

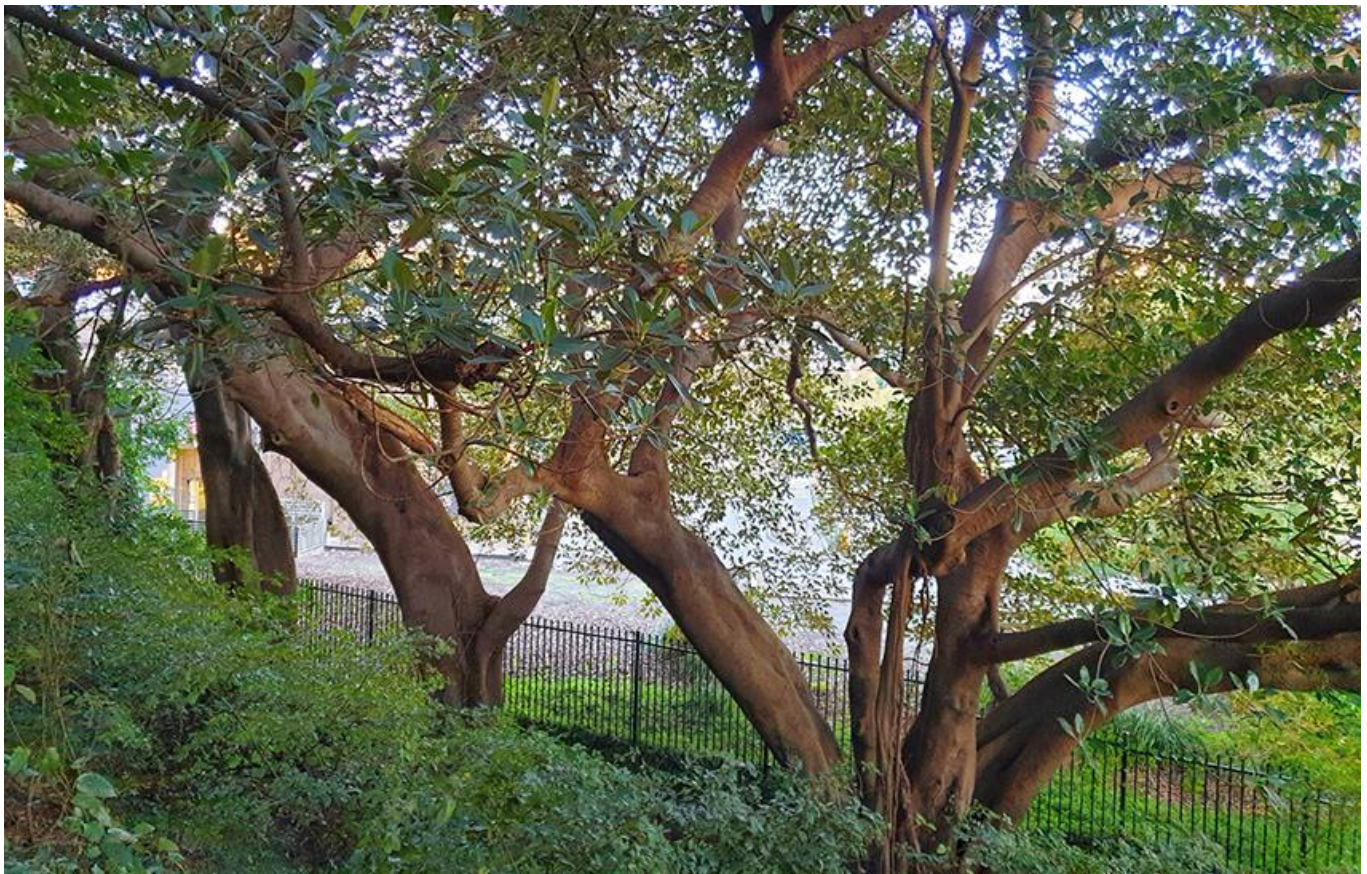
*We acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora nation as the traditional owners of Glebe and Forest Lodge and pay our respects to elders past and present.*

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## **Event Report: An introduction to Glebe's Hill – unravelling its biodiversity secrets and potential**

*By Virginia Simpson-Young*



*A view from Glebe's Hill (Photo: V. Simpson-Young)*

If you missed this event, you missed an inspiring and fascinating deep dive into the research collaboration – funded by a City of Sydney Innovation and Ideas grant – between the Glebe Society and Professor Dieter Hochuli's Integrative Ecology group at the University of Sydney. But fear not; below you'll find links to each speaker's presentation, which I'm sure you'll find as interesting as we did on the day.

Andrew Wood, convenor of the Glebe Society's Blue Wren Subcommittee, expected a modest turnout to this event, but the rush on tickets surely caused him to wonder whether the Harold Park Community Hall was big enough to accommodate all-comers. Fortunately, it was, and around 90-100 people attended on the afternoon of Sunday, 7 May, to hear all about this significant research collaboration.



Mark Stapleton, Glebe Society Vice-President, began the meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which we met and the adjacent land, now known as The Hill. Mark then introduced [Lord Mayor Clover Moore, who officially opened the event](#).

Ms Moore explained that the Council's Innovation and Ideas Grants program supports 'innovative projects that address local and global issues and contribute to a sustainable city, thriving economy, vibrant communities and cultural life'. She added that the Glebe's Hill collaboration was 'a great community-led initiative, underpinned by a robust partnership' between the Glebe Society and the University of Sydney and that she expected Glebe's Hill to become part of the Johnstons Creek Parklands in due course.

Also from the City of Sydney was [James Macnamara who spoke about the municipality's biodiversity potentials](#). In his role as the City's Urban Ecology Coordinator, James looks after 'all things native animals and native plants, except for trees'. He saw the Glebe's Hill project as 'an important first step' in promoting biodiversity within the City and that before the Council advances 'too far with these efforts, it is important to identify the existing ecology of an area – to know what we have and what we are missing'. His role in the Glebe's Hill project is 'to support the Glebe Society in the [project's] delivery'. James spoke about how the project can help the City achieve its goals to 'increase green cover to 40 per cent across the council, with a minimum of 27 per cent tree canopy by 2050'.

