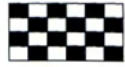




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JUNIORS REVIEW 2001

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The OATLEY  
Rugby Union Club

Juniors' Review

Volume 1 Issue 1

23-9-2001

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## Junior Presidents Report - 2001

2001 has proven to be another very successful year for the Oatley Rugby Club, in both our junior and senior ranks. Numbers of registered players and teams have increased but most importantly, we have two premierships under our belts – the juniors bringing home the Under 12's trophy and our Third Grade storming away in the semi finals series to win the Blunt Cup. This is my tenth year of involvement with the Club, and these are the first two trophies I've experienced, so in my first year as Club President, I'm ecstatic!

For the records, The Club last won a senior trophy in 1982, (the Blunt Cup), and the juniors last trophy was in 1975 in the days when the competition was local. These days, playing in the Southern Zone competition, playing teams from Eastern Suburbs and Randwick, winning premierships is a very special event and one which many players will finish their careers without ever experiencing. Bruce and Kerry Smart and their Under 12 team deserve hearty congratulations for a phenomenal season of powerhouse rugby.

As our Club continues to grow, the amount of time and effort required in running the Club grow too, and we are lucky at Oatley to have very dedicated parents, coaches and officials who pride themselves in providing a quality environment in which our children can learn and develop their footballing skills whilst making new friendships and having fun. Incidents happen throughout the year in all sporting codes and it makes me very proud to see the responsible and professional way in which the Oatley parents and players have behaved in a wide range of situations.

Out on the paddock, it's been a great year for our Juniors. Although we didn't win a Mini's shield this year, the standard of football displayed was excellent. The 6's had so many new recruits we fielded two teams. The 7's were virtually undefeated all year but were unfortunately pipped in the grand final. The 8's, although not the largest team in their competition adapted well to tackling and although the 9's took a while to get firing they were putting it all together late in the season

### Presidents Report Cont.

What really pleased me this year was the way in which our Under 10's to Under 16's performed. Going into the last round we had all our teams vying for semi final spots. Unfortunately our 11's were beaten into 5th place on for and against, but they showed their class by winning the Pool B grand final a month later. To have Under 10's, Under 12's, Under 13's and Under 16's into the semi final series is something for the Club to be very proud of.

The Public School Sports Association (PSSA) hosts the State Championships annually, and this year they were held at Kiama. Our region, Sydney East ended up joint premiers with CIS and our congratulations go to all those Oatley players involved. More importantly, three of our Under 12 team gained selection in the NSW PSSA team to take part in the Australian Championships at Armidale in late September. Afusipa Taumoepeau, Chris Holland and Robert Horne – the Oatley Rugby Club is very proud of your efforts.

A number of people deserve special mention when it comes to ensuring the smooth running of the Club, and none more than John Francis. John is the Under 11's coach, the Club Treasurer, represents Oatley at Southern Districts and is also a delegate to Southern Zone. He is involved with gear, social functions and come to think of it, he's involved with everything! John, on behalf of the Club, thank you so much for the time and effort you put in to ensuring a successful season.

Our Juniors registrar Kerry Smart deserves plenty of credit too. No Club has a better registrar than Kerry and the Southern Districts secretary will vouch for that. To Keith and Karen McCulloch, thanks so much for your work in publishing the excellent newsletter on a weekly basis and more so for your tireless efforts in maintaining the canteen for our home matches. Keith was awarded the Oatley Rugby Club - Clubman of the Year Award for the second time at the Seniors presentation last week and it couldn't have gone to a more deserving person. Congratulations Keith!

Until you've arrived at Evatt at 8.00am on a cold and frosty morning to set up the goalposts and ropes you haven't lived! The Minis sector was admirably managed by Ian Swane. Thanks for your help in making all our new young players so welcome Ian.

## Oatley Rugby Under 6's 2001 Report

The Oatley under 6's had a tremendous year. We had enough numbers for 2 teams Oatley Green and Gold.

Highlights for the year were watching the boys improve every week. The great effort and enjoyable day we all had on Gala day. Most importantly the boys were a pleasure to coach and they enjoyed their rugby.

**Nathan Doherty** had a great first year in rugby, he ran in plenty of tries and was always close to the action.

**Ethan Graham**; one of the real improvers of the year scoring 4 tries and 5 goals on Gala day. Towards the end of the season Ethan was showing his experience and leading the way.

**Kyle McLachlan** in his first season was a very determined runner of the football and enthusiastic defender.

**Paul Tsathos** – A great team member, one of the happiest kids on a rugby field I have seen. I look forward to following Paul's career as he has a lot of potential especially with another year in the 6's next year.

**Daniel Reale**, a solid team contributor and good all round player all this and he will have another year in the 6's so how good will he be next year.

**Adrian Dimarco**. After only his first year Adrian showed he was a very nippy runner of the ball and had quiet a good step, will be a danger player to watch in the sevens.

**Nathan Shaw**. It was his first year and continued to improve all year, he ran straight with the ball and we look forward to big things from Nathan next year in the 7's.

**Domonic Maunder** only played 7 games but in that timed show he could play – we look forward to having him back next year.

*Under 6's Cont.*

**William Clulow** the big fella had a great 2<sup>nd</sup> year in the 6's with 100pys for the season and was consistently one of our better taggers. Watch out when he starts to play tackle.

**Aaron Keady** really improved as the year went on, straight running and plenty of enthusiasm – will see a lot of improvement next year.

**Tim O'connor** one half of the 2 Tims – a terrific effort in his first year, always looking for the ball and made plenty of breaks.

**Ethan Lewis** another real trier – constantly among our top taggers, Ethan improved with every game, next year should be a beauty.

**Oliver Takiveikato** – the fastest boy in the comp, although only playing 9 games, scored a try on each occasion – watch out next year.

**Christopher Chant** really developed as the year went on, Chris should have a great year in the 7's, he is a real trier and loves the game.

**Timothy Dunne** other half of the 2 Tims – Tim just improved with every game, his straight running should see him as one of the real stars next year.

**Jarryd Bradely** the dodger, had a fantastic first year scoring lots of tries and kicking plenty of goals – and he will still be in the 6's next year – watch out.

*We (David and Chris) had a great year as coaches the boys were a pleasure to coach. We would like to thank Ian Shaw for his support as manager and all parents for their help and support throughout the year.*

David and Chris

Under 6's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matche s	Tries	Goals	Matche s	Tries	Goals
Jarrold	Bradley	15	5	4	15	5	4
Chris	Chant	14	0	0	14	0	0
Will	Clulow	16	18	5	32	21	6
Adrian	Di Michael	14	2	1	14	2	1
Nathan	Doherty	16	18	5	16	18	5
Tim	Dunn	14	0	0	14	0	0
Ethan	Graham	16	5	5	32	5	5
Aaron	Keedy	16	0	0	16	0	0
Ethan	Lewis	15	0	0	15	0	0
Dominic	Maunder	7	5	0	7	5	0
Kyle	McLachlan	16	3	2	16	3	2
Tim	O'Connor	16	0	0	16	0	0
Nick	Potelli	14	0	0	14	0	0
Daniel	Reale	15	2	2	15	2	2
Nathan	Shaw	16	0	0	16	0	0
Oliver	Trakiveikato	9	10	1	9	10	1
Paul	Tsathas	16	0	0	16	0	0
Nick	Wardle	15	0	0	15	0	0

Under 7's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matche s	Tries	Goals	Matche s	Tries	Goals
Michael	Dimarco	14	2	1	26	3	1
Charles	Dwyer	13	3	4	25	4	6
Julian	Ettia	12	3	0	25	3	0
Samuel	Kefford	14	16	5	45	41	10
Scott	McDonald	13	4	5	29	14	8
Benjamin	Swane	14	20	6	30	32	12
Mark	Turner	14	4	5	36	8	5
Jake	Collett	9	0	0	9	0	0
Hayden	Farrell	13	14	5	13	14	5
Ioannis	Tsathas	14	4	0	14	4	0
Jayden	Wilkinson	14	0	11	41	3	16

**The SUPER Seven's**

The Super 7's name took shape about half way through the year. The Oatley Under 7's were dominating the game, constantly outplaying the other sides. Like other sides we had our dominant players, but it was the whole team performance that had us a step above the rest. Even on a bad day the team had enough ability to overcome the opposition. I have no qualms in saying that the U7s were the best team in the Southern Districts.

