

OATLEY

Rugby Club



50th Anniversary Year

ANNUAL JUNIORS' REPORT

2007



St George Maso's – Your Local Community Club

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REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS ~ 2007

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS

UNDER 10

Nicholas Bennett Joshua Pele
Jonathon Ryan Karaitiana Sa'u
Dominic Shade Alex Sherman
Dane Stephens

UNDER 11

Evander Pele

UNDER 12

Augustine Fidow
Sam Puckett
Wallace Matutu-Tangiiti
Brandon Paenga-Amosa
Junior Satiu

UNDER 13

Matagi Sa'u
Igshaan Woods

UNDER 14

No players wished to participate

UNDER 15

Assem Ewais
Jake Kefford
Rongomai Nukunuku
Elijah Peterson
Bruce Satiu
Timothy Smart

UNDER 16

Nelson Dale Kane Gillies
Mason Griffen Matthew Hanslow
Marcus Heather David Horsley
Aaron Malouf China Reweti
Taylor Ringland William Tu'ima
Manasseh Watene

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY UNDER 13

Stephen Crawford
Thomas Mallinson

SOUTHERN ZONE UNDER 15

Assem Ewais
Elijah Petersen
Bruce Satiu
Timothy Smart

SOUTHERN ZONE UNDER 16

Marcus Heather
China Reweti
Manasseh Watene
David Horsley
Taylor Ringland
Matthew Hanslow
William Tu'ima
Kane Gillies
Nelson Dale
Ben Volavola

A.R.C. SYDNEY FLEET UNDER 15

Assem Ewais
Elijah Petersen
Bruce Satiu
Timothy Smart

SYDNEY JUNIORS' UNDER 16

Nelson Dale
William Tu'ima
Ben Volavola
Kane Gillies (Shadow Player)
Taylor Ringland (Shadow Player)

**PRIMARY SCHOOLS
SPORTS ASSOCIATION**

Sydney South West – Junior Satiu

UNDER 6s GOLD

What a great year this was for the under 6 gold team and was enjoyed by players, coaches and parents. As a new parent to the junior side of club it was quite frustrating at times; however most rewarding seeing the kids development throughout the year, which culminated in the boys and girl winning the Southern District Gala day at the end of the year.

At this point I would like to thank all the parents who contributed oranges and lollies etc. I'd especially like to thank Lee for his time coaching they boys, Damien, for standing in when required and Sheridan for all her organisation.

All that is left for me to do is run through the team.

Darcy - The team's top try scorer and with one of the best steps in the game, I'm sure big things await this boy and I'll be interested to see how he progresses next year.

Harry - Was close behind Darcy in the try scoring department and cover defence was exceptional. Another great year Harry well done.

Jack - An uncompromising style of play, which must be the English in him. Came on leaps and bounds this year which was great to see

Mackenzie - The only girl in the team and was another player whose skills really developed throughout the year. Who could forget her first try a long range effort down at Sylvania. Great work Mack.

Morgan - A little terror and always wanted to get involved scored some neat tries, well done Morgs

Kane - I don't want to be bias; however this kid's no holes barred attitude in defence was outstanding and he was always keen to play and play up in the 7 a great first year.

Matthew - Loved to run and didn't care who he was scoring tries for, has a great ability to kick the ball on the run and tough as nails.

Nicholas - The last couple of games of Nicholas's were great to watch, he chased, ran with conviction and was rewarded with a try well done Nick.

Charlie - Charlie didn't see much game time. This boy is one tough kid and I think tackle we suit him down to the ground.

See you all next year. Cheers Justin
Assistant Coach

UNDER 8'S

Well that proved to be a very pleasing first year of tackle for the boys. I would like to thank all the parents for helping out at the games and training. A special thanks to Gale for her effort in managing the side, to Mick and Phil for passing on their knowledge and Rod for managing our reserves. Also thanks to Todd, Arthur and the committee for their hard work.

I was very pleased at the start of the year when I saw so many new players come to join the team. It was the first year for Ethan, Lachlan, Jacob, Gryffen, and Josh. Returning again were Riley, Wyatt, Sam, Andrew, Riley, Mitch and Angus. Together, all the boys embarked on their first year of tackle. In no time at all the team came together and their friendships seem to have developed well.

In reflecting on the year, I am so pleased with the character and determination the boys showed. It was insightful to be on the field with them and whilst they had some very good, (and the occasional not so good) games, they always tried their best and never played in a timid manner. It doesn't matter how skillful you are, if you lack courage and determination you will never make a good rugby side. Our boys have oodles of courage and determination and show signs that they have the desire to develop their skills.

Some brief highlights for me include: The spirit in which the boys contested the hard games. One game in particular against Burra, our boys tackled their hearts out. I was surprised how hard the boys were tackling. Whilst we went down narrowly, for me, that was the best game of the year. Also, Keeping in mind the boys are in the under 8's they managed to listen and practice well enough to use set moves. This is way above expectation for their age. This was a pleasure to watch and made me feel all warm and fuzzy. Towards the end of the year, 4 of our team played in the u9's in a sevens tournament and represented us grandly, certainly not out of place in the higher age group.

All in all it was a pleasing year and I sense the boys enjoyed themselves too. No one was injured, the boys showed great character and continued on their path of learning the great game of rugby.

Thanks boys, I hope you all stay together next year.

Danny Clark

No. 15, Ethan Waudby - And the coach said: *"Ethan are you ready for a 3?"*

Fullback or center. Ethan was our player who was responsible for receiving the ball in our most complex move. He always carried this out with great commitment and this also led to his first try in rugby. Against Blakehurst, "Lets have a three" was called; Ethan positioned himself beautifully, came in from fullback, took the ball on the inside of Lachlan and cut through to run 40m to score. This was a great effort considering the age of the boys. Ethan is a good listener. He is quietly determined and has good pace.

No. 14, Riley O'Connor - And the coach said: *"Riley, are you ok to keep playing?"*

Wing or lock. Riley is one of our most tenacious competitors. With a playing attitude like Ray Price, time after time he would dive into rucks and mauls, scrape himself up and keep going. I remember one game when Riley was making a flying run up the wing and was hit in a huge tackle; again, he scraped himself up and kept on going. Riley always sets an example. Mr. Perpetual motion, relentless in defence and attack.

No. 13, Lachlan Fitch - And the coach said: *"Don't worry, Lachlan's there!!"*

Fly half or center. Lachlan has a natural and practiced ability to defend. During one of our hardest games of the year, his skill and determination really showed. Burra are a very big, fast and skilled side. Our boys held them well and pushed them hard. Lachlan, as he did all year, continually cut down and drove back their big players. Lachlan's effort prompted the Burra coach to approach our team after the game and commend him. Lachlan also scored many good tries. Lachlan is the best defensive player in the competition, an elusive runner with a good turn of speed.

No. 12 Joshua Mihaljek - And the coach said: *"Good hit Josh"*

Josh joined us towards the end of the season and we are glad he did. Josh picked up the game very quickly. His desire to be involved and his determination gave us a window into his potential. Josh played most of his time at center but did occasionally pack into the second row. He has a love of defending and this shows in his enthusiasm. Josh is an elusive runner with a good step and this led to him scoring in his first and subsequent games. Josh is a good utility player, elusive runner and never shirks a task. We look forward to seeing Josh develop next year.

No 11, Angus Mullins - And the coach said: *"We are a good chance of stealing the ball back here."*

Scrum half. Angus started his second year of rugby on the wing but his determination and activity in the game made it impossible for me not to play him at scrum half. Angus improved hugely through the year and his lack of fear made him one of the best spoilers in the game. Angus literally participated in 99% of our defence. Angus's involvement was evidenced particularly against Rockdale.

We had just scored a try and had the kick off. Angus kicked the ball deep, chased

hard, stole the ball 1m from Rockdale's try line, passed the ball and we scored. His ability to steal the ball also directly lead to his first try in rugby. Angus is a natural scrum half. He has a good pass and is a relentless defender and stripper of the ball.

No.10, Andrew Clark - And the coach said: *"We need a try, Andrew are you up for another run?"*

Fly half or center. Andrew ran and ran and ran. Our team has boys who contribute in different ways; Andrew scores tries! Andrew's ability to read the game and his pace lead to him scoring many tries, most of them deep from within our half. I was most pleased by Andrews's involvement in the tough games. Andrew also saved many tries in cover defence. A strong runner who reads the game well, one of the fastest boys in the competition and a good cover defender.

