

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.

Issue 1 of 2024 (March 2024)

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From The President

by Duncan Leys

Best wishes for the New Year to all Society's members. 2024 is shaping up to be a most interesting year, one full of challenges.

The opening of WestConnex has been a disaster for many local residents but has gone from the news bulletins, displaced by the asbestos-contaminated mulch fiasco. I was staggered to see so much of Glebe's and Forest Lodge's greenspaces taped off from the public.

The State Government's proposed changes to zoning laws around transport hubs has generated an enormous number of emails to the Society from concerned residents, particularly from our neighbours in Five Dock and Haberfield. There are two proposed changes to planning laws: the [Transport Oriented Development Program State Environmental Planning Policy](#) (TOD SEPP) and the [Low- and mid-rise housing State Environmental Planning Policy](#) (LMRH SEPP). The message we are getting is that Glebe/Forest Lodge will be spared the worst of the impacts of TOD; but watch this space, as there are other changes contained in the LMRH proposals which may well have a significant impact on us.

The New Sydney Fish Market's scheduled opening has been pushed back from the end of 2024 to early 2025. For projects of this type, there is no guarantee that scheduled milestones will be met. My understanding is that the plan for traffic, parking and public transport is not ready for public release. What is certain is that congestion around the New Sydney Fish Market will be worse than it is now.

The conservation work on *Bidura* is due to start in March 2024. I have seen removalists taking out office furniture but have not seen signs of conservation activities commencing.

Meanwhile, the *Glebe Island Bridge* continues to decay, and recently the State Government put up bollards to protect passing vessels – not the bridge – in case of a collision. This year we will be looking to refocus and energise our efforts to have the bridge returned to working order.

I am pleased to report that after two years of being acting Editor of the *Bulletin*, Allan Hogan can step down as we have found a new Editor. Allan will remain on the Communications Subcommittee and we are very grateful that Allan has agreed to continue on the Management Committee. Allan has made an enormous contribution to the Society over the years, including serving as Vice-President and President. I am in awe of his way with the written word.

Tim Hesketh has volunteered to take on the role of *Bulletin* Editor, and this is Tim's first *Bulletin*. Tim's background is in engineering and academia and I am confident he will make a good fist of the role.



Asbestos-contaminated mulch in Bicentennial Park (Image: V. Simpson-Young)

Three new people have expressed interest in joining the Management Committee which is a positive sign. Cheryl Leckstrom has a background in nursing and social work and would be well placed to take a role in community development. Janet Oakley has expressed an interest in transport and traffic. She has a background in law. John Sergeant has a background in road safety and business and would take on the bays and foreshores role.

Louis Taborda is stepping down from his Community Development role as work commitments make it impossible for him to put in the time he feels is needed. I would like to thank Louis for his work for the Society and we would welcome him back were his circumstances to change.

I would be pleased to welcome Cheryl, Janet and John to the Management Committee. I believe they would bring new perspectives and skills to their roles, which is a great thing.



Valé Edwina Doe

21/02/1936 – 26/12/2023

by Jude Paul, Glebe Society Secretary

When Edwina's English nieces recently flew to Sydney to take Edwina's ashes back to England to join those of her parents, as she had wished, they found a copy of Edwina's self-penned eulogy. In red type at the top of this document, Edwina had noted, 'The written word count of a eulogy should fall somewhere between 500 to 3000 words. It generally takes a person five minutes to say 1,500 words, speaking at an average rate. So that gives you some idea of the word and the actual time it will take to make the eulogy speech.' The headline follows: 'Edwina's Draft Eulogy – July 2023.' And in red type again, '1780 words.'

Her eulogy opens with, 'I have had a good life. It was mostly unplanned, but it worked out very well.' Not only did it work out well for Edwina, it also worked out well for the countless people who benefitted from Edwina's society and her contribution to the well-being of both her local community and the community at large.

Edwina was born in Battersea, London, in 1936 and lived mainly in Twickenham, west of London, until she came to Australia. There are few clues about Edwina's decision to leave England and her family, apart from her own description:

At Easter 1964, I was camping in the Wye Valley near Wales. It snowed, so I contacted Australia House and asked to be a Ten-Pound Pom. After a brief interview and a chest X-ray, I was offered a flight to Australia in October.

Edwina arrived in Sydney on 26 October 1964. The next day, she attended two job interviews she'd arranged before leaving England and, within a week, had started a full-time job as a market researcher, continuing a career already established in England and one she would pursue for the rest of her working life. It seems Edwina did not plan to move to Australia permanently, but a holiday to visit her parents in England in 1968 made her realise Sydney had become her home.

There were many beneficiaries of Edwina's passions, generosity and skills. Edwina was a founding member of the NSW branch of WEL (Women's Electoral Lobby). WEL was formed nationally in 1972 to conduct a large-scale survey of candidates' views on issues affecting women in the 1972 federal elections and simultaneously to mobilise women's political power. For the next 14 years, Edwina was a proofreader of *WEL Informed*, the monthly newsletter of the NSW branch. WEL still functions today as a feminist, non-party political lobby group.

In the mid-1970s, Edwina moved to a terrace in Glebe, initially conducting her own market research business downstairs and living upstairs. This house on Bridge Road became Edwina's home for the rest of her life. She joined the Glebe Society in 1983, and by the time she retired from formal work in 2002, she had undertaken the roles of Senior Vice-President, President, Treasurer, *Bulletin* Editor and Membership Coordinator. For ten years following her retirement, Edwina was again the *Bulletin* Editor and proofreader of every issue since. Edwina was an Honorary Life Member of the Glebe Society

The Glebe Society Bulletin 09/1984

HAPPY HOUR - SUNDAY, 25th NOV.
11 am
In Edwina Doe's garden (weather permitting - otherwise indoors) at 224 Bridge Road, near Ross Street.



Edwina Doe, with the flowers given to her by the Glebe Society after the 2023 AGM in recognition of her contribution to the Bulletin over many years (Photo: Laura Hughes)

The Glebe Society Bulletin 05/1983 (July)

NEW BULLETIN EDITOR

Belinda Weaver has been forced by pressure of other commitments to hand over the Bulletin. Our thanks go to Belinda for all her hard work in the past.

As your new Editor, may I please appeal to you for help? Although I have lived in Glebe for over six years I have only recently joined the Society. This means you all know far more about the Society and the Bulletin than I do. Please send me details of coming events, news or articles by the 17th of each month. The success of the Bulletin depends on you.

EDWINA DOE

224 BRIDGE ROAD, GLEBE (NR. ROSS STREET)
660-7066(H) 929-9848(W).

Edwina's Glebe Society role was one of many she took up in retirement. Others included conversations at the Adult Migrant English Service (AMES), reading newspapers on air at Radio for the Print Handicapped (RPH) in Glebe (later joining the Board and writing an RPH history leaflet) and, in her own words, the opportunity 'to proofread books, university theses or anything else, for money or for pleasure.

Ever a keen knitter, Edwina was a very active supporter of the Red Cross Trauma Teddies network. In 2012, she became the Coordinator for the Greater Sydney area Teddy branches. Since its beginnings in 1990, Trauma Teddies volunteers have knitted hundreds of thousands of teddies and donated them to children fleeing emergencies, refugee children, hospital-bound children, and children needing a happy face at a lonely time. It's estimated that 600+ knitters donate 50,000 teddies a year.

