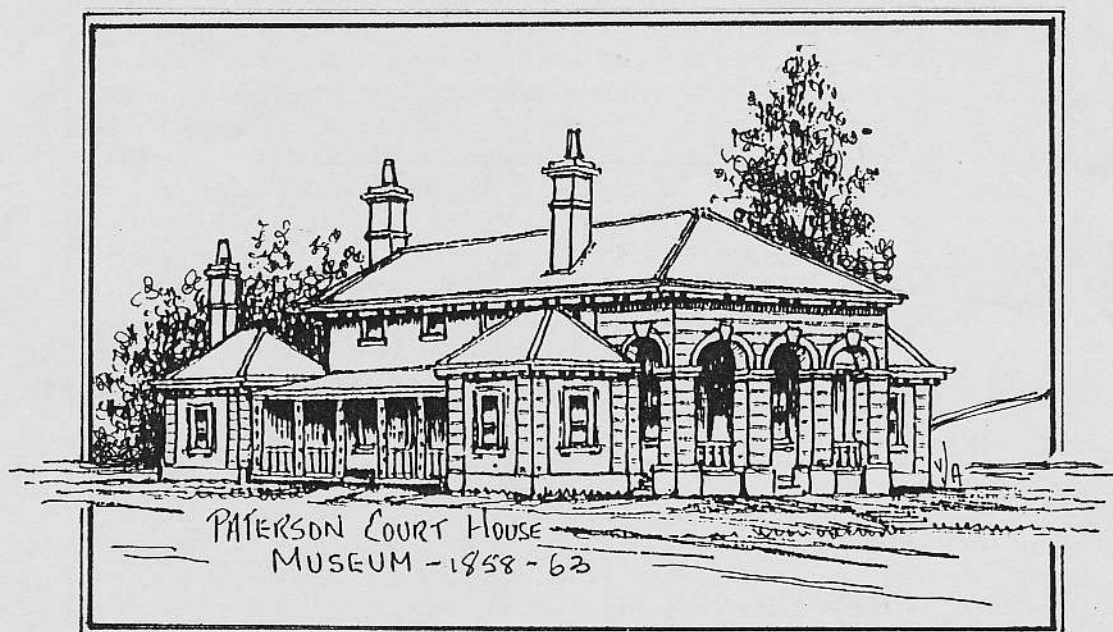




THE JOURNAL OF
PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INCORPORATED
MUSEUM NEWS



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EDITORIAL:

Welcome to our new "MUSEUM NEWS" and as you can see it is much larger than our previous modest effort and there is space for a much greater variety of articles, so any ideas or thoughts you may have for an item will be greatly appreciated.

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NEW LOOK FOR "BONA VISTA":

When travelling the road to Maitland have you noticed the wonderful 'new look' that Bona Vista has received recently? Sitting so regally on that slight rise above the river and farmland on land received as a grant to Captain James Phillips in 1822. The first Bona Vista was built in the 1850's. The building which stands today was built on the same site in the 1870's by Capt. Phillips son-in-law, Dr Richard Ryther Steer Bowker, who married Lydia Phillips at her home on Nov 11, 1858. Dr Bowker was born in Yorkshire, England in 1815 and following his childhood education he began studying medicine. By the age of 22 he was qualified enough to commence practice in Bingham, Yorkshire. Looking for further education he travelled to the new Colony twice and then studied in the East Indies before settling permanently in Newcastle in 1842. Here he became the Official Doctor for the Loyal Union Lodge, and combined this with a very successful private practise. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace and a Member of the Borough Council of Newcastle where he fought long and hard for higher standards of sanitation in the town, and managed to improve the health standards for all the town's residents.

When Capt. Phillips' estate was wound-up, Dr Bowker bought the property, demolished the old house and built the home we see today. In 1873 Dr Bowker moved his residence and practise to Darling Point, Sydney where he continued his work, dividing his time between work and his country residence, where he bred race horses and raced them with outstanding success. His wife, Lydia died in 1878, but Dr Bowker survived her by twenty-five years. When he died in 1907 he was buried with her in the Phillips family grave in St Paul's Cemetery.

Congratulations Total - Dr Bowker should be well pleased if he could see his home today!!