No. 9, Riley Williamson - And the coach said: *"Get him Riley"*

Hooker or scrum half. Riley's enthusiasm and courage makes him a pleasure to coach. Because of Riley's courage and ability to listen, he has played in many positions but mainly at scrum half or hooker. Riley packs a real punch in defence. His technique combined with his courage sees him being very effective. Riley has blatant determination and lack of fear in tackling big players. Riley always tries his best and gets very involved. Mr. Courageous, non-stop defender, good kicker a very important member of our team.

No. 6, Sam Tuni - And the coach said: *"I hope he doesn't hurt him.... too much."*

Front row or lock. Sam is one of our strong men. Sam delivered some crunching hits this season; I always cringe when I see him run into mauls. In particular, in one of the early rounds against Menai, Sam made us all shudder by delivering a copy book tackle, burying his shoulder into the carcass of a Menai player running up the side line. I think we all said "ouch".

A hard running forward with plenty of spirit, who will develop into a very good rugby player.

No. 4, Wyatt Gavan - And the coach said: *"Go Wyatt"*

Lock. Wyatt pulls the scariest face on the field. Whether defending or attacking, he does everything 100%. Wyatt has been a very important member of the club over the past 4 years and he and his family will be missed. We wish you luck Wyatt at your new club and I have no doubt you will develop into a very god back rower. Wyatt is a fast aggressive defender with very good fitness, who never slows down.

No. 2, Gryffen Cunningham - And the coach said: *"We need this lineout Gryff."*

Hooker. Gryffen has a very good lineout throw. All year we have been practicing our moves from set plays and Gryff's ability to consistently throw the ball in well,

gave our backs every opportunity to execute our moves. Gryffen has a very accurate and reliable line out throw and has improved throughout the year.

No. 16, Mitchell Maude - And the coach said: *"Run straight and hard Mitch!"*

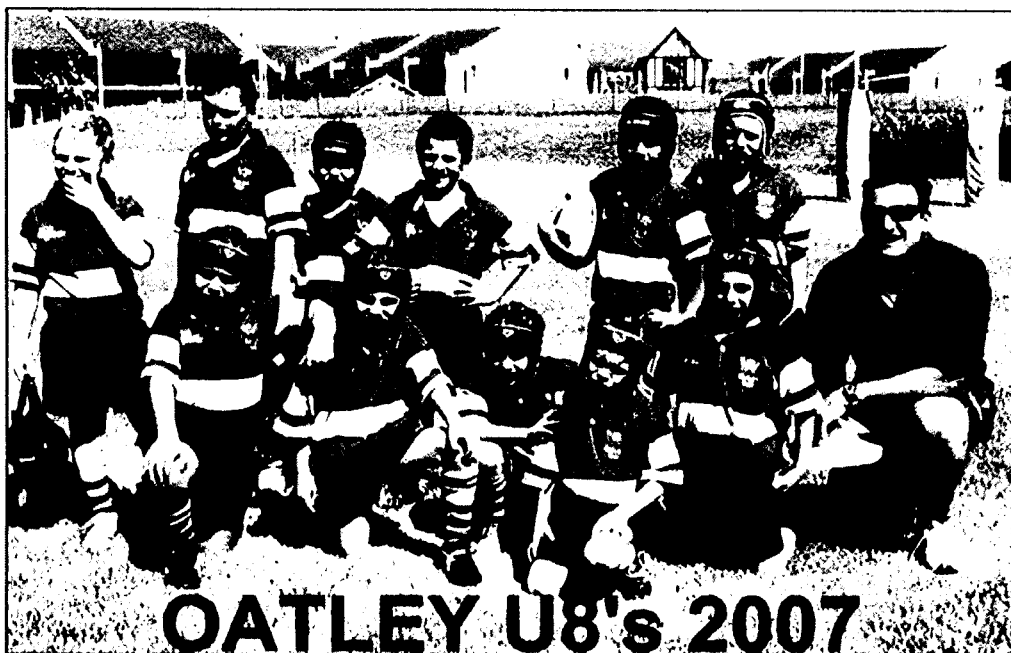
Front row. This is Mitch's (aka Dirty Harry) second year at rugby and he is starting to have an impact the way we knew he would. Mitch can be a devastating runner with the ball. In one game, Mitch took the penalty tap about 20m out from the oppositions try line, he ran hard and straight and dragged half the oppositions players with him as he crashed over for a classic front rowers try. Mitch also proved to be a reliable goal kicker. Mitch is a strong, hard running front rower who is very hard to stop when close the opposition line.

No. 18, Jacob Zeitoun - And the coach said: *"Pack in hard Jacob"*

Front row, front row or front row. Jacob is born front rower. You may not appreciate it from the sideline, but Jacob has a tendency to give a "little nudge" to the opposition front rower when the scrum packs. He uses a technique that would bring a tear to many old front rowers eyes; he gives the opposing front rower a smile (to give them a false sense of security), moves in then "crack" Glasgow kiss! A big strong boy, with a perpetual smile. I look forward to seeing Jacobs's rugby develop in the coming season.

No. 7, Joquain Suter

Although he trained frequently, Jolquain played just the one game for us this year, which he did with great vigor. We look forward to hopefully seeing you back next year.



Oatley Rugby Club

UNDER 6 Green

		2007			CLUB TOTAL		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Blake		17	12		17	12	
Curtis	Palmer	17	0		17	0	
Dylan	Heal	17	0		17	0	
Elijah		17	27		17	27	
Enda		17	0		17	0	
Justin	Cordi	17	2		29	2	0
Jackson	Keightley	17	0		17	0	
Patrick	Kosseberg	17	40		29	43	0
Quinn		17	28		17	28	
Robbie	Benjamin	17	1		17	1	

did not compile

UNDER 6 Gold Player Statistics for 2007 not submitted

UNDER 6 Green Team Report for 2007 not submitted

UNDER 7s Team Report and Player Statistics for 2007 not submitted. Unfortunately the 2008 Under 8s has been disbanded. Some players have remained in U7 and others playing up in U9s. The Club's aim is to restore this team in 2009.

UNDER 8s

		2007			CLUB TOTAL		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Andrew	Clark	16	70	14	42	194	69
Gryffen	Cunningham	15	0	1	15	0	1
Lachlan	Fitch	12	12	0	12	12	0
Wyatt	Gavan	13	2	0	54	19	4
Mitchell	Maude	12	5	9	23	5	9
Josuha	Mihaljek	6	4	1	6	4	1
Angus	Mullins	15	1	3	27	9	11
Riley	O'Connor	15	4	2	27	10	8
Joaquain	Suter	1	0	0	43	22	6
Samuel	Tuni	14	2	1	55	12	6
Ethan	Waudby	15	2	3	15	2	3
Riley	Williamson	15	0	3	41	0	10
Jacob	Zeltoun	14	0	3	14	0	3

UNDER 9'S

2007 saw the boys start the season in fine form, going through the Rockdale Gala Day undefeated. They carried this form into the season proper, by beating teams they have never beaten before. The boys played some excellent rugby over the season, the highlight being the first 5 minutes of their first home game at Evatt Park; they demonstrated some good ball winning skills at the breakdown followed by some excellent phase play, resulting in the winger scoring in the corner. They have showed that they can control the ball when they try, which frustrated all the teams we played against during the year. All this culminated in reaching the Grand Final in our own Gala Day.

The end of the season was a bit disjointed, and it showed on the field, with the boys not quite showing what they are capable of, in the last few games. The trip down to Canberra for the 7's was a good fun weekend, and I'm sure they will all be looking forward to it again next year.

Overall all the boys showed improvement throughout the year. We hammered defence this year, as we will again next year, and it showed with some good tackles being made. Teamwork was also a big factor in all aspects of training, from defensive alignments to support play and recycling the ball. Individual glimpses of brilliance still came through, with some draw and pass skills and sheer courage in head-on tackles of players twice the size.

