller with Tooth's brewery, moved from Arundel Terrace into the Westmoreland St house and named it *Stonehouse* after a village near Portsmouth, presumably his birthplace. Shute came from a military background. His father, a Major-General, fought in campaigns with the Duke of Wellington and Lieutenant-Colonel James Shute, who served with the Royal Marine Light Infantry, was a brother.

Henry Shute arrived in Adelaide in the 1850s. In 1857 he married Elizabeth Wells in Sydney. By the time of the death of their baby son Thomas in 1860 they were living at *Abbott's Cottages* Botany Rd. By 1867 they were on Cleveland St and by 1870 in Glebe. Elizabeth Shute, the mother of Henry's four young surviving sons, died aged 38 from sunstroke in March 1876. Two years later Henry married her sister, Alice, in St Andrew's Cathedral. By 1892, when Alice Shute advertised for a general servant, the household had been reduced to three. They suffered from soot and smoke pouring from the chimneys of a neighbouring farrier on Westmoreland St. Henry Shute prosecuted George Lappin for the deleterious effect this had on his family's comfort and health but the matter was settled out of court.

Shute worked for Tooth's for 43 years. He died at home on 4 June 1902 and was buried in Balmain Cemetery. Another Wells sister, Louisa, lived briefly with his widow. In 1914 Alice Shute moved next door to 23 Westmoreland St where she remained until shortly before her death in 1926.

Henry Shute's eldest surviving son, also named Henry (1859-1931), was a member of the Glebe Rowing Club. In 1884 at St James' Church in the city he married Emma, the eldest daughter of William Cary, Glebe Council Alderman and Mayor and the owner of *Glenwood* (the Hereford St house features in the Glebe Society's publication *Villas: Glebe & Forest Lodge pre-1870*). Henry joined the Lands Dept, qualified as a surveyor and transferred to the Dept of Public Works where he helped develop Sydney's sewerage system. He organised a State-wide hydrographic survey for the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission. At his death he was survived by his wife (who died in 1944) and children, William Henry Shute and Beryl Joyce Stewart.

Second son James (1861-1926) was employed by the Bank of NSW for 45 years. Held up at gunpoint in the Wellington branch, he fought with the robber who fled and turned the weapon on himself. For his bravery James was presented with a gold watch and promoted to East Maitland, and then to Head Office. In 1885 at St Andrew's Cathedral he married Mary ('Minnie') the only daughter of squatter Silvanus Brown Daniel, Commissioner for Crown Lands and MLA for Wellington. James Shute died of pneumonia at Hurstville and was buried in Waverley Cemetery, survived by his wife (a celebrated musician described by visiting Paderewski as 'Australia's lyric pianiste') and their son Dr Redvers Buller Shute (presumably named for Sir Redvers Buller the general who fought in several African campaigns including the Boer War).



A Facebook follower asked for help in identifying the subject of this artwork 'Glebe Houses'. Robert Hannan recognised 21 Westmoreland St, a house remarkable for its decorative quoins pattern work.



Richard ('Dick') Shute (source: Referee 21 November 1900)

Third son Richard (1863-1942) was a solidly-built all-round sportsman who was said to bend coins with his teeth. After Glebe Public, he was educated at Sydney Grammar where he joined the rifle club and played intercolonial cricket. He was a member of the Australian X1 which went to England in 1886. He succeeded his brother Henry as treasurer of the Glebe Rowing Club, became its secretary and was stroke of several winning crews. A founding member of the Suburban Bicycle Club and the Burwood Bowling Club, Richard played forward with the Toxteth and Arfoma football clubs, was a steward with the Canterbury Park Race Club, and served as an alderman and mayor on Burwood Council.

Professionally Richard Shute worked as an architect. At Sydney Cricket Ground he designed the Sheridan Pavilion and alterations to the Ladies' Pavilion. As treasurer of the NSW Cricket Association, he fought against proposals to use the SCG field for bicycling and other sports, and resigned the position in 1910.

At Burwood in 1890 Richard Shute married Amelia Stuart Allt who launched vessels for her father Thomas, chairman of directors of the North Coast Steamship Company. The Shutes had two daughters Marjorie Stuart (1892-1976) and Enid Stuart (1896-1976). Their son Robert Elliott Stuart, born in 1899, enlisted in the First World War and served as a gunner. After returning to Australia he studied engineering at Sydney University where he played rugby union as a front row forward. In June 1922 Robert died of a fractured skull

sustained during a game on Manly Oval. An inquest found his death accidental and his mother sent a note of support to the player who had tackled him. The Shute Shield, struck in Robert's honour, is awarded to the Grand Final winning team at the end of the Sydney Club Rugby season.

By the time of his son's death, Dick Shute had moved to Point Clare where he died in 1942; his widow Amy Shute died at Newcastle in 1962.

Fourth son Charles (1867-1917) turned to hotelkeeping after bankruptcy as a builder during the 1890s Depression. In 1898 at St Barnabas' Broadway he married Jane Maud, the youngest daughter of Richard Briant, a Glebe butcher. Charles Shute's licences included the *Royal* at Granville and Paddington's *Four in Hand*. He died in the *Albury* at Darlinghurst; its licence was then transferred to his widow.

In 1914 *Stonehouse* was rented to Elizabeth Norah O'Neill who tried to make a living by turning it into a boarding house. Born at Binda in 1864 to William and Jane Eldridge, Elizabeth married itinerant station hand John Charles O'Neill at Crookwell in 1885. Four children were born in the period 1886-91: Lyle Hugh Florence (Florence was also a male name in the 19th century), Stella, Alice and Charles Campbell Clyde. In 1897 Elizabeth sued their father for desertion and again in 1905 by which time two more sons (Garnet Lindsay Gordon and John Lionel David) had been born at Peak Hill and she had moved from the country to Foucart St Rozelle. The last known whereabouts of John Charles O'Neill was Gunaganoo Station near Tamworth.

Stella O'Neill married Henry Herbert John Roche at Glebe in 1916. In 1928 the family pattern was repeated when Stella charged her labourer husband, addicted to drink, with deserting his wife and child, then living in Flinders St Darlinghurst. Two years later he was ordered to pay maintenance.

Three unmarried O'Neill sons enlisted in the First World War. Lyle, a timber getter, was killed at Gallipoli in September 1915, a light horse trooper. Charles, a labourer who enlisted at Goulburn, embarked a month later. His service was broken by several hospital admissions. In June 1917 at Laviéville in the Somme district he was court martialled for being AWOL and sentenced to be shot. This was commuted to 15 years' imprisonment but he returned to Australia. In 1920 he was arrested by Nimmitabel Police and tried at Bega for assaulting and robbing, in company, Teddy Ah Boon. In 1924 he was charged with vagrancy. He was discharged for the same offence in 1932 because he received a war pension. Charles O'Neill was in and out of prison and on and off food relief for years. In 1933, again in company, he broke into an Orange laundry and stole bed linen. In 1946 he was a patient in the State Hospital Lidcombe. He died at Parramatta in 1952 and was buried in the Catholic Cemetery Liverpool.

