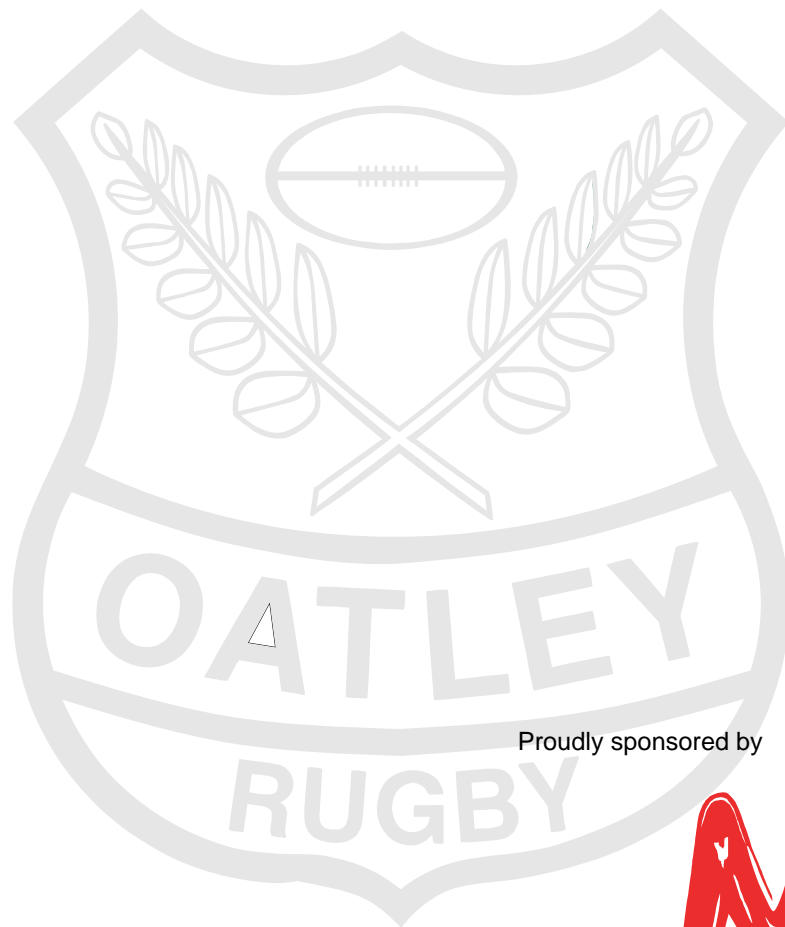




Oatley Rugby Club

Annual Report 2009



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President's Report

This 2009 annual report concludes the 52nd season of the Oatley Rugby club. As seasons go it has been a very successful one which has had its share of highs and lows as you will read about throughout this annual report. I can't remember a season with so many washed out games, washed out training runs, changed draws, forfeits and back up games- all before the June long weekend! Fortunately the second half of the season was played in glorious weather and all teams were able to build momentum leading into the finals.

Firstly on behalf of the club I must thank the elected members of the club executive committee Mike Heal (Seniors VP), Mick Waudby (Club Secretary), Mick Bradley (Club Treasurer) and elected general members Ross Bernays, Vince Bottos, Rod Dunn and Charles Palmer for their professional approach and patience in managing the club this year. Our monthly club meetings were well attended with issues debated thoroughly and respectfully – even when we didn't agree!

St George Maso's once again strengthened its' ties with our club as our major sponsor. Thank you to Steve Romans (President), Paul O Connor (CEO), Kerry, Michelle and the board for their support and assistance with our club this season. We are fortunate to have the support of a club like Maso's behind us and need to support those who support us by becoming members and using the great facilities and discounts the club has to offer.

One of the hardest roles in the club is managing the Evatt park canteen. Thank you to Sheridan Baratta for taking on the role for the second year in a row and in the professional way in which the canteen was run during the season, particularly with the first part of the season mostly washed out. Thank you also to those who assisted working in the canteen throughout the season and particularly Shirley Heal for her hard work during seniors' home games.

The club website continues its' high "hits" and thank you to Mick Waudby for his continued work as web-master. Micks' role has not only seen him update club information weekly but also continue his interest in documenting the clubs' history on the site. See Micks' work at oatleyrugby.com

Of course why this club exists is for the one reason –To allow boys, girls and men to play the game of Rugby. Thank you to all players from under 6's up to first grade for choosing (some with help from their parents) to play rugby at the Oatley Rugby Club this year. For those who have begun their association with the club I hope you have enjoyed your season and hope you'll be back to do it all again next year. To those junior players leaving the club into Grade Colts or retiring from the club I wish you well and welcome you into the family of the "Old players Association".

As president of a community club I cannot say how satisfying and rewarding it is to see the club grow as it has throughout this season. 2009 saw a number of players and parents take on roles new to them and give it their best shot. This is why our club is 52 years old. So long as we continue to share the work with new people coming in to replace those who are moving on we will always continue the traditions of those who have contributed greatly to the history of this club.

I hope you all enjoy this Annual Report.

Ross Williamson
2009 Oatley President



Mini's report

I'll start by thanking some of the people whom I neglected at our presentation day – The first person is Ross Williamson – I'm really going to miss him next year, he has been a 'rock' for this club and to me as the mini's co-ordinator. I'm sure he's not going to miss my emails or phone calls but I want to thank him all the same – Thanks Ross.

The coaches and their manager's thank you for the constant emails and passing on all relevant information throughout the season. It makes my job really easy knowing I have a supportive network helping me through the season.

To Jakov Mihaljevic – Thank you for your time and patience to referee the mini's games, some of these games need a lot more patience and this is a quality of your character that I applaud. You help all the 6's and 7's by patiently waiting instructions from their coaches and not just Oatley coaches but also our opposing teams coaches. I wish you well and look forward to your return next year.

To the parents and volunteers, I know I've said 'Club's don't survive without volunteer's'. This year saw many more newcomers who gladly welcomed the challenges of field set up, canteen/BBQ duties, gala days and many more events as did the return veterans from previous seasons. Thank you for your time and your smiles and look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Lastly, I will recap a few of the special events that the mini's participated in throughout the season.

Mini's March Past – Annual invitation from NSWJRU

The players have their chance to don their Oatley uniforms and march onto the football stadium to be recognised amongst many other clubs throughout Sydney and the greater NSW.

East's Randwick Gala Day

This was for the 6's & 7's – This was played on smaller fields and with more modified rules than Oatley were used to however they went out to play the game they love and all boys received a T-shirt and medal for participation.

Under 8's

U8's played in Harbord's Gala Day, Canberra 7's and Eastwood Marist 7's outside their normal games of football.

Southern Districts

Southern Districts requested Oatley mini's players to play between 2nd grade and 1st grade which we enthusiastically performed.

Trivia Night

Mini's table – actually won 1st prize so well done!!



The terrific days held by Oatley at Evatt for hosting Southern Districts Gala Days. The support of everyone made the days such a success and you have each other to thank for the tremendous effort. I was so proud of all of us especially those who gave up their entire day to work tirelessly.

Presentation day was a fantastic day – yet again. It was great to socialise and meet all the parents and players from both the junior club as well as the mini's. Thank you to Rob Horne who made time for Oatley and to present trophies to our mini's players, the players were elated and more so to those players who managed to squeeze an autograph from him. To all our major trophy winners, Congratulations for your efforts, your coaches, peers and managers have given you the top awards for your consistency and effort provided throughout the season.

Lastly, as Oatley Rugby's mini's co-ordinator, I will need to be re-elected to this role by any of you who would like to see me return next year. If anyone else would like to be nominated then please do so for the AGM. Please check website www.oatleyrugby.com.au for more details.

I wish you all a safe return for next year and hopefully just as much fun.

Sandy Palmer

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Under 6 Green

What a great season it has been. We started with a number of players – many of whom had never played rugby before and we have finished with a fantastic rugby team. Each member of the team has improved dramatically during the season, this is largely due to their enthusiasm and commitment to both the training sessions and the matches. Everybody has been on time and willing to help and assist. Both Matt and I would like to express our thanks to the parents who have made such an effort to get the players to all of the games on time and share the tasks of running touch and washing shirts.

