

<i>Month & Year of Topic</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Written & Spoken Presenters</i>
August 2005	Oatley People who stood for Parliament State & Federal Jim Bradfield Hedley Mallard Added material	Cliff Crane, spoke Dorothy Walker Rafe Kowron

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OATLEY HERITAGE GROUP

MEETING DATE: 26th August 2005

**TOPIC: Oatley people who've stood
for Parliament**

PAPER BY: Cliff Crane (Jim
Bradfield, Guy Yeomans
and
Michelle Adair
Rafe Kowron – spoke on
Labor Party candidates

JIM BRADFIELD

(3 Jul 1933 –19 Nov 1989)

James Mark '*Jim*' Bradfield resided at 16F Russell Street, Oatley when he won pre-selection as the endorsed candidate for the Liberal party for the Federal seat of Barton for the 1975 election. He was successful at that poll and became 'our Federal Member'.

Born 3rd July, 1933, Jim was the elder son of Mark James and Marion 'Molly' Bradfield and his childhood and adolescence were spent living at Bondi. He was educated at Sydney Grammar School.

Jim's first employment was at Leichhardt in the Jax Tyres business of Jack Adolphson, where he had negotiated arrangements to be free on Wednesday afternoons and Saturdays - a necessary arrangement so that he could 'pencil' for his father, Mark Bradfield, a well known registered rails bookmaker.



Afterward Jim was to establish his own tyre retailing business ('Straight Talk Tyres') in partnership with Jim Geraghty who had also been employed in the tyre industry as a sales representative. Straight Talk Tyres was the first Australian tyre distributor/retailer to import Pirelli tyres, and at its peak the business had 11 outlets, including locations throughout country New South Wales and in Victoria; the initial outlet was established in Boundary Road, Peakhurst.

Following his marriage to Oatley girl Jill Bradford, Jim and Jill established their home on Oatley Bay in Russell Street in a waterfront home known locally as "The Towers" because of the tower which was its dominant feature. Jill Bradfield understands "The Towers" was originally constructed as a weekender for a city living family she understands were tea merchants - she thinks the Griffiths family.

After 2 or 3 years, the Bradfields moved into a new home they constructed adjacent to "The Towers", the older home then being sold to Doug and Betty Wickens who moved from Lakemba. (The Wickens still reside in Oatley, on the corner of Myall Street and Wonoona Parade West, and on 19 August 2005 celebrated 60 years of marriage.)

Jim and Jill also were to purchase a working country property, in the Quirindi district at Carroona. That original property was later sold but replaced with another, smaller, property - in the same general area - which the family still holds.

Jim 'put his hand up' for pre-selection to contest Barton for the Liberal Party in 1974 but lost out to Vince Bruce, for whom Jim then managed the election campaign. In the 1975 election, following dismissal of the Whitlam Labor government, Jim put his name forward again, gained party pre-selection for - and won the seat of - Barton.

The seat previously had been held by Labor's Len Reynolds from 1958 – 1975, except only for the term 1966-69 when it was held by Liberal Bill Arthur.

Those who have represented the electorate since 1925 are :

Frederick McDonald	(ALP)	1922-25
Thomas Ley	(Nat)	1925-28
James Tully	(ALP)	1928-31
Albert Lane	(UAP)	1931-40
Dr Herbert Evatt	(ALP)	1940-58
Leonard Reynolds	(ALP)	1958-66
William Arthur	(Lib)	1966-69
Leonard Reynolds	(ALP)	1969-75
James Bradfield	(Lib)	1975-83
Gary Punch	(ALP)	1983-96
Robert McClelland	(ALP)	1996-

Jim represented Barton electorate for three terms, initially under the Prime Ministership of Malcolm Frazer – he was re-elected at the 1977 and 1980 polls. Jill Bradfield recalls that Murray Gainsford, and men named Cunningham and Madgwick, were the Labor candidates opposing Jim at the 1975, 1977 and 1980 elections, but is unsure of their chronological order.

Upon election to Parliament Jim disposed of his business interests in the Straight Talk Tyre business except for 3 outlets originally retained as possible businesses for his sons, but ultimately they also were sold.

Although he did not attain front bench status during his parliamentary career, Jim did serve on the following House of Representative Committees –

- *Standing Committee on Road Safety* from 14.3.78 to 19.9.80.
- *Joint Statutory Public Accounts Committee* from 1.3.78.
- *Joint Australian Capital Territory Committee* from 4.12.80.

