

# THE RED RAG NEWSLETTER

Glebe District Hockey Club Inc

SEPTEMBER 1997



## President's Message...

I would firstly like to express my personal sadness at the passing away of Bob (Rocker) Fox. I came to know him more closely with our involvement in the Under 11 team and I feel privilege to of had this time with him. He impressed everyone with his endless generosity, love for the game and the children he coached. He will be sadly missed within the Club and by many others in the hockey fraternity.

Congratulations to everyone in the Club, seniors & juniors on your efforts on the field with 22 team out of 25 making the Semi finals. To the men Primer Division teams for winning the Club Championship for the second year in a row.

To all the support coaches, selectors, managers and most importantly the supporters who come along your efforts are appreciated in helping achieve this honour.

To our sponsors who enable us to better prepare and plan with confidence our year and help the Club achieve our goals, thank you also.

Please support your Club and get your money in for the Presentation Night on 18 October. We have over 450 people in the Club don't wait or expect Management to ask each and everyone of you if you are attending. Please see Maureen Pato or Les Wark with your cash.

To all teams involved in the finals all the best hockey in the best Glebe tradition (Kill)

Go the Reds!

*Geoff Paterson  
President*

## Dear Member

### Robert Fox

During the month of August the Club lost one of its stalwarts when Robert (Rocker) Fox past away. The Club and its members offer its sincere condolences to Cathy, Emma, Andrew and Adam, with you we will all miss him.

### Thank You...

This is the last *Red Rag* for the Season and it would be remiss of me not to thank all those people who make it such a great magazine. To Eddy Crook who puts it all together and gets it to the printer and post box on time. To all the Folders, Envelope Puteriners and the Stamp Attachers who have helped during the season thank you. To all the people who have contributed articles. The Women and Junior Management teams, to Harry Wark Jnr who put together the Turf news but also most of the feature articles printed in the *Red Rag*. Last but not least I would like to thank those roving reporters who can't wait to spill the dirt on their fellow members so they get a mention in that great gossip column "Under the Arches"

I may as well keep the thank you's going and give a big thank you to Anne Wark and her pool of willing helpers behind the bar and at the BBQ - where would we all be without them. Thank you all.

To all the volunteers, coaches, managers who give their time so freely, a little poem of thank you:

### *An Ode to Volunteers*

Many will be shocked to find when the day of Judgement nears  
That there's a special place in heaven,  
Set aside for volunteers,  
Furnished with big recliners, satin couches and footstools;  
Where there's no committee chairman,  
No group leader or car pools; No eager team that needs a coach,  
No bazaar and no cake sale; There will be nothing to staple,  
Not one thing to fold or mail.  
Telephone lists will be outlawed,  
But a finger snap will bring  
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners and treats fit for a king.  
You ask, who will serve these privileged folk  
And work for all they're worth?"  
Why, all those who reaped the benefits  
And not once volunteered on earth.

*continued on page 2*

## Inside

|               |        |                     |        |
|---------------|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Club Calendar | Page 2 | Women's News        | Page 5 |
| Men's News    | Page 3 | Junior News         | Page 6 |
| Turf Update   | Page 3 | Under the Arches    | Page 7 |
| Vale Bob Fox  | Page 4 | Where are they now? | Page 8 |



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## Club Calendar

Major dates  
to put in your diary

### PRESENTATION NIGHT

(Ticket Form enclosed)

Saturday  
18 October 1997  
Balmain Leagues Club

7.00 pm to late

\$35 a ticket

A Ticket Only Affair  
NO tickets at the door

LAST CHANCE  
TO BE THERE

Tickets from  
Les Wark or  
Maureen Paterson

Please note juniors who attend the  
Senior Presentation should be  
accompanied by a parent or  
guardian

## annual general meeting

Sunday 30 November  
at the Clubhouse  
starting at 9.30 am

Any amendments to the Club's  
Constitution MUST be presented in writing  
to the Secretary by C.O.B. 17 October  
1997 for distribution to Members.