Garnet, a 19-year-old farmer, enlisted in April 1916 and saw action in France where he developed trench fever. He returned to Australia in 1919 and moved to Queensland where he worked as a craftsman. He served in the Second World War, and died in 1965.

Elizabeth O'Neill did not stay long in Glebe. By 1916 she had already moved twice: to Potts Point and Darlinghurst. By 1920 she was living at Gladesville where she established a greengrocery and confectionery business, and died in July 1952.

In 1918 two rooms at *Stonehouse* were advertised for rent ('no children') with use of the kitchen. Marion Clara Benson née Williams moved from 19 Westmoreland St where she had been living with her saleswomen daughters Sally Maud Margaret and Lurline Jessie. Marion Benson died in 1928 and was buried C of E at Rookwood. Lurline in 1931 at Glebe married Charles Hugo Bergquist and the couple moved to Wollongong. Bergquist unofficially took his mother's maiden name; Lurline Jessie Pollock died at Bellevue Hill in 1981.

George Wilcox lived in *Stonehouse* in the early 1930s. By 1935 labourer George David Ferguson was there with Minnie Elizabeth and Wallace, a carter with a draught horse. Edward John Ferguson, a butcher, moved in from 11 Catherine St and was joined by Wallace Douglas and Dulcie Joy, clerks who married at Newtown in 1960. The Ferguson family remained at 21 Westmoreland St until 1969.

Sources: Australian Archives; NSW cemetery records; NSW electoral rolls; NSW registry of births, deaths and marriages; Qld registry of births, deaths and marriages; *Sands Directories*; Trove website.



21 Westmoreland St today (photo: Lyn Collingwood)



The house in 1970 (Image: City of Sydney Archives)

Who Lived in Your House? – 224 Bridge Rd, Forest Lodge

by Rodney Hammett

Avid *Bulletin* readers would recall from Issue 5/2020 that the original Forest Lodge partially existed under No 224, prior to Munro Terrace (Nos 212-230 Bridge Rd) being constructed in 1913 by William Ross McLean Munro. That article explained the Munro family's ownership of Forest Lodge and its curtilage from 1871. This is a story of the owners and occupants of No 224 and adds to Lyn Collingwood's eloquent discussion of some of the people and personalities at No 224, included in *Bulletin* 2013/02.

Firstly, the owners. In the last 107 years there have only been seven owners of No 224.

Date of purchase	Owner
February 1912	William Ross McLean Munro of Forest Lodge, architect (site of Nos 212-230)
April 1949	W Nevill & Co Limited (Nos 212-230)
August 1957	Veronica Elizabeth Garvey of Glebe, married woman (No224)
September 1973	Peter Frederick Larcombe of Darling Point, insurance representative (No224)
November 1975	Malcolm Capp of Glen Iris, Victoria, company manager and William James Henry of Mosman, solicitor (No224)
November 1976	Tavistock Research Centre Pty Limited (No224)
July 1979	Edwina Doe of Glebe, market research consultant (No224)

Source: Certificates of Title 116-155; 6260-89; 7529-90



224 Munro Terrace in 2020 (photo: Olivia Moore)

Veronica Elizabeth Garvey purchased No 224 from W Nevill

& Co Limited, who also managed the tenants in each of the 10 terraces. Veronica and her police constable husband, John Francis Garvey, had lived here with her mother Catherine Hand on and off prior to 1957, and also at No 218. The Hand and Garvey families are discussed below.

Peter Frederick Larcombe, son of Horace Joseph (1888-1958) and Agnes Bertha Wells (1897-1974) was only 44 when he died in a skiing accident in Italy on 21 February 1975. He had purchased No 224 in September 1973 giving his occupation as an insurance representative. Electoral Rolls in 1968 and 1972 show he was a grazier at Manilla or certainly working on the land, suggesting maybe his life was in transition at this time.

Peter's parents had married in Sydney in 1928; he from England and she from South Australia. Horace had been a merchant seaman during WW1 but in Sydney he became a seemingly successful ice manufacturer with the family living at Cronulla. Peter must have been attracted to the land because at the age of 23 he was a jackeroo and in 1958 at the age of 27 he was an overseer. Peter's remains are at Woronora Cemetery, along with those of his parents.

Following Peter's death, No 224 along with his other assets, were managed by the executors of his estate. For a short time, it was owned by Malcolm Capp of Glen Iris, Victoria, company manager and William James Henry of Mosman, solicitor before being sold in November 1976 to Tavistock Research Centre Pty Limited.

Tavistock Research Centre and Edwina Doe

As Edwina recalls, 'in about October 1976 I was a partner in a very small market research company, Tavistock Research. Our office was in the spare bedroom of my flat over a butcher's shop in Spofforth St, Cremorne. One day my business partner Ken suggested that we should buy a house instead of wasting \$30 a week on rent and mentioned Glebe. I knew nothing about Glebe, so we drove there one Wednesday. I liked the streetscape immediately and saw that the houses were suitable for use as a flat above a business. The next Friday a real estate agent showed us just one house, 224 Bridge Rd.'

After a few very good years, Edwina and Ken, in 1979 decided to close the business; '... mainly because we were spending all the profits on long lunches in Glebe.' Edwina then took over the mortgage, moved downstairs and found tenants for the three-bedroom flat upstairs. She has had had a succession of tenants, '... mostly very good ...' and continued to work in various Market Research companies until she retired in 2002. Edwina was also the editor of the Glebe Society *Bulletin* thrice; 1983-85, 1988 and 2003-2012. Fittingly details of her time

in Glebe and her contributions to the Glebe community have been recorded in previous *Bulletins*, viz 2009/05, 2012/10 & 2013/02.

Occupants have been the owners, tenants and boarders. An advertisement in the *Daily Telegraph* of Saturday 21 November 1914, exhorts the virtue of renting at No 224; 'B and B, airy, clean, large room, good table, quiet, suitable students', so the terrace would have been ready for habitation in 1914.

1914- 1926 **Various**

Sands Directories list the heads of the household in this period – Bruce Green (1916-1919), Miss Jane Brady (1920-1921), Mrs Franzeska Loops (1922-1924) and Mrs Mary Brennan in 1925. There is no listing for No 224 in 1914 or 1915 however it is likely this was Bruce Green. Bruce had been born in Calcutta in 1883 later marrying Violet (date and place unknown). In Sydney he was a music teacher. They moved to Double Bay in 1920, renting there for over 30 years before retiring to Chatswood in the mid 1950s where he died in January 1969, aged 86.

Franzeska Schacht from Germany had married Christian Loops in Sydney in 1909, she ten years his junior. They with another couple set off for a picnic at La Perouse on Sunday 29 February 1920, the two men then hiring a boat to go out fishing. Tragedy struck when a storm came up and the boat capsized. The men were swept onto nearby rocks and fortunately members of the public were able to rescue them however Christian had fractured his head and never recovered, while Albert Osburg survived suffering only shock and bruising.¹ After 1924 Franzeska lived in Leichhardt before marrying, in 1928, WW1 veteran Harold Edmund Milton from which came a son Alan Milton (1928-1994). She died in 1942 at the age of 50.