Alas, on Gala day we did have an off day. We had players run out over the sidelines every match, we dropped the ball, we missed goals, yet we still were able to make it to the grand final. Our opposition was Rockdale and from the start we knew the opposing team and their coach were hyped up to play their most enthusiastic. Oatley was still not playing to their best and some enthusiasm had waned due to their earlier performances. With seconds remaining we had possession and Sam tried to squeeze down the sideline only to be forced out on the final play of the day. We had lost the grand final 21-19, but I know and hope the boys believe that over the year they stood out as the best team and one day can't ruin that.

The main reason that the team performances were so good was that the boys' defense was fantastic. Though only tag, we often drove the opposition backwards, frustrating them into mistakes. If anyone made a break the enthusiasm in cover defense was terrific. Our main problem here was over enthusiasm as boys would sometimes trip over each other in the chase or overrun the player as he stepped inside.

Our defense was followed up by some good controlled attack. From early in the season we were running the ball straight up the field making plenty of ground, forcing the opposition onto their backfoot so that gaps would occur for some easy tries. Our worst attack was when we were camped on the opposition's try line as we would not spread the ball to make the gaps, but 5 or 10m out we often found the room to score. Our mistakes in attack were few which allowed us to score much more than the opposition.

The SUPER Seven's cont.

The sportsmanship of the boys also did the club and their parents proud. With 11 players we often played sides with fewer players and it was never a problem to find volunteers to play for the opposition. Often these players were the best for the opposing team and they always played at their best. Every one on the team had a turn during the year of playing for the opposition and showed an example to other teams of what good sportsmanship was all about.

We welcome 3 new players this year, Hayden, Iannis & Jake. All 3 settled into the team easily and showed they all have potential to be great players. **Hayden** has a great kicking boot and plenty of pace. After a bit of direction he was able to score many tries and goals and developed his defense through the year. **Iannis** showed he was one of 4 brothers, taking plenty of knocks and showing lots of guts as he would always get up quickly to tag the opposition and made some incisive runs scoring some terrific tries. **Jake** settled in more slowly but was the big improver during the year as he learnt the game. His defense and straight runs by the end of the year set up some great team play. He was a real team player and I look forward to further improvement with tackle next year. Well done rookies, you all were great.

Each year it's great to see players develop. Our Most Improved player was a difficult decision this year as Charles, Jayden, Julian & Michael showed tremendous improvement. **Charles** learnt that he had pace and scored some scintillating tries. His defense improved out of sight as he chased and ran down the opposition, and though prone to being knocked over a number of times always showed plenty of guts to continue on. **Jayden** continued with his kicking prowess, I could always count on him to put the ball over the posts. But it was Jayden's defense this year that stood out. His chase and cover defense out wide was exceptional. **Julian** showed much improvement scoring some terrific tries and doing some great tagging. When his mind is on rugby he plays really well. A bit more week by week consistency will see Julian go a long way and I think he will enjoy tackling next year. **Michael** as our smallest player has come a long way this year as his enthusiasm and involvement has seen him make some terrific runs and always getting up to harass the opposition in defense. His enthusiasm was matched by his fairness to play as a team member and I see him to have the intelligence to be a vital link next year.

P.T.O.

The SUPER Seven's cont.

We also have those players that consistently perform great every week. **Sam** is fast, scoring lots of tries, will cover defend both sides of the field stopping the runaway tries and reads a game really well. On gala day he was heard to tell his mate to "stay inside" for he had the player covered on the outside, an attribute that is not expected from an U7. He is a great team player. **Scott** puts in a great effort every week. A problem with his knee has slowed his pace but he always tries his best resulting in some tries and goals and some terrific defense. He hobbles faster than some run and should be a great asset to the team when fully fit. **Ben** is notorious for catching the opposition on the back foot that 5 to 10m from the line mentioned earlier. He scored a heap of tries and kicks conversions with ease. His defense off the line has always troubled the opposition and dominates all facets of the game. He is the most enthusiastic player and only needs to listen to the ref (and coach) and play as a team player to make the most out of rugby. **Mark** has performed consistently well for 3 seasons, improving each year and developing into one of our best. He backs Ben up front in defense and is always following the ball to take opportunity to score some great tries this year. His kicking has improved to the extent that he is one of the best. Always trying his best, Mark has proven to be one of those players essential to making a good team better than others.

Our final hit out was at Bowral where we played successfully against teams from other districts. Again the boys played well coming away with 2 wins and a draw on a most enjoyable day. Final statistics, in Southern Districts, 28 games, 22 wins, 3 draws & 3 losses, 441 points for to 298 against, proving a very successful year.

*It has been a terrific year and I look forward to the boys enjoying training and tackling next year. A big thank you to the parents who helped during the year with their enthusiastic support of both the boys and myself. Also thank you to Mel McDonald for managing the team and organising the successful BBQ at Evatt, McDonalds after gala day and the parents dinner. Oatley Rugby can be well proud of the boys as I am. Well done everyone.*

Coach Brian

## UNDER 8 – SEASON IN REVIEW

It is a difficult task to move from the relative individualism of Walla Rugby as played in the Under 7s, to the more combative game that is the Mini Rugby of the Under 8s. New skills such as tackling, mauling, rucking and passing must be learnt and applied, body contact must be espoused, and the synergistic benefits engendered by collaboration and co-operation must be recognised and embraced. This was accepted by the 2001 Under 8s with alacrity, and their enthusiasm in learning these lessons and applying them on the field was commendable. Both at practice and on the field the lads were ready to listen, quick to learn and eager to apply. Whilst often giving vent to their natural exuberance, their self-discipline and sense of sporting conduct was always exemplary. Every one of them was a credit to himself, his parents, his team, and to the Oatley Rugby Club.

If I had to use one word to sum up the year for the Mighty Under 8s, it would be "teamwork". Throughout the season, the lads established, maintained and nurtured a unity and solidarity which was admirable to behold and promises well for the future. Like a pack of marauding Huns, the forwards worked well as a unit in securing and recycling possession, and supplying quality ball to the backs for attacking incursions into enemy territory. The backs proved to be a slick and penetrative force, mixing sleight of hand with brute strength in getting the ball over the goal line. In nearly every game, the ability of the team to hold and use the ball through multiple phases of play was excellent. The boys also showed commitment in truckloads. In a number of games the lads found themselves well behind on the scoreboard, and even though in these cases they were not able to bring off fairytale victories, they did not drop their collective bundles but rather came out fighting to "win" the second half and lose the game by the narrowest of margins.

But enough prattle, a brief word about each of our combatants in turn:

**Brendan Carmichael** - was a tower of strength in the forwards. Took a short time to find his feet, but once he did, he was dynamic. His defence in the centre of the ruck was exemplary.

**Andrew Challinor** - his explosive running was a threat to all opposition defences. When he got it into his head to have a gallop, there were not many defences that could hold him. His tackling in the forwards was fierce.

P.T.O.

U8's Cont.

**Tim Clulow** - started in the backs, but found his natural position to be on the flank. Was one of the first to each ruck and maul, aggressively securing possession for his side. Was also adept at rolling from the maul and making good ground in attack close to the ruck.

**Emanuel Comino** - an attacking force. His darting rushes left would be defenders grasping at thin air. His defence, particularly in the latter half of the season was also excellent, getting up quickly to the opposition and forcing many turnovers in possession.

**Samuel Cutrupi** - proved to be an extremely mobile and hard running back row forward. He was dangerous from any position on the field, and scored several long range tries through strong and purposeful running.

**Travis Green** - our top try-scorer for the year. An extremely powerful runner of the football whose legs drove like the proverbial pistons. Augmented his attacking skills in the second half of the season with some excellent cover defence.

**Bradley Horn** - a natural member of the front rowers union. One of the "bookends" who lent stability to the scrum, and power and size to the rucks and mauls.

**David Horton** - his attacking raids were at times a sight to behold. He was fearless in aiming himself at the heart of the opposition defence like a battering ram and more times than not would be make decisive busts.

**Valentin Howard** - the second of our "bookends", proving extremely adept at the set pieces. In his first season of rugby, he was extremely enthusiastic, and his eagerness to learn was reflected in some excellent performances.

**James Kirkness** - set many of our attacking plays in motion with some excellent half back play. His adroit passing both from the scum and ruck base and also in general play was responsible for several tries. Was also strong in defence, driving opposition attackers backwards.

P.T.O.

U8's Cont.

**Declan McCulloch** – one of the big improvers this year. After a quiet start, he went from strength to strength, and by the end of the season was an integral part of the pack. His defensive workload was high, and he never shirked the hard yards in attack.