Glebe's resident historian, Max Solling, gave a potted post-colonisation [history of The Hill](#), describing its inauspicious beginnings as a rubbish heap – the cause of the site's contamination that has required its being fenced off to prevent public access. At some point in the post-colonisation history of municipal waste, Glebe Council thought it would be an excellent idea to dump residents' rubbish in the ocean rather than on what was to become Jubilee Park and The Hill. Audible gasps could be heard from the audience when Max told us that Glebe municipality was the last to stop punting rubbish out to sea, which they did in July 1933. Undoubtedly, Bondi beach-goers were relieved to no longer share the breakers with the detritus that often made its way back to shore.



*Lord Mayor Clover Moore, opening the event, An introduction to Glebe's Hill – unravelling its biodiversity secrets and potential, on 7 May 2023 (Photo: Nick Sangster)*



*Two Council employees standing on a rubbish pile on a punt in Blackwattle Bay in 1913 (Buckle's Wharf, on the Pyrmont side of Blackwattle Bay). (Source: [archives.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/572878](https://archives.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/572878))*

Glebe Council belatedly (and arguably) saw the light and built an incinerator in Forsyth St, which, while substantially reducing the need to find a place to locate garbage, merely converted residents' waste from a solid contaminant to a gaseous one. Max concluded his presentation by noting that the Board of Health had declared the area now known as Harold Park unfit for human habitation and that 'no buildings of any kind were to be built there'.

With Max's rather depressing history of The Hill still ringing in our ears, [Andrew Wood's presentation](#) reassured that the Glebe's Hill project would go some way towards undoing the sins of our municipal fathers by laying the groundwork for rehabilitating the land so ignominiously formed from residential rubbish.

Andrew reminded us that 23 years ago, the Glebe Society became aware that our suburb's superb fairy-wrens and other small bird populations were declining. A dedicated band of residents were galvanised into a long-term campaign to preserve and restore the habitat for the blue wren and other small birds. Recently, the Blue Wren Subcommittee began to wonder whether

The Hill – 0.6 Ha of isolated and protected land – was good habitat for small birds and other native fauna and flora. If The Hill's habitat were to be enhanced, a baseline was needed as a jumping-off point for ecological restoration. Obtaining that baseline is one of the aims of the Glebe's Hill research project.

The Hill is currently subject to an unresolved Aboriginal Land Claim. As time progresses, the management of Glebe's Hill could be transferred to our Indigenous colleagues. Whatever the outcome, the Society hopes that the findings of this project can help inform any potential use of the site and whether, in the longer term, it could become a protected nature refuge with controlled public access. Perhaps, in the future, The Hill could be given an Aboriginal name in recognition of its traditional owners and their stories about Glebe's history.

Having heard from Andrew about the rationale for The Hill project, we turned to the main event: [the presentation by Professor Dieter Hochuli](#) from the Integrative Ecology Group in the University of Sydney's School of Life and Environmental Sciences. Dieter is the lead researcher on the Glebe's Hill project.

If I were to say that Dieter's presentation merely described the methods to be used by his researchers, I would be doing it an injustice. Dieter did this, but integrated it with key ecology concepts and what is known about ecology in cities, particularly in the city of Sydney. In his presentation, *Biodiversity in Glebe's Hill – benchmarks and possibilities*, Dieter began by posing, 'What does a weed-infested and degraded space contribute to ecology in cities?' He answered this question by considering Sydney's 'natural legacy' as ecosystems supporting native plants and animals – and us.

We heard about research by Dieter's team and others showing how various creatures use Sydney's fragmented natural environment to live their best lives. Included were the insectivorous bats, the superb fairy wren and everyone's favourite bird, the brush turkey. Dieter described the methods used by researchers to locate these animals and map their peregrinations, often over surprisingly large distances. After this crash course in ecological methods, we heard about how these methods will be applied in the Glebe's Hill project.

The Glebe's Hill project aims to identify The Hill's environmental history and the extent to which some ecological restoration has already occurred, even if only by accident. This latter process was demonstrated in a series of photos of The Hill taken between 1943 and 2023. We saw The Hill, once denuded of vegetation, gradually growing a crop of large, mature trees. The project also aims to identify 'what's there and what could be there'. To address 'what's there', the researchers will conduct surveys of The Hill by systematically dividing it into equal-sized plots and using camera traps, acoustic monitors, remote sensing and in-person surveys to identify communities of plants and animals and the habitat traits that may contribute to their success in The Hill's degraded environment. It was great to hear also that fledgeling ecologists will undertake some of this work for their honours year projects.

Ultimately, the Glebe's Hill project is expected to add to our understanding of 'why high quality small, isolated greenspaces matter' in cities. Dieter's love for his field – the ecology of cities – was palpable, and I'm sure I wasn't alone in being inspired by his enthusiasm. While I could have listened to Dieter all day, he concluded, and a short time remained for audience questions. Fortunately, Dieter was available after the session to answer other questions one-on-one.

After the session, most attendees stayed for a chat over an afternoon tea provided by members of the Blue Wren Subcommittee. No doubt we can look forward to future *Bulletins* providing updates on the Glebe's Hill project.

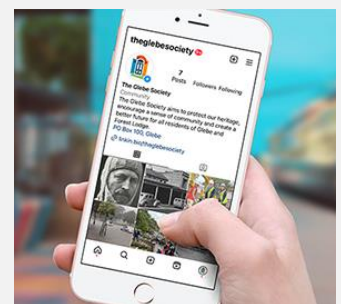


Professor Dieter Hochuli, from the University of Sydney's Integrative Ecology Laboratory  
(Photo: Nick Sangster)



## We are now on Instagram

Follow us on Instagram for regular topics of interest which we'll be posting about the local Glebe and Forest Lodge area and community which we hope you find interesting.  
[@theGLEbesociety](#)





# From the President, May 2023



By Ian Stephenson

On 7 May the Blue Wrens, our ecology arm, presented *An introduction to Glebe's Hill – unravelling its biodiversity secrets and potential*. This study of the animal and insect life within this contained part of Glebe has certainly captured our members' imagination, as nearly 100 people attended. Read Virginia Simpson-Young's report in this *Bulletin*.