Any member wishing to nominate for  
a position on the Committee MUST have  
their nomination proposed and  
seconded by a financial club member  
and be returned to the Secretary by  
C.O.B. 8 October 1997.

If you think you can add something  
to the running of our Club, please put  
your hand up and be nominated for the  
Committee.

This is YOUR chance to have a say in  
the running of our Club - so be there

## Dear Member

Continued from page 1

### Get Well

To Rowan Kelly who is in hospital at present with a very unpleasant cyst on the side of head: The Club is rooting for you get well soon.

Troy Booth, is on his way to making a full recovery. I have been advise by a reliable source when asked how was he going Quote "he is back to normal at home - a pain in the ass" Isn't brotherly love grand.

Misch Qully is just back to walking and looking just as beautiful as ever.

### Food for thought...

It was mentioned by a life member that it would be good to have a number of distinguished members of the Club pick their best Glebe team ever (Charlie, I am still waiting) from whom they have seen play for the Club. So here we go:

| Selector | Geoff Paterson | Pat Nilan        | H Wark snr      |
|----------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| GK       | Dean Benfield  | Dean Benfield    | Dean Benfield   |
| FB       | Ian Cook       | Ken Wark snr     | Ken Wark snr    |
| FB       | Ken Wark Jnr   | Ken Wark Jnr     | Ken Wark Jnr    |
| RH       | Ian Mutton     | Des Wises        | Paul Rodgers    |
| CH       | Buster         | Victor Westacott | Des Wises       |
| LH       | Phil Downey    | Buster           | Terry Reece snr |
| RW       | Brian Morgan   | Charlie Brown    | Noel Walker     |
| IR       | Robert Diviney | Harry Wark snr   | Harry Wark snr  |
| CF       | Barry Gorrage  | Ray Thorp        | Ray Thorp       |
| IL       | Pat Nilan      | Robert Diviney   | Pat Nilan       |
| LW       | Aaron Nilan    | Vern Turner      | Vern Turner     |
| RES      | Tony Cowan     | Aaron Nilan      | Graham Gilmour  |

### And...

...on a sad note this will be my last *Red Rag*, I will not be standing for Club Secretary next year. I would like to thank all the members of the Club for giving me your support throughout my time in the role. To the Management Committee especially Geoff. To all my good friends who have given me advice and support when required. To the Wark Clan and my family Carole, Amy and Simon I couldn't do what I have done without you behind me, I thank you.

Les Wark  
Secretary

### Congratulations...

...to the Under 17's for winning the competition when they defeated Ryde 2-1 in the Grand Final at Homebush.

... to Ken Wark, Dean Benfield, Aaron & Shane Nilan and Aaron Oman for making the 1998 National Hockey League Squad

... to Kristian Haigh (a member of the successful Under 17 team) for being presented the 1997 Pierre De Coubertin Award. Baron Pierre De Coubertin is acknowledged as the founder of the modern Olympic Games in 1896. The award was presented to 210 NSW school students who uphold the Olympic ideals in their sporting endeavours and Kristian was nominated by CBHS Lewisham as their most worthy representative.

... and to the Men's Club for winning the Club Championship again.



**GB Carlton.**

One of the world's  
great brewers.

## Men's News

### Winners!

By my calculation, the Club has won the Premier Division, Club Championship again. Great job, guys – It just proves how strong the Club is throughout the grades. Let's all hope that a few more Premierships will follow.

### Finals Venue

The Club wrote to the Sydney Hockey Association expressing our displeasure at playing the Final and Grand Final at Liverpool. SHA acknowledged our letter, but reinforced their decision to play the final series at Liverpool.