Almost every player scored this season with a fantastic late flourish from Bobby who has been hiding his running skills for part of the season. Ronan and Mitch are developing into great runners of the ball and will be a great asset to next years U6 side. Ranita, Reuben and Lachlan have shown a great ability to run straight and hard and have also scored a number of tries this season. Lachlan strong running was missed at the gala days.

Isaiah has shown he is able to make breaks and will no doubt emulate 'big brother' next year. Cortel and Stephen have both been fantastic in their running and just as importantly in their defense and covering across the park. There has been more than one opposition player who thought he was going to score only to find Cortel tagging them just short of the try line. Stephen has been a consistent goal kicker along with Ronan and Cortel and has helped us to win a number of games through their accurate kicking.

By the end of the season we played 21 games including the Gala days, we won 14 lost 4 and drew 3 games. We scored a total of 824 points and the opposition only scored 705 points against us. This is a fantastic effort that the team should be proud of.

It has been an enjoyable season for Matt and I and we hope everybody has enjoyed their rugby – that is why we play the game! I hope to see everybody back next year and good luck in your new teams.

Dave Roberts - Coach

Matt Keightley - Manager

Oatley Green Under 6's Stats sheet 2009			
	Total games	Total tries	Total Goals
Ranita Te Kaha	15	8	0
Bobbi McFadden	14	4	0
Mitchell Keightley	15	21	0
Isaiah Fa'amausili	14	0	0
Ronan Schocher	14	25	14
Lochlan Myhill	13	13	0
Reuben Palmer	15	1	1
Cortel Fa'amausili	14	34	4
Stephen Roberts	15	34	43



Under 6 Gold

2009 was a great year for our team.

We had a new crop of players to get to know which is always good fun. Our manager, Jamie Lechner, myself, and the parents all tried as best we could to teach the kids the basics of mini rugby. Our team philosophy was very simple; everyone plays and our main goal is to have fun. Whilst winning is great, we felt it was our secondary goal.



The kids of course were always enthusiastic and happy to see each other. As the year progressed they became closer and all got along well. I learnt a number of new training drills and tips this year which I tried to remember to use. I must thank all the parents for all their help and especially Sean Petroni as he deputized for me on several occasions and did an excellent job.

The season went by so fast that before we knew it we were playing at doing a March past at a Waratahs home game, halftime at Southern Districts, training with Drew Mitchell, and into the gala days. We must thank the clubs administrators, particularly our minis coordinator, for all the work that goes on behind the scenes to make everything run so well.

<i>Player</i>	<i>No. of games</i>	<i>Tries</i>	<i>Goals</i>
Stephanie Carnevale	7	0	0
Solomona Heka	12	3	0
Alexander Lechner	15	1	0
John Perreau	13	0	0
Joseph Petroni	16	48	12
Alex Purser	14	3	2
Nathan Shayler	13	22	3
Brandon Wood	16	29	17
Kahurangi Mankelow-Pennell	12	1	0

Here are our statistics for 2009:

At the presentation day all members of the team received a trophy. There were also some individual awards and they were as follows:

<i>Player</i>	<i>Award</i>
Joseph Petroni	Best Attacker
Alex Purser	Coaches Award
Nathan Shayler	Kyle Bay Best and Fairest
Brandon Wood	Best Defender

Jamie and I would like to thank the kids and parents for playing and supporting our team. We wish you all the best for next year and a great summer.

Matt Perreau



Under 7 Green

Under Sevens Green - Well how can I start – You would all agree there was improvement from all the players and this was evident throughout the team and this season..

The medals were well granted to each and every player. From my perspective – I'd have given all of the player's one.

Dylan and Jackson improved with their ability to run the ball straight and they showed they can score tries with hard work (LUCKY THEY DON'T TAKE MICK AND MATT - haha). As for Elijah, Curtis, Robbie - speed, skill and the talent to turn running rugby into tries is a credit to all of them.

Now let's not forget Tainui, Luke and Ender - they were the work horses of the Green team, these guys showed skill in all areas including half back, full back, running non-stop and scoring tries consistently.

Overall, under 7 Oatley green had a great year and we thank Sid and all the help from all of you - the great parents. Next year will be a new experience for all of us as we move into tackling but I feel we are ready and I look forward to see all of you guys for a bigger year at OATLEY RUGBY.

I would like to send a special thanks to my beautiful wife and mother who I know works very hard to keep the minis going and I think you will all agree. To all the parents, volunteers and the people who take time out every day I thank you and wish you a merry Christmas and happy new year, and I will look forward to seeing each and every one of you next year.

THE FUTURE OF OATLEY RUGBY LOOKS BRIGHT > Cheers Charles





Under 7 Gold

The boys had a great year on the field and developed as a playing group. It was good to see all boys getting involved, while some have to be encouraged more than others, every player made a contribution in defence, attack or by kicking goals. It was important to focus on basic skills such as defence, catching and passing as next years the boys move into full contact and team work will be the key to being a successful side and ensuring everyone enjoys their rugby. I would like to thank all the parents for their support, especially on gala day and when we were rostered on the canteen duty. I hope everyone is back next year as the boys will take a huge step in their rugby development and I'm looking forward to being a part of it.

The team is as follows:

Nicholas – The best kicker in the team and as the season went a long looked to become more involved, I look forward to having him back next year.

Ethan – Was the master of running sideways, until he saw the light and learnt the best way was to run forward. His positional play in defence was exceptional and will be missed next year.

Jonty – Is as quick as the wind and was the team's leading try scorer. Great 1st year, who I'm sure will come on even more next year.

Kane – A passionate and competitive young boy, which could sometimes be his down fall, Always gives 100% in attack and defence. Won the best defender.

Tom – The quite achiever needs a push to get involved; however when he gets involved makes some handy contributions and score some neat tries.

Charlie – The terror of the side; however as tough as nails and I'm sure will relish full contact, I'm looking forward to coaching this boy next year.

Jayden – Has a great pass and step, not the biggest on the field; however always looks to get involved.

Ky – Great young player with a never say die attitude. Won the team's best and fairest and it was richly deserved. I'm sure this boys is going have a rich history in the Oatley Juniors and I look forward to seeing him play next year.

Thanks and I look forward to seeing you all in the under 8's

Cheers

Justin Baratta



Under 8's

Two teams from last season's successful under 7's merged this year in their first season of tackle rugby to set the standard for Southern Districts and go through the season and gala tournament undefeated.

Such was the dominance of this team that they scored over 1,000 points in the season and finished with a for & against differential of 700+.

It is difficult to single out individuals for particular praise – every boy developed tremendously throughout the season. There were many wonderful moments: tries and goals were shared across the entire playing group; the “three pass rule” resulted in some amazingly entertaining rugby; offensive defence was the team's hallmark as they regularly gained ground when not in possession by driving the opposition backwards. Glowing comments from opposition supporters and coaches about the skill and commitment of the Oatley under 8's is probably the most satisfying feedback the team could receive.



Apart from the Southern Districts games, the boys played and won a South v North challenge match against Wahroonga. They challenged themselves by playing up a year in two seven's tournaments (Eastwood Marist and Canberra) and did themselves and their club proud. They also played in a gala day at Harbord just one day after their Southern Districts gala win. The boys were understandably a little flat after a big day before and suffered their first and only loss of the year in U/8's to a very good Dee Why, before switching on and beating Hornsby and North's to narrowly miss the semis.

For those parents who went to Canberra and saw our 8's beat Uni North's in the plate final, we have a stack of wonderful memories to maintain us through the summer until we get to do it all again. Every boy played out of their skin and left nothing in the tank, winning the game 25-0.

Congratulations boys on a wonderful season – you should all be very proud of your individual improvement and your efforts as a team!

Thankyou to all the parents for your support and assistance throughout the season – I hope like us you are already looking forward to next season.