Forest Lodge Public School, Class 1B, 1920 **Source:** City of Sydney Archives; ID 088\088395

A Miss Hawkins got lucky when living here in February 1926; she won 8th prize in the Art Union raffle in aid of the Sydney Day Nurseries.²

Children living at No 224 in 1920 could have been in Class 1B at the Forest Lodge Public School.

1926-1933 **Forrester Family** (8 years)

Margaret Johanna Forrester was the head of the household from 1926 until 1932, the year Sands Directory ceased publication. Also in the household were husband William, a labourer, and five children, Agnes (1908-1981), Margaret (1910-?), William (1912-1973), Herbert (1914-1988) and Kathleen (1918-?). It is possible that there was also a boarder or two.

William, born in Dubbo 1883, was the son of David Forrester a carman with a successful carman and coach business in Orange. Margaret, the daughter of John and Dorothy O'Brian, had been born in Molong, NSW in 1886. By 1932, her parents John, an engineer, and Dorothy were living at 14 Short St, Forest Lodge. Margaret was the second of five children; the youngest, Edmond, enlisted as a trooper for WW1 in 1915. He broke his leg in September 1916 but returned to the front before being discharged in Sydney in November 1919.

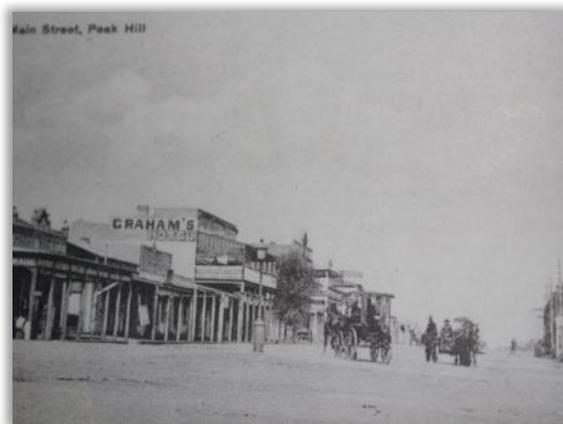
William and Margaret had married in Orange in 1907. All their children were born in Orange, including Barry, who tragically died of pneumonia aged only nine days in September 1913. This incident resulted in a complaint

to the hospital and a subsequent enquiry in March of 1914; ‘... The press were excluded on Monday, because the committee considered the subject under consideration so delicate that, if the meeting was an open one, some of the statements made might be held as libelous.’³

The family moved to Redfern in 1934 then to the Liverpool area, eventually settling at Joadja Rd, Hoxton Park with a small farm. The land today is an industrial zoning squeezed between the M7 and Hoxton Park Rd, near Cabramatta Creek.

1934-1973 Hand & Garvey Families (30 years)

Catherine Mary Hand (née Boles) was living at No 224 in 1934 with her son William Thomas Hand, a labourer. She had married John Hand at Peak Hill, NSW in 1904 from which came Edna Maria (1905-1957), Veronica Elizabeth Jean (1907-1988) and William Thomas (1910-?). Peak Hill became a town in about 1889 following the discovery of gold; the railway arrived in 1910 however the mining ceased in 1917, the town then becoming a centre for the local rural community. The first upright concrete wheat silo in Australia was built there in 1918.⁴ At the 1913 electoral rolls John was a brickmaker at Peak Hill, and this photo shows the main street at about that time.⁵



Main Street, Peak Hill (source: History of Peak Hill and District Facebook page)

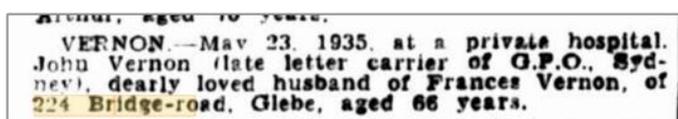
Edna married Edward John (Ted) Connors at the Roman Catholic Church, Peak Hill on 27 January 1927, starting a family soon thereafter. It was not long before they became one of the many thousands of families in need of support as a result of the 1930s depression so after a stint as barman in the Royal Hotel at Walgett, Ted, Edna and daughters Pamela and Lois arrived in Glebe. In 1934 they were living at 205 Bridge Rd, Ted now a labourer but later a cleaner. Living for a while at No 224 (1936-40), No 218 became their permanent home in about 1940, where Edna died aged only 52 in 1957. Ted continued to live at No 218 until his death in 1975, aged 78.

Veronica in 1930 was 23, working as a draper at Wee Waa. Here she met John Francis Garvey, a young police constable on a country posting. The next year they married in Sydney, where he had a new posting, and in 1934 they were living near others of Veronica's family, at 222 Bridge Rd. From 1936 to 1937 they lived at No 218 with her sister's family before John was posted to Ardlethan, NSW in 1938. Here their address was the Police Station. Newspaper reports describe the incident in November 1938 when John was severely injured by two men during an arrest, leading to both of them being sentenced to two years jail.⁶

Back at Forest Lodge, Catherine died at No 224 in August 1941, her funeral taking place at St James' Church, Forest Lodge then interment at the Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park. No doubt the Connors and Garvey families joined William Hand for this solemn occasion. William died in 1963 at the age of 53 and is buried at Woronora Memorial Park.

John Garvey returned to Forest Lodge where aged 37, he enlisted for WW2 in the RAAF on 9 July 1943. He became a Leading Aircraftman during the war then was discharged in May 1946. Returning to No 224, it seems there were marital problems which lead to a separation. Veronica remained at No 224, purchasing it in August 1957, then selling in September 1973. With her children Catherine (an assistant), John (a student), and Tracey (a scientific officer), Veronica moved to Kingsford where she died in 1988 aged 81. Veronica is interred at the Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park.

The Hand/Garvey family had boarders at various times. One was Frances Vernon who gave No 224 as her address at the time of her husband John's death in May 1935.⁷ Frances Martha Fowler, born in Goulburn NSW in 1870 was 22



when she married John Alexander Vernon in Burwood in 1892. He was not quite 15 when he joined the Department of Postmaster-General on 19 April 1883 as a letter carrier, the same job he had when he retired in 1928 aged 60. Frances and John raised five daughters and four sons, these being born between 1892 and 1911, as they moved between rental properties in Homebush, Leichhardt, Annandale, Pyrmont and Glebe. Their youngest, Leith, was only eight when he was tragically killed, falling under a motor lorry in Ross St, Glebe on 8 August 1919. Frances died aged 87 in Glebe in 1957 and is buried at the Rookwood Cemetery.

Another boarder, A McDonald in 1943, wanted to exchange some Goodyear motorcycle tyres for Dunlop tyres, but they 'must be new'.⁸



Forest Lodge Public School, 1956, Class 5A. **Source:** City of Sydney Archives; ID 088\088303

It is possible that children from No 224 and the adjoining terraces were in Class 5A at the Forest Lodge Public School in 1956.