## 82 Wentworth Park Rd

You will recall my article *Having your cake and eating it, too* in the April 2023 *Bulletin* which explored the alternatives of refurbishing and extending the current building as a better option to demolishing and rebuilding at a cost of nearly \$22 million – that's \$22 million to provide an additional 26 bedrooms!

The Society and our compatriots at Hands off Glebe are working together to persuade the new government to take a fresh approach to managing the NSW Land and Housing Corporation's assets in Glebe. One which:

- respects community
- refurbishes and refits
- provides additional density through low-rise infill
- respects the Heritage Conservation Areas
- does not add to greenhouse emissions by demolishing well-built buildings
- uses money wisely.

I spoke at a demonstration Hands off Glebe organised at 82 Wentworth Park Rd on 18 May where Denis Doherty pointed out that demolishing the complex involves moving all the existing tenants. He said 'demolishing and rebuilding will take years to complete, meaning a net loss of houses'. By contrast, refurbishing and extending can be staged and is far less disruptive.

Tenants were moved out of 27 bedrooms of public housing in Cowper St a couple of years ago. The buildings were demolished last year and construction of the new buildings has barely commenced. With the further 27 bedrooms planned for demolition at 82 Wentworth Park Rd, that's 54 bedrooms out of action for several years. As Denis Doherty has pointed out, this is an obscenity when across the road, homeless people are sleeping under the light rail viaducts.

It's time for a new approach, it's time for the Land and Housing Corporation to withdraw its development application for 82 Wentworth Park Rd and refurbish and extend the present building.

## Raising of Pyrmont Bridge Rd

Last month's *Bulletin* had an excellent article by Asa Wahlquist, the Society's Representative on the Sydney Fish Market Community Consultative Committee on *Raising Bridge Rd* for the Fish Market carpark. I am pleased to advise that Kobi Shetty, the member for Balmain, is taking up our concerns which include damage to the environment, cost and flooding. To paraphrase the World War II slogan 'Is Your Journey Really Necessary?', we need to be asking is this project really necessary? At a time of budgetary challenges it seems to have more downside than upside.



*Hands off Glebe demonstration against the demolition of public housing at 82 Wentworth Park Rd. The re-development will remove 27 bedrooms from the stock of public housing for several years and produce a net gain of 26 bedrooms at a cost of nearly \$22 million (Image: Ian Stephenson)*



*The destruction of 82 Wentworth Park Rd is cold comfort for the homeless people sleeping under the light rail viaduct across the road (Image: Ian Stephenson).*

# Glebe's Blue Plaque Nominations, Part 14: 'Mr One-by-One'

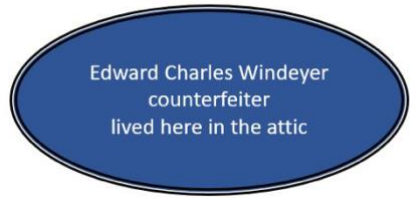
*By Lyn Collingwood*

The 14th site nominated in 2021 for a Blue Plaque was 1 Westmoreland St, Glebe. Our suburb was once notorious for street gangs and gangsters like 'Chow' Hayes. Many were vicious thugs. In contrast, Edward Charles Windeyer's crime was 'white collar'. Its perpetrator, eccentric and inventive, may have inherited his clever genes from the legal dynasty into which he was born.

Windeyer was living in Glebe during the 1950s when it was a down-at-heel suburb with plenty of cheap accommodation. At least one university student sharing digs close to 1 Westmoreland St noticed the attic light burning late into the night but imagined it was a fellow swot cramming for exams. It was only when Windeyer was arrested in 1953 that neighbours realised a famous felon had been living in their midst. The search for the mystery counterfeiter dubbed 'Mr-One-By-One' had been going on for more than two years.

Windeyer showed ingenuity in both the manufacture of the banknotes and their distribution. He consulted books on engraving in the Mitchell Library and devised a complicated method of avoiding detection. He placed single bets with busy bookmakers at night. He put forged notes in envelopes which he addressed to himself at various post office boxes and, when he needed money, collected the letters, took out what he wanted and reposted the rest to himself at other post offices. Police tried to track him down for two years but his arrest happened by chance. Council workmen, seeing something odd in an air vent in a wall, pulled out an old sock. Stuffed inside were 185 counterfeit £10 notes.

At his trial, Windeyer pleaded not guilty but was sentenced to seven years, Judge Curlewis finding the fraud 'extremely clever and cunning'. The defence counsel hoped he might be sent to a prison farm where he could continue his experiments into cosmic rays; even the Crown Prosecutor felt sorry for the accused.



*The attic at 1 Westmoreland St, Glebe (Image: Ian Stephenson)*



*Mr John Hickey at the hiding place at 1 Westmoreland St where Windeyer hid his forged banknotes (Truth, Sun 6 December 1953)*

## Glebe Guided Walks:

### Report on the Toxteth House and the Toxteth Estate with Max Solling and Dorothy Davis

Max Solling's unsurpassed knowledge of the history of the Toxteth Estate, combined with the personal and professional experience of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan's archivists and librarian, made for a wonderfully informative visit to the historic villa on Tuesday 18 April.

Around 30 Glebe Society participants enjoyed a rare viewing of the interior of *Toxteth Park* built for George Allen in 1831. Allen commissioned John Verge, the well known architect, to build an elegant country house in spacious gardens. The visit to *Toxteth Park* illustrated the transition from the original two-storey house with its single-storey wings to a three-storey house, including a tower, which was commissioned by George Allen's son, Sir George Wigram Allen, from architect George Allan Mansfield and built between 1881 and 1883. In 1901, the property was purchased by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, whose convent in Pitt St had been resumed for Central Station. The gates on Avenue Rd were relocated from Pitt St. Many of the early details of the house survive, including the ceiling of the original dining room, the floor tiles, example of wallpaper and decorative paintwork and the sash and pulley windows.



A highlight was walking around the wide first floor verandah which extends from the front of the house to the western side with an entrance into the ballroom added by Sir George Wigram Allen. We also visited St Scholastica's Chapel which was built in 1931 and contains an impressive baldacchino and fine mosaics.