**Lachlan O'Connor** - another of our rookies who had an excellent first up season. He was one of our quickest outside backs, and showed that he knew his way to the tryline. Could always be found backing up in attack, and was never found wanting in defence.

**Dominic Simpson** – came to us late in the season, and only played a handful of games. In that short time, he took to rugby like a duck to water. Was extremely enthusiastic in defence, and made some incisive attacking moves.

**Adam Thompson** – the ultimate back-rower, being first to the ball at nearly every ruck and maul. He not only secured our own ball, but often forced turnovers through his committed aggression. Made some explosive runs when peeling off the rolling mauls, and was always strong in defence.

**Kieran Thompson** – another of our pacy outside backs who was dangerous in attack whenever given room to move. In his rookie year, he was one of our most enthusiastic and committed players.

**Alex Tsathas** – could play any position on the field, but seems to have found his place at fullback. In attack he proved extremely elusive, making some dashing and incisive raids. His defence was rock solid, both head on and in cover, often bringing down players twice his size with ease.

**Cameron Wardle** – another player who made great strides throughout the year, improving from week to week. Proved to be a particularly powerful runner of the ball in the forwards.

*In closing, I would like to commend and thank the lads for their excellent efforts during the year. I think that if this team can stay together for a number of years then they will become a formidable force in the future. I would also like to thank all the parents for their commitment and enthusiasm. From assistance at training, to washing of the jerseys, to helping on the canteen, everyone pitched in and, in my opinion, made the whole experience and extremely worthwhile one.*

John Kirkness

Under 8's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Brendan	Carmichael	12	0	0	33	1	0
Andrew	Challinor	11	2	0	31	4	0
Timothy	Clulow	10	2	0	31	10	3
Emanuel	Comino	11	1	0	52	18	6
Samuel	Cutrupi	12	4	0	57	22	3
Travis	Green	12	13	3	12	13	3
Bradley	Horn	11	0	0	30	1	1
David	Horton	10	4	1	21	5	2
Valentin	Howard	10	0	0	10	0	0
James	Kirkness	12	0	0	29	5	3
Declan	McCulloch	12	0	0	33	2	0
Lachlan	O'Connor	10	1	0	10	1	0
Dominic	Simpson	3	0	0	3	0	0
Adam	Thompson	11	1	0	17	1	1
Kieran	Thompson	10	1	0	10	1	0
Alex	Tsathas	11	1	0	11	1	0
Cameron	Wardle	10	0	0	27	1	1

Under 9's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Ryan	Copper	14	5	0	64	14	2
Assem	Ewais	12	1	0	12	1	0
Adam	Garaty	14	0	0	32	0	0
Jarrod	Gollins	11	0	0	27	0	0
Kevin	Hodgson	14	8	1	14	8	1
Jake	Kefford	14	7	0	74	22	3
Robert	Lippiatt	13	0	0	13	0	0
Damien	Martin	4	0	0	30	1	4
John	Mallitt	7	0	1	27	2	1
Sione	Masima	7	5	0	15	6	0
Samuel	McGinty	13	0	1	58	3	4
Tom	Messervey	11	2	5	30	5	5
Cameron	Ryan	12	0	0	42	0	0
Timothy	Smart	14	4	0	73	26	7
Tamara	Temaipi	12	1	0	46	4	0
Matthew	Young	14	0	0	14	0	0



## 2001 Oatley Under 9s

Overall it was a very enjoyable season for all the team. They all improved their skills both individually and as a team. In under 9s the positional play starts to become critical and we gradually found where most players were best suited.

Unfortunately we had few victories this season and saved our best for tournaments. Invariably, we did well when playing 12 or more a side, however, we were often asked to play down to 8 a side often with 7 players on the bench. Despite the reduced game time and disappointing results the boys never lost heart and kept a great attitude. This will stand them in good stead next year when 12 a side will be the minimum.

The forwards generally held their own in most of the games. When our forwards all got to the breakdown we usually retained possession.

Adam Garaty, Matthew Young and Jordon Pond generally played prop. Adam greatly increased his involvement throughout the season. By season's end he was getting to most breakdowns and having several decisive runs with the ball. Matthew also improved his involvement throughout the year and in the final games discovered his special talent for ripping the ball. Unfortunately Jordon never came to terms with the physical aspect of the game and left us part way through the year.

Robert Lippiatt, Assem Ewais and Sione Massima all hooked during the season. All proved to be proficient hookers almost always winning our feed as well as several against the feed. This is a credit to their determination as well as our props. Robert was generally first choice hooker whenever on the field as he also has a great throw at the lineout. Assem played a great deal in the second row and made decisive pick and drives in almost every game. Sione has fantastic talent in almost all facets of the game and played well in just about any position. Not only is he great defensively with a good low technique, he also has a great burst of speed and hunger for the ball.

Ryan Copper, Thomas Messervy, John Mallet and Damien Martin generally played lock. Ryan was outstanding in every game and generally led the forwards around the field. He combined well with Robert in the lineouts and always had many runs gaining huge metres. Thomas also had a great year. He combined well with the rest of the team and made most of his yards from second phase play. John rejoined us part way through the season and really enjoyed his return to rugby. His size and determination gave the team more aggression particularly in attack. He was also aggressive on the loose ball. Unfortunately Damien also left us during the year after struggling with the physical aspects of the game.

P.T.O.

## U9's Cont.

The backs often found themselves up against larger opponents. In general they handled the challenge well when they worked together, however, this was not always possible due to small numbers in the opposing teams. The importance of one on one tackling and straight line defence was a lesson learnt in the first five minutes of every game. Towards the end of the year we finally overcame the slow start which was a good habit to get out of. Jake Kefford generally played halfback. He played very well in general play and was always strong defensively. In several games he played further out in the backs which allowed him the space to show his speed, scoring several tries.

Kevin Hodgson, Timothy Smart and Tamara Tamaipi were our centers. Kevin had a wonderful year and scored nearly every time he was given the ball with room to move. He has a great step and speed and scores in only one spot - right under the black dot. Timothy was without doubt our best defender literally putting his body on the line almost every game. Occasionally he showed his personal ability in attack but generally was happier giving the ball to an outside player. Tamara declared this to be her last season but still stuck with us to the end. She probably played her best games at halfback but certainly has the ability to play at any position, beating the opposition by step and speed rather than brute force.

Jarrold Gollins, Samuel McGinty and Cameron Ryan were our wingers throughout the year. All found they were far more involved in defence than attack, often left alone to take care of three or more attackers. Over the course of the year they became more vocal in calling for help which made the defence far more solid. Jarrold usually made several trysavers every game. He is also a great offensive player but we struggled to give him decent ball. Sam improved his positional play throughout the year. The year's highlight for Sam was playing halfback during one of our few wins in which he had a great game. Cameron enjoyed his football this year and is easily our keenest player and trainer. His highlights came towards the end of the season making one on one trysavers which were greatly appreciated by the rest of the team.

*Although they are an exuberant group they did gradually settle into the training throughout the season. This was due in no small part to the assistance of other parents, in particular Tony Hodgson and also Peter Garaty and Vincent Ryan. Thanks also to Mark Maunder for coaching the team on several occasions, particularly when I was unable to attend. It takes the help of all parents to make a successful season, however, Jamill Tamaipi in particular must be thanked for volunteering to manage the team. She did a great job all year and organised a great team BBQ which was appreciated by all.*

Ian Young

## 2001 OATLEY UNDER 10's ANNUAL REPORT

Jack Gibson (former Rugby League coach) says its not a good season if it doesn't end with a win. I'm sure that I agree with Jack. We didn't win our semi-final but it wasn't from a lack of trying, sometimes things are just not meant to be. If is probably the most used sporting word in the world so while I've been known to borrow the odd cliché I'm not going to dwell on it...

The season started with a bang – new coach Mario took the boys to victory in the Eastwood Marist Bros seven a side tournament. They got better with each match and their infectious enthusiasm meant that the parents didn't notice the drizzling rain as they charged to victory.

Our entry into Southern Zone meant a new level of administrivia for the team management. Gone were the friendly match up games against our Southern Districts rivals. The team sign on sheet has formalised our games – the players have enjoyed the importance of putting their our mark on the scoresheet and while we haven't adopted a win at all costs approach – we play conscious of the fact that each game's result does matter at the end of the season.

