

## **OHHS Newsletter October 2021**

Warm greetings to all OHHS members as we all emerge from our long hibernation. I hope everyone has been able to find ways to occupy their time during the past three months.

### **Oatley 2022 CALENDARS**

The Society has not been idle. Thanks to great work, in particular to Secretary Rodger Roberson and V/P Julian Sheen, our 2022 Calendar, based on Julian's book. "A Place Called Oatley" has already been on sale for more than two months.

For those who haven't already purchased a copy, you can contact Rodger 0408 232 874 or you can buy from the following

Oatley West Newsagent, Mulga Road Bookshop, Mullane's Pharmacy, Povelli's Café, Hungry Spoon Cafe, Ann Burn Physio, Saint Kai Café Mortdale Heights.

My special thanks to all of the above, who have been great in selling the calendars for us and I would urge all members to support the above businesses as much as possible.

We are planning street stalls in Oatley and Mortdale shopping centres in the three weekends before Christmas (Oatley 4/12, Mortdale 11/12 and Oatley 18/12) to sell our calendars and also Julian's book which is to be reprinted in the near future. All stalls are outside where the Commonwealth Bank was or is.

### **Meetings**

Coffee and Chat- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October in the Hall next to the RSL Club commencing at 230pm. Numbers may be limited so please contact Rodger On 0408 323 874 or [rodgerr@comcen.com.au](mailto:rodgerr@comcen.com.au) if you wish to attend. I hope those attending might share anything they may have learned about Oatley during the lock-down. Calendars will be on sale at this meeting. Julian Sheen will discuss the First Five years of OHG.

Presentation meeting- 26 November 2021 at 1015 in the RSL Auditorium. Graham Fry will make a presentation on the Illawarra Railway. More information will be provided nearer the date.

December Coffee and Chat meeting will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December at the RSL Hall- details to follow. Bruce Langley from the NSW Land records will discuss old mapping techniques and other aspects of our Land records. Julian Sheen used his expertise in the research for the book.

### **Plaques**

We had been planning to do three plaques in 2021 but the COVID virus slowed progress. OHHS has been working closely with Georges River Council. GRC has provided support for graphic design and in approving sites for plaques on their properties. The three plaques that are near are-- Townson Plaque about Robert Townson and the first Grant in our area, A plaque on Simpson Reserve, and a plaque about the Judd's Brickworks site.

GRC has also approved our nomination of a GRC Blue plaque on the site of the previous plaque that was stolen in 1990's in front of the Oatley Hotel for the author John O'Grady.

Finally, we will be nominating two sites for the NSW Government Blue plaque programme- the sites we are applying for are the Tasmanian Regiment remains in Oatley Park and the Oatley Amateur Swimming Club established in 1927.

### **A Place Called Oatley**

OHHS has printed three hundred copies of this book and sold nearly all copies. Also Julian has researched the subject further and made additions to the book, and this has added several pages. The book can be purchased from Rodger Robertson for \$15. A good Christmas present! They should be available by the November meeting.

### **The Oatley Grant walk**

The walk around the original Oatley grant land grant of 1833 has now been scheduled for Friday 22 April 2022. More details will be provided nearer the date. You will be able to walk part of the journey or the whole circumference.

On conclusion, my special thanks go to our Secretary Rodger Robertson for all the work he has done during the lockdown in relation to the Calendar production and to the plaques program.

Lawrie Yeomans  
President  
19 October 2021