1973- 1976 **Various**



224 Bridge Rd in 1977 (photo: Edwina Doe)

Names of those living at No 224 between 1973 and 1976 have not yet been found, however it is likely they were students from Sydney University because now the terrace was an investment property. At No 230 in 1971, Charles Jennings, part way through his science degree, had the head lease. He and his fellow students lived each day to the fullest yet survived to become prominent in their fields, now living around the world – maybe the subject of a future article?

1976- now **Edwina Doe** (45 years)

Edwina remembers when she first moved to Bridge Rd, she was able to park behind the house in a space bounded by Bridge Rd, Ross St, St Johns Rd and Jarocin Ave. It had been the exercise yard for tradesmen's horses and there were still three trotting horses stabled behind Ross St. Towards the end of the 1990s the horses moved out and the owner of the space started to charge a fee for parking. Later he started to buy up surrounding properties and tried to get approval to demolish the whole area and redevelop it.

Of course he failed, but other people applied to Leichhardt Council with plans to fill the space with town houses. A group of Munro Terrace owners, led by Judge Ken Handley whose sons were owners, fought three court cases – but that's another story. There are now 17 three-storey town houses with car access from St Johns Rd. The resulting development does not overlook Munro Terrace and a right of way exists for Edwina and her neighbours to access their back gardens.

Author's Note: featured here are two photos of classes at the Forest Lodge Public School. There are over 100 similar photos of Forest Lodge Public School dating from 1903 to 1983 in the City of Sydney archives collection waiting to be viewed. See:

<https://cosaprod.recollect.net.au/nodes/search?keywords=forest%20lodge%20public%20school&orderby=relevance&order=desc&facet=eyJudGlkcyl6W119&page=1>

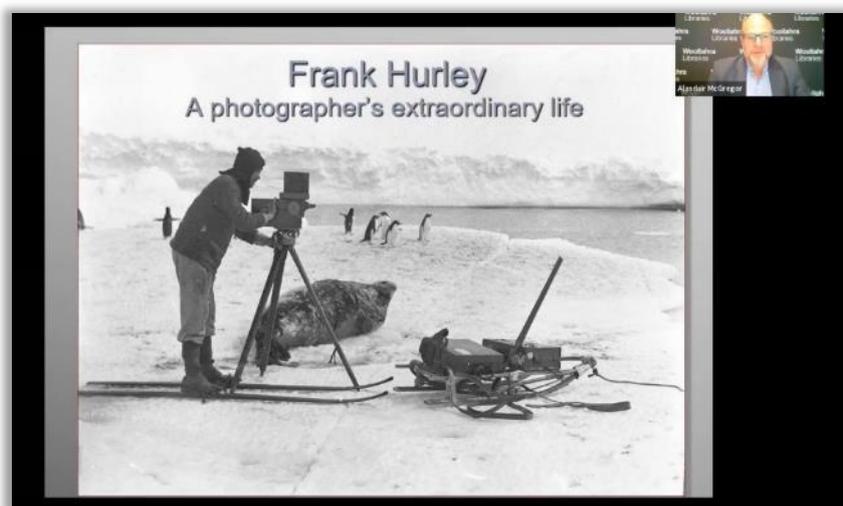
Acknowledgement: Thank you to Edwina Doe for sharing her memories at No 224.

¹ *Daily Telegraph*; Mon 1 Mar 1920, p5; ² *Daily Telegraph*; Wed 10 Feb 1926, p2; ³ *Leader* (Orange); Wed 4 Mar 1914, p2; ⁴ Peak Hill grain silo has special place in history; <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-08-28/peak-hill-grain-silo-is-special-despite-having-no-mural/11443472>; ⁵ Peak Hill website; <http://www.peakhill.nsw.au/index.php/history>; ⁶ *Cootamundra Herald*; Thu 16 Feb 1939, p3; ⁷ *SMH*; Fri 24 May 1935, p10; ⁸ *SMH*; Wed 22 Dec 1943, p4

Seminar on Frank Hurley

Frank Hurley, the famous photographer and film-maker, was born in Glebe in 1885. He participated in a number of expeditions to Antarctica and was official photographer during the two world wars, and made expeditions to Papua during the 1920s. (Read more about Hurley and the Glebe connection on our website).

If you are interested in Frank Hurley, you may like to watch the online presentation about his life and work organised by the Local History people at Woollahra Municipal Council. The speaker is Alasdair McGregor who wrote the biography, *Frank Hurley: a photographer's extraordinary life*. The presentation can be watched here: https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/library/whats_on/digital_events/adults/local-history.



A screenshot from the presentation by Alasdair McGregor on Frank Hurley (image: <https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/library>)

Mystery photo

By Lyn Collingwood

Last month's mystery photo



Helen Campbell correctly identified the location as Wentworth Park Rd in the 1940s. Wayne Carveth elaborated:

The terrace of six houses on the right of the photo is 2E-14 Wentworth Park Rd and is extant. Even the stink pipe at the corner of 2D is still there.

The tall building in the background on the far left is the former factory of Mitchell & Co. Pty Ltd at 10-14 Bay St Ultimo. A guess of the date of the photo going by the appearance of the cars is 1946. The same terrace of six houses also features on page 2 of last month's Bulletin, surrounded by vacant land at Mitchell St.

These puzzles add another layer of interest to the already interesting and informative Bulletin.

This month's mystery photo

Where are we?

Please send your suggestions to history@glebesociety.org.au



Online seminar: The Street Where They Lived: Every Street Has A Story to Tell

Perhaps you have wondered who once lived in the street, who was nearby and how has it changed over time? You may believe that there is nothing out of the ordinary about the street and the surrounding suburb or locality but every street has a story to tell. Join Christine Yeats, Jenny Sloggett and Angela Phippen as they discuss the available resources and how to go about finding out more about the history of the street where they lived. This seminar is hosted by the WEA and Royal Australian Historical Society.

When: Wednesday 17 February 11am – 1pm

Where: via Zoom.

Cost: \$35

Booking and more information: <https://www.weasydney.com.au/course/SWTLST>

Where am I?



Janice Challinor has offered this as a mystery photo. She notes the remains of timber shakes which have been revealed as 'newer' roof was removed.

Shakes are different from shingles: 'A shingle, generated from a sawn piece of timber is characterised by its relatively smooth face and back, while in contrast a shake, essentially a split piece of timber, is dominated by a strongly textured surface.' (<https://www.woodsolutions.com.au/applications-products/shingles-and-shakes>)

(Photo: Janice Challinor)

COMMUNITY MATTERS

Kitchen Pack update, and thank you

By Jan Macindoe (jnmacindoe@gmail.com), Community Development Subcommittee Convenor

Members responded generously to our request, a few months ago, to restock our kitchen pack supplies. Some members have taken the opportunity to pass on excess kitchenware and dinnerware, or things that have been replaced by new purchases. Others, who have had to help family or friends move into assisted accommodation, have found it a useful way to make a positive contribution in circumstances that can be stressful. Whatever the situation, your donations have made a difference to people in our community who are setting up a new home, with few resources. Thank you!