We were most impressed with the historical records about the house and the Toxteth Estate kept in the archives: a great resource for the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, historians and all those interested in the heritage of our suburb.

Max Solling, in his inimitable way, described the history and development of the Toxteth Estate, his talk filled with scholarship, anecdotes, great detail and wit.

Thank you to Max for leading the Walk and for the knowledge he imparted to us with such enthusiasm. We are also very appreciative of the welcome extended by the Good Samaritan sisters and staff, for the fascinating tour through Toxteth Park and an introduction to its rich archive.



*The front hall of Toxteth Park was created in the 1880s by demolishing two walls of Verge's parlour and introducing pilasters, archways, a painted dado and a marble floor (Image: Ian Stephenson)*

## Glebe Talks: Reflections in an old mirror


Allan Hogan, a former Glebe Society president, spent his career as an investigative reporter/producer for nearly six decades. Allan reported from hot spots around the world during major crises, such as the fall of Saigon in 1975 and interviewed key players on the world stage, including Idi Amin and Imelda Marcos (she even showed him her shoe collection!).

Allan worked on ABC's radio program *AM*, ABC TV's *This Day Tonight*, *Four Corners*, Nine's *Sunday* program, and SBS's *Tonight* program. He also spent several years in Washington DC as the ABC's American correspondent.

Join us to hear Allan reflect on his own role and the role of investigative journalism in today's world of social media.


Tickets include a glass of wine and some Italian tastes.


<b>When:</b>	<b>Tuesday 13 June</b>
<b>Time:</b>	6-7.30 pm
<b>Where:</b>	Crento Italian Glebe, 73 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe
<b>Cost:</b>	\$25 per head, includes a glass of wine and Italian tastes
<b>Bookings:</b>	Bookings are essential via <a href="mailto:glebe-voices-allan-hogan@eventbrite.com.au">glebe-voices-allan-hogan@eventbrite.com.au</a>



**Allan Hogan**  
veteran investigative journalist

**Glebe Talks**  
*Reflections  
in an  
old mirror*





the **glebe society** inc.  
COMMUNITY • ENVIRONMENT • HERITAGE

# The Temple of the Tooth

By Jude Paul

Many members would remember 134 Glebe Point Rd as Darling Mills Restaurant and know it now as Beckett's. Fewer perhaps would know the long connection between previous occupants of this house and medical professionals.

The house above the current restaurant was designed by Edmund Blacket who also designed its twin, *Calmar*, at 128 Glebe Point Rd. The plans for *Calmar* survive but only the drawings for the backyard dunny survive for 134.

The first occupant of 134 was William Townley Pinhey whose obituary in 1895 noted that he'd lived in his house on Glebe Rd for more than 38 years. William Pinhey came to Australia at the age of 15 in 1835 as a companion for a family friend, Captain Hart, who was accompanying prisoners to Australia. It seems, however, that Pinhey didn't like the sea and instead of accompanying Captain Hart on the return journey to England, he stayed in Sydney. Between 1835 and 1845 Pinhey successfully trained and worked at the chemist and druggist business of Mr Ambrose Foss and the legal practice of George Allen who were both influential Glebe residents. Pharmacy won, and Pinhey pursued a highly successful career, becoming the first president of the Pharmaceutical Society and secretary of the Pharmacy Board.

And then the dentists came. First the Macqueen family, followed by the Adey family who established Darling Mills restaurant. William Macqueen, followed by son Norman, lived at 134 Glebe Point Rd for more than 30 years in the first half of the 20th century. Perhaps there was a fraternal connection between the Macqueens and the Adeys because Alfred Adey, dentist, was the next occupant.

Beckett's Restaurant, which now occupies the site where Darling Mills entertained locals and Sydney folk for years, has planned a night to celebrate the Adey family's long connection to 134 Glebe Point Rd. Called *Darling Mills Restaurant Revival – If Only These Walls Could Talk*, Glebe and Sydney locals are invited to share a night of fine food, drinks and stories on Thursday 29 June. See [beckettsbardining.com.au/whats-on-2023/townandcountryno7](https://beckettsbardining.com.au/whats-on-2023/townandcountryno7)



134 Glebe Point Rd with its shingle roof which was restored in 1975 by dentist, Dr Adey (Image: Ian Stephenson).



The Adeys created a unique dining area beneath the old house. They retained elements of the original stone retaining wall on Glebe Point Rd (Image: Beckett's Restaurant).



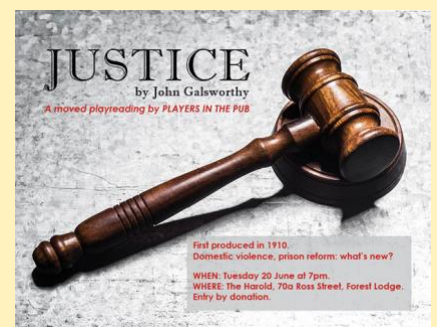
Players in the Pub

## Next Players in the Pub

**The Harold, 7 pm Tuesday 20 June**

**Justice by John Galsworthy**

Upstairs at The Harold – Wigram Rd/Ross St  
Forest Lodge. Entry by donation.

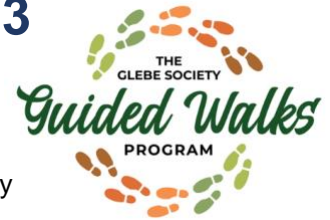




# Glebe Society Guided Walks Program 2023

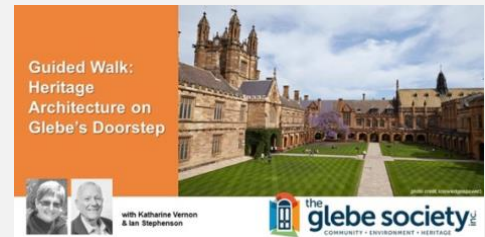
By Dorothy Davis, Guided Walks Coordinator

Post-COVID, the Glebe Society's Events program is really hotting up. In June and July we have a heritage tour, a guided tour of a museum and a special visit to an architecturally spectacular home. Details of walks later in the year will be provided in the next *Bulletin*.