### Finals...

#### Semi Finals

**Premier, Second & Third Divisions**  
**Saturday 6 September 1997 at Homebush**  
 Either field 1 or 2, depending on final placings

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 1st Grade | 3.00 pm  |
| 2nd Grade | 1.00 pm  |
| 3rd Grade | 11.00 am |
| 4th Grade | 8.00 pm  |
| 5th Grade | 6.30 pm  |
| 6th Grade | 5.00 pm  |

**Saturday 13 September 1997 at Bankstown**  
 7th Grade 2.00 pm 1 vs 2  
 or  
**Sunday 14 September at Bankstown**  
 7th Grade 2.00 pm 3 vs 4

#### Finals

**Premier Division**  
**Saturday 13 September 1997 at Moorebank**

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 1st Grade | 3.30 pm  |
| 2nd Grade | 1.30 pm  |
| 3rd Grade | 11.30 am |

**Sunday 14 September 1997 at Ryde**

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 4th Grade | 3.30 pm  |
| 5th Grade | 1.45 pm  |
| 6th Grade | 12.00 pm |

**Saturday 20 September 1997 at Bankstown**

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| 7th Grade | 2.00 pm |
|-----------|---------|

#### Grand Finals

**Premier Division**  
**Saturday 20 September 1997 at Moorebank**

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 1st Grade | 3.30 pm  |
| 2nd Grade | 1.30 pm  |
| 3rd Grade | 11.30 am |

**Sunday 21 September 1997 at Ryde**

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 4th Grade | 3.30 pm  |
| 5th Grade | 1.45 pm  |
| 6th Grade | 12.00 pm |

**Saturday 27 September 1997 at Bankstown**

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| 7th Grade | 2.00 pm |
|-----------|---------|

### TURF UPDATE

The Club's proposal to site a synthetic turf at the Harold Park infield hinges on access. Put simply, without sufficient rental income from the turf, the mortgage the Club would require to build it could not be repaid. When it is all boiled down — no access, no turf.

The Synthetic Turf Committee received a letter from the Minister for Gaming & Racing, Mr R. Face, which, inter alia, said "It should be noted that the TAB privatisation legislations which recently passed through the Parliament included a provision to remove all restrictions on the maximum number of days on which race meetings may be conducted on individual racecourses".

In June the Club wrote to Leichhardt Council asking if Harold Park would need to submit a DA to increase the number of meetings it currently holds. The mayor replied "I am informed by the Director of environmental Management that the Club has an existing use right to schedule trotting meetings at times that meet the demands of its patrons". After making a few legal enquiries, we believe firmly that an additional DA is needed by Harold Park to hold more meetings and wrote in our reply to the Mayor "existing use rights are obviously acquired by usage and until a short time ago, the Gaming and Betting Act restricted the Harness Club to racing at Harold Park on a maximum of 92 meetings per year. Any extension of this should require development approval".

The Glebe Community Committee, which has representatives from the local precinct groups, the local basketball group, the Glebe Society, the Save Rozelle Bay Committee, the Glebe Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Glebe Library and Leichhardt Council as well as our Club, has arranged a meeting at NSW Parliament House with Mr Richard Face and representatives from Harold Park. We hope there will be a positive results from this meeting for the people and businesses of the area and, of course, for the Hockey Club.

The float of the TAB will bring with it the desire for unrestricted racing, when and where administrators of the industry ordain. It seems to the Turf Committee that the most optimistic outcome for the site at Harold Park will involve a compromise.

*continued on page 5*

## Vale Bobby "Rocker" Fox

Bob Fox died of a heart attack; at his Chipping Norton home on the evening of Monday August 11th. His death was sudden and unexpected. Several hours earlier he was at the Australian Primary Schools Hockey- Championships at Homebush and was as in good form. Bob and his wife Kathy were billeting a boy from the Northern Territory and Bob had taken his son Andrew- and their billet out to Homebush for their games.

This season Bob was as the manager of the Under Eleven Redbacks, the team in which his son Andrew played Geoff Paterson is the coach of the Redbacks and, together, Bob and Geoff formed an impressive combination and had a great understanding. In the 1966 season Bob coached the Under Eleven Strikers with Lee Farlow as his manager. From 1993 to 1995 Bob had taken his children Andrew and Emma to Minkey at Jubilee and helped the Minkey organisers in whatever capacity he could. Bob's half-time talks to his team would be dotted with gems such as "Hit it wide, Andrew - the sideline is a full-back's best friend" and "Work, Work - Work Harder" when his team was hard pressed in defence.

