



We acknowledge the Wangal and 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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51 Hereford Street, Glebe: Some early history

by Caroline Lipovsky

Having relocated to Glebe last century, I often wondered about Hereford Court, a residential building standing at 51 Hereford Street. There are many urban myths about the past uses of the building, and I was also wondering about the house that had been demolished in the early 1970s to make space for it. This is how I came to research the building's construction and its different iterations over the years, the house named *Lask* that pre-existed it, and its first owners, Adolphus and Phoebe Rogalsky.

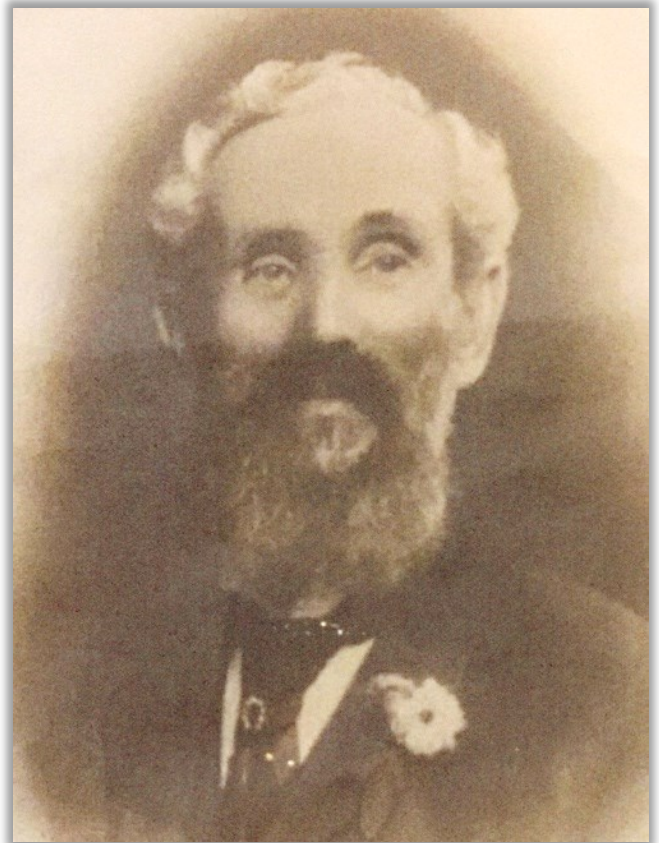
In the process, I did a lot of reading from the *Glebe Society Bulletin*¹, *Leichhardt Historical Journal*², *Trove* database³, searched maps of Glebe Municipality dating back to 1888⁴, looked for land titles records at the NSW Land Registry Services at their premises on Liverpool Street and through their website⁵ and read hundreds of pages of development applications⁶.

The most difficult part of the process turned out to be finding a photograph of *Lask*, the original house. I tried the *Bernard and Kate Smith Glebe Collection* of photographs taken in the early 1970s⁷. However, it holds no photographs of Hereford Street. I then visited the State Library of New South Wales, where I spent half a day checking photographic records of Glebe on microfilms and talking to various librarians. It is through one of their astute suggestions that I found the great-granddaughter of Adolphus and Phoebe Rogalsky, who searched through family archives until she located a photograph of *Lask*, along with other photographs and documents, which she kindly gave permission to reproduce for the purpose of this article.

Adolphus and Phoebe Rogalsky

Adolphus Rogalsky was born in Łask, then part of Russian Poland. He arrived in Melbourne in 1856 on the passenger clipper ship *James Baines* and then largely resided for about seven years in Levuka, Fiji, where he was a merchant. On his return to Sydney, he set up business at 42 Hunter Street. He was involved in money brokering and owned commercial and residential properties around Sydney, which he rented out to tenants. In 1865, Adolphus was granted 'all the rights and capacities within the ...

Colony of New South Wales of a natural born British Subject'. On 16 November 1873, he married Phoebe Mitchell, eldest daughter of Michael David Mitchell (1825–1892), at Lynwood (now demolished), Ferry Road, the residence of the bride's parents.



Adolphus Rogalsky (Photo supplied by Ann Jarman, great-granddaughter of Adolphus and Phoebe)

Nominate your favourite tree; deadline Monday (7 April)

Nominate a tree for the City of Sydney's Register of Significant Trees. Send your suggestions to Andrew Wood (Blue Wrens convenor) by this coming Monday. See p.6 for more information.



Phoebe Rogalsky, born Mitchell. (from Ann Jarman)

Phoebe's father, David Minchel (later anglicised as Mitchell), had migrated from Jarocin, Prussia (now Poland), and arrived at Port Jackson on 9 December 1851. He married Julia Davis (ca1835–1906) on 25

January 1854, and Phoebe was born the same year. They had at least 16 children. In the early 1870s, the family moved to Glebe where they rented *Lynwood*, and in 1878 bought a ten-bedroom house, which they renamed *Jarocin*, where they lived until 1888 when they migrated to London⁸. *Jarocin* was demolished in 1911. Its address was 92 Pyrmont Bridge Road, where Jarocin Avenue is today.

Adolphus and Phoebe settled in *Calmar Cottage*, a freestanding 1.5-storey Regency house, with side chimneys, veranda across the front with cast metal columns, double-hung windows with timber louvred shutters, designed in 1863 by former Colonial Architect Edmund Blacket. A twin cottage still stands at 134 Glebe Point Road above Beckett's restaurant⁹.

Adolphus and Phoebe had four sons: Hillier Sydney (1874–1874), Hillier (1876–1885), David Mitchell (1878–1949) and Julian Cecil (1881–1951).

Lask, the house

On 4 February and 13 March 1882, Adolphus bought two plots of land along Hereford Street for the sum of £450 and £200, respectively. At that time, Hereford Street had several fine houses, such as *Rosebank* (built circa 1832), *Glenwood* (built in 1837, now demolished), *Hereford House* (built circa 1876) and *Kinrara* (built circa 1877).



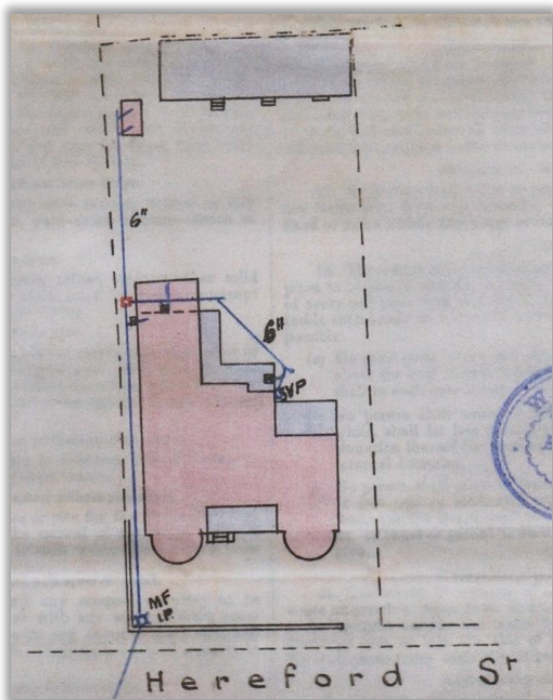
'Lask', the home of the Rogalsky family, was at 21 Hereford Street, which became 51 Hereford Street when street numbering changed in 1908 (Photo supplied by Ann Jarman)



Glebe municipality, 1888¹¹ (Source: City of Sydney Archives and History Resources)

In 1883, a house was erected, which Adolphus named *Lask* after his birthplace. In 1884, the family moved into *Lask*, numbered 21 Hereford Street¹⁰. A map of Glebe municipality dated 1888 shows Adolphus and Phoebe Rogalsky's house next to *Hereford House*, a two-storey residence still standing at 53 Hereford Street that was built for William Bull (1819-1900).