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VALE - CATHERINE ALLIE ASPLUND 1900-1994

The District lost one of its oldest residents recently when Mrs Catherine Allie Asplund, of Martins Creek passed away on January 12 this year. Mrs Asplund was the daughter of James Edward Cook whose parents had pioneered the Martins Creek area in the 1860's when land became available for selection. Born at Martins Creek, Mrs Asplund attended the first Martins Creek School established in 1892 in Martins Paddock, Black Rock Road. Mrs Asplund was the oldest former pupil present when Martins Creek celebrated its centenary in 1992 and had the honour of cutting the Centenary Cake. Mrs Asplund's husband was Eric Gustav Asplund who worked on the railway all his life and pre-deceased his wife some years ago. Mrs Asplund leaves four sons, Keith, Malcolm, Leslie, Arthur and one daughter, Maxine. A proud and independant spirit kept Mrs Asplund living in Cook's Cottage surrounded by her treasures of days gone by and satisfied by the simple ways of yesteryear. (Family details supplied by son, Arthur).

PAULINE CLEMENTS
EDITOR:

SALOME KEPPIE'S DIARY - EXTRACTS - MABS KEPPIE

Salome Keppie (nee Garred) 1849-1915, "GLENLOSSIE", PATERSON. Salome Keppie's diary is a unique chronicle of Paterson's domestic history. Salome, the daughter of Daniel Garred and Ann(Puxty) of Morpeth, married William Keppie in 1869 at the age of 20 years. Salome was a great support to William who was keenly interested in local politics and took an active part in all public matters. Over a period of nearly twenty years, after rearing her own ten children Salome became foster mother to a number of State Wards up to the time of her death in 1915 at the age of 66 years.

Extracts from Salome's diary will be featured in each issue of "MUSEUM NEWS".

JANUARY - FEBRUARY

- 1868 - Monday Jan. 27th. A ball was held in the Odd Fellows Hall - W. K. and I never went.
- 1868 - Tues. Feb. 4th. Marquat a German was found drowned. He had been working at Mr. Boydell's place all day. Left a wife and 7 children.
- 1868 - Thurs. Feb. 27th. George Brooker opened GRESFORD PUBLIC HOUSE.
- 1869 - I took Mary's baby Annie to wean Friday 19th Feb. 1869 - took her home Saturday 27th March 1869.
- 1869 - Judge Dowling came up to the Paterson to court. Stayed at our place Friday 26th February 1869.
- 1883 - Went to Maitland Wednesday 10th Jan. bought a sewing machine, cost £5. 17. 6
- 1888 - Celebrated the opening of Paterson Bridge Friday 24th February.
- 1910 - The first Railway Engine and trucks came to Paterson. (February)

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MAITLAND MERCURY EXTRACTS: HARRY BOYLE

M M - 8. 2. 1868

FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE ALLYN RIVER.—An inquest was held by James Thomson, Esq., coroner for the district, at the residence of W. B. Boydell, Esq., Caergyrie, Allyn River, on Thursday last, 6th February, on the body of Christopher Marquat, a servant lately in the employment of Mr. Boydell. It appeared that on Tuesday last deceased was at work in the cellar at Caergyrie, and became intoxicated in the afternoon during Mr. Boydell's temporary absence from the scene of work. On Mr. Boydell's return Marquat was so unfit for work that he was sent home; half an hour afterwards he was seen by Mr. Boydell at the rear of the cellar asleep; two other servants were told to look after him; Mr. Boydell never again saw him alive. In the morning Marquat did not make his appearance as usual, and a search was made; about one o'clock, a coat and hat belonging to deceased was found on a ledge of rock at the foot of a precipitous part of the bank of the river; the bank rose here some 35 feet. The river was then dragged for the body, which was found about sundown. Mr. Boydell's opinion was that Marquat had laid himself down to sleep on the edge of the bank, and rolled over into the river, striking the rocky ledge, and so produced death. Deceased had been seen about eight o'clock in the evening by one of his fellow servants; he had then no coat on. The verdict of the jury was:—"Accidentally killed by a fall from a precipice of 35 feet high."

PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIAL OUTING: 9 October 1993

Bingleburra - Dingadee - Dungog Museum

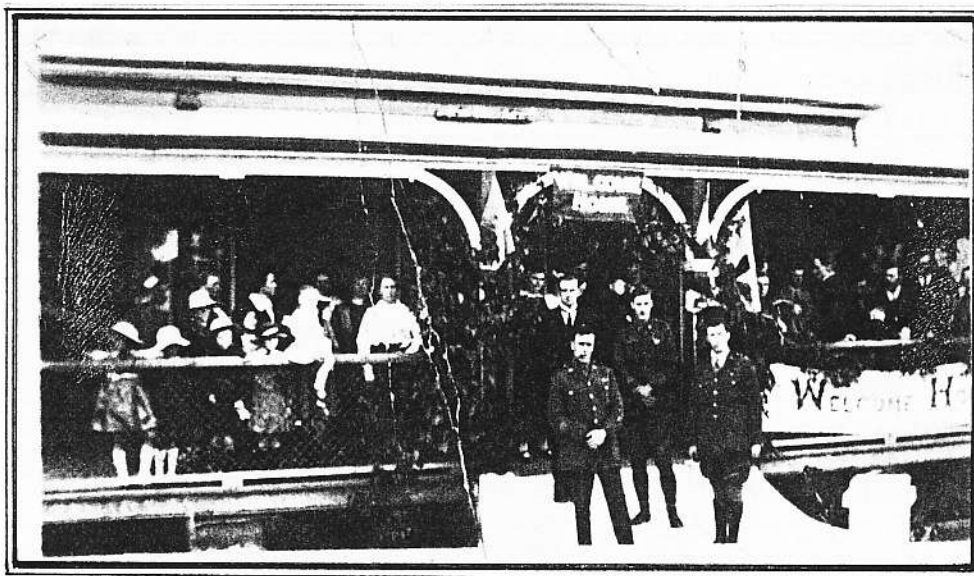
JUNE MAYNE:

Often, returning to a place you enjoyed as a child is a huge disappointment - but on 9 October, when with other of our members, we drove to Bingleburra, there was no disappointment. Bingleburra is not far from Gresford, on the Gresford-Dungog Road and I had not visited for 60 years! The trees which had been planted along the driveway as a memorial of World War 1 had grown, the Homestead has been painted and lovingly restored by the present owners, Janice and Ken Sleaf, the garden is a pretty "country garden" - and my brother was delighted to discover the original outside toilet was still there! (used now to store feed). We were given a superb morning tea on the wide verandah and we have vowed to return and journey to the orchard and ruins.

We drove on then over the mountain to Dingadee. This is another beautifully kept old home situated a few miles from Dungog. Built by the Hooke family and the present owner is a descendant. Our "tour guide" was - the "daughter of the house" - a charming teenager who did a wonderful job.

Back to Dungog and the Museum where their members made us most welcome. We lunched amid their "treasures" and later Cynthia Hunter guided a walk round part of the town.

A wonderful day was had by all!



"WELCOME HOME"

WW1 SOLDIERS

BEING ENTERTAINED

AT "BINGLEBURRA"

HOMESTEAD, GRESFORD

(Photo undated)

