

Letter to the Glebe Society (NSW) in 2008.



Letter to the Website

Wes Tough contacted us via the Glebe Society Website. He wondered if we would be interested in this story. Thankyou Wes. We are interested.

Spy v Spy

The Sydney rock band *Spy v Spy* existed for over 10 years. It was formed in a squat in Glebe, at 72 Darling Street, in 1980 and was eventually thrown out in 1987. If it wasn't for the Darling Street house the band could not have existed because of paying rent.

They always mentioned Glebe and the squats in interviews and always had **GLEBE** spray painted on their road cases at live shows.

They demonstrated against the DMR's plan to have the western distributor pass through Darling Street. The band members had fixed their place up to a fit state (the houses were being left to rot) and kept it liveable.

They were so furious with the DMR proposal that they wrote a song called '*Don't Tear it Down*' as a voice against the Government pulling down old buildings, pubs, warehouses and Victorian terraces and thus losing Sydney's heritage. This song made it into the charts and the album that the song was taken from made it to Number 11 in the Australian charts.

There was so much resident action against the plan that the DMR never went through with the expressway. Unfortunately a row of Victorian terraces opposite 72 Darling Street had been pulled down to make way for it. Public housing, located at around 59 Darling Street, replaced the terraces that were pulled down.

By the way, the band was managed by Gary Morris who also managed Midnight Oil.

Wes Tough

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See original article at: http://www.glebesociety.org.au/BulletinBackIssues/2008_08.pdf