A valuation of the property dated 5 May 1905 describes *Lask* as 'built of brick with slate roof, and containing tiled path and veranda, iron railing on stone, tiled hall, drawing room, dining room, sitting room, bedroom, 2 kitchens, laundry, large galvanized-iron room at rear. Upstairs are 7 bedrooms, bathroom, and linen room'. The photograph of *Lask* shows a symmetrical front. Following the Italianate style, the wall surfaces are rendered; the roof is low pitched and hipped with eave brackets; the veranda and balcony display a highly ornate cast-iron balustrade and hanging frieze. The veranda is enclosed by faceted twin bays with high, narrow windows on the lower floor. They are surmounted by balconies with openwork stone parapets – most unusual in Glebe's streetscape – that convey an effect of sturdiness.



Lask's drainage plan, 1894 (Document supplied by Ann Jarman)

A drainage plan of the house dated 1894 offers another perspective on the size of the house. It also shows the location for a timber-framed corrugated iron building measuring 15' x 50' or 7 ½ squares at the rear of the house, which may have been used for servant quarters, as the plan shows three sets of stairs for what could be three rooms. The small construction to the west must be an outside toilet.

In 1905 Adolphus and Phoebe moved to 50 Bayswater Road, Darlinghurst, where Adolphus passed away aged 66 on 7 April 1905 after a long illness. The Rev. Abraham David Wolinski officiated at the funeral at Rookwood cemetery, noting that Adolphus

was a respected member of our Congregation for many years, and his hand was always open to assist every charitable movement. His perpetual offering in memory of his late son, and his consideration for the Sir Moses Montefiore Home will also be a beacon of light for his soul in the mysterious chambers of heaven, the sphere of everlasting life.¹²

Upon Adolphus's death, Phoebe received a substantial annuity of £750 and moved to 28 Darlinghurst Road, where she died in July 1919 aged 64.

Adolphus's properties were inherited by his two surviving sons, David Mitchell Rogalsky and Julian Cecil Rogalsky. In 1905, *Lask's* fair market value was estimated at £1,500.

In 1908, Phoebe Rogalsky, her two sons David Mitchell Rogalsky and Julian Cecil Rogalsky, and Ernest Meyer Mitchell (Phoebe's cousin) purchased for £150 land that had belonged to William Bull at the rear of their property along Wigram Lane. A Glebe municipality map dated 1910 shows a tennis court on that area.



Glebe municipality, 1910¹³ (Source: City of Sydney Archives and History Resources)

From then on, *Lask* was tenanted, first to Albert Sydney Holmes at 55 shillings weekly, equal to £143 per annum. The house was then occupied by Henry E. Townsend from 1910, Lou Palmer in 1911, Mary Wynne from 1912, Minnie O. Ackland from 1920, and Gladys Street from 1926.

In 1959, Oscar David Mitchell Rogalsky (1916–1999, son of David Mitchell Rogalsky)¹⁴ and Myra Alice Rogalsky (1888–1959, widow of Julian Cecil) sold the property to James John Curtin, a labourer, for £4,500.

In the early 1960s, James Curtin submitted a few projects to Council for the then unused tennis court area, but didn't proceed. I may tell you more about it in another issue of the *Bulletin*. By 1968, *Lask* was falling into disrepair and had been converted into 13 flats.

Hereford Lodge

On 27 March 1969, James John Curtin sold *Lask* for \$42,000 to the company *51 Hereford Street Pty. Limited*, owned by property developer Michael Hershon (1931–2007), who must have seen an opportunity in the land situated between Hereford Street and Wigram Lane¹⁵.

In 1971, Leichhardt Council approved Hershon's proposal for 51 Hereford Street: the construction of a three-storey building with car parking space below, comprising a caretaker's residence and 92 bedrooms. It was named *Hereford Lodge*. This is the building currently standing at 51 Hereford Street.

From 1978, *Hereford Lodge* was used to house students enrolled in the International Training Institute programme run by the Australian Development Assistance Bureau. Mardi Thomas, whose parents managed *Hereford Lodge* for a few years, recalls:

*What amazing memories I have of Hereford Lodge ... The building housed international students from all over the globe for approx. 3 months per group. This was an initiative of the "International Training Institute". Most of the students were already qualified in varying fields and came to Australia for further training. My parents, along with my brother and myself were essentially their host family. As a then 14-year-old straight from the outback to the hustle and bustle of Sydney this was the most incredible learning journey for us as a family. Learning about different cultures and languages and a way of life we couldn't even imagine compared to ours was so insightful. Such diverse groups of people and religions that mixed so beautifully. ... The students who we housed and dined with daily have left an indelible mark on me. Many happy memories that will last me a lifetime.*¹⁶



Hereford Lodge YHA in 1996 (photo: <https://4travel.jp/travelogue/10101027>)

In 1988, YHA Australia bought the building for around six million dollars. It was part of YHA's strategy to concentrate its hostels in the Glebe area (Glebe Point YHA had opened in 1987). *Hereford Lodge YHA* opened on 7 October 1988. It offered 27 serviced accommodation rooms and up to 250 beds in ensuite bedrooms¹⁷.



Travellers booking in at Hereford Lodge YHA hostel at 51 Hereford Street Glebe in 1994¹⁸

Not everyone was happy about having a large youth hostel on Hereford Street! A local resident recalls that

*[t]here had been either one or two beds in these rooms [under the International Training Institute programme] because the Colombo Plan people are in their mid-20s and the YHA just overnight dumped them full of as many bunks as they could! I mean, I've been to Youth Hostels all around the world, but this was a residential street.*¹⁹

Hereford Court

In 1996, the building's new owners submitted a Development Application for converting the building into 90 residential units that 'one might describe as typical motel style rooms with attached bathrooms and with kitchenettes within the living sleeping areas that are provided'²⁰.

In the [July 1996](#) issue of the *Bulletin* (p. 6), Planning Convenor John Hoddinott wrote that

[t]he DA proposes to turn [the Youth Hostel Association Lodge] into a 90-unit block, including 80 very small, single room units of 23 sq. m. Each will contain a new kitchen, and seem to resemble a London bed-sit, a form of accommodation which I am sure many of us have experienced. I have made a submission, with the main concern being the 54 on-site parking spaces; this seems to be insufficient, although I do not have an easy solution as to how to increase the number. Hereford Street is becoming quite heavily parked, and that is a concern. I believe that Council will have to consider this matter carefully.²¹

Leichhardt Council rejected the DA on a perception that the strata residential use would have more environmental impact than the existing hostel. However, the DA was upheld by the NSW Land and Environment Court on the basis that it was doubtful that 'the activities of 90 resident owners, or tenants, would have more impact than the comings and goings of up to 260 transient young people'²² and 'reduction in the residential population could only be seen as improving the current situation'²³. Further, the project was seen as 'likely to assist materially in expanding the availability of low-cost housing in Sydney and in that respect alone deserves support'.²⁴ The youth hostel, which had gone on operating under the building's new owners, consequently closed in 1998.