Bob's parents died when he was young, and with his older brother Alan came to live with his grandmother at 51 Arundle Street Forest Lodge, four doors up from the Howes who lived at 43 Arundle Street. It was back; in 1950 that Bob and Alan Fox's association with Glebe District Hockey Club began, where under the guidance of the Founding Father of the Glebe Junior movement, Vernon Turner, they began playing in the Club's Under Sixteen team. Arundle Street behind the City Morgue was home to many Glebe Juniors of the fifties - Brian, Peter, Gavin, Martin, Bobby, Johnny and Greg Howe, Alan and Bobby Fox, Bob Cullen, Maxy Jeffs, John Letts and Graham Gale all lived in the street. Alan Fox played 56 senior games for Glebe between 1950 and 1955. In 1951, while still under sixteen, Bob played his first season in the senior grades where he chalked up 13 games. By 1956 Bob had played 70 grade games, mostly at either inside right or right wing but it was not until the 1957 season that he was selected for the first grade team. In 1959 Bob was selected for the NSW Under 21 team and he was as a regular first grader until 1965. Although he retired for a season in 1964, Bob played close to 150 first grade games.

From 1966 to 1969 Bob played a few first grade games but the demands of family life and his interest in greyhound dogs meant he had less time to train for hockey. A *Red Rag* of 1967 reported that "Rocker Fox had a good first half at centre-half, but ran out of steam in the latter part of the game. The President of the day, Kel Dickey, was heard to give Bobby some advice: "Those dogs of yours, Bob - get a gun and shoot them". At the end of the 1969 season Bob had played 279 games for the Club and at the age of 32 retired from the game.

After home games at Jubilee in the mid-fifties, Bobby, Victor Westacott, Lenny Needham, Maxy Jeffs, Donny West, Allan "Wocker" Westacott and a few others would have a quick shower in the dressing sheds under number three arch and change into their "glad rags", which included stovepipe trousers and pointy shoes. At that time Bobby and all the troops had fashionable flat top haircuts, Brylcreme aplenty, brushed back at the sides. After discussing tactics, the group would head up to the tram terminus outside Max Factor at the bottom of Glebe Point Road and catch the tram to the legendary Trocadero night spot in George Street, Sydney. There they would bop, dance and rock to the wee hours of the morning. A popular song at that time was "Rock Around the Clock" and Bobby's dancing to this particular song impressed his fellow Glebe players, and most probably quite a few of the young ladies at the dance hall. It was from Bobby's impressive grooving at the City dance spots in the early and mid fifties that he acquired his lifelong nickname "Rocker".

Bob attended Forest Lodge Primary School before moving to the Newtown Technical College for his secondary education. Most of Bob's working life was spent with the Department of Veteran's Affairs on the clerical side. In 1958 Bob married his first wife Elaine and they had two children - Stephen, born in 1959, and Kim, born in 1961. With his second wife Christine, Bob had a daughter, Tracey, born in 1963.

In 1982, Bob married Kathy and they had three children - Emma, born in 1985; Andrew, born in 1987; and Adam, born in 1990. In the late eighties Bob had a heart attack, from which he made a good recovery and subsequently had artery by-pass surgery. Shortly after his surgery, Bob was offered and took voluntary redundancy. He continued to pick up the odd job here and there - counting money from poker machines at several RSL Clubs; working at polling booths of election days; etcetera; etcetera. True to his generous spirit, Bob also became involved in voluntary work for members of the RSL, helping them work through the bureaucratic maze that such an organisation can be at times.

Retirement from full-time work for Bob opened up a brave new world of participating and coaching hockey. In the nineties Bob played in Glebe lower grade and veteran's teams from which he was selected for the NSW Veterans and Vintage teams. In all Bob played 378 grade games for the Club. From 1993 Bob helped coach the Club's junior teams, both in the Minkey and Under Elevens.