Finally, thanks to those people that make it so easy to be a coach and manager of an Oatley rugby team. There is a lot of work done behind the scenes to make a successful club. Thanks to those people who give so much to make Oatley a great club for kids and parents alike – your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Have a great summer. See you all in 2010.

Lee Knapton & Damian Mullins.



Junior's Vice President Report

2009 was a very successful season in many ways for the junior club. Given the early season disruptions it was looking like a season to forget but fortunately it all changed and we were able to bring together consistently improved results for all teams that saw many participating in finals series, some for the first time.

Thank you to the juniors sub-committee of Gale O'Connor (Secretary), Ross Mottershead (Treasurer), Leonie Bottos (Registrar), Greg Ryan (Social) and of course all coaches and managers who attend monthly juniors meeting and provided guidance for the junior club in 2009.

The most rewarding point to come from the juniors is that across all teams it would be fair to say that EVERY player showed improvement and learning which is a great credit to the efforts of all juniors' coaches and managers in 2009.

Oatley is fortunate to have a thriving minis arm of the club and Sandy Palmer has done another outstanding job as Minis Coordinator. Highlight was obviously the hosting of the Southern Districts Minis Gala days over two weekends in August and the way in which Sandy portrayed our club to others in the district. Thank you also to all minis parents who helped make those weekends so successful.

Sponsorship is crucial to the continuation of the junior club. We compete against many codes of sport in our community and are grateful to any sponsor who can make a difference in reducing costs to allow more players to play Rugby. Foremost to this is Charles Palmer from Kyle Bay Removals who as our major Minis sponsor. Charles assists not only in sponsorship of the minis with his company but in many fundraising activities for juniors throughout the year and we are grateful for his continued support.

Thank you also to those junior team sponsors who helped reduce the cost of club clothing for the following teams in 2009.

Under 10's	O'Connor Electrical, Arborcorp, We Are Signs
Under 11's	Rice Warner Actuaries
Under 12's	Palmer's Removals and Storage
Under 14's	Fat Media
Under 15's	Toll
Under 18 Opens	Maloufs Minifold

2009 Junior Club awards

Walla player of the year:	Curtis Palmer
Minis player of the year:	Conor Molloy
Supporter of the year:	Uziel
Goalkicker of the year:	James Mood
Clubman of the year:	Leonie Bottos
Juniors Player of the year:	Remitana Moko

Congratulations to all award winners



Walla player of the Year Curtis Palmer
with Rob Horne



2009 Team Honours

- Under 10 – Southern Zone 10B Premiers
- Under 11 – Southern Zone 11C Premiers
- Under 12 – Southern Zone 12B Premiers
- Under 15's – Southern District champion team and Western Zone undefeated premiers
- Under 16's - Southern Districts champion team and Northern Zone 16B grand finalists
- 18's Opens – Southern Districts Champion team and Northern Zone finalists

Although it's unfair to judge between all age groups and single out the achievements of individual teams the success of the under 15's must be mentioned. To go through a season undefeated winning your Grand Final 46-0 is a tremendous feat and is the result of hard work by the players, Alex Suter as coach, Thomas Sau'au as manager and the support of a great parent base. The club also wishes our 15's all the best for their upcoming tour to NZ and congratulations on a great fundraising campaign.

Moving into 2010 we look to be heading into changes to the structure of junior rugby in the Sydney Area. With the breakdown of previous zone boundaries we can look forward to a season which will see games against new competition, different locations and most importantly see more game played on an equally graded basis. This looks to be a positive step for the future of rugby and I look forward to seeing all teams take on these challenges next year.

Ross Williamson
Club President



Under 10's

At the beginning of the year, I was looking forward to our two teams from the 9's coming together. I was also very pleased to see so many new boys join our club. Little did I know that this was going to be such a great developmental year filled with excitement for the boys, parents and the club.

Special thanks to Gale and Richard for all their diligent efforts. To Gordon, Rod and the Dads who helped coach. To the committee for giving the boys the opportunity to participate, and to Ross who managed the bigger picture and still managed to ref a lot of our games.

Being our first real competitive year, and competing with new sides from the Eastern Suburbs, I did not really know what to expect from the competition or our boys. The challenge, which always was in the forefront of my mind, was to ensure the boys were coached to learn skills, not specifically to win. None-the-less the boy's competitive nature shone through as evidence in some great results as the competition table below shows:

Comp	Grade	Position	Team	Played	Win	Lose	Draw	Bye	FFT	PF	PA	PD	PR	Points
MSZ	U10B	1	Oatley	13	12	0	1	0	0	446	84	362	5.3095	51
MSZ	U10B	2	Burraneer Gold	14	10	1	0	0	0	414	111	303	3.7297	48
MSZ	U10B	3	Bays Green	13	10	3	0	0	0	284	164	120	1.7317	46
MSZ	U10B	4	Eastgardens	13	5	8	1	0	1	295	338	-43	0.8728	37
MSZ	U10B	5	Clovelly White	14	4	9	1	0	0	215	378	-163	0.5688	37
MSZ	U10B	6	Burraneer Blue	13	5	9	0	0	1	251	291	-40	0.8625	36
MSZ	U10B	7	East Wallaroods Red	13	4	10	0	0	1	211	383	-172	0.5509	34
MSZ	U10B	8	Rockdale	14	1	13	0	0	0	79	520	-441	0.1519	30

There have been many highlights for us this year; defending our Marists 7's crown, going through the rounds undefeated and of course that cracker of a grand final win. But more importantly by far the biggest highlight for me, was seeing the boys learn together what team spirit means and how when things become difficult, or sometimes even a little painful, if they can encourage each other and stick together they can achieve.

Congratulations to our boys, Phoenix, Hunter, Andrew, Angus, Nathan, Daniel, Riley O who represented our club and Southern Districts in the rep season. It was pleasing to see our boys compete so well at this higher level, with Andrew being awarded best back, Nathan being awarded the coach's award and Riley O being awarded team player.

I am sure next year will bring many new challenges which as a team I am sure we will step up to.

Team:

Angus Mullins: Angus played a lot of games this year as scrum half and also captain. Towards the end of the year he was able to fill in at number 8 due to effectiveness close in and his natural ability to stay involved. Angus also played for Southern Districts this year. Congratulations on a good year Angus.
Games: 18



Andrew Clark

Andrew played most of the year in the centres. He continued to show good speed and elusiveness scoring many tries. Andrew also spent many hours practicing his goal kicking which paid off as he showed great improvement towards the end of the year. This was evident in his final kick of the year to win the Grandfinal. Andrew also helped out the under 12's this year and played for Southern Districts. Andrew was also voted the players player for our team. Thanks Andrew. Games: 20, Tries: 46, Goals: 19

Nathan Abbott

Unfortunately Nathan had a very short season with us this year. We wish him all the best for next year. Games: 4

Hunter Apatu

Hunter started in the backs this year, but ended the season as a front rower. Hunter is a pleasure to have in the side, always cooperating at training and trying his best. Hunter also showed good improvement throughout the year. Hunter also represented the club at Southern Districts this year. Well-done Hunter. Games: 16

Gryffen Cunningham

Gryff scored his first try this year, which was testament to how his forward running improved. Gryff played front row or hooker and was always keen to be involved. We hope to see you back next year Gryff. Games: 14, Tries: 1

Ethan Fa'amausili

Ethan was playing up an age group this year, but with his skill level he was not out of place. He always competed with the older boys and is an elusive runner. I was always pleased to see the huge smile on his face whenever he ran with the ball. Thanks Ethan. Games: 9, Tries: 1

Cooper Greenberg

Cooper's first year in Rugby. A strong, fast and enthusiastic player, Coops started in the forwards, then settled comfortable in the wing position.