I would like to thank the coaches, Richard Rice, Vince Bottos and Greg Ryan for their help throughout the year, especially at the end when I couldn't make a couple of sessions. The parents of all the boys also get a big thank you from me for their continued support throughout the season. Their support stretched not only to me, as the coach of their boys, but in the running of the canteen on any home game, Oatley's Gala Day and any other job that needed doing. We have enjoyed a very good year for Oatley Junior Rugby Club, helped in no small part by these parents.

Mytchell Cassidy started the season slowly but really came on during the year. He started tackling everything and his running with the ball was always breaking the first line. Sadly his season was cut short by growing problems with his lower legs. I look forward to seeing him carve up the opposition next year.

Thomas Rice was always strong in defence and attack and got stronger as the year went on. Some of the things he did during the season were brilliant, so I hope he can repeat them more often next season.

Thomas Kossenburg had his first season of rugby this year and found it a bit

difficult early on, but as the season progressed he found himself in the right spot and made a few incisive runs.

Brendon Bottos was our captain and ran the boys around the field, leading by example. His organising skills kept the team from getting into trouble on more than one occasion.

Luke Mihaljevic was easily the best trainer in the team. He took in everything that was taught and then used it during the following game. He played well above his weight and was the most consistent player throughout the season, pulling in some courageous tackles and always trying to drive over to secure possession.

Jack Ryan is the smallest in the team, yet you wouldn't know it to see him play. He was always hurrying the forwards at the scrum and lineout and made some fantastic darting little runs to get the team over the advantage line on many occasions.

Mataele Taufu showed his strength at all times with and without the ball in hand. He is a very elusive runner and a very strong defender. More importantly he showed a willingness to listen, and improve, to play a team game.

Oliver Herbert is easily the best open field runner on the team. A little bit of room will see him accelerate through and away most opposition players. On the flip side he was a very determined defender and would chase down all but the fastest opposition players.

Matthew Yates had a very good year at halfback, taking control of the back of the ruck area and controlling the distribution of the ball with some good passing. He was also noted for his covering and pulled several attackers up.

Jake Powers had a good year playing on the wing. At times, when everyone else had joined the maul he would be the only defender to cover the opposition backline. He was always close by in support and as a result had some good runs in open space.

James Mood is a future No.7. He made some great tackles and was always pressuring the opposition first receiver. He always went in hard and wouldn't take a backward step. Some of his runs nearly had him in the backs.

Liam Molloy learnt the benefits of securing and controlling the ball midway through the year and then proceeded to get several of the man of the match awards. A lot of our possession throughout the year was because of his diving over the ball, well done!

Zachary Brown played fantastic rugby at times throughout the season. Some of his

cleanouts were superb, some of his tackles would drop the opposition, and some of his running would take us well over the advantage line. I hope to see all these things more often next year.

Overall, this was a good year for the boys; they were introduced to a few new concepts and were drilled repeatedly in few old ones. I look forward to next year going up to join the Junior Club proper, playing a whole range of new teams, as well as having contested scrums and lineouts. I would expect the gap to narrow between them and the better teams next year.

See you all next year,
Arthur Brown

UNDER 9s

		2007			CLUB TOTAL		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Brendon	Bottos	19	4	22	60	29	63
Zachary	Brown	20	5	0	78	17	4
Mytchell	Cassidy	10	8	0	49	34	6
Oliver	Herbert	11	7	0	18	23	0
Thomas	Kossenburg	20	0	0	20	0	0
Luke	Mihaljevic	18	0	0	30	0	0
Liam	Molloy	19	2	0	31	2	0
James	Mood	19	10	0	43	13	0
Jake	Powers	15	1	9	78	23	36
Thomas	Rice	20	5	0	62	21	4
Jack	Ryan	19	0	0	31	0	0
Mataele	Taufa	16	25	0	25	40	0
Matthew	Yates	19	0	0	30	1	0

~ THE OATLEY RUGBY CLUB ~

By PETER SCIBBERAS 1987
(Inspired by A.B. Patterson)

Read by Ross Williamson Oatley Rugby Club 50th Anniversary Dinner

It was 12 miles south of Sydney in the land of many a pub,
that they formed an institution called
.....THE OATLEY RUGBY CLUB.

They had tough and robust forwards who were often found in packs
and a team was never formed that could match them in the backs.
Though their style of playing Rugby was irregular and rash,
they had mighty little science but a mighty lot of dash.

And they wore funny little jumpers that money could not buy,
and their boots were always unpolished and their throats were always dry.
And they used to train those players drinking schooners in the pub,
they were demons were the members of
.....THE OATLEY RUGBY CLUB.

It was somewhere up the northside, in the city's smoke and steam
that a Rugby club existed called the Saint Ives Rugby team.
As a social institution t'was a marvellous success
for its members were distinguished by exclusiveness and dress.
They wore natty little jumpers that were gold and blue and sleek
for their cultivated owners only wore them once a week!

So they travelled down to Oatley in pursuit of sport and fame
for they meant to show the Oatley boys how they ought to play the game.
And they brought their girlfriends with them -
just to give their boots a rub,
then they started operations on
.....THE OATLEY RUGBY CLUB.

Well my listeners can imagine how the contest ebbed and flowed
when the Oatley boys got going it was time to clear the road
And the game was so terrific that ere half time was gone
a spectator's leg was broken just from merely looking on.

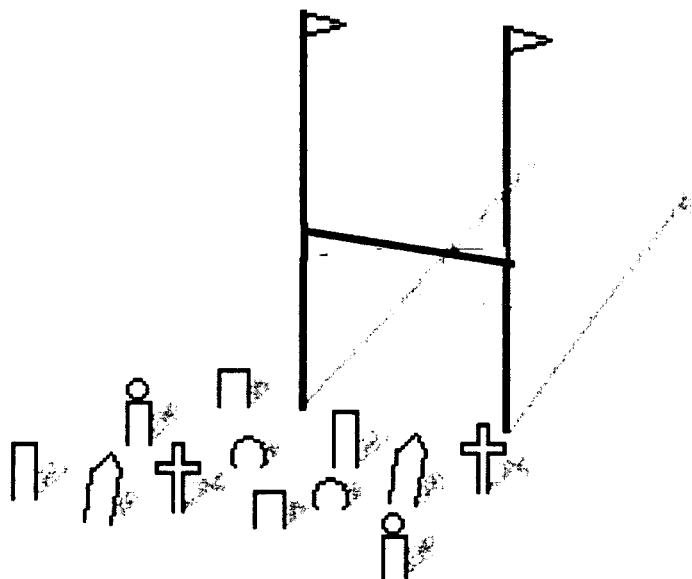
Well they rucked with one another till the field was strewn with dead,
and the game was kept so even that neither team could get ahead.
And when the Saint Ives Rugby captain tumbled down to die,
the last surviving player and so the game was called a tie.

Then, the captain of the Oatley men raised him slowly from the ground,
his wounds were mostly sprig marks yet he fiercely gazed around,
there was no one to oppose him all the rest were in a trance,
so he stumbled to his feet for his last expiring chance
for he meant to make an effort to get victory to his side
And he made the line, and dropped the ball,
And tumbled down and died!

By the Evatt Park showground where the goalposts gently sway,
there's a row of little gravestones from which the players keep away,
for they bear the rude inscription saying *Stranger drop a tear,*
for the Saint Ives Rugby players and the Oatley boys lie here.

And on misty moonlit evenings when the stray dogs howl around,
you could see the shadows flitting down that phantom rugby ground.
You could hear the loud collisions as the flying players meet,
and the rattle of the knuckles and the rush of forward's feet
till the terrified spectator runs like blazes to the pub,
he's been haunted by the spectres of

...THE OATLEY RUGBY CLUB.



UNDER 10'S

Well done U10s for another great year which saw each of you consolidate on last year and develop your skills, ability and team play even further. We had four new players join the team, including two who had no previous rugby experience. The old boys welcomed Darcy Whitfeld, Michael O'Toole, Anthony Saker and Argie Alaso to the squad and each boy made an essential contribution to team effort and strategy throughout the season.

In the regular weekly competition the boys finished a very commendable 5th place out of 14 teams, in an expanded zone competition where we played teams we had not played previously. Our boys were extremely competitive and the games we lost were only by slim margins. (... other than one out of character game in the middle of the season.)