The building is now known as *Hereford Court*.



Hereford Court, 2025 (Photo: Caroline Lipovsky)

Footnotes: 1. The Glebe Society Bulletin, glebesociety.org.au/publications/bulletin/old-bulletins-page/; 2. Leichhardt Historical Journal, innerwest.nsw.gov.au/explore/libraries/community-history/our-community-history/community-collections; 3. Trove, trove.nla.gov.au/; 4. City of Sydney Archives & History Resources. Historical Atlas, archives.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/pages/historicalatlas; 5. NSW Land Registry Services, nswlrs.com.au/; 6. City of Sydney Archives & History Resources, cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/495002; 7. Bernard and Kate Smith collection of photographs, archives.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/1923916; 8. Collingwood, Lyn (2013). Who lived in Your Street? Michael David Mitchell, glebesociety.org.au/street/michael-david-mitchell/; 9. Stephenson, Ian (2024). Blue Plaque nominations Part 21: Calmar, 128 Glebe Point Road, glebesociety.org.au/blue-plaque-21-calmar-128-glebe-point-road/; 10. Sands's Sydney and Suburban Directory for 1884, page 202. <https://tinyurl.com/47w7wsef>; 11. Map of Glebe municipality, 1888. City of Sydney Archives & History Resources, archives.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/1709080; 12. Obituary: Mr. A. Rogalsky. The Hebrew Standard of Australasia, 14 April 1905 p.10, trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/120477595; 13. Glebe municipality, 1910. Archives and history resources: City of Sydney, archives.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/1709404; 14. Oscar David Mitchell Rogalsky was named Oscar after his mother's brother who was killed at Gallipoli but he was always known as David (personal communication by Ann Jarman); 15. Michael Angelo Hirschhorn (later known as Hershon) was born in Vienna in 1931 and fled Austria with his family after German troops marched into Vienna in 1938. They then migrated to Australia where Michael's parents started a lingerie business with two sewing machines. Michael eventually went on to run the Hestia-Berlei companies, drive a Mercedes with 'BRA' on the number plate, and become a property developer. For further information, see Stephens, Tony (2007). Bold with the bras, and then real estate. The Sydney Morning Herald. <https://www.smh.com.au/national/bold-with-the-bras-and-then-real-estate-20070917-gdr4fn.html>; 16. Simpson-Young, Virginia (2020). The end of an era: Last YHA hostel leaves 2037. The Glebe Society, glebesociety.org.au/the-end-of-an-era-last-yha-hostel-leaves-2037/; 17. McCulloch, John and Murray, James (1997). Beds, Boots and Backpacks: The Story of the YHA in Australia, Playright Publishing; 18. Op. cit.; 19. Simpson-Young, Virginia (2020). Bob Connolly remembers local opposition to the Hereford Lodge YHA. The Glebe Society, glebesociety.org.au/bob-connolly-remembers-local-opposition-to-the-hereford-lodge-yha/; 20. Martin and Spork Pty Ltd vs. Leichhardt Municipal Council, Land and Environment Court of New South Wales, Appeal No. 10458, 1996.; 21. glebesociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/bulletins/1996_06.pdf; 22. Martin and Spork Pty Ltd vs. Leichhardt Municipal Council, Land and Environment Court of New South Wales, Appeal No. 10458, 1996. 23. Op. cited; 24. Op. cited.

City's update of Register of Significant Trees

By Andrew Wood

The City has asked for [comments on its Register of Significant Trees](#). If you have any comments about trees on the Register or suggestions for additions, please send them to the Blue Wren Subcommittee (bluewrens@glebesociety.org.au) by Monday 7 April so that they can be included in the Society's submission to the City.

I received an email from David Lawrence with his nomination for a group of significant trees within the Sydney LGA:

A nomination for significant trees

by David Lawrence

I would like to nominate the large fig trees in Annandale Bicentennial Park, as they are a constant reminder of the battle for the park on the Annandale side of Johnstons Creek.

In the 1980s, the state government wanted to move all of the infrastructure from Goat Island onto the Annandale side as a trade-off for the land on the Glebe side to create the Bicentennial Park there. This action led to the community fighting back, forming the 'Save Rozelle Bay Association' whose campaign was waged for several years. Because of the backlash, the government was forced to withdraw the plan.

However, two attempts were then made to create a marina at the end of Rozelle Bay with the land on the Annandale side as a car park and a very small park. Leichhardt Council supported this and the battle continued until the government finally relented and handed the land over to Council's care and control.

The Council financially at the time wasn't in a position to fund the work required to create the park. However, a private company helped clear the site, cap it and lay the turf. The community encouraged the council to establish a nursery, 'Rozelle Bay Community Native Nursery', which is still functioning, to propagate and plant native species, all done by volunteers.

The fig trees

They, together with some other trees, were funded by Annandale residents and businesses to the tune of \$7,000. Significantly, they are planted on what was the 1940s shoreline. As well, Council's public art program led to the Time Rings around the trees, created by Jennifer Turpin and Michaelie Crawford of [Turpin Crawford Studio](#). Each stone has the birth date of young Annandale residents of the 1990s. As the trees grew, the expanded root systems moved the stones.

I believe the trees should be included on Council's list of significant trees in a historical context as well as a



The trees at Bicentennial Park (Annandale side) that David Lawrence suggests the Glebe Society nominate for the Significant Trees Register (Photo: David Lawrence)



The plaque explaining the 'Time Rings' Artwork (Photo: V. Simpson-Young)

reminder of the importance of community action required to improve environmental outcomes in the inner city areas.