Throughout her life, Edwina enjoyed travel, starting with her first trip overseas in 1957. A real highlight for her was the gift of a round-the-world air ticket for her 65th birthday from the two women who had been her last market research bosses. For nearly 50 years, Edwina took the opportunity to travel, especially to catch up with family and old friends in England. Her last overseas trip was to Antarctica via Argentina in 2004.

COVID sadly took a toll on Edwina. Her love of symphony concerts, theatre, dining out, aquaerobics and meeting up with friends was significantly curtailed during these years. Nonetheless, Edwina said of her own life,

To sum up, since the 1970s, I have lived my own life, with a wide circle of friends and usually with cats. Having no ties from a partner or children has given me freedom to combine home, work and volunteering. I am a feminist, a socialist and an atheist. I have no expectations of an afterlife, or of reunions. I will only live on in the memories of other people, and I hope they will be good memories.

Good memories indeed. Better than good. Please join us to share some of these and to hear the full version of Edwina's eulogy:



'Thirsty Thursday' for Edwina Doe

Place: Otto Noorba Turkish Restaurant, 79 Glebe Point Road

Date & Time: Thursday, 28 March 2024

Time: 6-9 pm

Price: A menu has been pre-arranged at \$45 per head. This restaurant is licenced.

Booking: bookings are essential, via Eventbrite: <https://thirsty-thursday-for-edwina-doe.eventbrite.com.au>.

Reflection on Edwina, a mentor

By Virginia Simpson-Young, *Bulletin* Editor 2013- 2022

Proofreading Edwina's obituary above moved me to write a few words. I owe Edwina a great debt of gratitude, and it saddens me I didn't get to tell her this before she died.



Edwina in 1976 (image supplied)

Edwina handed the editor baton on to me late in 2012. For the decade I was editor, Edwina was my mentor; she helped me in ways too many to mention. Edwina's support for me and her commitment to the *Bulletin* were as strong in the tenth year as in the first. I doubt there would be many people who could sustain such a commitment.

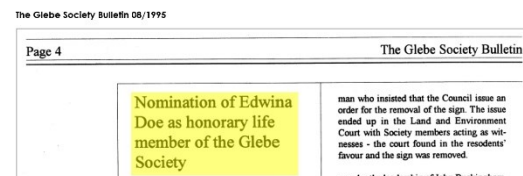
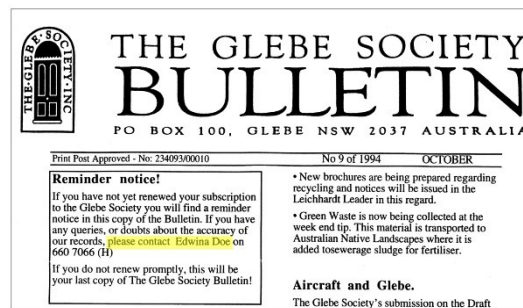
Edwina shaped my editorship, firmly but gently insisting I maintain the high standard she had set in her decades as editor. Edwina's proofreading was invaluable. Yes, she was a stickler for good grammar and never missed an errant apostrophe. Yet, she went further, insisting on clarity and accuracy. She checked facts, sometimes contacting authors when clarification was needed. She conveyed all this to me with kindness and without expressing the exasperation she must have felt when I failed to meet her high standards.

I'd often leave the *Bulletin* editing to the last minute, giving the proofreaders little

time to do their job. Edwina insisted I send her the *Bulletin* to check, no matter what time of night I'd finish it. She'd wait patiently, often until the wee hours for me to send it, then check it and get it back to me within the hour. She did this despite her advancing age and health issues. That's commitment.

I had the privilege of editing Edwina's memoir. She lived life on her own terms. She was courageous and thought nothing of defying society's expectations of women of her generation. Yet she did this with grace. To use a much over-used expression, Edwina was an inspiration.

Jude's obituary for Edwina required little proofreading but I wanted to honour Edwina by suggesting changes I knew she would have wanted. She would have insisted that 'vale' had an acute on the 'e'; I put commas where I knew she would have put them and made sure '*Bulletin*' was italicised, something she was most insistent upon. I will miss Edwina very much.



Edwina Doe (right) with Jeanette Knox at the Friends of Centipede Sunset Soirée in 2019 (photo: Phil Young)

Forgotten Glebe – the Shot Tower

by Rodney Hammett

During my trawling through the many photos of Glebe and Forest Lodge available online at the City of Sydney, State Library of NSW and National Library websites, I've come across many that have piqued my interest, none more so than a structure that imposed on the Glebe skyline for over 40 years. A new industrial enterprise, the Sydney Lead Works, opened in 1893, and, in 1902 the shot tower was built. Some may have seen this new enterprise as a reflection of the manly endeavours of an awakening nation.

The shot tower once stood proudly on the site of the current 82 Wentworth Park Road – a site that, even now, is gaining notoriety for other reasons – as it awaits its possible demolition.

While the lead works were moved in 1930 to a new factory in Waterloo, the Wentworth Park Road site was used for related activities until a disastrous fire in 1937. The shot tower was probably demolished in the late 1940s or early 1950s

Lyn Collingwood wrote eloquently of the shot tower's history as part of the Sydney Lead Works in [Bulletin 06/2010](#), p. 8. These photos can now be added to that history.



View of Sydney Lead Works and shot tower from Wentworth Park Road, 1906 (Source: Australian Town and Country Journal, 7 Nov 1906, p. 33, Trove)



View from the shot tower of Lyndhurst (centre) and surrounding houses in about 1940. Sydney University can be seen on the horizon. The shot tower's shadow is in the left foreground. (Source: State Library of NSW; Ref FL381282)



Timber wharves, Blackwattle Bay, 1910. The shot tower can be seen on the skyline beyond. (Source: Harold Cazneaux collection, Australian National Maritime Museum)

Ted McKeown, OAM

by Allan Hogan, Convenor Communications Subcommittee

Ted McKeown, a former President of the Glebe Society, was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the honours announced on Australia Day. Ted joined the Society in 1972 and during the subsequent fifty years, has been an active member, both as an office-bearer and, when not on the Management Committee, a member who was always prepared to help the Society in other ways. He has served as Treasurer and *Bulletin* editor and was awarded Honorary Life Membership in 2004.

As a member of the Management Committee in the 1980s, Ted prepared various submissions for the Society on proposed Council amalgamations and the abolition of wards by Leichhardt Municipal Council. A major contribution to the Society was his work on its Constitution. The original constitution had been amended several times, but new legal requirements demanded further revision, particularly once the Society decided it should become incorporated. Ted played a major role in drawing up the new constitution and ensuring it was legally watertight.

Ted has been a proactive contributor to the Society's goals. His personal interest in recognising and honouring Australia's military contribution to past war efforts, combined with the Society's interest in the preservation of



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

significant heritage items, saw Ted play a significant role in the relocation of a World War 1 soldiers' memorial to its original home at the revitalised Tramsheds in Glebe. The statue was the first in Australia to depict a digger and the first to be installed in a workplace. It was commissioned by Sydney Tram workers in 1916 to honour their colleagues killed on the Western Front. Following the closure of the Tramsheds in 1958, the statue had been relocated to the Leichhardt Bus Depot. It was returned to the Tramsheds in 2018, beautifully restored.

