

Hurstville Council

OATLEY HERITAGE GROUP



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<u>2011</u> - <u>President</u> - Cliff Crane 9580 3269 : <u>Secretary</u> - Glenn Stevens 9580 4309

Dear OHG Member

Most importantly, details of **<u>our May meeting</u>** – a much anticipated pleasure – when researcher and author <u>**Christine Talbot</u>** will talk about <u>**the life of**</u> the somewhat legendary Welsh-born John **<u>"Slam" Sullivan.</u>** We all have heard "Slam' referred to as having a boxing '*gymnasium*' on the waterfront in Annette Street. Very little detail has been available, though, about *Slam's* life, or activities at his waterfront property, then called '*Gunyah'* (now 50 and 50A Annette Street, Oatley), OHG member Joyce Bray (Marks) when a 15 year old, often saw some of the American boxers *Slam* had in training; they would be in Annette Street at 6 a.m. doing sprint and shadow boxing exercises when she started out on her running sessions.</u>

Christine Talbot's father Syd Peters befriended *Slam* around the 1940s and remained a lifelong friend. It was from *Slam's* letters and photos kept by Syd Peters that Christine started her research, after her father's death in 1994, culminating in her 2010 published "*John (Slam) Sullivan (1885 – 1964*)", a copy of which she has presented to the Oatley Heritage Group for its archives. <u>Christine's talk is expected to be most informative and entertaining – NOT TO BE MISSED!</u>

<u>And – just as "*most importantly*</u>" – our meeting attendance has outgrown the allowable numbers for Oatley Library Hall. We are pleased that the Oatley RSL Club most willingly has offered to allow us to hold future meetings at the club premises – so -

<u>VENUE FOR THE MEETING – 10.15 a.m. for 10.30 a.m. Friday 27th May – auditorium of the Oatley RSL and Community Services Club in Letitia Street</u>

At the Club we can't prepare tea, coffee, and bikkies after the meeting as previously included in the \$2 per head (a donation we will continue to ask for to keep slowly building up Group funds). However, the club will provide urns of tea and coffee on a (\$2) "honesty box" arrangement.

Club members attending the meeting can, of course, park in the Club's car-park. If you are not already a Club member you might consider joining to enjoy the benefits of Club membership and to avoid having to sign in for our meetings.

Our August meeting topic is "Post War Doctors of Oatley". Members with doctor's names or other information to contribute, are asked to contact me on the above phone number.

It's good to see new faces on the 2011 Executive / Committee – they belong to Bill Campbell, Assistant Secretary, and Committee Members Graham Lalchere, John Whitbread and Norm Windred.

See you on 27^{th} May – <u>please wear a name badge if you have one</u>. (If you have any spare pin-on clear plastic name card holders to donate to the Group please bring them to the May meeting)