Forest Lodge's significant tree

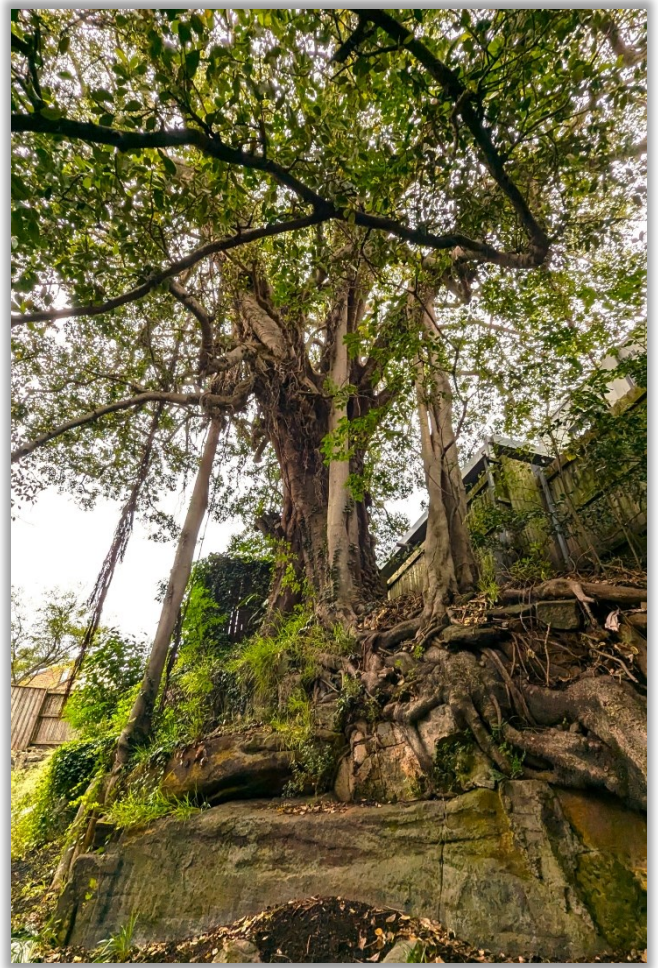
by Virginia Simpson-Young,

How many trees in Forest Lodge are in the [City of Sydney Significant Tree Register](#)? One. Yes, one. How many in Glebe? Twenty-one (21)! This is a plea to my fellow Forest Lodgers to embrace the ambitious plan to at least double the number of Forest Lodge significant trees. While having two Forest Lodge trees on the Significant Tree Register is a modest contribution (compared to Glebe's 21), it's a start.

Let me tell you about our significant tree. Technically, the tree lives at 63 Hereford Street Forest Lodge but is usually (always) seen hanging out by (really, hanging over) Minogue Crescent. He or she is a Port Jackson Fig.



From the [entry in the Significant Tree Register](#). The photo appears to have been taken in 2012, and the entry seems to have been updated in 2014.



The tree in 2024. The registry is [updated every 10 years](#). (Photo: V. Simpson-Young)

According to its [Register entry](#), the tree would have been planted in the late 1800s. That would make it around 140 years old today. Respect! Our Forest Lodge Figgy friend is described as ‘an excellent form and example of this [i.e. Port Jackson Fig] lithophytic species. It is located at the top ledge of a sandstone cutting and substantially overhangs Minogue Crescent ... Given its position, it is potentially a self-sown specimen which has clung to the sandstone escarpment formed following road construction in the area’.

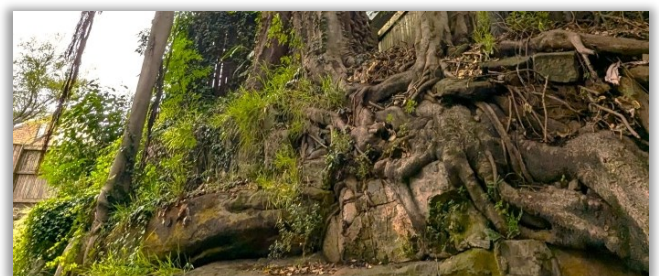
The entry notes that the tree is visible in a 1943 aerial photo, which proves it is at least 85-odd years old. In the image below, the arrow points to the tree, which can be seen at the bottom of 63 Hereford Street’s backyard (in yellow).

I do not intend to disrespect our venerable arborous elder, but ... is this the best we can do? Fellow Flodgers – let’s give those privileged Glebiters – with their 21 listed trees – a run for their money. Go out this weekend and find a tree in Forest Lodge to nominate. It can be on public or private land. You don’t need to know all the details about the tree; you might just have a hunch that it’s special in some way. Or you might just really like it. Experts will assess it,

so it doesn’t matter if you inadvertently nominate a dud (hint: don’t nominate a Celtis!).

The [criteria for acceptance and nomination process](#) (which is very simple) are laid out on the consultation page on the City’s website. Broadly, ‘significant trees meet one or more of the formal classification criteria for historical, cultural, social, ecological, commemorative or outstanding visual significance. They can be located on streets, parks and private property.’

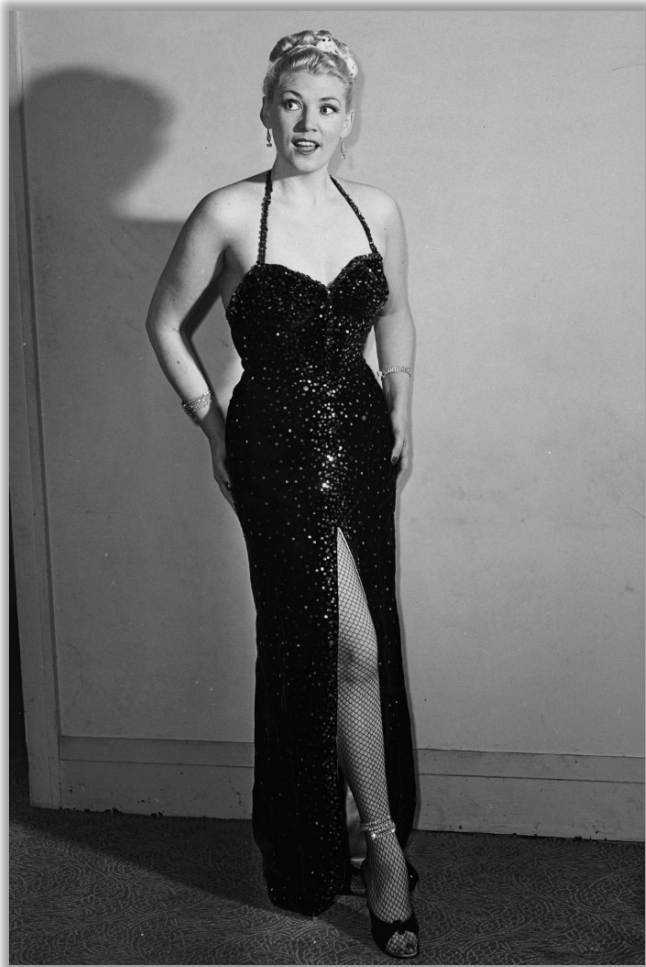
While, of course, you can nominate a tree as an individual, Andrew has offered to collate the nominations for Glebe Society members; email him at bluewrens@glebesociety.org.au. Hopefully, Andrew knows a Celtis when he sees one ...



Who lived in your street? Doris Patricia Goddard (1930–2019)

By Lyn Collingwood

On her death, Doris Goddard was described by Sydney's Deputy Lord Mayor Linda Scott as a 'beloved icon' of the city, and Lord Mayor Clover Moore held a minute's silence in Council Chambers to mark her passing. Doris' then claim to fame was her forty-year-plus history as publican of the Hollywood Hotel in Surry Hills. In her youth she was an aspiring singer and actress.



Doris Goddard in 1959 (Source: State Library of NSW)

Doris was born 'a fourth generation Australian' on 1 March 1930 at St Margaret's Hospital Darlinghurst and grew up at 55 Cowper Street Glebe. Her parents were William Henry Goddard and Essie Irene Dickinson who married as Catholics on 23 January 1926. Essie sued for divorce in 1940 on the grounds of desertion. Little is known of William Henry; according to his daughter's publicity, he was a businessman.