In 1989, Ted became involved with the Glebe Point Road Main Street Study as the Glebe Society representative on the project committee; initially with Leichhardt Council and the Glebe Chamber of Commerce, then with representatives of the Glebe Tenancy Association and other Council departments. The project committee made recommendations about retaining or restoring heritage features on Glebe Point Road, revitalising the streetscape and improving the social amenity of the precinct. A [report from the Glebe Point Road Main Street Study](#) was produced in 1992.

Ted's award was for 'service to the community of inner western Sydney', but his role in community service has gone far beyond the boundaries of the inner west. He is an active member of the Sydney Cove Branch of Rotary and, in that capacity, travelled to the Solomon Islands as team leader of the Nurses Aid Project at Sambora, Vella Lavella. For that work, he was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship. The citation reads:

The need to communicate and engage with the Solomon Islands Ministry of Health made this a frustrating and time consuming project requiring the highest levels of patience and diplomacy ... Ted was always willing to take advice from colleagues with greater construction experience and he deftly built great rapport with village chiefs and other key influencers as well as local SI men and women.

Ted's other regular volunteer roles in the Rotary Club include providing meals for homeless people at Vinnies Night Patrol and the Early Bird Café, marshalling at the annual Australia Day Wheelchair Race, and assisting with the Club's annual regatta to raise funds for Sydney Children's Hospital. Ted is the Secretary of the Medical Repurposing Network, which provides decommissioned and new diagnostic medical equipment to facilities and hospitals in regional and remote communities in Australia and near Pacific nations. Ted has provided legal expertise and active ongoing support for this Network.

Ted served as a Board Member and later as Chair of the Wentworth Park Sporting Complex Trust from 2005 to 2016. Susan Cleary, his fellow board member, wrote:

For many years the Trust was faced with many challenges, with Board members from the dog racing industry having at times different priorities to those of the community. Ted's [legal background] was extremely valuable to the Board for day-to-day matters. In his role as Board member Ted was purposeful, clear, and constructive. He was well liked by all Board members.

His citation for Honorary Life Membership of the Society stated,

Ted's clear thinking and legal acumen have been of ongoing benefit to the Society, and his advice has been sought by many of our presidents and office bearers. We have, in effect, had the benefit of a virtual consultant on legal matters (other than planning) available to us for fifty or so years. And the 'consultant' has been referred to frequently. He has, therefore, been instrumental in ensuring that the Society has maintained an appropriate balance between activism and legality. As a consequence, the Society's views, particularly in recent years, have been sought on many issues because of the balanced opinions and constructive criticisms that it can offer. This has been due in no small part to Ted's knowledge and wisdom.

Congratulations Ted. This is truly a well-deserved award.



Ted McKeown, Anzac Day '20 (by Phil Vergison)



Glebe Society members at a working bee on 22 June 1980 to clear out Lyndhurst's cellar. L-R: David Kernohan, Jeanette Knox, Hilary Larkum, Ted McKeown and Peter Stanbury (source: 'Fifty Years of the Glebe Society', 2019).

Australia Day 2024 Honours List, Glebe and Forest Lodge

by Tim Hesketh, Editor

The following residents of Glebe, or those with work connections in Glebe, were awarded Honours on Australia Day. The Glebe Society joins in offering them congratulations and thanks on behalf of all residents of Glebe and Forest Lodge.

Professor Deborah Ann COBB-CLARK (AO)

Glebe NSW 2037

For distinguished service to economic research, to tertiary education, and to the social sciences.

Emeritus Professor Roy Herbert GREEN (AM)

Glebe NSW 2037

For significant service to business, and to tertiary education in the fields of science, technology and Innovation.

Professor Charlotte Mary HESPE (AM)

Petersham North NSW 2049

For significant service to general medicine as a practitioner, academic and mentor. (Dr Hespe works at Glebe Family Medical Practice)

Mr Robert Edward MCKEOWN (OAM)

Glebe NSW 2037

For service to the community of inner western Sydney.

Ms Sarah Jane NILSSON (OAM)

Forest Lodge NSW 2037

For service to nursing.

Mrs Marie Gay OBERLANDER (OAM)

Glebe NSW 2037

For service to the community through a range of charitable organisations.



Medal of the Order of Australia,
(image: <https://www.gg.gov.au>)

NSW Government Planning Proposals

by Ian Stephenson, Planning Subcommittee Convenor

Transport Oriented Development [TOD]

Part 1 of the TOD program is for eight priority high-growth areas which have been identified for accelerated rezoning. They are within a 1200-metre radius of Bankstown, Bays West, Bella Vista, Crows Nest, Homebush, Hornsby, Kellyville and Macquarie Park railway stations. While parts of Glebe lie within a 1.2-kilometre radius of the Bays West Station, advice has been received that the accelerated rezoning will only apply to government-owned land in Bays West.

The master plan for Bays West, Stage 1, was approved in December 2022, so unless this is to be reviewed, the rezoning will probably focus on the sub-precincts illustrated in Figure 1 below.

Part 2 of the TOD Program involves a **TOD-SEPP** (State Environmental Planning Policy) allowing six-storey apartment buildings within a 400-metre radius of 31 railway stations in Greater Sydney, Wollongong, the Central Coast and Newcastle.



Figure 1: Bays West sub-precincts Stage 1, for which the master plan was approved in 2022, is shown in pink (Image: Planning NSW)

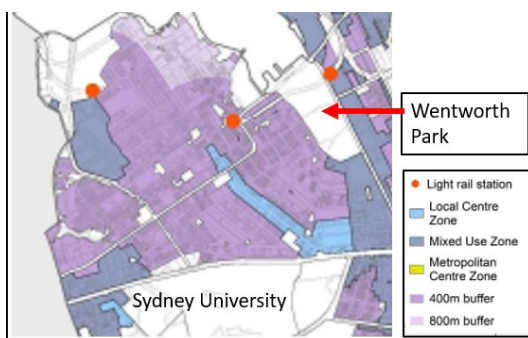


Figure 2: The proposed SEPP includes all of Glebe. Most of the suburb will have a six-storey height limit, as highlighted in dark mauve on the map. (Image: City of Sydney)

zones, and the Glebe Point Road high street. In virtually all of Glebe, the six-storey height limit will replace the predominant two- and three-storey height limits. In part of Glebe Point, the lower height limit of four-storeys will apply (See Figure 2).

The SEPP is intended to apply to the Greater Sydney region, Hunter, Central Coast and Illawarra Shoalhaven. It may work well in suburbs comprised mainly of free-standing cottages on large blocks and which have a single town centre around a railway station, but it is inherently problematic in a mature inner-city suburb like Glebe. This is because Glebe predominantly comprises terrace houses on small blocks and is a high-density nineteenth-century suburb.

Diverse and Well-located Homes SEPP

The proposal is for increased densities within 800 metres of light rail stations, mixed-use zones and local centres.

The consultation documents on the internet state that the changes apply to R2 low-density residential zones and R3 medium-density zones. These zonings do not exist in Glebe, where under the City of Sydney 2012 Local Environment Plan, the residential zonings are R1 General Residential. Council's planners advise that the SEPP will apply to R1 General Residential zones.