## NEXT WALK: Heritage Architecture on Glebe's Doorstep

<b>Thursday 29 June 2-4 pm</b>	<b>Leaders:</b> Ian Stephenson, Glebe Society President, and Katharine Vernon
	<b>Meeting place:</b> Entrance to the University on Parramatta Rd, opposite the corner of Derwent and Arudel St (close to the Chau Chak Wing Museum)
	<b>Cost:</b> \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members)
	<b>Bookings:</b> <a href="https://heritage-architecture-usyd.eventbrite.com.au">heritage-architecture-usyd.eventbrite.com.au</a>



## Walks and tours June – November 2023

Further details will be provided in later *Bulletins* and on the website.

Monday 24 July 10.30-11.30 am	<b>Highlights of the Chau Chak Wing Museum, University of Sydney</b> <b>Leaders:</b> Museum guides <b>Meeting place:</b> Chau Chak Wing Museum entrance (opposite Great Hall, across the grass) <b>Cost:</b> \$15; \$10 (concession and Seniors Card holders); (Museum private tour charge) <b>Bookings:</b> <a href="https://chau-chak-wing-museum-tour.eventbrite.com.au">chau-chak-wing-museum-tour.eventbrite.com.au</a>
Sunday 30 July 3-4.30 pm	<b>House visit: Award-winning contemporary private home in Glebe</b> <i>Step inside a contemporary private home in Glebe, winner of the Australian Institute of Architects' Wilkinson award for residential architecture.</i> <b>Meeting place:</b> To be advised by email before the visit <b>Cost:</b> This is a members only event – \$25 <b>Bookings:</b> <a href="https://house-visit-contemporary-glebe-home.eventbrite.com.au">house-visit-contemporary-glebe-home.eventbrite.com.au</a>
Sunday 10 Sept 2-4 pm	<b>Pymont's industrial waterfront</b> <b>Leader:</b> Mark Dunn, a public historian with a background in heritage and archaeology <b>Meeting place:</b> Forecourt of the National Maritime Museum, opposite Pymont Bay light rail station <b>Cost:</b> \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members) <b>Bookings:</b> via Eventbrite, date tickets go on sale to be advised
Sunday 24 Sept 10.30-12.30 pm	<b>Exploring Forest Lodge pre-1870</b> <b>Leader:</b> Max Solling, Glebe historian <b>Meeting place:</b> To be advised <b>Cost:</b> \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members) <b>Bookings:</b> via Eventbrite, date tickets go on sale to be advised
Sunday 15 Oct 2-4 pm	<b>The Villas of Glebe and Forest Lodge</b> <b>Leader:</b> Robert Hannan <b>Meeting place:</b> To be advised <b>Cost:</b> \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members) <b>Bookings:</b> via Eventbrite, date tickets go on sale to be advised

We hope to repeat some of the most popular walks of the last few years. Please let us know of any ideas you have for walks in Glebe and Forest Lodge by emailing us at [contact@glebewalks.com.au](mailto:contact@glebewalks.com.au)



# Who lived in your street? James Kidd (1825-1875)

By Lyn Collingwood

In March 1869 James Kidd bought a lot measuring 14.75 perches (373 sq. m) on St Johns Rd from Arthur Bastable, a Newtown pattern maker and land speculator. On 16 January 1872 the Scottish-born engineer died in his newly-built house at what is now 181 St Johns Rd near Ross St. Earlier numbered 97 and 101, the address changed when St Johns Rd was lengthened.

James Kidd and Mary née Duffers migrated from Dundee, Scotland, with their children Hector (1846-1926), Emily (1851-1926) and William (1856-1937). In 1864, the birth of James Kidd, jnr, was registered at Redfern. James Kidd, snr, was Treasurer of the Ancient Order of Royal Foresters who met at John George Tucker's *Forest Lodge Hotel* (today's *Nag's Head* on the corner of St Johns Rd and Lodge St) and it was here fellow Masons gathered before proceeding to his funeral.

The St Johns Rd cottage was occupied by Kidd family members until the property was sold in late 1897. Mary Kidd died aged 77 on 11 February 1899 at her eldest son's home, *Shandon*, on Toxteth Rd and was buried with her husband in the Presbyterian section of Rookwood Cemetery.



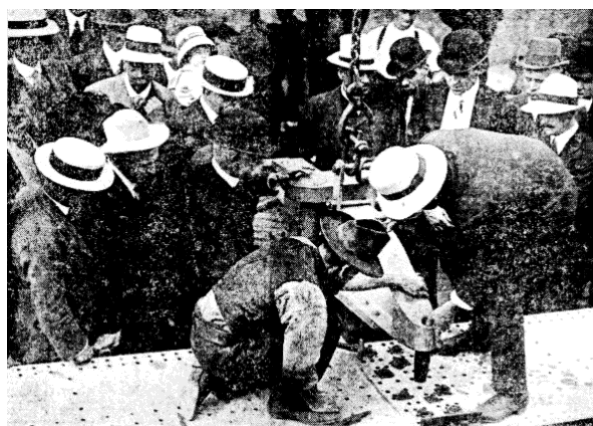
*James Kidd's cottage. The Glebe Society has made a submission regarding a current development proposal for its demolition and replacement with a three-storey building (Image: V. Simpson-Young)*

## The Kidd family

All three sons followed James Kidd's profession as engineer. James, jnr, died at *Halloween*, North Sydney, in 1916, some months after being struck by a falling girder at the Colonial Sugar Refinery works at Pyrmont where he was chief engineer. The crowd of mourners at his Presbyterian funeral at Rookwood included work colleagues, company representatives, Freemasons and members of the Scots Church.

A few months after his father's death, Hector Kidd married another Scot, Janet McCall, who hailed from Lochgilphead. The couple's first home was at Surry Hills, near Janet's parents. Also in 1872, Hector gained a NSW Marine Board Certificate of Competency as a foreign-going second-class engineer. He was a chief engineer with the Australasian Steam Navigation Company before joining the Colonial Sugar Refining Company – many of its mills were erected under his supervision. He acted as a consulting engineer for firms including Anthony Hordern & Sons and Dalgety & Co. A member of the Royal Society, the Fitzroy Dock Board, Institute of Civil Engineers, Institute of Mechanical Engineers and the Institution of Engineers of Australia, he made business trips to the USA and England. He was a life member of the Masonic Benevolent Society.

