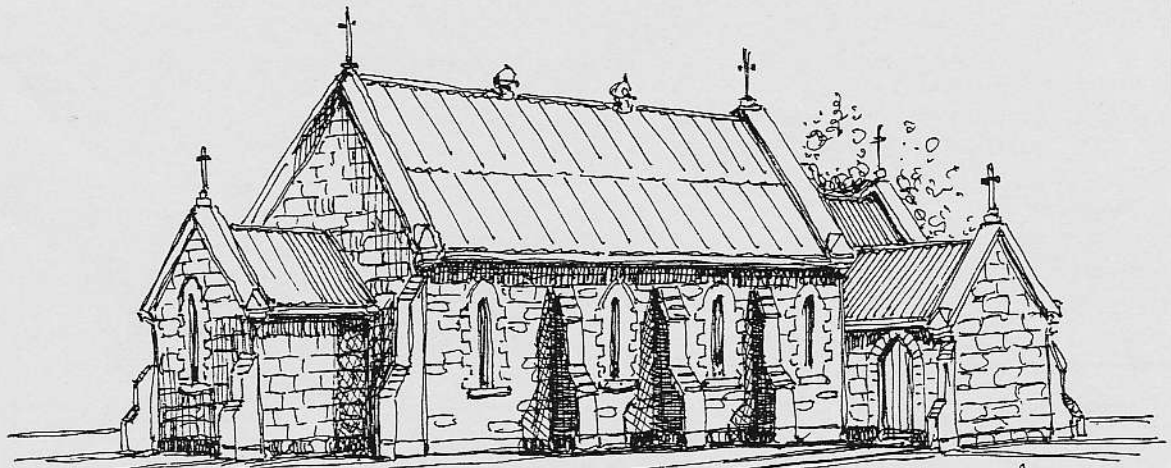




THE JOURNAL OF
PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INCORPORATED

MUSEUM NEWS



St. PATRICKS - 1892
NOLKABA - NSW

Val Anderson
99

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PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Affiliated with the ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PATERSON COURT HOUSE MUSEUM is open regularly on
SUNDAYS from 1pm - 5pm

MEETINGS: Paterson Historical Society Inc. meets the first
Thursday of the month - 7.30pm at the Paterson
Court House Museum (Except December and January)

JOURNAL: "MUSEUM NEWS" is published five times a year -
February, April, June, August, October.

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION DUE: February each year

Family: \$5.00 Single: \$3.00 Student: \$1.00

LOCAL HISTORY PUBLICATIONS: List available from secretary.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

THE SECRETARY

PATERSON POST OFFICE

PATERSON NSW 2421

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COMING EVENTS:

AUGUST:

4 MEETING - General Business

6 OUTING - "TURANVILLE" SCONE - Entry \$12
Includes Morning Tea

SEPTEMBER:

1 MEETING - GUEST SPEAKER - Bessie Nurse of
RAYMOND TERRACE - "the History of the Broom"

3 WORKING BEE AT MUSEUM - All welcome!

REMEMBER, All meetings commence at 7.30pm SHARP!

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME!



WHAT IS A MUSEUM?

Peter Gibbs illustrated to us so well at our July meeting, when he presented an excellent slide evening on historic homes and their interiors, that a museum does not

have to be a building housing artifacts and memorabilia - stone walls, trees, gravel pathways and the like, all contribute to our heritage. Our Editor, Pauline has been off and away again and with this editorial shares some of her travels.

THE HISTORY OF SPORT.

Historical interest in our country covers many facets of our everyday life, and one of the most notable aspects of the Australian way of life is the love of sport shown by the community at large. Although many sports catch the attention of the population, the two which really capture attention of all Australians are Cricket and Football.

Recently we had the opportunity (by travelling with Maitland North Probus on a coach trip) to have a guided tour of those two great Sports Centres, the Sydney Cricket Ground and the recently-built Football Stadium. The two centres stand side by side and form part of the Sydney Sports Centre, jointly administered by a Trust comprising some of the best-known names in Sydney's business and sporting organisations.

We have all listened and watched TV broadcasts of a top football match at this great stadium and to stand in the centre of the ground and gaze around at those 42,500 seats (empty now) we could almost hear the roar of excitement which the big game brings. We can well imagine the National Pride that drives every player to do his very best for his country, his State or club... whether it be Rugby League, Union or Soccer.