After attending St Joseph's Convent school at Oberon, Doris completed her secondary education at the Dominican Convent at Moss Vale. Its school, which catered for day and boarding students, was set in 30 acres. Doris gained her Leaving Certificate in

1947 with A levels in English, Geography, Music, Art, Physiology and Hygiene and a B pass in Modern History. While at school she wrote an unpublished book, *The Heart of Australia*. She played guitar.

Doris enrolled in Arts at Sydney University and joined its Dramatic Society but quit study after six months due to ill health. She sang at the Celebrity Club in York Street and was in the cast of Jerome Kern's musical *Sally*, performed at the Conservatorium by members of the NSW Theatrical Society. In June 1952 she set sail for England to undergo major surgery. Before leaving, she lodged several unpublished books with the Attorney-General's Copyright Office: *The Trouble with Men*, *I'm a Femme Fatale*, *Doris* and *Big Enough and Old Enough*.

In London, Doris was operated on by pioneer open-heart surgeon Russell Brock. After a long period of recuperation, she found a theatrical agent and worked as a singer in cabaret and workingmen's clubs and as a tall (173 cm) size 16 fashion model.

Because many of Britain's leading men (such as John Mills) were short and would have had to stand on a box to kiss her, Doris was discouraged from auditioning for romantic roles in movies. Her breakthrough came when a talent scout spotted her singing in the Coconut Grove nightclub in London's West End. She was offered the part of a Danish shot-putter in *Geordie*, the titular role played by 193 cm-tall Bill Travers. Her height, Scandinavian looks and ability to master the accent were positives, and filming was a happy experience. Other small roles followed: a Russian receptionist in *The Iron Petticoat* starring Bob Hope and Katharine Hepburn; a sergeant in the television serial *Army Game*; and as a comic feed for *The Goons*.



3 WATCHED by officials (Brian Reece and Raymond Huntley), at back, Geordie becomes friendly with Helga (Doris Goddard), the Danish ladies' champion shot-putter, aboard ship. Helga is mad about Geordie.

(Source: Australian Women's Weekly, 26 Oct 1955)

When Doris returned to Sydney for a visit in 1958, her mother was anxious that she remain, despite Doris' argument that her only chance of a career in entertainment was in London or Hollywood. The women then decided to go into hotel-keeping which required only a small amount of capital. Their licences included the *Belmore Park* in Surry Hills, the *West End* in Balmain and the *Marlborough* in Newtown. Doris took to the hotel industry 'like a duck to alcohol', donning sequins, serenading bar customers with song and dance and regaling them with stories of show-biz celebrities. In 1969 she married Henry Michael Hoynes. A year after his death in 1976, she bought the *Hollywood Hotel* in partnership with Charlie Bishop. They lived in an upstairs flat in the building.

News from the Blue Wrens

By Andrew Wood, Convenor Blue Wren Subcommittee

2025 City's draft policies on pesticides and weed management

The Subcommittee recommended that the Society fully support [the draft policies](#).

City's draft maps of biodiversity corridors and key habitat areas

The City is revising its planning controls, including the [Sydney Local Environment Plan](#) (SLEP) and the [Sydney Development Control Plan 2012](#) (SDCP) (see Note 1). It has sought feedback on its proposed changes. [The Society has written to Council](#) with its concerns about excluding areas within Glebe and

The *Hollywood* was frequented by actors and used as a location in several Australian films. Doris was a 'background artist' in local productions, including *Robbery Under Arms*, *The Sundowners*, *Tim* and *Caddie*, and appeared on television in Spike Milligan's *The Gladys Half Hour* and Tommy Tycho's variety shows.

Doris was an early recipient of an Energy Management Award for reducing the *Hollywood's* electricity consumption, and she had an interest in breeding racehorses. Eighteen months before her death, she went into full-time care but managed a final public placard-waving appearance protesting against Sydney's lockout laws. As Doris Goddard Hoynes-Bishop she died on 29 July 2019 and was buried in Rookwood Cemetery following a service in St Canice's Catholic Church, Rushcutters Bay.

Sources: National Archives of Australia; National Library of Australia oral history interview 1990; NSW Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages; obituaries in *The Guardian* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*; Trove website; Wikipedia entry.



By the age of nine months, Doris weighed 12.7 kg. Chubbiness in babies was then seen as desirable. Today, the average weight for a girl of that age is 8.2 kg (Image: Australian Woman's Mirror 19 May 1931)

Forest Lodge from proposed biodiversity corridors in the SDCP, an amendment drafted in November last year.

Details of the City's proposed planning control changes are on its website on a page called [Your say on updates to planning controls related to greening, amenity, parking and design excellence](#). On this page, you'll find many documents showing proposed amendments to the SLEP, SDCP and Policies. The document covering the biodiversity corridors is one of the documents under the heading *DCP amendments*. *The document is called Sydney DCP 2012 – map book*. The relevant maps in the Map book are on Sheets 001 (p.7), 002 (p.8), 008 (p.14) and 009 (p.15).

In the Society's letter to Monica Barone, CEO of the City, we requested that the new SDCP state that Glebe and Forest Lodge are a suburbs-wide biodiversity corridor. Also, the following park and garden should, in particular, be identified as parts of the Glebe and Forest Lodge biodiversity corridor:

- Foley Park in Glebe Point Road.
- Glebe Town Hall's native garden in St Johns Road.

In addition, the following parks and reserves should be identified as key habitat areas:

- John St Reserve in John Street.
- Paddy Gray Reserve in Hereford Street.
- Parks in Palmerston Ave and surrounds.
- Glebe's Hill between the Tramsheds and the light rail line.
- Orphan School Creek between Bridge Rd and Parramatta Rd.
- The northern end of Wentworth Park.

City's review of the 2014 Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan

The City of Sydney is reviewing its 182-page 2014 *Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan* and the Society was asked to reply to a series of questions from Les McCluskey, the City's Urban Ecology Coordinator, about an updated Plan. [The Society's full reply is available on the website](#). Duncan and I met with Les on Wednesday 19 March to present the Society's submission. Our principal recommendations for the 2025 Plan are as follows:

Appointment of additional Urban Ecology staff

While the Society supports the many actions outlined in the 2014 Urban Ecology Action Plan, the failed implementation of some of these actions may have been due to a lack of resourcing, including having additional City staff supporting the Urban Ecology Coordinator. Contractors only deliver according to their contracts and issues arise; residents may alert the City to issues of urgent weed infestation, tree problems, poor maintenance of parks and so on but find no action is taken. There is a need to have a small team of City staff, as well as contractors, who will work under the supervision of the Urban Ecology Coordinator to improve urban ecology and biodiversity outcomes for the City and for Glebe and Forest Lodge.

John Street Reserve, a demonstration habitat garden

The Glebe Society has been disappointed that John Street Reserve, which was originally planted as a habitat garden, has not been maintained utilising the expertise of bush regeneration contractors employed by the City. The originally established native flora has died. The Reserve should be replanted and prioritised by the City's bushcare contractors to reestablish it as a significant biodiversity resource in Glebe.