Copper was always dangerous on the end of our back line and scored some great tries down the sideline this year. We look forward to seeing you back Cooper. Games: 14, Tries: 3

Campbell Jackson

His first year, fitted into the team very well, an elusive, enthusiastic runner, who showed great field position always managing to read the kicks and cover broken field. I am sure Campbell will find himself much closer to the action in the coming years. Great first year Campbell. Games: 11, Tries: 1, Goals: 2

Phoenix Pennell

A strong determined player who continually makes life hard for the opposition. Whilst Phoenix loves galloping around in the backs, his strength and determination places him well for a flanker's job next year. Phoenix always put in a big effort, also playing reps and helped out the 11's and 12's. Phoenix also earned the coaches award for our team. Thanks Phoenix. Games: 23, Tries: 26, Goals: 2

Ryan Quail

Ryan's first year at rugby and one of our mighty hookers. Ryan progressed well this year, running the ball dangerously at every opportunity and was always effective in defence. I hope you enjoyed your year Ryno and we hope to see you back next season. Games: 13



Connor Ryan

Connor made fantastic progress in his first year of rugby, tenacious defender with great endurance and never gives up. Connors ability to learn the game quickly and his effectiveness in defence was a real difference to our side this year. Well-done Connor. Thanks Connor. Games: 16, Tries: 3

Gregory Towell

Greg is another one of our first time players. Greg's big effort on grand final day, which was his best game of the year, really helped to secure our victory. Greg is a reliable goal kicker and determined runner. Well-done Greg. Games: 14, Tries: 8

Lachlan Fitch

Fly half/ centre. Lachlan doubled up this year, playing for his school before the Oatley games. Both teams I am sure are pleased to have him. Lachlan understands the game well now, tackles well and attacks thoughtfully. Lachlan had his best game of the year in our grand final. We hope to see you back next year Lachie. Games: 15, Tries: 7

Jacob Zietoun

Front rower. It was a real pleaser to have Jacob in the side, he is always a good boy and seems to have a genuine desire to play. Big smile, determined runner and showed great improvement this year. Thanks Jacob. Games: 14

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Nathan McDonald

Scrum and fly half. Nathan was one of our rep players this year and deservedly so. Nathan seems to be developing all the skills he will need if he wants to take rugby more seriously as he gets older, good hands, good pass and now crushing defence. Nathan also took out the best and fairest award for our team. Great year Nathan, well done. Games: 17, Tries: 7, Goals: 1

Ethan Waudby

Ethan is one of our outside backs. He is a hard straight runner, and determined defender. We know Ethan has the ability and he really shone on grand final day with a strong performance. I am sure Ethan will really blossom next year. Games: 17, Tries: 1

Daniel Morris

I cannot speak highly enough of Daniel's efforts this year. He played anywhere he was asked, technically our best forward due to his selfless style of play, strong determined runner and also represented the club at reps. Thanks for making my job easier Daniel. Games: 19, Tries: 1

Sam Tuni: Front row. For anyone who has seen the grand final video I am sure you agree that Sam's control of the ball in the last stages of the game, where he flawlessly set the ball back for his team mates was a big contributor to us scoring the winning try. Well done Sam, it has been great to see you come so far. Games: 14, Tries: 1

Riley "Bulldog" Williamson: Hooker. Riley had a good year this year; he always gives his best and never gives an inch. His head on style of defence lead to a few knocks this year but he was always keen to get straight back into the fray. Riley is a pleasure to have in the side. We look forward to seeing you back next year Riley, thanks. Games: 13, Tries: 1

Riley "The Axe" O'Connor: Riley really matured in his rugby this year. His understanding of his role as a back rower is very good for a player his age. Coupled with his courage Riley was one of the main reasons our side did so well this year. Riley also represented our club at Southern Districts. Well-done Riley. Games: 17

Also, congratulations to Sam (86) Andrew (83) Riley W (70) Angus (64) Riley O (61) Ethan W (50) who all have now played 50 games for the club.

I look forward to seeing you back next year.

Thanks again boys.

Danny





Under 11's

Firstly I would like to thank everybody who made this an enjoyable and ultimately successful season. I hope you all enjoyed the year. What a great way to finish the year, we won a Grand Final and really gave the sevens in Canberra a shake before bowing out to the old enemy Burra. It is pleasing to note how well the boys have gone this year and how every one of them have all contributed to the team. It really is a pleasure coaching this team and I really think with the help of the rain gods we can give some of the higher grades a shake next year.

Some special mentions must go to Vince and Greg for the efforts they put in on Wednesday's and the sanity checks they give me. Also to Ross who has taken on the role of manager with gusto. I don't think I've ever been more informed. To all the mums and dads thanks for entrusting your boys to us, but really the biggest thanks goes to the Boys themselves.....

Brendon Bottos – Brendon achieved his 100 games this year and played hard and fair in everyone. Has taken to the front row with gusto and a consistently high performer.

Connor Marsh – This was Connor's first year at Oatley and I hope he has enjoyed himself. He has become one of the well oiled cogs in our forward machine, punching way above his size.

David Finneran – This was also David's first season at Oatley, and it looks like we have unearthed a real flyer. I think we are going to see 1 or 2 spectacular tries in the next few years.

Jack Keady – Yet another new boy Jack gradually went through the gears as the season progressed. Scored some very good tries sometimes with finesse but sometimes with sheer brute force.

Jack Ryan – Jack won the best and Fairest award this year, basically because he did not go home wondering. Tried his heart out in every game and punched a couple of hundred kilo's above his weight.

James Mood – James is another of our trophy winners and through hard work and determination has turned himself into the Club's best Goal kicker. I'm sure he is only going to get better.

Joachim Tu'itavuki - JT is an absolute pleasure to coach. Full of enthusiasm, everything done with a smile. Came up against a few bigger boys this year and took to the challenge well.

Liam Molloy – Our Captain who broke his leg before the Grand Final. Liam won the Best Forward Award through his tackling and great breakdown work. Heart and soul of the team.

Luka Mihaljek – Luka is one of our most consistent performers. Listens at training and goes out and plays his game. Has a great skill set and a long term back row option.

Mataele Taufa – Matele moved into the forwards this year with some devastating performances. Another who plays with a smile and truly looks like he is enjoying himself.

Nathan Wood – Nathan is the 4th new boy this year and another find. A great tackler and runner with the ball, is going to become one of our big game breakers in the future.

Oliver Herbert – Oliver scores tries for fun. Has the ability to step and accelerate which is rare to find. Whether on the wing or from fullback his cover tackling has won us games this year.

And of course there was Tom.....

Tom Charleson - Tom slipped into the 2nd row seamlessly this year. Showed some skills in his first year. Very good tackler. Tom is another new guy and will get better and better.



Tom Dibdin – Another player with an infectious smile and huge heart. Who can ever forget his piggy back tackle against Coogee. Tom really looked like he enjoyed himself.

Tom Kossenburg – T3 settled into the forwards this year after a spell in the backs and really stood up. Some really ferocious tackling and direct running late in the season was a pleasure to behold.

Tom Mullen – Tom won the best Back Award this year. Possibly our most skill-full player with the ball, he is starting to build confidence and try things which is a major reason for our backs to start firing towards the back end of the year.



Tom Rice – Last but not least Tom.

Tom showed some real tenacious defence this year and was involved in the majority of good things the backs did. Tom received his 100 game award this year with Brendon.

Coach: Richard Rice

Manager: Ross Mottershead

Player		CLUB TOTAL			
		Matches	Tries	Goals	Total Pts
Brendon	Bottos	101	34	63	296
Tom	Charleson	13	0	0	0
Tom	Dibdin	15	0	0	0
David	Fineran	14	2	0	10
Oliver	Herbert	42	34	0	170
Jack	Keady	18	6	0	30
Thomas	Kossenburg	54	0	0	0
Connor	Marsh	15	0	0	0
Luka	Mihaljevic	68	2	0	10
Liam	Molloy	60	8	0	40
James	Mood	82	19	35	165
Thomas	Mullen	34	1	4	13
Thomas	Rice	102	27	4	143
Jack	Ryan	65	0	0	0
Mataele	Taufa	58	64	0	320
Joachim	Tu'itavuki	37	17	0	85
Nathan	Woods	16	0	0	0



Under 12's

Another season draws to a close. The Wallabies may not have had a very good season but the mighty Oatley U12s certainly had one to remember.