The proposed SEPP has two height and density standards: a) in a radius of 0-400 metres, a height of 6-storeys and 3:1 FSR, and b) in a radius of 400-800 metres, a height of 4-storeys and 2:1 FSR.

The six-storey height limit will apply to the Glebe and Jubilee Light Rail stops, the Tramsheds, Broadway and Ross Street mixed-use

Additional density has been added by sensitively-designed infill, and there have been master-planned developments of greater height on the edges, at Harold Park and the Glebe Affordable Housing Scheme in Elgar Street. Around 4,000 dwellings have been added to Glebe without destroying its character. This requires careful planning; the broad-brush approach envisaged in the SEPP will not work in Glebe. The NSW Government should exempt the Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) from the SEPP while setting housing targets for the LGA to ensure the city does its part to alleviate the housing crisis. While the SEPP has merit for low-density suburbs located on railway lines, it will not achieve the goal of increasing housing in a place like Glebe. This is because it is already a high-density suburb with small block sizes.



Figure 3: St Phillips Estate, c. 1920 (Source: State Library of NSW)

Increasing the supply in Sydney, the 'City of Villages', requires sophisticated planning that can identify the opportunities and potential for increasing density in different parts of the city while at the same time respecting character, topography, identity and making a positive contribution to the liveability of the city as a whole.

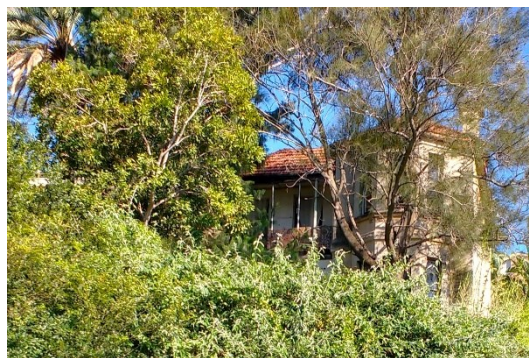
City of Sydney Council has some of Australia's most talented planners and urbanists on its staff. This is a real asset for the State government. Instead of applying a SEPP that will not deliver the housing targets, the state government should set a housing target for the city and let their planners work out how to deliver it.

Who Lived in Your Street? 16 Oxley Street Glebe

by Lyn Collingwood

The short length of Oxley Street was created in the 1870s and named for pioneering European explorer John Oxley. Ludwig Leichhardt and Edmund Kennedy had already been commemorated in the area. Kennedy Street has since been absorbed into Leichhardt Street.

Part of an original Church grant, the land was owned by Alexander Brodie Spark and then Mary Chisholm (Mary Street was named for her), the wealthy widow of merchant and landholder James Bowman and a successful pastoralist and businesswoman in her own right. From 1872, her estate at Glebe was progressively sold to local builders such as William Jarrett, Ambrose Thornley and David Elphinstone. On 1 July 1875, the lot that became 16 Oxley Street, stretching to the water's edge on Johnstons Bay, was bought by signwriter Alfred Robert Pullin. Pullin, who later patented a number of railway signalling devices before being declared bankrupt, did not keep the land for long. In 1876, he sold it to bedding manufacturer John Lawler and his wife Mary Ann. The latter died in 1882.



16 Oxley Street today (Image: Lyn Collingwood)

Eurimbla's first owners

Louisa Ruth Preddey

In September 1884, Louisa Ruth née Hannam, the wife of gardener Lewis Edward Preddey, became the nominal purchaser of the land. On the site, the Preddeys built a house which they christened *Eurimbla*. It was occupied by March 1886 when their four-year-old son Claude Hannam died there. For decades, the house was known by its name, not its number.

Louisa Hannam was the granddaughter of convict Reuben Hannam who hailed from Wincanton in Somerset. Reuben made a good life for himself in Sydney as a government brickworks overseer, an honorary constable, a hotel licensee and the recipient of land grants at Campbelltown and Wolli Creek.

The fifth son of Margaret and George Preddey, Lewis, was baptised in Sydney in 1849. A migrant from Bath, George Preddey made a living by hiring drays and water carts before becoming a timber merchant. He died at the age of 72, 'a gentleman', at 2 Hereford Street in 1879 after falling from a buggy. His eldest son, Henry William, resided at Charles Street, Forest Lodge, at the time of his death in 1881.

After their marriage in 1875, Louisa and Lewis lived in Westmoreland Street where newborn Ernest Claude died in 1877. The following year, three-month-old Stanley died at Derwent Street. He was buried in Rocky Point Cemetery, a graveyard in Kogarah. In 1886, Claude Hannam's death was followed six months later by three-year-old Mary at 9 Beulah Terrace, Wigram Road. Of Lewis and Louisa's seven children, only three survived childhood: Elsie (1880-1946), Ethel Emily Ruth (1891-1985) and Harrie Westgate (1897-1962).

Lewis Preddey was by 1889 living in Rockdale and acting and directing with the Bexley Amateur Dramatic Club. The decision to move may have been prompted by the unabating smell and water pollution generated by the Glebe Island abattoirs. *Eurimbla* was rented out to a series of tenants: artificial flower-maker August Ducasse; bankrupt

agent Brisbane Doyle; Miss Florence Page; and ironmonger turned company director Walter Louis Victor Shaw, whose first wife died in the house in 1895.

In 1896 Lewis and Louisa Preddey returned to *Eurimbla* for a short period before moving permanently into *Wincanton*, at 2 Leichhardt Street, which had been tenanted. In 1915, Lewis retired from his employment with the Royal Botanic Garden. He died, aged 74, on 21 June 1924 at *Wincanton*. His 93-year-old sister-in-law Phillis Hannam died there in 1931, and his widow on 16 June 1935. The family's place of worship was St John's Bishopthorpe, and their final resting place was Woronora Cemetery.

Lewis and Louisa Preddey owned *Wincanton* and its neighbour *Kiaora*. In 1943, both houses were advertised for sale. (In 1958, Mrs H K Gill of 4 Leichhardt Street won first prize in a State Lottery.)

Thomas Cowlishaw

In September 1904, *Eurimbla* was bought by shipping merchant Thomas Cowlishaw, a partner in Cowlishaw Brothers with interests in the Solomon Islands. He was also involved in coal mining in the Hunter region, and his land holdings included a block in the Forest Lodge Estate on the corner of Ross Street and St Johns Road. His father, Thomas snr, was an architect and a City of Sydney and Paddington alderman, and his elder brother James, who studied under Edmund Blacket, joined another brother, George, as J and G Cowlishaw architects in Brisbane. The family were active members of the Wesleyan Church.

Thomas Cowlishaw died at Ashfield in 1907, leaving an estate of some £95,000, of which a third was in real estate. The Oxley Street property was inherited by his widow Catherine Chambers Cowlishaw and, after her death at Killara in 1918, by her son Reginald of the legal firm Robson & Cowlishaw. Reginald Cowlishaw, who owned extensive orchards at Mangrove Mountain, died in 1953 and was privately cremated. By then, 16 Oxley Street had been recently bought by Margaret Mary Carroll, 'spinster', of Glebe.

The Cowlishaw family never lived at *Eurimbla*, but rented it out.

Eurimbla's first tenants

Arthur and Amelia Gilder

Eurimbla's tenants from 1889 to 1906 were Arthur Sherrington Gilder and Amelia Sarah "Minnie" née Anderson. After their marriage at St Phillip's Church in 1886, the couple lived in Paddington before moving to Glebe. They worshipped at St John's Bishopthorpe.

