

Let's party in historic Victoria Park

by Judy Vergison, Glebe Society Events Co-ordinator

The Glebe Society Christmas Party will be held on Sunday 11 December 2022 from 5 pm to 7 pm at *The Gardener's Grill* in Victoria Park. The restaurant is in a beautiful 19th century gothic sandstone lodge building and its *al fresco* dining is highlighted with vibrant red market umbrellas. Imagine wandering down Glebe Point Rd in summer before dusk to enjoy a cocktail-style evening (outdoors if the weather is kind) with views of the lake, birdlife, imposing treelined pathways and beautiful garden surrounds.

Tickets include a generous tasting menu within the style of Turkish/ European fusion, two alcoholic drinks (then we revert to a cash bar), fruit punch and sweet treats towards the end of the evening. Cost: \$57 each.

You will be able to buy your ticket online later in October when bookings open – watch out for the Society's next *President's Update Email* and the November *Bulletin*.

About The Gardener's Grill

Chef Rodi's food is inspired by fresh, seasonal ingredients from his travels around the world. Chef Rodi had a Spanish tapas that became a well-known restaurant in Glebe and after seven years he opened this beautiful heritage Turkish restaurant in Victoria Park. With over 16 years' experience as a private chef, you can expect a farm-to-table menu and a blend of unique cultures, ingredients and flavours. He specialises in slow cooked meats and vegetarian delights.

A vignette of Victoria Park's history

On 16 July 1870, Victoria Park was proclaimed a significant Victorian era park in Sydney, given its part in the early history of Camperdown and a significant and close association with the University of Sydney. The park retains substantial components, including fabric, spaces, layout and the Victorian character of its formative 19th century planning and design.

The Park was originally part of Grose Farm which, in 1853, was designated as the site for the University of Sydney. In 1865, an area at the intersection of City Rd

and Parramatta Rd was granted to the university for the building of a formal entrance to the university. The park was designed in its picturesque style by Charles Moore, director of the Royal Botanic Garden. By the end of the 19th century, the main point of access to the university switched to the entrance further west on Parramatta Rd, opposite Derwent Rd.

Between 1910 and 1940 an area roughly east of the line of Eastern Ave, which had been part of Victoria Park, became part of the University's grounds; and gradually severed the historical vista along the entrance avenue. The entrance avenue itself disappeared.



The stone cottage in Victoria Park in 1934 – virtual decorations added (source: City of Sydney Archives)

In the late 1880s, two lodges and a set of ornate gates, designed by Colonial architect James Barnet, were built at the start of the entrance avenue on the corner of City Rd and Parramatta Rd to guard the eastern edge of the University's grounds. The *Messenger's Lodge* was demolished 1940. The second building, *Gardener's Lodge*, still survives today adjacent to City Rd. It was used as a toilet block for many years and was eventually refurbished as a café/restaurant in 2012. It is currently operating as *The Gardener's Grill* restaurant.

(Source: Wikipedia)

The Glebe Society 53rd Annual General Meeting

by Jude Paul, Secretary



The 2022 AGM was held on 11 September at Glebe Youth Service, with some people joined via Zoom. It was a pleasure to see all in person at our 53rd AGM. Members can

read both the President's Report and that of our guest speaker, Jamie Parker MP, in the *Bulletin* and on our website.

The following people were elected as office bearers:

President: Ian Stephenson

Vice President: Mark Stapleton

Treasurer: Jane Gatwood

Secretary: Jude Paul

Ordinary Members: Brian Fuller
Janet Wahlquist
Mary-Beth Brinson

Ian welcomed two new Subcommittee Convenors – Tamira Stevensen (Environment) and Louis Taborba (Community Development) and both gave us an overview of their key interests.

There were a lot of 'thank-yous' for many members whose on-going and diverse contribution has ensured that the Society maintains its enviable reputation as a collaborative, consultative and transparent community organisation. The list included Katharine Vernon, Jane Gatwood, Dorothy Davis, Brian Fuller (standing down as Heritage Convenor), leaders of the Guided Walks

program, the team of *Bulletin* deliverers, sub-committee convenors and lastly Ted McKeown who stood down from the Management Committee after many, many years of providing sound and strategic advice.

Thank you to Kieran Kevans from The Glebe Youth Service for welcoming us to the centre and to the two young women who told us about their experience and the benefits of their participation in the Centre's program.

See p. 9 of this *Bulletin* for 2021-22 Annual Reports from the President, Bays & Foreshores Subcommittee and the Communications Subcommittee.



Ted McKeown being recognised at the 2022 AGM for his contribution to the Society through many years on the Management Committee (photo: Phil Vergison)

Heritage Protection and Planning

Switch off the lights, a step in the right direction

by Ian Stephenson, Planning Convenor

The recent decision by the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) regarding the advertising on the Glebe Island Silos, to have the lighting switched off at 11 pm, is a welcome improvement.

The advertising is very large, being over 1,170 square metres. It was previously flood-lit from dusk until 1 am. Glebe Point is a little over 400 metres from the sign. The supporting documentation for the DA demonstrated that the lighting's visual sensitivity, magnitude and impact on parts of Glebe Point is high to moderate.

The Society argued that the proposed hours for the lighting of the signs, from dusk to 1 am was excessive and, as a minimum, light pollution should be treated the same way as noise pollution and not intrude into people's homes during the normal hours of repose – from 10 pm. Although the IPC's decision was to change the hours of the evening's illumination from 1

am (the next morning) to 11 pm (the same evening), this is a step in the right direction. The signs have been approved for another three years.



The flood-lit advertising on the Glebe Island Silos – the switching off time was been changed from 1 am to 11 pm (photo: Ian Stephenson)

Demonstration 82 Wentworth Park Rd

by Ian Stephenson, Planning Convenor

On Saturday 17 September, Hands Off Glebe held a demonstration to protest against the demolition of 82 Wentworth Park Rd by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation. 'Housing is a human right!' was the rallying cry for residents and advocates.

The New South Wales Land and Housing Corporation announced in August that the 17 public housing units at 82 Wentworth Park Rd would be demolished, forcing tenants to move. Carolyn Ienna, who has lived at the site for 30 years, said the development would cause 'disruption and heartache' for residents. Wiradjuri hip-hop artist Ienna performed a song including the lyrics: 'Government says they are building more housing or shelters, what they really do is selling to private developers.'

John Engeler from Shelter New South Wales, Ian Stephenson from the Glebe Society, Greens MP for Newtown, Jenny Leong, and Dennis Doherty from Hands off Glebe and Action for Public Housing spoke.

They called for existing public housing estates to be upgraded and repaired and for the social and urban

fabric of Glebe to be respected. They said the Minister for Planning and Homes, Anthony Roberts, must reverse the demolition decision and meet with residents. They also want the Federal housing minister, Julie Collins, to pressure the NSW Government to stop 'cannibalising' public housing.



Ian Stephenson, Glebe Society, Jenny Leong, member for Newtown representing Jamie Parker, Carolyn Ienna, a resident of 82 Wentworth Park Rd, Councillor Jess Scully, Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, Denis Doherty Hands Off Glebe and John Engeler, Shelter NSW.

History, Glebe & Forest Lodge

Tim's Bottle Shop – Who Lived at 375 Glebe Point Rd?

by Lyn Collingwood

Land cornering Forsyth St and Glebe Rd, part of 36 acres granted to Captain William Dumaesq in 1840, was auctioned as the 15-allotment Avona Estate in March 1899.

James Stedman, a prosperous confectioner, bought four lots when prices were low because of economic depression and the taxation of speculators. Within months Stedman had engaged stonemasons and bricklayers to erect three villas for rental on the main road: *Fairleigh* and *Milford*, plus *Holwood* on the Forsyth St corner. As was customary, the buildings were known by name rather than street number.

James Stedman

James Stedman was born on Christmas Day 1840, the son of Henry Stedman, a convict transported as a 16-year-old for stealing clothing from his master. James was a boy when he began working for wholesale confectioner William Cates. In 1860, he married Margaret Noble and 15 years later went into the sweet-making business on his own while his wife ran the retail outlet. In 1891 the shop and factory moved from George St to Stedman's Imperial Steam Confectionery Works in Clarence St. Here, a 50-strong workforce turned out five tons of sweets a week. Loyalty to the firm was strengthened by

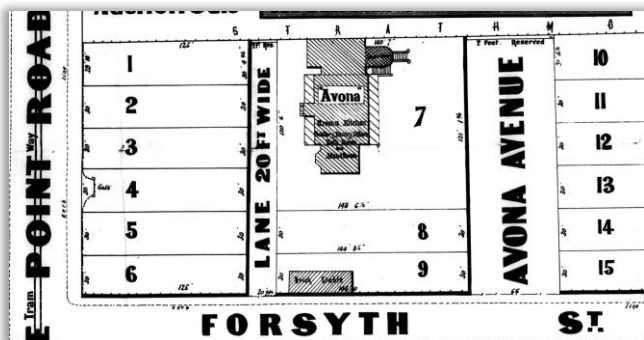
excursions, picnics and playing cricket against rival the lolly-makers, Biddell Brothers. In 1900, James Stedman Ltd was registered.