As you know, our Kitchen Packs go to women, mainly with young children, leaving Elsie Women's Refuge and men leaving Rainbow Lodge for independent accommodation. Despite the challenges, those who find self-contained accommodation are the lucky ones. The shortage of affordable accommodation in Sydney means that some people must settle for boarding houses or other shared arrangements, and do not have the chance to set up their own kitchens. For this reason, our Kitchen Packs have moved a little more slowly this year than we anticipated.

We always need frypans, saucepans and other baking utensils, and crockery and cutlery, glasses and mugs are always welcome.

Even so, we are still in need of supplies for anticipated demand over the summer. We always need frypans, saucepans and other baking utensils, and crockery and cutlery, glasses and mugs are always welcome. Please feel free to contact me at any time and I can arrange to pick up any items you would like to donate. Also, if you have the opportunity, let friends and family know of the Kitchen Pack project, as we have found that word-of-mouth connections are a valuable source of donations. Many people find themselves hanging on to things they no longer want, simply because they do not want to create unnecessary waste. They are pleased to learn that they can clean out the cupboards, and help others at the same time.

Common Ground (Camperdown): On Glebe's doorstep – interested in volunteering?



It's the five-storey orange and grey building with balconies, on Pyrmont Bridge Rd, opposite the old Children's Hospital and Sterling apartments. Common Ground Sydney provides housing for long-term homeless people and people on low to moderate incomes in inner-city Sydney. The accommodation is based on the successful Common Ground model from New York, providing permanent homes and on-site support services to help people achieve health and stability and to increase their ability to live independently.

Common Ground would welcome volunteers who can offer support and friendship to its tenants. There are many opportunities to help through for example:

- working in the community gardens on the site
- providing recreational and cultural programs (art, music)
- offering cooking, personal skills and educational/computer training
- joining in Friday morning breakfast at the wonderful kitchen on the ground floor!
- helping walk pets
- or just chatting ...

The building has several wide balconies with raised vegetable and flower beds for the use and enjoyment of the residents. However, a volunteer (or two) is needed to help in the management of the garden beds, and to encourage further involvement by residents. Tools and watering systems are provided!

Any Glebe Society member who would be interested in volunteering or would like further information can contact Dorothy, Community Development Subcommittee (dorothy@glebesociety.org.au) or Kyle, Community Development Office, Common Ground (wiebek@missionaustralia.com.au).

The support services at Common Ground are managed by Mission Australia. The 'Addi Food Pantry' operates from the site, providing low cost, rescued and stocked food grocery items. The Pantry is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12 pm to 4 pm and all are welcome.

A bit more on Common Ground

In total there are 104 units. All units have been built to be fully accessible. The building has been designed to achieve a 5-star Green rating. The Common Ground model includes a 24/7 concierge (reception) service which provides security and welcome for residents and visitors to the building; on-site tenancy and support and health services; and a diverse social mix. Tenants can keep pets! The building is not recognisable as social housing or as an institutional building but rather as a contemporary and comfortable place living environment. The building provides an important transition in scale, height and materiality between the existing heritage-listed Alexandra Dwellings and the 11-storey Johanna O'Dea tower.



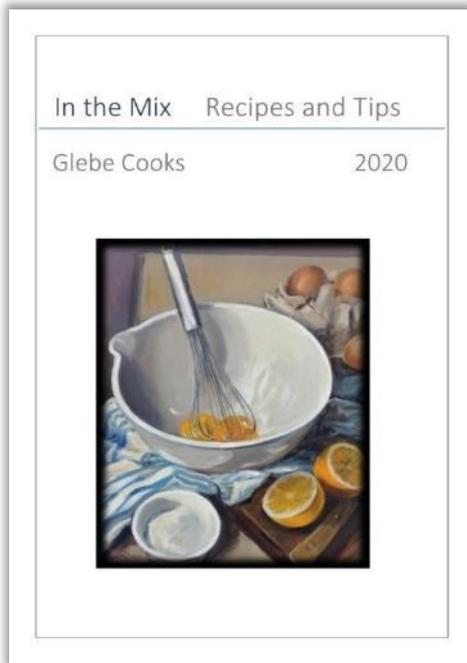
Common Ground Camperdown (photos: Mission Australia)

Glebe Cook Book

During the COVID-19 lock-down in Glebe, a weekly drop-off of foodie ingredients – fresh vegetables and fruit and some cooked meals – inspired local residents to dig out old recipes and invent new ones. And to share food, ideas and friendship with neighbours. The outcome is a small booklet *In the Mix – Recipes and Tips by Glebe Cooks*, with 30 nourishing, simple recipes using everyday ingredients, illustrated with beautiful still-life prints by a South Australian artist.

The cookbook is now available for a small donation (contact Dorothy by text on 0417 240 603). Any proceeds will go to local neighbourhood support.

Acknowledgements: Food Relief Project, Glebe Youth Service, Glebe Assistance Partnership Program, Mission Australia, and volunteers.



CREATIVE GLEBE

Players in the Pub



We're back for our December show, a great play for our Christmas spot. **Please note, we'll be playing on a TUESDAY.**

We're now allowed an audience of 75 and the seating will be pre-COVID regular rows. Please apply for seats to knuckey@bigpond.net.au. We'll let you know whether or not you have secured a place. As COVID rules still apply, you'll have to check in at the pub door, and we advise that you wear a mask.

That's *Tuesday* December 15 at 7pm. First in, best dressed!



Glass Artists Gallery

From Maureen

After a challenging year it is time to look towards a positive future. For over 30 years we've been in Glebe and been part of many changes

along the way. Late last year the gallery moved permanently to the upstairs space where we feature a wide range of outstanding works by Australian and New Zealand artists. Now that social distancing restrictions have been relaxed, I welcome your visit to the gallery with our balcony environment.

Glass Artists' Gallery



We feature a varied collection to whet your appetite in the lead up to the festive season, accommodating all budgets and taste.

Opening Hours: Wednesday to Saturday 11 am – 5 pm. Appointments can be made at all other times, just call to organise with me.

Address: Level 2, 68 Glebe Point Rd

Phone: 9552 1552



Jonathon Westacott, at the Glass Artists Gallery



James McMurtrie at the Glass Artists Gallery

The Shop Gallery

11-16 December, Pine Street Printmakers

SHOP GALLERY GLEBE 10-16 DEC 2020
DAILY 11AM-6PM

PINE STREET



PRINTMAKERS

112 GLEBE POINT RD LAUNCH 12 DEC 2-4PM

GLEBE SOCIETY NEWS

Glebe Society 50th anniversary Community Festival ‘highly commended’ at the 2020 National Trust Heritage Awards



NATIONAL
TRUST

Last year’s Community Festival, held at the Tramsheds, was entered in the ‘Heritage Events, Exhibitions & Tours’ category of this year’s National Trust Heritage Awards. We’re delighted that the Festival was ‘highly commended’ by the judges.

The full list of winners of this year’s awards can be seen here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y44p8ec1>. And for the uber-keen, the full awards ceremony can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-Aa5qhYq-l>.



The heritage exhibition from the Glebe Society 50th anniversary Community Festival (photo: Bruce Davis)

A Christmas Gathering with a difference ... at St John's Church!