An employee of hardware firm Lassetter & Co., Arthur Gilder patented several inventions, including his 'Australian Sanitary Garbage Bin', impenetrable to rats and the ability to automatically sprinkle its stored rubbish with disinfectant. Another interest was fire safety; a frequent 'letters to the editor' writer on the subject, Gilder exhibited a model of a fire escape at the 1904 Sydney Easter Show.

In September 1906, Minnie Gilder died at *Eurimbla* and was buried in Camperdown Cemetery. Three months later, her widower sold the house's contents, which included cedar and walnut furniture, and moved to Katoomba, where he married Edith Catherine Mary Potter in 1908. His second wife died in 1923, and Arthur, a 'gentleman', on 22 May 1932 at Chatswood.

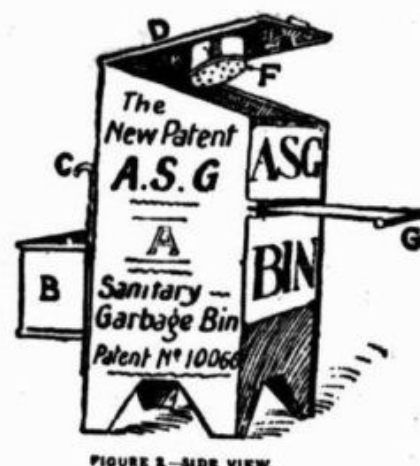
Daniel and Sarah Williams

By 1908, tram driver Daniel Williams and his family had moved into *Eurimbla* from *Hampstead*, two doors away at 12 Oxley Street. Daniel married Sarah Jane Powell in 1901; their daughters Margaret and Jane and son Daniel were born between 1901-5. Daniel Snr, aged 41, died at *Eurimbla* on 7 September 1914 and was buried in the Church of England section at Rookwood. He was a member of the United Ancient Order of Druids, Sydney Lodge no. 271.

Bertha and Winifred Perratt-Hill

Tramway employee Daniel Russell lived with his wife, Clara Agnes, at *Eurimbla* for a couple of years before Bertha Perratt-Hill moved in. During her tenancy, the house was known as *Mayfield*. Her stated profession was 'literary'; Bertha was associated with the Society of Women Writers and occasional authors such as Ruth Geddes Crawford. In 1926, she applied for copyright on 'Those Grey Blue Eyes' and 'Sun Rays of Love' written in collaboration with Louis Grasset, but the poems appear not to have been published.

Grasset, who lived at Tea Gardens, was involved in a bizarre court case in 1933 when he demanded the return of his *Austral Lullaby*, a copy of which he hoped to present to Princess Elizabeth. The designer of the sheet music covers refused to hand them back after Grasset paid him in cat skins, claiming they could be turned into an expensive fur coat for humans. To demonstrate their quality, Grasset produced an odorous white pelt from a newspaper parcel and flourished it before the magistrate.



Source: *Sydney Mail and NSW Advertiser*, 17 August, 1901

Whether Grasset and Bertha Perratt-Hill were linked by felines as well as artistic expression is unknown. However, Bertha did breed and exhibit Siberian cats; her Siberian Queen was a prizewinner at the Royal Agricultural Society's 1927 Championship Cat Show.

Fellow tenant at 16 Oxley Street was Winifred Perratt-Hill, who had taught art at Ipswich Girls' Grammar School from 1911 until at least 1918. During the First World War, she was Secretary of the Ipswich Patriotic Committee in association with the Soldiers' Church of England Help Society. In 1921, after moving to Sydney, Winifred was appointed treasurer of the Society of Women Painters. She was also a member of the Happy Club Circle. Both Winifred and Bertha were long-time supporters of the Armenian Relief Fund. The women's relationship has not been documented.

Bertha Perratt-Hill was, by 1951, living at 72 Wentworth Park Road. She died, aged 80, on 7 November 1958, unmarried and intestate, and was interred at Rookwood.

Sources: *Australian Dictionary of Biography*: James Cowlshaw entry; City of Sydney Aldermen website; First Families 2001 website; National Archives of Australia; NSW cemetery records; NSW electoral rolls; NSW Land Titles Office; NSW State Records; Sands Directories; Trove website.

Guided Walks 2024 program

by Dorothy Davis and Katharine Vernon

50 Years Ago ...

Three walks are planned for the first half of the year. These walks have been inspired by people and events in Glebe in the early 1970s, around 50 years ago.

The Glebe Estate: St Phillips and Bishopthorpe

2024 marks 50 years since the Whitlam Government purchased the 'Glebe Lands', i.e. much of the area bounded by St Johns Road and Broadway. The Glebe Society played a key role in campaigning for this significant part of old Sydney's heritage to be preserved, thus enabling families who had lived here for generations, to remain as an intact community. The intervention by the Whitlam Government prevented the demolition of many Glebe houses and the dispersal of their inhabitants.

Max Solling will lead this Walk, which traces some of the early European settlement of 'The Glebe', including the 1842 subdivision of St Phillips into small allotments and the 1856 subdivision of Bishopthorpe. Max's walks are always popular; he shares his deep knowledge of Glebe's history in an engaging way through stories of past events and people. This walk is highly recommended.

Late Victorian Streetscapes of Glebe

Just over 50 years ago, Bernard and Kate Smith's seminal book, *The Architectural Character of Glebe* (1973), was published. The important work of documenting the heritage of Glebe and Forest Lodge was completed when Glebe faced two existential threats: being bulldozed to make way for freeways slicing through the suburb, and the replacement of older houses by flats. It was clear that Glebe contained an intact record from Colonial times, unfolding from south to north in a series of well-preserved streetscapes. Bernard and Kate, founders of the Glebe Society, fell in love with Glebe and, together with other Glebe Society volunteers, researched and documented Glebe's rich architectural character.

A leisurely guided walk in their footsteps is planned. Drawing on their research and a collection of their photographs, we explore mainly the Toxteth Estate, developed between 1884 and the First World War. We focus on the decorative architectural features that give this area its distinctive charm and the various crafts that contribute to it.

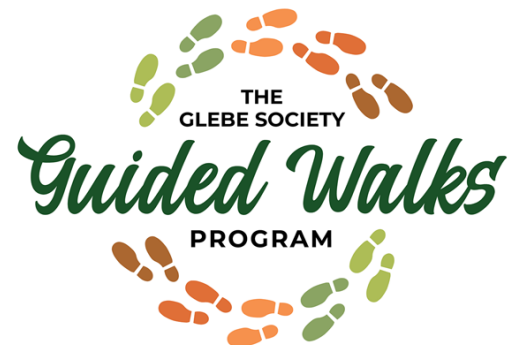
Be surprised, for no matter how long you have lived in Glebe, this Walk, led by Jan MacIndoe and Katharine Vernon, will offer new insights into the cultural heritage of this stunning neighbourhood.