The boys went to Marist College Eastwood 7-a-side Tournament again this season, led by super sub-coach Glenn McLachlan on the day. Our boys earned a spot in the grand final as they did last year, winning some spirited qualifying games and once again coming away with the 2nd place trophy, to a team that hasn't lost a match in three years.

We had our first go at the Canberra 7-a-side Tournament. It was great for our boys to play against teams they haven't played before and show some of the more fancied local sides of Northern Pirates, Grammer and Gungahin, how to play rugby. It was also satisfying to beat our local arch-enemy, Sylvania along the way. The boys went very well but were knocked out in the semi losing by a one try margin, which was their biggest losing margin in the tournament.

They say you can't win matches without good forwards working hard all game. The teams strength was definitely the forwards; Karaitiana, Darcy, Dominic, Tony, Nicholas, Owen, Sydney, Michael, Anthony and Argie. These guys worked hard as a pack all season, not the biggest pack but certainly dominating all other forward packs especially in the scrums with and against the feed. They tackled fearlessly even against boys a lot bigger than themselves, and worked tirelessly at the breakdown.

We beat Burraneer Blue for the first time ever - and we did it twice this season!

In the backs our halves and ball-players were Matthew, Thomas, Dane and Jared, and the speedsters in the outside backs were Joshua, Declan, Alex and Jonathon, when given a bit of space would pin their ears back and continually threaten the try line. Kicking in general play was introduced this year and the boys

enjoyed this new element and picked the skills up quickly. We'll see it deployed a lot more tactically next year.

Karaitiana was our loose head prop and mainstay in the forwards engine room. Big and powerful and a tireless worker in tackles and at the breakdown. Takes the ball up strongly all game. Finished the year with 9 well earned forward's tries. Represented Oatley in the Southern Districts rep side.

Darcy showed potential from the first training session and he lived up to expectations with tireless work in the rucks and maul and made a habit of stealing the ball from the opposition. Went very well in the hooking role and managed one good try against his name this year.

Dominic was our tight head prop and strength in front row. We won most of our scrums with his strength and powerful driving, and he was hard to stop when taking the ball up near the try line. Earned himself one try for the season. Dominic also represented Oatley in the Southern Districts rep side.

Tony the enforcer. His second year at rugby and has just gone from strength to strength. Almost unstoppable in attack and no backward steps in defense. Tackles and takes the ball up strongly all game with sheer determination. Great finish to the season with nine tries and nine conversions against his name.

Nicholas has had a terrific season. Has improved further this season in his tackling ability and had a high work rate. Usually first to the breakdown for the offload or provide an effective cleanout. Earned three tries and three conversions for the season and in addition, represented Oatley in the Southern Districts rep side.

Owen is the quiet achiever of the forward pack. Tackled fearlessly all season and did not take one backward step all year against guys much bigger than himself. Very quick to the breakdown and effective cleanout. Nailed an overdue try this year and kicked eight conversions for the team.

Sydney just keeps improving every game. His tackling, rucking and mauling has developed further and he has increased his off-the-mark speed and long distance speed. He tallied three tries for the year. We still can't get the smile off his face.

Michael is our little gentleman of the team having his first year with Oatley. Michael does all of the little things right at the breakdown, a good example to the other boys in the area of technique. A team player, a great asset to the other boys and played his role well all season.

Anthony's first season with Oatley and is a convert from the round ball game. The first season is always the hardest and he is developing all of the required skills. Anthony will only get better with the experience and more on-field determination and aggression, something he has tried hard to do by attending all training sessions, matches, 7s tournaments and playing up for the U11s when needed.

Argie Alaso also had his first taste of rugby this year not having any football experience at all. He learnt how hard, fast and tough rugby is and kept coming back for more each week. Argie is still developing all of the required skills and will be better for it next year.

Matthew McDonald has been a great team player all season as our #1 half back. Undertook the half back role each week and did all that he was instructed to do each game. He distributed the ball quickly to the inside backs, tackled solidly close to the scrums and supported the ball carrier for the offload or next phase of play. Scored one try and converted two goals for the team.

Thomas Clark has played various positions in the backline this season and keeps going from strength to strength. Tenacious and fearless in defense and effectively tackled many guys up to twice his size without a second thought. His all round skills have grown noticeably in his second year of rugby and in particular he has developed his footy tactical thinking. Nine tries for the season after a late flurry in the 7s tournaments helped the tally.

Dane Stephens our quiet general of the backline dictating the tactics during each game very well and including the new kicking component. Took the ball up strongly, distributed good ball to the outside backs and was very solid in defense. Scored seven tries for the season and represented Oatley in the Southern Districts rep side.

Joshua Pele is one of our brilliant attacking weapons in the backline. Josh has good speed and has an elusive step to get on the outside of his man and is well suited to centre and wing. His defense has also been superb with copy book tackling that hurts the opposition. Equal top try-scorer with twelve tries this year and represented Oatley in the Southern Districts rep side.

Declan Reynolds has a heart as big as any other in the team. Our smallest back but still took on the bigger opposition backs pulling off some good one-on-one tackles throughout the season and making some good sidestepping runs up field. Declan's second season at rugby and has improved greatly again this season.

Jared McLachlan spent some time on the wing early in the season and showed his best ability in the centres. He developed his ball skills where he was able to show the

ball and create the opening to scoot through himself or set up his wingers. Jared's very solid tackling in the centres was also instrumental in keeping opposition tries to a minimum and he scored four tries himself.

Alex Sherman played a good season on the wing and relieved very well at fullback when needed. Has grown a few more yards of speed this year and was hard to run down if given a little bit of space. Improved confidence and one-on-one tackling as the year progressed. Equalled the top try-score count with twelve tries and Alex represented Oatley in the Southern Districts rep side.

Jonathon Ryan held down the fullback position which was a new position to the team this year. Jono took on this role and was as solid as a rock with his characteristic last line defense reading the play and pulling off driving, try-saving tackles. Jono's attacking speed was also injected into the backline in attacking moves to keep the opposition guessing. Tallied eight tries and five conversions this season. Represented Oatley in the Southern Districts rep squad and earned distinction as being awarded for the Best Back in the Southern District squad.

Our award winners for the year were again another tough result to arrive at. Each boy improved on last year and all of the boys played well in their respective positions which included new Midi positions where they had no previous experience. It was very hard to separate the boys however the awards winners this year are:

Karaitiana Sa'u – Best Forward
Thomas Clark – Best back
Jonathon Ryan – Most Valuable Player
Tony Rumore – Mazda Best & Fairest

Many thanks to the boys for a wonderful season as it has been a pleasure coaching each of you.

Appreciation to Glenn, Mark and Vince (who are all SmartRugby qualified) and the other dads for assisting with the training and coaching and game days, and Paul as our game day medic. Also thank you to all of the parents for giving me their personal support all season and not to forget, washing those grubby footy jumpers each week and helping in the canteen. Special thanks to my lovely Maree for her patience with me and many hours each week reviewing and endorsing my game plans.

Until next year, cheers, ...

Jim

Oatley Rugby Club

UNDER 10s

		2007			CLUB TOTAL		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Argie	Alaso	7	0	0	7	0	0
Nicholas	Bennett	13	3	3	61	10	13
Thomas	Clark	15	9	0	25	12	0
Sydney	Malifa	11	3	0	21	3	0
Matthew	McDonald	13	1	2	89	25	12
Jared	McLachlan	14	4	0	90	31	9
Michael	O'Toole	14	0	0	14	0	0
Joshua	Pele	13	12	0	42	51	13
Declan	Reynolds	13	0	0	25	1	1
Tony	Rumore	13	9	9	26	13	15
Jonathon	Ryan	13	8	5	73	88	17
Anthony	Saker	15	0	0	15	0	0
Karaitiana	Sa'u	16	9	0	88	37	7
Dominic	Shade	13	1	0	42	4	4
Alex	Sherman	16	12	0	77	52	18
Owen	Sivertsen	14	1	8	24	1	8
Dane	Stephens	12	7	0	23	11	0
Darcey	Whitfeld	10	1	0	10	1	0

UNDER 11s Team Report and Player Statistics for 2007 not submitted. Unfortunately the 2008 Under 12s has been disbanded and some players have joined other clubs. The Club's aim is to restore this team in 2009.