Avona House and gardens, 1878 (Image: SLNSW)

Stedman travelled to London to keep abreast of new machinery and marketing practices. His elaborate window displays featuring bonbons and fruit candles attracted customers, as did decorated rolling pins, mechanical toys and other novelty packaging. His biggest seller was his Lion Brand of toffee, butterscotch and caramels. Also popular were bull's

eyes, brandy balls and peppermints. Puddings and cakes were added at Christmas, and Stedman, as a director of the Society for Destitute Children at Randwick, arranged for each child in the Asylum to receive a card containing a sweet 'hidden treasure'. Stedman was also treasurer of the Loyal Strangers' Refuge Lodge, a director of Sydney Hospital and president of the Benevolent Society. Predeceased by his wife, he died in Hobart in 1913 after an operation for appendicitis. His body was transported to Waverley Cemetery and interred in the family vault.



The subdivided Avona Estate, 18 March 1899. James Stedman bought lots 1, 2, 5 & 6 (Image: SLNSW)

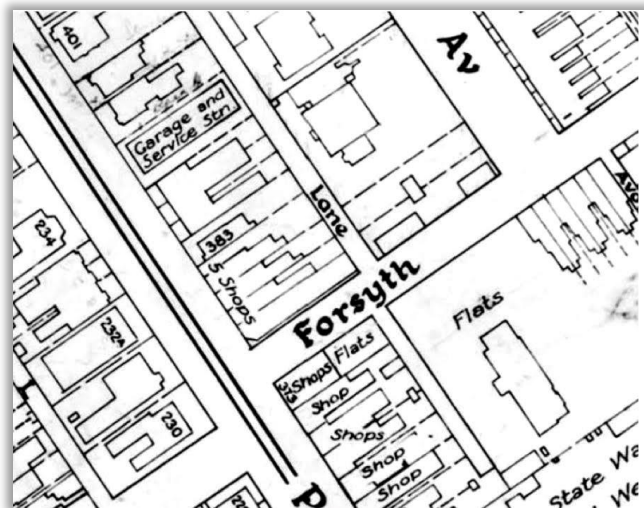
The family patriarch was survived by six of his eight sons: James Noble (1861-1944), George Albert (1866-1941), William Joseph (1870-1961), Herman Archibald (1873-1935), Septimus (1875-1930) and Sydney Noble (1877-1969). All went into the confectionery business, and four are known to have moved to Glebe after their marriages at St Paul's Redfern: James Jnr and Elizabeth Eleanor née Pullen; George and Helena Emilie née Buddee; William and May Elizabeth née Omant; Septimus and May Omant's sister Daisy Earle.

Henry Stedman called his Surry Hills house *Godalming* (presumably after his birthplace in Surrey), and his grandson James Noble gave the same name to his home at 29 Avenue Rd. Almost next door was his brother William at No. 33. Septimus lived at *Ilfracombe*, 397 Glebe Rd, a few doors from George at *Holwood* No. 375 (his daughter Olga Elise died there as a toddler in 1910). Willed the house by his father, George continued to live there until 1915, when he moved to Neutral Bay. James moved to Artarmon. Septimus sold *Ilfracombe* in 1920 and moved into *Godalming* before settling in Manly.

James Noble, who succeeded his father as managing director of James Stedman Ltd, amalgamated that company with Henderson's Lolly Factory to create James Stedman Henderson's Sweets Ltd with himself as chairman. The factory moved from Haymarket to 'Sweetacres' at Rosebery where over a thousand workers, mostly female, produced huge amounts of confectionery, including the firm's own patented Minties and Jaffas – plus Fantaes made specifically

for movie goers. When sugar was rationed during the Second World War, the idea was floated to switch to the manufacture of dried vegetables.

Stedman-Henderson was progressively taken over by Hoadleys, Rowntree and Nestlé. Today's Sweetacres Park, Stedman St, Sweet St and Confectioners Way recall the now demolished Rosebery factory.



375 Glebe Point Rd and its neighbouring shops, houses and service station, 1939 (Image: City of Sydney)

Gaetano Tesoriero

Holwood boasted hot water, a telephone and a tram stop at the front door when George Stedman moved with his family to Neutral Bay, and the building was rented out. It was run as Miss E Freestone's boarding house for a couple of years, after which the internal spaces functioned as individual flats tenanted by electrical fitter Peter Schmidt (who changed his name to Smith in 1918), and others.

In August 1928, the Stedman family sold the building to Glebe fruiterer Gaetano Tesoriero and his wife Maria Francesca (known as Ciccina) née Giuffrè. Earlier that year, Tesoriero had been severely burned when his truck's tank exploded while he was filling it with petrol.

Gaetano Tesoriero was born in Panarea, Lipari Islands, in 1892 and migrated to Sydney in 1920. Although naturalised, he was interned at Orange and Hay during the Second World War. At that time, his assets included the Glebe flats and shop, his own home and a cottage at Randwick, and land at Granville. His wife, born on the island of Salina in 1895, died in August 1991, predeceased by Gaetano in November 1960. Both were interred in the family vault in Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park.

In May 1932 Council approved the conversion of 375 Glebe Point Rd to four flats and a shop. The architect was Henry Ebenezer Budden in partnership with Nicholas Mackey (the pair also designed Railway

House in York St and the Water Board Building in Pitt St). The builder was J (probably Sicilian-born Joseph) Loschiavo. The original building was retained within a rendered Art Deco facade and new awnings. It was christened *Diana Flats*.

Allan Costin

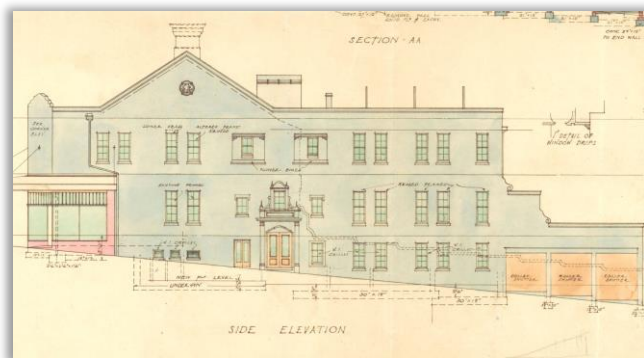
The Tesorieros leased a flat and the newly-built shop to butcher Allan James Costin. Born at Moruya in 1895, Costin enlisted in the AIF in 1916, served as a gunner and driver in France and Belgium, and returned to Australia in 1919. In 1922 he married Sylvia Doris Fletcher.

The Costins did not stay long at no. 375. In May 1933, their son Keith was electrocuted when experimenting with wires on the roof. While ruling the death as accidental, the coroner labelled the area a death trap with live electric wiring and wet sheets blowing on the clotheslines. After being fined for selling minced meat adulterated with the preservative sulphur dioxide, Allan Costin moved with his wife to Crows Nest.

Within a decade, the Costins were back in Glebe, with Sylvia managing the mansion *Hilston*, 227 Bridge Rd, then divided into 12 flats. For years the landlady had a prickly relationship with one boarder, Hazel Ruby Husted, and tried to have her evicted, placing a notice in the bathroom: 'If you don't like this place, get out!'. The pair became well known in Glebe Court. Costin complained of noise: banging doors, high heels and a crying baby. Husted sued Costin for slander over accusations that she was an immoral woman and had stolen pennies from the gas meter. Husted claimed damages of £400 but was awarded a farthing. In 1954 Costin was fined £50 for charging more than fair rent for two of the residential's rooms, but by 1961 she had

saved enough to purchase *Hilston* from Finlay Elgin Munro's daughter Lilian Ada Tain Munro of Darling Point. Sylvia Costin died in 1980, predeceased by her husband, a war pensioner, in 1969. They were buried at Macquarie Park, the resting place of their son Keith.