A number of players tried out for Southern Districts development squad, those that took part enjoyed the extra training and games. A highlight of the season was Mothers' Day champagne breakfast at St Ives at 8:00 am. The croissants, French jam and crystal glasses meant it was a breakfast with style – did someone say what about the football – yes the boys played well too.

In the competition proper we won our fair share of games and in every game we were spirited opposition. Mario drilled the team on 3 'pick and drives' and while watching the Bledesloe at the end of the season I found out what that meant! We are lucky to have a few utility players but the majority have gravitated towards more permanent positions.

Hopefully I am right in saying that the team has matured as a group this season. While these aren't a 'natural fit' of personalities off the field, they are learning the advantages in focusing on each others strengths rather than weaknesses. It was a real shame we didn't win that semi-final – have I told you about IF

SUE

## Under 10's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Tim	Atkins	11	0	0	37	7	8
Ben	Brookes	16	9	5	30	24	5
Nicholas	Boskett	16	0	0	54	3	3
Angus	Crowe	8	2	0	34	1	0
Myles	Doyle	8	2	0	32	3	0
Rohan	Graham	17	9	0	96	75	2
David	Horsley	17	4	0	59	9	0
Boris	Lo	10	0	0	10	0	0
Aaron	Malouf	17	8	7	47	15	14
Daniel	Malouf	14	1	4	44	15	41
Sebastien	McCulloch	15	1	0	85	2	1
Mitchell	Reece	16	0	0	59	0	0
Steven	Kalagurjevic	16	14	0	43	52	3
Jack	Lauricella	17	4	7	84	10	16
Gerrard	Sansom	12	0	0	12	0	0
Bernadette	Smith	10	1	0	10	1	0
Anthony	Tsathas	13	1	0	13	1	0
Peter	Woollett	16*1	2	0	66	8	1

## EDITOR WANTED

Due to work commitments Karen and Keith can no longer continue with the newsletter. The most suitable person is someone with a couple of hours per week to spare.

Essential criteria;	a love of Rugby a sense of humor an ability to read a computer
Desirable criteria;	ability to turn on a computer photocopying experience an ability to cut and paste e-mail internet access a plus
Your Reward;	a share in the publishing empire small financial compensation

Interviews will be conducted at the bar in the Masonic Club Auditorium all afternoon with Karen and Keith, or for more details contact our friendly President Richard. And remember any newsletter is a good one.

**OATLEY RUGBY UNDER 11s****END OF YEAR REPORT - 2001****Changes from 2000**

Last year's players returned, except for one who stayed with the 10s, and we welcomed 5 new players to give us 20 players by the end of the year. Unfortunately, absences by players during the season was double that of 2000, with illness and injury to our 3 rep players especially, adversely affecting the team. It wasn't until the last game that everyone was there together. The big change this year was playing the full 15-a-side rugby, with lifting in lineouts being greatly enjoyed by the boys.

**The Players**

- Luke Allen** - Shows considerable pace and determination playing on the wing. One of the smallest in the team, but quite fearless and a pleasure to coach.
- Ryan Allen** - Has once again proved to be a determined ball runner and ferocious tackler. For his weight, equal best tackler on the team. Generally wing or outside-centre, but had a stint at 5/8th.
- Tim Edwards** - New to the club and rugby this year, and found that it is his game. Plays strongly in the second row, tackles well and loves to run with the ball.
- Brett Emanuel** - Played half, centre and wing and has lately performed well at 5/8<sup>th</sup>. Quite fast and determined, and a very capable tackler.
- Peter Francis** - Played No. 8 and breakaway mainly, with stints in the back line. Always took the ball forward and set up for team-mates. One of our better defensive players and maulers.

P.T.O.

**U11's Cont.**

- Jarrod Green** - Showed good improvement throughout the year. He tackled well and was one of the most enthusiastic team members, playing as breakaway or a midget second rower. A keen and competent lineout jumper.
- Liam Higginbotham** - New to the team this year, but continued his good form from 2000 to again gain rep selection and be a very effective prop. He is a clever and powerful runner and often scored from the lineout.
- Jason Hoffs** - New to rugby this year, and proved to be a very valuable centre and our fastest player until Soatame arrived. He is an excellent cover defender, and thanks are due, as, despite moving to Campbelltown during the year, he still attended training.
- Austen Lavelle** - Also continued his development into a technically good rugby prop and is also a very strong mauler with top skills in setting up the ball.
- Luke Maunder** - Moved to breakaway where his enthusiasm in chasing the ball led to him being the team's highest try scorer. He was never far from the action in attack or defence.
- Jordan McCulloch** - His size and strength enabled him to make good ground through the opposition when he had the ball, and his mauling strength should make a difference in tight. Played at prop or 2<sup>nd</sup> row.
- Andrew Moran** - Injury during a game saw him miss a lot of games, but played competently at five eighth (and more recently in most other backline positions with confidence). A clever sidestepper in attack and a front-on defender.
- James Ritchie** - Played 11s instead of 10s again, playing in any position we needed him: wing and second row especially. On the wing, he showed determination and speed and produced some solid tackles.

P.T.O.

## U11's Cont.

- Tom Roberts - Mainly played hooker or second row, and has had some very effective games where he charged down the opposition from the lineout. In his seventh year he still runs hard with determination.
- Tommy Ryan - Played at fullback all year where he was always looking for opportunities in attack. Exhibits smart running skills, was our prime goal kicker and capable in defence.
- Sam Scully - Always played to his best and ran through the opposition with strong, straight runs with the ball, playing at No. 8 mainly. His defence and mauling was very strong and he achieved SD representative selection and PSSA selection.
- Tyler Spitz - Due to injury, he missed many games, and his service at half-back was missed. A really hard tackler and strong runner, he is extremely enthusiastic in all he does. Achieved SD and PSSA representative selection.
- Soatame Taufa - Started with us late in the year, but has proven to be a devastating defender and, as the fastest in the team, and strongest in the backline, often broke through the defence. His first year of rugby has shown the promise of great things to come.
- Luke Townsend - Generally played at breakaway or on the wing, his stature limited his second row appearances where he excelled last year. He tackled well and is an enthusiastic team member.
- Robert Young - New to the team from Blakehurst, and another player that we asked to play in different positions; hooker, 2<sup>nd</sup> row and wing. Produced the occasional try saving tackle, hooked well in the scrum and threw in accurately.
- Others - Jack Lauricella helped us out on the occasion when we were short, as did Peter Woollett.

PTO

## U11's Cont.

## The Year's Highlights

The year's achievement was the equal 5<sup>th</sup> place finish out of 13 teams in the Southern Zone championship. Unfortunately, with many injuries and absences we didn't score sufficient points to get into the A group final series. However, the B group series was challenging and saw us into the grand final against Burraneer. We were all very proud of the way the boys played their hearts out, and ended up joint premiers with a 12 all draw after extra time on a hot day.

Three boys attained selection in the Southern Districts U/11s representative team, and two in PSSA.

Other highlights have been the regular boys' training and camping trip, pre-season play and swim afternoon, picnic, team family dinner and an end-of season weekend to Coffs Harbour.

## Results

Throughout the season we had 232 points for and 153 against with 36 tries.

<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Draw</i>	<i>Lost</i>
16	8	3	5

## Other Personnel

Tom Ryan was a great help at Wednesday training and at the game.

Simon Ritchie stepped aside due to James' school commitments, but assisted at training.

Mark Maunder as Club Coach assisted with the Elevens both at the game and training.

Rob Townsend, Murray Green and Darrin all assisted at training.

Murray and Rob for touch judge duties.

The "Birds on the bench" for their chorus.

All team members' parents, and other supporters many thanks for being there and willing to assist.

The Elevens are still a close knit group and it is great to be associated with all of them.

Special thanks to David and Kerry Lavelle for their continued valuable financial support of the club, the 11s team and for the 11's track suits.

Also special thanks to Murray and Jane Green for their sponsorship of 11's track suits.