OATLEY RUGBY CLUB ~ MAJOR AWARDS 2007

Walla rugby player of the year	Connor Molloy
Mini Rugby Player of the year	Oliver Herbert
Junior Rugby Player of the year	Ben Volavola
Junior Goalkicker of the year	Ben Volavola
Junior Clubman of the Year	Danny Carnevale

100 MATCHES FOR OATLEY

Stephen Crawford	Under 13's	104 Games
Matagi Sa'u	Under 13's	101 Games
Assem Ewais	Under 15's	101 Games
Jarrold Gollins	Under 15's	106 Games

150 MATCHES FOR OATLEY

Jake Kefford	Under 15's	162 Games
Ryan Copper	Under 15's	150 games

OATLEY RUGBY CLUB 2007 ~ TEAM AWARDS**Under 6 Gold**

Most Improved	Jack Watson
Best Defender	Kane Barratta
Player's Player	Darcy Mullins
Mazda Best and Fairest	Mackenzie Brown

Under 6 Green

Most Consistent (highest points scored)	Patrick Kossenber
Most Improved	Blake Queenan
Coaches Encouragement	Justin Cordi
Mazda Best and Fairest	Quinn O'Connor

Under 7s

Most improved	Noah El Sayed
Most Consistent	Sebastian Herbert
Most Valuable	Adam Somboli
Mazda Best and Fairest	Tony Pele

Under 8s

Most improved
Coaches Award
Best Defensive Player
Mazda Best and Fairest

Angus Mullins
Ethan Waudby
Lachlan Fitch
Andrew Clark

Under 9s

Best Forward
Best Back
Most Improved
Mazda Best and Fairest

Luke Mihaljevic
Mataele Taufu
Matthew Yates
Thomas Rice

Under 10s

Best Forward
Best Back
Most Valuable Player
Mazda Best and Fairest

Karaitiana Sa'u
Thomas Clark
Jonathon Ryan
Tony Rumore

Under 11s

Best Back
Best Forward
Best Defender
Mazda Best and Fairest

Jarryd Bradley
Adam Kammoun
Jack Armstrong
Owen Eyles

Under 12s

Best back
Best Forward
Coaches Award
Mazda Best and Fairest

Matt Murray
Junior Satiu
Blake Davis
Thomas Egan

Under 13s

Coaches award
Parents Award
Players award
Mazda Best and Fairest

Michael Bristowe
Elijah Suter
Matagi Sa'u
Stephen Crawford

Under 14s

Best Forward
Best Back
Coaches Award
Mazda Best and Fairest

Steve Metlej
Andrew Challinor
Patrick Fox
Theodore Karantzias

Under 15's

Most Improved Forward	Luke Grzesiczek
Most Improved Back	Retimana Moko
Players Choice Award	Bruce Satiu
Mazda Best and Fairest	Rameka Brougham

Under 16's

Best Back	Kane Gillies
Best Forward	Taylor Ringland
Most Improved	Thomas Quine
Mazda Best and Fairest	Jonathan Horwood

OATLEY RUGBY JUNIORS' HALL OF FAME**Junior Clubman of the Year**

1995	Alex Leighton
1996	James Lazarus
1997	Andrew Green
1998	Mitchell Temaipi
1999	Mitchell Owen
2000	Matthew Egan
2001	John Francis
2002	Ian Swane
2003	Chris Bernays
2004	Todd Armstrong
2005	Tyler Spitz
2006	Aaron Malouf
2007	Danny Carnevale

Junior Supporter of the Year

1997	Helen Green
1998	John Francis
1999	Ross Bernays
2000	Kerry Smart
2001	David Clulow
2002	Chris Howard
	Valentin Howard
2003	Kerry & David Lavelle
2004/	Annabelle & Juliette
2005	Sheahan, Timothy Smart
2006	
2007	

OATLEY RUGBY JUNIORS' HALL OF FAME

Junior Player of the Year (u7-u18)

1987	Chris Wing	
1988	Martin Allen	
	Ryan Coates	
1989	Matthew Battishall	
1990	Aaron Curry	
1991	Nathan Kjoller	
1992	Jonathan Moody	
1993	James Horne	(U7)
1994	Andrew Norris	(U9)
1995	Pauliasi Taumoepeau	(U9)

In 1996 the new awards of Walla (u6-u7) and Mini (u8-u9) Player Awards were introduced.

Junior Player of the Year (u10-u18)

1996	Jonathan Sheahan	(U10)
1997	Matthew Macris	(U12)
1998	Atelea Vea	(U12)
1999	Ben Rowsell	(U14)
2000	James Terrey	(U14)
2001	Saone Polutele	(U16)
2002	Robert Horne	(U13)
2003	Afusipa Taumoepeau	(U14)
2004	Royden Marsh	(U15)
2005	Robert Horne	(U16)
2006	Marcus Heather	(U14)
2007	Ben Volavola	(U15)

Walla Player of the Year

1996	Andrew Moran
1997	Rohan Graham
1998	Steven Kalagurgetic
1999	Christopher McArthur
2000	Emanuel Comino
2001	Sam Kefford
2002	Nathan Doherty
2003	Jarryd Bradley
2004	Jonathan Ryan
2005	Jake Powers
2006	Andrew Clark
2007	Connor Malloy

Mini Player of the Year

1996	Ryan Bowring
1997	Grant Batty
1998	Robert Horne
1999	Tyler Spitz
2000	Rohan Graham
2001	Timothy Smart
2002	Scott Sorensen
2003	Stephen Crawford
2004	Luke Garaty
2005	Jarryd Bradley
2006	Joshua Pele
2007	Oliver Herbert

Junior Goalkicker of the Year

1996	Dean Owsnett
1997	Ben Rowsell
1998	James Horne
1999	Daniel Malouf
2000	Robert Sheahan
2001	Robert Sheahan
2002	Robert Sheahan
2003	Robert Sheahan
2004	Robert Sheahan
2005	Josh Ewan
2006	Ben Volavola

UNDER 12'S

The under 12's had a slow start to the season this year however came back stronger than ever. It was evident that the boys were maturing with their skills developing considerably. We welcomed several new players to the side this year and it did not take long for them to settle into the side.

The u12's players this year were:

Blake Davis – Wing -Blakes maturity and focus increased considerably during the season, and he became the best defensive player on the field.

Daniel Duffy – Open side flanker – Daniel was a new player to the side this year. He showed great speed and agility throughout the season and was a menace at breakdowns with his scrambling skills.

Tim Dunn – Hooker/Blind side flanker – Tim started the season as hooker again this year menacing the opposition with tight head wins. Moving to flanker gave Tim the opportunity to demonstrate his loose forward skills which he comfortably executed.

Thomas Egan – 2nd Row – Thomas was one of the most consistent players on the field this year continually breaking through defense and making blinding runs. He is a great utility player, which isn't always seen from the 2nd row position.

Gus Fidow – Five Eight/No. Eight – Gus started the season playing no. 8 with his strength from running from the back of the scrum intimidating the opposition. When needed Gus would slip into Five Eight where he had the ability to break through the line and set play for the backs.

Luke Garaty – Outside centre – Luke being one of our long term experienced backs he gave great support to the inside backs finishing off set plays and back line moves.

Thomas Hoepa - Wing – After long term injury at the start of the season Thomas soon made it obvious that he had not lost any of his natural ability and made an impact on the Team on his return. He continually crashed through the opposition scoring 5 tries in only a few games.

Humze Kammoun – Prop – Again Humze was a crucial part of the strongest front row in the competition. His aggression and commitment through the season gave our forward pack the momentum to go forward.

Wallace Matutu-Tangiiti - Inside centre – Wallace was a new comer to the team

this year. Although he played limited games due to other sporting commitments he made an obvious impact on the games he played with his speed, agility and ball handling skills.

Kyle McLachlan – Flanker – Kyles enthusiasm and determination has made Kyle a great impact player throughout the season. Kyle always put in 100% regardless of when and where he had to play. Although Kyle was not the biggest player on the field he never hesitated to put his body on the line in defense or attack.

Jakov Mihaljevic – Flanker/2nd Row – Jakov is the quite achiever. He would play out of position when he had to without hesitation, even playing in the front row at times. Jakov has been one of the most committed players this season consistently having great games all year.

Matthew Murray – Inside centre – Matt's combination of balance and running has made him one of the most dangerous attacking players in the competition. With Matt's kicking skills he has provided the team with crucial points when needed.