By Judy Vergison, Events Coordinator

Tickets sold out in just over a week for our Christmas gathering held on Friday 11 December in the historic St John's Church, with 100 people attending. It was a pleasure to welcome so many newer members. Several members commented that although they had lived in Glebe for over 20 years they'd never ventured inside this beautiful historic building and were delighted to have this opportunity.

As many will know, the church was designed by a Glebe local – the architect Edmund Blacket, who designed Sydney University's Great Hall and St Andrew's Cathedral, as well as *Bidura* in Glebe Point Rd (which was his family home for many years). In December this year the church celebrates 150 years since the first service in the current building. We joined together to mark this historic milestone, as well as to celebrate the end of a challenging year.

The Parish, Glebe Society members and the public were invited to view (over six days) an excellent free exhibition located at the rear of the church which tells the story of Blacket and St John's Church. It was curated by Robert Hannan and Peter Crawshaw, with the support of our Heritage Subcommittee. On the night there was great interest in the exhibition and there has been steady stream of visitors over the last five days.

We appreciate the hospitality of Rev Mark Wormell and the Parish Council in making the church available, as well as Lyn Milton who brought us all together. We were very pleased that Bob Sutton (one of the Church's talented organists) offered to perform several recital pieces over the course of the evening. Bob's performances delighted so many of us as well as the openness to share his vast knowledge on the special features of the organ. Bob's special Bach piece which he prepared for the evening was just outstanding!

Community Giving Tree

Thanks to those who gave gifts for our 'Community Giving Tree'. Personal care items will be made into gift packs for children, women and men in local supported accommodation. There is still time to donate gifts, for more details please contact Janice Challinor on 0401 505 657.

Big thanks to the organising team ...

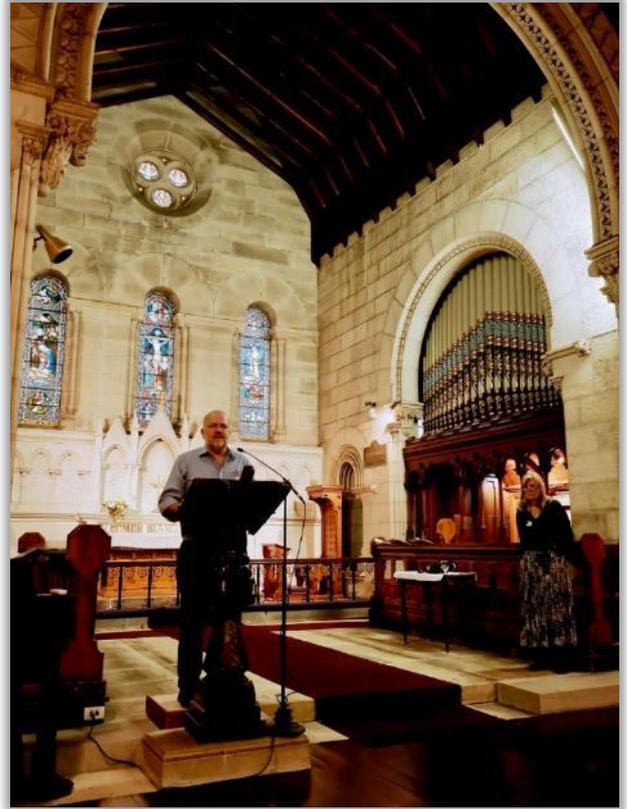
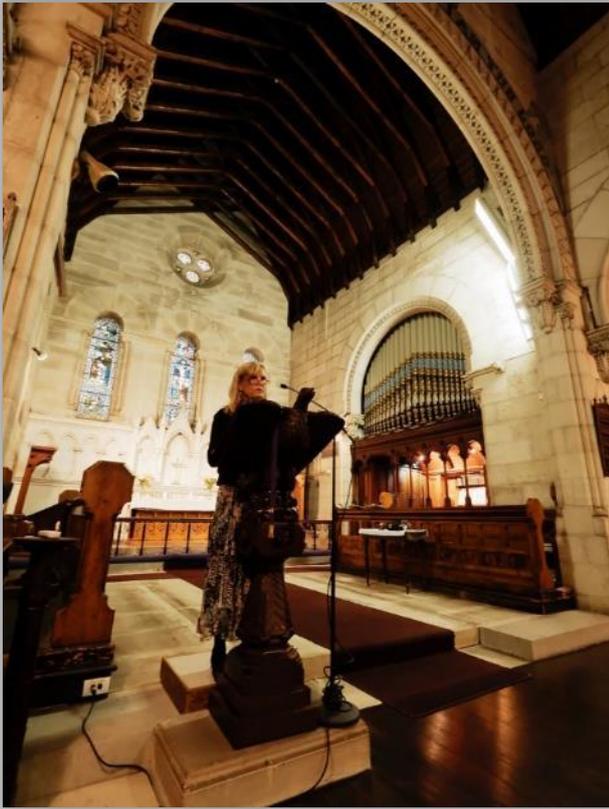
There's a number of people to thank for their contribution to such a successful evening – behind the scenes, on the night and at the end ...

- Kate Fellowes and her team from 'Mindful Baker' (recently rebranded from Café St John and now selling fresh bread) – who provided excellent COVID-safe food and service
- The Society's event team for the night: Jude Paul, Jane Gatwood, Lorel Adams, Fiona Campbell, Alison & Ted McKeown, Lyn Milton, Robert Hanna, Peter Crawshaw and Philip Vergison (plus the many other helpers at the end).