Understory planting

The Society recommends that the City have a greater focus on understory planting in our parks and streets

so that the established canopy species are complemented by a suitable understorey of native plants.

Removal of noxious weed – *Celtis sinensis* (Chinese/Japanese hackberry)

This tree, a noxious weed, is known as the 'Glebe Weed'. It is a huge limiting factor on improving the biodiversity of our suburb and should be prioritised for removal and replacement with suitable native species. Also, an education program is required to inform local residents about the need to remove *Celtis* seedlings from their gardens.

Note 1. The [Sydney Local Environment Plan](#) (SLEP) is a NSW government [environmental planning instrument](#) (EPI) with legislative force. SEPPs (State environmental planning policies) are also EPIs. The 'parent act' of these EPIs is the [Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No 203](#). The SLEP is supported by the SDCP which provides detailed development controls and guidance on their implementation. An easy-to-understand description of the planning system is on the website of Coutts Lawyers & Conveyancers, [The Basics: Environmental Planning Instruments \(SEPPs, LEPs and DCPs\) explained](#).



Associate Professor Tanya Latty (Photo: University of Sydney)

9th Annual Biodiversity Lecture

Associate Professor Tanya Latty, a *Research and Teaching Fellow in Entomology in the School of Life and Environmental Sciences* at the University of Sydney, has accepted an invitation to present the Society's 2025 lecture at 6 pm on Wednesday 28 May at Benledi, Glebe Library. The title of Tanya's lecture is:

Where have all the insects gone? Why insect declines matter and how cities can make a difference.

Tanya has a PhD in insect ecology from the University of Calgary (Canada) and is an entomologist with a special interest in insect behaviour and ecology.

The lecture will be followed by a glass of wine and sushi. Bookings: [9th-annual-biodiversity-lecture-Tanya-Latty.eventbrite.com.au](#)

Updates from bushcare volunteers

Judy Christie, leader of the Orphan School Creek Bushcare Group, reports, 'A working bee was held in the Wood Street Lands of Orphan School Creek Reserve on Sunday 2 March. Eleven volunteers were working, doing weeding, clearing vines, watering and cleaning up. As well, two other 'friends' of the group came along with morning tea which we all shared together. The site is looking good with fresh native grasses recovering in the absence of the Brush Turkey. We wait to see if mound-building will commence again in July. The next working bee will be held on 4 May 2025.'

In Rozelle Bay, David Lawrence says: 'Three things to report re the park. I have let the City know about a dead tree in the park near Crescent Timber and some leftover fencing material opposite the Crescent Child Care Centre; the tree needs to be removed. Also, the plaque recognising the Glebe Hockey players who were Olympians disappeared from the walkway along Johnstons Creek on the Glebe side. I finally tracked it down through the groundsman. It was moved across the Creek and is now near the small hockey field on the Annandale side. Came across Harry Wark (a long-time member of the Glebe Hockey Club) and mentioned it to him; he requested it be moved because the old site often saw it covered by vegetation.'

Anna Szanto, leader of the Glebe Palmerston and Surrounds Landcare Group reports, 'We had a working bee on Sunday 2 March. We weeded, picked up litter and trimmed the thriving *Lomandra* to give light- and space-seeking plants more of a chance to do well. A range of small to large hunks of concrete continue to be dumped on plants in the garden beds along the edges of our site: Lombard Street and both sides of the end of Keegan Avenue. We'll discuss with Council what, if anything, could be undertaken to remedy the situation. We're very pleased to have two

new young volunteers join our group in the last couple of months. And finally, all three graffiti items that had been gouged into the gutter at the edge of our site have been removed by Council.'

In Harold Park / Johnstons Creek, Nick Sangster has prepared maps of the locations of about 80 *Casuarinas* that need to be removed, and sent them to Les McCluskey (the City's Urban Ecology Coordinator) and to the City's two contractors responsible for the sites and for the removal of the trees.

Also, Nick received an email from Councillor Matthew Thompson regarding the *Casuarinas*; he had sent the following questions to the City staff:

- What actions has the City taken to remove the 38 *Casuarinas* located in Johnstons Creek and identified by the Glebe Society and Blue Wrens as detrimental to the overall biodiversity of the Creek?
- Is it the intention of the City staff to remove these trees?
- If the intention is to keep the trees, why?
- Is there a date when residents can expect that the trees will be removed?
- What actions are being taken by the City to enable native plants to thrive and prevent monocultures from being established in the Johnstons Creek bed, as identified by the Glebe Society?

Cr Thompson received a reply: 'Council staff have said that the removal of *Casuarina* saplings four metres or under has commenced. They've further indicated that removal of the larger trees will occur 'within the next few months.' He also commented: 'This seems to be part of a trend of Council's ecology team being stretched too thin and not being properly resourced. Given you've been advocating for these changes since 2021, that's just way too long a turnaround, in my opinion.'

Council approves Innovation & Ideas Grant Acquittal Report

By Andrew Wood

Les McCluskey, the City's Grant Liaison Officer, has approved our [Acquittal Report](#) for the Innovation and Ideas Grant (*Glebe's Hill – unravelling its biodiversity secrets and potential*) and the Society has now received its final Grant payment of \$4,000. That completes two and a half years work administering the Grant.

The publication by the University of Sydney of its successful [research report](#) about Glebe's Hill occurred in November last year. The report concluded,

The Glebe's Hill project presents a significant opportunity to enhance urban biodiversity in the City of Sydney in a way that supports nature and people. By transforming this degraded site into a thriving greenspace, the project aims to create a model for

urban ecological restoration that can be replicated in other cities.

The management of the Grant was, however, at times difficult and complex. It took a year to organise the three Grant contracts (one with University of Sydney and two with the City) and involved 366 email chains.

The Society now has the task of informing all the City Councillors about the results of the University's research and asking that funding be provided to commence the task of turning the Hill into a wildlife refuge. The City needs to draw up an Action Plan that will include recommendations about securing the site, removing toxic and contaminated surface rubbish, and reviewing all the proposals in the University's report. To discuss our requests, the Society, led by the

President, met with Councillors Ellsmore and Thompson in February at the Town Hall, and a meeting at the Hill was held with Councillor Jess Miller

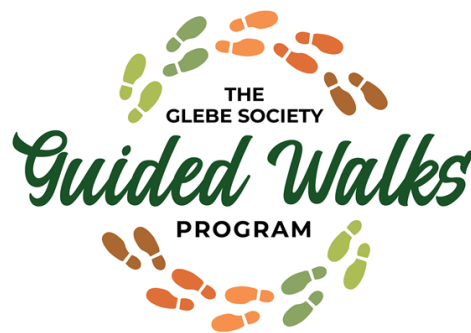
on 20 March. We are awaiting replies from the other Councillors regarding a date for their meeting with the Society.

Glebe Society Guided Walks Program

By Dorothy Davis and Katharine Vernon

The year's program started with an event to honour Ian Stephenson on 30 March. *Three of the best: an afternoon sojourn amongst Glebe's treasured heritage* covered the beautiful stained glass windows at St James, the architectural heritage of St John's and a recital on the St John's historic organ.

Our program for the next six months is outlined below. Look in the next Bulletin for further information including booking details.