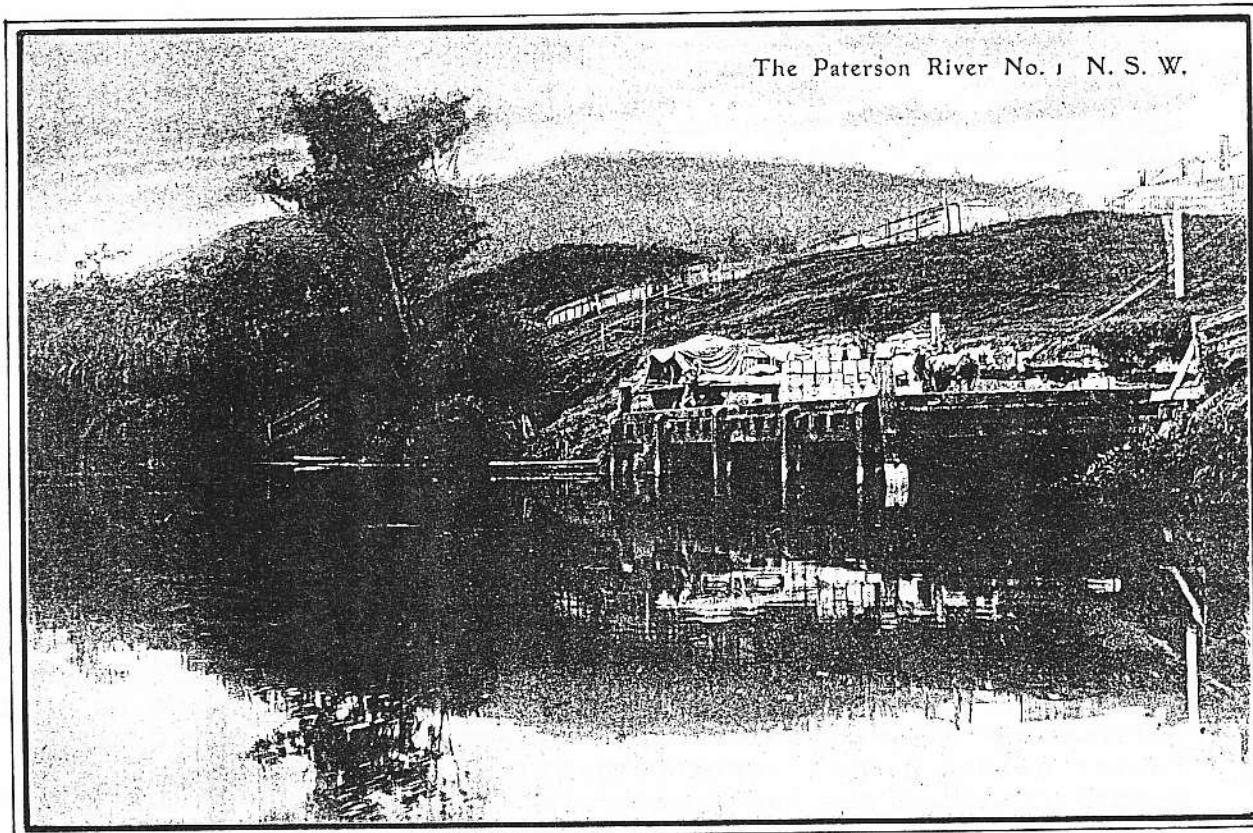
PHOTO: Jan Sleaf "Bingleburra" - from the collection of
A. S. McDONALD CBE Alderman (36 years) and Mayor of West
Maitland (13 terms), father of the writer, PHS member,
June Mayne.

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PATERSON NEWS - M M - 20 Aug. 1875 - CYNTHIA HUNTER:

Mr Frederick Wilson is removing his inn premise's from lower part of the town near ASN Co wharf to high land near the Court House. The March flood ... water reached 3 feet in the upper floor of Mr Wilson's Inn. ... Inn taken down and will be rebuilt by Christmas.

(Mr. Wilson's Inn was on the old Commercial Road an area severely inundated by the disastrous 1875 flood. Ed)



Photo/Post Card dated 6/10/08. Printed in Germany for F. P. Hobbs, BURWOOD. PHS C 12 1993

FROM OUR ARCHIVES: SHIRLEY THRELFO

This recent donation is the clearest photo we have on our files of the main wharf on the Paterson River off Commercial Road and situated immediately below, on the town side, where the main Northern Line crosses the the river.

The Main Wharf - originally the transport centre of the Paterson Valley being serviced by river boats which brought goods and people and took cargo to Newcastle and Sydney. After the coming of the railway in 1911, boat traffic on the river continued until the 1920's when the railways and road transport surpassed it.

Photo donated by: Mrs. Gwen Cashman, BROADMEADOW, NEWCASTLE.

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CURATOR'S CORNER: VAL ANDERSON

ACQUISITIONS:

Lional Gilbert - Armidale - H M R Rupp research material
M @ B Keppie - Paterson - Pat. Show Schedules etc 1951 - 68
J @ M Mayne - Paterson - "Barrington Tops", D Hartley
J @ O Marr - Gresford - Doll Pram Teasets etc c1930
K @ K Ingle - Hilldale - 1876 Christening Gown (on loan)
J Priestley - Paterson - Saddlery
C Archer @ A Dunlop - Paterson - Cedar cabinet @ frames
Paterson-Allyn Valley Landcare - Drought Publication
A @ K Eather - Vacy - Unfinished Timber Felloe
Veterins Affairs - ACT - Keppie Gallipoli Photos
B Robinson - Gresford -Cash Register Cask Tap etc c1930