What a wonderful season for the boys, parents and coaching team. We had several new boys join us this year; Ewan Doyle, Alturo Faamansili, Luc Harries, Ambrose Milgate and Luke Harris and nice to see Dominic Shade make a return to Oatley. They joined our mainstays and players from previous years; Karaitiana Sa'u, Sydney Malifa, Darcy Whitfeld, Jackson Ford, Nicholas Bennett, Gabriel Suter, Benet James, Anthony Saker, David Jeavons, Thomas Clark, Tony Rumore, Dane Stephens, Jared McLachlan, Etienne Couret, James Finney, Jonathon Ryan and Alex Sherman.

We squeezed a few extra trial games in through the season with Burraneer, Hunters Hill, West Harbour and Newington College, to give each of the boys more experience and game time. This was very important to orientate the new boys to rugby and the other boys in the team, and to enable them to get some invaluable experience. I believe that this made a big difference by mid season and for the finals.

A lot of trouble with injuries this year and thankfully most not due to rugby. Our boys were simply growing too fast for their bodies to keep up, causing serious Achilles problems for Karaitiana, Dane, David, Benet and knee problems for Ewan and Ambrose. Unlucky to lose Jonathon with a broken collar bone, (who still came to each game to give his support), Luc and Dominic with back problems for a few weeks and Alturo with a broken leg (not from rugby) for the season, just as he was finding his mark.

After a very disappointing start with cricket match score lines, by mid season the boys had improved vastly, even though they fronted for most games with many of our big name and experienced players missing, they put in courageous and solid performances. During the second round when meeting each of the competition front runners the next time the boys were able to match them and keep them at bay for at least first half of the game, and finished with much closer scores than the first time around.

The coaching team were particularly impressed with the vast improvement in the forwards with their work at the breakdown, their support play and their scrums were sensational, even winning more than their share against the feed. I was personally very proud when opposition coaches approached me after some games, praising the muscle and dominance our boys showed at the ruck and maul, and the scrum. We didn't have the biggest or most experienced pack, but the boys showed they could match it with the best of them showing great heart and determination.

Our backs improved considerable through the season and most of this was in their defensive capability and effectiveness. While not scoring a lot of tries this year, they learnt to contain the opposition backs with good one-on-one tackling and then took advantage of the few scoring opportunities that were created. Our kicking game also improved dramatically as the season progressed and when we obtained some stability in the backs positions.

We had a strong finish resulting in a fifth spot on the competition ladder, making the 'B' Division play-off. The boys again demonstrated their improvement in all areas of the game in winning the semi-final in which they always looked comfortable of winning on the day and in particular their team-work, maturity and discipline under pressure in winning the Grand Final, when coming from behind.





Congratulations to Karaitiana Sa'u, Jonathon Ryan, Dane Stephens and Nicholas Bennett, for their selection in the Southern Districts representative side and to Alex Sherman for chalking up his 100th game with Oatley.

Always hard deciding the awards, especially with so many boys playing great footy and when you have so many players that have improved so much. Congratulations to our ultimate award winners this year:

- Etienne Couret** - Players Player Award
- Darcy Whitfeld** - Coaches and Managers Award
- Sydney Malifa** - Most Improved Player



I would like to thank Mark and Pierre immensely for their valuable assistance with training and coaching the boys each week, Paul, our game day Medic, and the other dads for their assistance at training.

Thanks also to the Mums and Dads for getting the boys to training and the games, and of course for washing those footy jumpers. A big thank you to the OJRU committee for their work all year, especially Ross Williamson. Here's to another good season next year and I hope to see all the boys return again.

Jim Sherman, U12 Coach

Player		CLUB TOTAL		
		Matches	Tries	Goals
Nicholas	Bennett	94	11	13
Thomas	Clark	47	12	0
Etienne	Couret	30	14	1
James	Finney	39	8	0
Jackson	Ford	38	0	0
Benet	James	31	0	0
David	Jeavons	65	7	1
Sydney	Malifa	46	4	0
Jared	McLachlan	116	32	9
Tony	Rumore	51	22	22
Jonathon	Ryan	96	91	17
Anthony	Saker	43	0	0
Karaitiana	Sa'u	114	38	7
Alex	Sherman	107	56	18
Owen	Sivertsen	41	1	8
Dane	Stephens	77	34	4
Gabriel	Suter	91	40	14
Darcey	Whitfeld	34	14	5
Ewan	Doyle	2	0	0
Alturo	Faamansili	3	0	0
Luc	Harries	9	0	0
Luke	Harris	12	2	1
Dominic	Shade	53	5	4
Ambrose	Milgate	11	0	0
Brendon	Bottos U11s	1	1	0



Under 14's

Although we missed out on the finals by a point, the 14's have a lot to be proud of for 2009. We were thrust into A grade at the start of the season, without a full team and with several players having never played before. Our first game was the only time we were beaten comprehensively, but we only had 1 reserve and of these players, Jarrad Smith, Tim Burns and Lachlan Green had never played any code of rugby before while Andrew Haira came for his first game from rugby league – slotting straight into hooker and Liam Johnson and Nathan Doherty made returns after not having played for many years. We were to pick up 3 more players from rugby league – Ibrihim Rafrat, Matthew Taavo and Trevor Faanoi. In our next 3 games in A grade, although beaten in these games, we were more than competitive and improved with every game.

After the 4th round we dropped back to B grade and it's fair to say that with a bit of luck we could have won the competition. The highlight for us was defeating the minor premiers and eventual premiers North's, 5 nil when the game had to be abandoned due to the referee getting injured. The opposition graciously conceded that we were going to beat them easily anyway. We were unlucky in so many games including losing to the other grand-finalists Newport 24-22 with only 14 players. Getting beaten by Forest by a sideline conversion in a game we were the better side. Drawing with Forest in the last round despite having 2 tries scored against us that should never have been allowed. Despite these setbacks the boys kept improving and it's a testament to their will that they kept improving as the season progressed and all players are looking forward to 2010. Thanks for everyone's efforts. A special thanks to the parents who got their boys to training and to some distant away games on the north shore at ungodly hours on Sunday mornings. A special thanks to Ivan Mihalijevic who stepped in as manager for the year and Ratto who helped coach and acted as a trainer for the games.

We eventually had 19 players for the year of which 8 had not played rugby before and 2 hadn't played for a number of years.

Andrew Haira – Played hooker having never played rugby before and helped make the under 14's the dominant scrum

Daniel Duffy – A loose forward whose midfield defence earned him the best forward award.

Emelio (Leo) Pupualii – Outside centre with great pace and strong defence also his first year in rugby.





Ibrahim Rafrat – A sensational player from league who was unfortunately signed by the bulldogs before the end of the season.

Jakov Mihaljevic – Continues to improve with each season particularly in defence. Look for a big year next season.

Jarrad Smith – Despite never having played before was thrust into the forwards playing second row with commitment and courage.

Lachlan Green – Another new player who proved versatile in the backline. He was outstanding in the game against Forest where he ran the show from five eighths.

Liam Johnson – Hasn't played for 5 years but prove a powerful runner and aggressive tackler. Could play in the forwards or backs.

Liam Whiteman – Our longstanding half-back never shirked his duties and provide good clean ball to his outside backs. Big improver this year that should get his 100 games for the club next season.

Matt Murray – Plays in the fullback position with great vision. His communication with the inexperienced players in front of him was invaluable throughout the year.

Matthew Taavao – Another league convert whose strong and aggressive play allowed him to play in the backs or forwards. Was man of the match several times.

Nathan Doherty – Small in stature but with heaps of pace. Nathan returned to Oatley after 4 years and gave us much needed speed on the wing.

Ryan Mackay – Part of our outstanding front row. His commitment to the cause earned him the coach's award this season.

Thomas Egan – Experienced and outstanding 2nd row/loose forward. Our forward performances were never as good when Tom wasn't playing. Gets better with each season.

Tim Dunn – Like all great loose forwards is never more than 2 metres from the ball. His work at the break-down kept the team on the front foot all year. Won player's player.

Tim Burns – Despite never having played before was outstanding on the wing scoring 3 tries. Also a strong defender.