Calendar of Walks

Thursday 26 June

9.30 am – 4 pm (arrival back at Glebe)

A Bus Trip to Rookwood Cemetery, visiting the burial sites of some famous Sydney families and Glebe identities

Leader: Max Soling

Meeting place: Mitchell Street Glebe

A repeat of the popular visit to Rookwood Cemetery last year. Max Soling will lead us through the different denominational sections of the Cemetery and across the extensive parklands identifying monuments, headstones and inscriptions of interest and relevance to Glebe.

Booking and other details in the next Bulletin

Sunday 3 August

2 pm

Guided Walk: Annandale's grand houses, grand streets and grand pianos

Leaders: Jenny Broe and Katharine Vernon

Meeting place: Annandale Public School

Explore Annandale's distinctive character shaped by its history as a colonial farming estate and its planned transformation into a 'gentleman's suburb' designed for the middle class. Learn about the enterprising Col. Johnston and his *Annandale* farming estate; the story of master builder and property speculator, John Young and his 'witches houses'; and the amazing Octavius Beale and his piano manufacturing enterprise, the largest in the British Empire.

Date to be advised

Discovering Ultimo

Leader: Patricia Hale

A repeat of a walk exploring the industrial past of Ultimo: source of power, quarried stone and electrified transport; the remaining or re-purposed huge wool store buildings; and the area's revitalisation as a hub for inner city residential and office accommodation as well as education and culture.

Date to be advised

Celebrating Glebe's people and events that have been honoured with a Blue Plaque

Leaders: Lyn Collingwood and Ted McKeown

Join this walk to visit local sites connected with people and events in our history. Hear the fascinating stories of local people, from sporting heroes, fearless activists to trailblazing men and women from our community who have been recognised as contributing to NSW's unique heritage.

And more walks to come in the second half of the year! Keep a look out for more interesting Glebe Guided Walks in future Bulletins.

Glebe Talks: Music and Medicine – David McIntosh

By Jude Paul

Many of us know of David McIntosh as the Artistic Director of the Glebe Music Festival – now in its 36th year. How many of us know David McIntosh, paediatrician, infectious disease expert and vaccinologist? Here's your chance to learn about David's other passions...

Details: Wednesday 30 April, 6–7pm, Gleebooks Café (mezzanine level) 49 Glebe Point Road Glebe/

Cost: \$30, includes savoury tasters and a glass of wine.

Bookings via Eventbrite: <https://Glebe-talks-David-McIntosh.eventbrite.com.au>

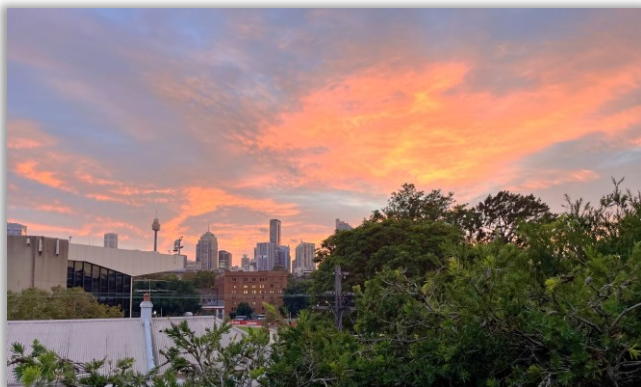


This month's In Focus photo competition

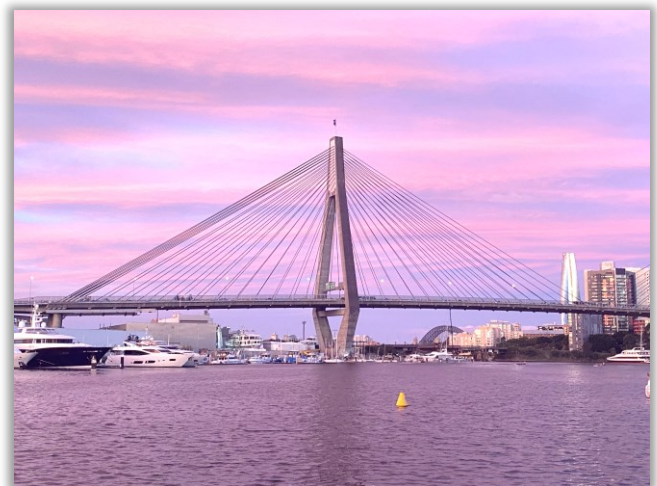
By Virginia Simpson-Young, *Bulletin* editor

We got a good selection of photos this month. A good variety of subjects (only two showing Blackwattle Bay / Anzac Bridge!). Lots of colour – orange, pink, red, nature's greens and blues and the dull white-grey of

concrete. We have people commuting and birds communing and a dragon doing whatever it is dragons do at New Year.



City sunrise from a Glebe balcony, Judy Vergison



In the Pink, Angela Hallinan-r



Pool party, Arundel & Short, Virginia Simpson-Young



Morning commute Glebe, Philip Vergison



Lion dance for the Year of the Snake at the Sze Yup Temple, Caroline Lipovsky



The sitting room at the heritage sewer aqueduct Forest Lodge, Helen Randerson

And the winner is ...

All judges chose Phil Vergison's Morning Commute as their winner this month. Judges' comments included:

I like Phil Vergison's Morning Commute. It's beautifully composed with the distant skyline of the city and the Anzac Bridge. There's something regimented about the steady march of the commuters to the ferry. It's also a reminder of how valuable this service is to the local community.

Phil Vergison's Morning Commute would be my pic. The light is really lovely reflecting off the water and I love how many people there are boarding the great ferry service. Makes me miss walking around the foreshore on a lovely day like that.

I think the composition is really good and the silhouettes of the commuters makes it a really interesting photograph.

It is very well composed with the commuters a leading line taking us into the city in the distance, the light is great and it showcases something important to the community.

Two judges offered a second preference, both nominating the Sitting Room:

Another clever composition that highlights the architecture of the aqueduct by its perspective. And there's something mysterious about the partly observed 'sitting room'.

The structured form of the aqueduct is an interesting contrast to the trees. The inclusion of the seats really makes the photo, providing an air of mystery and discovery.

The closing date for next month's photo competition is 17 April. Please send your entries to photo-comp@glebesociety.org.au. If you would like to remind yourself of the rules, you'll find them on our website: <https://glebesociety.org.au/in-focus-photo-comp-rules/>.



This month's winning photograph: 'Morning commute Glebe', Philip Vergison



Mischief in the Air
By Max Afford

A comedy thriller set in a Sydney radio station
"An ingenious tale with smart dialogue, suspense, continual surprise"

A MOVED READING BY
Players in the Pub
Tuesday 15 April 2025 - 7pm

@ THE HAROLD
70A Ross Street Forest Lodge
(upstairs)

Entry by Donation

Players in the Pub

Tuesday 15 April @ 7pm; Upstairs at *The Harold*, 70A Ross Street Forest Lodge; Entry by donation / Kitchen open for pub meals from 5.30 pm

***Mischief in the Air*, by Max Afford**

A stylish comedy thriller set in a Sydney radio station, directed by Elaine Hudson

Cast: Seth Eren, Alan Faulkner, Anthony Hunt, Kate Jirelle, Justin Knights, Hamish MacDonald, Sharron Olivier, Annette Van Roden

Want to hear about our upcoming shows?