The great stadium occupies a site which has been the home to football and other sports for a hundred years or more. In those early days it was more or less in open ground, but now it is tightly fitted into the city area, and presented the designers with many problems. In providing adequate lighting for the night games, the glare of the lights had to be prevented from spilling over into the residential areas... this was resolved by building the vast lighting system into the rim of the huge stadium roofing, but the cheers and excitement of the crowds can never be dimmed... and we couldn't help wondering what sort of traffic problems arise when all those patrons arrive at the ground, as there seemed to be very limited parking areas insight.

Included in the tour was a visit to the Security Section, a small room filled with sound and sight equipment. Half a dozen TV screens covered the whole area of the ground and spectator seating and were powerful enough to focus in immediately when any trouble might occur and a paging system to attendants brings immediate attention before further trouble arises. The highly technical sound system prevents any time-lag around the ground, overcoming a problem for any large scale broadcasting.

It is anticipated that the Stadium will be used for many practise games and training for the 2000 Olympics, and for many years to come the centre of some great Sports Happenings.

Right alongside this modern Stadium is the hallowed ground of the Sydney Cricket Ground. Although many of the buildings on the ground were constructed in the middle of the 1800's, present day technology intrudes with the four massive lighting towers constructed in the late 1980's to accommodate Kerry Packer's night games.

However, once inside the old buildings the air of another century returned when we were ushered into the Members Stand with its long

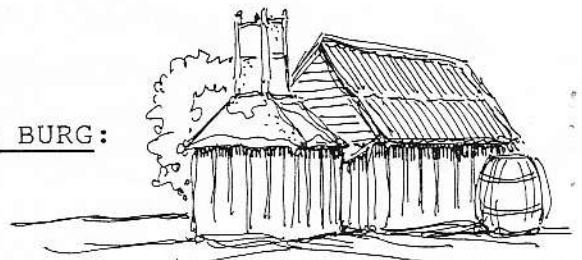
Bar and old-fashioned comfort... the Ladies Stand... the Players Dressing Room, small and cheerless with old-fashioned seating pitted by the many cricket boots which have been rested there to lace-up and the verandah where the players await their turn to bat. Looking around the ground outside we saw the stands named in honour of the cricketing Heroes of the past, tier upon tier of seats to accommodate the thousands who follow the game. The space of ground known as "The Hill" is no more... a new stand has covered the area and named the "Yabber" stand in honour of a character who attended every match played in the last part of last century. His booming voice called instructions to players on both sides in a match, and his comments to all and sundry kept the crowds amused for years. A local resident, he earned his living as a seller of fresh rabbits around the suburbs, but "Yabber's" attendance at every match was certain, and now his place on "The Hill" has been recorded for ever-more.

The Cricket Museum was the gem of the tour. Here all manner of mementoes were exhibited... bats, boots, caps and photographs of cricket teams and cricketers from past and present. Great use is made of today's technical skills in animating models to speak and tell their own story. Even women's part in the history of the game was told by one of the team members herself. As she came to life she told of the heady days of the women's tours to England, and the excitement of the many games they won. All beautifully presented with skill and imagination, but the mind boggles when thinking of the total cost of it all. If you have the chance to visit the ground and take part in a tour, don't miss it.

PAULINE M CLEMENTS
EDITOR

PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR - ANDREW BURG:

SATURDAY 4TH JUNE, 1994.



The Paterson members left the Court House on time to visit the three interesting tourist spots of Pokolbin. On arriving at Tyrrell Vineyard and Cellars they were met by the Newcastle and Maitland members and under Jason's excellence guidance we were instructed in the intricacies of wine making and shown the various cellars of casks holding this years vintage and the better wines of previous years. Some of these casks are of 1500 gallon capacity ranging down to 50 gallon casks.

TYRRELL'S SLAB
 HVF - 1858
 POKOLBIN.NS

The evidence of earth floors within the winery are a result of Murray Tyrrell's argument with the environmentalists endeavours to promote the case for concrete!!!. The care and responsibility was also evident in the attention the Tyrrell family had for their forbears. Murray Tyrrell's grandfather started growing grapes on this Pokolbin property in 1858 when he bought 330- acres of this prime land. Murray's uncle Dan continued his father's Edward's work, and now Murray's son Bruce is General Manager.

The original living rooms of the grandparents were opened for us for a look into the past. The attention to detail of the refurbishment of these rooms is outstanding. The tasting room was well patronised by our members and sales for the day must have skyrocketed. Many thanks to our guide, Jason, for his skill, knowledge and courtesy.

We left Tyrrells and journeyed to the old Catholic church at Nulkaba. This church was sold recently and bought by a Keinbar nurseryman who has refenced and reformed walkways between many advanced trees and shrubs and decorated here and there with fountains. The old stone church, built in 1892 by the Burg Bros. of Morpeth, has been furbished as a wedding occasion etc. The inside lighting and repainting of the inside of the church is outstanding. Adding to the interest of our visit was the wedding party in the church grounds as we arrived. We were given an interesting story of the old church by one of the new owners.

