

THE OATLEY HERITAGE GROUP

President: *Alec Leach*
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Secretary: *Glenn Stevens*

Vice President: *Rafe Kowron*
Vice President: *Cliff Crane*

NEWSLETTER . May 2003

Meeting Dates and Topics

Friday 30th May 2003 10.30 am Library Hall "Education in Oatley"

Friday 29th August 2003 10.30am Library Hall "Poets of Oatley"

The Annual Meeting was held on the 27th February, thankfully we had no problems in filling the positions. It has been decided to include another Vice President. Cliff Crane kindly accepted the position.

The results of the elections are as follows for the year 2003.

President. Alec Leach: Vice Presidents. Rafe Kowron and Cliff Crane.

Secretary. Glenn Stevens: Treasurer. Ray Stevens.

General Committee :- Archivist. Jan Crane: Tea Lady June Bennett, with Cliff Crane most emphatically being the assistant Tea Lady. George Kendall. A very big welcome to two new Committee members, Moyia Kowron & Margaret Forbes.

Thank you all for volunteering, it will be strange not having the input of Russell Gibbs.

Anne Meakins passed away early in February. Anne delivered a presentation on Gungah Bay at our November 2001 meeting. It was not long after, that she became ill. Anne made another contribution when we were discussing Silvester's Castle. Anne & Laurie's home is built on part of the old Castle.

The Meakins family gave me a copy of Anne's Eulogy. We were in Tassie when Anne passed away and were not in a position to pay our respects then. I discussed with Laurie & daughter Adrienne, the possibilities of setting up a section in the Group for Eulogies. They agreed and later approved the format. We have provided a cover page giving the details in bold letters. This will give easy access when trying to locate a particular Eulogy. The meeting has approved the concept.

Should you have a Eulogy of a family member or a friend who would approve allowing it to be entered into our Eulogy section, please forward it to me at the above address. This would help add to our knowledge of people who have lived in Oatley.

I must sort out my Mother's one which Mum & I did, we called it "Me Mudder" ending with that old verse.

Naturally the topic Ernie Lawson met with some discussion. George Kendall had prepared some material and on the night there were added snippets from Daisy (Drever) Ardley, Joyce (Bray) Marks & Owen O'Brien. Joyce made mention that horse shoes belonging to Ernie's "Bess" & her father's "Mick" were hanging on the shed wall of The Roberts home in Oatley Avenue (No32). I saw Rex one day when he was working on the place in preparation for converting the old family home into a Coffee Shop, with provision for people to hold small conference meetings or groups to hold committee meetings.

Rex quite justly, proudly showed me through and just as proudly showed me the horseshoes saying that the draught horseshoe of Mr. Bray's was "Toby". No Rex, "Mick". No Alec "Toby". Help Joyce! "Mick" was Mr. Bray's first horse, "Toby" his second. It's pleasing to see that this lovely old home will remain.

Education in Oatley will be our topic in May, your contribution will be appreciated.

Should you have lost interest in the Group and no longer wish to receive the Newsletter, please ring either Glenn or myself. If you are still interested, please make the effort if you have information on a topic.

Did you say G'Day to a stranger as you were walking down the street today. Why not?