Jim also was a Member of a Parliamentary Delegation to Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka, in June-July 1978.

As part of the general swing, and change of Government, at the elections of 1983, Jim was defeated for the seat of Barton by Labor's Gary Punch, another Oatley resident.

In his post-parliamentary life Jim involved himself in the running of a business producing and distributing cleaning contractor supplies; his partner in that business was a friend, Terry Fraser, one time resident of Southern Street, Oatley, who also stood as a pre-selected Liberal candidate for the state seat of Kogarah. Jim also spent more time at the family country property helping with its running and administration for the relatively short period before he was stricken with an ultimately fatal melanoma.

Jim was easy going, of straightforward manner, popular and well regarded. He was of average height and build, but had unusual strength; he was fair-skinned with ginger hair, which it is said predisposed him to his later fatal cancerous melanoma.

People of Oatley were greatly saddened when it became public knowledge he was fighting melanoma which was diagnosed just before Christmas 1988. He was to lose his brave fight against the disease, and died in Calvary Hospital just one year later, on 19 November 1989 at only 56 years of age.

Following cremation, Jim's ashes were placed at All Saints' Church, West Oatley – the location of ashes of Jill's forebears who have a long association with 'the Village', and the church Jim and his family attended.

Jim's widow Jill continues to live in Oatley, as she has done all her life. Of their children -

- 1 Timothy is a sales representative with Stegbar
- 2 Angela is married to John Day, son of Graham Day of Graham Day Doors, and lives at Grays Point
- 3 Michael who went thro Agriculture College, lives on, and runs, the Quirindi property
- 4 Christopher is in business as an Accountant at Gunnedah.

Bibliography: as to period in parliament, and committee membership, and overseas delegation – *Parliamentary Handbook of the Commonwealth of Australia – twenty-first Edition 1982: The Parliamentary Library*

Acknowledgments – I thank Betty Wickens of Oatley, and Jill, widow of Jim Bradfield, for their hospitality and their time in providing the information from which this paper has been constructed.

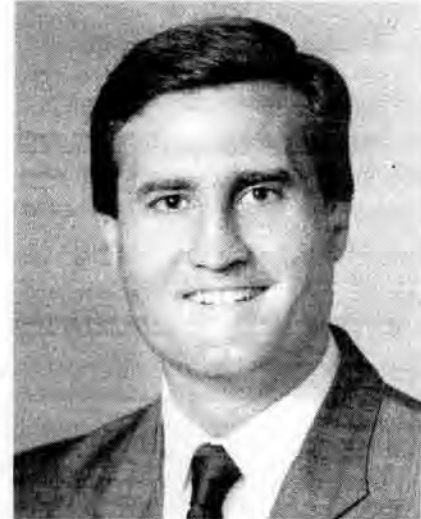
Cliff Crane, 25 Aug 2005

GUY YEOMANS

(5 Nov 1954 –)

Guy Yeomans, while a resident of Oatley, won the State seat of Hurstville in 19 ... from the sitting member, Labor's Kevin Ryan, the incumbent for at least two parliamentary terms. Prior to Kevin Ryan's terms the electorate had been represented by Liberals Doug Cross and Tom Mead.

An unusually tall, well built man of imposing stature, Guy is the third son of Jim Yeomans (deceased), and Lorna Yeomans, who moved from Penshurst to live at 40 Marine Drive, Oatley in 1954. Jim and Lorna's fourth child, Meg - now Meg Sheahan, is still an Oatley resident. Their eldest child - Lawrence Fulton Yeomans, at one time political adviser to Ted Pickering, Minister for Police, is still in the NSW State Public Service, as adviser to the Commissioner for Corrective Services. Their second son, Martyn James is in private business.



A particularly poignant bit of history came out of the writer's talks with Mrs Lorna Yeomans - Jim Yeomans was born at Harden, NSW, the son of a train driver, but his wife and family were left with little means of subsistence when Jim's father, performing the unusual role of fireman on the steam train in replacement for a fellow worker who was ill, on a particularly wet and wild night, stood up too high and was struck by an overbridge as the train passed under it, and was killed instantly - ironically Jim's grandfather, also a train driver, died from an accident while driving or shunting. Jim himself died during 2004.