Evidence remains at 375 Glebe Point Rd of its past use as a butchery. Lessees of the shop after the departure of Allan Costin include Alexander Watson Smith, Albert Clement Wilson, William Henry Philippe and Charles Coventry. The story of *Hilston*, 227 Bridge Rd, is told in an article on other Glebe butchers, the York brothers, published in the April 2017 *Bulletin*.



Architect's plans for shop and Diana Flats, 1932 (Image: Tim Smith)

Sources: Archives Hub; *Australian Dictionary of Biography* James Stedman entry; National Archives of Australia; NSW cemetery records; NSW electoral rolls; NSW Land Registry Services; NSW registry of births, deaths, marriages; NSW State Archives & Records; pocketoz.com.au website; Rathbone, Ron *A Very Present Help*; Sands Directories; Trove website.

Brisbane House: kindergarten and girls' high school, 1882-1918

by Rodney Hammett

A recent enquiry to the Glebe Society website asked:

Hi, I have acquired a dux of school medal for my great grandma 1897 at Brisbane House Glebe Point. Are you able to send me any info on this educational house and if it still exists, or its students? Thank you.

After some research, I could reply that *Brisbane House* was a private home, a kindergarten and a girls' boarding school in Glebe Point Rd. The establishment was in one of the eight grand two-storey terraces built between *Bidura* and Forsyth St on a subdivision of the land previously occupied by *Forsyth Cottage*, later called *Arden House*, and part of the Bossier Estate. For further details, see Max Solling's article in the *Leichhardt Historical Journal* No 23, p. 5 onwards.¹ These eight terraces are shown shaded in the 1887 survey of Glebe, with the current street numbering

(see Figure 1). It has been suggested they were constructed by Joseph Paul Walker in the early 1880s. Certificates of Title show that Josiah Harpur and his wife Eliza purchased No 365 Glebe Point Rd in 1886 and Nos 367 and 369 in 1894.² No 365 was called *Brisbane House*.

Josiah Harpur was a successful grocer and wine and spirit merchant with his business in George St, where The Strand Arcade now stands. Born in Armagh, Ireland, in 1825, the son of a Wesleyan minister, he came to Sydney in the 1840s. In 1856, at the Wesleyan Chapel, Newtown, he married Eliza Caroline Walker, born at Parramatta in 1833 and daughter of an Anglican minister. There were four daughters and three sons from the marriage; however, only Eliza Caroline (1860-1916), Josiah (1862-1899), William (1864-1891), Samuel (1866-

1905) and Maria Louisa (1868-1936) survived to adulthood. Initially, the family lived in Randwick before moving to Glebe Point.

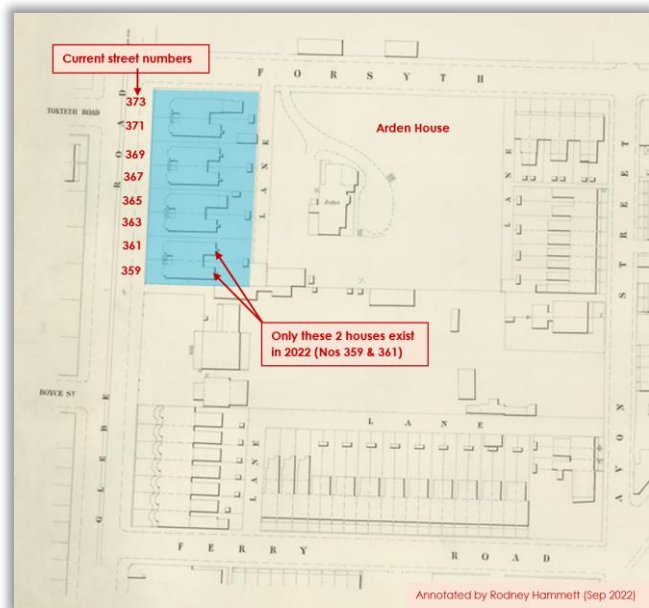


Figure 1. 359-373 Glebe Point Rd (Source: SLNSW; Metropolitan Survey, c. 1887, Glebe, Sheet 17, part)

An early record of the Harpur family living at *Brisbane House* was the theft of a black hen and ten Antwerp pigeons, the property of Josiah Harpur.³ So, it seems the family moved into this house some four years before they purchased it.

The Misses Harpur – Eliza Caroline and Maria Louisa, known as Ria – were the teachers at *Brisbane House*. From the time the family arrived in Glebe, they attended the Toxteth Wesleyan Chapel, so would have known the other like-minded families, some of whom would have sent their children to *Brisbane House*. End-of-year prize-givings were reported in the press, as well as other community activities the school was involved in during each year. In 1897 a fête was held at *Brisbane House* to raise funds for a new school hall to be associated with the Wesleyan Church at Glebe Point. There was a flower stall, a fancy stall, a children's stall, a refreshment stall and, of course, a sweets stall. A number of the staff and pupils who participated were named in the newspaper article, including the Misses Harpur and Misses Corbin.⁴

Brisbane House, the school, continued to exist until 1918. Josiah died in 1898, aged 73; Eliza died in 1903, aged 69. Daughter, Eliza, died in 1916, aged 55. This left Ria managing the school, but when she married the reverend Charles John McCoy in July 1919, it was time for the school to close. They were not a young couple, she being 50 and he 69, but would have known each other over a number of years, as the Rev McCoy had postings as the Methodist minister in Forest Lodge and Glebe for

different periods before 1918. They moved to Roseville, where Ria died in 1936 and Charles in 1943.

The contents of *Brisbane House*, when advertised for auction in April 1919, included a superior old mahogany sideboard, a valuable French clock, old coloured prints, coral in a glass case and many useful articles of furniture. In the 1920s, Nos 363-373 were completely changed by having shopfronts built at street level and extra rooms added above them, making the shops with flats above that we see today (see Figure 2).



Figure 2. Current view of 359-373 Glebe Point Rd (photo: Phil Young)

Of the medal and its recipient, following an exchange of emails, I received a photo of the medal, which identified the recipient as Netta Corbin (see Figure 3). Netta Corbin was the eldest daughter, seventh of nine children to James Bentley Corbin and Margaret Mary Clancy. The Corbin family were living next to the Harpurs in No 363, which they named *Alresford* after the town of James' birth in 1844. James had purchased the property in May 1882. James was a man of many talents, being described at various times during his life as upholsterer, cabinetmaker, builder, inventor, gold miner and contractor.



Fig. 3. Brisbane House, Dux 1897 (from Corbin family)



Figure 4. Netta Leary (née Corbin) aged about 35⁶

Born Harriet Mary on 21 March, 1880, while the family was living at Valley Heights, the medal winner was known as 'Netta'. Lillian, the only other daughter, was born at Alresford on 14 January 1882.

The Corbin family fortunes possibly had more downs than ups between 1882 and 1900, not helped by the 1890s depression in Australia⁵ and a poor investment decision in Western Australia.

James was declared bankrupt in 1894. Margaret Mary's death in 1899 was another blow to the family. Only two years earlier, 17-year-old Netta had received the Dux medal.

Sands Directory records show that the family continued to live at No 363 until 1914. Netta married Louis Claude Leary, a grazier from Molong, at her father's residence, in June 1909.⁷ She was 29 and he was 23. A family quickly followed – Gwendoline (1909), Claude (1911), Patricia (1912), Vincent (1913) and Bernard (1917). All but Vincent were born in Glebe. The family had nevertheless settled into the

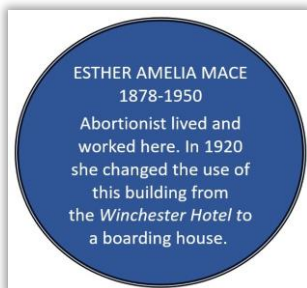
Leary family home *Brookvale*, at Cumnock. Netta had not been well after the birth of Bernard – so much so that in May 1918, she was at the Lewisham Hospital receiving treatment, but tragically died there on 1 June. She was only 38 and left five children aged between six months and nine years for Louis to raise.

The good news part of this story is that her five children had long and fruitful lives, and now there is a multitude of great-grandchildren that can be proud of Netta being Dux of *Brisbane House* school in 1897.

Acknowledgement. Thanks to Therese Dela Cruz, great granddaughter of Netta Corbin for the photo of the medal and for posting the initial enquiry on the Glebe Society website. **Footnotes.** 1. Max Solling's article: <https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/explore/libraries/community-history/community-history-collections/community-collections>; 2. NSW Land Registry Services; Bk 344, No 790 & Bk 534 No 96; 3. Trove; NSW Police Gazette, Wed 30 Aug 1882, p. 334; 4. Trove; *Sydney Morning Herald*, Mon 8 Nov. 1897, p. 5; 5. See also <https://www.rba.gov.au/publications/rdp/2001/2001-07/1890s-depression.html>; 6. Corbin family website (corbinaust.com/p/harriet.html); 7. Trove; Molong Argus, Fri 4 June 1909, p. 4.