John Francis - Under 11s' coach, 2001

Under 11's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Luke	Allen	15	0	0	28	1	0
Ryan	Allen	15	0	0	28	0	0
Tim	Edwards	14	2	0	14	2	0
Brett	Emanuel	17	0	0	47	13	4
Peter	Francis	17	0	0	93	50	10
Jarrold	Green	14	0	0	28	0	0
Liam	Higginbotham	12	5	0	12	5	0
Jack	Lauricella	13	0	1	67	6	9
Jason	Hoffs	14	6	0	14	6	0
Austen	Lavelle	16	0	0	45	1	4
Luke	Maunder	17	9	0	63	66	5
Jordan	McCulloch	15	0	0	85	3	12
Andrew	Moran	13	1	3	80	82	63
James	Ritchie	16	1	0	99	21	24
Tom	Roberts	16	0	0	89	28	14
Tommy	Ryan	16	4	4	46	51	17
Sam	Scully	13	5	0	46	20	2
Tyler	Spitz	8	1	1	37	59	7
Soatame	Taufa	9	2	0	9	2	0
Luke	Townsend	16	0	0	29	0	0
Robert	Young	15	0	0	15	0	0

**ORPHAN CARAVAN NEEDS HOME**

Gorgeous green caravan with yellow stripe needs a home during the off season. If you have a space in a backyard or factory unit etc. please let Keith know or he will end up sleeping in the caravan on the street.

His loving WIFE!!!!!!

**Super Twelves - 2001**

This was a very successful season for the team and included some outstanding achievements for the individuals.

After starting the year with only 11 original players we thought "oh no not again" - just like last year. However, after some strong recruiting we registered 4 more players (who had never played rugby before) and a quality player from the disbanded Blakehurst. We were also fortunate to obtain a trickle of league players through the season, all of whom performed very strongly in their positions and complemented our core players.

The underlining theme for this year was introducing the players to the concept of game plans; planning and training on Wednesdays and to adhere to and apply these strategies during the games.

While there is still a long way to go they are progressing quite well, which was eventually shown by the way they played in the Grand Final match. In this game it was evident that the preconceived tactics that we were to use against a very strong Clovelly side proved to be the winning formula.

The year started off with a bang when we won (again) the pre season Eastwood Marist College 7's Tournament. We were undefeated, scoring in total 34 tries to nil. The boys played some exciting, entertaining and disciplined football. As a coach it was very gratifying to hear other coaches comment on the sportsmanship shown by this team on and off the field and rewarding to see their mature approach to the game.

During the first three rounds of the season we came up against what we assumed would be the less competitive teams. By adhering to the game plans we amassed an incredible 226 - 5. We did not set out to demoralise the opposition but simply played and developed our style of football. We next met the top four teams from last year and surprisingly outclassed them. This proved to the boys that good preparation, application and teamwork will always overcome the opposition.

The last five rounds saw a repeat of earlier matches, but the boys never fell into the trap of playing down to the level of the opposition, but simply played their own game.

The finals series was supposed to be just 'more of the same' but a competitive Clovelly team, to their credit, rattled us and made use of a few of our mistakes to come away with a 26-24 win. In retrospect this was exactly what Oatley U12s needed - a goal to aim for - how to beat Clovelly when we meet them in the Grand Final (and the boys were most assuredly aiming for that).

In the final against Burraneer the boys played like a team possessed, and used this 'hitout' to practise our grand final "gameplan". The boys were rewarded with a 50-7 win, teaching Burra a thing or two along the way!

It's all history now.... but a very memorable day occurred at Nagle Park 9/9/01. A magnificent and extremely hard fought game resulted in a 23-20 win over Clovelly. The results of the 2001 Grand Final were a just reward for hard work prior to and during the game, doing what was practiced at training and not panicking. In short, sticking to the game strategy and pulling it off with will power and enthusiasm. As a result all the boys derived great satisfaction and enjoyment playing their rugby this year.

## U12's Cont.

Just a few stats... we were undefeated minor premiers with a total of 852 points for, 94 against (46 of these scored by Clovelly) - 142 tries, 68 conversions and 2 penalty goals. We have 7 boys in the team who have played more than 100 competition games, with a further 3 attaining this next year. Two of the league players also won their Grand Final.

**Darren Bradley:** Nice to have the current Southern Districts rep hooker join our team. New to our club from Blakehurst, admirably filling the position we were desperately seeking. Loves the close tight work and throws a precise lineout ball. Had a great grin when he discovered we had two fair dinkum props to support him.

**Michael Caudre:** Michael started the season new to rugby and unsure of himself, but finished strongly as Oatley's answer to Matt Dunning, thoroughly enjoying himself. Michael, please don't lose your refreshing approach to training, we all love your beaming face as you laugh your way through bullrush!!

**Joshua Cutrupi:** Josh started the year a little bit low in self confidence which was forcing him to hesitate. He quickly remedied this problem by just playing to his vast potential, (as shown by his touch football prowess), and finished the year as a solid all round performer.

**Hugh Deasey:** Hugh was new to rugby, and indeed all body contact sports, but showed a good appreciation of the game until he missed many weeks due to a sore foot. This slowed his progress for the season but still finished as a valuable member and contributor to the team. I look forward to next season when I can spend more time on his development.

**Mitchell Emery:** Even though he is new to rugby this year we call him Mr Versatile. He played everywhere except the front row and halves (as yet). He filled all positions with distinction and we look forward to the 2002 season when he can refine his skills for a particular spot.

**Bryant Hall:** It was only two years ago that he was very wary of tackling and uncertain whether he wanted to continue playing. What a difference now. Watching the Grand Final video this year highlights how much work he really does... even more than we already knew. Fantastic work rate from our open side flanker and some very strong tackling indeed.

**Christopher Holland:** Yet another tremendous season from our experienced 2<sup>nd</sup> rower. He set himself 3 goals for this season. To win the Club State Championships, win the Club Premiership, and to be chosen for the NSW PSSA State rugby team. He has achieved all those as well as winning the PSSA State Championships!! Co-captain of the PSSA Sydney East Rugby team he is a pleasure to coach, congratulations Chris on your achievements.

P.T.O.

## U12's Cont.

**Robert Horne:** As captain and five-eight he led this team courageously. He is widely praised as the best defensive player in all the competition. Never gives anything less than 100% with a responsible and mature attitude to training and the game. He was rewarded with the well deserved position of co-captain in the PSSA Sydney East Rugby team.

**Timothy Lancken:** As in preceding years Timothy has proved himself very reliable on the wing in both defence and attack. He regularly amuses the management and team with his forgetfulness (he lost his lucky tape at the grand final but found it stuck to the bottom of his boot) but Timothy *always* remembers the important things on the field!

**Jesse Lauricella:** Our very own 'master tactician' Jesse can sometimes be a bit of a dreamer but he has loads of enthusiasm. When he is challenged he does very well - his performance in the grand final match supports this. Always responds well to 'lolly' bribery, and brings the loudest supporters to the game!!

**Jonathan Lazarus:** Johnno has polished up on his defence this season and made some very aggressive, almost bruising, tackles throughout the year. His enthusiasm is second to none, even after a disappointment he bounces back ready to take on the world. He is a pleasure to coach and his manners are a credit to his parents.

**Christian Mee:** A representative soccer player who joined us quite late in the season, but shows huge potential. He played on the wing and as reserve hooker. Christian has shown that he learns quickly and is eager to have a go at everything he is asked. Looking forward to seeing his progress next season.

**Rory O'Brien:** A 'prodigal son' to rugby, having played in U10s with Blakehurst then moving to league. Rory has brought stability to our backline as inside centre. He is deceptively strong and has developed over the season as an aggressive and reliable defender and attacker.

**Robert Sheahan:** Justly deserves his title as the "Man with the Golden Boot". Shows strengths in various positions. His skills are certainly at their best in 7-side rugby where his pace and an open field suit his style. The highlight of his season must have been kicking 11 from 12 conversions in one match.

**Luke Smart:** A veteran with the club, his lineout jumping has been excellent this year. Luke loves freelancing as a loose forward, mopping up and is our "charge down" king, which reflects his enthusiasm for the game. He took the position of vice captain seriously and lives, eats and breathes rugby.

**Chase Stanley:** Nephew of the famous All Blacks Joe Stanley, he plays in the same mould. As outside centre many of his 31 tries were a result of superb individual performances. By the end of the season his defence was literally crushing.

P.T.O.

## U12's Cont.

**Steven Stavroulakis:** Another new recruitment to football as a 2<sup>nd</sup> rower. He started to participate more confidently as the season progressed, at times leading and not just following the seasoned players.

**David Streamer:** He might appear mild mannered off the paddock but in fact David is a very capable prop forward who has been steadily improving over the years. His fantastic efforts in his school team is an indication of his potential. Looking forward to giving David more responsibility next season.

**Havea Taufu:** Another late recruit from league who is proving to be a Tongan twin to Afusipa. We anticipate that Havea's feats will duplicate Zip's in the forthcoming season as he develops his rugby skills. He has the Representative coaches talking.

