

OATLEY HERITAGE GROUP
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Presented to the Annual General Meeting Thursday 27th February 2003.

By: Alec Leach.

The past year has been emotionally sad for us, as we have witnessed the passing away of some members. Ron Woodward, Wes Bentley, John, Glenn's husband, in late June our founder of the Group and Past President, Russell Gibbs and on the 4th February Anne Meakins. I hope that we will remember them.

Activities for the year have been varied. To round off the evening after the last elections, we discussed Ada Street. It is only a short street taking in three blocks, yet created a great deal of discussion. Your street may be chosen or you may wish to volunteer to research your own part of your street in the near future.

Dairies of Oatley again brought forth at times discussion that one would not be able to record by hand. Luckily Glenn tapes our meetings and can replay the tapes until she is satisfied. I don't know how, for to me it is hard to hear at times when someone is speaking from the rear of the hall. Thank you Glenn, your efforts make for accurate minute taking at our meetings.

The August Meeting, "Sporting Personalities of Oatley" was ably prepared and coordinated by my Vice President Rafe, whilst we were touring. Thanks Rafe, especially for gaining Bob Rowles to speak on the racing fraternity. Upon our return, I received a number of phone calls enthusing about Bob's presentation. Again this was evident at our last meeting by the comments from our members.

Our "Artists of Oatley" evening last November, brought forward one of our own members, Alan Cuthbertson as an Artist, canvas that is. I have sung his praises in the Newsletter, if I give him any more he may begin to think he is good, himself. Oh well, jolly good work Alan. Jan & Cliff Crane spent considerable time researching artists and Jan was kind enough to bring paintings by her father Clif Peer. We had envisaged Artists to be across the spectrum of Arts, singing, poetry etc. We barely touched on singing and not one poem. Future topics.

To my Committee, thank you for your input. Our Committee Meetings have brought forward good ideas followed up with active organising. It has been a pleasure to, I was going to say work, however, to me it has not been work to help coordinate the activities for the group. This happened because you have all been trying to make our meetings interesting and entertaining. May I single out one member in particular for special thanks? Ray, our Treasurer, whose reports are superb. I wish the politicians would take note and follow suite.

In conclusion, thank you members for supporting The Oatley Heritage Group. We would appreciate your input in writing for forth coming topics. A Committee member is available to take notes from you and then make it presentable if you wish. I have enjoyed meeting you every quarter and hope that this year we continue to progress in gaining our living History of Oatley.