Glebe's Blue Plaque Nominations, Part 8

by Lyn Collingwood



Suggested text for the Blue Plaque for 51 Glebe Point Rd.

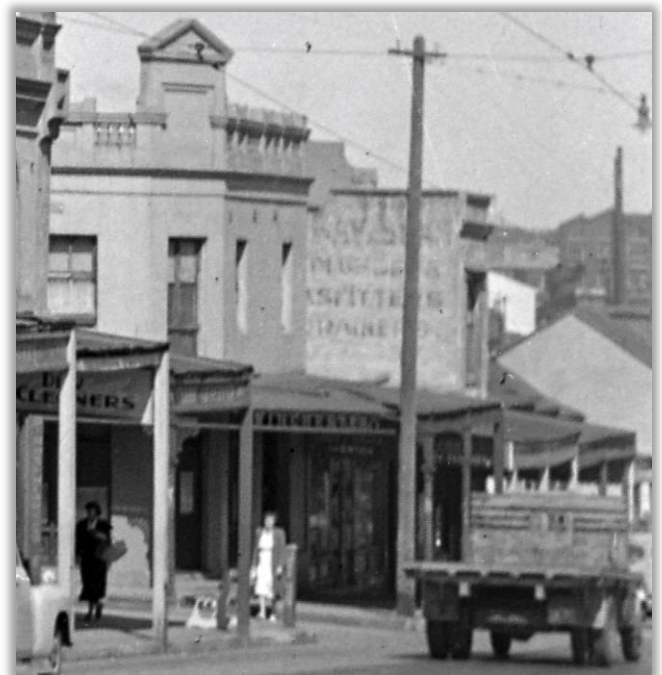
The eighth site nominated by the Glebe Society for a Blue Plaque is 151 Glebe Point Rd, where the abortionist Etty Mace (1878-1950) lived.

Although used for centuries as a means of preventing the birth of unwanted children, abortion in NSW was

not fully decriminalised until 2019. In Mace's time, abortionists had to work in secret and drew public attention only when things went wrong. Mace was gaoled twice in connection with a death, but no doubt successfully operated on a great many women.

One of ten surviving children of a country woodcutter who was shot dead, Etty, then Esther Watson, married a convicted thief who disappeared after serving a gaol sentence for bigamy. Their son was charged with horse stealing; one of Etty's sisters, a flamboyant dresser like Tilly Devine, was a prosperous brothel-keeper. Etty went into the abortion business with two other sisters.

Mace was a working-class woman of limited education from a dysfunctional family trying to make a living when choices were limited. Although widely condemned, abortionists performed a service for desperate women. The topic remains controversial.



No 151 Glebe Point Rd in 1953 (source: City of Sydney Archives)

Mystery Photo competition

with Lyn Collingwood

Last month's mystery photo

Mark Gorta identified the cropped image as the corner of St Johns Rd and Derwent Lane, and sent a Google Earth screenshot for comparison.

The 1970 photo shows the first Church of England, four years before its demolition and later replacement by a community garden. The site is now covered by a building housing an early learning centre (see next page).

Image, right: St Johns Rd from Derwent Lane to Derwent St, 1970. (Source: City of Sydney Archives)



Left: After the consecration of St Johns Bishopthorpe, the original church functioned as a schoolhouse, seen here in 1871. Sydney University's quadrangle towers can be glimpsed in the background at left, while the poster at the front door advertises a concert. (Image: State Library NSW). Right: GoodStart Early Learning Centre, September 2022 (Photo: V. Simpson-Young)

This month's mystery photo

Where are we, and what's changed?

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



Lake Northam, Victoria Park

The Glebe Society's Christmas Party is to be held in Victoria Park with a view over Lake Northam. Recent *Bulletins* have had a number of articles mentioning Victoria Park. Here are some representations of Lake Northam from 1854 and the 1930s.



Postcard showing the main building of the University of Sydney with Lake Northam in the foreground, 1900
(source: City of Sydney Archives)



Fishing in Lake Northam in Victoria Park in the 1930s
(source: Dictionary of Sydney)



The 'site of new university', 1854, probably by James Glen Wilson, (source: State Library of NSW, <https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/nZNvq8jn>)

Subcommittee Annual Reports for 2021-2022

President's Annual Report 2021-2022: address to the 2022 AGM



by Ian Stephenson

It gives me great pleasure to present the President's Report for the Society's 53rd year.

Glebe's well-defined physical boundaries, unusually intact and layered urban fabric, remarkable history, topography and demography make it a unique

suburb. Perhaps the most important quality of all is Glebe's residents' love of place and sense of identity. The Society has been working to nurture Glebe's special magic for over 50 years. Our three pillars, community, environment and heritage, remain as

relevant as ever. The fact that our membership grew by 10% to 449 shows we continue to engage the people of Glebe.

Productive people don't linger over what they have done but are busy with the current project and thinking about the next one. The Society is like that, but it is useful to mention some of our achievements. In the last year:

- We produced ten *Bulletins* that featured planning issues, submissions by the Society, original research about the people of Glebe and articles about our builders, architects and natural environment.

- We improved our website to make it easier to access the phenomenal amount of research embodied in our *Bulletins*.
- We were quick to get Glebe events up and running at the end of lockdown. In November last year architect Philip Thalys gave a talk on his vision for the St Phillips estate. This year Dorothy Davis, the impresario of Glebe Guided Walks, has produced a remarkable walks program. Glebe is a life-enriching place full of character. My favourite memory from this year's Walks is Meredith Burgmann talking about an Anarchists conference in the Glebe Presbyterian Church (she said it was quite well organised) and buying flares from a Glebe ships chandler with which to disrupt the 1971 Springboks tour.
- We nominated 27 Catherine St, Forest Lodge, the home of Charles Perkins during the Freedom Rides for the NSW Government's inaugural Blue Plaque scheme. I would like to thank our local member Jamie Parker for putting the nomination forward. It was included in the first 30 plaques for the State. We have 20 other nominations ready to go, including important feminist and Indigenous landmarks and the former homes of the famous, infamous and obscure.
- Asa Wahlquist represented the Society on the Fish Market Community representative group and prepared important submissions on the Blackwattle Bay State Significant Development and Bays West Strategy.
- The Blue Wren Subcommittee, our ecology arm, has continued their work in improving habitat and monitoring fauna. The number of bird species has increased over the previous year. Superb Fairy Wrens, small birds displaced by the more aggressive Currawongs and Noisy Miners, are returning to Glebe and fish, pelicans, turtles, eels, ducks and herons have returned to Johnstons Creek.
- We joined other residents' groups led by Mary Mortimer of Pyrmont in lobbying Sydney City Council to make community centres more accessible.
- In the planning area, we met with Sydney Councillors and planners to seek improvements to the Local Environment Plan and Development Control Plan to provide greater clarity for property owners about the design of new development in heritage conservation zones. We requested greater recognition of the role conservation plays in reducing greenhouse gases and more guidance about making buildings in conservation areas more environmentally sustainable without compromising their significance and that of the Heritage Conservation Area.
- We shared our knowledge about Glebe's buildings and made many submissions in relation to development applications.
- We participated in the review of the plans of management for Glebe's Crown Land reserves. We recommended an integrated plan of management for Wentworth Park predicated on the dog track licence not being renewed. Pleasingly the Council is now doing this. We also recommended that higher-level planning documents for Sydney include Wentworth Park as a visionary project. This includes retaining the legibility of the topography on the park's western edge, not burying it in a mountain of masonry, recovering and celebrating the area's Indigenous significance – as well as a sense of the post-colonial gardenesque layout – and creating a green link which connects and interprets the former bay's relationship to its extant headwaters, Lake Northam in Victoria Park. We believe it can become a park like no other.
- The Society has long advocated the restoration of the Glebe Island Bridge. There is hope on this front as it is supported by the State Government's Bays West Plan.



2022 AGM held at Glebe Youth Service (photo by Phil Vergison)

Key challenges are set out below.