Hector played at the Mosman Bowling Club and was proud of his Scottish heritage as a vice-president of the Highland Society and an elder of St Stephen's Presbyterian Church in Phillip St. He died on 31 May 1926 at, *Craiglea*, Cremorne, survived by his widow, three sons (all engineers) and three daughters. His interment in the



*Hector Kidd, vice-president of the Dock Committee, putting the first rivet in the keel of the naval destroyer Torrens (Image: Sydney Morning Herald 27 January 1913)*

Presbyterian cemetery at Rookwood was well attended. The year 1926 also saw the death of Hector's sister, Emily, the widow of banker William Reid.

William Kidd married Bridget Mary Lee in 1881. The couple had four children (two sons died in infancy, daughters Janet and Mary survived) and were living at 8 Forest St, Forest Lodge, at the time of Bridget's death six years later. William returned to the St Johns Rd cottage. In 1897 he married Mary Ann Mustow, the widow of a Forest St van proprietor and the mother of six surviving children. By 1913, they were in Marrickville, his occupation iron inspector, and by 1930 (when 82-year-old Mary Ann died), at Dulwich Hill. William Kidd was a pensioner when he suffered a fatal heart attack in January 1937 after quarrelling with one of his stepsons and striking him with a walking stick.

## Later occupants of 181 St Johns Rd

Hector Kidd subdivided the land and in December 1897 sold the greater portion to Hansine Anne Margrethe Hansen, the wife of miner Theodore Hansen, and the residual to Glebe contractor, Alfred Whetton, jnr.

The next purchaser, in 1902, was widowed Letitia Ruthven. Her son, Herbert Joseph Gillis Ruthven, a Public Works employee educated at St Joseph's College, lived in the cottage for a short period before it was rented out. (One tenant was Maud Rabac, a psychic who offered 'Tea, Talk and Truth' consultations.) As manager of the State Resumed Properties Department, Herbert Ruthven testified before a parliamentary select committee investigating allegations of mismanagement that his department was short staffed. He died in 1936 and was buried as a Catholic in the Field of Mars cemetery.

In 1912, George Henry Pike, a Camperdown butcher, bought the property. Its owner from 1921 was Hedwig Liss, wife of Surry Hills herbalist Abraham Liss. Widowed in 1925, 'Letty' lived there for many years before her death at age 90, in 1955. Her executor was her medical practitioner and Glebe identity Dr HJ Foley. After probate was granted in 1958, the property was bought by Ruby Lillian Fell, a widow, who sold it six years later to painter John McColl. The separate building at the rear appears to have been erected during McColl's occupancy.

**Sources:** City of Sydney Archives; NSW cemetery records; NSW electoral rolls; NSW Land Registry Services; NSW registry of births, deaths, marriages; Sands Directories; Trove website.



*The studio, lower left, appears to have been added by John McColl (Image: Ian Stephenson)*



## This Month's Mystery Photo

*By Lyn Collingwood*

### Where are we?

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

*(Image: City of Sydney Archives)*



# The Glebe Community Op Shop

By Jude Paul

There have been past stories in the *Bulletin* about the Glebe Community Op Shop, but this is just a reminder for members that it's still there and currently looking for donations of towels and blankets.

The exterior of 133 Glebe St is wonderfully intact to this day. It may have started life as a general store, a classic Glebe corner shop, but for nearly 100 years it operated as a butcher shop. The occupant in 1888 is recorded as Patrick Shalvey, butcher, followed by butcher after butcher until its closure in the early 1980s.

Patrick Joseph Shalvey's ancestry was Irish, but he was born in Dundee Scotland in 1864 and migrated to Australia with his family in 1878. By 1888, he had married Bridget Galvin (in Yass), started his family and opened a butcher shop at 133 Glebe St. By 1913, Patrick had long left his Glebe butcher shop but established several other butchery businesses, had 11 children, all of whom survived to adulthood, bought *Strathmore* (Ronald McDonald House) in Bridge Rd, Forest Lodge, and owned his own stockyards and slaughterhouse in the Blacktown district.

Patrick was still working as a butcher in 1946 when he was fined (for the fourth time) for overcharging for dripping and shoulder mutton chops. He died, aged 98, in 1962. The Sydney suburb of Shalvey is named after Patrick Shalvey.

But back to the Glebe Community Op Shop. For 40 years or so, this shop has played a very important role in our local community. Donations of all kinds are accepted, except for large items of household furniture and electrical goods. As mentioned earlier, there is a current need for towels and blankets.

**Address:** 133 Glebe St, Glebe (corner of Glebe St and Norton St).

**Opening hours:** Thursday–Saturday, 10am–3pm.



*The shop dates from the late 19th century. It was originally a general store, then became a butcher shop and has been an Op Shop for 40 years (Image: Jude Paul).*

## News from the Blue Wren Subcommittee

By Andrew Wood

### Updates from Glebe's bushcare volunteer groups

The Orphan School Creek Bushcare Group held a planting day on Saturday 29 April; it was attended by seven volunteers and 40 lots of native tube stock were planted. The next working bee will be at 9.30 am on Saturday 17 June. In Federal Park, the site of last year's National Tree Day plantings (sadly all of which have died) has been cultivated and remains fenced. It is not known whether the City's contractor, Skyline Landscape Services, will proceed with replacement plantings.

Society member and St James Ave resident, Anne Sherriff, has contacted the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, about the poor state of native flora in the John Street Reserve and the need to improve the reserve's maintenance. Councillor Ellsmore will be meeting on site with local residents at the end of June. Bob Richards, another St James Ave resident, reported on 24 April: 'Just letting you know that the City's contractors, Skyline Landscape Services, have commenced some work in the Reserve. I spoke to CoS this morning to get fencing around some replacement grass that was laid on Saturday. They said 300 new tube stock and stone etc. for a lizard/skink habitat will commence, hopefully, this week.'