Radical Glebe: revisiting the sites & stories of radical ferment in the '60s and '70s

2024 marks 50 years since the establishment of Elsie's Women's Refuge, the first women's refuge in Australia. Glebe was the focus in the early- and mid-70s for women's activist movements, including the group that set up the Elsie's Women's Refuge in Westmoreland Street. Anne Summers writes:

In March 1974 a rowdy group of feminists in the inner-Sydney suburb of Glebe broke into an abandoned house, which serendipitously bore the nameplate Elsie (many houses in Australia used to have names). We changed the locks, declared squatters' rights, and opened Australia's first modern women's refuge.

This walk, led by Meredith Burgmann, Helen Randerson and Heather Goodall – all Glebe residents and well-known social activists and researchers – will look at sites and stories of radical ferment in Glebe in the '60s and '70s: gay rights, green ban protests and squatter action, Sydney Anarchists, the Women's Liberation movement and *Elsie*, anti-Vietnam protests, and many more. This Walk, first held in 2022, is being repeated by popular demand.



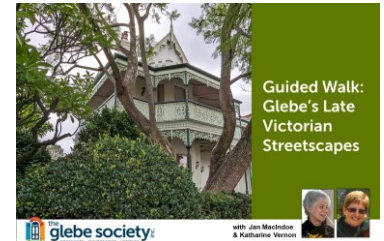
Possible Walks for the second half of 2024

- Discovering Ultimo: industrial and warehouse buildings and renewal
- Glebe's St James' and St John's churches
- Villas of Glebe and Forest Lodge
- A ferry trip to Woolwich and walk through Kelly's Bush (site of the first 'green ban' in the 1970s)

Walks calendar, March-May

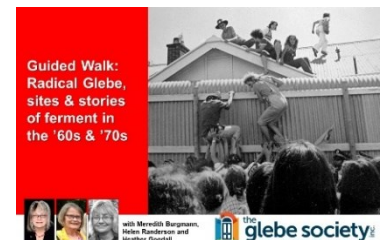
Wednesday 20
March
1.30 – 3.00 pm

Glebe's Late Victorian Streetscapes
Leaders: Jan Macindoe and Katharine Vernon
Meeting place: In front of St Scholastica's College, Maxwell Street
Cost: \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members)
Bookings: eventbrite.com.au/late-victorian-streetscapes



Sunday 14 April
2.00 – 4.00 pm

Radical Glebe: revisiting the sites & stories of radical ferment in the '60s and '70s
Leaders: Meredith Burgmann, Helen Randerson and Heather Goodall
Meeting place: outside Gleebooks (store under renovation), 49 Glebe Point Road
Cost: \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members)
Bookings: eventbrite.com.au/radical-glebe



May
(exact time and date TBA)

The Glebe Estate: St Phillips and Bishopthorpe
Leader: Max Solling
Meeting place: TBA
Cost: \$20 (members); \$25 (non-members)
Bookings: information in the next *Bulletin*

A nymph at Orphan School Creek!

by Helen Randerson

I first saw it when it moved suddenly on the edge of a park bench at lower Orphan School Creek – a beautiful, bright yellow and blue bug with perfect colour and symmetry, looking like it had jumped straight out of a Wes Anderson movie!

As I thought I knew most of the local bugs but had never seen anything like this before, first, out came the camera to prove that it was real, before Googling for images of 'yellow and blue insect with antennae', to try and identify it.

As this search proved fruitless, I sought help from fellow nature enthusiasts Roberta Johnston, Judy Christie, Elisabeth Dark, Kim Hague-Smith and Chief Blue Wren, Andrew Wood. In the meantime, we christened it 'WTF' or 'Glebe Graffiti'.

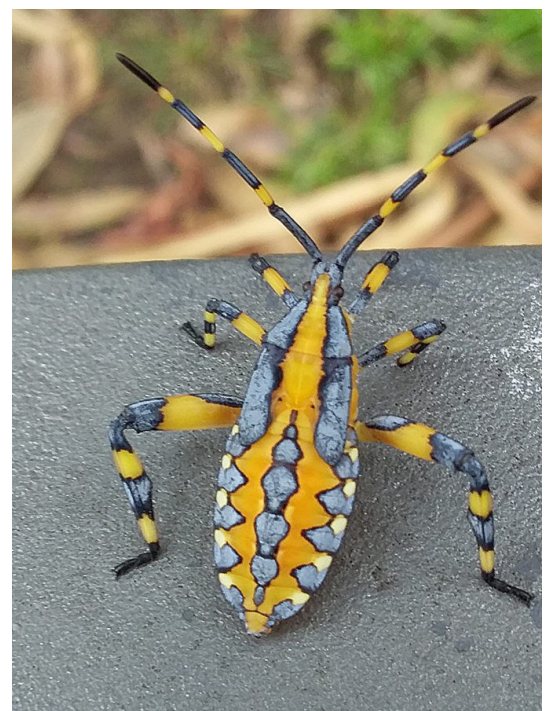
Judy and Kim came in first, both using apps to correctly identify it (Judy using iNaturalist), and Andrew supplied further information. It is an *Amorbus Alternatus*, a 'Eucalyptus Tip-wilter Bug' with tube mouth parts used to suck the sap out of gum leaves. The one at Orphan School Creek was the nymph form – before the nymph morphs into a less showy, inconspicuous, brown-coloured adult.

Has anyone else spotted one in Glebe?

Further information:

<https://ausemade.com.au/flora-fauna/fauna/insects/stink-bugs-shield-bugs-and-allies/amorbus-alternatus/>

<https://www.australian-insects.com/eucalypt-tip-bug.php>



Amorbus Alternatus (Image: Helen Randerson)

Blue Plaque nomination 21: Calmar, 128 Glebe Point Road

by Ian Stephenson

The twenty-first and final site nominated in 2021 for a Blue Plaque is *Calmar* at 128 Glebe Point Road, designed by Edmund Blacket. Joan Kerr's 1983 catalogue raisonné, *Our great Victorian architect Edmund Thomas Blacket, 1817-1883*, provides a comprehensive list of his work. Kerr was influenced by the methodology of the legendary architectural historian Nikolaus Pevsner whom she studied under in London in the 1960s. Her's is a gem of a book – virtually a Blacket Baedeker with all the Blacket buildings she identified listed by type, suburb and town.

Calmar was designed in 1863 for Edward Offord Heywood of the Sydney Mint. It was identical to 134 Glebe Point Road (now Beckett's Restaurant), also designed by Blacket. Plans for both houses, including the design of the picket fences and 'a standard backyard dunny', are held by the State Library of NSW. *Calmar's* outhouse survives. The two cottages have twin attic windows and flat open-work iron verandah pilasters. Professor Bernard Smith, whom Kerr worked with at the Power Institute (it was not always a harmonious relationship), attributes numbers 104 and 106 Derwent Street to Blacket; Kerr largely agrees.



Calmar, 128 Glebe Point Road, Glebe, c. 1970
(Photo: Bernard Smith Collection, City of Sydney Archives)



Calmar, side elevation (Source: SLNSW)

Other Blacket buildings in Glebe include his own house, *Bidura*, which dates from 1857, the first St John's Church designed by Blacket in the early English style in 1857 (destroyed by fire in 1972), and the magnificent St John's Church, which was opened in 1870. He also designed the Glebe Island Abattoirs.