- The Bridge Rd cycleway. It was introduced as a 'pop-up' cycleway during COVID. We support safe cycleways in and around Glebe, but this cycleway is unsafe. Bridge Rd is a narrow arterial road; the cycleway merges with the roadway in several places, has blind corners and crosses many private driveways, entrances and side streets along its path. Many of these hazards cannot be mitigated without compromising all road users and residents. We requested Minister Stokes not to make the cycleway permanent and to look at all the options for delivering a safe cycleway, including better alternatives to a narrow arterial road where the cycleway merges with traffic. Despite this and meetings with policy advisors, we have received no advice of how the government intends to fix this problem.

- Although the revised Blackwattle Bay State Significant development includes some of the things we requested, such as a wider foreshore walk, the buildings proposed are still too tall and the open space too overshadowed.
- *Bidura*, the State Heritage-listed house in Glebe Point Rd, designed and lived in by the great Victorian architect Edmund Blacket, remains a concern.
- Large parts of Glebe are owned by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation. These include the former church estates and land around *Lyndhurst*, which was remediated after the freeway demolitions of the 1970s. These precincts benefited from visionary planning in the 1970s and 1980s, where 19th-century houses were restored, renovated and retained as public housing, and low-rise infill added, designed to respect the conservation's scale, form and topography areas. The Land and Housing Corporation has been selling the old houses and redeveloping the infill sites. Last November, a development application was approved for two eight-storey buildings in Cowper St.
- The Land and Housing Corporation now plans to demolish 82 Wentworth Park Rd. It is part of an ensemble of three buildings (the other two being 49-55 and 61-63 Bellevue St) whose broken forms, pitched roofs and verandas use the topography to complement and reinforce Glebe's traditional urban edge with Wentworth Park. The cost of demolition and rebuilding is greater than refurbishment. This is a well-built and beautifully designed building – what is proposed is not.
- Demolition comes at a personal cost, as it dislocates long-term tenants. Nor is it an environmentally sustainable option because the materials, transportation and construction processes for new buildings are all carbon intensive. Existing buildings already embody significant CO₂ emissions, which makes it all the more important to upgrade and refurbish – rather than demolish and rebuild.
- The scheme provides little increase in the number of bedrooms, and this will be at great expense. It would be much better socially, environmentally and economically to refurbish, retrofit and provide additional housing through sensitive infill development. The Society has been working with our compatriot organisation Hands Off Glebe on this issue.
- We will continue to advocate for the State Government to manage its Glebe estates in a more rational and humane way.

I would like to thank Virginia Simpson-Young, our Bulletin editor, for her tireless work, Dorothy Davis for her leadership in reactivating our Guided Walks program and our committee members Mark Stapleton, Jude Paul, Jane Gatwood, Ted McKeown, Allan Hogan, Brian Fuller, Judy Vergison, Andrew Wood, Asa Wahlquist, Janet Wahlquist, Mary-Beth Brinson and Michael Morrison.

Bays and Foreshores Subcommittee Annual Report 2021-2022

by Asa Wahlquist, Convenor

The new Sydney Fish Market, the proposed Blackwattle Bay development and Bays West 1 (the area around the old White Bay Power Station) were the main issues of the past year.

Construction of the new Sydney Fish Market

Asa Wahlquist represents The Glebe Society on the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) to the new Sydney Fish Market. The Glebe Society opposed the construction of the new Sydney Fish Market on Bridge Rd, arguing instead it should be rebuilt on the current site. It has been a noisy and disruptive project. The main area of CCC activity has been making the footpaths and Bridge Rd safer for pedestrians and cyclists. The frequent closures of the footpath on Bridge Rd on the Fish Market side have forced pedestrians to cross near Wentworth Park Rd, a situation that has been described as an accident waiting to happen. A crossing with lights is scheduled to be installed at the junction of Wentworth Park Rd and Bridge Rd, which will also be the entrance to the new Fish Market, in the last quarter of 2022. In their

October 2021 meeting, the CCC passed the following resolution:

That the New Sydney Fish Market Community Consultative Committee formally records its serious concerns in relation to pedestrian, cyclist and traffic safety issues around the site of the New Sydney Fish Market, now that the various construction works on the site and along Pyrmont Bridge Road have commenced. These concerns include: inadequate & ineffective signage relating to the recently introduced 40km/h speed limit on Pyrmont Bridge Road; significantly increased pedestrian & cyclist traffic and inadequate protection for pedestrians crossing Pyrmont Bridge Road adjacent to the south western end of the site; dangerous traffic conditions at the corner of Pyrmont Bridge Road and Wentworth Park Road: and the long lead times of the temporary and permanent measures currently proposed to address these problems, such as the traffic signals at that intersection.

In the light of the Community Consultative Committee's serious concerns about safety we request relevant agencies give these matters urgent attention, as we consider the current situation is unacceptably dangerous and likely to become worse.

Although Bridge Rd has long had a 40 km speed limit, actually improving the signage proved quite a task. The CCC requested, and received, a briefing from Transport for NSW officials, again requesting improved traffic speed signage and a study into pedestrian safety on Bridge Rd and the entrance to the Glebe Foreshore walk. Finally, earlier this year better signs were installed, though many motorists continue to ignore the 40 km speed limit.

At the same meeting the CCC was told Transport for NSW is undertaking a nine-month study, under the Movement and Place Strategy, into the area. The Strategy is part of the Transport for NSW's move away from just looking at transport, and considering how all users, including pedestrians and cyclists, move through an area or 'place'. This includes a pedestrian safety review, which they aimed to implement 'sooner rather than later'. While that review will not be publicly available, the CCC will be briefed on its contents. At the time of writing, late September 2022, we are still waiting.

The Glebe Society is also concerned about future traffic problems when the new Fish Market is up and running. Every day hundreds of trucks and vans, buses and thousands of private vehicles will visit the Fish Market. When the Transport for NSW meeting was questioned, an official admitted trucks would be queuing along Bridge Rd in the morning. How many trucks and vehicles would be queuing? How long would the queue be? How long would the vehicles in the queue wait before entering the SFM? Would vehicles be queuing in both directions? How disruptive would it be? These are all unanswered questions. Vehicles accessing the Market will include semi-trailers and large trucks delivering fish – despite the SFM's claim to authenticity, over 90 percent of the fish sold in the market are not locally caught but arrive by heavy vehicle – as well as the vans of retailers who purchase the wholesale fish for their shops. There will be other vans delivering goods for the restaurants in the new building, cars of workers and visitors, and buses and taxis. All these vehicles – except for the buses and taxis – will cross the footpath along Bridge Rd that, under current plans, will be shared by pedestrians and cyclists.

Transport for NSW will undertake four further studies: Freight and Servicing Management Plan; Traffic and Transport Management Plan; Pick Up and Drop Off Plan; and the Green Travel Plan. It is imperative that the plans take into consideration the impact on early morning traffic, on access to the new SFM, and the impact of nearby development, particularly the

proposed development of the Blackwattle Bay precinct.

Blackwattle Bay State Significant Precinct Study, Revised plan

The Blackwattle Bay State Significant Precinct Study with its series of towers proposed for the current Fish Market site cast a long shadow over the year. Its sole aim was to maximise development, with no regard for place or the lives of the community. The Glebe Society objected to virtually every detail of the plan: the fact it is (largely) on publicly-owned land; the massive overdevelopment of the site; the height of the buildings, the tallest of which was higher than the struts of the Anzac Bridge; the density; the narrowness of the foreshore walk; the percentage of public open space; the future impact of the proposed large number of residents and business people on local transport and traffic infrastructure; and the impact on the aquatic environment. Not surprisingly, the plan attracted more than 2,400 submissions.

The proponent, Infrastructure NSW, issued a revised plan in July 2022. It was forced to make a number of significant changes, including fewer, shorter towers, and a wider foreshore walk. The density was reduced by 15 per cent, and the number of residents by 29 per cent. The reduction in the height of most, but not all, buildings is welcome. The tallest building of the first plan, of 45 storeys was reduced to 35 storeys, which is still too high.

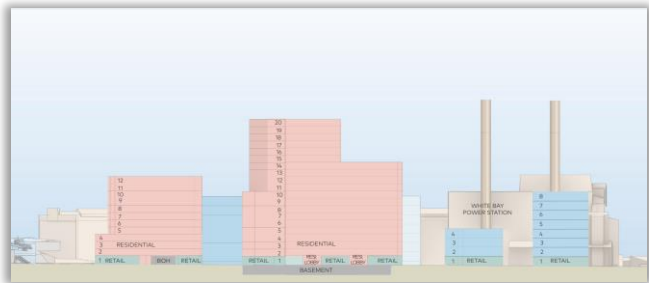
The increase in the waterfront promenade to 30 metres meets a key demand of The Glebe Society, and our desire to extend the foreshore walk along the Glebe side of Blackwattle Bay. However, the current plan shows the walk to be a shared path (shared by both pedestrians and bicycles). This has been shown not to work on the Glebe foreshore walk. Combining those walking for leisure, walking with children, the elderly and tourists stopping to gaze at the view with cyclists intent on their commute does not work, and indeed poses a risk to pedestrians. There must be separate paths for pedestrians and cyclists.