For the last three years Bob was a regular at Wednesday night training at Jubilee where his help in coaching the Under Eleven teams was much appreciated. Wednesday training at Jubilee is usually attended by well over 100 kids and without people like Bobby Fox, training activities at Jubilee would grind to a halt. As well as helping with the Juniors at Glebe, Bob organised a school hockey competition in the Chipping Norton-Moorebank area where he lived. This competition provided a great community service and allowed Rob to contribute in an area of sport he knew well.

Rob had a cheerful disposition and was well liked by all who knew him. He made a positive contribution to the betterment of his fellow man. He made a difference while here on this mortal coil and hopefully Bob is now reaping his eternal reward in heaven.

To his devoted wife Kathy and their children Emma, Andrew and Adam, the Glebe District Hockey Club extends its deepest and sincere condolences. To paraphrase the old Irish blessing "May the road rise to meet him, may the wind be always at his back, may the sun shine warm upon his face and until we meet again may, God hold him in the palm of his hand".

# GLEBE WEEK: what an amazing place!

## Friday 12 September to Sunday 21 September

### Friday 12

**Opening Of St Scholastica's College Art & Craft Show.** 7pm-9pm. Opened by Faith Bandler. Champagne Supper \$20. St Scholastica College, Avenue Road, Glebe

**Celebrating Glebe – Making Left History.** 7pm, Harold Park Hotel, 115 Wigram Road, Glebe. Carolyn Graham, Political Scientist, founder of WEL (Women's Electoral Lobby), Meredith Burgman, MLC & Helen Randerson, longtime Glebe resident and researcher

### Saturday 13

**Historical Walk in the Glebe Estate** with Max Solling. Meet at Glebe Uniting Church. 1pm-4pm. \$5/\$2. Hear and see first hand the history of the unique Glebe Estate, one of the greatest urban conservation projects in Australia. There will be displays of photographs and memorabilia at the Glebe Uniting Church showcasing the daily and working life in Glebe and the story of St Ita's School, presented by local resident, Alan Hunt.

**St Scholastica's Convent and Chapel.** 11am and 1pm Open for inspection. Entry by donation.

**St Scholastica's College Art and Craft Show.** 10am- 4pm, \$5 entry. Moming/afternoon tea/lunch available.

**The Irish in Glebe.** 2pm-4pm, Toxteth Hotel, Glebe Point Road. Meet and celebrate with stories, stout, music and poems. Hosted by Cr Maire Sheehan and Shaughan Murphy

**Salvation Army 1st Birthday Dinner.** 7.30pm, 9 Ross Street, Glebe. Tickets: \$20 and limited, phone 9660 8056. Max Solling will reflect on Glebe history, particularly the Salvation Army and with excellent music this will be a night to remember.

### Sunday 14

**Opera by the Water.** 3pm, Glebe High School Library. \$20/\$15 includes champagne. Four professional opera singers will render favourite highlights from opera, operetta and musicals. Funds raised will support Glebe High School P&C.

**St Scholastica's College Art and Craft Show.** 10am- 3.30pm. \$5. Moming/afternoon tea/light lunch available.

### Monday 15

**RFC Glass Art Award.** Glass Artists Gallery, 70 Glebe Point Road. Exhibition of finalists and the winner of this prestigious award. Open every day.

### Tuesday 16

**St Mary's Cathedral Choir.** 7.30pm, St James Church, 2 Woolley St. Donation at door. Choral works by Palestrina, Mozart, Bruckner, Faurè and Vaughan Williams. Organist Peter Kneeshaw. Principal Cathedral Conductor David Russell.

### Wednesday 17

**Famous Glebe Sporting Heroes – Past, Present, Future.** 7.00pm, Glebe High School Auditorium. Presented by famous local historian, Sydney Swans, supporter, raconteur and undefeated boxer, Max Solling. There's nothing that Glebe does not excel in. Tall tales and true from the past, present and future.