Edmund Blacket is best known as a church architect – he designed over fifty of them. They are mostly based on archaeologically-correct Gothic forms. This style had become *de rigueur* for Anglicans and Roman Catholics by the 1840s (even in a provincial outpost like Sydney). Blacket is arguably one of New South Wales's most loved nineteenth-century architects, partly because of the way his religious buildings evoke picturesque medieval

parish churches but also because of the landmark qualities of his main building at the University of Sydney. Generations of students hold the old quadrangle and the Great Hall in affection, and, according to Lonely Planet, tourists from mainland China like it too, some believing that it was the location of Hogwarts School in the Harry Potter films.

H.G. Woffenden wrote of Blacket in *the Australian Dictionary of Biography* that,

for forty years, he dominated ecclesiastical architecture in New South Wales to such an extent that the majority accepted church building as an entirely antiquarian endeavour. In consequence stylistic development was severely restricted; quality declined as other less dedicated practitioners exploited popular taste by substituting burlesque plagiarism for scholarly eclecticism; and, not least, attempts at adventurous High Victorian Gothic were almost unknown in the colony until the 1880s.



Edmund Blacket and his five oldest children, c. 1855 (Source: State Library of NSW, P1/2055)

We are fortunate in Glebe that the second St John's, the church that stands so proudly on the corner of St Johns Road and Glebe Point Road, is one of Blacket's rare forays into High Victorian Gothic. There is considerable debate among architectural historians as to whether the primary hand is Blacket's or the Boston-trained John Horbury Hunt. The North American architect worked for Blacket from 1863 to 1869, leaving midway through the construction of St John's. Professor Max Freeland wrote of Hunt that his unusual ideas and forceful personality so influenced the character of work emerging from Blacket's office that his seven years there became known as Blacket's 'queer period'.

Bernard and Kate Smith attribute St John's to Hunt based in part on its circular clerestory windows, which they trace to the French architect Viollet-le-Duc, who they see as a major influence on Hunt's work. While recognising Hunt as an influence, Kerr says most of the plans and details are by Blacket and attributes the change in Blacket's house style to the church committee wanting a High Victorian design.

The Blacket papers in the State Library of NSW include many unidentified houses, some of which may be in Glebe, so opportunities exist for new discoveries. Glebe is enriched by the work of this major architect who lived in our suburb from 1852 to 1870.

From the Blue Wrens

by Andrew Wood, Convenor Blue Wren Subcommittee

Donation

The Subcommittee has received a generous donation of \$300 from a member of the Society. The donation which will be used to help fund its the Subcommittee's annual biodiversity lecture in May this year.

Innovation and Ideas Grant

On Wednesday, 15 November last year, the final contract (*Approval Temporary Access over Council Land*) to permit the start of work on the Innovation and Ideas Grant was signed by the City of Sydney and the Society. On 20 November, the Society posted a cheque for \$29,000 to the University's Integrative Ecology Group led by Professor Dieter Hochuli so that the research work could commence. The University has recently informed the Society that the cheque will soon be deposited.

Society's Biodiversity Lecture

The Society will hold its eighth 8th annual Biodiversity Lecture at *Benledi*, Glebe Library, in May. An invitation to present the lecture has been sent to a possible speaker, and those attending will need to register on Eventbrite closer to the time.

Updates from Glebe's bushcare volunteers

Orphan School Creek Bushcare Group: eight volunteers from the Orphan School Creek Bushcare Group attended a working bee on 22 January. A weeding day will be held on Saturday 14 March, and a planting day on Sunday 14 April.

Rozelle Bay: an email has been sent to the City asking that three new trees be planted to replace those that were vandalised in Federal Park. It was also reported that some of the lights under the arches of the light rail viaduct need to be replaced.

John Street Reserve: a local resident has asked the City to remove weeds from the Reserve.

Glebe Palmerston and Surrounds Landcare Group: the Convenor of the Glebe Palmerston and Surrounds Landcare Group reports that:

- It was decided to hold working bees on the first Sunday of each month and to distribute a flyer giving the details to local residents. Additional volunteers are needed to assist with the Group's work. Three volunteers attended a working bee earlier this month.
- The Group has spoken with Mark Driver, City Greening and Leisure, about renaming the sites – a letter to the City will be drafted for the President to sign.
- 'Mould' continues to grow in the brickwork on the gutter on lower Palmerston Ave and requires removal.
- Transdev, the operators of the light rail operator, have has appointed Jan Dorobysheva as an Environment and Sustainability Advisor. The Group will contact her to arrange an onsite meeting.
- The Group continues to clear an excessive amount of excessive litter and *Celtis* seedlings from the sites. Ausgrid dumped the pruned branches of trees on the native plantings – the Group will draft a letter from the President to the company's CEO to report the damage that has been caused.

Harold Park / Johnstons Creek: an onsite meeting was held in December 2023 with James Macnamara, the City's Urban Ecology Coordinator, to express the Society's concerns regarding the growth of *Casuarinas* in the swale. He committed to passing it on. The *Casuarinas* are getting out of control, and dozens are now popping up in the swale as well as in the area adjacent to Johnston's Creek. It is timely to remove them before they reach the two-metre height at which they need approval to be removed. It is planned to ask Charlotte Fletcher (James' replacement) to visit and look at this Harold Park area as well as the Glebe's Hill study site.



An area cared for by the Orphan School Creek Bushcare group (photo: V. Simpson-Young)

Next Players in the Pub



Players in the Pub

A Sirius Cove and Twelve Moons Cold by Lionel Shave

Two one-act comedies set in suburban Sydney.
Directed by Cassidy Maddox Booth
Tuesday 19 March @ 7 pm
Entry by donation/
Upstairs at The Harold, 70A Ross Street, Forest Lodge.
Entry by donation



Playwright Lionel Shave (The [Hobart] Mercury, 10 May 1938, p. 2)

Mystery photo competition

by Lyn Collingwood



December's mystery photo

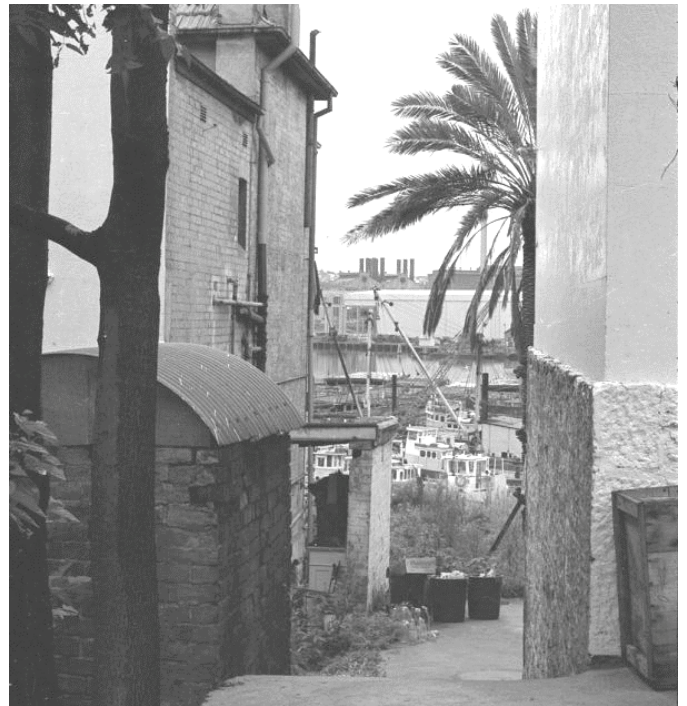
(Left) Michele Fraser and Wayne Carveth identified the location as Catherine Street facing Mt Vernon Street. Wayne checked it out. No longer a "ghost sign", it has been painted over and the wall rendered.