Subscribe to Players in the Pub:

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36th Annual Glebe Music Festival



By David McIntosh

Concert 1: Saturday 1 November 7 pm, Hourglass Ensemble.

Location: Glebe Town Hall. Program: Johannes Brahms – Clarinet, cello and piano trio; Michael Torke (USA) – Telephone Book; Alice Chance (Aus) – Inhalations; Amanda Harberg (USA) – Court dances, 2nd movement; Sally Greenaway (Aus) – Piano Trio 'Le Parc Monceau'; Hector Villa-Lobos – Jet Whistle. Tickets: \$20 full price, \$10 concessions; 21 years of age and under free entry. Includes drinks. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/CZPKM>; tickets also available at the door.

Concert 2: Sunday 2 November 3 pm, Anthony Chen piano. Location: Glebe Town Hall. Performers: Anthony Chen <http://anthonychenpiano.com/>. Tickets: \$20 full price, \$10 concessions, 21 years of age and under free entry. Includes afternoon tea. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/CZYCM>; also available at the door.

Concert 3: Friday 7 November 6.30 pm, Kjell Goyer and Stolen Moments. Location: Gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road. Tickets: \$20 full price, \$10 concessions, 21 years of age and under free entry. Includes food and drinks. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DAHZQ>, also available at the door.

Concert 4: Saturday 8 November 7 pm, John Martin Presents: Noel Coward, Remembering the Master Location: Margaretta Cottage. Tickets: \$40 full price, \$20 concessions, includes drinks and light supper. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DAHZV>, but tickets are not available at the door.

Concert 5: Sunday 9 November 3 pm, Acacia Quartet Location: Glebe Town Hall. Program: Joseph

Haydn – String Quartet Op. 76/4 'Sunrise'; Nick Wales – 'Harbour Light'; Maurice Ravel – String Quartet. Tickets: \$20 full price, \$10 concessions, 21 years of age and under free entry. Includes afternoon tea. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DAHZP>; tickets are also available at the door.

Concert 6: Friday 14 November 7 pm, Victor Sicard (baritone). Location: Margaretta Cottage. Performers: Victor Sicard (baritone) and David G. Miller (piano). Tickets: \$40 full price, \$20 concessions, includes drinks and light supper. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DAHZW>; but tickets are not available at the door.

Concert 7: Sunday 16 November 3 pm, Jane Downer and Austral Harmony. Location: Glebe Town Hall. Program: Bach Obligato, music by Johann Sebastian Bach for baroque violin, baroque oboe/recorder & harpsichord. Tickets: \$20 full price, \$10 concessions, 21 years of age and under free entry. Includes afternoon tea. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DAHZO>; tickets are also available at the door.

Concert 8: Friday 21 November 6.30 pm, Agostino Guitar Duo. Location: Gleebooks. Performers: Janet and Raffaele Agostino. Tickets: \$20 full price, \$10 concessions, 21 years of age and under free entry. Includes food and drinks. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DAHZX>; also available at the door. **November 3 pm, Josie and the Emeralds.** Location: Glebe Town Hall. Program: St Cecilia 2025. Tickets: \$40 full price, concessions \$20, 21 years of age and under free entry. Includes afternoon tea. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DAHZZ>; tickets are also available at the door.

This weekend!

Glebe Annual Book Sale

The Glebe Public School P&C still needs volunteers to help at the Book Sale for an hour or two between Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon.

Sign-up to volunteer here:

<https://signup.com/go/cmONTBi>

Glebe
Glebe school P&C

Annual Book Sale

Saturday 5th - Sunday 6 April

Benledi House - next to Glebe Library

FREE ENTRY

DONATE BOOKS Clean out your bookshelf and **donate** books for the sale. Drop off books **Friday 4 April (9am - 12 noon)** to Benledi House.

VOLUNTEER We're looking for volunteers to help sell and sort books. Any member of the community can help. Scan QR code to register.

All funds raised supports literacy programs at Glebe Public School. It helps buy resources such as book - readers, digital subscriptions such as Reading Eggs, and buys new books for Glebe Public School Library. We're targeting to raise between \$6 - \$7,000. Please help us reach this goal!

Last month's Mystery Photo



Last month's mystery photo depicted a fire engine in Ferry Lane responding to a deliberately lit fire in the former Children's Court and Metropolitan Remand Centre.

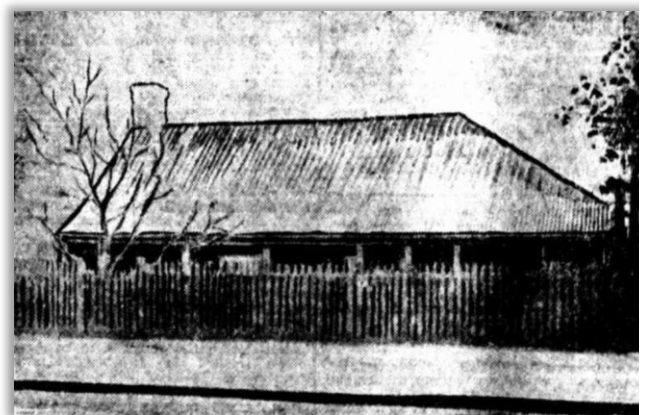
Congratulations to readers who got this right.

This month's Mystery Photo



Where are we? Roughly when was this photo taken?

And here's a bonus Mystery Photo for this month. It's a tough one!



Email your answers to editor@glebesociety.org.au

For your calendar

Saturday 6 April & Sunday 7 April. *Glebe Book Sale*, Benledi.

Tuesday 15 April, 7pm. *Players in the Pub: Mischief in the Air*. The Harold.

Thursday 17 April. Submission deadline for May 'In Focus' photo competition.

Monday 21 April. *Bulletin* copy deadline.

Thursday 1 May. *Bulletin* published.

Wednesday 28 May, 6pm. *9th Annual Biodiversity Lecture, Tanya Latty*, Benledi.

Thursday 26 June, 9.30am–4pm. *Bus Trip to Rookwood Cemetery and back*.

Sat 19 July, 7pm. *Special Concert: Guy Strazz & Casey Golden*, Margaretta Cottage, <https://www.trybooking.com/CZPKL>

Sunday 3 August, 2pm. *Guided Walk: Annandale's grand houses, grand streets and grand pianos*.

Sunday 5 October, 3pm. *Special Concert 3: Bach's Universe*. Glebe Town Hall, <https://www.trybooking.com/CXWUN>

Saturday 1 to Sunday 23 November. *The 36th Annual Glebe Music Festival*, www.glebemusicfestival.com

Glebe Society Inc. **established 1969**

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PO Box 100 GLEBE NSW 2037 | No. 2 of 2025 (April 2025)

Membership of the Glebe Society

Individual.....	\$45
Joint (two people, one address)	\$55
Household (one address, more than two adults and/or children)	\$60
Concession (full-time student or full pensioner)	\$20
Business or institution	\$60

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

Additional donations welcome.

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