The future of the site is of great significance to Glebe, not only because it will blight Blackwattle Bay, overshadow our suburb early in the morning and bring many more people to our area and our roads. We also fear the encroachment of city-density apartment buildings to Pyrmont could creep across Wentworth Park to Glebe.

Bays West stage 1 master plan

Bays West stage 1 is the area around the White Bay Power Station. The plan is underpinned by an understanding of the Indigenous and natural heritage of the area that frankly fills me with envy. We strongly support the process and approach of connecting with country, and we just wish such principles were

embedded in the planned Blackwattle Bay development. The plan includes a foreshore walk and the hope the Glebe Island Bridge will be restored for pedestrians and cyclists. From the Glebe perspective, the planned buildings are far less obtrusive than those of Blackwattle Bay.



Section looking west through southern development. From Bays West Stage 1 Draft Master Plan and Urban Design Framework for the White Bay Power Station (and Metro) Sub-precinct (source: NSW Planning Portal)

But we do note the tallest, at 20 storeys, is higher than the power station chimney and suggest it be shortened so the chimney remains the dominant form. There are also one 18-storey and one 12-storey building; five eight-storey buildings and four of four storeys. There will be about 4.16 hectares of public space. Again, one wishes a similar plan was in place for Blackwattle Bay. Our submission on the Bays West stage 1 master plan can be found on our website: <https://tinyurl.com/2f6zn6h6>.

Foreshore Walk

In March I lead an environment walk around foreshore. We – Jan Macindoe also contributed interesting insights – talked about the history of the foreshores from industry to public park and detailed some of the plantings and wildlife. The group took my ranting about the new Fish Market and Blackwattle Bay plan with good grace!

Communications Subcommittee Annual Report 2021-2022

by Allan Hogan, Convenor

Members of the Subcommittee in 2021-2022 were Ashley Brinson, Tarny Burton, Bruce Davis, Sarah Fogg, Allan Hogan, Lyn Milton, Virginia Simpson-Young and Phil Young.

During the past year, members of the Communications Subcommittee have produced 10 *Bulletins*, and created content for our website and social media (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube). We also facilitate the sending of the President's Update Email. As well as these ongoing tasks, the Subcommittee has continued revising and updating our websites. The key participants in this activity have been Tarny Burton, Sarah Fogg and Virginia Simpson-Young. The Subcommittee has also overseen the Society's other media activities, including the *Bulletin*, Facebook pages, Twitter, YouTube and the President's Update email.

The Bulletin

Sadly, Virginia Simpson-Young, the editor of the *Bulletin* for the past ten years,¹ has decided to stand down. She has selflessly dedicated her time and energy to producing an outstanding publication that is the main way the Society communicates with its

members. She has also played a key role in supervising and contributing to our websites and Facebook page. It will be extremely difficult to find someone who can bring all of Virginia's skills to the tasks she performed so well. We owe her a huge debt of gratitude.

As a temporary measure, I will act as editor of the November and December *Bulletins*. I will not continue in this role beyond the end of the year, so there is an urgent need to find a new editor. Hopefully, the vacancy will attract an applicant who welcomes the challenge of continuing the high standards the *Bulletin* has maintained for more than 50 years.

Most members now receive the *Bulletin* by email, and its digital production has allowed full-colour reproduction and editions of up to 20 pages without commensurate printing costs. 310 people receive the *Bulletin* by email, 85 people receive the printed version, and nine people receive it by print and post.

This year's *Bulletins* have included articles outlining the Society's views on the Blackwattle Bay Development, including plans for the new Fish

¹ **From the editor:** Actually, two *Bulletins* short of ten years! I've decided to stop editing the *Bulletin* because it's become increasingly difficult to find the time for it. I would have liked to see the year out, but I'm having shoulder surgery soon, and I won't be using a computer for many weeks. I'm very grateful to Allan for offering to edit the next two *Bulletins*, and sincerely hope we find someone to take over from next year. I have found it incredibly

rewarding and I have no doubt that the next editor will too. I echo Allan's appreciation for all those involved in getting the *Bulletin* out each month. I have been a very fortunate newsletter editor because we have so many regular contributors. We've never been short of content. In fact, more often than not, we have too many contributions and have to delay some for future editions. I doubt many newsletter editors are so fortunate!

Market. The President has written extensively on the threats posed to Glebe's urban and social fabric, and the *Bulletin* now informs members of submissions by the Society to the Council concerning Development Applications.

Lyn Collingwood and Rodney Hammett have continued their entertaining and informative contributions with stories about Glebe's historical places and people. The monthly Mystery Photo Competition has become a popular, if sometimes elusive, puzzle.

Thanks are due to Phil Young and Phil Vergison for their photos, and to proofreaders Edwina Doe, Emily Booker, Sybil Jack, Helena Klijn and Alex Byrne. Thanks are also due to the mailout team, led by Phil Young and Jude Paul – Bruce Davis, Bryan Herden, Carole Herriman, Edwina Doe, Lyn Milton and Alison McKeown.

Glebe Society Websites

The Society now has four websites: www.glebesociety.org.au, www.glebeislandbridge.com, www.50years.glebesociety.org.au and www.glebewalks.com.au. Each of these sites can be viewed on a computer, tablet, or smartphone, the latter being particularly useful for Glebe Walks.

Our main website, www.glebesociety.org.au, has been refreshed and redesigned to make the front end more attractive and user-friendly. The Home Page now has a slideshow that directs visitors to what might be their key concerns, including how to join the Society. In addition, the pages headed 'About the Society', 'Key Achievements', 'Aims of the Society' and 'Join/Renew' have been rewritten and updated. We add most *Bulletin* articles to the Latest News section on the Home Page each month. This means that the Home Page is constantly changing, so visitors will likely see new information each time they visit.

The main website was used by over 33,000 people in the last financial year, most first-time users. Some of those people must have returned to the site at least once, as the site was viewed almost 74,000 times. About half of the users looked at the website from a desktop computer and half were using either a smartphone or tablet. Fortunately, one of the improvements recently made to the website was to make it more mobile friendly.

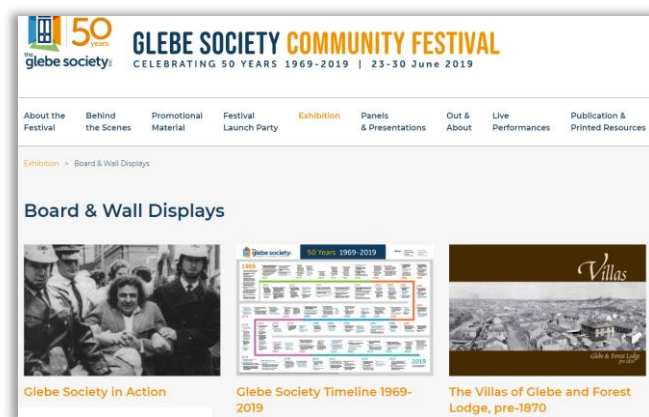
While most users (about 85%) arrived at the website after an internet search (or by entering a URL for our website directly), a sizeable portion (about 11%) was channelled to our site from our social media, largely Facebook. Most of our Facebook posts include a link to a relevant page on our website, usually content from the most recent *Bulletin*. This suggests that our Facebook page does, in fact, drive a decent amount

of traffic to our website. About 4% reached our website by clicking on a link on another website.

The home page was viewed most often. Other popular pages related to Glebe's history and heritage. Members renewing online accounts for quite a few hits, as did people accessing previous *Bulletins*.

Last year we reported plans for a website dedicated to the Society's 50th Anniversary Festival, held in 2019. That website is now fully operational (www.50years.glebesociety.org.au). There, you'll find wonderful images, videos, documents, and publications from the Festival, including stories behind the preparation and planning for these events. Special thanks to Tarny Burton and Virginia Simpson-Young for this excellent and comprehensive coverage of the Festival.

The 50th website only went live in July, but we thought readers might be interested in how it's going so far. It seems to have got off to a slow start, with only 65 visitors so far. If you haven't already had a good look at the site, please do. There are lots of great historical and other images and video. It's a treasure trove of information. A great deal of the information and images to be found there are the result of research conducted specifically for the Festival.