Jim and Lorna had signed up as nominal members of the Liberal Party while living at Penshurst, but were not very active with their membership - Lorna was more involved than Jim, certainly. Lorna recalls, however, the strong regime of all the family sitting down to evening meal table together, and Jim guiding the family to discuss and look at world affairs and politics.

When Guy was 16 he became the protégé of neighbour (then) Mrs Sadie Westfallen, a staunch conservative, who took Guy to Liberal Party meetings (Oatley/Penshurst Branch), and sponsored his interest. Mrs. Westfallen, following death of her first husband, re-married to become the second wife of Mr Ken Wackett, one time proprietor of the hardware store on the corner of Mulga Road and Waratah Street, West Oatley.

In 1997 Jim and Lorna sold their Marine Drive home, and moved to 95 Myall Street, West Oatley, into the home they bought from John and June McDonald (who had moved into their new Villa home in Waratah Street).

From the Marine Drive family home, Guy finished his schooling at, then studied for his Diploma of Education at Sydney Teachers' college, University of Sydney.

Until he entered State Parliament, Guy was a schoolteacher by profession, his first appointment being to St. Joseph Banks School, Padstow, where he taught English and

History. While teaching at his next school, Hurstville Boys High, where he taught History, Guy won preselection as Liberal party candidate for the state seat of Hurstville, which he succeeded in winning from Labor's Kevin Ryan and became part of the new coalition government led by Nick Greiner. He resigned his teaching position and took his seat in state parliament. Terry Griffiths also entered parliament as a Liberal member at that same election, representing a nearby seat.

Guy was living in a unit he had bought in Oatley Avenue sometime before entering parliament – during his parliamentary term Guy sold the unit and moved to a home he bought in Louisa Street, and later he sold that property and moved into another residence he bought in Letitia Street.

During Guy's first term in parliament there was an electoral re-distribution which resulted in partial amalgamation of the seats held by him and Terry Griffiths – the party machine pre-selected Terry Griffiths to stand for the new seat, meaning Guy's short-lived political career was over, at least for the time being. Terry Griffiths was elected for the new seat and became Minister for Police – but his political career ended in controversy and relative scandal, and he was not pre-selected for a further term – at the end of that term Guy again put himself forward for pre-selection for the seat Griffiths had held, but again was unsuccessful, the party instead choosing Marie Ficarra, who had been Mayor of Hurstville. Guy chose to stand as an Independent candidate, unsuccessfully, against Marie Ficarra – Ficarra was elected but lost the seat to Labor's Kevin Green after only one term in office.

Guy never returned to the teaching career which he forsook to enter Parliament. In his post Parliament life Guy worked successively as a Consultant in Public Affairs and then worked as CEO of the Anglican Schools Corporation, based at Danebank School, Hurstville for three years, and during that same period obtained a Diploma in Theology from the Morling (Baptist) College.

After 3 years with the Anglican Schools Corporation, Guy resigned and went to the United States where he studied at a 6 months course in Spiritual Directions with the the Jesuit Spiritual Directions Centre. On return to Australia Guy undertook an M.A. in Spiritual Directions theology through the Catholic University.

Guy is now associated with the Jesuit Centre at Wahroonga – where people go to retreat and some for spiritual direction training – where Guy works part time on administration. The balance of his time is now taken up with his very recent appointment as Pastor of the St. Ives Baptist church.

Guy married in September 2004 to Sandra, a person of similar devout faith. They live at St. Ives in a church provided residence.

Bibliography / Acknowledgments: Most of the information in this paper has been taken from information freely given by Guy's mother, Mrs. Lorna Yeomans of 95 Myall Street, Oatley, who also provided the photograph of Guy taken about the time he entered State Parliament; thanks are extended to Mrs. Yeomans for her hospitality and her time.

Cliff Crane, 25 Aug 2005

MICHELE ADAIR

(26 Mar 1962 –)

Michele Adair has been an Oatley resident since 1993; she was born Michele Richardson at Sutherland on 26 March 1962.

Having grown up in Kyle Bay, Michele moved to Oatley, from Blackheath, in 1993, with two children. She shares her Kitchener Street home with her aging mother, while her brother also lives locally.

Michele has demonstrated a willingness to be active in numerous contentious community matters, including her involvement in the opposition to placement of the 3G communications facility at Oatley Park..



Since moving to Oatley Michele has stood as an endorsed Democrat Party candidate for the Federal seat of Barton in the 2001 federal elections, and in 2003 stood as an Independent Candidate for the state seat of Georges River, being unsuccessful in both candidacies. While at Blackheath Michele had stood as an Independent Candidate for election to the Blue Mountains City Council.