### Thursday 18

**Chardonnay Socialists and Yuppy Trotskyites.** 6.30 for 7pm, Gleebooks, 49 Glebe Pt Rd, Glebe. \$6/\$4, refreshments. Proceeds to Glebe High School P&C. Meet Max Solling, local historian and Peter Reynolds, authors of the newly published *Leichhardt: On the Margins of the City. A Social History of Leichhardt and the Former Municipalities of Annandale, Balmain and Glebe.*

### Friday 19

**Glebe Primary School Reunion for Former Students and Friends.** 11.30am. Sausage Sizzle and drinks. Welcome Assembly followed by a tour of the school and talk by Max Solling, local historian, plus launch of the new *School History*.

### Saturday 20

**Walk Around Glebe Waterfront With Cr Neil Macindoe.** 10am-12 noon. Meet Glebe Post Office, \$5/\$2 concession. History and stories about our waterfront, industry, rowing, ferries and Walter Burley Griffin incinerator. Funds raised will support Glebe Youth Centre and new boatshed for Glebe Rowing Club.

**'The Lost Warhols' – 1984.** 11am-6pm, Wed-Sun, Maudspace Gallery, Blackwattle Studios, 465 Glebe Pt Rd. A year in the life of Andy Warhol. Photographs by David McCabe.

**Pub Crawl Through Glebe.** 2pm-5pm. Organised by Gay Kalnins and the Glebe Chamber of Commerce. Meet at the Ancient Britain Hotel, cnr Glebe Point Road and Bridge Road and then sojourn to the other nine hotels in Glebe.

**Guided Walking Tour of Glebe Point.** 2pm-4pm. Meet corner Toxteth and Glebe Point Rd opposite Toxteth Hotel. \$10. Well known local tour leader, Maureen Fry, will guide you round the famous buildings and beautiful streets.

**Open Day – Blackwattle Studios.** 10am-4pm. 465 Glebe Point Road. Come and see the great variety of creative activities happening behind the studio doors. Artists, crafts people, designers, woodworkers and boat builders will be available to meet you and show you what they do.

**Glebe Society Dinner.** 7 for 7.30pm, Benledi. \$20 per person, includes wine. RSVP by 14 September to 9660 7781.

**Amnesty Trivia Night.** 7.30pm, St Scholastica's Gym Hall, 4 Avenue Road, Glebe. \$10. Karina Kelly to host. Tables available for up to eight people. Bookings or info, Lyn, 9660 8056.

### Sunday 21

**Around the Radio House.** 3pm, Foley Park (cnr Glebe Point Road & Bridge Road). The radio house was build in 1934 so everyone had the opportunity to listen to music, new and even the cricket. Come along and hear music, radio serials and even advertisements from radio in bygone days.

**Open Day – Blackwattle Studios.** 10am-4pm. 465 Glebe Point Road. Come and see the great variety of creative activities happening behind the studio doors. Artists, crafts people, designers, woodworkers and boat builders will be available to meet you and show you what they do.

**Bands by the Bay.** 1pm, Glebe High School. \$5 per family. Glebe's most talented young musicians with a great afternoon of contemporary music.

**Community Bonfire.** 5.30pm, Bicentennial Park Stage 2. Organised by Glebe Hockey Club. A celebration of the end of Glebe Week. Bring your family, a rug and a BBQ. There will also be food available from the Salvation Army Tuckerbus. Enjoy Irish dancing from the Dwyer-Whelan Academy of Dance and other musical entertainment. Our thanks to Australian Wharf & Bridge Co and Crescent Timber for their great support.

### Monday 22

**Friends of Glebe Library.** 7pm, Glebe Library. Presentation to the Library of the papers, photographs and archives of Prof Bernard Smith, founder of the Glebe Society.

Glebe Week 1997 is brought to you by the Glebe Chamber of Commerce. Phone 9552 1546