*John Street Reserve following completion of the recent native plantings and placement of rocks to provide habitat for lizards, skinks and other fauna (Photo: Andrew Wood)*



*Removal of trees and other native flora on the southern boundary of Dalgat Way near the road entrance to the Tramsheds (Photo: Andrew Wood)*

reasons, there has been removal of trees that were planted a few years ago on the southern side of Dalgat Way, near the road entrance to the Tramsheds.

Anna Szanto reported at the end of April for the Glebe Palmerston and Surrounds Landcare Group: 'Three of us met this morning and had a satisfying working bee. We collected much litter from across the gardens and garbage that seems to come from one of the drainways when it rains heavily. It was a combo of glass, soft drink bottles, Styrofoam and many pieces of plastic. We also got some weeding done. Sydney Water seems to have completed their works near Palmerston Ave. Our next job is to contact the City for replacement plantings, which we hope will be provided soon. We will have another working bee at the end of May (date to be confirmed).'

Following correspondence from Nick Sangster with the City, the 28 suckers of *Casuarinas* spp on the eastern side of Johnstons Canal were inspected by Active Tree Services, who will prepare a report for the City of Sydney recommending their removal. Also, for unexplained

## Innovation and Ideas Grant awarded by the City to study the biodiversity of Glebe's Hill

The contract between the University of Sydney and the Society was signed last month, enabling the transfer of grant funds from the Society to the University.

An 'Application for temporary access and minor works to City of Sydney land' was submitted to the City by the Society in January. The Licensing Agreement will permit access to The Hill and four parks in the local government area so that the University of Sydney can undertake the project. The City requested additional information about the use of the wildlife monitoring devices to be installed by the University. This was provided on 10 April. Once we receive the licensing agreement from the City the project can commence.

The public information session on Sunday 7 May at the community meeting room in the Tramsheds was very successful with around one hundred people attending. It is reported on elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.

## Community Development Report

*by Louis Taborda, Community Development Convenor*

I joined the Society's management committee as the Community Development Convenor last October. I want to share with you what has been happening and, more importantly, hear your thoughts on what should happen next.

By way of introduction, my day job is as a lecturer at the School of Project Management at the University of Sydney, where I coordinate final-year capstone units that assign student teams to work on meaningful real-world projects for small businesses and community groups. As a graduate of that esteemed institution, I have always seen Glebe and the Inner West as my 'hood'. I have fond memories of walking up Glebe Point Rd to see the double-feature at the *Valhalla* Cinema, so Glebe and the University have always been somewhat intertwined in my mind.

And so it remains, as I have used my Project Management students to investigate a number of Glebe Society initiatives that were identified at the Community Development kick-off session held in January of this year. Five ideas that came out of that session were assigned to various student teams that manage the project, develop the idea, determine its feasibility and finally make recommendations on the next steps.

The five projects that are in their final stages of execution cover:

- Social Media Strategy: working directly with the Communications Subcommittee Convenor to improve the Society's Instagram following
- Invigorating our main street by investigating global initiatives/options that may be applicable to Glebe
- Glebe Photo Competition: exploring possibilities in running a regular competition



- Glebe Chinese Heritage: researching early multi-cultural contributions in Glebe's history
- Glebe Market Stall: developing a Business Case for establishing a 'presence' at the Saturday Glebe Markets.



*Glebe Markets, 2003 (Image: Patricia Baillie, courtesy of City of Sydney Archives)*

These are information gathering projects that aim to provide some useful resources to inform the Society's work. They are a great way to enable students to apply their talents and develop their skills by undertaking a short project that can deliver value to Glebe. It is an investment in the next generation of project managers.

Although I should not have favourites, I eagerly await the ideas that might come from the Glebe Market Stall project, because I consider it a wonderful opportunity to participate in a weekly event that brings together a vibrant mix of young people to our suburb. They are the ones who in years to come will have memories of Glebe and may one day choose to make it their home. It would be good to instil in them the love of Glebe's rich heritage and history by showcasing what we as a community do and value. It might not be just the Glebe Society, we could join forces with other community groups to have a presence 'where the action is' every Saturday!

I am interested to hear your thoughts – not only about the stall at the markets but also the other initiatives. I think we should continue with our traditional ways of assisting the less privileged in Glebe but also

explore new approaches to community development.

If you would like to be actively engaged, or have some suggestions, just send me an email at [louis.taborda@sydney.edu.au](mailto:louis.taborda@sydney.edu.au).

I would also like to hear your ideas for any student projects, not just Glebe Society ones. I can work with you to develop a proposal. The form [develop a project proposal](#) lists the criteria we look at in assessing proposals. If you have any questions about it, or want to discuss your ideas, please contact me, also on [louis.taborda@sydney.edu.au](mailto:louis.taborda@sydney.edu.au). Together, I hope we can get some good things happening.

## The Glebe Society's submissions to City of Sydney Council

*By Ian Stephenson*

The Society's recent submissions to development applications and other planning proposals are set out below.

View all 2023 submissions on our website at: [glebesociety.org.au/submissions-to-council-2023/](https://glebesociety.org.au/submissions-to-council-2023/)

### Development Applications

- [181 St Johns Rd. Glebe](#)
- [43 Toxteth Rd. Glebe](#)

### Applications for outdoor dining

The Society also lodged a [submission](#) in relation to an application (FA/2023/136) for the renewal of outdoor dining at *The Friend in Hand Hotel*, 58 Cowper St, Glebe.

The *Friend in Hand Hotel* is the only non-residential use in this part of the St Phillips estate and is in close proximity to many houses. The key issue was whether, given its proximity to houses, footpath dining should cease at 8 pm rather than 10 pm.

[Council's Outdoor Dining Guidelines \(March 2023\)](#) include the provision that 'where outdoor dining areas are close to homes, care needs to be taken to ensure residents can continue to enjoy the amenity of their neighbourhood. In considering operating hours for outdoor dining, the City will assess: – how close an outdoor dining area is to nearby dwellings and other noise sensitive uses. The City may approve alternative hours of operation to allow outdoor dining that will not have an adverse noise impact.'