Brandon Paenga-Amosa –Five Eight – A new player who has fitted into a leadership roll within the team. As captain he was able to show the way with his natural ability to read a game and set play for the back line as well as working with the forwards to create a united team.

Samuel Puckett – Fullback – Sam has found his niche as fullback with a combination of safe hands and an amazing counter attack ability which has had the opposition side scrambling. Sam has scored several tries by running through an entire team due to his unpredictability.

Hami Ruru – Hooker – Hami has taken over the hooker roll this year showing much ability as a front rower. His open play and never die attitude to chasing down the opposition has made Hami a core player for the team.

Mina Saad - Back Row/Back – This was Mina's first year with the team this year. His aggression and versatility gave him the opportunity to play in the forwards and the backs when needed.

Mina has been a very solid and strong player throughout the season.

Junior Satiu – Prop – Junior has been one of the most consistent players since joining the club. His size, strength and amazing speed made him the highest try scorer in the side this season. He continually crashed holes through the opposition packs making amazing yardage. Junior was the greatest impact player on the team this year.

Joshua Steinhauser - Wing – Josh is another one of our long term players on the side. His commitment to playing and training has always been exceptional. Josh is one of our taller backs who has the pace out wide when needed.

Nicholas Stevens – Halfback – Nicholas has exceptional halfback skills with his passing from the back of the scrum and speed at the scrum base making him an asset to the team.

Milan Volavola -No. 8/2nd row – Milan is a very passionate player. When called upon Milan uses his aggression and physical strength to do the job at hand. Milan has fitted into No. 8 this year and has been fine tuning the skill of positioning safe ball at the back of the scrum for the halfback.

Garth Wallace -2nd Row – Garth has shown great commitment and skill during the season. Although it is only Garth's 2nd season his improvement made him one of the most effective running forwards in the team as well as being the strength behind the front row in scrums.

Liam Whiteman – Half back – This year Liam has shown natural leadership skills by assuming the captaincy roll when appointed and has been a very important link between backs and forwards, talking all the time and giving directions from the back of the scrum.

The boys finished strong taking on some of the heavy weights of the season leading up to the semi finals. Great wins against Burraneer in the 2nd last round and 1st Semi Final set us up for a good chance in the major against Canterbury. In the last round we only went down against Canterbury by 2 points with them scoring on the bell. This left the boys confident in the major semi. Unfortunately conditions on the day left us playing in mud which didn't suit our game of throwing the ball around through the backs. Statistically our boys had the best defensive record in the competition having the least tries scored against us than any other team which is an effort to be proud of. Well done guys. We know we have the ability and the talent to go all the way next year.

We would also like to make special mention to Clive Puckett who ran the line for the team all year and Daniel Steinhauser for running the water. A special thanks also goes to Alex for taking on the roll of manager this year.

See you all next year.

Rod Dunn & Tim Whiteman

UNDER 12s

		2007			CLUB TOTAL		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Blake	Davis	15	0	0	40	4	0
Daniel	Duffy	14	2	0	14	2	0
Timothy	Dunn	17	2	0	99	11	7
Thomas	Egan	15	3	0	54	6	3
Gus	Fidow	14	3	0	24	6	0
Luke	Garaty	17	1	0	89	43	13
Thomas	Hohepa	7	5	0	51	19	0
Humze	Kammoun	15	6	0	58	41	0
Wallace	Matutu-Tangliti	9	1	1	9	1	1
Kyle	McLachlan	13	1	0	93	18	5
Jakov	Mihaljevic	16	0	0	42	0	0
Matthew	Murray	16	5	10	29	11	17
Brandon	Paenaga-Amosa	12	4	0	12	4	0
Samuel	Puckett	16	10	0	77	73	0
Hamiora	Ruru	16	1	0	62	5	0
Mina	Saad	14	1	0	14	1	0
Junior	Satiu	15	8	0	61	12	0
Joshua	Steinhauser	16	0	2	44	5	11
Nicholas	Stevens	12	2	0	53	12	16
Milan	Volavola	11	1	0	48	11	5
Garth	Wallace	8	1	0	19	3	3
Liam	Whiteman	13	0	0	68	6	1

UNDER 13'S

The U13s emulated their achievements from last year after a major upheaval. Of the 17 players last year only 9 returned. The team was bolstered by 10 new players, 2 with previous experience and the others quite new. It was to be a real challenge to embrace the new boys and give them the knowledge to be competitive throughout the season. This challenge was made so much easier by how the boys interacted with each other and developed a true team spirit.

Thus I talk about the team as a whole. The team was fantastic. They suffered early losses that might have put them out of contention for the finals but they continued to learn about the game, how to play together, and trained well. Results started to turn their way and after a moral boosting success in the Eastwood 7's, the team made it to the finals.

A tough win in the semi-final saw the team get to the final for the 4th year running, against the imposing Eastgardens side. I don't think I have seen a better controlled 8 minutes of rugby than the start of the final where the forwards maintained the ball from an opposition - that was physically twice the size. This allowed the backs to make headway up field and finally score a great try out wide. Unfortunately the size of the opposition got the better of us and we lost the game but the team was instilled with pride and praised by all. Interestingly, Eastgardens went on to win the grand-final by an identical score line.

So again our team came 3rd in the main competition. Yet more was to come for the team as we traveled to Canberra for the 7's. In the true spirit they had developed, they went through the tournament undefeated to win the title. It was a terrific and well deserved way to finish the season.

Congratulations to all the boys for a wonderful year. A season that had some turmoil as coaches had to experiment with players positions to get what was the best fit for the team. A season that saw new friendships and a development of trust. Much of this can be attributed to Alex who coached not only the skills of the game and gave the boys the fitness required, but also as he coached the boys to be proud of what they were doing and proud of each other. The team's sense of respect for each other was seen as they put themselves out for each other on the field.

Our manager Thomas also was an integral and major importance to the team for which I thank him for his support and help. I just am happy to have been part of the team and I hope the parents all feel that they were a small part of team as well for we thank them for their wonderful support for the boys throughout the season.

The Oatley U13's for 2007:

Michael Bristowe: Michael's first year in rugby and his improvement was awesome playing in both the forwards and the backs. A lot of this improvement can be attributed to his willingness to listen to instructions and his adaptability. He displayed great strength and determination, and easily blended in well with the team. - Marist 7's and Canberra 7's winner

Jonathon Brown: Super player with tremendous speed and tremendous defense. Take note Wallabies! He is a lethal cocktail of speed, strength, vision and determination. Hopefully we'll see a fully fit, injury-free Jonathon next season. - Canberra 7's winner.

Stephen Crawford: 1st year at halfback, also the starting halfback in the State Championship winning team. He continues to impress every season as he improves with experience. He has strength and courage that belie his size. He is one of the leaders within the team. Another terrific year, well done Steve! - Marist 7's, Canberra 7's winner and Sydney University Rep.

Oliver Cupitt-Osborne: A great asset to the team with loads of ability and potential. Only wish that his School rugby did not interfere as he is a valuable team member. He slotted into the team comfortably when able to play.
Give us another year Oliver?

Tuti Haimona: Had a fantastic year with his elusive running and much improved defense. During the sevens tournaments became the bottom line, scored tries and saved as many, what more can you say? A defining member of the 13's. He is one of the great personalities in the team, well done! - Marist 7's and Canberra 7's winner.

Aaron James: New to the team, he joined half way through the season. Despite his late arrival he quickly adapted to the team environment and became a vital member of the forward pack. Aaron's size and strength came to the forefront as he learnt the intricacies of the game and perfected his technique. He has a big future ahead of him. - Marist 7's and Canberra 7's winner

Sam Kefford: A one game wonder scoring a try and showing he still has what it takes. A foundation member of the team, fingers crossed he'll return sooner rather than later.

Leon Koro: A great year again and was hugely missed when absent from games. He is a cornerstone of the scrum, maintained a high work-rate throughout the season, and his work in tight always impressed. He is a critical link and his game has

progressed greatly. Another successful sevens member .Solid again Leon! - Marist 7's and Canberra 7's winner.