Tipene (Tippi) Tutauha - This is his first season with Oatley where he played ½ back combing a strong pass with excellent defence, particularly around the base of the rucks and scrums.

Trevor Faanoi – The comedian in the team and the last part of our outstanding front row. He picked up the finer points quickly. It's extraordinary that 2 of the dominant players in our front row have never played rugby before.

Tamati Haimona – Tamati was the team leader and had an outstanding season leading from the front. This was despite being sent off (incorrectly) in the first game of the year and suspended for 2 games. He came back to be the leading point scorer and equal first try scorer with 4 tries.

Rod, Tim, Ivan



Under 15's



This year on the back of the success and reputation built from last season, we had 25 registered players and had to put up the *full house* sign quite early in the season. We had 17 players return from last year and 8 new players.

Despite the size of our squad and the enthusiasm carried over from last year. We controversially drew our first round competition game against Wests. The controversy came in the form of a successful goal conversion for our team that was waved away – unfortunately, it was by our own touchie – needless to say his flag licence was abruptly revoked.

The season was a strange one in the sense that it really did not have a lot of flow about it. It was interrupted by cancelled games due to the weather, a bye round, a forfeit game, a suspended game and then a couple of games where our opposition only turned up with 12 players hoping for mercy - as Mr T. so eloquently put it "*I pity the FOOL!*"

The reputation of this team definitely preceded them and that reputation has been further enhanced by their sterling efforts this year; undefeated minor premiers, comfortable winners in our major final against Hills and in the Grand final, absolutely smashing our grand final opponents from last year – Eastgardens, 46-0 - a record winning margin for a junior Grand final in NSW I am reliably told..

The new players that we acquired this year were; Braxton Te Nahu, Lolani Kateili, Daniel Szabo, Damon Browne, Byron Wicken, Jordon Lam, Marcus Maere and Kelepi Lovadua. They were all absolutely brilliant for our team and all brought renewed enthusiasm, great skill and their unique individual personalities with them, which only enhanced and helped galvanise further the wonderful team chemistry and spirit that already existed in the team.

To individualise each player in the team and highlight their strengths and contributions for the year would be a lengthy process that would require pages in order to aptly do justice, in all honesty it would be an insult to them to even try to wrap up their seasons' effort in a couple of sentences. Therefore I will refrain from the effort to do so. This team collectively and equally all deserve praise and glory for our great season.

Massive praise and thanks to our coach Alex Suter. He is in my opinion the best junior rugby coach in NSW. The time and commitment that he puts into this team is absolutely priceless and is the main catalyst for our successful year.

Thank you to our entire parent group for not only their wonderful support for the team through-out the season but, also for their amazing efforts in fundraising for the teams' spring trip to Wellington, New Zealand. Both Alex and I are truly appreciative and humbled by your efforts and support.

This year in representative honours from our team we had; 16 *Southern Districts reps*, 8 *Southern Zone reps*, 3 *Sydney Junior reps*, a *NSW U15s rep* and a *NSW Schools U16s rep*.

While based on the number of players that we had represent at higher honours I suppose it could easily be surmised that we have a team of champions, however I think it would be more accurately described as a **Champion Team**.

Thomas Sa'u
Oatley U15s
Team Manager



Under 16's

The year started the same as the last 2 seasons, slowly and low on numbers, but plenty of heart. We didn't think we could field a team. Round one was a bye, round 2 was against Coogee, which we forfeited. We were in desperate need of more players. Round 3 was a home game against Hunters Hill/Petersham, and this is when Alex arrived to save us with a group of strong willing lads from the under 15s. We started the game with 14 players on the paddock and many I have never meet before. We were beaten but showed promise.

Round 4 we travelled up to Forests with 13 players, they threw everything at us, it took ages for them to break through our defence. We went down for a second time, but not without a fight. Until this point we had been playing in the 16A's, after this game it was decided that we play in the 16B's. This is about the same time Alex asked if I would take on the role as manger, which I happily did.

Our first game as 16B's was a home game against Burraneer, this time we had 19 players and a new lease of life, we won convincingly 73-12, it was a wonderful start. The following week was a rained out match, then round 7 we faced Newport, we went down 19-7; this was to be the same score in our next encounter with Newport in the semis.

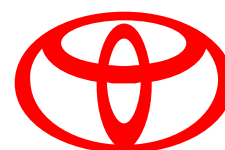
We finished the rest of the season undefeated, Oatley 21-Hillview 7, Oatley 44-Burraneer 21, Oatley 27-Hornsby 5, Oatley 41-East Wallaroos 19, Oatley 29-Reds 5. Our last game of the season was a home game against St Ives, unfortunately, they forfeited. We finished the season 2nd on the ladder, a fantastic effort from a team that looked like they were not going to play.

Alex suggested an end of season BBQ in place of the match, Alex and I brought our Webbers and everyone brought loads of food, the weather was wonderful and the kids kicked the balls around the park. A good time was had by all.

Now to the business end of season, our first semi was against first placed Newport, they were undefeated this year and were going to be a formidable team, they had beaten us once this year 3 tries to one. Regrettably, we lost with the same result. This meant we had to play the following week against the winner of the 3rd and 4th placed semi.

Our second semi was opposed to a team we had beaten before, North Reds, our last encounter had a bit of controversy, they thought we were playing with non-under 16's, they were right, we had under 15's, one of their concerns was Jarrome, to his mother disbelief. LOL. Well, we beat them again anyway, 26-12. Now time for the Grand final, Newport again, maybe 3rd time lucky. What a match, both teams were scoreless for 25 minutes, we had our opportunities, and then we scored. 7-0, this was great, the boys were happy. Sadly this was short lived, one thing you never do, is relax against a team that is undefeated. Newport scored from the kick-off. 7-7. This seemed to take the wind from our sails. Alex fired them up again at half-time, we went back, ready to take it to them, they attacked our line, we attacked theirs, unfortunately, Newport scored again, 14-7, but we were still had a chance, with only a few minutes left in the game Newport did what no other team had done against us all season, they kicked a penalty, 17-7. That was the end. The boys walked off heads held high, we were proud of our boys, grand finalist. Oatley was the most formidable team Newport played all year.

**SYDNEY CITY
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We had one more engagement, Canberra 7's. I can't remember it ever being that warm in Canberra for the sevens, it was wonderful. Anyway, to the results - won 2, lost 3. This may have been due to the boys watching movies until 1am. If you haven't seen 7's rugby go have a look, it is a wonderful spectacle. A whole field with only 14 players, it's fast and electrifying.

I would like to finish with thanking Alex for taking on the role as Under 16's coach; Alex was already coaching the Under 15's and planning for their overseas trip. We couldn't have done it without him. Cheers mate.

I would also like to thank the parents for their support, week in and week out. We had the most entertaining and positive sideline I have ever seen in my 93 years with Oatley Rugby. And finally the boys - thank you, it was class rugby all season. BTW, you didn't kick a penalty all year, was it scoring a try was a lot more enjoyable, or was it because we didn't have a kicking tee most of the season.

Anyway, be safe in 2009 and I hope to see you in 2010
Cheers,
Canada



Opens

This year was quite a difficult year with a number of boys doing their HSC and also having jobs, thus making it hard to get the players to training and get the same 15 on the park each week. However, to the boys' credit, once again, we were only one try away from Grand Final.

In some ways the season was a little disappointing in that we finished being knocked out in the final for the 2nd year in a row even though we had a much stronger side. It just goes to show that training is so important for the success of a rugby side. If we worked as hard as we did at training the year before and had the same numbers at training I think we would have won the comp.

However, this season should not be judged on the disappointing finish in the last game, rather it should be judged on the entire season in which included many highlights along the way. We were the only side to beat Premiers Randwick this season which was one of the best and toughest rugby games I have seen at Evatt. We also managed to win the Southern Districts champion team. In addition, we had many individual highlights with Tim Smart and Jake Kefford being the first Oatley Juniors to reach 200 games and Aaron Malouf and Peter Woollett playing their 150th games this year. We made up the bulk of the Southern Districts rep side. We had Tim Smart and Stuart Farani selected in the Sydney train on Squad with Stuart going on to play for Sydney against Country. Sone Koopu also made the 16's Southern Zone team.