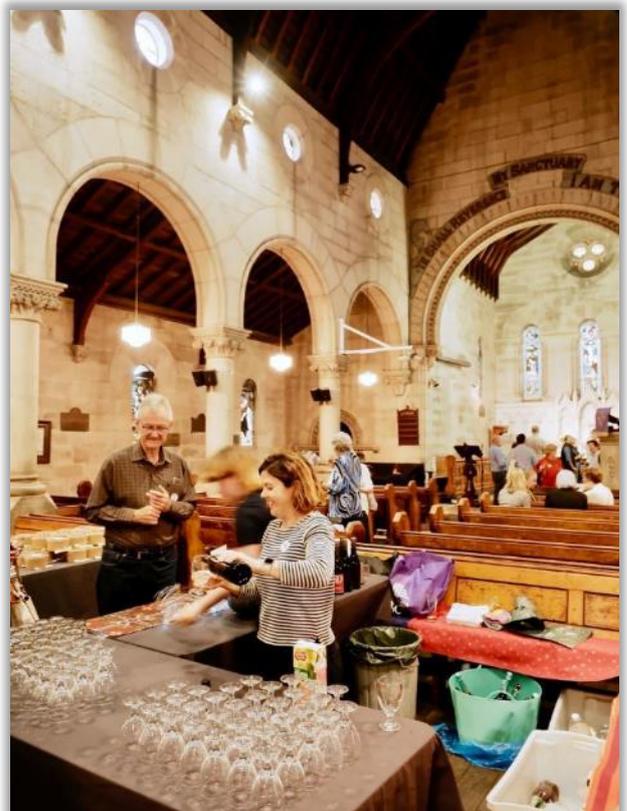
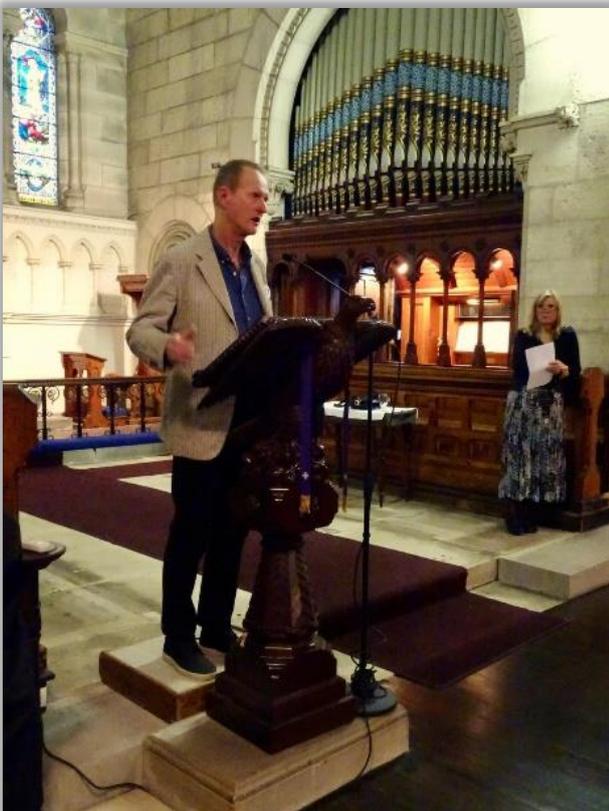
I would like to acknowledge the generosity of managers of *The Charleston* (a modern American restaurant located on Glebe Point Rd) for providing a dinner voucher as the lucky door prize on the night.

All the best to you and yours for a happy, fulfilling and healthy 2021.

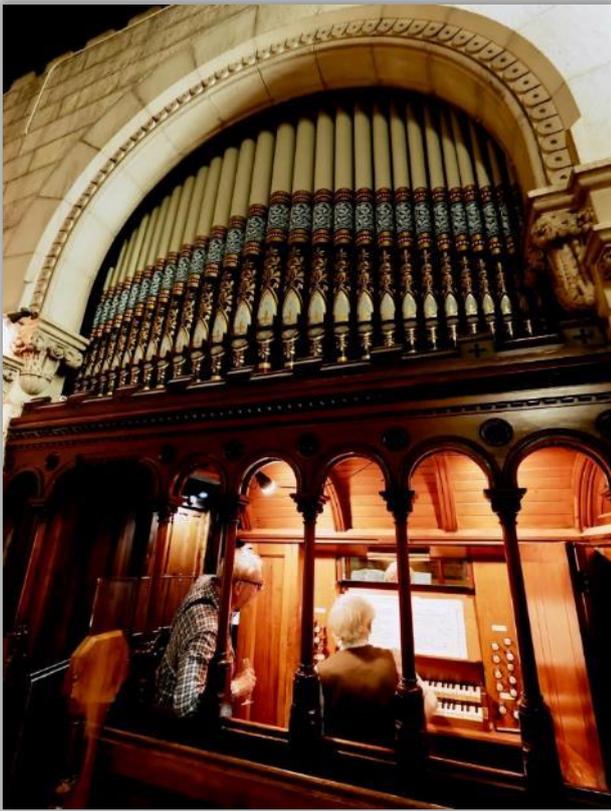




(L) Janet Wahlquist, Glebe Society President welcomes members, (R) Rev Mark Wormell welcomes the Glebe Society to his church (photos: Phil Vergison)



(L) Peter Crawshaw speaks about the exhibition held at the back of the church to mark 150 years since the current church was established. (R) Kate Fellowes serving refreshments.



Photos by Phil Vergison

Organist, Bob Sutton, with Glebe Society member

BACK PAGE – SPORT

New Book Lifts the Lid on Greyhound Racing and Government

Book Review by Ted McKeown

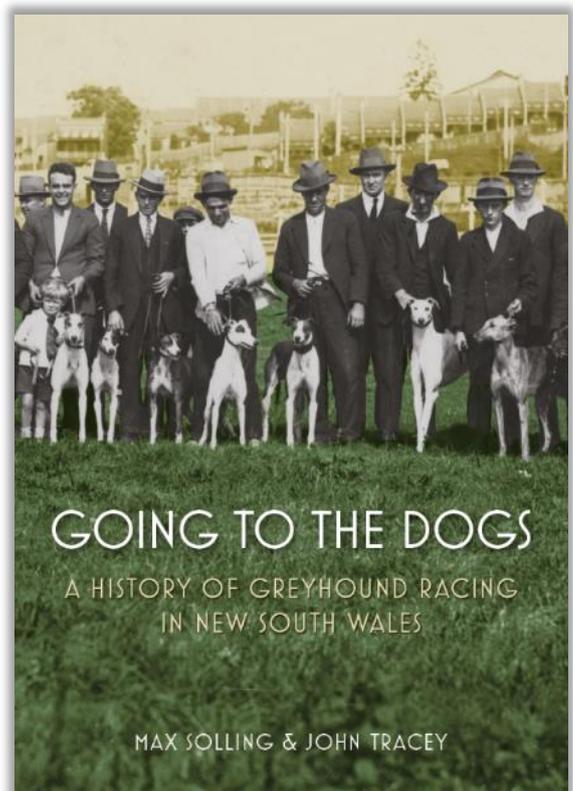
***Going to the Dogs: A History of Greyhound Racing in New South Wales*, by Max Solling, Halstead Press.**

Available from Gleebooks:

<https://www.gleebooks.com.au/product/going-to-the-dogs-a-history-of-greyhound-racing-in-new-south-wales/>

Think Glebe, think sport, think history, and your thoughts will immediately turn to Max Solling. Max's works include *The Boatshed on Blackwattle Bay* (1993), a history of Glebe Rowing Club, and *An Act of Bastardy* – Glebe's Rugby league team, 'the Dirty Reds' (2014). In this case, his co-author is John Tracey. According to the publisher's blurb, in a long association with greyhound racing in NSW, John acquired an encyclopaedic knowledge of the sport, and this certainly shows in *Going to the Dogs*, a history of greyhound racing in New South Wales (2020). The authors are again dealing with a sport which has (or perhaps one should say, had) considerable importance in our suburb, but in a broader context than Max's previous works on rowing and Rugby League.

A considerable amount of the early part of the book deals with the history of greyhound racing, commencing with the introduction of live-hare coursing from 1876 to 1953, and modern greyhound racing since 1927. This section contains a huge amount of detail, which will no doubt be of



interest to people involved in the industry, but which tends to make the eyes of the general reader, including me, glaze over. Of much more interest to those of us who have lived in Glebe and Forest Lodge for 50 years or so is the story of greyhound racing at Harold Park (formerly called Epping Racecourse) from 1927 to 1987 and at Wentworth Park from 1939 to date. And that story is replete with intrigue, corruption and incompetence, notably concerning the erection of the new grandstand at Wentworth Park which ultimately sent the National Coursing Association broke and led to the abandonment of greyhound racing at Harold Park in 1987.