Ali Safa: Came from the Canterbury Rugby club and quickly settled into the team. Great fun to have around, receptive to learning and showed much improvement. He developed into one of our main line-out options and has plenty more to offer. He is a real team player and a great addition to the team.

Nicholas Andreadis: Another new player who joined the team mid-season. Has a lot to learn but you can't fault his enthusiasm. He turns up for training with an appetite for knowledge and a willingness to have a go – you can't ask for more than that. We look forward to much improvement next year. Well done!

Tom Mallinson: Came over from Sylvania Rugby and became the other scrum cornerstone. A prop in the winning State Championship team, he fitted in easily with the Oatley environment. He is technically one of the best props in the competition. Possess's leadership qualities which we look forward to seeing develop. - Sydney University Rep.

Mitchell Organ: Another from Sylvania Rugby, size of an ant, heart of a lion. Improved increasingly during the year and showed the right attitude to fit in with his new team and coaches. Set up the try that killed Canterbury in the Canberra 7's semi-final. He is one of the real characters of the team. - Canberra 7's winner.

Vaughan Phillips: New to rugby, Vaughan learnt a lot and improved heaps. With him smiling (except during fitness sessions) it's obvious that he has enjoyed the year and won't let down his team mates. Has plenty in the tank, watch out when he decides to use it. He is a dedicated team member and a welcomed addition to our squad. - Canberra 7's winner.

Joe Quine: Another new player who has improved through the year. Joe has good sound defence and attacking ability. These assets have been essential to the team throughout the year; being a new player he carried responsibility well in the 15 man game and the seven's. He has plenty of potential; we look forward to seeing that develop in the future. - Marist 7's and Canberra 7's winner.

Joshua Noore: Joined the team halfway through the year and played above his age group, yet none of this curbed his enthusiasm and willingness to learn. We'll miss him and his family next year as he will be returning to his rightful age group. He will be a great asset to his new team.

Mitchell Wickham: Another new player with plenty of ball skill, able to set up

players, and an impressive kicking game. Mitchell ('Huxley' as his mates call him) was very versatile in the backline and has plenty of ability to be developed as he continues to learn the game. He is a real asset to the team. Great first season! - Canberra 7's winner.

Igshaan Woods: Had a solid year, one of only two members of the Southern Districts rep team in our squad. He is a versatile player who had the rare talent to play in the backs and in the forwards, played out of position for most of the year for the benefit of the team. He is a real competitor, an integral member of the squad. - Marist 7's, Canberra 7's winner and Southern Districts Rep.

Raymond Starkie: Another new player that learnt a lot about team-ship as well as rugby. Raymond learnt a lot about getting tough and the value of listening to the coaches, learning technique and putting it into practice to improve tremendously through the year. Brought a new dynamic which was very refreshing a pleasure to see develop this year.

Hugh Sivertsen: Being his 2nd year, Hugh's improvement was terrific and he seemed to really enjoy the games but unfortunately was unable to play the last few games. None the less he is still part of the team.

Elijah Suter: Mr. Reliability, a natural leader by example. Elijah's experience in the forwards was very useful in his new role latter in the season at fly half. A lot more to learn but his toughness, defense and technique makes him one of the best. Another defining personality of the 13's; a player you can count on. - Marist 7's and Canberra 7's winner.

Matagi Sa'u: Our captain and leader. Matagi is a great player who is an inspiration to others; his example helped many of the new players on and off the field. Another personality that helped to define the 13's. Played a real captains' role in the seven's game. I think he was the first prop to win player of the tournament at the Marist 7's. Which is a great achievement in it self. - Marist 7's, Canberra 7's winner and Southern Districts Rep

Special thanks to Brian Kefford for his priceless contribution to the team throughout the years. He can take pride in the knowledge that he has been instrumental in building a solid foundation for future success. He will always be synonymous with this group of players.

Yours in Rugby,

Brian, Alex and Thomas.

Oatley Rugby Club

UNDER 13s

		2007			CLUB TOTAL		
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Matches	Tries	Goals
Nicholas	Andreadis	7	0	0	7	0	0
Michael	Bristowe	13	3	0	13	3	0
Jonathan	Brown	9	12	0	58	47	0
Stephen	Crawford	14	12	2	104	76	8
Oliver	Cupitt-Osborne	6	0	0	39	24	0
Tuti	Haimona	14	12	10	87	51	22
Aaron	James	9	1	0	9	1	0
Sam	Kefford	1	1	0	138	78	0
Lionell	Koro	13	0	0	38	1	0
Thomas	Mallinson	14	0	0	14	0	0
Joshua	Noore	7	0	0	7	0	0
Mitchell	Organ	13	0	0	13	0	0
Vaughan	Phillips	13	0	0	13	0	0
Joseph	Quine	14	0	0	14	0	0
Matagi	Sa'u	14	9	3	101	48	11
Ali	Safa	14	0	0	14	0	0
Hugh	Siversten	8	0	0	19	0	0
Raymond	Starkie	10	0	0	10	0	0
Elijah	Suter	14	9	0	115	35	1
Mitchell	Wickham	14	0	0	14	0	0
Igshaan	Woods	14	2	0	27	9	0

UNDER 15's

After a very frustrating 2006 season, we looked for the boys to use the 2007 season as a building exercise to get them more competitive and under the guidance of coaches Phill Gollins and Henare Nukunuku it is safe to say that all the goals set for the boys here well and truly met and exceeded.

From the first round of the competition, when they scored an upset win over Sylvania, it was very clear that the team had a new found enthusiasm and confidence which they took through the year to finish equal second on the table. Opposition teams were made to sit up and take notice as the weekly results continually showed the Oatley squad improving with every game and causing a few more upsets on the way to a place in the semi finals. With a healthy squad of 23 players and the addition of some aggressive running forwards, they formed a very competitive unit and produced some outstanding form during the year.

A special thank goes to the following parents who helped out at training and on game days during the season – Bruce Smart, Wayne Copper, Peter Johnston, Ashley Walpole and Sheb Khouri. Your assistance was greatly appreciated.

Personal high points for the boys during the season saw two more veteran's of the side, Jake Kefford and Ryan Copper pass the 150 match mark, whilst Jarrod Gollins and Assem Ewais passed the 100 match milestone in the Oatley colours. Southern district representative honours went to Assem Ewais, Elijah Peterson, Timothy Smart, Rongomai Nukunuku, Bruce Satiu and Jake Kefford. Assem, Elijah, Tim and Bruce later went on to win selection for Southern Zone and then represented as part of the Sydney Fleet side. Congratulations to all those boys.

A number of the boys had a final run at the Canberra 7's where they were very competitive in all their matches and were unlucky to miss out on a spot in the final four.

Overall this was a very successful season which the boys should look back on with pride and sets up a good foundation for further improvement in 2008.

Peter Garaty - Manager

PLAYER PROFILES 2007

Nicholas Boskett – Nick is a strongly built forward who enjoyed playing both in the front and second rows during the year. A pleasing feature of his play this year was his ability to take on more of an attacking role around the rucks and mauls and

his effective defence in close. He continually caused plenty of problems for the opposition whenever he took to the field.

Rameka Brougham – Rameka captained the side this year and was the tactician who really directed and organised the boys on the field. His experience at half was invaluable in setting up attacking opportunities for his outside backs and running forwards. His defence, running in general play and kicking were solid attributes of his game.

David Cameron – A convert from league, David was a welcome addition to the team this year and really bolstered the running forward ranks with his damaging runs, defence and kicking game. A natural talent with a good aptitude for the game, David unfortunately missed the later part of the season with a broken ankle which ended a very promising first year in rugby.

Ryan Copper – Ryan this year continued with his trademark uncanny ability of consistently stripping the ball and producing turnovers in close plays. 2007 saw him pass the milestone of 150 matches for Oatley and further cement his status as the workaholic of the forward pack. Never far away from the action he continually led by example.

Assem Ewais – Assem celebrated 100 matches for Oatley this year and topped it off with representative honours for Southern Districts and Southern Zone. At home playing hooker and one of our most consistent players, his tenacity in the rucks and mauls, inspirational defence and support play are his rugby trademarks.

Adam Garaty – Adam continued his development as a very competent front rower especially in the set plays and his improved work rate in defence whenever in the thick of the action. He always made the most of his opportunities when he got his hands on the ball and was effective in his pick and drives and recycling of possession.