From here we had a quick look at the five beehive ceramic pipe kilns close by, that were built in the latter years of the last century. Three of these kilns are still in excellent condition. We then moved on to the Hungerford Hill complex for lunch and relaxation before our journey home. A very well organised and a very instructive day.

SALOME KEPPIE'S DIARY EXTRACTS: MABS KEPPIE

1868

- July 25 - George Brooker and I went to Lostock
- August 6 - George's little boy died Thursday Aug 6th and his little girl died Friday 14th 1868

1880

- August 6 - A dinner given to Dr. Faddy Friday 6 August 1880
Dr. Faddy Sale Monday 9th Aug. Faddy and family left Paterson Tues 10th Aug

1884

- July 21 - John Gray died in Maitland Hospital Monday 21st July - TYPHOID FEVER

1891

- July 14 - Grandmother died Tues night nine o'clock 14th July from cancer in the breast. Ill 8 months - aged 77 years 10 months
- August 2 - Bishop Stanton preached first time Sunday

1908

- August 29 - Self left the Red House Friday 29th Aug. First Sunday at "GLENLOSSIE" for dinner

1904

- July 5 - Paterson Park Lawn Tennis Club formed 5th July 1905 - 60 members
- July 9 - Fry had two horses drowned whilst crossing the creek this side of Puxty's during the flood 9th July
- July 13 - W. Butler took Possession of Red House 13th July at 2/- a week

1911

- August 14 - The trains first run to Dungog Monday 14th August, Percy, Cyril and Herb went - Fare 1/8 Return to Paterson. Pater and I went to Station House and train was packed

CURATOR'S CORNER - ACQUISITIONS: VAL ANDERSON

- A BURG - East Maitland - War Memorial Listings
- C ROSS - Green Point - EPIDIASCOPE cl910
- K Newton - Vacy - Saw (Pender/Fosters Mill) Bullock Waggon Chain
- Tyrrells Vineyard - History of Wine Making
- P Allen - Marks Point - Bushman's Saw
- M @ P Newcombe - East Maitland - Lace Samples
- A Burg - Cemetery Listing

ANOTHER WORTHY PATERSON POLICE OFFICER

Sergeant Wells is recognised for carrying out his duties in a faithful and honourable way as a police officer of Paterson. Time has come to acknowledge another dutiful sergeant who spent twenty years at Paterson Police Office. The officer was Sergeant George Thompson whose period of duty there extended from 1876 to the mid 1890s

George Thompson's career as a police officer began about 1860. At that time, a police magistrate appointed from among the justices of the peace in a 'police district' controlled the administration of policemen in New South Wales. Great change to the organisation of the NSW police dates from an 1862 Act of Parliament that brought about the establishment of a centralised system of civil police. The new North East Police District, the headquarters of which was at Maitland, covered over 9,000 square miles and had a population of nearly 17,300 persons. At the time of his retirement, George Thompson served about 34 years under the new system. As a young constable in 1864, George Thompson received six shillings a day.

In the early 1860s Thompson had charge of Coonabaraban Station as Chief Constable (6s and 9d per day) and in that capacity he opened the town of Coonamble. The duties to be performed at these stations were arduous. The people of the district recognised Mr Thompson as an active, zealous and efficient officer.

He subsequently had charge at Wollombi and Merriwa. At the later station he received promotion to the rank of Sergeant (8s and 3d per day). From Merriwa he moved to Muswellbrook. He remained here for a period of twelve years. Owing to the construction of the Great Northern Railway extension, probably the most important epoch in the town's history, and consequent upon the presence of a large number of navvies, duty at that station required continuous activity and often entailed considerable hardship.

George Thompson was police officer in charge when the notorious bushranger Johnson met his death at a shoot-out, and again when a horse stealer met the same fate. His duties took him away on patrol for weeks at a time. On leaving Muswellbrook he received of an address and a purse of sovereigns as a token of esteem.

In 1876 Thompson came to Paterson. Here, his courtesy and efficiency, which characterised the whole of his official career, won the respect and affection of the people of the town and district. In November 1895 the townspeople learnt that he intended to retire. Now it was their turn to plan a suitable occasion to say thank you and farewell in an appropriate manner.

References: *Dungog Chronicle* 29 November 1895.
John O'Sullivan, *Mounted Police in Australia*, Rigby Press, 1979.
Contributed by Cynthia Hunter