The Glebe Island Bridge website www.glebeislandbridge.com has also been redesigned and updated. Again, thanks primarily to Tarny Burton. The site has information about the Bridge and the need for its protection. Unlike our main website, it is not updated frequently, but we add information about major developments relevant to our Save Glebe Island Bridge campaign, the purpose of which is to save the Bridge from both intentional demolition and 'demolition by neglect'.

Last financial year, 1,354 people viewed the Glebe Island Bridge site, most of whom were new users. Some of those people must have come back to the site, as it was viewed over 3,000 times. Most arrived at the site after actively searching with a relevant search term. Most views were from a desktop computer (63%).

The average time spent on the site was about one and a half minutes, which suggests that some users stayed to look around. While the home page was accessed most often, our page on the Bridge's history and heritage was visited frequently, as was our page on a sustainable future for the Bridge.

While this engagement with the site is not large, it nevertheless suggests that the site is a good adjunct to our campaign to save the Glebe Island Bridge.



Glebe Society Facebook Pages

The Society has two Facebook pages – the main Facebook page (www.facebook.com/TheGlebeSociety) and the Glebe Island Bridge page (<http://www.facebook.com/GlebeIslandBridge>). The main Facebook page enables the Society to reach a broader – and different – audience than the *Bulletin* and Website, enhancing the profile of the Society and broadening the community's engagement with us. It is also a way of driving traffic to our website. As mentioned earlier, about 11% of website traffic came from Facebook in FY 2021-2022.

A Facebook post is usually made about content uploaded to our website; it usually consists of a short paragraph, an image and a link to the relevant page on our website. The majority of these Facebook posts are about items in the *Bulletin*. After each Bulletin is published and its content added to the website, we create and schedule Facebook posts for the next month or so. As the need arises, we also add posts that don't relate to *Bulletin* and website content. We also share posts from other Facebook pages if we think they may interest our followers.

Our Facebook following has continued to increase each year. Currently, we have about 1,720 followers for our main Facebook page, which is an increase of around 330 from last year. About two-thirds of our followers are women (and about one-third men). The age profile of our followers has, perhaps unsurprisingly, increased somewhat since last year. While last year, over half (51.6%) of our followers were aged under 45, this year, that percentage had dropped to 47.6%. Most followers (about 70%) are aged between 25 and 54; 30% are aged over 55, and only about 2% are aged below 25.

Overall, engagement with our Facebook content seems to be stronger than ever. Facebook provides information ('insights') showing how many people saw a particular Glebe Society post ('reach'), the number

of 'likes' (or other 'reactions'), the number of readers who clicked on a link to the content on our website, the number of comments on a post and the number of times readers shared one of our posts via Facebook. In the 2021-2022 financial year, the Society made 111 posts on Facebook.

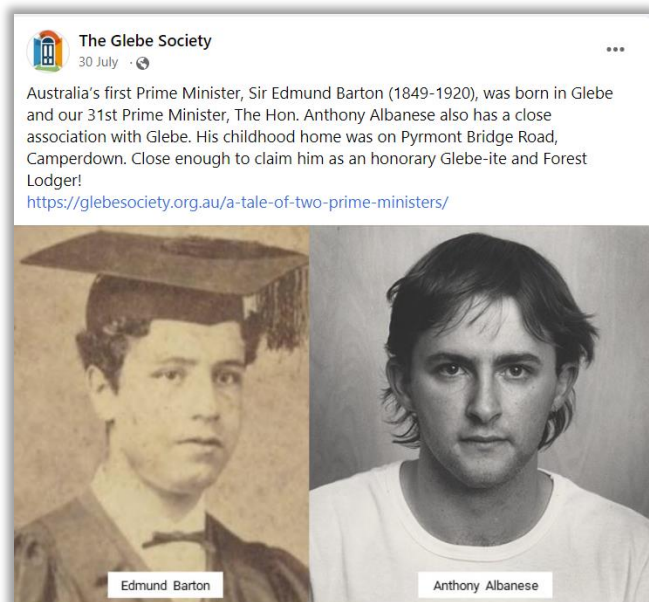
A stand-out post in terms of engagement was our announcement about the ANZAC Day service. It was viewed by 2,681 people. This post also got the greatest number of 'likes' (54) and was shared five times. Posts on the Blackwattle Bay Precinct Plan, the 'Meet the Candidates' event for the Mayoral election, the death of Sadie King, and the post introducing the Glebe Society's six-part video series were each seen by over 1,000 people.

The post introducing the first of the six-video series was variously 'liked', loved or reacted to with surprise or sadness by 53 people, making it the second most reacted-to post (after the ANZAC Day post). It was shared most often (15 shares). The link to our website article about the video was clicked on by 15 people. A post on the second of the videos in the series reached nearly 600 people, was liked by 25 people, shared by five people and received four comments. This video, along with the other five in the series, can be watched on our YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBT7r3R0Faal_dK6kV9sCbg). The videos are also conveniently combined into one longer video, which can be accessed directly on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFHKQgWlv0o&t=781s>.

Posts shared most often were generally about poor planning leading to overdevelopment and threats to the heritage of Glebe and Forest Lodge. This includes posts on the rezoning and over-development in the St Phillip's Heritage Conservation Area, the new Sydney Fish Market, the proposed development of the Bidura Metropolitan Remand Centre, the Blackwattle Bay Precinct Plan and the State Government inquiry into the NSW Heritage Act. It was a planning-related post that generated the highest number of comments (24) in 2021-2022. This post, from October 2021, was about pedestrian safety issues caused by the work at Sydney Fish Market.

One of the purposes of having a Facebook page is to encourage readers to click through to our website where, hopefully, they will spend some time looking around. Once again, the Mystery Photo Competition generated the most 'click-throughs' to our website. In fact, five of the six most clicked-through posts were about the Mystery Photo Competition. Two of these were clicked on 120 times. The one exception in the top six was our post in March 2022 on the death of Sadie King, which was clicked on 96 times. Three Mystery Photo Competition posts also generated high numbers of comments (20, 17 and 14). The Mystery Photo posts, however, were not shared very often.

Interestingly, information shared on Facebook about well-known Glebe locals was often popular. In addition to interest in the death of Sadie King (11 comments, three shares), our October 2021 post about the passing of boxing trainer, John McColl, was much discussed by readers who had some connection to him or the Glebe Estate Boxing Gym which he set up and ran (13 comments, three shares).



As with the Glebe Island Bridge website, the Glebe Island Bridge Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/GlebeIslandBridge>) is working in the background in support of our Save Glebe Island Bridge campaign.

Overall, engagement was good – probably better than in previous years. All but two of the 111 posts received some sort of ‘reaction’. All posts were clicked on by at least one person; half attracted comments, and about 40% were shared. Posts of historical photos (that did not link to specific posts on our website) were popular, often being shared by viewers. Posts about the Glebe Society per se tended to have the lowest engagement. A major exception was the Glebe Society’s ‘Meet the Candidates’ event for the Mayoral election, which was seen by over 1,000 people. In future, it may be worth posting more historical photos.

It seems clear that the Society’s Facebook page is operating as a forum for discussion by locals – the majority of whom are not Glebe Society members – about important planning and heritage issues. It also seems to be a good forum for sharing information about well-known people and events of interest. It also seems clear that the Facebook page allows us to engage with the locals in a fun and interesting way, as is evidenced by the enduring popularity of the Mystery Photo Competition.

Glebe Society’s Twitter account (@glebesociety)

The Society also uses Twitter to increase its reach. We have some 550 followers who receive our tweets on key stories appearing in the *Bulletin* and on other Glebe matters. The tweets and retweets including @glebesociety that generated the most interest were about saving public housing in Glebe, the closure of Laurel Tree House childcare, COVID-19 vaccination clinics in Glebe and plans for Blackwattle Bay.

Glebe Society’s YouTube Channel

In the last year or so, the Society has uploaded some interesting videos to our YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBT7r3R0Faal_dK6kV9sCbg). These include eight videos presented at the 50th Anniversary Festival, the ‘Meet the Candidates’ debate, the Glebe Society AGM and the Glebe Island Bridge rally. The six-video series, created by Planning Convenor, Ian Stephenson, called ‘Glebe: Know the History and Heritage of your Community’ was viewed 677 times. This series – as well as a longer video with the six videos combined – highlights the history and heritage of Glebe and Forest Lodge and the threats our community faces from overdevelopment. Each video has its message, and the series ends with a call to action to donate to a fighting fund.