Jarrold Gollins – After an early season injury setback, Jarrold finally got on the field and celebrated his 100th match for Oatley. A very determined player who enjoyed getting involved in the forward tussles each week, Jarrold always showed a total commitment to his rugby and was an effective player at either lock or flanker.

Luke Grzesiczek – A real improver in the side this year, Luke continued to expand his skills especially in the lineout department where he continually pilfered opposition possession with his precise leaps and control of the ball. His growing confidence in his approach to the game was evident in his increased work rates in both attack and defence.

Zakaria Kammoun – Playing in the front row and always looking to improve his game, Zak thrived on the work in close, at set plays and in the rucks and mauls. Always keen to get involved in the forward drives Zak continually looked for every opportunity to consolidate the team's position in defence and attack.

Jake Kefford – Jake passed the 150 match mark for Oatley this year and celebrated with another solid season. Reliability, consistency, dedication and a continual will to improve make Jake a valuable asset to the team. Always a danger with the ball in his hands in attack and a punishing defender, Jake put in a 100% effort every week.

Albert Khouri – Albert continued to be an asset at fullback and possessed considerable pace which was constantly utilized out wide to trouble the opposition. A very competent goal kicker, Albert could always be relied upon to add the extras and get the team out of trouble with his astute kicking in general play.

Saufa L'alesi – A new member of the side who played up in his age group and an enthusiastic convert to rugby, Saufa showed continual improvement at training and on match days as he came to terms with the fundamentals of the game, playing in the back row of the forwards. A very encouraging first season in rugby.

Taia Marsters – After a previous season interrupted by injury, it was good to see Taia continue his development as a rugby player in the back row of the forwards. A quiet achiever, Taia continually showed improvement at each match and was always willing to take the physical contest up to the opposition.

Retimama Moko – Another of the players who really grew in confidence and determination this season, Mana really took all the opportunities he had to showcase his blistering attacking speed on the wing. Always keen to run the ball and support his inside backs he also showed good anticipation in cover defending.

Tim Murray - A new recruit to the team with a rugby heritage, Tim immediately found a home in the forwards and thrived on the workload. A damaging runner with the ball and a punishing defender, Tim improved and lead by example with each match. A welcome addition to the team, Tim provided additional strength and skill to the forward pack.

Rongomai Nukunuku – Rongomai had arguably his most successful season with the club and relished the return of Bruce, who he combined with in the centres to provide a very formidable association. His elusive speed and strength in breaking tackles set up many attacking raids whilst his defence had many opposition players back pedaling.

Elijah Peterson – Eli is a natural runner of the ball with considerable pace who

enjoys playing on the wing but can also fill in at centre. A very determined and powerful runner when in possession, Eli found the try line on many occasions and constantly shut down attacking raids with his effective cover defence.

Tokerau Raru – Tokerau played a year up in his age group in his first year in rugby, such was his enthusiasm for the game of rugby. At home in the front or second row, Tokerau was a damaging ball runner who could be relied upon to give a whole hearted effort each time he took the field and used his skills to full advantage.

Bruce Satiu – After an injury plagued 2006 season, Bruce really thrived on being fully fit and back on the rugby field. His explosive running and powerful defence were a major factor in the teams overall improved performance for the season. Bruce has an enviable natural talent for rugby which is well respected amongst his fellow players.

Timothy Smart – The veteran of the side, Tim's confidence and ability to read the game proved a valuable asset to the team. Rarely outshone in the lineout department Tim continued his high work rate in defence and probing plays in attack around the rucks and mauls. Tim is one of the team's key players and an inspirational leader in the forward department.

Mike Tabua – Mike was a new addition to the side this season and immediately found a home in the front row where he showed plenty of commitment in attack and consistency in defence as he got more matches under his belt. His determined approach to the game meant he always delivered a consistent effort.

Sepeloni Taufa – A feature of Sep's play on the wing was his ability cut down attacking raids out wide and taking on much larger opponents in attack. He was always ready to put his body on the line when called upon and continually looked to support his inside backs to get the ball over the line.

Declan Walpole - A very competent fly half in his first year with Oatley, Declan quickly slotted into the backline and provided a solid combination with the outside backs. An elusive attacking player with good speed, kicking game and punishing defence, Declan proved himself a welcome asset to the team.



UNDER 15'S ~ 2007



UNDER 15'S CANBERRA 7'S TOURNAMENT

Oatley Rugby Club

UNDER 15s

Nicholas **Boskett**
 Rameka **Brougham**
 David **Cameron**
 Ryan **Copper**
 Assem **Ewais**
 Adam **Garaty**
 Jarrod **Gollins**
 Luke **Grzeslczek**
 Zakaria **Kammoun**
 Jake **Kefford**
 Albert **Khour**
 Saufua **L'alesi**
 Taia **Marsters**
 Retimana **Moko**
 Tim **Murray**
 Rongomai **Nukunuku**
 Elijah **Peterson**
 Tokerau **Raru**
 Bruce **Satiu**
 Timothy **Smart**
 Mike **Tabua**
 Sepeloni **Taufa**
 Declan **Walpole**

2007		
Matches	Tries	Goals
11	1	0
15	3	0
9	3	6
12	0	0
15	0	0
16	0	0
12	1	0
16	0	0
11	0	0
15	4	0
16	2	29
12	0	0
12	0	0
16	2	0
14	0	0
14	5	0
15*	8	1
12	2	0
13	11	0
15	4	0
12	0	0
12	2	0
15	3	0

CLUB TOTAL		
Matches	Tries	Goals
120	7	3
54	8	0
9	3	6
150	23	2
101	16	0
123	0	0
106	1	0
42	0	0
49	0	0
162	39	3
23	3	30
12	0	0
34	0	0
24	2	0
14	0	0
48	12	2
19	10	3
12	2	0
35	33	4
170	50	7
12	0	0
36	4	0
15	3	0

UNDER 16s

What a year it has been for the Oatley U16 boys. Despite the reduction in the number of games played during the season, the boys kept their focus on repeating their 2006 success where they were the undefeated Premier Champions as well as the Grand Final Champions

Although some may have thought that this year's results were predictable based on the season's performance, on the contrary, the final outcome on Grand final day was far from that. Our biggest rivals in the comp were Petersham and given we had not really played them on equal terms prior to the Grand finals, there was no telling as to which team was going to walk away victors this year.

My U16 Oatley boys, we were blessed to have had new players added to the team; and with them they brought speed, skill, determination and heart to a team that was already recognised for all these fine qualities. We were a formidable team, definitely a team to be reckoned with.

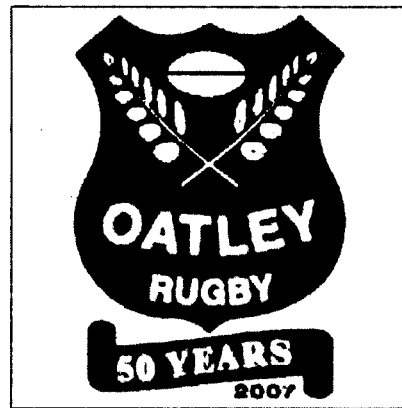
When the opportunity presented itself, the U16 boys always stepped up to the plate and delivered performances that not made us as parents and supporters proud but most importantly themselves. We were plagued by a number of injuries, which had us reshuffling a number of players in positions that were unfamiliar to them. But still, they took to it like fish to water and delivered the goods.

This year the Oatley U16 team were represented well in the Southern District Rep team, the Southern Zone Rep teams and finally the Sydney Juniors Squad that participated in the ARU Nationals in Brisbane. Out of the squad of 23, we had 12 in the Southern District rep side, 10 in the Southern Zone rep side and 5 in the Sydney Junior side (3 starters and 2 shadow players).

But all this would not have been achieved without the support of our Parents and supporters and the Oatley Management who have behind closed doors fought our battles for us. To all of you, I thank you.

To Rod Ringland aka 'Ringer', our coach who has chosen to retire from Junior Rugby Coaching after 8 long years, we salute you and thank you for your commitment and dedication to the sport and most importantly to our boys. You will be missed.

To John Malouf, we also thank you for your dedication, your love and commitment to all facets of the U16 rugby. You are one in a million.





~ 50th Anniversary Edition ~

Compiled by Kerry Smart

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