**Afusipa Taumoepeau:** What do you say about an 11 year old boy in an U12 competition who has played in 3 State Championship teams, won all titles undefeated, and has represented his State in both Rugby Union and that 'other game'. Afusipa's name is well known and respected in all rugby circles. I just don't know how he is going to top these feats next season?

I would like to take this opportunity to again thank Steve Hall and Mick Holland for their valuable contributions throughout the year. As all of those who are close to the team know these two guys do more of the coaching than I do, and make a great job of it! The 'tri-nations' management team have very few disagreements and its nice to be able to mix the three different styles together. I hope that this team can stick together for future seasons.

Yet again the team is prepared and turned out in impeccable style due to the diligent hard work of our manager - Kerry. Its been one hell of a year for her with so many time and venue changes; but every alteration was done with only one thing in mind and that was to give every player the best opportunity to play. Well done and thank you.

Last but not least thanks to all the parents involved. We have a happy group of parents - both originals and new. I believe that a large part of the success of this team is due to the fact that so many parents attend and support the players - this contribution cannot be underestimated.

Next season promises to be fulfilling. Many plans are already underway and I welcome any constructive ideas you may wish to pass on.

**Bruce**

## Under 12's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Darren	Bradley	15#1	3	0	16	3	0
Michael	Caudre	16	3	0	16	3	0
Joshua	Cutrupi	16	4	0	74	18	9
Hugh	Deasey	13	0	0	13	0	0
Mitchell	Emery	16	10	1	16	10	1
Bryant	Hall	16	3	0	85	34	3
Chris	Holland	15	8	0	89	39	0
Robert	Horne	15	21	2	108	107	17
Tim	Lancken	14	0	0	103	6	8
Jesse	Lauricella	16	3	0	104	10	1
Jonathan	Lazarus	15	1	0	115	9	1
Christian	Mee	9	1	0	9	1	0
Rory	O'Brien	14	8	0	14	8	0
Robert	Sheahan	16	11	64	126	131	100
Luke	Smart	16	6	1	127	21	13
Chase	Stanley	13	31	2	13	31	2
Steven	Stavroulakis	13	0	0	13	0	0
David	Streamer	15	1	0	86	1	2
Havea	Taufa	8	9	0	8	9	0
Afusipa	Taumoepeau	14	17	0	99	84	10

# includes matches played for

Under 13's

# oatley

*by Timothy Lancken*

The morning dew was yet to settle  
As the teams ran on to the field  
With nervous looks and shaking hands  
They met for the final shield

The ball was placed, their heartbeats raced  
As it tumbled through the air  
The crowd yelled out in unison  
Hey Ref! It isn't fair

A twisted scrum had brought him down  
And he laid prostrate on the moistened ground  
The ambos rallied all around  
Then carried him off on a stretcher  
Teammates stood with hands on hips  
And cursed "we're gonna getcha"

The match was set with high emotion  
Spectators showing their devotion  
Players embroiled in desperate commotion  
At all costs each must win!

They chased the ball and never rested  
Against the team that they detested  
Muscles tensed and grazes festered  
To lose would be a sin!

With the full time siren clocking near  
Players ached in dreaded fear  
The scores were close the coach did call  
As each team scrambled for the ball

Our fly half passed the ball out wide  
The centre took it on the fly  
The mums and dads about to cry  
Over the line our final try!

*Written by Timothy  
Especially For the U12 Grand Final Match  
9/9/2001*





## Oatley Under 13's Report (2001 Semi-Finalist)

<b>Played</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Points For</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>258</b>		
	<b>Position</b>	<b>4th</b>			

The under 13's were involved in a wonderful and exciting rugby season. To go from only winning three games the previous year to being in the semi-finals this year was simply a magnificent effort and all who participated can be proud of their efforts. There were many highlights during the season none better than the 35-10 victory over arch rivals Sylvania at AR Hurst Field. Who can forget the 45m penalty goal from Ben Connolly and the ecstatic group of parents celebrating on the sideline. And what about the performances against front runners Burraneer which saw a narrow loss in the first round at Evatt and another hard fought encounter at John Dwyer. These games can be remembered for their hardness and the tenacity of the Oatley boys. We had a never say die attitude and an eagerness to never rest easy on a lead.

There was a warm welcome to all the new boys in the team: Nick Kassis, Dean Lockart, Dale Sullivan and Zac Crowe. These boys also played Rugby League and performed with distinction at both codes. Sometimes it was hard for them to get to matches on time and I thank them personally for their efforts. Also new to the team were Alex Galluzzo, our new front rower (who is also from a League background), Nick Futchter and Joseph Murphy. I hope you all enjoyed your first season of rugby and that your new friendships build in the future. And let's not forget Patrick Moran who came back from retirement to add some stability at the back.

Congratulations to Robert Streamer, Mitchell and Robert Temaipi, and Dale Sullivan who represented Southern Districts Rugby in the Under 13's representative team. The boys performed well and played a big part in winning the State Title. Well done guys, the club is very proud of your efforts.

The best is yet to come for this group of rugby players. We all agreed after the semi-final that "we have unfinished business in 2002".

Player performances:

**Robert Streamer** – Had his best season for the club and winning selection into the Southern Districts Rep team was a fitting reward for his efforts. Always in the middle of the action and willing to do the hard work, loves to score tries.

P.T.O.

U13's Cont.

**Chris Bernays** - His ability to think throughout the game and guide the way was a strong feature of Chris contribution this season. Chris won many tightheads in the scrum and his lineout work was a big bonus to the team effort. He was rewarded for his efforts by being made Captain and I think we have finally unearthed a leader.

**Alex Galluzzo** - In his initial year with the club performed with distinction in the front row. His lineout throws were responsible for forming a good combination with jumpers Ryan Griffiths and Chris Bernays. Alex enjoyed running with the ball and tackled solidly.

**Adam Masri** - Played the season alternating between hooker and prop. Adam was always full of enthusiasm and enjoys his rugby. Highlight of the season for Adam was scoring his first ever try, against Burraneer Red, with his Mum watching on.

**Jeremy Graham** – A solid and more mature season from Jeremy. He played in the second row and excelled in the hard work. Supported well in his lineout work and just loved to bash and barge a few opposition players. A great season.

**Nathan McKinley** - The quiet man of the team was a big improver this year, he was always in the thick of the rucks and mauls. Nathan defended well and is coming to grips with the intricacies of the game. A fine effort and I look forward to 2002.

**Doug Murphy** – This was Doug's first full season of rugby and he learned and improved with every match. His displays in the semi's were a culmination of his hard work. He has that little extra bit of aggression needed to become a top player.

**Mitchell Temaipi** – "Mr Eveready Battery" was always on the ball either running at the opposition or tackling anything that moved. Formed a great combination with Ryan Griffiths and Dale Sullivan. Another great season and a vital part of our success.

**Ryan Griffiths** – Played at No 8 and flanker. Ryan had a great season playing solidly in the pack. His defensive work was great - he is our best lineout jumper. Glandular fever kept him out of our semi's and he was sorely missed. Ryan will be back for more because he loves his rugby.

**Dale Sullivan** – A sensational first-up season playing rugby. Dale scored a stack of tries from No 8, ran with determination and tackled with ferocity. Still learning the game and will be much improved after this season. A great rugby talent and expect even better things next season.

P.T.O.

## U13's Cont.

**Adrian Clark-Sullivan** – Played flanker and was a big improver from last year. Only slight in build Adrian constantly put his body on the line with some hard tackling. He had his best season and I am sure more is to come – I've met his big brother.

**Joseph Murphy** – Came to the team as a new player to be with his big brother Doug. He had limited opportunities but is a quick learner and will be improved for the experience. A quiet young man, who was one of the best trainers, he will have a big season next year.

**Guy Walker** - A great season for our regular halfback. Guy organised well behind his pack and gave terrific service to his backs. He was always looking to attack when needed and was never far from the ball when defending.

**Zac Crowe** - Joined us late in the season and played his debut against East Walleroos. Zac is a great acquisition to the club. He is a halfback who possesses great skills and a tenacious attitude.

**Nick Kassis** - Was our new flyhalf for the season and improved with every match. This was a new form of game and a new position for Nick. Formed a great combination with his halves and outside backs. Has great skills and loves to tackle those big guys!

**Robert Temaipi** - A terrific season for Robert, he played at inside centre up until the semi's when he played at flanker when we were short due to sickness or injury. His attack and defence was always first rate and he combined well with new mates Nick K and Dean L. Was the mainstay of our backline and versatile enough to fill in at the scrum.