Greyhound racing, Wentworth Park 1954 (photo by Ern McQuillan, State Library of NSW)

The book looks at the social context of greyhound racing – the efforts to ban it, led by ‘middle class moralists and social reformers who opposed all forms of betting’ and some of the ‘colourful characters’ on the fringes of the sport. It also looks closely at the most recent ban on greyhound racing in NSW imposed by the Baird government in 2016, only to be revoked before it would have come into effect in 2017.

The conclusion drawn by the authors is that there is, and always has been, a fundamental class distinction between horse racing (‘the sport of kings’) and harness racing on the one hand, and greyhound racing (a greyhound being ‘the working man’s horse’, according to Jack Lang) on the other. The book points to the hypocrisy of condemning ‘animal wastage’ in relation to greyhounds – deaths and injuries arising from racing accidents and the culling of under-performing dogs – but not similar ‘animal wastage’ in relation to horses.

This may very well have been the case in previous decades, but I am by no means certain that it remains the case today. And there is one very clear distinction between horse racing and dog racing that is glossed over in the book – cruelty to horses and dogs may be similar in many respects, but the gratuitous cruelty to *other* animals is a feature of dog racing, not horse racing. Rabbits, cats, piglets and possums have all been sacrificed in the name of ‘bleeding’ greyhounds, and this is something that rightly revolts everyone, including it must be said most current participants in the greyhound racing industry. But who can forget the ABC Four Corners program *Making a Killing* that aired on 16 February 2015? The only comparable ‘sport’ I can think of is fox hunting, condemned for the same reasons and hardly ‘the sport of the common people’.

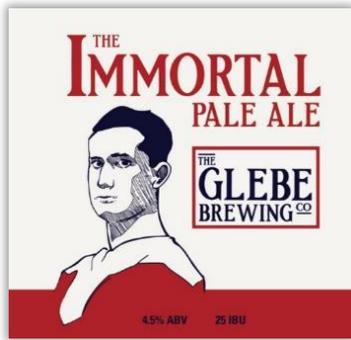
Going to the Dogs describes greyhound racing as a sport in decline but is ambivalent about the nature and extent of that decline. Statistically, it is hard to resist the conclusion that it is only a matter of time before greyhound racing, at least at major metropolitan centres, simply fades away. There were apparently 11,298 registered owners in NSW in 1975, and that number had dwindled to 2,082 by 2012. Crowds at Harold Park in 1953 averaged 11,500 per meeting. The first joint meeting conducted by the National Coursing Association and the Greyhound Breeders Owners and Trainers Association at Wentworth Park in 1987 attracted a crowd of 7,000. Now there is no track at Harold Park, the NCA has departed from Sydney, and Wentworth Park attracts crowds of a few hundred per meeting, most of whom are breeders, owners and trainers. The grandstand at Wentworth Park, which should never have been built and which is now for practical purposes an office building in a public park, stands virtually empty on race nights.

Going to the Dogs is an interesting historical resource pulling together pretty much everything ever said or written about greyhound racing in New South Wales but is unlikely to attract a wide audience outside the greyhound racing industry – unless, of course, like me you can’t wait to see the return of Wentworth Park to the people of Glebe, from whom it should never have been taken in the first place.

Ted McKeown

Ted McKeown was a member of the Wentworth Park Sporting Complex Trust from 2005 and its chairman from 2015 until the Trust was abolished in 2016.

The Immortal has arrived!



(image: williethesboatman.com/)

The Glebe Rugby League Football Club is proud to announce the launch of the Glebe Brewing Co – the official beer label of the Glebe Dirty Reds! The Glebe Brewing Co's first offering, *The Immortal Pale Ale*, is now available to purchase. Every beer sold will help support the Glebe Dirty Reds in 2021 as they look to go one better and win the Ron Massey Cup premiership.

To buy a case of The Immortal Pale Ale and have it delivered to your door, click here: williethesboatman.com/collections/frontpage/products/glebe-reds-immortal-pale-ale). Or you can avoid the delivery fee by picking up a case from Willie the Boatman (Precinct 75 Suite 601, 75 Mary St, St Peters).

Answers to the Jacaranda quiz

1. Corner of Glebe Point Rd and Toxteth Rd
2. Westmoreland St, looking south
3. Westmorland St, looking north
4. Westmoreland St
5. Northcote Lane
6. Corner of Toxteth Rd and Bell St
7. Alexandra Lane
8. Boyce St, near Bell Lane
9. Boyce St



FROM THE EDITOR



By Virginia Simpson-Young, *Bulletin* Editor

Since April this year, the *Bulletin* has been delivered solely by email in order to protect our mailout team from you-know-what. For me, as editor, this has been both a blessing and a curse – but mostly a blessing. I haven't had to worry about fitting everything into a certain number of pages and I haven't had to worry too much about how the *Bulletin* looks. The curse is that I've had more content to deal with. I think our contributors have been more productive than usual – probably because so many alternative activities are no longer possible.

Next year – all things being equal – we'll be returning to the mixed mode of *Bulletin* distribution – as hardcopy and as an email attachment. Sadly, we probably won't be able to use our buddies Unik Printing as they were a casualty of COVID-19. We owe them a debt of gratitude for their support over many years – their rates were always excellent and they always went out of their way to meet our needs.

Now for the thank yous: I can't thank the mailout team this year, as they've been standing down, but I can thank their organiser, Phil Young, who has been responsible for distributing the email *Bulletin*.

I would also like to thank our proofreaders, Edwina Doe, Emily Booker and Sybil Jack, who have had more to read than previously. As ever, they're not responsible for the mistakes that creep in because sometimes changes are made after the proofreading has been done.

A huge thankyou to our regular contributors. As well as the subcommittee convenors, we've had regular contributions from a bunch of other people, including Rodney Hammett, Lyn Collingwood and Judy Christie.

And finally, I'd like to thank Sarah Fogg who is sharing the load of uploading *Bulletin* content onto the website, and to Tarny Burton who was doing this previously after the loss of our precious webmaster, Peter Thorogood. Sarah and I have accepted the challenge of getting our heads around WordPress and I'm sure Sarah would agree it's been quite satisfying.

Our next *Bulletin* will be the March 2021 edition. Keep an eye on our website for the copy deadline.

Thanks to Editor

'Many thanks for the labour you have put into producing the Glebe Bulletin this year. It has been more than worthwhile in a difficult year.' Sybil Jack, Proofreader

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

11-16 December, *Pine Street Printmakers*, The Shop Gallery, 112 Glebe Point Rd.

Tuesday 15 December, 7 pm. *Players in the Pub, Julia and the Angel*, Upstairs Toxteth Hotel.

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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; or
- Write to the Secretary at PO Box 100 Glebe 2037; or
- Email secretary@glebesociety.org.au



*View from Victoria Park toward Glebe Point Road
(source: Chau Chak Wing Museum)*

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.