Next season is going to be an exciting year with most opens eligible to play again and this years Grand Finalists, the 16's, joining our team. Hopefully, with a bit of hard work we can go on and win the premiership I know we are capable of. For the boys who aren't eligible for the opens next year, they will be able to join Oatley colts which I plan to be involved with as well.

Award Winners

Best Forward-Assem Ewais
Best Team Attitude- Aaron Malouf
Coaches Award-Kel Eteaki
Junior Player of the Year- Mana Moko

Rep Players

Southern Districts 17's-Assem Ewais, Tim Murray, Jarrod Golins, Tim Smart, Stuart Farani, Declan Walpole, Retimana Moko, Jake Kefford, Ryan Abdel-Sayed, Nicholas Colborne, Sonejo Koopu, Albert Khouri.

Southern Districts 16's-Saufua L'alesi

Southern Zone 16's-Sonejo Koopu

Sydney Train on Squad-Tim Smart, Stuart Farani

Sydney- Stuart Farani

Mark Bernays



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Senior's Vice President Report

I would like to report the 2009 season was an exceptionally good year for the Seniors & Colts Club, even though a premiership just remains out of our reach.

- Oatley's best year overall since 1989
- Retained 2nd Division status
- Oatley finished 4th in the Club Championship
- 1st Grade were runners up in the Minor Premiership to Barker and Finalists
- Frazer Leevas was voted the 2nd Division Player of the Year
- 2nd Grade won 8 games vs one the previous year, with 3 losses being less than 7 points
- 3rd Grade won 10 games vs 4 the previous year and just missed the semis
- 4th Grade enjoyed the season, with the highlight being a no prisoners taken encounter with the Undefeated Premiers Waverley in the second round
- Colts unfortunately experienced their second successive year of injuries to key players / positions, thus denying them the opportunity to show their full potential. However Colts finished the season strongly with a comprehensive win over Briars
- Our reputation with Subbies dramatically improved, as our on field discipline improved. Oatley also played a more active role in 2nd division meetings by sending 3 representatives to each meeting, while hosting the Touch Judges (assistant referees) Course at Masos.

These results could not be achieved without the assistance of a lot of people, many of whom contributions are not apparent or readily acknowledged by the playing group.

Ross Williamson and his Executive Committee do a great job behind the scenes . The Executive are responsible for the overall finances of the club, the ongoing upgrade of equipment, the management of the canteen, the direction, culture and appearance of the entire club.

Sheridan Baratta and Shirley Heal for the many hours they spend in the canteen, generating funds on our behalf.



Our Sponsors – Maso’s, Celebration Cellars Lugarno, Hales Redden Chartered Accountants, Peter Hilton Landscaping, Steve Lysaght Food Services, Skye Plumbing, Wagner Group Services, R.J Dunn Building, We Are Signs, A Line Plumbing and Sydney City Toyota for without whose support we could not survive.



Justin Baratta (Senior’s Club Person of the Year 2009) is the glue that binds Seniors together. Justin is heavily involved in the management of players from a retention and recruitment and welfare perspective. Plus Justin was the driving force behind this year’s successful Presentation Night and Sport’s Lunch. The audience at this year’s Sports Lunch were really taken back by how professionally Justin interviewed the 3 guest speakers – Lachie Turner, Rob Horne and Chris Holland from aussie band “Operator Please”.

The rugby committee headed by Mossy and Justin did a really great job, especially when things got a little tough with all the wet weather and injuries. Mossy and Justin could not have achieved the results they did without the help of David Glanville (1st Grade Manager, Touch Judge & Senior’s Treasurer), Brian Norris (2nd Grade Coach), Mike Lazarus (2nd Grade Manager), Ross Bernays (3rd Grade and Colts Coach), Helen Green (3rd Grade Manager and enthusiastic fund raiser) and last but not least Nigel Seller (4th Grade Manager and tireless clubman).

I would also like to thank the Senior’s Sub Committee for all their help – Dunny (Sponsorship), Tim (Secretary), Robbie (tireless worker), Scott (tireless worker), Norrie (Senior’s Club Captain and Fund Raiser), Dave (Treasurer), Bags (everything), Ross B (old head wisdom, coaching of 3rds and Colts and his contribution to the U18s) and Super Nigel for their contribution to success of the Seniors.

Lastly I would like to take the opportunity to thank Chris Moss for his enormous contribution to the Seniors both as a player and a coach. Over the last 5 years Oatley 1st Grade has only missed the Semi Finals once (5th place in 2008) while securing the 1st Grade Minor Premiership in 2007. During his time at Oatley, Mossy was also voted the 3rd Division Player of the Year twice and represented Oatley in the Subbies Rep Team. Mossy also had a strong interest in the club’s playing apparel and was instrumental in the modernising of the Oatley’s on field and off field strip. To Beth and Mossy we wish you every success and happiness on your return to Wales.

Looking forward, the committee has already started getting things in place for the 2010 season and there is no reason why Oatley Seniors and Colts should not enjoy another successful season. As always some faces will change, but Oatley is a strong and enduring club, supported by a selfless group of loyal and committed supporters.

Mike Heal
Oatley Rugby
Seniors & Colts Vice President 2009



2009 Senior Award Winners

Club Awards

Player of the Year	–	Fraser Leavasa / Mark Peters
Rookie of the Year	–	Tim Green
Colt of the Year	–	Peter Moala
Clubman of the Year	–	Justin Baratta
Players Player	–	Fraser Leavasa
Presidents Award	–	Mark Bernays



Team Awards

1 ST Grade –	Forward	–	Gordon Matthews
	Back	–	Mark Peters
	Coaches	–	Andrew Norris
2 nd Grade –	Forward	–	Adam Tawhiao
	Back	–	Chris Norris
	Coaches	–	Villi Villitama
3 rd Grade –	Forward	–	Mark Bernays
	Back	–	Jason Myers
	Coaches	–	Scott McIlveen
4 th Grade –	Forward	–	Kevin Glasheen
	Back	–	Mick Waudby
	Coaches	–	Rob Cameron
Colts –	Forward	–	Tim Quirk
	Back	–	Kel Eteaki
	Coaches	–	Anthony Glanville



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1st Grade

Played – 20 Won 13 lost 7 for 540 against 300

Another season that finished with disappointment; however I wouldn't call it a failure. On the positive side of things, 1St grade finished 2nd after the completion of the regular season, which was a considerable improvement on last year. It saw 11 new players experience 1st grade for the 1st time, with several of these graduating from the clubs colts program, which says a lot about our colts program and player retention. The club as a whole improved to be one of the front runners with player numbers increasing and the playing talent improving. Fraser won the subbies medal for best player in the 2nd division competition, which is all so a 1st for the club in this division. On the field the guys played an attractive and disciplined game of rugby which was also a positive and is a big reflection on the attitude and skill of Coach Chris Moss and Captain PG. Both of these players can be proud of the way they have conducted themselves coaching and leading this side and the side's improvement can be accredited to their input and leadership. These two players will be sorely missed next year. As a forward pack the lads were dominant and it provided the backs an opportunity to express themselves.

On the negative it was disappointing to lose the major semi and final, after having our chances in both games. If I could put it down to one thing is the fact we are not as brought into the process as we think we are. The clubs like Barker, Uni, Linfield and St Ives, have a proud history as does Oatley; however the players I believe are far more committed to the cause as individuals and as a group. I know this is a hard statement; however I believe to win a 1st grade premiership we need to instil this culture and commitment to each other and the club. To expand on this further I'm not suggesting the guys didn't give 100% when they pulled on a jersey; however commitment to training is a reflection of your commitment to your fellow players and club, dressing in the appropriate strip is a commitment to each of and the club, participating in committees and fund raising, helping on match day, running water, cooking the BBQ is also a reflection of this commitment. Celebrating wins and losses as a team and a unit also goes a long way to building this culture. I'm sure if we implement this type of culture and with the quality of players at the club, premiership success isn't far-away.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Chris Moss who is leaving to return to Wales. Chris, your contribution to the club and your knowledge and passion for the game is 2nd to none. I believe the playing roster is far more skilful and knowledgeable for your efforts. It has been a pleasure to have played with you and to coached under you and alongside you and I wish you and your family a safe journey home and hope to see you back in Australia soon.