**Dean Lockhart** - Dean played in the centre position and excelled in both attack and defence. His game is built on strong hard running and he was a constant handful for opposing teams. Dean managed to snare a bagful of tries and had a great first season.

**Ben Connolly** – One of our big improvers of the year, Ben played at outside centre or wing and his positional play was first class. He lined up well in defence and ran with a lot of purpose. His defensive work with Robert T and Dean L provided an impenetrable barrier for opposition teams. And what about his goal kicking, a great effort. A top season.

**Nick Futcher** - Our new winger performed well and was always a handful for oppositions. Nick combines size with speed and scored some good tries, including a great intercept try. He's also a pretty good goal kicker. Nick will be improved by his efforts this season and I look forward to 2002 - his best is yet to come.

P.T.O.

## U13's Cont.

**Danny Masri** – "Danny the Dynamite Tackler" played on the wing and never allowed anybody to get around him. He is a tenacious character and just loves to confront the bigger guys. It was great to see him score his first try for the club, I'm sure the first of many. Well done.

**Patrick Moran** – Very solid in his play when playing at either wing (which he hates) or at fullback. Pat has a natural instinct to know what to do in any given circumstance, which leads to confidence of his fellow players. A valuable asset to the team's performance.

**Scott Gray** - Scott was strong as an attacking weapon from fullback or wing. He was safe under the high ball and strong in defence. He's learnt a lot this year about positional play and continues to add that valuable experience to his game.

I would like to thank all the boys and their parents for a wonderful season. The team performed well and we had an enjoyable time doing it. The friendships on and off the field were strengthened with plenty of activities and team functions. A special thanks to team sponsors Michele and Gary Walker of Walkers Haulage.

Pam Griffiths, our intrepid Manager, again performed with distinction. And who could forget our wonderful parent dinners at Oatley West Chinese. Thanks Pam for a job well done.

To my assistants at the coal face, Erkin, Osman and George Kassis, thanks for your efforts. Training was difficult at times but you got through it OK and the rewards were always enjoyable with the number of wins that the team recorded.

*Finally, some Special Awards for the year:***Parent of the Year**

Goes to George Kassis for his fine performance of pass-the-ball skills at the Annual Trivia Night. If you weren't present and want an explanation - just ask George. We eagerly await next year's efforts.

**Quote of the Year**

After many submissions the winner was Jeremy Graham for: "I just hate Sylva-

nia!!!" but I can't help mentioning that Nick Kassis is a close second for: - "No, I'm sorry my Dad's not home, he's in the shower????"

**Tip of the Year**

Definitely went to Ben Connolly for engaging a specialist kicking coach - his Mum, Leigh!!!

Thanks to all for a great season.  
Laurie McMartin

## Under 13's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Chris	Bernays	16	0	0	45	0	0
Adrian	Clarke-Sullivan	12	0	0	26	0	0
Ben	Connolly	14	0	27	30	7	33
Zac	Crowe	8	0	0	8	0	0
Nick	Futcher	16	4	4	19	5	4
Alex	Galluzo	14	0	0	14	0	0
Jeremy	Graham	13	3	0	93	22	10
Scott	Gray	16	1	0	29	4	0
Ryan	Griffiths	14	1	0	73	5	5
Nick	Kassis	15	1	0	15	1	0
Dean	Lockhart	13	16	0	13	16	0
Adam	Masri	16	1	0	42	1	0
Daniel	Masri	13	1	0	19	1	0
Patrick	Moran	16	0	0	88	16	20
Doug	Murphy	16	0	0	22	0	0
Joseph	Murphy	14	0	0	14	0	0
Nathan	McKinley	15	0	0	31	0	0
Dale	Sullivan	12	17	0	12	17	0
Robert	Streamer	16	4	0	87	16	0
Mitchell	Temaipi	11	0	0	129	61	3
Robert	Temaipi	15	1	0	140	43	1
Guy	Walker	13	1	0	27	2	1

## NSW Junior Rugby Union State Championships.

On behalf of Oatley Rugby, I'd like to congratulate all the players and officials involved in the teams who were a credit to both our Club and Southern Districts Juniors.

<b>Under 11's</b>	Liam Higginbottom Sam Scully Tyler Spitz	<b>Under 14's</b>	Tim Green Ben Horne Rhys Watts Matthew White Matthew Egan Ben Horne Andrew Tennent
<b>Under 12's</b>	Mitchell Emery Robert Sheahan Rory O'Brien Darren Bradley Chris Holland Luke Smart Afusipa Taumoepeau Robert Horne	<b>Under 15'</b>	James Terrey James Lazarus Johnnie Smith
<b>Under 13's</b>	Robert Streamer Mitchell Temaipi Robert Temaipi Dale Sullivan	<b>Under 16's</b>	Mark Bernays Ben Rowsell Chris Taufua Saone Pouletele
<b>Officials</b>	Under 11's Under 12's Under 14's	Mark Maunder (assistant coach) Bruce Smart (assistant coach) Lawrie McMartin (coach)	

**Congratulations to Jamie Terrey and James Lazarus, both of whom were selected in the Southern Zone Under 15 squad.**

**Congratulations also to Liam Higginbottom, of the Under 11's who was awarded the "Under 11 Forward of the Tournament"**

## OATLEY UNDER 16's

All in all this season was a very satisfying one tinged with a good deal of disappointment from bowing out in the minor semi-final. Disappointing because I truly believe that the boys deserved better in view of the effort they put in during the year.

In many ways, our fate was cast right at the beginning of the season, losing our first two games in the last play of the day. We paid dearly for less than 60 seconds of football spread over two games. I always felt that these two losses would come back to haunt us. It was the difference between playing in the sudden death semi-final or getting two bites of the cherry by finishing first or second.

The boys were certainly pumped for the semi but three or four experienced players picked up injuries during the week before the game. These boys played gallantly but wounded. James Lazarus was injured in a school game and unable to play and Mark Bernays was injured just after half-time. In the end we paid the price for being in a sudden death situation.

During the season we were either victorious or lost narrowly. Except for one blowout against Burraneer, we never beaten by more than a converted try. The semi-final was no different. Sylvania beat us 18 points to 12. It was 15 to 12 with a few minutes to go. Although there were a number of areas where we did not play to our best, we would have won the game if we had dominated the kick-offs. A phantom Sylvania injury just before half-time also cost us an opportunity to score. In rugby you are always learning. The message this time being that, more often than not, it is the full attention to the seemingly minor aspects of the game that wins matches.

As I said earlier, it was difficult not to be terribly disappointed because the boys really made a significant progression in their attitude to rugby. We also clearly achieved our first goal for the season and that was to arrive at the semi-finals knowing that we were as good as any of the opposition. Having beaten all teams during the year, we certainly achieved that goal.

This goal was supported by our desire to play to our best and to come off the field proud of our performance.

## UNDER 16's Cont.

After our early disappointments, I decided that at each training session we would spend a fair bit of time searching inside ourselves for some more to give. The boys accepted this challenge manfully. We had some killer sessions and the boys really learnt to dig deep. On number of occasions we had parents of other Oatley teams coming over to watch us finish off our sessions. In the end, I was just as proud of their training as I was with the way that they played.

The highlight of the season was our win against competition front runners, Burraneer. After being down 25 points to 8 at half-time. The boys regrouped to score 26 unanswered points in the second-half. It wasn't just the win but the way that we won. A complete shut out of the competition hot shots. It was one of those nights when you felt privileged just to be there.

I believe there is a very special feeling developing within this team which goes well past just winning or losing but delves deeply into contribution and commitment which makes them winners every time they go around.

On behalf of the team, I would like to thank Anne for her work and support as manager.

### Chris Taufa

Southern Districts Representative. Chris's considerable flair in attack was supported rock solid head-on defence. Scored some of the most exiting tries of the season.

### Chris Vasyli

In his first year of rugby, Chris really got in and had a go. Committed in defence and showed good pace in attack. An excellent listener. His personal highlight was a sixty-metre try against Menai.

### Daniel Hardie

In only his second year of rugby, Daniel continues to improve. Played strongly both at wing and fullback. With Daniel's attitude he will continue to do well.

### Joel Bruce

Although he has played most of his football at flanker, Joel played on the wing this year. Always busy and involved he continually took on much bigger opponents.

### Charlie Hawa

Charlie started the season late and then was unavailable due to illness. He has good skills and pace. Given a full year next year, he should come on in leaps and bounds.