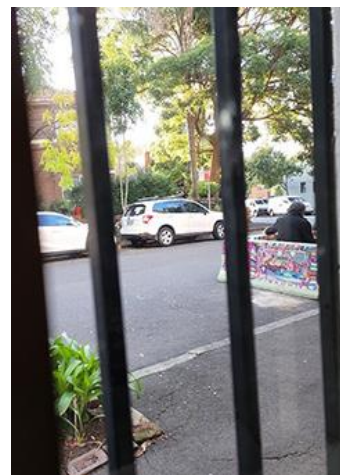
The owner of number 60 Cowper St has lived in his house for 20 years. The house is very close to the roadway dining area of the *Friend in Hand* (see photos on right). The Society feels, in this situation, there should be compromise and outdoor dining should cease at 8 pm, not 10 pm. After all, the neighbour could hardly have anticipated when he bought his house 20 years ago that the Council would permit the hotel to take over part of the roadway. This seems a clear case where Council's guidelines for alternative hours should have applied.

Council didn't see it that way. Their [delegated report](#) merely noted that the proposed hours of operation are between 10 am to 10 pm, Monday to Saturday and 12 noon to 10 pm, Sunday, which is consistent with the approved operating hours of the premises.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* of 25 May reported on the issue under the headline, *Neighbours outraged by noise from street dining*. The article covered the pros and cons. A Glebe resident in favour was reported as saying 'the loss of a couple of car spaces is nothing compared to the ambience the provision of outdoor dining brings to an area'. People who want reduced hours can be presented as being party-poopers but there's an Australian tradition called the 'fair go' and if your sitting room is as close to the outdoor dining area as that at number 60 Cowper St's then an 8 pm curfew seems fair and reasonable – fair to the pub and fair to the resident.



Number 60 Cowper St (right of image) is built right on the street and adjoins the Friend in Hand Hotel  
(Image: Ian Stephenson)

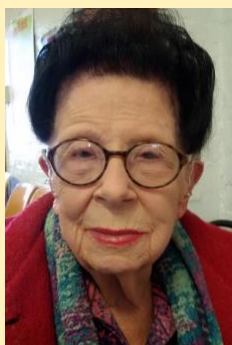


The street dining area seen from the living room window of number 60 Cowper St (Image: Ian Stephenson)

## For your Calendar

Tuesday 13 June, 6-7.30 pm	<b>Glebe Talks, Allan Hogan, Reflections in an old mirror.</b> At Crento Italian Glebe, 73 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe, Cost: \$25 per head, includes a glass of wine and Italian tastes. Bookings: <a href="http://glebe-voices-allan-hogan.eventbrite.com.au">glebe-voices-allan-hogan.eventbrite.com.au</a>
Saturday 17 June, 9:30 am	<b>Orphan School Creek Bushcare Group working bee</b> Contact Judy Christie - 0437 693 372
Sunday 18 June, 11.15 am	<b>The scattering of ashes, Sadie King, OAM (1921-2022)</b> St John's Church, 138 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe – all welcome
Tuesday 20 June, 7 pm	<b>Players in the Pub</b> perform <i>Justice</i> by John Galsworthy at The Harold, 70a Ross St, Forest Lodge. Entry by donation
Thursday 29 June, 2-4 pm	<b>Heritage architecture on Glebe's doorstep</b> Cost: \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members) Bookings: <a href="http://heritage-architecture-usyd.eventbrite.com.au">heritage-architecture-usyd.eventbrite.com.au</a>
Monday 24 July, 10.30-11.30 am	<b>Highlights of the Chau Chak Wing Museum</b> Cost: \$15; \$10 (concession and Seniors cardholders) Bookings: <a href="http://chau-chak-wing-museum-tour.eventbrite.com.au">chau-chak-wing-museum-tour.eventbrite.com.au</a>
Sunday 30 July, 3-4.30 pm	<b>House visit: Award-winning contemporary private home in Glebe</b> Meeting place: Advised by email before the visit. Cost: This is a members only event – \$25 Bookings: <a href="http://house-visit-contemporary-glebe-home.eventbrite.com.au">house-visit-contemporary-glebe-home.eventbrite.com.au</a>
Sunday 10 Sept, 2-4 pm	<b>Pymont's industrial waterfront</b> Cost: \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members) Bookings: via Eventbrite, date tickets go on sale to be advised
Sunday 24 Sept, 10.30-12.30 pm	<b>Exploring Forest Lodge pre-1870</b> Cost: \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members). Bookings: via Eventbrite, date tickets go on sale TBA
Sunday 15 Oct, 2-4 pm	<b>The Villas of Glebe and Forest Lodge</b> Cost: \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members). Bookings: via Eventbrite, date tickets go on sale TBA
Friday 27 October to Sunday 26 November	<b>34th Annual Glebe Music Festival</b> Bookings: <a href="http://glebemusicfestival.com">glebemusicfestival.com</a>





## Scattering of Sadie King's ashes

Sadie King, OAM (1921-2022), was a well-known Glebe identity who died on 17 January 2022. Janice Challinor recounts Sadie King's interesting life in an obituary that first appeared in *Bulletin* 1/2022. The obituary can be found on our website: [glebesociety.org.au/sarah-sadie-murdoch-king-passes-away-days-after-her-100th-birthday](http://glebesociety.org.au/sarah-sadie-murdoch-king-passes-away-days-after-her-100th-birthday).

The scattering of Sadie King's ashes will take place at St John's Church, 138a Glebe Point Rd, Glebe, on Sunday 18 June at 11.15 am. All are welcome.

**eventbrite** Book Glebe Society events on our Eventbrite page: [glebesociety.eventbrite.com](http://glebesociety.eventbrite.com)

## Glebe Society Inc. Established 1969

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Membership of the Glebe Society		How to join
Individual member:	\$45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Join online: complete the Membership Application on our website under <a href="#">Join/Renew</a>;</li> <li>download a membership form from <a href="http://glebesociety.org.au">glebesociety.org.au</a>;</li> <li>write to the Secretary at PO Box 100 Glebe 2037;</li> <li>or email <a href="mailto:secretary@glebesociety.org.au">secretary@glebesociety.org.au</a></li> </ul>
Joint (two people, one address):	\$55	
Household:	\$60	
Concession (student or pensioner):	\$20	
Institution or corporate:	\$110	
Additional donation welcome.		

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