Michele's schooling was as a student of PLC Sydney and she was an AFS Exchange Student to the USA in 1979-80. She has a Master of Management from UWS (1996), a certificate in Service Administration and Strategy from Cornell University (USA 1992) and has undertaken many undergraduate courses in adult education, management, accounting and business fields. Michele has also completed the requirements for a Master of Public Advocacy & Action with which she will graduate from VUT in 2005.

Following 17 years being an adviser in strategy and development to some of Australia's best known public and private organisations, Michele joined a large not-for-profit community service organisation in January 2004. She had previously taught part-time with TAFE for 10 years and had owned a cafe and an architectural restoration business. Before becoming self-employed she held senior marketing and operational roles in the healthcare and travel industries.

The following material has been extracted from Michele's website
<http://www.micheleadair.com> -

"I live by Christian faith and values and this defines my personal, political and professional life.

I am an independent political voice and advocate with the courage, principles and experience needed to serve our community. You will find me -

Economically Right of Centre - supporting most welfare-to-work initiatives, transparent and more simplified taxes, pro small business, serious doubts about globalisation and opposed to Free Trade Deals

Socially Centred - proudly "old fashioned" about respect for our elders, good manners, discipline and more effective censorship/ratings.
Committed to better public education, strongly opposed to foreign policy that commits troops to Iraq but ignores the Zimbabwe and the Sudan.

Environmentally Left - committed to renewable energy, habitat and species protection, more ecological development ie. public transport, building codes etc.

I believe we need more diversity in government and that my independence, personal and career experience will make a difference.

Some favourite quotes on politics and life -

Let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth - 1 John 3:18

Why do you climb philosophical hills? Because they are worth climbing! - Margaret Thatcher

Bibliography: Most of the information in this paper has been taken from Michele Adair's website - <http://www.micheleadair.com> - and re-ordered by the author. The website contains more detailed information as to Michele's involvement with named local (mainly) issues, and statements of experiences and other reasons she feels equipped to be a community spokesperson and representative.

Acknowledgments - I thank Michele Adair for her co-operation in directing me to her website and supplying me with other information at very short notice when I got to approach her about constructing this paper.

Cliff Crane, 25 Aug 2005

Who is

Philip White?

Philip was educated in country NSW, and experienced life growing up on both sheep & cattle stations, and dairy farms.

Came to Sydney at 16 years of age on his own with an Intermediate Certificate and a determination to find a job,

Secured an apprenticeship in the printing industry and learned the value of hard work and experienced the difficulties of city life on an apprentice's wage.

Progressed from the factory floor to management, undertaking the arduous route of night school to obtain his Matriculation & Trade Certificate, followed by University to achieve his managerial qualifications.

Is a business man with twenty two years as a Chief Executive in both private and public companies, including proprietorship of his own business.

Was elected to the NSW State Parliament in 1988 and established an excellent reputation for his service to the people of the Earlwood electorate.

During this time some of his Parliamentary responsibilities included:

Government representative for:

- Southern Sydney Region of Councils;
- Section 22 - Botany Bay Regional Planning Committee;
- Industrial Relations Ministerial Committee;
- Police & Emergency Ministerial Committee;
- School Education Ministerial Committee; and
- Ethnic Affairs Ministerial Committee.

Was appointed Senior Adviser to the Minister for Health, (after his seat was abolished in the 1991 electoral redistribution), being responsible for policy advice and analysis of issues relating to the provision, operation and management of Health Services in NSW.

Currently operates his own printing company with a staff of thirty people.

Public & Community Service

- Chairman-Police Consultative Committee
- Oatley Lions Club (11 years) - President, & Chairman of Drug Awareness Program)
- Senior Citizens Easter Wish Program
- St George Association for the Disabled
- St George Hospital Hydrotherapy Pool Project
- Youth of the Year and Outward Bound
- Deputy Chairman of the organising committee of the 150th Anniversary Celebrations of Oatley
- Former Patron of various sporting, youth, cultural and scouting groups.

Other Information

- National Service (NCO & Officers Training Courses)
- Citizens Military Forces (Artillery)
- Former Member of the Kingsgrove RSL Sub-Branch
- Private & Commercial Pilot trained

VOTE 1

Philip White

Citizens for Good Local Government