**UNDER 16's Cont.****Lee Masters**

A big improver over the last couple of seasons. Lee's commitment in defence and to the ball at the breakdown is a lesson for all. He has a heart as big as himself.

**Erinn Hegarty**

Erinn continues to make a big contribution on the field both as a forward or at centre. Erinn probably needs to develop a bit of an ego because at his best he is great.

**Adrian Connor**

Adrian had a solid season playing both in the backs and forwards. A strong runner and good defender, he made a big contribution each time he played.

**Richardo Waerea**

Richardo was only with us for the last three games but he made an immediate impact. A good runner, strong defender and excellent at the breakdown. He added another dimension to the team.

**Ben Rowsell**

Southern Districts Representative. Ben was again amongst the best attacking backs in the competition. He combined his attacking skills with the ability to stay alive in defence.

**Adam Cork**

Adam had a very good season providing a stable link between the forwards and the backs. He led the side well when captain and backed up his words with personal commitment. Very good under pressure.

**Soane Polutele**

Southern Districts Representative. It was an absolute travesty that Soane did not make the NSW team. Genuinely, the most outstanding forward in the comp. Continually won the player of day awards.

**Mark Bernays**

Southern Districts Representative. Mark again made a big contribution to the team. His thoughtful captaincy ensured that we were always having a go at the opposition. Not one of the bigger forwards he was always prepared to take the ball forward.

**Justin Burton**

Justin played strongly in the backs and at flanker. He was good in defence and won plenty of ball at the breakdown. His personal highlight of the season was a 3 tries effort against Menai.

**James Lazarus**

Southern Districts/Southern Zone Representative. Another good season for James. We have come to expect a top-level performance every time he plays. He rarely disappoints. The move from hooker to flanker has allowed him to further display his skills.

P.T.O.

**UNDER 16's Cont.****Chris Rae**

Chris has a real natural talent. Plays equally well in the forwards or the backs. He is a good ball runner, quite elusive and a solid defender. He is another player who needs to believe more in his own ability.

**Riad Masri**

Riad is a great team man. If you could bottle his enthusiasm and positive attitude, you would give it to everyone in the Club. Our smallest forward, he threw himself into every opportunity. A big improver.

**Adam Copper**

Adam had a disrupted start to the season, breaking his arm early. He returned to display the skills that make him recognised as the best lineout jumper in the comp. He works hard around the field.

**Johnny Smith**

Southern Districts Representative. A very skilful player. Excellent ball runner, good defender, strong at the breakdown and excellent lineout skills. He is very aggressive and disrupts a lot of opposition play.

**James Terrey**

Southern Districts/Southern Zone Representative. James gained a lot of respect by deciding to stay with Oatley. A strong contributor, a real worker around the field. His consistency of effort and application helped lay the foundation of our forward based game.

**Todd Charlton**

In his first year of rugby, Todd really gained the respect of his team mates. He improved as the season progressed, mixing it with far more experienced opponents. His first up performance was most impressive.

**John Havea**

John added much needed size and experience to the pack. He played very well on a number of occasions. Good skills both in attack and defence. Opposition teams found him difficult to handle.

**Andrew Norris**

Andrew had an excellent season. Put a big effort into every game. His improved fitness allowed him to showcase his skills. His commitment was fine example to all. Should have been in the Rep. Team.

**Andrew Green**

A big improver. Andrew's football benefited from being installed permanently at hooker. He is a good striker and his lineout throwing is accurate and consistent. His general play continues to improve.

**ROSS**

## Under 16's

		2001			Club Total		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Mark	Bernays	14	1	0	55	4	0
Justin	Burton	9	3	0	17	7	0
Todd	Charlton	9	0	0	9	0	0
Adrian	Connor	12	0	0	12	0	0
Adam	Copper	8	2	0	130	27	0
Adam	Cork	12	0	1	79	3	17
Joel	Dawes	14	1	0	95	2	0
Andrew	Green	15	0	0	164	5	1
Daniel	Hardy	12	2	0	21	2	0
Sione	Havea	14	1	0	14	1	0
Charble	Hawa	7	0	0	7	0	0
Erin	Hegarty	14	5	0	28	6	0
Mitchell	Keats	1	0	0	124	3	6
James	Lazarus	14	1	0	171	25	0
Russell	Louden	1	0	0	75	0	0
Riad	Masri	14	0	0	45	0	0
Lee	Masters	12	1	0	46	4	0
Andrew	Norris	14	6	0	180	108	13
Sione	Polutele	15	16	0	18	17	0
Christopher	Rae	10	1	0	43	1	0
Matthew	Richardson	3	0	0	59	5	1
Ben	Rowsell	15	3	27	93	30	89
Johnny	Smith	14	2	0	14	2	0
Christopher	Taufa	14	4	0	14	4	0
James	Terrey	12	2	0	50	19	0
Chris	Vasyli	15	1	0	15	1	0
Ricardo	Waerea	3	0	0	3	0	0

## KENTWELL CUP GRAND FINAL MATCH REPORT FOR 2020

What a fantastic end to a marvellous season for the Oatley Rugby Club. Not only having secured the first division club championship for the first time but to make the Kentwell Cup Grand Final, against St.Ives, as well is a dream come true.

The match was played in true Oatley style, with a physical encounter up front from the forwards followed by some free flowing examples of adventurous rugby in the backs. As you would expect the first ten minutes of the match was extremely hard with Tom Barter and Josh Baratta having to forge some heavy yards. They were ably supported by 2nd rower Jarrod Parmenter and hooker Lance Dolan. As usual Tim Dunn was everywhere scrounging any loose ball that came his way.

Once the initial softening period had ended it was time for the backs to let it sing. In what can only be described as one of the finest examples of the running game ever witnessed by the 70,000 strong crowd at Stadium Australia saw a great lineout win against the throw from Sebastian McCulloch swing wide through the hands of halfback Andrew Moran, onto fly half Luke Maunder who skilfully unloaded to Nicholas Bennett playing inside centre. Nick was left with plenty to do before finally unloading the ball to the ever-present Angus Pryke to score in the corner. Captain Michael Beattie playing his 853<sup>rd</sup> game for the club, finally breaking Rod Dunn's club record set some ten years earlier, slotted the conversion right over the black dot.

There were a few penalty goals scored in the remainder of the first half with Oatley taking a lead to the break of 16-9. The match was poised for an explosive second half.

Explode it certainly did with the Oatley boys coming out from the break breathing fire. The first five minutes saw the Oatley pack score a demoralising push over try against a St. Ives pack that was really struggling against such strong opposition. Number 8 Declan McCulloch scored the try with a successful conversion attempt from Mick Beattie.

In an ugly incident Lance Dolan was sent to the sin bin for calling the referee a ball bag. His mother still cringes when she hears these two words put back to back.

The next try from Oatley saw Tom Barter bust through some ordinary defence before passing to his cousin Jarrod Parmenter. Jarrod was then able to link with winger Mitchell Winter before Mitchell kicked ahead for Jarrod who was still backing up to score a great try under the sticks. Gee you can see how young Jarrod was picked in the Australian side at such an early age, his skills are just second to none.

Needless to say Oatley went onto win the Kentwell cup with a final score of 35 to 9. Deanno the first grade coach was absolutely delighted with the way his young team had played. As to be expected there were plenty of the players fathers who celebrated long into the night reliving past battles.

## Forwards

Loose head prop	Joshua Barrata
Hooker	Lance Dolan
Tight head prop	Tom Barter
Locks	Jarrod Parmenter, Sebastian McCulloch
Number eight	Declan McCulloch
Breakaways	Tim Dunn, Jordan McCulloch

## Backs

Halfback	Andrew Moran
Fly half	Luke Maunder
Inside centre	Nicholas Bennett
Outside centre	Angus Pryke
Wingers	Mitchell Winter, Jonah Williams
Fullback	Michael Beattie



*The Ballad of The Oatley Boys*

The Oatley Boys are coming; O The Oatley Boys are here,  
With the green and gold jersey and a schooner of cold beer

We've got the best backs in the nation, the biggest pack you'll ever see,  
We are mighty rugby warriors  
We are the Oatley Rugby team.

We have a reputation for producing winning tries,  
And for tackling backs and smashing packs,  
And for great push over tries.

We've got the best backs in the nation, the biggest pack you'll ever see,  
We are mighty rugby warriors  
We are the Oatley Rugby team.

Editor  
Karen McCulloch  
Phone: 9580-5782  
Email:  
canadakeith@primus.com.au




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Rugby Club

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