

OATLEY HERITAGE & HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Hurstville Council

P.O. Box 121, Oatley NSW 2223 http://www.oatleyhistory.org.au

<u>2016</u> - <u>President</u> - Julian Sheen 9594-4888: <u>Secretary</u> - Bill Wright 9580-1064

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2016

The year rolls by, another year in the history of Oatley as we watch the Oatley station overpass change the skyline of our locality. And we await with anticipation the first of our series of 2016 meetings.

Next week, on the 29th April, we have our first Coffee and Chat meeting at the Oatley library starting at 10.15. The focus of this meeting is...coffee and chat about the life and times of Oatley. But we will have a specific topic: the story of Oatley resident Mrs. Minnie Cole whose life has been researched by committee member Betty Goodger. Come along and find out more.

Our first presentation meeting at the Oatley RSL is on 27th May and also features Betty (thank you Betty) who, together with Rodger Robertson, will talk about the war service homes of Lloyd Street. Put that date in your diary now.

Other activities being conducted by our Society include the plaques project which is well underway. As you have heard, our first plaque is in place at the old war memorial site, Oatley school. We intent to follow this with plaques at the Radio Theatre in Letitia Street and the School of Arts on the opposite side of the road. Como Bridge is set for a plaque as well as the castle in Oatley Park. Other sites on the western side of Oatley would include, in my view, a plaque on the corner of Douglas Haig and Gungah Bay Road to mark the corner of the first land grant in what became Oatley, in1808. And a plaque to mark the site of the old swimming club hall in Wonoona Parade.

We are still to find someone to take over the Shops of Oatley project, good work has been done by the Mr and Mrs. Wilcox, who would like to finish it?

The Schools project to encourage children's research into local history is looking for more momentum. This will be discussed at out next committee meeting.

Another project which we should begin to consider in broad scope is the "History of Oatley" book we are committed to for the 25th anniversary of our society in four years time; as we all know…time flies.

The committee was pleased to welcome Mr. Lawrie Yeomans to the last meeting. Thank you Lawrie for taking a more active role in, our society.

Julian Sheen