Finally, I would like to thank all the players for the year and hope you all return next year to secure that elusive premiership. To the coaches and committee thanks for your efforts on what was a positive and improved season.

Until next time.

Justin "Bags" Baratta





2nd Grade

A great year for Second Grade and congratulations to all involved. A huge lift in outcome, from the previous season where the team only won one game.

Through the season we won 8 games and lost 10, three of those losses were by less than 5 points; we even managed to beat the eventual winners of the competition St Ives, in the second half of the season. This year was a full of highs and lows, just when we thought we were getting on top of the competition we seemed to be sent further trails.

Due to injuries in both first grade and our own team, it was difficult to get a cohesive team on the field, we had excellent back up from thirds, fourths and colts, players lifting time and time again even though they had just finished their own games.

For the complete season I believe we had the dominant pack in the competition...you could see the tears in Mike Lazarus' eyes when we were rolling over the opposition... **on these occasions Mike would even take time out to stop helping the referee, with their perceived inaccuracies.**

We were dealt difficult blows with the retirement due to injury of Alex Charlwood and Mitch Burton, but the rest of the forwards managed to maintain the momentum. It is hard to single out any particular players in the forwards as it was an excellent group performance, Villi, Ben and Adam, leading up the front supported by Tivida, Mitch, Lazo and Aisa.

As to the backs, we managed to build as the season went on, and toward the end we had some great combinations in place, exceptional performances on a weekly basis from Josh, Peter, Chris Norris, Corkie and Chris Rae. There were some excellent Cameo performances from Voli, BJ, Steve Mc Lean, Musty, Ken, Manu, and Scoter but what we gained from these efforts we lost due to poor attendances at training, and the failure of players to attend games on a regular basis.

I commend those who made the effort to come to the games on a regular basis, and encourage those who didn't to ensure when you commit to the season, that that is what you do...

Second Grade had the player skills to win the competition...and I know that with greater commitment next season, that is what this team can do!

I have to thank fellow coaches Mossy, Bags, Ross and Nigel... for their excellent and thoroughly researched training drills and the fact they were at training and game days, rain hail or shine.

Lastly to the unsung heroes Helen Green, Robbie Cameron, and Mike Heal and his wife, without you the season would not have been anywhere near as enjoyable as it was.

Brian Norris (Co-Coach, with Mike Lazarus)...

**Peter Hilton
Landscaping**

**Peakhurst
0438 944 355**





3rd Grade

The 2009 season for 3rd grade was very much one of what might have been. We seem to have a lot of them at Oatley.

Certainly, it was a significant improvement on last year in winning ten games but missing the semi-finals after taking competition points of every team that finished in front of us was disappointing.



Unfortunately, we dropped games mid-season when we were down on troops which was the difference between participating in the final series and not. What makes it more disappointing was the way that we were firing at the end of season would have seen us in there with a real shot at something bigger.

It all came down to consistency and commitment. The teams that finished ahead of us would have beaten us on training attendance and have more stable line-ups. However, we can not lose sight of the fact that we have improved up the table and that semi-finals and premierships are well within reach if

we want to make it happen rather than just wish.

There were a number of highlights during the year with wins against Grand Finalists Lindfield and a very strong UNSW being amongst the best.

I must thank the Colts who backed up into 3rds, in particular, Tim Quirk and Kel Eteaki. Your efforts were much appreciated.

Congratulations to the following award winners who really stood out on commitment.

Jason Myers - best back.

Came back from an horrific injury. Lead the team around the field. A+ for enthusiasm and effort.

Mark Bernays - best forward.

Played all but one game during the season. Always put his body on the line.

Scott McIlveen - coach's award.

A real team man. Played every position in the backline, always gave 100%.

Also, there were many strong performers who are capable of playing higher.

Thanks all for an enjoyable season.

Ross Bernays



4th Grade

2009 started out as an exciting year with plenty of new players, and the standard old boys putting up their hands again to get another year of rugby under their belts. With minimal training, we knew we could be a force in 2009 when we overcome Newport in the 1st round 12-5. The first 5 rounds saw 4th's win 3 games.

For the first four to five rounds, 4th's could have easily put up two sides, with a numbers of players turning up each week. One Saturday even saw a few 4th players run on for a "Hallagan Cup" game played against Briars at Evatt with the Oat's winning 8-7.

As the season wore on and the rain came down, the commitment for the midweek training sessions declined except for a few core players, mainly forwards and a couple of backs would turn up for training each week.

With minimal training sessions due to the rain, and although we had players, every Saturday would be a different team. Trying to organise a team every Saturday morning is a tough job, not knowing who is going to turn up. Unfortunately, this is a normal occurrence of 4th grade as only a few core players would turn up on a regular basis and players moving through the grades always make coaching, managing and playing in 4th's very difficult.

Throughout the season, 4th's had really good support from Ross Bernays and his Colts players who always put their hands up even when the numbers were swelling at the seams. 4th grade also had some good support from the 3rd and 2nd grades contingent throughout different parts of the year which was also greatly appreciated.

Looking back, I think I could have done some things differently, especially when it came to utilising the colts players and working in partnership with Mike. These are areas I will continue to work on next year.

As a whole Mike has been great & Justin and Ross were always very supportive throughout the year. Thanks.

Special Mentions go to: Players.

Kevin Glasheen (Tex)

Rob Cameron

Rod Dunn

Shaun Dell, turned up most of the year

Boy Byers who is always a bit of a mystery but was at training every Thursday without fail.

Mick Waudby, Dave Morris, Sticks and Matt Horrobin

*Steve Lysaght
Smallgoods*

0412 210 340

Regards 4th's Manager Nigel



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Colts

A tough season with an incredible bad run of injuries. From game one we lost Rob Lennard for the season and it continued on from there with almost every game somebody incurring a serious injury. However, the boys held together well and always kept trying showing enough guts that there are plenty of players who want to join the team next year.

Thanks to Mark and his u/18's who helped us through a tough spot mid-season.

They enjoyed the challenge and want to be involved again next year.

Also, thanks to Tony Williams and David Glanville, your ongoing support is much appreciated. The leadership as captains shown by Anthony Glanville and Chris Bernays was outstanding in a difficult year.

Highlights of the season were our first up win against Newport at Newport and our 40 point thrashing of Briars in the last game.

Congratulations to the following award winners;

Peter Maola - colt of the year.

Provided the team with inner strength and leadership to really tough it out.

Kel Eteaki - best back.

Strong in attack and defence. Was as good as any player we played against.

Tim Quirk - best forward.

A real worker, was also outstanding in 3rd grade.

Anthony Glanville - coach's award.

Totally committed to colts even when selected in seniors.

This year's colts were a group of young men that I was proud to be associated with. The game against Briars really showed what we can do, lets build from there.

Ross Bernays





2009 Committees

Executive Committee

President
Secretary/Public Officer
Treasurer
Sponsorship
Seniors Vice President
Juniors Vice President
Canteen Co-ordinator
Executive Committee Members

Ross Williamson
Mick Waudby
Mick Bradley
Rod Dunn
Mike Heal
Ross Williamson
Sheridan Baratta
Charles Palmer
Vince Bottos
Ross Bernays

Senior Committee

Seniors Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Club Captain
Coaching Co-ordinator
Colts Coach

Mike Heal
Tim Green
David Glanville
Chris Norris
Justin Baratta
Ross Bernays

Junior Committee

Juniors Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Minis Co-ordinator
Juniors registrar
Juniors Sponsorship/Social

Ross Williamson
Gale O'Connor
Ross Mottershead
Sandy Palmer
Leonie Bottos
Greg Ryan



**Peter Hilton
Landscaping**

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