President’s Update Email

One of the Communications Subcommittee’s roles is the compilation and distribution of the *President’s Update Email* that is sent on an occasional basis to those members who have provided us with an email address – 98.5% which is all but six of our memberships. The Update Email is ideal for important or urgent news breaking between Bulletins. The Society has been very active over the past year in terms of campaigns, so the *Update Email* was more than occasional.

Members of the Communications Subcommittee have had a busy year and I extend my thanks to all of them for the key role they play in making the Society’s activities and concerns known to the wider community.

While the *Bulletin* is the Society’s main way of communicating with its members, our presence on social media platforms attracts a much wider (and younger) audience. It’s important that we continue to pay special attention to these forums, and I encourage members to visit them and contribute to the relevant discussions.

If you have a particular interest in our communications’ activities you are most welcome to join the Subcommittee.

33rd Annual Glebe Music Festival: 4-27 November

by David McIntosh

The Sydney Baroque Players concert *Musiciens De La Chambre Du Roi*, to be held at 3 pm on Saturday 19 November at *Margaretta Cottage*, sold out very quickly. Therefore, the concert is being repeated on Saturday evening 19 November at 7 pm, again at *Margaretta Cottage*. Tickets \$40 (concessions \$20) include supper and drinks. Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CCWEU>.

The Evgeny Genchev solo piano recital (Chopin and Liszt) on Sunday 27 November at 3 pm, will now be at *Margaretta Cottage*, 6 Leichhardt St, Glebe (accessible entrance at 18A Cook Street). Ticket-holders will be notified individually of the change of venue. There are still a few tickets available at \$20 (concessions \$10). Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CANWK>.

Tickets are still available for the three Glebe Town Hall Concerts:

- *Operatic Magic!* by Lawergren & Lowe; Georgia Lowe (harp), Susannah Lawergren (soprano). Date: Sunday 6 November, 3 pm. Tickets \$20 (concessions \$10). Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CANVG>.
- *Florid Sentiments* with Austral Harmony, directed by Jane Downer. Date: Saturday 12 November, 7 pm. Tickets \$20 (concessions \$10). Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CANVM>.

- *St Cecilia 2022* with Josie and the Emeralds. Date: Sunday 20 November, 3 pm. Tickets \$40 (concessions \$20). Bookings at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CANWB>.



Evgeny Genchev who will be performing at the 33rd Annual Glebe Music Festival on Sunday 27 November at 3 pm (photo: Simone Di Luca)

The Glebe Society Bulletin –a previous editor's memories

by Edwina Doe

Sadly, this is Virginia's last *Bulletin*, at least for now. This has prompted me to look at all the *Bulletins*, since 1969, on the Glebe Society website.

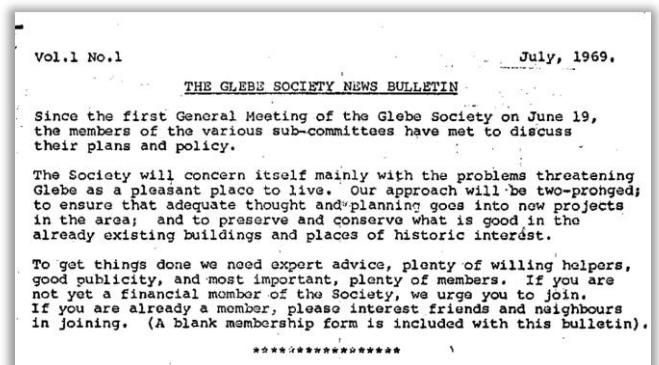
The first item is an undated notice written by Dr K. T. Fowler. It starts with: MEETING OF GLEBE RESIDENTS at 8 pm on this Thursday, April 24, a meeting will be held upstairs at Glebe Town Hall in St John's Rd.

Things moved fast. The first edition of the *Bulletin*, Vol. 1 No. 1 was published in July 1969. It reported:

Since the first General meeting of the Glebe Society on June 19, the members of the various sub-committees have met to discuss how The Society will concern itself mainly with the problems threatening Glebe as a pleasant place to live.

It announced that the first activity organised by the Society was a Historic Walk round Glebe, led by Max Solling, on Saturday, July 19:

The walk will start from the main gate of St. Scholastica College, Avenue Road, Glebe at 2.00 p.m. After an inspection of the college, the walk will proceed to other points of interest in Glebe. All members are welcome. If it rains the walk will be postponed until the following Saturday.



Part of the first page of the first Glebe Society Bulletin, July 1969 (source: Glebe Society website)

It also announced that at the last general meeting of the Society at, Glebe Town Hall on June 19 it was decided to hold an Annual General Meeting, to ratify the draft constitution:

The meeting will be on Thursday, September 4, 1969 at Glebe Town Hall. Copies of the proposed constitution accompany this news bulletin.

There have been another 517 Bulletins since then. Until *Bulletin* 1993/6, articles were typed on various typewriters from ones with keys to golf ball. Early issues were typed on 'skins', with corrections made with 'nail polish' and printed on Gestetner or Roneo machines. Later issues were typed on paper, assembled by 'cut and paste' and printed on photocopiers. They were decorated with logos, drawings and maps copied from various sources, not always straight, and were sometimes a bit messy. They were printed on photocopiers. The masthead evolved over time, but a drawing of *Lyndhurst* and later a door were used as logos.

Bulletin 1993/7 was the first to be typed using a computer program, when Jan Macindoe was the editor. Gradually we were able to add photos, in black and white. Bulletins now looked 'cleaner' and more professional.

Later, the Glebe Society had a website, which included a copy of each *Bulletin*. The Committee had discussions about the effect this might have on membership numbers, if the *Bulletin* was available free of charge. Of course, attitudes changed, and eventually the old 'copy and paste' issues were found and digitised – the complete set is now on our website.

Bulletins are sent to the Glebe, State and Federal Libraries. They are also sent to the Lord Mayor and other Sydney Councillors. Initially, all *Bulletins* for postcode 2037 were hand-folded and delivered by members. At one stage, they were folded by senior citizens, possibly at a location behind the set of shops at 144 Glebe Point Rd. Later they were all delivered

by the Post Office. Email saved the day during COVID times. Currently, with many members choosing email delivery, some hard copies are once again hand-delivered by members.

Thankyou Virginia for continuing to raise the standard of our *Bulletin* since 2013.

Bulletin Editors (1969-2022)

In alphabetical order by surname:

Bobbie Burke (1998-2001)
Sandra Darroch (1969-1971)
Bruce Davis (2001-2)
Edwina Doe (1983-5, 1987-9, 2003-2012)
Gwenn Geschmay (1986-7)
Merle Larcombe (1980-1)
Jeremy Long (1989-93)
Jan Macindoe (1981-2, 1993-7)
Ted McKeown (1974-5)
David Reeve (1977-9)
Joey Rowden (1975-7)
Eric Sandblom (1979)
Virginia Simpson-Young (2013-22)
Belinda Weaver (1983)
Vernon Winley (1971-3)



Fish market redevelopment, September 2022 (photo: Phil Vergison)

Recent Glebe Society submissions on DAs

108 Bridge Rd, Glebe (D2022834), <https://tinyurl.com/2yymyfhw>

178 Hereford St, Forest Lodge (D2022868), <https://tinyurl.com/xezuarjx>

For Your Calendar

Sunday 23 October, 6.45am *Annual Spring Bird Survey*; contact Judy Christie 0437 693 372.

Saturday 29 October, *Orphan School Bushcare Group working bee*, contact Judy Christie 0437 693 372.

Saturday 4 November to Sunday 27 November. *Glebe Music Festival*. Various locations.

Saturday 5 November, 11am-10pm, *Sydney Streets*. Glebe Point Rd – between Parramatta and St Johns Rds.

Sunday 11 December, 5pm-7pm. *Glebe Society Christmas Gathering*, Gardener's Grill, Victoria Park.

Last Friday of the month. *Community Dinners* (by Pyrmont Community Centre), Harold Park Community Hall.



Book Glebe Society events on our Eventbrite page: <http://glebesociety.eventbrite.com>

Glebe Society Inc. Established 1969

Management Committee

President	Ian Stephenson	0415 919 874	president@glebesociety.org.au
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Transport & Traffic	vacant		transport@glebesociety.org.au

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PO Box 100 GLEBE NSW 2037 | No. 8 of 2022 (October 2022)

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
- Additional donation welcome

How to joins

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



Bridge Rd adjacent to Wentworth Park in 1923. (source: NSW State Records)