



August
Newsletter

This year was meant to be a celebration of our 25th Anniversary. Sadly due to the pandemic we have had to cancel all general meetings and presentations since early in the year. The Committee has been meeting monthly since June so the Society has not come to a complete halt.

The most exciting news is that our VP Julian Sheen has devoted considerable research, skill and expertise to produce a wonderful booklet entitled "A Place called Oatley" which traces the history of our fine suburb from the time of first settlement in Sydney till the early 20th Century.

The booklet has been professionally printed with coloured photographs, thanks to the efforts of Rodger Robertson and the booklet will be officially launched by Oatley MP Mark Coure at our scheduled meeting on Friday 27th November at Oatley RSL. Founding member Alec Leach is also due to give a presentation at that meeting on the 25th years of the Society.

Copies of Julian's booklet will be available for purchase to members for \$10.

Other matters of interest include the following:

Next Meeting- Friday 21 August in the auditorium of Oatley RSL at 1000. Julian Sheen will give the presentation on a story of Oatley. Numbers are limited to 40 due Corona Virus limitations. Those attending MUST notify Rodger Robertson by email (rodgerr@comcen.com.au) or phone 0408232874 by 5pm Wednesday 19th August 2020. The first 40 will be allowed to attend. Normal RSL Club rules will apply to those attending.

October 30th Coffee and Chat meeting This is scheduled for 1015 at Oatley RSL.

Fees The Committee has decided that all current members will remain as financial members until 31 December 2025 without need to pay any further annual fee. New members will pay \$10 to join and this will give them membership for 10 years.

General Matters The Society has written to GRC recommending that the Oatley Library be named the "John O'Grady Library" after the well known author of "They're a Weird Mob". He lived in Oatley for many years. The Council recently named the Kogarah Library the "Clive James Library" and the Committee felt that it would be fitting re-name Oatley Library after John O'Grady.

Plaques/Marker The Council has also advised that it has shortlisted our application for the 2020 Historical Marker Program for the site of the World War 2 Anti-aircraft searchlight in Oatley West at the junction of Baker Street and Lansdowne Parade- near the former shops.

Lions Festival in October is cancelled.

2021 Oatley Calendar is being produced by Oatley Flora and Fauna and will be available by mid October.

Lawrie Yeomans
President 11/8/2020