It survived until the sale of the property by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) a few years ago. (Note from Ian Stephenson).

This month's mystery photo: March

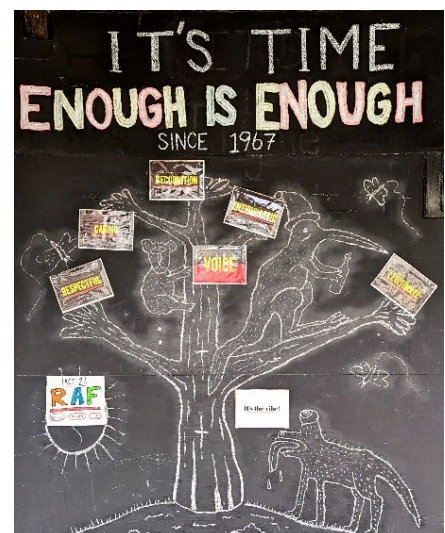
(Right) Where are we?

Please send your suggestions to history@glebesociety.org.au with 'Mystery Photo' in the subject line.



The end of an era for a Glebe landmark

Glebe Liquor (the Little Bottle Shop of Glebe) has closed, and another business is preparing to move in (below left). Glebites will miss Tim's thoughtful missives, such as his commentary on the Voice referendum (below right). Valé Tim's bottle! (Photos: V. Simpson-Young)



Glebe Music Festival: *Duo Evocaciones* in concert

by David McIntosh, Director, Glebe Music Festival

This is a special concert for the Glebe Music Festival. Martina Biondi (cello) and Pietro Locatto (guitar) are *Duo Evocaciones*. They will perform pieces for guitar and cello by Granados, Albéniz, Cassadó, and De Falla.

When? Sunday 21 April 2024, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Where? Margaretta Cottage, 6 Leichhardt Street, Glebe (disabled access at 18A Cook Street).

Cost: All tickets are \$20, which includes an afternoon tea.

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/CPMBA>



Premier's Gala Concert, free live stream in Glebe

When: Wednesday 13 March 2 pm to 4.30 pm. Afternoon tea will be available from 2 pm, followed by the concert broadcast at 2.45 pm.

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

Booking: Call or email Amber Figura on 9265 9179; afigura@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au;

More information: <http://tinyurl.com/yc85jyb4>



A rare find in Forest Lodge

by Virginia Simpson-Young

Is it just me, or do other people find it incredibly exciting to find signage that's survived decades of development?

Helen Randerson recently stumbled across a remnant of a Kinkara tea advertisement painted on the side of a shop at 36 Ross Street (Fig 1). Helen cleverly managed to find a 1962 photo of the shop, with the sign intact (Fig. 2). At that time, No 36 was a grocery store advertising not only Kinkara Tea ('Start the day well with' ...), but Bushells Tea ('The Tea of Flavor'), Bushell's 'Delicious Coffee', Rosella Tomato Sauce, Foley's Butter, Vincent's Powders, and Fisher's Wax. No. 36 is now a newsagency, which does a roaring trade as a parcel collection point.

The red brick building that occludes most of the Kinkara tea sign occupies 34 and 34A Ross Street (Fig.3). The building has two retail outlets, the stylish Tommy's Barbershop and the hair salon 'Hair Graffiti'. Above these shops are flats. In 1962, No 34 was occupied by a 'car cleaning and polishing' business named 'Ross' (visible in Fig 2).



Fig 1. What's left of the Kinkara tea advertising sign on the side of 36 Ross Street, now a newsagency and parcel collection point (Photo: Helen Randerson)



Fig 2. The Kinkara tea sign in 1962, painted on the side of a grocery store (Source: City of Sydney Archives)

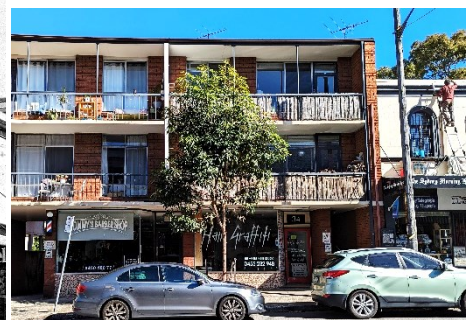


Fig. 3: Nos 34 and 34A Ross St in July 2023. The shop at No 36 is visible to the right (where a man is painting the shop's front). Nos 34 and 34A comprises the building that has covered most of the Kinkara tea sign (photo: V. Simpson-Young)

For your calendar

Wednesday 13 March, 2-4.30 pm, *Live Stream – Premier's Gala Concert*. St. Helen's Community Centre.

Saturday 14 March, 9:30 am, *Orphan School Creek Bushcare. weeding day*, contact Judy Christie (0437 693 372)

Tuesday 19 March, 7 pm, *Players in the Pub*, The Harold, 70A Ross Street, Forest Lodge.

Wednesday 20 March, 1.30–3 pm, *Guided Walk: Late Victorian Streetscapes*, meet front gate, St Scholastica's

Thursday, 28 March, 6-9 pm, *Thirsty Thursday for Edwina Doe*, Otto Noorba, 79 Glebe Point Road

Sunday 14 April, 9:30 am, *Orphan School Creek Bushcare planting day*, contact Judy Christie (0437 693 372)

Sunday 14 April, 2-4 pm, *Guided Walk: Radical Glebe*, meet outside Gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road.

Sunday 21 April, 3-5 pm, *Glebe Music Festival – Duo Evocaciones*, Margaretta Cottage, 6 Leichhardt Street

May, details TBA, *Guided Walk: Glebe Estate: St Phillips and Bishopthorpe, with Max Solling*



Book Glebe Society events on our Eventbrite page: glebesociety.eventbrite.com

Note: Member-only events do not appear on our main Eventbrite page and are accessible only to Glebe Society members by using the link provided in the *Bulletin*.

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Highlights in this Issue

From The President 1

Valé Edwina Doe 2

Forgotten Glebe – the Shot Tower; Ted McKeown, OAM 4

Australia Day 2024 Honours List, Glebe and Forest Lodge 5

NSW Government Planning Proposals 6

Who Lived in Your Street? 16 Oxley Street Glebe 7

Guided Walks 2024 program 9

A nymph at Orphan School Creek! 10

Blue Plaque nomination 21: *Calmar*, 128 Glebe Point Road 11

From the Blue Wrens; Next Players in the Pub 12

Mystery photo competition; The end of an era for a Glebe landmark 13

Duo Evocaciones in concert; Premier’s Gala Concert live stream; A rare find in Forest Lodge 14



PO Box 100 GLEBE NSW 2037 | No. 1 of 2024 (March 2024)

Membership of the Glebe Society Individual member: \$45 Joint (two people, one address): \$55 Household: \$60 Concession (student or pensioner): \$20 Institution or corporate: \$110 Additional donation welcome	How to join ➤ Join online: complete the Membership Application on our website under ‘ Join/Renew ’; ➤ download a membership form from glebesociety.org.au ; ➤ write to the Secretary at PO Box 100 Glebe 2037; ➤ or email secretary@glebesociety.org.au
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